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The

Threefold Advocate

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Siloam Springs, Ark.

Virus creates global crisis

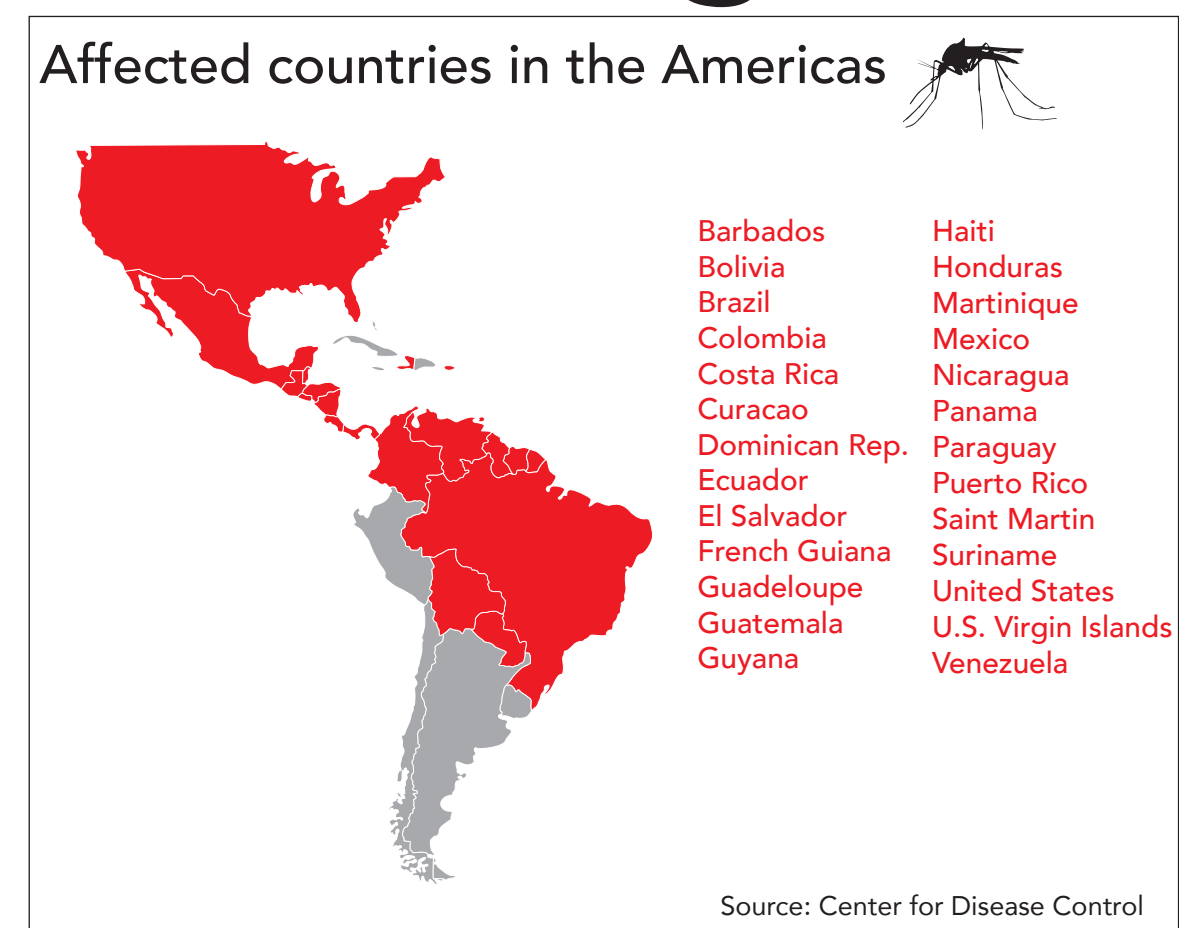
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The World Health Organization has declared a global health emergency concerning the rapidly spreading Zika virus. So far, more than 20 countries in the Americas have been affected, including several states in the United States. The Center for Disease Control confirmed on Tuesday that the first sexually transmitted case of the virus was diagnosed in Dallas County, Texas.

The emergency classification of Zika puts the virus in the same category of concern as Ebola, according to the BBC. The virus is suspected of causing brain defects in infants, posing the biggest threat to pregnant women.

The Zika virus is a mosquito-borne illness caused by a bite from an infected mosquito or sexual contact with an infected person. Thousands of cases have been reported in more than 20 countries, Brazil seeing the worst of the outbreak with more than 1 million reported cases. The symptoms of the virus usually include fever, joint pains, inflammation and swelling of the hands and feet.

With Zika spreading rapidly and no cure available, affected countries such as Colombia,



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Jamaica and Honduras have encouraged women not to get pregnant until further research is conducted.

However, this advice is not reasonable for many. While in the interest of citizens’ best health, avoiding pregnancy is

not an option for women who have no access to, or are against, contraception. Some have been trying for years to have children and do not plan on giving up now. Others, in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church, do not endorse contraception.

“You have to take a lot of preventative measures,” Juan Carlos Rodriguez, resident director of the townhouses, said about choosing to have a child. Rodriguez is from El Salvador, along with his wife, who is six months pregnant with their baby,

Emma. The couple visited the country this past summer, and took precautions against mosquitos, which are known to carry other viruses such as chikungunya, yellow fever and dengue. However, they know that it will be harder for lower income families to gain access to protection.

Rodriguez considered that the suggestion to limit pregnancies could be an attempt by the government to control population. “We’re a super populated country,” Rodriguez explained about El Salvador. “Economically, it makes sense.”

Rodriguez said the government warning was good, but stronger precautions need to be taken so that those who may not be able to control pregnancies do not become overwhelmed or turn to abortion.

There is no known vaccine or cure specifically for the Zika virus, but according to the Brazilian Health Ministry, “80 percent of those who catch Zika have shown no symptoms” and recover from the virus relatively quickly. National governments and health organizations are taking measures to fight the virus, but what has health officials worried is how the contracted virus has

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Public fear fades over deficit

Young Life ministry connects students

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United States citizens care less about the federal deficit than they have in seven years.

