

LEWIS THE LEADER



Eda Watts awarded Organizational Leadership Major Brandon Lewis for winning the MLK Student Leadership Award at the 2018 MLK Convocation

PHOTOS BY CANDACE POLLOCK



Students, staff, and members of the community gathered for the convocation



Marcellus Polk hosted the event



Rev. Courtney Carson served as the keynote speaker of the convocation

COALITION TAKES ON LACK OF CAMPUS DIVERSITY

By Sara Hyneman
Staff Writer

The United Coalition of Diverse Student Organizations—Coalition for short—is a collection of various clubs across campus dedicated to all forms of diversity. The coalition includes clubs such as the Black Student Union, Sister Circle, Life Paths, Spanish Club and the Multicultural Club; each club tackles a different aspect of diversity. Some, like Life Paths, seek to educate about various religions. Others, like the Black Student Union, focus on uplifting Black students on campus. Each club has a role in the Coalition.

Although Coalition officially began last year, this semester the coalition is properly kicking off. With Kareem Watts as the new advisor and a new constitution being drafted, leading member of the coalition Blade Williams was excited to discuss the upcoming events and changes.

"It's a chance for students to use their voice."
- Kareem Watts

Williams is a member of the club Spectrum, a club for the support of LGBTQIA+ students, which has been elected voice of reason in the coalition; the coalition has no leader, but a voice of reason is elected to act as a moderator and keep things on track. He's also a driving force behind the creation of the coalition. Williams spoke about a variety of new events that are coming up, such as a campus-wide taste of diversity event in March, where each

club will prepare and serve foods that are culturally related to their clubs. The Coalition will be partnering with other groups to put on a human rights week also in March.

Kareem Watts, the new advisor to the group, was actually brought on after he expressed his excitement for the concept of such a diverse group. Watts spoke of his hopes for the coalition: "I'm excited because it's something new; all these diverse clubs coming

together to build bridges. It's a chance for students to use their voice."

The student angle was one that Williams echoed: "This is a group where students are the forefront. Students are the ones bringing the understanding of change and acceptance to campus. That kind of stuff is just as important as what the staff does."

Williams added another reason that the coalition was important: addressing the lack of diversity in other leadership positions around campus, such as in student senate. "Student senate is not doing enough for diversity on campus, and the people I talk to feel the same way," Williams said. "And that's a problem. I hope that having a group like this one on campus can help...make the leadership groups represent the students more accurately."

Sara Hyneman is an officer in the Life Paths club, which is a part of the Coalition.

Calling All STUDENTS

By Kaitlyn Mitchum
Staff Writer

Approachable, respectful, confident, and devoted are some of the many character traits for every great manager. Blackburn College work committee hosted two information nights for all students interested in manager positions at Blackburn College on Wednesday, Jan. 24 and Thursday, Jan. 25. At these meetings, each manager described the day to day responsibilities of a manager, and each gave personal advice to the potential students applying for the jobs. "All positions will be open for grabs, and in

order to be considered,you must apply," said General Manager Hollie Davidson. A previous manager cannot just assume manager for next year; they must apply like everyone else. Students applying must fill out a returning work form and a letter of intent along with two letters of recommendation sent confidentially to the work office. Following successful application submission the student who applied will have the chance to show off what they can bring to the position they applied for with a professional interview.

Students applying are encouraged to set up mock interviews with managers

to practice and gain experience with the interviewing process. "During my mock interview experience, Hollie told me that my answers seemed rehearsed and that I should just say what I really felt and now, look I'm a manager and I love my job," said Academics manager Logan Elliot. At the end of the night, the managers all agreed that it was rewarding for anyone to apply for a manager position to gain experience if nothing else.

"It's so educational to have a manager's position because you are learning every day from everyone. One thing you learn really quickly is

time management. Separating being a student and being a manager is important," added General Manager Jessica Baalman. Advice was given out to the students in the room, creating a hopeful environment. Freshman business management major Kariem Ali said, "Since they were students I wasn't uncomfortable being there but there was still a sense of formalness and professionalism." Once the work committee was done presenting their main ideas to the possible future apliers, each department broke into small groups to give the opportunity to ask the managers specific questions regarding each department.

Students applying were also reminded that the minimum grade point average a student must have in order to be considered is a 2.5; also they cannot be on academic, social, or work probation, and they are encouraged to be enrolled or have taken leadership classes. General manager applications due Feb. 12 by 5 p.m. and Department Manager Applications due Feb. 19 by 5 p.m.

New Faces in the Blackburn Community

By Kennedy Henson
Staff Writer

This semester, there are several new professors filling in throughout several departments. These adjuncts are not permanently a part of the faculty at Blackburn College, but all were hired by the school. These faculty are not on track to be tenured at the university and are a step below being a professor.

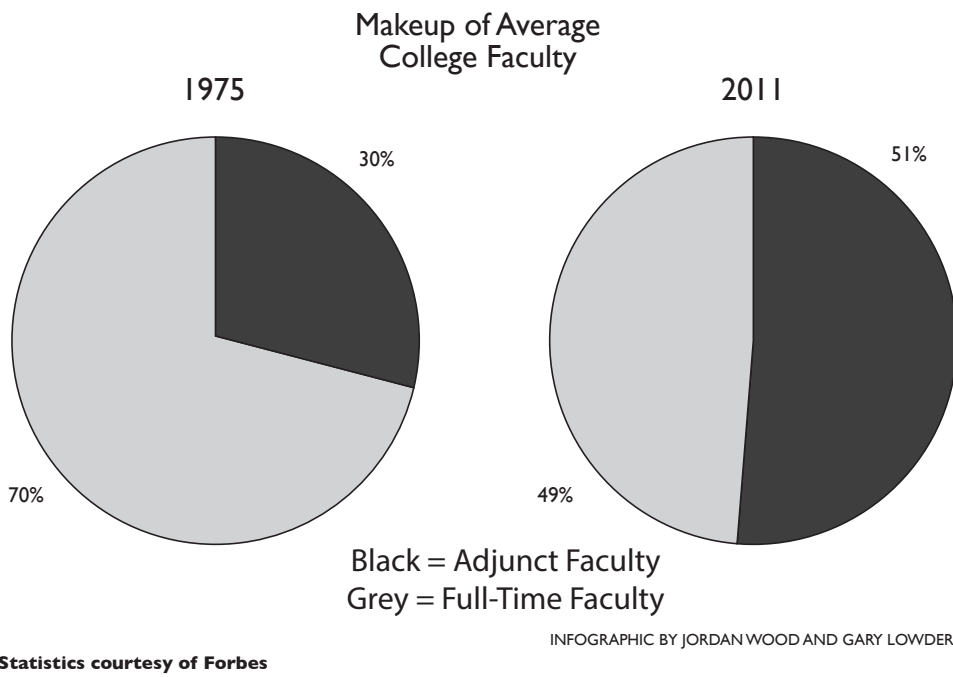
Edward Myers is an adjunct teaching two sections of Writing 112. He has his Master of Arts from the University of Illinois Springfield, and has taught at Lincoln Land Community College, Lincoln College, the University of Illinois Springfield and Blackburn for a semester in 2006. He has taught several levels of composition, business writing, film, literature and humanities. "I want the students to know that I am always willing to help in whatever ways I can," said Myers.

