



BC plays mini golf in the dark



Photo by Anna Ervin

This is the first hole in the game. Will students make a hole in one? Will students get a triple bogey? The only way to find out is to play!



Photo by Anna Ervin

Students are beginning to crowd as they make their way through the course.

BC Wind Ensemble Presents Jazz Influenced

Olivia Ervin
Staff Writer

Pull out your fedoras and sunglasses because Brevard College's Wind Ensemble performance is getting jazzy, and it is not something that you want to miss. The concert's title is Jazz Influenced. All the works that will be played are inspired by jazz and the development of it. It is on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the Scott Concert Hall in the Porter Center.

Our wind ensemble has been working endlessly since the beginning of the semester for this concert. There is a mix of music majors, non-majors and community members banning together to perform.

This concert will feature Lord of the Sauna by Jukka Viitasaari, a Finnish composer, Dusk by Steven Bryant, Suite Française by Darius Milhaud and Concerto for Clarinet by Artie Shaw.

Guest conductor and soloist Luci Disano is a clarinetist in the President's Own, the premiere band in the United States Marine Corps. She will conduct Dusk and be a soloist for Concerto for Clarinet.

If this concert suits your fancy, you might be interested in coming to future jazz or wind ensemble performances. Keep your eyes peeled for future fine arts events. They are all worth seeing.



Photo by Anna Ervin

An overview from the Wind Ensemble's last concert on Dec. 4.

Multiple perspectives on Nature are featured in City Forum

Paula Hartman-Stein
Contributor

Last Saturday speakers at the city of Brevard’s second Age Exchange forum examined Nature from different lenses, including a philosophical look at what is “natural,” the psychological and health benefits of nature exposure, specific areas worth exploring within a 60-mile radius of Brevard and how students at Brevard College prepare for careers in wilderness leadership.

The speakers represented four demographic groups: Baby Boomer, Gen X, Millennial and Gen Z.

As moderator of the event, I asked the 45 participants present to estimate the number of hours per week they spend out-of-doors. According to a report from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2021, the average American spends 93% of their life indoors or in an automobile, or only about four hours per week out-of-doors. The trend toward in-door life may result in “nature deficit

disorder,” a term introduced by the environmental educator, Richard Louv.

Many of those present, ranging in age from 11 to 81, reported a higher-than-average amount of time spent out-of-doors depending upon weather conditions.

I pointed out research evidence that even if a person is home-bound, there is evidence that improvement in well-being occurs by letting nature indoors by having green houseplants, gazing through windows at mountains and foliage and by displaying artwork depicting nature scenes.

Panelist Dr. Bob Cabin, a research ecologist, environmental activist and former professor of Environmental Studies at Brevard College, explained the biophilia hypothesis that humans are genetically programmed to fear creatures such as snakes and spiders, but he pointed out that in our current society, cigarettes and cars pose far greater dangers to our lives.

After studying the ecosystems in Hawaii for several years, Cabin said his view of what constitutes the natural world has evolved, and he concludes that humans are an integral part, not separate from Nature. In his 2013 article in the American Scientist, he wrote that our ancestors transformed nature far more than scientists formerly assumed. For example, he said some of the world’s most biologically diverse and “pristine” tropical rain forests are growing out of the ruins of once extensive and sophisticated pre-European civilizations.

Nina Shippen, a former nurse and current landscape and garden designer, described elements that are included in a garden for healing purposes: plants, flowers, water features and nature sounds. She showed examples of coherence in design through repetition, rhythm, color and visual richness. Pathways to encourage walking and benches to sit for meditation and relaxation may be included. “Too much hardscape or abstract art should be avoided,” she said.

Several physical benefits of exposure to nature cited by Shippen are faster healing after surgery, a decrease in cortisol, blood pressure, pulse and respiration and faster recovery time. Emotional improvements include less anger, anxiety and fatigue. When a person spends time in nature without scrolling through a mobile device or talking on a phone, attention is restored and

mental fatigue is lessened.

Eric Stein, a member of the Millennial generation, focused on facts of the rich biodiversity found in this region with its flora and fauna. Living in this region for less than three years, he provided a list of his top 15 marquee nature areas to explore, including Sassafras Mountain Overlook, Pink Beds Trail Loop, Pearson’s Fall, Panthertown Valley and a place to catch views of elk, Cataloochee Valley.

