Prof. Don Balla debunks DREAM act myths

BLACK PLATE

The efold Adv online at advocate.jbu.edu

JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Siloam Springs, Arkansas

eggieTales comes to campus

Shelby DeLay Staff Writer

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The campus got its daily serving of vegetables Tuesday when Phil Vischer, co-creator and voice actor of VeggieTales fame, spoke in

Vischer spoke on the importance of letting God be in control and letting go of our own dreams. He learned this firsthand after being kicked out of Bible school and seeing both the rise and the fall of his



Phil Vischer

Big Idea Productions

"I began making animated videos when I was nine," Vischer said. "In 1993, I produced the first VeggieTales video. I was making a big difference. If I had this much impact with videos, I thought I could be the next Disney."

Vischer explained that he wanted to be just like Walt Disney, because as an introvert he didn't know what else he wanted to do, and that he had truly lost who he was. He set a goal for his productions to become one of the top four family media brands in 20 years.

The lofty goal that Vischer had set out before himself attracted "alpha males" to the company, each one eager to change something else. Soon, Vischer saw himself sitting on the sidelines of his own big idea.

"I learned that when you pull away from the world, you lose what you want to do," Vischer said.

Although the dream ended in 2003, the VeggieTales creator still has a great outlook on life, and knows that the process he endured is what made him who he is now.

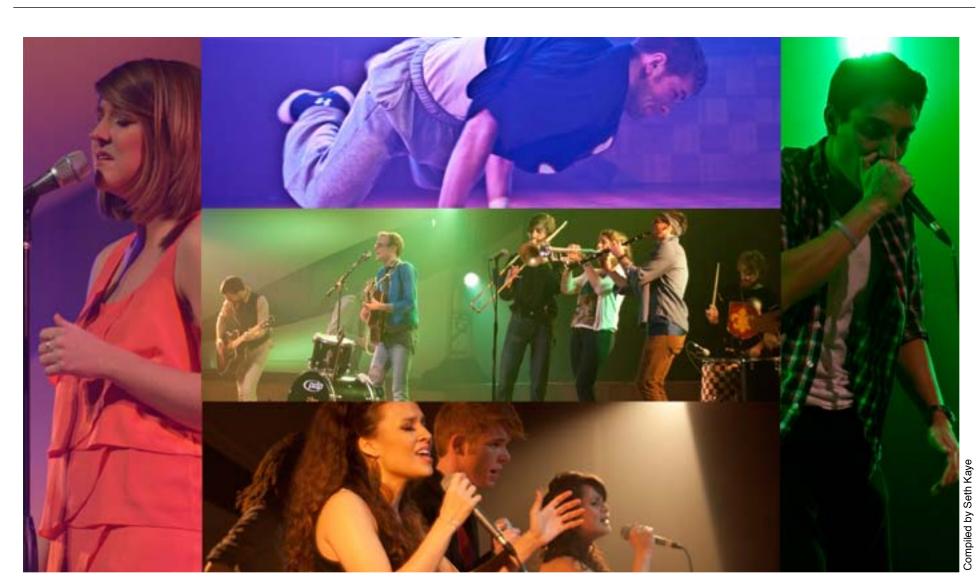
After listening to a cassette tape of a sermon, Vischer realized that

what God could give him was truly enough. In Genesis, Abraham was willing to let go of everything else before he would let go of God.

"Why would God wand us to let go of our dreams?" Vischer asked.

Vischer stressed the importance of not making desires idols saying "Maybe God wants to know what's more important to you—dreams, or him," and making it clear that it is important to put God's will ahead of our own desires.

See VEGGIE on page 3



Students shine at talent show

Hannah Wright

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As the events for family weekend were underway, expectations were high for the annual talent show, a favorite among family and students alike.

The audience waited as the lights dimmed, and we were introduced to our Masters of Ceremony. Senior Drew Duffy and junior Andrew Layden were known for the evening as princes on a quest for talent throughout the kingdom of "J'bu."

After a brief introduction, the show began. The first act, Panic Bear, made up of four men with excellent musical skills, performed Safetysuit's "Believe." The performance showcased the members' musical talent and carried an

element of shock and awe. Following Panic Bear was senior London Smith, simultaneously advertising his video blog and surprising us with an eye-popping popper routine. Smith can dance; he moved as if he had no bones. The act had a slow start, but he slowly drew in the audience with his mind-bending

What could beat a popping video blogger? Perhaps a breakdancing Russian? Next up was an act entitled, "We Are Here Because You Are Good to Us," a rapping act starring freshman Stanley Brown and juniors Musa Clark and Misha Kolemasov. The boys delivered a bumping beat with a beautiful message, that God is the one who enables our continued existence.

In a radical change of direction, a band with a folky feel, made up of senior AJ Miller and freshmen Caleb Ellicott and Laura Roller took the stage. Playing a

composition of Ellicott's, called "My King's Stable," this act was a reminder of how greatly God loves us. Ellicott and Miller sang with definite passion and good harmony to the instrumental styling of Roller.

Up next, Senior Samuel Cornejo demonstrated his skills. He began by beat boxing, giving the distinct impression that he had swallowed a drum set. Following this, he sang Bruno Mars' "Just The Way You Are" accompanied by recordings of himself beat boxing the drums, bass, piano and harmony.

The last act before the intermission was worth the wait. A group calling themselves 1921 entered. resplendent in black and red. The group was comprised of senior Jasmine Chavez, sophomore Mikael Seamans, freshman Ashley Camarillo, freshman Garrette Wiley, freshman Daniel Musgrave and sophomore Annabel Stavey. This group sang Adele's "Someone Like You," possibly better than

See TALENT page 7

School warms up for conference

Jon Skinner and Sidney Van Wyk

Threefold Staff

This March, the Madness is coming to JBU. John Brown will host the Sooner Athletic Conference Men's and Women's basketball tournaments March 1-3 in Bill George Arena.

After several past bids to host the event in Murray Sells Gym,

JBU was finally awarded its first Tournament this year after completing the Bill George Arena in 2010.

While SAC tournaments typically are not free to fans, this year the university will be subsidizing ticket costs so students will be able to attend games for free and faculty will pay five dollars instead of the regular cost of 10 dollars.

"If they want to come, we want them here, and we don't want them to pay so we are going to subsudize it," said Athletic Director.

Any student that visits the WLHC Athletic office on February 27 and 28 during regular office hours can sign up for a free ticket. On March 1, all students who are on the list will have free admis-

The only other people who will attend the tournament for free are members of other teams, press and tournament volunteers.

Many of the tournament volunteers are retired faculty and

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The Threefold Advocate

Summer study abroad trips see student lag

Brittany Reading

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Some study abroad summer programs have seen a significant decrease in participation, which has been attributed to a sluggish

Though the numbers are low, Bill Stevenson, director of international admissions, is not concerned, but is instead optimistic about the future of the programs and their impact on students.

Five summer study programs, including Jordan, Germany and Ireland, continue to thrive, whereas German art studies and Italian studies programs were cancelled due to a lack of participation.

Stevenson believes the current state of the economy plays a major role in a family's decision to invest in a study abroad program for their student.

"Families are being cautious with their money but I suspect our programs will rebound strongly once the economy stabilizes," he explained.

Though financial aid does not cover summer study abroad programs, Stevenson argues the benefits from such an experience are an investment relationally, professionally and academ-

According to Stevenson, approximately 120 students study abroad during the summer and have a unique opportunity to not only learn more about themselves and the world but more importantly, their relationship with God.

"You become increasingly dependent on a holy God when you are outside of your cultural comfort zone," he said. It is the interactions with lo-

cals in the town market or on the train that helps students develop a competency of the culture they will bask in for a month. Biblical studies professor

Robbie Castleman leads the German Studies Program and emphasizes the importance of "place as text" as students will live in the heart of Reformation history and see the very places they read in textbooks. During their studies, stu-

dents will pray together at a Concentration camp as they read Eli Wiesels, "Night," sing "A Mighty Fortress is our God," in the church were it was first sung and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit at the Basilica on Pentecost Sunday.

Castleman and Tim Dinger, director of student counseling, will lead a team of 17 students during the trip as they participate in history itself and dive into German culture.

Students usually only see me in the classroom but during the trip, I pop popcorn and sit on the girls' beds and just talk about life," she said. "It's amazing to have a month of mentoring students intimately.'

As Stevenson debriefs students after study abroad trips, he recognizes just how different they become after the trip.

"The majority come back saying, 'This experience has changed the way I live my life," "I'm so glad for the trip be-

cause it just forces you, in a good way, to connect with people and forge friendships," said senior Jordan Rowe who studied abroad in Ireland last summer. Stevenson believes many

benefits of the program includes gaining a better understanding of yourself, the world and God as well as making you more marketable to future employers, developing global awareness and engaging in a fun academic experience. "Studying abroad allows you

to function within the United States more effectively as you encounter various cultures and have a developed competence of such cultures," he explained.