Peter Hough is teaching ethics classes at Blackburn, replacing Dr. Mike Bradley. He graduated from Truman State University with a degree in English with an emphasis on linguistics. He also attended Fuller Theological Seminary. He has never taught at a college before Blackburn.

Chris McDonald is filling in by teaching political philosophy. He

earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Lancaster in Great Britain, his home country. He has a masters and a doctorate from University of Georgia. He taught at the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech prior to going to Lincoln Land Community College, where he is a full-time tenured faculty member for the last twenty years. He has also taught at several other local community colleges, mainly covering sabbatical. He has taught, written and researched in the fields of international politics and political theory. "Related to my interest in modern international politics, I have had a lifelong interest in the first world war and often lecture on the topic," McDonald said. "I have lead student groups to tour battlefields in France and Belgium and a few years ago published a collection of letters written by a Springfield native who volunteered as an ambulance driver during the war."

Louise Jett is teaching news writing this semester. She graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Master of Education degree. She works full time as a media specialist at Lewis and Clark in Godfrey, teaching news writing, social media marketing, InDesign and continuing education classes. She also works part-time as a social media



manager for the Ethical Society of St. Louis. "My favorite author is Kurt Vonnegut because in teaching me to connect with the flawed characters in his novels, he helped me to love and accept others, including myself," said Jett.

Matthew Slightom is teaching Principles of Agribusines Management this semester. He graduated from Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville with a Bachelor of Science in business administration

with a specialization in finance. He is the farm manager and assistant portfolio manager at CNB Bank & Trust, N.A. in Carlinville. Slightom is also the treasurer for the Carlinville National FFA Organization Alumni and serves on the board of directors for the Jerseyville Mutual Insurance Company. Slightom wants students to know "it will be greatly beneficial for students to understand how agriculture affects their lives and to understand the operations of a farm."

WHAT LIFTS YOU?

By Kennedy Henson
Staff Writer

On Feb. 2, members of the Academics Department hosted an event in DCC Commons from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., which they called What Lifts You? The idea came to Veronica Lee after seeing a mural in O'Hare Airport in Chicago. She received help from Logan Elliott and Victoria Lewis. That mural was the main inspiration

for the event, along with a few teacher blogs doing interactive bulletin boards as well. Students were encouraged to write positive messages on paper feathers. The feathers were arranged on black paper to symbolize wings that will lift students' spirits. The wings and feathers are on display in DCC near the bookstore.

Lee hopes students will take pictures in front of the piece and take the time to read what makes a positive

influence on other students here at Blackburn. "I want this piece to be uplifting and light. I also just want to encourage people to keep thinking about all the positive things going on in their lives," said Lee.

The turnout was better than expected. "I was almost sure that I would end up working with a lot of blank feathers, but to my surprise, every single feather ended up being filled out," said Lee. She said she enjoyed

seeing the joy on the faces of students as they filled out a feather.

A few examples of what can be found written on the feathers include, "my fiance," "Jesus," "coffee," "life," "dogs," and "Blackburn." Christina Sanderson said "this is a great way to inspire students to keep going and see what inspires other students to keep going."



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GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN FOR DUMMIES

By Rachel Burke
Staff Writer

On Monday, Jan. 20, the United States government shut down. It was a three day shutdown, and many did not feel the effects of it, or even know exactly what was going on. A government shutdown occurs when Congress cannot get a budget passed in time and therefore cannot fund the federal government. There have been 12 government shutdowns since 1981 that have ranged from 1 day to 21 days. The last shutdown was during Barack Obama’s presidency in 2013 and lasted 16 days.

The 2018 government shutdown was due to disagreements between the Democrats in congress and President Trump. Trump wants funding for a border wall in the budget and Democrats want funding for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Undecided sophomore major Cheyanne Miller said, “It’s childish to shut down over a disagreement over a

wall we weren’t supposed to pay for.” This brings into question who is to blame for the shutdown. Some people are blaming the Democrats and some are blaming Trump.

So far, congress has not been able to work out a budget that will include the components that everyone wants. To end the shutdown, the House and the Senate passed a short-term spending bill that will fund the government through Feb. 8 and extend the funding for the nine million children included in the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for six more years. This stop-gap measure was passed under the agreement that congress will soon allow an immigration vote regarding the immigrants protected under DACA.