Brevard College student and member of Gen Z, Eamonn Hunter, who majors in Wilderness Leadership and Experiential Education (WLEE), mentioned careers that may result from his chosen field of study. He described how Brevard College teaches an unique curriculum that requires a rugged wilderness immersion experience. Tom Riches, also a WLEE major, explained the concept of the Anthropocene or the period of time when human activity has been a dominant influence on climate and the environment.

The forum encouraged audience participation in a short “Nature Bee” to vie for a gift certificate donated by Bullwinkel’s Outdoor store. I asked 10 questions ranging from easy to challenging such as, “What are the animals depicted in the animated series, “The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle?” ” to “Which American President signed the Endangered Species Act into law?” and the final question, “What is the meaning of the Buddhist term, ahimsa?” Christianna Morgan was the Bee’s winner.

The next Age Exchange Forum will be Saturday, March 2, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Rogow Room in the Transylvania County Library.

The topic is Encouraging Courageous Conversations about End-of-life Preparation. Speakers include Michele Skeele, a therapeutic musician, end-of-life doula and home funeral guide, and Greg Lathrop, a registered nurse with 40 years of experience, recognized as a Medicine Elder in the Way of traditional healing. Michele was on staff at Carolina Memorial Sanctuary, and Greg works at the Center for Conscious Living and Dying in Swannanoa.

Brevard student, Chloe Banner, will also be a panelist, asking the speakers questions generated by students in her Life-Span Developmental Psychology class.

THE CLARION

SENIOR STAFF

Editor in Chief . . . Anna Ervin
 Managing Editor . . . Isaiah Collison
 Opinion Isaiah Collison
 Layout & Design . . . Anna Ervin
 Faculty Advisor . . . John Padgett

STAFF WRITERS

Savannah Anderson	Alex Bolton
Mari Carter	Olivia Ervin
Jordan Laws	Ivelysse Leighton
Martin M.A.	Ovaldo Olmedo
Alex Spangler	Jake Thomas

The Clarion is a student-run college newspaper produced by student journalists enrolled at Brevard College. Unsigned editorials represent the collective opinion of the staff of *The Clarion*. Other opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Brevard College.

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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Exploring the John Rock Trail: a journey through nature's majesty

Ovaldo Olmedo
Staff Writer

The John Rock Trail is located in the heart of the stunning Blue Ridge Mountains. Hikers can experience a chance to get away from their busy routines and fully engage in the stunning natural scenery that surrounds them. The towering trees and lush foliage make you feel like a small person in a big world.

The trail is a popular choice among outdoor enthusiasts. It is known for its picturesque views and diverse wildlife. Even novice hikers can enjoy a pleasant trek through this wilderness paradise as it has gentle slopes and well-marked paths.

As you hike along the trail, you will come across cascading waterfalls, crystal-clear streams and panoramic vistas that will leave you awestruck. You will find yourself surrounded by the melodies of singing birds and the gentle rustle of leaves, which will help you connect with the natural environment around you.

Whether you are seeking a challenging workout or a peaceful stroll, the John Rock Trail has something to offer every adventurer. So put on your hiking boots, pack a snack and embark on a journey that will leave you feeling refreshed, rejuvenated and grateful for the beauty of the natural world.

The DuPont State Recreational Forest and John Rock Trail offer unique opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts to explore the natural beauty of North

Carolina. Recently, an outdoor skills class took place on both trails, allowing participants to learn and practice essential outdoor skills in a hands-on setting.

The DuPont State Recreational Forest trail is famous for its stunning waterfalls, lush forests and diverse wildlife. The level of difficulty it presents is moderate, which makes it appropriate for hikers with different levels of skills. The hiking trail presents an intermediate level of challenge, thereby making it feasible for hikers of all proficiencies to attempt. Participants in the outdoor skills class navigated the trail, set up camp and cooked meals over a campfire.

On the other hand, The John Rock Trail, however, features a difficult hike with steep slopes and rough terrain. However, hikers are rewarded with panoramic views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Those in the outdoor skills class tested their navigation and survival skills on this rugged trail.

Overall, the experience on both trails provided participants with a deeper appreciation for nature and a sense of accomplishment in mastering new outdoor skills. Whether you prefer the scenic beauty of DuPont State Recreational Forest or the rugged challenge of John Rock Trail, both trails offer a memorable outdoor adventure for all who seek it.



Photo by Ovaldo Olmedo

Visitors can't help but gaze out at the immaculate view from up top.



Photo by Ovaldo Olmedo

This is what you see when you finally reach the end of the hike.

