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## 41st Festival of Lights joyfully brings together the Bryant community

Zachary Graham  
Contributing Writer

The Festival of Lights is an annual event that Bryant University holds every winter season. It is an all-day event that allows the students to take part in festive events and to get their holiday cheer on. As finals are creeping around the corner, Wednesday's festivals were a sigh of relief for many. This was a day of fun for everyone from the freshman feeling home sick missing sitting by the tree and fire, to seniors worrying about their looming keystone projects. Bryant's very own Student Alumni Association helped run and staff this event.

The Rotunda activities started in the morning amidst student's classes, and went through the midafternoon. With live music from musician Dave Binder, people could feel the holiday cheer. Many student run organizations were holding arts and crafts, as well as cookie decoration. Many students lined up to decorate their cookies and enjoyed a cookie while waiting in-between classes. Special appearances from Santa and Mrs. Claus was truly a warm surprise as many took pictures with the jolly couple. In the season of giving and caring, there were stations where students could write friendly letters to soldiers overseas that couldn't make it home for this holiday. Those who defend our country so that we can sit with our families around a Christmas tree every year. For those students who were getting a kick start of their finals studying in the Fischer Center, there were also welcomed with warm cider and cookies.

Many people started to gather around 6:00pm to socialize and get ready for the night time events. Those who showed up early were



President and Mrs. Machtley with their candles at Festival of Lights (SAA)

gifted with beverages and delicious snacks. Toys for Tots, a non-profit organization that makes sure all children get gifts for the holidays, was there and many people were generous to donate toys to those less fortunate. The night time activities kicked off a little after 7:00pm with music and dance from around the world. Different religions from around the world shared their culture in one spectacular event. The infamous candle lighting came right after, where President Machtley lit the candles signifying the unity of our campus. Many students piled into the Rotunda to participate and come together for the holidays. Next, students and faculty flocked to the Fischer lawn where the Christmas tree and the Menorah were lit. Followed by live music from

Bryant's very own Jazz Band who gave a breath taking performance. After standing in the cold, everyone warmed up with hot chocolate and cookies.

Overall, Wednesday was a very exciting day that brought together the entire Bryant University campus. With days seeming shorter and only memories of warmer days, it was a wonderful gathering that got everyone's mind off the struggles and on to happy times. This year's Festival of Lights was an enjoyment for all that participated and has us all looking forward to the holidays that follow. A special thank you is deserved to all the students and faculty who donated, wrote letters and helped run this event.

## Social Marketplace services Bryant students for third straight year

Molly Gearan  
Contributing Writer

Last Thursday, December 7th, 2017, Bryant University hosted the 3rd Annual Social Change Marketplace. The purpose of Social Change Marketplace is to create an open market where people can purchase gifts from local social enterprises, who have missions that create positive social impact. It is the first student-run program of its kind in the country. This holiday marketplace began as a class project for Professor Sandra Enos' Sociology Service Learning course. Only six vendors attended the first event in 2015. Last week, Bryant hosted 20 vendors. These vendors were: Conscious Step, Ivory Ella, Riverzedge



Students browse the marketplace in the Koffler Rotunda (SAA)

Arts, Beautiful Day, Equal Exchange, Oh So Africa, Honey for Haiti, Harvest Kitchen, Global Mission, The Roots Project, Pure Haven, Dot Products, Peppers Closet, Prosperity Candles, Deux Mains Designs, Ocean Air Plant Center, The Art of Fate, and Bead For Life (Bryant Enactus).

The organizer of this event is Brianna LaGuardia, a junior Social Entrepreneurship and Global Supply Chain major. Brianna worked closely with Professor Sandra Enos and a committee of about ten students. The committee set more ambitious goals for this year's event, and they certainly followed through and achieved their goals. The Social Change Marketplace Committee created a new website, actively updated social media accounts, dispersed flyers around campus and in the community, planned two kick-off events and doubled the amount of vendors.

Brianna is thrilled with the success of this year's event and is already planning for next year. She shared that the event raised over \$8,000 for all the social enterprises this year. After the event, she proudly said, "Organizing the Social Change Marketplace has been by far one of the most rewarding opportunities I've had at Bryant. To see how much this event has expanded since it began in 2015 as a class project, is honestly indescribable. This event has taken on a life of its own and has more potential than I ever imagined possible. We will be hosting a Social Change Marketplace at Fidelity on December 11th, 2017, as well as at the National Campus Compact Conference in Indiana on March 28th, 2018."

Social Change Marketplace's goal is to bring this event to more college campuses, corporations and farmers markets. Be sure to visit <http://www.socialchangemarketplace.com> and follow @socialchangemarketplace on Facebook and Instagram to keep up with all the vendors and exciting upcoming events.



# Meet The Archway Staff

Black and Gold and Read All Over



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The Archway is printed by  
Graphic Developments, Inc.



Elana Williams - Leonard  
Business Copy Editor

The Archway newspaper wishes all its readers  
a safe and happy holiday break! See you next  
semester!



# Update on the California wildfires

Nicholas Hallmark  
Contributing Writer



A firefighter looks upon a wildfire blazing in Santa Ana, California (Reuters)

Extremely large wildfires have broken out for the second time in the last two months in California. In mid-October wildfires destroyed thousands of acres of land and homes in the Northern California, Napa area. These fires burned for over seven days and were extremely hard to contain. Now, Southern California has burst into flames around the Los Angeles and San Diego County areas for over 5 days now. According to CNN, there are at least six large wildfires that have scorched up to 141,000 acres of land, where at least 5,700 firefighters are working to contain the fires.

The California terrain is very dry and flammable, which makes it very easy for the fires to spread. Heavy winds carry these fires long distances at an alarmingly fast rate, which makes it very difficult for these firefighters to contain the burning. These winds are moving at 35 to 55 miles per hour, which make it very easy for these fires to spread to new areas. The fires are burning communities to the ground. People are being forced to evacuate their homes. According to CNN reporters over 190,000 people have already left their homes with nothing but their pets and a small amount of personal belongings.

Multiple sources have ranked this current fire as the 19th most destructive fire in California state history, and yet it is still on a destructive path and could effect more people. A fire of this magnitude is calling for military assistance in order to try and contain it. The firefighters alone

are not able to fight the fires themselves, especially with the fires being in so many different locations. Naval helicopters with the ability hose water from the sky will be joining the fire effort very soon. Hopefully, with more help from the military services and fire-fighter's efforts, they will be able to contain the fires and save people's homes.

In addition, even once the fires are contained, there will still be a very intense smoke problem in the air. Ash and other hazardous chemicals will be present in the air for multiple days, maybe weeks, making living conditions extremely difficult. The contaminated air causes coughing, shortness of breath, watery eyes, and makes it very difficult for some people to be outside. Sports events and most outdoor events are being cancelled because it puts many children and adults at high health risks. Once the fires are contained, the air will be the main concern for residents near these areas.

Many people's communities have been completely burnt to the ground. Similarly, to the Northern California fires, there is now a growing number of people who will not have homes or any of their belongings. Most of these families have seen their houses burn to the ground. Many reports say that areas that have been effected by the fires now look like war zones where barely any signs of life. There are shelters in which these people can stay while they attempt to figure out how they will adjust after seeing their houses and communities burnt to the ground.

## Top tweets of the week

"Lightweight Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, a total flunky for Chuck Schumer and someone who would come to my office "begging" for campaign contributions not so long ago (and would do anything for them), is now in the ring fighting against Trump. Very disloyal to Bill & Crooked-USED!"

- Donald Trump, 12/12/17 (@realDonaldTrump)

"You cannot silence me or the millions of women who have gotten off the sidelines to speak out about the unfitness and shame you have brought to the Oval Office."

- Kirsten Gillibrand, 12/12/17 (@SenGillibrand)

"Steve Bannon is the most effective Democratic Party strategist since James Carville."

- Frank Luntz, 12/13/17 (@FrankLuntz)

"Thank you ALABAMA!!"

- Doug Jones, 12/12/17 (@GDouglasJones)

"Jones won Alabama. Fair and square. Funny, we are able to accept that without marching in the streets with stupid signs or 'resistance.'"

- Tomi Lahren, 12/13/17 (@TomiLahren)

"Are they playing 'Teach me how to Dougie?' Lol."

- Bakari Sellers, 12/12/17 (@Bakari\_Sellers)

"Congratulations to Doug Jones on a hard fought victory. The write-in votes played a very big factor, but a win is a win. The people of Alabama are great, and the Republicans will have another shot at this seat in a very short period of time. It never ends!"

- Donald Trump, 12/12/17 (@realDonaldTrump)

"This Lyft driver has 'I can feel it coming in the air tonight' on repeat & I'm reading news of Doug Jones's victory, this is a pretty good night."

