

Trump and Biden spar during final debate

By Eleanor Flannery
Opinion Editor

The last and final presidential debate on Thursday, Oct. 22, between President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden was a tamer event than what was displayed at their first meeting. The moderator, NBC correspondent Kristen Welker, kept Trump and Biden in check and provided thoughtful questions for both candidates to answer. There was significantly less interruption and discourse from the aid of silencing microphones while the opposing candidate spoke.

Biden held his ground throughout the evening by providing thorough answers when describing his plans to combat COVID-19 and expand the Affordable Care Act. "BidenCare" would create accessible health care for all Americans by providing a public option so individuals can choose between public and private health insurance. Trump, however, fumbled when questioned about his plan to protect people from contracting coronavirus, and how he plans to repeal and replace the ACA. "I would like to terminate Obamacare,

come up with a brand new, beautiful health care," Trump said, leaving much to the imagination. With no public plan of his own, Trump suggested Biden's plan sought to eliminate private insurance altogether and put Americans solely on the Medicare program, referred to by Trump as "socialized medicine."

"It's not that he wants it — his vice president, I mean, she is more liberal than Bernie Sanders and wants it even more," Trump said, referring to Biden's running mate, Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif. "Bernie Sanders wants it. The Democrats want it. You're going to have socialized medicine." Trump was referring to the Medicare For All plan, created by former democratic presidential candidate and senator of Vermont, Bernie Sanders. This of course is not the former vice president's plan. "He's a very confused guy. He thinks he's running against somebody else," Biden rebutted. "He's running against Joe Biden," Biden said. "I beat all those other people because I disagreed with them."

Another key takeaway from the night was Trump asserting that he has done more for African Americans than any other president, apart from possibly Abraham Lincoln. "... nobody has done more for the black community than Donald Trump... with the exception of

Abraham Lincoln" Trump added: "I'm the least racist person in this room." Biden responded: "Abraham Lincoln' here is one of the most racist presidents we've had in modern history. He pours fuel on every single racist fire. Every single one."

A problematic moment for Biden that had Trump chomping at the bit was when the debate switched to alternative energy and Biden stated his intention to "...transition from the oil industry, yes."

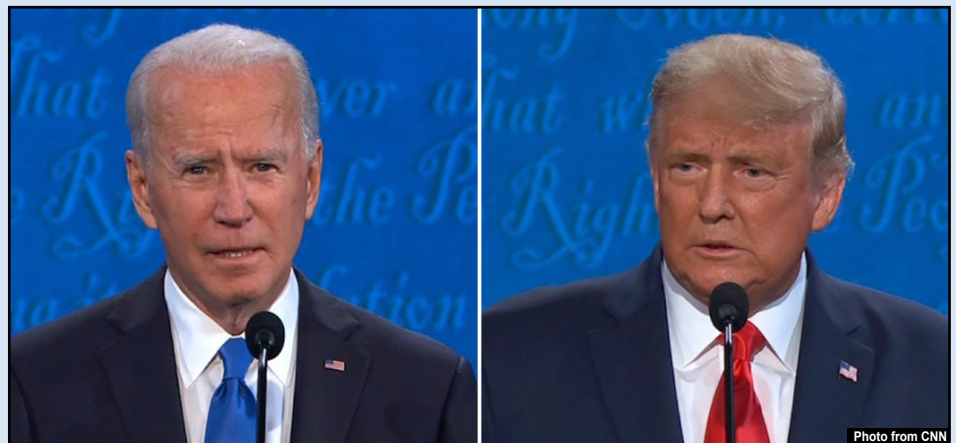
"Oh, that's a big statement," Trump responded. "That is a big statement," Biden said. "Because the oil industry pollutes significantly." Trump took the moment to directly call out specific states. "Will you remember that, Texas? Will you remember that, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Ohio?" Trump said. To address any confusion, Biden's campaign attempted to clarify the exchange, saying the former vice president was specifically talking about eliminating oil subsidies.

With the election less than a week away, the choice is left up to the voters to decide on whether they want four more years with Trump, or a new start with Biden.

Corrections

In the article titled "WLEE during COVID-19" (Issue 8, page 5) there were a few errors. First, the misspelled acronym "WLEE", which was written as "WILEE" in a few places towards the end of the article. Second, this article mentioned that Immersion was cancelled for the program for the Fall 2020 semester and the Spring 2021 semester. This is inaccurate, Immersion is still planned for the both semesters.

In the satirical piece, "Daryl the Dog Dispatcher" (Issue 10, page 4), the final two paragraphs of said piece were cut off due to a layout error. This was not intended and a simple error during production.



Joe Biden (left) and Donald Trump (right) face off at the final presidential debate.

Photo from CNN

Kennedy, entrepreneur, to graduate

By Aia Andonovska
Copy Editor

Entrepreneur and senior Thom Kennedy will be graduating from Brevard College this year. He will be earning a degree in Business and Organizational Leadership (BORG) with a minor in Art.

Kennedy came to Brevard for a couple of different reasons. "I initially wanted to be in an area that was geographically different from Ohio, which is mostly Corn and wheat fields," he told The Clarion. Kennedy also stated that there is beauty in those things but it doesn't compare to the scenic mountains that surround Brevard. He also wanted to attend a school that would allow him to play soccer and focus on photography and his education. "Coming from a family with a small business, I really wanted to expand the knowledge I already had about business culture and to then be able to apply it to my ventures in the future," Kennedy said.

Some of Kennedy's happiest memories are from his freshman year. He really took advantage of being in a new area at a new school by finding friends with similar interests such as

being outdoors and camping. "At least once, maybe twice a month, we would camp during the school week and arrive at our 8 a.m. or 9:30 a.m. classes with the smell of campfires still lingering on us," reminisced Kennedy. "Another great memory I have was being commissioned by the school to print and hang a large canvas photo in the Barbara Boerner conference room. It is a massive, panoramic, canvas overlooking Brevard at sunrise," he added.

