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# Jodi Picoult speaks on book banning for Bucknell Forum

Lyndon Beier

Assistant News Editor

As first of the three installments in the Bucknell Forum 2023-24 “Freedom of Expression” series continuing on this semester, award-winning activist and bestselling author Jodi Picoult took to the Weis Center stage this past Tuesday in a moderated talk with President John Bravman. A packed crowd of students, faculty, and Lewisburg locals sat with rapt attention—and at times, laughter—as the Bucknell President asked questions of Picoult, who gave witty and insightful replies in turn.

Picoult, who in the past thirty years has released 28 books, including 2022 bestseller “Mad Honey”, spent surprisingly little time discussing her career trajectory and progress in the publishing industry. Instead, she chose to concentrate her answers on the subject of the book-banning hysteria sweeping the United States in recent months.

Book banning does not have a detached significance for Picoult—20 of her books are banned in Martin County, Florida, and just last week, her novel “Between the Lines” was added to the list. So, she’s well aware of just how impactful these “historically unprecedented levels” of banning can be.

Publishing as an industry has changed a lot since Picoult’s first literary foray in 1992, but she feels strongly that authors, especially authors “like [her]”—of privileged

standing, who will not lose as much readership or respect in the industry as a result of their skin color or orientation—should speak out because of their position in the proverbial trenches of this conflict. Picoult herself is not financially impacted by the banning of her books, but many first-time authors or those with smaller reader bases are, which, Picoult reasons, stands only to lessen the pool of creatives able to contribute their stories to the world. The slide toward blind banning of so-called “mature content,” with no “vetting process,” as Picoult put it, is “dangerous,” as nobody has ever defined what “mature content” is, so it looks to her like a banning free-for-all.

In terms of whose stories are told, Picoult is adamant that she never step on the toes of a writer who “can tell their story better than [she] ever could.” She does, however, try to use her platform for good, and writes largely about “things that keep [her] up at night,” issues she feels are important to today’s culture. Questions of limiting “objectionable” literature—ie., subjects that some may feel should not be written about—are based, for Picoult, around “who decides what is objectionable,” not how objectionability is decided. The decontextualization of material and eventual sanitization of whole periods of history and content are of more concern to her. Picoult repeatedly



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM LLEWELLYN

emphasized that to truly be successful, we must learn from history, not “get rid of it” and deprive young adults and children of accurate understanding.

For kids with no access to any resources other than a public school library, where most of these book bans are currently in effect, Picoult is even more concerned. “We need to step up now before it’s too late,” she said, in the name of those kids who have no other source of learning than a school environment—a place that’s supposed to be free and safe. “There’s nothing wrong with keeping track of your own student’s education. The problem is keeping track of someone else’s student,” Picoult summarized of parental control and governmental overreach.

As part of a community of authors and creatives, Picoult expressed dissatisfaction. “We’re frustrated,” she admitted. “It’s easier [for others] to coalesce around hate than [it is for authors] to coalesce around [...] freedom of

expression.” A very small minority is very loud (about 11 people are responsible for 60% of book bans in the United States), and it seems like they’re drowning out valuable works of art in favor of empty shelves and narrative control.

But it’s not all bad news. Picoult’s publisher, Random House, was the first to initiate a lawsuit against her book bans, and a judge recently ruled in her and several other authors’ favor in a related case in Iowa.

And to those who feel otherwise, and ask Picoult why she writes about some subjects and not others that they’d like better, Picoult has only one answer: “You don’t have to read my books.”

Jodi Picoult recommends visiting [www.pen.org/action](http://www.pen.org/action) to help in the fight to unban books across America.

The next speaker for the Bucknell Forum’s “Freedom of Expression” series will be author, journalist, and activist George M. Johnson on Feb. 27th in Trout Auditorium.

## MLK Week Keynote Speaker Gbenga Akinragbe ’00 tackles difficult conversations about sustaining social movements

Kelsey Werkheiser

Print Managing Editor

As one of many planned MLK Week events, the University welcomed back Bucknell graduate Gbenga Akinragbe ’00 to speak on Monday, Jan. 22nd. Akinragbe attended Bucknell on a wrestling scholarship, and graduated with a degree in Political Science and English. He is most well known for his acting career, starring in roles such as Chris Partlow on the series “The Wire”, and Larry Brown on the series “The Deuce”.

Akinragbe began his speech by revisiting his childhood, explaining how his upbringing in a Christian household was a negative one, leading him to seek out a new religion later on. He spoke on how wrestling became a form of worship to him, because of its hard work and devotion: “I shed blood, sweat, and tears at its altar.” He then sought out Judaism, and was dedicated to immersing himself in his new religion, eventually seeking out a pilgrimage to Israel. The group he had traveled with began to diverge from Akinragbe’s beliefs, and he left it behind with the idea that he did not need to subscribe to a religion in order to access the kindness and love that it often promotes.

Akinragbe’s experience in Israel transitioned his speech to tackling the current Israeli and Palestinian conflict. At the root of his message concerning the conflict were the teachings of Martin Luther King Jr. Akinragbe emphasized the importance of justice, quoting MLK: “True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice.” Akinragbe also underscored the significance of protecting everyone’s right to live, and to retaliate



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDAN WIXTED

against the government and leading powers in the face of war and injustice, rather than the people. He brought attention to a relevant and powerful quote from Cornel West, urging the audience to echo the sentiment: “Justice is what love looks like in public.”

Hearing Akinragbe’s experience of religion and response to the Israel-Palestine conflict was just one opportunity for students to be exposed to perspectives on the matter in the MLK Week series, and there are more upcoming ways for students to engage with the topic on campus.

The story of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of many narratives, age-old cycles of violence, and multiple oppressed indigenous and refugee

communities,” Rabbi Jessica Goldberg expressed. “I would invite anyone interested in learning more to join the Division of Equity and Inclusive Excellence, Diversity and Inclusion, and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at our upcoming sessions dedicated to this topic.”

On Friday, Jan. 26th, a Facilitated Dialogue and Processing Circle will be held from 2 to 4pm. RSVP is required, and the location of the meeting will be shared with individuals upon completion of the form.

On Thursday, Feb. 1st, a talk entitled “Why Is The Conversation So Hard? Islamophobia, Antisemitism, and Israel-Palestine” will be held in the ELC Center room from 12 to 1pm. Lunch will be provided.

## An interview with the new BSG President: Thandeka Bango looks at his term ahead

Michael Taromina

News Editor

“Being a leader, to me, means devoting myself to others and making an impact on other people’s lives.” Though it may sound like a cliché to some, these powerful words serve as a constant motto for Bucknell Student Government’s new President, Thandeka Bango ’26.

Coming off many semesters as a member of Congress where he was chair of the Diversity Committee and authored an abundant amount of legislation, Bango yearned to make actual and more effective change for Bucknell. Now as president, he is prepared and ready to get to work.

“Being on the executive board gives you the ability and connections to be able to make changes that you would like to see actually enacted,” said Bango. “And not just changes in general, but larger changes that can make sustainable impacts.”

Bango has many aspirations and goals he’d like to see accomplished this year in Congress, which all have themes surrounding two words: sustainability and diversity. Growing up in a developing country has ultimately fostered Bango’s love for gardening and the environment, all of which will support his presidential goals of improving both diversity and sustainability on Bucknell’s campus.

“While most people think of sustainability, they think of the environment, but sustainability can mean anything in terms of time and human impact,” Bango said.

One of Bango’s endeavors is to create tighter connections between B-Eats and the dining halls in order to reduce food waste while simultaneously making it more accessible to students. He also hopes to increase awareness of recycling and how waste management is conducted at Bucknell with the hope to promote a cleaner campus.

As a student who lives far from campus, Bango is empathetic

towards those who struggle with summer storage of their dorm amenities, and endeavors to make that better and easier.

Additionally, Bango also looks forward to navigating and respecting the dynamic between Bucknell University’s Administration.

“A large part of the role of President of BSG involves confronting the administration on behalf of the students”, said Thandeka. “We are looking forward to working with the administration to meet goals for the students”.

Bango also looks forward to working with a “great support system” of two new vice presidents, Amira Faden ’26, Executive VP of Operations, and Eliza Morris ’26, Executive VP of Administration, who will help manage the executive committee and congressional matters.

Above all, Bango understands that being BSG President can come with many challenges and will force him to make many decisions and stances throughout his term.

“Part of the work we will be doing this year will be making it known that the student government serves to represent student’s voices and elevate the student’s voices,” said Thandeka.

In overcoming those challenges, he believes that increasing awareness about global affairs could help increase diversity and inclusivity and spark a good conversation that can help BSG better serve the entirety of the campus, with while respecting the beliefs of all.

“There are going to be challenges, but it is always important to remain open and have a diverse thought, which should always exist on a college campus,” said Bango.

Bango hopes to embody empathetic virtues and lead by example throughout his term as President in his endeavor to make change. He hopes to make Bucknell a safer space for all Bucknellians to thrive, learn, and live.

# breaking the bubble



Michael Taromina  
News Editor

## DOMESTIC

The first votes of the Presidential Election of 2024 were cast within the last week in two crucial primary states: Iowa and New Hampshire. On the Republican side, many candidates looked to take the Hawkeye State last Monday, but former President Donald Trump won the caucus in a landslide, causing the race to narrow to two people. Trump vied with his former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley on Tuesday night for the votes of Granite Staters and won in ways the polls were predicting. On the Democratic side, President Joe Biden won in a landslide in New Hampshire, even as the DNC did not sponsor the race and his name was not on the ballot. The primary will shift itself to states like Nevada and South Carolina for both parties within the next couple of weeks, before Super Tuesday, which comes at the beginning of March. And while most polls show the general election in November will be a tale of two presidencies, with many of those polls being very tight, neither nominee will be chosen until every vote in each state has been counted, and the primary season has just begun.

