# Passionate prof's career to reach its sum p. 6



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JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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# SIFE scores trip to nationals

**Emerson Ayala** 

**Opinions Editor** 

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For the twelfth year in a row, the John Brown University SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) competition team was crowned Regional champion March 26.

The Regional competition took place in Rogers, Ark., with competing colleges and universities from Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. JBU SIFE is advancing to the National competition that will take place in Kansas City, Mo., May 22 to 24.

The teams were divided in three leagues, and two champions were



#### STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE

selected from each. JBU SIFE was named champion in league number three, along with Pittsburg State University from Kansas.

The JBU SIFE speakers this year are sophomore Marcel Guadrón from Guatemala, juniors Estefania Verdin from Mexico, Katherine Jaramillo from Ecuador, and seniors Kassie Keeter and Philip Ruppert from the U.S.

Senior Jasmine Chavez served

as vice-president of competition, while the media team was made up of seniors Analu Marin and Kate Williams, juniors Gerardo Marroquin and Caylie Foley, and sophomore Andrea Eifert.

During the competition, the students had 24 minutes to present four of the current SIFE projects to a panel of judges, mostly entrepreneurs and SIFE sponsors.

JBU SIFE director and Sam Walton Fellow, Clayton Anderson, said he was proud of his students' accomplishment.

"[The speakers] delivered a powerful presentation to nearly 140 people," Anderson said. "We believe our projects make a difference, but it's nice to know that the

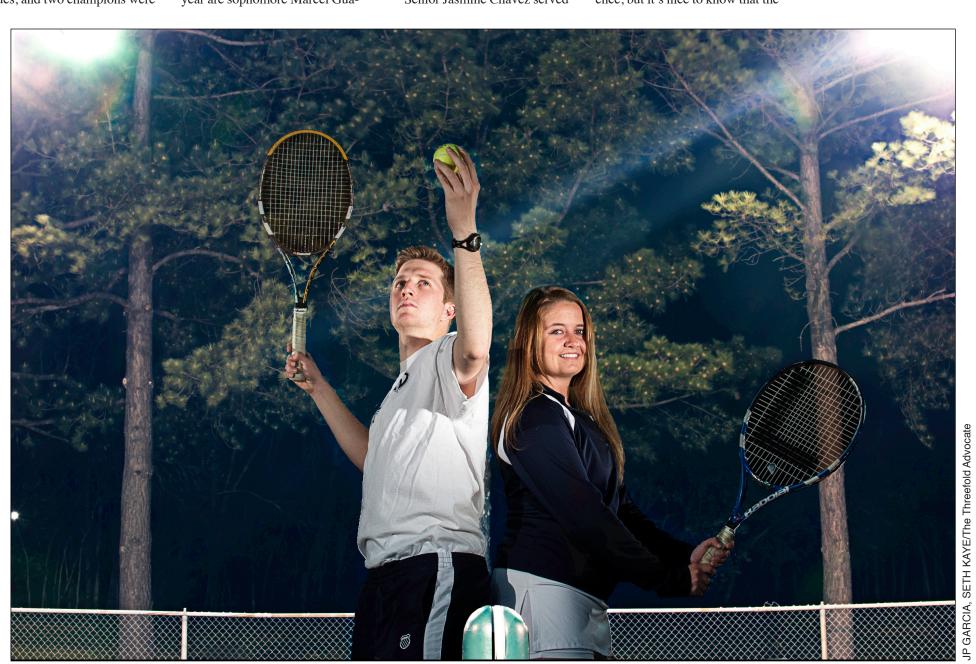
16 judges also agree."

In his first year as JBU SIFE director, Anderson changed some of the strategy for the presentation. Whereas in past years SIFE advisors are involved every step of the way, Anderson gave students more freedom and less oversight.

"Zac [Freeman] and I placed a tremendous amount of responsibility on the students. But the team was very capable, I think it's clear they rose to the challenge," Anderson said.

Keeter said she became a SIFE speaker because she believes in SIFE's impact and wanted to be able to tell those stories. Keeter

See SIFE on page 7



# her & Sister

Sidney Van Wyk

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Sophomore Leah Engstrom first started playing tennis the summer after sixth grade. Her brother Eric, a senior, had just decided to try out for his middle school's tennis team.

They and their parents went to their local tennis courts almost every night to play together.

"We would always go out late at night when no one else was there," said

Now Eric and Leah Engstrom play tennis together almost every night, but they share the court with the rest of JBU's tennis program. Eric is the student coach for the men's and women's teams while Leah is a co-captain of the women's team.

"It's awesome to have something where I know I will get to hang out with my sibling two hours a day," said

He said they have always been close, though playing tennis together has helped deepen their relationship.

Eric had joined the tennis team as a walk-on his freshman year. He had not played competitively played tennis since middle school because it conflicted with high school baseball.

"I had played before, I felt comfortable on the court and I love tennis so I thought 'what the heck, why not'," said Eric about deciding to try out for the

team

Leah said she and her parents had not been that surprised when Eric called them during his freshman year and said he was going to play tennis at JBU.

"Eric is one of those people who randomly show talents in lots of things," said Leah.

Playing tennis with Eric is one of the main reasons Leah decided to

See TENNIS on page 7

## Students, S A seeking connection

**Esther Carey** 

News Editor

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It is election season for the nation – that time of year when candidates seek the votes of their constituents.

On the campus of John Brown University the candidates for the Student Government Association blend in well.

Wearing everyday clothes, they wander their classes or the cafete-

ria on a quest for the signatures needed to put them on the ballot. Often, they run unopposed. Of the 20 available senator positions, only about half are currently filled.

For many students, the work of SGA officers and senators remains something of a mystery. An example is freshman Maggie Willis. She never really hears anyone talk about SGA, she said, and doesn't really know much about it. She added that may be because she has not been here very long yet.

But from what she has seen, she

continued, "SGA doesn't seem to be as big of a deal as they are advocating themselves to be."

Senior Hannah Cook, student body president, said that while being typical students is what gives SGA members a unique role it is also their biggest weakness.

"We are just students too," she said. That is what qualifies them to do their job, but is what can also hinder them from doing as much as they would like because of time constraints.

Cook said SGA members' big-

gest strength is their participation in Board of Trustee meetings and other campus administration committees. As president, Cook gives a report to the whole board twice each year.

"We are often the only actual students the trustees ever come in contact with," Cook said. Because of this, the trustees do ask the SGA members for input. Cook continued that this part of SGA officers' jobs affects students in real ways they probably do not realize.

Willis said that role made

perfect sense, although she had not known about it before. She continued that she wondered what type of things they told the board, and also how SGA members could communicate back to the students what occurs in the meetings.

