

THE HARBINGER

HARPER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015

48TH YEAR » ISSUE SIX

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

A warm welcome from the Harbinger! Another semester has begun and believe it or not, it will go by faster than you know! It's no different than any other semester.

The start of the semester is always a little rough, getting used to your schedule, getting to know your professors, making it to class on time, but more importantly getting back on track!

Some of us are still in the midst of recovering from Winter Break, while others of us are glad to be back! It's a different story for each of us, but the one thing we can all make a promise to, is to make this semester a great one! If you were a student who fell behind last semester, now is your time to get back up and recover.

Make a difference in your study habits. Give your schooling some time. Life doesn't always have to be about your lovebug, friends and or hobbies at the moment. Throw your thinking cap on, grab your writing utensil and start doing the work that needs to be

done now, so that you can be successful five years from now!

Some of us might feel as though time management is a super stressful thing and of course it is, but if your life is hard now, it will only get harder from here on out.

Your education is key, especially if you plan on transferring over to a university and or try and get a job after you graduate from Harper.

Harper offers many resources for students and offers them with passion and willingness. There are many on campus sites that you can visit during that hour break in between classes to better yourself. It just takes some motivation and dedication. Harper offers all these resources, but the problem is, most students don't utilize them enough.

Believe it or not, this could be the one change you can make this semester to better improve yourself and thank staff and faculty members that take time out of their day to help students like you.



Photo by Kevin Tiongson

PREPARING FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER...

BY ANA SERNA
MUSIC EDITOR FEATURES

It's that time of year again, folks! The time to get a fresh start is now upon us. There are new professors and new schedules and new parking spots and so much coffee to drink. Go ahead and congratulate yourselves right now, because you have made it through another semester.

Winter break is a beautiful thing, but unfortunately, the holidays are behind us. Starting a new semester is always kind of weird because you were already so used to the rhythm of the last few months, and for some reason you always feel like you're forgetting something. Here are some things you should be thinking about that'll help you kick Spring 2015's butt.

MEET WITH AN ADVISOR

Sometimes it can feel like you're just picking classes blindly, but academic advisors can help give you a sense of direction. They are great resources, and most of the time, are genuinely nice people who want you to do well during your time at Harper. They'll help you track your progress and plan your next moves. Advisors are also knowledgeable about transferring, if that's in your near future, too.

OH BOY, TEXTBOOKS

As soon as you've gotten yourself registered for classes, you should look at the required textbooks right away. It's important that you give yourself time for your books to come in if you're ordering off of Amazon or eBay or Chegg (or whatever your preferred site is) so you don't find yourself unable to turn in the first assignment because you don't have the book yet.

Think about first impressions, guys. If you plan on buying your textbooks the old-fashioned way, then you should still probably look into buying them sooner rather than later because the bookstore tends to be one of the scariest places on campus during the first couple weeks of a new semester.

FILING YOUR TAXES AND YOUR FAFSA

These are also two things that should also be done sooner rather than later. The sooner you get your taxes done, the sooner you can start your FAFSA. (And the sooner you can get your tax refund, which is also important.) Some people think it's too early to actually start filling out tax forms and wait until the last possible day, but most employers will make them available by mid-January or early February.

Your FAFSA, however, has a much closer due date, and even if you put off doing your taxes, you can always go back and edit your application. According to fafsa.ed.gov/, Illinois applications should be turned in "As soon as possible after January 1, 2015. Awards made until funds are depleted." So, the sooner you do this, the better. The deadline for filing your taxes this year, like every year, is Apr. 15. Write yourself a note or something.

SPEAKING OF DEADLINES...

If you plan on transferring in the next year, deadlines for other schools are fast approaching, if not, already closed. Most schools are done accepting applications for the fall semester and are now asking for supporting materials. Get those in! Most scholarship deadlines also fall towards the middle of the school year, usually between November and January.

Some schools or organizations will give applicants until February, but it is still probably best to have everything turned in early. Set reminders for yourself on your phone or put post-its on the fridge to help you keep track of all the different dates.



Photo by Kevin Tiongson

Have a good story?

