

The Threefold Advocate



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Siloam Springs, Ark.

Walmart employees foresee raise

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Walmart has finally responded to the pleas to increase pay for their employees. Leaders announced that by January 2016, starting pay will increase to \$10 per hour. “An associate’s work is valuable. Walmart is making meaningful changes to its pay structure and will raise its current U.S. associates’ wages to \$10 an hour or higher by early next year,” according to Walmart’s corporate factsheet.

More immediately, as of April 2015, Walmart will increase its starting pay rate to \$9 per hour or higher in all markets and plans to move associates below that level to \$9 an hour.

This new development will enact huge changes on employees of the company nationwide.

company’s size and will make Walmart an even more efficient and successful company than it is now,” she said. “I know single mothers that work with me and this change will greatly help them out.”

Johnson struggles with an anxiety disorder. She said her overall experience at Walmart has benefitted her beyond her financial needs and helped her combat her anxiety.

“Sometimes you have to deal with people who are upset, but it has been good practice,” Johnson said. “The constant talking to people as a cashier was a huge struggle at first, but I have gotten better at it over time. It has been a great chance to talk to a different variety of people, and I’ve enjoyed that.”

Senior business administration major Jeremy Aldrich worked for Walmart from Nov. 2013 to Dec 2014 and said he

Sam founded Walmart on customer service and appreciation,” Aldrich said. “He [Sam] said ‘a company’s best assets it their employees.’”

The company factsheet states: “An associate can grow a career at Walmart. The company is piloting an onboarding and training program that will create clear career paths for associates so they know what is expected of them in order to move from entry level positions to jobs with more responsibility that pay \$15 an hour or more.”

Some concerns voiced by reporters for the New York Times and CNN question whether the raise will affect customer loyalty and a great increase in Walmart’s prices. In addition, there is a fear that people could take advantage of the increase.

“I feel like Walmart could cut the less



LEXI CHRISTENSEN/The Threefold Advocate

For the state of Arkansas as of 2014, the average minimum wage was \$6.25 an hour. Current Walmart employee and John Brown University junior Alex Johnson said this increased minimum wage greatly benefits her as an employee at the Walmart Neighborhood Market in Centerton, Ark. Working for the company since June 2014, Johnson said that this is her first employment outside of college work-study jobs, and she is excited about the pay increase.

“The change is happening quicker than we expected,” Johnson said. “They called all of us for a meeting and confirmed the raised wages.”

Johnson views the pay raise as a benefit to the company as a whole.

“This will cause younger generations to flock and increase the

believes this pay increase is overdue.

“There is a lot of value in this change for those invested in the company,” he said. “The good thing is that it is the corporate hearing the cries of the employees that usually feel neglected and unimportant and that is commendable.”

Aldrich said the change took a while to take effect because of the cost.

“I was an overnight employee and got one dollar extra in that position. This was considered a level two pay grade. I was promoted to a support manager position and I received a raise as well as the manager raise, to a level seven,” Aldrich said. He said raise made a difference in his work morale as well as in pay. “My bottom line opinion is that it is a good move, because

efficient employees if they are paying more to the efficient employees. It would be more cost productive,” Johnson said. “I don’t think prices will increase too much.”

Aldrich thinks the raise will affect people on individual levels.

“It is person to person. The saddest part about the system is, because of the model, it can’t allow for those good people stuck at the bottom to save up enough to get out of the financial rut,” Aldrich said.

Aldrich believes the price increase will be almost unnoticeable, because customer loyalty relies on low prices.

“Walmart is taking a huge risk, but they are showing they appreciate the work we do for them,” Johnson concluded.



Students weather depression

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When 19-year-old University of Pennsylvania freshman Madison Holleran took her own life by jumping from a Philadelphia parking garage in January of 2014, her family and friends were caught completely off guard. Madison was a track star, well liked by her peers on campus and had a good relationship with her family. These facts left many questions concerning why she would commit suicide.

Madison’s mother, Stacy Holleran, recalled in an interview with Inquisitor News how her daughter expressed feelings of self-harm about one month prior to her suicide.

“I was shocked,” she said. “She had never been depressed before.”

In the same interview, Madison’s father said she had been struggling with her studies. Madison had always sought good grades, and this could have possibly linked to her depression, though it’s uncertain if her studies had a direct impact on her choice to commit suicide.

College offers new experiences and challenges. This can be exciting for some; moving away from home, gaining independence and meeting new friends can be a positive experience. For others, this can be a completely overwhelming and stressful time, whether they find it hard to fit in, make friends or keep up with schoolwork.

It’s easy for the average student to relate to the idea of going through periods of heightened stress throughout college. Some weeks require more time for studying, homework projects or tests, causing students to feel overwhelmed. Many students, however, are dealing with those week-to-week and even day-to-day stressors while struggling with depression.

Merriam Webster defines depression as, “a psychoneurotic or psychotic disorder marked especially by sadness, inactivity, difficulty in thinking and concentration, a significant increase or decrease in appetite and time spent sleeping, feelings of dejection and hopelessness, and sometimes suicidal tendencies.”

About one-third of 125,000 students surveyed across more than 150 colleges reported having difficulty functioning in the last 12 months due to depression, according to the American Psychological Association. Further research found that more than 30 percent of students who seek services for mental health issues reported having seriously considered attempting suicide at some point in their lives.

Most universities offer some form of counseling service for students seeking help for mental health issues. John Brown University’s counseling center offers up to eight free sessions with a counselor as well as free group counseling. Once a student reaches their maximum number of free visits, a \$10 charge is applied per visit.

Hannah Doty, a senior at the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, said her campus offers free counseling to all students.

“Any student can go and talk about what they’re struggling with and they can give you advice and outside resources if needed,” Doty said.

Doty, 22, is an active member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority at UA-FS. She excelled in high school and entered college confidently, but began experiencing depression as she became increasingly overwhelmed.

“I became depressed my freshman year from the pressure to make excellent grades and being thrust into adulthood feeling underprepared,” she said. “I was overwhelmed by the huge shift in my responsibilities.”

