

THE BURNIAN

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

Another One Gone



PHOTO BY ALEXIS DICK

Senior softball player, Lauren Rhodes, working on recruiting student athletes

By Alexis Dick

There have been two Blackburn volleyball/softball coaches in just three years. On Monday Jan. 11, it was announced that Jordan Barton, Head Volleyball and Softball Coach, resigned from Blackburn College. The reason for the resignation was so that Barton could be closer to her family. This is the second consecutive year that the volleyball and softball teams have been left coachless with a season quickly approaching.

Despite the changes, the Blackburn volleyball and softball teams have made progress from last year. Recruitment and wins have improved this year for the volleyball team. Softball increased in the recruiting area as well this year but they have not had their season yet to improve the wins. The softball team is currently being coached by senior softball player Lauren Rhodes. Rhodes

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FAMILAR FACE NAMED ACTING ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

By Noah Daum

After the dismissal of Blackburn College Athletic Director Vernon Mummert during Thanksgiving break last November, Blackburn left the position open for over a month. On Jan. 12, President John Comerford announced in an email to Blackburn's faculty and staff that Director of Transfer Admissions John Malin will fill the spot by becoming the college's acting Athletic Director. Malin will continue to serve as Head Men's Golf Coach as well.

Malin began at Blackburn as a student in 1977 and upon graduating he became an admissions counselor for the college. Over the years, Malin moved up through the ranks



PHOTO BY NOAH DAUM

John Malin has been at Blackburn since 1977

within the Admissions Office until settling as Director of Transfer Admissions in 2009.

Malin feels that because of his background in admissions, he has a pretty good understanding of what to expect with his new role. "With

higher education, you don't have a lot of luxury in terms of time to adjust," he said. "You have new classes coming in every 12 months and so you have to be on target." Malin then added, "You don't have a second chance with a class so you gotta bring it in because athletics are an important part of the enrollment here." According to Malin, athletes make up about 25-30 percent of new student enrollment and he considers recruitment of athletes a key focus

Malin considers Athletics Department Manager Jared Jones a "treasure" due to his experience in the department. "He knows the department inside and out," Malin

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The Flood of 2016



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALL AROUND ALTON

The Alton Belle Casino floats on the flood

By Bryan Bethel

Over the winter break, heavy rain caused record-breaking floods all over the Midwest region. "Record flooding has affected hundreds of homes and businesses across the St. Louis region," said Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon during a press conference. With many major roads and highways closed due to flooding, people had difficulties trying to visit with friends and family during the holidays. Although the Carlinville area avoided most of the bad weather, many students unfortunately experienced the flooding firsthand.

Junior biology major Kaitlyn Pugh is one student who was affected by flooding in her hometown of West Alton, Illinois. Nestled against the Mississippi River about 40 minutes from Carlinville, Alton is a town that is all too familiar with this kind of flooding. "[The river] crested

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PHOTO BY NOAH DAUM

Athletics Department Manager Jared Jones took over the athletic director's office after the departure of Vernon Mummert

Resolving MAP Grant Hysteria

By Michael Troutt and Jess Willard

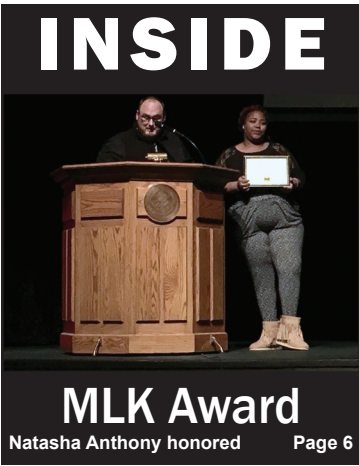
As Illinois continues into 2016 without a budget, the suspension of state-funded programs has caused immediate financial concerns for many residents—particularly college students. Many are dependent on the state's Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants to afford their continued education.

Blackburn's Director of Financial Aid Jane Kelsey said, "About 52 percent of Blackburn students receive MAP. That's over half of our student population." After Jan. 1, students started filing their 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to find out what grants and loans were available to them.

Some Blackburn students checked the estimated amount of aid they received and became worried after they didn't see the MAP grant listed. Some took to Facebook and hysteria ensued after students were under the impression that they may not be able to afford their education in the upcoming school year. Kelsey explained, "The FAFSA is a federal form. A state item is not going to be on a federal form."

Blackburn is working under the assumption that the grant money is coming in. However, Kelsey mentioned that the college has not faced a situation where the government was withholding the money

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Blackburn 'Burnian @BCBurnian Blackburn 'Burnian

Remembering Dr. Jake

By Jess Willard

Former psychology professor Dr. Victor Alan Miller had many accomplishments over 68 years. He graduated from Sherrard High School in 1965 and entered the U.S. Army on July 19, 1966. On July 1, 1969, Miller was honorably discharged. He later attended Carl Sandburg College and received an associate degree in 1983. He went on to Knox College and graduated in 1985 with college honors and honors in psychology. In August of 1989, Miller accepted a position at Blackburn. Many students, faculty and staff knew him by his nickname, "Dr. Jake." He received his doctorate in the spring of 1992. He was an active member of



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

the Blackburn community until he retired in 2014. On Jan. 10, 2016, he passed away, but not without leaving a profound impact on those around him.

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New Athletic Director Named

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said. “He basically lives in Dawes.” As a matter of fact, since Mummert’s departure, Jones even took on a new role as Operations Manager for Blackburn. “No day’s the same; it just depends on everything from answering emails, cleaning the gym, and making sure things are ready for games,” said Jones. “Since [Mummert]’s been gone, I think everyone’s stepped up to the plate and took on more duties, including myself,” he added. “I went from working an average of 20 hours a week for managers to up to 40 hours in a week.”

While both Malin and Jones declined to comment



ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL TROUTT

Got Moodle? Blackburn Does

By Michael Troutt

According to PCMag.com, Moodle is an online educational system that allows professors to present their students with a diverse range of materials to supplement the classroom learning experience. Beginning in 2002, Moodle’s software was originally developed for individuals participating in online courses. Since its conception, Moodle has continually generated attention and utilization of its software on a global scale. With Moodle boasting figures of nearly 70 million users in over 100 countries from Australia to Italy and Brazil, Moodle has recently found

a home here at Blackburn College.

Perhaps the most distinct feature, according to Moodle, is that Moodle is constructed and offered as open-source software, which means that it can be customized by users to fit their respective needs. This allows Moodle the opportunity to constantly improve and build new features to offer while simultaneously collecting new ideas from their global range of users.

Professor of psychology Dr. Kevin Karl supports the use of Moodle and believes that it could be mutually beneficial for professors and

Resolving MAP Grant Hysteria



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

Jane Kelsey and her assistant Carley Brown working in Ludlum

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due to a lack of budget. President of the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities (an advocacy organization representing 60 nonprofit colleges and universities throughout Illinois) David Tretter said, “MAP enjoys widespread support in the general assembly and with the governor. The popularity of the program has been a double-edged sword in the current budget impasse as it is an important chip in the larger discussion. The tragedy is that the lives of students who desperately need this funding to complete college is held hostage.” The bills regarding MAP currently sitting in the general assembly either await action or have not been assigned to committee. Despite the governor’s initial budget proposal and his subsequent legislation including the grant,

he has publicly stated that if the bill is sent to his desk, he will veto it because it’s not part of a larger budget solution.

Tretter added, “Our hope is that MAP—like some other vital state grants that have received funding—will be addressed in the next month so that students can be enrolled with some confidence that their grants will come through.” He urged Blackburn students to keep in communication with the college and to contact their local legislature. He recommended that students go to legislator lookup (<http://www.elections.il.gov/districtlocator/addressfinder.aspx>) to find out their government officials’ contact information.

Financial aid assistant Jacob West is a MAP recipient and called for students to refrain from panic. “Big thing

is—say we don’t get MAP. It’s up to the president and board to see what to do,” he said. He believes that President John Comerford will determine the college’s next steps if the grant doesn’t get its funding this semester. He also wanted Blackburn to know that we are not alone in this struggle; other Illinois colleges are facing a similar issue. West said, “It wouldn’t hurt to go and talk to our representatives.” He went to a MAP grant rally alongside other Blackburn students on Nov. 10, 2015 and spoke twice with government officials on this issue. According to Kelsey, MAP grant rallies usually happen around spring break.

