The Bryant experience

What it’s really like to be a Bryant Bulldog

By Allie Miller
Staff Writer

As an Ambassador, I can say how truly excited Bryant is to have prospective students and their families visit campus this weekend for the Admitted Student Open House. The decision days of senior year are scary and stressful, but at Bryant we hope to help make that decision a little easier.

To share first-hand what the experience is like, some very happy Bryant Bulldogs wrote into The Archway to share with you what their own Bryant experience has been like. Bryant is an outstanding institution based on statistics alone, but no stat can speak to the Bryant experience for students; only Bulldogs can.

Allie Miller

Bryant became my home by choice. Although I am very organized and love to plan, I kind of floated through the decision process. I didn’t have any special interest in Bryant throughout senior year; I only applied because I wanted to send one another application to a local school. I didn’t even take the time to visit Bryant until the Admitted Student Open House, which is probably why the event is so special and exciting to me. For the first time throughout the decision process, I fell in love. It instantly clicked; I sent in my deposit that afternoon.

And despite the fact that I made my decision quickly without a lot of thought, I know that I made the best decision of my life that April afternoon. There are so many opportunities and experiences that are unique to Bryant. I have considered my time here to be that of sheer privilege.

In the less than two years that I have been a Bryant Bulldog I have become involved in The Archway, Student Ambassadors, and my sorority Alpha Omicron Pi. I have been able to work on campus as a writing tutor and a student assistant in the President’s Office. I truly believe that all of these incredible and truly unique opportunities have been granted to me because at Bryant I have been comfortable and supported enough to just be myself.

I love to say that at Bryant I live in a world full of open gates. If honestly feel that Bryant has been able to give me limitless opportunities that I would never find elsewhere. I hope that all of the visiting students are able to find a collegiate home that allows them to feel as special and supported as Bryant has made me.

Angela D’Amelio

I began my college search the summer before my junior year. My mom suggested I tour Bryant because I wanted to be an accounting major, and I had never heard of it before. I was reluctant to visit. However, once I got to campus, I fell in love. Walking around, I could actually picture myself as a college student for the first time. For the next two years, I toured numerous schools but none of them lived up to Bryant to me. Everything about it was perfect for me - the beautiful campus, the size, the accounting program, and all the ways to get involved.

After being at Bryant for the past three years, I’ve managed to fall even more in love with it. From getting my dream internship, to going to Italy as part of the Sophomore International Experience.

See “Bryant Experience”, page 4

BI User Group hits Bryant campus

By Molly Funk
Editorial Assistant & News Editor

It is a chapter of an international support group called PASS which consists of hundreds of chapters worldwide. They hold technical conferences on all parts of database analytics and reporting. Our chapter, which meets each month at Bryant, focuses on business intelligence which includes cloud technology, big data, non SQL data storage, reporting, and analytics. Although Microsoft is in the name, gone are the days when one vendor can do it all and Microsoft has adopted a number of open source and proprietary vendors. Members include senior professionals and managers from many employers in the region, including Fidelity, FM Global, and Microsoft. We manage the group on a site called Meetup.com, the link is: http://www.meetup.com/The-RI-Microsoft-BIUG/ . Students are welcome to join. It is free.

Funk: What do you see Bryant students gaining from this group?

The classroom provides the theory and some basic skills. The BI group meetings provide insight into what businesses are actually doing and the challenges they face. It’s not all what’s published by the media. Information needs include operational and tactical reporting, market analysis, business dashboards; you name it. Businesses are working harder than ever to tap the resource of their data to gain an advantage in the marketplace. Meanwhile, technology is rapidly advancing to meet these needs, and it is critical for students and professionals to keep up.

Using and analyzing data is no longer just for IT professionals. The trend is towards all areas of the business to support planning through reporting and analytics. Marketing is the fastest growing segment, but finance, accounting and operations are growing in this area as well. To be unprepared to perform data analysis is to be severely disadvantaged in the job market.

Networking is a key component to career success. Attending the group’s meetings provides a great opportunity to meet with senior people in industry which can lead to opportunities directly and indirectly.

See “Business Intelligence”, page 6
**Statistics for Comment…**

- Articles and letters, including authors’ names and phone number will be considered for publication. (Phone numbers will not be printed.) They are for verification purposes only. They must be typed, double-spaced. They should not exceed the length of 600 words. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editors. 

- Letters to the Editor that are between 400 and 600 words will have the best chance of being published. Also, except in extraordinary circumstances, we will not print any letter or opinion that we know to be incorrect in fact. 

- The Archway staff reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy, clarity, and grammar. 

- Letters exceeding 600 words will not be considered for publication. Also, except in extraordinary circumstances, we will not print any letter or opinion that we know to be incorrect in fact.

- Late submissions will be accepted at the discretion of The Archway staff and will more than likely be held until a complete production schedule is reached. 

- Please note that newspaper theft is a crime. The Archway is printed by Graphic Developments, Inc.

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### News

#### Bursting the ‘Bryant Bubble’

**Ikea Bans Naps**

Not globally, don’t worry—just for shoppers who try to nap on furniture displays in their Beijing store.

**American Pie Lyrics Sold**

Written by Don McLean, American Pie sold for $1.2 million Tuesday morning at an auction held by Christie’s.

**Angelou said what?!**

The quote printed next to Maya Angelou’s face on her stamp was actually said by Joan Walsh Anglund in a book of poetry.

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**Google Kids App Causes Outrage**

Critiques claim that Google’s new Youtube Kids app, designed to let kids watch appropriate videos, violates Google’s own policy on advertisement.

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### Department of Public Safety Log

- **VANDALISM (AUTO)**
  - Mar 29, 2015 Sunday at 10:49
  - Location: HALL 15 LOT
  - DPS received a report of a vehicle with a broken rear window.

- **THEFT (LARCENY)**
  - Apr 01, 2015 Wednesday at 17:13
  - Location: BELLO CENTER
  - DPS received a report of a missing/stolen wallet. The wallet was located by the owner.

- **FIRE (BUILDING)**
  - Apr 03, 2015 Friday at 18:35
  - Location: FISHER CENTER room 1
  - System was reset.

### EMT CALL/ MEDICAL SERVICES RENDERED

- **EMT CALL/ MEDICAL SERVICES RENDERED**
  - Apr 02, 2015 Thursday at 05:56
  - Location: RESIDENCE HALL
  - DPS responded to a x6911 call from a male with flu like symptoms. EMS was dispatched. Patient requested to be transported by Smithfield Rescue to Fatima Hospital for treatment.

- **EMT CALL/ MEDICAL SERVICES RENDERED**
  - Apr 02, 2015 Thursday at 21:39
  - Location: TURF FIELD, CENTER OF TRACK
  - DPS received a call requesting an EMT for two injured males on the turf field. EMS was activated. The first male had a lacerated knee, and the second male had a knee injury from a hyper extended leg. Patient one was treated by Smithfield Rescue to Fatima Hospital for treatment.

