

# THE BURNIAN

Blackburn College  
Carlinville, IL

Oldest College Newspaper in  
Illinois, since 1881



Read about new professor Mark Benedetti on page 4



Blackburn 'Burnian



@BCBurnian



Blackburn 'Burnian



Flip to page 6 to find out what it was like for one student to meet her favorite band



PHOTO BY DANIELLE ANDERSON

After the All College Convocation on August 20, President John Comerford accepted his challenge to do the ALS Charity Challenge with the help of Jamie Moore and Chris Davis.

## New Year, New Rules

By Jordyn Smith and Deja Bell

Along with the new school year comes new or amended rules and policies. The B-book explains all the rules you need to know in full detail, but here are the big four that seem to have students talking:

Scentsy products and candle warmers are no longer allowed in the dorm rooms. According to Director of Residence Life Abbey Hardin, the new rule is “the result of an advisement by our insurance provider that not only can these be a fire hazard, they can also create quite a mess in the halls when they’re knocked over leaving a trail of wax on the walls/floors.” Some students seem to agree. “I respect the Scentsy rule because people made a lot of mess with the wax,” says junior Biology major Kayla Liebman.

Second, the Controlled Substance Policy has been amended. Campus Community and Safety or Residence Hall Staff has the right to document any suspicions of students being in possession or under the influence of controlled substances. They also have the right to perform searches

and canine searches. If a student is found with illegal possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances, he or she will receive at minimum a \$150 fine, a year of social probation, the requirement to submit to and pay for a drug test and notification to parents or guardians. Local law enforcement may also be notified.

Also, sexual harassment is now under the Sexual Conduct Policy. The new Sexual Conduct Policy exists because of a “lack of understanding of consent,” according to Hardin. Several instances have occurred in the past where poor communication results in improper punishment. In the past, unwanted touching could have received the same punishment as a sexual assault (suspension). The new policy breaks behavior and punishment down into different tiers so that a more proper disciplinary system can be employed on a case-by-case basis.

Finally, there seems to be some misunderstanding among students about Blackburn’s

Visitation Policy in the residence halls. As always, off-campus overnight guests may stay with a resident for three days and two nights twice a month. This policy does not include students from other dorms. Residence Life would, however, suggest for anyone staying in a different dorm to get a guest pass for each stay. This is for safety reasons. If a fire, tornado, or other disaster were to occur, Residence Hall Staff would be able to take the proper measures to ensure the safety of all students in the dorms.

While some students disagree with some of the changes taking place on campus, others are appreciative of the fact that our safety is a big concern for Residence Hall Staff. “I can understand why some of these rules are needed,” explains senior Accounting major Ben Beckwith. “Crazy things happen, and as long as you’re prepared then it should work out.”

## Summer Renovation Is No Vacation

By Jordyn Smith

The complete renovation of the theater in Bothwell is a project that has been ongoing for over two years and is 98 percent completed according to supervisor of New Construction Mike Slightom. The Independent Colleges Capital Program (ICCAP) provided a grant to Blackburn College that included the replacement of seating, a sound system and theatrical lighting in the theater, the addition of Wi-Fi in the building and a large projection screen and system in the theater. The grant also covered the purchase of new risers and chairs for the choir room and the renovation of handicap-accessible restrooms in Bothwell in addition to an automatic, handicap-accessible door in the front entrance to the building. Overall, \$1.45 million was spent on Bothwell Auditorium. Ten contractors and Blackburn’s New Construction crew put their work in to completing the renovations. The Physical Plant was also able to recycle or repurpose many materials (copper wire, door hardware, etc.) from Bothwell. In fact, about \$2,000 worth of precious metals was recycled.

Jewell Hall, otherwise known as the “Freshman Dorm,” also underwent some major changes over the past two years thanks to a \$600,000 budget and the supervision of Jack Bettis and his New Construction crew. Upgrades include complete rewiring, the repainting of the interior, ceramic tile in the parlor, and

the removal of the old heating system. Fifty-six windows were replaced in the residence hall as well. The recycled copper from the heating system also generated \$2,500 which was very beneficial toward the renovation.

Lumpkin Library underwent physical changes as well as a change of name. The library is now known as Lumpkin Learning Commons or “Commons” for short. Phase one of construction, which began June 21, includes the renovation of the lobby and five office spaces as well as the replacement of furniture and technology. The first phase is about 90 percent complete at this point. Phase two will include remodeling of bathrooms and classrooms and will take place in October under the supervision of Slightom. Phase three is scheduled to begin the summer of 2015 and includes the renovation of the reading room.

Also slated to start this month is the complete remodeling of the Anderson building, which is located between Graham and Ludlum. According to Director of Physical Plant Sam Harding, the area will turn into an alumni development office and will house the offices of several staff members currently housed in Ludlum. Overall, students and faculty seem to enjoy Blackburn’s facelift. “I think the renovations look good,” commented junior Elementary Education major Austin Sherfy. “It’s definitely much improved.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

The new and improved auditorium in Bothwell



# A Crisis Next Door: The Situation in Ferguson, MO

By Ben Nichols

*We at the 'Burnian understand the complexity and controversy of the situation in Ferguson. This article is here to present to students the details and facts so far known.*

On Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>, 18 year old college bound Michael Brown and his friend Dorian Johnson were walking down a street in Ferguson when they were approached by Officer Darren Wilson of the Ferguson Police Department. According to Johnson and the police department, Brown and Johnson were told to get off the street. After the initial stop, the accounts of the following events differ. According to the police department, when Wilson confronted Brown, he physically assaulted the officer when he tried to exit his vehicle. Brown allegedly reached for Wilson's weapon and a shot was fired during the scuffle in the vehicle. Johnson then exited the car and was shot about 35 feet away from the vehicle.. Brown's friend Dorian Johnson says that Wilson had tried to pull Brown into the vehicle, and during the scuffle as Brown tried to

escape, a shot inside the vehicle was fired. Brown was able to free himself and the two tried to flee on foot. Johnson claims that in the process Brown was shot in the back, turned around with his hands up and was gunned down by Wilson. The autopsy report revealed that Brown had been shot six times in the front with four shots in the right arm and two shots in the head. The fatal shot in the skull was at an angle indicating that Brown's head was lowered, though it is unclear if Brown was in a submissive or aggressive position. The pattern of the shots plus the lack of gunpowder residue found indicate the shots were fired from a distance of about 30 feet away.