Saturday Night’s Alright for Studying

By Rachael Chong

If you’re looking for something new to do with your Saturdays, the Lumpkin Learning Commons has got your back. Starting this semester, Blackburn’s Commons is open from noon until 5 p.m.

“It’s been on my mind since I started here,” said Spencer Brayton, director of the Lumpkin Learning Commons. “This is my third year at Blackburn. My first year someone from The ‘Burnian came and asked why don’t we have Saturday hours, and then there was really no comments last year. And then

last semester someone asked why we don’t have Saturday hours.”

Brayton said that while on an average weekday the library sees about 100 to 120 students, on the first Saturday the library was open only about nine students came. Though the number is low, he expects to see more students come in as the semester gets busier and midterms approach. “It’s just something we’re trying out,” he said. “The purpose of doing this is for the students so anything we try, whether it’s the student staff or myself, is for the students...this

is a service I want to provide.”

On the subject of student staff, Brayton said they’ve been supportive of the change in hours even though it means working Saturdays. “They know that their responsibility is to serve their student colleagues and to help them with things...especially academic support and customer service here, to make sure that this is a productive environment for them. My student workers have always been great about that, so it wasn’t even a thought because I know they share in that mission.”

“I would encourage students who want to see different things to not be afraid to get in touch with me.”

-Spencer Brayton

He also said his student staff told him that not many people came in on Sundays in the afternoon when the library was open previously, so the decision was made to move some hours from Sundays to Saturdays. Sunday’s hours are now 5 p.m. until 11 p.m. Hours on Monday through Thursday remain 8 a.m. until 11 p.m.,

and hours on Friday remain 8 a.m. through 5 p.m.

As for any additional changes, Brayton said, “I would encourage students who want to see different things to not be afraid to get in touch with me.” If you do ask about a change, his answer may be the same as the one about Saturday hours. “Why not try it?”

Going Above and Beyond Blackburn

By Jess Willard

Community service, social justice and inclusive leadership skills are three qualities that a winner of the MLK Student Leadership Award must possess. The choice for 2016 was senior criminal justice major Natasha Anthony. She received a \$100 gift card to the campus bookstore, along with a spot on the MLK Student Leadership Wall in the Department of Student Life. Director of Student Activities and New Student Orientation

Emily Barr nominated Anthony for this honor.

“She fits all of the categories listed,” Barr said. She discussed how Anthony showed initiative in her position as Campus Activities Board (CAB) representative by teaching her coworkers about events. According to Barr, Anthony has demonstrated service to the Blackburn community throughout her time here. “Last year, she started a



PHOTO BY RACHAEL CHONG

Junior physical education major Jacob West studies in Lumpkin Learning Commons

conversation about bringing more diverse performers to campus,” Barr added. “As a result, we chose some different

comedians we wouldn’t have usually gone with. We’re also bringing back a spoken word poet.” Outside of her job at CAB, Anthony has been an orientation leader, taken part in the multicultural expressions club and done work with the Habitat for Humanity. Barr said that Anthony’s service has extended beyond Blackburn to Springfield, Illinois, and Florida, where she participated in builds with Habitat for Humanity.

Anthony elaborated that she helped construct houses in Florida twice alongside other members of the Habitat for Humanity club. In Springfield, she helped build a playhouse and a sidewalk. Her involvement at Blackburn also includes serving on house council for four years and as elections chair for Student Senate for three years. “Say if we want a new president or representative, I coordinate the election process,” Anthony said. Her résumé

also includes volunteering outside of Blackburn. She has worked with Sister Circle and taught young women living in poverty etiquette skills and how to properly dress. Other work includes mentoring high school students with the Give Something Back Foundation in Joliet, Illinois. She said, “I check up on their classes and help prepare them for college.”

Anthony’s future goals involve working as a probation officer and furthering her criminal justice career as a criminologist. She wants to continue working with children, which she has done since high school. As a probation officer, she hopes to “get kids out of the habit of being a criminal.” She believed that Blackburn has helped her gain skills she will need to succeed on her career path. The ability to properly communicate, experience through leadership roles and learning to deal with different types of people are just a few.



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

Senior criminal justice major Natasha Anthony posed in the Campus Activity Board’s (CAB) office. Being a CAB representative is one of her many roles on campus

By Brendan Riley Lersch

Nearly every day throughout this school year, the male residents of second floor in Stoddard Hall have had pee-ridden toilet seats in their bathroom. Someone is not lifting the lid when he pees. It does not stop there—the bathroom habits of this person(s) is more than only pee on the seats.

Senior Stoddard resident Tim Druse described the issue. “The restrooms on second floor men’s side are continuously just filthy,” he said. “Campus Services will come in daily and thoroughly clean the restrooms and within an hour or two there is urine all over the toilet lids; they don’t flush. I’ve even seen feces in the toilets and they don’t flush, and I’ve been here for four years in this room and I’ve never seen it like this until this year. It has become somewhat extreme.” He also said that over winter break, the problem stopped and picked back up once everyone got back on campus.

Assistant Dean of Student

Life and Director of Residence Life Abbey Hardin stated, “Urine on the toilet seats is a consistent complaint that crops up in all bathrooms across campus. Campus Services is only in to clean once a day, and can’t be expected to constantly monitor the bathrooms for this.”

Campus Services worker Arthur LeVan regularly cleans second floor. He said, “Those of us that work in Campus Services are here to improve the quality of life in the dorms by providing a cleaner environment to dwell in.” He noted that it does not take long to clean up after yourself and that as college students we are more than capable of doing so. As a common courtesy to Campus Services workers, students should clean up their bodily fluids. Hardin reinforces that the responsibility ultimately lies with the students. Resident assistants will work to help solve the problem, and if needed, will let students into

the maintenance closets for cleaning materials.

Druse said he has put up signs to remind his peers to be courteous and lift the lid. He has also asked second floor resident assistant John Esparza if he can get a handle on the seat pee-ers. Esparza said, “I try to tell residents to clean up after themselves and I know I have allowed signs to be put up reminding residents to do this as well, but those signs keep getting taken down.” Resident assistants have the authority to prorate for messes in their halls. This proration is supposed to be charged to the person at fault, but much of the time there is no record of who did it unless that person admits to it. This then means the charge is dispersed amongst the residents. According to Esparza, he does not want to prorate second floor boys because it is more of an inconvenience for all of them since this has been an ongoing issue.

Blackburn College: Learn, Work, Set Mouse Traps

By Jared Zoelzer

Recently, mice may have been spotted on Blackburn campus; however, according to campus services supervisor Torry Grady, there is no rodent problem on campus due to the small population.

According to Grady and supervisor of utilities Joshua Mahkovtz, mice on campus are nothing new or out of the ordinary. Both supervisors note that due to the size of a mouse, which can be as small as a finger, mice can get through just about any small crack or hole. Nearby farming and cold weather contribute to the Blackburn mice population. Students leaving doors and

windows open, students being careless with food items and the overall cleanliness of dorm rooms and bathrooms are of concern, according to both supervisors.

The physical plant is dealing with any potential rodent problems by keeping mouse glue traps stocked. Glue traps are available upon request and are checked by campus service workers. Glue traps are preferred over snap traps because they are easier for students to use and are scented, which attracts the mice. Physical Plant Services Coordinator Gena Ober invites all resident directors to keep

a stack of glue traps on hand for use in the dorms to help control pests.

Students can help prevent mice on campus in three simple ways. 1) Students are asked to keep windows and doors closed. 2) If students see any mice they are asked to report it to a resident director, resident assistant, professor, or via work orders. 3) Students should not be careless about their food items and make sure any food items make their way into appropriate trash receptacles.

