

Green Hall gets new makeover

The oldest dorm completes major renovations

Abigail Callahan
Staff Writer

Green Hall, the upperclassmen dorm and the oldest residence hall on Brevard College's campus, recently underwent a very quick and transformative renovation that has improved student living conditions. The project focused on modernizing the suite-style living areas, with an update of outdated bathroom facilities.

Christie Cauble, Director of Living, and Debbie D'Anna, Vice President for Student Life and Services, shared that the project had been on the college's mind for a while. "I think we've wanted to renovate it for years. It always came down to financial reasons," Cauble said. That changed quickly when the opportunity emerged. A city project and then the possibility of grant funding opened the door for long-overdue improvements to finally take place.

"We were able to find the money to do the renovation in Green over the summer, and it focused mainly on the restrooms. We put on a new roof and windows in last summer, so we knew the rooms were okay in Green, but we knew the bathrooms needed some major updating," D'Anna said.

The renovations made the students living in Green during the spring

semester move to a different dorm temporarily. Though the disruption came quickly, students were able to adapt. Construction began shortly after spring break and was completed by mid-June. The summer residents were able to move into the newly improved space shortly afterward.

"The look of it is really impressive," Cauble said. "Those who lived in Green before have all said how incredible the transition is." The changes not only refreshed the building's appearance, but also created a more comfortable and functional environment for its residents.

D'Anna spoke to the importance of student input in campus living decisions: "I think we've done what we can at this point, and we always look for ways to refresh and upgrade our residence halls. Green was one of the last ones on that list. We always talk about how to improve the residents' lives on campus, so we always like to get feedback from our students," she said.

While there are currently no plans for additional major renovations, both Cauble and D'Anna view the Green Hall project as part of an ongoing commitment to improving student life. They remain focused and hopeful on the future opportunities that come with the college's mission and available resources.



Above left and right: Before renovations. Below left and right: After renovations. Photos by Burke Ulrey.



Fashion Friday

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September

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| Crisp | Book | Autumn | |
| Soccer | Spice | leaves | |

Back to the Future?

Cagney Guest gives overview of the LNC course

Autumn Jones
Editor in Chief

At first glance, you might think that a class titled “Back to the Future” is an oxymoron, but it’s a class with a clear mission. The class, taught by Dr. Charles Ecenbarger and Cagney Guest, plunges into decades of popular media to “illuminate the hopes and anxieties inherent in the societies that produced them,” Guest said. “The future, according to the 1940s, looks radically different than in the 1980s.”

“Technology was, in some visions, supposed to free us from toil and work, leading to a life of convenience and leisure,” Guest continued. “Instead, the number of hours a person has to work to pay for housing or education is perhaps higher than it’s ever been—we seem to be more stressed and suffering from more mental illness than ever.”

Further proving his point, according to investopedia.com, the cost of the “American Dream” is well over \$5 million; that’s paying for retirement, pets, children, a home, a wedding, new cars, and healthcare.

“In ‘1984,’ [George] Orwell predicts that the government will control the masses through, basically, televisions that you cannot turn off,” Guest said. “We find instead a kind of dopamine-driven, infinite scroll that is determined by the almighty algorithm. Also, a DISTINCT lack of consumer-available jet-packs and teleportation technology.”

Guest hopes students who are taking this class

will develop the tools necessary to “uncover the profound things hiding in the mundane, existential dread in the superficially silly, and deeper meaning waiting in every strange corner of our world.”

The inspiration for the topic stemmed from ‘Robocop.’ “It is way more about the 1980s than an accurate depiction of the future it creates,” Guest said. “Dr. Ecenbarger and I are also on a mission to use the magic of BC’s ‘Link’ program to have the most fun possible inside a classroom while still providing college-level analysis and discussions.”