The situation has been a source of racial tension from the beginning, as Brown was African American and Wilson is white. Brown's death prompted rioting after peaceful protests in response to the situation. People around the nation have been critical of the police's use of armored vehicles, heavily armed individuals and the use of rubber bullets being used



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH NEZAM

Citizens of Ferguson with signs fighting for justice against the police force

on bystanders. The situation has escalated so much that Governor Nixon of Missouri called in the Missouri Highway Patrol and the Missouri National Guard to take over the situation from Ferguson police and try to establish peace once more in the suburb.

At Blackburn, reactions to the situation have been mixed. Blackburn student DeArryka Williams, who grew up in East St. Louis, is angered by the

incident. "There was excessive force used, and something does need to be done about it." She adds, "Growing up in the area, this makes me really sad. There has always been a problem with the police using excessive force. With this tragedy, it has finally come to light. I want justice because Michael Brown could have easily been my brother or one of my cousins."

In an interview on August

21<sup>st</sup>, the Attorney General of Illinois Lisa Madigan told The 'Burnian, "There is a lot that needs to be done to do a thorough investigation, get to the bottom of what happened, and restore peace to the community." Due to the close proximity of Ferguson, Madigan explained that law enforcement and elected officials around East St. Louis are concerned about and aware of the situation, and understand the great level of frustration being expressed. Madigan also had these words of advice for Blackburn students watching the day by day events. "I think what everybody has to do at this point is to wait for a fair and thorough investigation to be done, for investigators to determine what transpired and why, and then at that point we should try to pursue justice of this very tough and unfortunate situation."

The results of what transpired are still yet to be seen. All the public can hope for is that an intense and non biased investigation shows what truly happened, and that justice is served.

## What Would We Do Without Sol's Margaritas?

By Michelle Lee and Katrina Jahn

Weeks before Blackburn students returned to campus, the local Mexican restaurant Sol de México closed its doors on August 8th. A handwritten sign taped to the door read "Closed due to kitchen problems."

Initially the reason behind the closure was unclear. Senior theater major Owen Meredith said, "I don't like to partake in gossip but I believe Sol had issues with the legality of some of their employees. I know the owner is a citizen of the U.S. but that may not be the case with some of the workers." While immigration rumors circulated, others were concerned with the restaurant's sanitation. Junior Courtney Egner witnessed pest control trucks at the restaurant on Wednesday August 20th. The sign on the door also prompted rumors that the closure was due to sanitation problems but there are currently no health code violations posted.

After hearing of the closure, freshman elementary and secondary education major Nadine Tingey said, "[i]f it's

Mexican food and it's close by, I would still go if they were to open again." Sophomore biochemistry major Veronica Milligan agreed, stating, "I would probably go back. If they opened up again, it's probably because they've met all the health standards."

Two weeks after closing, Sol officially reopened on Monday August 25th. An additional sign was added to the door, "Help Wanted. Call for Info. Ask for Saul." In an interview, restaurant owner Saul Quiroz said that the reason for closing did involve immigration. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations arrested two individuals on August 8th near the restaurant. According to Quiroz, after the two men were arrested, the rest of his staff quit the same day. "You can't run a restaurant without staff, so we've been trying to figure out how to get this place up and running again," he said. "We'd love to hire some college kids part-time."

## Tuition Raise Raises Some Eyebrows

By Chris Cole

The cost of receiving an education at Blackburn is getting more expensive. According to the Blackburn website, tuition for the 2014-15 school year is \$26,310 compared to the previous amount of \$18,506. This is before anything is taken off for participating in the work program. The administration seems to think the increase was necessary. Vice President for Administration and Finance Heather Bigard stated, "We always take into account the needs of our students when deciding to raise the cost of tuition. It was needed because of changes in prices with suppliers and the new renovations."

Indeed, anyone who has taken a walk through Bothwell or the Commons can see that some major facelifts have been done over the summer. Though the changes look very nice, some students are asking questions, especially students who live in dorms without air conditioning. When asked his thoughts on the increase, Biochemistry major Ian Thomas stated, "I'm torn. They need money and it has to come from somewhere, but the money goes to general buildings like the library while the residence halls remain

neglected."

This change may have been an unwelcome surprise for students but how does the cost of tuition really stack up against other schools in the area? At \$26,310 the school comes as the 7<sup>th</sup> least expensive school in the area. However, with the credit added from the work program, the cost comes to \$23,670 which puts it at number 6 with Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville coming in at the cheapest at \$18,519. However, as far as private colleges go Blackburn is still the cheapest. When asked if Blackburn was still the best

value for the money Bigard said, "Absolutely. Our work program teaches kids life skills that these other schools don't. We are still the least expensive private college in Illinois and we plan to keep it that way." When asked the same question Thomas said "Yeah because while some of those schools are cheaper they also have a lot more people. You're just a number there where Blackburn is small knit and the work program builds a resume that the other schools can't." So while the spike in tuition might have left some students scratching their heads, overall people remain satisfied.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS COLE

Heather Bigard, Vice President for Administration and Finance



# Talk Nerdy to Me: Silly Women, Superheroes Are for Men!



PHOTO BY WES SMITH

A cosplay of Wonder Woman running through the streets of a city

By Lindsey Becker

Every summer we're hit with a slew of action-packed superhero flicks that are meant to be fun for the whole family. These films—such as “The Amazing Spider-Man 2”, “X-Men Days of Future Past”, and “Guardians of the Galaxy”—while full of bad-guy-punching excitement and heroic triumph, are missing one thing: the presence of numerous leading ladies.

Although these films do contain a few female characters, they're only sprinkled in to fill a quota—the men always far outnumber them. The Avengers have got Black Widow, the Guardians of the Galaxy have Gamora, and most superhero movies in general have got a serious case of “Smurfette Syndrome,” (a term that comes from the only token female featured in The Smurfs, Smurfette). There are numerous other supporting women present in the Marvel Cinematic Universe such as Maria Hill, Jane Foster, and Pepper Potts—but the bottom

line is that the numbers don't add up and women are almost always the minority.

While there are a few female faces present in these films, they're always missing from the movie titles. Out of the six members of the Avengers, Black Widow and Hawkeye are the only two without their own standalone movies, and the other four all have multiple films and sequels. Nicole Perlman, cowriter of the summer blockbuster “Guardians of the Galaxy,” has disclosed to the Huffington Post that a script is in the works for a Black Widow film, though Marvel has no plans to produce it any time soon. “I think the Black Widow movie will definitely happen,” Perlman said. “It's definitely something that has been on their radar, but it is a question of them setting up all these different phases.” Marvel has planned their films through 2019, though a Black Widow film is not on the list.

