

Last minute costume ideas p. 7

The Threefold Advocate

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JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Siloam Springs, Arkansas

Students win debate crown

Staff Reports

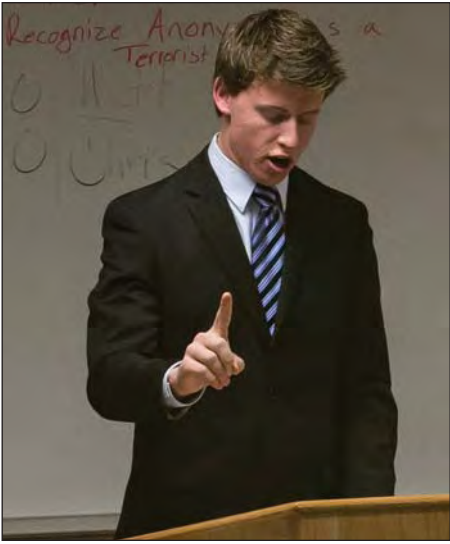
Four competitors from the JBU Forensics Team earned the crown as co-champions of Parliamentary Debate at the Golden Eagle Invitational held last weekend.

The pairing of Justin Burchfiel and Walker Martin “closed out” the final round of the tournament with their squadmates Michael Burchfiel and Brad Johnson. To net the championship, the JBU pairs defeated teams from Texas Christian University and Kansas Wesleyan University in the semifinal level of competition, said Erick Roebuck, assistant professor of Communication and Director of Forensics.

“I am honored for the opportunity to have represented JBU in collegiate debate this past weekend. I would like to thank professor Roebuck, my teammates, and fellow students for their support during the tournament, since Michael and I would not have been able to compete on such short notice without it,” Johnson said. “While it is wonderful to play a part in bringing another debate victory to JBU, all the glory goes to God alone.”

The tournament included 18 colleges and universities, including Kansas State University, the University of Oklahoma, and others from Missouri, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

In addition to winning the tournament, Johnson was honored



Submitted by: Erick Roebuck. **Sophomore Brad Johnson emphasizes a point during the debate tournament.**

as the top overall speaker, Burchfiel received second place honors and Martin took home the third place speaker award.

“Our guys achieved something truly remarkable. Not only were both teams undefeated at the

tournament, JBU has not closed out a final debate round since 2008,” Roebuck said.

If a college or university closes out the tournament, then they do not have to debate in the final round, he explained. “It’s a

high honor in the world of Parliamentary Debate to close out with your teammates. Instead of gearing up for the final round, they can relax and wait for the awards ceremony,” Roebuck said.

Parliamentary Debate is a fast-paced competition format where students are presented with a political topic to debate, and then are given 20 minutes to prepare their case for the round.

“The competition was great, and the Texas Wesleyan teams were challenging,” Burchfiel said. “I am impressed at how our teams came together with very little prep to close out finals. We have all actually known each other for a very long time. We were all a part of the same speech and debate club in Texas for all of high school and part of middle school, so it was great to debate with these guys again.”

The JBU Forensics team will compete next at the Green Country Invitational at Tulsa Community College the weekend of Nov. 15-17.

Race card project spurs discussion



J. PABLO GARCIA/The Threefold Advocate

Rebecca Day and Abby Chestnut listen to fellow students discuss race and how it affects them. Those attending the event wrote a short statement sharing their views on race and what it means to them. Chestnut wrote “Imago Dei’ applies to all colors.”

Hannah Wright News Editor

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Students, staff, faculty and administrators at John Brown University have spent weeks thinking about how to have productive conversations about race.

It started with six words. “‘Imago Dei’ applies to all colors,” Abby Chestnut wrote.

This Monday marked the end of the Race Card Project, an international movement to start conversations about race. The event ended with a talkback session hosted by Associate Professor of history Trisha Posey’s Slavery and Race in American History class.

Michele Norris, who hosted the National Public Radio Program “All Things Considered,” founded The Race Card Project. Norris distributed cards in which people could write only six words on whatever they associated with race. More than 100 people from JBU submitted their six words.

Students submitted race cards in Walker Student Center last week.

“The Race Card Project explores a different kind of conversation about race,” said Marquita Smith, head of the Department of Communication. “Now, the JBU community will be among thousands of people who shared their six-word stories in an effort to find civil, honest

ways to discuss race relations or perspectives.”

Smith, along with Trisha Posey, moderated the discussion. Posey’s students in the Slavery and Race class hosted the event and several of Smith’s Communication students

Many students spoke of fears of being misunderstood, of failing to see where boundaries lie, and of disempowering or feeling disempowered. Students openly discussed such controversial subjects as white guilt, Affirmative Action programs and stereotypes.

Posey encouraged students to be as open as possible with each other.

“One of the best ways you can show you’re listening is by asking questions,” she said.

The talkback didn’t just end with discussion, however.

“Each of you can leave here with something tangible that you can do different,” said Smith. She and Posey encouraged students to write down both personal goals and requests for the staff and faculty.

The requests will be reviewed by Smith and Posey and brought up for discussion in future talks on race and diversity in the University.

“We’re taking them very seriously,” Smith said.

“It was really awesome to get out and to talk about this,” said sophomore Justin Kirkpatrick.

Many students expressed a similar sense of satisfaction, as well as a new direction and purpose.

“It’s good to know how to approach and reconcile with others,” said senior Obed Diaz.



J. PABLO GARCIA/The Threefold Advocate

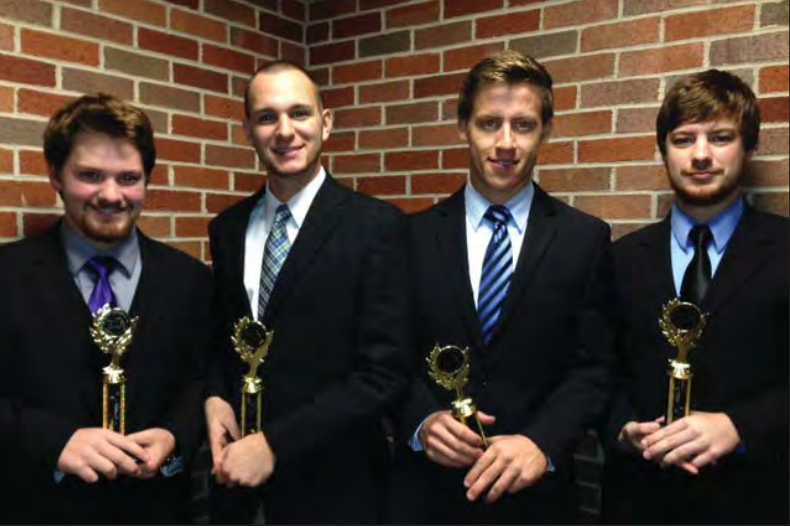
Senior Cindy Achieng, treasurer for MOSAIC, partakes in a roundtable discussion at a Race Card Project event on Tuesday.

attended. Students returning from the Chicago Immersion trip over fall break also participated.

“The trip really opened me up to how big a problem racism is,” said sophomore Salina Adolph. She came to the talkback to discuss racism further.

About 45 students attended.

Posey asked students to examine their struggles and experiences in past conversations about race, and to share their fears and hopes in future conversations.



Submitted by: Erick Roebuck

The four co-champions from JBU, Michael Burchfiel, Brad Johnson, Justin Burchfiel and Walker Martin, pose with their trophies.

Faith and Halloween spawn differing perspectives

Tarah Thomas

Copy Editor

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Christians have different perspectives on whether to celebrate Halloween. Between children trick or treating for candy and people dressing up as ghosts, monsters and skeletons, the question is raised whether Halloween promotes good or evil.

“I don’t have anything against it,” said Amber Moore, a junior. “But I don’t enjoy it either. So I don’t celebrate.”

Though Moore confesses that she is not a big holiday person, Aliya Kuykendall, a freshman social advocacy major, believes that she can’t celebrate Halloween in a positive way because it promotes darkness and fear.

“The most important thing is to redeem the holiday,” Kuykendall said. “God is good and pure. Anything you do for God is redeeming.”

Tim Smith, who graduated from JBU in 2005 with a psychology degree, also believes that Christians should not celebrate Halloween



Graphic by Elizabeth Jolly

because it is not as innocent as it looks.