Later in the semester, Ecenbarger and Guest will have the class examine ‘Star Trek’ and ‘Robocop’ to see how they reflect the social concerns of their time periods. “The original ‘Star Trek’ (1966) takes the tumultuous 1960s, its hard-fought promises of civil rights and post-war optimism, and imagines perhaps the most optimistic distant future in our survey,” Guest said. “Money is a thing of the past, jobs are done in pursuit of meaning rather than payment, and the world’s societies combine their wealth in pursuit of exploration for exploration’s sake.”

“‘Robocop’ (1987), conversely, sees a world beset by unchecked criminal violence, corporate hegemony, corruption, barrels of toxic waste in the street, and the devotion of technology to the pursuit of money and power through violence,” he finalized.

Chloe Banner, a senior psychology major, discovered the class through her completion of another LNC class Ecenbarger and Guest taught



RoboCop (1987). Photo: Capella International via TMZ.

together last semester: LNC 220, Lies We Tell Ourselves: Conspiracy Theories in History and Media.

“I’m hoping to gain a better understanding of how the present and past inform our theories of the future,” Banner said. “When looking at what people in the 1950s thought would happen in the future, it’s easy to write them off as silly ideas or laugh at how off-base they were. However, each prediction of the future reveals something about the people making the predictions. I am hoping this class helps me to think deeper and explore historical contexts that I might have ignored before.”

“My favorite aspect of the class so far has been talking about how technology offers both an extension of certain senses but also an amputation of others,” she continued. “For example, cars offer us an extension of our feet by helping reach places we otherwise wouldn’t, but they also amputate walkable cities and often public transportation—it’s an interesting way to think about both the pros and cons of the technology we use every day.”



Spock from Star Trek via Star Trek Photo Club.

Student profile: David Phillips

James Mckinley
Contributor

Choosing the right college can be one of the most important decisions in a person's life. For one Brevard College student, the choice came down to more than academics. In an interview with current student David Phillips, he shared several reasons why Brevard stood out as the right place to continue his education and follow his passion for photography.

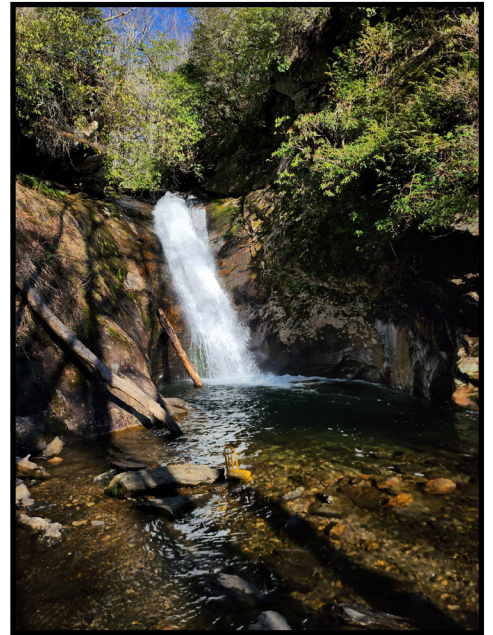
The first factor Phillips noticed was the personalized academic experience Brevard offers. With small class sizes and a low student-to-faculty ratio, the college fosters meaningful interactions between students and professors. "At Brevard, professors know you by name, and they really care about your success," he said.

Phillips was also drawn to Brevard's commitment to an experiential education teaching model. At the college, the "learn by doing" strategy encourages students to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings through various internships, service projects, and field stud-

ies. "I love that Brevard pushes us to take what we're learning and put it into practice," he said.

The location of the college also played a significant role in Phillips' decision. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Brevard College offers easy access to hiking, biking, and kayaking. "The outdoors are a big part of who I am, and I wanted a college that matched that lifestyle," Phillips shared. "Being here, I get to balance academics with adventure every single day." Phillips enjoys getting out of classes and being able to enjoy the outdoors from his doorstep while following his passion for photography.

Phillips, now entering his senior year at Brevard, is preparing for a capstone project that reflects both his creativity and his love of the outdoors; for the project, he plans to carry a small yellow chair to every waterfall in Western North Carolina and photograph it in each location. "There are hundreds of waterfalls in Western North Carolina, and each is so different; it's amazing how some spaces can be so fluid yet so unchanged," he explained.



