



The Student Voice of Bryant University since 1946

THE ARCHWAY

Black and Gold and Read all over

www.bryantarchway.com

Volume 86, Issue 03

Smithfield, RI

October 5th, 2018

Inside this edition

Business:
Coca-Cola dabbles in
Marijuana market

Page 5

Sports:
Bryant Baseball has
a new gameplan



Page 7

Opinion:
Kavanaugh showed
us America's true
morals



Page 11

Variety:
It's time to stop
using plastic bottles

Page 13

Dunkin' Donuts considers name change

Dakota Biladeau
Contributing Writer



Dropping the "Donuts" from Dunkin' Donuts could be a good thing (Dunkin')

As a college student, that morning, afternoon and late-night pick me up is essential. At Bryant, a hot spot for this "pick me up" is Dunkin' Donuts. When was the last time you actually called the coffee spot by its full name? It's almost always referred to as "Dunkin'" and the franchise picked up on this trend among their customers. On September 25th, the company tweeted out that they will officially change its name from "Dunkin' Donuts" to just "Dunkin'" effective as of January 1st, 2019. The tweet used the hashtags, "BFF status" and "first name basis" with a

video name tag that said "Hello My Name is Dunkin'".

One of the main reasons for this name change is the significance of the other products sold in a store. The AP News reported that "Dunkin' Donuts has always sold coffee, but hot breakfast sandwiches and specialty drinks like the fruity Coletta and Cold Brew iced coffee have become increasingly important to the chain.

In the second quarter of this year, the company noted that overall U.S. store traffic was down, but revenue was up thanks to sales of higher-margin iced coffee drinks and breakfast sandwiches" (Durbin). Fans and followers of the franchise had mixed reviews on the name change.

Loyal Dunkin' fans did not hold back on Twitter after the announcement of the franchises' name change. Richard Lawson took to the social media site tweeting, "The Dunkin' news is giving me painful flashbacks to Boston Chicken becoming Boston Market and Starbucks buying the Coffee Connection" (@rilaws). "No, You're Dunkin' Donuts, not just Dunkin'. You're going to go to all Dunkin' Donuts a just take down the Donut part of the sign? 68 years is a long time, and this is stupid for me to change the name after almost 70 years." (@buidahouse222).

Some customers, on the other hand, were not as angry saying that the name change really has no significance as no one calls Dunkin' by their previous full name of "Dunkin' Donuts".

The franchise spoke on behalf of the reviews stating, "By simplifying and modernizing our name, while still paying homage to our heritage, we have an opportunity to create an incredible new energy for Dunkin', both in and outside our stores." Many other tweets were concerned with the company not serving donuts in-store locations due to the void of the second half of their name. "While donuts may no longer appear in our logo, we remain committed to serving our signature donuts and will continue to offer new and seasonal varieties to delight donut lovers everywhere," Tony Weisman, U.S. chief marketing officer at Dunkin' stated regarding the backlash of the name change, reassuring customers that their sweet treats will still be at their locations. Weisman also stated after customer backlash.

As Dunkin' continues to make strides in business, their products will stay the same. The changes looking to be made are simply cosmetic assigns and stores may be updated with the updated names as well as cups and boxes that will now read simply "Dunkin'". The marketing means new signs, decorations napkins, and cups. The name change has been implemented in some storefronts already as new signs have been put in place.

Amazon increases minimum pay

Wyatt Boelens
Contributing Writer

Earlier this week, the conglomerate company Amazon just made public its decision to raise wages for British and American workers to \$15. In the past few years, Amazon has been in hot water with the public regarding mistreating and underpaying its employees. According to The Guardian, undercover reports have found some employees urinating in bottles to maintain a high productivity rate. Although Amazon hasn't had the best track record in this area, recent events like this show that the company has not taken its criticisms lightly.

Its new policy will be instated as of November 1st this year. This directly benefits the lives and families of over 350,000 workers in the US alone. Jeff Bezos stated earlier: "We listened to our critics, thought hard about what we wanted to do, and decided we want to lead." Bezos went on to encourage other large companies to follow suit, like Walmart and Target who have already begun to raise their employees to pay well above minimum wage. But what does this mean for college students?

Whether it be in the form of full time, part-time, or an internship, we all need to find work. With companies like Amazon leading the charge in the fight for increasing minimum wages, is it crazy to think that our salaries may increase as well? For those who are looking for jobs at Amazon, Walmart, or Target it is highly likely that it will mean more money.

Basic economics tell us if the people at the bottom of an organization are being paid more, everyone else above them will see increased salaries as well. But will it affect other industries as well? Over the past few years, it has become an ever-increasing debate of whether to federally raise minimum wages, or not. In the free market system, we live and work in companies can choose exactly how much to pay its employees, if it is above what the Government has deemed as the lowest livable income level is.

Under this system we have competition, and now that companies like Amazon are raising its minimum wages, it will be attracting far more applicants than before. This will allow Amazon to pick and choose the best employees, and other companies will have to learn how to compete



Amazon workers in a distribution facility (Noah Berger)

with that, all while keeping the company profitable. So, for those who are looking for jobs where they are paid by the hour, this may mean more money for us as companies begin to compete more and more over quality employees. While for those who are looking for full-time work, unfortunately, it seems unlikely that salaries will increase, even within these companies. Since hourly wages are treated differently than full-time salaries that are defined by contractual agreements.

Meet The Archway Staff

Black and Gold and Read All Over



www.BryantArchway.com



archway@bryant.edu



bryantarchway.com



Christopher Groneng
Editor-In-Chief



@TheArchway



BryantArchway



Hunter Quinn
Treasurer



Nyatasha Jackowicz
Web Editor



Eliza Hodge
General Manager



Danielle Caci
Business & Marketing Director

Holly Blackstead
Public Relations Director

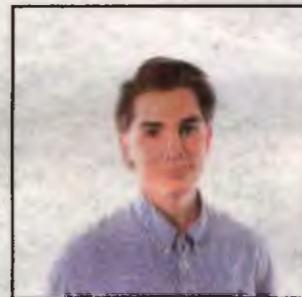
Madison Ballou
News Editor



Elana Williams-Leanord
Opinion Editor



Christopher Polis
Business Editor



Thomas Maranian
Variety Editor



Emily Moss
Photography Editor

Jacklyn Sullivan
Opinion Copy Editor



Carli LoPresti
Web Assistant



David Schmidt
News Copy Editor



Gianna Ceccarelli
Sports Copy Editor

Alex Hugh
Variety Copy Editor

The Archway
Bryant University, Box 7
1150 Douglas Pike
Smithfield, RI 02917

Office Location:
Third Floor of Fisher Student
Center

Melissa Hurwitz
Web Assistant

Katie Hughes
Staff Advisor

Meeting Times:
Tuesdays at 5pm in Room 2C of
Fisher Student Center

The Archway is printed by
TCI Press, Inc.

Department of Public Safety Log

VANDALISM (RESIDENCE) Sep 26, 2018-Wednesday at 22:25

Location: TOWNHOUSE A BLOCK

Summary: While dispersing a party DPS found vandalism to a Townhouse.

(MVA) MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT Sep 28, 2018-Friday at 14:27

Location: LOT E

Summary: DPS received a report of a parked vehicle being hit. The caller stated she accidentally backed into a car belonging to a faculty member.

EMT CALL EMT CALL / MEDICAL SERVICES

RENDERED Sep 29, 2018-Saturday at 01:38

Location: Coventry House

Summary: DPS received a report from a student requesting a medical evaluation for an intoxicated female.

EMS was activated. Smithfield Rescue 3 no transport needed.

VANDALISM (SCHOOL BUILDING) Sep 29, 2018-Saturday at 23:46

Location: Newport House

Summary: DPS received a report of an intoxicated student that had punched a hole in a wall.

EMT CALL EMT CALL / MEDICAL SERVICES

RENDERED Sep 30, 2018-Sunday at 00:14

Location: TOWNHOUSE N BLOCK

Summary: DPS received a report from the Smithfield Fire

Department informing DPS that they had received a 911 call for a person having a seizure. EMS was activated. Smithfield Rescue 2 responded and transported the patient to Fatima Hospital for treatment.

FIRE (BUILDING) Sep 30, 2018-Sunday at 00:55

Location: FIRE ACCESS RD

Summary: While on patrol a DPS officer came upon a fire on the Access Road behind Townhouses O&P. Fire was extinguished. No Smithfield Fire response.

Judge Kavanaugh confirmation drags on into October

Ryan Cerino
Contributing Writer



GOP members of the Judiciary Committee watch as their prosecutor questions Dr. Ford (AP)

On July 9th of this year, President Trump nominated judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court to fill the spot of newly retired Justice Anthony Kennedy. Kavanaugh has served on the DC Circuit Court of Appeals since 2006. Since July 9th Brett Kavanaugh's journey to get confirmed as a Supreme Court Justice has been a wild one.

Since his nomination, Kavanaugh has been accused of sexual misconduct by two different women. The first is Christine Blasey Ford and occurred while Kavanaugh was a teenager at Georgetown Preparatory School. The second is Deborah Ramirez and took place during Kavanaugh's freshmen year at Yale University. Kavanaugh said he "categorically and unequivocally denied" the allegations after Ford came out to the public and stated that he was not present at the party she was describing. With

Ramirez's allegation coming to the public Kavanaugh said that her statement "was a smear, plain and simple." Many Republicans have come out to support Kavanaugh, they also believe that this is just a ploy by the Democrats to derail Kavanaugh's confirmation.

Senator Lindsey Graham of South Carolina has criticized the Democrats, that if this was such an important issue to them they would have released Ford's letter much sooner. Graham, along with many other Republicans, believes that this is happening because the Democrats will do anything to stop President Trump's agenda. Senate Democrats have called for Trump to order an FBI investigation into the allegations and have said that the incidents that have happened require a delay in Kavanaugh's confirmation

vote. Democrats have called on male politicians to "step up" when it comes to sexual misconduct, and not let powerful men get away with these types of actions.

