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The Threefold Advocate

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Migrants battle border limitations

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Germany temporarily closed its border with Austria until the European Union finds a solution for the influx of migrants. Germany stopped trains with Austrian refugees on Sunday, Sept. 13. A German international broadcasting organization, train passengers from Westbahnhof, refugee and non-refugee passengers included, had difficulties in getting to Germany after the announcement of border controls. According to Deutsche Welle. This situation caused confusion to other countries after the unexpected decision. Dean of the soderquist college of business, Joe Walenciak, explained that the situation is a complicated issue with the need for a balance between political and humanitarian work. The decision created tension among the countries that are part of

the Schengen Agreement. This agreement guaranteed the free movement of people between countries in the European Union except for Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania and the United Kingdom. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports that Germany has received the highest number of asylum applications, with more than 188,000 million by the end of July 2015 and 15,416 million more than last year. Senior international business and business management major Marilyn Perez expressed that Germany is in its right to impose rules to control the situation. “I think Germany is not only trying to protect the socioeconomic interests of the country but also to protect its citizens and the refugees it already has,” Perez said. According to Reuters, See MIGRANTS on page 2



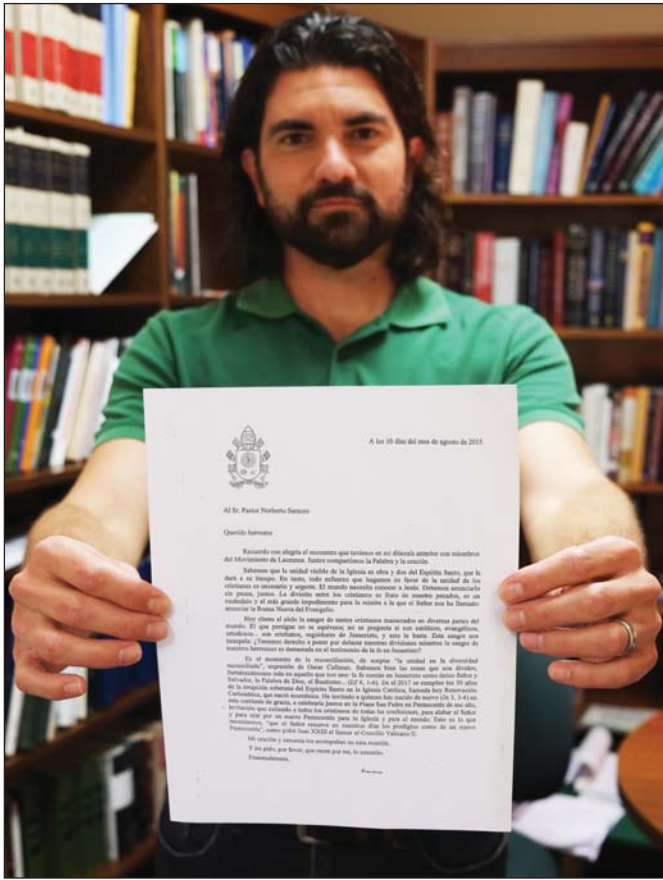
GUSTAVO ZAVALA /TheThreefoldAdvocate

Pope honors Paradosis

Stresses importance of ecumenical dialogue

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Pope Francis, who arrived in the United States this past Tuesday, sent a letter and gifts to the third annual Evangelical Catholic conversation earlier this month hosted by University of Saint Mary’s of the Lake in Mundelein, Ill. Chad Raith, professor of biblical studies and director of the Paradosis center, was in attendance as an evangelical delegate to this ecumenical dialogue. “In his letter, Pope Francis makes a stinging point. People are not being killed for being Baptist, or Presbyterian, or Catholic. They are being killed for being Christian,” Raith said. “The Pope wonders: since we are spilling our blood together in death, should we not strive to share our faith together in life? Our ongoing divisions betray the blood of martyrs. We should lament this. We can do better,” said Raith, “and we are trying to do so through the Paradosis Center here at John Brown. I hope students make full use of the gifts they have by having the Center on campus.” Raith further stated, “Many involved in current ecumenical discussions find the evangelical participation the most exciting and most promising. Pope Francis, who ministered around evangelicals in Buenos Aires, thinks likewise. His letter to our group reflects his awareness and



JESSIE BRANDON/TheThreefoldAdvocate
Chad Raith holds letter signed by Pope Francis with his original signature that recognizes the Paradosis conference.

“Our ongoing divisions betray the blood of martyrs. We can do better.”
- Chad Raith

interest in this dialogue.” According to their website, this event is a “dialogue between Catholic and evangelical Protestant leaders who are in conversation about the work of global evangelization and Christian unity.” University students, Ryan Kinney and Calvin Huff, gained perspective on the issues. “Primarily what I did was listen. With numerous theologians and other people who have been

involved in the continuing ecumenical dialogue, I was really there to absorb and take in where the conversation already was,” Kinney said. Kinney explained that one of the most impactful things that occurred for him at the conference was the relationship building. “It’s a beautiful thing to see two people who See POPE on page 3

Irish political tensions rise

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The stability of Northern Ireland’s power-sharing government is at risk after a series of political tensions and crises. Relationships between the political parties in the Northern Ireland Assembly have been strained in recent months due to budget concerns and cuts to welfare. Last month, former Provisional Irish Republic Army (IRA) member, Steven McGuigan, was murdered on Aug. 12. , leading many to believe that the Provisional IRA is still armed and carrying out violence. Patrick ‘Paddy’ Roche, former politician in Belfast and professor in John Brown University’s Irish Studies Program, said McGuigan’s murder “has very significantly exacerbated an existing political tension at Stormont.”

“The existence of the IRA as an active paramilitary unit threatens power sharing because it raises the question for unionists of whether or not the IRA still exists,” said Roche. These allegations are concerning because, if they are true and the provisional IRA is still armed, then it is in violation of the Belfast Agreement, also known as the Good Friday Agreement. The Agreement, ratified in 1998, ended the decades of violent sectarian conflicts in Ireland, known as The Troubles, by decommissioning all weapons and creating democratic opportunities to resolve conflict. It is an essential piece of legislation in the country, ultimately allowing peace and the sharing of power between various political parties in the country’s executive government. Sinn Fein, the nationalist political party formerly associated with the IRA, has denied

the IRA’s involvement in the murder of McGuigan according to the BBC. However, the opposing unionist political parties and police involved in the case have stated otherwise. A major concern is whether leaders of the nationalist Sinn Fein party are involved with the IRA. Unionists have stated that power sharing cannot persist if this is the case. “The Unionists refuse to talk with the Nationalists until the intra-IRA murders stop and the IRA disbands entirely,” said student Faith Linehan, who is currently studying abroad in Belfast. “And the Nationalists won’t negotiate with the Unionists as long as the Unionists want to cut spending on welfare.” “However, these things won’t happen because the Unionists are being pressured by London to cut spending on welfare, and the Nationalists have See TENSIONS on page 2



Courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES
First Minister Peter Robinson of the Democratic Unionist Party resigned on Sept. 10.

