THE BROADCAST
BRESCIA UNIVERSITY
September 12, 2011 | By Students, For Students | Volume XVIII | Issue 3

# Homecoming Merriment

**Ben Popham**
*Staff Reporter*

Homecoming last year was a joyous celebration full of entertainment and activities, according to Jason Cox, Brescia alumni director and the director of this year's Homecoming, and he said he hopes this year will be even better.

One returning event is the Chariot races. "This will hopefully become one of the cornerstones for Homecoming," Cox said, "a tradition that we can keep going for years to come."

He also said he expects students to be more involved with the events than last year when approximately 450 people attended. "We would like to double that number," he said.

"The more, the merrier," Cox said. "We will be passing out different types of BU gear at the Chariot Races, so come one, come all."

In addition to the Chariot races, many other activities are scheduled for the day. "We plan to get a student versus alumni/staff kickball game," Cox said, "along with a few other activities. And we will be seeing the return of Campus Capers, another long-time tradition that we are bringing back."

Cox encourages students, faculty and staff to attend this year. He said Brescia's alums love seeing each other, but they also like to meet with their former professors, and they enjoy sharing some of their stories with current students.

Homecoming will take place September 16-17. For more information, contact Cox at jason.cox@brescia.edu

# Homecoming Memories

*Above* : Jake Davis dressed as Ellen Dugan-Barrette
*Top Right*: Chariot Race winners from 2010
*Bottom Right*: Campus Capers Winners from 2010

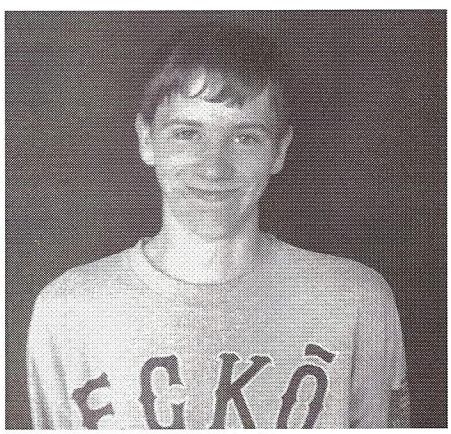
## Linda McDonough

*Favorite animated character*: Tiny the Puppy, from The Seventh Brother

*What's one thing you would place on your bucket list*: Change the laws of child abuse and foster care.

*If you could switch places with anyone, who would it be*: A cross between Andrew Jackson and Walt Whitman.

## Caleb Popham



*Favorite hobby*: I like to write stories to post online (updating chapters).

*Lord of the Rings or Star Wars*: Star Wars.

*What's your zombie plan*: To listen to Ben. He says his is the BEST zombie plan.

FEATURES

# Where's the Beef?

**Chris Karn**
*Staff Reporter*

Most freshmen spend their first semester fighting the dreaded "Freshman 15," but two years ago, during her freshman semester, Chelsea McFarland was busy becoming a vegetarian. The Saturday before Thanksgiving, she challenged herself to go a day without eating meat. She hasn't looked back yet, and recently she committed even more by graduating from vegetarian to vegan.

*Chelsea McFarland*

The difference between the two is significant, according to McFarland, a junior volleyball player studying business and Spanish . "Vegetarians don't eat meat," she said. "Vegan is more of a lifestyle." Instead of simply abstaining from meat, a vegan must steer clear of anything directly related to the killing of animals. This means no beef, no chicken, no fish, no milk, no cheese, and no new leather purses.

To most, such a commitment sounds daunting, but McFarland said, for her, "It's easy to do even in Owensboro." She shops at Kroger. She gets her daily intake of calcium and iron in vitamin form. She even can find something to eat when going out with friends, which usually ends up being French fries over a salad. She describes her diet as a big commitment, saying,"If you don't eat properly for a day, you can definitely feel it."

However, these changes leave McFarland missing very little from her omnivore past. She said she's, "forgotten the taste of meat," and while sometimes she'll crave something, she can always find an acceptable and tasty substitute such as soy ice cream or veggie burgers. "I miss more the easiness of it, but even that's not a bad thing," she said. "I have to put much effort into making my food, which is good, because I know what I'm eating."

This lifetime vow comes with more than change in diet for McFarland. She said she finds herself having to promote and explain being a vegan to people, but she makes it a point not to judge or push her own beliefs on them. "This is my choice," she said. "When they eat meat, that's their choice."

