

Past Events
Photo
Montage
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Pedas
Comm.
Center
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Student's view
of Liberal-Arts
education
(Academics pg. 5)

THE THIELENSIAN

the student-run newspaper of Thiel College in Greenville, PA

Volume 132 Issue 2

Friday, October 11, 2013



Thiel HOME-COMING HAPPENINGS

compiled by Keeley Criswell

**Starred Items
require reservations.**

All Weekend:

Kappa Sigma See-Saw-Athon
The brothers of EO will hold their annual See-Saw-Athon in front of the HMSC which will culminate on Sunday at noon.

Friday, Oct. 11:

2 p.m. - Wine Tasting*

From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. there will be a wine-tasting event hosted by St. Paul's on the first floor of the library.

3:30 - 6 p.m. - Class of 1963 50th Reunion*

Sawhill-Georgian Room

4 - 6 p.m. - Post Golf Scramble Reception*

Greens of Greenville

4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. - Student-Alumni Network Reception*

Downing Dining Room, Lower Level of the HMSC

Please join members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors at this special networking reception geared toward assisting current students with building their professional network, connecting with current alumni and to provide advice on how best to make their way upon graduation.

5 p.m. - Class of 1958 55th Reunion Dinner*

Greens of Greenville

6 p.m. - Alumni Awards Ceremony*

Lutheran Heritage Room, HMSC

7:15 p.m. - Alumni Reunion Dinner* --

Weyers Lounge, HMSC

9:00 p.m. - Homecoming Court Announcement and Fireworks

Alumni Stadium

Come out to the football field for the annual Homecoming pep rally! The band will play and the fireworks will bang. That's right, there will be a fireworks display after the announcement of the Homecoming King and Queen!

9:30 p.m. - Alumni Party Tent

After the fireworks, come over to the party tent for some live music.

[cont. on pg. 3]

We would like to apologize for mislabeling an article in our previous edition. The article about the Thiel Learning Commons (TLC) also contained information about library activities. Although the library and the TLC share a building, they are separate entities. The "Reference Road Trip" a library activity. We apologize for this mistake.

Fall Coming and Illness Rising: Take action before sickness strikes

by Kayla Kemper, kkemper@thiel.edu

As many of you know, there has been a string of sickness going around since the beginning of Sept., infecting nearly every student and even some professors. Many of you are probably wondering to yourselves: why is everyone getting so sick? Well, there are a few reasons as to why, and there are always ways to prevent getting colds in the future.

When everyone arrived at Thiel, the summer season was coming to an end and fall was creeping at its ankles. Some days were hot and some were cold, which resulted in the dreaded colds. Because of

the rapid change in temperature, our body's immune system was shocked and unable to deal with the fluctuations in weather.

Weather alone can't make a person ill, but changes in weather are accompanied by a host of other changes that can give a person flu symptoms.

Your body is used to functioning in a certain temperature, so as the seasons change, your body is forced to re-adapt. This includes your immune system, making you more vulnerable to infections and viruses.

[cont. on pg. 4]

Alumni return for Homecoming events

by Sean Oros, soros@thiel.edu

Homecoming has arrived, and with it comes the chance for students, faculty, and staff to show off "what's new" on campus to alumni and present their Thiel spirit. On the other hand, it is also a chance for alumni to show their support of Thiel and its mission. Several alumni willingly gave their valuable time for interviews and provided some thoughts on how Thiel has affected them and the progress currently underway at the school.

Roy Wilt Sr., '59, a former Dean of Men at Thiel and Pennsylvania State Senator, was very involved during his time at Thiel; he was a president of the Junior and Senior classes, business manager for the Endymion, involved in the Thiel players and the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, among other varied activities.

"[Thiel] is small enough that you're not forced into specialization where you become a microcosm of one subject," Wilt said. "It's a liberal arts institution, which prepares you to be flexible. Course content stuff: sure, it helps you. But, it's beyond that; it's the tools [Thiel] gives you to cope."

Leo Phillips, '83, was involved with football and Delta Sigma Phi during his time at Thiel. "I have a lot of Thiel shirts," Phillips said. "It seems that every time you wear them, someone says something. One time, I was in a hotel up in Minneapolis, and this guy sits down next to me and looks at my shirt. He asked if I went to Thiel; I said yeah and he told me he had gone there, too. I asked him what years. Turned out he was one of my fraternity brothers—he was a

senior when I was a freshman."

Phillips also reflected on his role as a member of the board of associates and its role in Thiel's motto of "committed to you." "There's been a lot of change for the good: as in, every time we meet, a student's there," Phillips said. "The board of associates makes recommendations of changes for the school; the actual executive board makes the decisions, but they approve most of the recommendations. I've always felt, if it's something that affects you, you should have some input."

For instance, one guy was saying there weren't enough change machines a couple years ago, and then we added a couple more. He said it was such a big improvement, and it barely cost anything.

[cont. on pg. 4]



Thiel welcomes back its alumni for the weekend.



Due to the current state of shutdown in the capital, all national parks are closed until further notice.

American Govt. Powers Off

by Bri Tiedeman, btied586@thiel.edu

On Monday, Sept. 30, the United States Senate refused a double proposal to remove the Obamacare mandate. This unexpected refusal set the stage for government shutdown, which means spending bills that fund the government are no longer being passed by Congress and some, not all, of government functions are ground in their stakes.

The hype of this shutdown revolves around Obama's health plan, The Affordable Care Act. A republican group leader, Senator Ted Cruz, believes that "the president's signature domestic policy achievement is so bad for the country that it is worth disrupting government funding to undercut it."

Opposition to Obamacare says that the idea and its fine details will hinder businesses long term and

send jobs basically overseas. The democrats defend the bill by noting that health care will expand, providing health insurance to those with pre-existing medical conditions and also eliminating the cost factor for those with health insurance of people without health insurance.

So what happens while we are 'powered off'? A few changes. "Most of the 3.3 million government workers are deemed essential — they'll keep working," according to CNN.com. "But more than 800,000 government employees will sit at home." Economist Brian Kessler and his firm report that a 3 to 4 week government shut down will cost our economy about \$55 billion.

Despite the long-term effects, the postal system will run, the military will remain active, and social

security checks will still be received. Federal loans however are on pause, as well as gun permits and passports.

In summary, we Americans are pointing the blame in a few different directions. An international poll conducted by CNN in partnership with ORC resulted in 46% blaming congressional republicans for their refusal, 36% believing the president is at fault, and 13% torn on both accounts.

More updates are expected on this issue as the debt ceiling decision is scheduled to be finalized by Oct. 17. Since the shutdown itself is costing money, our already almost \$17 trillion debt credit card could potentially reach its limit.

The last time a government shutdown occurred was in late 1995 and lasted 3 weeks in total.

From Streets to Success; Prince of Peace presents at Thiel

by Bri Tiedeman, btied586@thiel.edu

Never had a more moving presentation occurred in the LHR until Thursday, Sept. 19. From 10 to 11 a.m., Brandi Kirby, from the Prince of Peace center in Farrell, PA discussed with Communication students and faculty her nearly 30 year battle against a condemned home life, severe drug addiction, tried and failed relationships and pregnancies, and ongoing homelessness.

The Prince of Peace center is a national organization which strives to "provide support for the economic, emotional, and spiritual needs of those needing a helping hand to build self-sufficiency," according to their website. They are committed to strengthening those in need with the affiliation of the Catholic Charities, Diocese of Erie. Services include Emergency Services, Family Supportive Services, Food services, Mission thrift store, and PA WorkWear.

The director of the Prince of Peace in Farrell, Natalie Higbee, represented Kirby on Thursday and discussed more about the project's mission. According to Higbee's research, the average age of a homeless person, male or female is 7-years-old. There are 3.5 million homeless people in the United States alone. Higbee's rewarding job enables her to decrease these statistics, and she did just that with Kirby and her story.

