

View From *The Voice*

The dangers of messing with the press

Last week, the Voice staff broke the story about their papers going missing from certain places around campus. The mystery was partially solved when the BloomU Office of Admissions admitted to moving the papers in the Student Services Center prior to campus tours.

Workers in the Admissions office said the papers were only moved when they featured “controversial” headlines on the front page, headlines that the university wouldn’t want prospective students and their families to see.

The investigation is far from over, but the Voice staff has already learned something valuable: even college-level media isn’t immune to censorship.

We at The Voice believe that interfering with the press is unacceptable in any con-



text. Accurate journalism is perhaps the most effective weapon against corruption and overreach by people who hold positions of power. If the press is blocked from getting its messages to those who need to hear them, it leaves people

vulnerable to exploitation by those who hold office.

Coincidentally (or perhaps not), the headlines on the front pages of the missing newspapers were linked to stories that could directly impact the university’s reputation.

The piece titled “Cloud over Carver” explained the sexual harassment lawsuit filed against President Hanna by lawyers for Dr. Jeffrey Krug.

Another missing-stacks headline read “Gunfire on Main Street,” and a third issue

that went missing covered the sentencing of former Philosophy professor Scott Lowe for child pornography. When stacks with the headline “Hazing halts Greek Life” were also found missing, The Voice decided to move forward with its full investigation.

Censorship of student journalism, whether it’s intentional or unintentional, can have detrimental effects on campus free speech and student-run media organizations.

“The first question, of course, is proving who did it,” says Mike Hiestand, Senior Legal Counsel for the Student Press Law Center. “If school officials moved these papers, it raises both First Amendment issues and contractual issues with advertisers. Advertisers who put their ads in the paper wouldn’t pay money if they knew the papers were going to be moved.”

We at The Voice are adamant that professional reporting is now more crucial than ever. Given that the current presidential administration has made a habit of demonizing most mainstream media outlets, it’s our responsibility to weather the storm of falsehoods aimed at the press and keep our constituents informed to the best of our ability.

That can’t happen when people interfere with journalists’ hard work and get rid of paper stacks because of “controversial” headlines.

It doesn’t matter if the press is the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal or a university newspaper in central Pennsylvania. Messing with the press means messing with democracy.

- The Voice

Holistic Huskies

How structural violence plagues medical care

RACHEL EICHOLTZ &
MICAELA HOADLEY
Staff Writers

Anthropology is a wonderful thing. It lets us connect with each other, understand each other and understand our past as a species. Anthropology is also, for lack of a better word, very dark.

It's often the case that in our discipline, we can't acknowledge the beauty of other groups and indigenous people without also understanding their struggles and how (usually) colonialism is the cause of them.

So, let's talk about one of those “dark” topics in anthropology: structural violence. Mostly drawing on the sub-field of medical anthropology, structural violence in this case means an environment that places certain populations at risk due to the unequal access to medicine, makes individuals at risk and potentially unable to sustain life.

Why? Well, a little bit of everything plays into it. Economics, politics, religion and culture are just a few of the factors that affect a person's access to health care across the world.

Let's start with something we can all recognize. In the 1980s, the HIV/AIDS epidemic ran wild due to ignorance and fear. Nowadays, we understand the virus more and many live healthy lives with the disease. But we also need to understand that any treatment is provided to those with HIV is difficult to gain financially and can impact one's survival rate.

Structural factors affecting delivery of care for Antiretroviral Treatments (ARTs) are less obvious than you'd think.

In Farmer's 2006 study, he found that African Americans were less likely to receive therapeutic interventions than Caucasians. On average, Afri-

can Americans who were notified of HIV clinics and care access were notified in later stages of the disease. How is that fair? The real question is, why are there barriers that prevent access to healthcare? Well, areas of research are only explored if there is money, so where the money goes, the research will follow.

Follow this model, and we see how modern medical treatments influence a population's access to healthcare and treatment for certain illnesses. Keep in mind that for some groups, this treatment also needs to respect their culture.

To really grasp the magnitude of the situation, another example of this structural violence can be found in the Dominican Republic. Dominican men immigrate to the United States to retreat to a more stable economy, but they can't attain stable jobs, forcing them to sell illegal drugs to survive.

Many are usually caught in these illegal acts and deported, essentially putting them back at square one. But even this relates back to the idea of HIV. Weird how anthropology can connect everything, right?

