

Chieftain

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When students speak, the SLC listens But how many students know this?

Jennifer A. Simmering
Editor-in-chief, Layout & Design

Coordinator of Student Engagement is her official title, but that doesn't limit what Tiffany Hamilton is willing to do at Black Hawk College. Since 2009, she has worked hard to establish an environment that encourages students to get involved, develop leadership skills, and meet other people who will influence the rest of their lives. Still, there are some students who are unaware that a Student Leadership Council (SLC) or Student Life program even exists at Black Hawk College, or what its purpose is.

Welcome to the Hawk's Nest – the hub of Student Life. Most events planned and coordinated by SLC take place in the Hawk's Nest. Right next door are the offices for Hamilton and her work-study students. Members of the Student Leadership Council meet in the conference rooms bi-weekly to coordinate events that will accomplish the goals set forth by the Senate. Inter-club Council also meets bi-weekly with representatives from the active clubs and organizations on campus.

The first period of each meet-



Photo courtesy of Jennifer A. Simmering

Students gather in the Hawk's Nest for SLC's Earth Day celebration on April 22

ing is called "Activity Hour" and is open to all students, not just members of the Senate. During this Activity hour, anyone in atten-

How many students know this?

dance can offer ideas and input as the SLC plans events and discusses student issues. "We rely heavily on student input with scheduling activities," Hamilton explained. "When students don't attend and participate,

Is your voice heard during this time?

they don't have a voice."

This meeting is rarely attended by more than the established Senate – a Senate that **SLC / 4**

History repeats itself with Nepal Earthquake

Jennifer A. Simmering
Editor-in-chief & Design

In response to the devastating magnitude-7.8 earthquake that happened in Nepal on Saturday, April 25, the International Student Association (ISA) at Black Hawk College is holding a fundraiser from May 4 to May 7. Funds will be collected in Building 1 outside of the Hawk's Hub and in Building 4 in the Hawk's Nest from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day.

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Money can also be dropped off at the International/ESL office in Building 1 (between Hawks Hub and the Library) at any time. All donations will be sent to the American Red Cross of the Quad Cities to aid the relief efforts in Nepal.

Search and rescue missions continue, and rescuers are still finding people alive. An infant was found in the rubble five days after the quake, and a 101 year old man was found after eight days. Injured victims number more than 15,000, and the dead over 7,000.

Disaster relief officials report that there are still remote areas workers haven't been able to reach due to destruction from the tremor. Donkeys have been used to deliver aid in some locations where roads are poor and helicopters are scarce. In a report by The Guardian, victims yet to be reached could number in the hundreds of thousands.

While aid relief organizations rush to find ways to help those in need, scientists are a buzz in the quake's aftermath. LiveScience reported that an area 75 miles long by 30 miles wide in Kathmandu lifted vertically by about three feet. Many of the world's tallest peaks, including Mount Everest, shrank by about one inch. UNAVCO, a geoscience research consortium explained that the Earth's

crust relaxed in the areas north of Kathmandu after the quake.

The last major earthquake in this area occurred in 1934 with a magnitude 8.4, claiming about 8,400 lives. Tremors happen regularly along the fault line that runs beneath the Kathmandu Valley. Two years ago the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) published a report anticipating the potential need to find shelter, food and water for 1.8 million people.

Kiran Bhakta Joshi, a Nepalese native and Hollywood insider, created a documentary released in January called "Moving Mountains." The film used digital animation to create the imagined devastation that might result if and when another huge earthquake happened. He worked in cooperation with The U.S. Embassy and Red Cross in hopes of raising awareness about preparing for disasters.

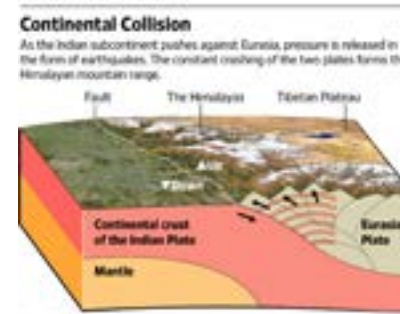
Despite his detail and close accuracy expecting what might happen for the film, Joshi was sickened by the destruction that was real. "We thought we were exaggerating the damage when we made our documentary," Joshi stated. "It's chilling."



Photo courtesy of Nepali Radio 11

Baby pulled from Earthquake wreckage after 5 days.

For detailed information about the science behind the earthquake, go to www.wsj.com and search "How the Nepal earthquake happened like clockwork."



Parks, beaches and trips, oh my! Summer is coming!

Ale Toniazzo
Guest Contributor

Summer is my favorite season of the year. Here or in Brazil, I am always excited when the days begin to warm up and the vacations get closer. Ok, I confess: I love the winter here. Snow is totally different than anything I've experienced in my 29 winters in Brazil. It is much more beautiful to see and much more fun. Fall left me with mouth open and eyes in disbelief at the colors of the trees. Fall here is really wonderful. Spring is full of charm and color. I love color! But Summer ... ah, the Summer ... is the best season! Stay out late, enjoy the parks, have picnics, swim, ride bike and wear flip flops all weekend! It's just too much!

Very different than here, our seasons in Brazil are not as defined. Yes, we have Winter (our starts now, while here it is Summer) but in most northern cities of Brazil, for example, the winter never gets below 75 degrees at Rio de Janeiro, the most famous city in Brazil. There are many beautiful beaches where you can bathe in the sea all year round. Even in the winter! Snow? Very, very little and only in the southern part of Brazil. The coldest temperature I ever felt in winter in Brazil was 29 F. Imagine! We don't need snow boots, but we don't have the beauty of seeing everything white.

Well, let's leave the snow aside and let's talk about summer. After all, that's all we want. The summer in Brazil is like here. High temperatures, many people spend a few

days at the beach or pool. Some people travel to visit families and there are people who prefer to travel to get to know a new place. Yes, to be able to travel, the school year is the opposite. Everything ends by December to have a long summer break to recharge batteries.

My plans for this summer here in the USA is to spend almost three weeks in California, going by car, in June. We are going through Yellowstone - one of the places that I am looking forward to see. Anyone who wants to follow the journey just access my blog: qctimes.com/blogs/stepbystep.

July I want to ride in Chicago and the cities nearby Quad Cities. And I cannot forget my challenge of the year: I am going to run the BIX7, July 25. I was training four times a week in the gym and now in the summer; I hope to enjoy the parks and the River Drive to run.

Last year we traveled around Lake Michigan in 4th July. It was amazing! We stayed four days following the lake. Another time, we went to Kenosha, Wisconsin. I had fun on Lake Michigan until the sunset. It was beautiful!

This year also I still want ice cream, to wear dresses, stay up late on the street, ride a bike, enjoy a rain shower, walk on the grass without shoes, wash my car, rest under a tree after lunch. ... and so is a list of good things to do in this season.

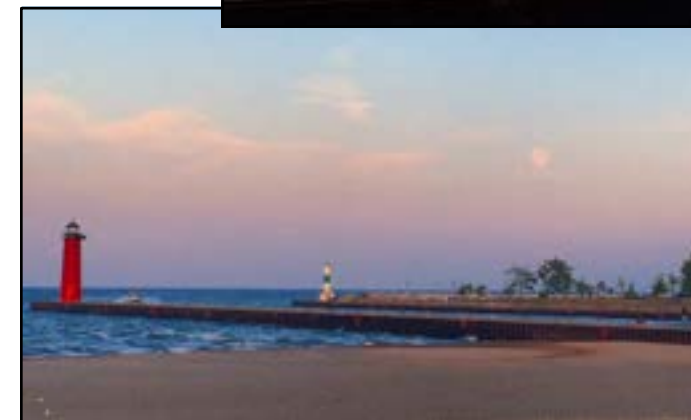
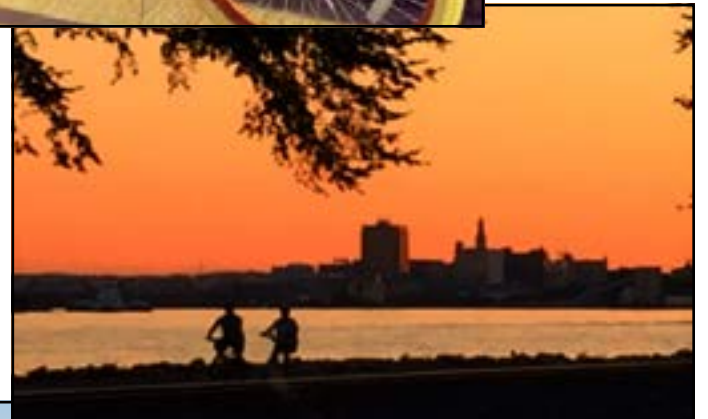
Happy vacations and good summer for you!