Higbee and the Prince of Peace Center pulled Kirby off the streets early 2008 where she then received counseling through the Catholic Charity system for her traumatic endeavors prior to that point. Kirby had been on the streets since she was 14, after her brother and sister were killed in a house fire and her mother was sentenced to prison.

From the time she was 14 to the time she committed herself to a better life, she had been pregnant seven times and she was on and off the streets, going inside abandoned houses only to abuse narcotics. She was also associated with a murder and robbery alongside her ex-boyfriend, who is now in prison for life for his murder sentence.

Despite her hardships, Kirby made the realization that her life had plateaued and she wanted to make a change. "I was sick and tired of being sick and tired; I was at rock bottom," Kirby said.

[continued on pg. 4]



Flu season 2013 is in full swing

Thiel Happenings

Monday, Oct. 14 – 9:30 p.m.

Haunted Collector: John Zaffis

Interested in ghosts? Come see the #1 Ghost Hunter in America. He has over 36 years of experience studying and investigating the paranormal. He has even starred on the SyFy channel. So, see his presentation and learn something about ghost hunting and hauntings!

Thursday, Oct. 24 – 9:30 p.m.

TAB Game Show: Chain Reaction

This game show will be based off of the television game show that bears the same name. Sign up for your chance to compete and win prizes! Contact Than Oo for more information.

Sunday, Oct. 27

Cedar Point Trip

Signups will soon be announced for the Cedar Point Trip. Thiel will provide transportation and tickets for entry into the park. Sign up for a fun day at the amusement park!

Thiel Trivia Tuesdays – p.m.

Every Tuesday, TAB hosts a trivia game in the Bistro. A team must consist of at least two students, but can have more. The winning team(s) will receive a gift card.

“It was one of the most fun days I’ve ever had at Thiel. It was a great experience and it made us work together as a team,” senior Alison House said.

TAB Hosts Whitewater Rafting trip to Ohiopyle

by Claire Lee, Hlee@thiel.edu

6 a.m. on Sept. 29, some students get in a big bus. Where are they going to go?

The place where they departed from school is Ohiopyle, PA for rafting! About 40 students had to wake up early and take a bus for a long time.

After they arrived at Ohiopyle, they were received life jackets and helmets and a couple of rafting guides.

They divided into groups of 4-6 people made some group from 4 to 6 in a boat. Then, their long rafting started. Length was 7.5 miles taking about 4 hours. They could enjoy both rapid parts and calm deep parts.

There is time to catch their breath and see scenery. Some of them fell into water because of accidents or hitting by friends.

The river where students enjoyed their rafting is Youghiogheny. Youghiogheny means ‘river that bends backwards on itself’. So, people who do sports there can see good natural sight-seeing and experience adventure. The place where

they did rafting is ‘TRAVELERS 50 Tours of a Lifetime in 2012’. So, you can assume how much fun they are.

“It was one of the most fun days I’ve ever had at Thiel. It was a great experience and it made us work together as a team” said Alison House in computer science department.

“I saw all students had really fun, so I am satisfied with that. And also, I am going to plan doing rafting again on next year. So, if you didn’t do that, I recommend expecting next year” Student Activities director Than Oo said.

There are some useful tips to students who will do rafting next year.

First, it’s absolutely good for you to wear well-dried clothing and aqua shoes, not cotton clothing and flip-flops.

You will be wet totally, so it is easy to be cold. Secondly, taking something to read or full-battery makes your bus trip more not boring. It takes 3 hours on one way, so you need to carry something

on the bus. It will be a nice experience, even though there are some muscle pains

after rafting.

Besides, school pays 37 dollars each person. So, stu-

dents who signed up quickly will be able to grab a good chance for free.



On Sept. 27, several students ventured to Ohiopyle to experience a white water rafting experience hosted by the Thiel Activities Board.

Thiel College POLICE BLOTTER

compiled by Bri Tiedeman



Campus Police encourages everyone to have safe weekends and to abide by the new policies, especially during Homecoming weekend.

October 3, 2 a.m. Underage Drinking

A student did admit to drinking beer while underage at Flo West Hall.

October 8, 3 p.m. Criminal Mischief

A student's room was broken into and messed up while they were away at football practice.

SGA Sponsors Blood Drive

by Sara Toombs, stoombs@thiel.edu

Perhaps hoping for a mid-week “Pop-Up Event,” many students stopped on their way to class last Wednesday to peer into the Lutheran Heritage Room, where nurses and student volunteers were bustling about, helping to make the annual fall blood drive a big success.

On Sept. 25, the Student Government Association worked in coordination with the Beaver office of the American Red Cross to host one of two yearly blood drives. SGA has continued this project each semester as a way to support its commitment to serving Thiel students and the community. Hosting an open blood drive on campus makes it easy for the students to contribute to their community in a big way.

“I really like that Thiel has blood drives for the students,” Jenna Farina, a junior, commented. “It’s a good way to give back.”

This semester’s campaign, “Fall into Giving Blood,” was advertised throughout campus during Sept.. Students were encouraged to sign-up for a donation time, although walk-ins were also welcome. By Wednesday, 60 students and faculty were registered.



Timothy Hutton assists donor Hunter Michaelis.

The event itself went smoothly and successfully, even with many last minute cancellations due to another round of the “Thiel Plague” circulating. Volunteers from the Red Cross began setting up the LHR early in the day, assisted by the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi. Members of the fraternity were present to help throughout the entire drive. Seth Bell, the fraternity’s philanthropy chair, coordinated all the volunteers and manned the registration table from beginning to end.

Another brother of the fraternity, Timothy Hutton, volunteered for two hours. “Our fraternity’s philanthropy

is the American Red Cross, so we are always willing to help out with the drives. It means a lot to all the brothers,” Hutton said. “It was awesome to see so many students show up to help out for the cause.”

The total donation goal for the event was 46 units, including double red donations. Double red is a special process that allows a donor to give two units’ worth of red blood cells by circulating plasma back into the body. Overall, 43 units were collected, including 35 whole bloods and 4 double reds. Though only 93.5 percent of the goal was reached, Thiel’s donations have the potential to save 113 lives.

Wanna see a movie? BLY HALL PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS...

Kick-Ass 2:

Sunday, Oct. 13 and Wednesday, Oct. 16, – 9 p.m.

Watch the crime fighters as they embark on new adventures in this action-packed comedy. As the crime fighters attempt to live normal lives, trouble brews, forcing them back into their crime-fighting habits.

Despicable Me 2:

Wednesday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 26 (Main Street Greenville) – 9 p.m.

Those little, yellow guys are back. Watch as Gru (voice of Steve Carrell), with the help of his minions, attempts to save the world in this sequel to an animated favorite.

by Keeley Criswell, kcris483@thiel.edu

The members of the Alumni Association board of directors invite you to attend a

Student / Alumni Network Reception
Friday, October 11

4:30-6:30 pm

In the Downing Dining Room (lower level of the HMSC)

Meet with current alumni and gain valuable insight on how to make your way in the world after graduation!



13 LEVELS OF FEAR GHOST LAKE

at the
HAUNTED AMUSEMENT PARK
at CONNEAUT LAKE PARK, PA
12382 Center St.
Sept. 20th thru Nov. 2nd
Fri. & Sat. 7 to midnight, Halloween & Sun. 7 to 11
LARGEST HALLOWEEN ATTRACTION IN PA
Takes over 2 hours to get through it all if you can
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with ad for each person in your entire group

HOMECOMING THROUGH THE YEARS



Thiel's 1961 Cross Country team



1963 Sigma Phi Epsilon winning homecoming float



1969 Swim Team



Some students play in the mud 1974



Savvy gentlemen sunning themselves 1975



A fresh football player 1978



Students revel in winter 1979



A Christmas celebration 1981



The staff of the 1982 Thielensian



The staff of the 1988 Thielensian

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About the Thielensian ...

