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# 'Students for refugees'

## College national movement comes to campus in the fall

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Students often ask themselves what good they’re able to do in a world that is filled with so much bad. This sentiment is the impetus behind a new CAUSE ministry called “Students for Refugees,” a ministry springing from an organization by the same name at the University of Arkansas.

Students for Refugees work with Canopy NWA to inform students about the refugee experience and to provide an avenue for advocacy among student populations.

Students for Refugees intends to utilize the gifts of particular students to advocate for refugees in Northwest Arkansas.

This is true for the branch in the University of Arkansas and the branch at John Brown University.

According to Students for Refugees’ Facebook bio, they intend to, “utilize the resources available on campus to partner with local NGOs in Northwest Arkansas to resettle and advocate for refugees.”

“Our primary focus will be working to help students use their disciplines and/or degrees to aide



Courtesy of JESS GARROSS, president and co-founder of Students for Refugees at the University of Arkansas.

in the refugee resettlement process through service learning and advocacy,” according to the page.

Jessica Jansma, sophomore family and human services major at JBU, has been the driving force for the partnership between the two schools’ organizations and the

leader of the CAUSE ministry at JBU.

“Our goal is to better utilize the gifts and passions that each student has to better advocate for refugees. We have different ideas for how’d we like it to look,” Jansma said.

“The first is to hold

conversations that dispel the tension and fear that often emerges,” Jansma said.

“It’s kind of a political controversy, so we are steering it away from the policies and focusing on the people who are involved.”

However, Students for Refugees

is not ignoring the political natures of these issues. “Another one of our main goals is to be in conversation with the senators and other elected officials in Northwest Arkansas.

Students for Refugees at [the University of Arkansas] has already partnered with Canopy to have those conversations.”

Frank Huebert, director of outreach ministries at JBU, said this ministry fit within the mission of the JBU community.

“They approached me and asked if this is something that could fall under the umbrella of CAUSE. As with any ministry, my involvement is asking ‘How does this fit within the framework of service and evangelism within the context of our university?’” Huebert said.

“As a CAUSE ministry, it does several things. It helps mobilize JBU students out into the community. It gives them a variety of ways to use their gifts, passions, skills and talents they’ve developed and are developing, and that’s one of the things I think Students for Refugees has done well.”

Jansma said that this ministry filled an observable need on JBU’s campus, and so was easy to start.

“Really, all it took was talking to a few faculty members, and they definitely recognize the same need at JBU,” Jansma concluded.

# JBU offers master’s in special ed

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John Brown University will offer a new Master of Education degree in special education, according to a press release.

In the Siloam Springs school district 560 students are classified as having a disability.

With the increasing amount of students with disabilities, according to the Center for Disease Control, there is a rising need for teachers and workers that can provide support for this group of students.

The new program in special education will be offered online to equip teachers around the nation to fill the vital role as advocates for those with special needs.

Connie Matchell, program director for graduate teacher education, said that the master’s program will be a great addition for students

with their education licenses.

“It came about because there is a high need for special education teachers across the nation. It’s an area where sometimes teachers get burned out,” Matchell said.

“Districts are clamoring for special education teachers.”

Taylor Genser, sophomore elementary education major, has a heart for working with students with special needs. Genser is interested in participating the master’s program through JBU after graduation.

“I think it’ll draw more students in who have that heart for kids with special needs, and bring in people with a great and positive attitude,” Genser said.

Ability Tree, a local organization that reaches out to families impacted by disabilities, has been working to increase awareness in special education. Despite growing interest, the master’s program is only applicable to a small population of



The new program will equip students for an Arkansas Special Education K-12 endorsement, according to a press released by the University.

teachers on campus.

Quinn Holman, junior family and human services major, has been working with Ability Tree for almost two years now.

Holman is excited that JBU is introducing the new program, but wishes that the

want to go into a school and teach, but I would want that accreditation,” Holman said.

Holman is interested in introducing a class at Ability Tree that would educate on disabilities. The classes would be headed up by Holman and Joe Butler, founder and CEO of Ability Tree, to raise awareness and help the community understand people with disabilities.

A more inclusive Master’s program would allow students like Holman to get accreditation and experience on special education outside of a school setting.

Although there is room for expansion, students recognize that this new aster’s program is a huge milestone for JBU.

“This is an important step for JBU to take in helping a diverse community that does not get a lot of attention,” Holman said.

“Attention is being raised for people with disabilities who are often on the backburner.”

# Value of Indian rupee increases

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The high-value rupee ban of November 2016 continues to harm the growing middle class in India.

Many people that relied on either the 500 or 1000 rupee bills for daily living expenses

have lost much wealth as India transitions to a digitally-driven, cashless economy.

The Indian government, by direction of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, banned all use of the 500- and 1000-rupee bills throughout the nation beginning November 8, 2016 to solve problems of tax evasion, counterfeit currency and to bring India into the modern era with

respect to the electronic transfer of funds.

The currency ban is formally called “demonetization.”

Madeline Jacobson, senior digital cinema major, has close family friends that have been impacted by demonetization.

Jacobson’s parents go to India twice a year to teach rural Christian pastors through the help of their in-country

missionary, whom they financially support.

This missionary, along with many others in the nation, has had to resort to bartering for basic goods such as chickens and bread.

“The people I go to see in India are very poor. For example, in an entire rural village, there might be two analog phones, which are those

older flip phones. Since the demonetization, to keep living life, they have been trading and bartering,” Jacobson said.

Paul Antony, senior vice president over IT operations at Walmart, a member

*RUPEE continued on Page 4*



# Wilson gives the devil his due

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Jessica Hooten Wilson, associate professor of creative writing at John Brown University, recently published her interdisciplinary dissertation as the book “Giving the Devil His Due.” This book explores parallel themes from Russian author Fyodor Dostoevsky and American fiction writer Flannery O’Conner. It opens their texts to a wide readership, including two of Wilson’s friends who use the book as an aid for teaching Sunday school. Wilson spent her graduate and post graduate studies exploring the ways that both Dostoevsky and O’Conner force the reader to look at themselves. “C.S. Lewis has this great line in Problem of Pain, in which he says, ‘The good news changes society in which people knew they were sick. Christ is saying, ‘Here’s good news. I’m offering you a way to be resurrected, a way to be healed.’” Well, we now live in a society that doesn’t know it’s sick,” Wilson said. Wilson said both authors

are trying to show people that they are disturbed. “They do that by showing you the evil in the human heart. So, much of Dostoevsky’s and O’Conner’s work is to hold up a mirror and say, ‘We are evil. We are sinful. We are more likely to follow Satan right now the way that we are,’” she continued. Wilson explained the Biblical foundation for this “as Jesus said, ‘You are actually children of Satan and not children of God.’ So, Dostoevsky and O’Conner show that to you first in the hopes that you will go looking for a cure. That’s the goal. So, this book explains why it is that two Christian writers would go about that approach rather than saying, ‘Here’s the hope; here’s the good news; here’s all these the things news about Christ. Why do they first instead show all the ugliness?’ So, that’s also what I write about,” Wilson said. Wilson’s inspiration for the book came from studying Russian and Southern literature at the University of Dallas during her early graduate studies. The idea of comparing the two fields was not initially accepted by graduate professors.

Wilson said that she faced significant pushback. “When I decided to go to grad school, the advisor said, ‘I will not work with you on this.’ There was a lot of antagonism.” Ironically, Wilson said this is now accepted. “Now it’s a really popular thing. I’m even speaking this summer at an entire conference dedicated to the connections between the Russians and the Americans on literature. But, it’s taken fifteen years to do it. Again, it’s Russian and Southern. They don’t evenly cross,” Wilson said. Finding truth in literature is something Wilson widely respected for. J. Bradley Gambill, associate professor of English and co-editor of “The Word in the English Classroom: Best Practices of Faith Integration,” commented on Wilson’s unique gifting at making truth accessible outside the classroom. “This seems to be a task that Dr. Wilson has been called to – a key element of her vocation. I’ve enjoyed watching her build those bridges in Siloam Springs and in Northwest Arkansas in general. She has a gift. Plus, she never dumbs down



DANIEL MADRID/THETHREEFOLDADVOCATE

Wilson recently published her interdisciplinary doctorate as a book called “Giving the Devil His Due.” which explores theology and literary analysis.

the message. She challenges the groups to face-down sometimes difficult theological concepts and to explore the complexity of characters and narrative. It’s really quite thrilling,” Gambill said. Wilson’s approach to writing combines disciplines of theology and literary criticism and inspires students at John Brown University to integrate their own various fields of interest. Emma Wingert, senior biology major, said she has

learned a lot from Wilson. “I love interdisciplinary reading. Some of my favorite papers to write have been integrating things from the Bible department with others such as psychology and biology. I really like Dr. Wilson’s approach,” Wingert said. Wilson has two more works to be published that will also find connections between theology and literature.