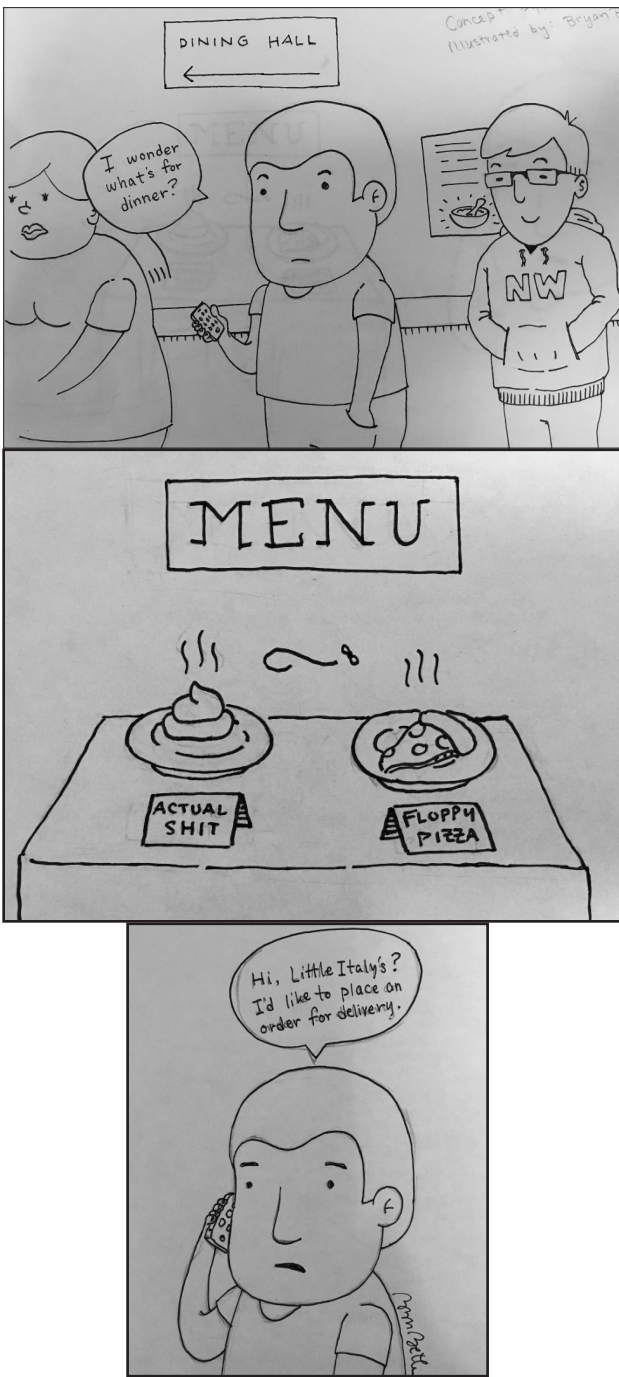
There have been no reports of damage to any buildings due to mice.



PHOTO BY JARED ZOELZER

Supervisor of Campus Services, Torry Grady, sets a mouse glue trap in the Visual Arts Center

The Adventures of Clint Mathis



Comic by Bryan Bethel

Editor's Note: *The Adventures of Clint Mathis* does not reflect the views of *The 'Burnian*

Mice aren’t the only pests lurking on campus. If you are living in a residence hall, chances are that you have seen cockroaches. There is a large population of cockroaches and according to Director of Student Life Abbey Hardin, there have been many more reports related to roaches than usual, the most she has seen in five years. Physical Plant Director Bill Bertetto and Hardin have agreed that they should be doing more to decrease the cockroach population.

Due to the warmer climate this winter, cockroaches have been thriving not just at Blackburn, but also at many other academic institutions, according to Hardin. Bertetto stated that cockroaches like cool, dark places and hide from light, which due to their small size can be just about anywhere. Physical plant and residence life are encouraging students to remove clothes, trash, newspapers, magazines, piles of paper bags, rags, boxes and other items from the floor that provide hiding places. Bertetto stated that “cardboard, especially the corrugated kind, in direct contact with the floor is one of their favorite breeding grounds.” Also, vacuuming helps eliminate any unwanted

debris, which contributes to decreasing the cockroach population.

“Our main concern remains to be the positive experience and health and well-being of Blackburn students,” stated Hardin. For students that are having trouble, residence staff members will help students clean up their area after mid semester health and safety checks. Residence Life will also “provide trash bags if necessary, will set deadlines to have the room cleaned up and will work to help the resident to create a safer, more sanitary environment,” said Hardin.

If a student is asked to clean up any time after mid semester health and safety checks, it is usually due to a complaint. Jones hall second floor resident assistant Margaret Anderson said, “It’s always an awkward conversation to have, but [resident assistants] handle it with respect.” Hardin also stated, “If your RA or RD asks you to remove trash from your room, clean up some of the items from your floor or move food products into a plastic storage bin, please do not be offended. We are simply trying to improve the conditions of the Residence Hall.”

A Nu Beginning



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEXI PLATTO

On January 1, Phi Gamma Nu had their first initiation ceremony to start the chapter

By John Aden

After a semester of calls with expansion members, the national professional fraternity Phi Gamma Nu (PGN) now officially recognizes Blackburn as an active chapter. On Jan. 31, Blackburn welcomed its founding chapter of PGN with the founding class initiation ceremony. Over 20 students from a wide variety of majors pledged to

uphold the high standards of PGN through a commitment to professionalism, philanthropy and community. The goal of the chapter is to increase professional skills and networking opportunities for its members, all while helping to improve the campus community. PGN members will be working diligently all semester to host

events that fulfill this goal. Sophomore marketing major and Vice President of External Operations Kayla Grove is looking forward to learning and bonding with fellow members, stating, “I’m excited to develop more professionally through the new people that I meet at PGN.”

House Council in Action

By Jared Zoelzer

Have you ever wondered what House Council is or what it does? According to Director of Student Activities Emily Bahr, “House Councils are the groups that represent the interest of each residence hall on campus.”

Each residence hall has a House Council, which may have anywhere between 9 and 11 members, depending on how many floors each dorm has. Who are those members? There is a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, Student Senate representative, Campus Activities Board (CAB) representative and several floor representatives for each dorm.

What does each member do? The president is the leader of House Council. They set up meetings, facilitate those meetings and make the agenda. If the president can’t complete a task or attend a meeting, then the vice president will support

the president. Treasurers are in charge of managing budgets and approving expenses. Secretaries record or take notes of what is happening at each meeting, send out reminders to the council and can also be involved in setting up the agenda. Student Senate Representatives attend both House Council meetings and Student Senate meetings. They are in charge of communication between the Student Senate and House Council. CAB representatives attend both House Council and CAB meetings. They are in charge of communications between House Council and CAB. Floor representatives are responsible for any issues on their floor. They are in charge of communications between their floor and House Council.

Each house has a budget, and the money for that budget comes from Student Senate. Student Senate meetings are

held every Sunday, according to Student Senate President Kaitlyn Pugh. When each House Council goes through the Student Senate allocations process, decisions are made based on what each house needs, such as money for house events. “House Council may also be referred somewhere else for items like furniture or paint,” said Pugh. Factors that impact how much money each house receives includes how much a house needs, the Student Senate budget and how much money each house currently has, but overall “Student Senate tries to give each house as much as it can,” said Pugh. Bahr noted that if House Council spends all of their money, or decides to take on a new project, then they can ask for a gift, which is not part of the allocation process. Pugh said there is no limit for gifts.

Blackburn Voices

What is your opinion of the new Vitamin Water choices at DING?

PHOTOS BY BRYAN BETHEL



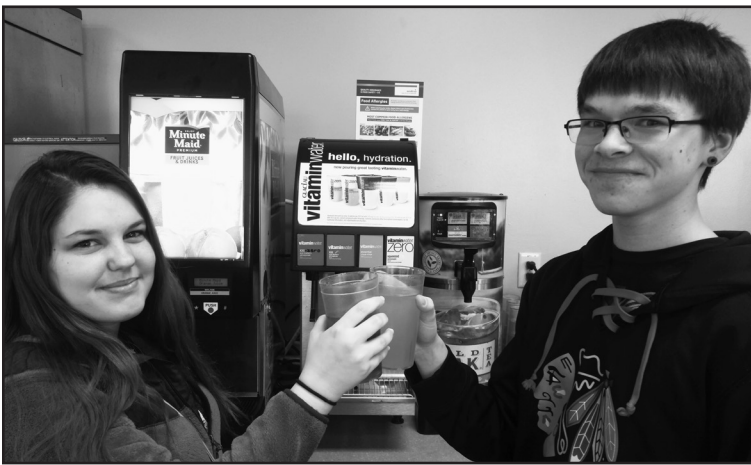
“I like it because it adds a healthier option to DING.”

