

The Threefold Advocate

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\$2 million surprise honors professor

KORI LANCASTER
Contributor
lancasterk@jbu.edu

An anonymous donor gave \$2 million to John Brown University in order to institute the Charles Peer Endowed Chair in Visual Arts, the University announced last week. This gift includes a \$1 million matching challenge for new endowed scholarships for art students. Charles Peer will be the first holder of the endowed chair.

Peer has been an active participant in the art world. He is a practicing pastel landscape painter, has owned his own art gallery and studio, is a professor of visual arts at the University and is partly responsible for the creation of its visual arts department. But ask him about the course his life has taken, and he will say: “Never in my wildest imagination would I have dreamed up this plan that the Lord has developed and carried out.”

“When I went to college I wasn’t really expecting to go into a field that was art-related,” Peer said. “Somewhere along that process I just discovered that that was where my passion was...It was not a straight path – a little bit of a wandering path there.”

Peer dabbled in other majors during college. Eventually, he found his way into the visual arts department of Hendrix College in Conway, Ark.

After completing his undergraduate degree, he began work as an illustrator with an advertising department. On what he describes as a “whim,” Peer decided to begin graduate school.

“It felt impulsive at the time, but it also felt like the absolute right thing to do.”



MATT SNYDER/John Brown University Communications

Charles Peer (left) learns for the first time of the \$2 million gift made in order to institute the Charles Peer Endowed Chair in Visual Arts.

He attended graduate school for three years, graduating with a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Arkansas in 1979.

After graduating, Peer moved back to his hometown of Van Buren, Ark. and purchased a building on its historic Main Street. This became his private art studio and gallery.

Peer was living many artists’ dream, but his professional life was not yet permanent. During his time with his gallery, former John Brown University art professor Dodie Brookhart asked him to showcase an exhibit of his work at the university. While Peer was visiting the campus with his exhibit, Brookhart mentioned

that she was retiring. She told him she thought he would be an excellent replacement for her.

As the conversation with Brookhart went on, Peer’s excitement about the job prospect began to grow. He realized it would only be a part-time job. The only art degree offered at the University then was an associate’s degree in general art.

Peer soon followed his excitement and, in 1987, began his journey at the University. He thought the position would be for one semester, but it soon turned in to three years.

Peer and his family were still living in Van Buren, which meant he travelled 65 miles one way multiple times a week.

“At that point, I had

decided that enough was enough,” Peer said.

“When I went in to see the academic dean [to resign] he presented me with the idea that he wanted [another adjunct professor] Dave Andrus and I to come on full-time and develop what became our new program. So going in expecting to quit, I came out with a full-time job offer, which was something I think the Lord must have thought was really hilarious,” Peer said.

After many family discussions and much prayer, Peer ended his 10-year career at his gallery and studio. He uprooted his family, and they made the move to Siloam Springs, Ark. in 1990.

Before the founding of John Brown’s visual

arts department, only one other university in the U.S. was a part of the Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities.

“That was a niche that we could help fill,” Peer said.

With Andrus and Peer working together, the visual arts department began to take shape. The establishment of the department gained invaluable support from the university’s board members and administration.

“It was, again, something that took a lot of thought and trust and prayer that the plans we were developing were really kind of unique,” Peer said.

In the department’s first year of operation,

six students enrolled as art majors. Today, the visual arts department is the largest department on the University’s campus, with over 250 students enrolled as art majors. Hundreds of people have graduated from the art program.

“That wasn’t my plan. That really was the Lord’s work, and I just got to be a little small part in that blossoming,” Peer says. “It really was the best thing. The Lord has really blessed us. It was certainly not a path that I expected to go down... It kind of shows how amazing and creative [the Lord is], and He’s got a sense of humor, too.”

University president promotes campaign

KACIE GALLOWAY
Opinions Editor
gallowayks@jbu.edu

The Berry Performing Arts Center was abuzz with reporters, Northwest Arkansas residents, professors, students and John Brown University board members. As the house lights dimmed, the voice of JBU’s founder, John E. Brown, Sr., filled the room, describing the university’s mission from 1919.

Now, nearly 100 years later, John Brown’s



MATT SNYDER/John Brown University Communications

president, Charles Pollard, stood before the crowd in the Berry Performing Arts Center to give several exciting announcements, most importantly the “Campaign for the Next Century,” a \$125 million capital campaign.

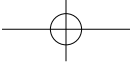
“It is my privilege to announce the public launching of John Brown University’s Campaign for the Next Century,” Pollard began, “giving students a hope and a future. It will be the

largest capital campaign in JBU’s history.”

“It will take...hard work, faith and sacrifice from us, the current stewards of JBU’s mission, to complete this capital campaign by Sept. 29, 2019, the 100th anniversary of JBU,” Pollard said.

“This capital campaign will strengthen JBU’s capacity to continue to offer hope and a future to students into the next century of our existence.”

See CAMPAIGN on Page 2



Paris attack shakes students

ALLENA PALMER
Staff Writer
palmera@jbu.edu

The editors at Charlie Hebdo did not see it coming. During a regulatory editorial meeting on Wednesday Jan. 7, two men entered the room and opened fire.

The two men shouted in Arabic, “We have avenged the Prophet Muhammad! God is great!”

The shooters, Cherif and Said Kouachi, drove away, leaving an aftermath. Twelve people were killed in the Charlie Hebdo building. The twelve included eight journalists, two police officers, a caretaker, and a guest.

The car of the Kouachi brothers was found abandoned and the search was on to find them.

On Jan. 8, a lone gunman shot a policewoman dead and wounded a man in southern Paris. The incident seemed unrelated until French authorities confirmed that the two attacks were connected shortly after. Later the same day, the Kouachi brothers robbed a service station, leading the police on a chase.

Jan. 9, police took refuge in Creation Tendance Decouverte, a printing firm, and surrounded



Courtesy of Johnathan Brady
Crowds and protests sparked worldwide attention after the offices of the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo was attacked. In London, protestors held vigils and names of the victims from the attack.(Pictured Above) The most common sign read, “Je Suis Charlie” translated to, “I am Charlie,” in honor of the magazine.

the Kouachi brothers.

Later, explosions rose from the printing firm, and the brothers emerged, shooting at police to accept their martyr death for Muhammad. (BBC News Europe).

The events surrounding Charlie Hebdo have

encouraged further questions about terrorism, free speech and security.

Edward Ericson III, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty at John Brown University, said, “If you have a war of worldviews, you can’t win it on the battlefield.”

The attack on the Charlie Hebdo building concerned worldviews of the Kouachi brothers.

Robert Moore, assistant professor of History, said, “This is a long tradition in Islam, but not universal. A lot of Muslims teach you not to create an image of

the prophet because that might lead to some veneration of that image.”

For some university students, the event happened closer to home. David Carlson, a missionary kid from France, said he was moments away when the attack took place.

Carlson was very pleased with how the authorities responded, “I’m proud of the French, They all stuck together and supported their free speech rights.”

Carlson also recognized that the Charlie Hebdo event might have been in France, but soon such events could happen elsewhere.

“I think it’s important for everyone to back France up, because this isn’t something that’s only going to happen to France, it’s going to happen all over the world,” Carlson said.

Caleb Crawford, a missionary kid from Germany, captured the gravity of the event, and said, “It’s totally possible that something like that could happen in Germany, and near to people that I know, it seems like nothing is out of the question anymore.”

Andrew Heldenbrand, a missionary kid from Spain, sums up the role of terrorism.

“I think the really important thing for everyone is not to panic. That’s all they want. They’re called terrorists because terror is what they do, it’s what they want, it’s what they specialize in, and if we give into that then we’re just playing into their hands,” Heldenbrand said.

Speaker challenges students to think global

BECKY WATTS
Staff Writer
wattsb@jbu.edu

Rudy Carrasco holds many titles; from writer, minister, Hispanic Scholarship Funds Hall of Fame holder, to community developer.

Partners Worldwide associate, Carrasco, discussed how to combat poverty and shared his own personal journey with John Brown University at chapel this previous Thursday.

