Next year's new fee: What you need to know about your next tuition statement

By Lauren Cimino
Editor-in-Chief

For those conscientious enough to prepare for the next FAFSA deadline ahead of time, you may have noticed not only the tuition increase noted on Bryant's administration web pages, but the addition of a new Student Involvement Fee totaling $300 for the 2008-2009 academic year. Bryant University students have not been charged this fee in the past; this is a new initiative for the 2008-2009, academic year. That premature announcement has signaled the start of yet another chapter in Bryant University's history this year and now some of the details are ready to be shared.

Below you'll find some of the questions we, The Advocate, found relevant to not only Bryant students but the community as a whole; we spoke to Dr. J. Thomas Eakin, Vice President for Student Affairs; John Lindsay, Director of the Center for Student Involvement; and Craig Trennault, Student Senate President. For the university's official statement please turn to page 4.

What is a Student Involvement Fee (SIF)?
A Student Involvement Fee is a fee assessed to all undergraduate students to improve the co-curricular environment for students. How much is Bryant's SIF?
For the 2008-2009 academic year, the SIF is $300. The fee will increase proportionally to increases in tuition. For example, if tuition increases for 2009-2010 by 5% from the SIF will increase by 5%. This annual adjustment will allow for better financial planning based on estimated enrollment numbers. According to Lindsay, "the annual proportional increases allow the SIF to grow with the institution and avoid large jumps in the assessment."

How does the money come from?
Ultimately all Bryant students and faculty members will receive the benefits of the fee through various programs and events to enrich your Bryant experience. Who determines who gets what?
Overseeing the entire SIF, approximately $920,000 for 2008-2009, is the SIF Oversight Board led by Eakin. The board will ensure consistency in allocation of the money as well as be held accountable by the student body in regards to how the money is used. Within the SIF are two funds: Student Organization Fund and the Campus Enrichment Fund. Each fund determines how the money is used based on committees.

Student Organization Fund, receiving 65% of the SIF next year, is run by the Ways and Means Committee to provide funding for Student Senate recognized clubs and organizations. The Campus Enrichment Fund, receiving 35% of the SIF, has two committees: Student Arts and Speaker Series Committee (SASS) and Special Initiatives Committee.

Why didn't I hear about this sooner?
Developing a Student Involvement Fee has been one of the Student Senate's Tri-Goal initiatives for the past two years; these initiatives have been public information. "The lack of transparency thus far has been part of the collaborative process with the administration in order to release a thought out document," says Lindsay. "More discussion makes it more difficult to put together a logical proposal benefiting the students," added Eakin. Ultimately it's hard to involve many people in this type of complicated process and still have it benefit the students. Those who attend SPAC (Student Presidents Advisory Council) receive information about the SIF in November. Because the information regarding the SIF was in constant flux until very recently, Trennault says "the intention to not discuss the details with the student body was for the good of the student body."

As you can see, the SIF is a large issue. For the rest of this interview or if you want to know more details on the SIF, what it fully does for you, who was involved and what you should know, go to www.bryantarchway.com. We welcome your feedback as well.

Raquetball takes championship home

By Alan Waters
Staff Writer

That's right folks: Bryant University is the proud owner of the 2008 Division II National Men's and Women's Racquetball Championship. Winning a National Championship is something many college athletes dream of accomplishing but only very few do. The feelings and emotions are hard to describe and are truly something you have to be there to see. "I can't really describe the feeling I personally bad, but I can tell you that the feeling of being a national champion will never go away," said Stephen Cornell, captain and president of Bryant's Racquetball team. Bryant traveled to Overland Park, Kansas the week of March 25 to compete in the Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships. It was in Kansas that Bryant shocked the world and proved to all teams that it does not take scholarship athletes to win it all; rather, it takes heart, determination, and the will to win.

Cornell said, "It was a team effort. One hundred percent team effort. "Our team has been dedicated for several years, constantly practicing and going the extra mile to win." These Bulldogs had that and much more. This year's team truly cared about the team effort and showed that real teamwork is not about having the best players but having the best components of a team.

However, all season Bryant has had some of the best players not only around the area but in the entire East Central Collegiate Racquetball Conference. Leadership was key for both the men's and women's teams. Cornell has been ranked as the number one player in the ECRC all year among men and teammate Ryan Lewis was only one win away from being an All-American.

Continued on page 5
By Joe Domaney
Photo Editor

For Bryant student Cadet Kyle Mason, last Wednesday was a typical day in his Army training. However, for the Bryant Community, it was a special opportunity to witness a Black Hawk helicopter flying low over campus. For the rest of the ROTC Patriot Battalion, it was an opportunity to get some training in the aviation branch.

At approximately 16:25 hours, three men from the Headquaters Company of the First Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment came to give the Patriot Battalion Cadets - comprised of schools such as Bryant, Providence College, Rhode Island College, UMass Dartmouth, Johnson and Wales University, Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design - static load training. The idea behind the training was to perform quick entry and exit from the helicopter in combat situations.

Once a month, Cadet Mason, who also serves in this Rhode Island National Guard Battalion that trains for an entire weekend and takes the role of a platoon leader, the position he will eventually be charged with upon graduating. When asked what made him want to commission into the aviation branch, Cadet Mason said, “It gives me the opportunity to learn from some of the most talented officers, warrant officers and enlisted men and women that the Army has to offer. Flying a Black Hawk helicopter is something most people can only dream about, now I have that chance.”

Cadets formed chalks (or groups) that took turns racing to the 16,000 pound UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter unloading their rucksacks, entering the helicopter, buckling up, getting their rucksacks and other gear in, and exiting safely and properly. The three men from the National Guard Unit instructed the cadets through every step. After the exercise was finished, the cadets were given an opportunity to learn more about the helicopter and the aviation branch in general, along with a chance to ask firsthand questions of pilots. Captain Marsolais and First Lieutenant Varjian as well as the crew chief, Sergeant First Class Flynn.

Following his senior year here at Bryant, Cadet Mason will be commissioned into the U.S. Army as a Second Lieutenant along with Cadet Daniel Girouard, also of the class of 2008. The two cadets report to Providence College a handful of times each week for training and lab exercises. They have physical training three mornings a week before classes begin, focusing on infantry tactics and techniques. They also have a leadership lab they attend each week which focuses on the more tactical aspects of the Army, such as land navigation.

Powerful women take Bryant by storm

By Emily A. Murphy
Staff Writer

Kathleen Burns Kingsbury and Lori Baker are strong symbols of success—they have blooming businesses and stable financial situations. Last Wednesday, they shared some of their secrets in Janikies Hall.