Kennedy's message to the freshmen at Brevard College has two bits of advice. First, he recommends to always have enough snacks. "The second piece of advice may be a bit cliché, but the small community that Brevard offers is a great resource. Building relationships with people here, whether they are staff or faculty, has provided me great opportunities to learn new things. The network of people that I have met at the college and surrounding areas has been monumental in my success in the classroom and with my business," he said.

One of the people that is a part of that network for Kennedy here at Brevard College is Christie Cauble. "The person I can attribute most of my success to at Brevard College is Christie Cauble. From day one she encouraged me and guided me to pursue photography. From offering me a position at the communications office as a work study, to setting me up with jobs here and there, (including my first wedding) she has played a pivotal role in my experience here in Brevard, and I can't thank her enough," Kennedy stated.

When asked what his biggest accomplishment has been since his time at Brevard College, Kennedy said that starting his own business has



Courtesy of Thom Kennedy

Thom Kennedy

been one of the most rewarding things he has ever done because he gets paid to do something that he loves.

After graduating, Kennedy has great plans to travel across the country on a road trip. Concerning his professional career, he said, "I'd love to be able to pursue photography full time, but I will mostly likely look for jobs in upper management that deal with marketing."

THE CLARION

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LGBTQ+ History month

By Caroline Hoy
Staff Writer

October is known as the spooky month filled with tricks and treats, but that's not the only thing October celebrates. October is actually LGBTQ+ Pride History Month and from Oct. 1 to Oct. 31, the fascinating history of pride is celebrated.

Some may ask what is LGBTQ+ or Pride? LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, trans and queer or questioning. Queer was and sometimes still is a offensive insult for a person in the LGBTQ+ community, but has in more recent years has been taken and used as a positive word by some members of the community.

According to the American Psychological Association (APA), there has been evidence of homosexuality throughout history. Many historians call these people roommates. An example of this was James I and VI of England and Scotland had to publish his own Bible because the Pope became passive aggressive with him about the king's roommate who was a noble man. Also, Alexander the Great spent the equivalent of 60 million dollars on his roommate's funeral.

There have been many instances of disdain upon the community by other groups of people. For example on June 12, 2012 one the worst mass shootings happened at a gay night club in Orlando, Florida. This hate crime killed 49 people and injured 50. This shooting took place in June which is Pride month and people across the United States were celebrating Pride.

Even with this tragic event, not all of Pride is as sad. The LGBTQ+ community holds many parades around the year celebrating love and happiness and uses their symbol of the rainbow to sport their love. Most of these Parades take place in June or Pride Month. According to the APA "The turning point for gay liberation came on June 28, 1969, when patrons of the popular Stonewall Inn in New York's Greenwich Village fought back against ongoing police raids of their neighborhood bar. Stonewall is still considered a watershed moment of gay pride and has been commemorated since the 1970s with "pride marches" held every June..."

Knowing the history of something is very important and pride is no exception. George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Pride has come a long way in the past century.

There are still anti-pride protests, many saying it goes against their religion and in some countries it is a crime to be a member

of this community. Some members of the community had to go through things such as conversion therapy. As a member of the Brevard

Community, Jannie Kurtz, says, "We are human, deal with it."



An image from the 1969 Stonewall Riots in New York, which was the catalyst for the waves of protests calling for LGBTQ+ rights.



LGBTQ+ history and pride are displayed in various ways today, such as parades and festivals focusing on love and equal rights.

Democrats prevail in BC 2020 election survey

Democrat Joe Biden remains a strong favorite by Brevard College students, staff and faculty to win the presidential election over Donald Trump.

That is the findings of a survey conducted by the Clarion Oct. 7-23. In all, we received 210 responses to our online poll, which has a margin of error of plus-or-minus 6 percent.

By a more than 2-to-1 margin, Biden was BC's choice, with nearly two-thirds of all responses preferring him over the president, who received just 27 percent.

As has been the case in national polls, there is a distinct gender gap between the two candidates, with BC women preferring Biden by a much wider margin than men do.

Nearly 80 percent of respondents said they were registered to vote in North Carolina, and Tarheel State Democrats also fared well in the Clarion's poll. Gov. Roy Cooper was favored over Republican Dan Forest, 65 percent to 26 percent.

Democrat Cal Cunningham, running against Republican incumbent Sen. Thom Tillis, is favored by 59 percent of respondents, compared to 34 percent for Tillis.

And in the race for District 11 in the U.S. House of Representatives, Democrat Moe Davis had a more than 2-to-1 lead over Republican Madison Cawthorn, 55 percent to 25 percent. Both men are hoping to fill the seat once held by Congressman Mark Meadows, who resigned to become the White House Chief of Staff.

Among the issues respondents said were most important to them in the election, health care topped the list, followed closely by poverty and socioeconomic issues, judicial and Supreme Court appointments and the environment.

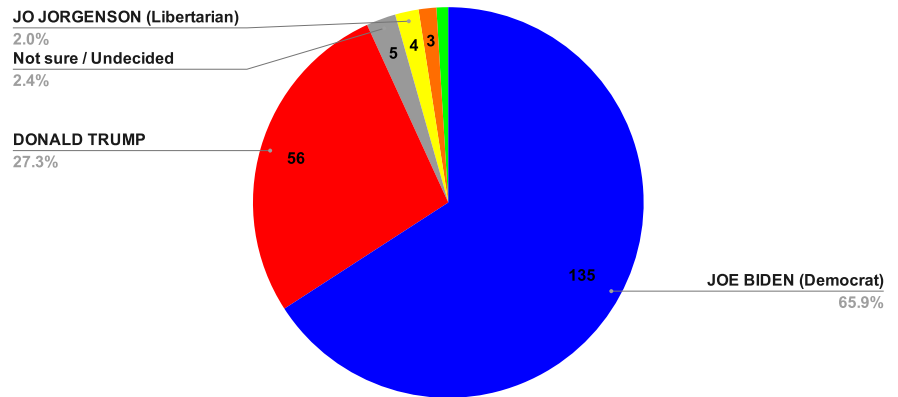
Other important issues for voters were education and financial aid, the criminal justice system and COVID-19.