Carrasco works with Partners Worldwide to plant businesses in impoverished

neighborhoods in order to provide permanent employment for the community.

“Amazing. He really was able to keep me engaged in his story. It is encouraging how he did not have much and now he is helping people out of the same situations that he experienced,” said freshman Brianna Pointer.

“I felt that his message challenged me to think about global issues,” said freshman Alanna Kraybill.

Carrasco’s passion for helping others was shaped by his sister, who, when she was 20, raised him and his two siblings after

their mother passed away.

“Her own commitment to Christ was a big deal. So whenever I was struggling with something, it was her strong faith and purpose that helped me and that had a wave of influence on me,” Carrasco said.

“Also, by her being a math major, she tended to look at relationships in a methodical way. She would say you have to look at the problem, break it into pieces, and then handle the problem piece by piece. It was frustrating then, but it helped me throughout my life,” Carrasco said.

Through her actions, Carrasco’s sister



LEXI CHRISTENSEN/The Threefold Advocate

Rudy Carrasco speaks in chapel on Thursday Jan. 22, stressing the importance of service and education.

taught him how to overcome adversity.

She was enrolled at Yale University when their mother became ill, so she left her education to stay home and take over raising her siblings. She took a job working at a dry cleaner where she got robbed, but her persistence gave her bravery to return to work every day in order to feed her siblings.


“I had a huge advantage in life because she was amazing. She is the original honey badger,” Carrasco said.

Carrasco’s sister not only motivated him to take education seriously, especially concerning college, but also encouraged him to seek his own relationship with Christ.

“My sister told me there are three things you have to do in life. Two of them I can make you do, but one of them you have to choose to do. The first one is you have to go to college and get some sort of degree. The second is you have to know English. The last one is you have to give everything to Christ,” Carrasco said.

Not only was his sister a huge inspiration to him, but also a man named Arlen who mentored Carrasco when he was 10. The interaction between the two was awkward, but Arlen left a lasting impression on him.

“He was vulnerable. I could tell that he was doing it because of Christ and because he genuinely wanted to help me. I believe being vulnerable is a good thing. I am impressed by a speaker who is able to share a part of humanity with the audience,” Carrasco said.



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CAMPAIGN continued from Page 1

Already, \$58 million has been given and pledged to the campaign. The \$125 million goal will be divided into five categories, with \$30 million going to new facilities and renovations, \$35 million for endowment and annual scholarships, \$25 million for future projects, \$25 million for estates for scholarship and program endowment and \$10 million for endowment for academic excellence.

In addition to the capital campaign, Pollard and other JBU faculty and staff announced the upcoming

renovation of the Walton Lifetime Health Complex, a \$300,000 gift from the Soderquist Family Foundation and a \$2 million gift for the newly established Charles Peer Endowed Chair in Visual Arts.

The WLHC renovation is estimated to cost between \$4 million and \$5.5 million and will include an expansion of the cardio room, a new entrance near the tennis courts, new decking and mechanical systems for the pool and air conditioning throughout the building.

An anonymous \$1.2 million has already been given to the project, as well as a preliminary gift of \$500,000 from the

City of Siloam Springs.

According to Pollard, the Charles Peer Endowed Chair in Visual Arts, named in honor of Mr. Charles Peer, professor of visual arts, will “support Charles, the first holder of the chair, in his teaching, painting and curating as well as the growth in the Visual Arts Department at JBU.”

“I’m completely overwhelmed,” said Peer, who was surprised about the announcement. “It’s an amazing experience to be able to work here with these people, and my colleagues are the best in the world. It’s been a blessing to me, and this...I’m just completely overwhelmed.”

Extended open dorm policy accepted

KACIE GALLOWAY
Opinions Editor
gallowayks@jbu.edu

ALIYA KUYKENDALL
Staff Writer
kuykendalla@jbu.edu

Last semester the Student Government Association (SGA) researched and proposed a change in John Brown University’s open dorm policy; and now their project is a reality. Beginning this semester, open dorm hours have been extended to start at 6 p.m. instead of 7 p.m.

According to SGA President Brad Johnson, this change is primarily designed to eliminate the “awkward” 30-45 minute gap while mixed-gender groups wait after dinner for open dorm to begin.

John-David Hubbs, SGA’s vice president of finance and administration and head of the open dorm committee, said that SGA began to pursue a change in open dorm policy after Director of Residence Life, Andre Broquard, displayed an interest in change. There has not been a change in visitation policy since the early 2000s.

In response to this realization, SGA taped surveys to each dorm room door on campus to find out what changes, if any, the student body wanted.

“When we investigated

it, it definitely confirmed that students did want more open dorm,” Hubbs said.

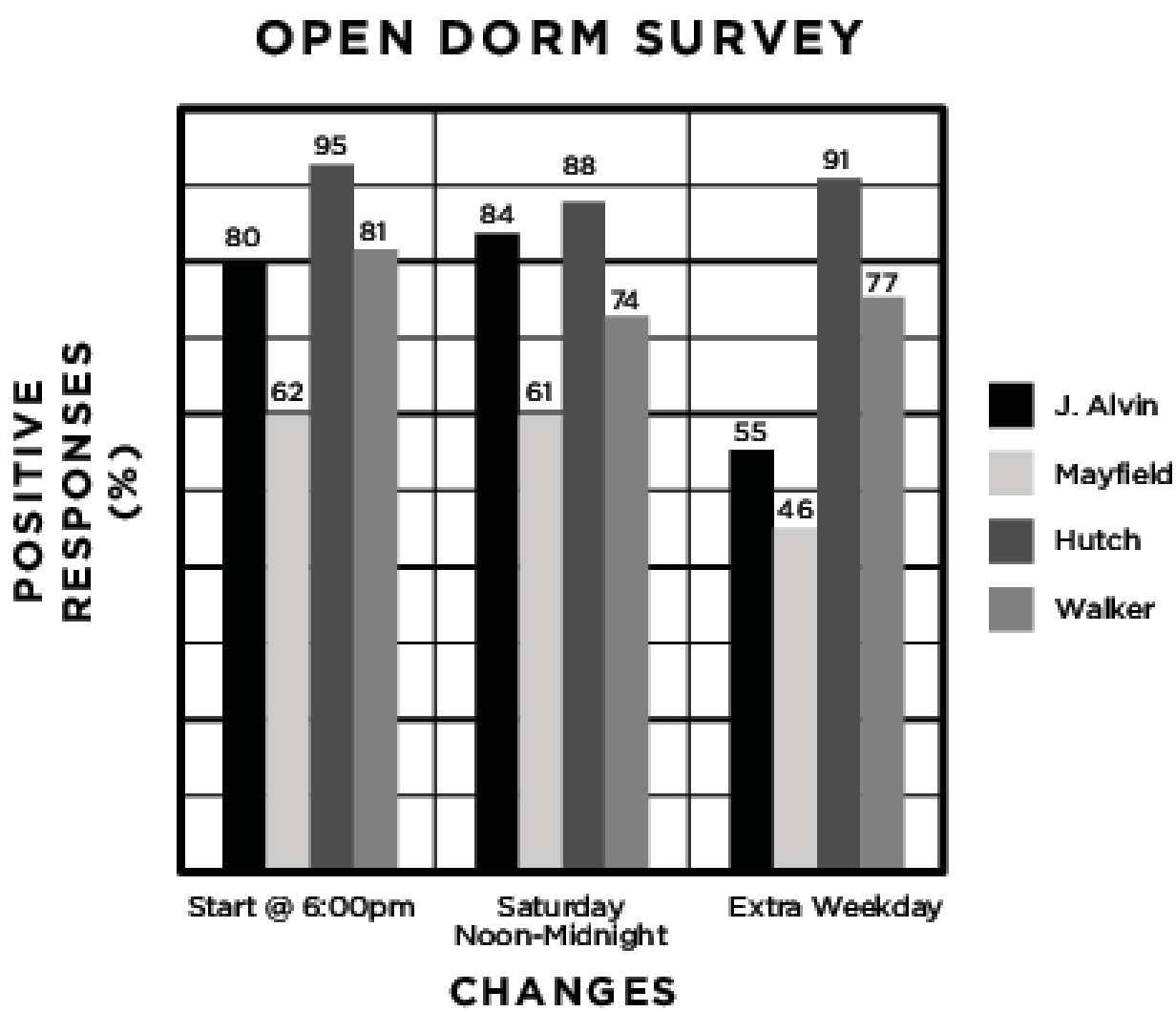
In fact, 74 percent of students who took the survey marked “yes.” They would like open dorm to start at 6 p.m.