The fact that McFarland is standing up for what she believes in her own life is what makes her content, she said, and in a world full of PETA activists, it's what makes her unique.

## Homecoming Week Events

— MONDAY: 50'S DAY!

— TUESDAY: 60'S DAY!

— WEDNESDAY: 70'S DAY!

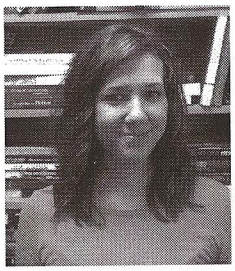
— THURSDAY: 80'S DAY!

— FRIDAY: BU DAY!
Fall Splash @ noon
Homecoming Dance @ 8 P.M.

—SATURDAY: Chariot Races @ noon
Campus Capers @ 7:30 P.M.

*Chariot Race Injury*

# Ways to Avoid the Freshman Fifteen



**Mari Cornett**
*Staff Reporter*

You stash Pop Tarts under your bed, your mini fridge contains a variety of soft drinks, and Papa John's is listed in your favorites list on your phone. College doesn't only mean freedom from your parents' controlling clutches; it translates to eating whenever and wherever. But, alas, the dreaded "Freshman 15" will eventually catch up to you.

Or will it?

There are multiple ways to prevent the 15 unwanted pounds from taking up residence on your hips, thighs, and butt. Follow these tips and outsmart those pesky pounds.

—Keep food out of sight. Hide your calorie-loaded candy bars, chips, and sodas on the top floor of the Science Building.

—Make snacking less tempting. Place a lock on your mini fridge, and ask your roommate to hide the key.

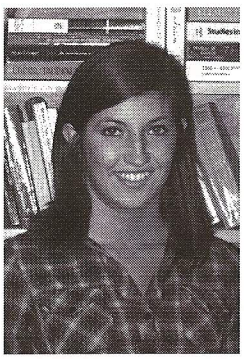
—Work out! Instead of driving to Waffle House or Denny's, walk; you'll save gas and burn calories.

—Make indulging in snacks challenging. Have a friend hide your fattening treats. When you feel the urge to eat, have that friend give you a riddle to find the location of the desired snack.

—Make food less desirable. Place Tabasco sauce on your fatty snacks. Eating will become painful, and you'll be less inclined to eat.

OPINION - COLUMN

# Benefits of Internships



**Julie Reynolds**
*Co-Editrix*

Internships are a highly beneficial way to gain experience in the field in which you want to pursue a career.

I wanted to learn more about what it takes to counsel individuals who have lived through a traumatic experience, so last year I started looking at organizations in this area and eventually lined up a summer internship at New Beginnings, a non-profit rape crisis center.

As an undergraduate student, I was not allowed to sit in on any counseling sessions, but I did receive training to respond to crisis calls. I also had the opportunity to talk to the counselors at New Beginnings and ask them questions about their jobs.

Most of what I did this summer was not directly related to the job I hope to have someday, but it was still a valuable experience.

One of my duties was to ask businesses for donations, and although I hope that is not part of my job description in the near future, it was a good learning experience.

I also had the opportunity to put together a newsletter for New Beginnings, and I went with the New Beginnings staff to the Boys and Girls club a few times to help out with programs such as "Girl Power" and "Good Touch/Bad Touch."

The most valuable part of my experience at New Beginnings was going through its volunteer training program. I learned how to respond to a crisis call and how to assist sexual assault victims at the hospital. Now that I have gone through training and have responded to a few phone calls, I am more confident that I am in a field that suits me.

I walked away from my internship knowing more about my area of study and that I enjoy working in the non-profit sector. I encourage other students to pursue internships as a way to enhance their education. Nothing can take the place of hands-on experience.

# *Recent News*: In Case You Missed It

**Jason Chinn**
*Staff Reporter*

**Local News**: Hancock County. One person was killed on the evening of September 5 when a car struck pedestrians in Hancock County.

According to Hancock County Sheriff Dale Bozarth, around 9:00 PM three people were walking north down highway 657 toward Lewisport after their car ran out of gas. Two of the three were hit by a car driven by Barbara Moxon of Lewisport.