Senator Dianne Feinstein has been at the forefront of trying to delay the confirmation vote. The hearing of Ford and Kavanaugh took place on this past Thursday the 27th, and there have been mixed reviews about it. Republicans believe that Kavanaugh did exactly what he had to do, and Democrats believe that his testimony was a blatant lie. On Friday afternoon Trump stated that the FBI conduct a "supplemental investigation" to update Judge Kavanaugh's file.

Trump states that this investigation must be "limited in scope and completed in less than a week." Kavanaugh has stated that he has "done everything they have requested and will continue to cooperate."

As stated earlier most Republicans have shown support to Kavanaugh, however, after the hearing, a few senators on the fence decided that an investigation would be the best course of action. Among these senators is Arizona Republican Jeff Flake. Flake has agreed that the supplemental investigation is the best course of action. The other senators that were on the fence that joined Flake were Susan Collins, Lisa Murkowski, Heidi Heitkamp, Joe Manchin, and others.

The final vote was tentatively scheduled to take place on October 2nd, but now with the FBI investigation, it will likely be delayed into the following week. The Republicans hold a thin majority in the Senate, so they need all the votes they can get. The Democrats will continue to hold their position against Kavanaugh.

Tweets of the week

"This is now the 7th. time the FBI has investigated Judge Kavanaugh. If we made it 100, it would still not be good enough for the Obstructionist Democrats."

- Donald Trump, 10/04/18 (@RealDonaldTrump)

"I am pleased to hear Mark Judge has indicated he would cooperate with investigators.."

-Sen. Susan Collins, 09/28/18 (@SenatorCollins)

"Short thread here on the back and forth between R's and D's on Senate Judiciary Committee regarding what was in PAST FBI background investigations of Kavanaugh.."

-Jake Tapper, 10/04/18 (@jaketapper)

"Leftist celebs coming out against Kavanaugh is really rich considering their track record on sexual misconduct. Oh wait, it's okay if you get a movie role out of it though, right? You idiots wouldn't know justice, decency or truth if it pinched you in the butt. Give me a break!"

-Tomi Lahren, 10/02/18 (@TomiLahren)

"Thirty-five days until the election. Have your friends and family checked their voter registration yet? Give them a nudge to do it today. Deadlines are approaching quickly."

-Hillary Clinton, 10/02/18 (@hillaryclinton)

"Looks like they're gonna do it, Kavanaugh on the court: women of America, consider yourself boofed."

-Bill Maher, 10/04/18 (@billmaher)

"RIP Ray Fogarty. It is a very sad day for Bryant when we lose a long term committed leader like Ray. Rest in peace. We will all miss you."

-Ronald Machtley, 09/28/18 (@BryantUPrez)



Judge Kavanaugh answering questions before the Senate Judiciary Committee (Doug Mills)

Israel splits with US on president's UN speech

David Schmidt
News Copy Editor

Recently, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu voiced his displeasure with President Trump's solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Prior to that, President Trump voiced his solution during the United Nations General Assembly conference. The solution that Trump had proposed was the two-state solution, which envisions an independent State of Palestine alongside the State of Israel, west of the Jordan River.

Netanyahu believes that any solution to the conflict between Israel and Palestine must involve Israel having complete control over security for the region. This is best seen in the quote, "My view of a potential agreement is that the Palestinians have all the powers to govern themselves... The key power that must, must not be in their hands is the question of security. ... I don't want them either as citizens of Israel or subjects of Israel." Therefore, what Netanyahu is asserting is that Palestine can maintain most of the power of sovereignty excluding the power of security. The reason is that he wants Israel to wield that ability for the region that the two states share. Likewise, he has stated that Palestine would be given the ability to have its own government and tax its own citizens, but it would not have power over its security.

When President Trump voiced this statement last week it was the first time he had overtly voiced his attitude on the issue of whether or not Palestine should have its own state. Likewise, when Trump voiced this stance the Palestine President Mahmoud Abbas responded positively stating that "the path to peace requires a two-state solution."

However, Netanyahu has made it extremely clear to both the current Trump Administration and former US president administrations that Israel does not support the two-state solution between Israel and Palestine. Yet, Netanyahu also voiced that the Israel-United States of America bond is still an extremely powerful and strong bond. Moreover, besides stating the status of the US-Israel relation, Netanyahu also believes that his close friendship with President Trump is a danger to the greater relation of the two countries.

To demonstrate that Netanyahu's claim that the US-Israel relationship is still strong he has recently voiced his praise for Trump by stating that Trump has shown great service to the common security of both [the US and Israel] because of his position on the Iran Nuclear Deal as well as stating that the United States would stop all funding to both the U.N. Relief and Works Agency in Palestine. However, this agency aids in the funding of schools and clinics in the area of the West Bank as well as Gaza for a projected five million plus Palestinian refugees.

Netanyahu also voiced that he and Israel believe that both political parties in the

United States, the Republicans as well as the Democrats and their respected leaders, in the legislatures understand the dedication that they show to the ideas and beliefs of an open and free democracy, which is also robust in those areas. Finally, Netanyahu also voiced that he and his fellow Israelis fully support and back America's support.



Prime Minister Netanyahu speaks before the United Nations (Timothy A. Clary)

Chapel Hill police chief: Law enforcement tactics at UNC protests are of 'great concern'

Mark Schultz
MCT Campus

Chapel Hill's police chief says he is greatly concerned by some of the tactics that law enforcement officers have used against protesters on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

Speaking to the Orange County Human Relations Commission and reporters Monday night, Chief Chris Blue said he was "particularly saddened" that Chapel Hill police and some other departments that are committed to social justice "in many ways wound up in the middle of a very complex situation."

Blue told about 40 people that UNC Police led the multi-agency response to the Aug. 20 protest that toppled the Confederate monument known as Silent Sam on McCorkle Place and to three later clashes between opponents and supporters of the soldier statue, erected in 1913.

Chapel Hill police and other agencies provide support to the university police under longstanding mutual aid agreements. The Greensboro police, in particular, have been criticized for deploying pepper fogger, which affected officers and members of the media covering the protests, as well as demonstrators.

Blue suggested it all could have been avoided.

"We predicted a year or so ago that the issues around Silent Sam would escalate to where they wound up," he said.

"It's clear that some tactics have been employed that are unique for this community, and that have not been seen before in this community, and that causes me great concern," he said.

The Chapel Hill Police Department faced harsh criticism in 2012 after officers in riot gear and rifles forcibly removed a group of self-declared anarchists from a former car dealership on West Franklin Street as bystanders recorded the event on their phones and iPads. Blue was not in town during the incident. The response led to months of community discussion and policy changes.

Last month, Blue left a meeting of the Chapel Hill Community Policing Advisory Committee when told that some people there to talk about the campus protests did not feel comfortable speaking with him in the room. A member of the committee called upon the town to end its mutual aid agreement with Greensboro.

UNC has declined to comment on specifics of its security plans and operations, including providing the



A protester at UNC Chapel Hill is violently restrained by campus police (Khadejeh Nikouyeh)

names of all the agencies that provided mutual aid. UNC Police spokesman Randy Young has said the university plans to review law enforcement's response to the protests but has no plans to make its findings public.

But Blue said the town has not faced demonstrations like those surrounding Silent Sam before. Some protesters have scuffled with officers; some officers have pushed police bicycles into demonstrators and pushed demonstrators to the ground, as seen on videos.

"I think it's fair to say you've seen police tactics, the volume of officers and a tenor of the tension between demonstrators and law enforcement that is highly unusual," Blue said. "We've had events here for many years where 80,000 people are on Franklin Street celebrating Halloween. These are very different events right now."

But the chief stopped short of saying he disagreed with the law enforcement response, which has led to 25 police arrests.

"I think the best way to answer that is to say that we will conclude what the appropriate tactics were at the end of our review," he said after a sigh. "I think it's too early to say, and I also will say I don't have full information yet on everything that's happened on McCorkle Place."

Blue also declined to say how much Chapel Hill was told about potential police methods beforehand or whether he thought new, more aggressive protesters required a stronger response.

Last month, Orange County Sheriff Charles Blackwood, whose department also sent officers to the protests, described law enforcement being yelled at and spit on by protesters.

"These are not little, innocent UNC students that are upset about what's going on on their campus," Blackwood said. "These are people who are looking for an opportunity to have law enforcement take action against them. They want somebody to get hurt. ... They'd rather it be us than them, but they don't care who it is."

Blue said he anticipated learning more about those involved in the demonstrations.

"I think that's part of the review too," he said. "It concerns me that we are having a discussion about elevated tactics in a community where we have a long history of being able to work through tough issues without having to behave this way."

Amazon raises the stakes on advertising

Holly Blackstead
Public Relations Director

In a recent article on The Wall Street Journal the revenue and market share of the digital giant, Amazon, is being analyzed. The article states that Amazon will take No. 3 ranking on the top U.S. digital ad sellers and generate \$4.6 billion in revenue. The reason for this is because Amazon is not only selling products, they allow others to sell products on their site, and to buy advertisements on the site.

Amazon is a cloud computing and e-commerce company. It started as an online bookstore and continued to broaden its market and products. The company now sells its own electronics. The more traffic gets the more Amazon makes on its own products as well as how much they can price advertisements. Companies are willing to spend heavily on advertisements on Amazon because if they are also selling products on the website they know the ad will reach its target consumer.