See ‘DEPRESSION’ on page 3

125K STUDENTS SURVEYED ACROSS 150 COLLEGES:

MORE THAN 30%
of those seeking support reported having seriously considered suicide at some point

1/3
Had difficulty functioning over the last 12 months due to depression

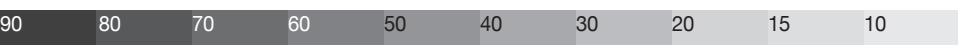
FACTORS THAT IMPACT DEPRESSION:

- Greater academic demands
- Changes in family relations
- Financial responsibilities
- Exposure to new ideas & people
- Temptations

“I became depressed my freshman year from the pressure to make excellent grades and being thrust into adulthood feeling underprepared. I was overwhelmed by the huge shift in my responsibilities.”

”

Graphics by HAHNNAH GARRETT/The Threefold Advocate



Students snag first in singing competition

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Last week, 13 music students from John Brown University competed in the Arkansas Spring Conference of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS). They brought home first place in three divisions and second place in two.

Every year, colleges and universities from all over Arkansas send their best singing students to compete. This year, John Brown sported an unusually large number of students, many of whom had done well in NATS competitions in years past. This year, the competition was held at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Ark.

John Brown voice students have practiced all year for the honor of competing. Divisions were based on singers' gender and years of vocal training. After auditioning before three judges, students were eliminated

in rounds - semifinals and finals. All finalists were required to perform before an audience made up of other competitors, teachers and singers from all over Arkansas.

"It's challenging," said junior A.J. Zaldivar, a worship arts major who attended NATS for the second time this year. "It gives me something to prepare for."

"As a singer, it's an opportunity to perform for an unbiased group of people," said senior Ashley Grant. "It tells you where to go from here, not just with the competition but with your vocal training."

Twelve of the 13 students from John Brown made it to the semifinal rounds of their divisions. Nephtali Cantu and Adam Slotter took first and second, respectively, among freshman men.

Among junior men, Daniel Loganbill and Steve Hamilton took first and second, respectively, and Seth Long took first among senior men.

"The competition was thrilling," said Loganbill. "We (John Brown students) got lots of good comments about musicality and musical nuance."

Loganbill said the competition was especially fierce in the younger women's divisions, where there are many very confident entrants.

"NATS is looking for really big voices," Loganbill said. "It's more about power than musicality."

In addition to the competition, students also attend a master class, where a few students sign up to workshop a piece with a master of the craft. The guest singer also gives a performance. Zaldivar said last year's master, Jubilant Sykes, was particularly impactful for her. He performed a set of songs from a wide variety of genres.

"It was inspiring to hear him sing," Zaldivar said. "I thought, okay, I'm not limited to just one genre. I can do lots of



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JEFF BRANSON

John Brown University students who placed in this years NATS competition held at the University.

things—but correctly."

The trip also serves as a bonding experience between the students, Grant said.

"It's fun to get away with other music majors," she said. "We eat meals together, we commiserate, we laugh

together, we cry together."

"Be proud of the singers that go to NATS," said freshman Monica Matlick, one of this year's semifinalists among freshman women. "They represent the school well."

"This takes a lot of preparation," Grant said. "Music is a serious study, and it is well worth the time and the effort. It's one of the most rewarding studies I've ever done in my life."

Mayfield develops new mentorship program

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Equip, a new mentorship program at John Brown University, launched recently in Mayfield dormitory. 23 mentees and 12 mentors have signed up to take part in this semester-long discipleship program.

About three weeks ago, participants found out who they had been grouped with and met their new mentorship partners. Since then, mentorship groups of two, three and four have met regularly.

According to an Equip factsheet, the vision of the program is, "for Mayfield to grow into a wonderful community of women pouring into other women and creating accountability."

Meagan Ranz, a senior family and human services major and assistant residence director of Mayfield (ARD), co-founded Equip with Haley Maguire, a junior communication major.

"God has given me a passion for discipleship

over the past year, and last semester I was praying about how I could bring discipleship to JBU. One day, Meg and I were talking in her room and the idea of a discipleship program in Mayfield came up," Maguire said.

Ranz said discipleship is something she has been passionate about for several years. She made it one of her goals as ARD to bring discipleship to Mayfield.

"It is vital that we always have a hand out to someone further along than us and behind to someone not quite as far along," Ranz said.

When Maguire mentioned mentorship to Ranz, they realized they had a shared desire and started planning and praying about how to foster God's plan for Mayfield.

After sharing their vision with Mayfield residents and creating an online application for those interested, Ranz and Maguire prayerfully paired and grouped mentors with mentees. All the mentors and mentees then met in the Mayfield basement to get to know each other. Ranz



GRACE NAST/The Threefold Advocate
John Brown students Meghan Ranz(right) and Carissa Wierman(left) meet during an Equip meeting session.

and Maguire passed the baton on to them to begin meeting on a regular basis.

Mallory Spangler, a sophomore family and human services major, is in a mentorship group of four. She is both a mentor and a mentee. Spangler said she believes God calls Christians to be training younger believers and seeking advice.

"It's pretty necessary

for community to be happening among believers," Spangler said.

Spangler said she was initially concerned that the assigned grouping would feel forced, but it hasn't been an issue.

"I feel like we click," Spangler said about her group.

Jason Lanker, assistant professor of youth ministries, wrote his

doctorate thesis on the topic of mentoring. Lanker applauded Maguire's and Haley's efforts to create a mentorship program in Mayfield.

Lanker said research shows that the most important factors in mentoring success are whether a mentor and mentee are attached by a bond of emotion and shared activity.

Mentee Abigail Danley, a freshman art and illustration major, and mentor Tori Hodge, a sophomore marketing major, said they both already had an emotional connection and a shared activity when they went into their mentorship relationship.

They were good acquaintances and had an art class together, but now that they are in a mentor relationship, their primary shared activities are getting coffee together, studying the same book of the Bible and going through the same daily devotional book. Both Danley and Hodge agreed they are enjoying their mentorship relationship. Hodge said because they know each other well enough, she feels confident that "this is going to work."

Ranz said she and Maguire are excited to see God work in each group.

"We are just excited to be a part of what He is doing in Mayfield and where it might go in the future," Ranz said.

Q Commons encourages Christian leadership

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This year's annual Q Commons Siloam conference challenged local leaders and John Brown University students to think about uncomfortable issues, such as racism and immigration in America, in order to build leadership skills.

Q Commons Siloam is a part of the bigger organization Q, created by founder Gabe Lyons to reengage Christians in redeeming the culture around them.

"Q is an organization that is focused on helping Christians to better engage in our culture, and Q Commons works to localize that concept with leaders in the community," said senior Erin Morningstar, who attended the event.