Meet Willow, the weirdest dog on campus

Savannah Anderson
Staff Writer

For those of you who are blessed to know Ms. Willow, you can attest that this article is not an exaggeration. Willow is a 39-pound, rather new, one year old whippet that resides in South 6 with Nicole Volk as her loving caretaker and me as her somewhat aunt.

She is the most rambunctious puppy I have ever met in my entire life. If you see her on one of her walks, you are more than likely going to see her jumping four feet into the air, doing kickflips off of her mom and dragging her straight into the sand volleyball pit.

Living with this dog is anything but usual. She is a sweet dog that loves to chase her tail. She will run around in circles trying to catch it, and when she does, she lets it go and spins in the opposite direction to catch it again. This is one of her more normal activities, I might add.

She also bites her own leg. She will lie on one of our beds, and she will have her entire leg clenched between her teeth, just sitting there like

it's normal. (As shown). Her other favorite activity is liking peoples faces and often barking at men because they intimidate her.

She has been compared to Dobby, a dingo, a kangaroo, a thug (she wore a hoodie and looked super gangster,) and her very owner, Nicole. Her nicknames include; Willow Billow, WEEEEEE-LOW, Willow Bean, Puppy Shark, Bambi, Willers and Mommas.

Everyone who has met her agrees that they absolutely love how excited she gets when she sees someone she knows.

Willow Billow may be an emotional support animal, but Nicole definitely has to calm her down a good amount of the time because she gets so anxious. As much as she supports us, we return the favor.

Willow is a great roommate (except the times where she woke me up before my alarms), and I think people are lucky to associate with a dog of such high praise. I have yet to meet someone who dislikes her, and I don't think I ever will.



Photo by Savannah Anderson

Willow



Photo by Savannah Anderson

Effective ways to study

Mari Carter
Staff Writer

Many of us are getting close to that time when we are getting our first set of exams or tests, so I figured I'd share some of my favorite ways to study or just effective tips overall. We all learn differently, and there are many ways to accommodate these differences with different types of studying habits. First let's understand the four learning styles which are visual, auditory, kinesthetic and reading/writing.

Starting with visual learning, people with this preferred method like to see things drawn out whether in graphs or patterns alike to better understand things. Some great ways to study with this style of learning are to use flashcards, color code your notes, or watch videos regarding the subject in your free time to get a better understanding of the material.

Next, we have auditory learning people with this method prefer to learn by listening whether that be by music, videos or conversations. People with this learning style typically do best in lectures, especially when they contribute to show their understanding. Some ways you can study with this style of learning is with a tutor or a friend in the

class and talk about the subject matter together. Even reciting what you want to remember aloud to yourself can show results.

Moving onto kinesthetic learning is a bit tricky because with this you prefer to touch and get a hands-on approach with the given material. Ways to study with this type of learning is by writing, making drawn visuals or even something as simple as chewing gum while studying to retain your attention to the material.

Lastly, we have the reading/writing style. With this style you may find taking notes or reading articles mostly helpful when learning about your subject. With this style, you can study by rewriting the information and notes in your own words, translating any graphs or diagrams into words for better understanding or by writing down the process in which you understand the steps and how to execute getting your answer.

Studying can be hard and though tests can get difficult, the most important thing is doing what makes you learn at your best. I hope these tips will help you and be happy studying. The first step to all of this is making an effort! Good luck!

Horoscopes

By Anna Ervin
Editor in Chief

Aries, take care of business today. Do what you need to do and be done with it. Procrastination today will not work out for you tomorrow.

Taurus, your goals may need the help of others. If you have a problem, don't hesitate to ask someone around you to collaborate. It doesn't take away from the work you've already done.

Gemini, you're falling out of the routine you set for yourself, and it's affecting you negatively. Find the balance again. It's okay to fall off the wagon, as long as you try to get back on.

Cancer, you're dreaming big, and that's good, but don't let it get in the way of what you're doing now. Take things one day at a time.

Leo, you are ready to take the lead. Step into what assets you have. You know what job you need to do, and you have the capability to do it well.

Virgo, express yourself. You've been holding in a lot lately, whether that be creatively or emotionally, and you need to let that out. Holding it in will only cause you to wallow in it.

Libra, new opportunities may look good on the surface, but make sure you look into them before you actually commit. Keep some of the practicality and solid foundation you have close by.

Scorpio, take time for yourself. Do some of your favorite activities and eat some of your favorite foods. Things are going to look up.

