


THE BURNIAN

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Carlinville, IL

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Read about celebrities' leaked nudes from the iCloud hack on page 7




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Flip to page 3 to find out how to get a discount on coffee drinks at The Refuge

Extreme Makeover: Website Edition

By Lindsey Becker

For most prospective students, a college’s website is the first impression of that institution. It offers a glimpse into the college’s atmosphere as well as important information and forms. A school’s website is just as important for students, faculty and staff because it contains updates and resources for day-to-day life on campus.

Recently, Blackburn’s website has gotten a complete overhaul in both look and content in order to create a more streamlined space for prospective students and members of the Blackburn community alike. Last semester campus was hit with a new version of the website, though it was incomplete and featured a link to the old website as well. This was problematic, as information was spaced out between the two websites and not easily accessible at once. According to Director of Marketing and Public Relations Pete Oswald

this was due to problems with the design firm the PR department was working with. For the new site, PR partnered with Studio 2108, a firm based in St. Louis that specializes in web design, to speed up the process and complete the website faster. PR worker and senior professional writing major Max Vitori also worked on the site over the summer and will serve as web editor in his remaining days at Blackburn.

The new website contains information organized in a way that’s effective for everyone who might visit the site. “I like that you don’t have to go through the old website to get to everything now,” said junior graphic design major Bryan Bethel. Visitors of the new site can quickly locate the information aimed at them. “A college website has a lot of different pieces to it, because the constituents for a college are varied,” Oswald said. “We have prospective students, transfer students,

parents and family, current students, faculty and staff and alumni. We need to make information discoverable and understandable to all those different audiences.” The site now features drop-down menus tailored to all visitors to do just that.

The site also contains several features that were unavailable before. The faculty and staff section of the site showcases a directory that allows users to search for faculty and staff members by name, title, or department to quickly find contact information. For parents who may not be bilingual, most of the information provided to family members is available in Spanish as well as English. For students, there is an interactive menu from the dining hall that allows users to select the foods they’d like to eat that day and calculate their nutritional value. Another valuable tool is a link that instantly provides users with a

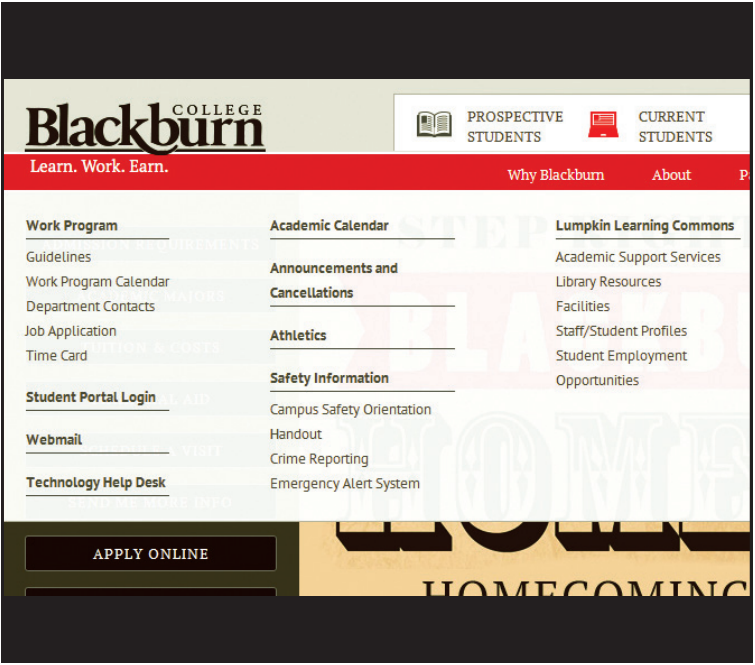


PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDSEY BECKER

A screenshot featuring the new drop-down menus on the website.

list of cancellations and other important announcements.

Although many new features have been added, Oswald assures that there is still much more to come. “The biggest thing to realize is that the website’s never finished—we already have a list of additional improvements and content we have yet to add,”

he said. These features include more video content, resources and links—including an interactive course catalog and description, which will speed up the process of those pesky 4-year plans. Oswald urges anyone with suggestions for further improvements or changes to contact him.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BECKY WALTON

Kids enjoyed riding in the parade at the Lion’s Club Festival on the square.

Recycling Revival

By Jordyn Smith

During the first semester of the 2013-2014 academic school year, small white recycling bins were placed in the hallways of Jewell Hall. Because prospective student tours always included the interior of Jewell, a decision was made to remove those bins so that the dormitory would appear nicer-looking. The removal of these bins left only the larger recycling bins in the parlor and recycling in the entire dorm decreased.

As for the rest of the resident halls, there are recycling bins at least in every parlor or landing area, depending on the dorm. Some of the smaller white recycling bins were removed, however, out of health and safety concerns. The decision to eliminate the small white bins was made by Resident Directors and Campus Services because they could not be emptied every day.

Recycling bins are also placed in various spots in non-dorm buildings. According to former Blackburn Provost Arthur Darken, there are “well over 100 recycling bins around campus.”

Interest in recycling sparked back in 2009 when

the first Recycling Crew was established. Darken volunteered to supervise the crew for five years. Starting the process wasn’t so easy. Darken had to hunt down free recycling bins from various companies such as Pepsi and the water treatment plant in town.

In an effort to engage students, Darken implemented a competitive program that would reward the dormitory with the highest rate of recycled pounds per person with a monetary award. The results were displayed on a large poster in DCC. During the 2013-2014 school year, a total of 2,851.75 pounds was recycled. This included plastic bottles, aluminum cans and white and colored paper. The winning dorm last year, with a total of 12.35 pounds per person, was Jones Hall. In second came Graham Hall with a total of 11.15 pounds. In the past, Jewell has tied with Graham, but due to the removal of the small white bins from the hallways Jewell’s numbers took a dive.

This year, Director of Physical Plant Sam Harding is overseeing the Recycling Crew. Harding’s goals with

his crew are to work efficiently and effectively while promoting recycling. When asked how recycling could be better promoted, he mentioned the “involvement from staff and faculty to encourage recycling.” He even suggested bringing in a speaker. Harding added that there’s also a need to “emphasize conservation.”

Also dealing with recycling are the Conservation Representatives that serve on House Council in each dorm. These members are instructed to report on the progress of recycling in each dorm and post the results as well as speak at the House Council and dorm meetings. Sophomore biochemistry major and Campus Services Manager Veronica Milligan is the Recycling Representative of Graham Hall. “I think the recycling is pretty poor this semester,” says Milligan. “I think recycling is a bit more important than the appearance of the bins. I think right now the best thing we can do is put the bins back or get new ones.” She added that the Sustainability Club will be working on a project to improve the appearance of the recycling bins.

