



BC Honors and Awards

Editor's Note: Not all of the honors and awards have been announced yet, but we wanted to publish those who have been announced and have received them. We will publish the others as soon as they have been announced.

Campus Life:

Outstanding Resident Advisor of the Year: Aurora Teague and Hannah Weatherall
Outstanding Peer Leader of the Year: Zach Bracken and Gaby Lachney
Community Service Award: Women's Lacrosse Team
Outstanding Work Study of the Year: Amber Blanton

Outstanding Students of the Year:
Freshman: Sallie Watson
Sophomore: Isaac Crisp
Junior: Ivy Blanton
Senior: Mary Lewe
Rising Star Award: Starling Sterm and Ben Melton
Above & Beyond Award: David Garrett
BC Radar Award: Aaron Butts
Sweezy Award:

Student: Rebecca Rojas
Faculty/Staff: David and Lynne Joyce
Mary Elizabeth & G. Scott Francis Community Service Scholarship: Adam Spencer
Richard A. Adams Outstanding Ambassador (Admissions): Michael Anton

SGA:

Club of the Year: Paddling Club
Staff: Jimmy Ridges
Faculty: Clyde Carter and John Buford

Theatre:

Highest Grade Point Average:
Freshman: Sarah Hajkowski
Sophomore: Talley Sugg
Junior: Lisa Arrona
Senior: Clara Reichhard
Outstanding Actors in a Comedic Role: Anthony Zuniga (Dorante) Gabriel Bernhard (Alcippe) Talley Sugg (Isabelle/Sabine)
Excellence in Dramatic Ensemble: The Cast of "Mr. Burns, a Post-Electric

Play": Anthony Zuniga, Lisa Arrona, Talley Sugg, Claudia Dahlman, K'unique Eichelberger, Clara Reichhard, Sydney Windham, Jannie Kurtz, Sallie Watson
Outstanding Achievement in Design & Technology: Claire Wylie for Props Design
Newcomer's Award: Scott Douglas
No Small Parts Award: Sarah Hajowski
Excellence in Stage Management: Sallie Watson
Excellence in Sustained Collaboration: K'unique Eichelberger (choreography)
Award for Sustained Growth in Design and Technology: Shawnaizja Simmons (hair, makeup, prosthetics, masks)
Award for Sustained Growth in Performance: Claudia Dahlman
Outstanding Theatre Major: Lisa Arrona

Art:

Highest Grade Point Average:
Freshman: Ashley Royster
Sophomore: Gwyn Jennings
Junior: Jasmine Myers
Senior: Sidney Holloway
Outstanding Art Awards:
Digital Media: Heaven McCormick & Kat White
Painting: Kristen Martinets
Sculpture: Sidney Holloway
Photography: Jake Roberts
Art History: Kristen Martinets
Foundations Year: Jodi Wyse, Abigail Loy, Shawnaizja Simmons, Emma Schwab, Najya Washington, Ashley Royster, Mitchell Yoder, Casey Jones
Advancement Awards:
Sculpture: Sallie Riggan
Drawing: Katherine Jarvis
Painting: Salena Malmin
Photography: Jasmine Myers
Digital Media: Gwyn Jennings
Art Ambassador Award: Sidney Holloway &

Sallie Riggan

Outstanding Art Major: Kat White & Sidney Holloway

Music:

Highest Grade Point Average:
Freshman: Elijah Bloom
Sophomore: Jannie Kurtz
Junior: Sydney Windham
Senior: Anthony Zuniga
Excellence in Music Theory Award: Mikayla Ledford
Excellence in Music History Award: Kathleen Post
Instrumental Performance Award: Savannah Colliver
Vocal Performance Award: K'unique Eichelberger
Outstanding Freshman: Elijah Bloom & Jackson Ray
Music Ambassador Award: Cory Earp
Peer Inspiration Award: Sydney Windham
Outstanding Music Major: Sydney Windham

Humanities:

Outstanding English Major Award: Carmen Boone & Alexis Henley
Outstanding Religion Major: Kurt Cope
Outstanding Integrated Studies Major: Stacie Rogers
Outstanding History Major: Sam Hipp and Allison Rogers
Excellence in Creative Writing (Bensel): Carmen Boone Alexis Henley Mickayla Smith
Outstanding Teaching Assistant in English (Bensel): Cameron Ranslow
Outstanding Supplemental Instructor (SI) in English (Bensel): Kathleen Post
Excellence in First-Year Writing:

Awards for BC student have been announced

Continued from Page 1

Margaret Arnold (Bensel)
 Meredith Brown (Bensel)
 Michaela Gray (Bensel)
 Sarah Hajkowski (Bensel)
 Lucca Silvani (Bensel)
 Dayna Collier (Mills)
 Emmaline Grennan (Mills)
 Mikalya Ledford (Mills)
 Jessica Garland (Tucker)
 Aliza Tobias (Tucker)
 Zachary Helman
 Casey Jones
Excellence in Holocaust Literature (Tucker):
 Monica Avery
Expert Logicians (Bringle):
 Margaret Arnold
 Caleb Trent
 Trystan Wallace
 Ashley Maziarz
 Ashley Royster
 Solomon Turner
 Ethan McGee

Brooke Garland
Interdisciplinary Excellence in C.S. Lewis (Bringle & Hammond): Solomon Turner & Kelsie Koffman
Academic Achievement in History 101 (Taylor): Gillian Brown & Sarah McMahan
Academic Achievement in History 102 (Taylor): Gillian Brown & Sarah McMahan
Notable Writing in History (Kuck): Kurt Cope & Felipe Andrade
Exceptional Presentation (Kuck): Austin Highley
Teaching Assistant of the Year (Brown): Sam Hipp
Analytical Genius Award (Brown): Allison Rogers
Pastimes Leadership Award (Brown): Aia Andonovska
Outstanding Service to The Clarion (Padgett):
 Zach Dickerson – Editor
 Mary Lewe - Editor
 Julie Carter
 Carmen Boone
 Samuel Hipp
 Mickayla Smith
 Carolina Hoy
 Chloe McGee
 Margaret Correll
 Amber Vance
 Elizabeth Goodhew
 Lande Simpson
 Aia Andonovska
 Eleanor Flannery
Outstanding Service to Chiaroscuro (Padgett):
 Alexis Henley
 Carmen Boone
 Sara Hajkowski
Excellence in Banned Books Literature (Padgett): Zach Dickerson & Nicholas Edwards
Excellence in American Literature (Padgett): Margaret Correll
Excellence in Southern Literature (Padgett):
 Sarah Hajkowski
 Carmen Boone
 Margaret Correll
Excellence in Environmental Literature (Padgett):
 Nicholas Edwards
 Mickayla Smith
 Mary Lewe
 Katie McBriar
Excellence in Intro to Ethics (Bell):
 Makenzie Rice & Samuel Westlund
Math & Science:
Highest GPA:
Biology: Emily Fisher
Environmental Science: Audrey Cardwell

Exercise Science: Hannah Arensman
Health Science: Destiny Williams
Math: Audrey Cardwell
Physics: Madison Hogan
Citizenship:
Biology: Solomon Turner
Environmental Science: McKayla Robinette
Exercise Science: Diana Loaiza
Health Science: Martin McMahan
Math: Madison Hogan
Physics: Janet Castro-Sandobal
Outstanding Senior:
Biology: Erica Zufferey
Environmental Science: Audrey Cardwell
Exercise Science: Carson Beckett
Health Science: Micaiah Vacchiano
Math: Donny Carsillo
Physics: Jesse Money
Science and Mathematics Faculty Scholarship: Drake Bruner
Environmental Stewardship: Nicole Rusden
Education:
Teacher Education Program (Secondary English Licensure): Cameron Ranslow
Teacher Education Program (Health and PE Licensure): Zach Stroup
WLEE:
1st Year Engagement Award: Shyvonne Potter
Community Leadership Award: Abi Fuesler & Gaby Lachney
Professional Development Award: Eric Lenhart & Kaitin Chaump
Spark Award: Nathan Boepple & Bryce Kinsey
Professional Trip Stoker: Brad Stewart
Outstanding Senior Award: Shannon Kerr
Academic Achievement Award: Molly Brown
Leadership Excellence Award: Hannah Arensman
BORG:
Highest Academic Achievement: Xavier Mariduena
Best Freshman Business Plan in ORG 110: Breanna O’Shields
Outstanding Academic Performance (GPA 3.5-3.79):
Freshmen: Breanna O’Shields, Bethany Bryan, Christian Ramsey, Robert Massey, JaMarcus Walker
Sophomores: Aaron Bennett, Jason Jucker, Rami Kadri
Juniors: Adam Spencer, Bailey Harris, Pablo Mascaró, Ben Melton
Seniors: Matt Brethen, Victoria Green, Jakob Bergen

