



Social Media Snaps Back

AND THE AWARD GOES TO LEONARDO DICAPRIO! Oh Wait...

By Bryan Bethel

Pressure mounted at the 88th Academy Awards as the Best Actor category crept closer. People around the world tuned in to see if actor Leonardo DiCaprio would win the award for his performance in “The Revenant.” When the time came, television personality Steve Harvey was called out on stage to give the award. DiCaprio was announced the winner and had walked up on stage and accepted his Oscar when a visibly shaken Harvey walked back out on stage. “Oh no, I am so sorry, there’s been a mistake!” exclaimed Harvey as a hush fell across Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. As it turned out, Harvey had announced the wrong name, and Bryan Cranston was the actual winner for Best Actor for his film, “Trumbo.”

Fans across the nation were devastated for DiCaprio, as his first ever Oscar award was literally taken away from him. Senior astronomy major Clint Mathis held an Oscar viewing party and was shocked to see how the situation was handled. “For Harvey to pull this stunt so soon after the Miss Universe pageant, something needs to happen!” he said. “Not only did

[Harvey] screw up the event, but I bet my friends \$100 that DiCaprio would finally win. Harvey owes me money!” Junior professional writing major Jess Willard was also upset about the award going to Cranston. “I get that Cranston is a good actor and all, but

DiCaprio totally deserves that award more,” stated Willard. “Trumbo was just a dumb movie about some old writer, and who cares about writing anyway? People go to the movies to be entertained, not to see boring stuff like that.”

DiCaprio was a good sport

about the unfortunate mistake but many of his fans were not so accepting of the situation. Senior computer science major Shane Nalezty is an avid DiCaprio fan and was shocked when he saw his idol did not win the Oscar. “I’ve watched every movie DiCaprio has

starred in, and I firmly believe he deserved that Oscar,” stated Nalezty. “He’s never won an Oscar before, and I just feel like this is adding insult to injury.”



A super real photo taken at this year’s Grammy Awards of the horrible incident as it happened

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OSCARS

Facebook users have grandmother has been making progress with the app and is actually sending pictures of her face. “I’m just glad that my grandma and I have a way to talk to each other now. I mean, she used to send me confusing emails. She’s not good at typing - at all,” Holybee said. Not every member of the elderly community has been able to successfully use the app. Data Services Administrator Kathy Ruiter has heard several students complain about their grandparents struggling to take decent selfies. She said, “One student told me about continuously receiving pictures of ceilings from his grandfather.” Ruiter advised students to have their grandparents contact her with their technology problems. She is a self-proclaimed social media guru and knows the ins and outs of every social networking app. “I have a saying in my office: ‘Don’t let technology leave you behind,’” she said.

While Snapchat has seen a slight profit increase from their idea, Twitter has been making waves through a different tactic. Most pages that a user follows will send free samples of their product. Freshman psychology major Kaitlyn Scott has been taking advantage of her Twitter account now more than ever before. “It’s so great,” she said. “Within the past week alone, I’ve received a free outfit from H&M and a pound of Not Butter sells. This makes being a poor college student so much easier.”

s idea not only led to an increase in individuals utilizing social networks, but companies as well. Sophomore communications major Blade Williams explained how he was originally skeptical about purchasing workout equipment until he received five dumbbells from Fitness Nation. He said, “I can see why the network’s success after major Shelby Holybee saw family.” Junior graphic arts way to connect with your network as a “fun, easy homes and advertised their They reached out to retirement people over the age of 65. found an untapped market: demographics, Snapchat researching After interest of the public. to find new ways to gain the were left in the dust. They had like Twitter and Snapchat in the profits, social networks ‘angry.’ While Facebook raked ‘love,’ ‘haha,’ ‘wow,’ ‘sad’ and users have their choice of addition to the ‘like’ button, of Facebook reactions. In came true with the introduction their exes’ pictures? Dreams they supposed to dislike all of launch in 2004. How else are thumbs down button since its networking site to add a been begging for the social Facebook users have

By Jess Willard

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIDJAWA IVAN

Cheap Cheap Fun Fun

After All, Evolution is Just a Myth...

