



# THE 'BURNIAN

## 2013 Blackburn Homecoming Dance Draws a Crowd

Vol. 9, No. 3 Oct 2013

by Courtney Egner

With at least 300 people in attendance, students packed into Woodson for a night of fun and dancing at this year's Red Carpet Homecoming on September 28. Decked out with various Hollywood-themed decorations, Woodson became home to some of Hollywood's greatest stars—well, cardboard cut-outs of them, at least. They lined the walls around the dance floor, ominously staring out at everyone as they twerked the night away. Many of the year's most popular songs were heard, including “Wop,” which was played a total of four times. Many of our generation's now classic dance songs were played as well, including “The Cupid Shuffle” and “Cha Cha Slide,” which are always guaranteed



Blackburn students gathered in Woodson on September 28 to attend the 2013 Homecoming dance, during which Carly Vunetich and Seth Tonsor were crowned queen and king.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

to get the crowd going.

By 10pm Woodson had become a sauna. With so many students jammed onto the dance floor, body heat and sweat became abundant. The stench radiated throughout the hall and eventually became

unavoidable.

This year's homecoming court consisted of Alexis Richie, Emma Witte, Courtney Egner, Carly Vunetich, Edia Mushundusi, Matthew Chandler, Ray Johnson, Sawyer Burton, Jamie Moore

and Seth Tonsor. At 10:30pm, the couples walked out to the floor to learn the voting results. Carly Vunetich and Seth Tonsor were crowned this year's homecoming king and queen.

Without missing a beat, the dance started right back up

again after the announcement and continued until midnight. With such a high attendance, homecoming was definitely a success, a good sign for the rest of this year's dances.

## Art Exhibition Opening

by Marissa Watson

The Blackburn community does not have to venture far to enjoy the arts. From September 12 to October 5, Renner Art Gallery featured “AstroClown, Live at the Hippodrome” by Charlie McGrady.

Well-known by the community and campus, McGrady is a local artist from Gillespie. Having worked with Blackburn in the past on the Macoupin Scholarship Auction, he collaborated with Fine Arts Department Chair Bob Huber to bring his latest project to campus.

“AstroClown” showcased a fantastical blend of pieces including clown caricatures, frog, owl and dinosaur sculptures and relief paintings. He is not limited in his artistic range. Art Professor and Gallery Coordinator Craig Newsom said, “A lot of times people think of an artist as

being a painter or sculptor or ceramicist, but he does a lot of different things.”

McGrady makes a living by constructing dinosaurs, and building enormous tableaux of them. Much of his work in the exhibition was based on his knowledge of making large pieces very quickly. McGrady also used a variety of techniques for his sculptures, including cast bronze, plastic and Sculpey polymer clay.

Because of the quantity and vast assortment of pieces and materials, Newsom

suggested that the theme of the exhibition was work. If one viewed it in the first week it opened compared to the last week, it would have been a completely different experience. The exhibition was a work in progress as McGrady slowly trickled in his pieces. Newsom commented on the extraordinary nature of the exhibit, “There is stuff in here that may kind of shock people and may upset them, but it's good to be jarred out of your cocoon.”



PHOTO BY MARISSA WATSON

“AstroClown” by Charlie McGrady was on display in Renner Art Gallery

## Compassion Campaign Contest

by Clayt Scheller

If you belong to a club and are a supporter of the Compassion Campaign, read on to discover how your club can put some of that money to use from Student Senate!

From early October to the beginning of November, Student Senate is holding a contest to determine which on-campus clubs best “[encourage] individual and community care for others by fostering collaborative,

supportive and engaging relationships.” In other words, Senate will distribute \$800 between the on-campus clubs which best put the Campaign's ideals into practice.

To be eligible, a club must submit an essay of 1000 words or less detailing the services they intend to perform (volunteer work, etc.), their intended budget for the project(s) and how their work reflects what the Campaign

represents.

Clubs can submit their essays and budgets in person to Jacob Maag or Student Life Office Manager Debbie O'Brien by Friday, November 1. They can also submit their entries via e-mail to jacob.maag@blackburn.edu. Winners will be decided by Sunday, November 10 and announced the following day. The prize money will be given away by the end of the year.

## Nifty 50's Dinner Stirs Up Memories for Alums

by Clayt Scheller

On the evening of Friday, September 27, a few dozen Blackburn alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago filled Mahan Atrium for the college's annual Nifty 50s Dinner. The event provided those who attended with an opportunity to reconnect with the college and some of their old colleagues.

Half an hour into the event, Dr. Comerford delivered a speech which celebrated enrolling in a small college and being part of a close-knit community of “doers.” Some aspects of the Blackburn experience haven't changed with time, he claims. “We're like the Mafia,” Comerford says. “We know who you are and where you live. We will find you.”

Following Comerford's speech, College Chaplain Erica Brown led everyone in a short prayer.

Afterward, Dr. Comerford moved from table to table, chatting with alumni as they ate a three-course dinner.

During the meal, former students like James Barr '56—“the best class,” by his estimation—reflected on the lasting impact of the college and its Work Program. “We

consider our time here the best years of our lives,” Barr says. Barr plied the electrician's trade in Butler Hall and helped construct the Olin Science Building over half a century ago. He fondly remembers his trips to Carlinville's now defunct “Wonder Bar.”

“Coming here and working for the first time... this was the first place I ever wore jeans,” says Nancy Cayo, another 1956 graduate. She helps illustrate the changing times: when she was in school, Blackburn enforced a 10pm curfew for female students.

According to the alumni, Blackburn students used to work 15 hours every week. Cafeteria workers had a desirable job—five-hour shifts ensured that students were done working in three days. Back then, very few students owned cars. Several former students expressed disappointment with resident students who drive from class to class. (You know who you are.)

Blackburn has undergone many changes in the last five decades, but it's reassuring to see that some experiences are shared between generations.