"If SGA would publish a report about the meetings, or really anything they're doing, it'd make it easier to understand and keep up with what they're doing for JBU," Willis said.

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The Threefold Advocate

# Housing numbers shaping up for next year

#### Adrianne Redding

Copy Editor

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With spring break over, housing registration is approaching quickly. Next year's seniors have already applied to live off campus and room draw will begin shortly.

Andre Broquard, director of resident life at JBU, said that as of now, there are 69 seniors that will live off campus, four that will live with faculty or staff, several getting married and 10 who will be 22 or older. The numbers are still rolling in as the semester draws to a close, how-

"Everything is still in a state of flux," Broquard said. After everyone fills out their pre-housing registration he will have a much better idea of who will be where.

Roughly 50 seniors lived off campus the 2011-2012 school year, compared to the 69 for the 2012-2013 year.

This extra number of seniors off campus will hopefully free up some dorm space or spots in townhouses, as residence life currently estimates there will be 940 to 980 students living on campus next school year. In fall 2011 there were 939 on campus. This spring there are 915. Junior Dylan Smith plans to

live in a townhouse with a group of friends. "I want to live somewhere that is a little quieter than J Alvin," he said. "[J Alvin] is fun, but sometimes [is] a little difficult to find some quiet time to do homework. I know most of the guys in my group next year, and they're all serious students. Plus, I'm excited about a full kitchen and an actual house to

This upcoming year, seniors and a few juniors have another option for living on campus, in the Broadhurst Village duplexes.

The duplexes are typically rented out by the University to seniors, graduate students or married couples that want offcampus housing on campus. Due to overflow in the dorms, 16 seniors are currently living in the duplexes. But for the 2012-2013 school year, Broquard plans to keep the duplexes for on-campus students.

The process will function much like the townhouses, he said. There are 36 spots available, mostly in units of four. There will also be two resident

Upperclassmen will apply to live in the duplexes, and priority will be given according to credit hours. Overflow will be directed

to wherever open spots are available, whether in the townhouses, North Hall or any of the other dorms. Those groups, he said, would have to break up or shuffle around.

Despite greater options on campus, off-campus living is still popular.

Junior Maria Taylor is one of the 69 planning to live off campus next year. She and five friends have rented a house together. "Living off campus will save several thousand dollars," she said. "I also just love the idea of living in a real house in a real neighborhood. Coming from the townhouses, the transition to living in an off-campus house will not be severely significant as far as responsibility goes, but it will be fun and different. Also, while I love JBU and our beautiful campus, I am just ready [for] something new."

### Important Housing **Dates & Information**

March 26-April 9: Complete pre-housing registration on EagleNet.

contact RD to keep room. **April 16:** Housing Appointment emails sent. **April 17:** Room Draw

**April 9-13:** Squatters

for Townhouses. April 19: Room Draw for Residence Halls.

Students must have housing deposit receipt and proof of class registration for Room Draw.





Senior Katelyn Banks will unveil "Stream of Consciousness," a cut paper installation inspired by prayer and derived from meticulous hours of preparation on April 3 in the new art building. The theme of the gallery comes from Psalm 1, in which the author uses trees planted by the living wa-

ter as a metaphor for someone who delights themselves in God.

As Banks prayed, "God, I want you to use this, let everything come from you," her inspiration for --- Compiled by Brittany Reading "Stream of Consciousness" came alive.

SIFE continued from Page 1

also said the team did not make mistakes through the entire presentation, which boosted their confidence.

"After we won I was so proud and relieved that we made it through regionals," Keeter said.

Verdin said JBU SIFE has been one of the highlights of her JBU experience. She said the speakers could still improve individually and as a team, but that they deserved the win.

"We have put a lot of effort into it and it's amazing to see it reflected. It's a tremendous honor but a great responsibility to do an excellent job at Nationals," Verdin said. She said she appreciated the support from other SIFE members and friends who attended the presentation.

Andrea Morales, JBU SIFE vice-president of communications, said she was proud the efforts to maintain the quality standard of the team paid

"I know [JBU SIFE] has been an excellent competitor in past years, it's something we have inherited from other generations," Morales said.

She added that her favorite part of the event was the judges' questions and answers to the speakers, SIFE president Brandon Knight, and project leaders.

"When they were answering I could see the passion, encouragement and knowledge they have," Morales said.

After the presentation, president Chip Pollard joined the team in celebration with pizza and gelato at Fratelli's Pizzeria downtown.

'Winning is part of being in SIFE, but knowing we impact people's lives in Siloam Springs and Central America is what I love the most," Morales concluded.

Looking into Nationals, Anderson said the group would need to tighten the script and improve consistency across print and audiovisual materials.

The official scoring sheets won't be returned for two weeks, but the feedback we received from rogue judges, competitor teams and observers was overwhelmingly positive," Anderson said.

The winner at Nationals will join 3,000 students from 39 countries at the SIFE World Cup in Washington D.C., Sept. 30 to Oct. 2.

Submitted by CLAYTON ANDERSON

The John Brown University SIFE speaker team poses with the regional competition trophy on March 26. The team competed against teams from nearby states. This is the 12th year JBU has won.

## In the Bubble

## Locking folks in

On March 30 Vibe is sponsoring a JBU lock in at the Bill George Arena.

The fun will start at 10 p.m. and continue throughout the night.

### SRA for the win

Students have a chance to win one of several prizes by filling out the Student Relationships Assessment. The SRA is a survey created by the CRE. Prizes include a Kindle or three \$50 gift cards.

## Out of the Bubble

Cuba and the Pope cnn.com Mar. 27

Pope Benedict XVI arrived in Cuba on Monday following a visit

to Mexico. The pontiff met with the Cuban president Raul Castro and may have also interacted with his broth-

er Fidel Castro, the former leader. Benedict was also scheduled to lead Mass for a large crowd of people in Revolution Plaza. That is where John Paul II first addressed the Cuban people in 1998.

## Court on healthcare

nytimes.com Mar. 27

The Supreme Court began hearings about President Obama's healthcare law on Monday.

The plan was closely questioned by four of the conservative judges. A fifth justice will probably vote against the law.

Much of the debate so far has centered around the justification provided for the plan.

The final decision will likely be based on the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

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**MAGENTA PLATE** 

# Radio station fundraiser resounding success

**Russell Hixson** 

Editor-In-Chief

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101.1 KLRC, the University's Christian radio station, ended Sharathon this month with \$746,904 pledged from nearly 2,400 listeners. This has ensured the ministry's funding for another year of operation.

