Píosa As Mise, a Collection by Miranda Jacobs

By Max Vitori

"Píosa As Mise," a collection by senior graphic arts major Miranda Jacobs, is currently on display in the Reading Room at Lumpkin Learning Commons. The series of twenty drawings explores how basic shapes and, at times, the absence of them come together to create something that’s still recognizable to the human eye.

Jacobs began working on the collection during this summer’s session of Basic Drawing with part time art professor Chris Day. Students were to create a self-portrait; Jacobs recalls being the only student to use an actual image of herself. She took a photo of herself with a camera, loaded it into Adobe Illustrator, converted it to grayscale and performed a process called a Live Trace. A Live Trace vectorizes an image; in other words, it turns the image into shapes with definite lines rather than a series of pixels. She adjusted the settings until the shapes and lines were to her liking, then printed it and used a light table to trace portions and create her first piece. She finished eight of these pieces using the same photo, adjusting the Live Trace settings and tracing different portions of the result to make something different each time. Then she took around twenty more photos and used those to create the rest.

The shapes she selected to make up each of the images vary greatly from piece to piece. Some of the shadows farthest from the light source in the original images became small, finite shapes in the end result, creating a sea of tiny details. In other works, the white space dominates, allowing the viewer to imagine the rest of the image. In nearly every piece it’s obvious that the shapes are forming a human face. Less obvious is that they are all the same one: Jacobs’ own.

The title of the collection, Píosa As Mise, is Irish for piece of me. On why she chose this, Jacobs said, “I am Irish. My heritage is a piece of me, and this is it.” The collection, initially begun as a single self-portrait, has expanded into something broader but just as personal for the artist.

While the process involved a camera and a computer program, the end results were created with items the average student can have on hand: regular drawing paper and either 4H drawing pencils or the same #2 pencils popular for everyday use. “You have this complex thing, which is a photograph,” said Jacobs, “and it’s made up of all these pixels, but then you break it down into basic shapes... It’s basic shapes and basic materials, which I’m drawn to for some reason.”

While most of the pieces certainly resemble faces, the simplicity of the shapes allows viewers to read them as something else, something less concrete. “Absence of information gives the viewer what they need to interpret the pieces for themselves,” said Jacobs. “I used to be very ‘this is what I’m drawing and this is what people should see,’ but then I completely changed. Everyone’s going to have their own interpretation, and I think that’s what art is.”

Píosa As Mise will be on display in the Reading Room at Lumpkin Learning Commons until October 24, 2014. Stop by and see it while you can!
Trouble at North Mac: The Silent Killer

By Ben Nichols

Earlier last month the town of Girard, just north of Carlinville, experienced a terrifying situation when the building at North Mac Middle School developed a carbon monoxide leak in its heating and air conditioning system.

Hundreds of students were rushed to the hospital and a few individuals were in serious condition. While the school had followed proper protocol by evacuating the school when the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning started to show, many angry parents asked one question: why were there no carbon monoxide alarms in the school that could have warned of the leak early?

Quite simply put, it’s because the law doesn’t require them. According to Illinois Public Act 094-0741 Section 10, “Every dwelling unit shall be equipped with at least one approved carbon monoxide alarm in an operating condition within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purpose.”

And according to Section 5, “Dwelling unit” means a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation, and includes a single family residence as well as each living unit of a family residence, each living unit in a mixed use building.” Because of how Section 5 is worded, schools are not required by the law to be equipped with the sensors.

So how does this law impact Blackburn? According to the Utilities Department for the campus, only Mahan, one room in Bothwell and the kitchen in DCC have carbon monoxide alarms. Utilities Supervisor Josh Mahkovtz said, “Carbon Monoxide alarms would only have to be installed in boiler rooms. We use hot water heat instead of a forced air system.”

But here’s another issue that needs to be brought up. What about the RD apartments and the kitchens in Stoddard and Jewell and their stoves? As stated in Section 20 part 2 of exemptions from the Illinois Public Act, “(2) A residential unit that is not sufficiently close to any source of carbon monoxide so as to be at risk of receiving carbon monoxide from that source, as determined by the local building commissioner.”