Joe Greer of Cloverport was pronounced dead at the scene, and Jeffrey Smith of Owensboro suffered head injuries that weren't life-threatening. The third pedestrian, Suzanna Priest, of Reynolds Station, was not hit.

Bozarth said that alcohol or drugs seemed not to be a factor in the accident, so there will likely be no charges filed. (news25.us)

**National News**: Nevada. Five people were killed and six injured at an IHOP in Carson City, Nevada, on September 6 when 32-year-old Eduardo Sencion opened fire with an AK-47 and then shot himself.

Sencion also fired shots in the parking lot and at surrounding businesses. Three of the deaths were with the Nevada National Guard. Carson City Sheriff Ken Furlong said he didn't believe the guardsmen were singled out since an equal numbers of civilians were injured.

According to Furlong, Sencion had a history of mental illness and had no prior criminal record.

"This city will always remember the senseless shooting that took five lives," Furlong said, "but the community will heal and move on." (abcnews.com)

**International News**: Russia. A plane crashed as it took off on September 7 from

**Continued on page 4**

FREE TAN WEEK
SEPT. 12-18
FREE FAST TAN! FOR NON CLUB MEMBERS AND DISCOUNTED UPPER LEVEL VISITS.
FREE TANNING! TO NEXT LEVEL FOR ALL CLUB MEMBERS AND DISCOUNTED UPGRADES.
Locations closest to Campus:
3525 Frederica Street
(Next to Penn Station)
3189 Fairview Drive
(Next to Pizza Hut)
CUTTING-EDGE EQUIPMENT
KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF
INVITING ENVIRONMENT
MONEY-SAVING MEMBERSHIPS
SUN TAN CITY®
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Close to HOME. Close to WORK.®
Memberships valid at over 125 salons, visit suntancity.com to find one near you.
Restrictions may apply, see salon for details.
relax • unwind • indulge

FEATURES

# *Back in History:* September 12-18

**Jason Chinn**
*Staff Reporter*

**September 12**

The Battle of North Point began in 1814 during the War of 1812.

In what would become a major change in the marriage ceremony, the House of Bishops of the United States Protestant Episcopal Church voted 36-27 to delete the word "obey" from the marriage service in 1922.

The first American military engagement of World War II on German soil began when the U.S. First Army pushed five miles into west central Germany in 1944.

Lassie made its television debut in 1954.

**September 13**

New York City was declared the temporary United States capital in 1788.

**September 14**

Francis Scott Key wrote his poem "Defense of Ft. McHenry" that was renamed "Star Spangled Banner" in 1814.

The World War II battle of Stalingrad occurred in 1942.

**September 15**

The Battle of North Point ended at Fort McHenry in 1814.

The Swastika was made the official symbol of Nazi Germany in 1935.

The United States aircraft carrier Wasp was sunk off Guadalcanal during World War II in 1942.

A federal grand jury indicted the five people originally accused of burglary in the Watergate break-in case, as well as former White House aides G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt in 1972.

**September 16**

Plymouth Pilgrims left England on the Mayflower in 1620.

General Motors Company filed for incorporation in Hudson County, New Jersey, in 1908.

The American Legion was incorporated by Congress in 1919.

Mary Louise Smith became the first woman to head the Republican National Convention in 1974.

**September 17**

The United States Constitution was signed in 1787.

President George Washington delivered his farewell address to Congress in 1796.

The Civil War Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg) Maryland, the single bloodiest day in American history, occurred in 1862.

Yellow Fever cases reached epidemic proportions in Brunswick, Georgia, in 1893.

**September 18**

President George Washington laid the first cornerstone of the United States Capitol building in 1793.

The "second" Fugitive Slave Bill was passed by Congress in 1850.

The first edition of the New York Times was published in 1851.

Singer James Marshall "Jimi" Hendrix died in London at the age of 27 from an overdose of barbiturates and alcohol in 1970.

Patricia "Patty" Hearst was captured by the FBI in 1975. She was tried and sentenced to prison in 1976, and she was paroled in 1979.

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**- *Recent News* continued from page 3**

Russia's Yaroslavl Airport, killing 43 people.

The plane was carrying a hockey team with international players, including some NHL veterans. Only two people survived the crash. The plane crashed on the banks of the Volga River near the airport, and many of the bodies were recovered from the river. The plane was taking players for Lokomotiv Yaroslavl, one of the leading ice hockey teams in Russia, to Minsk, the Belarusian capital.

