

Is it 2016, again?

The race to 270 is closer than everyone thought and it's not over yet

By Margaret Correll
Editor in Chief

Waking up this morning and checking the electoral college map may have been shocking to some people: out of 270 votes needed to win, former vice president and Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden has 224 while incumbent president Donald Trump has 213, according to the Washington Post.

This extremely close race is not over yet, with nine states still in limbo and counting votes into the morning hours of Nov. 4, 2020.

The night of Nov. 3 started as polls closed on the East Coast, Kentucky and Indiana closing at 6 p.m. and battleground states Florida, Georgia and Virginia closing at 7 p.m. These battleground states were fought over, especially

Florida, ultimately going to Donald Trump late on Nov. 3.

Trump has already won many of his key states, those in the south and the midwest where his influence thrives. Several of the states that he secured in 2016 have a chance at being flipped blue this election year, including Arizona, Maine and Wisconsin. It is still too close to call but this gives the Biden campaign hope that they may be able to stick it out to the end.

The nine states being counted, currently, are key states that will be needed for each presidential candidate to win. Nevada, with Biden up at 49.3 percent and Trump at 48.7 percent, where it is still too close to call at this point. Arizona is favorable towards Biden, with his percentage up by a significant amount at

51.8. Alaska is favoring Trump and will more than likely go red. Wisconsin is an extremely close race, with Biden up at 49.4 percent and Trump at 48.8 percent, too close for comfort for some. This is the case in several other states like Michigan, North Carolina and Georgia, where it could be a toss-up as mail-in ballots continue to be counted. Maine favors Biden by a substantial amount while Pennsylvania, a key state to win for either candidate, has Trump up at 55 percent.

Updates will be given by major news sources throughout the day as votes continue to be counted, but the winner may not be announced until later in the day or even into this week. It is uncertain when the new president will be announced as everyone hangs on to their chairs and braces for whatever comes their way.