“[Halloween] has real pagan roots or demonic roots,” said Smith. “There are real evil spirits here on earth. I don’t think we should participate.”

Tonight kids accompanied by their parents will go from door to door, collecting candy from anyone

who gives it out.

Other children, however, will attend a Fall Festival. Sponsored by a church or other organization, the Fall Festival presents parents with an alternative way to trick or treating by providing games and hay rides.

“Halloween desensitizes children to dark and evil things,” Kuykendall said. “To make Halloween look like it is fun and innocent is wrong.”

Lindsay Dodson, however, believes that celebrating Halloween has given her the best memories from her childhood. She also said that because Halloween invokes joy,

nothing is wrong with Christians celebrating the holiday.

“Halloween took something of fear and darkness and made it fun,” Dodson said. “We should be sensitive to evil but not fearful or shaking in our boots because of it.”

Walking down the aisles of Walmart, customers see decorations of ghosts, vampires and monstrous creatures. Some companies change their candy wrapper designs to orange and black and even plaster grotesque figures on them.

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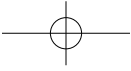
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Trip to Zambia shows promising future

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Three professors from John Brown University traveled to Ndola, Zambia earlier this month to visit Northrise University. John Brown hopes to form an academic relationship with Northrise in the coming years.

The professors were Jim Caldwell, head of the Construction Management department, Maxie Burch, Chair of the Biblical Studies Division, and Joe Walenciak, Associate Dean of the College of Business. They were joined by Caldwell's wife, Barbara Caldwell, a John Brown alumna and liaison for the future nursing program.

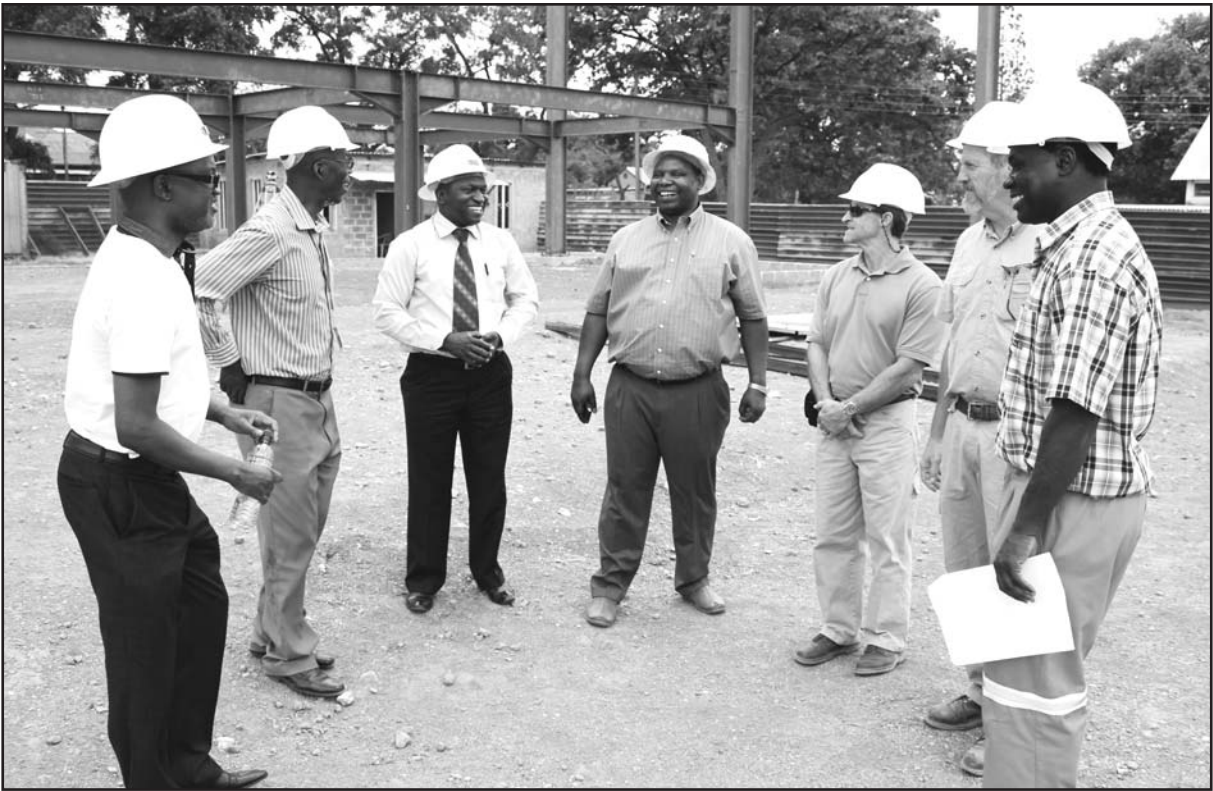
John Brown has long been interested in expanding study abroad opportunities for students, and a partnership with Northrise shows promise.

"It's amazing and humbling. You see God weaving something together here," said Walenciak. Although no plans are definite as of yet, the group was optimistic about the possibilities.

"We believe God's at work," said Burch. He has served on the board of directors at Northrise for two years longer than he has worked at John Brown and expressed amazement at how alike the universities are.

"We share the same mission," he said.

Northrise was founded in 2004 as a way to educate people in business and ministry, to forward the kingdom of God in Zambia.



Submitted by Joe Walenciak

(From center to left) **Moffat Zimba, Maxie Burch, and Jim Caldwell** discussing future construction with other members of Northrise University's faculty and staff. The trip to Northrise showed several promising opportunities for both Northrise and John Brown in the coming years.

Northrise uses an integrative approach of faith, academics and hard work that was inspired in part by John Brown's history, along with other universities' approaches.

Although most universities in Zambia rely heavily on government support, thanks to Northrise's entrepreneurial efforts and support from donors, Northrise is 85 percent self-sufficient, and well on their way to becoming completely so.

In 2011, when Burch mentioned to Moffat Zimba, Northrise's

president, that he was applying for a job at John Brown, Zimba immediately recognized the name.

Burch has continued serving on Northrise's board of directors, and faculty invited Zimba to speak in chapel last March. Zimba shared the work that God was doing at Northrise and finished with an invitation.

"Come to Zambia," he said.

Faculty did just that to discuss opportunities at Northrise, as well as participate in a seminar discussing integration of faith and

learning and leadership techniques.

"We were all using the same language. We share the same values," said Burch.

"The students were optimistic, highly motivated. There was a heavy idealism and a good work ethic," said Jim Caldwell. Caldwell saw possible study abroad opportunities for construction management majors. Northrise will soon begin work on several new buildings.

Barbara Caldwell found the connections to local hospitals

and clinics most promising for the nursing program, especially Northrise's connection to the only children's hospital in Zambia.

Walenciak mentioned that staff and student exchanges were another possibility, in addition to study abroad programs for graduate business students similar to the existing China program. He added that nothing is yet certain.

"Before we start jumping into action, we need to start planning a vision," he said.

Even so, Burch saw the possibilities in Zambia as a part of a pattern.

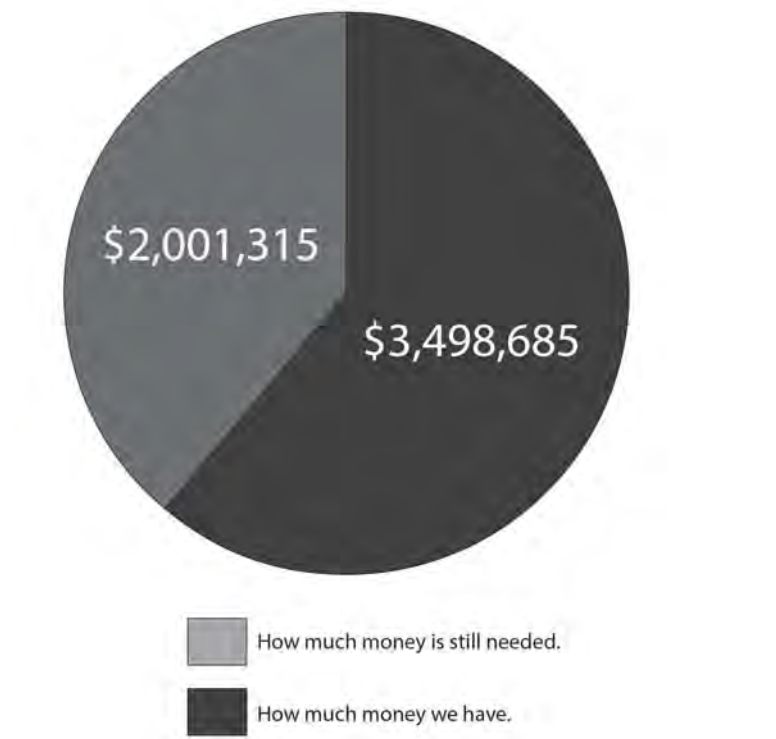
"There's a larger Africa connection going on here at JBU," he said. Burch mentioned a recent trip that several faculty members took to Uganda Christian University over the summer, in order to participate in a similar seminar on leadership, as well as the numerous connections to other African nations.