Not only are female

characters few and far between in the movies themselves, Gamora, who is one of the two lead females in “Guardians of the Galaxy,” seems to be suspiciously missing from much of the merchandise for the film. Even in merchandise featuring the rest of the team, Gamora doesn't seem to be present. A search for “Gamora” on the online Disney store yields only 3 items, while searches for other characters prove to be much more successful.

Also missing from an upcoming film in the Marvel franchise is Janet van Dyne, also known as Wasp, who was one of the founding members of the Avengers. Fans were disappointed to learn that Wasp will already be deceased during the events of Ant Man, which will be released in July 2015. Angry bloggers took to twitter, dubbing the decision a #janetvancrime.

Although Marvel seems to have a hard time plugging their female characters as

# Best Blackburn Beards?

By Ben Nichols

The beard is back, leading to one question popping up on campus lately. Who has the best beard? Which one is the manliest, softest or just needs to be trimmed? We asked some students on campus and this is what they told us!

Luiza Mischlinska - “I think Craig Newsom's looks really wise looking. Almost like a wizard. But the manliest one is Benjamin Nichols' beard.”

Rebecca Finke - “Paul Tamakloe has a really manly looking beard. The one with the fullest beard and that looks really wise is Benjamin Nichols. But a campus service

worker needs to shave his right off.”

Katy Lehen - “Levi Goestenkers' beard looks really wise, and Mitch Elliot needs to trim his off.”

Heidi Tyson - “It's a cross between Levi Goestenkers and Benjamin Nichols. I know that Ben's is really soft though because he conditions it.”

Jesse Medina - “I think Travis Buchanan needs to shave. But Levi Goestenkers has a nice beard grown.”

Dylan Adkins - “Brett in the weight room has an awesome beard. Mine is pretty rad too!”



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEN NICHOLS

Levi Goestenkers and Seth Tonsor above are just a couple of students on campus said to have good looking beards.

much as their male ones, they're making a few strides in the right direction. At this summer's San Diego Comic Con, Marvel announced a new television series about Captain America's Peggy Carter, aptly titled “Agent Carter,” set to debut on ABC during the hiatus of “Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.”

In addition, Marvel president Kevin Feige has hinted at the possibility of a Captain Marvel standalone film. In a recent press junket, he confirmed that while there were no plans for a Black Widow film, there might be

room for another female hero. Feige said, “I like the idea if we're going to do a [female lead], do a new one. Do a wholly new character, do an origin story... We've talked a lot about [Captain Marvel]. I think that would be very cool.”

Although there is some hope for a female-fronted movie, those seeking more representation will have to remain jilted for now. Marvel is notorious for carefully calculating their cinematic universe, and hopefully female superheroes will be added to the equation sooner than later.

## THE BURNIAN

### EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Sarah Collman  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Michelle Lee  
DESIGN & LAYOUT CO-EDITOR: Rebecca Sprinkel  
DESIGN & LAYOUT CO-EDITOR: Aurora Grimmert  
DESIGN & LAYOUT ASSISTANT: Keragan White  
FACULTY ADVISOR/EDITOR: Professor Natasha Casey  
FACULTY ADVISOR/EDITOR: Dr. Karen Dillon  
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER: Courtney Egner

### STAFF WRITERS

Deja Bell  
Chris Cole  
Katrina Jahn  
Ben Nichols  
Jordyn Smith

### 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.



Under the Sea: Blackburn’s New Saltwater Lab

By Ben Nichols

To students in Blackburn’s science programs, the sound of pumps echoing through the halls of Olin may be a familiar sound now. Past the animal lab and nestled within the old office of Dr. Crowell is the source of this noise. The noise is caused by no other than the large three tank saltwater system in Blackburn’s new saltwater lab. Started by Dr. Crowell last semester for the establishment of a new coral colony, the lab is now becoming a huge contribution

to the biology department. Peek through the window of the office door across from the animal lab and one will see a menagerie of tubing, pumps, tanks and boxes.

While the lab is still in the process of being made a less cluttered place due to recent work on the tanks, it has now become the home for a few new arrivals to Blackburn, and is soon to be the home for many other sea critters. The most impressive creatures to

be seen so far are the two large ghost crabs (Ocypode quadrata) named appropriately Casper and Goliath. The various specimens living in the lab were all collected off the Gulf Coast this summer, and show signs of good health. They are sure to be playing a role in the biology department, and as such they have been pampered to for the past few weeks.

Visitors in the lab may also notice something about the place different from the rest of Olin. The room is the same temperature and humidity as one would experience in the tropics. Mimicking the conditions found around the ocean and the gulf, this setup is perfect for the creatures living in the lab to ensure that they have a nice and comfortable

home.

Future plans for the lab are looking extremely promising. After being cleaned of an algae outbreak that occurred in the tanks over the summer, the tanks are almost ready for raising coral. According to Dr. Crowell, “We’ll soon be putting some live rock and snails to eat the algae, and then some small coral polyps to try and establish an ecosystem.” This small reef project may become very important in the science department over the next few years, allowing students interested in a future in marine biology to observe the complexity and beauty of coral ecosystems. After the establishment of the reef systems, there has been talk of also including some tropical fish

and other marine life including coral shrimp, anemones, sea stars, and hermit crabs.

The saltwater lab here on campus offers many opportunities for current and future students. Students interested in the field of Marine Biology may soon be able to study basic reef ecosystems and beach zone life through the lab, allowing for valued experience that can be carried on to their field of study.

Author’s Note: I would like to mention that I have had the honor of being able to work on this project with Dr. Crowell, including spending my vacation this summer collecting the crab specimens off the coast of Alabama.

Meet Mark Benedetti

By Deja Bell



Mark Benedetti, the new Professor of English & Communications

know anything about. I actually wrote my dissertation about experimental film to get my PhD.” Experimental film is filmmaking that is made completely outside of the film industry. It is work that people make entirely on their own, sometimes with only two or possibly three people making the entire film. Often, however, it is just one person and it doesn’t tell stories but uses abstract imagery.

