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Web Edition

SERVING BREVARD COLLEGE SINCE 1935

April 5, 2024

What to look for as spring semester comes to an end

Martín M. A. Staff Writer

As we approach the end of the spring semester, the 2024 fall semester is taking shape. Choosing what classes you will take, what building you will live in and what work-study you will work on, are some of the activities people are back doing. However, as many activities as one has planned for the fall semester, it's good to remember there are still a lot of activities left in the spring semester.

Starting with the activities CAB and SGA have for students, every Tuesday in April there will be an Intramural 7v7 Flag Football on the grass in front of Green. CAB will host two events in April, Laser Tag at Aux Gym on April 10 and a hypnotist at Ingram Auditorium on April 15.

During the weekend of April 18-20, BC Theatre presents Macbeth. Finally, SGA will organize the Spring Formal on May 3, with more information to be announced in the following weeks.

Tornado Athletics is heading into the final games

of spring sports, looking for a chance to make the USA South tournaments. On April 6 Men's and Women's Tennis play against Mary Baldwin. Men's Lax plays against William Peace, Women's Lax plays against Meredith, and Baseball has a doubleheader against Methodist.

On the weekend of April 12 Track & Field will host the Tornado Classic, followed by a Women's Lax game against Huntingdon. Women's Tennis will play against Salem on April 16.

Senior Day for several sports will be held on, with M and W Tennis playing Southern Virginia, Men's Lax facing Huntingdon, Baseball receiving William Peace and Softball having a doubleheader against NC Wesleyan.

Men's Lacrosse plays their last game of the season on April 24 against Piedmont, while Softball plays its last game on April 27 against Pfeiffer. Finally, on Apr. 27 Women's Lax will have their senior day, facing Methodist, and concluding the home games of the BC Tornados for the 2024

Spring Regular Season.

For the Campus Academic Honors and Awards Ceremonies, Criminal Justice will be the first to host the awards on April 15. On April 17 Psychology will have theirs. April 22 will see Science & Maths, and BORG hosting their awards. April 23 will see the Project Presentations and Receptions, as well as the Student Leadership awards ceremony. Humanities, Fine Arts, and Physical Education & Recreation will host theirs on April 24. The BESPY's will occur on April 25, to celebrate our BC Tornados athletes. April 26 will be the Teacher Education awards, and WLEE will have the final awards on May 2. Finally, on May 9 the Graduate Programs will begin.

There's less than a month and a week left in the spring semester, but there are still plenty of activities to do at Brevard College. From attending CAB events to cheering on our BC Tornados, Brevard College has several activities for students to do and enjoy during the spring semester.

BC Cabaret Workshop cabaslays

Olivia Ervin Staff Writer

On April 2, 2024, the girls of the Cabaret class had a stellar performance. Ava Bonner, Gabriella Lujon and Lyric Contarino did various works by the Gershwin Brothers, Duke Ellington and more. They also performed alongside the Riccardi Trio, which consisted of Jonas Mccanless on bass, Jamie Gilson on drumset and Dr. Richard Riccardi on piano.

According to the Acts of Kindness Cabaret website, "it is an all-encompassing performance genre and can include singing styles from Broadway to jazz to folk music and everything in between." The performer also addresses the audience rather than another person. By doing this, it establishes a connection between the performer and audience that unique to this type of performance.

The origins of cabaret come from the French and

have since been warped into modern cabaret, like most of the set for this specific performance. That being said, Gabby gave the audience a taste of the music from a French cabaret to remind us of its origins. The only way to describe it is to say that it sounds like it came straight from the pixar movie Ratatoullie, and I assure you that is a complement.

These ladies did wonderful, and I assure you that there are more events coming up worth going to. There are more recitals and ensembles to come so keep your eyes peeled for them as they approach. Some music events that are coming up in the next few days are an organ and trumpet recital in the Porter Center on April 7, at 3 p.m. and James Burgess's recital in the Porter Center on April 8 at 5:30 p.m. Other fine arts events are happening as well. On April 5, the senior exhibition is open to the public and running until April 26. This will showcase Art major seniors projects.