Sergei Izvolsky, an aviation agency spokesman, said the plane crashed about 4:00 p.m. because the plane couldn't reach the proper altitude fast enough. "The aircraft collided with the antenna of the airport beacon, fell to the ground and broke into several pieces, and caught fire," he said.

"The crash represents a catastrophic loss to the hockey world—including the NHL family, which lost so many fathers, sons, teammates, and friends who at one time excelled in our league," said NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman.

## Out of Context Faculty Quotes

"And the third class is just vegetables."

-Dr. Brown

"Put your head down in dung."

-Ellen Dugan-Barrette

"Most all the Germans weren't circumsized."

-Craig Barrette

"America is cool because we have black people and nerds."

-Donna Goodlett-Collins

"I'd like to take a gun and shoot Arnold Schwarzenegger."

-Ellen Dugan-Barrette

OPINION - COLUMN

# From the Transfer Student's Mouth

**Carol Hardesty**
*Staff Reporter*

I am a junior at Brescia, but it's my first year here. I am a transfer student from Madisonville Community College (MCC).

After high school, I chose a community college for three reasons: I had earned a scholarship to MCC; it was close to where I lived; and I could earn higher education and still live at home. Since none of the usual two-year programs sounded interesting to me, I chose a transfer degree, an associate arts degree.

I planned to attend Western Kentucky University after graduating from MCC, but that plan fell through, so I ended up enrolling in my back-up college, Brescia University. My older sister had gone to Brescia, so I guess I wanted to leave a legacy.

I've been living on campus for almost two weeks. I'm now living with roommates rather than with my parents. I like living away from home, but there are difficulties. There's no shelf to put books on; they're just stacked on the floor. The bathrooms are a problem, too. One of the toilets doesn't work right, and one of the showers is without a rod and thus without a curtain.

The school library at MCC wasn't open at night, and if I had to print anything, it would cost me. The school library at Brescia has much more convenient hours, and printing is free.

While MCC did have a place to eat, I had to pay for my lunches or carry a sack lunch. At Brescia, I have a meal plan. MCC's menu was the same every day. At Brescia, the menu is always changing, and the dining hall even serves dinner.

At MCC, I didn't have to worry about student loans or tuition because of my scholarship. Now I have to pay for the remainder of my educated life. And boy is it expensive. Before starting the school year, my dad emptied my savings account just to pay for the first semester. I've since joined the work study program to reduce expenses for the next two years. However, I also need pocket money for things like gas, so I sell Avon.

Here's to the future.

# Harvey's Harangue

**Steve Harvey**
*Staff Reporter*

Well, here we are - the semester has started, autumn is in the air, and politicians are spouting off non-sense as if tomorrow will never come.

For those of you who don't know me, I'm Stephen Harvey, a sophomore reporter for *The Broadcast*. Last year I wrote a financial and common sense column; this year, though, I'm ranting...over just about anything, really; politics and economics, and government are some. I'm a constitutionalist, a liberty lover and a common sense guy, and I rant equally from BOTH sides of the political aisle.

So let's get right to it. Do you know what's great about ranting and satirizing? Well, for me it's knowing that with lying, greedy politicians, bloated government, and corruption run amuck in our society, there's so much material! For my first rant, we'll start with the GOP. Good ol' Michelle

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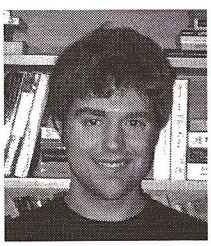
# Fall 2011 Movie Preview



**Matt Lasley**
*Assistant Editor*

Here are my choices for essential fall movies.

*50/50* (September 30)—Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars as Adam in this comedy (yes, comedy) about a 27-year-old who is diagnosed with cancer. Gordon-Levitt is joined by co-star Seth Rogan as Kyle, Adam's best friend who tries to help him overcome his disease. Gordon-Levitt and Rogan have proven their ability to balance dramatic weight with comedic light, so the pair should have no trouble making 50/50 an exceptional and moving film.

*The Ides of March* (October 7)—This tense political drama, co-written and directed by and co-starring George Clooney, depicts the treachery and corruption on the presidential campaign trail. Ryan Gosling plays Stephen Myers, a veteran campaign staffer, who finds his champion in idealistic candidate Mike Morris (Clooney). However, when Myers is tempted by an offer from the opposing side, he threatens to destroy Morris' integrity-driven campaign.