By Veronica Milligan

There are supposedly several lines of evidence that scientists claim support the theory of evolution, but clearly they don't take it seriously enough to make it scientific law. There is also plenty of evidence to the contrary given by believers of all religions.

First of all, people take Charles Darwin way too seriously. He's just a really old guy from a long time ago that published a book, "On the Origin of Species." Perhaps if he had collaborated on a book with other men or had spoken with a deity about his writings there would be reason to support his work. Darwin's famous trip on the Beagle lasted only five years but oral and written stories of god(s) have been told since the dawn of time.

The dawn of time can be looked at from several perspectives. Scientists like Bill Nye would lead us to believe that a big bang led to the formation of the universe and everything in it. There is minimal support for this, including the fact that the universe is constantly expanding, cosmic radiation and abundance of elements in the universe. The big bang theory is also, like evolution, just a theory. An all powerful creator could easily explain the reasons we see phenomena like this. If the creator(s) wanted to make the universe expand or create a variety of elements than they are perfectly capable of doing so.

A common argument against human evolution is to note that, despite the idea that we may have evolved from monkeys, there are still several species of monkeys on earth.

Why is this? If evolution were real, wouldn't the obsolete version of an evolved species become extinct because the newer version is better? Now, we have several dog breeds too but we know that dogs evolved from wolves. There are still wolves on earth. The difference here is that we, humans, chose this path for wolves. It was human involvement that tamed the wolf breed and allowed them to become a new species. This couldn't have happened any other way.

Speaking of extinct animals, why is that even happening? If evolution were true it would follow that animals would simply develop the attributes they need to survive. If a giraffe were in need of a long neck to reach a taller tree, it would develop that to survive. On the other hand, the tree, also needing to survive, would grow taller to prevent being eaten by the giraffe. This would lead to a giraffe with an exponentially long neck in battle with an ever-growing tree. This is absurd and does not support evolution.

Biology professor Dr. Edward Zalisko, said "You know, at home I sit on my deck and look at the many types of birds that come to my feeder. But each year they look the same. It really makes you wonder about evolution. I don't see any change." If we don't see the change, where is the proof and correlation needed to support evolution? The theory of evolution is almost as strange as suggesting that because science has yet to explain everything, there must be a higher power to fill in the gaps. This higher power will solve our problems and give easy answers to questions that require curiosity, skepticism

and intellectual thought.



PHOTO BY DEJA BELL
Look at this cute little puppers! It doesn't look anything like a wolf, how could anyone think dogs evolved from wolves?!

Big Bad Wolf of Blackburn

By Veronica Milligan

On a dark evening lit by the full moon, you might hear the distant howl of a wolf on Blackburn's campus. Have you ever been out at that time and also seen Blackburn College President Dr. John Comerford?

A simple Google search on the name Comerford will reveal that it has history in Ireland. Several books referencing werewolves in Ireland are listed under "The Celtic Werewolf" by Shanon Sinn on livinglibraryblog.com. Illinois has little history of werewolves, but in 2011 the Werewolf Defense Panel issued a warning to Illinois residents of an impending werewolf infestation.

Recently the Comerford's cat went missing. Perhaps the cat ran away when a door was left open. Or more likely, the cat knew something strange was going on. Cats are incredibly knowledgeable and often sense the paranormal before their owners do.

It may have caught your attention that the dining hall does not use real silver utensils. Is it possible that this was at Comerford's request? Werewolves are known for avoiding silver since it is one of the few items that can cause them harm. This is assumed because silver (also known as argentium) was associated with the moon by alchemists according to E. J. Holmyard's book "Alchemy." Dining and Hospitality workers were not available for comment. Other signs of a werewolf are sharpened teeth and nails and excessive hair. However, these clues would be easy to hide from most people. Comerford's oldest son Garrett Comerford said, " Even though the cat is missing, there is still a lot of fur in the house."

I'll end with the obvious. You may have noticed Comerford is above average height. Due to his height it is likely that he may enjoy basketball and even play



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR

President Comerford's official photograph, after his ears and fangs were edited out

well. Remind you of another werewolf? Keep an eye out on the court during the next full moon on April 22.

