



Holocaust survivor Walter Blass visits Brevard College

By Carmen Boone
Copy Editor

Walter P. Blass, an 88 year-old Holocaust survivor, came to Brevard College on Monday, Feb. 18 to speak about his experience during the Holocaust. He spoke in Ingram Auditorium at 7 p.m.

The presentation was titled “Refugee, World Citizen, Holocaust Survivor and Storyteller.” He began by talking about his childhood.

He was born in 1930, three years before Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany in 1933. Hitler decreed that no Jews were allowed to work in law, medicine, as university professors or in government.

Walter’s father, Richard Blass, asked him if he wanted to go on a business trip with him to Brussels when Walter was five. Once they arrived, Walter’s father took him into a place surrounded by a big iron fence. Walter was left there alone for three weeks while his father went to get his mother. If all three of them had tried to flee Germany at the same time, they would have been caught because of suspicion.

On May 10, 1940, Walter felt what he thought was an earthquake. He was told to go down and hide in a cellar because air raids were happening in their area. Walter found out at breakfast the next day that his father had been arrested at 8 a.m. that same morning. Four days later, the rumor was that all the men who were arrested were piled into a box car and taken across the French frontier. No one knew where they were after that.

After that, Walter, his mother and a couple they were living with were arrested and taken to jail. The two women were sent to a concentration camp. Walter was sent to a home for delinquent children. He stayed there for four months, all the while receiving postcards and letters from his mother.

Refugee, World Citizen, Holocaust Survivor and Storyteller
Walter P. Blass



Walter Blass is also a successful business man and advocates for liberal arts colleges.

One day, he read that she had been liberated by the French. While in the camp, she learned that Walter’s father was in a camp on the other side of France. She decided to go get her husband out of the concentration camp. Walter was then picked up by his father from the Veterans Hospital next door to where the home was.

While his parents continued to travel, Walter lived with a family in Masai who had three girls, one of which was his age. His mother had acquired a visa to the Dominican Republic and his father was sent to another concentration camp north of Masai.

Richard Blass learned that men were going to be transferred to Gurse and climbed over the fence to escape before the transport. He hid on

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Clarions removed in Scholarship Day prep

By Jeni Welch
Editor in Chief

Scholarship Day offers an opportunity for prospective new students the chance to tour the college and interview for different scholarships offered from Brevard College. Last Friday, Feb. 15, the BC Admissions office began setting up the event in different areas on campus for Saturday’s visitors.

Part of the process of setting up for the admissions event is adding chairs to the buildings and tidying things up, which Admissions personnel say includes removing the clutter of The Clarion newspapers, other magazines, publications and selected posters. According to Director of Admissions and Financial Aid David Volrath, this is a protocol that the college has followed for past events.

“We typically remove anything that is laying around or loose as we need the spaces to be as neat and clean as possible so that we make a good first impression on these future Brevard College students,” Volrath said in an email on Friday. The college was expecting more than 100 students to visit campus with their families on Saturday for Scholarship Day, he wrote.

English professor Alyse Bensel assisted with interviews at Scholarship Day on Saturday. “I noticed that all of the issues of The Clarion had been removed from the building [McLarty-Goodson], with the exceptions of an issue behind the glass display case,” Bensel said. “I was mostly confused, as I had never noticed The Clarion missing during other admissions events.”

However, on Friday afternoon, a comment was made to Mary Harris, administrative assistant for the Humanities and Social Sciences divisions in MG, suggesting that in addition to the issue of tidiness, last week’s Clarion may have been removed in part because of the content.

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Class helping to open Cat Cafe

By Brock Tuttle
Staff Writer

The not-for-profit management class taught at Brevard College by Dr. Steve Woodsmall is assisting in the opening of a cat cafe that will be located near the Brevard College campus.

In an effort to understand how nonprofits operate the nonprofit management class is tackling fundraising, marketing, operations and location initiatives. Nonprofit organizations are dedicated to fulfilling their mission, which in this case is finding forever homes for cats through coffee, community and compassion.

Any profit made by the cafe will go directly to the Pisgah Animal Welfare Society (PAWS). PAWS, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to rescuing and improving the lives of domestic and wild animals in Western North Carolina.

The cat cafe will be a place where customers can purchase a drink and enter the cat lounge to relax and have some company. The lounge will have about a dozen rescue cats that have either been found or taken out of a shelter and will be up for adoption.

Other areas in the cafe would include the bar, retail section, study room, and an event area.

The cat cafe will be an ideal place for a college student to get some caffeine and crank out some homework. Also, the cat cafe will be the perfect place to get volunteer hours if needed considering it will be fully operated by volunteers.

The concept of cat cafes originated in Taiwan and were made popular by Japan. There are roughly 72 cat cafes in the United States, and 44 of those have opened in the past year. These specialty cafes are a major trend and videos can be found all over the internet of customers having a great time with their furry friends.

