Investment Fund hits milestone

Professor David Louton speaks on the history and success of The Archway Investment Fund

By Molly Funk
Editorial Assistant & News Editor

Many have recently been talking about Bryant’s Archway Investment Fund reaching and exceeding the ‘million-dollar mark’ as of March 2015 and celebrating its 10 year anniversary. However, the vision and accomplishments of the fund exceed this milestone.

The program began as a gateway for students to gain experience making real world investment decisions before actually entering the workforce. In November 2015, the University provided initial funding for the program which provided students with the opportunity to gain experience that would ordinarily require years of participation in an investment career to accumulate.

There are two classes FIN450, and FIN454 which complement each other, but also provide unique experiences for students. Finance 450, Securities Analysis, is the first course in the Archway Investment Fund regimen, which enables students to learn the techniques of security analysis and requires them to pitch stocks to a variety of audiences. In the second course, FIN454, student portfolio managers manage a real securities

Craigslist ad leads to brutal attack

By Allie Miller
Staff Writer

A March 18th attack in Longmont, Colorado left a woman barely alive and her seven months-old unborn daughter dead. Michelle Wilkins, 26, responded to a Craigslist ad for baby clothes. The fake ad was allegedly posted by 34 year old mother of two, Dynel Lane, to lure Wilkins to her home. As described in the USA Today article, “Colorado woman charged under new law in womb attack.”

The accused is claimed to have then taken the baby into the home, where she placed it in the bathtub and told her husband that she had miscarried the baby. There, the attacker’s husband claimed he heard the baby gasp for breath. According to Buzzfed News article “Pregnant Woman’s Unborn Baby Cut From Her Womb After Responding to Craigslist Ad” although Wilkins was left nearly dead, the doctor who examined her in the hospital said that the incision was well performed – suggesting that the accused had researched Cesarean births.

Legal details of the attack laid out in a CNN article, indicated that Dynel Lane is being held on a two million dollar bond and has been charged with first-degree unlawful termination of pregnancy, first-degree assault, and second-degree assault. There is one charge notably missing from this list: homicide. The presiding law in Colorado would not allow this charge to hold in court.

As described in NRC News article, the attacker's husband claimed to have heard the baby gasp for breath upon finding it in the bathtub. Despite his assertion, the coroner revealed that the autopsy showed that the 34 week old fetus showed no sign of life upon its removal from her mother's womb. For this reason, Lane will not be charged with homicide.

In Colorado, the law on homicide does not recognize a fetus as a person in terms of legal rights. The Colorado criminal law instead defines a person as someone “who had been born and was alive at the time of the homicidal act.” Colorado is one of the few states that does not have laws to recognize the brutal and intended death of a fetus as homicide. Despite not being charged with murder, if convicted of all charged crimes, Lane could face up to 176 years in jail.

This attack, which was orchestrated through a Craigslist interaction, adds to a long and complicated dialogue about the safety of Craigslist. The popular website allows users to post and respond to ads regarding jobs, housing, and items wanted and for sale. Although a well-known website for scoring good deals, it has also been linked to some intense crimes. Various assaults, burglaries, and murders have been linked to the prominent online marketplace.

Although a truly unfortunate and heartbreaking event, the attack in Colorado serves as a reminder of how important it is to be safe in online interactions. When using websites like Craigslist (and truly any public online forum), it is important to remember that you don’t know the person on the other side of the screen and you don’t know their intentions. It is vital to use common sense when connecting with online strangers – especially if the interactions make it to the real world.

Craigslist has some suggestions to help prevent crimes in interactions. The site suggests users to meet in a public place – not someone’s home or a private area. Another idea is to take your cell phone and/or a friend, and always make sure that someone knows where you are going. The company even advises users to consider making interactions at a local police station to ensure safety. Above all else, the most important tip is to trust your instincts and take common sense precautions.

A truly tragic event, the Colorado attack brings forward some difficult but important conversations about laws and online safety. In this very cyber world, it is crucial that people make informed and safe decisions. For more information on how to stay safe in the cyber world, visit staysafeonline.org.
Correction: The Commuter Hub published in issue 15 on March 5, 2015 is a satirical piece. The information in this piece is not to be confused with fact.

The Archway is out on stands midday on Thursday this year!
News

The secret life of Andreas Lubitz

By Jacqueline Parma
Contribution Writer

It's simple to attempt to draw parallels between the accident of the Germanwings Airline in the French Alps on March 24, which crashed killing all 150 people on board, and previous tragedies such as 9/11. However, as justifiable as it is to attempt to draw lessons from prior tragedies, it is likewise fundamental that we remember that no two mishaps are ever precisely the same. The revelation that co-pilot Andreas Lubitz had been diagnosed with a mental illness before he crashed the plane makes people question the process of screenings for mental illnesses, according to The Christian Science Monitor.

Airlines, both in the United States and abroad, have policies that inspect pilot’s psychological wellness for disorders that could influence their capacity to fly a plane. However, these policies depend very much on pilots volunteering documents about any illnesses. Due to the fact that employees will be denied an aviation license, it is one of the main reasons why disclosure remains less likely. In fact, it was recently discovered that investigators had focusing on doctors among other rapped up medical documents attesting that Mr. Lubitz was unfit to fly the day of the crash.

According to The Christian Science Monitor, the United States, as well as airlines and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) require pilots to undergo annual physical examinations, background checks, and medical certifications. On the other hand, these tests focus largely on physical issues, not mental. According to the FAA, psychological exams are not required to perform full psychiatric evaluations, but are expected to form a general impression of the emotional stability and mental state of the applicant. Although, some say having airlines require demanding psychological testing of pilots is impractical. Testing each of them annually simply is not feasible. Dr. Diane Damos stated in a wired.com article, who holds a doctorate in aviation psychology and has been working on the pilot selection process since 1970. Using a tool that would reliably root out and prevent the exceedingly rare instance in which a pilot might commit suicide by crashing a plane, is “probably beyond our capabilities.” If every pilot was tested rigorously, it would inevitably generate false positives, Damos says. “You’re gonna flag a lot of people who are normal but for some reason or other, on that day, give you a strange response. You’d have to follow each one up. check up on them, monitor them,” and that’s a tremendous cost and effort.”

However, wouldn’t the fear of millions override this view? Employers should be urged to disclose their mental issues. The topic needs to be something a pilot, who is responsible for the lives of so many people, can be open about. If a pilot is open about an illness, he or she can get the correct treatment.

When Lubitz was hired in 2013, he was completely fit for work. Lubitz had undergone a complete medical exam with PwC. About the hiring process, Professor Michel Lynch, the faculty advisor, stated that the Bryant competitors competed at a level that few undergraduates can attain.

The xTax Challenge allows students to apply what they have learned in the classroom to a real world business problem. Participants spend a great deal of time researching very complex tax issues. However, when all is said and done, most students agree that the competition is an incredible experience that opens the door to a series of networking opportunities. According to Leyyan Li, “I am most proud of being selected for the national competition. I have been in the United States for only one and a half years. My parents are on the other side of the globe. They are so proud of my accomplishments. It was a great honor to represent Bryant in the national competition.”

