

# The Round Table

Having a heat stroke on the 3rd floor of Pearsons since 1853

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Tuesday, March 24, 2026

roundtable.beloit.edu

## Vortex: Because Women are Awesome

ARTS

By ALIVIA RENTERIA and CIAN MCKEOWN

This year's Vortex Music Festival, hosted by Beloit College's Programming Board and held on Friday, March 20, in Chapin quad, paid special homage to the women who keep our communities running. Coinciding with Women's History Month and bearing the subtitle "Powered by HER," the performers were a multi-genre lineup of local female musicians and artists.

The festival has a deep and storied legacy on Beloit's campus, known as Mayfest for decades before rebranding to Vortex in 2024. The change was inspired by a 1970s countercultural festival in Oregon called "Vortex I: A Biodegradable Festival of Life," and Beloit College's Vortex aimed to capture a similar carefree vibe centered on communal expression, providing refreshments and glow sticks to students as the evening sun dipped pink below the Rock River.

Other attractions included a 360 photo booth provided by a local women-led business, and lawn games provided by Campus Recreation, as well as bandanas and custom promotional t-shirts designed for the event.

Adding to the hype surrounding the festival were ornately designed chalk art pieces by Kazuma Miyashita'28 that guided students to Chapin quad, where the event took place.

The festival was preceded by an ice cream social, which served as a great way to build up the energy within the student body before the main event. Students were optimistic about the event, with Sam McCullough'27 stating, "I think it could be cool.

I'm glad we're bringing in live music because I heard there was less music than there has been in recent years, but I'm not 100% sure about that. And I love women."

Performances kicked off with a dynamic introduction by the lovely MC and Beloit Student Government Vice President, Ella Walters'27, as she ushered in the first band, Girl K. Walters said of the event, "I felt really grateful and honored to be asked again by Programming Board to emcee, and I had a really great experience doing it, and it meant a lot to me because I care about the Beloit College community and events that can bring us together."

She also spoke about the importance of the show's theme, saying, "I did my best to focus on Women's History Month when I was speaking, and I was really grateful to Shobhita Bharadwaj'27, who is on the Programming Board, for suggesting the theme, especially because she has been such an amazing woman in my life since freshman year."

Girl K delivered a sensational show, likely due to their synergy with one another as well as the remarkable vocal talent of their frontwoman, Kathy Patino.

The second group on the schedule can only be described as a force of nature, as Madame Reaper lead singer Kira Leadholm stunned the audience with her vocal range and overwhelming stage presence.



Keegan DeWitt'29

On their website, Madame Reaper gives themselves an eclectic categorization, saying that they are, "An art pop project based in Chicago, IL. Built on the fictional backstory of a murderous strip club owner, she sets herself apart with a unique blend of synth pop, glam rock, and electronic indie."

The band's stuttering, guitar-driven sound certainly lives up to this lurid and enticing backstory, reminiscent of seventies and eighties alternative rock and new wave, which the group describes on its BandCamp page as "Vampire synth-pop."

When asked about the group's influences when distributing flyers for the band's fan page after the show, Leadholm said "I love Sparks," referring to the American oddball glam rockers turned synth pop pioneers, and citing the group's television appearances as influential on Madame Reaper's stage presentation. It's safe to say that this show was the root of

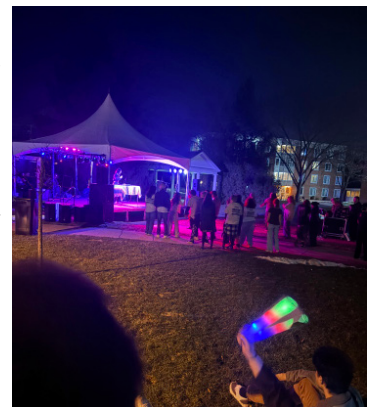
was Lady Omisha, a self-taught DJ from Madison, Wisconsin, whose EDM set fueled the excitement among the students, driving the crowd of Beloiters to get up and dance.

The final hour consisted of pizza, glow sticks, and thrashing college students, leaving everyone involved with a fun memory that will hopefully get them through the final months of classes before it's finally time for that sweet summer freedom.

Vortex was a hit with student attendees, with Deckard Ponce Jacobson'29 saying, "I got sucked

into the vortex, it was really good!" "It was fun, I liked seeing people I know," Quinn Annis'29 added.

As temperatures get warmer in the spring, there will be more opportunities for Beloit students to get outside and enjoy live music, with the highly anticipated Peet Fest and WB-CRFest coming up in April.



Keegan DeWitt'29

identity crises amongst onlookers (in the best way).

Third up to the stage

## Nobody Parties at Beloit Anymore. Why?

OP-ED

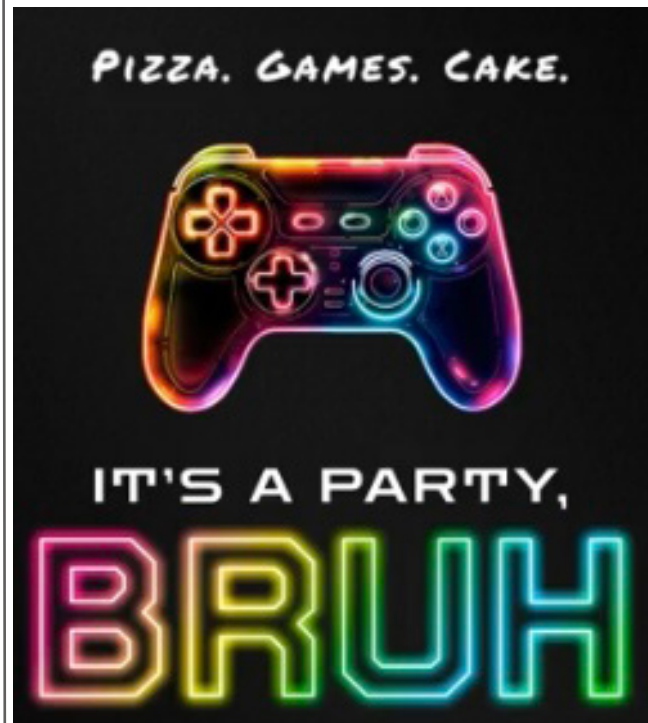
By ELLA SILVA

Partying at Beloit College. When you hear those words, what do you think of? I personally think about how tiny our

frat party music was being played. This went for parties thrown by basically any organization. Saying this now, that sounds

genuinely crazy because I feel like at this point, Beloit gets one really populated party per semester, and it's probably the one that happens surrounding a holiday. Even then, there is a lot more standing around and a lot less dancing. All of this begs the question: Why?

I suspect a couple of reasons. The first is that bad Beloit College parties have now become a self-fulfilling prophecy. If even committed and excited potential partygoers are sure that this week's Saturday night party



Evite

campus is, how lame parties have become, and how it's not the college party scene anyone wants. And I think I'm not alone in feeling this, but we all have a bigger role to play in this feeling than we want to admit.

I know that everyone at Beloit is full of vague statements about things being better in the past, but I'm here to say it again. Back in my freshman year, parties used to be awesome. Well, awesome is maybe an overstatement for sweaty dancing in an old house, but they at least used to be populated. It was pretty much guaranteed that if you went to a party in the midnight to 1 a.m. range, it was going to be full of people, all drunk, sweaty, in fun outfits, jumping around to whatever classic

party is going to be lame, because they have no evidence to the contrary, they will be less motivated to power through and go.

Maybe it's cold out, and you don't want to walk through the cold to a party that probably won't be good, so why even bother? Or maybe you're feeling tired, or have a lot of homework, or don't have a good outfit. All of these could be overcome for an exciting, awesome party, but to try to power through only for something that ends up being you and your three friends awkwardly dancing in a mostly empty room, deciding when to call it quits and leave? Not worth it.

Read more on page 7.

Do YOU want to perform at

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ROUND TABLE RADIO  
MONDAYS 8 p.m.

## Round Table

The Round Table provides a balanced, creative, newspaper for the Beloit College community. Our student-run organization is an outlet for its members to juggle truth and integrity with vividly and humor.

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The content of each issue is neither reviewed nor approved by college faculty or administration before it goes to print.

The Round Table prides itself on producing content of the highest quality and integrity. All stories will be covered with the greatest degree of impartiality possible, resulting in a fair and balanced presentation of the news.

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The Round Table meets every Tuesday at 9 p.m. in Pearsons.

# “Diversity of Thought is What Makes Liberal Arts Campuses Interesting”

## Open Discourse Initiative to Host First Event on March 26

By VIVIAN KOPKA

“Dialogue is difficult... but it should be possible on a college campus where people... have mutual respect for one another and where there is... the possibility of finding some area of common ground and of mutual modification of beliefs.” -William Kolb (Upton/Kolb Dialogue 1965)

On Thursday, March 26, professors will gather in Beloit College’s Hamiltons to debate students. Called “Disagree with your professor,” the event will host seven professors, each with a different opinion on some topic. Students will get the opportunity to sit down at a professor’s table and debate them for ten minutes.

