

The Cliff News @ Briar Cliff College

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Briar Cliff University

Kate Brincks
staff reporter

By this time next year students will not be attending Briar Cliff College, instead they will be attending Briar Cliff University.

As of June 1, 2001, Briar Cliff will be identified as a University. Dr. Jack Calareso, President of Briar Cliff, made the recommendation to change to University status to The Board of Trustees a little over a year ago. From there, the board reached the decision to change Briar Cliff from a college to a university. Calareso said that there are several reasons for changing Briar Cliff's status. With University status, Briar Cliff will be able to offer graduate programs, and someday have outreach programs in other states and other countries.

"It is a better description of where we are going to be in the next few years," said Calareso.

Currently, Briar Cliff has centers where people can get a degree in cities throughout Iowa such as Algona, Orange City, and Dennison. However, there are only a few majors offered in those places. By

changing to University status, Calareso said that the college is looking into starting outreach centers in other cities such as Sioux Falls, S.D.; Omaha, Neb.; and Des Moines, Iowa. Briar Cliff someday wants to offer graduate programs in a variety of majors off campus as well.

"I think 'outreach centers' are a good idea, because it gives people the opportunity to have a Briar Cliff education without having to drive all the way to Sioux City to get it," said Kelly Richter, a junior HPER major.

Calareso also said that the status change will offer a more competitive edge to perspective students. He said that the University name communicates higher education and will not change the majors that are offered, it will just be another option that Briar Cliff will offer.

Betty Farmer, admissions inquiry and report specialist, said that Briar Cliff should see an increase in total enrollment with this change.

"Students will be able to start and finish degrees at the same place," said Farmer.

The addition of graduate programs will not be a sudden change, instead it will phase in

over the years. The first academic major to offer a master's degree will be Education. Calareso said that they are also looking at starting graduate programs in other majors, such as business, information technology, and administration.

Micheala Huster, a junior elementary education major, said that she is happy that the education department will offer a master's degree, but it's something that will appeal to more non-traditional students.

"I think that it is going to benefit more of the continuing education students than the traditional students because many times traditional graduates with a masters are over qualified for starting out as a first year teacher," said Huster.

Huster also said that a master's degree is something that she would like to work on someday but not until after she gets her career somewhat established.

Melissa Drey, a junior elementary education major with a special education endorsement, agrees with Huster.

"I would like to get in a few years of field experience first," said Drey. "That way, I know if a master's degree is something that I should be looking into."

New Stark Student Center cafeteria offers more choices

Justin Crawford
staff reporter

Students returning to Briar Cliff College this year will find a major change in the way they eat. The new cafeteria in the Stark Student Center opened its doors at the beginning of the fall term, replacing the old cafeteria in Heelan Hall.

Director of Campus Dining Kevin Brisk says the students seem to like it a lot and the new cafeteria offers more than the old one did.

"You can't really compare the two cafeterias because this new one is a totally different setup than the last one," said Brisk. "The serving area is bigger and able to offer more selections, the kitchen is larger and gives the workers more room, and the seating is more spread out and not as cramped as it was in the old cafeteria."

The new cafeteria offers more tables than the old one

did, but they only seat four people. There are big picture windows on the south side that offer a beautiful view of the city, and the new student lounge is connected with it, making it much handier for students than the old lounge on the ground floor of Alverno Hall.

"The new one (cafeteria) is awesome," said Juan Becerril, a junior HPER major. "You can watch television on two big screen TV's, play pool or look out the big picture windows while you eat. The food even seems to taste better too. It's a much better environment than the old small and separate cafeteria and lounge."

Brisk says there are a few small problems with the cafeteria but nothing major.

"We have had a few equipment problems," said Brisk. "We are still working the bugs out of some of the new things, but overall everything is working out well."



photo by Sarah Hruska

Erica Krobot, a senior biology major, scrapes the garage of the Campus Ministry/BCCares Paint-A-Thon house located at 1418 Main Street. Krobot was just one of 59 Briar Cliff participants who scraped, primed and painted the house for the annual Paint-A-Thon event, which is just one of many activities sponsored by Campus Ministry/BCCares.

New employees are getting accustomed to BCC

Tina Caldera
staff reporter

The year 2000 has bombarded the Briar Cliff community with changes in everything from the new Stark Student Center to the over 200 new faces (staff and students) strolling about campus.

"The number of new hires is approximately what it has been for the past several years over the same period of time," said Jill Sullivan, director of human resources.

Sullivan has been in her position as Coordinator of Human Resources since July of 1993 and became Director of Human

Resources in October of 1997.

"BCC does have an established recruitment process and conduct either national, regional or local searches depending upon the position," said Sullivan. "We advertise in the Chronicle of Higher Education, regional newspapers such as the Omaha World Herald, Sioux Falls Argus Leader and the Des Moines Register, as well as the Sioux City Journal and LaVoz Hispania. We also post job announcements on appropriate on-line web sites. For faculty positions, a job announcement is sent to a listing of colleges and universities around the country as well."

For Sheri Hineman, newly appointed Baxter Hall resident advisor, Briar Cliff was just what she was looking for at the time.

"BCC had an opening for a Residence Hall Director," said Hineman. "The hall director position was what I was looking for and I felt that BCC would be a good place to work."

Cornell Lowery, Recreational/Intramural and Student Activities Director, said he was attracted to BCC because of the people.