Respondents to the poll were asked what other issues were important to them, and many also listed LGBTQ matters.

Some responses to the Clarion's survey reflect the polarized climate between Democrats and Republicans, especially between Biden and Trump, in this year's campaign. When asked

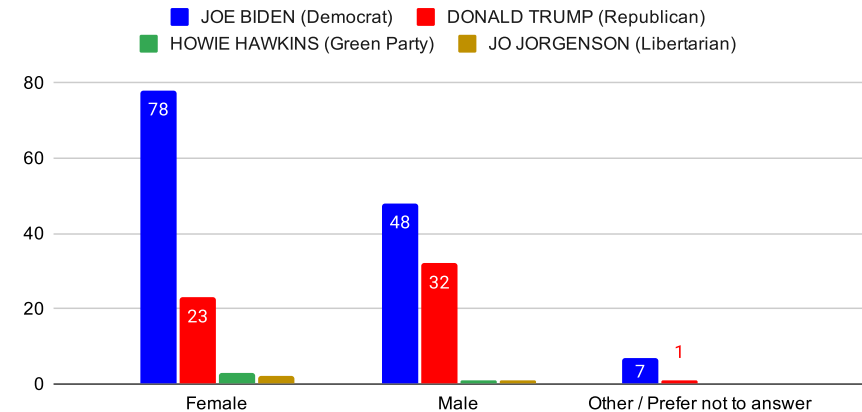
If the election were held today, who would you vote for?

Based on submissions to The Clarion's 2020 Election Poll received Oct. 7-23, 2020



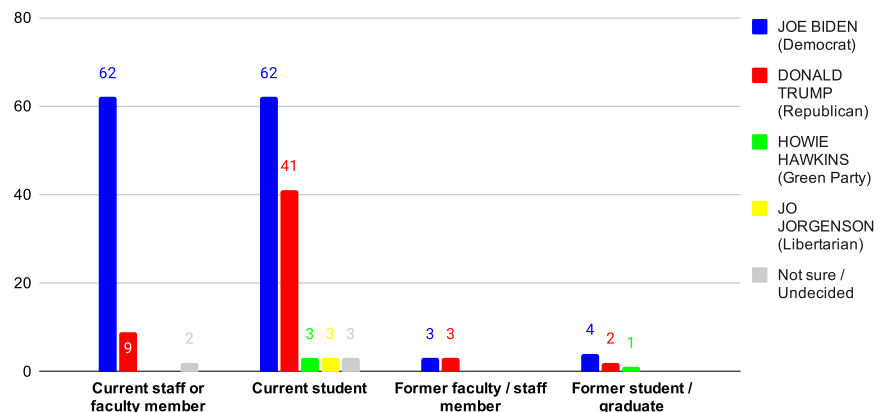
Presidential Preference by Gender

Based on responses to The Clarion 2020 Election Poll, Oct. 7-23, 2020



Presidential Preference by status at Brevard College

Based on submissions to The Clarion's 2020 Election Poll Oct. 7-23, 2020



See 'Poll results,' page 5

Poll results

Continued from page 4

to agree or disagree on a 10-point scale to the statement “Joe Biden is honest and trustworthy enough to be president of the United States,” for instance, nearly every response was either a 1 or a 10, with very few in the middle: 28 percent agreed wholeheartedly with the statement, while 22 percent disagreed with a score of 1.

Even more stark were the responses to the similar statement on honesty and trustworthiness for Donald Trump: 63 percent marked 1, the lowest score, while less than 11 percent said they agreed with a score of 10.

Respondents’ comments on this year’s campaign likewise showed a stark difference between the two candidates. One person, writing in favor of Trump, said, “Joe Biden is illiterate and not compatible to be the president.”

Another person wrote, “I am pro life and the Democrat party is not. I can’t vote for abortions at all because it is murder!”

Most comments, however, were opposed to Trump, using words like “fascist” and “authoritarian” to describe him and his approach to governing.

A number of responses called for a return to civility and honesty to the White House. For instance, one person wrote, “A decent, honest, empathetic who is not a chronic liar should be president.” Another said what is needed is “ethical leadership aligned with our country’s values, a decent person leading our country.”

