

The Threefold Advocate

Thursday, February 5, 2015

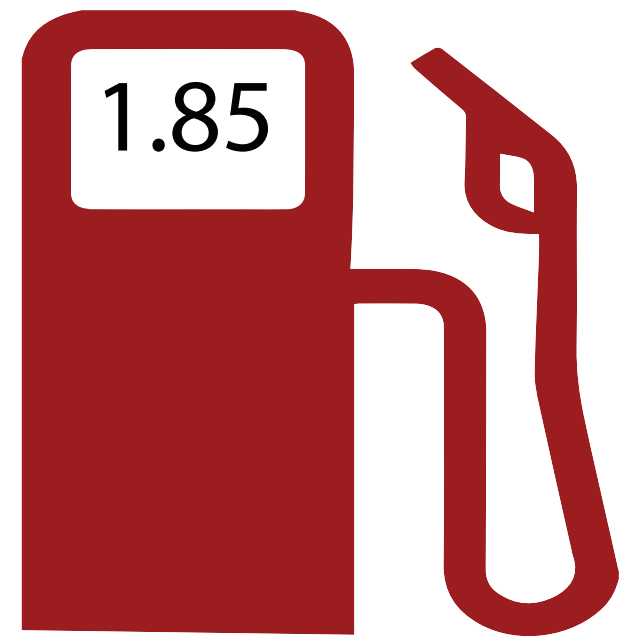
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Siloam Springs, Ark.



'We know what high gas prices can do'



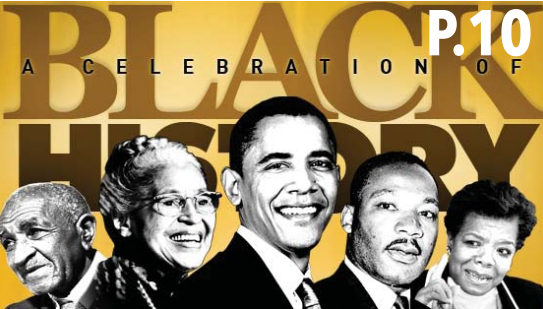
SARAH WHITE
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The drop in fuel prices has penetrated the nation's overall economy, sinking below \$2 a gallon for the first time since March 25, 2009, according to Money Morning, an online

investment research publication. Money Morning's AAA report showed the "average price at the pump has dropped a record 117 consecutive days." John Brown University students and faculty have varying opinions concerning the benefits of lower gas prices.

JBU student and car owner Anna Maclachlan said lower gas prices enabled her to go to Georgia and Florida for Christmas break—something she could not have done otherwise. "I was able to see more family," she said. If prices stay low, Maclachlan anticipates affording another road trip. Not all students see the low gas prices as a positive trend. Renewable energy engineering major Gabriel Luciani De Pas said the low gas prices make people less interested in investing in renewable energy. When prices are cheap, the public loses drive to continue developing the technology needed to create biodiesel fuels, he said. Randall Waldron, professor of international business and economics at John Brown University said that overall, lower gas prices are healthy for the nation's economy. He said high gas prices had a strong effect on the economic downturn in the 70s and 80s. "Therefore we know what very high gas prices can do," he said. However, Waldron said there are important drawbacks to the lower prices. Waldron said that the suffering of suppliers will specifically hurt the

economy in states that are big energy producers. Lower salaries and layoffs could easily result from the falling prices, he said. The New York Times reported that contract rig company Helmerich & Payne recently announced a plan to idle up to 50 U.S. rigs over the next weeks. Helmerich & Payne is not the only company to suffer. Reuters Business and Financial News reported that "more than \$150 billion in oil exploration projects have been shelved for 2015." Another drawback, according to Waldron, is that the market does not respond well to uncertainty. Waldron stated that the economy cannot depend on these prices. "They will return to their long-term average," he said.



Confer starts new career at Anderson

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After nearly 11 years at John Brown University, Chris Confer left his position as director of career development in December and accepted a job as the new dean of students for Anderson University in Anderson, Ind. As the head of career development, Confer met one on one with more than 2,000 students, but never tired of the constant involvement with the student body. "By far, my favorite part was helping students discover and understand what God was calling them to do," he said in a phone interview from Anderson. In the nearly six years as the director of career



Photo submitted by REBEKAH RUCKMAN
The career development staff is pictured above at their end-of-the-year dinner. Front Row: (left to right) Alyssa Bowerman, Jesus Bonilla Vargas, Lexi Anglin, Emily Burney. Back Row: (left to right) Brock and Sarah Erdman, Chris and Michelle Confer, Rebekah Ruckman and David Burney.

development, Confer developed the office, doing whatever he could to give students better opportunities, said Sarah Erdman, the assistant director of career development. "He really revamped the program and has made career development really what it is," Erdman said. "He's left a good legacy." Some of the bigger additions to the office include co-curricular transcripts, corporate partnerships for internships and connections, online self-assessments and a career development certificate, she said. "Compared to other colleges our size, Chris has done a phenomenal job with the program," Erdman said. "We have had other universities contact us, saying 'Hey, how did you do that?' Chris really led that initiative and has done a

great job." Junior and career development assistant Lexi Anglin said Confer was more than just a supervisor. "He always does one on one meetings with his career development assistants," she said. "So not only is he our boss, but he built a friendship with us, which made us want to work harder since we had such a great boss." Anglin regularly saw Confer do more than was required of him, opting to get involved with students directly in the classroom. "He went as far as teaching a gateway class, which wasn't required of him," she said. "But that was something he felt like he wanted to do, to meet new students and tell them about career development. For him, one way to get our name out there was to teach a gateway class." See **CONFER**, page 2

Forensics competitors bring home the gold

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For three days, regional competitors from Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi used the talent of speech and debate to determine their state champions at the 5th Annual Southern Forensics Championship Tournament. Taking place Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, the competition offered parliamentary debate, public debate, both team and individual, and the standard 11 AFA-NIET events. John Brown



Courtesy of JBU FORENSICS
(From left to right) Megan Chapin, Justin Burchfiel and Brad Johnson all earned first place in their respective categories at the 5th Annual Southern Forensics Championship Tournament.

University's Brad Johnson, Justin Burchfiel and Megan Chapin each placed first in their respective events. Through her passion about prescription drug awareness in her persuasive speech, freshman Megan Chapin is now the Arkansas Champion of Persuasion. The passion behind her speech involves her personal story as her winning persuasive speech involved a story about a man who died from narcotic and prescription drug abuse. "I have chronic diseases, specifically crohns disease and heart

problems. I know that struggling with daily pain is something that is hard to overcome and you have to make sure you are doing it safely," Chapin said. Chapin stressed the importance of being mindful of communication with doctors, making sure patients understand what they discuss and not being afraid to ask questions. "Doctors don't even care sometimes, and can just keep prescribing drugs. Because some of them work with drug companies and can be in it just for the money," Chapin said. See **TOURNAMENT**, page 3

Engineers solve 7 problems for 7 hours

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Computer keyboards clicking, eyes glued to computer screens and mumbled conversations of languages such as C++ and Python are exchanged. This was the scene on Jan. 31, at John Brown University's Third Annual Computer Programming Competition. Although not many students would willingly spend seven hours on a Saturday solving the same seven problems on a computer screen, junior John Brown engineering student Kent McDonnell disagrees.

