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University partners with Korean college

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An agreement signed between John Brown University and Handong Global University on Feb. 26 promised an exchange of students, faculty, research and “special short-term academic programs.”

Handong University is located in Pohang, South Korea. The program has partnerships with universities all over the world, including institutions such as Biola University and Lithuania Christian College.

The event, which was held Friday, Feb. 26, was attended by John Brown University’s President Chip Pollard, and vice president of student development, Stephen Beers. Representatives of Handong University were Doo-Pil Kang, dean of admissions and Human Resources, and Nick Latinga, headmaster of Handong’s Carmichael College.

President Pollard’s address explained several similarities between John Brown University and Handong Global University. “We share, as institutions, a commitment to follow Jesus Christ in all that we do, a

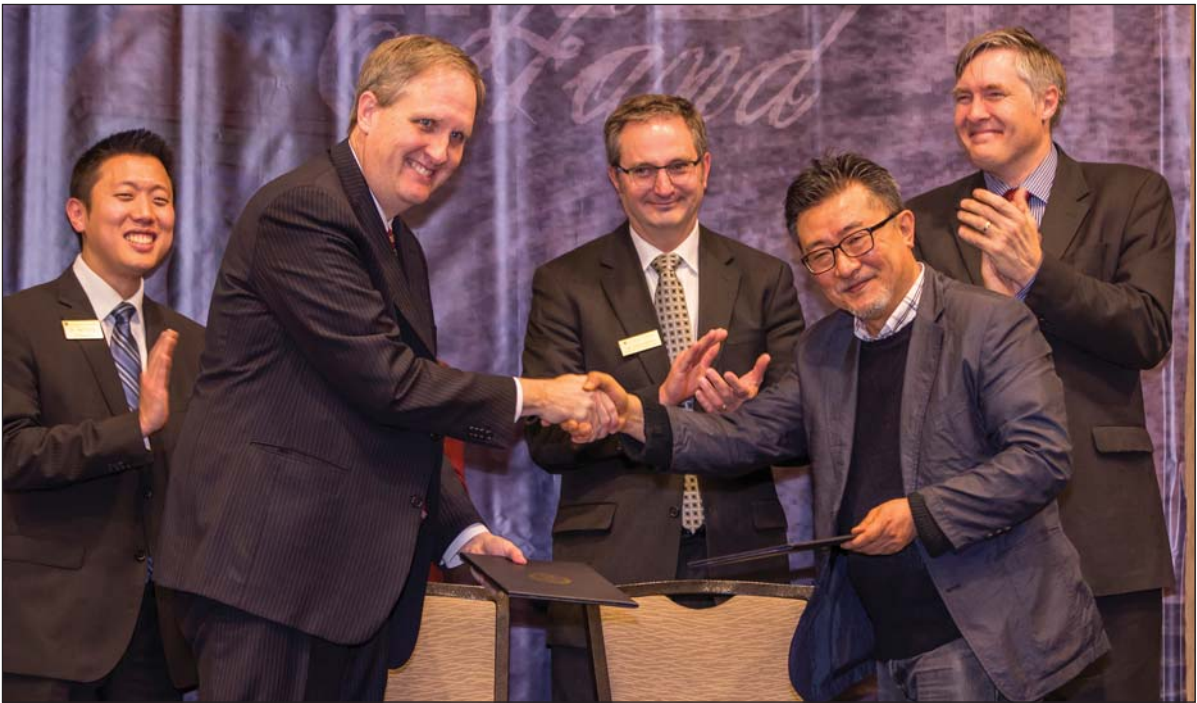
commitment to serve the Church interdenominationally, we have a commitment to integrate faith and learning in all aspects of education and to train leaders to change the world by honoring God and serving others,” he said.

Like John Brown University, Handong Global University is an interdenominational school. Handong University’s mission statement reflects this goal, with a promise to pursue “academic excellence and whole-person education based on Christian faith to nurture global leaders who can change the world.”

Ted Song, assistant professor of engineering at John Brown University, was instrumental in ensuring this agreement. According to a University press release, Song travelled to Handong University last July and started the conversation between the two schools.

“I am always interested in seeing our students have opportunities to serve in a global context,” Song said. “This opportunity for John Brown University students would be wonderful for them to see how other cultures work and how other cultures serve around the world. This is a great opportunity for students to collaborate across universities.”

Steps have been taken to enact



Courtesy of JBU COMMUNICATIONS
President Chip Pollard and Handong Global University Dean Doo-Pil Kang shake hands after signing a memorandum of understanding for a new partnership between the two institutions.

a student exchange program to start as early as fall 2016.

President Pollard said this could be an exciting prospect for students of both institutions, and hopes this agreement will draw Korean students to John Brown University. “We’re seeking to help John Brown University become more diverse and globally focused.”

Pollard said that the University hopes to attract more

Korean students, and is reaching out to the Korean population in Dallas, Texas. “In part because of Ted Song’s contacts in Dallas, Texas, we wanted to reach out to the 120,000 Korean-Americans there,” Pollard said. “One of the places many of these students wish to go is Handong University.”

“We thought it would be wonderful if, for those students wishing to attend John Brown,

they were also able to attend Handong, and that’s how it started,” Pollard said. “My hope is that we can better understand one another, both the Korean students coming to North America, and North American students going to Korea.”

“Handong Global University is a leading Christian institution

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Students share thoughts about recent political rallies

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In front of a crowd of 5,000, Donald Trump landed his plane and spoke at a rally in Bentonville this past Sunday.

Several John Brown University students and alumni attended the rally to hear what the Republican candidate had to say.

“Trump discussed policy, plans for international trade, keeping businesses in America and border security,” according to arkansasmatters.com, yet students

received a different message.

Senior John Lauderdale had the opportunity to attend a rally for Bernie Sanders a few days prior and attended Trump’s rally as well with expectations for him to address big issues.

“The rally was little more than a platform for Mr. Trump to ramble and rant about his recent dealings with Marco Rubio as well as attacking many other candidates and corporations he’s had dealings with in the past,” Lauderdale said. “It felt like a high school kid talking smack at the lunch table with a group of

friends, with various laughs and reactions from the crowd.”