President Comerford discussed Section 20. “I’ve checked and all residence hall stoves (RD apartments and public kitchens) are now electric.” This does work in compliance of state regulations and should be comforting for many students.

As for a possible installation of carbon monoxide early alarm systems, Mahkovtz explained, “It would be expensive, but people’s lives are priceless.”

24 Hour Comics

By Deja Bell

Blackburn will be hosting 24 Hour Comics Day in the Lumpkin Learning Commons Friday, Oct. 3 through Saturday, Oct. 4 from 8 p.m. to 8 p.m. The objective of the event is to make a 24 page comic in 24 continuous hours. According to scottmccloud.com, “The 24 hour comic started off as a bet in 1990 when Scott dared his friend Steve Bissette to draw A stack of comics that will be a part of the 24 Hour Comics Day.

By Patrick Noel

ISIS is a terrorist state with money, weapons and tech savvy that threatens everyone. They have taken over vast amounts of land, cities and resources in Iraq and Syria in a brutal manner marauding across those countries with no regard for human life. So what do we do and how do we stop them? The ‘Burnian spoke with Representative Rodney Davis (R-III), who represents the 13th District which includes Carlinville, and asked him several questions to help us understand what our leaders are doing to stop this impending threat.

The first question asked was why it took the brutal murders of two US citizens before the President even acknowledged the fact that this group known as ISIS needs to be dealt with. He said, “I asked that same question too. The President waited too long to react to the evil of ISIS. We need to protect our allies and that includes the Kurds, the Sunnis, the Iraqi people and anyone in the surrounding areas.”

Then I asked what exactly the United States plan is? “This is not a combat mission. Our troops will support the Iraq military with air support as they fight for their country against these terrorists,” Rep. Davis replied. He then added, “They are not just killing Christians or Jews, they are killing women and children and mostly Muslims and they need help from the US.”

“[ISIS] need[s] to know that we will find them and assure them that wherever they go, we can get to them,” Rep Davis stated. He said that the United States will not fight this alone. A coalition will be put together, this is not just an American conflict and it is not a war, this is a terrorist undertaking and “there will be no American ground troops.”

Although, he did say that as this continues congress will continue to revisit the situation and the appropriate action will be taken. When asked how this affects the 13th district directly he again stated, “This is protecting the American people. We do not want them to have the ability to attack us or to create another 9/11 and by not putting troops on the ground we will continue to protect our citizens.”

Politicians speaking about this matter on television are for the most part all in agreement that this is not a war, but that the US is interested in protecting its citizens as well as helping people from other countries. Only time will tell how expensive this will be and how long it will last since there really is no end plan. If you have any questions for Representative Davis he can be reached at (202) 225-2371, Monday through Friday.
**It’s Fall Y’All**

By Rebecca Sprinkel

With fall season here and Halloween just around the corner, Broom Orchard is hosting their annual Pumpkin Festival the weekend of Oct. 11 and 12. The festival is open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. Broom Orchard is located just 2 miles south of Carlinville on U.S. 67, Blacktop. The Pumpkin Festival was started in 1990 and this is the twenty fourth year in a row for this festival.

Broom Orchard is known for their delicious apples including Matsuz, Fuji, Granny Smith, Brabchum and Golden Delicious. During their Pumpkin Festival, customers have the opportunity to pick these apples in the orchard. Janagold, Winesap and Scarlet Beauty apples will already be in the market. Asian Pears will also be available this weekend.

At the Pumpkin Festival, the approximately six acre pumpkin patch is Tate's farm for picking and wagon rides. The sizes of pumpkins vary. There is a measuring bench to determine the price of the pumpkin depending on the size. The price ranges are between $2.00- $15.00. The largest pumpkin in the patch or as Lisa Broom, an owner of Broom Orchard, stated, “The prize winner pumpkins in the Orchard,” cost $15.00. A good carving pumpkin costs around $5.00. The Carlinville Future Farmers of America will be selling pork chop sandwiches. Their concession stand will also have homemade caramel apples, popcorn, apple cider slush, kettle corn and a new addition this year, funnel cakes. There will be pony rides and bounce houses for small children.