So where is Amazon headed? As Amazon penetrates the digital ad market and e-commerce market they are also moving into the healthcare space. Amazon has made steps to begin selling healthcare equipment while also hoping to make changes to health insurance offered in the United States. Amazon has partnered with Berkshire Hathaway, and JPMorgan Chase to challenge employee healthcare naming Dr. Atul Gawande, a general and endocrine surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, and maybe best known for his work writing about health care for The New Yorker, as CEO of the merger. This is a huge move for the already thriving company. Healthcare is currently being highly scrutinized and dissected by the public and politicians. Therefore, the collaboration has the potential to make an important and well-needed impact on healthcare offered to employees. CBS insights report points out

"By teaming up with JPMorgan and Berkshire Hathaway, Amazon now has an additional pool of more than 1.2M employees — diverse in socioeconomic status, geography, and age, among other factors — to test its products on before releasing them to the public.

This could be helpful when searching for solutions that work for both specific use cases (e.g. chronic disease management) and population demands (e.g. pharmaceutical delivery)."

After the announcement the Amazon's entry, the healthcare market plummeted. This proves just how much power Amazon can have on pretty much any market.

Along with the collaboration to challenge employee healthcare Amazon has also acquired online pharmacy PillPack. A CBS Insights report also pointed out that Amazon's reach is larger than ever. "The company has a direct distribution advantage to over 300m active customers, 100m Prime members, and approximately 5m sellers on the site, which could prove useful should it ever develop health solutions for small businesses." Overall the move Amazon is making into the healthcare sector is going to be a challenge because it is so different than the e-commerce market they are used to; however, with the expertise of Dr. Atul Gawande, I think it will prove to be a strategic move and investment.

Coca-Cola is diving into a brand new market: Marijuana

Varun Arvind
Contributing Writer

Coca Cola has been a dominant force within the soda industry for decades, but recently they've realized that they need to branch out in order to stay dominant. Recently, the soda company has started talks with Aurora Cannabis Inc. to develop a marijuana-infused drink. Aurora Cannabis is a licensed cannabis producer, headquartered in Edmonton.

The drink isn't meant to get a person high, but rather produce the same effects as medical marijuana. This is possible due to CBD or cannabinoids. There are two parts in marijuana, CBD and THC (delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol); THC is the mind altering, psychoactive part of marijuana, the part which is usually portrayed on TV. CBD, however, is not psychoactive, and does not change a person's state of mind. The body has two types of receptors

which marijuana affects: one which affects coordination, pain, and emotion. THC usually attaches to these. The other receptor is more common in the immune system and affects pain and inflammation. CBD instructs the body to make more of these receptors and as result relaxes the person and reduces pain. Coca Cola and Aurora Cannabis Inc. are trying to create a drink with the same benefits.

On Oct 17th, marijuana is going to be legalized. Due to the legalization, this is the perfect country to test out the drink. According to law, people over 18 and over can legally do marijuana. This opens the door for so many opportunities, including the venue of CBD-infused drinks. As of now, this market is very difficult to replicate in the United States because on a national level, the use of marijuana is still illegal. However, everyday, marijuana is being used to treat more and more problems. It is only a matter of time before these drinks come to the United States.

Will the new rise of Michael Kors spell the demise of Versace?

Marsol Rosaly
Contributing Writer

On September 25, 2018, Michael Kors bought Versace for \$2.12 billion. Capri Holdings Limited, the newly named holdings company of Michael Kors, now owns Michael Kors Collection, Versace, and Jimmy Choo (acquired in 2017 for \$1.2 billion). Before buying the Italian Fashion House, Donatella Versace, along with her brother, Santo, and daughter, Allegra, owned 80% of the company, while Blackstone Group held the other 20%. Capri Holdings is now America's first global luxury conglomerate.

However, Versace fans took to social media to express their complaints. The company's followers believe that Michael Kors will not be able to uphold the Versace name and will be the cause of its death. These worries stem from the difference in price, availability, exclusivity, etc. Where Michael Kors has 800+ stores and its products can be found in a variety of department stores, Versace sells their high-priced products only in one of their stores 200 or online through their website.

Nonetheless, since the Donatella, Santo, and Allegra are still going to be part of the company, the company as a whole will not change nor will its mystique. Kors expressed what needs to be modified within the company and his plans for the future. Their main focus is to grow and increase profits. John Idol, CEO of Michael Kors, stated: "The acquisition of Versace is an important milestone for our group. With the full resources of our group, we believe that Versace will grow to over US\$2.0 billion in revenues. We believe that the strength of the Michael Kors and Jimmy Choo brands, and the acquisition of Versace, position us to deliver multiple years of revenue and earnings growth." Cowen analyst, Oliver Chen, stated in an article for Business Insider: "Versace needs to grow its direct-to-consumer physical store and online presence... In our view, the online capabilities are behind with respect to social media, fashion, and lifestyle content, shipping speed, and customer engagement; an acquirer could step change innovation online."

What most people do not understand is its importance. The U.S. now has a luxury fashion group to compete with LVMH Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy SE, Kering, and Richemont. Due to these much larger European conglomerates, the fashion industry takes place primarily in Europe, through six major companies, including LVMH and

Kering. With this new luxury conglomerate, Kors is able to expand his companies within the world's largest luxury market, the United States, giving them an edge against the European fashion institutions.

Seeing that Versace will still boast its one-of-a-kind haute couture to only a selected few, the only thing that would lead the company astray is if Kors implements its business ethics to enlarge the company and its revenues while forgetting to nurture its truly unique look. The question now is whether Michael Kors will be able to uphold the exclusivity that Versace possesses, or will their drive for profit change its name forever.



Michael Kors taking in the applause at a fashion show (Getty Images)

Interested in business? Like to write? Send in a business article and get published! Send articles to archway@bryant.edu

The economy is booming. But are Americans ready for the next recession?

James Rufus Koren
MCT Campus

Need a few thousand bucks? Get a loan fast online. Need a mortgage? Apply for one on your phone. Have questions for your bank? Chat with a robot instead of a teller.

The way Americans interact with the financial system has changed dramatically over the last 10 years. And yet, for all the technological innovation, Americans' fundamental relationship with the institutions that help them pay for homes, cars and other necessities remains largely unchanged.

A decade after the financial crisis, many households are no more prepared for an economic downturn today than they were then. And though there's less risky lending in some areas, new worries have emerged.

Student and auto debt have soared, new types of loans backed by untested technology have hit the market and the average American has benefited little from the roaring stock and housing markets.

"There are more people on the margins than there were in 2008," said Mehrsa Baradaran, an associate dean at the University of Georgia School of Law who has written extensively about wealth inequality and the financial system. "More people have been knocked out of the secure middle class. I think the next crisis will hurt as much if not more."

One worrisome sign is that, when a crisis or recession comes — and experts agree it's a question of when, not if — Americans will probably be in just as much debt as they were in 2008, if not more.

In the third quarter of 2008, U.S. household debt peaked at \$12.7 trillion. After falling for a few years, debt started to rise again. Today, that figure stands at \$13.3 trillion.

The figures aren't adjusted for inflation or population growth, but they nevertheless show that Americans, after cutting back, are borrowing again.

And more than ever, they're borrowing in the form of student loans as the cost of higher education has far outpaced inflation.

Since mid-2008, mortgage, home equity and credit card debt have shrunk while the amount of student debt has more than doubled. The increase in student debt accounts for nearly all of the increase in overall household debt.

Despite the growth, investors aren't worried about student loans taking down the financial system. Bankruptcy laws make it nearly impossible to shed student loans, and the federal government, rather than banks or private investors, owns most of it.

Still, investors are concerned that high monthly payments could have long-term effects on the economy, potentially stunting its growth.

Saddled by student debt and graduating into an economy in which jobs have returned but wages have been stagnant, many younger Americans haven't been able to afford to save for down payments and buy homes, forcing them to rent. That has pushed up rental prices, making it even harder to save, said Andrew Hsu, a portfolio manager at downtown Los Angeles investment firm DoubleLine Capital.

"It creates this cycle where, in this race of trying to buy a home, they can't catch up," he said.

What's more, those would-be buyers have now missed out on years of a booming housing market. Even if they

payments a priority for fear of losing their wheels.

"With increasing delinquencies in the space, perhaps we're reaching the top of a cycle," Hsu said. "It could be a potential red flag."

Another worry for investors is the rise of online lending. Over the last few years, so-called fintech companies such as Lending Club and Prosper have issued tens of billions of dollars in loans to consumers who wanted to refinance other loans, pay off credit cards or make home improvements.

But nearly all those online loans were made as the economy has recovered from the recession. In 2007 and 2008, industry leader Lending Club made a mere \$25 million in loans. So far this year it's lent \$3.8 billion. Investors say they're not sure how these new types of loans will perform in a downturn.

"The models are not recession tested," said Tad Rivelle, chief investment officer for fixed income at downtown L.A. investment firm TCW. "They have a high degree of faith that the algorithm will give the right answer. But the algorithm can be fooled."

Mark Hamrick, senior economic analyst at consumer finance site Bankrate.com, said one risk inherent in the rise of online financial services is that consumer protections and warnings are often buried in electronic documents that few people read.

"Years ago, many financial products were attained through personal interaction and in that process there was at least some back-and-forth communication — is this credit card good for me?" he said. "Now we all just click the box to get to the next page."

Even in the mortgage market, where there's less outstanding debt than in 2008, there's still plenty of risk to go around.

Though exotic subprime loans — such as option ARMs, with adjustable rates and payment plans — offered by the likes of Countrywide and Ameriquest are gone, borrowers with bad credit or little savings for a down payment are still getting home loans. The difference is that now those loans are made through the Federal Housing Administration mortgage-insurance program or are otherwise government-backed.

In 2005 and 2006, the peak years before the crash, government-backed loans accounted for only about 35% of all new mortgages; by last year, that figure had risen to 70%, according to the Urban Institute.

Rivelle said that means a meltdown in the mortgage market probably won't cause the same damage as the last one because banks and private investors are less exposed.

"If you want to be an optimist, if there's a blowup in the housing market it will not impact the banks the way it did in the last cycle," he said. "But there has been a marked deterioration in the quality of loans."

