

'Namaste India'

Student presents her study abroad experience

By Carmen Boone
Copy Editor

Luz Hernandez is a senior at Brevard College that spent the Spring semester of her junior year studying abroad in India. She gave her presentation about it on Thursday, Feb. 21 at St. Philip's Episcopal Church. The silent auction started at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 and then the presentation was at 7.

First, Hernandez gave a little background about why she wanted to study abroad. Her reasons were: her high school experience "sparked" the idea, she wanted to "challenge [her] adaptability and self-reliance and open mindedness" and "be taught in a different setting."

A lot of preparation and work went into the planning of a semester abroad. Hernandez's advisor helped her find the KEI (Knowledge Exchange Institute) Program. Knowing that she wanted to study in an Asian country, Hernandez chose India. There was a package for the program in India that included "University:

Symbiosis International University, pre-departure advising and planning, courses were taught in English, cultural field trips, KEI onsite help 24/7 and Hindi language offered."

Next Hernandez spoke about Pune, India, the city she lived in. It has the eighth largest economy and sixth highest per capita income in the country. It also has the highest number of engineering colleges in India. Aga Khan Palace is in Pune as well, the place where Ghandi, his wife and his secretary were held as prisoners during the "Quiet Movement" in 1942. It's a very historic place.

Where Hernandez stayed, her dorm was called a hostel. She thought of it like a "five star hotel." It was very well furnished and had plenty of the necessities, there was a washer installed after a little while of washing clothes by hand and the room was cleaned once a week by a worker. A couple things she noticed right away were that all the international students were separated from the Indian students. The Indian students



Photo by Peter Trench

Hernandez speaks about her studies in India to community members

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Stand Up, Speak Out

IWIL to host domestic violence awareness event

By Mary Lewe
Managing Editor

Every spring, second year students from Brevard College's Institute for Women in Leadership (IWIL) tackle an issue faced by the Brevard community. The students spend a year planning an event that will benefit the community in some way.

This year, the returning IWIL students are taking on domestic violence in the Brevard area by hosting an educational and recreation event.

"We're getting ready for a big event in April, we do have a name for it: Stand Up and Speak Out: Brevard College Versus Domestic Violence," student Claire Wylie said in an interview.

Students from IWIL say that the event will primarily educational, but will also include fun activities like button-making and a self-defense class.

"We're going to have a lot of resources from organizations like RAINN, whose main purpose is to prevent domestic violence nationwide; and resources from SAFE, which is Transylvania County's domestic violence prevention organization," student Cameron Ranslow said.

To prepare for the event, the students have gotten to speak with experts from SAFE, as well as BC's own counselor Dee Dasburg, magistrate Mary Ann Hollocker and assistant professor of

psychology Lisa Busche.

"I think the biggest thing I learned is that you can't just tell someone who's in an abusive relationship to 'just leave,' because it could be a very dangerous situation for them," Cameron Ranslow said. "The person who's being abused is the expert on the relationship and he or she knows what their partner is capable of doing."

"I always just thought it was as simple as getting someone to listen to you, but it's not as simple as that," she said.

Stand Up and Speak Out: Brevard College Versus Domestic Violence will take place on Wed., April 17 from 4-8 p.m. on campus at Tornado Alley.

Lip sync showdown

By Bry’Kendrick Moore
Staff Writer

After much time, effort and planning, Brevard hosted its lip sync battle on Feb. 27. Around this time every year, the students and faculty come together to enjoy the best lip syncing Brevard has to offer.

The acts on display were some of the best I’ve seen in my years at the college. A lot of new faces came to join us on the evening which was quite a treat for all involved.

One of the veterans gave us the same good vibes he always does. Kendall James had another go around and gave us another fantastic performance of the night. He has always been a crowd favorite for any talent competition and he never fails to bring a smile to all who watch.

A personal favorite of mine was Michal Phillips and his team. His act was full of comedy and many major throwbacks that had the crowd singing along through out. He had some great choreography that really brought the act together.

His song selection and use of props helped the story along and I appreciated what went into it. Even with a super solid performance he didn’t place.

The top three acts were very tight for placement. The third place spot went to Hope Evans for her performance of “Lady Marmalade” by Christina Aguilera, Lil’ Kim, Mya, and Pink. She shocked the crowd with her song choice, but delivered on all fronts.

Her confidence was felt throughout the audience and it gave me confidence just watching it. With clean lip syncing and smooth moves she landed in the third place spot. The next performance did the exact same for a lot of people.

