

THE 'BURNIAN

Vol. 10, No. 5 Apr. 2014

First Work Program Job Fair

by Marissa Watson

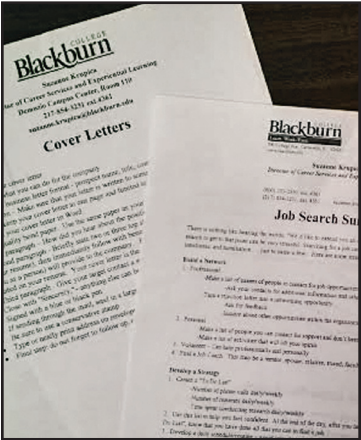
On Apr. 24 Blackburn College's Work Program will host their first job fair on campus. The fair, running from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Demuzio Campus Center, will allow returning students to look and apply for both summer and fall jobs.

Associate Dean of Work Rob Weis said he wanted to create something to help ease "student anxiety" in the job search process. Host to not only campus positions, but also those with local companies, the fair should "provide an avenue for students to pursue opportunities," said Weis. In addition, it will help make known all department job openings and provide students with the ability to find out more information.

Work Program General Manager Katie Hazelwonder also commented that "by having this new job fair we are giving supervisors the opportunity to find students that are a good fit for their department." Rather than just filling out paper applications, the job fair will provide a more thorough interview process. Students will not be required to submit resumes, but are encouraged to do so. They should also be prepared to give a brief 30 second summary of themselves and their

qualifications for the positions in which they are interested.

Students wishing to better prepare themselves for the fair will have opportunities provided by the Learning in Lumpkin Series throughout April. Director of Career Services and Experimental Learning Suzanne Krupica will hold resume workshops and sessions to work on networking and interview skills in Lumpkin Library during the afternoons and evenings on April 7-11 and April 15-17 (the complete schedule can be found in Work Office). Incoming freshmen will also experience a smaller version of the job fair during orientation. For more information, please contact Rob Weis at robert.weis@blackburn.edu or ext. 4291.



A photo of resume/interview tips provided by Suzanne Krupica

Award Winners

By Lindsey Becker

As a part of the Roy Graham Symposium held on April 5th, the English and Communications department presented awards for the creative writing contest, the 'Burnian and excellence in academics.

Receiving awards for the fiction portion of the creative writing contest were Katie Ward, Haley Welch, and Tabitha Agney, with Agney snatching first place, Welch taking second, and Ward nabbing third. Agney also received an honorable mention for the Louise Allen prize for poetry, while Katie Ward and Kay Lesage took 3rd, Laurel Pacey and Ward received 2nd, and Max Vitori and Lesage seized 1st.

The 'Burnian awards were kicked off with Michelle Lee taking the Noam Chomsky award (or, 'Most Likely to Start a Riot'). Haley Welch and Sarah Collman grabbed a dual win for Best Journalistic Hustle, Lindsey Becker (writer of this piece) received Best Beginning Journalist and Jessica Clements was awarded most improved.

Receiving department awards for excellence in English were Ron Smith, Marissa Watson and Kay Lesage. Michelle Lee took home the prize for excellence in communications, while Tabitha Agney took home the award for excellence in creative writing.

Siblings' Weekend



PHOTO BY COURTNEY EGNER

Jordan Gerue painting a picture on a visiting sibling during Siblings' Weekend festivities that were held on Friday and Saturday, Apr. 5-6.

Student Senate Representin'

by Kayla Koyne

As a vital part of Blackburn, Student Senate has been providing students a voice on campus for decades. With 14 positions including president, treasurer, secretary, six at-large representatives elected by the student body, two commuter representatives elected by commuters and a representative for each dorm on campus elected by each dorm's house council, Senate allows a diversity of students to come together to improve the campus.

Last month, students got the opportunity to vote for the president and at-large representatives for the 2014-2015 academic school year. Junior biology major and current Student Senate President Jacob Maag claimed a victory over sophomore organizational leadership major Morgan Baldner. "I would like to thank everyone for taking the time to vote," Maag said when asked how he felt about his win. After the election results were announced, Baldner said, "I think Jacob is a great choice for President. He has plenty of experience leading the student body and will continue to do so." Maag has served for five semesters on Senate.

While only six petitions were submitted for six at-large positions, current Senate members voted to hold elections with a write-in option so that Blackburn students still had a voice in who would represent them next year. At-large elections were held after presidential elections, during

last week of March. Those elected to at-large positions were Natasha Anthony, Ashley Spears, Amanda Gerson, Morgan Baldner, Abby Turney and Kaitlyn Pugh. There were just over 500 students on the list provided to Senate from Office Manager of Student Life, Debbie O'Brien, who were eligible to vote. Out of those, approximately 150 voted. In the presidential election only about 130 ballots were cast. This means the voting turnout rate was about 25 to 30 percent.

Although many students have heard of Student Senate, others have asked what the student-elected body does. "I have no idea what Senate does. I only know about allocations and an apparent weekly meeting. I, quite honestly, only hear about them when it comes time to elect the new president. It's not like Student Council in middle school where you knew they were involved in everything," said junior musical theatre major Sawyer Burton. Despite

a lack of visibility, Student Senate fulfills many crucial roles. They assign funds to clubs during allocations, have a voice in emerging Blackburn policies and give an annual gift to improve the campus. For the past two years the Senate gift has gone toward funding the new furniture now in the Demuzio Campus Center. "We have representatives that sit on all college committees (except those exclusively for certain groups like staff and faculty assembly) like Budget, Planning, Admissions, Student Life, Facilities Task Force and the like," Maag explained.

Any student wishing to learn more about Student Senate or those interesting in running in the future are welcome to attend Sunday night meetings at 8 p.m. in the Student Life Conference room in the Demuzio Campus Center. "I would like to encourage more participation in student government. Student Senate is an excellent opportunity to improve Blackburn and boost resumes," Maag said.

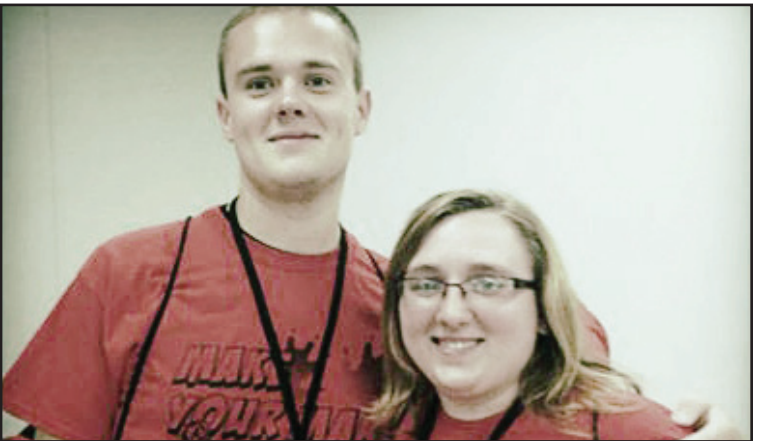


PHOTO COURTESY OF JACOB MAAG

Student Senate President Jacob Maag poses with Lauren Vunetich

Marvel Theater Goes Out of Business

By Devon Taylor

Opened on Aug. 26, 1920 under the ownership of the Paul family, The Marvel Theater on 228 W. Main Street in Carlinville has provided the community with entertainment for years. And when we say years, we mean years. The Marvel has been around for so long that Freida Paul (the original owner) accompanied the theater’s first silent movies on piano when the theater only had one screen (another would be added in the 1970’s). In 1928 the theater burned down and was rebuilt, but this wouldn’t be the only difficulty the theater would encounter.