The *Thielensian* is Thiel College's student-run newspaper, funded by the Student Government Association.

Our mission is to serve the campus community by publishing timely, fair, and relevant news, sports, feature stories, and other information, and to provide a lively forum for student expression and the opinion of others on campus.

The *Thielensian* encourages letters to the editor of 300 words or less by traditional mail and preferably by e-mail. Letters must be signed (no pseudonyms, please) and a phone number must be provided for verification.

Letters must be free from offensive language, personal attacks, obvious errors in fact, and libelous or potentially libelous statements. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, and we reserve the right to reject any letter.

Guest columns, letters or other opinions expressed in the *Thielensian* are the views of the writer and don't necessarily reflect those of the staff and adviser or the college.

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A women's basketball game 1980



1996 cheerleading squad



Students in costume for Halloween 2008

We would like to thank the Endymion for their record keeping, thus allowing us to compile the pictures on this page.



Math and Computer Science Club 1994



Lovely ladies enjoying dorm life 1995



Farewell Festival of 1979



Phi Theta Phi Tug of War, Greek Olympics 2001

Thiel HOMECOMING Happenings (continued from front page)

Saturday, Oct. 12

8 a.m. – 5K Run/Walk for Malaria

Glen Johnson Center
It's not too late to sign up for this event. The cost is \$20 per participant and all proceeds benefit the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Registration last from 7:15-7:45 a.m.
8:30 a.m. – Choir Alumni Breakfast
Weyers Lounge, HMSC

10 a.m. – Guided Campus Tours*

Admission's Office, HMSC
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Tommy Tomcat's Kids' Zone

Alumni Stadium Lawn
There will be activities for ages 3-12.
11 a.m. – Class of '13 Gift Dedication

Basketball Court, Lower Campus Quad
The dedication of the new

outdoor basketball court will take place on Saturday. It was donated by the class of 2013.

11:15 a.m. – Alumni Basketball Matchup

Basketball Court, Lower Campus Quad
After the dedication, there will be an alumni game taking place on the new courts.

11:30 a.m. – Bly Hall Renovation Dedication

Bly Hall, AC
Bly hall was renovated over the summer, providing the students with new seats, new decoration, and more! Come see what was done!
12 p.m. – 2 p.m. – Tailgate Lunch

Lunch will be served on the Alumni Stadium Lawn. The cost is \$5 per person

who does not have a meal plan. It will cost one meal swipe to those with a plan.

1 p.m. – Homecoming Parade

The parade route runs from Riverside Park to campus via Greenville's main street. Find a spot to watch themed floats parade past you.

5:30 p.m. – All Alumni BBQ Dinner*

Alumni Stadium

Sunday, Oct. 13

10 a.m. – Service of Remembrance

David Johnson Memorial Chapel

Come to this special worship service designed to honor our deceased alumni and friends.

Alumni perspectives pre-homecoming

[cont. from fr. page]

“What you learn educationally, you can learn a lot of different places,” said Philips. “What I found to be an advantage is that it’s small enough that you can meet a lot of people, and—30 some years later—I still talk to a lot of them.” This is true; many colleges can offer similar educations, but not necessarily with similar campus size.

“The networking opportunities are numerous,” Nick Travaglianti, ’11, added. “I’ve already recruited two people from Thiel where I work.”

One of the major changes to Thiel’s campus is the construction of the Pedas Communications Building, emphasizing presentation skills across all majors. “There’s a need for salesmanship,” Wilt said, reflecting on this needed talent. “There was one guy

who came here, from up near Lake Erie, who went to work at one of the banks in Cleveland. They had some big presentation, and at the last second his boss couldn’t make it; they had to showcase this fellow. He was prepared; he had taken speech classes here. And he ended up becoming vice-president of the bank, just because he had a chance to show what he could do. Those are the kinds of things that, if you are presented with the opportunity to and prepared to handle it, classes here can give you the momentum to pursue.”

“It’s definitely something Jim Pedas wanted to do, and it will enhance the communication major,” Philips added.

The improvements, in Wilt’s words, “bode well for the school, for present students and alumni alike. A high-tide raises all ships; the

better a reputation of a place, the better for everyone, including those connected with the history.” With future improvements already in stages of planning, new faculty and staff, generous gifts to support the college’s mission, the wisdom of committed alumni, and the enthusiasm of each new freshman class, it would seem as if Thiel’s tide will only continue to rise.

“If we don’t know what you guys think needs to be done, we can’t fix it for you.”

Thankfully, as in this example, Thiel has listened when students have communicated themselves, making for a variety of changes and improvements over its history.

Thiel, either despite or because of its size, offers many chances to connect with fellow students across campus.



Every day of the school week, students spend time in the Academic Center (AC). However, in 1969, there was no AC attached to the science building. Thiel began construction on the AC in 1970. The addition of this building was an exciting moment for Thiel, just as the addition of the James Pedas Communications Center is exciting now.

Preventative Maintenance for Fall sickness

[continued from fr. page]

As for why the majority of students on campus are getting ill is simple: everyone is so close together that it is next to impossible not to get a cold. Just like in the cities in the old ages, like in London, if there was an illness of any type roaming around and infecting people, it was hard to stay healthy. But unlike them, we have ways of preventing illnesses.

One way to make sure you stay healthy during the

transition into fall is to wash your hands. It may seem like common sense, but it is often overlooked. Wash hands as frequently as possible.

It is important to have plenty of cold medicine. There are plenty of medicines that fight the symptoms of a cold before the cold gets any worse, so it is important to have those on hand and to take them at the first signs of a cold.


Drink lots of water and

fruit juice. The less soda and coffee you drink, the better. Water and juice will keep you hydrated and if you drink orange, grape, or apple juice, you have less of a chance of catching a cold because of all of the nutrients and vitamins they contain that help build and strengthen your immune system.

Finally, get lots of bed rest. Taking one day to really rest and focus on getting better is the key to a shorter cold.

ΦΘΦ 1st Annual Cookout

Saturday October 12th
1:30pm - 5pm
At the Phi House



5.10 Per Plate (Chicken and sides)
Credit Cards and Cash Accepted
Extra Donations Also Accepted

Come Join the brothers of Phi Theta Phi for their first annual cookout!

Student Philanthropy Council Offers Volunteer Opportunities

by Mozelle Jordan, mjordan@thiel.edu

Philanthropy is the desire to promote and stimulate the wellbeing of others, especially through generous donations of money to good causes. Thiel’s Student Philanthropy Council was founded for just this reason.

Not only do the people who run the council make it their mission to raise enough money to help fund causes for the student body, but they also provide great opportunities for self-growth. Getting involved with the council not only means taking on a student leadership role but also provides the opportunity to instill greater appreciation for the philanthropic spirit and a chance to make a difference.

Even though the chal-

lenges that come with a new program make their appearance on occasion, it is never for long.

“Thiel may be late getting into the game, but I know that we can definitely hit it out of the park,” Leta Jeffers, the head of the Student Philanthropy Council, said.

And with confidence and motivation from everyone on the council, it pushes forward, offering a variety of ways to brighten a future. Whether it’s Service Saturdays, Gold People, Senior Class Gift Committee, or Tuition Free Day, there is always a chance to jump in, fundraise, and help spread awareness. If anyone is looking for a way to show person-

al support for their peers and community, or if a résumé builder is needed, the Student Philanthropy Council may be a good place to start.

“Everyone has this idea in their head that younger generations don’t care, but I don’t think that’s true,” Hillary Hambleton, Jeffer’s student worker, explained.

If anyone is interested in getting involved, receiving financial help, or just showing support, they can contact the council by emailing LJeffers@thiel.edu or HHambleton@thiel.edu for more information, or by “liking” the SPC Facebook or Prezi pages.

Prince of Peace center speaks in LHR

[cont. from fr. pg.]