Emma Moore made us feel invincible with her song of choice “S.L.U.T.” by Bea Miller. This ultimately was a calling card to all about self acceptance and owning who you are no matter what. She did a wonderful job with her choreography. It wasn’t just fun for her it was

fun for all of us. We felt every twist, turn, and leap she had for us. Emma finished in second place.

The final act that dazzled us was by the duo of Daniel Ethridge and Ryan Burnette. The pair brought out their fiddles and ‘played’ for the crowd. They played “The Devil Went Down to Georgia” by Charlie Daniels.

They played with a story and really made it one that we all could get behind which is probably why they came in first this year. Overall, it was solid show from all the performers.



Security Report

The most recent security reports for Brevard College have been released as of Monday, March 11 at 12:24 p.m., according to Brevard College Campus Security.

In addition to the projector that was reported missing from the Porter Center in the last issue, eight microphones and two speakers have now also been reported missing. It is hoped that a campus member borrowed and neglected to return the equipment.

If anyone has any information on where this equipment may be, please contact Technical Director Matt Queen in his office at the Porter Center or at (828)-884-8205.

Everyone is requested to contact Campus Security at (828)-577-9590 if wrongful or suspicious activity is observed on campus.

— Zach Dickerson

Advising Day March 21

Shirley Arnold, Associate Dean for Student Success and Advising, sent an email to BC students and staff on Monday stating that Thursday, March 21 will be advising day.

There will be no classes that day and students should arrange to meet with their advisors in order to be cleared to register for fall classes.

Students should check their email frequently as the registrar’s office will soon release a full schedule of classes to be offered next year.

— Mary Lewe

THE CLARION

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'Namaste India'

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where as the liberal arts students were seen as more care free. Symbiosis means “mutually beneficial relationship between different people or groups.” That is why the school was set up the way it was.

Her class schedule was a bit of an issue once she arrived. The classes she had preregistered for were not in rotation for the Spring semester she was there. She had to pick out all new classes. Hernandez ended up taking “Hindi, Representation Of Gender in Image and Word (film, TV, Literature, Advertising/Music), Women Philosophers (Judith Butler/ Susan Sontag/ Hannah Arendt) and Ballroom and Latin American Dances (7 styles of ballroom).” The classes started at 7:30 a.m. and were each two hours long with a fifteen minute break.

There were a couple styles unique to India that Hernandez saw at her school. They were “Palazzo pants, the Kurta, the Sari and Salwar Kameez which was a Pakistan national dress.

Learning the language was an adventure as well. She learned how to say several phrases, including “Aap se milkar kushi hui,” which means “nice to meet you.”

Hernandez showed some photos and

explained some of her favorite foods while being a vegetarian in India. She talked about pav bhaji which is thick veggie curry, rolled up pancake which is food from Southern India and momos which is like what we call dumplings. She also showed some photos of Indian Chinese and Middle Eastern food such as veggie manchurian, spicy potato fries and falafel wrap.

While studying abroad, Hernandez visited five states, ten cities and one beach town. A couple that she highlighted were “Virupaksha Temple” dedicated to Lord Shiva and then the birth place of Hanuman in Hampi.

Hernandez then talked about the caste system in India. The top of the pyramid is Brahmins, the priestly and academic class. Then is Kshatriyas, the rulers, administrators and warriors. Third comes Vaishyas, artisans, tradesmen, farmers and merchants. Fourth is Shudras, manual laborers. Last is Dalitas, street cleaners and people with menial tasks. “This is still very embedded in social customs & shapes the way Hindus live,” said Hernandez.

To conclude her presentation, Hernandez mentioned why she wanted to share her experience with us. She said it was to “bring

awareness” to how other cultures live. “I gained experience, I also learned to appreciate what I have,” said Hernandez as well as, “what I can do with what I gained and how I share it with others.” Then she shared a quote she found to sum up her experience: “Traveling — it leaves you speechless then turns you into a storyteller.”

Anyone who would like to know more can visit Hernandez’s blog at codenamel.wixsite.com/namasteindia

The proceeds from Hernandez’s silent auction were half in support of Canterbury and half in support of Joshua Spaugh, a student studying abroad in Leon, France in June of 2019. Looking forward, he hopes to gain from his trip knowledge of customs and culture, a new perspective in life and to somehow better North Carolina with growth, change, a diverse economy and maybe even create more jobs. Lastly, Spaugh wants to inspire future generations to overcome any challenges they may face.