Lauderdale had negative opinions of Trump before the rally. “Through his rally, my already negative opinion became more negative, which I wasn’t sure was possible.”

Anna Andrus, University alumni, said she had a poor opinion of Trump long before he decided to run for president; her initial impression of him was largely formed by comedians

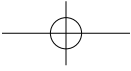
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Above: Protestors held signs and chanted against Trump during his rally outside Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport. Below: Supporters cheered as Trump’s plane landed and he made his way to the stage.



KLARA JOHANNESSEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate



Panel discusses faith and elections

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Oversized red, white and blue balloons and matching tablecloths decked Simmons Great Hall as students, faculty and staff gathered to discuss the interaction between faith and politics on Tuesday evening. More than 150 students attended the discussion and panel, hosted by John Brown University's Residence Life and Honors Scholars Program. The College Democrats and College Republicans clubs also set up booths at the event, and other tables provided information about how to register to vote, how to stay informed about the election and asked students to vote in a mock election.

The panel consisted of University President Chip Pollard, Honors Adviser Maria Lehr, College Republicans President Phillip Todd, College Democrats President Allan Aguilar and Professor of Biblical Studies Robbie Castleman. "I'm really glad we were able to do this," Pollard said. "I appreciate the spectrum of opinions here." Panelists answered questions ranging from the integration of faith and politics to important issues of education and immigration reform. The audience texted in questions to supplement the questions prepared in advance. "Scripture should influence

our political decisions," Todd said, answering the question of how Christians should engage politically. Aguilar agreed, explaining that God created government and put leaders over people, and we should follow and respect that institution. However, Castleman pointed out the importance of separating faith from politics. "We must keep our kingdoms straight," she said. "It is clear in scripture that we should separate church and state." "I would never bedeck the cross of Christ in red, white and blue," Castleman said. Castleman also referenced 1 Timothy 2:2, saying, "The Bible tells us to pray for those in authority."

In response to a student who asked whether it was better to vote for someone you disagree with or to not vote at all, the panelists agreed that it is better to vote anyway. "Compromise is part of the political process," Pollard said, explaining how there are no perfect candidates. "If you don't vote, you're voting for the worst possible candidate," Todd said. Castleman added, "If you don't vote, you can't complain." The panelists shared their opinions on the different candidates and most told how they had voted that day in primaries; three voted for Marco Rubio, one voted for Ben Carson and Castleman



EMILI WIDNER/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Students Liz Meyer and Hayley Maguire answered informal surveys at the event hosted by Res Life and the Honors Program. They voiced their opinions on what they look for in a president, what issues are most important to them, and what candidates they support.

declined to answer, but said she did not vote for Donald Trump. The conversation also brought up the problem of fear and how it has driven American politics. "People have a lot of fear," Pollard said. "Trump has tapped into that. However, the Bible's most often repeated phrase is 'do not fear.' Fear feeds some of our basest instincts, and fear decisions are typically bad decisions." Pollard explained that, while Americans do have reasons

to be concerned about terror attacks and other disasters, "it is usually overblown." Other parts of the world have it much worse off, he said. Castleman agreed with the president, and referenced the Swiss theologian Karl Barth, who lived through the Nazi reign in Germany and actively criticized the Christians who joined Adolf Hitler. Castleman told the story of how Barth gathered with his students at the end of the war,

stood on the rubble of their former school and gave lectures on the Apostle's Creed. Even after the horror of the war, Barth reminded his students that God was in control, Castleman said. "That's what we should say after the election: God is on the throne," she said. "Whoever wins the election will not determine your life. Christians should be the least fearful people. We need to live like it."

Venezuela suffers nationwide food shortage

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Nation-wide food shortages have struck the South American country of Venezuela. The shortages were formally declared by lawmakers from the opposition party in early February when the country was hit by national shortages of bread, meat, milk and other principal food items. This state of emergency is not new to Venezuela, which suffered similar shortages in 2015, according to Wall Street Journal. Farm production within the country has collapsed in spite of the country's generous amount of potential farmland. Also, the price of oil, Venezuela's chief export, has fallen, which has hurt the country's ability to import food, according to National Public Radio. Stephen Ruales, international business major and native



Courtesy of PANAMPOST

Due to the food crisis at least 15 food items and 26 cleaning and personal-care products are unavailable in Venezuela. of Venezuela's neighboring country Ecuador, explained that these shortages could be traced back to Venezuela's negative view of other countries. He said that the Venezuelan government has a habit of portraying other countries as enemies of their homeland. As a result of such a mindset, the government overtaxes imports, which leads to the public only

providing for you." Randall Waldron, professor of economics and international business at the University, pointed out that Venezuela's government is a corrupt one that exercises near-total control over certain markets. He said this is a contributing factor in the country's current shortages. "It's incredibly difficult for a business initiative to function at all," Waldron said. "You simply can't make any progress, and now it's hitting closer to home with the ordinary Venezuelan because the shelves are empty." Ruales also mentioned that Venezuela's negative international reputation prohibits Venezuela from gaining substantial amounts of financial aid prospering. "They can't get much money from anywhere else, so they have to tax their own people," Ruales said. "They've been taxing the farms too much." As a result of the current state of emergency, President Nicolás Maduro is urging his