After already having spent time in the Prince of Peace center, Narcotics Anonymous, and several other help groups to change her life and certify her change, Kirby was notified that a warrant for her federal arrest was issued late 2008. The warrant blindsided and scared her, but instead of running like she would have while she was on the streets, she took the appropriate measures to deal with her potential arrest.

Kirby was in and out of federal courtrooms but she mentioned, “I always had people there,” which was something she was not accustomed to.

The aftermath of the court hearings resulted in just two years of probation and 80 hours of community service. Kirby is now employed, has a license, is in contact with more than half of her children and her recently released mother, and is married to the father of her daughter, Alysia. Kirby has spoken at Penn State, Thiel College, and several surrounding high schools, though this year she hopes to speak at the high school in

Farrell, because that is where she grew up.

Communication professor, Dr. Laurie Moroco planned the event and invited her classes including Intercultural and Persuasion. Students were moved and this was evident by the question and answer session after the presentation.

Senior Nick Ferraccano asked Kirby, “If there was one thing you could change back when you were a

teenager, what would it be?”

Kirby responded by saying she would have not let the man who committed murder go into the house where it happened.

Another senior, Taryn Benner, asked Kirby, “What did it finally take for you to realize you needed to get your life together?”

Kirby responded by saying “It took a whole community,” and that community was The Prince of Peace.



Brandi Kirby has divulged her moving story at several schools including Thiel several times, Penn State, and also surrounding high schools.

Bogdan’s Hazing Seminar a Success

by Brianna Tiedman, btiedman@thiel.edu

On Sept. 25 in the Passavant Center, Resident Director Indiana Bogdan, who works closely with Thiel’s Greek Life advisor, hosted and narrated a presentation which educated members of Greek Life and also student athletes about the policies and other aspects of hazing - including its origin and history - publicized hazing stories, and ultimately shared some alternatives to hazing. Over 300 people were in the audience.

The theme of the program’s slideshow was “HAZING – Know. Decide. Act.” Bogdan, per requirement, read the audience the Pennsylvania hazing law and Thiel’s hazing policy. Both of these documents state in summary that any reckless or intentional behavior which endangers the physical or mental well-being of the participant or destroys or removes public or private property is considered hazing.

A video of the brutal outcomes of hazing rituals followed the hazing policy document. The public service announcement was made by high school English students and used visual aids to expose the dangers hazing brings forth.

Something that differed from last year’s hazing pro-



Indiana Bogdan, RD, hosted a successful hazing seminar

gram put on in Bly Hall was the interactive question-and-answer games Bogdan utilized. Following the video students were asked about whether the shown hazing myths were true or false and anyone who answered a question which Bogdan approved received full size candy bars from Than Oo, Thiel’s Student Activities director. These myths included, but were not limited to, hazing teaching respect and discipline, hazing being all in good fun, that if the victims agree to be hazed then it is not considered hazing, etc.

After discussing the serious consequences of hazing such as PTSD, physical injury, mental instability, lawsuits, etc., a few sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha performed a

skit which encompassed some elements of hazing and some elements of acceptable new member processes. For example, Junior Deb Donatelli acted as the “pledge master” and referred to her “new members” with nicknames and profanities.

Overall, Bogdan was incredibly pleased with the outcome of the event. “I was just really happy that everybody came and participated,” Bogdan said. “Everyone had some nice comments; we wanted to make it more of a discussion rather than a lecture.”

An interactive portion of the program included a question-and-answer session where students could suggest alternative activities which would bond members without hazing. Sophomore Dillon Stevens, brother of Sigma Phi Epsilon, suggested going fishing with his new members. Other suggestions included going to on-campus events, having sleepovers, movie nights, etc.

Students can expect more of these events in the future, according to Bogdan. “We will have a hazing program at least once a year, possibly once a semester,” Bogdan said. “But in the future we’re thinking it might just be mandatory for new members.”

Active Minds On Campus

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

One of the newest additions to Thiel’s extracurricular activities is Active Minds.

A branch of a national organization of the same name, Active Minds encourages members to speak openly about mental health to achieve one goal – educate others about the illnesses so they can get help as soon as they notice a problem.

“We want to serve as liaison between the students and the mental health communi-

ty,” Ivey Shorts, president of Active Minds, said. “We want to remove the stigma that surrounds mental health issues.”

This seems good goal, as some people do not always know what mental retardation is, or what it entails for the person afflicted. This is a concern to Shorts, who added, “Many people suffer through illnesses in silence.”

In addition to having open discussion meetings, Shorts

and the rest of her officers plan to have several awareness events. For example: Stress Out Days during finals week, Depression and Anxiety Awareness Week, and National Eating Disorder Week, for which a speaker is planned.

“People naturally crave acceptance and support. We aim to offer that in Active Minds,” Shorts added, commenting on the number of awareness campaigns planned. “We have received a lot of interest so far.”

“We’re just starting out, but we plan to stay for a long time,” Jessie Weaver, treasurer of Active Minds, added.

“If anyone has any questions, please feel free to message any of the officers,” Shorts said, “We’re here to help.” All officers urge students who seek more information to contact any officer or visit the Active Minds website, www.activeminds.org.



Active Minds seeks to inform about mental illness.

Campus under construction; James Pedas Communications Center update

Liz Carlson, lcarlson@thiel.edu

As probably all students have noticed, the walk to the Academic Center has been detoured this year, taking students right by bulldozers, excavators, construction workers, and most notably the rubbish that remains of the recent building demolition. Projected for completion in the fall of 2014, this lot will soon be the site of the new James Pedas Communications Center, which will house the communications department and the several organizations associated with this department upon completion.

This new building is a huge step towards a better, more innovative future for the communications department at Thiel. According to Dr. Victor Evans, a professor in the communication department, the new Communications Center will be home to a brand new, state of the art studio for use by the students in the media communications program, as

well as TCTV. Additionally, Thiel's radio station will also be moved to the new building and will receive new, up-to-date equipment. The Thielesian and yearbook will also be housed in the James Pedas Center. "I am most excited for the media screening room that will be included in the new building," commented Dr. Evans regarding the new equipment. "It will be similar to Bly Hall— that is, a large lecture hall, with screens set up so we can show off the media that the students have created."

Another new feature of the James Pedas Center will be a presidential literacy lab. The 20-25 person lab will provide students with a place to go and get help on presentations and the different methods electronic communications. Classes that are held in this lab will have the opportunity to edit their projects while the professor teaches.

For much of its existence the com-



A large section of campus is currently under construction to develop the James Pedas Communications Center.

munications department at Thiel has fallen short when compared to other institutions, generally because other programs tend to have better equipment, which in turn provides a better

opportunity to experience what the media field is really like. "I feel that this new building and all of the updates that come with it will finally put Thiel on the map, especially in

media communications," said Dr. Evans. "With the state of the art studios and up to date equipment, there will be no reason to not come to Thiel for the program."

UPCOMING THIEL FORUM



You are invited to the first of the Thiel Forums of the 2013-2014 academic year! The focus of the forum that will be held on Thursday, Oct. 17, is summer 2013 travel. Junior Sean Oros will present on two travel experiences: a Literary New England trip he undertook in conjunction with an American Literature course, and the other, a trip to Italy, that he undertook as part of the DHI experience. Prof. Gary Witosky will also present on his summer travel experiences to Italy. The Forum will be held from 4 -5 p.m. and will take place in the Lutheran Heritage Room. Refreshments will be served. If the participants grant permission, their presentations may also be viewed by logging into Moodle, clicking on Faculty Lounge, Thiel Research and Recreation, then Forum Series. Please see Dr. Mary Theresa Hall if you are interested in presenting at a Thiel Forum. Forums will be held this year on: November 14; January 16, 2014; February 20; March 20; and April 10. We encourage your participation and presence at these events that celebrate our academic and personal accomplishments, and we look forward to seeing you!

Alpha Chi Inductions

Sara Toombs, stoomb@thiel.edu

On Sept. 27, a group of students holding white candles processed down the aisle of the Johnson Memorial Chapel. These students were not part of a vigil or church service, but were about to be inducted into the prestigious ranks of the Alpha Chi honor society.