Parking: New Difficulties or New Scapegoat?

By Max Vitori

This semester has brought with it a massive influx of new students — 229 of them, to be exact. According to the Student Life Office, 401 students are living on campus this year as compared to last year’s 384. Jewell Hall’s Freshman Living/Learning Community (colloquially referred to as “the FLLC,” pronounced “flick”) is completely full and freshman residents have spilled over into Butler, Stoddard, Jones and Graham Halls. This brings our upperclassman residence halls closer to capacity than they would usually get, and with more students come more cars.

Parking in residence hall lots can be a frustrating experience, particularly for residents of Stoddard and Jones Halls. Stoddard features two very small lots, enough spaces for 15 of its 67 residents. The Jones lot contains approximately 30 spots for 70 residents and is infamous for its poor design. “Even though I do have my own parking spot,” said Jones Hall Resident Director Janessa Edwards, “it is difficult to get in and out of due to the way the parking lot is set up.” On the subject of space she added, “Jones is a difficult place to find parking...if you do have a parking spot you don’t want to leave it because you’ll lose it quickly.”

Parking at Jones is already difficult, but the even more limited space at Stoddard has

turned a few of its residents into parking lot refugees. “The Jones lot really is a nightmare and spillover from Stoddard makes it even worse,” said Jones resident Larra Brogdon. “If they’re going to continue to refuse to expand the lots, then they need to at least color-code parking stickers to each dorm or assign parking to residents based on semesters on campus.”

Such limited space has been a topic of contention in the past, but with so many new students and cars it’s become even more problematic...or has it? Are there really that many more cars on campus or is our unusually large freshman class just a new scapegoat for the same old blame game? Stoddard Hall Resident Director Jeanette Kelly said, “I actually don’t see as many cars as last year, I just think they are different cars and people are trying to figure out how to make the most of the limited space they are provided with.”

Campus Community and Safety Director Tim Reents, who oversees parking on campus, says Blackburn is unique in the way its parking functions. “At other schools you’ll see one or two big lots and that’s it,” he said. “You get assigned to one lot, and that’s where you park. There’s plenty of room over on the north side of campus, by Jewell, but no one wants to walk.”

and help other families who are experiencing the effects of NF.”

The concert will feature bluegrass acts The Leadfoot Band, Tangleweed, Acoustics Anonymous, Old Salt Union, Clusterpuck and Chicago Farmer. Tickets purchased online prior to the event are \$18 for adults and \$9 for children under twelve. Tickets purchased at the gate are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under twelve. A raffle will also be held, with one of the prizes being a Caribbean cruise. Concessions (including alcohol) will be available for purchase throughout the day.

To purchase tickets online or learn more about the event, visit <http://samjam4nf.com/>. If you’re interested in volunteering at the event in exchange for a free ticket, please contact Pete Oswald at peter.oswald@blackburn.edu.

Invasion: Ukraine Vs. Russia

By Ben Nichols

Almost twenty years of peace in Europe was brought to a grinding halt this summer. This is due to the events occurring after pro Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine divided the country in the wake of the revolution against the old governmental regime that occurred in February. During these tense months, multiple sources and governments have provided evidence that there was a buildup of Russian troops on the border. The Russian government has responded claiming it was all training exercises. This was followed by reports of Russian troops operating within the borders of Ukraine and bodies of troops being returned home with the following message, “Killed in training accident on Ukraine border.” Then last month, Russian tanks and an estimated one thousand troops entered Ukraine after a week of shelling. Ukrainian troops retreated away from some of the disputed eastern cities, and have been in combat with Russia since then. A week later, a potential ceasefire was



PHOTO BY DENNIS WILKINSON

A Ukrainian tank.

agreed upon, but was quickly refused by both nations within hours of taking effect.

The international response to the crisis has been an overall condemnation of Russia’s actions, with many international sanctions placed by various NATO nations. This has been followed up by a remilitarization of many Baltic and Eastern European nations including Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia. The United States has also been brought into the conflict

in a limited role by sending military advisors to these countries.

So what does this mean for us? Simply put, it means that we are experiencing the tensest period in Europe since the Cold War, and could potentially lead to another stand off with Russia. All the world can do is waiting and see if Russia decides to stop playing the international game of chicken and go back to a peaceful Europe.

Gadgets to Keep You Safe

By Patrick Noel

As the fall semester is in full swing and students head back to classes, parties and bars, there are a few things on the market to keep them safe from harm. One item is the First Alert Safety POD or Personal Security alarm. This small palm sized alarm packs quite a punch. It has several functions such as a touch button 100db panic alarm, a movement sensor to attach to your doorknob, a vibrating sensor so you can put it on your bag or laptop and a built

in LED light. With a three button system control it can be used by anyone that can push a button. For \$29.95 (First Alert Website) it is affordable on almost anyone’s budget.

The next gadget is for detecting if someone might have slipped something in your drink. The date rape drug test coaster looks like a coaster you would find at any bar or tavern except there are two test areas per coaster than can detect if there was something added to your drink that you

didn’t want. Drop a few drops onto the test area and within seconds you will know the results. Ten coasters cost \$19.99 plus \$5.50 shipping and handling (Amazon.com), but can also be found at some nutrition stores and other places online.

Another item that people could use for their protection is the tried and true pepper spray. According to self-defense company MIS Defense Products, this item is legal in Illinois under the law stating that “The use of a product containing a non-lethal noxious liquid gas or substance designed solely for personal defense carried by a person 18 years of age or older is authorized by Section 720 ILCS 5/24-1.” There are many different varieties ranging from \$4.95 for a keychain version to \$399.99 for the JPX pepper spray gun (found on The Home Security Superstore online) with numerous variations in between.

These are just a few items available for personal protection; it is always better to be safe than sorry and remember Blackburn security can be reached Monday through Friday between the hours of 8am and 5pm at 217-854-5550 or at 217-854-3231 ext. 5550 (non-emergencies only). **Emergency situations should be reported to 911.**

SamJam: Unplugged on the Prairie

By Max Vitori

On Saturday September 27, Marketing and Public Relations Director Pete Oswald and family will be hosting SamJam: Unplugged on the Prairie, a twelve-hour bluegrass concert. The event will raise money and awareness for NF Midwest, an organization which provides research and support services for those affected by neurofibromatosis.