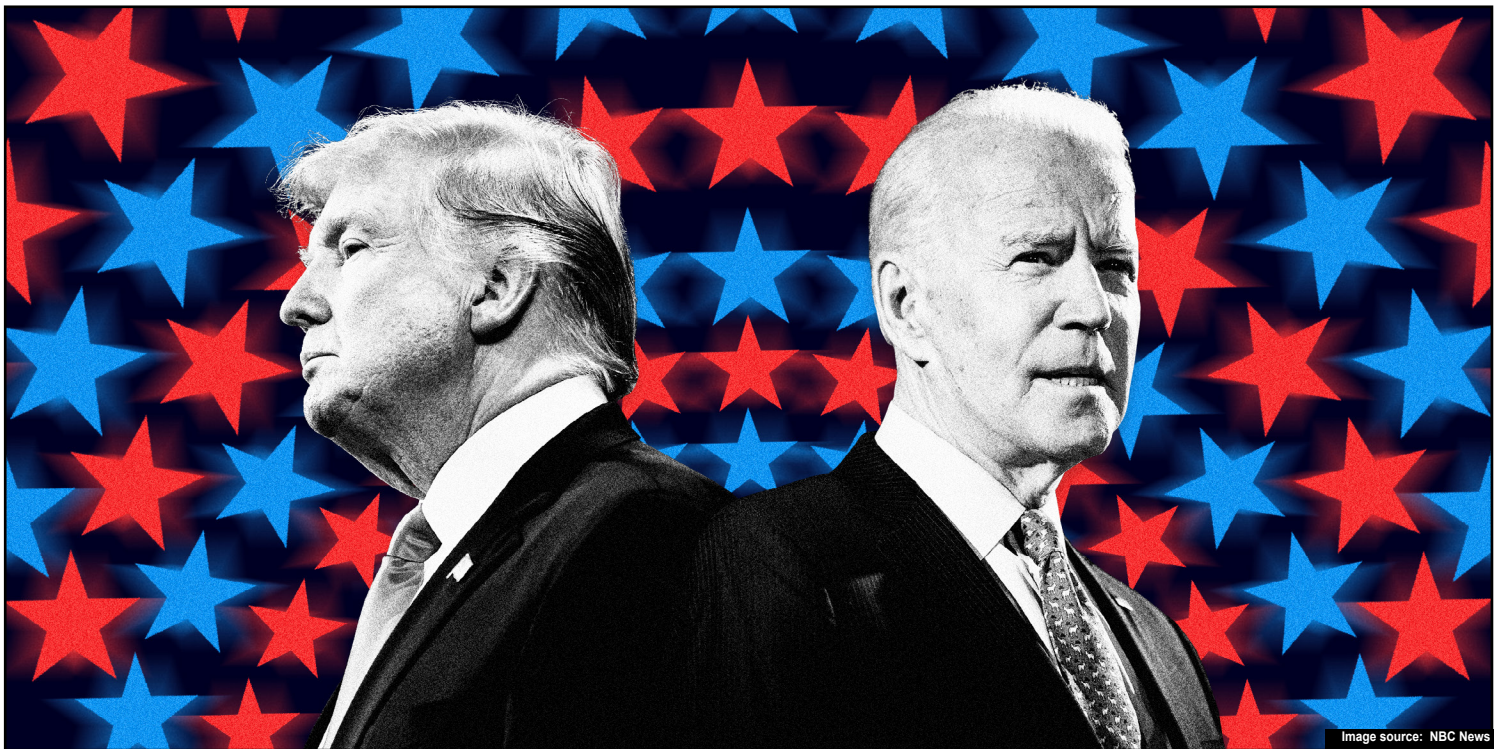


Image source: NBC News

The race to 270 gets closer and closer as Trump and Biden continue to win more states.

Mini Harvest Fest is a success

This past Thursday, Oct. 29, from 4:30 to 7 p.m., Brevard College hosted its annual Harvest Fest, which is loved by so many of the students. It's a good way to relax and have fun around mid-term season. The college, as stated by Le Tavoloni in an email, will postpone the full festivities for Harvest Fest until the spring, when hopefully, the pandemic is faring better here. This Harvest Fest was referred to as the "Mini-Harvest Fest."

Two food trucks came to campus and provided free food to students. Students got their tickets from a table outside Myers Dining Hall and then could choose between Papa's Express and The Cheef. Papa's Express offered Mexican food while The Cheef had barbeque options. Food was first come, first serve.

Take it and make it crafts were also available to students. Free professional caricature was provided to students as well. Unfortunately, the famous llamas did not make an appearance due to rain.

— Aia Andonovska



Courtesy of Aia Andonovska

The Mexican food truck, Papa's Express, at Mini Harvest Fest.

THE CLARION

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- Editor in Chief **Margaret Correll**
- Managing Editor
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- Opinion **Eleanor Flannery**
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- Sports
- Layout & Design **Margaret Correll**
- **Kym Caldwell**
- **Eleanor Flannery**

STAFF WRITERS

- Isaac Ford Kellen McGeorge
- Caroline Hoy

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All correspondence should be mailed to:
The Clarion, Brevard College, One Brevard College Drive, Brevard, NC 28712, or send
E-mail to clarion@brevard.edu
clarion.brevard.edu

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Courtesy of Aia Andonovska

The barbeque food truck The Cheef, at BC's Mini Harvest Fest.

COVID-19 update

By Eleanor Flannery
Opinion Editor

The spread of COVID-19 in the United States is at an all time high. National numbers are showing cases on the rise as the country approaches flu season. Current data released from the Center of Disease Control, as of Nov. 3rd, shows the United States has 9,293,129 total cases, with thousands of new cases reported daily. The CDC also shows 231,563 total deaths nationwide, with 557 new deaths reported on Nov. 2nd.

According to CNN: "31 US states have reported at least one record-high day of new coronavirus cases in the past month, according to data from Johns Hopkins University."

"We are rounding the turn," on coronavirus, President Trump said on Oct. 22 during the debate in Nashville. "We are rounding the corner."

The Trump administration has recently taken a harsh stance against Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's leading infectious disease expert, after he made comments to the Washington Post that criticized the White House's response to the pandemic. Dr. Fauci's comments included

Dr. Scott Atlas, who Trump often relied on for advice when dealing with COVID-19. "It's unacceptable and breaking with all norms for Dr. Fauci, a senior member of the President's Coronavirus Taskforce and someone who has praised President Trump's actions throughout this pandemic, to choose three days before an election to play politics," White House deputy press secretary Judd Deere said in a statement to CNN on Saturday evening.