THE CLARION

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Superior Academic Performance (GPA 3.8-4.0):

Freshmen: Lucca Silvani & Felipe Andrade

Sophomore: Lilith Jones

Juniors: Karina Gonzalez, Carson Waddell, Rebeccah Rojas, Jose Sanchez Martinez

Sustainable Leadership Award: Xavier Mariduena & Jakob Bergen

Ray Fisher Leadership Award: Demari Hopper

Dr. B. Barbara Boerner Emerging Leader Scholarship Award: Rebeccah Rojas & Karina Gonzalez

Mt. Pisgah Award: Josh Romero & Javier Avalos

Grace Roy Award: Adam Spencer

Psychology:

Outstanding Major in Psychology: Amber Blanton

Rising Star in Psychology: Abigail Petrosky

Outstanding Thesis in Psychology: Mary Lewe

Criminal Justice:

Outstanding Criminal Justice Major:

Hannah Weatherall

Top Graduating Senior: Becky Harris & Hannah Weatherall

Top Junior: Jillian Davis, Makayla Foster, Alyvia Holland

Top Sophomore: Samuel Hunnicutt

Top Freshman: Carlie Henning & Josh Whetstone

Minor: Emily Fisher

Service to Peers and the Criminal Justice Program Award: Haven Rainey

Dedicated Service to Community: Haven Rainey

Dedicated Service to Alpha Phi Sigma: Autumn Miller, Haven Rainey, Syerria Winters

Dedicated Service to the CJ Program: Kat White & J.T. Wheeler

Most Effective Advocate for CJ Majors: Nicole O'Connor

BC students look to pandemics of the past

By Sam Hipp
Staff Writer

Students in Anne Chapin and Robert Bauslaugh's ARH 324/HIS 290 LINC course, a class that deals with the art and history of Ancient Rome, have delved into the past to see how plague affected the Fall of Rome and how we can learn from the past.

Ancient Rome appears to show striking parallels to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Contributing to the Fall of Rome were the Antonine and Justinian Plagues, which spread predominantly in urban centers, where people lived in close and often cramped conditions. Many Romans fled cities in an attempt to escape the disease, but in doing so, spread it to other areas in the empire.

On this important topic, Chapin says, "Pandemics have shaped human history for millennia, but it's only in the last decade that science has advanced enough to where ancient DNA can be pulled from ancient human remains. Now we know that around 4,000 years ago, Bubonic plague swept across Europe and decimated early populations."

"Early Indo-Europeans, who used horses to their advantage, moved into Europe in the wake of this deadly disease," Chapin said. "Today, we speak English, which is an Indo-European language. It's important to remember that we live everyday with the outcome of this one prehistoric pandemic."

"It's hard to exaggerate the impact that the Antonine plague had on the history of ancient Rome," Bauslaugh said. "From being the

world's most successful empire stretching from Britain to Egypt, Rome was literally brought to its knees in only a decade."

"There were no longer enough people to do essential jobs in critical areas like defense, food production, transport, building construction or even mining the metals they used to make their gold, silver and bronze coins (they had no paper money)," Bauslaugh said. "It marks a turning point toward the decline and fall of the Roman Empire."

The students' tasks were to create posters to describe the contributing factors to the Fall of Rome, such as barbarian invasions, climate change, disease and poor leadership within the government.

To quote Mark Twain, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes." This quote applies to the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Looking into past pandemics gives us in the modern era an insight into how devastating plagues could be and how civilizations survived and recovered from them. We clearly see that the Romans, like modern nations today, had to resort to quarantining within homes to slow the spread.

While a few of the factors that apply to the Fall of Rome also apply to today, we can rest assured that we have the advantage of modern medicine and greater access to it, cleaner medical facilities and people having stronger immune systems and greater ways to support them.

We can also be grateful that there are no Visigoth invasions happening right now.

Beware of the Asian Murder Hornet!

