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PHOTOS COURTESY OF BERRY COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Left: The first Viking Walk before Valhalla Stadium's inaugural game in 2015. **Right:** The football team won its fifth consecutive conference championship in spring 2021. **Learn more about how the program is celebrating its 10th anniversary on p. 14 and 15.**

C-SEED hires new director, new events planned for semester

Eric Zuniga
staff writer

Elizabeth Montiel-Alvarado
staff writer

Ivana Lajara has been hired as the new director of the Berry College Center for Student Enterprises and Entrepreneurship Development (C-SEED), which houses the student enterprise program as well as initiatives to nurture entrepreneurship among Berry students.

Lajara has previous experience working in both entrepreneurial fields and in higher education. She said that what attracted her to this position was its unique blend of teaching with entrepreneurial development.

"For the last eight years, I've been an entrepreneur myself in various industries, and for the last five years, while I completed my PhD, I worked at Western Michigan University at the office of the president and the board of trustees," Lajara said. "When I saw this position, I realized it has the best of both worlds for me because on one hand I can teach and get to work with students, and on the other hand I get to be in the entrepreneurial system where I can build things and create stuff and help make the vision of why C-SEED was created."

One of C-SEED's primary purposes has been to connect student entrepreneurs with the resources and mentorship they need to turn their ideas into feasible businesses. This year, Lajara said that the center will be introducing new events to foster entrepreneurship on campus that reach beyond the Campbell School of Business, beginning with the innovation cup being held next month. Each of Berry's four schools

will compete to create a solution for a problem of regional or global significance.

"What will happen is, an organization from Georgia will bring a regional or even global problem and students, faculty and staff will team up to try and solve it," Lajara said.

Additionally, the center will begin sponsoring monthly trips to the Atlanta Tech Village, which will provide students with the opportunity to meet some of the most prominent business leaders in the country.

"Something that we're very excited about is monthly visits to Atlanta Tech Village," Lajara said. "Atlanta Tech Village being one of America's largest start-up hubs, and being the home of amazing founders and entrepreneurs that serve as network and mentors, we're going there for the first time on October 14."

Lajara also said that next summer, Berry will be hosting the Techstars Start-up Weekend event. For the first time, this event, which combines intensive idea development with networking opportunities, will be open not only to students but also to any member of the local community.

"Techstars is one of the most important operational investors in technology in the U.S., and they're allowing us to open the event to students, alumni and the community," Lajara said. "Participants will be able to come in and for 54 hours, develop their ideas and hopefully enter the accelerator program, which provides an interesting network of support, resources and funding."

This all comes on top of the numerous events C-SEED has held in the past, such as the Spark conference, which brings business leaders from the Rome area to campus to speak about a particular issue. Other events, such as the social impact challenge, PITCH and the gadget project, allow students to

propose business ideas or products and receive funding and support. Lajara gave an example of one student who is receiving resources from the social impact challenge.

"They earn funds through the competition to develop that idea or project. Last year, we had one student come up with the ProHug, which was a jacket she developed for people with sensory disorders. She's getting support to patent that, trademark that, and be able to develop a business from it," Lajara said.

In addition to promoting entrepreneurship on campus, C-SEED also facilitates the fifteen Berry student enterprises, including the Shipyard, Berry Bees and Viking Cycle Works. Lajara said working for a student enterprise provides invaluable practical business knowledge.

"Regardless of what your major is or what your passion or your talent is, entrepreneurship can really become a tool for you to generate income, profit, and change lives," Lajara said. "Whatever your passion is, whatever your talent or idea is, I'm sure we can work with that. There's people on campus, experts like faculty members, who would love to help craft that into something that can hopefully positively change their community, the world and even themselves."

Aidan Hackett, chief operations officer of C-SEED, said that he is excited about Lajara's efforts to grow the program and offer new opportunities for students.

"I'm more proud of what we're going to be bringing in the future and set up in the coming years. This program's going to grow a lot from what it has been," Hackett said.

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Protests in Iran continue after death of Mahsa Amini

Carson Bonner
deputy news editor

Years of tension and oppression of women in Iran have erupted in protests following the death of Mahsa Amini at the hands of the morality police on Sept. 16. For the last two weeks, women have been protesting their oppression, lack of rights and the strict morality and hijab laws.

Amini's death has been viewed as the catalyst of these protests. She was arrested by the morality police, law enforcement responsible for enforcing modesty rules in public environments, for not wearing her hijab in accordance with government standards. In detention, she was severely beaten and was hospitalized, where she was comatose for two days up to her death, a narrative that conflicts with the story shared by the police, who said she had sudden heart failure when she was in their custody.

"Amini wasn't an activist, she was a 22 year old girl who did nothing but wear her hijab too loose," Kelsey Rice, assistant professor of history, said. "That's what so much of these protests have been about; it isn't just about wearing head coverings, it's about the culmination of injustice and civil unrest that's really been building."

Beginning in Iranian Kurdistan, where Amini was from, and continuing to spread through the rest of Iran, women and men of all ages have been demonstrating their discontentment and unwillingness to stand for patriarchal driven oppression. According to Rice, students have also been joining the protests, something that was almost unheard of in historical Iranian protests. No matter the demographic, though, the protestors are all calling out the same thing.

"The phrase being shouted is 'death to the dictator,'" Rice said. "It's speaking against the Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who is the religious head of all things political. He made his first public statement basically blaming Israel and the United States for the attacks and

also signaling for a harsher crackdown on the protestors, much like the statements that have been made by President Ebrahim Raisi."

The Grand Ayatollah is considered the supreme leader of Iran. He controls the laws put in place by the government from a religious perspective and is therefore a symbol and source of the oppression and inequality that women have been experiencing in Iran since he came into power in 1989.

The call for his death is not merely a literal call for his power to end, but also representative of the entire system that has oppressed Iranians.

The Iranian government ensures that the theocratic side of the government has almost complete control over the political side and elections. Raisi was heavily endorsed by the theocracy in the previous election and is heavily condemning the protests, while continuing to support the role and actions of the morality police, especially their enforcement of modesty laws for women.

"Their country is built on this idea that women don't have the right to do a number of things and they have to cover themselves," Susan Conradsen, associate professor of psychology and director of women's and gender studies, said. "In certain extreme types of government where there is such heavy control, you see that the primary object of control is women. So you have these morality police who can see you being unwilling to conform and they can take you and punish you and then beat you for it."

A large part of the basis for their control comes from religious justification. According to Jeffrey Lidke, professor of religious studies, Iran is deeply entrenched in androcentric patriarchal standards, meaning Iranian society

is centered around men being the leading figures and dictating the standards women must follow, whether those be established through their own personal interpretation of the Quran or simply through their ability as men to make laws of their preference.

"In societies where religion and government are inseparable, they are capable of being egalitarian, like in Tibet and Bhutan,"

Lidke said. "There can be a blend of religion and politics where we don't see these patterns [like in Iran] as strongly, so we can't say this problem is universal. However in Indo-Aryan societies that have carried religions such as Hinduism, Christianity and Islam, it certainly has not been uncommon. It also depends on how conservative these societies are, especially concerning their beliefs on gender."

Although in other countries with Islam as

their primary belief system, women are less limited in their roles as citizens, Iran's highly conservative interpretation of the Quran places women in a position of servitude and submission. Across the country, women have been burning their hijabs and displaying that they will not be forced into these roles.

"Some women wear head coverings as a personal choice or religious beliefs," Rice said. "For them, it's just a part of being modest and what they believe. Taking off their hijab would be like taking off their shirts. But those women are still participating in protests. The headscarves themselves are not the problem; the lack of choice and freedom is what they are fighting for. Women want to be able to make the decision for themselves and not have it made for them by a patriarchal government that doesn't have their best interest in mind."

As the protests have continued, college campuses have become epicenters of large protests. Sharif University of Technology has been under siege after a demonstration in response to the death of Amini. In the last several days, police have been using tear gas, firing rubber bullets at students and beating them as they have clashed with the protestors. Students have continued to resist amid chants of "Independence, freedom, death to Khamenei."

"While colleges are usually active spots for protests, we are also seeing high school kids joining protests as well," Rice said. "It's one thing to see a 22 year old protesting, but it's another thing entirely to see a high schooler shouting 'death to the dictator.' It sends a powerful image and is largely a reason for why Iran is trying so hard to stop the release of footage of the protests."

Amid these protests, Iran has attempted to shut down the internet and stop any news, social media or other communication from traveling both within and outside of the country. However, satellite internet has allowed videos and news to be publicized and for the story to be shared as the protests continue.

"Having such a spotlight on the protests is part of what is fueling them," Rice said. "We can watch them happen in real time all over the world. World leaders like the Biden administration have been condemning the Iranian government and supporting the protests, and everyone watching is hoping for a positive outcome."

Though this is not the Iranian citizens' first attempt at a revolution, its own people and onlookers around the world are hoping it will be what it takes to make a change.