The not-for-profit management class is dedicated to help PAWS achieve its mission by providing its knowledge in different aspects of business to kick-start this trendy cafe in the city of Brevard.

SGA seeks mug donations

The Brevard College Student Government Association (SGA) is accepting mug donations this week on campus to help implement reusable cups for Bill's Boiler House.

Students will be able to use the mugs that are donated and return them back to the coffee house, instead of using a cup that would otherwise end up in the trash.

Currently, gift wrapped donation boxes are set up in Beam Administration, Myers Dining Hall, Jones, McLarty-Goodson and Moore Science.

"After about 20 mugs are donated, they will be washed and sanitized of course, and then put on a rack in the coffee shop in order for the customers to have the option of choosing a mug instead of a paper cup that they can take and go to class, work, etc," Malynne Petoia, SGA Senator said. "And then bring it back as soon as they can."

The mugs will be washed and sanitized in the Dining Hall before they are returned for use.

The idea came to Petoia after seeing a

similar situation in Moore Science.

"I thought how great this could work at the coffee shop!" Petoia said. "So I met with Sarj from the caf and Bunny from the coffee shop to talk about how to get it started, going over the health codes, and then how to accomplish it once the mugs are donated."

If more people start choosing the mugs instead of paper cups, SGA will be looking for more donations in the future.

— Jeni Welch



Photo by Jeni Welch

Donation boxes wrapped in paper like this one can be found in various locations throughout campus. Individuals are encouraged to donate mugs.

Moms Demand Action event

Moms Demand Action (MDA) is coming to Brevard in an attempt to reach out to the community and bring awareness to a big cause the North Carolina chapter. MDA will be hosting a few events in the upcoming months in and around the Brevard College campus.

The first of many events coming to campus will be a gun violence film screening put on by the MDA group. They are aiming for the event to be on April 20.

The events will include a film on gun violence which will be determined by Feb. 22. After the film there will be guest speakers who will be sharing their survivor stories.

MDA was founded the day after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in 2012. That tragedy exposed many people to the gun violence that plagues our country, and it spurred this group of mothers into action to create a safer America. They advocate for stronger laws and policies that will reduce gun violence and save lives.

The organization is a non-partisan grassroots movement with chapters in all 50 states. Members include over 3.5 million moms, dads, students, gun owners, veterans and gun violence survivors. For more information on this group and any other events go to www.momsdemandaction.org.

— Bry'Kendrick Moore

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The Clarion is a student-run college newspaper produced by student journalists enrolled at Brevard College. Unsigned editorials represent the collective opinion of the staff of *The Clarion*. Other opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Brevard College.

All correspondence should be mailed to: *The Clarion*, Brevard College, One Brevard College Drive, Brevard, NC 28712, or send E-mail to clarion@brevard.edu
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✉ Letters Policy: The Clarion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit letters for length or content. We do not publish anonymous letters or those whose authorship cannot be verified.

'Clarion removal'

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"The only thing that surprised me about this was that they actually brought the papers to me rather than throwing them away, which is the norm," Harris said. "Karissa Leazer brought me the papers and said the coffee shop article did not paint us in a very good light and we really don't want prospective parents to see that. That was our entire conversation."

Leazer, a counselor in the Admissions office, apologized for what she said was a miscommunication. "I was trying to tidy up the McLarty-Goodson lobby for our event on Saturday," she said.

News of the removal of Clarions from MG traveled quickly around campus on Friday afternoon, including to James Brooks, technology integration specialist, in the library. "I had heard that someone was taking Clarions from buildings," he said. "Lilyan Lund was working the desk and I told her that if someone comes and tries to take away the Clarions, tell them I said they couldn't."

The Clarion has not confirmed that there was any attempt to remove copies of The Clarion from the library for Scholarship Day.

After being told by Volrath via email on Friday afternoon that the reason Clarions were being removed was to tidy things up and make

things look neat, Clarion staff returned copies of The Clarion in neat stacks to provide copies of the student-run newspaper for the prospective students on Saturday. "We do promote it [The Clarion] to prospective students who have an interest in journalism or writing," Volrath said.

However, at some point prior to Saturday morning, the papers were discarded from the neat stacks in the MG lobby. Clarion staffer Mary Lewe found them thrown away in the trash on Sunday afternoon.

On Monday, Volrath did comment on the papers being thrown away but was previously not aware that The Clarion had been returned in stacks late on Friday afternoon after his email. He took blame for the papers being discarded as he had sent student ambassadors around the campus to double check the touring areas with instructions to clean up the areas before families arrived.

Since this event, new racks have been ordered to hold The Clarion newspapers to provide a neat and tidy way of distributing papers in hope of avoiding future attempts to remove copies of the newspaper over the issue of tidiness.

"It's the student newspaper," Benseal said. "I would never consider a college student newspaper clutter."