Robert Calabro, a tax partner with PwC in their Boston office, and a member of the Board of Trustees at Bryant, will present individual awards to the teams. According to Dr. Damos, “We need to re-examine our testing protocols.”
Portfolio, communicate with the Securities Analysis teams and present to a wide range of investment professionals.

These classes force students to focus on long term planning, and not just participate in a class for a quarter. Students must ensure that the fund survives for the next generation of students, and does so successfully. The students gain hands-on experience of managing real money, not a fictitious fund that exists solely on the internet.

The fund is divided into sectors which group students according to subjects of Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Energy, Materials, Utilities, Financials, Healthcare, Industrials, and Technology.

I sat down with Professor David Louton who oversees Portfolio Management to learn about the history of the Archway Fund and its current success.

**Funk:** Can you comment on the history of The Archway Investment Fund and how it got started?

**Louton:** Originally students from the Finance Association had proposed something like this. They wanted to have an investment fund that would basically run like a mutual where they and their families and other people could invest and then they could sell shares to each other. They proposed that around 2000, before we started the Archway Fund. It fell down because of the regulatory hurdles—with that kind of structure there is so much red tape involved. The second proposal was maybe a year later and was again from the Finance Association, and they said ‘how about we just donate money and then it just become part of the endowment next year and students will keep on donating, and that money will just be managed by the Finance Association.’ So then, it was a couple years later that the Finance faculty proposed the current version that said this should be a part of the endowment, but the program will be run in a very structured way and we will run it as a part of the Finance curriculum. We probably thought there would be a CPA requirement but we never thought there would be this application and interview process like we go through now. The case was made to the Board of Trustees that there were going to be checks and balances and an approval process with oversight. There was a fair bit of pressure the first few years to show that we weren’t just going to shoot out the lights and win big one year, lose big the next. But then after a few years we had a track record, and then there was more confidence and the school added funding over the first five years. So that’s how we got up and running.

**Funk:** Can you tell me more about how the class got its structure?

**Louton:** I spent a lot of time working out what I thought was the right structure for the academic part of it and then met with Professor Nigrin and Aiscogelo. We collaborated, but we all understood that whoever was doing the teaching has to build the process in a way that fits their style. We struggled a bit with the question of how much linkage there would be between the two classes. I finally concluded that it had to be a thing where we started FIN450, and then there was progression… that there the mini-career experience came in. Once we got that into focus it was pretty clear that was the structure that was going to make the whole thing work. So then I started to develop the content with that in mind. I knew that people who were drawn to this were likely candidates for the CFA program at some point so I delved into the CFA body of knowledge so that it would be an easy jump for students.

**Funk:** And what about the networking that is done with Bryant Alum, Brian Basiliere, currently a Senior Investment Analyst at Prime, Buchholz & Associates, responded by describing the fund as “an opportunity to further develop my experience with my investment course and have a chance to apply my learned skills.” When asked what drew them to apply for the Investment Fund, Collin Beardslee, junior, said, “networking with alumni is one of the most important facets of college—this [the Investment Fund program] is a great opportunity to take advantage of involved and successful alumni.” When asked what drew them to apply for the Investment Fund, Collin Beardslee, senior, replied “I do have a passion for analyzing stocks,” and ‘Janny Bautista, currently in the program, respond by describing the fund as “an opportunity to further develop my experience with my investment course and have a chance to apply my learned skills.” Alum, Brian Basiliere, currently a Senior Investment Analyst at Prime, Buchholz & Associates, explained that participating in the Investment Fund was beneficial as “the depth of analysis surpassed that of all other classes,” and that the students involved in the fund had “a similar mindset about bettering themselves” along with a “passion about learning and finance.” Basiliere commends the program for its ability to facilitate “knowledge transfer from peer to peer learning.” The number of alumni at present at the Financial Services Panel March 27th speaks directly to the success of the Investment Fund and its ability to help students network.

**Funk:** Where do you see this program further in the future?

**Louton:** For me, one of the significant things I’ve seen from this ten year milestone is that we have many alumni from this program who have gone out and become very successful in their careers and are coming back to be members of the Advisory Board themselves. So in terms of the original goal of making it as organic as possible, the interaction with the business community and support is positive. I would like to see the program build on that—closing the loop. We’ve also made a lot of headway along the lines of credibility in the business community. As some of the alumni become more advanced and senior in the careers I think the reputation of the program will be advanced. I’d like to see that continued contact. I would like to see more money put into the fund to establish a fixed income piece. There are actually more jobs in fixed income so the fact that we neglect it is bad, but that was always determined by scale.

**Funk:** And what about the networking that is done with Bryant

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**Nick Zacchilli networks with students and alum at the Financial Services Panel.** (Dave Silverman)

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**News**

**Continued from page 1**
Tupac Shakur to drop an album in 2016?

By Kevin Power
Contributing Writer

Tupac Shakur was – and is – arguably one of the most influential and legendary Hip-Hop artists. This is true not only for his time period, but for ours as well. Much of his music, still popular today, finds its way into movies, commercials, and playlists across the globe. He also lives on through documentaries and other tributes which honor and highlight his unmatched artistic ability. Since his death in 1996, rumors have made its way around that Tupac may have left behind unreleased recordings of songs, lyrics, and ideas. As we approach the twentieth anniversary of Hip Hop legend, Tupac Shakur’s death, the answer to everyone’s question “Will Tupac’s unreleased recordings finally be heard?” may finally be settled.

As reported by Rolling Stone in a recent article, Tupac has a plethora of unreleased material on record. Buzz around this knowledge surfaced late this March, according to Billboard, alleging that Jay-Z and Roc Nation had purchased $384 million worth of unreleased Tupac material. These allegations were later found to be false. Billboard provided the latest details on this issue. Although it may not be Jay-Z and Roc Nation who produce a new Tupac album, there is, in fact, one possibly in the works. Tupac’s mother, Afeni, has been in close contact with Jeff Jampol, owner of JAM Inc., who has a plan in motion to produce and release unheard Tupac recordings. Since his death in September of 1996, Tupac has lived on through the work of many other famous Hip-Hop artists. Lyrics of his previously released songs and recorded interviews have been integrated into the songs of Tyga and even Kendrick Lamar on his latest album, To Pimp a Butterfly. Jampol and JAM Inc. have bigger plans this time. They want to release an album consisting primarily of Tupac’s unheard music. He would be the main focus of this album, and it would potentially feature other current artists on various tracks.

Nothing is official yet in terms of the logistics of producing such an album. More of Tupac’s unreleased recordings would need to be dug up and pieced together, but it seems that Jampol is highly motivated to provide said album for Tupac’s fans. He has been rummaging through old Tupac records, mix tapes, lyrics, poems, videos, writings, and scripts in an effort to build a foundation for an album. With the twentieth anniversary of Tupac Shakur’s death approaching in September of 2016, it would be more than fitting for an album of this caliber to be produced.

Regardless of whether or not an album is finally produced and released containing unheard Tupac material, Tupac’s fans have much more to look forward to as well. Other projects in honor of Tupac’s memory have also have also been in the works. Word of new merchandise and apparel under his name is being discussed and may be released this year. In addition, Tupac now has a Grammy Museum exhibition which honors his greatest works and accomplishments.