Blackburn’s Got Talent!

by Kayla Koyne

Blackburn students gathered in Bothwell Auditorium on September 27 to watch fellow students perform in Blackburn’s Got Talent. Organized by the Blackburn Department of Performing Arts, the show displayed some of the best talents on campus. Showcasing 15 acts, this year’s show was an immense success.

The show included many singing acts, beginning with Bonnie Pocklington’s rendition of “My Testimony.” Kyle Burke’s piano performance of Bach, Dre Hoskins and September Stanton’s jazz performance of “My Favorite Things” and Ronnie Anderson’s seductive “Rejazz” showed that Blackburn is a musically talented college.

Other original acts included Alanne Campbell and Veronica Milligan’s glow in the dark hula-hooping, Blackburn Dance Club’s dance routine “White and Nerdy,” and the “Foxy Foxes” (Maggie Anderson, Courtney Egner, Allie Matt and Jeanette Kelly), who performed a dance based on the viral music video “The Fox” by Ylvis.

Providing entertainment and smooth transitions from one act to another were co-hosts Reggie Guyton and Kenny James. They had a dance off to Rihanna’s “Where Have You Been” at the end of the show while judges calculated the final scores. The winner was determined by



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

Senior Jeanette Kelly (left) and sophomore Courtney Egner (right) perform to the viral video “What Does the Fox Say.”

audience members, who were asked to cheer for the dancer they thought deserved to win. They clearly chose Kenny.

Despite wonderful performances from all contestants, the show did not go off without a hitch. Occasional feedback and sporadic heckling occurred throughout the show. Junior Literature major Katherine Lesage had a few choice words for one heckler, stating, “To the person who shouted ‘misquote’ [to Reggie Guyton], nobody likes a heckler and who made you the quote police?”

After the performances, contestants were called back onstage and winners were announced. In third place was Kyle Burke with a score of nine from judge Alyssa Faulkner,

ten from Suzanne Krupica and ten from Dr. David Camp. Second place went to Katie Ward for her hilarious stand-up comedy routine with scores of ten across the board. Winning first place and the \$100 prize was Christa Lancaster with her rendition of Maroon 5’s “Love Somebody.” She won with a score of ten from Faulkner, nine from Krupica and a generous twelve from Dr. Camp.

Poster Sale in DCC -Big Hit

by Matt Renaud

From Rocky Balboa to sexy women to religious images, there were posters for everyone at the poster sale on Wednesday, September 18. Held in the Demuzio Campus Center, the sale drew in students who were able to mingle and flip through books in search of the perfect posters.

The poster sale is hosted by the Campus Activities board as a fundraiser. The event workers are a team of distributors for Trent Graphics known as Beyond the Wall. This is one of 35 different teams that travel to colleges and universities across the country to host poster sales. Each team takes off from their specific warehouse after loading up and stop at each school on their individual routes. How many times a team hosts a sale at a certain

During a trip to lunch the week of September 23 to the 27 you were probably greeted with a wet nose and a wagging tail. Friendly pets and their owners came out to the Demuzio Campus Center from 10:45 to noon each day to meet students during Pet Ambassador Week.

The week kicked off with Dr. Karen Dillon’s dog Penny, an Australian Kelpie. She also brought her Pitbull mix, Buddy, out the following day and Daisy on Thursday. Penny and Buddy were adopted from local shelters. Both dogs showed off their best tricks: high fives, rolling over and “bang”—Karen pointing her finger like a gun and saying “bang” to make them play dead. The dogs loved meeting the students and enjoyed lots of petting and belly rubs. Other pets included Jack, Lynn and Dr. Armstrong’s dog and Cierra Smith’s geckos.

The week of Pet Ambassadors is a program Blackburn Counseling Services does each semester to help students adjust to campus life. According to Peer



PHOTO BY RACHAEL LANCEY

Pet Ambassador “Buddy” with trained human Dr. Karen Dillon.

Counseling Administrative Assistant Sarah Law, “One of the toughest things about being away at college is leaving your pets behind, so we arrange with faculty and staff on campus to bring their animals in for an afternoon. Students interact with the pets and the hope is that their stress and anxiety is alleviated for a bit. This is easily one of my favorite times of the semester.”

Whether the Pet Ambassadors helped remind you of your own buddy from home or made you miss them more than ever, students and pets enjoyed every day of Pet Ambassador Week.

Butler is Holey

by Zachary Daum

In the early morning of September 6 a hole was punched into the wall of the 3rd floor on the south side of Butler Hall. No one is currently being blamed.

Director of Residence Life Timothy Moran believes that this is a good time for students to become aware of Blackburn College’s dorm damage procedures. As is normal procedure, an incident report is filed and sent to the other Residence Directors. After an investigation, either a culprit is discovered and individually charged or the entire residency of the dorm is charged. Tim Moran claims, “We’re pretty consistent with colleges across the country. If there is concrete proof that they did it, then it’ll be charged to their account.” If someone claims that they did not do it, then a more in-depth investigation will be launched. Either the suspected student

will be charged if enough evidence is provided or the charges will be dropped.

Anonymous witnesses claimed they knew who had done it. The name of the former alleged perpetrator is Henry Christman. Christman said, “People try to blame it on somebody that they can tear apart and maybe make worse. I feel like this is what is happening right now. It’s wrong and shouldn’t have happened.” He feels as though people are wrongly persecuting him because he is an easy target.

Tim Moran was unable to comment on the accusations due to student confidentiality regulations. The charges against Christman have been dropped at this time and the dorm as a whole will be charged unless new information comes forward some time in the near future.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

Senior Drew Rowe looks intently through Angry Birds posters at the poster sale on September 18.

St. Jude’s

by Miranda Clark

On Friday September 27 at 4 pm in the Commuters’ Lounge there was an informational meeting about St. Jude’s Research Hospital hosted by Region 13 Associate Director Beth Stalker.

She opened the meeting by discussing how the hospital began and key facts about the non-profit organization. The hospital was founded in 1962 by Danny Thomas. His mission statement is, “No child should die in the dawn of life.” According to St. Jude’s website the hospital treats about 7,800 children a year.

