

We are halfway there!

By Christie Cauble

Assistant Director of Communications

Halfway done, keep up the good work!

What a year it has been for us all. College is supposed to be about the freedom of learning, the freedom to connect with other people and the freedom to find out who you want to be. It is supposed to be a place where you can just be and breathe. Unfortunately, the world had a different plan for you. It has thrown at you, in just the past year, COVID-19, social injustices, an attack on the Capitol, a crazy election, historical job losses, wildfires and so much more. You have been asked to deal with all of that while simultaneously being asked to follow new rules and regulations that limited your freedoms.

You would think all of this would create a sense of helplessness across our BC family and in some ways it did, but you all have overcome what the world has thrown at you. We have seen you fight for social justice after the unjust

killings across the country of Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and other people of color in the spring. You have followed the three W's to fight against COVID-19, a virus that has killed over half a million people. You stood up for what you believed in when it came to the election that created hate across our country and when you were forced to learn and communicate virtually, you adapted to that new environment in order to do what was necessary.

We have endured a lot together this year, but Brevard College is stronger because of your strength and willingness to succeed.

So far, we have been able to have:

- 2 Theatre Production
- 2 Art Showcases
- 21-day Immersion Trip
- 4 Music performances
- 2 Peaceful Demonstrations
- 12 WLEE field base expeditionary trips

- 59 Athletic games played
- 85 Campus Life events
- Completed over 200 service hours

More to come:

- 2 Theatre Productions
- 10+ WLEE field base expeditionary trips
- 2 Art Showcases
- 25+ Campus Life events
- 4 Music performances
- 21-day VOR Expedition Trip
- 50+ Athletic games
- And will have an in-person graduation for 2020 and 2021 Grads!

We could not be more proud of you and what you have been able to accomplish so far this school year! Keep up the good work and we support you all the way!

Sincerely,

Your Hall Directors

Le, Christie, Michael, Rebecca, Chris,
Hannah, Kurt, Josh and Patrick

Grad, major fair rescheduled for Friday due to weather

Web Edition update: Since this week's print edition was published, the Brevard College graduation/major and minor fair has been rescheduled for Friday, March 26 at 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. because of expected storms on Thursday.

Booths will provide necessary graduation details to seniors including a cap and gown ordering station.

Seniors are encouraged to attend and check off any last minute requirements for graduation. Photos will be provided, including props and a cap and gown set. There will also be a major and minor fair for any undecided students who want to explore the different majors that are provided by Brevard College.

— Margaret Correll

BC GRAD & MAJOR FAIR

~~Thursday, March 25th~~ **Rescheduled for Friday, March 26**

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Robbins Plaza (outside dining hall)

Ready For Graduation?
Make sure to stop by the grad fair to get everything in place! Caps/Gowns, Jostens, Grad photos, and meet with BC offices to ensure you are ready to graduate!

BC Major/Minor Fair
Talk to faculty and students to learn more about each program.

Asian Americans targeted in Atlanta shooting

On March 17, 2021, eight people, six of whom were Asian women, and one wounded were gunned down in an attack that took place from Acworth, Georgia all the way to Atlanta, Georgia. The suspect was going to Florida to kill more people before being apprehended.

At around 5 p.m.. there were five people shot at Young Asian Massage Parlor in Acworth, Georgia, which was about 30 miles from the second shooting that took place in Atlanta. Two of the victims were found dead on the scene and three of the victims were transported to the hospital where two of them eventually passed away. At the time, it was not known if the shootings were connected in any way.

In the Atlanta case, police were called to what was believed to be a robbery taking place at the spa just before 6 p.m.. Upon their arrival, police officers found three women fatally wounded

from what appeared to be gunshot wounds, police said. While they were at the scene, they received reports of another shooting across the road where police found a woman dead inside the salon. She also passed away from gunshot wounds.

Robert Aaron Long, a 21-year-old male, of Woodstock, Georgia, was finally caught and arrested after a police chase where officers had to ram into his car to stop it. He was captured in Southwest Georgia, a few hours after the onslaughts took place. He was taken into custody in Crisp County on Tuesday night, 150 miles south of Atlanta where he was going to take out more than what he did.

— Harell Mitchell III



A memorial dedicated to the victims of the Atlanta shooting.

THE CLARION

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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 clarion.brevard.edu

✉ **Letters Policy:** The Clarion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit letters for length or content. We do not publish letters whose authorship cannot be verified.

BC bookstore plans to go through changes

At the beginning of each semester, many students on campus go to the bookstore to get textbooks for their classes. Next year when students go to the bookstore for their textbooks, it will be a bit different.

In previous years, the Brevard College bookstore had worked with the textbook company Follett, but around late December and early January, the company contacted the school to inform the college that they were moving online.