Ava Bonner performs a solo at the cabaret.

vo idiots and a tra

The best views come after the hardest climb.

The Two Idiots. Michael Moreschi is a retired "has been" from the Orlando Police Department, who received a Pacemaker as a retirement gift. He now spends his time teaching criminal justice at Brevard College. Quintin Overocker is a geologist turned passable registrar for Brevard College.

As Sheldon Cooper once said, "Geology is the Kardashians of science." Moreschi is an idiot because he is 13 years older than Overocker, who might be the bigger idiot because he did the challenge last year. He is returning for more, and Moreschi's wife will make him hike with the defibrillator this time around.

The Trail. It begins on May 18th at five a.m. in the Whitewater Falls area (NC) and follows the Foothills Trial (sic) for 28.1 miles to Oconee State Park (SC). The goal is to take 12 hours to complete. Most importantly, all money donated will go directly to Make-A-Wish, and none of it will be deferred to cover emergency room copays or funeral expenses.

We are thrilled to take on this year's Trailblaze Challenge. In addition to the physical challenge, we have committed ourselves to raising the essential funds necessary for Make-A-Wish to help grant the wishes of children with critical illnesses. With your help, proving hope and joy during these uncertain times is possible.

Editor's note: The preceding text appears on the Make-A-Wish website and was not actually written by a Clarion staffer. Click this link to make a donation: https://bit.ly/two-idiots-maw



Brevard College partners with conference for global peace

BREVARD – Brevard College is excited to announce a new partnership with the nongovernmental organization (NGO) Release Peace.

Headquartered in The Hague, Release Peace was founded in 2019 and conducts high-level advocacy in pursuit of peace and human security. This advocacy involves dialogue with United Nations agencies, senior foreign ministry officials and ambassadorial staff. Additionally, Release Peace is involved in educational advocacy via their annual global conference and digital magazine (https://releasepeace.org/release-peace/ magazine/).

As part of the partnership, Brevard College will participate in Release Peace's annual global conference, scheduled for April 11, 12 and 15. The event is 100% virtual, and all students, faculty and staff can register. The campus community gets full access to the digital magazine, to which faculty and students will have the opportunity to contribute.

Release Peace approached Dr. Jordan Kuck, Associate Professor of History, Chair of the Humanities Division and Director of the Honors Program at Brevard College, earlier this year about a partnership. According to Kuck, they were impressed with the College's mission and focus on experiential education.

"I was a little surprised when they reached out," said Kuck. "But the group of scholars who study the Baltic states is small, so it makes sense that they might have come across my recent work." Kuck has written and presented publicly his scholarship on the Baltic states several times this year.

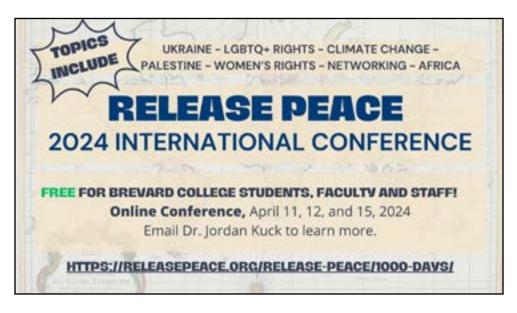
Kuck also explained that the organization has, until now, mostly partnered with institutions in Europe and the director is now trying to expand into the U.S. The goal is to work with more students, thus providing more experiential learning opportunities.

"I think one of the most fun aspects about the partnership is the opportunity for our students to participate in a networking panel during the conference," said Kuck. "It will be a great chance for them to meet and learn from global thought leaders, making space for cross-cultural exchange

and even the potential for future professional opportunities."

Release Peace told Kuck that other U.S. higher ed institutions, including Columbia University, John Hopkins University and Middlebury College, are also partners.

"This is such an exciting opportunity for our faculty and students," remarked Dr. Jennifer Frick-Ruppert, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty. "Brevard College has a lot to offer to these conversations and I am confident that our community members will represent us well."