Kim Schoenholtz, a professor at New York University's Stern School of Business, said these risky, largely government-backed loans are a sign that, despite a housing-led recession and financial crisis, U.S. policymakers are still incentivizing home ownership to a dangerous degree.

FHA loans and other programs, he said, encourage people to try to build their nest eggs not by investing in the stock market or saving but by plowing money into a single piece of real estate.

"We're encouraging people to adopt very risky financial behavior — to acquire an illiquid, undiversified asset and to borrow heavily against it," he said.

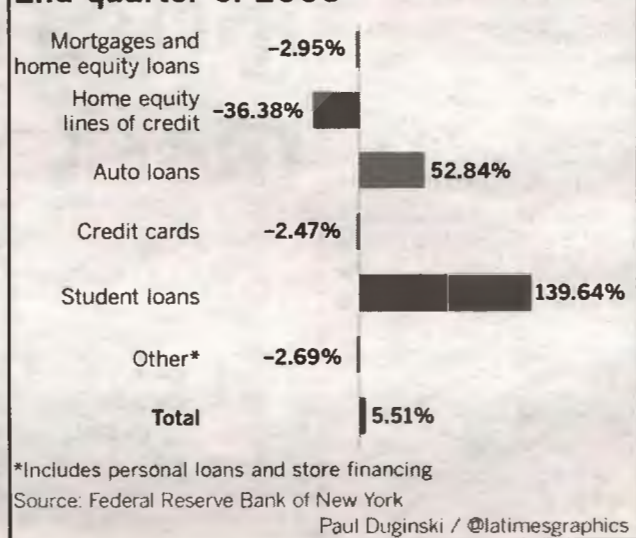
Overall, Baradaran said Americans are no better prepared for a recession than they were in the run-up to 2008. But the University of Georgia professor also said that's not because consumers are trying to engage in risky behavior.

Sure, student debt has boomed, she said, but that's because Americans have no other way to pay for college and try to nab jobs with decent pay in an economy in which wages are stagnant for many.

About one-quarter of U.S. adults have no retirement savings, according to a 2017 household financial survey by the Federal Reserve, and 41% say they would not have enough savings to cover a \$400 emergency expense.

"I think a lot of people did learn their lesson, but people need student loans to go to college," Baradaran said. "These aren't greedy people. They're not gamblers. I don't think everyone is making bad decisions."

Growth in debt by type since the 2nd quarter of 2008



could buy now, they might be buying near the top of the market and won't benefit from the last few years of swift price appreciation.

"People who didn't have the funds to buy, they missed out on a massive rally," Hsu said.

The only other type of debt that's increased is for auto loans, which has climbed 53% since 2008 to \$1.2 trillion. And there too, investors see cause for concern. Over the last few years, lenders have increasingly lent to borrowers with weak credit scores and offered loans with longer terms, allowing borrowers to pay for cars over as long as seven years.

Hsu noted that delinquencies on auto loans have ticked upward, a sign that's particularly ominous because borrowers in the past have tended to make their car



Auto debt among Americans has skyrocketed since the last recession (Susan Tomper)

Fortnite is becoming the biggest E-Sport

Kenneth Croke
Contributing Writer

With the popularity of video games ever increasing, a new category of sports, eSports, has arisen and several video game developers are looking to break into this new field of competition. One such firm is Epic Games who is looking to turn their hit game, Fortnite, into the next big eSport title. Popular video games such as League of Legends, Dota 2, Call of Duty, and CS:GO have been at the forefront of the competitive scene for a long time in a market that is constantly evolving. With 127 million viewers tuning in to watch the League of Legends Mid-Season Invitational there is evidently a large following for eSports. Fortnite's current popularity has made it a cultural phenomenon amongst people of all ages giving Epic Games the perfect opportunity to increase their player count.

Back in May 2018, Epic Games announced they would be providing \$100 million to fund tournament prize pools during the 2018-2019 season. \$100 million is an amount usually unheard of for eSports tournament's prize money, making both players and viewers excited for the upcoming competitive season. The only other tournament to host such a large amount of prize money was in 2017, when Dota 2 paid out about \$38 million in prize money with \$25 million going towards the Dota 2 Championship.

In July 2018, Epic Games announced that they would be hosting an eight-million-dollar online tournament called the Summer Skirmish that would span over eight weeks during the summer, ending with a physical event at the annual PAX West, a video game conference held in Seattle, Washington. Due to the randomness of the Battle Royale games, the developer changed up the format every week for the Summer Skirmish trying to fine tune the points awarded for both ranking and kills. This incentivized fighting and created more action for the viewer.

The first week of the Summer Skirmish went poorly with people dying due to game lag and other variables out of their control, which caused countless viewers to lose interest in the tournament. However, as they worked out the issues, the Summer Skirmish took off towards the end with hundreds of thousands of people tuning in to watch the tournament livestreams on Twitch.tv every week. The final week of Summer Skirmish was the biggest of all with one and a half million dollars in total prizes. The first-place contestant received \$250,000 in prize money. In addition, any participant that came in first place in certain matches were awarded \$25,000.

In the starting weeks, one could only compete in the Summer Skirmish if they were invited by Epic Games, however, the finale at PAX West was free to enter to anyone with a PAX West ticket, making the prize money available to a broader range of players. This allowed Epic Games to help relatively unknown players get seen by video game pro league teams each week. Contestant "Nate Hill" was signed to pro league team FaZe Clan after his consistent performances in the Summer Skirmish, as was "NotVivid," who signed with Team Liquid after coming in first place in multiple different weeks. Even the first-place winner of the grand finale, "Morgause," was relatively unknown and competed without an official team or sponsor attached to his name.

Looking to keep their momentum going, Epic Games created a new tournament series called the Fall Skirmish which began on September 21 and will end at Twitchcon on October 26. The Fall Skirmish only has \$10 million of prize money to award; however, Epic Games has changed the layout so that players still have an opportunity to earn as much money as possible. The tournament has been split into both competitive and casual paced events, such as in-game golf cart races.

Epic Games is expected to release information this fall about the Fortnite World Cup Qualifiers, a large tournament open to any player. It is also expected that most of the \$100 million worth of promised prize money is going to be awarded through this tournament. This sets up competitive Fortnite to become the next major player in eSports.



Fortnite has only been continuing to gain momentum and popularity (Gamebox)

Bryant Baseball changes gameplan

Shane Kelly
Contributing Writer

The Bryant Bulldogs baseball team is adjusting to a different vibe for this fall. The NCAA Division I Council announced prior to the academic year that each team is able to play two fall exhibition games that do not bear any change to any team's spring record. The Bulldogs have a packed, 56-game schedule during the spring that is filled with nonstop travel. These two exhibition games help the team prepare for the very demanding spring schedule. These exhibition games are treated just like regular season spring games by the players and coaches.

This past weekend, the team packed the bus at 6am to head to the United States Military Academy to play Army in a 14-inning exhibition game. This was a great opportunity for the team, especially for the incoming freshmen, who were able to get a taste of their first collegiate baseball game. When I asked Redshirt Sophomore Ryan Ward about his feelings on the opportunity he shared, "It's great for the freshman to get adapted to the expectations of a real game so early in the season. It's also great to get those first game jitters out of the way so that everyone is ready for the first game this February." The Bulldogs played hard for all 14 innings and came out on top by a score of 9-5. The atmosphere for the game was great as most of the players' parents were able to come to the campus to watch and cheer the team on. "I thought it was a really great experience and beneficial to play a team other than ourselves during the fall. Play inter-squad games every weekend in the fall get repetitive so it is nice to play a different team in a different environment this time of the year," Junior James Ciliento added.

Although it was great to dominate in the game, the Bulldogs seemed to enjoy the tour of the Academy a lot more. As soon as the team unpack the bus after arriving at their destination, they were guided on a tour by an engineering department head at the Academy. They were able to see how much different life was for those who attended the academy, especially for the baseball players they were getting ready to compete against. The team was educated on what each student was obligated to on a daily basis. Junior Chris Wright weighed in on his tour experience saying, "It is crazy to see what these guys have to go through on a daily basis with the understanding that they do everything that we do on top of it. It makes us realize that our lives as regular student-athletes aren't so bad." The team was able to see a number of the building on campus including the dining hall that seats over 4,000 people and the seven-story library. The architecture of the buildings had an old-fashioned look with state-of-the-art equipment inside each building. On top of it all, the weather could not have been better. It turned out to be a great day for the Bulldogs from all angles. The team hopes to have a fun rest of the fall after a day like this one. They will play their last exhibition game on October 20th, on campus against University of Rhode Island.



Sam Owens running bases (Bryant Athletics)

Before Rodgers' Bruins experienced success, they went through horrid start

Ben Bolch
MCT Campus



UCLA players come onto the field (Harry How)

The new UCLA football coach faced questions about his use of two quarterbacks entering the program.

The Bruins lost their opener as two-touchdown favorites after their starting quarterback departed the game and his backup lost a fumble in the fourth quarter.

The team went on to drop game after game, starting 0-4 while facing a tough schedule.

It had been a tough opening month for Pepper Rodgers.

The last UCLA coach before Chip Kelly to open a season with four consecutive losses might be uniquely qualified to feel the pain of the man in the current predicament, even if Rodgers' early-season stumbles happened 47 years ago.

"I feel sorry for him," Rodgers, 87, said during a telephone interview this week from his home in Reston, Va., "because I don't care what kind of coach you are, you can't win with players who aren't good enough."

Kelly contended that wasn't the issue facing the 2018 Bruins (0-4 overall, 0-1 Pac-12 Conference), who will try to notch their first victory on Saturday at the Rose Bowl against No. 10 Washington (4-1, 2-0). Asked on Tuesday if his team had the talent to win, Kelly said, "Sure."

Across the board?