Shortly after this, the school had three textbook companies present to a board of school facility. Follett was one of these companies, but the college ended up choosing eCampus because it offered lower prices for students.

eCampus is an online textbook company, which means students can no longer buy physical textbooks at the bookstore. Although the bookstore will no longer have physical books

for sale, students can buy the physical book on the eCampus' website and have it shipped to them.

Even though the bookstore will no longer sell textbooks, students can still get their BC gear in the space that is currently the bookstore. Since the bookstore will no longer sell textbooks, there was discussion of renaming the bookstore to maybe the Spirit Store.

The school has not fully decided what they would like to do with the bookstore next semester. It is guaranteed right now that students will be able to order their textbooks from eCampus and that there will be a place for students to buy their BC apparel.

— Caroline Hoy

Senior Profile

Editor in Chief, Margaret Correll, to graduate

By Eleanor Flannery
Opinion Editor

Margaret Correll, from Salisbury, NC, is a senior at Brevard College and is set to graduate this May. Correll is majoring in English with a concentration in Journalism and Professional Communication. She will also hold a minor in Business and Organizational Leadership.

When asked what drew Correll to Brevard, she said, "I chose Brevard College for three reasons: First, I wanted to attend a college where I did not know a soul. I was extremely introverted in high school and socially awkward and I thought that going somewhere where I did not know anyone would be a good way to reinvent myself and make friends with new people who liked me, for me."

"Second, I wanted to go somewhere small," said Correll. "I liked the idea of building relationships with professors and other students in my major, not just being some number or name who the professor does not know. I thought Brevard College was a good place for that to happen, and it turns out that it was." She added, "Third, I wanted to play tennis. While this was not my first priority, it was something that I wanted to do. I wanted to keep active and continue to play the sport that I have played for so long. I wanted to be a part of a team who would have my back and be my friends."

Correll is an immensely involved student around campus, serving as the Editor in Chief of The Clarion student newspaper and playing tennis as a triumphant student-athlete. She has earned tremendous achievements, both academically and athletically, with several awards under her belt. "I have made Dean's List for five semesters in a row now and I am aiming for a sixth," Correll said. "I received several academic awards during the Spring 2020 semester: Outstanding Service to The Clarion Award, Excellence in American Literature and Excellence in Southern Literature."

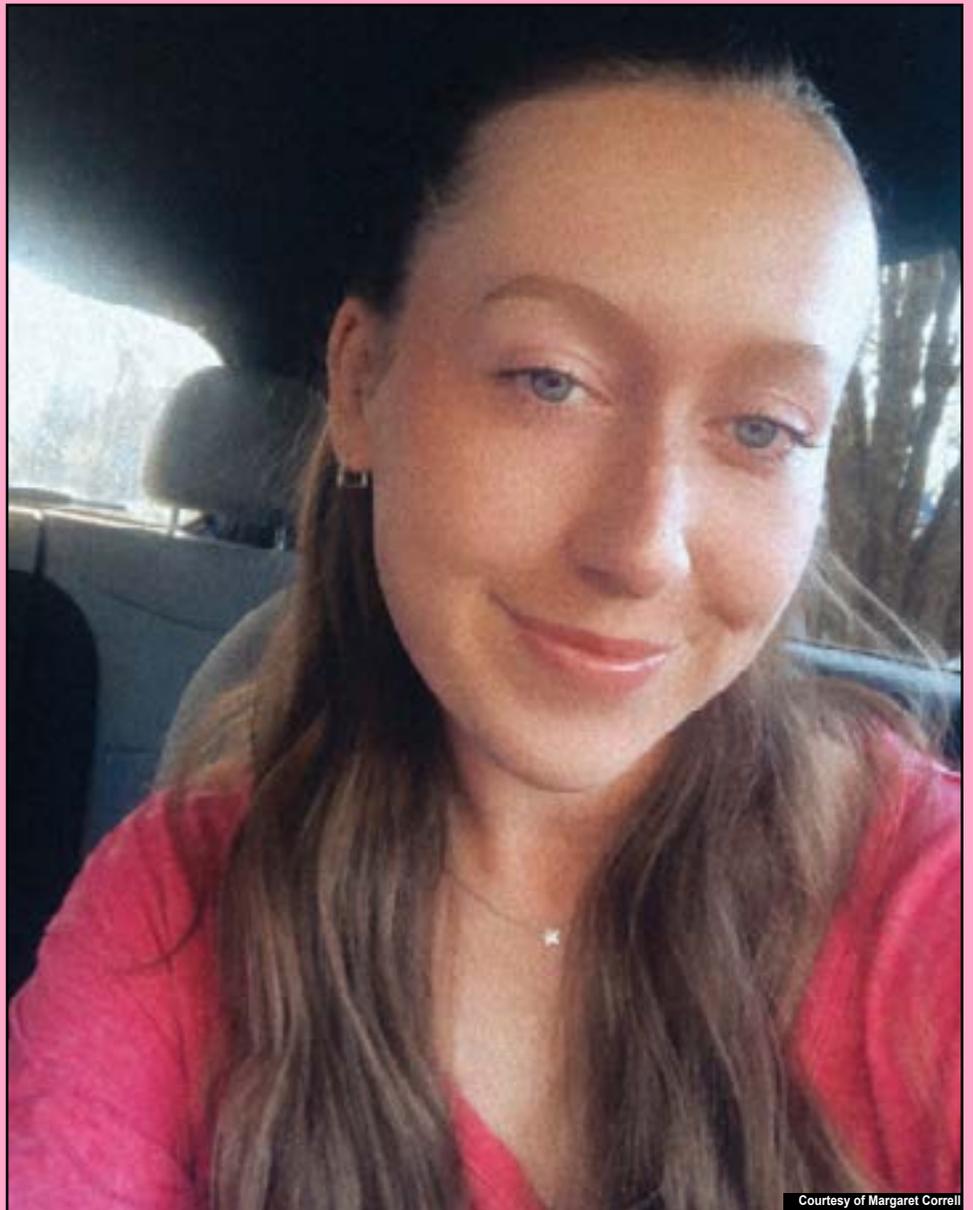
Correll has been a part of the Brevard College women's tennis team all four years of her time at BC and has made significant memories along the way. "Some of the