"As far as the change goes, I certainly hope this will follow the pattern of protest and revolution that occurred elsewhere, even here in the United States," Lidke said. "Sometimes these theocratic societies crack down harshly on events like this, but we can hope for an outcome in favor of the protestors and for a positive change in Iran."

Amini wasn't an
activist, she was a
22 year old girl who
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wear her hijab too
loose.

Kelsey Rice

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Audrey Morgan donates \$5 million to Berry

Peter Merrill
news editor

Heath Hutcheson
staff writer

Last month Audrey Morgan, a philanthropist from Atlanta, donated \$5 million to Berry's Nursing Department. Morgan has contributed in many other ways on Berry's campus by funding Audrey Morgan Hall and the Sister's Theater.

Carolyn Reilly, director for the division of nursing, said that the money would be used to provide scholarships for nursing students.

"[Morgan] saw the need," Reilly said. "There's a huge nursing demand right now, about a 30 percent critical shortage across the nation. She knows that there are some high-quality, well-educated students out there who need scholarships so that they can become nurses."

Reilly said that scholarships would be offered to students who excelled in high school and who practiced the "five Cs" of nursing: competence, caring, compassion, creativity and cultural humility.

According to the NurseJournal, at the height of the pandemic, there was a 14 to 1 patient to nurse ratio. This problem was further exacerbated by extreme stress and burn out affecting the nurses, which led to a high percentage of turn over. While the patient to nurse ratio has since come down, the country is still plagued by a deficiency of health care providers.

"I would say it's a lot of things [that are causing the nursing shortage]," said Reilly. "For one, the aging baby boomer. They require a lot more health care services. Health care in general has grown as

we've moved into the twenty first century and we have people requiring more health care. I'd say that our population as a whole are probably less healthy than they were 50 years ago. You marry that with the advances in health care, so now we're able to detect things earlier. So, there's an increased demand for health care, there's a lot less health care providers because of COVID and the baby boomers are all retiring."

Reilly said that many nurses are aging out of their occupations, and that the average age for a nurse is now over 50 years old. Despite admission numbers showing that some students were initially scared off from careers in nursing by the pandemic, there are now more applicants than ever for the department at Berry.

"There are so many students that want to become nurses that the problem is that we don't have enough spots," Reilly said. "There was a little bit of a hit from COVID and just in general, but we are back up to admitting a class of 40 every fall and then we're going to expand. We're doubling the size of our program."

Haley Oleson, a nursing student at Berry said, "I think the number one thing will be getting the staff to multiply the number of students - and it will be really important that if we do expand, to get more staff as well."

One of the biggest things Oleson believes that this donation could provide is expansion for the times of year that classes are offered for the nursing program.

"There could be potential to start classes in spring as well as the fall," Oleson. "Currently you have certain classes in the fall and certain classes in the spring that are not offered at any other time. If you need to retake a class or go back and review stuff, you have to wait a whole year before that next cohort comes up. I'm hoping with this new donation we will have a possibility for expansion

and see the nursing program flourish."

Oleson also hopes that the donation will result in more class options, as well as professors and technology. Ni Vang, another nursing student at Berry, agreed that the donation money should go toward expanding the amount of staff members.

"For me personally, I think we should strengthen the program before you have more students, meaning getting more staff and being better equipped for incoming students," Vang said.

Reilly said that by Jan. 2024, a second cohort of 40 students is expected to be added to the nursing department. Berry's nursing department requires that students get hands on experience in local settings. Because of Rome's size, it would prove difficult for more than 80 students to acquire the needed experience without overwhelming the city.

"Our students do about 650, maybe 700 hours of clinical in the two years that they're with us," Reilly said. "That means they go to the hospital, and they deliver care there or ambulatory care in schools for children, just different settings for that. Hospice, homecare, etc. We can only send so many students at a time to those places to receive their clinical education with one of our instructors, so we can't just accept 200 students."

Hands on learning is immensely important to the nursing department, and it is not just limited to the Rome area. Next year, juniors in the department will be going to rural Africa.

"We have an immersion program," Reilly said. "And so next August we are going to Kenya to actually work with patients. In the past they've gone to Costa Rica, but that was shut down because of COVID and so then they couldn't go for several years. Now we're hoping to restart that, but in Kenya this time."

According to Reilly, 100% of nursing students at Berry acquire job offers before graduation, a statistic indicating a successful program.



September 30
Officer responded to report of a collapsed ceiling. Upon inspection, student had fallen through, damaging the ceiling.

September 30
Student had a seizure in Evans and refused transport by EMS.

September 30
Subject disregarded campus visitation instructions and trespassed.

October 1
A student reported damage to her vehicle.

October 2
A suspicious hooded figure and a screaming woman were reported on Viking Trail.

October 2
Officers responded to a student with with a medical issue in Morton-Lemley.

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Former President Trump subject of several investigations

Lily Verren
staff writer

Former President Donald Trump and his affiliates are currently under investigation for several accusations, including inciting an insurrection by the Jan. 6 Committee, violations of the Espionage Act by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and tax fraud by the state of New York.

Incitement of insurrection, in context, refers to the encouragement of rebellion against the authority of the state, or in this case specifically, the U.S. Congress. There is debate over whether the situation at Capitol Hill was an attempt at insurrection or not, which prompts questions about the other accusations involved, such as ‘conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding.’

Abigail Vegter, assistant professor of political science, said that even though some of the charges may be small, the results may still be important for Americans.

“A key part of democracy [is] that no one is above the law,” Vegter said. “I would like to think that regardless of who this was, that anyone would be investigated.”

It will be difficult for the Jan. 6 committee to prove the accusations of inciting insurrection, partially because of the protections afforded by the First Amendment and protected political speech.

“There’s regular speech that’s protected by the First Amendment, and then there’s political speech,” Eric Sands, associate professor of political science, said. “Political

speech is typically afforded the highest level of protection under the Constitution. You wouldn’t want to be limiting that speech in any significant way, but we have recognized that there are limits to free speech. One of those limits is inciting people to violence, so the hard part is that we have to parse his words.”

During a Washington D.C. rally on Jan. 6, Trump said, “I know that everyone here will soon be marching over to the Capitol building to peacefully and patriotically make your voices heard.”

The committee’s ninth hearing will likely be the final public presentation of investigative findings before the committee writes its report. Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-Miss), chairman of the House Jan. 6 Committee, told the Just the News media brand that “[The committee] might release some interim information, but the final report will come after the election.”

In addition to the Jan. 6 Committee, the FBI searched Mar-a-Lago, Trump’s primary residence since 2019, on Aug. 8, and found 48 empty folders marked as ‘classified’, according to the inventory that the Department of Justice filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Trump spoke on Fox News Channel’s segment “Hannity” in regards to the documents that the FBI investigation is concerned with.

“There doesn’t have to be a process, as I understand it,” Trump said. “You’re the president of the United States, you can declassify just by saying it’s declassified, even by thinking about it.”

In August 2022, Trump Organization

CFO Allen Weisselberg, took a plea deal in New York and agreed to testify against the organization in the future if called.

Alvin Bragg Jr., district attorney for Manhattan, said, “This plea agreement directly implicates the Trump Organization in a wide range of criminal activity and requires Weisselberg to provide invaluable testimony in the upcoming trial against the corporation.”

On Sept. 21, New York Attorney General Letitia James filed a lawsuit against Trump and the Trump Organization. The lawsuit included allegations that Trump and other affiliated parties exaggerated Trump’s net worth.

“There are not two sets of laws for people in this country; we must hold former presidents to the same standards as everyday Americans,” James said in a press release.

Vegter believes that the smaller investigations may be a strategic way of getting the truth of the larger accusations.

“There is no doubt that there is some shady stuff that’s happened behind closed doors, and that’s a fact of politics,” Vegter said. “When it comes to the actual charges, I think what we see is people throwing a lot of things at the wall to see what will stick.”

How people felt about Trump before the investigations influences the investigation’s importance to them, according to Vegter.

“Frankly he’s out of office,” Vegter said. “If you like him, you may be angry about these investigations. If you don’t like him, you may be ambivalent, because he, in theory, doesn’t have power anymore.”

That applies to the Jan. 6 committee, as well.

According to Sands, the committee should be a bipartisan group, with representatives of both sides involved, if not a nonpartisan attorney with the powers of subpoena.

There are a lot of variables at play that will likely affect the long-term effects of Trump’s presidency upon U.S. politics.

“I would be very surprised if Trump ever went to prison,” Vegter said. “It’s really going to depend on who’s in power and how their decisions play to their base. This is going to be dependent on what happens in 2024, especially with the presidential race.”

As for the political ramifications of Jan. 6 and the resulting investigations, Sands said findings will likely be divisive.

“To people on the left, this is a truth finding committee that is trying to ascertain what really happened behind the Jan. 6 incursion into the capital,” Sands said. “To people on the right, it’s a show trial. It’s going to show that Trump was responsible for trying to launch an insurrection to overthrow the United States.”

Sands said that half the country is going to point towards the results as proof, and the other is going to dismiss the results entirely.