"I think it's really interesting and a fun opportunity," McDonnell said. Having no previous experience with coding, McDonnell has since taken computing classes and seen its benefits. "It's a super useful skill and it's really, really needed in the modern world," McDonnell said. McDonnell believes it is important for everyone to understand that, "everything is coding when it comes down to it."

"Your phone, your lights, the microwave, the fridge, everything has a microchip in it," McDonnell said. Currently taking an embedded systems class, McDonnell expressed the knowledge that any huge development is going to take coding at some point. Robert Norwood, dean of students and professor of engineering attended the event and stressed the importance of using code in life. "If you can program, you can think step by step and use problem solving skills," Norwood said. "From something as simple as programmable thermostats to using things online, learning how computers' think, can help people understand what's going on," Norwood said. He added that learning programming and code as an engineering student has aided him with his other jobs. "Although coding wasn't necessarily what you are being paid to do, it helps you accomplish the other things you want to do," he said. Sophomore engineer Benjamin Morris competed in the competition and said, "To be an engineer you

don't have to be smart, you just have to want to do it." Working on the same problem for multiple hours, the engineers explained how they kept up their endurance and the satisfaction of getting through the rough spots. "Starting with a problem and having no idea how to do it, and after an hour or 3 hours later, coming

up with a solution that works is like 'man I just did that,' " Morris said. McDonnell emphasized the importance of working in a team when you hit a wall during a problem and asking your teammates for help. Tim Gilmour, assistant professor of engineering and construction management said, "There is more and more interest in programming and this year we were able to add Java and Python in addition to

the other languages." Gilmour agreed that computer programming helps to solve a lot of real world problems such as transportation, energy and communication. This year's competition debuted participation from high schools in the surrounding area. Out of the 35 participants, 23 were AP computer science high school students from Bentonville and Fayetteville competing for \$1,000 scholarships to the University. Placing second to John Brown, Bentonville High School team members of "icoders," Sabrina Shepherd, Jacob Loukota and Teagan Shepherd were each awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. In third place were Fayetteville High School students Sarah Bondurant, Brayan Herrera and Brian Dearing for team "Briyan" were awarded \$500 scholarships each. And three-time John Brown University winner Zachary Lee and teammates Kyle Crouse, Ernesto Lopez Chan and Israel Hernandez were each awarded \$20.



REBEKAH HEDGES/The Threefold Advocate
Engineering students work in teams to solve computer programming problems. Students Kent McDonnell, Jacob Russell, Benjamin Morris and Josiah Jackson used a team collaboration in the computer programming competition.

Speaker survives cultural revolution for education

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Ming Wang had to endure many trials to survive in China during the Cultural Revolution. Not only did he go on to receive an education and become a doctor, in order to survive Wang learned how to play the Chinese violin and ballroom dance. The Chinese Cultural revolution took place during 1966-1976 under the reign of Emperor Mao Zedong. The goal of the Cultural Revolution was to combat all old ideas the Chinese once identified with. Zedong built an army of young people, who were named the Red Guards, to enact his policies. The Red Guards sought and destroyed temples, arrested and tortured educators, and murdered anyone who stood in their way. One example was Chinese woman Fang Zhongmou.

Zhongmou was beaten, taken from her home, and then humiliated in front of a crowd, when her son and husband accused her of criticizing Zedong. After

Revolution all colleges were shut down. Zedong did not want the people to gain an education and rally against him. This is the environment that Wang comes from.

process of all of the young people," Wang said. "Destroying means when students graduated from junior high or senior high, instead of allowing them to

Zedong's reasoning for sending students to farms was for them to learn from the peasants how to do hard labor, according to CNN.com. Wang said once they were there they were only allowed to work jobs that paid one or two dollars a month. Over the course of 10 years this process destroyed the lives of 20 million people. "During what we called this Cultural Holocaust, I attended elementary through junior high and when I was finished in 1964 I was not allowed to go to senior high or to college, so I was going to be deported by the communist government. Just like everyone else, but it turns out one way to avoid deportation is through a musical talent," said Wang. Wang went on to learn how to play the Chinese violin and how to dance as a way of survival. He tried to get into the communist singing and dancing group, but he did not get in because by that time the

government realized that young people where learning these talents to avoid deportation. As a result, the Chinese government stopped allowing students to be taught musical talents. "My parents then sent me to the only medical school that was still allowed to be open, without any prospect of being a doctor. At age 15, I was learning medicine for no reason, because if I was on the streets they would deport me." Unfortunately, the communist noticed Wang studying medicine for the sake of knowledge and expelled him. In 1976 the Cultural Revolution died with its leader Zedong. China noticed what mistakes it had made and reopened all of the schools, which gave Wang the opportunity to graduate and come study in America. In America he attended Harvard University and MIT. He grew to have a fascination with the eye and became an ophthalmologist.



GRACE NAST/The Threefold Advocate
Doctor Ming Wang speaks at chapel on Thursday, Jan. 29, sharing his accomplishments in the medical field.

this she was taken to the outside of town where she was shot to death, according to TheGurdian.com. Under the Cultural

"The communist government believed the best way to keep on governing is to actually destroy the educational

go to college, they forced all the young people to the poorest part of the country and condemned every one of us to a lifetime of poverty."

CONFER continued from Page 1

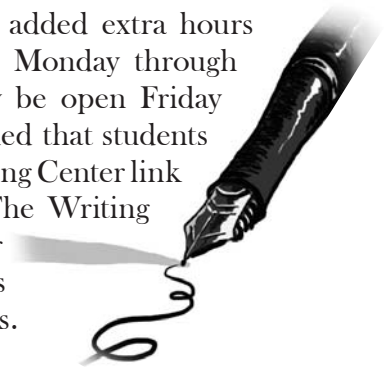
While Confer's move wasn't planned far in advance, it wasn't surprising to him or his co-workers. He likens his time at JBU to a boxer training for a big match in ways like jumping rope or lifting weights. "You train for years before you get to that ultimate match," Confer said. "You're about to step in the ring and fight hard in a good way. Unless you've done the training, you're not going to be ready for the fight." Over the last couple years, he said that God

has caused him to wonder what was next in store for him. He sees now that it was finally the right time. "I've been really searching in my vocational life, trying to figure out where he's going to call me," Confer said. "I've questioned God, saying I'm ready to jump in the ring, but God still had several lessons to teach me at JBU. I'm relying on so many experiences at JBU to pull into my perspective here [at Anderson]." Confer continues to work in an advisory role with the career development office, and other employees are now working more hours to

fill some of the gaps left, according to Tim Dinger, the director of JBU's student counseling center. The search process to replace Confer is also underway, with one candidate already visiting campus. "We're in a position, I think, to manage the spring well on the key initiatives of career development," Dinger said. "But if it takes until August to fill the position, that's OK. There is a sense of urgency because we want leadership in that position, but we've taken measures to make sure things are in good working order."

