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Refugee controversy continues

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A federal judge rejected for the second time a request by the state of Texas to bar relief agencies from bringing Syrian refugees into the state.

This could affect the attempts of 30 other governors from allowing refugees in their states.

President Barack Obama has pledged to receive 10,000 people fleeing war-torn Syria. After the attacks in Paris, Texas Governor Greg Abbot was one of the first to announce that he would not allow Syrian refugees into his state.

“The Court does not deny that the Syrian refugees pose some risk. That would be foolish,” U.S. District Judge David Godbey said. “In our country, however, it is the federal executive that is charged with assessing and mitigating that risk, not the states and not the courts.”

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson is one of the governors who said Syrian refugees would not be welcome.

“As governor, I oppose any facility or installation in Arkansas

being used as a Syrian refugee center. Many of the Syrian refugees are fleeing violence in their own country, but Europe, Asia or Africa are logically the best places for resettlement or for temporary asylum,” Hutchinson said in a statement.

“The hardships facing these refugees and their families are beyond most of our understanding, and my thoughts and prayers are with them, but I will not support a policy that is not the best solution and that poses risk to Arkansans,” Hutchinson said.

Governor Hutchinson is scheduled to speak in chapel on April 4. Rebecca Ramirez, junior graphic design and art and illustration major, said she is opposed to his position.

Ramirez said there is buzz on campus about creating a petition or writing letters to the governor to give to the governor when he comes, asking him to reverse his position and welcome refugees.

“I want to sit on the front row with a white shirt that says, ‘I stand with refugees’ and stare at him,” Ramirez said of the governor’s future chapel talk.

Ramirez said that Hutchinson’s

words are empty because the power to accept refugees belongs to the federal government, not the state governments.

“He can make it hard, but he can’t actually keep them out,” Ramirez said.

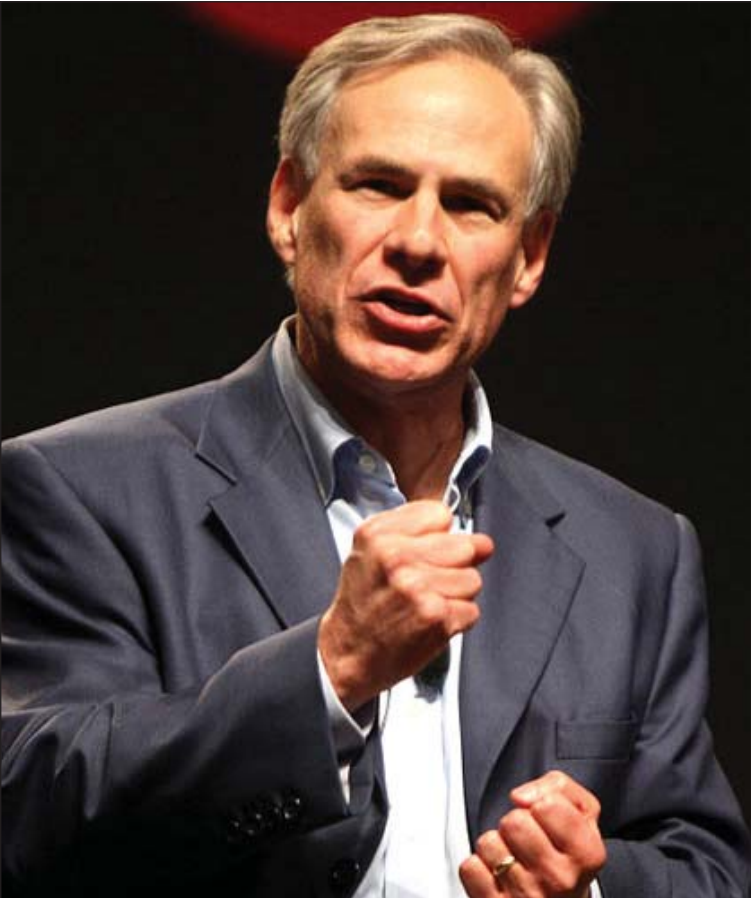
“There is no other way for me to interpret what those governors said than as a manipulative lie to garner support,” she said.

Zack Reed, a freshman youth ministry major, and Ashley Burger, sophomore photography and communication major, said they also opposed the governor’s stance. Both agreed that they would feel awkward signing a petition or perhaps writing a letter to give to a chapel speaker, but would do it anyway.

Reed said he could understand why the governor wants to keep refugees out, but doesn’t think it is morally right to do so.

Reed said he wrote a paper last semester for English class on refugees in Europe, and had the opportunity to research the plight of migrants.

“Looking at the conditions they have to go through to get into Europe: they’re appalling and life threatening in almost every instance,” Reed said.



Courtesy of GAGE SKIDMORE via WIKIMEDIA

Greg Abbott (R), governor of Texas, led several other governors in his call for President Obama to not resettle Syrian refugees in the U.S.

“If it’s that difficult to get into Europe, which is nowhere near as far away as America is, I

feel like we should be doing everything in our power to help them get away.”

Mayterm moves to online platform








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Mayterm, John Brown University’s four-week express classes offered at the end of the spring semester, will now be moving to an online format.

From May to July 1, the May term classes will be offered as eight week online courses for \$390 a credit hour.

This development is especially helpful for Walton scholar students, who go back home to Central America and Mexico during the summers. Walton scholar students are required to enroll in two Mayterms during their time at the University.

Ron Johnson, director of the Walton International Scholarship Program, said, “It’s a great thing to allow them more time in their home

MAYTERM 2016 COURSES		
	BBL 1013	 OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY
	BBL 1023	 NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY
	BBL 3003	 EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY
	EGL 1023	 ENGLISH II: LITERARY ANALYSIS & RESEARCH
	EGL 4003	 MASTERPIECES OF LITERATURE
	ICS 2113	 INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS
	RPH 3003	 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

MADISON GIES/TheThreefoldAdvocate

countries and more opportunity for employment.”

Johnson said this change has been under consideration for the past two years. In addition to benefitting students’ schedules, this change will help to cut costs for the University.

“We brought the decision before our Walton students and received their input, so it was a well thought-out decision,” Johnson said.

Robert Norwood, dean of undergraduate studies, said that classes could potentially be offered on campus again in the future.

“At the moment the option to offer courses on campus is possible, but no faculty members have indicated interest in that.”

Norwood said the main motivation for the change is for the benefit of the Walton program and to meet students’ needs.

“It will be a benefit to everybody,” Norwood said. The online format will help students with summer internship opportunities, allowing them to go home at the end of the spring semester rather than several weeks later.

Due to the classes being moved online and absence of most of the Walton scholars on campus, the University will not provide on-campus housing for Mayterm.

“In a sense it will be cheaper with no on-campus charge, and it will give faculty the opportunity to teach wherever they want,” Norwood added.

Miguel Miranda Rivera, freshman Walton student from El Salvador, plans on taking a few courses through the online Mayterm.

“Mayterm is a great opportunity for us to take courses we might consider would need more time and dedication,” Rivera said.

Rivera said he is excited to return earlier to his home country. “It will be awesome to have some more time with my family and friends back home.”

With no face-to-face interaction, Rivera said he could see a potential problem with the courses being fully online.

“I probably will miss the interaction, because having in-person interaction helps us clarify those doubts and questions that most of the time arise only throughout the class,” Rivera said.