Held on Feb. 27, the theme of the night was to advance the good by learning to view situations from different perspectives. The night included presentations from three

local business owners and three national speakers who communicated via satellite.

Lyons welcomed everyone and introduced the first national speaker, Malcolm Galdwell.

Galdwell is a Canadian journalist and bestselling author. During his presentation he spoke about the theory of legitimize.

He said that when people feel that they are being treated legitimately, they will interact and comply. He discussed this theory specifically when it came to Ferguson, saying that despite what people may feel about the interaction, the fact that a whole city rioted for weeks shows that they felt that they were not being treated legitimately.

"True leadership begins with true authority, which comes from legitimize," Galdwell said.

Michelle Viney, the Northwest Arkansas Home Resource Directory owner and publisher, spoke after Galdwell. Viney emphasized the importance of volunteering.

"Advancing the good looks like voluntarism

to me," Viney said.

Another local speaker, Syard Evans, is the deputy CEO of Arkansas Support Network, a non-profit focused on providing support for people with disabilities.

Evans spoke about the "audacity of privilege" and the need for each of us to recognize our privilege in society and relinquish it. She discussed white privilege and its implications on society as well as the privilege of education.

Broadcasting journalist Soledad O'Brien presented, via satellite, on the topic of race in America. She shared the story of her mother and father and their struggles as an interracial couple, and she outlined the history of slavery and how it has carried over into today. O'Brien ended by challenging the audience to confront the part of American history they like to ignore.

"We cannot advance good if we do not confront bad," said O'Brien before she left the stage.

Lyon returned to the platform to do an interview with television producer

Mark Burnett. Burnett is a six time Emmy award winner, the creator behind The Voice, Survivor, Celebrity Apprentice and other highly rated TV shows.

Burnett discussed the need for virtue in entertainment, but added that creating virtuous entertainment should be executed with excellence.

"Being overtly Christian does not give you an excuse to produce crappy work," Burnett said.

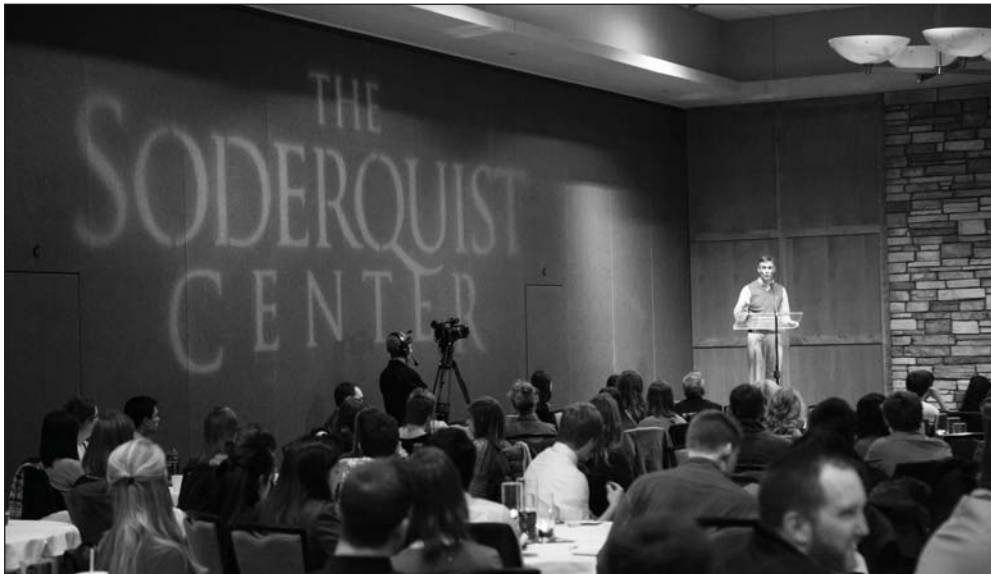
The night ended on a very sweet note with Mark and Meaghan Feyerabend. They not only own a photography studio and a custom frame shop, but also an ice cream shop called Pure Joy Ice Cream.

They challenged the audience to really consider what makes a business Christian. They asked what it means when a company declares that they are a Christian place.

"Nice recap of a lot of

questions that are present today, like race and how to respond to authority. They discussed these issues on the global level and then localized it," senior Nick Carson said after the event had ended.

"This was a very good way to discuss local and national events. It looked at issues from a business and social perspective and then brought it back to a Christian perspective," JBU graduate student David Ruales said.



CLAYTON LYON/The Threefold Advocate
Speakers and community gathered for Q Commons Siloam conference on Feb. 27 in Simmons Great Hall.

Speaker lectures on history of crucifixion

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Today John Brown University will host guest speaker David Chapman to lecture on Jesus’ crucifixion in the Roman world. David Vila, professor of religion and philosophy at the University and director of the Abila Archeological Project, said this is a new initiative. It is part of the Jordan summer Studies Program, he explained. Vila said both JBU donors and people outside the University have funded an endowment for the program. Vila said the lecture is designed to tie into the Old Testament and the New Testament Survey classes. In the fall there will be a lecture pertaining to the Old Testament class and in the spring the lecture will pertain to the New Testament class. He said the lecture is not limited to John Brown students or faculty and has been advertised all over the Northwest Arkansas community. Vila said the first

lecturer will be David Chapman, professor of New Testament archeology at Covenant Theological Seminary and former director of the project. Vila explained Chapman has written two books on the topic. “He is one of the leading authorities in the world on the topic he is speaking on,” Vila said. Vila explained what he wants students to get out of the experience: “The bigger picture is to help students understand the Bible better, but done through understanding archeology and history,” Vila said. Jordan study students had a lot of opinions on how Biblical archeology impacted them and how they think it will impact the students. Eric Seevers, a JBU student who has gone on the Jordan Archeology dig, said the memories really stuck with him. He said it gave him a better understanding of the views and theology of early Christians. “It wasn’t just a textbook telling me... it was experiencing it in real life,” Seevers said. He thinks the lecture



Photo submitted by ARIEL LYON
Jordan studies students dig in Abila, Jordan during their summer study abroad trip. They were excavating ancient church grounds.

will help students, “look at it from a different perspective.” Ariel Lyon, a junior who attended the summer Jordan studies trip, said, “It was really, really amazing to everyday be in history.” She said she thinks students will get a, “more interactive experience with history.” Leah Guy, another Jordan studies student, said the archeology was, “really real.” Guy explained that in America we think D.C. is old, but then you go to the Middle East and realize how long everything has been there for. She said it’s a very humbling experience. Guy said, “It’s helpful to have a broader view.” When asked how she thinks it will impact students she said it is, “cool to hear from experts in the field.” The lecture is not a one-time event, though. Since this is the first lecture, “the former board of directors of the excavation are going to come to JBU for this event and it is going to be a kickoff to this lecture series,” Vila explained. Vila said, “It is planned to go on as long as JBU is around.” The event will be in the Cathedral of the Ozarks at 7:30 p.m.