EXTENDED WRITING CENTER HOURS

This semester, the Writing Center has added extra hours for service. In addition to its availability Monday through Thursday evenings 7-11 p.m., it will now be open Friday mornings from 8-11 a.m. It is recommended that students schedule an appointment through the Writing Center link under the Academics tab on Eaglenet. The Writing Center is a great place to brainstorm paper topics or receive feedback from consultants on drafts at any stage of the writing process.



Graphic by GRACE LINEHAN /The Threefold Advocate

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Vaccines for children:

Parents should choose lifesaving treatment

In the year 2000, measles was eradicated from the Unites States. The highly contagious respiratory disease, spread through the air, used to claim the lives of hundreds, sometimes thousands, each year in the U.S. Nearly every child experienced it at some point in their lives, and some developed deadly complications. Thanks to the scientific efforts throughout the 1960s and development of the measles-mumps-rubella, or MMR vaccine, the preventable disease practically disappeared from the United States.

However, recent headlines about the return of measles have made Americans across the country frantic. An outbreak traced to Disneyland in Orange Co., Calif., and cases in 15 other states have once again brought the hotly debated topic of vaccination into the national spotlight.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that, unless the vaccine poses a legitimate health risk, everyone should be vaccinated, especially for highly contagious and potentially deadly diseases like measles. The reason for this is because of the need for herd immunity, a term referring to the idea that if enough people are vaccinated, outbreaks will be contained due to the immunity of the majority.

For measles, the herd immunity threshold (the percentage of immune people needed to keep a disease from persisting) is 83-94 percent. The nationwide rate of vaccination for kindergartners (the age at which most children receive their second dose of the MMR vaccine) is about 90 percent, and is unfortunately much lower in some pockets of the country. Because of the declining vaccination rate, the formerly eradicated disease is flaring up again.

Why are parents refusing to vaccinate their children against this preventable disease? Many, such as the Amish, do so for religious reasons. Others want to raise their children in an all-natural environment with no drugs or medicine. There are still others who believe that vaccines cause autism, a now discredited idea. Some of these children cannot be vaccinated due to medical conditions.

While each person is entitled to their own opinion, this becomes a problem when someone’s personal choice endangers others. Because the herd immunity threshold has dropped so low in some areas, unvaccinated children previously protected by others are falling ill. Many unvaccinated children have been sent home from school so they will not catch or further spread the disease.

We The Threefold encourage those on both sides of the vaccination debate to verify their facts and consider the health and wellbeing of others. The overwhelming number of problems that unvaccinated children could cause far outweigh the mostly-invalid claims by anti-vaccine proponents.

ISIS continues terror:
Students must stay informed

In the fall, it seemed that the only thing in the news was the horrors and atrocities committed by ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq and Syria). There were beheadings, murders, sex slavery and thousands of people displaced by war. Unfortunately, this has not stopped. ISIS is still terrorizing the Middle East and the entire world through its evil tactics. In the last two weeks, a Japanese reporter was beheaded and a Jordanian pilot burned alive by ISIS militants.

There are countless other people dying all over the world from war and disease, but we do not often hear about it on our local TV news station. Your first instinct may be to blame “the media” for reporting on stories that only suit their agenda, but this is not a solution to the bigger problem.

There are a variety of reasons as to why certain topics are not covered in the mainstream news media. If you never hear about certain events, you may need to find a new source for your news. It may also be because it is dangerous for reporters to enter certain regions of the world, or because the TV station is trying to get good ratings. You can’t be sure, so it is best to read and watch many different sources.

We The Threefold Advocate urge you to be aware of international events, even when they are not on the front page of the newspaper or the trending hashtag on Twitter. It is some of these forgotten and overlooked atrocities that need our attention most. After all, we are not loving our neighbors by ignoring their problems.

Keeping up with international affairs is too much trouble, you may think. Maybe you don’t understand what is happening in Ukraine or why Boko Haram is still murdering innocent people. Most of these issues are fairly complex and require more than just skimming a headline.

We The Threefold Advocate work to bring these far-off, complex issues to campus through reporting the news. We believe that being informed and well-read is important to being a compassionate, action-centered Christian.

Solving problems begins with awareness, but not the passive, social media awareness that only requires the click of a button. Choose an issue or a specific region of the world and learn as much as possible about it. Educate yourself so that you can educate others, and actively spread the news of your cause. Don’t just hop on a bandwagon, but make the cause an important part of your life.

The
Threefold Advocate

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The Threefold Advocate invites you to submit a signed letter to the editor. We ask that you keep your comments to fewer than 300 words, and we reserve the right to edit for space and appropriate content. The writer’s phone number, classification and hometown must be provided. Email or mail letters by 6 p.m. on Monday.

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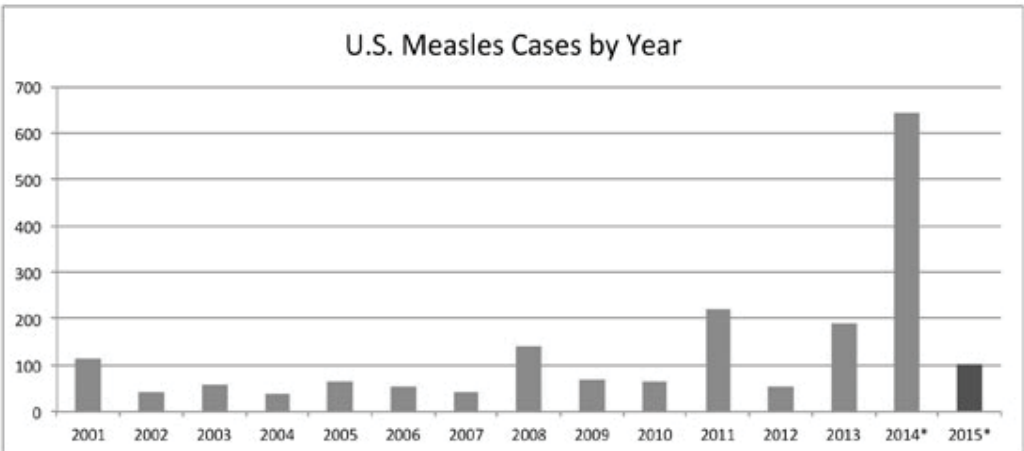
Measles Cases and Outbreaks
January 1 to January 30, 2015*

102
Cases

1
Outbreak

reported in 14 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, Nebraska, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington

representing 92% of reported cases this year



*Provisional data reported to CDC’s National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



Courtesy of cdc.gov

Understand the ‘magnitude of slavery’



BECKY WATTS
STAFF WRITER



This column is not meant to offend or dismay you. I address this piece specifically to you because there is a question that you may raise (not all, but a majority) that I would like to address directly.

Since the first February I have been on this campus three years ago, a moment has not passed that this conversation has not been suffocating me:

“Why do we even have a Black History Month? I mean we don’t have a White History Month? It’s really all just one big history.”

For three years I have listened to several students make this claim without a drop of understanding in their voice. They talk as if they know there is no better response than what they just said. There has not been one time that anyone has stopped to ask my opinion. Instead, they have talked as if I were not in the room or as if I could not hear their complaints.

So here is my reason for why there is a Black History Month,

why there is a need for all to engage with it and how we as Christians should respond to it.