One of the photos from Phillips' capstone project.

BCWSOC's talent show tradition

Zoe Hughes
Managing Editor

On Wednesday night at the annual BC talent show, the women's soccer team continued a long-standing tradition: making the freshman and all incoming players perform a number in the show.

The practice originally began eight years ago in 2017. It was an idea realized entirely by the players themselves. The student-led activity aimed to help the incoming players bond with each other and to continue to improve the overall team dynamic.

The ladies are allowed to do whatever they want for their performance, as long as they do it together. The acts have ranged from a rendition of the Just Dance 2020 choreography to Waka Waka by Shakira—performed by the class of 2026—to a synchronized swimming act, performed by the class of 2027.

This year, the incoming BC women's soccer players lip-synced and danced to the "Pitch Perfect" (2012) version of the song "Magic" by B.O.B. They all donned big sunglasses and colorful wigs to top off the act. Many players from the team were there to see what they came up with and to cheer them on.

This tradition has been a vital step in the Brevard women's soccer team's bonding for almost a decade, and it creates fond memories for players that they can laugh about together while they attend Brevard College.



BC Women's Soccer freshmen before their talent show performance. Photo by Elis Diniz.

30 songs hath this playlist

John B. Padgett
Contributor

Ahh, September ... when summer ends and fall begins, when days get shorter and temps get cooler (mostly), when air itself seems crisper, wafting aromas of apple pie and pumpkin spice—is it any wonder so many songs pay homage to the ninth month of the year?

For those who track such matters, more popular songs have been written about September than almost any other month. (Other contenders include June, July and December.) And that makes sense: September is a month of transitions, of glancing back and peering forward, of nostalgia and memories and anticipation, a time for quiet reflection between the intensity of August and the audacity of October.

With all that in mind, I've compiled a playlist of songs for September, spanning a wide variety of musical genres from the 20th and 21st centuries. The list has 30 songs—one for each day of the month—and includes some acknowledged classics like “September” by Earth, Wind, and Fire, “September Morn” by Neil Diamond, and “September Song,” a 1938 classic written by Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson that has been covered countless times from artists as varied as Frank Sinatra and Willie Nelson. (Both of their recordings are in the list.)

The playlist opens, appropriately, with “It’s September,” a bluesy number by Johnnie Taylor released on Stax Records in 1974, and proceeds through songs that acknowledge such themes as summer-turning-into-fall, harvest season, and “cooling,” both literal and figurative. Neil Young’s “Harvest Moon” is on the list, as are songs by James Taylor, Dinah Washington, Daughtry, JP Cooper, Nat King Cole, Fiona Apple and Green Day, with their classic “Wake Me Up When September Ends.”

Country songs by Lorrie Morgan, Luke Bryan and George Strait are on the list, as is Bob Seger’s “Night Moves,” a ’70s classic rock standard about the end of summer and “autumn closing in.”

It’s pretty obvious why most songs are on the list, but the last one, Aerosmith’s “I Don’t Want to Miss a Thing,” may need a bit of explanation. The sentiment expressed in the title certainly conjures a general reaction toward the month of September, but the reason it’s here is a tad more prosaic: this song, the band’s one and only number 1 hit, first topped Billboard’s Hot 100 on this date, Sept. 5, in 1998 for the soundtrack of the movie “Armageddon.”

“September Songs” playlist is available on Spotify at <https://bit.ly/septembersongs>, or use the code below in the Spotify app: hit the Search tab, tap the camera icon in the top-right corner and point it at the code.



'Wednesday' season 2 review

Olivia Tiner
Staff writer

After a very successful first season, Netflix's show “Wednesday” (2022) premiered its second season in two parts: the first part premiered on Aug. 6, and the second premiered on Sept. 3.

“Wednesday” is a television production based on the old show “The Addams Family” (1964). The Netflix show features the character Wednesday, played by Jenna Ortega, starting at a high school called Nevermore.

