



STEM program debuts

A look into one of the program's courses: EGR 190

Liam Smith
Staff Writer

Brevard College welcomed a new STEM program this fall semester. In the fourth issue of the Clarion, I interviewed Dr. Audie Lee for "Meet Your Professors" to learn more about BC's new engineering professor. I dropped into his EGR 190 Special Topics: Engineering Science lab session, where around twenty students were deeply engaged in the coursework.

The lab session focused on familiarizing students with a micrometer, a precision tool used to measure objects down to the micron—or 0.001 millimeters. Dr. Lee spent the first few minutes explaining how to read a micrometer and calculate an object's exact length.

After Dr. Lee finished explaining the steps using a micrometer, students donned the appropriate lab wear to begin observing, measuring, and recording the lengths of various alloy-steel strips.

Around twenty students were present and engaged with the lab session. There was one micrometer per group, yet each group member was involved in discerning the length of the alloy-steel strips; when one member was finished with one strip, another carefully handled and cleaned the piece before putting it back in the case.

Another aspect of Dr. Lee's class was that he was constantly engaged with his students, moving around to all five tables and guiding them in the lab. One common tip Lee gave students was to lightly clamp the alloy steel strips. He explained that tightly squeezing the strips would affect the metal and cause it to warp. While some students struggled with calculating lengths with the measurement lines on the tools, Dr. Lee was quickly there to help them.

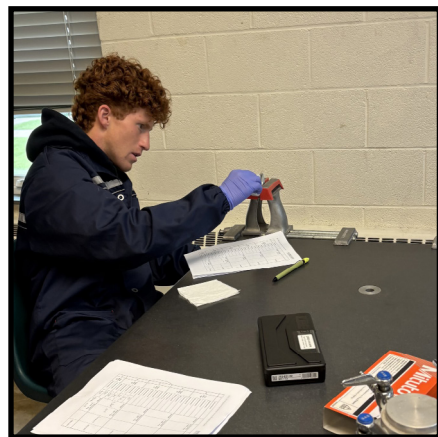
The class consists mainly of freshmen and sophomores, with the occasional upperclassman, who are either an engineering

science major or minor, or thinking about declaring soon. The engineering program's debut semester has been an incredible success amongst students, and even Lee.

"I truly appreciate the students for participating in the in-class activities thus far with enthusiasm," he said. "Also, the college for its continued support of the engineering science program, and our proud alumni for their generous donations and continued interest in the program."



Dr. Lee helping students understand the micrometer.



A student works hard on his portion of the lab.



A student concentrates on his lab work.



Two students excited to dive into the lab work. All photos by Liam Smith.

The Club Hub: Delight

Madeleine Pollock
Managing Editor

Welcome to The Club Hub, where we will be highlighting specific clubs on campus! First up is Delight, a ministry club dedicated to providing a Christ-centered community for college-aged women.

"I decided to start Delight because I was looking for like-minded women on campus that I could grow my faith with. I had a strong community of women at my home church, but I was struggling to find that type of community at Brevard," Club Team Director Casey Wampler said.

Delight works through a specific curriculum provided by the larger organization and meets weekly on Wednesdays in North 4 at 7:30 p.m. This semester's study is called "Made In—A Study of Women in the Bible."

In addition to the chapter meetings, the club hosts Delight Dates, community events, community service, and worship nights. "Delight Dates are where girls in the chapter will be paired together to go get coffee, study together, or just hang out to get to know each other outside of Delight," Wampler said.

For their service project, the club is planning to help with local Special Olympics initiatives and renovate the prayer garden on campus. Community events occur periodically throughout the semester and are fun activities outside of regular meetings. Last April, they hosted a fun 5km run called the Delight Dash.

Wampler noted that "Delight wants to serve everyone on this campus and spread the word of God. We are open to all suggestions for how we can best serve the people on this campus and the different events they would like to see!"

Wampler, who is a junior, has a dedicated



Delight members and friends pose for a photo after the Delight Dash 5km community event that they hosted in April.

leadership team who assist her in keeping things running smoothly: senior Ava Thrift is the book coordinator and runs Delight dates, junior Kimberli Gore organizes community service projects, junior Anna Graves is the Worship Leader, sophomore Emma Payne is social media coordinator, and sophomore Mikaela Edwards is in charge of community events.

