



Goodbye Trump, hello Joe Biden

45 exits the White House and makes way for a transition to 46

President Trump has been seen leaving the White House for the last time on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021, making way for Joseph Biden's inauguration. Biden and his running mate and vice president, Kamala Harris will be sworn in at noon after completing a number of tasks before

taking the stage in front of the citizens of the United States. Biden will give his inauguration address to the country after he is sworn in at noon today.

—Margaret Correll



Photo from KATU.com

Biden's inauguration will take place on the steps of the Capitol, only weeks after the riots on the Capitol.

Rioters storm U.S. Capitol

The U.S. prepares for the days leading up to Inauguration Day

By Eleanor Flannery
Opinion Editor

On Jan. 6, after President Trump's "Save America" rally in Washington, D.C., a mob of Trump supporters and far-right extremists attacked the United States Capitol in an effort to overturn the 2020 Presidential Election result. Influenced by Trump, thousands of Americans marched down Pennsylvania Avenue to infiltrate the Capitol building and threaten members of the U.S. House of Representatives and members of the Senate. Trump said to his supporters during his speech: "We're going to walk down Pennsylvania Avenue... and we're going to the Capitol and we're going to try and give... our Republicans, the weak ones... the kind of pride and boldness that they need to take back our country."

As crowds started to gather outside both sides of the Capitol building, police officers were struggling to hold their line against rioters with tear gas and pepper spray. Hoards of people started piling along the steps of the building, some scaling walls and climbing up the sides

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Trump encourages violence days before he leaves office

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of the Capitol. Rioters were soon inside the building and made their way towards the House and Senate chambers and the offices of House and Senate members. Senators and representatives were forced to evacuate the building, some had to take cover inside the chambers and hide while the rioters tried to force their way inside.

The Capitol building went under lockdown, effectively pausing the confirmation of President-elect Joe Biden and brought the electoral counting process to a halt. Security officials and police locked the House chamber doors and barricaded the entry with guns drawn. Rioters continued outside, breaking through doors and smashing windows as they were heard chanting, "USA! USA!" and "Stop the steal!"

At approximately 3 p.m., gunshots were heard inside the Capitol, where female rioter Ashli E. Babbitt tried to force her way through the doors of the Speakers' Lobby. Babbitt was shot by a security official and was taken to the hospital where she was later pronounced dead, despite efforts at the scene to save her by police

and bystanders. Five people, including Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick, died from the events at the Capitol.

After several hours of unrest, President Trump released a video to calm his supporters and send a message of peace. He called for the crowds of demonstrators to leave, though his message was laced with sympathy for the rioters. "Go home," Trump said in the clip. "We love you, you're very special." From CNN: "Trump mentioned in the video the false conspiracy theory that he actually won the 2020 election, saying, "I know your pain, I know you're hurt. We had an election that was stolen from us. It was a landslide election and everyone knows it. Especially the other side. But you have to go home now. We have to have peace." On social media posts, Trump said, "These are the things and events that happen when a sacred landslide election victory is so unceremoniously and viciously stripped away."

Several thousand troops from the National Guard, U.S. Secret Service and FBI agents were eventually deployed to help on the scene at the Capitol after confusion as to who held the authority to call in the National Guard. After 6 hours of civil discourse and rioting around and inside the Capitol, Congress members resumed their meeting inside the chamber to confirm President-elect Biden.

Since the events on Jan. 6, more than 100 arrests have been made, according to the FBI, with officials still tracking down those who trespassed and assaulted law enforcement, among other crimes. According to the Washington Post, "Investigations into possible charges encompass not only trespassing but also assaults on law enforcement, theft of national security and defense information, felony murder and more."

Thousands of armed National Guard troops and police officers are surrounding state capitols in the past weeks leading up to Inauguration Day on Wednesday. Word from far-right extremists and QAnon conspiracy theorists is spreading on social media on alternative platforms, such as on Parler and Gab, with plans for more riots and demonstrations. The nation's Capitol in Washington D.C. is preparing for President-elect Biden's inauguration, taking the proper precautions in case of any public discourse or rioting that may occur. From CNN: "According to a bulletin obtained last week by CNN, the FBI has received information indicating "armed protests" are being planned at all 50 state capitols and the US Capitol in Washington in the days leading up to Biden's inauguration. The Pentagon has authorized up 25,000 National Guard members for Inauguration Day."

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New residential building and sports complex update

By Margaret Correll
Editor in Chief

Progress is being made on the new residential building on Brevard College's campus. The construction, which broke ground on Monday, Sept. 14, 2020 has developed into what resembles a building in just a few short months.