Along with experimental films, Benedetti is also fond of action films, thrillers and narrative style films. “I’m hoping to develop or sort of revitalize the film club and get a film series started on campus. That’s definitely a top priority for me outside of classes is to get that, sort of, re-going,” said Benedetti.

He sees the work program and classroom atmosphere as friendly but still professional and feels very comfortable challenging students as necessary. “I’m really excited about working at Blackburn; I like the small campus atmosphere. I’m coming from Indiana University which is a giant university and I was fine with that but this small atmosphere is really nice.”

Benedetti wants to keep going on the same path in his career, keep developing new courses and refining the courses he already has. His advice to anyone that wants to start on the same career path is this, “Starting as early as you possibly can learning the field, both the information and content but also the professional expectations.”

THE BODY DEPOT

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

What We Can Learn from the Death of Robin Williams

By Katrina Jahn

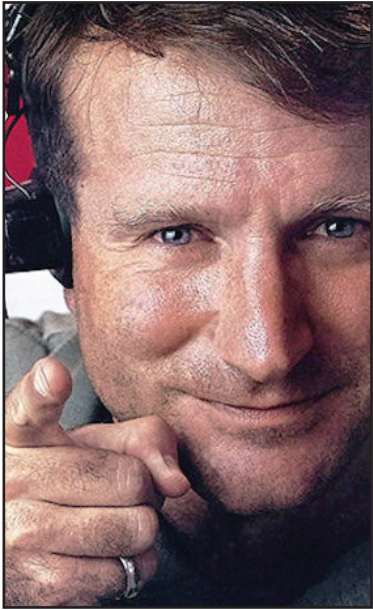


PHOTO COURTESY OF BAGOGAMES  
Robin Williams; comedian, actor, idol.

asked for help.

Here at Blackburn, most students will get quite anxious with work and class schedules. Having teachers that notice when someone is not in class, it’s difficult to hide and it puts more pressure on students to attend class and really do their work. The growing stress that accompanies these responsibilities is completely normal. Sophomore graphic design major Shelby Holybee said, “Don’t put too much pressure on yourself. Try to sign up for activities, sports or clubs to help get your mind off of things when you’re stressed.”

Any kind of anxiety or depression needs to be taken seriously. In a small community like this, everyone is there for one another whether to help with school work or to have ready ears for listening. The simplest thing like talking to someone about whatever is on one’s mind can help immensely. “The best way to get help is to just say ‘Help-’,” said Blackburn

counselor Tim Morenz. For Blackburn students, there are plenty of people around like Morenz, peer counselors or RA’s who are more than willing to listen. There are so many sources of help and every one of them cares. All it takes is the motivation to find help and the belief that you can get through it.

Human Resource Development

By Katrina Jahn

By popular demand, students now have the option to major or minor in human resource development through the Education department.

There are a number of different courses included in this major such as business, economics, psychology and education. Human resource development can be a good choice for students who are studying education and decide that it isn’t for them but they still like the training aspect

118 N. West St, Carlinville, IL  
Phone: (217) 854-2711  
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Remarkables  
consignment shoppe

IN-HOUSE SALES

20% OFF  
TOTAL PURCHASE  
FOR BLACKBURN STUDENTS  
WHO MENTION THIS AD

25% OFF  
HOUSEWARES

Talk to Tim

By Tim Morenz

Greetings and Salutations, Blackburn College Classes of 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018!

It is hard to believe that once again, a school year is upon us. The days of late nights, rushing to classes, work, papers, etc. cascade upon us like a waterfall. But in spite of these hectic days of the fall semester, we find ourselves earning distinction and merit as one of the finest work and liberal arts colleges in the nation. Be proud, Beavers, be proud.

Four those of you who are new, Talk to Tim is a regular column in The ‘Burnian in which I answer your questions regarding mental health and wellness topics. No question is out of bounds; however, I can protect your identity should you wish to remain confidential. You can email your inquiries to me at tim.morenz@blackburn.edu.

The purpose of today’s article is to explore the question asked by hundreds of people: “What is Counseling Services? What exactly is it that you do?” In order to answer that sufficiently, I thought I would tell you a little about what we do and then introduce you to this semester’s staff. (It is a pretty cool group if I do say so myself.)

Counseling Services is based upon the mission that



PHOTO BY AURORA GRIMMETT  
Tim Morenz, College Counselor

everyone deserves an advocate, someone to speak up on their behalf. Often we provide services to intervene in a crisis, or for a mental health or substance abuse concern, take a confidential report of sexual assault, help a student get academic accommodations for a verified learning disability, provide a “listening ear” when life becomes difficult or stress piles up. This semester we are offering group programs in meditation for stress reduction, gender empowerment, coping with anxiety and depression, and grief and loss. But I must address one concern: USING COUNSELING DOESN’T MEAN THAT YOU ARE CRAZY, BROKEN, OR

DEFECTIVE!!!! It just means that you need some help, and I believe that we all need a little help now and then, don’t you?

Counseling Services are located in DCC126 and 133 and in the Chaplain’s Office, right next to Clegg Chapel. Our staff includes Rev. Erica Brown, College Chaplain/Pastoral Counselor (Muffin Monday Maker and Film Buff), Melissa Jones, Graduate Intern (Major Nerd for all things Cardinals or ComicCon), Caele Gruening (the man who could beat a rock in a staring contest), Chelsea Jacobs (who could be a stand-up comic), Taylor Hess (Jeopardy Answer Consultant and Idea Generator) and Jesse Medina (The Jedi Master of Jewell Hall) and myself. We would love to meet you! Stop by just to say “Hi!”

Until next time, BEAVER NATION!

About the author: Tim Morenz has been in the mental health and substance abuse field for 23 years and has been licensed in the state of Illinois since 1997. He is located in DCC 133 and is at extension 5759. Email him at tim.morenz@blackburn.edu When he grows up, he would like to be either an Iron Chef or the next regeneration of Doctor Who.

The Freshman 15

By Jordyn Smith

Freshman year of college can be amazing—or horrible. Either way, it will be memorable. But what kind of memories you have will depend on the choices you make. And although my year as a freshman was pretty great, we all make bad choices. So here you go, freshies. Enjoy my list of fifteen things I learned from freshman year.