"The center of Christendom is moving south," said Steve Beers, Vice President of Student Development. He was one of the faculty members who traveled to Uganda. Beers said that Latin America, Africa and Asia will likely have a greater impact on the Christian faith in the years to come.

Each faculty member reiterated the importance of a global focus for students and faculty alike.

"I want to see our undergrad students challenged by how big our world is and how rich other cultures are, and to have an experience that will transform their lives that you just can't get here," said Caldwell.

J. Alvin renovation donations exceed expectations



Graphic by ELIZABETH JOLLY/The Threefold Advocate

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The ongoing process to renovate the J. Alvin Brown residence hall on campus, which began with generosity from donors, is now over halfway funded.

To date, around \$3.5 million has been raised for the renovation of the residence hall, which will cost around \$5.5 million total. The project is expected to be completed in 2014.

Upon completion, the all male dorm will house around 220 students.

Director of Development April Moreton said the University is blessed to have a large number of donors for projects like J. Alvin.

"The project began with a silent phase in which we talked to a certain group of donors that have given to

JBU before," Moreton said.

After this phase was completed, the project was announced to the public. A widespread mailing of informational brochures was sent to alumni that had a connection to the residence hall.

"These brochures were sent out to people that may have lived in J. Alvin, or married someone that lived in J. Alvin or even had a child that lived in J. Alvin," said Moreton.

To enhance the giving effort, the University Advancement staff took to Facebook and other social media. Through Facebook posts and videos, the staff was able to generate more donations for the building.

"We had a funny spoof on walking through J. Alvin and looking at the new construction while kind of giving an update. These were emailed to a group of recipients that had

some sort of connection to the project," Moreton explained.

These efforts have led to more giving for the residence hall renovation, and many residents are thankful for those gifts.

Freshman Luke Hogan said he is very appreciative and can't wait to have a larger dorm room.

"I'm just really excited that people are willing to invest in us in the ways that they are," he said.

Freshman Blake Reap said he is thankful for the donations because of the small size of J. Alvin currently.

The donations have come from more than just alumni.

According to Moreton, 54 percent of the inhabitants in J. Alvin have given some amount to the project.

"JBU is very blessed with a community that loves the students, and students that want to give back to their school," Moreton said.

Education department sends students back to school

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Twenty years ago, John Brown University's education department began a partnership with the Siloam Springs School District, a partnership that Grace Davis has watched change over time.

Davis said the partners' most recent change is a transition to embedded field experience, in which a faculty member and their class go to one of the district schools and have class in that school.

Davis, an assistant professor of education and Professional Development School director, said part of her role as director is to coordinate the relationship with the Siloam Springs School District, which is home to 4,000 students.

There are currently two classes that have made the transition to embedded field experience.

One of these is Davis' English as a Second Language class.

In Davis' class the teaching candidates work with students one-on-one in the Siloam Springs intermediate or high school.

"Both the education major

and the child are getting what they need from the classroom: experience for the teaching candidate and learning material for the student," Davis said.

She explained that the University's education department has a commitment to tying theory to actual professional practice.

"Our education majors have got to know what the real deal looks like," she said.

Davis said that the transition to embedded field experience is a three-year process that started with elementary education classes.

"Previously, teaching candidates had to do out-of-class field experience. Embedded field experience helps the entire class go deeper, faster with learning and making links," Davis said.

Senior Andrew Goode was part of the pilot class and is currently in Davis' ESL class.

Goode reflected on his previous out-of-class field experience and his current experience in the ESL class.

"I appreciated that the department wanted to get us time in the classrooms, but I remember being bored a lot. Much of the time spent in the classrooms was just watching," Goode said.

"Embedded field experience

bridges the gap between content knowledge and instruction. I can definitely see an improvement with the field experience shift."

Senior Kristin Pankey was another member of the pilot class.

"The biggest difference between out-of-class field experience and embedded is it's easier to make that immediate connection between theory and practical experience. With this model, growth is essential," Pankey said.

Gina Mayhew, an assistant professor of education and university education graduate talked about her experience as a teaching candidate and now as a professor.

"As a graduate, we didn't really spend long amounts of meaningful time in the classroom until our internship. There wasn't ever any focus," Mayhew said.

Mayhew now teaches educational psychology, a class that is currently using the out-of-class field experience model, but she is working with the department and the class to transition the class to be part of the new design.

"We're trying to find the fine balance between optimal learning time within the schools and meaningful in-class

experience," Mayhew said.

This semester is the first that secondary education majors have been in classes that incorporate embedded field experience.

Senior Emma Pollard talked about her experience working with a high school ESL student.

"They only moved to the States a few months ago and know almost no English. I only know a few random Spanish phrases," she said. "The language challenge and experience has been really interesting and fun and I feel like I've learned a lot."

How did this pastor's widow

snag JBU's MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELOR?

aka: Jim Blankenship

It all started with a whisper that left her asking, "Is it God or am I crazy?"

Buy Lynn Blankenship's inspiring, true story at amazon.com

Eternal Threads combats sex slavery, fights poverty

Rebekah Day
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There are more people enslaved today than during the 18th and 19th century, said Laura Egle, founder of Eternal Threads, who spoke to students at John Brown University on Monday night.

“Trafficking is not a moral issue, it’s a poverty issue,” said Egle.

Eternal Threads is a non-profit organization based in Abilene, Texas, which teaches practical skills to women and children in high risk areas in 13 different countries, including Nepal, Bulgaria, Mongolia and Afghanistan.

Egle was invited to speak at the University by Students Against Sex Slavery, a Christian Ambassadors United for Service and Evangelism ministry (CAUSE). This CAUSE ministry mainly focuses on domestic slavery that takes place in Ark., though Egle came to talk about worldwide slavery.

Eternal Threads operates under Egle’s philosophy: “Help people help themselves.” Rather than just giving women money or supplies to survive, Eternal Threads gives them the ability to sustain

themselves. Through Eternal Threads’ six-month tailoring program, girls master professional tailoring and basic reading and writing skills. They are also given a sewing machine and a small loan when they complete the tailoring course so they can go back to their own villages prepared to start a small business.

Egle shared the story of a young woman from Nepal who had been rescued at the border of India. After completing the tailoring program, she returned to her village and became a leader in the community.

“No woman in the village has ever done what she has done,” Egle said, recounting what the woman’s brother told organization leaders.

Egle thinks it is important to address a certain attitude that many people have towards women in the sex trade. She says there is a somewhat popular and disheartening opinion that girls involved in the sex trade and prostitution choose to live that life. In actuality, most women involved in prostitution are forced, deceived, or are acting out of extreme desperation.

“No child dreams of being a prostitute,” Egle said.

Egle explained that many victims come from small rural

villages with no knowledge of the dangers of sex traffickers. Traffickers will go stay in a village and befriend its people, while picking out vulnerable targets. They specifically look for girls who have had a hard home life or that have been sexually abused. They offer the girls a job in the city and sometimes even an education.

“These girls have no idea what’s going to happen to them,” Egle said.

The next event Students Against Sex Slavery will be putting on is Rape Awareness Week, set for Nov. 17-20. They will be presenting at chapel and partnering with International Justice Mission during Rape Awareness Week, Gay said.

“Even though [rape victims] are not physically being sold we really feel that being violated in the biggest way you can be violated is really kind of emotionally enslaving and if you look at the aftermath of that, everything from drug addictions to relationships, it is kind of the first step to enslaving,” said Gay.