- Kumail Nanjiani, 12/12/17 (@kumailn)

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the News Section! Send news  
articles to [archway@bryant.edu](mailto:archway@bryant.edu)**



# Brexit negotiations enter into advanced stages with recent agreement

David Schmidt  
Copy Editor

Both Britain and the European Union have agreed on an agreement, which will stave off potential breakdowns in the negotiations over Brexit. Likewise, the agreement states that both the European Union and Britain mutually agree on the fact that there will not be a hard border between the territories of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The reason why this agreement is significant is that at the onset of the Brexit many feared that "customs posts would go up dividing Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland" (NPR). This issue was one of the most argumentative issues between Britain and the European Union that many believe that would create a very difficult situation to reach an agreement by the March of 2019 stamp date.

Ireland made it known that it would veto any probable deal creating a hard border, which would include customs checkpoints. In addition, British Prime Minister Theresa May satisfied many of Northern Ireland's Protestant lawmakers because of her clear and deliberate statement, "In Northern Ireland, we will guarantee there will be no hard border and we uphold the Belfast agreement in doing so" (NPR). This was huge because it kept the current policy intact. Thus, the current policy is the 1998 Belfast Agreement, which ensures cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom.

Additionally, reaching this agreement guarantees that businesses can continue investment decisions that are primarily based on an implementation period, which will provide certainty. Yet, European Commission Chief Jean-Claude Juncker stated that the deal still needs the endorsement and consent of the European Union member states, which there are 27, therefore, the progress of this deal lay in the hands of those twenty-seven-member states. The European Union's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier believes that with this current progress he feels confident that negotiations can move forward, but he does caution the optimism as there is a significant amount of work that needs to be addressed and worked on.

European Council President Donald Tusk made a very clear and obvious statement that breaking up is difficult, yet creating a new and positive relationship is even more problematic. Also, this agreement provides the guarantee that citizens of EU states living in the U.K. and vice versa can stay put. Another key aspect of this agreement is that the U.K will pay into the EU's budget for both 2019 and 2020. Consequently, Prime Minister May informed all British citizens that the financial settlement would be fair on all taxpayers.



(Getty Images)

***"If the people we love are stolen from us, the way to have them live on is to never stop loving them." - James O'Barr***

On Wednesday, December 6th, our beloved mascot Ironclad Tupper I passed away. He suffered an apparent stroke, but he was surrounded by the community that has loved him and cared for him during his time with Bryant. While we mourn the loss of our first ever official school mascot, we know Tupper will always be with us. Thanks for letting us give all the pats and hugs, we will miss you Tupper.





# The four S's to eCommerce success

Search engine optimization, Simplicity, Speed, and Statistics

Shayan Ushani  
Business & Marketing Director

It is an exciting time to be in eCommerce, and not so for brick-and-mortar retailers. Stores with physical locations are down, hurting even the biggest of companies from Nordstrom to Sears with many falling to bankruptcy. Meanwhile companies like Amazon, Wayfair, and Newegg are stronger than ever. Companies like Wayfair have an ingrained strategy to help them maintain a competitive edge, and smaller companies that have been acquired have followed some basic guidelines to build a moat in online businesses. These do not just apply for eCommerce but for online, media, and technology companies such as the Interactive Group that maintains these rules for their portfolio of brands. The basics of eCommerce can be broken down into the 4 S's.



eCommerce business may lead to the end of brick-and-mortar retail (netiquette.asia)



Search engine optimization (joshnasspr.com)

## SEO

The number one most important thing as an eCommerce company or any sort of online company is to be found, that's

the priority. There are plenty of companies that sell home goods and furniture, but only Wayfair rose to the top. The reason behind this is strong search engine optimization and strong search engine marketing techniques. It is important to be ranked in the top 3 results on the front page, 99% of people do not go to the second page, and the overwhelming majority look at only the first three results. With Google's new algorithm update in Hummingbird, it is important to host good content and this relates to YouTube as well with longer videos now having a higher PageRank. Similar changes have been observed on Bing's end as well.

## Simplicity

A cluttered website is going to lead to confused potential customers that will exit the page or not be enticed to learn more about your product. No more scrolling pictures and large menus that distract people. Apple is the largest company in the world with a lot of information to give, but if a user looks at their company page they can see how it subtly says simplicity. Only eight options for the top menu, and a long home page with pictures and short blurbs of text.

## Speed

Speed is of the utmost importance, especially optimizing

that speed for mobile devices. A larger and larger amount of users are doing the majority of their online time through their smartphones so it is important that the page can run in a mere second. Most people will exit a page if they have to wait longer than ten seconds. Speed also plays into how well you are ranked, and a higher bounce rate will mean being bumped down on your PageRank. Speeds can be increased by simplifying Javascript and CSS code on websites.

## Statistics

Once the keys have been done, it is a matter of using statistics to better your process. If most people are landing on one page, use that as a gateway to get future clients on the top part of the funnel lower to better the chances of a sale.

If you or your organization have done all of the above more likely than not, you will achieve success. It is important to be patient. There have been websites around for years with a large amount of content and keywords that have already been indexed. The best digital strategists and business analysts will pay attention to new updates and trends. Search algorithms are constantly changing and so are the way people visit websites – it may be a search engine today but maybe a voice assistant the next.

## Dunkin' or Dunkin Donuts Steinhoff's questionable accounting standards

Samantha Iacone  
Contributing Writer

Shayan Ushani  
Business & Marketing Director

As word spreads quickly around, it is true that Dunkin' Donuts has been testing a name change. Fortune reports that, "The change comes at the request of the coffee chain's parent company Dunkin' Brands, which hopes to test the new name at a few other locations." Dunkin' plans to still sell donuts, another controversial topic, although this change is a push to become more known for their coffee. The company plans to make a decision on this name change towards the end of 2018 in time to redesign stores.

This coming summer and fall Dunkin' Brands plans to implement this name change starting in California as a test run. They plan to do this by opening a new store in southern California with the test name: Dunkin'. This push by Dunkin' Brands entails rebranding their chain in many different ways because they are trying to establish a new identity based around their coffee to keep up with competition. Chris Malone, managing partner at Fidelum Partners, on behalf of Fortune, writes; "A company spokesperson described the test as a prelude to a planned redesign of its menu and retail format to 'reinforce that Dunkin' Donuts is a beverage-led brand and coffee leader.'" This California store is just one of 8,500 of the company's U.S. locations that will be tested in the coming year.

Although Dunkin' Brands has plans of implementing this test run, the company has also received a great amount of negative feedback. Malone explains that this test name change is too late for the brand as they have been slow to implement changes in correspondence to other companies in their beverage market. He adds that these reasons are shaped around the slow pace of change which may lead to bigger problems.

He highlights that, again, Dunkin' Donuts has "already missed its opportunity to broaden its appeal." In 2006, Dunkin' Donuts advertised their campaign 'America Runs on Dunkin' which publicized their brands quick and affordable coffee and donut alternative in comparison to rival Starbucks. This was a push to rebrand the company all together when there was a growing popularity of specialty coffee. The company never actually followed through with implementing these changes and ultimately failed to do the duty they promised to their customers. Additionally, it is believed that this name change should have been completed in their first rebrand attempt.

There has been a strong growth in coffee sales over the past five years while there is a huge demand for cold coffee. Malone adds that, "the future of coffee is cold and ready to drink." Cold coffee accounts for 20% of coffee sales in the United States. Starbucks currently, in 2017, serves over 35% of these cold coffee sales. Since Starbucks holds a great percentage of these profits, it can be concluded that Dunkin' Donuts "has a long way to go to gain credibility and share in the hot market for cold coffee." Malone concludes that since there is a huge market for coffee currently and as we lead into the future, the company has a big shoe to fill because of this large competition.

Steinhoff is one of the largest companies listed in South Africa, and one of the largest retailers in the African continent and has recently fallen under scrutiny. \$12 billion of its market capitalization has disappeared, shares falling down 82%, amid accounting irregularities that may be on par with the likes of WorldCom. It's CEO, Markus Jooste resigned immediately. PricewaterhouseCoopers has started an investigation; this probe has been confirmed on Friday November 8th. The company already has a lot of liabilities and if these were underreported or the costs of fighting this scandal are tough, this could be the straw that broke the camel's back. With long-term liabilities over 12 billion euros and short term liabilities close to 6 billion euros, the company is not in good shape. It's not just Steinhoff in trouble in this case, it'll be the big consortium of lenders it had. These include Citigroup, Bank of America, HSBC, and BNP Paribas.