Cabin in Big Springs, Lake Michigan



Bike by the Mississippi River

Sunset along River Drive in Davenport



Lighthouse in Kenosha, Wisconsin

The privilege of recognition at ICCJA

Jennifer A. Simmering
Editor-in-chief & Design

Professional journalists across Illinois recently honored student-journalists at the Illinois Community College Journalism Association (ICCJA) Spring 2015 Conference and Awards Banquet on April 9-10. A total of 24 categories were judged and critiqued for the 18 community colleges who are currently members of ICCJA. Submissions were from the 2014 calendar year, sent in last December.

Awards were presented for everything from News Story of the Year to Sports Column to Design & Layout and even for

Advertising. Black Hawk College had three placing winners this year. Yesenia Gomez received 2nd place for Editorial Cartoons for her work from Spring 2014. Benjamin Bopes received Honorable Mention in the News Columns category for an article written last fall about medical marijuana use. Jennifer Simmering received 3rd place for Staff Editorial about euthanasia from Fall 2014.

Joseph Gisondi, a professor at Eastern Illinois University, has been with ICCJA for two years; the ICCJA has been in existence for more than 20 years. Its primary goal is to educate students with the help of professional journalists

and university faculty, and to help students and their instructors become better journalists.

"Let's not forget," stated Gisondi, "that a [college] newspaper is a compilation of student homework." He was quick to point out, however, that, "These students are justifiably held to a higher

"These students are justifiably held to a higher standard. ICCJA helps students perform at that higher level."

standard. ICCJA helps students perform at that higher level."

Students who take JOUR 230 - Newspaper Production at Black Hawk College have an opportunity to participate in the workshops offered at this spring and fall conference, and have the potential to be rewarded for their work while gaining more knowledge in their professional

fields of journalism, design, or photography.

Professor Mueller took five students from the Newspaper Production class to the spring conference that was attended by more than 120 students and advisers. More entries were received this year than ICCJA officials have seen in the past several years. Students who attend have the privilege to interact with student-journalists from other schools and learn from each other as well as the professional journalists in attendance.

The next conference for Fall 2015 will be held in October at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. There, professional journalists will offer training workshops over a two-day period. ICCJA will also award the first John Ryan Best of Show award. Entries must be submitted at the fall conference when students arrive, and it will be judged during the conference. Decisions will be based on general overall excellence as judges evaluate news content, quality of writing, evidence of in-depth reporting, presentation/design, originality, and editing accuracy.

Good luck to our Chieftain journalists!



left to right: Ale Toniazzo, Katherine Pustejovsky, Ryan Prochaska, Jennifer Simmering, Anna Headley, and Professor Marifaith Mueller.

Good Eats! With Rice Krispie Treats

Who doesn't love the classic, simple to make, easy to enjoy Rice Krispie treat? Good as that childhood snack may be, let's expand on the idea and try something new. Ready your taste-buds for these daringly modified versions of a long-loved classic. (These recipes and more found at SpoonUniversity.com and featured on USA Today College.)

Kettle Korn

Prep Time: 2 minutes
Cook Time: 3 minutes
Total Time: 25 minutes
Servings: 24 two-inch squares

Ingredients:
4 cups mini marshmallows
2 tablespoons butter
5 cups kettle corn
1 cup chocolate chips



Directions:

1. Slowly melt the butter and marshmallows together until smooth.
2. Combine with kettle corn. Make sure to coat the cereal in the melted marshmallow.
3. Pour mixture out onto parchment paper, shape into a rectangle and let cool for 20 minutes.
4. Drizzle melted chocolate on top.

Cheez-It Rolo (Yes, that's right! Don't Judge!)



Prep Time: 2 minutes
Cook Time: 3 minutes
Total Time: 25 minutes
Servings: 24 two-inch squares

Ingredients:
4 cups mini marshmallows
2 tablespoons butter
4 cups Rice Krispies
2 cups Cheez-It
1 cup Rolos
1 cup chocolate

Directions:

1. Slowly melt the butter and marshmallows together until smooth.
2. Combine with Rice Krispies, Cheez-Its, and Rolos. Make sure to coat the cereal in the melted marshmallow.
3. Pour mixture out onto parchment paper, shape into a rectangle and let cool for 40 minutes (this one needs some extra time because of the melty Rolos inside).
4. Cover with melted chocolate.

Baked Ruffles

Prep Time: 2 minutes
Cook Time: 3 minutes
Total Time: 25 minutes
Servings: 24 two-inch squares

Ingredients:
4 cups mini marshmallows
2 tablespoons butter
4 cups Baked Ruffles



Directions:

1. Slowly melt the butter and marshmallows together until smooth.
2. Combine with crushed Baked Ruffles, make sure to coat the chips in the melted marshmallow.
3. Pour mixture out onto parchment paper, shape into a rectangle and let cool for 20 minutes.



Ask Aunt Helga

Dear Aunt Helga

I find time-scheduling hard, especially between school, job, family, and friends. I want good grades and to have time to spend with my family and friends. Is that even possible?

--Drowning in responsibility

Dorogaya Moya (My dear)

School is a good type of stress to have. But remember, it's not going to last forever. Those who love you - your family and friends - will understand if you need to take time away from them to dedicate to studies or for work. Prioritize your homework, and make sure that when you are "working on homework" that you are actually working on homework.

It's easy to lose time while taking a few minutes to check Facebook, just a quick tweet about the day, or a post on Instagram. At the same time, life cannot be all about school or work. Neither of those will last for very long in the grand scheme of life.

Your family, however, will last forever, and they will be there for you when your schoolwork is done and when your job is through. Look for opportunities to make time for your family and friends right after you've completed a major project. Make time for down-time after you've taken a test or written that big research paper.

Balancing life's many priorities is a skill you will need to continually work on as you grow and gain more responsibility. There is no easy answer for this, mllaya moya (my sweet), but if you hold close to you the things and people that are important, they will not desert you when you need to take time away from them for the other important things in your life.

Dear Aunt Helga,

I am in my last semester at Black Hawk, ready to graduate next month. I've grown up in a very restrictive household, and I have a lot of respect for my family, but they still frown on the idea of using any kind of social media. I'm like the only student here who's never used Facebook or Twitter or any other form of social media. I don't want to disrespect my parents, but I do want them to let me be the adult they raised me to be. Should I just go ahead and take part in these things behind their backs and create a Facebook account anyway? Or should I wait for their approval? Signed, Forever Obedient

Mein junge gehorsam ein
(My young, obedient one)

There are many negative aspects to social media. Consciously choose to be safe by not compromising your personal information to creepers on the internet. All of your mates you have made in classes are now parting ways. Social media can keep you in contact with all of them.

Also, remember that employers will try to look at your social media page to see how you conduct yourself in your off time. If you have friends who may post embarrassing photos of you, it would probably be a wise choice to not include them on your friends list.

Otherwise, I see no issue with using it as long as you are safe and adult about how you are utilizing such sites.

Now for your parents: they should understand that you are a young adult. I foresee many mistakes in your future. I've made many poor choices in my lifetime and acted against my parents' will. If you feel responsible enough to have a site like Facebook, show them that you understand the ramifications of your posts and that you will keep it tasteful so you don't dishonor your family.

Chieftain staff for Spring 2015

Professor Marifaith Mueller - Advisor

Jennifer A. Simmering - Editor-in-Chief
Layout & Design

Anna Headley - Sports Editor & Reporter

Ryan Prochaska - Sports Reporter

Katherine Pustejovsky - Staff Reporter

Gayle Grundstrom - Staff Reporter

Chloanne Simmering - Staff Reporter

Special Thanks to the Chieftain Staff
for a terrific job this Semester!