DEPRESSION continued from Page 1
Doty, now a senior, said she is continuing to learn to live with depression, ADD and anxiety. The National Institute of Mental Health attributes many things as having direct impact on

depression among college students: greater academic demands, changes in family relations, financial responsibilities and exposure to new ideas, temptations, and people to name a few. For many, however, depression is part of their psychological

make-up, making it impossible to avoid. Regardless of its form, depression is a subject that is often avoided. “I don’t think that it’s talked openly about on campuses,” Doty said. “The more depression is talked about and given light to, the more apt universities will be to start programs and provide resources.” “If we can keep the conversation open, I believe that we could eventually lower those rates and promote healthier student

bodies,” Doty said. John Brown University Senior Carolyn Claussen said she believes the lack of conversation about depression on campus can be attributed to the way it is viewed. “I don’t think there is any dialogue about depression at JBU,” Claussen said. “Everyone thinks it’s some big, dark and scary thing but every one single person on the planet experiences some form of depression in their life. We all go through it and we all need help.”

Student Relationships Assessment

The Center For Healthy Relationships

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The importance of respect:
Keep JBU a safe place for discussion

We often talk about tough issues and ask hard questions here at John Brown University. We wrestle with issues of faith and science. We have talkback sessions about racial reconciliation and the church. We hosted a conference last semester to discuss differences and similarities between the Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox traditions of Christianity. Each year, we have a chapel in which students can ask our president about any topic, such as warm cookie Wednesday and how the school is addressing the concerns of LGBT students.

These topics are difficult to discuss and have differing opinions. However, it is important to respect others, despite their differing opinions and even different worldviews.

We The Threefold Advocate commend the students of John Brown University for their willingness to discuss these difficult topics while maintaining respect for their peers. Christians, especially Christian universities, seem to constantly discuss how to handle these types of hard conversations—about LGBT rights, about race, about social justice—and JBU does a good job at this.

However, there are ways to increase our respect and openness. We The Threefold Advocate urge students to embrace new opinions and worldviews. Watch different news channels to experience different political views. Talk to someone from a different culture than the one in which you were raised. Don't shut out people who disagree with you; listen to what they have to say and empathize with them. Do not hastily judge someone simply because he or she is different than you.

When we reach out from our comfort zones, we stretch ourselves—mentally, physically, spiritually and even emotionally. We grow and learn through these new experiences. When we interact with people from another culture, for example, we learn about new languages, political views, social issues, customs, music and food.

Not only do we better ourselves, but we encourage others to share their experiences without fear or shame. When we open our minds and hearts to people different than ourselves, we create an environment of mutual respect. We The Threefold Advocate urge you to remember this next time you disagree with someone or judge them for an opinion different than your own. We want JBU to remain a safe place for us to all to be open and honest with one another, even with difficult issues.

Tell us what you think:
The good, the bad and the ugly

Everyone has heard the phrase “you can't please everyone,” and we all know it's true. Different people have different worldviews, different histories and different beliefs, and this is a good thing.

We The Threefold Advocate avidly support diversity. We strive to share the stories of different people, especially on the Opinion pages, by creating a public forum for people to share their voices. In every page of the Threefold Advocate we illuminate differing opinions on campus life, national subjects and international events.

However, we realize there are people on this campus who disagree with some of the articles and columns we publish. We have heard some say these pages are filled with lies and bias. Some people refuse to read the paper because of this, and We The Threefold hope that you will pick up this issue and read this message.

We have high hopes for this newspaper, but we are student journalists. We are still learning how to conduct interviews, how to edit stories, how to communicate well with sources. And this learning is a process that sometimes involves making mistakes.

We strive for openness and honesty in all our work. As journalists, we have rules and laws to respect and uphold. While you may believe that all media people are crooked, biased liars out to support their own agenda, this is not true of us. In addition to journalistic ethics and standards, we also have the laws of God to guide us.

We ask you, our readers, to be open with us about your feelings toward the Threefold. If we misprint something, tell us. If you think we are not representing certain people groups on campus, talk to us about it. If you disagree with an opinion column, we would love to hear your response. If you think we should give more coverage to a certain issue, let us know.

Our goal is to create discussion about religion, about issues affecting the church, about politics, about life and death, about relationships, about hard things and about things that bring us joy. The only way to have a discussion, though, is if our voices reach you, and you respond.

We The Threefold Advocate sincerely want you to tell us what you think. You can email any of our writers and editors (our names and general contact information are below this editorial), or write a letter to the editor or opinion column if you want your thoughts published or talk to us in person.

The
Threefold Advocate
- advocate.jbu.edu -

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

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The Threefold Advocate would like to clarify that editorials, those pieces in the column above this paragraph, are the opinion of the editorial board. They are therefore not attributed to individual writers. The writings to the right, with mug shots and pithy headlines, are columns. Each is the sole opinion of the mug shot's owner. On occasion, readers wishing to respond to an article or to express a viewpoint will write a letter to the editor. The opinion pages serve as a community bulletin board and are meant to continue the dialogue about various issues relevant to the JBU community. Please write. We want your input.

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More hymns in chapel



ALEX JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTOR

From the moment I first came to JBU I didn't much care for chapel. It was so loud, and I could hear the vibration of noise even from where I stood in the back. Maybe it was the music itself that bothered me. While I've tried many churches in my day, I've never found one that makes me feel as at home as Grace Reformed in Rogers does. The congregation, which I've been a part of for three and a half years, is like family instead of the unfamiliar masses of the school. The hymns, though unfamiliar, have more meaning to me than “Yes, God. Yes, God. Yes, God, yes.”

That's what I hoped to hear when I came to JBU. There were hymn books tucked behind the pews then. Parents and students were promised hymns would be sung. Such hymns never came. Even now, as a junior, I listen carefully for the familiar sound of hymns each chapel. I wait for them to tell us to bring out our hymn books and sing together. We never do.