While the problem is solved temporarily, there could be another shutdown if there is no permanent budget by Feb. 8. A government shutdown causes all nonessential federal workers to be sent home and docked pay. These nonessential federal programs include



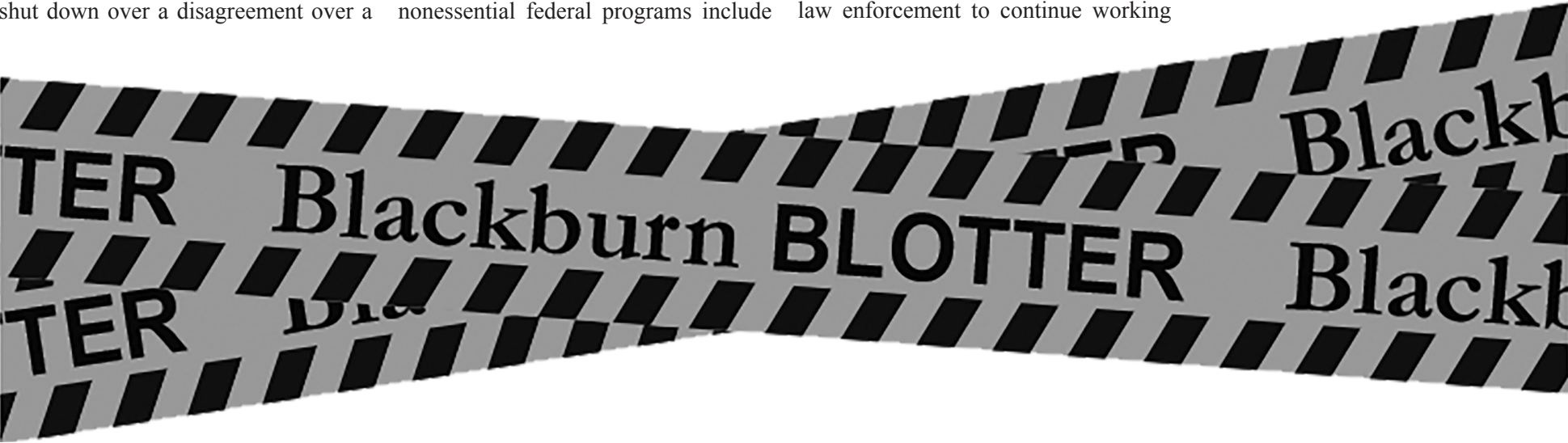
PHOTO BY RACHEL BURKE
The government shuts down due to complications with the budget

the processing of passports and visas, national parks and monuments, and the maintaining of government websites. The shutdown also causes the essential government employees like the military, border control, U.S. mail service, air traffic control and national security law enforcement to continue working

without being paid to do so. When the government is back up and running, they retroactively pay the workers.

Those are the short-term effects of a government shutdown, but if it goes on for longer, there are more consequences and more programs that get shut down. Currently the most direct effect on college students pertains to the students enrolled in school because of DACA. While that’s a big concern for the students affected, there aren’t many other direct effects on college students. However, according to political science professor Dr. Laura Wiedlocher, it’s still important to care about this. Wiedlocher emphasized, “The government is not providing services that people need. It creates instability in the federal government.”

Wiedlocher said the way to fix it, or at least help, is to “put pressure on legislatures. Call in, write, tweet, email, do anything to let Congress know that this is not okay.”



By Gary Lowder
Senior Writer

[Author’s Note]: The Blackburn Blotter is a collection of monthly incident logs filed by Blackburn College. Since reports are compiled the following month by the Campus Community and Safety Department, as well as Residence Life, they are published a month behind. For example, August’s log will be published in September. Due to The ‘Burnian’s publication schedule, the monthly release of Blackburn’s crime statistics and the recent holiday break, this issue’s blotter will cover incidents occurring in November and December of 2017.

Some important terms to note are Clery and Title IX. A report made to Clery involves incidents that fall under the Clery Act. Examples of these

incidents include stalking, intimidation, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, underage alcohol consumption, hate speech and Title IX violations. Title IX reports are made when discrimination occurs on the basis of sex or gender, sexual harassment or sexual violence.

It is pertinent that these logs are published so that the Blackburn community can be aware of crime on campus. This listing also promotes a better understanding of how incidents are handled at Blackburn College.

From Nov. 5 to Nov. 29, the Campus Community and Safety Department and Residence Life handled a total of 17 incidents:

- Nov. 5: Fire alarm in an academic building.
- Nov. 6: Suspicious activity on a campus roadway.
- Nov. 7: Fire alarm in residence

hall and malicious rumor in Demuzio Campus Center (DCC).

Nov. 8: Wellness check and suspicion of marijuana usage in a residence hall.

Nov. 9: Intimidating correspondance on campus property and improper conduct in an academic building.

Nov. 10: Suspicion of marijuana usage in a residence hall.

Nov. 13: Improper conduct in DCC.

Nov. 20: Damage to vehicle in parking lot.

Nov. 21: Two infractions reported in a residence hall.

Nov. 26: Suspicion of marijuana usage in a residence hall.

Nov. 28: Infraction reported in a residence hall.

Nov. 29: Relationship dispute on campus and a verbal dispute/alcohol policy violation reported in Dawes/

Woodward.

From Dec. 1 to Dec. 12, the Campus Community and Safety Department and Residence Life handled a total of 10 incidents:

Dec. 1: Noise complaint in a residence hall.

Dec. 2: Medical emergency and marijuana suspection reported in a residence hall.

Dec. 3: Marijuana suspicion reported in a residence hall.

Dec. 7: Roommate dispute in a residence hall.

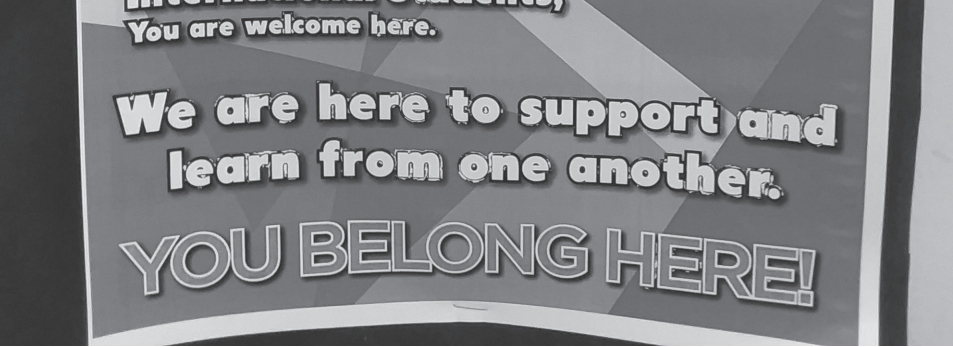
Dec. 8: Medical emergency outside of campus.

Dec. 9: Marijuana suspicion in a residence hall.

Dec. 11: Quiet-hours infraction in a residence hall and suspicious person reported on campus.

Dec. 12: Improper conduct in a residence hall.