The intent of Black History Month is not to overshadow or say our history is more prevalent than another’s. As a matter of fact, Black History Month, Native American Heritage Month and Hispanic Heritage Month were created to highlight marginalized groups’ histories, because in

history, but it is providing another perspective on American history. If we only read American history and exclude the African American, Hispanic, and Native American narratives, we are only getting one side of the story.

There is also a way we as Christians should respond to this month, which is found in 1 John 4:11: “Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love



Illustration by GRACE LINEHAN

the American classroom, their histories are scarcely mentioned.

In the American classroom I have learned the story of the American Revolution until I have memorized every event, but I cannot remember a teacher who has correctly taught the magnitude of slavery.

I have learned Shakespeare, Austin, Hemingway, Dante, Robert Browning, The Odyssey, Iliad, Aeneid and at the moment I only need to use one hand to count the number of African American writers I have been introduced to in school from the time I was in kindergarten to today.

Black History Month is a platform where all can learn about the African American perspective on the American narrative. Black history is not divorcing itself from American

one another.”

We are obligated as Christians to love each other, and love is something that is composed of more than just saying the words “I love you.” It involves understanding each other’s past and present and partnering to establish their future. As Christians, this month is a time for us to look back on the injustices that happened in this country and how they are still relevant today. This is a time where we can learn to take the virtues of forgiveness, love and peace and apply them to racially charged situations.

Watts is a junior majoring in English. She can be reached at wattsb@jbu.edu.

got opinions?

Chances are you do. Let your voice be heard. Write for the opinion pages.

For more information email us at: advocate@jbu.edu or gallowayks@jbu.edu

Con: the great gun control debate



MATT BOWEN
CONTRIBUTOR

In my lifetime, starting from December 19, 1993, there have been 187 school shootings in the United States. There were many instances where there was only one fatality or even just one or two wounded. However, within our generation, we have also witnessed the shootings at Columbine (15 fatalities, including the perpetrators, and 24 wounded), the Virginia Tech shootings (32 fatalities, 17 wounded), Sandy Hook Elementary (20 child fatalities, 6 adult fatalities, 2 wounded) and the Aurora Theater shootings (12 fatalities, 70 wounded). My heart sinks as I write these facts. Our generation has lived through the trauma of the deadliest shootings the United

States has ever seen in its 223 years since the addition of the 2nd Amendment to the Bill of Rights. And yet, I hear so many people complain about how the government is controlling gun sales. Perhaps, given the facts, it’s time to review why the Obama administration is looking to have greater gun control. The Obama administration has proposed a few methods of gun control. And no, they do not include total prohibition of weapons in the United States. These have come in the forms of, according to the website of the National Conference of State Legislatures, “23 executive actions and three presidential memoranda.” These still need to be reviewed by Congress; however, the proposals seem reasonable given the current state of our society. If approved, there would be much more in-depth background checks, monetary incentives for the availability of criminal and mental health records, smaller magazines, a total ban on assault weapons (which still hasn’t really been defined) and special training for schools to protect themselves in case of an attack. But that’s not to say that nothing is currently happening in regards to gun control. According to the FBI’s webpage,

The National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or NICS, has held possibly over 100 million background checks and has led to the denial of 700,000 guns. That’s countless lives saved and many more counting. Is banning assault weapons contrary to the 2nd Amendment? Is all of this a blatant disregard for 2nd Amendment rights? Not necessarily. What does the 2nd Amendment say? “A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” In the most recent cases in American gun control laws, the Supreme Court has favored the

right for any American citizen to own a weapon. But what kind of weapon? In United States vs. Miller in 1939, the Supreme Court made it illegal to purchase or own a sawed off shotgun because the weapon did not suggest, “some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well-regulated militia....” In 2008, the Court also decided that there was other weaponry “that cannot be used for law-abiding purchases as laws that would not implicate the Second Amendment.” The Court was unclear about what kind of weapons, but one may posit that assault weapons could be included in that category in the future.



Graphic by TORI LASATER

According to the Council of Foreign Relations, the United States has 35-50 percent of all civilian-owned guns worldwide—the most in the world. We also have the highest homicide rate for firearms in the world. I’m not saying that we should ban all guns—that would be pragmatically impossible in such an enormous country—I’m just saying we need to look at ourselves as a society and culture that maybe, just maybe, has gone too far.

Bowen is a junior majoring biblical & theological studies. He can be reached at bowenmj@jbu.edu.

Death reveals grief, hope for student



SARAH E. WHITE
CONTRIBUTOR

I bury emotions, not on purpose, just naturally. I live in the realm of the analytical and logical, and rarely do I venture into the emotional domain. I am not purposefully avoiding my emotions; I just don’t naturally go there. But today, I went there. I was going to tell the girls on my hall a little bit more about myself and I wanted to show them a few pictures, so I sat down at my computer. I started to scroll through my pictures. Each click took me further and further away from the present and deeper into the past. Me with bangs, me in high

school, me with my friends from home, my pets. And then I hit it, 2005. The summer before my grandmother fell and broke her hip. The last summer before the beginning of the end for my grandparents. I found one picture of Grandma Leta and my little brother Eric. They were both smiling and I became overwhelmed. I just wanted to see my Grandma’s face. So I kept scrolling through picture after picture, searching for the faces I loved, but couldn’t recall. And then I found it: a perfect picture of my Grandma Leta and my Grandpa Wilbur, side by side, with big grins on their faces, and I started to cry. I sat in my room and let the tears flow down my face, because I missed them. Because I still don’t really think my grandma is dead even though it has been a year. Because, in a way, it hasn’t really hit me yet. I am not sure I grasp it all even now. I looked at that picture and realized I won’t see these precious faces again this side of heaven. I tried to hold it together, but I fell apart. I want my grandma to be alive. I want to call her and tell her about

my life. I want her unreserved praise and support. I want to hear her say she is proud of me. That’s all I want right now. I know it’s a lot to ask, and I know I am so fortunate because I had all that when she was alive, but in this moment I’m really struggling to be satisfied with the past when all I really want is a piece of an impossible future. So I’m still here with the tears falling. I miss my grandma. I miss my grandpa. But they’re gone from this life. I can’t wish them back and slowly, slowly, that reality sinks in. I can’t call Grandma Leta. I can’t dance with my grandpa at my wedding. I can’t introduce my children to their great-grandparents. I know the joy of heaven is profound. I know the light of salvation is bright. But I am caught in the groaning of this earth. This side of heaven can be really hard. Yet we continue living. Life goes on and we keep loving people, even though the mere thought of losing them can break your heart. But loving, truly loving someone is worth it. And, at least for me, having lost my grandparents has made



me much more appreciative of the people still left in my life. I’m more likely to write a note, more inclined to call, and much quicker to say ‘I love you.’ Death is inevitable and beyond our control, but how we live our lives and how deeply we love—that is up to us. Here is Grandma Leta’s favorite verse: Psalm 100:1-5. “Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the

sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.”

White is a senior majoring in early childhood education. She can be reached at whitesese@jbu.edu.