For the most part, there's only contemporary Christian music. It's the kind of music you'd find on any Christian radio station. Occasionally, people specially choose to sing hymns, but those are for special occasions. I can't help but want more. I want to hear familiar praises instead of the contemporary tunes. I want



Illustration by CALLUM MCNICHOLS

to enjoy chapel more because, after all, it is mandatory.

Of course, I'm not saying we should sing hymns every chapel. That would be alienating those who struggle to worship that way. However, from the way things are now, chapel can be a bit alienating to people like me—people who are much more accustomed to listening to hymns. By giving a variety of music during chapel services, students may choose to attend more of the ones that match their faith and preferences to worship. Chapel can become a comfortable place to learn more about the faith.

Please don't get me wrong though. This is much more than a “build your own chapel” idea. It's a matter of faith itself. For some Christians, any worship is fine, and, when they're happiest, they can best praise the Lord. Others come from denominations where the only proper form of worship is hymns. The strictest only want hymns based on Psalms. To them, it's not just a matter of asking a question like “Does this music get my feet tapping or not?” Instead, it's a matter of asking, “Are they

being Biblically sound? Are they worshipping correctly?”

If there is such a difference in the way denominations believe we ought to worship, then as one of the most well known Christian schools, John Brown University should be willing to bring diversity into the music we sing in chapel. It may be a bit of an annoyance to turn down the energy and having to learn unfamiliar, “boring” hymns, but it could make all the difference to someone who wants to worship the way they feel is proper.

So I say, bring in the hymnals. Slow things down. Give JBU students a chance to worship in a way that they believe is Biblically sound. Give us hymns.

Johnson is a junior majoring in communication. She can be reached at johnsonale@jbu.edu.

Linguistics offer insights



MARIA VELAZQUEZ
CONTRIBUTOR



/kæn yu ri:d ðɪs/? Of course you can, and if you could not read it, at least you have an idea about what it says. I think that now your next question might be: how in the world can I read these unusual symbols? This is one of the questions that linguistics answers.

Linguistics can be defined as the scientific study of language, which is divided into branches such as phonology and morphology. Unfortunately, people usually have a misconception about what linguistics is. Most of the time, people relate linguistics with learning languages. I am not saying that linguistics does not have anything to do with all the languages of the world; on the contrary, all of them are

essential, but it is not required to be bilingual or polylingual in order to take and understand the class.

This semester I am taking the class of linguistics, and I have to admit that it has been an enriching experience because it allows me to appreciate more, not only my mother language, but also the second language

“Thanks to the knowledge I am acquiring, my pronunciation has improved as well as my writing skills. I feel more confident talking and writing, and writing in the Threefold Advocate is a good example of it.”

I am currently learning. For instance, one day the professor told us that all languages are linked by the universal grammar (UG), which are the linguistics rules that all languages share. We see examples in Japanese, French, German, Spanish and other languages that I did not know existed. This information makes learning other languages easier and faster because we already know certain rules that apply to the language.

Another benefit from the class is a better understanding of English. I used to have problems understanding how to produce certain sounds or some grammatical issues. Thanks to the knowledge I am acquiring, my pronunciation has improved as well as my writing skills. I feel more confident talking and writing, and writing in the Threefold Advocate is a good example of it. However, reading is not enough to improve; practice is also necessary.

For instance, when we were in the chapter of phonetics, we

needed to know how to produce the sounds of the International Phonetic Alphabet, which are the symbols that I wrote at the beginning of this column. The first activity we needed to do was to know the parts of the mouth and how they work, then we started to exercise our mouth by making funny sounds and doing exercises with the

mouth. It was an interesting and unusual experience; I have not done activities like that in other classes, even in my ESL classes. Each time I'm in class, the professor tries to surprise us with simple little facts that involve linguistics, and he always emphasizes the importance of linguistics in daily life.

If you are learning any language I highly recommend you to take the class. Even if you are not learning a second language, I also encourage you to take it. I guarantee that you will be surprised to discover all the knowledge you already have, but did not know about.

Velazquez is a senior majoring in communication. She can be reached at velazquezm@jbu.edu.

JBU's BEST



|| by **LAUREN DROGO**, Staff Writer

Our JBU men have been styling some fantastic beards lately. Can you guess who these beards belong to? Check back in next week's issue to see if you were right!



Photos by KLARA JOHANNESSEN/The Threefold Advocate

Peculiar instrument sparks passion



CHANCE EASTER/The Threefold Advocate

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Erhu. The word itself looks like gibberish, but to John Brown University junior Ethan Zuck, it means a challenge and talent. The erhu is a two-stringed musical instrument commonly played by various ethnic groups in China.

Zuck, a philosophy major with minors in psychology and music, has many hidden talents. Among being proficient in Russian and Japanese, being the leader of The Wells Project at the university and having 15 years of piano experience, Zuck has taught himself how to play the erhu.

"I just have been YouTubeing tutorials; it's the best way to learn! Right now I still have a lot more to practice," Zuck said.

Zuck was originally inspired to learn the erhu because of his love for soundtracks and composers. Just a few of his favorites include John Powell, Akira Senju

and John Williams.

"There isn't just one film that inspired me. Any oriental-sounding music is beautiful, especially the erhu. It's unlike the violin because the erhu is richer and it kind of has a singing quality that is smooth and yet somber," Zuck said.

He believes the erhu is the most popular Chinese instrument.

Although many people would not know where to look for an instrument of this kind, Ethan found the instrument online and purchased it last year.

"If I go into music composition, it can help with certain jobs, and if I master the erhu, it will definitely be helpful. Instead of going to hire another person to play it for my composition, I could play it myself," Zuck said.

Even so, he said it is a great hobby. Currently, Zuck is in Music Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI), a class teaching students to compose and create music.

"You use sounds in digital libraries and can replicate sounds

and instruments.

There are so many different workspaces to create your own audio track," Zuck said.

The online libraries contain digital erhu sounds, but his roommate of three semesters, Mario Escobar Albores, got to hear the erhu live.

"I remember the day he got the erhu, and he was so excited! He even played it for me. I tried it and the sound is very unique," Albores said.

Albores said that Zuck had become one of his best friends and admires him for his many qualities.

"He will come back to the room at two, three or even four in the morning, just because he is playing piano. I really admire him because he is so disciplined in his practice. I wish I was more disciplined like him!" Albores said.