"People are tired of Covid. I have the biggest rallies I've ever had, and we have Covid," Trump said, phoning into a call with campaign staff from his namesake hotel in Las Vegas, where he spent two nights amid a western campaign swing. "People are saying whatever. Just leave us alone. They're tired of it. People are tired of hearing Fauci and all these idiots."

President Trump has since suggested he wanted to fire Dr. Fauci, when speaking at a rally in Opa-locka, Florida. His supporters in the crowd began chanting "Fire Fauci! Fire Fauci!"

"Don't tell anybody but let me wait until a little bit after the election," Trump replied to thousands of supporters early Monday, adding

he appreciated their "advice."

Dr. Deborah L. Birx, a lead contributor for the Trump administration's coronavirus response team, delivered a warning to the White House the day before the election. She sent a private memo to White House officials that expressed her fear that the Trump administration is not doing enough to combat coronavirus. "We are entering the most concerning and most deadly phase of this pandemic," Dr. Birx wrote, adding, "This is not about lockdowns — It hasn't been about lockdowns since March or April. It's about an aggressive balanced approach that is not being implemented."

As the United States approaches record numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths, it is important for Americans to take precautions and guidelines provided by the CDC seriously. Continue to wear masks when in public spaces, wash and sanitize hands regularly and keep a six-foot distance when around other people. To stay updated on the coronavirus and how to properly social distance, visit the CDC's website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html

WHEN TO WEAR A MASK

Do I wear a mask?	Yes	No
At home with people who live in your household		✗
Running errands (e.g., grocery shopping)	✓	
Visiting the doctor's office or pharmacy	✓	
Dining at a restaurant (when not eating)	✓	
Driving in a personal vehicle with people who live in your household		✗
Riding in someone else's personal vehicle	✓	
Taking public transportation	✓	

**Using a mask combined with social distancing
can help slow the spread of COVID-19.**

cdc.gov/coronavirus

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Hurricane Zeta rips through the Gulf

The year 2020 has had an incredibly active and record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season. The season officially begins on June 1 and ends on Nov. 30, but tropical cyclones, tropical storms, and hurricanes can form before or after those dates. There have been twelve hurricanes and five major (Category 3 or higher) hurricanes so far. The most recent hurricane that made landfall in the United States was Hurricane Zeta.

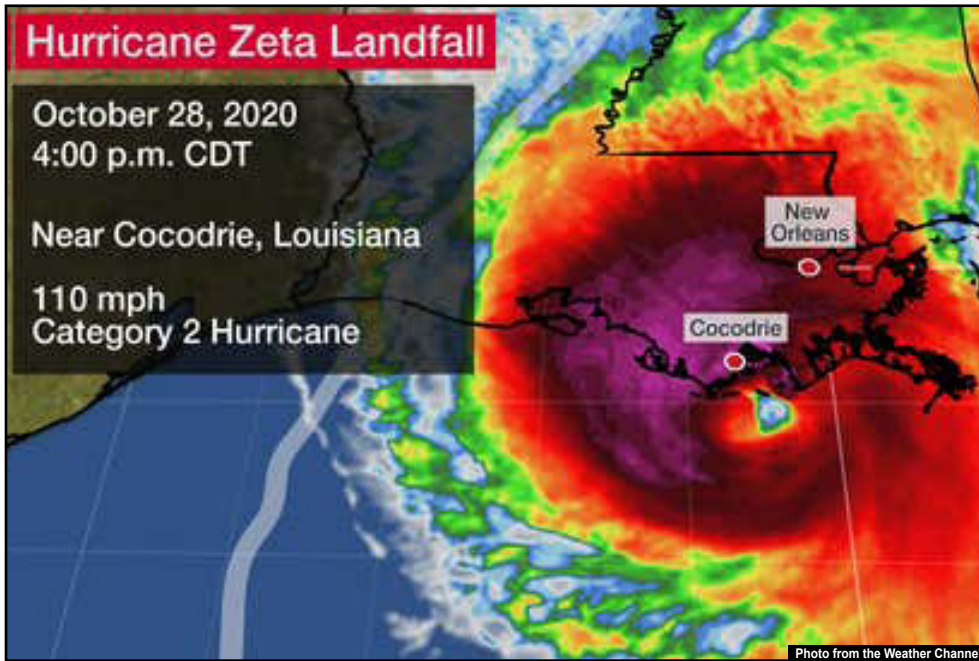
Zeta formed over the western Caribbean Sea, becoming a tropical depression on Oct. 24, and transitioning into a tropical storm on Oct. 25, according to the Weather Channel's website. Zeta first made landfall in the state of Yucatan, Mexico, on Oct. 26 as a Category 1, tracking northwards over the Gulf of Mexico during the following days.