*The Rum Diary* (October 28)—The long-awaited film adaptation of the late Hunter S. Thompson's novel stars Johnny Depp as American journalist Paul Kemp, whose work for a Caribbean newspaper immerses him in self-destruction. Depp's friendship with Thompson resulted in the cult favorite adaptation of *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* and Depp's narration of *Gonzo: The Life and Work of Dr. Hunter S. Thompson*. With *The Rum Diary*, Depp is poised to propel Thompson's legend to even greater heights.

*Anonymous* (October 28)—And the award for the film most likely to stir up English majors and faculty goes to *Anonymous*, the controversial film that depicts Edward De Vere, the Earl of Oxford, as the true writer of Shakespeare's plays. Set against the Essex Rebellion against Queen Elizabeth I, *Anonymous* will likely be a topic of much discussion upon its release in October.

*A Dangerous Method* (November 25)—Set at the dawn of psychoanalysis, A *Dangerous Method* depicts the relationship between Carl Jung (Michael Fassbender) and Sigmund Freud (Viggo Mortenson) and their actions that revolutionized modern psychology. The reliably excellent Fassbender and Mortenson are supported by Kiera Knightley as Sabina Spielrein, Jung's disturbed patient with whom he starts an illicit affair.

HOROSCOPES - COLUMN - CARTOON

# Gyro-scopes

**Virgo:** Aug 23 - Sep 22
Your birthday is coming up! Don't forget to have a nice cake, some candles, and a red-wig so when you invite Jake Ryan to sit on your dining table, the mood is right for loving.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Molly Ringwald.
**Libra:** Sep 23 - Oct 22
Bone up on your gambits and advances, Libra, for it is up to you to defeat the Soviet's evil chess-computer. If you lose, it's vodka for breakfast, borscht for lunch, and nuclear winter for dinner.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Ally Sheedy
**Scorpio:** Oct 23 - Nov 21
It'll be a banner year in the Scorpio house! The stars foretell your dad giving you a carton of smokes for Christmas. Smoke up, Johnny!
Fantasy 80'S Lover: Judd Nelson's gloves
**Sagittarius:** Nov 22 - Dec 21
Those bullies from Cobra Kai have been giving you crap for way too long. Seek the help of one of the Arnolds from Happy Days, study under his tutelage, wash his car, and catch bugs with chopsticks so you can crane-kick those jerks back to the 80's.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Ralph Macchio.
**Capricorn:** Dec 22 - Jan 19
OHMUHGAWD! YOU SHOULD TOTALLY, LIKE, GO TO THE MALL OR SOMETHING, SO YOU CAN, LIKE, PICK UP A CUTE PUNK ROCKER GUY! JUST MAKE SURE HE ISN'T TOO GRODY! UGH! GAG ME WITH A SPOON!
Fantasy 80'S Lover: Nick Cage with hair.
**Aquarius:** Jan 20 - Feb 18
If your name is Heather, It would be wise to be nice to those "weird" girls who want to be in your clique. Befriend them, Heather, lest they grow discontented, start dating Christian Slater, and plot to kill you.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Winona Ryder
**Pisces:** Feb 19 - Mar 20
Ben Stein is always on your case! Stick it to him by jacking your friend's dad's Ferrari and taking a day off to gallivant about Chicago.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Matthew Broderick
**Aries:** Mar 21 - Apr 19
This week during class, Madonna's ex-boyfriend will order pizza, Judge Reinhold will be dressed as a pirate, and Phoebe Cates will be wearing a bikini and walking in slow motion. No, it's not a dream. It's awesome, dude!
Fantasy 80's Lover: Phoebe Cates. Oh my lord, Phoebe Cates.
**Taurus:** Apr 20 - May 20
Quit being stuck up and realize that Duckie has loved you all along! Sure, Blane has money and looks, but Duckie really loves you. Plus, he's pretty good on Two and a Half Men.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Molly Ringwald, again.
**Gemini:** May 21 - Jun 20
Your science project is almost due! Instead of a potato-battery, trying building the perfect babe-o-rama! What could possibly go wrong?
Fantasy 80's Lover: Michael Anthony Hall
**Cancer:** Jun 21 - Jul 22
Dr. Brown's history class getting you down? Build a time machine, team up with Napoleon and Abraham Lincoln, and give the most excellent history presentation ever, man!
Fantasy 80's Lover: Keanu Reeves
**Leo:** Jul 23 - Aug 22
The stars have aligned for you and your insane inventor-pal to build a time machine out of a Delorean, go back in time, make out with Lea Thompson, and save the Delorean Motor Company.
Fantasy 80's Lover: Michael J. Fox/ Jason Cox.