Kati Macihe introduced the two women, noting that March was Women’s History Month, during which the highly successful Women’s Summit at Bryant took place, offering a positive outlook on the powerful women at Bryant in the future. The event was sponsored by SIFE.

First up was Kathleen Burns Kingsbury, President of KBK Connections, Inc. She attended Hofstra University, Providence College and finally Lesley College for a Masters. After getting into the banking/finance field, she realized that she was not happy. Making a radical change to psychology, she quit her day job and went back to school. She found the need to help people overpowering, she said.

Kingsbury’s speech started with a bang—joking around and refusing to go on stage so she could continue as a typical day in his Army training. She reached out not only to the women in the audience, but to the men as well by declaring, “Chicks rock, right?”

Her combination of a successful coaching business, a combination of her business, counseling and coaching exercises. Kingsbury broke the barrier with the audience by describing some traits of a powerful business woman (passionate, confident, innovative) and asking for additions to her list from the audience, who offered independent, smart, and creative.

Kingsbury cited work/lifestyle balance as a business that includes doing what you love, taking risks, feeling the fear, being “certifiable,” blazing your own trail and having fun. She took the plunge from a safe government job to an unknown. She is a strong believer that “you don’t have time to not have fun” and encourages students to make sure they are balancing all the components of their life properly. She remained honest yet optimistic throughout the presentation.

Kingsbury stepped aside and Lori Baker took her place. Taking a different approach, Baker first told us a bit about herself—a divorced mother of 3 boys living in Rhode Island. Being a "numbers person", Baker graduated from Providence College in 1985 and became a project engineer. Baker has worked hard to keep herself and her children afloat. She is currently a Personal Wellness Coach at Get Herbal.

Baker urged students to define what will truly make us happy in life. We should plan ahead enough to classify what is success in our minds. She is a strong believer in working on yourself harder than you work on your job. Only specific goals and beliefs will constitute total success in the future, she suggested.

Baker offered a more specific road to success. Based on the book Rich Dad, Poor Dad, something she believes changed her entire way of thinking, she detailed a plan for not only women, but all entrepreneurs to follow. The plan is simple: a person’s expensive income is usually wasted on trivial items. Investing extra money rather than spending it on more clothes, videogames, and fast food can create a future rather than a slightly more comfortable present.

Baker broadened the topic of financial independence. She asked the audience what our perception of financial independence was, how we could achieve it and when we wanted it by (at which a humurous comment of "20 years ago!” from Professor Greenman sparked laughter).

Baker went on to say that by converting income to passive income, we could get ahead. We need to break away from the typical action of trading time for money. By establishing a system where you minimize time and maximum profit, you can differentiate between a job and an asset that is working for you. Baker claims that houses and cars are not really assets—they only add liabilities to your financial situation. A real asset is something that contributes money with a minimal time commitment. For example, rental property that has all the expenses paid off.

Baker also mentioned several resources to utilize, including the books Rich Dad, Poor Dad, The Richest Man in Babylon and 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.
Amanda Dunn

When asked what he would do with his prize money, Mr. Adams wasn’t quite sure. “I’ll leave you all in suspense.”

WJMF hosts at
P-Bruins game

Katie Machtley: telling herstory

By Celeste Tenant
Assistant Campus News Editor

This past Saturday Bryan’s radio station, WJMF, was at the Dunkin Donuts Center for the P-Bruins game to promote listenership. WJMF’s display was organized by the station’s N-jetties, comprised of Bryant students entered their ideas into the written competition on March 19th. From these 16 entries, 10 finalists were elected to present their ideas orally on Monday. In the end, three winners were chosen and received prizes of $500. One of the winners included Michael Adams. When asked how he developed the focus on his presentation, Mr. Adams responded “I focused on the common theme of the buddy system. When I was at summer camp as a kid, we did the buddy system, and you were always asked to stay with your buddy. If you got lost, you were asked to find your buddy.” His slogan— “Two buddies finally united”— not only highlighted the unmistakable love of ice cream and cupcakes, which comes together in what he called “Cupcake Buddies,” but also boasted the story behind the company. Although no prior business experience was necessary, Adams is no stranger in the business world. He owns Eddie’s Energy Bars in his home state of Vermont and sells mustard at a local farmer’s market. “I have marketed food for a couple of years now,” Mike explained, “so I thought this was a natural match.” And it certainly was. The competition was certainly a success not only for the participants but also for Bryant CEOs. “As for the competition, it is a great way to start creating marketing concepts and designing logos. It’s a fun contest, and I encourage more people to enter. The Purple Cow contest will come around next year.” When asked what he would do with his prize money, Mr. Adams wasn’t quite sure. “I’ll leave you all in suspense.”

Katie Machtley: telling herstory

By Maddie Archarneault
Staff Writer

Herstory month is a way for women to share their stories about what they have been through in these positions. This idea has been carried out by the Women’s Center and since then the last time that Katie Machtley spoke was ten years ago, they invited her back again. Her theme for the chat was “self-reliance,” a trait that she learned in school and is still helpful today.

Kati was born in Huntington, Pennsylvania and from the age of three began her journey to become a teacher, as her mother and grandmother did. She attended kindergarten for three years in a one room schoolhouse while her two grandmothers and mom taught because there wasn’t anyone to watch her at home. Katie played the only women’s sport at the time, basketball, through high school and continued on to college in Baltimore.

The next chapter of her life is married to her marriage to Ron Machtley, an acquaintance of many years. Their story began when Katie was in seventh grade and Ron was in ninth. She saw him playing basketball in the distance. He was an impressive athlete. Later he would visit her homeroom, not to see her but to see his teacher whom he had a crush on. They were both part of student council in high school but Katie says, “I was probably someone who he could have cared less about.” The experience that confronted her heartache was when she worked at a church camp and to her great surprise and excitement, Ron began working there too. It wasn’t long before the two began dating and were engaged her junior year of college. Kati says, “We knew we were going to marry early.”

When asked what he would do with his prize money, Mr. Adams wasn’t quite sure. “I’ll leave you all in suspense.”
**Student Involvement Fee**

**BRYANT UNIVERSITY STUDENT INVOLVEMENT FEE FAQS & STUDENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM & EVENTS**

What is the purpose of the Student Involvement Fee?

Consistent with Bryant University’s student-centered learning which recognizes student learning inside and outside the classroom, the University is enhancing the funding available for out of class experiences for the following purposes:

- Increase participation and involvement on campus.
- More programs and diversification among those programs.
- Further development of our already award winning programs and organizations.
- To get to the level of our peer and aspirant institutions.

According to the National Association for Campus Activities, approximately 70 percent of the colleges and universities in the United States use student activity fees to fund campus groups and programs.