On Tuesday, the Academy announced their nominations for the 2024 Oscars. Christopher Nolan's "Oppenheimer" led with 13 nominations, including best picture, best directing, and acting nominations for Cillian Murphy, Robert Downey Jr. and Emily Blunt. "Barbie," 2023's biggest box office hit with more than \$1.4 billion in ticket sales, was nominated for best picture, two best song candidates with "What Was I Made For" and "I'm Just Ken," and an acting nomination for Ryan Gosling. The other best picture nominees are "Poor Things" (which received a total of 11 nominations, just behind "Oppenheimer,") "Killers of the Flower Moon," "The Holdovers," "Maestro," "American Fiction," "Past Lives," "Anatomy of a Fall" and "The Zone of Interest."

## INTERNATIONAL

The United Kingdom and Ireland braced for more strong winds and heavy rainfall as Storm Jocelyn approaches, just hours after deadly storm Isha swept the region on Sunday and Monday, leaving tens of thousands without power and leading to at least four deaths. Jocelyn marks the first time on record that the UK and Ireland have reached "J" in the alphabet so early in the season. But while Jocelyn is expected to be less extreme, it comes as the UK is still grappling with the extensive damage Isha caused and as the ground in some places is already saturated from rainfall. Many scientists argue that climate change is the result of these more intense and frequent storms throughout the world.

The death toll from a landslide in southwest China has risen to 31, state media reported Tuesday, as rescue workers comb mud, snow and rubble in search of survivors. The landslide hit the mountain village of Liangshui in Yunnan province shortly before dawn Monday, burying 18 homes and dozens of people. More than 1,000 rescue workers, with the help of dogs, drones and other devices, were searching through mounds of rubble in freezing temperatures for 13 people still unaccounted for as of Tuesday night. The landslide was triggered by the collapse of a steep cliff at the top of the mountain slope, with the collapsed mass measuring about 100 meters wide, 60 meters high and six meters thick. The collapsed area was about 150 meters above the village, officials said, without explaining what caused the cliff to crumble.

## Bucknell cracks top 25 in Princeton Review Green Colleges List



EMILY PAINE / THE BUCKNELLIAN

Michael Taromina  
News Editor

Bucknell moved up 15 spots among The Princeton Review's Top 50 Green Colleges to 25th in the ranking, which was released in December. Bucknell made its inaugural appearance in the ranking last year, ranking 40th.

Schools included on the list "share superb sustainability practices, a strong foundation in sustainability education, and a healthy quality of life for students on campus," according to The Princeton Review. Schools are chosen based on a combination of school-reported data and student opinion, via The Princeton Review's institutional and student surveys.

"We've come together to do a lot as a University with regard to environmental sustainability that is consistent with Bucknell's strategic plan and our 10-year sustainability plan. We continue to strive toward meeting our goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2030," says Victor Udo, Director of Campus Sustainability. "We're proud of what we've been recognized for through this Princeton Review ranking. We still have much work ahead. We're just trying to do the right thing and make sustainability something we're doing naturally. We're very proud of that."

Udo cites these reasons for the dramatic climb in the Top 50 Green Colleges list:

- The Bison Solar Project is now online and producing electricity on a daily basis.
- The University is replacing modular housing units with the West

Apartments, four new state-of-art buildings that feature geothermal heating and cooling.

- University leaders recently commissioned the Bucknell Greenway, which enhances human environment connections/wellness.
- An increasing number of students, faculty, staff, administrators and members of the Board of Trustees are engaging with the Bucknell Farm.
- The University's 10-year sustainability plan is in place and guiding campus green activities
- Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, Bucknell's STARS Gold rating by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) went up by over one basis point.

Udo also cited key activities under the President's Sustainability Council Working Groups — carbon neutrality, a path to zero waste, ecological conservation/restoration, as well as environmental, social and governance education — as being valuable in the rising green campus ranking. These groups continue to pursue sustainable solutions that will reduce waste and carbon emissions. One such solution is a biodigester that is currently being used to divert pre-consumption food waste from the landfill.

As reported by Second Nature — an organization committed to accelerating climate action in, and through, higher education — the University has reduced its carbon footprint by nearly 30% from its 2008 baseline.

# Flavors of Mardi Gras

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Letters to the editor must be received by noon on the Tuesday before publication. Letters may not be longer than 600 words and the Editorial Board of The Bucknellian reserves the right to deny or edit any letter to the editor. Letters must contain the writer's name and phone number (used for verification purposes and not to be printed). Mail letters to The Bucknellian Subscriptions, Bucknell University, Box C-3952, Lewisburg, Pa. 17837 or e-mail letters to bucknellian@bucknell.edu.

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# Undergraduate Executive Internship Program gives students a chance to better Bucknell from the inside



GORDON R. WENZEL / BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY

**Lyndon Beier**  
*Assistant News Editor*

Bucknell’s Executive Internship Program (UEIP) offers students a unique chance to get to work closely with staff members in the University’s executive offices. While there are currently 10 students filling these positions, as we move into the spring semester, the program is looking to recruit new applicants for the next school year.

The program annually attracts highly motivated students seeking leadership employment roles across campus. The goal of the program is to gather students who are not only driven in terms of academics but are also dedicated to bettering campus life and the Bucknell community.

This year, executive interns are performing various roles in the Office of the President, Office of the Dean of Students, Office of the Provost, Division of Marketing & Communications, Office of the Dean of Arts & Sciences, Office of the Dean of Engineering, University Advancement, Office of Athletics & Recreation, and Division of Library & Information Technology. Next year, the program will be adding positions in the Office of the Dean of the Freeman College of Management and the Office of the Dean of Equity and Inclusive Excellence.

“Through participation in the program, interns are able to utilize their talents and knowledge to excel in a collaborative

and rewarding work environment,” says Carol Kennedy, Executive Director, Office of the President and University secretary, who directs the program. “The interns also sharpen their professional and interpersonal skills, work with the senior staff and stakeholders of the University, and build strong relationships with Bucknell administration and the student body. The program provides unique opportunities that are not open to the general population of students.”

Ben Portman ’07 was the University’s first executive intern in 2007 and became responsible for building the program as part of his first intern duties. He worked in the Office of the President during that first year.

“It certainly prepared me for my first job, but also my third and fourth jobs too,” says Portman, who is now First Vice President and a Financial Advisor with Vantage Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley. “There were a lot of opportunities that I think give you a leg up when you’re in your first job.”

“I learned a lot from each individual person involved in and outside the office and how they led in the context of this complicated space,” he adds.

It ended up being a transformative experience for Portman, as well as the interns who have followed.

“My favorite part about UEIP has been collaborating with the other interns from week to week,” says Libby Hoffman ’24, the current intern in the Office of the President. “Each intern has different schedules and responsibilities depending on the specific office they work in, but we all come together once a week to learn from one another and to collaborate on group projects. It is really empowering to be working with a team of such kind and dedicated students who are so passionate about making a difference here at Bucknell!”

The program is highly selective and in order to be hired, students must fill out a detailed application and undergo multiple rounds of interviews. As part of the process, they are required to provide a cover letter and résumé, as well as professor recommendations and writing samples.

This year, 10 executive interns are participating in the program. Below are the names,

class year, hometowns, and majors of the current executive interns, and the offices where they are working.

- Cesar Spadea ’24, Mechanical Engineering and Spanish major; Office of the Dean of Engineering; Schwenksville, Pa
- Eliza Ray ’24, Education major and Physics and Race & Ethnicity Studies minor; Office of the Provost; Indiana, Pa
- Gracyn Shaw ’24, International Relations and Russian Studies major; Office of University Advancement; Alton, N.H
- Juliya Harnood ’24, Computer Science and French major; Division of Library & Information Technology; Boyds, Md
- Libby Hoffman ’24, Anthropology major, Italian studies minor; Office of the President/Student Coordinator; Bell Buckle, Tenn.
- Megan Collins ’24, Psychology major, Film & Media Studies minor; Division of Marketing & Communications; Chatham, N.J.
- Sarah Downey ’25, Political Science major, Italian Studies minor; Division of Marketing & Communications; Allentown, Pa.
- Sarah Hanlon ’24, Accounting major and Art History minor; Office of the Dean of Students; Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Spencer Howell ’24, International Relations major, Arabic & Arab World studies minor; Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences; York Springs, Pa.
- Yosief Tewelde ’26, Management and Organizations major; Office of Athletics and Recreation; Arlington, Va.



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# Freeman College of Management named U.N. Principles for Responsible Management Education Champion, remains ‘Poets&Quants’ Top 20



Lyndon Beier  
Assistant News Editor

EMILY PAINE / THE BUCKNELLIAN

Bucknell’s Freeman College of Management is one of just three business/management programs from U.S. institutions to be named among the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) Champions for 2024-2025. Bucknell’s Freeman College remained in the top 20 of the new national ranking of undergraduate business/management programs by “Poets&Quants for Undergrads”, a leading news website dedicated to the coverage of undergraduate business education. Bucknell ranks No. 20 overall and third among Pennsylvania institutions. “Thesetworecenthonorscontinue to endorse the Freeman College of Management as one of the top colleges for undergraduate management education in the nation,” says Cindy Guthrie interim dean of the Freeman College. “Since UNPRME guides our college mission and curriculum, we

celebrate inclusion among this select group of Champion institutions. And we are excited to be included among the nation’s top 20 business/management programs in Poets&Quants ranking for the third consecutive year.” PRME Champions With more than 800 signatory members from 96 countries, Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative that has a mission to transform management education and develop the responsible decision-makers of tomorrow to advance sustainable development. The PRME Secretariat selects annual “Champions” from among a pool of applicants. Champions represent a group of 47 business and management schools from across the PRME community that are committed to working collaboratively to develop and promote activities that address

shared barriers for the PRME community, and which deliver value for business and society at large. The focus of the 2024-25 Champions cycle will be on advancing the seven principles of PRME (Purpose, Values, Teach, Research, Partner, Practice and Share); engagement in thematic roundtables for generating ideas and solutions to institutional challenges within business schools that support the PRME strategy; and aligning with the vision of the United Nations Global Compact in completing actions toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The PRME Champions program provides faculty members with a space for developing and sharing collaborative educational methods and a “living lab” for ambitious new ideas for developing the next generation of sustainability-driven business schools and management-related higher education

institutions in support of the sustainable development goals. Poets&Quants for Undergrads Ranking In addition to ranking No. 20 overall, Bucknell’s Freeman College of Management ranked No. 19 in academic experience, and No. 20 in career outcomes. Considered the most comprehensive assessment of undergraduate business programs, Poets&Quants for Undergrads ranking is compiled from among surveys of recent grads across the 91 schools on aspects of faculty availability, extracurricular opportunities, and accessibility of the alumni network. The ranking is based on three categories that best measure the undergrad B-school experience: the quality and diversity of students enrolling in a program (Admissions Standards); the ability of a business school to nurture, challenge and grow those young minds (Academic Experience); and

how the market and world’s top employers respond to those graduates when leaving the school (Career Outcomes). Each category is given an equal weight in the final score of 33.3%. Information about the methodology may be found here. The Freeman College of Management offers transformative business experiences and educational opportunities grounded in the liberal arts. It is home to more than 700 students and more than 40 faculty and staff. Through small class sizes and close relationships with faculty and staff, students receive individual attention and mentoring that fosters success. The College offers majors in accounting; business analytics; finance; management & organizations; and markets, innovation & design, as well as minors in accounting, business analytics, entrepreneurship, human resource management, real estate and management.