Neurofibromatosis (NF) is a genetic disorder that attacks the nervous system, causing tumor growth on the brain, nerves and spinal cord. Oswald’s son Sam, the namesake of the event, was diagnosed with NF 25 years ago. “This disorder can be very challenging to both patients and their families due to the great variety of symptoms and problems it can cause,” said Oswald. “SamJam will allow us to raise additional funds to assist NF Midwest



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETER OSWALD

3 members of Clusterpluck, from St. Louis, one of the six bands that will be playing at SamJam.

Hispanic Heritage Month

By Jordyn Smith

Each year we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month to honor those Hispanic Americans whose contributions have shaped the United States. The celebration began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week, under the presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson. The 30-day celebration came into effect in 1988 when President Ronald Reagan enacted it into law. The celebration now begins on September 15, as this day marks the beginning of independence for several Latin American countries, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Also, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Columbus Day, which is recognized on October 12, also falls within the month.

This is the second year that Blackburn is celebrating the Heritage month. The Spanish Department and Diversity and Inclusion held a successful event earlier this month in DCC that educated students about the heritage of Hispanic Americans by allowing them to experience part of the

Hispanic culture. Timothy Lucas and the Sodexo staff created a Hispanic menu that was available in the dining hall. Students were allowed to bring their plates back into the commons area to enjoy the activities. There were dance and vocal performances. The night closed with a jeopardy game with Spanish 101 students matched up against Blackburn faculty and staff. According to senior interdisciplinary studies major, Ashley Fisher the event was “a great way for the Hispanic culture to be celebrated and promoted on campus.”

There have been a number of Hispanics who have had an influence on our country in some way. Many well-known writers, inventors, actors and actresses, artists, baseball players and singers are of Hispanic-American origin. Christina Aguilera, Cameron Diaz, Sammy Sosa, Jennifer Lopez, Charlie Sheen and Alex Rodriguez to name a few. Thousands of Hispanic Americans have served the United States in times of war. Many have proven their loyalty and valor, even while facing discrimination,

particularly during the World War II era. Character traits such as those are what we honor today. By celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of United States citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America, we can pay tribute to the generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our society.

According to Director of Diversity and Inclusion Jarrod Gray, the night was a great opportunity to “study abroad without leaving the country.” The main focus was to have fun and to include all students and celebrate who they are. “I think Hispanic Heritage Month is a great thing because it allows others to have insight on the Hispanic culture like the food and traditions,” explains senior biology major Luis Velez. “As for the event here at Blackburn, I think it’s great. There aren’t too many Hispanics here and it’s awesome to represent them and allow them to express themselves.”



GRAPHIC DESIGNED BY KERAGAN WHITE

By Chris Cole

Between August 15th and September 8th, the Campus Community and Safety department handled a total of 20 incidents. Director of Campus Safety Timothy Reents compiled a list of some of the aforementioned incidents below:

08/15/14 E m p t y alcohol bottles and hard alcohol found in a dorm room.

Two students were charged. Handled by Res. Life

08/19/14 A student approached an off duty RA and asked where they could purchase cannabis. Handled by Res. Life

08/23/14 There was a party involving underage drinking and possession of hard alcohol in a residence hall. Seven students were charged. Handled by Res. Life and Security

08/25/14 There was a report of a student possessing cannabis outside of a residence hall. The student only possessed tobacco and a pipe. Handled by Res. Life and Security.

08/26/14 911 received a hang up call from Blackburn campus. The 911 operator provided security with the student’s name, and they were able to establish the student was fine. Handled by Security.

08/27/14 A complaint was filed by two students against another student. The allegation was one student took money from the two complainants’ wallets. The complaint alleged the theft occurred in a residence hall.

Handled by res. Life and investigated by Security.

08/28/17 At 10:45 a.m. a complaint was filed by a student that his keys were stolen from his room during the night as he was sleeping. The student later admitted he found them in the parlor of his residence hall.

08/29/14 At 9:47 p.m.. a RD became aware of a heated discussion between two students. Handled by Residence Life.

09/01/14 The TV in Jones Parlor was reported stolen. Handled by Res. Life and Security.

09/01/14 The flat screen TV was stolen from the lobby area of Dawes Gym. Handled by Security.

09/07/14 There was a report at 1:10 a.m. of suspicion of a student possessing hard alcohol in their room. The complaint was unfounded. Handled by Res. Life and Security.

09/07/14 There was a complaint at 12:24 a.m. of underage students drinking in a residence hall. The students left and were not located. Handled by Res. Life and Security.

09/07/14 There was a complaint at 2:30 a.m. of underage drinking of guests of Blackburn students. A Blackburn student was uncooperative and attempted to interfere with Blackburn staff. There were five alcohol offenses issued. Handled by Res. Life, Security and the Carlinville Police.

Tuesday Night Grind at The Refuge

By Katrina Jahn

For students who are slightly introverted that just want to make more friends, there is a new event called Tuesday Night Grind. Every Tuesday evening from 6 to 8pm college students can make their way to the local Refuge Coffee House on the town square to meet like-minded people in the area.

Adam Anglin and Cameron Lewis from Carlinville’s Cross Church came up with the idea to hold the event at the coffee house as a way for young people to hang out and get to know others. This will also help people who are new to the area to familiarize them with Cross Church. It is not currently a bible study group though it may become that depending on who comes to the event. On this subject, Anglin said, “We’re trying to



GRAPHIC DESIGNED BY ADAM ANGLIN

create this environment where people can just come hang out, maybe play some board games and get a discount. There are spiritual aspects of it. If like-minded people come, they may talk about that.”

Posters are posted around campus advertising the event. Anyone can go on Tuesday

evenings from 6pm to 8pm and socialize with whoever shows up. Don’t forget about that discount on drinks either. Bring some friends, meet new people and have some coffee at a discount. Anglin added, “There are spiritual aspects of it. If like-minded people come, they may talk about that.”

THE BURNIAN

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Sarah Collman
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Michelle Lee
DESIGN & LAYOUT CO-EDITOR: Rebecca Sprinkel
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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

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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.

Funding Fun on Campus: Allocations

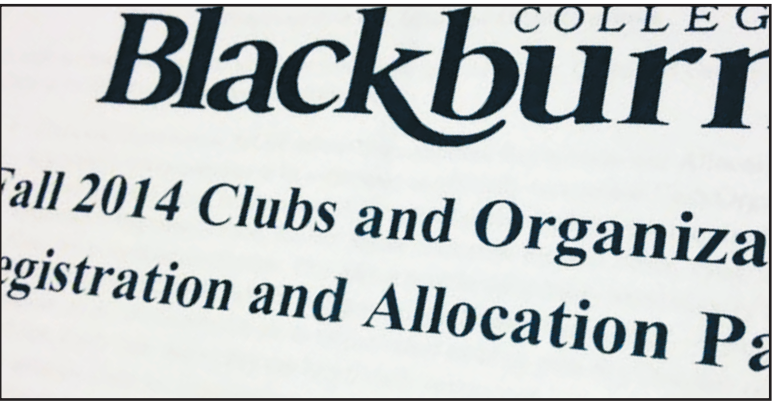
By Max Vitori
Disclosure: The author is a club president and a member of Student Senate.