Professor Claire Milsted says that plants do not have thoughts, goals, or feelings, and Professor Charles Westenberg argues that Major League Baseball should not impose a salary cap for players, but should impose only a salary floor.

The event comes from an Open Discourse Initiative, spearheaded by Dr. Diep Phan – who is also a faculty advisor for Beloit College’s Turning Point USA – and Dean of Students Dr. Rongal Watson. However, the

event is ultimately led by faculty and the offices of student life.

The idea of encouraging open dialogue has been in the works for a while, not just since the recent controversies

culture. In 2024, Phan conducted research on free expression at the College, and found that “The majority of respondents agree (either somewhat or strongly) that the climate on

Brinley Richards’29, an executive member of TPUSA Beloit, agrees. “It is essential for people to know how to disagree with one another,” she said. “Allowing us to start with our professors helps us students learn and engage with one another respectfully and professionally.”

“Diversity of thought is what makes liberal arts campus interesting,” Phan told *The Round Table*. “Our primary goal is to create a learning environment without fear of hurting feelings or being unproductive.”

The goal for the first event, as Richards corroborated, is to ease students to be comfortable in disagreement and debate. Professors will start with more tame, less-political topics, but Watson and Phan’s goal is to eventually have students debate highly political, highly-polarized topics.

The next event will take place on Apr. 20, called disagree with your peers. More information is to come as students are recruited to host a table. At the event this Thursday, students who participate may win prizes like gift cards, swag, and candy.



Vecteezy

surrounding TPUSA. “This fall semester, it was pretty intense,” said Phan, “[the events] motivated us to continue and deepen [the initiative].”

For Phan, the inability to productively argue with peers and express opinions is something ingrained in Beloit’s

their campus prevents some people from saying things they believe because others might find them offensive.” The goal of this initiative is to help change that culture and to provide a space for students to “focus on the ideas, not the person,” Phan says.

## Women’s History Month

By KIMBERLY PILON

Women’s History Month originated in California as just a week put on by the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women. It was aligned with International Women’s Day on March 8 and continued to grow across the nation.

In 1980, women began lobbying for national recognition, and in February, Jimmy Carter declared the week of March 8 to be National Women’s Week. The tradition continued until 1987, when legislation started forming to designate March as Women’s History Month. Every president since 1995 has issued the annual proclamation.

From Mary Dixon Kies, the first woman in the U.S. to apply for and receive a patent, to Jane Goodall, American women continue to contribute to sports, science, culture, and every aspect of our world.

In 2025, Mary E. Brunkow won the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine and Maria Corina Machado won the Nobel Peace Prize. Women broke records across the globe in running, swimming, as well as in other events. Beatrice Chebet (KEN) set the 5000 meter world record, becoming the first woman under 14 minutes. Faith Kipyegon

(KEN) set the 1500 meter record, and ran the fastest-ever mile, at 4:06.42. Summer McIntosh (CAN) set long-course world records in the 400 meter freestyle, as well as the 200 meter and 400 meter individual medley. Katie Ledecky (USA) broke her own 800 meter freestyle world record, and Gretchen Walsh (USA) set a 100 meter butterfly record. Sarah Perry set a new record in the ultramarathon by running almost 400 miles in 95 hours. Femke Kok (NED) broke the 500 meter world record in speed skating.

Jessie Buckley won Best Actress at the 2026 Academy Awards, and Autumn Durald Arkapaw was the first female cinematographer to win an Oscar. Sara Blakely was the Inventor/Entrepreneur honored in the 2025 Women Making History Awards. Shirely Welsh Ryan was also awarded Advocate for Transformative Research and Education. Billie Elish was the first three-time Song of the Year recipient in Grammy history.

Women continue to change the world and impact everyone around them. According to UN Women, girls are surpassing boys in school completion, and in the past five years almost 100 countries scrapped

discriminatory laws that have protected girls from child marriage.

However, equity has not been achieved yet, and although we’ve done a lot, more needs to be done. Ten percent of women live in extreme poverty, and women are more likely to go hungry than men by almost two percent. Even though girls surpass boys in school, they are less likely to end up in leadership positions. One in five women are still married before they turn 18, and after their marriage, their education ends. Violence and domestic abuse continues to follow women, with one in eight aged 15-49 experiencing abuse from a partner. Four million girls a year undergo female genital mutilation. Women hold around thirty percent of parliament seats and management roles.

Women around the world are still suffering, and there is more work to be done to bring equality into corporate offices and other management positions. Celebrate women in their leadership roles and the success they have achieved, but continue to support and assist other women across the globe as they continue to fight for their rights.

## Women’s History Month



The University of Akron

## The Beloit International Film Festival is Officially Here!!!

Stop by a number of locations around campus and the City of Beloit to see an awesome collection of short and feature length films!! Showings are happening throughout the day on Wednesday March 25, Thursday March 26, Friday March 27, Saturday March 28, and Sunday March 29!!

Find more information on the films and get tickets at: [beloitfilmfest.org](http://beloitfilmfest.org)



Beloit Film Fest

## Steven Shik: A Culmination

By ELLA WALTERS and ALEX CAMBOURIS

On Thursday, March 19, Steven Shik, Beloit’s 2026 Ginsberg Artist-in-Residence, crowned his week-long residency here at our college with a keynote speech in the Richardson auditorium. Through a moving 2-hour long presentation, he illustrated his process of becoming the person and

artist he is today; a culmination of all the experiences and parts of his life.

Shikhails from Detroit and works as an illustration teacher at the College for Creative Studies while being a professional artist. On his visit to Beloit, he showcased his work and his wisdom; presenting his art

in an exhibition at the Wright Museum that is available till Apr. 4 and visiting a variety of classes, offering guidance to students.

Read the rest on [roundtable.beloit.edu](http://roundtable.beloit.edu).

# Queer Shorts: Student-Programmed Beloit International Film Festival Event

By VIVIAN KOPKA

On Saturday, Mar. 21, the Beloit College Content Creation and Marketing class put on their annual Queer Shorts festival.

The fest, part of the Beloit International Film Festival (BIFF), featured films from directors all over the world, with winners from the U.S., France, and Iran, and submissions and nominees from countless other nations.

At the beginning of the BIFF Queer Shorts festival, Dr. Joseph Derosier, professor of French at Beloit College, led a panel of three nominated filmmakers, a BIFF board member, and a Beloit LITS worker.

The three festival panelists, Allie Morgan, Myra Kathiria Rosa, and Hank Swift, answered questions about what made them want to pursue film, what the word “queer” means to them, especially in the context of media and the arts, and other questions.

Kathiria Rosa, nominee and winner of the “Best Student-Made Queer Short” category, talked about her experience with getting into the film world: “I’m not a trained filmmaker,” they said. But, it was during the height of the genocide that sparked questions that led them to tell their story, “How do I get people to listen?”

When asked about the beginning process of creating a short film, Kathiria Rosa emphasized the importance of real-life experiences. She talked about an incident that happened in real life, and “created a world around that incident.” They also pulled their previously written poetry and used it in their debut film, “Pura Sangre,” 2026 Queer-Short winner.

While the nominated films of Morgan and Swift weren’t shown, they both gave cinephiles in the audience advice. Morgan, on the question of process, told the audience to “write what you know,” but more importantly, to “write what you can afford.” The audience laughed, but they highlighted the importance of knowing monetary limits: “start with two actors and two locations, and see where you can go from there.”

All panelists had vast definitions of queerness in film. Swift said that to them, queerness is “refusing to conform to social standards.” Filmmaking, for Swift, is an opportunity to explore the self, and said that oftentimes “you know what you’re creating more than you know yourself,” and that it is a unique opportunity to be introspective.

Mary Elizabeth Schiavone, panelist, Beloit College Student Success &

Engagement librarian, and Federal Depository coordinator, said that queerness comes with a level of performance, like any sexual and gender identity. But, they said, “queerness also comes with a sense of community.”

There were five categories, and six winners. The first category, “Best Student-Made Queer Short,” had a tie between Ulysse Thevenot’s “It Is Not Dirty,” an animated short about an older queer man’s relationship with being gay during the AIDs epidemic, and Kathira Rosa’s “Pura Sangre,” a story of two women navigating their complex relationship after years of separation.

The second category announced was “Best Documentary Queer Short.” The winning documentary was called “Handwoven,” by Dasha Levin, Mason Cazalet, Mihika Das, and Matthew Wisom, which followed the story of an indigenous nonbinary weaver and shepherd, Nikyle Begay.