Students Against Sex Slavery has two goals for Rape Awareness Week. They want students to understand that students actually have been raped, and they want victims to

feel more comfortable in sharing their experiences and stories.

“We feel like JBU is kind of a dark place for that because we really don’t talk about that kind of stuff,” Gay said. She also said

there is an assumption that there is no problem at the University because it is a Christian campus.

To learn more about what Eternal Threads, check out their website, www.eternalthreads.org.



SIDNEY VAN WYK/The Threefold Advocate

Threads of Hope founder Linda Egle talks with a student after addressing SASS. Egle’s organization strives to fight slavery by fighting poverty and restoring dignity to victims.

Career development eases students into real world

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At some point in every person’s life comes a time to enter the “real world.” Graduation commences and what happens next can be a complete mystery. But according to recent graduates, the John Brown University experience provides all that is needed to transition into life after college.

Hayley Hendren graduated from the University in 2013 and is now working at Harbinger Pictures in Los Angeles. She said her experience in the communication and cinema departments helped prepare her

for the professional environment.

“I learned so much by working with really dedicated people, both professors and students,” said Hendren. “The strict assignment due dates in college helped me prepare for real-life projects and being responsible for deadlines.”

Mallory Williams, ‘13, said the University was a great place to discover herself. She began her secondary education at a two-year college and transferred as a junior.

“It may sound cliché, but I entered into the next phase of my life with an understanding that Christ is my foundation and through him all things are possible,” said Williams.

“JBU helped me have a deeper understanding of how important Christ is while facing whatever

challenges or blessings lay ahead.”

The University offers practical preparation for after graduation as well.

The Center for Career Development is a network dedicated to connecting students, alumni and parents with professional opportunities.

Chris Confer, director of Career Development, works with students who need assistance with career connections and decisions.

“Talking to employers, the number one comment I get is that our students are prepared both academically and in the soft skills that can’t be taught, the ability to communicate effectively, problem solve, work hard and simply pass a background check,” Confer said.

A survey conducted by

Confer last year found University graduates from December 2011 and May 2012 had a 99 percent placement rate into employment or graduate school. 53 percent of employed graduates reported their job being highly related to their major.

He said that there are a few key things that give students an advantage when entering the professional world, such as a good resume and job interview practice.

Confer conducts workshops for resume review and mock interviews throughout the year. He also helps students create LinkedIn profiles because he has found that to now be an essential piece of the career toolkit.

But his secret weapon is a handwritten thank-you

note after an interview.

“It sounds like grandma, but I can’t tell you the number of employers who say that makes a huge difference and the number of students who come back and say that was the reason they got their job,” said Confer.

Confer said the quality of education at John Brown University makes a difference to employers, but he still encourages students to prepare for future careers now.

The Career Development Center has events for students every month.

One upcoming opportunity on campus is a LinkedIn profile workshop on Nov. 14.

Engineer seniors to build lunabot, 3-D printer

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Autonomous robots and 3-D printers are everyday items for these senior engineering students.

The engineering program is one of the largest and oldest traditional undergraduate programs that John Brown University offers, providing students opportunities to work with projects from NASA, the Institute of Affordable Transportation, National Institute for the Severely Handicapped, and more.

Senior design provides students the opportunity for interdisciplinary application of both mechanical and electrical engineering. This project requires the senior engineers to research and apply the culmination of everything they have learned throughout their time in the program.

Once built by this team of students, the robot will then demonstrate its performance capability in a ten minute competition in which the robot must navigate through a field of obstacles, excavate dirt, and carry the dirt back through the field of obstacles to a depositing bin.

“The big push over the past couple of years has been to have your robots operate autonomously, which means that they’ll work by themselves,” said McIntyre.

“So you’ll push a button, and your robot will figure out where it is on its own, and drive itself, dodging obstacles along the way. Then it’ll dig up the dirt on its own, and then drive back and dump [the dirt] on its own.”

This year’s team of engineers is more confident than ever, competing with the largest team of JBU students ever to participate

in NASA’s Lunabotics Mining Competition, with four electrical engineers and two mechanical engineers working on the mining robot. This combination of both mechanical and electrical engineers has made the team optimistic that the robot will be able to operate autonomously as intended.

Senior electrical engineers Lucas Weaver and Seth White have been diligently working on their senior projects this year, as well. Weaver and White are working on a project sponsored by Texas Instruments. This company is seeking to bring more functionality to a small component of their processors called a micro-controller, a device found in most electronic devices. Texas Instruments has designed a micro-controller that provides the company a distinct

advantage over their competitors. Unfortunately, since this micro-controller is not user-friendly, Weaver and White are seeking to make it easier for customers to use.

In order to demonstrate how user-friendly Weaver and White’s redesigned micro-controller will be, they will be building a 3-D printer, which repeatedly prints layers of plastic to form a three-dimensional object.

Weaver said, “We aren’t actually doing the hardware part of the 3-D printer, but we’re working on the software part that tells the hardware what to do and how to move and lay the layers of plastic down.”

Both teams of student engineers are working diligently on their projects. However, much of the assembling and constructing is yet to come.

“A lot of the first semester is getting ideas, researching, brainstorming, and testing out possible solutions,” Weaver said. “It’s not any of the actual dirty work in the big design process; it’s the first couple of stages.”

The senior engineering students do not actually begin applying their research to the construction process until they get closer to the second semester of the school year. However, the end of the spring semester may prove to be a time-crunch for many of the senior engineers as they approach their senior design deadlines.

“April has the reputation for being the month that none of the seniors leave the building. They’re just in there all the time!” McIntyre said.

Weaver agreed and added, “Pray for us!”



STEPHANIE WILLIS/The Threefold Advocate

Javan Vandeslunt and Clay Sharp hard at work on their senior project. Among other projects, the engineers are building a Lunabot and a 3-D printer this year. Engineers work for international companies as well as competing in NASA’s Lunabotics Mining Competition.

FAITH continued
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Christians still debate whether to participate.

“We have Christ; there is nothing to be afraid of,” Dodson said. “As Christians, we have nothing to fear.”

Kuykendall said Christians redeem pagan holidays by making sure it is all about Jesus.

“The way the world celebrates it is not glorifying to God,” said Kuykendall. “My family gives out comic book tracks that spread God’s love and message with candy.”

Though people exchange opinions on whether to celebrate Halloween, Dodson, Kuykendall and Smith agree that what makes Halloween attractive is that people like to have fun and have a good time.

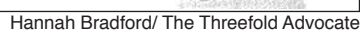
The Threefold Advocate

RETHINKING FEMALE HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

Just what kind of people do we want little girls to grow into, anyways?

RISE UP AND ACT

People, get your acts together. Literally.



LIVING IN THE SUPERNATURAL

Jesus behaved as if angels and demons were actual beings, not fictional allegories. How do we live with that reality and not get weird or fearful? Paradigm shifts are hard. But faith isn't required when we know our way around. Dare we trust the Holy Spirit to lead us?

Deborah Raiees-Dana,
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OPINION

How do you view the rich and famous?

Kardashians shape success



Isaac Weaver

Go to any store that sells gossip magazines. Flip through the channels of your television. Visit a website with entertainment news. Anywhere you look, the nauseating headlines following the Kardashian family are there to greet you.

Though the beginning of America's love affair with the ultra-rich TV personality family is hard to pinpoint, they are here and they have bolted their Louboutin designer shoes to our living room floor.

Why have we as intelligent people allowed such a dramatic and attention-obsessed family to take center stage as our entertainment? We like to believe we're better than all of the celebrities we watch and discuss, but to say that we use their ridiculous behavior and problems as an escape is only half true. Look closer at the headlines. Sit closer to the TV screen.

The chasing of wealth, the cars, the houses, the sex, the love and the divorce: the Kardashian family circus is the closing act for the traditional American dream.

We salivated as the world-renowned family embodied our desire for quickly gained wealth, clothing we will never afford and vacations we will never have with such attention to detail you could almost call them impressionists. For eight seasons and 106 episodes on Entertainment Television's hit series, they have made

insane amounts of money by simply allowing us to watch their every day lives. And it turns out, there are very good reasons for keeping up with the Kardashians.