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TOP 20 ALBUM HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014

BY JAKE BOSHOLD
STAFF WRITER MUSIC

2014 was an excellent year for music, and whoever says otherwise probably hasn't really looked into everything that was released this year. There is way more music out there than just what you hear on the radio. Even the artists you do hear on the radio and may not like what you hear may surprise you on their albums, which might be full of other amazing material that you may find yourself to enjoy. Usually, I can't stand Nicki Minaj, but I gave her name album, *The PinkPrint*, a chance and I couldn't believe how great it was! I was very surprised. Same with Rick Ross' new album, *Mastermind*. Anyways, here's a list of some of the best albums of 2014, in my opinion.

1. Big K.R.I.T. - *Cadillactica*
2. Within Temptation: *Hydra*
3. Taylor Swift - *1989*
4. T.I - *Paperwork*
5. Run The Jewels - *RTJ2*
6. !MayDay! & Murs - *Mursday*
7. Kaiser Chiefs - *Education, Education, Education, & War*
8. The Veronicas - *The Veronicas*
9. Nicki Minaj - *The PinkPrint*
10. Weezer - *Everything Will Be Alright In The End*
11. Rick Ross - *Mastermind*
12. Jason Aldean - *Old Boots, New Dirt*
13. Kevin Gates - *By Any Means*
14. Yellowcard - *Lift A Sail*
15. Michael Jackson - *Xscape*
16. J. Cole - *2014 Forest Hills Drive*
17. Schoolboy Q - *Oxymoron*
18. Little Big Town - *Pain Killer*
19. Little Mix - *Salute*
20. Set It Off - *Duality*

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

- Ariana Grande - *My Everything*
- Miranda Lambert - *Platinum*
- Jessie J - *Sweet Talker*
- Lil Herb - *Welcome To Fazoland*
- A\$AP Ferg - *Ferg Forever*
- Pharaohe Monch - *P.T.S.D.*
- Evidence & The Alchemist - *Step Brothers: Lord Steppington*
- Travi\$ Scott - *Days Before Rodeo*
- Fabulous - *The Young OG Project*
- Selena Gomez - *Stars Dance*



CHRISTMAS EVE "EVE" AT THE UNITED CENTER

BY GIANNA D'ARGENTO
STAFF WRITER FEATURES

As my birthday and Christmas came near as a kid, I would always sneak into my parent's closet where all of the gifts were hidden. Rummaging through the plastic bags, I discovered all of the toys that topped my "wish list." When my birthday and two days after, Christmas, came I would pretend to be surprised. I became a pro at that jaw dropping astonished expression.

This year, days prior to my 20th birthday my boyfriend of almost five years, Justin, kept hinting that he had big plans for my birthday. He would repeatedly say things like, "I did good this year for your birthday and Christmas," and, "I am so excited for your birthday!" all with a big Cheshire Cat smile. I kept guessing and guessing the possibilities, none of them being right. I remember the night before my birthday tossing and turning as I anticipated this surprise he had in store.

Before I knew it, Justin was at the front door the next morning on December 23rd with a big box wrapped in Santa wrapping paper. He also wore an excited smile that was popular for that past week.

"Here, open it!" Justin anxiously shoved the gift in my face as if we were playing "hot-potato" with it. We sat down in my living room and inside the box was a Brent Seabrook hoodie-type jersey—one I've wanted for a while. I was so excited, for the jersey itself, I ripped it out of the plastic wrapping and tried it on. I didn't even notice what was stuck to the inside bottom of the box.

"Thank you!" I gushed as I gave my boyfriend a tight hug. He immediately interrupted, "That's not all, there's more," he lifted the box again.

I peeked inside the box and there were two folded pieces of paper—Blackhawks tickets for that night's game against the Winnipeg Jets.

"What did you do!?" I remember gasping and jumping around the house like a little kid with the tickets in hand. I've been dying to go to a Blackhawks game for so long and had no clue I'd be able to experience a live hockey game on my birthday, thanks to my generous boyfriend.

We spent the day in Chicago, doing touristy-type things like take selfies at the Bean, looked at all of the Christmas lights and we even stopped at the Blackhawk's new store on Michigan Ave, which was awesome—every

Blackhawks fan should check it out. We then took a taxi to the United Center for the highly anticipated game.

The atmosphere of being at the United Center—at a sold out game—was astonishing and everything I'd imagine it to be! The crowd was a sea of red and when they scored (their only goal of the night) we all shot up from our seats as we cheered and danced to their iconic song.

Although the Blackhawks lost their game that night, it was still one of the best birthdays I've had yet and as corny as it sounds, to be able to experience my first Blackhawks game with my boyfriend made it that much more special.