# Faculty prepare to tell JBU goodbye

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Six faculty members plan to finish their last semester at John Brown University, and two more are leaving temporarily for sabbatical this May. Jacob Stratman will leave JBU for a one year sabbatical, which he will spend at Handong Global University in Pohang, South Korea. Stratman said he and his family will live on campus at HGU, and he will be teaching writing and literature courses. “My wife and I don’t have a whole lot of international travel experience, and we’re excited for a few reasons – professional and personal,” Stratman said. He said personally he is excited to give his children an international experience. Stratman said “They’ll learn Korean in the school where they’re going – and we will just be in a completely different culture and that’s so new for us, we think this will be just a really cool personal experience.” Stratman has taught at John Brown University for 10 years, and it is the only university he has taught at outside of graduate school. “Professionally, I think it’s going to be a good break, just to teach a different student body,” Stratman said. “I’m really teaching a lot of the same courses – they’re

asking me to teach some things I do here, but it’s going to be in a different context with different students so I think after 10 years, that shake up will be good.” Jessica Hooten Wilson will also be on sabbatical next semester. She said she is “preparing Flannery O’Connor’s unfinished novel for publication.” Awarded a prestigious fellowship at Biola University, Wilson will at the University’s Center for Christian Thought in the fall. Other faculty members, such as Warren Roby, Chad Raith, John Carmack, Paul Smith, and Jan Wubbena and Randy Hollingsworth, will be leaving JBU permanently this year. Roby is retiring from teaching after working at several universities and serving as professor of language studies at JBU since 2000. Alyssa Bowerman, who has been Roby’s TA for the last two and a half years, praised Roby, saying, “He’s been a great boss...he loves language and one of his greatest passions is seeing how the students grow from not knowing very much or not having a great base or none to actually being able to fluently speak it.” Jan Wubbena, Paul Smith and John Carmack are also retiring at the end of the semester. Hollingsworth has worked as a professor of communication at JBU for two years. He will be resigning from JBU after



Courtesy of JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY

Chad Raith, Warren Roby and Randy Hollingsworth are leaving JBU after this semester. Jessica Wilson and Jacob Stratman, not pictured, will also be leaving temporarily on sabbatical.

this semester and has accepted a teaching position at Toccoa Falls college in Georgia to be closer to his children and grandchildren. He and his wife enjoyed the time they lived in Siloam Springs. “I don’t think I could ever ask for a better school than JBU,” he said. “We have been blessed even just the two years that we’ve been here.” Raith is an assistant professor of religion and philosophy at JBU. He has been at JBU for five years. In a formal announcement on his Facebook page, Raith explained why he is leaving JBU permanently. “The administration has reaffirmed that JBU remains (and will remain) a professional university that emphasizes professional degrees and teaching, and not a liberal arts institution

that emphasizes the humanities, research and publishing, and thus we [JBU and I] have mutually felt that my interests had reached the limitations of what JBU seeks to be as an institution,” Raith wrote. Raith commented on what has been the most memorable and special to him regarding his time at JBU. “By far it has been the transformation and excitement I’ve seen in students when they’ve encountered the thick Christianity they were able to receive from taking an upper-level theology course,” he said. “I’ve loved discovering with my students the deep wonders, mystery and beauty of the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Students were no longer able to relegate the Christian faith to compartment of their life; they began to realize that the

Christian faith is all encompassing, impacting every component of life,” Raith added. As he prepares to say goodbye to the JBU community, Raith offered some parting words. “God wants you to love him with your mind. He gave it to you primarily not to make good grades (though that is good), not to get a degree (though that is good), and not to teach, research and publish on your academic specialization (though that is also good) but to know him deeply,” he said. “And this so that you can love him deeply, for in the words of St. Augustine, ‘You cannot love what you do not know.’”

# LA college sued over free speech zone

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Six hundred and sixteen square feet have been set aside as a free speech zone in a California college. Recently a college student in Los Angeles, California, began the process of suing The Los Angeles Community College District for the policy enacted by Pierce College which he claimed violated his free speech rights. The school had set aside a free speech zone of 616 square feet, the equivalent to three parking spaces, according to Fox News. Kevin Shaw violated the free speech zone rule by handing out constitutions beyond the allotted space. The student issued a statement which in part said, “I had no idea I would be called upon to defend those very ideals against Pierce’s unconstitutional campus policies.” Freedom of speech in schools has been a contentious topic, with many cases winding up in



Courtesy of PETTUS

Free Speech zones are not limited to college campuses. Above is a photo from the free speech zone at a democratic 2004 convention. the Supreme Court of the United States. Overall, the court has found that students still have their rights, but are subject to more restrictions. Randy Hollingsworth, professor of communication at John Brown University, said a free speech zone is designed to be a public square for “people to express ideas.” They were created to allow advocacy, while limiting distractions when administrators don’t want them. The practice of free speech zone allows the campus to have more control of protest on their campus, he said. Free speech zones will vary from state to state and even school to

school. He said “There are few overarching rules” that apply to the entire nation. Payton Hubbard, junior management major at John Brown University, said that he opposes free speech zones. Hubbard said that he can understand the desire to regulate speech in classroom, however he does not believe that would give the campus license to set aside a different zone. Riley Weaver, sophomore accounting major, disagreed. She said that though she is interested in the issue of free speech, she believes “the institution has the right to regulate” a student’s speech. Hollingsworth explained that most free speech zones are a negative result of free speech. This has caused some schools to have a very limited free speech zones. He said the strongest examples about free speech regulation can be found during times of war. During the Vietnam War, A high school attempted to regulate

protest against the war, however the Supreme court ruled against this. He said it is possible to see stricter free speech zones with the violence that is occurring. He mentioned Berkley and Oakland in the 1960s and 70s where they fought for the freedom from suppression in a very peaceful way. However, he said now there is more violence with protesting. Hollingsworth said this may lead to a knee-jerk reaction with administrators to create a policy to prevents this. He suggests a person that sees a free speech zone regulation as something ridiculous should look into the history of the school and see why administrators voted for the regulations. Hollingsworth said he found it ironic that free speech zones are common on college campuses because they are often viewed as a sanctuary of academic thought and a marketplace for “controversial ideas.”



# TSA increases security measures

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Some travelers have questioned the effectiveness of new Transportation Security Agency regulations.

In an attempt to make air travel safer the Transportation Security Administration increased security regulations, as the war on terror and threats from extremist groups such as ISIS continue.

TSA officers previously had five options for pat-downs, with varying levels of physical invasiveness, according to Bloomberg news. Those options have now been removed, and replaced by a single procedure – a more physically invasive pat-down option.

A TSA spokesperson described the new pat-down procedure as a more comprehensive physical screening, according to Bloomberg.

David Vila, professor of religion and philosophy at John Brown University, said that he does not believe the added regulations will make air travel safer.

“There’s no real benefit from it, other than just the security we feel, and feeling like we’re doing something in a situation where we really have very little control. It’s about us feeling secure, but I don’t think we are any more secure,” Vila said.

Trisha Posey, director of the Honors Scholars Program and associate professor of history at JBU, also said she does not feel more safe with the change.

“People who want to do harm are always finding more creative ways to bypass security. My sense of security is not necessarily tied to the search practices and x-ray machines at the airport,” Posey said.

Posey commented on how she believes the change may affect the average air passenger. “It depends on how often this ‘more rigorous’ search is being conducted. If most passengers are not experiencing this, the average air passenger will not be affected. But for those who experience it, I’m sure it will be a significantly different experience than normal,” she said.

Vila said that although airport security is becoming

stricter in the U.S., airports in the Middle East and other places outside the U.S. may still have weak security regulations, adding that security in many airports he travels through is nonexistent.

“I think people who want to get through [security] and do [illegal] things can find ways to do that, especially in airports outside of the U.S.,” Vila continued. “I think it’s kind of silly – you fly to Denver and you get majorly pat down...I think if you’re flying through Beirut, that makes a bit of a difference, but I’ve been in airports throughout the Middle East where ridiculous things [pass through security].”

The new screening isn’t expected to cause further airport delays overall. However, “for the person who gets the pat down, it will slow them down,” Bruce Anderson, TSA spokesperson, said, according to Bloomberg.

Vila said he understands the government’s desire to try to protect the American people.

“I think that’s one of the obligations of the government – to protect its people, but that always comes with a cost,



Courtesy of DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The Transportation Security Agency was created after 9/11 to increase the security in the transportation industry.

both financial and personal,” Vila said. “Sometimes liberty has to be sacrificed in order to gain safety, and there’s a give and take there, but there’s a certain point where you’re losing too much.”

All pat-downs are conducted by a TSA officer of the same gender as the passenger, according to Bloomberg.

The passenger may also request a private area for the screening and to have a witness present. These policies have not changed.

# Study exposes social media as unhealthy

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Social media links to depression according to a new study.

A recent study published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, found a significant correlative trend between the amount of time spent on social media and depression.

The study, which gathered statistics from 1,787 young adults aged 19-32, found that social media use “was significantly associated with increased depression.” The members were recruited in the fall of 2014 and represent 97 percent of the U.S. population. They studied 11 social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Google+, YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Vine, Snapchat, and Reddit.

The article notes that special care and direction must be



CHRISTIE NICHOLAS/TheThreefoldAdvocate

given toward addressing social media related grievances. According to the study, “Given the proliferation of [social media], identifying the mechanisms and direction of this association is critical for informing interventions that address [social media] use and depression.”

The article, however, notes that it cannot give

the direct reason for this corresponding depression. Gary Oliver, executive director for the Center for Healthy Relationships at John Brown University, said that social media is only a pale substitute for real relationships, which is what people really want. “Part of the problem with social media, which has a

lot of positives, is that we’re raising a bunch of young people who don’t know how to have relationships, and a virtual relationship is not a relationship,” he said.

“The main thing is not asking how much social media is too much,” but how much of our relationships are enough,” Oliver said in response to posing limits on social media usage. Oliver said that direct communication would help to fight depression. “It matters if I’m in small groups, if I have friends I do things with or if I have folks to think out loud with.”

Jay Bruce, associate professor of philosophy at JBU, said he barely uses social media anymore, and prefers to maintain his relationships in a more direct manner. “I don’t want to do this stuff generally because it’s a waste of time. I have friends. Real ones. I talk to them. Really, I pick up the phone and call them, or send an email crafted just for that person. I want to know what people are doing because I know them, not because

I’ve seen a Facebook update or whatever,” Bruce said.

Bruce took a condemnatory view of social media, saying that social media, largely, appealed to baser human instincts as opposed to healthy motivators.