After Paul’s 93 year-old son Norman passed away in 2011 and his descendants were unable to run the theater, Steve Dougherty, who manages other theaters in the area, took responsibility of The Marvel. The theaters’ business was fair but it hit an all-time low of just 23 admissions from Feb. 24-27, 2014. Although a staple



PHOTO BY DEVON TAYLOR

The Marvel Theatre shown with its posters taken down and its doors closed for the indefinite future.

in Carlinville’s community and history, the theater was no longer able to keep its doors open. On Thursday, Feb. 27 they closed indefinitely, just six months away from its 94th anniversary.

While The Marvel

closing down is a major disappointment in itself, it has also put a damper on student’s attitudes towards Carlinville. “The Marvel closing down is a travesty. I love going to the movies and being without a theater—even one as small

as The Marvel was—really ruins Carlinville for me” said freshman psychology/creative writing major Sara Lewis. Elizabeth Quick, a sophomore computer science major, agreed by saying it is a shame “not only because of

the loss of free movie nights but because The Marvel is a very cool building and an interesting landmark. I would like to see it preserved.”

Abbey Hardin, the head of the Campus Activities Board, has already been working on solutions for Blackburn. She’s talked to Dougherty, who also runs the theaters in Litchfield and Jerseyville, and hopes that next fall free movie nights will resume at Litchfield’s theater. “It’s kind of good because you’ll get four movie options instead of two. On the other hand, not only do we lose a big opportunity for CAB (Campus Activities Board), but we also lose a good partnership with the Carlinville community, and that’s a sad thing” Hardin says. Litchfield’s theater will offer discounts to Blackburn’s students and if free movie nights are able to resume in Litchfield, transportation will be offered by CAB.

Blackburn Website

By Zachary Daum

While in the past it hasn’t exactly been cutting edge, current and future Blackburn students may soon have more of a reason to visit the school’s website. Director of Public Relations and Marketing Pete Oswald commented on the need to update, saying, “As a school we are kind of behind the game on equipment.” As a result, the information and look of the website is getting an update.

Some of the changes in store include detailed profiles on the faculty, such as specialties in teaching, and will have access to updated photos to show how classes are set up. Oswald added, “Eventually videos will be on the site that feature faculty doing daily activities around campus.”

In addition to the profiles, an online store is also being developed. While an online store was previously featured on the site, it was never fully functional. This new online store will allow visitors to buy Blackburn memorabilia and is estimated to be available by the end of this semester.

The website is also being designed to cater to prospective Blackburn students, a direction President Dr. John Comerford decided was crucial. Despite the shift, however, some prospective students are still having trouble navigating through the mass of information. “I like the website but I think it’s hard

to understand. It would help a lot if getting to the academic catalogue was easier because I still don’t know what I want to major in,” said prospective student Hollie Davidson. Davidson also pointed out that to view some content, visitors must go to the old site through the “view full site” selection tab on the home page.

Current students at Blackburn have also expressed a desire to see improvements made. “The site needs to be more compatible with smart phones,” says senior biology and mathematics major Kyle Burke. Because many students rely on smart phones to use the internet, Burke believes that the site would be more active with this feature. In addition, some would like to implement some practical features. “Maybe the work orders could be uploaded so residents could check the status of repairs needed in their room and or buildings,” noted senior biology major Amber Byrley.

Despite the issues, it should not be forgotten that the website is still a work in progress. “We are over halfway through the process but pages are still being developed. A website is never finished,” said Oswald. While still taking place, definite change can be expected in the near future. The information from the old site will finish being transferred by the fall semester, which will give the website an updated look.

Cochran Arrest

Michelle Lee

Conor Cochran, 20, was charged with aggravated criminal sexual abuse of a minor on Friday Mar. 21 in Raymond, IL. Cochran attended Blackburn College during the 2011/2012 academic school year as a freshman, but did not return the following year. He lived in various parts of California before traveling

back to Illinois the week of Mar. 17. Cochran was staying in Raymond, IL the night of his arrest, approximately 25 minutes north of Carlinville. He is charged with a Class 2 Felony and is currently detained in Montgomery County Jail.

Mar. 26 was Cochran’s first court appearance. His

case was assigned to Public Defender David Grigsby. Bond is set at \$30,000 with additional stipulations that Cochran abstains from alcohol and drugs, and has no contact with the minor or minor’s family involved in the case. His next preliminary hearing is scheduled for Apr. 16.

Someone Poisoned the Water Hole!

By Tavi Wallace



PHOTO BY TAVI WALLACE

A bottle filled up with “fishy” water.

Particularly during March, there was no escaping the pungent, fishy tasting water on campus and around the Carlinville area. It even affected the fountain sodas (due to the water needed for carbonating the drinks) at Ding and Snack Bar. The water left a lingering smell during and after showers, and had many people opting to buy bottled

water as opposed to consuming the school’s water. So, the question on everyone’s minds lately has been what has been up with this “sushi flavored” water?

As it turns out, there are actually several reasons behind what has been going on. Carlinville’s Director of Public Works Tim Hasara explained, “Not just Carlinville

experienced this fishy taste and odor, many surrounding areas did as well.” The smell resulted from a lack of rain combined with no turnover in the lake. On top of that, the Water Treatment Plant had drain-cleaned the ClariCones and clarifiers (water-treatment equipment) as a part of their annual routine cleanings.

So what is being done to return the water to normal? To combat the odor and taste, the Carlinville Water Treatment Plant released 20 pounds of activated carbon into the system. This helped quite a bit, as it reacted with taste and odor, neutralizing it. “The rain helps tremendously as well,” added Hasara. Also, on April 7, they flushed hydrants and scoured mains for extra measure. As for the water being safe to consume, it is in fact completely harmless, and passed all the weekly and monthly testing requirements. Looks like this mystery has been “o-fish-ally” solved.

Psychology Honor Society Chapter at Blackburn

By Courtney Egner

With psychology being a popular major here at Blackburn, it is a wonder why an honor society dedicated to psychology majors was not implemented sooner. Thanks to Dr. Danker, as of this school year Blackburn now has a Psi Chi chapter, a national psychology honor society.