## 20th Annual Heart of Lewisburg Ice Festival begins next week, set to be cool as ice



PHOTOS OF LAST YEARS EVENTS!  
SIENNA WILLIAMS, PHOTOGRAPHY CO-EDITOR AND AIDAN TACKER / THE BUCKNELLIAN

# A tale for the time: The timeless appeal of Princess Monoke

Ethan Ratner  
Contributing Writer

The question as to why people watch movies demands a myriad of responses. Some people watch to relax, others to learn. For me, the answer changes frequently, even changing from movie to movie. In 2023, a year of terrible darkness, I found comfort in stories that removed me from the troubles of today. Simply put, I found solace in a distraction. For the 2-hour and 15-minute run time of Princess Mononoke, I find myself blissfully distracted and transported to a world better than our own.

Without spoiling, the film centers around a young man named Ashitaka who, in defending his village from a cursed boar, gets cursed himself. Upon learning from the village wise lady that the curse will soon kill him, Ashitaka and his companion Yakkuru, a part horse, part mountain goat, travel west to ask the all-powerful forest spirit to lift his curse.

Upon arriving at the great forest where the forest spirit lives, Ashitaka encounters two conflicting factions. Iron Town, is a civilization of humans led by Lady Eboshi, an intelligent and decisive leader, and the gods of the forest, giant talking animals taking the shapes of wolves, boars, and gorillas. Living amongst the animals is a young woman named San, or Princess Mononoke, as the wolves call her. San was abandoned as a baby and was raised by the wolves; she believes she is a wolf and aids the animals in their battle against Lady Eboshi and her iron-working village.

The film's central conflict revolves around Lady Eboshi and her people's relentless desire to strip the forest for all its iron. Lady Eboshi is a rather complex character, she shows great compassion to the ostracized lepers and enslaved women. Her complex morality reflects most characters in Princess Mononoke.

The animation of Princess Mononoke is perhaps the best in Hayao Miyazaki's esteemed catalog. The most towering achievements are perhaps the beautiful animals that Miyazaki brings to life. They are both regal and majestic but grounded as well. Their

emotions, whether joy, anger, or fear, resonate with any audience. The landscape also deserves much praise as Miyazaki juxtaposes a great forest laden with possibility with Lady Eboshi's village, animated to depict humanity's blossoming industrialization. The imagery is both beautiful and a little melancholic, reflecting Miyazaki's complex feelings over the modernization of Japan.

What sets Princess Mononoke apart is Hayao Miyazaki's nuanced characterization and humanization of the central battle between Man and Beast; in contrast to the expected struggle between good and evil seen in most epics, Miyazaki instead develops a world where nature, man, gods, and spirits are all vie for their share of the newly developing world. There is no definitive "bad guy", just people and creatures with different motivations; it's incredibly morally complex and is reflected most clearly in Ashitaka's unwillingness to pass moral judgments on anyone, instead opting to try and understand the people he disagrees with rather than condemn them. In a year marked by extreme polarization, Miyazaki's approach strongly resonates, emphasizing the importance of avoiding partisanship, especially in a children's movie. The reality is that our world isn't solely populated by purely good or evil people but by individuals existing somewhere in between.

The film derives strength from its protagonists, Ashitaka and San, and their budding romance. It's at once a very classic tale of two people ignoring their differences and instead choosing to be with each other, but Miyazaki shakes up what could be a very simplistic relationship with a remarkable final scene. San and Ashitaka decide that they must set each other free, San must return to the wild and Ashitaka must help humanity rebuild. They agree that despite being in love, neither can truly exist in the other's world and because of that, they should only see each other occasionally. In the final moments of the film, Miyazaki chooses to share a piece of philosophical sophistication rare in film, imparting the profound truth that sometimes to truly love something you must learn to let it go.

# Singing and Social Justice event fosters community through music

Aaron Chin  
Arts & Culture Co-Editor

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Week here on campus, Bucknell put on several events to honor the visionary work of Martin Luther King Jr. The Singing and Social Justice event held at Rooke Chapel in the Main Sanctuary led by Reverend Angela Jones and Dr. Alisha Lola Jones guided attendees through various songs and vocal exercises in an attempt to promote community through music.

As someone who does not sing, I was initially very hesitant about going to this event. While I play musical instruments, singing is not my strong suit and is way outside my comfort zone, so I was definitely a little anxious when we were told to divide into altos, tenors and sopranos and that everyone was going to sing. In the beginning, I was skeptical of the community-building effect of music that they were talking about in the beginning.

However, as the event progressed, I was more able to buy into the concept of music and community building as I witnessed it first-hand. We covered two songs during the event, the first being "We Shall Overcome," and the second being "Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land." "We Shall Overcome" is a gospel song that is heavily associated with the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. The song is thought to descend from "I'll Overcome Some Day," a hymn written by Charles Albert Tindley. First produced in the late

'40s, it gained popularity in the '50s and '60s as a protest song at rallies, concerts and churches in the North. The song's lyrics are deeply inspiring with its meaningful message of bringing hope and unity in a time of conflict and division. I felt this unity in the room when we sang "We shall overcome/We shall overcome/We shall overcome, someday,"

We also sang "Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land." This song was definitely harder to sing than "We Shall Overcome." While we sung "We Shall Overcome" mostly in unison, "Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land" had a lot more moving parts to it. To the singers in the room, the parts may have come naturally, but to me, the moving parts required some more concentration to get the hang of. But hearing the altos, tenors, basses and sopranos all come together at the end was very satisfying. It showed me that when people come together to create something, they will often create something very beautiful.

While I'm not a singer, I found the Singing and Social Justice event to be quite fascinating and engaging. Seeing people coming together as a campus through music and filling the room with beautiful voices, whether talented or off-key, was an enchanting experience. Even though singing might not be the first form of activism that comes to people's minds, sometimes it is the best way to bond a community.

Esther Zhao

Arts & Culture Co-Editor

As a big museum enthusiast and having grown up less than an hour from New York City, the Museum of Modern Art is one of my favorite places to visit. During my MoMA visit this winter break, I experienced a plethora of emotions. Feeling both inspired and bemused, modern art tends to stir up a lot of questions for me: can anything be a work of art? How does an artist come up with their vision? How does art express both the hope and despair in humanity? I also revisited some of my favorite pieces to see how my view of them has changed as my awareness of art grows. During the fall semester, I took "Art of Protest," a class taught by Professor Rothman from the Art History Department, which focused on the relationship between modern art and social justice. The class also emphasized the importance of asking questions like: "What does this piece of art do?" or "How does it make me feel?" instead of "What does this piece of art mean?" and "What does it mean to be avant-garde?" With these questions in mind, I wanted to share my reflections on a couple pieces of art from MoMA.

## "The Lovers" by René Magritte

"The Lovers" is an oil painting that depicts two individuals in a kiss, but a white cloth veils

them. Neither one of the subjects can see each other and the viewer of the painting cannot see either of the subjects' faces. Immediately, I started thinking about the many different interpretations that one could take away from this piece. One great thing about art is that it isn't concrete in its meaning and, as a viewer, we are given agency to what we perceive, interpret and take away from the piece. I interpreted it partly as a commentary on society and our modern views on love: how can one truly love someone if they can't see the person? For many, to be loved means being fully seen and acknowledged by the other person. On the other hand, this piece also made me think about how love is blind to the physical traits that we, as a society, often fixate on when it comes to love. It may even be that in order to love someone, one must be blind and see beyond the physical traits. Or, it could merely be two people kissing with a cloth wrapped around their heads;—it is up to interpretation! As you view "The Lovers", I invite you to ponder the question with me: what does it truly mean to be loved?

## "Water Lilies" by Claude Monet

Monet's "Water Lilies" is a series of large mural-sized canvas paintings that are all presented in the same room at the MoMA. As a

result, the room feels immersive, with the white walls covered with thick brushstrokes, hues of greens and blues on one side and a pastel palette of those colors on the other. When I think about Monet and paintings like "Water Lilies", I often think about impressionism, and the idea of the avant-garde. As art historian, Jonathan Fineberg, defines it, avant-garde modern art attempts to "revolutionize mainstream values." The idea of the avant-garde can certainly be applied to how audiences viewed impressionism as a disgrace for its supposedly sloppy and unfinished nature while they esteemed realist art for its ability to imitate life prior to the invention of photography. As a result, impressionism was based on capturing the moment, focusing heavily on subjects in nature and movement. With Monet pioneering such a movement, leading to post-impressionism and pointillism, he forever changed the landscape of modern art. It inspires me to know that to view certain pieces of art is to see history firsthand.

While there's so much I don't know about art, I hope to encourage anyone who feels hesitant to interact with art. Art truly is for anyone.