Iran nuclear access limited

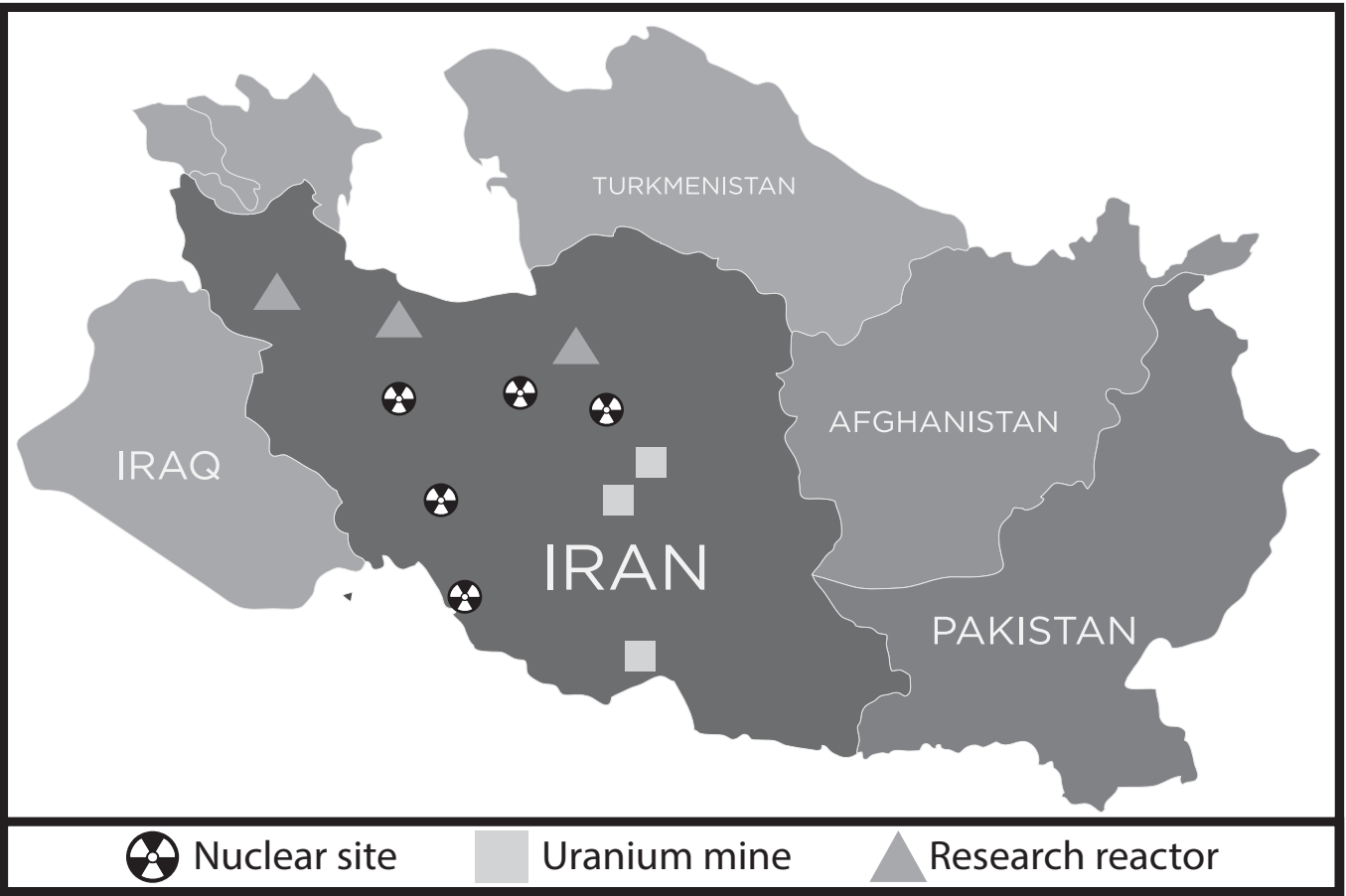
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After 20 months of heated debates, the United States and the its international allies have come to an agreement that Iran will no longer be able to obtain a nuclear weapon.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action is to cut off all of Iran’s routes to nuclear weapons, including a covert pathway. The plan will also instigate “vigorous, intrusive, and unprecedented transparency measures” which will make sure that Iran cannot get weapons. If Iran violates this deal, sanctions will be put back into place.

This deal prevents Iran from being able to obtain nuclear weapons made from plutonium and uranium enrichment. Therefore, they will no longer be able to build any more heavy water reactors. Iranians will also

have to remove “two-thirds of their centrifuges which are used to enrich uranium,” the plan said. Curt Sullivan, an adjunct professor in the University’s humanities and social sciences department, said the International Atomic Energy Agency will be in charge of inspecting the enrichment facilities located in Iran. This will help to insure that they are only enriching enough for research and development. By limiting the ways that Iran can get nuclear weapons, it will provide more security for the United States troops and allies that are stationed in Iran. Furthermore, it will limit the ways that terrorist groups such as Hezbollah, which are tied to Iran, can get nuclear weapons. Before the sanctions were put into place, Iran was supporting terrorists, such as Hamas in the Gaza strip. “But if the deal is effective and cooperation continues over the length



GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

“It is anticipated that the price of oil in the U.S. may drop significantly.”
- Curt Sullivan

of this agreement, then it is possible that Iran could be convinced to stop supporting terrorist groups in the next 10 to 15 years,” explained Sullivan. Since Iran will have limited access to nuclear weapons, they will pose a lesser threat to Israel. Professor of religion and philosophy David Vila explained that some Christians feel like they

cannot be supportive of the government of Iran because of Iran’s hostile history with Israel. Vila said that this is not so much a religious issue as it is a political one. The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action “has the full backing of the international community,” according to a press release from the White House. Without

this deal, Iran would have no sanctions on the Iran nuclear program enabling them to test and build more centrifuges. Sullivan explained that this deal could help Iran’s economy. In the past the United States and the European Union have had strict sanctions on Iran. If Iran follows the agreement then it will allow for foreign energy

companies to invest money into the Iranian oil. This could be beneficial to the United States as well as to the Iranian economy. “It is anticipated that the price of oil in the U.S. may drop significantly due to removal of sanctions against Iranian oil,” Sullivan said.

Students react to townhouse renovations

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This August dozens of students moved into two newly renovated living spaces: townhouses 253 and 255. When construction started last school year, these two townhouses had been in use for 22 years.

The six townhouses at John Brown University were constructed in three phases. Townhouses 249 and 251 are the oldest and were constructed in 1990 by construction management students at the University. In 1992 students constructed 253 and 255. These are the newly renovated ones. Finally, general contractor Nabholz constructed 257 and 259 in 1994, making all the townhouses as old or older than the average University student.

Facilities director Steve Brankle explained that 253 and 255 needed the most work and were therefore renovated first. He said that workers “cleaned them up for another 25 years.”

In renovation, these townhouses were gutted. Workers tore out the air conditioning units, water heaters, carpet and cabinets, patched

walls, painted walls, laid new flooring, laid new tile showers on the first floor, retextured the ceilings, and put in new furniture, among other things. The townhouses had an awkward shape and were therefore made more open between the living room and kitchen. Brankle also had an energy efficiency study done on the townhouses before they were renovated and put in new lighting and appliances to make the houses more energy efficient. “I think they turned out really nice. I know they’re much more energy efficient. I know they’re much more comfortable,” Brankle said. Townhouse 251, one of the first to be constructed, is being renovated over the course of this school year. 249, the other house constructed in 1990, will potentially be renovated in the summer of 2016. Brankle hopes to have both 249 and 251 completed by next school year, and plans to have all six houses renovated within the next two to three years. Daniel Penner and Isaac Van Otterloo, both senior mechanical engineering majors, lived in Townhouse

255 together during the 2013-2014 school year, before it was renovated. “The improvements made to townhouse 255 were most excellent. The kitchen area was opened up considerably, the bathrooms were updated, and even the floor was fixed where it used to creak. I thought it looked fine while I was living there, but the renovations have definitely made some commendable improvements,” Van Otterloo said. “From the standpoint of someone who has lived there and made really awesome memories, it felt strange going in things being a bit different. That being said, having lived there, I do think that it was a big improvement, especially in the bathroom and kitchen area,” Penner said. “Now living in semi-independence no longer has the drawback of an old, outdated look.” “Overall, I would give the JBU renovation team 5/5 stars, would recommend to a friend,” Van Otterloo said. “My only qualm was that they didn’t put in a hot tub or sauna.”