Austin Carter
Freshman
Psychology Major



“This might literally be the best thing to happen to Blackburn!”

John Hummer
Junior
Graphic Arts Major



“We love it. My favorite flavor is orange, and Christian’s is pomegranate.”

Drew Fox
Junior
Business Management Major
Also pictured: Christian Garfield

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Sophomore psychology major Amber Campbell met him when she first attended Blackburn from 2009 to 2014. He met Miller during his freshman year in Miller's PY 101 course. "After I failed my first exam for the class, it made me reevaluate my major," she said. Campbell approached Miller regarding her doubts. He told her that based on her participation in class and the value of her input, she was good for the major. "He believed in me when I didn't think I would last in this field of study," she added. "Whenever I had a problem, I knew I could talk to him about it. He would be there."

Senior psychology and criminal justice major Chris Mize took his class on human sexuality. "He was the reason I stayed. I was frustrated because of the age difference between me and other students. He told me, 'You got this. You gotta stay,'" she said. Mize ended up taking a lot of his classes and visited his office often. Her favorite memories of Miller were the conversations they had. She added, "He always had an ear. Always had a hug. He was a good man." She remembers him as a mentor and a friend.

Alumnus Reggie Guyton

studied performing arts at Blackburn from 2009 to 2014. He met Miller during his freshman year in Miller's PY 101 course. Guyton admitted to slacking in the class and received a poor grade on the first test as a result. Afterwards, he became agitated and made dismissive remarks since he felt like he wasn't learning. "He sent me an email explaining his position and he offered to assist me if I needed help in his class," Guyton said. "No pomp, no circumstance or ill will. Just genuine care." That one email stuck in Guyton's mind and changed his opinion of the class. He added that they always had a conversation whenever they saw each other. "Dr. Jake was not only a very intelligent, hilarious and very genuine person, he was very supportive of the students' endeavors," he said.

Database administrator Chuck Sutphen recalled that he started working at Blackburn around the same time as Miller. At first, he only saw Miller when he assisted him with computer issues or if they saw each other around campus. He eventually found out that they had similar music tastes and both played guitar. "We

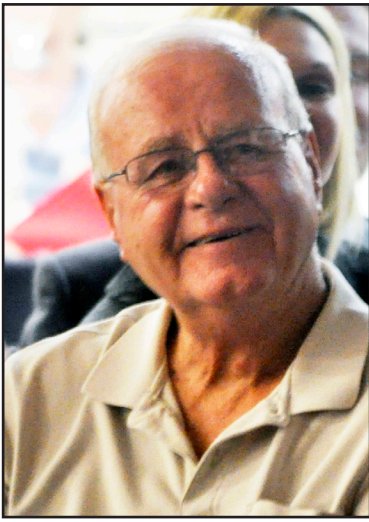


PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

Former psychology professor Dr. Jake was known for his friendly personality and approachability

got into the habit of going into the chapel during Friday afternoons. We'd play a few songs, talk about the old times," he said. They played a few gigs together and some faculty and staff members would join them on occasion. Sutphen felt that Miller was an important musical connection in his life. "Jake really kept me going for a few years when I thought I was gonna quit playing guitar altogether," he said. "He was a really funny guy. Something people appreciated about him."

Students in Deep Water

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in our town at 35.8 feet, so we went ahead and took everything out of our house a few days after Christmas," said Pugh. "We got really lucky, but I know other people that will have to move because of the damage

done to their houses. I didn't realize how much damage just water can do."

Living farther down the Mississippi River, sophomore accounting and business management major Seth Olson

also experienced flooding issues in his hometown of Jacob, Illinois. Olson and his family had to evacuate their house on Dec. 27, and were unable to move back in until after the semester had started. "The Mississippi River nearly cleared the levee where we live, but luckily the levee held and our house didn't receive any damage," said Olson. "Many people from my church also had to evacuate as well, and some of them unfortunately weren't as lucky as my family was."

According to weather.com, snow will be more of a concern than flooding in the coming weeks, but, overall, students can look forward to a warmer than usual winter season.

"I didn't realize how much damage just water could do."

-Katy Pugh

This Weather is Making Me S.A.D.

By Michael Troutt

Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D.) is defined as recurrent episodes of major depression with seasonal onset and remission that have occurred for at least two consecutive years, according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). The DSM defines the criteria for healthcare professionals to diagnose mental disorders. During the fall and winter seasons, when daylight begins to decrease, some individuals may recognize a change in how they feel and behave that deviates from their mood and behavior during the spring and summer seasons. The disorder is usually marked by feelings of sadness, anxiety and possibly a lack of interest in routinely sought out activities. These symptoms may also be accompanied by a fluctuation in weight and less tolerance for stress—basically any symptoms typically associated

with depression, which should always be taken seriously. Individuals suffering from this disorder should seek therapy and, in some cases, medication combined with therapy.

The initial research, conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health, that led to the identification of this disorder was largely based around the idea that differing amounts of sunlight may affect the mood of individuals. Though most individuals may associate S.A.D. with the fall and winter seasons, research revealed that there are

a minority of individuals that suffer from this disorder during the spring and summer seasons when the amount of daylight progressively increases. Blackburn psychology professor Dr. Kevin Karl commented, "When you talk about affect, you're talking about anything that can impact the mood of an individual." He also added that seasonal does not specifically indicate the winter months of the year, but that "There could be any kind of season within a person's life that could particularly have a mood impact on them."

Karl explained that the key element that really defines

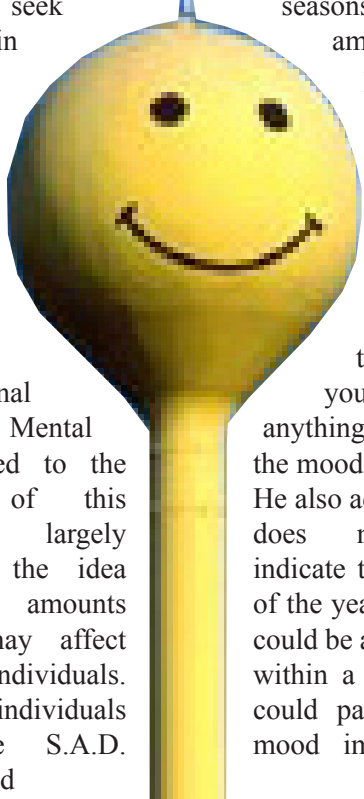


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROADSIDE AMERICA

This water tower reminds you to not worry, and be happy



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALL AROUND ALTON

Sandbagging efforts by local volunteers helped save many businesses and homes from additional water damage