Transitions provide new perspective



LAUREN ADDINGTON
CONTRIBUTOR

When we leave our families for the first time, a deconstruction occurs. Our old selves find the present: a place never fully examined. We begin to see ourselves as vulnerable, unsure, bouncing like a ball from an unknown drop. We roll around people, claiming commonalities, basing ourselves in a new chosen “normal.” We are reshaped, and we reshape others. Then, we decide to once again embrace the art of change by leaving, not only our new and old family, but also the ground from which we came. There is a whole new set of anticipated expectations that

simply may or may not be met when you decide to leave your country to study abroad for a fourth of the year with 19 other people whom you do not know. There is one thing you do know: these people will be your new “for now” family. You may not get on with all of them, but you come to see people as they are and appreciate the journey that you take together. Shoulder to shoulder, knowing this is short-term, you take risks together, and you take the blows to your expectations together. Change is a strange medium. It has the power to present us a new perspective, a high peak to stand upon as we look out into the past from where we came. It allows us a low valley to look here at the present, to see a moment for what it is, once we are back on “normal” ground. Evaluation of change redefines our ideas of what expectations looked like before we changed, while we’re changing, and after we have changed. In our world of time, reference to our yesterdays, to history is the tool we have in our “now.” How we perceive the past, how we direct the inertia of these changes today—this is how we transition.

This was how I transitioned. Coming back from Ireland, I cried. For weeks my stomach rejected the feeling of waking up in this place that before, I’d called home. I didn’t know where I was “from” anymore. My mind played tricks on me. When I smoothed the same lotion on my hands, I smelled my new departed home, but my eyes clearly did not see the same skies. I rejected the idea of blue above, I missed soft rain kissing my cheeks, dappling my hair, and waking up to go downstairs and be greeted with tea, chocolate biscuits, and a melodious cadence voicing wisdom with my 19 brothers and sisters beside me. So yes, I cried. In three months I made a new “for now” family. And in less time than that, I lost them, wishing they’d remained my “now” family. We all came back with new expectations of gathering together as we once did in our foreign home, that we now had the choice to choose.

Deconstruction reoccurred. Now at a peak, with a year passed, I cry not of sadness but of appreciation for that small amount of time that we had each other. Every moment is precious, yes, there’s no denying this. But, each segment of time is meant for “Every moment is precious, yes, there’s no denying this. But each segment of time is meant for certain people to live alongside each other until it is time to move on.” The following is a poem to accompany my column. A Scene from Transitions: See the color green in Gary’s eyes. See it fade to grey, the day. Smell salt, it will burn your nose. Listen to the lap, “click click” lap of slapping water on stone, cold, holding it’s own, tall like Tally trees. Walk on cold 9 a.m. cobblestone, away from the crowd, into an empty 10 p.m. street. Go into that black brick pub, pace right, out of sight; see that

red hair, curled, with big blue eyes and that laugh-line face with the white beard and a pipe, smoke pulsing from the barrel with a clean strike, keeping the beat of the youth beside him, stout, mumbling with a cadence that so entrances us “Americans” while folk music creates the air of Saint Georges Market: a place of faces. We ate food that was gross. We got lost and scared red-faced, glasses fogged. We felt like children at times arguing, laughing; past bedtimes in sheet tents, socked feet on strict kitchen floors. We were tourists, map holders, walkers and late night bus riders. We hiked we flew we spoke with strangers just like us, but not at all were we ever asked to change at all who we were. That happened like things do often. We did change and we liked it. We are there now, here. We left expecting old trite visions, and found this: everything is the same, and not at all.

Addington is a senior majoring in digital media arts. She can be reached at addingtonl@jbu.edu.

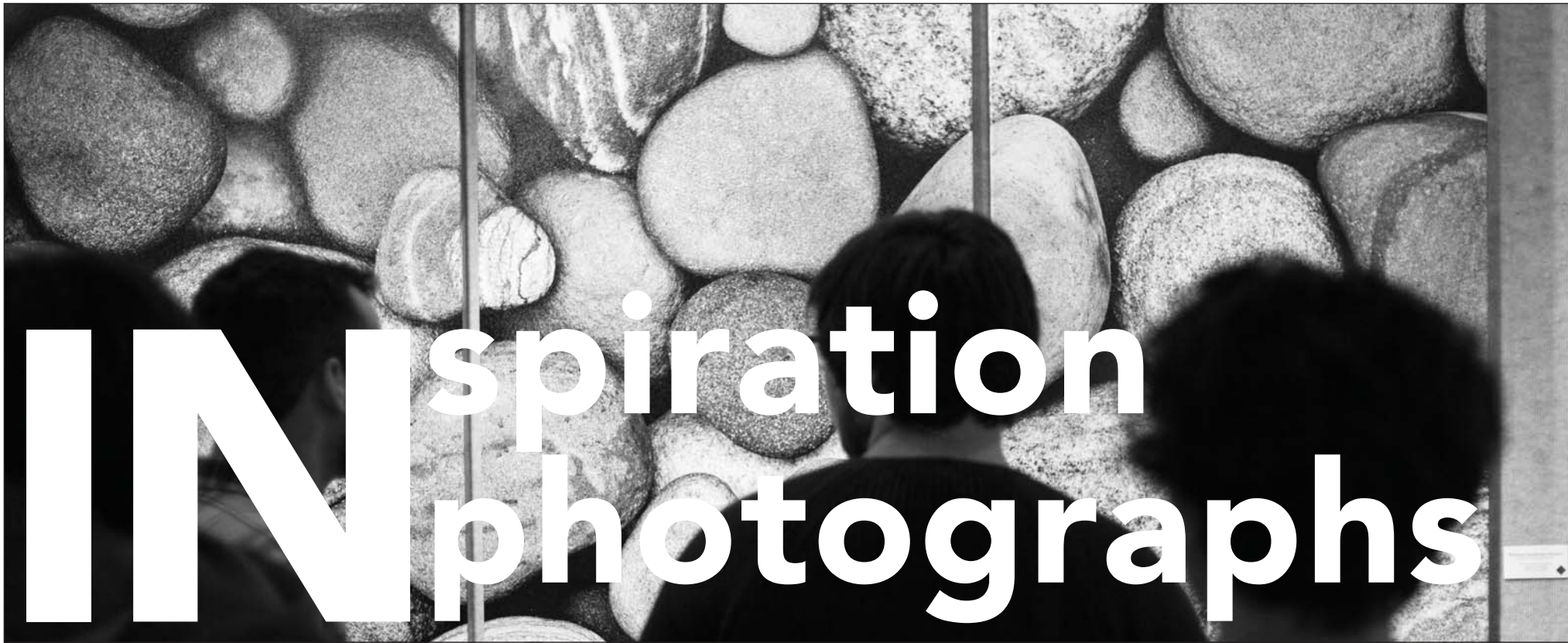


Photo submitted by ANDREW ALBRIGHT

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John Brown University's art gallery welcomes photographer Tim Ernst's showing of "Arkansas Wilderness: A Rare Quality of Light." Opening night was Jan. 20 and will continue until Feb. 13. The gallery showcases Ernst's ability to play with light in capturing Arkansas' beauty. I had the privilege to attend the opening night of the gallery and sit in on Ernst's presentation. The gallery was full of people looking from one picture to another; some visitors just stood, staring into a single piece. I stood across from Ernst and listened to the story behind a picture that was taken by accident. He was so down-to-earth and easy to talk to; I almost forgot he was a