Diversity Discrepancies



Blackburn advertises as being welcoming of all demographics

By Rachel Burke
Staff Writer

Blackburn College prides itself on its student-run work program because it offers students opportunities to practice professionalism and gain work experience while providing students with potential to branch out into the many different areas of work. It gives students a sense of responsibility for what they do because their jobs affect where they live and study. However, there is an ongoing problem with the lack of racial diversity throughout the departments.

Blackburn College is currently working to assess the problem and fix it. While this isn’t a new issue, Provost John McClusky and President John Comerford both said that they noticed the problem last year. Comerford said in an email that he realized, “African American students were significantly over-represented in campus services and dining and hospitality and under-represented in most other departments.” Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Student Success Eda Watts said via email, “The lack of diversity in the work program is something that requires full institutional attention and support ... The best possible solutions are found when we all, as a college, work together towards the same goal.”

McClusky revealed that the work committee is trying to make changes in the hiring process and marketing of opening positions. “Last week,” he said, “the work committee decided that jobs need to be posted for three business days.” The goal behind this is to raise awareness for all jobs and increase every student’s chance to apply. The work committee has also assembled a task force, more focused on the academic department, including Chair of English & Communications Dr. Naomi Crummey, Chair of Religion & Philosophy Dr. Carter Aikin, Chair of Mathematics Dr. Chris Morin and

students.

The focus on the issue has increased awareness and improved diversity among the work departments. “Our distribution was much more even this last fall,” Comerford said, “Not yet where we want to be, but much better than the year before.” He attributed this improvement to the work committee.

While representation for students of color has increased in some departments, over-representation in some areas leads to under-representation in other departments. The racial distribution has fluctuated from fall of 2016 to the fall of 2017. The departments that had fair racial representation in 2016 such as the Lumpkin Learning Commons, Admissions and Dining and Hospitality have become over-represented in 2017. Previously, the bookstore was under-represented and is now over-represented. On the other hand, there are departments like Technology Services and Campus Maintenance that were equitably represented, and are now under-represented.

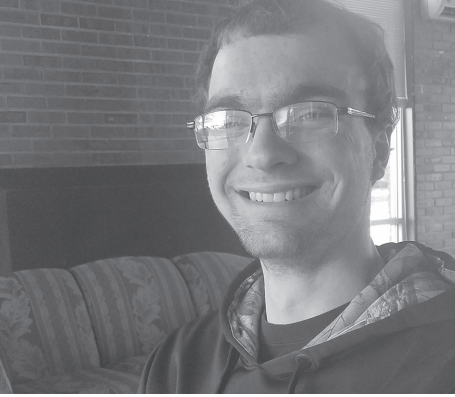
This is not an issue that only affects students of color. Comerford believes that this has been bad for all students. McClusky said the same thing, and went on further to say that it reinforces stereotypes. He explained, “If students don’t see minority, LGBT, Christian, Atheist, or Muslim students in academics, they might think academics is only for ‘this’ type of person.” McClusky also said that students would benefit from tutors in the academics department from all different races and perspectives because it will contribute to “richer conversations.” Even though the numbers are not where Blackburn wants to be at the moment, their dramatic fluctuation proves that the efforts are doing something. With the right hiring changes and continued attention to the issue, these numbers should continue to change until they are balanced.



How do you feel about companies rebooting ‘90s shows?

“That’s nice. My level of nostalgia is completely negligible, so I don’t really care.”

Connor Doolen
junior secondary english
education major



“We all like to visit our childhood, but I think that reruns would be a better idea than a total reboot. That way they can’t mess up the good parts.”

Ainsley Poe
junior marketing and business
management majors

“I kind of love it. Especially in the time we’re living in now, there’s a lot of things to make you upset or sad. Having one little nostalgic, uplifting thing is great. I’m excited about it and I’ll definitely watch more of them as they come out.”

Veronica Lee
junior studio art and creative
writing majors



“I think it’s a good idea. I see all the old cartoon shows and it’s bringing back memories, so I think it’s great.”

Jordan Clay
sophomore communications
major

PHOTOS BY SARA HYNEMAN

EDNA PATTERSON-PETTY'S ART CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY IS DISPLAYED IN VAC



PHOTOS BY GARY LOWDER

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All are welcome! ¡Vamos a hablar!

By Gary Lowder
Senior Writer

On Friday, Feb. 2 the Blackburn Visual Arts Center (VAC) hosted a gallery show by artist Edna Patterson-Petty. Unlike most artists, Patterson-Petty’s art consists of fiber and fabric collages and is inspired by the African-American tradition of telling stories through quilting.

Patterson-Petty’s work is very humanitarian and almost always inspired by hot button issues. Her art has tackled topics like social awareness,

women’s issues, race and ethnicity. Unfortunately, Patterson-Petty was unable to attend the event to discuss her pieces. In an interview with St. Louis area newspaper Alestle, Patterson-Petty said, “I think that I’m an abstract artist and I like working based on telling stories—my way of telling stories. If I’m affected by something that is social or political or whatever, I try to create based on how I feel. I try to find beauty in everything that I do. Living in East St. Louis... I try to create my own beauty in terms of things that are around me.”

In the same interview, Patterson-

Petty talked about what art means to her, “To me, art is being able to take things that others throw away or discard and turn it into some things of beauty or some things of interest—just being able to take a mundane situation or a mundane thing and turn it into something viable and just give things life. It doesn’t mean the same thing to every person. Even though a lot of people are artists, our definitions are always different because it has to be from what it means to an individual. For me, it’s a lifeline. The best way to punish me would be to strip me of my creativity. To take it away from me and

say I could never ever do it again, that would be like sudden death because that’s just how bad I need it in my life.”

Patterson-Petty graduated from SIUE in 1988 with a Master of Arts in Art Therapy and a Master of Fine Arts in Studio Art and went on to have a successful career as an artist. She has gone on to be featured in the St. Louis Art Museum, all the way to the American embassy in Pakistan. She is the recipient of the Grand Center Visionary Award and the NAACP arts award. Her work will be displayed in the VAC until Feb. 22.

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THE FUTURE LOOKS "BRIGHT"?