memories that I have made on the tennis team have been extremely impactful. I met my boyfriend through the tennis team, you could say the teams played matchmaker on that one. That would not have happened if I were not on the tennis team. The friendships that I have made, some will last a lifetime. I can

say that some of my best friends are also my teammates," Correll said.

"Evan Schriener (former coach of the men's and women's tennis teams) convinced me to take a leap and commit to Brevard,

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Courtesy of Margaret Correll

Margaret Correll

'Gorillaz' celebrate 20 years

By Jackson Inglis
Staff Writer

In March 2001, the world saw the self-titled debut from Gorillaz. This virtual band was the brainchild of Damon Albarn and Jamie Hewlett. Hewlett provided artwork and animation for album covers and music videos; Albarn was the man in charge of the actual music on the CD. Gorillaz fictional members consisted of 2-D (vocals), Murdoc (bass), Russell (drums) and Noodle (guitar). Going into detail about the lore of these characters would take a five page essay, so this article is about the first album.

Albarn wanted to create an alternate band that was something different than “what you saw on MTV every day.” Putting “Gorillaz” into a genre

is difficult if not impossible because the singles from this album all sound different from each other, and the deep cuts are even more bizarre. The most recognizable song “Clint Eastwood” is a rap-rock hybrid while “19-2000” is straight up funk. There’s also elements of alternative rock on “5/4,” “Punk” and “Tomorrow Comes Today.”

Strangely enough, about half of the songs from “Gorillaz” are quiet, ambient songs. These include “Man Research (Clapper),” “Sound Check (Gravity),” “Double Bass” and “Starshine.” These tracks are meant to hypnotize the listener and invoke an emotion rather than send a clear message, very similar to Radiohead’s music at the time. These songs

certainly achieve that goal, but some of them do go on for too long. People who only know “Clint Eastwood” might have a hard time getting into the deep cuts.

It’s easy to see how “Gorillaz” was certified platinum by the RIAA and 3x platinum by the BPI. It was an ambitious project and a breath of fresh air in a time when radio airplay was either the pop punk adolescence of Blink-182, or the earth-shattering riffs and teenage angst of Papa Roach. One can make the argument that it has issues or isn’t as beloved as “Demon Days” or even “Plastic Beach,” but “Gorillaz” is still important to the development of alternative, trip-hop, and indie music.

Senior student-athlete looks forward to life after graduation

Continued from Page 3

which was a catalyst for the amazing life I am living now,” she said. “Brad Jones has continued this team mentality and continues to treat the team like a family. I am so glad I got to continue playing tennis in college, not many people can say that they were college athletes,” Correll added.

Correll has accumulated a fine collection of athletic honors, holding the MVP Award for Women’s Tennis in 2018. “I received the USA South All-Sportsmanship Team Award in 2019 and was added to the ITA All-Academic Team in 2019 and 2020,” said Correll. The scholar athlete has a lot to be proud of and has been a protruding voice around campus, while leading the staff of The Clarion newspaper.

Correll took over the role as Editor in Chief last semester, accepting the reigns from The Clarion’s former leader, alumnus Zach Dickerson. Before assuming her current position, Correll started as a staff writer and layout editor. “I did not realize how much work goes into the job as Editor in Chief of The Clarion,” Correll said. “I work my butt off every day for this paper, but I would not have it any other way. Ever since I joined the staff, I felt drawn to this position and the legacy that comes with it, one of my friends had assumed this position only a few years prior. I felt like I was meant to be a leader and that this was a great opportunity to learn some managing skills that I would use in the future.”