After all, as Israeli Sculptor Yaacov Agam once said: "There are two distinct languages. There is the verbal, which separates people... and there is the visual that is understood by everybody."

# Confetti Head Literary Magazine launches new issue

Aaron Chin

Arts & Culture Co-Editor

This past Thursday at Uptown, "Confetti Head", Bucknell's student-run literary magazine officially launched its second print issue. "Confetti Head" was established in 2018 to fulfill Bucknell's need for a platform that features student creative works after "Fire & Ice", the previous literary magazine, disbanded in 2016. The magazine was rebranded in 2021 and again in 2023 to "Confetti Head". The magazine publishes works of prose, poetry and visual arts.

On Jan. 18th, "Confetti Head" officially launched its second issue ever in print – the magazine had only been digital in previous years. The event, organized by the magazine's talented masthead, was a massive success with many students showing up and supporting the magazine. At the event, there was free pizza and printed copies of the magazine available for pickup. There was also an open mic portion of the event where students shared their pieces of prose and poetry.

As a Creative Writing major and contributor to the magazine, it was gratifying to see the event's success. In the Creative Writing field, it's really important to have

a strong community of writers, and events like these help to reinforce those bonds. This is important because many of the students who read shared vulnerable stories, and in their vulnerability created beautiful works of art for the campus community to read many times over and appreciate. I felt that energy at the launch, the sense that we were all coming together to support one another despite all of our differences.

The launch, and the magazine as a whole, would not have been possible without the hard work of the Confetti Head editorial team which is as follows:

Head Editors Georgie Roache '25 and Kelsey Werkheiser '25

Layout Team: Georgie Roache, Kelsey Werkheiser, Natasha Rawls '25, and Donald Engelhardt '25

Associate Editors: Sarah Sanfield '25, Hollen Spain '25, Shane Mitchell '24, Capri Mills '26, Athaliah Elvis '26, Judith Ramos '26, Natasha Rawls, and Donald Engelhardt

Head Editor Georgie Roache had nothing but positive comments about the launch. Roache, who was Head Editor for the second year in a row, was instrumental

in rebranding the magazine in 2023. When speaking about the event, she said "It was so exciting to see so many people come out to celebrate issue two of Confetti Head! It was such a cool experience putting it all together, and then getting to meet a lot of the contributors in person for the first time. I had only read or seen their work before that, so getting to put faces to all their creativity that I had admired in the editing process was really cool."

She also noted that "One of my favorite parts in creating this issue was the early process of submissions. I tend to be more focused in poetry, so I loved getting to experience a variety of genres in the submissions: fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and visual art. I would say the most rewarding part of the process was getting to work so closely with such creative minds in the community—the other editors in reviewing the submissions, and the contributors in the editing process."

If you would like to submit to the next issue of Confetti Head, you can send your submissions to confettihead@bu.edu by midnight on Feb. 2.

# The long awaited 75th Annual Emmy Awards don't disappoint

Margaret J. Hunter

Contributing Writer

With the previous indefinite delay of the 2023 Emmys due to writers' and actors' strikes, this year's ceremony was more anticipated than ever before— and it did not disappoint. Host Anthony Anderson ("Blackish") ushered in an exciting evening as television stars filled Los Angeles' Peacock Theater, adorned in the latest fashions and buzzing with anticipation.

The unmistakable leading contender of the evening was HBO's business drama "Succession", receiving 27 nominations for its final season. With nods in all major categories, they were awarded 6 Primetime Emmys—including outstanding comedy series. Writer Jesse Armstrong and director Mark Mylod were awarded for their creative efforts on the project. Additionally, leading cast members Kieran Culkin and Sarah Snook took home accolades for best actor and

actress in a comedy series, while Matthew Macfayden secured acknowledgement for his supporting role. In their final hours, the Roy siblings proved to be victorious again.

Leading the race in the comedy categories was Hulu's "The Bear", a fast-paced found-family story set in Chicago's culinary scene. Taking home all 6 awards the series was nominated for, the show continued to build anticipation for its upcoming third season. Jeremy Allen White and Ayo Edebiri cemented their status as newfound Hollywood royalty as they were granted recognition for their stellar performances as leading actor and supporting actress respectively.

However, the clean sweep of "Succession" and "The Bear" meant the inevitable lock-out of other contenders. HBO's "The Last of Us", following "Succession" closely behind with 24 nominations, only scored 8 trophies, all in

minor categories. Meanwhile, Apple TV's "Ted Lasso", which also had 21 nominations, only ended up securing 2 Creative Arts Emmys.

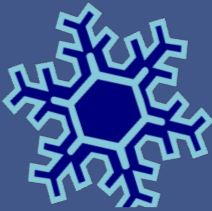
Yet, the biggest win of the night was inarguably Quinta Brunson, who took home the award for leading actress in a comedy series. Awarded for her performance in "Abbott Elementary"—a show about a group of teachers giving their all to their underprivileged community—the historic win marks the first time in over 40 years that an African American woman has won in the major category.

The combination of Quinta Brunson's exponentially rising stardom and Elton John's EGOT win made for a notable night in many regards. With quips from cast members and delightful interactions among industry friends, the evening proved to be as entertaining as the television shows it celebrated.

# Welcoming Winter: Upcoming Lewisburg and Bucknell activities



Bucknell and Lewisburg are hosting a vast amount of winter events that students can participate in. With Downtown Lewisburg being so close to campus, students have the opportunity to engage with the local community and businesses through all of the seasonal festivities. On campus, the CAP Center also provides a plethora of activities for students with many different interests.



## Downtown Lewisburg Events

Connor Bennett  
Senior Writer

### 20th Annual Heart of Lewis- burg Ice Festival

From Feb. 2nd through the 4th, the annual Lewisburg Ice Festival will take place on Market Street. The weekend is full of various activities and events run by the town of Lewisburg, and, as the name suggests, ice is a major feature. On Friday, the first ice sculptures will be on display in front of many stores on Market Street; the featured artists display their talents by creating breathtaking pieces completely out of ice.

### Sip and Stroll Event

Also on Friday the 2nd, the Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Bureau will sponsor the second annual Sip and Stroll event. Tickets are 35 dollars and come with a reusable cup and access to over 10 businesses that will provide drinks and snacks. Participants will be able to stroll around and shop on Market Street while sipping on beverages from local breweries, wineries, and distilleries. This event is very popular, so register as soon as possible to reserve a spot.

### Frosty 5K

Saturday of the festival kicks off with a frosty 5k that starts at the Campus Theatre. Runners and walkers will be able to view the ice sculptures while running the race. During the race, a silent auction will be happening at the Campus Theatre along with a free showing of “Balto.”

### Polar Bear Plunge

The 20th annual Lewisburg Polar Bear Plunge will also happen on Saturday. Brasserie Louis will be hosting the pre-party from 12-2, and at 2:30 the participants will march towards the Susquehanna River to jump in!

### Chili Contest

A chili cook-off will also be taking place at Bull Run Tap House. For only \$5, participants can taste different types of chili and vote on their favorite. There will also be children’s activities at the Greenspace Center starting at 10 a.m. The whole family can get involved in this event and there will be something for everyone.

### Chocolate Festival

The Chocolate Festival ends the packed Ice Festival weekend. Over 450 people can participate in this chocolate-themed event. It includes a chocolate tour of downtown Lewisburg, where different vendors will offer samples of their chocolates, as well as a Gala at the Lewisburg Hotel. Doors open for the Gala at 6 p.m., where hors d’oeuvres, an open bar, chocolate displays and much more will be provided. The festival is raising money for The Donald L. Heiter Community Center (DHCC). The DHCC is a non-profit organization that engages in community activity by providing programming and activities for youth, adults and families.

## Bucknell Winter Events

### Intramural Winter Sports and Group Fitness

The winter season for Intramural sports is about to kick off at Bucknell. The most popular sport, 5 v 5 basketball, will start playing in games next week. There are also leagues for soccer, floor hockey, squash, and racquetball. All intramural sports have single-sex as well as co-ed leagues. To register for a sport, students can use the Fusion Play App to either create a team or request to join one. The group fitness schedule is also available now for the winter season. Group Fitness is located in Studio 2, of the dance studios in the Weis Center. The classes include Barre, Pilates, Kickboxing and so much more.

### Uptown Events and Arcade Night

Uptown hosts a variety of events for the winter months including a Just Dance night, Mario Kart night and many more. Free drinks will be offered at these events for students over the age of 21. This Friday there is also an arcade night at the Elaine Langone Center from 7 to 10 p.m. All students are welcome to enjoy the variety of games available.

### Activities Unlimited

The Activities Unlimited fair will take place on January 29th, outside of the Elaine Langone Center. Representatives from different clubs and other student organizations will be there to meet students interested in joining. This is a great experience to learn more about all of the activities Bucknell has to offer.

### 7th Street Studio & Makerspace

Consistently hosting events year-round for students, the Makerspace has activities to keep students out of the cold in the coming weeks. With options varying from crochet and pottery to charcuterie boards and Valentine’s decorations, students can attend what interests them most. Events at the Makerspace can be found on their website and also in Brent Papson’s weekly emails.

For more information regarding the Ice Festival students can visit the Downtown Lewisburg Site. To access information regarding events on campus, visit Get Involved Bucknell.

## Wrestling records wins over Morgan State and American

Lauren Medeiros  
Senior Writer

Over the weekend, Bucknell Wrestling hosted two matchups in Davis Gym. The first was set for Friday, Jan. 19 against Morgan State, but was postponed to Saturday due to weather. The second was on Sunday, Jan. 21 against American University. Bucknell had a successful weekend as they triumphed over Morgan State 41-9 and defeated American 31-9.

In the matchup against Morgan State, the Bison recorded three tech falls, two major decisions, and three pins. The three pins were recorded in consecutive order by Myles Takats '27 (174 lbs), Mikey Bartush '26 (184 lbs), and Logan Deacetis '25 (197 lbs). These victories extended the Bison's lead and ultimately sealed the match, as they had large leads before the pins.