WINTER BREAK: LESSONS LEARNED

BY MICHAEL LEON
SPORTS EDITOR FEATURES

I would be lying if I told you I didn't miss school or seeing all of the lovely faces I used to see everyday on campus. I miss meeting people my age or talking sports with my buddy Nick. I really missed the entire Harbinger crew, period. But over break I learned that I was grateful for more things that I had no idea I took for granted.

My part time job in my opinion sucks and is awfully boring. All of the money I earned and got to blow over the weekend with my friends was fun and all but it didn't feel right doing so without handling my priorities at the same time.

I didn't take courses over break because financial aid wasn't there for me this time and money wasn't coming in. So while my friends were working on papers and sharing laughs in between class periods I was either sleeping in until my shift began or on my knees selling some kicks to a North Shore customer.

It just made it seem like I was completely miserable the entire break when truthfully I haven't had that much fun in what felt like an eternity. I made new friends and got away from little ole wheeling on ski trips, football games, and even long nights crashing at the hotel after clubbing until the break of dawn.

I went on a couple of dates, which actually went well seeing that I haven't taken a girl out, knowing I've been single for quite some time. But as I finish this paper off and go back reminiscing on the good times over winter break I'm happy I enrolled into classes this semester and I'm really looking forward to seeing my pals while continuing my education and working toward my life long goals.



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ALBUM OF THE YEAR: THE VOYAGER

BY KEVIN TIONGSON
A&E Editor MUSIC

I wrote a review on this album when it just came out and until now it still holds as my pick for Album of the year 2014.

The original piece was entitled "There's a little bit of magic... And Jenny Lewis has it" and goes...

Beautiful, catchy, dreamy... those are just some of the uber cliché words one might describe this new album from the goddess that is Jenny Lewis, *The Voyager*, third solo album released on July 29, 2014.

This album, (her first in 6 years) is damn good... it's out of this world, it's witchcraft. I make it a point to listen to every album I get straight through at least once but for *The Voyager* I found that I actually listened to it straight through four times. The first being the advance play through on NPR a few days ago.

The album starts out with *Head Underwater*, this dreamy-poppy-80's sounding-perfectly crafted concoction created with errthing nice you could possibly use as an ingredient. This song has it all, a catchy chorus, a mysterious pre-chorus, a danceable beat, lyrics and one of her most beautifully sung vocals. The song takes us on a retrospective and personal trip with Jenny and it marks an end of a chapter in her life and starts another (it seems).

Just One Of The Guys brings some of the things that Lewis has brought forth in her previous works, folk prose and melody and her pop sensibility. And you can see how those mix well in this song. It's got the progression and vocal melody of a good ol' folk song but the beat of a pop classic.

Slippery Slope is another one of those songs that are reminiscent of her older work, this time back to Rilo Kiley. It could've been one of Rilo Kiley's hits. *Late Bloomer* tells a story of a 3 way love affair that happened on a trip to Paris when the protagonist was 16.

You Can't Outrun 'Em has characteristics of that Laurel Canyon/ Californian sound reminiscent of songs from The Eagles or Jackson Browne or later Stevie Nicks.

The title track *The Voyager* is a mellow ballad sung beautifully, accompanied by a simple strumming progression. The song sound quite hopeful, singing about a Voyager and makes it sounds like it's the sense of hope adventure in all of us (it seems).

The album was made with help from some amazing artists and those whom Jenny has worked with in the past. Lou Barlow from Dinosaur Jr., the legendary Benmont Tench from Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, the Watson

Twins and First Aid and produced by Ryan Adams. *The Voyager* could very well be Jenny's best solo work so far, it's got some of her best solo tracks and will definitely be some of the biggest fan favorites.



