

THE BURNIAN

The Award-Winning Student Newspaper at Blackburn College, Carlinville, IL • Oldest College Newspaper in Illinois, since 1881



By Jess Willard

In President John Comerford's letter released to students on Aug. 21, he addressed several new changes Blackburn went through over the summer. He mentioned seven fresh features of the campus such as the new signage and paint in Demuzio Campus Center (DCC) and new outdoor lighting. Head of Physical Plant Bill Bertetto elaborated on these changes.

Bertetto addressed the fact that not everything was completed by the start of the fall semester. The volleyball court had the finishing touches put on it during Labor Day weekend. "Weather and rain as well as contractors pushed it back," he said. Not all of the campus lighting has been changed either, but it should be completed in a couple months. All of the outdoor lightbulbs are being replaced with light-emitting diodes (LEDs) to help the campus become more energy efficient. Ludlum is also waiting to receive its flagpoles and Jones does not have all of its new air conditioners put in yet.

Bertetto was also

responsible for many of the physical changes. During one of his tours with Comerford, he remarked, "Nothing really says this is Blackburn campus!" So, he shared his ideas with the cabinet (composed of the senior leadership at Blackburn such as the vice president) and pushed for changes that would inspire the college to have a sense of pride.

Sophomore psychology major Eric Walsh liked a few of the new changes such as the signs on the light poles and the paint scheme of DCC, but he felt some changes could be better. "When it comes to the red lettering on the black background, it needs to pop out and draw the eye to it," he said. "Maybe add white around the borders for visibility."

Sophomore graphic design major Luiza Myslinska was not a fan of the changes in DCC. "It's really cheesy. Like, those statistics can change. I'm not a fan of the stickers," she said. However, she really likes the new Macintosh computers in the graphic design lab.

Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs Heidi Heinz



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

Freshmen physical plant workers Lester Harvill and Casey Nix put the finishing touches on the new volleyball court

acknowledged the changes in faculty and staff. She was sad to see people go but she was excited for new people with different experiences and new

ideas. "It's good for the health of an institution to get new eyes and ears," she said. In an email sent out on July 28, it was noted that there were 14

new faculty and staff members from new professors to new coaches.



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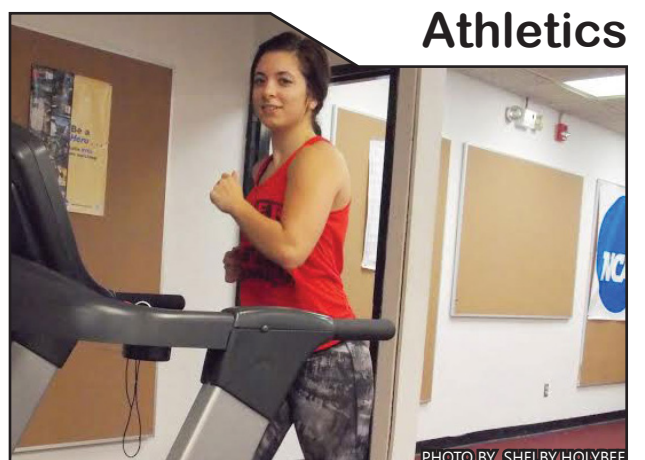
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Pushing for Change: Amendments to Blackburn's Alcohol Policy

By Mary Kline

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) has successfully pushed for a revision to rules in the student handbook about alcohol consumption. In order to change the policies set in place for alcohol, the Student Life Committee had to have their recommended amendments to the rules reviewed first by the Student Senate and then by the President Staff last year before having the new policy voted upon. The changes allow alcohol to be served at CAB

events to students ages 21 and older. They also allow students that are of age to be present in the beer tent at homecoming. "I think that the reason that they're changing the rules now is that Blackburn is more mature now and, seeing the past mistakes of people, they know which regulations need to be stricter," said CAB member Melika Sawyer.

For years Blackburn has had a strict policy when it comes to the consumption of alcohol during campus events.

Previously, if students wanted to involve alcohol in their club activities, they had to go off campus to do so. Now, as long as the event a club hosts has a theme or a focus, is for students that are 21 years of age or older and has been approved by the Student Life Committee a week or two in advance, clubs can host up to two events involving alcohol in a month. "I don't think any group has taken advantage of the policy since the policy is so new, but I think it's good

that, for students that want to drink alcohol, that they have that opportunity, and there's a policy in place for it," said Director of Student Activities and New Student Orientation Emily Bahr.

Although alcohol is now allowed during student events, the rules concerning alcohol consumption without permission from the Student Life Committee remain the same and can be found on pages 24-25 of the Student Handbook.



PHOTO BY MARY KLINE

C.A.B member Malika Sawyer has witnessed the rules change

Where Do You Think You're Going?

By Robert Fagg

Freshman to sophomore year is when most students are lost at the collegiate level. This is where Blackburn has hit the ground running, trying to get and retain freshmen on this campus.

When considering what a freshman is, the records office looks at students that are First Time Full Time students (FTFT). Last year there were 167 FTFT students enrolled at Blackburn. Of those 167, 64% of them returned for this school year (107 students).

Many changes have been made on campus in an effort to get more freshmen to want to stay. One of the major changes is the new hours at Snack Bar. Last year Snack Bar was only open until 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed on Saturday and Sunday. This year Snack Bar is open until 9 p.m. only Monday through Thursday, until midnight on Friday and is open on Saturday from 8 p.m. until midnight. This was done so that students

would be more enticed to stay on campus on the weekend and so that Demuzio Campus Center would become more of a hangout spot for students, according to President John Comerford.

Another change that was made to improve the freshman experience was to introduce them to their advisors very early on. Previously, freshmen were not required to meet their advisors until late in the semester and some wouldn't until they were scheduling classes for the spring semester. Instead the new freshmen were introduced to their advisors at orientation and the advisors were the ones who enrolled them in their classes for the fall semester. Also, freshmen have to meet with their respective advisors once every two weeks to "check in" and just see how things are going.

This year a job fair was conducted during orientation. This was done so that new freshmen weren't just dropped into a job. They were specifically placed in jobs that they have capable skills for and want to work in.

"The number one reason people leave Blackburn is because they don't get involved," said Admissions Campus Visit Coordinator Haley Haynes. But she also went on to say, "They've tried to have more activities on the weekends because that distracts students from going home every weekend and also helps the students avoid homesickness, and it makes them meet people."



PHOTO BY ROBERT FAGG

Students Keragan White and Alexis Mayes eat at Snack Bar in DCC

Conversion Therapy and Gay/Lesbian Prevention

By Courtney Egner

On June 26, the ban on marriage equality was lifted and all states became legally obligated to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. In the past decade, the fight for marriage equality has been the majority of the focus for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex and Asexual, or LGBTQIA+ community. The many other issues that plague the community have often been hidden behind the fight for marriage equality.

One of the biggest concerns in the fight for equal rights is the ban of conversion therapy. According to the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLRights), conversion therapy, sometimes referred to as reparative therapy or ex-gay therapy, is a controversial treatment that is used to prevent someone, in most cases a child, from being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. In a 2009 American Psychological Association (APA) report, it was noted conversion therapists have used techniques to induce nausea or vomiting as well as using electroconvulsive shock therapy while showing homoerotic images to patients.