“Social media nurtures and fosters vices destructive to our wellbeing. If we have more friends, followers, or whatever, then we turn to pride; if we don’t, to despair. Envy? Social media promotes excessive reflection on our relative standing to others in terms of financial success, beauty, etc.,” Bruce said.

Oliver said that real relationships are the key to pushing against social media’s surface level tendencies. “We’re wired for relationships, and to have personal relationships,” Oliver said.

Student Relationships Assessment

The Center For Healthy Relationships

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# Scotland reconsiders independence

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Scotland recently renewed a referendum of independence from the UK and the government plans to vote on the issue soon. Scotland already voted for independence once in 2014 and the resounding answer was no. In 2014, the “No” side won with 2,001,926 votes over 1,617,989 for “Yes,” according to BBC news.

Last time Scotland voted for independence, not only did Parliament continue to hold power in London and the Scottish parliament was not given lead on any large issues, but share prices rose when Scotland voted, which influenced the economy, according to BBC news.

John Duncan, a Scotland native, shared his experiences and viewpoints on the search for independence. Domiciled in Scotland from 1938 to 1984, John’s family immigrated to the

United States where he has been domiciled ever since. In 1996 John became a U.S. citizen and now votes on issues linked only to the U.S. Despite this change in voting ability, John said he has a patriotic view on the independence issue.

“I have in fact had a clear view on independence for a very long time; long may the U.K. remain united,” John said. “Scotland has had a long union with England and Wales (less long with Northern Ireland), and has benefited enormously from English wealth. There have been significant (and successful) population interchanges amongst all the regions in U.K.; long may that continue. Of course, there are many more overwhelming rational arguments for the continued union of U.K.”

The history of Scotland has been bloody and full of tensions both within and without and specifically between Scotland and England. The parliaments of England and Scotland were united around the 18th century.

Despite the unification, the two parties in Scotland, the Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP) and the Labour Party, have been fighting for control over Scotland for years, Peter Duncan, a Scotland native and the son of John Duncan, said. Recently the SNP has taken over control of the Scottish Parliament.

“There is a difference of concerns on Brexit throughout Scotland. England voted for Brexit, but because England has so many more people, if you are a Scottish Member of Parliament in London, you are a minority in ruling,” Peter said. Though Scotland currently has its own Parliament in Edinburgh that manages internal matters, it is still part of the U.K. and has members of Parliament in London at Westminster.

“Westminster is where more international, military and outside issues are determined while Edinburgh is where social issues and policies are addressed,” Peter said.

Scotland has some industry,



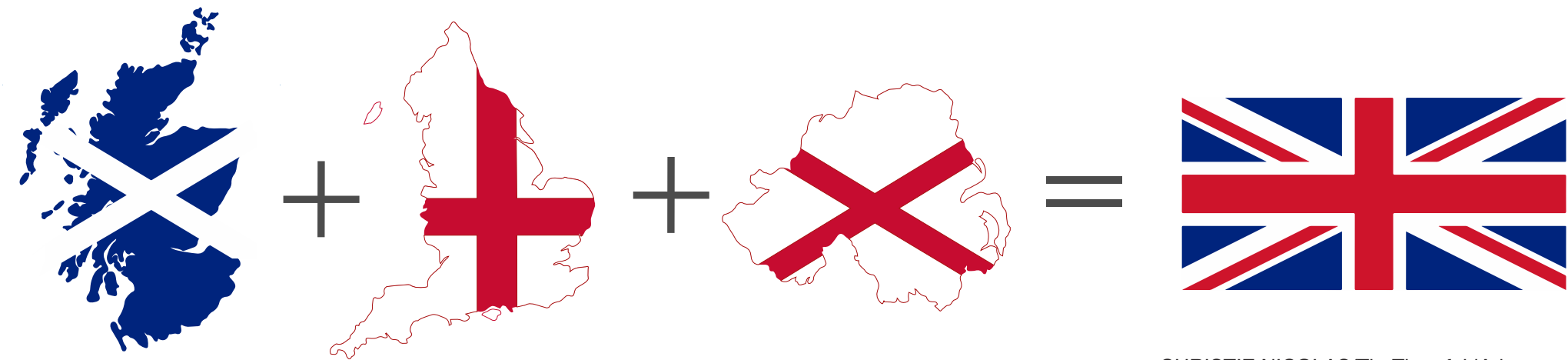
Courtesy of the SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

but England is the monetary provider for most of the U.K. and Northern Ireland. Peter is concerned that if Scotland becomes independent, it will struggle financially. Scotland already has control of its money, but this may change if the status of Scotland changes.

“There is concern about economic impact...if they did

break away and what that would mean economically, for the vast majority of the business industry,” Peter said.

Currently, fewer Scots want independence now than did in 2014, according to a new poll conducted after the announcement of Scotland’s intent to push for a second referendum, according to Huffington Post.



CHRISTIE NICOLAS/TheThreefoldAdvocate

# Rohingya maintain culture amid persecution

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The Rohingya, an ethnic Muslim group primarily from Buddhist countries, is one of the most persecuted minority groups in the world, according to Al Jazeera English, an Arabian media news organization.

The Rohingya live mainly in Rakhine, which is thought to be one of the poorest states in the country of Burma. The Rohingya is disregarded as one of the 135 official ethnic groups and are denied any opportunities for Citizenship Law.

According to Craig Garrison, a JBU parent and missionary in Thailand and Burma for 12 years, the Rohingya was once considered an ethnic group until the government stripped them of their title and they became illegal immigrants.

Approximately 140,000 Rohingya from Rakhine live in camps in small shacks constructed from wooden planks, tin sheets, blankets and tarps. The refugees can’t lease the ground without permission from the Burmese government.

Burma’s President Thein Sein is known for his anti-Rohingya agenda and asked the United Nations in 2012 to resettle the Rohingya in different countries.

“We will take care of our own ethnic nationalities, but Rohingya who came to Burma illegally are not

of our ethnic nationalities, and we cannot accept them here,” Sein said to the U.N.

During his time overseas, Garrison worked with a mission organization called Partners Relief and Development who assisted the Rohingya after riots in 2012. According to Garrison, the Rohingya remained relatively peaceful

were approximately 100,000 Rohingya in the camp.

Garrison and his team from Partners worked with the Rohingya providing food, water and medical attention. He was appalled at their living conditions.

“They were kept like animals in tents,” Garrison said. “It was not just discrimination,

Also, the Rohingya’s population grew immensely over many years due to their culture’s polygamy and many children, which daunted Buddhists who wanted to quell the growing Muslim faith.

“There was a growing sense of fear and rejection for Islam to get any foothold in [the] county,” Garrison

Rohingya managed to resettle in different refugee safe-havens around the United States.

Brian Bollinger, a 2007 JBU alumnus, is the executive director of Friends for Refugees, a Christian community development program which offers creative opportunities, such as education and employment for refugees settled in the Clarkson, Georgia area.

As part of his work, Bollinger assisted in resettling Burmese refugees, including Rohingya, in America and finding them homes and jobs. In Clarkson, Bollinger reported there are approximately 25 different Burmese ethnicity groups and the Rohingya is the only Muslim group.

According to Bollinger, the Rohingya has hit a “perfect storm of misfortune” due to their history in Burma and their particular type of Islamic faith.

The Rohingya also has difficulty being accepted by traditional Muslim communities as the type of Islam “to which they subscribe if a form of Islam is usually associated with paganism,” Bollinger said. “Their doctrine isn’t good enough.”

As a result, the Rohingya is unpopular to almost all other Muslims groups and have no permanent safe haven.

Bollinger describes the Rohingya as “kind-hearted, just, genuine, soft-spoken people group” that find difficulty being accepted by any nation.



Courtesy of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**The Rohingya maintain** a cultural identity despite relentless persecution from the Burmese government. Rohingya currently live all around the world, with a significant population living in Chicago.

with its Buddhist neighbors, until 2012 after the apparent rape of a Buddhist woman by a Rohingya man.

Tensions quickly escalated and the Burmese government rounded the Rohingya and blocked them in a “concentration camp type area.” Garrison believes there

it was outright persecution.”

Garrison believes the Rohingya are unpopular for several reasons.

“They look different,” Garrison said. “They more like South Asian, Indian, or Pakistani.” Most of the indigenous Burmese look more traditionally Asian.

said. The Burmese Buddhists, he continued, were afraid of Muslim faith and the changes it would bring in a dominantly Buddhist culture.

“People are afraid of [the Rohingya] because they [are] afraid they will lose their way of life,” Garrison said.

Garrison said a handful of

*RUPEE continued*

of JBU’s Engineering Advisory Board, and an Indian native, highlighted how Demonetization affects India’s growing middle class, since the bills in question are frequently used in daily transactions by this part of the population.

“Many people who actually live in that range, where a 500-rupee bill is like a \$5 bill, demonetization affects everyday transactions. Most people would literally have wads of cash, whereas if I were to ask you, you probably have everything on your phone or one card. They still carry around a lot of very

large notes,” Antony said.

Antony commented on the effectiveness of demonetization, considering the goals with which it was established. “I think it was a great exercise by the government, but I am not sure that it got them everything they wanted to accomplish. What they found, though, is that there wasn’t that many notes that came back. There was an initial influx, but after that it kind of dropped off. Many people either didn’t have those two bills or they had actually disbursed it somehow. So, I don’t know if it had the

same effect as the government expected,” Antony said.

Umashankar Balaraman, community leader at Hindu Association of Northwest Arkansas, was born in India and moved to the U.S. in 1998. He maintains a great relationship with his family and friends in India and visits every other year to India to keep up on the Indian government, culture, and the economy. Balaraman commented on his confidence in the approach of the new Indian government to reform and improve Indian society, which came into office in 2014.

