The Classifieds: Armadillos, grundy undies & mashed potatoes. p. 7

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JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Siloam Springs, Arkansas

Tuition costs break \$30,000 mark

Jenny Redfern

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The University announced an increase in tuition and fees for the 2013-2014 academic year on Wednesday. Students must pay a total cost of \$30,996 to attend the University next year, a 4.45 percent increase over this year's amount. The graduate and degree completion programs will receive a 4 percent increase.

The breakdown includes a \$940 increase in tuition, \$360 increase in room and board and a \$20 increase

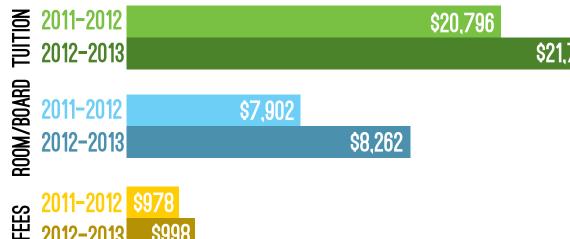
in fees. The increase in room and board can be mostly attributed to the newly appointed food service provider, Creative Dining Services, whose improvement plans will be partially funded from students' wallets.

Despite the increase, the University remains positive toward its offering. A recent press release reported it was the lowest percentage increase in 25 years.

"John Brown University continues to remain one of the best values in higher education," said Don Crandall, vice president for enrollment management. "JBU's

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TUITION COST COMPARISONS



KARA UNDERWOOD/The Threefold Advocate

University announces new food provider



Laura Roller

News Editor rollerl@jbu.edu

After a five-month search for a new food service provider, the decision came down to the few members of the presidential cabinet who sat at the conference table Feb. 6 and pondered the choice between two "excellent candidates," said Kim Hadley, vice president for finance and administration. The members resorted to using secret ballots because the decision was such a difficult one.

Last week, Creative Dining Services rose above the other seven candidates for the contract and was selected as the new food service provider for John Brown University, beginning in June 2013.

"The JBU community is nationally recognized as a leader in providing exceptional value with high values and purpose," said Nick Saccaro, vice president of operations for Creative Dining. "We couldn't be more excited to have this opportunity to serve."

The University sent a five-member team of task force members to other schools that used Creative Dining and other providers. They interviewed school administration, food service directors, chefs, staff and current students at each school. And, of course, they ate and ate some more.

They observed several changes students can expect as a result of Creative Dining's upcoming partnership with the University.

"By leveraging the space and available dining stations, your resident dining program will step up to the next level," said Creative Dining in a summary of their proposal.

They plan to integrate concepts such as Taqueria Mexican Street Fare, Emma & Charlie's Pizza, and Globe International Offerings, each with special-ofthe-day offerings, in addition to their regular menu

cycle. They also plan to better highlight the "action station" where students can get made-to-order meals.

Other colleges that partner with Creative Dining said the food was comparable and better than what they would find at local restaurants, and that student satisfaction increased after the transition.

When University representatives visited these other schools, they also noticed the food that met special dietary needs, such as gluten-free items, were available and clearly marked.

Administration is working with Creative Dining to make changes to the Kresge Dining Hall to better meet the needs of students. They discussed adding a new beverage station to relieve the current congestion. This change was recommended to the University by all eight candidates in their proposals. They may also add another food serving station to address the concern of long lines during busy times.

Students can anticipate "pace changers" or other special events that are designed to "engage them in fun, community-building activities," according to Creative Dining's proposal.

The California Café will look a little different in the fall. Instead of Freshens, Froovie's organic, coldblended beverages will be available. They also plan to add Decker's Sandwiches, an upscale, made-to-order deli concept including gourmet salads and fresh-baked breads. Creative Dining recommends expanding the grill offerings and providing more snack options. The Cali would also serve the main entrée of the day from

Not only will Creative Dining be serving food in the Kresge Dining Hall and the California Café, they will also be responsible for the catering needs on

With the changes in food service, students can expect a "moderate increase" in board costs, said

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Oldest building on campus finds renovation funds

Jon Skinner

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It is official: J. Alvin will be getting renovated. On Thursday night President Chip Pollard announced to a crowd of residents gathered in the J. Alvin atrium that renovations will start in May. According to Pollard, an anonymous donor's donation will pay for \$3 Million of the \$5 Million estimated cost of renovations, enough for the school to start work in May.

Pollard said the anonymous donor did not give all \$5 Million needed because he wanted to give alumni and residents the 'gift of giving.'

"He really would love if people that lived here give to this project," said Pollard. "It would be lovely if the current residents of J. Alvin would have a high

percentage of [the] ... gifts."

The school will continue to pursue the additional funding needed for the project from alumni, and Residence Life is working on setting up a way for current residents to easily donate to the renovation project.

The renovations will bring J. Alvin up to date with plumbing and ductwork while preserving the suite structure, albeit in a larger

"This will bring us up to the

national average for student housing," said Eric Gingerich, the resident director. "It will preserve the ethos of J. Alvin."

The final plans were not shown to the residents, but instead, there will be an additional meeting in

a couple of weeks to show off final renderings of the updated plans. The plans are still in the process of being finalized and will include modifications made from residents' feedback last semester.

Andre Broquard, director of residence life, said the new plans are "75%-80% the same" as the plans shown in December.

Broquard revealed that final plans will include improvements of the buildings Quad facade, removal of planters in the atrium and a new kitchenette area.

Construction will start after May Term ends with one wing of J. Alvin being gutted and rebuilt by the end of Christmas Break.

At the beginning of next spring semester, the half-capacity residents and furniture will be moved to the new wing and the process will be repeated for the second wing.

Submitted by: UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

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The Threefold Advocate

Scholarship Weekend brings in record number

Kelsey Gulliver

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This past weekend 165 prospective students visited campus to attend John Brown University's annual Scholarship Weekend. The largest number ever hosted by the University, the two-day event gave a select group of potential students the opportunity to compete for three types of prestigious scholarships.

High school students from a variety of states, as well as two students from Kenya and two from Poland participated in interviews on Monday.

Students selected to participate were already admitted to the University. Each had at least a 3.7 GPA and an ACT score of 29 or higher, or SAT equivalent. According to Don Crandall, vice president of admissions, 120 of the students this year received an ACT composite score of 30 or higher.

Admissions Counselor Erin Harrell said most students took part in two interviews: a group interview with a panel of faculty members and an



ANA SAMAYOA/The Threefold Advocate

Prospective students and their families mingle in Walker Student Center during this year's Scholarship Weekend. The students interviewed Sunday or Monday for several different scholarhips, toured campus, visited classes and experienced JBU for themselves.

individual interview with an admissions counselor. During the individual interview, students expressed more of their personal story and their desire to come to the

"I love scholarship weekend

because I am able to hear the stories of my students. They open up and talk about their relationship with God, hard things that they have gone through and about their dreams for the future," said Harrell.

Trisha Posey, director of

the Honors Scholars Program, agreed.

"I always love hearing the experiences that have sparked the intellectual curiosity of our prospective students," she said.

Harrell explained the different scholarships available.

The University awarded four Presidential Scholarships, worth \$22,000 a year and 50 Chancellor Scholarships, worth \$11,000 a year. The engineering department also offered several \$10,000 scholarships.

Forty-eight of the students competing for scholarships were interested in engineering, construction management or renewable energy said Larry Bland, the divisional chair. The the department offered building tours and classroom visits throughout the day as well—in order to have as much contact with students as possible.