renowned photographer. Ernst has pieces of work featured in National Geographic, Backpacker, Outdoor Photographer, Natural History, and other well-known nature magazines, and has also comprised multiple books. Bobby Martin, an art professor at JBU, enjoyed the exhibit and admires the work of Ernst. Martin comments, "Tim Ernst has an amazing eye as a photographer. His photographs are also technically impressive; he has a wonderful combination of an artistic eye and masterful technique." Martin hopes students took the opportunity to view Ernst's work and meet him in person. He says it is important for students to listen to the "ideas, techniques, and life" of the artist, especially since he is well known. Martin said that Ernst reminded him that "the mastery of technical

skill of your chosen medium is critically important as an artist." Emma Pell, a sophomore at JBU, also attended the gallery and was impressed with Ernst's work. Pell takes part in photography and was inspired by Ernst to take notice of the world around her. Pell said that "the photographs were so clear, I felt like I could reach out and touch them. It inspired me to try to improve my own nature photography, and how I view the world through the lens of the camera." Connor Wilkinson, a junior at JBU, thoroughly enjoyed Ernst's work and said, "As a photographer who loves the outdoors, it made me proud to live in such a beautiful state and gave me more motivation to go and take photos that look like you're stuck in Middle Earth and not the center of the country," and that "Tim shoots his photos as if a great battle is about to take

place. I'd like to try and incorporate that 'epicness' in my own photos." Wilkinson also said the gallery "really will inspire you to wake up at 3 a.m. and drive to the Buffalo River just to get

a perfect shot." In fact that's what some JBU students decided to do. Freshman Andrew Heldenbrand said him and a group of friends were so inspired by the gallery they went to

Hawksbill Crag to see the sunrise. "It was really peaceful. It was really still, clear skies and the stars were beautiful as we were hiking up."



Photo submitted by ANDREW ALBRIGHT

Renowned photographer Tim Ernst discusses his photographs with the JBU community on the opening night of his gallery. Ernst's images capture light in a unique way that is both impressive and inspiring.

New film sets records and stirs responses



Photo courtesy of Google Images

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As credits rose from the bottom of the screen, the theater remained in silence. There was no beautiful song to drone out the stillness in the room. Instead, the audience quietly grabbed their

belongings and rose from their seats to exit the dark room. Outside the theater, the world seemed so distant from the images that just had played before the audience for the last two hours. The theatrical film, "American Sniper," was officially released on January 16, 2015 and has already surpassed

box-office expectations. The film is based off a biographical account of U.S. Navy Seal Chris Kyle, who is regarded as one of the deadliest snipers in U.S. history due to his amount of kills while on tour in the Middle East. The film, directed by Clint Eastwood, takes a different approach from other war movies recently

released by illustrating the damaging effects on soldiers during their time in combat and how their home-lives are affected. Senior Karl Anderson recently saw 'American Sniper' after reading the background of Chris Kyle in his biography, "American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military." "The film did a good job of showcasing the horrors and the dirty sides of the war as well as showing what the effects were on Chris and his family," said Anderson. While some people criticized the movie for the level of violence and goriness in the scenes, many appreciated and saw the necessity of portraying the realities of war in film. "It's healthy to see the gruesome side of the war," said Anderson, "It allows us to have a better understanding and

appreciation of soldiers, who come back and may be dealing with PTSD, and have a better idea of how to respond." Along with highlighting a key psychological component in the film, Eastwood also showcased the atrocities and horrors of the battles that took place, resulting in a very realistic and graphic film. Senior Chris Dye, who also saw "American Sniper" recently, says he felt an overwhelming amount of shock after watching the film. "The heaviest emotion I felt was shock," said Dye, "Not only with just seeing what the effects can be of PTSD but of the tragedies and awful things that occurred over there." Senior Benjamin Coad, who will be serving as an active member of the United States Army in the branch of Field Artillery upon graduating, also found "American Sniper"

to be very realistic in its graphics and contents. "The movie was very realistic," said Coad, "I know of two veterans who felt they would not be able to see the film in a theatre setting due to its potential to bring back a PTSD episode." Coad also stated how the film is beneficial to both veterans and current U.S. enlisted members as it showcased the sacrifice and the battle that one endures not only while in duty but after they return home. Coad also noted that the film could help lend another perspective because of how the movie focuses on the sacrifice of the veterans rather than the war itself. "This movie is good in the sense that it showcases the realities of what these men and women went through, which in return gives you a greater respect for the veterans that are coming out of the war."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT PRESENTS:



Olivia Wheelock

YEAR: SOPHOMORE
MAJOR: ILLUSTRATION
HOMETOWN: MONUMENT, COLO.
FUN FACT: HOLDS A GUINNESS WORLD RECORD FOR THE LONGEST IRISH DANCE
WORST JOB YOU'VE EVER HAD? WORK STUDY IN THE CAFETERIA



Tune In: A GUIDE to THE GRAMMY'S

by Max Bryan, Staff Writer

On February 8, dozens of artists, producers, songwriters and the like will once again crowd Staples Center in hopes of receiving one of this year's coveted Grammy awards. Here's a rundown of the most popular categories and their contestants.



RECORD of THE YEAR

SUMMARY: This is a strong year for female vocalists competing for Record of the Year, with Sam Smith, the group's lone male artist, sneaking in with his yearning ballad "Stay With Me." But gender isn't the only difference here; Smith's vocals are backed by simple piano, bass and percussion, while the others' singles contain heavy instrumentals and production. But that doesn't mean the others aren't great. With Iggy Azalea's beats and rap hooks in "Fancy," Sia's myriad of effects and raspy-yet-powerful vocals in "Chandelier," Taylor Swift's sassy, sugar-coated hooks in "Shake It Off" and Meghan Trainor's vintage vocals and instrumentals in "All About That Bass," it's no wonder the ladies rule this section.

PREDICTION: *Sia wins with "Chandelier" due to superior production layering and vocal performance.*



ALBUM of THE YEAR

SUMMARY: As far as artist style goes, this is easily the most diverse category. It is led by a couple of Grammy's veterans: Beyonce, with her ever-soulful eponymous album, and with Beck's "Morning Phase," a treat of artful indie pop. Ed Sheeran returns to this category with his sophomore album, "X," a singer-songwriter's plethora of everything from ballads to raps. But let's not forget Sam Smith's beautiful debut, "In the Lonely Hour," and Pharrell Williams' groovy R&B collection, "Girl."

PREDICTION: *Ed Sheeran wins with his second Album of the Year entry, "X," which is even more comprehensive and robust than his first.*



SONG of THE YEAR

SUMMARY: There is quite a bit of overlap between this category and Record of the Year- four of the five entries, to be exact. The only entry in Record of the Year that is not in this category is "Fancy," by Iggy Azalea. It is replaced by "Take Me to Church," a powerful, thoughtfully written piano ballad by breakthrough artist Hozier. This single is the oddity of the bunch, for it is the only entry written and arranged solely by the musician.

