First Work Program Job Fair
by Marissa Watson

On Apr. 24 Blackburn College’s Work Program will host their first job fair on campus. The fair, running from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Demuzio Campus Center, will allow returning students to look and apply for both summer and fall jobs.

Associate Dean of Work Rob Weis said he wanted to create something to help ease “student anxiety” in the job search process. Host to not only campus positions, but also those with local companies, the fair should “provide an avenue for students to pursue opportunities,” said Weis. In addition, it will help make known all department job openings and provide students with the ability to find out more information.

Work Program General Manager Katie Hazelonwonder also commented that “by having this new job fair we are giving supervisors the opportunity to find students that are a good fit for their department.” Rather than just filling out paper applications, the job fair will provide a more thorough interview process. Students will not be required to submit resumes, but are encouraged to do so. They should also be prepared to give a brief 30 second summary of themselves and their qualifications for the positions in which they are interested.

Students wishing to better prepare themselves for the fair will have opportunities provided by the Learning in Lumpkin Series throughout April. Director of Career Services and Experimental Learning Suzanne Krupica will hold resume workshops and sessions to work on networking and interview skills in Lumpkin Library during the afternoons and evenings on April 7-11 and April 15-17 (the complete schedule can be found in Work Office). Incoming freshmen will also experience a smaller version of the job fair during orientation.

For more information, please contact Rob Weis at robert.w@blackburn.edu or ext. 4291.

Award Winners
By Lindsey Becker

As a part of the Roy Graham Symposium held on April 5th, the English and Communications department presented awards for the creative writing contest, the ‘Burnian and excellence in academics.

Receiving awards for the fiction portion of the creative writing contest were Katie Ward, Haley Welch, and Tabitha Agney, with Agney snatching first place, Welch taking second, and Ward nabbing third. Agney also received an honorable mention for the Louise Allen prize for poetry, while Katie Ward and Kay Lesage took 3rd, Laurel Pacey and Ward received 2nd, and Max Vitori and Lesage seized 1st.

The ‘Burnian awards were kicked off with Michelle Lee taking the Noam Chomsky award (or, “Most Likely to Start a Riot”). Haley Welch and Sarah Collman grabbed a dual win for Best Journalistic Hustle, Lindsey Becker (writer of this piece) received Best Beginning Journalist and Jessica Clements was awarded most improved.

Receiving department awards for excellence in English were Ron Smith, Marissa Watson and Kay Lesage. Michelle Lee took the prize for excellence in communications, while Tabitha Agney took home the award for excellence in creative writing.

Siblings’ Weekend
by Kayla Koyne

As a vital part of Blackburn, Student Senate has been providing students a voice on campus for decades. With 14 positions including president, treasurer, secretary, six at-large representatives elected by the student body, two commuter representatives elected by commuters and a representative for each dorm on campus elected by each dorm’s house council, Senate allows a diversity of students to come together to improve the campus.

Last month, students got the opportunity to vote for the president and at-large representatives for the 2014-2015 academic school year. Junior biology major and current Student Senate President Jacob Maag claimed a victory over sophomore leadership major Morgan Baldner. “I would like to thank everyone for taking the time to vote,” Maag said when asked how he felt about his win. After the election results were announced, Baldner said, “I think Jacob is a great choice for President. He has plenty of experience leading the student body and will continue to do so.” Maag has served for five semesters on Senate.

While only six petitions were submitted for six at-large positions, current Senate members voted to hold elections with a write-in option so that Blackburn students still had a voice in who would represent them next year. At-large elections were held after presidential elections, during the last week of March. Those elected to at-large positions were Natasha Anthony, Ashley Spears, Amanda Gerson, Morgan Baldner, Abby Turney and Kaitlyn Pugh. There were just over 500 students on the list provided to Senate from Office Manager of Student Life, Debbie O’Brien, who were eligible to vote. Out of those, approximately 150 voted. In the presidential election only about 130 ballots were cast. This means the voting turnout rate was about 25 to 30 percent.

Although many students have heard of Student Senate, others have asked what the student-elected body does. “I have no idea what Senate does. I only know about allocations and an apparent lack of visibility, Student Senate fulfills many crucial roles. They assign funds to clubs during allocations, have a voice in emerging Blackburn policies and give an annual gift to improve the campus. For the past two years the Senate gift has gone toward funding the new furniture now in the Demuzio Campus Center. “We have representatives that sit on all college committees (except those exclusively for certain groups like staff and faculty assembly) like Budget, Planning, Admissions, Student Life, Facilities Task Force and the like,” Maag explained.

