

Fall
2010

Briar Cliff University Parents' Newsletter

BRIAR CLIFF
university
the catholic franciscan learning place

For Parents and Guardians of Briar Cliff University Students

Crime Fighting Brothers Follow Dreams at BCU

When BCU brothers Lee and Russell Engel were growing up in Sioux City, they got the itch to do police work from watching local officers and TV shows.

"Sioux City police gave me a passion for enforcing the law, and the show *Criminal Minds* made me want to be a forensic psychologist," said Lee, a sophomore with a triple major in psychology, criminal justice and computer science.

So while still in high school, Lee enrolled in the Sioux City Police Department's (SCPD) Youth Academy, joined SCPD's Volunteer in Police Services team and completed an internship with the department.

Now a sophomore in college, Lee said Briar Cliff has been a real turning point in his life. "My professors have experience in my major and are mentoring me. I'm also learning directly from professionals in forensics who visit campus to share their on-the-job expertise and insights with students."

Even while facing the challenges of a triple major, Lee is thankful that his BCU education is so rigorous and specific to his interests. When he graduates, he plans to enter grad school, become a police officer and eventually work as a forensic psychologist.

Lee's older brother, Russell Engel, who graduated from BCU last May with a double major in biology and chemistry, is working on a master's degree in forensic science at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Neb. Russell is passionate about serving the public. He's also determined to dispel the myths created by the show *CSI*, which he watched in high school.

He credits Briar Cliff for keeping his dream of a career in forensics alive. "My professors presented me with many opportunities and always were willing to help me grow," noted Russell, who worked with Dr. Ted Wilson to establish a forensic entomology lab at Briar Cliff.



Briar Cliff sophomore Lee Engel, left, and his older brother, Russell Engel, BCU '10, credit BCU for nurturing their academic and professional growth in forensic science. Both are planning careers in forensic law enforcement.

When asked what students can do to pursue their dream jobs, Russell said, "Students should talk to their professors about their career interests, research their fields of study and take internships in those areas." As for parents he advised, "Encourage your students to follow their dreams."

New Faculty Share First Impressions of BCU

This year, we welcomed 19 new faculty, staff and administrators to Briar Cliff. Here are some first impressions of The Cliff.



“ I have found BCU students to be really top-notch. They are very studious and inquisitive.”
Susan Udey,
professor, accounting



“ I am excited to see how Briar Cliff really emphasizes the importance of service and making a difference.”
Darrell Lofton, director,
multicultural and leadership programs



“ BCU students are much more polite, mature and disciplined than average college students.”
Chris Fuller,
assistant professor,
accounting and business

Chargers' #1 Fan

by Michael Brauer BCU '10, reporter, *The Sioux City Journal*

It's become part of Eric Bolin's pre-game ritual. About an hour or so before kickoff, he scans the sidelines for a familiar face.

"First, I've got to be seen by Eric – make my presence known," says Eric's father, Mark. "Once he gives me the nod and acknowledges that I'm here, then it's off to business as usual for him." For his dad, too.

Every Saturday in the fall, Mark Bolin drives seven hours from Machesney Park, Ill., to Charger games. He often drives back afterward and returns home by 1:30 in the morning – a 21-hour, 1,000-mile day.

Eric does all he can to make sure his dad's drive is worth the while. Named the team's defensive captain, Eric has become Briar Cliff's leader on the field. His dad, meanwhile, has become the heart and soul of the Chargers following off the field. Seemingly everyone stops and says hi to Mark – coaches, players, fans and managers alike.

"He's not only there to watch me," Eric says. "A lot of people aren't as



Eric Bolin at age 10 with his dad and coach, Mark Bolin. Today, Eric is a senior business administration/marketing major at BCU.



On Saturdays during football season, Mark Bolin drove more than 14 hours from Machesney Park, Ill., to root for his son, Eric, and for the entire Charger football team.

lucky to have their parents come out to every game. He's kind of adopted that role of almost being like a dad to a lot of the guys...."

Four years' worth of fall Saturdays are quickly winding down. "I think he's going to have to find another hobby to do on Saturdays," Eric says with a laugh.

He had one more thing to say, but he can't get it out without a hint of a shake to his voice: "Dad, I love you and it's been amazing what you've been able to do... I hope at the end of all this you were able to see some good football and that I made you proud. Because that's really what all of this is about."

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Family Weekend Holds Meaning for Siblings



Louise Warren, senior, biology and Spanish, with brother Virgil Warren, of Dubuque, Iowa.



Darrin, Darrick and Leah Watts of Westminister, Col., with freshman Zachary Watts, business administration.

Not only does Family Weekend bring together parents and their BCU students, it holds special meaning for siblings, too.

"Family Weekend is very nice, but it's especially good for siblings," said Leah Watts, mother of freshman Zachary Watts of Westminister, Col. "When an older brother or sister moves away to attend college, it's a dramatic change for everyone in the family, especially for the younger ones," Mrs. Watts explained. "Ever since Zachary left for BCU, Darrick has been bored and has missed his older brother," she added.

"I really liked being with Zachary again," said Darrick of his big brother. "I also like the feel of Briar Cliff and might want to go there when I start college."

At this year's event, the families of Paula and Louise Warren of Dubuque, Iowa, and Dan Griesel of Woodbine, Iowa, were recognized for attending the most Family Weekends.

Home Is Where My Is

To my family,

Happy Thanksgiving! I'm going to miss all of you and the turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, greens and sweet potato pie. (Mom, I'll be cooking a turkey for the first time, so what temperature do you cook it at?)

Love,
Stanley



Stanley Bonsu, senior, mass communications, Houston, Texas

Hi Everyone,

I'll be on a mission trip to Honduras and will miss you on Thanksgiving Day. Since I won't be there for our tradition of writing on the tablecloth one thing we are thankful for, please write that I am thankful for living in America.