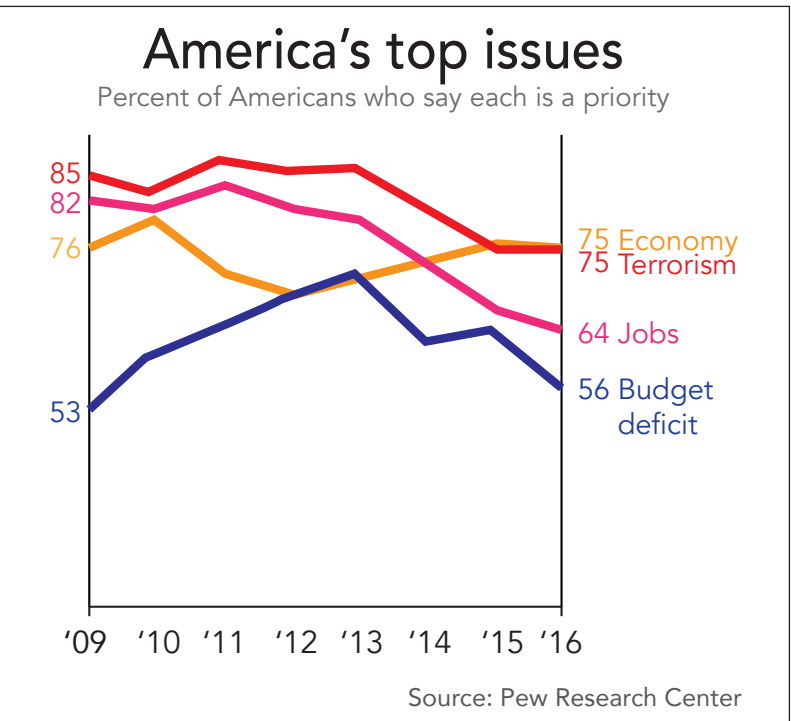
Only 56 percent of residents in the U.S. believe the deficit should be a top priority for the country, down from 64 percent as of last year, according to a recent study by Pew Research.

The deficit is the lowest it has been since President Obama first took office in 2009 in spite of the fact that the deficit has risen by \$8.3 trillion, according to the National Debt Clock.

The concern over the deficit was highest in 2013, which was Obama’s first year of his second term. At that time 72 percent of residents thought reducing debt should be top priority. Since then, the amount of concern has

“The focus of the election so far hasn’t been about debt...the big issues have been other hot topics.”
- Jacob Russell

declined 16 percent. It is now only three percentage points higher than what it was in 2009. Since Obama took office, the debt ceiling has been raised five times. The continuous raising of the ceiling is a possible factor for the increase in apathy. “The longer that you are in debt, the less impact it seems to have,” Jacob Russell, junior electrical engineering major, said. “The ceiling is pushed up and up. It feels unreal, like they can just push it as far as they want. At first was a big deal—



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people were saying, ‘wow, we’re way over budget.’ But now it’s like, ‘well, we’ve always been way over budget.’”

Others believe the issue has not gotten as much publicity not because of how people have gotten used to it, but because they have simply given up.

“It’s gotten to a point where people don’t think anything can be realistically done,” Jed Warren, sophomore mechanical engineering major, said.

“First off, people don’t realize how much the deficit is, and second off, they don’t think anything can really be done about it.”

Another possible factor in the public apathy about national debt is the approaching elections. Russell mentioned that the federal deficit is an issue that has not gotten much buzz in the race for the White House.

“You’d think public interest would go up on an election year,” he said. “The focus of the election so far hasn’t really been about debt, it’s been more about terrorism, undocumented

immigration and taxes. The deficit hasn’t been the focus. The big issues have been other hot topics.”

Warren agreed that the election is a contributing factor to public apathy; however, he explained that it is due to candidates not sticking to the problem-solution formula that has been used in the past. He stated that we are not seeing a “normal discussion of the issues that need to be solved,” which could be a link to why the public doesn’t care as much about a problem like the federal deficit. “It’s more ‘Donald Trump is going to solve this’ as opposed to ‘Donald Trump is going to solve this by doing this’ which is what you’ve seen before,” Warren said.

Whatever the reason for the public’s apathy, the fact remains—the federal deficit currently sits at over \$18.9 trillion.

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With nearly 7,000 outreach locations and nearly 70,000 volunteers in the U.S. and around the world, Young Life’s ministry is making an impact on an estimated 1.8 million kids. Young Life has recently become the newest Cause ministry available on John Brown University’s campus this semester.

While Young Life was active on campus last semester, Caleb Martin, soon to be the Young Life Area Director of Siloam Springs, has been working hard to get it official.

Young Life is a national ministry focused on giving every adolescent the opportunity to get to know Jesus Christ, according to their website. Their main focus is on empowering college students to make personal relationships with kids, helping them earn the right to be heard and sharing the gospel.

Martin has worked for Young Life for the last 3 years, it was not until this 2015 that he began to focus on launching Young Life in Siloam. While his efforts have primarily been an effort to set up a local committee—a group of adults that help financially, administratively and

logistically—Martin said last August things started to “get really fast.”

“I felt a strong call from God at this time to step away from my current position and to become the area director for Siloam,” Martin said. Previously unbeknownst to him, Martin said his boss felt called to put him in that position as well.

Since October, Martin has spent 50 percent of his time in Siloam, working on getting the word out to the community and getting university students involved.

He started out with 21 students in leadership training, and currently has 17 students still willing to serve.

The students are about to finish a semester-long leadership training, and they are planning to launch their ministry officially in March.

This semester they are going to focus mostly on getting to know the kids in Siloam Springs High School and Main Street Academy. Martin said they plan to go to football games and lunches, and engage with the kids with the purpose of building relationships based on trust.

Martin is most excited to get

Young Life continued on Page 3



GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

More millennials living at home

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More women between the ages of 18 and 34 are now living with their parents or other relatives than in the 1940s, according to Pew Research Center.

In 1940, 36.2 percent of women aged 18-35 lived with their parents or relatives. This was previously the highest percentage of young women living at home on record.

John Brown University women had varying opinions on living at home.

"If you aren't married and have college debt, living with your parents would be a good option," Clare Holden, sophomore elementary education major, said. "It is probably what I will do."

Liz Meyer, junior outdoor leadership ministries major, said that she thinks these statistics show that people in the millennial generation tend to postpone adulthood because of a belief that they can be anything they want and that they should love their jobs.

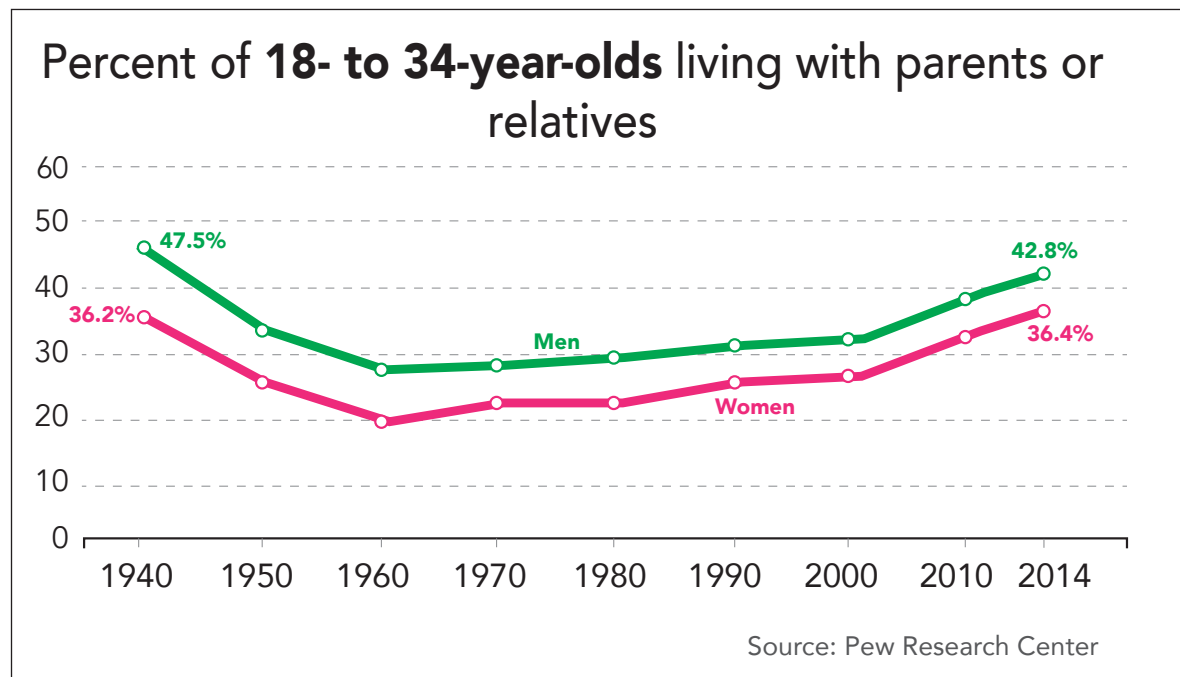
"Either they just become paralyzed because they don't know