He added that Zuck loves sushi and appreciates authentic Chinese food. Albores, from Guatemala, witnessed Zuck's interest in other cultures and his learning in-

depth about them.

"He is so concentrated on being better and, when I ask him why he comes in so late, he says he was so focused he didn't even realize the time. Yet he doesn't like to show off his skills and he is humble," Albores said.

Paul Whitley has been Zuck's piano teacher every semester of his attendance at John Brown University. In both lessons and classes, Whitley said, "It's nice because I don't have to push him hard. He is so self-motivated, and his self-motivation speaks tons of him."

"He pours himself into everything he does and he has an inner drive," Whitley continued.

When asked to describe his student in three words, Whitley said, "Servant, teachable and caring. These qualities come out through his answers in class and in lessons. He is very humble."

Zuck will present his final MIDI project at the end of the semester and will be performing in his spring recital accompanied by Whitley on May 1st.

Caf hostess brightens students’ days

SHELBY LAWSON
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“I don’t think I’ve done anything special,” Debra Koran quietly insisted as her bright eyes panned around Kresge Dining Hall underneath her characteristic glasses. Although her co-workers and students claim she has revolutionized their cafeteria experience, Koran does not fully see the uniqueness of what she brings to her work. John Brown University students may not recognize Koran’s full name but if they’ve eaten in the JBU cafeteria at all this school year, they will recognize her friendly face and her cheery voice without a doubt. For a semester now, Koran has transformed the mundane activity of entering the caf into an uplifting experience that students and staff can look forward to each day. Koran has become famous this semester for her characteristically energetic yet unashamedly heartfelt greetings at the entrance to the caf. When students walk in, they are likely to hear, “Hi, guys!” or another pleasant greeting. Never before has scanning students’ IDs in

the caf warranted such a warm welcome for students and faculty, and Koran means every word. “I just want to see everybody come in with a smile, I want to see everybody happy,” Koran said. “So if I can bring a little joy into your life, more power to it.” Joy she brings, day in and day out, to Kresge customers and her coworkers alike. Brittany Clauson, Koran’s manager, claimed that working with Koran is a whirlwind of goofiness, quirky earrings and silver bracelets. Clauson said that Koran’s bubbly attitude finds a way to affect each person she interacts with. “I’ve seen the change this semester with the students,” Clauson fondly recalled. “I see more happy students; students who actually want to come in.” As Clauson spoke about her employee and close friend, her eyes lit up and she couldn’t help but smile as she talked. Even the mere thought of Koran’s impact seemed to shift Clauson’s outlook on her afternoon, even if for a moment. Momentary joy is all that Koran attempts to bring to students. A simple greeting—laced with an occasional “darlin’”—upon

entering the caf and a chirpy “Have fun!” upon exit are likely the only interactions students have with Koran, but she’s okay with that. Koran confessed, “I have kind of adopted each one of you as my children. I want to see everybody happy because I believe that once you get out in the world you have enough hardship to worry about, enough things to stress about.” Koran knows a thing or two about facing the world and its stress. For almost 13 years Koran worked at Simmons Foods Inc., the local chicken plant in Siloam. When people at JBU ask Koran why she is always wearing a smile, she replies, “For 13 years the only thing I had to smile at were the chickens as they went across the line!” Koran laughed, “It’s nice to be able to see friendly faces.” Koran is motivated each day by the simple fact that she loves her job. When students ask what she loves about it so much, she often gestures to them. “What makes me happy is when you guys come in,” Koran said. “I get up in the morning and I’m like, ‘I get to go to work—yay!’” After all those years in a chicken processing factory, Koran is genuinely

grateful for her current job. “That’s what I wish for all of you, that you guys find one job that you go to and that you love,” Koran said. She has learned that it is best for a person to have at least one bad job before they’re able to truly appreciate a good job. “This job right here is the best I’ve ever had,” Koran remarked cheerily. Chase Poage, a senior at JBU, has come to the

conclusion that Koran’s influence in the caf is all the more valuable because of her passion for spreading the joy she possesses. Poage reflected on Koran’s impact and spoke about how powerful it is that Koran is able to take her excitement for her job and use it to pour into the students. Poage has enjoyed Koran’s dependable, encouraging presence this semester. “It’s always good

to have almost a motherly figure to smile at you, ask you how you’re doing, giggle with you, and tell you a joke here and there to lift your spirits,” Poage shared. As for Koran, she’s humble about the impact her enthusiasm has made. “Other people might think I’ve done something special, but I don’t think so,” Koran explained in the middle of the bustling caf, smiling as usual.



KLARA JOHANNESSEN/The Threefold Advocate

OFF-CAMPUS CHECKLIST

So you want to move off-campus next semester? Have you covered all your bases? If you haven't, please make sure you do. Living outside of the dorm can seem exciting at first, but there are certain responsibilities that come with it. Don't worry though, as long as you have all of this done, you will have what can be the best semester of your life.

TO DO LIST

APPLICATION
If you are not automatically eligible to live off campus, you need to fill out the off-campus application form and return to Student Development by March 6, 2015.

FINANCIAL AID
Check with the financial aid office to be extra sure that your scholarships will still apply in order to pay for your housing.

ROOMMATE
Find a good roommate. We've all met our fair share of good roommates as well as some disastrous ones. Be sure and pick someone who will not only remember when rent is due but also be your friend at the end of a long and strenuous day.

APARTMENT
Find an apartment or house that is far enough away that you can have your privacy but close enough that you still feel connected to the JBU community.

CABLE
Some people still watch cable? Yes they do, and, if you plan on being one of those people, then you are going to need to pay for that along with your Internet service.

WIFI
Do you like watching Netflix and stalking your classmates on Facebook? Then be sure and remember to find a good Internet provider.

FURNITURE
The dorms have provided you with your bed, dressers, couches and desks up until this point. Now it is on you to purchase these items. Be sure and check out the local Goodwill or Salvation Army for discounted pieces or else you will be sitting on the floor, eating off your lap for the year. No one wants that.

FOOD
If you are considering dropping your meal plan altogether, you will need to factor in the cost of groceries each month as well as those snacks for your inevitable house warming party.


UTILITIES
Not all utilities are included in the rent and you will need to know whether or not you can handle the price once those are tacked on.

VEHICLE/GAS
Now that you are living further away from your classes, you will need to pay for the gas to and from class and for the new parking tag that allows you to park your car on top of the hill. And we all know how wonderful bypassing the hill is.