SLC Cont'd

was created when BHC Alum Farah Ahmad served as Vice President of Student Government from 2003-2005. Before its creation, Student Government consisted of only the four officers: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Ahmad and the other Student Government members felt that they, alone, were not representative of the student body. To rectify this, they created the Senate to ensure that other students could have a say in what activities were made available for the student body to participate in. "We wanted to empower other students so they felt like they had ownership in the school," conveyed Ahmad.

Tiffany Hamilton wants to encourage students to be more active on campus. "I would always love to see more students participate and get involved," she reiterates. "Success at Black Hawk College is proven through much more than academic scores. Maintaining a good balance of activity and interaction among fellow students will go a long way toward the sharing of and accomplishing goals."

"Take the extra step to be a part of your own education"

Zuri Moore is one of the newly selected Senate members for the 2015-2016 school year. In her interview, she stressed the importance of involvement in various activities as a way of enriching the students time at Black Hawk. She feels strongly that each student should make the



Farah Ahmad
Photo courtesy of H.Smith, BHC Marketing

most of their educational opportunities, and encourages students to "take the extra step to be a part of your own education." Moore is looking forward to the coming school year and what she and the new Senate will accomplish. "I have strong hopes for our group going in. We are all very active in our causes."

Opportunity to become a member of Student Leadership Council for next year has passed, but students can still be active and have a voice in student leadership by attending the various meetings held on a weekly basis. Volunteering participation in this way will also help prepare interested students for joining leadership for the following school year. Even if leadership is not in your plans, involvement is still recommended. The more voices heard, the more representative decisions and activities will be of the entire student body.

The process to join leadership is not as complicated as some might think. Information about Student Leadership Council, the Senate, and the committees is available on the Black Hawk website at www.bhc.edu under the "on Campus" tab.

When it is time to receive new applications near the end of the 2015-16 academic year, an application and information link will be available at this site. After applications are processed, the Senator Appointment Committee (made up of non-returning Senate members) will review the applications and interview the prospective candidates.

Chosen senate members and others within SLC will have the opportunity to attend a leadership retreat in May, and are able (but not required) to attend Passport to Leadership classes to enhance their skills and grow in leadership. Most students already in leadership roles choose to participate. These classes, however, are open to all students, not just members of SLC or Senate.

According to the By-Laws of the SLC, potential Senators have to be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours during each semester they expect to serve on the Senate, and they must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 for their entire term in office. Senator candidates must also commit to honoring the goals and policies of SLC in their day-to-day lives (SLC Constitution and By-Laws are easily accessible through their website.)

Once students become a Senator, officers will be selected to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All members of SLC are expected to commit a minimum of 50 volunteer hours that include required meeting attendance. Senators also conduct frequent surveys, participate in on and off campus events, attend the SLC retreat, and the QC Board of Trustees Meeting.

If someone comes around in the Hawk's Nest and other campus locations to do a survey, be a willing participant and let your voice be heard for you and other students

It's a common tale for many other departments here at Black Hawk. Students are graduating after two years without knowing that free tutoring is offered in the Independent Learning Center found in Building 1 below the library.

Many don't know that there is a Counseling department separate from Academic Advising that will confidentially help students with social and personal problems. Career Services Center, located on the second floor of Building 1, offers free resume and job placement assistance.

If a student needs accommodations for a wide array of disabilities, they can contact someone with Disability Services in Building 1. These services help students with everything from developmental or intellectual disabilities, seizures, cerebral palsy, speech disorders, deafness, or blindness, to Chronic illnesses, health disabilities, Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and Drug or alcohol addiction. (Definitions and more information is available at www.bhc.edu/student-resources/disability/.)

How many students know about this?

Other more commonly known resources available at Black Hawk might by TRiO Student Support Services, Veterans Resource Center, Fitness & Aquatics Center and the ArtSpace Art gallery exhibits. But I don't know for sure. Do you know what services these resources offer students?

Hands on practice makes perfect for EMS students

Jennifer A. Simmering
Editor-in-chief, Layout & Design

Emergency Medical and Paramedic students at Black Hawk College participated in a drill on April 27th to simulate real-life drama that they will soon face after graduating this May.

Marci Miner, one of the adjunct professors for EMS, said that this drill is designed to help the students be ready for real-life when they graduate. "They have to be able to save a life," Miner remarked. "Hands on learning is important in this profession, and much more effective with live people than with mannequins."

The drill took place out by the baseball field next to the parking lot near Building 2. In place was the new ambulance recently purchased for Black Hawk's medical students. Paramedics from Genesis were on site to assist and ensure students were performing procedures correctly.

Medic students were faced with the scenario where a drunk

driver plowed into a group of students who were attending an outdoor event.

College staff members played the part of injured participants as some lay on the ground, some across the hood of the car, and some inside the car with the drunken driver. While each actor was given a role to play, they were allowed to adlib the part to make it seem more real.

Students were not told ahead of time what scenario they would face to be true to a real-life emergency. Paramedics generally arrive on an emergency scene and have to very quickly assess what happened, who the victims are, and what care the victims immediately need. In addition, injuries were not assigned to specific students, but rather, students pulled numbers out of a hat that would correspond with an injured party outside.

Carl Spoljoric currently works as an EMT and is at Black Hawk to receive his EMS-Paramedic certificate. His mock-patient had a lacerated chin and a bruised chest

with possible pneumothorax (collapsed lung). Spoljoric's EMT experience combined with class and clinical time had effectively prepared him to deal with the scenario he faced.

He felt this experience was an effective tool to ensure that he is prepared for graduation and beyond.

Spoljoric stated, "students would benefit best if a drill like this

could be integrated into the college curriculum as a whole, such as including nursing students to take care after a simulated transport, such as with a tent set up to be a mock emergency department."

He added, "the significance of such an undertaking isn't lost on me but the gains from such an addition to the curriculum would be monumental."



Photo courtesy of BHC Marketing

Students practice classroom-learned skills during EMS drill simulation

Clean sphere, student wellness, and monarch truffles

Jennifer A. Simmering
Editor-in-chief, Layout & Design

Earth Day has been celebrated at Black Hawk College since 2011, with activities and participation varying from year to year. Planning for this year's event, held April 22, began several months ago with the help of campus clubs Clean Sphere and Student Wellness. A local non-profit, River Bend Wildland Trust, was invited to be a part of the event as well. They provided supplies and education for making Monarch Truffles that could be donated to Black Hawk College prairie and wooded areas.

Members of the Student Leadership Council (SLC) were instructed on how to make the Monarch Truffles prior to the event so they could help students during the event from 11am-1pm. Clean Sphere club members were on hand to talk about planting healthy foods and handed out homemade all purpose cleaner with instructions for making other homemade cleaning products. Student Wellness Club members were available to provide education about how easy it can be to integrate healthy changes into an already busy lifestyle.

Amber, from the Wellness Club, explained that exercise doesn't have to be a big production or cost a lot of money to be effective. In addition, when people choose to walk or ride their bike to regular destinations like work or school, not only does it benefit them, but it also helps the environment. Amber explained that the Student Wellness



Student making monarch truffles

Photo courtesy of Jennifer A. Simmering

Club meets about every three weeks in the lobby of Building 2.

She said that she enjoys being a part of the group stating, "They help you find easy ways to exercise in your day-to-day

circumstances, and they help provide us with a healthy view of food." (More information about the Student Wellness club is available at www.BHC.edu/on-campus/student-life/qc/clubs-organizations/. They are also on Facebook under BHC

Wellness Club.) Contact advisor Dr. Xixuan Collins at 796-5269 or collinsx@bhc.edu for more information.

Jenny Fowler, President of Clean Sphere, had a table set up with supplies for making starter plants for basil, radish, lettuce, and spinach. Students were able to fill egg carton portions with fresh soil and the seeds provided by Clean Sphere to take home. At another table members of the group were handing out homemade all-purpose cleaner and talked about the importance of using cleaners without harsh chemicals.

Fowler said that Clean Sphere meets about every two weeks, and they also look for opportunities to work on environmental projects together. She added, "It's nice to meet with other people and talk about things we are equally passionate about." (More information about Clean Sphere can be found at www.BHC.edu/on-campus/student-life/qc/clubs-organizations/ and on Facebook under BHC Clean Sphere.) Contact advisor Marilyn Bartels at 796-5235 or bartelsm@bhc.edu for more information.