Literature event showcases diversity

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The first-ever Diversity in Literature Symposium will convene on Friday thanks to the passion and initiative of Becky Watts, president of MOSAIC, the Multicultural Organization of Students Active in Christ.

“The purpose of the symposium is exposure. I believe the best way to learn about a different culture is to interact with the stories they tell,” Watts said.

Among the speakers are Laura Barrio-Vilar, Ph. D. who specializes in African-American literature, Violeta Lorenzo, Ph. D. who specializes Latin American literature, Hazel Ervin, Ph. D. whose scholarship is in African-American poetry and Toni Jensen, an author who will be talking from a Native American perspective. These women will be speaking about

representation of women of color in literature throughout time, and how representations have changed and evolved.

“A majority of the information that people know about women of color comes from the media, which is not the best source to learn about anything,” Watts said. “The only way to truly learn about a culture is through the stories they tell, and the way to break stereotypes is through reading and understanding those stories.”

The symposium is an event in a line of others sponsored by MOSAIC, the multicultural campus organization that encourages unity among minority students and celebrates the diversity of cultures. MOSAIC usually sponsors events that are discussion based, but the symposium will be taking a different approach to encouraging diversity.

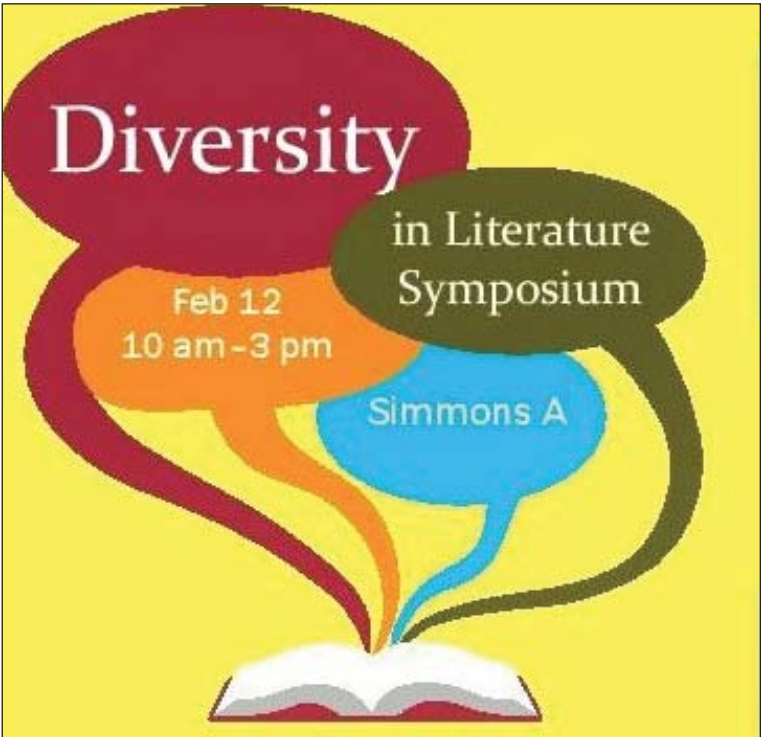
“As we worked through the many details for planning the symposium, we thought it would

be a unique way to celebrate Black History month on campus. Becky’s vision will provide the JBU community a new and enriching way to experience diverse narratives,” said Marquita Smith, MOSAIC sponsor and Coordinator for Diversity Relations.

“As far as MOSAIC, we’re always looking for different ways to introduce diversity here on campus,” Watts said. “Usually the way that we do that is through conversations about race, but I thought that there was a more creative route we could go with, that people could interact with on campus. I thought of literature automatically.”

The Diversity Committee, MOSAIC, the English department and the Division of Humanities and Social Science are supporting the symposium. Brad Gambill, head of the English department, commended Watts for organizing the symposium.

“Becky has been talking to



me for about a year about putting this on. My main role has been encouraging her to pull this off. Becky has been very savvy about

working with MOSAIC, the

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Facebook bans onsite gun sales

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Facebook has banned private gun sales on their site. They were a large gun market, according to Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“Although Facebook was not directly involved in gun sales, it has served as a forum for gun sales to be negotiated, without people having to undergo background checks. The social network, with 1.6 billion monthly visitors, had become one of the world’s largest marketplaces for guns and was increasingly evolving into an e-commerce site where it could facilitate transactions of goods,” said Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Peer-to-peer guns sales will no longer be allowed on Facebook or Instagram. Licensed gun dealers can still maintain Facebook pages and advertise, but transactions must occur outside of Facebook.

In response, some Facebook

users have expressed frustration that Facebook is censoring their activity. “I don’t really feel like that is Facebook’s place. It’s kinda a public place,” Ashley Burns, a sophomore family and human services major, said.

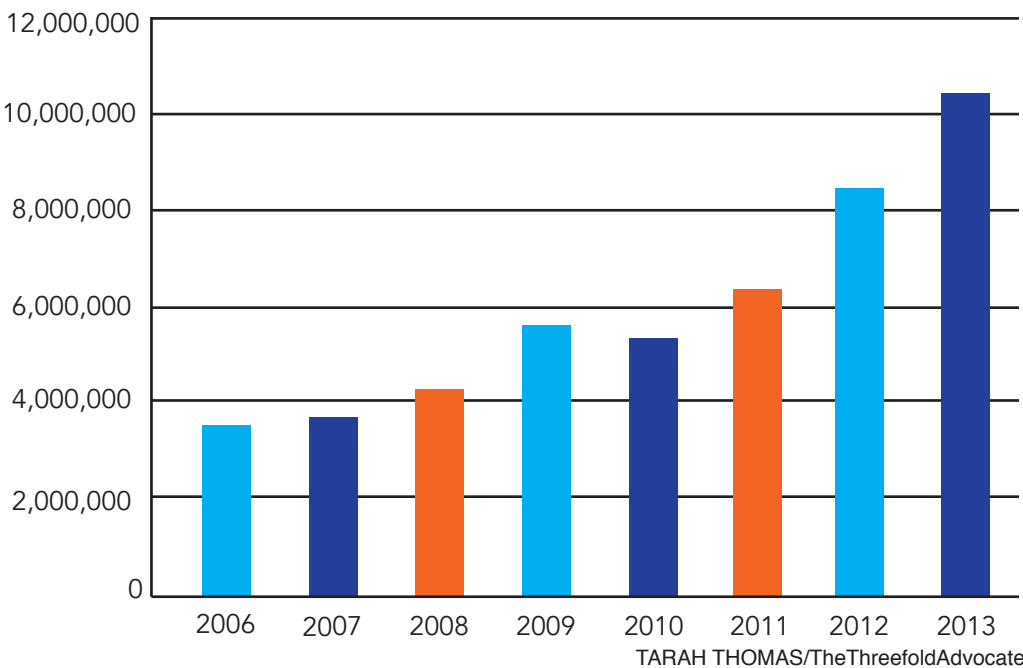
While it is legal in the U.S. to purchase guns without a licensed dealer, this allows the purchaser to get around background checks, which have recently become a hot issue.

Grace Nast, a student at John Brown University who has bought products online through Facebook, said that Facebook is making a move in the right direction. She said it is easy to sell and buy things on Facebook and that guns need to be more restricted.

Nast said that Facebook is following the lead of other website in response to the hot-button issues. She mentioned that eBay and Craigslist do not allow gun sales on their websites.

Nast said she understands why the decision may bother people, but said that people

Firearms Manufactured in the U.S. (2006-2013)



will still be able to purchase guns through other avenues.