"Everyone is so nice," said Lowery. "I accepted the position because I felt that I had

something to offer the BCC community."

Hineman said she heard of the opening in March 2000 and has been very happy with her decision to come here because of the friendly, outgoing atmosphere of Briar Cliff.

"I heard of the position through a friend who thought it would be perfect for me," said Lowery. "I love it here at BCC. It's a dream job."

However, just as people come, people go.

"I believe the loss in faculty is felt most among the students," said Abby Lansink, a junior mass communications major. "They tend to wonder why

some faculty members have decided to leave Briar Cliff."

"This is about the annual rate of turnover at Briar Cliff," said Sullivan. "People leave for a variety of reasons: spouse transfer, opportunity for professional advancement, retirement, personal needs such as desire to relocate or seek a different position, and some leave because of performance issues--each case is unique and individual."

Sullivan also said that the college has filled vacant positions over the last year and as departments become fully staffed it has had a positive impact on employee morale.

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Briar Cliff College September 29, 2000



photo by Jody Johnson

All the new faculty and staff for the 2000-2001 Academic year are pictured above in Joe Gantz Boardroom in Noonan Hall. All 16 employees are ready to face the challenges they will be faced with this year.

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Staff adjusting to new environment at

Kyle Lewis has been hired as head Wrestling Coach after serving as assistant wrestling coach for three years. Kyle earned his B.A. in Physical Education from Northwestern College and is pursuing his master's degree in athletic administration and management from Wayne State College.

Shawn Mansfield has accepted the position of Women's Soccer Coach. Shawn graduated with a B.A. in Physical Education from Westmar University where he was a two-time All-American in soccer and served as student assistant coach. He also has been the women's soccer coach at Heelan High School.

Jason Pratt has been hired as the Men's Golf Coach. Jason is a Briar Cliff graduate with a B.A. in Psychology and currently works as the Assistant Golf Professional at the Dakota Dunes Country Club.

Dustin Stabb has been hired as the Men's Soccer Coach. Dustin has served in coaching positions in the U.S. Marine Corps Soccer programs and YMCA youth leagues.

Marilyn Mayer started on August 21 in the position of Director of Planned Giving. Marilyn received her M.A. in English from Chadron State College. She taught for eight years in the English Department at Morningside College and most recently served as a sales agent for Northwestern Mutual Life in Sioux City.

Lisa Preston, a Briar Cliff graduate in Elementary Education and Reading, recently accepted the position of Director of Alumni Relations. Lisa has served in the Sioux City educational system as a substitute teacher and most

recently was employed at WIT as an Adult Basic Education Instructor.

Trish Wieland has joined the Institutional Advancement staff as the new Director of College and Community Relations. Trish has a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism from Creighton University. She left her position as reporter, anchor and PSA Director for KMSN radio here in Sioux City and begin work at the College on September 13.

Sheri Hineman recently moved to Sioux City from Menomonie, Wisconsin to accept the position of Residence Hall Director in Baxter. She earned her B.S. in Information Technology Specialization from the University of Wisconsin at Stout where she also served as a resident advisor.

Cornell Lowery recently began his responsibilities as Recreation/Intramural and Student Activities Director. Cornell received his B.S. in Psychology from Southwest Texas State University. He has recently served as a residential counselor at the South Sioux City location of the Boys & Girls home.

Ryan Stamm joined the Educational Talent Search team in August as Outreach Advisor. In May, Ryan received his B.A. in Psychology with emphasis on Child and Adolescent Development. While attending Briar Cliff, he worked as a paraprofessional at Angel House Daycare and Preschool and also worked with adolescents through various soccer camps and summer programs.

Vickie Britson begins as Instructor of Nursing this fall. Vickie has 11 years of home healthcare experience and has served as adjunct faculty for

community health rotations. She received her M.S.N. in Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Nursing from SDSU.

Patricia Fratangelo started her position as Instructional Services Librarian on September 1. She has recently completed her Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of South Carolina. She has worked as a technical editor, teacher, and librarian and has served a tour of duty with the Peace Corps in Uzbekistan. Patricia joins us in Sioux City from Columbia, S.C.

Stephen Giedosh, Sr. joins the Education Department as Assistant Professor of Special Education. His doctoral degree was conferred in August from USD in the field of technology in training and development. Steve has 25 years experience in the K-12 environment and has instructed special education/special populations at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Kelli Jaacks has accepted the position of End-User Liaison in the Computer Center effective October 2. Kelli received an Associate of Arts degree from Western Iowa Tech and is pursuing her Business Information Systems degree from Bellevue University. She comes to Briar Cliff from her current position in the telecommunications department at IBP.

Patricia Mack will join the Education Department in November as an Assistant Professor. Ms. Mack has her M.A.T. in Reading from Morningside College and is completing her doctoral program at Pennsylvania State University. She has nine years of teaching experience at the elementary level.

Gary McKercher joins the Music Department this fall as the new Assistant Professor of Choral Music. Dr. McKercher was awarded his DMA from the University of Southern California and has over 20 years experience in college/university teaching, including appointments at Doane College, California State University and Western Kentucky University.

Rosemary Moody began her responsibilities as Library Technician on September 25. Rosemary attended Briar Cliff and has many years of experience as a receptionist and property/payroll manager.