Sophomore Emily Nelson had the opportunity to see Sam Brinton speak at the Midwest LGBT Conference earlier this year. Brinton, who is a contributor to NCLRights is one of the driving forces behind the fight to end conversion therapy because he was a victim of it. He recalled his experiences during a presentation at the conference.

Nelson believes conversion therapy practices are borderline medieval. "If queerness were a mental illness, who would treat patients like this? Shock therapy is not the answer to one's identity 'problem,'" she said. Nelson also explained how difficult putting someone through conversion therapy would be.

According to NCLRights, all of the nations' leading medical and mental health associations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Pan American Health Organization, have stated that conversion therapy is unnecessary, ineffective, dangerous, and harmful to patients. The 2009

AAP report also reported many risks surrounding the practice of conversion therapy including depression, guilt, self-blame, self-hatred, suicidality, substance abuse and many other psychological and physical risks.

Only four states and the District of Columbia currently have active laws banning conversion therapy practices on individuals younger than 18. Illinois became the fourth state on Aug. 20. New Jersey, California, and Oregon also have active bans. An additional 13 other states have introduced bills to ban conversion therapy since January.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES UCC

Supporters of marriage equality outside the U.S. Supreme Court

Students Make Their Political Voice Heard

By Jess Willard

With the 2016 presidential election a year away, Blackburn students are debating whether or not to participate. Not only is who to vote for a question that crosses the students' minds, but students have trouble deciding if they want to vote at all. Political science professor Dr. Laura Wiedlocher believes that your political voice is expressed through your vote. "For people to express this voice through their vote makes changes," she said. However, not all students feel the same way.

Senior biology major Nathan Boulch states that voting could be considered important but he doesn't feel like his personal vote makes a difference. He added, "I'm just one person. If 10 million people are voting, I guess I just feel insignificant." Senior political science major Clark Johnson offers a different perspective. "Voting is extremely important. I'm from a small town of 1000 people. Every vote counts – it might not seem like it – but especially in a town council, it matters," he said.

Senior biology major Maura Kluthe is not currently registered to vote but plans on voting in the upcoming election. She said, "With recent motivation through news, reading and paying attention, I would like to vote."

Republican candidate Donald Trump was her main reason for making this decision. She wasn't a fan of his views on the immigrant population and wants to do what she can to make sure he doesn't win. Kluthe did like Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders: his idea of making college education more accessible for everyone piqued her interest. She called on other students to join her in voting next year. "The clock is ticking, we need to pull together to help our

country," she said.

Johnson has his eye on some different candidates than Kluthe. Since he holds a public office position as a precinct committee member (a liaison between his town's people and their representative), he had to align with a political party. He claimed that he always had more conservative views so he identified best with the Republican Party. In his opinion, Trump is not entirely bad news for the U.S. He said, "Trump knows everyone in

politics. Businesses thrive based on certain politicians." He's also interested in Republican candidate Ben Carson. "I've heard good things and he makes sense. He may have never been in politics but he's been successful outside government," Johnson added.

When it comes to candidates, Wiedlocher stated she never wants to influence someone's political views, but she was willing to share what she discovered through her

research. "This race seems to be really anti-politician. People seem to want a different person than a politician," she said.

Students can register to vote in Macoupin County by following the instructions on www.macoupinvotes.com/voter-information/register-to-vote. You can choose to register in person, by mail or online. All of the paperwork is available on the website along with a list of the documents you need when you register.



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

Election clerk Mike Ruyle works at the county clerk's office on the first floor of the Macoupin County Courthouse. Ruyle can answer any questions that students may have about registering to vote

The Importance Of Agricultural Education

By Kyle Kutak

Products ranging from the food you eat to the clothes you wear all come from agricultural products. A recent shift in the Illinois budget has meant major cutbacks in agricultural education. Agricultural education is classes specifically about agriculture, resources and land management. These classes are mainly taught in high schools, colleges and sometimes middle schools. The Illinois budget has decided to zero out the agricultural education line item. This means that they have cut off all dollars to the state funded agricultural education programs in Illinois. This affects the state by not allowing schools to teach a way of life for many children, adults and students.

Chair of Biology Dr. James Bray stated, "Blackburn does not see any funding from the state because it is a private

institution, but I can imagine there is going to be a negative effect on programs like FFA and 4-H." These programs are agricultural based and focus more on the students learning what agriculture is, leadership roles and agricultural awareness. Bray also stated, "The most important classes I took in high school were my years in FFA."

Technical programs, including agricultural education, have shown to help the performance of students because of the hands-on learning. According to the illinoisffa.org, "Approximately 550,000 students, 35,000 teachers, faculty and staff and 14,000 volunteers/community members will be affected by this budget cut."

Director of Teacher Education and Licensure Officer Terri Reid said, "I don't think anything should be

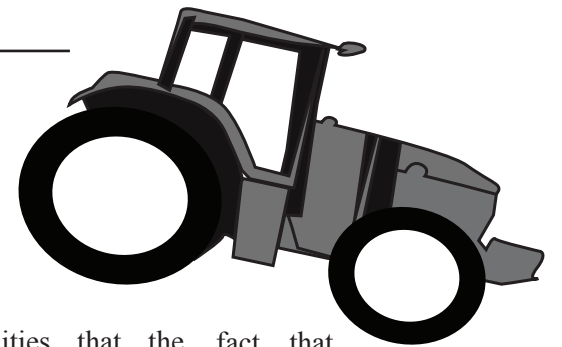
cut in education. Agricultural education and the FFA prepares some really outstanding students because they teach you how to speak in large groups, which is amazing." She does not have much experience in the agricultural field, but she is always up to date on the education news to keep her department notified.

Many teachers and other faculty members

see the qualities that the students possess as a result of agricultural education programs. There is even more of a need for students with interest in agriculture because of the rapid growth of the market.

Sophomore biology major Ben Fletcher said, "I believe this will deter the students away from entering an agriculture field due to the

fact that it seems our state doesn't care about it." He is a former FFA member himself so he feels strongly about the presence of agriculture education in Illinois. Fletcher also said, "The FFA organization, much like many other people I know, has shaped my life and who I am today."



"The FFA organization, much like many other people I know, has shaped my life and who I am today"

-Ben Fletcher

Breaking the Beaver Budget

By **Brendan Lersch**

Every summer, Blackburn makes changes to its campus such as updating our volleyball court to regulation standard. Even though these are positive changes to the campus, students are baffled as to why other updates such as air conditioning in all the dorms have not been made. Sophomore Robert Wingerter stated, "I feel like we need air conditioning in Stoddard because it's hard to sleep in the heat. I can't go a night without soaking my sheets in sweat. I bought unripe bananas a few days ago and they have already gone bad due to how hot it is in my room. It only took about four days for them to be black and complete mush." I decided to take a look at the Blackburn budget to see where our money was being spent and why these changes are not being made.

President Comerford sent me a copy of the Blackburn 2015-16 Operating Budget. This document shows Blackburn's revenues and

expenses for operating the college each year. According to the budget, Blackburn's estimated revenue is \$12,881,654, but at the end of the year it has a deficit of \$764,606.