The decision could have an effect on terrorism. According to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology review “last month, a report surfaced that a significant amount of black

market arms dealing in Iraq was conducted through Facebook.”

The article also explained that it has not been confirmed whether this change will affect countries other than the U.S.

Despite the change, the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology review said that recent reports “suggest that many private advertisements had not yet been taken down.”

University hires new nursing faculty

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As Nabholz Construction works to complete the Health Education Building in the next six months, John Brown University is also hiring its nursing faculty.

Joining the new freshman and transfer students at the beginning of the semester, Patsy Cornelius was hired as a new associate professor of nursing at the University. She has worked as a nurse for 36 years and has taught for 14 years. Cornelius comes from the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, where she taught nursing for seven years.

“I have really enjoyed having Dr. Cornelius as a professor. She makes class fun and takes the time to get to know her students and understands what they are going through and what is happening in their life,” Adam Holt, a junior nursing major, said.

Jacqueline Craddock, a senior nursing major, said, “I absolutely adore Dr. Cornelius. She is a dynamic personality with a love for Christ that is evident.”

“I swore I would never teach. I was going to be one of those

purists you know, who just worked at the bedside. Then I started interacting with students and absolutely loved it,” Cornelius said.

Ellen Odell, director of the nursing program, said, “She’s also good at curriculum design, which is important when you have a brand new program, to have someone who can build. We were able to hire her early to help with the foundation. She’s not afraid to go on this adventure and redesign the nursing curriculum.”

Cornelius said she is excited to design a unique curriculum.

“We are going to be established as the premier nursing program in the state,” Cornelius said. “We are going to be the only Bachelors of Science in Nursing program that offers a concept-based curriculum.”

Odell explained that nursing programs are normally set up with a medical model, in which students study diseases for each body system. For example, in a medical model students would learn about treating asthma, while in a concept-based program students would learn about oxygenation and the respiratory system.

“I love the fact that even though she’s a very experienced educator, she’s always pushing to do better.



ASHLEY BURGER/TheThreefoldAdvocate

As work on the Health Education Building progresses, the nursing program is finalizing a unique cirriculm and hiring new nursing facaulty.

She’s an outside the box thinker, not afraid to try new stuff. She’s super excited to be here and up for the challenge,” Odell said.

Odell said there are benefits to pioneering a new program. “To start from scratch was a beautiful thing because we could

take the best scientific evidence based ways to teach,” she said.

The nursing program is still currently hiring professors. When looking for a new nursing professor, Odell has specific qualifications in mind.

“The number one thing is that they are a fabulous Christian person, that the person walks the walks not just talks the talks,” Odell said.

The second thing Odell looks for is communication skills, both written and verbal.

“It never ceases to amaze me that we are so blessed to have great candidates when there’s a national shortage,” Odell said.

Students also have high hopes for the nursing program.

Holt said he would like to see the nursing program become a well-known major like the University’s business and engineering majors. “When people talk about those majors, they talk about how great they are and about how well prepared you are for the workforce when you graduate from JBU with that degree. I would like for nursing to get thrown into that conversation too,” Holt said.

Researchers develop morphine alternative

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Researchers at Tulane University and Southeast Louisiana Health Care System are developing a new painkiller as an alternative to morphine. The new drug is confirmed to be just as strong as morphine, but with fewer harmful side effects.

This new painkiller is a peptide-based “engineered variant of the neurochemical endomorphin,” which means that it is a naturally based variant of a chemical already in the human body. It is designed to target pain-relieving opioid receptors in the same way as morphine.

Morphine, along with other opium-based drugs, serves as the leading treatment for severe and chronic pain, with 10 percent of the American population having received the drug for surgery-related pain relief. However, the potent pain-relief comes with problems.

“Studies suggest that morphine is more addictive than cannabis, cocaine, tobacco, alcohol, ecstasy

and LSD,” according to the Global Information Network About Drugs.

Not only can morphine be extremely addictive, but patients build up a tolerance for it, calling for larger doses that could lead to overdose. Lab results from tested rats have proven that this new painkiller is less addictive and could be administered more liberally.

Elizabeth Jones, freshman worship arts major, broke her arm when she was young and received small doses of morphine to deal with the pain.

“I would ask my mom for more morphine, but she was always hesitant because she didn’t want me to get addicted,” Jones said.

Mothers and doctors alike are extremely careful about distributing the opioid-based drug because of its addictive nature.

“Although physical dependence can take many months to develop, psychological dependence can occur after only a small number of doses,” according to the Global Information Network About Drugs.

As for studies on the addictive behavior of painkillers, one showed that in the case of morphine, lab rats spent more time returning

to compartments where they had received the drug, while tests with the new drug had no such effect on the rats’ behavior.

Because of the harmful side effects of morphine, patients are often not given the relief that could be offered in order to remain safe. This new drug could allow larger doses for quicker pain relief and fewer risks.

Dustin Brand, freshman graphic design major, recalls that when he broke his wrist playing sports, it was very painful. However, morphine seemed to fix it all, and he was able to continue playing sports until he graduated. A new drug that could keep these positive effects without the negative side effects could be groundbreaking.

According to the Global Information Network About Drugs, morphine attaches itself to various sensor areas in the body, such as the spine, gastrointestinal tract and lungs, changing the way in which the body processes pain. If too high of a dose is administered, it could cause severe depression of the respiratory system, an inflammatory effect known as spinal glial cell activation, or death.

Within the lab, the rats who



Courtesy of WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

received the new endomorphin drug experienced longer pain relief without slowed breath or impairment of motor coordination. Negative side effects “were absent or reduced with the new drug,” said lead investigator James Zadina, who works as a senior research career scientist and professor of medicine,

pharmacology and neuroscience at Tulane University School of Medicine. “It’s unprecedented for a peptide to deliver such powerful pain relief with so few side effects,” Zadina said.

Researchers hope to begin clinical trials involving human subjects within the next two years.

DIVERSITY continued from page 1

comes from a range of different backgrounds, whether

that is Christian, non-Christian, different ethnic backgrounds, different scholarship altogether, you’re going to hear a wide range of perspectives on this one topic. You’ll really get to

immerse yourself in this type of literature and be guided through it,” Watts said.

“Approach this with an open mind. You’re there to learn and enjoy and to interact.

It’s not going to be like other events in MOSAIC where we’re talking directly about racism. It’s more interactive. Come, learn, listen and ask questions about this,” Watts

said in a final word to students.

The Diversity in Literature Symposium will be held on Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Simmons Great Hall A.