CLAYTON LYON/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Before: Townhouses 249 and 251 were gutted last year of cabinets, appliances, etc.



ASHLEY BURGER/TheThreefoldAdvocate

After: New countertops were installed, walls were painted and new furniture was added.

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German Interior Minister Thomas de Maizière said that the people who will be allowed to enter the country are European Union citizens and those who had valid documents. He also said that refugees cannot choose the states where they are seeking protection. After the sudden decision, refugees desperately tried to enter Germany illegally through other country’s borders. Senior international business and management

major, Walter Hernandez, expressed that although refugees are trying to seek a better life, “it is not an excuse to be a refugee to try to infringe the law in another country.” On Sept. 16 Austria fired tear gas and water cannons at the Roszke border in order to prevent migrants who wanted to cross Hungary illegally. According to Deutsche Welle, many migrants were trapped in Horgos, Serbia and many of them tried to make their way to Germany or

other wealthy countries in Western Europe. Austria, Slovakia, Croatia, France and the Netherlands introduced border controls following Germany’s actions.

TENSIONS continued from page 1

no incentive to disband the IRA,” Linehan said. Even if the IRA merely existed as a criminal organization and not a military group, Roche explained, “that is unacceptable to unionists due to the perception of overlapping leadership between Sinn Fein and the IRA.” In response to the speculation and current evidence, Northern Ireland’s Secretary of State has established an independent monitoring group to assess paramilitary

organizations in the country. This assessment is designed to determine if the provisional IRA or other organizations are in violation of the Good Friday Agreement. In addition to the other crises, the Northern Ireland Assembly’s First Minister Peter Robinson has resigned, along with all but one member of his party, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP). This has made political talks aimed at finding a solution difficult. “All these conflicts over there are buried so deeply

and are so entrenched in their society,” said Jack Knudsen, a University student who was on the Irish Studies team in the fall of 2014. “It’s very, very sad, especially because it seemed for a while like things were getting better. It seems now that more hostilities are coming to the surface.” Cross-party discussions about finance, welfare and the existence of paramilitary organizations are expected to continue for the next six weeks.

California fires stir students' memories

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Natural disasters across the United States are a subject of concern for many, and officials said that the wildfires in California this year have been some of the worst in state history.

As of last Tuesday the fires have claimed 270,000 acres and more than 1,400 buildings burned to ashes, despite the efforts of 8,800 firefighters, according to the New York Times.

Although this year's fires are among the worst in history, the fires from 2003 and 2007 had more destruction, according to NBCnews.com.

Bethany Moberly, a senior from San Diego, said she remembers those deadly fires.

"I was in middle school when these fires were burning, but all schools were cancelled because the air quality was so bad that we were not supposed to go outdoors without a face mask," Moberly said.

She recalled the fires from 2007 and memories of terror and fear. Moberly watched as her high school was engulfed. Although her house was unaffected,

some of her friend's houses were burned.

"When you walked outside you would have ash all over you. It was insane. The flames were bright red and the smoke was so dense, yet we all just sat and watched the hills turn black," she said.

When the fires went around her town, Moberly said they were given an evacuation watch. She and her family heeded the advice, but she did fear that her cat, Bozo, would be lost to the flames.

After the fires were contained in 2007, Moberly said, "My family drove up to Descanso, a town up in the mountains and just looked at how black the entire land was." She said, "I got out of the car and poured my water on some of the smoldering brush, but a firefighter patrolling the area told us to leave for our safety."

Despite the damage Moberly said the firefighters were awesome about containing the fires and performing their job. As for the fires this year she believes most are caused by lightening and said "the best thing we can do is send up a prayer."

She said it was amazing to see that during the 2007 fires many churches,

community centers, and even stadiums opened up to provide housing to people with lost homes or evacuees.

"Although fires are terrifying and unpredictable, they have a way of uniting neighborhoods," Moberly said.

Ben Tabor, a senior from Helmet, Calif., had a different experience with the fires.

Although he did not personally witness them, Tabor said, "I have a family friend that was engaged to a fire fighter several years ago and he died in a fire before they were married."

In addition he said his church camp growing up, a Christian camp by Hume Lake, was threatened by the fires.

"The camp had a big "pray for Hume" slogan," he said. "I went to the camp several times and the camp has been a big part in my church and in many kids lives."

"One fire that was close to my home several years ago ended up producing so much ash and smoke that we were dismissed early from school and didn't go to school the next two days," Tabor said.

He believes that the state has plans in



Courtesy of GOOGLE IMAGES
Brush smolders in California as firefighters work to extinguish the flames. John Brown University students Bethany Moberly and Ben Tabor recall past California fires.

place when big fires occur to help those who have lost homes.

"However, with California being in a big drought and with all the restrictions on water usage, many people are forced to buy fire insurance based on where they live," Tabor said.

"My family for instance lives on a hill near a lot of shrubbery and we must buy fire insurance. So many of the homes may be covered," he continued.

Tabor said he believes that the government

and churches should rally behind and do as much as possible to help these people get back on their feet.

Groups of 800 to 1,000 people have fled one fire's path and poured into the Napa County Fairgrounds, according to the New York Times.

"Evacuees who had fled the scorched Lake County communities of Middletown, Cobb, and Hidden Valley Lakes, northwest of Sacramento, told one another their stories of

racing the flames and of the last times they had seen their homes," New York Times reported.

"I am not sure what the situation is currently for the fires burning in California but I hope everyone is getting as much support and help as possible," Moberly said.

"I know that when huge fires are going through a place firefighters never get any rest and work 24/7 to protect the people being affected by the fire."

Guatemalan women uplift the impoverished

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The women behind Potter's House Association, Andrea Marroquin and Gladys Guitz, impacted students both in classrooms and during chapel by sharing their stories of transformation from the garbage dump community of Guatemala.

Former Walton scholar and 2012 graduate from the University, Marroquin, has been working for the association for a year and a half along Guitz, who has for the past 29 years.

Their association has many facets, from community development to vacation bible school, but Guiz said it simply started from doing a favor.

"We need people with an open mind, when you

start news things you need to be flexible, we didn't know exactly what we wanted to do, maybe we still don't and God is still defining that," Guitz said.

Potter's House Association's vision, "That every beneficiary child and youth, through their personal relationship with God, will reach the maturity they need to pursue their own holistic development and will contribute in the fight against poverty by influencing their family, community and nation," according to pottershouse.org.gt

The women made this clear as they shared personal stories and the poem; Christ has no Body, by St. Teresa of Avila, which stressed the importance of serving God.

Belinda Henriquez, senior from Honduras



JESSIE BRANDON/TheThreefoldAdvocate
Andrea Marroquin and Gladys Guitz spoke in chapel about their ministry in Guatemala.

had to opportunity to spend time in Guatemala this summer with the Guatemala Water Project trip, and enjoyed hearing from Guiz and Marroquin.

She observed the importance of family during her time in and around the garbage dump community.

"Family integration or

"La familia" as we would say it in Spanish is crucial for sharing the gospel around the community," Henriquez said.