XOXOX,
Taylor



Taylor Braunberger, junior, chemistry and biology, Dickinson, N.D.

Hey Mom & Marshall!

Wish I could be home enjoying all the GREAT food! At least I won't have to run it all off now!

Love,
Kela



Kela Cihak, sophomore, pre-physical therapy, Avon, S.D.

Freshmen Serve With Joy



Melanie Hofmeister, left, and Jayna Specht collect donations to benefit the Food Bank of Siouxland during BCU's Annual Fall Freshmen Food Drive.

The Class of 2014 has quickly learned how BCU goes about serving others, beginning in September, when more than 200 freshmen went door-to-door to collect donations for the local food bank. Here are a few of their comments...

“I love serving others and have participated in many service projects in high school, so it is exciting that BCU offers many opportunities to give back.”

Melanie Hofmeister, Hampton, Minn.

“The Freshmen Food Drive was an interesting experience for me. I have been involved with food drives before, but not one where you go door-to-door and collect items.”

Jayna Specht, Yankton, S.D.

“Everyone who opened their door greeted us with a smile. It was fun to learn my way around the neighborhood and spend time with all of my new friends.”

Marshall Ellis, Atlanta, Ga.



Homecoming Packs Pirate Theme

Ahoy, mate! The “Chargers of the Caribbean” Homecoming 2010 offered a treasure trove of activities for pirates and land lovers alike. On the weeklong schedule of events were a treasure hunt, window painting, a game show and a pirate carnival complete with plank walking, sword fighting and flag making.

The Chargers also found time to pack the Newman Flanagan Center for coronation and a pre-game pep rally. Tailgates, Charger football, alumni gatherings and the Homecoming Dance were all part of the festivities.



Homecoming Queen Rosalyn Crimmins, nursing, is the daughter of Dennis and Maureen Crimmins of Fort Dodge, Iowa. Homecoming King Lukas Sachau, biology, is the son of William and Michelle Sachau of Allen, Neb.



Briar Cliff students gather at Memorial Field for the Charger Homecoming football game.

Students to Embark on Tours

Your student could have fantastic international and U.S. learning experiences this spring and summer in Amsterdam, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, France, England, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala or the U.S. Call the professors listed below for information on course credits, financial aid, tour lengths and to answer any of your questions.



- Big Bend National Park, Texas** – Spring Break – Brian Hazlett, 712.279.5495
- Mississippi Mission Trip** – Spring Break – Sister Janet May, 712.279.5227
- Mighty Midwest Choir Tour** – Spring Break – Sean Burton, 712.279.5548
- Ozark Mountains, Ark.** – April – Brian Hazlett, 712.279.5495
- Midwest Art Museum Tour** – April – Nan Wilson, 712.279.5452
- Black Hills, S.D.** – May – Brian Hazlett, 712.279.5495
- Guatemala** – May – Heather Craig-Oldsen, 712.279.5489
- Holocaust Remembrance Tour** – May/June – Darrell Lofton, 712.279.5512
- Europe History Tour** – May/June – Eric Juhnke, 712.279.5476
- Paris and Amsterdam Art Tour** – May/June – Nan Wilson, 712.279.5452
- Natural History of Hawaii** – June – Brian Hazlett, 712.279.5495

TGIF@BCU

Campus Visit Days

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Senior Visit Days | Junior Visit Days |
| Dec. 10 | April 8 |
| Jan. 14 | June 10 |
| March 18 | |
| April 15 | |

Save the Date

Nov. 29 – Term II Classes Begin

Dec. 5 – Cocoa & Carols

Dec. 17 – Christmas at the Orpheum

Dec. 18 - Jan. 2 – Christmas Break

Jan. 3 – Classes Resume

Feb. 2-5 – WinterFest

February 3-5 – BCU Theatre Production “The Mystery at the Hotel Delue or Poor Bobby Sue’s Bobby Socks”

Feb. 18 – Last Day Term II Classes

Feb. 21-23 – Test Days

Feb. 24-March 6 – Break

Feb. 28 – Lunch With the Chargers

March 7 – Term III Classes Begin

To view the complete Briar Cliff 2010-11 Academic Calendar, go to www.briarcliff.edu, select Academics and then Academic Calendar.

Charger Sports Preview

Men's Basketball

Last season, the Charger men's basketball team was 23-9 and ranked as high as No. 5 in the U.S. Under the direction of head coach Todd Barry, the team returns all of its play makers, including honorable mention All-American Matt Geelan, Kyle Semprini and Chase Vander Feen.

Women's Basketball

On the heels of a third-place GPAC finish last season, the Charger women, guided by head coach Mike Power, have their eyes set on a return trip to the NAIA National Tournament again this year. Last season, the team achieved a 28-8 record and landed in the Final Four. Senior post Morgan Brown and junior forward Megan Salcedo are expected to lead the team. Also returning are guards Michelle Determan and Kylie Dilla, who have led the Chargers in assists.

Wrestling

Joe Privitere is in his first year as head coach of the BCU wrestling program. The team is aiming to improve on its seventh place conference finish and 29th place national finish last season. Returning are NAIA All-American Josh Rogers and national qualifier Zack Mullins. Rogers, who finished seventh at last year's national tournament, and senior John Shrader are expected to guide the squad.

Indoor Track

This season, the BCU track team, under the direction of head coach Nate Treinen, has the depth and talent to be better than ever. Expected to be headliners for the team are junior All-American Sam Acheamong and senior national qualifiers Erik Lindsay and Ashley Sparks. At last year's NAIA Indoor National Track and Field Championships, Acheamong finished sixth in the 60 meter.