Next, the “Best Experimental Queer Short” winner, “Eve” by Jesse Kogita, was announced and played. The short was an animated and illustrated film about Eve Palay, a trans woman who transitioned in her 60s. The film touched on feelings of isolation and

existentialism in conversation with transition.

“Zahara” by Omar Mejia Robles was the next winner in the category “Best Narrative Short Film.” The film follows Ignacio, a drag queen with a stable desk job, and the tension between a stable job and life and following his passions.

The final category, “Best of the Fest,” was described by the student organizers as films that “stand above the rest of the films” in the festival. The winner of this category, “Butterfly Dream” by Elham Farashah, was a story of a couple who separated after one begins her transition, meeting after two years in a dream-like setting.

Compared to last year, there were fewer people in the audience. Professor Rick Rose, who taught the Content Creation class, said there was a full house last year, compared to a less-than-half-full house this year. He attributed the lack of attendance to the timing, since the event took place the Friday after spring break.

To watch any of the nominated films, go to [beloitfilmfest.org](http://beloitfilmfest.org). The film festival officially kicks off on Wednesday, Mar. 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wilson Theater.

# Potential Beloit Data Center Sparks Backlash

By ETHAN COOPER

The city of Port Washington, Wisconsin, is currently embroiled in a legal battle concerning the release of documents pertaining to the development of a new data center. Unwilling to furnish documents regarding the data center, the city has found itself under legal scrutiny and criticism from opponents of the proposal.

Port Washington is just one case among several in Wisconsin where local municipalities have come under fire for demonstrating a lack of transparency with their communities, the latest of which being right here in Beloit.

So far, Wisconsin Watch has reported that four cities where data centers are being discussed or actively worked on have already signed NDAs, namely Beaver Dam, Kenosha, Janesville and Menomonee. Recently, however, a fifth project and attendant NDA has surfaced in Beloit. Much to the concern of community leaders, the contract reveals that plans for construction have been privately ongoing for over a year without any public notification. The contract was drawn up in collaboration with Delaware-based Cambrin LLC, the president of which had also filed for permits for a Meta backed data center in Beaver Dam.

Although the records made publically available do not directly refer to a data center, they make reference to “Project cornmaze”, which includes the construction of 700,000 square feet of buildings and around 50 employees.

News of this clandestine arrangement has sparked backlash in Beloit, prompting a town hall held in The Castle on Saturday, March 21. Present at the event were 76th district representative and gubernatorial candidate Francesca Hong, city councilor Yusuf Adama, and

Port Washington organizers Samantha Doucas and Christine Le Jeune.

Hong, a self-proclaimed democratic socialist and progressive, emphasized the need for community trust and mutual care over profit imperatives. Hong says “there are these incentives that are bringing these companies here without the say of any of the people in the surrounding communities, and it’s not right.”

As corporations pour millions of dollars into data center construction, energy companies continue to guarantee these sites with subsidies, which critics decry as the deferral of risk to the public. Ducas says “It’s basically free money for these tech corporations, for Palantir, for OpenAI, for Meta, and specifically to do surveillance in some cases... They’re getting guarantees. It’s the energy infrastructure companies that give these guarantees. It’s not our community.”

The proposed Beloit center raises significant energy concerns as well. Comprising 1.5% of global electricity consumption in 2024, and likely to increase in coming years, environmental advocates are raising the alarm. Although from where these data centers will be supplied with energy is as yet unclear, the lack of a robust sustainable energy infrastructure means that fossil fuels will likely be the main source of energy. Furthermore, Assembly Bill (AB)840, introduced by Wisconsin state republicans and currently in the senate, would limit the usage of renewable energies to those constructed on campus, severely limiting efficacy.

Says Adama, “While this moment really does reveal how predated on we are, I think it also reveals our resilience. I am so happy to see so much



Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

movement in Wisconsin, and so happy to see people like standing up and we’re making big deals about it, even as we’re dealing with misinformation and all this other stuff. People are coming together, and I think that is the most important thing to focus on, that we do have a way forward if we are working in the community and just being as relentless as they are, because there are way more of us than there are of them.”

The panel gave Hong a platform to expound her policy, including her long standing call for a moratorium on data center construction. Says Hong “When we have totally renewable energy, regulations, and accountability in place, until we can ensure that it is the community that decides for itself, that they want these data centers coming in, we have to hit pause.”

Addressing the problem of data centers, the panelists were in broad agreement that socialism is the way forward. Put together by the Party for Liberation and Socialism, they found common ground on these terms.

Le Jeune says “There’s nothing radical about being involved and demanding a place at the table and demanding that our politicians listen to us and take us seriously. So that is something that we

have to continue fighting for and to keep pushing that message with it.”

Community members present at the event spoke about their personal concerns regarding how their lives would be affected by a data center. Represented by small business owners, students, Beloit natives, and activists, each shared concerns of rising energy costs, increased air pollution, and state surveillance.

An attendee named Gypsy, a Beloit resident and student at Madison College, says “I think there would be a huge negative impact, especially, given how expensive our bills already are. I have, very recently, had an electric bill that came up.

They were very close to \$300 for my small house. And they would just continue to make things worse for me and other members of my community.”

While spring elections are to be held April 7, regulatory discourse remains fractured and incomplete, while deep divisions exist in finding potential solutions. The panel is symptomatic of a larger trend of communities coming together against data centers being built in their communities. Whether or not a data center will be built in Beloit is yet to be seen.

# Local Environmental Organization Panel

By ETHAN COOPER

A panel of three local environmental organizations was held in Richardson Auditorium on March 19. The event was made possible by Beloit Community Connections as well as the School of Environment and Sustainability. Panelists included members from the Merrill Community Garden, Severson Dells Nature Center, and Welty Environmental Center, all of which operate in and around the Beloit area.

Sylvia Lopez, director of community connections, and Jay Zambito, Director of School of Environment & Sustainability both worked to make the event happen and introduced the panelists.

The Merrill Community Gardens, located in Chicago’s south side, provides a safe place for people to tend plants, reap the produce, and find community, no questions asked. The gardens seek to address food insecurity and cultivate a more

sustainable, socially responsible space. Kaelyb Lokrantz, Urban Agriculture coordinator, says the gardens are there for “creating pathways out of poverty. We were really trying to help people get access to resources. You know, become more sustained.”

Severson Dells Nature Center, located in Rockford IL, is a 369-acre county forest preserve, housing native flora and fauna and provides a sanctuary for wilderness in an increasingly urbanized world. Severson Dells hosts field trip opportunities for local middle schools, hosts community events, and more. Panelist and Beloit Alum Emma Zimmerman’23 says the Severson philosophy is “Very simply, to connect people.”

Welty Environmental Center, local to Beloit, is another nature preserve where students can come and learn about the environment or even just briefly escape from urban society. Welty, according to

Executive Director Branda Plakens, is “. . . an environmental education center, which means we focus on learning, and not so much on things like land management and stewardship. It’s a part of the work we do, but it’s not like we have a piece of property that we are doing restoration on or something like that. More of our work is very much focused on. Getting the public connected to nature. . . .”

All three of the organizations represented were non-profits, some funded federally, such as Severson Dells, which gets money through Americorps, and others which are funded through a diverse portfolio.

The panelists spoke about both recent achievements accomplished by their respective organizations and new challenges to be overcome.

Some of these accomplishments included a field trip for all regional fifth graders to Big Hill Park in Beloit,

made possible by Welty, a grant for planting native plants for, which drew in a species of critically endangered bees at Merrill, and the restoration of a golf course back into indigenous prairie lands undertaken at Severson.

Despite the not insignificant achievements of these groups, they were all careful to stress the dire situation being faced by all environmentally minded non-profits. Climate change has made weather events unpredictable, and thus made event planning, planting, and conservation much more difficult.

Read the rest on [roundtable.beloit.edu](http://roundtable.beloit.edu).

# Kammy: The Newest Costume Wizard.

By **SONYA EDWARDS**

I am lucky enough to take a class with Kambrea Lagrosa, the new and amazing costume professor. Lagrosa makes class fun and something I look forward to, even at 8:30 a.m. She has immense respect for everyone and makes sure her students are comfortable in every way. I'll never forget the first day of class when she said, "You can call me Kammy, or you can call me Professor Lagrosa, but I'll think I'm in trouble." She has secured her spot as one of my favorite professors. If you've had the fortune of taking a class with her, you'll understand.

One of my favorite things about Lagrosa is her history

in cosplay. "I was rooted in cosplay in my late teens and early twenties," Lagrosa explained. "I had always known how to sew since a young age — my grandma taught me and sent me to a sewing camp." Though Lagrosa said her favorite cosplay was Flame Princess from Adventure Time, from personal testimony, I think her Jigsaw cosplay was pretty incredible as well.