Sagittarius, start planning for what happens next. You have a lot of options, but it's good to create a solid foundation, so that you can execute those plans.

Capricorn, look at deepening the relationships around you. They really do like being around you, so don't hold yourself back.

Aquarius, you are passionate about something. Investigate that, and let it guide you to a new project or idea. Don't be afraid of the idea of starting something new.

Pisces, follow your curiosity where it wants to go. Look at life outside the point that it's at now. Take a chance, and go.

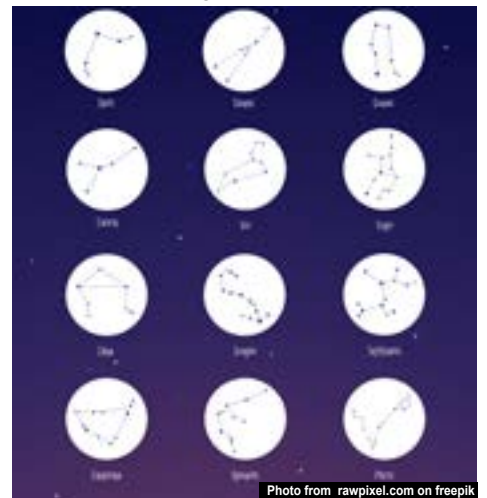


Photo from rawpixel.com on freepik

Help IWIL collect Jars!

Glass Jar Donation

Anything from Mason Jars, Glass drink bottles, sauce jar and anything else fit for a plant!

Needed for IWIL and Environmental club

DROP OFF IN THE CAFE OR MG IN THE BOX UNDERNEATH ONE OF THESE FLYERS!!

WE THANK YOU!!

Help IWIL in collecting glass jars and bottles for our upcoming event on March 21. The more glass jars we have, the smoother our event will be run. If there is anything you can contribute, please leave them underneath the posters you see here.

We thank you all for your support and we truthfully hope you attend our event and see what we as an IWIL class believes will help many students across this campus. Come become a plant parent, we look forward to seeing you there!

—Savannah fg
Anderson

Book review:

Rebecca Yarros's 'Fourth Wing'

Ivelysse Leighton

Staff Writer

"Fourth Wing" is the first of five in Rebecca Yarros's first fantasy series. Rebecca Yarros is one of the New York Times bestselling authors. NYT bestselling author Tracy Wolff believes this is "The most brutally addictive fantasy I've read in a decade!"

"Buckle up, because with nonstop action, sizzling romance, and the BEST DRAGONS EVER, you will not be able to put down "Fourth Wing" until the last page is turned." was the comment left by New York Times bestselling author Mary E. Pearson. She has plotted out the rest of the series, and the fandom is extremely excited to read the rest of the series. So far two out of five books have been published, and the third is planned to release this December.

"Fourth Wing" follows the story of Violet Sorrengail, who was supposed to enter the Scribe Quadrant living a rather quiet life among books, history and scrolls. The quadrants are the different sections of school where you focus on what your role is going to be if you survive Basgiath War College. Now her mother, the commanding general, ordered Violet to join the other candidates who are trying to become dragon riders in the Riders Quadrant. The first year cadets all have the goal of making it to Threshing, which is where they enter a valley and see whether they are worthy

to be bonded with a dragon. If no dragon has bonded with a cadet by the time their first years' are over, they die.

Violet has to face the challenges of being smaller than the average person and with a brittle body, who enters the Basgiath War College. Death can be right around the corner at any time because dragons don't bond to "fragile" humans. Instead they incinerate them. The candidates have the problem of fewer dragons being willing to bond this year than there are cadets, and most people would jump at the opportunity to kill Violet to better their chances. The remaining of the cadets would kill Violet just for being the commanding general's daughter, like Xaden Riorson.

Xaden Riorson is in his third and final year in the Riders Quadrant. He is the most powerful and ruthless wingleader in the Riders Quadrant and has a personal vendetta against Violet's mother, since she had his father executed, along with anyone else who participated in the rebellion against Navarre. A wingleader is the highest rank in the Riders Quadrant and is normally occupied by a third year. Day one of their three-year time at Basgiath War College, Xaden and Violet butt heads from the moment she enters the college on Conscription Day. Violet was warned by her sister, Mira, to stay the hell away from Xaden because

he'll kill her the second he finds out who she is.