Submitted by ROBBIE CASTLEMAN

The former city hall of Bamberg, Germany, sits on an artificial island in the middle of a river. It is one of the sites professor Robbie Castleman has visited with students during previous German study abroad programs.

How Well Do You Know Her?



Sophomore Roxan Gonzales and junior Karen Cerella laugh as they participate in Roomie Wed, an event put on by the Walker Dorm Residence Hall Association. Roomie Wed is a game-show-style event, in which roommates are asked questions to test their knowledge of one another. Gonzales and Cerella won the contest, beating out eight other teams. Questions ranged from color of toothbrush to worst fear or how they want their meat cooked.

In the Bubble

Studying with kids

People who are students and parents are invited to take part in a new support group system.

An informational, come-andgo lunch will be occurring on Feb. 23, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Dye Lounge.

Moving on out

In order to live off campus next semester, students are required to meet certain requirements. They must also apply by March 2, at 5 p.m.

Out of the Bubble

money.cnn.com Feb. 21

The U.S. will most likely run out of space on the airwaves for the amount of increasing use in the next year.

Too much cell use

As levels of voice, text and Internet services rise, consumer prices may rise, dropped calls may increase, and data speeds may slow.

The spectrum available has been filled up with 4G and video downloads. Various solutions are being explored.

Yemenis end era

nytimes.com Feb. 21

The people of Yemen ended the thirty-year rule of their president in an election on Tuesday.

The agreement for the current president to be replaced by his vice president was made before a single ballot was cast. But that did not change the people's happiness.

The president's decision was made only after trying to end demonstrations calling for his resignation with military force.

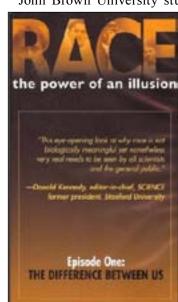
Film challenges racial assumptions

Adrianne Redding

Copy Editor reddinga@jbu.edu

Studies now show there is actually no genetic distinction between races. The documentary series "Race: The Power of an Illusion" explains that and more. It is being shown this month, sponsored by the Multicultural Organization of Students Active in Christ, and the communication and history departments.

John Brown University stu-



dents can view the three-hour series as part of the school's recognition of Black History Month. The documentary gives students an opportunity to understand race better.

"MOSAIC promotes understanding of all people and where they come from and what other cultures are like," said sophomore Bridgette Ojo, an officer in the organization

She said the history and communication departments came up with the idea to show the PBS documentary and gave the organization the opportunity to sponsor it. "It's important for people to be aware of different culture and be informed," Ojo explained. "[This documentary] is for everyone."

The documentary studies race in society, history and science. The first part takes a closer look at the variations in humans'

genetic codes through races and confronts stereotypical myths about the different races. According to the PBS website, the second part, "The Story We Tell," shows "how deep so-

cial inequalities came to be ra-

tionalized as natural-deflect-

ing attention from the social practices and public policies that benefited whites at the expense of others."

Lastly, the final installment, "The House We Live In," addresses the legacy of past discrimination and reveals how many American policies, past and present, intentionally or not, give "whites" more opportunities in life.

Black History Month, first thought of in 1926, became a result of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States in the 1970s. It became nationally recognized in the late 1980s or early 1990s, and gained media attention from schools and the media, said Assistant Professor

of History Trisha Posey. Some schools have units on African American history to celebrate February. Others place an emphasis on great African Americans who have contributed to American history.

At the university level, Posey said, this is a great opportunity to discuss the issue of race in American culture through forums, discussion groups or films. This is what MOSAIC attempts to do with this documen-

The organization plans to show more films in the future. March is Women's Month, Ojo said, and MOSAIC plans to show "The Help," the 2011 drama about a group of diverse women exposing cruelty towards maids.

The organization presented the first part of the documentary last Wednesday and the second part yesterday evening. The third and final installment will occur next week.

Students wanting to take part in MOSAIC's Black History Month have one more opportunity.

On Feb. 29, the organization will be presenting the final part of the documentary series, "Race: The Power of an Illusion." Viewing and discussion will be in LRC 121.

The third part is entitled "The House We Live In" and focuses on institutional practices which intentionally or unintentionally advantage the white race.

MAGENTA PLATE

The Threefold Advocate

Two new colleges join University campus

Esther Carey

News Editor

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John Brown University is no longer just a University, thanks to the addition of two new colleges last month.

As of Jan. 1, the University implemented a few structural changes. The former divisions of Business and Education have been organized into individual colleges. It is unlikely that students, especially those who are traditional undergraduates, will notice much

Ed Ericson, vice president of academic affairs, said the adjustments were the result of suggestions made by the specialized accreditation boards for each division. Both had three program "boats"—traditional undergraduate, degree completion, and masters—that had been granting similar degrees but were reporting to different administrative hierar-

Ericson said members of the accreditation council for the business programs questioned the then-current arrangement during a recent

They asked how things such as the strategic plan worked when these three groups were reporting to different people, Ericson said.



The accreditors were not fully satisfied with the University's answer that "it works because we are nice to each other." They suggested that the three degree programs be integrated into one disciplinary college to increase good communication.

Ericson said the heads of the new colleges would be Joe Walenciak, former professor of business, and Gloria Gale, former professor of education. They have been given the title of Associate Dean of the College of Business and Associate Dean of the College of Education respectively.

Walenciak said the change would help with coordination between the three types of programs and would facilitate common management and planning.

The wheels of change some-

times turn slowly, Walenciak said. There are still processes and titles that need to be worked out or clarified. He sees it as a chance to challenge and build the program in preparation for a vibrant, engaged future.

The joke has been going around campus administration that lobbying for this change was Walenciak's attempt at land-grabbing and empire-building. In reality, Walenciak said, he wanted to do it because of his desire to serve the students.

"Having a College of Business instead of a Division of Business does add some prestige," he said. "It creates a different impression. I want our students to be able to have pride in their program."

Eva Fast, instructor of business, said the biggest day-to-day change would be in the program's branding and building signage.

Fast's Principles of Marketing students are developing a marketing plan for the new college. She said it was a great chance for them to work on something that could realistically be used.

Fast said there will be a reception later in the semester to officially introduce the new college to the students.

Currently, one difference between the education and business colleges is that education graduate programs are still in-process. Graduate classes will not be of-

operating as a unified group. The current changes simply formalize and simplify the process. They also give people an opportunity to change tracks somewhat.

For example, Sandra Van Thiel, former chair of the education division, will be using this as a chance to step back from administration and go back to full-time teaching.

Van Thiel said it had not yet been decided who would take the job of overseeing the traditional undergraduate education program. Because of the restructuring, the role would be different than what hers had been, Thiel added.



fered until next fall, Gale said.

Gale said the change was important for the education programs because education is a complex, dynamic field. Thus the traditional undergraduate degree completion and graduate programs need to be aware of what the others are doing.

She said they had already been

Gale said she had been interested in moving toward an administrative role. She had been in charge of the education degree completion program, which is part of what made her a good choice for Associate Dean. During next school year, her main focus will be getting the graduate program up and running.

Students see worth of study by sharing with others

Esther Carey

News Editor

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Students may sometimes see scientific research as boring. Some students, however, are doing work which could eventually provide a remedy for cancer.

Six students traveled to Little Rock, Ark. for an opportunity to present research which they have worked on for at least a year.

The Feb. 15 event was the first Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics poster presentation for the state of Arkansas. Posters were set up in the rotunda of the capitol building.

While there, the students were able to talk about their research projects to people including state senators and representatives. The University's participation was facilitated in part by Brent Swearingen, coordinator of undergraduate scholarship.

Swearingen said one especially exciting part of the event happened to seniors Rebekah Henderson and Suyen Espinoza. Their project, entitled "Right-

handed and left-handed: A reaction in stereo," is one step in a process of an attempt to develop cells that can inhibit the growth of cancer. Espinoza said she and Henderson have been working on it for a year and a half. Espinoza said one of the people

who came to look at their poster pointed out one of the names in the reference list as his own. He was a professor from the University of Arkansas who had started the research project that Espinoza and Henderson were working on.

He read every detail of their poster and said they were doing a great job, Espinoza said. It was a little intimidating talking to him about their project, she added, because she realized that "he really knows this stuff!" He was able to tell the women what they needed to do to finish their research.

She added that being able to present their results to other people helped her to see that all of those hours in the lab were well worth it.

Swearingen said other states have had similar events, modeled on a presentation that takes place at

the Capitol in D.C. This was Arkansas' first year to hold such an

According to the presentation's

brochure, 80 students from 13 Arkansas colleges and universities participated. The day was a great opportuni-

ty for the University's students to present their work to people and to see what type of research other students are doing, Swearingen said.

'It is good for our University to communicate with elected officials and be able to demonstrate the research our students have done," he said. "It also gives us a chance to show that we care about the 'hand' part of our motto, not just the 'head'

part in the classroom." Swearingen said his wife Carla Swearingen, associate professor of chemistry, helped choose who would go. She asked the science faculty to nominate students, who

then submitted abstracts. He added that each school was guaranteed three slots at the presentation. The University submitted four projects, and all four were accepted by the event's organizers.