Lagrosa attended Portland State University for her undergraduate studies and was recruited by the university to continue her studies there for her master's. She recently finished her PhD coursework at the University of Buffalo. "My



Beloit College

undergrad is in Arts and Letters," she said, "so the art that I was focusing on was textile manipulation and fabric sculptures. I wasn't doing anything

with costume design. The theater department came and was like, 'Do you want to design this show?' and I was like, 'Sure.' I didn't know anything about what

I was doing, and it came out all right." The show was Endgame by Sam Beckett. "And then right when I was about to graduate, my advisor was like, 'So you're going to grad school,' and I was like, 'What?'"

Of course, I had to ask her: how did she end up at Beloit? "I was interviewing at a bunch of places," Lagrosa said. "When I came for the in-person interview, I really liked Alicia [Bailey]. She was really nice, and they were really open about classes in the curriculum that I could add that focused on my specialties, which I thought would be cool. I felt like I was going to be given a real opportunity to

grow people's interests in costumes."

Speaking of courses focused on her specialties, Lagrosa is offering two new courses next semester with no prerequisites: The Aesthetics of Horror and a craft course. "My dissertation and my research focus a lot on horror films. Specifically in terms of Latina versus white actors and the roles they're getting in horror." The craft course, said Lagrosa, is "basically everything else but sewing. So the other parts of hands-on making. There'll be armor making, mask making, and even wigs." Both classes sound like a blast and are offered around 10 a.m.

# I Went to Capitol Hill to Talk About Tuberculosis: A rage-fueled passion for untreated tuberculosis

By **ASHER BLUMENTHOL**

Whelp, it's that time of the year again. That time when we all complain about the global health disparity that is tuberculosis, until someone important starts paying attention. For a few days each year, Nerdfighters (and members from various TB coalitions) from across the country gather in Washington, DC, to meet with their local representatives to try to make this world we share a little bit better. This year, we collectively met with over 260 congressional offices from all 50 states and advocated for increased funding for bilateral tuberculosis programs and the inclusion of tuberculosis as an eligible disease for the CDMRP.

Tuberculosis, by the way, is the deadliest infectious disease in the world. In 2024, it killed 1.23 million people and infected over 10.7 million worldwide — that's more than HIV/AIDS and malaria combined. What makes these facts particularly disconcerting is that tuberculosis is entirely

preventable. In fact, the cure has existed for nearly 75 years. Yet, despite this, over 150 million people have died from tuberculosis since the cure's discovery in 1944.

The current scourge of tuberculosis is caused by inequity and a human failure toward impartiality; it is something that we've created for ourselves. And something we refuse to address. The World Health Organization estimates we can end the TB epidemic by 2030 and completely annihilate the disease by 2035. So why haven't we?

It is absolutely untenable. The amount of people I've personally spoken to who've thought that tuberculosis is a disease of the past is shocking. And while TB is one of humanity's oldest plights, famously claiming the lives of Orwell, Kafka, and Chopin, it is, of course, still very much a threat.

This misconception arises from an inherent failure in our education. Because while 10.7 million people contracted TB in 2024 worldwide, a mere 10,388

of those cases occurred here in the states, most of which were in lower-income and/or incarcerated communities. But tuberculosis can infect anything that breathes; it doesn't see state borders. And if it doesn't discriminate, why should we?

In virtually every way one looks at it, it is obvious that there is a need to invest in better infrastructure for tuberculosis treatment. In addition to being a humanitarian issue, it's also economical. A 2024 study conducted by the World Health Organization found that investing in TB screening and preventative treatment yields a \$39 return on investment for every \$1 spent.

This year, I had the opportunity of meeting with Beloit's own congressman, Representative Brian Steil, in person, along with both of Wisconsin's senate offices, Senators Johnson and Baldwin. Every time I do this, I am blown away by the impact we can have by simply coming together as

a community. Tuberculosis isn't an easy issue, or one that will magically go away. But being surrounded by so many other people who, like me, chose to come here on their own dime and volition gave me hope. TB eradication is possible, and the real power we have is as one; collective power is exponential. In our fast-paced world, it's easy to forget this: That although we may strive to be self-contained, we are nothing without each other.

One in four people in the world are estimated to be infected with Mycobacterium

tuberculosis, and I am deeply disturbed to learn that we are now moving backward. I truly hope to see the eradication of TB in my lifetime, though I'm not sure how long such an endeavor will realistically take. I'm reminded of a Yogi Berra line: "In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. In practice, there is." There is so much to be done in the world of infectious disease before we can say we're finished. But what else can we do but try?

At the time of writing this article, 171 Members of the House have signed on to at

least one of our requests. I know such a feat is possible. I know we can do this. Over these past couple of years, I have met so many incredible people whose dedication alone is inspiring. Just the fact that we're here, together, trying to make this world we share a little bit better speaks not only to our technical ability but to our collective hope for the future. We have such limited time on this precious planet, yet we're here, spending our time together. Fighting for what we think is right. And we can but try.



Asher Blumenthol' 29

# Top 5 Walls on Campus

By **QUINN ANNIS**



beabeloiter Instagram

## 5. The Wall

This is a classic, my friends. This wall is the most well-known on campus — so well-known that it has triumphed over literally every other wall to assume the definite article and become not merely a wall, but the wall.

The only problem with The Wall is that it's not a wall. True, it is made of brick, and it is in some ways wall-adjacent. But its

primary function is not to support a building, or even to separate one location from another. It's really more like some kind of concrete planter. And while I don't think a wall must be straight, a perfectly cylindrical structure with a filled interior — even if that filling is soil — is categorically a pillar. There is a low ledge jutting off of Whitney that could qualify as a wall. But it really is

more of a ledge, and I'm skeptical that you could call it anything more than a barrier.

Also, in common parlance, the phrase "The Wall" doesn't even refer to the structure, it refers to the plaza around the structure. The Wall gets to be number five because it's an important location, but I will rate it no higher because it's taxonomically difficult and not a very comfortable place

to sit.

4. The most terrifying place I've ever been

Have you ever wanted a wall that made you fear for your life? This is the experience I was promised while Claire Winter '28 gleefully explained how to get to what she compared to Montresor's family catacombs in The Cask of Amontillado.

Under Eaton Chapel (but not in the basement), there is a nightmarish space that I am certain I was not allowed to be in. This location, being a room, actually has several walls, but I will contain my rating to the first one I saw entering this pitch-black space: a narrow stone wall behind a series of small stone steps descending into a void.

Being under a holy place, you might expect this wall to have some storied history. Perhaps it was touched by a saint, or spit on by the Pope. I can assure you that this wall has no such history. It has always existed in a timeless darkness and probably oozes some kind

of black ichor when no one is looking.

Maybe it was because I went alone, and the lead-up to entering this space was already walking through an empty church, but I left afraid and swore to never return. I am sure I lost some vital part of myself down there in the dark.

Anyway, overall I give this wall an eight out of ten.

## 3. The cave wall

I meant to go into the cave under the Logan Museum at some point to rate the walls in there, but it turns out you aren't allowed to just like, wander in. But I hear it's pretty nice and apparently there are bats down there. So that's cool. Love me some unworked stone.

2. Emotional walls used as coping mechanisms

Is walling up all your emotions the right thing to do? I don't know, but I won't ever stop doing it. I love sealing up all my stress, fear, and anxiety behind a fresh layer of mind-bricks. It makes me feel like a real mason. Plus, once you've done it, you never have to

acknowledge those feelings ever again. Just keep piling on the mortar, baby.

1. The wall of the Round Table office

I am not saying this out of a sense of loyalty or obligation — even if Viv and Ella's snipers do have their laser-sights trained on me — but the wall in this room is great. There are so many things on the wall that you can look at it forever and find new things, and they're all really funny. There are quotes, comics, and various absolutely insane things.

Do the things on the wall count as the wall? I don't know, and I don't care, because never before has a wall brought me so much entertainment value. It's like when you read all the shampoo ingredients and prescription information while you're using the bathroom, except actually interesting.

# Student Radio Play, “The Beach House,” Released

By LYDIA WILLIAMS

“The Beach House,” a new student-run radio play, is spicing up Beloit’s creative scene. Completely student-written, directed, acted, and produced, the play’s second act wrapped up production this semester.

Casey Barasch’26, writer and co-director of “The Beach House,” describes the story as “a satirical, dark comedy and family drama ... If Wes Anderson directed ‘Succession.’” Barasch has been working on this project for two years. It was originally written as a novel and was later adapted into a stage play. After some difficulty finding a space and a schedule to perform the play in a Beloit theater, Barasch pivoted. He trimmed the script down so it was in a desirable format and length for an audio drama. Instead of previously written stage directions, all actions and settings were altered to be read by a narrator.