This event was also an opportunity for the Honors Program to connect with interested students. They sponsored both an informal coffee house on Sunday night and an information session on Monday morning.

Posey was excited for current honors students to discuss their own experiences with the prospective students.

"These are some of our brightest students, and we'd be happy if any enrolled at JBU," Crandall said.

Men gather to step up and be courageous in God

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Close to 20 men gather together every Monday night in John Brown University's Bynum Theater to encourage each other in the process of bidding their boyhood farewell.

The group just finished their third week of Stepping Up—a study that calls men to glorify God with their manhood by taking responsibility for their

"What it's really about is studying what it means for a man to be the fully equipped man of God that he's supposed to be, ... but it also talks about what it means to be just a man," Isaac Elmore, Stepping Up director, said.

Elmore said that a male student's college years are particularly critical in his life.

"This is a very defining time in a man's life, and if you're not defining it with God, you're defining it with something pointless," Elmore said.

Elmore said that western culture so warped the definition of manhood that many of today's men have no idea of how God intends them to live.

"A lot of the guys in our culture are confused about how to become men," Elmore said. "Society's image just pictures men as successful, good with the ladies, athletic or even tough and calloused.'

Sophomore Sean Billups said the 10-week study challenges this image of manhood.

"The goal of Stepping Up and the importance of it lies in fighting against the complacency of man in our culture today," Billups said.

Dennis Rainey, president of the nonprofit ministry



FamilyLife and founder of Stepping Up, said true manhood requires an individual to

actively take ownership of his

"A real man rejects passivity, leads courageously, accepts responsibility, and accepts God's greater reward," Rainey said in his book "A Call to Courageous Manhood."

Guiding participants in how to become this kind of man, Stepping Up's meetings revolve around weekly discussions of a video series in which prominent Christian speakers such as Matt Chandler, Mark Driscoll and Tony Dungy share about living courageously in today's society.

"It's not so much a Bible study as it is a gathering of men trying to understand what it is God's calling us to do and then building each other up," Elmore

The University is not the only institution involved in

Stepping Up. Groups of men met all across the globe on Feb. 2 to take part in Stepping Up conferences.

"Literally tens of thousands of men gathered in over 1,200 locations...churches, homes, basements, college campuses, retreat centers, restaurants, prisons and military bases," Rainey said in a recent blog post. They met in each of the 50 United States as well as in Budapest, Hungary; Mexico City and the Cayman Islands

Elmore encouraged more University students to try the program that has impacted men around the world.

"The image of God is the most pure image of strength that we can know, and that's what we're finding out," Elmore said.

Honors 'Monday Mixers' bring fellow majors together

Jamie Odom

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Honors students sometimes put up their books and come out to play. The Honors Scholars

Program is trying a new scheme to bring together students of all years. Trisha Posey, honors

director, and the Honors Council devised a project entitled "Monday Mixers" to gather honors students from various departments around bowls of snacks to bond and discuss field-relevant information.

Posey said one of the driving reasons for these informal mixers is for "freshman- and sophomorelevel students to meet upperlevel students who might have some insight into how best to take advantage of all the Honors Scholars Program has to offer."

Senior Victoria Bennett, a member of the Honors Council, mentioned that aside from general friend-making, the coordinators of these events hope the mixers act as a gluing force between freshmen and sophomores and the honors program itself.

"We want students involved! Whether that means serving on the executive council, doing an honors capstone, presenting at a conference or just coming to events, we want all honors students to be excited about being a part of honors," Bennett said. "Having upperclassmen share their

experiences of being involved in honors, even if that was just taking honors classes, can encourage underclassmen that it is possible to fit honors in with their major, and that it is worth it to stay in."

Freshman Brad Johnson attended Monday's mixer for business majors. Johnson went to the mixer to meet fellow honors business majors and to listen to senior John Rutledge speak about honors schedule planning, the difficulties and benefits.

"I would recommend other honors students go because it's informative, and there are snacks. Could you get a better combination?" Johnson.

Senior Aubrey Adams attended the humanities mixer, representing the Spanish majors. She wanted to be a

part of the experience because of what she could learn from others.

"Upperclassmen can give advice that professors and advisers simply can't give because they aren't students," she said.

Adams enjoyed getting to experience how many disparate personalities could fit into the same department.

"We each bring something unique to the table," she said.

Adams also had some constructive advice to give for the overall structure of the

She said, "A little more organization could have made our time more productive. I think the underclassmen were too shy to just start peppering us with questions."

Monday Mixers

Weekly, 4 p.m. at the Honors

Feb. 11: Education department Feb. 18:

Construction Management and Engineering departments

Feb. 25: Biblical Studies department March 4: Communications department

March 11: Science department

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Hadley. The University announced the specifics on Wednesday. She said the University is absorbing some of the costs and not passing them all on to the student body.

Selecting the new food service provider was an extensive process. The University had a good, long-standing partnership with current provider, ARAMARK, for over 15 years. ARAMARK was one of the eight

candidates.

"Just out of due diligence we do this on many of our contracts," said Hadley. "When you've had a relationship that long, it's good to have a request for proposal. We wanted to make sure we are providing the best food at the best value for our students."

Stephen Kerr, ARAMARK food service director, said he has known since November that they would not be continuing serving the University next year. He said the process was "very thorough." He estimated that there were 20 tours with different candidates throughout the process, which he said was "very hard on my employees, but they did well."

"I understand the University's decision," said Kerr. "That doesn't mean I like it. It has been very disappointing. Basically the University said that ARAMARK did not fit the culture they were looking for. I keep thinking about what we could have done better, but I have to keep my composure."

Kerr wanted to look out

for his 60 employees during the transition. He asks that the student body respect the current employees.

"These are their jobs, their livelihoods. They put their hearts into their jobs," he said. "I don't want to see students putting down ARAMARK. Some of the employees may be hired back next year by the new company."

Founded in 1990, Creative Dining Services has over 70 accounts in nine states. Many of them are organizations like Calvin, Hope and Taylor

Universities or organizations such as Focus on the Family. While their corporate headquarters are in Zeeland, Mich., their Operations Director for John Brown University, Glenda Haley, lives in Northwest Arkansas.

Haley said, "Every opportunity we had during the [request for proposal] process to visit the JBU community or interact with the JBU students and staff was wonderful. We see a community here, a community that we are excited to become a part of."

February 14, 2013

The Threefold Advocate

Students learn how to develop strengths

Laura Roller

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Since 2008, every student who goes through

the Gateway course at John Brown University has been strongly encouraged to take the StrengthsFinder assessment. The 30-minute, computer-

based assessment filters people into 34 different strengthsthemes or talents and displays a list of each person's top five.

That is only the beginning of a larger experience of discovering and applying one's strengths, which the Gallup Organization, the company that developed the tool, refers to as StrengthsQuest.

The tool is based on the concept of positive psychology and was developed to answer the question "What would happen if we studied what is right with people?" according the Gallup website.

For example, if all the results from students over the last five years were combined, the University's top five strengths would be Belief, Adaptability, Developer, Empathy and Responsibility, according to data collected by the University. On the other hand, less than 3.8 percent of all students have the themes of Self-Assurance, Focus, Significance, or Arranger. Each of these themes work together to form the current University culture.

Even before StrengthsQuest was routinely used in Gateway, Mandy Moore, now the director of first year experience, used the assessment in a class during her first year of teaching, because she had read about its use in businesses.