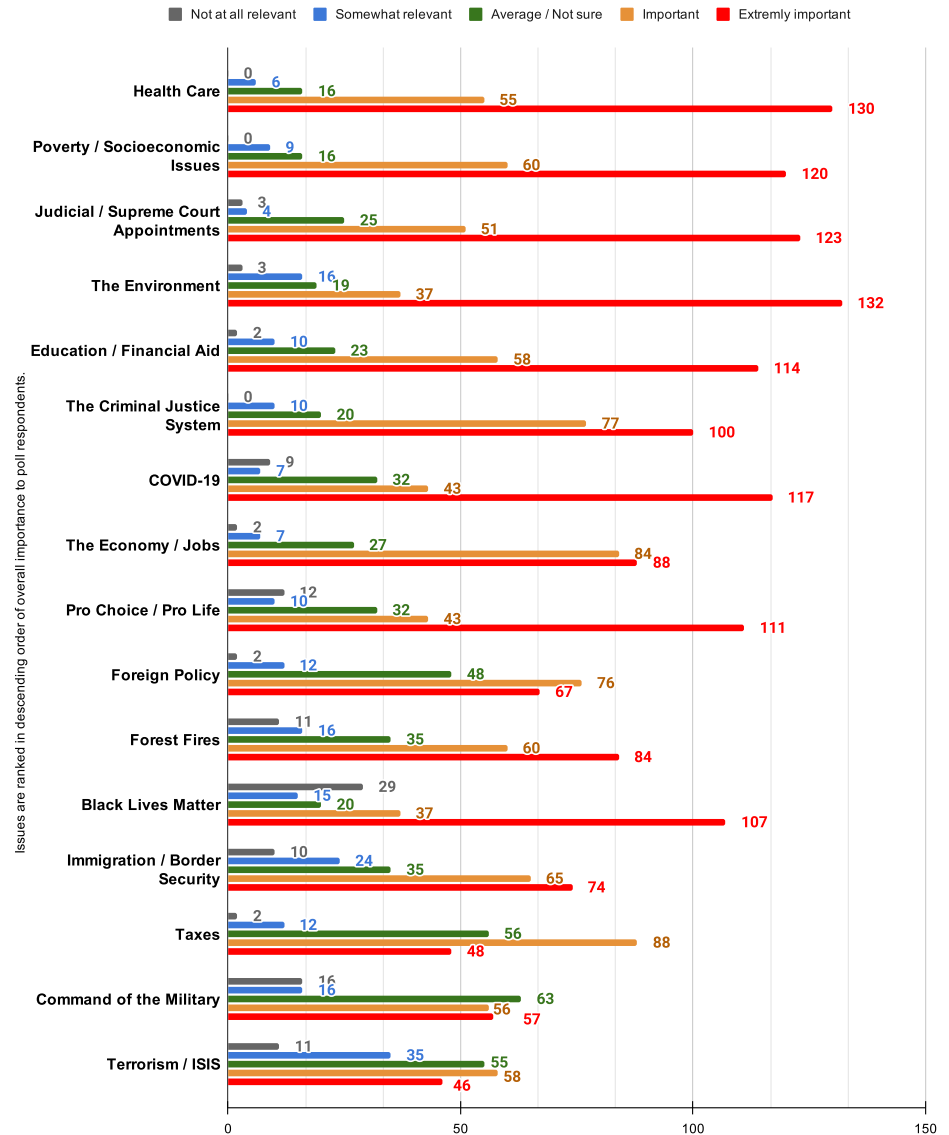
Several respondents emphasized the seriousness of this year’s election. One person said, for instance, “Survival of this country, its citizens, its environment, and its economy is paramount to me. How could it not be? Hence, I’ll be voting for Biden. Even though I take issue with some of his platform points (more in a matter of degree than strict support or opposition), Donald Trump has proven to everyone that he can’t triumph on these points—or on anything, really. The only people who support him are the people in his rabid base, and they obviously suffer from some kind of cognitive dissonance that allows them to claim to be Christian while supporting the most un-Christ-like politician to ever pollute the White House.”

And one person stated very succinctly a key issue in this year’s race: “To not lose our democracy. This is the election of our lifetime.”

While most comments focused on what divides us, at least one person did attempt to move past that: “We need to come together as a country and talk about our differences, not use those different views against each other or as a reason/excuse to hurt/divide one another!”

How relevant or important are the following issues to you in this election?

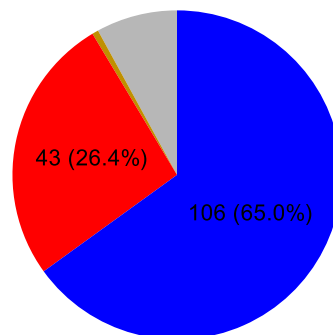
Chart represents the number of responses to each issue.



Who would you choose in the North Carolina race for governor?

Based on responses by those registered to vote in North Carolina.

- Democrat ROY COOPER (Incumbent)
- Republican DAN FOREST
- Libertarian Party candidate STEVEN J. DiFLORE
- Not sure / Undecided



Two-sentence horror stories

I tried to stay calm last night by avoiding the news, reading a book, and retiring to bed early. This morning all the headlines read "Biden concedes."
-RP

Glass shattering across my face leaving me with hundreds of blood marks and glass all over my body. The nightmare replays in my head sometimes and I can hear the scared screams telling me to STOP!
-Caroline

I felt a chill down my spine when I saw his hand. Then I saw my spine in his hand.
-Sam Hipp

Damn that was a long ass drive, yeah I'm finally pulling up right now bruh. Oh shit I forgot my mask!
-Gabbie Nixx

The sharp screeching nails came across the black board with an eerie and painful sound; the creature glances across the room with a menacing stare, penetrating your soul with every chance it gets; it darts at you and grins with an awkward grin. The creature can sense your fear with every minor movement, every sweat gland rolling down your cheeks, it gets stronger and more versatile; the disgusting and grueling creature opens its mouth to what seems to speak, only to tear you apart piece by piece, spitting your organs out left and right, as it laughs like a demon stabbing a pitchfork into your eyes.
-Parker England

Donald Trump wins the 2020 Election.
-Anonymous

We don't have Coke I'm sorry. Is Pepsi okay?
-Victim of Society

2020. Forever.
-Not Shyvonne

My alarm clock was beeping loudly as my eyes blinked open, and I noticed that it was only 7:34 in the morning, giving me about half an hour to get ready for my 8 am. Then I remembered that it was Saturday.
-Kenny

My people stood by the grave watching the gypsy pirates pile dirt onto my pine box, I could smell the floral scent of the freshly tossed roses mixing with the pine sap. After a while it was silent, my throat choked up, only earth's perfume filled in around me, and a quiet darkness.
-Gavi