Senior Amber Smith said, “St. Jude’s is something Carlinville doesn’t have as of right now so it would not only be good for the school but the community as well.”

The remarkable thing St. Jude’s offers is that families with a sick child never receive bills from St. Jude’s for treatment, travel, housing, or food while being treated.

Meetings will be held every other Monday at 5:00 in the Commuters’ Lounge. The next meeting will be October 7. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Miranda Clark at miranda.clark@blackburn.edu.



Every year the Macoupin County Historical Society puts on the fall festival and every year it is a wholesome, fun time. In the spring they will be hosting the spring festival, which will also highlight the rich historic ties the Anderson Mansion has to Carlinville.



Pre-Health Professions

by Jake DeRousse

Pre-Health Professionals (PHP) is a club on campus for students striving to attain a health-based professional degree after their time at Blackburn. Every year the club’s advisors—science professors Dr. Zalisko, Dr. Reid and Dr. Luth—hold a meeting at the beginning of the fall semester to explain what it really means to be a pre-health student. This year the meeting was held on Monday, September 23 in the Zoology Lab.

The path to becoming a health professional can be long and demanding. Just getting into a graduate school is difficult and competitive, but much can be done during the undergraduate years to place a graduate candidate in the best position for acceptance. The most important way that students can put themselves in a good position for graduate school

is to maintain a 3.5+ GPA, which means getting more A’s than B’s. Zalisko stresses that “students considering health professions should understand that a 3.5 GPA is near the low end for successful applicants. In some fields, such as being a physician or dentist, the average successful applicant may have a 3.9 GPA or higher.”

Other important aspects of desirable candidates are good letters of reference and shadowing experience. The letters of reference should be from professionals who are able to speak on how you model professionalism in and out of the classroom. Shadowing means that you are working with professionals in your intended field and gaining on-the-job experience.

Zalisko urges anyone who may be interested in a health profession to stop by either his or Dr. Reid’s office in Mahan 108 or 109.

Meyers-Briggs

by Marissa Watson

“The more students know themselves, the better,” remarked Associate Dean of Work Rob Weis. Finding out which personality type you are can be helpful for interaction with others.

On September 26 in Lumpkin Library, Weis hosted a Myers Briggs Type Indicator program. The MBTI program is an assessment that determines how people make decisions and perceive their environment. There are four scales that measure one’s preferences: Extraversion or Introversion, Sensing or Intuition, Thinking or Feeling and Judging or Perceiving. Students who attended participated in an activity that helped determine with which categories they identify and how they differed in relation to others.

Using tape to draw lines on the floor, Weis first divided students into two groups: extraverted and introverted. He explained that, contrary to popular belief, introversion does not mean that one is shy or reclusive. It signifies that these individuals prefer to have time within themselves to problem solve, whereas extroverts need to talk through their problems.

The next division was sensing and intuition. Sensing people tend to prefer facts and follow step-by-step procedures while intuitive individuals are more likely to follow hunches or give an estimated guess. While some students easily determined which group they belonged in, others struggled

with the decision.

The selections continued with thinking and feeling personality types. People who relate with thinking prefer to make decisions based on what seems logical or best fits within the rules. Feeling people make decisions based on how they feel about a specific situation or empathy for others.

The final division of traits was between judging and perceiving. Judging individuals prefer to get things done and decided. Perceiving people, on the other hand, like to leave room for options or new information. So why is all this important? Weis said, “The program specifically helps give more insight in how people make decisions and if they can appreciate that more, then maybe they can manage their stress more effectively.

Junior Psychology major Ronnie Anderson classified herself as ESFP (extrovert, sensing, feeling, perceiving). She remarked, “Once you know someone else’s letters then you can adjust yourself on how you can deal with that person.” Understanding from where a person comes is vital to cohabitation. Weis said, “I’m hoping this is the beginning of a series of programs the library provides.”

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Myers Briggs program or who would like to take the assessment should contact Rob Weis by email at robert.weis@blackburn.edu.

Blackburn Welcomes the Mighty Morenz!

by Michelle Lee

Most conventional superheroes come with a utility belt and a matching cape. The unsung hero, however, is not as visible. Blackburn’s new college counselor, Tim Morenz, fills the role of ally, professional, colleague and above all else, unsung hero.

Filling the vacant counselor position, Morenz arrived at Blackburn with 22 years of experience in mental health services. Licensed in the state of Illinois in 1997, he has worked in both higher education and clinical counseling services. Most recently, he worked as psychotherapist at the Maple Street Clinic in Gillespie. When Roger Fenton retired and Rob Weis filled his position as Dean of Work, Morenz jumped on the opportunity to work in higher education again. “It’s the position of a lifetime for me. When this position came about, I already knew how amazing Blackburn was. I love its mission, its people, everything it stands for. It would be a monumental

mistake not getting on the Blackburn train,” said Morenz.

Morenz describes his first week at Blackburn as “kind of like riding a bike through a car wash or taking a drink from a fire hose. It’s been eye-opening. Being an outsider, I thought I had an idea of the ongoing [at Blackburn] but I didn’t have a clue.”

Morenz strives to blend his structured approach with peer counseling to create an effective clinical method: “I have established individual and group training so that the peer counselors are getting my condensed knowledge of 22 years of practice and knowledge. In a real way, you’re getting their unique perspective with my training and professional skills.” He would like to eventually see the Peer Counseling office operate in the same way as an outpatient clinic: “I want the services to be on par with the Locust Street and Maple Street clinics in the community. The standards of excellence should be the same.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

Blackburn’s new counselor Tim Morenz.

In his spare time, Morenz is an avid comic book fan. In general he favors Marvel over DC, but his personal favorite is the Green Lantern, with whom he personally identifies. He adds, “Counseling Services is like the House of Justice; we have our various heroes. My job is to help people realize or become the hero in their own story.”

