



Let the games begin. Alan Williams takes his turn at Champions, a game for which he creates his own superheroes. photo by Lisa Casko

## Imagination rules

by Craig Dawson  
Scout Reporter

Welcome to a world where imagination rules. A world where creations range from candy-stripping the Gateway Arch, to alien invaders who try to cut off the Florida Peninsula.

Welcome to the Medieval College Society. Designed for all varieties of role playing games, Champions, and Dungeons and Dragons to name just a few, the 16 member Medieval College Society is not afraid to let go of reality for a few nights a week and plunge into games where anything can happen, and

usually does.

The society meets 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and 5 p.m. Saturdays to game together in Student Center Meeting Room 1.

Alan Williams, president of the organization, is an English major and a transfer from Northeast Missouri State.

"Our name in some ways may be a misnomer," he said. "A common misconception people make is that role playing is just Dungeons and Dragons."

Despite the title, the Medieval College society doesn't restrict itself to that time period. The branch that recreates Medieval times, Williams said,

is known as the Society for Creative Anachromisms, but a large percentage of the games are carried out in real world terms.

Williams said a different, imaginative view on things is what it's all about. "Our principle is to become the center for people interested in Medieval things."

So just what is role playing? Unlike traditional games like chess or poker where the object is to win, the object of a role playing game is to have fun and be creative with friends.

"It's a tension release," said Williams. "You can't take your characters too seriously."

In a role playing game, one player is selected as the Game Master, (GM for short), who decides the basic plot of the adventure and describes the settings to the players. Each player then acts out his developed, imagined character (often comic book heroes or super heroes) in response to the hypothetical situation the GM created.

Williams said the real fun comes from the characterization.

"Much of the fun is playing a fictional creation and watching that character develop," he said. "Being somebody else."

When combat occurs, the GM

assumes the role of referee, and rolls dice to determine the outcome of fights. A player tells the GM if he wishes to "hit" his opponent and, of course, strange things have been known to happen. "We often add our own house rules to the games," Williams said. "It's possible to critically 'hit' yourself, like a gunfighter shooting his foot."

All in good fun.

The main problem now, said Joel Norton, vice-president and SCA member, is a general lack of enrollment. "Right now we just don't have enough people, with 16 members and only 10 on the

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Sibling rivalry. Although Judi, Gerard, and Loren Valentino went to different high schools, all three attend Bradley. photo by Staci Treiber

## Siblings share school

by Jenny Calvert  
Copy Editor

Many siblings do not like being compared to their brothers and sisters, something that is not easy to avoid, especially when they attend the same college.

Tonia Kizior, junior business administration major, said she did not choose Bradley because her sister Kara, senior business administration major, was already a student.

"When I first got accepted and decided to come to Bradley, actually we had a rule that I didn't want to see her, talk to her. [It was a] don't butt into my life kind of thing," Tonia said.

Tonia's feelings were echoed by freshman political science major Gerard Valentino and his sister Judi, sophomore communication photography major. The Valentinos' older sister Loren is a senior public relations major.

Judi said, "It helped that she [Loren] was here, but I didn't like her. She really wasn't existing when I came through rush." She said she did not spend much time with Loren because,

"the first thing that scared me was if I picked a different sorority, I'd hurt her feelings, or if I got cut from here [Sigma Iota Gamma, now Zeta Tau Alpha] I'd feel bad."

The Valentino sisters agreed it was lucky Judi liked and joined the same sorority as Loren.

Gerard said Bradley was really not his first choice, but it came down to a financial decision. The Valentinos received better financial aid since more than one family member chose Bradley.

Kara said she and Tonia share some activities, but they pursue them in different ways. Both are on residential life staff in University Hall and both are on Senate. She said, "We have similar interests, but we do different things, so we complement each other. We don't copy each other."

Both the Kizior and the Valentino sisters shared rooms at home, and they all agreed that made them better prepared for college.

"Judi and I shared a room since I was two, and when I came to school everyone was complaining about the size of

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Billiam Coronel

## Comedian, students share stage tonight

by Richard Prosk  
Scout Reporter

A comedian who spends his time eating Grapenuts, writing comedy and contemplating the mysteries of the universe is hosting tonight's Talent Night in the Student Center Ballroom.

Billiam Coronel has appeared on the Tonight Show, Evening at the Improv, Showtime, Comic Strip Live and MTV. He has opened for Buddy Rich, Lisa Lisa and Joan Jett.

**The most interesting act is the solo Hawaiian hula, because it's never been done before.**

--Kathy Taylor

But tonight Coronel will be sharing the stage with Bradley students.

"They're all musical numbers except one. The musicians are performing all original work, or work they created. The most interesting act is the solo Hawaiian hula, because it's never been done before." Kathy Taylor, main stage coordinator, said.

Some performers include John Anker, Rich Maxwell, Maureen Hegberg, Dawn Johnigk and Rochelle Arjmand. The three bands performing are First Inversion, Language Suddenly Destroyed and Sex Piranha.

Seven judges, consisting of students, faculty and staff, will rank contestants on a scale of one to five for each category. There is a seven minute limit, and anyone going over the time limit will lose points. The prizes for placing in the contest will be dinners at Chili's, Cheddar's and Alexander's Steakhouse.