Dear students,
This email is to let all Brevard College students know that you will be completing the remainder of your Spring semester 2020 classes online beginning on Monday, March 23.
-3

The Scarion's Halloween playlist

By Kym Caldwell
Arts & Life Editor

1. Killer Queen- **Queen**
2. Day n' Night- **Kid Cudi**
3. MonsterMash- **Bobby Pickett**
4. I Put a Spell on You- **Screamin' Jay Hawkins**
5. Somebody's Watching Me- **Rockwell**
6. Thriller- **Michael Jackson**
7. Time Warp- **Rocky Horror Picture Show**
8. Highway To Hell- **AC/DC**
9. A Nightmare on My Street- **Dj Jazzy Jeff & The Fresh Prince**
10. This Is Halloween- **Marilyn Manson**
11. Blood on The Dance Floor- **Michael Jackson**
12. Seven Wonders- **Fleetwood Mac**
13. The Addams Family Theme Song
14. Disturbia- **Rihanna**
15. Calling all the Monsters- **China Anne McClain**
16. Demons- **Imagine Dragons**
17. Monster- **Lady Gaga**
18. Dragula- **Rob Zombie**
19. Cannibal- **Ke\$ha**
20. Creep- **Radiohead**
21. Black Magic Woman- **Fleetwood Mac**
22. Hells Bells- **AC/DC**
23. Feed my Frankenstein- **Alice Cooper**

Listen to this playlist now at:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/76M0yYeF9PcAZg0PD15cbX?si=jyahJ-PwSIWaMBtXAYKMLw>

The history of Halloween

By Isaac Ford
Staff Writer

We are a species deeply obsessed with the grotesque, the morbid, the horrifying, and the unnatural—and we don't mind.

We are naturally hardwired to feel afraid, and, evolutionarily speaking, it has helped preserve us from going extinct. Fear is a primitive emotion, but we live in an advanced society. Our fears today are less threatening than being eaten alive by a bear or wolf, or gnawed on by a saber-tooth tiger, or sliced up by the creatures that jingle-jangle in the dark, yet they still feel existential. Though we have an innate propensity for adaptability and creativity, we have not quite managed to escape our evolutionary history. We are still deathly afraid of everything and anything, but when we don a mask and costume on Halloween, it is a symbolic (and fun) victory over fear.

Halloween can trace its origins to an ancient Celtic festival that occurred on Oct. 31, called "Samhain," meaning "summer's end," which was when the Celts believed that the spirits of the dead came back into the mortal world because the space between life and the afterlife was less defined.

About fourteen hundred years ago in 609 A.D., Pope Boniface IV created the observance of honoring Christian Martyrs on May 13, but the observance later changed to include saints, as well, and shifted to Nov. 1 (All Saints' Day) under Pope Gregory IV. In 1000 A.D., Nov. 2 became All Souls' Day – a day to honor the dead. All Souls' Day and Samhain were celebrated similarly, with bonfires, celebrations, and costume-wearing. It is thought that the Church consecrated Oct. 31, and Nov. 1 and 2, days around the same time as Samhain, so as to make it easier for non-Christians to convert as Christianity spread throughout what is now

Europe.

Eventually, early Halloween would emerge in the colonies of America as a blend of autumn harvest celebrations and Halloween festivities involving storytelling and tricks, though it was largely opposed and unpracticed by the Puritans of New England. The mass immigration of the Scottish and Irish in the nineteenth century brought with them Halloween, which slowly assimilated into American society. Towards the later years of the century, there was a shift from the more supernatural, superstitious aspect of Halloween to more of a communal, secular celebration, which still pervades to this day.

The origin of trick or treating is thought to have to have come from "souling," or the custom of giving out baked soul cakes during the days of Allhallowtide (which includes Halloween). Soul cakes are a spiced cross between a scone and a biscuit, which sometimes have currant inside or on top, and sometimes there is a cross marked into the cake. Until candy began to be mass produced, treats, food, and money would be given out. By giving out treats to children, they would not perform tricks or create mischief. Trick or treat, as a phrase, did not appear until the nineteen thirties.

Jack-o-lanterns are created to scare away malevolent, evil spirits. Jack-o-lanterns are not entirely confined to pumpkins, but can also be turnips or other root vegetables. The tradition of carving out vegetables for lanterns on Halloween is believed to have begun in Ireland. Wearing costumes, or "guising," existed in Scotland and Ireland in the late nineteenth century. Costume wearing in North America became prevalent in the early twentieth century. Guising is a way to rebuke and "scoff" at Satan and evil. A fixation on mythical or supernatural creatures was likely influenced by gothic literature – but humans have always been attracted to the supernatural. Over time, the preoccupation with monsters (costume-wise) evolved into more common, less scary costumes such as ninjas, superheroes, nurses, and hot dog suits.

The history of Halloween is rich and nuanced. It touches on our human fear and fascination with the supernatural, as well as on superstition and religion. The holiday has been commercialized, but at the same time it has provided us with bountiful entertainment, festivities, sweets, and fun. While there certainly will be mischief and tricks on Halloween night, it is, without a doubt,

MINI

HARVEST FEST

OCT.
29TH

- FOOD TRUCKS WITH GRAB N GO ITEMS
- TAKE IT & MAKE IT CRAFTS
- LLAMAS



4:30PM - 7:30PM | MYERS PLAZA (OUTSIDE DINING HALL)

The wampus cat

By Aia Andonovska
Copy Editor

There's something about the dark woods at night that is terrifying. Maybe it's the fear of the unknown; not knowing what is out there in the forest, possibly watching you. Or maybe it's the noises that echo throughout the darkness in the deep mountain valleys that surround us. The mind naturally wanders, drawing conclusions for itself what scary monsters may lurk in the shadows, but when animals disappear from farms or yards are left a mess, locals know who to blame. It's the wampus cat.