"My favorite thing about Delight is the friendships I have made. There are so many amazing women that I have met through Delight," Wampler said. "These women encourage and inspire me to grow in my faith and to live according to the teachings of the Bible."

"Anyone can join Delight, but the curriculum we follow is centered around college women. Delight welcomes any denomination and encourages anyone to attend no matter how long

they have been in the faith," Wampler continued. Wampler can be contacted by email at wamplercb@brevard.edu or on Instagram [@delight_brevardcollege](https://www.instagram.com/delight_brevardcollege) if there are any questions.

Want your club to be highlighted in The Club Hub? Email clarion@brevard.edu and we will be sure to include you in a future issue!

Meetings:

Wednesdays in North 4 at 7:30 p.m

Instagram:

[@delight_brevardcollege](https://www.instagram.com/delight_brevardcollege)

Contact

wamplercb@brevard.edu

Small earthquake shakes Brevard

At 9:35 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 23, a small earthquake struck just over four miles southeast of Brevard. It had a magnitude of 2.3, meaning that many people likely would not have even noticed the slight trembling.

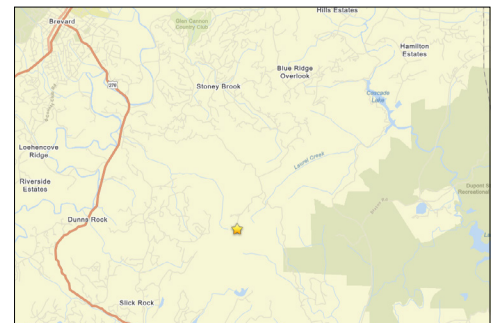
Fault activity in Brevard is fairly common due to Brevard sitting directly on the Brevard Fault Zone, which "runs from North Wilkesboro, NC through Brevard, to just north of Atlanta, GA and on into Alabama. It's a major boundary, and in North Carolina it can mark the transition from Piedmont to Blue Ridge," according to the NC Museum of Natural Sciences.

Although Brevard sits quite far inland from

any active tectonic plate boundaries where earthquakes are much more common, these faults can act similarly to plate boundaries by breaking or slipping, resulting in a release of energy that can create an earthquake.

Since it was so small, there was no damage to Brevard and the surrounding area, and there is no imminent danger.

If you want to learn more about tectonic plates, faults, or just geology in general, consider chatting with Quintin Overocker, who is the resident Geology professor and the registrar. Or consider signing up for one of his geology classes!



A map on the U.S. Geological Survey website shows the location of Wednesday's 2.3 magnitude earthquake just west of Dupont Forest and four miles southeast of Brevard.

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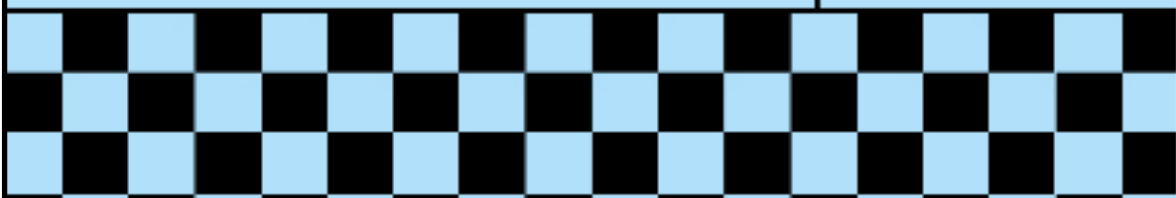
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Chemistry Club makes DIY sour candy for first meeting of the year

Autumn Jones
Editor in Chief

The Chemistry Club held its first meeting of the year on Wednesday, Sept. 23. Members made their own sour candy using Jell-O packets, water, pure gelatin, citric acid, and sugar. The event was a success, with around 15 members of all majors in attendance.

"I chose to do sour candy for the first meeting [of the year] because it is a simple recipe with a tasty result," club president Zoe Herber said. "Many people may think it is harder to make than it actually is, and the chemistry that allows the recipe to work is quite interesting."