Swearingen said he was proud of all of the students' hard work. The event was definitely a success, with potential for growth, he added. He hopes that in the future the organizers will open it up to other fields as well.



Senior Amanda Hicks shares about her project on the interaction of an electrical current, a liquid and a magnetic field. Hicks and five other University students took part in a new presentation event in the rotunda of the Arkansas Capitol on Feb. 15.

VEGGIE continued

from Page 1

Vischer ended by praying that we all would "focus on a relationship with [God] rather than be con-

fused with our work for [God]." For sophomore Jessica Williams, Vischer's prayer made a big impact. After having her own plans change during her senior year of high school, Williams took a year off of school and focused on what the Lord was calling her to do.

"I had a dream to be a professional dancer," Williams said. "I was set up to go dance with a company and everything. But then I tore my hip flexor and was unable to dance for a while."

During the time that Williams was unable to dance, she rediscovered her passion for photography, and realized everything she could do with that. "I realized I have this dream to

make a difference with my photography for a reason," Williams said. "Chapel re-fired me to keep chasing my dream and to take advan-

tage of my resources here at JBU." Vischer encouraged sophomore Josh Kimmis in a different way.

Kimmis realized that because he is constantly focused on what other's needs are and how he can help his friends accomplish their dreams, he has lost his. Kimmis



Submitted by JBU COMMUNICATIONS

Phil Vischer, creator of VeggieTales, poses with students dressed as the characters he created and voiced. Vischer spoke in chapel on Feb. 21 for Leadership Week.

has found himself thinking over Mark 12:31, where Jesus tells his disciples to "love your neighbor as yourself.'

T've realized I give so much of myself away, which isn't a bad thing, but I'm denying myself,"

Kimmis said. "I'm learning to step

back and align what I want with what God wants." Vischer stated that knowing that

God made him an introvert for a reason was a good thing, and that it is important to listen to him before taking action.

Vischer now works over email

correspondence with many of his employees, instead of working with hundreds at a time. 'Just because I tried to be Walt

Disney, God didn't promise to take care of it. He promised to take care of me," Vischer said. Vischer noted there are several

different ways that God has given him "a clean sheet of paper." It is important, however, to always stay focused on what He wants for you. "God doesn't care how big your

impact is," Vischer said. "He cares about how big your obedience to him is."



MAGENTA PLATE **BLACK PLATE**

EDITORIAL

The Threefold Advocate

Calling all fans

LET'S SUPPORT THE HOME TEAM FOR THE TOURNAMENT

This is a scene we have repeated for two decades. Fans packing the stands for a game against a team we will undoubtedly crush. TV cameras recording our annual 15 minutes of fame. Fans in full body paint screaming at the top of their lungs. Toilet paper raining down onto the

In many ways, the TP Game defines us as a University. We put pictures of it on all our brochures and brag about being USA Today's best technical foul. Many prospective students and incoming freshman are led to believe that basketball is a big deal on campus. Unfortunately, this is not true. After the TP is cleaned up and the moment fades, so does our collective interest in basketball.

The Sooner Athletic Conference Tournament provides the perfect opportunity to prove our fandom, but based on our turnout this season, we have a lot of work to do.

Barely packing the stands for early-season out-of-conference teams is understandable. Having only half-full stands for a matchup against the number 3 ranked team in the country is not. This is the first time we have hosted the tournament, and it can be a huge advantage for us, but only if we show up. If we do not fill the stands to capacity at the tournament, then we are doing our school and our athletes a disservice. If the stands are not packed, then we will waste not only our best chance to impact our teams' seasons, but also our chance to create a tradition that lasts beyond the first points at the TP Game.

With Bill George Arena in its early years, the conference tournament has the potential to be its biggest event yet.

Every year, when our men's basketball team scores and the TP flies, the arena fills up with electricity usually reserved for places like Duke University's Cameron Indoor Stadium. Obviously the decibel and intensity levels are higher at larger universities, but for a few moments, despite our small size, we feel like a big-time basketball school. If we can translate even half of the atmosphere from the TP game to the tournament, then we can make Bill George a formidable place to play.

Endorse me not

A PLEA FOR CELEBRITIES TO KEEP THEIR POLITICS PRIVATE

Celebrities know how to create hype during election season.

Paris Hilton forgot to rock the vote when she failed to cast her ballot, despite of endorsing then-Senator Hillary Clinton in the 2008 presiden-

Just last week, Samuel L. Jackson raised some eyebrows when in an interview with Ebony Magazine admitted he voted for President Obama "because he was black."

With both of these incidents, The Threefold Advocate must ask if celebrity endorsements actually make a difference.

The math of endorsement is pretty simple. The public likes seeing their celebrities on television, therefore if celebrities say they like a product, in this case a candidate, people might like it as well. Endorsers use Hollywood stars because they believe we desire power and a connection to the famous. Though this sounds appealing, it might not be the case.

According to a CBS poll taken during the 2008 presidential elections, 78 percent of people expected celebrity endorsement to have "no effect on the election," while nine percent said endorsements would make people less likely to vote for a candidate.

The Threefold Advocate believes people should vote for a candidate based solely on their goals and achievements, not because their favorite

Take Hilton's case before she began supporting Clinton. While off camera in 2007, Larry King asked the ex-jailbird heiress when was the last time she voted. Her answer was "last year," according to msn.com. When King became baffled and asked in what election she voted in, her response was "presidential."

If celebrities choose to go down the endorsing route we believe they should possess the common skill to register. Hilton's solution is simple: do not endorse if you do not plan to vote. Stars should also be equipped with basic knowledge of what their candidate stands for before making any decision, something Jackson failed to do.

According to the New York Post, Jackson contended that Obama's message was of no importance since he believes most politicians will say anything to get elected. "I just hoped he would do some of what he said he was gonna do," Jackson said to TMZ.

Voting based on race is not the issue, it is about having concrete reasons on why your candidate is the best to serve in the White House.

The mutual relationship between celebrities and politics must stop. Instead of building a stronger image for their candidates these superstars may hinder their chances of winning by showing lack of knowlege.

Celebrities should step down from their pedestal and focus on at least getting to know the presidential candidates.

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.

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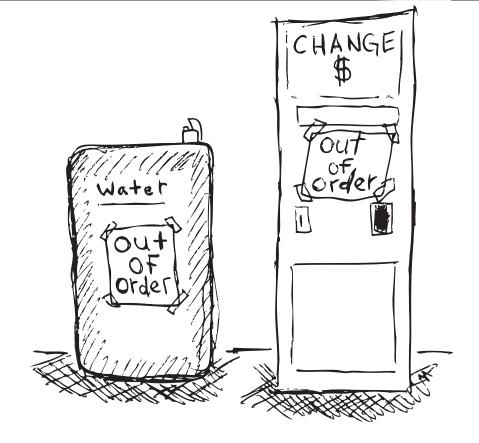
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SGA: constantly making metaphors of itself.

Dreams are worth pursuing



A.J. Miller

This Tuesday in Chapel, Phil Vischer talked about his climb to success with the company that makes VeggieTales, Big Idea. But after the horrendous theater ticket sales of "Jonah," a bad reception once the movie came out on DVD, and a legal case that left him bankrupt, he reached the conclusion that God pauses or drops your dreams sometimes so you can find out what is more important: him or those dreams

All this is well and good. The problem comes when Phil explains exactly what people are to do when they don't have a dream from God: nothing. I sincerely doubt that this is what he means. But it is what he said. In the end, Phil is right about dreams. They aren't the point. God is the point, always. He said that once we get so caught up in our dreams of things to do for God we lose sight of God himself. True.

But do nothing? There are times when God scraps our plans. I think that for whatever reason, he even scraps his own plans. At least to our eyes.

So what is left for us to do

when those dreams die? When I walked out of the Bill George Arena, part of me thought Phil was right - we need to just wait on God for his guidance. God is, after all, smarter than we are. But there was another part of me that thought he didn't quite

most nothing and no direction, we are still left with two things that we can do. The first thing I imagine Phil would agree to. Micah 6:8 sets out a simple

rule that applies to all of life. As

When God leaves us with al-



the English Standard Version puts it, "He has told you, O man, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" This doesn't mean a detailed plan to change the world. It is simple response to circumstances every day.

The second thing will be more controversial. I think we shouldn't scrap all dreams God doesn't definitively affirm.

The life of Joseph illustrates my point. The guy did not get many commands from God that we know of, but that doesn't mean he was not busy.

RUSSELL HIXSON / The Threefold Advocate

Joseph goes from getting sold into slavery to Pharoah's captain of the guard, to being thrown into prison for charges of sexual assault, to finally getting promoted to second in the kingdom in Egypt. Wherever he went his work was blessed, even if the poor guy didn't have a clue at the time how God would turn around all of the crap he was going through.