Deloitte is also looking to work with PwC on the matter, and needs information from the pending investigation to finalize its audit of 2017 financial statements. Among the strongest concerns in financial statements are: many acquisitions of shady companies that seem to turn around post acquisition, rampant equity raising, cash flow trends that do not correspond to

operating profits, and senior executives that may have committed fraud. If these allegations hold to be true, they may be the biggest accounting scandal since Enron. There is a lot of parties at risk and on the line from major bank lenders, the company executives, as well as the 130,000 people the company employs. Already the company is in major trouble beyond the investigation with their debt downgraded to junk status, not something even the yield-hungriest of investors would want when there may be accounting discrepancies. Bonds due January 2025 saw its yield rise 443 basis points to 14.19%. Situations like these lead to a vicious cycle in which the company has to issue debt or liquidate assets to stay afloat, but is selling them at a deep discount and continues to do so. In fact, Steinhoff has already stated it will most likely need to sell assets up to 1 billion euros to maintain liquidity. This situation has also led to a bit of a financial contagion, with Wiese at the helm of Steinhoff also saw other securities he has ownership in drop including Steinhoff Africa Retail and Shoprite Holdings. For now, the company is still under review and PwC in conjunction with the finance ministry of South Africa and Deloitte will try to figure out what is going on.



# Bryant's Archway Investment Portfolio

## Weekly news:

### Bonds

NAME	YIELD %	CHANGE
US 3 Month	1.32	↓ 0.01
US 6 Month	1.48	0.00
US 2 Year	1.82	0.00
US 5 Year	2.16	↓ 0.02
US 10 Year	2.38	↓ 0.02
US 30 Year	2.75	↓ 0.03

(12-13-2017) @11:20pm United States Treasury Yields  
(Bloomberg.com)

### Weekly Fund Performance

Week Ago Fund Value	\$ 1,239,266.01
Current Fund Value	\$1,253,277.35
Weekly Change	1.13%

All prices updated as of 10:00 pm 12/12/2017

## Archway's weekly performance:

### Weekly Winners

1	Celgene Corp	6.32%
2	Allergan PLC	4.62%
3	Visa Inc	4.49%
4	Electronic Arts Inc	4.14%
5	VanEck Vectors Global Alternative Energy ETF	4.08%

### Weekly Losers

1	Minerals Technologies Inc	-2.22%
2	Coca-Cola Co/The	-2.10%
3	General Dynamics Corp	-1.87%
4	Procter & Gamble Co/The	-1.70%
5	Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV	-1.64%

Value of \$10,000 Invested in the Archway Fund on 8/31/2005



## Venezuela's new cryptocurrency

David Schmidt  
News Copy Editor

Recently, the Venezuelan government announced that it will create a cryptocurrency system, which it plans to call "the Petro". The currency will be backed by Venezuelan oil reserves as well as other natural resources that are abundant in Venezuela. Likewise, Venezuelan President Maduro stated that it's his hope that this will aid Venezuela in surviving with its abysmal national economy and the many United States enforced sanctions. Venezuelan President Maduro publicly announced the new program on his weekly national television program. Furthermore, he announced that it's his hope that the currency will assist in Venezuela's monetary sovereignty. The Petro will be backed by Venezuela's strategic reserves of oil, gold, and diamonds. As a result, "the government hopes [it] will help it fight both sanctions and Venezuela's high inflation rate" (NPR).

While attending a science and technology fair, President Maduro stated that the new cryptocurrency will mean that Venezuela will have joined the 21st century at last. The cryptocurrency is "the next step of the technological evolution of humanity" (NPR) because it will ultimately mean that Venezuela and its many locals can do away with the institutions of banks and their bureaucracy and paper currency as well. Furthermore, the government of Venezuela is also launching the Blockchain Observatory, which will ultimately act as the institutional, political, and legal basis of the new currency. Moreover, this announcement has met both support and criticism from the international community. An example of the support comes from cryptocurrency expert Max Keiser, "Necessity is the mother of invention" in addition to this comment Keiser also states that he ultimately supports the Venezuelan initiative.

However, there has been some backlash to the Venezuelan initiative as well. One such criticism is that questions remain on how exactly the government of Venezuela will roll the new initiative out and whether the Petro would be linked to already established and working cryptocurrencies such as the bitcoin or the Ethereum. Furthermore, Economists warn that this new currency may help hyperinflation thus aid in the unreasonable harm of locals who will continue to use the bolivar currency. Not only that but already Venezuela and its citizens are enduring soaring inflation along with shortages of many necessities thus protests have arisen.

## Apple under Tim Cook

Shayan Ushani  
Business & Marketing Director

Apple has everything going for them. The company has received the praise of the wariest of technology investors such as Warren Buffett. Since the past year the company is up over 50% from \$110 to over \$170 with little volatility or dips. Apple will also benefit greatly from the current administration's tax plan if it passes. The lower rate would, in theory, entice the company to bring the billions they have abroad in foreign municipalities. That cash could be used to start new product lines such or fund existing projects such as an Apple TV or Apple car technologies. Apple's R&D is mostly geared at improvement to their current product line, but with so much revenue coming from one product strategists propose they enter new markets and diversify. Banks have an average target of \$187 for the company with some analysts believing the share price could reach \$235.

Apple recently released their iPhone X as well as the iPhone 8. There were worries that the new screen would push customers away as well as a hefty price tag that could scare off buyers especially with the release of the Pixel 2 which has a higher DX score boasting a superior camera at a lower price. Nonetheless sales of the iPhone X have been very strong signaling new price patterns for smartphones and premium models. The company may be looking for other big changes especially following new design employees, a revamped MacBook Pro, new screens powered by OLED, and a new announcement following the Mac Mini. Apple has not updated their Mac Mini in years since 2011 and will no longer be servicing them. Marketing chief Phil Schiller mentioned that it is an "important product," but no specific plans that they will be introducing a newer edition. Additionally, Apple may be venturing into vertical integration and developing its own PMIC or power-management integrated chips. Dialog Semiconductor's CEO Bagherli said, "Apple has the resources and capability to internally design a PMIC and could potentially do so in the next few years." Dialog's CEO mentioned that there were no risks to their existing contracts for 2018 and were in advanced talks for 2019. Apple has become a strong leader in other areas as well with Tim Cook, Apple's CEO, visiting China for a conference as well as Nadella of Microsoft. The topics of interest



Apple Logo (apple.com)

were openness and collaboration of data. Cook was pressured to remove VPN apps from the App Store in China earlier due to citizens bypassing the nation's blocked websites through use of VPNs. Apple's other products other than the iPhone may be doing well especially with an Apple Watch 4 that is expected to be even faster. More importantly, Air Pods may be dominating the wireless earbud market. Sony's new product was criticized and within the price range Air Pods are the most popular and best reviewed. Although other companies develop good products in the market space such as Bose, they are pricier. With more companies launching their Bluetooth headphones, the Air Pods seem distinguished in their quality with almost no complaints.

Apple's next earnings are later this month with three revisions edging predictions higher and three lower. Additionally, Apple has officially confirmed they are buying music recognition app Shazam showing efforts to boost their Apple Music line and dominating the music industry digital services. Tim Cook and Apple enthusiasts are confident about the company, while other researchers still bring up their massive cash remaining idle as well as revenue mainly coming from one source - the iPhone.



## Gasper ready for final go with Bulldogs

Bryant Athletics

The 2017 baseball season was not the one the Bryant University baseball team envisioned. A year after winning a program-record 47 games, the Bulldogs went just 29-26 and were eliminated from the Northeast Conference Tournament in two games.

Led by the return of senior catcher and reigning NEC Player of the Year Mickey Gasper (Merrimack, N.H.), the Black and Gold have set their sights on getting back on track this spring. Gasper headlines a returning group of players that includes seven starters from last year's final game and all but one pitcher that recorded an out last spring. "Last year was definitely a challenge, but a huge learning experience for us," Gasper said. "As a team, I think we now understand what it takes to be a champion and an elite-caliber team. Individuals learned to deal with failure and how to overcome it. I think last year shaped our mindset for this upcoming year."

The 2018 Bulldog baseball team has the potential to be a good one. Bryant returns All-NEC outfielder junior Nick Angelini (Bedford, N.H.), NEC Rookie of the Year Jimmy Titus (Stafford, Conn.), NEC Pitcher of the Year Steve Theetge (Syracuse, N.Y.), All-NEC Second Team pitcher Nathan Wrighter (Windsor, N.Y.) and a bevy of young talent. That crop of players includes sophomores Chris Wright (Cumberland, R.I.), James Ciliento (Mahwah, N.J.), Gaby Cruz (Miami, Fla.), Vito Morgese (Warwick, N.Y.) and Jack Ipsen (Eatontown, N.J.), and redshirt freshman Ryan Ward (Millbury, Mass.).

"Our younger impact players now know what it is like at this level of baseball, and our older guys want to make a legacy for ourselves so we came with a lot of energy this fall," Gasper said. "We can't just show up and expect to be better than the other team and win. After losing last year, I think myself and the entire ball club has been playing with a little bit of a chip on our shoulder and we know we have something to prove." And while the Black and Gold return a great deal of talent, all eyes will most likely be on Gasper. A switch-hitting catcher from New Hampshire, Gasper emerged as one of the top hitters in New England last spring. A summer after being named the MVP of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, he hit .342 and posted the third-highest OBP in DI program history (.470). Gasper posted 11 doubles, seven home runs, 53 RBI, 42 walks and just 18 strikeouts on his way to NEC Player of the Year honors.