**Blackburn Stereotypes: Where Do You Fall?**

By Katrina Jahn

Most people probably know what Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh! are, but there is also another strategy card game called Magic: The Gathering. This game started back in 1993 and gained a huge following with millions of players. Here at Blackburn, over ten people on the second floor in Graham Hall play the game along with other students around campus. It only takes two people to play, but more are always welcome.

When asked about the game, Junior math and accounting major James Zeitler said, “[I like] the community. It keeps friendships tight. You know you’re bros when you can yell at each other one night and talk about Magic the next day.”

Magic is essentially a duel card game that also has an underlying story of battling wizards who use different spells, artifacts and creatures that are on the individual cards to defeat their opponent. In the game, a player needs to be able to indicate that a card has been used, so they would simply “tap” it by turning the card ninety degrees. There is such a huge variety of different decks of Magic cards and play styles that almost everything in them has a weakness. There is strategy involved that makes the player think harder about what move they make next. It takes some learning and commitment, but when understood, it is worth every minute of the constant playing. Zeitler stated, “It’s not about the magic, it’s about the gathering.”

So, magic is the gathering. City is one place where people can get more cards and play in tournaments. Some Blackburn students participate in these tournaments on weekends. Junior literature major Patrick Hunt commented, “It’s pretty sweet because it’s a lot more competitive than here on campus.”

The Merriam-Webster dictionary definition of a stereotype is “an unfair belief that all people or things with a particular characteristic are all the same.” This is a fairly simple definition and straight to the point. When applied to people or groups of people stereotypes most often deal with race, gender or class. At Blackburn stereotypes are different than just all of those things. Here we are classified by our majors, campus jobs and the dorms we live in. The most common stereotype on campus is that all the jocks and partners live in North and that all the North boys are rude and obnoxious. Sophomore Biochemistry Veronica Milligan agrees, “The North Boys have a bad reputation. I don’t know any of them personally so I can’t comment on that, but I hear things and I’m sure everybody else does.” Most know at least one person on the baseball team and know that not all of them conform to this image. This is the first stereotype that most people on campus will mention when asked about what stereotypes are prominent on campus, but what are some others?

A majority of students interviewed for this article agreed that a major factor in stereotyping at Blackburn deals with your academic major. Junior Biology major Tanner Ritzel agrees, “I definitely see a lot of major stereotypes. Like with biology it’s usually the smart group of kids who study a lot.” Other common academic stereotypes are that history majors get easy degrees and all the computer science majors live in Graham and never leave their rooms.

Speaking of dorms it is not hard to realize that every dorm here has a personality. Milligan said, “I really believe that there are more dorm stereotypes than there are people stereotypes. North is the party group, everyone knows that. Jones I hear that every girl is mean and everyone is fighting. Stoddard as a whole I see as full of introverts. Butler has gender neutral housing so they are getting new publicity for that. And when other people think of Graham they think it is the quiet dorm with nerdy people.” These are very prominent conceptions of the dorms and what people who live there are like.

No matter where you are at Blackburn, you are going to stereotype and the person you stereotype will stereotype certain people into groups. While it may be an easy way to organize who is who on campus those stereotypes are not always accurate.
Kevin Karl

The Vortex Is Spinning Again

By Chris Cole

There is a vortex coming to Blackburn, but before everybody hides under the desk, this tornado has nothing to do with the weather. Vortex is a literary magazine published by students for the Blackburn community.

Vortex is published every two years, with the most recent issue of Vortex being published in 2014. The budget is paid for by Blackburn, but the magazine is designed by students. To be a part of this magazine, students should enroll in the course WR 252 Exploring Genres; the next time this class will be offered is in 2016. From this class the editors and the editorial board are chosen. The students in this class choose what stories get published and the style of the magazine. Students are entirely responsible for creating the magazine. However, any student, faculty or staff member can submit their work in the form of poetry, short fiction or non-fiction. Being a writing major is not required.

What is surprising is how long Vortex has been running. The earliest known issue of Vortex goes back to 1963. However, there were forefathers before Vortex. Sketch is one of the early inclusions with issues going back at last to 1958. English Professor Ren Draya, who has spent a part of Vortex’s past, has written a published explanation. “In any given copy of Vortex there are no rules about what has been published or how many pages it has to be.” Whether somebody prefers poem writing or non-fiction, Vortex has it for them.