In order to be eligible to become a member of Psi Chi, students must meet a number of requirements which include being either a psychology major or minor, have at least three college semesters under your belt, completed nine semester hours of psychology courses, be in the top 35 percent of your class with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and a minimum 3.0 grade point average in psychology courses. Blackburn's first Psi Chi chapter inducted nine members, Caelean Gruening, Sarah McMillian, Sara Burchett, Ashley Averbek,

Taylor Hess, Jenny Langley, Danielle Ruhup, Jessica Storck and Joshua Thompson. An induction ceremony was held earlier this semester, consisting of speeches from Dr. Danker and counselor Tim Morenz and a candlelit ceremony.

Psi Chi provides interesting perks and educational advancements for its members that Dr. Danker hopes to take advantage of. "Psi Chi offers opportunities to be more involved with research. They shell out up to \$350,000 a year in research grants for members that want to do research, and then they sponsor conferences around the country where members can come and present their research," said Dr. Danker. "I would really like to be able to involve members in that process."

With Dr. Danker at the forefront of both Psi Chi and

psychology club, the two organizations will overlap. Psychology club has been planning trips to graduate schools that Dr. Danker plans to include Psi Chi in. Dr. Danker has already been speaking with SIUE, St. Louis University, Washington University, and University of Missouri-St. Louis about visiting their campuses to check out their graduate programs.

Now that Blackburn has a Psi Chi chapter, what does the honor society hope to accomplish? Dr. Danker said, "I would like to see Psi Chi do some service projects. Maybe some tutors for classes that do not officially have tutors." Dr. Danker hopes that Psi Chi will grow and become very active and well known on campus as a productive organization that does great things for the community.



By Michelle Lee

Between March 7th and March 19th, the Campus Community and Safety department and Residence Life handled a total of five incidents. Director of Campus Safety Timothy Reents and student worker Alex Miller complied a list of aforementioned incidents below:

March 7th: Res. Life staff received multiple reports of students leaving hard alcohol containers in their rooms over spring break. All incidents were handled by Res. Life staff.

March 9th: Security and Res. Life received a report of an open window and removed

screen in one dorm room over spring break. Security and Res. Life staff addressed the incident.

March 12th: There was a report filed of a suspicious individual in a dorm during spring break. The incident was handled by Security and Res. Life staff.

March 15th: Two students were found in a closed dorm during spring break. The incident was handled by Security and Res. Life staff.

March 19th: Security filed a report of theft from a student's dorm room. Res. Life and Security addressed the incident.



PHOTO BY AURORA GRIMMETT

The inductees at the Psi Chi Induction. From L to R: Ashley Averbek, Sara Burchett, Caelean Gruening, Taylor Hess, Jenny Langley, Sarah McMillian, Danielle Ruhup (Behind Jessica) Jessica Storck, and Joshua Thompson

Follow Us on Instagram!

Can't get enough of that 'Bunion action? We are now on Instagram. Search "Blackburn 'Bunion" and make sure to leave a comment, follow and hit that "like" button!



Meet Melissa "Indiana" Jones, Counselor not Archaeologist

By Courtney Egner

Counseling services has undergone a complete makeover this spring. Along with counselor Tim Morenz hiring an entire new staff, Morenz also welcomed counseling intern Melissa Jones. Jones earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from SIUE and is currently working on her graduate degree at University of Illinois Springfield. Her graduate degree is in human development counseling with an emphasis in clinical and mental health. Jones hopes to work at a college or school type setting and ideally she

would like to go back to SIUE. "I loved it there so much. I saw counselors there and I just really loved the environment," said Jones.

So how did Jones end up interning at Blackburn? "I didn't want to go to a community agency (family health centers, nursing homes) because I am just not interested," she said. "I wanted to be in a school setting. I thought there was no way I would be able to get into a college because you take what you can get to get your hours for your program." Jones has had her fair share of mishaps

too. Originally, she was interning at Milliken, but was unable to this semester due to lack of space.

Jones joined an entirely new staff of counselors, which is creating an interesting experience for everyone involved. "When I interned at Milliken, I had an office to myself but I did not feel a strong connection with too many people there because I was an outsider coming into relationships that were already formed," she said. "When I got here, everyone was new so we are learning and growing together, so I really appreciate

that."

Counseling was not always her calling though. She, at one point, wanted to pursue a completely different career. "I wanted to be an archaeologist when I was little," she said. "And it was weird because I had never seen the Indiana Jones movies, so I don't know where that came from."

When Jones is not busy working here at Blackburn, she's just like any other student. She goes to comic conventions, binge watches television shows and she loves Quentin Tarantino movies. She prefers Nintendo over Sega

and loves Super Mario. To add to her nerd status, she has a Sigmund Freud action figure on her desk in the counseling office.

Jones' open hours are Mondays from 1:00 pm to 9:00pm, Wednesday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. So stop by the counseling office to make an appointment with her, or to talk about anything and everything! Visitors are welcomed in the counseling office, which is located in the student life office in the Demuzio Campus Center.

THE 'BURNIAN

BLACKBURN COLLEGE

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Haley Welch
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Sarah Collman
DESIGN & LAYOUT EDITOR: Sarah Collman
DESIGN & LAYOUT ASSISTANT: Aurora Grimmert
COPY EDITOR: Max Vitori
FACULTY ADVISOR/EDITOR: Professor Natasha Casey
FACULTY ADVISOR/EDITOR: Dr. Karen Dillon
TWITTER ACCOUNT MANAGER: Rachael Lancey

STAFF WRITERS

Lindsey Becker
Zach Daum
Jake DeRousse
Devon Taylor

PUBLISHER

Edwardsville Intelligencer

MISSION STATEMENT

The 'Burnian is a student-run newspaper at Blackburn College. Our mission is to deliver accurate, interesting and timely news to the Blackburn campus as well as the Carlinville community in an ethical and professional manner.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters under 500 words may be sent to burnian@blackburn.edu, or mailed to The 'Burnian, 700 College Ave., Carlinville, IL 62626.

GUEST COMMENTARIES

Editorials featured on the opinion/commentary page of The 'Burnian contain staff members' opinions. We welcome guest editorials between 400-500 words. The 'Burnian does not endorse featured opinions. All submissions to The 'Burnian may be edited for length and grammatical clarity at the discretion of the editors; however, authors will be contacted if content revisions are necessary.

Blackburn Gets Connected: The Push to Keep Up with Technological Trends Continues on Campus

By Rachael Lancey

In the midst of the digital era, Blackburn is attempting to keep up with the latest technological trends. According to a survey of online learning from sloanconsortium.org, the number of students taking at least one online course has now surpassed 6.7 million. With the increasingly popular shift to online learning, Blackburn is offering 19 online classes this summer according to Registrar and Advising Services Coordinator Dianna Ruyle. With a variety of subjects from history to biology, this is the most online courses ever to be offered at Blackburn.