What is the Student Involvement Fee?

It is a fee charged to undergraduate students. The fee is used to fund Clubs & Organizations and Sports Clubs, as well as new areas that would further enrich campus life. It is also used to fund two new areas: The Special Initiatives Committee and the Student Arts & Speaker Series (SASS).

How will the money generated from the fee be used?

- Student Clubs and Organizations
- Student Arts & Speaker Series (SASS)
- Enrichment of Programs

What types of programs are sponsored by the fee?

- The fee funds concerts, lectures, comedy shows, movies, late night programming (including arts/crafts/bingo/infant care games/psychic fairs, etc.), as well as educational co-curricular, arts and cultural programming, student programming, and community service initiatives.

Who pays the Student Involvement Fee?

The fee is charged to undergraduate students enrolled at Bryant University.

How much is my Student Involvement Fee?

The fee is $150 per semester.

Who oversees the Student Involvement Fee?

The Student Involvement Fee Oversight Board shall be comprised of the Vice President for Faculty and Student Affairs, who will serve as chair, the Director of the Center for Student Involvement, the Director of Athletics (or his/her designee), the Student Senate President, the Student Senate Treasurer; two students recommended by the Student Senate, a faculty member, and staff member from Business Affairs.

TO: Student Senate

FROM: Dr. J. Thomas Enkan, Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

DATE: April 2, 2008

SUBJECT: Student Involvement Fee


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**Bryant introduces employee recognition initiative**

By Maddie Archambault

Staff Writer

Bryant has recently developed a program that, over time, will improve the already high work ethic and strive for greater involvement among both faculty and students. The Employee Recognition Initiative rewards members of the Bryant community that exceed expectations in a variety of ways. By either an employee or student recognizing a colleague or teacher standing out in one of the four categories: Lending a Hand, Going above and beyond, Having a great idea, or Showing Great Teamwork, there will be a gift certificate awarded by the Human Resources Office or Support Services and send it to that person. Each recipient will be entered into drawings for $25 for donations to any businesses or organizations of the same amount to charity. The President and his executive team will also be notified of individuals and their accomplishments.

Not only does this new initiative reward those who excel in their jobs but, it further encourages people to make the Bryant Campus a better place.

Last month the "Contributors in Success" award program began with a successful 34 members and has announced growth to grow in the second month with 41 participating members.

The Human Resources Department took the initiative to create this program after President Macihaely recognized the success of similar programs at other institutions. The next step in the formation was when staff voiced their personal times in biannual surveys about the need for a more formal way to be recognized for everyday helpfulness at Bryant. The HR staff, from all departments, the advisory committee was able to create the program with the goal of making "Thank You" a routine activity.

The next phase in the program will be creating specific categories with prizes that can be given for outstanding superior effort. The end goal of this initiative is to have awards given by the President and Vice President's of the school that will be displayed by their cabinet. Hopefully, student, staff, and administration will spread the word of this positive reinforcement amongst the Bryant Community and carry on this form of appreciation to the world outside of school. It is a way that people decide to make gratitude a norm around Bryant and pick up the pace of those that have gone above and beyond expectations; whether it is a staff member, peer, or administration the school will host a more supportive and optimistic environment.

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**Survivor Series**

By Brigit Clancy

Assistant Vector Editor

Relay for Life is an overnight celebration of life, a remembrance of those who have lost their battle with cancer, and a way to raise funds to advance cancer awareness as well as programs that are searching for a cure. It is a time for teams to honor cancer survivors and those who have fought cancer and won.

The tradition at each Relay is to have cancer survivors walk the first lap around the track. It is an empowering sight to see the grateful participants celebrate their honor being determined to fight as well. Relay is a tribute to each survivor and shows their unity as well as giving hope to others. The rest of the Relay participants then walk the walk for the duration of the event.

According to the American Cancer Society, the highlight of the overnight event is the lighting of luminaria candles. It is a Ceremony of Hope held after dusk to honor cancer survivors and to remember loved ones lost to cancer. The luminaria candles line the track and are left burning throughout the night to remind participants of the incredible importance of their contributions. Luminaria may be bought and decorated at Relay as a memorial for loved ones who have battled cancer.

Each person can habitually make good on choosing to protect himself or herself against illness. Important resources for healthcare are advice and care from medical professionals. Dr. Carolyn M. Clancy, Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, a United States government agency, is a member of every one that one in three Americans go to for medical advice. With every woman's health, Dr. Clancy said, "You are never too young to play an active role in your health and healthcare.

The American Cancer Society states that one in three people will be diagnosed with cancer, but more than two thirds of all cancer is treatable. It is critical to maintain a healthy lifestyle and to visit your doctor regularly. Prevention is needed to be a long term focus.

Relay has been called a healing experience that offers a chance to join family and friends as well as others who themselves have won the fight against cancer. "Every one and everyone's family and friends make almost any disease better in a somehow healing," said Dr. Clancy. Relay for Life is a time to raise awareness and fight about cancer and its survivors. It is a way to give back to friends, and associates that are affected by its repercussions. If you would like to become part of Bryant Relay for Life, please contact the Director Nickie Archambault at narchambault@bryant.edu.

Source: American Cancer Society, www.cancer.org
Blackout causes mayhem

By Molly Briggs
Staff Writer

A college campus without electricity, wait, that means like no internet? Whatever, I’ll just watch a movie. What? Oh, UN! I’ll just paint my nails. There’s no light, AAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

The blackout may have been a good experience for some. Perhaps they never realized how dependent their lives are on the Internet, television, and radios. Although a prime opportunity to fall into REM sleep, or struggle with a lover or a lender, some Bryant students saw it as a great chance to live like kids again. Playing football in the rain, falling down and getting dirty. Oddly enough, many students were in the library soaking up the bit of luminosity left on the campus to get some work done. But of course, a Bryant University classic movie, students saw this as an excuse to get drunk. Blackout for the blackout! Super bowl? Let’s get drunk! It’s Thursday! Let’s get drunk! Lunar eclipse! Let’s get drunk! Day we get back from spring break! Let’s get drunk! It’s amazing how many college holidays there are. Someone should make a college holiday calendar.

Back to the blackout. It was caused by a car accident. The generators have a 6-hour lifespan and 1/2 of the power was used up before 7. Not knowing how much time was left in the generators and not knowing when the power would come back on the blackout was causing mayhem. Rumors spread through Hall 15 and it felt like we were counting down our lives. THIRTY MINUTES LEFT! THE GENERATORS ARE GOING TO DIE! WE ONLY HAVE 29 MINUTES LEFT! People were just running around trying to see as many of their friends as they could. I love big events like this because no one knows what to do with themselves. The best was the manhunt game that was planned to start at 3:57, exactly when the power came back on. Salmo food being cooked by candle-light and the uproar of cheers when the power came back on.