"The mountains we were facing this morning was too big for us. Then, in a flurry of phone calls and data entry, that mountain we were facing became clearly visible in our rear-view mirror," said general manager Sean Sawatzky in a statement to listeners. "We're all walking around the building talking about what God did - and will be for some time to come."

than 60,000 listeners in Northwest Arkansas each week with Christian music and programming. It also serves as a train-

The station reaches more ing ground for JBU's broadcasting students who can be heard on air. To keep running, the station has to raise 70 percent of its yearly operational budget from



During the two-day event, dozens of listeners phoned in not just to pledge their money, but also to express their sup-

"As long as I got KLRC playing its positive music, it's hard for my mind to become clouded with anger. I feel clear," said one caller. Ten-year-old Johanna Reyn-

goudt brought homemade chocolate chip cookies by the office with a note that read, "I made these cookies myself to thank all the KLRC staff and make you feel happy during Sharathon. Thanks for playing all the wonderful music!"

To make Sharathon a success, a multitude or organizations donated their time to the event, including Ability Tree,

Cobblestone Project, Habitat for Humanity, NWA Healthy Marriages and Samaritan Community Center.

Sharathon 2011, During the station raised more than \$660,000.

KLRC has been named the Radio Station of the Year by the Christian Music Broadcasters and the Gospel Music Association four times. This is a national award and the highest honor available for Christian radio stations in America. It has also been named a finalist for the two most prestigious awards given to radio by the National Association of Broadcasters—the Crystal Award for Excellence in Community Service as well as the NAB Marconi Award.

# SWEPCO: Five things to know

**Kelsey Gulliver** 

Staff Writer

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#### 1. It's not easy to find

Located around Gentry, Ark., there is only one access point for the lake, which can be especially difficult to spot if you go at night. From campus, head east on U.S. Route 412 and soon after Walmart turn left onto State Highway 59, northbound. This will take you into Gentry. Once there, look out for State Highway 12. You will turn left onto it and head west for a couple miles until you hit Cripps Road. Turn left again and go south for just a few more miles until you see a parking lot and boat ramp on your left. Hello, SWEPCO.

### 2. It's a JBU tradition

SWEPCO is one of the countless JBUisms referred to throughout the year on campus, although especially so during Orientation Week each fall. Groups of students notoriously carpool to the lake and take a dive into the warm, murky waters. Sophomore Sara Stoll described the experience as both fun and gross, adding that, "once you get over the concept of it, the water feels nice when it's chilly outside.'

#### 3. Murky legality

SWEPCO Lake is outside of the Siloam Spring's Police Department's jurisdiction and the Benton County Sheriff's Office could not be reached for comment. So it may be legal to swim in the lake or it may not be - just keep that in mind as you wade into the water.

#### 4. It's warm year-round

This man-made 500-acre lake is warm 365 days a year because it serves as a cooling agent for the nearby Flint Creek Power Plant. According to a forum on basscatowners.yuku.com, the water can be between 70 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit, depending on where

you are on the lake. And remember, if the power plant happens to be shut down for maintenance or something along those lines, the lake will be cold just like any other lake, especially during the winter.

#### 5. More than swimming

Because of the unnaturally continuous warm water supply, SWEPCO Lake is a great place for fishing. Jason Cossey of area J and B Fishing Guide Service told Channel 5 News that he once caught a 60-pound bass in the water. He said that the fish tend to be bigger in this lake, growing all year long because of the warm water. Cossey also stated that the best times for fishing were early morning or twilight. But if fishing just isn't your thing, there is also a half-mile trail, the Eagle Watch Nature trail, to hike. Also drawn because of the warm water each year, many American Bald Eagles arrive on the lake each fall and spend the winter living off and around the lake.



KELSEY GULLIVER/The Threefold Advocate

The warm waters of SWEPCO lake lap against the fishing pier. The heat draws eagles, fishermen and University students to the area.

# Spring break mission trips impact lives

Hannah Wright Staff Writer

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The SMLT sponsored three domestic mission trips over spring break, taking groups to Jackson, Miss.; Panama City, Fla.: and New Orleans. La.

The Jackson trip was led by

Huebert. Partnering with the John M. Perkins Foundation and the Zachariah 8 Community, students tackled service projects with a focus on Christian community development.

Students on the Jackson trip were able to hear John Perkins speak, and discuss difficult issues such as race and culture as they pertain to faith, as well as studying the book of Acts.

The Jackson missionaries

worked hard on their assigned tasks, doing everything from weeding to digging trenches.

Freshman Mikayla Roberts remembered working on a drainage ditch. It started pouring as the team was working on the trench, Roberts said. But they were determined to finish because it was their last day to work. By then, the trench had already filled up with water so they had to guess

said it was a life-changing experience. "For the first time I could experience the power of the Holy Spirit when sharing the Word of God to people I would never imagine I could pursue a spiritual conversation with," she said.

The New Orleans trip was led by Bryan Cole and Austin Robertson, the resident directors of North Hall and the Townhouses. respectively. The goal was to experience and minister to the city of New Orleans. Partnering with TouchGlobal, a response ministry of the Evangelical Free Church of America, students worked to fight the still visible devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Split into two groups of thirteen, students worked on two separate demolition projects. One was to tear down parts of a house in order to refurbish it, and the other was to complete the destruction of a condemned house.

'Even seven years later, roads are unfixed and slabs of foundations are in the overgrown grass," said junior Rachel Brown. "I was caught up in the idea of losing everything; how does one move

Most students spoke of how their lives were changed, in ways large or small.

Everything that happened in this mission trip was God talking to us and working in our lives,' said junior Carla Penate, who went on the Panama City trip. "I am not the same," she said.

Many students also expressed amazing interactions with the communities of their mission fields. "The people down there have

some of the greatest hearts and give all the time they can to any friend," said Brown.

The trips were generally considered a huge success, each group accomplishing what they set out to do, as well as larger

'We wanted to bring our work back and to remember what we learned," said Huebert. And they

SGA continued

from Page 1 Cook said she had never thought of telling the students what happened in the board meetings. Some of the information is confidential, and other things are more detailed than students would prob-

ably be interested in, she added. Steve Beers, vice president of student development, said SGA members provide a constant reminder for the board and the cabinet about who their policies affect. The University's administration takes the liaison position of SGA

with the board seriously. By working within the administrative system, Beers said, SGA can coordinate with school officials to make real changes. He gave as an example the fact that it was SGA representatives eight or nine years ago who helped students

get Good Friday off of school. "Students would complain about having classes that day in March or April. But by then it was too late to do anything about it, and they would forget about it until the next year. SGA members were of significant assistance in working with committees and petitioning that this be changed."

Danielle Keller, coordinator of student activities, is the school appointed advisor for SGA. She said one of the challenges for SGA is communicating what they are accomplishing back to the students. They could do better at marketing themselves to the student body, she said. This is sometimes hard because they do not want to come across as bragging, she said.