“In 2014, we had a new government [take office].

This government is the very root of those who want to see development to happen in the country. They want to see the country return to the glory we had in the 16th century. It is a big challenge because of the huge population—almost 1.4 billion. This government is doing a lot of infrastructure improvement. One of the biggest ways was the demonetization,” Balaraman said.

“Much of the government corruption money was in 500s and 1000s. In that one night, it

made all that money useless. It was a massive stroke and a lot of people lost a lot of money. A lot of people felt like it could have been handled in a much better way. In my opinion, the government really wants to get rid of corruption and improve infrastructure. Their intentions are good, and so I think they will succeed,” Balaraman said.



# Bannon and Trump at odds in White House

ZEKE WILLCOX

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After tepid comments made by President Donald Trump, analysts speculate that White House chief strategist Steve Bannon appears to be fighting for his job and political reputation. In an interview with a

reporter from the New York Post, Trump did not definitively affirm his confidence in Bannon’ work during the recent presidential election.

“I like Steve, but you have to remember he was not involved in my campaign until very late,” Trump said. “I had already beaten all the senators and all the governors, and I didn’t know

Steve. I’m my own strategist and it wasn’t like I was going to change strategies because I was facing crooked Hillary.”

At the end of the interview with the New York Post reporter, Trump said, “Steve is a good guy, but I told them to straighten it out or I will.”

This last comment is in reference to a public fight between Bannon and Jared Kushner, another White House strategist and son-in-law to Trump, whom Bannon called an offensive name that referred to white supremacy.

Seth Hastings, a freshman engineering major, thinks that most people have come to expect this type of erratic behavior from Trump and that they will be able to move on from the changes Trump makes.

“Trump’s administration is not as stable as Obama’s was,” Hastings said. “As far as turnover rates, the [administration’s] focus is on the drama of people coming into appointment.”

Trump’s comments were made a week after the White House released memorandum stating that Trump would reorganize the National Security Council and would remove Bannon from it.

According to American news website, Business Insider, a senior White House source informed journalists that Bannon was only on the N.S.C. as a check on former National



Courtesy of TED EYTAN

Security Advisor Michael Flynn. As Flynn has since been removed, it is speculated to Bannon is no longer needed.

Allan Aguilar, president of the Young Democrats on JBU’s campus and a senior political science major, believes that Trump is sending a message through these series of events.

“Trump is communicating that family comes first, that he is top dog, and that no one is pulling his strings,” Aguilar said.

Because of Trump’s strong voter-base and his appeal to the people, Aguilar thinks that Trump will not receive much backlash for his comments about Bannon.

“His base will continue to support Trump regardless and it might even appease some of the moderates who doubted Trump for giving Bannon such an influential role in the

White House,” Aguilar said.

Dr. Daniel Bennett, Assistant Professor of Political Science, believes that Trump’s actions could be beneficial or hazardous to him.

“In terms of attempting to deepen his ties with mainstream, establishment Republicans, tossing Bannon out will make these folks happy,” Bennett said. “But it might hurt him with the crowd of people who tend to like what Bannon and Breitbart peddle and there’s evidence that these people are some of Trump’s most ardent supporters.”

Bennett thinks that Trump will use any method possible to “mix things up a bit” to get himself through the rough start to his presidency.

“Nobody has ever accused Trump of hesitating or dithering, and this decision is just another example of that.”

# Students respond to United States airstrike on Syria

KARLEE ARNOLD

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The United States carried out a missile strike on a military base in Syria in response to the Syrian government’s chemical weapons attack earlier this month. The chemical attack targeted civilian populations and killed over 80 people, according to the New York Times, and violates international treaties.

“Tonight, I ordered a targeted military strike on the air base in Syria from where the chemical attack was launched,” President Donald Trump said in his remarks. “It is in this vital national security interest of the United States to prevent and deter the spread and use of deadly chemical weapons.”

U.S. citizens have taken many different stances in response to this attack. Students at John Brown University were no less divided. Several students shared their opinions on the missile strike.

In an online poll of 55 JBU

students, 31 said they did not agree with the decision to attack the Syrian base, while 24 said they did agree with President Trump’s decision.

Josh Krontorad, senior Bible and theology major, said he supports the missile strike. “Christians throughout history have theorized on what exactly makes a war ‘just’ or ‘right.’ One of the questions always asked is, ‘Are there extreme acts of injustice taking place against those who bear God’s image?’ I think the situation in Syria fits this bill,” Krontorad said.

“The U.S. taking acts of war against Syria (i.e. dropping a bomb) would then be considered ‘just’ in my eyes if it is for the right motive. The image of God is actively being disrespected through the use of chemical weapons and no one seems to be doing anything about it. As a Christian, this disturbs me and I want to see an end to it. If military action is the best way to end it, then we should seek that,” Krontorad continued.

Marisa Jacobson, junior history major, also said she

supported the decision. “Action needed to be taken to show everyone in the world that the United States will not stand by and let chemical weapons be used, period. Our response was calculated to show that stance while not endangering civilians,” Jacobson said.

However, other students took an opposing stance. Elizabeth Jones, sophomore music major, shared her reasoning as to why she opposes the missile strike.

“I just think it’s inhumane to attack a country so senselessly when they’re already hurting and dealing with this power struggle, and to then still not take in refugees from that country – that’s just a horrible and preposterous thing to do,” Jones said.

“We ask for God’s wisdom as we face the challenge of our very troubled world,” President Trump said. “We pray for the lives of the wounded and for the souls of those who passed. And we hope as long as America stands for justice, then peace and harmony will in the end prevail.”



Courtesy of the UNITED STATES NAVY

**A U.S.02 Destroyer launches** a missile as part of a training exercise. More than 59 missiles were fired at the Syrian government’s Al Shayrat airfield.

# Midnight Musings: Oklahoma passes new housing crisis bill



Jackson Love  
Contributor

In a last-ditch effort to eliminate further bottlenecks in the State Budget, the Oklahoma State Legislature introduced a new housing bill. Ever since 2008, Oklahoma has spent more state funds fighting the Obama presidency than Kylie Jenner has spent on her lips, leaving little flexibility in the budget.

Due to the tight budget for 2016-2017 year, representatives have sought advice from both sides of the political aisle. According to Alex Trent, syndicated columnist for the Onion, legislators want to “cut unnecessary programs from the budget that distract from repairing Oklahoma’s infrastructure.” The statement



PUBLIC DOMAIN

**New plans for the new I-75 were unveiled** last Saturday. Critics of the “dirt toad” model of road construction cite ruined suspensions. Advocates cited Article 7 in the Oklahoman ordinances which says, in full, “nuh-uh”.

was made sometime after January 20th when all the female state senators and representatives quit in a mass protest. Bill O’Reilly of Fox News sought to determine the cause, but his recent issues with women have forced the network to transfer the story over to Sean Hannity, who neglected to comment.

However, true to their promise, the state legislature recently cut funding to “unnecessary” programs such as public education and road construction. Nearby construction projects along Interstate 44 were abandoned and a bridge in

northwest Oklahoma City, near the Thunder Dome, collapsed. The Bank of Oklahoma center’s ticket sales declined this past month since JBU and ORU students kept blowing out tires along I-75 and I-244. The amount of upset gamblers, millennials, and Thunder fans placed the Oklahoma House and Senate on its heels.

Due to the fast-paced progress of local politics, newspapers predict the construction and education issues will be fixed within two years. However, according to a recent Facebook poll, Oklahomans are happy for

the new housing bill. The bill will address the families and households affected by the cuts to public education. The logic is quite brilliant: the state will cut the cost of living for teachers and construction workers and relocate them to affordable housing since it cannot afford the overhead of paying their salaries. The bill is officially known as SB 123, for simplicity.

Critics of SB 123 have argued that paying for new housing will add more spending to the budget: how will the legislature pay for the overhead? According to Trent, the state seeks to implement

the ideology of recent political guru Bernie Sanders. Since adding taxes on the rich and their companies helps stunt the economy while satisfying the hearts of college students, it is a win-win. Fortune 500 companies within Oklahoma have generously volunteered to help fund the new housing. This silenced the critics until an intern at the Tulsa World newspaper asked where the housing will be located.

At a press conference, Governor Mary Fallon stated that she is currently sorting out the details. She recently reached out to her 3rd cousin, Jimmy Fallon, of the Tonight Show, who suggested that Oklahoma look to an old SNL skit and place teachers in “vans down by the river,” which would reduce traffic on roads and the cost of housing. Since this idea would incentivize any teacher or worker to live in Oklahoma, Jimmy’s idea was used. Time will only tell of the success of SB 123.

Jackson Love is a junior Engineering Major. He wrote this story to win the approval of his mother, and can be reached at LoveJa@jbu.edu

Midnight Musings is a fictional satirical column. All opinons expressed in Midnight Musings are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the Threefold Advocate or John Brown University.



## Prison impacts livelihood

Mass incarceration hurts families and economy

The District of Columbia has the highest incarceration rate in the United States – a rate higher than almost every nation on the planet, according to the Prison Policy Initiative.

The direct cost of this imprisonment has been increasing at worrying rates. The state correctional system costs quadrupled over the past two decades and now top \$50 billion a year, according to the Pew Charitable Trusts. The same study revealed that one in every 100 adults is incarcerated, and expenses related to building prisons and inmate support have significantly increased.

Mass incarceration is bad for the economy. Not only is the government spending one in 15 general fund dollars to keep jails running, but inmate’s chances of finding employment and living an independent life once out of jail are negatively affected.

More than two-thirds of male inmates were employed before incarceration. Out of those two-thirds, more than half of them represented the primary source of financial support to their children. Once these inmates get out of jail and want to rejoin the workforce, they have to face the reduction of approximately 11 percent of their hourly wages.