By Gary Lowder
Assistant Editor

Over the holiday, Netflix premiered an original film called “Bright.” Directed by David Ayer (of “Suicide Squad” infamy) and starring Will Smith (“Ali,” “Pursuit of Happiness”) and Joel Edgerton (“Zero Dark Thirty,” “The Great Gatsby”), “Bright” is a strange beast.

It’s categorized as an American urban fantasy crime film (what a mouthful) and takes place in a fictional world where orcs, elves and fairies all exist in urban Los Angeles. Smith plays a police officer who is assigned to partner with the LAPD’s first orc police officer, played by Edgerton. In this world, there are dirty cops, magic wands and ancient prophecies. It’s a real mess, and it isn’t very good.

Ayer even tries to implement some heavy-handed and clumsy race relation parallels with the interactions between the different fantasy species. At one point in the film, Smith’s character beats a fairy to death with a broom and says, “Fairy lives don’t matter today.” I almost cringed into another dimension. So, to summarize, despite an interesting premise, “Bright” is bad. It is like a buddy cop film had a baby with a “Dungeons and Dragons” campaign, and it left out all of the good things



Will Smith and Joel Edgerton star in Netflix’s original movie “Bright” PHOTO COURTESY OF NETFLIX

from each of its parents.

But that’s not what I want to talk about; regardless of how poorly the movie was reviewed (currently sitting at 26 percent on Rotten Tomatoes), it was successful. Netflix revealed that it was their most streamed original film and one of most highly streamed pieces of content ever, Netflix original or not. Regardless of its quality, “Bright” was a success. I don’t think it can be

overstated how big of a triumph it is for Netflix and a game changer for mainstream cinema.

Let’s break it down to a simpler level. It’s really remarkable that “Bright” exists. We’re at a point where a media streaming company is able to hire mainstream actors, directors and stuntmen in order to make a blockbuster that never premiered in theaters and is only available for streaming.

FROM BC TO SPOTIFY

By Kennedy Henson
Staff Writer

Caleb Long is a 2017 graduate of Blackburn who has a love for music. He has been playing the drums for fifteen years, has learned to play several other instruments including the bass, and has been writing songs for the past two years. Long had been in bands previously, but thought if he wanted to go somewhere in the field, he would have to go solo. In 2016, he released five songs and eight in 2017. He is currently finishing up an album that is set to release on Feb. 28.

Long found his inspiration through

independent artists such as Kevin Parker, who performs under the name Tame Impala, Kendrick Lamar, and Chance the Rapper. In his personal life, he finds inspiration from his partner Katrina who is often the subject of songs and is very encouraging. He also credits his friend Bryan for inspiring him because he does his own thing with no care of what others are doing. The music produced by these artists is the kind of music Caleb intends on producing/releasing.

According to Caleb, his earlier music was “very sad and dark.” He wrote songs about things that were important at the time, for example, a girl he liked.

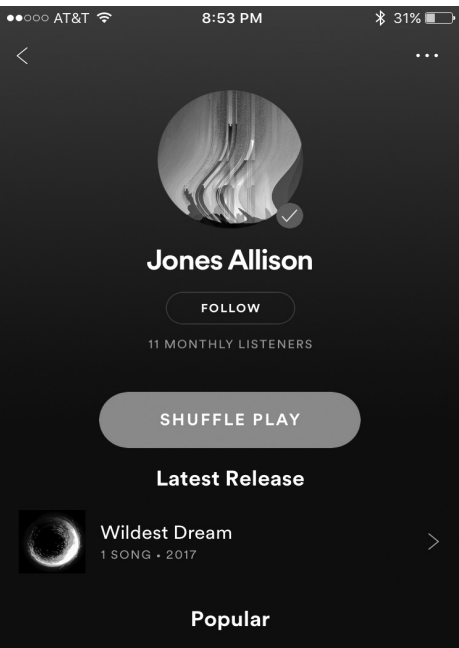
His previous life experiences have shaped him and his music into what it is today. The music that he has released is currently available on Spotify, and is intended to be available on Apple Music, Google Play, Pandora, Amazon, and other music streaming apps soon. Caleb’s music was previously available on a few lesser-known streaming apps like Bandcamp.

Uploading your own music onto Spotify is not an easy process. An artist must register for publishing rights and pay a fee to use the app. Being a self-managed artist can take a toll on anyone. Caleb referred to a friend of his that has their own business. This friend wishes they were able to hire someone to do the management part of running a business, because it is a time consuming task, and that time could be better used to create product. The work is worth the stress for Caleb, though. Seeing his work available to the public is an extremely rewarding sight for him.

Long is very excited for what is to come with his music. “Jones Allison

Is this the downfall of movie theaters? If media streaming companies have grown confident enough to produce content that rivals regular movies then that could be the end of movie theaters as we know them... Why would someone get in their car, drive to the movie theater and pay \$20 (more if they want food) to watch a film when I could pay \$12 a month to stream a film in the comfort of their own home? You don’t have to worry about sneaking in food or bringing a coat. Hell, you don’t even have to wear pants.

Now, I enjoy going to the theater as much as the next guy, and I really am rooting for them, but it’s really hard to compete with staying home and watching Netflix. Especially if they can produce content rivaling big-budget Hollywood level entertainment. I’m certain that streaming sites are the future of film. This is something that corporations have started figuring out. Just look at Disney: they plan on pulling all of their films from Netflix and Hulu by 2020 and starting their own streaming site. Because they know they can get that sweet \$10 a month subscription money. In the future, there will be no reason to visit a movie theater, when movie release can be streamed through the internet in the comfort of your own home.



Caleb Long project Jones Allison in Spotify’s interface

should be available on other streaming apps soon, which is really huge.” said Long. His new album should also be available on these steaming apps soon after its release.

MODERN ART: A BLANK CANVAS

By Jordan Wood
Assistant Editor and Sports Writer

Prior to taking Christopher Day’s Modern Art class, I had always thought that art can be anything, that it is a way for anyone to express themselves. That was until he showed the class a video (that does not reflect his personal opinions) titled “Why is Modern Art So Bad?” by Robert Florczak of Prager University. While the video contains some rather over the top and heavily opinionated rants, I found there to be quite a bit of truth behind his argument because like it or not, art has changed, and it’s changed a lot.