Kurt Phipps '25 (133 lbs) and Dylan Chappell '25 (141

lbs) both racked up 20 points in their tech falls. Phipps defeated his opponent 20-3, making his season record 15-2, and Chappell beat his opponent 22-7.

Following them, Riley Bower '26 (149 lbs) made a 12-4 decision, securing an extra point with over two minutes of riding time. The Bison led 14-3 before Morgan State could get any more points on the board.

Morgan State then gained points in the 157 lb group due to a default injury in the first period.

At 165 lbs, Noah Mulvaney '27 kicked off Bucknell's 27-0 scoring run over the final five bouts with a 15-5 decision over his opponent. This was his 20th win of the season and he has only lost three times.

To close out the match, heavyweight Dorian Crosby '24 at 285 lbs earned his sixth

tech fall of the season and beat his opponent 17-0.

Taking the momentum from their win on Saturday, the Bison defeated American on Sunday.

During this matchup, eight Bison wrestlers posted wins, and four scored bonus points. Bucknell's final five wrestlers totaled 22 of the team's points, posting two major decisions, a tech fall, and a pin.

Bucknell was defeated by American in the 125 weight class, giving American an early lead. But, back-to-back decisions by Phipps and Chappell nullified the early pin. Both Phipps and Chappell went 2-0 on the weekend.

The Bison gave up the lead with a defeat at the 149 lb group, but shortly after, Kolby DePron '25 (157 lbs) came out strong and started a 25-0 run for Bucknell. DePron prevailed over his opponent

with a 6-0 decision. This marked his fifth win in a row and improved to 2-0 in duals this season.

Keeping the momentum strong, Mulvaney secured his 21st victory of the season as he pinned his opponent in the first period. Mulvaney is now 7-1 in duals.

Takats and Bartush also posted back-to-back major decisions winning 13-2 and 14-2. Bartush earned 4:24 of riding time and clinched the dual, creating a 23-9 Bison lead.

To end the match, Deacetis tallied his third tech fall of the season winning 15-0 in just 2:34, and Crosby finished with a 7-2 decision.

Crosby has gone up against his contender in the past, and in the 2022-23 season he went 3-0 over his opponent, including one win at the EIWA Championships.

This Bucknell victory over American marks five in a row

for the Bison, dating back to 2020. Now the Bison are 25-6-1 in the all-time series. After the two victories this weekend, Bucknell improved their record to 6-3 (2-0 EIWA).

At the conclusion of the weekend, five Bucknell wrestlers appear in the first NCAA Coaches' Rankings: Phipps (13th at 133), Mulvaney (18th at 165), Takats (31st at 174), Bartush (32nd at 184), and Crosby (21st in 285). These rankings are used in the selection process to determine qualifiers for the 2024 NCAA Division 1 Wrestling Championship. These wrestlers represent the highest number of players Bucknell has had in the rankings at one time since 2016.

Next weekend, Bucknell will return to Davis Gym at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27, to host Army.



LAUREN MEDEIROS, PHOTOGRAPHY CO-EDITOR / THE BUCKNELLIAN

### Upcoming Events

#### Men's and Women's Track and Field

- National Open @ Penn State 1/26 11:15am
- Bison Open & Multi 1/26 5pm

#### Wrestling

- vs Army 1/27 6pm

#### Women's Basketball

- vs Army 1/27 3:30pm

#### Men's Tennis

- @ Saint Francis 1/27 1pm

#### Women's and Men's Swimming

- vs Lehigh 1/27 1pm

## Men's Basketball loses to Lafayette in overtime



Lauren Medeiros  
Senior Writer

On Saturday, Jan. 20, Bucknell Men's Basketball traveled to Easton, PA to take on Lafayette. The Bison were up for most of the game, but unfortunately, it slipped away in overtime, resulting in a loss of 75-72.

This game was the fifth overtime meeting in the last six games between Bucknell and Lafayette.

Bucknell played without starting guard Josh Bascoe '25 due to an injury, however, Brandon McCreesh '27 stepped up and filled the gap with a career-high 10 points with perfect shooting (3-3 FG, 2-2 3FG, 2-2 FT). Additionally, Elvin Edmonds IV '25 contributed 13 points and the Bison looked for Jack Forrest '24 throughout the game as he is currently the Patriot League scoring leader.

Forrest achieved a big milestone on Saturday as he recorded his 1000th career point. Noah Williamson '26 also finished with 23 points and 16 rebounds in the loss.

To start the game, the Bison came out firing with a 16-3 advantage and kept a 36-23 lead heading into halftime. Early in the second half, the Bison pulled ahead by 16 points. However, the lead

didn't last and Lafayette narrowed the gap.

With 20.4 seconds left in regulation, McCreesh had two clutch free throws to give Bucknell a 64-59 lead after Lafayette drove to the basket to make it a one-possession game. With 4.6 seconds remaining, Lafayette sank a 3-pointer to tie the game.

Only seconds were left on the clock when the Bison called a timeout in the frontcourt. Once resuming, Bucknell tried to get the ball to Williamson, but it was broken up and time expired, forcing overtime.

Forrest opened the OT scoring with a free throw that earned him his 1000th point. Following up was Edmonds with a 3-pointer from the right side to make it 68-64. After Lafayette scored on the Bison, Williamson and Forrest tallied back-to-back buckets for a 72-66 lead with 2:22 to go.

Sadly, those were Bucknell's last points for the game and Lafayette took over clinching a 75-72 victory.

At the end of this week, the Bison now have a 3-3 record in the Patriot League.

On Saturday, Jan. 27 the Bison head to West Point, N.Y. to face off against Army.

## Men's Swimming and Diving takes down La Salle

Hugh Straine  
Sports Co-Editor

Men's Swimming and Diving team took down La Salle 179-121 at home on Jan. 14, bouncing back from a loss to Army the previous day.

The Orange and Blue took the lead and kept it after the 100 freestyle, where Justin DiSanto '25 won one of his two events. Chris Kopac '25 came in second place, and Andrew Greene '27 along with Colin Smith '27 also scored in the event.

The Bison finished 1-2-3 in three different events, those being the 1000 freestyle, the 500 freestyle, and the 400 IM.

Shane Wynne '26 also won the 200 butterfly and John Gehrig '24 won the 100 butterfly.

In total, the Bison dominated La Salle with nine first-place finishes, 10 second-place finishes, and 11 third-place finishes.

Some milestones were also reached for the diving team this weekend, as Jack Krug '26 moved up to 6th in Bison history for the 1-meter dive, with a score of 277.95. This comes one week after Krug moved to 9th all-time against Army.

"Rather than focusing on scores and numbers, I just try to do all of my hardest dives to the best of my ability. Focusing on the dives and staying in the moment is the key to success," Krug said.

Next up for the Orange and Blue is a home meet against Lehigh on Jan. 27th at 1 p.m.

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# Men’s and Women’s Track & Field dominate at Gulden Invitational



Ingrid Houtkooper  
Sports Co-Editor

This past Saturday, Jan. 20, both Men’s and Women’s Track and Field teams placed first at the Gulden Invitational. The Bison women’s team beat the second team, Binghamton, by 97 points, putting them at 212.5 points. Karen Hull ’24, who was recently awarded the Bison of the Week award, won the long jump with a leap of 19-6.00, a new school record that helped put the Bison up by ten points. Hull also took home third in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.86, which gave her team 6 points. Justley Sharp ’27 also had an outstanding performance in shotput, winning ten points for the team and earning an ECAC qualification. In the shotput, Avery Rebar ’26 got silver, and Prizila Negrete ’27 placed fourth. In addition to shotput, the Bison also dominated in the 400-meter dash. For a total of

24 points, Katherine Loew ’25 placed first, Colleen Linko ’24 placed second, and Anna Posh ’25 placed third. Bucknell also performed extremely well in the 3000-meter run, with Kailey Granger ’27 coming in first with a time of 10:15.42, eight seconds ahead of the second-place runner. The Orange and Blue also swept in the 800-meter run, with Caryn Rippey ’26 winning, Abby Paczewski ’24 coming in second, Katrina Torelli ’27 in third, and Lauren Shaffer ’26 in fifth, earning 26 points collectively for the team. The Bison also placed first in the 4x800-meter relay, giving the team ten points. The men’s team grabbed seven wins over the weekend at the Invitational. Overall, it won the event 203-119, with Shippensburg coming in second place.

Brandon Foust ’25 locked in first place in the 200m dash and Ethan Wolford-Tuffy ’24 came in fifth. The Bison had two 4x800m relay teams run at the event, and both qualified for the IC4A Championships. The “A” team consisted of Daniel Hilmer ’26, Christian Cadmus ’24, Alex Simpson ’24, and Hayden Singer ’27. The “B” team, also qualifying, was made up of Jack Higgins ’27, Carter Paul ’27, JP Byrnes ’27, and Zachary Jelinek ’26. Two runners also qualified for the IC4A meet in the 60m dash, Foust and Cooper Hyken ’26. Brian Scotto ’25 also placed third in the 60m hurdles. The Bison split up next weekend, with some competing at home in the Bison Open & Multi, while others travel to Penn State to compete in the National Open.

# ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Karen Hull ’24



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BUCKNELL ATHLETIC DEPT.

**Profile**  
**Sport**  
*Track and Field*  
**Hometown**  
*Randolph, N.J.*  
**High School**  
*Randolph*  
**Position**  
*Jumps/Hurdles*

Ingrid Houtkooper  
Sports Co-Editor

After Karen Hull ’24’s performance at the annual Gulden Invitational this past weekend, the senior has been named Bison of the Week for the second time during her 2023-2024 campaign. Now holding four Bucknell records, Hull set a Bucknell indoor record this weekend with her leap of 19-6.00, which won her the event and gave the Bison ten points. Despite never having competed in the indoor long jump before Saturday, Jan. 20, Hull’s jump is ranked 60th in Division I for the 2023-2024 season. “I was really excited for this meet because a couple of the alumni were back for our formals, and to watch the meet,” said Hull. “My goal for this weekend was to simply improve from last weekend. For the long jump I really just wanted to get a mark. I’m not really a long jumper so I don’t practice that often so I wasn’t expecting much. I surprised myself and my team when I broke the record. It shows me and the rest of my team that anything is possible and we just gotta keep working hard!” In addition to winning the long jump, Hull earned ten points and ECAC qualification, and took home third in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.86, which gave her team 6 points.