By Aia Andonovska
Arts & Life Editor

A terrifying creature has made landfall in North America, and beekeepers are fearful that this insect will decimate bee populations. It is nicknamed the "murder hornet" as it kills approximately 50 people in Japan yearly, and its sting has been compared to that of hot metal searing and piercing through one's skin.

The Asian giant hornet has a distinctive look with its teardrop shaped eyes and orange and black stripes. It looks striped like a tiger with small, wispy wings.

More specifically, the hornet had found its new home and breeding ground in Washington state and some parts of Canada. Ted McFall, a Washingtonian and a beekeeper, had the fright of his life when he discovered his beehives had almost been annihilated. He described the sight. "I couldn't wrap my head around what could have done that," McFall said. In his many years of beekeeping, McFall had never seen anything like it.

Back in November, when he went to check on his hives, he came upon the gruesome sight of bee carcasses all over the ground. When he took a closer look, he saw a pile of decapitated bees strewn across the ground with no evidence as to what or who had done such a thing.

See 'Murder Hornet' on page 4

'Murder Hornet' comes to North America

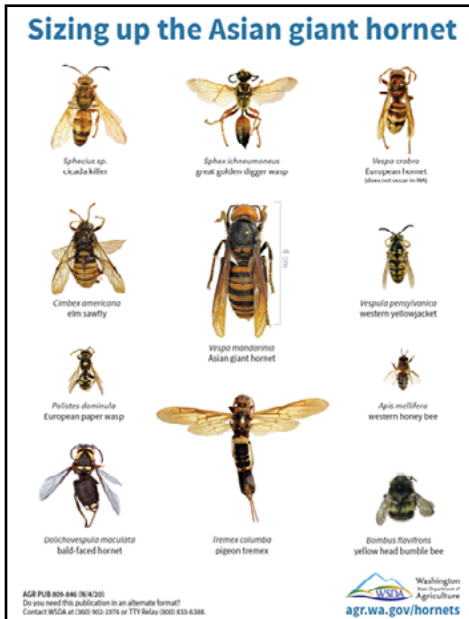
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Queen Asian hornets can grow up to two inches long. Asian giant hornets have sharp spiked mandibles that they use to prey upon bees. They feed their young with the thoraxes from the carnage they leave behind. Unfortunately for humans, the murder hornet has a long and powerful enough stinger to pierce through beekeeping suits.

Scientists have now embarked on a full force fight to stop the hornets from spreading throughout the United States any further. "This is our window to keep it from establishing," said Chris Looney, an entomologist at the Washington State Department of Agriculture. "If we can't do it in the next couple of years, it probably can't be done."

Washington state beekeepers are now resorting to making their own traps, in an effort to ward off the invasive insect. "Most people are scared to get stung by them," Ms. Danielsen, a beekeeper, said. "We're scared that they are going to totally destroy our hives."

Everyone knows that the bee is one of the most important creatures on earth, as they pollinate plants. Without our dutiful pollinators, life would cease to exist on Earth. The invasion of the Asian murder hornet is just the newest struggle in maintaining the bee population and ensuring that they survive.



A chart from the Washington State Department of Agriculture comparing the size of the Asian Murder Hornet to other, similar-looking insects.

NASA and SpaceX soon to take off

By Lande Simpson
Staff Writer

NASA recently announced that SpaceX will launch astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley to the International Space Station on May 27, launching from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. This will be the first rocket that takes astronauts into space from the United States in almost nine years. It will also be the first SpaceX launch with humans aboard in 18 years of the program. But, unfortunately, due to the pandemic, there will not be any spectators along the beach of Cape Canaveral, or any sort of viewing sights to watch the spaceship take off.

Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley had experience on shuttle missions in the past, but this is the first time NASA has put anyone into space through a private company to go to the International Space Station. Statistically, it is said to be a riskier mission since this type of spaceship has yet to go into space with humans in it. And it is very different than the spaceships the two have operated in the past.

But the two have high hopes and are confident. NASA has stated that the pandemic is forcing them to make adjustments to ensure the safety of their astronauts and everyone else.

They want to prevent the virus from spreading among crew members, the astronauts and other NASA employees. Behnken and Hurley entered their pre-flight quarantine a bit earlier to ensure no foreign pathogens would affect them and that they do not have COVID-19. These procedures are most important now more than ever because Behnken and Hurley cannot risk spreading the virus (most importantly) or anything else to the crew members already aboard the laboratory, or at the International Space Station.