All pieces must be submitted to the magazine. To submit a story, email a copy of your story to Ren Draya at ren.draya@blackburn.edu. The current issue of Vortex will be released in spring of 2015. However, if you can’t wait that long the Commons has past issues that can be viewed in the archives.

Breast Cancer Awareness at BC

By Jorden Smith

When most people think of October, they usually think about bonfires, hayrides, Halloween and all things fall. But October is also known as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and every year it is celebrated by major breast cancer charities in order to raise awareness and fundraising. The event was first established in 1985 in a partnership between the American Cancer Society and a division of Imperial Chemical Industries that now a part of AstraZeneca, a company that specializes in anti-hypertensive and anti-inflammatory drugs. The first pink ribbons were handed out at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, but who were the first to create breast cancer awareness? This is just one of the many stories that can be told.

Male breast cancer is rare and often difficult to diagnose. Although men can have a one percent likelihood of developing breast cancer, it can be just as serious for them. Thus, the third week in October is dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness Week. According to the National Breast Cancer Research Foundation, breast cancer is the disease most commonly found in women in the United States (non-cancer) cells form in breast tissue. It is the second leading cause of death for women. Although many are aware of it, they don’t take the steps to prevent it. If it is detected early enough, the survival rate is at 98 percent, according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Early detection can be determined by self-breast exams, scheduled breast exams and mammograms.

Get Involved:

1. Go to “The Commons” and sign up for the breast cancer drive. It is an easy way to get involved. It is also a great way to show your support for this important cause.
2. Get involved with the breast cancer drive. It is a way to show your support for this important cause.
3. Write a letter to the editor of the Vortex magazine, expressing your support for breast cancer awareness. It is a way to show your support for this important cause.
4. Participate in the breast cancer drive. It is a way to show your support for this important cause.
5. Spread the word about breast cancer awareness. It is a way to show your support for this important cause.
6. Spread the word about breast cancer awareness. It is a way to show your support for this important cause.

Advice from Alumni

By Kerigan White

Since 1913, many students have walked onto Blackburn’s campus with the dream of getting a college education. Over the years, Blackburn students have stepped up to literally brick by brick and contributed to Blackburn. Ever wonder what Blackburn alumni have to offer besides a much appreciated donation?

Autumn 2004 Blackburn graduate, has some advice for the classes of 2015 and beyond. Buss explains that opportunities will rarely be presented as easily and plentiful as they are at Blackburn. Also, Buss advises students to join clubs, attend everything, meet new people and experience leadership positions; she goes on to state that “there will never be a time when you look back and wish you had slept more.” Buss has had many successes since her time at Blackburn, including working for an NBC affiliate producing the news, coordinating major events and raising money as an event planner, teaching Kindergarten and being a Fine Art Director for an after school program and currently she is the manager of a government non-profit and dealing with the labor market. Buss explains that “without a doubt none of these doors would have opened if not for time here at Blackburn.” Once I learned how to sell my experience at Blackburn, and how to showcase it well on a resume. I’ve had so many opportunities presented to me. Buss is a prime example that one should not settle for the position/program you think has to offer you your future leaders. Be ready to treat the world with understanding and kindness and always be yourself.

Newly graduated, Kimberly Newby Jelink, also went to Blackburn and graduated in 1991. Jelink’s advice for current Blackburn students is to “make sure your money works as hard for you as you do it yourself … always invest and start as soon as possible. What you do when you are young will affect you so much later on.” Since Blackburn, Jelink has started her own business and as a real estate appraiser and has a managing broker’s license. Thanks to Blackburn, she has fixed two toilets at her daughter’s school and she would like to thank Club Campus Maintenance and Les Rhodes Chemical Industries that has provided her with an educational trip to clean out the sewers on campus, a few humbling short stories in the creepiest crawl spaces in Macoupin County and a crash course in dump truck driving. Thanks to those experiences, she has been in some rather unique places. Jelink states that “none of these crazy things would have ever happened if Blackburn did not make me jump in head first, suck it up and team.”