"Sure," said Kelly, who pinned his team's struggles on breakdowns in execution and communication as well as penalties.

Rodgers rebounded from his horrid start ... the next season. The Bruins won only two games after starting 0-4 in 1971, finishing 2-7-1, before going 8-3 in 1972 and 9-2 in 1973. Of course, the possibility of future success provided no consolation amid loss after loss during Rodgers' first season.

Rodgers said there wasn't much talent on UCLA's roster when he replaced Tommy Prothro, his former boss with the Bruins who had departed for the NFL before the 1971 season.

"I know why Tommy Prothro left to go to the Rams," Rodgers said. "One, it was a big-time pro job and No. 2, he didn't have any players left."

The Bruins' top quarterbacks were junior college transfers Mike Flores and Clay Gallagher. Rodgers went with Flores as the starter in the season opener against Pittsburgh at the Coliseum, but the heavily favored Bruins lost the lead after Gallagher was brought into the game in the fourth quarter because he was considered more sure-handed as the team turned to its running game.

Gallagher coughed up the ball and UCLA the game after Pittsburgh converted a fumble into the winning points in a 29-25 triumph.

It didn't seem to matter who played quarterback the next week during a 28-10 loss to No. 3 Texas in which the Bruins were completely outclassed.

"As (Longhorns coach) Darrell Royal told me when we played Texas," Rodgers recalled, "Your quarterbacks look like dogs with broken bones on ice."

UCLA fell to 0-3 after two turnovers in the game's first 11 minutes doomed them in a 38-0 loss to No. 4 Michigan. It was the team's worst start since the 1943 team dropped its first seven games on the way to a 1-8 finish. The Bruins' prospects for improvement seemed bleak with their offense so inept that they punted on a third down.

UCLA appeared poised for a breakthrough against Oregon State the following week, taking a lead in the third quarter. The Bruins then gave up three touchdowns in a 71-minute span on the way to a 34-17 loss, forcing Rodgers to acknowledge being emotionally drained from trying to end a losing streak that had reached four games.

He could finally exhale in Week 5, but only after Washington State logged a school-record 10 fumbles, losing the ball six times, and had two passes intercepted by an attacking UCLA defense. The Bruins gave Rodgers the game ball following their 34-21 victory, a belated birthday present one day after he had turned 40.

With UCLA's record in conference play at 1-1, Rodgers was asked afterward whether the Bruins were back in the running for the Rose Bowl.

"Hell, I don't know," he said. "Just let me enjoy this win, OK?"

Rodgers got to delight in another triumph the following week when UCLA beat Arizona before resuming its losing ways. The Bruins dropped three more games going into their showdown against USC following a bye week. That's when Rodgers installed the wishbone offense, helping UCLA pull out a 7-7 tie against the No. 15 Trojans.

"We played what I called a stall game," Rodgers remembered. "We never went out of bounds. We didn't throw any incomplete passes hardly and we kept the clock moving and we tied Southern Cal in the last game of the season."

It was the start of a sharp turnabout. The Bruins upset top-ranked Nebraska in their opener the following season, ending the Cornhuskers' 32-game winning streak, behind the strong play of quarterback Mark Harmon and an innovative scheme implemented by new offensive coordinator Homer Smith.

UCLA finished the season 8-3, making Rodgers the Pac-8 coach of the year. The Bruins went 9-2 in 1973 before Rodgers departed for Georgia Tech, his alma mater.

"Strategically, professionally, it wasn't a good move," Rodgers said of going to a school that wasn't in a conference at the time. "But the heart spoke. I'm a Georgia Tech boy and Atlanta guy."

Rodgers spent six seasons with the Yellow Jackets, compiling a 34-31-2 record, before coaching in the United States and Canadian football leagues.

He said he revived his UCLA fortunes by restocking the roster with top players, a time-honored formula for success.

"I proved everything: I can coach good players, I can't coach bad ones," Rodgers said. "And I think Kelly's proving that. I think Chip Kelly is a good coach. Now, here's what will prove whether or not (he can succeed at UCLA): Is he a good recruiter? We'll see. Because if you can't recruit, I don't care what kind of coach you are, you're not going to win."

Kelly said linebacker Jaelan Phillips, who has missed the last two practices, was sidelined with an unspecified injury.

Phillips detailed his recovery from two wrist surgeries in a lengthy Instagram post Monday, writing that he had returned to the field in four months after being told he could miss as much as a year.

"I wanted to post this as encouragement to my fellow athletes to 1. Not take anything for granted, because ANYTHING can happen," wrote Phillips, who has played in every game this season, "and 2. Don't be discouraged by adversity, embrace it and use it as motivation to do things that nobody thought you could do."



UCLA Quarterback, Wilton Speight, throwing the ball down the field (Getty Images)

Interested in writing about Sports?
Email archway@bryant.edu!



As we announced yesterday on the Bryant Football Coach's Show, we have scheduled FBS-member Central Michigan for the 2020 season.

This is our first-ever scheduled game against an FBS member and will take place on Sept. 26, 2020. -@BryantUFootball

This Week's Scores

Field Hockey - Games September 30

Harvard 2

Bryant 0

Women's Soccer- Game September 28

Bryant 1

Wagner 0

Game September 30

Bryant 1

Saint Francis 1

Women's Volleyball - Game September 28

Bryant 1

LIU Brooklyn 3

September 30

Bryant 3

Saint Francis 0

Week's Best Tweets

"The @UnitedSoccerCoaches have awarded us with the 2017-18 Team Academic Award after we recorded a 3.52 GPA last season, while winning a D1 record 11 matches!"

-BryantWoSoc

"Mark your calendars basketball fans! Season tickets go on sale this FRIDAY at noon. We will be All Heart and All Hustle for ALL 12 home games. You don't want to miss it."

-@BryantWWB

"After allowing just one goal and making nine saves this weekend, sophomore Meghan Dalton was named @necwsoccer Defensive Player of the Week."

-@BryantWoSoc

The Fall Career Fair

Photos by: Nathaniel Brown



The Tech Fair

Photos by: Kojo Appiah

Kavanaugh is the harbinger of morality that America needed in order to find itself

Christopher Groneng
Editor-in-Chief

Over the past three months, America has discovered a monstrous amount about itself. It learned that, at its best, it could honor the memory of a man of extreme integrity and courage in the most venerable way a single human could be honored, and at its worst, it could make a time-tested constitutional process into an archaic, partisan, rough-and-tumble he-said-she-said; a kind of passive-aggressive gun battle, where the bullets are plenty, but the targets are few.

On Thursday, September 27th, the Senate Judiciary Committee heard testimony from both Christine Blasey Ford and Brett Kavanaugh regarding an alleged sexual assault that took place in the summer of 1982, at a small house party in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Ford, a tenured Graduate professor in California with a PhD in Psychology, recounted and detailed her traumatic experience, when, as she claims, Judge Kavanaugh and his high school confidante, Mark Judge, attempted to rape her in the upstairs bedroom of the Bethesda house where the party was occurring.

Following Dr. Ford's heartfelt testimony, Kavanaugh, a judge on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals and known belligerent drunk, in a spectacle best described as the temper tantrum of a white, middle-aged man who just found out that rape is bad, gave testimony and was made to swear before God himself by John Kennedy that the sexual assault in question had nothing to do with him. He also almost too conveniently whipped out a calendar he kept as a high school student at Georgetown Preparatory School that he used to emphasize the unintentionally ironic point that the house party in question, which was widely understood as one of many spontaneous get-togethers that summer, was not written down in advance as a planned event. Who would've guessed?

What was more interesting to watch, though, were the senators on the committee itself. Whether it was Lindsey Graham developing a pulmonary embolism while attempting to excoriate those who are rightly inclined to suspect that maybe sexual assault is an issue that should be taken seriously, or Dianne Feinstein struggling through an Alzheimer's episode during the answering of a simple question about whether or not she or her staff stabbed Ford in the back by leaking her identity, the display put on by the committee was nothing short of shameless grandstanding at every conceivable opportunity.

And as entertaining as it would be to watch through the entirety of the hearing's nearly eight hours of testimony solely to pick through and catalog all of its most ridiculous moments – and I assure you it would be – we would glean very little substance. Watching in embarrassment as a judge from the second-most powerful court in the country argued with a United States Senator from Rhode Island about how much they each like beer (and yes, that



Brett Kavanaugh loses composure during the Thursday hearing (Saul Loeb)

actually happened) is not at all as salient to the confirmation process itself as analyzing just what this confirmation in particular has meant for this country.

The uncomfortable lead up to the conflagration of Thursday's hearing was like the blaring horn of an oncoming train; we all sensed it coming. But as it all began to unwind, it became abundantly clear that what was once supposed to be a streamlined senatorial process would turn into what could be best described as an incredulous dumpster fire.

In addition to Dr. Ford, two more women came forward alleging sexually aggressive behavior perpetrated by Kavanaugh. A recent Gallup poll put Kavanaugh's national approval rating at a measly 39 percent; that's twelve points lower than the average approval rating of the last eight Supreme Court nominees and a whole twenty points lower than the approval rating of then-nominee John Roberts during his confirmation to become Chief Justice. And the entire committee process has bred very little beyond providing a well-lit stage on which our elected officials have practiced their 2020 presidential campaign speeches (I'm looking at you, Cory Booker.)

Beyond our elected officials, the people are implicated in this dumpster fire, too. Americans of all sensibilities have become the virulent mobs most thought were only imaginable in some twisted dystopian novella. While a fair number have taken to trolling one another with pseudo-intellectual arguments (and that's being generous) on internet message boards, some have even threatened the life of Dr.

Ford and other accusers for being brave – or as these glorified terrorists seem to believe, stupid – enough to completely obliterate the entirety of their private lives in the vain hope that these people who are angrily drafting death threats from the comfort of their private residences would instead have a change of heart to the idea that powerful men sexually asserting themselves over women is enough to raise a skeptical eyebrow.