Cherokee legend says that the wampus cat used to be a beautiful woman. Her husband, like other men in the tribe, would often go out and hunt. Before each hunting trip, the men would gather in the woods and ask for

forgiveness for the lives of the animals they were about to take. They would also seek supernatural help through their prayers. However, it was strictly forbidden that women ever saw these sacred rites.

Curiosity got the cat, one could say, and this Cherokee woman wanted to know the men's secret magic. She begged her husband to reveal the rites to her, but he always refused her. One night, as the men left for the hunt, the woman decided she would have her way. She wrapped herself in a cougar's skin and silently followed the men through the woods. She came upon a clearing where the men had gathered and hid behind a rock. Enchanted by the magic, she crept closer and closer to the men in the circle until it was too late and the sorcerers spotted her. They immediately saw through her disguise and dragged her into the circle.

As her punishment for being too curious, the sorcerer cast a spell on the woman. The cougar skin that she had wrapped herself with became her own. The woman transformed into a half-human half-cat being, cursed to forever live alone in the woods, never again to enjoy human companionship.

And so the wampus cat prowls the Appalachian mountains at night, traveling up and down the hills, in and out of the valleys, forever wandering and alone. Some say when she steals animals from farms she is acting out of anger and resentment because of her curse. When strange cries are heard at night, locals know who is out there: the wampus cat.

The ghost of chicken alley

By Aia Andonovska
Copy Editor

Chicken Alley is a small, narrow alley in downtown Asheville, North Carolina. It was named after the chickens that would congregate there in the city's older days. Today, the lone chicken that survives is one on the wall in the form of a mural, done by artist Molly Murst. Another presence, however, besides this poultry figure, is said to haunt the alley.

Dr. Jamie Smith was a doctor in Asheville at the end of the 19th century. He was well-known for wearing his wide-brimmed black fedora hat and a long duster coat. He always had his medicine bag and cane on his person, too. As well as being a physician, the man liked to have a good time. Asheville was a rougher city in those days and on the weekends loggers from the area would flood the city looking for good food and drink.

On one unfortunate night in 1902, Dr. Smith walked into a bar called Broadway's Tavern, which was located in Chicken Alley. Smith happened to stumble upon a nasty bar brawl when he entered the tavern, and when he tried to break it up, he was stabbed in the heart. He died instantly, and his killer was never brought to justice. The year of this fatal stabbing, Broadway's Tavern burned to the ground.

Ever since Dr. Smith's untimely demise, people have reported seeing a strange figure

walking in the alley at nighttime. He is said to take the form of a shadowy man, who wears a long duster coat and a wide-brimmed hat. He still carries his medicine bag and cane. People have reported hearing his cane tapping the pavement in the alley as he walks where he was murdered.

The people who live around Chicken Alley believe this ghost to be Dr. Smith because

of these reasons. Dr. Smith has been sighted here for over a hundred years, and throughout that time descriptions of the apparition have remained consistent. Locals are divided as to why his spirit returns to the alley where he met his end. Some say he has more patients to attend to. Some say he just wants another drink. Some say he is still trying to stop that bar brawl.



A view of the mural in chicken alley in Asheville, North Carolina.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Joe Biden should be elected president Nov. 3

Trump's failures are why he should not get a second term

This year's presidential race offers a stark choice for voters: a long-time public servant who spent eight years as vice president, and who has a long history of working across the aisle with officials of the opposite party, or more of the same of the past four years, which has included petty and childish insults against anyone who dares to utter a critical thought, a loss of trust and credibility at home and abroad, a level of corruption and criminality never before seen in the American presidency, and failed leadership in the face of a global pandemic that has already claimed the lives of more than 220,000 Americans.

The choice is clear: We, the staff of The Clarion, endorse Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election.

The evidence against four more years of Donald Trump is myriad and can be found in many places, from publications like The New England Journal of Medicine and the newspaper USA Today who have never before made an endorsement for a presidential candidate, to Republicans and even former members of the president's own administration.

Many current Republicans, former members of President Trump's administration, former Republican party candidates and a long list of others have chosen to back Biden at the polls due to the overwhelming dislike of the current commander-in-chief. Some of those individuals include: Utah Senator Mitt Romney, former national security adviser John Bolton, 2016 presidential candidate's Carly Fiorina and John Kasich and Cindy McCain, the widow of the late Senator John McCain.

There are many things that Donald Trump has failed to do during his current term as president and these things are crucial to keeping America on track.

Former allies for Donald Trump are ganging up on him with the presidential elections nearing like former White House chief of staff John Kelly, former secretary of defense Jim Mattis, former lieutenant governor of Maryland Michael Steele, former White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci, and Trump's former attorney Michael Cohen. Many of these individuals and more have made it their goal to vote for and endorse Biden in order to not re-elect Donald Trump.

President Trump has failed as a president in many ways, one of those being the increasing tension between the police force and the minority communities, white nationalist groups, and the gaining support for the Black Lives Matter movement. In 2016, after the fatal Charlottesville, Virginia white nationalist and neo-nazi protests, President Trump stated that there were "very fine people on both sides". This added fuel to the fire and encouraged these extremist groups to support Donald Trump even further, making his image almost synonymous with white nationalism.

The Black Lives Matter movement has increased in support during his term, after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the tension increased between police officers and civilians, specifically those in minority groups.

Donald Trump did not do much of anything to help diffuse the

tense situations spreading across the country, continuing, to this day, to say that the Black Lives Matter movement is a symbol of hate and that it is "toxic propaganda".

Trump's administration has also failed on the subject of the COVID-19 pandemic. Trump admitted to reporter, Bob Woodward, that he downplayed the virus while simultaneously knowing how deadly it was going to be.