Everysemesterthecampus’s clubs and organizations request funds from Student Senate on allocations day. The money Student Senate awards each organization goes toward the events, activities and purchases they budget for. The experience of allocations day can be difficult for club representatives, but what is it like being on the other side of the table?

Student Senate is made up of representatives from each residence hall, a commuter representative and a number of at-large representatives elected by the entire campus. All members were required to attend. Also present were Senate’s faculty advisor Dr. Mark Armstrong and Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life Abbey Hardin. Appointments began at 12 p.m., at which time club

representatives began filtering in to present their budgets and funding requests for the semester. Representatives are usually club presidents or treasurers, but may also be another officer or general member.

In recent semesters the process for allocations has changed. Rather than creating their own budget outlines, club representatives are given a Word document with a budget table already built in. Clubs enter the items they would like to request funds for, how much they believe each item will cost and a total cost of activities. After that, the total cost of activities is subtracted from the club’s existing account balance. If the total cost is greater than the current balance, the difference is the amount Senate considers for allocation. Each representative has ten minutes to present their organization’s budget (though most don’t take that long). Any time Senate has a break between presentations,



The packet for making a club on campus

they consider each budget and how much to award each club. At the end these amounts are finalized and the allocations session closes. The whole process, for Senate members, takes about five hours.

Allocations are widely considered to be a harrowing experience. The pressure of standing up in front of peers to speak is often daunting in the first place, and asking them for money while defending your organization’s motives adds another level of discomfort.

Student Senate president Jacob Maag has a more positive outlook on the new process. “I have always enjoyed allocations,” he said. “I believe that major improvements have been made to the process as a whole since I first became involved with Senate in the spring semester of 2012.” On the subject of the perceived barrage of questions from Senate, he added, “While I am sorry they feel they are getting grilled, I also feel like the process is good. Senate has to decide how student activity fees will be allocated to clubs, so a rigorous process ensures that money is given to clubs that are most likely to properly use the funds. A way for clubs to feel more prepared and less ‘grilled’ would be to meet and establish a good relationship with Emily Bahr (see below), the newly hired Director of Student Activities. She is a great resource for any organization, whether struggling or thriving!”

The Amazing Emily Bahr



Emily Bahr, Director of Student Activities

By Katrina Jahn

This year, Emily Bahr was hired as the Director of Student Activities and new Student Orientation Organizer while also being the Resident Director of Graham Hall. This seems like a lot of responsibility to start with, but if anyone can handle all the work, it would be Bahr.

Being from St. Louis, Bahr is used to big cities. In 2012 she got her Bachelor’s of Science and Mathematics from Webster University in St. Louis. During her undergraduate studies, she also decided to study abroad in the Netherlands and while she was over there on spring break she took an art class in Florence, Italy to fulfill her art credit.

In between riding her bike and accidentally solving Rubik’s cubes, Bahr spent half of a semester in the fall of her senior year studying in Vienna, Austria. After graduating from Webster, she started her

graduate studies at Western Illinois University. As a study abroad office assistant at Western, she traveled yet again, this time to India to study the culture and religion. Earlier this year she graduated from Western Illinois University with her Masters of Science in college student personnel.

After working in residence life during undergrad, she also had an internship at Western in orientation, so she had already had experience in those areas before coming to Blackburn. The only new challenge for Bahr was the student activities.

After helping to set up laser tag for the students here at Blackburn, she’s doing a pretty good job.

After hearing of her studies in all of these places, one might wonder what brought her to our small community at Blackburn. She said, “When I was looking for jobs, I was looking preferably for a small liberal arts school, which Blackburn is. When I came to campus and got a sense for the students, the people here, the environment I would be working in, I just loved it. I thought all of it was great.”

As for her future, Bahr is comfortable here for now and likes working in student affairs, but would like to work abroad at a college or university at some point. She also isn’t ruling out going back to school later because she likes being a student and learning.

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By Tim Morenz

We have just begun week 6! Can you believe it!? We are speeding into the semester. We are now getting into the routines of class, work and extras. Soon it will be difficult (if it isn’t already) to strike a work/life balance and all of the extra assignments will take their toll. My question for you: What can you do right now to attain a balance between work, school and life?

Speaking of rising temperatures, here is our question for this issue:

Dear Tim,
My roommate is an A\$\$h@le. We never agree on anything. Fix them.

-Anon.

Dear Anon.,
Ahh, yes. Roommate conflict. From arguments ranging from the type of music, to the temperature, even to politics and religion, adjusting to someone who has different values and goals can be challenging. It can also be overwhelming and if not resolved can drive a permanent wedge in the relationship. I have a few insights to offer for your consideration.

Talk it out, don’t text it out: Most of us don’t naturally like conflict so we avoid it. We anticipate negative reactions to our feelings and it creates hostility before even a word is spoken. So why not send a



PHOTO BY AURORA GRIMMETT

Tim Morenz, College Counselor

text, right!? WRONG!!! Text conversations can be taken out of context immediately and you don’t get to see what the other person’s body language is saying, or hear the tone that accompanies their words. These are essential. Talking can be scary, maybe a peer counselor could help you with that conversation.

Attack the problem, not the person: Forget about winning the argument, focus on resolving the issue. Keep a level volume, avoid profanity and name calling and work on either reaching an agreement or a compromise.

Minimize the differences, build on the similarities: Start the resolution process by

recognizing the similarities that you share, list them on paper, then write your differences. You might notice that your similarities outnumber your differences and this will give you a great head start on the process of resolution.

Here is a fun assignment: the next time you and your roommate have a conflict, talk it out, but switch roles. You play your roommate and your roommate plays you. Oftentimes, we fail to consider the other person’s opinions and this is a real chance to do that. Afterwards, talk it out. What was that like? Has it changed your opinion about the issue? Has is changed your opinion about yourself?

Keep your chin up and let me know how it goes.

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 DCC133 and is at extension 5759. Email him at tim.morenz@blackburn.edu He has spent a long portion of his life sweating the small stuff, but is learning to stop. He would love to have a conversation with you about your favorite Superhero.

The Juice on Janessa



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

Janessa Edwards is the Resident Director of Jones Hall

By Jordyn Smith

Janessa Edwards, biology major and sports science minor, is a senior here at Blackburn. While sticking to her studies and being involved on campus, she manages to maintain her position as Resident Director of Jones Hall.