With the addition of online classes there are advantages and disadvantages. One issue that stands out to many students is that they go against the small class sizes and individualized attention that Blackburn is known for. “One downfall with an online class is that if you have a question you have to communicate with your professor via email which can be frustrating at times. Otherwise, I really did enjoy

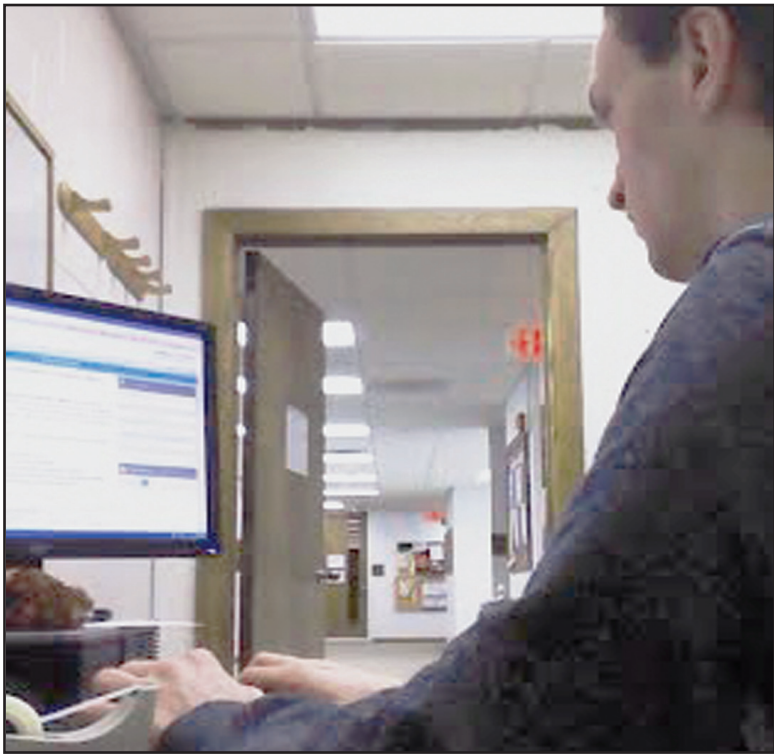


PHOTO BY RACHAEL LANCEY
Brendan Lersch concentrates on his work at the computer.

the class and learned a lot from it,” said senior biology major Laurny Vunetich who took an online nutrition course during the last summer.

Adjunct history professor Tony Vitale will be offering two online courses this summer including World History Survey

to 1500: Asian Emphasis and Topics in European History: The European/Eastern Front. Vitale finds several benefits to online learning such as the convenience for students who have jobs, the availability for nontraditional students and boosting summer enrollment.

Don’t Panic, Talk to Tim!

By Tim Morenz

Greetings and Salutations loyal readers of the Burnian!

Well, we can now officially call the period between now and graduation, “crunch time”! Papers, deadlines, exams, and for those of you who are graduating (a big and hearty congrats, by the way!) it can come with a “now what?” attitude that can paralyze us with inertia. Remember, the worst thing that you can do in response to stress and deadlines is nothing. Take some time for yourself, get the best sleep that you can, do something for someone else and emphasize sound nutrition and you will make it to the end with your head held high and a smile on your face!

Let’s get to the question for this issue!

“Dear Tim, I have a really hard time dealing with stress and experience panic attacks. This time of year makes it worse. Any tips?” -Anxious

Dear Anxious,
First tip: Talk to a professional in person. Providing off the cuff advice for severe conditions without first having the issue diagnosed by a professional is bad business. However, there are a few myths we need to address regarding

panic attacks:

A panic attack cannot cause heart failure or cardiac arrest.

A panic attack will not cause you to stop breathing or suffocate.

A panic attack cannot cause you to faint or lose your balance.

You cannot “go crazy” during a panic attack.

A panic attack cannot cause you to lose control of yourself.

Panic is a hard-wired survival mechanism. When approached with threat, we either “fight” or “flight”. However, the threat signals are extremely subjective and responses to them can be trained. The only cure for panic is repeated exposure to the stressor while practicing interventions. But don’t lose heart! These symptoms can be overcome! When we encounter feelings of panic, we try to resist them and overcome them, and oftentimes it makes them worse. But there is some wisdom in encountering these symptoms. Popular author Claire Weekes offers some advice for dealing with symptoms of panic:

-Face the symptoms and don’t run away from them.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR
Blackburn’s Counselor Tim Morenz

(Attempting to suppress the symptoms is a way of telling yourself that you can’t handle them.) Being mindful of the situation, you can face it and breathe through it. Accept what is happening to your body and resist the urge to resist it.

-Know that panic occurs in “waves” and isn’t straight forward.

-Having a friend and a mantra can really help. Using a trusted phrase like “this too shall pass” or “I can handle this” or “Don’t worry, be happy” (Admit it. You just sang the song in your head!) while having support and encouragement can rapidly decrease the symptoms.

-Distraction and deep abdominal breathing have been

He also pointed out that they also save faculty significant time and travel expenses.

One solution to finding a common ground between online and traditional learning is blended courses which combine time in the classroom and online. This type of course has already been offered at Blackburn and three more will be offered this summer. Sophomore Patrece McLain enjoyed the experience of taking Adolescent Psychology as a blended course her freshman year. “Being able to do my work on my own time was really convenient. Especially as a student athlete, it’s sometimes hard to find the time to get everything done. By not having to meet for the class every other day it gave me more time to get other things done which helped me be less stressed,” said McLain.

Although Blackburn will not be giving up its tradition of individualized learning any time soon, online classes are making it possible to accommodate all Blackburnians.

The Past and Present of Computer Professor Dr. Kevin Coogan

By Kayla Koyné

Computer Science professor Dr. Kevin Coogan is currently in his second semester at Blackburn. With impressive credentials and years of on-the-job experience, Coogan is proving to make an excellent addition to the campus. He earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech. This degree was followed by another in computer science from the College of Charleston, S.C. Finally, he attended the University of Arizona for a Ph.D. in computer science. It was not his original plan to teach. He was a mechanical engineer for ten years before going to graduate school. When working as a tutor he discovered that he liked teaching. “I enjoyed that part of it as much as I enjoyed the computer science aspect,” he stated. Before coming here, he taught at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif. as a visiting faculty member.

“The idea of a tenure track job was nice. I have family in Virginia, so moving closer to the East Coast was a nice opportunity for me,” he shared. Blackburn’s focus on teaching was another attraction. There are two types of colleges: “You can go work where you do research and fit in teaching. Or you can go somewhere that focuses primarily on teaching students. Since I’ve always been more interested in teaching than researching, the focus on teaching appealed to me,” he noted. This semester he is teaching a variety of classes including “Liberal Arts Computing” and “Seminar in Computer Science II.”

The transition from Pomona College to Blackburn came as a pleasant surprise to



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR
Dr. Coogan, one of Blackburn’s recent additions

Coogan. “Probably the most shocking difference was the lack of traffic. I previously had a 45 minute commute. Now I have a four minute commute,” he stated. Coogan noted how welcoming Carlinville is and how he’s excited to have the opportunity to bicycle again. He explained that biking was not possible in the congested outskirts of Los Angeles where he previously lived. He also enjoys hiking and photography. “My wife and I are outdoorsy. Hiking and photography are a good fit since you can bring a camera along and get great shots,” he said.