Either way, the blackout was an unexpected excuse to procrastinate on a weekday and a memory for people to say down the road. Remember that time we had a blackout at Bryant? I know I’ll never forget my blackout experience.

Championships

Photo courtesy of Stephen Corndell

From left Ryan Lewis, Vice President and Steve Corndell, President, Continued from page 1

Lewis summed up his Bryant career in just a few words “I have taken so much from Bryant University during the past four years and to be able to bring home a national championship is a perfect way to leave Bryant.”

On the women’s side, Julie Richar d has been ranked number one in the ECRC as well.

The teams do not stop there. In order to compete for the national championship your university must have both men’s and women’s teams made up of 6 individuals and 1 alternate.

The Bulldogs representing the women’s side were Senior Julie Richardson, No. 1; Junior Chelsea Rink No. 2; Senior Dana Unwin No. 5; Freshman Colleen Scanlon No. 6; and Alternate Brittany Dutch.

The Bulldogs representing Bryant on the men’s side were Senior Stephen Corndell, No. 1; Junior Michael Matrice No. 2; Senior Ryan Lewis No. 3; Sophomore Andrew Corndell No. 5; Senior David Landry No. 6; and Alternate Larry Troiano.

Fifty-six colleges and universities attended Nationals and there were over 300 athletes that competed in this year’s Championships. The road to get to Kansas was not an easy one for Bryant, who had to play many powerhouse on their way. At the Regional Tournament, Bryant beat Penn State University and Kent State and saw the men’s team finish first and the women’s team finish second.

Shane Wood, the ECRC Commissioner, explained it perhaps the best by stating, “The Bryant University Racquetball Team are National Champions in every sense of the meaning. This title was truly a team effort and their support for each other’s hard work, and dedication to success all year long finally came to a pinnacle as they captured the 2008 Division II National Title.”

It is true, these men and women played their hearts out and have made Bryant University very proud, and for the rest of their lives they will be able to remember those moments in Kansas City.

Congratulations to you, Bryant University Racquetball club, you deserve it.
Spotlight on Study Abroad

Name: Erin Willard & Lauren Albert
Class of: 2009

University: Lorenzo de' Medici
Location: Florence, Italy
Partner: API
Semester Abroad: Fall 2007
Duration: August 25th - December 15th

Reason for going:
Erin - I have always wanted to live in a foreign country and experience different cultures. Also, I wanted to be able to take interesting electives that neither Bryant nor any other US university could offer.
Lauren - I went to Europe for the Sophomore International Experience and loved it, so I wanted to study abroad in Europe for an entire semester.

Best experience/memory:
Erin - On my last night in Florence, two of my roommates and I woke up before dawn and climbed to the top of Piazza Michelangelo, a park that sits on top of a hill overlooking Florence. It was beautiful watching the sun rise over the mountain as we were leaving Florence from above. Four months prior to that morning, I had been in the same park one evening and remember thinking how big Florence was, but that morning it looked so small and familiar.
Lauren - For our fall break I went to Malta for the week. It was the very end of October and I was at the beach in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea. On our last day, we took a cruise around Malta and stopped at an uninhabited island to lie out in the sun and go swimming. I also got to gamble legally for the first time ever in one of Malta's huge casinos. I ended up only losing about five Maltese lire...but that is like eight U.S. Dollars, so I think my night was a success.

How was the school different from Bryant University?
Our professors were a lot more relaxed and not as politically correct. They were not as worried about the university. They really wanted us to experience as much as we could while abroad. We did do school work, but classes are once a week which allows for a lot of traveling time.

How did this experience change you?
Erin - I became very independent and learned to live on my own. Being six hours ahead of my family and friends made it hard to rely on home and challenged me to do things for myself and experience being abroad.
Lauren - I am from a small town and for the first time I had to figure out how to get around a foreign city, and plan trips around Europe. I realized that you cannot plan for everything and sometimes you need to just go with the flow.

Would you study abroad again given the opportunity?
Erin - Yes! It was one of the best experiences. I met so many great people and learned a lot about myself. I would go back to Italy immediately but would also love to go to Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, and Sweden.
Lauren - Yes, but I choose to go to another country like France, Monaco, or Australia—somewhere with a lot of sun!

Mythbusters Investigate: Study Abroad

Is traveling around abroad in Europe easy?
Traveling while studying abroad in Europe is easy! From planes, to trains, to buses, public transportation can take you to just about anywhere you want to go.

When traveling from your host city, you have endless options for getting to your chosen destination. To begin, you have buses or trains lines. Not only do individual cities or towns have great public bus systems, but entire countries have bus routes, allowing you take a bus from one end of the country to the other, for a decent price, granted it may take you a while! Bus and train lines give students an economical chance to get off their feet and relax while touring their host city. Taking a bus gives you the option of traveling to sections of the city that you may not want to walk to or allow you to get to where you need to go faster.

Another option is trains. The train system throughout Europe is unparalleled to anything the U.S. has in place. There are different types of trains that take you anywhere you want to go. Most country train systems have websites in English, allowing you to research times, prices, and destinations. Whether it's a 30 minute train ride to a beach, or an overnight train across Europe the options for train travel are tremendous. European trains are luxurious compared to the states. Offering overnight sleepers, private cabins, business class, and of course economy class for us students! Most trains have tables and adequate room for a comfortable long distance commute. Trains rain from country to country allowing you to view the country while getting from one destination to another.

And of course there are plenty of airports and airlines. Most major metropolitan European cities have airports that let you travel to any destination you want. But the best option are the smaller airports in the suburban outskirts of the city. An infamous airline, RyanAir flies to these types of airports, similar to Southwest's strategy, a smaller, economical, no frills airline that brings you to airports outside major cities. RyanAir does just that. Flights cost as little as 1 euro! Once you arrive at your destination the options for getting to the city are great. Each airport has bus shuttles that depart according to RyanAir line and other airlines arrival schedule that will cost you around 15 euros to get you to the city easily and conveniently. Once you arrive in your destination you can take another train, bus, taxi, or simply walk to wherever it is that you need to go.

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Lauren - Yes, but I choose to go to another country like France, Monaco, or Australia—somewhere with a lot of sun!

Healthy YOU at Bryant U

By Zaran Kathrani
Assistant Campus News Editor

It is hard to miss the recent changes that have taken place in Salamisian Dining Hall in the past few weeks. Not only is there a computer near the entrance of the cafeteria, but there are also numerous pamphlets available, all including a plethora of nutritional and dietary information. In addition, there are also the plates of food at the bottom of the stairs that advertise the meal for the day, along with the nutritional facts next to it.