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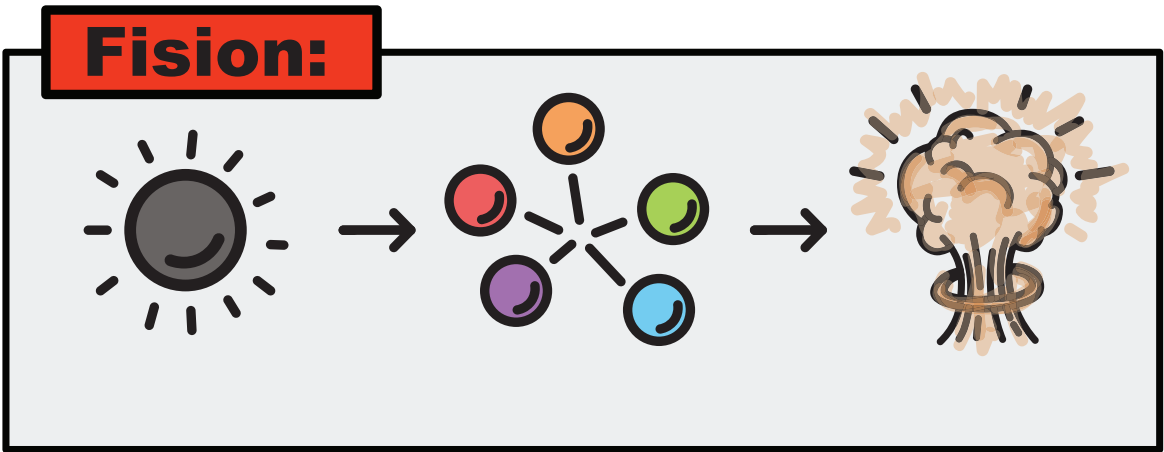
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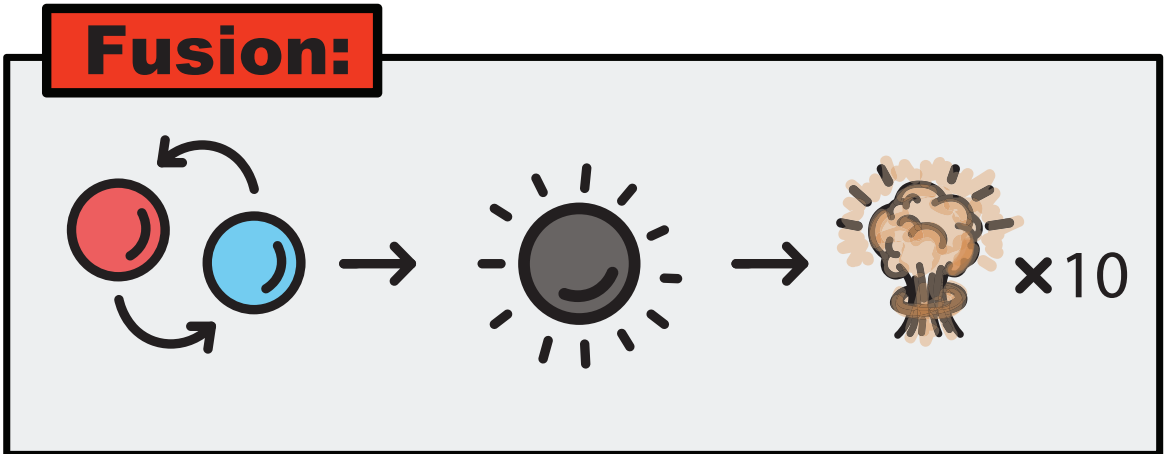
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student I.D.s

Nuclear Energy is Blowing Up!



Fision involves breaking down a large nuclei into many small pieces. This releases the energy of an atom bomb



Fusion involves two nuclei combining to create an extreme amount of energy. This releases the energy of ten atom bombs

By Veronica Milligan

Fusion is the process that fuels our sun and produces its heat and light. Travis Buchanan, an alumnus (class of 2014) chemistry major now studying chemistry at the University of Illinois, described fusion as "the combination of very small nuclei under extreme heat and pressure." This fusion of small nuclei releases an incredible amount of energy that could be devastating if used as a weapon, but immensely beneficial if used in other ways. The hydrogen bomb is an uncontrolled fusion reaction caused by the combining of two hydrogen nuclei.

On Jan. 6, North Korea claimed that they tested a hydrogen bomb for the second time. If they had been successful they would have joined several other countries in becoming a thermonuclear power. Thermonuclear power refers to the use of nuclear fusion in weaponry. There are several countries who do have this weaponry.

Providing enough energy for a reaction like this to occur is challenging, but it can be done with a fission reaction. Buchanan described fission "... as the energetic fragmentation of very large nuclei." Fission is

the opposite of fusion. It is often done using radioactive isotopes of uranium because they have large nuclei and a short half-life. Breaking down these nuclei also results in a large release of energy. This energy can be used for weaponry too—what we know as the atomic bomb. Fission also needs a large energy source that can be provided by the detonation of trinitrotoluene (TNT).

In order to successfully detonate a hydrogen bomb, the reaction must be fueled with a lot of energy, heat and pressure. That energy comes from a fission reaction first. The atom bomb would release a large amount of energy that would feed into the hydrogen bomb reaction, leading to an explosion about 10 times the size of an atomic bomb. No hydrogen bomb has ever been used in war. They have only been tested. The bomb that the United States dropped on Hiroshima in 1945 was an atomic bomb that used fission.

Nuclear energy is a powerful tool that can be deadly, but also has the potential to provide energy to the world someday. Nuclear power plants are already harnessing the power of fission

to produce energy around the globe. Nuclear energy does not rely on fossil fuels to produce electricity and has few waste products. According to the Nuclear Energy Institute, nuclear energy accounts for 62.9 percent of emission-free electricity. This means that it doesn't produce carbon dioxide or other dangerous chemicals. While energy sources like geothermal, wind and solar are more green, nuclear power plants can generate more energy and at a constant rate.

Looking to the future, the ultimate goal is to harness the power of the sun: fusion. Currently, scientists have been unable to control fusion reactions. It is difficult to provide the energy for these reactions and then control the energy released in a way that can be used for electricity. Dr. Mark Armstrong, a chemistry professor at Blackburn College, said, "it would be tremendously beneficial" to harness the power of fusion as an energy source. There would be no waste products from fusion and the energy provided would be of such large quantities that it could be free.

Just Like Mama Would Make



By Jess Willard

When I first pulled into the parking lot of Crabbys Supper Club, I could tell the experience would be worth my time. Vehicles lined the parking lot despite the cold, snowy weather. The restaurant is located at 18838 Illinois Route 4, approximately four minutes from Blackburn campus. I was struck by the rustic atmosphere as soon as I walked into the building. Taxidermic animals hung on the walls and earthy tones dominated the furnishings. It seemed clean and welcoming.

Customers have the choice of sitting at the bar, in a booth or at a table.

Crabbys’ menu has a wide variety of options ranging from salads and sandwiches to pasta and meat entrees. Most meals are under \$20 with the exception of beef entrees, which have a maximum price of \$28. The wait staff was very friendly and took my order right away. I decided get the shrimp fettuccine Alfredo with a side Caesar salad. I immediately received my salad and was quite impressed. The dressing

gave it a smooth creamy texture without overwhelming the rest of the dish. Even though the ingredients were simple—lettuce, croutons and shredded Parmesan—the salad was well-constructed and tasted great.

I ran into a problem when my partner and I did not receive our entrees after a long period of time. However, a member of the wait staff informed us that they had overdone the hamburger for my partner’s horseshoe and were going to recook it free of charge. They also offered us a free dessert for our patience. Waiting was not ideal but I appreciated that the restaurant went out of their way to make sure their customers were taken care of. Upon receiving my pasta, the mistake was gone from my mind. The noodles were covered in thick, cheesy sauce topped with oregano. The ratio of sauce to noodles was perfect. I didn’t run out of sauce halfway through my dish nor were my noodles drowning. The flavor was phenomenal as well.

The true gem of Crabbys Supper Club is their dessert. I ended up choosing their gooseberry pie and was blown away. It was homemade just like the other cakes and pies they offer. It had the perfect



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

amount of filling, nice crispy crust and was served a la mode. Once I bit into the dessert, I tasted a beautiful clash of sweet and tangy fruit. The flavors worked so well together.

Overall, my experience at Crabbys was fantastic. The food was well worth

the price, considering the amount a customer receives. I would describe my dinner as something my mother would make: it was warm, fresh and left me stuffed. I strongly recommend that members of the Blackburn community take some time to experience this lovely restaurant.



PHOTO BY JESS WILLARD

Talk Nerdy to Me: The Music Wars

By Bryan Bethel

Pandora Radio, Spotify and Apple Music are three of the most common streaming services that students utilize to listen to their music. Listening to music is an important part of most students’ lives, whether it’s calming instrumental music while studying for a test or unwinding after class to your

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSEL MINGA



favorite jams. Since listening to music is so important to so many people, it’s crucial to know: What is the best music streaming service for you?

Started by Tim Westergen in 2000, Pandora Radio was one of the first major music streaming services. The concept of Pandora is to build

your own specialized radio station based around bands you pick and continually ‘like’ or ‘dislike’ songs that come up to make sure your station is perfect for you. Pandora has a free version and also a paid version called Pandora One that offers unlimited song skips and no ads. I personally use Pandora when listening to music because it is easy to turn on a station while I’m working on a project and not have to worry about it anymore than that. I’ve found that Pandora works best for students who enjoy passively listening to music simply as background noise while doing something else. If that’s your style, then Pandora might be the service for you.

still offers the most content for non-paying members out of these three streaming services. Spotify allows students to listen to specific artists’ songs and albums, create playlists and even create radio stations similar to Pandora. Spotify also includes playlists created by other users and musicians, allowing users to listen to what other people are listening to. Spotify also offers a reduced premium price for students, making this service ideal for saving a few extra bucks a month to spend. Spotify is great for students who want to explore new artists using its search function, so if that’s what you’re into then Spotify might be best for you.