During his time here he has been well received. Freshman computer science and math double major Amanda Carroll said, “Dr. Coogan is a very intelligent teacher who knows exactly what he is talking about. He always tries to be in his office so that students can ask him questions about the class or labs. Whenever I have asked for help he has explained things to me without giving a direct answer which helps me to learn rather than memorize material.”

THE BODY DEPOT

125 N. West Street, Carlinville, IL 62626 Phone: (217) 854 - 2175
15% student discount on products or services with an appointment!

Students Showoff Artwork in 5th Annual Juried Exhibition

By Lindsey Becker

Although Blackburn’s gallery is host to many guest artists, on Friday, Mar. 21 it opened an exhibition closer to home. The visual arts center gallery opened its doors to student submissions for the 5th annual Student Juried Exhibition. The show was not exclusive to art majors and allowed entry from any student on campus.

This year’s show was juried by SIUE drawing professor Jason Bly, who taught briefly at Blackburn five years ago. “It’s cool to be back here and see what people are making,” said Bly.

The show displayed entries ranging from painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, graphic design and photography. “There’s really a variety of talented artists here,” said junior graphic design major Carly Oldridge, whose photography



PHOTO BY AMELIA KIRBY

Lindsey Becker holding her award for Best in Show and Asher Bentley with his award for Honorable Mention

was featured in the show.

Bly said that the main criteria he used to evaluate the works were the challenges they posed to the artist, how they reflected the time period and their ability to extend past the time period. “Is it in our history books? We don’t know

that yet—but is the work in a category that could exist past 2014?” he said.

Two awards were given at the show: a prize of fifty dollars for honorable mention and one hundred for best in show. Taking home the title of honorable mention for his ceramic pitcher

was sophomore criminal justice major Asher Bentley. Although Bentley was flattered, he expressed that, more than anything, he wanted his pieces to be useful. “I don’t like to just put my stuff on a pedestal—I like making functional wares. I want to make something and have someone use it until it breaks,” he said. “I don’t want to be noticed; I just want to make artwork.”

Best in show was awarded to junior art major Lindsey Becker (also the author of this story) for her oil portraits.

Bly cites the show as a great opportunity for students to get their foot in the door of the art world, as most shows charge an entry fee. “To shell out fifty dollars and not get the promise of getting in a show, that’s really daunting,” he said. “This is really good practice for that next plateau.”

Why Become an RD?

By Jake DeRousse

One benefit of the work program at Blackburn is the opportunity to get resume-boosting jobs that may not be available for similarly qualified students at other schools. Obviously, being a manager falls into this category. Another job that fits this description is the job of Resident Director. Many bigger schools use graduate students as the RDs of their dorms but Blackburn employs four students along with two professionals. The selection of next year’s four student RDs was made recently, with junior biology major Janessa Edwards getting Jones, sophomore criminal justice major Mikey Stephenson getting North, junior biology major Cazarae Buie getting Butler and senior psychology major Jeanette Kelly getting Stoddard.

Resident Directors fit into the hierarchy of power in student life right above Resident Assistants and below the Director of Student Life Tim Moran. Their tasks include working with their building’s RAs to handle everyday issues in the dorms and working with security to make sure campus policies are being followed by students and guests. They also have to take turns being “on call,” where they are the go-to person for any issue that arises on campus. One aspect of the job that is less work

related is creating a bond with the individual residents of each RD’s dorm. Buie said, “The one thing I am looking forward to the most [about being an RD] is being able to watch my residents grow as individuals as well as seeing myself grow into the person I want to be.”

One of the main allures to the Resident Director position—besides a free apartment and stipend—is the fact that having the job on a resume can be impressive to future employers. The job helps students learn how to manage a small group of people (RAs) in a manager-type sense while also helping them learn to manage large amounts of people (residents) in a more general sense. Simply put, being an RD teaches students how to be leaders. The job also gives students experiences that will be good in future interviews. Questions such as “name a time you had to step out of your comfort zone” or “name an example of when you worked as part of a team to solve a problem” can be answered with first-hand experiences from the job.

The RD selection is just the beginning of the process in getting ready for the 2014-15 school year. New RAs have now been selected for each dorm leaving room draw as the final student life issue to be resolved before the new year.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEN NICHOLS

Ben Nichols feeding his new friend

your shoulder all day.” he says. “Just be gentle with animals and eventually they might come up to you.”

It seems like a very tempting idea to try this at home, but Nichols cautions against it. “I haven’t been bitten yet, but don’t take the chance. I’m somewhat more experienced since I grew up doing this and because of all of the nature requirements I had to meet as an Eagle Scout,” he said and then added, “Don’t give him junk food, don’t ruin the fun for everybody else by scaring him off or being mean, and please don’t kill him.”

The squirrel presumably lives near Graham Hall since that is where he is most often seen. Nichols believes he resides in the main oak tree between Graham and North Hall and thinks it’s a boy. There’s been some debate on the squirrel’s name, but Nichols calls him Whiskers.

Talk Nerdy to Me: the Original Console Wars

By Zachary Daum & Courtney Egner

You turn on the console and 16 bits of pixilated glory appear on your screen. The game moves at speeds you’ve never seen before, powered by the blast processing of the Sega Genesis. You know at that moment, Genesis does what Nintendon’t. But then the screen goes blank. You stare in horror and rush to get the cartridge out to try and make it work by blowing into the coded abyss. Then the pixels emerge, and you smile as the beautiful blue hedgehog appears on screen. This was the thought of many kids in the early 1990’s. The console wars of today are known as Playstation vs Xbox. But before this, there was

the rivalry between Sega and Nintendo. Not only was the competition between the two companies, but also the fans. Who had the better console? Who had the better games? In the 1990’s, Japanese company Nintendo was a gaming giant, though video games in the 1980’s had been scarce. The Atari had fallen because a wave of awful game titles such as “ET” and a low quality recreation of “Pacman” poured into the market, destroying consumer trust. Then, in 1985, Nintendo arrived. It used the Robotic Operating Buddy, better known as R.O.B. the Robot to market the game system as