Many thought Gasper would join classmate James Karinchak in the MLB Draft in June but his name went uncalled. Instead, Gasper headed east for a summer with the Brewster Whitecaps in the prestigious Cape Cod Baseball League. He went on to hit .290 with 10 doubles, five home runs, 36 RBI and a .425 OBP, helping the Whitecaps to their first league championship since 2000. Gasper received the John Caffey Award as the top New England prospect in the league and was named Brewster's team MVP and Coaches' Captain Award winner.

"This summer taught me a lot about myself as a player," Gasper said. "I gained a great deal of confidence in my abilities against that level of competition, and I think I handled my failures in a much more professional fashion and matured mentally as a



Mickey Gasper and the Bulldogs are hoping for success this season (BryantBulldogs.com)

baseball player.

"As a leader, I think just being a part of such a special championship team will help my leadership of the Bryant Bulldogs improve," Gasper continued. "I plan to focus on the mental side of the game with my leadership and I want this team to buy into that common goal we as Bulldogs strive for."

With the 2018 season quickly approaching, Gasper has the individual goals any returning player of the year would likely have. For Gasper, however, those pale in comparison to his ultimate goal for this team and this program, an appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

"I want to win," Gasper said. "After a difficult year last year with many growing pains, I know the 2018 Bryant University baseball team is tougher, more committed, and is developing into the team we know we are capable of becoming."

As Gasper enters his final season in the Black and Gold, he knows that there is a great deal left unfinished. He has been through the ups and downs and will be looked to for his leadership and his production this spring.

"I think there is a lot more for me to achieve as part of the Bryant University family," Gasper said. "Although my time here has been life-changing, I know this group of guys that I have grown and matured with have more to accomplish. It is our turn to create something special."

## Life of a non-Boston sports fan at Bryant

Daniel Farrell  
Contributing Writer

Four years ago, when I was deciding on what University I was going to attend, the last thing on my mind was what sports teams were playing in the surrounding area. As a student from New Jersey, the only successful team in recent memory has been the 07' and 11' Giants, which I don't think I need to remind Patriots fans about. Looking back over the last couple of years I realized how spoiled Boston sports fans are. Just in my four short years here, living in New England, I have seen the Red Sox win a World Series, the Patriots win two Super Bowls, the Bruins consistently make it deep into the National Hockey League playoffs, and the Celtics form a new dynasty.

When I moved into hall 14 (south side), one of the first few questions my new roommate asked me was who my favorite football team was, and he was appalled when it was not the New England Patriots. As much as it pains me to say, the burning passion of all the Boston sports fans is unmatched. Regardless of the weather, situation, or circumstance, each of the Boston sports fans will cheer their hearts out, as the teams always manage to pull off the impossible.

One of the most iconic Boston sports moments I had the privilege to see, was David Ortiz's pregame speech a few days after the Boston marathon bombing. Watching him speak to a stadium full of a city in mourning, gives me the chills to this day. Both of the Patriots most recent Super Bowl wins, define Boston's resilience and shows their character and how they are prepared for every situation. Malcolm Butler became a household name



Boston sports fans are accustomed to celebrating like the Red Sox (irtDogs)

for New England fans when he had that game winning interception on the goal line. It still baffles me why Pete Carroll decided to throw it from the one-yard line. In more recent memory, everyone wrote the Patriots off when

they were down 28-3 to the Falcons in the third quarter, but Tom Brady solidified that he is the best player to ever put on pads in the National Football League. While I have the utmost respect for the Boston teams themselves, it is the fans that have bothered me.

Boston fans know how good their teams are and they let you know about it. As a Giants fan I have been harassed and heckled nonstop since my first day on campus. New England fans love to remind everyone that Boston is the city of champions. While I have done my best to try and resent Boston and their sports teams, it is impossible, there is no question that Boston sports uplifts the city.

**Want to write for The Archway next semester? Email  
archway@bryant.edu!**



# "Pay for Play" - a case of the NCAA

C.J. Demers  
Contributing Writer

The terms student-athlete and amateur are synonymous. The name student-athlete was coined in 1964 by the first ever executive director of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and holds much more weight than people would like to think. Student-athlete was not just created to keep the amateur status of college athletes, but to prevent universities from having to pay workers' compensation to its athletes. This becomes a big issue in the eyes of the athletes when a team can generate 95 million dollars for its university, or have a company sign a 280-million-dollar apparel deal with a university.

During the 2015 college football season, the University of Alabama football team had a great season and the amount of money generated by the team was unparalleled. This quote from Forbes truly shows the magnitude of wealth a single team of student-athletes can generate. "Not only did Nick Saban deliver the University of Alabama its 4th national college football title in 7 years, but he also helped subsidize the entire Crimson Tide athletics department by generating an astonishing \$95,132,301 in revenue, the most ever by any single team in the history of college sports."

From the outside looking in, this sounds great. The players on the University of Alabama football team have helped their entire University and fellow student's athletes out. However, none of these players will ever see this money these athletes worked for. If each of the 103 student-athletes were to see an equal share of this money they would each receive \$923,614.57. While there are still other expenses that need to be paid \$95 million is a ridiculous amount of money to be generated by a group of amateurs. Had these athletes not won the National Title, there would not be over 95 million dollars for the rest of the athletic program. This is not the only time where college athletes generate an immense amount of money based off of their play.

The University of California Los Angeles, also known as UCLA, recently signed a 15 year 280-million-dollar apparel deal with Under Armour. This is not just some run of the mill apparel deal. The UCLA-Under Armour deal is the largest sneaker and apparel deal ever made, with the next largest deal being nearly 30



Pictured is former Louisiana Tech football and current Bryant football quarterback Price Wilson (thenewsstar.com)

million dollars less. This sneaker and apparel deal was so groundbreaking, that former UCLA football coach Jim Mora was quoted saying "We just signed the most lucrative deal in the history of college sports."

As you look deeper into the UCLA-Under Armour agreement, you begin to find some interesting things. The Los Angeles times stated that "Under Armour has committed to supplying an average of \$7.4 million in clothing, shoes and equipment each school year and contribute an additional \$2 million over the next eight years for upgrades at facilities such as the Morgan Center and the Acosta Athletic Complex." By using those numbers only 127 of those 280 million dollars are being used. This brings into concern the ideas of what will really happen with the leftover 153 million dollars and why the UCLA athletes should not see any of this excess 153 million dollars.

Under Armour did not just sign the biggest sneaker and apparel deal of all time with UCLA because Under Armour just felt like it. This begs the question of why

these athletes cannot get paid. There is such an excess of money that it seems insane for these athletes to not even see a fraction of it. The issue is such a problem because this 280-million-dollar deal was created because of the success of UCLA athletics. This is money that the UCLA athletes worked for, and without them, this deal would never have even been a thought.

Division I colleges and universities are able to use their student-athletes to make money. UCLA and the University of Alabama are two extremes that have large amounts of money that athletes do not get to see. Athletes at these big time Division I colleges and universities, should be able to make money based on their on-field performance. Money would be allocated through a pay-for-play type scenario, where athletes would be able to make money off of how well they play and how much their respective institution uses them for advertisements.

## The Annual Army vs. Navy football game

James Freirich  
Staff Writer

This past week marked the 76th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, as well as 118th Army vs. Navy Football Game. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day took place on Thursday, December 7th. It was on the morning of December 7th, 1941, that the Japanese Empire launched a surprise attack on the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii killing more than 2,400 military and civilian personnel. Most of those killed were serving in the US Navy with 1,177 deaths on the Battleship USS Arizona. President Franklin D. Roosevelt recounted that the attack on Pearl Harbor would be "...a date which will live in infamy...I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7th, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire." Thus, it is during the 76th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor that we commemorate those who tragically lost their lives on that fateful day. Moreover, it is also a day which gives us the opportunity to give thanks to U.S. veterans who went to battle against the Japanese Empire.

Saturday, December 9th, marked the 118th Army vs. Navy football game. In an extremely close game, Army won, 14-13, as a result of a missed 48-yard field goal attempt by Navy. This past showing was an especially interesting one for multiple reasons. First, prior to Army's victory on Saturday, Army last year broke a long standing Navy win streak of 14 years. This means that prior to 2016, Army had not won against Navy since 2001. During the game the broadcasters made an interesting observation: they stated that if Army wanted to turn the tide and solidify themselves as a strong opponent against Navy, then they would have to win this game. Otherwise, last year's win would simply be marked as an unlucky phenomenon for Navy. With Army's win this year, they have solidified their position as a strong opponent and have in essence told Navy that they have turned themselves around and are no longer the same team that lost 14 straight encounters.