Lying on top of drink bottles and amongst other litter, a stack of Volume 84, Issue 19 of the Brevard College Clarion was discovered in a large trashcan in the hallway of MG on Sunday afternoon. These particular copies of the publication had been left in a neat stack in the lobby of MG on Friday afternoon by campus news editor Zach Dickerson after they had been removed earlier that day. (See page 4 for more on this story.)

Photo by Mary Lewe

'Holocaust survivor Walter Blass'

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a garbage truck that eventually went to Masai where he was able to reunite with his family.

The struggle to escape France continued until Walter's father was finally able to obtain three permanent visas for all of them to enter the United States. The visas were fake but passed as real because they had the signature and stamp of the state department, and a specific set of numbers.

Before they were all able to leave France, they were required to have an exit visa. Walter's mother was finally able to get them after about a month of pestering a man for them. They arrived in New York safely by ship and were admitted into the United States.

Blass found out later in life that Frye, Bingham and Company had given out 2,000 visas to Jews to illegally get them out of unoccupied France.

After Blass finished his story he did a short question and answer session with the audience. He mentioned a couple of places today where he could see a Holocaust happening, including South Sudan, Syria and Myanmar (Burma). Blass said he is appalled today at how he is seeing refugees being treated, as they are not being well received, much like it was when he was one himself.

Holocaust Remembrance Day was recently observed on Jan. 27 and continues to remain a day of remembrance of the nearly 17 million deaths that happened during the Holocaust. There was also mentioned a quote from Elie Wiesel's book "Night" that said, "the opposite of love is indifference," meaning that we must not stand by, but we must do something when we see any kind of injustice.

Walter Blass also spoke to the English 208 class, on Tuesday, Feb. 19 and is scheduled to speak to a history class in the near future. English 208 focuses on World Literature, specifically that of the Holocaust. We are truly thankful to him for coming to share his story with us.

Scholarship Day: Removing Clarion is a cause for concern

By John Padgett
Faculty Adviser for The Clarion

Everyone has heard of the First Amendment, but do you ever pause to think about why it matters?

It consists of 45 words, which read as follows: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

It is an important safeguard of some basic civil rights, including the right to worship as one pleases, the right to assemble and protest, and the right to express oneself without being silenced by the government.

And one of the most important First Amendment safeguards is freedom of the press.

As of today, we are halfway through Scholastic Journalism Week, an annual event designed to raise community consciousness regarding the benefits of scholastic journalism.

Sponsored by the Journalism Education Association, this celebration comes with its own set of hashtags that you are encouraged to use this week to draw attention to the important work done all over the world by student journalists. Today’s hashtag, for instance, is #EverydayJournalism, which I believe refers to the many small ways all of us can report that day’s news, or even debunk so-called “fake” news when we encounter it. And related to that noble goal is tomorrow’s hashtag, #SavingDemocracy.

Unfortunately, this year’s celebration comes at a time when First Amendment press freedoms are being attacked and undermined. As recently as Sunday, President Donald Trump tweeted (again) about “Saturday Night Live,” this time wondering “how do the Networks get away with these total Republican hit jobs without retribution?”

The president hinting at “retribution” against those with whom he disagrees is obviously chilling, but there are other ways of undermining the principles of press freedom that can be just as much cause for concern.

Take, for instance, the incident recounted elsewhere in this issue of The Clarion about the removal of the student newspaper for this past weekend’s Scholarship Day.

It may not have been their intent, but the Admissions office’s decision to remove The

Clarion from public view is in its own way just as chilling.

For one thing, it is a slap in the face to the staff of The Clarion, who work long hours each week to produce a weekly paper that should be available for at least a week to anyone on campus who wants one—including visiting future students and their families.

For another, removing The Clarion to prevent others from seeing it constitutes a form of theft. The Student Press Law Center, a nonprofit organization that has served as an advocate for high school and college journalists since 1974, has documented hundreds of instances of such theft over the years, which it calls “a blunt attempt at censorship.”

Often, such attempts in the SPLC’s words “to prevent the dissemination of news, information and opinion with which they disagree” are perpetrated by individuals or groups of people affected by something in that paper—most often, students at the college or university where the theft occurs.

But when the perpetrators represent the college or university itself, that is even worse.

If this were an isolated instance, a one-time mistake by Admissions, that would be bad enough, but The Clarion’s reporting suggests this is a long-standing policy.

Even if the goal was to make the campus “tidy,” such efforts can easily be misconstrued as excessive, indeed smacking more of a cleanup than a cleanup.

Moreover, this is not the first time that



Late on Friday afternoon, Clarion staffers placed neat stacks of the newspaper in the lobby of McLarty-Goodson for Scholarship Day visitors the next day. Earlier, Admissions office personnel had removed all copies of The Clarion from MG for what they said was an attempt to make things neat and tidy for Saturday.