How to Survive Midterms and Enjoy Fall Break

by Kayla Koyne/Michelle Lee

Next to finals, midterm week is one of the most stressful weeks for college students. When preparing for midterms keep a few things in mind:

**Do not procrastinate.** You might be able to get away with putting studying off until the last minute when due dates are staggered. But, when you have multiple assignments due within a day or two of each other you’re doing yourself a great disservice by leaving everything until the last minute.

**Find what works best for you and use it to your advantage.** If you work better in groups, then find study buddies. If making flashcards helps you remember information then do it. Even if you don’t know what works best for you, you can still experiment until you figure it out.

**Remember to relax and breathe.** If you study nonstop for hours you will burn yourself out. Try studying for a half hour at a time with five minute breaks in between.

After a week of midterm madness, students welcome fall break with open arms. Here are some ways that you can make the most of your fall break:

**Catch up on your beauty sleep.** When you pull those

all-nighters studying for your midterms, you rack up sleep debt. Your body internalizes this sleep deprivation until you can make up for it with extra sleep. With no classes or work for a few days, fall break is the perfect time to sleep in until 3pm or take a nap during the day.

**Read something you’re actually interested in.** Students usually don’t have time to read for leisure during the school year. This is a great opportunity to pick up a book from your must-read list. Recreational reading is not only fun and relaxing, but stimulating as well.

**Spend some quality time with loved ones.** Whether it’s visiting with friends or reuniting with family, make sure to reconnect. You don’t get to see these people on a daily basis, so take some time to make sure they know that they are loved.

We Did It!

by Arthur Darken

This past year (July 2012-June 2013) Blackburn students, staff and faculty collected 33,167 lbs. of recycling, including cardboard, paper, plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Students living in the six dorms put 3,429 lbs into their recycling bins. Jewell and Graham won the year’s inter-dorm campus recycling contest, finishing just 1 and 1/16th of an ounce apart.

Our recycling efforts kept these 16 ½ tons of materials out of Illinois landfills. Even more important: what we recycled could be made into new products, thereby saving at least 50% of all the energy—think air polluting, climate warming, coal and petroleum—that would have been used to make new products, starting from drilling, mining, harvesting, refining and transporting all new raw materials.

Cherry Tree  
Treasures & Gifts

236 East Side Square  
Carlinville IL 62626

(573) 826 - 1515  
www.cherrytree236.com  
cherrytree236@gmail.com  
10% Blackburn discount with ID

Tues-Fri 10:00-5:00, 3rd Thurs 10:00-7:00, Sat 9:00-2:00



Street Fair Showcases Campus Groups

by Zachary Daum

The sidelines of the soccer field were packed on Saturday, September 28 with clubs and organizations trying to raise both money and awareness for their causes during the homecoming events.

A majority of the booths sold food and drinks and offered interactive activities. Campus Maintenance sold pork chops while the Newman club sold sloppy joes. Blackburn Common Ground sold snow cones courtesy of Tropical Sno. One popular attraction was the Rorschach test by the Psych Club. Students could create their own Rorschach tests or read those created by others. The Dance Club offered mini ballroom dance lessons. Habitat for Humanity sold chili. To top it all off, a goat was also present and integral in a goat patty contest. People would buy spots on the ground, and the owner of the spot where the goat dropped

its patty would win a small cash prize.

The dorms also hosted booths to raise money. Jones Hall sold candy, different types of nuts and headbands. Butler Hall sold marshmallow treats made out of different types of cereal for 25 cents. Butler Resident Director Shaun Thrasher pointed out his favorite, saying, “The Fruity Pebbles treats are the best.”

Although the fair did draw in many students and alums, some students didn’t know it was going on. Amanda Carroll didn’t know at all about the street fair and missed it, saying, “I thought it was just a soccer game.” The heat and wind made the fair difficult for some of the workers. The tables were cluttered as well, leaving little space for those working at the table to do much. But overall it was a success for those involved.

The Mystery of TOMS Club: Solved

by Zachary Daum

The TOMS Club seems to be well-known around the Blackburn College campus in name only, but very few seem to be able to explain exactly what it is. The TOMS Club is part of the TOMS organization, which works to give those who cannot afford to buy shoes a way to get them. The TOMS Club focuses on the One-for-One theory, where one person buys a pair of shoes and another pair is donated to someone in need. Blake Mycoskie created the organization in 2006 when traveling in Argentina, where he found that many of the children in a village there had no shoes to wear. Inspired by this, he went on to create the TOMS Club following the One-for-One theory.

Kayla Liebman is the

current president of the TOMS Club on campus and works to make a difference for those less fortunate: “We are affiliated with the professional TOMS campaign and we promote the One-for-One business model and motto. We try to promote awareness that there are people...who don’t have what we have.” Liebman feels very strongly for the TOMS Club and would love for it to become more recognized in the community.

Masey Blasa, former president and now vice president of the TOMS Club, explains, “We have held events in the past that just raises awareness of the TOMS movement in general. For example, in the spring we bring One Day Without Shoes

to campus and encourage students, faculty and staff to walk around campus barefoot. We are currently thinking of more ways to embody the whole ‘start something that matters’ charity mentality and run with it. We are always looking for things to do that are in a giving fashion.” Blasa is always looking for ways to further the organization’s campaign.

TOMS Club is a truly noteworthy program that too few students know about. Students of Blackburn have the chance to help those in need. Getting involved in the TOMS Club is easy! Just contact Kayla Liebman at kayla.liebman@blackburn.edu.

Brunch for a Bunch-a Burnians

by Matt Renaud

On the morning of Saturday September 28, a wonderful aroma wafted from the Auxiliary Dining Rooms of the Demuzio Campus Center. The Homecoming Brunch, hosted for current and previous managers of the Work Program, lasted from 9 to 11am and was a big success. The group was lively and very talkative. The tables were filled with cinnamon rolls and muffins, gallons of orange juice and coffee, “breakfast on a stick” (an egg and sausage sandwich squished between two pancakes on a kabob,) and “REAL BACON,” much to the excitement of Manager of Campus Community and Safety Marla Courtney. All of the food was catered by Food Service. Everything was beautifully done, complete with white tablecloths and fancy glasses while still maintaining a casual and comfortable atmosphere.