Janet Plathe began as our new Director of Continuing Education in July. Janet received her M.S. in Education from Eastern Illinois University with a major in Educational Psychology and Guidance. She had served for over three years as the CEO of the Better Business Bureau prior to accepting her position at BCC.

Melanie Rottweiler was hired in June as the Director of the Briar Cliff College Children's School. Ms. Rottweiler has her Elementary Education degree from the University of Wyoming, and holds a certificate in Basic Early Childhood. She has taught in the Montessori school environment and kindergarten in Salt Lake City.

Julie Scott began her duties as Registrar in June. Julie holds an M.S. in Engineering Psychology from the University of Wisconsin. She served for over twelve years at Western Iowa Tech in a variety of positions and most recently as Coordinator for Prior Learning and Assessment. She also served as chair of the degree audit team and brought a

strong knowledge of the Datatel Colleague system to her appointment

David Duzik is the newest member of Admissions staff and he began as Admissions Representative on September 25. Dave graduated with a B.A. from Briar Cliff in Human Resource Management and a minor in Business Administration. He was employed in customer service and warehouse/inventory management at Brown and Seanger in Sioux Falls prior to coming to Briar Cliff.

Lana Johnson began in her position this month as Data Entry/Receptionist in Admissions. Prior to joining the Admissions team, Lana was employed in the office at Brower Construction in Sioux City.

Jeff LaFavor, a May graduate with a degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Business Administration, began his responsibilities as Admissions Representative this month. Jeff actually completed his course work in November and has been employed at Prudential Insurance in Sioux City since March of this year.

Monica Bush began in the newly created position of Events Coordinator in July. Prior to moving back to her native Sioux City, she was employed in a similar position at Oak Hills Christian College in Bemidji, Minn. where she also earned her B.A. in General Education/Biblical Studies.

Chuck Trammel joined us as a Maintenance Technician in June. He worked at Access Air as a maintenance controller prior to joining the Briar Cliff team. He has also served for more than 16 years with the Air National Guard in aircraft maintenance.

The Cliff News

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Briar Cliff College

Editors:

Sarah Hruska
Michelle Morelli

Adviser:

Michael Crowley

Assistant Editor:

Sarah Buford

Staff Reporters

Ayca Ayatar
Kate Brincks
Tina Caldera
Jerry Conover
Justin Crawford
Abby Lansink

Online/Photo Editor:

Jody Johnson

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Record freshman class brings life to BCC

Ayca Ayatar
staff reporter

Cultivating minds, embracing Franciscan values, serving the community, creating tomorrow's leaders may have been the reason over 800 students applied to come to Briar Cliff College for the 2000-2001 academic school year.

This motto stands for what Briar Cliff College means to those who work here, as well as those who go to school here.

Now the biggest freshman class ever will know what this motto stands for too.

"The 193 freshman students were recruited a number of ways," said Sharisue Wilcoxon vice-president of enrollment management. "The counselors went out and visited high schools, college fairs were put on all over the region, relatives and friends referred the college to them. Also, some of our students found us by our website."

Of the 193 students, 17 stu-

dents used the website as a means to learn more about Briar Cliff.

"Most students who came in this year chose education as their primary major," said Wilcoxon. "Other majors included business, nursing, pre-math, and of course some students are still undecided."

Sixty-one percent of the freshman class is female, 112 came from Iowa, 36 from Nebraska and other states such as Minnesota, Illinois, South Dakota, North Dakota and Colorado.

"Briar Cliff College is small but there are still a lot of people here from all over," said freshman Kristi Lenz. "Classes are much harder and you have to do the homework."

Freshman Steve Giedosh agreed. "I feel Briar Cliff is very relaxing and it is in a good part of the city," said Giedosh. "One thing that I do is play bass guitar and I want to be a professional musician."

These freshman students have many hopes and dreams

that they want to become realities.

"I want to do the best I can do in my sports medicine major," said freshman Chalsie Quinn. "When I graduate from here, I want to be able to go out in the field and get any job I want because I know that Briar Cliff has prepared me."

Of course with a huge freshman class, there sometimes comes disadvantages.

"There's too many," said junior Nick Barcel. "I know that the school is doing what they are supposed to be doing in order to make more money for the college. Also, with this many students that they recruited in-state, they can try next year to recruit more students from out of state."



photo by Jody Johnson

A group of first year students gather together before class preparing for LA 101 lecture in Meis Hall. Record numbers have caused an increase in the enrollment in the LA classes.

Other students had concerns with the bigger class.

"With having a bigger freshman class, I worry about the individual attention that students need," said sophomore Jaod Johnson. "But obviously it is good for the college that we have so many people that

are interested in Briar Cliff and what it has to offer."

And what Briar Cliff has to offer is a lot.

With over 20 majors, activities, clubs and sports to join, there are many things that the new class can enjoy for their next four years here.

New security on campus

Abby Lansink
staff reporter

There are many changes on Briar Cliff's campus this fall. The Stark Student Center, the new faculty members, and the largest freshman class in 10 years, to name a few. Returning students may also notice the many changes to the Briar Cliff Security department.

One major change to the security department is the resignation of the director, Lawrence Scully. Scully left his position to teach physical education and coach baseball at Truman State in Missouri. Scully's duties have been taken over by Fred Krueger.

Krueger has been in charge of the security changes, and has also been an active participant in finding a new security director.

"We are very close to announcing a new director," said Krueger. "We have had lots of great applicants, and the director that we do hire is expected to take over the duties in mid-October," Krueger said.