Any student wishing to learn more about Student Senate or those interesting in running in the future are welcome to attend Sunday night meetings at 8 p.m. in the Student Life Conference room in the Demuzio Campus Center. “I would like to encourage more participation in student government. Student Senate is an excellent opportunity to improve Blackburn and boost resumes,” Maag said.
Marvel Theater Goes Out of Business

By Devin Taylor

Opened on Aug. 26, 1920 under the ownership of the Paul family, The Marvel Theater on 228 W. Main Street in Carlinville has provided the community with entertainment for years. And when we say years, we mean years. The Marvel has been around for so long that Freida Paul (the original owner) accompanied the theater’s first silent movies on piano when the theater only had one screen (another would be added in the 1970’s). In 1928 the theater burned down and was rebuilt, but this wouldn’t be the only difficulty the theater would encounter.

After Paul’s 93 year-old son Norman passed away in 2011 and his descendants were unable to run the theater, Steve Dougherty, who manages other theaters in the area, took responsibility of The Marvel. The theater’s business was fair but it hit an all-time low of just 23 admissions from Feb. 24-27, 2014. Although a staple in Carlinville’s community and history, the theater was no longer able to keep its doors open. On Thursday, Feb. 27 they closed indefinitely, just six months away from its 94th anniversary. While The Marvel closing down is a travesty. I love going to the movies and being without a theater— even one as small as The Marvel was— really ruins Carlinville for me," said freshman psychology/creative writing major Sara Lewis. Elizabeth Quick, a sophomore computer science major, agreed by saying it is a shame “not only because of the loss of free movie nights but because The Marvel is a very cool building and an interesting landmark. I would like to see it preserved.”

Abby Hardin, the head of the Campus Activities Board, has already been working on solutions for Blackburn. She’s talked to Dougherty, who also runs the theaters in Litchfield and Jerseyville, and hopes that next fall free movie nights will resume at Litchfield’s theater. “It’s kind of good because you’ll get four movie options instead of two. On the other hand, not only do we lose a big opportunity for CAB (Campus Activities Board), but we also lose a good partner in the Carlinville community, and that’s a sad thing” Hardin says. Litchfield’s theater will offer discounts to Blackburn’s students, and if free movie nights are able to resume in Litchfield, transportation will be offered by CAB.

Blackburn Website

By Zachary Daum

While in the past it hasn’t exactly been cutting edge, current and future Blackburn students may soon have more of a reason to visit the school’s website. Director of Public Relations and Marketing Pete Oswald commented on the need to update, saying, “As a school we are kind of behind the game on equipment.” As a result, the information and look of the website is getting an update.

Some of the changes in store include detailed profiles on the faculty, such as specialties in teaching, and will have access to updated photos to show how classes are set up. Oswald added, “Eventually videos will be on the site that feature faculty doing daily activities around campus.” In addition to the profiles, an online store is also being developed. While an online store was previously featured on the site, it was never fully functional. This new online store will allow visitors to buy Blackburn memorabilia and is estimated to be available by the end of this semester.

The website is also being designed to cater to prospective Blackburn students, a direction President Dr. John Comerford decided was crucial. Despite the shift, however, some prospective students are still having trouble navigating through the mass of information. “I like the website but I think it’s hard to understand. It would help a lot if getting to the academic catalogue was easier because I still don’t know what I want to major in,” said prospective student Hollie Davidson. Davidson also pointed out that to view some content, visitors must go to the old site through the “view full site” selection tab on the homepage.

Current students at Blackhurchave also expressed a desire to see improvements made. “The site needs to be more compatible with smart phones,” says senior biology major Kyle Burke. Because many students rely on smart phones to use the internet, Burke believes that the site would be more active with this feature. In addition, some would like to implement some practical features. “Maybe the work orders could be uploaded so residents could check the status of repairs needed in their room and or buildings,” noted senior biology major Amber Byrley.

Despite the issues, it should not be forgotten that the website is still a work in progress. “We are over halfway through the process but pages are still being developed. A website is never finished,” said Oswald. While still taking place, definite change can be expected in the near future. The information from the old site will finish being transferred by the fall semester, which will give the website an updated look.