At the announcement event on March 9th, Apple demonstrated the impressive benefits of the watch. For example, the company presented a new app created by Starwood Hotels. As stated in the “Apple Watch Success Will Hinge on Apps” in The New York Times, this watch app allows guests of those hotels to unlock their room door with just a hand wave over the lock. Chris Holden, a developer of the app stated in The New York Times, “The end goal is to build loyalty with our most valuable guests. [This app] continues to deepen the relationship we have with [guests].”

Apple has customized the watch several different ways to fit one’s needs. According to Apple, the watch is available in three different models such as the Sport, Standard, and Edition with a selection of interchangeable straps. It is also offered in two different sizes—1.5 inches or 1.65 inches. With such an impressive product, how much will the item cost buyers? According to “Apple Watch Success Will Hinge on Apps” in The New York Times, the 1.5 inch Sport costs $349 while the 1.65 inch is $399. The consumer has a choice of five different colors including white, black, blue, green, or pink. The Standard cost ranges from $549-$1,099 depending on the band (leather or stainless steel). The most expensive, Edition, starts at $10,000 as it is made from 18-karat rose or yellow gold.

Some critics of the Apple Watch have discussed the topic of cost. According to Apple, it takes nine hours to cut the metal link bracelet, which has over 100 components. Another special feature of the watch is that it is water resistant, so it can be worn in the shower and can even survive in a pool for a short period of time, according to Apple Insider’s article “Rumor: Tim Cook reveals waterproofing on Apple Watch has improved.” However, the watch is not made to be completely immersed into deep waters.

Apple also announced that the watch will have an impressive 18-hour battery life, which should last the average person the whole day and charge it overnight, according to “Apple Watch will get 18 hours of battery life” in The Verge. However, some critics are not impressed with the watch. In “Five Reasons To Buy An Apple Watch – And Four Reasons To Skip It” in Forbes, Sean Hollister expresses his opinion of the watch. “Personally, I’m not going to pay money to check my wrist just so I don’t have to check my phone.”

Will you purchase the Apple Watch? If so, preorders for all models begin April 10th.

By Marissa LeBlanc
Contributing Writer

Recently, Apple announced the advent of the Apple Watch, which is set to release April 24, 2015. The company has predicted that the demand will be high and have already ordered five million units for the initial release. The Apple Watch is a breakthrough product for Apple. In “The Apple Watch: Is it a gadget or a fashion statement?” in Reuters, Tim Cook, the CEO of Apple, stated, “We’ve never sold anything as a company that people could try on before.”

According to Apple, this watch is the most personalized product ever made by the company. “Apple Announcement” in MobilityWare stated that the watch can track your daily movements and alert you if you have been sitting for too long thanks to the built-in accelerometer and heart rate sensor. The International Business Times article, “Apple Watch: 10 Things We Know About Apple Inc.’s New Smartwatch” explained that the watch also keeps you connected to your phone by sending and receiving calls, texts, and emails. Just like the iPhone, swiping upwards allows one to see small bits of information like music, weather, time, or maps. In addition, popular apps from the iPhone will be accessible on the Apple Watch. According to International Business Times, in order to utilize the Apple Watch, users must have an iPhone (5, 5c, 5s, 6, or 6 Plus) to connect it to. Therefore, users will have to install watch apps on their iPhone.

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The Amica Career Center’s newest campaign gives students the opportunity to announce their professional achievements in a unique way! Bryant students who have accepted internships or job offers are invited to the Amica Career Center on Mondays and Fridays from 12:00 - 2:00 pm to snap a photo with a whiteboard that announces their new positions.

“IT is so rewarding for me, personally, to see where students find internships & jobs,” said Amy Weinstein, Assistant Director of the Amica Career Center. “But, #CelebrateWithAmica is so much more! Your success story helps to build the reputation of Bryant through tracking a pipeline of talent that can be shared with future students.”

The campaign is also very popular among employers who love to see their new interns and employees celebrating their new positions. Companies often engage in the social media posts by favoriting, sharing, or retweeting the students’ celebratory photos.

“Being featured on the #CelebrateWithAmica campaign was a great way to share the news about accepting a job with my family and friends,” said Nicole Shannon, a senior who participated in the campaign.

So far, over twenty students have participated in the campaign, having their photos taken all over campus. The Amica Career Center then shares the photos through Twitter (@BryantCareer), Instagram (@BryantCareer), and Facebook (Bryant University – Amica Career Center for Education) where parents, employers, and friends are able to see and congratulate students on their achievements.

The Amica Career Center is encouraging all students of all class levels who have accepted internships or jobs to participate in the campaign. Students who did not find their opportunities through Amica are also encouraged to celebrate! The Amica Career Center wants to share your success and join the celebration.

SolarCity launches community microgrids with Tesla batteries

By Jeremy C. Owens
MCT Campus

SAN MATEO, Calif. – SolarCity, well-known for rooftop solar systems, is expanding to so-called microgrids, larger power systems that can be tapped by communities when the power grid goes down. SolarCity, in partnership with Tesla Motors, will include Tesla Motors’ batteries to store the energy generated. While the owner can tap the solar power for daily use, the main purpose is to maintain electricity in the event of a natural disaster such as an earthquake or hurricane.

“There has been a dramatic increase in severe weather events the last few years, ... climate-related, almost certainly, ... and its led to more grid outages,” SolarCity spokespeople noted, pointing to the storm known as Sandy that hit the Northeast last year as a prominent recent example.

The company is targeting cities that are in the line of fire for such catastrophic events for the new service.

“Traditionally, microgrids have been used in campuses, medical facilities and military bases, and we will pursue some of those opportunities if they become available,” said Daidipya Patwa, who is leading SolarCity’s microgrid efforts, “but our primary target is municipalities, communities and areas with a weak grid or no grid at all.”

That focus opens up a potentially large market, said GTM Research analyst Shayle Kann.

“Any municipality in a region that is prone to some kind of natural disaster ... they have a few key locations that they need to keep running in the event of an outage or a natural disaster, ... a community center where they’re going to house people or police stations,” the analyst said.

This will also be the first major effort overseas for SolarCity, as the company shops its microgrids to island nations with poor power grids. While Bass said the bulk of its microgrid business will focus on the United States and North America, he noted that it will be the first international work for SolarCity aside from its charitable work to provide lights at schools in the developing world.

These types of systems have the potential to make a big difference in the developing world, Kann said.

Ultimately, it seems like this solution could be used to electrify rural areas in the developing world or to provide better reliability in places where the grid goes down a lot,” the analyst explained.

SolarCity will attempt to squeeze into a market segment with a product better than home tinkerers can build and less expensive than larger rivals.

“THE approach to microgrids to date has largely been either piecing something together from some small equipment vendors or you go at the high end, to a GM or Siemens and pay upward of $10 million for a massive solution that may not be, from a budget standpoint, realistic, especially for a rainy-day solution,” Bass noted.

SolarCity hopes to tap economies of scale to accomplish its goal. The San Mateo company acquired Fremont solar panel manufacturer Silevo last year and plans to build a large solar panel factory in New York, while Tesla Motors, run by SolarCity Chairman and investor Elon Musk, builds a massive “Gigafactory” for the lithium-ion batteries that the microgrid systems will use.