J. Alvin Woos Mayfield for an Evening

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Once again, Valentine’s Day has arrived. It is not only a day for chocolate, flowers and teddy bears but also for super awkward dinners. J. Alvin and Mayfield are set to host their annual Valentine’s Banquet on Friday, Feb. 12 at 6 p.m. Some students look forward to the event, while others recall interesting memories. Last year, the girls gathered in the Mayfield lobby in pairs. They were given a Disney princess and were told to find the corresponding prince, while a pair of J. Alvin men looked for the matching princess. Once the matches found each other, the guys offered the girls roses and escorted them to the J. Alvin atrium. Sometimes, however, the matches didn’t find

each other. Other times, there were simply no matches to be found. “There weren’t enough guys for girls,” Janelle Hale, junior family and human services major, said. “My partner and I were walking around looking for Simba for 5-10 minutes, and we never found him so we went by ourselves.” Christian Smith, junior construction management major, agreed that the matching system could have been better. “It was tricky because some people didn’t have a match,” Smith said. He described this process as “systematic awkwardness” and added “guys doing date things with girls is always going to be awkward to a degree.” There was a live band playing in the atrium as

students entered and sat at long tables. The host for the night tried to create a fun atmosphere. “He had this big, frilly red man blouse and he would periodically get up and tell really corny love jokes,” Smith said. “I don’t know if anyone else thought it was funny, but I did.” Molly Devine, senior intercultural studies major, remembers sitting at the table closest to the buffet because her date was eager to be first in line. “After we ate dinner he looked across the room and was like, ‘man we should have sat over there because that’s closer to the dessert table,’” Devine said. “In a nutshell, you look pretty, you sit with awkward

friends and you eat food.” The moral of the story? “Sit strategically,” Devine said. This year, students can look forward to a better pairing system, more interactive games and a planned before and after program. No matter how uncomfortable the dinner may be, one fact remains: the banquet is an expression of J. Alvin’s love for Mayfield. “We try to make the event special for the ladies of Mayfield. It’s

worth it,” Smith said. And if games, frilly blouses and food are not intriguing to the ladies of Mayfield, J. Alvin’s sincere expression of love should be a good enough reason to attend.

ANDREA PERRY/TheThreefoldAdvocate



Gift Ideas For Every Relationship Stage

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KLARA JOHANNESSEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Single

This shouldn’t be a self-pity day for anyone. Let all those couples do their thing and treat yourself! Take a look around and you’ll realize that you are not the only single one walking around. In some Latin American countries, Valentine’s Day is not just for couples, but also to celebrate friendship. Get together with your friends and watch some movies or play some video games. You could order food and even play a gift-exchange game. Just enjoy a good day and have an excuse to celebrate with your friends.

Dating

Valentine’s Day is dedicated to all of those couples that are in love, so this is the day to be cheesy and romantic with your girlfriend or boyfriend. There is no shame in shouting to the world the love you have for your significant other. You could go big by writing it in the sky or keep it simple with meaningful gifts such as buying a dozen flowers, a book or a vinyl of his or her favorite music.

Engaged

If you are getting prepared for the upcoming wedding celebration, Valentine’s Day is perfect to spend time with your fiancé not only to celebrate the love you have for each other but also the commitment you have for a marriage. You have many plans and you are looking forward to make more memories together. A good gift for this day could be a framed picture of your favorite memory. You could also start proving your cooking skills with a romantic dinner.

Married

Whether you are newlyweds or have been married for 50 years, this is a special day to celebrate and spend time with your spouse. It is always nice to give small surprises like washing the dishes or raking the leaves in the yard. But since it’s Valentine’s Day, get a gift to make this day memorable. Get out of the routine and go somewhere unusual; go to a spa or make a trip to the nearest city. Just the fact of spending this day together with the small details is what makes it such a celebrated day.

Support religious liberty for all
Every religion deserves freedom

A recent study by the Associated Press and the National Opinion Research Center for Public Affairs Research revealed that 82 percent of Americans support religious liberty for Christians. However, only 62 percent support religious liberty for Muslims. The religious rights of Jewish and Mormon people are also supported less than Christian rights.

This is not just a one party issue. Both Republicans and Democrats have a disparity between who they believe deserves religious freedom.

The report found that 88 percent of Republicans supported Christians’ religious rights, while only 60 percent support Muslims. On the Democratic side the numbers are closer, but still show a strong disparity. Democrats support Christians’ religious rights by 83 and only 67 percent support religious rights for Muslims.

We the Threefold Advocate believe that students should support everyone’s religious rights—not just the rights of the religion they adhere to.

A nation cannot say it will give rights to all and then only give rights to a few.

Christians would not like these statistics if they were the ones whose religious rights were seen by society as less valuable. People should look at these statistics and consider how they would feel if they were on the other side.

Some students may disagree and say that Muslims are more radical. In reality, a very small percentage of Muslims are radical. According to a Pew Research study conducted in December of 2015 most people surveyed in Lebanon and 94 percent in Jordan were opposed to groups like ISIS.

This shows that most Muslims are against terrorism unfortunately the media likes to focus on the other side.

There are also radical Christians who have bombed abortion clinics, killing in the name of life.

Another example of radical Christians is Anders Behring Breivik killed 92 people at a summer camp in 2011 could have been influenced by his fundamental Christian views, according to The Guardian.

No Christian wants assumptions made about them because of the actions of a few radical people. Because of this The Threefold urges students not to make judgments about any religion just because of a few people.

Therefore, We The Threefold Advocate believe that students should support the religious rights of all and not just those who they agree with.

Limit spending on elections:
Encourage best candidates not richest

Hillary Clinton raised \$163.5 for her election campaign, according to The New York Times, and she has spent \$77.6 million so far. Many other candidates have also raised more than \$50 million for their election campaigns.

We The Threefold Advocate believe money needs to be restricted in presidential campaigns. As a country we need the best president, not the one who can raise the most money.

In the 2012 elections, \$7 billion were spent, according to Politico. This is too much for an election cycle. The good this money could do outside of the political arena would have a much more positive impact on the world.

If we were to limit the money spent on political campaigns, the election would be more substantive and the money could go to places that may actually need it.

Numerous ads contribute to attacks on the opposing candidates. This is a large reason why many people do not like politics.

We The Threefold Advocate understand that some people may be against limiting money spent on the election. They believe that people should be able to give as much money to any candidate that they want because of freedom of speech and expressions.

However, in many cases they are really just paying for propaganda or commercials (according to NPR, \$4.4 billion will be spent on commercials during the 2016 election), which the government can legally limit the spending on.

Restricting the amount of money spent on elections gives more candidates the opportunity to enter. There may be a great future president out there who is being discouraged because of the cost of an election.

Also, a lot of the money spent on the elections can be given to super PACs which limits the accountability for the candidates because they are not directly associated with the organization.

Therefore, The Threefold Advocate urges students to support regulations on campaign money. This would encourage the best candidates not just the richest.

Oscar discrimination continues



CONNOR WILKINSON
CONTRIBUTOR



Lately there has been a lot of talk surrounding The Academy Awards and how they have allegedly discriminated against the African American community for giving zero nominations to African

Americans in the acting categories.

While I believe more African American’s such as Michael B. Jordan as an aspiring boxer in Creed should have been nominated for their roles in film, let’s take a step back and look at the progress that has been made over the last few years.

Film and television has come such a long way since it started. No longer is every movie, television show and cartoon filled to the brim with white characters.

For instance, in the new small independent budget film you’ve never heard of called Star Wars Episode 7: The Force Awakens, two of the main protagonists are people of color. FN-2187, or Finn, played by John Boyega is a black British actor. Poe Dameron is played by Guatemalan American actor Oscar Isaac. That’s only one film of many that has featured main protagonist with a racially diverse cast.

Not only has film come a long way racially, but it’s come along way in writing and casting strong female leads

and accurately portraying the LGBT community without stereotypes. When I saw Rey use the force to take hold of Anakin’s Lightsaber and slash Kylo Ren’s face off, I almost had to change my pants.

In the Legend of Korra when Korra and Asami walk hand and hand into that final spirit portal, thousands of people in the LGBT community finally felt like they had characters they could relate to. Diversity and representation matters. It tells the viewer that whoever they are, however they feel, whatever they look like, they can be the hero or heroine of the story too.