The most recent music streaming service to come out of the three here is Apple Music, which contains arguably the most content out of all three services. Offering the highest quality streaming service and musician-made online radio shows on top of

all their other features, Apple Music is definitely made for people who are more passionate about music. Junior computer science major and self-proclaimed music fanatic Caleb Long said, “I like how they’re implementing these radio stations run by actual musicians—for the first time they’re having music controlled by the people who make the music on the radio and I really dig that.” While Apple Music does offer some pretty cool content, most of this content is only available for paying members.

Pandora One is the cheapest of the three services at \$4.99 a month. Spotify Premium starts at \$9.99 a month but offers students a half off deal. Thirdly, Apple Music is available for \$9.99 a month and also offers a three month free trial when signing up.

By Jess Willard

#WasteHisTime2016 has been making its way around Twitter since the beginning of the new year. In summary, women have been tweeting different ways to waste interested men’s time in 2016. While the hashtag was created as a joke, I believe it presents a bigger matter at hand. It seems like the idea of making meaningful relationships is lost in this battle of the sexes. The tweets from both the men and women using the hashtag have displayed their feelings about the opposite sex. The women feel that men have been using them for sexual favors and the men believe they are being attacked for no reason.

Some potential boyfriends

have wasted my time because they were solely interested in physical interaction. However, I feel that some women are allowing gender stereotypes to cloud their vision. The tweets insist that all men must be sex-crazed pigs with no interest in love. There is a level of miscommunication between the sexes and these tweets are continuing to separate them. Bell brought up a point that this problem is caused by more than just a Twitter hashtag. “Social media has made it so relationships will never be the same again. This is a new game than our parents and grandparents played,” she said.

Chair of Blackburn’s psychology department Dr. Pamela Danker further discussed the issue. “I think people are freer to say just about anything publicly,” she said. I would agree that people voice their opinions more than they usually would because they don’t face physical retaliation. Unfortunately, people might not think before they post something online. In response to reading the

tweets, she added, “Part of it is women saying we’re not gonna take it. I’m concerned that getting vengeance isn’t right.” I feel a similar emotion. Vengeance is not the answer; communication is. We need to voice our concerns with each other or else we forfeit finding a significant other now and in the future.

“A lot of relationships start and communicate electronically,” Danker said. “It’s less clear.” She encourages students to start communicating in other ways than texting and instant messenger. The way to fix the concerns brought up by #WasteHisTime2016 is to have more face to face conversations. By having the ability to gauge each other’s emotions, we are able to establish an element of trust. We can also combat gender stereotypes by getting to know members of the opposite sex for who they really are. By ditching the keyboard and talking in person, we’ll have a better chance of building strong relationships in 2016.



Who’s David Bowie?

By Rachael Chong

There’s a Starman waiting in the sky. David Bowie, musician, actor and artist, died earlier last month. He had just turned 69.

Famous for songs like “Heroes,” “Space Oddity,” “Changes,” and films such as “The Man Who Fell to Earth” and “Labyrinth,” most people know Bowie from somewhere. His catalog is so vast and varied, it’s hard to avoid him. Blackburn certainly didn’t.

Professor of English Dr. Naomi Crummey said, “I’ve been aware of David Bowie since I can remember.” She remembers MTV and album covers, what she called, “Poppy Bowie,” but when she grew up, “in the era of bands like Pink Floyd,” she said, “it was a big joke to say that you were a Bowie fan. Like ‘Why would you be a fan of this big weirdo?’”

But that’s precisely what

people like Courtney Egner, a senior communications major, love about David Bowie. A self-proclaimed “weird kid,” she said she loved “the way that he embraced change and the way that he embraced being weird and made it look cool.”

Professor of English and communications Dr. Mark Benedetti isn’t a huge fan of Bowie. He prefers punk musicians like the New York Dolls or Iggy Pop and he “really really love[s] Lou Reed.”

Not loving Bowie the way someone like, say, Egner did hasn’t stopped Benedetti from being affected by him, though. “[Bowie] helped expand my understanding of what punk rock was,” he said.

In Bowie, Benedetti said, there’s a “struggle between authenticity and image,” a question of, “Are we Taylor Swift or Bob Dylan? David Bowie is both.” Bowie was constantly changing and reinventing himself, something that all three people interviewed brought up several times, and with good reason.

Bowie raised constant questions about identity and gender. “Who is David Bowie?” had no clear answer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAUHASE

David Bowie Jan. 8, 1947 – Jan. 10, 2016

If David Bowie had an identity, it was change. He was Ziggy Stardust, then Aladdin Sane, then the Thin White Duke. But his personas seemed as much a part of him as his permanently dilated left eye. He gave the sense that “this is who David Bowie is now,” Benedetti said. Bowie’s constant change didn’t only apply to him in the end, though. He didn’t exist in a vacuum. Ziggy Stardust didn’t sit around with the Spiders from Mars and challenge societal expectations

alone. Very few, if any, people conform perfectly to what others expect out of them. Everyone has some sort of individuality, and “listening to Bowie helps you embrace that individuality,” said Egner. So that’s really what David Bowie is. He’s not only change, but an inspiration for change. He’s not only subversion but a license to be subversive. He reminds us we can be heroes, even just for one day.

Editorial

The Crimes of Our Ancestors

By Ethan Leach

It doesn't matter what my great-grandpa said. It doesn't matter what my grandpa said. And it doesn't even matter what my dad said. If you want to judge me for my views, then it only matters what I say.

Too often I hear people denounced for things they didn't do. This idea may seem ridiculous, but the truth is that it happens every day. As a white person, I'm lectured about the sins of all whites: racism, bigotry and the air of racial superiority that we give off simply by being white.

As a man, I'm indicted for the sexist ideas that supposedly permeate our culture. "Never mind what you did personally," they say. "You're just as guilty as the rest of them." I would say,

"Never mind what my grandpa may have done, or my dad, or my brother. If you attack me for my sins, it matters only what I have done."

There is no end to this culture of shame. I'm guilty of being white. I'm guilty of being male. I'm guilty of being heterosexual. I'm guilty of being Christian. I'm guilty because someone like me committed a crime. Maybe they were a racist. Maybe a sexist. Maybe they assaulted a homosexual man. Maybe they killed a Muslim. Whatever they did, they shared a part of my identity, and I am now forced to bear part of their burden of shame.

It doesn't even seem to matter whether the crime they committed was related

to their views. Was this man a racist simply because he was white? Was he a sexist just because he was male? Was he called homophobic because he was straight? Was he called Islamophobic because he was Christian?

Again, this doesn't matter. Some man somewhere was guilty, and because I bear the smallest, faintest resemblance to him, I am also guilty. When it comes to political views, it only gets worse. "You're a Republican?" they ask. "You must hate minorities. You're a conservative? You must be a racist. You support the Tea Party? You just can't stand immigrants, can you? You're pro-life? You're part of the War on Women. You're wealthy? You must want poor people to

starve."

The media spreads these messages because they were able to find one instance of bigotry and sell it to the public as a caricature of my ideals. In some cases, the evidence never existed. The Tea Party was formed in opposition to government spending and waste. In what way is that racist? Meanwhile, the people accused of waging the War on Women voiced their opposition to abortion and contraceptives. Somehow, standing up for the rights of unborn children means you're waging a war against all women. Never mind that roughly half of the children aborted are female.

Now, if there's something I've done to offend you, please tell me. If I insulted your race,

your ethnicity, your gender, your religion, or anything else about you, then I'm sorry. But if you're angry about something I did not do, then don't yell at me about how racist, sexist, xenophobic, or intolerant my people are. Honestly, what do you want me to do? I believe that I could lecture about inclusion for the rest of my life and still not fully eradicate the problem. Look me in the eye and tell me: am I guilty of a crime? If so, then by all means, render your judgment. But if not, then grant me the respect I have earned for living my life according to my principles, and listen to me when I tell you, "It's not my fault."