For over a year I've been dealing with depression. The way I started to get out of it was not receiving a revelation from God. In the end, it was a dream that helped me. It was not an all-consuming dream, just a little thought that after I left college I might pursue journalism and creative writing. I invested some time into developing these talents and interests that God had already put in me. I never stopped listening for God to tell me if I was going the right direction or if I needed to stop.

In the end, I believe the dream honored him and he confirmed that I was indeed going the right way.

I don't believe God requires us to always have definitive confirmation before we invest in something. What Phil did get right was that when we go down that road we need to always be listening.

Miller is a senior majoring in communication studies. She can be reached at MillerA@jbu.edu.

Making time for quality gifts



Foster Alley

The first time I heard Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" was a gift.

I had heard the piece's name before and was vaguely aware of Beethoven as a historical figure. I had caught chance snippets of the melody, but had no idea what the song was. I was friends with an expe-

rienced piano player, and when I hummed a few notes of the distinctive tune she knew it by heart. She played it for me, then and there, at no cost. Listening to her play that song was helplessly and hauntingly beautiful. In the time since, I have learned the difference between a gift and a

I have since found that I can

go on YouTube and find thousands of renditions of this same

You can choose from professional recordings, high school recitals and some pretty funky dubstep remixes.

Many of these recordings are artfully and uniquely done. Some of them represent the absolute pinnacle of professional playing, done by master scholars who bring more out of the piece than I can possibly comprehend.

I do not need to know anything about the artist to enjoy the piece; in fact, the artist is inconsequential. The work itself is all that I have to care about. Each of these pieces, just like my friends, costs me absolutely nothing. However, not one of the infi-

nite sound clips I hound through can ever strike me the same as that friend exercising her skill in a drab piano practice room.

No matter how masterful a product it may be, it can never be anything more than a product, an object to be consumed. I control it. I can find a piece, listen, pause, replay (or not) as I please. But it will never quite please me. It is free and available, but is not

I lost touch with that piano friend, and with her I lost her gift. When this happened, I found that I cannot create any substitute for

I can have at my fingertips the exact same product, but I was not given a product. I was given a gift, something someone else had mastered, created and then personally given to me. That gift has been taken away.

what had been given to me.

I believe the meaning of life is found in gifts. It is found in their pursuit, in their giving and receiving. The Son of Man was himself a gift to mankind, infinitely beyond being earned, demanded or created.

The moment you control something, it ceases to have power over you. When something can be possessed on command, it devalues.

Do not believe this world is so small that you can demand all you wish from it, or you will kill its best gifts to you.

Alley is a junior majoring in management. He can be reached at AlleyF@jbu.edu.

MAGENTA PLATE

Why I support the DREAM

Debunking the myths and explaining the impact of the DREAM Act



Don Balla

Last week The Threefold Advocate ran my column describing the details of the DREAM Act. Today's piece explains why I support this proposed legislation and why I ask students to become politically involved in helping it pass.

The DREAM Act attempts to undo the harm caused by existing immigration policy that seeks to drive away undocumented immigrants by making their lives intolerable.

Part of the strategy calls for punishing the sons and daughters of undocumented immigrants to remove the incentive of entering the United States to provide a better future for their children.

President Obama during primary debates in 2008 supported the DREAM Act. He wanted to provide relief for "children, who, through no fault of their own, are here, but have essentially grown up as Americans. I do not want two classes of citizens in this country."

No country in the world supports the concept of punishing children of wrongdoers as an effective method of deterring crime. No other crime gets the punish-the-children treatment. If you rob to feed your children, our laws do not sanction your children to make you stop steal-

The arguments for this punishment do not convince me.

The Crime-of-Being Argument: "They become criminals once they turn 18."

There is no such crime in

U.S. law, nor can there be. The Supreme Court has ruled that there may be no crimes of mere existence. Crimes must require a bad behavior.

The Tainted Argument: "Law defines them as illegal, so we may punish them." It is so easy for legislature to taint any group that our Constitution forbids these Bills of Attainder. (Attainder means taintedness.)

If Congress were to declare Christian university students as

illegal, could society then inflict them with limitless sanctions? The constitutional answer is NO.

The Collateral Damage Argument: This is the argument I hear the most. "They shouldn't be here. It's not our fault. We did not intend our law to have this result. We never wanted these kids here. If their parents hadn't brought them to America, we wouldn't have had to oppress them."

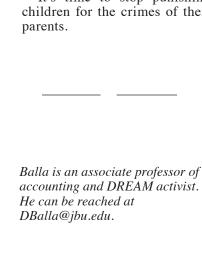
The Torture Argument: "If we don't punish their children, more illegal immigrants will come." It's the argument we use to justify torture. We know it's wicked, but we get such good results from doing so.

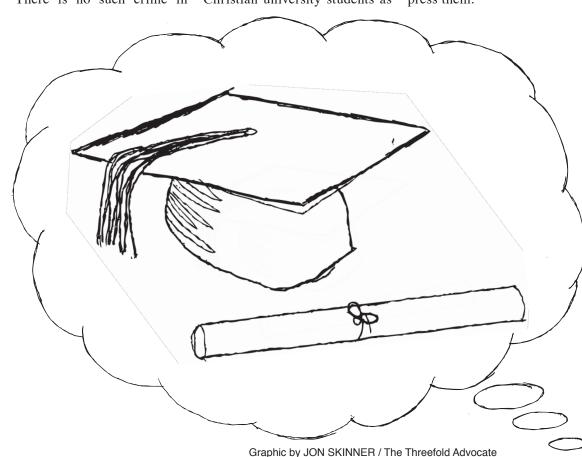
Opponents to the DREAM Act, such as Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-CO), call it an amnesty, and in some respects it is. However, to the extent that amnesty forgives past wrongs, the DREAM Act is not an amnesty. These children have committed no wrongs.

Current bills in the Senate and House of Representatives both have provisions that make the DREAM Act a one-time event. When you write your congressmen, please ask them to rewrite the act so that it applies to innocent children from this time forward.

There are no valid arguments to justify punishing these chil-

It's time to stop punishing children for the crimes of their parents.





For the love of semi-colons Gone with the wash



Jamie Odom

It's time that someone stood up for the semi-colon: the most majestic punctuation mark of them all. You may be thinking But no one understands the semi-colon! Is it a comma? Is it a colon? Nobody knows!"

Worry not. Like the supremely functional spork, the ingenious combination of the spoon and the fork, the semi-colon functions as a half-breed spawn of the colon and the comma.

Now when a colon loves a comma very, very much...no, no. We won't go there; you get

"But when is the proper time to use a semi-colon?" you might ask. Well, I'll tell you. When you find yourself with two related independent clauses, feel free to employ a semi-colon to combine them.

For instance, consider the following two sentences: Semicolons are dangerous and scary. They make little children cry. Because both of these clauses can function as sentences apart from each other and they are related to each other through the same subject matter, they can cleanly be combined: "semi-colons are dangerous and scary; they make little children cry."

While you still have two short independent statements, they are now disguised as a suave compound sentence.

It is a little-known fact about the semi-colon that while the subject matter must be consistent, the two independent clauses do not need to continue in the same thought.

Allow me to demonstrate this idea. Jonnie loves to sprinkle his research papers and journal entries with all sorts of obscure punctuation marks; Emily does not. In this case, the subject matter is not the subject of the main sentence, Jonnie. Rather, the subject is, all sorts of obscure punctuation.

So, instead of the second branch of the sentence being something like, he thinks they are some sort of intellectual

symbol, it was free to go off and hook up with the different sub-

ject, Emily. While the semi-colon is a fun-loving, free-wheeling sort of punctuation mark, it is not to be abused. If it realizes that you have wielded its powers to combine two non-cohesive sentences (known as a non sequitur, or an irrelevant piece of information), it will turn its mighty au-

thority against you. A silly, but obvious example of a non-sequitur would be something to the effect of Playing Twister in the dark never turns out well; red paint goes quite nicely with pale blue furnishings. If caught red-penned, you will be mocked by your friends and colleagues for your foolish semi-colon conduct: the half-breed punctuation will have its revenge.

Treat it well though, casually slide it into an appropriate position, and the semi-colon will earn its users great respect and admiration.

Odom is a junior majoring in English. She can be reached at OdomJ@jbu.edu.



Mikael Seamans

We all know that JBU students can't help but complain about the campus food service.

But, really? It costs two dollars and fifty cents to wash and dry clothes? As a resident of JBU, I believe that there has to be a better solution for the laundry services on campus. Doing laundry on campus is inconvenient. As busy students, we need to be able to do our laundry without any

"Do honors students and duplex residents really get 'free laundry'? The money has to come from somewhere, and we want answers."

Providing services for students whose rooms are cluttered with dirty laundry could be much more convenient. Whether Mom does your laundry when you go home or not, doing laundry at this college is irritating. There are several problems with the current laundry situation on campus. The first problem is the cost.