Admissions policies have conflicted with Clarion press freedom. In November 2005, nearly halfway through my second year as faculty adviser for The Clarion, someone in

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“When employees of the college start censoring student publications, they’re stepping onto a slippery slope. What will keep them from, say, removing a bumper sticker on a student’s car if they think it will bother a prospective student or parent?”

“What will keep them from taking down a flyer that they personally might feel is offensive or not good for a prospective student to see?”

“How do we know that they haven’t done these things before, and they just haven’t been caught yet?”

Staff Editorial
The Clarion, Feb. 1, 2006

Don't blame the victim

A response to the Cody Henson issue

By Julie Carter

Opinion Editor

On Jan. 30, the wife of Rep. Cody Henson of Transylvania County filed a domestic violence protection order. The order was served the following day. The order barred Henson from being within 100 feet of his wife, Kelsey, as well as blocking him from purchasing any firearms while also surrendering those that were already in his possession.

"I am asking for a protective order to keep me and my children safe. I am in fear of my life and need this desperately," wrote Kelsey Henson in her court filing.

Kelsey Henson also claimed that her husband sent her a text message on Mother's Day of last year that claimed he wanted to disappear and was coming over to give her "one last Mother's Day gift." Henson also maintains that she tried several times to get assistance, but her pleas for help were left unfulfilled.

She recalls that the Transylvania County magistrate said, "Those guys have a lot of legal aid, and I don't feel comfortable proceeding with this."

Now, part of the argument is that Kelsey Henson might be making this whole thing up. However, what sense does this make?

Sure, someone might have lied about domestic violence sometime in history, but how often does this actually happen?

The real issue here is the treatment of Kelsey Henson's claims. She was brushed aside because of the power position her husband has. No one should be treated in the way she was. It's 2019. Believe victims and punish perpetrators for once.

It is far more common that our society neglects women in dangerous situations than for women to make up stories about being harassed or assaulted. These things happen to women. It is time we act like it and do something to stop it.

Town halls on domestic violence like the one held on Mon., Feb. 18 in Scott Commons are a good thing, but we as human beings should understand domestic violence is a problem. Accountability is the real issue we are presented with.

Acknowledging a problem is the first step, but you must move past that step to activate real change. It is immeasurably disappointing that it appears that both the magistrate of Transylvania County nor a large portion of society has failed to take this step.



Photo via Carolina Public Press

Rep. Cody Henson

Cause for concern

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the BC Admissions office (who is no longer at the college) instructed students working with the Admissions office prior to a campus visit day similar to last week's Scholarship Day to remove copies of that week's Clarion because the front page had a mug shot of a student who had been arrested for vandalism.

In the next issue of The Clarion in February 2006, editor Hall Penn and managing editor Adam Beeson wrote a news article about the incident which included an interview with the Admissions official who had ordered the removal. "We thought this was inappropriate for visiting families to see," she told The Clarion. The issue was deemed "inappropriate," she said, because the front page did not "portray the majority of the students here at Brevard College."

In a staff editorial elsewhere in that issue, Clarion staff decried this decision by an Admissions office staffer to remove The

Clarion, calling it a form of censorship and saying that college officials had "taken something that students have worked hard on and pulled it from public sight in an attempt to make their lives easier and in the process have insulted us as students and news reporters."

To his credit, then-BC president Drew Van Horn told The Clarion it was "not an institutional policy to ever pull copies of student publications." Because Brevard College is a private institution, it does not have true First Amendment protections, which apply only to public colleges and school districts. Whatever press freedoms students here have, it is because the college has made a decision to respect them and honor the First Amendment as an ideal worth following.

In the years since the 2005 incident, I have been reassured many times in my role as media adviser by administration officials that the college continues to support and stand by these principles of First Amendment press freedom, including as recently as Monday of last week.

But it is not enough simply to say one believes in those fundamental rights. We have to practice what we preach, erring on the side

of caution to avoid even the appearance of suppression or censorship.

Scholastic Journalism Week this year ends on the 50th anniversary of Tinker v. Des Moines School District, a landmark Supreme Court decision that guaranteed high school students the right to free expression. The case involved students who were engaging in symbolic speech to protest the Vietnam War and school administrators trying to limit their protest in order to avoid controversy—in part, out of fear that the school newspaper would write an article about the students' protests.

In the 7-2 ruling, the court held that students do in fact have First Amendment rights, and that school officials cannot simply bar those rights for fear of potential controversy. "Students in school, as well as out of school, are 'persons' under our Constitution," Justice Abe Fortas wrote in the majority decision. "They are possessed of fundamental rights which the State must respect, just as they themselves must respect their obligations to the State."

At a time when First Amendment rights are under almost daily assault, all of us should remember and strive to uphold this important

Domestic Violence Town Hall meeting unites advocates, survivors, law enforcement and community at Brevard College

By Bry’Kendrick Moore and Mary Lewe

On Monday, Feb. 18 the Brevard College welcomed a town hall meeting in Scotts Commons on campus. The meeting opened with messages from the sponsors on what to expect for the event.