When it comes to Jan. 6 itself, Vegter said policies are being created to prevent a repeat of events.

“There are people on both sides of the political aisle coming together, identifying [the Jan. 6 insurrection] as extremely worrisome for our democracy, and trying to take active steps to prevent it from happening again,” Vegter said. “So, we are already seeing some shifts in policy.”

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Berry responds to floods in Chattooga County

Mary Harrison
sports editor

After floods swept through neighboring Chattooga County, Berry was officially involved in the immediate response to a local disaster for the second time in twenty years. Staff and students also personally involved themselves through manpower and donations.

The city of Summerville and parts of Chattooga County, to the north of Rome, experienced flash floods Labor Day weekend, when an unexpected rainstorm dumped over a foot of rain within three days.

Beginning late on Saturday, Sept. 3 and continuing into Sunday, Sept. 4, the deluge was more than the ground could absorb and caused local creeks and storm drains to overflow until they could empty into the Chattooga River, according to Eddie Elsberry, Berry's director of agricultural operations and chairman of the Chattooga County School District board of education.

The flash floods shut down Summerville's water treatment plants, leaving customers in the city and parts of the county without running water for almost a week, until Friday, Sept. 9. A boil advisory remained in effect until the following Wednesday.

Berry College Volunteer Services (BCVS) sent 12 students to help with relief efforts at North Summerville Baptist Church (NSBC).

Montana Barber, senior and current BCVS student director, led the group, which gave local volunteers at NSBC a respite by packing buckets of cleaning supplies, sorting through donations of water and loading cars with donations.

"It's important to have these [responses] that are nearby because we can actually be there, be hands on and see the work that we are doing is effective," Barber said. "It's also important to consider greater causes that are farther away, but that may not be as blatantly impactful for our volunteers."

Although she herself has never been affected by a natural disaster, Barber has personally helped with previous disaster relief efforts. The senior, who is from northwest Georgia, said helping in-person reinforced the fact that shortages of a basic need like water could happen to anybody, while many organizations with which BCVS partners only service specific demographics.

"While it may have been worse for some people living in less ideal housing, in terms of the water shortage, everyone was out of water," Barber reflected. "For someone like me, who's from this area, it does feel a little more intimate

and I can see the needs probably different than they can."

The Rev. Sammy Barrett, pastor of North Summerville Baptist Church, said his volunteers had been working all day since Sunday morning, Sept. 3, to hand out bottled water, cleaning supplies, clothing and snacks to Chattooga residents who came through the church's impromptu, parking lot distribution site. The pastor reported being the first person to arrive at 7:30 a.m. each day and the last to leave at 11 p.m. throughout the week following the flooding.

The church received volunteers both locally and from multiple states, and semitrucks full of donations. Berry was the first college to send a group of students to help at NSBC, according to Barrett.

"It gave our people a break because [they] have worked so many hours," the pastor said on Saturday, Sept. 10. "[Students] being here has really taken the pressure off and given them a much-needed rest. We really appreciate [BCVS] being here."

BCVS did not take any additional groups to the church, due to the immediacy and temporariness of the volunteer need, but Barber said those interested in still helping can talk with organization's existing community partners, like Habitat for Humanity, about ways to help with long-term recovery in the area.

Long-term recovery in Chattooga County was concerning to Laurie Chandler, director of Berry's Bonner Center for Community Engagement.

Chandler became the coordinator of relief efforts on campus when she began organizing a donation drive through the center in a matter of hours the Thursday after flash floods occurred.

Boxes were set up in the Cook Building, Hermann Hall and at the Krannert Information Desk to receive donations.

In all, over 30 cases of water and a minivan load of bleach, diapers, trash bags and other items were given before Chandler ended the drive Friday, Sept. 23.

"Berry has always been quick to respond in times of disaster or need," Chandler said. "These are our neighbors, so we needed to begin the long work of recovery."

Students in the Bonner Scholars Program, which Chandler oversees, were not assigned to assist with immediate disaster relief, although the program plans to take a group over Fall Break.

However, the center's Floyd County-based community partners with which the Scholars intern, over 30 including Habitat for Humanity, Mercy Care Rome and the Salvation Army, often service the greater Northwest Georgia area, and Chandler suspects they are helping the community with long-term recovery as part of

their regular duties.

Immediate response is often emphasized in the wake of a natural disaster, Chandler said, and long-term recovery is often forgotten, especially as immediate response teams start to pull out and local groups are expected to meet all remaining needs.

"I'm hoping that students can find value in understanding that, while it might seem more glamorous to respond to a hurricane that's hit the Gulf Coast, or a tornado in the Midwest, it's more responsible for us to serve our neighbors," Chandler said.

Another major donation drive on Berry's campus was organized by Lynne Reilly, director of admissions for Berry College Elementary & Middle School (BCEMS). Reilly coordinates the school's monthly service-learning projects, dubbed "H3O" for the use of head, heart and hands to serve others.

In the wake of the Chattooga County flooding, which directly impacted some BCEMS families, Reilly reached out to parents and discovered the best way to help would be collecting water and cleaning supplies.

To make logistics easier for BCEMS parents, Reilly asked families to bring water in all sizes and cleaning supplies through the car lines at the school and in the Cage Center parking lot during drop-off and pick-up times on Monday, Sept. 12, and Tuesday, Sept. 13.

"It was a small way to help but I think we made a difference," Reilly said. "It helped the kids to realize that we're only talking just a few miles up the road where people were without clean water."

BCEMS families who lived in Chattooga County volunteered to deliver the items to City Hall in Summerville, along with sports drinks for the relief workers, delivering around three-and-a-half carloads of supplies in total, including over 100 cases of water.

The donation drive differed from typical H3O projects because the need was critical and close by, Reilly said, with direct connections to members of the BCEMS community. Previous H3O projects included fundraising for hurricane relief in Puerto Rico and Haiti.

In addition to relief efforts organized directly by the institution, members of the Berry community volunteered their time personally to help Chattooga County flood victims.

Kerrie Dalrymple, Krannert Facilities and Services Coordinator with the Student Activities Office, is a member of Dry Valley Baptist Church in Summerville.

The church served as a collection point

for flats of water and, since the building did not lose water, it housed the Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief team, which serviced the county with meals, showers and laundry facilities. Dalrymple and her family donated water and cleaning supplies to their church's distribution efforts, which she observed to be very well organized and accounting for those unable to leave their homes.

"Everybody's just grateful for any of it, all of it," Dalrymple said.

Fellow member of Dry Valley Baptist Church, Samantha Reimer, is a freshman at Berry. Her family moved to Summerville in June from Colorado, where Reimer said fires proved to be the most dangerous natural disaster.

"We've never seen rain come down like that," Reimer said of the initial flooding on the night of Sept. 3. "I woke up in the middle of the night hearing rain just pouring, and then the next morning it was still coming down heavy."

Thankfully, the Reimers were not badly affected by the flooding and only had to boil their water for 24 hours because do not draw water from the Summerville Water Treatment Plant, and Samantha said this put them in a position to help others.

Reimer's father, new director of the Berry Center for Integrity and Leadership Bob Reimer, helped to deliver supplies raised by the Bonner Center's donation drive.

Samantha spent her Labor Day holiday preparing and loading around 300 boxed meals for the Salvation Army to distribute around Chattooga County.

Although she was unavailable during the day once classes resumed, Reimer did help at the church on Wednesday nights however possible.

"It's very satisfactory," Reimer said. "Even if you never personally hear a thank-you, it's the knowledge that, that one meal made someone's life just a little bit easier, that day a little bit brighter, they know somebody was caring for them."

Those Reimer met who were impacted the worst by the flooding were very thankful for the help from the churches and Chattooga County community. A servant's heart is also the aspect of her new school community that Reimer most appreciates.

"The college doesn't just focus inwards," Reimer said. "It focuses inwards when it needs to, but it focuses outwards to improve the lives of others."

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Our View: Printed papers are still important

The Digital Age began in the mid-twentieth century. Today's college students are used to this era — they were born into it, never knowing anything else except a world of technology. Some of them started out with flip phones and were later given smartphones, tablets and personal computers. Others may have skipped the flip phone, with their parents waiting until smartphones came out to give their children technological devices. Soon, incoming college students will have been born with iPhones in their hands.

The fact that we were, at least mostly, born with technology in our hands calls into question how useful content that is not digital is. Traditional print media such as newspapers are heavily debated. Should society still have print newspapers? Are they worth funding? Should all news be digital?

National Newspaper Week is from Oct. 2 to 8. This is a week in which newspapers and the people behind them are recognized for their services to the country. One important topic discussed during this week is the idea that newspapers are still important and that they still matter. While the benefits of printed newspapers may not seem obvious, they still hold value in today's world.

Perhaps the most significant benefit of them is that they are accessible to those that either do not have any internet at all or those who have inconsistent internet. If print papers were to be eradicated, the group of people without access to digital media would not be able to read news that

is critical for them to know, isolated from the rest of society. Print papers, however, are circulated to various areas of the country, including those more rural areas that may not have steady internet. They also help those who live in an area with internet but who are unable to afford technological devices like smartphones. This same idea applies to the elderly population who might not know how digital devices work or have access to them.