Why such a sudden outburst of dietary information? Well, thanks to the new Healthy Campus Coalition, Bryant students have several resources available to find a suitable diet that meets their lifestyle. In order to educate the students about eating healthy, Bryant students, faculty, and staff have created the Healthy Campus Coalition. The coalition has partnered up with Sodexo to introduce "The Balanced Way," a program that offers food under 600 calories. The healthy campus initiative, properly titled "Healthy YOU at Bryant U," aims to improve the eating habits of the Bryant Community.

The myriad of pamphlets do, indeed, offer some helpful tips on eating healthy. From "Eating Away from Home" to "Take Time for Exercise" the brochures provide detailed suggestions on maintaining a healthy lifestyle. For instance, one of the brochures advises to create a plan before finalizing the food selection, making sure to look at all the available options. It also points out that salad and fresh veggies should definitely be included in the selection, along with plenty of water. Of course, eating healthy also goes hand-in-hand with regular exercise. Another booklet also recommends that activities such as walking, going to the GYM, playing sports, and even biking can all contribute to provide more energy, both physically and mentally.

Currently, Healthy YOU at Bryant U is primarily focused on good nutrition, but has much more in store for the future. Down the road, the program hopes to incorporate other goals such as getting enough sleep, stress management, and improving one's mental and emotional state.

It is said that every big accomplishment starts with something small, and this is just the type of advice Jennifer DiPietro, member of the coalition, proposes. "By starting out with these baby steps, they will eventually become part of one's well-being."
Men's Lax heads to Gillette Saturday with 5-3 record

By Benjamin Rich
Staff Writer

Finally getting another chance to play in front of a home crowd, the Bulldogs faced American International College last Wednesday on the turf complex with a final score of 31-3. The stands were packed tight with enthusiastic fans, ready to get a glimpse of their team who hadn't graced the turf since late February against Adelphi. The game started off strong with the Bulldogs scoring 14 unanswered goals in the first quarter, which allowed the team to deliver enough action to satisfy the rowdy crowd. As the half progressed, the Bulldogs continued to absolutely dominate the Yellow Jackets, controlling the ball almost entirely and posting four more goals. In the second half, the Bulldogs rang up another 13 goals on the Yellow jackets while AIC was able to stop the shutout with 3 timely goals. The total of 31 goals is a new record for Bryant, breaking the previous record of 27 set against Franklin Pierce last season. Seventeen members of the Bryant Lacrosse team were able to score at least one goal. The most noteworthy of the players would be Bryant Amiramno, Connor Hayes and John Trisciufo who each had a hat trick in the game and proved to be valuable assets. The Bulldogs were able to show their versatility in the goal by placing a different goalie in each quarter. Mike Kenny started the game, and was followed by Andrew Clingermeyer, Brad Rockham and Robert Beakley. Combined, these four had 8 saves and only let by 5 goals. Later that week, fresh off a powerful win, the team traveled to Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vermont to take on the Purple Knights. The Knights had just come off a win against Franklin Pierce in their own arena a week earlier with a record of 3-2. However, the Bulldogs were able to come out on top with a final score of 9-5. As usual, junior attacker Bryan Kaufmann's offensive contributions made a significant difference in the game, posting four goals and one assist. The offense was also fueled by Kevin Hoagland, who had two goals, as well as Jim Long and Matt McKeefer who each had one.

The tough defense of Corey MacDougal, Matt Murnane and Joe Rauchut continued to shut down the powerful offensive attacks of the Bulldogs. The offense was able to take advantage of the defense's efforts and dominate against their opponents. The Bulldogs were able to maintain control of the game and outscore their opponents with a final score of 31-3.

This year's Final Four brings a new look. Not only is the highest seed final underdog to make its way to the Promised Land riding great momentum, like the Gonzaga's of the past or the Georgia Tech's of the 90's, but it comes off a win against their AAC rivals. The Bulldogs went on to win with a record of 3-2. However, the Bulldogs were able to come out on top with a final score of 9-5. As usual, junior attacker Bryan Kaufmann's offensive contributions made a significant difference in the game, posting four goals and one assist. The offense was also fueled by Kevin Hoagland, who had two goals, as well as Jim Long and Matt McKeefer who each had one.

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Waters Way: Final Fours is now the Final One's

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Mark your calendars

**Baseball:**
- 4/5 v. St. Anselm @ 12 and 2
- 4/6 v. St. Anselm @ 2
- 4/8 v. Stonehill @ 3:30
- 4/9 v. Stonehill @ 3:30
- 4/10 v. Stonehill @ 3:30

**Softball**
- 4/5 v. Adelphi @ 12 and 2
- 4/6 v. American International @ 12 and 2
- 4/9 v. Stonehill @ 3 and 5

**Women's Lacrosse:**
- 4/5 v. St. Michael's @ 1pm
- 4/8 v. Stonehill @ 7pm

**Men's Lacrosse:**
- 4/9 v. Bentley @ 7PM

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**Top Dogs**

**Michael Kennedy**

*Year:* Senior  
*Sport:* Lacrosse

Senior goalkeeper Michael Kennedy (Port Jefferson Station, NY) earned his second Northeast-10 Conference Goalkeeper of the Week accolade after a 2-0 week that saw him allow just five goals in a pair of starts. Kennedy registered 15 saves on 28 shots in the team’s 8-5 win over Saint Michael’s.

**Kate Thomas**

*Year:* Junior  
*Sport:* Softball

Softball junior Kate Thomas (Bedford, NH) captured this week’s Player of the Week honors for her work on the diamond in the Bulldogs’ 4-2 week. Thomas hit .636 with four extra base hits, going 5-for-5 from the plate in a double-header sweep of Pace. Against the Setters, Thomas hit a pair of triples, a home run and a double to drive in three and cross the plate four times herself.

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**Do you like sports? Join The Archway Sports Team.**

Come to a meeting Monday at 4:30 pm in the Bryant Center room 2B.  
No experience necessary Email archway@bryant.edu for more information

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**Bryant softball: standing tall**

By Jessica Komoroski  
*Assistant Opinion Editor*

Bryant’s softball team began their Conference schedule Thursday, March 27 in a double header against the Franklin Pierce Ravens. The Bulldogs started the season with an explosive 8-0 victory in the first game of what became a pair of victories for Bryant and senior starter Janine Eno. The second game—running only 5 complete innings before being called on account of darkness—yielded a 3-2 Bryant win. Eno allowed only 2 earned runs over 11 innings of work against the Ravens. Thursday’s offense was highlighted by Bulldog senior second baseman, Jennifer Serrano, who knocked in 5 runs including a home run during the first inning of the second game.