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GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Church is non-negotioable



LEAH GUY
CONTRIBUTOR

I always go to church, even when I am highly ambivalent and deeply angry. Even when I’m tired and stressed. Even when I’m in a far away city and no one would know if I wasn’t there. Even when I can’t concentrate and my mind is in a thousand other places. Even when I feel nothing and I’m numb through the whole service.

I never turn down the opportunity for church, and I have never chosen not to go because I wasn’t feeling it.

For me, faith and church are so tightly bound together that I can’t seem to unravel myself. I think maybe it’s supposed to be that way. For me, deciding not to go to church would be like a public rescindment of any belief at all. It would be the final

surrender, the absolute giving up of all hope. I’ve never felt that far gone, never felt that devoid of the promise of faith.

In the same way that I feel that not going to church would be the final severing of the cord of faith, I believe that church is the salve for that frayed cord. It’s frustrating and confounding that this thing that has caused me huge pain and that has pulled me away from God could also be the thing that heals me and carries me back to God.

I attend a liturgical church, and there are many reasons for this choice.

The liturgy makes me feel like a whole person. I’m not shushing these parts of me that don’t love God with my whole heart and don’t love my neighbor as myself. I’m not sweeping under the rug the ways I have sinned by doing the wrong thing and the ways I have sinned by not doing the right thing. I don’t pretend they’re not there; I say them outright.

If I can’t rightly say that I believe in the conception of the Holy Spirit and the life everlasting, I can at least agree in prayer that I have done life wrong that week.

There are always at least a few things I can mumble out in earnest.

I get honest about my

darkness and my sorrow and my repentance and there’s a whole tribe of people doing it right along with me.

No one is good or bad at liturgy—it levels the ground—makes mountains lie down and valleys rise up. You can’t be any better at kneeling than the next guy. This is a congregational effort, and I am forced and allowed to blend right in.

I am not just joining myself with this one individual parish; I am folding myself into generations of saints past and centuries of saints future. I’m marking my tiny presence on a vast timeline, being reminded that this marriage of faith and doubt do not belong to me alone—I share them with millions. I take turns holding and being held up in faith, resting on the assurance that if these rhythms of grace were good enough for those saints of old, they can be good enough for me, too.

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Remember tragedies and mental health



ALLAN AGUILAR
CONTRIBUTOR

“The common theme with these types of shootings is mental illness.”

This is what speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, said a few days after the shooting at a Colorado Planned Parenthood clinic. Ryan was not only referring to this incident but also to several previous incidents such as the shooting at the premiere of the Dark Knight in Aurora, Colo.

Several aspirers to the presidency also drew attention to the issue of mental illness. Mike Huckabee and Ben Carson both agreed that something needed to be done for the mentally ill. Why must our safety be threatened before we take any action?

Of course, not all shootings are carried out by the mentally ill. ISIS has also played a part in some of the more recent attacks. It should also be mentioned that neither ISIS nor the mentally ill are responsible for all the shootings, but that is not the point. The point is that mental illness exists.

The United States boasts some of the best doctors in the world. However, these doctors are not typically family physicians. The healthcare of our country has been slowly falling behind. It is not a bad system, but it could definitely use some improving, especially

in the area of mental illness.

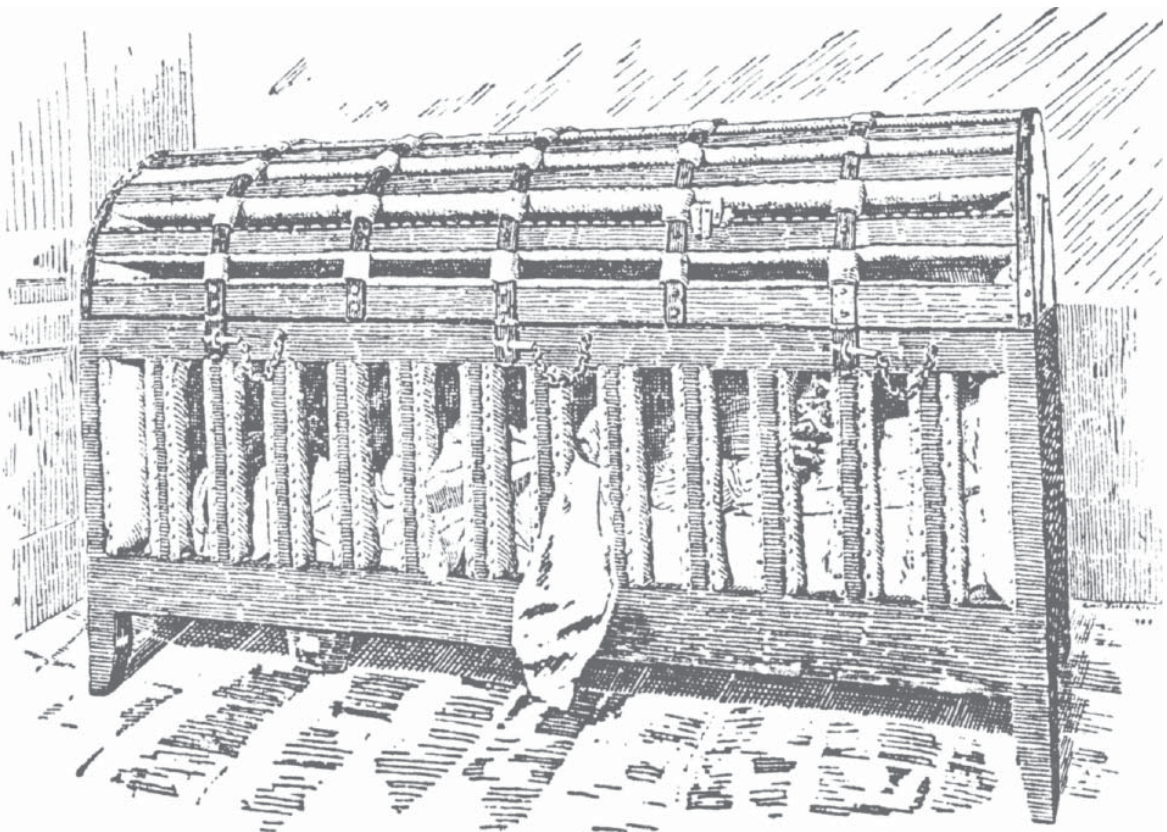
As a country we have not had a great reputation of being able to properly help the mentally ill. Some of our first solutions involved locking whoever was accused of being mentally ill and then treating them with barbaric-like methods (like lobotomy). It was understandably an extreme way to deal with mentally ill victims.

However, our next extreme was no better. Deinstitutionalization was born from a noble idea. The idea was centered on not simply locking patients up, but providing them with adequate and appropriate treatment. However, this turned into a bit of a mess, because several institutions emptied themselves of patients, driving many of them into the streets. Many of these patients made their homes on sidewalks, made their bed on benches and searched for their food in dumpsters.

Their unkempt and disruptive appearance have caused several in local communities to see them as a nuisance more than as victims. This has led many local police departments to incarcerate mentally ill victims, which is only a temporary and simple solution to a complex problem.

We have a bad tendency to forget tragedies far too quickly, but we have a worse tendency to forget something that does not affect us directly. We should not have to wait for tragedies to draw our attention to a problem that should have had our attention long before.

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Courtesy of WIKIMEDIA



Courtesy of Abasaa via WIKIMEDIA

Treatment of people with mental illness was once cruel (above). Despite better facilities and treatment (below) work still needs to be done.