President Trump's administration still downplays the virus, despite the record-breaking number of deaths that increase every passing day. Trump has repeatedly claimed that the virus is a hoax, which in turn, has made his supporters skeptical and ignorant of the dangers of COVID-19.

Donald Trump has made so many false claims and lies to the American people. His administration has been a danger to the nation and has set back the progress of America ten years, it is time for a change.

Former vice president and democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden is the best choice for president. While he may not be perfect, like no candidate is, he looks towards the future and hopes to make positive change for America, not set the country back.

Biden has faced a large number of hard times during his life in politics and he has the ability to unite the American people for good. He has used his platform to rally Americans who are fed up with the current administration and unite those who want actual change.

Biden plans to protect the policies put in place by former president Barack Obama instead of erasing his legacy like Donald Trump. Biden wants to protect the Affordable Care Act and the millions that it covers for healthcare. The current administration wishes to throw away the progress made with healthcare and leave millions of Americans stranded, without healthcare and with no real plan to replace it.

Joe Biden also has a more efficient and secure plan to slow the pandemic rates. Unlike President Trump who has repeatedly downplayed the deadly virus, Biden looks to treat the virus like it truly is, a danger to the health of Americans and something that needs to be taken extremely seriously. Biden will make testing free and available to every American, eliminate cost barriers for treatment, the development of a vaccine, as well as giving necessary help to small businesses affected by the shut-down.

Joe Biden is also extremely supportive of clean energy and wishes for the country to move in this direction. While he does have room for improvement, he again looks towards the future and is worried about climate change. The progression of America from coal and oil, two of the world's biggest pollutants, to green and renewable energy shows how he is willing to change America for the better.

Joe Biden is the best choice for the 2020 presidential election. In his speech made at the Democratic National Convention he said, "But while I will be a Democratic candidate, I will be an American president. I will work as hard for those who didn't support me as I will for those who did." This is the spirit American needs, and the presidential candidate that The Clarion supports.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Moe Davis is the better choice for NC 11

The framers of the Constitution saw the House of Representatives as the most important link in the central government to the people of the United States. That is why its members represent specific districts within each state and are popularly elected every two years (unlike Senators, who represent an entire state and serve six-year terms).

The North Carolina 11th District, which includes all of Transylvania County, has become a key race this year for at least two reasons. First, former Rep. Mark Meadows, who had held the seat since winning in 2010, resigned earlier this year to become Donald Trump's third White House chief of staff.

Second, following the 2010 census, the district lines had been redrawn to make it nearly impossible for a Democrat to compete here. After years of fighting this extreme form of gerrymandering in the courts, the district was redrawn to put both parties, Republicans and Democrats, on a more equal footing in the 11th.

In this year's race between Democrat Moe Davis and Republican Madison Cawthorn, The Clarion endorses Davis as the better choice to represent the people of the 11th District.

For college students, Cawthorn may seem a more compelling choice because of his age and personal background. He is 25 years old, which would make him one of the youngest people ever to serve in the House of Representatives. His ads say he is an 8th-generation resident of the 11th District, and he has a powerful story of overcoming adversity—he is paralyzed as the result of an automobile accident in 2014.

Davis, on the other hand, is 62 years old, a veteran of the Air Force and former chief prosecutor for Guantanamo Bay, a position from which he resigned in 2007 after he refused to use evidence in a trial obtained through torture.

Davis is the better choice for NC 11 because of his knowledge and experience, as even a cursory look at his resume reveals. Originally from Shelby, N.C., he graduated from Appalachian State University and earned a law degree from North Carolina Central School of Law before joining the Air Force. He retired at the rank of Colonel.

After his stint as Guantanamo Bay prosecutor, he served as a law professor at Howard University and four years as a judge with the U.S. Department of Labor before moving to Asheville.

Cawthorn, by contrast, has virtually no

work experience. He describes himself on his campaign website as a small businessman, "owner and CEO of a real estate investment company," and a motivational speaker.

Cawthorn did attend Patrick Henry College, a small evangelical college in Virginia, for one year, but he did not return after his first semester, possibly because of his grades: by his own admission, mostly D's.

But far more troubling than his lack of experience or education is the question of character. Here, Cawthorn fails the basic tests of honesty and moral standing.

Displayed prominently on his campaign website even now is Cawthorn's claim that he was nominated by Mark Meadows to attend the U.S. Naval Academy, but those plans were "derailed" by the accident that left him partially paralyzed.

That is not how it happened.

As has been reported in local papers, Cawthorn testified in depositions pertaining to his accident that in fact, he had been rejected by the Naval Academy before the accident. His injuries played no factor in why he did not attend the Naval Academy.

Even more incredibly, his fellow students at Patrick Henry College have published a letter asserting Cawthorn lacks the integrity to represent anyone in Congress. The letter, released on social media last week, was signed initially by 10 former PHC students.

Since then, the number of PHC students who have added their names to the letter has grown to at least 150.

The letter paints Cawthorn as a sexual predator when he was a student at the small Christian college who would often describe women who rejected his advances as "bitches" or "sluts." In a public testimonial at the college's chapel, he also claimed Brad Ledford, the driver of the car in which he was injured and his "best friend," had left him to die in the burning vehicle.

That, however, also appears to be a lie, as stated by Cawthorn's own father, who said Ledford actually pulled Cawthorn to safety, in effect saving his life.

Cawthorn has been slammed with critiques over some of his questionable activities, the most shocking being his defensive attitude towards his social media post of his Hitler retreat. According to the Instagram post, in 2017 he took a trip to Adolf Hitler's vacation house in Germany, known as the "Eagle's Nest". Cawthorn defended his use of "the Fuhrer" when referring to Hitler and stating that this visit had been on his "bucket list for

a while" and "did not disappoint".