Every day that passes the war outside grows more and more deadly, the death toll is continuing to rise, and the protective wards are failing. Even worse, Violet begins to suspect that the leadership she is supposed to follow without a doubt is hiding a terrible secret. Violet has to battle her way through this college, fighting every day for her life while figuring out who she can trust. Her first goal, like the other first years, is to live long enough to make it to Threshing and see if she will have the honor of bonding with a dragon or becoming a pile of ash.

This book is full of friends, enemies and lovers. Everyone at Basgiath War College has the same thing on their mind... surviving, because once you enter this college there are only two ways out, and it's either to graduate or die. I absolutely recommend this book to anyone who is a fan of fantasy, war, dragons and romance. If I could give this book six stars, I would because this is the best book I've ever read. Yarros says, "A dragon without its rider is a tragedy. A rider without their dragon is dead." This book draws you in and never lets you go. Go give it a read — you won't regret it!

Movie review:

'A Walk to Remember'

Alex Spangler

Staff Writer

The movie begins with a group of friends on the lake with a tall tower that people would jump off. Someone new to the group had to jump off as a part of the initiative process. The main character, Shane West, played by Landon Carter, convinces the "new guy" that it's his first time jumping, so he will go with him. They get to the top, and the new guy gets tricked into jumping alone but doesn't surface to the top of the water. Shane goes in after him and pulls him to the side for the cops, while the other friends flee the scene.

Shane is threatened with the idea of being expelled. He has no choice but to contribute to the school through theater. He starts off reading lines in a group and feeling uncomfortable with the situation.

He needed help practicing his lines. Mandy Moore, played by Jamie Sullivan, offers to help. At first, Shane is reluctant but knows he

needs help. They meet up after class and begin rehearsing.

The big show is coming up, and in the meantime, Shane gets help working with his friend Al Thompson, played by Eric Hunter. Al being the comedic relief in the movie, makes fun of Shane for reading the girl lines.

The main event is finally here. Over the time that Shane and Mandy have spent together, he begins to see her in a new light, not the weird, Christian girl that everyone made fun of, but a sweet, angelic woman.

The play begins, and Shane goes off script and tells Mandy how beautiful she is and asks her to sing for him. After he confesses his love, they kiss. The play ends.

At first Shane was reluctant to be seen with her, but instead now he is taking up for her. Mandy shows him her telescope and tells him about her

favorite comet and how she looks for it every night. They begin to spend a lot of time together. Until one day, Shane was told that Mandy has cancer and won't make it much longer. He decides to marry her and make her life as best as he can.

He takes her to complete her bucket lists before the time comes. Taking her to a place where she will be in two places at once. While Mandy is in bed, Shane works on building his own telescope, so she can see the comet for the first time. Mandy knows her time is running out and tells Shane that he is the reason she lived longer, giving her purpose.

A couple of years go by, and he still visits her father. Shane tells the father that she was his angel in disguise. The father then tells him that he was her angel. The movie ends with Shane narrating.

If you like a romance movie about young love that has a twist, then this is the movie for you.

Nontraditional

Part 2: Expectations

Sara Laboe
Staff Writer

“And what are you planning to do with *that*?” is the response I get most often upon divulging the tasty truth that I’m two semesters from finishing my BA in English. This question: carefully intoned with just a touch of likely-unconscious emphasis on *that*; slightly pandering with a hint of pity, *you poor creative soul*, but more than anything there is an absolute lack of understanding. It’s a missed connection. You’ve gone into your succulent propagation club raving passionately about your thirst for the finer aspects of language and no one has any idea — or, likely, very much interest — in your unsolicited soliloquy on Dave Eggers. It’s okay, though; you were simply off topic in the context of propagation club. You need to pursue membership to an additional club.

This kind of flippant judgement of my choices and interests is exactly the kind of thing that has contributed to holding me away from my true calling for so long. Other hypersensitive people, especially those of us who were conditioned toward hypervigilance as young children, understand this feeling deeply. It’s recently caused me to reflect on just how many sources of expectations are blasted into our faces at any given time. Further, perhaps more significantly, to reflect on what the motives for the expectations from each

of these sources might be.

Parents typically want the best for their children, and the motives of their expectations are often unselfish — same basic principle for our teachers and mentors. However, the loudest set of expectations I hear comes from society; these are the people we come across regularly, know just in passing as a part of the world, whose feedback we receive consistently. Between the clashing symbols of capitalism, the endless screaming feed of popular media, and the constant reminders from the general public that neurodivergence remains risky in our world, I could barely hear my own voice.