Work to make college affordable for all



MEGAN CHAPIN
STAFF WRITER

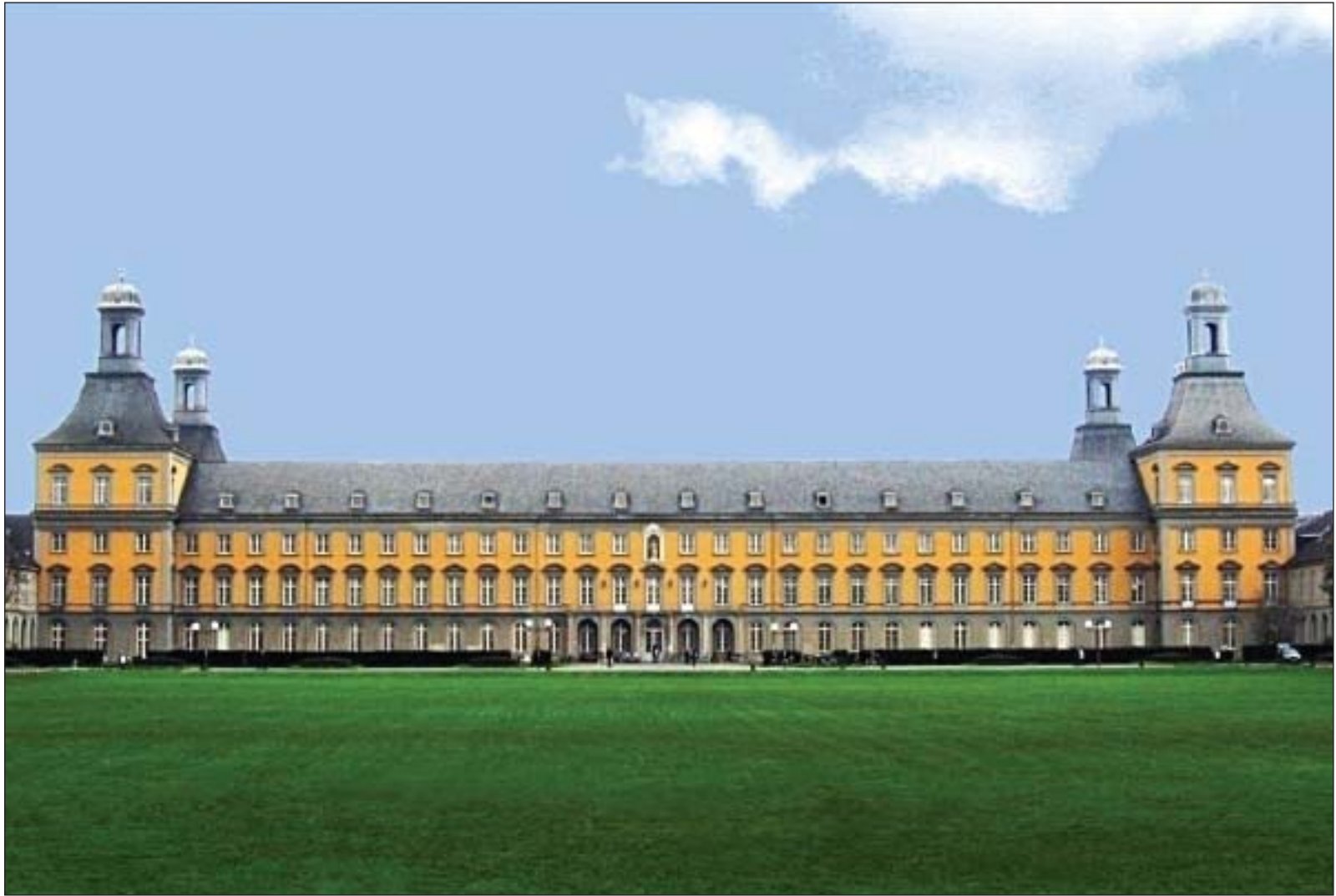
Many people will never have the chance to attend college because it is so expensive. This limits the amount of people that will have certain skills for a career.

Scholarships are not always a solutions because applying for scholarships is very competitive. A person cannot simply have good grades, they also have to be a good person outside of school. Moreover, there are a ton of people applying for the same scholarship.

Then there are scholarships that are limited for only certain people. Getting enough scholarship money to cover all four years of college is like seeing a picture of Michael Jackson before all of his nose jobs: very rare and highly unlikely.

Another option is student loans, which people try to avoid because no one wants to be in debt after college.

There are multiple possible solutions. Bernie Sanders, who is running for president, keeps saying that he will make college free for everyone. I would really love to see this happen because I think it would allow more people to go to college whereas they would never have



Courtesy of Daniel Tibi via WIKIMEDIA

University of Bonn is located in Germany. Germany has one of the most comprehensive free tuition programs; even students from abroad are elligible.

been able to afford it before.

Free college works in Europe, so maybe it would work in the U.S. This sounds like a pretty nice idea, but a lot of people are afraid of how this would actually get paid for and even if it would work. Plus, Sanders would have to be elected before any of this would be possible.

Instead of receiving free tuition, students should pay an amount that would correlate with how much they would make in their career field. For

example, an engineer would pay more for school than an early education major since the engineer would make more money and be able to pay off their student debt easier than the early education major. This could limit the amount of people that would go into higher paying careers. It could also allow people who want to be in a career that does not pay a lot to go into that field.

Another solution could be lower tuition. I know this is unlikely, but it would be

very helpful for people that are struggling to pay for college. Maybe colleges could increase their scholarship fund, allowing students to have more work study hours or pay more than minimum wage.

The government minimum wage increase will hopefully help people trying to pay for college. If the increment of minimum wage doesn't help student's to pay for college, it will help people save money so that they will have some money saved up to pay

their first loan payment.

There is no perfect answer on how to make college more affordable, but if we don't try we may never find a solution to this problem.

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Athletic department orders drug tests

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All athletes at John Brown University will soon have to take a drug test.

For the last two weeks, athletes at John Brown University have taken drug education courses. These courses, required by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes, are a precursor to the mandatory drug testing that will begin in the 2017-2018 school year. But why now? Athletic trainer Holly Bingham said the requirement came “down from the top,” and that this was the first time the NAIA has made drug testing a mandate for competing.

A three-year sponsorship agreement between the NAIA and The National Center for Drug Free Sport was recently mandated. This agreement is based on an online tutorial program that is “designed to introduce the substances banned by the NAIA,” according to the NAIA’s website.

Bingham said that these

online modules are based on seasons of competition. Each year, athletes will have to take another course that will provide them with more information and refresh what they have learned before. Because this year is the first time for drug education, athletes are required to do the modules for both their current and previous seasons at once.

Each module is set up as interactively as possible, requiring students to take a quiz in order to demonstrate retention of the information.

Clare Holden, a member of the tennis team, said a module takes about half an hour to 45 minutes to complete. If athletes fail a quiz, they have to retake it.

Soccer player Lauren Tonkovich said that even though the modules were time consuming, they were interesting and helped



GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

her to think more about nutrition and what she is putting into her body, particularly in terms of pre- and post-workout foods.

She also said that most of the banned supplements were nothing new as the University’s covenant also bans the use of drugs and alcohol.

Austin Fox, a recent transfer basketball player, said that while the program is good, “there could be a better way to give

the information to collegiate athletes.” Fox suggested a more straightforward approach.