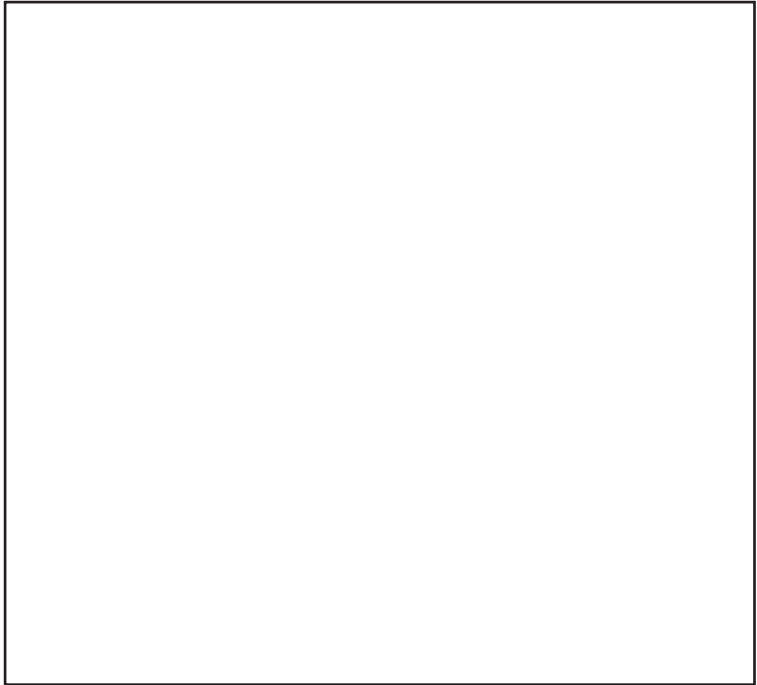
a toy and it sold very well. Because of this, Nintendo became a household name. Then suddenly, a competitor appeared. Struggling American founded arcade company Sega broke into home video game creation in 1989, releasing a system that was said to do what Nintendo couldn’t. Boasting a jump from 8 bit to 16 bit graphics and blast processing that would allow for faster action, the small time gaming company gave Nintendo a run for its money. Kids were divided all over the world and Sega vs. Nintendo was born. Over the course of the generation, Nintendo sold 49.1 million consoles and

Sega only sold 29 million, according to Image Games Network. This still fuels the argument that Nintendo was superior. This rivalry inspired an upcoming book titled “Console Wars: Sega, Nintendo, and the Battle that defined a Generation” (release date is May 13). Interviewing over 200 Sega and Nintendo employees, this book will delve into the underground battle between the two video game companies and chronicle the origin of the multibillion

dollar gaming industry. A film adaptation of this book was also announced in late February. It is set to be written and directed by Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg the creators of “This is the End” and “Pineapple Express.” Despite Sega no longer creating video game consoles and Nintendo now being overshadowed by newer corporate produced video game companies, Sega and Nintendo will never be forgotten, nor will the memorable characters the games brought.

One-Acts: Students Become the Directors

By Jessica Clements



PHOTO

CAPTION

Aristotle once said “For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.” On May 3rd at 7:00 p.m., Kate Roark’s Introduction to Directing class will get their chance to get firsthand experience at directing their own one-acts. They will be using what they have learned in the classroom and applying it to their own productions. A one-act is a play consisting of only a single act and normally only one scene. These plays are very short, with most only being a few pages long, and cast only a few actors. The directing students

that are participating include Performing Arts majors Sawyer Burton, Johnathan Edwards and Owen Meredith, as well as Jack Homan and Psychology major Jeanette Kelly. This year’s theme has to do with homosexual relationships. The show titles included are “My Husband” directed by Sawyer Burton, “The Revision” directed by Johnathan Edwards, “On Facebook” directed by Jack Homan, “This Flight Tonight” directed by Jeanette Kelly, and “London Mosquitoes” directed by Owen Meredith.

The students involved are very excited to be directing their one act and interacting with the actors they have chosen. Owen Meredith said that he looks forward to “helping and allowing the actor to divulge all of the emotions that are required to make this play feel real. If we can get the audience to cry, we are doing it right.” Owen’s one act only requires one actor. While some are looking to pull at the audience’s emotions, others are excited for this opportunity to help them achieve their career goals. Sawyer Burton is one such student. He said, “I’m most excited to direct the show because I’m wanting to study to be an acting coach, so this is good practice.”

These one acts will have you laughing, crying, and thinking about the message behind them. They attempt to show just how similar homosexual relationships are to heterosexual ones by visiting common scenarios that couples have to face. You just may find yourself relating to the characters as you watch, no matter if you are in a homosexual or heterosexual relationship. Come out to Bothwell Auditorium on May 3rd to support your fellow students and enjoy a nice night of laughter and tears.

By Lindsey Becker



PHOTO BY LINDSEY BECKER

A selection of Japanese books in the library.

A new and exciting addition has made its way to Lumpkin Library. Over spring break the library was contacted by the Japanese Literature Publishing and Promotion Center to receive a free donation of English-translated Japanese titles.

The JLPP is an organization formed in 2002 by the Japanese Government Agency for Cultural Affairs. This J-Lit program is dedicated to translating works from the last 150 years into various other languages and distributing them overseas. Their goal is to make Japanese literature open and accessible to libraries and universities across the nation. The organization has translated 222 titles as of 2013, and also supports translators and holds seminars dedicated to Japanese literature.

According to the JLPP, although the distribution of Japanese titles has increased in years, compared to other foreign literature the number of Japanese works is proportionately smaller. By distributing translated works, the program hopes to promote awareness of authentic Japanese culture.

“I think it’s pretty cool that we have something like this,” said Head Librarian Spencer Brayton. “It’s something new and different from the rest of our collection. I think it’ll help students expand their knowledge of literature from other countries and how it’s different from the U.S.”

Currently the library has received twelve titles of Japanese literature, and Brayton said that they will continue to receive more books for free once yearly. The collection so far all is fiction and includes works such as A “Thousand Strands of Black Hair” by Seiko Tanabe, “Wasabi for Breakfast” by Fumiko Komentani and “In Pursuit of Lavender” by Akiko Itoyama. “I think it will be interesting to see what topics those authors chose to write about that’s different from our own country,” said Brayton.

The translated works are available for checkout and can be found on display on a podium in the Lumpkin Library reading room. To learn more about the JLPP, visit www.j-lit.or.jp or www.jlpp.go.jp/en/index.html.

“[I look forward to] helping and allowing the actor to divulge all of the emotions that are required to make this play feel real. If we can get the audience to cry, we are doing it right.”

OWEN MEREDITH

American Siesta: All in Favor of Daily Naptime?

By Tavi Wallace

It's 2:00 p.m. and you find yourself sitting in class, struggling to focus as you continue to zone out without meaning to. Or maybe you're at work, still hours away from clocking out, but your brain is completely spent and you're losing energy by the minute. This is the dreaded, inevitable mid-day crash. Society tells us to overcome this mid-day slump by fueling up on endless coffee refills and copious amounts of Monster and Red Bull. But instead of putting off the crash by pouring yet another cup of joe, we should instead look to what much of the rest of the world is already doing and join in. There is, in fact, a way to regain lost energy, get focused again and even get a little shut-eye in the process. Yes, there is a non-cafeinated solution to fighting post-lunch lethargy, and it is the perfect power charge in



PHOTO BY TAVI WALLACE

Jordyn Smith (elementary education major) demonstrates what happens when one skips a siestas.

many ways. America should implement what is known as a siesta—aka national naptime! “Siesta” is a Spanish word that means to take a rest or nap. A siesta is usually taken in the early afternoon, shortly after lunch, and is most popular in Latin American countries. But nodding off in the afternoon isn't just a Hispanic ordeal. In Asia, this tradition is common

as well. Indians call it bhat-glum, literally meaning “rice sleep” (kind of a fancier way to say food coma), and most Chinese schools have schedules with a half hour nap programmed right after lunch. Blackburn Spanish Professor Ruth Kartchner knows firsthand about this tradition. “Growing up, we had a split day. There was a long time to

take a siesta after lunch,” she says of her Chilean childhood. But it was when she worked in Mexico for a semester where she learned the true value of a siesta. “At first I fought the tradition, but later discovered that it renewed my energy in a way nothing else could,” said Kartchner.