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**Rand Paul to run for President**

Rand Paul, Senator of Kentucky, announced his plan to run for President of the US in 2016.

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**Welcome 2015-2016 Archway Staff! Congratulations!**

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**www.bryantarchway.com**
Rubio next Republican candidate?

By George Smith Contributing Writer

With the 2016 presidential election quickly approaching, with two candidates already declaring their candidacy (Ted Cruz and Rand Paul of the Republican Party), and Hillary Clinton all but declaring her bid for the Democratic Party, we are all patiently waiting for the next declaration. April 13th, 2015 is the date to watch as Marco Rubio, a senator from the state of Florida, is going to announce his decision whether or not to run as a Republican for President.

Marco Rubio, a Cuban-American born in Miami, Florida to two Cuban immigrants, has established himself as a favorite to emerge as the Republican Party’s nomination. At the young age of 43, Rubio is known for his charismatic speaking style as he has won the hearts of the average American through his strong ties to the middle class. Rubio is a first generation American. His father was a bartender and his mother was a maid, so he has policies in place to enhance middle class job wages and help cut the college tuition prices. Middle class Americans have already begun to back the ideas of this relatable candidate.

Marco Rubio, while winning a senate seat in 2011, really burst onto the scene in 2012 with intense support of the Republican Party nominee Mitt Romney. Throughout the election, Rubio was at many speeches, rallies, and the party convention as he quickly gained support with his views on foreign policy and the way he was able to captivate the crowd with his words. Even though this election was a good way for Rubio to get recognition across America, recent polls have showed that most people don’t know enough about him to form an opinion on his candidacy. What does that mean? That Marco Rubio has the chance, as he gains recognition, to sway many citizens to vote for him, which is extremely important, as he is running in a crowded party for the Republican primary.

While for the Democratic Party it seems as if Hillary Clinton has already won the primary, the Republican Party is waiting for a front runner. With both Ted Cruz already beginning to campaign in Iowa and New Hampshire, as well as starting TV advertisements, all of those who have not declared are already behind in recognition behind the 2016 election. For Cruz, there are a slew of potential candidates, including former Florida Governor Jeb Bush, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, and another early favorite in New Jersey Governor Chris Christie. Christie, a man who has strong opinions as well as an unknown level of recognizability, has captivated America with his speeches, as well as joining with Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones in his private press box to view NFL playoffs games. Marco Rubio has his work cut out for him as he approaches his announcement on April, 13th in front of the Freedom Tower in Miami, Florida. While being young with years of a political career in front of him, as well as agreeing those who are more experienced and well-known, will Rubio be ready to cement his place in American history?
to joining Greek life as a sister of Alpha Omicron Pi, I have gotten everything I wanted out of a college experience and more! I have met some of the best friends I could ever ask for, I have gotten to participate in philanthropy and community service projects, and I have been able to come out of my shell and become a leader. Bryant is truly my home and everyone on campus is my family; I wouldn’t trade my time here for the world.

Abdullah Al Abdulmoshen

I am a student who came all the way from Kuwait to fulfill my dream of becoming an entrepreneur. The great aspect that led me to pick Bryant was the fact that I have never been seen as an invisible shadow walking around campus. I was always recognized and was able to create life-long connections.

Throughout my four year adventure, Bryant has been able to show me the true meaning of diversity. I have been a part of many families within this campus, and have also been granted the gift of knowledge and resources to start my own business back in Kuwait in June 2013.

I am a resident assistant, the captain of the tennis team, an employee at the Fisher Student Center, and on top of all that, I was still able to create memories and live the best four years of my life. I have been a scene leader at the I2I multicultural dance show, and I spoke in events such as the 19th annual Interfaith Breakfast and festival of lights. Teaching you how to manage your time and become a well-rounded person is what Bryant strives for.

You will have faculty who are there for you, you will have friends who have your back, and you will have two wonderful people who will act as your parents away from home, Mr. and Mrs. Machlasy. It is a small community which I will forever call my family on the other side of the world.

Bryant continues to grow, as do the opportunities that it offers. I could not have any more prepared than I am today for the next big step in my life. This message to Bryant University is 100 percent pure and straight from the heart, and it is the least I can do for Bryant helping me become the man I am today.

Elena Freedman

Bryant has given me more opportunities than I could have imagined. The small class sizes, variety of activities offered on campus, and opportunities given by the Amica Career Center have allowed me to change and grow so much over the past three years.

My freshman year, I was shy and reserved since I did not know a single person at this campus prior to orientation. Now as a junior, I am much more confident and sociable than I was in the past. I am now the president of the G.A.M.M.A., an organization on campus, and the vice president of my sorority, AOII.

These are just a few examples of the many activities that Bryant offers.

Other than all of the opportunities offered here, my favorite thing about Bryant is the traditions. I love how every student knows to walk around the archway, not under it. I love how everyone looks forward to the Festival of Lights and the lighting of the Christmas tree and menorah outside of Fisher during the holiday season. Bryant is my home away from home, and I couldn’t imagine attending a school where the community didn’t feel like family.

Want to get involved in The Archway? Come to the Fisher Student Center room 3 Mondays at 5:30pm!

Abdullah Al Abdulmoshen

@AbdullahAIV

Follow us!

Instagram
@BryantArchway

Twitter
@TheArchway

More updates on Germanwings Flight 9525

By Deanna Ristaino
Contributing Writer

Another plane crash leaves the world in shock. Germanwings Flight 9525 crashed into the French Alps on the morning of March 24, killing all 150 passengers on board. New details continue to emerge as investigators desperately try to piece together the evidence to find out what happened to cause this tragedy.

Information that has been released confirmed that this was intentional and appears to be the actions of the co-pilot, 27 year old Andreas Lubitz, who locked the pilot, Patrick Sondenheimer, 34, out of the cockpit after he went to use the restroom. He then set the plane’s autopilot to descend to 100 feet and even manually sped up the decline, as stated by CNN’s article “Black box shows co-pilot Andreas Lubitz sped up descent.” Andreas Lubitz, who, according to another CNN article “Germanwings plane crash: What we know so far,” may have been suffering from mental health problems.

CNN also explains that investigators discovered torn up medical leave notes in Lubitz’s apartment, including one for the day of the crash. Even more disturbing was that Lubitz had recently researched suicide methods and cockpit door security on the internet, according to CNN’s article.

As investigators look for answers, the most chilling and informative source comes from the black box which captured audio from the cockpit. CNN’s article “German newspaper releases timeline of Germanwings flight before crash” translated the German newspaper Bild to reveal the findings. The black box recorded that pilot Sondenheimer told co-pilot Lubitz that he did not get a chance to use the bathroom prior to takeoff. Once the plane reached cruising altitude, the co-pilot, Lubitz, badgered the pilot to go relieve himself at any time. The report also described the sound of a chair being pushed back and the captain stating “You can take over.” Shortly after, radar detected that the plane started to descend. Next, there was buzzing heard as the pilot begged Lubitz to let him in. Screaming from the passengers was also picked up. Then an alarm saying “Terrain—pull up!” was recorded with the pilot screaming “Open the damn door!” At 10:38, Lubitz’s breathing could still be heard according to Bild’s report.