Edwards began her work at Blackburn in the President’s office her freshman year. Her sophomore year, she chose to take a different route and applied to be a Resident Assistant, and she got the job. It was her freshman year Resident Assistant, Cassie Sledge, who inspired her to become interested in the position. Edwards thought being a Resident Assistant would be opportune because she enjoys “helping people and giving guidance.”

Edwards began her work as a Resident Director in the middle of the first semester her junior year as the result of an open spot in Butler Hall.

Some of the basic job duties for Resident Director include managing reports, making campus duty rounds, providing safety in the dorms, submitting work orders for the buildings and being available and helpful to the residents to ensure they have a good experience.

According to Edwards, who enjoys the job, her favorite part about being a Resident Director is “being able to meet everyone in the buildings, and being able to help them whenever they need something.” She feels as if being a Resident Director is very rewarding because she “can help make their experience inside of the dorms a good one.”

Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life Abbey Hardin praises

Edwards for her ability to work with students through different situations. “I think she does a particularly good job of helping new students, both transfer and freshmen, adjust to life at Blackburn,” states Hardin. “One of Janessa’s best assets as a Residence Life paraprofessional is that she is able to keep a cool head, regardless of the situation. Whether it be a medical emergency, a roommate conflict, or a personal issue a student is having, Janessa is able to address the situation confidently and with tact.”

Aside from Residence Life, Edwards is involved in Pre-Health Professions. She also enjoys hanging out with her friends, four-wheel riding, swimming, reading, watching sports and coaching little league softball and basketball. She is also very family-oriented.

Senior criminal justice major Carly Vunetich expresses that “Janessa has a love for Blackburn. Sure, a lot of people like the school, but she has a passion for it. This shows in her interactions with other students, faculty and staff, but most importantly her residents.”

“One of the other great things about Janessa is that she is so personable,” added Hardin. “She can talk with anyone, and about anything, from light-hearted topics to more serious interpersonal issues. She’s a great ambassador for Blackburn and embodies a lot of the traits we hope our Residence Life staff will display.”

After graduating from Blackburn, Edwards plans on attending graduate school in hopes of becoming involved in sports medicine.

THE BODY DEPOT

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Film Lovers Unite

By Katrina Jahn

Blackburn students interested in movies and TV shows may want to know that English and Communications professor Dr. Mark Benedetti is working to bring a film club to Blackburn. After a meeting about bringing it to life, Benedetti said, “We discussed the club as a multi-faceted [one] that will hold screenings and discussions while also involving short video production for students who are interested in making moving image work.”

In the club, students would be talking about movies or TV shows as critics. They would review not just the story, but the way that the film was made. There would be opportunities to create short films and learn more about the process. Photography aspects will also be included for those leaning towards that area. Freshman

campus activities staff member Blade Williams said, “We want this club to be not just about watching movies, but discussing them and studying film through books and actually making our own short films.”

Campus activities board staff members Courtney Egner and Williams are helping to come up with ideas for the club and get the word out about it. If there is enough interest, they may also try to fundraise

to get some new equipment to help with filming projects. They are also hoping to show a movie on campus later in the fall to promote the club. The movie screening will be open to all students. Students who are interested can contact Dr. Benedetti, Egner and Williams at their Blackburn e-mail addresses and should keep an eye out for any new advances made in the building of the club.

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The Hungry Student



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID WILKINSON

A tasty looking pizza baked to perfection

By Ben Nichols

For many new students, especially those from the big city, coming to Blackburn and experiencing small town life in Carlinville can be quite an experience, especially when the munchies hit. Unless you grew up in the area, you probably don't know most of the local establishments around this interesting town. We have all been there. We get hungry at an odd time or want something other than Ding food. Well I'm here in the first installment of "The Hungry Student" to help my fellow food lovers who are unsure of where off campus is a place to grab a good meal.

I wanted to start with a place many locals have enjoyed for years and a place Blackburn students have come to love while staying in Carlinville. Reno's Pizza is by far one of the greatest pizza joints in this part of the state, and being situated right on the

square makes it an excellent place for a student to get a great tasting meal and full stomach.

The first thing you'll notice when walking into Reno's is the Italian atmosphere in the building, the amazing wall art and the Route 66 memorabilia in the new attachment of the eatery. The moment you walk in your nose is immediately hit with the smell of fresh homemade pizza and a euphoric welcoming feeling. You may also notice something about the staff, for many of them are Blackburn students and alumni! All of these factors lead to a satisfying first impression of Reno's. But how does their food hold up?

Looking at the menu, you might be tempted to go after the manicotti, ravioli, or good old spaghetti and meatballs, but we're college students, and if there's one thing college students like it's

PIZZA! Reno's menu offers many different types of pizza such as deep dish, Sicilian stuffed pizza and many other specialties. I decided to order my personal favorite, thin crust cheese pizza. While it did take awhile for it to arrive, I understood that it was because this pizza was homemade and fresh. The pizza, like many others I've had from Reno's, was cooked just right with the cheese being soft and gooey, but not too hot and not burned. The taste that hit my mouth was amazing. The warm crust of the pizza mixed with the tangy tomato sauce and loads of cheese combined to form an explosion of flavor in my mouth that quickly had me reaching for another piece. The pizza quickly filled me up, but I was not done yet. Saving my leftovers for home, I hit the salad bar to find it stocked with freshly cut ingredients that gave a true authentic Italian taste. While too full to attempt dessert, previous experience with Reno's desserts has been nothing but great.

Just turning twenty one, I decided to finish my meal with a drink. Reno's offers a wide selection of Italian wines and international beers. I ordered myself a Heineken which was delivered to me ice cold and with a smile.

Overall, Reno's is an amazing place that always has you leaving with a smile. Any student would be doing themselves a favor by eating at this fine local establishment!

Loufest: St. Louis' Lollapalooza

By Courtney Egner

Right in the heart of Forest Park, St. Louis' two day musical festival Loufest rocked the city on September 6th and 7th. The fifth year for the festival was the biggest and best yet. September 6th broke the single day record for the festival having 17,000 people walk through the gates. Four stages were set up in each corner of the gated area while local businesses and food vendors lined the side of the park. Despite a cold and rainy start to the festival, thousands of fans flooded Forest Park to see over forty musical acts from around the world, including Arctic Monkeys, OutKast, Matt and Kim and the 1975. Many fans, including myself, sprinted to the main stage as soon as gates opened at noon to be against the barrier to see the 1975 and Arctic Monkeys perform, despite both of them not playing until much later in the evening. Arctic Monkeys played an explosive set to end Saturday night. Their set was so intense that you could feel the bass in the air around you. Playing fan favorites like "Do I Wanna Know?" and "I Bet You Look Good on the Dancefloor," Arctic Monkeys rocked Forest Park for an hour and half.