PREDICTION: *"Take Me to Church" wins with its clever lyrics and impressive arrangement.*



BEST NEW ARTIST

SUMMARY: This category has quite the mixed bunch. With dance rockers (Bastille), country crooners (Brandy Clark), soul men (Sam Smith), female rappers (Iggy Azalea) and more dance rockers (Haim), Best New Artist brings a wide variety of talent to choose from. The two clear leaders of this category are Smith (who has been nominated for more Grammys than any other artist) and Azalea (who was on the Billboard Hot 100 longer than any other female rapper).

PREDICTION: *Sam Smith, who has been nominated for more Grammys than any other artist this year, wins the title of Best New Artist.*



MAX BRYAN
STAFF WRITER

Photos courtesy of Google Images

Athletes contribute to community

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All John Brown University athletic teams participate in The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics’ program called Champions of Character. The program strives to “change the culture of sport,” stated the Champions of Character website.

Last school year, this program was revamped to include a new reward system. Schools can earn classifications including gold, silver and bronze, based on how well they implement the program. JBU snagged a silver title in 2012-2013, the first year of this new system. JBU is among the top in the silver category, Jeff Soderquist, Assistant Athletic Director and Champions of Character Liaison, said.

Soderquist also said that there are several main aspects to implementing Champions of Character

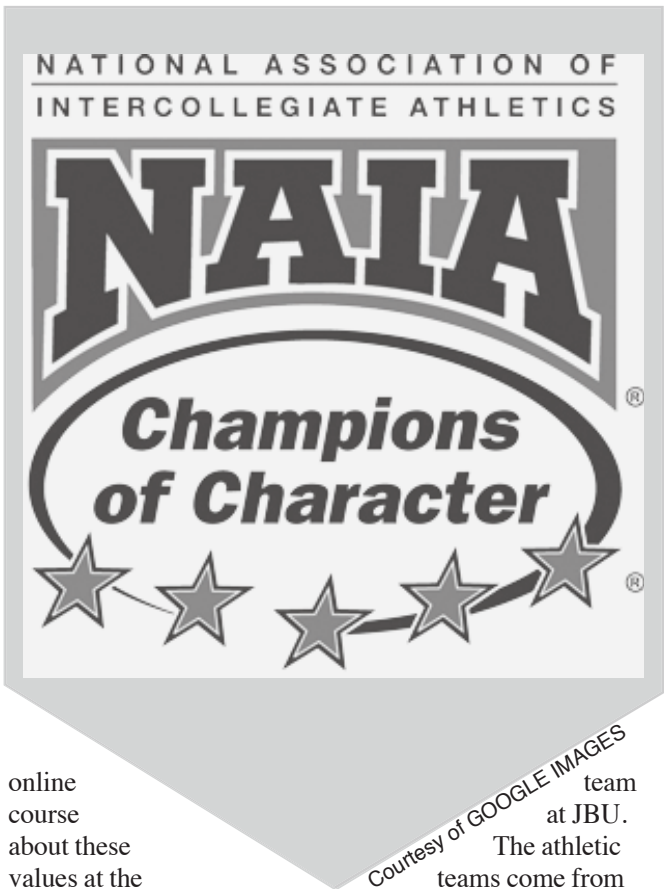
at JBU. The first is having good coaches. Soderquist said that not only are coaches hired through a deliberate process, but they are also trained in an online Champions of Character course.

“It goes beyond how to rebound and how to shoot. It’s using the athletics to teach a lot about life,” Soderquist said.

Soderquist adds that even if it weren’t for the Champions of Character program, promoting good values through athletics is still something JBU coaches would do. He explained that just as professors integrate faith into their classrooms, “we integrate faith into our practice.”

Another aspect of implementing Champions of Character is through promoting core values. According to NAIA, these values are integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership, the Champions of Character said.

According to Soderquist, all JBU varsity athletes are required to take a 15-minute



online course about these values at the beginning of the year.

The final and most well-known aspect of Champions of Character is how the athletes give back to the community. Soderquist works to organize one service project per semester that involves every varsity

team at JBU. The athletic teams come from basketball, soccer, tennis, cross-country, golf, volleyball and cheer. Soderquist explained that last semester, the university-wide sports project was a day-long clinic with girl scouts.

Kaitlyn Collier, a

freshman education major from JBU’s cross country team, explained that for the girl scout clinic, each team did different drills and games with the girls that related to their own sport.

“It was so much fun,” Collier said.

Students also participated in service projects that were specific to their teams. Marko Cardona, a sophomore international business major and JBU soccer player, explained that his team leads soccer clinics one to two times per week with children ages 6-14 from the Siloam community.

“It’s a good time to reach out to the community,” said Cardona.

While JBU scores well on implementation of the character-building program, some students are more aware of the program than others.

After speaking with four students from three different NAIA sports teams, several patterns began to emerge. All of the students remembered taking the Champions of Character

online course at the beginning of the year. Only some said they knew who their team representative was. All fondly remembered doing the clinic with the girl scouts last semester, but none knew that it was part of the Champions of Character program. However, all could recount times that they or their team members had done mission trips or service projects together.

While student athletes may not be very aware that the service projects they did were part of the Champions of Character program, Kileab Ammons, a junior youth ministry major who plays basketball for the Golden Eagles, explained that, while titles can often get in the way of having a genuine heart and programs can become cheesy, he still believes that most of the guys on his basketball team would say that the service projects they do are important to them.

“There’s something special about meeting people and helping them,” Ammons said.

ATHLETE GRADUATION RATES

ENTIRE FRESHMAN CLASS	Students in 2008 Freshman Class	Bachelor’s Degree Within 6 Years	% of Degrees Within 6 Years	3-Year Average 6 Year Grad Rate
Men	143	89	62.2%	62.3%
Woman	164	97	59.1%	66.9%
Men/Women	305	186	60.6%	64.8%
STUDENTS WITH ATHLETIC RELATED STUDENT AID	Students in 2008 Freshman Class	Bachelor’s Degree Within 6 Years	% of Degrees Within 6 Years	3-Year Average 6 Year Grad Rate
Basketball: Men	6	4	66.7%	60%
Basketball: Women	4	2	50%	63.6%
Basketball: Men/Women	10	6	60%	61.5%
ENTIRE FRESHMAN CLASS	Students in 2008 Freshman Class	Bachelor’s Degree Within 6 Years	% of Degrees Within 6 Years	3-Year Average 6 Year Grad Rate
All Other Sports: Men	143	89	62.2%	62.3%
All Other Sports: Women	164	97	59.1%	66.9%
All Other Sports: Men/Women	305	186	60.6%	64.8%

Graphic by HANNAH GARRETT/The Threefold Advocate

University seeks out future Golden Eagles

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At most colleges, sports are a big part of the community. In order to fill teams with members, coaches are constantly recruiting, reviewing and searching for new players.

Secular campuses usually have a pattern of putting sports before school. That is, athletes are not required to keep up certain academic standards that other students who are not athletes would have to comply to.

At John Brown University, those in the athletic department want their players not only to do well in the game but also to excel in the classroom. Keeping with the model of JBU’s Head, Heart, and Hand, athletic directors want their players to play hard, think better and reach out to their peers.

Athletes at JBU are required to keep up a GPA of at least 2.0, and, while religious identity is not a requirement, coaches integrate religion into their teaching and interactions with their players. The coaches at JBU tell

potential players that JBU is a Christian environment which requires some extra tasks such as chapel credits.

