



Release Peace adds BC to their roster

Jordan Laws
Staff Writer

BC joins Release Peace, adding to its ever growing list of resources for students and faculty alike.

Release Peace is a non-governmental organization that works with the international community to promote values of Peace and Humanitarianism as well as International Advocacy for countries suffering from “non-state actors who pose great challenges to security and stability, particularly in parts of Africa and the Middle East,” according to releasepeace.org.

Partnering with Release Peace brings a wealth of prestige to BC, but it also grants students free and direct access to leading members of Release Peace’s cause for a more just, peaceful and sustainable world. Students will be able to join networking events, attend global conferences and possibly even get their work published within Release Peace: The Magazine.

None of this would have been possible without Associate Professor of History Dr. Jordan Kuck’s impressive scholarship on the war in Ukraine.

During the World Affairs Councils of America’s National Conference in November 2023, Dr. Kuck met the founding director of Release Peace, Daniel Peter, and after discussing their shared goals Peter extended the invitation for BC to join the organization.

“Partnering with Release Peace benefits BC in a number of ways,” Kuck said. “For starters, it allows us to join a network of educational institutions in Europe, Baltic States, Germany, etc. that are also focused on contemporary issues such as peace, a more stable world, and human rights.

“Second, it allows students to attend Release Peace’s annual global conference for free which they might not be able to do otherwise,” Kuck



continued. The conference is scheduled for April 11, 12, and 15 according to the Academic Affairs Press Release and will feature panels on the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, climate change, the future of Africa, etc.

The panels at the annual global conference will discuss issues ranging from The State of Israel to LGBTQ+ Rights and even Creating a Special Tribunal for Russia’s War of Aggression.

Register for this event as soon as you are able!

“Lastly, as a result of this partnership we will produce pieces for Release Peace: The Magazine which is usually reserved for graduate students. BC will produce three pieces per year for the magazine split between faculty and students. These pieces are between 1-2,000 words and anyone who writes for the magazine will get access to their full editorial team. They will work with students to produce a quality piece of scholarship,” Kuck said.

Writing for a magazine with a global reach is not only impressive on a resume, but it also aids a worthwhile cause. Conflicts rage across the globe on a frightening scale. Innocent people lose their lives at an inconceivable rate. Not to mention climate change continues to affect every country on every continent in the world and will continue to displace people unless immediate action is taken.

As if that weren’t enough, students are given the opportunity to join a closed-door networking session where they can receive career advice for free!

There isn’t a better time to be a BC student and there’s no better time than now to sign up for Release Peace’s global annual conference and their networking opportunities.

Reach out to Dr. Jordan Kuck via email for more information about this event and if you wish to contribute to Release Peace: The Magazine.

Bike raffle supports the BC Cycling teams

Sidi Podolan
Staff Writer

Earth Mountain Bicycle, local sponsor for the Brevard College Cycling team and located in downtown Brevard is hosting a bike raffle. Any money spent on raffle tickets benefits the Brevard College Cycling team through travel funds, race entry fees, clothing, food and other expenses throughout the season.

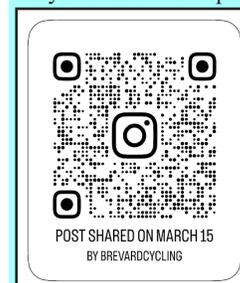
The raffle bike is a Custom Trek Fuel EX. You can see the bike on the Instagram page or go see the bike if you missed it last weekend.

You can enter the raffle a couple of ways. The easiest way is to go to @brevardcycling on Instagram (or use the QR code below) and click the link in the bio. This link will take you directly to the raffle page to purchase your tickets. The minimum you can spend is 25 dollars for ten tickets.

The second way is the QR code attached to this article. The code will take you to the same page as the link aforementioned.

The third way is to visit one of the tour destinations between now and the end of April. From March 21-27, the bike will be at Cognitive Brew-house in Hendersonville. March 28 to April 4 [the bike] will be at the TREK store in Asheville. April 5-18 [the bike] will be at Earth Mountain Bicycle. Lastly, the bike will be at The Riveter in Mills River from April 18-28.