Comerford said that "this is not a good thing but it is also not a bad thing." He noted that Blackburn would like to be operating on the positive side of its budget. However, the revenues on this budget are not the college's only source of income. Blackburn also has a series of assets such as a \$17 million endowment and roughly \$8 million tied up in farms which the college rents out. Over the past years, a trend has been set where Blackburn's assets are worth more at the end of each year than they were at the beginning. Therefore, we should not be concerned about not having enough money to operate.

If Blackburn has enough money, then why haven't necessary changes been

made to certain buildings on campus? Comerford noted that this in part has to do with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA requires that buildings be fully handicapped accessible by the end of a sizeable renovation. For example, if the school wanted to put air in Stoddard then they would also have to gut much of the building to become handicapped accessible by the end of the project. Blackburn alum Debra Wilson noted, "It's basically impossible for a person with a physical handicap to live in Stoddard. I was able to make it a week or so when I had to use my wheelchair before I moved to North. I spent very little time in Stoddard because I needed so much help getting in and out of the building. Even the bathrooms were difficult to get in and out of when I had to use the wheelchair."

Blackburn has the money to put in air conditioning, but does not have the money to

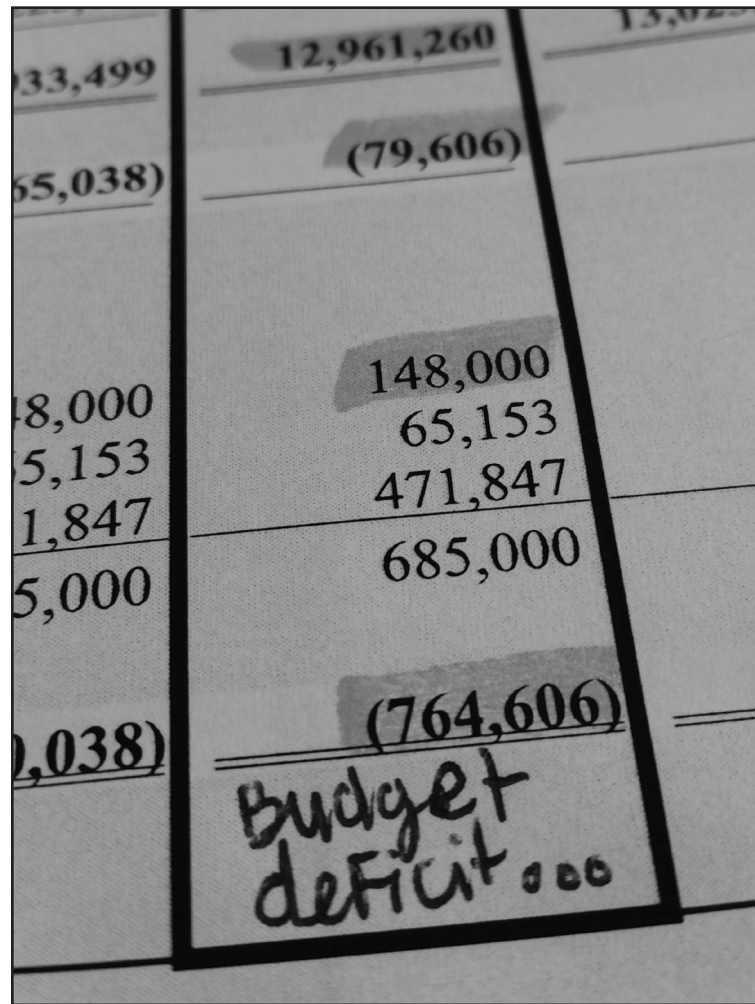


PHOTO BY BRENDAN RILEY LERSCH

Blackburn's projected operating budget ends in a deficit this year

make the building handicapped accessible at the same time. There are plans to raise the money for these alterations in the future.

Torry Heightens Expectations for C.S.

By **Jess Willard**

Former campus services (C.S.) supervisor Millie Abeln retired this past summer, prompting Blackburn to find an immediate replacement. They chose to hire Torry Grady with his 15 years of cleaning experience.

Grady was born in Houston and moved to Carlinville when he was 12 years old. He

originally worked as a coal miner for Crown III Mine in Farmersville. As a side job, he did residential and commercial cleaning with a small crew. He displayed versatility by stripping and waxing floors as well as using cleaners and scrubbing bathrooms.

He started with C.S. on June 1 and described the

experience as "very exciting and different from [his] previous line of work." He also appreciated getting to know a wide variety of people. "I felt like I brought knowledge

A majority of the buildings (academic and dormitory) were stripped and waxed, the locker rooms in the Dawes Gymnasium were deep cleaned, lights and vents in

with cleaning supplies. "The big challenge is that there's so much to do, but we're limited with the time!" he said.

His plans for the future involve getting enough

"I felt like I brought knowledge to the department that was previously missing"

-Torry Grady



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

New campus services supervisor Torry Grady displayed that he can have a sense of humor and complete his daily tasks at the same time

to the department that was previously missing," Grady added. The biggest surprise for him was the amount of student workers he received at the start of the fall semester. There are approximately 70 workers in C.S. and he was used to a crew of 3 to 6.

Over the summer, many tasks were accomplished that had never been done before.

the Demuzio Campus Center were wiped down and a carpet extracting machine was used as much as possible to lift deep stains and dirt from carpets. He said, "There are still changes to be made but the progress motivates me to continue."

Grady has faced a few challenges such as scheduling a large amount of students and keeping closets stocked

equipment on campus to strip and wax along with deep cleaning buildings twice a year. He also hopes to create more opportunities for paid hours. Grady said, "I believe that Blackburn has a bright future and I'm looking forward to being a part of this."

Know someone interesting or important on campus? Submit a profile to burnian@blackburn.edu and let everyone know who they are!

In Loving Memory of Conor Vesper

By Karlee Brimberry

Blackburn College student Conor Vesper passed away May 23. Vesper was a sophomore biology major. Many friends agreed that former Blackburn College student Austin Sherfy described him perfectly: "Conor was never too good for anyone." Close friend Hannah Geringer elaborated, "This could not be any more true because Conor was friendly to absolutely everyone and had the most contagious smile. He always had a way of making every ordinary moment extraordinary."

In Vesper's hometown of Staunton, over 700 people crowded together to honor him at a candlelight vigil May 28. Although the semester had ended, many Blackburn students attended and even

spoke, reflecting back on memories shared. There was laughter, tears and many stories told along with music and moments of silence.

"Conor was the light of hope for the future with his intelligence and tremendous care and love for anyone and everyone he was in contact with," said close friend Christopher O'Connor. Although Vesper was most well known for his bubbly personality, he also excelled in academics and was a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

Due to so many Blackburn students being away for the summer, the college also held a celebration of life ceremony in memory of Vesper on Aug. 27. The celebration was followed



PHOTO BY EMMA WITTE

A mass of people, family and friends, gathered together at the candlelight vigil in Staunton, Illinois in remembrance of Conor Vesper

by a time to meet with the Vesper family.

"Conor was known for constantly making people laugh and smile. But one of Conor's greatest personality traits was a side that not many people got to witness. I think

Conor's close friends could attest to the fact that he was a wonderful friend. Conor knew exactly when it was time to make someone laugh or when they just needed a listening ear," said Geringer, who went to both high school and

college with Vesper. "Those of us who got to share time and make memories with Conor are very blessed, because not many people can say they were friends with someone as spectacular as Conor Vesper."