A few of the sponsors that were present were the North Carolina National Organization for Women (NC NOW), SAFE Transylvania, and Progress NC. This meeting was called following the news that NC state representative Cody Henson was issued a protective order from his wife, who is a victim of domestic violence.

In order to fully grasp the dilemmas people deal with on a day to day basis, one has to understand the many shapes domestic violence takes. When you think of domestic violence, most think of physical abuse. Some believe that if you don’t see signs of bruising or scars then everything is alright.

Sadly, that is not always the case when looking at the cases as explained by Abigail Cooley, Coordinator of Prevention Services at SAFE. She brought up the many faces and forms the abuse takes in relationships. Those are physical, emotional, social, sexual, and economic. “If we wait til she’s got physical signs, we’ve missed 90 percent of it,” Kit Gruelle, survivor and 30 year advocate said later in the evening.

Cooley informed attendees about the different forms domestic violence takes based on location. The close feeling from being in a small town and having those problems could make it hard to keep your business private.

Seeing someone you know everywhere you go can mean facing a lot of opposition. Ther issues seen for a town like this is finding affordable housing and or transportation.

Kit Gruelle was the second speaker of the night. She read a few court documents that presented a glaring problem in our society.

She brought up the fact that that 56 percent of mass murders are domestic violence related. Gruelle also said that domestic violence isn’t about anger, it’s about having total control of the victim in any way shape or form. “We are

nowhere near to addressing violence against women in 2019 the way that we should be,” Gruelle said.

Several other survivors shared their stories.

Belinda Shelborne shared her story as stepmother to Jeanette Carter. Carter was beaten by her husband, suffering a life changing traumatic brain injury. She was in the hospital for 26 total days, 10 of which she spent in a coma. Even with the help of Pisgah Legal Services and Helpmate Carter’s husband’s charges ultimately were dropped to mere months of the original 5-7 year sentence.

ZaKiya Bell-Rogers described her experience of living with her abusive father. Her tumultuous childhood was changed forever when her mother moved Bell-Rogers and her siblings to Atlanta on her 15th birthday, acting on a plan she had been developing for three years.

Bell-Rogers ended up receiving therapy and other help through the organization she now works for, Helpmate. She says that, standing

on the other side of things, she gets to watch survivors be born into advocates.

“If you can make a difference, if you can plant one seed to fight against domestic violence, you can change the whole world,” Bell-Rogers said.

In the end Abigail Cooley left us with tools to help friends and family members in this situation, she told us to “L.O.V.E.” them:

Listen: Give them time to share their story

Offer: Offer a safe space where they can have privacy and feel respected

Validate: “That’s not okay,” “you have choices.” Not the time to give advice or create a to do list for them.

Empower: Connect them with agencies that can help.



Photo by Mary Lewe

From left to right, Abigail Cooley of SAFE, Gailya Paliga of NC NOW and ZaKiya Bell-Rogers of Helpmate field questions from those in attendance at Monday’s town hall.

BC and BMS students learn about history through art

By Zach Dickerson
Campus News Editor

Students from Brevard College and Brevard Middle School met in Ingram Auditorium in Dunham Music Center on Friday, Feb. 15, for a presentation and activity involving Holocaust survivor art.

The event involved the students from Jessie Tucker's Holocaust/Genocide Literature course and eighth graders from the middle school.

Art History Professor Anne Chapin began the event by giving a presentation on Adolf Hitler's past as an artist.

Chapin started by talking about her connection with the Holocaust through her travels to places like Greece and Crete and about other people's thoughts on the Holocaust. "People don't want to talk about it because it's so bad," Chapin said.

Chapin talked about how in 1907 Hitler applied to get into the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, but he failed his entrance exam because he was weak at drawing the human figure. He again applied to the school in 1908 and again was rejected for the same reason.

Hitler joined the German military in 1914 to fight in World War I. By the 1920s he became involved with the Nazis.

"He had so much charisma in his writing and speaking," Chapin said. "He wanted to use art to make a unified German identity."

Chapin also talked of how Hitler absolutely hated modern art, and he even called it degenerate art. When he came into power he worked to acquire hundreds of thousands of works of art and national art treasures by stealing them from other countries and from Jewish families.

The Nazis were hiding a majority of the art they stole in stockpiles, and they sold the art that they didn't want. Many pieces of were found in museums in different countries. A large amount of the works of art they stole are still missing to this day.

Chapin listed many of the reasons why Holocaust survivors create art to help with the tragedies they experienced. Creating art helps them express their feelings, it communicates their experiences. Pictures tend to have a greater impact than words and it helps survivors deal with their experiences.

After Chapin's presentation the middle school and college students broke up into multiple groups to work together to analyze examples of survivor art.