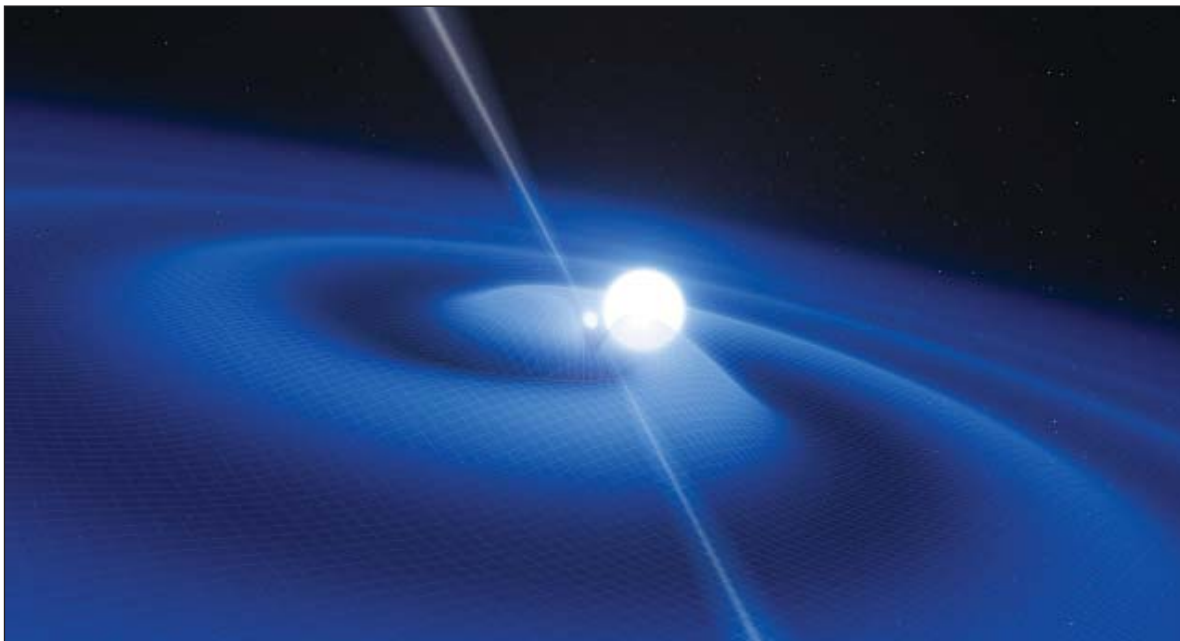
country's citizens to grow food and raise poultry in their own urban gardens. Such a proposition could be difficult to carry out, considering 83 percent of Venezuelans live in metropolitan areas, according to NPR. Waldron said that this kind of mindset does not make for a successful economy, regardless of the style of government. "Their economy should not depend on them raising their own agricultural goods," Waldron said of Venezeula. "The whole point of a prosperous, developed economy is to let people specialize in what they're relatively good at ... Every developed country relies on a small portion of its population to generate agricultural products for everybody else." The current crisis marks nearly 10 months of ongoing food shortages for Venezuela.

New findings confirm Einstein's gravity theories

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Scientific communities are celebrating the discovery of gravitational waves. Gravitational waves were the final part of Einstein's theory of general relativity to be confirmed. In the theory, space and time are woven together in a sort of fabric. When massive gravitational events occur, in this case the collision of two black holes, they send out ripples in this fabric, causing mass to expand and contract by incremental degrees. The waves were detected by the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory on Sept. 14 of last year. Up until this point, the waves had been theorized and their nature had been predicted, but they had never been observed. Einstein, who predicted the existence of gravitational waves, also predicted that they would never be observed simply because they were too small. Discoveries such as these tend to exacerbate the growing conflict between the evangelical and scientific communities, occasionally making evangelicals

nervous. According to Jane Beers, associate professor of biology at John Brown University, these discoveries are just new ways of understanding our world. "It really is a human endeavor to try and answer questions," Beers said. "When I see all the work done by thousands of people over 20 years to try and find something that Einstein predicted, it really is a new dawn, a new era." Beers also addressed the evangelical response to new scientific discoveries. "There is so much fear over what these new discoveries are going to bring because people keep God in a little box," Beers said. "They have their understandings about God based on a particular reading of Scripture, so when something new comes in, it ripples their understanding of who God is, and they don't know what to do with it." "Something that is important to recognize is that science is not something to fear. As Christians, we can recognize it as a way that God reveals Himself through the world. It's a new way to understanding creation," Beers said. Kenneth Hahn, associate professor of physics, expressed a similar view. "It's the way the universe works. If I were



Courtesy of ESO IMAGES

An artistic rendition of a white dwarf star orbiting a smaller but denser pulsating radio star, PSR J0348+0432. Flowing out from the pair are gravity waves, or ripples in spacetime.

being interviewed 300 years ago, you'd be asking me about the implications of Newton's Principia, and Newton would say that's how God holds the universe together, and it's much the same here," he said. Hahn said that the implications of this discovery will not be seen much in day-to-day life, at least not immediately. "The applications? Well, a couple dozen physicists are still employed. The

practical applications are none at this point, not until we get to the day of interstellar travel." "Our observation of gravitational waves accomplishes an ambitious goal set out over five decades ago to directly detect this elusive phenomenon and better understand the universe, and, fittingly, fulfills Einstein's legacy on the hundredth anniversary of his general theory of relativity," David H. Reitze,

executive director of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory Laboratory, said in a press release on Feb. 11. The discovery caused the academic community to rejoice. Stephen Hawking said in an interview with BBC, "Gravitational waves provide a completely new way of looking at the universe. The ability to detect them has the potential to revolutionize astronomy."

Arties prompts creative planning

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The Arties, John Brown University’s annual red-carpet awards show organized by the Visual Arts Foundry, will be held this Friday, March 4.

The Arties is a student-led Oscars-style awards show intended to honor student excellence in the visual arts, music and theatre and communication departments. Prizes are awarded to nominees in each department, as well as students who submitted their work to the student works show.

Awards are given to students “who are considered the best of the best in terms of the work they produce, and who demonstrate JBU’s mission of head, heart and hand by glorifying God through their art,” Emma Pell, leader of the Student Filmmaker Society, said.

This year’s theme is 1960s mod. “We’re kind of running with the idea of the ‘60s fashion and the culture that they had,” Ashlyn Bockstanz, junior

graphic design major, said.

Members of Foundry have been preparing for the Arties since October. “It’s been really cool. I have a great team of photographers that I work with. We had a vision of taking photos of JBU students and recreating posters which we styled and recreated based off of the styles of the ‘60s,” Bockstanz said.

Pell, who helped with the Arties the past two years, said that because the Arties are being held earlier this year, getting everything ready has been hectic.

“Everyone on the Visual Art Foundry has been working really hard on everything from designing posters, to deciding the theme, figuring out food, getting decorations, making the Artie’s statues, getting the venue ready, etc. It takes a lot of work, and I’m very thankful to be part of such a great, hardworking team,” she said.