We the Threefold Advocate believe it is important to recognize the impact of massive incarceration in the U.S. We are especially concerned about the economic sustainability of former inmates and their children.

According to a study conducted by the American Psychological Association approximately 1.7 million children have parents who are incarcerated in the United States. Children of incarcerated parents are at risk for negative social conduct and face a higher risk of substance abuse and incarceration.

We believe that support services should be readily available for inmates while they are in jail and immediately after they are released. Inmates would benefit from placement support groups and follow-up services that would help them stay employed. By helping inmates we can protect their children from falling into the same cycle. According to Pew, a proven model shows that inmates will have a shortened prison stay if they complete educational, vocational or rehabilitation programs. This increases their chances of successfully reentering the labor market.

## Stop stereotyping video games

Negative stigma encroaches on truth

Often stereotyped as red-eyed, greasy-haired addicts hurriedly downing one last Monster before “leveling up,” video gamers, in reality, share more in common with an athlete than an addict. Classified by health organizations as an addiction, video games get a bad rap as a harmful substance. They produce a release of dopamine in the brain that caused the World Health Organization to catalog “gaming disorder,” a disorder used to classify those who habitually play video games, with a variety of other mental diseases.

However, according to a study conducted in 2016 by the American Journal of Psychiatry, video games are not addicting. The study found that less than one percent of regular video game players “might qualify for a potential acute diagnosis of Internet gaming disorder.” While dopamine is released in the brain when playing video games, it is nowhere near the dangerous levels of methamphetamine or other addictive substances as previously thought. The study found that playing video games is not habit-forming either, so the very existence of “gaming disorder” is obsolete.

According to an article written by the New York Times, “Playing a video game or watching an amusing video on the internet causes roughly about as much dopamine to be released in your brain as eating a slice of pizza.” Playing video games is no more harmful than watching television, eating chocolate or exercising, and releases the same amount of dopamine into the brain as any of the aforementioned activities.

We the Threefold Advocate believe the stigma that video games are harmful or addictive should be reversed. We believe playing video games can be a relaxing way to unwind from a long day of work or school, and that there are no addictive effects from playing video games.

The study published by the American Journal of Psychiatry further found that those who played video games behaved no differently mentally, physically or socially than those who did not play video games. We believe this proves that video games cause no lasting harm, and should no longer be stereotyped as part of a brain-melting institution that enslaves its users.

got opinions?

Chances are you do. Let your voice be heard. Write for the opinion pages. For more information email us at: mejiaa@jbu.edu

The Threefold Advocate

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# Mexican corruption hit MY HOME

Karla Condado  
OPINION EDITOR

On Saturday I was talking to some of my Mexican buddies. One of them asked us if we had heard the news about Javier Duarte, the Mexican governor who went missing in October of 2016. Duarte was the governor of the state of Veracruz, while he was in power he increased the public debt, organized crime got more powerful and there were 19 crimes committed against journalists among many other crimes.

The news my friends and I were talking about concerned Duarte’s capture in Guatemala, six months after he went missing. I was extremely surprised at this because I am used to Mexican politicians getting away with what they do without any consequences.

Duarte’s government left many scars in the economy, but the deeper scars were left on the people. During his terms as a governor, patients at the Cancer Center in Xalapa, Veracruz, were treated with “water” and drugs not suitable for cancer treatment. Among other crimes committed in the healthcare system were the inadequate testing for HIV and many expired drugs that equaled millions of wasted pesos were found. But this is what hurts me the most, during Duarte’s

power, children with cancer were treated with distilled water instead of chemotherapies.

I cannot imagine what the families of these children felt when they found out about the medicine, but I understand their anger and impotence. In 2012 my dad was wrongly diagnosed with an eating disorder. My dad had been experiencing a lot of headaches, seizures and mood swings. When he went to the hospitals in Mexico City, no doctor bothered to further investigate his case and instantly assumed it was an eating/dehydration problem. He was on a diet and we thought he was going to be fine.

One day he had a seizure. After this seizure, he couldn’t talk or move, his eyes couldn’t focus and he was not able to control his body. Usually after the seizures he would recover, he would be tired and disorientated, but that was

specialized hospital. Once in the hospital he had a surgery but was given no further treatment. His tumor grew twice its size after this surgery. A second surgery had to be performed but this time he finally received chemotherapy and radiation. In the end, there was not much else the doctors could do, his cancer had already spread all over his brain, it was too late.

I understand Mexico is a developing country. We might not have the same infrastructure as other countries in the world but we are not a poor country. We have money. Our economy is growing and healthcare should be a priority for our government. I cannot believe that politicians like Duarte are willing to enrich themselves and forget about their main job that is to protect their citizens.

I cannot understand how someone can be so miserable, selfish, and pathetic. My eyes are filled with tears because I am mad at my government, and I am mourning with my country. The negligence of our broken political system has taken many lives, including my dad’s. Javier Duarte is now about to go through trial, but whatever consequence he has will never be enough to pay back all the damage he has done.

“The negligence of our broken political system has taken many lives, including my dad’s.”

it. When he was taken to the hospital the doctors tied him down to a bed and just assumed he had a mental disorder. No further testing was made.

After almost a month my dad was finally diagnosed with stage four brain cancer. My mom fought for my dad to be taken to a specialized hospital for cancer but they couldn’t take him there because there were not enough beds.

After a lot of paperwork and my mom’s insistence, my dad was transported to a

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CELEST LINDSEY/TheThreefoldAdvocate



# ‘I was sexually assaulted’

ANONYMOUS

I was sexually assaulted by a John Brown University student last semester in September. We met up to watch a movie at his place, and he pulled me in by my necklace to kiss me. Since this was our first time hanging out, I pulled back. I told him that he didn’t know me, and that it was too soon to kiss me. He told me to relax, and pulled me in for another kiss. This time he kissed me and began to feel the rest of my body. I once again pulled away. He asked me if I had ever given a blow job, and I said no. He then, for about 40 minutes, attempted to convince me to give him a blow job. He said he had never had a blow job, or done anything with a girl. It was the most uncomfortable and heartbreaking 40 minutes of my life. I couldn’t take it anymore. I began to leave. He began to pull down his pants. He grabbed me by the neck and forced me to give him a blow job. As he went to the bathroom, I sat in shock, sadness and fear. I began to get my stuff together as he came out of the bathroom. He said, “I am tired. I am going to bed.” I said, “I am going to leave.” He said, “Let me walk you out.” I said, “There is no need.” He said, “No, I want to make sure you don’t wake up my roommate.” We got outside and he closed the door behind him where he decided to tell me, “Don’t tell anyone, because news spreads fast at JBU.” I got in my car and immediately called my three closest friends. I told them everything that happened. They took me to three different hospitals because no one could help me. Finally, I made it to the hospital in Fayetteville where I was questioned for three hours. I made it back to my bed at about 5 a.m., and I had an appointment at the Arkansas Rape Crisis Center at 8 a.m. I couldn’t shower, eat, drink or brush my teeth. I was starved at the same time my pride was being taken away. I was questioned for another two hours and tested for medical problems. After all the testing was over, I was done dealing with the issue. I didn’t want to ruin the life of the guy that had done this to me, and I didn’t want to deal with an investigation. He sent me a poor apology saying he was “just overly anxious to do stuff.” I was done. A week passed, and a friend informed me that as an RA, he was required to notify the school about the assault. I decided it was best to go in and tell the story myself instead of letting my RA friend tell it for me. I went in petrified because I didn’t want an investigation. Thankfully, Andre Broquard, head of Title IX at JBU, gave me options. OPTIONS. It was the first time I felt free to make my own decisions. I could go through an investigation, I could not go through an investigation, or I could give information to JBU in order for them to offer me help. I chose not to start an investigation. I thought the guy who did this to me had only done it once. I didn’t want to create a problem, and I didn’t want to ruin his life. A week passed. I was encouraged to go talk to a different friend about the issue. I decided to meet up. We

drove around and she told me her story of sexual assault. I sat in shock as I realized the similarities in our stories. Some of the same words were used, and some of the same actions. She ended her story by letting me know the guy that sexually assaulted her was the same guy that sexually assaulted me. The guy I once thought had never done stuff with girls was now a two time offender. That’s not all; there was another girl with the same story. With this knowledge, I was determined to start an investigation, so the next day I went to report. After I reported, the perpetrator was informed. He called me, texted me, tweeted me, direct messaged me, tried to add me on snapchat and left a voicemail. I was so scared that he was going to find me on campus and hurt me. He lost access to my dorm, and we got separate eating times. The investigation began, and the waiting game was in process. Throughout the waiting period, I felt anger, sadness, loneliness and hate. I was angry at the people who didn’t report. If they would have reported, maybe this wouldn’t have happened to me. I was sad that I had been hurt in this way, and I had my innocence taken from me. I was lonely. Everyone can say they are sorry, and they understand your feelings, but they don’t. No one can relate to my story — only me. I was the one with the bruises on my neck and the pain in my heart. The worst part is I didn’t tell my parents. They still don’t know what happened to me. I cannot bring myself to face them with this pain I have gone through. I was hateful towards God. Why would he put me

through this, and why were people telling me that it was all part of His plan? The investigation lasted a total of 98 days. It was decided that he would be asked to leave. Tears poured. After this whole process, it was finally over. I was finally free. Freedom is something I will never take for granted. Now, I am free. I am not angry. I am happy that the guy that caused me this pain is gone. I am glad JBU stood beside me throughout everything. JBU paid for my hospital bills, kept everything confidential and let me make every decision throughout the process. Males: I’m sorry that there are guys out there like this. It is unfair to you that I am now a broken human being. I am sorry, but please accept my brokenness and show me what true love is. Females: if you or someone

you know is struggling with this, REPORT. It is scary, I know, but you will have no regrets. You WILL regret it if you find out he does it to someone else after you. Furthermore, this is not part of God’s plan. He never intended for you to be hurt in this way. God loves you and you are His precious and beautiful creation. Never let someone driven by their unholy desires separate you from His love. Thank you to the friends who stood by my side through it all. Thank you, Andre, for giving me options. Thank you, JBU, for saving my life. Thank you, professors, for understanding that some days I couldn’t get out of bed. This may be part of my story, but there is a whole book waiting to be written.