Moore said, at the beginning of the semester, only one student could confidently describe his or her strengths, but every student was aware of their weaknesses.

"I was overwhelmed by that," said Moore. "Throughout the semester, I saw students that really embraced the strengths philosophy. They communicated that it was a very positive experience for

When the conversation began about using the assessment university-wide, Moore was asked to be part of the core group of people developing the idea because of her experience.

After the group completed training in Arizona to get certified in StrengthsQuest by the Gallup Organization, the University hired an expert to come in and study the best way to use the tool at John Brown University.

The Gateway classes and their corresponding Friday sessions seemed like a natural, perfect place to implement the

cost to excellence ratio contin-

ues to make the University very

attractive to prospective students

based private education, which is

why we've seen consistent, solid

Kelsey Daugherty, president of

Student Government Association,

"Is it something students are

also found the increase "reason-

seeking a high-quality, faith-

TUITION continued

from Page 1

enrollment."

able."

StrengthsQuest philosophy, especially since "it can have a significant positive impact on retention and helping students thrive in college," Moore said.

Becci Rothfuss, director of the Leaders Scholars Institute at the University, oversees the use of StrengthsQuest across campus. She and Rod Reed, University chaplain, teach the Gateway Friday sessions.

"It's a wonderful, incredible tool for understanding yourself and others," Rothfuss said. "I don't see it as a box, but as a tool to help."

Moore agreed, "In my Gateway classes, I want to see the uniqueness of people.... Sometimes there is a potential to put people in a box. I know I am more than just these five things, and I want my students to understand that too."

For six years, the University has used StrengthsQuest in its Gateway classes, with a few

see it as at JBU we are making an investment in our students in their first year of college."

Sophomore Asher Perkins said he felt like the report listing his top five strengths

"It can have a significant positive impact on retention and helping students thrive in college." -Mandy Moore

described him well. "It was pretty accurate. The wording was something I had never thought of. It fit who I was, but it was more accurate than anything I would have used to describe myself," he said.

for our weaknesses through our strengths."

Knowing one's strengths is also applicable when exploring future employment opportunities. Chris Confer, director of the Career Development Center, said he uses the strengths concepts with students many times when he is working to help them find a career. It helps prepare them for interviewers who commonly ask about strengths and weaknesses during job interviews.

StrengthsQuest is used at more than 600 schools and universities in North America. according to Gallup.

John Brown University, however, is not necessarily included on Gallup's list of schools that "have been recognized for exemplary strengths development and for their commitment to helping students on their campus to

don't ever want to be a place that indoctrinates people with one point of view, especially a secular point of view. I think we've decided that this is a good place for JBU to be."

Evangel University, however, is recognized by Gallup as doing an excellent job at integrating strengths on their campus.

Sheri Phillips is the director for career development at Evangel. She has been involved in their strengths program since it was implemented in 2005.

The assessment is used quite widely across the EU campus. For example, Phillips said students take the assessment in their first Bible class, "Essential Christianity," and are asked to reflect on how they can develop their strengths in their callings. Students have an assignment associated with strengths in their university seminar class. Strengths are also discussed in classes on healthy relationships, as a way to understand other people.

All faculty and staff have the opportunity to take the assessment and receive training about what it means. Additionally, Evangel uses the concepts for career services advising, in residence life training, alternative chapel events for students and programming activities.

"Do I see room for improvement? Oh goodness, yes," Phillips said. "We work hard to help everyone understand that our strengths provide insight into motivational drives and that they aren't meant to limit our thinking."

Sarah Joppeck is a sophomore at Evangel and has enjoyed learning more about herself and others through StrengthsQuest. She even got to help teach a class on it to

her fellow students. "The greatest thing about StrengthsFinder is that it gives people a language to know themselves," Joppeck said.

Asia Cogiel, Evangel sophomore, said, "Strengths are used in some of the first courses you take at Evangel, and they are mentioned in conversation at times, so at first it took some getting used to, but after learning more about them, strengths are actually very interesting. It helped me understand how I 'tick' and now I understand why I work in groups the way that I do."

STUDENTS TOP 7 STRENGTHS

KARA UNDERWOOD/The Threefold Advocate

opportunities to again discuss strengths during advising and leadership and career development later in a student's time at school.

The assessment is an expensive financial investment that the University makes on behalf of the students. While there are institutional rates available, it still costs between \$10 and \$14 per person to take

Yet most believe it is worth it.

Moore explained, "When I go to academic research conferences, people say StrengthsQuest is the best assessment to give students in the first year of college. I really

Reed said, "StrengthsQuest gives a common language to talk about who we are and what we do. We are able to talk about our differences in a good way."

Moore said the assessment also helps students understand that a strength used to an extreme can be a weakness. She called this the "shadow side" of strengths.

Reed said, "Some people don't realize that just because they have a strength doesn't mean they should use it at 100 percent, all the time. We still need to work on things we don't like doing, but we can do it in a way where we are inventing ways to compensate

maximize their talent," in the words of their website.

When asked why that is, Rothfuss explained, "We have not really sought Gallup's stamp of approval. I think JBU has a really balanced culture. To be excessively reliant on one piece of information is not really JBU's style. It is quite widely used on campus. It's just that we're not promoting ourselves as a strengths-based organization."

Confer said, "I think there is healthy respect even within disagreement about strengths and that we benefit from that."

Rothfuss agreed, "There are faculty and staff who would push back against strengths. We

money toward keeping tuition

down than renovating the school,

but I understand there must be a

balance," she said. "It just seems

mean less, college should not cost

that in a society where degrees

In the Bubble

Students show art

The 2013 Student Works Competion allows students to enter their art and win prizes. Students can see the art Feb. 19 to March 14 in the JBU art gallery.

Pink Panther to strike!

The Pink Panther Strikes Again on Feb. 15, 16 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 1 p.m. Reserved tickets are recommended.

Out of the Bubble Tired Catholic pope

resigns at age 85

Cnn.com Feb. 11 Pope Benedict XVI will resign on Feb. 28, because he does not feel he has the strength to continue as the church's leader.

The successor has not yet been named.

This is the first time a pope has stepped down in nearly 600

BLACK PLATE

J ALVIN continued from Page 1

The final result will be larger rooms and suites, all new plumbing and electrical wiring and more soundproof walls.

happy about? No," she said. "Any increase is a bummer, but it ... is being put to very good use to keep JBU running at the level students expect."

The announcement Wednesday also stated the University awarded \$12.2 million in scholarships this year and has budgeted an 11 percent increase in scholarship aid for the 2013-2014 academic

"The administration, faculty and staff are committed to doing our best to hold the line on the cost of attending college," said Kim Hadley, vice president for finance and administration. "Additionally, our enrollment and advancement teams continue to work hard to identify scholarship resources to be awarded on both merit and need."

Sophomore Gabrielle Bromling said she is moderately concerned about tuition costs rising.

"I wish that we could put more

more... This means that when I graduate, I will have to pay more loans off with a small income because the economy is bad. It just seems like this generation is caught between a rock and a hard place when it comes to life after high school.

"I'm excited. I really want to

The residents who attended the event received the plans

J. Alvin capacity will be cut

in half during construction, and

the townhouses will be majority

to offset the loss of capacity,

positively. The only negative reaction came with the announcement that common showers would be replaced with individual shower stalls being met with boos.

be in J. Alvin next year and be a part of history," said freshman Connor Gooderl. "When I come back ... I want to be able to say I was the first in new J. Alvin."