The Bison won the Gulden Invitational, beating the second-place team by 97 points. Not only has Hull won the Athlete of the Week award twice in the span of two months, but she also won it in Jan. 2023, due to her outstanding performance at last year’s Gulden Invitational. “Goals that I have for myself for the rest of the season is to just stay consistent and to get my hurdle time down and improve my high jump,” Hull stated. “This team has such great athletes and motivation that I am so excited to see what we all grow into. This team inspires me to be the best that I can be. I hope that that translates into Patriot Leagues.” The multi-event athlete (Jumps/Hurdles) will be back in action next Saturday at the National Open at Penn State.

Career Stats
- 60H: 8.69
- 100H: 14.26 (1.2)
- HJ: 1.76m (5’9.25”)
- LG: 5.94m (19’6”)

# Women’s Tennis sweeps Binghamton

Hugh Straine  
Sports Co-Editor

Women’s Tennis pulled off a 7-0 sweep at Binghamton this weekend. It was complete domination by the Bison this weekend, as they not only won every singles and doubles match, but also won each singles match in straight sets. This was the first win of the spring season for Bucknell. Anna Lajos ’25 and Caroline Marcus ’25 kicked off the doubles day with a 6-0 win followed by Whitney King ’25 and Abby Platt ’26 beating Binghamton’s top tandem 6-1. King and Platt also improved to 11-0 as a duo this season. Tyne Miller ’24 and Madi Sebulsky ’24 rounded out the doubles matches for the

Bison in the win column, winning 6-2. Miller won the first singles match on the day for Bucknell, 6-0, 6-1 and then King won 6-0, 6-1 too. Platt clinched the match with her singles victory, 6-2, 6-0. In singles matches, Bucknell only gave up three games over the course of the match. Mirra Manolov ’26 continued her unbeaten record in singles with a 6-1, 6-0 win and Lajos became the win-leader in singles matches on the team with a 9-3 record after the match against Binghamton. Bucknell competes next at Washington & Lee in Lexington, VA on Feb. 2nd.



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# beyond the bison

## sports news across the nation

### 49ers narrowly beat the Packers in Divisional Playoff

Ingrid Houtkooper  
Sports Co-Editor

Saturday’s much-anticipated Divisional Playoff game at Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara ended with the San Francisco 49ers securing a spot in the NFC championship game. The 49ers were favored to win by 10 points, however, they left with a 24-21 win against the Green Bay Packers.

The Packers took the lead in the first quarter with a 29-yard field goal from kicker Anders Carlson. The 49ers responded with an 86-yard drive that led to a 32-yard touchdown pass to tight end George Kittle. Kittle

caught a touchdown pass on a 3rd-and-5 from the Packers 32-yard line, putting the Niners up 7-3.

Following the 49ers touchdown, the Packers narrowed the score to 7-6 with a 29-yard field goal from Carlson to conclude a 10-play, 64-yard drive.

Heading into half, 49ers kicker Jake Moody took a 48-yard attempt, however, defensive lineman Colby Wooden deflected it. Throughout the first half, the Packers held possession for a greater amount of the game with 16:55 in comparison to the 49ers 13:05. The

Packers also had ten first downs, in comparison to the 49er’s nine.

To start the second half, the Packers put points on the board first with a nine-play, 75-yard drive capped off with a 19-yard touchdown; Jordan Love and Bo Melton joined forces to give the Packers a 13-7 lead. The 49ers came back with a 75-yard scoring drive. From their 29-yard line, quarterback Brock Purdy hit Kittle for a first down, and Kittle made his way to the Packers 39-yard line. Then running back Christian McCaffrey scored from 39 yards out,

bringing the score to 14-13, with the 49ers leading.

With five minutes left in the 3rd quarter, the Packers went up 21-14 after a touchdown from Tucker Kraft and a pass from Love to Aaron Jones for a two-point conversion.

After gaining possession at the Packer’s 48-yard line, Moody nailed a 52-yard field goal to bring the score to 21-17 at the beginning of the fourth quarter.

The Packers were unable to secure any more points after Carlson missed from 41 yards out after advancing to the

23-yard line. The 49ers then took the following five minutes for a 12-play 69-yard drive, finishing with a six-yard run from McCaffrey to secure a 3-point lead, 24-21. This left a little over a minute for the Packers to respond - however, they were unable to make a comeback in the final seconds.

This game had fans’ hearts racing, each side willing their team to win. Their rivalry came to an end with the 49ers securing the win. Both teams played to the best of their ability, showcasing their talent and hard work.



LAUREN MEDEIROS, PHOTOGRAPHY CO-EDITOR / THE BUCKNELLIAN

### Women’s Basketball beats Lafayette at Home

Hugh Straine  
Sports Co-Editor

Women’s Basketball is now riding a two-game win streak after its 65-58 win at home over Lafayette on Saturday.

Emma Theodorsson ’26 was coming off of a career-high 31 points against Boston University last Wednesday and has now scored in double figures in nine straight games for the Bison. She went for 10 points, 4 rebounds, and 5 assists on 40% shooting from the field in Saturday’s win.

Ashley Sofilkanich ’27 was the leading scorer for the Orange & Blue, tallying 13 points and seven rebounds. Sofilkanich was a defensive presence for her team and kept La-

fayette out of the interior, holding the Leopards to only 12 points in the paint throughout the game.

It was the duo of Sofilkanich and Grace Sullivan ’26 that led the way for Bucknell early on. Lafayette went for a zone look on defense, and the two bigs did a great job of exposing the weak point in the zone and finding early looks. Sofilkanich has elite footwork down low and can bury her defenders under the basket, and Sullivan has a great hook over her right shoulder.

Bucknell has now shot over 50% from 3-point range over its last two games, something the team was struggling with

early on. Ashley O’Connor ’26, the Bison’s leading 3-point shooter, hit three of her four shots from beyond the arc in the third quarter, bringing the Bison back into the game after a long scoring drought, where they only hit two field goals in the third quarter.

“Coming into conference play, we knew we had a lot of close games early on, so that record early on were some tough losses. But we’re really picking up speed here so I’m excited,” O’Connor said in a post-game interview.

Next up, the Bison take on Army at home on Jan. 27 at 3:30 p.m.

### Women’s Swimming and Diving throttles La Salle



LAUREN MEDEIROS, PHOTOGRAPHY CO-EDITOR / THE BUCKNELLIAN

Hugh Straine  
Sports Co-Editor

Women’s Swimming and Diving defeated La Salle last week, 185-115 at home in Kinney Natatorium. The Orange and Blue led the entire way, winning 10 of 16 events and improving to 4-4 in dual meets this season.

Besides the 10 event wins, the Bison also had 9 second-place finishes, and a 1-2-3 sweep in four different races.

Esme Hunter ’24 won two events, the 100 backstroke and 100 freestyle, and also swam the fourth leg of the Bison’s 200 freestyle relay team.

Two of the Bison’s 1-2-3 sweeps came in the 400 IM, where Kyla Kelly ’26 won, Kelly Byrne ’27 came in second, and Skye Sunderhauf ’25 came in third. Another dominating performance was the 200 butterfly, where Sunderhauf won, Kelly came in second, and Rylie Giles ’25 came in third.

In total, the Bison had 10 first-place finishes, 9 second-place finishes, and 11 third-place finishes to go along with 4 different 1-2-3 sweeps.

The next matchup for the Bison will be at home vs. Lehigh on Jan. 27th.



KYLE PUTT / THE BUCKNELLIAN

DISCLAIMER: the views and opinions expressed in this section are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Bucknellian.

# Freedom of Expression on Bucknell’s Campus:

## Public Safety newsletter highlights shortcomings of campus freedom of expression policies

Kelsey Werkheiser  
Print Managing Editor

The December 2023 Public Safety newsletter, released in a recent Message Center email, featured a section titled “First Amendment and Bucknell.”

It is understandable that the institution would draw attention to these rules at this time, as tensions are high and there is a lot of “side-choosing” amidst war overseas. When there is a harsh split between beliefs, such as during presidential elections, stronger expressions of free speech, even sometimes rising to the level of hate-speech, seem to come to the forefront as individuals desperately defend their side of the argument. It is evident that this trend is currently coursing through Bucknell, with swastika graffiti being found on campus last month, which was condemned by the university.

Brayman’s campus-wide email condemning this act gives me faith that there is a strong commitment to protecting our student body from hate speech. At the same time, I worry that the rules concerning freedom of speech at Bucknell are too broad and seemingly flexible.

The Public Safety newsletter actively acknowledges that while the freedom of expression policy may allow for “speech that may be viewed by some as distasteful, disrespectful or hurtful, it is often not illegal.” In a similar vein, they concede that while signs and posters in demonstrations

sometimes display images that can be “jarring,” they are not necessarily illegal. Public Safety states that their role as law enforcement is to “determine whether language is communicating a true threat and whether there is malicious intention toward an individual or group based on their perceived [identity].”

My concerns with the policy are rooted in the wording. While a newsletter from Public Safety does not act as the be-all-end-all guidelines for free expression, protection of freedom of speech is still a legal matter and wording is very important, in the event that it could be manipulated or found to have a loophole.

I worry that the protection of speech that could be “distasteful, disrespectful or hurtful,” and of images or symbols that can be “jarring” allows for too much freedom. With that, what truly defines “malicious intention”? And should it come down to the fact of whether or not speech or images can be considered a “threat”?