Another change that has

been implemented is the hiring of adult security guards.

"The reasoning behind the hiring of the adult guards is to give relief to student guards who may have had to turn in their friends. Student guards will still be here, and the ones we have on staff are great, but they will not do any night shifts," said Krueger.

"It is nice to have adult security guards on campus to help control parking and other emergencies that come up," said senior business and Spanish double major, Megan Foust.

A freshman nursing major, Alysia Peterson, is also impressed with the security on campus.

"When looking at colleges, I wanted to choose one where I felt safe. With the adult guards patrolling the campus, I can relax and have fun with my friends, and still feel safe," said Peterson.

Other changes to the security department include the installation of a centralized access control system.

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Validation day combines all services for students

Michelle Morelli
co-editor

Validation Day was something new for all students this year on campus.

For the first time students could confirm their fall registration, check their financial aid status, purchase parking permits, and sign for loans all at one place.

"We wanted students to have the opportunity to go to one place on campus and get their needs met," said Director of Financial Aid, Robert Piechota.

Validation started early in the morning and lasted for 10 hours. During this time, it was mandatory for all students to come so they could get all the information they needed for the upcoming school year.

"I thought it was very beneficial for everyone to get all of their financial aid and schedule matters out of the way," said sophomore Jarrod Johnson. "They answered a lot of questions for me, and it was easier to just go to one place instead

of traveling around campus."

Validation day also helped out freshman, by answering any questions they had about school issues such as financial aid or class schedules.

"I thought Validation Day was needed for every freshman," said Christine Spagl, first-year student.

With every new change also comes confusion and maybe frustration. Long lines were part of the problem.

"Several students had to wait a long time to get through, which got a bit tiring," said Johnson.

"I didn't mind the long line because we always want fast service," said Spagl. "What I didn't like was the other locations for things such as work study and I felt very lost in the loop."

Financial aid is going to review what people did like and what they didn't.

"We will defiantly look at

what we did well and what we didn't do well," said Piechota. "Next year, we will strategically put the tables in better positions. We just want to make Validation day better for people each year."

"We wanted students to have the opportunity to go to one place on campus and get their needs met."

- Robert Piechota

During Validation, students also got the opportunity to take part in a job fair.

Everything from tutoring children and finding jobs in your major area of study were part of the job fair.

"I really liked that not only could we go to one location and get all the things we need done, but we could also take part in trying to find jobs that best suit us," said junior Hilda Arriola.

Johnson agreed.

"Despite the minor things, it was a very valuable experience for everyone involved," said Johnson. "The school is looking out for our needs and trying to meet them in the best way possible."

Political candidates are the topic of discussion

Justin Crawford
staff reporter

Packaging the President, a faculty development committee panel discussion, was held last Tuesday, September 19 in the new St. Francis Room in the Stark Student Center. The panel consisted of Mike Hand, Tom Padgett and Judy Thompson discussing the image making, character and advertising of political candidates.

Tom Padgett tried to answer the question of whether character counts or not in a president.

"The founding fathers thought character was important, they were hesitant of putting so much power into one person's hands because they might have a character flaw and the power would be abused," said Padgett.

Padgett also raised the idea that a person might have character traits that only surface when they get in office and he used Harry Truman and Gerald Ford as examples of presidents who seemed to have a "presidential character" that was unlike their personal character.

Padgett thinks the media wants the public to know that character matters, but Americans are not yet sure whether it does or not.

Mike Hand talked about the image of a president and what a difference it makes. He thinks that if former president Howard Taft, who weighed 350 pounds, were to run for office today in the age of television and the internet that he would not be elected primarily on his appearance. In fact, when he was in office he was told by advisors not to

be pictured on a horse.

Hand used Franklin D. Roosevelt as an example of how a president's image was helped by the media. When FDR was in office the press never photographed him in his wheelchair or on his crutches, and Hand compared this to today's media and asked the audience if they think this would happen today and the audience said no.

Hand also discussed reasons for poor voter turnout in recent years. He cited the decline of the political party organizations and the rise of independent voters as the major reason for a decrease in voting.

"People don't feel the strong attachment to a campaign if they aren't in a political party and it shows on election day," said Hand.

Hand said that today most people get their political information from television instead of party workers and the newspaper. He thinks this has made politics become more and more like entertainment.

"In polls taken most people say that the issues are more important now than party affiliation, but then follow up polls show that most people don't know the issues," said Hand.

Hand wrapped up his topic by saying that the image of a candidate on television through political ads is now the most important way a candidate gets his message to the voting public.

Judy Thompson talked

about these political ads and their effectiveness.

"Gore and Bush will spend more money this year on T.V. ads than on newspaper ads, and T.V. stations will make over \$600 million in revenue from them," said Thompson.

Thompson talked about "10 Things to Look for in a Political Ad". They are: candidate mythologies where the candidate is made out to be a war hero, man of the people, father, friend, savior, etc; background locations such as a school or a town meeting; props like flags or even people; candidates communicating emotions such as getting tough or compassion with facial expressions; appeals to fear, for example, if you vote for the other candidate this may happen; music and background sounds, such as

"Gore and Bush will spend more money this year on T.V. ads than on newspaper ads, and T.V. stations will make over \$600 million in revenue from them."