KARLA CONDADO/TheThreefoldAdvocate

## Thirteen Reasons Why and why to watch it



Ana Rodriguez  
CONTRIBUTOR

If you have not heard of the new Netflix show, Thirteen

Reasons Why, like most people who have already seen it, I would recommend that you watch it. It is not a feel-good show, it is hard to watch. It will tear you apart and take you to dark and uncomfortable places. Places some people think a Netflix show should not take its viewers. To give a quick run-down, the show tells the story of a teenage girl who commits suicide, the story is told by her through a series of tapes she left behind. Each episode we get to hear her explain another reason why she decided to end her life. If you have heard negative comments about the show, odds are, that they are complaints

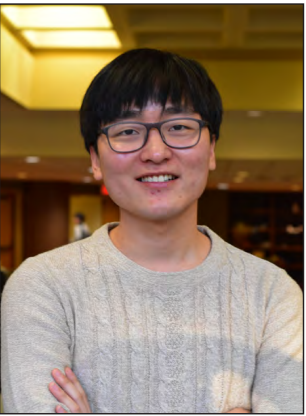
from people who think the show is too graphic, too dark, or too violent. Here is the thing though, the show deals with gruesome and uncomfortable issues. It never glamorizes the fact that rape is graphically horrifying, depression is overwhelmingly dark, and suicide is dreadfully violent. All of the things that the show portrays are real and they affect people around us every single day. The rawness in which serious issues are portrayed in the show leave behind any kind of glamour that is often in added to issues like these when we see them on TV. The producers of the show didn’t make it

unnecessarily graphic, dark, or violent, they made it necessarily real. Often in movies and TV shows the consequences of violent behaviors are minimized or sugar-coated, but not in Thirteen Reasons Why, as the viewers, we get to witness the inevitable and, often, irreversible consequences of the characters’ actions. These consequences serve as the reminder we can never receive often enough--that every one of our words and actions have an effect on those around us and that we don’t know what another person is going through. Personally, the show and the darkness in which all of these

issues were portrayed reminded me that, as a Christian, it is in those dark places where I will be called to serve, and while there is no way for me to know what another person is going through, I can take comfort in the fact that God knows and will provide me with the right words and actions to positively affect those around me.

Rodriguez is a junior majoring in Biology. She can be reached at RodriguezAR@jbu.edu

## Chicago Mission trip teaches about segregation



Joe Jo  
CONTRIBUTOR

If some asked me a question like “what’s your best memory in JBU,” I would like to say it was the Chicago Mission Trip”. I went to the Chicago mission trip on spring break

with fifteen other students and staff. We used “Segregation” as the word to describe the area we stayed in. This was the place where a number of Africa-Americans lived. I was really surprised when I figured out our members were only white people and Asians. I realized that segregation is not restricted to the place, but it implies social and political issues. The person who is in charge of the Sunshine Ministries told us that the rate of poverty, unemployment and incarceration is much higher in a place where there is an Africa-American majority. It seemed that segregation goes together with discrimination against minorities. I think segregation is not only limited to Chicago, but we can find it everywhere. For

instance, I heard from one of the Korean students in JBU that she used to struggle with an invisible tension between people from different countries in high school. She could not get along with them. We can also find another example of segregation in the JBU cafeteria. People love to eat with those who have the same skin color, who speak the same language, or who are from the same country. I am not saying that segregation is always bad. We have natural tendency to look for people who look the same and speak the same language. It is helpful for us to feel connected when we spend time with them. The thing is, when we linger in the comfortable area, we can easily lose the chance to communicate with

other people who are different from you. This can lead to misunderstanding and conflicts with each other. Therefore, we should try our best to cross over the invisible border and go to a place where you don’t belong. So these are the things we should know before we get started to do this. First, we should learn from the segregated people. We can easily miss to listen carefully to those people, especially to the minorities. To tell my stories as an exchange student in JBU, living here is somewhat difficult. I have a mouth, but I could not speak. I have ears, but could not listen. However, I feel very grateful to those who wanted to talk with me even though I had a struggle speaking English. Furthermore, we should seek God’s help to

give us power to share Jesus’s compassion toward minorities. Jesus devoted his life to healing the sick and comforting them. Jesus was also a friend of tax collectors and sinners who were separated from a society. If we are going to keep help minorities, we need God’s power. We would be exhausted if we relied on our own strength. It was a good mission trip to get to know how I can help segregated people. I hope we as students in a Christian university will try our best to help other minorities

Jo is a freshman majoring in psychology. He can be reached at JoH@jbu.edu



# Circuitry class integrates manufactured designs

**NOAH FRANZ**  
Lifestyles Editor  
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Pick up a newspaper or open a browser window and you probably won't consider what technology was necessary to get the words on the page. Every step in the publishing process involved integrated circuits. Millions of similar everyday actions are only possible with these tiny transistor arrays nestled into every electronic device we use.

This is the microscopic, computerized world John Brown University adjunct engineering professor Kim Cornett envisioned for her Integrated Circuitry class during the Fall 2016 semester. This new JBU class is built on previous electrical engineering concepts, consists of six weeks of design theory and finishes out with hands-on design projects by groups of engineering students. Cornett said she structured the class for real-world experience.

Normally, manufacturing circuitry designs requires specialized equipment maintained in extremely clean environments costing millions of dollars, so a student must learn only in theory.

However, organization Metal Oxide Semiconductor Implementation Service, run out of the University of Southern California, grants free fabrication and packaging to undergraduate students. MOSIS combines integrated circuit fabrication from several organizations to mitigate costs.

The JBU Engineering Department applied for and received one such grant for four 3mm by 3mm designs.

"We could've done the course without the grant, but MOSIS

allows the designs to get out in the real world," Cornett said. Cornett later reflected that MOSIS provides the perfect opportunity for student engineers to test their own designs.

Students Taliesin Harrison, Chase Harrod, Josiah Jackson, Benjamin Morris, Julia Theisen, Harrison Hosteter and recently-graduated Daniel Cho participated in the class to develop the four circuit designs to be printed. While highly technical, all four designs were completely original. After review and approval by Cornett, the groups set to work on their original designs.

Julia Theisen, senior engineering major, devised her own integrated circuitry project, a 16-bit add-and-subtract arithmetic logic unit with a seven-segment display. After the first few weeks of Integrated Circuits design theory, their first lab incorporating theory into their designs required learning an open-source program. "It went from zero to 100 really fast. The learning curve was super high," Theisen said.

"It's a totally new software to these students," Cornett said. "A lot of the first part of the semester was just teaching the students how to understand what the software was telling them, simulating the designs and then debugging any errors the software found."

Theisen, the only female engineering student in the class, considers it a great experience that may give her advantage in a field typically dominated by men.

"I took the class because I found it interesting and because I knew Professor Cornett previously. She has been a professional sponsor for the Society of Women Engineers. She has been a good female engineer role model in our department," Theisen said.

Theisen relied heavily on Cornett's expertise working at Texas Instruments to make sure her nano-scale computing device would function correctly given the space restrictions. "She was my sounding board when I didn't have a partner, so that helped out a lot," she said.

After the four groups completed their final designs and the class, Cornett submitted the designs for MOSIS fabrication. Cornett and the Integrated Circuits class have received sporadic updates about where their designs are in manufacturing. If the process goes smoothly, the circuits are due to arrive from fabrication and packaging just before graduation in May. "Making these circuits takes a long time – several weeks. I was hoping they would get back a little bit sooner," Cornett said.

Cornett and the class plan to test them as soon as they arrive. "All the students made personal commitments to come back and test their circuits," Cornett said. "They spent so much time on them that they're just proud of their work and really excited to see it work in real life."

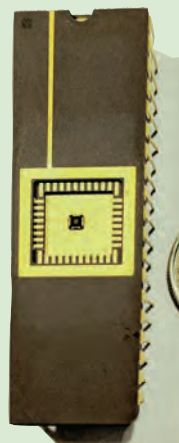


Photo courtesy of KIM CORNETT

# Guitarist bridges music and spirituality

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God should not be seen as an artist but as the ultimate creator, Chipper Via, junior general music major, said. To him, art is a model of God's creation and Via's best method for modeling that art is through music.

"When I play music I'm creating, and I'm making something that is my own and that comes to me through, usually, some form of spirituality," Via said.

Not only is music a method of modelling and crafting God's creation, it is an avenue for intimate conversation with God. The moments strumming or picking complex scales and songs on his guitar draw Via closer to God.

"I think that music is a spiritual gift. I think it is a way of communication. The way I communicate with God, the way God communicates with me. It's conversation," Via

said. "If I'm not using that to my best ability, then I don't think I'm connecting to God the way I can."

At five years old, Via took up piano, which he quit after a year in favor of drums. Even at a young age, Via worked hard and showed natural talent. For the instrument. For his tenth birthday, Via received a guitar as a gift from his mother, took cheap lessons and fell in love with the instrument.

Via recalls wanting to compete in his fifth grade talent show, teaching himself the solo from "Dani California" by the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

"I did a decent job at it and I had a lot of fun and so I was like, 'I need to keep this up,'" Via said.