While only one policy change was made, there were other voting items on the survey. The majority of students also voted to extend hours on Saturday from noon to midnight, and every dorm except Mayfield voted to be open on an additional weekday. So why weren’t more changes made?

While SGA proposed three changes to open dorm policy, the decision was ultimately up to Broquard. Only one change was accepted, but SGA believes the decision makes sense. One main reason for this is that JBU’s resident assistants are under contract to work a certain number of hours, and drastically increasing their workload without also increasing their pay would be unfair.

Response to the changes in open dorm policy have been overwhelmingly positive according to Johnson.

However, not all students are enthusiastic. Several students, such as Chase Herrod, a sophomore engineering major, expressed apathy to the new policy: “I really don’t mind it. It doesn’t affect me very much.”



The RAs are also largely unaffected. According to Madison Mitchell, an RA in Mayfield, Broquard set up the change in hours so that the RA on duty would not be required to be in the dorm until 7 p.m. In other words, the change in visitation hours does not equal a change in an RA’s working hours.

On the other hand, Alexa Bullington, sophomore biblical studies major, expressed that the change affects her in a negative way. Bullington said the new hours “kind of make the whole atmosphere in Mayfield change” as residents who do not regularly participate in open dorm are forced to

get used to the new hours.

She explained that this is more an issue for students whose dorms have communal bathrooms because students might have to pass by rooms occupied by the other sex to use the restroom or shower.

Johnson noted that, now that a precedent has been set, open dorm

policy could change again in the future.

“It’s a process,” he said. “This is just one step of it.”

HANNAH GARRETT/The Threefold Advocate

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Defense of free speech:
Terror in Paris sparks conversation

Last semester, we The Threefold mentioned the importance of free speech, which appeared in an editorial about the anonymous smartphone app Yik Yak. Due to recent discussions and the tragedy that has taken place in Paris, we want to further discuss this issue.

You have probably heard about the terror attacks in Paris at the office of satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo. Two gunmen, Al-Qaeda terrorists, killed 12 people and injured 11 others at the magazine office. The attacks occurred after Charlie Hebdo’s extremely controversial depictions of Muhammad in their publication. The magazine has been in trouble over this in the past; in 2011, the offices were firebombed after their depiction of Muhammad, which is forbidden in Islam.

The attacks on the Charlie Hebdo offices, as well as the subsequent terror attacks in Paris, are despicable and have been rightly condemned throughout the media. While we can understand the anger over the satirical depictions of Islam’s most revered figure—imagine if Jesus were mocked in such a crass manner—there is still the basic right to freedom of speech, at least in the United States.

As journalists, we The Threefold will continue to defend the freedom of speech. “But isn’t satire some form of libel?” you may ask. There are specific guidelines that journalists must follow when using satire so that they do not get into legal trouble. While satire is used to ridicule political figures, often harshly and sometimes inappropriately, it is not legally wrong as long as it does not state false facts.

While their negative depictions of Muhammad are extremely harsh and we The Threefold do not support the actual content of their cartoons, Charlie Hebdo is not in the wrong. It is clear from the massive outflowing of support for the Parisian magazine that the attacks were wrong. However, we have also seen from the rallies and online support that there is nothing that brings people together more than tragedy.

People from all over the world have come together in support of free speech and to condemn those who murdered the magazine staff and French police. The phrase “the pen is mightier than the sword” takes on new meaning in instances like this.

Despite the bloodshed and violence that have occurred, people have rallied together in support of something that must be protected at all costs. We all have the right to free speech, and its importance cannot be overstated. When it comes to freedoms like this, the rallying cry of “Je suis Charlie” (I am Charlie) rings true.

From passion to action:
Penny-pinching for a cause

Most college students know how to save money. You buy the generic brands at the grocery store, carpool to save on gas and go as long as possible before doing your laundry. Going out to eat at a restaurant is a special occasion, most of your clothes come from Goodwill and you budget your paycheck for work-study so it will last you until the next.

The reason we save money is, of course, so we can have enough to eat and enjoy ourselves every now and then. We are learning how to manage our money so we can pay for all the necessities—food, utilities, a place to live, car payments and insurance—and then have fun. However, there are many things that we consider necessities that we can easily go without.

Coffee, for example, is something many students cannot seem to live without. Some of us pay \$3-\$6 per drink at our local coffee shops, multiple times each week. And sometimes we end up buying a muffin or brownie to go with it. After a while, this really starts to add up.

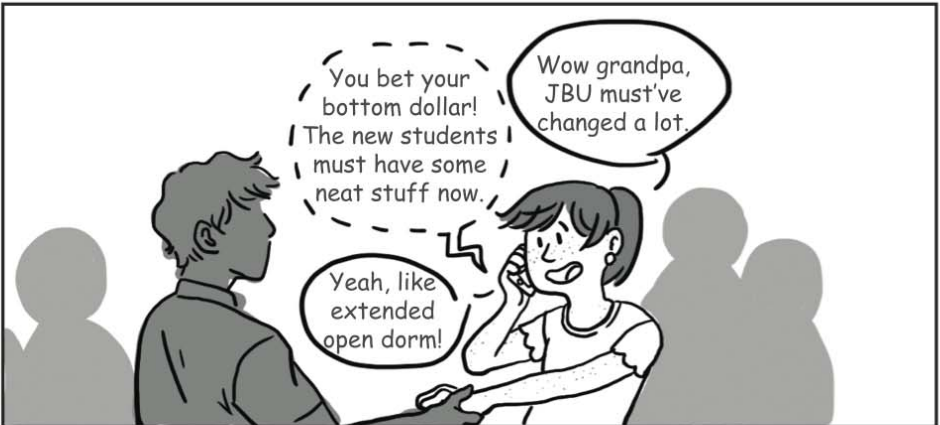
We The Threefold are not saying this is wrong, but we would like you to pause and think for a moment about what else you could do with the money you would normally spend on coffee. Think about the philosophy behind the Wells Project that took place in the fall, and the moving words of recent chapel speaker Rudy Carrasco.

We The Threefold love the fact that students at John Brown University participate in so many ministries and missions trips, and many students graduate with plans to glorify God through their various careers. We see a passion for the Gospel and changing the world in many students here, but we do not often see that passion put into action.

As Christians, we cannot continue to sit idly by and support good causes from the social media sideline. Liking statuses, sharing and retweeting can only do so much. The world runs on money, not good sentiments. Think about how much more gratification we would have if we set aside the money we spend on our own pleasures and gave it to a cause bigger than ourselves.

We The Threefold believe that most “poor college students” can still find areas in their lives to give, whether it be money, time or other resources. If you can’t give up your weekly cup of joe or new pair of Chacos, maybe volunteering or working at a nonprofit is a better way for you to give. We The Threefold urge you to think about giving to people, organizations and causes you are passionate about and putting your passion into action.

Longer open dorm:
What’s next?



Illustrated by BECKY RAMIREZ

Student shares: ‘I am gay’



JAKE HOOK
CONTRIBUTOR

Tears streamed down my face one September eve as a huge weight was lifted off my shoulders when I finally realized that God loved me. There is a freedom that comes with that kind of love, which is neither conditional nor capricious. It is the very essence of God.

I want to tell you something personal: I am gay. For some of you who don’t know me, this may come as a complete shock. “What! You’re gay? Scandalous!” But why does it have to be scandalous? Why is it scandalous for me to be me? I think it has to do with the fact that JBU treats the issue of homosexuality as taboo. Nobody wants to talk about it, and I think that’s a problem here, especially since there is a growing number of people on this campus who are wrestling with their faith and their sexuality. Let me be the first one to talk about it.