Tonkovich, Holden and Fox were surprised about the restriction on caffeine intake. Tonkovich said she had not been aware that high levels of caffeine are detrimental to one’s health. Fox mentioned the need for caffeine in order to get through a normal college routine.

Even over-the-counter drugs could cause athletes to test positive. Athletes will also need to inform their trainer about any medication they take.

While there is no hard date for the start of actual drug testing, Bingham said that all the necessary preparations being made.

Bingham said that the University’s goal for this year is to successfully get all athletes through the training

courses. While there has been trouble with portals not working, around 90 percent of all athletes have successfully completed their training.

Holden said that last year she did not believe rumors that athletes would be tested for drugs. Now that it is official, Holden said she is “fine with it,” and that it is a good thing they’re doing it.

“We may not be [Division I or Division II], but we’re still competitive athletes. We still want to win,” Holden said. She also mentioned that many athletes have scholarships, saying that these scholarships may be a “temptation to pull ahead” using performance enhancing drugs. The measures the NAIA is taking will “help to make it fair.”

Bingham said that overall reactions towards the testing have been fairly positive.

At this time, there is no set policy for what happens if a student athlete tests positive on a drug test. Bingham said that policy will be written before the actual tests begin.

Golden Eagles look to topple Rams

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It’s the tail end of the basketball season, and John Brown University’s basketball teams are looking to turn things around at Texas Wesleyan University.

The Golden Eagles will travel to Fort Worth, Texas and take on the Texas Wesleyan University Rams tonight. Both coaches expressed that this matchup is a game in an important part of the season.

“Everything matters because everyone will go to the conference tournament and where you finish will determine who you match up with,” Jason Beschta, men’s basketball coach, said.

Both teams are coming off losses at Wayland Baptist University on Saturday. The loss pushes the men to 11-13 on the season. A victory for the men would bring them to one game under .500 overall and end a three-game losing skid.

The Texas Wesleyan men are currently number one in the Sooner Athletic Conference and are riding a nine-game winning streak going into tonight. Beschta described Texas Wesleyan as a team with both talent and experience that has the luxury of relying on many players that can score consistently.

“[They’re] a big team,” Ricky Roberts, Golden Eagles guard said. “They look like a Division I team. They’re very athletic, they can run up and down the floor and they’ve got a great coaching staff. They just know how to play.”

Roberts acknowledged that the Golden Eagles are not as athletic as Texas Wesleyan. He went on to say that he and his teammates must play smart basketball to win the game.

“We have to do all the little things,” Roberts said. “We have to box out, rebound, make plays down the stretch and close games in order for us to be in a good position to win.”

For the ladies, a win at Texas Wesleyan would ensure the team a winning conference record. They are currently 6-6 in Sooner Athletic Conference play, and this would help them move up in a conference where they are one game back from third place.

Jeff Soderquist, the women’s basketball coach, described Texas Wesleyan’s women’s team as one that could have been better this season had they not been plagued by injuries. However, the Golden Eagles know not to underestimate the Rams’ athleticism, particularly in the paint.

“They’ve had some ups and downs, but they’re a very athletic team,” Soderquist said.

“They’ve got a very good post player inside that we need to really do a god job with.”

The Golden Eagles plan to stick to the same formula as the one in their 72-55 victory over Texas Wesleyan on Jan. 16—that is, switching up their offenses and defenses enough to mess with the other team’s play.

“It really caught them off

guard,” Soderquist said of the offensive and defensive switching in the team’s Jan. 16 victory.

“We’re [also] gonna have to rebound and guard inside really well ... those are the two things we’re going to have to emphasize.”

Regardless of what this game means for the season, the Golden Eagles are currently placing all of their focus on the game at hand.

“Every game means something for you, whether you’re fighting for number one in the league ... or if you’re fighting for the conference tournament,” Beschta expressed.

“Coach always likes to tell us to focus on the next game that we have,” Jana Schammel, women’s team guard, said. “That’s the most important game of the season.”



Courtesy of JBU ATHLETICS

Guard Marquis Waller sets up on offense against Texas Wesleyan University on Jan. 16 in Bill George Arena. The men’s basketball team will attempt to end both Texas Wesleyan’s nine-game winning streak and their own three-game losing streak tonight.

Tennis teams aim for success at Hendrix

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The first game of the season for John Brown University’s tennis teams could serve as redemption, both from last semester and last season.

The Golden Eagles will compete against Hendrix College in Conway, Ark. on Feb. 19 to begin their 2016 season as they did last year. A win for either team would end a year’s worth of losses against Hendrix, both from last year’s regular season and this year’s offseason. Wins would also start the season off on a high note—something the men, who started off their season 0-5, suffered from last season.

The matches will be played in best-five-out-of-nine fashion.

Each match will have three initial rounds of doubles and six rounds of singles.

Victory in Conway would contrast last season’s first match, which was lost under nearly identical circumstances. The 2015 season began in Conway against Hendrix, but the men lost by a score of 8-1 and the women by a score of 7-2.

During the offseason, the Golden Eagles battled Hendrix at home. Both of the teams lost their matches—the men by two points and the women by one. Nathan Kuykendall, freshman, said the team has been deciding which players would be the best fit to square off against Hendrix.

“We’ve been talking about what happened that evening so that we can build the lineup that will best suit them,” Kuykendall said. “We’ve played them, and

hopefully we can take them on their own territory this time.”

Senior Benetton Lee said that his team has been training specifically for the upcoming match. He said their conditioning and training is geared toward addressing Hendrix’s strengths and capitalizing on their weaknesses.

“[We’ve been] focusing on our opponents’ weaknesses and moving our feet,” Lee said. “We tend to not move our feet and wait for the ball to come to us. I think that’s really important, to go after the ball against Hendrix.”

Fellow senior Krizana Saucedo expressed confidence for her team in the match. She said that part of what will earn the Golden Eagles victory is not only preparing physically but also preparing mentally for the match.

“[We need to be] mentally prepared, keep practicing hard and going in with a strong mind of ‘we have the talent and the capabilities to win,’” Saucedo said. “We need to make sure we stay on point with that.”

The women’s team’s confidence for their match against Hendrix carries over to the rest of the season as well. Sophomore Clare Holden explained that the women’s experience as a team amplifies their confidence.

“Last year, we had so many new freshmen and new people on the court,” Holden said. “Now that we have one year of experience under our belt, those freshmen and the expertise of the upperclassmen, I think we’re going to have a really exciting season.”

As for the men, a drive

coming from within is what stimulates their confidence. Lee mentioned that his team has had a competitive spirit that he has not seen in past years.

“My previous years here, I don’t think we’ve had a very powerful need to win,” Lee said. “We lacked a lot of confidence. This year, we have a lot of confidence in the new people, which gives us upperclassmen more confidence.”

Next Friday, the Golden Eagles will take to the courts at 2 p.m. and face their opponents. They are excited and ready to start the season off on the right note.

“During our previous matches with Hendrix, we’ve always lost,” Lee said. “This time, we’re ready with all the practice we’ve had ... We’re a good team this year.”



EMILI WIDNER/The Threefold Advocate

Coach Paul Pautsch (above left) directs his players during practice at the tennis courts. The Golden Eagles will open their season on Feb.19 looking to improve against Hendrix, who they have lost to in their past two meetings.