Alpha Chi is a national organization which honors the top 10 percent of the senior class, top 5 percent of the junior class at undergraduate institutions and the top 10 percent of graduate students at universities. The honor society is open to students of all disciplines, and recognizes students for high academic achievement. The society was originally founded in Georgetown, Texas in 1922.

At the Friday ceremony, the Thiel Pennsylvania Theta Chapter of Alpha Chi inducted the following students for membership: Kelsey Adair,

John Beal, Alexis Bump, Keeley Criswell, Deborah Donatelli, Jenna Farina, Andrew Gaul, Jenna Green, Kayla Hibbard, Samantha Hoffman, Nicole Jeschnig, Erika Leonhard, Chelsea Maukonen, Joseph Michaleski, Chelsea Mikos, Sean Oros, Kelsey Robertson, Melanie Soros, Hannah Stelmach, Joshua Stewart and Leanna Yeager. The officers were also sworn into office for the 2014-2015 academic year: President Sean Oros, Vice-President Deborah Donatelli, Secretary Erika Leonhard, and Treasurer Andrew Gaul.

The students were joined in celebration by many family, friends and faculty members. All in attendance seemed to truly enjoy the evening.

"It was a great honor to be inducted into the society," Oros, a junior, commented. "All of us have worked hard

to reach this point, and it's very heartening to receive recognition for that."

Donatelli, a junior, also remarked on the pleasant ceremony. "The ceremony was very beautiful and I felt proud and honored to be a part of the entire event. I really enjoyed that there were three of my sorority sisters by my side to share in the honor."

The event culminated with a dinner reception, held in the Glen Johnson Center.

"The dinner afterwards helped cap the evening; many of the same professors who helped us reach this academic distinction were present to show their support," Oros said.

Overall, the induction and reception to follow were an excellent tribute to the students and their great achievements.

Perspectives of Liberal Arts Staple

Richard Bengel, rbengel@thiel.edu

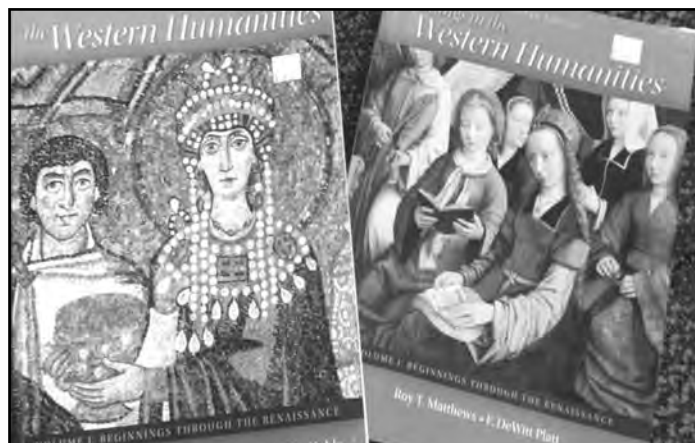
Crowded lecture hall, freshmen year: for most Thiel students, this brings to mind a staple of Thiel's liberal arts curriculum - Western Humanities.

Western Humanities is a two-semester sequence of courses that serve as an introduction to the idea of a liberal-arts education by focusing on discovering and reflecting upon ideas in fields ranging from philosophy to theatre.

Until this year, Western Humanities was required for all freshmen, although honors students in the past had an Honors Western Humanities course. Beginning this year, with the new Dietrich Honors Institute, honors freshmen take the FYS "Becoming Human: Love, Power, and Justice" instead of Western Humanities.

Student reactions are usually at one extreme or another; they love it or hate it. Current junior Sean Oros is one student who loved Western Humanities.

"Western Humanities was one of the things that helped me look towards a history major and find direction here at Thiel. During the classes, I began to have a chance to look back at the classical periods



Most Thiel students have to take two Western Humanities classes. The classes garner mixed reaction from students.

and realized how much of our culture and our whole way of life comes from this classical period," said Oros.

With an opinion in the middle of the two extremes, freshman Steven Formichella doesn't mind the class, although he doesn't exactly enjoy the class either.

"I don't think it is that bad because we revisited a lot of the topics we already had when we were back in junior high and high school," said Formichella.

On the other hand, a number of current freshmen despise Western Humanities, including Cody Delusio.

"It is boring, and early. It's

not relevant to today. We're forced to take it, so I automatically hate it," said Delusio.

It isn't just current freshmen that hate the class; other students who have finished the class still have a strong dislike for the course, including Brandon Berdine.

"It was something I had no interest in. Like, the course in general was easy, but I hated it," said Berdine.

Love it or hate it, this staple of Thiel's liberal arts education doesn't look like it will be going away any time soon, and so future freshmen will be able to make their own judgments about the course known as Western Humanities.

Enjoy the Music Life has to Offer

Sunham Choi, schoi@thiel.edu

Music has been a friend of people for a long time. Many singers and composers emerge and disappear, while some of them survive through centuries, especially classical musicians. "The typical Thiel College student does not listen to classical music very much. Most students listen to a variety of popular musical genres including rap, rhythm and blues, country, rock and alternative music styles. I also find that purely instrumental music is not among the top choices of students because it lacks lyrics," Dr. Bray, the professor of Thiel's department of music said. "Classical music offers the listener an incredible range of involvement from passive listening perhaps while studying, to engaged listening whereby the listener is attempting to hear, understand and appreciate the melodic, rhythmic and harmonic aspects of the composition," he added. According to Dr. Bray, to listen to and attempt to understand classical music is one important way to understand the culture of the people and society for which the music was composed. Therefore, students have to keep listening to classical music.

Then, how can students feel close to classical music? These are three recommendations for students to feel close to listening to classical music. First, set your own favorite composer. If you are a fan of Taylor Swift or Justin Bieber,

you will get interested in not only their songs, but also their fashion styles, related singers, and their hobbies. Likewise, if you get your own favorite composer, you will get more interest in other composers or music styles of the same era. Suppose you became a fan of Chopin. You first start your listening with his most famous pieces of works, such as "Fantasie-Impromptu." However, you will find out there are more impromptus that are as good as the other one and suit your taste of music, or you can broaden your interest toward other composers in those ages, such as Liszt. At least giving interest to music can make a huge difference.

Second, be aware of the background knowledge of music. As the proverb "You can see only as much as you know" emphasizes, having knowledge of the music before listening will give listeners a deeper understanding of the music. It can make the music appreciation both fun and meaningful. The existence of knowledge makes the music appreciation more fun and rewarding. Like reading literature, music has a power of communication throughout different eras of people within its melody. This melody functions as a "language" that every people commonly understand and sympathize with. Therefore, to understand the message in musical pieces, people have to pre-study the basic knowl-

edge to fully understand this musical "language."

Finally, be diligent. Many people complain that orchestral performances are too expensive so that they are not able to afford them. Not only that, they think that orchestras only perform in big cities, far away from their ordinary lives. However, if they pay a little more attention, they will be surprised to find out that there are so many free performances or web sites that offer a variety of music. For instance, on October 15, there will be Con Spirito Concert Series in David Johnson Memorial Chapel. In addition, there are a lot of web sites which offer videos of famous performances.

Although being an expert in classical music for ordinary people is difficult, starting from having interest in classical music can make our life more diverse, and give much more vigor in music field. "I love classical music, and hope other friends would enjoy it too. It makes my mind peaceful. And I like it because it is the original music!" Kelsey Marie Wise said her love of classical music. It can be partly somewhat "true" that classic music is a little bit far away from our life. However, please do not seek easy things only. Be "polite" to music. They are the results of composers' great efforts, and representatives of those eras' cultural legacy that we should love and appreciate.



The newest additions to the Alpha Chi honors society gather outside the chapel to commemorate this joyous occasion.