Correll continued, “It is extremely rewarding, learning the skills that I have and doing the work that we do is something that I will use forever. Seeing the paper run every

Wednesday gives me a sense of pride, it shows ‘Hey, we put in the work and we did that.’ I hope this attitude will continue for The Clarion because I truly treasure it and the experiences that I have had as Editor in Chief.”

As an English major, Correll has taken a plethora of classes within the English department and has made personal connections with several of her professors. When asked who has influenced her the most, she said, “I have so many, honestly, but I will try and name them all: John Padgett, Alyse Bensel, Tina Holland, Belton Hammond, just to name a few in the English department,” she said. “If it were not for them I do not think I would have found my love for this subject and been on the path that I am on, currently. I enjoyed Mel Bringle and her LINC course with Tina Holland, Women in Literature/Women in Religion. This was the course where I decided that I wanted to change my major to English,” Correll said.

“I also loved Ralph Hamlett with all my heart, he was my FYE professor and one of the first connections I had with a faculty member at Brevard. His LINC class was amazing with John Padgett, who is another mentor, friend, and professor that I love,” Correll continued. “Tim Powers, he was someone I could rely on any day and I consider him to be one of the best professors that Brevard College has ever had or will have. I enjoyed my business classes with Cam Austin and Dennis Cole, they made the business world so interesting and I was always excited to take their classes.”

When asked to reflect on some of her fondest memories at Brevard College, Correll said, “I love reminiscing about fun things that I did in the past at Brevard. Countless parties, drives through Pisgah, camping trips in the woods,

movie nights, scream laughing in my dorm room, it doesn’t stop,” she joked. “This college has brought so much happiness to me, the number of friendships made, relationships forged and meeting my boyfriend three years ago. I could not even break down how much this place means to me.”

Correll left some kind words behind for her peers and added some words of advice for her fellow classmates, “I just want to say thank you to those who have been in my life during my time at Brevard. The amount of connections that I made with so many people mean so much to me and I truly cherish every single experience during the past four years,” said Correll. “The advice I want to give is: never be afraid to go out of your comfort zone. It was hard for me, being a tiny freshman who did not like talking to people, to come out of my shell. I struggled a lot. Once I found the people that would become my friends, I felt like I was at home. Brevard can be a place where you feel comfortable and where you feel like you belong. I am so happy I had this experience and I would not change it for the world.”

After earning her degree from Brevard College, Correll plans on applying her major and minor towards her future career. “I am looking to go into the social media/marketing route using my major, minor and concentration,” she said. “I feel like I am very design and detail oriented and I really like to be creative. I am currently an intern for the Looking Glass Rock Writers’ Conference and I think it has helped me prepare for the potential tasks of social media and marketing.”

Women in History

Amelia Earhart

By Aia Andonovska
Copy Editor

Amelia Earhart, or as she was fondly called, “Lady Lindy” was an American pilot who mysteriously disappeared in 1937 while trying to circumnavigate the globe via the equator. She was the sixteenth woman to be issued a pilot’s license. In 1928, she became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean as well as the first person to fly over both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

Earhart was born on July 24, 1897, in

Atchison, Kansas. She spent most of early childhood in the household of her grandparents, who were a part of the upper middle class. Her mother, Amy Otis, married her father, Edwin Earhart, but the marriage was a strained one because of her father’s relationship with alcohol. When times became tough, her mother would take Earhart and her sister, Muriel, to their grandparents’ home. It was here that the sisters formed a love for adventure, exploring and climbing trees.

After the family reunited, her father still struggled to find employment. This caused the

Earhart family to move around a lot, thus, Amelia attended several different schools. Early on, she showed an interest in science and athletics. In 1915, her father and mother split again, and Earhart’s mother moved the girls to Chicago. It was here that Earhart attended Hyde Park High School, where she excelled in the subject of chemistry. Based on her life experiences, Earhart learned early on to be independent and never relied on someone to take care of her.

After her graduation, Earhart spent a Christmas vacation visiting with her sister in Toronto, Canada. After seeing wounded soldiers return from World War I, she volunteered for the Red Cross. Through this, Earhart met many wounded pilots. She developed a strong admiration for aviators and would spend much of her free time watching the Royal Flying Corps practicing at an airfield. In the year 1919, Earhart enrolled in Columbia University to study medicine, but dropped out a year later to be with her parents, who had reunited once again in California.

In 1920, Earhart attended a Long Beach air show. She took a plane ride that changed her life forever. Although the plane ride was only 10 minutes long, that was enough time for her to decide she wanted to learn how to fly. She worked various jobs, such as being a photographer and truck driver, in order to save money for flying lessons. She earned enough money to take some lessons with the female aviator, Anita “Neta” Snook. Earhart immersed herself in learning how to fly; reading any book she could get her hands on about the subject. She spent most of her days at the airfield. She cut her hair short, so she would look like other female aviators.