Meanwhile, in the Western world, where modern workplace environments have the feel that there's a hovering expectation to work longer and harder (so you'll theoretically achieve greater productivity); we overlook the need that slowing down can actually be good for you. In fact, long working hours and high stress levels in Japan have shown to be linked to a new official cause of death, and are getting to be so common that they actually have a word for it now. They are calling it “karōshi,” which translates to

“death from overwork.”

Granted, in the average American classroom or workplace it's definitely not ok to just stop what you're doing and hit the hay during the day. Although there is no law forbidding you from taking a nap in the afternoon, when you have a traditional job or are in school all day, it's definitely frowned upon.

But fear not, there is hope—snoozing in the middle of the workday for Americans is currently still seen as lazy, but what more and more companies are slowly realizing is that napping increases productivity. Napping rooms have started to pop up in big name corporations like Google and Pixar. So, we seem to be headed down the right track in some ways. But for now, implementing a daily national naptime is but a dream.

The Issue with Internships

By Michelle Lee



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN MACENTEE

Some students may leave their internships feeling as if they did not benefit from the experience.

This summer I have to get an internship, and I'm very uncomfortable with the idea.

Internships are a wonderful concept. I get it. It's a good idea to graduate with some real world experience on your resume. But the struggle of finding an internship is overwhelming me. I have two options: pray and cross my fingers and ask Santa Claus that someone will pay me minimum wage doing something in my field or settle for an unpaid internship that's supposedly a great opportunity. The latter worries me the most. Unpaid internships have become the norm nationwide, but are they actually helpful to college students?

While people argue that internships often lead to employment, there are many companies that take advantage of the free labor. Intern magazine editor Alec Dudson was recently quoted by the New York Times. “There is a culture of internships, a situation whereby it is

completely normal for young people to think that working unpaid is just part of the process,” he said. “Nobody even questions it. I wasn't the only one confused about where the boundaries lie, how much of this stuff do you have to do before someone takes you seriously.”

For my communications degree, it's required that I complete an internship, but I'm scrambling to find one. I'd love a paid internship, but those seem as rare as finding a pot of gold. That leaves me with the dilemma of an unpaid internship. “Companies and organizations are having to tighten their belts to the economy and because of financial situations within the organization they are looking to hire interns and unfortunately on an unpaid basis to supply their labor force,” said Director of Career Services and Experiential Learning Suzanne Krupica. “The benefit, even if it is an unpaid internship, is that it is

still valuable work experience that can help you in the job market that can help you secure employment later.”

But that's not necessarily true. According to Rachel Burger of Forbes, “The National Association of Colleges and Employers conducted a recent survey that questioned the correlation between internships and full employment upon graduation. Hiring rates for those who had chosen to complete an unpaid internship (37%) were almost the same for those who had not completed any internship at all (35%). Students who had any history of a paid internship, on the other hand, were far more likely (63%) to secure employment.”

To that, Krupica adds, “It's possible that there might be some companies out there that take advantage of the situation, but I am willing to help students evaluate their opportunities. What we don't want is any employer exploiting our students. That's unethical and unacceptable.”

So where does that leave me? Disgruntled and still desperately searching for an internship. In his article “For Interns, All Work and No Payoff” for The New York Times, Alex Williams said, “Millenials, it is often said, want more than just a paycheck; they crave meaningful and fulfilling careers, maybe even a chance to change the world.” But how am I supposed to get my chance to change the world if I have to submit myself to dubious business practices?

Disney Princess Probs

By Kayla Koyne

According to the numbers. com, Disney's top fourteen films have grossed over \$7,000,000,000 worldwide. This includes “Monsters Inc.,” “The Incredibles” and “Toy Story,” among others, and doesn't even take into consideration recent blockbusters including “Frozen.” Sounds great until you look at the gender dynamics of the majority of Disney women, many of whom could be described as damsels in distress. When thinking about how these characters, from the helpless Sleeping Beauty—who literally lays helpless waiting for her prince—to the emergence of heroines such as Merida from “Brave,” I tried to think of a term to describe the bolder, more independent characters. When looking up what exactly the opposite of damsel is I was surprised to find that according to one thesaurus the antonym for “damsel” is literally “man.”

However, when looking at recent Disney female leads like Anna from “Frozen” I believe there is a trend towards independence and less reliance on men. “I absolutely love the classic Disney movies, but I think Disney made a good move with the independence of female characters. However, they made it subtle; I think it started with “Mulan” and progressed from there. We don't need to rely on men to get a job done, and Disney is starting to depict that,” sophomore biology major Emily Hausman said. The

change is subtle because female leads have become more independent over time. For example, in “Frozen,” Elsa is a queen but did not desperately search for a king, did not need to be married to assume the throne and is independent from male control. Some see the change as merely reflecting reality. “[Disney] is catching up with how the world is today rather than the way it used to be,” said freshman computer science and math double major Amanda Carroll. Others don't seem to see a shift or progression. Disney College Program intern and sophomore marketing major Haley Haynes disagrees with this notion. “I wouldn't say that Disney is necessarily making the female characters more independent. I personally feel that if you were to watch Disney movies and think about each of the female characters' lives, they are all strong and independent,” Haynes said.

Many of us have grown up watching Disney. This does have an impact on young girls and how they see gender roles. However, I do believe that there is a distinction between the classic and new Disney princesses. They've moved past sleeping away and waiting for their prince to save them. The new princesses are pretty independent and therefore, those who hold Disney in a bad light for negative gender stereotypes should take another look and give it a second chance.