Jason Beschta, head coach of the JBU men’s basketball team, explained two main things he looks for when searching for athletes.

Beschta looks for people with talent, but he also looks for another important aspect.

He asks questions like: “Are they coachable?” and “Do they work hard?”

Beschta wants to see players working hard on and off the court as well as players who are willing to

learn.

“We believe we can develop players,” Beschta said.

Jeff Soderquist, the head coach of the JBU women’s basketball team, has a different process. Recruiters might contact a coach about a promising athlete or coaches might see a potential student’s performance at a tournament.

Soderquist believes that a lot of investigation goes into a future athlete. They look for athletic performance as well as academic performance to evaluate if the student will

be able to excel at JBU, Beschta said. However not every evaluation is exactly the same.

Soderquist also said that transfer students are harder to recruit because they cannot bring over their GPA. Usually when someone transfers from one school to another their GPA is transferred with them. At JBU, the policy is different Soderquist also talked about how the move can be very difficult for any student in general. He said freshmen usually have a semester to adjust to things, but a transfer athlete has no time to adjust to the

new atmosphere, classes, or schedule.


Scotts Marksberry, head coach of the JBU men’s soccer team, said that he doesn’t want to “bribe” people into coming to JBU. He wants people who want to come to JBU.

“I probably do some type of recruiting activity 6 or 7 days per week, year round,” Marksberry said about the process. “Some of those days, recruiting takes up my entire work day. At other times, an email or text might be all that we need to do in a day.”



Samson Olayemi
Men’s Basketball

Olayemi was named Arvest Bank’s Athlete of the Week of Jan. 19. Olayemi is No. 14 in the nation with 99 total assists and a 1.83 assist-to-turnover ratio.



Women's Basketball

This Weeks' Conference Standings

Schools	W	L
Oklahoma City	10	0
Oklahoma Baptist	7	3
Wayland Baptist	7	3
MACU	6	4
Texas Wesleyan	6	4
Southwestern Christian	6	4
John Brown	3	7
USAO	3	7
Southwestern A.G.	1	9
Saint Gregory's	1	9

Upcoming Home Basketball Games


Thursday, Feb. 5
@6 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. Science & Arts
@8 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. Science & Arts

Thursday, Feb. 12
@6 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. Mid-America Christian
@8 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. Mid-America Christian

Feb. 14- Sink Pink
@1 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. Texas Wesleyan
@3 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. Texas Wesleyan

Thursday, Feb. 19
@6 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. Wayland Baptist
@8 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. Wayland Baptist

Feb. 21- Parent's Weekend
@1 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. Southwestern A.G.
@3 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. Southwestern A.G.



Men's Basketball

This Weeks' Conference Standings

Schools	W	L
MACU	8	2
Wayland Baptist	6	4
Oklahoma Baptist	6	4
Southwestern A.G	6	4
Oklahoma City	6	4
Saint Gregory's	6	4
John Brown	5	5
Texas Wesleyan	3	7
USAO	3	7
Southwestern Christian	1	9

It's Legal. It's Safe. It's Anonymous.

Safe Haven is a law designed to protect babies.

What is Safe Haven? In Arkansas, the Safe Haven law allows a parent to give up an infant anonymously. The purpose of Safe Haven is to prevent babies from being hurt or killed by unsafe abandonment. Unsafely abandoning a baby puts the infant in extreme danger that can result in the baby's death. It also is illegal, with severe consequences.



There is an option. Don't abandon your baby.

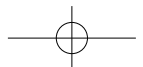


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HUMAN SERVICES

www.HumanServices.Arkansas.gov | Division of Children and Family Services



10 SPOTLIGHT

February 5, 2015
The Threefold Advocate



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Looking Back at Historical American Figures



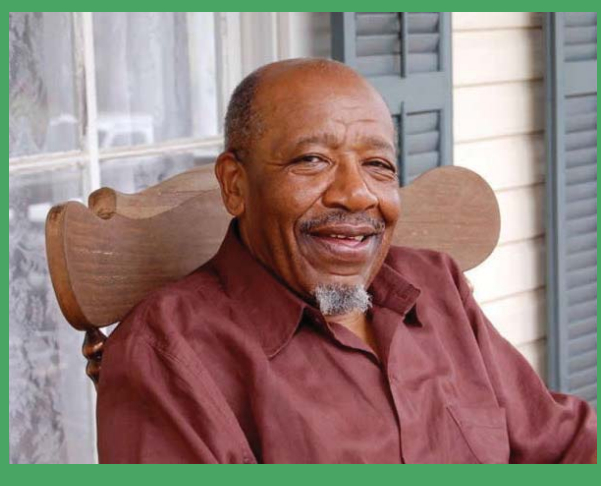
NAME: Maya Angelou
CAREER: Writer, Poet, Activist
LIFE: April 4, 1928- May 28, 2014
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Presidential Medal of Freedom 2010, Langston Hughes Medal 1991, Gracie Allan Award 2008, Spingarn Medal 1994, Women in Film Crystal Award 1992, Marian Anderson Award 2008.
QUOTE: *"When you get, give. When you learn, teach."*

NAME: Cornel West
CAREER: Philosopher, Professor, Author
LIFE: June 2, 1953- present
EDUCATION: Attended Harvard University where his major was in Eastern languages and Civilizations. Attended Princeton University where he received a masters and doctorate in philosophy.
QUOTE: *"To be human, you must bear witness to justice. Justice is what love looks like in public."*



NAME: Marian Wright Eldelman
CAREER: Activist
LIFE: June 6, 1939- present
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: She was the first African American woman admitted to The Mississippi Bar. Founder of the Children Defense Fund, Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism 1988, Presidential Medal of Freedom 2000, MacArthur Fellowship 1985.
QUOTE: *"If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time."*

NAME: John M. Perkins
CAREER: Community Developer, Activist, Minister, Author
LIFE: June 16, 1930- present
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: President of the John and Vera Mae Perkins Foundation. He has received honorary doctorates from Wheaton College, Gordon College, Huntington College Geneva College, and many more for his dedication to race reconciliation and community development.
QUOTE: *"You don't give people dignity, you affirm it."*



NAME: Rep. John Robert Lewis
CAREER: U.S. Representative, Civil Rights Activist
LIFE: February 21, 1940- present
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Profile in Courage Award 2001, Anisfield Book Award 1999, the Medal of Freedom, the Martin Luther King Jr. Non-Violence Peace Prize, and he was awarded over 50 honorary doctorates.
QUOTE: *"History tells us that we must never ever give up. That we must never ever give in or give out. That we must not get lost in a sea of despair. That we must all keep the faith. That we must keep our eyes on the prize."*

NAME: Alice Walker
CAREER: Author, Activist
LIFE: February 9, 1944- present
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for her novel "The Color Purple," 1983, which made her the first African American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for Literature. Walker also won the Domestic Human Rights Award from Global Exchange, and was inducted into the Georgia Writer's Hall of Fame in 2001.
QUOTE: *"When life descends into the pit I must become my own candle willingly burning myself to light up the darkness around me."*



Photos courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES

Written by Becky Watts, *Staff Writer*
Designed by Hannah Garrett, *Visual Art Director*