We Are What We Always Were, But Beavers Now

By Angela Andrews

All around the Blackburn campus you see different cultures and diverse groups. Students question how so many different people end up here in Carlinville. Transfer student and basketball player Ugo Pierantoni from Auckland, New Zealand attended Auckland University of Technology for a semester when he decided he wanted to further his education and play sports in the U.S. That's when he began posting online basketball film to scouts and

came in contact with head men's basketball coach Steve Kollar, which led him to Blackburn. Pierantoni loves the change he is experiencing. "Americans communicate a lot better compared to New Zealanders where everyone are complete strangers," said Pierantoni.

Some students on campus believe that diversity helps people see life in a different way. Sophomore Gabriella Iglesias, who is from San Juan, Puerto Rico, heard about

Blackburn through a friend she knew back at home. Interested in playing soccer, Gabriella was given the coach's number which led her to further her education in Carlinville. While previously growing up in large cities, Iglesias felt she never really got the help and attention she needed in large schools. She said, "Even though it's not in such a huge town, Blackburn helps me focus more with the work program and allows my education to be affordable." The majority of



PHOTO BY ANGELA ANDREWS

Ugo Pierantoni, basketball player from Auckland, New Zealand, going for three

the diverse students on campus end up at Blackburn because the tuition is more affordable and the work program helps with responsibility.

Sometimes, people from states on opposite sides of the U.S. can be more diverse than people from other countries. Some students, like junior Parker Ramaker, believe that the U.S. has a lot of diversity because this is the country people feel will help better their lives. Ramaker is from Rancho Cucamonga, California and he says that the biggest differences in states can range from the towns to the people to the schools. "The people here are more caring,

and I expected Illinois to be more miserable and cold," said Ramaker.

Local students on and off campus can benefit greatly from diversity. Students like freshman Gariel Pierce, who is from Springfield, says she picks up a lot of habits from the friends she makes at Blackburn. Pierce said she is grateful to be in Carlinville where she can meet many people from all over the world in such a small place. While learning and growing as a community and school, Blackburn will continue to come across people from all over and latch onto their cultures.



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Inside Blackburn's Food Court

By Angela Andrews

Food plays an important role in our lives. It is used to cope with certain situations like relationships, stress, anxiety, etc. It can be used to bring people and communities together.

Here at Blackburn many meal conversations are about how the food tastes in the cafeteria. Freshman Tianna Angles, who works in the cafeteria, says she had a completely different view on the food before she actually tasted it. "There is actually flavor in the food compared to high school where everything tasted like cardboard," said Angles.

Blackburn provides meal plans for every student. Each student is given an option on how much they want on their plans which they can choose

based off how much they eat. The majority of the students I have recently spoke with came to the conclusion that the meal plans are actually a good way to conserve food and money. Others believe that the plans have been progressing as the years pass like junior Christopher Stone. "In previous years I felt like we were being limited but it has gotten better," said Stone.

On the other hand, some students feel that the meal plan helps them manage their money so they are not wasteful and are getting just the amount that they need.

Making sure there is enough food to go around in the cafeteria, there are some rules that had to be set. When students go through the line the first time they get a certain limit

of food and have to get back in line if they want more. Some feel it's for the best because it potentially limits the amount of wasted food. Freshman Sheliah Payne agrees with that rule. "I think it's understandable because then it allows everyone to eat equally," said Payne.

On the other hand we have students who feel that it's not right because they shouldn't have to be interrupted during eating to go get seconds when they could have gotten it the first time around.

Food will always be a hot topic in schools whether good or bad. Opinions will always differ within every student about their interest in the cafeteria food. Students sometimes just have to make the best out of their experience.

Blackburn's

By Jazilyn Colon

New to this school year, Blackburn has implemented the IT campaign, but what exactly is IT? According to Director of Admissions Alisha Kapp, "IT is whatever a student, faculty, or staff wants it to be. Whatever makes Blackburn special to you; whether it be singing in the Bothwell auditorium for a production, participating on the basketball team or being a part of house council.

IT started about a month ago when Kapp and the P.R team were searching for a new slogan for the school. Learn, Work, Earn is still Blackburn's motto, but after playing around with different schools' slogans Kapp discovered the concept of IT. Right now IT is more seen on campus than what any prospective students may have seen. The slogan will be used in Blackburn's recruiting process and is to be put in full effect for the incoming freshmen of 2016.

According to Administration Department Manager Haley Haynes, "IT is what every student brings to Blackburn. Blackburn has a unique IT factor due to the wide variety of students that come from many different places. Each person has different

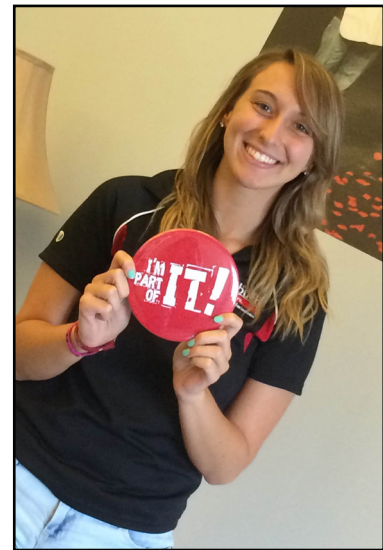


PHOTO BY JAZILYN COLON

Haley Haynes holding an "I'm part of it!" button in DCC

traits that they bring to campus making Blackburn unlike any other campus."

As a part of the new IT factor on campus, admissions will be incorporating a new part to campus visits. When prospective students come to campus and take the tour they will be able to add a tile to a wall of Anderson (the building next to Ludlum) to signify that they are now a part of "IT."

What admissions didn't expect was IT to become the big deal that it's become. IT was originally just for Admissions but IT has now spread across

Pimp My Graphics Lab

By Bryan Bethel

During summer break, plenty of remodeling and renovations took place on the Blackburn campus. One of the biggest changes took place in the Visual Arts Center's (VAC) graphics lab with the addition of 18 state of the art Macs with Yosemite, the latest Apple software, as well as up to date Adobe software. These new computers, equipped with retina display for extra crisp graphics, are the pride and joy of Pegram Department Chair in Fine Arts, Professor Craig Newsom. "The display



PHOTO BY BRYAN BETHEL

The new iMacs have a sleek new look and the most up to date software

"With these computers we are now current with the software professionals in the design world are using."

-Craig Newsom

is probably the best thing about them," said Newsom. "With these computers we are now current with the software professionals in the design world are using."

As well as having all new

computers, the graphics lab is now also stocked with Wacom drawing tablets. These tablets allow artists to draw directly into Adobe applications on their computer, giving all artists an opportunity to showcase their

illustrations in a digital format.

After the graphics lab received their new computers, some of their old Macs were donated to the computer lab in Hudson. Three lightly-used Macs are now up and running, according to junior computer science major Christian Bailey. "The Macs we have in the lab look really nice, and they boot up faster than our other computers too," Bailey said. For anyone who wants to check out all the new computers, the VAC graphics lab is open Tuesday through Friday and times are posted outside the door.

The author is a graphic arts major at Blackburn College.