Hernandez and Spaugh would encourage everyone to study abroad. The growth and experience gained is worth it all.



Photo by Peter Trench

Hernandez stands in front of an audience at St. Philip's Episcopal Church to showcase her experience studying abroad in India.

Don't blame the victim part II

By Julie Carter
Opinion Editor

While we were enjoying the start to our Spring Break, HBO broadcasted a documentary in two parts entitled "Leaving Neverland." The documentary tells the graphic story of two men who were abused as boys by famous musician Michael Jackson.

For many, the documentary was little more than another passing moment in the rumor mill that surrounds Michael Jackson's alleged abuse of young boys. These people were ready to defend Jackson the moment the broadcast was made.

Several arguments have been made about the documentary from the belief that the

men are lying about what they experienced to lamentations that the creators are ruining the image of Michael Jackson.

Neither one of these points matter.

What point do these men have to lie about these situations so many years after their abuse as well as the death of the man who did it?

Some have called into question why the men waited so long to put out a documentary telling their stories. There is one response to this: it doesn't matter. It is monumentally difficult to come forward about abuse, so the fact that they came forward at all is shocking. Also, an icon like Michael Jackson being your abuser is a whole new level of fear. Who will believe you were hurt by someone everyone loves?

On the other hand, how can you ruin the

image of a man long dead? You can't. He isn't a person anymore. You can only hurt his enterprise. When did it become logical to defend the image of one's enterprise?

It is shameful how these men are being treated in the public landscape. Why do we feel it necessary to shame anyone who comes forward about rape, abuse, and assault? It is absolutely sickening.



Clean up after your dogs, PLEASE

By Mary Lewe
Managing Editor

The beautiful green spaces across the Brevard College campus are hard to miss upon first visiting. Sadly, it seems that some of us who get to enjoy the campus frequently have begun to take it for granted.

"The litter I have the most trouble with is dog poop that is left by inattentive dog owners both from the community and on campus," Rebeccah Rojas, a student at BC, said in an interview.

Rojas is not the only student to notice the increase in litter.

The issue of littering is not confined to residential areas of campus, however it is commonly noticed on the ground outside of dormitory windows, presumably from students' tossing of trash from their windows.

"We're seeing the same thing, where people are throwing their trash out the window and trying to get their trash into the dumpster," Jenny Kafsky said. Kafsky is a professor of wilderness leadership and chair of Brevard College's experiential education program.

As part of the WLEE faculty, Kafsky has noticed litter surrounding Jones Hall, where many WLEE classes meet.

"Everyday when I'm coming into my office, I'm usually picking up trash," Kafsky said. She has noticed everything from dental floss to food bags.

One common misconception about litter is that things that will eventually decompose are okay to just leave on the ground. For example, compostable items like orange and banana peels.

In reality, according to information from the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), it can take up to six months for an orange peel and as long as two years for a banana peel to completely decompose. This means that carelessly tossing food waste on the ground could create an eyesore that long outlasts the time it would take to walk the same trash to a garbage can.

In the time it takes to rot and decompose, that food waste can attract animals which otherwise may not be found in the middle of a college campus. More importantly, garbage and litter can introduce nutrients and chemicals to the ground and waterways that simply does not belong.

Littering can be particularly detrimental when it comes to improper disposal of animal waste (read: dog poo).

"Any kind of waste product from any living thing will pollute waterways," Kafsky said.

While some litter may be easy to ignore, stepping in dog poop is likely to catch anyone's attention. "It's just not fair for students to be walking through dog poop late at night," student Rebeccah Rojas said. "On a nice sunny day, I can't use that area [near the Villages] because there's dog poop and litter all over it."

Although many dog owners are responsible and pick up after their pets, it only takes one bad apple to spoil the whole bunch, and leaving dog waste behind does far more than ruin someone's shoes for a day. The nutrients and chemicals in dog waste are not naturally occurring in our

green spaces and waterways and, according to NOLS, it can be a factor in something called "nutrient pollution."

When levels of nitrogen rise in the environment, it can allow for algae blooms and even fish kills. In an area known as "the land of waterfalls," we must do a better job of protecting our water and wildlife.

"It's called eutrophication," Maureen Drinkard, assistant professor of environmental studies and community ecologist said. "Excess nutrients lead to a decrease in dissolved oxygen, which can disrupt wildlife including fish."

Whether it's an aluminum can or a bag of dookie, it's up to every individual to do their part to keep our campus beautiful. While the maintenance staff at the college does a tremendous job of cleaning up our mess, it should not come down to another person to clean up a mess someone else created.