Cochnor Arrest

Michelle Lee

Conor Cochran, 20, was charged with aggregated criminal sexual abuse of a minor on Friday Mar. 21 in Raymond, IL. Cochran attended Blackburn College during the 2011/2012 academic school year as a freshman, but did not return the following year. He lived in various parts of California before traveling back to Illinois the week of Mar. 17. Cochran was staying in Raymond, IL. the night of his arrest, approximately 25 minutes north of Carlinville. He is charged with a Class 2 Felony and is currently detained in Montgomery County Jail. Mar. 26 was Cochran’s first court appearance. His case was assigned to Public Defender David Grigsby. Bond is set at $30,000 with additional stipulations that Cochran abstains from alcohol and drugs, and has no contact with the minor or minor’s family involved in the case. His next preliminary hearing is scheduled for Apr. 16.

Someone Poisoned the Water Hole!

By Tavi Wallace

PHOTO BY DEVIN TAYLOR

The Marvel Theatre shown with its posters taken down and its doors closed for the indefinite future.

Michelle Lee

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PHOTO BY TAVI WALLACE

A bottle filled up with “fishy” water.

By Tavi Wallace

PHOTO BY TAVI WALLACE

Particularly during March, there was no escaping the pungent, fishy tasting water on campus and around the Carlinville area. It even affected the fountain sodas (due to the water needed for carbonating the drinks) at Ding and Snack Bar. The water left a lingering smell during and after showers, and had many people opting to buy bottled water as opposed to consuming the school’s water. So, the question on everyone’s minds lately has been what has been up with this “sushi flavored” water?

As it turns out, there are actually several reasons behind what has been going on. Carlinville’s Director of Public Works Tim Hasara explained, “Not just Carlinville experienced this fishy taste and odor, many surrounding areas did as well.” The smell resulted from a lack of rain combined with no turnover in the lake. On top of that, the Water Treatment Plant had drain-cleaned the Claricones and clarifiers (water-treatment equipment) as a part of their annual routine cleanings.

So what is being done to return the water to normal? To combat the odor and taste, the Carlinville Water Treatment Plant released 20 pounds of activated carbon into the system. This helped quite a bit, as it reacted with taste and odor, neutralizing it. “The rain has tremendously as well,” added Hasara. Also, on April 7, they flushed hydrants and scoured mains for extra measure. As for the water being safe to consume, it is in fact completely harmless, and passed all the weekly and monthly testing requirements. Looks like this mystery has been “o-fish-ally” solved.
Psychology Honor Society Chapter at Blackburn

By Courtney Egner

With psychology being a popular major here at Blackburn, it is a wonder why an honor society dedicated to psychology majors was not implemented sooner. Thanks to Dr. Danker, as of this school year Blackburn now has a Psi Chi chapter, a national psychology honor society.

In order to become a member of Psi Chi, students must meet a number of requirements which include being either a psychology major or minor, have at least three college semesters under your belt, completed nine semester hours of psychology courses, be in the top 35 percent of your class with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and a minimum 3.0 grade point average in psychology courses. Blackburn’s first Psi Chi chapter inducted nine members, Calean Gruening, Taylor Hess, Jenny Langley, Danielle Ruhrup, Jessica Stocke and Joshua Thompson. An induction ceremony was held earlier this semester, consisting of speeches from Dr. Danker and counselor Tim Morenz and a candlelight ceremony.

Psi Chi provides interesting perks and educational advancements for its members that Dr. Danker hopes to take advantage of. “Psi Chi offers opportunities to be more involved with research. They shell out up to $3500 a year in research grants for members that want to do research, and then they sponsor conferences around the country where members can come and present their research,” said Dr. Danker. “I would really like to be able to involve members in that process.”

With Dr. Danker at the forefront of both Psi Chi and psychology club, the two organizations will overlap. Psychology club has been planning trips to graduate schools that Dr. Danker plans to include Psi Chi in. Dr. Danker has already been speaking with SIUE, St. Louis University, Washington University, and University of Missouri-St. Louis about visiting their campuses to check out their graduate programs.