MAGENTA PLATE

male housing.

EDITORIAL

The Threefold Advocate

Public displays of affection

WHAT IS APPROPRIATE AND WHAT IS NOT

Public Display of Affection. PDA. This acronym is a loaded one, leaving some angry or bitter, some dazed and confused and some blushing and mumbling.

We at the Threefold Advocate believe that PDA is a natural phenomenon—in most cases. If you love someone, you want to show him or her physical affection. Parents kiss their children good night. Friends hug each other in a time of need. Couples hold hands as they walk along the quad. This is normal.

However, as much as PDA is about the people involved in a relationship, it is also about the innocent bystander.

If you want to kiss your boyfriend goodnight after a wonderful evening of dinner and a movie, you have every right to. You are an adult and can make wise and meaningful decisions.

But before you lean in for that peck on the cheek, scan your surroundings. If your peripheral radar detects another living soul, think twice about what you are about to do.

Or, if you are standing in the middle of somewhere that 25 people will walk by before you are done, maybe you should reconsider your choice of "goodbye spot."

Because no one really wants to see that.

Seriously.

Because people can see you.

And then you will be recognized as 'that couple.' If you want people to respect you, then you do not need to do that.

So whether you are in front of the Down New lobby or snuggled up on one of the couches in the library, be aware of

And remember, folks, always leave room for Jesus.

 $PDA = \underline{P}lease$ <u>D</u>on't <u>A</u>ggravate (my eyes)

Non-traditional students

BLENDING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN STUDENTS

John Brown University's Fall 2012 enrollment for traditional undergraduate programs was 1,317. Non-traditional students over the age of 30 make up less than one percent of that population. Calvin Piston, the associate dean for institutional effectiveness, shared statistical analysis information regarding non-traditional students and retention. Between the years of 2009 and 2012, 23 non-traditional full-time students over the age of 30 enrolled at the University. As of January 2013, of those 23, five students are still enrolled, and two graduated.

We at the Threefold Advocate believe there is a solution for blending communication between traditional and non-traditional students, but it requires students to meet somewhere in the

The University notification for events is the Here and Now. Student organization events are not the responsibility of the University to advertise. Untimely or poorly placed communication for events leaves non-traditional students feeling left out and not part of the campus community.

Non-traditional students do not have 24 hours, seven days a week opportunities to establish social circles. Information delivery in a timely manner for events, study groups and club meetings on campus is paramount for non-traditional students due to responsibilities of families and jobs.

Information at building exits, outside of dorms and close to day-student parking encourages students in targeted degree plans to join social groups on campus.

Encouraging University communication practices to grow as technology advances and embrace newer social trends is also a great way to ensure that activities and clubs include traditional and non-traditional students alike.



Explore outside the bubble



Olivia Rollene

Walking on the John Brown University campus, one can see a large variety of individuals. Everyone is involved in different activities, whether that is sports, writing for the paper or singing in the choir. Students express themselves differently by how they dress and what they say and do. The one thing that almost every student has in common is that they proclaim to believe in Jesus Christ.

Being a Christian is not a requirement to come to JBU, even though it is a private Christian school. Faith is something that is interwoven into every class.

I can honestly say that I love that about JBU. The atmosphere of the school is rare and difficult to find.

I have been at school here for almost two years, and there are so many things I love about JBU and the people that inhabit it. Almost everywhere I look, people are ready with a smile and a "Hello! How are you?" Every professor works to integrate faith into the classroom, and they spend quality time with each student.

I have made incredible friends and I truly do believe that this is where God has me at this point in my life. However, I hesitate when I see students that become so wrapped up in being in the Christian community that they cannot see beyond the campus lines. There is so much out there! God has given it to us, so why not explore it?

Christ called us to be in the world but not of the world. But what happens when you separate yourself so much that you cannot even be in the world? You lose the ability to minister to people. It breaks my heart to see those



SETH KAYE / The Threefold Advocate

that are not even willing to venture out and get to know what surrounds them.

Many people, including myself to some extent, have been so sheltered their whole lives. Their parents have never allowed them to be exposed to anything that could "harm" them. I think parents sometimes forget that their children will soon graduate and be on their own.

If they are never exposed to the challenges of life, they will be like a lost puppy in the woods. No knowledge of how to take care of themselves. They will just want to go home.

I am not saying that this is ll bad. Our parents are here to take care of and protect us, to the best of their ability, but I challenge you to break that box of security. Live outside of what you know. Learn about the lives and interests of others.

Open your mind and embrace the opportunities that God gives you. They are not always going to be handed to you; sometimes you have to search for them. Share your life and let people share their's. I am not only asking this of you, but also myself. Let us challenge each other. You must reach out in order to bring people in.

Rollene is a sophomore majoring in public relations. She can be reached at rolleneo@jbu.edu.

Threefold Advocate

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. E-mail or mail letters by 6 p.m. on Monday.

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY COLUMNISTS OR IN LETTERS ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLISHER, ADVISER OR STAFF.

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OPINIO

Valentine's Day brings more than mush



Karen Sosa

As much as I would like to say that I don't like Valentine's Day because I'm single, the reality is that I do like it. Valentine's Day celebrates many kinds of relationships like friendships, dating, marriage and even family. I

think Valentine's Day serves as an extra reminder to tell all those people we really care about that we love them.

Some may argue that we are supposed to do this regardless of the date and I agree with that, but why not have a special day set apart to show your friends and family how much they mean to you? For me, what I get a great deal of joy from is being able to share a little note with my friends and family and seeing their response.

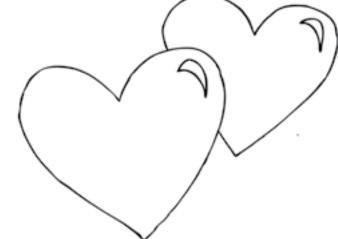
I hope that my loved ones can tell that I love them sincerely and everything I say comes from the bottom of my heart. It may not be much, but I believe it can make someone feel special and loved.

One of the goals I give myself every so often is to put a smile on a person's face, who ever it may be. Valentine's day is a great time to do this, not just for smiles but for being purposeful in their life.

What is also neat is the impact this can have on the lives of other people. How do you feel when someone loves on you?

Jesus is the prime example of Love. He's unconditional and selfless. He loves me and he showed it.

Valentine's Day for me is not just about the chocolate, the flowers or even the date; it's about being intentional



and showing with actions that you really care.

So Happy Valentine's Day, and know that you are loved!

Sosa is a senior majoring in psychology. She can be reached at sosak@jbu.edu

Bargain buyer "pops some tags" thrift store shopping



Abby Fennema

The stigma of second hand clothing comes with images of sweat stains and XXL pants and zebra granny panties. While the art of thrift store hunting may not be glamorous, the outcome can look more elegant than expected.

Being blessed with more siblings than I can count on one hand, the small buildings with dirty tiled floors and racks organized only by color seemed like a second home. We ran through each aisle, betting on who could spend the least amount of money. Any item of clothing over seven dollars seemed to be a preposterous request. This lifestyle seemed conventional to me,

unaware of malls, department stores and high prices.

High school fell upon me with all of its expectations, fashion labels and strive for popularity. My bank account was never something to brag about, and the green only came from the blood, sweat and tears of listening to screaming children and changing poopy diapers. With little in my pocket, yet a need to fit the mold, thrift store shopping became my way of survival. I scouted those racks, my eyes peeled for the labels. Hollister jacket for five dollars? Perfect. Steve madden shoes for ten? Yes mam. I was a vulture looking for my next meal.