It is important for there to be two-way exchange between students and SGA. Keller added that the SGA senate meetings are open to the student body, a fact many do not know. If students want to present to the senate they need to be placed on the agenda, but they are always free to attend and listen.

Cook agreed. Students often talk about SGA to one another, but typically they do not talk to the SGA members. "We want people to come directly to us," she said.

SGA Senate meetings are held at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Check back next week for an article about SGA projects.



Three University missions trip participants—senior Cori Van Gorkom, sophomore Broderick Wilson and freshman Amber Moore --work on weeding a plot of land in Jackson, Miss. The trips provided opportunities to serve others and be changed by the experience.



did eventually finish the trench, but not before engaging in a mud war or two.

The trip to Panama City was led by assistant director of discipleship Lisa Corry. The students were part of a group of 800 who attended a conference called Big Break. The conference focused on equipping students for evangelism. Students spent two hours on the Panama City Beach sharing the gospel with passers-by. Junior Velma Sanchez was one

of the students on the trip. She

"absolutely did."

ΜΔΩΕΝΙΤΔ ΡΙ ΔΤΕ

RUSSELL HIXSON / The Threefold Advocate

# DITORIAL

# Positive impact

Why we still believe in the Kony 2012 campaign

It blew up the Twitter feeds. Everyone you knew was reposting it on Facebook. In only five days, it had received over 70 million views on YouTube. It was without a doubt one of the biggest social media campaigns this world has ever seen. That's right, "it" is the "Stop Kony 2012" video sponsored by Invisible Children.

The 28-minute documentary spotlights Joseph Kony, leader of the Lord's Resistance Army in Central Africa, who is accused of overseeing the systematic kidnapping of thousands of African children. He then forces the boys to fight for him and turns the girls into sex slaves, killing anyone who doesn't comply. The video then calls for the arrest of Kony before the end of 2012.

Any person, place, thing or idea that receives virtually overnight popularity becomes subject to mass amounts of criticism. The Stop Kony 2012 campaign is no exception. Invisible Children and its video have been under fire almost nonstop since the release. However, The Threefold Advocate believes its critics are too quick to find flaws and too slow to offer alternatives.

One of the major critiques of the Invisible Children involves their budgeting practices. Currently, only 37 percent goes to aid programs in Africa. The rest is spent on raising awareness and paying their management.

However, many critics fail to realize that Invisible Children is first and foremost an awareness organization. Their main goal is to raise awareness about the injustices occurring in Africa, not to directly help the mistreated. The fact that so much of their budget actually goes to the chil-

Secondly, many complained Invisible Children oversimplified the steps it would take to stop Kony in their video. They say it is much more complicated than simply changing your profile picture or hashtagging

However, we would argue the steps had to be simplified for the sake of the video. No average Joe is going to watch a 30-minute presentation on the complicated strategy involved in capturing the world's most wanted. The video did what it had to do to make people aware, and just the sheer number of views is already putting pressure on the government to

Finally, critics point out the risk involved in using the Ugandan army to carry out the Invisible Children's plan. The Ugandan army does not have a good track record where human rights are concerned. The army has allegedly used child soldiers as well.

However, we recognize no part of this plan involves the ideal situation. Ideally, the Invisible Children would use an army just as concerned with human rights as they are. But in reality they are forced to use what is available and best in the situation. Even with the campaign's flaws, the outcome will still be positive.

Therefore, we believe critics need to take a step back and stop criticizing just for the sake of criticizing. Most would agree Kony is a bad man who needs to be stopped. If you do not agree with Invisible Children's attempts to do so, then you need to offer up a better solution instead of tearing down the one in place.



Graphic by RUSSELL HIXSON / The Threefold Adfvocate

## Threefold Advocate

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

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## Lack of Salsa Dance raises questions

I read Jose Alvarado's column about the lack of a Salsa dance a few weeks ago, "Spring events lack Salsa spice," and I had a few things to add.

First off, I also want to ask why aren't we having a Salsa dance? It just does not make sense to me. The salsa dance has been a beloved event for the last few years, well attended by students from many different cultural backgrounds. Both my freshmen and sophomore years I attended and the event was extremely fun! The venue was packed with students from all years enjoying not only the music and dancing, but also the fellowship with friends, delicious food, and exciting environment.

Both years I helped give the Salsa dance lessons with Gabo Ruiz. For each of the lessons that we offered we had a completely packed room full of students eager to learn to dance. Dance is so important in many cultures, and the fact that we have one less dance to participate in at John Brown is disappointing to say the least. The Salsa dance was something that many students looked forward to year long. It was one of the two dances that JBU offered that all students could attend, enjoy, and participate in. Junior-Senior banquet is a spring event sure, but not all students are invited to attend. This means that there is now only one dancing event where freshmen to senior students are allowed to participate in.

Another important reason why the Salsa dance should not have been taken away is that it strips something from the vibrant Latin community we have on campus. This community is exciting, accepting, and proud of their cultural past-times. To take away an important event from this community affects not only this community but the JBU community as a whole. I believe that the Salsa dance should be reinstated at JBU for so many different reasons, and I know that I am not the only one who feels

I am wondering what are other people thinking about this on campus? I know many friends have talked about it, but I feel like there has been little response from SAC. So, since they're not speaking about it, or addressing students' questions about this, I am adding my voice to the discussion because I truly don't want this issue to be laid to rest without giving it the attention it so rightly deserves.

Glenna Pittman Junior Family and Human Services PittmanG@jbu.edu

# Word on the Web

What's your take on the Salsa Dance? Will you miss it?

Join the conversation on The Threefold Advocate's social media sites.



Facebook.com/ThreefoldAdvocate



or **Twitter:** @TheThreefold



MAGENTA PLATE

The Threefold Advocate

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# Why early marriage works



Adrianne Redding

I am 21 years old and will graduate December 2012. I will be married in 44 days

That's right—I will be married before my fiancé and I graduate from college. We will be back for one last semester in

There is always buzz on campus about romantic relationships. Everyone has an opinion about the couples here. And more often than not, I have heard conversations bashing the idea of young marriage, or especially marriage while at JBU. I have read columns on the Threefold that have made snide comments about marriage between students

Because I am in the minority, roughly six percent of the student body, people seem wellversed in reasons to avoid early marriage, but not the reasons as to why some of us welcome it. Here are a few of my thoughts. Of course, these only completely apply to my own situation, but I bet they apply to most other cou-

ples as well. 1) This isn't a romantic whim. I have explored the details of graduation dates, life insurance, health savings accounts, rent, change in social security status, the myriad of possibilities of birth control, financial aid, earning enough money for a honeymoon and not a spring break trip, tax codes for dependents, juggling two families, finding jobs and a whole lot more. The paperwork and hassle of job hunting, wedding planning, graduation seeking, and everything else in life will make just about any couple take a second look at the whole marriage in college/right out of college thing.