The Busy New Student

By Karlee Brimberry

During the first week of school, also known as Welcome Week, new students are advised to go to all campus events on top of learning a new job, meeting new professors and students and for some, practicing a collegiate sport. At times this

can be nerve-racking and you may ask yourself "will I ever have time to sleep?"

Throughout Welcome Week, Student Life held numerous events around campus from informational comical lectures like "The Hook



During their free time, freshman can be found hanging out in the Jewell parlor

“IT” Factor

“IT is what every student brings to Blackburn.”

-Haley Haynes

campus to all the different departments. Each department had a way of making it their own. For example, in the Lumpkin Learning Commons “return it” is written and posted

all over. So IT has branched out. Get ready because Blackburn is coming with the IT factor and it’s here to stay.

What do these freshman think about the IT factor campaign?

“The IT campaign sounds more like a slogan for workout DVDs than a school slogan. I think if you’re here long enough, you already understand IT, you don’t need it when you see IT on every wall.”

-Cecelia Stewart

“The campaign seems really vague and broad.”

-Katherine Beeler

“I think it’s not helpful and Blackburn doesn’t really need it. Also it can be really confusing to new people on campus.”

-Stefanie Everett

You Get a Work Order, And You Get a Work Order!



PHOTO BY BRYAN BETHEL

Bill Bertetto oversees all of the departments located in PPlant, from grounds crew, new construction and even cleaning services

By Bryan Bethel

You’ve moved back into your dorm after summer break, all your stuff is put in place and you’re ready to get the semester off to a good start and learn. That’s when you realize that your air conditioning unit isn’t working properly. You make a work order with your resident assistant and send it in to Physical Plant (PPlant), but how long will it take before your issue is resolved?

PPlant is one of the departments at Blackburn that people definitely love to hate. You could walk up to almost anyone on campus and hear a different horror story of how long it took PPlant to respond to their work order. Senior psychology major Josh Thompson had one such story:

“I sent in a work order early in the semester about my AC unit not getting cold, and I haven’t heard back from them at all. It’s frustrating that I have to wait so long for something that is probably a simple fix.”

But does PPlant really deserve all the flak that they get? After all, they only have so many people working in the department, and things go wrong all the time. Director of Physical Plant Bill Bertetto said that PPlant is doing everything in their power to fix your issues as best as they can, sometimes outsourcing work to outside companies. “Sometimes based on expertise or timing we do outsource some of the work,” said Bertetto. “If it is something that we can use student labor

for however, that’s what we try to do.”

Bertetto also encourages people to call into PPlant if they feel as if their issues are not being resolved in a timely manner. “If there is no update everyone is always welcome to call the physical plant office,” said Bertetto. “Normally physical plant coordinator Gena Ober is there to answer the phone and she can look up the status of the ticket.” Bertetto even states that students can contact him personally if they feel that their work order has not been handled in a timely fashion. Ober can be contacted at ext. 5503 and Bertetto at ext. 5617.

Life of a Student

Up” and “A Shot of Reality” to hosting a movie night featuring “Pitch Perfect II” on the quad. There was something every evening for new students to participate in.

When surveying numerous freshman students, most felt the

activities Blackburn held during Welcome Week were more of a stress reliever than something that added stress. According to freshman communications major Anthony Harper, “The way the schedule was set up to keep us so busy really made my day go by more quickly.”

Many freshmen also enjoyed the activities because it was a way for them to make friends. “As a freshman commuter, I’m so glad Blackburn held all the fun events that they did because otherwise I would have never gotten to know the people I’m friends with today,” said freshman psychology major Kaitlyn Scott.

Although being a Blackburn student means that everyone gets used to the business of balancing school, work and a social life, the first week of school can be a bit stressful, but most students feel the campus events are a great way to escape that stress for a short amount of time.



PHOTO BY KARLEE BRIMBERRY



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| BEEF (Choice or Higher) | |
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Fitness Apps and Wearable Tech



PHOTO BY SHELBY HOLYBEE

Tyson uses every opportunity she can to keep track of her health

By Heidi Tyson

When starting a fitness journey some rely on the help of a personal trainer. Others rely on role models or getting fit for summer. But sometimes we lose track of our goals and fall off track. This could be because when we start our fitness journeys we are not knowledgeable enough about fitness and health which can leave us feeling like we don't

know where to begin. That is where fitness technologies can come into play. There are so many different kinds of apps and wearable technologies that it can be difficult to decide what to use. So I narrowed it down to two apps and one wearable technology that have helped me and others to stay on track with fitness and health.

Almost everyone who has a cell phone has a smart phone, which means a lot of people can take advantage of numerous free fitness apps. One app that has been extremely helpful has been MyFitnessPal. This app allows the user to track their food intake by scanning the barcode on food packages. This app automatically inputs the amount of calories, fats, carbohydrates, protein, etc. that are in each food item scanned. This app can be used to track calories or even to track micronutrients such as vitamin C and iron. I use it mostly to make sure that I am

eating enough grams of protein a day.

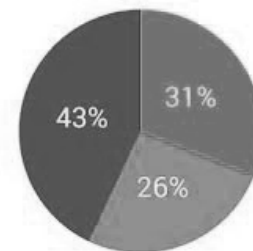
Another useful app is a type of social media called BodySpace. This app was created by Bodybuilding.com and has information on how to perform exercises for the user to refer to. This app allows the user to share and connect with other people who share a similar interest in fitness. It also allows the user to create and save workouts by selecting a body part to exercise and picking from a list of different exercises. The user can also go onto bodybuilding.com and look up even more information on workouts and even find recipes and information on supplements on their blog.

Wearable fitness tech is becoming very popular, especially the Fitbit. There are several different types of Fitbit bracelets for different levels of fitness, but the Fitbit Flex is one that is suitable for everyday activity, such

as tracking steps, distance, calories burned and activity minutes. The Fitbit Flex also tracks sleep patterns and syncs wirelessly to the wearer's smart phone to display daily amounts of activity.

These apps and wearable technologies have helped many people stick with their

fitness routines. They are a great supplement to add to a healthy lifestyle, but they will not automatically make this journey easy. You must be able to dig deep and find the motivation to stick with it. Set a goal, reach it and reward yourself with a new fitness gadget.



| | Total | Goal |
|----------------------|-------|------|
| Carbohydrates (177g) | 43% | 40% |
| Fat (48g) | 26% | 30% |
| Protein (130g) | 31% | 30% |

GRAPH BY HEIDI TYSON

What a day of nutrition looks like for Heidi

Hipster Hype? Vinyl Records DO sound better

By Courtney Egner

Music consumers likely stream most of their music through free services like Pandora or Spotify, or even just through YouTube. Vinyl seems to be useless and inconvenient, like I thought before I bought my record player. Vinyl records, also known as long plays or LPs for short, have regained popularity in recent years with sales being the highest in 12 years according to the U.K. Telegraph. But that doesn't stop dedicated music fans from purchasing LPs and taking in the sound. Most have probably heard the classic hipster tag-line "Oh that sounds so much better on vinyl. You should hear it on vinyl." And I'm sure most have ignored it. But, is the hipster hype real? Do vinyl records really sound better?