She said that she noticed

that people need perspective to know how to help.

"As a community, we have to understand that people are not the problem, they are the solution! Besides being called from God to serve our neighbors, serving others in need is a way to encourage them and give them power to see beyond their present conditions and limitations," she said.

Henriquez thought Marroquin did a great job emphasizing making sure people knew how valuable they are in the community with their unique talents and gifts is crucial for development.

"Potters House in Guatemala is making a huge impact on the lives of the children and family. It is encouraging to see the lives being transformed by the program," Henriquez said.

Siloam kayak park closed for maintenance



GRACE NAST/TheThreefoldAdvocate
The Siloam Springs Kayak Park closed Tuesday, Sept. 21 for maintenance and is expected to remain closed for up to three weeks. Siloam Springs park manager Troy Kirkendall said that workers are installing a rock bed from the northern shore of the lake to the southern shore. This rock bed will extend into a sort of underwater wall or "mini dam" that is designed to increase the depth of water for park users. Workers are also making repairs and to the park for minor damage due to flooding and installing preventative maintenance. "It's just completed it's first year," Kirkendall said of the park.

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fundamentally disagree as to how salvation is worked out amongst humanity, set that aside and engage in meaningful conversation," Kinney said.

"Some of these conversations were theological and some were personal. After attending the Lausanne event I truly believe it takes the personal relationship in order to engage more comfortably in the theological conversations," Kinney said.

Raith explained that there are different ways to approach the conversation. "Each of which compliments the other. You need them all."

"Some tend to focus on doctrines that unite and divide us — this tends to be my primary interest — while others focus on building relationships that allow for hard but healthy conversations. The Lausanne Movement dialogue, as well as Pope Francis I himself, tends to focus on the latter," Raith said.

Students need public speaking
Skills necessary for all majors

It's that ultimate moment when all eyes are on you. You are the center of attention. Everyone has sat down to listen to every word you say and to see everything you do. This is public speaking. No matter how shy, quiet or even loud and vocal, we all have been in this situation—whether it's for a group presentation, at a best friend's wedding or even making a logical point to a counterpart.

We The Threefold believe that public speaking should be a required course for all majors at JBU, because we'd all benefit from this skill and will continue to use it for the rest of our lives.

Taking a public speaking course will give students the skills necessary in order to deliver a well-crafted and constructed message.

We've all listened to our fellow classmates speak at the gathering, and it may look easy enough at times, but most people are unaware of the proper techniques behind delivering a powerful and effective speech.

Public speaking class will teach students the appropriate times to pause, how to avoid using distracting hand gestures and the proper placement for anecdotes to grab and hold the audience's attention.

Currently, majors in education, communication, construction management and business have public speaking credit embedded in their degree requirements.

But what about a major like youth ministry which requires preaching sermons in front of students or even engineering students who give their senior presentations in front of a large audience.

Public speaking training will help students develop their skills in communication and present their ideas and beliefs to both large and small audiences?

According to USA Today's article "5 reasons everyone should take a public speaking course," public speaking will overlap into every aspect of your life, will help you become a better listener, will help voice your ideas and gain confidence.

At JBU, we strive on this idea of giving students a "holistic education" by equipping students with the skills to be successful in all aspects of their life. A public speaking class will produce well-rounded students who can verbalize their thoughts, think logically and effectively persuade others—all tools that can be used in all aspects of their life.

Therefore, we The Threefold urge John Brown University to consider adding public speaking to their general education requirements.

Consume diverse news
Stay informed through different media

Many students are generally uninformed about world or local news and frequently find themselves asking questions like "Wait, what happened? When did that happen?" They are not always able to be aware of what is going on in the outside world. Students often refer to John Brown University as a bubble, because we tend to live and be concerned with our own JBU world.

Students are so caught up with their studies, friendships and campus events that they often forget to look out into the world.

We The Threefold believe that this should change. Students need to be aware of what is going on in the world around them.

To do this, students first need to observe what is going on in the news. They should spend time reading what is occurring on the international and national stage in addition to learning what is going on in their state and local governments.

However, keeping up with one source of media or one newspaper is not enough. Students need to make sure they are reading and listening to several different sources so that they will not develop a biased view of significant events and issues. Observing different news channels with different slants will give you a well-rounded view of what is going on in the nation and the world.

We The Threefold understand that students are busy and that, in their free time, they may not want to spend that extra time watching the news or reading articles. We The Threefold have several solutions for this.

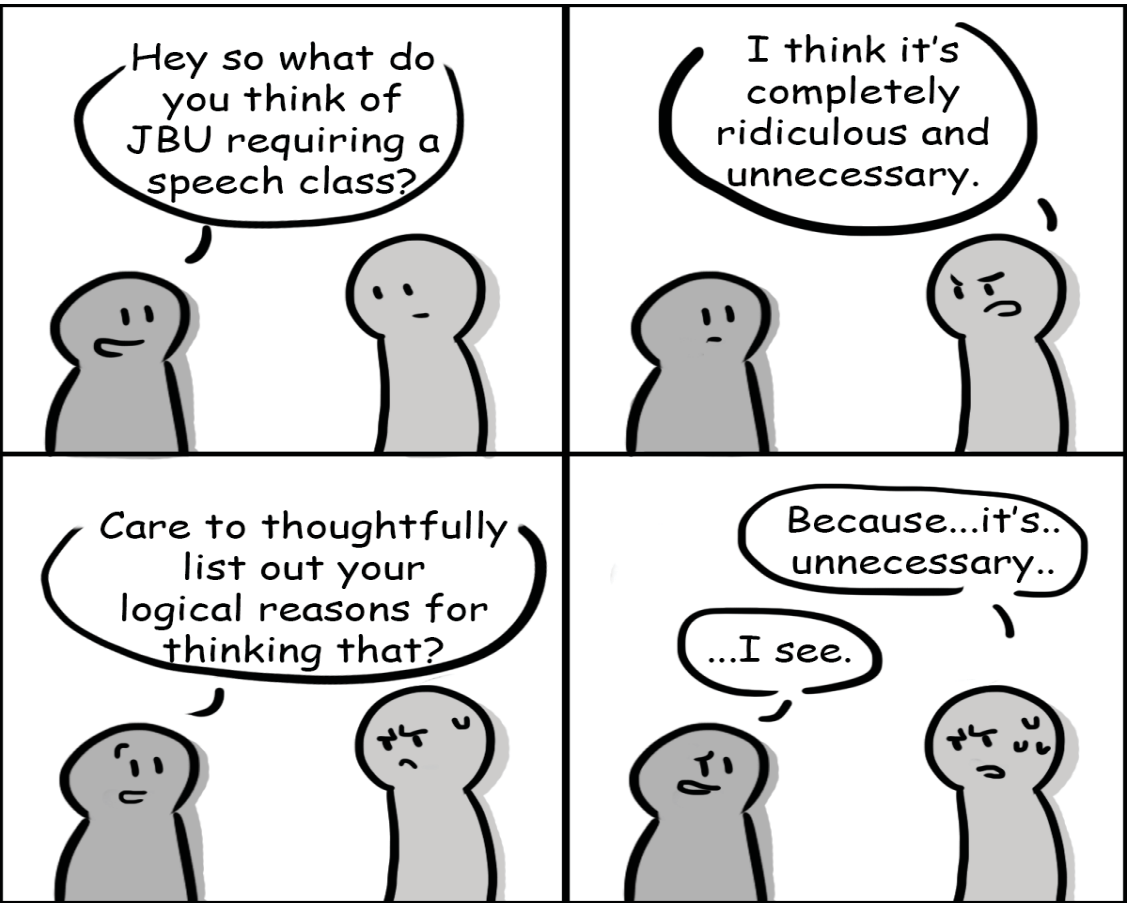
The first is to follow news organizations on Twitter. This way, students will be able to see and conveniently access important headlines when they check their twitter news feed.