One of the benefits of a private institution that I’m thankful for is that outside protest groups are not permitted to protest on campus. I’m reminded of my thankfulness for this protection when I see groups like this making identity-based and/or minority-directed attacks on public campuses, of which students just trying to walk to class are not protected from. The newsletter

expresses that “verbalizing differences of opinion and perspective should not automatically make us fearful of one another.” It is statements like this that make me feel like the protection from outside groups scarcely matters if I am just as concerned about the actions of my peers, who just might pass off their hate speech as merely “a difference of opinion.”

With all of this being said, I want to make it clear that I would never blame this Public Safety newsletter in the event of a hate speech issue— as I mentioned, it is not the be-all-end-all of the university’s freedom of expression rules. Rather, I want to bring attention to the vague wording that surrounds the protection of freedom of speech at this institution. Where there are not hard-set guidelines in the policy, there are opportunities for students to argue that their specific action was not prohibited, based on the wording of the rules.

As a queer woman on campus, knowing that the campus has struggled with anti-LGBTQ+ speech and actions, I’m more inclined to worry about my safety on campus. I want to bring these flaws to the attention of other minority groups, or simply anyone passionate about activism that wants to see the insured protection of groups at Bucknell.

I want to feel protected on my campus.

# First-years, sheets, and sanity

Eliza Horne  
Contributing Writer

Most of Bucknell’s Class of 2027 has started settling in, and by now, we have stopped calling our parents to help us with laundry every week. However, when laundry time comes around, the question arises: should I wash my sheets? The answer is yes, nine times out of ten, wash your sheets. I asked my fellow first-years about the subject and found that most people don’t need to wash their sheets because they are never in bed or put on clean clothes right before sleeping. Coming from a fellow first-year student, this is just delusional. Just because you put on clean clothes or shower before sleeping does not mean that dust has not collected in your bed throughout the day. When I asked upper-level students, many said the same thing: they wash their sheets once a week or every two weeks. My fellow first-years, please take note.

Upperclassmen, who were once first-years themselves, have plenty of advice to offer to first-years still figuring out the nuance of laundry

machines and cycles. Maya Fetzter ’26 said that washing your sheets every week helps you stay clean and that if the busy schedule gets the best of you, at least wash them every other week. If you do not want to wash your sheets for your sanity, wash them out of respect for your roommate, who probably does not appreciate the lack of personal hygiene standards.

Maya’s advice for the class of 2027: “Don’t be dumb - wash your sheets”. Caitlyn Hickey ’26 understands that schedules are busy, and with the unevolved time management skills that first-years tend to have, washing them every two weeks is reasonable. However, that being said, Caitlyn is giving us the benefit of the doubt while reminding us that “yYour mothers are probably disappointed that you’re not washing your sheets.” Jessie Zales ’24, said, “Every two or three weeks is okay, but if you are an athlete maybe consider washing your sheets more regularly”. Jessie noted that she is a little worried for

those first-years who haven’t washed their sheets yet. But if her class made it through, so can ours. The question arises whether we will make it through with clean sheets. If you don’t want to wash your sheets for the sake of yourself, soak them to save your sanity when your mother finds out that you don’t wash your sheets—because inevitably, she will find out.

What might help the first-years stick to a sheet routine? Even if you do have poor time management skills, washing your pillowcase alongside the rest of your clothing loads is optimal. Set a reminder on your phone or own two sets of sheets, so if time slips away, you can still change your sheets every week or every other week. Having a clean bed can help reset your mind and re-organised for the week. This way, you can sleep in a clean bed when the “Sunday Scaries” creep up on you. It will make a massive difference at the end of a disappointing and, most of the time, unproductive day.



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# Engineering, English, and Business, Oh My!

Kathryn Jade Masano  
Contributing Writer

I never realized how filled to the brim Bucknell was with engineers until I stepped foot on campus. I glanced over that little detail; maybe it was hidden from me, but needless to say, telling the Environmental Engineer that I was nothing but an English major was enough to turn my face red. I barely skated by with a three on my AP Biology exam. Meanwhile, the budding scientists were conducting research fresh out of the womb. “Oh, well, I can’t write well at all!” they’d always say. Cool! That’s... that’s great. Just great.

Bucknell is full of try-hards. However, it’s not in the ego-centric try-hard manner of “I’m better than you” but more the “I need to be the best version of me.” It’s a highly admirable quality among students here, though it may not always feel as such. Suppose you’ve had a chance to glance at the “IAMRAY” Instagram page. In that case, you’ll stumble across a handful of posts from countless individuals who are student body leaders, presidents of their sorority, captains of their sport, and, yes of course, engineering majors of all shapes and sizes. Oh, and they always get eight hours of sleep every night, make time for their friends, and maintain a 4.0 GPA. How is the impossible possible? Truth is...It’s not. Life through the screen always seems easier said than done.

Not one person will ever brag about breaking down in the Library at 1 a.m. because fake Starbucks was closed, and they still had 400 pages of readings left to sulk through. Since I and many others I’ve spoken to have entered college, we’ve immediately felt

left behind in the crowd of missed opportunities. I felt an extraordinary amount of guilt underloading courses during my first semester, constantly comparing myself to these upperclassmen who had already had two or three years of experience under their belt. While they were off running this club and playing that sport, I could barely figure out how to finish my rough draft research paper and do my laundry all in one day. Once I ran out of clean socks, I realised I needed to start finding my footing. Slowly but surely, I learned I could be the person I wanted to be at my own pace. It was possible.

Though I and many others stare at everyone in awe of what we cannot be, I simultaneously ask myself, “Why can’t I be that person?” Why can’t I make the time to take a break from my work and go to a recreational practice, grab dinner with my friends, or take a moment to myself? The students at Bucknell are the type that strive to be their best selves while passively inspiring others to follow in their footsteps. And, news flash—no one cares if you’re an art major or a biomedical engineering major! We all work towards our degrees with the same passion and struggle as the next guy. I may not know how to solve pages and pages of organic chemistry problems, similar to how many scientists can’t translate Latin poetry. This is a vigorous school filled with ambitious, inspiring individuals. No matter how busy, involved, or stressed, we all fall under the same umbrella of endless dedication and drive.

Except for the business majors. Seriously, what do you guys do?

# FOMO: the college student’s dilemma

Meghan Rentner  
Contributing Writer

The most difficult decision a college student has to make seems to repeat itself every Friday night: to go out or not go out?

I want to disclaim that, as a student-athlete, this question is not as prominent as it might be in the lives of other college students. The decision is often made for me by team policy or travel. For this reason, FOMO is a feeling I am all too familiar with.

The fear of missing out, better known as “FOMO,” seems to be arguably the most critical factor in deciding whether to go out or not. It’s the feeling of worrying that your friends will abandon you and never hang out with you again if you miss this one night out, or fearing that this will be the night that Beyonce comes to Bucknell, and if you stay in, you’ll miss her. Even if your gut tells you to stay in and go to bed, your brain tells you that you have to go out “just in case”. Just in case something crazy happens, and Beyonce’s world tour comes to Lewisburg for a night.

The fear of missing out is entirely overrated. As much as a night out with friends can be worth it, there is nothing like waking up at a reasonable time on the weekend feeling hydrated, well-rested, and clean.

On the same token, a night out is not always worth it anyway. You always expect something

crazy to happen, and while that is always a possibility, you will, more often than not, end the night drenched in sweat from the absurd temperatures of a disgusting frat house after hearing the same three songs on repeat for the entirety of the night, feeling completely unfulfilled.

There are thousands of opportunities over your four years in college for a night out, and spending one of those nights at home is not the end of the world. No night at college should be wasted, of course, but spending a night in is not one wasted.

My most recent experience with FOMO occurred last weekend as I ran by Super while warming up for a race. I spent a moment mourning the loss of a perfect day at Super, but I had to snap myself out of it. There would be a million other days just like this, and feeling upset about missing out on it was utterly unreasonable, given that the reward of what I was doing at that moment preventing me from attending Super was much more important to me.

Overall, taking time for yourself, whether you need it or not, will almost always have a positive result. FOMO is overrated because the reward of staying in or even simply avoiding the unfortunate circumstances of a frat house on a night out can be well worth it.

# Kid Cudi’s “Insano”: A Review



EVELYN PIERCE, GRAPHICS MANAGER / THE BUCKNELLIAN

Ryan Firko  
Contributing Writer

I have never really paid attention to when new music is released, but I did notice this year that Friday, January 12th, was a magical date for artists to release their latest projects. One artist was Kid Cudi, releasing his new project “Insano”. I stumbled across a song from the project called “Rager Boyz” and I was a fan of it. When this happens, I occasionally listen to the rest of the project to see what there is. This is precisely what I did, and I figured I would share what I found out about the album.

The first thing I want to talk about are the two singles that were released earlier in 2023: “Porsche Topless” and “At The Party”. When writing this article, I listened to the whole album and ranked the songs on it, and these two are on opposite sides of my ranking. “Porsche Topless” is one of my favorites off the album, from the horns blaring through the whole song to the happy, bouncy overall beat. In my opinion, Cudi floats well over this instrumental, which nicely contrasts with his deeper voice. “At The Party” is quite possibly my least favorite of the album. Although it has two ample collaborations (Pharrell Williams and Travis Scott), it seems too cluttered, and the beat is very gritty. It could be redeemable if they decided to have a different flow over the beat, but things, to me, just don’t line up nicely.

So now, to get into some highlights on the album. My top five favorite songs off the album include: “Wow” (ft. A\$AP Rocky), “X & Cud” (ft. XXXTentacion), “Rager Boyz” (ft. Young Thug), “Porsche Topless”, and “Blue Sky”. “Wow” just has a great beat to it - you have no choice but to nod your head to it. The beat sonically fits in with the rest of the project, having atmospheric, high-pitched and tuned vocals in the

background (albeit softly). Both Cudi and A\$AP Rocky flow well over the beat, and the chorus is also great.

“X & Cud” is a nice break (track 15 out of 21), much softer than the rest. While the XXXTentacion vocals are a sample (X passed away in 2018), he and Cudi fit this beat well. According to Genius, this song is about mental health and death, and the production helps that feeling come across. After this starts a remarkable three-song streak, starting with “Rager Boyz” - one of my favorites. The guitar riff, along with the drumline, make it unforgettable, and it allows the beat to sometimes drop out.