1. You must remember this rule: The best things in life are free. It’s true. Especially when it comes to food.
2. Go to class every day, no matter what. If you have a cold, go to class anyway. If you don’t, you are literally throwing away your money. You have a five minute walk across campus at most. Suck it up! And show up on time!
3. Use your B-Book; it’s there for a reason. It helps you organize your calendar and plan for due dates and tests.
4. If you weren’t a pizza person before college, you will be now. There are several delicious pizza places here in Carlinville that will come to your door with the beloved pizza.
5. If your relatives ask you what you want for Christmas, the answer is always quarters for laundry. You don’t know broke until you are shoving dimes and nickels into the soda machine to get quarters back.
6. Whatever you’ve done for the first eighteen years of your life to build up your immune system is now useless. You will get sick soon if you haven’t already. You would be surprised to see how quickly a cold can spread to an entire dorm. It’s just a part of communal life.
7. Always take your laundry out of the washer and dryer right away. If you don’t, someone will for you. Frustrating as it is, nobody has time to wait for your load of clothes.
8. Wear flip flops in the shower. No exceptions!
9. Be careful about letting



PHOTO BY JORDYN SMITH  
A new Class of ‘18 banner hanging outside of the Demuzio Campus Center

10. Keep your door open when you’re not studying. It’s a great way to make friends with your floor mates.
  11. On the contrary, make sure to lock your door when you go to bed. There are creepers in your dorm and in your hallway. Lock. The. Door.
  12. It is okay to change roommates...four times. It might be awkward to bring it up, but if there’s a problem, you’ll be so much happier when you do.
  13. Do not take your phone to class—it’s distracting and disrespectful. Twitter can wait. In fact, avoid using social media altogether. It causes more trouble than what it’s worth.
  14. Get involved. You’ve been told that from the beginning, but it’s one of the best pieces of advice you could get. It’s the best way to build up your resume as well as your reputation around campus.
  15. Lastly, lots of freshmen come to college with a boyfriend or girlfriend left back at home or at a different college. If you are one of those freshmen, prepare for breakup. If you haven’t broken it off with your significant other yet, you will by Thanksgiving break. It’s inevitable. It’s called the Turkey Dump.
- These are just a few of the things I picked up on last year. As long as you get involved, behave responsibly, and believe in personal hygiene, you should be good to go.

124 East First South Street  
Carlinville, IL 62626  
info@mainstreetbridal.com  
217.854.8824  
www.mainstreetbridal.com

MAIN STREET BRIDAL

Wedding Gowns • Special Occasion Dresses • Tuxedos

STARR’S  
PRIMAL MEATS  
&  
PACKAGE LIQUOR

116 S. PLUM, CARLINVILLE, IL 62626

FIND US ON FACEBOOK  
PHONE: 217-854-7746  
FAX: 217-854-STAR  
starrsprimalmeats@gmail.com

HOURS  
Mon - Thurs 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Fri - Sat 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Sun 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

PERSONAL CUTS  
Mon - Sat 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sun 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MEAT CASE  
Cut meats available until close.

BEER • SPIRITS • WINE  
BEEF (Choice or Higher)  
PORK (Premium 100% Natural)  
CHICKEN (Antibiotic Free)  
SEAFOOD (Premium)  
FULL DELI  
• DRIVE-THRU SERVICE •



What it's Like to Meet Your Favorite Band

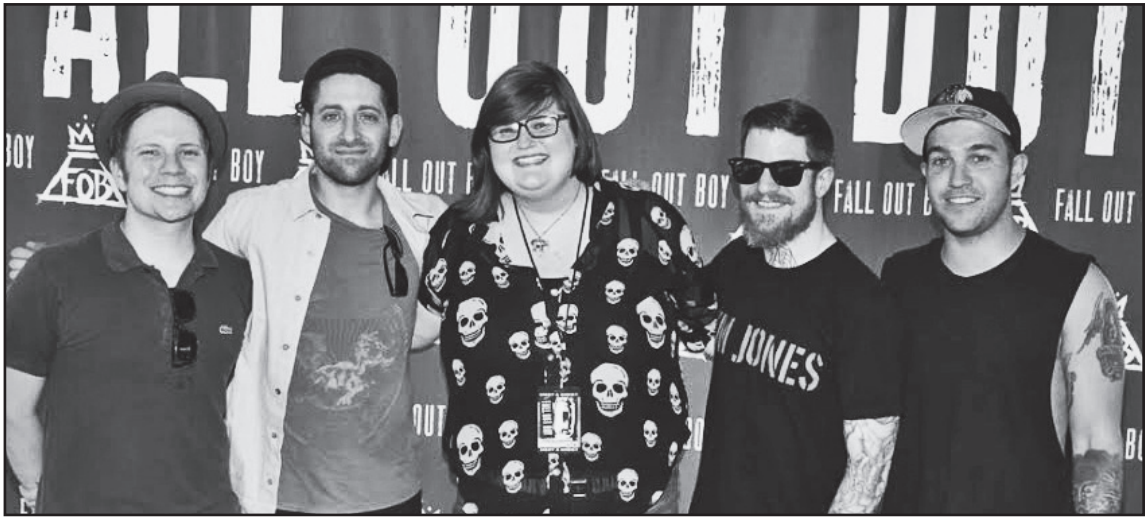


PHOTO COURTESY OF COURTNEY EGNER

Courtney with the members of Fall Out Boy

By Courtney Egner

This summer I had the opportunity to meet my favorite band of 10 years, Fall Out Boy. I first heard Fall Out Boy when I was 10 years old. I bought their double platinum album “From Under the Cork Tree” and fell in love. The crazy fan girl Courtney that everyone knows and loves started here. They mean so much to me that I got their most recent logo tattooed on my arm last year.

So how did I get the chance to meet Fall Out Boy? One of my really good friends Seth had planned on going when we found out about the tour last December. Seth had assured me that he would buy the cheapest tickets available which were lawn seats way where you cannot see anything. I was not expecting tickets for the pit right in front of the stage, let alone meet and greet passes. Seth surprised me with meet and greet tickets because he knew how much it would mean to me if I got to meet them. I cried for three hours because I could not believe that it was actually happening.

Meet and greets are a little different than casually meeting someone in band. The meet and greets are organized meetings where you have to have tickets and passes. Security and other staff are there to facilitate and make sure everything goes smoothly. When it was time for us to meet the band, we were guided by their tour manager, who laid down the ground rules. The biggest rule was that no one was allowed to hug the band because it was hot and everyone was sweaty. He explained that we would go through the line twice. The first time was to get autographs and actually greet them and speak with them, the second time for a photo. When Fall Out Boy came out, we all started going across the table to each member. Everyone was given a greeting card that the band would sign for you as you went through the line.