“(Tesla is) manufacturing advanced battery technology at a scale that’s just not seen anywhere else, and we absolutely expect that to drive the cost down over time,” Bass said.

While SolarCity seems to have a road map that will allow it to build microgrids for interested customers, the question will be whether there will be enough communities willing to take the plunge, Kann said.

“The operative question is how big this will be for SolarCity, and more broadly, how big the microgrid market will be in general,” he said.

Mark Zuckerberg unveils Messenger platform at Facebook’s F8 conference

By Queenie Wong
MCT Campus

SAN FRANCISCO -- Facebook allows millions of people to share texts, photos, videos and stickers through its messaging app, and most recently to send money.

There’s more on the way.

Calling it one of the most important members in the company’s family of apps, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg unveiled a platform Wednesday that will allow developers to integrate apps into Messenger and an upcoming tool that will help make online shopping easier. 

Launched in 2011, more than 600 million people now use Messenger every month.

“As Messenger has grown, we think this service has the potential to help people express themselves in new ways, to connect hundreds of millions of new people, and to become a really important communication tool for the world,” Zuckerberg told more than 2,000 developers at the annual F8 conference in San Francisco.

That means that Messenger users will have access to more than 40 new apps, allowing them to send GIFs, e-cards and other content by pushing a “send to messenger” button.

The company is also testing a feature that allows Messenger users to get order confirmations, shipping updates and send messages to businesses directly if they change their mind about the order.

Online shoppers would click on a send to messenger button and a new thread would then pop up in Messenger.

“Helping people communicate more naturally with businesses is going to improve, I think, almost every person’s lives because it’s something that everyone does,” Zuckerberg said.

#CelebrateWithAmica!

By Shannon Foglia
Design Marketing Assistant for Amica

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Make it your business to write for the Archway!

Email archway@bryant.edu for more information.
Sports

April 2, 2015

‘One-and-done’ is hurting basketball

By William Petherbridge

Contributing Writer

Ever since the National Basketball Association, led by its then-commissioner David Stern, ruled that all prospective players must take one year between graduating from high school and entering the NBA, both college and pro basketball have not been the same. Previously, the NBA had allowed players to declare themselves eligible for the annual NBA draft after finishing their senior year of high school. In the 1975 NBA Draft, Darryl Dawkins became the first player in the modern era to be selected directly out of high school. Following a 20-year absence of high school players being drafted, a high school player was drafted at least once in every NBA Draft from 1995-2005. Prior to the 2006 NBA Draft, it was announced that potential NBA draft picks would have to wait a year in between high school and playing in the NBA. In order to remain on the radar of NBA teams, high school players chose to attend a college or junior college for a year.

After their first season of college basketball, many players choose to forgo their college careers and enter the NBA Draft so as to get a head start as a professional. This method, known as being "one-and-done," has hurt the game of college basketball and lowered the excitement of the NBA. Many notable college basketball programs, such as Kentucky and Kansas, have adopted a strategy of recruiting the most talented high school players that are likely to be "one-and-done." This strategy has yet to have been proven successful for these programs, as few have been able to secure national championships.

At many major college basketball programs each year, fewer and fewer key players are retained, as the players quickly jump up for the NBA. The rule has prevented players from building legacies and securing strong legacies while skipping college, such as Jermaine O'Neal, Tracy McGrady, Amar'e Stoudemire, and Dwight Howard. High school players have shown that they can easily translate into becoming future Hall of Fame players with examples like Kevin Garnett, Tim Duncan, and Elton Brand. Other former high school players have gone on to make numerous All-Star teams and secured strong legacies while skipping college, such as Jermaine O'Neal, Tracy McGrady, Amar'e Stoudemire, and Dwight Howard.

The rule has also hurt the excitement of the NCAA basketball tournament every year. At many major college basketball programs each year, fewer and fewer key players are retained, as the players quickly jump up for the NBA. The rule has prevented players from building legacies and securing strong legacies while skipping college, such as Jermaine O'Neal, Tracy McGrady, Amar'e Stoudemire, and Dwight Howard. High school players have shown that they can easily translate into becoming future Hall of Fame players with examples like Kevin Garnett, Tim Duncan, and Elton Brand. Other former high school players have gone on to make numerous All-Star teams and secured strong legacies while skipping college, such as Jermaine O'Neal, Tracy McGrady, Amar'e Stoudemire, and Dwight Howard.

Basketball programs, why must we always end up with the same old names? I know. Because they have tradition, allure, recruits, coaching, money and fans. But that doesn't mean we can't get tired of it. Before Jeb Duke, there was George W. Duke, George H.W. Duke, Dick Cheney Duke, Shane Battier Duke and Christian Laettner Duke. The Wildcat's lineage goes back further. If you're part of the "Ready for Hillary/Kentucky" crowd, you think this overthrow movement is rooted in jealousy. You'd be right. But it's also part of our patriotic DNA.

America was founded on breaking away from a monarchy. Any schmoe can be elected president. Wisconsin is just a small part of this country.

The Badgers actually won an NCAA basketball championship before Duke or Kentucky. It was in 1941. They didn't make another Final Four until 2000. Wisconsin had only eight winning seasons between 1954 and 1995. Dick Bennett revived Bucky Badger initially, and Bo Ryan has turned him into a viable contender. He's done it the old-fashioned way, with gritty talent-free players who walk uphill 10 miles through the snow to practice every day and buy into the homespun wisdom of their crusty old coach.

That's not completely accurate, but it makes for a nice political ad. The truth is this year's team doesn't always make 12 passes before shooting. One player, Sam Dekker, was actually a big-time signee. The rest would have received a recruiting letter from Kentucky only by mistake.

"If you look at the Wisconsin program as a whole, that's what coach recruited," Frank Kaminsky said. "He recruited guys that want to come in and work hard and make something of themselves." Kaminsky is the ultimate example, having blossomed into one of the most versatile college big men since Laettner. The difference is 20 years from now you won't be seeing a "I Hate Frank Kaminsky" documentary on ESPN.

But will you look back and see a people's champion?

For all the Cinderella talk this time of year, the same group of scions usually prevails. The last true darkhorse winner was Villanova in 1985, or maybe UTFP in 1966. I don't know about you, but I think the Hillary bumper sticker has it half-right. America is definitely ready.

Ready for Bucky!

Bucky Badger is the people’s Final Four candidate

By David Whitley

MCT Campus

Forgive me for injecting politics into sports, but I can’t help feeling like beleaguered voter as I look at the Final Four. Duke would be Jeb Bush. Kentucky would be Hillary Clinton. I would be ready for somebody new, and I suspect I’m not the only one.

Give us Elizabeth Warren or Ted Cruz or Marco Rubio or anybody whose family name hasn’t been on the ballot since Reconstruction.

Give us Bucky Badger. We can give him 100 reasons why you should pull for Wisconsin this weekend, though it really comes down to the fact it is nothing like the other two.

I know it’s actually the other three. But Michigan State has been to about as many Final Fours as Duke. It just doesn’t win them.

That makes Michigan State the Joe Biden of this field. An underdog for sure, but still too much of a part of the basketball elite. And nothing oozes establishment like Duke and Kentucky.