River Bend Wildland Trust provided education and supplies for creating Monarch Truffles. They also had literature (created with the help of Black Hawk's Art 246 Graphic Design class) that explained the purpose of and instructions for making Monarch Truffles at home. "Our goal in promoting Monarch Truffles is to educate the public on how to help the monarch butterfly population as well as protect and

Chieftain Staff Creed:

Neither horror of tornados nor torential rains will keep this staff from the I-double-C J A

Anna Headley
Sports Editor & Chieftain Reporter

Two-thirds of the Chieftain staff journeyed to Utica, IL for the Illinois Community College Journalism Association (ICJJA) Spring Conference on April 9th. A 90 minute drive seemed to go quickly as the back seat was filled with the singing of songs – Disney and otherwise – much to the "joking" annoyance of the front seat. The last ten minutes of the drive was a bit frantic with the torrential rain that would not be cleared by the faulty windshield wipers on our rented vehicle. However, the staff was able to arrive at the Grizzly Jack's Starved Rock Resort in one piece, though the same could not be said for the hotel.

Before the Chieftain staff arrived, there were two tornadoes in the Illinois Valley. A bolt of lightning struck a cell tower near the hotel resulting in no signal for the entire two-day stay.

The staff reported to their workshops, glancing at the TV in the lobby between classes and watching the horror of tornadoes appearing throughout Illinois. Phone calls were made to the reporters' homes, making sure that all were safe on the western front. The hotel's three Wi-

Fi networks were also down leading to some hair-pulling and grumbling by all.

The voyage home from the conference was just as eventful as the journey there, more music emanating from the backseat. However, the digital Djs stayed away from soundtracks that day and instead broke out some classic club songs. The Fall Out Boy songs were on the device with terrible speakers, so the driver was a bit out of luck.

Even with a bit of a novel-twist, I did enjoy my time at the ICJJA Conference. Being able to get off-campus but still improve my journalism skills was a good experience, and one I'll always remember. Having to share a room with three other girls brought back memories of sleep-overs as a child, but no make-overs or games of "Truth-or-Dare" were present this time.

The workshops were very informative and kept my interest even with the stuffy rooms where the lectures were held. My favorite workshop was "Awesomeness of Social Media in Sports Journalism," presented by Brandon LaChance. LaChance had some interesting stories to share about his experiences in sports journalism, and lots of good

Chieftain reporters reporting for duty

Katherine Pustejovsky
Chieftain Reporter

Fresh ideas for the Chieftain are now flying around in the heads of its staff after coming back from the Illinois Community College Journalism Conference that took place on April 9th and 10th. While staying at the Grizzly Jack's Grand Bear Resort in Utica, IL, the staff spread out to listen to reporters talk about their experiences on the job and learn ways to become better reporters.

Multiple sessions were offered during the conference on different subjects. Some of the subjects were lead writing, sports writing, photography, and investigative reporting. Some sessions were more Q&A, while others really brought out the rich aspects of working in the journalism field.

tips on how to handle social media when reporting sports.

All in all, I truly want to go to the next ICJJA Conference in order to learn more about journalism and to hang out with the staff. Because if there's no technology yet again, I know at least I'll have fun with them. Oh, and remember, beware the Death Boggle.

The environment was great with everyone eagerly asking questions and speakers just as eagerly coming up with full and thorough replies. It is definitely true that reporters are great storytellers.

Additionally, we got to compare our paper with those of other colleges. Apparently, our paper did not do so badly with three awards going to articles written by our staff from 2014.

In addition, after seeing which articles and papers won the awards, we now have more examples of ways to improve the Chieftain's content and the presentation of our paper from emphasizing pictures to writing articles more geared towards the students. Hopefully, we will now be able to implement these changes and keep finding ways to make the Chieftain that much better.

SLC Concluded

like you. "We are always looking for new ways to reach students," Hamilton assured. "We welcome input from anyone and take everyone's suggestions seriously." Check the online calendar to know when SLC and committee meetings are held. You can sit in. You can have a voice. When students speak, SLC will listen and act, but they can't do that if you don't seize the opportunity to let your voice be heard.

Do you know ALICE?

Gayle Grundstrom
Chieftain Reporter

Just last month there was a college shooting in North Carolina -- a man who had attended the school previously walked in with a gun and shot Ron Lane, the school's print shop operator. The gunman, Kenneth Stanscil, had been a former employee of Lane's at Wayne Community College.

If there is ever a situation like that at BHC, students and employees are supposed to follow the A.L.I.C.E. drill for any type of shooting incident. A.L.I.C.E. stands for: alert, lockdown, inform, counter, and evacuate.

Alert simply means that the police have been notified and everyone on campus is informed of the situation via word of mouth or from the PA system. At BHC, the PA system will alert students and employees of any emergency, even for events such as exposure to hazardous materials. At these times, we cannot stress enough that you are NOT to use the elevators.

Lockdown implies that the door to your classroom is locked and the lights are turned off -- pretend no one is home. Under lockdown, you should be quiet and position yourself in the room strategically, avoiding the windows and doors.

Communication should still be flowing -- silently if it must -- to keep everyone notified of the current situation. Most students and employees have their phones on them; stay connected with other students on campus for the latest information.

If you or your classmates find yourself squared off with the gunman, the counter step of A.L.I.C.E. comes into action. You should not leave your classroom and try and hunt down the gunman; this step should only be utilized if he/she has come into contact with you and you need to

defend yourself.

"The counter aspect of A.L.I.C.E. is a really smart option; otherwise you're all sitting ducks in a room, huddled against a wall," reasoned an anonymous BHC student.

The last step of A.L.I.C.E. is to evacuate -- as long as it is safe, move to a different, more secure location.

Some professors may remember -- many students may not even know -- that there have been cases where the college has gone into lockdown due to shooting incidents. About a decade ago, the school was under lockdown for over an hour, meaning that no one could enter or leave the campus.

Black Hawk College has a list of the actions you should take in case any of these instances arise, but have you taken the time to read them?

In the instance of a tornado, the designated emergency areas are the tunnel from Building 1 to Building 2, and the track in Building 3. This is the time of year where we begin to worry more about the threat of tornadoes -- you know better than to stand next to a window, right?

There are circumstances, however, that we have no ability to predict. Any type of fire, power outage, explosion, or campus shooting is almost entirely left up to chance for many of us.

Although many of the protocols are steps we have been ushered through before, having a firm grasp on what you should do could not only save your life, but someone else's as well.

Gayle wrote for the Knightbeat and was its editor at Orion High School. She was awarded the "Young Journalist of the Year" award in 2014. She loves writing and literature and hopes to find a great job combining those in the near future.

Location takes highest rating

Katherine Pustejovsky
Chieftain Reporter

We are back to see how our school and teachers are doing on "Rate My Professor", an online site on which students can go on to rate their college, and professors.

Back in February, the newspaper did an article on the rating given to the school and the professors at BHC. Now, we are following up to see how they have changed.

The overall quality rating for Black Hawk College in Moline was 3.4 out of 5.0 and the rating has not changed since then. In addition, other school ratings have also remained the same.

At least we know that 78% of students are still smiling after being on campus long enough to give it a rating.

Now it is time to look at how the professors are doing. For top professors, Don Mosier still leads with a 4.9, in second place is Emily Lehman with a 4.8, and third place is D Beckett with a 4.8.

The average professor rating for Black Hawk College is 3.82. Good job, professors!

Reputation	3.3
Internet	2.7
Opportunity	3.5
Campus	3.8
Social	3.0
Location	4.3
Food	2.8
Library	3.4
Clubs	3.2
Happiness	3.9

The most rated professor is Galen Leonhardy at 200 ratings; second place is Mike Stueb at 93 ratings, and third is Traci Davis at 86 ratings.

Terrific job with keeping your fellow students informed on the things that are important to all of us.

To anyone who has not checked out the site or posted ratings on it, you should really check it out and make your opinion not only heard, but make it effective in influencing others, which are what opinions are supposed to do.

Katherine is a Communications major at Black Hawk. Her interests are reading and soccer. She also is a 4-H leader and participates in many of their activities.