exactly what to do, or they have this image that they should be 100 percent satisfied with their jobs," Meyer said. "And when they don't have the perfect job, which doesn't really exist, rather than sticking with it or trying to improve it, they quit and feel like they'll always have home to go back to."

Meyer said that she does not plan to return home after her graduation from the University.

According to Pew, the percentage of women who lived with parents and relatives was the highest in 1940 due to World War II, which limited working opportunities. It decreased after 1940 because of marriages and women were able to work. Despite the similar statistic, the reason women are living at home now is vastly different. "Today's young women are more likely to be college educated and unmarried than earlier generations of American women in their age group," according to Pew Research.

The number decreased until about 1960 when the lowest number of young women living at home reached 20 percent, according to Pew. After this, the number grew slightly but



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not substantially. However, since 2000, the rate has greatly increased, going from around 25 percent to 36.4 percent.

The numbers for marriage of young women have also been cut in half. Only 30 percent of young women are married.

The Pew study noted that women are 5 times more likely to attend college than in the 1960s,

with 27 percent of young women currently in college, compared to 5 percent in the 1960s. This has also increased the number of young women at home because, according to Pew, women who are attending college are far more likely to live at home than women who are not in college.

Men also live at home in strong numbers. They follow the same

pattern, though they have not had quite as sharp of an increase since the 2000s. They have not returned to their all-time 1940 high of 47.5 percent that was brought on by the Great Depression.

However, young men are still at home more than their female counterparts with 42.8 percent of men ages 18-34 living at home.

Virus pushes bananas toward extinction

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The common Cavendish banana, which is eaten more than apples and oranges combined in the United States, may soon die out due to a global infestation of the Panama disease.

This is not the first time that the Panama disease has killed off a species of bananas. In 1965, a fungus started killing off the Gros Michel commercial banana plants in Central America, according to CNN. It left the producers of the bananas no choice but to burn down all of the plants.

The banana producers started to grow Cavendish bananas instead because they were immune to the fungus. However, a new strain, known as Tropical Race 4, has been found in Australia, Asia, the Middle East and Africa, but has yet to reach the Americas. It spreads through air, water and soil.

This fungus, *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense*, is a soil pathogen which infects

the root system and colonizes the plant through the vascular system. As a fungus, the disease produces spores, which can survive in the soil for decades.

The disease is uncontrollable, and the only way to cure it is by soil treatments, which have such a detrimental effect on the environment that they are banned almost everywhere, according to panamadisease.org

Cavendish bananas are clones of the original banana plant. Due to the similar genetic makeup, these plants are extremely vulnerable to disease outbreaks.

There is currently not one banana variety that can replace the Cavendish variety. Since the bananas are genetically modified, breeding is a difficult and long-term task. It may take decades to release new varieties that meet consumer demands.

The leading producers of bananas are Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama. Panama disease threatens to cause widespread poverty because bananas are

a cash crop for millions of people around the world.

University students from Central America weighed in on the potential impact of losing banana production in their countries.

"There are going to be people unemployed if the sales decrease, but mostly in the countryside and certain provinces, so it is not impacting the entire country," Victor Jaen Quinn, a student from Panama said.

While Bananas are Panama's top agricultural export, services such as banking and transportation account for more than three-quarters of Panama's Gross Domestic Product, according to Forbes.

In Honduras, where agriculture plays a larger role in the economy, losing banana crops could be more devastating, especially in the northern coast, Jose Ricardo Salinas, a student from Honduras, said.

Alex Paniagua's family grows bananas in Costa Rica. Even though they grow bananas for personal use and not for profit, he



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

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explained that the effect could be more serious for those who rely on banana production for income.

"The Costa Rican Caribbean side's economy is based mostly

on banana production," said Paniagua. "A decrease in banana production will hugely impact the economy of many Costa Rican Caribbean families."

Lent Event informs students on church traditions

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The Student Ministry Leadership Team hosted the 'Lent Event' this Monday to better inform students on the spiritual importance of the liturgical year.

The event featured Robbie Castleman, professor of biblical studies, as the keynote speaker. Castleman explained not only the importance of Lent, but of the entire liturgical year. "There's a lot of students who come from homes and congregations that don't follow the liturgical year. It's just not part of what they do," Castleman said.

In fact, 85 percent of Protestants and 35 percent of Catholics said they have not fasted for Lent in the past three years, according to a 2014 study by Barna Group.

The liturgical year is a traditional calendar of events that has been used since the early church to better walk in the traditions that Christianity is rooted in. The year starts with Advent and concludes with Trinity



JESSIE BRANDON/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Robbie Castleman spoke to students this week about the Christian calendar and the history of Lent.

Sunday, which is the Sunday after Pentecost. "The liturgical year is a very old idea to help congregations and Christians walk through year after year, with keeping in mind the life of Christ," Castleman said.

The event focused primarily on information regarding the liturgical year, but was held with Lent around the bend. Lent is the forty days leading up to Christ's crucifixion, which

begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter.

"The idea of Lent is as old as Judaism. It is the idea that you prepare yourself for the act of salvation," Castleman said.

Cade Blush, a senior biblical and theological studies major, spoke about the importance of holding the Lent Event. "I think it helps show students that the history of practicing Lent goes back a very, very long way, and

that it's not something we made as an American tradition, and it's not something that's made up by the modern church, but it's something that's gone back thousands and thousands of years," Blush said.

Castleman's main point was how the liturgical year in general, and Lent in particular, is a tool for better knowing and understanding Christ's words in the New Testament.

"Bonhoeffer put it this way:

'When Jesus bids you come, He bids you come and die.' What does it mean to die to yourself? That is the question of Lent. When you walk through that and think through that for forty days, you're going to find out things about yourself because you looked, and because you asked the Spirit to help expose things in your life," Castleman said. "We all need to be ready for the Lord to put His finger on something in our lives, or maybe many things in our lives, saying, 'It's time to let go, say goodbye to that, there's no looking back.' To follow Jesus means you die to yourself. That's the deal."