They were all given worksheets that had multiple different examples of survivor art such as "The Liberators Have Arrived" by Zinovii Tolkatchev, "Children Alone" by Samuel Bak, "Ahasver (The Wandering Jew)" by Eliazar Neuburger and some others. The worksheets also included a short biography of each of the artists and questions about the Holocaust and the art for each of the groups to answer.

Each group was assigned a specific work of art to look at and answer questions for. After some time the groups then melded together to talk to each other about the questions they answered.

The event was an excellent opportunity for the two different age groups to come together to learn about a tragic and at the same time interesting event in history that should never be forgotten.

An evening with Tennessee Williams

By Kenny Cheek
Staff Writer

The time has come again for more wondrous plays put on by the Brevard College Theatre department; this time, there will technically be three plays in one!

All of the parts of this play are written by Tennessee Williams, a creative and popular playwright. "Tennessee Williams writes in his memoirs that the theatre saved his life. Through his struggles with physical and mental health, loss and longing and disappointment, he relied upon his own imagination and creativity to escape the present misery," Director Cat Barricklow said.

"His plays... shed light upon both the redemption and tragedy of the human capacity to imagine, and to escape in doing so, and to rise above the misery of the present," she said.

The three plays are "A Streetcar Named Desire," "This Property Is Condemned" and "The Lady of Larkspur Lotion." All three will take place back to back, making up about an hour and fifteen minutes.

The main cast consists of many talented actors and actresses; among those are Claudia Dahlman, Anthony Zuñiga, Lisa Arrona, Katelyn DiDio, Kristian Michels, Ki'Ara Jordan, Sarah Haga, Derrick Hill and K'unique Eichelberger.

Students, faculty and the public are invited to come and witness these emotional and impressive pieces Feb. 21-23 at 7 p.m., and Feb. 24 at 2:30 p.m. in the Black Box at the Porter Center.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. These can be purchased

at www.brevardcollege.eventbrite.com, or one hour before each showing at the Box Office.

"This is a play about people who the world has cast aside, an examination of their methods of survival. The characters are holding on by a thread - reaching for the world of their imagination," Barricklow said. "There's a lot to discover, and we're doing something we've never done before."



The making of the Tennessee Williams set. Photo by Teila Vochatzer

Senior Profile

Megan Orr is a researcher in the making

By Mary Lewe
Managing Editor

Like many kids, Megan Orr wanted to grow up to be a doctor. But since coming to Brevard College, she has been able to really hone in on her interests.

"I would rather figure out how to treat diseases than to do the actual treating," Orr said.

She hasn't come to that conclusion lightly. With a major in biology and minors in both health science studies and natural history, Orr has the experience needed to understand what it means to be a scientist, and she hopes to go to graduate school to gain a PhD. in order to conduct biomedical research.

She has already gotten some hands on research experience through an internship last summer, where she was able to study the cold tolerance of fruit flies. "I decided to drift back into biomed research because that just feels more useful to me, that's where I feel like I could make an improvement for people," Orr said.

The path to her PhD is likely to be a long one. "I plan to take a year off to do research, I'm trying to get into a program through the NIH (National Institutes of Health), which places you in a lab on their campus in Bethesda for a year," she said. "Hopefully I'll end up somewhere in immunology.

"I'm interested in doing research in host/pathogen interaction," Orr said. This kind of research is likely to be a high priority as antibiotic resistance becomes a more prolific problem.

According to Orr, one way to combat antibiotic resistance is to study how the pathogens have evolved. "The goal is to kill the pathogen without harming the host," she said.

Orr has gained the background knowledge necessary to understand such a complex topic through her biology coursework. Her favorite classes have been evolutionary biology, biodiversity, microbiology and genetics. "It was super exciting to see how similar functions have evolved in microscopic living things, that you can see parallels for in bigger and more complex organisms," she said.



Photo courtesy of Megan Orr

Orr enjoying the aftermath of a snowstorm that struck Brevard during Fall 2018 finals week.



Photo courtesy of Megan Orr

(Left) Orr takes in the scenery at the Tennessee Aquarium while on a trip with the Brevard College Biology Club.

(Below) Orr poses with friends at the 2018-2019 Senior Pinning Ceremony.



Photo courtesy of Megan Orr

In addition to taking as many biology classes as she can, Orr has been a member of the Institute for Women in Leadership (IWIL) on campus since her first semester. "I really have loved it; I'm on the steering committee now and have been for two years. I'm also the TA for the second year girls while they develop their own project, which is really exciting," Orr said.

"Being in the program really added a sort of roundedness to my personality," she said. "I came into college not really fully functioning as an adult. The leaders of that program really helped smooth me out over the first two years of school.

"Dee Dasburg and Dr. Rasmussen are my guiding lights at school," Orr said. She said that Dee and Dr. Rasmussen always remind her that the challenges she faces are surmountable, and have continually encouraged her.

"I've definitely loved my time at Brevard, I think that I'm better for having come here," Orr said.