Additionally, this year was even more memorable for Army as they not only solidified themselves as a strong opponent against the Navy powerhouse, but also won the Commander-In-Chief Trophy. Every year the Commander-In-Chief Trophy is awarded to the Military Academy that defeats the other two. For example, last year the Air Force Academy won the Commander-In-Chief Trophy by beating both Army's West Point and the Naval Academy. Thus, this year Army's West Point beat both the Air Force Academy and the Naval Academy, winning the Commander-In-Chief Trophy-something that has not occurred since 1996.

I personally found 14-13 to be surprising, and thought that Army would have scored much higher. I base this rationale behind the fact that first Navy beat Air Force in a very close game of 48-45. Second, Army crushed Air Force 21-0. Air Force has not been shut out at their home field since 1980 when they played Boston College. Thus, it would have seemed apparent that Army would have blown Navy out of the water.



The Army/Navy game has become a well respected tradition every year (NESN)

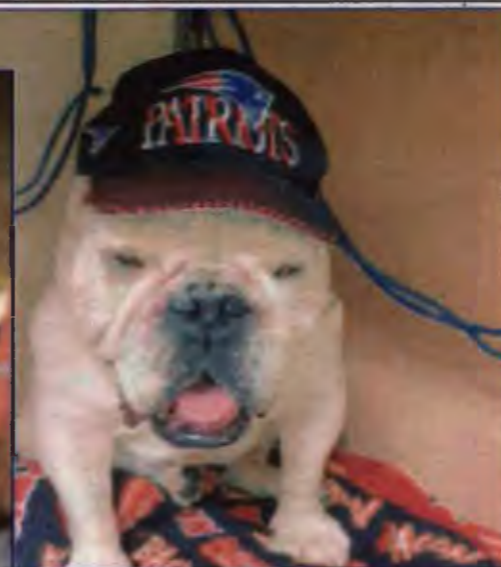
That being said however, it is quite possible that the strong snow and wind conditions could have had a significant effect on the low scoring game. Field reporters themselves commented that players such as, Army starting quarterback, Ahmad Bradshaw, had to use heaters to melt the snow off of their cleats in order to regain traction. Furthermore, the snow conditions made the turf very slippery for some while the wind conditions arguably had an effect on Navy's missed field goal.

In anticipation for the 2017 Army vs. Navy football game, Bryant's very own President Ronald K. Machtley-U.S. Naval Academy graduate, Class of 1970-was asked how he thought his alma mater would fare in the impending game. In response, President Machtley stated, "Come Saturday I'll be watching the game and hope Navy wins!"

The 118th Army vs. Navy game reminds us however, that regardless of who wins or loses, the game symbolizes something greater. The Army/Navy football game is known as America's game in that it reminds us that under one flag we stand together, united, wearing the colors red, white, and blue for the greatest country on earth.

This article is dedicated to all those who lost their lives during the attack on Pearl Harbor, as well as to the men and women currently serving in the United States Armed Forces.





## This Week's Scores

Men's Basketball- Game December 6th

Albany 84

Bryant 68

December 9th

Memphis 90

Bryant 72

December 11th

Louisville 102

Bryant 59

Women's Basketball- Game December 7th

Binghamtom 55

Bryant 47

December 10th

Hartford 59

Bryant 47

## Week's Best Tweets

"Ikenna Ndugba posted his third career double-double with 17 points and a career-high 11 assists at Memphis on Saturday. For the week, the Bryant sophomore guard averaged 15ppg, 9apg, 3rpg and 1.5spg. #NECPremePerformer #NECMBB"

-@NECsports

"2018 Bryant Basketball Youth Clinic opens registration"

-@BryantAthletics

"So to celebrate last year's football victory of Army vs. Navy, Big Dawg hits the deck @ 6:50am for pushups. Once every 15 years is OK! Beat Army"

- @BryantUpRez

"Gendron announces first two members of @BryantMTennis Class of 2022"

-@BryantAthletics

"We'd like to welcome the first two members of the Class of 2022! First up is Ohio native, Andrew Pregel! He is currently the No. 1 ranked player in the state"

-BryantMTennis





Photos by James Imrie

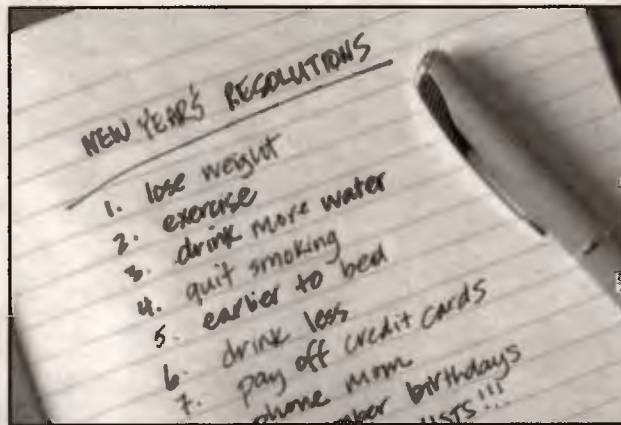


## Does the New Year issue in a new you?

Elana Williams-Leonard  
Business Copy Editor

Are you ready for lots of gifts, cool pajamas, ugly sweaters, eggnog and great food? Well, have no fear; Christmas is right around the corner! Christmas is an important time those who celebrate it create special memories with the people they love, talk about the year, and of course, consume copious amounts of great food. And what comes right after Christmas? That's right, New Years. Due to the high consumption of food during the holidays, even dating back to Thanksgiving, many people often make the resolution to lose weight and stay fit in the New Year. The question is: how long do these popular New Year's resolutions actually last?

As the year comes to an end, you begin to reflect on the choices you've made. You start to wonder what you could have done differently and how you can improve for the upcoming year. You convince yourself that you'll become a vegetarian, only eat protein filled-food, cancel out bread and pasta, drink less alcohol, or go to the gym every single day. But are these goals really realistic? To achieve goals such as these, it involves mental readiness and discipline. Simply stating that you will do these things without actually considering what it entails is impractical.



Everyone seems to have one, but do they really work?  
(IndieReader)

According to Nielsen Holdings PLC, a global information, data, and measurement company, the number one New Year's resolution is to stay fit and healthy, with 37% of people saying that this is their goal. Following this is losing weight as number two, in which 32% of people have proclaimed this as their goal for the new year. These are very high percentages of people who declare they will change their lifestyles and change their

body image, but how many of these people really succeed?

According to the Huffington Post, only 8% of people actually stick to their New Year's resolutions throughout the year. A lot of people tend to underestimate their ambitious goals. They begin to embody the new them, but after a few days or months of understanding the difficulty involved with changing their lifestyle, many of them give up and resort back to their old habits.

A large misconception about New Year's resolutions is that you will definitely stick to them. "New year, new me," is a classic cliché statement that people overuse. It is perfectly fine to want to become the best person you possibly can be, but it takes a lot of self-control and motivation to keep up with these demanding resolutions. Staying healthy and losing weight are difficult, especially when you are used to eating whatever you want or not going to the gym as often as you could. Resolutions like these take time, serious planning, commitment, and a lot of self-control.

If you want to make a New Year's Resolution to change your lifestyle, make sure you are ready to accept the challenge that comes along with it. You can do anything you put your mind to, and I hope that you consider this when deciding your own resolution this year. Happy holidays!

## What it means to be a liberal arts major here in the land of the Bulldogs

Eliza Hodge  
Head Copy Editor

Bryant University isn't a large school by any means, but that doesn't mean you can't still feel a little lost. Bryant is, and will remain so for the time being, primarily a business school. Though they claim that their School of Arts and Sciences is gaining ground and popularity, a majority of the students are here to study business. As a Literary and Cultural Studies and Political Science concentrator, it is easy to feel like a little fish in a big pond. It is a standard question to ask someone what their major is when first meeting them, and often when I tell them, they are surprised. If I had a dollar for every time someone said, "Wait, we actually have one of those here?" well, I'd be quite a few dollars richer. Yes, we do exist, and no, I am not the only one. Though only a small percentage of the student body is an Arts and Sciences major, it doesn't mean no one is. However, it can mean that we are sometimes overlooked.

So what does it really mean to be a liberal arts major at a primarily business school? It means that you have to sometimes struggle through business orientated classes because they are required of you in order to graduate from Bryant. It means that at career fairs you'll struggle to find a company you want to talk to, because most of them are looking for business students. There might be one or two companies that represent your liberal arts major, but you won't leave making 10 or so connections like the other students. It means the Bryant Career Connection is primarily filled with Accounting and Finance jobs, with only a handful of liberal arts jobs. But what about those of us who are not pursuing a career in business? Who are the English, Psychology, Politics and Law, Biology, and all the other Arts and Science majors supposed to talk to? It's great that

Bryant has so many connections with companies like PWC, Target, Dell, Liberty Mutual, etc., however, you are not going to find a job with one of those companies without being a business concentrator. Often people forget that this school has more than just business majors, and us liberal arts majors can be left to fend for ourselves at times.