Behnken and Hurley are expected to spend up to 110 days in space, but this timeline could change based on the readiness of the International Space Station for the next launch. Upon the two's return, once Behnken and Hurley have gotten back into Earth's atmosphere, they are expected to land in the Atlantic Ocean off of the coast of Florida.



Astronauts Robert L. Behnken (left) and Douglas G. Hurley (right) prepare for a test flight.

Photo from NASA

Kittens found on campus

By Aia Andonovska
Arts & Life Editor

Last week on campus, some kittens were found near the kayaks that are kept next to Jones Hall at Stamey Wellness Center. The kittens and their mama were found by the logistics manager for the WLEE department, Greg Rich. They were taken to Pisgah Paws here in Brevard where owner and cat lover Erica Erickson kindly took them in.

The mama cat has been named Misty, and luckily all her kittens are spoken for already. Out of the litter there are two gray boys, one gray girl and one smokey black kitten that is also a girl. They have begun to wean and are eating wet food and in about a week or two they will go to their forever homes. Once Misty is spayed, she will come back to live on the campus.

Misty was part of a trap neuter release process, or TNP for short. This process involves catching a feral or stray cat, getting them neutered or spayed as well as vaccinated and then putting them back where they are found or in a safer location.

"In certain areas, especially in the rural South, there are lots of unaltered cats that are living outside and reproducing, causing major overpopulation issues," Erickson said. "Cats can give birth to several litters each year and they can get pregnant as young as four months old, so if they are not spayed or neutered, you can easily end up with hundreds of cats in an area, which can lead to illness, starvation, and other tragic outcomes. Studies have shown that the best way to deal with colonies of outdoor cats is to get them spayed/neutered and to put them back where they came from."

"If we trap cats that are friendly or kittens young enough to socialize, we keep them in the rescue and find them good indoor homes as family pets," Erickson said. "If they are truly feral and not able to be pets, we get them spayed/neutered and either put them back or find safe farms for them to live on. We get a lot of requests for people wanting barn cats to help control the rodent and snake populations on their rural properties. So, it's a great opportunity to save these cats and give them a new chance at life, while reducing the overpopulation problem."

In 2017, Erickson founded the Pisgah Animal Welfare Society after moving to Brevard from Minnesota. She was shocked to see the amount of healthy and friendly cats being killed at the local shelter, as well as kittens and pregnant cats.

"As only one person, I started by rescuing the

feral kittens that would otherwise be killed," Erickson said. "Feral kittens can be socialized and turned into friendly, adoptable kitties, usually within a week or two, depending on their age. As they get older, they are harder to socialize and take more time to become friendly and trusting."

But Erickson didn't stop there. Still heartbroken over other adult ferals being killed, she started her Barn Cat Program to rescue all feral cats, and that's where the trap neuter release process comes into play.

After some time, Erica realized that most feral cats aren't actually feral, but scared pet cats that are just stressed from losing their homes, as one can imagine. With time, patience and love these cats can become lovable and adoptable pets for families.

She heard about cat cafes and decided this would be a good route to take to rescue kittens. In spring of 2019, Erickson was teaching nonprofit management at Brevard College when she found the perfect place to house these rescues, which is next to the ABC store in the old Sears building right next to campus.

Erica would like Brevard College students to know that she offers many volunteer opportunities as well. Some opportunities

might include cleaning the cat lounge twice a day, doing data entry, working in the cat room and assisting customers and various other projects and duties that come along with operating a cat rescue.

To help support the cause, there is a five dollar fee to enter the cat room at the cafe. Coffee, beverages, t-shirts, cat supplies and cat collectibles are also available for purchase. Pisgah Paws also relies heavily on donations from the community. Donations of cat food, kitten food and formula, dog food, puppy pads, bleach, OdoBan cleaner, towels, blankets, litter, copy paper and stamps are also greatly appreciated.

If not open, donations can be left at the front door. Pisgah Paws also takes donations in person, over the phone and through Paypal. The email address for the Paypal is pisgahpaws@gmail.com

The mission of Pisgah Paws is: "To promote the welfare and well-being of domestic animals and wildlife in and around Transylvania County, North Carolina through compassion, care and community involvement." The mission of the Cat Cafe, which is part of Pisgah Paws is: "Finding forever homes for cats through coffee, community and compassion."