As Via grew in age and became more skilled with the guitar, he accumulated guitar gear to experiment with new sounds and create challenges for himself. It was his passion for the guitar's technological side and his creative determination that drove Via to diligently practice and grow in his skills.

"I never wanted to be the kid with a lot of gear and didn't have anything to show for it," Via said.

Among his friends, Via would create friendly and fun competition, challenging himself to improve in areas where they excelled.

Elliot Jones, a freshman graphic design major and one of Chipper's close friends, recently formed a band with Via. He looks up to Via for his dedication to practice.

"He's really sensitive, in a musical sense, to what a song needs. Whether it's the style, or how much he needs, or how much he is supposed to play. He is able to adapt to different styles pretty easily," Jones said.

Likewise, Trevor Magness, junior Christian ministry and formation major and close friend of Via, believes he is one of the most talented guitar players he knows.

"He has a strict regime to how much he practices, and he cares about that a lot and he sticks to it, and as an effect, he is really talented," Magness said.



GRETA SMITH/TheThreefoldAdvocate





Stay sharp against the summer slump

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April may be the cruelest month, but June is the most boring. The active Fall and Spring semesters have every student rushing to and fro like indecisive squirrels. This rush keeps us on our toes intellectually and emotionally. Constant community and the expectations of academia ensure we're maintaining steady progress throughout most of the year. However, most of our faculties vanish with the start of the summer months, and binge-watching "Orange is the New Black" doesn't really help with stagnation. Here are a few projects to help maintain creative and intellectual momentum through the summer slump.

**1 Start learning a new language**  
 Почему нет? There are about seven and a half billion people, most of whom don't speak English. In fact, while English is one of the most common languages for business and trade, it is only the third-most spoken language in the world, with Mandarin Chinese being the first and Spanish the second. Removing language barriers allows for easier community and transfer of ideas, especially when traveling. The more at home you feel in a foreign climate, the easier it is to get along with the people there, and having even a conversational understanding of their language goes a long way.

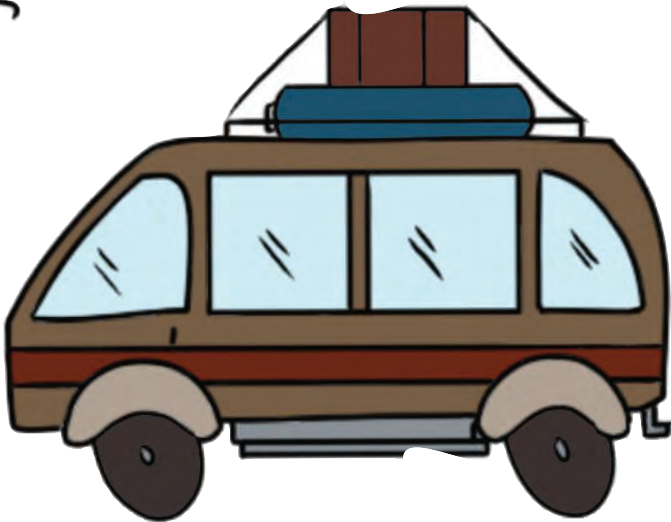


JET HONDERICH/TheThreefoldAdvocate

**2 Become musical**  
 If you're like me, you felt deep shame standing in line at the Next Big Thing. All these brilliant people make beautiful sounds with instruments you can only make screeching noises with. It's not a great feeling, but it's not an inevitability either. On the contrary, it only takes about two or three months to become competent with a new instrument, and competency will eventually breed proficiency. One of the easiest, cheapest and most versatile instruments is the guitar, but it's not the only one. Violin, piano and drums are all great instruments with loads of potential.



**3 Create**  
 This world is a big place. It's also a beautiful, terrible place. The sun cracks egg-like against the surface of the earth, spilling its light across each horizon. Your job, as a person, is to parse this beauty, and you could do this in any number of ways. Knit a sweater, make some ink, draw a picture. Whatever you do, don't do it for approval. That's the quickest way to lose any sort of creative momentum.



**4 Tour America**  
 The United States is a massive country. Sure, it's not Russia or Canada, but it is the world's third largest, and it matches that size with diversity. Between the East and West Coasts sits an explosion of natural beauty and intrigue. From the Ozark hills to the North Dakota badlands to the windmills of Texas, America has no shortage of natural beauty. Hop in your car and take a hike. The world's waiting for you, so don't be strangled by monotony.

**5 Read a book**  
 You might quip, "Why in the world would I go back to studying? I just got done with that." Well, my dear friend, you would go back to studying because the amount any of us know about anything can fit squarely in a thimble. The complication of this world and its philosophies requires careful consideration. Read Aristotle's Poetics, or Augustine's Confessions. How about the entire Bible? Read the Quran or a book about the history of crocheting. Whatever helps you keep your mind sharp in the idle summer months.



Prison ministries promote evangelism

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Solid steel doors slam shut with every new occupant. Visitors are greeted by cold, concrete floors, bright lights and loud reverberations that echo off the walls. This is a glimpse of what prisons look like. The issue of incarceration was brought to light when Chris Hoke and Neaners Garcia addressed John Brown University on March 30. They spoke about their jail ministry in Skagit Valley with an organization called Tierra Nueva. Chris Hoke is a jail chaplain and pastor to gangs and violent offenders in the valley. His partner and friend, Neaners Garcia, was released from the prison about three years ago. Hoke and Garcia now work to build relationships with the dozens of men Neaners knows from the underground network of convicts. At a small Christian college, students can easily stay in a safe, comfortable place, but students from John Brown University also have the opportunity to reach out to the men and women who face sentences in the local jails of Northwest Arkansas. "The Jail ministry puts you right there in the cell with the inmates," junior nursing major and ministry participant Levi Branstetter said. "It may be a little intimidating, but people in the jail are hungry for the gospel."

Junior Kiralyn Tuttle, co-leader of the ministry, encourages students to address the growing need for prison evangelism. "I've talked with a lot of people who are thinking about getting involved. They might be nervous, either because it's a jail or because they are nervous to teach," Tuttle said. Fear often deters students from prison ministry. Tuttle encourages students to look past the fear and allow God to work through them. "By the grace of God, He always uses what we give," Tuttle said. Garcia shared his story of incarceration and solitary confinement as well as Hoke's impact on his life. "He brought my daughter to visit me - he did a lot of stuff that you think your homies from the streets or the community are going to do for you. He did that for me and it just had a big impact in my life. He was my safe zone," Garcia said in his chapel address. Through the work of Tierra Nueva and Chris Hoke's friendship, Garcia and many others have received help, healing and empowerment. "Where love and transgression collide, lean into love, and Jesus will meet you there," Hoke said. "Be open to the jail ministry. Let yourself love." Branstetter encourages students to involve themselves in a CAUSE ministry. "The most important thing is getting out



Photos courtesy of KIBALYN TUTTLE

there with the people who need it the most instead of sitting in the pews on Sunday and [hearing] messages and not doing anything," Branstetter said. The prison ministry has worked in Washington County jail in Fayetteville, but plans future outreaches to Benton County jail.



Photos courtesy of KIRALYN TUTTLE



# Futsal court construction completed

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On the south end of campus, at the end of a long road, a neglected marshland used to watch in despair as the neighboring intramural field filled each evening with rowdy college students. Now, it too has purpose: futsal has arrived. Construction recently finished on the futsal courts, leaving the concrete slab surrounded by a chain-link fence open for use. Students flock to the site, anxious to make full use of the new amenity.

John Brown University Men's

soccer coach, Scott Marksberry, said the city of Siloam Springs, along with the local soccer club, heavily involved with the four-month project. According to Marksberry, since the local park already has volleyball and basketball courts, it only made sense to add futsal courts in a community that highly values soccer.

The U.S. is about to launch the first professional futsal league next year. The league is funded by of big names in the NBA, including Mikhail Prokhorov, owner of the Brooklyn Nets, and the Buss family, owners of the Los Angeles Lakers, according to SportsDay.

Along with the futsal

league, the U.S. plans to bid on the upcoming Fifa Futsal World Cup.

Marksberry predicted that these upcoming events will "cause a really sudden burst of interest in the next two-to-three years."

Marksberry said the sport is internationally renowned and is rapidly growing in the U.S. According to Marksberry, right now U.S. soccer leagues are pushing the importance of teaching futsal to youth so they can learn important skills that will translate well to soccer.

"Futsal is a really quick-foot, skilled based sport," Marksberry said. "There is not as much body contact in futsal as there would

be on the soccer field."

This is important because it teaches players how to move a ball quickly while keeping control of the ball.

JBU soccer player Marko Cardona, senior, said the new courts were well worth the wait. Cardona agrees with Marksberry that futsal is a great way to improve soccer skills.

"I think the courts will really benefit our team because when we play futsal for fun, we will also be working on fundamental skills needed to play outdoor soccer," Cardona said.

Freshman JBU student Maddie Madewell recently became a futsal fan. Madewell said she loves walking by the futsal court and seeing people

from the community and the University using the facility. Pick-up games frequently occur on the weekends.

"There is never a time of day when I have seen the courts unused," Madewell said.

Madewell also said she believes that the student body and community can use the court to connect over a shared sport. She sees futsal as a way to worship God through our bodies.

A one-time intramural tournament will be held at the futsal courts on April 22. All JBU students, faculty and staff are welcome to participate and can register for free on imleagues.com.



Courtesy of UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Construction on the John Brown University futsal court finished in early April. The court was built with a 76,677 dollar grant from Walmart. The facility includes two smaller courts and one large court.

# Meet spikeball, volleyball's newest hybrid

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Thud! A player plunges into the grass to keep the ball from touching the ground, preventing an automatic turnover. His teammate gives him a high-five, smiling. They are one point away from winning the spikeball game.