This building will be an addition to the North and South Villages houses on the lower side of Brevard College's campus near the Porter Center. This building hopes to add more space to the growing Brevard College student population by occupying 50 additional students.

While this building is still under construction, Brevard College successfully completed the new sports facility complex and field house which neighbors the Ives-Lemel Family Field and

the McCoy Tennis Complex. The field house received its finishing touches over the college's winter break and will now be used to house football, men's and women's soccer, women's lacrosse, baseball and softball. Extra coaching offices and a conference room will also be available to teams within the complex as well.

A detailed walkthrough of the athletics complex is available on the Brevard College Tornado Athletics Facebook page.

Climber rescued after 100 foot fall from Looking Glass Rock

On Jan. 14., a climber fell approximately 100 feet while climbing the nose of Looking Glass Rock in Pisgah National Forest and became stuck on the face, according to the Transylvania County Rescue Squad Facebook page.

The Transylvania County Rescue Squad, as well as several other rescue organizations, responded to the Sun Wall trailhead of Looking Glass Rock at 2:00 p.m. after a call was made by the uninjured climber to emergency services. At the base of the rock, they made contact with the injured climber and their climbing partner. The climber who fell was 75 feet off the ground, while their partner was higher, at 200 feet.

The rescuers first lowered the injured climber to the ground, where an ambulance was waiting

at the trailhead. Once stabilized, the climber was transported to the hospital by the Mountain Area Medical Airlift (MAMA) due to the severity of the injuries.

Rescuers then went up to assist the injured climber's stranded partner and helped them descend. The climber was mildly hypothermic, but otherwise unharmed after rewarming in a vehicle at the base.

The injured climber is reportedly alive and being treated in the ICU of a local hospital, according to WCCB.

Such a complex rescue involved a joint effort among a multitude of organizations including Transylvania County Rescue Squad, Henderson County Rescue Squad, MAMA, the U.S. Forest

Service, Transylvania County Emergency Services, and several local fire departments. The joint rescue effort was a success with no rescuer injuries or further patient injuries.

-- Duncan McWilliam-Grench



Photo from Romantic Asheville

A aerial shot of Looking Glass Rock.

Negative Covid test required to enter the U.S.

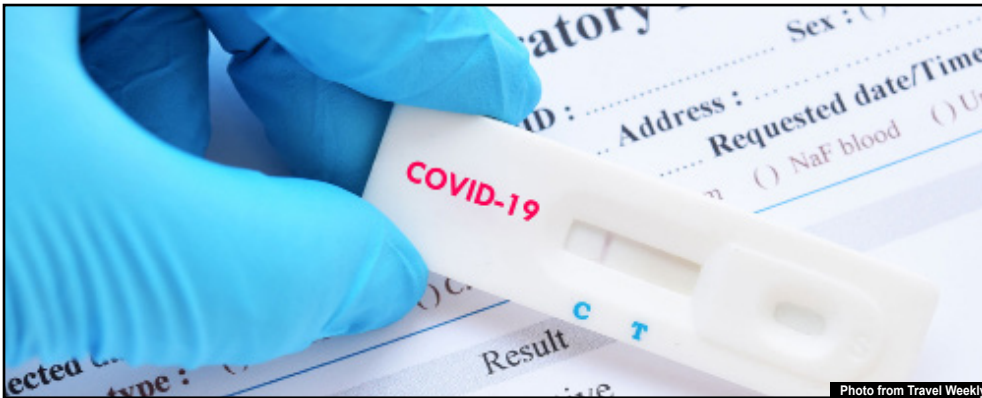


Photo from Travel Weekly

Negative COVID-19 tests will be required to enter the United States

By Aia Andonovska
Copy Editor

Anyone wanting to travel to the United States of America after Jan. 26, 2021 must be prepared to prove they have tested negative for COVID-19. This includes Americans who are returning to the US after traveling abroad. International travelers will have to show negative coronavirus tests before boarding their flights. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention, or C.D.C., announced the new requirement on Jan. 12.

In a statement, the C.D.C. director Robert R. Redfield emphasized that just testing alone cannot "eliminate all risk," urging travelers to continue wearing their masks, respect physical distance and follow quarantine guidelines. In a stage of the pandemic where new and more

contagious strains of the virus are emerging, experts are still advising against traveling. Traveling by plane or train is ill-advised. Train stations and airports are hot-spots that can further spread the virus. "Unless you have a really good reason to travel, don't," said Krutika Kuppalli, an infectious disease physician at the Medical University of South Carolina.