Grace Nast, senior photography major, has also been preparing for the Arties and has been nominated for Photographer of the Year. “The art department doesn’t have a lot of formal events like this.

“Everyone always looks forward to the arties. It’s a major goal to be nominated for the arties.”
-Grace Nast

Everyone always looks forward to the arties. It’s a major goal to be nominated for the arties,” she said.

“Winners will be determined by a panel of non-JBU faculty judges [who] are usually professionals in a certain discipline, i.e. cinema, theatre, etc.,” Pell said.

The entire campus is invited to attend the event, which will be held in the Berry Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m.

“Honestly there’s a really good selection of nominees this year. I would encourage students who are not artists to get involved,” Nast said.



Submitted by ASHLYN BOCKSTANZ

Retreats feature power of stories

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With midterms around the corner, and spring break only 15 days away, the men and women’s retreats offer a chance to get off campus and take a break before the final push of the semester.

Last year, Christian Smith, senior construction management major, made several good friends while on men’s retreat.

“Men’s retreat pulls a very diverse set of guys together, and it is really fun to be able to experience people I would usually have no reason to be sharing life with,” Smith said.

Liz Meyer, junior outdoor leadership ministry major, said she’s excited to have a chance to get away from all her work and rest.

“It’s just that time in the semester when I’m needing a break,” Meyer said.

The men will be going to Ponca, Ark. and the women will be going to Spring Valley Ranch in Okla. This year the speakers will be Scott Schochler and Aminta Arrington, for the men and women respectively. The theme will be “Stories,” and each retreat is expected to be a time of rest, spiritual rejuvenation and fellowship.

Arrington and Schochler will be sharing personal stories that share how God shaped

or worked in their lives.

Arrington wanted to maintain the surprise of her speech, but said, “One of the stories I’ll be sharing is about a day when interacted with a strange man,” but she learned a bigger lesson from the interesting interaction.

Avoiding any more clues to give away, Arrington said sometimes we hear stories yet they, “completely change the meaning of my story,” sometimes stories end up being completely different than how they began.

Arrington pointed out that if she had not heard the second story she never would have known the true meaning of what had happened, and said this is one of the reasons why it is important to share stories from our lives.

Arrington also hopes to empower the women who are going to tell their own stories.

Schochler said he hopes the men on campus will begin to see how God is working through their own experiences after this retreat. He said he will share about miraculous and difficult situations God has worked through in his own life.

“Your voice is really important,” Arrington said, giving the example of the novel “What is the What” by Dave Eggers.

“Even though the ending isn’t great, the important thing is that he got to tell his story,” Arrington said about the main



Submitted by ANDREW ALBRIGHT

Students (left to right) David Kauffman, Ricardo Salinas, David Ruales, Justin Jabbour, Christian Smith, Absiez Timothy and Alejandro Ruales went hiking in Big Bluff, Ark. during last year’s Men’s Retreat.

character, Valentino Achak Deng. “There’s a satisfaction that comes from telling stories. It’s a part of hospitality, acknowledging history, identity and complexity. It’s a way for everyone to relate.”

“I see so much potential in our stories,” Arrington said, “They’re empowering and affirming to who you are.”

Schochler echoed Arrington’s sentiment.

“Most of what we remember is in story form,” Schochler said. “Historically stories are how we’ve transmitted culture

and values,” Schochler said.

Schochler said he grew up hearing stories from his dad about his grandfather time as a pastor. His grandfather worked in the swamps of Louisiana, and Schochler spoke of one time when his grandparents needed a boat to use and were given a houseboat. “It just shows that God’s called you here and He’ll take care of you.”

“I have some crazy stories,” Schochler said, not hinting about the other stories. He expressed that those stories have showed him the way

God’s worked in the past and gave him confidence in God’s faithfulness.

Arrington also said she would like to get to know more students personally and is looking forward to talking to them and hanging out with them outside of the sessions. Arrington said getting to know college women is what she looks forward to most.

Schochler echoed Arrington’s desire to connect with students and added, “I’m honored to do this.

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rather than a personal perception.

After attending the rally, Andrus said, “I can now confidently assert that I find Trump to be an egomaniacal windbag with wildly inconsistent policies.”

Andrus stayed for a portion of his speech in Bentonville and observed the crowd there.

“The people we met all seemed pleasant and excited to be there,” Andrus said. “Probably the most memorable person was a man carrying a poster that read, ‘Choices for President: 1st: God, 2nd: Jesus, 3rd: Donald Trump.’ I was tempted to ask him why the Holy Spirit didn’t make the cut, but I refrained.”

Benetton Lee, a senior international student from Malaysia, also attended the Trump rally and said he used to watch Trump’s TV show “The Apprentice” growing up.

“Donald Trump is an intelligent man, no doubt about it. But then again, so are all the other candidates. What sets him apart from the other

candidates is his lack of character and maturity,” Lee said.

Lee said Trump proved his immaturity throughout his speech in Bentonville and spent the majority of the time berating the other candidates.

Lee believes Trump supporters feel a need for a confident and strong leader, and he believes that the public is drawn to that energy.

Yet, Lauderdale said that throughout the media, Trump is portrayed as a bigot, a racist and a sexist. “Through Trump’s statements, I’d come to agree with these titles he’s been given, and going into the rally I knew it was going to be somewhat offensive,” he said.

Lee’s opinion was similar. “All Trump had were jokes and degrading comments of other candidates. Trump is a clown.”

On Super Tuesday, Trump won the majority of delegates in the state of Arkansas by 33 percent.

Students across campus advocated for others to go to the polls and vote. Andrew Heldenbrand, sophomore international business and intercultural studies major, voted on Tuesday.

“It was probably the easiest



KLARA JOHANNESSEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate

A Trump supporter displayed a sign at the political rally in Bentonville on Sunday, Feb. 28.

government experience of my life,” he said.

Heldenbrand said, “I voted for Rubio, because I don’t want Trump

or Cruz [to win]. I’ll probably vote Democratic later though.”

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in Asia and has been making incredible impact all over the world,” Song said in a press release. “I believe this partnership will enable alumni to be a bridge between these two nations that have been historically great partners in serving God.”