The winner of the bike raffle will be announced at the Earth Mountains raffle party on Saturday, May 4 from noon- 4 p.m.



This QR code will take you to the advertisement on the Instagram page.

This QR code will take you directly to the raffle link.



Class of 24'
graduation speakers
Tune in next week to learn more about your speakers!

Lena Hatter and **Ishmeal Parsons**

Brevard students perform their breathtaking recitals

Olivia Ervin
Staff Writer

There is some amazing talent on campus, and you have a chance to see it! This past week we have had three great recitals and there are more to come in the future. Last week, Hannah Sonnenberg and Eliza Greenwell performed a joint recital, and Jonas Mccanless and Kayleigh Miller performed one too. This past Wed. Eli Hughes had a recital as well.

Building up to the actual recital, they have to decide the music they wish to play and what order to play it in. Jonas says, "Crafting the program for my senior recital was a matter of narrowing down what I've worked on over these three years to make something that is cohesive and representative of my studies at Brevard. You choose whether to do a half or full recital (30 minutes or an hour); what pieces to include and the order;

research and write program notes about your selected repertoire; select a date for a hearing, dress rehearsal, and the recital itself; and invite everyone you would like to present your work to."

There is a lot of time that goes into making a recital work and it can be difficult to juggle that with everything else going on. Jonas says, "Being comfortable with the repertoire demands a lot of practice time, and for me the most challenging part was dedicating enough time for practicing prior to the recital without completely neglecting my other classes/responsibilities."

For Hannah and Eliza's case, they had to collaborate with one another in order to get a set list, which they had multiple versions of, and to find time to practice pieces together. Every version of the set list gets reviewed by teachers for feedback as well.

Everyone has worked so hard for these recitals.

Hannah says, "I average 4-6 hours of practice a day, multiple times a week. Having motivation and dedication to your instrument takes time and shouldn't be rushed." There is also a big mental battle with wanting everything to go flawlessly, when that is most of the time not the case. Hannah demonstrates this by saying, "The most challenging thing for me was not being a perfectionist. I always want everything perfect, but this is a live performance, I know something will go wrong and I need to be okay with that."

If you want to see a recital by one of the gifted music students, you still have a chance. James Burgess is performing on April 8, and Emme Griffith is performing on April 14. There are also some amazing ensemble and choral concerts in the very near future that are very worth seeing.

THE CLARION

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All correspondence should be mailed to:
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A week-long journey on the Pink Beds Loop Trail leaves lasting memories

Oswaldo Olmedo
Staff Writer

In the heart of Pisgah National Forest, nestled amidst the towering pines and meandering streams, a group of Brevard College WLEE students embarked on a week-long journey of exploration and discovery. It was a Friday trip that lasted till Sunday. Led by experienced guides and fueled by a sense of adventure, the students set out to hike the renowned Pink Beds Loop Trail and immerse themselves in the beauty of the wilderness. For me, Oswaldo Olmedo, this experience would become the most memorable 2024.

The Pink Beds Loop Trail, known for its scenic beauty and diverse ecosystems, offered the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable outdoor adventure. As the students traversed the rugged terrain, they encountered breathtaking vistas, cascading waterfalls and vibrant displays of wildflowers. Each step brought them closer to nature and deeper into the forest's heart.

For David Lackey, this trip provided a unique opportunity to gain firsthand insight into the world of hiking and camping. Armed with a notepad and pen, I eagerly documented every aspect of the journey, from the exhilarating highs to the unexpected challenges.

After exploring Pisgah National Forest and hiking the Pink Beds Loop Trail, Elliot Roark Salis-

bury shared that it was an amazing experience. He was able to submerge himself in the natural world and obtain a more profound admiration for the splendor of the environment.

Ralph Stevenson Johnson documented the adventures of the group, and they encountered various advantages and disadvantages of hiking and camping in the wilderness:

Advantages:

1. Hiking and camping allowed me to step away from the chaos of everyday life and establish a bond with the environment.
2. Sense of Accomplishment: Reaching the trail's summit and setting up camp instilled in the students a sense of pride and accomplishment.
3. Bonding Experience: Sharing the challenges and triumphs of the journey fostered camaraderie and friendship among the group.
4. Outdoor Education: Learning about the flora, fauna, and ecosystems of Pisgah National Forest enriched the educational experience for all involved.