As an art major myself, I have developed a tremendous passion for the arts and have respect for all of its forms, so I would just like to make one thing clear: I believe that all art is important. That being said, however, I do believe that some should be more heavily valued than others; enter Florczak and "modern" art.

Up until around 100 years ago, when someone thought of art, they thought of “The Mona Lisa.” They thought of “The Statue of David.” They thought of the “classics,” because quite frankly, that’s what they were: classic. In Florczak’s words, those pieces “inspired, uplifted and deepened us.”

For hundreds of years, art was viewed as a treasure and only the best of the best were allowed to make it. But now?

Now, we walk into the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and see a room full of about half a dozen or so solidly colored two-dimensional shapes that sell for millions of dollars. Meanwhile artists making beautifully crafted hyper-

realistic pieces are working another job outside of the art world just to make ends meet because art collectors would rather drop \$15 million on a solid white painting by Robert Ryman. Good for you Robert, but the last time any of the rest of us turned in a blank paper we got it returned with a giant red “0” on top of it and a scolding from our teacher for not doing the assignment.

Now obviously I don’t know him and I certainly don’t know Ryman’s motive behind the piece. It could very well be a strong representation of something much deeper and personal to him and that’s perfectly fine, because that’s what art is about, representing something bigger and creating things that sometimes words cannot describe. I get that, trust me I do, but should we really be talking about a \$15 million price tag for it?

To me, that’s absolutely ludicrous and quite frankly, without knowing the story behind any of these “modern” pieces, it’s lazy and insulting to artists like Van Gogh or Michelangelo who spent who knows how many hours on just one small section of a much larger piece. They didn’t have this “modern” luxury of slapping their favorite color on a canvas and calling



Viewers at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art admire an exhibit of abstract pieces



Hyper-realistic artist Chiamonwu Joy at work

it done. They didn’t have the internet or cameras or programs like Photoshop that make creating beautiful pieces so much quicker and even better than the original. Today, if a mistake is made, all someone has to do is click the “undo” button, whereas those who created such “classic” pieces would’ve been forced to restart.

Don’t get me wrong, I love technology and even some of the pieces I’ve seen from students here are insanely impressive, but there’s just something about that “old” and “traditional” art that is special. It wasn’t just a hobby or a job. It was the artist’s entire life. The process was so much more intimate and personal. The art was more real. But

just like all things, whether you believe it was for the better or for worse, it’s changing, and if society doesn’t begin to appreciate the intricacy and treasure of real and traditional art, it won’t just be changing, it will die along with the last great artists. This doesn’t mean art isn’t important unless it looks like “The Last Supper” or includes a fair-skinned nude subject. This doesn’t mean that “modern” art can’t inspire people and be just as beautiful or that it’s not “real” art. It just means that when it comes to value—both monetarily and socially—maybe we should prioritize what’s worth millions and museum-worthy and what’s not.

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MISSION

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.

PUBLISHER

The Journal-News
431 S Main St
Hillsboro, IL 62049



ILLUSTRATION BY SARA HYNEMAN

TEXTBOOK PRICES AND TEXTBOOK PIRACY BOTH ON THE RISE

By Sara Hyneman
Cartoonist

My textbooks this semester came to a total of \$97. Hardly pleasant, of course, but not unreasonable. My professors generally try to keep textbook prices low, allowing old editions. Yet other students, both here at Blackburn and at other colleges, tell horror stories of individual textbooks that reach well past \$200. It seems especially egregious when an older edition might be cheaper and serve just as well, but a newer editions are required. Some textbooks require access codes that deactivate after a length of time, meaning that a student is essentially renting a book for three months.

According to the U.S. General Accountability Office, the cost of textbooks rose 82 percent between 2002 and 2012. But students will always need textbooks no matter the price, making the market for textbooks insensitive; this

means that demand doesn’t lower when prices rise. These textbook companies can price gouge as they wish. After all, they hold practical monopolies over the industry and know that students are forced to buy their products no matter the price.

But does that really justify piracy?

Education is already the realm of the wealthy, and rising textbook prices only make such inequality worse. As long as knowledge remains strictly the jurisdiction of those with hundreds of dollars to drop, the knowledge that prepares one for academia will continue to enforce classist structures. On a more personal level, students are told that they must have a college degree to be successful, and they must have these textbooks for that degree. With their entire future apparently hinging on this issue, students without income to spend are left with little choice.

When asked if it was more ethical to pirate an inexpensive

textbook than a more expensive textbook, senior Religion and Economics and Accounting Major John Aden struggled to answer. “The less expensive book does less damage to the publisher to steal... but people are more likely to struggle with an expensive textbook and thus actually need to pirate it, you know? I guess it depends on the student and their situation.”

As long as prices are absurd and students struggling, textbook piracy will continue. In a perfect world, knowledge would be free to all or, at the very least, affordable to most. However, as this world is not perfect, we must settle for what we have: a generation of students learning to steal that knowledge out from under its keeper’s noses.

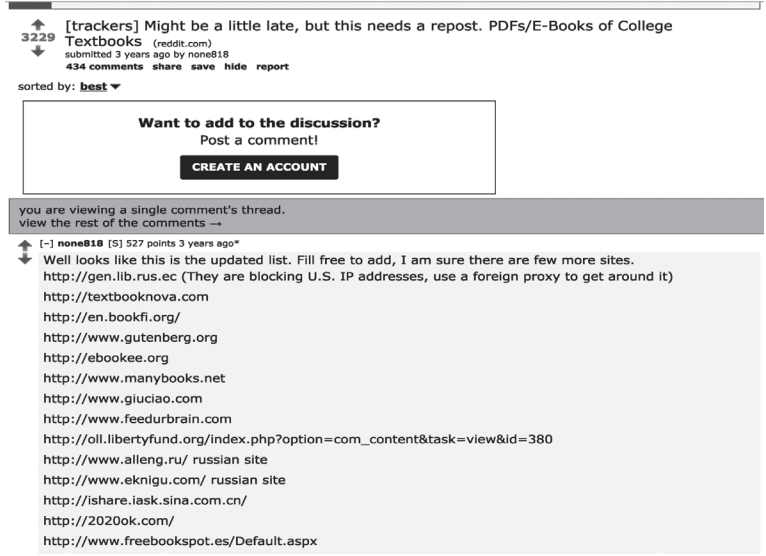


ILLUSTRATION BY SARA HYNEMAN

Textbook piracy is widespread and popular on websites like Reddit

Beaver Break is sponsored by the Blackburn College Office of Student Engagement & CAB



EVENTS:

This week:
Free Movie Month is this month!
This weekend is a big movie premiere! Rides will be provided from DCC. Patio to the Marvel Theatre on Friday February 16th, starting at 6:30 p.m. for the two 7:00 p.m. and 7:15 shows.
Friday, Feb. 16 at 8:00 p.m. we will have board games in DCC Commons.
Saturday, Feb. 17 at 1:00 p.m. we will be heading to the Macoupin Art Collective in Stauton.