From Kavanaugh and the dumpster fire his nomination ignited sprung a conclusion, bathed in profundity and brutal honesty. A bout of enlightening vitriol, it garnered a realization that at one point in our muddled past may have seemed too outlandish and toxic for America to even imagine itself being complicit, much less active, in nursing, but now seems like the only possible conclusion to draw: that America is, at its core, morally bankrupt.

This is a rude awakening for many who still believe whole- or even half-heartedly in the inherent goodness of this country. It is not that the capacity for goodness is not present. No, the epiphany that Kavanaugh's nomination process has forced upon us all, whether or not we comprehended it before, is that we will happily submit to the snowball effect-style of negative pathos governing, thus forsaking the high road, if it means that we will feel a level of self-interested, temporary satisfaction – that warm, tingling sensation one experiences in their diaphragm after pressing send on a spicy, political burn-laden subtweet aimed at a total stranger – if even for one infinitesimal moment in time. Americans will abandon big-picture discussions about

the long-term repercussions associated with political issue "X" if it means feeling politically superior to a faceless internet icon, and in many cases their own friends and family.

This type of moral ambivalence has always been there, and it has been picaresquely revealed to us before, but is now elucidated and solidified beyond a reasonable doubt. But accepting this is not purely a lamentable moment, though to mourn such a sobering realization is not an inappropriate visceral reaction. Knowing for certain that this is the new status quo of our baseline political practice gives us an opportunity only to grow as a people.

We'll never be able to take back the effects of the malevolent tweets or tactless death threats, but we can stem the tide of their frequency in, and perversion of, our politics. America is angry, and when anger is one's pure motivator, any semblance of moral fortitude is, at its best, nothing more than the illusionary tactics of our politicians used to loosely frame and endlessly spin whatever they choose, whenever they choose.

We can, though, choose when and how we act on our rage in the future. And instead of giving into our worse demons, who apparently are hell-bent on barbarically raising our voices and fists toward one another and forcing our digits to tap violently upon our phone screens and laptop keyboards, we may use our capacity for goodness to channel our better angels in the pursuit of a morally upright level of political discussion.

YOU HAVE OPINIONS, WE KNOW YOU DO!
WRITE ABOUT THEM!

Submit articles to archway@bryant.edu expressing your opinion

Is social media affecting our communication skills?

Emilie Despres
Contributing Writer

Have you ever been at a restaurant and noticed everyone sitting at the table engrossed in their phones? The table is silent with everyone's faces glowing from the apps and social media outlets they cannot seem to escape. Using cell phones to communicate has become a common reality for young adults today. Social media is a huge contribution to this problem.

Social media has changed the way people interact with one another, resulting in a loss of social interaction skills. This is even apparent here at Bryant University as students struggle having conversations in person due to their dependence on social media.

Snapchat and Instagram have become the primary mode of communication between peers. We, as students, are more focused on checking the notifications that pop up on our phones rather than having meaningful conversations with those who are sitting right next to us. While social media has technologically enhanced our society by connecting people across the world, it has also taken a toll on our communication skills as a society.

Communication skills are crucial to setting us up for success in our personal and professional lives. When you have a conversation in-person, it is important to have basic knowledge of how that communication should look. One should be able to make eye contact, tap into responsive facial expressions, and speak respectfully in accordance to the topic of conversation. Due to the increase in online communication, young adults are now lacking in these basic skills.

Emoticons and gifs have made it easier for people to express themselves through their phones, which could also be another reason why people resort to this form of communication. When a person has difficulty showing their emotions, it becomes harder to create relationships in real life. Nonetheless, relying on your phone does not help you in real life situations. If you are in a relationship and you are unable to express your feelings, how can you have a meaningful connection with your partner? If you are in an interview and are struggling with holding eye contact with the manager, how can

you expect to land the job?

We need to realize the serious negative, possibly long-term effects that social media can have on our society. It is important that we put the phones down and start having more conversations with our friends and family members.

I would like to encourage the Bryant community (and people in general) to take some time and think about how social media has personally affected your own life. Then, think about how you can minimize your social media use while increasing face to face communication. Are we going to let social media consume us, or are we going to reclaim our relationships?



Smartphones revolutionized communication, maybe for the worse (Getty Images)

The Kavanaugh hearings: what they revealed

Brandon Carroll
Contributing Writer

Brett Kavanaugh is a name that has been in constant circulation throughout all media outlets. Kavanaugh is a Supreme Court nominee who was personally selected by President Donald Trump back in early July. Recently, two women publicly came forward and accused him of sexual assault after initial confirmation hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

On September 27th, 2018, he appeared before the Committee to vehemently defend himself against the allegations made by Professor Christine Blasey Ford of Palo Alto University. According to Professor Ford, Kavanaugh and his high school classmate, Mark Judge, locked her in a bedroom at a house party in 1982. Subsequently, Kavanaugh held her down, silenced her screams by putting his hand over her mouth, and attempted to remove her clothes.

In this alleged situation, it is evident that attempted rape took place. The grave severity of this situation is the reason why it has become quite prominent across the country. Yet again, we see another wealthy and powerful man being accused of sexual misconduct. These allegations are occurring at the same time as the viral

social media movement #MeToo, which supports women who have been sexually assaulted in our country. As of recent, these cases have been made against seemingly untouchable, high profile men. This movement tells the world that enough is enough.

The second woman who came forward to accuse Kavanaugh of sexual assault is Deborah Ramirez. She attended Yale University with Kavanaugh. When telling her account of the alleged night, Ramirez shocked America yet again. It was their freshman year and during a drinking game, Ramirez claimed Kavanaugh exposed himself to her by pulling out his genitalia and shoving it in her face. Although she admits to having lapses in her memory on the night in question, this is something she could not forget. Behavior of this nature is unacceptable and unidentifiable, especially for a man who is in contention to be on the Supreme Court.

When Deborah Ramirez and Dr. Ford's stories made national headlines, Kavanaugh did not hold his tongue. According to the New York Times, regarding Professor Ford's testimony, he, "categorically and unequivocally denied" the allegations and claimed to not be in attendance of the party Professor Ford recalled. He then referred to Ramirez's allegation as, "a smear, plain and simple." Lastly, Kavanaugh left us with the statement,



Kavanaugh and Trump at a press event (Getty Images)

"Such grotesque and obvious character assassination – if allowed to succeed – will dissuade competent and good people of all political persuasions from service, I will not be intimidated into withdrawing from this process."

At the hearing, the witnesses consisted of two individuals who attended the house party where the alleged sexual misconduct ensued. They both denied any remembrance of the party and the incident. A couple of male classmates who were also present at the party claimed they do not remember anything. These classmates, alongside others, delivered a conjoined statement defending Kavanaugh's reputation and falsifying Ramirez's claims. However, a Yale alumnus told the press that he did not attend the party but did remember with a one-hundred percent certainty that an incident had occurred and Kavanaugh was the perpetrator. Kavanaugh's roommate, James Roche, told the press he had never witnessed him committing an act of sexual assault, but did say Kavanaugh was a "frequent incoherent drunk."

Ford's testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee was very powerful with millions tuned in around the world. Despite this, it is still very unclear as to whether Brett Kavanaugh did or did not commit the acts he is being accused of. This certainty does not sit right with me, nor does it seem to sit right with other Americans who seek justice for all survivors of sexual abuse. Brett Kavanaugh is not fit to be on the Supreme Court.



Dr. Ford is sworn in before testifying (Win McNamee)

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

The future is what we make it; now is the time to abandon plastic water bottles

Thomas Maranian
Variety Editor

Two words: the future.

Countless people of all ages claim to be mindful of environmental sustainability. Countless people are obsessed with doing the right thing. Why, then, do plastic water bottles get thrown all over campuses, streets, and into the ocean? Hypocrisy! It is one thing to say you are eco-friendly, but another to understand what that means and understand the repercussions for even the smallest negligence. This is a serious problem in society, and one that cannot be taken lightly. It is wrong to not care about the environment. It is wrong to be ignorant of the fact that this world is going to come to an end much sooner than expected if plastic continues to plague multiple ecosystems. Very few people seem to be interested in talking about these issues and coming up with solutions. Someone's got to do it, right?

Let's begin with how plastic water bottles are made. The basic method for production is universal. In 2014, over 17 million barrels of oil were used to produce the bottles in the United States alone. Isn't there enough political war going on in the world over oil already? Furthermore, it takes no less than twice as much water to produce each plastic water bottle than the amount of water contained in each bottle. The raw material necessary to produce these plastics are draining the world's resources on exponential levels. You must realize that "renewable resources" cannot be renewable if recycling doesn't even occur. As much as it's believed to happen, it's not as common as you might think.

No matter what you've heard, plastic water bottles are nowhere near sustainable. What's worse is that nearly all plastic water bottles are not actually recycled! They're thrown into the ocean or some landmass that will pollute the planet tenfold. Nor are they biodegradable. The plastics break down into tiny pieces which are then consumed by fish. In turn, you eat those fish every day. The injection of chemicals transports from plastic to fish to humans! Also, if fishermen are too slow to catch those fish, they will die anyways from the mass accrual of plastic in their stomachs. The same holds true for all animals in nature.

Tap water in the United States is typically tested every four hours for toxins and other chemicals. It is far safer to simply drink from the tap or buy a filter if you're in any way concerned with the tap. Just don't go out to the store and buy bottles. You might think it's easier or safer, but it's not. Imagine for instance you drank two bottles of water every day for the next 80 years. That's 58,400 bottles of water. It's more realistic that you'd be drinking three or four, since 33.8 ounces—as you know—is nowhere near enough water to consume per day. Three bottles equate to 87,600, and four bottles equate to 116,800 bottles. And that's just per one person. Imagine all 7.5 billion people on planet earth drank four plastic water bottles per day for the next 80 years. By 2100, that would be 876,000,000,000,000 plastic water bottles. That number is eight hundred seventy-six trillion. Imagine all the fish and animals that would die! Imagine all the chemicals you would intake by eating animals that were affected. Imagine all those bottles that are not recycled.