The political analogy isn’t perfect, though John Calipari probably has a personal email server in his basement that is programmed to be wiped clean if an NCAA investigator gets within 100 feet.

Like Duke, this year’s Kentucky team hasn’t succeeded solely by virtue of birth or being married to Bubble. Both teams might make a fine champion if elected.

But familiarity breeds fatigue. Out of a country of 320 million people and 351 Division I basketball programs, why must we always end up with the same old names? I know. Because they have tradition, allure, recruits, coaching, money and fans. But that doesn’t mean we can’t get tired of it. Before Jeb Duke, there was George W. Duke, George H.W. Duke, Dick Cheney Duke, Shane Battier Duke and Christian Laettner Duke. The Wildcat’s lineage goes back further.

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Ready for Bucky!

NCAA Tournament produces coaching giants

By Blair Kerkhoff

MCT Campus

Who has the coaching advantage at this year’s Final Four?

There’s a coach who has been enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame, Duke’s Mike Krzyzewski.

Two others, Kentucky’s John Calipari and Wisconsin’s Bo Ryan, are Hall of Fame finalists.

The outlier is Michigan State’s Tom Izzo, who will be a Hall of Fame slam dunk, as he leads the Spartans to a Final Four for the seventh time.

“They’re really the best of the best,” Krzyzewski said Monday. “It’s really an honor for me to be in a Final Four with the three programs and those three coaches because they’ve all understood the commitment to excellence that a program needs to make.”

The national semifinal battles match Duke and Michigan State in Saturday’s opener in Indianapolis at 5:09 p.m. Kentucky meets Wisconsin around 7:49 p.m.

No Final Four newbie coaches here.

The Badgers and Wildcats will meet in the semifinals for a second straight year. Duke and Michigan State are back in the Final Four for the first time since 2010.

Each of the coaches has won an NCAA championship. Krzyzewski has four titles in his previous 11 Final Four appearances. If Duke wins the tournament, Coach K will stand tied for third all time with UCLA’s John Wooden with the most titles at five. Wooden has 10.

Izzo’s Spartans won the 2000 championship, and Calipari’s Wildcats defeated Kansas for the 2012 title.

Although this is Ryan’s second Final Four appearance, he owns four NCAA Division III championships coaching Wisconsin-Platteville in the 1990s.

Two of those teams went undefeated, which gives Ryan a bit of insight into what Kentucky, 38-0, is attempting to accomplish.

“I know what it’s like to be the 10-0, 15-0, 25-0 and what that does to a team,” Ryan said. “It actually makes our practices better. I just thought it made me better while we were undefeated because of how we learned to deal with outside pressures.”

Last year, Kentucky won a nail biter 74-73 on Aaron Harrison’s three-pointer with 6 seconds remaining. Ten seconds earlier, the Badgers had missed a chance to take a lead at two points.

“This will be a really hard game for our team,” said Calipari, whose Wildcats are coming off a two-point victory over Notre Dame in the Midwest Region final. “We know that.”

Krzyzewski and Izzo say the same thing about their game, but Izzo isn’t buying any suggestion that the Blue Devils and Spartans have a rivalry during the current coaches’ tenures. Duke leads series 8-1.

“ Somebody said, ‘You guys have a good rivalry,’” Izzo said. “I said you can’t have a rivalry when it’s 8-1. It will be fun to see if we can change that around.”
Soon enough. But now there’s a new concern. Vladimir

Timmermann
MCT Campus

There are less than two weeks to go in the season, and you can’t blame the Blues if they’ve got some bad vibes about now. A year ago, the Blues ended a promising regular season with six straight losses, which was the preface to a first-round exit in the NHL playoffs.

After Monday night, the Blues have six games to go in the season, and hit that mark with a two-game losing streak. If there’s momentum to build, this isn’t the kind they want.

The Blues lost 4-1 to a Vancouver team in a playoff battle of its own in the Pacific Division, and the loss had the hallmarks of many of the Blues’ recent games: no early scoring and ineffective power play.

Though a playoff spot has been pretty much a given for the Blues for the past couple months, they missed a chance to make it official on Monday, and to further complicate matters, they’re now just one point up on Chicago for second place and home ice in the first round in the Central Division. The Blues play Chicago twice in the final week of the season in games that could well be determinants of where that series begins.

Of course, home ice in the Blues’ case may be over-rated. The loss was their third straight at home and they are 4-7 in their past 11 games at Scottrade Center. The Blues have been a much better road team than home and they are 4-7 in their past 11 games at Scottrade Center. The Blues have been a much better road team than home ice in the first round in the Central Division. The Blues play Chicago twice in the final week of the season in games that could well be playoff previews and determinants of where that series begins.

The Blues played without Alexander Steen on March 12, nothing went into the net. On the other side, however, the Blues were able to keep Vancouver from scoring, which has been a recurring theme in their first-period drought. Opponents have scored just three first-period goals in those 10 games, meaning the Blues haven’t been playing as much catchup as they might have to.

This time, it took a team to get that done. Zbynek Michalek stopped the puck on the goal line with 13.45 to go in the period after at attempted clearance by Elliott instead ended up with Daniel Sedin, whose brother Henrik had a backhand shot into an open net that Michalek got in the way of.

After that, the responsibility fell to Elliott, who faced more breakaways than ideally a team would like to see. Vancouver took advantage of a Blues line change, and defenceman Christopher Tanev sprung Shawn Matthias with a long pass that sent him in alone on Elliott. He did a little stickhandling and this time, scored, with 16:06 to go in the period.

The Blues got even with 7:16 to go in the second on Zbynek Michalek’s first goal as a Blue. Olli Jokinen got him the puck from behind the net and Michalek unloaded a one-time from the point that got past Vancouver goalie Eddie Lack.

The celebration was short lived. Thirty-one seconds later, Kevin Bieksa missed badly on a shot from the point, but the puck came off the boards behind the goal on the opposite side to Nick Bonino, who had an open net to shoot into before Elliott could get over to cover it. With 6:45 to go in the period, the Blues were behind again.

Vancouver ran the lead to 3-1 with 12:34 to go in the third, when Radim Vrbata kept the puck in a two-on-one and put the puck in off of Elliott. No sooner had the Blues pulled Elliott that Alexandre Burrows scored in to an empty net with 1:31 to play.

Eddie Lack ran his record to 7-6-0 in his career against the Blues, stopping 23 of 24 shots he faced.

**Week’s Best Sports Tweets**

"Logan Lessard closes the door with two scoreless innings. Bryant wins 3-2 and sweeps Sunday’s doubleheader!"  
@BryantBaseball

"MLAX: Massa named NEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week"  
@BryantAthletics

"Foundation done, pillars going up on new @BryantStrength weight room!"  
@Bryant_Lax

"Congrats to Bryant alum Jodi Ricci ’13 for being named a line captain for the 2015 @Patriots cheerleading squad!"  
@BryantTuppy

"FB: @BryantUFootball opens spring practice, annual Spring Game on April 18"  
@BryantAthletics

**Tournament update**

The final four to compete on April 4, 2015:

Kentucky Wildcats versus Wisconsin Badgers

and

Michigan State Spartans versus Duke Blue Devils

Kentucky’s Willie Cauley-Stein (15) dunks against Notre Dame during the first half in the NCAA Tournament’s Elite 8 on Saturday, March 28, 2015, at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland. (Charles Bertram/Lexington Herald-Leader/TNS)
Dear Students,

Please take some time to review this report which details how the Student Involvement Fee was allocated over the past year. The purpose of the Student Involvement Fee (SIF) is to provide funding in order to improve the co-curricular environment for students. This is done by improving support for student organizations and clubs and increasing the opportunity for student involvement in out-of-class experiences through programs and services on campus.