Courtesy of Erica Erickson

Misty and her babies.

An artist's last words

Kristen Martinets presents her senior thesis on Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec

By Mickayla Smith
Staff Writer

On April 28, Kristen Martinets presented her senior thesis in Anne Chapin's Art History class. About 30 people showed up to hear what Kristen had to say about an artist that has been pushed under the radar.

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec was a post-impressionistic French artist, born in 1864. He was an essential figure in the theatrical life of Paris through the remaining 19th century. His collection of work encompassed the beauty, elegance and promiscuous activities of the self-indulgent culture of his time.

Toulouse-Lautrec was born to Alphonse Charles Comte de Toulouse-Lautrec-Monfa and Adèle Zoë Tapié de Celeyran. His parents were first cousins and as a result of his inbreeding, he faced a lot of health issues. First, he did not exceed past five feet tall because he broke both his legs when he was a teenager. The breaks did not heal properly and the result was growing an adult-sized torso while he remained with his child-sized legs.

Later into his adulthood, his mental health started to decline and he resorted to substances to cope. His drinking started to get out of hand and by 1898, he was a full-blown alcoholic. His drink of choice was absinthe and he used this drink for inspiration in his paintings. Toulouse-Lautrec was also dealing with complications from syphilis. It's estimated that he contracted the STI around the year 1890. When syphilis started to take effect on him, he began to use mercury for treatment. In 1898, he suffered a stroke due to all the toxins in his body, and as a result, his mother admitted him to an asylum.

In the asylum, Lautrec produced beautiful works of art. Most of the 50 plus paintings he made were themed around a circus. These paintings, in the end, were used as his ticket out of the asylum. In 1900, he had a brief period of sobriety, but that all changed in 1901. He suffered a second stroke and died at the age of 37.

His mental and physical health impacted the change in his art style. Through the years, one can see proof of how he executes his work.

His work throughout the years became brighter and heavily outlined so Lautrec could see what he was painting. His mark-making became shaky because he was in constant pain due to his partial paralysis later in life. But his inabilities and addiction didn't necessarily make his work "bad," Martinets said,

"He created some works to purposefully be more controlled and beautiful than his mental state," Martinets said. "I wouldn't necessarily say that a bright color palette is a bad thing—they are just his adaptations to make his work look good and clear to the viewer. Rather than sticking with a particular style and not adapting at all which, in turn, shows his decline a lot more and would have begun to look like a blob and an erratic mess."

It's important to remember Toulouse-Lautrec because he was an influential artist who may have inspired artists like Picasso and Warhol. He also persevered through his ailments and made history with art.

Martinets leaves us with this final statement: "A changed mental state from drugs or disease changes art, and even if you're not subjected to those things yourself, at least one of the artists who influences you would have most likely been subjected to a visually altering substance addiction or disease."

Even beauty can come out of the darkness.



Maurice Guibert / Wikimedia Commons / Public Domain

This photomontage by Toulouse-Lautrec's close friend Maurice Guibert is sometimes titled "Mr. Toulouse paints Mr. Lautrec" (ca. 1891). Guibert took a number of photographs of Toulouse-Lautrec in his studio.

Katie McBriar to graduate this spring

By Eleanor Flannery
Sports Editor

Katie McBriar is a senior at Brevard College, majoring in integrated studies with an emphasis in business and organizational leadership and English. She is also minoring in creative writing. McBriar is graduating in spring of 2020, and due to developments concerning COVID-19, she is set to walk across the graduation stage and be honored in the fall.

McBriar chose Brevard College as her place of study with influence from her sister, BC alumna, Amanda Butler. “My sister was a huge influence on why I decided to come to Brevard College,” McBriar said. She was also interested in Brevard’s experiential education philosophy. “I also chose Brevard for the experiential learning; I really appreciate the hands-on dynamic within the classrooms and the small student-to-professor ratio.”