Back in January I bought my record player with one LP from Amazon. I was 100 percent sure that I would hear no noticeable sound difference. The first record I bought was "The Balcony" by Catfish and the Bottlemen, which I had played many times through Spotify. I put the record on as soon as I got it and it was a whole new experience. The sound was different. It was fresh and crisp like most music should sound. Music should

sound how it would if you heard the song live. The record did in fact sound better on vinyl, so I set out on a quest to build up my record collection. This past summer I found a resale record store just a short drive from where I was living. Now, having acquired more than 20 LPs, I can truthfully say that music does sound better on vinyl. The hipster hype is in fact true.

But why does it sound better on vinyl? The main argument according to many online forums, including makeuseofit.com and music connoisseurs, is because of the way digital audio is compressed to fit onto a phone or stream online. When the files get compressed, they lose some quality. If you're listening on Spotify, YouTube or on the radio, that audio has been compressed to fit onto the medium, warping the quality of the tune. When pressing an LP for distribution, its intended quality remains and you hear what the musician intended to produce. Vinyl is worth the price because you're paying for quality, and record buying is a fun experience. So give a long play record a try, you might not ever go back to digital.

Thank God Its Thursday: Here We Go!



PHOTO BY KYLE KUTAK

Cody Northcutt, Asia Coleman and Lucy Hitzelburger watching television in the Jewell Parlor

By Kyle Kutak

While school and work may stress students out, watching fall television shows can provide some relaxation time. ABC has come up with the slang term TGIT (Thank God It's Thursday) for the top watched television shows that are aired every Thursday night.

Some of the returning television shows are: "Grey's Anatomy," "How to Get Away with Murder," "Scandal," "Orange is the New Black," "Empire," "Dance Moms," "Modern Family" and "Chicago P.D." ABC (30), NBC (03&05), The CW, CBS, Fox and Netflix will be airing the television shows this fall.

Freshman communications major Rayvon Black said, "I am most excited for "How to Get Away with Murder," "Orange is the New Black" and "Grey's Anatomy" to come back on. I like watching these television shows because they keep me interested in what is going on and they are suspenseful."

Many students watch these television shows to fill gaps in their free time, and others are just too excited for their favorite shows to return.

Freshman criminal justice major Tianna Angles said, "I am most happy to see "Empire," "Orange is the New Black,"

"The Strain" and "How to Get Away with Murder." There is always a mystery that keeps me interested because these shows are not predictable."

More and more people become fascinated with the television show's suspense and mysteriousness. According to tvguide.com, the most popular television shows last fall were: "The Big Bang Theory," "NCIS," "The Walking Dead" and "Criminal Minds." So grab a blanket and snuggle up on the couch to get ready for your favorite new and returning television shows this fall!

Feel the Bern!

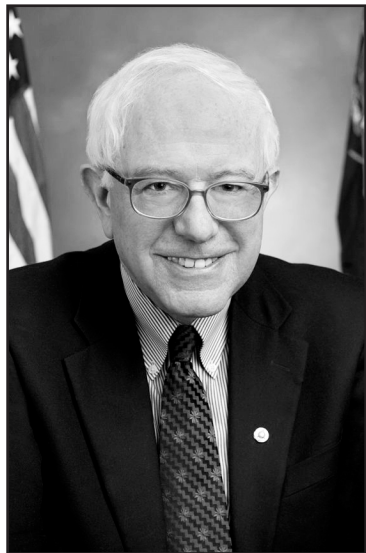


PHOTO COURTESY OF GAGE

Sanders' official Congressional portrait from 2007

By Bryan Bethel

With most media outlets focusing on candidates like Donald Trump and Hillary

Clinton, one presidential hopeful has been primarily left out of the spotlight. 73-year-old Bernard or "Bernie" Sanders is the junior U.S. Sen. from Vermont, and is a candidate for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in the upcoming election. While Bernie is often overlooked as a serious candidate, his underground network of followers is beginning to add up and it will not be much longer until other candidates will have no choice but to take him seriously.

Bernie does not try to hide the fact that he describes himself as a democratic socialist. Being classified as a socialist means standing for balancing political, economic and medical inequalities among U.S. citizens according

to voanews.com. Sanders has a long list of campaign issues he wants to address, from free college tuition to doubling the minimum wage. I know that many people my age would be thrilled to have college tuition paid for and not have to worry about paying off student loans for years to come. Free college tuition would give many young adults an opportunity they previously never would have thought possible. While some may argue that free college tuition would only raise taxes for everybody, Bernie says that he would instead raise taxes on the top one percent and large corporations.

Along with free college tuition, Bernie also supports the fight for women's equality. Sanders plans to expand Planned Parenthood

"When it comes to the rights of women, we cannot go backwards. We have got to go forward."

-Bernie Sanders

and pass legislation allowing women to earn the same pay as men. Bernie also plans to enact services provided through the Violence Against Women Act, such as funding for victim assistance services and protection for victims, among others. "When it comes to the rights of women, we cannot go backwards. We have got to go forward," says Sanders on his campaign website.

It is obvious that Bernie Sanders knows what he stands for and is not afraid to hide it. Bernie has remained vigilant with his beliefs and never resorts to mud-slinging tactics like Clinton and Trump. To learn more about the beliefs and views of Mr. Sanders, visit his website at BernieSanders.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL HOGAN



PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN KERENSA

TRUMP has to be Trumped!

"Well, someone is doing the raping."

-Donald Trump

By Courtney Egner

Even if you are not up to date with politics or care about politics, you know that Donald Trump is running for President of the great United States of America. That's right, the "You're Fired" guy from "The Apprentice" is running for the ruler of our country. Trump is the front-runner for the Republican nomination with plans for immigration and tax reform that appeal to very conservative folk. More than likely you have probably heard some of the crazy things he has said during his campaign run. First off, his plans for

immigration reform are more than offensive and racist at this point. His plan is to build a giant wall that would ideally be impenetrable by humans and make Mexico pay for it to clean up their "mess." This isn't the worst thing he has said regarding immigration. He also claimed that Mexico sends criminals, drug dealers and rapists into the country. Making such claims about immigrants from Mexico is absolutely distasteful and uneducated. When he was later pressed about the validity of this claim his response was:

"Well, someone is doing the raping."

Trump is also one of the biggest political misogynists I have ever seen. Trump has been known to call women disgusting animals and slobs in interviews and on his television show if they aren't even



PHOTO COURTESY OF STANISLAW SKOWRON

Trump is the front-runner for the Republican nomination

remotely attractive to him. In the Republican Presidential debate on Aug. 6, Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly slammed Trump regarding the comments he has made about women. Kelly's questions were very relevant and Kelly approached it like a professional. When pressed about Kelly's questions Trump claimed they were ridiculous and later said she had "blood coming out of her wherever" in an interview with CNN. A woman asked

him very relevant questions regarding comments he makes all the time about women and he made comments about a woman's natural menstruation process. Because of course, when a woman is rightfully mad about disgusting things a man said, it's just because it's "her time of the month."

There are so many reasons not to vote for Donald Trump in the coming election, being a racist and misogynist are only two of the biggest.

Feel strongly about a particular topic? Want to make your voice heard? Submit an opinion piece to burnian@blackburn.edu and share your views with the campus and community!