This project serves as Barasch’s creative writing capstone as well as a BITE production. Barasch pitched “The Beach House” to the club for collaboration:

“Meek, unassuming Eric Satterstan prides himself on being the least interesting member of his family. His wily, flamboyant twin brother Cannon, not so much. Once close, Eric and

Cannon have suffered a rift in their relationship. However, when their infamous and absurdly wealthy father, Max Satterstan, is found dead in a tragic loose-chandelier accident, his will reveals that the twins have three additional, mysterious half-siblings. Eric and Cannon decide to put aside their differences and track down their siblings—and their inheritance. But as the Satterstan siblings, old and new, come closer to unmasking their father, their bonds are tested, and they are confronted with dark family secrets, a dead body or two... and a beach house.”

With the help of BITE actors, English and Media Studies advisors Tamara Ketabgin and Joe Bookman, and CELEB equipment, Barasch was ready to start production. Barasch is directing along with co-director Kendric Chen’26. Barasch had no previous experience in directing, while Chen had experience directing stage plays but not audio plays. This was a new experience for almost everyone involved.

The actors also had little to no experience in voice acting. The cast was more versed in stage acting and musical theater, ranging anywhere from eight years of physical acting history to

just one or two productions as crew. While both stage and radio plays involve telling a story with characters, they are more different than one might think. Actor Josh Stasevsky’29, voicing Max Satterstan, described being in the recording booth as “freer” than on stage. “We can be silly, goofy, give each other looks when someone says a funny line and it not having an impact on the show. Stageplay can sometimes feel like separating social time with work, but recording the radio play felt like I was having fun with my friends.”

Actor Haden Zeleny’26, voicing Sybil, liked not having to worry about how her body and movement was being perceived on stage. “As a disabled actor, it was very interesting because it was the very first time where I’d done a performance where there was no part of it where I had to be anxious about if I could perform something physically.” She said she felt able to connect with the character as written. “I could just fully be the character and not have to be like in my head and being like, ‘am I a disabled version of this character or is the physicality of my character?’—pulling people out of the story.”

There were some challenges along the way.

Actor Jinx Peterson’29, voicing Barryn Van Thorpe, and Brisa Mejia’28, voicing Teheophania, both had trouble adjusting their acting to audio only. Mejia said, “It made it a challenge then to get delivery or emotions right for the character without movement.” Actor Henry Lipp’28 voicing Lord Steffon, overcame this issue by changing posture and gestures to fit the scene, regardless of the fact that no one can see. Lipp said this physicality manifests itself in the voice.

Audio engineer and editor Jasmine Kingsbury’28 reported many technical difficulties in the studio. At one point, Beloit College’s license for the recording software the crew was using expired, and logged them out of the project. They had to wait until the license was renewed by the admin to continue recording. Peterson said the recording room was a bit too small to fit the whole cast comfortably. They said they had to fit “about 10 or more people to five microphones.”

However, Kingsbury said she was grateful for the challenges. “Over the course of this project, I was able to learn and improve the way I record and edit and ending up developing an efficient workflow.”

Barasch plans to continue

working with BITE after Act Two debuts. “‘The Beach House’ has been my waking nightmare of two years,” he said, “and I am certainly not done yet.” He is rekindling the effort to bring “The Beach House” to the stage. Barasch intends to make

and those completely new to “The Beach House.” Many current actors were interested in participating in the stage play, whether as actors for the same character, trying out a different role, or switching to crew entirely.



Youtube

alterations to the old stage play script, reserve the Wilson theatre and create a full-scale production.

He and BITE held auditions after the first week of classes and after the theater departments. The casting was completely open, leaving plenty of room for those wanting to try stage acting with the character they voiced

Those involved in “The Beach House” have described it as a gratifying experience both creatively and socially. Act Two debuted on March 21 on WBCR and will then be released to listen to in full. Once finished, “The Beach House” will be available to stream on YouTube, Spotify, and Soundcloud.

## So, the Oscars Happened

By DEMIR KASAPOGLU

I went into this year’s awards expecting a “Sinners Sweep” as some have predicted. I was wrong, but for the first time in a long time, the ceremony was a fun and smooth ride. So, how did my other predictions turn out?

First things first, this award season was so drawn out. This show should have been done by the end of February. I understand the Academy’s concerns about competing for attention against the Olympic Games but I

Picture, Actress, Supporting Actress, Supporting Actor, Director, Cinematography, and more. To my personal shock, “One Battle After Another” (“OBAA”) won more awards, as “Sinners” won four and “OBAA” won six.

When I made my prediction about Best Supporting Actor, I was really hoping to be incorrect. Delroy Lindo has been completely ignored by award shows even after getting nominated for an

Actor, Supporting Actor, Director, Cinematography, and more. To my personal shock, “One Battle After Another” (“OBAA”) won more awards, as “Sinners” won four and “OBAA” won six.

Best Original Song was won by “Golden” from “KPop Demon Hunters.” I do not know how to feel about this win. I think “I Lied to You” from “Sinners” was deserving of the win. I’ve seen some argue that the sequence of

he was a preteen. In the upcoming days to the ceremony I actually wanted Wagner Moura to win for his performance in “The Secret Agent.” However, I’m not disappointed by the Academy’s decision here.

Best Picture was won by “OBAA,” another well-deserved award for Paul Thomas Anderson and the entire cast and crew. There was a lot of controversy online about the competition between “Sinners” and “OBAA,” as both movies are phenomenal and topical. I think the reason the anticipated “Sinners” sweep did not take place was because the non-American members of the Academy probably just couldn’t relate to the messages and themes of “Sinners.” A vaguely anti-fascist movie with a tough-love father-daughter relationship is much more relatable for a white non-American Academy voter (and presumably even some white American members) compared to a movie about Black culture and resilience in the South that becomes a vampire horror film halfway through.

Overall, I wasn’t too surprised with most of the winners this year. I liked Conan O’Brien as the presenter (again), and it was nice to hear an uncensored “Free Palestine” from Javier Bardem (take notes BAFTAs). I’m excited to see the films coming out this year like “Dune: Part Three,” “The Odyssey,” and the newly released “Project Hail Mary.” I’m already making new predictions for next year (stay tuned).



The New York Times

really hope that this does not become a trend.

The red carpet was filled with amazing outfits — from Javier Bardem’s pin against war, the same one he wore to protest the invasion of Iraq in 2003, to Chase Infiniti’s stunning purple dress. I don’t usually pay attention to the red carpet, but this ceremony’s outfits have stayed on my mind.

“Sinners” was the most Oscar nominated film of all time with 16 nominations, including Best

Oscar for the first time in his career at age 73. His performance as Delta Slim was generational, though evidently the Academy did not see it that way. The award was given to Sean Penn, who didn’t even bother to show up. I really hope that there are more nominations coming Lindo’s way, as his career deserves to be recognized by his peers.

Amy Madigan won Best Supporting Actress for her performance in “Weapons.” I do not think I saw anyone

“I Lied to You” within the movie is messing with how people view the song by itself, and that as a song, “Golden” deserved to win. I do not agree with this view. I think the way a nominated song is utilized within the film — in terms of story, choreography, and more — should influence how Academy members should vote on this category.

Best Actor was won by Michael B. Jordan, a well deserved award for someone who has put his heart and soul into his career since

## Lollapalooza 2026: Is It Worth It?

By KEEGAN DEWITT

It is the time of year again when Lollapalooza is at the forefront of every Chicagoan’s mind. On Mar. 17, the setlist for the 2026 season was officially announced, leaving fans divided into haters and lovers. Who are the artists headlining this year? Is your favorite band finally going to be involved this year? Have the ticket prices risen by an astronomical amount? All these inquiries boil down to one common question to be asked: Is Lollapalooza really worth it this year?

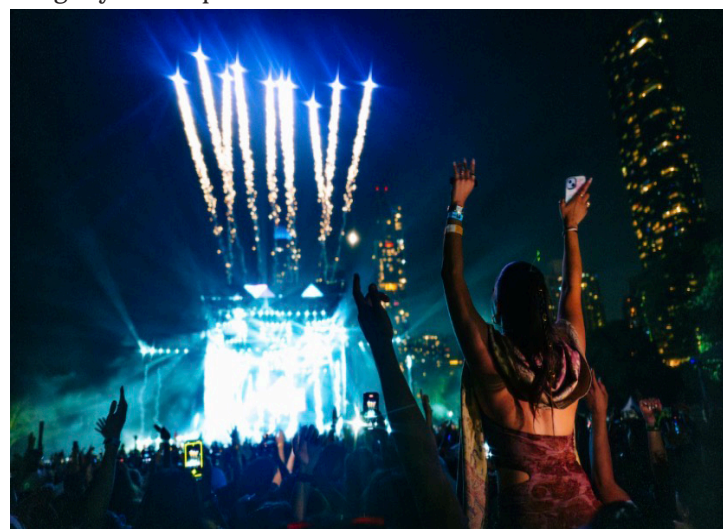
Lollapalooza, as usual, is taking place over the course of four days with two headlining artists performing per day. Starting July 30 and running until Aug. 3, the music festival will kick off with Lorde and John Summit with performances by CharliXCX and The Smashing Pumpkins the following day. That Saturday has Olivia Dean and Jennie showing, while Tate McRae and The XX will close off the performances. Empire Of The Sun, The Neighborhood, and Ethel Cain are among those who are playing on Lollapalooza’s side stages, with about 40 other performers alongside them each day.