My turn came up and I was shaking uncontrollably. Patrick, the lead singer, excitedly shook my hand and signed my postcard as I thanked him profusely for just

the opportunity to meet him and the rest of the band. I then continued down the table to the other members. They all signed my postcard and said hello. In reality, the entire meeting only lasted about one minute. I admit that it was extremely disappointing. So I went through the line a second time to get my photo with them and this time I had more time to speak with them due to one of the members commenting on one of my tattoos. I got a picture with them, and that was that.

The concert itself was absolutely unreal. Since we were in the venue for our meet and greet before everyone else we got to go into the pit area before anyone else. We were front, slightly off center right against the barricade. I had seen Fall Out Boy four times previously and I had never had the opportunity to be that close. Even if meeting them for the limited time that I did was disappointing, the chance to be front row and see them perform was an experience that will never be matched.

Activism Takes Center Stage at the VMAs

By Lindsey Becker

Although many are quick to criticize MTV’s lack of actual music videos, they still play host to the Video Music Awards every year. The 31st annual VMAs took place August 24th at the Forum in Inglewood, California. The host, Saturday Night Live’s Jay Pharoah, entertained the audience with his impressions of various celebrities, including Jay-Z and Kanye West. Artists leading in nominations included Beyonce and Iggy Azalea with eight nominations each and Eminem with seven nominations.

Starting off the night was Ariana Grande’s collaboration with producer Zedd, “Break Free,” followed by Nicki Minaj with her new single “Anaconda.” The two then came together with Jesse J to perform their pop hit “Bang Bang.” Minaj suffered an obvious wardrobe malfunction as she struggled to change outfits during the performance. Despite her troubles, she emerged from the stage and pushed through her verse while clutching her dress together.

Other performances included Taylor Swift’s infectious new jam “Shake it Off,” Sam Smith’s emotional “Stay With Me,” Usher and Nicki Minaj’s “She Came to Give it to You,” 5 Seconds of Summer’s “Amnesia,” Iggy Azalea and Rita Ora’s “Black Widow” and Maroon 5’s “Maps.”

Although the night was full of fun performances and entertainment, the ceremony

did include some more serious moments. Before presenting the award for best hip hop video, rapper Common led the audience in a moment of silence for the protesters in Ferguson, Missouri. “Hip-hop has always been about truth and it’s been a powerful instrument of social change. I want us all to take a moment of silence for Mike Brown and for peace in this country and the world,” he said.

Also making waves in new ways was pop star Miley Cyrus, who used her win for video of the year to send an important message. The singer took Jesse Helt, a 22 year-old former homeless man, as her date for the evening. Instead of accepting the award herself, she sent Helt up to the stage in her place, where he delivered a speech addressing the homelessness problem facing the nation. He dedicated the award to all the youth in Los Angeles who are “starving, lost, and scared.” Cyrus has partnered with the organization My Friend’s Place, which is committed to fighting homelessness in the L.A. area.

Closing out the evening was a powerful sixteen-minute performance from Beyoncé. She performed a medley of hits from her recent self-titled album and afterwards accepted the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard award. “I’m so full,” she said teary-eyed as she accepted her award and was joined by husband Jay-Z and daughter Blue Ivy on stage.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTHONY QUINTANO

The Moonman Statue, given to the winners at the Video Music Awards

it fell flat.

Hopefully this season will be more promising. “Freak Show” is set in the 1950s and revolves around one of the last remaining freak shows. This season is Lange’s fourth and final season. According to the teaser trailer, “American Horror Story: Freak Show” begins its tale in the quiet,

sleepy hamlet of Jupiter, Florida. The year is 1952. A troupe of curiosities has just arrived to town, coinciding with the strange emergence of a dark entity that savagely threatens the lives of townsfolk and freaks alike.”

Season 4’s “Freak Show” is slated to premiere on FX on October 8th at 9pm CST.

American Horror Story Gets its Freak On

By Michelle Lee

Jessica Lange, aliens, Nazis, ghosts, racism, Angela Basset, witches and voodoo. To the average person, that may seem like quite the eclectic mix. If you’re “American Horror Story” writers Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk, it sounds like the perfect recipe for an Emmy-winning TV show.

“American Horror Story” is a miniseries that tells a different narrative each season. Season 1’s “Murder House” told the story of a family sharing a house with the ghosts of the previous tenants. “Asylum” in Season 2 mixed paranormal forces and serial killers in a Catholic asylum. Last season, titled “Coven,” involved the centuries-long feud between witch covens in New Orleans.

What makes the show

compelling is Murphy and Falchuk’s provocative yet taboo motifs. Previous seasons have extensively covered themes ranging from the still-present racism in the South to corruption within the Catholic Church. While these topics are not easily stomachable, they offer what many television shows don’t: tangible controversy. “American Horror Story”’s strong ensemble cast also makes the show appealing. Award-winning actors such as Jessica Lange, Kathy Bates and Angela Basset have appeared in several seasons but the show has boosted the careers of show regulars Evan Peters and Sarah Paulson. Although many of the actors return for new seasons, their characters are always fresh with ever-changing narratives. It’s thrilling to see the familiar

faces tackle the challenge of new characters every season.

The largest problem with the show is its continuity. Murphy and Falchuk always start each season with a handful of motifs that are alluring and even seductive, but by midseason the writers have to figure out how to tie up all of the complex storylines and bring their themes full circle within a matter of episodes. Usually the end result isn’t pretty. “Coven”’s season finale received much criticism. The ending of the narrative tried to neatly wrap up all of the story’s issues into what seemed to be an afternoon special with a happy ending. Many fans were upset because it didn’t do justice to the dynamic characters portrayed by Lange, Paulson, Bates and Basset. Despite the writers’ best effort,



## Facebook Challenges

By Deja Bell

Over the last few years Facebook challenges have become the new, trendy thing to do. Some of the challenges were simple, like the Saltine Cracker Challenge where you try to eat 6 saltine crackers without anything to drink. Other challenges are more dangerous, like the Fire Challenge in which you pour flammable liquid on your skin, set yourself on fire then put it out as fast as you can. There is also the Space Monkey Challenge where you purposely try to make yourself pass out.