During her time at Brevard College, McBriar has been quite active on campus with student engagement at BC Life, and assisting in the classroom and tutoring her fellow classmates. She was the president of BC Serves for two years, and president of CAB for three. “I have been involved in BC Serves, as well as Campus Activities Board,” she said. “I was a tutor for two years and a teaching assistant for three years in English 111 courses.” McBriar is also a student leader, and a hall programmer for Green and Stanback, helping run many programs to keep students busy with fun activities.

When McBriar was a freshman, she was recognized by the college with the highest GPA in the BORG program. She was also awarded with sophomore of the year in 2017 and received a few awards within the humanities department. As a senior, she was awarded with Excellence in Environmental Literature from the humanities division as well.

She has some words of advice and experience she wants to pass on. “The biggest advice that I can give anyone coming into college, or going into their second year, or really anyone, would be to just be yourself,” said McBriar. “No matter how hard you try, there will always be people who try and bring you down, but just know that being you is

enough. That’s something that I am working towards every day and something that Brevard has definitely helped me understand.”

McBriar has great plans after she graduates, including working at her local hospital before continuing on to earn her master’s degree. “After graduation I am planning to get a job at the local hospital for a few years, until I save up enough money to go to grad school and get my masters in Speech Pathology,” McBriar said. “My ultimate goal is to be a speech pathologist

in a school atmosphere, or in a hospital.”

She also wants to remind students to enjoy their time in college and to stay motivated while on campus. “Something that took me a while to grasp is that time goes fast,” she said. “I didn’t believe it in high school, and I didn’t believe it the past three and a half years, but with graduation fast approaching, it’s all I’m thinking about. Do not take anything for granted because it goes by fast. Stay positive and always put yourself first.”



Courtesy of Katie McBriar

Katie McBriar

Weekly Horoscopes

By Mickayla Smith
Staff Writer

Aries: You have always had high expectations for others, but you have a higher standard for yourself. This week, take some time to relax and let things flow. This is an important time for learning, and if you're too hard on yourself, your negativity can get in the way.

Taurus: People need space sometimes in order to grow and change for the better. You normally don't take time for yourself, but this is the week to do so. Reflect on what you need and want and think about why you need space in the first place.

Gemini: Something has been weighing on your mind lately and it's starting to get to you. Normally you have no problem with figuring out your troubles, but this issue involves regret. Finding out what went wrong is your first step. Maybe you can still fix it.

Cancer: You may be experiencing some resentment. This week, you will analyze why there is resentment in your life and replace it with gratitude. Sometimes it's good to be optimistic that people are working in your favor.

Leo: New beginnings are the theme of this week. Everything from romance to finance - stands a good chance of eventual success if you stay organized and plan out your success. Not everything will be handed to you on a silver platter, you have to put your work in.

Virgo: Something that has been hazy for you in recent months will seem to be clear at the end of this week. You have possibly always kept this hazy thought or situation in the back of your mind. It's time to grab onto what scares you.

Libra: When you spend time around an upbeat and joyful individual it always seems to lift your mood. There are so many things to lift your spirits when you're down. Try your best to utilize these resources in order for you to remain happy.

Scorpio: Express yourself this week. You have spent a lot of time with yourself, and it feels like you're ready to explode. You're not a person to make a big deal about yourself, so find creative outlets to express yourself.

Sagittarius: You want your life to be more luxurious, and it's okay to dream. You can get what you want if you keep dreaming for a while, and then execute the plan accordingly so there aren't any surprises when least expected.

Capricorn: A new start is what you need to feel new again. You're a person who grows stronger because of change. Don't be afraid of the unknown until you get to know the unknown. If your heart starts speaking to you, listen.

Aquarius: Good deeds go far, even if it doesn't seem like it. This week, you may see the result of your goodness coming back to you. Don't lose hope just yet, the world is still good.

Pisces: Every person in your life has a reason for being there. Each person holds a lesson or

purpose that will change your life. You have always attracted people of all different colors, and this is a good thing. This means you have a greater perspective towards the world and harmony within it.

'The Last Kingdom' season 4

By Sam Hipp
Staff Writer



Netflix's "The Last Kingdom" returns with a fourth season that delivers ten epic and engaging episodes.

Based off of author Bernard Cornwell's historical fiction Saxon Stories, this series follows the exploits of Uhtred of Bebbanburg, a 9th Century Saxon who finds himself entwined in the historical events surrounding people who would form what is now England. The primary historical figure featured in this series is King Alfred the Great (David Dawson), who is helped by Uhtred (Alexander Dreyfuss) when fighting off the invading Danish Vikings, who threaten the presence of Christendom in the British Isles.