The managers had a great time, as evidenced by



Work program General Manager Carly Vunetich (left) speaks with Christina Taylor (right) at the work manager reunion brunch during homecoming weekend.

the laughter of their groups. They welcomed old friends who had graduated only a few years before and enjoyed their meals as well as each other’s company. Carly Vunetich loved the brunch. She especially loved spending time with the alumni and commented, “The Homecoming Brunch was an amazing experience to be a part of. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and mingling with the alumni. I love hearing their stories. Blackburn truly is unique and the brunch was a perfect idea!” Also among

the masses of people gathered were President Dr. John Comerford and Provost Dr. Jeff Aper, both sharply dressed and enthusiastically mingling with the alumni of the college. Associate Dean of Work Rob Weis also chatted with guests and brought life to the brunch.

Overall, the event accomplished its purpose: to honor both the current managers of the Work Program and the alumni alike by bringing them together during Homecoming weekend.

Ignite: Escape Campus for a Night

by Miranda Clark

Since fall 2008, the First Assembly of God Church in Carlinville, IL has been welcoming college students for a Sunday night event called Ignite. Youth and College Pastor Lisa Miller decided to call the college night “Ignite” because she wants God’s word to be ignited in the hearts of college students. The event takes place nearly every Sunday evening at 5 pm. The evening includes a home cooked meal, an enlightening message by Miller or a guest speaker and competitive games of volleyball and board games. “We want to show them it’s not tradition, it’s not religion, it’s about a relationship with Christ,” noted Miller.

The church conveniently has an indoor gym for the rounds of volleyball. Students get exercise while laughing and bonding with one another. People who choose not to play volleyball can play board games. Church Volunteer Rebekah Cloninger said, “I love building relationships with the students and having an opportunity to show the love of Jesus.”

Volunteers work hard to ensure a delicious meal is prepared for students. The volunteers are put on a cooking rotation before the school year begins. The volunteers are asked to cook what they enjoy and what they are best at. Throughout this school year, there are twenty-eight Sunday



Sophomore Ashley Spears plays a game of charades at a weekly Ignite event.

night events. Typically, around 50 Blackburn and local college aged students come on an average Sunday evening. Sophomore Christa Lancaster mentioned, “The food, talks and games are great and the leaders make you feel like one of their own kids, which is nice to have when you’re away from home.”

Miller is about to start a message series from Kyle Idleman’s book, “Not a Fan.” The book is about not being a fan of Christ but being a follower of Him. All students are welcome to attend the Sunday evening event. If you have questions or want a ride, Pastor Lisa asks that you please contact First Assembly at 217-854-8924 or Pastor Lisa at 217-825-3999.

THE BODY DEPOT

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



Student Activities’ Visiting Musician

by Courtney Egner

Over the summer I went to see the band The Hush Sound at the Firebird in St. Louis. The musician Lucas Carpenter was scheduled to open for them, and I was very unenthused about his performance. To my surprise, Carpenter was the best performer of the night, despite playing only six songs. Carpenter brings a new meaning to the term “electropop,” delivering a series of loops and sounds from a handmade Ableton foot pedal and harmonizing his voice with a series of recorded loops and guitar strums. His music is the sort of thing you should be hearing on the radio but never do. Carpenter writes and sings about the comic realities of life in rural America, adding in anything from classic synthesizers to a desk chair rolling across the floor. He mixes storytelling, somber acoustics and colorful

pop all into one song. Carpenter hails from Nashville, TN, but grew up in a small town in Pennsylvania. He began his creative career in theatre productions and garage bands. He went on to attend Berklee College of Music, graduating in 2006 with a degree in songwriting. Since releasing “Art Kids from the Country EP” in 2006, Carpenter has played over 500 shows and sold over 5,500 physical and digital albums— independently. He also released “The Pixelated Path” in 2008 and “Evolution/Mystery” in 2010. His upcoming album, “The Hopeless Romantics of Modern Day America...,” is due out later this year. Mark your calendars because Carpenter will be performing here at Blackburn on October 25! He hopes to see everyone there!

Blackburn has a Crush

by Rachael Lancey

Students are falling victim to an unusual addiction. Symptoms include being on your phone all hours of the day, harassing your friends and having an unnatural hate for chocolate. It’s the game you love to hate: Candy Crush Saga. Candy Crush was released in April 2012 by the gaming company King. The App is free and can be played on a smartphone, tablet, or computer. The game is easy enough; simply match three candies of the same color to “crush” them. The game includes episodes such as Chocolate Mountains, Lemonade Lake and Peppermint Palace. In order to get to the next episode players must receive three tickets from other players via Facebook. Players are given five “lives” which renew every thirty minutes after losing a level. One Blackburn “crusher” has managed to reach level 325 after playing for a year and a half. The crusher asked

to remain anonymous after admitting, “You know you have a problem when someone wants to interview you for an article about Candy Crush.” When asked why she plays, she explained, “It’s a good time-killer and never really gets boring because it keeps getting more challenging.” As for tips this expert suggests, “Be strategic and think about what moves you’re going to make and how they will help you get to the main goal of the level.” Not everyone has developed the crush. Senior Prince Koroma says, “I don’t understand what the big deal is about the game. I have too much going on during my senior year to waste time playing Candy Crush.” Whether or not you enjoy the sugar rush, chances are you will be hearing about it on campus. With 425 levels and regular updates—which unlock more new levels—the Candy Crush craze is only getting started.



PHOTO BY RACHAEL LANCEY

Junior Haley Cohan attempts to beat Candy Crush’s level 133.