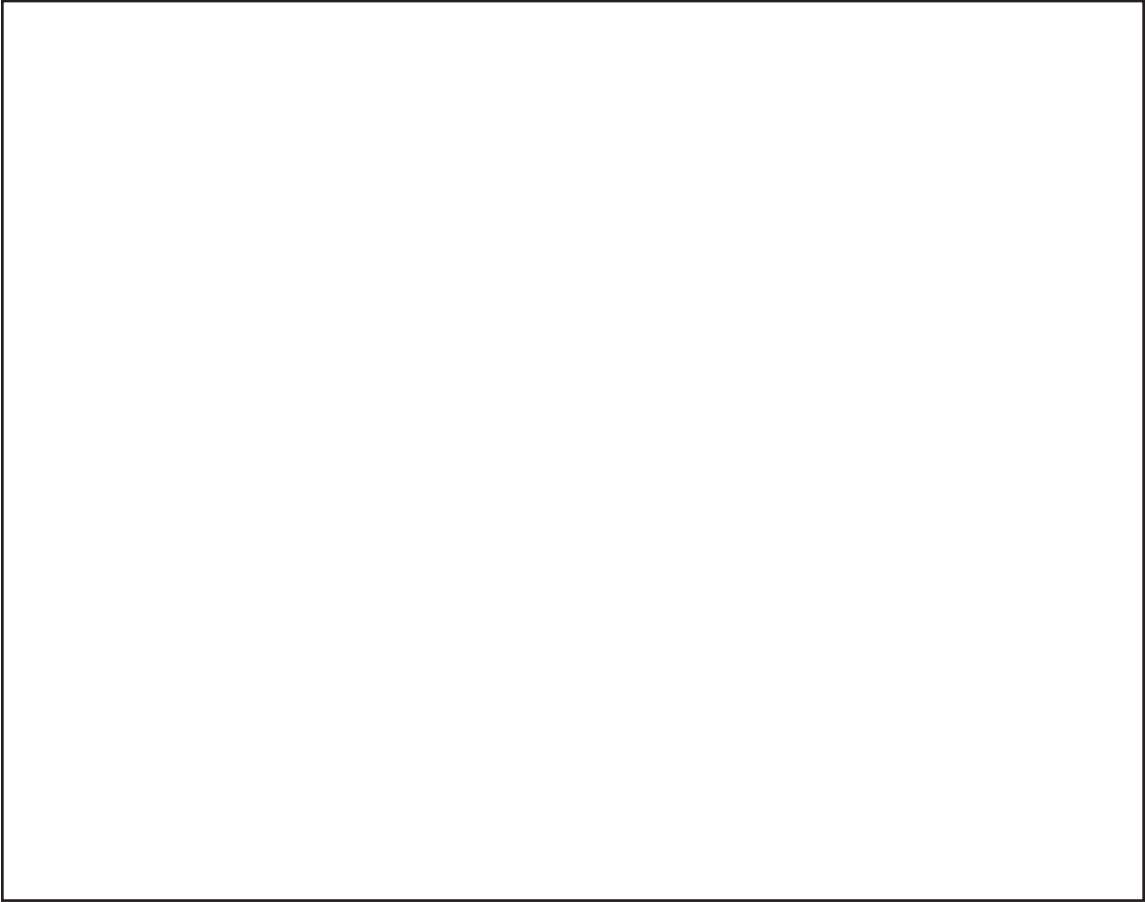
Losing Sleep and Making a Difference: BC Hosts World-Record Shattering Soccer Game

By Jake DeRousse

“Records are meant to be broken.” This quote was said by Mark Spitz in 2008 referring to his 36 year old record for most individual gold medals in a single Olympics being broken by Michael Phelps. Though Spitz was talking specifically about his record, the rule holds true for most others. The Guinness World Records book is constantly evolving; their website says as much stating, “Records change on a daily basis.”

Recently, the act of breaking records has been turned into a way to raise money for charities in the St. Louis area. Specifically, “longest game” records have been targeted. In 2007 the record for longest baseball game was broken and raised \$100,000 for Gene Slay’s Boy Club in St. Louis. Since then, the record has been broken three other times benefiting Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center, a charity called the BackStoppers and the Joplin, Mo. Chamber of Commerce.

From 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 13 the longest soccer marathon was hosted at Blackburn. The organization benefiting from this world record game is St. Louis Children’s Hospital. The



PHOTO

CAPTION

hospital will use the money raised to help fund research on children’s brain tumors and how they can be prevented/treated. Their website states, “Federal funding for pediatric research of any kind is incredibly scarce, and it’s dwindling with each passing year. But thanks to generous donations from caring individuals and

organizations, scientists at St. Louis Children’s hospital are able to carry out promising research.” Many different sources contributed money to the cause; each player had to raise at least \$500 in order to play. The event was also heavily sponsored, with the two teams being sponsored by Dino’s Logistics and First to

the Finish. The actual game was played for 76 hours. When asked what his favorite part of the game was, freshman Nate Kinnison said, “The most exciting part was when people started to get slap-happy from loss of sleep.” The lack of sleep was probably the most daunting part of the game, but

one quirky rule about the game and how Guinness defines the marathon is that for each hour of game time, the teams get five minutes of a break. So 12 straight hours of playing means the teams could take an hour off and still count it as game time. When discussing how he was able to keep energy for the duration of the game, Kinnison said, “[I] understood that this game was for a great charity and realized that this was no comparison whatsoever to what the young children at the hospital go through in their lives.” Teams consisted of the members of the Blackburn men’s soccer team along with players outside the college who were brought in by the event’s organizers. Each roster had 18 players and, though there was free substitution, 11 players from each team had to be playing at all times.

Although not officially sponsored by Blackburn College, the game was hosted by Blackburn and brought attention to the college. The event marked the end of a busy two weeks for the athletic department, as SAAC also hosted a tennis cookout and free smoothie/canned food drive day. Keep an eye out for future promotions and events put on by the department.



Have a passion for sports? An opinion about athletics? We want to hear about it! Cover a game or give the campus some commentary and submit your piece to burnian@blackburn.edu



Alum, Athlete and Coach: Malin Makes a Home at Blackburn

By Miranda Clark

After 32 years, Blackburn College has become a home for Director of Transfer Admissions John Malin. Post graduation from Blackburn in 1981, Malin chose to stay at his alma mater where he would have his lifelong career. As an Admissions Representative, Malin recruits and mentors prospective and current students.

Throughout his student years, Malin played soccer, basketball and club baseball (Blackburn did not have an official baseball team during his years at the college). His first year ever playing soccer, he was awarded “Rookie of the Year,” an award Malin was thrilled to receive.

Malin smiled and referred to himself as a “gym rat.” Not only was he involved in sports, but he also worked in



PHOTO BY MIRANDA CLARK

John Malin, Blackburn’s Director of Transfer Admissions

the Athletics Department for three years as assistant men’s basketball coach and athletic trainer. At that time, Blackburn did not have a certified Athletics Trainer; instead, Blackburn offered an athletics-training course for students

interested in this field. When Malin began his college career he wanted to go into teaching or coaching, but he couldn’t because Blackburn did not offer a teaching program at the time. Instead, Malin majored in history with a minor in

physical education.

This past summer, Malin was approached by the Director of Athletics Angie Morenz about an opening to become the golf coach at Blackburn. She wanted to know if he knew- anyone in the community who would be interested. Malin considered the position, and ultimately decided it was an excellent opportunity to be more visible on campus and benefit the team. “He’s a great golf coach. He really cares about his golfers and wants them to succeed not only in golf but in everything they do,” said junior and accounting major Lucas Rochkes.

Prior to becoming golf coach, Malin did not have any formal golf experience, but he has enjoyed playing the sport since the age of five.

Although he has not taught or coached throughout his lifetime, he is excited to teach and coach the men’s golf team. “Obviously people are coming here for academics, but I think it is important for students to connect with someone outside the classroom. It makes people feel like they are part of the team,” noted Malin. Malin’s goals for the team are to improve, grow the program and have a good time. He would also like the team to become a conference contender in the next few years.

Aside from Malin’s busy life at Blackburn, he enjoys golfing, gardening, home renovations and spending time with his wife Monica, who he met at Blackburn. Because of his college education and career, Malin has found a home at our institution.