Although that may be the most easily recognizable benefit, there are quite a few others. For example, it is easier to focus on a print paper rather than a digital version. When reading the news on the internet, people have a lot of distractions at their disposal. There are other articles, games, streaming service ads and more all available on the same device being used to read a news story. With a physical paper, there is nothing to distract readers with the exception of pictures that still relate to the articles being read. Additionally, one is most likely not trying to multitask while reading something physical as they would while having the television news broadcaster speaking out loud to them.

A very important aspect to consider is the credibility of the news being shared digitally versus in print. With digital articles, there is a rush to be the first source; news organizations and journalists want people to read their article first. Digital media allows journalists to publish their articles much faster, meaning that this mad

rush is further increased. In the haste to publish first, journalists have less time to gather facts and conduct interviews with reliable sources. Print papers, on the other hand, provide at minimum a full day to work on a story — to gather facts, interview sources, write and edit. Therefore, while not always true, it is more likely that more accurate and complete information is being provided in printed sources of news rather than digital. Another aspect of digital media to consider is that the goal is to gain views rather than tell a true story as is the goal of print papers.

Another smaller benefit of printed papers is that they are easier on the eyes of readers than stories read on electronic devices. So many daily activities, both work and leisure, are conducted through screens. This can take a toll on one's eyes. After looking at bright screens for so long, people may not want to be forced to look at them yet again to receive their news. Print papers would not further strain their eyes and, thus, may be preferable at the end of the day.

Printed newspapers provide a host of benefits, more than is possible to go over here. National Newspaper Week highlights all of these benefits and reminds us of the value of physical papers. Society should not convert to solely digital news media, and printed newspapers are not dead.

The Carrier's editorial opinion represents the views of the senior members of the Campus Carrier and Viking Fusion news staff.

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ADVISOR
Kevin Kleine

(706) 236-2294
campus_carrier@berry.edu

Bubble Banter

Topic of the Week: What is the best place to cry on campus?

- the library floor
Abby Shrader, sophomore
- Ford Showers
Sylvie Estelle, junior
- on the road to the old mill
Ciera Heinrich, senior
- Fountain at Krannert at night, rocking chairs at Evans at night, the shower to save time, while driving up to mountain at night, in front of the angry geese on mountain
Hannah Saxon, junior
- Everywhere if you're wearing shades and a hoodie
Wesley Romero, junior
- forensics lounge
Kalista Shields, senior
- checkout study rooms in the library
Hannah Horton, junior
- Cars
Lirio Morales Ibarra, senior
- Reflection Pool
Abigail Bryant, freshman

Keep an eye out for future topics of the week on our social media. Submit your opinion for a chance to be featured. Responses are published as submitted.
@campuscarrier

Prideful argumentation destroys productivity of dissent

ROSEMARY CHESNEY
arts & living editor

The saying “pick your battles” has come to be many people’s approach to arguments. Whenever there is a difference of opinion, the immediate question becomes, “Is this really worth it?” Standing by any given view could mean engaging in an argument. That argument can easily go nowhere and just turn into a fight. Soon enough, everyone has wasted their time in a pointless altercation. Keeping the opinion quiet would save time and spare everyone from the headache of it all.

In this way, it can appear that rarely is anything worth arguing. Even if one does deem something to be worth the time of engaging, they are often met with close-minded refusal or outright hostility from everyone else. Disagreement of any sort seems to be a useless and unproductive waste of time.

This should not be the only way we view arguments. Disagreement holds a negative connotation tied to foolish hostility that holds back society while agreement is regarded as what drives us forward. However, between the two, disagreement is by far the more powerful tool for progress. While agreement is necessary to implement change, it is disagreement that sparks it in the first place.

A perfectly harmonious society, free from disagreement, is only possible if it is also devoid of unique thoughts. If individuals are unwilling to question those around them, progress would cease. Without disagreement, society would be stuck, doomed to never grow or change.

Despite its necessity for progression, disagreement has gained a bad reputation. The vast majority of arguments are close-

minded, immature squabbles instead of civil debates. Stubbornness and hostility negate the productivity in disagreement, creating the perception of it today. Engaging with anyone who disagrees with you appears to be a fruitless waste of time. Debates devolve rapidly as no one considers the merits of other’s arguments due to everyone being completely confident in their own view.

Often this leads to avoidance of all disagreement. Fear of senseless bickering leads to shutting down at the first sign of conflicting opinions. However, the way to combat the lack of civil practices and respect in arguments is not to refuse engagement altogether. The decline of productive debates is only accentuated by those unwilling to argue. We should not choose to flee from battles that look difficult, but rather approach

them differently.

The productivity of any disagreement does not come from proving oneself right. Contrastingly, those who completely “win” an honest debate retain their starting opinion and views, meaning they gain less than those who revise their position. Pride pushes us to desire to be right, but it also blinds us from other views and restricts our ability to grow.

In order to truly gain from disagreements, we need to continuously acknowledge the possibility that we are wrong. When we do that, we open ourselves to the opinions of others which, in turn, allows our debates to be productive. Civil disagreement can only occur when one remains open-minded. It is when we limit ourselves strictly to our current view that arguments devolve and we gain nothing.

Awareness of main character syndrome is important

REESE CHATMAN
features editor

Everyone wants to be unique. Everyone has an innate desire to feel special. I would even go a step further in saying that everyone does feel that there is at least one thing, whether that be a talent, interest or a struggle, that they, and only they are experiencing. However, is this even remotely a possibility?

The world population currently stands well over the 7 billion mark, so naturally, one could deduce that whatever experience they are currently undergoing, someone else has been through something nearly, if not completely identical.

“Main Character Syndrome” is a term I’ve gradually seen used more and more over the last year. However, it is almost always in a joking manner. While this might be the case, I would argue that every single person on Earth experiences this syndrome to some extent.

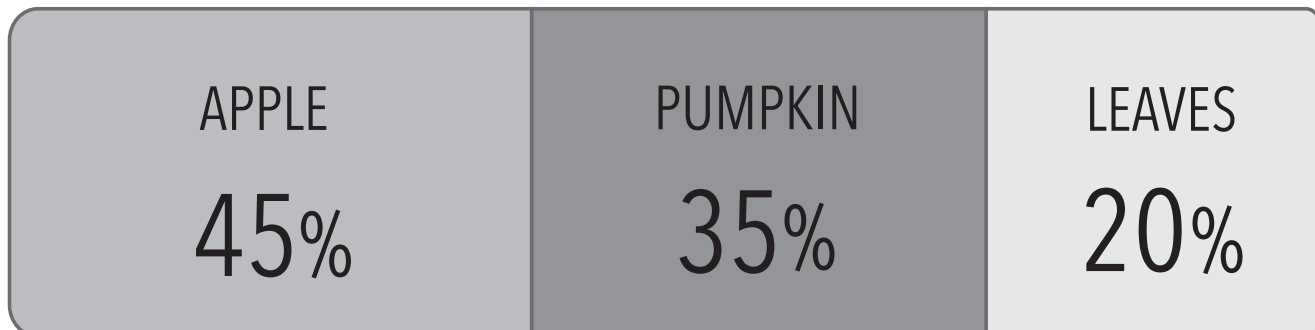
In my experience at college, interacting with a variety of people who hail from across the country, I often hear extremely similar responses when I ask about where they live. For example, if I ask someone from Atlanta, Georgia and someone from Houston, Texas what the most distinct things are in their respective hometowns, they might respond by saying, “Traffic,” or “the weather is constantly changing.” I know for a fact that many people from these cultures would give similar answers because I’ve asked them myself to many people and almost always hear some variation of these two answers. Why do these people feel the need to have their city defined by something so menial and bland? In short, they want their hometown to be distinct, so in turn, they can feel distinct for living there. Once again, Main Character Syndrome is the culprit.

I say all of this while I myself struggle with this very same concept. It is incredibly difficult to shake the fact you are not the main character. In most of the books, television and movies we consume, we know the inner thoughts of the protagonist. As a result, we see ourselves as a protagonist of sorts because we know our own inner thoughts.

Personally, I am not under the impression there is anything wrong with forming a fun narrative about your life. As long as it does not trail into delusion, I feel that it does not hurt to “give in” in a little bit. However, the sooner we become self-aware of this unshakable syndrome, the sooner we will view and treat others as equals. It is a lot easier to treat someone with respect when you visit them as a fellow main character, rather than an extra in your movie.

This week’s Instagram poll:

APPLE OR PUMPKIN FLAVORED THINGS?



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— weekly poll!



Mountain Day Over the Years: From 1914 to 2022

Reese Chatman
features editor

Mountain Day has a long and rich history spanning decades at Berry. It is a weekend that celebrates the college and the people that have come through it over the years. As these people have come and gone, many traditions have stayed the same. Alumni and the Memorial Library Archives provide a deeper look into this longstanding event.