“Parachute” Lands in St. Louis

by Jake DeRousse

Coming into the semester I could make a claim that most college students around the country could not: I had never been to a concert. Of course I had seen local bands at county fairs or coffee shops, but I had never been to a concert where the artists were actually recognized by people outside their community. I saw no point in spending money to listen to songs that I already had on my iTunes. However, cheap tickets and the insistence of a few friends was enough to make me relent on this stance and actually attend a concert by my favorite band, Parachute, when they played at the Old Rock House in St. Louis on Saturday, September 7. By the time Parachute finally took the stage, audience members had been at the Old Rock House for over two hours experiencing performances by the two opening acts, Paradise Fears and Matt Hires. This did not stop the crowd as a whole from surging forward and screaming with excitement as soon as the band appeared. Dressed in

designer pants and jackets, the band seemed unaffected by the building’s lack of air conditioning and were able to keep almost a manic energy throughout the entire 75 minute show. The show took place less than a month after the release of Parachute’s third album, “Overnight,” and they did a good job of alternating between familiar crowd-pleasing favorites and songs from the new album. They also played two covers, “Movin’ Out” by Billy Joel and “Dancing in the Dark” by Bruce Springsteen. Two of the standout songs were “Somebody to Believe In” and “Hurricane.” The former is one of the band’s more

popular songs and displayed the diversity of the group with lead singer Will Anderson playing the piano throughout the song and normal keyboard player Kit French using the saxophone for the first time during the night. This dynamic gave the group an R&B/Jazz feel not normally seen from modern day pop bands. Overall the night had no shortage of talent, and Parachute seems to have perfectly mastered the art of playing a long set list and satisfying their fans while still having them leave the concert wanting more. If anyone ever has a chance to see them, I would absolutely recommend attending.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRITTANY LONESS

Parachute performs at the Old Rock House in St. Louis, Missouri.

Harry Potter versus Twilight: The epic battle continues

by Kayla Koyne

Have you ever heard an argument like this: “Vampires don’t sparkle!” “Psh, I’d like to see Harry ‘avada kedavra’ Edward; he’d outrun the spell!” If so, congratulations! You’ve witnessed one of the most heated cultural disputes of our generation. The debate is over which is better, Harry Potter or Twilight. There are those who support Harry Potter—“Potterheads”—and those who prefer Twilight—“Twihards.” While there are those who like both series, people often fall into one camp or the other. Both began as book series and were later adapted into movies. They are hugely popular and have garnered a wide fan base. Each franchise has had immense monetary success. The last Twilight film, “Breaking Dawn: Part 2,” brought in almost \$833 million worldwide while “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2” earned \$1.3 billion according to worldwideboxoffice.com. That doesn’t even begin to cover the books’ success. While there is some common ground between the two—both have vampires and werewolves and deal with the supernatural—there

appears to be little common ground among the fans. Blackburn Potterheads and Twihards aren’t immune to furiously disputing over the two series. After interviewing numerous students to get their take on the subject, it’s obvious that the debate is nowhere near being settled. Sophomore Psychology major Danielle Ruhrup prefers Harry Potter: “I grew up reading Harry Potter with my mom. The Harry Potter movies followed me through childhood and I felt connected to them because I was the same age as the characters. Don’t get me wrong, Twilight is entertaining. But overall Harry Potter has made a bigger impact on my life.” Agreeing with her is junior Creative Writing major Allison Funneman, who prefers Harry Potter “because it shows friendship, struggles and good versus bad. Twilight is about possessive and stalker relationships. It doesn’t really demonstrate healthy behavior.” Like Ruhrup, Funneman grew up reading the Harry Potter books. Overall, she believes that she is “very much part of the Harry Potter generation.” However, students who prefer Twilight strongly

and very vocally disagree. Sophomore Accounting major Jess Paulen prefers Twilight “because I would rather be with a vampire or werewolf than a wizard. Wizards are not entertaining but blood sucking vampires and raging werewolves are. All in all Twilight is better. Plus the guys are WAY hotter!” Overall, while there is support for both series, it appears that more Blackburn students chose Harry Potter. Personally, I agree. Twilight is not a bad series but I enjoy Harry Potter more because it features stronger plot and character development. Support for both series comes mainly from the fact that readers find the characters relatable. Numerous students in the Harry Potter universe were regular kids with non-magic parents before they received their letters to Hogwarts. Twilight centered around Bella Swan, who was an average human thrown into a supernatural world of vampires and werewolves. Even though there are strong mythical elements, the characters have problems and worries like anyone else.



## The Problem with Society

by Matt Renaud

There are 313.9 million people living in the United States today and 91.4 million of them own smartphones. It isn't surprising that so many Americans own smartphones considering how dependent on technology we are. Don't shake your head and pretend like you aren't one of these "tech zombies" who struggle to leave their phones while going to the bathroom. Just think about the last time you didn't have your phone on you. How many times do you reach for your pocket thinking your phone just went off? How often do you stare off into space wondering what's been posted on Facebook or how your phone is doing without you? Face it: we live in a society that has become dependent on interpersonal mediated communication and various forms of social media to feed our thirst for acceptance and social gratification.

Being a tech zombie can destroy your life. It strips away existing social skills by eliminating your ability to recognize social cues, which in turn causes a lot of drama no one wants to deal with. Social media also makes people so much more bold than they would be in person. How often do we find ourselves in a fight on Facebook that would never happen in person? We can smack talk a 6'7" boxer on Facebook and insult his momma, but in person we'd stumble over words as we inch our way to the nearest exit. Technology also keeps people boxed up inside rather than spending time outdoors, getting some fresh air and exercise. Do you wonder why we see so many "I'm so fat and pale" posts on Facebook? Because it's true! Most people



PHOTO BY KAYLA KOYNE

'Burnian staff writer Matt Renaud.

reading this article would love nothing more than to hide in their room under their covers with nothing but their phone. They are too afraid to leave the comfort of their homes and experience life for themselves. How much better could your life be if you forgot your phone for five seconds and hung out with friends? Do we really need to stay in our rooms so often? Why can't you have a ten minute conversation without checking Facebook when you know all you're going to see is your friend's "just got outta the bathroom" post? What ever happened to face-to-face interaction? It's sad seeing people become a bunch of wide-eyed, pale-skinned couch potatoes. Technology isn't making our lives easier; it's making our lives miserable and almost no one even realizes it!