We hope you continue to take advantage of the opportunities the Student Involvement Fee offers you, as individuals, clubs and organizations.

In service,
SIF Oversight Board

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THE STUDENT INVOLVEMENT FEE
JULY 2013 - JUNE 2014

2013-2014 Student Involvement Fee (SIF) Oversight Board: Dr. John Saddlemere (Chair, Vice President), Dr. Judy Kawamoto (Staff), Lisa Morris (Staff), Bill Smith (Staff), Nicole Lambert (Staff), Wayne Jewett (Staff), Prof. Chris Morse (Faculty), Paden Sadler (Student), Margaret Wong (Student), Andrea Cimbrrello (Student), Avery Hill (Student), Joseph St. Thomas (Student) and Victoria Kleesiek (Student).

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THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Ways and Means Committee is to review budgets, initial funding requests, requests for additional funds and to allocate annual funds to registered and recognized student clubs and organizations.

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING BY WAYS AND MEANS DURING 2013-2014

- Clubs/Organizations’ budget expenses are organized into sub-categories during the fiscal year. These charts represent spending trends by category. *Fundraising and dues paid by Clubs and Organizations to offset expenses are not reflected in these figures.

- $803,538

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ENRICHMENT RESERVE

The Ways and Means Committee along with the SIF Oversight Board review student-created, centered proposals. The proposals should have the focus of benefiting the Bryant community and enhancing student life. Proposals should be one-time, non-traditional, and non-recurring ventures.

- HOME COMEDY SHOW: GABRIEL IGLESIAS, AKA “FLUFFY”
- POSTER PRINTER FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
- DJ EQUIPMENT FOR WJMF
- DRY ERASE BOARDS FOR RESIDENCE HALLS

- $105,345

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STUDENT ARTS AND SPEAKERS SERIES

SASS, a student run committee, is devoted to promoting the importance of arts and culture at Bryant. SASS develops programs featuring speakers, performers, and artists that interest, engage, and inspire our students and our community. We strive to always provide valuable, unique, and memorable experiences.

- 7 SPEAKERS
  - FRANK ABAGNALE WITH ALBUM, SHAWN JOHNSON, AIDY BRYANT, LAVERNE COX, BILL ROSEMAAN, RJ MITTE
- 2 OFF CAMPUS SHOWS
  - CREPLOPE & BOOK OF MORMON
- 2 ARTS EVENTS
  - SIX APPEAL A Cappella Group - Co-sponsored with The Bottomline & Pig Out and Paint

- $182,898

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WEEKEND PROGRAMMING

The Weekend programming budget was created to support the Big B, which takes place the first full weekend all students are back on campus for the Fall, and Spring Weekend, which typically happens the last full weekend of April. Both weekends consists of a variety of acts, giveaway, activities, and major performances.

- $165,788

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INTRAMURALS

The Intramural Sports portion of the Student Involvement Fee is used to help cover equipment and student worker costs during the academic year.

- $46,535
Is positive thinking always the best thinking?

By Joseph Blanchard  
Staff Writer

Positive thinking is a way of thinking that can change a person's entire life. Simply put, positive thinking is looking on the bright side of something, or taking a situation as it is, more commonly referred to as the glass is half full. We all know a person who says this a lot, and they may even employ some aspects of positive thinking in their life. So why should you do positive thinking? There are a few good reasons why someone should apply the “glass half full” way of looking at life to themselves. Positive thinking can help people deal with stress better, think more clearly about what is stressing them out, and stay rational. Everyone knows what it’s like to get stressed out; your brain shuts down and you can’t function any more, but that only makes your stress worse and the vicious cycle of never getting any work done begins.

Positive thinking can change that midnight panic attack into a time where you are actually sleeping because you finished all your work and managed your stress. Thinking positively about a stressful situation allows people to think of ways to overcome their stress, and how to resolve it. Instead of thinking negatively about it, focusing on what is going wrong in the situation to cause the stress, a person who can think positively will think of ways to remove all the stress they are facing.

So simple right, think about the glass half full, when your cookie back before it turns to mush. No let’s be of the mush you will now have, think of how to get going wrong in the situation to cause the stress, a positive and optimistic and stay positive about what you are doing, but being too optimistic can have drawbacks to it. So now do not feel defeated that positive thinking can actually cause you more stress in the long run because something can be learned from this. Psychologists have learned that its not positive thinking as a whole that creates a higher immunity and less stress. What someone should do if they want these benefits is to believe in themselves and their abilities, have a positive approach to their challenges and lastly, make the best of a bad situation. Therefore, positive thinking is not a fix it all solution, but there are aspects of it that can be taken and used to further yourself and overall make a little bit less stressful life for you and give you a little bit of a brighter outlook on the world.

The points behind positive thinking and how it is not a fix all solution

The classiest courses

The best classes to take at Bryant, no matter the career path

By Alexa Parisi  
Contributing Writer

After taking a number of classes throughout my time here at Bryant, a few have stuck with me. These classes are the ones that have taught me valuable lessons for both school, and my life.

Global Foundations of Business (GFOB 100): This is an excellent course because it broadens the horizons of the student’s mind. It is not focused on domestic markets, but on those markets across the globe. If you’re at Bryant and want to excel in business, this is a perfect way to do so because it is relevant to the basics of any aspiring business professional. Additionally, it can be seen as a catalyst for major decleration and prospective job careers because you are immersed in all aspects of study/ opportunity, which include; Marketing, Finance, Accounting, and Management. Furthermore, it grows on the family-oriented principles that we all have been founded on. GFOB also shows students how to make ethical decisions with the respect that is deserved by fellow employees and business executives.

Public Speaking (COM 202): This course is imperative to success because it gives students an opportunity to improve their verbal communication and presentation skills on a trial and error basis. Students are critiqued not against their peers, but against their previous speeches which gives everyone an even playing field. As we all know, Bryant is notorious for its endless presentations and group work. Public speaking class touches on non-verbal, inflection and tone, pacing, and other factors of speech-making that can make or break your overall performance. Moreover, this course will ensure a huge confidence boost. Practice makes perfect and the more you practice speech-making, the easier it will be in the future.

Money and Banking (ECO 201): A course such as Money and Banking is one that might not necessarily appeal to everyone at first, but it has countless benefits that will improve the well-being of any recent graduate who might be struggling with their finances. It gives the fundamentals of credit and banking, decision-making regarding finances, and ways to manage risk. It also explains the basis of our financial system and its importance to the success of the American economy. This course is ideal for a student who knows the importance of effective banking and wants to be more competent in the area.