The second season is darker than the first, so I would advise not letting young kids watch it. It has graphic gore and violence along with heavy elements of fear. However, for an older audience, it was witty, engaging, and absolutely wonderful. It had a well-thought-out plot and cliffhangers. I was even surprised by certain plot twists. The darker elements were very much to my liking, and the characters are lovable from the very beginning.

I was on the edge of my seat during many of the episodes and was pleasantly surprised by

many of them. I would advise caution if gore upsets you, but it is not the main focus of the show in any way. “Wednesday” is a mystery thriller and a very good one at that. It features smart girls, family drama, complicated villains, relationships, and immense love for your friends and family.

If you haven't yet watched it, I would highly recommend it. It is a Tim Burton masterpiece; it is well cast, well thought-out, and truly one of the best shows I've seen recently.

Athletic trainer introduction: Meghan Martinez

Madeleine Pollock
Copy Editor

Brevard College welcomed two new athletic trainers to the staff this year: Meghan Martinez and Sarah Woodbury. Martinez and Woodbury joined returning athletic trainers Michael Cabri and Sylvia Parisi. This week, we have decided to highlight Meghan Martinez.

Martinez is from Wilson, N.C., and she studied at Appalachian State University for both her undergraduate and graduate degrees. She joined the athletic training team at Brevard College in Aug 2025.

Martinez said that she chose to work in Brevard as she fell in love with the area and the small-town environment. "I think it's super

cool that everyone is familiar with everyone," she explained.

She also chose Brevard for its natural beauty. "I love my drive into work; the clouds sit on the mountains, and it's just gorgeous! I also love that it rains frequently," she said.

Martinez's favorite sport is basketball. "I love how fast-paced the game is, and it gets so exciting. I love how close games can get and how crazy March gets," she said.

Some fun facts about Martinez are that she can drive a manual car, she has a cat named Margo, and she likes to be outside or go thrifting in her free time.

"I'm excited to be a part of the BC family! I've loved working with my athletes as they have all welcomed me," said Martinez.



Meghan Martinez

Art students to see 39th annual sculpture celebration

Danniel Huestis
Staff Writer

On Sept. 6, nine students, including myself and Professor Lusk, will be attending the 39th annual Sculpture Celebration, where we will be leaving at 8 a.m. and returning at 6 p.m. It will be a full day of art, fun, and adventure!

Gaining information about the trip from Professor Lusk, I learned that Brevard art students attend this event every year. With a 1-hour and 45-minute drive each way, we will be spending 3 to 4 hours at the celebration.

It is a great opportunity to meet the sculptors behind the work, and to be able to talk with them and learn more about the trade. Making potential connections in the art world is another amazing perk of this trip.

The Sculpture Celebration started in 1985, and always takes place on the Saturday after Labor Day. This free event is a competition where sculptors can win \$11,000 in awards. There is also the potential for artists to sell their own work there, with 100% of sales going to the sculptors!

If you go to the event's website, www.caldwellarts.com, it states that the event will take place no matter the weather. At this celebration, there will be live music and food trucks. They will also have shuttles going to

and from the Mulberry Recreation Center.

The Sculpture Celebration normally has thousands of attendees each year—held both indoors and outdoors, guests can take in all of the beauty of the park and the art that is displayed there.

There is going to be a dinner taking place before the event that is open to the public. This is to serve as a welcome and also to honor the sponsors of the event. The cost of attendance is \$80. If a person donates \$300, they will get two free tickets.

The dinner will start at 6 p.m. with drinks and an opening reception. It will then continue with the meal itself, coupled with live music by Andrew Massey. The dinner will then conclude with a presentation from this year's judge, Joseph Bigley, a professor at Appalachian State University and mixed media artist.

Although I am personally not sure if I'll go to the dinner, it does seem like it would be a great time. What I am most excited about is getting to see all of the sculptures. It will also be very interesting and advantageous to talk to the participating artists.