Hurricane Zeta downgraded into a tropical storm over the Gulf, but intensified again and

made landfall near Cocodrie, Louisiana, on Oct. 28 as a Category 2. Wind speeds measured in Louisiana registered over 90 miles per hour. As Zeta moved over the Southeastern states during Oct. 28-29, it downgraded to a tropical storm, and then became post-tropical as it moved further northeast with decreasing wind speeds.

In the wake of Zeta, millions were left without power, and at least six people have died in the U.S., according to CBS (Columbia Broadcasting System), and many more were injured. Damages are still being recorded, but are projected to be in the billions. Since Oct. 28, a new hurricane has formed – Eta. As of Nov. 2, it has developed into a Category 3 and is moving west, posing dangers to Caribbean countries and the Central America region.

— Isaac Ford



Hurricane Zeta makes landfall in Louisiana.

Self care event

The Psychology Honors Society (PSI CHI) will be hosting a Self-Care Event in Boshamer Gym from 7:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. on November 18, 2020. There will be gift bags with candy and encouraging notes as well as activities. The activities will include an arts and crafts section, meditation, yoga, a writing workshop, guided instructions, therapy dogs and video games. There will be a container of wipes there to keep things clean and hand sanitizer. Everyone that attends will be required to wear a mask, no exceptions. We want this to be a time for everyone to relax and take their minds off of exams for just a few hours. Self-care is an important part of life and that is something we want everyone to take away from this experience. We hope to see you there!



Psychology students pose at last year's Self Care event.

Do you like to write? Would you like to see your writing published? Submit to Brevard College's The Clarion!

Submit any questions to clarion@brevard.edu

Drunk or Treat: a spooky success

By Caroline Hoy
Staff Writer

On Halloween at 10 p.m., Brevard College hosted an event called “Drunk or Treat”. Advertisements for the event said there would be “pizzas, tons of candies, games, contests & fun”. The event was sponsored by the college’s organizations, Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), SHA, Student Government Association (SGA) and the Campus Activities Board (CAB).

The Drunk or Treat was also COVID-19 friendly, every activity was socially distanced and well sanitized after each person. In addition to these extra precautions, everyone was making sure to wear their masks.

When people arrived they checked in at a table where they received a checklist with all the events, a temperature check, and the first 50 people received a t-shirt that said ‘Drunk or Treat’.

The activities included axe throwing, archery, basketball toss, soccer darts, bean bag toss, lacrosse, baseball, and giant bumper balls. All games were accompanied with drunk goggles and hosted by a different sports team.

At each of these games students got a mark on their checklist that they received at check in. If students completed every activity and turned in their sheet they would be eligible for a prize drawing at midnight.

There was also trunk or treating at Drunk or Treat. The trunks were all hosted by different groups on campus and although the trunk or treat was not part of the checklist, it was still extremely fun for students.

At around 10:45 p.m. it started to drizzle which slowed down the activities due to the weather being in the low 40s and wet. Even though this slowed down the event, everyone still had fun with the weather hitting a bad point. Around 11:45 p.m. many of the activities

were being cleaned up because all of the students had checked off all the activities and many students started to gather underneath the overhangs to wait for the drawing at midnight.

Right before the drawing it was decided that it was time for the costume contest. There were great costumes in the contest which included, a fairy, catwoman, Little Caesar’s, Anton Ego from Ratatouille, a princess, ninja turtles, a cookie and a ghost. The winner of the costume contest was Velma and Chewbacca from Star Wars.

At midnight on the dot, the drawing started and many prizes were handed out. Some of the prizes included gift cards, air pods and a hoodie. Each name was pulled out of a bucket and read out over a microphone.