Now that Blackburn has a Psi Chi chapter, what does the honor society hope to accomplish? “Psi Chi offers opportunities to be more involved with research,” said Dr. Danker. “I would like to see Psi Chi do some service projects. Maybe some tutors for classes that do not officially have tutors.” Dr. Danker hopes that Psi Chi will grow and become very active and well known on campus as a productive organization that does great things for the community.

Meet Melissa “Indiana” Jones, Counselor not Archaeologist

By Courtney Egner

Counseling services has undergone a complete makeover this spring. Along with counselor Tim Morenz hiring an entire new staff, Morenz also welcomed counseling intern Melissa Jones. Jones earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from SIUE and is currently working on her graduate degree at University of Illinois Springfield. Her graduate degree is in human development counseling with an emphasis in clinical and mental health. Jones hopes to work at a college or school type setting and ideally she would like to go back to SIUE. “I loved it there so much. I saw counselors there and I just really loved the environment,” said Jones.

So how did Jones end up interning at Blackburn? “I didn’t want to go to a community agency (family health centers, nursing homes) because I am just not interested,” she said. “I wanted to be in a school setting. I thought there was no way I would be able to get into a college because you take what you can get to get your hours for your program.” Jones has had her fair share of mishaps too. Originally, she was interning at Milliken, but was unable to continue this semester due to lack of space.

Jones joined an entirely new staff of counselors, which is creating an interesting experience for everyone involved. “When I interned at Milliken, I had an office to myself but I did not feel a strong connection with too many people there because I was an outsider coming into relationships that were already formed,” said Jones. “When I got here, everyone was new so we are learning and growing together, so I really appreciate that.”

Counseling was not always her calling though. She, at one point, wanted to pursue a completely different career. “I wanted to be an archaeologist when I was little,” she said. “I was always been interested in history because I had never seen the Indiana Jones movies, so I don’t know where that came from.”

When Jones is not busy working here at Blackburn, she’s just like any other student. She goes to comic conventions, binge watches television shows and she loves Quentin Tarantino movies. She prefers Nintendo over Sega and loves Super Mario. To add to her nerd status, she has a Sigmund Freud action figure on her desk in the counseling office. Jones’ open hours are Mondays from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. So stop by the counseling office to make an appointment with her, or to talk about anything and everything! Visitors are welcomed in the counseling office, which is located in the student life office in the Demuzio Campus Center.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Letters under 500 words may be sent to burnian@blackburn.edu.

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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.

Features

Follow Us on Instagram!

Can’t get enough of that ‘Burnion action? We are now on Instagram. Search “Blackburn ‘Burnion” and make sure to leave a comment, follow and hit that “like” button!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
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By Rachel Lancy

In the midst of the digital era, Blackburn is attempting to keep up with the latest technological trends. According to a survey of online learning from Sloan-Cornell.org, the number of students taking at least one online course has now surpassed 6.7 million. With the increasingly popular shift to online learning, Blackburn is offering 19 online classes this summer according to Registrar of Admissions Coordinator Dianna Royse. With a variety of subjects from history to biology, this is the most online courses ever to be offered in a single term.

Don't Panic, Talk to Tim!

A panic attack cannot cause heart failure or cardiac arrest. A panic attack cannot cause you to faint or lose your balance. You cannot “go crazy” during a panic attack. A panic attack cannot cause you to lose control of yourself.

Panic is a hard-wired survival mechanism. When approached with threat, we either fight or flight. Or we freeze. However, the threat signals can be difficult to recognize. One reason responses to them can be trained. The only cure for panic attacks is an unlearning of the trigger. When it occurs, panic attacks are the result of stress while practicing interventions. But don’t look heart! These symptoms can be overcome. When we encounter feelings of panic, we try to tolerate them and overcome them, and oftentimes it makes them worse. But there is no question that encountering these symptoms.

Panic attacks, and learning to recognize them, can be clinically proven to be the most reliable methods to overcome a panic attack.

These are just a few short suggestions. As always, Counseling Services is here to help. Until next time, BECKER TAYLOR. 4-5-14

About the author: Dr. Tim Moran is a licensed clinical professional counselor in Illinois since 1997 and has 22 years of combined experience. His office is Denmo 133 and he can get to know him by asking for a question, he is available at that address.

How to Train Your Squirrel!

By Devon Taylor

There are two types of squirrels: a common Eastern grey squirrel and the larger brown Eastern fox squirrel. These squirrels, some may have noticed, are quite common around Blackburn. The squirrel hunting and photography is a good fit since you can bring a camera along and get photos. Jeanette, the only person that two different species of people (residents) in a more hands-on experience. How happy I am to be writing this article to learn more about material.