Student Profile

Ishmeal 'Ish' Parsons is one of your graduation ceremony student speakers

Anna Ervin

Editor in Chief

Ishmeal 'Ish' Parsons is a senior music education major at Brevard College and has been elected to be one of class representatives to speak for the 2024 commencement ceremony.

Ish is from a town smaller than Brevard in North Carolina called Taylorsville, which is about three hours from Brevard. When looking at potential colleges, Ish said he, "wanted a place where I knew my opinion would matter and that my teachers would care." For him, the community of Brevard was incredibly welcoming, and so Ish "knew that [he] would fit in well. This is a place I could be weird, be loud and be myself unapologetically in."

On campus, you may see Ish as the senior RA in Stanback, as a panelist and student ambassador for admissions, a music assistant and part of the recruitment team for the music department. If you're looking to find him, you can find Ish in "Dunham practicing or talking really really loud, in my room reading my book with my white noise machine and blinds closed or you can find me sitting in a car somewhere spilling tea, rehashing the day or singing karaoke with my friends."

When asked about how he feels he represents the class of 2024, Ish said, "I feel like I represent the people that are in the arts, that are not the athletes. I feel like they get looked over a little bit. And I'm there for the people of color and the people of the LGBT community."

Along the way to become a senior, his friends that transferred in with him, Tamara Kuykendall and Patrick Yang, have helped make his transition into college smoother experience and always gave a familiar face to vibe with. Ish also said, "David Gresham and Kathy Gresham have been huge supporters of mine and have backed me whenever I was afraid of whatever the circumstance was, especially David. David has been one of my best friends."

Being a part of the arts and in campus life has helped him grow his confidence in public speaking and leadership skills.

In the short term after college, Ish will be going to graduate school and will continue with his music journey, and he "would love to teach in a highschool for a few years, and then go back and get my doctorate. I want to work in a college in a smaller place like this."

When talking about why he wants to be a college professor, Ish sais, "College is a weird time, and it's kind of like middle school again where you're trying to figure out who you are as college students and young adults. I want to work at a college, so I can give back to others the impact that college has left on me."

Some of his favorite memories at Brevard include the "big snow that caused the roof of Jones to collapse when everyone was outside playing, I enjoyed being a peer leader, even though I actually wrecked a van, which is funny to tell the story now, and it was a way to humanize me and connect with my peer group, the opera scenes and getting to MC the talent show. I love introducing and inviting my friends to the world of the arts."

When talking about Brevard College, Ish feels he has been prepared in many ways. For Ish, Brevard College has, "pushed me out of my comfort zone by making me become a leader, and giving me the ability to bring my opinions and bring my insight to the table. It has given me the opportunity to be better in whatever I'm in and knowing what I say is important and is worth listening to."

Some fun facts you may not know about Ish are that he eats peanut butter and an orange every day, but he is actually allergic to both peanuts and citrus. His favorite pastimes are reading and napping, which he calls grandpa-ish, and he can gaslight himself into liking something. At first, Ish hated seltzer water, but he drank it to convince himself he liked it, and it worked. He is a self proclaimed master at side eyeing as well.

Ish's favorite spot on campus is Dunham. He said, "I know she's old. I know she's dark, but something about her is so homey to me, and I became a different person and a different musician

in that building."

As far as graduating goes, Ish is most excited to "share our story and what we've been through and what adversity we have overcome. We've been through Covid, and then the mask period and coming back and then being told, 'No, you have to wear masks again,' and being in a post pandemic world was weird because as performers, we really weren't allowed to share our our medium. I think being allowed to talk about all that we've overcome and how much fun we've actually had, how big the community is and how welcoming and nice everybody is will be something I can share that means a lot to me. Being able to speak and be a voice for multiple people and share multiple stories and how strong we are is most exciting."

As far as a sneek peak of what we can expect from Ish's speech, we can expect to hear about Brevard College's impact and the metaphorical quilt that it has stitched between us all as members of this community. I can't give any more details away though.

Ish has been an incredible person to see flourish on this campus, and the world better be ready for his exit out of Brevard. He will always have a community of fans and friends supporting his big plans beyond college, and we know that he can do anything he puts his mind to.

Stay tuned for the announcement of the second graduation speaker next week.