Chemistry is one of the newer majors on campus, as it had its debut semester during the fall of 2023. Because of the freshness of the program, Herber and co-president Casey Wampler wanted to find a way to expand its reach to all students. "Everyone is welcome to join," Herber said. "The club is open to all majors, and we encourage all students to join as a way to bring variety into their education, without necessarily taking on chemistry courses."

"The goal of establishing a chemistry club is to show students that

chemistry is an approachable subject with a wide range of daily applications," Herber continued. "By doing this, we hope to expand the chemistry program on Brevard College campus."

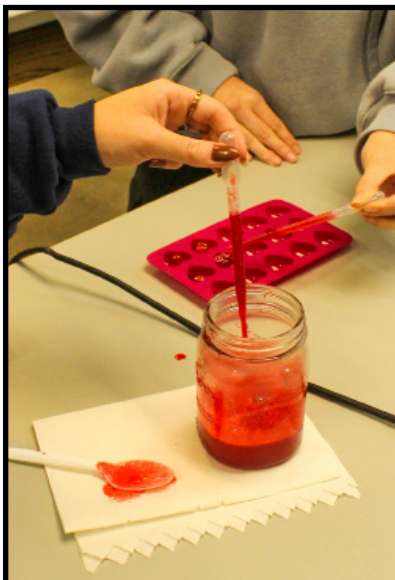
By choosing fun and lighthearted activities, Herber and Wampler hope to address the gap in interest and understanding within chemistry, encouraging students to think about the chemistry that is involved in everyday life.

"More people should join Chemistry Club," sophomore attendee Nettie Stokes said. "I love it, and I'm not even a chemistry major."

"Although the experiments are fun, it's not about that; it's about the environment," she continued.

During the meeting, members could be seen talking and asking questions to chemistry professor Dr. Pulliam, as well as Herber and Wampler. Members seemed interested in learning as much as possible about the chemistry behind making the sour candy, and even chemistry in general, with at least one student leaving the meeting thinking about declaring a minor in the program.

If you are interested in joining Chemistry Club or have questions, email Zoe Herber, herberze@brevard.edu, or Casey Wampler, wamplercb@brevard.edu.



All photos by Autumn Jones

The NC Mountain State Fair

Harleigh Reece
Contributor

Throughout this week, Brevard students went out to enjoy the NC Mountain State Fair just thirty minutes down the road. Whether they went on their day off or at night after classes and sports, most students enjoyed it and had a positive experience; some even went back for a second time later in the week.

The NC Mountain State Fair brings lots of entertainment to the audience. From rides, food, shows, and games, it has something for everyone to enjoy. Some students spent all their time playing games, some wanted to ride all the rides, others wanted to try all the food, and some just wanted to sit down and enjoy the shows.

While some people believe that fair rides are “unsafe, sketchy, and untrustworthy,” most people have full trust in them. The fair offers rides

like the big swings, slides to race on, go upside down, and of course the classic ferris wheel.

“It was scary at first being up so high, especially on a fair ride, but once it ended I realized I had actually enjoyed myself,” freshman Brylee Watkins said after riding one of the swing rides.

If you do not want to ride the actual rides, though, they also have a haunted house attraction along with a fun house for you to enjoy without the fear of falling off or something breaking down mid-ride.

Fair food is always at least some people’s favourite. It may not even be good, but people are just excited to try new foods they have never seen before, or it’s just the thrill of the fair, and the environment makes them want to try it. I tried a Korean corn dog for the first time after seeing it on TikTok so much, and it was really good had a different taste than anything I had ever eaten before.

Circus, hypnotism, and animal shows are all so much fun, especially when you are with your friends. The fair offers all three types of shows, but it seemed as if the circus was the most popular. “My favorite part of the circus was the funny clowns that came out in the middle,” Freshman Cade Brooks said.

“The fair was so fun, and experiencing it with my friends made it even better,” freshman Emily Hoxit said. It seems as if the fair gave everyone a fun experience and a ton of entertainment.

The fair gave everyone something to do this week, and a chance to hang out with their friends in a new place and make new memories. If you didn’t get the chance to go this year, you should definitely be on the lookout for it next year!