The question now is how to prevent this from occurring again. Lufthansa, the parent company of Germanwings, has changed its rules following the crash to ensure that two crew members are in the cockpit at all times and many other airlines have taken similar steps, CNN reported. The ability to lock the cockpit door from the inside was a security measure put in place after the attacks on 9/11.

However, The Telegraph reported in the article “Dutch pilot predicted French Alps crash” that just a few weeks prior to the Germanwings crash, a Dutch pilot, Jan Cocheret, wrote “I hope I never find myself in a situation where I go to the toilet and return to find a cockpit door that won’t open.” He explained that the 9/11 security measures put in place could also be used against a plane’s captain. That situation, sadly, is exactly what occurred in this tragedy.
The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass. is a 40,000 square foot sports museum dedicated to the game of basketball. The Hall of Fame recognizes all levels of basketball (youth, high school, collegiate and professional) and includes both men and women.

The Hall of Fame is there, simply to honor and celebrate basketball's greatest moments and people. It is located in Springfield, Mass. because it was on the campus of Springfield College where James Naismith invented the game of basketball in 1891. The museum attracted almost 235,000 visitors last year and looks to surpass that in 2015.

The Basketball Hall of Fame serves as the sport's most complete library in addition to promoting and preserving the history of basketball. A visit to the museum will include hundreds of interactive exhibits that share the spotlight with skill challenges, live clinics, and contests. And of course, there is enough basketball history to impress the most avid fan.

The museum is “set in the round” and has three different levels. My favorite exhibit is Center Court where you try your skills at shooting basketballs at different types and sizes of baskets, including a peach basket (what Dr. Naismith used to invent the game.) One could spend hours shooting and working up a sweat. The museum also has a playing court where throughout the day they run different contests, like a shooting competition. It is not uncommon to visit the Hall of Fame and see a live basketball game being played. It is a pretty amazing place that any sports fan should visit. The museum has a Hall of Fame Shop where you can buy everything from a t-shirt to autographed memorabilia. The Hall of Fame complex is surrounded by restaurants ranging from McDonald’s to the very sophisticated Max’s Tavern (high-end five star restaurant), and in the complex is a hotel, which allows easy walking access to the building.

It is easy for a family to make a full day of visiting the museum. Admission is $21/adults, $17/seniors (ages 65 and over), $15/youths (ages 5 to 15) and children (4 and under) are free. To me, those prices are a bit high, but there are so many different coupon opportunities out there that one would be foolish to pay full price. I know there are major events involving the Hall of Fame, including the observation of its 50th anniversary in 2018. The Hall of Fame’s biggest moment every year is their annual Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony. The ceremony is the highest honor in basketball. Currently, there are 325 coaches, Payers, referees, contributors, and Teams inducted into the Hall of Fame. From Michael Jordan (player for the Chicago Bulls) to James Naismith (inventor of the game) to the 1992 USA Olympic Team (Dream Team), the list is a who’s who of basketball.

There is no one associated with Bryant University inducted, but who knows what the future holds? A groundbreaking enshrinement happened in 1985, when the Hall of Fame entered a new era by being the first major museum to recognize the contributions of women to the sport.

The Basketball Hall of Fame makes a positive social and economic impact for the city of Springfield and brings the city into the national spotlight. The Hall of Fame attracts visitors from all over the world, and I highly recommend that if you have the opportunity to visit, you should!

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**The Golden Rule for Every Business Man Is This:**

Put Yourself in Your Customer’s Place

**ORISON SWET MARDEN**

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**Students head a new alternative radio start-up**

By Molly Funk

Editorial Assistant & News Editor

I had the pleasure of sitting down with Victor Binetruy and Nicolas Sorbac, both juniors at Bryant University, and speaking to them about their start-up ‘KrossRoad Global Radio’. The two have been working on this venture for approximately eight months and are currently undergoing preparations for their official launch. KGRR is more than just a radio station—Binetruy and Sorbac are “dedicated to helping independent artists from all over the world by playing their music on KGRR and exhibiting it internationally.”

They believe they will have much success because their business model is so unique—there are no royalty fees due to the musicians who showcase their work through KGRR. The radio station is mutually beneficial as the artists assist independent artists by playing their music internationally, and they help listeners discover new, unheard before music. KGRR just started playing during the last week of March and already has daily listeners from each continent. I have included below an excerpt from my interview with Binetruy and Sorbac in which they speak on the origins of KrossRoad Global Radio.

**Funk:** Tell me about KGRR, how did you get started?

**Binetruy:** Originally it was freshman year. I and Nicholas were talking about just making a radio. We thought about it for months but the biggest problem we encountered was paying all the royalties to artists and musicians.

**Sorbac:** I think it was something before that... we come from Europe and we listen to different music. Freshman year we bought big speakers to listen to music, and we starting blasting our music. People would come to our room and say they liked the music. We’d give them the names of the music and a couple weeks later we’d come back to the hall and we’d hear people playing the music we had introduced them to. At first we started a Spotify playlist and then people started following it and we kind of said ‘woah... people like the music we’re putting into this.’ I think that’s how it originally got started before even the idea of the radio. We were looking for a way to distribute the kinds of music we were listening to.

**Binetruy:** So we wanted to go even bigger, so we decided to make it even bigger. The thing is we had no cash, no money to put into it; we didn’t know how to make a website. Then we had the problem of the all the royalties to the musicians. This was a big problem... how could we broadcast music for free. I then got my brother on board... he’s the one coding the website. We got started around June or July; we built the website. We then started contacting artists. For the first few months, the music we were looking for, there was a movement, and people were getting interested.

**Sorbac:** That was predicted. We wanted to reach as many people as possible so we started using Facebook and Twitter to contact artists. Even though at first it wasn’t the sort of music we were looking for, there was a movement, and people were getting interested.

**Binetruy:** We tackled the challenge of royalties by instead of asking the musicians for their music, we’re going to let them come to us. We’re more of a radio for all the independent artists across the world. All the small musicians who play music as a hobby or if they don’t have a big fan base—they’re thirsty for the fame and willing to give us their music to get it out there. We want KGRR to be a name that is known in that community—we want to be the first ones to get their music and play it on the radio.

**Funk:** What is your business model? Why do you think it will be so successful?

**Sorbac:** I think it was predicted. We have much success because our business model is so unique—there are no royalty fees due to the musicians who showcase their work through KGRR. This was a big problem... how could we broadcast music for free. I then got my brother on board... he’s the one coding the website. We got started around June or July; we built the website. We then started contacting artists. For the first few months, the music we were looking for, there was a movement, and people were getting interested. **Binetruy:** We tackled the challenge of royalties by instead of asking the musicians for their music, we’re going to let them come to us. We’re more of a radio for all the independent artists across the world. All the small musicians who play music as a hobby or if they don’t have a big fan base—they’re thirsty for the fame and willing to give us their music to get it out there. We want KGRR to be a name that is known in that community—we want to be the first ones to get their music and play it on the radio.