What to do to silence the noise, to hear your own voice without straining: stop listening. Yes, that is super reductive. But look, doing the work to avoid taking actions and behaviors of others personally has been one of the most impactful pursuits of my life thus far. I am learning that people are simply reacting to their own lives, which I just happen to be passing through. I’m not the center of anyone’s world but mine, and others are thinking about and judging me way less than my ego (and childhood conditioning) would have me believe.

Once I realized that people weren’t really looking at me, the frequency of input narrowed and

my voice could finally be heard above the din. My true voice, my genuine self, is speaking loud enough to be heard not just by me but by those in proximity. Listening to my own voice has had the unexpected effect of tuning my ears also to the individual voices of others. Even more, enduring a less intense barrage of ultimately useless (if not actively harmful) opinions and expectations has clarified the voices of the people near me in any location; I can now choose which of the voices around me is singing a similar tune to mine or providing natural harmony.

It’s easy to fall into the trap of anecdotal evidence, we can each only experience the world through our own lenses of individual perspective, but that can be extraordinarily limiting. We each must ultimately decide whose expectations to listen to, always keeping in mind that no one has experienced your life but you. There comes a fork in every path when you must choose for yourself, because nobody knows your whole heart the way you do. Refuse to justify yourself to those with expectations that are not for you. What works for me, what might work for you, is this: thank them for the input and carry on down the path that calls to you.

Smiling till a better day

Alex Bolton
Staff Writer

There was a day I went to McDonald’s, as I usually do, but on this day a thought came to my mind like a lightbulb. Everytime I come to this McDonald’s there is a worker who is always smiling, always happy and always kind. After encountering them this day all I wanted to ask is “Why and how are you always smiling?”

I don’t ask this question out of concern or jealousy but out of respect. Whether she puts on a smile or is genuinely happy, it is amazing to me the fact she is able to keep it up.

I say this because it is much harder to mask the pain of life than it is to sit by and let it consume you. When life hits, many fold and allow the darkness to consume them, unlike others who find a way to make the unbearable look beautiful.

There are so many souls out there hurting, and people that don’t know what to do. Lives have been affected beyond understanding and more than often it was never their fault. How can we

expect them to smile? How then can they continue when all they know is their sorrow, when all they know is pain.

That question is one I would ask myself consistently when I was younger. One to this day I have had to learn more and more about. I sit some days and just think as tears suddenly build up the courage to run down my face without permission. I contemplate all the why’s, the hows and the whats!

So as I look at this worker with a smile on her face, I can do nothing else but smile back. Regardless of how I’m feeling or my day I am reminded things will go on.

My faith in God is strong, and to Jesus I belong. I don’t have all the answers, but I know I found mine in Him. On my own I struggle, and alone I fall, but when I came to Jesus He made me forget it all.

You may be lacking answers and looking for a sign, looking for a smile. I hope you find one in mine.

I truly hope you hear what I have to say, because

it can be hard to walk through a life that constantly seems to knock you down. You are not alone and you must keep moving forward because a better day is coming.

My faith in God won’t let me go without saying this, which I hold and know to be true. It’s what’s holding me strong and what can hold you. Peace is not something but someone. Peace is not the absence of the situation, but the presence of God in your situation.

If peace is only when the sun is out and nothing is happening, I reckon peace is rare. But in the Bible I found that my God is peace, and He is for anyone who trusts in Him.

I can’t tell you why she’s smiling. I can’t tell you whether it’s real or fake, but it really doesn’t matter; it’s great she’s smiling anyways. Life’s going to swing and may hit hard but just smile and keep walking. I promise it will carry you the extra mile.

11 Fingers:

When you see whitewash, spray graffiti

Isaiah Collison
Managing Editor

I cannot uncover all of the history we lost. The history of African Americans in this country is... well... sprinkled with mysteries because were it all to be discovered there would be no country to live in today. Yes, you know, and I know it — it is painful.

How do I take it? How do I live in a country of oppressive aristocrats knowing those in power have the same faces and beliefs of those who were in power before African Americans had civil and voting rights?

I used to think it was possible to learn everything. Here I am not knowing everything about my own life, let alone.

What is obvious, though, is that what little black history has surfaced is whitewashed, and the rest was buried so deep in lies, the only way it's possible to understand it is to understand the way lies look today.