In most cases the only excuse for littering in pure laziness. Our campus has many well-placed and frequently emptied garbage cans, as well as a dumpster for each residence hall.

Some people may simply not care about the environment. If that sounds like you, I would urge you to instead consider your fellow classmates, professors and community members who spend time on campus.

Do it for the fish, do it for your friends or do it for the community; whatever your reasons for being green, a minor change in behavior can make a big difference on our little campus.

Movie Review

Thriller Flick 'The Gift'

By Kenny Cheek
Staff Writer



As we've grown, choosing to either leave our hometowns or stay put, we manage to find old friends or colleagues from back in the day. Depending on the relationship we had with them, it could be fun and happy, or awkward and annoying.

Truly nothing could be worse than that of Simon and Robyn's case in the 2015 film, "The Gift." This drama/mystery movie revolves around the strange occurrences when the couple meet Gordon, aka "Gordo," a supposed friend of Simon's from when they were in school.

From the very beginning of the movie, we can see that Simon is the businessman who wants everything perfect in his life, a perfect house, a perfect wife and a perfect child. Robyn, the more quiet and submissive of the two, clearly wants to get back to work after the traumatic loss of their late baby.

The moment the two meet Gordo, the tension between Simon and him flares back to life from their high school days. Trying to be friendly and civil, Gordo manages to get them plenty of grand gifts; from a fancy bottle of wine, to koi fish and much more.

Gordo believes all his actions to be nothing but friendly, and continues to invite them to dinners, gives them gifts and tries to find out

more about their life, as a way of attempting to befriend them.

However, Simon becomes quiet jealous of the kind gestures Gordo makes to them, seeing it as his attempt to move in on his wife and swipe her up. He constantly makes fun of the shy man and tries to get Robyn to agree with him, but to no avail.

After confronting Gordo and telling him that they no longer want his "creepy" and annoying gifts and company, Simon finds that his wife is unhappy. She clearly does not agree with him, but does not voice her opinion.

Through a lot of paranoia about Gordo appearing at their house and possibly harming her while Simon is away, Robyn has a fainting accident. Simon blames it on the pills he finds hidden in her desk, but this only leads to a fight with Robyn begging Simon to apologize to Gordo about everything he has done.

Instead, Simon confronts Gordo once more and beats him up, leaving him badly wounded. He does not tell Robyn and lies, saying that he accepted his apology. Instead, Gordo sends a letter with a sentence about how he was willing to "let bygones be bygones."

Time goes by and we can see that the two have made up, and Robyn has become pregnant. She suspects what Gordo could have meant in his letter and finds out through a series of events that Simon used to bully Gordo when they were in school. He made up a lie about Gordo being molested by another man and how he "saved"

him from the whole thing.

This is shown to have had much more effects on Gordo than Simon thought it would have; as a kid, Gordo's father almost beat him within an inch of his life because he thought his son was gay. Robyn is disgusted by his actions, and finding out that he had been sabotaging his coworkers jobs and lives, she decides that she doesn't know her husband anymore.

The ending is one that leaves it up to the viewer. Clearly, Simon has been made to be the bad guy throughout, and Gordo is simply the bullied victim from childhood. However, Gordo leaves one last present for Simon when he arrives home, having left Robyn in the hospital with their newborn baby boy.

A tape revealing that Gordo may or may not have molested Robyn while she was passed out months ago which leaves the question in the air as to who the father of the new baby could be. Just like the lie Simon made that ruined Gordo's life, Gordo has now made a lie or a horrible truth that has ruined Simon's "perfect" life.

All in all, "The Gift" is much more intriguing to watch than read about. If you have not seen it, I strongly recommend it. I give the movie a 5 star rating; suspense and drama leak from every scene in the movie, and the actor's only manage to sell the plot even more than the storyline does. The twists and turns throughout the story leave the reader questioning whether or not Gordo could have done something so sinister, and ends up snatching a high rating because of it.