Anatomy of a Classroom Row of Desks

by Christina Ryan, cryan@thiel.edu



TOOMBS TIME: Why Cosmo is (almost) Always Wrong

by Sara Toombs, stoombs@thiel.edu



While I know I probably just lost at least half of my readers with this article's title, I promise there is a legitimate point waiting for those of you who are willing to stick with me.

I'm not condemning Cosmo readers in any way, because I'd be digging my own grave. We've all had that moment: standing in the check-out line, waiting to purchase three impulse buy bottles of Sally

Hansen and a pint of Chubby Hubby, and trying so hard not to look at the magazine rack, but it happens. There before you, emblazoned on the glossy page, is the drop-dead gorgeous, scantily clad celebrity and something deep within your psyche cries out to her, "Teach me your ways, oh wise one." I've been there. I've done it. You buy that magazine and run home with it like it's stuffed with a golden ticket.

Again, it's not the readers I'm after. I'm not necessarily after Cosmopolitan magazine either. I am challenging a concept.

Cosmo is a self-proclaimed "lifestylist for fun, fearless females who want to be the best they can be." At that point in their mission statement, I was thinking, "Way to go, Cosmo!" and couldn't wait to be inspired by this magazine for strong, independent females. Then I read on: Cosmo "inspires with information on relationships and romance, the best fashion and beauty, the latest on women's health and wellbeing, as well as what's hap-

pening in pop culture and entertainment...and just about everything else fun, fearless females want to know about."

Hold on a second. When I think of everything a "fun, fearless female" needs to know, relationships and fashion are not the first images that come to mind. Those topics are certainly part of being a female, but I think they might be missing some essentials. As the number one women's magazine, I would think Cosmo's purpose would be to directly empower females. Instead, it seems it would rather teach them how to interact with men.

I realize that it seems like I'm fishing for offense here, so let's take a look at the editorial breakdown on Cosmo's website. The chart, entitled "Well-rounded Editorial Content," boasts "Relationships" as its largest portion, coming in at a healthy 29 percent. This is closely followed by "Fashion" at 18.2 percent and "Beauty/Grooming" at 14 percent. That is 61.2 per-

cent that focuses on how we date, dress, and try to look better. If you throw the eight percent pop culture into the mix, more than two-thirds of Cosmo is composed of articles that, frankly, do nothing to empower, inspire, or even educate women on something meaningful. "Careers," "Personal Finance," and "Self Improvement" make up nine percent – combined.

Scanning some article titles, I was worried for our generation: "Find Your Partner by His Features" and "I Went to a Male Model Underwear Show Because My Job Sucks" made the headlines. How about "10 Halloween Costume Ideas that are Both Sexy and Respectable" – I had hope for this one. That is, until I read that "Slutty Marie Curie," "Me, but Four Hours From Now," and "One of the Blurred Lines Video Girls" are what Cosmo considers respectable. And when I read option nine, the "Your/You're Fairy," with attire listed as "just a classroom whiteboard strategically covering parts

of your body (you'll have the attention of every guy you see!)," something in my English major heart died.

The point here isn't that everyone should put down the paper and go burn a few copies of Cosmo in protest. We tried that with bras once – it didn't work out. A really dynamic move for women, however, could be to constantly question the content that surrounds us. How much of what we read and see is laced with the pressure to perform according to the standards of what pleases others, especially the opposite sex? At this point, the top printed media for women needs to be full of commentary on inner beauty, tips on defining your life's purpose, and success stories of women who kicked butt without bothering to take names. Women, as free, self-governing individuals deserve more than Cosmo is willing to give.

I mean, you can say you only read it for the career tips, but then, guys only go to Hooters for the wings.

Feminism: Why your favorite movie is terrible it is not a bad thing ...featuring Jurassic Park

by Keeley Criswell, kcriswell@thiel.edu

I am a feminist. Yes, you read that correctly, and in case you think it was a misprint, I'll say it again – I. Am. A. Feminist.

There is such a negative connotation with this word. It has gotten to the point where people are afraid to call themselves a feminist (and afraid to admit they are afraid). Feminism really is not a scary word. It just means that you are not afraid to stand up for a woman. If you believe that women should be treated fairly, and you can admit that, then you are a feminist. It is not a bad thing. As a matter of fact, it is a great thing. And, yes, a man can be a feminist just as easily as a woman can be one.

As a feminist, I believe that women should be paid the same amount as men for the same jobs. I believe that rape happens because of issues in the mind of the rapist rather than an issue with the way the victim dresses or acts. I believe that women in the work force deserve to be scrutinized for their work ethic, not the way they dress or their personalities. I believe that women should be viewed as humans rather than objects.

Now, let me clear up a few stereotypes about feminists. The fact that I am a feminist does NOT mean that I do not want children or a family. It does NOT mean that I do not enjoy wearing dresses or painting my nails. And it does NOT mean that I want to burn my bras. (They are expensive, and I like them. I would not spend that much money on her looks if I just wanted to burn them.)

Instead, I question certain things. For example, why do I "need" to walk with a man at night? Why is a determined woman referred to as

a "bitch" while a determined man is just "determined"? Why can't all woman be educated and pursue the same careers that men pursue? Why is it that women are consistently undervalued in most workplaces?

I once heard a quote that went something like this:

"Women have to work twice as hard as men for half of the credit."

This quote makes me ask something else – why is that true? Why are women so undervalued that they need to put forth so much more effort to be recognized? And here is a question that is even more important to me: Why do we do it?

Why do women consistently put forth that extra work without demanding the recognition they deserve? It is probably because when a woman demands recognition, she is perceived as bitchy. But, men ask for recognition quite often. As a matter of fact, men are more likely to point out progress in their work than women. So, men are more likely to receive promotions and raises, thus contributing to the wage divide. But, when women point out their accomplishments and give orders, they are pushy, bitchy, and bossy, and who wants that for a boss?

On the other hand, if a woman does not do this, she lets her emotions control her thinking and is a pushover, and who wants that for their boss? And that is beyond the intense focus on her dress and physical image (I do not mean HER focus on her looks, I mean EVERYONE ELSE'S focus on her looks.). There is a very fine line on which a woman can tread in the job market. It's not fair, and this is why I am a feminist.

The Movie:
Dinosaur Forest (A.K.A. *Jurassic Park*)

This is the movie that made everyone root for the bad guys. Seriously, who didn't want the dinosaurs to eat those annoying children? For this article, only the first two movies will be discussed because literally no one considers Jurassic Park 3 anything more than a poo they once took on a Sunday after a weekend of binge drinking. Samuel L. Jackson makes an appearance in the 1st movie and Vince Vaughn in the second. I guess having Jeff Goldblum and Newman from Seinfeld as two main characters wasn't good enough.

Character(s) Everyone Loves to Hate:
Any and all children (especially the blonde girl)

For one, the children are terrible actors. I literally get uncomfortable sometimes from watching them attempt to act. You have the two twerps (excuse my offensive language) from the first movie who spend more time putting themselves in mortal danger than everyone's favorite wizard, Harry Potter (but that's for another time). The girl is just the worst. WHY DIDN'T SHE JUST TURN THAT DARN LIGHT OFF? I wish this was her worst scene. Nope. Her worst scene has to be when she just happens to be some type of seven year old female Bill Gates. Seriously? Sloppy writing. And in Jurassic Park 2, the kids show up for, like, two minutes to give a big middle finger to all the people that hoped they had died between the films. Only plus side to

that scene was that the girl got hot; but, NEVER FORGET SHE FLASHED THE LIGHT IN THE T-REX'S EYES. Then, the kids pass the torch on to the other annoying child in the series. Enter Dr. Ian Malcolm's black daughter....because apparently that's a thing. Seriously? NOPE. I still cannot put into words the anger, the frustration, and the confusion about this. And they never explain it!!! Easy answer would be adoption, but that cannot be the real answer, because I say so that's why. And if you think the blonde girl was bad, this chocolate princess takes it to a new level when she uses GYMNASTICS to defeat the evil dinosaurs (I apologize to those offended by the term "evil dinosaurs". If you know someone that is a dinosaur, send them my apologies as well).