Editorial Correction

Page on 2 of Vol. 11, No. 9 from ‘Burnian’ article “Raise Eyebrows,” the tuition amount was incorrectly reported due to $26,110. This amount refers to the complete cost of attendance including room, board, fees and work credit; the actual tuition cost for 2014-2015 is $19,150. The editors of The ‘Burnian’ apologize for the error.
The Hungry Student Visits Wood Duck

By Jordyn Smith

There’s nothing I love more than food. So naturally, when I got the opportunity to write a restaurant review, I was thrilled. Although this is my second year living in Carlinville, there are still a few places I have yet to try. With a few recommendations and a curiosity of my own, I decided to pay a visit to the Wood Duck Bar and Grill.

As I drove up, I realized that the public parking lot was empty, and I was clueless as to where to park. (Upon leaving, I realized there were a few weed-covered parking blocks that I had overlooked.) When I walked inside, the first thing I saw was the bar. I was greeted with a halfhearted “hello” from the bartender and an infriendly atmosphere. Again, I had never eaten at the Wood Duck before, so I waited to be seated. Apparently, that’s not the routine there.

I can’t help but notice the awkward silence, my guest and I took it upon ourselves to make our way to the back where we chose a high-top table. The bartender made her way back to us and asked for our drink orders. Then she told us to come up to the bar when we had decided on what to eat. I decided on a barbeque pork sandwich with a side of jalapeño bottle caps—yes, spicy food is my addiction.

My guest chose a barbeque pork sandwich as well but with a side of French fries. As we conversed and waited for our food we found that we had to go all the way up to the bar in the front area to get drink refills.

After an impressive five-minute wait, our food was brought to us and it looked delicious. My barbeque pork sandwich was dreamy, and the fried jalapeños, which I dipped in Ranch, were quite good as well. Both my guest and I very much enjoyed the food. A little distracting though were the flies coming through the open door.

An added bonus—the menu was pretty affordable, even for college students. My sandwich was priced at $4.75 and the shareable jalapeno bottle caps were $4.00. Portions were generous, so I would recommend the food to people with a decent appetite. Overall, the experience was what you make of it. We didn’t necessarily receive the best service, but that didn’t undermine the deliciousness of the food. It was an awkward experience for out-of-towners, but that shouldn’t stop you from trying it out. If you are into a restaurant with bar service and a relaxed atmosphere, Wood Duck is the place to go. I would recommend it for post-game get-togethers and other informal gatherings.

By Ben Nichols

If you’re a fan of video games or have friends who play them, then chances are you have heard all the hype about the new game Destiny. The new game by the creators of the Halo and Call of Duty series is quickly becoming a favorite among gamers and has received praise by critics and players alike. The game, which is set in the future, revolves around a custom made character created by the player that goes on various quests outside of humanity’s last bastion of life. Outside, the player will experience multiple races of hostile aliens to fight through and a variety of different places to explore. Throughout the game the player will level up, fight harder enemies and discover a multitude of different weapons and powers to use.

Since the release of the game in early September, many gamers have been flocking to the store to obtain their own copy. Blackburn students have been playing the game and their opinions have been overwhelmingly positive. Senior William Cockrell said, “It’s an absolutely amazing game. I love it!”

Reviews from various sites and gaming magazines have given the game generally high praise. According to Gaming Nexus “Destiny isn’t a perfect game, but it’s a perfect gaming experience.” The girth of the planets, the endless exploration, a fun co-op element and a strong PvP (player versus player) structure has this series on the right track. Concerning what else the future expansions have in store for the overall body of work.”

Another positive review by Game Informer describes it as “a colossal achievement in interactive design, integrating a number of differing genre elements into a smart and unified whole. Bungie’s latest futuristic opus is one of the first true event games of this new generation, and while it still has room to grow, it’s worth your attention right out of the gate.”

However, the game has also received negative reviews. According to the Polygon “As just another game, Destiny is a confusing combination of often at-odds elements — it presents itself as ambitious, almost boastful, while seeming strangely safe and reserved. It wants to eat its cake as a shooter, and have the longevity of an MMO (massively multiplayer online)—but it lacks the combat sophistication of the former, and the deep well of content native to the latter.”

While Destiny has received some negative critiques, it has still managed to catch the heart of the gaming world. Only time will tell if Destiny will become Bungie’s next big hit or its next big flop.