2) We do realize money will be tight, thank you. Reports show that finances are one of the major causes, if not the most common, of divorce. That is a pretty sobering statistic—one that has made us consider carefully about our budgeting and financial strategy.

Both our fathers were most concerned over the lack of money that we would face in our first years together. After first making sure that we could balance things like loans, scholarships, gas money, insurance and savings, we explained that we probably would fight over money

sometimes. Doesn't everyone? Often the serious, repetitive

'I am grateful to be among JBU students now and feel a lot of encouragement for my life choices, including my upcoming nuptials."

fights stem from different views of how money should be saved and spent-something that couples should know about each other before they get engaged.

We both come from similar Christian households that taught the same principles about saving and spending. Because we know our foundational beliefs are the same and that God is in control of our finances, our money squabbles will not put an unbearable strain on our marriage.

3) My sex life isn't any of your business. Perhaps that's too harsh. If so, I apologize. But too often on campus I have heard people remark, "well, you know the only reason they would get Redding is a senior majoring in hope no one says that about me! at ReddingA@jbu.edu.

First, it's a very private section of my life. Secondly, it's not true. But since I brought it up, I will say: my fiancé and I are getting married for sex—but not only for sex. As Christians, we understand that sex is holy, satisfying and beautiful inside the commitment of marriage. We also understand that marriage is more than "sex on the regular;" it is also about presenting a symbol of Christ and His church, a safe environment to raise children and a loving, supportive relationship to stabilize not only the individuals, but society around

them as well. Getting married primarily for sex is dangerous and unfulfilling. However, God did give sex to humans to enjoy and please Him with, but only within marriage. So, please don't assume that sex is the only thing on our minds. We are pursuing marriage because we believe God is calling us to it.

One small deciding factor of whether to wait longer or go ahead and get married in 2012 was the environment at JBU. My fiancé and I will be within a few hours of our families and will be surrounded by a Christian environment that is sympathetic to, if not supportive of, early marriage. That sounded like a better place to start our relationship than states away in who-knowswhat environment.

As a whole, I am grateful to be among JBU students and feel a lot of encouragement for my life choices, including my upcoming nuptials. I respect your decision to be single or to be casually dating at this point in your life. I assume that's where God has you now. Please assume the same for me.

married so soon is for sex." I political science. She can be reached

# Trayvon death reveals ugliness unarmed blacks, mistaking them for threats.



Russell Hixson

Pointless, needless, ugly, racist, out of line, justified – all words swirling around the tragic death of a Florida teen.

Seventeen-year-old Trayvon Martin, who was black, was returning from a trip to a convenience store when George Zimmerman, a community watch captain, became suspicious of the hooded teen. Against police advice, Zimmerman followed the teen and two had a confrontation. Martin, unarmed, was shot in the chest and died.

The details of what the altercation looked like and if Martin attacked Zimmerman are both still murky. Zimmerman claims Martin attacked him from behind, punched his face and pounded his head into the pavement. Some witnesses claim Zimmerman confronted Martin.

Regardless, the shooting raises some disturbing questions.

Why is a black male in a hooded sweatshirt inherently suspicious in America? I am not saying that Zimmerman is a passionate racist who hates and fears blacks. I think that deep down many Americans are afraid of blacks. My guess that part of it is from consuming sensationalist news media, television shows, movies, music that often portrays the black male as scary, dangerous and a criminal.

It seems the culturally identification of blacks as being dangerous is affection our actions. A study in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology showed that in a video game simulation, people have a much easier time recognizing threats and shooting subjects when they are black. People are also more likely to shoot

And that is not a defense of Zimmerman's behavior. It is a disturbing wake up call to tell us that there is an ugly, deep, subconscious prejudice driving people to do stupid things.

The problem is amplified by another. Americans are not just terrified of blacks, but are terrified in general. Our post 9-11 world seems filled with bombings shootings, death, destruction and murder. Part of this is because of the invention of 24-hour news cycle that is constantly pumping fear into the hearts of Americans. It's the reason people feel they need a neighborhood watch, guns in their home, alarm systems and resumes from babysitters.

But there isn't more violent crimes. In fact, according to the New York Times, the violent crime rate has plummeted to its lowest point in nearly forty years. The odds of being murdered or robbed are less than half of what they were in the early 1990s. But people are more afraid than ever about some new drug their kids will take, predators snatching their kids or hooded figures threatening them on the street.

We shouldn't even need to be talking about this case. Zimmerman should have listened to the dispatcher who told him not to follow Martin. He had no right to bother him. The police would have showed up and shown Zimmerman the Skittles, and this would have been an embarrassing case of subconscious, racist paranoia. Instead we have a dead teen. Ridic-

If anything good comes out of this, it will be the desire to answer some disturbing questions: Why are Americans so terrified of blacks? Why are Americans so terrified in general? Is it wise to have a gun at your hip 24/7?

Hixson is a senior majoring in journalism. He can be reached at HixsonR@jbu.edu.

# Support the troops



Emily Anderson

Politics and religion: the topics no one brings up in polite conversation. But that shouldn't be the case. America has received a lot of flack for its military involvement with countries like Afghanistan and Iraq.

Many people have strong opinions on the matter and others have none at all, but one question has been raised. Can you be a Christian and be in and support the military?

I think you can. There are countless stories in the Old Testament of the Israelites asking God for favor in battle, and He granted it to them. God even called people to war to fight their enemies. However there is the commandment "Thou shalt not murder." So what do we do with that?

Ecclesiastes 3:8 says, "There is...a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace." God knows man's heart, and we are all infected with sin. It is inevitable that there will come times of war and conflict.

God commands us to protect the weak and take care of the poor. If I saw a little child or anyone for that matter being attacked, I would hope that I would go help them and if it came to the point that it was my life or the attacker's, I would defend myself. I wish that we could live in peace and harmony with one another and govern with love, but we live in a fallen world. We must implement protection systems to keep order and create peace in this chaotic world. I think you can be a Christian and in the military. First Corinthians 10:31 says, "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God," and it applies to all things

including being in the military. That's not say there aren't things wrong with the military. For example, the recent controversy with Army Staff Sgt. Robert Bales who could be sentenced to death if convicted on any of the 17 counts of murder filed against him for allegedly embarking on a shooting rampage in Afghan villages.

Nothing is perfect in this world and there are extremely high standards for an organization that is in charge of protecting and bringing peace.

People in the military and those who run it fall short of those standards all the time. But there are people who are honoring God with their service and who are saving lives.

The military isn't going to go away, and I would rather have someone who tried to honor God with their lives and actions join as opposed to someone else.