Why The Movie is Awful:
Here is the plot of all three movies: "Scientists go to an island with dinosaurs. Children and other people go too. People make dumb mistakes and die. Half-brained children show their worth and save the day. Chaos Theory. The End." Yep, that's pretty awful.

Why The Movie is Not Awful:

This is the plot from a fan of the movies (I am the fan): Old man gets Jeff Goldblum, a moderately hot woman, and a Cowboy Reject, along with his two awful kids to come to an island with dinosaurs. Jeff Goldblum talks about Chaos Theory and becomes my hero for all time. Samuel L. Jackson is in it. Julianne Moore is also in it.

John Williams DOES THE SOUNDTRACK. Yep, sounds like a pretty great movie to me.

Worst Scenes in Series:

1. "Turn the light off!!!" – WHY DIDN'T SHE JUST TURN THE LIGHT OFF?
2. "Clever Girl" – WHAT A

CHEESEBALL LINE

3but why is his daughter black??? Seriously, explain this wizardry.

4. Any and all scenes from Jurassic Park 3, especially when Mr. Noodle from Elmo's World gets his neck snapped by a raptor.



The first of the ongoing Jurassic Park series was released in 1993 and gained continuous popularity throughout the years for its vivid effects and cinematography.

Opinion Poll: “What are you most looking forward to during Homecoming?”



Adam McCormick
“Hanging out with the brothers.”



Alex Porter
“The homecoming foot- ball game.”



Amanda Lopez
“All the activities that happen.”



Damian Buccilli
“Going to the Football game. FFFFOOOOOTT- TBBBAAALLL!”



Dylan Fleming
“The See-Saw-a-Thon for 72 hours.”



Kelsey Smith
“To see and hangout with my friends and alumni.”


Photo of the Edition



This picture displays the 1st annual Pink Run hosted by Zeta Tau Alpha. The men running were so excited about taking the last lap that they leaped for joy when they finished. The run was held to raise money for breast-cancer awareness

Photo by Marianne Elder. If you have a picture of Thiel, send it to the Thielensian.thielensian@thiel.edu

#Twittin’ @Thielensian



1. I blame @Crushesthiel for the pink eye epidemic at Thiel with all the face sit- ting

2. Why didn't Lizzie ever love Gordo back? That is one of the great unan- swered questions of the world.

3. I know you're talking about me Koreans! You don't have to hide it!

4. It's a good day when you get a package and mail.

5. my life has become permanently stuck aboard the struggle bus

6. Pretty sure I just flashed Greenville hall trying to get a lady bug out of my shirt #great

7. if i got money for every meal that ive replced with ramen i could own thiel college

8. I am completely fine with being anonymous...then I stay out of all the bullsh!t

9. Thiel college is a ring in hell. That's the only thing that makes sense.

10. Our excuse for everything Thiel lacks in, "we go to Thiel College" #enoughsaid

compiled by Erin Huff

Fashion Frenzy: Vera Bradley

by Katie Allgeier, kallgeier@thiel.edu

One of the fastest-growing trends in college fashion is Vera Bradley products. Women can be spotted al- most anywhere toting the signature quilted bags, wallets, and technology accessories, obsessing over the latest products and prints. Few of those “Bradliacs,” however, know the story behind their fabulous bags, and even fewer know who Vera Bradley actual- ly was.

While traveling through an airport in 1982, friends Patricia R. Miller and Barbara Bradley Braekgaard noted a distinct lack of feminine luggage. Taking action, the women soon had their own luggage business. Named after Baekgaard’s mother, Veronica Bradley—at one time a model for Elizabeth Arden—the company began designing the now-familiar quilted cotton bags, selling the pieces from their Fort Wayne, Ind. headquarters.

The company’s line of products has since expanded to include everything from linens and housewares to iPad covers and lap desks. The products come in an array of prints; at any given time the company produces rough- ly 55 prints, not including their retired prints. These prints, ranging from paisley to floral, combine with the distinctive quilted patterns to create a fashion coveted by countless women.

One such woman is Hannah Fernandez, a sophomore at Thiel. “For me personally, it’s a combination of its durability and its bright and fun colors. I love that it is practical to use in multiple parts of life,” Fernandez responded when asked what made the Vera Bradley brand so alluring. “I use my large tote for school, for travel, as a purse, and as a catch-all. I also love the fact that there are so many differ- ent options for purses and acces- sories.”


One of the most interesting aspects of the Bradley boom is its seemingly inexplicable burst in popularity. Though the company has been in ex- istence since 1982, it is only as re- cently as the last decade that the line has become popular among college women.



Alyssa Besong and Rachel Hutchinson sport Vera Bradley.

A Traditional Woman leading a Non-Traditional Life: “Dating outside species”

by Melanie Thompson-Soros, msoros@thiel.edu



I had my first date in 1976 and, with the exception of my two marriages, I have been dating ever since. That, my friends, is a lot of dates! What constituted a date in the 70s might be considered quaint by today’s standards. Dinner and a movie seems a status quo - but it’s the ending that has changed drasti- cally over the years. In the “olden days” a guy ended the evening with a kiss – if he was lucky. To my horror I have dis- covered that most men today think it should end much differ- ently. Much, much differently. I am an old fashioned kind of girl so trying to make a move on me is putting life and limb – or at least pride – in danger. And I’m talking about manly pride – I don’t aim for the face.

With all those years of dating experience behind me I thought I might take a minute and hand out some advice. And from what I have seen here at Thiel – it is much needed advice.

The first, and most important thing I can tell you is this: men are most assuredly from a different planet. They just got lonely and decided to search out other planets in the hopes of finding companionship among the species al- ready established there. They landed here, decided they liked what they saw, sent out a homing signal so that others like them could find us (you know how men hate to ask for directions), grabbed the remote and stayed. We are unquestionably attracted to them but have trouble understanding them. Have you ever noticed that you and your male companion can look at the same exact thing and each see something totally different? This is no coincidence.

What follows is lists of suggestions to help you better navigate your relationships with them. This is very important, so pay attention ladies.

1) He should be calling you – not the other way around. If there is one thing I know for sure – if a man is truly interested he will move heaven and earth to get a hold of you to ask you out.

2) If he’s only calling you when he’s drunk and/or lonely, just say no – to everything! This be- havior is, at the very least, disrespectful – and you deserve to be respected, don’t you?

3) If he tells you he loves you on the first date you should be suspicious – very, very suspicious. You can’t truly love someone unless you really know them and it’s impossible to get to know some- one that deeply over a burger and fries. Don’t misunderstand me – he might very well be in love with parts of you – just not the important part!

4) Have you ever been on a date with a guy who was constantly checking out other women? Kick him to the curb ladies. I’m not joking – cut your losses and run for the hills. If he is already looking for something better than what is sitting right in front of him – he’s a jerk and doesn’t deserve you.

5) Don’t be taken in with the line “I just want to be friends.” If a man says he just wants to be friends treat him like one of your girlfriends – there should be no extra credit assignments involved.

6) And, finally, don’t judge a book by its cover – seriously, don’t. I once went on a date with a Hells Angel. He opened all my doors, held my chair, asked my opinion (and actually listened to my answer) and at the end of the evening seemed just fine with only a good-night kiss. The following Monday he sent flowers to me at work and called on Wednesday to ask for another date. When I men- tioned that I was a little surprised at the amount of respect he showed me, considering the reputation that most motorcycle gang members have, he responded with a hurt “I know how to treat a lady!” With the exception of having to ride on the back of a Harley in October (BRRRR) it was an almost perfect evening. Sadly, I couldn’t get past my reservations at what he might actually be doing to make a living and we decided to part as friends. My point here is this – if he’s wearing geeky glasses that doesn’t make him a geek, you can help him pick out a new pair. If he looks clean cut – he could be the biggest jerk ever hiding in a really great looking package. You get the point.