-Judy Thompson

unflattering close ups of opponent; clothing like power suits or if they are dressed casual to make them look like a friend; depicted actions such as stepping off an airplane and supers and Code words like "values", "crime", "welfare."

Thompson concluded her talk by saying that the reason there are negative ads is because they work.

The faculty panel then all pleaded to the young audience of mostly Briar Cliff students, to go out and vote and when asked if they planned to vote, almost every hand in the St. Francis room

Students' grades are higher than average

Jerry Conover
staff reporter

College grades show students are above average.

Over time, students' grade averages have gotten higher, which does not sound like a problem, but it could turn into one.

The term used to identify this kind of situation is called grade inflation. According to most college catalogs, a "C" is an average grade for a college student, but in fact a "C" is no longer the average grade.

"A 'C' equals two points," said Tom Boeke, Briar Cliff College Academic Dean. "The average grade at Briar Cliff is over three points."

In economic terms, inflation means that you can buy less over time because the value of money decreases relative to what you can buy.

"If grades continue to go up, what are they worth?" said Boeke. "If everyone graduated 'summa com laude' (with highest honors) then nobody would really graduate 'summa com laude.'"

Some educators are wondering how is it possible that SAT scores are dropping while college grades are going up?

"When teachers take the lower 'As' in their classes and make them all 'A' minuses then you don't have grade inflation," said Chuck Shaffer, professor of math. "But when teachers take the upper 'Bs' and make them all 'A' minuses, then you have grade inflation."

Whether this will be a problem at Briar Cliff or not has yet to be determined. The faculty will have to have a meeting to decide if grade inflation exists on the campus or not. Until they have that conversation, there is little that can be done as an entire faculty. It has been looked at a couple of times but only when the grading scale has changed.

"Its pretty hard to do anything since each faculty member makes their own grading scale," said Shaffer, "Even a standard grading scale wouldn't solve the problem."

"To determine whether grades are inflated," said Boeke, "we would need statistical data. We would have to bench mark each department and compare each institution to other institutions with similar size and admission."

"If other universities have grade inflation then it may not be a problem," Boeke said.

The faculty and chairs of each department were sent the total grade point averages of their department to compare with each other. They were given quantitative, qualitative, and anecdotal data to compare. No results have been give out at this time.

"It is kind of like baseball," said Boeke. "If Sammy Sosa was to bat a 320 average, compared to the rest of the league, that could be good or bad. If the league average is more, then it's bad and if the league average is less, then it's good."

Grade inflation has been an issue of conversation in the United States for the past twenty to thirty years.

"Some people say that grades started to inflate during the Vietnam War because students who got higher grades were able to stay out of the war," said Boeke.

How soon Briar Cliff will find out if grade inflation exists on campus or not is hard to say. The faculty has yet to determine a time and date to meet about the situation. Until then, each faculty member is shifting through their own data to determine if their grading scale is contributing to a potential problem. And if it is discovered that grade inflation exists at Briar Cliff, it is unknown what can be done to solve the problem.

Continued from page 3

Security comes up with a new and improved plan to better the Briar Cliff Community

This system is controlled from a main computer and allows access to any building, by simply having an access card.

"Although all of the cards look the same, they are all programmed differently. Students are only allowed access to the building in which they live. This system will help over term breaks, because I can give athletes access to their hall, when they come back for prac-

tices, without giving any non-athletes access to the building," said Krueger.

The system, which locks and unlocks all of the building doors automatically, is the latest in security devices, and has been a big hit among the students.

"I really like the security that comes with knowing that the doors are on a timer," said Foust.

Another main issue that secu-

rity is dealing with this year, is making sure that the fire lanes are clear at all times for emergency vehicles.

"Red zones mean no parking," said Krueger, "and that is something that we are really cracking down on. There will be no warnings issued. The car will be towed to the lower gravel pit, where it will be booted. The vehicles' owner must pay the towing charge, and all of the fines that come with parking in

the fire lane. It is everybody's responsibility to keep things safe."

Along with all of these changes, there are ideas for the future.

"The fire alarm systems in all of the buildings will be hooked up to a centralized fire station, so that response time is cut down. Right now, the hall directors are the ones that call the fire departments, but with the new system, a direct signal

will be sent to the fire station," said Krueger.

Other ideas in the works for the security department are, an enhanced educational class about sexual assault, emergency phones in the parking lots, and an emergency preparedness procedure for all natural disasters.

"Safety is the most important issue on this campus, and it is our responsibility to keep things secure," said Krueger.

Opinion

Briar Cliff College September 29, 2000

Courts are making too many lethal decisions

Michelle Morelli
co-editor

Life or death? If you were parents of conjoined babies would you kill one to save the life of another? And if you couldn't kill either one, would it be right for three judges to make the decision of whether or not one of your babies would die?

In London, England last Friday September 22, the UK Court of Appeal gave its ruling to separate six-week old girls in an operation which would kill one child in order to allow her sister to live.

The twins parents are devout Catholics and have said God, not doctors should decide whether the twins live or die.

Who is right?

In my opinion I feel the parents have the right to choose whether or not their children should live or die.

The twins only identified as Jodie and Mary were born on August 8, and are joined at the abdomen and share just one heart and one pair of lungs.

Yes, Jodie is the more alert and brighter child, and it is feared that Mary will steal her nutrients, delaying Jodie's growth.

But, the Catholic belief is it is wrong to do evil--- even if that action will result in good.