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**www.bryantarchway.com**
Silicon Valley entrepreneurs launch Washington think tank

By Andrea Chang
MCT Campus

Silicon Valley is becoming more involved in Washington. On Tuesday, a number of high-profile tech entrepreneurs launched the Economic Innovation Group, an idea laboratory and advocacy organization dedicated to building a more entrepreneurial and innovative U.S. economy.

The group said it came together because members felt the recovery from the Great Recession was not as strong as it should be, and that the entrepreneurs and the investors that are “at the bleeding edge of our economy” are not at the table for economic policy debates.

Its leadership includes policy experts, start-up founders, investors and academics.

Technology sector members include tech investor Ron Conway of SV Angel, Napster co-founder Sean Parker and Dana Settle of Los Angeles venture capital firm Greylock Partners.

It’s time for those of us in the tech community to look beyond the borders of Silicon Valley, and to think long term about solutions to broader national challenges,” Parker said. “Our approach to public policy should encompass the lessons we learned as technology entrepreneurs and investors: take big risks, seek out innovative solutions, and don’t shy away from big problems.”

Priorities include finding new ways to drive private sector investment to economically distressed communities; promoting new business formation, modernizing the nation’s infrastructure and tackling the skills gap that could hamper the country’s workforce in a global economy.
The Bulldogs baseball squad continued their hot play on Friday, sweeping a doubleheader against two Philadelphia-area foes. Playing on Saint Joseph’s campus in Merion Station, the Bulldogs defeated the St. Joe’s Hawks in game one 13-8 and beat Villanova 6-0 on the same field just hours later.

Junior Kyle Wilson started the Hawks, going 5.2 innings and allowing two runs. In seven starts on the season, Wilson has yet to allow more than two earned runs. He would go on to earn his second win of the year.

Bryant’s lineup remained hot, as they carried over the momentum from their 18-2 drubbing of Northeastern just two days prior. Getting to start in center field, sophomore Joe Paparella hit his first career home run to get the scoring started in the third inning. Another milestone on the day occurred when freshman catcher Mickey Gasper picked up his first career hit in the following inning.

Free agent signings Pablo Sandoval and Hanley Ramirez should both hit around 20 home runs and hover around .265 and drive in about 80 runs each. Look for a huge season from contract Mike Napoli over at first base. He hit .300 or better every year he was compromised for most of last season with a foot injury. He hit .300 or better every year he was compromised for most of last season with a foot injury. He will hit 40 home runs. Napoli also is much underrated on the defensive side, as the former catcher is not afraid to use his chest to block the ball on low throws, which saves a lot of runs throughout the season.

Bogey flew under the radar this offseason and manning his shortstop position. A three-time All-American catcher, he is expected to have a better year this season in the catching position this season. Expect less than five saves a lot of runs throughout the season. Expect less than five saves a lot of runs throughout the season.

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RBI while hitting a cool .275. Catcher Mike Napoli over at first base. He will hit 40 home runs. Napoli also is much underrated on the defensive side, as the former catcher is not afraid to use his chest to block the ball on low throws, which saves a lot of runs throughout the season.

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End of the Hernandez trial is near
By Kaitlyn Graham
Sports Editor

Aaron Hernandez is being charged with three accounts of first degree murder (ABC News)

As the closing statements come to a end Tuesday in the Aaron Hernandez murder trial, the buzz about the impending verdict is reaching its peak.

Charged with first degree murder in August 2013, Hernandez has been waiting, along with most of New England, to see what the jury will decide of his fate. Since it was first revealed that the Patriot’s tight end was possibly involved in the murder of three men in the past few years, the Patriot’s football organization has done a good job severing the connection between the team and Hernandez, as well as making clear that they were unaware of the actions that Hernandez is being charged with.

Hernandez trial - 4 months to go
By Lorraine Barry
Staff Writer

The trial has been long and hard on both the prosecution and defense, including over 130 witnesses and lasting across the expanse of two months. Witnesses have include people from the Patriot’s organization such as Kraft and Brian McDouugh (one of the team’s trainers), as well as psychologists and forensic experts who analyzed the data found at different crime scenes.

While the prosecution took over a month to bring all their witnesses to the stand, the defense attorney for Hernandez called only three witnesses, bringing their defense case to an end after just one day.

The defense argument centers on the fact that the evidence may point to Hernandez being at the scene of the crime, but not actually committing the murders he is accused of. One of the three witnesses called by the defense included a Tufts medical expert who addressed the prosecution’s accusation that the use of PCP could have added to Hernandez’s actions in June of 2013. The expert argued that even if Hernandez had taken drugs or consumed alcohol on that night, there isn’t a connection between violence and these substances.

The prosecution’s case relies heavily on evidence from surveillance cameras both around Hernandez’s home, near the scene of the crime, as well as through texts and phone calls in Hernandez’s history. The evidence of Hernandez’s connection to the murders is definitely prominent, but the question lies in if the murders were actually committed by Hernandez, or his two friends, who are on trial separately.

Closing arguments came to a close on Tuesday April 7th, and the final decision will be made by the jury members, who were reminded to ignore the outside buzz about the trial from the press and public. A decision on the case is expected in the next few days, but it is hard to tell how long it will take the jury to come to a decision.
Duke wins fifth NCAA title

By Chris Dufresne
MCT Campus

So much for crafty veterans, experience and upperclassmen better handling pressure in crunch time. Duke's diaper dandy array of freshmen outplayed longer-toothed Wisconsin on Monday night to earn a 68-63 win and the school's fifth NCAA championship.

Whoever said youth was wasted on the young should have been among the crowd of 71,149 at Lucas Oil Stadium.

"Grayson put us on his back," Krzyzewski said. "We didn't shoot well, we didn't defend well at times, but Grayson put us on his back." He said he should not be compared with Wooden. "I've never been closer to a group of guys, and this one hurts." "They're amazing," said senior guard Quinn Cook.

"I saw some openings to drive," he said. "I Know I have ability to drive and penetrate." Allen said playing against his talented teammates allowed him to step up in an important moment. "They've been supporting me all year," he said. "I Allen delivered a burst of energy to Duke's lineup and quickly started beating Wisconsin's guards off the dribble. "I saw some openings to drive," he said. Krzyzewski said, with two stars on the bench, he just kept throwing lineups out on the court. "I got some gritty guys in there, in combinations," he said. Duke bought time and got foul-plagued Okafor and Winslow back in the game for the closing minutes.

Okafor scored two key baskets late to bump a one-point lead to five, at 65-58, with 2.10 left. Jones then hit a three-pointer with 1.22 left that seemed to put the game out of reach. Wisconsin rallied in the final minute but couldn't complete the mission. The Badgers missed five of their last 19 shots.