Letter From an Editor

Attention Blackburn Community:

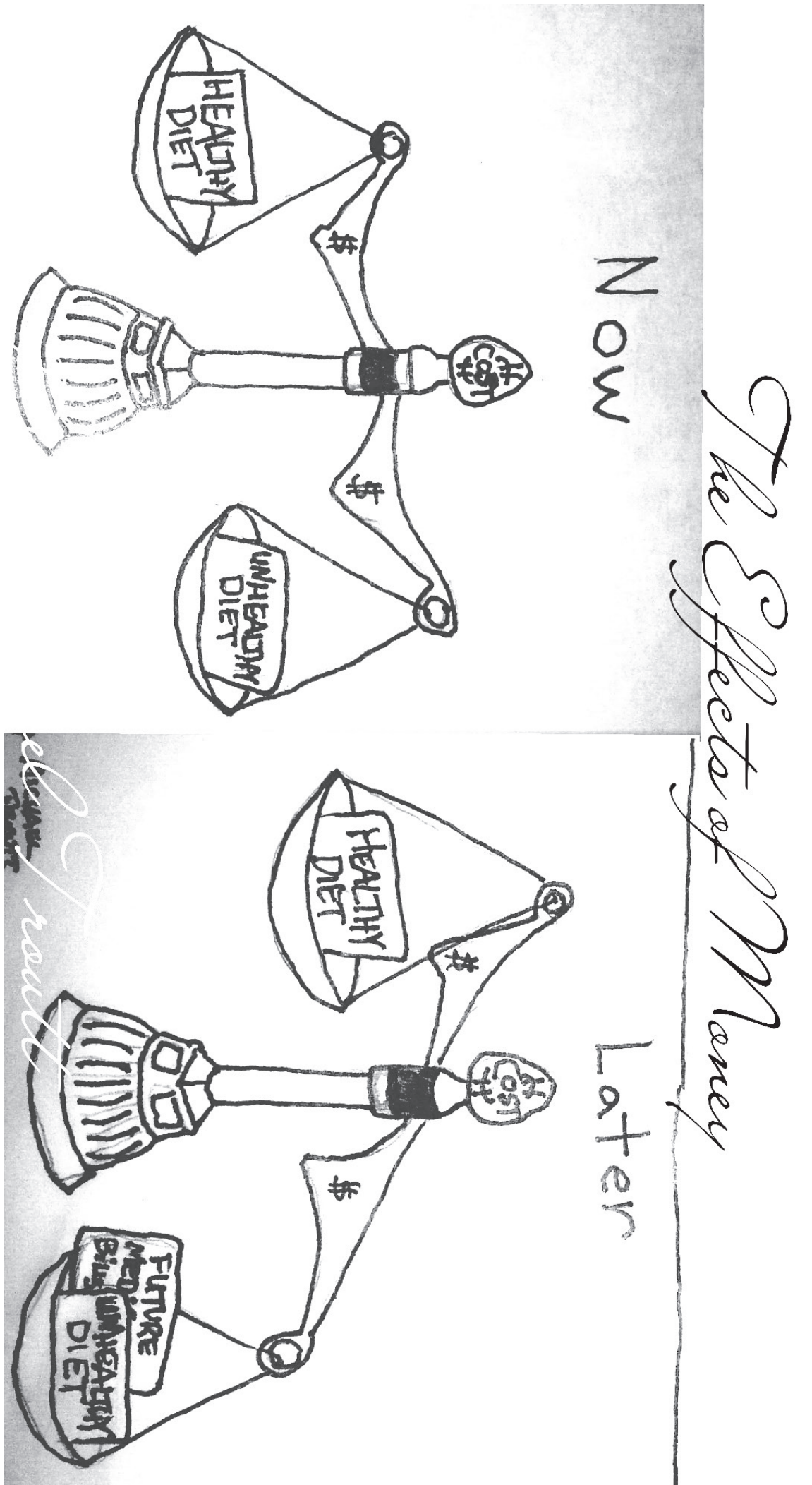
As a Blackburn alumnus and former 'Burnian editor, I am pleased to announce that for the last four years, my team and I have been working hard on what we like to refer to as "Operation 4116." The main premise of this plan is to take Blackburn College down from the inside. As you read this, the last stage of the plan is going into effect.