As young adults growing up we are exposed to the "every day" life of celebrities such as the Kardashians through all publishable forms of media. We are shown an idea that people can be famous for simply being famous. An example of an untouchable class that has everything we want and then some is given to us every night at dinner.

On the same note, although they have everything we could possibly want, they get divorced. They have their garages filled with our dream cars, and they still go to bed angry at one another.

from the cheap seats in your rented apartment as the team of highly trained professional lawyers mediate the former lovers and discuss who walks away with the better vacation property.

The paint on the idealistic white picket fence is chipping. Whether or not they know it, the Kardashians are helping shape a new image of success to the upcoming generation. What good is a million dollar home if you are the only one in it? Will the promised bonus be worth the late nights away from your family?

As a generation heavily dependent on visual reminders, we need to make it a point to look towards the Kardashians as a sort of public service announcement to remind us, as so eloquently put



The lesson of "money does not equal happiness" is not a new one, but one that we see acted out. Supermarket tabloids part the curtains to the grand arena and encourage us to watch this week's main event: Bruce and Kris Jenner set fire to a 22-year marriage commitment. Watch

by the late rapper Christopher Wallace, that "mo' money, mo' problems."

Weaver is a freshman majoring in Communication. He can be reached at WeaverH@jbu.edu.

Give immigrants their rights



Don Balla

The issues of 19th century slavery and 21st century undocumented immigrants are hauntingly similar. Abraham Lincoln's speeches and letters have changed the way I approach immigration reform. Although Lincoln addressed social arguments, he approached emancipation of slaves mainly

world for all future time."

His historical reading convinced him that the 1786 constitutional compromises with slavery were, in the minds of the framers of our government, only temporary, and that the Declaration "gave promise that in due time the weight would be lifted from the shoulders of all men." To Lincoln, all men are created equal is "a standard maxim for free society which should be familiar to all, and revered by all; constantly looked to, constantly labored for, and even, though never perfectly attained, constantly approximated, and thereby constantly spreading and deepening its influence, and augmenting the happiness and value of life to all people of all colors, everywhere."

Freedom to earn. "I take it that it is best for all to leave each man free to acquire property as fast as he can."

Freedom to relocate. "I desire that if you get too thick here, and find it hard to better your condition on this soil, you may have a chance to [uproot] and go somewhere else."

Freedom to try. "It is in order that each one of you may have . . . an open field, and a fair chance for your industry, enterprise, and intelligence."

Why would we not want this for everyone—slaves and immigrants included? Here are the arguments Lincoln's opponents offered and Lincoln's responses:

Freeing slaves would wrong the citizen. "I say there is room enough for us all."

Their bondage is legal. Such thinking "enables the enemies of free institutions with plausibility to taunt us as hypocrites."

They harm citizen laborers. "Is it true, then, that colored people can displace any more white labor by being free than by remaining slaves?" Can immigrants take any more jobs by coming to the U.S. than by staying in their home countries and working in U.S. factories that move there?

Will universal freedom wrong you? Does denying freedom to others wrong them? If so, let people go and work where they wish.

Balla is a professor of Business and can be reached at DBalla@jbu.edu.

They waste our time

and need our prayers



Matt Bowen

Drama ensues in the Kardashian household. Kim and Kanye are officially getting married and everyone is excited. However, other big news is happening with mom and dad--Bruce and Kris Jenner. Arguments have been had, anger has taken its toll, and they're getting a divorce. And all I'm thinking is: when is their 15 minutes of fame going to be over?

How long can people be famous for being famous? I mean, Kim can't sing, her acting skills nominated her for a Razzie award (the opposite of an Oscar) and her trademark according to Internet Movie Database is her "Curvaceous, buxom figure." How long can one be famous for a "curvaceous, buxom figure"?

So what launched her into fame in the first place? With no acting, singing, or athletic abilities, what boosted her to celebrity status? It is the very thing that keeps the Kardashian family in everyone's television: controversy.

Pre Keeping Up with the Kardashians, Kim was particularly famous around the Internet for a sex tape. Ashamed, Kim sued the distributor and settled for five million dollars. But she must have not felt too ashamed, because a few months later, she posed nude for Playboy.

With all this in mind, why do we follow a family who's become famous all thanks to sex? Why does any of this matter?

It shouldn't, but we make

it so that it does. Through the television show, we are keeping up with a family surrounded by drama. And I can imagine that off-screen controversy occurs in order to have something to say on screen.

We, as people, love a good story. And the ins and outs of a high class American family make up for some pretty great entertainment. Entertaining enough for 101 episodes, a huge milestone for any television show, and several spinoffs of Keeping Up With the Kardashians.

What's sad to me is the lifestyle that is encouraged in this show. I've only seen a few episodes, but everyone just seems bored. Bored enough to get angry with a family member or significant other, and fight. Either that or they're bored and decide to go party, and then engage in adult activities.

Scandal! Four more episodes are churned out to see who this guy is and whether or not she's pregnant.

And now, nine seasons and a Kids' Choice Award later, the Kardashians are an inseparable part of American culture. The seasons will be on Netflix probably for forever, the show will play countless re-runs on E! and the private lives of the Kardashians will forever be discussed by anyone and everyone.

A friend of mine opened my eyes to the discipline of praying for famous people. It sounds silly to pray for Angelina Jolie or Johnny Depp, but they're people too. God desires those who aren't close to him to come to him, no matter how messed up or famous they are.

Let's all pray for the Kardashians. I think God could do some amazing things in their lives if they'd let him.

Bowen is a sophomore majoring in Biblical and theological studies. He can be reached at BowenMJ@jbu.edu.

Seasons change



Alex Johnson

My first year at John Brown University was difficult. I struggled in my classes and hated my job. I was lonely, and the only place I could park was annoyingly far away.

This semester has been much different.

Last year, I felt out of place. Classes were difficult and I had trouble talking to my classmates. That changed with a switch in major.

English and Education weren't right for me, but I think Communication is a much better fit.

To my surprise, Communication classes have been fun and easier to understand. It's probably because the material interests me.

I also feel like I'm starting to fit in. Speaking with classmates is easier since I have more in common with them.

My job is better, too.

Last year, I was a cleaner for the Walton Lifetime Health Complex. I misunderstood what

I was supposed to do and kept making mistakes. My supervisor described all the work I did as "inadequate."

Now, I work in the Siloam Springs Public Library, where I shelve books. Thankfully, I had prior experience due to my time volunteering at the Bentonville Public Library. This makes work easy and enjoyable.

Parking is no longer a hassle either. Instead of having to cross campus to get to my car, the Mayfield parking lot is just a short walk away. It makes going off campus much easier.

The biggest change, however, is having a roommate. Last year, my roommate had to leave JBU early because of financial difficulties. That left me alone for most of the first semester and all of the second.

Now I have possibly the best roommate ever: Melanie Haynie. Her blue hair makes her stand out a little, but she isn't weird at all. We like the same games and shows, and we even have similar senses of humor.

I didn't think I'd love having a roommate this much. I thought it would be a pain, but that's hardly the case. Now it's hard to imagine having a room all to myself.

All in all, this seems like a year to look forward to.

Johnson is a sophomore majoring in Communication. She can be reached at JohnsonAle@jbu.edu.

Patience, the operetta is coming

Chelsea Spencer
Staff Writer

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How much should outward appearance matter in love? This is a question that John Brown University students will seek to answer in their performance of W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan’s satirical operetta “Patience,” showing Nov. 8-10 and 15-16. The University’s music theater workshop invites you to peer into a different time and culture as they present Gilbert and Sullivan’s opera set during the Victorian Age in the midst of the Aesthetic Movement in England. “It’s all about winning the

women,” said director Donna Rollene. “Patience” was written by Gilbert and Sullivan to mock the Aesthetic Movement, which flourished in Europe in the mid to late 1800s. This movement began in defiance of the designs presented at the Great Exhibition. The new movement emphasized the significance of beauty and art for its own sake. Cast member Ashley Grant said, “[Aestheticism] has no usefulness; it has no meaning; it’s just all surface appeal. Love, to some of the characters in this play, is really very shallow and based on appearance.... The whole thing is just riotous.” Senior Amy Perry will be

playing the character Patience, a young milk maid experiencing love for the first time in a world obsessed with beauty. “Patience is a young woman who has never known what it means to love,” Grant said “This whole show is her journey to discovering what love really is, and along that road there are many twists and turns. It’s quite humorous!” The show portrays a number of characters such as the doting, rapturous maidens-- who are wooed by the aesthetic Reginald Bunthorne in favor of the unadorned soldiers, the Dragoon Guards. Meanwhile, Reginald Bunthorne only has eyes for Patience, a girl who is entirely

unimpressed by aestheticism, but who falls in love with yet another aesthetic poet named Grosvenor. The musical continues to develop the satirical complexities of the relationships formed and broken by the characters. “We all bond so well, and we all have such a great time with this performance,” said sophomore cast member Casey Einfalt. “It’s really a fun time.” Grant recounted the numerous times that cast members have fallen out of their chairs in laughter during rehearsal. “We’ve had such fun working on it, and we laugh a lot,” Rollene said. “The relationships that we have offstage are definitely going to show onstage.”