Dekker, who had been Wisconsin's hottest-shooting player in the tournament, had one of those nights. He finished with 12 points but missed all six of his threepoint attempts.

Dekker was still a factor inside, contributing three putback baskets in the first half. One was a beautiful reverse layup off a teammate's missed shot. "I'm disappointed in myself for my performance tonight," Dekker said. "I've never been closer to a group of guys, and this one hurts." "The magic of last week's West Regional win in Los Angeles, and Saturday's win over Kentucky, went missing. Also missing was some of the swagger. Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan said afterward he never felt comfortable Monday night, even with a nine-point lead. "Teams make runs, it happens all the time," he said. It seemed for a while that sophomore guard Bronson Koenig, one of Wisconsin's unsung players, might end up the king of Madison's county.

Koenig, who did not have a first-half field goal, opened the second half with a corner three and then hit two more baskets to help push Wisconsin's lead to nine. It was Allen of Duke, though, who pushed Koenig off the front page. Kaminsky had 21 points to lead Wisconsin, which finished the year 36-4. The Badgers wanted so badly for it to be 37-3. In the end, though, last year's experience in the Final Four meant nothing. Duke's stars of Monday night watched as high school students.

What could a senior say? "They were tough," Wisconsin's Jackson said. "They played great." It might not seem fair that four Duke freshman could come together so quickly. "I've never had a group that's had this chemistry," Krzyzewski said.

It helped, of course, to have a good chemistry teacher.
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The Salmo switch: a year in review

By Ian Russell
Contributing Writer

In case you have been living under a rock for the past year, Salmo and Nick’s have changed hands with Sodexo being replaced by Aramark. For the most part, students were excited about the move as many had become fed up, (pun intended) with Sodexo’s product, but as the saying goes, “You don’t know what you have until it’s gone.” There is no doubting the fact that there are some justified complaints about the changes Aramark has made. However, there have been some pleasant surprises as well. We will now take a deeper look at some of the things that have worked out and some of the things that really haven’t.

The Good:

Throughout much of Sodexo’s reign there were many complaints about the overall quality and taste of the food. Taste of course is obviously subjective, however, from what I’ve heard and experienced myself, the overall quality and taste of the food has certainly improved. The was never anything quality wise that could rival some of the sandwiches you can now get at Nick’s or even the Sushi that is now available almost every day. Another area of popularity has been some of the pre-made options outside of the main course. Items like egg sandwiches, chicken caesar wraps, and pasta bowls have all been very popular and really make everyone happy.

Attempts though have been made to switch things up a bit at Salmo with the introduction of Test Kitchens. Most nights, these Test Kitchens have the biggest line and are actually quite good. It’s time for the decision-makers at Salmo to drop the term “Test Kitchen” and just make it the main course. Moving the test kitchen over to the main course would speed up the serving process as it is better designed for a large line, and it would also serve to provide a bit of change up that would really make everyone happy.

The Bad:

One of the most frequent complaints about the changes in Salmo and Nick’s is the complete lack of variety in options. The menu at Nick’s was essentially cut in half which, while it may make the jobs of those people preparing the food easier, it has also upset many students who can no longer stand in line for the same three or four items every time. The lack of variety in options has also upset many students who can no longer eat the food the way they want. The Pilgrims who worked so hard to establish a national holiday of giving thanks and eating turkey just rolled over in their graves.

The 21st century classroom

By Ryan Sharpe
Contributing Writer

With the technological advances of the 21st Century it is rather eye opening that Universities all across the United States are still forcing students to buy textbooks for all of their classes. Most Universities pride themselves on being technologically savvy, yet they are still stuck in the old days with their archaic teaching styles.

Students not only in college but in all grades should be given electronic textbooks, along with interactive learning experiences that can only be provided if they are given laptops. When a student has a textbook in class it can take minutes to find an answer to a question, with the use of a laptop, students can learn useful things.

Every year there are millions of tress that get cut down just to make textbooks. Many people question why students, these days, still have hard copy textbooks. With the absurd cost of textbooks on top of the outrageous tuition the students already pay for school it is crazy to ask students to purchase the textbooks.

The technology that exists today has light, compact laptops that can be carried around more easily than a couple of textbooks. Some people might question the expense of the laptop which usually ranges from about $250 to around $800. The cost of one laptop that can hold many different textbooks on it is a lot cheaper than having the student keep purchasing overpriced textbooks every semester.

Doing this does not only make it easier on the school’s budget but it is also easier on the environment. With having laptops in place of textbooks it would also cut down on having students constantly carry around pens, pencils and such. It also would help the professors and teachers because having one laptop is a lot less than multiple textbooks, which means students would not be able to “forget their homework at home” anymore.

With having one laptop then students would not forget to bring things to class because they would only have to worry about bringing one thing to class, which is the laptop, not multiple textbooks. It would make learning more fun because kids will get to use technology during classes and for homework. It will lighten the load of the average student whose backpack can range anywhere from ten pounds to twenty five pounds.

Students would be a lot more organized with having everything on one database versus having a bunch of papers to deal with. A lot of the times the teachers/professors do not even teach the entirety of the textbook themselves, yet students are paying hundreds of dollars for these textbooks.

To insure that the students are paying attention and actually on the correct website for class, the laptops could have a security system that only allows for the students to be on the textbook and notes page during class hours. With that being the case both the teachers and students will get all of the information they are going to need, because the teacher/professor will have to teach the whole textbook, and the students will have no choice but to be on the textbook and note page.

With everything being moved to the internet, it only makes sense that learning should follow the trend. By schools all across the country moving their lessons from textbooks to online classes with computers, students will be able to learn more important lessons that will carry over to the real world.
‘Frozen’ tells us what’s wrong with Disney

By Nicholas Calabro
Staff Writer

Disclaimer: This is entirely based on personal theories and opinions, not to be taken as absolute facts. Also there are spoilers for other Disney films.

I have a question for you, between the merchandise, the short, and the impending sequel, have you had enough of Disney’s Frozen yet? That is not going to stop Disney from shoving the highest grossing animated film of all time. Let me make it clear that I do not hate the movie, but looking back on it, the movie could have been a lot better. And it probably would have been, if not for the Disney image.

As anybody that has seen Frozen knows, the movie is known for subverting Disney clichés. For example, a lot of Disney queens or other women in power have been evil. In Frozen, the queen of Arendelle, Elsa, is a good-hearted woman with an icy power she cannot control, and therefore needs to distance herself from everybody else. This included her sister, Princess Ana, after a near miss with death, early in the film. With the help of her sister, Queen Elsa learns how to control it with love at the end. But, it is time for a production history lesson.

Did you know that, in every version of the script until the final draft, Queen Elsa was the villain? According to the people who made the film, they had to change it after hearing Idina Menzel (Queen Elsa) sing “Let It Go,” (go figure). It was believed that the song and performance were not evil enough, so Disney thought rewriting the movie made more sense than tweaking one song. What I am suggesting is that there is an unspoken reason for the movie to be rewritten.