GET APPLICATION AT:
http://www.jbu.edu/assets/residence_life/resource/file/Applications/Off-CampusHousingApp2015.pdf

Written by Lauren Drogo, Staff Writer & Designed by Cassie Pierson

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
PRESENTS:



Danyeale Williams
YEAR: SENIOR
MAJOR: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
HOMETOWN: MUSKOGEE, OKLA.
FUN FACT: MY GRANDMA USED TO BE A PRISON WARDEN
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SEASON OF THE YEAR? WINTER



Courtesy of the JBU Athletic Department

Men’s golf stays on course

MAX BRYAN
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John Brown University’s men’s golf team has been doing a lot of preparation for the spring season—even if it means staying indoors. “Since the weather’s been so cold, we’ve been inside,” said junior Max Gordon. “We’ve been hitting nets, working out a lot—lots of swimming in the pool, and a lot of cardio.”

The men’s golf team currently is one of the smallest athletic programs at JBU, with eight men participating in the program.

The team’s rigorous push to stay in shape came about at the end of the 2014 spring season and hasn’t let up ever since.

“Last spring, when we went to conference (tournament), I realized

our conditioning wasn’t what it needed to be,” said Coach Doug Turner. “So we spent a lot of time in the last two and a half weeks getting back into shape. We ended the season in pretty good shape last year. So we’ve been doing a little bit of workout. You know, with the ice and the snow, it’s been really hard to golf, so we have nets that we hit into indoors. We have workouts that we do a couple of days a week, including swimming.”

But conditioning is not the only aspect of their training. According to freshman Thatcher Radler, he and his teammates practice golf on a real course whenever possible.

“We play when it’s warm,” said Radler. “Obviously, February is always up and down. We play at the city course, and we’ve played at Shadow Valley. I played a few weeks ago when it was warm with the guys.”

All of this is in preparation for the various tournaments that will be held throughout the spring semester. The first of such tournaments is the NAIA Contender, an all-day tournament that will be held on March 9-10 in Dallas, TX.

“That’s the one at TPC Four Seasons,” said Gordon. “That’s where the Byron-Nelson on the PGA Tour is played. It’s probably going to be one of the toughest courses that we’re going to play, but it’s a pretty good field there. We should be able to come up with a good score.”

Not only is the NAIA Contender a difficult tournament in terms of course difficulty, it also bears difficulty in terms of opponents.

“There are about 14 of the top 20 programs in the country that are going to be there,” said Coach Turner. “Obviously the big schools in our

conference are Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma Baptist University, Texas Wesleyan and Wayland. Those are our top four, and they’re also in the top 20 in the country.... A really good showing for us would be to beat two or three of the schools that we can compete with. Hopefully we can beat Oklahoma Wesleyan and Southwestern. The idea is that if we can be competitive enough and play to our advantage, not only will we not come in last, but maybe we’ll get in the top six or seven. That’d be a win for us.”

“There’s a really good course we’re playing on, one of the top courses down there,” said Radler. “I think we’ve got a decent chance. I don’t know how we’ll come out of the shootout, but we have some decent guys who are swinging well. Hopefully it’s positive.”

(Photo to Left) Josh Crystal stands on the teeing ground, while looking down the course. Crystal, who is a sophomore from Oklahoma, along with his team conditions as part of their training.

(Photo to Right) Sam Greenleaf, a junior from Oklahoma, awaits his turn to tee-off. The men’s golf team currently has eight players.



Courtesy of the JBU Athletic Department

Upcoming Golf Tournaments

Monday, March 9
@ The NAIA Contender: All Day in Dallas, Texas

Tuesday, March 10
@ The NAIA Contender: All Day in Dallas, Texas

Monday, March 16
vs Southwestern Christian: All Day at Monkey Island, Okla.

Friday, March 27
@ Bethel (Kan.) Spring Invitational: All Day at Newton, Kan.

Saturday, March 28
@ Bethel (Kan.) Spring Invitational: All Day at Newton, Kan.

Eagles earn All-Conference titles



▷ **Eliana Fernandez #11**

Eliana Fernandez was named Honorable Mention for Sooner Athletic Conference. Fernandez has made 159 points overall in the conference. Fernandez ranks as No. 8 in Div. I for total assists with 145.



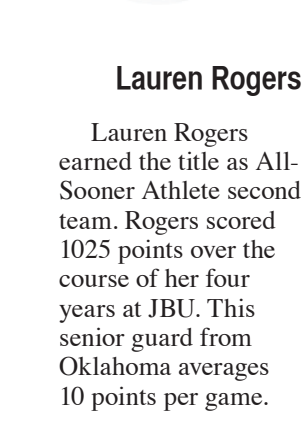
▷ **Brooke Barker #34**

Brooke Barker was also named All-Conference Honorable Mention. Barker has 82.5 percent shooting record. In conference average, Barker scores 8.11 points per game.



▷ **DJ Feitl #23**

DJ Feitl, All- Sooner Athletic second team, scored 338 points in conference. Feitl ranks as No. 14 in total scoring with 551 points and No. 13 for a free throw percentage of 83.8. He has made 79 3-point shots.



Lauren Rogers #20 ◁

Lauren Rogers earned the title as All-Sooner Athlete second team. Rogers scored 1025 points over the course of her four years at JBU. This senior guard from Oklahoma averages 10 points per game.



Sofia Mendoza #35 ◁

Sofia Mendoza, All-Conference Honorable Mention, earned a total of 189 points for Conference games. Mendoza currently ranks at No. 7 in Div. I in total blocks with 56.



Max Hopfgartner #35 ◁

Max Hopfgartner earned the title as All-Sooner Athletic second team. This senior has made 1423 career points. Hopfgartner ranks as No. 12 in Div I in total rebounds with 248.



March 5, 2015
The Threefold Advocate

Tennis team reaches for excellence



Luke Pascoe throws the tennis ball in preparation for a hard hit across the court. Pascoe, a senior from Arkansas, is part of the men's tennis team, consisting of 11 members. LEXI CHRISTENSEN/ The Threefold Advocate

MAX BRYAN
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It's the first week of the regular tennis season, and John Brown University's tennis players already have a lot to talk about.

"The teams we've played so far have gotten better," said senior captain Alex Baker. "I can only expect the teams that we will play will be better as well. They've improved every year. I mean, so have we, but some of them have gotten nationally ranked; some of them are undefeated at the current moment, even at Division II and Division III levels."