In the summer of 1921, Earhart purchased a used Kinner Airster biplane that was yellow. She nicknamed it “The Canary.” On Oct. 22, 1922, Earhart broke the world altitude for female pilots and flew her plane to 14,000 feet in the air. In May of 1923, she became the sixteenth woman to be issued a pilot’s license by the Federation of Aeronautique, the world’s governing body for aeronautics. During this time, money became tight for the Earhart family, so Amelia sold her plane. Her



Photo from Biography.com

Amelia Earhart

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Blue zones in Brevard

By Ann Farash
Staff Writer

I mentioned the Blue Zones to my Brevard classmates and they looked puzzled; Blue Zones Project (BZP) is happening in Brevard. According to Mark Burrows, Senior Community Program Manager, "BZP is an evidenced based, metric driven way to help improve the lives

of individuals and the community by making healthy choices and easy choices. We do this through people, places and policy." It is an investment in the health and well-being of our community, powered by the Pisgah Health Foundation. Brevard has the bragging rights to be the 50th Blue Zone Community in the world.

Blue Zones gained eminence after the publication of the November 2005 National

Geographic by Dan Buettner. Five Blue Zones were identified across the world; places where people enjoyed exceptional longevity and vitality. Such areas in the world included where centenarians baked bread, gardened and did Tai Chi. They walked hilly roads to have afternoon wine with friends while picking herbs and wild

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Courageous pilot broke records before disappearing

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parents ended up divorcing, and Earhart found work as a teacher and a social worker.

Finally, in 1927, Earhart got back into aviation. She became a member of the Aeronautical Society's Boston chapter. She also invested money into the Dennison airport in Massachusetts. When she started writing articles promoting flying in a local newspaper, she became somewhat of a local celebrity in Boston.

In May of 1927, Charles Lindbergh made a solo flight from New York to Paris across the Atlantic. After his flight, interest began to grow for a woman to do the same. In April of 1928, Earhart received a phone call from Captain Hilton H. Railey, a fellow pilot. He asked Earhart if she would like to fly across the Atlantic. Ecstatically, she responded, "Yes!" She traveled to New York for interviews and met with project coordinators.

Soon, she was selected to be the first woman on a transatlantic flight, but as a passenger. At the time, it was believed that a flight of this scale was too dangerous for a woman to do alone. On June 17, 1928, Earhart took off from Newfoundland. Accompanying her on the flight was pilot Wilmer Stultz and co-pilot Louis E. Gordon. They touched down in Wales, after Stultz did all of the flying. Earhart later remarked that she "was just baggage, like a sack of potatoes. Maybe someday I'll try it alone."

Finally, on May 20, 1932, Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She took a fifteen-hour long journey from Newfoundland to Northern Ireland. Almost immediately, difficulty arose as she encountered thick clouds and ice on the plane wings. About 12 hours the conditions only grew worse, and Earhart knew she would not be able to make it to Paris like Lindbergh did. So, she changed

her plan, and looked for a new place to land, that place being the small village of Culmore in Northern Ireland.

Earhart's first solo flight established her as an international hero. She received the Gold Medal from the National Geographic Society, the Distinguished Flying Cross from the U.S. Congress, and the Cross of the Knight of the Legion Honor from the French government. Earhart's solo flight from Hawaii to California established her as the first woman, as well as the first person, to fly over both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Earhart attempted to be the first woman and person to circumnavigate the globe around the equator. Unfortunately, this flight did not end well. She purchased an Electra L-10E plane and gathered her crew: Captain Harry Manning, Fred Noonan and Paul Mantz. The plan was to take off from Oakland, California and fly west towards Hawaii. From there, they would fly across the Pacific Ocean to Australia. Then the crew would cross India, onto Africa, then to Florida and back to California.

On March 17, 1937, the group took off from Oakland. They experienced some technical problems, so when they landed in Hawaii, they had repairs done. Sadly, when they tried to leave Hawaii, the plane was still showing signs of problems. Earhart obtained funding for the repairs. This changed the flight plan, and Captain Manning as well as Paul Mantz would not be able to make the journey after all. This left Earhart and Noonan, who decided to fly east and begin their journey again. They took off from Miami and flew east for Africa. From there, the plane crossed the Indian Ocean and touched down in New Guinea on June 29, 1937. At this point, 22,000 miles of the trip had been completed. The remaining 7,000 miles would take place flying over the Pacific Ocean.

The next destination for the small crew was Howard Island, situated between Hawaii and Australia. This flat sliver of land would be

hard to identify, so Earhart and Noonan used celestial navigation to keep them on track. They also had their map, compass, and radio communication. They did have emergency plans in place in case something went wrong. Earhart and Noonan ran into problems almost from the beginning when they left for Howard Island on July 2.

Witnesses from the takeoff that day noted that the radio antenna may have been damaged. Combined with overcast conditions, Noonan may have had trouble with celestial navigation. If that wasn't already enough bad luck, experts say that the flyers were using maps that were inaccurate.