So bring up politics and religion in conversation and make it polite. Make it something that Christians can talk about. I am not saying that you will agree with whomever you talk to, but it is important to not avoid the

journalism. She can be reached at AndersonEM@jbu.edu.

Anderson is a senior majoring in

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

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

got opinions?

**MAGENTA PLATE** 

# Page 6 LIFESTYLES

The Threefold Advocate

# Passion + drive = legacy

**Esther Carey** 

**News Editor** 

CareyE@jbu.edu

Three students file into a professor's office. They have come with a question about an algebra homework problem. There is an equation that must be understood and a parabola that must be graphed.

The professor looks at the equation for a moment. "The challenge is that it is too easy compared to others of this type," he tells the students. He goes through the steps, utilizing the white board hanging on his office wall. His main goal is not to solve this individual problem, but rather to help them grasp the algebraic concepts.

As the students leave, their questions answered for the moment, the professor returns to his chair. "Sorry for the interruption," he says. "I'm just too committed to my students."

For him, Don Siemens, professor of mathematics, that may well be true. Siemens estimated that he has taught more than 5,500 students during his 28 years at John Brown University. He also said that some of his best friends have been the students he has taught.

Siemens is officially retiring in May. However, he intends to return to teach two algebra classes in the fall for the next two years as an adjunct professor.

He is the oldest of nine children, born to two University alumni. After growing up in Kansas, he and all nine of his siblings returned and also graduated from the University, which Siemens said "must be a re-

In 1966 he started college. Due to changing his major three times and taking a semester "bumming around Europe," Siemens graduated with a Mechanical Engineering degree in 1972.

Next taught he math and coached cross country, track and basketball at a Missouri high school for four years. He said he had seen how influential high school teachers and

coaches could be in students' lives and wanted to have that kind of an impact.

Siemens' next step was to get his doctorate in southern Illinois as he continued teaching at a high school there. He studied education, curriculum and instruction. "Basically how to be a teacher," he said. After finishing his degree, he applied to teach at a high school in Tulsa, Okla. He also interviewed for an open position at John Brown University, for which he was accepted.

He said that what brought him back to the University was reading articles by John Brown III in the Brown Bulletin. He said he never would have left teaching high school if he had not been so impressed with the University's emphasis on academic excellence and the spiritual formation of both faculty and

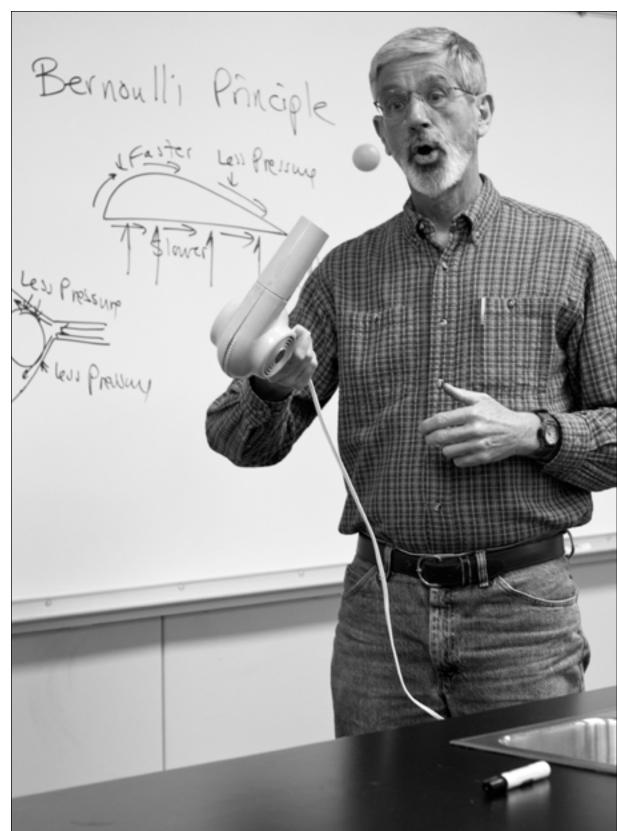
Siemens spent his first 19 years at the University teaching in the division of Teacher Education. Later, in 2003, he said he wanted to get back to teaching math. He intended to do so in high school, but when a position opened for a math professor at the University he took that instead.

Throughout his career Siemens has been interested in studying how to be a better teacher. For example, his doctoral dissertation dealt with the use of homework in math

Now that he is retiring, he hopes to take the next couple of years to process the data he has from teaching mathematics at John Brown. His goal is to examine whether taking algebra classes help students with their overall success in college.

Siemens said he has learned many things from his students. He may continue teaching by returning to the high school class room at some point in the future.

"My students have kept me laughing," he said. "They have helped my problem solving skills stay sharp as I work with them, and they give me a purpose for ministry and my existence on earth."



STEPHANIE WILLIS/Threefold Advocate

Professor Don Siemens uses several demostrations in class to not only help students solve problems but also grasp the algebraic concepts. The professor of mathematics credits his student for keeping him lauging and helping his problem solving skills stay sharp.



SUBMITTED BY EMMA BENTLEY

Native Nigerian Francis Umesiri said he always knew he was going to be a teacher and decided to pursue a degree in chemistry. In 2008 the now professor of chemistry published his book, "The Searching for Meaning" in which he discusses the topic of God's specific purpose and assignent in everyones life.

**Emma Bentley** 

Contributor

BentleyE@jbu.edu

Understanding chemistry may seem like an impossibility, but John Brown University's new chemistry professor, Francis Umesiri, seeks to simplify this science and make it

"less frightening." Umesiri enjoyed learning chemistry in school and decided that teaching others about chemistry was what he would like to do in the future. The next step was for him was to pursue a degree in which he

could do both of these activities. "I knew I was going to be a

teacher" even in high school, he said. "I like to teach, and I like to think."

However, teaching and chemistry are not only his passions. He said God gives every one of His children a passionate heart for a specific ministry to serve Him in and for him it was a heart for marketplace ministry.

Marketplace ministry, explains Umesiri, is geared towards helping Christians "call attention to Jesus" at home, work, school and other venues where Christ's message of salvation needs to be shared.

The goal of the ministry is to teach Christians how to better "take that Christ influence to [their] community" wherever that community is, said Umesiri.

He recognized God's calling on his life to serve in marketplace ministry while working for a Christian organization in his native country of Nigeria, Africa. After coming to the United States to pursue his masters and doctorate degree, he continued to work in marketplace ministry.

Umesiri credits his accomplishments through running various ministries, teaching, and writing

books on how to further devel-

oped a relationship with God. His

"The Search for Meaning", was

published in 2008. In the book, he discusses the idea that God gives everyone a specific purpose and assignment.

Chapter four of the book distinguishes the difference between a purpose and an assignment. "Your assignment is what you are called to do, but your purpose is who you are called to be, he said.