This new rule applies to passengers aged two and above. Travelers will need to provide documentation in the form of paper or electronic results. For people who have recovered from COVID-19, they will need to provide official proof that they have recovered from the virus. Anyone who can not provide records or doesn't take a test will not be allowed to board the plane.

Having symptoms of COVID-19 and a negative test will result in passengers not being able to enter the United States.

Compared to the rate of other countries who have already set up test requirements to limit infection crossing their borders, the United States is a bit late to the game. Ms. Reed, of the C.D.C., said the agency's new policy has been implemented partly in response because of the reports of more transmissible strains of the virus emerging in other countries — several of which have already been imported and exported across international lines. "With the U.S. already in surge status, the testing requirement for air passengers will help slow the spread of the virus as we work to vaccinate the American public," Reed said.

In late December, the C.D.C began to require that passengers coming from Britain provide a negative COVID-19 test, as a variant of the virus has been detected in the United Kingdom. Dozens of cases of this variant have now been identified in the United States as well. Canada is also requiring inbound passengers to provide a negative test but quarantine for 14 days. The death toll of the virus in the United States is expected to surpass 400,000 in a few weeks.

The number of people coming to the United States on international flights has only increased since June, despite the pandemic, according to Martin Cetron, the director of the C.D.C.'s Division of Global Migration and Quarantine.

Attacks against journalism on the rise

By Kym Caldwell
Arts & Life Editor

In the year 2020 alone, the number of journalists murdered in their line of work doubled worldwide. About 84% of the journalists killed this year were targeted purposefully and killed because of their work by criminal gangs, militant groups, etc. The motive of these attacks seem to be to keep journalists from publishing investigative stories. This has made particular journalists more vulnerable to being harmed.

This year, Mexico was the deadliest place for reporters to travel, with thirteen murders. Mexico has always been one of the most dangerous places for the press because journalists often cover stories involving drug traffickers and their connections with politicians which makes them a target for murder. Two reporters, who were murdered in Mexico in 2020, were even registered in the Federal Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists course; it proves that the course is weak.

Mexico was the deadliest country, followed by Iraq, Afghanistan, India and Pakistan. Despite there being talks of peace between the government and the Taliban; still, five journalists were killed. In addition, hundreds of journalists died this year to Covid-19 and it is unknown how many contracted the virus due to their occupation. In places like Egypt, Russia, and Saudi Arabia that have a lack of access to medical care had several journalists die from covid.

The climate in the United States of anti-press rhetoric, suggesting that media and reporters are lying or “spreading” fake news, comes under the power of President Trump with him suggesting that people should not trust the media and evidence of him failing to condemn the Saudi government and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for their role in the 2018 murder of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi. Individuals are hoping that Biden will come out in support of press freedom and speak about the violations of the press across the world.

A terrifying return to the alien universe

By Kellen McGeorge
Staff Writer

If you're a fan of classic horror films, it's no shock you've heard and watched “Alien.” As with all horror series, it began to lose much of its terror and what made it unique. Fortunately, a return to form has come not in a movie, but in a video game.

“Alien Isolation” is a game set right after the events of the first “Alien” movie. The player takes control of Ripley's daughter, Amanda, as they travel to the Space Station Sevastopol to recover the flight recorder of The Nostromo. What should be a standard pick up, becomes a dangerous game of hide and seek, as it becomes clear that not everything on the space station is normal. With no answer, the player must work to get back to their ship, while keeping a lookout for the dangerous alien that is after them.

“Alien Isolation” utilizes amazing AI to allow the alien to learn and constantly adapt to its surroundings. The alien will use anything to

its advantage, from vents to crawl spaces. The alien will try to find any way to get to the player and will listen for any noise that sounds out of the ordinary. The player must use their wits and gear to escape from the alien and find any way to distract it.

Using the motion tracker, the player must hide from not only the alien, but also malfunctioning androids and paranoid survivors. As an engineer, the player can craft objects to help them get around threats, such as noisemakers, flash bangs, and molotovs. Use the vents to get around threats, but bear in mind that threats can use the vents as well, and if they catch the player, it might result in a game over.

Give “Alien Isolation” a try. One finds themselves on edge, from a commanding soundtrack, to noises that could just be the space station falling apart or the alien coming out of a vent. The player might find themselves feeling on edge, and if they want to feel uneasy, try playing it in a dark room, no lights, they will definitely get the feeling of watching the first “Alien” movie again.