This series certainly counts as a successor to "Game of Thrones." It carries many of the same features which made that series great, such as grand battles with swords and shields, political intrigue, murders, schemes and betrayals.

While the series is an engaging, well-acted historical epic that covers many events in the history of 9th Century England through the eyes of a fictional character, it falls flat in terms of historical authenticity. This series presents a modern, heavily stylized image of Saxons and Danish Vikings, who are dressed in cheap, drab leather outfits and heaps of ragged furs, wrought by a smaller budget. It is a far cry from the colorful linen and wool clothing and well-crafted chain mail armor that was worn by the historical people they portray.

Despite the historical inauthenticity in places, this show drove me to look into the history it portrays and read into those events and who those people were, so this is definitely a series to drive an interest into this area of history.

I'm giving this new season of "The Last Kingdom", as well as the series as a whole, four out of five stars. I highly recommend this to anyone who was a fan of "Game of Thrones," as well as history buffs (if you can get past the inauthentic costumes and set pieces). It should definitely be on your list of shows to binge watch over the summer.



LETTER to the EDITOR

Response to Clarion's 'biased' opinion section

In Zach Dickerson's article, "Response to feedback about the Clarion's 'biased' opinion section," in the April 29 edition of the Clarion, he states: "While opinion articles can, and at times should, have 'facts and data,' they are pretty much supposed to mostly rely on 'opinions and emotions.' That's what makes them opinion articles and not news articles. It is very important for one to not make this mistake."

I couldn't disagree more strongly. First, it seems circular that an opinion article should be based on opinions. More importantly, opinions based on emotions rather than information, principles, and reasoning are no more worthy

of consideration than the opinion of the two year-old kicking and screaming on the floor of Wal-Mart because his mother wouldn't buy him the toy he desires.

For a political example, an opinion piece published in the Clarion in 2016 called for the abolishment of the electoral college, with future presidents elected strictly on the basis of a majority vote. If the logic behind the article was strictly emotional – anger that the author's candidate hadn't won – it would serve no useful purpose. If, on the other hand, the author outlined why the framers had created the electoral college, listed the reasons many people still support it, countered those reasons

with well thought through arguments, and described how our country could go about getting this changed, this opinion piece would be of great value.

I would hope that all Brevard College students would demand an education where they get to explore the major issues of the day and gain the knowledge and wisdom to form intelligent opinions, and that all Brevard College professors would challenge them to do just that.

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SPORTS

First ever virtual NFL draft

By Margaret Correll
Layout & Design

The National Football League's (NFL) first ever virtual draft aired on Thursday, April 23, 2020 with the first round, round two and three airing on April 24 and rounds four through seven airing on April 25. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the draft will be completely digital.

The NFL pushed for the draft to go on, even though there is speculation on when the football season will start this year. As soon as everything is safe and back to normal, the NFL will try to proceed with its regular season.

The draft is looking a little different this year, with no ability for on-stage celebrations and a hug from Commissioner Roger Goodell of the NFL. Instead, Goodell has been delivering draft picks from his basement and trying to make light of this strange situation the NFL is in. Many sports enthusiasts have been craving content since the "shut-down" and social-distancing rules were implemented, and this might be the cure to everyone's cabin fever.

First round of the draft brought lots of excitement to the online world with quarterback

Joe Burrow from Louisiana State University being the number-one overall pick for the Cincinnati Bengals. Burrow led the LSU Tigers to win the 2020 College Football Playoff National Championship against the Clemson Tigers.

The local team of the Carolinas, the Carolina Panthers, chose defensive tackle Derrick Brown from Auburn University as their first-round draft pick. Brown was the number-seven overall pick in the first round.

The total draft picks for this season has come

to 255 players. Usually, there are 256 players but due to the Arizona Cardinals forfeiting a pick in the fifth-round, there was one less player chosen for the 2020 draft.

The NFL handled the unusual situation to the best of their ability, trying to keep the hype up as much as possible. The social-distancing orders have been challenging for everyone and giving the public something positive in sports to look forward to is an attempt to restore some kind of normalcy to the changing times.