Overall everyone seemed to have a great time. The flyers must have been right, it was a spooky blast!



Courtesy of Caroline Hoy

Students participate in ‘Drunk or Treat’, dressed up in costumes.

Borat 2 sparks controversy

By Aia Andonovska
Copy Editor



In his 2006 mockumentary, “Borat”, Sacha Baron Cohen invokes anti-semitism through his travels in the United States. It was hard for fans to imagine the storyline further and they often wondered if there would be a “Borat 2.” With the pandemic, Trump’s presidency, and every other crappy thing that happened in the year of 2020, Cohen saw his chance for another mockumentary. He revived his infamous character, Borat, and this time, he takes on the US-of-A with his daughter, Tutar.

After many years slaving away at what appears to be a prison, Borat is called up by the Kazakh government for a special task. He is to give Johnny the Monkey to Michael Pence, Vice President of the United States. When Borat arrives in Texas, with Johnny the Monkey, he is horrified to discover that his daughter, Tutar, has eaten the monkey and snuck her way into the United States. He comes up with a plan b, instead deciding he will give Tutar as a gift to Pence.

Tutar is obsessed with a cartoon about Melania Trump, which shows her in a cage. Tutar is convinced this is the normal way for

young girls to live, and happily agrees to be given to Pence. Her father buys her a cage to live in to prepare her for her new life. As the father-daughter duo travel through the deep south all the way to New York City, their relationship grows. Together, they shock citizens of the United States, such as a particular scene in Macon, Georgia at a debutante ball where they perform a fertility dance. At one point, Borat asks an older gentleman at the ball how much his daughter is worth. The man whispers in Borat’s ear that he would give him five hundred dollars for Tutar. The man’s own daughter, behind him, is disgusted and tells her father so.

Some other adventures in the movie include Tutar’s plans to get breast implants. When Borat and Tutar are told the cost of the operation, Borat asks if potatoes can be used instead. As part of her makeover, Tutar also gets a spray tan. Borat asks the employee, “What color is best for racist family?”

Eventually, Borat crashes a CPAC conference where Pence was attending. He dresses up as Trump and offers Tutar to Pence while he is on stage. Borat yells, “Michael Penis!” trying to get the vice president’s attention. The crowd boos, and ultimately they are kicked out of the conference. As a result, Borat and Tutar have to come up with a plan to get closer to

Pence, as Borat will be executed if he does not complete his task.

During one part of the movie, Tutar and Borat have a falling out. At this time, Tutar becomes a reporter and tries to get close to Rudy Giuliani, a long-time associate of the president. She interviews him and asks him questions about Trump’s handling of the pandemic, and he spouts off his rhetoric about how well the president has done to stop the spread of COVID-19. Tutar and Giuliani eventually take the interview to a private hotel room, and just before things get really awkward as Giuliani reaches into his pants, Borat bursts into the room, telling Giuliani that Tutar is too old for him and only fifteen. In haste and shame, Giuliani angrily leaves the room, ignoring Tutar and Borat following after him.

In the end, Borat and Tutar reconcile, and return to Kazakhstan, where Borat finally realizes his true purpose as a pawn of the government. They used him to spread COVID-19 around the world. Borat is the reason for the pandemic occurring.

Against the backdrop of the eruption of racial violence and hatred emerging in the United States in 2020, this film rings true. Sacha Baron Cohen has stated that he makes these films to expose the racism, bigotry, and sexism that is very much alive in this country. Borat 2 was “very nice!” Five out of five stars.



Election may prompt mass violence

By Kym Caldwell
Arts & Life Editor

Many communities are in angst over the results that will occur on election night, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Regardless of the results, it is said that if demonstrations turn violent and are too much for local police departments then governors of their respective states will call in their National Guard. We have already seen the National Guard being used this year in various cities for protestors.

The National Guard is allowed to enforce order on domestic soil allowing them to handle any unrest they've deemed violent. We saw just in August that the President urged that Oregon officials "finally" call in the National Guard as citizens used their First Amendment right to assemble and protest police brutality in the streets.