Talk To Tim

Welcome and Welcome Back

By Tim Morenz

Greetings and Salutations, Blackburn College!

The fall semester is here! The fall semester is here! Once again Blackburn is cranking out another year of world-changers! For those of you unfamiliar with this column, "Talk to Tim" is a regular feature in The 'Burnian where I field your questions about mental health, wellness, relationships, stress, sex, whatever, nothing is out of bounds. It gives me a chance to reflect on my experience (24 years in the field so far) and see if we can't help find a solution to the problems we experience on a daily basis. If you have a question, send me an email at tim.morenz@blackburn.edu. Your confidentiality is supremely important so if you prefer, your identity can be withheld or changed based upon your request. Past issues have discussed things important to our campus—from transitioning and adjusting to college, work/life/school balance all the way to coping with panic attacks and past trauma. It would be a pleasure to hear from you and to serve you.

However, before we get started answering questions, let's talk a little about what we have going on in Counseling Services.

We are located in the northwest corner of DCC, rooms 126 and 133. If we are not with someone the doors are usually open. We want to express that talking to us doesn't mean you are crazy, broken or defective. It just means that you have chosen to talk to someone. Also, you don't need to have a problem in order to speak to us. We

would love to get acquainted and know you better.

Peer Counselors: The capstone of Counseling Services. This year's Peer Counselors are Sara Burchett, Jordan Foor, Jesse Medina and Dallas Newman. They are all psychology majors and want to have a career in the helping professions. They are first and foremost students, extensively trained and able to give insight on a host of issues including academic support, time and stress management, problem solving and decision making and crisis intervention. They are everything that is right about Blackburn.

Professional services: Tim Morenz, Erica Brown and Jackie Currie make up the rest of the Counseling Services team. Jackie is finishing her Master's in Counseling at University of Illinois at Springfield and offers a wealth of wisdom from individual stuff to relationships. Our services are available by appointment. Relationship work, grief, spirituality and trauma are among our specialties.

Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction: Throughout the week we offer programming in mindfulness and often incorporate movement. We offer mindfulness meditation twice a week and Qigong and Trauma Sensitive Yoga once per week. These programs are clinically proven to reduce anxiety and stress and improve a host of functions including concentration, memory and even immune functioning! We would love for you to join us exploring the power of the present moment.

Education and



PHOTO BY AURORA GRIMMETT

Tim Morenz, College Counselor

Prevention services: We offer a host of services tackling problems common to the College campus, including Alcohol and Sexual Assault. We want to help make your experience profound and life-changing, but also safe. Look for brochures and fliers around campus.

Academic accommodations: Have an IEP or 504 plan and need some academic help? We coordinate services between our office and the Lumpkin Learning Commons that can make the difference between surviving in college and thriving in college.

Sound interesting? If you are curious and would like to know more, or have a question you would like answered in future issues of the 'Burnian? Email Tim at tim.morenz@blackburn.edu

Until next time, BEAVER NATION!!

About the author: Tim Morenz has a MA in Counseling Psychology and has been licensed in the State of Illinois since 1997 as a Clinical Professional Counselor. He has been working in the Mental Health and Substance Abuse field since 1991. His hope is to create a safe space for the meaningful conversation.

FREE Entertainment Fall Festival

"8 hours of first class entertainment that is free for all who choose to take part."

Courtesy of Coal Country Chamber of Commerce

Free entertainment, fall crafts and merchandise, food vendors and a free petting zoo will be highlights of the Coal Country Chamber of Commerce 17th annual Fall Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26 at the Bend City Park.

While the festival officially opens at 10 a.m., the free entertainment starts at 7 a.m. with Joe Powell serenading the many crafters, food vendors, and local business people who are setting up their booths. Powell's performance is available to anyone who wants to sit in the entertainment pavilion and enjoy the peaceful early morning. Mr. Powell sings ballads and country songs and has a great whistling program. At this early morning time he can be heard throughout the park.

From 10-11:30 a.m., the Festival is happy and proud to be able to present, "live from Nashville," a young lady who grew up in Gillespie and comes from a family of six generations of musicians: Amy Hailstone. Amy is a "singer, songwriter, producer, guitarist and multiinstrumentalist. Blessed with a big vocal range, this powerhouse rock singer is also clearly influenced by pop, soul, and blues. Amy's music is a culmination of a lifelong love affair with rock and pop music, guitars and a driving backbeat" (from amyhailstone.com).

Dixie Dudes and Dance, a favorite of area audiences, will play from 11:30-1 p.m. The Dixie Dudes evolved from the Dixie Dudes Dixieland Band which formed at Lewis and Clark Community College in 1985. Today their repertoire

includes not only Dixieland, but also rock n roll and dance tunes. According to band leader Chuck Herzog, "The music will lift the spirit, lighten the heart and start the foot tapping."

Steve Davis in "Memories of Elvis" with his friends Anna Blair as Patsy Cline and Thomas Hickey as Buddy Holly will be the afternoon's entertainment from 1-4 p.m. These three artists bring us the sounds of the 50's and the 60's when these classic entertainers brought rock and roll to millions. Davis, who is well known to the audiences in the CCCC area, does a performance that is the result of exhaustive research to give the Elvis fan an authentic experience. Anna Blair brings enthusiasm to her role as Patsy Cline and Thomas Hickey brings the songs and sound of the beloved Buddy Holly to our stage.

Dancing is encouraged at all times at the pavilion where the stage is! "That is 8 hours of first class entertainment that is free for all who choose to take part," said Mickey Robinson, CCCC Executive Director. "We are trying to fulfill the Chamber goal of bringing people from outside the local Community District 7 area to our event that is family oriented and designed to be inexpensive fun for all ages." Robinson said visitors who attend the Fall Festival should bring lawn chairs with them in order to sit and enjoy the live, free music.

The Fall Festival and Tour de Coal are sponsored by the Coal Country Chamber of Commerce.

The 'Burnian is dedicated to serving the Blackburn campus as well as the Carlinville community. If you have something to contribute, send a Letter to the Editor to burnian@blackburn.edu. We also welcome guest editorials and would love to hear your ideas.

THE BURNIAN

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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.

Free Fitness for Broke College Students

By Heidi Tyson

Being a college student means you don't have a lot of time or money. So how can students stay fit with their busy schedule and empty wallets? There are many different ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle on Blackburn's campus.

One of the best ways to stay fit is to try out the weight

and cardio rooms located in Dawes. The weight room has several squat racks that can be used in many versatile ways, a cable machine, barbells, dumbbells and numerous other machines. The cardio room is equipped with stationary bikes, treadmills, elliptical machines and padded mats

that can be used for stretching or floor exercises. The weight room is open from noon-10 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed on Saturday and Sunday. Dawes also has two racquetball courts if that's more appealing than weightlifting and the gymnasium is always open to students as long as there are no teams practicing.

Another option for staying fit for free on campus is to work out in the dorms. There is plenty of space in the parlors of each dorm to do an individual workout or invite friends to join in. If you are having trouble coming up with workout ideas, I recommend going to Bodybuilding.com and looking up body weight workouts. You can also follow along to YouTube videos such



PHOTO BY SHELBY HOLYBEE

Using weights in the gym is a great way to stay fit and become more toned

as Fitness Blender, Blogilates or Body Rock TV.