KACIE GALLOWAY/ TheThreefoldAdvocate

Increase aid with tuition
Limit students’ additional expenses

Between the 2011-12 and 2015-16 school year, the total cost of attending John Brown University, including tuition, fees and room and board, has increased by an average of \$1,201 each year.

In the same time frame, tuition alone increased by an average of \$891 per year. A senior who graduates in May 2016 and paid regular tuition fees and room and board for four years will end up paying \$3,456 more this year than their freshman year.

They will have paid \$7,744 more over the four years than they would have if the cost of attendance stayed the same. While tuition goes up, the university scholarships do not.

“JBU scholarships are locked in at the amount that they were originally awarded and don’t increase with tuition,” David Burney, associate director of financial aid, said.

Burney explained that scholarships do increase each year for incoming freshmen, but remain the same for all four years once they have been awarded.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that the University scholarships should increase over time along with the cost of attendance.

Students are not always aware of the potential of tuition increases and often make decisions of the schools they attend. This means that students sometimes think the price they paid as freshman will be the price they pay as seniors.

Therefore, We The Threefold Advocate believe that scholarships should increase at the same rate as tuition increase. This will limit the amount of additional expenses the students incur after starting school.

We understand that it necessary to increase tuition for the sake of inflation and increased faculty salary.

However, increasing tuition without increasing scholarships compromises the value of these scholarships. It leaves students with more bills to pay than expected based on their freshman financial aid package.

The increase in scholarship may also not cover the full increase. For example, a student with a half tuition scholarship will still be paying for half of the tuition increase.

We also understand that scholarships come from donors and the University is not always in control. However, we think it should be a priority for the University to continue to increase scholarships along with tuition.

Due to this evidence, The Threefold Advocate urges the University to consider increasing scholarships along with the increase of tuition.

Rideshare should increase security
Uber could have done more to stop shooter

On Feb. 20 an Uber driver killed six people in between picking up customers.

According to reports, one passenger even filed complaints against him for reckless driving the morning of the shooting.

Uber has defended themselves, stating that they perform background checks on all of their drivers. They have also said that the reason they did not immediately reply to the complaint was because it was for reckless driving and not physical violence.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that Uber needs to go beyond criminal background checks and ensure that the person is mentally stable and qualified to drive for them.

It is possible for a person to have no criminal history, but still be a dangerous person. This case makes that very clear.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that the solution to going beyond a criminal background check is to interview those who the drivers live around and to require drivers to go through a mental health screening.

In regards to Uber’s defense for not checking into the complaint immediately, it partially checks out. The company focuses its immediate attention on physical violence, which it should.

However, this complaint was made five hours before the first person was killed. Therefore, we think they had plenty of time to respond. The complaint was for reckless driving, which a legal dictionary defines as operating a vehicle in a dangerous manner. We understand that physical violence takes precedent, but reckless driving can kill people as well. Therefore, Uber should respond in a timely manner after they receive a complaint.

We the Threefold Advocate understand that all of this will be more work for Uber. However, Uber needs to make sure that their customers are safe.

From a business standpoint, if they do not solve these problems they will lose their customer base because people will not feel safe.

Therefore, We The Threefold Advocate believe that Uber needs to do more to screen drivers and to respond in a timely manner to complaints.

Do not ignore hate



SALINA ADOLPH
CONTRIBUTOR



DIVERSITY TALK

The other day, I was trying to research “dating among Indian American teenagers” for a class project. Instead, I accidentally found an article entitled “5 Reasons Why You Should Not Date Indian Girls” by Matt Forney. I clicked on it, thinking it would surely be a joke and, sadly, it turned out to be a real article. Included were lines like “Every Indian girl I’ve ever known secretly loathed her ethnic heritage, wanted to be white, and fetishized white men to a degree that was downright creepy.”

The first comment was a guy who completely agreed with the article...and it had 598 likes. There are over 2,000 other comments on this article, and most of them agree with the author. This led me to hypothesize that even more people read and agreed with it.

It’s weird to be the person who an article like this is talking about. I’ve read many articles infused with racism and sexism, but most of them haven’t been quite so

blatant as this one. The article was so inaccurate that it was difficult for me to be personally hurt, but its surprising popularity made me sad.

The popularity was a clear reminder to me of how easy it is to mask the racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism - whatever it is that leads to hatred - until it reaches such extremes as the article I found. Unchecked privilege lets people silently fear others, systemically categorize them as good or bad, and rationalize our advantages away.

Even if our words aren’t blatantly hateful, choosing to not face our privileges allows our self-centeredness to fester until we are blind to others, and until we eventually buy into racist, sexist and generally hate-filled rhetoric.

Systemic and generational sins, like racism and sexism, are monsters that feed off of our privilege and our denial of injustice. I believe that the author of the article wrote what he did and had so much support because he blinded himself to this monster.

I also believe that the complete denial of privilege that led to his reasoning is why people like Donald Trump are winning the hearts and minds of the American people. It’s why we can numbly watch and share videos of police killing black teenagers and still argue about what they did to deserve it. It’s how we blur the lines of what consent means to the point that it’s easy to explain away rape and sexual assault. It’s how we rationalize tearing families apart through mass deportation. It’s how we turn conversations about the relentless torture of the Syrian people into a conversation about our own safety.

Our privilege lets us shut others down when they attempt to talk about the oppression and

marginalization they’ve faced in their lives. And it’s what lets us manipulate those people into thinking that they’re just pulling the race card or offended by everything, when they’re simply trying to share their realities. It kills our ability to empathize.

The answer to this is more nuanced than we think. It’s important to expose extremes so that we can understand root problems, which is why I eventually shared the article on my Facebook page. On the other hand, exposing the extremes sometimes gives hate rhetoric more visibility than it actually needs, which can lead us to gloss over rhetoric that isn’t that extreme as being completely free of prejudice, privilege and sins like racism.

To combat this, it’s important for us to do what we are not naturally inclined to do, which is to humbly listen to others and accept that there are some factors about our lives that we can’t control-that we were born into-which give us an advantage or disadvantage over others in this society and world. And we have to be willing to understand how these factors in our lives play into deeply embedded sins that continue to hurt God and others.