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**- Continued from page 5**

Bachman is at it again! At a recent campaign rally in Florida, she was quoted as invoking the wrath of God Himself on our government. Now, as a fairly well rounded political individual, and a man of faith, the way I respond to this is - We could only hope. However, from the context that she is running for the presidency, AND that her campaign spokeswoman did a pathetic job at best trying to cover for her, here's what I've got to say:

Michelle - come on. Not that I personally disagree or agree with her statement(s), but how do we make the leap of faith (pun intended) that a natural weather phenomenon and one of several thousand earthquakes is obviously Divine anger? That's a disastrous position to try to defend, particularly when one is campaigning for the highest office in our nation. Case in point would be the job she and her campaign spokeswoman did at mitigating the implications of that statement just minutes after the rally. Looks to me like Michelle's motorboat mouth got away from her.

In conclusion, here are a few examples of what could undoubtedly be classified as God's wrath on our politicians: 1) seven hurricanes in one week; 2) Capitol Hill gets swallowed by an earthquake; 3) fire and brimstone rain down on the White House; 4) it rains for 40 days and 40 nights in Washington, DC, only; and finally, 5) God writes "I hate politicians" in the cloud.

CLASSIFIEDS

# Personals

Martin McFly seeking beautiful young girl with 50's flair and pretty eyes. Must enjoy time travel and bear striking resemblance to Lea Thompson. Oh, and must not be my mom.

Jason Cox seeking theme for next year's homecoming that references a movie that college kids actually recognize.

Skoal-spitting sophomore seeking fine freshman female to go to SAPB homecoming dance with him on September 16. Applicants should have valid driver's license and must see nothing wrong with a little bump and grind.

Rick Perry seeking lovely scientist lady. Must be well versed in global warming studies and evolutionary studies.

# Lost and Found

Lost: my sense of what is appropriate to wear to class. Last seen before cartoon-character pajama bottoms went on sale at Kohls.

Found: 240 ounces of excess weight that is alliteratively associated with freshmen. Found during second trip through lunch line in dining hall.

Lost: Faith in future of Republican Party. Last seen before hearing Rick Perry, Mitt Romney, Herman Cain, Michelle Bachmann, Newt Gingrich, Rick Santorum, and Ron Paul speak.

Found: Shattered dreams of unrealistic freshman who did not realize college actually required hard work, writing ability, reading real books, basic reasoning skills, and the capacity for abstract thought. Found in puddle of tears in library.

# Help Wanted

Rally's looking to hire person to blow on liquid-lava hot fries before handing them to customers. Seriously, when are those things not skin-melting hot?

Zombie Emergency Survival Team (Z.E.S.T) looking for recruits. Perks of being a member include being able to play with Nerf guns, meet new people, and develop a skill used to slaughter the undead hordes.

Z.E.S.T also looking for volunteer practice zombies. Now accepting all applications. However, applicants preferably should be addle-minded, infirm, or in any way useless to society.

# For Sale

1985 Coupe/dark grey/butterfly doors; drives like new, except at 88 mph. Former owner only drove it to church, grocery store, and 1955.

Cute dress worn to Homecoming last year. Like new sans smell of mothballs and bad decisions.

Slightly used chariot. Features: two wheels, cedar platform, cd/cassette. Looks great, minor scuffs, some Christian blood and lion hair on tail light. Comes with whip!

Charming 17 bedroom ranch style home at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Features include: refrigerator, 4 ? butlers, lots of white paint, egg-shaped office room. Date Available: 1-21-2013

4 blue couches in Admin lobby. From a non-smoking home. Coffee table and lower-classman squatters included.

*The Broadcast* is published weekly by and for the students of Brescia University, 717 Frederica St. Owensboro, KY 42301.

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*The Broadcast* invites any student or faculty interested in helping *The Broadcast* to join us on Thursday nights in *The Broadcast* Office 222A.