Horoscopes this week

By Mary Lewie
Managing Editor

<p>Aries</p> <p>Don't fall for it! You may be tempted by a scam this week. Be discerning and read before you sign.</p>	<p>Leo</p> <p>There will be no lack of excitement between you and your friends this week.</p>	<p>Sagittarius</p> <p>Take a step back and a deep breath. Facing this week will take some bravery.</p>
<p>Taurus</p> <p>You'll be tempted to let secrets slip this week. Oversharing could come back to bite you.</p>	<p>Virgo</p> <p>Although you've been craving alone time, your friendliness draws people in.</p>	<p>Capricorn</p> <p>Enjoy an added dose of comfort this week. Although you're busy, enjoy the finer things.</p>
<p>Gemini</p> <p>Your generosity and energy can be fickle, and not everyone will appreciate it.</p>	<p>Libra</p> <p>You may be struggling to cope with others getting on your nerves. What's really bothering you?</p>	<p>Aquarius</p> <p>Variety is the spice of life, so mix it up! It's a good time to redecorate.</p>
<p>Cancer</p> <p>Loneliness and isolation may have been comfortable, but it's time to get back out there.</p>	<p>Scorpio</p> <p>Be careful to avoid impulse purchases this week. Avoid becoming defensive.</p>	<p>Pisces</p> <p>This week you may feel overwhelmed. Don't multitask!</p>

BC tennis team takes on Pfeiffer

By Carmen Boone

Copy Editor

The BC men's and women's tennis team played Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, NC on Saturday, March 2 at 1 p.m.

The men's team was missing two players and therefore forfeited number three doubles and number six singles.

At number one doubles Tim Hengst and Tyler Frazee lost to T. Hubble and R. Ruiz with a score of 1-8. Two doubles was Nathan Boepple and Andrew Ingram who lost 0-8 to E. Elliot and B. Marchant.

Hengst played number one singles but lost 2-6, 2-6 to Hubble. At number two was Frazee who fell to Ruiz with a score of 1-6, 4-6. Number three was Boepple who played E.

Louw but lost 1-6, 0-6. Ingram played at four but lost to Marchant scoring 2-6, 0-6. Alex Glaze played number five singles and lost to Elliot 1-6, 1-6. The overall score for the men's team was 0-9.

The women's team triumphed over Pfeiffer with several good wins. At number one doubles was Sam Sepe and Kelsey Kushner who had an easy win against D. Sherrill and H. Dixon with a score of 8-0. Two doubles was Jen Cox and Darden King who lost to C. Craven and S. Gray. Margaret Correll and Kenzie Bowman beat M. Hatley and S. Honeycutt 8-5.

At one singles Sepe quickly won 6-0, 6-0 against Dixon. Kushner won two singles against Sherrill scoring 6-0, 6-4. At number

three singles was Darden King, the first one to start singles and the last one to finish. She battled for three sets against Craven and finally won with scores of 3-6, 6-4, 7-5. Four singles was Cox who lost to Gray with scores of 1-6, 2-6. Correll played number five singles but lost to Honeycutt 1-6, 1-6. Eleanor Flannery played at number six doubles and won against Hatley 6-3, 6-4.

The next match for the BC tennis team is at home on Thursday, March 14 at 1 p.m. versus Spartanburg Methodist University. The following Saturday, March 16 the teams travel to Kentucky to play Berea College at 1 p.m.

Mittring extends singles win streak to 14 matches in 6-3 Setback to Covenant

By Joseph Marvin

Assistant Sports Information Director

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. - Despite adverse weather conditions, the Brevard College Tornados men's tennis team (0-5, 0-2 USAS) was able to play its road USA South Conference matchup against Covenant College (3-4, 3-1 USAS) at an indoor facility at the McCallie School in Chattanooga, Tenn. The Tornados fell 6-3 to their counterparts from Lookout Mountain, Ga.

Mittring pushed his impressive singles win streak up to 14 matches, defeating Covenant's

Logan Hull in No. 1 singles, 6-0, 6-4.

Senior Tim Hengst and freshman Tyler Frazee also picked up singles wins on the evening. Hengst cruised in No. 2 singles play, trouncing the Scots' Paxton Haggerty, 6-1, 6-1. Frazee picked up a No. 3 singles victory against Covenant freshman Ben Luke, 6-3, 6-1.

The Scots took all three points on the doubles side highlighted by a tight 8-7 decision in the No. 1 doubles draw. BC's Mittring and Hengst squared off with Covenant's Haggerty & Trey Wood, playing to a 7-7 tie before the Scots took the victory, winning the tiebreaker 7-3.

Covenant was able to secure victories in No.

2 and 3 doubles, followed by wins in No. 4-6 singles to claim the 6-3 conference victory over the Tornados.

BC returns to home action at the McCoy Tennis Complex on the campus of Brevard College at 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 14 as it faces off with Spartanburg Methodist College.

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.



Photo by BC Tornados

Mittring on the court.