I have been a Christian ever since I was seven. I’ve always loved God, and I grew up in a Christian home, so this will give you some perspective. At 13, I started noticing that I was attracted to men. I was never attracted to women, but once I started to notice these feelings, I began to question what this was. I asked my family about this and I began to realize my family was not okay with it. According to my family, God and the Bible both say that homosexuality is wrong. Period. Well, that didn’t stop my attraction to men.

“I realized God wasn’t angry with me. He loves me and he created everything about me—including my sexuality.”

For many years, I felt like I had to work hard to receive God’s love and acceptance. I thought I needed the approval of others. I thought God was angry with me because of my attraction to men, so I would often “pray the gay away.” For many years I prayed, “God, if you love me, please make me straight.” I then realized, after many years of praying, God wasn’t taking away my attraction to men.

When I came to college, I went through a dark time. I tried desperately to find a way to build a bridge between my sexuality and my faith. After many years of praying, meditating, studying scripture

and talking to some of my closest gay Christian friends, I came to realize God loves me.

That was the day tears began to stream down my face. I realized God wasn’t angry with me. He loves me and he created everything about me—including my sexuality. I realized I don’t need the approval of others because I know God loves and values me for who I am.

This is the hope I want to give you. If you are a Christian or not, who is struggling with your sexuality, I want you to know there is nothing wrong

with you. You are not morally depraved, mentally ill or possessed by the devil as some Christians argue. Remember that God delights in you. He loves you. His thoughts for you are as countless as the sand on the sea shore and as vast as the stars in heaven. When you keep that in mind, you’ll remember that it doesn’t really matter what others think of you. After all, God created you—straight or gay.

Hook is a junior majoring in English. He can be reached at hookkj@jbu.edu.

The
Threefold Advocate

- advocate.jbu.edu -

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CONTACT US

Email | advocate@jbu.edu
Mail | **JBU Box 2501**
2000 W. University Street
Siloam Springs, Ark. 72761

STAFF

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Chance Easter, Daniel Madrid,
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January 29, 2015
The Threefold Advocate

Professor recognizes race, humanity



JACOB STRATMAN
CONTRIBUTOR



Notice: The following column contains language that may be offensive.

On most days, Katrina was loud and funny and inappropriate. This week, she was quiet and irritable. When she stormed out of the classroom, I

knew I had to follow her. My ninth grade English class was not very far into Harper Lee’s “To Kill A Mockingbird,” yet I could already sense her discomfort and frustration. “Katrina, what’s wrong?” “I’m not reading it.” “Why not?” “Nigger this and nigger that. We didn’t have to read shit like this in California.”

Tears welled in her eyes; she looked away and continued to repeat those two phrases over and over as if she wasn’t even speaking to me anymore.

“I promise you that you will love this book when you’re done. I won’t even pretend to know what it’s like to hear that word over and over again, but Katrina, this book is not racist. Some characters are racist—that’s for sure. Do me a favor. Look at my face, Katrina: focus on Scout. When you get tired of all the crap, focus on Scout. This book will get harder to read in many ways, but please focus on Scout.”

Later that week, I noticed Donny wasn’t bringing his book to class either. He was failing most reading and vocabulary quizzes, and he always looked dazed during class discussions.

Donny was dirty and smelly. He couldn’t read well, and he held on tightly to his learning disability.

“Donny, why aren’t you reading?”

“I dunno. Don’t feel like it. It’s a stupid book.”

I had noticed recently that Donny always, unsuccessfully, tried to talk to Katrina before

You’ll like her even if she is a stupid little girl from the South.”

I’m not going to lie and tell you this next part actually happened. It didn’t. Life went on as usual. But if I were a movie producer for Disney, and I wanted a touchy-feely ending to connect with these two dialogues, then this is what I would write:

“If there’s just one kind of folks, why can’t they get along with each other? If they’re all alike, why do they go out of their way to despise each other?” - Jem Finch, To Kill a Mockingbird

and after class. I also caught him stealing glances of her during the period. Grasping for anything, I said, “Katrina’s starting to like the book. It pisses her off most of the time, but I think she likes it.”

“So, what’s your point?”

“Well, maybe the two of you could read it together and talk about it.”

“It’s just a book about a stupid little girl in the South.”

“See, you know that much. You’re half-way there. Just keep trying. Focus on Scout, Donny.

We only had a week left before we moved on to Greek Mythology, but most kids were actually reading the book. At the end of each class, I read a few pages aloud, but, for some reason, today, I kept reading. They actually looked engaged.

Jem was trying to explain to Scout the reality of the world: “You know something, Scout? I’ve got it all figured out, now. I’ve thought about it a lot lately and I’ve got it figured out. There’s four kinds of folks in the world. There are the ordinary kind like

us and the neighbors, there’s the kind like the Cunninghams out in the woods, the kind like the Ewells down at the dump, and the Negroes.”

After much more explaining, Scout responds, “Naw, Jem, I think there’s just one kind of folks. Folks.”

“That’s what I thought, too, when I was your age,” Jem says. “If there’s just one kind of folks, why can’t they get along with each other? If they’re all alike, why do they go out of their way to despise each other?”

I looked up from the book and stared at these kids that fit Jem’s description perfectly, and then I thought of my words to Katrina and Donny. Focus on Scout.

Here’s what really happened: Katrina read and liked the book. Donny read it too, but Katrina was pissed at me because Donny wouldn’t leave her alone.

Stratman is the associate professor of English at JBU. He can be reached at jstratman@jbu.edu.

Pro: the great gun control debate



ISAAC WEAVER
CONTRIBUTOR

This is not my first draft. In fact, I do not really care to disclose how many times I attempted to write a pro-gun opinion piece. Music blaring and coffee flowing, I attacked it from several different angles, all the while losing my own voice and opinion and succumbing to what I perceived as the popular opinion. I believe there is something to that.

The issues of gun control and gun rights are so divisive that those with feet in both camps get quickly swept up and are forced to choose a side or keep quiet. As somebody who cannot be strictly defined as “conservative” or “liberal,” I felt

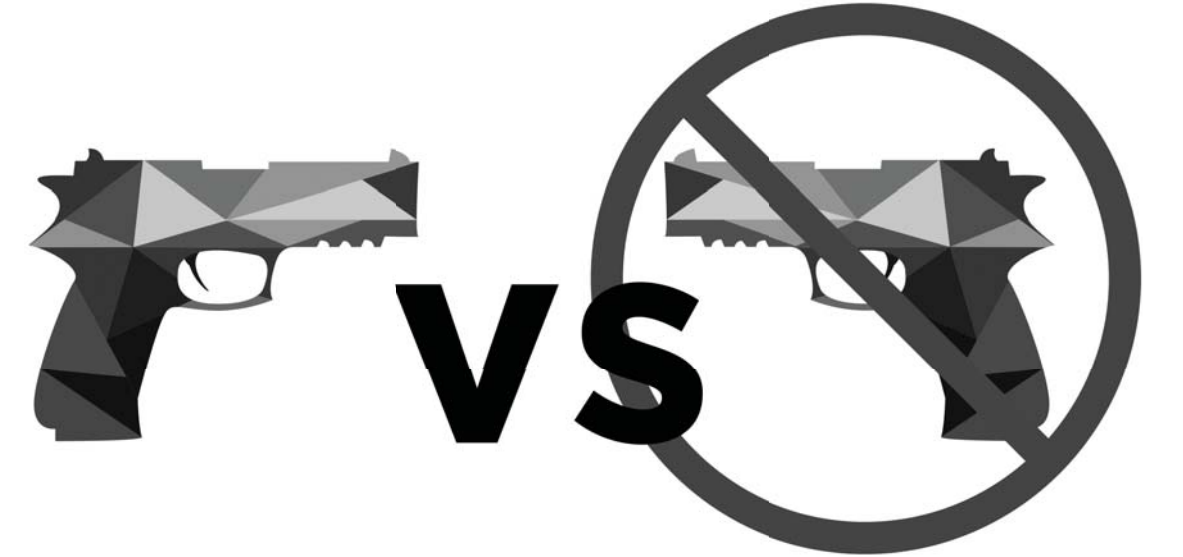
severely underrepresented on the issue. The fact is that both sides of the gun debate need serious reformation.