So in a nutshell, you need to get off your fat butt and do something with your life. There is a lot more to life than what your best friend ate for lunch or some random girl's breakup rant. Instead of experiencing life through a small window, you need to leave the house and experience the world for yourself. Don't be afraid to live like no one else lives.

## What if Paula Deen were Black?

by Sarah Collman

Controversy sprang up in June when celebrity chef Paula Deen was outed for using the "N" word. Deen confessed to using the word in court when a former manager of a Deen's restaurant sued Paula and her brother for acts of discrimination and racism in the workplace. However, the issue escalated into a demolition of Deen's character from something she said almost 30 years ago.

Yes, Paula Deen used the "N" word...in 1987. She admits that the only time she remembers using the word was when she recounted details to her husband of an incident where a black man held a gun to her head during her shift at a bank. During her interview on *The Today Show* she made it very clear that that was the only time she's ever used the word.

Well la-di-frickin-da.

This issue has dominated the media for about three months now and I still can't grasp why in the world anyone cares. People are bashing Deen from all sides for her use of this word. But for what? I hear white people and black people alike using this word on a daily basis, but because Paula Deen is famous the issue was escalated to a point where the entire country knows.

In researching Deen's case, I came to the conclusion that Deen is a very good example of privileged shaming. Privileged shaming is when someone is degraded for factors in which they are "better" than others.

For example, internet searches on privileged shaming mostly uncover something called "thin privilege" which is where heavier people (mostly women) bash naturally thin people. In her interview on *The Today Show* Deen seems to recognize the concept of privileged shaming in her situation. "There's someone evil out there who saw what I had worked for and they wanted it," she said.

If Paula Deen were not famous, this remark never would have surfaced. You don't see people on the street questioning each other on whether or not they've ever used racial slurs in their lifetimes. If we exiled all the people who ever have used discriminatory language... who would be left? But because Deen is famous, her one-time use of the word caused a nation-wide scandal. Retailers that carried her products ended contracts with her. She lost major endorsement deals. They always say that it takes a lifetime to build a reputation and only seconds to destroy it. But why is Deen being destroyed NOW for something she said so long ago?

In today's world it is becoming more and more acceptable to victimize yourself. We put labels on everything. We are not colorblind and gender does matter. But instead of the underdog fighting his way to the top, he is now just bringing others down to get there. Just as Deen said, someone saw



PHOTO BY KAYLA KOYNE

'Burnian staff writer Sarah Collman.

what she had worked for and wanted it, so they dug up some dirt and planted it right under the nose of the media. This kind of thing happens everywhere and it comes in the form of hate.

If you're overweight, you hate skinny people. If you're poor, you hate rich people. If you're insecure, you hate confident people. It's all a matter of hating on those who have something you don't, which is exactly what happened to Paula Deen. And society is saying, "Yes! Yes, it is okay to make others feel bad about being fortunate." Life is turning into a contest of who has it the worst. All we do is one-up each other on how bad we have it instead of, oh I don't know, priding ourselves on those very differences that make us who we are and striving to do the best we can under *our own circumstances*.

Got somethin' to say?

Send opinion pieces to [burnian@blackburn.edu](mailto:burnian@blackburn.edu) and see your piece in the next issue!

## Embrace the Power of Positive Words

by Miranda Clark

In 2006 Maurice Berquist wrote "The Miracle and Power of Blessing" in which he describes an experiment where poinsettia seeds were planted in separate beds. Positive words were spoken to one bed of seeds and negative words to the other. The results were tremendous. The flowers receiving positive talk blossomed and bloomed, and the negative ones barely sprouted and some flowers did not grow at all. After hearing this I began to think that if plants are affected this way, imagine how much more humans are affected by words. You may think words are just

communication, but words can kill others inside. Regardless of whether someone is worthy of a word of encouragement or a compliment, he or she probably needs the blessing. I refer to positive talk as a blessing because you may never know the difference it could make in someone's day, week or month.

Motivational speaker Zig Zaglar said, "We believe what we tell ourselves." When I heard this quote, I realized how much of an impact words make. It is not only important to bless others with positive words, but it is important to use positive self-talk. This past

summer I realized just how big of a difference it can make to bless yourself with positive words. I was getting really down for a few mistakes I made at one of my jobs. I started thinking negative thoughts about myself. I decided to talk to a couple of friends about my struggles and looked in scripture for some uplifting verses to help me through the struggle. I overcame it by replacing those negative thoughts with positive ones and prayer. When you start to think negative things like, "I can't do this," "I am not strong enough" or "My day will not get any better," try to replace

those with positive thoughts and watch the difference it will make!

Alan Redpath, an English clergyman, recommended the acronym THINK: T- Is it True? H- Is it Helpful? I- Is it Inspiring? N- Is it Necessary? K- Is it Kind? This acronym can guide you when you are tempted to say something that could hurt another or yourself. Never underestimate the power and blessing of a compliment or encouraging word to someone. Choose positive words for yourself and others today!



PHOTO BY KAYLA KOYNE

Contributing writer Miranda Clark.



Blackburn Athletics Shine During Homecoming Games

by Jake DeRousse

With all in-season sports competing at home, there were numerous sporting events for fans to attend during the September 28 homecoming games. After the morning’s Beaverthon, Blackburn’s volleyball team played a match against the Iowa Wesleyan Tigers. The Beavers lost the match, but took the second game.

At 1pm the men’s soccer team got their turn to compete as they took on the MacMurray Highlanders. The game started off on a rough note, as the Highlanders got on the board first with a goal within the first half. Going into halftime the Beavers were losing 1-0. Continuing a trend for the Beavers at home this season, the team continued to fight and were able to tie the score off with a goal by Nate Kinnison early in the second half. They then took the lead as Julian Valencia scored a goal in the 79th minute and held on to win 2-1.