Sure, finding the labels might be more challenging, but the art of the hunt is exhilarating. It is the excitement of finding a diamond amidst the dirt, treasure among broken pottery, True Religion jeans in the middle of 1980's jeans that my mom wore when she was pregnant with me.

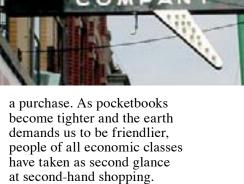
Thrift stores single-handedly preserved me through high school, but their contribution to the earth goes beyond my 16-year-old year old wallet and wardrobe. Second-hand

shopping it the ultimate form of recycling. The absence of this industry would cause the excess clothing to be put to rest in our landfills. Perfectly good and beautiful Citizen of Humanity jeans that do not fit their owner any longer would be put to rot under out feet, I cannot thing of a greater tragedy.

Refusing to

spend a pretty penny at a department store decreases the demand, declining the need for new resources to be used. Why create more when we already have enough?

The trend of secondhand shopping is not just for teens with low paying jobs. According to the America's Research Group, 16-18 percent of Americans will waltz into a thrift store this year and make



Like Macklemore says, lets 'pop some tags with only twenty dollars in [our] pockets." For the earth and for our wallets, lets begin to do the right thing.

Fennema is a junior majoring in public relations. She can be reached at fennemaa@ jbu.edu

Student changes the definition of dating



Bethany Metzger

Within the JBU culture, for a reason unknown, there is a collective fear of dating. The students have redefined dating and love as soon-tobe married. Therefore, to go to dinner with someone on a "getting to know you" level, is not considered dating anymore. Dating has lost its definition.

"So what is so scary about all of this? Why is it so hard to be honest and call it what it is?"

So what do we call this stage of "getting to know you for the purpose of possibly seriously dating you in the near future" that so many JBU students find themselves in these days? What is wrong with calling it dating?

The word "dating" is not defined as getting married

and having children in the near future. The word for that is engaged. Merriam Webster defines it as "a social engagement between two persons that often has a romantic character". So when using the phrase "dating someone," it simply means you are participating in social engagements with another individual. It does not always mean girlfriend or boyfriend status.

Yet, for some reason, few individuals are willing to call it what it is. They instead allow fear to hold them back from being honest and say something along the lines of, "I do not know them well enough to date them yet, we're just getting to know each other better". Which is great! Take it slow! No need to rush through any of this.

However, through which avenue does one get to know another better? Most of the time it is time spent together intimately; for example, social engagements specifically with that individual. Or possibly through "group dating" or participating in social engagements with a group of peers to which your 'crush" will be attending.

So what is so scary about all of this? Why is it so hard to be honest and call it what it is? Basically, the individuals that are afraid of "dating' are just making up more work for themselves trying to redefine what is so clearly dating. And in college, "ain't nobody got time for that!"

Metzger is a junior majoring in early childhood education. She can be reached at metzgerb@jbu.edu

Bible major questions polygamy



Josiah Wadsack

One thing I've never really thought about is polygamy. We just assume it's wrong, but never really investigate it. "It's polygamy, man. It's gotta be wrong!" But is it? After looking through the Bible, I saw a long line of polygamists: Abraham, Jacob, Esau, David, Gideon all polygamists. The esteemed Martin Luther even supported polygamy under certain conditions. That makes me think I shouldn't dismiss it so easily.

Now, my question isn't whether or not polygamy is destructive, hurtful to women, or illegal. I'm convinced that all those things are true. The question I'd never really pondered before is whether or not God's okay with it. So I looked deeper, to see what the Bible says.

One of the primary passages people draw out against polygamy is Deuteronomy 17. God commands Israelite kings not to have "many wives." Seems pretty clear that he's against polygamy. But in the context, God also forbids a king to have excessive horses and wealth. The passage is saying that God wants moderation in horses, wives and wealth rather than forbidding multiples of them. So under only this passage, polygamy in moderation could be okay. But there are also other places in Scripture that God talks about polygamy... In 1 Timothy 3, Paul lists

LEARNING TO ASK "WHY?"

qualifications for elders. One is that he be "the husband of one wife." So hands down, polygamy is forbidden for elders in the church. The Bible's clear there. But Paul is speaking only of elders, not people at large. So, while it might be better to only have one wife, Paul still does not forbid polygamy for the common man.

What about Bible passages seem to show God's support for polygamy? In 2 Samuel 12, God tells David, "I gave you your master's house and your master's wives." Notice that "wives" is plural. God is not only tolerating polygamy, but is actively furthering its practice. That's a far cry from God being completely opposed to it.

Again, my question isn't whether polygamy is destructive or hurtful to women. I think we can all agree that these are true. Also, polygamy is illegal for us in America. So even if it were permissible by God in general, it would be sin for us because the government has outlawed it. But there's still the root question: Is God okay with it?

I can't really say for sure. I'm an 18 year-old kid, and there are much older and wiser men than me, with a far better understanding of Scripture and God's character. But from where I stand, it seems that God's okay with the practice of polygamy. Definitely not in the extreme, like how Solomon practiced it (per Deuteronomy 17). But David lived his life as a polygamist, never repented, and was never rebuked by God for it. God even gave him more wives. In all his polygamy, he was still called "a man after God's own heart." If God can be

that pleased with an unrepentant polygamist, I just can't see him hating the practice absolutely.

There's an interesting twist on this. Let's look at some of the negative effects of polygamy: feelings of hurt and of not being good enough, competition between different wives and their children, and the financial obligation to support multiple families. Horrible things. But look again at that list – they match up pretty evenly with the results of divorce. In fact, divorce is rather similar to polygamy. A man is "made one flesh" with multiple women, has children with those different wives, and has to financially support several families. The main difference is that he's united with the wives only at different times (though there are other differences, too).

And while the biblical evidence for God's hatred of polygamy is pretty thin, God's hatred of divorce is very clear. So even if I'm wrong about God being okay with polygamy (which I may well be), he's definitely much more against divorce. But which are we more against? Which is the church more against? When we think of polygamy, we think of a horrible practice that no Christian should do. But divorce we happily participate in and allow.

Wadsack is a sophomore majoring in biblical and theological studies. He can be reached at wadsackj@jbu.edu.

MAGENTA PLATE

BLACK PLATE

IFESTYLES

The Threefold Advocate



Saturday night the traditional Cathedral of the Ozarks stage was covered with wooden pallets and a flurry of Christmas lights as the worship

for most of the day, University alum David Leonard took some time between sound check and dinner to answer questions. Q: Your EP "The Longing" came out in September; can you tell me a little bit about it?

duo All Sons & Daughters took the stage at John Brown University. Though Leslie Jordan, the female half of the group, stayed in bed sick

A: We do EPs, and they kind of move around with the seasons of our church and where our church has been. "The Longing" has been one of those albums that's been so fun with just the amount of energy. We have a new season that's kind of a celebration. There are songs like "Oh How I Need You" that are songs that we haven't done before; the foot-stoppin' and clappin' kind of songs. It's been exciting to... move forward in this journey that God is moving our people and our body. And we've kind of seen this progression from brokenness to the recognition of Christ and the need of Him and now celebrating the goodness and the greatness of Him. This record has by far been my favorite one, and it's been a lot of fun.