Bryant claims that their School of Arts and Sciences is improving and growing larger, and while that may be true, a majority of the students come here for their School of Business. It's rare when you find someone else who isn't here to primarily focus on business. Most of your friends will be business majors who fix their schedules so they have classes together, while you probably won't find any classes you have in common. While all of your friends are working through accounting or finance questions together, you'll probably be holed up on your own trying to finish your ten-page paper.

However, one of the great benefits is that you will often take classes with the same professor, and really get to know them. They'll often take an interest in you as well, since you are taking their classes out of genuine interest and desire to learn, while others may just be filling their liberal arts requirement. These are the people who will help you find that internship, or that job, that you may not have seen posted on our job board. They'll give you advice on what you can do with your liberal arts degree, and how to make the most of it. If you are a liberal arts major, make sure you take the time to go to your professor's office hours and get to know them, as this connection can be very important to your future success. The liberal arts program at Bryant can seem underrated at times, but you have great opportunity to guide your degree and take the classes that will interest you, and be beneficial in a future career. Always have your goal in mind, and make the most of what opportunities Bryant does provide for its liberal arts students.



A discussion between students and Professor Jeffrey Cabusao, who teaches a variety of different liberal arts courses (Bryant University)

# YOU HAVE OPINIONS, I KNOW YOU DO! *WRITE ABOUT THEM!*

Submit articles to [archway@bryant.edu](mailto:archway@bryant.edu) expressing your opinion



# Do not wait until it is too late: there are ways to seek and receive help

Makenna Brooks  
Contributing Writer

Did you know that suicide is one of the leading causes of death in the United States? Last year on November 16th, I heard the noise of ear piercing sirens as they sped by my house. I never thought those sirens would be heading to my cousins house. Hours after the ambulance flew by my house, my family got a call saying that my cousin was being life flighted to Maine Med with a slim chance to live. At just 18 years old, my cousin decided to end his life because he thought that was the only way out. After getting the call later that night that he didn't make it, my world was forever changed. It gives me endless pain to think that he thought the only answer was to end his life. I continuously ask myself, how someone can be so selfish to end their life and leave their loved ones to suffer. I have taken the time to educate myself on suicide as well as watch various documentaries on suicide. Entering my sophomore year of college, I thought it would be in everyone's best interest to find out how many people can successfully identify one who is suicidal.

Video after video I watched, the people who survived an attempted suicide regret their decision the moment it was done. The number of suicides in the US continue to skyrocket with a current number of 2 million people. With more and more people taking action, it can really influence our society and help people who do not feel like living. One positive influence come from famous rapper Logic who recently came out with his song "1-800-273-8255". Logic begins his song by telling listeners that he wants to die. He expresses his low points and feels his only way out is to die. At the end of the song he wants to stay alive because life IS worth living. This song is a great way to show people that they are not alone and it is normal to feel sad. With the title of his song being the suicide number, there is hope that this will be engraved in people's heads and help when in such a situation. I believe that the first step to making a difference comes from the importance of knowing the warning signs of a suicidal person.

The start to preventing suicide is to be aware of specific signs. Suicide is too serious to not take the right precautions. After personally going through a suicide in my family, I've been more cautious of my peers around me. I feel that if I was informed of the signs from one who wants to end their life, maybe I would have been able to save my cousin. I kick myself everyday because I feel that I could have done something to prevent my 18-year-old cousin to end his life. If only my family and I had realized the common signs and taken action, he may still be alive.

It is especially common for college students to feel depressed and feel hopeless. Luckily, Bryant has a great counseling service in the unistructure. I know at least 10 of my friends who go to counseling whether it's to talk about something serious or just because they want to talk to someone and express their thoughts. I grew an interest in finding out how many college kids actually know warning signs. Therefore, a few weeks ago I approached a few of my close friends and asked them if they would be able to notice someone suicidal. Overall, 2:5 of my friends knew few tactics that they thought would be a red flag.



(Meant to be Happy)

One friend said, "I think people should be worried if a person is skipping class and giving their belongings away, it is easier to pick up on if you know the person. One of my friends used to make comments about how he wanted to die so I made him an appointment at the counseling services. I couldn't tell if he was serious and I didn't want to risk it". If someone you know is giving their personal belongings away, that could mean they intend to commit suicide. Now, obviously this doesn't always indicate desire of suicide but why take the chance. After the death of a family member, I have realized that life is too short and if you have to second-guess something, you should probably act on it because if you don't you may regret not helping that person. More signs of someone suicidal is someone that is skipping class, getting poor grades and not taking care of themselves.

As I continued to ask around for advice, the ratio seemed to stay the same. At the end of my experiment, I met 4:10 people that had a clear view of a suicidal person that is less than 50%. One other person that was up to par with the warning signs had a more personal experience with a friend who almost killed herself. She explained that if she did not notice the warning signs, her friend probably would not have been alive. She continued by saying, "I'm lucky to have been educated on suicide warnings and I continue to live my life and help others that are going through what my friend did. Nothing feels better than knowing you saved a precious life".

Overall, suicide is something that should not be taken lightly. At this point in age, we can't sit back and

tell ourselves it won't happen to a family member but what happens if it does? With the correct actions taken for someone that is in need, you could save a life. No one should suffer alone. I cannot stress enough the importance of not taking a chance. If you even have a single thought that they could possibly be suicidal, don't wait! If you have taken anything away from this, I hope that every one of you can be able to be more aware of the signs and be a helping hand for your peers. For the many out there that are faced with depression and anxiety, you are NOT alone. Don't wait until you're having suicidal thoughts. The best thing you can do is talk to a counselor, a friend, family member or even a professor. As Luke Richardson said, "We need to change the culture of this topic and make it OK to speak about mental health and suicide".

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Number  
Call 1-800-273-8255

If you would like to talk to someone at Bryant about this topic or any topics like this in a confidential and safe space, please contact the Counseling Services office at Bryant at (401) 232-6045. As always, in an emergency you can reach the Department of Public Safety at (401) 232-6911.

## Ask Archie

Ask Archie for his honest advice on any of questions you have been pondering  
Send your questions to [AskArchie@bryant.edu](mailto:AskArchie@bryant.edu)

**ASK THE QUESTIONS  
YOU WANT TO ASK  
AND ARCHIE WILL  
ANSWER!**

?????

What does this mean?

When will I ever neeeeeed to use Stats in real life?

Which major should I choose?

With this much homework, do I have time to go out?

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



## Go Greek: Find your home away from home; join a new association

Eliza Hodge  
Head Copy Editor

To some, January 26th-28th is just the first weekend back from winter vacation, but to the girls of the Panhellenic community, it is one of the most exciting weekends of the year: sorority recruitment. At Bryant, we have four sororities on campus, Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Zeta, Sigma Sigma Sigma, and Alpha Sigma Alpha. Each chapter is unique, but all strive to welcome new members with open arms into our sisterhoods. Over the course of this semester, each sorority, and Panhel, have held information sessions to invite others to learn about our sisterhoods. We spend the whole year preparing for this one weekend and working hard to ensure that girls who go through recruitment find their place. That they find a sisterhood with shared values and ideals; a sisterhood where you feel comfortable and excited for the years to come; a sisterhood where you feel at home. Over the course of the weekend, all girls going through recruitment will get the chance to meet with each sorority, and its members, to learn about their philanthropies, their values, and why you should ultimately go Greek.

Joining Greek life means joining a community of people who will support you no matter what. It is finding a group of girls who will love you for who you are, want to get to know you, and always be willing to hang out. It means being philanthropic, and working to add goodness to the world and help those in need. It means finding who you are as a leader, and opening your eyes to opportunities that were once unimaginable. It means meeting women who will push you every day to become a better version of yourself. Joining Greek life means finding the girls who will stand by you when you graduate and when you hit your life milestones. Greek life introduces you to women that you may never have crossed paths with before, and these women become some of the most influential people in your life. These women will always be there to congratulate you on your highs, and lift you up during your lows. This is not just any other organization, it's a community, and a family. The bonds that are created between sisters is not one that just scratches the surface, but it goes much deeper, and you connect on so many different levels.

It is easy to believe the stereotype you see in movies and the news, but that is not a representation of what Greek life at Bryant is. Greek women, and men, are leaders on this campus. They are ambassadors, orientation leaders, Presidents of clubs and orgs, captain of their sports team, tutors, RA's, etc. Many of these women will say that their Greek sisters helped push them to reach for these leadership positions and, ultimately, earn them. Sorority women have a higher average GPA on this campus than all Bryant

women, and we strive to always push ourselves academically. Each sorority spends the year organizing philanthropy events and volunteer work, donate thousands of dollars and hours of time each year to charity and worthy causes. No matter if you're a freshman or a senior, it is never too late to take the first step and sign up for sorority recruitment. Come and learn about each of these sisters. Find a philanthropy that you are passionate about, meet someone who will become your best friend, join with people who share your values, and find your home away from home.