"It's very easy to just sit in your room all the time and do nothing, so you really have to make time for yourself to do things and do your homework and 'do' school," Orr said.

"You have to make college what you want it to be."

Movie Review

'Mom and Dad' is less than realistic

By Kenny Cheek
Staff Writer



Horror movies have been a well loved genre for decades. From classics like "Psycho" and "Halloween" to more modern films like "Get Out" or "Hereditary," there is something for everyone in the typically gorey section of Netflix.

The thrill of being scared of something that could possibly happen is something that terrifies most movie-goers nowadays. Being kidnapped by a psychotic man with multiple personalities, or even having your own parents try to kill you is something that leaves most moviegoers looking behind them on their way out of the cinema.

One recent horror movie that has not been talked about a lot is a 2018 thriller/horror film by Brian Taylor; "Mom and Dad." It is a sick and twisted tale that is not for the light hearted or those with an aversion to blood.

Following a normal suburban family, "Mom and Dad" has the plot of everything seeming to go wrong at once. With strange radio frequencies interrupting everyday life, parents all around the world begin to literally murder their children.

The explanations given for why these frequencies cause such a reaction are based

around the fact that some mammals tend to murder their weakest runt, most likely in order to keep a gene pool strong; however, with humans, the parents attempt to murder all of their children, no matter the age, gender or strength.

Within all the chaos going on, the strangest part is that parents only want to murder their own kids. They are triggered to do so by first hearing the frequency and then seeing their children. One part of the movie focuses on the main mother's sister giving birth, and then almost immediately killing the newborn the moment she gets her hands on it. Again, this movie is not for the faint of heart.

As the movie follows the children of the main family, the parents' backstories of how they wish they were young again is slowly shown. Driven by their want to be young, wild and free, the family is already in shambles before everything even begins to turn south.

Some of the problems with the movie are big ones, and they are very hard to not miss. Pacing throughout is either drawn out for way too long, or is so quick you have to stop and question what you just watched. One moment, you are watching a scene, and a black cutaway steals the suspense away because you are reminded that it is only a movie.

One of the biggest contributors to the viewers' disbelief of the plot is the fact that the main

characters survive no matter what. Clothes hanger through the cheek? Survives. Slashed in the arm? Survives. Completely smashed into the ground? Survives. Falls down two flights of stairs? Survives. After one or two mysterious reappearances, serious disbelief sets in.

Another smaller issue is in the popsicle scene where the obvious scene takes can be seen as the frozen treat shrinks and grows within nearly twenty different scene takes.

Overall, the movie is simple, gorey and sadistic, making it worth about three stars. It is not Grammy Award winning, but I also would not put it in the same box as "The Emoji Movie."



"Mom and Dad" stars Nicholas Cage and Selma Blair.

Horoscopes this week

By Mary Lewe

Aries

After a fired up few weeks it's time to recuperate. Stay on top of your game by focusing on maintaining a calm energy. Be kind to yourself, perhaps by turning your phone off this weekend.

Taurus

Someone has been grinding your gears, and while it may be your instinct to confront them, it may be time for a break.

Gemini

Your sign is one of dichotomies, and this week is no different. While you're craving stability and comfort, you are tired of the drudgery of daily routine. Clear the air in your space this weekend.

Cancer

This week could be filled with romance, but you have to put yourself out there first. You may also receive advice you weren't expecting. Keep your mind and heart open this week.

Leo

Be careful not to make assumptions this week Leo; embarrassment could ensue. Be thoughtful and keep in mind that others could be dealing with more than you know. Ask direct questions.

Virgo

The full moon in your sign yesterday signals the completion of something, or could rejuvenate your pursuit of a goal. Catch up with loved ones and friends you've been missing.

Libra

You're tempted to jump into new projects, but you have to finish what you've begun first. Take a break if you aren't getting anywhere, and reevaluate where your focus should land if necessary.

Scorpio

Being social has value, so don't feel bad for spending time with friends. A bit of vulnerability can be a good thing, but guard your reputation when it comes to school or work this week.

Sagittarius

People can't get enough of you this week, and they're thankful for your honesty. Be careful that your honesty does not turn acrid for your pals, though. Steer away from snark in coming days.

Capricorn

Procrastination and blurting out your thoughts are not your usual modus operandi, but this week you could struggle! Don't be afraid of big plans, getting started is truly the toughest part.

Aquarius

Friendship troubles from the past could bubble up again. Perhaps it's time to forgive someone you've avoided. Whatever you do, keep finances out of it, whether you're lending or receiving.

Pisces

It's no longer Valentine's Day but is your mind still on the topic of love? The timing is off for a grand gesture, and it could be that you're falling for a possibility rather than the person before you.