A Letter from the Editor

By Sarah Collman

This newspaper is not an advertisement for Blackburn College.

The 'Burnian staff has a purpose. It is NOT our job to give Blackburn a glowing review in each article we print. Despite what some administrators, faculty, staff and even students seem to think, the job of a campus paper (much like any other newspaper) is to tell the truth.

If you want a definition of journalism, consult a dictionary. But I can tell you what you won't find when you look it up: public relations (PR). If you are looking for the

group whose job really is to shine only good, positive light on Blackburn, the PR staff can be found in the basement of Ludlum Hall.

However, if you want the team who strives to tell it like it is without exaggerating the positive or endorsing the negative, you can find The 'Burnian staff in the basement of Butler Hall. The 'Burnian staff has a purpose. It is NOT to be a megaphone for those wanting to gloss over the not-so-pretty details of what happens on campus.

Administrators are not perfect. Faculty and staff are

not perfect. Students are not perfect. Buildings, parking lots, student government, campus events, rules and policies, etc. are not perfect. Sometimes things go wrong—we print that story. What happened? Who was involved? Is there a way for the situation to be rectified? If so, is there a plan in order and what does it entail? Who does the plan involve? These are the questions we ask when things go wrong.

Sometimes things go right—we print that story. What happened? Who was involved? Is there a follow-

up to the situation? If so, is there a plan in order and what does it entail? Who does the plan involve? These are the questions we ask when things go right.

In closing, I would like to share the words of Charity Milner, former president of The Citizen:

"We do not expect everyone to agree with us. In the past we have expressed strong opinions of matters of public concern with which many disagree, or do not yet agree, and we will continue to do so.

It is not the business of a

newspaper to pacify anyone. Its job is to bring out all the significant news, and tell the truth as it sees truth, no matter whose feelings may be ruffled.

We will continue to proclaim what we believe is the truth with force and sincerity. We will fight improvidence, rascality, stupidity and sloth in the management of public business and formulation of public policy without fear or favor.

This along with fair and accurate presentation of the news we regard as our prime responsibility."

It is not the business of a

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.

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THE BURNIAN

Flu Season is Here: How the Virus Works and How to Prevent it

By Veronica Milligan

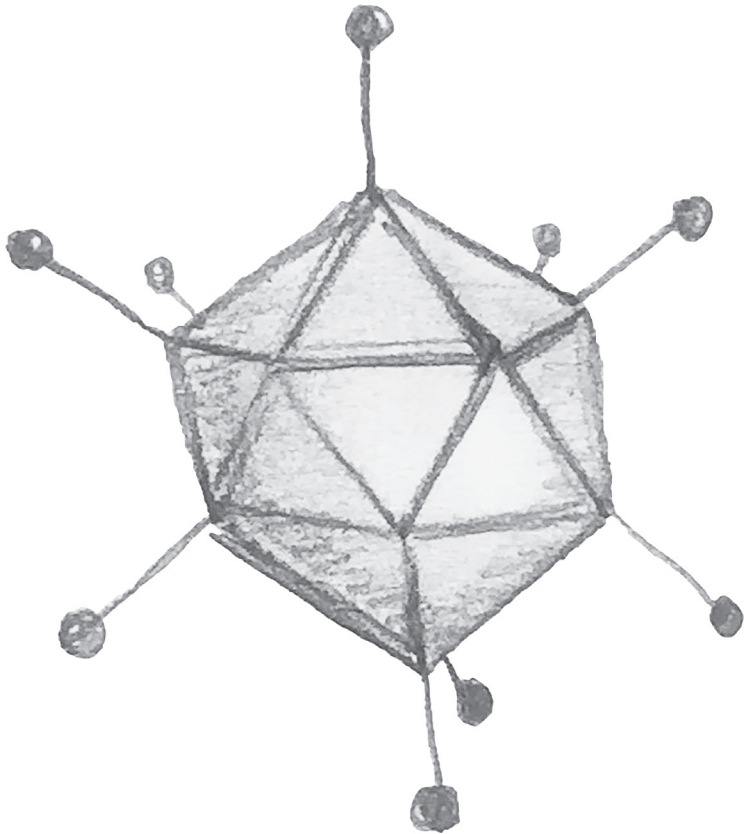


ILLUSTRATION BY DR. JAMES BRAY

You need an excellent microscope to actually see the flu virus

There are thousands of viruses in the world. Some are deadly and some don't affect humans at all. Some viruses can even mutate and adapt to infect new host species. In our modern society where travel is easily accessible, the spread of infection is fast and global. As new viruses emerge or old ones re-emerge, scientists are on the lookout for treatments and preventative measures.

The cold winter is the peak of flu season. Snotty noses and throaty coughs are everywhere. Unfortunately, we can't see the microscopic spiked balls that are the virus floating in the air or lurking on surfaces. Human viruses are sneaky because they can trick our cells into accepting them. The virus appears to be a normal part of our body and so our cells will readily invite them in. Once the virus is in,

they take over the human cell. They force the human cell to build new viruses and release them, so they spread to our other cells. The virus can then be transmitted from one person to another in a variety of ways.

The flu virus can be transmitted by direct contact with an infected person, contact with contaminated objects, or by coughs and sneezes (known as viral aerosols). The many possible ways to transmit the flu make it a real health concern. Children and the elderly are especially vulnerable to the flu. Their immune systems may be incapable of fighting the virus. Even a person who seems perfectly healthy, or shows minimal symptoms, may be able to transmit the virus. This is why good hygiene practices are essential to preventing the spread of the virus. The Center

for Disease Control (CDC) suggests that washing your hands, keeping a clean living environment and covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing are good ways to avoid the spread of the flu virus and other infections.

Another way to prevent getting the flu virus is to get the yearly flu vaccine. The vaccine is made with either inactivated viral particles or with no virus at all, just antibodies. The vaccine allows your body to become acquainted with the disease before you encounter it, therefore preventing the flu virus. The CDC recommends getting the flu vaccine once a year. Junior biology major John Esparza explained why he got the flu shot. "Being a pre-med student, I've always learned about past viruses and what they can do to people so I wouldn't want to take my chances," he said.

People worry that they may still get the flu, despite being vaccinated. The CDC admits that this is a possibility, but an unlikely one. If you feel sick after a vaccine you are most likely experiencing small side effects of the vaccine or an allergic reaction. Senior biology major Nathan Bouch did not get the vaccine, but said, "If I didn't have to go out of my way to get it...say, if it were in DCC sometime during the day for free." Student Life Office Manager Debbie O'Brien said, "The VNA (Visiting Nurse Association) Vaccination Program held a flu clinic on campus on Monday, Sept. 24, 2012." She also confirmed that this was not free. Esparza and Bouch agreed that their fellow students should get vaccinated this season to prevent the spread of the virus.

Health & Fitness

How to Split Up a Not-So-Dynamic Duo

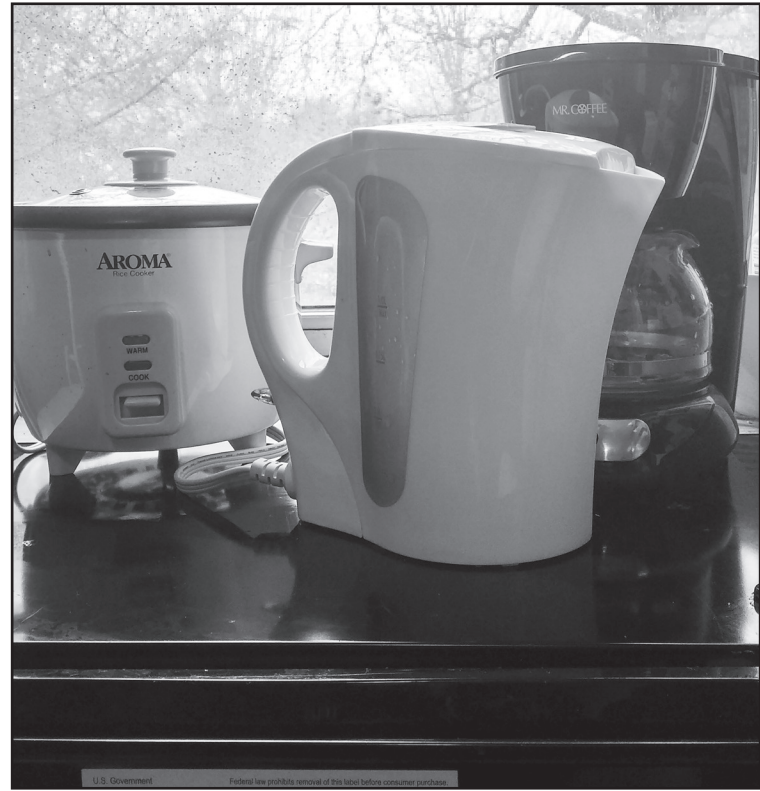


PHOTO BY RACHAEL CHONG

A rice cooker, coffee pot and electric tea kettle are just a few of the appliances Blackburn students can use in their rooms to cook healthy food

By Rachael Chong

Mac and cheese. Simon and Garfunkel. Peanut butter and jelly. There are some pairs it just wouldn't be right to separate. College students and eating poorly often seems to be one of these, but the reality is, it isn't. Just because you go to college doesn't mean you can't eat mindfully.