If Greek life sounds like something you can see yourself a part of, sign up today through this link: [enroll.icsrecruiter.com/pan/BRYTUN](http://enroll.icsrecruiter.com/pan/BRYTUN)



Try new things to find something you truly love (SororityGirlThoughts)

## Things to do over this winter break

Thomas Maranian  
Variety Editor



Enjoy the holidays with your family and friends (PlayBuzz)

School is out for a month. So what can you do? Before all else, be thankful that you have a month off. Christmas is less than two weeks away, so if you have not done your shopping, now is the time! Many stores will offer deals on demanding gifts for family and friends, you just have to find the right ones. Get creative this year. But at the end of the day, always remember it is the thought that counts. The true meaning of Christmas is so much more than gift giving. It's a time of Thanksgiving, family, and celebration.

If you have any family traditions for the holiday, keep them alive. Watch a movie together, sit by the fire, enjoy a cup of hot chocolate, or do whatever else it is that brings you happiness. Now is the time to forget all the stress finals may have brought to you, and focus on enjoying the next month at home. Be happy, be excited, and get festive.

Perhaps you have wanted to catch up on some reading. There has never been a better time than winter break for that. Set a schedule for yourself to get through as many

books as you can. Knowledge is power. Find your favorite place to read and indulge yourself in a whole new world of fantasy, fiction, or history. Better yet, grab that cup of hot chocolate along with it.

Maybe now is the time to catch up on your favorite show on Netflix. The shows that started up in the fall are now about eight or ten episodes in. Get comfortable and enjoy every minute of them. Also many new movies are playing in theaters like Star Wars, Justice League, Thor, and Murder on the Orient Express. Buy your tickets online and ahead of time to ensure you get a seat. Beware of spoilers!

The snow is out and the fun is here (if you like the cold). Meet up with a bunch of friends and enjoy the weather. Have a snow ball fight, go skiing, go hiking, or just go for a walk to enjoy the beauty of nature. It is truly beautiful around the holidays, especially since towns and cities typically have decoration up on every block. Now that you are ready to return home, go explore to find out what's been going on all the time you have been away. Perhaps a new restaurant opened up. You will only find new things if you seek them out.

With the holiday season comes New Year's resolutions. One of the major ones tends to be a healthy lifestyle. With all the time off, now is the best time to refocus yourself and start a new workout routine. Of course, there will be an indulgence of food on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Therefore, this is the best time to test yourself and implement a new diet into your lifestyle. Staying fit is highly correlated with willpower. Get into a routine of going to the gym every day, or you could always workout at home. Take a trip to the supermarket and make a few changes to your kitchen cabinets. Start eating healthier to promote a start to your resolution. It's all a science. There is no magic to it. Take in less calories than you burn, and you will lose weight. Take in more calories than you burn, and you will gain weight. Simple, easy, 1, 2, 3.

Some may not have seen their families for a few weeks, others a few months. Now is the best time to really spend time with them. Hang out with your brothers and sisters, go shopping with your mom, and do some yardwork with your dad. They have missed you, and it is likely you have missed them. Express your love for them however you can!

Complimentary to that, you probably have missed your friends back home, too. There are so many options for all of you. Go to a fancy restaurant one night and catch up on everything, pull an "all-nighter" together at someone's house, or have a secret Santa swap for Christmas. Spend as much time as you can together and enjoy it. It's been almost four months after all.

Winter break is a month long, but it can go by really fast. The best strategy to making it count is to have no regrets. Do not do anything that you will regret doing. Instead, enjoy every second of it, pick up a new hobby, and get a head start on a new resolution you have for yourself. Ensure that you make it worth while by catching up on things you have been away from for months. Make it the best winter break you can.

Merry Christmas to all and happy New Years!



# December movie review: "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"

Zach Parretti  
Staff Writer

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri is a drama/dark comedy written and directed by Martin McDonagh, whose other notable works include Seven Psychopaths and In Bruges. This film focuses on a grief-stricken mother, Mildred, whose daughter had been raped and murdered. It's been seven months since the incident, and she still has not heard any news back from the police, even though they had successfully collected DNA samples of the murderer. In an act of retaliation and hopes that the case will be brought to more attention, she purchases, as the title clarifies, three billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri. What Mildred chooses to have these billboards say essentially calls out the town sheriff, played by Woody Harrelson, and the entire Ebbing police force.

Ebbing is a very small town, which results in everyone becoming quickly aware of the billboards and their message. Some are on Mildred's side, but most are not. Multiple plot points arise throughout the film as a result of personal conflicts between Mildred, the police force, and the townspeople. Woody Harrelson does a fantastic job playing the role of Sheriff Willoughby, bringing back his police officer role that he donned in the HBO series, True Detective.

There is such a great sense of pacing throughout this film. Little moments of progression from side plots occur left and right, which, in turn, find a way to help keep the main plot point slowly but steadily moving. One of the main aspects of this film that amazed me most was something that Hollywood doesn't properly do enough: an effective means of character development. Through these developments of multiple characters throughout,



Mildred in front of the billboards (mystatesman)

it allows the audience to be emotionally moved as well, which deserves the acting in the film to be deserving of extreme credit.

The comedic and dramatic aspects happen to fit almost perfectly hand-in-hand. Since the comedy is at most times quite dark, it allows some moments to ironically fit in with its more dramatic scenes. Very few movies have the capacity to make you seriously laugh and moments later make you cry. One of the biggest themes

in the movie is how the cops treat certain people in the town and how people perceive the force in differing ways. This theme is a precise and timely one, as police brutality is a current hot topic in the country, which gives some scenes extra dramatic depth. McDonagh provides one of the year's best overall works, and it might just be great enough to win Best Picture come March.

## A guide to running in cold weather and why you should try it out this winter

Thomas Maranian  
Variety Editor



Your success is correlated to proper preparations (TreadmillFactory)

As we transition into the winter season, the holidays are just around the corner, and with them comes a long-awaited winter break. If you have been running all along, now is not the time to stop. The cold weather should not keep you indoors. Rather, you should embrace it and find ways of enjoying it! If you are new to running, this is a great time to start as well. However, because the temperature drastically changes, there are a few proper precautions you must take to ensure your run is safe and still enjoyable.

It all starts with proper clothes. It's not unheard of that when you walk out the door, you immediately feel the brisk, cold air running down your back. It consumes your fingers, toes, and ears most of all. That being said, the head is also the fastest to lose body heat. It is a necessity to wear a winter hat to cover your ears, but if possible, wear a ski mask for ultimate heat retention. Put on a pair of gloves and make sure you are wearing a pair of thermal socks if you have them. Proper precautions prevent any unnecessary risks. You also must dress in layers. This means that a mere long sleeve shirt is not going to do it. You are going to want to wear soft, fleece type or thermal sportswear that keep you nice and warm. The last thing you want is to be one mile into a run and realize you are freezing.

Now that you are properly dressed, it is in your best interest to warm up. You have probably heard it a thousand times but stretching is extremely important prior to running in the cold. The reason for this is when your body tries adjusting to extreme temperatures like the cold of winter, and your muscles are not properly ready for the

fight, you will likely end up causing soreness, faster fatigue along the run, and cramps either during the run or later on in the day. Your body needs to warm up before being exposed to an unfamiliar temperature. It's all about homeostasis. You will have a much harder time adjusting to the cold if you do not take the time and effort to first make proper preparations for whatever might hit you.

Though we are dealing with cold weather and not hot, you still need to bring a bottle of water along the adventure. It is essential to stay hydrated while running. That goes for any possible temperature. You may end up going into a state of hypothermia a lot faster if you do not stay hydrated. The air gets very dry below the freezing point, which means your throat is going to cry out for water after a period of time. You are going to sweat either way, therefore do not be afraid to stop several times along the run to replenish with water. The last thing you need is to feel that aching feeling in your throat. Progress towards your running goals will only be achieved if you take the time to prepare yourself for success.

Now that you are ready for a run in the cold, it is worth noting there are many benefits to running in general, but the cold is ideal. For starters, running in cold weather has been proven to burn more calories. When your body shivers, it does more work to bring your temperature back to normal levels, and so you end up burning energy. That does not mean to run around without clothes on, since we already know it is dangerous to be running unless in layers. What this does mean is that you now have an incentive to run in cold weather. Science is really awesome, right? If your goal is to shed some extra weight, running in the winter is very welcoming. And if you are really serious about long term fitness goals, try high intensity interval training while running. Basically, sprint for thirty seconds, jog for fifteen, and repeat the process. This will effectively raise and lower your heart rate to burn significantly more calories than steady-state cardio. And you'll be able to get through with your workout in half the time.