Personal Selling (MKT 345): Although sales may not be everyone’s cup of tea, it might be in your best interest to look into this course. This class focuses on improving the student’s sales skills, as well as selling their own brand to a future employer. These skills can also be used in interview, because knowing how to sell your best qualities during an interview is an extremely good skill. This class is also beneficial because while learning good sales skills, you also are improving your persuading skills as well. No matter what career you end up with, you will always have to sell the business you are working for. This class also touches on the purchasing side of sales, which is important for personal consumer habits as well as future selling skills.
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Technology changing the climate debate

This year could well go down in history as the moment when technology transformed the debate about climate change. Instead of an argument about "the science" indicating "anthropogenic global warming," the really intractable disagreement concerns the policy what, if anything, our public officials should require of us as a result of their interpretation of the science.

While Americans have argued over the policy, worsening an already unimaginative and stagnant political climate, our best technologists have begun to lay the groundwork for scientific advancements that can upend stale debates about capping emissions and the like. For years, the problem with solar power was straightforward: Our technology could not absorb, or store, enough energy from the sun. Now, however, thanks to the likes of Elon Musk, those days are all but over.

Together, through Tesla and a separate company called SolarCity, Musk and his cousin Lyndon Rive have achieved advancements in solar cells and battery storage sufficient to attract the attention of some of America's biggest companies. Wal-Mart wants to use their technology to power its huge stores, and Apple wants to use it to go completely "clean" in its energy use.

But wait, there's more. Thanks to technology, superficially outlandish ideas that could revolutionize climate policy are now headed from science fiction to science fact. Musk's "hyperloop" idea for ultrafast mass transit is now in the hands of a crack team of experts who are taking their company public this year.

Elsewhere, the scientists our government cares about most have broached the idea of tweaking our climate the way Google's Nest thermostat keeps a handle on your Heating, Venting and Air Conditioning. In a study sponsored by the CIA, NASA and the Department of Energy, the National Academy of Sciences has called for experiments in geo-engineering until now, seen as a kooky lark. Officeholders and officials should be on notice: In light of these developments, the climate policy debate of the rapidly approaching future isn't about how we need to live, but how we want to live.

Bryant Tweeted What?!

Compiled by Bryant Students

"Currently so bored in night class I'm considering buying more lives for candy crush."

"Instead of doing something stupid once, I like to do it 7 or 8 times just to make sure."

"Lessons learned: don't have a couple glasses of wine with dinner and then go for a run."

"Left the house with two different shoes on this morning; so ask me how my day is going."

"PSA: there is no longer a $1 menu at McDonald's. So prepare yourselves so you don't have your heart broken like I did."

Profit and Loss

Have a great Passover and Easter Sunday!

Congratulations to those who advanced and did well in this semester's Sales Competition held last Thursday!

How many pot holes can you count on campus?

Now, how many group meetings can you count in the FSC?
Insurgent goes beyond expectations

By Aj Beltis

I feel like I owe the filmmakers of the Divergent series an apology, because walking in to both of their installments, I had my expectations admittedly low. Last year’s Divergent surprised me with its brutal action, entertaining atmosphere, and unexpected high quality. So, in terms of Divergent’s follow up, was it really fair of me to judge it so harshly beforehand? Let’s just tack that one to the societal disdain for young adult novel adaptations. But what movies like Harry Potter, The Hunger Games, and now Insurgent prove is that there’s sometimes so much more to this genre than it’s given credit for.

Insurgent picks up with Tris Prior (Shailene Woodley), boyfriend Four (Theo James), brother Caleb (Ansel Elgort), and ally Peter (Miles Teller) hiding from the government following the deadly societal fallout at the end of Divergent. Together, this cast of characters (portrayed arguably by perhaps four of Hollywood’s most talented and promising young actors) works to evade the autocratic Jeanine Matthews (Kate Winslet) and recover from the loss of their friends and family. Meanwhile, Jeanine recruits those who have betrayed Tris and her fellow divergents to discover the hidden secrets within a coveted artifact that could change dystopian Chicago forever.

Like Divergent, Insurgent has the potential to surprise you, especially if you continue to hold low expectations for films within this genre. Insurgent is action packed, with sequences that assist the film in boldly emerging from its category. I’ve only seen three other films this year, but the scene where Tris and her friends escape from their enemies with the help of a train is far and above the most intense scene of 2015 (that I’ll undoubtedly change once we start seeing some summer blockbusters, though). It then goes on to keep the pace it set with gripping moments of Tris in a simulated and continuous twist of character allegiances. Coming off of more dramatic films like The Fault in Our Stars, Shailene Woodley proves to be quite a badass. Her character’s skillset—both physical and intellectual—never fails to captivate or entertain. Tris is relentless, mature, compassionate, and strong. If I had a daughter, I’d much rather see her grow up to be like Tris than Lily James’ Cinderella. Now, it wouldn’t be right to say that either Divergent or Insurgent is better than Harry Potter or The Hunger Games when they’re all at their best, but Insurgent proves that even when films in this genre aren’t perfect, they can still be pretty good. The score is fitting, the visuals are spectacular, the acting is first rate, and its scope is surprisingly mature. In fact, Insurgent is an improvement on Divergent in many aspects, and so if you weren’t expecting much following the 2014 film, you might have your mind changed after this movie.

To be honest, I am a bit skeptical on how Allegiant will be able to tell an additional story (in two movies) since Insurgent ended so well. However, if these past two films have taught me anything, it’s not to underestimate the series’ production staff. If the filmmakers can match and/or exceed the quality of what they’ve done so far, we could be in for quite a ride when it comes to the Divergent series’ two-part finale. But let’s see what happens.

If you want to hear more movie reviews from Aj, you can listen to his WJMF show Mondays at 1 and read his blog at Ajbelts.blogspot.com!

Variety April 2, 2015 page 13

Tap versus bottled water, what’s the difference?

By Elizabeth Oluokun
Contributing writer

The world thrives on water, and, as something we cannot live without, the safe way to consume this necessity is always something we strive to do. The argument, based on preference, strong media influences, propaganda, and just plain misinformation, is then always posed when we think of water: Which is better? Tap or bottled? Now, before you quickly jump to answer this, as many have done, realize that there are overall truths and myths dealing with accessibility, health concerns, production factors, and overall geographic location here in the Unites States. The knowledge (or lack of knowledge) of these are what cause some to prefer tap water to bottled, or bottled water to tap.

Tap water is accessible, cheap, and very convenient to use. According to an article entitled, “Tap or Bottled Water: Drinking Preferences among Urban Minority Children and Adolescents,” studies that were conducted showed that tap water was preferred and drank more by those living in poor urban regions. This would attest to the known fact that it is indeed cheap since it is required by law to be accessible in every home here in the U.S. Bottled water, on the other hand, is expensive, not as easily accessible (as you have to voluntarily go out and buy it yourself), and not as convenient in that it isn’t always readily available. Yet, if tap water is readily available, why do we go out of our way to purchase bottled? The commercial idea of consuming a water bottle has been so socially elevated that just the idea of drinking a water bottle as opposed to getting it from the tap puts consumers on their own sort of personal, socially high pedestal. “It tastes better than tap,” stated a volunteer in a study conducted and shared in the article entitled, “Water Quality Monitoring Records for Estimating Tap Water Arsenic and Nitrate: A Validation Study.” When analyzing this similar water-taste test study in “Tap or Bottled” though, it stated: “…consumption of bottled water may not be driven by taste but by influence of effectiveness in media, and advertising in shaping consumer behavior.” In other words, since these bottled vs. tap water experiments haven’t been conducted in an entirely controlled environment, it is safe to say that it is not a proven fact that bottled tastes better than tap.