When you leave a plastic water bottle in the car on a hot summer day, the UV radiation from the sun and the general heat from the car causes the plastic to contaminate the liquid water. When you ingest even the smallest amounts, it leads to a whole range of bodily harms including diarrhea, diabetes, inability to have children, various cancers, and heart disease. In essence, you risk so much for something so little.

It's getting to be that time of the year again—the time where many catch the flu and head colds and sore throats. It may surprise you that refilling your plastic water bottles contributes to that. Refilling causes an increase in exposure to plastic breakdown mixing with the liquid inside the bottle. Protect yourself! You have the power to say no. It's that simple.

The absolute worst thing you can do is continue to buy these plastics. And if you do,

you're pushing it even further to just throw the bottles in the street. It's not a guarantee that your placement of bottles into the recycle bin will actually get recycled, it's much safer to do so than to think it's okay to throw the bottle into nature.

Since everyone seems to be obsessed with doing the right thing, it is much more honorable to go out there and buy a reusable bottle like a Yeti or Hydro Flask. Buy a Brita Filter for your place of residency. Put aside the ignorance to the truth of things. Put to rest the \$3.99 purchases of 24 bottles. According to the EPA, for the price of one bottle of water, you can get 1,000 gallons of tap water. Pretty impressive, right? You'll save yourself a fortune in life by investing once in a \$19.99 or \$29.99 flask bottle than to repetitively go out and buy plastic bottles.

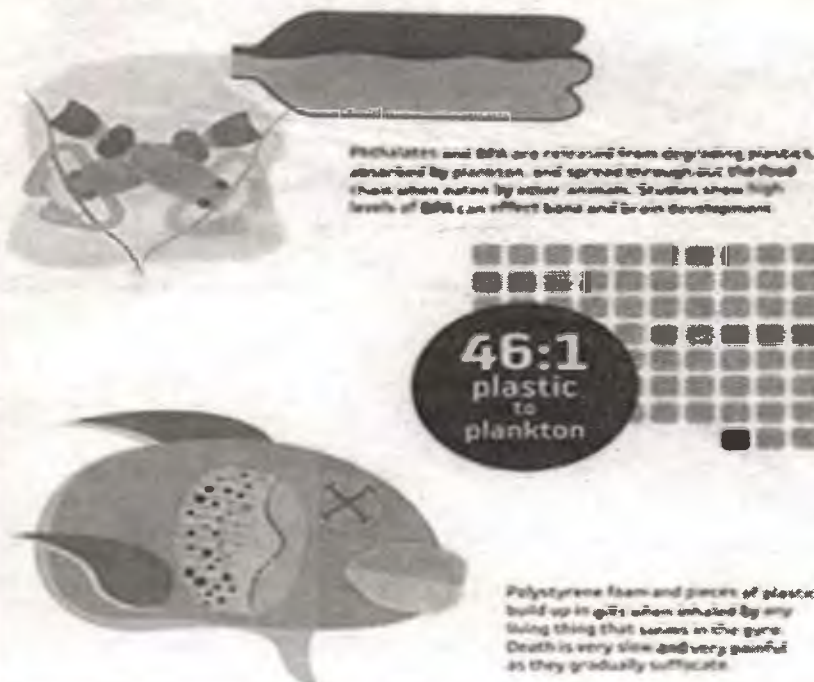
This is the world you are living in. Make a change. Everyone's decision right now, on this day, makes all the difference in the world. Don't think that just because you are one person, your decision to stop supporting pollution won't matter. It will matter! Spread the word every way you can. Write articles like this and post them everywhere. Tell your friends and family this is a serious problem. There's never been a better time than today to start. Get out there and do it. Change is as simple as you make it.



Change must come to pass, or this is the fate of planet earth (TreeHugger)

Death, Pacificly

The Pacific Gyre has become a meadow of plastic and death. Every day plastic and waste are carried by ocean currents to the gyre, turning it into a floating dump. The garbage patch is causing irreparable damage to the Pacific's ecosystem and killing millions of ocean wildlife in its wake.



George R.R. Martin's new book to release in November; it's not *The Winds of Winter*

Thomas Maranian
Variety Editor



Fire and Blood is set 300 years before *Game of Thrones* (TheVerge)

A Song of Ice and Fire may just be the greatest fantasy epic of the modern age. The book sales well surpassed 60 million copies back in 2015. Look at the TV show adaptation—*Game of Thrones*. It's watched in 186 countries around the world; the latest episodes from last year's season exhibited no less than 30 million viewers. While the show is phenomenal, the book series is even better. That's typically how it works.

The latest publication in *A Song of Ice and Fire* is *A Dance with Dragons*—the fifth book in the series sporting a colossal 1040-page count. It released over seven years ago on July 12, 2011. Book readers are well aware that Martin takes his sweet time publishing each book in the series. *A Game of Thrones* (book one) released on August 1, 1996, *A Clash of Kings* (book two) released on November 16, 1998, *A Storm of Swords* (book three) released on October 31, 2000, and *A Feast for Crows* (book four) released on November 8, 2005. It's all for good reason

that each takes so long to release. All five of the series books are well over the average novel length, ranging from 800 to 1200 pages. Writing is no easy task, especially when the whole world is hungry for more, and an entire new world with dynamic, complex, and complicated characters is continuously changing. Additionally, Martin is regarded as one of the greatest authors of all time. He is making absolutely certain his work is of utmost perfection and magnificence. Martin will publish when he feels it is ready and right. Until then, it never hurts to reread the series. Also, there is a side story titled *A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms* that gives plenty of insight as to what knights and squires were like during that age. Give it a go!

The next book, *The Winds of Winter*, is the sixth in the series. Martin plans to complete the series with a seventh book, titled *A Dream of Spring*. That said, it is likely we won't be seeing the seventh for a long while. Unless of course he releases both six and seven at once. That would be quite the surprise. The sixth will likely release once the final season wraps up next year. If Martin waits till after the show concludes to release the last two books, fans will still be longing for more *Thrones*. Book sales will skyrocket. Until then, Martin wants the world to know as much history about the Targaryen family as we can before the final season begins. That is why *Fire and Blood* is next to release. It will take us back 300 years before the events of the epic series. As you may or may not recall, Aegon the Conqueror began his conquest upon the great castle of Dragonstone. This story will recount his conquest leading up to his creation of the Iron Throne, as well as depict the ages of Targaryens who held the high seat of power.

What is the origin story of Daenerys Targaryen's three dragons? Find out in *Fire and Blood*. Were Daenerys' ancestors truly as corrupt as they've been made out to be by oral tradition? Find out in *Fire and Blood*. How was the Iron Throne truly crafted? Find out in *Fire and Blood*. These are questions many are waiting to know the truth of. All the answers can be discovered with the turn of the page.

The world Martin created is vastly built on where the world once was and how that played a role in the civil war at present. It is a highly strategic move to release this before the final season because now, more than ever are the Targaryens (plural because there's no longer only one left...hint hint) on their way to reclaim what once belonged to them. By providing us with the historical context we undoubtedly need to understand the current state of affairs, we can appreciate the show and book series so much more than we do already. Perhaps by the end of the two-part history of Targaryens in Westeros and then to Essos, we will have a clear answer as to who truly deserves to sit on the Iron Throne. Perhaps it might be best to destroy the throne and begin a democratic republic.

Fire and Blood is 736 pages and will release on November 20 this year. Why is it titled *Fire and Blood*? Those are the words on House Targaryen's family crest. Dragons breathe fire and leave behind trails of blood. Or in some cases, ice...

Ronzio
PIZZA & SUBS

HELP WANTED

Pasta starts at \$6.99

Now Introducing
Chili Cheese Fries
Chicken Nuggets
Doughboy Bites
Mac Bites

401-531-6620



This weeks riddles

This ancient
invention allows people to
see through walls.

What is it?