**Our Mission:**
**to win Campus Capers. Again.**

# Sports Calendar

**Men's Soccer**
9/16 vs. St. Fancis

**Men's Golf**
9/13 @ Bethel

**Women's Golf**
9/13 @ Bethel
9/18-19 @ USI

**Volleyball**
9/17 vs. STLCOP & IUS

**Cross Country**
9/16 @ Michigan State

# Dinner at Gatti's

These days,
I'll receive a call from him
once or twice a month,
during which he'll smooth
over his occupancies of late
and concede newfound devotion
to his sons.

After the call, we'll meet
for pizza at Gatti's,
and I'll arrive
fifteen minutes early and wait
inside my car for half an hour
for his arrival.

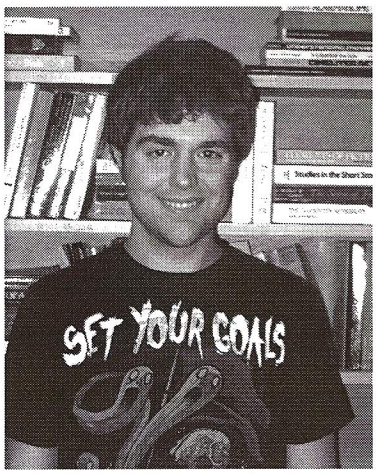
During dinner,
I'll speak eagerly,
and he'll speak softly.
His eyes will wander
around the room at first,
while words fly from his mout
like un-caged crows.

We'll discuss the recent films
we've seen
and news we've heard.
I'll be interested
and talk quickly,
and he'll nod and smile,
though he'll say little in response.

He'll ask me about school,
if I'm still playing guitar,
and whether I'm still dating
the same girl
to which I'll reply,
"It's good" and "Yep."

He'll be pleased, and
by this time he'll be comfortable
enough to add his thoughts
to the conversation

And after we have parted,
said how enjoyable
our dinner was
and how much we anticipate
more time together,
I'll sit down in my car, and
the fist within my chest
will loosen its grip
on my insides.

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# A Petal

A blemish
in the lamp light,

the petal falls
from a rain-washed bough,
and I
fail to reach it
before it lands;

its pillowed rest
upon a billowing
puddle
does nothing
to ease remorse.

# Sirens

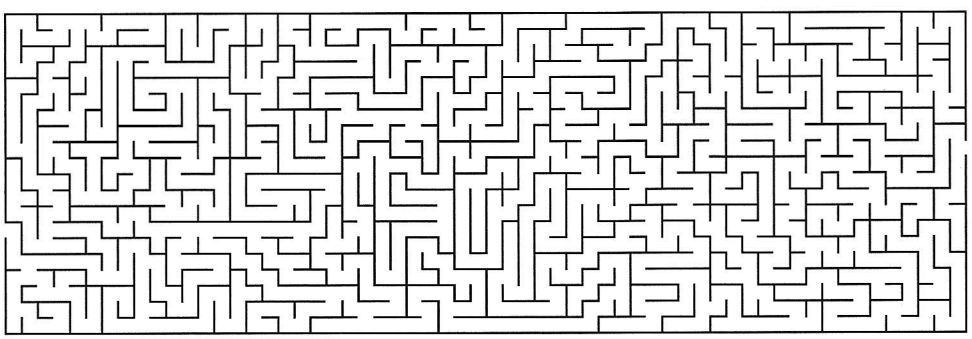
The Sirens' melody emerged
after the ringing
of the landmine blast
had ended.

The soldier,
lying in the ashes of palm trees,
opened quickly his bruised eyes
and turned his cracking spine to face
the sparkling shore.

He rammed his blood-soaked fingers,
one by one, into the sand
and dragged his dying body
toward the tide.

Two disjointed, crimson trails
followed his legs,
blown off at the knees,
with gushing veins, like power chords,
wrapped loosely 'round his bones.

And when the ravaged soldier
reached the shoreline
and admired his winged rescuers
in the distance,
he cast a crooked grin
in their direction.

But Poseidon's courtesans
are not so easily satisfied.
When beholding the vision
of their champion,
the Sirens screeched their discontent
and departed.

The dejected hero shed no tears;
rather, he
submerged his swollen face
into the stinging, salty water
and refused to rise.