National Guard Soldiers around the nation will be taking part in security operations at the polls while dressed as regular civilians. They have said that this is to make sure they do not alarm individuals or be seen as favoring one candidate over another; they are simply there to ensure the safety of voters at the polls. Military officials do not necessarily anticipate there will be violence at the polls, it's simply a safety procedure but explain that there could be violence no matter which candidate wins based on the bitterness of these campaigns.

Oregon Governor Kate Brown has declared a state of emergency for the Portland area in lieu of the potential violence surrounding the election. The plan is to have National Guards that are trained in crowd control on standby while the Oregon State Police and the local Sheriff Department manage the general public

safely of the city. Governor Greg Abbott of Texas has been reported to have dispatched 1,000 Guard troops to major cities in the surrounding area to try and ensure safety.

The president himself has added to the tensions preceding the election. He has been making statements about the "fairness" of the election and how he will not accept the results in an attempt to hold on to power. With his willingness to call out troops on civilians, many are nervous that is exactly what will happen after he calls the election unfair. Though it is uncommon for presidents to call out the Army, we should be cautioned. Even if the decision is challenged in the court if Donald Trump calls for an executive order, then the decision is made.



Photo from DCist

Businesses in Washington D.C. board up their windows in preparation for this weeks presidential election.

BC tennis hosts Halloween event

By Margaret Correll
Editor in Chief

Brevard College's men's and women's tennis teams hosted a blue vs. white team scrimmage match to conclude their fall season. This match was held on Halloween and included many of the players in costumes as part of the event and many members of the BC community and staff were in attendance.

The blue team was led by BC head tennis coach, Brad Jones. The blue team consisted of a mix of BC tennis players including: Jen Cox, Kenzie Bowman, Hamrick Perry, Lily Farr, Ethan McGee, Andrew Ingram and Hunter Williams.

The white team was led by volunteer assistant coach, Jimmy Wynn. The team included BC tennis players, Alli Kogoy, Sarah Iocovozzi, Brooke Garland, Margaret Correll, JaMarcus Walker, BC men's golf and men's tennis alumnus Florian Peyssonneaux subbing in for Miles Schafer and Devin Horton.

First match-up of the scrimmage was a shortened version of singles, with McGee defeating Horton with a score of 4-2, 5-4 and second set tiebreaker of 8-6. Walker overcame Ingram in an extremely close match of 4-1, 1-4, 5-4 with a third set tiebreaker of 7-5. Williams and Peyssonneaux battled it out in a three set match with Williams taking the win with a score of 1-4, 4-0, 4-1. Kogoy took on Farr and came out victorious with a score of 5-3, 4-0. Iocovozzi battled with Perry and secured a win for the white team with a score of 5-3, 5-3. Cox defeated Correll with a score of 4-2, 4-1. At the end of the first round and going into doubles, both the blue team and the white team were tied at 3-3.

The white team saw three straight wins for doubles with Horton and Walker defeating McGee and Ingram with a score of 8-3, Kogoy and Correll winning 8-5 against Farr and Cox and Garland and Iocovozzi overcoming Bowman and Perry with a score of 8-6. This brought the overall score to a massive 6-3 for the white team going into mixed singles.

The blue team came back from being down three games into mixed doubles, securing a straight three match win for themselves. McGee and Farr teamed up and defeated

Horton and Kogoy with a score of 8-6. Ingram and Cox secured a win against Peyssonneaux and Correll with a score of 8-4. Williams and Bowman won big against Walker and Garland with a score of 8-3. These wins brought the overall score back up to an even 6-6 going into mixed singles.

Mixed singles saw the match-ups of Williams and Garland, with Williams securing the win with a score of 4-1, 4-5, a second set

tiebreaker of 6-8 and a third set score of 4-2. Perry defeated Walker with a score of 4-1, 4-1. Ingram defeated Iocovozzi with a score of 4-1, 2-4, 5-4 and a third set tiebreaker of 7-5.

The blue team won overall with a final score of 9-6, bringing home the victory for team leader, coach Jones. This concluded the fall season and BC tennis will resume in the spring after the long winter break.



Courtesy of Victoria Brayman

BC Tennis' white team talks strategy before the scrimmage starts.



Courtesy of Victoria Brayman

BC Tennis' blue team goes in for a huddle before the start of the match.