Junior cast member Amanda Neely agreed. “I’m incredibly excited to be a part of “Patience” because this cast is absolutely amazing. Everyone’s incredibly talented, and each person brings so much to the cast. It literally would not be the same if one person were gone.” According to Rollene, the costumes and the set of the musical are also impressive; the set includes a 16 foot castle and a stable. “Patience” opens in the Berry Performing Arts Center next Friday, Nov. 8. For tickets, visit <http://www.jbu.edu/tickets/> or call (479) 524-7382.

Scribes of Hope



J. PABLO GARCIA/The Threefold Advocate

Visitors come from both on and off campus to admire the current art exhibit. Scribes of Hope is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday by special arrangement.

Brittany Colbert
Contributer

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“To give us hope in the face of life’s many challenges, we catch the miracle of God’s spirit to regenerate his people from dead-end living.” These words describe a painting by artist Timothy Botts. Botts, a calligraphy artist, created a traveling gallery for the group Christians in Visual Arts. On Oct. 4, the gallery opened as the Scribes of Hope II at John Brown University. The goal of the show, and others hosted by the University’s art department, is to present and support different art forms that teach and encourage students on campus. This gallery specifically displayed Botts’s idea of calligraphy, which embodies a sense of hope, according to Jeannie Abbott, the administrative assistant of the art department. “Them Dry Bones” is the title of Botts’s painting previously described. In a statement by the artist, it was bone-like formed letters that joined together in a rock-like pattern to suggest the musicality and life of Ezekiel’s vision for the people. He created the Scribes of Hope II as an opportunity to celebrate the centrality of the word in Christianity. Senior Karli John, an art major, explained that since God has revealed himself through both text and image, through art he is made

visible. John described Scribes of Hope II as, “a form of Christian hope, topography of the two together... the use of lettering gave it an inspirational message that was hidden behind the art and the words.” “I never thought about putting words in the art work, it usually can take away the meaning and wording from the images,” John said. “Either the piece has meaning or it doesn’t, and the typography of the two here has changed my perspective.” According to Abbott, John Brown University has been bringing various artists and art galleries to campus since 2004. “We try to bring in appreciative art that also fits JBU standards,” she said. The Christians in Visual Arts organization seeks to help people explore the profound relationship between art and faith. The organization also wants to encourage Christians in visual arts to develop an understanding and pursue a relationship that unites art, the church and culture. “It gives a sense of inspiration to the outside,” John said. New to the University community, she appreciates the good quality and variety of the work that they bring in for each of the exhibits during the semester. Scribes of Hope II runs through Nov. 1 in the Windgate Visual Arts East building. Admission is free and open to the public.

Students enjoy ‘Local’ concert in Tulsa

Elise Farrell
Contributer

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As the Local Natives took the the stage, 40 John Brown University students sat captivated in the audience, listening to a band they would not have otherwise seen on campus. On Oct. 5, JBU student activity group, BLUE, or Bringing Live Unplugged Entertainment, took 40 students to a Local Natives concert at Cain’s Ballroom in Tulsa. The On the Road concert was the first of its kind for the team. BLUE Director Jon Estes wanted to give students another opportunity to hear live music

from an artist, but this time at an off-campus music venue. “On the Road was a test to see if it could work, and it wasn’t to replace anything. It was just to add more,” said Estes. “It turned out fantastic; it was a huge success.” The new idea was not built overnight. The planning for an off-campus event was a tedious task for the team. “It was a complicated process,” said Estes. “It took me three weeks to get everything lined out: transportation, food, all of that stuff.” Students who attended the show paid \$25 and in return received a t-shirt, pizza dinner, concert ticket and transportation to and from the event.

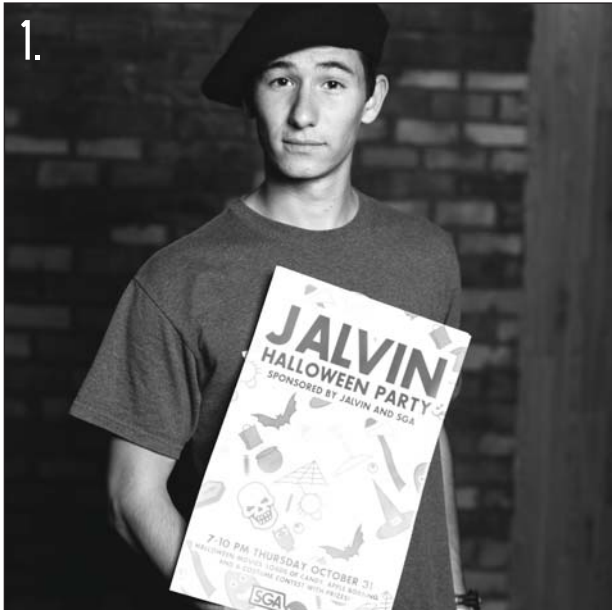
Freshman Devon Schmidt thought the price for the event was extremely reasonable. “I would have paid \$25 dollars just to see the show,” Schmidt explained. Estes said they released 40 tickets for the trip and ended up selling out on the first day. “There was a great representation of all the classes on the trip,” said Estes. “It was really inclusive to everyone.” Senior Matt Gwartney, who also attended the concert, said the idea to take students off-campus to another venue was a great experience. “When the concerts are on campus, it can limit what groups are brought in--due to having to appeal to the community

members of this area and their taste, so it was cool to have an opportunity to go to a concert that a group of us really wanted to see,” said Gwartney. The Local Natives were described as extremely interactive with the crowd, making the concert that much better for the students that attended. “The three songs they played in their encore were the best,” described Gwartney. “Everybody was clapping and singing at the end of their last song, and they ended coming back out and played three more for us.” Some students not familiar with the group prior to the concert left the concert wanting

more of the band’s music. “Some of my friends had never heard of them and afterward said it was the best show they had seen and wanted to start listening to them,” said Schmidt. Though BLUE will continue to bring new artists to the campus, Estes hopes to see more specialized On the Road concerts offered to students in the future. “Hopefully in the future it will be much larger, possibly taking even hundreds of students,” said Estes. “It was without a doubt in the top three concerts I’ve seen,” said Gwartney. “It was kinda hard to pass up.”