The first Mountain Day celebration began in 1914 when Martha Berry invited students to a picnic for her birthday. Students traveled to the foot of the mountain via wagon and would then hike to the top. The grand march began as a way for to express their appreciation to Martha as a birthday gift. However, Martha did not want anything material, so students and staff banded together to create gifts for the school as a whole.

“Mountain Day is essentially Berry’s version of homecoming,” Lecturer of Communication and Berry alumni, Hope Willoughby said. “It’s all about Martha, celebrating Berry’s legacy and coming together as a community. That last part is my favorite aspect of Mountain Day because it is a chance for current students to connect with alumni and others who share in this vision of what the Berry community is.”

Willoughby gave a brief rundown and overview of what Mountain Day activities take place over the weekend, and what they are meant to focus on.

“The activities that happen on Friday are really just focused on current students,” Willoughby said. “That’s where you get the Mountain Day Olympics and the talent show. Then, on Saturday it branches out to become more about the alumni community with events like the grand march and the picnic.”

Willoughby spoke of some of the larger event changes she has witnessed over the years, one of which being Marthapoolooza.

“When I was a student, that was when Marthapoolooza was just getting started,” Willoughby said. “It was originally introduced as an alternative to the field party, which took place off campus, and was kind of dangerous. There was some underage drinking among other criminal activity, so this was the alternative. I got to be there and watch it first get off the ground, and when they first started adding carnival rides.”

As she has grown from student to alumni and Berry staff member, Willoughby’s outlook on the weekend has changed quite a bit.

“When I was a student and was working these events, I would love being able to meet and chat with the alumni.” Willoughby said. “It is for sure still a chance to meet people, but now it is a lot more of a chance for me to reconnect with people I already know. This could be former students or friends. I am still friends with a lot of alumni.”



COURTESY OF THE BERRY COLLEGE ARCHIVES
A photo from a Mountain Day pamphlet depicting the Grand March.

THE STORY OF MOUNTAIN DAY AND LAVENDAR MOUNTAIN

MOUNTAIN DAY at Berry College and the Mount Berry School for Boys is a day rich in meaning. It is at once a day of dedication and a day of festivity, a day of teamwork, a day for a great community picnic and for friendship and bright pageantry and a timely message by an eminent speaker.

On **MOUNTAIN DAY**, Berry students demonstrate their school spirit and their understanding of the occasion's significance as they, year after year, honor their schools' founder, Miss Martha Berry, and reemphasize the high purpose of the institutions she began. The event is held on the Saturday nearest Miss Berry's birthday, October 7. Born in 1866, she died in 1942, leaving the educational institutions as living monuments to her memory.

The tradition of **MOUNTAIN DAY** is an interesting one, stemming from the earliest days of the institutions and beginning when Miss Berry invited all students to be her guests at a picnic in celebration of her birthday. Each year thereafter, the occasion was repeated and soon became a much anticipated holiday.

In the beginning Lavendar Mountain was the site of **MOUNTAIN DAY** activities. Students traveled in wagons to the foot of the mountain and then hiked up the steep rugged slope by foot. Before good roads were built, transportation became an increasing problem as student numbers continued to grow at Berry.

Lavendar Mountain is visible from most of the campuses and is a landmark in the history of the schools.

The mountain was named for George Michael Lavendar—an Indian who was a pioneer, a government agent and wealthy owner of a trading post on the nearby Oostanaula River. Rising 1,695 feet above sea level, the mountain is the highest point in Floyd County.

Lavendar Mountain was later owned by Miss Berry's father. The Foundation School, now supplanted by Mount Berry School for Boys, was begun at the foot of the mountain in 1916.

A house atop Lavendar Mountain was constructed in 1922 for Miss Berry. She named it the "House o' Dreams." It continues to be used on special occasions.

The present location for the picnic and for the afternoon activities at the foot of Lavendar Mountain has been used since the establishment of the Foundation School.

The natural beauty of the site of Mount Berry School for Boys makes an inspirational setting for a day so rich in meaning—a day which begins on the college campus with a chapel program and a memorial service.

The Grand March which follows the picnic is a highlight of the program, and is a symbolic feature which has attracted coverage in outstanding nationwide publications. Here is how the Grand March began.

Students wanted to show their high regard for Miss Berry by giving her a birthday gift of loyal appreciation. Realizing that there was nothing material that she wanted for herself, students and staff wisely decided, with her encouragement, to make their gifts to the schools.

Gifts from the students at the college and school for boys have since that day, not only served to show high esteem for Miss Berry's greatness, but have quickened in most students' minds the sense of responsibility in directly helping the building of the educational institutions. Through the years, the students, in a procession around the hillside—first in single file and finally in massed array—have dropped their contributions in a gift basket. During Miss Berry's lifetime she stood to receive the basket as a student formally presented the student gifts to the schools. And always, then and now, emphasis has been not on the size of the gift but on the faith in humanity felt by the giver of each gift.



COURTESY OF THE BERRY COLLEGE ARCHIVES

This excerpt from a Mountain Day pamphlet walks through the earliest Mountain Days and gives information on the mountain the weekend is named after.

“A lot of Mountain Day activities are still the same,” Associate Dean of Students Lindsey Norman said. “You still compete with your residence halls which is a lot of fun. We used to have a bigger commuter team. They used to be a lot more active than they are now.”

As a student, Norman worked for KCAB, which played a pivotal role in what events she enjoyed the most.

“As a student, my favorite part of Mountain Day was the Olympics, mainly because I was the one planning it and running it,” Norman said. “The March was not as much of a big deal to me. But now, my friends who I would have spent time with at the Olympics, I now see at the March, so that’s become my favorite.”

Mountain Day has played an integral role in Norman’s life, with her first attendance of the event being in 2000. 22 years later, she has never missed it.

“Over the years when I was looking for jobs, I would always make sure that wherever I was, I would be able to make it back for Mountain Day,” Norman said. “I even got engaged after the March one year. My husband and I even made sure that we didn’t plan our wedding around that time.”

“To me, Mountain Day is about remembering that the Berry community is your family,” Norman said. “I think it shows Berry students a glimpse into the long history of the school. Even when students become alumni, they will realize that no matter what they were involved in during their time here, everyone has Mountain Day in common.”



COURTESY OF THE BERRY COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Students play a game of tug of war during the 1978 Mountain Day festivities.

Tribune

Weather
Partly cloudy with some change of a few scattered thundershowers this morning, becoming fair and cooler this afternoon and tonight. Monday fair and continued cool.

AP, INS News Services

Berry Swap Charges Enters Last Lap

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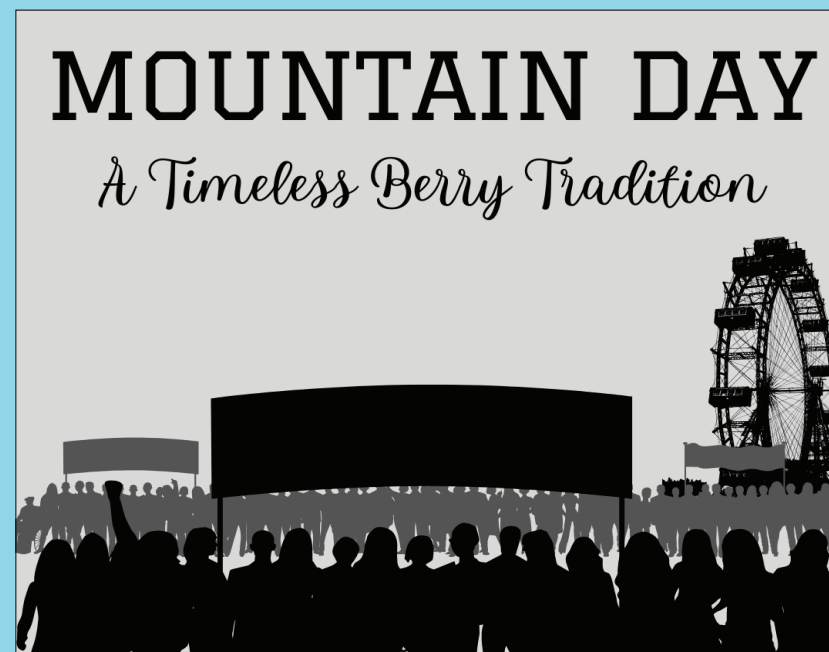
HONOR MARTHA BERRY—In annual tribute to Martha Berry, students of the famed school look part in the Mountain Day exercises yesterday, and here are gathered in their Grand March. Today marks the 90th anniversary of Miss Berry's birth.

ROOSEVELT KIN VISITS BERRY—A granddaughter of President Theodore Roosevelt, who himself was a visitor on the Berry campus in 1910, visited the schools yesterday for the annual Mountain Day exercises. Here Miss Edith Kermit Roosevelt (right) is greeted by Mrs. Inez Henry, assistant to the president. Looking on are (left to right) Dean S. H. Cook, dean at the time of the Roosevelt visit; Walter Johnson, alumni secretary, a student in 1910; E. H. Hoge and Grady Hamrick, other students in 1910.