The other solution is to have news playing in the background while you are studying. If you like background noise during your studying time this will work great for you.

Finally, students can keep up with the news and discuss different issues and controversies with friends. This will allow the student to get multiple opinions on any given issue while they are engaging socially.

The Threefold urges students to spend more time watching and reading news so that they are more informed about what is happening in the world and how it can affect their daily lives.

Without public speaking



Submitted by BECKY RAMIREZ

You get what you give



Alaina Bromling
CONTRIBUTOR

The last Sunday of the summer found me sitting in a sanctuary that felt more like Royal Albert Hall than a church building. My fingers curled comfortably around my complimentary coffee as I sat listening to a sermon about why I should be involved in the church community.

The pastor passionately promised that Christian community is God's gift to me; it will provide me with a support group—financially, spiritually and emotionally—and it will give me lasting friends who can keep me accountable and will love me as Christ loves me. Church community will reveal God's will, teaching me how to be the best part of the body of Christ that I can be. In short, community with Christian believers is the Botox injection to my walk with Christ and my life at large, and it will make me happy and fulfilled.

This should sound familiar, even to a non-Christian. Why? Because this is the marketing strategy of every brand out there. This is a great sales pitch for Christian community, because it caters to what I, the consumer, stand to gain by engaging in Christian community. This is how we are trained to view the church as if it is going to be a flawless fix for all of life's problems. By approaching Christian community with this attitude of "what's in it for me?" we cheat one another of the true benefits of community. Essentially, we are attending a potluck and acting as if it is a buffet. As a result, everyone goes hungry.

Rather than attend the potluck of Christian community empty-handed, seeking only to consume and not supply, I propose that we carefully and prayerfully prepare dishes to bring to the table. Romans 12:6-11 notes that our offering to God and the community will look different depending on who is doing the bringing because God has given us different gifts.



SOFIA CRUZ/TheThreefoldAdvocate

"I propose that we carefully and prayerfully prepare dishes to bring to the table."

What can you bring to the table? What gifts, talents, cultural/social backgrounds and passions has God knit into the fabric of your being that you can use to season the community? Do you have a passion and talent for music? Perhaps volunteering with a local church to help lead worship is a way you can give. Are you a great listener? Maybe you could help someone feel seen and known by setting up one-on-one time and asking about their passions. Are you a natural leader or teacher? Do you understand children? Are you a technology genius? Do you love storytelling? The full list of gifts and passions is extensive.

I encourage you to spend some time prayerfully identifying the areas in which you may be gifted, and then try to locate ways you can use that gift. May we be a community that uses the talents God has given us rather than one that buries them like the man in Jesus' parable (Matthew 25:14-30).

In addition to highlighting the diversity of our gifts,

Romans 12:6-11 challenges each member of the body of Christ to serve the Lord and one another out of love—not thinking of ourselves as better than others, or serving to boost our ego, but serving out of real love for God and our brothers and sisters. Essentially, humble pie should be on the menu for all of us seeking to engage in Christian community.

Paradoxically, it is only when we begin to approach community with the attitude of "what can I give" that we begin to reap the benefits of communing with our brothers and sisters. What will you bring to the table at John Brown University, your church home and your local community?

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September 24, 2015
The Threefold Advocate

OPINION 5

Putting faces to Syrian refugees



Leah Guy
CONTRIBUTOR

I have never been to Syria, but I have seen its borders on the horizon from the top of the girls’ school in Hartha, Northern Jordan. I met some Syrians in Jordan, and I have heard their stories.

In June of last year, the Jordan Summer Studies program spent one short Saturday in the city of Mafrq, where more than 200,000 Syrian refugees were living, in the refugee camp and all throughout the city. My group of four visited a family that was living in a second-story apartment. The father, Abed Almoeen, held his one-year-old daughter, Galia, while telling us horror stories for an hour and a half about bombs and blood. Stories about his parents and siblings scattered around the Middle East, Europe and Canada.

Last fall, the U.N. ran out of funding for refugee relief work, which meant that the food that usually got airdropped every day didn’t get dropped for over two weeks. People were starving and could do nothing about it because refugees are not legally allowed work. Riots and fights broke out over the little bit of food people had. Many went back to Syria because life was better there than in the camp. There have been cuts to the food allowances many times since then, because the U.N. does not have enough money to go around.

Before I went to Jordan I had an abstract distaste for war; I was idealistically uncomfortable with guns. But after hearing bombs go off in the night and seeing smoke in the distance and driving

I have seen the faces of people who have seen their home country destroyed, their homes burned down, their children die. None of these things are supposed to happen.

past a camp packed with human beings to probably four times its intended capacity, my hatred for war became more defined. People with souls are not supposed to live like that, shell-shocked and traumatized. I have seen the faces of people who have seen their home country destroyed, their homes burned down, their children die. None of these things are supposed to happen.

I met Abed and Galia about 450 days ago, and I wonder where they are today. I wonder if they’re still in that tiny second-story apartment. I wonder if they’re safe.

15-year-old Syrian girl named Marah writes frequently for SyriaDeeply, an online journal. SyriaDeeply is a fantastic independent media project that gives context to the content that we hear on our mainstream news outlets. It tells the story of people on the ground in their own voices, which is one of the most important things we can hear. Marah has been writing weekly for nearly a year now. It has been fascinating and terrifying to watch the conflict unfold from her point of view.

There is something necessary about knowing the name of a person that makes their story more real to us. The baby boy who was found facedown in the sand three weeks ago is compelling us because his name is Aylan. He has an identity and a tragic story of his own.

Marah has a story too, a Diary of a Young Girl. What is happening now will probably be a story that Abed never stops telling, but I hope that for Galia, this will just be one of many stories that define her. I hope she has a life far

beyond this current hell, one far brighter and more peaceful.

It is hard to remember that the 9 million Syrian refugees are made up of individual people: mamas, babies, and the like.

In order for the crisis to reach us, pain us and to change us, we have to keep hearing their stories. We have to remember their names: Abed, Galia, Marah and Aylan.

Guy is a senior majoring in psychology. She can be reached at GuyLN@jbu.edu



Submitted by ARIEL LYON



Submitted by ARIEL LYON

While in Jordan, Guy met families from Syria. Now with all of the conflict she worries if they are safe with the ongoing conflict that is taking place in their country.

Find inspiration in Arkansas literature



Jack Tyler
CONTRIBUTOR

John Brown University is one of the few institutions of higher education in the state that attracts most of its students from outside of Arkansas’ borders. While that does give the university a more diverse student body, that student body may or may not know much about what their new state and region has to offer.

Few venture south or east of Fayetteville, if at all. Some students are able to explore our state’s natural wonders and historic sites, but very few know about the literature of Arkansas and the Ozark region. To be fair, not many natives know either, but there’s a lot they’re missing out on.

Arkansas’ literary crown jewel is the Little Rock-based Oxford American. Its quarterly issues can be found on the shelves of Barnes and Noble, in independent bookstores and in our own university library’s periodical section.

After a series of false-starts in Mississippi, the magazine finally succeeded when it moved to our state and entered



into a close partnership with the University of Central Arkansas. While I usually hear the magazine referred to as a literary magazine, I think it would be better called a general interest magazine. All things Southern, from Richmond to Ft. Worth, are fair game. Their scope includes writing on food, history, race, religion, fashion, politics, travel and music.