If running is more your style then there are many great routes around town to try out. You can go out and run in the country, run around town or go to Loveless Park and run the trails. There is also a track around the soccer field that equals a mile for every four laps if you want to track the distance. The bleachers can

also be utilized for workouts. Another great way to stay on top of running is to join the cross country team! It's a fun and challenging way to stay fit and meet a really great group of people in the process. If you are interested in joining, email Mark Hopping at mark.hopping@blackburn.edu and let him know!

HEALTH TIP

Need help keeping track of your daily water intake? Download the free app Plant Nanny. Every time you drink a certain amount of water, you water your plant and it grows! You can raise a whole garden if you keep up with it.

Need help with workout ideas and health tips?

Contact me anytime! heidi.tyson@blackburn.edu

Former Blackburn Coach Leads All-Star Team to Victory

By Jazilyn Colon

On March 16, the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) announced Dr. Ira Zeff, a former head coach at Blackburn College, to be the head coach for the 2015 Reese's Division III College All-Star game. The game was held on March 21 at the Salem Civic Center in Salem, Virginia with Zeff leading the West Side All-Stars to victory with a final score of 105-94, beating the Eastern All-Stars.

When he was given the call saying that he was announced the head coach for the West Side all-star team, he said that his initial reaction was complete shock. "I had no idea," he said. He mentioned what a great honor it was to be picked. He then went on to say how amazing it was to have this opportunity. "The weekend was a confirmation of what Division III is all about," said Zeff. "I had the opportunity to coach the best of the best NCAA



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY STAFF DIRECTORY

Former Blackburn coach Dr. Ira Zeff

III basketball players. They were great representatives of the DIII philosophy. As part of the weekend we visited an elementary school and interacted with a group of Special Olympic athletes. The players truly embraced the opportunity ... and this was as

"I had the opportunity to coach the best of the best NCAA III basketball players. They were great representatives of the DIII philosophy."

-Ira Zeff

rewarding for them and me as the All Star Game itself."

In 1990, Zeff was hired as the Director of Athletics and head men's basketball coach at Blackburn, leading the Blackburn Beavers to three St.

Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships. In 1998, Zeff went on to Coach at Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) and was the Director of Athletics. At NWU he led the sports teams to six conference

wins.

Zeff spoke about his love for coaching and his experience here at Blackburn. When asked about what made him actually want to pursue a career in coaching, he said, "It has been my goal since my junior year of high school." However, his father was the one who really inspired him to become a coach. "My father shared my love of sports and always made time to come check out each one of my games," he stated. Even though Zeff is no longer coaching at Blackburn, he said that Blackburn played a key role in preparing him for this opportunity. Zeff continues to pursue his dream in coaching and plans to keep on doing it for as long as possible.

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New Year, New Coaches, Fresh Start

By Robert Fagg

The men's and women's basketball programs both have new head coaches this year: Steve Kollar and Katie Fonseca are bringing their own unique philosophies to this season and Blackburn is waiting to see what happens.

Fonseca comes to Blackburn after coaching at Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville, Iowa. Before coaching there, she coached high school basketball for nine years. Although this is Fonseca's first Division III head coaching job, she has Division III basketball experience playing four years at Hendrix College in Arizona.

Kollar comes to Beaver Nation from Benedictine University at Lisle. He was the assistant coach there for five years and prior to that he was the assistant at University of



PHOTO BY ROBERT FAGG

The Women's basketball team has begun work in the gym

hired and were ready to come on campus. Both coaches said how comfortable they felt as soon as they arrived.

Both coaches are bringing their own ideals to the

each other. Kollar also has started his team workouts and is also very excited for this season. He not only wants the guys to be on the court backing each other, but also "wants



PHOTO BY NOAH DAUM

Dawes gymnasium is included in the buildings that underwent some remodelling this summer.

St. Francis in Joliet for three years. Kollar also is in his first head coaching experience at Division III, but like Fonseca, Kollar played Division III basketball at Greenville College and also at Elmhurst College after transferring from Greenville.

These coaches both went through a similar interview process. This included two phone interviews, the first being with the selection committee and the second

with Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs Heidi Heinz. After this they were brought on campus for a tour of the school, an open forum with faculty and staff and one final interview in person. They then received the final news that they had been

programs this year, changing it up and making them stand out from last year. Fonseca is excited to be here at Blackburn and has already started preseason workout and open gym routines. She expects the women to be competitive on the court and expects to get Blackburn back to its winning

Blackburn to be one of the hardest places to play in the conference." His motto for the team is: "It's not what happens to you that matters, it's how you handle what happens."

Both teams are looking to give back to the community. The women's team went to Beaver Dam on Sept. 12 to do things such as "pruning back branches off of the trails and picking up trash." They also plan on running a kid's camp; more information will be made

available later. The men's team wants to do elementary school readings and is also going to try and help with the Tour de Milk, the local bike race that will begin this year.

ways. Although she expects the women to win, there is no pressure on them to do so. Her motto for the team is for all of the women to "buy in" to the program, meaning when they all buy in, they all will put 100 percent out on the court for

Blackburn Volleyball is Ready to Serve Up a Challenge

By Karlee Brimberry

Over the summer, the former women's volleyball head coach Suzannah Toresdahl left Blackburn College. According to former Interim Athletic Director Mark Hopping, Toresdahl left on a positive note and moved back to her home state of Arizona. The athletics hiring committee was left to fill the coaching position in early July.

Coach Jordan Barton earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Waynesburg University in Pennsylvania and her Masters of Arts in Teaching at Bethany College in West Virginia. Barton was selected for the head coach of the women's volleyball team at Blackburn in July. Although Barton is young, she has many years of knowledge and experience.

Not only did Barton play volleyball throughout her high school and college career, she also coached women's volleyball for seven years, with three of those years at the collegiate level at both Bethany College and Suffolk University. Barton, who moved to Carlinville from Massachusetts, feels Blackburn is a great fit for her due to the uniqueness of the college.

Barton has high expectations for the team this season. Her response to being voted the 10th team in the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference preseason

poll was, "That should bother me, but it actually gives me more motivation. Being the underdog is exciting to me because we are really going to surprise some teams in the SLIAC. I just hope they're ready for us!"

Although there are seven freshmen on the team, there are many returners as well. Barton feels even though they are a young team this year, she does not view that as a bad thing. They plan on using this as an opportunity to build and grow together for their future. Returning sophomore graphic design major Alexis Dick stated, "Our team has made a very huge step in improvement because of Coach Barton. She came here and started the drills early, allowing us to have a great start to our season."

Coach Barton will be accompanied by her fiancé William Becque who is volunteering as assistant coach. Coming from years of athletic experience, Becque has worked as Associate Director of Sports Information at Knox College, Sports Information Graduate Assistant at Waynesburg University, Director of Sports Information at Thiel College, and the Director of Sports Information at Smith College. Both Barton and Becque are ready to share their passion for Division III sports with their student athletes and hope for a successful first season at Blackburn.

"It's not what happens to you that matters, it's how you handle what happens."

-Steve Kollar



PHOTO BY WILL BECQUE

The Blackburn women's volleyball team listens eagerly as new head coach Jordan Barton speaks in the huddle!