After a full day of picture taking, walking around and talking, there is still a chance to see more on our drive back to Brevard. We may stop by the Western North Carolina Sculpture Park to view their sculpture garden as well as their studios to end our trip!

Tornados rewrite record books in season opener

The Brevard College women's soccer team (1-0-0) shattered several team NCAA-era single-game records as BC dominated its season opener 20-0 against Alice Lloyd College (0-2-0) on Tuesday afternoon at Ives-Lemel Family Field.

Brevard set new NCAA-era single-game records for goals scored (20), assists (20), points (60), shots (75), and shots-on-goal (38).

Sienna Fox, a sophomore forward from Greenville, South Carolina, surged for a single-game NCAA-era record four goals on six shot attempts. Senior forward Mikayla Zvekan added three goals and two assists, matching the single-game record as well. Kinlee Mozley racked up three goals and an assist, while fellow sophomore Mikayla Rubin struck for two goals and two assists. Sophomore Catie Barton scored twice in the second half, while Kate Floyd notched her first two collegiate goals. Senior midfielder Kiara Porcelli distributed three assists, matching a single-game program record.

Natalie DeBella and Addison Goins each dished out the first two assists of their respective careers, while junior Kaylin Prestosh also tallied a pair of dimes. Brennan Howell scored once with an assist, while first-year Tornado Janie Steele logged the first goal and assist of her collegiate career. Senior midfielder Izzy Hagen

scored for the first time in college, and assists were also credited to Carissa Jenkins, Emma Murray, Georgia Sangster, and Tessa Self.

Brevard wasted no time on offense, as Porcelli utilized a through-ball that was flicked by Mozley to Zvekan, who had a wide-open tap-in in the fifth minute to start the barrage of goals.

Zvekan returned the favor in the eighth minute, crossing the ball right to Mozley who settled and ripped the ball to the right side of net. Zvekan scored her second goal of the contest a mere nine seconds later, dispossessing an Eagle, slicing through the defense, and scoring. Rubin then got on the scoresheet 29 seconds later, cutting past a defender to slot the ball in the back of the net.

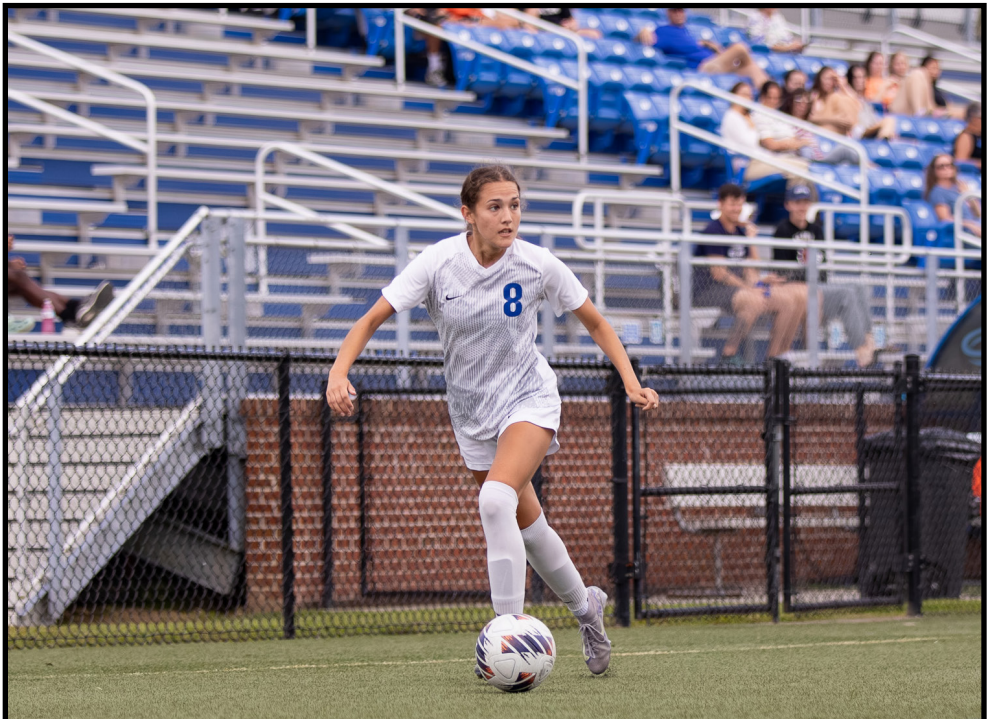
Mozley scored her second goal of the contest in the 12th minute off assists by Zvekan and Rubin. Rubin played a cross in the air, and Zvekan volleyed it towards the right side of the box directly to Mozley, who fired it in. In the 19th minute, Jenkins played a ball to Porcelli, who immediately fed Rubin for the goal. Floyd then scored consecutive goals in the 24th and 29th minute for her first two collegiate strikes, with assists coming from Goins and Murray. Welker found the back of the net for the first time in her collegiate career in the 33rd minute off a dish by Prestosh.