Not only do we have to scrounge around for quarters, but the dryers don't dry well enough during one cycle. This requires students to pay an extra dollar to start the dryer again. The washers that are provided, costing a dollar and fifty cents per load, are small and don't hold much. This forces students to wash multiple loads of laundry, costing students even more money.

Another problem with laundry services on campus is the lack of

machines. Walking into the laundry room and finding clothes spread out in full view of everyone is humiliating. Who wants to approach a washer with a pair of stained underwear on top of it? Students that need to get their laundry done are often forced to touch other people's laundry. We have to pick up other people's slack when they don't keep up with and leave it unattended and

sitting in a machine. Because it is winter, students dress in layers, which creates more dirty clothes and more loads of laundry. Someone might not notice if one of their peers is wearing the same pair of jeans twice in one week, but when a recently worn t-shirt or sweater is repeated it becomes risky busi-

ness. Let's face the facts. Everyone's mother has made the comment about the immense amount of laundry that her child begs to bring home every possible chance. Let's save some gas money and fix this problem where it

Finally, the campus machines have a repulsive and disgusting problem: they are filled with mysterious gunk. Finding someone else's hair or used bandage, from a previous load, tangled in a zipper or caught on a sweater is not a pretty sight.

This whole inconvenience can be easily resolved. The washers and dryers need to be cleaned. How do I suggest I solve the problems with campus laundry? The money that we save from having the aerators—the things on our faucets— and our recycling could be used to help fund "free campus laundry."

Do the honors students and the students that live in the duplexes really get "free laundry?" The money to fund this "free" service has to come from somewhere, and we want answers.

We can all agree that there is little hope for the food in the cafeteria, but our laundry still has a fighting chance.

Seamans is a sophomore majoring in public relations. He can be reached at SeamansM@jbu.edu.

got opinions?

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MAGENTA PLATE CYAN PLATE

LIFESTYLES

The Threefold Advocate

Establishing roots at Ability Tree



ABBY CHESTNUTThreefold Advocate

Junior Maria Alecio dedicates her free time with the children of Ability Tree. The organization helps to provide for special needs children of Northwest Arkansas through arts and crafts, reading, therapy and more. As a part of the REST program, parents can drop off their children while experts and volunteers interact through games and songs. Occasionally special guests such as the local firemen or petting zoo stop by to join the fun.

Russell Hixson

Editor-in-Chief HixsonR@jbu.edu

The front door of the center was guarded by an 11-year-old named Luke. He sat cross legged on a chair licking a heaping spoonful of yapill

Luke. He sat cross legged on a chair licking a heaping spoonful of vanilla pudding—one of his favorite treats to eat every day after school. The mop headed boy smiled at every one who came into the center.

Luke was ushered by volunteers

past the offices and back into the main room. It was full of laughter, yelling and children of all ages.
Trampolines, TVs and every kind of toy a kid's paradise created.

JBU Freshman Kat Hollingsworth sat on the carpet passing toy cars back and forth with 7-year-old Carlos. Each time the tow truck reached his hands he giggled hysterically.

Luke has Down's syndrome and Carlos has autism. They are two of the many children being helped by the Ability Tree, a center in downtown Siloam Springs dedicated to helping families with special needs children.

"I like working with special needs kids," said Hollingsworth.
"They are always so happy." Carlos ran over and planted a kiss on her cheek, though they have only known each other for one afternoon.

It's her first day volunteering at

Ability Tree during its first week of after school programs. Hollingsworth is one of 38 University students volunteering at Ability Tree.

The ministry was started by Joe Butler. Shortly after turning two,

Joe's son Micah seemed to be developing slowly. He was having trouble sleeping, eating and walking. After he had a seizure, Micah was diagnosed with autism and cerebral palsy.

Butler and his wife Jen found that being parents of a special needs child had its own unique challenges. He explained that many parents of special needs children socialize little, have high medical costs and have to focus much of their time on their special needs child rather than the siblings. Few churches have staff trained to care for special needs children or programs for them and there is no other ministry in Siloam Springs designed for children with Down's syndrome, autism or other disabilities.

With no faith-based special needs

care in the area, the Butlers decided it was their life's calling to provide it. Ability Tree is their non-denomi-

national, non-profit response.

It offers arts and crafts, reading therapy, sensory rooms, training and more. This is all part of their REST philosophy. It stands for recreation, education, support and training. The Butlers know first-hand how parenting children with special needs can be challenging and they hope to provide these families with rest.

The facility was opened last summer and just began an after-school program. Parents can drop off their special needs children and their siblings Monday through Thursday after school. There they are supervised by experts and volunteers. There are games, songs and sometimes special guests like local firemen or Gentry

Safari.

While it may seem like there are plenty of volunteers, Butler explained that special needs children often need a one-to-one ration of people supervising, and on one of their busier nights this could mean fifteen or more volunteers. He encouraged more JBU students to get involved by filling out an applica-

Butler also encouraged families with special needs children to take advantage of this free service and to take a break from their busy lives. The after school program is Monday to Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30

To contact the center call 479-373-6003, go to abilitytree.org or visit its facility at 300 East Main Street in downtown Siloam.

Reinforcing beauty through film

Kelsey Gulliver

GulliverK@jbu.edu

Staff Writer

Beauty Creates Beauty was born

with creativity at its heart.

It all began last March at a coffee shop when JBU graduates Henry Trejo and Adam Harbottle ran into each other. As they began to talk, the duo realized their mutual desire to educate the people of Northwest Arkansas on the issue of human trafficking. After that conversation "things just kind of happened," Trejo described.

After the details began to fall into place and two other JBU graduates, Kyle McCarthy and Phil Roberts, joined the group.

This month, four John Brown University graduates embark on a journey that takes them throughout South East Asia—including Cambodia, Thailand and the Philippines.

The team is working with area non-profits and also, as their website states, filming their experiences to, "help inform people of the issue of sex slavery in Southeast Asia in hopes to help end sex trafficking and restore beauty in Southeast Asia."

Short term, they are providing promotional media help to the non-

profits they are working with, and art supplies for local kids. Long term, they want to continue to support and enable the non-profits that are reaching out to children through music, art, and dance.

As Trejo put it, they want the kids, for example, to "be wedding photographers instead of prostitutes."

Since they arrived in Poi Pet, Cambodia a few weeks ago, the team has grown to be very flexible, very fast. "It's just been overwhelming and complex; everything we thought we'd see is not happening," said Trejo. But he is also assured that, "We're just where God wants us to be."

While they had originally planned to produce a full-length documentary, the team is now leaning towards releasing several separate shorts. The first one is available on the web at beautycreatesbeauty.com.

The video, which is around two and a half minutes long, shows the team taking instant pictures of kids at a Cambodian school. It was something they had planned to do, but something that turned out better than they could have expected.

For many of the kids, it was the first photo of themselves they had

ever possessed- a single shot with the word "beautiful" written on the bottom edge.

The team has learned that in a country where they can't say anything other than "hello," actions speak louder than words, and that it takes a long time for people to feel

And during fun, spontaneous moments like when Trejo had an impromptu drum-off with a little girl on the side of the street, they have also learned the value of simply being available and being a friend.

"The small things make a huge difference in places like these," he explained.

According to their website, sextrafficking is a \$32 billion business each year, affecting some 600,000-800,000 people who are forced across international borders.

Trejo described the countries and their people as fragile. "Everyone puts on the façade of being beautiful, even when it's uncomfortable," he said. "Letting them know that they are beautiful naturally, that's been one of the most beautiful things."

So far he calls his experience both a beautiful and humbling one.



FACEBOOK PHOTO

The Beauty Creates Beauty team takes pictures of Cambodian children while visiting a school in Poi Pet. The crew proceeded to write the word, "beautiful" at the bottom of the photo and told the children reasons why they were beautiful.

LIFESTYLES

'Force' greater than 3D world

A.J. Miller

Staff Writer MillerA@jbu.edu

Star Wars fans gathered in Cinemark Theater in Tulsa, Okla. for the midnight premiere of "Star Wars: The Phantom Menace" in 3D on Feb. 10.

Many sported Jedi robes and light sabers. As the room grew dark, the lightsabers lit up the room and the show began.

In the middle of the movie, the theater had some trouble with the screen and actually had to stop the showing while they took care of the problem. One theater-goer cried, "Lightsaber duel after the movie!" Another shouted, "They can't stop us all!" Two Jedi then made a scene of it battling it out near the big screen until the manager came out and the warriors decided to go back to their seats.

This was the scene as described by Andrea Good, witnessed by her and a group of other John Brown University students at the theater

According to "The Hollywood Reporter," George Lucas intends to re-release all of the films in 3D, starting with Episode I, which was released on Feb. 10, and releasing episodes II through VI numeric order, one every year.