The lies that led this author to write such a hateful piece against women like me are the same lies that lead us to exclude others at JBU. It’s long pasttime for us to stop believing lies, to see ourselves as whole, messy realities of who we are in our contexts and to work towards the reconciliation of sins that are tearing us apart.

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Find God in everything



LIDANIA CERDA
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“I am so blessed with my life right now! I have excellent grades, a steady job and a boyfriend who loves me dearly!” Many of us probably do not feel this way. We might have the worst grades, no job, and no boyfriend or girlfriend. There is a common reason for these perceptions of life, and it is simply this:

“If God is near me and blesses me, I am fine. But if He is not, I am not fine.”

Many of us look for experience, and not necessarily God. We try to find an emotion that will fulfill our human cravings. For example, when we worship God, we want to feel him completely, but when we do not feel him, we are disappointed. We, as Christians, want to cling onto feeling God’s presence, but what if one day we do not feel his presence anymore and all we have to cling onto are his promises?

First of all, God never promised that we would always feel his presence. He did, in fact, say “I will never leave you nor forsake you”(Hebrews 13:5B). Because we are extremely busy with college or work, that can be hard to believe. We are consumed by lack of sleep, piles and piles of homework or maybe that special someone who we love to spend time with. But let’s concentrate on God for a few seconds. I believe Floyd McClung explains it better than I do:

“You wake up one morning and all your spiritual feelings are gone. You pray, but nothing happens. You rebuke the devil, but it doesn’t change anything. You go through spiritual exercises...you have your friends pray for you...you confess

every sin you can imagine, then go around asking forgiveness of everyone you know. You fast...still nothing. You begin to wonder how long this spiritual gloom might last. Days? Weeks? Months? Will it ever end?...it feels as if your prayers simply bounce off the ceiling. In utter depression, you cry out, “What’s the matter with me?”

If God is far away from us, we instantly feel that it is because we have sinned, but that might not be the case. Yes, God wants us to feel his presence, but he prefers that we trust in him and not our emotions. God wants faith from us, and not our feelings.

In college, I found myself seeing God as a Magic 8 Ball. I was trying to seek his purpose and only his purpose. And the only way that I felt close to him was by singing, reading the Bible, and praying. I did these things constantly, but then what McClung said struck me. I was at an utter loss. I wanted to feel God and I was disappointed in myself because I simply could not seek him. I blamed it on college assignments and how stressed I was in the midst of juggling everything in my life. As college students or staff members, it is hard to juggle life. As Christians, we are called to do many things, but how do we do that if we do not feel God in the midst of struggles? The answer to that question is simply to have faith. If we look at David’s life in the Bible or his Psalms, we see how his affliction and trust in God was possible. If we look at Job, we see how his life was flipped upside down, and yet he still glorified God. As Christians, having faith and trusting in God is all we need.

I’ve been reading a book recently called, “A Life With Purpose” by Rick Warren (I highly recommend it if someone is having a hard time seeing God’s purpose in their life) and he gives the solution to feeling God in four easy steps.

Step one is “Tell God exactly how you feel.” Yes, God sees and knows what you do, but when you go to his throne and pour your heart out, he sees that. When a friend tells you how she feels about a class she is taking, does that not give you clarity towards wanting to take that class? It is

the same with God. When we speak to him, we gain clarity and understanding because he is our friend. He is not the enemy. He wants the best for us.

Step two is “Concentrate on who is God, in His immutable nature.” Remember all the promises that he has given us, how good he is and how much he loves us. He is the most important being who is interested in us and has a plan for each of us. V. Raymond Edman said:

“Never doubt in the dark what God has said in the light.”

Is that not comforting? Whenever we hit rock bottom and all we see around us is darkness, God is the light and we should always grasp onto his promises.

Step three is “Trust in God that He will meet His promises.” We should not fixate our own promises through emotions to glorify him, but instead glorify him so he can work through us in the struggle of life. We should not look towards other worldly things to feel better about ourselves or fix our well-being. God is always the answer, even if we do not feel him.

The final step “Remember what God has done for you.” God sent his only son to die on the cross for you. God loved us all that much to do that simple act. We know that Jesus could have easily gotten down from that cross, but instead he said “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Jesus did this first to demonstrate how he was the Son of God, but also to save each of us from our sins.

When I read these four steps, I realized what God had been doing to my life by not being present. He was testing me. He was testing my faith. You see, God talks to you in different ways. Maybe through people, a Bible verse, a simple act of kindness staring at his outstanding artwork in nature. God is present in everything we do, and we are never alone. Once we learn that, we will have the greatest friend we ever asked for.

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The Threefold Advocate
- advocate.jbu.edu -

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Addiction inspires call

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GRACE NAST/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Because of her past experience with pornography addiction, Hannah Pickle feels called to fight the pornography industry and to help victims seek recovery. Pickle, a freshman at the University, was only 11 years old when she first viewed pornography. It wasn't until her junior year in high school that she finally admitted that she was addicted. "I like to say that God didn't cause my addiction but that He allowed me to choose to make myself a victim," Pickle said calmly. Her confession was suspended in time and space for a brief moment, before it fell heavily to the ground. After a pause, Pickle continued, "My nature is to hide it. I don't like to hear the word pornography and others don't like to use it." She admitted that it's easy to cover it up but she believes that God has called her to be open about it. She reclined casually on a couch at Café on Broadway with one foot firmly planted on the ground and the other draped over the side of the dark brown sofa. She looked on steadily as she unabashedly laid bare the most intimate corner of her heart. Contrary to popular belief, pornography addiction is not exclusively a male struggle. According to a survey conducted in 2014 by Covenant Eyes, a Christian organization dedicated to fighting pornography and sexual addiction, 21 percent of women ages 18-30 said they viewed pornography several times a week, compared with 63 percent of men ages 18-30. Because she had kept her addiction a secret for so long, Pickle formed another identity. She felt guilty and ashamed. "I acted differently around different people which was unhealthy," Pickle said. She idly stroked the scarf that was bundled up around her throat before adding, "It also gave me the wrong attitude towards sex. It gave me the wrong idea about relationships." "The guy RAs have these discussions often, but this is

my fourth year here and I've never heard females talk about it," Meredith Baltz, who is the Resident Director in Hutcheson Hall and Pickle's mentor, said. "I can see Hannah advocating for females who are struggling with this and showing them that they're not alone." Pickle's past has shaped the way she sees her future. "God turned Job's pain around and used it to bring Him glory," Pickle said. "God can take an experience that I put myself into and turn it into a tool that fights the very sin I struggled with." Pickle plans on majoring in international business to work with non-profits and organizations that deal with internet governance. "I want to facilitate effective legislation, efficient enforcement and an aware public," Pickle said. She also wants to minor in pre-law because so much of the pornography industry is immersed in tricky legislation. Faith is the most important driving force behind Pickle's calling to combat pornography.