Andrew Heldenbrand, who grew up in Spain, attended the event. "Growing up in a Catholic country, I sort of saw all those things as outside of Christianity, but one of the unexpected things about a lot of professors at JBU have shown me is the idea that there's more to Christianity than just the Protestant side of it. There's a lot to tradition, and too often the church throws out a lot of really good stuff in an effort to distance itself from other kinds of belief," Heldenbrand said.

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seemingly affected pregnant mothers and their newborns.

Reports show that approximately 4,000 cases of Zika have potentially caused infants to develop microcephaly

within the last year throughout Brazil. Microcephaly hinders brain development, which leads to symptoms including smaller, underdeveloped skulls and permanent brain damage.

Melissa Mitchell, Audio Visual Lighting coordinator at John Brown University,

recently went with her husband for a healthy 11-week check-up on their expected fifth child. When asked whether an outbreak of equal magnitude in the U.S. would have affected their choice to get pregnant, Mitchell responded that she would not want to do something

that would put her baby at risk of not being as healthy or safe as her older children.

On the other hand, Mitchell said babies are a gift from God. "No matter when they come, how they come, they're a gift."

To limit chances of contracting Zika virus,

people are encouraged to wear insect repellant and long clothing that covers the skin, especially during the morning and late afternoon times.

Vote in the primaries

Candidates neck and neck after Iowa

Ted Cruz (R) and Hillary Clinton (D) have been declared the winners of the 2016 Iowa Caucus as of Monday.

The legislative meeting determined that Cruz and Clinton will receive the majority of delegates elected to the county convention, which then elects delegates for that candidate to the state convention and eventually the national convention.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that it is crucial for millennials and all generations to take part in the election. If they are not voting it can have a negative effect on the final polls.

If students believe that they lean toward one party, they can easily affect the candidate that will run for their party. The College Democrats and Republicans clubs on campus have teamed up to help students learn how to register to vote.

Students also need to be aware of what each candidate really stands for. Trump said that his supporters were so loyal that they would vote for him no matter what.

This country should not have citizens that will blindly follow a politician because they agree with a few policies.

Despite Clinton and Cruz's victories in Iowa, the caucus shows that the race is extremely close. Clinton barely beat Bernie Sanders with only a 0.3 percent difference between the two candidates, according to the Associated Press. CNN said that it was so close that Clinton was not officially given victory until Tuesday afternoon.

A third Democratic candidate, Martin O'Malley, received less than one percent of the votes in Iowa and dropped out of the race. In addition, Mike Huckabee (R) dropped out of the running. This could affect who will be in the lead in later primaries and caucuses. The Republicans were also held a close race with less than five percent separating the top three candidates.

For the Republican Party this is significant because they have 12 total candidates running for the nomination. Once a few of the candidates drop out, the numbers could easily get even closer to one another.

The Threefold Advocate understands that some students may not find politics important or are uninterested in them. However, the president elected in 2016 will be in charge when most current university students graduate. Their voting decisions will affect the economy, job market, international relations and much more that you enter the real world with.

Do not think this decision will not affect you because it will. Students have a chance to make a difference in the election, study the sides, decide who to support and vote.

Support citizens of Flint

Advocate and provide resources for the community

The city of Flint, Mich. is in crisis over its unsafe water supply.

"The city's water supply is contaminated with toxic levels of lead, and residents are unable to drink the water that comes through their taps," according to CNN.

The governor recently said that he hopes the water will be able to drink within three months; however, there is no evidence that this will be a possibility.

Unfortunately, Flint was denied status as a federal disaster area. The governor is currently appealing President Obama's decision.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that Flint, Mich. should be declared a disaster area. The city is in need of major support. The situation has already been declared a state of emergency, but the people need more help.

Declaring Flint a federal disaster area would give the city the opportunity to receive up to 75 percent of the cost of the emergency, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

We understand that this may seem as though the federal government is continuing to give out more and more money, but We The Threefold Advocate urge students to think compassionately. The people in Flint were lied to about the safety of their water and must live in fear of lead poisoning.

The Threefold Advocate also urges students to help the citizens of Flint in practical ways. There are multiple organizations that are accepting monetary donations and bottled water, including Flint Water Fund, Flint Child Health & Development Fund, Catholic Charities of Genesee County and The American Red Cross.

The Threefold Advocate urges students to support this community. They are unsure of when they will be able to fix the problem and do not have disaster funding.

Educated elections needed



Submitted by CALLUM MCNICHOLS

Carpe diem for final semester



MATT BOWEN
CONTRIBUTOR

I made a midnight burger run the other night. I hadn't stopped working and studying since 9 a.m. and I figured I earned a delicious and cheesy burger with a nice side of French fries. As I was driving back, I realized something kind of sobering: I was driving alone.

I thought all the way back to freshman year when I lived in suite 18 in J. Alvin. I didn't know any of the guys at the beginning of the year, heck I hadn't been in the States since I was 13! But some of these guys became some of my greatest companions. No doubt, those were some of the greatest burger, taco and pizza runs ever. Sometimes, seven guys would cram into my three-person car and we'd make a trip to McDonalds, I would sincerely hope that someone was going to pay for me since I drove, drive back to the suite and play videogames for hours.

I'd wake up for my 8 a.m. Western Civilization course, only about two hours of sleep under my belt, excited for the

But as I look back, I can't help but think 'these have been the greatest four years of my life.'

next burger run. And we had lots. After food, we'd talk about life, movies, theology, the whole gamut while we watched someone play Minecraft. No doubt, those are some of my favorite memories.

I got to live my next year in a townhouse, lucky sophomore with lots of senior friends. And although we had lots of bro time making midnight food runs there were a few things that changed. Girlfriends. This one included. Midnight food runs became date nights.

I remember taking my girlfriend, still dating me for only God knows why, to get burgers around 11:00 p.m. and hope they'd get our food in time for us to make it back to the townhouse and eat together. If not, we just ate in the car. Videogames weren't included in the conversation, she's not a gamer by any means, but everything else was on the table. Our love formed eating French fries, learning what Frosty's were and talking about everything. I wouldn't trade those nights for anything.

My other brothers got girlfriends too. I saw my closest buddy, Jason, meet the girl of his dreams and get married. I saw Noah fall deeply in love with a girl he met in a Bible class. My roommate Ben and I would

have unspoken wars to see who got the room when our girlfriends were over. Midnight food runs with the boys got more and more rare as our girls became more and more important.

The year after was crazy. Break ups, scandals, punching holes through walls and new housemates made for one of the most dramatic college years of my life. But one thing stayed the same. Fast food. Late nights. Amazing conversations. Falling even deeper in love.

Now it's my senior year. All my brothers from suite 18 graduated, got married or are living elsewhere. My girlfriend is off doing graduate work two states away. It's weird to be making these fast food runs alone. But as I look back I can't help but think, "These have been the greatest four years of my life."