On the morning of July 2, at 7:30 a.m., Earhart reported her position. At 7:42 a.m., the last thing Earhart was heard saying was "We must be on you, we cannot see you. Fuel is running low. Been unable to reach you by radio. We are flying at 1,000 feet." The Itasca, a U.S. ship stationed outside Howard Island, had been communicating with Earhart, and when they realized they had lost contact, they immediately began to search. Despite the efforts of 66 aircraft and nine ships, the fate of the two flyers remains unsolved. The official search ended on July 18, 1937. On January 5, 1939, Earhart was legally declared dead by the Superior Court in Los Angeles. Since her disappearance, several theories have been put forth to explain her

disappearance. Two have the most credibility. One theory suggests that Earhart and Noonan ditched their plane or that it crashed and the two perished at sea. Another theory is that Earhart and Noonan flew without radio transmission for a while, and that they might have landed at Nikumaroro reef, a tiny uninhabited island in the Pacific. Today, Earhart's life and legacy are celebrated on Amelia Earhart Day, July 24, which was her birthday.

Health put first in Brevard with new blue zone implements

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greens. One was a practicing cardiothoracic heart surgeon in his nineties. Their diet consists of low protein with plenty of carbs and good fats. Also, moderation is key. Eating till you are 80% full ensures a healthy body weight. The five Blue Zones span the globe from Ikaria, Greece, Sardinia, Italy, Okinawa, Japan, Nicoya, Costa Rica and Loma Linda, USA.

What could the lifestyle of the people from these diverse places teach us? What were their commonalities? Could we learn and replicate these commonalities to enjoy longer, happier, healthier years? From these questions the POWER 9 arose. Nine areas of attention that individuals should embrace. In a nutshell, there is belonging and loving, moving naturally, having a sense of purpose and having a plant slant diet. Sarah Hankey, Organizational Lead from the Blue Zones Project said, "Brevard seeks to help make the healthy choice, the easy choice."

Hankey said, "We'd love to have college students participate in the workshops." On the webpage are free cooking classes, purpose workshops and groups forming for purpose, potluck and exercise. Worksites in town are now becoming Blue Zone Certified. Hendersonville Pediatrics' Brevard office just earned that designation. The staff is walking at lunch. They are also working from elevated desks while balancing on board in socks. They have a scheduled delivery of fruits and vegetables for everyone. The snack station has an abundance of water and fresh fruit. If you go to the Blue Ridge Bakery, a BZP approved restaurant, there are healthier dining options available. Other local restaurants will soon follow. You can see and feel the change.

Brevard College was present at the birthing of BZP in Brevard. The Blue Zones organization held a three day community health and well being assessment in May of 2019 at Brevard College and the formal announcement of Brevard's acceptance into the project was held in Sept. 2019, at the Porter Center. Brevard College's David Joyce said, "The Blue Zones Project is an exciting initiative to help our community develop a healthy lifestyle. I have the privilege of serving on the BZP Steering Committee and my wife, Lynne is the Co-Chair of the Restaurant & Retail Food Committee. We hope that our students, faculty and staff will embrace the tenets of this initiative and help our campus and the local community create a culture of wellness and sustainability." Learn more at brevardbluezonesproject.com. Impress your parents. They might want to move here.

We need a break

By Margaret Correll
Editor in Chief

College, sometimes, makes people feel isolated and alone in their thoughts and thinking about how others may perceive you can be nerve wracking and scary. I am not afraid of sharing this thought, however, no matter how people feel about it. I can not be alone in thinking that we need a break, desperately.

With stress and anxiety being brought on by classes, those same symptoms coming from dealing with a worldwide pandemic, the time change and everything else going on in our lives; I am burnt out. Each day, having to wake up and not getting any kind of break for the work that we do; that is criminal. Expecting us to go an entire semester, during one of the most mentally taxing times in our lives while being under special circumstances seems to warrant a break of some kind.

I completely understand the concerns given by the Brevard College over travel during a break and the risk of bringing COVID-19 back to campus, but please, anything right now would do. Just throw us a bone at this point, all we need is a break.

I am glad the college is able to conduct certain things this semester to make everything feel more normal, like graduation, but with half of the semester left the students are taking it pretty rough. More work, no break; this does not seem like a combination that is healthy for students right now.

Even though I may be alone in my thinking, college students right now deserve some kind of recognition for sticking through this insane year. We have worked hard and marched on when everything was falling apart, a feat that not many have had to accomplish. A break from the constant due dates and demanding classes is all I am asking for.

The Vatican's discriminatory announcement

By Anna Ervin
Staff Writer

On March 15, 2021, the Vatican declared that the Catholic church will not bless same-sex marriage because they "cannot bless sin." This was a formal response to a question about Catholic clergy's authority to bless these unions; it distinguished a difference between welcoming those in the LGBTQ community into the church and allowing them to be wed.