African Americans live a double life. We must learn to survive while at the same time holding America accountable for when it was proudly Amerikkka. Coupling that with the fact that most African Americans cannot hide or pass for white, tempts me to be a twisted pessimist. And yet, I wouldn't trade my black ass for the naive freedom to idolize the American flag.

In the 21st century where mere words can turn any politician into a Civil Rights Activist or an abolitionist with one televised speech, it is up to black educators to keep the scars visible.

Black artists should use graffiti.

Black teachers must expose the whitewash.

Black writers better write the truth. Only then can this country turn its face away from propaganda.

Being black and relying on the American education system to teach black history is to work as a detective whose investigations require confessions. In the scenario that someone confessed, who's best interest was served? How would we tell the difference between morality and job duty?

We exist in a country where young people are resistant to educate themselves, and it is every generation's fault, the older ones for not teaching

us right and us for arrogance and lack of exploration. The time is now for ruthless education — education at all costs. Education is the foundation that legitimizes wants and desires. And education should start with unfiltered history. If not, we would never understand why we work or what is out there to achieve.

I write for illiterate slaves who were beaten for attempting to learn English and the ignorant fools who claim proper English is for white people. That second one is a pretty good jab at me; I can't lie, but then again, how else am I supposed to tell white people about themselves if they can't understand the argument I'm making? With America under the microscope, the disenfranchised peoples, such as black Americans with solid English, are the perfect people to explain what it really is.

To my fellow minorities who perhaps are uninterested in the history of America I say, "Tap in! Open your history book and read about your ancestors from their point of view before they are erased!"

A smart person cannot be crushed, and a wise person always has a mission. Layers of African American history are being erased and replaced with lies. The powers that want you to fall for this are, largely, checked only by people in academic positions. This is not enough! How many of us see lies and immediately search for the reaction of black academia or the NAACP?

No! Take to the streets! Liars make hot takes specifically for the street, and that is exactly where they need to be confronted.

When you see whitewash spray graffiti.

Slaves were buried in fields, and their legacy is carried by us who talk about it and live about it in the streets. Our ancestors are under attack. Right now! They can depend on me to allow them to see a brighter day. Can they rely on you? What side are you on in this race war?!

If white aristocrats gathered in a dark, secret room after recruiting white political soldiers to fight a race war and decided the war would first start in the academic sector, and an African-American 22-year-old knucklehead who

was creeping and scribing around as revenge for COINTELPRO operations nearby told you this was real would you believe it?! Or would you dismiss it because the first Civil War was fought in the street? Would you come to your senses when you realize that once we are as powerless as slaves, they will storm the streets again, this time to enslave or exterminate us?

If it ain't the truth, then release me to paranoia, and I will twirl my fingers like a gremlin hiding in the corner of the room! I'll pry apart my brain and figure out where such a distrustful thought originated from! Easy to dismiss it is until you examine "mistrust" and "distrust."

Distrust is based on past experiences and the actual trust in reliable information. Mistrust is general uneasiness towards any one thing.

Before I die, there's gonna be a lot of graffiti written, a lot of history researched and a lot of lies exposed. Don't you know the black letters over whitewash counts as graffiti to me? I will tag as many white sheets as I can because I have high suspicion someone I should know is dead underneath.

According to "Death and Mourning in Black Communities of the 19th Century," "Enslavers often ensured that the bodies of enslaved peoples were not allowed in churches for funeral services. Octavia George, an enslaved person, was noted as saying, "Funerals were very simple for slaves, they could not carry the body to the church so they would carry it to the graveyard and bury it.'"

Only quantum amounts of research can keep me from falling back, and standing up is what must be done.

If the death certificate says, "Just couldn't be white," tag it with some citrus graffiti. Bet you it bleeds through, and you'll find out what was underneath. It was burning to get through.

JAZZHEAD



Futsal league complete, now onto the tournament

Martín M. A.

Staff Writer

The final matchday of the Intramural Futsal League has been played, and now everything is set for the tournament to begin. A new team at the top, drama at the bottom of the league, and a few upsets shape the league table ahead of the tournament. Dinho FC is now the league winner, followed by Big Dossa United, La Manita and C.S.N.A.A.G.; Al-Coholics FC and ATK were tied in points, but Al-Coholics FC took fifth place due to their goal differential.

For the first round, Dinho FC and Big Dossa United get a bye, La Manita faces ATK, and C.S.N.A.A.G. will face Al-Coholics FC. With the matches set, let's look at the most important events of the final matchday.