Fall arrives in Brevard

THE CLARION

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Piper Abell
Contributor

We officially said goodbye to a long and hot summer on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd, as the first official day of fall hit us. The air is getting cooler and the leaves begin changing colors, making the mountains that surround us turn all beautiful shades of red, yellow, and orange; fall at Brevard College can bring a noticeable change.

Brevard College is very well known for its beautiful scenery and fall brings more and more people to the campus and surrounding areas. With Pisgah National Forest just a few miles away, students can easily access beautiful hiking trails, waterfalls, and breathtaking views.

“I love being able to walk to the coffee shop on a chilly fall morning with the leaves falling around me,” sophomore Maggie Crawford said. The changing color of the leaves are one of the biggest signs that fall has arrived. Students walking to class can see all the colors changing around campus. Many students take the opportunity to spend some time outdoors in the cooler weather.

Fall is a great chance for students to take a break from schoolwork. There are many opportunities to do outdoor activities and explore downtown Brevard. “I love to go hiking with my friends at Looking Glass Falls and see the colors changing,” Bella Patterson said. Fall in Brevard

is a great opportunity to experience new things.

Fall also brings busy schedules for some students. With many athletic events coming up, it gives students the opportunity to support their classmates and spend time together outside of a classroom setting. Football, soccer, and volleyball are some of the sports that are active during the fall semester. The homecoming football game brings students and alumni together to celebrate. Many events take place that weekend and allow current students and former students to connect.

The cooler weather makes spending time outdoors much more enjoyable. Many people in the community will gather downtown to shop, eat, and spend time with friends and family. The small town atmosphere and beautiful mountains makes fall very noticeable in Brevard.

As the semester reaches its midpoint now, it will continue to get colder and the leaves will finish falling. But for now, students at Brevard College can experience the beauty of the changing season while balancing a normal college life. Fall at Brevard College brings memories and experiences that will stay with you long after the leaves have fallen. It allows students to step into their college journey, helping them to feel more comfortable and truly at home.

BC softball builds grit in the preseason

Avery Mattina
Contributor

Brevard softball is preparing for the season with intense fall pre-season practice, workouts, and conditioning.

From 6 a.m. team workouts to intense practice after classes, the team is putting in the time and effort to build the foundation for the season ahead.

Seniors Peyton Wise and Rylee Locklear are eager for the upcoming season and ready to start their final year of college softball. "We have been working on drills to make us faster, stronger, and ready to play," Wise said. Even though the season is still a few months away, the team is ready to win.

The team has been working off the field to team-build and become closer as a team. Learning each other on and off the field allows for more success. "We have a great group of girls this coming season and everyone is here with the same goal: to win!" Wise continued.

"Fall preseason has been a mix of excitement, hard work, and realizing how quickly everything is going by," Locklear said. "Going into my senior

year, I'm trying to really appreciate the little moments, enjoy being around my teammates, and make the most of my last season. I'm excited to see what we can accomplish this spring."

The fall preseason also allows coaches to evaluate players and understand team dynamics. The coaches have carefully crafted a routine to build fundamentals and conditioning. Consisting of 6 am workouts and then practice at 4 p.m. followed by 7:30 p.m. practice can be stressful but the team is handling it well and with grit. Players are making sure to stay hydrated and have a good nutritious diet to endure the pre season.

The team has adapted a team motto that they are going to stick with throughout the season which is "Chop Wood, Carry Water" meaning they are to stay focused on doing the little things every day to prepare for this season. "We have really committed to this motto and allowed ourselves to really embrace the grind of preseason because we know that it will pay off in the end," Wise said.

As Brevard College softball pushes through the fall preseason, they are sticking to the main goal of getting better, building team dynamic and becoming the best version of themselves.



Brevard College softball attends convocation. Photo by Alecia Janeiro.

17th annual BC Tornados Open makes history, raises record \$30,000 for BC athletics

Brevard College Athletics celebrated a record-setting 17th Annual BC Tornados Open on Monday, September 21, at Lake Toxaway Country Club, raising more than \$30,000 in support of Brevard College student-athletes and the College's 21 athletic programs.