I type this recognizing that I will not be conservative enough to get the support of the predominantly pro-gun community, and certainly not liberal enough to garner the attention from those on the left side of the spectrum. What I have finally settled on are my own words. The following is a pro-gun argument with asterisks for both sides to look into.

I would like my friends on the conservative right to understand that gun violence exists, and that downplaying the issue will never be a successful strategy. Also, saying, “Well, if somebody had a gun then (insert

“Guns are too powerful to be left to the exclusive use of one side.”

most recent tragic event here) would not have happened,” does not help either. In fact, to say that tragedies can be prevented by gun owners implies that those affected by mass shootings who did not retaliate instantly are somehow at fault. So stop that.



Graphic by TORI LASATER

Please.

My fellow gun enthusiasts, instead of fighting tooth and nail against new gun legislation, gun

self-defense situations should always result in an indictment. I am looking at you, Ferguson. Status does not excuse behavior, and police officers do not get a free pass from inquiry.

To my friends on the left, please stop regarding gun owners as any less intelligent than we are. Not every gun owner is a racist, homophobic psycho who only leaves his cabin in the woods when it’s time to go vote against something. De-humanization of anyone just because they disagree with you is one of the most ignorant things you can do. We are all better than that. Some of the

most intelligent people I have had the pleasure of meeting also happen to be gun enthusiasts.

Guns are too powerful to be left to the exclusive use of one side. With understanding and open minds, both sides of the issue should be discussed constantly between conservatives and liberals, moderates and the undecided. There is too much at stake to be closed-minded on an issue which can so directly affect us all.

Weaver is a junior majoring in communication. He can be reached at weaverh@jbu.edu.

Modern chivalry looks like kindness



HANNAH WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Let’s get one thing straight—I’m a strong, independent woman who don’t need no man. Ah, I can see hackles raising already. If women are so independent these days, what place do good old-fashioned values have? What’s the place of chivalry? Chivalric code stemmed from the obligations knights had to protect the weak and serve God. We use it these days

to describe the proper way for a gentleman to treat a woman. It takes a lot of its influence from tales of courtly love—think Lais of Marie de France. Chivalry is a key ingredient in the proto-typical fairy tale: a damsel in distress, a knight in shining armor, a daring rescue, a triumphal kiss.

Don’t get me wrong. I love fairy tales, but I also know that I’m no damsel in distress. I don’t need to be saved by anyone but Jesus, and I’m quite capable of being a whole person through Christ. And frankly, I wouldn’t have it any other way.

On the other hand, I know how this line of thinking makes my male friends feel. It’s a very natural masculine impulse to be the protector, the hero. Good! Own that. Pursue that. But don’t take it too far.

How far is too far? I’m glad you asked.

A friend of mine recounted an incident when she held a door open for a guy, and he downright

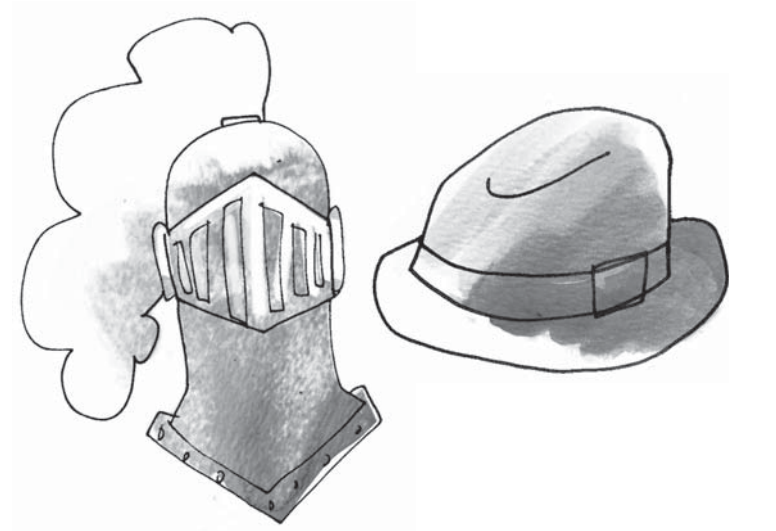
refused to step through it. He probably didn’t mean to, but he made her feel as though she had nothing to offer, that her small kindness was worthless. It was impractical and more than a little silly.

You see, it all comes down to objectification.

There are two ways to objectify your female friends. There is the way we’re most familiar with, that is, thinking of them as merely tools to be used for your gratification or self-importance. We all know that’s wrong. We know that it’s wrong to undervalue women, but it is also wrong to overvalue them.

We are not angels. We are not precious beings to protect at all costs. We are human beings, with flaws and complexity and inconsistency. To treat us as anything more is a sort of idolatry. It’s not healthy for you, and it’s not flattering to us.

Chivalry? Sure, be chivalrous, but not for the sake of principle



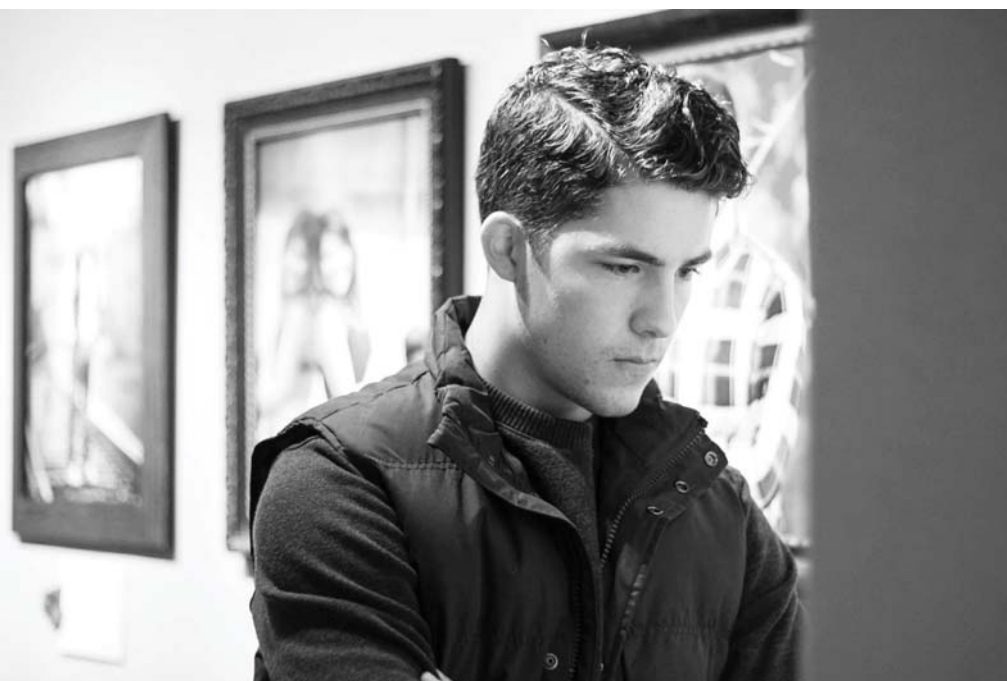
Illustrated by CHLOE FENNELL

or honor or duty. In fact, leave chivalry behind and try being kind.

Ladies, this goes for you, too. Genuine kindness is more important than any social construct or fairy tale. We should all strive to treat each

other, as fellow human beings, with unconditional love, in humility before God.

Wright is a senior majoring in chemistry. She can be reached at wrighthj@jbu.edu.



Student captures life behind the smiles

LAUREN DROGO

Staff Writer
drogol@jbu.edu

Soft music played, hugs were exchanged and smiles graced the faces of John Brown University students who had the opportunity to view Erika Forney's senior photography exhibition.

Opening night on Jan. 19, students stood in anticipation, lining the entirety of JBU's Windgate Visual Arts East. Forney's showcase, titled "Your Story Matters," told a story beyond the photos that were displayed.