Next Week
Friday, Feb. 23 is the Ultimate Blow Out show in DCC starting at 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 24 is Bowling at Bowlero lanes from 7-10 p.m. Rides are provided from DCC Patio at 7, 8 and 9 p.m.
As a reminder to all, no outside food or beverages are allowed at Bowlero Lanes.

Crossword

Across

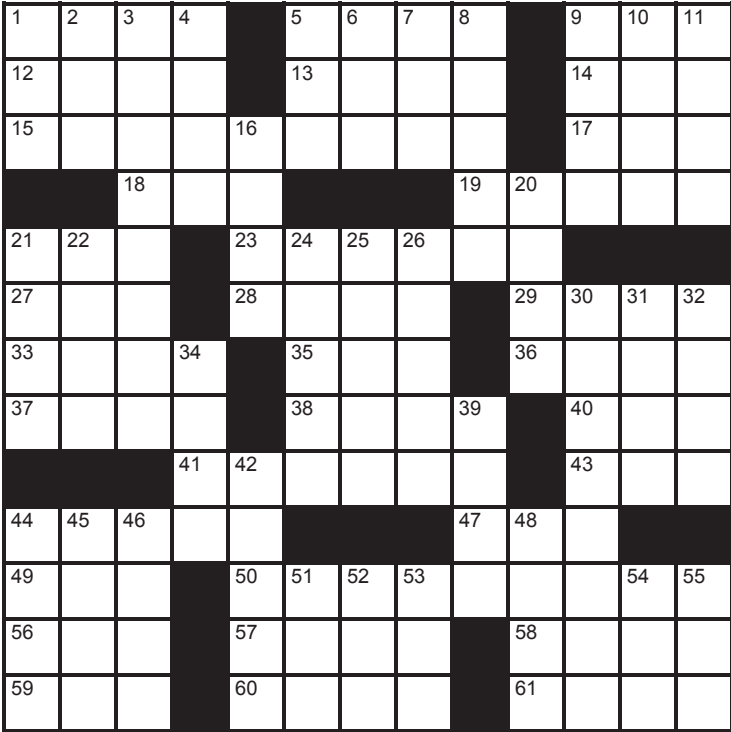
- 1 Low in pitch
- 5 Good-looker
- 9 Agent (Abbr.)
- 12 “That hurt!”
- 13 Mozart’s “Madamina,” e.g.
- 14 Hooter
- 15 Meeting of the minds
- 17 Yellow, for one
- 18 Tally
- 19 “___ Heartbeat” (Amy Grant hit)
- 21 Wane
- 23 Amusement park feature
- 27 Society girl
- 28 Form
- 29 Bohr’s study
- 33 Strong wind
- 35 ___ Kippur
- 36 Corporate image
- 37 First family’s home

- 38 Zealous
- 40 Title of respect
- 41 PC key
- 43 Connected
- 44 Lightweight wood
- 47 “___ takers?”
- 49 Single
- 50 Focus of public attention
- 56 Lodge
- 57 Canal of song
- 58 Brass horn
- 59 Allow
- 60 Foodfish
- 61 Kind of appeal

Down

- 1 Anaconda
- 2 Month (Abbr.)
- 3 Board game
- 4 Outbuilding
- 5 Three Gorges project
- 6 Anger
- 7 Transgression
- 8 Detested

- 9 Dusty pink
- 10 Ablutionary vessel
- 11 Stage production
- 16 Dutch cheese
- 20 Wiener schnitzel meat
- 21 Boundary
- 22 Necklace part
- 24 Palace dweller
- 25 Garlic buds
- 26 Concede
- 30 Gangster’s weapon
- 31 Fiend
- 32 Lion’s share
- 34 Conclusions
- 39 After fair or raw
- 42 Facilitates
- 44 Recipe direction
- 45 Beheaded Boleyn
- 46 Mardi Gras follower
- 48 Insect eggs
- 51 In favor of
- 52 Wildcat’s find
- 53 Golf item
- 54 Cable movie channel
- 55 Invoice



Movie Tag Lines - Which Movies are they from?

- “Believe the unbelievable.”
(a) The Sixth Sense (b) The Matrix (c) The One
- “Four friends have made a mistake that will change their lives forever.”
(a) Mississippi Burning (b) I Know What You Did Last Summer (c) Next Friday
- “After a night they can’t remember comes a day they will never forget.”
(a) Weekend At Bernie’s (b) Dude, Where’s My Car (c) Dead In the Water
- “Dare to be different.”
(a) The Mask (b) The Other Sister (c) Loser
- “Fear can hold you prisoner. Hope can set you free.”
(a) The Shawshank Redemption (b) The Green Mile (c) The Hurricane
- “The strongest force in nature is the will to survive.”
(a) The Perfect Storm (b) White Squall (c) Twister
- “Share it with someone you love.”
(a) Life Is Beautiful (b) Chocolat (c) Life
- “Kiss the rules good-bye.”
(a) He Got Game (b) Blue Streak (c) Detroit Rock City
- “In an ordinary place he found one person to make his life extraordinary.”
(a) Finding Forrester (b) Good Will Hunting (c) Wonder Boys
- “Violence is a way of life.”
(a) Boyz N The Hood (b) American History X (c) Gladiator

Sports. Really?