Q: You mentioned your church a lot. All Sons & Daughters actually came to be through your church. Can you tell me how that happened?

A: We're still on staff there at Journey Church in Franklin, Tenn. It's just a very, very cool place that solely wraps around community that's vulnerable and authentic with each other. And it's a place both me and Leslie really found something that we never experienced before. It's a lot like a college experience where you are constantly around people. You kind of have that camaraderie that goes on. I went to school here and that's the only other time I can say that I felt the feelings I feel now, with the body and the people that we're living life with. We just simply started All Sons & Daughters by trying to write songs and resource our church with songs that were specifically for them. I had no idea that God was going to do some of the things He has done, and would kind of like it to stay that way, to stay pleasantly surprised and continue to serve our body and just serve their journey. It's really been good so far.

Q: You actually graduated from John Brown University. Do you have any good stories from your time here that you'd like to share?

A: I skipped a lot of class. I was put on probation a couple times. I was intramural champion—a lot of times—for flag football. That was one of the things. I took flag football pretty seriously. Do they still do the ERP weekend? The freshmen would come in and I'd show up and be looking to see all the good football players, kind of scope them out. But no, my experience here was amazing. I met my wife and made a great group of friends that we played music together (with) for several years. I wouldn't be where I am now without the things that happened here. I am very, very thankful for this place.

Q: Do you have a favorite song off the new EP?

A: I think "Oh How I Need You" would have to be my favorite off there. My wife just had a baby girl. She's 14 months old. It's one those times when you realize the need for Christ. Not only in so many other areas of your life, but in raising a child, things become more real. It comes to life a little bit more. I need (God) more than ever. I have no idea what I'm doing. The thought of doing it on my own is completely paralyzing. And I think that song and the recognition of the need for him is something that kind of sums up my life right now.

Q: What is next for All Sons & Daughters?

A: We're releasing a live record in April. We shot live DVD and filmed a record with both songs from all the other EPs and new songs. We invited our church body into this recording studio and we filmed the whole thing. It was such a special night to get together with family and sing these songs. We've been able to travel a lot over the last couple of years. We lead [worship] at home, but doing all the songs at one time, we haven't been able to do. So to sit in a room with all the people we wrote these songs for, to sing them all and for them to sing them as loud as they can, and for them to get it on tape and on video is something that is a ton of fun. We are really excited about putting it out. It's been a lot of work, a lot of people, a lot of moving pieces. Excited to show the world our church and the worship that is coming out of it.

Pink Panther ligthens up the stage



I laughed along with the oddball characters in "The Pink Panther Strikes Again," enjoying its outrageous plot and slapstick humor.

The play is based off of the film with the same name.

John Brown University's version of the play uses spotlight and other low lighting on a bleak urban set, which contrasts well with the whacked storyline and characters.

Through sheer dumb luck, Chief Inspector Jacques Clouseau of the French Sûreté, played by junior Chase Poage, always stumbles out of harm's way and on to solve the case.

Clouseau must chase down the former chief inspector who he drove to madness, Charles LaRousse Dreyfus, played by freshman Matthew Bowen. Dreyfus escapes from the sanitarium and forces Dr. Fassbender, played by freshman Steven Hamilton, to create a doomsday machine. Dreyfus then threatens the world with just one demand: that Jacques

Clouseau be exterminated. Most of the Pink Panther films featured a pink panther character in their opening titles. I grew up watching the branched Pink Panther cartoon franchise, so I was happy to see the show expand that personality. Five panthers opened each act and also took care of transitions. What would normally be darkness with stage hands silently changing sets they transformed into a panther comedy routine. Some of their transitions seemed a little overlong, though there are plans to change that by opening night.

The pink panthers are played by seniors Kendra Chester, Jamie Odom, Rebecca Ridings, Stephanie Willis; and freshman Kristen McCrea.

I especially enjoyed watching all the students put personality into their roles, just as Director Jan Lauderdale had hoped. She wrote in her notes: "Every

student put great thought into creating genuine, unique and memorable roles, no matter how few lines they had. I have fallen in love with each of the characters they have created,

and we hope you will, as well." The play takes place in different bits of Europe. When Clouseau comes home to tussle with his Asian manservant, Cato, played by sophomore Seong Jae Jo, at first I reacted to the racist humor. As time went on, though, I realized the script played off of every racial stereotype it could; no one was exempt. If the play has any kind of moral, I would call it: Don't take yourself too seriously.

This is not a play to sit and ponder the world's deep questions, or to wonder about whatever happened to the United Nations after Dreyfus sent it to oblivion. It is a play to set your thinking caps aside for a while—you can get them again before class on Monday—and to

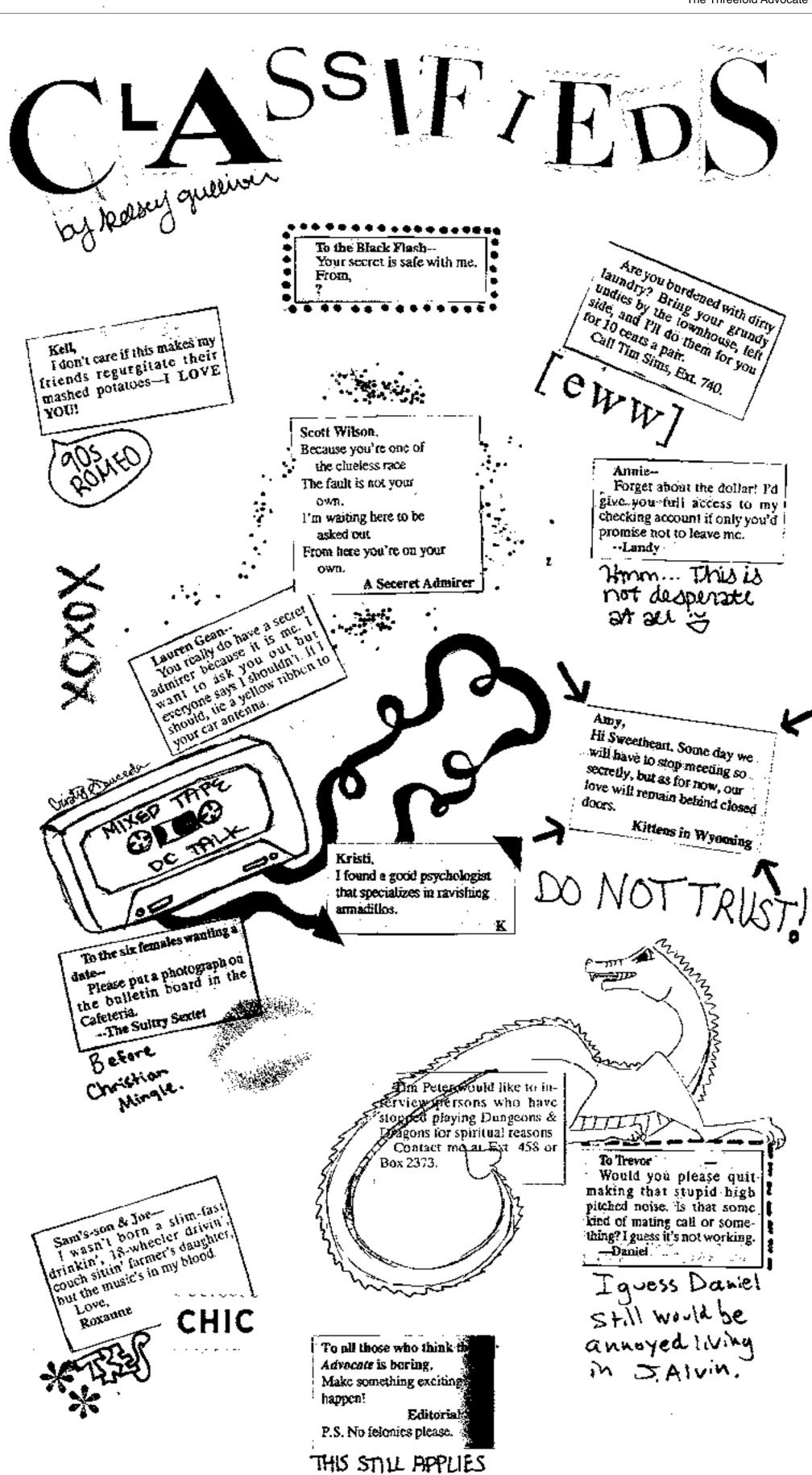
laugh along with your friends. Performance times are Feb. 15, 16 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 1:00 p.m. in the

Berry Performing Arts Center.