In my opinion, the Catholic church, which has had over 6,700 clergy accused of sexual assault towards mostly minors, has no right to dictate the appropriate way to love. This statement places LGBTQ people as lesser than in the church, and it is utterly dismissive to same-sex couples that have deeply loving and committed relationships; this is unjust discrimination.

According to data published by the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of law, same-sex couples dissolve at half the rate of straight couples. If same-sex unions are less likely to end in divorce and are proven to be just as whole and loving of a union, there is no reason to deny them the right to be unified by the Catholic church, especially when its LGBTQ members are just as devout as the straight ones.

Is a God whose love towards their supposed children is conditional really a God worth serving? According to Pope Francis, the current

pope, "[God] never stops loving their child, no matter what." It is hard to back up this statement when the Catholic God is this willing to create segregation within their congregation.

The hope created by the Catholic church by welcoming and embracing LGBTQ people is more like bait than an actual care for its members of the church, which has been amplified by the release of this statement. In the United States, six out of every ten members of the congregation support same-sex unions according to a 2019 Pew Survey; when over half of your members are supportive of these unions, then there is a need for change.

The Vatican is hurting those whose lives they are unfamiliar with, and this is a devastating announcement for LGBTQ people.



Photo from AP News

The Vatican backpedals on same-sex marriage decision.

Are we correctly distributing the COVID-19 vaccine?

By Simon Donnaway
Staff Writer

It seems like every day the COVID-19 vaccine is becoming more and more accessible. At the same time, I have seen very little monitoring as to who receives the vaccine. This has led me to question whether or not we are going about this the right way. Are the people with autoimmune disorders and other health complications getting the doses they need?

Eligibility for the COVID-19 vaccine varies state by state, making it harder to know who is actually receiving the vaccine. To keep things simple and relevant we will look into North Carolina's vaccine distribution plan.

North Carolina has broken its distribution plan into five groups. Group one being healthcare workers, group two being adults

over 65, group three being frontline workers, group four being anyone 16 to 64 with a high-risk medical condition and group five being all adults. As of right now, only groups one through three are eligible for the vaccine; group four will become eligible this Thursday, March 25.

What I am wondering is why it has taken so long for these 16 through 64 year-olds with high-risk medical conditions to be eligible for the vaccine they so desperately need. I think that it can be argued that they are of greater importance than many of the people in front of them in line.

For example, I know multiple people with serious health conditions that fall into this age category and their need for vaccines are dire. A type-one diabetic that I know personally

has found herself wondering how she can get her vaccine, despite the fact that most of her friends (who are at a much lower risk to the virus) have been able to get theirs. "I just don't understand," she said to me last week. "Nearly everyone I know has been able to get one. I'm in a high-risk group, and I haven't heard anything about where I can sign up to be put on even a waiting list to get mine."

It is amazing to see what is being done with the vaccine rollout in this country. While what we are doing is without a doubt incredibly impressive, there are definite ways that the vaccine distribution can be improved. I think that this is perhaps the most important, getting the vaccine to these young, at-risk people should be a much higher priority.

Brevard has had low cases of COVID-19

By Kellen McGeorge
Staff Writer

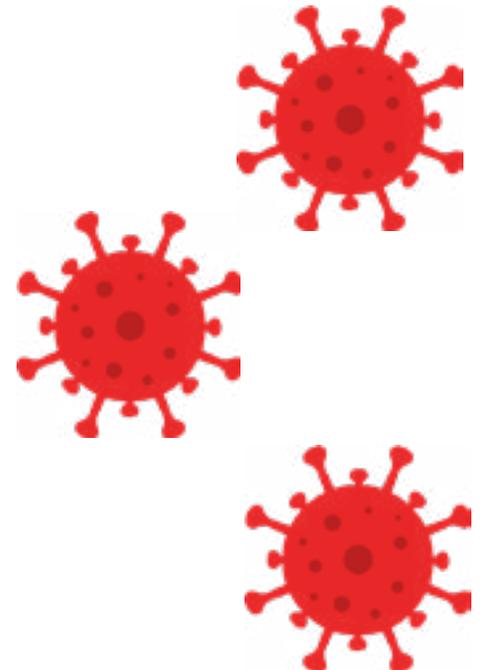
For the first time in a while, Brevard College is pleased to announce that they have had low amounts of new cases of COVID-19 pop up within the last few weeks. As such, it is important to be grateful to the staff and security that are helping us to remain safe during this difficult time in the world.

For most of the community, it might seem like this is a time to celebrate and return to normal life as we have managed to avoid having many new cases appear, however, this is not advisable.

It is important for us to continue the diagnosis process and self-quarantine procedures, should students feel as if they have been infected with the virus; continue to monitor yourself and if you think you have been infected, make sure to get tested and quarantine. It is important for infected students to remain in their rooms and keep in contact with their professors so they are aware of the students' situation.