The 2026 event marked the most successful BC Tornados Open since its inception, bringing together alumni, community members, corporate partners, friends of the College and supporters of BC Athletics for a day of fellowship, competition and investment in the future of Brevard College Athletics.

"The success of this year's BC Tornados Open is a tremendous reflection of the generosity and commitment of our community and our supporters," said Dr. Myranda Crews, Associate Vice President for Athletics at Brevard College.

"To surpass \$30,000 and set a new fundraising record for this event

is incredibly meaningful," continued Dr. Crews. "These dollars directly support opportunities for our student-athletes and our athletic programs, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who helped make this year's event such a success."

The Athletic Department extends its sincere appreciation to Pinnacle Financial Partners, the 2026 BC Tornados Open Title Sponsor, for its generous support of Brevard College Athletics. Special recognition is extended to Reg Heinitsh and Lake Toxaway Country Club for their continued partnership and commitment to Brevard College and the Tornados.

Now in its 17th year, the BC Tornados Open has become a signature fundraising event for Brevard College Athletics and an important annual gathering for the BC community. Brevard College Athletics thanks all of the sponsors, participants, volunteers and supporters who contributed to the success of the 17th Annual BC Tornados Open.

Cycling team mixes things up at Lees-McRae, home race this weekend

Elli Clark
Staff Writer

This past weekend, Sep. 19 and 20, the Brevard College cycling team traveled to Banner Elk for the conference race hosted by Lees-McRae College. There, they had the opportunity to rep some highly anticipated alternate colors—the “blackout” jerseys, a brand new addition this season.

“I wanted to create an alternate jersey to add into [their] options to mix it up some,” Head coach Brad Perley said. “More practically, I wanted a darker jersey for muddy races. It’s fun to have options and change it up.” And a slick, muddy race it was, after the downpour of rain Banner Elk received Saturday afternoon; a perfect opportunity to rock the specialty kits.

Assistant coach Nicole Bradbury also worked hard in the art room to screenprint customized team shirts for the crew. The team was excited to show off the sweet designs at the Lees-McRae.

Though these clothing updates are cool to see, there are other important points to acknowledge. Some notable finishes from this past weekend include:

Downhill:

Walker Cottingham (sophomore)— 4th place in men's Pro/Category 1

Matilda Gentry (freshman)— 1st in women's Pro/Category 1

Lacey Denis (freshman)— 5th in women's Pro/Category 1

Logan Vanderpool (sophomore)— 5th in men's Category 2



Brevard athletes Matthew Edwards (front rider) and Dylan Lundsford (left rider) racing alternate kits.

Elliot Salisbury (senior)— 6th in men's Category 2

Cross Country:

Emilien Belzile (freshman)— 1st in men's Pro/Category 1

Asher Boegner (freshman)— 4th in men's Pro/Category 1

Kevin Vereecke (junior)— 10th in men's Pro/Category 1

Lacey Dennis (freshman)— 3rd in women's Pro/Category 1

Madeleine Pollock (senior)— 7th in women's

Pro/Category 1

Drew DeGarmo (senior)— 5th in men's Category 2

Short Track:

Emilien Belzile (freshman)— 2nd in men's Pro/Category 1

Ned Broersma (junior)— 4th in men's Pro/Category 1

Owen Jones (junior)— 10th in men's Pro/Category 1

Lacey Dennis (freshman)— 2nd in women's Pro/Category 1

Madeleine Pollock (senior)— 8th in women's Pro/Category 1

Dual Slalom

Matilda Gentry (freshman)— 3rd in women's Pro/Category 1

Next weekend marks an important event: the final conference race of the season and Brevard College's home race. It'll be hosted just down the road at the local bike park, Ride Rock Creek. On Tuesday, Sep. 22, the cycling team spent the afternoon polishing up the dual slalom track and dialing in lines on the cross-country course in preparation.

Make your way down on Saturday for the cross-country and dual slalom races, and/or on Sunday for the relay, short track, and downhill races. The Brevard crew will need your cheering, so make it loud!



Cycling teams' customized shirts by Nicole Bradbury. Photos by Nicole Bradbury.