When you pick up a bottle and look at its nutrition label, it shows 0 calories, 0 trans-fat, 0 fat, 0, and 0 that. In a study reported in the article, “Health Beliefs about Bottled Water: A Qualitative Study,” they stated that “Most participants believed that compared to tap water, bottled water conferred additional health benefits. Bottled water was considered to be a ‘healthy option’ even if participants were unsure as to why. When you pour a glass of water from the tap, there are no labels showing where it’s from or anything telling you what it has (or does not have) inside.”

According to James Salzman and his research in Drinking Water, he claims that this because water is actually processed as a food, so thus there is the need for a nutrition label. The “health” aspect about bottled water then, is just an illusion based on how it is forced to be categorized by the distributing market. Salzman goes on to explain that regulations on bottled water are so much more relaxed than those on drinking water, “While tap and bottled are subject to standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulates tap water, but bottled water is regulated as a food product by the Food and Drug Administration.” Because of this fact, inspecting and keeping tabs on what goes in bottled water is actually very weak.

Depending on your geographical location, your tap water may be extremely monitored and your bottled water may not be. There are both negative as well as positive sides to whatever choice you choose to make concerning the water you drink. Putting all this in full context, how you decide on your water preference is entirely up to you.
There appears to be a shakeup with regard to a TV show run by the BBC Network. The show is Top Gear, and its host, Jeremy Clarkson, has recently been suspended. According to the BBC website, Jeremy Clarkson was suspended for hitting a producer during the first week of March, pending an investigation. They also say the remaining episodes of the series (British equivalent of season) may not be broadcast (they did not air the episode scheduled for March 17th). The site also claims that this was not Jeremy Clarkson’s first offense as host of the show.

Jeremy Clarkson, who has hosted the show since 2002, has not commented on this suspension, but the website has said that he acknowledged that he was on his final warning as of last May. A final warning was prompted by his use of a racial slur against Asians during filming of an episode that BBC did not broadcast. The BBC website said that this footage was leaked. Specifically, the BBC had said that Jeremy Clarkson would be sacked ‘if he made one more offensive remark anywhere at any time,’” according to the website. There have been no other suspensions, and the BBC is not commenting at this time.

While Jeremy Clarkson and his representatives have not commented, they have jokingly suggested films to replace the broadcasts of Top Gear. He has also given an apology to Ed Miliband for knocking his “I’m a human,” piece down the news agenda,” according to the site. The BBC website has also said that, in regard to the show itself, the episode that was meant for March 17th would feature “Clarkson and his fellow presenters at a classic track day.” This would have also starred the former footballer and pundit Gary Lineker, who later tweeted that he did not think he is meant to be on Top Gear, according to the site.

Others who have worked on the show have come forward with their own comments. This includes a former Top Gear presenter named Chris Goffey. According to the BBC website, the former presenter told their radio station that while discussions on the show sometimes got heated, they would have needed to be very serious behind the scenes to justify the immediate suspension of Jeremy Clarkson. The website then says that he stated, “I cannot think what the hell’s gone on, but there you go. When you have got a very strong character who likes things his own way, if somebody stands up to him, there is going to be a row.”

As stated earlier, this fight with a producer is not Jeremy Clarkson’s first offense, but neither was the racial slur against Asians. Controversy with Jeremy Clarkson goes back to 2011. In February 2011, Clarkson and his co-hosts described Mexicans as both lazy and feckless, prompting an apology from the BBC according to the site. There were also two incidents in 2012, one in January and another in October. In January, Clarkson referred to a truck with a toilet in its boot as “perfect for India because everybody that comes here gets the trots,” according to the website. In October, Clarkson had likened camper van design to people whom are facially disfigured (according to BBC, it was a breach of their disability guidelines), according to the website. This brings us to the racial slur against Asians from last May.

We cannot know whether these comments were born of hate or Don Rickles’ style of humor (laughing at ourselves). Keep in mind that the punishment is really for all these things, and the fight with a producer. We will only know when the investigation is done; so we cannot pass judgment.
Out with the new, in with the old

By Lora Palmer
Contributing Writer

Recently I saw the movie The Duff, your typical high school drama. Let me start by saying I do not recommend this movie to anyone. The main character Bianca is best friends with the hot, popular girls. She then comes to find that at school she is considered the D.U.F.F. of her group. DUFF stands for Designated Ugly Fat Friend.

She is informed by the most popular guy in school that every group has a designated ugly fat friend, allowing the other group members to stand out. You can pretty much guess where the story goes from there. Popular guy teaches unpopular girl to be attractive and desirable, boy and girl fall in love, drama, drama, drama, the end. Not only is this storyline flawed, but the acting is cringe-worthy.

What is happening to the movies of our day? Why does every high school drama have to teach teenagers and young adults that the goal in life is to be popular? It’s not about accepting who you are, it’s about changing who you are, and then accepting the new and improved popular version that society accepts.

Let’s take a look at a high school drama movie from the 1980’s, The Breakfast Club. Now here is a movie I would recommend to all. Not only is the acting impeccable, but the story line conveys so many different emotions for the viewer. You’ll laugh, you’ll cry, but most important of all The Breakfast Club makes you think. It evokes thoughts like “who am I, how do I see myself, how do others see me, and how do I treat people who are different?” Compare this to the DUFF, which would only cause one to think, “How can I be popular, and am I the ugly fat one?”

The main concept or theme of The Breakfast Club is so different when compared to movies like The Duff. The Breakfast Club is a much more realistic depiction of what each of us experienced in high school. There is so much more that high school students worry about than just popularity. The characters in The Breakfast Club struggle with things like family abuse, lack of friends, drugs, acceptance, teachers, grades, etc.

The great part about this movie is that it is simple, yet so complex. The whole movie takes place in a high school library where the five main characters all have Saturday detention. The setting is simple, and there is not a lot of flash. The characters, however, are what really provide the complexity of the movie. There are characters that one would never expect to be in detention, and then there are the ones that probably get detention every week.

Throughout the movie you see the characters evolve and open up to each other. None started off as friends and some don’t even plan on being friends outside of detention, but they all discover that each of them is struggling with something. This creates a sense of unity among the students and a realization that even though people fall into different categories (the nerd, jock, freak, prom queen, etc.) everyone has a struggle they are faced with.

No one is immune to struggles and difficulties, not even the popular kids. I say let’s get rid of concept films like The Duff, and bring back the types of movies that get the audience thinking, and that convey all types of different emotions for the viewer. Out with the new, in with the old.

Cat of the Week

Breed: Maine Coon

Fun Facts:

- They are friendly, loyal, playful and great with kids and other pets.
- Unlike most felines, Maine Coons don’t mind getting their paws wet, because of their water-resistant fur.
- They are the biggest domestic cat, weighing up to 18 pounds.
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