A music issue is published annually, including a CD. All that being said, creative writing is the magazine’s staple. Their contributors are the same writers appearing

in Harper’s and The New Yorker. While the magazine is small, it does punch above its weight. And did I mention they offer summer internships? Anyone who is wanting to cut their teeth on editorial work and is able to find a place to stay in the central part of the state should apply.

One of the Oxford American’s most notable contributors is Charles Portis, who is spending his old age in El Dorado, Ark. After returning from service in Korea, Portis started out as a journalist covering the upheaval

of the civil rights movement. His journalism, along with miscellaneous works, can be found in the recently published collection Escape Velocity.

His most well-known work, the western True Grit, has all the makings of a canonical novel. Underlying its humor are great questions about the traps set by violent reciprocities. I’m heartened to see students in The University reading it in the English Composition I class.

Daniel Woodrell is also worth a read. He makes his home and sets his literature in the rough country of the

Arkansas-Missouri line. While he’s perhaps more known for his novels, I can only personally attest to the greatness of his short fiction.

After reading “Black Step” in the anthology Yonder Mountain (in which our very own Professor Emeritus, Gary Guinn, appears), I was so provoked as to go out and buy his entire Outlaw Album collection. I read it in two sittings, and I’m normally a slow reader. Woodrell’s novel Winter’s Bone is probably better known for its film adaptation starring the then-unknown Jennifer Lawrence. The movie is good but the book is next on my Amazon list.

I can’t attest any extensive familiarity with Ellen Gilchrist or the late Miller Williams, but those two and other authors around the University of Arkansas’ creative writing programs have gained national attention and deserve yours.

If you’re interested in any literary happenings in town or nearby, make sure to contact your Sigma Tau Delta representatives. I hope the writing types at the University can learn to appreciate their Arkansas context, inspired by it and writing in it.

Tyler is a sophomore majoring in English and philosophy. He can be reached at TylerM@jbu.edu

Senior launches film production

Cinema major incorporates fine art

LAUREN DROGO
Staff Writer
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As senior year approaches for some students, end-of-the-year projects go from idea to reality. Those majoring in art present their four-year portfolios, business majors give final presentations and education students go into the schools to practice their teaching skills.

This is the time when students' hard works are highlighted, as they showcase their knowledge learned over the past four years. Senior cinematography major Connor Wilkinson shares about his senior project on filming *Save the Phoenix*.

Before any production could begin, Wilkinson had to pitch his film idea to the head art department. After his idea was approved, he sought advice from his closest friends to help with the writing and planning of the project.

"The story evolved into something so much bigger than I ever anticipated," Wilkinson said. "It's about a fan fiction writer who runs into this

protesting girl named Jack and discovers things about himself through the time they spend together."

No matter how brilliant the idea, the film would be impossible to pull off without the support of Wilkinson's loyal cast and crew.

Ashley Duckworth, junior cinematography major, plays the role of Jack in the film. She has been a close friend with Wilkinson since her time at the university played an intricate role in developing the character of Jack.

While this is Duckworth's first major role, she has felt tremendous support from Wilkinson as her director and as her friend.

"He has such a great personality to be a leader," Duckworth said. "He is not overaggressive or passive and really cares about everyone, which makes him the perfect director."

John Lauderdale, a senior cinematography major, has been

friends with Wilkinson since high school and has worked on set with him on numerous films.

Wilkinson utilized Lauderdale early on in the project for his writing abilities and worked with him to create the screenplay of *Save the Phoenix*.

"This story is a blend of both of our styles," said Lauderdale. "It has this sense of realism about it along with the aspects of a fantasy world."

Every director has his own style and Wilkinson claims to be a very "chill" director. His focus is on everything from the film itself to each and every cast and crew member on set.

"Something admirable about Connor is that he understands his limits," said Lauderdale. "With a project that is as big as this, he knows how

important it is to have the support of us around him."

"This film has been everything that I've worked for and everything that I think about," Wilkinson said. "While I want this project to go to film festivals, I ultimately want to grow with who I am as a person and become the leader that I aspire to be."

For most seniors, the final projects bring a sense of fear along with it. However, Wilkinson feels he has no reason to be scared.

"I've learned through this process that, as long as you have the right people around you and if you are willing to be there for them, everything will be fine," he said.



One set location for Wilkinson's senior project *Save the Phoenix*.



Connor Wilkinson speaks with friend and co-writer John Lauderdale as they begin production for *Save the Phoenix*, Wilkinson's senior project.

Majors that require internships:

- B.S. in Communication
 - Digital Journalism Emphasis
 - Media Communication Emphasis
 - Media Production Emphasis
 - Public Relations Emphasis
- B.Mus.Ed. in Music
- B.S. in Worship Arts
- B.S. in Digital Cinema
- B.S. in Graphic Design
- B.S. in Photography
- B.S.E. in Elementary Education
- B.S. in Accounting
- B.S. in Business Administration
- B.S. in International Business
- B.S. in Management
- B.S. in Marketing
- B.S. in Construction Management
- A.S. in Construction Management
- B.S. in Child and Family Studies
- B.S. in Outdoor Leader Ministries
- B.S. in Youth Ministries
- B.S. in Youth and Worship Ministries
- B.A. in Intercultural Studies
- B.S in Intercultural Studies
- Pre-Health Profession Program
- B.S. in Kinesiology
- B.S. in Family and Human Services
- B.S.E. in English Education
- B.S.E. in Social Studies
- B.S.E. Mathematics
- B.A. in Spanish



GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Ups and Downs

Internships prepare students for the real world

MARIA VELAZQUEZ
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Most universities require an internship to fulfill major requirements; John Brown University is not an exception. Even if the curriculum does not require one, professors often strongly encourage students to apply for at least one.

An internship provides a valuable understanding about the major field, according to Quintessential Careers. Interns can develop on skills learned in class, learn new skills, gain confidence, build a network and resume.

"It is important to get real world experience with people who know what they are doing," Elyse Partee, senior history

major and museum studies minor, said. Partee did her internship at the Smithsonian's Discovery Theatre in Washington, D.C. and expressed that it was a great opportunity to learn how to communicate with authority.

Students such as Madison Gies, senior graphic design major, decided to get an early start on the internship process. During her time in college, Gies has had three separate internships, all of which have allowed her to apply her knowledge and gain real-world experience.

"You are taught those (skills) in classes but you do not really understand the industry until you get there," Gies said.

Sometimes internships might not be what students think. Leah Guy, a senior psychology

and family and human services, explained that during her internship, she did not do many activities related to her field of study. Most of the time, she was working in fundraising development.

"Even though my internship was not perfect, I am super glad I did it. I know it will be beneficial for me in the future," Guy said.

Professional mentors have a huge role in the learning process of the interns. Gies said that in her first internship, she was treated as a worker instead of an intern.

"They just wanted me to produce quick work," she said.

While in her second internship, she was treated as an intern and felt the difference between each experience. She said that even though treatment

might not be what a student expects, it's great to always do your best.

"I gain connections for right now and the future. And I have more people and more places who know who I am," Guy said.

Doing an internship is not only about facing the challenges but also enjoying the working experience. At the end of the day, Gies really enjoyed finishing projects and knowing that her work was being used. For Partee, she enjoyed show days when the museum showcases performances for children.