Dating outside your species is tricky business but if you take your time and use common sense it can be fun and enlightening. And, let’s admit it girls, we really do love them and all their quirky, alien ways.

Men and Women's Golf Place Fifth at PAC Invitational

by Erin Huff, ehuff558@thiel.edu

Golf is one of the world's most prestigious games and yet somehow seems to be overlooked by the general population. That stereotype holds true here at Thiel, considering not many students were aware that our very own men and women's golf teams participated in the fall PAC Invitational last week and both placed fifth overall. The two-day tournament was played at Oak Tree Country Club in West Middlesex and both the men and women took every stroke with care while trying finish close to the top of the leader board.

The invitational is a 36-hole tournament that spans over two days. That score, combined with the scores from the spring PAC Invitational, determines who will become the PAC champion of the year.

The men's team went into the day with clear heads and steady hands and finished the first day in third place. Individually on Monday, seniors Matt Fiore and Bryan Smith both shot one-over par, while Alyssa Mondl, freshman, led the



Pictured above is Bryan Smith.

women's team on the first day of competition. Fiore, who is in his fourth year on the team, said, "They (the PAC Invites) are all pretty much the same. Everyone is geared up for the PAC tournament so there is some added pressure to play well for your team and yourself."

Going into the second day of play our very own Tomcats were sitting in third and

fifth place. The men's team finished with a total score of 631, while individually, Smith took sixth place in the field, Fiore tied for eighth and junior, Aaron Wakley, finished 24th.

Mondl paved the way for the lady Tomcats taking 11th place for the women, while Kayla Langer, junior, followed suit and took 12th in the tournament.

Tomcat Marching Pride Meets Alumni Association

by Maryanne Elder, melder@thiel.edu



The marching band met with members of the Thiel Alumni Association of Pittsburgh

On Sept. 21, 2013 the Thiel Tomcat Marching Pride attended the Peters Township Band Festival in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. A large majority of the students in the Thiel Tomcat Marching Pride are from the Pittsburgh area. The Thiel Alumni Association of Pittsburgh had arranged before the TTMP performed to have a meet and greet with any of the Pittsburgh alumni that had arrived to support the new edition to the campus.

The weather was rainy and there was the worry of moving the band festival inside. Class of 83's very own David Hummel and Mary Davis Baden embellished the TTMP with a dinner and stories that made students open up and express their own per-

sonal stories of Thiel College.

"It was a pleasure to have you guys here we love to see new things on campus and it was great to finally see the band," Hummel said.

"I like stories of past people that have attended or have been places that I have been where I have been. I think that is what connects our past and present. Thiel College is all about rich heritage and connecting the people that are have attended the campus before weather that is alumni, friends, or family. I also enjoy a great meal with my band friends," Kayla Owens said.

"We are very appreciative if the TAA's willingness to organize dinner and an alumni event for the band at the

Peters Township Band Festival. It was great to see the alumni and the band members interacting. I especially enjoyed The alumni's message that Thiel is much more than a college. It is a family, and there are alumni all over the country and world who are ready and willing to help current students however they can, be it finding a job, an internship, or just cooking dinner for the band. I think the students were equally thankful that they had a great home-cooked meal after a long bus ride and before a huge performance," Andy Erb said.

The TTMP finished out the night with a strong performance that impressed the alumni that attended the festival.

Tennis Team Thinks PINK!

by Erin Huff, ehuff558@thiel.edu

TC women's tennis team paired up with the Thiel Activities Board to bring some cancer awareness to campus two weeks back. TAB provided the food and drinks, while the swinging lady Tomcats provided the entertainment for the afternoon. While the crowd gathered around the court all dressed in pink, the girls grabbed their rackets and took on Chatham University.

Thiel opened the match 3-0 by defeating both of the Cougar's doubles pairs. Kashey and Mittner winning

the no.1 pair match-up and Matczak and Tegel defeating the no. 2 pair. Sophomore, Lauren Mittner, who has made quite the name for herself on the tennis courts, said, "It was amazing to have that big of a crowd there to cheer us on; it made the matches so exciting." Sara Matczak took the court for another doubles match with Lauren Wolfe and together they put Chatham's 3rd pair on the sidelines.

Once the doubles action was finished the Tomcats

proceeded to win the next five singles matches to gain the overall win. In front of their largest crowd to date two of our very own claimed berths to the PAC Championships. Sara Matczak and Emily Carlton, both freshman, will both be representing Thiel at this years tournament due to their wins at the Pink Out game. Kashey, who was all smiles about the turnout for the game said, "I'm so happy for both Sara and Emily. It great that so many people were their to experience it with them."



Both the Carlton sisters paced the Tomcats in their match against St. Vincent. Emily Carlton, above, defends the serve from the Bearcats.

Tomcats Host St. Vincent for Homecoming Football

by Erin Huff, ehuff558@thiel.edu

Homecoming weekend is a tradition that every college and university celebrates. It is a time to welcome back alumni of our beloved school and show a little extra school spirit. The strongest tradition, that has remained unbroken at all NCAA schools, is the football game. "This being a homecoming game definitely makes everyone want it more," noted senior captain Bill Frizzi.

Over the last several weeks there have been different individuals achieving personal goals, and that's great, but they seem to have been having a problem putting it all together in order to come out on top of the competition. Week to week, even with the losses, each member of the program is experiencing individual triumphs and it's only a matter of time before those small victories translate into one big W for our guys.

Cody McClelland, junior, said, "I think we are looking for that confidence right now but we can still salvage some wins the season. Its only half way over, anything can hap-

pen."

Their game against Geneva was a hard fought battle that unfortunately didn't end they way we had all hoped it would, but it sure showed some promise for the future weeks of play. Going into the second quarter Thiel was down 28-6 when they put the comeback on and racked up 22 unanswered points to tie the game going into the third quarter. Even with that effort they couldn't hold off the Golden Tornadoes, who went on to score 21 unanswered points to win the game 49-28. They found a silver liner in that defeat though, with Josh Potter, sophomore, and senior quarterback Andrew Smith leading the offense. Smith threw two touchdown passes and left the comfort of the QB pocket to scramble for 28 yards while Potter set the bar high by running 121 yards on 14 carries. On the other side of the ball, juniors Jack Sindlinger and Wes Schmidt recorded 12 tackles a piece for the defense.

At W&J the following Saturday, despite standing out

in multiple statistical categories the Tomcats suffered the PAC loss to the rival Presidents of Washington & Jefferson. After immediately dropping to a 10-0 deficit early in the first half, the Tomcat offense got into rhythm when Potter threw a 30 yard halfback pass to senior Bill Frizzi, who with his reception, earned the first touchdown of his career. Potter took control of the ground once again, rushing 93 yards on 18 carries, while Schmidt managed to put up 14 tackles. Junior linebacker, Tom Thorpe made 10 tackles and rushed the President's quarterback to record a sack. Senior quarterback, Andrew Smith, who also shares the duties of captain said, "No one person can do it by himself. I give the credit to all of my brothers who storm that field with me every Saturday."

Our men's football team will be taking the field tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. for the annual homecoming game with the crowning of the homecoming king and queen on the 50-yard line.



Senior football captains take center field for the coin toss. Our Tomcats will take on the St. Vincent Bearcats tomorrow at 3:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

Football:

Saint Vincent October 12th @ 3:00 p.m.

Thomas More October 19th @ 1:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer:

Westminster October 16th @ 8:30 p.m.

Women's Soccer:

Westminster October 16th @ 6:30 p.m.

Volleyball:

Waynesburg October 12th @ 11:00 a.m.

Westminster October 12th @ 3:00 p.m.

Thomas More October 15th @ 7:00 p.m.

Bethany October 19th @ 1:00 p.m.