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, and those words tell us a story. Forney's vision behind the project was to showcase how everyone deals with their struggles and that no one is alone. Forney displayed her vision by photographing students from freshman to seniors at the University and having them share their personal stories and weaknesses.

"I have always struggled with thinking that my struggles are bigger than everyone else's," Forney said. The impact that each student volunteer made led her to see that there is no issue that is bigger than another. This whole experience also showed her how God blesses everyone in different ways and that He will give strength to those who need it.

The stories behind the photographs

were of people who struggled from depression, anger, suicide, sexual assault and loneliness. The hope was for everyone who walked through the gallery to find someone to whom they could relate and see that they were not alone.

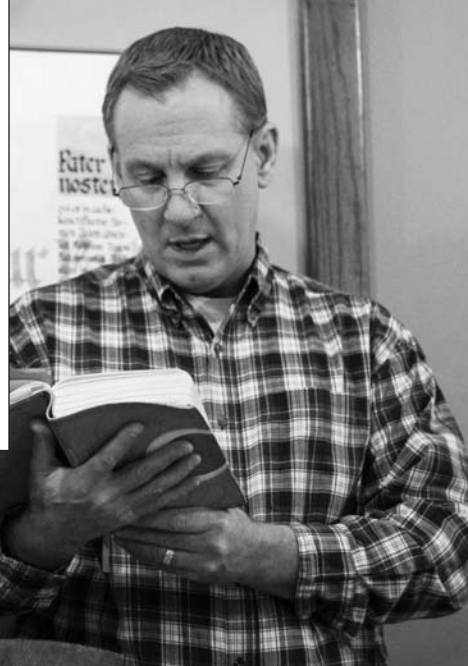
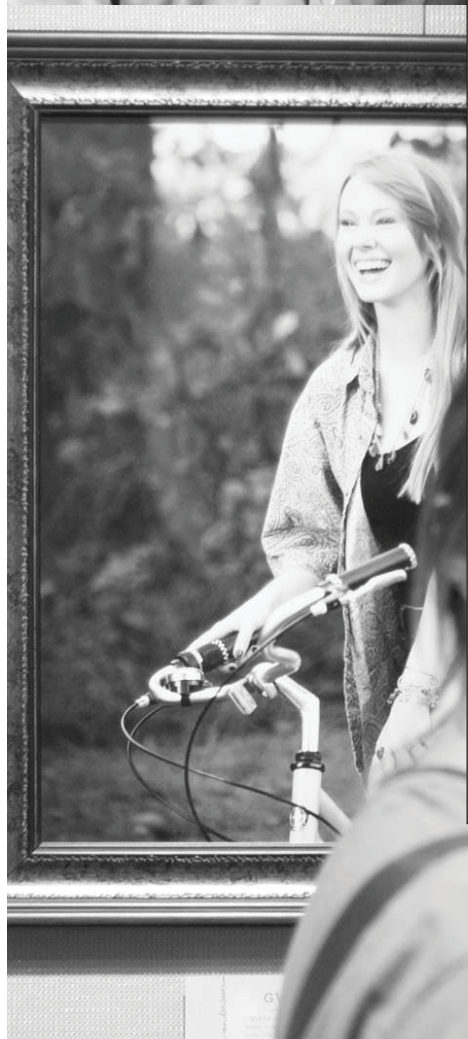
"The whole process was a God thing," said Forney. Every detail from the music choice, to the subjects she photographed, and the people who approached her after everything was said and done was God-led, according to Forney.

The overwhelming support that Forney received got her excited to see just how this exhibit will impact the campus.

Sophomore Zach Morris, a participant in the gallery, said, "At first, I was a little hesitant to share my biggest issue because I was worried it would change the way people thought of me. But, for the most part, it felt good to be given the chance to share such a big piece of my life."

"Hearing people's real stories made me want to share my own story with others. It made me appreciate them and really want to foster better relationships with them," said junior Luke Dinger, who attended the gallery's opening night.

The gallery will remain open to the public until tonight at 8:00 p.m. It will also reopen Saturday, Feb. 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. As you walk through the gallery, be open to acknowledging your own story and discover how your story matters too.



CHANCE EASTER/The Threefold Advocate

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT PRESENTS:



Jacob DeFrieze

YEAR: FRESHMAN

MAJOR: CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

HOMETOWN: EDMOND, OKLA.

FUN FACT: MY LOVE INTEREST IS A SUBARU

MOST INTERESTING THING THAT HAPPENED OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK? I ALMOST SHOT MY EYE OUT WITH A PELLET GUN

Beat the January blues



HANNAH WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Has the winter got you down? After a long holiday season, the winter months of January and February can sometimes leave you feeling sad, bored, or even depressed. Where do these feelings come from? How do you stop them? Sometimes called the January Blues, these feelings can stem from many sources, according to the Guardian. Some scientists have suggested that longer periods of darkness in the winter can lead to increased production of melatonin

in the brain. Melatonin causes you to feel sleepy and unmotivated, according to WebMD. The decreased sugar intake may also be a culprit. Eating more sugary foods are common during the holidays, causing increased production of feel-good chemicals serotonin and dopamine in the brain. However, many of us give up such treats at the start of the New Year, or just aren't eating quite so many of them as before, and our bodies, which have gotten used to higher levels of happy-chemicals, are left wanting for more. There are other suggested causes, like unrealistic New Year's resolutions, or the ended hype after Christmas, or even the pressure of Valentine's Day. Whatever the cause, it's never pleasant. So how do you fight the January blues? There are a few practical steps you can take to feel better.

First, try to get more sun. Even a half hour outdoors can improve your mood. Bundle up and take a walk, and then grab a hot beverage at the Cali. Exercise is especially important. Regular exercise can replace all those chemicals that you'd normally get after a sugar binge, with the added bonus that it's actually good for you. Spending time with friends is also important. Even if you're an introvert, contact with other people can seriously buck up your spirits. Plan a little time to watch some funny cat videos, or have a meal together. If these tips don't work, ask someone for help. On rare occasions, the January Blues can be a sign of more serious problems. If nothing seems to be working, talk to your doctor, or take advantage of the eight free counseling sessions offered by the professionals at the

Counseling Office. Finally, and most importantly, don't forget to make time for God. Daily quiet time for Bible reading and worship can refocus your priorities. Remember to pray, and ask your friends to pray for you.