Over the years, George Lucas has made many changes to the films in previous releases, from musical interludes to small plot changes that would not necessitate additional act-

Some changes have been fairly minor, like fixing a reflection in a window in Cloud City. Other changes have been more substantial and sometimes controversial. One of these changes occurred in one of the final scenes of Episode VI, when Luke Skywalker sees the ghostly presence of Obi-Wan Kenobi, Yoda and Anakin Skywalker watching him as the people celebrate the fall of the Empire. Lucas chose to switch out Anakin Skywalker's ghost, originally played by Sebastian Shaw – the man



STEPHANIE WILLIS/Threefold Advocate

George Lucas fans break out their robes and light sabers for the midnight premiere of Start Wars: The Phantom Menace in 3D on Feb 10. According to "The Hollywood Reporter," Lucas plans to re-release all the films in 3D in numerical order, one every year.

who plays the part when Luke Skywalker pulls off Vader's mask – with the younger Hayden Christensen, the actor who plays Anakin Skywalker in Episodes II and III.

Senior Alicia Dill, who studies digital media, said that she respects that a director can have something that he was not happy with and want to change it, but since the Star Wars franchise has received such wide acclaim as is, she said, "I think he should also respect that people like what it is now." Dill largely derided Lucas's controversial decisions. Lucas inserted Vader crying, "no" as he hurled Emperor Palpatine to his death. On this, Dill's opinion was

simple. "That's just dumb."

Dill also explained that she felt that Lucas's greater access to technology in his later films and re-releases often hurt more than it helped. She said that she felt that great ideas on a lower budget can actually force creators to condense stories to a richer

Steve Snediker, a professor of digital cinema, talked about how Lucas was working with the new 3D. Basically, when "The Phantom Menace" was made, the normal technology that people use to create a 3D image simply was not there. So, those working on the movie had to improvise to create a 3D world.

"I think [3D technology] is a fad," Snediker said. "I think it's another phase of something new and innovative that sells movie tickets. They charge three to four dollars more per ticket for 3D, so they're making more money."

Junior Chase Skelton, studying graphic and web design, had a ticket to go with the JBU students who saw the movie in Tulsa, but at the last minute couldn't make it. Skelton said when "The Phantom Menace" came out for the first time in theaters, his dad actually pulled him out of school to go see it. Skelton was excited about the re-releasing of the films in chronological order. He also said he

liked 3D, but that it could give him a headache if he watched it too much. "It's new and it's cool, but the film industry as we know it is still the same." Skelton said he believed 3D would stay just an add-on and not a necessity for film.

Snediker said it was a good time to be involved in digital cinema, since the technology is more accessible. Even so, he said, the greatest stories can be told without the newest camera or computer technology, as long as the creator knew how to tell the story well. "

Story still trumps the technology, he ended.



Senior Sadie Utter melts crayons over a white canvas, a craft she found on the virtual bulletin board, Pinterest. Projects like these give Utter a chance to fellowship with friends.

TALENT continued

Adele herself. The groups'

voices melded as one in gorgeous

The show returned after the inter-

mission with the 1994 Synchronized

Swimming World Championships.

The lovely ladies absolutely capti-

and incredible underwater moves,

not to mention their stunning flex-

the swimmers had us rolling in our

ibility. With brilliant prop work,

vated us with their black light magic

from Page 1

harmony.

Pinning relationships with projects

Anali Reyes

Lifestyles Editor

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She is the new social phenomenon that is giving the other websites a run for their money.

Pinterest, the online virtual board that allows users to share interesting ideas found on the web, has not only revolutionized the way bookmarking is done but has also managed to create a new way to connect with friends.

According to entrepreneur. com, the online bulletin board has reached wild growth since its launch in 2010. By the end of the last year the website recorded over 7 million individual visitors, up 1.6 million from September.

Resident director of Mayfield Sarah Erdman, testifies that the sudden boom of the website has encouraged her to meet with friends once a week as they unite a craft together.

Since receiving her virtual invitation to gain access to the site in October, Erdman has given second

life to common household objects, like the vintage serving tray she crafted from installing handles to an old chalkboard which she uses to serve the new flavor of chai tea introduced to her by a resident as-

Senior Sadie Utter has also pinned the word productivity as it has given her several occasions to get together with housemates to build memories while creating treasured keepsakes. She jumped on the Pinterest bandwagon last fall and since then has stumbled across simple recipes, scripture quotes and inspiring photography.

Just like Erdman, Utter said it has helped her to keep a strong communication with long distance friends who are in the process of planning a wedding. Utter, who will be a bridesmaid this summer, said it has become a helpful tool when finding beautiful decorations.

"Whenever I find good idea that is inexpensive I just post it on one of their boards and continue to exchange ideas that way," she said.

One of the last projects she tackled with a group has received positive feedback due to its simplicity that any college student can design

without breaking the bank. "It's melting colors on a canvas with a blow dryer," she said. "It something cheap that is great to do with people you haven't seen in a

while," she said. Apart from the intriguing recipes and crafts provided from Pinterest, both Utter and Erdman can agree that the website is not one dimensional, like other social mediums.

"Facebook can so often limit you to conversations online but [Pinterest] in a way is allowing face-to-face communication avoiding fakeness from occurring and showing others who you really

are," Erdman said. She also believes that the bulletin board serves as a way to "encourage girls" to think on deep issues though different kinds of blogs, including ministry and true beauty blogs. In the future Erdman said she would like to create an opportunity for all the girls in her building to fellowship through the art of crafting.

On a slightly more serious note,

freshmen Josh McAlister and Landon Miles recaptured our attention with a medley of lovely, familiar tunes. McAlister's voice presented his songs to the audience as if presenting them with jars of captured memories, and the piano

Afterward was a large group of musicians performing "Gypsy King," a cacophonous number written by senior Adam Howard, who

and guitar work, gained confidence

and strength later in the duration of

calls himself the Duke of Norfolk. His loyal band carried the day when it came to a performance that was enjoyable to watch, giving their audience the urge to get up and dance.

Stanley (Static) Brown took back the stage for a solo number, called "Lord Set Me Free." Backed by Hebrew vocals on an autotuner, Brown rapped his soul to a beat wreathed in humility. His message was honest and clear: there is nothing a man can do without God.

Following him was a decided change of pace. Jared DeFriese of

Panic Bear retook the stage with fellow sophomore Allison Harper, singing a sweet song reminiscent of chapel worship. They crooned a simple harmony while the fantastic light crew created a sunrise behind them, reminding us all of summer love songs.

Last, but by no means least, iRobot set before their audience the

techno-pop mix that whacked the

audience over the collective head with visual perfection. The audience

coolest dance number since Thriller. Their moves were stunning set to a

was begging for more as this tooshort phenomenon left the stage.

After two shows, the votes were in. In the talent category: Third place was Summer Love Song, second place was 1921 and first place was awarded to Gypsy King.

In the Variety category: Third place went to We Are Here Because You Are Good to Us, second place was Samuel Cornejo and first place was awarded to the 1994 Synchronized Swimming World Champion-



BLACK PLATE

the act.

Page 8

SPORTS

JBU looks to go big, come home

Sidney Van Wyk

Sports Editor

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The Golden Eagles will take on Science and Arts of Oklahoma and Southern Nazarene this weekend for the last two games of the regu-

wins this weekend, their position will be secured for the Sooner Athletic Conference Tournament on If the teams are tied going into

the SAC Tournament, Rogers will in the tie-breaker since they beat JBU twice earlier in the season.

was threatened last weekend after a 87-59 loss to Mid-America Christian on Thursday night. This loss was JBU's worst of the season and broke their eight-game winning

The Eagles came back from this loss on the road to beat Oklahoma City 71-68. It was a close match,

by fellow senior forward Andy Garcia with 11.6 points per game. Garcia leads in rebounds with 7.5 per game followed by Miller with

Miller also leads JBU in steals and rebounds while Garcia leads in

SAC Men's Basketball Conference Standings

- 1. Oklahoma Baptist
- 2. John Brown
- 3. Rogers State
- 4. Southern Nazarene
- 5. Oklahoma Christian
- 6. USAO 7. Lubbock Christian
- 8. Oklahoma City
- 9. MACU
- 10. Northwestern
- 11. Wayland Baptist
- 12. Saint Gregory's

record of 14-12, 10-10 in confer-The last time USAO and JBU

met, the game ended in a six point win for the Eagles. After JBU faces USAO, they

will take to the road to face No. 29 SNU on Saturday for their final game of the regular season. The Storm are currently fourth in the SAC with a record of 20-8,

13-7 in conference. Earlier this season JBU, SNU and Rogers State (Texas) were all tied for the second seed in the SAC.

This game will the Storm's last chance to move up in the conference before post-season play begins. Sheehy said SNU is a very athletic team with a strong offense.

Junior guard Ryan Aaron is currently SNU's leading scorer with 15.7 points per game followed by senior guard Daniel White 13.2. Sophomore forward Horace McGloster leads the Storm in rebounds with 6.6 per game followed

by White with 5.9. Their last game resulted in a 75-

61 win for the Golden Eagles. The Eagles will face USAO tonight at 8 p.m.