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The console wars of today are many kids in the early 1990’s.

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a selection of Japanese books in the library.

A new and exciting addition has made its way to Lumpkin Library. Over spring break, the library was contacted by the Japanese Literature Publishing and Promotion Center to receive a free donation of English-translated Japanese titles.

The JLPP is an organization formed in 2002 by the Japanese Government Agency for Cultural Affairs. This J-Lit program is dedicated to translating works from the last 150 years into various other languages and distributing them overseas. Their goal is to make Japanese literature open and accessible to libraries and universities across the nation. The organization has translated 222 titles as of 2013, and also supports translators and holds seminars dedicated to Japanese literature.

According to the JLPP, although the distribution of Japanese titles has increased in years, compared to other foreign literature the number of Japanese works is proportionately smaller. By distributing translated works, the program hopes to promote awareness of authentic Japanese culture.

One-Acts: Students Become the Directors

By Jessica Clements

The students involved are very excited to be directing their one act and interacting with the actors they have chosen. Owen Meredith said that he looks forward to “helping and allowing the actor to divulge all of the emotions that are required to make this play feel real. If we can get the audience to cry, we are doing it right.”

These one acts will have you laughing, crying, and thinking about the message behind them. They attempt to show just how similar homosexual relationships are to heterosexual ones by visiting common scenarios that couples have to face. You just may find yourself relating to the characters as you watch, no matter if you are in a homosexual or heterosexual relationship. Come out to Bothwell Auditorium on May 3rd to support your fellow students and enjoy a nice night of laughter and tears.

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Japanese to English

By Lindsey Becker

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“I think it’s pretty cool that we have something like this,” said Head Librarian Spencer Brayton. “It’s something new and different from the rest of our collection. I think it’ll help students expand their knowledge of literature from other countries and how it’s different from the U.S.”

Currently the library has received twelve titles of Japanese literature, and Brayton said that they will continue to receive more books for free once yearly. The collection so far all is fiction and includes works such as A “Thousand Strands of Black Hair” by Seiko Tanabe, “Wasabi for Breakfast” by Foumiko Komentani and “In Pursuit of Lavender” by Akiko Itoyama. “I think it will be interesting to see what topics those authors chose to write about that’s different from our own country,” said Brayton.

The translated works are available for checkout and can be found on display on a podium in the Lumpkin Library reading room. To learn more about the JLPP, visit www.j-lit.or.jp or www.jlpp.go.jp/en/index.html.
American Siesta: All in Favor of Daily Naptime?

By Tavi Wallace

Apr. 2014 burnian@blackburn.edu The ‘Burnian

Some students may leave their internships feeling as if they did not benefit from the experience. For them, an internship may be just a way to get a foot in the door of the professional world, and they may not care much about what they learn or do during their time there. This can be a risky approach, however, as internships are often the first step towards a fulfilling career.

According to the numbers, Disney’s top fourteen film titles have grossed over $7,000,000,000 worldwide. This includes “Monsters Inc.,” “The Incredibles” and “Toy Story,” among others, and doesn’t even take into consideration recent blockbusters including “Frozen.” Sounds great until you look at the gender dynamics of the majority of Disney women, many of whom could be described as damseis in distress. When thinking about these characters, from the helpless Sleeping Beauty—who literally lays helpless waiting for her prince—to the emerging heroines such as Merida from “Brave,” I tried to think of a term to describe the bolder, more independent characters. When looking up what exactly the opposite of damsel is I was surprised to find that according to one thesaurus the antonym for “damsel” is literally “man.”

However, when looking at recent Disney female leads like Anna from “Frozen,” I think there is a trend towards independence and less reliance on men. “I absolutely love the classic Disney movies, but I think Disney has moved the independence of female characters. However, they made it subtle; I think it started with “Mulan” and progressed from there. We don’t need to rely on men to get a job done, and Disney is starting to depict that,” sophomore biology major Emily Hausman said. The change is subtle because female leads have become more independent over time. For example, in “Frozen,” Elsa is a queen but did not desperately search for a king, did not need to be married or even want a prince. Elsa is currently still seen as lazy, but what more and more companies are slowly realizing is that napping increases productivity. Napping rooms have started to pop up in big name corporations like Google and Pixar. So, we seem to be headed down the right track in some ways. But for now, implementing a daily national nap time is but a dream.