Sentence Cut, '56 Coos' Vallev Fair

COURTESY OF THE BERRY COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Excerpt from a 1954 issue of the Rome News Tribune regarding Mountain Day.



Sarah Nelson | CAMPUS CARRIER



**Friday, Oct. 7
7:00 p.m.**
Berry Singers Mountain Day concert at Bell Recital Hall.

**Friday, Oct. 7
9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.**
Mountain Day Talent Show hosted by KCAB at Bell Recital Hall.

**Saturday, Oct. 8
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**
Mountain Day Farmers Market on memorial Drive next to Clara Bowl.

**Monday, Oct. 10
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
Artists' Space hosted by Art Society in Moon 102.

**Tuesday, Oct. 11
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**
Mid-Autumn Moon Festival hosted by AAPI in Krannert 217.

**Thursday, Oct. 13
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**
Paddel down the Etowah Downtown section hosted by Department of Recreation.

**Thursday, Oct. 13
7:00 p.m.**
Fall choir concert in Bell Recital Hall.

Berry junior releases documentary

Anna Rinaggio
asst. arts and living editor

Berry Junior, Addison Howard, produced a documentary exploring four different all-black and slave cemeteries in the Rome, Georgia area. The documentary, titled 'Beyond the Month: The Historic Black and Slave Cemeteries of Rome, GA,' began as a small project for Viking Fusion for Black History Month that grew into a much larger project. After talking to Selena Tilly, the director for the Rome Area History Center, about a selection of black and slave cemeteries, Howard realized that he wanted to do more with the project.

"I've always been fascinated with [cemeteries], and I thought it was important to highlight those during Black History Month," said Howard. "And even though the project didn't come out during Black History Month, it spiraled into this 30 minute-long project detailing these cemeteries and also the struggle of modern black history and site recognition, visibility, all that."

Howard did all of the technical production on his own, much of which was self-taught.

"It was my second semester at the time working for Fusion, so I was a little trained, but I kind of figured it out as I went," said Howard. "Kind of teaching myself, like 'Okay, what looks best? What sounds best? How should I set up these interviews? What position should they be in? Where should I put the camera?' All the technical audio [and] visual aspects of it."

Howard also taught himself how to use the video program Adobe Premiere to edit the film together, using every free minute he had to work on it.

"In post-production, the editing and all that – traditionally news reporters, like myself at the time, we would give the project to a studio assistant

to edit, but I felt so personally connected to it, I just said I wanted to edit it myself," said Howard. "So I taught myself how to use Adobe Premiere and edited it together during spring break."

After nearly a semester of work, Howard published the documentary in May of 2022.

"It felt very satisfying to finally upload it [and] promote it," said Howard. "Views kept flowing in and comments, nice words from everybody, kind words from everybody thanking me for sharing the story and putting it together like this. It was very satisfying. It made my heart very happy."

While the documentary was initially aimed more at people Rome natives and people familiar with the area, Howard found that it reached people from all over.

"I had somebody comment on it watching from Cambodia who had some family in Rome, and [they were] telling me about these other sites in the city," said Howard.

Howard said that his message with the documentary would be that there are stories in small towns that deserve to be told, and that interesting history is everywhere.

"I guess it does have a broad audience scope to let people know that they can tell stories like these in small towns, because Rome is not that big," said Howard. "It's not like Atlanta or Nashville or Los Angeles, so there's not much coverage. So in general I guess my message to a broader audience would be [that] you can go out and find cool history anywhere. It's all around. It's surrounding anywhere you are."

Even though the technical production duties of the documentary fell on Howard, there were other people to help him along the way in other aspects. Steven Hames, the technology specialist for the Department of Communication at Berry, was one of these people, as Howard's advisor throughout the process.

"I advised him on ways to approach it, different steps of editing, I provided him some suggestions and critiques when he was in the editing process just to help clean things up based on my experience," said Hames. "But generally, just advising him along the way of best steps, best practices for a documentary of this sort."

Hames said that he was proud of the work Howard had done, mentioning how the documentary's nomination for the NATAS Southeast Regional Student Emmy Production Awards was proof of his hard work.

"I was proud of the work that Addison had done," said Hames. "I thought it was a good documentary, and it received recognition at the [NATAS Southeast Regional Student Emmy Production Awards], and so I think that's a testament to the work done on it and its importance. [I'm] just really excited over the success of it."

Senior Matthewson Parks, the assistant production supervisor for Viking Fusion, also helped Howard with the documentary, providing some fine-tuning critiques and assistance with editing when needed.

"[I] pointed out [things like] 'Maybe this runs a little too long,' 'Let's cut that back,'" said Parks. "Very minute stuff because he already had the script and everything planned, and the film was pretty much all put together at that point."

Parks mentioned that Howard starts the documentary by sharing his own interests in cemeteries, and how that helps pull the audience in.

"He starts out talking about his own interests and why he's making the documentary, and then showing pictures of him as a kid at cemeteries and stuff like that just to sort of give the audience an idea of who he is before he approaches it," Parks said. "I really like his personal touch."

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Alora Landing | CAMPUS CARRIER

Spanish majors have begun teaching English as a Second Language classes to Rome citizens. The classes occur every semester, and are lead by students from the Spanish 300 classes.

ESL provides teaching experiences for students

Rosemary Chesney
arts and living editor

The student LifeWorks program at Berry offers a unique opportunity for Rome citizens to take English classes. The English as a Second Language program (ESL) simultaneously allows adults to learn English, when they otherwise may not have been able to, and Berry students to gain teaching skills.

ESL takes place from 6-7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Evans building. Unlike other ESL programs in Rome, adults can take classes free of any charge. According to Julia Barnes, faculty director of ESL, the program is also unique in that it provides daycare to allow both spouses to participate, and it does not require the participants to provide any documentation.

“I’m super proud of the program,” Barnes said. “I’m a busy mom and a busy worker so I feel like ESL is the biggest way I contribute to the community right now.”

The ESL program started in 2008 under Julee Tate, a professor of Spanish. Barnes began teaching at Berry in 2010 and took over the program in 2013. The program offers five levels of English classes with two student instructors per class and 10-15 students per class. Emily Lanclous is the current student director and Rachal Biscope-Vidal is the assistant student director. Sophomore Hector Perez began as a volunteer last fall semester and has been one of the lead instructors for the level three class since

last spring semester.

“I’m so glad that LifeWorks includes this,” Perez said. “Without it, I never would’ve discovered that teaching is one of my biggest passions. When I’m teaching, it never feels like work, just feels like I’m having fun.”

Along with the lead instructors, 15-20 students volunteer each semester from the Spanish 300 classes as part of their curriculum. Other outside classes work with the ESL program as well including some English classes, education classes and the Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) program. Barnes said that the ESL program is always open to other volunteers as well for next semester.

“A lot of students fall in love with the program and stay with it,” Barnes said. “It amazes me how students are so humbled by the experience and interested in other people.”

According to Barnes, many students have changed majors and career paths due to their experiences in the ESL program. Perez began volunteering as a freshman last year and has since changed his career goals to become a teacher, which he said is largely due to the impact of teaching at ESL.

“My favorite part is the impact you can have on the lives of the people,” Perez said. “You really get out what you put into this program. I absolutely love interacting with people and

having a positive impact on them.”

Barnes also said that many volunteers from the Spanish 300 classes end up becoming lead instructors. Lead instructors work a total of eight hours each week between lesson planning and teaching. Perez said that his least favorite aspect of his job is the lesson planning part. Sophomore Morgan Underhill began as a volunteer spring semester for Perez’s level three class and is has now become his co-lead instructor this semester.

“I just had a lot of fun last semester, and I think it’s cool to have so much fun while learning Spanish,” Underhill said. “It’s great to find others with the same joy in learning.”

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Diversity conversations emerge across campus

Elizabeth Montiel-Alvarado
reporter

Ethan Hague
reporter

Although topics such as inclusion and appreciation of diversity have always been of great importance, in the past few years, they have come to the forefront of national conversations. The need to recognize these topics also exists on the Berry campus as well.

Kristina Hilton, president of Berry's Black Student Association (BSA), said that she believes it is important that everyone can have equal say in campus affairs.

"Making sure that everyone is included, and that everyone has an equal say in matters on campus," Hilton said. "Like people who have disabilities, the LGBTQ community, the African American community, the Hispanic/Latino community, the Asian and Pacific Islander community. All the communities that are considered minorities, making sure they have a say and we are listening to what they have to say about things."

Hilton said that while minority representation on campus has improved, there is still room for growth.

"One year, we had a lot of African Americans that came in, and this year we have more of a Hispanic/Latino population," Hilton said. "It's getting better, but it's not the best it can be. There are always going to be some things that are not going well. The only thing you

can do is try. I see more people that look like me every day. I see more people that look like my friends every day. So, it's nice to see that."

Individuals who do not have to think about diversity may not recognize how big of an issue it is.