LIFESTYLES

The Threefold Advocate



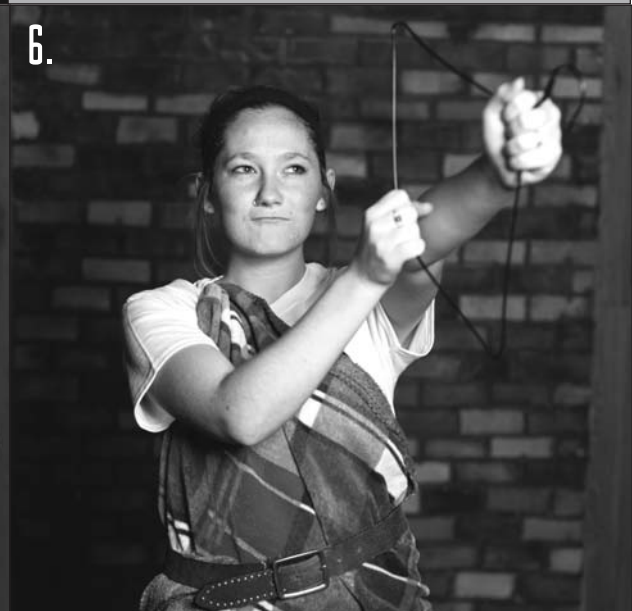
DISGUISE ON TIME WITH A DIME

[J. Alvin Halloween Party 7-10 pm]

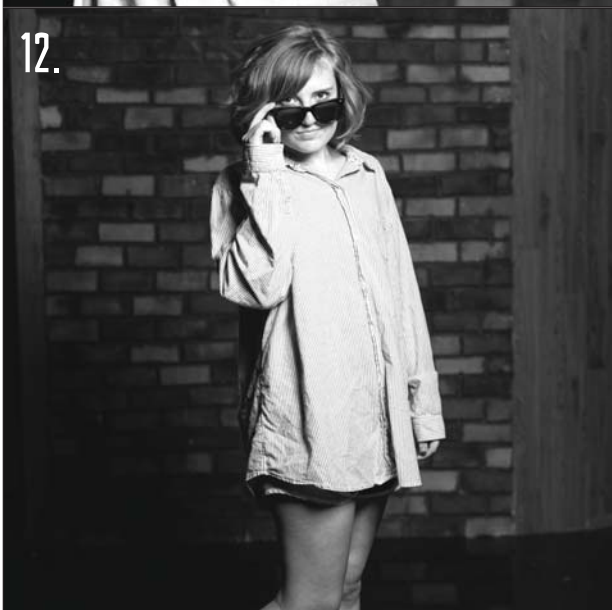


1. Be a boss like Ethan Penner. Kudos to all the J. Alvin resident assistants for continuing to host their annual Halloween Party. Even with half a building.
2. Be a Hutch-Hiker like Shelby Delay. We all love our neighbors down the slope, so why not bestow the highest compliment, imitation? Grab your everyday wear, load up your backpack and practice being out of breath.
3. Be Pocahontas like Tarah Thomas. Looking for your John Smith (or John Rolfe)? Grab an oversized tee you are not attached to and fringe it to the max.
4. Be a Jack-o-Lantern like Alyssa Schoenwald. Find a Halloween-themed shirt at our local Wal-Mart. Or grab a sharpie and draw your own ghoulish expression.

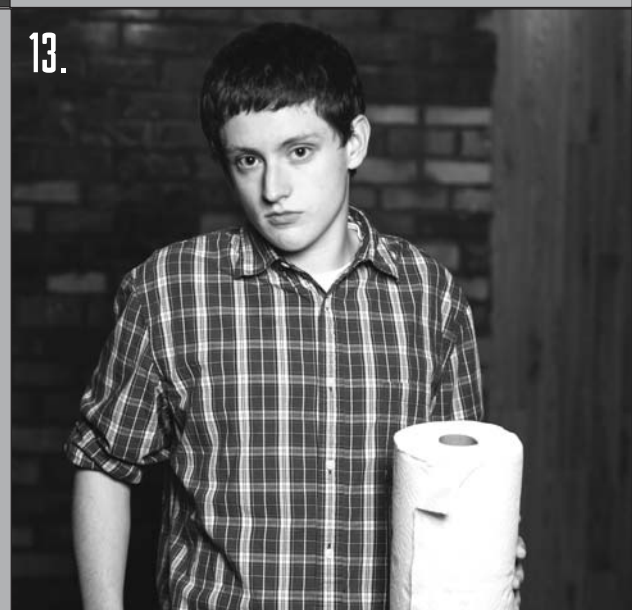
5. Be a selfie like Colleen Cornett. Who better to be than yourself? All you need is a frame and an endless supply of cheesy poses. Make sure this one gets posted to Instagram.
6. Be the Scot Next Door like Becca VerHoeven. Any plaid fabric plus a belt equals a costume worthy of any wee lad or lass. Feeling adventurous? Shoot down enemies with a makeshift bow and arrow.
7. Be a babushka like Sidney Van Wyk. Everyone loves a grandma, especially one with a Russian accent. Pile some scarves on top of a patterned dress and some knit tights. Hunched shoulders and a wagging finger seal the deal.



8. Be a jewel thief like Kelsey Gulliver. Don your best all black attire and gather your priceless loot. This requires a certain level of stealth and debonair.
9. Be Rosie the Riveter like Olivia Morrow. Who run the world? Girls. This one's simple: combine a red bandana and some red lips with that good old denim button down to create your own propaganda-worthy look.
10. Be a Roman senator like Hannah Wright. Class up the stereotypical, sheet-laden toga look with a haughty demeanor and some Plutarchan logic.
11. Be a ninja like Nichole Coates. Unfortunately we cannot reveal the top-secret design of the ninja's costume, but we can say it involves two t-shirts. And foreboding scowl.



12. Be Risky Business like Liz Jolly. Whether or not you like Tom Cruise, you have to admit it would be awesome to glide across the floor in this get up. You will need some shades, an appropriately long button down, some boxers or shorts and of course some knee-length white socks. Slide on, friends.
13. Be the Brawny Paper Towel Man like Jon Skinner. Down to the last few seconds? If you are a man wearing flannel, no worries, fetch a role of paper towels as you dash out the door. Women always love a man with cleaning supplies.



SPORTS

The Threefold Advocate

"One of the premier traditions
in all of college basketball."

Yahoo! Sports



Submitted by SPORTS INFORMATION

The John Brown University Toilet Paper Game has been a tradition for over three decades. The game has been recognized by ESPN, CBS Sports, Yahoo! Sports, and news stations around the world.

The 33rd Annual Toilet Paper Game
Saturday, November 2nd
Bill George Arena

**FREE
ADMISSION**

The game is free to students with a valid John Brown I.D.

General admission is \$7 for adults 18+, \$5 for ages 10-17, and children 10 and under are admitted free with an adult.

T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

The Golden Eagle cheer squad is selling T-Shirts for \$10.

Find a cheerleader
and purchase your
game shirt!

TOILET PAPER

Toilet paper will be handed out upon entrance to the game.

Make sure not to
throw your roll until
the first John Brown
basket!

NEW STUDENT ENTRANCE

Students can now enter through the side doors of Bill George Arena, closest to the Townhouses

General entrance
will continue to be
through the main
doors.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information on the tradition, visit the John Brown University website and search "Toilet Paper Game" or search "Toilet Paper Game" on YouTube.

\$500 to dorm with highest game attendance this season

Colleen Cornett
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Athletic Director Robyn Daugherty met with the R.D.'s of the residence halls to discuss continuing the game attendance competition this year.

Last year, Hutcheson Hall won the \$500 prize and bought a Wii for their lobby.

The competition will begin

on Saturday at the Toilet Paper Game.

Students should scan their student I.D.'s upon entrance to the game, just like they would in Chapel.

“There will be a handicap given to Mayfield and the North Slope since it’s mainly girls, they were way behind last year,” Daugherty said. They will be given 10% attendance rate to start.

The cheer team will also have

hand-held scanners that they can use to scan cards during half-time.

There are also plenty of giveaways, promotions, and contests planned for the upcoming season.

Some of these will include a wing eating contest, free kettle corn to the first 200 students to come to a select game, other free food and more.