SETH KAYE/THREEFOLD ADVOCATE

Head men's basketball coach Clark Sheehy talks to the JBU men's basketball team during their game last weekend against Oklahoma Christian. JBU beat OCU with a final score of 71-68. Sheehy said he was impressed with the way the team came out and played hard after their nearly 30 point loss the Thursday before against Mid-America Christian.

JBU is No. 13 in the NAIA and are second in the Sooner Athletic Conference with a record of 22-6, 14-6 in conference.

If the Eagles, who are currently tied with Rogers State (Okla.) in the conference, can get two more

playing for something," said men's head coach Clark Sheehy. He also said the SAC commissioner and other coaches in the conference said this is the most balanced the teams have ever been.

Their position in the tournament with 15 points per game followed

with 13 ties over the course of the game with each team never leading by more than five points.

After last weekend's contests, senior forward Adrian Miller continues to be JBU's leading shooter is USAO's freshman forward Kyle Hunt, averaging 10.6 per game. Hunt is also USAO's leading scorer with 18 points per game.

The Eagles will face USAO tonight at home. The Drovers are currently sixth in the SAC with a

The man with the Golden Eagle voice

Jenny Redfern

Staff Writer redfernj@jbu.edu

He usually arrives to the games about 40 minutes early. After grabbing a bite to eat, he seeks out the head coaches of the visiting teams for their starting line-

"Everything is on a really tight schedule and you are tied to that game clock," said 25-year-old Jonathan VerHoeven. "When that thing rings down to zero, everybody better be ready to play, and that means my stuff better be together before then."

VerHoeven, who serves as the public address announcer for the John Brown University home basketball games said he is at the mercy of the clock when preparing all his notes for the game. The 2006 JBU alumnus

from Springdale, Ark., has grown up around college sports, especially basketball. He credits his love for the game due to the attending Lady Razorback games with his father playing the sport through out high school. "Going to all those games, you

get used to hearing the announcer, and I always thought it would be fun to do," he added. During his junior year he

worked in the media relations' department as part of the workstudy program. When the men's basketball team won the national championship in 2005, VerHoeven wrote a round-up article for the alumni magazine "The Brown

Former athletic director Bob Burns asked if he would be interested in taking over the sports information director part-time while

they looked for a full-time replacement his senior year. When the basketball announcer also graduated that year, VerHoeven asked if he could tack on public address announcing from inside the arena.

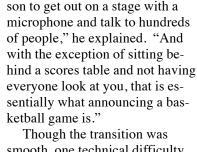
He shared the responsibilities of basketball announcer with JBU alumnus Malachi Crane and would usually announce the women's basketball games before running back to his office to write a press release.

When the University hired Simeon Hinsey as full-time sports information director in 2006, Ver-Hoeven relinquished most of his

responsibilities but kept his position as basketball announcer.

The transition to announcer went more smoothly than Ver-Hoeven predicted. He said he fit right into it, which was ironic because he is not particularly inclined to public speaking.

"I'm not the most likely per-



smooth, one technical difficulty that stood out to VerHoeven was the 2009 toilet paper game. After a player dunked the ball on the first play of the game, the crowd was so loud that the noise was feeding back into his mike.

"I started to yell his name, and I was immediately squashed out by this screeching feedback," he said with a laugh.

Despite the difficulties, it is being in the middle of the action that keeps VerHoeven coming back every home game.

Currently, VerHoeven is now an author who works full-time in Christian ministry in Fayetteville but occasionally makes trips up to campus to catch and sometimes announce the games.

Head men's basketball coach Clark Sheehy has known VerHoeven for years and said he was and still continues to play a big part in what the teams do, and women's head coach Jeff Soderquist said VerHoeven has the best voice in the Sooner Athletic Con-"The thing that makes him

special is he is a true fan," Sheehy said. "He loves JBU sports, so I think he takes pride in what he does and does it very well." But how long does this true

fan plan on sticking around and announcing games? "I will do it as long as they let

me," he said. "I absolutely love it.'



JBU's basketball announcer Jonathan VerHoeven began announcing for the Golden Eagles during his senior year as a JBU student in 2006

SPORTS

Women hope to clinch tourney spot

scorer is freshman Paige

ing 14.5 points per

game, followed

by freshman Lib-

erty Payne with

10 points

Pullman

game.

Sidney Van Wyk

Sports Editor wyks@jbu.edu

The Lady Eagles will face Science and Arts of Oklahoma tonight before returning home on Saturday to take on Southern Nazarene (Okla.) for their final regular season game.

They need to secure their place as eighth in the Sooner Athletic Conference this weekend.

If JBU falls to ninth, they will not continue to post-season play, which begins on March 1, in the Bill George Arena.

While the Lady Eagles could end their season with the same season record of Wayland Baptist University (Texas), JBU only needs to win one game this weekend to keep their position because JBU has won more games against higher ranked teams then WBU.

If the Lady Eagles win both games though, there is a possibility that they could take seventh in conference depending on the win/ loss record that over teams in the conference have this weekend. JBU has been holding on to ninth

in conference for most of the season until they began to gain momentum in the last two weeks.

JBU currently has a record of 14-14, 8-12 in conference after a 56-41 loss to No.1 Oklahoma Christian on Saturday night. Women's head coach Jeff

Soderquist said the Lady Eagles still have room to improve though he is very pleased with how they have played in the last seven

"We have done a good job to put ourselves where we are at and now we just have to finish the job," said Soderquist.

The loss on Saturday night came after the Lady Eagles won on the road against Mid-America Christian with a final score of 60-

Moriah Richett

The men's basketball game dur-

ing family weekend was great... Ex-

cept for the group of JBU students

sitting in front of us. While JBU's

noying sometimes, they're usually

interesting. This was not the case.

This weekend I was slightly embar-

tempting to go to the Oklahoma City

Mirriam-Webster defines "sports-

manship" as the conduct involving

a sense of fairness, respect for one's

opponent, and graciousness in winning or losing while participating

in a sport." The Golden Eagles did

there wouldn't be a game. They do

their best to be fair. Maybe we don't

agree with certain calls, but we can't

disagree with every single one. We

Respect the Refs. Without them,

fine with that, but the fans are an-

team's coach and apologize on be-

half of the rest of the JBU fans.

rassed to be a JBU fan. Towards

the end of the game, it was very

just funny and make the games more

unofficial cheer squad can be an-

CONTRIBUTOR

Sportsmanship

in the stands too

Last weekend's 1-1 split allowed JBU to keep their eight seed in the SAC.

If the Lady Eagles drop any farther in the conference standings, they will also not continue to the Sooner Athletic Conference Tournament.

JBU's current leading scorer is sophomore guard Sierra Shipley averaging 11.7 points per game, followed by redshirt sophomore guard Jessica Berlin with 11.

Senior forward Chelsea Garrison and freshman forward Mor-

gan Ankrom each have 4.8 rebounds per game to lead JBU in rebounds. The Lady Eagle's have become more consistent offensively, which has

games. Their defense, which has been fairly strong all year, will also have to play well this weekend against USAO's and SNU's top scorers.

and one should accept responsibility

Respect the opposing team.

It's just a game. We aren't debating

a life-or-death issue. Even if we

were, being rude and demeaning

is not the response that's going to

get results. Mirroring the opposing

team's coaches is amusing. Yelling

"left, right, left, right, sit down" is

fun, especially when the player on

grin. Counting their dribbles on free

Make our team proud. If you

throws is fine, but being rude is out

were playing on the team, would

you want the other team to subcon-

sciously base their opinion of you

fans? The Golden Eagles play hard,

and it's not fair to them if we as fans

not all JBU students are Christians.

someone be able to tell that you are

a believer by how you cheer? Booing the refs and yelling demeaning

things at players on the other team

isn't exactly a way to let your light

I'm not saying you shouldn't

be excited and enthusiastic at JBU

sporting events. If we all sat there

in silence, it wouldn't be much fun!

Luke 6:31 says: "Do to other as you

would have them do to you." What I

But if you are a Christian, would

Christ Over All. I recognize that

from a small group of loud, rude

give them a bad name.

the other team is trying to hide a

brought them five wins

out of their last seven

USAO's leading

and move on.

of question.

Their leading rebounder is junior Tashina Ototivo with 7 rebounds per game, followed by Payne with 4.5.

USAO has a season record of 5-22, 2-18 in conference.

of the conference standings.

The last time JBU and USAO met, the Lady Eagles picked up a 65-56 win on the road.

Soderquist said USAO has to very good players, one is very versitle and the other is a three-point shooter who gains momentum.

SNU, who will play the Lady Eagles on Saturday, are third in the conference with a record of 21-7, 15-5 in the SAC. Soderquist described th Storm

a "the opposite od USAO" because of their depth. SNU is also very good

> inside and outside on their offense. Four of their conference losses were against the top two teams in the SAC. The fifth was ear-

> > Junior Oumoul Thiam is the Storm's leading scorer with 13.6 points per game followed by senior Logan Martin with 13. Senior Abbey

lier this season to JBU.