Fox scored the first of her record four goals, and the first of her collegiate career, in the 36th minute off a feed by Goins. Steele capped off the first half with her first collegiate score off an assist by Howell, capping off an 11-goal half for the Tornados.

Barton kicked off the second-half onslaught with back-to-back scores, with the first coming after dispossessing an Eagle defender and the second off a DeBella dime. Fox then scored three goals within a span of less than five minutes to set the new single-game program record.

Mozley and Zvekan capped off their respective hat tricks to make the score 18-0, while Howell found the back of the net off a Porcelli assist in the 79th minute. Hagen capped off the record afternoon by converting a Prestosh assist, recording the first goal of her college career.

The Tornados hit the road this weekend for a non-conference test at Eastern Mennonite University on Sunday at 1 p.m. in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The next home match for Brevard is on Wednesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. against Piedmont, where BC will next defend its 21-match unbeaten streak dating back to 2022.



All photos by Alecia Janerio via Flickr.

Cycling team races to five wins at season opener

Madeleine Pollock
Copy Editor

The cycling team kicked off their collegiate mountain bike season this past weekend at Truett McConnell University in Cleveland, G.A., with five wins, over 20 podium finishes, and many more athletes in the top 10 in their respective categories.

The event consisted of cross-country, dual slalom, relay, short track, and downhill mountain biking events with students competing across Women's and Men's A, B, and C categories.

The racing kicked off on Saturday morning with the cross-country mountain bike race, where freshmen Lily-Rose Marois and Elli Clark placed first and second in the women's A, and two other teammates finished in the top 10. In the men's A race, three BC cyclists finished in the top 10. In the men's B category, freshman Logan Vanderpool finished in fifth place. Junior Elliot Salisbury took second place in men's C.

The action then moved to the dual slalom track, where Senior Kelly Lawson claimed fifth

place in women's A, and Sophomore Max Canterbury took fourth place in men's A. Eli Houle also took the win in men's B.

Day two of racing saw Brevard take the win in the team relay, which was followed shortly by the short track and downhill mountain biking events. Marois and Clark finished first and fourth in the women's A short track, while Sophomore Kevin Vereeke took fifth in men's A. Freshman Cecilia Link was fourth in women's B short track, and Vanderpool was fifth in men's B. In men's C, Salisbury was third.

The weekend concluded with the downhill, where racers tackled a minute-long technical descent. Clark took her fifth consecutive podium of the weekend with a second place in women's A, while Sophomore Lenci Bogdan took the



Senior cyclist Breanna Goff competing.

win in women's B. In men's A, senior Matthew Leliveld was in second place. Houle took his second victory of the weekend, winning the men's B downhill. In men's C, freshman Wilsen DeGarmo was fourth.

On Sept. 6 and 7, the team will be hosting the next conference series race on their home track at Ride Rock Creek in Zirgonia, NC. Spectators are encouraged!



All photos by Dustin Vanover.