Cons:

1. Weather Variability: Unpredictable weather, including rain showers and temperature fluctuations, posed challenges for camping and hiking.
2. Physical Exertion: The rugged terrain and steep inclines tested the students' endurance and physical fitness.

3. Wildlife Concerns: Fear of encountering wildlife, such as bears or mountain lions, added an element of uncertainty to the camping experience.

4. Limited Amenities: Lack of modern amenities, such as running water and electricity, required students to adapt to a more rustic lifestyle during the trip.

Despite the challenges, the week-long course trip in Pisgah National Forest left an indelible mark on me and my classmates. As they returned to campus, they carried memories of breathtaking landscapes, newfound friendships, and a renewed appreciation for the wonders of the natural world. This experience will forever be cherished as the most memorable of 2024.



Photo by Oswaldo Olmedo

Conner Dula explained his lesson plan about the different layers of the forest, starting from the forest floor to the canopy.

Ghostbusters are back with an exciting return

Mari Carter
Staff Writer

I went to the free showing for students of "Ghostbusters Frozen Empire," on March 22 at the Co-Ed Cinema with some friends. I am a pretty casual fan of the Ghostbusters series, but this movie was absolutely phenomenal. From the environment and old school, yet comfortable theater to the just amazing movie.

It was just so incredible. The movie featured a lot of the old cast from the previous movies and made it refreshing all over again with so many added elements and hilarious moments. The theater practically was full of laughter every five minutes, which added to the experience.

I won't spoil or ruin anyone's experience of getting to watch this amazing movie for the first time,

but, please, I highly recommend it. Afterwards I could not stop talking about it to my friends, and some of my other friends even still mention and like talking about it to me.

It's an amazing feeling that keeps you going when you take time out of your day to genuinely have fun and do things you love like watching a movie.

Downtown is a beautiful place especially at night, so if you're free on just a random weekend why not go check the theater out for yourself, especially if they are still showing the latest Ghostbusters movie.

I know a lot of people like having a good laugh. Who doesn't enjoy a good laugh? Let's take time and enjoy the little things — we're college students, we deserve to take a minute and smell

the roses and remember what we're so busily striving for.



Photo by Isaiah Collison

The view right before you walk into the Co-Ed Cinema.

11 Fingers:

Enter the collaboration

Isaiah Collison
Managing Editor

There are endless amounts of ways to convey the same meaning. This is why we collaborate. When you have good team members, someone always has a good idea tucked away in their head. So be an easygoing team member.

When I worked on the comic, Oreo, the illustrator, visualized the visual literacy I alluded to in my writing. Simply because I write, doesn't make me right. For me that meant when Oreo said I hadn't supplied enough information for him to draw the art, I had to back over the details and add more. If that meant reading the Thesaurus, I did it.

An image is a mental picture painted or created from supplied details. In that definition, my job as the writer was to supply the details to the illustrator. Collaboration is that warm feeling of knowing that people have your back when you work. He

was never mean-spirited or impatient. We both wanted to make comics.

About life

If we have a purpose, we must choose roles and people accordingly. Do not recruit people who all have the same roles. Encourage people to set boundaries. We can piss ourselves off by expecting a teammate to work on their craft for hours a day like us. We never asked them what they could realistically commit, opting to let our rage build up. We assumed their portion was not important to them. In reality, they had other commitments.

Define collaboration in your own life because it looks different for different scenarios.

Share goals and progress. Start with finding out the stakes! Are you under a time constraint? Is this for business, for pleasure or for both? When that is done, decide if you yourself are willing to pull all of your weight. Figure out your role and do it

correctly before you criticize others in their roles.

Do not worry about the other people. Get to work.

Bad Cases

Do not be afraid to jump ship when the crew is fixed on drowning. Collaboration is about working and communicating with people. Collaboration is not each teammate working alone and coming together to puke information onto each other! Do you know how to function on a team in the age of selfishness and narcissism? If other people make you worry even after you've decided to not stress about them, jump ship and swim away.