While people have actually died from attempting these dangerous challenges, that hasn't stopped many from continuing to do them. As long as people continue to submit to their boredom and actively look for their next adrenaline rush, these challenges will most likely never stop. "There are various reasons for the different challenges. People will stop coming up with these challenges when social media becomes irrelevant," said sophomore biology major Jonathan Ezana. People are more worried about being famous on social media than they are about their own lives and welfare, so they are willing to do anything for their 15 seconds even if that means dying.

However, not all challenges are hazardous to people's lives, health or well-being. The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge has a great purpose, which is to raise awareness for ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis). Basically, you have to dump a bucket of ice water

on yourself, donate money and challenge some of your friends to do the same. A lot of celebrities and people here at Blackburn have done this challenge (see front page) and have donated to the cause. Freshman communications major Denzel Smith said, "Challenges like the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge are good for raising awareness but people should bring attention to other diseases and disabilities as well."

There aren't many, if any, other challenges out there that have gained awareness for something on this large of a scale. Despite this, people continue to take something and twist it into something it was never meant to be, trying to turn it into a joke because they have nothing better to do. In some cases, people are so ready to jump on the bandwagon for clearly imbecilic challenges, but when a good cause comes around all they can do is make fun of it by dropping small blocks of ice on their head or using other things like fake blood, Coca-Cola and rice.

Raising awareness for a legitimate cause should be respected. The problem is people would rather pass out, set themselves on fire or jump in the snow naked than contribute to raising awareness for a good cause. While ALS is not the only disease that needs awareness or money, it shows that when put to the test a lot of people do what they can to contribute. This in turn could lead to raised awareness for other illnesses, charities and research to find cures.

## The Dirty F-Word



PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA BREWER

A quote on feminism by Beyonce Knowles

By Lindsey Becker

It's no secret that I consider myself a feminist, and that I have for most of my life. In the thick of third wave feminism, I've noticed a trend that I'm beginning to become concerned about: an alarming amount of women I know and women in the media have proudly proclaimed that they're not feminists.

A lot of people are scared of the F-word. There are a lot of reasons I hear people give for not considering themselves feminists, and I think most of the time these reasons stem from not understanding what feminism really is.

"I'm not a feminist because I like men!" I like men, too! There are a lot of men in my life that I love and care about deeply. Feminism doesn't mean that you have to hate men. Feminism is about deconstructing gender roles and reevaluating the power balance between men and women.

Another reason I commonly hear is that a woman likes to dress traditionally feminine. Being a feminist does not mean you have to burn your bra and not shave your armpits. Feminists come in all shapes and sizes, and as a feminist I make it my goal to ensure that women and people of all genders can express their gender identity in whatever way they feel most comfortable. If you want to

do your hair and wear dresses, that's great! If you don't want to shave or wear makeup, that's great too! There is no set way that feminists, or even women in general, are supposed to look.

Some women think they can't be feminists if they want to be wives or stay-at-home moms. There's absolutely nothing wrong with wanting to get married and raise children, or to even forego a career to do so. Being a feminist is about making sure that all opportunities are open for all women, whether that means pursuing a career or raising

is considered 'feminine' and thus inappropriate for men. By breaking through these stereotypes about women and taking the feminine label off of emotionalism, it becomes socially acceptable for men to cry.

Starting to see what I mean here? Feminism isn't about destroying all men and letting women reign supreme. It's about taking apart gender stereotypes and giving women the same opportunities as men. It's about letting people express their gender in whatever way they want without social backlash. Most of the

“

***Feminism is about deconstructing gender roles and reevaluating the power balance between men and women.***

”

children. Being a wife or a mother doesn't mean that you can't be a feminist.

I hear a lot of men rejecting feminism too, even though feminism actually seeks to resolve some of the issues men face. "If I cry/show emotion people will call me weak!" This stems from the assumption that all women are emotional—emotionalism

time when I hear someone say they're not a feminist, I explain these concepts to them and they leave the conversation deciding that they are a feminist after all. Do you think women are equal to men? Do you think they should be treated as such? If you answered yes, then you're probably a feminist.

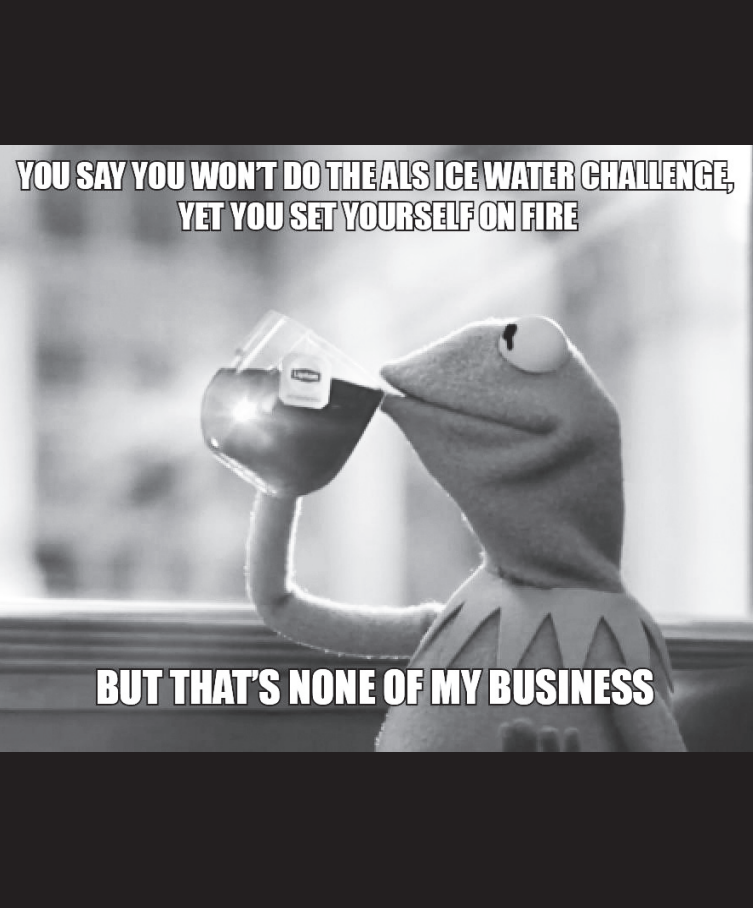


PHOTO MADE BY AURORA GRIMMETT

**Got somethin' to say?  
Send opinion pieces to burnian@blackburn.edu to  
see your piece in the next issue!**



Morenz Named SLIAC Commissioner



PHOTO BY AURORA GRIMMETT

Angie Morenz, former head of Athletics at Blackburn

By Keragan White

Angie Watson Morenz recently received the position of SLIAC commissioner. This will not be Morenz’s first run with SLIAC. For her Doctoral degree (through the United States Sports Academy), Morenz worked under SLIAC commissioner Will Wolper, who she replaced.