If you run winter track, then of course you will be outdoors this winter break to prepare yourself. On the other hand, with spring a few months away, that means marathon season is not too far away. Whether you plan on entering a 5K, 20K, half marathon, or a full marathon, the winter season is the optimal time to prepare. Strengthening your respiratory system in the winter will create optimal performance in the warm weather. Conquer the cold to beat the heat. Conquer the heat to beat the cold. Running year-round is a great way to everlasting success.

The hot weather is awful right? That depends on your view of it, but honestly it might feel better to run in the cold and shiver than it does to sweat in the hottest of temperatures. Just think, no sunburns! You will build a great deal of mental and physical toughness. When you make it a habit, your body will thank you. At first it might seem too extreme to be in twenty-degree weather, but after a while your body will get used to it and embrace the cold. People will see you as they drive by in cars and wonder why they aren't doing the same. Show some confidence and make it a fun time for yourself.

Running in general will make you a happier person, so why not start now? It's all about the adventure. The outdoor world is truly worth exploring when the snow falls. Nature has a beautiful way of expressing itself. Get out there and work for your goals. Fight till the end. Never give up on your run. One step at a time, one block at a time, one mile at a time. You will get the mentality that if you can run a race in the cold, anything is possible. The air will bite you, try to break you, and will eat away at your lungs. The question is: can you fight it?



# John Clare & Percy Shelley's views on Contemporary Environmental Concerns

Kyle Cornell, Haley Reddish, Sam Sanerarno,  
and Cameron Ziegler  
Contributing Writers

One cautionary tale that has always been prevalent in society is that the more stress society puts on the environment, the harsher the environment will fight back on society. Dating back to the early 19th century, Romantic writers expressed the same cautionary tale.

John Clare and Percy Shelley were two Romantic writers who beautified nature, while criticizing the exploitation of the land and its resources. The themes that they expressed in the 19th century, are magnified today, as society has industrialized and grown since then. John Clare takes the first-person point of view, from nature's perspective in his poem, "The Lament of Swordy Well." This point of view provides the reader with a more intimate connection to the poem, than if Clare were to express his feelings from a third-person narrative in regards to nature. The narration creates a sense of pity that readers would not feel if it were written from

a different perspective. As much as society is based on competition and taking care of yourself, society has an engraved sense of empathy. Clare's poem is designed to expose this empathy and promote cultural change for the protection of nature. His views on nature are not just from an ecological perspective either. The exploitation of the land and its resources has a social impact just as large as the ecological impact, because it separates the rich from the poor and preys on the labor of the lower classes.

In Percy Shelley's "Mont Blanc", he emphasizes the aesthetic beauty of the mountain and ravine in the Swiss alps. His poem is written from a perspective that addresses the mountain itself. He compares the greatness of the mountain against the depth of the ravine while explaining their sublime beauty. While he displays his strong passion for nature and its beauty, he also takes a defensive standpoint where he wishes to protect the subject. He takes a strong stance against the perils of modern society and its effect on nature.

Shelley explains the damage that is being done to this beautiful vantage in the following quote, "The limits of the dead and living world, never to be reclaimed.

The dwelling-place of insects, beasts, and birds, becomes its spoil; their food and their retreat for ever gone, so much of life and joy is lost." He goes on to explain man's role in this destruction when saying, "The race of man, flies far in dread; his work and dwelling vanish, like smoke before the tempest's stream, and their place is not known."

The views and themes expressed by these authors are most prevalent in today's society, as the world has industrialized and developed significantly since the 19th century. Neither of these writers could imagine or predict society consuming the way we do today. There are very few individuals in society that share similar views to these writers. The most prevalent, contemporary mind of our generation is Elon Musk, of Tesla. Musk shares very similar viewpoints to Clare and Shelley; however, he has taken the advances of technology to find solutions to the problem. A combination of the artistic beauty of Clare and Shelly with the mind and vision of Elon Musk would go a long way for society and the beauty of nature.

## What I learned from studying abroad

Will Tondo  
Staff Writer

Studying abroad has been one of the rewarding things in my young life. After spending a semester in Sevilla, Spain I have accomplished some life changing feats and created ever-lasting memories. I jumped out of a plane at fifteen thousand feet to land in the middle of Spain. I rode a camel along a desert beach in Tangier, Morocco. I attended the most famous festival in world with forty Bryant bulldogs in October in Germany. And I had to opportunity to see history in person in Rome, Paris, and Edinburgh. I met many incredible and fascinating people from all around the world, ranging from California, Wisconsin, England, Spain, Germany and Australia. I gained a whole new level of gratitude on the little things in life, but the most important thing of all was everything that I have learned in these four short months. I can honestly say I've captivated life lessons that will last with me forever. One of the main reasons I came abroad was to become opened minded and to learn as much as possible. Thankfully, I had the opportunity to do both, and here are some of the things I have learned.

### Appreciation and Perspective

I have been thankful enough to have had the opportunity to travel around the world prior to my semester abroad, but I never engaged myself in everyday life of the native where I went. Being a Spanish resident made me appreciate the way I live back at home and at school but it opened my mind on how people live all across the world. I realized that the ways we do things at home aren't always the best ways. In the U.S., we do things very quickly. We loose appreciation of what is right in front of us. In Spain, they have a much slower pace, and they appreciate a lot of small things that we rush by. This includes family and friend time, eating meals, style of shopping, and appreciation for the items and utilities that we use everyday. The feeling of appreciation especially kicked in while traveling through Morocco, Africa. Traveling to this country was eye opening. Their style of living is indescribable and it made me be thankful for everything I have at home, and appreciative for the life I have. The state of their country, the high rates of poverty, the conditions of living, the way they have to earn money, their dissatisfaction of where they live and

their motives of trying to escape to a new world all made me take a huge step back. It made me look at the world on a much bigger scale and made me feel guilty for the small troubles I have and how I react to them. Overall, I gained a new appreciation of life, and its value

### Independence

Prior to abroad, I would say I am a fairly independent person. Going to college you grow up a little and start doing a lot of things on your own. But while abroad, you truly become one with yourself. You learn how to cook yourself, how to navigate around cities by yourself. I learned how to book my travels on my own, and learned how to get from destinations across European borders on my own. Although I had a host family and residing with friends from Bryant, I still gained a new appreciation of independence and it was a big step for myself to help prepare myself for the future.

### Useful Knowledge and Practices

Abroad has taught me a lot, and these were the most valuable things that will help me shape my adult life. I learned how to navigate through public transportation, in foreign languages. I never really had to use public transportation. While in NYC or Boston, I've taken the train and metro, and in Smithfield I've used the RIPTA, but those were simple task. Europe is full of public transportation, and at times it wasn't easy to navigate. I found myself in many of these situations whether it was the Spanish bus system, French metro system, German airport, or Italian ubers. I can say I conquered it all.

I also learned how to budget. In the states, I never really had to budget like I did while abroad. Every weekend is essentially a mini vacation and you need to map out how you are going to spend your money. The cost of travel, lodging, food, activities, it all adds up after each week. It was definitely a difficult task, but I learned how to manage my money and my spending and be more of a cautious spender when I return abroad.

As a freelance photographer, I have a huge passion for photography. I love to take pictures of people and places, but this trip made me realize you can't always live your travels behind the lens. I was capturing a sunset in Toledo, Spain early on in my travels and I couldn't get the right picture. I immediately put my camera down and just sat on a park bench and admired the beauty that was



Will Tondo at the Real Alcazar, site to one of the shooting scenes of Game of Thrones, in Sevilla, Spain  
(Will Tondo)

right in front of me. I new right there that I did not want to miss out on small opportunities like this one because of a camera or my phone. There were many times I didn't take photos of places at all, and I was totally okay with that.

But more importantly I learned how to relax. It is not like I didn't know how to relax, but I learned how to slow down. Prior to abroad, I was a very regimented person, usually adding unnecessary things to my plate, not knowing the word no. The Spanish culture has added years to my life. They taught me how to enjoy meals, rest my body, and enjoy my leisure time. I learned how to separate my work and my free time, not thinking about either while in the designated time. I will not change my ways of not being late and meeting deadlines, but I will grab a meal with a friend instead of grabbing an extra thirty minutes of sleep. Or I will share a story and a laugh with a group of people than study an extra hour. These small gestures are more valuable to life then things that only matter on that given day.

I couldn't have asked for a better 4 months, and I am extremely thankful to not only my parents who gave me this chance but for Bryant University, for having such a prestigious study abroad program. If there is one thing I would recommend, is that you must take full advantage of this opportunity. Study abroad has made me a completely better individual than I was four months ago. I know this experience will have ever lasting positive impacts and has definitely shaped my future.

*Have a happy new year and a great winter break!*



“Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening”

BY ROBERT FROST

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

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