Scavenger Hunt

How many times is a BHC club, class, sports team, or organization mentioned in this paper? Some may be mentioned more than once. Count every time you see it listed. (Do not count the times Chieftain is mentioned.)

Keep track on each page and add them up. Turn in your guess by Thursday, May 14th for a chance to win a \$10 Starbucks giftcard. (Yes, it is waiting for a lucky winner in the Chieftain office.)

The first correct response will receive the prize. Email Chieftain@bhc.edu or call the Chieftain office at 796-5477.

Unstructured learning in the "Windy City"

Gayle Grundstrom
Chieftain Reporter

A full bus-load of select Archaeology, Art, French, and TRiO students journeyed up to Chicago on Thursday, April 2nd for a day filled with museums and sight-seeing.

The two main locations on the itinerary were the Field Museum and the Art Institute. Although the BHC squad was given free-reign to explore the city as they chose, the majority of the students took advantage of the opportunity to see ancient artifacts and expressions of artwork.

If you had only ever traveled up to Chicago for the shopping, you are definitely missing out on an experience. The Field Museum alone has enough exhibits and relics to keep you entertained for hours.

Professor Rachel Horner-Brackett confided, "I always enjoy the Egyptian and Native North American exhibits at the Field Museum, and right now the museum has two temporary exhibitions that



"Paris Street: Rainy Day" painting

Photo courtesy of AIC website

interested many students. One is on the lives of Vikings, and the other is on Haitian vodou (voodoo). There are archaeological artifacts at the Field Museum that you just can't see anywhere around the Quad Cities, so it is a great opportunity for students."

Simply being able to walk around the city was a new experience for many students on the trip. There are sites throughout the city that are

large tourist attractions, including Cloud Gate -- otherwise known as "the bean" -- a large bean-shaped, mirrored structure in Millennium Park.

BHC student Pria Liang affirmed, "My most favorite part of the day was walking around the city with some students from my Archaeology class. It really put me in touch with the city in real time. It

was also a sense of nostalgia for me because my mother and father have told me so much about those very streets, and it was like I could finally see it with my own eyes!"

For students interested in forms of art, the Art Institute has everything from Impressionist to Byzantine exhibits. Professor Melissa Hebert-Johnson claimed that her favorite exhibit was the Paris Street: Rainy Day painting in the Impressionist gallery. "It had been gone for some time for cleaning and preservation by conservator Faye Wrubel."

Taking the extra time on your next adventure through the Windy City to visit the Field Museum and Art Institute could open your eyes to wonders that you would never experience in the Quad Cities. If you are interested in mummies, ancient civilizations, classic artwork, or a rewarding cultural experience, sign up for this trip in a future semester or take a road-trip. Astounding artifacts are merely hours away.

From college application to day of graduation

Katherine Pustejovsky
Chieftain Reporter

Excitement is in the air with 546 students graduating from Black Hawk College this year, and both students and faculty are working hard to make it a great experience.

Out of the 546 students, 366 students plan on attending the commencement ceremony, which will be held on May 21st at the I-wireless Center at 7pm.

Heather Bjorgan, Registrar, is helping to plan the ceremony. "Planning for the annual commencement ceremony is really a year-long process. Commencement is the time when the college gets to celebrate its graduates and recognize the hard work they have done, along with a variety of academic achievements," she said.

The college really keeps the students and their families in mind with unlimited seating available for guests of the students. "Students are really excited when we tell them that seating is unlimited for their guests," said Bjorgan. "It means a lot to graduate and move on to the next step in life and I'm pleased that

BHC encourages families and friends to attend, because the student support structure extends beyond the college boundary."

Black Hawk is planning a good send off for its graduating students to remind them that they have gotten so far already and keep them moving on.

For students, the process of preparing for graduation started on the first day of applying for college. Darcie Stearns, Director of Advising Services, says that the first day a student sees an advisor they are both working towards that end result of graduating. They work on what classes are needed and what it is going to take in order for the student to reach his goal.

Now the student sees the end in sight. He is finishing off the last of his classes, has applied for graduation, and just needs to survive these last few days and it will all be over, right? Well, not quite as much as any student wants to believe it - graduation is still only a step towards the bigger picture.

As a student in the career program, it is important to have

started making resumes and working with Career Services to make sure a job is ready for you after graduation.

Bruce Storey, Director of Educational Services, states that each employer is looking for certain types of information and Career Services knows what the local businesses are seeking. It can help for his department to make and proofread the students' resumes.

They also provide other great resources like mock interviews, and can explain what the interviewer is looking for when presenting certain questions. Preparation is key when it comes to getting into the work force.

However, don't think that transfer students have it easier. Darcie Stearns says by this time, the transfer student should have already applied for the 4-year, done a college tour, talked with an advisor there and already planned his classes for next year. Yes, the work never ends.

Just Breathe

Anna Headley
Sports Editor & Chieftain Reporter

Finals are just around the corner and, if you're like me, you've been dreading them ever since midterms. Have no fear, because I'm going to tell you everything you need to do to survive Finals Week.

First off, you need to study. I know, I know, everyone knows that; but a lot of people don't do it even though they know they need to. It doesn't have to be a week of all-nighters; in fact, that's probably one of the worst things to do during Finals Week. Read over your notes, skim over the readings from the book if there were any, and ask your professor questions if you have any. Don't worry about whether or not the question seems silly or the answer obvious; it's better to ask and pass the final than not ask and fail.

Set realistic goals while studying. Don't say you're going to study for 10 hours when you know you can't do that. Read three pages and then have a snack, or look over so many pages of notes and then have a snack. Eat lots of protein while studying to boost brain power and keep you awake. Caffeine is also good, but don't just drink five energy drinks and call it good.

Secondly, you need to sleep. Sleeping helps you to remember information, as well as give your brain a rest. If you're falling asleep while studying, take a quick power nap (some say 20 minutes, others an hour) and then get back to studying. Be sure to get lots of sleep the night before your finals so you don't fall asleep while taking the exam.

Don't just study, study, study. Take some time to relax; you'll need it to not fry your brain from studying. If you need an idea for relaxation, the Counseling Department will once again be sponsoring therapy dogs in the library during finals week. You can go pet dogs to relieve stress in the library on May 12th from 11 am to 1 pm.

Study, sleep, relax and...just breathe. Finals will be over before you know it!

Earth Day continued

restore pollinator habitats." (For more information about River Bend Wildland Trust, visit their website at www.rbwt.org and find them on Facebook.)

Tiffany Hamilton stated that this year's Earth Day event was especially successful because of the cooperation with River Bend Wildland Trust. Students enjoyed getting their hands dirty to make these treats to draw butterflies and other pollinators. The overall purpose behind Earth Day resonates with people from all walks of life. "We have a lot of faculty, staff, and students who feel very passionate about the earth, so it is a great event to host at Black Hawk College," remarked Hamilton.

Food for this event was provided by Antonella's Pizzeria. Members of SLC helped serve pasta, breadsticks and salad to students who filled their sticker cards by participating in the various activities surrounding the theme of Earth Day. Hamilton explained that they enjoy food from Antonella's because they use all locally grown produce.

On the beat at the BHC Jazz Festival

Katherine Pustejovsky
Chieftain Reporter

The energy was alive amongst the musicians as they performed at the Jazz Festival at Black Hawk College on April 23rd. The performance by the students displayed vitality in the art that was great to see.

However, as excited as they were, none of them could compare to the enthusiasm that was coming from the professor himself. Professor Crockett's exuberance matched every one of the students and then some. With goofy jokes and the inability to keep still, he amped up the energy to an amazing

level while keeping the mood light.

Among the performers was Marquis Hill, a guest and wonderful trumpet player. He is hailed as one of the distinguished trumpet players of his generation. He added his own class and style to the performances.

At the end, the audience gave the musicians a standing ovation with everyone walking out smiling. The performance was fun and exciting for both the musicians and the audience.

Baltimore under city-wide curfew

Anna Headley
Sports Editor & Reporter

Twenty-five year old Freddie Gray was arrested April 12 by Baltimore police officers before being transported to an area hospital due to spinal trauma he received during transportation. A week later, he was dead.

Gray was arrested for false charges of possession of a switchblade within Baltimore city limits. He actually had with him a spring assisted pocket knife, which is legal in Baltimore.