LIFESTYLES

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SPORTS

Eagles can secure first place

Jon Skinner

Sports Editor

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The Eagles come home this week with a chance to do something not even the 2005 National Championship team did. They can clinch the SAC regular season title.

The Golden Eagles will face Wayland Baptist on Thursday and Lubbock Christian on Saturday, both at home.

Coming off a close win at Oklahoma City, JBU is 2.5 games up on second place Oklahoma Baptist and three games up on Mid-America Christian.

The Eagles' magic number to clinch the regular season conference crown and the automatic NAIA tournament bid that comes with it is two. That means if JBU wins or OBU loses two games, the conference title will be officially John Brown's.

But as far as head coach Clark Sheehy is concerned, the team is preparing for games the same way they would if they were fighting for a spot in the

"Where our players have done a good job is staying focused on the game right in front of us," Sheehy said. "The conference race is exciting, but that's got to be an afterthought."

A conference title would mean a No. 1 seed in the conference tournament in Shawnee, Okla, and an automatic bid in the NAIA national tournament in Kansas City.

On Thursday the Eagles will look to get payback for their only conference loss thus far, an 84-70 road defeat to Wayland



Submitted by JBU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Senior Guard Abel Galliguez stares down a Oklahoma City defender in the Eagles' 66-62 win last Saturday. With two wins by the Eagles or two losses by second place Oklahoma Baptist this week, the Eagles can clinch their first ever regular season conference champonship.

Baptist. Since that loss, the Eagles have gone 4-0, winning by an average of 10 points per game. WBU, on the other hand, has struggled, going 1-3 with its lone win being over winless St. Gregory's.

In order to avoid another upset JBU will have to contain Reggie Fondren, who had a season-high 30 points in the Pioneers win over the Eagles.

The Eagles had prepared for Fondren assuming he was going to the bulk of his scoring in the paint off of drives but instead he went 7-7 on three-pointers.

"We've got to guard him a little more traditionally and understand he can do both,"

Sheehy said. "They did a really good job of getting really easy shots [last game] and [this game] we've got to ... make them earn their shots."

The Eagles are coming off a close win over Oklahoma City last Saturday. The team edged the Stars 66-62 after junior guard Terry Johnson missed a threepoint attempt to tie with six seconds left.

The Eagles came out swinging to start the game, going on a 20-6 run out of the gate thanks to four 3-pointers. The Stars then went on a run of their own and went into halftime with a 35-33

After the Eagles took a

10-point lead early in the second half, OCU answered again and the game was close the rest of the way. The Golden Eagles took the lead for good when EJ McWoods hit two free throws with 1:29 to play. Both teams traded free throws the rest of the way until the Stars got the ball with 10 seconds left trailing by three. When Johnson missed his three, junior forward Kurtis Phillips got the rebound and after being fouled hit one of two free throws to seal the win.

On Saturday JBU will host 6-6 Lubbock Christian, whom the Golden Eagles beat 72-71 on Jan. 24.



- 1. Columbia (Mo.)
- 2. Lee (Tenn.)
- 3. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)
- 4. John Brown
- 5. Lewis-Clark State (Idaho)
- 6. Westmont (Calif.)
- 7. Cal State San Marcos
- 8. SAGU (Texas)
- 9. Faulkner (Ala.)
- 10. Oklahoma Baptist



1. John Brown (11-1)

- 2. Oklahoma Baptist (8-4)
- 3. MACU (8-4)
- 4. Rogers State (6-6)
- 5. Lubbock Christian (6-6)
- 6. USAO (5-7)
- 7. Wayland Baptist (5-7)
- 8. Oklahoma City (5-8)
- 9. Saint Gregory's (0-11)

Lady Eagles in fight for fourth seed

Jon Skinner

Sports Editor skinnerjj@jbu.edu

The Lady Eagles will play a pair of home games this week with a chance to improve their standing in the conference. Sixth-place John Brown will host

fourth-place Wayland Baptist on Thursday and second-place Lubbock Christian on Saturday. This week's schedule gives the team a chance to break its

three-game loosing streak and build some momentum for the conference tournament. "Its nice to have something to play for at the end of the season," said head coach Jeff

Soderquist. "If we can pull together a run here at the end [it] can not only get us in position in the conference tournament but it also [can] give us confidence going into the tournament."

The Lady Eagles will look to sweep the season series with WBU after winning their last contest 74-67 on Jan. 26.

"The key to [beat] Wayland is limiting our turnovers and [to] keep them off the offensive rebound," said Soderquist.

The Eagles will look to recover from a rough 98-48 loss to then-No. 1 ranked Oklahoma City on Saturday.

The Stars won big despite 10-point nights from sophomore forward Morgan Ankrom and junior guard Sierra Shipley.

John Brown was only down 47-27 at the half but only made three shots from two-point range in the second half and were outscored by 30 points.

Soderquist said the key to getting back on the winning track against Wayland Baptist is to replicate what JBU did in their last meeting but to improve offensive rebounding.

"We've got to take care of

the basketball and we've got to attack them offensively," Soderquist said. "Defensively we've got to keep them out of the paint and we've got to finish the possession with the ball off a rebound."

skid after starting conference 3-0, with its only wins in that stretch coming against the bottom two teams in the conference, USAO and MACU. Soderquist said the team is

Wayland Baptist is on a 2-6

going to focus on stopping junior guard Angeleigh Davis, who leads the Flying Queens with 15 points per game. On Saturday JBU will face No. 3 Lubbock Christian. The

Lady Chaps, who were ranked No. 1 much of the season before losing twice to Oklahoma City, are coming off a win over Oklahoma Baptist last Saturday.

The Lady Eagles will face Wayland Baptist Thursday at 6 p.m. in Bill George Arena and Lubbock Christian Saturday at 1 p.m.



1. Oklahoma City (13-0)

- 2. Lubbock Christian (10-2)
- 3. Rogers State (10-2) 4. Oklahoma Baptist (6-7)
- 5. Wayland Baptist (5-7)
- **6. John Brown (4-8)**
- 7. Saint Gregory's (3-8) 8. MACU (3-9)
- 9. USAO (1-11)



Submitted by JBU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Junior guard Sierra Shipley drives into a defender in the Lady Eagles' 98-48 loss on Saturday to then-No. 1 Oklahoma City. The Lady Eagles are in sixth place in conference going into a Thursday showdown with fifth-place Wayland Baptist. The Eagles are 1.5 games out of fourth.