"I would say [they should] just put themselves in [the other person's] shoes," Hilton said. "Imagine if they were the minority on campus, how would they feel not seeing someone who looked like them every day? How would they feel being stared at, or feel walking into a classroom being the only person who looks like [them]?...constantly being stared down, constantly fearing that you might be [the victim of a hate crime], or someone might say something to you?"

Students, faculty and staff can work together to foster a diverse, caring and inclusive environment at Berry and in the Rome community.

"Teaching and answering [questions] with kindness and respect and not arguing or saying anything rude or disrespectful," Hilton said. "Make sure that you're getting your point across, but you can say it in a respectful way. And if they're choosing not to hear or understand what you're saying, then that's okay. At least you said what you had to say. Also just being very empathetic and actually trying to learn different things is a great way as well."

The best way to resolve disagreements before they become larger problems is to handle them in a civil manner. Everyone is allowed to decide whether they agree or disagree on opinions and beliefs, but disagreements should not be grounds for offending or belittling others.

"Always remain empathetic. Always

listen before you speak," Hilton said. "Hear what the person has to say and understand what they have to say before arguing your position or side of things. Hear each other out first, if you listen, you're both being respected and validated. Say, 'I understand what you're going through and it's totally valid.'"

Hannah Blanton, sophomore and president of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) club said that she has seen an increase in diversity on campus, especially in the last year.

"Since I've been here, especially with the new freshman class, I've been seeing a lot more people of color and diversity on campus," Blanton said. "And that to me is very encouraging."

With the many clubs' Berry has to offer including BSA, AAPI Club and Listen, the LGBTQ+ alliance group, students are free to get involved with many new cultures and interests. Blanton said that students from all backgrounds were welcome to join AAPI and learn about Asian culture.

"We're also wanting to grow our membership, this group is open to anybody and everyone who is interested in Asian culture or wants to learn about it," Blanton said.

In two weeks, the AAPI will be hosting a mid-autumn festival and in November they have plans for a Diwali celebration.

"I'm mostly wanting to teach more people about Asian culture, how to celebrate it, and what it means, and create that Asian culture and community on campus," said Blanton.

With the changing environment in Berry, the school has been collectively working together to make sure everyone is heard and gets the representation they need.

"They're working toward this, having more conversations with students, and saying what do you want to see, what does diversity mean to you and how can it be represented," Blanton said. "I think they're doing that really well through the clubs."

For those looking to learn more about different cultures and how to support them, Hilton said that to reach out to the various organizations on campus and to participate in events, they host.

"There are so many opportunities that Berry has. We have teaching classes, we have different clubs, you can teach yourself," Hilton said. "Or you can Google it. Google certain things you don't know about. Or just ask somebody. Haley [Smith] works in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, ask her certain questions. The whole team is there for you to ask questions. There's Meredith [Johnson] who works in Hermann Hall, there's a lot of people you can ask if you're confused about how you can better help on campus."

PLAYLIST:

Fall Vibes

PLAY

12 songs, 479min



TITLE

ARTIST

There She Goes	The La's
Mr. Perfectly Fine	Taylor Swift
Girl From Mars	Ash
Electric Love	Borns
Drops of Jupiter	Train
Be My Mistake	The 1975
Ophelia	The Lumineers
Tobacco Sunburst	The Neighborhood
The Other Side	Conan Gray
Kiss Me	Sixpence None The Richer
Get Free	Lana Del Rey

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C-SEED,
continued from page 1

Hackett said that all future C-SEED events will be listed on the Berry Presence page. He also encouraged students to stop by

the C-SEED office in the Green building if they have an idea that could be developed into a business.

“Just come show up in Green 421. If we’re busy, we’ll set up a meeting; if we’re not, we’ll totally take you,” Hackett said. “If there’s anything they’re passionate about and they want to make

profit out of it, come visit, have a meeting with [Lajara], and we will work with students to lay out a roadmap of how to take your passion to profit and make it a business.”

Hackett also said that C-SEED will have a booth inside Krannert for interested students next week.

Puerto Rico struggles to recover from hurricane

Eric Zuniga
staff writer

Amerial Page
staff writer

On September 18, 2022, Hurricane Fiona made landfall on the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico, coming to shore as a category one hurricane with maximum winds of 85 miles per hour.

Despite its status as a category one hurricane, Fiona caused extensive damage in Puerto Rico, dropping over two feet of rain in many areas and causing over 100 landslides. According to the Associated Press, government officials have estimated that the damages may be worth more than \$3 billion.

The storm also resulted in a serious disruption of Puerto Rico’s infrastructure. All of Puerto Rico lost power in the immediate aftermath of the storm, and although service has been restored to 90% of the grid, 137,000 citizens still remain without electricity. Additionally, 837,000 citizens lost access to clean running water. According to Zack Taylor, associate professor of environmental science and studies, the loss of critical services after a hurricane strikes can be just as devastating as the destruction caused by the hurricane itself.

“In a place like Puerto Rico whose infrastructure is maybe a little more tenuous, you have two parts to it,” Taylor said. “You have the storm, which is bad, and then this period of no power, which it turns out if you’re in the hospital is a real big problem. The same is true with water. If people are drinking dirty water, and then they get sick, then you have all these ripple effects of cholera outbreaks or dysentery outbreaks or other diseases. It’s more than an inconvenience, it’s a health problem.”

This is not the only time in recent years that Puerto Rico has been affected by a catastrophic hurricane. In 2017, Hurricane Maria made landfall as a strong category four hurricane, causing over 3,000 deaths and an eleven-month power outage. In many ways, the island was still struggling to recover from the damage, with over 3,000 homes still severely damaged. Taylor said that Puerto Rico is more susceptible to hurricanes because of its location in the warm waters of the Caribbean.

“There are certain parameters that make hurricanes happen, and the Caribbean is one of the busiest places in the world for hurricanes,” Taylor said. “They are a place, just like Florida, that is vulnerable to hurricanes. These storms come off Africa and they come across the

Atlantic and they form. It’s just a function of geography. The Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico are big bodies of water that are really warm, and hurricanes operate on warm water. That’s what they need to work.”

With climate change causing higher sea levels and warmer global temperatures, there has been concern about increased susceptibility to extreme weather events. According to Taylor, while the evidence suggests that there will not be an increase in the number of hurricanes, their intensity and severity will be greater in the future.

“The things that make a hurricane happen, the evidence suggests at this point that those things are not necessarily going to make hurricanes more common or more frequent,” Taylor said. “The thing that makes a hurricane strong is warm water. Well, we’re making the water warmer. There’s more fuel for the hurricanes that do form, so they’re likely to be stronger. That seems to have held up, if you look at the statistics on this.”

Taylor also said that changing wind patterns may make hurricanes move slower, increasing the amount of damage they can cause.

“What makes the wind is the difference between temperatures. It’s cold at the poles and warm in the middle in the tropics,” Taylor said. “As everything warms up, the Arctic is warming up more. You have less of a difference, so the winds that normally push hurricanes are slow. That’s a whole different threat. These hurricanes that are more powerful to begin with just stick and stay there. That’s a big difference; all the storm surge was worse because there was just more time to push the water up.”

As seen in Puerto Rico’s case, hurricanes can cause widespread economic disruption in addition to the physical damage they inflict. Lauren Heller, professor of economics, said that natural disasters always result in economic downturn.

“They’re never good, and there is no silver lining,” Heller said. “So often natural disasters take out valuable property and things that people need, but also things like hurricane can disrupt things like trade routes and supply lines and things like that. So they also potentially hamper the rebuilding process.”

Puerto Rico’s economy has been struggling for many years prior to the hurricanes. It has a higher percentage of people in poverty than any of the states that it is a territory to, and its population has declined by almost 12% in the past ten years. According to Heller, this hurricane comes at a particularly difficult time for Puerto Rico, which has been recuperating from the effects of Hurricane Maria and the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to

experiencing the inherent constraints of an island economy.

“The need for rebuilding and the need for supplies are similar, but the increased cost of getting those things to an island makes that hard,” Heller said. “In some ways, it’s not like any island area down there is not used to being hit by hurricanes. But they had a huge disruption and were really just trying to get back on their feet, and also COVID hit at a horrible time, particularly for tourism-dependent countries and areas. That definitely hampered the ability of areas that relied on tourism to rebuild.”

Efforts to rebuild are often supported by federal aid packages and private donations. However, Heller said that often the well-intentioned donations people make do not meet the needs of the people affected by disasters.

“We have the best feelings and the best intentions in the world and then we do things like send a bunch of water bottles over to Puerto Rico or Haiti or whatever,” Heller said, “But usually, what people send aren’t what people actually need on the ground there. We love sending bottled water places, but people actually need water filtration systems. They don’t need bottled water.”

Heller said that for aid to be effective, it must be planned with the specific needs of Puerto Ricans in mind.