Maryland state prosecutors declared Gray's death a homicide on May 1, possibly due to rough-riding. Roughriding is an act by police where a person is handcuffed and placed unrestrained in the back seat of a police van or squad car. The driver then proceeds to operate the

vehicle in a reckless manner. Gray's spine was eighty-percent severed, and he also sustained a head injury matching a bolt in the back of the police van.

Six police officers were charged with varying crimes following the state prosecutors ruling. Officer Caesar R. Goodson Jr. was charged with involuntary manslaughter and second-degree depraved heart murder - the most serious of the charges.

Peaceful protests broke out across the city Apr. 25, though there was a small contingent of violence seekers. After Gray's funeral on Apr. 27, a picture spread on social media stating that a "Purge" would occur at 3:00 p.m. over a large area. To prevent such a thing, the Mondawmin Mall was closed and city officials shut

down transportation throughout the area.

Problems arose when classes were dismissed within the transportation dead zone. Students began throwing bricks and bottles at police officers in full riot gear outside the high school, and the officers returned the volley. A few buildings were looted and burned, as well as several squad cars destroyed. Fifteen officers were injured due to the unrest.

The next morning residents were cleaning the city. Two hundred people were arrested during the unrest. A curfew was imposed on the city, but many protesters ignored the measure and threw bottles at police before fireworks or smoke bombs were lobbed by protesters. The anti-riot line advanced, dispersing some

**Relieve your stress,
come pet a dog!**

dog!

Tuesday, May 12
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Building 1, Library

Approved by the American Veterinary Association
Approved by the American Veterinary Association

Black Hawk College
www.bhc.edu

The advertisement features a photograph of a smiling woman petting a black dog. The text promotes a stress-relief event where people can pet a dog at the library on Tuesday, May 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. It includes logos for the American Veterinary Association and Black Hawk College.

Grinder of the Month plays once more

Ryan Prochaska
Sports Reporter

The most successful teams in sports always seem to have a particular player who has the natural ability to lead their team regardless of the circumstances. By simply attending a Braves baseball game, one can quickly recognize just exactly who the undeniable leader of the team is.

John Boidanis's voice can be heard from far beyond the playing field, almost as if he had a microphone attached to his uniform. It doesn't make any difference what inning it is or what the score of the game may be, Boidanis is constantly encouraging and congratulating his teammates over the course of the game.

Prior to the start of the season, Coach Chavera chose Boidanis to be one of the three captains for this year's team. Boidanis was honored when he was picked to be one of the captains, and it's something he takes a lot of pride in.

"That's one thing I really pride myself in is being vocal on the field," Boidanis said. "I try to keep the energy going for the whole team, and keep everybody in the game."

Not only does Boidanis lead his team vocally, but he also leads with his outstanding play on the field. His current batting average is a solid .373, and he also has seven home runs and 32 RBI's this season as well. However, individual statistics is not something he concerns his self with. Boidanis would much rather see his team accomplish their overall goal of reaching the World Series rather than having outstanding statistics.

"My demeanor on the field is always emulated towards the team. I want our team to do well," Boidanis said. "When the team succeeds the individuals succeed, so our main focus is on the team succeeding," Boidanis said

Boidanis grew up in North Brook Illinois, where he was a three sport athlete playing baseball, foot-



Boidanis on first base after a base hit.

Photo courtesy of Ryan Prochaska

ball, and ice hockey. Boidanis always knew that he wanted to play baseball in college, but the road to getting a baseball scholarship wasn't something that came easy for him.

Boidanis was sidelined for most of the baseball season during his junior year at Glenn Brook North High School due to a strained shoulder muscle and a torn ligament in his elbow. The following year he separated his shoulder during a football game, which forced him to sit out for the first fifth-teen games of the baseball season. Due to all of the nagging injuries Boidanis didn't receive a lot of offers from colleges to play baseball.

However, Coach Chavera gave Boidanis the opportunity he had been looking for since he was playing little league when he offered him a spot on the team. Unfortunately, Boidanis continued to struggle with injuries during his freshman season. He suffered another shoulder injury, which resulted in six months of rehab to fully recover from the injury. At that particular time, Boidanis thought he would never play baseball again.

Boidanis had one particular supporter by his side during the rehab process. His uncle, who drives

over two hours to attend every home game, played a major role in supporting Boidanis during his time of need.

"He really pushed me to stay with it when I thought about giving up, and that really helped me out a lot," Boidanis said.

All of the hard work Boidanis put in over the past three years has finally paid off as he recently accepted an offer from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee to join their baseball program.

"That was honestly probably one of the best days of my life. It's always been my dream to play Division I baseball... When I first got that call my stomach dropped, and it was probably one of the best feelings I've ever had," Boidanis said.

From his first day at Black Hawk, Boidanis was thinking about what he had to do be a Division I baseball player. He admits at times he questioned if all the hard work would be worth it in the end. Boidanis was only one phone call away from accomplishing a dream of his since he was a kid. Once he received that call, Boidanis realized all the hard work was definitely worth it.

"As soon as I got that call, I knew that everything I did these

past three years was worth it one hundred percent," Boidanis said."

Boidanis will be the first to admit that he's changed a lot since he first arrived at Black Hawk three years ago. Boidanis says he was a little wild and sort of a troublemaker during his freshman year, but he credits Coach Chavera for helping him keep his head on straight.

"The expectations we have here as a program has really changed me for the better, and basically has helped me turn into a more respectful person," Boidanis said.

Over the course of his three years here at Black Hawk, Boidanis has loved his experience, and he believes that deciding to play for the Braves was one of the best decisions of his life. Boidanis has gained valuable friendships from his teammates and coaches that he will never forget. Boidanis has grown closer to his teammates than some of his friends he's had since he was ten years old.

"I've met guys here that will probably be in my wedding one day," Boidanis said. "I've met a lot of people that I will know for the rest of my life and that I will love forever, so I'm definitely going to miss it a lot."

For the last two seasons, Boidanis and the Braves fell short of reaching the NJCAA World Series by only two games. Boidanis knows this is his last chance to help his team reach the World Series, and he believes this year's team has what it takes to win a National Title.

"We have all the talent in the world, and if we can put it all together, we can easily make it. I think we're just as good if not better than everybody that we've played," Boidanis said.

From overcoming injuries to becoming the undeniable leader of the team, Boidanis's story displays how one's determination and hard work can lead to a road full of success.

Team USA Sled Hockey earns gold

Anna Headley
Sports Editor

Does Team USA hockey winning gold in a tough game in New York sound familiar? No, it's neither the Miracle on Ice nor the dream of a young Brooklyn player. Instead, it's reality.

In their fourth straight shutout, the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team took gold on May 3rd during the 2015 International Paralympic Committee Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships in Buffalo, New York. Team USA beat Team Canada 3-0, all three goals coming in the final period.

This is Team USA's third gold in four years, as they remain undefeated this year. This also marks the team's fifth championship in seven tournaments, the two most recent being the 2014 Paralympic Winter



Team USA with their gold medals in Buffalo, NY May 3.

Photo courtesy of paralympic.org

Games in Sochi, Russia and the 2015 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Alberta, Canada.

A fourth shutout in six gold medal games came for Steve Cash during this game, as Team USA out-

shot Canada 21-8. Josh Pauls earned honors as the Best Defensman of the tournament as awarded by the Directorate.

Sauer sees his fourth year of being the head coach of the U.S.

National Sled Hockey Team end on a very high note.

"It's really amazing to finish the season undefeated. It's a great credit to our guys. It's always fun to win," he says.

Adam Page set a new record for Team USA for tournament points with 11 (6-5). He previously won gold in the Olympic Games in Vancouver and Sochi.

Of the competition, Pauls said, "This was a season of firsts. It was the first time we defeated Canada in prelims of the World Sled Hockey Challenge and the first time we went undefeated at that same tournament... the first time we swept Canada in our annual three-game series... [and] it wrapped up in us completing our first-ever undefeated season..."

Davenport native Kevin McKee is a forward on the US National team for the fourth year, also having won gold in Sochi.

Mallards dramatic season ends on the road

Anna Headley
Sports Editor

The Mallards made the play-offs once again this season. All was right with the world until April 29th.