Ishmeal Parsons

ARTS & LIFE The Clarion | April 5, 20 How to successfully prepare for the final stretch of the semester

Staff Writer

As we head into the final month of the 2023-2024 academic year students begin preparing for the upcoming exam week, leaving for summer break or graduating. This period is stressful for a lot of students, including myself. As a reminder, Brevard College provides free mental health counseling to all students. Contact Kevin George if you need some additional support in this stressful time.

Students, use all resources available to you from your academic advisor to your instructors, first years with your assigned FYE Advisor — these resources are just an email away from providing academic support in these trying times.

Advisor Cagney Guest said, "It's time to claim what you've earned. Take a deep breath - in through the nose, out through the mouth. Beware of caffeine-use it, but beware. Rattle the windows from across town with your barbaric yawp."

Advisor Shirley Arnold said, "My thoughts for

encouraging you as a student as you come to the end of the semester in regard of this being your last semester, the end of your first year or in between. Look forward to what's best, regardless of if this was a good or bad semester. Use your time wisely. Take time to balance your life, so that you can stay as refreshed as possible to get your work done. If you are worried about an assignment, go see your professor or someone you trust. Whether that's your advisor, teacher, classmate, former professor or staff member. Use the resources available to ensure your success. Keep working - don't stop — don't give up."

Free tutoring services are available through the ELC. Contact Jessie Tucker, Shirley Arnold or tutoring@brevard.edu to schedule an appointment. Ensure you include the assignment details and which course, so you can be scheduled with the appropriate tutor.

In addition to academic assistance, remember to take time away from your studies and attend a sporting or campus event to give yourself some

Recent Alum Chloe Proffitt is our Student Activities Coordinator, and she provided an encouraging statement to all students.

"There are about five weeks left in the school year (eek)! But don't forget we are still here for you. If you are looking for ways to get your mind off finals, we have over 30 events happening across campus before finals begin. Take a second, breathe, you all are amazing and can smash any barrier in your way (that includes classes and finals!)."

Proffitt, school clubs/organizations and the Campus Activities Board work hard to ensure that there is always something to do on campus outside of classes.

Just breathe, just relax, it'll be okay. You've got this. Whether you're graduating, finishing your first year or somewhere in between, I wish you the best of luck as this academic year begins to close out.

THE CLARION

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Brevard Music Center's April kayaking excursion leaves participants in awe

Ovaldo Olmedo Staff Writer

This first week of April was the best way to cap off a long, exhausting hiking experience. Starting a new course felt refreshing since it only began in March, only a quarter of the semester, but it was a fun time to experience whitewater kayaking.

I had the opportunity to experience a thrilling kayaking adventure in the tranquil waters surrounding Brevard Music Center. This was my first time trying whitewater kayaking, and it was exhilarating. Brevard College organized the event in collaboration with the Brevard Music Center and was exclusive to participants who had permission to join.

The kayaking trip provided adventure-seekers and nature enthusiasts with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore the beautiful scenery of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Led by experienced guides, we paddled through the crystal-clear waters of the French Broad River, enjoying the lush forests and gentle lakes.

The exclusivity of the event fostered camara-

derie among the participants, who were excited and amazed throughout the day.

The chance to be a part of such a fantastic adventure was greatly appreciated by all those in attendance.

Many remarked on their tranquility and rejuvenation while paddling through the serene waters. Gillian Adrieana said, "Taking a break from all my classes can feel refreshing; I feel incredibly grateful to have been a part of this kayaking class. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I will cherish forever — the beauty of the surroundings and the thrill of paddling made for an unforgettable day."

The kayaking course available at Brevard College class is a great choice for those seeking beginner guidance or wanting to conquer their fear of performing a wet exit. Overall, it is an excellent option for both scenarios.

It surpassed all expectations on this day, leaving participants with memories to last a lifetime. It was indeed an adventure worth embarking on.



Olive, a college student at Brevard, and Whitney H. Houck, a non-student who is an avid learner, said she wanted to enroll in this class for better expertise and is currently enrolled in a course in whitewater rafting.