Al-Coholics FC and ATK would open the night, which would be an important match to leave the bottom of the table. Both teams knew their hopes to avoid being last place were on the line and gave everything to score the first goal. Jerick would be the first player to do so early in the game, giving the advantage to ATK. Al-Coholics FC would not allow ATK to enjoy the lead for long and would tie the game. Both teams would continue to get the lead, but keepers on both ends would deny them. The game looked like it would end in a tie, but with less than a minute left, a great passing play by ATK would see Taylor Whelan scoring the winning goal, giving ATK the three points and escaping the bottom of the league.

The next game would see Dinho FC and C.S.N.A.A.G. play to escape the bottom of the league and remain in the fight for the top. Both teams would show a much more offensive game, compared to their last encounter, and this was seen on the scoreboard, as the game would be tied 2-2 before halftime. C.S.N.A.A.G.'s goalkeeper, Samu, would once again put on his scoring boots and scored for the third consecutive game. The

second half would be a bit more defensive, with both teams trying to score the winning goal but not allowing the other team to score. The game remain close for a long time, but at the end, two great plays by Dinho FC would see them get the advantage and end the night with a 4-2 win. They would momentarily sit at the top of the league, while C.S.N.A.A.G. was now at risk of finishing dead last.

AL-Coholics would play their second game of the night in a must-win-game. A win could see them potentially reaching fourth place, while a loss would keep them in last place. In front, they had the leaders of the league, La Manita. La Manita knew that a win would not only keep them at the top but most likely give them a bye in the first round of the tournament. The game would start with both teams attacking non-stop, not allowing the other team to retain the advantage. 1-0, 1-1, 1-2. 2-2, 3-2, 3-3 was how the first-half scoreboard looked like. La Manita had better chances, but not finishing those chances would hurt them in the second half. An early goal by Marcelo would give a slight advantage to Al-Coholics FC, and would now get defensive and stop La Manita from tying the game. Al-Coholics FC would even get a penalty to increase their advantage, but Jojo would stop it to keep La Manita in the game. The game was still close towards the end, but in the final minute, the league's top scorer, Nathan de Lima, would become the man of the match and score two goals plus an assist that would seal the deal. Al-Coholics FC would take the three points, momentarily stay in fourth place, and Nathan would remain as the top scorer of the league.

Before heading into their second game of the night, C.S.N.A.A.G. was in last place in the league, and unless they were able to stop their three-game losing streak, it looked like they would end at the bottom. In front, they would have Big Dossa, who was looking for a win that would confirm their bye in the first round. The first half would have plenty of goals, but no team would get the advantage as the score would be 3-3. Nevertheless, in the second half, C.S.N.A.A.G. got control of the ball and was attacking more. A goal by Jhonny and another by Tiernan would give them a comfortable advantage. Although Big Dossa was able to score one goal in the final minutes, C.S.N.A.A.G. would win the game 5-4, getting their fourth place back and putting an end to their three-game losing streak. Moreover, with Tiernan's game-winning goal, C.S.N.A.A.G. becomes the only team where every player has scored at least once.

Dinho FC and ATK would play their last game of the league in a decisive game for both. If Dinho FC got the win, they would stay in the first place in the league, and if ATK won, they would leave the bottom of the table and maybe even get the third place (if a series of results was achieved). Although ATK would score the first goal, Dinho FC would quickly tie to head to halftime with a 1-1 score. ATK would spend the second half attacking with everything they had, and although they were getting close to scoring the winning goal, a counter-attack by Dinho FC would end their hopes of winning the game. Another goal towards the end of the game would give Dinho FC the win and the top of the league. On the other hand, ATK went from the top of the league in week 1 to the bottom of it in week 4.

The final game of the league would see Big Dossa facing La Manita in a match for second place. Although they were tied in points, an 8-2 win from La Manita to Big Dossa earlier in the league would give them a better goal differential and momentarily be in second place. Goals would come quickly, and by the first two minutes, the game was already 1-1. But after this, the game became quickly one-sided. Five straight unanswered goals would see Big Dossa getting a comfortable lead at half, and a slight revenge from the previous result. Even though La Manita would begin the second half with two goals, Big Dossa quickly killed all their hopes by scoring another five unanswered goals. The game would end with a 13-5 scoreboard, confirming Big Dossa as the second place and becoming the biggest scoring game of the league.

Although the league has finally ended, the tournament begins next week, with one team lifting the trophy on Feb. 26.