The team kept to form, sweeping Pace in a double header on Saturday. Junior outfielder Kate Thomas led the Bulldogs’ offense with a walk-off homerun to seal the deal for the team in the first game, and she ended the day 5-for-5 with 3 RBI. She accounted for 4 runs scored and 4 extra-base hits before the day’s end. Thomas’ work was complemented by another stellar pitching performance from Eno, who allowed only one unearned run and struck out 8 Setters in her 5 innings of work in the first game. Freshman starter Samantha Houseal picked up her second win, allowing only 3 hits and 2 runs in the second game.

Although the Bulldogs lost 6 seniors following last season, the team expects to boast a distinguished record this year. Before the season began, Bryant was picked to rank second overall in the conference by league coaches. Albert a young team, the Bulldogs are already off to a solid start in the conference. They set out Sunday to play national power C.W. Post on Sunday carrying a league winning streak. The game is considered a rematch of the 2007 NCAA regional championship game in which the Pioneers defeated the Bulldogs and earned a spot in the College World Series.
Sports Axis now spinning on TV

By David Nelligan
Staff Writer

Bryant students are finally making good use of the Bryant Axis Channel and the brand new equipment in the Koffler building. Last semester Ben Conn and Mark Dondoro started the very first student run television show ever to be aired on the Bryant Channel. It is a sports-based show, focusing mainly on New England teams. The premise for the show is a continuation of their radio show Loh, Conn, and the Don that airs on WJMF Wednesday nights at 10pm. The radio show talks about everything from sports to entertainment news to campus happenings, all the while featuring the three hosts arguing over the topic. The show has been on the air for the past two years, but when Ben and Mark heard about the opportunity to have their own television show, they immediately jumped at the chance.

They began filming last semester in conjunction with members from the media production club. The show is named the "Sports Axis Show" and features the two sitting at a table updating the Bryant community on scores, trades, their predictions, and anything else having to do with sports, as well as having Bryant athletes as guests. This semester, Ben remarks, "the show is more serious and creative," the duo is coming in with more experience and as Mark put it is "much more comfortable in front of the camera and with each other." Each show now features a different theme, such as Tool Time, Pardon the Interruption, American Idol, and segments such as the Budweiser Hot Seat. To end the show Ben and Mark debate over a goofy topic sent in by viewers, such as hardwood floors vs. carpet or pen vs. pencil. Each will pick a side and debate why their pick is better than the other's.

They will continue this theme and hopefully come up with something new and inventive to keep audiences entertained and allow themselves to have some fun at the same time. They also invite their friends on the show to appear as special guests. So far they have had someone play Heidi on Tool Time and others play judges on their American Idol spoof.

Sports Axis is filmed on Monday nights and is looped on Channel 48 throughout the week. Even though Ben and Mark write the script and are the on-screen personalities, many more people are involved in the show. Ben and Mark especially want to thank Devon McCarry, Eric Loh, Chris Claude, Brian Ko, Jess Clark, and several other members of the media production club who help make their show a success every week. Mark and Ben also want to encourage anyone else in the Bryant community who is interested in having their own show to e-mail them or come and view a filming of Sports Axis. The studio is open to all students and faculty and the station is always looking for new and creative shows.

give a damn.

www.bryantarchway.com
Bryant Football gets ready for D1

By Kyle Kober
Staff Writer

In a move which President Machtley views as crucial to the advancement of Bryant University, the sports teams are entering the transition stage to become official members of the North East Conference of the Division I Championship Subdivision. The move will take four years and by 2012 the university will be the twelfth member of the conference. The Bryant University football team, which was a powerhouse in the NE-10 Conference of Division II, will now be playing at the same national level as Harvard, Yale, UNH, UMass, and the now infamous Appalachian St. While the Bulldogs might not be in the same conference as these national powerhouses, just to be playing in the same division as these teams is a tremendous accomplishment.

The football team will benefit from this move in many respects. As a Division II school, the Bryant University name will become better known throughout the east coast leading to better recruiting for both athletic and academic purposes. The only issue with the transition is that the coaching staff has never seen any of the opposing teams play so they go into the first season at most blind. This is the reason for the four year transition period; in that time the school will not only be able to recruit better athletes to compete at a higher level but they will gain valuable game experience and knowledge about the other schools’ personnel and coaching philosophies. According to Head Coach Marty Fine there are no real negative aspects to the transition from D-II to D-I. "President Machtley has the best interest of the university in mind at all times; he would never do anything without good repercussions.” This is quite true, while the move may create new obstacles for the university and its sports programs, the trouble will be well worth it when Bryant University becomes a permanent member of the North East Conference.

The football team will face many obstacles that they would normally face regardless of the division change. The biggest one will be replacing the driving force behind the team’s success, Charlie Granetell. Granetell was a leader on and off the field, setting school records for all passing categories including 6,816 passing yards and 58 passing touchdowns. This is a hard act to follow but Jay Graber is ready for the challenge. Graber will be a senior for the 2008 season and is expected to fill the shoes of Granetell, and do it quite well. Graber is a Deans List student who has used his intellect and time studying Charlie Granetell as he led the Bulldogs to numerous victories, to master the offense. While Graber is the current front runner for the quarterback position, there have only been 5 full pad practices so far this spring, and the position is still Graber’s to lose.

The Bryant University football team also did something this season that they had never done since Coach Fine took over. They went from the position of head coach four years ago. The Bulldogs graduated all 6 captains leaving a void in leadership. Defensively the leaders have emerged, future junior linebacker Paul Palmieri and senior inside linebacker Don Smith. Both players received the honor of starting running back of the 2007 season. Coach Fine expects to the ... emerge on the offensive more speedy and agile running back.

The 2008 Bryant Football team will continue to play NE10 teams as out of conference games.

2008 Bryant Football Schedule

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access exclusive content or comment online at www.bryantarchway.com
Should Microsoft continue to woo Yahoo?

By Joe Pelletier

Microsoft is unlikely to raise its current bid for Yahoo to the rumored $34 per share, but discussions among analysts and investors about the possible acquisition continue to be unending. The underpriced $44.6 billion buyout of Yahoo would make Microsoft a significant player in the internet marketplace, but only to an extent.

Initially, such a takeover would allow Microsoft to capture a healthy 15.6% of all U.S. internet traffic among the top internet properties, according to the internet research firm Hitwise. This move would put Microsoft at two-times that of Google's traffic and give the company a new platform to expand its advertising base.