Brevard Men's Lacrosse defeats Randolph 21-7 at Saturday's away game

By Joseph Marvin
Assistant Sports Information Director

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA – The Brevard College Tornados Men's Lacrosse team (2-1) knocked in 21 goals while senior goalie Peyton Mooney set single-game school goalkeeping records as the Tornados picked up a 21-7 non-conference win over fellow NCAA DIII Randolph College (0-1) on Saturday evening.

Senior attackers Hewitt Farr and Jackson McKaig led Brevard's goal explosion, scoring 13 of the Tornados' 21 total goals.

Farr tallied seven goals and one assist for a total of eight points on the evening. Farr's 19 points and 17 goals are tops in the USA South Conference during the first few weeks of regular season action.

Fellow senior McKaig lit up the Randolph Wildcats for six goals and three assists for a total of nine points. McKaig's seven assists in 2019 rank second on the USA South.

Freshman Steve Trejo left his mark in a big way, tallying a new career-high mark with three assists.

Seniors Jack Shade, Sean Pratt, and Paxton Brown along with junior Joel Vacchiano recorded two goals each to wrap up Brevard's scoring efforts.

Mooney had a historic day for the Tornados in goal. The senior goalkeeper out of Vaughan, Ontario, Canada recorded 18 saves, a mark that tied his career high which he set in his freshman season against NCAA DII Mount Olive on Feb. 10, 2016. Mooney's 18 saves came on just 23 shots-on-goal, which translates to a 78.3 percent save percentage. That percentage sets a new Brevard College NCAA-era record for single-game save percentage (minimum 10 shots faced).

Freshman goalkeeper Devin McCarragher came on in relief for Mooney, making his first collegiate appearance. McCarragher recorded his first collegiate save on his first shot faced on goal.

The Tornados enjoyed a perfect 24-for-24 day on clears, compared to Randolph's 10-for-11. Brevard racked up 19 saves, a number that dwarfed Randolph's eight on the evening.

Senior captain Shade got things going early for Brevard as he fired in the game's first goal unassisted. Shade's was the first of four-straight BC goals in the first stanza, as McKaig, Shade,

and Farr racked up early goals that gave the Tornados a 4-0 lead with 4:28 left in the first quarter.

Randolph would take advantage of a BC faceoff violation to get on the board at the 3:41 mark. Following a BC faceoff win, Randolph forced a Tornado turnover that it turned into its second-straight goal, cutting Brevard's lead to 4-2 with 2:57 left.

However, the Tornados were not deterred. Three-straight goals to end the quarter by McKaig, Brown, and Farr extended BC's advantage to 7-2 as the game entered its second period.

After a penalty on McKaig, Randolph committed two penalties of its own that left Brevard with a man up. BC capitalized, as a Trejo pass found Farr, who drove the shot home to push Brevard up 8-2.

The Tornados scored three more goals in-a-row to extend their lead to 11-2 before Randolph finally found an answer. Randolph's goal at the 5:31 mark proved to be the half's last goal, as the Tornados held an 11-3 lead at the intermission.

Brevard was not satisfied with its eight-goal lead, as the Tornados outscored the WildCats 5-1 in the third period for a 16-4 advantage.

With the match sitting at 17-5, the Tornados enjoyed one final scoring burst as Farr connected twice more, while McKaig and Vacchiano found the back of the net as well. Randolph scored twice to close the game out, but the contest was well out of reach. The Tornados head back to the mountains of Western North Carolina with a dominant 21-7 victory.

The Tornados will return to action next Saturday, Feb. 23 as they head up to Frederick, Maryland to take on another quality NCAA DIII non-conference opponent in Hood College. The action is set to begin at 1 p.m.

To follow along with all the latest news and updates surrounding Brevard College Athletics, please follow the Tornados on Twitter and Instagram @bctornados, subscribe to 'Brevard College Tornados' on YouTube, follow 'Brevard College Tornados' on SoundCloud, or like Brevard College Athletics on Facebook.

Tom Mittring named USA South Men's Tennis Player of the Week

By Joseph Marvin
Assistant Sports Information Director

On the heels of an impressive outing on Feb. 2 against NCAA DII Southern Wesleyan, Brevard College Senior Tom Mittring has been named the first USA South Men's Tennis Player of the Week for the 2019 season.

Mittring, who defeated SWU's Sarvesh Maria in straight-sets (6-4, 6-4), currently holds a 12-match singles winning streak dating back to the 2017-18 season.

The Bavaria, Germany native becomes Brevard College's first-ever USA South Player of the Week recipient in the sport of tennis after being ineligible for weekly awards in 2018 due to NCAA Division III reclassification.

Mittring sits atop the USA South's number-one singles performers list with a 2-0 record through the 2018-19 campaign.

Mittring and the rest of the 2019 BC Tornados Men's Tennis team return to action this Saturday, February 23 as they head to Demorest, Ga. to take on Piedmont College, with action slated to begin at 1 p.m.

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Photo by BC Sports Information

Mittring plays against Maryville in 2018.