This is the belief the parents are trying to stand up for and I can't believe that three judges can decide what is best for two children who aren't theirs.

Some of the issues the judges were debating were if Mary was even a human being and if she wasn't human, would it be unlawful to kill her. They went on to say that she could even be considered a parasite.

How horrible is that? A child that is born into the world cannot at all be considered a parasite. It shouldn't even be an issue of whether or not Mary is a human being because the fact remains that she is.

I understand that the three judges had an extremely ethical battle at their hands.

According to one of the judges, Lord Justice Ward, he felt that if you say yes to separating them, you murder Mary and if you say no and leave them as they are, you kill Jodie.

Yes, the medical evidence also supports the opinion that if they aren't separated soon that both will die.

But, what if they are separated and Jodie still dies in the end?

Then who was right?

I know it's not right to judge others and the way they think. But what is happening when parents cannot even make decisions for their children and their well-being?

In a different context, think of when you see parents that can't discipline their children anymore for fear that they'll be turned in to the police for abuse.

What is happening when we can't stand up for what we believe in.

Granted London isn't America.

But how would you feel if someone told you what you were going to do with your children?

Would you be happy about it?

I know I wouldn't be.

I agree with the parents trying to fight for their twins and saying it is God's will of what is to be done about them.

I'm not saying that I wouldn't want to separate my kids and I'm not saying that I would want to separate them.

But when is it the parents right to choose?

When will it end, that people cannot make decisions for themselves?

I'm happy that I am not in this position and that I don't have to make any decision.

Yes, it is easy for me to write my opinion without being in the predicament that the judges and parents are in.

But in the end, I want a say on how things are going to be done in my family. If someone doesn't like it, tough.

They learn to deal with it.

After this latest ruling, the parents decided not to appeal the decision.

I wonder why they won't appeal.

My only answer is that they finally got to make a choice for their babies.

What would you have chosen?

Life for one, or death for both?

Photo Question

What is your favorite sport in the Olympics and Why?



Brittany Bachmann
Freshman
Art/New Media

"Gymnastics- I like the variety of routines and flips."



Jeanie Bohnenkamp
Junior
Spanish/ Social Work

"Synchronized swimming because it's really hard to hold your breath so long and their make-up never smears."



Adam Cadwell
Sophomore
Sports Psychology

"Baseball because the Olympics are the closest thing to an actual World Series there is."



Kelly Cox
Senior
Criminal Justice

"Diving, because I met Mark Ruiz on the airplane coming back from Florida."



Jeremy Hall
Senior
English

"Tennis because I like the Williams sisters. They have cute outfits."

Penguin's Polls

A weekly, non-objective, non-scientific survey conducted by Sarah "Penguin" Hruska, Co-editor of the Cliff News.

This week's question:
Which leg do you put on first when putting on your pants?

Left: 30%
Right: 55%
Both: 5%
Undecided: 10%

Quote of the Week

"You can be pleased with nothing when you are not pleased with yourself."

-Lady Mary Wortley Montagu
18th Century English Writer

Arts and Entertainment

Briar Cliff College September 29, 2000

This page will feature a weekly list of the top five box office and rental movies, fiction and nonfiction books. Plus it will list the top 30 songs from KLIF radio. There will also be a list of events on and off campus for the following week.

Nurse Betty looking for A Reason to Love

Sarah Buford
assistant editor

Betty Sizemore (Renee Zellweger) is a waitress at the Tip Top Diner in Kansas City. She is married to a cheating and abusive husband named Del (Aaron Eckhart) who is a used car dealer, and gets himself in over his head with two hit men, Charlie (Morgan Freeman) and Westley (Chris Rock). The highlight of Betty's day is watching "A Reason to Love," her favorite soap opera television show. One night in the midst of watching her soap, she witnesses the horrible murder of her husband over a drug deal. The killers, Charlie and Westley, frantically leave, not seeing Betty. Soon after, Betty goes into a state of shock, forgetting reality, and beginning to believe Dr. David Ravill (Greg Kinnear), from her TV story, is a real person and she is his long-lost love. Betty packs her bags to head for LA, leaving Kansas for the first time, in search of the famous heart sur-

geon, she believes is her ex-fiance.

Actually Betty isn't a real nurse at all, however she "believes" she is and cleverly plants herself a job at the hospital she thinks David works in.

With "Nurse Betty," director Neil LaBute shows screenplay writers, John C. Richards and James Flammer's great script, which pokes fun at America's obsession with soap operas, TV, and even movies. Richards and Flammer won the award as the best screenplay at this year's Cannes International Film Festival.

Zellweger shows her best "sweet and innocent" performance since "Jerry Maguire." She plays the ultimate fan, who will do anything and everything to be apart of David's life again. Zellweger holds the film together with her funny and dramatic parts, along with the help of Freeman and Rock. Both men, out to retrieve the drugs from Betty's Buick, travel across the country in search

of finding Betty and the drugs packed tightly in the trunk. Freeman and Rock show a dark, comedic side of themselves, which leaves the audience chuckling in their chairs.

During most of the film, Charlie and Westley, travel across the country, making stops in some larger towns. There is a great deal of the natural beauty shown, captured by cinematographer Jean Yves Escoffier. We can see some famous landmarks, like the Grand Canyon (called "the Bland Canyon" by Westley) and the red rocks of Utah, which help make the film more believable and real.

