10th annual debate cancelled

By Patrick G. Veilleux
Managing Editor

The final debate of the COM 308 Argumentation and Debate class was cancelled on Dec. 6, due to speaker Kyle Jackola's collapse during the speech. The debate on the Reformation of the U.S. Academic System is tentatively rescheduled for the spring semester.

"It got heated in there. When my turn came to speak I was drenched in sweat. Blood was pumping, words were flying and then I couldn't feel my legs. I felt all the blood drain from my upper body and knew I was in trouble," said Jackola. "I made a theatrical dive over the wooden podium and high-fived the judge's table with my face.

"I woke up to a crowd of women in the room undressing me and rubbing me with melting ice cubes. I thought that I might have died and gone to some kind of heaven. My first thought after coming to was: 'did we win?' after taking stock of the situation, I uttered a single expletive. Over all, the night was wildly successful! I made yet another fantastic college memory that I can recite to my extended family this Christmas while we drink eggnog" he said with a smile the next day.

This was the tenth annual debate tournament hosted by the Brevard College Debate Society. Faculty Advisor and Professor of Political Communications Ralph Hamlett has worked hard with members of the community to make these tournaments a component of the school.

"This has been an ongoing tradition, and that we have made this a part of BC brings me great pride. It's unfortunate that we were not able to complete the debate; but I was pleased with the turnout and what we were able to accomplish under the circumstances." He continued "the members of COM 380 have agreed that they will debate in the spring. The same topic will be used and they will improve on the cases they have as well as the responses to them. It wasn't a loss," said Hamlett.

Hamlett added, "Before this was BC, we had had Debate Societies. I had hoped to revive the society, and these annual competitions are one part of it."

BC Board of Trustees member and Asheville Attorney at Law Joseph P. McGuire said "I think primarily debating teaches research, analysis and presentation skills which will help you in business and almost any profession, especially in legal fields. I view debates as being tested under fire, and good debates bring out ideas and people learn from them. It is one thing to read, it is another to have the clash of ideas, so I am really beside what Dr. Hamlett is doing with the Debate Society."

McGuire judged the debate alongside retired District Court Judge Robert S. Cilley and Attorney at Law N. Shelton Jones. All three of the debate judges have said they plan on returning to judge the debate when it is rescheduled for the Spring Semester.

MLK Challenge

By Thea Dunn
Layout and Design

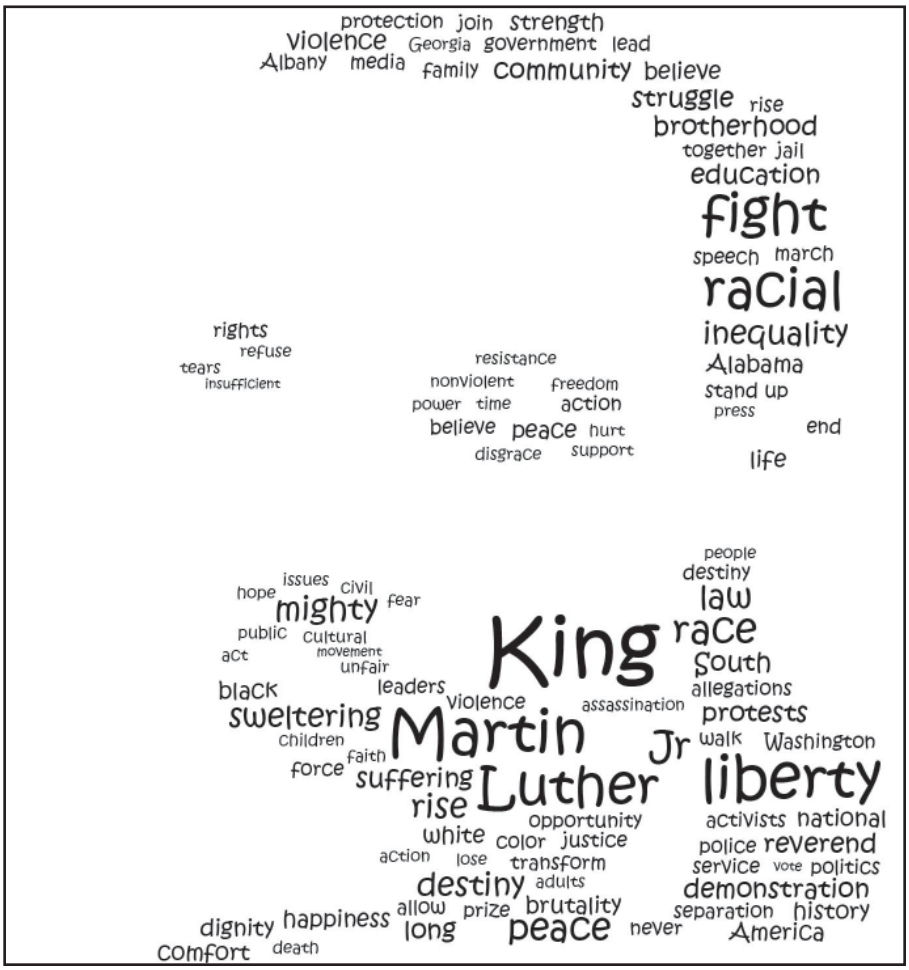
On Monday, Jan. 16, 2012, Brevard College will host the 3rd annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Challenge Day of Service. This nationally recognized event is sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Service Initiatives (CMSI) on campus.

The MLK Challenge is a chance for students to volunteer for a day and help local organizations complete "wish list" service projects. One thing that is being done differently this year is that students from Blue Ridge Community College and Rise & Shine Freedom School have been invited to participate in the Challenge.

There is a student planning committee made up of 12 student leaders who are in charge of planning and implementing the event--from advertising and recruiting volunteers to contacting community partners.

SAFE, Inc., El Centro, The Family Place, and the Myers Dining Hall are some of the confirmed sites for Challenge projects.

"It is a wonderful day to really honor Martin Luther King Jr and what he was about," Sarah Mundhenke, CMSI Coordinator & BC Serves President, said. "We should not only take a day off to think about what kind of impact he had on every person but also honor and do what he would want students to do."



Thea Dunn

This is the 2012 MLK Challenge t-shirt design. students can still sign up by getting in contact with Der Vang or Sarah Mundhenke in the CMSI.