International office gains Ruby Bowles

MEGAN CHAPIN
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Ruby Bowles may be a new face in the international office, but she’s not new to the JBU community, having worked in the Graduate School of Business for three years. When walking into the international office, you’ll be greeted with Bowles’ smiling face.

Bowles graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University with a degree in political science and business. During her junior and senior year of college, she interned for Congressman Steingaurd and Congressman Borman in Washington D.C.

Bowles turned down Congressman Steingaurd’s job offer after graduation, because she felt like there had to be a better way of making an impact than just working in politics.

Seven years ago, Bowles’ husband Jeff received a job at the campus bookstore. Then, once her kids, William and Ella, started kindergarten, she started working at the Graduate School of Business.

Bowles’ family has been a part of the international student community for several years. The family has hosted JBU students and has served the community in many



Ruby Bowles, the new administrative assistant in the International Office, welcomes students in conversation and enjoys listening to their stories. DANIEL MADRID/TheThreefoldAdvocate

different ways. Bowles explains that switching over to the international program is another “opportunity to serve and be around the international students more.”

One of Bowles’ favorite parts in working at John Brown University

is talking with and listening to students’ wonderful stories. She believes that everyone has an interesting story. She admires the bravery of students, especially international students who travel long distances, usually alone, in order

to attend the university. Bowles once met a university student who had breast cancer and had undergone chemotherapy and multiple surgeries. Last spring, she found out that this student only had a short time left to live but was nonetheless

determined to finish school. She wanted to be a good example to her children and teach them to finish what they started.

This story really touched Bowles as she “prays every morning for God’s strength and to show God’s grace.” She

wants to be a listening ear for students to come and talk, and she strives to be a light for God in everything that she does.

Apps aid scholastic success



“I can use it any where and can find my assignments very quickly...Its very convenient.”
- Heather Brewer, JBU communications major



“It bundles need-to-know information on wood, concrete and soil through a simple interface.”
– Mashable.com on “10 Killer Apps for Engineering and Science Majors”



“It contains a lot of material on management, finance, commerce, and the market, and you never know when this type of information can prove to be useful.”
– Shanestrong.com on “Top Apps for Business Majors”



“It’s packed with features artists love, including 120 incredible brushes, advanced layer blending, 64-bit performance and a uniquely powerful brush engine.”
– iTunes Preview



“It’s the best app I Have found to translate English into Spanish and Spanish into English”
– Clare Holden, JBU education major

8 SPORTS

September 24, 2015
The Threefold Advocate

Cross Country prepares for OSU

MAX BRYAN

Sports Editor
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John Brown University's Cross Country teams have high hopes for this season.

Both the men's and women's teams kicked off their seasons on Sept. 5 at the Southwest Baptist Bearcat Invitational in Bolivar, Mo. Though neither of the teams placed in the races, they feel that the race set a good tone for the season's coming races.

"I can tell the team has gotten a lot faster than last year," Sophomore Jake Braschler said.

"We have some freshmen who are pushing the upperclassmen. We're doing pretty well. It was a good first race, but we have a lot to work on."

The returning players are extremely pleased with how the freshmen have been adapting to the collegiate level of the sport. Junior Abbie Melby noticed that the new runners have bonded well and have started to push each other.

"It's been really great, because five freshmen came in and they fit perfectly together," Melby said. "The workouts have been really tough, but everyone's mostly been able to keep up and just kind of encourage and work off of each other."

Senior runner Kenny Crane spoke with similar enthusiasm regarding the men's team.

"The jump from high school to college in Cross Country is just about doubles the weekly

"The team is hungry for (victory) and hopefully the OSU meet will give us good conditions to perform our very best." - Kenny Crane

mileage for the men's team," Crane said in an email. "But despite this jump in expectations, the freshmen have been so adaptable in the new workouts. In short, I am impressed with them and I am glad they run with us day in and day out. I couldn't have asked for a better team."

The teams hope such unification and hard work pays off. Melby said their end goal is to go to Nationals in North Carolina this November, which will be determined by how they fare in the Sooner Athletic Conference Championships on Nov. 7. Due to such lofty goals, the teams have been training rigorously, especially since they are amid a three-week hiatus in their schedule.

"Everyone has been committed to the long hours and endless miles," Crane said. "We have had several three-a-days each week that are not always easy, but we have found ways to liven them up and enjoy the opportunity to run together."

"We've been running 60 to 70 miles a week," Braschler said.

Braschler said that last weekend was the final weekend of rest for the team. Their three-week hiatus comes to an end

this weekend when they travel to Stillwater, Okla. Once there, they will have an opportunity to improve at the Oklahoma State Cowboy Jamboree. According to Braschler, they are expecting between 500 and 600 runners at the starting line. Some are expected to be NCAA Division 1 schools.

"Coach is wanting us to compete with those guys so that when we go to conference, we know how to run that fast," Braschler said. "Just getting out faster and learning how to race at that speed."

Though it will be a large and highly competitive meet, the team has confidence that they will do well, both personally and looking farther into the season.

"It's gonna be a fast feel," Melby said about the upcoming meet. "We're probably gonna be seeing personal records and stuff."

The teams are not only ready for the meet; they are also eager to compete.

Crane said that the tournament this weekend



is an excellent opportunity for the teams to ready themselves for the long journey to the conference championships.

"The team is hungry for it and hopefully the OSU meet will give us good conditions to perform

our very best," Crane said. "However, with our eyes on qualifying for nationals, our conference meet on Nov. 7 is where much of our focus lies. So whatever we can do in this OSU meet to prepare us for conference is good."



Courtesy of JBU ATHLETICS
John Brown University's 2015-16 Cross Country team. The team hopes to move closer to their goal of competing in the Sooner Athletic Championship Conference this weekend.

Courtesy of JBU ATHLETICS

Rugby clubs invade new territory



Submitted by ANNA MACLACHLAN



Submitted by ANNA MACLACHLAN

History was made last week as the women's rugby club played their first-ever matches at Wayne State University's Rookie Rumble. They won one of three matches and hope to play again at Benedictine College on Oct. 10.

The men's rugby club will host their first home game vs. Benedictine College's men's team at 2:30 p.m. this Saturday. A win would move the club to 2-1 on the season.

Weekly Sports Schedule

SOCCER

Sept. 26
Rogers State
Siloam Springs, Ark.
Sept. 26
Women: 5:30 p.m.
Men: 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 29
St. Gregory's University
Sept. 29
Shawnee, Okla.
Women: 2 p.m.
Men: 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Sept. 25
Texas Wesleyan
Siloam Springs, Ark.
7 p.m.
Sept. 26
Southwestern Assembly
of God
Siloam Springs, Ark.
1 p.m.

Sept. 29
Lyon
Batesville, Ark.
6 p.m.