The much anticipated 'Demon Slayer' season 4 is right around the corner

Ivelysse Leighton Staff Writer

'Demon Slayer' is taking the world by storm. The anticipation of the long awaited season four is finally getting to us after the long gap between the seasons. Season 3 was released in April of 2023, and we are finally getting season 4 on May 12, 2024. However, while the first episode did have a world premiere in February, the whole season is coming in May. The wait is almost over!

'Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba' is a Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Koyoharu Gotouge. It was the best selling manga in 2019. 'Demons Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba' follows the story of a young 13-year-old boy named Tanjiro Kamado who lives in the mountains of Japan. His life was forever changed when a demon attacked his home and killed his entire family except for his younger sister while he was away one morning.

Nezuko was transformed into a demon herself. After this Tanjiro takes it upon himself to join the Demon Slayer Corps and to find a way to make Nezuko human again.

This manga wrapped up during the 2020 CO-VID pandemic, but continued to gain popularity when the anime aired in 2019. Sales continued to rise after the anime was released; the Demon Slayer anime was widely praised particularly for its beautiful animated sequences. It caught the world like fire.

We ended season 3, Swordsmith Village Arc, with a large fight is the Swordsmith Village that included the Mist Hashira (Muichiro Tokito), the Love Hashira (Mitsuri Kanroji), Tanjiro Kamado, Nezuko, and we are reintroduced to Genya Shinazugawa, another demon slayer, who is trying to climb the ranks. We are also introduced to Upper Moon 4 (Hantengu) and Upper Moon 5 (Gyokko). This season ended off with a bang and we can only guess what season 4, The Hashira Training Arc, has in store for us.

The highly anticipated season four of 'Demon Slayer' will continue the saga of the Hashira Training Arc. We can look forward to seeing more demon-slayer action and character development as Tanjiro trains to become a high-ranking member of the Demon Slayer Corps. We're all patiently waiting for this season's release on May 12, 2024!



11 Fingers:

How to move through challenges

Isaiah Collison

Managing Editor

What is a challenge? A challenge is an obstacle that stands in the way of our goals. There is no challenge in life that cannot be addressed in literature. My ambition as a writer is to overwhelm life's many challenges with an onslaught of strategically brutal assaults of honest literature.

Addressing challenges bring controversy, and controversy brings attention. There is no changing that. It is very possible that this brings a new set of problems you have not encountered before. Regardless, speak your soul through critical writing.

We writers must all be critiqued because that is the only way we grow stronger as people, which develops our writing skills. In order to critique, we must first be disciplined by those who have been through the fire. When you first encounter criticism and discipline, it hurts. It's supposed to!

This week one of my old English surgeons, Dr. James Everett, told me I need to stick to one point in my columns. "Know what you're going to write before you sit down to write. That's how you avoid jumping from point to point." Ouch. I hit the rap trap. I took his critique as a challenge.

You may not see it, but I felt the incision. The flesh on my chest was just sliced. My breastbone is cut, and my rib cage was opened. My beating heart laid open under his careful eye. He planted

technical literary ideas near it, and he zipped me back up. Then work called.

When you wake up sealed and sprouting, the ideas have begun to travel from vein to vein. Your brain has changed. Your first course of action is to get your head in your veins. Go slowly. Time has decided it's you who can slow it down.

I challenge you: write to connect with yourself. Take my creed. Maintaining the minimum is a day off. Create a minimum amount of time you will spend writing each day. Now there is no reason why twenty-four hours should go by where you don't write, no reason why twenty-four hours should go by where you don't connect with yourself. If you think you're too classy to write anywhere, you don't write enough. If you let writing thoughts slip away before you write them because you — I won't even give you one. Just don't even bother thinking, bro.

This is only for those who desire to be studious maximus. Wake up. Read. Write. Eat. Write. Learn. Write. Eat. Learn. Write. Sleep. Wake up. Write. Learn. Write. Eat. Learn. Write. Rest. Only

Challenges fall when you do the work. Pages seem to fill up by the two. Weeks disappear by the twenty-four accomplishments. Challenges don't stack up.