A one-day general admission pass will cost you around \$185, with prices steadily rising from there. If you cannot choose between two artists playing on different days, a two-day pass will be your best bet, starting at \$370. Or, if you really love all the performers, a four-day pass will cost you \$440. This is slightly less expensive than

last year, with one-day ticket prices starting at nearly \$190 dollars in 2025. It should be noted that this is just a baseline price, and the longer you wait, the more the ticket price will increase. In addition, as of writing this, there is currently a waitlist for nearly all tickets, so the demand for these tickets is high.

In this hypothetical scenario, you just bought your expensive ticket, and still need to budget out money for food and merchandise. How much should you plan to pay? According to those who have gone to Lollapalooza in the past, each meal averages around \$15 with supposedly large portion sizes. There are multiple options for all audiences, including vegan and gluten-free food vendors for those who need it. If you bring a water bottle or are overall dehydrated, there will be water refill stations provided at no additional cost. For those interested in purchasing merch, clothing, and accessories, items average around \$40 per piece with exceptionally cute graphics.

In short, if you are willing to shell out hundreds of dollars of your hard-earned money for the ticket alone and pay for more things on top of that, then Lollapalooza is for you. Lollapalooza offers a laid-back vibe with unique performances, where you can spend a long evening of music around others with a similar taste to yours. For more information or to buy tickets yourself, go to Lollapalooza’s official website.



Lollapalooza

# College Lacrosse: Teams to Look Out For

By JEFFREY BATTLE

Lacrosse is the fastest game on two feet, man. Lemme tell you something man, there's a lot of people who do not watch a great game being played. Lacrosse has the same dimensions as hockey in terms of the ability to play behind

the cage, and crashing, but when it comes to playing from behind, there's a lot of ability there that has been unlocked and developed recently. When it comes to the top teams that we have seen this year there's a lot of play that has happened

from that ability of having a faster guy pushing up field. Still, the hardest part is the outside shots that you have to take sometimes. You're hoping for those to go in. By far, if you also have a great outside shooter with placement, you're off to a great start for building a good to great team. Overall offense has really been a joy to watch over the past couple of years. My top teams to watch this year are as follows.

Richmond. They have been a sleeper team all year and in preseason. Once the season has gotten rolling, they have been recently able to have their dodgers initiate from behind to allow more options for the offense to have their good outside shooters to help. Spacing is a key part in this as well, where Richmond has had

such fast ball speed with their passes that it allows the dodge behind the cage to really catch the defense off guard. They have been, in my opinion, the best team this year in terms of all-around aggressiveness. You need that in a team that is going to win and challenge the second team on this list... If you watch any other sports, it's the Rams team that we witnessed this year. Just so slept on in the beginning and they win pretty much every game with a decent challenge but can maintain control and consistency. They have great players, and just a solid foundation.

Notre Dame. They are the best in the country for a reason, and they unfortunately are the best in the country to watch for on overall offense.

They have the ability to push in pace overall, but again, it's pushing towards the goal from x is what really allows them to have those transition goals so easily. They have some of the most solid defense there is in terms of just not allowing a lot of cutters to sneak by and making shots hard for the offense. They were champions two years ago for a reason. They are realistically the best team in the nation. However, I think that there is a chance that we get a great national title game going with Richmond and Notre Dame. They are the Patriots of college lacrosse.

Read the rest on  
[roundtable.beloit.edu](http://roundtable.beloit.edu)



Duke Athletics

## Venezuela Crowned 'The Best in Baseball' The World Baseball Classic

By CIAN McKEOWN

The usually sterile dome of LoanDepot Park in Miami, Fla., rumbled with raw energy Tuesday night as Venezuelan pitcher Daniel Palencia wound up for his payoff pitch on a 1-2 count with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning, facing American slugger and young Boston Red Sox player Roman Anthony. Palencia had already retired the first two batters summarily, striking out Phillies star Kyle Schwarber and jamming Orioles shortstop Gunnar Henderson on a popout to the left side of the infield. Anthony had provided fireworks for the Americans in the semifinals and pool play, however, crushing a ball out of the yard against the Dominican Republic.

Palencia snapped back with fury and fired a 100 mph fastball at the top of the strike zone, a fireball that Anthony could only haphazardly wave at before striking out. The crowd roared. Palencia stepped off the mound and stood squarely, pumping his fists and lifting his face skyward, his mouth agape in a euphoric shriek of victory.

As soon as Anthony's bat whistled harmlessly past the ball, FOX play-by-play broadcaster Joe Davis'10 shouted in his amped up tone,

"Venezuela, the best in baseball!" It was as if Davis wanted to make it known that this slightly overmatched Venezuelan team had just bested a squad with four Most Valuable Player winners in the Major Leagues and 22 MLB All-Stars.

Venezuela took a 2-0 lead early and looked to cruise to an easy victory before a two-run homer by Phillies first baseman and Team USA star Bryce Harper tied things up at 2-2 in the eighth inning. The swell of excitement and patriotism for the Americans was quickly overshadowed by a clutch go-ahead RBI double in the top of the ninth inning that was laced into centerfield and parachuted safely down into the gap to put Venezuela in the lead, slugged by former Mariner and newly minted Cincinnati Red Eugenio Suarez.

Suarez expressed after the game in Spanish, "The country needs this happiness with all the things that we've gone through," according to ESPN. The victory felt like Venezuela hitting back after the country's leader, Nicholas Maduro, was deposed by the United States earlier this year. It was a crowning win for the heavy underdog Venezuela, and a

devastating defeat for Team USA, who lost to Samurai Japan in similar fashion during the 2023 tournament's Gold Medal Game, with pitcher Shohei Ohtani striking out American hitter and his Angels teammate at the time, Mike Trout.

Since its first edition in 2006, the World Baseball Classic has only grown in popularity and notoriety on the world stage, held triannually since. 2026 was the WBC's sixth edition, held from March 5 to 17, with the tournament emerging as baseball was phased out of the Olympic Games. While initially reserved for amateurs, players from professional leagues around the world have begun to compete in the Classic, culminating in the star-studded showdown fans bore witness to this March.

The tournament serves as an international invitational, with twenty countries divided into four pools that play each other for supremacy. Each nation competes in four games in its pool and must finish first or second in the group to advance to the quarter-finals. Countries that have performed well in past WBC tournaments secure an automatic bid, while lesser-known baseball



northjersey.com

nations like this year's teams from Czechia, Australia, and Chinese Taipei (Taiwan) had to compete in qualifying games in the intervening years since the previous tournament to land a spot.

The quarterfinal matchups in the 2026 tournament provided some Cinderella stories and pulse-pounding moments, beginning with the explosive 4-0 winners of Pool D, the Dominican Republic playing underdog Pool C runner-up Korea. The Dominicans made short work of Korea, mercy ruling them 10-0 in just seven innings in their quarterfinal game. The Dominican lineup was raking all day behind

Major League superstars like Fernando Tatis Jr., Vladimir Guerrero Jr., Juan Soto, Julio Rodriguez, Ketel Marte, and the fiery young slugger Junior Caminero. Caminero put forth an explosive performance for his country in the 2026 WBC, recording three home runs after his place on the roster was questioned by some analysts before the tournament. After this game, the D.R. looked simply unstoppable.

Read the rest on  
[roundtable.beloit.edu](http://roundtable.beloit.edu)

## Campus Rec Schedule

MONDAY 3/23

Dance Jam: 5:30pm

TUESDAY 3/23

Spin Class: 4:15pm  
Strength: 5:00pm  
Yoga: 6:00pm

WEDNESDAY 3/25

Zumba: 4:30pm  
Yoga: 6:00pm

THURSDAY 3/26

Strength: 5:00pm  
Jujitsu: 6:00pm

FRIDAY 3/27

No sessions

## An F1 Season For the Books

By ROMINA PALOMEQUE and ANKIA SINGH

The 2026 season has officially been one of the craziest season openings in F1 history. With Mercedes building a literal rocketship that got 19-year-old Kimi Antonelli his first win, Ferrari giving fans hope for the year of the horse, Oscar Piastri going from a world championship contender to failing to even finish a race, and Max Verstappen talking about wanting to retire, there is a lot to unpack.