Geocaching? Gasundheit

By Rebecca Sprinkel

Did you know that you could play a treasure hunt right here in Carlinville, IL with six million other people across the world? A new sensation across the world called geocaching, which is a treasure hunt where you search and find certain hidden items, can be found right here not three blocks away from Blackburn College. All that is needed to participate is a smartphone. There is a free geocaching app to download on the iPhone or Android. This app acts as a GPS while hunting for the geocaches and it knows the coordinates of every geocache, which is the hidden treasure, in the world. Worldwide there are almost 2.5 million geocaches. In the radius of 20 miles from Blackburn College, there are 144 geocaches. In the town of Carlinville, there are approximately 15 within city limits.

A senior at Blackburn College studying Sports Management, Alexis Richie enjoys geocaching. She started geocaching about 4 years ago with her family and friends. The first geocache that I found was located right here in town, at the courthouse. Since then, I have found hundreds of caches located all over Macoupin, Madison and Montgomery counties,” said Richie.

When geocaching, there are a few simple rules of etiquette. If you take something for the geocache, be sure to replenish it with something of equal or greater value. Some geocaches will not have prizes in it, but all the geocaches will have a log where you put the name and date. Some of the geocaches are hidden in trees, on bridges, in the landscaping and just about anywhere.

Any member of the geocaching community can hide a geocache and list it on the geocaching website. Geocaches range in what they look like. They can be found in all different shapes, sizes and difficulties. The most popular geocaches are typically film canisters, fake rocks or pill containers. After finding the geocache, make sure to put it in the exact location that it was found so the next person can enjoy finding it. After the day of geocaching, log into Geocaching.com to record and log the finds and share the experience.

PHOTO BY JORDYN SMITH

It’s Your DESTINY

PHOTO BY REBECCA SPRINKEL

Geocaches are usually typical items like pill containers and fake rocks, but they come in all different shapes and sizes.
**Return of the Old Gods**

By Ben Nichols

Have you recently felt a rush of energy in your blood and the need to charge into a glorious field of battle? Have you felt the energy of the trees and heard the voice of the animals when walking to class? Or have you thought about diving into the world of old world magic and incantations? Do not be alarmed, for you are not alone! Since the 1970’s, the return of old Neopagan religions such as Wicca, Asatru (Odinism), Druidism and Witchcraft has been steadily rising across the world and especially in the United States. For those unaware of Neopaganism, it is a term that covers all types of ancient religions based in Europe, but is mostly focused on the mythology and practices of the Celts, Norse and various Germanic tribes from pre-Christian Europe. Many of its followers do not necessarily worship the old gods like Odin (Wotan in Germanic), Thor and Tyr but use them as guides in their life in a way similar to guardian angels.

Ever since the revival of these religions, the number of practitioners has increased and may become a large religious movement in the near future. But are these practitioners the evil heathens that they were made out to be by old texts and some modern religious organizations? Absolutely not! Contrary, some groups like the Asatru Alliance have taken active roles in community projects and various charity events. Family life also plays a very large role in the lives of Neopagans, and many ceremonies are defined by a central structure of a loving family.

Unfortunately for the old religions, recent attention focuses on the amount of white supremacists and neo Nazis who are being drawn to the religion due to the past association of Neopagan symbolism with Hitler’s SS and the idea of Aryan looks associated with the region of origin. This has given a very negative and racist view to the religion, but a majority of followers insist that the religion is open to everyone regardless of the views of the racists among their clergy.

So what do local people think of the movement? Rev. Erica Brown said, “I think that everyone is entitled to follow the path they choose. I believe that if they are doing good deeds and are following a good set of morals, then they should be treated no different from anybody else.”

So if you are feeling the rush of battle in your blood, do not be afraid to embrace your inner Viking. Many folks are out there like yourself and are willing to help you out. Be sure to visit some of the Asatru and Wicca websites like Thetreport, org for more information on how to be one with the old gods.