The 'Burnian has been working closely with Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs Heidi Heinz; she helps screen the best and brightest agents for our team. I know what you may be thinking: "The 'Burnian seems to be doing badly. Student workers come and go; turnover is high." You are right, turnover is high but this is how we disperse our agents into the field. They are trained and then "let go." We implant them into various work departments to gather information for us and to create chaos. As you may have observed, one of

our main targets this year was the heart of Blackburn: its work program. Sophomore Alexis Dick used to toil in the work office but now currently works for us as well as the office of Public Relations. Coincidence? I think not. At this moment, there are more agents in the field than student workers on The 'Burnian team.

Over the past four years, The 'Burnian has been publishing controversial articles about Blackburn in order to create tension. Each issue has had a main target; for example issue three of 2016 went after Residence Life and hiring choices. Each issue has also been designed to be more controversial than the last. As the final issue of Operation 4116, we pulled out the heavy guns. We revealed to you Blackburn's best kept secrets. Our college president, Dr. John Comerford, is indeed a werewolf and there is a reason Graham is the quiet dorm, to keep their cockfighting problem hush hush. It has been my pride and pleasure to wreck and ravage Blackburn College. Have a nice day.

Forever yours,
Madam Nyx



COMIC BY MICHAEL TROUTT

THE BARNIAN

DINOSAUR SENSATIONS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:	Sarah Collman
ASSISTANT EDITOR:	Jordyn Smith
DESIGN & LAYOUT EDITOR:	Noah Daum
ASSISTANT DESIGN & LAYOUT:	Bryan Bethel
ASSISTANT DESIGN & LAYOUT:	Alexis Dick
FACULTY ADVISOR/EDITOR:	Dr. Natasha Casey
COPY EDITOR:	Shelby Rainford
PUBLISHER	Edwardsville Intelligencer

CAST OF CHILDREN

Bryan Bethel
Rachael Chong
Miranda Critchfield
Jordyn Smith
Michael Troutt
Jess Willard

FEATURED DINO-PALS

Noah Daum
Alexis Dick
Brendan Riley Lersch
Veronica Milligan
Dr. Tim Wilson

HOW TO BE A FRIEND

The 'Burnian is a student-run newspaper at Blackburn College. Our mission is to never give you up, never let you down, never run around and desert you. Never gonna make you cry, never gonna say goodbye.

ABCs
Letters under 500 words may be sent to barnian@blackburn.edu, or mailed to The 'Barnian, 700 College Ave., Carlinville, IL 62626.

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Editorials featured on the opinion/commentary page of The 'Burnian contain staff members' opinions. We've known each other for so long. Your heart's been aching but you're too shy to say it. Inside we both know what's been going on. We know the game and we're gonna play it. And if you ask me how I'm feeling, don't tell me you're too bling to see. See How to Be a Friend for more details on our mission.

Staying in Bed.....zzzz

By Miranda Critchfield

Do you believe that if you could just stay in bed for a little bit longer, maybe your life wouldn't fall to pieces every day? If you do, know that senior biology major Dylan Adkins has conducted extensive research for his senior seminar entitled "More Sleep = Better Life."

Adkins' confirmed theory is that if one stays in bed instead of getting up and joining the world, it is near impossible for his or her life to fall apart. Adkins conducted his experiment with several students across campus. He had students skip classes and work, which were excused on the grounds of scientific importance, and stay in bed as long as possible. Adkins then had an assistant bring them food and drinks as needed. They were only allowed to get out of bed to use the restroom. Each test subject was allowed one additional survival tool - Netflix. Adkins observed each student before and after the experiment by asking them simple questions such as "How was your day?" and

"How hectic is your life?" and then recorded their answers. Adkins believes the difference was remarkable.

"My test subjects each performed amazingly," Adkins stated. "Their pre-test questions often had negative answers and the subjects

seemed exhausted. For the post-test questions they seemed relaxed and happy and answered 152 percent more positively than before the experiment."

One of his subjects was senior Christy Hobbs who participated in the experiment

a few times to ensure the utmost accuracy. Hobbs claimed her days participating in the experiment were the best of her college career. "There is just something so comforting about being stuck in my bed. It doesn't matter that I have 76 assignments due by April

or that there is a weird rash on my boyfriend's armpit. My bed loves me and I love it."