Through just two races, the grid has already begun to fracture in unexpected ways. Teams that once dominated now look lost, drivers who once

felt untouchable are making uncharacteristic mistakes, and a new generation is already beginning to leave its mark on the sport.

At the center of this shift are the new regulations. Designed to overtake both aerodynamics and power units, the 2026 rule changes were meant to introduce a more sustainable and competitive era of Formula 1. Instead, they have so far exposed just how difficult adaptation in this sport can be. Teams were forced to rethink everything, from car balance to energy deployment, and not all of them have done so

successfully. The result is a grid that feels unsettled, where performance varies not just between teams, but from race to race.

While the podiums have consisted of similar names, the races themselves have been anything but predictable. Reliability issues, inconsistent pace, and strategic missteps have defined both weekends. Max Verstappen, for example, who was arguably the most dominant driver of the past few seasons, has already suffered multiple incidents, including crashes that have taken him out of the race entirely.

Another team that has struggled in the face of these new regulations is Cadillac. While they brought legacy names such as Valtteri Bottas and Checo Perez, the cars haven't done justice to the drivers. Being new to the F1 world, they are struggling to make a place for themselves in this extremely brutal and competitive sport.

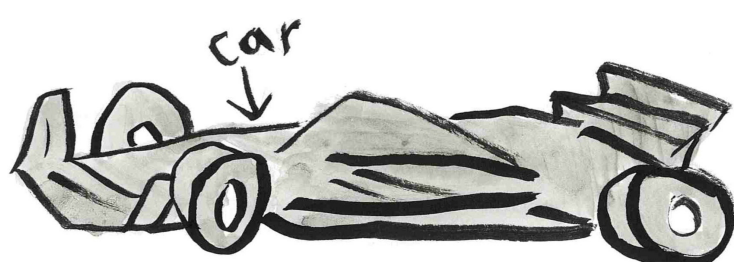
On a similar note, McLaren, who infamously won the

Constructors Title two years in a row, have not been able to keep the same expectations for this season. In the Australian Grand Prix, Oscar Piastri's home race, Lando Norris had difficulties with the car that landed him in fifth place, while Piastri was pulled early and not able to finish the race. In the second race, neither car made it out of the pit lane.

On the other hand, teams like Mercedes, Ferrari, Alpine, and Haas have seen exceptional performances. In the first two races, we saw Ferrari and Mercedes being in a battle for taking the top spot, Alpine performing better than Redbull, and Haas's car put Ollie Bearman in fifth place for the world championship.

Both Mercedes's drivers have stood on the podium the first races of the season.

Read the rest on  
[roundtable.beloit.edu](http://roundtable.beloit.edu)



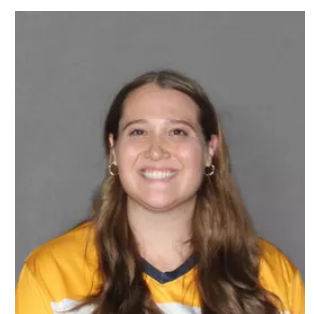
Betty Cavicchia '28

## Athletes of the Week

Collin Wright '27  
Baseball



Allie Gustafson '28  
Softball



## Letter To The Editors: An Update on the Current State of the Sigma Chi Chapter

Submitted by SIGMA CHI

*Created by Joshua Tsyarkin (Vice President), and reviewed/approved by all current members of the Alpha Zeta Chapter of the Sigma Chi International Fraternity at Beloit College (March 4, 2026)*

Members of the Beloit College community and the greater Beloit area:

I, Joshua Tsyarkin, am currently Pro-Consul (Vice President) of the Alpha Zeta Chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity here at Beloit College. Issac Guttormson, our current Consul (President) and all current members of the chapter have decided that an update on the current state of the chapter is extremely necessary, and long overdue.

Transparency with our community is not something that has been lost on us — this update and statement has been deliberated numerous times since the events that took place in the Spring of 2024. At the time, we thought that commenting on the issue would bring more resentment and uneasiness towards us, and that the best course of action would be to make changes behind closed doors.

This was counter-intuitive, because as we engaged in various difficult dialogues with faculty, administration,

and our own student body, the same sentiments persisted. And why wouldn't they? Our culture was changing, yet the community was not given the chance to see it.

We wanted to permanently break the cycle of irresponsibility, hate, and ignorance that had plagued the chapter before us. And I honestly think that although it has been a long road, we have changed this organization drastically. Instead of focusing on showing how we have changed, we simply used the time to focus on ourselves and make that change. We wanted to build back the trust, comfortability, and respect that this community had for us before our own members destroyed it.

Currently, our top three positions are held by Issac, Josh, and Ryder. We three were the ones who saw the effects of the past first-hand and understood the feelings and perspectives of everyone on campus who are part of this community (as well as the rest of the chapter). We have made a concerted effort since the day things occurred to recruit quality

men so that we can avoid repeating a hurtful past. The easy thing to do was to jump ship and leave the chapter, and we all considered it. But our chapter is storied, and is among the top twenty continuously standing chapters that have never lost their charter. I firmly believe that Isaac, Ryder, myself, and the rest of the chapter are committed to “turning the ship around,” as we have been doing step by step, ever since men who were never fit to represent our chapter graduated. Even though individuals who were a part of our organization did not represent our core values/ideals in the slightest, we resonated with the true ideals of Sigma Chi and knew that turning the ship around would be difficult, but possible with time.

We also recognize that the way we went about our official and initial apology, and the delayed timing of our second apology was unfair, disappointing, and lacked depth in the understanding of the true effects we had scarred unto our own community we had worked so hard to bring together during Derby Days of 2024.

The men that were around



to see events unfold in 2024 did not have a majority in the house, and decisions were made based on previously elected officers and seniority. Three sophomores and three freshmen had to take control of a ship that had been sunk by the previous people we had trusted to represent our organization. Knowing that our voice still did not represent a majority in the house, and the future we would go on to hold was almost forced upon us upon entry because of the unnecessary hate and total irresponsibility of others. As everything stands, we know trust is not built

overnight, and it takes a lot of time, difficult conversations, and effort to make true change. It requires individuals who still have strong concerns to speak out so that we can all effectively communicate and open dialogues as a student body.

All in all, the entirety of this chapter is now composed of good men who hold each other accountable each and every day, and our democratic processes and leadership are something we are now truly proud of. We pride ourselves in our brotherhood, commitment to public service, integrity, and ability to have difficult conversations. We hope to continue to have open, honest, and consistent dialogues with all members of our community — whether they be with members of our student body, Greek life, clubs, organizations, faculty, administration, etc. With time, we hope to build back the trust our community had for us so that we can support each other and so that our chapter can leave a positive impact on the community.

## Denver, Colorado is the Best Sports City in the Nation Right Now (and it's not particularly close)

By NORAH OWENS

Dear Wisconsinites, I come to you as a Coloradan of 18 years, the daughter of a physical education teacher and former collegiate diver, and a friend of three very passionate white boys to tell you one thing: Denver has the best professional sports scene in the United States. Sorry.

Let's start with the glaringly obvious: Colorado has the best basketball player and a top three hockey player in the world right now to boot. There is no denying the greatness of Nathan MacKinnon and Nikola Joki, and if you try to argue, I'll assume you're just jealous. Throw in the genuine potential that Bo Nix showed this year to be a true franchise player for the Broncos, and the stage is set for three high-performing teams all at the same time, this very year.

The quality of the teams is greater than just their superstars, particularly when it comes to fan engagement and the players' "public personas." Just look at MacKinnon's affinity for skipping star on the ice announcements whenever he gets a chance, or Joki's desperation to return to his horse races in Serbia after winning an entire NBA championship. These players are the kind of superstars that go supernova a little too easily because they're more interested in their sport than putting on a show.. Luckily, each Denver team has a talented supporting

cast to keep audiences engaged AND their MVPs performing at their best. After all, what are one or two bigwigs supposed to do if the rest of the team can't bring home the championship? Ask the Edmonton Oilers about that. (Sorry again.)

So who in Colorado has both the personality and the game to back it up? First, take a look at Courtland Sutton, Jamal Murray AND Aaron Gordon, and Cale Makar. Overall, I think every Denver team has plenty of players to fill this wide niche of both fan service and genuinely good play, making the team's vibe more appealing to the public. Finally, I'd be a fake Colorado fan if I didn't mention our current active GOAT in this category: Gabriel. Freaking. Landeskog. Argue with the wall.