By Michelle Lee

By Kayla Koyne

American Siesta: All in Favor of Daily Naptime?

This summer I have to get an internship, and I’m very uncomfortable with the idea. Internships are a wonderful concept. I get it. It’s a good idea to graduate with some real world experience on your resume. But the struggle of finding an internship is overwhelming me. I have two options: pray and cross my fingers and ask Santa Claus that someone will pay me minimum wage for doing something in my field or settle for an unpaid internship that’s supposedly a great opportunity. The latter worries me the most. Unpaid internships have become the norm nationwide, but are they actually helpful to college students?

While people argue that internships are a step towards employment, there are many companies that take advantage of the free labor. Intern magazine editor Alec Dudson was recently quoted by the New York Times. “There is a culture of internships, a situation whereby it is completely normal for young people to think that working unpaid is just part of the process,” he said. “Nobody even questions it. I wasn’t the only one confused about where the boundaries lie, how much of this stuff do you have to do before you take seriously.”

For my communications degree, it’s required that I complete an internship, but I’m scrambling to find one. I’d love a paid internship, but those seem as rare as finding a pot of gold. That leaves me with the dilemma of an unpaid internship. “Companies and organizations are having to tighten their belts to the economy and because of financial situations within the organization they are looking to hire interns and unfortunately on an unpaid basis to supply their labor force,” said Director of Career Services and Experiential Learning Suzanne Krupica. “The benefit, even if it is an unpaid internship, is that it is still valuable work experience that can help you in the job market that can help you secure employment later.”

But there’s not necessarily a pay gap when it comes to recent Disney female leads like Anna from “Frozen.” I think there is a trend towards independence and less reliance on men. “I absolutely love the classic Disney movies, but I think Disney has moved the independence of female characters. However, they made it subtle; I think it started with “Mulan” and progressed from there. We don’t need to rely on men to get a job done, and Disney is starting to depict that,” sophomore biology major Emily Hausman said. The change is subtle because female leads have become more independent over time. For example, in “Frozen,” Elsa is a queen but did not desperately search for a king, did not need to be married or even want a prince. Elsa is currently still seen as lazy, but what more and more companies are slowly realizing is that napping increases productivity. Napping rooms have started to pop up in big name corporations like Google and Pixar. So, we seem to be headed down the right track in some ways. But for now, implementing a daily national nap time is but a dream.

The Issue with Internships

Some students may leave their internships feeling as if they did not benefit from the experience. For them, an internship may be just a way to get a foot in the door of the professional world, and they may not care much about what they learn or do during their time there. This can be a risky approach, however, as internships are often the first step towards a fulfilling career.

According to the numbers, Disney’s top fourteen film titles have grossed over $7,000,000,000 worldwide. This includes “Monsters Inc.,” “The Incredibles” and “Toy Story,” among others, and doesn’t even take into consideration recent blockbusters including “Frozen.” Sounds great until you look at the gender dynamics of the majority of Disney women, many of whom could be described as damseis in distress. When thinking about these characters, from the helpless Sleeping Beauty—who literally lays helpless waiting for her prince—to the emerging heroines such as Merida from “Brave,” I tried to think of a term to describe the bolder, more independent characters. When looking up what exactly the opposite of damsel is I was surprised to find that according to one thesaurus the antonym for “damsel” is literally “man.”

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By Michelle Lee

By Kayla Koyne

American Siesta: All in Favor of Daily Naptime?

This summer I have to get an internship, and I’m very uncomfortable with the idea. Internships are a wonderful concept. I get it. It’s a good idea to graduate with some real world experience on your resume. But the struggle of finding an internship is overwhelming me. I have two options: pray and cross my fingers and ask Santa Claus that someone will pay me minimum wage for doing something in my field or settle for an unpaid internship that’s supposedly a great opportunity. The latter worries me the most. Unpaid internships have become the norm nationwide, but are they actually helpful to college students?