Junior psychology and creative writing major Katie Payne most often cooks in her dorm room rather than relying on Ding as a sole source of nutrition. Payne eats a diet low in fat and low in meat, and Ding doesn't usually satisfy that for her.

When you do go to Ding, head to the salad bar. That's where you'll find fresh vegetables high in fiber and vitamins and low in sugars and fats.

Payne said for an average meal at Ding, "I get a salad from the salad bar, and then I try to follow the basic plan like some sort of protein, the veggies, and some sort of starch." Protein doesn't necessarily mean meat, though.

While lean meats like turkey or chicken are fine, try beans or eggs (both offered daily on the salad bar) instead. And starches? Eat

those in moderation. "If you eat an entire plate of potatoes, obviously that's not going to be the healthiest option," Payne said.

Of course, not every one of your meals is going to be that balanced. Ding staples, such as hot dogs, hamburgers, french fries and pizza are fine once in a while, as is eating out at your favorite pizza place on a special occasion or night out, but as Payne said, "don't go overboard."

For students who don't want to eat at Ding, Payne's biggest recommendation is that you buy a crockpot and buy canned vegetables as opposed to fresh to save the money. According to Payne, canned vegetables, including tomatoes, corn and beans, make the base for an easy crockpot meal. A crockpot meal can be prepped before class so you can have a meal when you're done. "It's nice whenever you just want something nice and warm and filling to eat," Payne said.

Alternatively, Payne recommends an electric skillet that can be used to boil water to cook pastas or rice or grill meats and veggies. It's a versatile tool. The possibilities are endless.

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New Changes Coming to Dawes

By Alexis Dick

In fall of 2015, the facilities committee made the decision that a Dawes renovation would be in the near future. The plan is to fix up the old pool room. The facilities committee is currently coming up with ideas of what to put in the old pool room. The plan is to fill the pool with sand and put some kind of flooring down. The details about what the board is planning to put in the new facility has not been decided yet. Chair of physical education Gerry Albins said that Blackburn has been allotted \$600,000 dollars to renovate the 5600 square feet. Albins would like it to have three areas: an aerobics area, a space for cardio equipment and then room for weight machines. Albins said, "I am proposing a new class called Basic Fitness. We are not going to take you through body pump, we are not going to take you through boot camp. This is just for anybody



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

The pool that once was

that would like to get a better feel of, 'How do I build some kind of a workout program for me.'" Albins added that she thinks with this new change more student athletes and even non-student athletes will feel more obligated to use the

new facility and the Blackburn College community can look forward to official decisions from the facilities committee sometime in February of this year.

Not only will a new renovation inspire new classes,

but Anthony Harper, freshman student representative on the facilities committee, said that he thinks this new renovation will bring in more freshman and transfer students. "This new facility, if approved, will help bring students to campus

by allowing them to see something that you rarely find on other small campuses, a state of the art fitness facility," said Harper. "This will also appeal to the students currently on campus, especially athletes. The idea is to make students feel as if they are welcome here on campus. The current fitness area doesn't exactly seem inviting to students." Harper believes that the new fitness facility will bring in more student athletes and students who value fitness. Sophomore baseball player Tyler Durand said that he personally would like to see a new batting cage for the baseball and softball teams, and some of the weight machines moved into the new fitness facility. Durand said, "The weight room we have now has everything we need to help strengthen our athletes but it can become crowded at times."

Blackburn Loses Another Coach

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will be the acting coach until a full-time replacement is hired. Rhodes' duties as coach are to make sure that the softball team has the equipment necessary to start the season. She will also continue to recruit as planned and schedule and structure practices to prepare the team for this season. Although the situation is not ideal, Rhodes tries to stay positive. "The first reaction to something like this is shock," said Rhodes. "As soon as we start practicing and decide on a goal, I think that things will fall into place."

Blackburn President John Comerford said that searches

for a volleyball coach and softball coach are underway. This is the first time since 2000 that Blackburn athletics will have a separate coach for volleyball and softball. Comerford thinks that the new searches for separate coaches will ensure better seasons to come. "I hope the effect is positive. Both these programs have suffered without a full-time coach dedicated to them. Blackburn volleyball and softball can and should have larger rosters and improved records—now we'll have the chance to see that happen," said Comerford.

Sophomore volleyball player Kirsten Buzzard agreed. "A sport doesn't end when season is over, and unfortunately it usually does for us," she said. "As soon as our coach was done with us, they would have to move on to the next sport. Working out in the off-season is so crucial. Both the softball and volleyball teams never got the attention they really needed and deserved." Buzzard believes if Blackburn can find a coach that will stay, she thinks that both teams will not only improve, but also break records.

Hustlin' to Continue Coaching

By Karlee Brimberry

Throughout the years, Blackburn has made many changes in the Athletics Department concerning its coaching staff. However, one specific sport that has not changed is the Tennis team and their coach Daniel (Dan) Hussey.



PHOTO BY KARLEE BRIMBERRY

Hussey started playing tennis at the age of 15. He says his first goal was to beat his father in tennis, and after he did that, he kept playing competitively for almost 48 years. Hussey feels tennis is "A great social way to compete and get some great exercise." He added, "You can have players at a number of different levels and still play. My wife and I get out probably 30 or more times over the tennis weather season - sometimes as many as 4 times in a week." Hussey also plays tennis every Monday with a group of 11 men that play on the Blackburn courts as well as Edwardsville's YMCA when there are inclement weather conditions.

Hussey has been coaching since 1994. During his first period of coaching at Blackburn, he started in '94 and ended in 2001. During his break from coaching at Blackburn he taught physical education in Carlinville schools. He started coaching again in 2008 after he retired from Carlinville schools and

continues to coach the Lady Beavers today tallying up 15 years so far. Hussey arrived at Blackburn having coached intramural tennis in Carlinville from 1975-1976, freshman football, track, junior varsity and freshman basketball at Carlinville High School. He also served as both seventh and eighth grade basketball coach at Carlinville Middle School.

During his coaching career at Blackburn, he was named SLIAC Coach of the Year in 1997 and 2001. "I think it's an important skill set for coaches to have patience and the ability to adapt to the make up of the team and keep the work of practices and matches fun & challenging for every member," said Hussey. Sophomore tennis player Samantha Brown said, "Coach Daniel Hussey is a wonderful person! He would do absolutely anything and everything to help you be the 111 percent player he knows you can be. He can be serious and challenging at times, but everyone knows he really cares about his players."

Hussey has enjoyed his years coaching for Blackburn College and is enthusiastic about the future of the women's tennis program.

**Author is a member of the Tennis Team*

Davis Reaches 1,000th Point



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLACKBURN ATHLETICS

Chris Davis goes for a layup to score his 1,000th point

By Noah Daum

On Jan. 30 in Blackburn's loss against Greenville College, junior Chris Davis scored his 1,000th point as a Beaver. During the game, Davis scored 34 points, but the Blackburn men lost against Greenville 130-116.



PHOTO BY MARK HOPPING

Davis shooting a free throw during the Beavers' game against Spalding