GOLF

Sept. 28-29
Evangel Fall Invitational
Springfield, Mo.
All day

CROSS COUNTRY

Sept. 26
Oklahoma State
Cowboy Jamboree
Stillwater, Okla.
All Day

Athlete balances sports and academics



MELODY WILLIAMS
CONTRIBUTOR

When I first considered playing collegiate basketball, I often anticipated the glamorous aspects we all see on TV—the exciting game days, fancy apparel, gear and the added bonus of having school paid for. While those are definitely perks of committing to play any collegiate sport, that is just what it is—a commitment. After transferring to JBU, I have realized that, at whatever level a person plays – junior college, NAIA, or NCAA – coaches demand

excellence from their players (as they should). Contrary to high school basketball, most college athletes are no longer the standouts on their teams. They must learn new and much more intense styles of play, figure out their new coaches’ systems, adjust to their new team and, worst of all, wake up for those 6 a.m. workouts when they are still way too sore from the day before. Playing a sport in college makes a student athlete no better than students who work a full-time job while going to college. In fact, we are very similar to them since playing sports is our job. I think the most defining difference between the two is the intense pressure we feel to perform, not just for ourselves, but for our close teammates, coaches, family and school. Sometimes, when we feel overloaded with school assignments, practices, weights, study hall, community service projects, team meetings and important

conference games that determine the fate of the season, we might wish we were sitting behind a desk or bussing tables to pay for school. However, the nature of being college athletes is that we would never ever want to give this opportunity up. There is something about the mental, physical and emotional challenge that is overwhelming on some days but exhilarating on others. Most of the experiences that have shaped me in college came from basketball—not from winning a big game or hitting a cool shot, but instead the disappointments, injuries, conditioning sessions and extra practice I have had to push myself to do. Somewhere in these past few years, I have grown accustomed to pushing myself to meet these extra demands and have found myself growing up in ways that I never would have expected. If I had to say one regret from playing a sport in college, it

would be the lack of time to spend with classmates and develop friendships. We obviously have built-in friends on our teams, but I think most of us wish to be in two places at once—both in the gym and out experiencing life in college. I remember an advisor telling me that being a student and an athlete is a process of juggling three balls: academic, athletic and social life. He told me I would learn how to keep those three balls in the air. Just like every other college kid out there, we are constantly experimenting and learning how to juggle our responsibilities. With all things said and done, we are all working hard in college. Some of you are working full-time jobs, getting married and joining clubs. Work is work. As an athlete, I would like to express my gratitude for getting to work this



KACIE GALLOWAY/TheThreefoldAdvocate

job, which is still very close to my heart. While some athletes may have an attitude of entitlement, I think most of us realize that we are blessed to learn these lessons, get through school and enjoy being pushed in something we have strived most of our lives for.

Williams, a senior, plays guard for the Univeresity’s women’s basketball team and is majoring in business administration. She can be reached at williamsmh@jbu.edu.

Fantasy football unites, ignites competition

MAX BRYAN
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The National Football League’s season started two weeks ago, and fans everywhere have taken to the internet to compete in fantasy football. As of last month, 56.8 million people have played fantasy sports this year alone, up from 44 million the year before, according to a study done by the Fantasy Sports Trade Association. Considering the enormous popularity of fantasy football (football holds 69 percent of all fantasy sports, according to therichest.com), that number has likely grown astronomically between last month and Sept. 10, when the NFL’s season began. John Brown University is not exempt from this statistic. Sophomore engineering major Jed Warren said that many of his friends on campus are involved in a league. “I live in J. Alvin, and most of the guys are in at least one fantasy league or another,” Warren said. “At least on the first floor,

“It’s a great way to come together, show your love for football and it’s just a great way to interact with your friends.”
- Zach Koym

everyone I know is.” With such massive popularity, one might be inclined to ask the question: what is the draw to fantasy football? According to sophomore construction management major Jacob Rodgers, fantasy football is a great way for people to get involved in the game. “I pay more attention to the games,” Rodgers said. “At least for me, it’s like, ‘hey, did you watch that game or the other?’ You get more involved in football.” Senior communication major Zach Koym had similar thoughts about playing. He also stated that it is a good way to show allegiance to players who do not necessarily play for a team that they root for. “My team is the Cowboys, but I can’t play

with every member of the Cowboys because they’re not all that great,” Koym said. “It’s a great way to pick and choose your players and kind of study how players are playing. Instead of just getting to know just one team, it’s a great way to branch out and understand football.” Warren mentioned that fantasy football, which follows the schedule of the NFL (in which each team plays one game a week), is also potentially appealing due to the fact that it is less time consuming than other sports that have more games in a season. “I’m a big Fantasy Basketball guy, where you have to set your lineups every day,” he said. “For fantasy football, you just have to set your lineups once a week.” There is also an aspect

of community involved in playing fantasy football with friends or family. Some people, like senior social studies major Audrey Macy, primarily play for this aspect. “I feel very neutral toward fantasy football,” Macy said. “I’m very positive about spending time with my family. Fantasy football? If that’s the way they want to do it, that’s fine with me.” For those who are more interested in the sport, it helps people connect by playing games. “It does bring people together because now in J. Alvin, all the guys are out by the TV watching the games, whereas without Fantasy Football, the guys wouldn’t be watching,” Warren said. “It gives them a vested interest.” The community aspect often takes a competitive edge as well. “There’s always some (aspect) of ‘Ha! Beat you!’ involved,” Rodgers said. Even Macy, who is inexperienced in football, enjoys this aspect of the game, even though she said herself that she is not a particularly

FANTASY FOOTBALL

{WHAT IT IS}

Fantasy Football is an online game that allows for fans to create football teams based on the performance of actual NFL players and compete against each other in a league setting.

{HOW IT WORKS}

Each league is made out of teams managed by each member of the league.

The teams are created before the football season begins and are comprised of NFL players who are “drafted” by their owners.

Each week, the teams in the league “play” each other. The games are scored based on the statistics of the players on each team.

Based on if the players on their team play that week, how they are performing, if they are injured or other factors, the team’s owner can “bench” or “drop” his current players or “sign” additional players.

Got ideas about sports?

We’d love to hear them!

Email Max Bryan at **bryanm@jbu.edu** and your column could be published!

The Tweet Beat

Jason Beschta @CoachBeschta Sept. 18
Great team workout this morning! Setting a high standard of excellence! #ONE #ForHim #FillingBuckets #Go-JBU

Meg LaFond @misswipeout2_0 Sept. 18
Nebraska bound, it’s time to make history. #JB UWomensRugby #GoJBU #Est2015

Robyn @JBU_AD Sept. 19
Two tough losses for the Golden Eagles today in VB and MSOC. Fought hard and proud of these teams. #goJBU #unitedwesoar

September 24, 2015
The Threefold Advocate

Serve the Siloam community

Organizations that need your help



The Manna Center

Contribute to The Manna Center services as they directly aid families in need. By donating canned goods and non-perishable items, clothing donations and personal hygiene products, your gift will make a difference. Help this organization meet its mission as it was founded, "to fulfill Christ's call to share with all persons in need."

Location: 670 Heritage Ct.
Contact: 479-524-9825

Goodwill

Support Goodwill's mission of making a lasting impact in the community by donating your lightly used items or shopping for great treasures. Goodwill seeks to enhance the dignity and quality of life for individuals and families by strengthening communities through your donations and support.

Location: 1001 S Mt. Olive St.
Contact: 479-373-6120



Boys & Girls Club

Boys & Girls Club offers a safe and affordable place for children to learn, play and develop life skills that are essential to a successful and productive future. University students are welcome as volunteers, who help elementary through high school students with homework and build relationships with them.

Location: 655 Heritage Ct.
Contact: 479-524-4174

Dogwood Literacy Council

Dogwood Literacy Council promotes adult literacy in Siloam Springs, Ark. and its surrounding communities. Volunteers who teach English, Spanish and computing are always needed. Their volunteers include college students, retirees and anyone with at least a high school diploma.

Location: 100 S Broadway St. # H
Contact: 479-524-4009



Ability Tree

Ability Tree “reaches out to families impacted by disability through recreation, education, support and training.” Support them by donating money through their “Leaf Partner Program” or donating your time as a volunteer. They envision a community where families impacted by disability are accepted and supported.

Location: 300 E Main St.
Contact: 479-373-6033

Photos by Grace Nast
Designed by Gustavo Zavala
Written by Rebekah Hedges