Hobbs explained that she believes teachers should start giving students two additional days of absences specifically for what she calls "Forget the World" days. Professor of English and Communications Dr. Mark Benedetti said that he understands how sucky life can be. "I can completely relate to how bad life can get sometimes. I poured my Lucky Charms in my cereal bowl this morning and to my utter dismay there was no milk. If I, as a professor, were allowed a "Forget the World" day, today would have been that day." There has been no discussion on whether faculty will be allowed additional days off.

Adkins is thrilled with his experiment and suggested that everyone should try out his theory at least once. If you do the experiment Adkins claims he will compose a handwritten thank you note on floral stationery for your time.

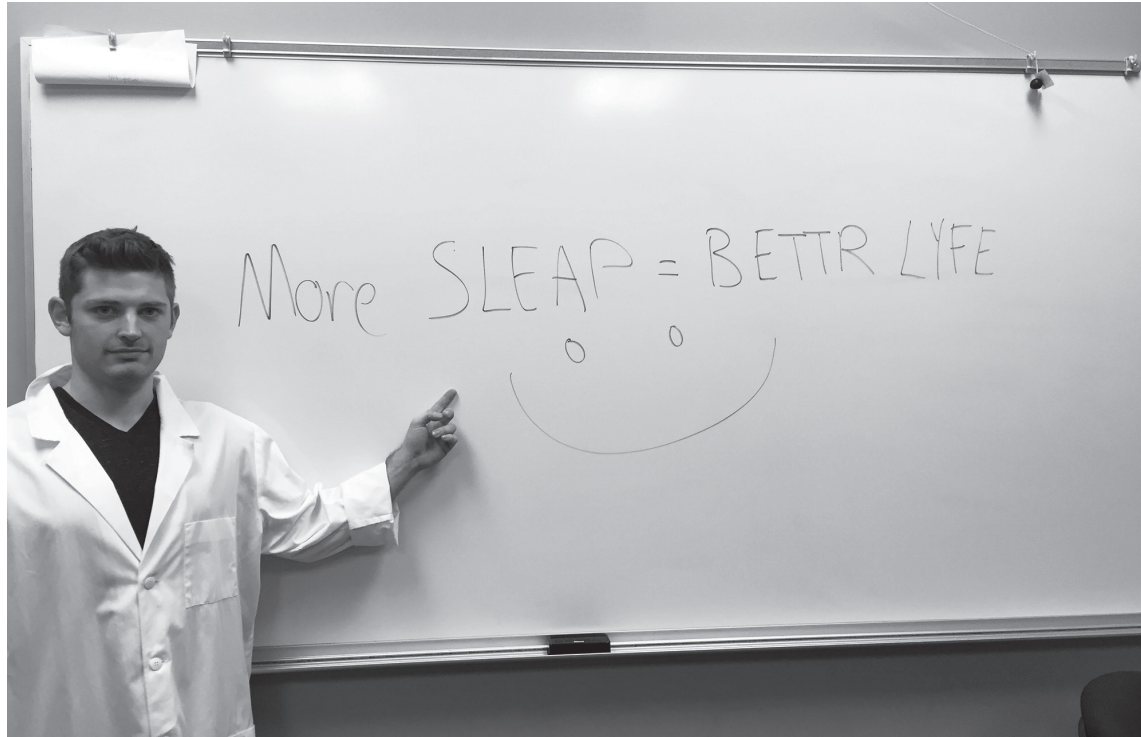


PHOTO BY MIRANDA CRITCHFIELD

Dylan Adkins and the basis of his theory

New Virus Unleashed

By Veronica Milligan

As technology advances, scientists open doors to new cures and treatments for diseases, but also to dangerous new diseases. Recently, a new virus was accidentally created in a lab in Nevada. Lab technician Mark Gasson was then infected by this virus, which is now called the Gasson Virus. The virus is spreading quickly across the U.S. and everyone is at risk. The Computer Disease Center (CDC) is warning that computer labs are the most likely place to contract the disease. Several people come and go through those labs all day, potentially carrying the virus with them. The virus can spread through contact with an infected person, from a frequently trafficked area or from storage locations that may have the virus, like the lab in Nevada.