Cawthorn has exhibited some extremely troubling viewpoints during his campaign for NC's eleventh district and this is not a candidate that The Clarion wants anything to do with. For these reasons, The Clarion endorses Moe Davis to be our next Congressman.

There is no going back to normal

By Isaac Ford
Staff Writer

We are living through history. Our transition into the twenty-twenties was catalyzed by the onset of a global coronavirus pandemic. Schools closed for the remainder of the spring semester, and as people stayed inside during quarantine, businesses and the economy suffered, resulting in the loss of millions of jobs, and, ultimately, a fundamental shift to life.

Since March, when there was so much uncertainty, one truth has emerged and prevailed; there is no return to normal. While a vaccine could be ready by 2021, it will not be enough to reset the world back to where it was in 2019. Masks will still be necessary, and probably will become more commonplace regardless of when the pandemic fades.

It has been seven months, and people are tired. They want "normal." What we once took for granted – eating out, partying, going to events, social gatherings – are now potentially dangerous, but the threat is invisible. If we cannot see the problem, such as a virus, then people will not take it seriously.

We only know if a house has a leak once it rains. The pandemic has exposed the ineptitudes of our government in forming a cohesive national response to COVID-19, and instead the government prioritized the economy over the safety and health of millions. Children are starving. Impoverished families suffer. Education

See 'Normalcy' on page 11

Normalcy does not exist in the world as we know it

Continued from page 10

has been hit upside the head. People cannot find work, or are filing for unemployment benefits. The healthcare system is strained. The House of America has many leaks. President Donald Trump has repeatedly said, with emphasis, that the pandemic has been handled well and is under control. Oct. 23-25 saw a record amount of confirmed COVID-19 cases – so far. The United States is a house with many leaks.

We should not focus on the world that was, but rather on the world that can be. We hit a pause and we should take advantage of that to work on what needs addressing, such as climate change and police brutality. We must accept that the coronavirus is not going away, and will probably be around for longer than we would care for. A lot will change, but we can and must adapt to it. We must be safe, we must be responsible, and we must be considerate towards others and their health. We must

“settle in” for the long haul. Defiance of mask mandates and social distancing guidelines will only lead to more pain, illness, and death. Retain hope, but understand that “this” is probably our world for the foreseeable future. We got through a pandemic over a hundred years ago. We can do it again. We have to. As a nation, as a people, and as individuals, we can emerge stronger and better, all our leaks fixed and patched up – and that should be the new, better normal we want.

SPORTS

SAAC to host 'Drunk or Treat' on Halloween

By Margaret Correll
Editor in Chief

Brevard College’s Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is hosting a ‘Drunk or Treat’ Halloween event on Saturday, Oct. 31. This event will be located in the commuter parking lot outside of Green Hall on BC’s campus.

From 10 p.m. until 12 a.m. there will be alcohol education and games with drunk goggles provided for students. There will also be inflatable activities available on the lawn outside of Green Hall.

Students will also be able to ‘trunk or treat’, provided by SAAC. At the end of the night, students will be able to receive prizes in a random drawing that they have their name

included in for attending the ‘Drunk of Treat’.

At midnight, students will be able to attend a game of kickball and winners will be announced for the random drawing, best costume and best decorated trunk.

SAAC is looking forward to this Halloween event and can not wait to see BC students attend on Saturday.

DRUNK OR TREAT

OCT. 31ST

- COSTUME CONTEST
- TRUNK OR TREAT
- DRUNK GOGGLES CONTEST
- INTERACTIVE INFLATABLES
- KICKBALL
- FREE PIZZA

10PM - 1AM | GREEN LAWN/PARKING LOT

Nado Newcomer Spotlight

Brevard College softball

By Phil de Montmolin
Sports Information Director

Brevard College Athletics on Facebook. Be sure to follow "brevardcollege" on Flickr for

the latest photos from all Brevard College events.

BREVARD, N.C. – Throughout the Fall of 2020, the Brevard College Department of Athletics will be highlighting the new faces in the BC Tornado family, welcoming the freshman and newcomer student-athletes who will be joining Tornado teams during the 2020-21 athletic seasons.

Next up in this series is the BC Softball team, under the direction of Head Coach Bre Shearin. The Tornados will welcome a total of three freshman student-athletes to its team this upcoming season.

Autumn Lollis- Freshman- First Base/ Outfield- Simpsonville, S.C.- Hillcrest High School

The Simpsonville, South Carolina native was named an All-Region athlete in 2019. She was a part of the National Honors Society and graduated from Hillcrest High School Summa Cum Laude. Lollis served as a Special Olympics coach and a tutor. She will be a Biology major with a Pre-Medicine minor at Brevard College.

Cassie Plemmons- Freshman- Infield/ Catcher- Asheville, N.C.- North Buncombe High School

The Asheville, North Carolina native will be a two-sport athlete at Brevard College competing in Women's Basketball and Softball. At North Buncombe High School, she helped lead the Women's Basketball team to a Conference Championship in 2019-20. Plemmons was a Western Mountain Athletic Conference selection in softball in the 2019 season. She earned a Scholar-Athlete of the week award. Plemmons will be a Mathematics major (Teaching Licensure) at Brevard College.

Lindsey Tolle- Sophomore- Pitcher/Utility- Pasadena, Md.- Mount de Sales Academy (Chesapeake College)

The Pasadena, Maryland native helped Mount de Sales Academy to a conference runner-up finish her freshman and sophomore year. She was selected Most Valuable Player her freshman season and was a four-year varsity letter-winner. Academically, Tolle earned Principal's Honor Roll status her senior year. Tolle will be an Elementary Education major at Brevard College.

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