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Losing Sleep and Making a Difference: BC Hosts World-Record Shattering Soccer Game

By Jake DeRousse

“Records are meant to be broken.” This quote was said by Mark Spitz in 2008 referring to his 36-year-old record for most individual gold medals in a single Olympics being broken by Michael Phelps. Though Spitz was talking specifically about his record, the rule holds true for most others as well. Recently, the act of breaking records has been turned into a way to raise money for charities in the St. Louis area. Specifically, “longest game” records have been targeted. In 2007 the record for longest baseball game was broken and raised $100,000 for Gene Slay’s Boy Club in St. Louis. Since then, the record has been broken three other times benefiting Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center, a charity called the BackStoppers and the Joplin, Mo. Chamber of Commerce.

From 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 13 the longest soccer marathon was hosted at Blackburn. The organization benefiting from this world record game is St. Louis Children’s Hospital. The hospital will use the money raised to help fund research on children’s brain tumors and how they can be prevented/treated. Their website states, “Federal funding for pediatric research of any kind is incredibly scarce, and it’s dwindling with each passing year. But thanks to generous donations from caring individuals and organizations, scientists at St. Louis Children’s Hospital are able to carry out promising research.” Many different sources contributed money to the cause; each player had to raise at least $500 in order to play. The event was also heavily sponsored, with the two teams being sponsored by Dino’s Logistics and First to the Finish.

The actual game was played for 76 hours. When asked what his favorite part of the game was, freshman Nate Kimmison said, “The most exciting part was when people started to get slap-happy from loss of sleep.” The lack of sleep was probably the most daunting part of the game, but one quirky rule about the game and how Guinness defines the marathon is that for each hour of game time, the teams get five minutes of a break. So 12 hours after playing meant the teams could take an hour off and still count it as game time. When discussing how he was able to keep energy for the duration, Kimmison said, “[I] understood that this game was for a great charity and realized that this was no comparison whatsoever to what the young children at the hospital go through in their lives.” Teams consisted of the members of the Blackburn men’s soccer team along with players outside the college who were brought in by the event’s organizers. Each roster had 18 players and, though there was free substitution, 11 players from each team had to be playing at all times.

Although not officially sponsored by Blackburn College, the game was hosted by Blackburn and brought attention to the college. The event marked the end of a busy two weeks for the athletic department, as SAAC also hosted a tennis cookout and free smoothie/canned food drive day. Keep an eye out for future promotions and events put on by the department.

Alum, Athlete and Coach: Malin Makes a Home at Blackburn

By Miranda Clark

After 32 years, Blackburn College has become a home for Director of Transfer Admissions John Malin. Post graduation from Blackburn in 1981, Malin chose to stay at his alma mater where he would have his lifelong career. As an Admissions Representative, Malin recruits and mentors prospective and current students.

Throughout his student years, Malin played soccer, basketball and club baseball (Blackburn did not have an official baseball team during his years at the college). His first year ever playing soccer, he was awarded “Rookie of the Year,” an award Malin was thrilled to receive.

Malin smiled and referred to himself as a “gym rat.” Not only was he involved in sports, but he also worked in the Athletics Department for three years as assistant men’s basketball coach and athletic trainer. At that time, Blackburn did not have a certified Athletics Trainer; instead, Blackburn offered an athletics-training course for students interested in this field. When Malin began his college career he wanted to go into teaching or coaching, but he couldn’t because Blackburn did not offer a teaching program at the time. Instead, Malin majored in history with a minor in physical education. This past summer, Malin was approached by the Director of Athletics Angie Morenz about an opening to become the golf coach at Blackburn. She wanted to know if he knew anyone in the community who would be interested. Malin considered the position, and ultimately decided it was an excellent opportunity to be more visible on campus and benefit the team. “He’s a great golf coach. He really cares about his golfers and wants them to succeed not only in golf but in everything they do,” said junior and accounting major Lucas Rochkes.

Prior to becoming golf coach, Malin did not have any formal golf experience, but he has enjoyed playing the sport since the age of five. Although he has not taught or coached throughout his lifetime, he is excited to teach and coach the men’s golf team. “Obviously people are coming here for academics, but I think it is important for students to connect with someone outside the classroom. It makes people feel like they are part of the team,” noted Malin. Malin’s goals for the team are to improve, grow the program and have a good time. He would also like the team to become a conference contender in the next few years. Aside from Malin’s busy life at Blackburn, he enjoys golfing, gardening, home renovations and spending time with his wife Monica, who he met at Blackburn. Because of his college education and career, Malin has found a home at our institution.