Or put another way, "purpose deals with such fundamental questions as who I am and what I am here on earth for, assignments deal with a question such as what I can do to express or live out the very reason for which I am here.

At different stages in life, these

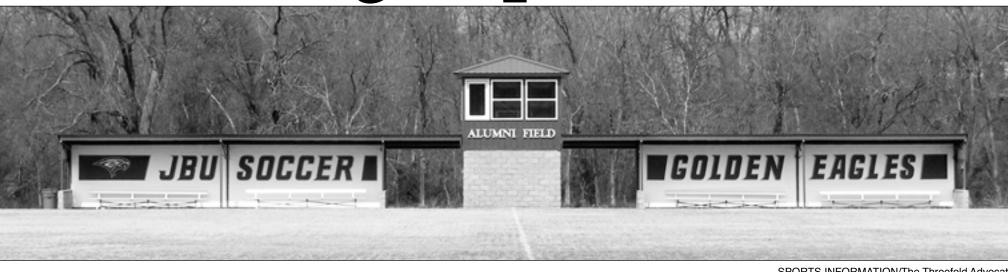
questions can haunt the conscious. He encourages, though, that, "everyone has a different assignment for different times of their life."

Earlier in his life, one of Umesiri's assignments was to serve in a ministry in Nigeria. Later, he was given another assignment to serve in a ministry in the United States.

Currently in Umesiri's life, his assignment is to teach and encourage. He tries to take the fear out of chemistry. And, at the same time, he encourages those around him to keep taking Jesus out into the world, into the community they serve.

# **SPORTS** The Threefold Advocate

# Golden Eagles plan for future



SPORTS INFORMATION/The Threefold Advocate The recently completed soccer field press box ready to be used for the first time this Saturday at the men's exhibition match against Oral Roberts University. The press box still has to be wired for power and wi-fi.

Shelby DeLay

Staff Writer

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As the university grows and changes, the athletic department at JBU does the same. Some of these are well-known thoughts and processes, while others are not as talk-

Along with the growth of the school, the athletic department needs to grow. According to Director of Athletics, Robyn Daugherty, on a well-rounded college campus, 20 percent of the students are athletes. At JBU, only 10 percent of the student body is involved in campus sports teams.

There are many things that the athletic department is working on, and will continue to work on over the next few years to help make the experience at JBU better for its ath-

"This year we started a Student Athletic Advisory Council," Daugherty said. "Students from different teams come together and talk about the direction of the program, the athletic banquet details, and they are also given face time to say what they think will help provide a better experience on cam-

The hope is that the council will provide a well-rounded perspective from students to make the experience in Eagle athletics much better.

Another change being made are of the policies and procedures for the department. "The last time they were revised

was in the 80s," Daugherty said. "We are working on the arrangement, and we are solidifying some of the policies and procedures." Currently, there are 10 sports on

campus, but there is a great need for more sports to rally more fans on campus. Daugherty said that the department is "researching anything and

everything to see which sports are

a good fit for the school and which

are not." Other changes that the athletes may be seeing are testing for sickle

cell and concussions. 'We are also researching drug testing. We are reviewing that possibility with student development, and will then decide if it should be pushed through or not," Daugherty said. "We are not mandated to do

Other improvements that the department is seeing, and will be in the process of seeing in the near future are: a better soccer venue, creating a golf green to be used in the Fall, upgrading the tennis courts, and putting lights on the soccer fields.

For the athletes on campus, improvements are seen as important, and are very valued.

"The biggest change that I would like to see would be to improve the equipment in the varsity weight room," sophomore Meghan Kenney said. "Although I've only been here for a semester, my sport, volleyball seems to be a really good program, so I don't see improvements that need to be made yet."

Kenney also weighed in on holding the athletes to a high standard year round.

"Even though we are busy year round with our sports, it is important for us to be a positive contribution to campus in other ways as well," Kenney said.

Holding all athletes to a high standard is something that Daugherty sees as important too, but it

is also a goal to hold everything the athletic department does as a

"We want to do things with excellence," Daugherty said. "This



SPORTS INFORMATION/The Threefold Advocate

The University plans more improvements in the future, such as the putting green, which was one of the Athletic Department's previous renovation projects.

# Eagle named All-American



Senior Adrian Miller goes in for a breakaway layup basket. Miller averaged 14 points per game this season and is a sports management/business administration double major.

### Staff Reports

Senior forward Adrian Miller was named to the NAIA's All-America Second Team the NAIA

Miller, a 6-4 forward from Hernando, Miss., led JBU in scoring, assists and steals during his senior year. He also finished 13th in the country in field goal percentage with 59 percent from the floor. Miller guided the Golden Eagles to the best regular season finish in school history and was

also named First Team All-SAC after twice being named SAC Player of the Week.

"We are so excited and proud for Adrian," said JBU head men's basketball coach Clark Sheehy. "He improved so much from his junior to senior year, and it has been so much fun watching him develop into the player he has become. This is such a great honor for him, and our team."

The last honor was given to First Team honoree Brandon Cole in 2006.

# Tennis siblings

**TENNIS** continued from Page 1

because of academics and being away from home but also because she would have to give up ballet. "The first year not dancing was really hard because I've done it ever since I can remember," said

Leah. While Leah became set on JBU, she still had to be convinced by Eric that playing tennis would not over load her schedule, and that she would be able to play at a col-

legiate level. After their first year playing together, the team found out that they did not have a coach for the next season. When Robyn Daugherty, the Athletic Director, talked to Leah and her co-captain Marissa Podgorski about what they would like to happen, they both asked if Eric could be their coach. Leah said Eric creates an easygoing atmosphere for both teams and that he genuinely wants to be

"He's not just a coach from three to five," said Leah.

there for others.

She also said that she feels the women's team likes having Eric as a coach not only because he is a good coach but because Leah is not afraid to go ask Eric about

"And I'm not afraid to tell her no,"

said Eric, smiling. Eric said he feels having siblings playing tennis does help draw the men's and women's teams together because he is naturally going to go find Leah to talk and laugh with

Leah said she always thinks Eric is funny, though she sometimes doubts other people appreciate their humor.

"If they stage a rebellion," said Eric jokingly about his teammates, "It's definitely better to have two against 16 instead of one against 16."

Eric said Leah is one of the funniest people that he knows. He described her as soft-hearted but with strong opinions.

"It's a unique opportunity for a brother and sister to play on the same team," said Eric.

## **Tennis**

3/28 Men and Women Oklahoma Wesleyan Bartlesville, Okla.

> 4/3 Men Southwestern Christian Bethany, Okla.

## Golf

4/2-3 **OBU Spring Invite** Shawnee, Okla.