Runner pursues excellence in sport and art



GRACE NAST/The Threefold Advocate

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Passion and perseverance are words that describe senior graphic design and illustration major Kenny Crane. However, art is not his only passion—he also finds joy in running for John Brown University’s cross country team. Crane has been part of the cross country team since his freshman year of college. Even though he did not plan to be part of the team, God had a different plan for him.

Crane’s passion for running started when he was a child. “I started in seventh grade with track and field and I did it all through high school,” he said. “I was not planning on running [in college], but at the last minute I changed my mind because of a scholarship.”

After spending almost four years on the team, Crane described cross country—both men’s and women’s—as a family. He said that the feeling of being part of a family comes from spending a considerable amount of time together.

“Women and men practice at the same time, we go to the same meetings, we ride the same bus and we go to dinner together after work. We do everything together,” he said. “We look after each other and go through life and school together.”

Crane also said that being part of the team has helped him grow spiritually. He explained that the coach does activities that encourage students to reinforce their relationship with God.

“We pray before each practice,” he said. “In the fall, the coach has [us] over his house every Thursday for dinner and sometimes it would just be fellowship and just hanging out. Other nights he would have a message or something to think about over the Bible.”

Crane’s commitment to the team has led his teammates to admire him. Thomas Bearden, a teammate and fellow senior, said that he considers Crane to be a strong leader. He describes Crane as one of the most mature and reasonable people on the team and that the decisions he makes prove it.

Another characteristic that his teammates admire is Crane’s commitment in anything he does.

“He is just dedicated to everything he does. He is 100 percent an amazing graphic designer. He 100 percent an amazing runner. He is not a mediocre person in anything he does,” Bearden said. “This applies to his faith too. He is 100 percent a Christian and is very strong in actively pursuing that.”

Justin Riffle, a sophomore teammate, said that Crane has a unique perseverance when he is running. He expressed that despite the difficulties, Crane always pushes himself to continue to any goal.

“He pushes himself to continue when the rest of us feel a little bit tired,” he said.

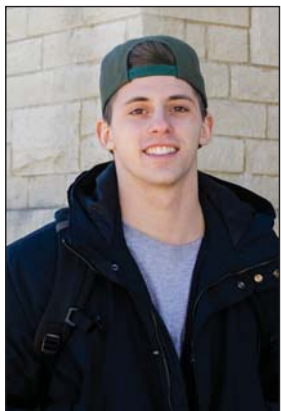
Crane will graduate this May, but is planning on continuing to run after he finishes his college education. “Running has become a lifestyle,” he said. “It is not just a hobby to me. I want to keep it going.” Despite the uncertain future after college, he is excited to see what God has prepared for him.

“He is 100 percent an amazing graphic designer. He is 100 percent an amazing runner. He is not a mediocre person in anything he does.”
- Thomas Bearden



Courtesy of JBU ATHLETICS

Star quarterback denies substance report



LUKE MOYER
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Human Growth Hormone (HGH) is a performance-enhancing substance that would give athletes an illegal advantage over their competition. The National Football League banned the usage of HGH in 2011 for all players, but ironically did not start testing for drug until 2014.

A report by the television group Al-Jazeera broke headlines last week for its

accusations of professional athletes in the National Football League, Major League Baseball and the Olympics who participated in using HGH. Among others accused was none other than Super Bowl 50 champion Peyton Manning.

Manning reportedly took the drug in 2011 when he missed the entire NFL season due to multiple neck injuries. At the time, Manning played for the Indianapolis Colts and allegedly received the human growth hormones from Charlie Sly, a pharmacist who formerly worked at an Indiana anti-aging clinic that year. The report claims that Sly mailed HGH and other hormones to Manning’s wife, Ashley.

Manning is a legend on the football field and a global sports icon. He is the face of the NFL and his presence is felt across America as he is seen in commercials for State Farm and Papa John’s. His father Archie is an NFL Hall

of Famer. His younger brother Eli is a Super Bowl champion for the New York Giants. It is

and his reputation as well.

What is surprising is that Sly, Manning’s accuser,

“To see an iconic athlete lie about cheating for almost two years reveals that the truth will always come out in one way or another.”

baffling to some that a man of such stature and royalty could be deemed a cheater.

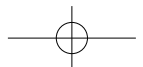
However, there is actually some substance here. As Manning obviously denounced the accusation, so too did the Indianapolis Colts (Manning’s former team), the Denver Broncos (Manning’s current team) and his father, Archie. It is no surprise that ESPN is in support of Manning

recently renounced his claims against him. Also highly questionable is that former Major League Baseball catcher Taylor Teagarden, one of the accused athletes, admitted on camera that he had taken HGH. If there is truth in these reports, as history reveals all too well, I can’t help but wonder how much Peyton Manning and his people are paying off Charlie Sly to keep his mouth shut.

In 2014, Alex Rodriguez, one of the most well-known baseball players of this generation, finally gave in to an accusation that he had taken HGH and other performance-enhancing drugs. For 21 months he stood by his innocence that these claims were not true, but finally under oath came clean about his cheating. To see an iconic athlete lie about cheating for almost two years reveals that the truth will always come out in one way or another.

Because history is bound to repeat itself, it is only natural to look for patterns of previous stories and link them to current ones. There seem to be a lot of running parts in this Al-Jazeera claim. It will be interesting to see how this story transpires.

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Valentine's Day around the world

Valentine's Day is known as the day to celebrate romance and love. However, in Latin America, is not just only for couples in love, it is also a time to share love with friends and family.

Reported by:
Lisa Alonso

Brazil

In Brazil, Feb. 14 falls on or close to the traditional Brazilian Carnival. They have a celebration similar to Valentine's Day, but it is called Dia Dos Namorados, which means Day of the Lovers and it is celebrated on June 12. This is to honor Saint Anthony, the saint of matchmaking and marriage.

On the eve of this day, single women pray to find a good husband or boyfriend to Saint Anthony. Couples celebrate with romantic gifts and decorations. Dancing and music is a big part of the culture and since it is a day to celebrate romance, there are many couples dancing through the streets.

Latin America

In Mexico this day is called Día del Amor y la Amistad which means The day of Love and Friendship. It is common to share flowers, candy and cards with the people you appreciate, and it is the same ways in most Latin countries like Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador.

In Guatemala this day is called Día del Cariño which means Affection Day. Countries like Colombia and Bolivia also celebrate love and friendship in the same way with treats, cards and gifts, however Colombia celebrates it on Sept. 20 and Bolivia on Sept. 21.

Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and China

In these Asian countries, Valentine's Day is dedicated to men. On this day, women who are in a relationship give chocolate and gifts to their boyfriend or husband as a sign of affection. Traditionally, men who receive something on Valentine's Day give a gift in return in the following month.

The day, March 14, is called White Day, and it started with giving primarily white gifts, such as white chocolate or white flowers. One month later, on April 14, all those who are single and didn't receive anything either on Valentine's Day or White Day celebrate Black Day. Single people and friends go out to eat jajyanmyeon, a traditional Asian dish that consists of black noodles.

Western Europe and U.K.

The name Valentine's Day comes from St. Valentine, a Christian martyr. It developed in early England and was celebrated in the countries of Western Europe. In the 19th century, with the discovery of the New World, this celebration spread to the Americas.

Today the U.K. and countries like Spain, France, Germany and the Netherlands celebrate Valentine's Day with presents for their significant others and romantic gestures. An Italian tradition for the young single girls is to wake up before dawn to spot their future husband. It is believed that the first man they spot would strongly resemble their future husband.