She attributes her passion for helping addicts and victims to God's grace, as well as to what she describes as her strong sense of justice. One way in which Pickle wants to fight the war against pornography is by making sure people are informed. She said that the public simply doesn't know a lot about it. "People don't understand that so many people are affected by pornography," Pickle said. "It needs to be talked about." Growing up, Pickle had never heard another female Christian say that they shared her struggle. That's a problem because "people need to know that they're not alone." While she has overcome her addiction, she still struggles with it. "Addiction is not something you're ever free from but something that becomes easier over time," Pickle said. Pickle wants to help addicts heal and she feels called to start a growth group in Hutch. She and Baltz are working out the details, but they are

excited to see their idea take form in the near future. Bergen Johnston, who has been one of Pickle's closest friends since they were three years old, said that she loves Pickle because instead of judging people she loves them for who they are. "I love Hannah's heart for people. She never acts better than them or puts them down," Johnston said. When Pickle first told her about her addiction, Johnston was impressed that she spoke about it so candidly. Johnston also admires how Pickle ambitiously pursues her calling and she has no doubt that Pickle will use her past experience to change the world. As she took another sip of coffee, Pickle summarized the very essence of her passion. "I want to help people pursue recovery," Pickle said. "Pornography addicts need to know that they're not alone and that there are people who they can talk to."



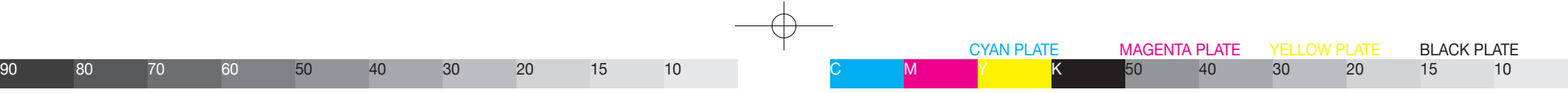
Deadpool: Worth the Watch?

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The new Marvel movie, Deadpool, is breaking the traditional idea of superhero movies. After two weeks Deadpool's release, it remains as No. 1 at the box office with a \$55 million estimate of its domestic revenue. Ryan Reynolds plays Wade Wilson, a normal citizen who turns into an anti-hero from "ugly" superpowers, according to IGN Entertainment. "Poking fun at the Marvel franchise, he is really the first one that was irreverent back towards the holy ground of the Marvel universe," Steve Snediker, digital cinema professor, said. "This is a breaking out sort of role of a Marvel superhero character; to be the underdog, to be the not so squeaky clean. In this case, Deadpool is lost; he is not the good guy." This revenge and love story, however, is not a movie for everyone. For some people, Deadpool is one of the most hilarious creations that Marvel has ever produced, but for others it could be too much. "There was a lot of well played humor and some really

bad humor," Snediker said. Deadpool is rated R for crude and inappropriate scenes; characters are not afraid to offend people. Not only does it have many obscene jokes, but there is also a lot of violence and sexual scenes. "Most Marvel movies are rated PG or PG-13," Erica Castro, a senior who is a big fan of Deadpool and other superheroes, said. "This one was more in for the adults, because Wade Wilson, Deadpool, is a mercenary so he is known to cuss and kill people. There is a whole lot more violence, more cussing and just more for the mature audience." Deadpool, the character, is self-aware and self-referential, since he knows he is a fictional character from a comic book and brings this to the audience's attention. This is called the fourth wall or the imaginary wall between actors on stage and the audience. "This cinematic approach was constantly carried in the movie as Deadpool breaks the fourth wall looking at the screen and talking to the

audience," Snediker said. It is a rare technique that not many filmmakers decide to use. However, in this movie it worked. "They don't break the fourth wall," Castro said. "They completely destroy it, so it makes you feel like you are part of the movie through the entire action as well." These type of movies are made to place fictional characters in a real world with relatable people. "Our society is in a place where everything is changing," Snediker said. "Not for the better, necessarily. Things are changing in a way that [the movie's] almost a reflection of the hopelessness in a level of anger that exists in our world." Overall, Marvel pulled off putting their most notoriously anarchic and messed-up character from the comic books in a hit movie. "I had been waiting for this movie since it was announced and it completely filled my expectations," Castro said. It was expected to have unbalanced and opposite reviews since Deadpool is not a superhero and it is more inappropriate than other Marvel movies. "I have to give credit to the filmmaker for doing an amazing job," Snediker said. "I also have to say that there are things in that movie that I wish I hadn't seen."



Golden Eagles tee off final season

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The Golden Eagle men’s golf team will kick off their last season this Monday.

The team will compete in the National Association of College Athletics Contender in four days. The Contender serves as the opening tournament for the Golden Eagles’ final season before their termination at the end of the school year. The University announced the official dissolution of the program on Feb. 22, marking the end of a nine-year reboot of the program.

Robert Raborn, senior golfer, expressed that this announcement has motivated him and his teammates to play their absolute best.

“We want to send the program off on a high note,” Raborn said. “We are hungry and want to win.”

The Golden Eagles improved from last fall season by placing in the top half of two of the three tournaments they competed in. The team didn’t place in the upper half of any tournament in the 2014 fall season. Trevor Barton, senior golfer, expressed pride in how the team performed in the fall.