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JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Resumes that Get Results 5-6PM W218	21 Resume Wed! 8:30-4PM W207	22 Interview Prep 1-2PM W218	23 CNA Job Fair 11-1PM WCCDR	24
25	26 Job Search Table 3-4PM W207	27 Co-op Info Session 3-4PM W207	28 Resume Wed! 8:30-4PM W207	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Resumes Get Results 4-5PM W219	4 Resume Wed! 8:30-4PM W207	5 Interview Prep 1-2PM W219	6 Skills Employers Want 2-3PM W218	7
8	9 Job Search Table 3-4PM W207	10	11 Resume Wed! 8:30-4PM W207	12	13 Skills Employers Want 2-3PM W218	14
15	16	17 Resumes Get Results 2:30-3:30PM W219	18 Resume Wed! 8:30-4PM W207	19 Interview Prep 1-2PM W219	20 Skills Employers Want 2-3PM W218	21
22	23	24 Co-op Round Table 3-4PM W207	25 Resume Wed! 8:30-4PM W207	26	27	28

Resumes That Get Results: This workshop will help you start a new resume or assist you in revising one you already have. Tips on creating a resume that employers will be interested in will be covered. **Interview Preparation:** Tackle the fear of interviewing by being prepared. This session will cover typical interview questions that employers ask. **Skills Employers Want:** Employers tell us that students are not prepared for the workplace with "soft skills." Learn what these skills are and how to master them so that you will be an employee that is valued by your employer. **Resume Wednesdays!:** Complete your resume in a day! Every Wednesday – 8:30 – 4:00, Building W Room W207. **Job Search Round Table:** Be a part of an informal discussion about searching for a job. What is the most effective way to find a job and how long will it take. **Employer's View Round Table:** Get the information that is critical to being the best candidate for a job. A Job Placement Specialist will conduct an informal discussion about what employers are asking for in new hires. This session will help take the mystery out of who is chosen to interview. **Co-op Info Session Round Table:** Learn the steps to applying for a co-op/internship. Why is a co-op so important to finding a great job? In this information discussion the best practices of applying for and obtaining a co-op/internship will be discussed.

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POLTERGEIST AND POKER: THE HIGHLIGHTS OF MY WINTER BREAK

BY IAN TANCUN
STAFF WRITER FEATURES

It was Christmas. Then it was my birthday. Then I found out I'm pretty good at poker. Then I realized my house is probably haunted. This, in a nutshell, was my winter break. As I'm sure most of you did, I had a pretty eventful winter break. Christmas was great; it was nice to spend time with the family. Not so nice to put on those extra 728 pounds. Five days after Christmas was my birthday. Celebrated in the city with my best friend. New Year's Eve was also a lot of fun. Had another outing with some friends at a karaoke bar. I didn't get tipsy enough to get up there and sing though, which was a good thing. I try to avoid humiliating myself in public, whenever possible.

Over break, one of my friends decided to organize a poker night on Wednesday evenings. I hadn't played poker since I was about 15, so I expected it to be a disaster. Turns out I'm actually pretty good at it, as I've won every week I've played. I was as shocked as everybody at the table was. Who knew? Though my ultimate goal is to learn how to play craps. Item #17 on my bucket list is to go to a casino, play craps, win, and then take all my chips and joyously throw them in the air like Sharon Stone did in the movie Casino.



One of the more fascinating/disturbing things that occurred over break is me realizing that my home is probably haunted. Back story: I live alone in a condo. And for the past several weeks, I've noticed odd occurrences that I cannot explain: A knife from my kitchen disappeared. Shortly after, I turned off my hallway lamp one night on my way to the living room. Thirty minutes later, when I walked back down the hall, the light was on again. I grabbed my mace and my brass knuckles (to throw at the intruder) and looked for a prowler. Nothing. Then, because I watch too many horror movies, I convinced myself that it was a demon.

After 26 demonologists (I wanted to be sure) deemed my home "all clear," I dropped that notion. Then one day I came home from work to find a pillow in the middle of my living room floor. Next to it was a clipping of a female's fingernail. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. Of course my first instinct was to take a picture:



So, as I learned in all those horror movies...if you acknowledge the presence (whether it be a ghost, Freddy Krueger, etc), you give it power. So I opted to ignore it. Over break, I had a couple more occurrences.

While sitting in my living room, all the lights behind me suddenly turned off. And one night while cooking, I heard a tapping noise on my balcony which sounded like somebody was knocking on my window (I live on the 3rd floor). This went on for about 30 minutes. At the 30 minute mark, I tried to contact Zelda Rubinstein's publicist (See: Tangina from the movie Poltergeist).

Sadly, she is no longer with us so I'm on my own here. Well, except for the ghost. My next move is to contact Whoopi Goldberg to see if she can help me communicate with it (See: the movie Ghost).

All in all, I had a pretty good winter break! PS. If anybody reading this knows the name of a good exorcist, please come see me.

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