Beware! There can always be members on the team who are not subscribing to the team goal! If the purposes do not align, the minority teammate(s) must be respectfully removed by any means necessary. The mission mustn't be sacrificed to keep face. Never keep face as a mission.



Don't stop yet! There's just a little further to go

Alexander Bolton
Staff Writer

School has been in session since August and, man, has it been a journey. Many people are just starting college for the first time, while others are coming to the end of the journey and preparing for the next step.

No matter your experience and how far on your journey I want you all to keep going cause we aren't there yet.

I believe motivation is one of the most inconsistent things in life as it fluctuates and is situation dependent. Some days I wake with an extra pep in my step, ready to tackle life and all the things it throws at me. Other days I'm looking for the nearest hole to lay down in and hide away from

the world.

School can be affected heavily by our motivation, which is why we must find a reason to continue giving our all and working hard no matter what the situation looks like.

For example, the last two weeks I have dreaded the gym and couldn't care less about going. Then I look in the mirror and appreciate how far I've come and realize if I want to continue to enjoy the results, I must keep doing what I have been doing.

Then I realize if I want to go even further than where I am I have to work even harder and not slack off to reach my goal.

School must be the same way as you look for the motivation to do your work. I know the school year is coming to an end, and you may think your grades may not change that much. But the small-

est change to the biggest change is still a change.

As you look at your grades you must realize to sustain your grades you must do the work and to improve them you have to work even harder. If you do nothing, then you allow your grades to slip, putting yourself behind from where you should be. If you work hard, you can get where you wanna be.

I have learned to live life working hard now because if you work hard now you can ultimately rest later. So work hard now to finish off this school year and all of college. Carry this mentality into life, and as you grow successful you will realize that you can finally rest after all your hard work.

So work hard and rest later because you're almost there!

'Dos a cero': USA beats Mexico 2-0

Martin M. A.
Staff Writer

The CONCACAF Nations League tournament had its third final, but only one team has been able to lift the trophy, the United States. In a thrilling match between the two giants of CONCACAF, the USA got another "Dos a Cero" victory against their biggest rivals, keeping their streak of four games without conceding a goal, and almost five years without knowing what it feels like to lose to Mexico.

AT&T Stadium was the place that hosted the tournament this year, starting on March 21, and seeing the USA comeback against Jamaica and Mexico's dominant 3-0 win over Panama. The final, played on March 24, saw the second edition of a Mexico vs USA final in the CONCACAF Nations League, with the USA looking for a threepeat, while Mexico was looking to lift the trophy for the first time.

The game started slow, with both teams trying to keep control of the ball before attacking. USA had the first real threat, as Pulisic was able to juggle the ball inside the penalty box, but the shot was stopped by Ochoa. Both sides kept on trying to

open the score, but defenses on both ends were blocking every chance.

It wasn't until the final minutes of the first half when Tyler Adams had a shot from outside the box, straight into the top corner and opened the score in favor of the USA. An amazing goal to open the final, but it wouldn't be the only one. Early in the second half, a series of rebounds ended in Gio Reyna's feet, and without a second thought, he kicked the ball straight into the bottom corner, scoring the second goal of the night and pushing USA closer to their third CONCACAF Nations League trophy.

Mexico was meant to show up in the final, but the players never demonstrated they were in the game. The second goal barely shook them a bit to try and revert the situation, but Mexico never threatened the USA's goal throughout the 90 minutes. A penalty for Mexico was taken away after a VAR check, and Mexico, for the fourth time in a row, was unable to score a goal to the USA in an official match.

The USA didn't let their guard down, fought for every ball until the last minutes, and as the final whistle blew, the players ran to celebrate the 2-0

victory over Mexico. The "Dos a Cero" chant could be heard in the stands, and it even took a while for Pulisic to remember the importance of that score. Long are the days in which the USA had to fight hard to beat Mexico, as now they are unbeaten in four years.

The win not only secured bragging rights for the USA but also served as a testament to the progress made by American soccer in recent years. With a talented young squad and a growing pool of talent, the future looks bright for the Stars and Stripes as they continue their quest for glory on the international stage.