Volleyball optimistic for final games

Shelby Delay
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Golden Eagle Volleyball scored two wins this weekend. The team played, Texas Wesleyan on Friday and earned a 3-2 win. The Eagles’ momentum continued, on the following day, as they won against Southwestern A.G. (Texas) 3-2 as well. Coach Stacie Johnson said she was pleased with the way the team worked together to collect their wins during the weekend. “The team did so many things well,” Johnson said. “First and most important, they played unselfishly as a team. Next, we saw things with our blocking and hitting that we have been working on a lot in practice the past two weeks. Another big improvement was our game strategy, being able to see necessary adjustments and make them more quickly. Lastly, their ball control was much better which is limiting our errors.” Freshman player, Molli Pugh sees this season as being a wonderful start to her college career. She also said she was blessed to be a member of a loving and Christ-like team. As Pugh continues to play for JBU for the next three years, she hopes to grow her volleyball skills and make more lifelong



Submitted by SPORTS INFORMATION

The Golden Eagle volleyball team won two matches in Bill George Arena in the past week. They will face Oklahoma City on Friday. friendships and relationships. Pugh noted that in the games this weekend the team gave 100 percent. “Even when we were down, we kept pushing until the end and never gave up,” Pugh said. “We were full of energy and strived to play as a team rather than individuals.” Pugh also mentioned the heart and love for the game of volleyball that they team has and how the team seemed to focus on the next play instead of dwelling on the last. With only four games left in the season, the team has specific things to focus on in order to continue doing their best. “We will continue to work on speeding up our offense, limiting errors and solid technique on our blocking and serving,” Johnson said. “We have to do all this without letting up or even better while improving our defense.” Pugh noted that communication is key in volleyball, and that for the final games of the season, the team should keep working on communication on the court. Pugh also said the team could improve on watching the other team to see what they are doing, giving 100 percent mentally and physically and keeping the energy and enthusiasm high. Both Johnson and Pugh see the team growing stronger throughout the season, starting with the pre-season trip to Haiti and continuing to push through hardships that have been faced. “They have been resilient and learned life lessons through



“It is a blessing to work with them each day.”
-Coach Stacie Johnson

these hardships,” Johnson said. “It is a blessing to work with them each day.” Pugh has seen a noticeable amount of growth on and off the court with the team in their communication, teamwork and individual abilities. “Most of all, I have seen girls on my team, as well as myself, grow in their walk with Christ,” said Pugh. “Every time we step on the court, we play to glorify God and be a light to the opponent, fans and refs.”

Lady Eagles bring home two victories

Colleen Cornett
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The women’s soccer team traveled to Texas this past week to play Southwestern A.G. and Texas Wesleyan. The Lady Eagles won both games, putting

them 6-1 in their conference schedule. Their match on Saturday against Texas Wesleyan ended after a goal by junior Adrienne Kennedy in double overtime. “I was really proud of the effort the girls put in tonight,” said head coach Kathleen Paulsen in a press release

written by Nicolas Robinson, director of sports information. “They made the decision to fight, to grind and show resolve. “There’s nothing more I could ask for.” Freshman Sarah Hill believed her team worked well as a unit. “I think we stepped up and worked really hard together, especially during the two overtime periods,” Hill said. “Everyone was giving their absolute best, and we were all pushing each other to keep pursuing victory.” Kennedy’s goal was made in the 106th minute with the assistance of freshman Braydi Frederick. The women are ranked No. 1 in the Sooner Athletic Conference as of Tuesday with Oklahoma City close behind. “We need to improve on movement of the ball and keeping our spacing as we progress up the field,” Hill said. “Right now, it’s all about refining what we’ve been doing all season to prepare for our upcoming games.” The women will face Northwood on Saturday at 11 a.m.



MAX GRUBB/Threefold Advocate

Junior Casey O’Brien walks the ball to the sideline for a throw in. The Golden Eagles are currently 6-1 in their SAC schedule games.

Small mistakes lead to losses for men’s soccer

Colleen Cornett
Sports Editor
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The Golden Eagles were victorious over Southwestern A.G. in double overtime on Thursday, finishing their game 5-4. On Sunday, the team played Texas Wesleyan and lost 1-0. The game was originally scheduled to be played on Saturday, but was pushed to Sunday due to severe weather. Head coach Scott Marksberry as well as assistant coach David Castagne believed the team did not play to their potential in either matches. Upon being asked about Sunday’s match specifically, Marksberry shook his head, to

which Castagne added, “We don’t want to talk about Sunday.” “We played terribly,” Marksberry said. The Golden Eagles controlled most of the match, including an 18-10 advantage in shots, stated a press release by Nicholas Robinson, director of sports information. JBU had plenty of opportunities to score, but failed to do so. “The small mistakes and silly mistakes are what decided the game,” Castagne said. “Small mistakes cost us the game.” “Our biggest weakness is detail oriented,” Marksberry said. Both Marksberry and Castagne said they would continue to focus on fixing the small details to avoid the “silly mistakes” in their final SAC games.



MAX GRUBB/Threefold Advocate

The Golden Eagles men’s soccer team will face Northwood on Saturday at 1 p.m.

ATHLETE
OF THE
WEEK

Kristen
Morency

Women’s Soccer

Sophomore Kristen Morency was named the NAIA Women’s Soccer National Defensive Player of the Week on Tuesday. This is Morency’s second time to achieve this national award in her career.

BRAZIL

Written by Karis Butler and Jeffrey Essary



Written by Karis Butler, JBU MBA student. Karis was part of a 10-day graduate studies program with 12 other business students to several cities in Brazil, during which students experienced both business and cultural visits throughout the country.

As I arrived at Iguassu Falls, I breathed in the fresh Brazilian air and was enveloped in the magnificent waterfalls. As I exited the airport in Sao Paulo, I was dwarfed by the concrete jungle surrounding me. As I entered the favelas in Rio de Jinero, I was overcome by the extreme poverty and quality of life within the comunidad. As we rounded the coastal corner in our jeep, I drank in the fresh sea air of the Copacabana beaches—air full of luxury and wealth. These were the experiences that shaped my ten days in Brazil on the graduate business practicum trip. Riddled with rich personal experiences throughout the trip, the cities and their culture taught me much about this growing South American empire. But while the cities and landscapes give the country its visual recognition across the globe, it is the people who have made Brazil into the wonderful country that it is today.



Brazil's determination and drive is an inspiration. While the country's citizens have a reputation for being lackadaisical, this is not to say that they don't understand the importance of effort and hard work. In my conversations with a woman named Fernanda at Procter & Gamble, I got to hear how she obtained her degree in pharmacy, only to realize her interest in business. Now, recently promoted to an account executive, Fernanda has dedicated herself to building a successful and fulfilling career. When I met Eduardo at Walmart Brazil, he expressed his earnestness to practice his English with our team. He has a strong desire to grow his skill set and shared with us his passion for not only his company, but also his country. In each of my conversations with locals, it was evident that a sense of optimism and enthusiasm was a common thread. With a country positioned to become the 5th largest economy in the world, Brazil is on the precipice of unprecedented growth. During my time in the country, I was fortunate enough to witness not only the country's growth in infrastructure, but also an increase in hope and drive among the people for a successful future. As Americans, we can learn a lot from the own set of problems, but an essential ingredient to a successful positive change is an uphill battle. Without their support,



Written by Jeffrey Essary, JBU MBA student. Jeffery was part of a 10-day graduate studies program with 12 other business students to several cities in Brazil, during which students experienced both business and cultural visits throughout the country.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said "Never lose an opportunity to see anything that is beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting". These words have never rung more true to me than when I was on the graduate studies trip to Brazil in September.

Everywhere I turned in Brazil I was awestruck by the beauty of both the natural and man-made sights that make up this South American

giant. During the trip, our team was fortunate enough to experience some of the most beautiful, iconic sights throughout the country. One such sight was Igaucu Falls, a half mile stretch of over 80 separate waterfalls on the border of Brazil and Argentina. Our group went on a boat tour on the Iguacu River that snakes through the falls. We were told we would get wet on the boat ride, but I had no idea how wet we would get until our boat plunged headfirst into one of the torrential pillars of water. After the about the sixth trip into the falls, I had a whole new understanding of the phrase "soaked to the bone." Not only did the boat tour allow us to get soaking wet, but it gave us an up close view of all the falls cascading down into the river. As far as the eye could see, there was nothing but waterfalls. Being so close to one of God's masterpieces was absolutely breathtaking.

Another iconic sight that embodies the beauty of Brazil is the Christ the Redeemer statue that overlooks the city of Rio de Janeiro. As we toured the city, no matter where we went I could almost always see the statue of Christ looking out over both the impoverished favelas and the wealthy, beach neighborhoods. While seeing it from afar was certainly a grand sight, standing at the base of the statue was even more incredible. Not only is it enormous, but I was able to see intricate details like the nail scars carved into the hands of the Christ statue. This was definitely the highlight of my trip. While I am not a person prone to exaggeration, and I have been fortunate enough to have some pretty amazing experiences, none can compare to what was a truly lifechanging experience in Brazil.

Seeing the beauty of the country firsthand made everything I had read in the textbook come alive. The memories of looking out at the vast waterfalls and seeing Christ the Redeemer overlooking Rio, will stay with me for the rest of my life. I consider myself extremely blessed to have been a part of this trip.