**We Want Snackbar, Yes We Do. We Want Snackbar, How ‘Bout You?**

By Deja Bell

Snack Bar is normally open Monday through Friday and closed on the weekend. While we have the option to eat in Ding on the weekends for brunch and dinner, a lot of times we miss it because of other stuff to do during that time. That usually isn’t a problem during the week because Snack Bar is open from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., but on the weekend you might need to have a back-up plan just in case you want something to eat. Having Snack Bar open at least one day of the weekend could help the student workers if they need to make up some hours. “Coming from a department where weekend shifts are scarce, I feel it would help Snack Bar workers who are down on hours,” said junior theater major Sawyer Burton. It is possible that people don’t want to work on the weekends because that is the only time a lot of us get to rest and catch up on homework, but if the snack bar were open for a couple of hours it could give people time to get food and stock up on snacks for the rest of the weekend.

Sophomore biology major Jonathan Ezana said, “The snack bar should be open on the weekend because there are only two meals during the day and as someone who works weekends it would be nice to have another option.”

There is also the fact that you may not be hungry when Ding opens for dinner at 5 p.m. A lot of people don’t keep food in their rooms and still need to eat even after Ding closes at 6 p.m. for dinner. Snack Bar is also a convenient place to go if you have to grab something to eat quickly and go off to your next task. Sometimes you don’t get the chance to sit down and eat before you have to be somewhere else. “Snack Bar should be open on weekends because it would be more beneficial to have more food choices that the students are comfortable with,” said freshman pre-veterinarian major Tyshai Eickelschulze.

Sometimes I walk into Ding and look at the food options and nothing appeals to me, so I just sit there and talk to my friends while they eat. Some weekends I just really want a quesadilla, but I have to wait until Monday to get it. I know that having that extra option could be beneficial to the majority of campus, especially if students are having a particularly busy weekend and barely have time to eat or if they’re just not in the mood for what’s in Ding.

**Apple: The Forbidden Fruit**

By Katrina Jahn

There are iPhs, iPhones, iPods, Apple Macbooks and there is even word of a new Apple watch. Of course, the company needs to do something to stay running and keep getting money, but there is a line between making something helpful for the customer and just making something new and shiny to attract the customer. Some people think Apple has crossed that line. Junior biology major Alex Greff said, “A piece of crap in a nice package is still a piece of crap.” Junior math and accounting major James Zeitler said, “My accounting major James Zeitler said, “A piece of crap in a nice package is still a piece of crap.” Junior math and accounting major James Zeitler said, “A piece of crap in a nice package is still a piece of crap.” Junior math and accounting major James Zeitler said, “A piece of crap in a nice package is still a piece of crap.” Junior math and accounting major James Zeitler said, “A piece of crap in a nice package is still a piece of crap.” Junior math and accounting major James Zeitler said, “A piece of crap in a nice package is still a piece of crap.”


The newly released iPhone by Apple Inc.

Of course, Apple knew what they were doing when they made the iPhs. Good quality MP3 players were always wanted and they created some really great ones. Now that people can have their music on their iPhons, the iPhods are starting to slow down in production. The music is another nice feature of the Apple phones. People can have all of their music right there with the rest of their files and that makes it convenient.

Junior Biology major Dylan said, “I like Apple. The features are nice and it’s very common.”

As for all of the different computers that are out there right now - Mac, Lenovo, HP, Dell, etc. - can’t we all just agree that those cat videos on YouTube will be pretty much the same no matter what we’re watching them on?
Rugby Club

By Chris Cole

Although rugby is one of the most popular sports in the world, this hybrid of soccer and football isn’t as popular here in the United States. However, rugby is now played right here at Blackburn and the team is looking for new members.

The rules are simple. Each team has up to 15 players. The ball can be kicked anywhere or passed laterally. The object of the game is to make it to the other end and score, and whichever team has the most points at the end of the game wins.

So what does a person have to do to play rugby in the area? Blackburn does not have an official rugby team so there aren’t tryouts. Although with enough support this could change. The rugby team is beginning the process of becoming an official U.S. team, but first they need to get the team approved by USA Rugby. On top of that, they need an official Rugby referee, and each member has to be registered with USA rugby. All of this can be done at USArugby.org.