The Mallards acquired a new face in the form of center Michael Clarke on April 10th. Clarke finished his juniors career playing for the Peterborough Petes of the Ontario Hockey League on April 3rd.

April 11th the Mallards beat the Tulsa Oilers 2-1 in overtime for the final game of the regular season, locking third place in the Central Division. Matt Duffy scored in overtime unassisted to win the game. The team crowded onto the ice to celebrate and congratulate each other on a hard-fought and much needed victory.

With third place, the Mallards faced second place Rapid City Rush in the first round of the ECHL Kelly Cup Playoffs. This is not the first time the Mallards will have faced the Rush in the first round, as last season the Flock beat the Rush in game 7 to advance to the semi-finals. That series was not without its own thrills, as the second game went to overtime and games ranged from blow-outs to one goal deciding it all.

Another new talent was added by Coach Terry "Roscoe" Ruszkowski on April 13th, as Liam Stewart signed with the Flock that day. Stewart's Western Hockey League team, the Spokane Chiefs, was eliminated from the playoffs in triple overtime of game 6 on April 7th, leading to his contract with the Quad City team.

The Flock boarded a bus to Rapid City on April 15th, being seen off by 50 fans at the iWireless Center. The fans' cars were lined up in a tunnel, lights on and flashing as people honked horns, rang cowbells, and waved at their departing team.



Photo courtesy of Anna Headley

The Mallards at the Booster Club end of year party May 3

Before the bus left, two carloads of players had driven through the tunnel to pump the waiting fans up, as well as giving high-fives to each person. Carrie Idle and Terry Clarke escorted the Mallards' bus down the tunnel in the zamboni, their horn sounding along with the bus' and the fans'. The players seemed to enjoy the send-off, as they crowded onto the bunks to wave to fans. Coach Roscoe sat at the front of the bus with a large grin on his face as he waved.

The Mallards' first two playoff games were in Rapid City, the first on April 17th, and the second the following night. The Mallards took the first game 3-2 as both Stewart and Clarke scored their first professional goals, Benjamin Dieude-Fauvel scoring the winning goal. Dieude-Fauvel was then loaned to the French Na-

tional Team on April 20th to compete in the IIHF World Championship in the Czech Republic.

The next night the score was reversed, Joe Perry scoring both Mallards goals. Perry's second goal came while the Mallards were down a man.

In overtime on April 22nd, the Mallards lost 2-1 after the score had been 1-0 favoring the Mallards through most of the game.

April 24th saw the Mallards win 2-1 in what some could call luck. The Flock had plenty of chances that they were unable to capitalize on throughout the night. Assistant captain Lee missed a Mallards game for the first time in two seasons, being a healthy scratch to see Nick Grasso play.

April 25th Mosher earned his first professional playoff shutout

as the Mallards won 4-0. The Flock played intensely, rattling the Rush throughout the game. As the game progressed the Rush appeared to play more and more physically in hopes of gaining a point, but were met with failure.

April 28th the Mallards lost 3-2 after going down 3-1 after just twenty minutes of play. The next night the Mallards lost in Game 7 2-1, ending their season in dramatic fashion. All three goals came in the final twenty minutes.

The first Mallards game of the 2015-2016 season will be on the road in Allen on Oct. 16. Until then, keep your stick on the ice and your head up.

For more than viewing

Chloanne Simmering
Chieftain Reporter

You are a college student. You may not realize this but there are some nice perks that come along with that student ID. Today we will just be focusing on what you may be missing out on at the Figge in downtown Davenport. If you have never heard of the place, the Figge is an art museum. The Figge contains some of the more interesting pieces you will ever see, and it is practically sitting at your back door. Did I mention that if you have a college ID you get admission for free?

Right now the Figge is featuring artwork created by the University of Iowa faculty. This exhibit will be displayed until May 31. Another exhibit that will be expiring soon is called Interconnected in Art, Nature, Science, and Technology. Yuriko Yamaguchi is the artist behind the exhibit with her works done in the installation medium. She arranges found objects in such a way

that can create some of the most mesmerizing artwork in the entire museum.

If you thought the Figge was just for looking at art, you would be wrong. There are classes ranging from elementary students to adults, as well as events with a wide range of interests in mind. Wine and Art is an event that focuses on a certain medium once a month. The one for May takes place May 7th from 6-8 p.m. and focuses on vacation journals. If this is too short notice, the one in June will take place on June 4th from 6-8 p.m. and has a focus on calligraphy in art cards.

This is just the surface of what you are missing at the Figge. If you want to find out more about other events or just want to see what future exhibits will be featured, go to FiggeArtMuseum.org.



Free food!
Music!
Activities!

Organized by the
Student Leadership Council

STAR DATE:

THURSDAY, MAY 7

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Building 4, second floor

Hawk's Nest

SPACE: THE FINAL FRONTIER



Thirteen Reasons to Speak Up

Gayle Grundstrom
Chieftain Reporter

Suicide – it's a scary word, one many of us cannot even muster without crinkling up our faces. It forces us to think about experiences that wipe the smiles from expressions. Suicide – just the word has the ability to make the strongest person's heart sink.

"Thirteen Reasons Why," a novel by Jay Asher, is the story of a girl named Hanna Baker and the tapes she left behind after she committed suicide.

Now hold up; before you completely throw the possibility of reading this book out the window, you should know one thing -- you'll be turning through the pages so fast you won't notice the tears rolling down your face.

Hanna Baker had a plan before she died; she made a set of thirteen tapes, a map, and a list of all the people who the tapes should be sent to. One by one, the tapes will cycle through the intended listeners. She even had a second set of tapes created that could be sent out, this time to the public, if any of the beholders decide to destroy the tapes.

The tapes feature Miss Baker spilling her guts about why she feels the way she does, why she believes she has no other way out but to end it all.

Clay Jensen, the current tape-listener, actually cared about Hanna; he can't help but wonder why she would include him in her

version of a blame-game. But as he begins listening to her story, he can't stop. Clay decides to play along; he follows her map and quickly becomes caught up in the tragedy of Hanna's life.

"Thirteen Reasons Why" is more than just a story about a girl who faced one unfortunate event after another. This book opens your eyes to how your actions may affect the people around you.

Have you ever told someone you would meet them somewhere, but then completely stood them up? Did you ever think of intervening when someone probably needed your help, but instead you just walked away? Or maybe you decided to believe a rumor about someone instead of what they claimed to be true?

"No one knows for certain how much impact they have on the lives of other people. Oftentimes, we have no clue," expressed Hanna Baker in "Thirteen Reasons Why."

Each one of our lives is precious, everyone is important, and your actions matter. "Thirteen Reasons Why" simply helps to reiterate this concept by making us face one of the hardest realities of all – suicide.

Clay Jensen cared about Hanna; despite all her flaws, he really cared about her, but he was just too scared to admit it to her. This book reminds us that there are always people out there who give a damn, who want to see you happy and that's something we should never forget.

Don't trust him, Adeline

Anna Headley
Sports Editor & Reporter

Harrison Ford, Anthony Ingruber, and Blake Lively all in one movie? Sign me up! The Age of Adaline tells the story of Adaline Bowman, who after a freak accident stops aging and then experiences the whole of the 20th century.

We've all wondered at some point what it would be like to be immortal, and this is one take on that answer. Adaline is unable to stay in one place for very long, as people become suspicious of her youthful appearance. She's forced to leave behind her daughter, who continues to age, and every time she moves she is forced to take a new identity.

While there is some romance, it's a bit of a drama as well due to Adaline's attempts – sometimes unsuccessfully – to avoid relationships throughout her life. There are several flashbacks throughout the movie detailing one relationship that she had in the 1960's, which then relates to the present relationship.

I didn't care for Ellis, the male lead for the present relationship. He seemed a bit of a stalker, not taking no for an answer when he began flirting with Adaline, as well as finding out her address from her place of employment and showing up at her house one night uninvited. While later on in the movie he seemed to have stopped

exhibiting those issues, I still kept wanting to yell at the screen "don't trust him!"

It wasn't quite what I expected, as I had thought it would be more Young Harrison Ford Lookalike – played by Anthony Ingruber – and that was one of the main reasons I went (what can I say, I'm a sucker for Harrison Ford). But once I got past that misconception and into the actual plot, it was a very entertaining movie.