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The Threefold Advocate

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

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GOT OPINIONS?

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Don't run from your mistakes



GARY OLIVER
CONTRIBUTOR

Question: Our 17-year-old son is obsessed with a fear of failure. So much that he is withdrawing from normal activities and afraid to try new things. How can we help him?

No parent wants to see their child overwhelmed by the shame and embarrassment of failure. We want our kids to be successful. So, with good intentions, many parents do homework and class projects for



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their kids, and make decisions for them and “protect” them so that they can “succeed” in life.

The tragic reality is that when we shield our kids from failure we are also shielding them from invaluable life-lessons that are essential for growth and maturity. We are raising kids

who may go through life crippled by their fear of failure and inability to learn from mistakes.

One of the greatest gifts you'll ever give your son is the gift to value and learn from his mistakes. Start by sharing some of your “best” mistakes and what you learned from them.

Open your Bible and show him some of the many stories of people who did stupid and sinful things, and the different outcomes of those who learned and those who didn't.

Whenever possible, avoid solving and resist rescuing, even when he makes mistakes or choices that weren't the best. Reward the risks he takes by acknowledging his courage. Congratulate him when he succeeds but be even more enthusiastic when he learns from a failure. You can help him understand that the ultimate failure is the inability to learn from our mistakes.

You can help him learn to look at failure through the lens of Scripture. In John 10:10 Christ said, “I have come that you might have life, and that you might have it more abundantly.” In Ephesians 3:20 Paul describes God as one who wants to do “exceedingly abundantly beyond all we ask or think.” In Philippians 4:13 Paul tells us that we can do all things through Christ who gives

us strength. Those are great promises. And they are true.

Anything that is painful or makes us feel unworthy—mistakes, setbacks, selfishness, anger, cruelty, memories of injury or abuse—can be the fodder for feelings of failure or provide the raw materials for a stronger foundation and the opportunity to see God do some of His best work.

You'll have fun watching your son discover the amazing truth that things that initially seem to be setbacks may be just the opposite. What apart from God feels like a failure can, in His skilled hands become a part of His provision for our growth. A theology of failure is an essential ingredient of growth and maturity and will equip him to be and become the kind of man God has designed him to be.

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Stop trying to reason away racism



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SPORTS EDITOR



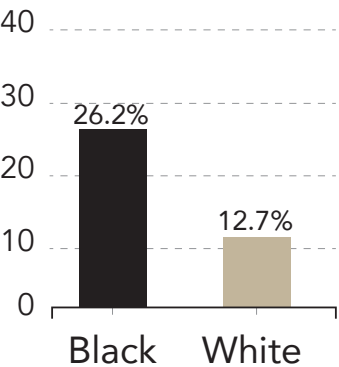
DIVERSITY TALK

“Why would we listen when American churches scuff their Toms on our brothers’ dead bodies as they march to stop gay marriage?”

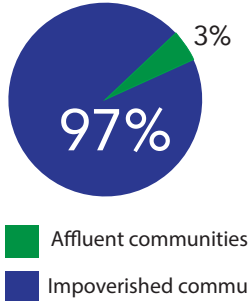
These words, spoken by Christian rapper Propaganda in Lecrae’s song “Gangland,” depict the pent-up frustration of the black community with the attitude of the American church toward racial injustice in our country. The words are bold, controversial and unapologetic—and I fully agree with them.

When the topic of racial injustice—specifically the Black Lives Matter movement—is brought up among my mostly-white Christian friends, I’ve noticed that it’s often met with contempt. The common retort

Lives in poverty



Violence and Crime



Source: Sage publications and the US Census

GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

is that it’s a race complaining about something that isn’t really a problem. As Christians, it is appalling that we would ever feel inclined to respond this way.

The common argument used to back up this claim is that there is proportionately more black crime—specifically violent crime—than crime in other races. While this is true, there are plenty of things wrong with the assumptions behind this statement.

People who make this claim are only skimming the surface

of the issue. The latest study released by the Census Bureau, released in 2015 showed that 26.2 percent of blacks in 2014 the United States live in poverty, which is more than any other race. In comparison, only 12.7 percent of whites live in poverty. Impoverished communities are 97 percent more likely than affluent communities to experience higher rates of violent crime—most often at an increase of over 25 percent, according to SAGE Publications. The issue is not merely one of crime, but also of historical

segregation and oppression.

Even with the crime, the number of blacks suffering at the hands of the law is unacceptable. Blacks ages 15 to 19 are 21 times more likely to be killed by police, according to a 2014 study by ProPublica. Blacks also made up for one out of every three unarmed civilian deaths by police in the last year, according to the Census Bureau. These statistics reflect poorly against the most recent studies by the FBI and the Census Bureau, which show that blacks are only 1.89 times more likely to commit a crime than whites [and 3.35 times more likely to commit a violent crime].

The statistics go beyond crime and poverty. Black college graduates within our borders are only half as likely to get a job out of college as whites, according to the Center for Economic and Policy Research. In our court system, black minors are 18 times more likely to be tried as adults than whites, according to American Psychological Society. Anywhere you look, statistics highlight systemic racism in our country.

Black Lives Matter is indeed a valid movement. But even with the proven validity of racial injustice toward the black community, we as Christians still overlook the obvious.

People are dying.
People are hurting.
People are neglected.
So why are we not the first to respond in love?

The inconsistency of love within the body of Christ is simply amazing at times. On some issues, we as Christians are

able to look past disagreements and simply care for people.

But on others, we are far more concerned about being right than doing what God has called us to do—love our neighbor.

At the last supper in John 13, Jesus said to his disciples, “As I have loved you, you must love one another.” There are no disclaimers in this commandment—whether or not we agree with someone, we are called to love. Jesus was the most gracious to tax collectors and adulterers. Who are we to say we can’t show compassion to someone who is in pain merely because we disagree with their views?

I’m not condoning the actions of every member of Black Lives Matter. It’s undoubtedly wrong that some of its members call for police executions, interrupt presidential rallies and loot businesses. But it’s also just as wrong for Christians to be more concerned about being right while countless Americans continue to suffer from centuries of oppression.

As followers of Christ, we must love recklessly. That means understanding why people hurt and comforting them in their time of need. Maybe if we listened more than we argued, problems would actually start to get solved.

Now is the time to listen, to love and to serve. There are people who need it.

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What's the root of your big problems?



SARAH WHITE
OPINIONS EDITOR

We love to look at problems at the surface without studying the causes behind them. I am personally very guilty of this. I am studying pre-law and want to have an impact at a legal level. However, we have to understand that almost all problems go deeper than we acknowledge.

When gun violence occurs, we look into gun control. While this needs to be discussed we also need to realize that simply restricting guns will not solve the problem of violence. Looking at problems from this perspective is hard because there

is not a simple way to fix them.

Passing laws does not stop the evil act from occurring. It may lower the percentage of people who commit the act, but overall it will just cause people to act in secret. For instance, slavery is illegal everywhere in the world, yet 27 million people are victims of human trafficking.