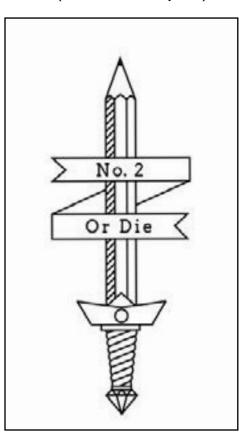
Always remember that writing is subjective. The way you meet the current challenge may be odd to other people who don't write frequently or at all. Fear of reaction is no excuse to not juice your heart all over the page. Have you ever eaten a grapefruit and wrenched the juice out of it, so you can get more?! Do this with your soul when you write.

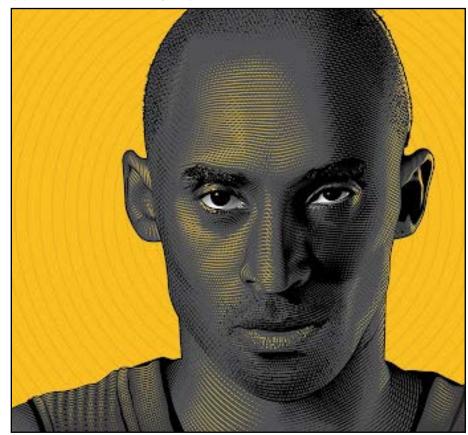
Fire cannot stop us. Death is preferable to giving up literature. I advise you to develop a death wish. When a challenge finds you, and you realize it's not death, your new solution will be right. Quench your soul with what it actually loves again and again until you die.

Unorthodox challenges such as the one suggested by 'Fahrenheit 451,' where books are illegal and being burned gives you a reason to stop writing, right? Hell no! You must push the pencil even if the world plunges into an apocalypse. Think of blood and graffiti as ink too. How's that for a different tone?!

I signed the oath to artistic insanity, which is exactly what it sounds like: obsession. Becoming obsessed with solving problems was the best curse that I never asked for.

Never ask how long a challenge will stay; just know it's a while. Never ask how long a project will take; just open a new file.





Where is my joy?

Alexander Bolton

Staff Writer

Good old Brevard is a city not largely populated, and outside of its beautiful scenery. To me, it's not known for anything overly special. Yet in a town like this you can make an experience not found in any other. One all your own that you can enjoy, even if there's less resources to access.

In life I have come to realize we are all dealt a deck of cards. Some have a full hand with many cards to play and others not so much. These decks can really change a person's outlook on life and cause them to change how they play the game.

When people are born with abundance or live in areas where there is much access, they may find it easier to find enjoyment than others. While one born with little to nothing living in a place where there is only one major convenience store and a local diner might find the enjoyment level to be dead.

I find that no matter where you are or the resources you are given, it isn't as much what you have, but how you see it and decide to use it.

You find in all demographics of life joy and depression two opposing emotions being embodied in people regardless of social standings. This relates to the idea that no matter where you are if you can't find joy in the little things, more won't truly change that.

The fact one can be without and be as happy

as one opens my mind to the importance of our mindsets. For us here in college I think it is important to not worry about what we lack, but value what we have.

While here in college I know we may not have the most, but ain't it a blessing to say we don't have the least? As long as we have life we have the ability to find joy, we can make this experience whatever we like if we just choose to live in optimism.

Finding joy always starts within, so when seeking a good time, devote yourself to find enjoyment in what you have over sadness about what you don't.



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WLAX takes down Pfeiffer!

Ivelysse Leighton

Staff Writer

Women's Lacrosse is taking the world by storm! They held on to take down Pfeiffer University in a 13-12 win on Tuesday evening. With this win, they stretched their winning streak to five. They are off to the best conference start in program history with four straight conference wins.

After the first half concluded both teams were locked at 7-7. Brevard was able to outscore Pfeiffer 4-0 in the third quarter, which put the score to 11-7 with Brevard in the advantage. Brevard continued to pull ahead in the fourth quarter making the score 13-8.

However, the Falcons weren't done yet and they put away four unanswered goals, cutting the deficit to one goal. Brevard captured the one-goal win as the Falcon's comeback effort fell short.