"Nurse Betty" was an extremely unique film, yet dark and comedic at the same time.

Running time: 112 minutes
Rated: R
Rating: *** (out of 4)



Anne Stevens poses in front of one of her paintings that are on display in the Art Gallery in the Stark Student Center. Her show will be on display from Sept. 17-Oct. 6, and there is an open house on Saturday Sept. 30 from 6-8p.m. in the Art Gallery.

Top 5 Box Office Movies

1. Urban Legends: Final Cut
2. The Exorcist: The Movie You Never Saw
3. Almost Famous
4. Bring It On
5. The Watcher

www.movies.com

Top 5 Rentals:

1. The Tigger Movie
2. Erin Brockovich
3. The Matrix
4. Buzz Lightyear of Star Command: The Adventure Begins
5. Braveheart

www.blockbuster.com

Top 5 Nonfiction books:

1. "Nothing like it in the World" by Stephen E. Ambrose (Simon & Schuster, \$28)
2. "Life on the other Side" by Sylvia Browne with Lindsay Harrison (Dutton, \$23.95)
3. "Tuesdays with Morrie" by Mitch Albom (Doubleday, \$19.95)
4. "It's not about the Bike" by Lance Armstrong with Sally Jenkins (Putnam, \$24.95)
5. "I love you Ronnie" by Nancy Reagan (Random House, \$27.95)

www.nytimes.com

What's Happening

On Campus:

Sept. 29

Women's Volleyball @ 7:30p.m.

Rocky Horror Picture Show @ 9p.m. in Heelan Hall Auditorium

Anne Stevens' Painting Exhibit in Art Gallery (through Oct. 6)

Oct. 3

Men's soccer @ 3 p.m.

Women's soccer @ 5p.m.

Oct. 4

Women's Volleyball @ 6 & 7:30p.m.

Oct. 5

"What's Goin' On?" @ 7p.m. in the Theater

Oct. 6

Movie Night @ 6 & 9p.m. in Stark Student Center

Off Campus:

Sept. 29

Musketeer's Hockey @ 7:05p.m. at Sioux City Auditorium

Sept. 30

Musketeer's Hockey @ 7:05p.m. at Sioux City Auditorium

Oct. 2

Women's Volleyball @ 6 & 7:30p.m. at Dakota State

Oct. 5

Women's Soccer @ 4p.m. at Dana College

Boogaloo Blues Band-Special

Guest: Going Nowhere at The Blues Cellar. Doors open @ 7p.m.

Top 30 Songs from KLIF radio for the week:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Everclear | Songs From an American Movie Vol. 1 | Capitol |
| 2. Matchbox 20 | Mad Season | Atlantic |
| 3. Eve 6 | Horrorscope | RCA |
| 4. Papa Roach | Infest | Dream Works |
| 5. Various Artists | Me, Myself, & Irene soundtrack | Elektra |
| 6. Common | Like Water for Chocolate | MCA |
| 7. Nina Gordon | Tonight and the Rest of My Life | WB |
| 8. Inner Circle | Big Tings | VP |
| 9. B.B. King & Eric Clapton | Riding with the King | Reprise |
| 10. Rage Against the Machine | Testify | Sony |
| 11. SR 71 | Now You See Inside | RCA |
| 12. Pearl Jam | Binatural | Sony |
| 13. Kid Rock | The History of Rock | Atlantic |
| 14. Gomez | Revolutionary Kind | Virgin |
| 15. Incubus | Stellar | Epic |
| 16. A Perfect Circle | Mer de Noms | Virgin |
| 17. Sushi Robo | Action Causes More Trouble | Pattern |
| 18. Dope | You Spin Me Round | Epic |
| 19. Electrasy | In Here We Fall | Arista |
| 20. Andreas Johnson | Sampler | Reprise |
| 21. Disturbed | Summer of Sickness | Giant |
| 22. Crowded House | Afterglow | Capitol |
| 23. Modest Mouse | The Moon and Antartica | Sony |
| 24. Various Artists | Cecil B. Demented soundtrack | BMG |
| 25. Diffuser | Injury Loves Melody | Hollywood |
| 26. Fastball | You're An Ocean | Hollywood |
| 27. Ignite | A Place Called Home | TVT |
| 28. Carrie Newcomer | The Age of Possibility | Philo |
| 29. Parkway | Your Love Surrounds Me | MM Essential |
| 30. Red Radio Flyer | Gettin' Somewhere | Mother West |

Cross-town rivals ready for big matchup

Kate Brincks
staff reporter

Cross-town rivalry has always been huge between Briar Cliff and Morningside. This year the two schools go head to head in a women's soccer match up taking place on Tuesday, October 3.

Briar Cliff, 2-7, goes into this game with high hopes of coming out with a victory.

"It'll be a challenge, but if we play like we know how, then I think we will win," said senior defenseman Laurel Kozimor.

"The morale among the players is very good considering what all the team has been through this season," said head coach Shawn Mansfield. "The team has been struggling with

injuries, including one of the team captains, Anne Stevens, who is out with a fractured foot."

"Our biggest weakness right now is injuries," said Mansfield. "The bench isn't very deep, so of course losing people hurts."

Tara Bodammer, Donis Smith, Jill Baxter, and Erin Mumm are a few members of the team, that have also suffered injuries this season.