Both Cudi and Young Thug flow nicely, like a lot of the songs in this project. “Porsche Topless”, I already mentioned, which leaves “Blue Sky”. The synthy piano notes at the beginning, with Cudi’s famous humming, set the vibe for the whole song, and the singing by Cudi is a nice break from the more rap-esque vocals on the rest of the project. It is a feel-good song, and even though I don’t pay attention to the lyrics too much, there is just a nice message in the music.

Now for some honorable mentions and some unique tracks of the album. One song that I was debating putting in my top five is “Cud Life.” The instrumental is pleasant, kind of giving a dystopian vibe, with the sliding high notes. The 808s and the deep horns featured on the track sound excellent, and Cudi’s rougher voice on this specific track matches the vibe with the rest. “Getcha Gone,” at least to my ears, is the most he raps on the album. I like when Cudi sings a bit more than when he raps, but one cannot deny that he sounds exemplary on the beat for this song. The only song I strongly dislike on the album is “Mr. Coola.”

It is all over the place, and the beat in the background can sometimes become quite cluttered. Interestingly, it is right after “At The Party,” another song I disliked on the project.

Before I end the review, I want to mention that this album is highly new - most songs from this came out a little over two weeks ago. This is not enough time to say my views in this review are set in stone. Most albums I listen to are older than this, and my opinions have changed from the first times I heard them. Because of this, I invite you to listen to “Insano” back-to-front (and don’t skip any tracks) and create your views about it - because that’s what music is all about.

### Rankings:

#### Exquisite

- Wow (ft. A\$AP Rocky)
- X & Cud (ft. XXXTentacion)
- Rager Boyz (ft. Young Thug)
- Porsche Topless
- Blue Sky
- *Good*
- Often, I Have These Dreamz (ft. DJ Drama)
- Get Off Me (ft. Travis Scott)
- Electrowavebaby
- Cud Life
- Getcha Gone
- Funky Wizard Smoke

#### Bearable

- Keep Bouncin’
- Most Ain’t Dennis
- A Tale of a Knight
- Too Damn High (ft. Lil Yachty)
- Freshie
- Tortured
- Seven (ft. Lil Wayne)
- Hit the Streetz In My Nikes

#### Bad

- At The Party (ft. Pharrell Williams and Travis Scott)
- Mr. Coola

# 10 years ago in The Bucknellian: Legalizing weed: is this a good direction our country is heading in?

Jessica Gunther  
Staff Writer

At the time that this article was written, there were only 2 states with legalized marijuana. Now, 24 states have legalized recreational weed, not including Pennsylvania, proving the relevance of this piece today.

When you are younger things seem black and white, especially in regards to drugs. Drugs are, simply put, just bad. Everyone knows that token kid from the “wrong side of the tracks” who is just a bad apple from a bad seed. That bad kid probably “grew up too fast” and experimented with drinking, drugs, and sex way before their peers. Kids are taught by their parents to look down on these bad eggs and that if they avoid smoking, drinking, and sex that they will be successful when they grow up. I have learned that as we grow older there is more of a gray area on what is good and bad. As college students, we can no longer accept the over-exaggerated warnings of our parents and seventh-grade selves. When it comes down to it, growing up involves a change in perspective and requires challenging preconceived notions.

With this in mind, the question arises: where do we get these preconceived notions about drugs from? Most likely you learned about good versus bad behavior from your parents and health teachers. Recall the comments your parents made about teenagers leaning against the wall outside the convenience store with their skateboards in one hand and their joints in the other. Or how your health teachers told you that pot is a gateway drug and after that first deadly hit you immediately start wanting to do other drugs like co-

caine, ecstasy, or heroin. Pretty soon nothing will be enough and you’ll be passed out on some tattered old couch with drool hanging out one side of your mouth and a needle halfway out your arm. With this strong socialization from parents, how could you not grow up believing that weed is bad for you?

After your middle-school self hears these so-called facts about weed and the inevitable fate of those who try it, you’re now sitting at your desk wiping away the droplets of sweat that have accumulated just below your hairline. You think to yourself, man, that sounds scary. Then the bell rings right about the time you’ve finished making a silent oath to stay away from all of it forever. The key will be just to never get involved with any of it to begin with, to live above the influence and to silently shame anyone who’s lousy enough to ignore all the warnings.

When we graduate high school and enter college, we need to realize that we’ve been lied to all those years. It becomes clear that we can drink and smoke without becoming a bad person in the process. In fact, they don’t have to define you at all if you don’t want them to. We realize that a hit from a joint isn’t like smoking ten packs of cigarettes. We realize we were given neat little boxes of right and wrong, boxes that don’t actually hold up in any real life situation. And hopefully, even if you stayed true to your pledge to abstain from alcohol and drugs, you realize it’s not cool to shame others for not doing the same.

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# -TUNE IN- to this semester’s editorial staff!



**Editor-in-Chief: Dora Kreitzer '25 (she/her)**

Having been a member of the Bucknellian since her first year, Dora Kreitzer will be taking over as The Bucknellian’s Editor-in-Chief. Throughout the years, Kreitzer has served as Print Presentation Director, Print Managing Editor, and Digital Managing Editor. “My biggest goal for the semester is for the paper to reflect the experiences, stories, and values of the student body,” shared Kreitzer. Alongside other student managing editors, Kreitzer oversees all Bucknellian meetings and paper sections.



**Print Managing Editor: Kelsey Werkheiser '25 (she/they)**

For a second semester, Kelsey Werkheiser holds the role of Print Managing Editor. Werkheiser’s past positions include Special Features Co-Editor and News Co-Editor. In anticipation of the first release of the semester, Werkheiser shared excitement for new changes to the paper, such as the Arts & Culture section. For students with potential interest in writing, Werkheiser said, “The different sections make it possible to contribute in the way most comfortable for you, and it’s great to see your work published!”



**Print Presentation Director: Hayley Leopold '26 (she/her)**

After two semesters as a Satire Co-Editor, Haley Leopold will be taking on the role of Print Presentation Director. Leopold shared her excitement for the semester and the potential new students looking to join the paper. “The Bucknellian is such a great way to share your voice on campus! There are so many different sections to write for, so you can write about anything you’re interested in,” Leopold said.



**News Editor: Michael Taromina '26 (he/him)**

Michael Taromina will be working on The Bucknellian as the News Editor for his second consecutive semester. Before coming into this position, Taormina served as an Assistant News Editor last spring. If a student is looking to improve their writing skills, or simply write about topics that interest them, he encourages them to join The Bucknellian.



**Investigative News Editor and Assistant News Editor: Lyndon Beier '27 (they/them)**

Coming into their first editor position this semester, Lyndon Beier will take on the roles of both Investigative News Editor and Assistant News Editor. They shared their excitement for the coming semester as they begin to publish articles.



**Opinions Editor: Malika Ali '26 (she/her)**

Malika Ali began her time in the role of Opinions Editor during the Fall 2023 semester and will now maintain this position for the spring. Highlighting the paper, she mentions the opportunity students have to express their voices and share their work. As for her hopes for this semester and the opinions section, Ali shared, “I am excited to continue growing the section with new writers and interesting topics.”



**Special Features Editor: Juliana Rodrigues '24 (she/her)**

This semester marks the sixth semester with Juliana Rodrigues working on the special features section. After contributing as a writer for the section, Rodrigues took on the role of Special Features Co-Editor and now begins her third semester as Special Features Editor. Rodrigues emphasized bitter-sweet feelings towards her final semester with The Bucknellian.



**Sports Co-Editor: Ingrid Houtkooper '27 (she/her)**

Throughout her first semester at Bucknell, Ingrid Houtkooper participated as a writer for The Bucknellian Sports section. Now, taking on her first position, she will be acting as a Co-Sports Editor. Sharing hopes of inspiring more students to join the sports section, she said, “Others should join and write for the Bucknellian because it’s a great way to feel connected to the school and get involved. You get to meet people through interviews and working with editors.”



**Sports Co-Editor: Hugh Straine '26 (he/him)**

With a past of contributing to The Bucknellian as a sports writer, Hugh Straine will now be taking on the role of Co-Sports Editor. He expressed his passion for sports which translates into his excitement for his new position. “I hope to give all fans a good experience when following Bison sports,” Straine shared.



**Arts & Culture Co-Editor: Aaron Chin '25 (he/him)**

After a semester abroad, Aaron Chin returns to The Bucknellian as the Co-Arts & Culture Editor. During a previous semester, Chin worked as the Satire Co-Editor. He discussed his hopes for the new section, sharing that, “I hope to get the Arts and Cultures off the ground and create a new and vibrant column to contribute to a great on-campus organization!”



**Arts & Culture Co-Editor: Esther Zhao '27 (she/her)**

During her first Bucknell semester, Esther Zhao contributed to The Bucknellian Satire Section. For this spring semester, she is taking on her first Co-Editor position for the newly established Arts & Culture section. Zhao expressed her excitement to bridge her passions for art and journalism.



**Graphics Manager: Evelyn Pierce '25 (she/her)**

Evelyn Pierce enters her second semester as the Graphic Manager for The Bucknellian. Pierce contributes to the paper weekly with original illustrations and digital graphics across all sections. “I hope to generate graphics that connect to the articles and draw in readers, while building my portfolio at the same time!” Pierce shared.



**Photography Co-Editor: Lauren Medeiros '26 (she/her)**

For a second semester, Lauren Medeiros returns to The Bucknellian as the Photography Co-Editor. She shared her enthusiasm for capturing, “memorable moments on campus this year whether it be sports games or school-wide events.”



**Photography Co-Editor: Sienna Williams '26 (she/her)**

Sienna Williams returns to her role this semester as the Photography Co-Editor. Contributing many photos to Bucknellian issues from various campus events, Williams shared her excitement for another semester. She hopes to continue getting, “sick photos to go with all the amazing articles!”