I think Christians can be guilty of committing this. Legislating Christian values is something many Christians want to see. However, we do not realize that that alone will not fix the problem.

Most of the problems in our world do not come down to legislation, but to heart.

There is hope though. There are many organizations that work with people to prevent the problem, instead of making prescriptions for the problem. A great example of this is Mothers Against Drunk Driving, an organization that teaches DUI offenders the consequences of driving while drinking.

I believe that for every problem we should look deeply into what causes it. Examine all the possible factors and see why people commit evil acts. We should also be examining why

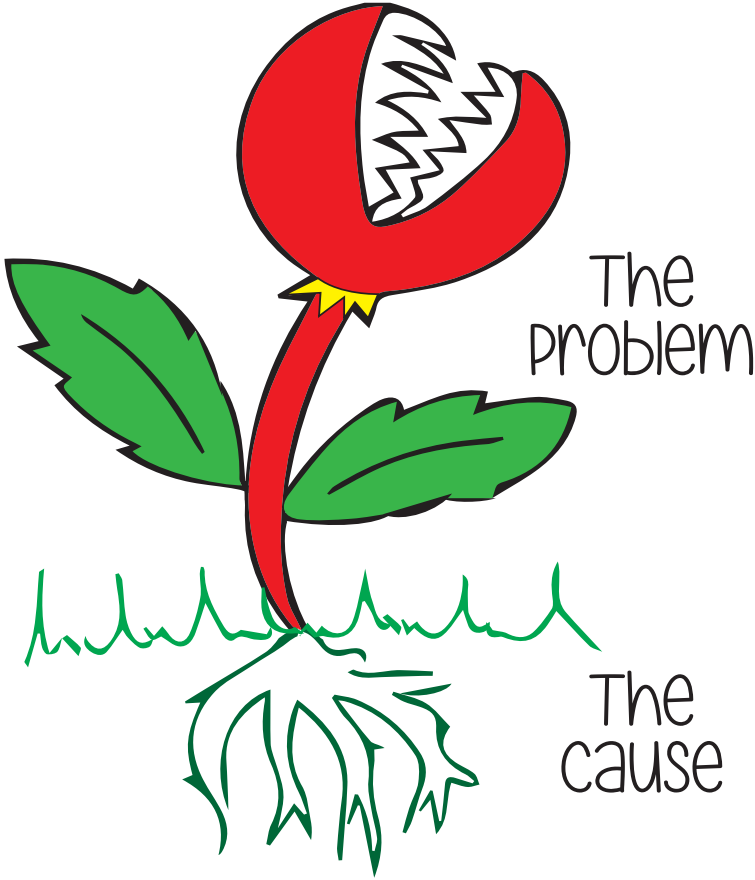
certain people are more likely to fall victim to certain crime. This will allow us to better protect them from the dangers of the world.

Should we stop caring about legislation? No, because we live in a fallen world. People will break the law and do evil things and not amount of searching for causes and solutions will change this. I personally continue. I want to help people who are in difficult situations from a legal perspective. I also want to advocate for stronger laws to protect people in these positions. This is what I believe I am called to do from a career perspective.

However, first I need to understand that I am simply dealing with a prescription for the problem. Nothing I am doing actually prevents the evil from occurring. If I want evil to stop I need to pray that it will stop and find ways were I can actually prevent negative things from occurring.

Let’s realize that if we want a real change we have to find the causes and solutions in order to fix them.

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GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Shows to watch on NETFLIX

reported by LISA ALONSO

GREY'S ANATOMY



This drama focuses on Meredith Grey as we see dramatic and romantic relationships between the surgical interns and supervisors of a hospital in Seattle. Their personal lives get tangled while they keep their professional

lives as doctors. "Grey's Anatomy" is already in the 12th season, and it keeps getting more exciting. The show has been nominated for the Golden Globe Awards and the Emmy Awards.



A NETFLIX DOCUMENTARY SERIES

MAKING A MURDERER



"Making a Murderer" is a real-life thriller that follows a DNA exoneree, Steven Avery, who, while exposing police corruption, becomes a suspect in a grisly

new crime. It's a documentary series filmed over 10 years. The show exposes the corruption in law enforcement and inside a high-stakes criminal case.



THE WALKING DEAD



This is an American horror drama based on a comic book series about a group of people confronting a post-apocalyptic world invaded by zombies. With five seasons, "The Walking Dead" has already been nominated for several

awards in the Writers Guild of America Award for Television and the Golden Globes Award. This Valentine's Day, "The Walking Dead" season six premieres for the midseason premier, and all the previous seasons are available on Netflix.



Parks and Recreation

The Farewell Season



This comedy follows the workers in a Parks and Recreation Department in Indiana. The characters are diverse and relatable. The show is hilariously

awkward and has a subtle, crude comedy. There are seven seasons available on Netflix. The show was named the "TV's Smartest Comedy" in Entertainment Weekly's 2011.



For the superhero and DC comic lovers, The Flash is the perfect show. The Flash follows the story of Barry Allen as he gains super speed by accident and starts fighting crime in Central City with the help of his friends who work in a science lab.

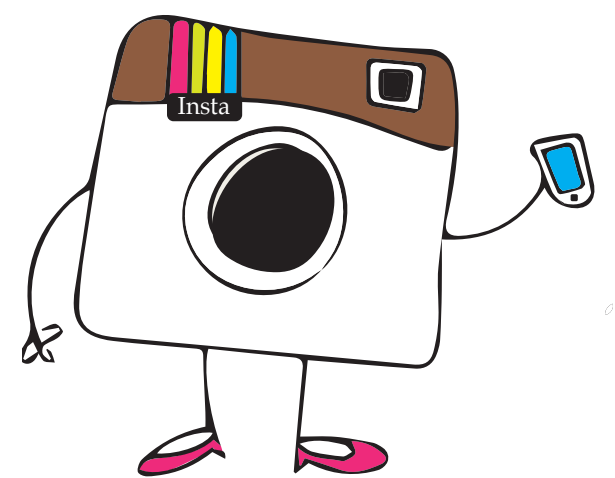
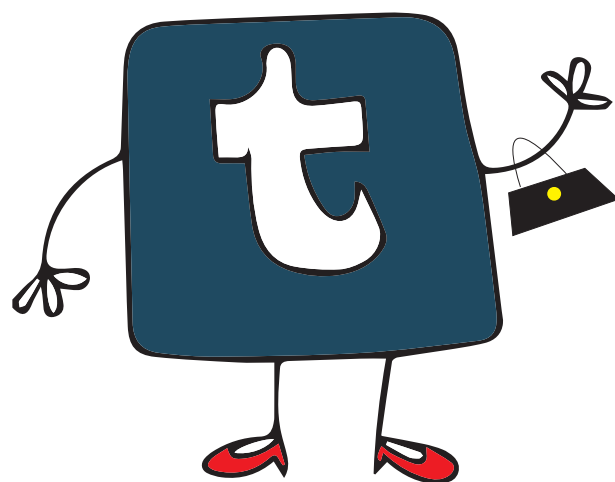
The show is a spin-off from another superhero show, "Arrow," since they are both set in the same world. The complete first season is out, and every week there are new episodes with exciting new adventures for "The Flash."