Festival organizers are hoping to make it a major stop on the music festival circuit. Most people, including myself, had never heard of Loufest until this year due to the fact that this year was the first with huge acts headlining the festival. With Lollapalooza right up the road in Chicago, it very well could become a hit among the crowd. A two-day ticket to Loufest was \$95, which is a steal compared to Lollapalooza which will cost \$350 for a 3-day general admission ticket. With a one day ticket or 2-day wristband, festival attendees got free rides on the Forest Park trolley and bus route, which made it very easy and convenient to get to the venue without the hassle of



PHOTO BY COURTNEY EGNER

An audience gathers around the main stage at Loufest

parking.

Many of the vendors at Loufest were locally based companies, which made it easy to see what the city of St. Louis has to offer. Connie's Pizza sold \$5 slices, Kaldi's Coffee whipped up iced coffee despite the cold and rainy weather the first day of the festival and Strange donuts were selling fan favorites including a donut topped with Oreo crumbles. Straying away from good eats, STL-Style clothing, Paperdolls Boutique and Coco Loco Jewelry had their tents and booths in the area lining the fencing called Market Square. It was really easy to walk through the line of tents and leave with no money in your pocket.

Loufest is a great way to experience St. Louis and see great music. Even if you do not know any of the bands, it is fun to just go and see what's going on in Forest Park and discover new artists. The Loufest experience of 2014 was unforgettable and would definitely be something to experience again in 2015, which is sure to be bigger and better.

Generation War: Redefining a Misrepresented Generation

By Ben Nichols

Growing up, many of us were probably familiar with movies such as "Saving Private Ryan" and miniseries such as "Band of Brothers" and "The Pacific". These films showed us the struggles and hardships our grandfathers and great grandfathers had to go through during the Second World War and the carnage they witnessed. But over in Europe, an entire generation has been misrepresented and vilified by history books and American film. The Europeans who had their grandfathers conscripted into the German Army are constantly bombarded by the idea that they were all marauding Nazis bent on spilling blood.

Recently, though, a large cultural movement has been taking place in Germany and some other European nations to show the truth about what

really happened to the majority of German soldiers, men who were conscripted and had no official ties to the Nazi Party. A new mini series released by the German broadcast company ZDF has received critical praise for showing the struggles of five young Germans representing various groups during the Second World War. "Generation War" or "Unsere Mutter unsere Vater" in German is a glimpse of the true story that has taken seventy years to be told properly.

In the series, Wilhelm and his little brother Friedhelm are about to be deployed to the Eastern Front and spend their last few days home with longtime friends Charlotte, Greta and Greta's Jewish boyfriend Viktor. Promising to all meet in Berlin by Christmas of 1941, they go

their separate ways. The film follows primarily Wilhelm and Friedhelm as they struggle daily on the Eastern front fighting Russian troops, battling the cold winter while undersupplied, witnessing their fellow soldiers die in front of them and experiencing barbaric acts by SS troops against Jewish civilians.

Charlotte becomes a nurse behind the frontlines and has to quickly harden her senses to the carnage and gruesome wounds that flow in daily. Her world seems to fall apart around her as she realizes the brutality of war and the loss of humanity.

Greta however, sees the war much differently from her friends. Getting into a relationship with an SS officer to protect her boyfriend, she becomes a popular wartime singer and lives a life of luxury,

but for her the life of glamour is about to change.

Greta's boyfriend Viktor experiences the hardships of being Jewish in Nazi Germany and is deported unknown to Greta to a concentration camp. Escaping from the Nazis he joins up with the Polish resistance, but discovers that his Jewish heritage may strain his relationship with the resistance fighters.

This series represents a

new step towards the view of wartime Germans. Instead of making them appear as monsters, it shows who they really were, youth forced to participate in a terrible war by a monstrous government. Hopes are that this film will be a proving ground for a new generation of films showing the true story of Germany's youth during the Second World War.

Why the iCloud Hack Matters

By Courtney Egner

Earlier this month the data sharing system iCloud was hacked. For those unfamiliar with the story the system was hacked and hundreds of nude photos were released, mainly of female celebrities. Actresses such as Jennifer Lawrence, Mary Elizabeth Winstead and Victoria Justice were among the victims as well as model Kate Upton and pop singer Rihanna. Although this is not the first time a celebrity nude photo has been released for all the world to see, this particular situation is a little bit different because of the fact that a system that is meant to be kept private was breached. Sophomore History and Communications major Patrick Benedict had this to say: “If one is going to send nude photos or videos one has to recognize that it comes with inherent risks. I think far too few people understand how the information is transmitted through computers and phones and therefore think there is little to no risk in them being revealed. The truth is this information is not as well guarded as the general public would hope.”

Celebrity photos get leaked all the time, why should you care? Most times nude photos are leaked by someone to whom the photos were sent. A perfect example would be when Jennette McCurdy,