Depth goes a long way, too. As a general fan of an underdog story, a late-round rookie with limited minutes, or a comeback arc of the year, you already know my true favorite players are the likes of Pat Bryant (Broncos), Julian Strawther (Nuggets), and Sam Malinski (Avalanche). Honorable mention here goes to my favorite NHL player, who reinvented his career in two years spent in Colorado as a top-tier MacKinnon merchant (2023-24 and 24-25), then promptly basically fell off again after leaving (please don't make fun of me). Championships are won on players who can step up under high pressure

situations, whether that's offering a career-high legacy game during the injuries of others (like 85% of the Nuggets roster throughout this season) or even a few well-timed goals in an essential playoff series (like Avalanche legends Darren Helm, Andre Burakovsky, and Andrew Cogliano in the '22 Cup Final).

Ultimately, Denver sports fans bring an interesting fanbase to the table for our teams. Speaking from experience, we ride or die for our teams. I watched my dad stick with his team through the Broncos' 10-year drought. I cheered for Jarrett Stidham with the best of 'em when he became our only hope for an AFC Championship this January. I watched my basement TV with bated breath on the night of June 26, 2022, when the Colorado Avalanche hoisted the Stanley Cup only five years after playing one of the worst NHL seasons of all time. Denver fans won't give up on a team when times get tough, and they won't give up on a player unless it's really time for him to go. Sorry, Michael Porter Jr. I think this makes the market in Colorado much more desirable for a player than the most hardcore of markets, like Philly football or Toronto hockey.

In hopes of appealing to the audience who might hate me at this point in time, I've been sticking to three of the four big men's leagues — NFL, NBA,

and NHL. However, this isn't even all Colorado has to offer. The Colorado Mammoth in the National Lacrosse League (men's box lacrosse) recently set a franchise record for consecutive wins with seven straight wins on a random day in February. The Rockies are... an MLB team that you can see at Coors Field. Ball Arena just hosted a PWHL Takeover Tour matchup between the reigning Walter Cup champion Minnesota Frost and the New York Sirens, with over fifteen thousand people in attendance chanting that Denver wants a PWHL team of its own! Don't forget the newly-minted inaugural season of the NWSL's Denver Summit, for which the iconic USWNT captain and midfielder Lindsey Heaps (Horan) IS COMING HOME TO COLORADO in June. My fellow women's sports fans, we have to capitalize on this, as the first women's pro team in Colorado since the short-lived Colorado Xplosion of 1996-98. To all the franchise owners out there: please put a WNBA team in my state and I will probably sell my soul to you. Besides, look at everything else I just talked about! The market is clearly there!

In conclusion: I love my state. I love my teams. They are probably better than yours. Peace and love on planet Earth.

## Nobody Parties at Beloit Anymore. Why?

By ELLA SILVA

*Cont. from page 1..*

The second reason goes deeper and further than Beloit College. Across the board, our generation parties less. In a fellow student newspaper, The Post at Ohio University, author Nyla Gilbert writes about several reasons why Gen Z, in general, is partying less.

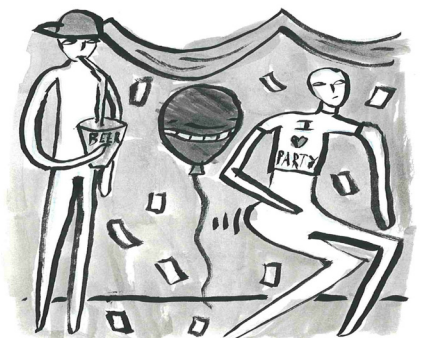
These reasons range from “the decline in alcohol consumption” that is often seen as a major factor behind the decline in partying overall, because so much of party culture in the past has been in some way tied to drinking, to the cost of partying in general. “Partying is no longer affordable for

many, nor is it affordable for the establishments that hold them. Popular, even iconic, nightclubs have closed due to the operational costs being unmanageable. The death of party spaces has been steadily on the rise for the past five years.”

Another major factor is how lonely younger people are today, on average. A Substack article by Derek Thompson titled “The Death of Partying in the U.S.A. - and Why It Matters” discusses this topic, saying, “At a time of surging anxiety and mental distress, Americans spend more time alone today than in any period in recorded

history. Face-to-face socializing has plummeted in the last two decades by about 20 percent. For unmarried men and people younger than 25, the decline exceeds 35 percent, which might explain why these groups seem to have fewer friends than ever.” This loneliness is both a symptom and a factor, trapping people in a place of not wanting to go out due to fewer close friends to go out with, but then preventing people from making friends by going out.

At the end of the day, the problem has trapped all of us in a cycle of bad parties leading to less partying, which then leads to bad parties. We need



Betty Cavicchia'28

to take the party scene back. Buck up, gather your friends and acquaintances, take that shot (or don't if you really don't want to), put on a fun outfit, and get your butt to this week's lame campus party. The only way they become less lame is if you ignore all the reasons not to go out, show up, and have a god damn good time.

# THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE



## HOROSCOPES



hark! the holy grail awaits

**DID YOU KNOW?**

One time I found an aphid in my Powerhouse salad



it's slightly too late for this to be Saint Patrick's day themed but shoutout ireland. one of my top five islands for sure

### Aries (Mar 21–Apr 19)

A worthy steed shall be yours. A beautiful, lustrous mare, with a mane as white as snow. Or a stallion. Whatever you prefer, man.

### Taurus (April 20–May 20)

Do not count your goslings before they've hatched, young squire. Many shall be stillborn

### Gemini (May 21–Jun 21)

Cease referring to thy puny blade as "Excalibur," for you have offended the lady of the lake

### Cancer (Jun 22–Jul 22)

You have slain the beast Grendel! But now Grendel's mother approaches. What! (This is a reference to Beowulf, because

### Leo (July 23–Aug 22)

See thy physician at once. For it is terminal

### Virgo (Aug 23–Sep 22)

Let not wenches entreat your wandering eye, Virgo. Give focus to thyself, and thy workout regimen

### Libra (Sep 23–Oct 23)

A quest comes for you, Libra; a quest most true! But it shall require the sacrifice of that which you hold most dear: thine gonads

### Scorpio (Oct 24–Nov 21)

There is treachery among your confidants. One close to you is plotting to steal your expensive water bottle

### Sagittarius (Nov 22–Dec 21)

In the deep forest you shall encounter the Black Knight himself. But pay him no mind, as he is only headed to the pickleball championship.

### Capricorn (Dec 22–Jan 19)

You will succeed Arthur as true king of England. But be wary, for you shall then be British

### Aquarius (Jan 20–Feb 18)

You will find the Holy Grail, and be revered forevermore! But fame shall not fill the void

### Pisces (Feb 19–Mar 20)

Do you seek glory in battle? The thrill of the joust? There is a place for you, my friend. Medieval Times is looking for actors.

### your star sign your legendary deed

#### ARIES



walking through fire unharmed

#### TAURUS



besting a bear in hand-to-hand combat

#### GEMINI



publishing in an academic journal

#### LEO



backflip

#### VIRGO



literacy



venturing to the land of the dead

#### LIBRA



deposing a tyrant

#### CARRICORN



pulling the sword from the stone



loving relationship

#### AQUARIUS



finding the holy grail

#### SAGITTARIUS

disappearing without a trace

#### PISCES

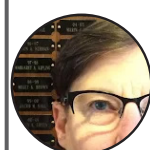


sick kegstand

## MERLIN SAYS:



look at this quality. i spoil you all with the effort i put in don't i i'm really tired right now this is the output you're getting



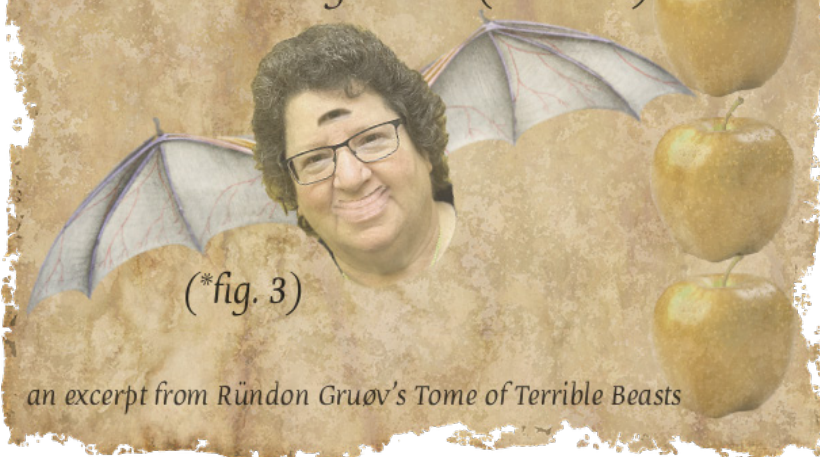
"This is one of the lesser apes"  
- nancy krusko before disintegrating a gibbon with her mind

if your reflection is bigger than your face you have cancer



do you see nothing? it's because you're a vampire

*Randivilius Moglianus (to scale)*



*(\*fig. 3)*  
*an excerpt from Rūndon Gruov's Tome of Terrible Beasts*

el caballo