Tornados fly past flying fleet

Jordan Ramey
Staff Writer

The Tornados took on Erskine College this past weekend. This was bound to be an exciting one, especially after the game that was played last season between the two schools. Erskine was off to the hottest start in its school history, starting 2–0. The Tornados were off to a 1–0 start as they made the trip to South Carolina to face off against the Flying Fleet.

Last year, the game came down to the last possession for the Tornados as they were able to put up one last score and scrape by the Flying Fleet, 38–34. The Tornados come into this one with a little bit of a chip on their shoulder. After a win against this NCAA Division 2 opponent last season, it makes you wonder why a Division 3 team who beat a Division 2 can not be on athletic scholarship like these guys are.

Coming into the game, Coach Bill Khayat was looking to clinch his 50th career victory as Head Coach of the Brevard College Football team. With all these things brewing on the Brevard

sideline, historically the Tornados struggle in high-pressure situations. However, this team seems to have changed the culture.

The defense was everywhere against the Flying Fleet. Only giving up a total of 160 yards of total offense and forcing a turnover, with seven tackles for loss and two sacks. The Tornados offense was dominant, racking up 421 yards of total offense, 207 of them coming from the rushing attack. The kicking game was led by Freshman Alex Arenada, who was named to the All USA-South Team after his performance against the Flying Fleet of Erskine.

The Tornados left South Carolina with a 27–13 victory, going back-to-back the past two seasons with victories over the big brother Division II team Erskine College. The game was called due to inclement weather with only four minutes of the game left. This secured Coach Khayat his 50th career victory.

You can catch the Tornados back in action Saturday, Sep. 26th at 6:00 as they face off against the Guilford Quakers. Good luck, guys, and keep spinning Nados!



Photo via Brevard College on Flickr.

Brevard Football update

Jordyn Turner-Butler
Contributor

We are officially on our third week of the college football season, and the culture shift that coach Khayat has been hoping for looks to be here. Through the first two weeks of the season the Tornados are outscoring their opponents by a score of 66–28, with the offense looking unstoppable at times, and the defense looking as stifled as ever. With that being said, let's take a deeper dive into the start of the season for the Tornados.

When talking about this hot start from the Tornados lets first take a look at the coaches leading them. Being from Brevard you know about coach Khayat, the mad scientist behind the call sheet, and the brains behind all that goes around this hardnose and pro style offense. You also have to look at the defensive side of the ball, and the head behind that operation.

Defensive Coach Jarren Horton, coming from the pros, has brought his own unique style, and persona to Brevard and has this defense playing

elite. Through the first two weeks, the Tornados, according to bctornados.com, have only allowed 231 yards of offense per game, and have only allowed three touchdowns on defense through the first two games. Now let's look at the players leading the way.

When looking at a football team, you have to start with the leader of the team, the most important position, the quarterback. This year, freshman Christian Conely has been nothing short of phenomenal to start the season. The true freshman quarterback has 170 yards and three touchdowns in the air, and a rushing touchdown on the ground.

To go along with Conely leading the air, the Nados are working with a three headed monster in the backfield. Leading the group is junior Running Back, Zion Fauntleroy-McDaniel — ZFM as the team likes to call him. So far this season he has 215 yards on just 19 carries, to come to an average of an amazing 10.9 yards per carry.

Along with ZFM are running backs, freshmen Marvin Reed Jr, and sophomore King Faison.

Reed won player of the week in his first ever challenging game, running for a great 86 yards on just 14 attempts, and scoring two touchdowns in that game as well. Faison is known as the powerback of the group, and has 89 yards to start the year.

With these three beasts in the backfield, it shows why Khayat has been leaning on his running game to start the year, but don't forget about Junior receiver Micheal Pannel, who is about to reach the 100 yard mark in this upcoming week.

Well what a start it has been for the Tornados offense, and as they say, offense wins games, and defense wins championships. This defense is led by senior linebacker Will Hadden with 13 tackles to start the year, sophomore defensive back DJ Stevenson with two interceptions, and edge rusher junior James Lackock, with two sacks.

The question is, can the Tornados sustain this great start to the season? To answer that, make sure to tune in this Saturday as the Tornados travel to Greensboro, NC to take on Guilford.