As I said earlier, Frozen is known for subverting most of the Disney clichés. I also said that this included a queen who was not cruel, just misunderstood. The older movies that made those clichés so popular have a reputation for not being very empowering to women, and you can decide for yourself whether or not they deserve it. My theory is that the rewrites were done specifically to not just subvert the cliché but also because Disney was not confident that people would see the movie without this being done. What is a fact, is that again Frozen is the highest grossing animated film of all time; so the decision has still paid off. But, was it the right decision?

Have you noticed something about the Disney villains (with the possible exception of Professor Callaghan from Big Hero 6)? They are evil with more basic motivations (from vanity, to money, to envy, to a lust for power, to lust etc.). It bears repeating again that Frozen is known for subverting Disney clichés, so one might think the villain would have a more compelling motivation, and that is not what happens. It would have happened if Queen Elsa was the villain, but a sympathetic one. This is a problem, because what Disney does not appear to acknowledge (Big Hero 6 is still only one movie) is that villains have come a long way since 1937. Ironically, the film that was supposed to subvert the clichés actually proved how set in their ways the Walt Disney Company is.

That is not the biggest problem that is revealed, however. The film is about two sisters that have grown apart and end up reconnecting. There is nothing wrong with that, but I do want to bring up something that I said in my earlier article, and earlier in this one. First, it bears repeating my theory that Disney made Elsa not the villain because of what would sell, not necessarily to tell a more emotional story. In other words, it means the money is more important (why do you think it is always the highest grossing animated films that they shove down our throats?)

When I put my two cents in to the fight between Disney and Dreamworks, I said that happy endings are most powerful when they are unexpected. So what would make the happy ending of Frozen more unexpected? How about if Queen Elsa, after her power was revealed in front of everybody, exited herself, and sings “Let It Go,” and became bitter and resentful of the people of Arendelle. This would be as a result of an unsuccessful attack on her carried out by Prince Hans of the Southern Isles and company. The attack would also result in Prince Hans’ death. And then, just before Queen Elsa and her army of giant snowmen (a.k.a Marshmallows) attack Arendelle, Princess Anna, her heart still freezing, stops her. The attempt would be successful because, through the love of her sister, Queen Elsa would realize that she did not need to be a monster, and can return the love, thereby unfreezing Princess Ana’s heart and all other things were held constant.

By Nicholas Calabro
Staff Writer

Climbing to the top

Disney’s animated film “Frozen” has become the top-grossing animated film in box office history and has moved to fifth place all-time in worldwide at the box office.

Top all-time grossing movies, worldwide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Movie Details</th>
<th>Worldwide</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>Outside U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Avatar”</td>
<td>$2,782</td>
<td>$761</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Titanic”</td>
<td>2,187</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>1,528</td>
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<td>“The Avengers”</td>
<td>1,519</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2”</td>
<td>1,342</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>961</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Frozen”</td>
<td>1,259</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Iron Man 3”</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Transformers: Dark of the Moon”</td>
<td>1,124</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Skyfall”</td>
<td>1,109</td>
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<tr>
<td>“The Dark Knight Rises”</td>
<td>1,084</td>
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<td>636</td>
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Top animated box office films

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Details</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Abroad</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Frozen”</td>
<td>$1,259</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Toy Story 3”</td>
<td>1,063</td>
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<tr>
<td>“The Lion King”</td>
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<td>“Despicable Me 2”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Finding Nemo”</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>“Shrek 2”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs”</td>
<td>887</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Ice Age: Continental Drift”</td>
<td>877</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Shrek the Third”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Shrek Forever After”</td>
<td>753</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Source: Box Office Mojo, MCT Photo Service

NOTE: Figures are not adjusted for inflation © 2014 MCT
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“Face planted on the way into the library this morning, which reaffirms that the library and Tuesdays are the enemy.”

“When I’m on campus on a holiday weekend I feel like Jake Gyllenhaal when he survives the day after tomorrow minus the snow storm and wolves.”

“Bryant Tweeted What?!?”

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Bryant Tweeted What?!
How has Cinderella changed in 65 years?

We don't need a new Cinderella movie

By Al Beltis
Staff Writer

It's 2015. We don't need a new Cinderella movie. However, if Disney feels so inclined to give us one, I don't think it's too much to ask that we get a new Cinderella movie. But is this what we're given? Nope. The film, its characters, and its messages are just as animated as if they were taken straight out of a classic hand-drawn movie. And when I say animated here, I don't mean “lively” or “spirited,” I mean “fake” and “cartoonish.”

So why do I hate this movie so much? Well, I wouldn't say I hate it, per se. In terms of the film as a whole, it wasn't terrible - it just wasn't very good. But to make matters worse, there was plenty of this movie to not only dislike, but to loathe. Keeping in mind, once again, that it is the year 2015, the portrayal of Cinderella as a weak-willed and pathetic damsel is anti-feminist, extremely offensive, and possibly quite damaging to the young viewers in the audience. But hey, at least they got to enjoy Frozen Fever beforehand, if they weren't standing in the popcorn line for too long.

In this movie, Disney had the chance to improve on the so-so reputation it has in regards to its messages towards young girls. In the past, it's been slammed for its visual effects were laughable, given the year 2015, the portrayal of Cinderella as a weak-willed and pathetic damsel is anti-feminist, extremely offensive, and possibly quite damaging to the young viewers in the audience. But hey, at least they got to enjoy Frozen Fever beforehand, if they weren't standing in the popcorn line for too long.

In this movie, Disney had the chance to improve on the so-so reputation it has in regards to its messages towards young girls. In the past, it's been slammed for its
terribly directed actors. Say what you will of her character, but as Cinderella, Lily James is able to bring her dimension when the writing gives her none.

Unfortunately, I can't say this for anyone else. Even two-time Oscar winner Cate Blanchett, who plays the stepmother, doesn't add much to the movie, especially in the unnecessary and often tortuous scenes with her wicked daughters. As the prince, Richard Madden disappoints, especially when compared to his previous fantasy period-piece work in Game of Thrones.

But what about the artistic aspects, where the movie probably shined brightest? Again, you'd be wrong (unless you're talking about the film’s score, which is completely magnificent!). While some costumes and set pieces dazzle, others are so clunky they have the appearance of being designed by a high school prom committee. On top of that, the visual effects were laughable, given that it is, once again, 2015.

So in Cinderella, we're force-fed these dated and damaging messages for nearly two hours, whether it be through Cinderella's indifference towards her abuse or through the sight of her waistline shrinking as the Fairy Godmother prepares her for the ball. But even worse is the fact that the film seems to make zero attempts to be original, or that fact that Helena Bonham Carter's Godmother is essentially a cameo.

Rats don't live for 18 years, smashing a human-sized pumpkin against a stump while you're inside leads to death, and no one looks under secret floorboards unless they're lead to believe there's something there. Cinderella may look good at times, and might not bore your brains out, but it's offensive, uneventful, and potentially detrimental to the future of some of its young viewers.