There is currently no cure for the Gasson Virus, according to the CDC. The CDC recommends that an infected person first remove him or herself from a location where he or she might spread

the virus. The person will then want to perform a virus scan to confirm whether or not he or she has been infected. A free virus scanner is suggested by the CDC - the Kaspersky Virus Removal Tool. Despite its name, the tool may not actually remove the virus. Once you've confirmed that you have a virus and used the scanner, it is possible that symptoms may lessen over time.

Symptoms of the virus vary from person to person. Most often associated with Gasson Virus are mood changes, hair loss, lethargic behavior, uncontrollable movement or complete loss of movement, memory loss and/or strange, unusual thoughts. Symptoms may be helped by calling a service number and talking with a care provider who will help troubleshoot the problems and give treatment options. This should be done by a calm, rational person because troubleshooting can be a long process according to the CDC.

Vaccines are currently in the works but are not

yet completely successful. Some companies do provide the vaccine at the buyer's own risk. These companies include McAfee, Norton and Kaspersky. The vaccine is intended to identify and eliminate traces of the virus in the system. However, it is possible for the virus to slip by undetected and attack its host. There are currently no known harmful side effects from the vaccines. Sophomore computer science major Lucas Burdell said, "It's always possible to remove a virus... but depending on the nature of the virus (i.e. how dug in the virus is in your system) it can take a lot of hard work."

If you seem to be experiencing any of these symptoms at Blackburn and are concerned that you may have the Gasson Virus, please contact the Technology Services Department to begin the troubleshooting process.

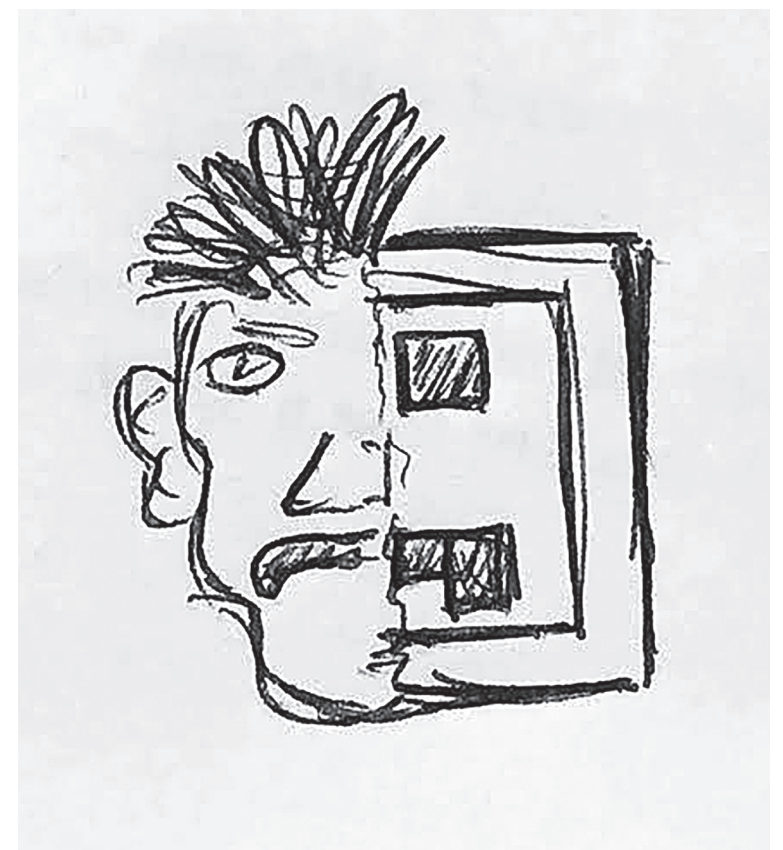


ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES BRAY

Dr. Bray's rendition of the Gasson Virus

Sol de Mexico Mexican Restaurant



Hours:
Sun-Thurs: 11 a.m.-9 p.m
Fri & Sat: 11 a.m-10 p.m

207 N. Broad, Carlinville
217-854-6228
Call ahead for carryouts

Blackburn Students:
10% off with Student ID
(not valid with any other offer)

Billy Goat Curse Forcefully Broken

By Miranda Critchfield

This year there won't be any peanuts or Cracker Jacks and certainly no rooting for the home team. Major League Baseball commissioner Rob Manfred has cancelled baseball this season and given the 2016 World Series win to the Chicago Cubs.