However, Google, unlike Yahoo or MSN, isn't a web portal. In fact, its core competencies lie within its search and advertising operations, controlling close to 75% of the sector. With such market share already in hand, Microsoft has been able to successfully leverage its advertising initiative and create unprecedented value for the company, achieving a year-over-year growth rate of 50%. Essentially, while Bill Gates has always been comfortable second fiddle to Yahoo, at most, discussions among analysts and investors for Yahoo to the rumored cross-own response.

Meanwhile, Microsoft is trying to 'play catch-up' with Google to eat the company's lunch. Now, Michael Roberto, Trustee Professor of Management, thinks a Microsoft-Yahoo merge: 'Murdoch has a reputation for allowing unyielding. The unsolicited $44.6 billion offer would allow intrinsIC value. Such an offer would allow shareholders to sell the company an attempt to measure up against Google's dominance on the internet.

Professor Roberto sees how the power of network effects on the internet has led to the rise of Facebook, Twitter, and various social-networking utilities. Facebook has also proven that you don't need to be the market leader to achieve advantage in order to become a competitive player.

For a number of segments in the software business, the best profit margins go to companies like eBay, Google and Yahoo. The company will need to craft a strategy that allows each of its businesses to run autonomously, though interventions selectively on key strategic choices.

At some point, if Microsoft is able to swing Yahoo into its search market share, Microsoft is in a position to be a market leader. However, the same cannot be said for Microsoft-Yahoo. Competing on key strategic choices. Murdoch has a reputation for allowing unyielding. The unsolicited $44.6 billion offer would allow shareholders to sell the company an attempt to measure up against Google's dominance on the internet.

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For a number of segments in the software business, the best profit margins go to companies like eBay, Google and Yahoo. The company will need to craft a strategy that allows each of its businesses to run autonomously, though interventions selectively on key strategic choices.
By Greg Hirshorn
Staff Writer

Swan Song for the Ballpark

Opening day is one of my favorite days of the year. It is a day of fresh starts where every team and every player starts with a clean slate. It makes me think about my first baseball game and how amazing and large the game was to me as a six-year-old. This opening day was bitter sweet for me though because the reality is starting to sink in that this is the last season the Yankees will call their current home.

I have had so many memories that I have taken place at Yankee Stadium, good, bad, and everywhere in-between. I remember going in the early '90s to see Mariano Rivera, Thats Mariano Rivera as a starter, who was ineffective to say the least, before he became the dominant closer he is today. My Dad and I would sit in the stadium and he would tell me of days when the Yankees were seemingly unbeatable. At this point in time I could not even comprehend watching the Yankees with championship expectations.

The on-field product may not have been the best at that point in time, but one thing that I was always pleased with was the ballpark. You get a feel in Yankee Stadium, a sense of history. It is similar to the feeling you get at Fenway, only larger. Yankee Stadium is a baseball temple. I was not old enough to realize that this is the home of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle, Thurman Munson, and Derek Jeter.

The on-field product would improve. May 17, 1998, I was there to witness David Wells pitch a perfect game, about which he later remarked was hanging over during the course of the game. We would not win that day, but we got much more than a doll. The pure, unfiltered joy was felt by everyone seeing such an amazing achievement, which is truly the most extraordinary, and how amazing the event that I was watching actually was, but now I do, and that will stay as one of my many memories of Yankee Stadium.

I remember going to Old Timers’ Day one summer and seeing some of the greatest players have called Yankee Stadium, and many amazing players have called Yankee Stadium home. I was not old enough to appreciate them, but we got much more than a doll. The pure, unfiltered joy was felt by everyone seeing such an amazing achievement, which is truly the most extraordinary, and how amazing the event that I was watching actually was, but now I do, and that will stay as one of my many memories of Yankee Stadium.

I remember going to games as soon as the gates opened, trying to catch a little league baseball autograph during batting practice. The stadium was near empty when we walked in and felt as if I had the entire park to myself. I will always have memories of the players grabbing my hat and talked with before games, and part of that memory will become theippo of how or not we receive two feet of snow now in April (believe me, it has enough to now for god sakes. With before games, and part of that memory will become theippo of how or not we receive two feet of snow now in April (believe me, it has enough to now for god sakes.

I remember going to game 4 of the 2001 ALCS and watching Aaron Soriano hit a walk-off home run in the 12th inning to beat the Mariners. That was the loudest I can remember Yankee Stadium being that night, but that reality is starting to sink in that this is the last season the Yankees will call their current home. I am not exaggerating when I say that I felt the cement underneath my feet start to vibrate. People stayed in the stands going absolutely crazy even after the team had left the field. It took forever to get out of the stadium.

I remember going to game six of the World Series in 2001 vs. the Marlins. This was one of the most frustrating games ever in baseball. The Marlins won the World Series and the Yankees were left with a bitter taste in their mouth.

By Jessica Kornosky
Assistant Opinion Editor

Swan Song for the Ballpark

How Many Weeks Until Summer?

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.
Bryant Said What!

Compiled by Jessica Kowalski and Michael Adams

“Dude! Sixteen weeks is a long time, especially if you’re digging graves.”

“I want to decorate the window over the stairs. It’s very under utilized.”

“Sorry I’m so loud right now. That was just really loud, right?”

“I thought maybe if I gave you guys rabies you would actually relax.”

“No ifs, ands, or asses about it.”

“I always hate going to Hollister. It feels like a party I wasn’t invited to.”

“You know how some people are scared of dogs? Yeah, well, young children make me uneasy.”

“He’s on the phone...like he has friends or something!”

“Oh yeah, My Mom was in a talent show once. My Dad said she did a striptease, and that’s why he fell in love with her.”

“I’m looking up girls on facebook. That’s right.”

“I didn’t know there were such good looking Priests until I met Father Joe.”

Have a quote that you heard around campus? Send it to madams@bryant.edu.

Observations

Compiled by Michael Adams, Jessica Kowalski

Mystery Tree

We don’t know if you’ve seen it, but outside Hall 9, there is a tree that didn’t used to be there. Clearly a night shift operation.

The Stairs are ripped again!

Apparently we can only go a few weeks without the plastic ripping off the stairs in the Bryant Center. Maybe we should just build a new Bryant Center.

Recycle the Chronicle

Do we need to do it. Although, it might be useful if you want to send your girlfriend or boyfriend flowers and then call their house to make sure they received them.

Need Housing for Next Year?

There are plenty of wanted ads on the Res Life website. Go check it out if you want a room over your head next year.

Stop Looking at Us!

We are sick of people walking past the library and staring at everyone furiously studying away. Maybe you should stop staring and start studying!

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am just responding to the DPS Ride-Along article. Just a correction on the date the ride along was started. The program launched in the spring semester of the 2006-2007 school year, not 2001. It was first offered to the members of the Student Senate. The program ran once again fall semester this year (2007-2008) for the Senate, and then opened up to the entire student body in the spring.