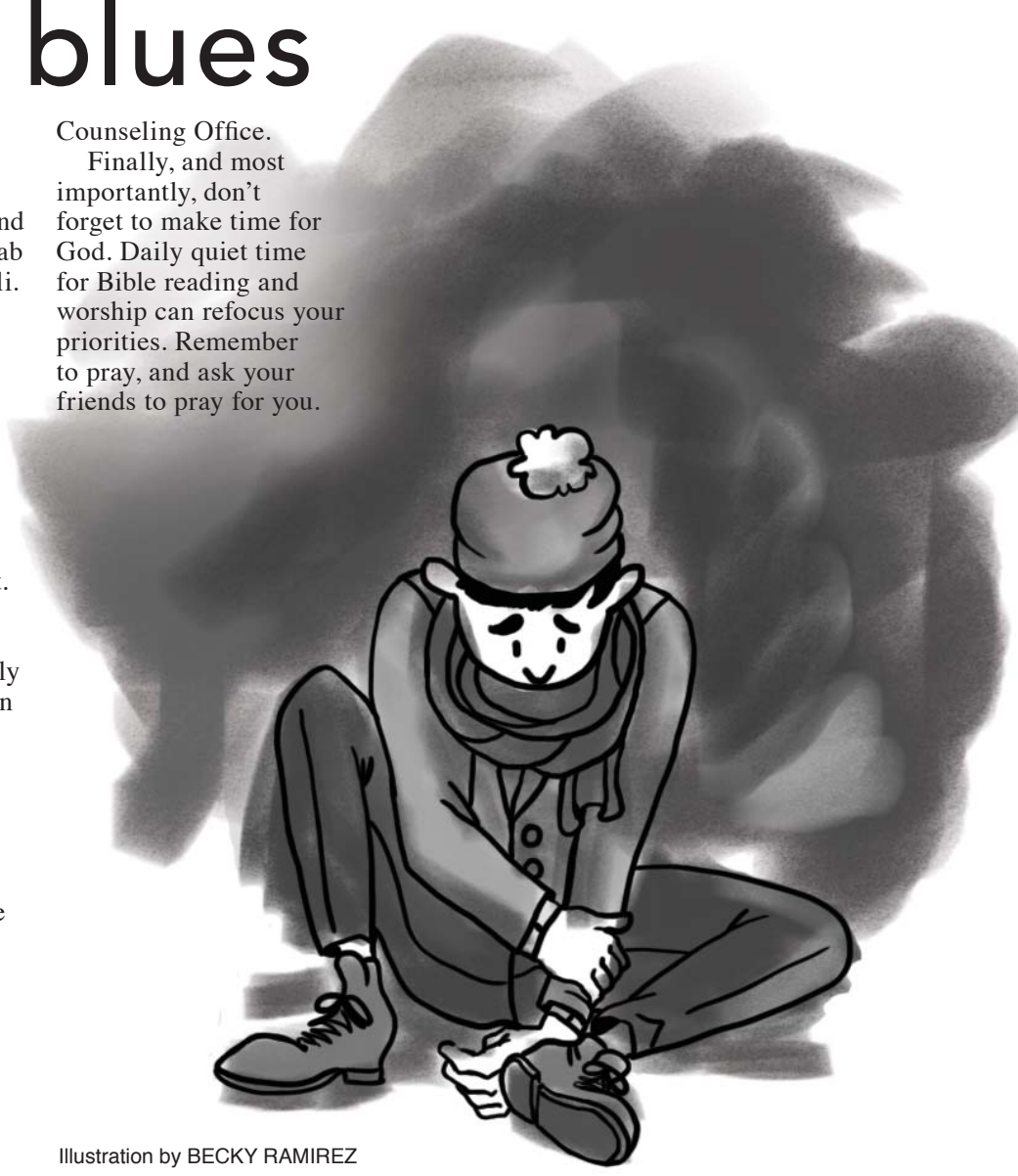


Illustration by BECKY RAMIREZ

2014–2015 *Cinema Highlights* looking back & looking ahead by Colleen Cornett, Managing Editor

Several landmarks defined 2014. Society lost notable figures such as Maya Angelou, Joan Rivers, Shirley Temple Black and Robin Williams. The world witnessed a plane mysteriously disappear, experienced the hype of the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, heard of an intruder jumping the fence of the White House, faced fears of the Ebola virus, watched the Winter Olympics out of Sochi, saw various states legalize medical marijuana and more. The year also brought art through film and music that won't soon be forgotten. Here is a look 2014's most popular films:



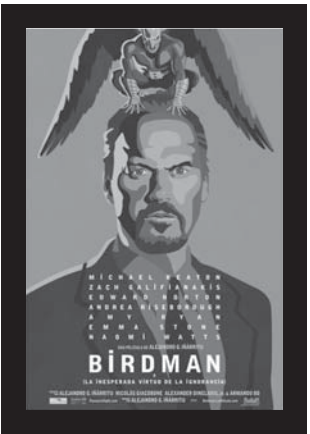
1 AMERICAN SNIPER

Directed by Clint Eastwood, American Sniper portrays the life of Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle whose contributions on the battlefield turned him into a legend. Featuring Bradley Cooper as Chris Kyle, the film has received both negative and positive feedback from fans and critics around the world. American Sniper broke box office records and earned various awards such as the American Film Institute's Top Ten Films of the Year.



2 INTO THE WOODS

This musical fantasy film was directed by Rob Marshall and adapted to the screen by James Lapine. The film depicts the suffering of a baker and his wife in their hopes to have children while living with a curse upon their family by a witch. The couple sets out to complete a journey that the witch says will lift their curse. Featuring Anna Kendrick, Meryl Streep and Chris Pine, the film has brought in a worldwide total of \$142,459,279 as of Jan. 19.



3 BIRDMAN

In this movie, a washed up actor who once played an iconic superhero battles his ego and attempts to recover his family, career and himself in the days leading up to the opening of Broadway play. The National Board of Review called Birdman "one of the best films of 2014," also being nominated for seven Golden Globe Awards including Best Motion Picture, Best Director, Best Score, and more.

Some other notable films of 2014 include Boyhood, Taken 3, The Imitation Game, Inherent Vice, Gone Girl, The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies and Whiplash.

As we begin to delve in to 2015, some films have announced their upcoming arrival:



JUPITER ASCENDING
Feb. 2015
This upcoming space opera is written, produced and directed by The Wachowskis, marking their first return to original screenplays since The Matrix trilogy.



SEVENTH SON
Feb. 2015
This fantasy film centers on the life of Thomas Ward, the seventh son of a seventh son, and his adventures as the apprentice of the Spook. Directed by Sergei Bodrov, film is set to hit box offices on Feb. 6.

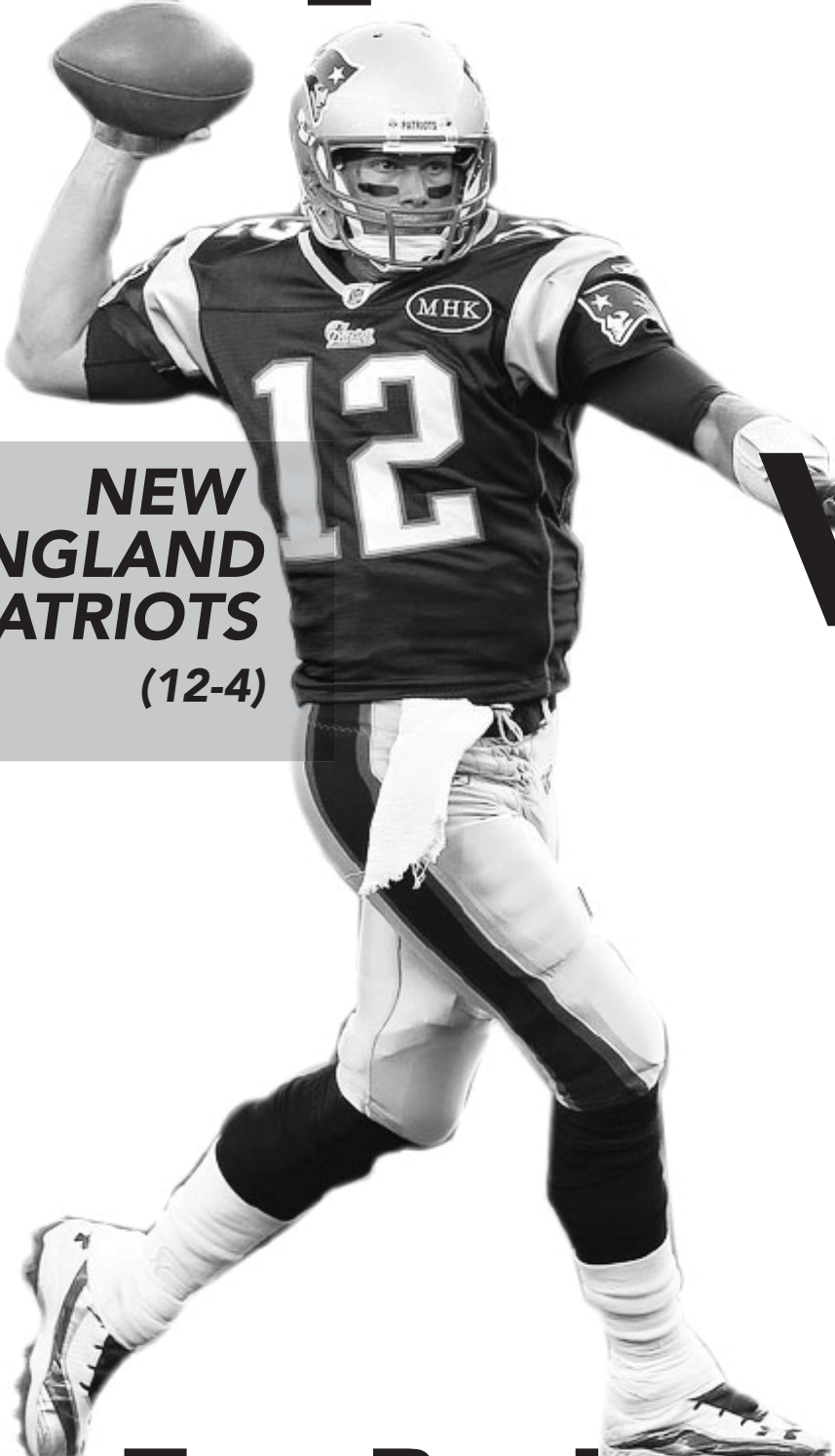
SHAUN THE SHEEP
Feb. 2015
Based on the Shaun the Sheep television series, this upcoming stop-motion comedy film is a spin-off from the Wallace and Gromit series. The film is written and directed by Richard Starzak and Mark Burton.

KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE
2015
Set also to release in 2015, this spy-action film is based on the comic book The Secret Service. The film depicts a veteran secret agent, who leads a young protégé into the world of spying.



Other films you can anticipate for 2015 include The Lazarus Effect, Chappie, The Coup, Faults, Cinderella, Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension and The Divergent Series: Insurgent.


Super Bowl XLIX



NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS
(12-4)

Tom Brady

VS



SEATTLE SEAHAWKS
(12-4)

Russell Wilson

Courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES

Who do you think will win the SuperBowl?

Students weigh in:

"Patriots are going to win because they are going to cheat. Whatever it takes."
- Robert Stephens

"I think the Seahawks will win because they are a superior team."
- Matt Carnefix

"Hawks 'cause Sherm."- Isaac Weaver

"Hawks. I don't think Brady has enough receivers to spread out the secondary."
- Michael Burchfiel

OR

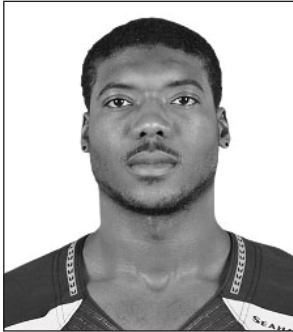
"I don't follow sports. But based on last year, I think Seahawks have a pretty good chance."- Kenny Cable

"Seahawks in all caps. They have the heart, skills and fans to demolish any opponent that dares to face them."- Kristie Lotz

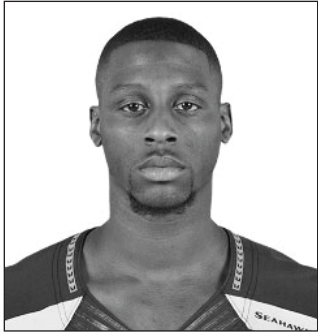
"The Patriots must lose; therefore, the Seahawk will emerge victorious."
- Neeya Toleman

LEGION OF BOOM

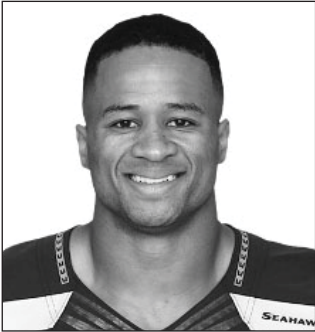
Seattle Seahawks' defensive line leads the team to the Super Bowl.



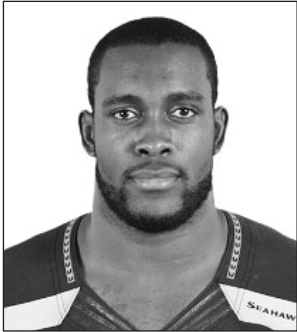
Byron Maxwell
No. 14
Cornerback



Jeremy Lane
No. 20
Cornerback



Earl Thomas
No. 29
Free Safety



Kam Chancellor
No. 31
Strong Safety



Richard Sherman
No. 25
Cornerback

Courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES
Information Courtesy of SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

Super Bowl: 49 years of facts

1

The average Super Bowl commercial for 30 sec. to 2 min. costs \$45 million.

2

Pittsburg Steelers has the most wins with SIX Super Bowl titles.

3

Dallas Cowboys and the Pittsburg Steelers are the teams who have played in the Super Bowl the most.

4

The first Super Bowl was January 15, 1967. Greenbay Packers played against Kansas City.

5

Domino's Pizza estimates that it will deliver 11 million pieces of pizza.

6


The Super Bowl will be broadcasted in 34 different languages.

7

Super Bowl XVIII had the largest crowd with 103,986 fans at Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Ca.

8

A ticket to Super Bowl I cost \$6.

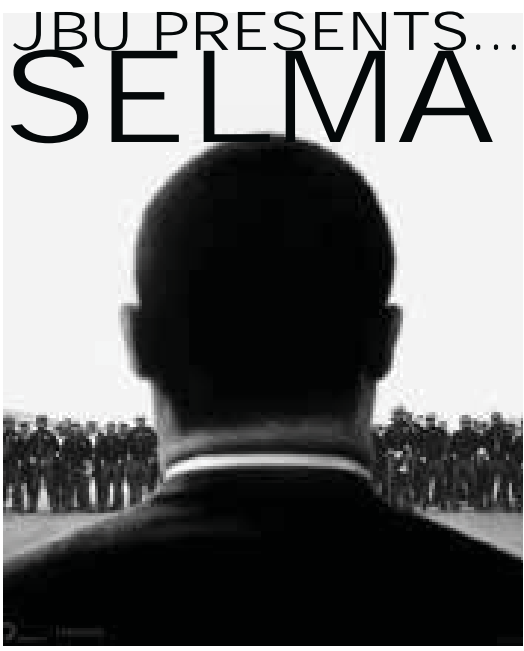


Courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES
Information Courtesy of NEW YORK POST, CNN, FOX SPORTS, NFL & TIME



Courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES

Halftime performance by Katy Perry featuring Lenny Kravitz



Saturday, Jan. 31st at 4:10pm
Siloam Springs 6 Theater
Talkback session immediately following the movie
FREE POPCORN!

Students can pick up tickets from Ms. Rebekah Ruckman in Student Development.
Faculty and staff can request tickets from Dr. Marquita Smith.

SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIPS

Miami, FL

Application due Jan. 30

Jackson, MS

Application due Feb. 6

New Orleans, LA

Application due Feb. 6



\$300

PER TRIP

INCLUDES LODGING, TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, SUPPLIES, & ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS



Health Apps

TO KEEP
UP THOSE
NEW YEARS
RESOLUTIONS



FOODUCATE



Not sure which granola bar is healthier for you? Fooducate can help by giving popular foods a grade from A to D to help you determine how healthy they are for you. Simply utilize its database or use the barcode scanner while in the grocery store. The app gives explanations for each letter grade, as well as detailed nutrition facts and suggestions for healthier alternatives to those Pop-Tarts. It also allows you to record your daily food intake and exercise.

Free with purchasable premium features - iOS & Android



GOODRX

Every college student loves to save money, and the GoodRX app and website makes saving money on prescriptions easy. Simply search your surrounding pharmacies to compare prescription prices and find the best deal. GoodRX also provides free coupons for many prescriptions, lists available generics and gives detailed drug information such as side effects and dosage info.

Free - iOS & Android



MYFITNESSPAL

One of the most popular smartphone applications, this food and exercise-tracking app allows users to easily record what they have eaten and how many calories they have burned. MFP's database of over three million foods is convenient and easy to use for those looking to lose weight or just keep track of how many calories, carbohydrates, proteins and other nutrients they consume. The app also syncs with some wearable technology, and it allows desktop access through the MFP website.

Free - iOS & Android



FITBIT

If you're into wearable technology, the Fitbit app might be for you. The app wirelessly syncs to your Fitbit device (starting at \$59.95) to track activity, food, sleep and more. It also allows data importing/exporting capabilities with some other fitness apps like MyFitnessPal, Lose It! and Run Keeper.

Free - iOS & Android

Written by Kacie Galloway
Opinions Editor

Designed by Hannah Garrett
Visual Art Director