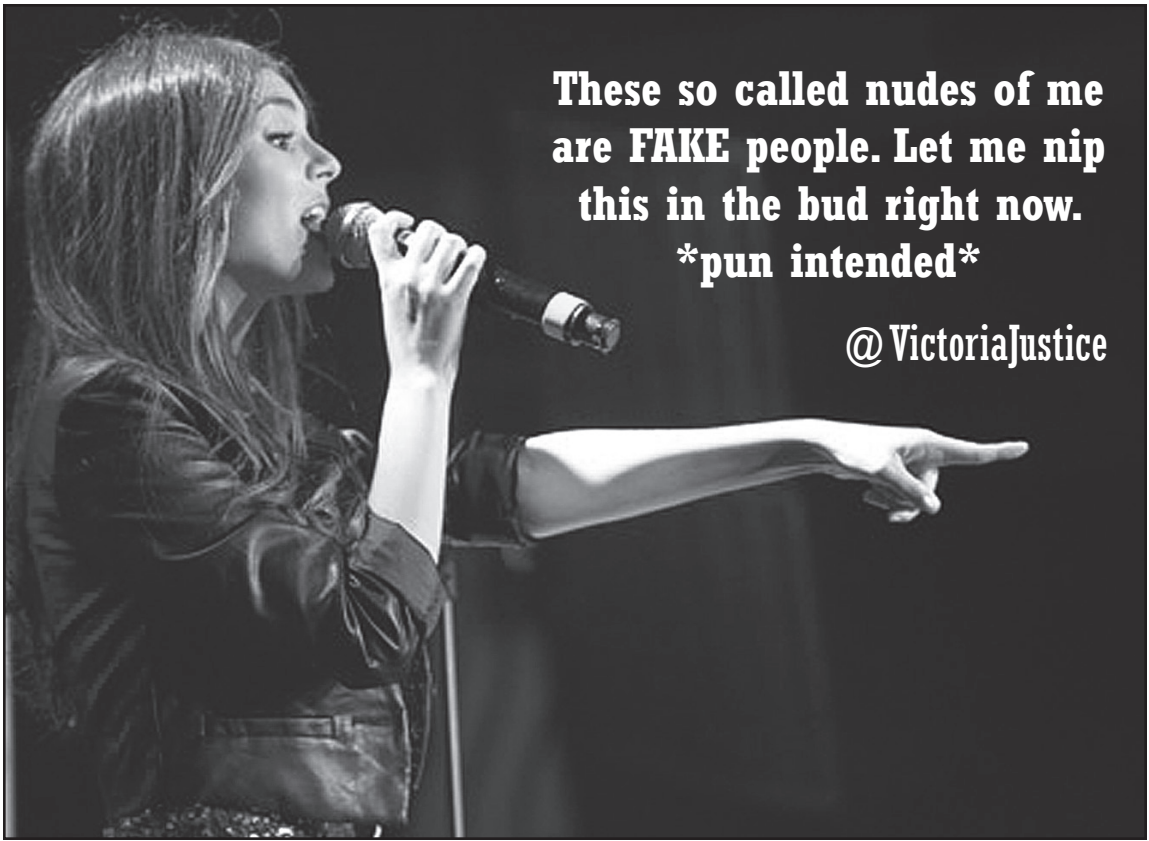


PHOTO COURTESY OF LUNCHBOX LP

Victoria Justice used Twitter to tell her fans that the leaked photos of her were fake.

a star of iCarly, had risqué photos leaked to the press in late 2013. Her ex-boyfriend, NBA star Andre Drummond, gave the photos to the press after they had broken up. Leaking them after their break up goes to show just how low some people can be. What is different about the iCloud breach is that these photos were not specifically sent to anyone. The day before the breach occurred, instructions on how to hack into an Apple

account using the “Find my iPhone” application were posted to Github, a source code management web-based hosting service. These instructions detailed just how vulnerable Apple accounts are and how easy they are to hack. And what do you know, the

next day the female celebrity nude photos were leaked. This incident is a sexual violation because these women had their private photos stolen. Viewing these photos and seeking them out is adding to the abuse these women are facing. It is sexual abuse because the photos these

women took were never meant to be shared or seen by anyone.

Two days after the breach the FBI started an investigation into the leaked photos. This is not the first time that the FBI has investigated a case of this kind. The FBI led an investigation in 2011 that resulted in the prosecution of Christopher Chaney, who was jailed for 10 years after posting nude photos from the phones and computers of actresses Scarlett Johansson and Mila Kunis, according to CBS News and Huffington Post. With the FBI on the case of the iCloud breach, we can only hope they prosecute whoever stole the photos of all the victims involved in the case.

The iCloud breach could not only affect famous celebrities with explicit photos. iCloud is a sharing system that anyone with an Apple product has already installed on their device. You could be uploading photos to the iCloud system and not even know it. This just goes to show that everyone should watch what they post, what they share and what they want others to see.

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

Is White Alright After Labor Day



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE LICHT

The right and wrongs of white after Labor Day

By Chris Cole

Not wearing white after Labor Day seems to be a rule that everybody knows about even if they don't practice it. The widely accepted reason

is that Labor Day marks the unofficial end of summer. Originally, the rule only applied to white shoes which could get soiled in the rain and

mud, but was later expanded to include all white garments. This belief has been around so long it seems like common knowledge. This was not always the case. The trend began after the Civil War as one of those rules imposed by Victorian upper class women who ruled fashion trends. This rule may seem silly to us now, but this rule was taken seriously in the Victorian era.

As more and more people became millionaires it was hard to tell the old aristocratic families apart from the newly rich. Established wealthy families looked down on new money because they had made their money on current trends such as the railroad unlike the older gentry which had made their money from large estate holdings. Also, unlike old money, which had their wealth passed through the generations, new had only just become rich and had recently made their way to the millionaires club. In economic terms they were equal so it was

hard to tell just by looking at someone whether they were old or new money.

To solve this, old families created a set of unofficial fashion guidelines that everybody in the circle had to follow, and not wearing white after Labor Day was one of these rules. If somebody showed up to an event wearing white after Labor Day then people would know she wasn't old money and would ostracize her from their social circle. This was a fate worse than death to most Victorian women. The trend began to spread because those newly rich families wanted to be “in” and began to emulate the trends. So it became a constant battle of trying to keep those who wanted to be in out, and those who wanted to be in had to show they were in by following these rules.

This custom has been relaxed since the 1950's, when it was rigidly enforced. The people practicing this tradition have declined since. There

have always been exceptions like Coco Chanel, who wore white all year long. Most fashion designers today do not follow the rule and include white in their fall and winter lines.

This rule is silly for the time it was created, not to mention today. After the Civil War to be fashionable somebody had to have a long heavy dress and on top of that they couldn't wear white. Anyone who lives in Illinois knows that just because it's September doesn't mean that summer is over. Temperatures in the day can still easily reach the 90 degree mark. Walking around in shorts and t-Shirt people can still become overheated. Furthermore, look at snow. Did somebody yell at Mother Nature for not being fashion forward? How about Santa Claus, did some kid tell Santa that he wasn't supposed to wear white after Labor Day? If they did I bet they got coal for the rest of their lives.

Who Keeps Athletics Ticking?



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

Mark Hopping, the new Athletic Director

By Colin Gowin

While students, faculty and staff were forced to say their sad goodbyes to former Blackburn Athletic Director Angie Morenz, Mark Hopping picked up right where she left off when he became Blackburn’s interim athletic director. An athletic director is in charge of everything in the athletic department. This includes: budgeting, recruiting, intramurals, scheduling, etc. The jobs of an interim athletic director are the same as a full-time one. The only difference is an interim only fills the place until a full-time athletic director can be hired. “I’m just in this position for a year because there wasn’t time to interview for a new athletic director after Angie left,” said Hopping. Along with fulfilling his athletic director duties, Hopping is also the head coach of the men’s and women’s

cross country teams. He started as a volunteer assistant for the cross country teams in 2010 and began as the head coach in 2011.

Getting to know Hopping better, he is originally from Bloomington, Ill. but has lived in Carlinville for 33 years. When asked about his favorite movie, Hopping responded with, “Every man should have ‘Cool Hand Luke’ in their movie collection. It’s a classic.” His favorite thing to eat is ice cream, which is odd for a runner. He also enjoys music by The Beatles.