However, none of this has happened yet. That’s why they need your support. Rugby team captain Cody Strocher explains, “Right now we are all about hard work, having fun and playing rugby, but our ultimate goal is to become an official team and play other colleges.” New people are always welcome so if you don’t want to be part of the team but just want to play rugby that’s fine too. If interested show up at the soccer field Thursday evenings at 5:15 p.m. Practices will be held on Sundays at 3 p.m. on the soccer field as well. Wear something comfortable and the right shoes; tennis shoes or soccer cleats are fine.

Football

Fantasy Football Round 2

By Jon Griffel

Injuries are a major part of every sport. Most years the NFL seems to be the epitome of that statement. Almost 15% of all NFL players will suffer season ending injuries during the 2014 season. As a fantasy owner, how do you combat this problem? The best way that I have found is to be proactive. Here are a couple of strategies to try and stop your season from going downhill.

Try and Locate a Handcuff Player - In Fantasy Football, a handcuff is a player who is the backup to a starter. This is especially important for Running Backs, as they are statistically the most injured player in the NFL.

Scour the Waiver Wire - This action is very important because it will allow for you to find players that your opponents have yet to locate. The NFL season has many examples of players who get hot for a few weeks and then cool off. Utilize these hot streaks to propel your way up the standings.

Trade from your Strength Positions - This strategy is the riskiest, as you could be giving away good players for the sake of roster balance. However, a balanced, dependable roster will be very important come playoff time.

To help you reload your team after a devastating injury, I have found a few handcuffs that are worth having on your roster.

Carlos Hyde, Running Back - San Francisco 49ers - Hyde was a very productive and powerful running back during his time at Ohio State. He was considered by many to be the top running back in this year’s NFL draft. He went to the 49ers very crowded backfield and emerged as the top backup option. Frank Gore, the starter, is aging and has had some injuries in the past. Look for Hyde to be a valuable late season pickup.

Mike Glennon, Quarterback - Tampa Bay Buccaneers - Glennon started 13 games in 2013 for the Bucs, but he was dethroned by free agent Josh McCown. McCown came on late last year for the Chicago Bears after Jay Cutler went down with an injury. McCown is 35, whereas Glennon is 24, and McCown has also battled injuries over his journeyman career. McCown has yet to prove that he can hold down a starting quarterback position for a full year, which will create value for Glennon.

Nick Toon, Wide Receiver - New Orleans Saints - Toon rapidly rose in the 2012 NFL draft after a great season at Wisconsin. He was drafted in the fourth round and brought along slowly by the offensive minded Saints. He has terrific size and beat out veteran Robert Meachem for the final wide receiver spot. Toon could see snaps early in the season due to the injury history that has plagued Saints wide receivers through the years. Keep Toon in mind, but not on your roster until an injury does occur.

In February, Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice punched his then fiancée and now wife, Janay Palmer, unconscious in an elevator of an Atlantic City hotel. In July, Rice was suspended two games by the NFL. When the video went viral, the public was outraged at what they had witnessed. The two-game suspension handed out by commissioner Roger Goodell was deemed incredibly mild for such a violent attack.

Then, on September 1, San Francisco 49ers defensive end Ray McDonald was arrested on domestic violence charges. And most recently, on September 18, Carolina Panthers defensive end Greg Hardy was put on the exempt list, barring him from all team activities, after pleading guilty to assaulting his former girlfriend back in July.

Clearly there is a trend of domestic violence in the NFL, but unfortunately that is the tip of the violence iceberg. “Violence is a major part of playing in the NFL, but the players seem to be taking their work home with them,” says senior sports management major Vinnie Birk.

Despite the recent increase, these issues date back nearly 20 years. From the nationally infamous O.J. Simpson murder trial, to former linebacker Shawne Merriman attacking reality star girlfriend Tila Tequila, to Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant punching his own mother, the NFL seems to be a breeding ground for athletes with questionable character. But what is causing this progression of violence? Why is the NFL the poster child for criminal athletes? Surely football is a violent game, but that shouldn’t encourage violent behavior. Players such as Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson excel in this violence-driven sport while maintaining excellent behavior off the field. Many fingers can be pointed: one at Roger Goodell for his incompetent leadership as commissioner; one at the owners and general managers who overlook the faults and character of the players who they draft; and of course, one at the players who fail to understand that as athletes and public figures they are expected to hold themselves to a higher standard.