It's easy to understand that everyone might feel frustrated by the pandemic, and some might just want to go back to normal despite the risks of the virus. But students cannot give up after everything we have been through. We have managed to do so much as a community, and I don't want to see it all fall apart because we are all tired of everything. We must hold on for a little while longer, because students might get a vaccine very soon, so to do anything to put us all at risk would not only be very irresponsible, but also unnecessary due to the current timeframe.

For now, students should be happy that we have managed to all stay safe and avoid large amounts of cases due to how well the staff has managed to enforce the safety protocols during this time.



Brevard College vs. Mars Hill University

By Jake Moore
Staff Writer

Over the weekend, BC Baseball played a three game series against Mars Hill. On Saturday, March 20, they played a double header. The Tornados started off slow in the first game with a few errors that led to several runs for the Lions. They were also struggling to make things happen with the bats which led to a 12 to 2 victory for Mars Hill.

In the second game, the Tornados started playing more like they are expected to. They strung together a few hits and were only down one run going into the seventh inning. They went on to allow Mars Hill to score a few runs late in the game and couldn't answer back falling short and ending with a 8 to 4 loss.

On Sunday, March 21, BC went to Mars Hill to play the last of the three game series. The Tornados went into this game with a lot of confidence and determination to win. BC had several great hits in clutch moments to bring across a few runs. The score flipped a couple times during the game until the two teams found themselves tied going into the eighth inning.

In the top of the eighth, Logan Clark found himself 90 feet away from giving the Tornados the lead. On a wild pitch, Clark scored and put BC up 6 to 5. In the bottom of the eighth, the Lions found a way to score 6 runs that would go on to give them a 11 to 6 win over BC.

This series was great for Brevard College even though they lost. Mars Hill is a Division 2 college in a really good conference, but BC still put up a fight. This just goes to show how good this team really is. With conference play coming up soon for the Tornados, this should be somewhat of a confidence booster for how good they really are.



Senior, Christian Ezzell, goes up to bat for Brevard College.



Junior, Matthew Scavotto, pitches for Brevard College.



Sophomore, Ashley Royster, takes control of the ball for Brevard College.

Women's soccer takes care of business on senior day

By Joseph Marvin
Digital Media Director

BREVARD, N.C. – The Brevard College Tornados women's soccer team (6-1-1, 6-1 USAS) defeated LaGrange College (2-5, 2-5 USAS), 2-0 in a USA South Conference match on Sunday afternoon at Ives-Lemel Family Field.

Sunday's match was Senior Day for the Tornados as five graduating seniors were recognized for their exceptional careers at BC. Rebeccah Rojas, Hannah Weatherall, Sallie Riggan, Brenna Innis, and Amy Juarez were all celebrated during a pre-game ceremony.

Rojas (6-1-1), a senior goalkeeper from Murrieta, California picked up her sixth shutout of the season and contributed with two saves. Sophomore forward and reigning USA South Player of the Week Ashley Royster scored both goals for the Tornados. Royster's first goal was assisted by Innis and Jessica Tenjhay, with her second goal coming after a dish from Taylor Richardson.

Brevard outshot the Panthers, 13-3, and the

Tornados won three corner kicks in the contest.

Royster scored her first goal through a ball played by Innis, who was played in by Tenjhay, in the 13th minute of action. The sophomore forward from Mooresville, North Carolina then scored her second from a Taylor Richardson pass that found Royster inside the box on the left side. Royster then looped the ball over the LaGrange goalkeeper into the back of the net, doubling the Tornado lead in the 34th minute of play. Brevard's defense, anchored by a backline consisting of Lena Hatter, Emma White, Abbie Worsencroft, and Autumn Wright, proceeded to shut down the Panthers for the remainder of the contest.

The Tornados are currently on a six-game unbeaten streak where the Tornados have outscored their opponents 14-1. BC's 6-1-1 start through the season's first eight contests is the best start to a season in BC's NCAA-era of women's soccer. Brevard's .857 win percentage is BC's best to-date in the NCAA-era and the

Tornados are far-and-away enjoying their best-ever conference campaign with a 6-1 mark in USA South action this season.

Brevard now turns its attention to the teams' final USA South Conference regular-season match against the Piedmont College Lions on Friday, March 26 in Demorest, Georgia at 7 p.m. The Tornados and Lions will be battling for the right to host a USA South Conference West Division Tournament game, with Brevard currently sitting in second place in the USA South West Division – one spot higher than Piedmont in the standings.

To follow the latest news and updates surrounding Brevard College Athletics, follow the Tornados on Twitter Instagram @BCTornados, subscribe to 'Brevard College Tornados' on YouTube and SoundCloud, and follow 'Brevard College Tornado Athletics' on Facebook. In addition, follow 'brevardcollege' on Flickr for photos from BC events.