It had lots of some definite sci-fi elements that made me wonder how accurate they were (such as the comet crashing into the moon which caused a storm that was a major plot point). The fact that they used psuedo-science to explain the freak accident was interesting, as opposed to the hand-wavey magic of "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" or other such fantasy movies.

I understand the concept of suspension of disbelief, but I rather like psuedo-science in movies because what if psuedo-science becomes real science, much as the communicators from "Star Trek: The Original Series" led to the invention of cell phones? While I'm not saying I think a person could become immortal through the circumstances in the movie, I do like the attempt at a scientific explanation for the occurrence.

Comedy of the artists

Anna Headley
Sports Editor & Reporter

Comedia Dell'arte- comedy of the artists. Renaissance Italian improvised theatre came to St Ambrose University in April to boistrous laughter.

Comedia Dell'arte was popular from the 16th -18th centuries in Italy, incorporating slapstick comedy with music, dancing, and improvised lines. SAU's Comedia Dell'Arte included the old jokes that were popular then as well as making modern jokes to fit the present day.

The premise of Comedia Dell'arte is simple: stock characters

are placed into a variety of scenarios that they then must act through. Many of these scenarios are commonly used in sitcoms today such as forbidden love or mistaken identities. Shakespeare used these scenarios in his own plays such as Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, and A Comedy of Errors.

A stage upon the stage was set up, a large curtain with patches set over the smaller stage. The lights did not dim when the show began; the narrator/ Dottore came out to give a bit of history about Comedia Dell'arte and the standard warning of no cell phones. Then the true comedy began.

Classic slapstick comedy is

warred with witty jokes, modern pop culture references, and school pride. At one point, as Dottore began speaking of how he'd earned his Bachelors of Art at SAU, the cast all broke into the school's anthem.

The following week the troupe traveled to area high schools just as the classic Comedia Dell'Arte troupes did, adjusting the skits for each audience.

I found the play thoroughly enjoyable, it being simultaneously exactly what I expected and not at all what I thought. To think that this was once a common thing on the streets makes me wish that it still was in the Quad Cities as I would gladly return to see it again.

Baltimore

some of the crowd. Pepper balls were then launched, clearing the remaining crowd. The National Guard was called into the city to enforce curfew and dispel protests.

The citywide curfew was lifted on May 3 from the city. The soldiers were expected to be fully withdrawn within a week, at which point the state of emergency would be ended.

Anna is in her second year of majoring in journalism with the goal of being a hockey columnist; this is her third semester as a sports columnist. Her other interests include playing hockey, reading, and free writing. She runs an unofficial blog about the QC Mallards at qcmallardshockey.tumblr.com.



Peter Pustejovsky, Guest Cartoonist

Operation unending obligation

Soldiers still supporting our United States

Jennifer A. Simmering
Editor-in-Chief, Layout & Design

Whether they joined the Air force, Army, Navy, or Marine Corp, they went to fight against terror – on a mission – a commitment. Niko Pilcher, Benefits & Education Counselor with the Veterans Resource Center at Black Hawk College served in the Army and understands the mentality of a former soldier wanting to go back to fight against ISIS with Kurdish peshmerga forces.

“When they were deployed to Iraq, they felt like what they did actually did some good.” Pilcher explained. “They want to make sure the good doesn’t go to bad use.”

The Associated Press published an article in April describing three ex-military personnel who completed their service on good terms, but returned to the Middle East as private citizens to continue the fight. Initially, as a military soldier, they may have been in Iraq battling al-Quada. Now they return to the battlefield to fight an even harsher combatant – ISIS.

The different men have various reasons for taking this task to heart. For some, it’s a means of dealing with PTSD. Others feel they are completing unfinished business. More are driven by the same moral obligation that took them to the Middle East in the first place. Even though it was a mission or a command directed by the U.S. Military, they took the obligation personally and don’t feel the work was completed when their deployment ended.

Former U.S. Marine Jamie Lane suffers with PTSD and returned to the Middle East for two reasons. “In order to aid my recovery from PTSD,” Lane explained, “I have taken it upon myself to fight on my terms, against an enemy I know is evil.”

Scott Curley is another U.S. veteran of the Iraq war who was interviewed by the Associated Press. His motivation to return spiked after the Islamic State militants beheaded Peter Kassig, a former U.S. Army Ranger, who had returned to the area to provide humanitarian aid and help Syrian civilians. “I’m just a man with a gun,” Curley stated, “but whatever little difference I can do, it could help.”

These soldiers are just a few who’ve been deployed to various locations and know from experience that territory can’t be acquired or maintained through current U.S. tactics alone. They understand that the U.S. is hesitant to put boots on the ground to fight this war; however,



Photo courtesy of AP

Former U.S. Marine Jamie Lane in front of abandoned Iraq Humvee

they also know that airstrikes and arms deliveries (as currently ordered by our government) are not enough.

Bruce Windorski, a former Army Ranger and ex-police officer, responded to people who view his choice to take this fight on as a form of extremism. “I’m not a mercenary or in love with killing people,” clarified Windorski. “I’ve lived through the loss of loved ones fighting on foreign soil. I have seen families with deployed loved ones. It’s hell on everyone involved.” Training Kurdish fighters with the Syria-based People’s Protection Units (YPG), Windorski says the he would rather see a “random Westerner” fighting alongside the Kurds than have another full-scale invasion.

Jordan Matson was a Private First Class in the United States Army who went to fight with the Kurdish People’s Protection Unit (YPG). He informed his family and friends that he was being hired by a private army to help in the war against the Islamic State. The Journal-Sentinel reported that Matson left a post on Facebook stating he was injured in a battle but fine. “I was hit by a mortar during a six hour fire fight but I am fine,” wrote Matson. “I delivered an ISIS bastard to hell. Please keep me and the other Americans and Kurdish fighters in your prayers.”

Allowing Westerners to join the Kurdish forces has only been allowed since last summer when the self-proclaimed Islamic State closed in on their regional capital of Irbil. Peshmerga spokesman Halgurd

Hekmat acknowledged, “During wartime, necessity imposed itself. It’s an extraordinary situation and it’s not a secret that the peshmerga wasn’t prepared for this battle.”

While American vets believe that the Kurds need as much help as they can get, it is not recommended that just anyone join the fight. Potential volunteers should not only have military experience, but should also have knowledge of the area they are going in to.

Other countries have former military personnel joining the fight against ISIS as independents as well. Erik Konstandinos Scurfield from Greece was killed in his personal battle against ISIS. In a speech given shortly after his death, it specifically stated that this soldier was not a mercenary. They said that he wasn’t even an out of work soldier looking for adventure. He was a well-paid member of the Royal Marines, and left that position to fight against ISIS. A portion of this speech shares the thoughts and values of many Americans who’ve lost lives in this fight.

“Kosta was determined to make a difference, and although this is not a way that many of us would have had him choose, it was the way he considered the best for him and I am proud of him for finding the courage to do this. He went out to oppose so called Islamic State of course, but really, he went out to support the fundamental rights of every human being to live in their own country, with a government they have chosen rather than one

imposed on them by religious ideology, the right to worship the God of their choice, in the way they choose, to celebrate their own culture and language, to read and speak freely, to make music and enjoy art or play football without fear of brutal execution. In other words, he was a humanitarian who, in his own words, wanted to help.”

Other countries joining in the fight include, but are not limited to, France, UK, Germany, Belgium, Scandinavia, Netherlands and Australia. Reasons these warriors provide include feeling a sense of brotherhood or that it’s a good cause to fight against ISIS. Many others have political or religious motivation to guide their determination. Some of these countries have laws in attempts to prevent citizens from going to fight with other countries, even if they are fighting for good.

The United States, at this point, does not have a law against citizens fighting with other countries against our enemies. However, the U.N. Security Council has issued the recommendation that all countries do so. “All countries should make it a serious criminal offense for their citizens to fight abroad with militant groups.”

“We have warned all U.S. citizens to defer all travel to Syria,” remarked State Department spokeswoman, Jen Psaki. “We also remain concerned about any citizen traveling to take part in military operations.”

May is Military Appreciation Month! Be sure to show your appreciation to our campus veterans, active duty, and reserve military personnel in the Veterans Resource Center.