- A tuna throwing competition is held each year in Port Lincoln, Australia. What is the name of this event?
(a) Fishtastic (b) Something Fishy (c) Tunarama
- In which sport would you play huck and scooter?
(a) Frisbee (b) Badminton (c) Lacrosse
- What sport involves riding downhill in a giant hamster ball?
(a) Hampster Run (b) Sphereing (c) The Great Ball Race
- In Winterberg, Germany a bobsled track is used by participants in a race using what object?
(a) Bathtub (b) Wok (c) Air mattress
- The nickname for this underwater sport is Octopush. What sport is it?
(a) Underwater golf (b) Underwater shuffleboard (c) Underwater hockey
- Buzkashi is an Asian sport played on horseback. Two teams try to score a goal by taking possession of what?
(a) Dead animal carcass (b) Hard boiled egg (c) Balloon
- What quirky national championship takes place each year at Coopers Hill in Gloucestershire, UK?
(a) Mud surfing (b) Cheese rolling (c) Straw bale lifting
- In this game two players alternate between a board game and fighting. What is this game?
(a) Monopoly wrestling (b) Backgammon judo (c) Chess boxing
- This unusual championship is held on an obstacle course in Sonkajarvi, Finland. A team consists of one male and one female. What is the sport?
(a) Backwards sprint (b) Blindfold race (c) Wife carrying

Quotes

A celebrity is a person who works hard all of their life to become well known, and then wears dark glasses to avoid being recognized. ~Fred Allen

The secret of genius is to carry the spirit of the child into old age, which means never losing your enthusiasm. ~Aldous Huxley

You don’t love someone because they’re perfect, you love them in spite of the fact that they’re not ~ Jodi Picoult

The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds; and the pessimist fears this is true. ~ James Branch Cabell

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. ~ Mark Twain

FRESH FACE Like There's No Tomorrow

By Jordan Wood

Assistant Editor and Sports Writer

In sports, an athlete's origin story is often much more than just a beginning. More times than not, their beginning becomes their story that can easily transfer into their everyday life because despite how clichéd it might sound, sports are more than just a game. It's who they are and what they've been through.

When freshman Jenna Dudra first stepped on a basketball court in junior high, it was in large part because of family. She recalled times she would watch her sister play, her pure excitement after a regionals victory and finding herself wanting to experience the same one day. Her parents also played a key role in Dudra's development, constantly supporting and encouraging her to be the best version of herself both on and off of the court, "[pushing] me through many barriers in life. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them," she confessed.

But her family's role did not stop after the early part of her career as they continue to influence her love and desire for basketball to this day. Dudra



Dudra looks for an open teammate on the road against MacMurray

PHOTO BY CANDACE POLLOCK

explained, "I play game after game for them. I love when I come out of the locker room even after a bad game and they hug me and tell me I did good. I play for them. They inspire me to keep being me and push through whatever life throws at me." It's that family bond that continues to translate in her game even at the collegiate level as she sees

her teammates as her second family, playing for them just as she does her biological one.

Despite being in only her first season, Dudra has established herself as a dominant force, a real pain for opponents, especially on the defensive end. She's constantly displaying her tremendous reflexes by frequently

seeming to come out of nowhere with a quick burst of speed before running the opposite direction on a fast break. Through her first 21 games in a Blackburn uniform, Dudra has racked up 68 steals, more than twice as many as her next closest teammate.

Looking at the success she has had so far in her young career at Blackburn, it might be hard to believe that there was a time when Dudra lost her motivation and passion after the passing of a close friend. "[That was] the worst thing to ever happen to me... I just wanted to quit everything, he didn't deserve that, to be out of this world already, but he also pushed me to keep playing. I know he loved watching basketball and I couldn't just give up because I knew he would never give up on anything. [He] never let something get in his way. He loved everybody like there was no tomorrow."

As Dudra wraps up her freshman season, she admits that she's grown a lot since first arriving back in August but continues to stay true to herself by remembering where she comes from and refusing to give up, living each day like there is no tomorrow.

In Honor of All

By Kennedy Henson

Staff Writer

On Jan. 17, the women's and men's basketball teams played at home against Westminster, but there was a colorful look throughout the gym. The players and coaches all wore rainbow shoelaces and the handrails were decorated in several different colors of crepe paper. The Student Athlete Advisory Committee put together this year's Coaches vs. Cancer event, and honored all types of cancer with the shoelaces and crepe paper.



PHOTO BY CANDACE POLLOCK

The Blackburn basketball teams replaced their laces with rainbow-colored ones

During the two games, members of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee were selling donation cards for one dollar. All of the proceeds went to the American Cancer Society. The cards were displayed on the walls of the gym after purchase, along with the name of the buyer. All concessions proceeds were donated to the American Cancer Society as well.

According to coachesvscancer.org, the Coaches vs. Cancer program, alongside the National Association of Basketball Coaches, has been working with the American Cancer Society to defeat cancer for the past 25 years. Coaches are attempting to promote healthy living among students and increase cancer awareness through the Coaches vs. Cancer program.

This program was founded by Norm Stewart, who is a cancer survivor and member of the National Association of Basketball Coaches. He challenged fans of University of Missouri to pledge dollar amounts for every three point shot made by the team throughout the 1991 season. Soon after, the concept evolved into the Coaches vs. Cancer program. Now the program is partnered with the American Cancer Society and

the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

While most people are familiar with the research done through the American Cancer Society, the program offers various other resources as well. They offer emotional support for family members and cancer patients. They also offer resources to promote healthy lifestyles to help prevent cancer

and fight for life saving policy changes. The headliner on the cancer.org website states, "At the American Cancer Society we're on a mission to free the world from cancer. Until we do, we'll be funding and conducting research, sharing expert information, supporting patients, and spreading the word about prevention. All so you can live longer and better."

SPORTS WATCH

23 BLAST

Directed by: Dylan Baker
Produced by: Bram Hoover and Toni Hoover
Starring: Mark Hapka, Alex PenaVega and Stephen Lang



By Jordan Wood

Sports Writer and Assistant Editor

"23 Blast" tells the real-life story of former star wide receiver Travis Freeman who, in a split-second, went from top of the world to emergency surgery that changed his life forever and took nearly everything he loved away. Through Freeman's youth, he always found his way to a football, but this time, football found his way back to him. As his team struggles to find an identity without him, his old coach asks him to do the unthinkable—play football again. "23 Blast" proves that there is nothing a person can't do when they put their mind—but most importantly their heart—to something.