Morenz is a 1997 graduate of Blackburn where she majored in physical education management. She received her master’s degree from Indiana State University in athletic training and her Ed. D. in Sports Management-Leadership at United States Sports Academy. Morenz is well known throughout the campus of Blackburn College not only for being the first woman to be awarded 12 athletic letters, but also because of her tremendous contribution to Blackburn through her

position as Athletic Director. When asked what her biggest success as Athletic Director at Blackburn was, Morenz replied, “the physical change in the Dawes lobby, policies to help the department be more efficient, and the successful recruiting class for this year. The successful recruiting class was the hard work of the coaching staff; they did a tremendous job of seeking out prospective Blackburn students and building

located in Missouri. She is waiting to hear about the office lease.

Morenz said her goals for the new Commissioner position are to transition as smoothly as possible. Morenz also states, “stepping into the position as the fall season starts means I had a number of projects waiting for me as I started. I would like for the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference to be more visible; there are student-athletes doing

“ There are student athletes doing amazing things on and off the court and the general public needs to know what amazing things happen at the NCAA D-III level.

Angie Morenz

relationships that brought students here. That isn’t my success necessarily, but a success for the department as a whole.”

Morenz has been a part of the Blackburn staff since 2006 when she worked in Alumni Relations in the Development Office. In 2008, she became a faculty member and taught sports management and physical education. Morenz was then awarded the job of Athletic Director in 2013. However, she is not ready to leave Blackburn just yet. Morenz is trying to move the conference office to Carlinville, even the Blackburn campus if possible. The headquarters are currently

amazing things on and off the court and the general public needs to know what amazing things happen at the NCAA D-III level.” Morenz hopes to bring the public’s attention to the NCAA D-III athletes’ contributions and success.

Morenz will have the duties of scheduling, running championships, NCAA compliance information, pre- and post- season meetings, administrative meetings in the conference and to visit institutions and attend games as the Commissioner of SLIAC. We have not seen the last of Angie Morenz. Her contributions to Blackburn and the Carlinville community will not stop here.

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.

Faith on the Field: FCA at Blackburn

By Jordyn Smith

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, or FCA for short, is a new club on campus that has some students buzzing. Under the leadership of Physical Education Professor Tena Krause and the student leadership of Chris Davis, Alexis Richie, Tyler Gosnell, Mary Chamberlain, Jared Jones and Jamie Moore, the club managed to spark the interest of 48 students so far who signed up at the community fair.

Krause decided to lead the club because of her past experiences with FCA as a college athlete and student. She has coached at the college level for over 25 years, and believes the experience as leader of FCA will help her to stay connected with athletes.

Through prayer, Krause was able to realize that she could use her talents and abilities from coaching to face the challenge of starting FCA. She also discussed her thoughts with several Blackburn athletes who had participated in FCA in high school and seemed excited to get the club started here at Blackburn.

The club will focus on serving local communities by equipping, empowering and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ. According to Krause, “FCA’s vision is to see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.” She adds, “FCA’s mission is to present to coaches and athletes, and all whom they influence,

the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church.”

If you are interested in FCA’s mission, you do not have to be a coach or athlete to join. All are welcome. The club meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the ADR, which is right across from the Dining Hall.

The club leaders are really impressed with the amount of interest in FCA so far. “It’s a good way to gauge how students feel about a Christian group on campus that’s led by athletes,” remarked senior History major Mary Chamberlain. “It should be really fun.”

The Lowdown on This Year’s Fantasy Football

By Jon Griffel

Finally, the NFL season has started. Many fans look forward to opening day with eagerness, wings and last minute fantasy football roster tweaks. While fans and fantasy players are chomping at the bit, business owners and managers cringe at the thought. Fantasy football will cost U.S. employers roughly \$13 billion dollars this year. Forbes studies show that roughly half of the working male population will spend 2 or more hours per week at work tinkering with their fantasy roster. Also, 5.8 million women are estimated to be players in fantasy football this year, which makes up 20% of all participants. I will provide all of you with potential sleepers and overall fantasy advice for the upcoming season.

Quarterback- Jake Locker, Tennessee Titans- Locker got off to a very fast start last season even without a top receiving threat. He can score with his arm or his legs so he provides starter value as either a late round pick or waiver pickup. Also, Ken Whisenhunt is the new coach of the Titans and quarterbacks have consistently seen their numbers flourish under him.

Running Back- Toby Gerhart, Jacksonville Jaguars- Gerhart has labored away behind Adrian Peterson for long enough: free the tank. Gerhart was a very productive player at Stanford, and he has proven the ability to grind for tough yards. Gus Bradley, coach of the Jaguars, has shown a heavy reliance on the running game, and some of the

pressure should be taken off of Gerhart with a much-improved offense.

Wide Receiver- Brandin Cooks, New Orleans Saints- Cooks could be a very productive player in coach Gary Payton’s offense. Darren Sproles is gone, and Cooks could be a better receiving replacement. He is the perfect flex position player for any roster. Look for Cooks in the 8th round and later.

Tight End-Eric Ebron, Detroit Lions-Ebron is an athletic specimen. He looks like a heavier version of teammate Calvin Johnson. He is an immediate red zone threat due to his size and leaping ability. He can operate in the middle of the field as well as outside the numbers, giving him versatility. He has the potential to be a top 5 fantasy tight end.

Kicker- Alex Henery, Philadelphia Eagles- Henery’s fantasy value is directly linked to Chip Kelly’s offense. The Eagles should once again have one of the highest scoring offenses in the NFL this season and Henery should be there to reap the benefits.

Defense/Special Teams-Tampa Bay Buccaneers- Remember when the Bears had a good defense? Well Lovie Smith was the man who crafted that defense and now he is running a Bucs squad that is deep defensively. The defense has multiple high round picks that have shown flashes of being great and the offense should be capable of keeping the defense out of a rough starting field position.



PHOTO BY LEANDRO QUEIROZ

A quick Instagram selfie of the Men’s Soccer team on their way to an away game