Social media personified

EMILY DIBRITO

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Social media sites are a lot like people. They're artsy, adaptable, creative, informative, entertaining and sometimes mysterious. They communicate facts, share ideas and tell stories. Each social network serves a unique purpose and influences people in different ways. Social media sites play such a significant role in our everyday lives that they start to seem like real characters.

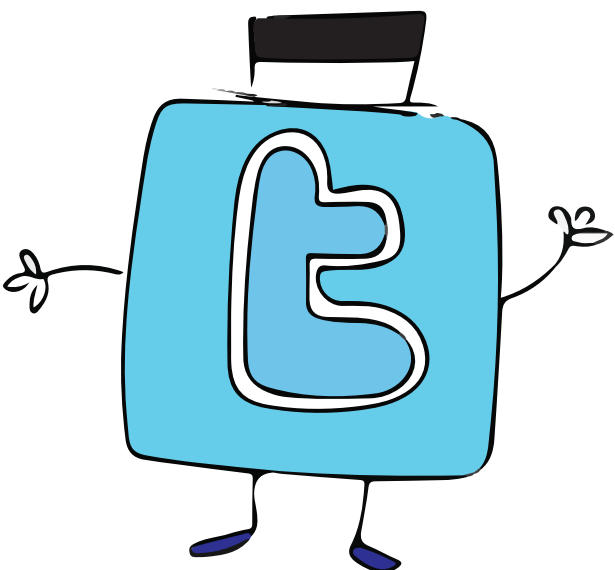
There's a chance we've got it the wrong way around. Maybe it's more accurate to say that people are a lot like social media sites. The Threefold was curious as to how people emulate social media networks and vice versa, so we asked University students the following question: If you were a social media site, what would you be? Here are the platforms that students identify with, and why:

Sophomore English major Jessica Mains said that she would be Tumblr. "I would say Tumblr partly because of the artistic side and partly because the other half of Tumblr is a collection of random things of every category. It's a space for random people to be weird together," she said.

Students who are not artists or self-proclaimed random people may relate more to Pate Hubbard, a freshman business administration major. "I would be Twitter because I like short, witty sayings and communicating long, in-depth topics briefly," Hubbard said.

Social media is not only for the artsy and the witty. It can also be for those who like to capture moments. Sophomore biology major Candace Hayes said that the social media site that best matches her personality is Instagram. "I love to take pictures, especially of nature because I'm an outdoorsy person," Hayes said. "I would rather look at pictures than read words. Instagram captures so much and it allows me to filter through pictures to see the things that really interest me."

Like social media, each person has their own identity and purpose. More importantly, each person has those special qualities that make them unique. What social media site are you?



February 4, 2016
The Threefold Advocate



Marcus Ciccarello (above) is the newly elected captain for John Brown University’s men’s rugby club. Ciccarello joins Lucas Johnson, president, and Josef Azbec, game warden, in leading the club in 2016.

MAX BRYAN
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There is a new set of faces leading the men’s rugby club. Annually, John Brown University’s men’s rugby club has brought in new leadership to begin the spring semester. The three positions of leadership within the club—captain, president and game warden—were voted upon at the end of last semester. “Our tradition is to have dinner together,” center Eric Seevers said. “We come together and we do voting for the new spots for leadership. All the spots are open. We take nominations

and then vote as a team.” Last semester, the spots were filled with fly half Chris Dye as captain, forward Brad Johnson as president and Seevers as game warden. After voting over their annual dinner, the spots were filled by first center Marcus Ciccarello as captain, wing Lucas Johnson as president and forward Josef Azbec as game warden. “I voted for all the people who are currently in leadership. They’re all wonderful,” tight head prop Zach Bower said. As captain, Ciccarello is in charge of leading practices and gameplay. He is known among his teammates to be knowledgeable about the game of rugby while also having a passion that carries

over to the members of his team. Ciccarello’s teammates also pointed out that he has a knack for helping the team focus on playing first for Christ and second for their brothers. “He’s a very determined person,” Bower said. “He’ll push us, but he also understands when we can’t be pushed any further. He pushes us right to the sweet spot.” The soft-spoken Johnson is the club president, who manages the club’s relationship with the public. Johnson could be described as Ciccarello’s flip side, but that doesn’t mean he isn’t a leader. Scrum half Caleb LaBelle described Johnson as more of a quiet leader who lets his game and the way he carries

himself speak for themselves. “He’s not always the most vocal person, but he leads by the way he acts on the pitch and how hard working he is,” LaBelle said. “You see that on the rugby field, but also in his academics and in everything he does in life. He’s a good role model for the rest of the guys on the team.” The title of game warden is now touted upon Azbec, who will be in charge of preparing the field for games. Azbec was already exercising his leadership skills as an R.A. in Walker Hall when he received the title. Seevers expressed that passing off responsibilities to him has been done with little difficulty. “He’s picked it up really

well,” he said. “He’s been a strong leader on the team when he’s been with us.” This semester, the club’s new leadership has been working together to create a Christ-centered atmosphere for the club. The team is confident that they will have success under the new leadership. Seevers, who is graduating, said he is fully confident leaving the club in the hands of Ciccarello, Johnson and Azbec. “These guys will do a great job of leading the team, taking them where they need to go and keeping the tradition strong,” he said. “I’m excited for them.”

Ultimate Frisbee seeks success in spring season



Ironfist and Savage Skies practice together. The teams must each play 10 tournament games this season to qualify for nationals.

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Ultimate Frisbee teams Ironfist and Savage Skies are working hard to prepare themselves for their next big step: Nationals. Both teams have been training to prepare themselves for the tournaments they will have during the semester. D-line handle Jacob Hash said that Ironfist has practiced non-stop since last semester. “We practice three times a week for two hours each,” he said. “In the fall, we really focused on perfecting our throws and teaching new guys how the game works. This semester, the captains have put a big emphasis on conditioning and spacing.” Both teams are looking forward to Nationals, which will take place at the end of the semester. But first, they need to succeed in sectionals and then regionals. “Spring games are really the only ones that count towards official scores,” Hash said. “To compete for a spot in Nationals you have to have played in at least 10 official games. But the

only games that are official take place at tournaments.” Despite the fact that the teams are mainly composed of first-year students, the members have already acclimated to the game. Handle Emily Tumilty said that the team has played organized team sports before, making it easy for them to catch on to Frisbee. “At the end of last semester, we had grown a ton and gained a lot of experience,” she said. “When the semester ended, we were performing at a high level and had learned a couple different offenses and defenses to use to our advantage in tournaments.” After a semester together, both teams have created a special bond. Midfielder Kate Garrison said that some of her favorite memories are moments that have been shared with Savage Skies. “Although we all come from different majors and have different friend groups outside of Frisbee, we are still able to work together well on and off the field,” she said. “We all get along really well, enjoy each others’ company and have good team dynamics.” Ironfist has also developed a special friendship among the members of the team. Hash

expressed that some of his best friends are part of the team and he is excited to know each other them better this year. “I believe this is more than just a group of guys throwing a piece of plastic,” he said. “It’s a group of brothers, and we really care about each other.” Both teams went to Texas to participate in tournaments last weekend. Savage Skies went to the Anti-Freeze tournament in Houston, Tx. while Ironfist went to the Big D in little D in Denton, Tx. Despite the Savage Skies loss against Rice University and Texas State, the defeat helped the team become stronger. “Both of those teams consistently go to nationals so they were really tough competitors,” Tumilty said. “Even though we lost to them, we learned a lot and grew a lot as a team. We also put up a really good fight.” The teams will have a game during family weekend and the following weekend they will travel to Tulsa to the Dust Bowl tournament. “We have a competitive team,” Garrison said. “We are getting better every year and hope to do well.”