Lego Star Wars: The Video Game

By Jackson Inglis
Staff Writer

Almost everyone in Generation Z grew up with “Lego Star Wars: The Complete Saga,” but not many of them know that that game was actually a combination of two previously existing games - those being “Lego Star Wars: The Video Game” and “Lego Star Wars II: The Original Trilogy;” the point of this review is to look back on the former and see if it actually holds up sixteen years later.

“Lego Star Wars: The Video Game” is the first Lego game in the Traveller’s Tales franchise; every game after it from “Lego Indiana Jones,” “Lego Batman,” and “Lego Marvel Super Heroes” have their roots in this game. The premise is simple. This game is an adaptation of the “Star Wars Prequel Trilogy.” “Episode I: The Phantom Menace” and “Episode III: Revenge of the Sith” have six levels based off of key scenes from the movie, while “Episode II: Attack of the Clones” only has five. Once you finish the levels in story mode, you can go back and play them in “free play” mode where you can switch between characters not seen in story mode. In free play, you can use extra characters to your advantage to collect the minikit collectables and more studs to create a superkit.

Lego studs are currency in the game. You can

use them to buy characters and fun extras. Also, there’s a “True Jedi” meter at the top of each level. The more studs you collect, the more that meter fills up. When the meter is full, you unlock a piece of a superkit. Once you get all the pieces of the superkit, you unlock a bonus level which is based off the first scene in the original “Star Wars;” this level serves as sort of an advertisement for “Lego Star Wars II: The Original Trilogy.”

For as primitive as this game is compared to its follow ups, this is still really fun to play all these years later. However there are a few cons. For starters, the levels for “Episode I and II” have background music from the actual movies that fit the scenes, but “Episode III” doesn’t. Apparently, the developers didn’t have an “Episode III” soundtrack yet, so they just used music from the original trilogy. It’s not too distracting, but there’s something discomfoting about hearing “The Battle of Endor I” from “Return of the Jedi” theme during the iconic Mustafar duel between Obi-Wan and Anakin when it should be “Battle of the Heroes.” Also, there’s a reason “Episode II” has only five levels when I and III have six. The first level was supposed to be a vehicle level based on the scene where Obi-Wan and Anakin chase Zam Wesell. This was left out for reasons known, so the story in “Episode

II” just starts with Obi-Wan on Kamino. This is only a minor annoyance that, unless one has bad OCD, shouldn’t break the game.

Later games have things such as red power bricks or customizable characters, but regardless, this game is still a lot of fun. The player can still mess around with the extras and make their character invincible, make everyone a silhouette, change the sizes of the blasters, give everyone a moustache, turn the lightsabers into brooms, and more. Personally I recommend going back to this one if you get a chance; you might find something you like.



OPINION

Parler versus everyone else

By Margaret Correll
Editor in Chief

The social media app, Parler, was suspended from Apple, Google and Amazon app stores following the riots in Washington D.C. on Jan. 6. This app, which had a heavy collection of conservatives, right-wing extremists and white supremacists had gained popularity in the past few months.

There has been some criticism among tech companies about controlling freedom of speech and claim that removing Parler is against the first amendment. Tim Cook, Apple CEO, told ‘Fox News Sunday’ that his decision to remove Parler was because, “We don’t consider that free speech and incitement to violence has an intersection.” To the critics of his decision, he stated that Apple’s terms of service must be followed and if not, there will be consequences that follow.

Parler’s CEO, John Matze sent a message to the recently returned website stating, “Hello world, is this thing on?” He also included

a status update for users of the app, ““Now seems like the right time to remind you all — both lovers and haters — why we started this platform,” Matze said in the status update, “We believe privacy is paramount and free speech essential, especially on social media. Our aim has always been to provide a nonpartisan public square where individuals can enjoy and exercise their rights to both. We will resolve any challenge before us and plan to welcome all of you back soon. We will not let civil discourse perish!”

This brings up the tension filled discussion of free speech and what is or is not allowed. For some, it may be hard to understand what can and can not be done under the first amendment while using devices, trying to demonstrate on private property and so on.

The first amendment covers an individual when they are speaking, writing, or any other variant but when you factor in terms of service from a privately owned company or a groceries store policy, for example, a person’s individual

rights are now encompassed by this service or business. Think of it as a privately owned bakery refusing service to a gay couple or a school that requires students to follow a dress code. The business or company is allowed to make decisions about itself within the guidelines of the law.