“The more tailored we can make aid efforts to individual needs and the more sensitive to those needs we can be and the less political we can be, the better,” Heller said. “We need to talk about, what are the systems at work that are causing a lack of access to water in the first place? And how is that specific to Puerto Rico versus somewhere else, because there are going to be differences.”

Additionally, Puerto Rico’s status as a U.S. territory may hamper its ability to receive the same amount of aid that is afforded to U.S. states. Christy Snider, associate professor of history, said that Puerto Rico’s lack of representation in Congress and in voting for the presidency may make politicians less likely to grant the territory aid.

“The government will do some things, more than we’d probably do for Haiti or someplace else in the Caribbean, because they are a U.S. Territory and they are U.S. citizens, but not as much as we would probably do if they were a state,” Snider said. “I’m sure there’s some politicians who feel like, you don’t get the same benefits of help them as like, Florida, because it doesn’t win you any votes in the national Congress or for the presidency.”

According to Snider, Puerto Rico’s territory status dates back to the Spanish-American War, in which the United States won Puerto Rico from Spain as a colony.

“It was during the Spanish-American War in 1898, where the United States was helping Cuba become independent from Spain,” Snider said. “We get involved in the war, and we do help get Spain out of Cuba, but we also took that time to attack other Spanish colonies, like Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Guam. Although we helped Cuba get independence, part of the peace treaty was that Spain hands over the territories of the Philippines, Guam and Puerto Rico to the United States.”

As residents of a U.S. Territory, people born in Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens and are free to enter, live and work in the mainland U.S. as they please. However, Puerto Ricans lack representation in both houses of Congress and cannot vote in presidential elections. Snider said that this situation has mixed consequences for Puerto Ricans.

“In some ways, Puerto Rico has the protection of the United States, without maybe having all of the same responsibilities, but at the same time they don’t get all of the same benefits,” Snider said.

There have been movements in recent times to admit Puerto Rico as a full state of the union. In a non-binding referendum, a vote held to gauge public opinion rather than enact policy change, held in 2020, a slight majority, 52%, of voters favored statehood. While national politicians have typically been opposed to this, Snider says that the recent increased attention on Puerto Rico may help statehood campaigns.

“No matter what they came in as, politicians will make arguments and will win over voters and things will develop, so I would not be surprised if sometime in the 21st century you do see Puerto Rico becoming a state,” Snider said. “I’d assume there would be some more opportunities if there was some kind of big political or environmental focus on Puerto Rico. It might open up Americans to seeing them as Americans who we want to be more tightly tied to.”

Regardless of the outcome of the statehood debate, it is likely that the recent focus on Puerto Rico will make mainland Americans more aware of Puerto Ricans’ status as U.S. citizens lacking national representation. According to a 2017 poll, over half of Americans did not know that Puerto Ricans were citizens of the United States. Snider said that increased knowledge of this situation can only be a positive development.

“I do think there has been more understanding of people just not being totally clueless about Puerto Rico’s relationship with the United States,” Snider said. “I think that can only be beneficial, no matter where we go in the future, especially if Puerto Rico is in need of aid.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BERRY COLLEGE FOOTBALL AND OFFICE OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Above Left: Josh Bullock (17C), wide receiver, outruns a Washington University defender to make a catch in Rome’s Barron Stadium, the original home of the Vikings before Valhalla opened in 2015. The Vikings won their first game in program history in overtime on the 100th anniversary of Mountain Day in 2014, a game that Head Coach Kunczewski calls a “story book” moment.

Above Right: Players celebrate in 2015 after Berry’s first win over an opponent ranked among the NCAA’s Top 25 Division III teams, the University of Chicago. Kunczewski said the overtime victory put the football program on the map, nationally.

Left: A running back scores a touchdown against Maryville College in 2016, the program’s first win in a home opener and first victory over the Scots. The Vikings would go on to clinch first Southern Athletic Association (SAA) conference champion title that season.



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Football commemorates anniversary with a look back

Mary Harrison
sports editor

Fall 2022 marks the 10th season of Vikings football, and the program is commemorating its anniversary through a social media campaign and emphasized efforts to educate current players about Berry's legacy on the gridiron.

Bernard Granville Jr. (17C), assistant coach for the defensive line and one of the first defensive tackles as a freshman in 2013, oversees the program's "Year 10, Top 10 Tournament" on Twitter and Instagram. The campaign kicked off during players' fall camp in August by highlighting 10 games from the past 10 seasons.

Starting with the season opener on Sept. 3, social media polls pit the games against each other in tournament-style matchups and ask Berry alumni and fans to vote for their favorite. The bracket challenge will run throughout the regular season.

The "Top 10" games are considered the most impactful to Berry football or to have had dramatic finishes, including the first win against Washington University in 2014, the first win over a "Top 25" ranked opponent, the University of Chicago, in 2015, overtime wins and championships.

The program's first win also stands out to Head Coach Tony Kunczewski record because of the circumstances: an overtime victory on the 100th anniversary of Mountain Day, with over 6,600 fans in the stands to Kunczewski's estimation, concluding with a pre-planned fireworks display.

"That's a storybook way to win your first game," Kunczewski said. "It's tough to write a better script than that."

A 2016 win against Centre College clinched the program's first of five consecutive conference championships, a game that both Granville and Kunczewski mentioned as memorable because it was the last game of Berry football's original freshman class.

"It's not just the moments of the games," Kunczewski said. "To have that senior class go out with a win was pretty special."

Another featured win with historical significance to both Berry football and Berry College as an institution was the inaugural game in Valhalla Stadium in 2015, another overtime victory.

Chief of Staff Debbie Heida, who oversaw Berry athletics until summer 2022, said one of the promises the college made when starting the football program was that Berry would not go into debt to build a stadium. Rome's Barron Stadium served as the Vikings home before Valhalla opened, with all the funds to build it being raised within three years, since it hired Kunczewski on as its first football staff in 2012.

"I think [Kunczewski] was Berry before he got to Berry," Heida said. "He loved this place from the start and really built something incredibly special."

2012 is the same year Berry transitioned from the National Association of Intercollegiate

Athletics (NAIA) to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III to be able to grow sports programs, a shift that Heida said has proved to be the right move. The athletic department has added nine sports programs in the past 15 years.

Heida, who worked at colleges with football programs before coming to Berry, said that having football on campus increases the engagement of student athletes and increases campus vibrancy, especially at the start of the school year.

"It really has brought an energy and a pride," Heida said. "None of us could have anticipated the level of success that we would reach as quickly as we did."

A foundation for the program's relatively rapid success on a conference level was laid by the grit of the first incoming classes, Kunczewski said, who faced a 2-17 record at the end of the program's second season.

"We live in a society that wants to see instant gratification, and those guys didn't see it for the first couple of years," Kunczewski said.

Granville calls this grit an attitude of "complete buy-in" brought by the first players.

"My class decided to truly buckle down, take ownership of what goes right and what goes wrong in our program," Granville said. "The [incoming] freshmen got to watch us work. Once we left, I think that standard was just kind of set, and it was held."

The success of Berry's team is not confined to the gridiron. Over 10 years, Heida said, players have worked as general managers of student enterprises, resident assistants and lead actors. Heida said that positive leadership of players in other areas of student life was a stated goal of both hers and Kunczewski's from the beginning, and something that Kunczewski said was crucial to building community support.

"In his interview, I asked [Kunczewski], 'How will you know that you have been successful in this D-III model of a football program, where the players are integrated into the life of the campus?'" Heida recalled. "And he said, 'When I have a football player who's the SGA president.'"

Tedric Palmer Jr., one of the program's founding players, fulfilled that vision. His youngest brother Nick Palmer, a sophomore on the current team, continues to fulfill that vision as a Service and Leadership Fellows Scholar, member of the Berry Brotherhood and Athletes Bettering the Community and 2022 SOAR leader.

A third Palmer brother, Brandon, played from 2016 to 2019. Nick said that his brothers' on-campus involvement and post-college success are part of a standard of excellence set by the first players and instilled by the program.

"[Coach Kunczewski] really advocates of us to be not just for football hardworking, but also off the

field," Nick said. "This Berry football program is bigger than what it says on paper."

The 2021 season that broke the Vikings championship winning streak was a result of current players taking the team's historic success for granted, Nick said, but the entire team committed to taking each game as a new opportunity to improve this season.

Kunczewski said that current players discovered it is difficult to guard against complacency from the top, and that is one reason why it is important to teach them about Berry football history and to build connections with program alumni, both of which the program emphasized during camp over the summer, a crucial time for establishing team culture.

"I think it's important to educate our players on the history of the program," Kunczewski said. "It's important to keep that connection from the past to the present. In order to get to where you want to be, you've got to understand where you've been."

This Berry football program is bigger than what it says

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Students were allowed to request music using the QR codes found on the walls of the ballroom.



Katelynn Singleton | CAMPUS CARRIER

On September 30th, Morton Lemley threw its first party for the fall semester in the Krannert Ballroom from 11 p.m. - 1 a.m. The party was silent disco themed with lots of food, drinks and the different stations playing music from the 60's and 70's, dance and pop music.