Contestants will be judged on stage presence, originality of act, professionalism, audience reaction and an overall category.

"Anyone who's interested in talent night applies and auditions." Taylor, main stage coordinator said.

Talent Night is sponsored by ACBU. Admission is \$1 for Bradley students with I.D. and \$3 for the public. This is a continuing part of the E. O. Friday series.

## R.E.M. rolls with time

by Rob Mondri  
Scout Reporter

R.E.M. is back with their new album *Out of Time*. It's been three years since the *Green* album, but they haven't forgotten how to make great music.

R.E.M. -- what is it? I learned the term in a high school psychology class, but it wasn't until my freshman year of college I realized it was a musical group. I was at a party and "It's the End of the World" was blasting on 10. All the older kids started singing and dancing. Trying not to look like a freshman, I asked the girl next to me who it was.

I don't remember if I asked her because I liked the song or because I thought she was cute, but it really does not matter. What's important is that was when I first heard R.E.M.

Since their debut album over 10 years ago, they have been a popular college band. In fact, they have always prided themselves on this. *Out of Time*, although not traditional for R.E.M. music, is great, probably their best.

On the new album the band experiments with cellos, violins, clarinets and saxophones. I always find it amazing when bands take non-traditional instruments they don't normally play and create great songs with them. That's exactly what R.E.M. did.

They are not alone in this long tradition of creativity either. When Brian Johnson was with the Rolling Stones, he used a lyre on the song "Paint it Black." The Beatles did it with all sorts of instruments on the *Sergeant Pepper* album.

The Beach Boys did weird combination overkill on the album *Pet Sounds*. Even Bon Jovi used the once popular voice

box on "Living on a Prayer." But don't worry, R.E.M. isn't turning out to be the next Bon Jovi.

Starting out the album on a good strong note is "Radio Song." It is catchy and sets the tone for the rest of the album. In my opinion, it will probably be the next single. The second song is "Losing My Religion." What a wiggled out song, and have you seen the video? It's a great song but the message behind it, if true, is depressing.

### review

Why is everyone singing about religion anyway? It worked with Poison's Top 10 hit "Something to Believe In," and now it's working for R.E.M., but enough is enough. This is going to start a trend, and every Top 40 radio station in the country will have a gospel hour.

Kate Pierson of the B-52's gives strong performances on the album as well. She sings back up on "Shiny Happy People," "Country Feedback" and "Me in Honey." I really love her voice, and she does a lot for these songs. She also recently helped out Iggy Pop on his first single, "Candy."

R.E.M.'s album *Out of Time* is going to their biggest seller to date. I really recommend buying it, but if you want to wait, I'm sure a vast majority of songs will be played on the radio.

I also think it would have made a great summer concert to see, but unfortunately R.E.M. won't be touring much this summer. Instead, they are going back in the studio to record again. But don't worry, I'm sure that album will be just as good as *Out of Time* and *Green* were -- I mean, come on, they're on a roll.

## Venue Quick Picks

ACBU presents Bradley Star Wars: Talent Night 1991 at 9 tonight in the Student Center Ballroom. Comedian Billiam Coronel is the guest emcee. Tickets are \$1 for students (\$3 for public.)

Comedy Afterhours presents Dave Rudolph at 10 p.m. April 11 in the Student Center Marty Theatre. Admission is free.

David DeStefano student clarinet recital is 3 p.m. tomorrow in the Dingeldine Music Center. There is no charge.

Bradley Chorale performs at 3 p.m. April 7 in the Dingeldine Music Center.

Jana LaHood student piano recital is at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow in the Dingeldine Music Center. There is no charge.

Fred Kiser student recital is at 7:30 p.m. April 11 in the Dingeldine Music Center. There is no charge.

B.U. Speech Team's "Night Before Nationals" is at 8 and 10 tonight in the Meyer Jacobs Theatre. Tickets are \$5 at 8 p.m. and \$2 at 10 p.m.

ACBU presents "Marked for Death" at 7 p.m., 9:30 and midnight tonight and at 8 p.m. and 10:30 tomorrow night in the Marty Theatre. Cost is \$1 for students (\$1.50 public.)

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Norton said he'd like to see the society serve as a contact point for people in the University, to bring people together.

The society would eventually like to branch out. "We'd like to get a network where we can reserve rooms for other people," Williams said. "But you have to have the members before you can reserve the rooms."

Williams said much of the lack of involvement is because of the large number of members who graduated last year, and also because of a general misinterpretation of what the society is all about. "One problem," he said, "is that people don't think of an organization when they think of role playing."

At any rate, the burnout factor of those who are enrolled is low, and getting involved is more than just games, but a way to

socialize. "People who came here were strangers when they started," said Williams. "It's a way to meet people."

Along with the regularly scheduled meetings are regularly scheduled conventions. Two such conventions include: the General Convention in Wisconsin and, more locally, Illinois Central College's Spring Offensive II scheduled for April 12, 13 and 14. Games at the Spring Offensive will include over 20 of the most popular, including Champions, Star Wars, Star Trek, Battle Tech and Mega Traveler.

The founder and advisor of Medieval College Society is Dr. Greg Guzman who runs business matters and conducts the elections for new officers in September and January of each year. He can be reached at Bradley Hall 127h.

Let the games begin.

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