### Men's Soccer

3/31 **Exhibition Match** Oral Roberts Home, 2 pm

### **Ultimate** Frisbee Club

3/31-4/1 Huck Finn Tournament St. Louis, Mo.



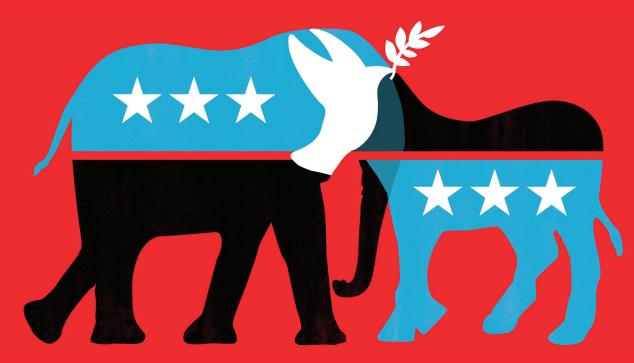
**JBU tennis player-coach Eric Engstrom prepares** to volley the ball during practice. Eric runs practice for both the men's and women's teams along with both team captains.

March 29, 2012 Page 8

# POTLIGHT

The Threefold Advocate

# CONSIDERING KONY



WRITTEN & DESIGNED BY: JENNY REDFERN

arlier this month the Stop Kony 2012 campaign sponsored by Invisible Children went viral. Their movie received 70 million views in less than five days. By mid-March, millions were reposting the video on Facebook and retweeting it on Twitter.

John Brown University was not immune to the "Stop Kony 2012" campaign. The mass popularity of the movement has sparked a wide variety of responses, from full-out support to absolute distain, and student responses fall everywhere in-between.

For those who haven't yet caught the bug, the Kony 2012 movie is a 28-minute documentary designed to tell the world about Joseph Kony, leader of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and call for his arrest before the end of 2012.

"Kony stands accused of overseeing the systematic kidnapping of countless African children, brainwashing the boys into fighting for him, turning the girls into sex slaves and killing those who don't comply," the documentary states. Simply put, Invisible Children wants as many people as possible to

know about Kony and his actions in hopes they will put pressure on their governments to do something about it.

Overall, students admired Invisible Children's end goal. They applauded the creativity of the campaign strategy and found the movie well made.

"One thing I really like about Invisible Children is they really understand that social awareness is just as key as getting in there and doing something about it," said sophomore Alex Dello Iacono.

Senior Richard Eldridge added, "No matter what you say about the campaign and the cause, the actual video itself and the way they present themselves is brilliant."

However, with the success of their video and overnight popularity came some harsh critiques. People of all ages and backgrounds began posting their disapproval, pointing out holes in everything from Invisible Children's budget to their motives.

JBU students also began to form opinions on these critiques and Invisible Children's rebuttals, providing responses all over the board.

## **FINANCIALS**

One of the harshest critiques of the campaign concerns Invisible Children's budgeting. Many have pointed out that more of the organization's money goes to awareness than to actual aid in Africa.

Last year, Invisible Children spent about 37 percent of their \$9 million budget on Central Africa programs. The remaining 63 percent went to build their awareness programs and administration and management costs.

In response to the criticism, Invisible Children said, "Some organizations focus exclusively on documenting human rights abuses, some focus exclusively on international advocacy or awareness, and some focus exclusively on on-the-ground development. We do all three. At the same time."

Most students expressed no problem with the organization's budgeting methods. Though some stated it was not ideal.

"I like getting involved with the issue and working with people who are involved personally," said senior Catherine Harbor. "But I think they are making a huge difference by using other people and mobilizing other people to make a change."

Eldridge said students could choose whether or not to give to them, but they are honest about their funds.

"They would never have gotten as big as they are and been as effective in the country if they weren't so overly weighted toward social media."

## **LOCATION**

Another criticism directed toward Incredible Children deals with the size and location of the LRA. The movie gives off the impression that Kony is still in Uganda with an army in the thousands of child soldiers.

However, journalist Michael Wilkerson, who works extensively in Uganda, states that Kony is currently not in Uganda and hasn't been in six years. The LRA now operates mostly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and the Central African Republic.

Also, the LRA has decreased significantly. It does not have 30 to 60 thousand child soldiers, but the number 30,000 refers to the total number of children abducted over nearly 30 years.

"Uganda is just going through the aftermath of Kony," said junior Stacy Galbo. "These people are very upset about what he has done in Uganda, and he is doing similar things in the Congo, but they haven't done a very good job of explaining he has moved to a new location."

Harbor also said the campaign was a huge step in raising awareness and already the amount of children in the army has decreased a ton.

"I think there are only a couple hundred children left, so they are making a lot of progress," she said.

On the other hand, Eldridge had heard the criticism, but thought it made sense because Invisible Children is a Ugandan ministry.

## OVERSIMPLIFICATION

A third criticism of the Stop Kony 2012 campaign was the oversimplification of the steps it would take to have Kony arrested. The video outlines the six steps it will take from raising awareness to Kony's arrest. Then it offers ways for each person to get involved. Buy a kit. Cover the night. Call your congressman. Donate a few dollars a month to help children in Africa.

Some students felt the simplification was needed for the video, others thought their mission suffered from it.

Galbo said the campaign did oversimplify the mission to an extent.

"In the political science department we always joke that the American public wants things dumbed down anyway," she said. "They probably aren't going to listen to a really complex explanation of what's going on... I think it would make them less effective if they tried to be more thorough."

On the other hand, Dello Iacono believed the Incredible Children were definitely oversimplifying the situation.

"I think they just want the United States to march in there with a bunch of soldiers and put handcuffs on him, but I don't think they understand how many people are going to have to die to make that happen," he said. "The more I want to support Invisible Children, the more I realize it is kind of a too little, too late scenario."

## **HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND?**

Though students' opinions on the Stop Kony 2012 significantly varied, they all agreed on how other students should respond to the campaign.

First, watch the video. Second, do your research. Third, decide how you want to support.

"I will tell you there are other places that are helping child soldiers that are using their budget more purely for help," said Eldridge. "If you watched the video, then you are putting pressure on the government, and that's what they

Check out Amnesty International at http://www.amnestyusa.org/ or Child

Soldiers International at http://www.child-soldiers.org/home for information on other organizations that are working to stop the use of child soldiers worldwide.

Or, for more information on ways to get involved with Invisible Children,

check out their website at http://www.invisiblechildren.com/index.html. Senior Jeffrey Trott stated how students should respond best.

"People should watch the video with an open mind, read the critiques of the campaign as well, and then read the rebuttals of Invisible Children," he said. "There are numerous ones out there, and students should formulate their own ideas."

MAGENTA PLATE

**BLACK PLATE** 

**CYAN PLATE**