Although Hopping finds his new position to be challenging due to the new duties he wasn’t accustomed to, the people who work with him seem to think he is doing a great job. “Mark is a great, genuine guy and cares about not just the athletes

but all students on campus. Sometimes he stumbles on new things but that’s just because he isn’t used to this position yet. I enjoy every day I get to work by his side,” said senior athletic ambassador Jon Lowry. “Mark is very enthusiastic about his job and has a great work ethic. I’ve really enjoyed working with him,” said junior athletics manager Jared Jones. One of the most challenging aspects for Hopping has been balancing the time between his athletic director position and his cross country coach position. “It has been very difficult juggling the time, especially with the heat and having athletes who run outside,” said Hopping.

Even though Hopping seems to be doing a great job as the athletic director, he’s indifferent about the position. When asked if being an athletic director is something he would like to do in a more permanent setting, he responded with, “not at this time.” While he is the athletic director, Hopping wants to continue to build a positive reputation for Blackburn athletics. “I would like to continue to promote the importance of the athletic experience to the students of Blackburn.”

It is evident that Mark Hopping is making strides to improve the athletic program. Although he is just an interim athletic director, he still has a large impact on the program.

John Esparza: Potential Baseball Player

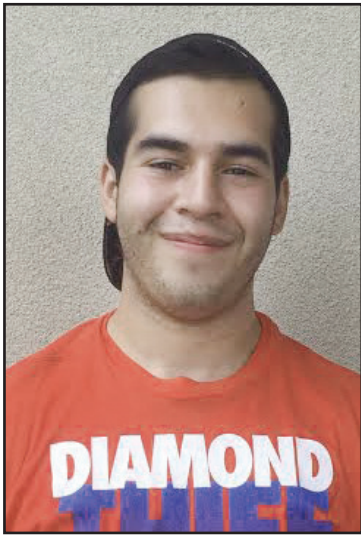


PHOTO BY REBECCA SPRINKEL

Transfer student John Esparza

By Rebecca Sprinkel

A new face on campus all the way from Michigan State University, John Esparza has high hopes of joining the Blackburn Beavers baseball team this spring. Blackburn was brought to his attention by his uncle who knows President Comerford. He is a sophomore from Brookfield, IL and has been on the baseball diamond for nearly 14 years. His love for the sport all started with his grandfather who began taking him to the diamond at age 6. His grandfather had the opportunity to play for a minor league team many years ago.

Esparza is a versatile player. He has played catcher, third baseman and his favorite

position, pitcher. Esparza spent his high school career at Lyons Township High School in LaGrange, IL where he joined the Lyons baseball team his sophomore year and had the role of team manager. Esparza’s team took home the state title his sophomore year and again the summer before his senior year. His junior year they earned runner up in the state.

Esparza is a transfer student from Michigan State University majoring in Human Biology with a pre-health minor. His dream of becoming a reconstruction surgeon began in first grade when his class watched a video on deformities and families that could not afford to pay for surgery. Ever since that day Esparza has dreamed of helping those kids in need.

Esparza has run into the Blackburn baseball team lifting and they have invited him to practice before their season starts. He hopes to make the baseball team and stated, “I do not want to be known as the student that came from Michigan State but for what I can bring to Blackburn.” John is excited to experience a small teacher to student ratio and the work program here at Blackburn.

Volleyballers Go to Colorado

By Deja Bell

The women’s volleyball team was recently invited to play in Colorado at the Colorado College Invitational in Colorado Springs. “This was a great first tournament for our team to see what we needed to work on for our upcoming conference games this season,” said team captain Allison Matt. The Beavers played against Oswego State University Lakers from New York, University of Minnesota Morris Cougars from Minnesota, Colorado College Tigers and Simpson College Storm from Iowa.

These schools were much larger than ours, some having 15 or more players on their team. “I was talking to some of the captains since I am a captain as well and they told me that they had even left girls home for the trip. Colorado is 8th in the nation....so that sums up the competition that we were playing. It was competitive but very fun,” said Matt.

The women had to do running exercises in order to get used to the elevation difference. Colorado is approximately 7,000 feet higher above sea level than here in Illinois. “The scenery was beautiful there! It was very nice 65 degree weather. It was hard to breathe at times. However, our 6 mile running hike through Garden of the Gods trails made it fun to work out. Our team improved leaps and bounds each game we played,” said Matt.

After eliminating little mistakes and communicating with each other they were able to compete with the other teams. Although they lost the tournament, transfer student Victoria Bowens was awarded “All Tournament,” which is where the coaches from the other teams vote on who is the best player from each team. “She was thrilled to have such an honor and we were happy for her as well!” said Matt.

Have a passion for sports? We want to hear about it! Submit your piece to burnian@blackburn.edu.



Women in the Weight Room

By Michelle Lee

Working out in the weight room can be just as terrifying for women as shopping in a lingerie store is for men.

Imagine this scenario: You’re a man who just walked into Victoria’s Secret. You know you have a goal and a purpose for being there, but everything is so overwhelmingly feminine and foreign all at the same time. What’s the difference between a push-up bra and a convertible one? What the heck is a low-rise cheekster? You’re obviously out of your element and it feels like everyone is staring at you.

For a woman, that’s how it can feel walking into the weight room for the first time. Everyone’s doing one-armed push-ups and you’re just trying to get through a set of ten

regular ones. The guy next to you is doing curls with a 50lb dumbbell and you’re lucky if you can handle the 10lb one. Worst of all, it feels like all of the regulars are staring you down because you A) are making a fool of yourself and B) you’re the only woman in the whole gym.

Senior computer science major Traci Kamp is enrolled in the Weight Training course this semester. “I don’t like to feel watched. The weight room atmosphere is intense. There are athletes going hard in there on a regular basis,” she explained. “Most of the athletes I see in there are men and testosterone levels are sky-high. When I go in there with my obvious testosterone deficit, I become the anomaly and it’s difficult not to pay

attention to anomalies.”

So how do we change that atmosphere? The weight room is such a gendered space but it offers so many physical benefits to Blackburn students. Maybe the key is just learning how to use the equipment correctly. “I got a trainer and started working out with him. Then I actually knew what I was doing and it wasn’t scary anymore,” said senior business major Alex Birdsell. “Going with friends also helps at the beginning.” Or maybe there isn’t anything to be so nervous about in the first place. 2014 graduate Brandon Adams said, “I feel like anyone is entitled to use the weight room. It’s nice to see women lifting and trying to be their best. There’s nothing embarrassing about that.”