“There were some good tournaments where we all put together good scores and shot a really good team score, which is something we haven’t been able to do in the past,” Barton said. “It’s hard to put four good scorers together, so that was something from last fall that was good.”

Since then, the team has been practicing when they can for their farewell season. Thatcher Radler, sophomore golfer, said that the team has

been practicing on their own time to condition for their upcoming tournaments.

“It hasn’t been as scheduled now because it’s been the offseason,” Radler said. “We typically practice two or three times a week as a team and then we have workouts during the evenings.”

The team is looking to continue their success in their upcoming tournament. Raborn pointed out that although winning a tournament will take at least four Golden Eagles performing their best, he is confident in his team’s ability to perform at such a level.

“We have a solid core group of guys that could win just about any tournament if we play our best,” Robert Raborn, senior, said. “We have to stay patient and just keep plugging along when things aren’t going our way.”

Due to the individualistic nature of the sport, Radler mentioned that the way the Golden Eagles will win the tournament is by competing with their own team members. He also pointed out that the team will succeed if each player tries to best themselves at the game.

“That’s how you play as a team,” Radler said. “You’re playing yourself out there. Even if your opponent is kicking your butt, you’re still playing yourself and trying to beat yourself.”

The team hopes to start their final season off with success at the Contender.

“We expect to do our best just getting out there and having fun playing golf,” Raborn said.

The NAIA Contender will take place on March 7-8 at Las Colinas Country Club in Irving, Texas.



EMILI WIDNER/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Freshman golfer Gage Parker practices his driving stroke. The John Brown University golf team begins their final season of existence on Monday at the NAIA Contender.

Eagles end losing streak with three-point shot

TARAH THOMAS

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Point guard Luke Moyer launches a three-point shot for the Golden Eagles. The shot went in with 2.1 seconds in regulation and gave his team a 92-89 victory.

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The Golden Eagles responded quickly with Moyer moving down the court and taking advantage of a screen by forward Nate Anderson. Then, in his last regular season game of college basketball, Moyer broke the tie by sinking a three-point shot with 2.1 seconds on the clock. The shot was followed by three timeouts between the two teams and then a Golden Eagle victory by a score of 92-89.

The game served to end the Golden Eagles’ eight-game losing skid and the team’s regular season.

“It was a great way to end my college basketball career,” Moyer said. “I’ll always remember and cherish that moment for as long as I live.”

Alumnus competes professionally in Europe

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Alumnus Max Hopfgartner has made his professional debut playing for Club Xuventude Baloncesto, part of Liga Española de Baloncesto Silver in Cambados, Spain.

The 6 foot 9 forward from Austria graduated from JBU with not only a degree in renewable energy engineering but also the discipline and versatility to succeed in a competitive sport.

“Clark Sheehy, former JBU men’s basketball coach, told me that I would be coaching the best post player in the Sooner Athletic Conference, and he was right,” Jason Beschta, John Brown University’s men’s basketball coach, said about Hopfgartner.

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Beschta coached Hopfgartner during his senior year and saw his dedication to develop himself to a well-rounded player.

Hopfgartner had the ability to shoot from the three-point line and inside the paint for a two-point shot. Hopfgartner became a force as other teams found it difficult to guard such a versatile player with the combination of shooting and ball handling skills, Beschta said.

Hopfgartner ended the 2014-2015 season with 22 blocks and an average of 8.3 rebounds and 17.5 points per game. He was also recognized for his performance with an NAIA All-American honorable mention and All Sooner Athletic second team.

This discipline to be the best was not only seen by the

Courtesy of JBU ATHLETICS
Max Hopfgartner now plays professional basketball for Xuventude Baloncesto in Cambados, Spain.

coaches but also from some of his teammates, who said that he led by example.

“One of the things you came to see about Hopfgartner

is that he was very driven and that he wants to be the best he can be in whatever he does,” Nate Anderson, senior men’s basketball player and Hopfgartner’s teammate for three years, said. “He’s a very hard worker... I think that’s why he is where he is today.”

Hopfgartner played for the Austrian National League the summer between his junior and senior year at the University. Scouts wanted to sign Hopfgartner during his senior year, but he wanted to explore his options.

Hopfgartner will continue preseason play with the LEB League, the third-highest in Spain, in August and regular season in October.

“To be able to land on a team in Spain allows Hopfgartner a better potential to improve and grow where he can continue to move up the levels,” Beschta said. “He’s living the dream of getting to do this as

a job. That’s not an easy thing. He’s doing something he loves and you can’t beat that.”

Over the course of his JBU basketball career, Hopfgartner scored over 1,000 points, earning this title along with many other University athletes his senior year. For Hopfgartner, his future seems bright as he grinds to be the best player on the court out of pure passion and love for the game.

Hopfgartner said to Sara Lachance, sports information assistant for John Brown University athletics, “Playing professionally gives me a chance to do something I love for a living. It allows me to be competitive on a daily basis, travel parts of the world I wouldn’t usually go to and brings me joy to see fans, especially little kids, find so much happiness watching us play.”

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8 SPOTLIGHT

March 3, 2016
The Threefold Advocate



Submitted by
Maggie Gore

1. DO...

Play with the different filters that snapchat has to offer! The latest is the face swap option which can be both terrifying and fun. Add text and emojis too.

2. DO...

Make silly faces and add humor. Sometimes a double chin snapchat from your best friend is what you need to make it through the day.

3. DO...

Be lowkey in public. If you see a stranger doing something funny, don't let them catch you snapping them. If you are taking selfies in public, be discrete.

Submitted by
Emily Pearce
@christianemily



1. DON'T...

Post any photos that you wouldn't want the internet to use later. Every photo posted, even only one second long, is on the internet so don't **post inappropriate content** of any sort.

2. DON'T...

Take screenshots. It's all fun and games to screenshot your friends' funky faces, but if you post them as backmail later, it is not okay!

3. DON'T...

Have a long snapchat story. If it takes more than two minutes to tap and swipe through your story, it is too long. Although snapchat famous celebrities such as DJ Khaled have ridiculously long stories, they are getting paid for their work.

Written and Designed by Rebekah Hedges



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