So far, the men's and women's team have played two matches against

Hendrix College and College of the Ozarks. The men's team lost both matches; the women's team split the two, taking the victory over Ozarks.

According to freshman Grace Cusick, splitting the matches was a good indicator of where the team stood.

"We lost one of the matches, but we won the next one," said Cusick. "I think that really helps us, because the loss showed us what we really need to work on. It just got us ready for what is to come in the season."

Although the men's team did not emerge victorious, according to Kumhal Fulghem, the two matches provided an opportunity for personal

success.

"Those were two fun matches," said Fulghem. "It was my first match as a number three as a

to prove that I have what it takes to stay up with everyone else."

While neither of JBU's tennis teams hold a

"I think we're all really focused and really pumped for the season. Our end goal is just to do our best, and we'll see where that takes us." - Grace Cusick

freshman, so it was a little stressful at first. But as I was playing, I was like, "This is my time. I can show what God has given me and what I've worked for to get here now, and

winning record, the season is far from over, with plenty of games to improve on. Silva is particularly looking forward to playing more games during the first weekend of March.

"We're hosting a two day back-to-back tournament on the 6th and 7th of March," said Silva. "We didn't get to play back-to-back at home last year, so that's an exciting opportunity to get to come out and play."

According to Silva, the competition against opponents is not the only thing that has become more intense. The intensity within practices has as well increased.

"I think that coach is pushing us to be more disciplined in practice," he said. "Practices are more rigorous now, and we're asked to give a little more compared to last year. The intensity level has ramped up a little bit more, and I think that's a good thing

going forward."

Baker also sees benefit in the intensity of the practices.

"This team has a lot of potential; they just need to crack down and be more disciplined—myself included—when it comes to practice," said Baker. "In matches, we have a ton of potential to do really well, but we just have to stay focused against our opponents."

According to Cusick, the team has adopted a focused attitude that they hope will take them far.

"I think we're all really focused and really pumped for the season," said Cusick. "Our end goal is just to do our best and we'll see where that takes us."



LEXI CHRISTENSEN/ The Threefold Advocate
Phillip Todd performs an exercise during practice in preparation for an upcoming game. The tennis season is just beginning.

Tweets This Week

"Game between #goJBU and WBU is set for 4:30 p.m. on Thursday (March 5)"
@JBUathletics

"By virtue of multiple tiebreakers, #goJBU MBB earned the No. 6 seed and will face No. 14 @ WBUathletics (No. 3 seed) in SAC quarterfinals"
@JBUathletics

"GAME DAY...again! Make-up game at OCU 2night. We r playing our best ball the last couple weeks, let's keep it going 2night! #goJBU"
@CoachBeschta

#GOJBU



This Week's Conference Standings

Women's Basketball

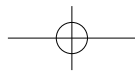
SCHOOL	W	L
Oklahoma City	17	1
Oklahoma Baptist	15	3
Wayland Baptist	13	5
Southwestern Christian	10	8
MACU	9	9
USAO	7	11
Texas Wesleyan	6	12
John Brown	6	12
Southwestern A.G.	4	14
Saint Gregory's	3	15

Men's Basketball

SCHOOL	W	L
MACU	14	4
Wayland Baptist	13	5
Oklahoma City	13	5
Southwestern A.G	11	7
Saint Gregory's	10	8
Oklahoma Baptist	8	10
John Brown	8	10
USAO	6	12
Texas Wesleyan	4	14
Southwestern Christian	3	15

Upcoming Tournament

Support the men's and women's basketball teams at the Sooner Athletic Conference Tournament this weekend, March 4-7 at Oklahoma City University.



10 SPOTLIGHT

March 5, 2015
The Threefold Advocate

Chinese New Year 2015

YEAR OF THE SHEEP

*Written by Elise Farrell, Staff Writer
Designed by Hannah Garrett, Visual Art Director*

Chinese New Year is also known as the “Spring Festival” and is one of the most important holidays, both socially and economically for many countries. The festival originates from a time when individuals would honor their late ancestors, deities and sacred spirits. Although, there are still some who practice the sacredness of the festival, the majority now see the festival as a time of gathering with family and a time of being away from work.



During the festivities, married couples and elderly individuals give a red envelop, called “Hong Bao,” filled with money to children and single adults. Traditionally, people though these envelopes brought good luck and wealth to the children in the future.

This year, the Chinese New Year began on Thursday, February 19 and will end on March 5. The holiday is based around the lunisolar calendar that relies on the moon phase. Each day of the festival signifies something and holds a sacred tradition.

COUNTRIES CELEBRATING CHINESE NEW YEAR:

Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, North Korea, Singapore, South Korea, Vietnam, Argentina, Chile, Kenya, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand & some U.S. regions



Photos from Google Images

15-Day Festival

1

Known as Yuan Dan. This day kicks off the official celebration of the New Year with Chinese operas, festivals, and dragon dances seen in the streets. Many families will also practice traditional customs when it comes to meals, such as abstaining from meat to cleanse the body while also saving from killing an animal on the first day of the year, which is a Buddhist principle.

2

Known as the ‘Birthday of the Dog’ within accordance to the Chinese calendar, most canine friends are given a little extra love today, including the strays! Married women will also pay a visit to their parents as a sign of respect on this day.



3-4

These days are reserved for paying respect to the deceased, especially family members who have passed away within the last three years. At this point in the festivities, many businesses will reopen.

5-6

This day is known as the birthday of the god of wealth. Traditional foods are eaten in some regions and many tend to visit friends on this day.



7

This day is referred to as ‘Birthday of Man,’ and it recognizes the common man.



8-12

Many will gather on this day over a family meal.



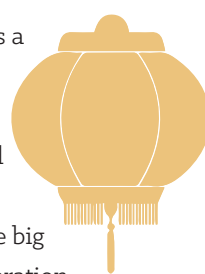
13

The Chinese culture knows the importance of diet, especially after indulging over the last week and a half. Many individuals will partake in a vegetarian meal this day to calm the body and digestive system.



14

If there was a “Lantern Day Eve”, this night would be it. All energy on this day goes into preparation for the big finale of the New Year Celebration—The Lantern Festival.



15

This day is known as “yuán xiāo jié,” or first night festival. During the Lantern Festival, children can be seen holding lanterns, and streets are filled with decorative and festive lanterns. This is the last day of celebration in the Chinese New Year.