Missing the World Cup in 2018 was the best thing that could have happened for the USA, as the system would be later restructured, they improved their youth development and had short and long-term goals. The results can now be seen with their back-to-back-to-back CONCACAF Nations League trophy. Unless something drastic happens in the Mexican Federation, it looks like USA winning titles will be something Mexicans will have to get used to.

Steelers Head Coach Mike Tomlin does exclusive 1-on-1 interview

During free agency, the Steelers only had one quarterback on their roster. Knowing that star player Russel Willson had permission to talk to other teams, they had their eye on him. Though he ultimately ended up in Pittsburgh, Wilson decided to travel to New York first. In the meeting, Wilson was prepared for the organization's history and willing to talk about how he would fit in the new system. Later in the week, the Steelers traded Kenny Pickett to the Eagles and acquired star player Justin Fields from the Chicago Bears.

Steelers newly acquired Offensive Coordinator Arthur Smith was someone that Tomlin was interested in signing, based on his knowledge in the run and play-action game. Being able to be adaptable plays a big part in it.

Patrick Queen, former Ravens linebacker, and a new addition to the defense will have a big impact on the Steelers. He is a pro-bowl caliber player at the age of 24 and will continue to get better along with other acquisitions for the defense. Mike Tomlin ends the interview by saying that he would like to remain the Steelers head coach for the future of his career.

— Alex Spangler



Photo by Nick Cammett

Undefeated team victories for the Brevard Tennis team

Savannah Anderson

Staff Writer

Our Brevard College tennis team played William Peace University for their home conference opener on March 23. Tornados swept the weekend, playing on Sun., March 24 for a friendly match against WPU.

On March 23, the men took a 9-0 victory. Doubles one, Hayden LeBlanc and Bryce Bernitt won in a well-played match 8-5 vs. Sam Jones and Ben Fleming. Doubles two, Devin Horton and Noah Lewis also clenched their win 8-5 vs. Angel Araiza and Patrick Buckler. Our doubles three came through with a huge victory by Peter Bresko and James Sirsich 8-1 over Ivan Ponce and Donolique Tyrell.

The singles matches were just as well played immediately following the doubles matches. LeBlanc at one singles took on Jones, whom he had previously played. In a hard-fought match, Leblanc came out with the win after losing 2-6 in the first set. He came back and forced the second set 7-6 into a tiebreaker, LeBlanc won that

tiebreaker 7-4. In a 10-point tiebreaker for the match, he came out victorious 11-9.

Bernitt played another close match at two, beating Fleming 7-5 in the first set. In the second set, he started to find his game. With a big difference from the first set, he came out with a 6-2 victory, taking the match and securing another point for the Nados's men's tennis team.

The rest of the singles were not as close as the previous matches were. Horton at singles three came out with yet again another victory for Brevard playing against Araiza, winning 6-2, 6-2. Lewis had his match against Buckler and won 6-2 on his first set and 6-3 on the second set for the singles four victory.

Freshman David Hoyle played singles five against Ponce and won the match 6-3, 6-3 for an impressive victory. Brian Seon at six singles had the quickest match taking down Tyrell in a 6-0, 6-1 win. The men came out victorious with a clean sweep officially winning the match 9-0.

On the same day, the women's teams played each other and the Nados secured another win for

the season. Doubles one Hannah Hersh and Sophie Trantham played a challenging match against Kayla Price and Camryn Straughn. William Peace came out with that victory with an 8-7 game score going into a tie-break in which they won 7-5.

Brooke Garland and Madison Bowen defeated Mya Sampson and Haley George 8-1. Savannah Anderson and Gracie Spangler also took an 8-1 victory over Jayla Durham and Jasseli Gutierrez in the quickest doubles match of the day.

In singles matchups, Brevard singles one, Hersh, played Price and took a difficult but extremely lengthy and well-played loss of 1-6, 3-6. Bowen played Straughn at singles two with the longest women's match of the day, ultimately ending in a 2-6, 5-7 loss.

Singles three Garland vs. Sampson, singles four Trantham vs. Durham, and singles six Anderson vs. Gutierrez won with a 6-0, 6-0 victory unwilling to let William Peace get a game on them. Spangler at five played George and took another impressive victory 6-0, 6-1. The women ended the day with a 6-3 win over WPU.



Brevard Tennis celebrates a win with a team picture.