The Cubs haven't won a World Series since 1908 and haven't appeared in one since 1945. Their last appearance is something that every true Cubs fan should be familiar with as it was where the "Billy Goat Curse" started. The story is that a local bar owner, who goes by "Billy Goat," went to the fourth game in the Detroit vs. Chicago World Series lineup and wasn't allowed into the game with his good luck charm - his pet goat. According to the Billy Goat Tavern, Billy yelled to the owner of the Cubs P.K. Wrigley himself and said, "The Cubs ain't gonna win no more. The Cubs will never win

a World Series so long as the goat is not allowed in Wrigley Field."

The curse has since been in full effect - until now. Manfred announced, "With a 107-year dry spell, the MLB has decided to name the Chicago Cubs the 2016 World Series champions. Because of this, baseball is cancelled for the 2016 season." Manfred explained that with the Cubs almost making it to the World Series last season, along with other top contenders, the New York Mets, Kansas City Royals and the St. Louis Cardinals, it just seemed right to give them the victory.

Cubs fan and junior Robert Fagg thinks it's the best decision Manfred has ever made. Fagg has been a loyal Cubs fan since birth. Many Cubs fans have been flying the signature "W" flag and wearing their new Cubs gear in celebration.

Baseball fans across the nation cannot believe what is being called the "biggest slap in the face" in baseball history. The St. Louis Cardinals Twitter page is filled with protest

and outrage. The Cardinals and Cubs are longtime rivals. The Cardinals have 11 World Series wins while the Cubs have three. Cardinals manager Mike Matheny hasn't released

a formal statement yet, but many of the players and fan pages have.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HERNAN SEOANE

The historical Wrigley Field located in Chicago, Illinois, now home to four World Series Championships

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Former Football Star

O.J. Simpson

to Appear on Campus

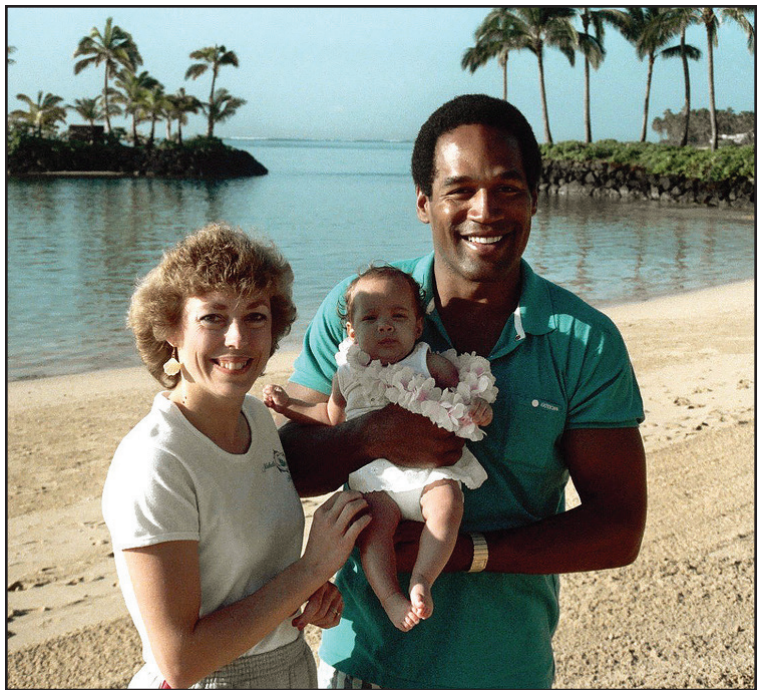


PHOTO BY ALAN LIGHT

THE MAN, THE MYTH

THE FELON

Simpson will be appearing outside Challacombe Hall to meet and greet with fans! Feel free to come and have your babies kissed and signed by "The Juice" himself!

Saturday April 1, 11:59 p.m. *NOTE No Football Star is not scheduled to appear