Marra is their leading rebounder with 8.9 per game followed by fellow senior Sharmeda Johnson

Tonight's game against USAO will begin at 6 p.m. in the Bill

MAX GRUBB/THREEFOLD ADVOCATE

They are also at the bottom George Arena. SAC comes to Siloam

with 3.4.

SAC continued from Page 1

Director Bob Burns and many

of former men's head coach John Sheehy's old friends. "All of these guys were following athletics when they were here and

they want to help," said Daugherty. Volunteers are helping with concessions, selling tickets at the gate, handling all-access and media passes, monitoring doors, guest services and baking food for the hospitality

never got to experience this and now

There will also be students running the live video feed of all of the tournament games along with multiple outside radio broadcast crews.

The Athletic Department also choreographs when each team is playing and what referees are officiating which games.

With the top eight men's and women's teams converging on Siloam Springs for the tournament, volunteers will not be the only members of the greater Siloam Springs community that will be affected.

"There are 16 teams and their fans coming to this area. I can imagine that hotels and resturaunts are going to see a tremendous impact. our hope is that many of them will stay local and eat," said Daugherty.

The teams are staying in hotels in Siloam Springs and Springdale and local businesses will likely see increased traffic the weekend of the

"I'm amazed at our community presence," said Sports Information Director Simeon Hinsey about fans at regular season games, "What I'm dissapointed about sometimes is our student section. I want to see our

students step up to the plate." A good turnout from the students could make home court even more

advantageous, according to Hinsey. With the playoffs at home for the first time, John Brown students and community members will experience playoff basketball like never









are all humans and our team isn't am saying is to be respectful. That's perfect—we ALL make mistakes all. It's not that difficult. Insensitive Moments in Sports

This month a writer at ESPN posted a racist headline on their website for an article about Jeremy Lin, the first Chinese-American leader in the NBA. The writer has since then been fired from ESPN after apologizing to Lin and to ESPN.

In 2007, CBS fired Don Imus after he made derogetory

women's bsaketball team. The Rutger's team said the comments "overshadowed" their great acheivement that night when they upset U of T.

comments about the Rutgers

Flyer's forward Wayne Simmonds, one of the only black

players in the NHL, had a

banana thrown at him during

Simmonds appeared to shout a homophobic slur at Ranger's forward Sean Avery. Simmonds did not deny the accusations.

sitive jokes about broadcaster

Lyons had been suspended in

Lou Piniella's Hispanic heritage.

the preseason. A week later,

Fox announcer Steve Lyons was fired in 2006 after making insen-

Shawn Green when Green did not play during Yom Kippur.

2004 for comments made about

In 2000 the Brave's closer John Rocker said the main thing he disliked about New York City was the "foreigners" along with many other remarks about other

social groups.

SAC Women's Basketball Conference Standings

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



EJ McWoods Men's **Basketball**

Junior EJ McWoods is leading Division I of the NAIA in Free Throw percentage for three weeks and was also JBU's leading scorer in their last game against OCU with 16 points on Saturday

COMING UP

Men's Basketball

2/23 Science and Arts of Okla. Home 8 p.m.

2/25 Southern Nazerene

Away 5 p.m. Women's Basketball

Science and Arts of Okla. Home 6 p.m.

2/25 Southern Nazerene Away 3 p.m.

Women's Tennis

2/24-25 **Evangel University** Tournament Springfield, MO

Ultimate Frisbee Club

2/25-26 Free State Classic Kansas City, MO.

SAC

Tournament

March 1-3 Bill George Arena

and women's basketball teams will compete to advance to the national tournament in Kansas City, Mo.

The top eight SAC men's

Page 10 February 23, 2012

SPOTLIGHT

The Threefold Advocate

Inny 8 review of Family Weekena 2012

As the end of Christmas break approached, I packed up all my bags, loaded my car and prepared to kiss my parents goodbye. My daddy pulled me in a big bear hug, reminding me to make good choices and bring home the A's. But as I approached my mom, a curious thing happened. She began to cry.

Mom didn't even cry when she dropped me off at Mayfield dormitory freshman year. But she was a fire hydrant while explaining

she wouldn't see me again until May. Dad affectionately laughed and promised her it would be okay. She could always come to "that family doo-dad."

So that's how it came to be this past Friday afternoon, my mom sitting on our futon, discussing housing arrangements with my roommate, anxiously awaiting all the festivities John Brown University had planned for the infamous Family Weekend.

The Dinner

The best part about Family Weekend is by far the food. If you aren't fortunate enough to enjoy your own family's company, there is always a friend's family willing to adopt you for a meal or two.

Eager to enjoy a delicious dinner and avoid the out-of-town crowd, I took my mom east to enjoy some sweet potato fries and a chocolate mess at Marketplace in Springdale, Ark.

But this wasn't just your typical mother-daughter reunion. No, this was my mom's chance to meet the boyfriend's parents. So Daniel Fish and I did our best to avoid the awkward moments between bites of delicious spinach dip and stinky barbeque chicken pizza.

All in all, it was better than I could have hoped. The only embarrassing stories told were ones about Daniel. That's success in my book.

The Three Musketeers



Abby Chestnut/Threefold Advocate

But the night wouldn't end there. Next up on the schedule was a much-awaited performance of "The Three Musketeers." From the first clang of the swords, I knew this was going to be a good one.

Even now, I can't tell you my favorite part. Maybe it was watching my sweet and vibrant RA, Allie Miller, stand so incredibly still and regal on stage. Or maybe it was laughing at how hilarious my friend Becca Ridings is at acting drunk. Or just maybe it was the ball scene, with the strange dances and the interesting masks. "Balls, balls, balls! I just love balls!"

Whatever it was, everything came together to put on a spectacular show. Not even the ice-cold auditorium, long bathroom lines or my boyfriend pretend-punching his mom when the lights went down could detract from that.

The Brunch

Probably one of the more entertaining aspects of Family Weekend is watching the administration paint over the campus with a thick coat of gloss before the parents arrive. This is best exemplified during Saturday brunch.

I hardly recognized the caf as I walked through the doors. Every table was covered with cloth and some Pinterest-y décor. There were not one, but two breakfast stations with a choice between bacon and sausage. The caf had crepes with an assortment of yummy toppings, a full-to-bursting salad bar complete with the ever-coveted melon-free fruit bowl, and a highly popular omelet bar with several workers waiting to make you a customized breakfast treat.

"Don't be fooled, Mom. This is only how they want you to think we eat."

Friday, February 17th

10 a.m. - Family Weekend Chapel

4 p.m. - Bible Dept. Student Papers Symposia

7 p.m. - Pre-Show "Red Carpet" Reception

8 p.m. - "The Three Musketeers"

Saturday, February 18th

9 a.m. - Ultimate Frisbee Scrimmages

10 a.m. - Family Brunch

10 a.m. - Bible Students Used Book Sale

II a.m. Rugby Match

I p.m. - "The Three Musketeers"

3 p.m. - Golden Eagles Basketball Games

7 p.m. - Student Talent & Variety Show

9 p.m. - Student Talent & Variety Show

II p.m. - "After the Show" Reception

The Walmart Pun

Family Weekend wouldn't be complete without a quick Walmart run. I had been holding out for over a month for Mom to help me out with the expensive, not-so-necessary necessities. Come on, don't act like you don't do it, too. Makeup is expensive!

The Basketball Game

After my makeup drawer had been replenished, we headed toward Bill George Arena to cheer on the Golden Eagles. For the first time ever, I sat on the side with stadium seats. My back thanked me and wondered why I didn't choose that side more often.

My original plan was to leave the game early to go claim seats for the Talent Show, but my beloved Eagles just couldn't pull away for a comfortable lead. At about 6:30, I realized I wasn't going to convince my boyfriend to abandon the gym for a spot in line.

JBU took it all the way to the end, beating the Oklahoma City Stars by three points. I guess I can't blame them for wanting to keep parents entertained with a game to remember.

The Talent Show

We walked through the doors to the Talent Show with five minutes to spare. There were absolutely no spots available, and I gave my boyfriend the cold shoulder as I pulled out the folding chair in the very last row to take a seat. "I knew we should have left the game by 6:15," I smarted.

But in the end, he became my hero, scoring us seats in the balcony with a perfect view and cushioned seats. I comfortably watched London's uncomfortable dance moves, the 1994 World Champion Synchronized Swimming Team, and the incredible voices of 1921.

Not going to lie, Allison Harper and Jared Defriese blew me away with their beautiful rendition of "Summer's Love Song," easily becoming my favorite. However, congratulations to the Duke of Norfolk for putting on a spectacular show, like always.



The Goodbye

Thankfully, there were no tears as our reunion weekend drew to a close. Mom seemed to think a couple days of catching up would hold her over until the end of semester. But as we hugged goodbye and prepared to leave, I offered one last treat. "Don't worry mom, I'll see you spring break!"

Written & Designed by: Jenny Redfern