© Propensity for Curiosity
Answer: Window

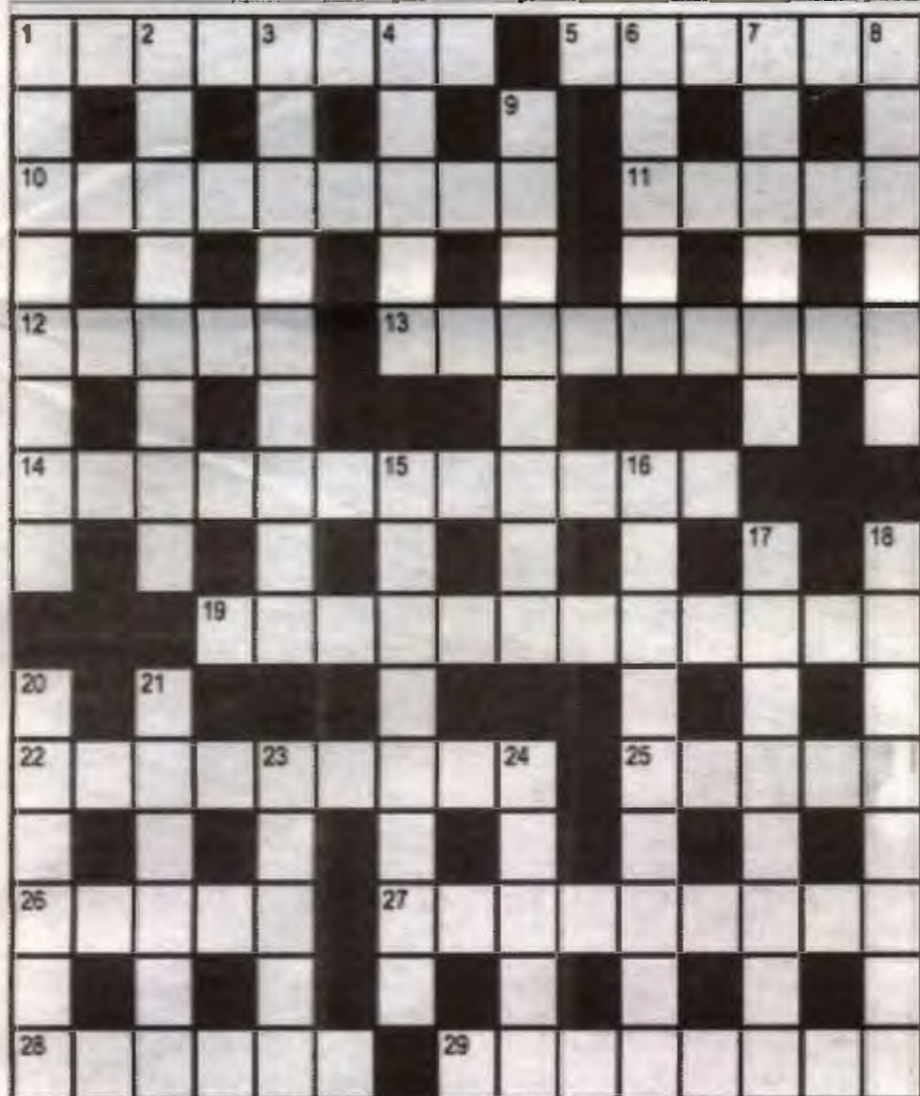
I am a 7 letter word.
Most humans want me.
But they hate the first 4
letters of my name.
If you get the 2nd, 3rd and 4th
letter you are sick.
The 5th, 6th and 7th is
something with a charge.
Who am I?

Answer: Billions

I am a mother and a father,
but have never given birth.
I'm rarely still, but I never
wander. What am I?

Answer: Tree

Times Crossword 26,761



ACROSS

- 1 Moving restlessly from front of boat with fish (8)
- 5 Damned well after illness, containing second (6)
- 10 Before one's mass, hear about European form of religious instruction (9)
- 11 Reprimanded about learner, part of issue that needs raising (5)
- 12 Boundaries around English or French city (5)
- 13 Put away amount of money, as stated, for dance (9)
- 14 Devour gin, led astray — did consume too much (12)
- 19 For example, realists work hard in quietly greeting defeated team (12)
- 22 Some president, I calculate, is lacking any distinction (9)
- 25 Possibly brilliant change of direction (5)
- 26 Persistently pester last chap in undistinguished trio (5)
- 27 After short spell, keyboard player missing second drummer (9)
- 28 Craftsperson who ultimately puts black away? (6)
- 29 Wild animals in conflict with outfit protecting hospital (8)

DOWN

- 1 Choose an ancient character said to be old-fashioned rogue (8)
- 2 Frequently ring paper initially, then another (8)
- 3 The better he is, the less likely people will pick his work (9)
- 4 Quality of wine the writer's included — that's what we hear (5)
- 6 Like marginally unfinished book, yet to be censored (5)
- 7 Would-be partner having diamonds, perhaps, and gold (6)
- 8 Shake hand, finally, of less conventional type (6)
- 9 Runs, full of self-satisfaction, on reconstructed legs (8)
- 15 Fastidious as daughter about cutting flower (8)
- 16 Incidentally, it has an aptness as an anagram (2,7)
- 17 Leader from Mexico I'm lodging in Oregon otherwise (8)
- 18 A call for assistance installing finest building material (8)
- 20 Man on board British ship at sea hiding nothing (6)
- 21 Arcane splinter group holding on (6)
- 23 Herb's something with great healing power reportedly (5)
- 24 Line adding novel contribution to mathematical work (5)

Enjoy the extended weekend!

Fri



59° 45°

Sat



65° 53°

Sun



77° 59°

Mon



70° 58°






Tue

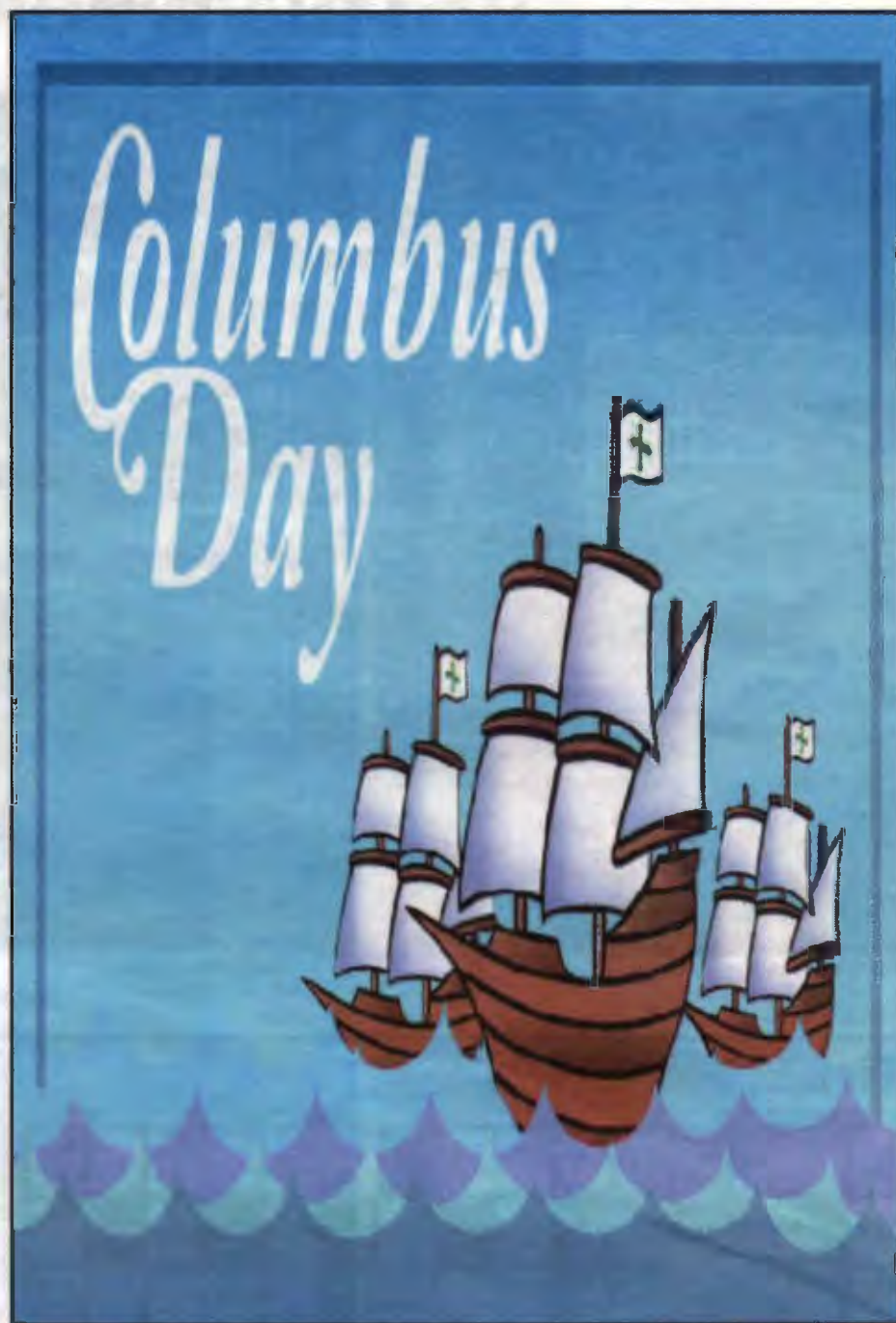


75° 63°

HOW TO CREATE A GREAT COMPANY CULTURE FOR SUCCESS

Build a company culture where employees love going to work every day. Make it a culture that drives everyone in the same direction. Make it a working environment which defines your personality, leadership style and management skills. Here are some useful tips.

CREATE A CULTURE WITH PERSONAL TOUCH AND AUTHENTICITY Create a culture that shows your core values and how you want your brand or company to be known for. 	ESTABLISH GOOD COMMUNICATION Encourage employees to speak up and share ideas by having team meetings and brainstorming sessions. 	SHOW THAT YOU CARE According to studies, employees who feel cared for usually do their best, work harder, stay longer and produce more, so it's a win-win situation for everyone. 
LEARN FROM PAST EXPERIENCES Remember your past work experiences? What are their best practices? What worked for you and what didn't? You can also examine other successful organisations on how they manage people and how you can make it better. 	FOSTER TEAMWORK Remind everyone that "We're all in this together" to disseminate the idea that we're not working as employees from different departments, but as a team striving for the achievement of common goals. 	NURTURE YOUR COMPANY'S CULTURE Creating a great company culture takes time. It should evolve and develop gradually. Nurture it and encourage every employee to grow positively with the culture. 



Health Benefits of Banana

Organic Facts

Nutrients*
 Dietary Fiber 30%
 Carbohydrate 8%
 Calories 4%
 Protein 2%

Vitamins*
 Vitamin B6 18%
 Vitamin C 15%
 Folate 5%
 Riboflavin 4%

Minerals*
 Manganese 13%
 Potassium 10%
 Magnesium 7%
 Copper 4%

*% Daily Value per 100g. For e.g. 100g of banana provides 18% of daily requirement of vitamin B6.



-  Relieves menstrual problems
-  Provides relief from constipation
-  Helps in treating piles and anemia
-  Gives relief from arthritis and gout
-  Boosts eye health and bone health

-  Aids in weight loss
-  Protects against ulcers
-  Cures kidney disorders
-  Useful in healthy weight gain

www.organicfacts.net

**The Variety section of
The Archway**
Review a movie, book, restaurant,
or album!