"The team bonding and togetherness is exceptional this year," said Kozimor. "With all of the injuries this season, the rest of the team has really stepped up and the team unity has been an important factor in getting us through this."

Mansfield's goals for the season are to win the Morningside game and the first district play-

off game.

"We are using the other games to improve," said Mansfield. "We are not so concerned with how the Morningside team is, rather, that we are focusing on our team and ourselves."

"Even in the pre-season, we were really focusing on this game," said Kozimor.

This is a first-year soccer team for Morningside, and it will be the first time they will meet on the soccer field. Currently, Morningside is 3-7, having lost 7 of their last 8 games.

"I counted winning our first game of our season against the University of Northern Iowa as quite an accomplishment for a first year team," said Morningside team member, Kim Renze. "Every game we

play, we are using it as a learning experience. The team is really looking forward to playing Briar Cliff because as with many other sports, Briar Cliff is one of our main competitors."

Renze continued to say that Briar Cliff has an advantage because they are an established team who are used to playing with each other, while they are a new team still trying to improve.

"Our team is doing okay for a first year team. Like Briar Cliff we are using our other games as a way to improve," said Renze. "There is always room for improvement."

A few of the Briar Cliff women have traveled to Morningside games to watch the women in action, in preparation for the big game.

"Our team is fired up and we are really looking forward to it," said Mansfield. "We are counting it as one of our most important games."

Kozimor agreed.

"I think if we're motivated for it, then winning this game is in within our grasp," said Kozimor.

"I think we'll be evenly matched and who wins will depend on the team that's ready to play that day," said senior goalie and co-captain, Maren Brink.

The women can be seen in action at 5 p.m. on the Briar Cliff soccer field. The team is hoping to get a lot of support from the Briar Cliff Community.

Chargers trying to overcome injuries and win games

Abby Lansink
staff reporter

The final score went Briar Cliff's way after a 1-6 start to their season.

The Briar Cliff Charger men's soccer team beat the Lancer's of Mount Marty College 4-0 on Saturday, September 23.

The Chargers, looked to have a good game against the Lancer's.

"This was a pretty even match up," said head coach Dustin Staab. "We hoped to embarrass them."

The Chargers recorded their goals from,

freshman Thomas, sophomore Aaron Balliet and junior's Troy Divis and Nick Barcel.

Balliet's goal was assisted by freshman Adam Dennis.

With the help from Charger goalie, Josh Ernst, Mount Marty was held to a shutout. Ernst had 11 saves on the day.

"This was a good game for us," said Ernst, a junior. "I hope it will bring more confidence to

the team, which will hopefully bring more victories."

"This win improves our record to 2-6 on the year," said freshman Christian Jordan. "Hopefully we will keep this momentum going throughout the rest of the season."

This is something that Coach Staab wants, too.

scrimmage, and has been an obstacle to overcome."

Looking ahead at future games, Staab anticipates the October 22 match up with the National American team to be the toughest.

"The National American team is definitely our toughest opponent we will come up against this season," said Staab.

"This is the last game of our regular season, so we have time to prepare for them, but we also play them in post season action."

The National American team is currently ranked 12th in the NAIA division. The game against them will be here at 2 p.m.

"This game will be a tough one for us, but I think that if we keep our

momentum up for the rest of the season, we will go into the game with confidence," said Ernst.

"You can look at the 2-6 record anyway you want," said Staab. "But unless you come to see the guys play, you will not know how good they really are".



photo by Jody Johnson

Freshman Adam Dennis wins the ball in the Chargers 4-0 win over Mount Marty. The men's team plays Northwestern next on October 3.

Volleyball spikers improve to 18-1; Ranked 12th nationally

Jerry Conover
staff reporter

The Chargers took on four teams in the Iowa NAIA women's volleyball tournament September 22 and 23, and came out with an overall record of 18-1 and ranked 12th nationally.

Going into the tournament, the Chargers were ranked 16th. They swept Mount St. Clare 15-2, 15-1, 15-5, and took three of four games from St. Ambrose, 15-1, 12-15, 15-1, 15-6 on Friday night.

Sophomore Jessica Miller and sophomore Katie Lauer nailed 17 kills for Briar Cliff, while senior Sarah Koenigsfeld had six aces on 34 serves that night.

The round-robin tournament continued into Saturday, with Briar Cliff taking on Iowa Wesleyan and Graceland.

The Chargers defeated both in four games.

Miller had 26 kills and 11 assisted blocks, while Lauer and senior Molly Moberg added over 40 kills together.

Junior Emily McCloud had 28 digs, while Moberg and

junior Katie Schreiber added in over 20 digs each.

Senior Staci Rosche added in 74 set assists on Saturday.

Before the weekends tournament, the Chargers took on a tough team earlier in the week.

In a game where Briar Cliff was down early against the University of South Dakota after losing game one, they came back to beat them in five games Wednesday, September 20.

The win was the Chargers 14 in 15 matches this season.

The team surrendered the first game 4-15, then went on to win in five games.

Miller made 11 kills for Briar Cliff, while sophomore Katie Jo Ruhland and Lauer added 10 kills each. Lauer continued the night with 25 digs, while Moberg had 19. Rosche ended her night with 32 assists.

The Chargers will take on Concordia at home in the Newman Flanagan Center at 7:30 tonight.

"We've been having really intense practices," said McCloud. "I think if we start the game with a lot of intensity and play hard, we'll come out with a win."