It is no longer in the hands of the individual anymore and no one seemed to have this problem before it affected them directly. There has been a lot of flipping and flopping in ideals and beliefs from those that claim their rights are being infringed.

Nevertheless, this fight will not end in the near future. There will always be someone complaining about how they are being oppressed, when in actuality, they have never come close to true oppression.

Brevard College men's soccer announces spring schedule

By Joseph Marvin
Digital Media Director

The Brevard College Men's Soccer program has announced its full schedules for the upcoming 2020-21 Spring season for its Varsity and Reserves programs.

BC's men's soccer first team will compete in an 11-game regular season that features seven conference contests and four non-conference matches.

"We are thrilled to be able to get back to competition," said Head Coach Helio "L" D'Anna. "Our players worked extremely hard this past Fall and are ready for a very challenging Spring. We play a very tough schedule but we are confident we can build on the solid preseason we just finished. The goal is to contend to win our Division and have a strong winning season."

The Tornados will begin their 11-game regular season schedule on Sunday, February 7 as Brevard hits the road to Central, South Carolina to take on NCAA DII Southern Wesleyan University at 2 p.m. BC will then open up conference play in its home opener on Sunday, February 14 against Piedmont College at the newly-renovated Ives-Lemel Family Field on Sunday, February 14 at 2 p.m.

BC men's soccer will play back-to-back USA South contests away with trips to Lookout Mountain, Georgia to face Covenant College on Saturday, February 20 at 2 p.m. and a Saturday, February 27 matchup with Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee at 7 p.m.

The Tornados open the month of March up with three consecutive home matches against Berea College (Sunday, March 7; 2 p.m.), LaGrange College (Saturday, March 13; 4 p.m.), and Greensboro College (Sunday, March 21; 1 p.m.). The match between Brevard and Greensboro will be considered non-conference.

Brevard will conclude the first portion of its regular season on Saturday, March 27 as the Tornados take on Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama at 5 p.m.

For the first time as members of the USA South, the Tornados are eligible for postseason play. While the NCAA previously canceled championship events for fall sports due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the USA South will still crown divisional champions in Men's and Women's Soccer along with Volleyball. These three sports will compete via an intra-divisional, single-round robin format amongst the top-four teams in each division, culminating

with post-season divisional tournaments. The first round of the USA South Conference Men's Soccer West Division Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, April 3, while the West Division Championship game is slated for Saturday, April 10.

Following the conclusion of postseason play, Brevard will wrap up its 2021 Spring men's soccer season with a trio of non-conference matches against local competition. The Tornados will host fellow area school Warren Wilson College on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 p.m. before wrapping up its home schedule on Sunday, April 18 at 3 p.m. vs. USC Union. The 2021 Spring season culminates on Wednesday, April 21 at 4:30 against Warren Wilson in Swannanoa, North Carolina.

The Tornados, under second-year Head Coach L D'Anna, will look to build upon one of its most successful seasons in program history in the Fall of 2019 that saw Brevard make its first trip to the postseason since 2016, earning a berth into the 2019 ECAC Men's Soccer Championships. BC enjoyed the program's most successful regular season in the NCAA era by earning the first regular-season winning record (7-6-3) in the program's 11-year stretch against NCAA competition.

Brevard's seven regular-season tied the 2016 and 2017 Tornados for the most single-season victories in Brevard's NCAA-era. All of the Tornados' victories this season came in USA South Conference play, setting a new single-season high for most conference wins in program history.

The 2020-21 BC men's soccer team will also field a full reserves squad during the 2021 Spring season. The Tornado reserves program will compete in a four-game schedule against local competition.

"We are very pleased to have been able to put this schedule together for this group," said Associate Head Men's Soccer Coach Juan Mascaro Jr. "These games will be competitive and challenge our players to raise their level and further develop."

BC's reserve squad will begin its Spring campaign on Thursday, February 11 with a trip to Belmont, North Carolina to take on Belmont Abbey College Reserves at 4:30 p.m. The Tornados then return to action in the month of March with a trip to Boiling Springs, North Carolina to face Gardner-Webb University Reserves on Thursday, March 18 at 5 p.m. ahead of a Tuesday, March 23 contest at Ives-Lemel Family Field against Mars Hill University Reserves at 7 p.m. The Brevard men's soccer reserves squad will conclude its four-game schedule on Tuesday, April 13 by hosting Belmont Abbey at 6 p.m.

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, and like 'Brevard College Athletics' on Facebook. In addition, follow 'brevardcollege' on Flickr for photos from Brevard College events.



Photo by Thom Kennedy