Emily Denaga, a junior midfielder, is the reigning USA South Player of the Week spearheaded the offensive attack for Brevard. She scored a whopping six times with one assist for seven

points. Denaga's seven points gave her 187 on her already remarkable Tornado career. This also pulls her within one of the program record set by Nina Siu (2015-2018).

Continuing on the offensive hot streak, Xan Hill, sophomore attacker, scored three times and had three assists while Arianna Casertano, freshman attacker, scored twice for BC. Paige Kneubuhler, a sophomore midfielder, scored a goal and assisted twice. Kelsey Hamrick, a freshman midfielder, continues to make a statement in her first season with the Nados by scoring her third goal.

On the defensive side of the ball Cassidy Hutto and Lex MacLauchlin, a junior defensive duo, caused a pair of turnovers, with MacLauchlin grabbing three ground balls. Freshman Kyla Smith-Fondall earned her fifth win in a row as the starting keeper.

Brevard College's Women's Lacrosse program continues to make a statement this year, and it is on its way to having one of its best seasons yet! Go out and continue to support your fellow Nados!



Paige Kneubuhler (17) races to guard get the ball back from player 10.

The start of the MLB season

Savannah Anderson Staff Writer

DISCLAIMER- This article was written on April 4, 2024, so some records may change slightly.

The Major League Baseball season has officially commenced and we are about a week into the season. So what teams are playing well? Are there any teams that were projected to do better than what is being displayed?

In the AL East, the New York Yankees lead with a 6-1 record, playing solely away matches. Boston Red Sox take second in the division with a 5-2 record and a four-game win streak also only playing away games.

The Baltimore Orioles, who were top of the division last year, are in third with a 4-2 record, playing only home games. The Tampa Bay Rays and the Toronto Blue Jays are tied for four and five with a record of 3-4, playing each other for the season opener where they split games 2-2.

In AL Central, surprisingly the Detroit Tigers were the last team to remain undefeated until April 4 when they lost to the New York Mets to make their record 5-1. The Clevland Guardians are not far behind holding onto a three-game win streak with a 6-2 record.

The Minnesota Twins are currently sitting at .500 in third with a record of 3-3. The Kansas City Royals are having a rough start with a 2-4 record, although they're still above the Chicago White Sox who have a 1-4 record putting them last in the division.

And the last of the American League, the AL West. The Los Angeles Angels and Texas Rangers are one and two in that order, both with a 4-2 record. The Seattle Mariners who are on a two-game losing streak are in third with a losing record of 3-4.

The Houston Astros are off to a rough start with a 2-5 record putting them in fourth. But to nobody's surprise, the Oakland Athletics are last with a record of 1-6.

As far as the National League goes, the NL East is not doing so well as an entire division. To much surprise, the Braves are only 3-2 but hold the first spot in the division. The Philadelphia Phillies and Washington Nationals are both with a 2-4 record placing them at two and three.

The New York Mets finally won their first game and now hold a 1-5 record keeping them steady in the fourth spot slightly above the only team that has yet to win a game, the Miami Marlins. Their record is 0-8.

The NL Central has all winning (or tied) records at the moment. First in the division is the Pittsburgh Pirates hanging onto a 6-1 record. The Milwaukee Brewers have a 4-1 record securing their second-place spot.

The Chicago Cubs and Cincinnati Reds are third and fourth both maintaining a 4-2 record. The St. Louis Cardinals have an even 4-4 record but stay last in the division.

And finally, the NL West. The Los Angeles Dodgers are top of the division unsurprisingly holding an impressive record of 7-2. The Arizona

Diamondbacks have a 4-3 record putting them at the two spot.

The San Diego Padres have a losing record of 4-5 to put them in third. The San Francisco Giants and the Colorado Rockies are both on a four-game losing streak, the Giants with a 2-5 in fourth and the Rockies with 1-6 at five.

It is only opening week and much can change during the season. It is too early to say that any one team is going to do better than another, but the start of this season has shown a lot of, for lack of better terms, upsets. Baseball is just getting started, and we have a long season ahead of us.