MAGENTA PLATE

BLACK PLATE

SPORTS

Student takes a beating in new hobby



STEPHANIE WILLIS/The Threefold Advocate Dakota Whitworth strikes a punching bag while training for boxing. Whitworth took up boxing after watching an MMA fight with her trainer. It has been a year since Whitworth took up the sport as a full-fledged hobby.

Abby Fennema

Staff Writer

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Dakota Whitworth knows how to throw a punch.

Whitworth, a senior international business major, has a tough hobby. A year ago she took up the sport of boxing and has not looked back since.

It started out as an invitation for a self-defense class that turned into a full fledged hobby. The workout was the major draw for Whitworth. She "wanted to get

into something more active," she said. "Working out at the [JBU] gym is fine and all but can get

"My trainer asked if I wanted to go to mixed martial arts fight because one of the guys in the gym was going, "Whitworth said. "We got floor seats."

After watching the match, she was intrigued. Whitworth said, "That was about the time I switched into the boxing class."

The class provides Whitworth with a whole body workout. Cardio, physical endurance and arm strength are a large focus of

the class.

The good workout comes with a price. She has taken a hit or two in the process.

It is "shocking and exciting" getting beat up a little bit, said Whitworth. "I'm not used to getting beat up on a regular basis. You have to learn how to break through that and not let the attack stop you from defending yourself."

Whitworth took one knock that

left her with a good story. "I don't even remember driving to the gym that day, I [boxing] partner's couch." she explained.

She took a hard hit that day, which resulted in a concussion. "I guess we were in the ring, and we were getting good hits that day then I got out of the ring, and I was acting loopy," said Whitworth.

Those in the gym tried to sit Whitworth down, but she began to dance around the gym. They could tell something was not right.

"I woke up in Siloam, and all I could think was, 'What am I doing here?' I guess I just kept repeating how much I loved McDonalds. They bought me McDonalds, but I

didn't even finish it because I kept talking about how much I loved

it," Whitworth said with laughter. Even a tough blow did not stop Whitworth from continuing to

pursue her hobby. Whitworth's fiancé, Phillip

Hadley, appreciates her hobby. "She is very passionate and so this is a good way for her to take out some frustration," he said.

Whitworth agrees. The one thing she learned from her boxing experience is "you don't have to be mean to be a fighter."

just remember waking up on my Volleyball team puts on a clinic

Hannah Wright

Staff Writer wrighthj@jbu.edu

The Lady Golden Eagles Volleyball team hosted a

skills improvement clinic this Saturday to raise money for their upcoming mission trip to Creve,

Forty-six children, aged eight to 18, attended. Stacie Johnson, head volleyball coach, called the clinic "a huge success."

The clinic focused on sharpening fundamental techniques.

"We have held clinics before and they have been very successful. It is a fun time for the players and those who attend the clinic," Johnson said.

Heather Witham, assistant volleyball coach, added, "I really like to see kids build confidence in their sport." The clinic is only one of

several fundraising efforts currently in the works for team's trip to Haiti, which will take place this summer. The team's other moneymaking ideas include a Valentine's Day fundraiser and a student volleyball tournament.

"We're doing hands-on stuff. We're not just relying on the money to come pouring in," said

The team will be working with Bethel Baptist Ministries to put on a sports clinic and a vacation Bible school. Both

Witham and Johnson said they were "excited" about the mission

Sophomore Kendra Ammons, defensive specialist, agrees. "I think it'll be really good for our team to get a bigger perspective, to know that the world isn't just about volleyball," Ammons said.

Junior Staci Williamson, outside hitter, appreciates what pre-season mission trips do for the team's camaraderie.

beginning of the year, we're not focused on ourselves, we're focused on serving," she said. The attitude of service in

"Even though it's the

missions carries over to the

upcoming clinic, Witham said. 'We're really trying to reach out to the community. Sports create a huge platform all over the world."

Williamson spoke of her own inspiration to teach kids about volleyball, "When we were growing up, [coaches] came into our lives. It's just a way to give back." "And it's a lot of fun,"

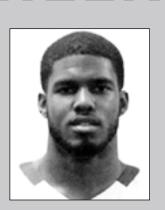
Ammons added. Students are encouraged to

pray for the volleyball team as they begin their fundraising efforts. There will also be a way to donate online on the team's homepage soon.

"We really want it to be God's trip," said Witham. "I want to see our team grow closer in the Lord through all of this."







EJ McWoods Men's Basketball

Senior Guard EJ McWoods had 13 points in 23 minutes in the Golden Eagles' 66-62 victory over Oklahoma City last Saturday. McWoods had a game tying basket with 2:20 left and he had two free throws with 1:29 left to put the Eagles up for good. McWoods leads the Eagles with a 84.4% freee throw percentage this season.



Students learn basic volleyball skills at a volleyball clinic hosted by the volleyball team.

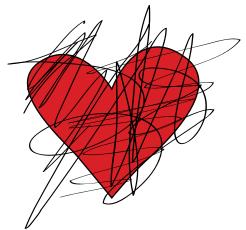
J PABLO GARCIA/The Threefold Advocate

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OTLIGHT

The Threefold Advocate

Not Your Normal Vday



By: Jenny Redfern

oday is the day we have been waiting for. Today is the day all of the planning and the dreaming and the dreading come to an epic climax as we realize that we may once again watch our favorite television program without commercials for engagement rings or walk into Walmart without gagging at the number of pink teddy bears. Today is Valentine's Day or as some like to call it, Single Awareness Day.

In the Christian culture of this small private school, it is easy to exaggerate the number of people who will be on a date tonight with someone special, and it is also easy to forget that 60 percent of students on campus declare they do not even have a "someone special."

So, for those thriving—or anguishing—in that 60 percent, there are two choices. One, you can spend the night in sweats with a tub of Ben & Jerry's mourning the lack of romance in your life. Or two, you can take the following ideas and celebrate love the way it should be celebrated.

#1 Love God



If Jesus is the Bridegroom and the church is his bride, then you are caught up in a love story far greater than any Hallmark movie. Set some special time aside tonight to worship the One who loves you unconditionally. Find a quiet place, grab his Word, and spend some time reading the greatest love story of all time.



#2 Love your family



Not to be rude, but... when is the last time you called your mom? Whether you are BFFs with the family or you try to avoid those awkward phone calls altogether, take some time tonight to show your family you love them. Maybe set up a Skype chat or send them a card through the mail. Whatever you decide, I am sure it will make their day.

#3 Love your friends



It is so easy to get caught up in the prospects of your dating life that you forget what a great group of people already surrounds you and pours into your life. Show them the love by planning a special night with memories that will last forever. Cook them dinner, go to the rock-climbing gym or try something new and spontaneous. Just do not forget to tell them how much they mean to you.

Love the unloved



Instead of becoming more aware of your singleness, be aware of those nearby that really need some TLC. That could mean visiting the nursing home or spending some time at the Genesis House. It could mean giving someone a ride or paying for the next table's meal. Find a way where you can serve and love someone in need today.

#5 Love yourself





Tonight would be a perfectly acceptable time to show yourself some lovin'. Use it to catch up on some much needed sleep. Go shopping and splurge on that sweater you have been wanting. Or, prepare your favorite meal for dinner—even if it is Lucky Charms cereal. Watch your favorite movie in your favorite pajamas with your favorite candy. Celebrate being you!



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