Spikeball is one of the fastest growing activities in John Brown University's campus. Every Friday at 3 p.m., a group of students meet on the quad to play spikeball.

Anson Stoller, sophomore worship arts major, is an ambassador for the spikeball

company and leads the group of students who play on campus.

"Spikeball is kind of like volleyball and four square mixed together; you have the net and you hit the ball down at the net," Stoller said. "Hitting the net is kind of like hitting it over the net in volleyball."

In this sport there are no boundaries and lines so players are free to move anywhere. Due to the free space of the game, players have the opportunity to get creative with trick shots and different techniques.

Parker Gulbranson, sophomore outdoor leadership ministries major, has been playing spikeball for a little over a year. Gulbranson encourages students to participate in the growing sport.

"We want to spread spikeball

around campus and get a lot of people playing," Gulbranson said. "It's a movement — a spikeball movement."

In order to spread spikeball across JBU, Stoller has been working directly with marketing directors and receiving discounts on supplies and merchandise.

"We organized a tournament last year and the winners got a free spikeball set. [and] second place got t-shirts," Stoller said.

Stoller is in the process of organizing another tournament in the coming weeks before students leave for summer vacation. The prizes for this year's tournament would also be funded by the spikeball company that Stoller collaborates with.

"I really enjoyed playing in the spikeball tournament this spring. We got through two or three rounds," Gulbranson said. "The community is great and it was fun to play out there with 20 to 30 other people."

Spikeball is a popular, fast-paced game, but it also incorporates a sense of community on the JBU campus.

From weekly meetings to organized tournaments, players are there to have fun with their friends and fellow teammates.

"I would encourage students to participate in this activity because it helps you connect with other people; it gives you a common experience to bond over," Gulbranson said.

Gulbranson said that spikeball is also a great outlet for exercise and something to relieve the stress of school.

Anne Metz, senior kinesiology major and current member of the JBU spikeball group, said that spikeball is unique because of the accessibility of the sport.

"It's nice to be outside but you don't have to be super active. You don't have to be in shape to do it," Metz said.

If anyone is interested in participating in the new quad game they meet Friday afternoons at 3p.m. You can also contact Anson Stoller at StollerAW@jbu.edu.



Courtesy of UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Students at John Brown University play Spikeball, a game similar to volleyball. Each team of two is given three hits to bounce the ball off of the trampoline and disrupt the other team's volley.



# Injuries and weather shorten season

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Briefly inhibited by injuries and inclement weather, the tennis team forges ahead. The John Brown University teams went through ups and downs this season with injuries, losses and cancelled and rescheduled matches. While far from perfect, the tennis teams remain positive about the season.

Multiple injuries on both the women’s and men’s team impacted the season. There are currently three injured players. Ross Miner, a sophomore on the men’s team, will return to practice in a couple of weeks but unfortunately will not be able to play the rest of the season due to a torn labrum, a muscle in the shoulder that is crucial to the motion of swinging a racket. These injuries inhibited the team. Other injured players

include Axel Betancourt who suffered from a bone bruise and Eva Berry who suffered from an ankle injury. “This season hasn’t brought any new struggles for me,” Grace Cusick, junior tennis player, said. “Other than struggling with certain parts of my game during different points in the season, it has been a pretty strong season.” Catlin King, junior tennis player said, “The season is going really well. We are having a lot of fun at our matches and are preforming pretty well.” Nathan Kuykendall, a sophomore tennis player, said “the season has been going well. There have been a handful of matches that we were close to winning, and should have won, but couldn’t close on. However, we have fought hard against a number of nationally ranked NAIA Division I & NCAA Division II teams. They have pushed us to be better players.” Kuykendall said the main thing he improved this season was “closing out” matches. Playing higher-ranking teams helped him to work on finishing matches with a win. Cusick agreed with Kuykendall. “We have played a lot of difficult teams so our record shows that we are not doing very well,” Cusick said. “We



ROBIN GRAEFEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate

**Julia McNeil** returns the ball to her opponent. The women’s team plays their final regional games on April 28 and 29. have really played well against all of these teams who are good, so I am not upset about that.” While playing higher-ranking teams has helped JBU improve, the team missed further opportunities to perfect their skills because of weather complications. “Our main struggle this season has been due to cancelled matches because of the rain,” King said. “Several are not going to be rescheduled, so we missed some good opportunities to bump up our stats.” The weather was not the only odd occurrence for the tennis team this season. For the first

time in JBU history, an athlete is playing on both the men’s soccer and men’s tennis teams. Axel Betancourt, an international business major from Houston, Texas, crossed over from the soccer team and has already played a couple of tennis matches with the tennis team. He plays midfield on the soccer team and plays singles on the tennis team. The men’s tennis team has two more season matches scheduled for April 17 and April 20 in Oklahoma before regionals on April 28 and April 29. The women’s team will also play at regionals April 28 and April 29.



ROBIN GRAEFEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate

**Fernando Hurley and Jordan Scoggins practice** for their upcoming match on April 20.

# Making sense of the month-long Madness

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North Carolina men’s basketball ended the madness by taking the NCAA National Championship title and defeating Gonzaga 71-65. The final game, held in Glendale, Arizona, was highly anticipated after North Carolina’s close loss against Villanova last year and Gonzaga’s chance to compete

continued until the closing moments,” Alex Kirshner, reporter for SB Nation, wrote: “It was obvious with about 16 minutes left that we’d be in for a dramatic finish.” Moments before the buzzer, North Carolina was ahead just three points. In those last moments, forward Justin Jackson made a “breakaway dunk,” putting the Tar Heels five points ahead of the Bulldogs. Though Gonzaga did not win the Championship title, their ability to make it to the final four for the first time was admirable. CBS reported that Gonzaga was rated “the best, most consistent team in the sport most of the season.” Win or lose, many people enjoy the competitive atmosphere March Madness brings. Die-hard fans create brackets every year, dictating the route they think their team will take to the Championship. This year, senior women’s basketball player Kodee Powell predicted Kansas, Oregon, North Carolina and Syracuse would make it to the Final Four. Unfortunately, after many missed shots, the Jayhawks, Powell’s favorite team, was taken out of the tournament after their loss against Oregon in the Elite Eight. Though Powell’s team did not make a comeback this year, Powell was happy to see

North Carolina take the title. “They are a very good offensive rebounding team,” Powell said. He said he believes North Carolina works hard and deserved the win. Senior Jed Warren was surprised that North Carolina was able to make it back to the championship game after last year’s loss. Warren did not even pick North Carolina to make it to the Final Four in his bracket this year. Like Warren, junior Brandon Reichert did not have North Carolina in his final predictions. “I was pretty confident in South Carolina, Gonzaga, Villanova, and my roots always put my hope that by some chance Oklahoma State could pull a miracle,” Reichert said. “Unfortunately, that wasn’t the case this year.” As the tournament went on Reichert had strong doubts that North Carolina could pull it off, which made the championship game his

favorite part of March Madness this year. “Nothing beats a close championship,” Reichert said.



Courtesy of Wikimedia  
South Carolina beat Gonzaga by six points in the Championship game.

in the Final Four for the first time in their school’s history. According to SB Nation, Gonzaga held a seven-point lead in the first half of the game. As the clock continued to tick, North Carolina caught up with Gonzaga causing a “scoring see-saw that



BECKY RAMIREZ/TheThreefoldAdvocate

**South Carolina beat** Mississippi State in the Women’s NCAA Division I National Championship game.



Claire Griffin  
Tennis

**Major:** Communication  
**Year:** Junior  
**What is your biggest accomplishment in your sport?**  
“The biggest accomplishment I have had in tennis is getting on the JBU tennis team. Since I was in middle school I wanted to sign with a school to play tennis.”  
**What has tennis taught you?**  
“Playing tennis has taught me how to stay calm and push on in stressful situations.”





# 12 SPOTLIGHT

APRIL 20, 2017  
The Threefold Advocate

## Summer Reading

Professors suggest their favorite books  
Summer is upon us! Well, almost. Inpreparation for relaxing summer vacations or lazy days at home, we've compiled a list of professors' favorite books. If you're looking for books to read for pleasure, trade in your textbooks and pick up one of these treasures.

## Brad Gambill

"Gilead" by Marilynne Robinson

The narration takes the form of an elderly pastor's journal written for his seven-year-old son. The pastor is dying and wants the boy to have record of him — to remember him and, more importantly, know him. In the end, Robinson delivers a powerful story cast in prose so beautiful that I need to rest the book in my lap and weep.

## Jay Bruce

"Defending Substitution: An Essay on Atonement in Paul" by Simon Gathercole

The cross of Christ is central to Christianity, and we cannot be Christians without understanding the work of Jesus there. Gathercole shows how we can understand the cross only if we recognize it as a substitutionary act — something that Jesus does "in our place, instead of us."

## Trisha Posey

"Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson

Just Mercy is about Bryan Stevenson's work to support African Americans and juveniles in a justice system that is often anything but just. It's a raw look at the need for continued reform fifty years after the end of the Civil Rights movement.

## Jessica Wilson

"The World's Largest Man" by Harrison Scott Key

This is the funniest book that I have ever read! It is a memoir about a southerner who doesn't quite fit in the south. The opening page reads, "the characters' names in this book have all been changed because most of those characters own guns." It gets funnier from there!

## Tracy Balzer

"I Capture the Castle" by Dodie Smith

Sometimes what you need is a little imagination and whimsy. [This book] has all the components I love in a good book: compelling characters, Great Britain and a castle, as the title makes clear!



COMPILED BY EMILY DIBRITO  
DESIGNED BY CHRISTIE NICHOLAS