Junior captain Shane Rogers said, “With this being the Homecoming game, we had built up the importance of the game and knew we were



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PR

(Left) Julian Valencia moves the ball down field during the men’s soccer game. (Center) Allie Matt prepares to set the ball during the women’s volleyball match. (Right) Breanna Starck serves the ball during a homecoming match.

not going to allow ourselves to lose.”

Toward the end of the men’s soccer game, the volleyball team had their second match of the day against the Robert Morris University Eagles. The Beavers were able to capture their first victory of the season by winning three games to RMU’s one. One notable observation about this game is that the Beavers used the entire team, instead of just the same six or seven players. As captain Allie Matt said, “Having such a small team,

everyone has to be ready to step up and make an impact.” By playing everyone, the team seemed to mesh better and the results were obviously quite positive.

The day ended with the women’s soccer game against MacMurray at 3pm. If Homecoming did not provide the Beavers with enough motivation to win, the fact that they were opening their conference season definitely did the trick. After a scoreless first half, the Beavers were able to take the lead in the

55th minute with a nice shot by junior Allison Guerra, who lofted her shot over MacMurray’s keeper to give Blackburn a 1-0 lead. Junior Alexis Richie added an insurance goal in the 60th minute to make the score 2-0, which was the game’s final score.

Blackburn College athletics definitely put on a show for the alums in attendance. Each team will be trying to keep their momentum rolling as they proceed into their seasons.

'Burnian Staff

Editor In-Chief  
Haley Welch

Assistant Editor  
Taylor Hess

Design and Layout Editor  
Traci Kamp

Design and Layout Assistant  
Aurora Grimmert

Copy Editor  
Max Farley

Faculty Advisor/Editor  
Prof. Natasha Casey

Faculty Editor  
Dr. Karen Dillon

Publisher  
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Social Media Consultant  
Rachael Lancey

Staff Writers  
Sarah Collman  
Zachary Daum  
Jake DeRousse  
Kayla Koyne  
Matt Renaud  
Clayt Scheller

Contributing Writers  
Miranda Clark  
Jessica Clements  
Dr. Arthur Darken  
Courtney Egner  
Rachael Lancey  
Michelle Lee  
Marissa Watson

Blackburn Men’s Golf Takes 4th at Invitational

by Miranda Clark

The men’s golf team this year consists of four players for the fall season: sophomores Jordan Fite and Tyler Solie, junior Tyler Hendrickson and senior Alex Scherer. Scherer said, “I love being a part of Blackburn’s golf team. I get free golf and I like bonding with the coach and the boys.” This is John Malin’s first year as coach; he is excited and recognizes talent in his players. “We’re looking to have some fun, looking to improve over what we did last year and we hope to grow the program,” noted Malin.

The golf team will gain three additional players for the spring season. Freshmen Brandon Krekeler and Nate Kinnison as well as junior Lucas Ruckus are playing soccer this fall, but will compete with the team in the spring. The golf team takes five players to a golf match, although only the best four scores are counted for the team. Golf runs on a split season—the abbreviated fall season only contains three matches, while the majority of matches are played in the spring.



PHOTO BY MIRANDA CLARK

The men’s golf team poses for a photo. Left to right: Tyler Hendrickson, Jordan Fite, Alex Scherer. Not pictured Tyler Solie.

On September 27 and 28, the men went to an invitational hosted by Millikin University with twelve teams competing. On September 29 MacMurray College hosted a 1-day Invitational. Hendrickson shot one over par with a final score of 73 while Scherer shot a 79, Solie shot an 81 and Fite finished with a 90. The final scores ranked the men fourth at the Invitational. “I like the camaraderie of the team, it makes me feel as though were connected,” Hendrickson stated.

October 21 and 22 the

men will play at an invitational hosted by Benedictine University at Springfield. Malin hopes the fall matches are good experience for the spring season. The fall players agreed that their main goal is to make it to nationals in the spring.

Malin plans to have the goals established in the spring when all seven players are competing, mentioning, “The important thing to me is having them improve their game. That to me is a victory in and of itself and is an important goal.”

Blackburn’s rival... or lack thereof

by Jake DeRousse

The Cardinals have the Cubs. The Packers have the Bears. The Celtics have the Lakers. The Blackburn Beavers have...well, no one really. Not only does Blackburn not have any distinct athletic rival, but in an informal poll many non-athletes could not even name other teams in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC), which Blackburn is a charter member. Since no rival is evident, I have decided to analyze who should be our rival by ranking teams in the SLIAC using the two most important rivalry-inducing categories: location and history.

Most of the best rivalries in sports are born of proximity. If teams are closer together, then they may be competing for fans in their community. Naturally, schools that are closer together are going to have more players who know each other. The closest conference schools to Carlinville are Principia (44 mi) and MacMurray (49 mi), while the furthest away are Spalding (290 mi) and Iowa Wesleyan (207 mi). Even if the players are friends—possibly because they are friends—they will want to beat each other for bragging rights.

Another important aspect of rivalries is history. In order to rank our potential teams in terms of history, I factored in the amount of time the contenders have been in the SLIAC and how many times Blackburn has played them in the conference semifinals or championship. Fontbonne and MacMurray both opposed Blackburn in the same number of tournament games, and have been playing against Blackburn for at least 22 years (Fontbonne is an original member of the SLIAC, Mac joined a year later).

After some very astute number crunching, I have concluded that Blackburn’s two biggest rivals should be MacMurray and Fontbonne. As to which team should be hated more, I decided to use mascots as a tiebreaker. I feel that it will be much easier to hate the Griffins of Fontbonne (those aren’t even real things!) than the Highlanders of MacMurray, so Fontbonne is the winner of this very scientific study on who Blackburn’s athletic rival should be. If you have any school pride you should now hate them just as I have learned to.