A raucous party involves gambling,” which concludes the negative elements of the movie. This poor treatment of Cinderella also has a modern day twist when the stepmother tries to bargain with both Cinderella and the duke in order to better her position, as well as those of her daughters, in the kingdom. Many viewers found it refreshing to see that both Cinderella and the Prince had stronger characters as they do not cower to the stepmother but rather stand up for themselves and their ideals.

It's time that Disney and their director Kenneth Branagh, do more than just make a buck off of our sault of strong females seen in Frozen and Tangled. Instead, they keep this movie from being a modernized version of the original 1950 animated movie.

What's new with bippity boppity boo?

By Elizabeth Rose
Contributing Writer

The original Disney movie Cinderella has just come out again in motion pictures on March 13, 2015. The film follows the same storyline as the original film released by Walt Disney in 1950. Some critics argue that the new movie changes the original vision of Cinderella, but not for the better. This is because it depicts the

imaginative fairy tale of one of Disney's original princess's in reality as a real unanimated person. With saying this, there are also many positive reviews of the modernized version of the original 1950 animated movie.

Many people have grown up being familiar with Walt Disney as part of their childhood. This sense of familiarity allows them to be very critical of the remake, its comparison to the original film as to what they originally knew to be Cinderella. The original Disney movie version, like most all Disney movies, was rated G for the general audience. With that being said, it was known that the majority of its viewers would be young children along with families. The new movie received a rating of PG which implies that parental guidance is recommended. According to the Motion Picture Rating, it is rated PG for, “mild thematic elements, such as, sex and nudity, and frightening or intense scenes.” Others negative components consist of mild violent content, alcohol content in one scene, the loss of animated magic, singing, and imagination. Furthermore, as said on plugedin.com, “The story mandates that Lady Tremaine and her daughters treat Ella dreadfully from start to finish.

A raucous party involves gambling,” which concludes the negative elements of the movie. This poor treatment of Cinderella also has a modern day twist when the stepmother tries to bargain with both Cinderella and the duke in order to better her position, as well as those of her daughters, in the kingdom. Many viewers found it refreshing to see that both Cinderella and the Prince had stronger characters as they do not cower to the stepmother but rather stand up for themselves and their ideals. In this age of bullying, it is important for

young children to see characters they love stand up for themselves. Aside from the assessments focused on the contrast of the new film from the original, it is a general consensus that
Game review: latest Final Fantasy

Ozzie Mejia
MCT Campus

It’s been a long wait for “Final Fantasy” completists who have been looking to get a taste of “Final Fantasy Type-0.” A longtime Japanese PSP exclusive, Square Enix is only now making this game available stateside.

In many ways, “Final Fantasy Type-0 HD” is a “warts and all” kind of presentation. Hardcore FF fans will find plenty to satisfy the itch, but those less invested may want to leave it behind.

CHILDREN OF WAR

“Type-0” begins with one of the darkest scenes to emerge from any “Final Fantasy” game. It is the product of war and devastation, with a young man letting out a cry of anguish in the street as his Chocobo lay dying at his side. It’s the kind of conflict that players can expect through the story, which takes players to the Dominion of Rubrum. The Dominion is warring off powerful invaders from the Militesi Empire, led (surprisingly, considering FF style) by an evil Marshall Cid. But it continues by introducing the rest of the cast, including the main character, Simon. The Dominion’s defenders are the 14 standout warrior students of the Academia acadia’s Class Zero. If it sounds like Square Enix might have trouble fleshing out 14 main characters, that’s because that mostly turns out to be the case. Outside of a few characters, like Ace, Machina and Rem, it’s difficult to make individual members multi-dimensional. The story surrounding them is not any easier to follow and didn’t get any better as it moves forward, especially once the Dominion army begins plotting against one another in rounds of political gamesmanship.

WAR GAMES

“Type-0” is far more action-focused than most other games bearing the “Final Fantasy” brand. It trades in traditional turn-based RPG combat for third-person squad-based action. Players control a leader and fight alongside two other AI-controlled members of Class Zero against the Militesi army, who are made up of human soldiers, to the traditional FF-style monsters, to towering mechs and dragons. In a nice touch, many human soldiers, to the traditional FF-style monsters, to towering mechs and dragons. The story of “Type-0” is an interesting one to witness, if only to see a darker “Final Fantasy” narrative and a more evil side of Cid. It’s a story that’ll likely only satisfy FF completists and few others.

Despite it all though, there are still two more characters I must warn you about. For one, you will inexplicably fall in love with Ophelia. She is graceful and smart and the best part about her is that she has no fear of the queen. In my opinion. I suppose it is just to help add to the show. In the end, I had to start over from scratch.

So what’s the solution to this “Grinding and lots of it!” The trouble with this is that each member of Class Zero has to level up individually, making it extremely time-consuming. Beyond that, though, since each of the Class Zero characters have their own style, this often means having to level up a character that’s necessarily your cup of tea. There’s one other aspect of “Type-0” that falls flat and that’s the RTS-style war portions of the game. There are several instances in which the Dominion army will have to move in and capture enemy territory, requiring Class Zero characters to travel the overworld map and flank the opposition. Coming to the enemy from behind opens the door for the Dominion army to strike and capture territory before Class Zero moves in and invades the town proper. It’s confusing to learn and didn’t get any more fun after I understood it.

THE SPOILS OF WAR

A lot of this game’s PSP heritage appears to be on display. While the characters appear to look fine for an HD remaster, many of the environments and menus look awkward and even blurry. The gameplay has several moments of frustration, especially with AI not always knowing when to heal you. This would normally be alleviated by grabbing a partner for co-op, but that aspect of the game was stripped away for the HD remaster for reasons that leave me scratching my head. The story of “Type-0” is an interesting one to witness, if only to see a darker “Final Fantasy” narrative and a more evil side of Cid. It’s a story that’ll likely only satisfy FF completists and few others.

E!’s latest hit binge watch show: The Royals

By Lauren Slaney
Contributing Writer

I sat in front of my TV wondering what on earth I could waste my time watching when I finally found something that shockingly enough did not completely “waste” my time (gasp!). This is all due to the genius creator of one of the most popular shows conceived, One Tree Hill. Yes, I will say it again, Mark Schwahn has outdone himself with his creation of the new show on E!, The Royals.

The show begins with a girl indulging in recklessly amounts of alcohol, and let’s be honest, who doesn’t find it entertaining to watch others make idiotic decisions while intoxicated? She’s dancing on the table, kissing another girl, and even falling and flashing the crowd revealing what’s underneath her dress. The best part about it all you won’t want to wait for it... she holds the title “Princess Eleanor” of London (Alexandra Park).

Flash forward five minutes and you’ll get another glimpse at how classy this family is when you find her brother Liam (played by William Moseley) in bed with a woman he had just met at a bar. How much more scandalous can opening scenes be?