The spread of HIV among Dominicans is due to the risk-associated activities these men are forced to abide by. The many illegal services that Dominican men provide enhance their chance of relapsing, continuing recreational drug use and being infected by HIV.

As for the ability to access any type of rehab, there is little care to be found, but those that exist are not proven to be effective. Now they're labeled as diseased criminals, and they feel they must continue the life they lead because of it.

Rachel and Micaela are both Anthropology majors, executives of the Anthropology Club, and Staff Writers for The Voice.

Marching band: Sport or hobby?

JOSE GAMBOA
Contributing Writer

I think it is a fair statement to say that you, the reader, have viewed some form of marching - in some capacity, of course. Whether it be viewing a high school marching band at your high school football game, viewing a collegiate marching band at the college football games (go BU!) or even watching a parade band.

They all share the same base level of what it takes to perform as a marching band. You have to march in step, you have to perform your music in time with the other musicians performing but most of all, you have to have fun with it.

Picture it: standing on the football field, preparing yourself to perform the memorized music (which is made in three totally different segments) that cannot be misplayed because of the interlayering portions with other musicians, preparing yourself to march (in time and in step) to the 100+ memorized sets while trying not to smash your drum, or saxophone, into a sousaphone, or a color guard member.

That is marching band: the racing of your heart, the sweat dripping down your forehead as attention is called, the split second you give yourself to mentally prepare for your endless cyclical journey around the entirety of the football field for a whole 7-8 minutes.

I have been playing instruments since 4th grade, but I only started marching band when I was in 6th grade- it was a parade band. It wasn't until I started my first year of high school, where I was introduced to the slow-paced marching/fast-paced marching, shape-making, awe-striking, football-game-performing marching band.

With the 2018 season of the Maroon and Gold Marching Band coming to reaching its end, and finishing out my third year within the Maroon

and Gold Marching Band, I only know this activity to be as physically demanding as any sport that any student can sign up for.

I have marched baritone saxophone (which is a really, really big saxophone to march during my ninth, tenth and eleventh-grade years.) After having my neck ache so much I decided to join the front ensemble (a.k.a. The Pit) for my senior year of high school.

Following my huge passion for performing music, I continued my marching band experience into my college career here where I unintentionally joined the drumline my freshman year of college; I have marched bass drum for the 2016 & 2017 school years and then, recently, the quints, the five flat drums (also called “Tenors”) for this past 2018 season.

Being a member of the BU drumline, and having carried many a heavy instrument and drum on my body, all while marching around the football field, constitutes this as a sport to me, hands down. Through the aches, the soreness and the irritation, I can easily acknowledge the sport-like, challenging nature of performing in a marching band.

Now that is just my marching band experience. I cannot speak for others who have participated in other touring marching band activities such as Drum Corps (such as “Cadets,” “Skyliners” and “Phantom Regiment”) or Indoor Percussion (such as “StarCross” and “Matrix”), to name a few. And yes, they tour around the country and world to perform a marching band show.

In terms of Bloomsburg University recognizing the physical demand of the activity, my freshman year (the 2016-2017 school year) was the very first year that “Music 174: Maroon and Gold Band” or for upper-classmen, “Music 374: Maroon and Gold Marching Band” was permitted to count towards Goal 9 - Healthy Living (the gym credit) for the required amount of General Education courses.

Additionally, according to the Bloomsburg University marching band director, Dr. Gifford Howarth, this recognition by the University was one of the first (if not the first) of which a university allowed marching band to be counted towards the gym credit requirements of their specific Gen-Eds. The University is noticing the demanding nature

of marching band, do you?

Now I am not trying to rattle your foundations of what you deemed and understood to be a sport (a.k.a. basketball, baseball, football, volleyball, etc...), but I would like to invite you to visit a marching band rehearsal, or to even attend a home football game here at Bloomsburg University; determine for yourself if marching band should be considered a sport and just see our finished product.

The finished product being a fusion of coming in a whole eight days before classes start to learn marching sets and music from 9:00 A.M. until 9:00 P.M., and the endless Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/and early Saturday morning practices- all for a seven-to-eight minute performance on a football field.

On paper, the practice needs read like a sport, as well as the creation that comes out of those practices. Through the eyes and mind of a Bloomsburg University student, what do you think?

Jose is a junior English major concentrating in Creative Writing and Literature. He is actively involved in BU's marching band and is a Contributing Writer for The Voice.



Photo Courtesy of Jose Gamboa

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