The Super Bowl unifies everyone



MATTHEW OGAN
CONTRIBUTOR
It’s the pinnacle of household gatherings, the most advertised time of the year and the climax of American sports championships.

The Super Bowl is approaching quickly, meaning one thing: lots of food, football and friends. It is possibly the most celebrated time of the year in America. It seems a bit ridiculous how big of a deal football is, but this behemoth of an event is not only about sports. The Super Bowl is something to celebrate because it is an event that brings people together in an embodiment of American culture. Most of us can probably remember the celebration of the world’s greatest football league from our childhood. From my experience, Sunday night church events were almost always cancelled because nobody was expected to show up. Grocery stores are annually decorated with giant cardboard advertisements for all kinds of beer and chips. People gather by the hundreds to watch the championship of America’s favorite sport. Super Bowl season is not only about football—it is about making memories. For people who love football, the Super Bowl is the best the world has to offer. Even those who barely understand the rules of the sport can become enthralled in the excitement of the game. The drama looks promising again this year—Peyton Manning, a walking legend, is playing what might be the last game of his career, facing

Cam Newton, the controversial quarterback who is ushering in a new style of play. Manning and Newton are completely different, promising the fans an intriguing matchup that will surely not disappoint. This year’s super bowl is extremely entertaining football. Super Bowl season brings with it the promise of delicious treats. Many families have special dishes that are reserved only for Super Bowl Sunday. They promote a sense of togetherness with whoever eats them and makes them. These delicious snacks create memories that we share with our friends and families. Finally, we have to wonder: would it really be the Super Bowl without the great commercials? Everyone loves the entertainment that comes through humorous or emotional advertisements throughout the game. These commercials tell stories, depict cultural values and promote thought and laughter that lead to discussion throughout the next week. They have meaning that impact viewers and lead to positive and challenging conversation. The thrill of the Super Bowl is something to love. Even though football fandom can be ridiculous, the Super Bowl is one of the greatest days of the year because it unites people. The whole family is involved because of the wide range of activities and entertainment. When people are together, memories are made. No matter what happens in the game, spending time with friends and family with delicious food promises to be memorable and amusing. This Super Bowl, enjoy the game, but also enjoy those who are around you. The game will be gone quickly, but those beside you could be with you for the rest of your life.

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The Happy Cynic's Guide
to Sequels You Can Miss This Year

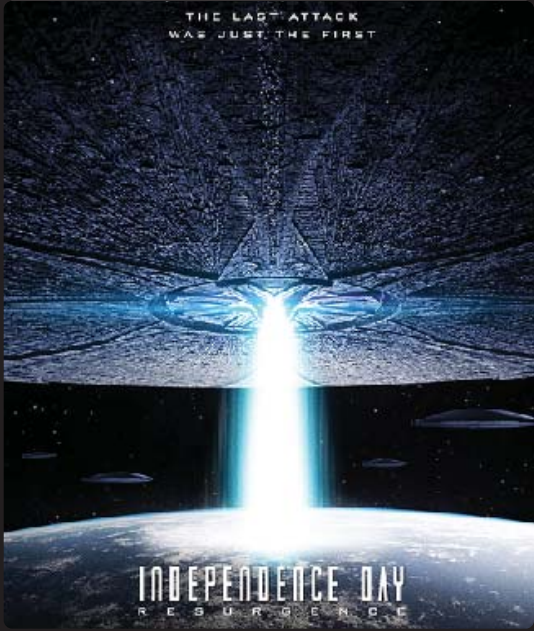


Kung Fu Panda 3



Jan 29

I love pandas as much as the next guy, but what this movie teaches kid is that pandas aren't bears. That's the real danger here. Worse, this movie is about a panda bear teaching kung-fu! What happens when kids go to a zoo wanting to learn kung-fu? They are eaten by the bear. Boycott this movie.



Independence Day:
Resurgence



June 24

Jeff Goldblum's not dead? Jeff Goldblum's still making movies? Holy crap! I had thought Hollywood had gone through chemotherapy to get rid of him! What's even more surprising is the fact that there's a second Independence Day. There's no reason to have a second Independence Day, though I am curious to see what the name drop will be. Maybe Goldblum will shout "For Independence Day!" as he falls into the bottomless pit of American originality.

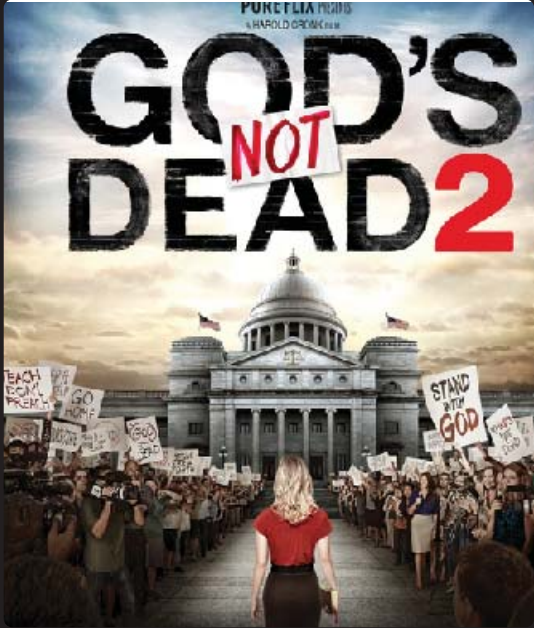


The Huntsman: Winter's War



April 22

I'm pretty sure this movie is just another excuse to see Chris Hemsworth without a shirt. Who is the White Witch? Who is the Warrior? Who cares. The only thing that matters in this film is the fact that Hemsworth does a lot of sit-ups.



God's Not Dead 2



April 1

Hahahahah. Ha. HA. I'm pretty sure this movie is a practical joke. A really good one, that was partially filmed on our campus, with our friends. Wait. Okay, this movie isn't a joke. I respect the idea of putting out the gospel via film, but I respect less the "us versus them" mentality that they portray. It's nonsensical. It's like trying to pick a fight with a length of sausage.



Zoolander 2



Feb 12

I quit!

Written by Samuel Cross-Meredith
Designed by Gustavo Zavala