Thanks,
Normand Daquette

Check out our website: www.bryantarchway.com
Hi, we're Joe and Ryan. You may have seen us at a local pub sipping down cheap pitchers of beer with our fellow seniors. But, when it comes down to it, we really enjoy good, high-quality beer, and we're sure many of you do too. Unfortunately, we often see our college students drinking garbage beer because they're dirt cheap at the liquor store. That's why we decided to write this column—to provide you with an opportunity to educate yourself about the endless amount of microbrews out there. However, this week we're deviating from a microbrew review and throwing it back to a more legendary beer that we think everyone should appreciate, but only if you're 21 or older, and do it responsibly.

It's back! "The beer that made Milwaukee famous." Some of you might have heard your parents or grandparents shout that slogan or talk about the infamous old beer with "just the kiss of the hops." Schlitz. You may have even seen the can on your grandfather's tool bench full of old nuts and bolts, or on a vintage advertisement at your local tavern wall. During the 1970s Schlitz was the shit. Schlitz's website claims that at one point in its 159-year existence, it was the most popular beer in the country (back in the day, of course) and for a good reason. A lot of things have changed since the Schlitz hay days and we were a little curious as to what they had brewin'.

The originator of the brown bottle, Joseph Schlitz, came to Milwaukee at the age of 20, where he began by working for a small brewery tavern. But after the owner passed away, he took over the brewing company and named it Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co. The beer became a mammoth success after the Great Chicago Fire in the early 1870s, which drove Schlitz to donate hundreds of barrels of beer to the city, earning it its key slogan.

Schlitz was sold to the Miller Brewing Company because it wasn't able to sustain growth and keep prices competitively low. After that, the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co. image went downhill as Miller played with the brewing formula and many of its loyal drinkers ran for hills.

Now in 2008, 23 years after the brew lost its prestige, it's back in its original formula and taste—which at one point made it top the charts as the most popular beer in the country—and ready to compete with the thousands of microbrews and varieties that have emerged since it went away. Overall, it has the same core characteristics and boldness of a crisp, refreshing Bud light, but without sacrificing the flavor and great qualities of heavier beer with a good punch. It pairs like any other mass-manufactured beer— with a light golden color and a white foamy head that disappears fleeting. It tastes similar to a hybrid Budweiser-Bud light, but with a stronger and more copious flavor. It's more crisp and clean than a Budweiser, and doesn't weigh you down as much—good news for those of you out there who aspire for the virile look of a Bud in your hand, but secretly can't hold down more than a six-pack at a time.

If you don't believe us, sit down with an old-timer, and crack open a can. While years ago you might have been mocked or ridiculed for drinking Schlitz at a party, after Miller changed its taste and it lost its pizzazz, things have changed and we'd be proud to invite friends and strangers alike to share in a cold one with us.

To turn some heads and make the crowd show some respect for the beverage that introduced the brown bottle, saving the world from a countless number of skunked beers, bring some Schlitz to your next party. It's priced right between Budweiser and Pabst, but with a taste that's marginally better. So next time you're in the package store, save some dough by going for the gusto!

**Cost:** $8 /12pk  
**Alcohol:** 4.6%  
**Beerometer:** 79.8%
Bulldog Flicks: Drillbit Taylor

By Michael Pickowicz
Staff Writer

There is no denying that the movie "Superbad" was a success. It was easily one of the funniest movies of last year. Going into "Drillbit Taylor," I was a little skeptical because of its similarities to "Superbad." Even more, Seth Rogen, one of the writers of "SuperBad," is a writer for this movie. So does this mean "Drillbit Taylor" is simply Superbad-lite?

"Drillbit Taylor" is a comedy about three nerdy teens who are about to experience their first day of high school. While they enter with high hopes, they are quickly shot down when two crazy bullies make their lives living hell. In desperation, they send out a cry for a bodyguard. Drillbit Taylor, a bum, answers the call, but has other intentions on his mind.

Like I mentioned before, the first thing I noticed was the three teens' striking similarities to the three teens in "Superbad." You got your fat one, your skinny one with low self-esteem, and the small bizarre one. Thankfully, the similarities end there, as the writers had the good idea to revolve the story around a topic that a freshman in high school could relate to. While bullying may not be a new topic in movies, "Drillbit Taylor" does a great job in creating a story that every geek dreams of. Mean, who wouldn't want to hire a bum to beat people up?

What really surprised me was that "Drillbit Taylor" was actually very funny. With comedies that are tailored to both kids and adults, such as the new "Bad News Bears" and "Night at the Museum," I found that most try too hard to please everyone, thus pleasing no one. Here, the comedy is consistent throughout. With a writer like Seth Rogen, I suppose this should be expected. It's always fun to see kids being forced to pee on each other, or having them practice fighting on another. You can also thank Owen Wilson, who plays his typical character who you're probably used to now. It still works, for me at least.

"Drillbit Taylor," however. As you may know by now, I don't mind side stories if they can be tied to the main plot and gets resolved. Halfway through this movie, Drillbit fails for a teacher. That's it, however. It adds nothing to the story, as it has no effect on his character or his commitment to the kids. It just drags the middle of the movie along. The movie also felt like a "By-the-book" comedy, with the usual rise-to-fall-to-rise again plot. While "Drillbit Taylor" follows the similar path of other comedies, the rule is simply hilarious. The three unknown kids make their characters believable and Owen Wilson fits his role like a glove. While the movie may not turn the world of comedies upside-down, it's absolutely entertaining and fun to spend 90 minutes. "Drillbit Taylor" gets 3 1/2 Bulldogs out of 5.

This Movie Earned
3.5 out of 5 Bulldogs
"In Hall 15 someone put condoms with lotion in them on everyone's doors. It was really gross but a good April Fools' joke. When I was younger I also used to put plastic snakes in my mom's underwear drawers and she would freak out."
Melody Moore '11

"I wrapped my friend's car in cellophane. It was hilarious."
Michelle DiLusio '09

"My friend told me he was transferring to UConn for the girls. He was dead serious, but he told me it was a joke."
Bill Ryan '09

"The holiday seems to be most exciting for little kids like going home with salt in your hair and telling your mother it was itchy. Another popular one was saran wrapping the toilet."
Jenny Coombs '11

"My mom told me that I was adopted."
Ryan Williams '11

"I put toothpaste in Oreos so it looked like the filling. My friend ate one and I was disgusted."
Chris Foss '11

"I taped the nozzle on the sink so when someone turned on the faucet it squirted everywhere. My mom wasn't too happy."
Steve Fitch '09