It continues by introducing the rest of the cast, including the young queen herself, Helena, played by Elizabeth Hurley. Not only is she impossibly powerful in this show but she is also the woman who knows it all. From the tabloids to the tabloids to the tabloids, she’s got it all covered. But it’s a rocky road for her especially after age 49 she still looks like she’s twenty. All I can say is I hope I look that good at her age.

All above though, my favorite character has become King Simon (played by Vincent Regan). His character is kind and caring but fiercely strong. When he announces that he has decided to take down the monarchy and dishonor each of his own family members, I almost lost it. How can someone want to give that all up?

Despite it all though, there are still two more characters I must warn you about. For one, you will inexplicably fall in love with Ophelia. She is graceful and smart and the best part about her is that she has no fear of the queen. In my opinion, I suppose it is just to help add to the show. Though I finally found something that shockingly enough did not completely “waste” my time (gasp!). This is all due to the genius creator of one of the most popular shows conceived, One Tree Hill.

I’m undoubtedly encouraging all to watch the episodes. You won’t only get a great dose of sassiness but a great hour of beautiful accents from a hot cast. The Royals is on E! Sunday at 9/8c Tune in and get to know the royal family.
Caffeine powder

By David Templeton

MCIT Campus

In a world craving stimulation to stay awake, function at peak levels or just feel a bit brighter, caffeine is the ready ingredient in an expanding array of foods, beverages and medications.

But 100 percent caffeine powder, the psychoactive stimulant at its purest form, may go too far. The powder is available online in bulk quantities up to 2.2 pounds, despite a recommended dose of 1/32nd to 1/16th of a teaspoon, equivalent to a cup or two of coffee.

A teaspoon of caffeine powder is roughly equal to 25 to 30 cups of coffee, which likely is lethal. At least two deaths last year were attributed to the growing use of caffeine powder.

Logan James Stiner, 18, of LaGrange, Ohio, died May 27 of a caffeine powder overdose, one week before his high school graduation. Just a month later on June 24, James Wade Sweatt, 24, of Alpharetta, Ga., died of a similar overdose. The deaths revealed the powder’s potential for easy overdosing.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, and the Council for Responsible Nutrition, a trade association for the supplement industry, now recommend people avoid the product altogether. They’ve called for retail sales to be regulated or banned.

The FDA posted a second advisory against its use in December.

Michael M. Landa, director of the FDA’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, stated in his blog last month that the powder is packaged and marketed as a source of energy rather than a stimulant, prompting purchasers to overlook dosage recommendations. Caffeine stimulates the central nervous system with impacts on the heart, brain and other organs. The FDA notes there is no easy way to measure a correct dose.

“Pure caffeine is a powerful stimulant and even very small amounts may cause an accidental overdose,” Landa said, with FDA spokeswoman Jennifer Dooren noting that “the difference between a safe amount and a lethal overdose of caffeine is really small.” “The FDA is concerned about powdered-caffeine products and is considering every legal option,” she said.

At news conferences in December, then again last week, Brown said he and Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., have pressed the FDA that caffeine powder “should be off the shelves.” The senators are considering introducing legislation to ban retail sales of the powder. “If it is added to energy drinks, it should be added at the (production) plant,” Brown said. “There is no legitimate use for this stuff, and there is no business why it is sold retail.” The Council for Responsible Nutrition says caffeine powder is giving the supplement industry a bad name.

“Even a quarter teaspoon can present health risks to users,” said Steve Mister, council president and CEO. “We believe the FDA already has authority to act in this case and remove it from the market if it causes unreasonable risk and illness. Given case histories I’m familiar with, I think the FDA can use its authority to take enforcement action to restrict the product.” NutraKey, a supplement company that prominently advertises pure caffeine powder on the Internet, did not respond to an email request for comment.

Caffeine in small doses generally is considered safe, although some people are sensitive even to nominal doses. Coffee and tea, which naturally contain caffeine, typically are sipped, providing a low, steady dose. But new products often are consumed rapidly, providing a more concentrated hit.

Consumers today may not realize the number of products that contain caffeine, creating a cumulative effect. A single energy drink can provide upwards of 400 milligrams of caffeine, equal to three or four cups of coffee. Pain relief, weight-control, stay-awake and even menstrual-cramp treatments also contain it as do various snack foods, ice creams and some yogurts.

Food products containing cocoa beans (chocolate), coffee, various teas, kola nut, guarana berries and yerba mate, all of which naturally contain caffeine, add to consumption levels, with other products mixing natural and added sources of caffeine.

The weekly Sudoku

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The College Scoop

SEE WHAT STUDENTS AT OTHER COLLEGES ARE READING ABOUT

The Stanford Daily

Stanford College

The No. 38 Stanford men’s tennis team extended its winning streak to seven on Tuesday afternoon, taking down Fresno State 4-1 in Taube Family Tennis Stadium. The win brings its record up to 13-4, along with a still-perfect 4-0 mark in conference play. This was the first of five home matches to close out the season before the Pac-12 and NCAA tournaments.

The Miscellany News

Vassar College

This week, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) will begin an advertising campaign targeting 15 Republican members of the House of Representatives who have voted for the recent House Republican budget proposal, which would freeze funds to the Pell Grant award for 10 years. The DCCC plans to carry out these attacks by placing advertisements in collegiate newspapers within the districts of the targeted congressmen and congresswomen, attacking them for refusing to show support for Pell Grants.

The University Star

Texas State University

One San Marcos local has watched garbage accumulate in the river for years and decided enough is enough.

Derrick Lee spends his summer afternoons sitting on the bottom of the San Marcos River hunting for aluminum cans, plastic bags and other kinds of trash. He ventures to the river’s loneliest stretches, equipped with scuba gear and trash bags, to make them clean again.

The Heights

Boston College

Thanks to Poore’s mastery on the hill and junior slinger Chris Shaw’s continued dominance at the plate, BC (13-16, 5-9 ACC) toppled a struggling Dartmouth (6-18, 4-4 Ivy League) in a low-scoring 2-0 affair.

The Poetry Corner

A Golden Day

By Florence Widmer

Our hike, long, tedious
‘Mid long drooping branches of willows
Steep, lush, densely—wooded hills lush and steep
Surrounded by scented aspen, balsam, pines

Dragonflies with whirling wings
Glistening in the sunlight
Sounds of mirthful tree frogs
Blending with birds’ blithe melodies

A tree-shaded road below
Leading to benches!!
Respite for tired travelers
Excited, exuberant, enraptured
A golden day!
Comic of the Week

I wish for world peace and an end to disease and hunger, HA! HA! April Fools! Just give me a lot of money and a hot princess.

Variety

Dog of the Week

Breed name: Corgi

Fun facts:
- Originally bred to herd cattle, sheep and horses.
- Easy to train and eager to learn.
- Great with children and other pets.
- Two varieties: Pembroke and Cardigan.
- They are the smallest of the American Kennel Club’s Herding Group.
- They also can be stubborn. If housebreaking is a problem; crate training is advised.

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