



How do you present Jesus to devout Hindus? Ashleigh Buchanan writes about her experiences while studying abroad in India in spring 2012.
Read more on page 3



In every class, be it high school or college, there seems to be "that student." You know the one.
Read more on page 4

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The Echo

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Online Resource Center assists with new online offerings

Baker Pitts, Staff Reporter

Online learning has been a frontier that colleges have been exploring since the dawn of the Internet.

Thanks to a two million dollar grant, SNU has the tools needed to expand its online learning to the next level with the creation of the Online Resource Center. The idea behind online courses is to make college accessible to those who would not normally be able to attend typical weekday classes or are too far away to travel to on-campus classes.

The Online Resource Center, or O.R.C, is a place for professors to get help in making the transition from face-to-face classes to online courses. The O.R.C offers weekly training sessions for faculty that will cover topics such as learning how to teach online, softwares to use in teaching online and specific strategies that are encouraged for use in online classes.

Jody Bowie, who is the instructional designer at the O.R.C, made sure it was known that they were in no way trying to move students from on-campus classes into online courses.

"We're trying to develop classes that we have on campus into an online format

so we can increase the number of students taking classes at SNU," Bowie said.

The enrollment for the early stages of the online undergraduate program now being offered is encouraging. The first group of these new all-online Organizational Leadership students has already started and have filled up quickly, as have the second and third groups that are due to start soon.

Organizational Leadership students now have the choice to do their studies online or face to face, and the enrollment for the face-to face hasn't dropped at all, meaning that the new online capabilities of SNU have already brought in more students.

The possibilities for this new online component to SNU academics are promising, and this grant program is just now at the end of year one of five total years. An additional goal

of this new aspect to online learning is to make it possible for someone to get an associates degree completely online. At this point, 14 course have been developed this year to be offered online in addition to those developed and offered since 2007. So in the coming year, even more courses will be tweaked and optimized for an online format to make it as quick and easy as possible to get a degree online.

The O.R.C in located on the third floor of the library. Any further questions regarding can be directed to Gwen Rogers, the Director of the O.R.C.

Editor's note: This updated cover contains clarifying language and a different picture than the issue originally released on the morning of September 7, 2012. Contact the editor-in-chief at echo@mail.snu.edu for more information.



The Online Resource Center will help professors make the transition from face-to-face to online courses. (Photo provided by ORC)

Second year plans, NCIS: Our interview with Jocelyn Bullock

Resident directors play an important role in students' college experiences. This is the first in a series of interviews with resident directors to help students get to know them better.

The Echo: What brought you to SNU?

Jocelyn Bullock: When I was looking at the possibility of moving to Oklahoma, I was already living in Dallas. I had just graduated from graduate school. I have a masters in counseling and certification in conflict resolution. At the time, I was working at a crisis pregnancy center that I was attending. Basically, I knew that I needed to get a change because it's really hard work to deal with people who are considering abortion as an option. So I had been there for about two and a half years and I was like "I need a change" and just praying "God, please help

me." And so when I got an email from Chris Peterson, he told me about the position that was available as RD. I got an email from him about the opportunity to make a move, and I was like "Okay, God. If this is you, great. If not, then okay; I just beefed up my resume for the next job." I went ahead and applied and within a month I had come up here to the campus and had a couple of interviews and already had an offer so it just worked out really well.

The Echo: What is it like going into your second year as RD? I'm sure you had expectations coming into your first year. What's different coming into your second year?

Jocelyn Bullock: With my first year, I didn't know a lot of people. Coming in not knowing anyone was really hard. I wanted people to get to know me, for me to get to know them. Coming in for my second year now, it's gonna be a little different as I already know a lot of

people, so I feel a lot more comfortable. To be able to take a more active role this year is exciting and I feel a little more equipped to handle the situation. I'm very excited about it now because last year was more of the unknown.

TE: Being an RD can obviously be a stressful job at times. What do you have in terms of hobbies or activities to relax?

JB: Sometimes being an RD can be very stressful, so one thing I really enjoy is I like to write music. I've written a couple songs, and because I'm passionate about pro-life issues, a lot of them have a feel, like a pro-life message. I also love to bake and cook, so usually at least once a month you'll be able to come to my apartment and get some kind of baked good which is great because it keeps my baking skills sharp and I know a lot of the residents enjoy that

continued on page 5

Storm basketball alumni: Where are they now?

Matt Wellman, Staff Reporter

Throughout SNU's storied athletic history, there have been many athletes who have worn the crimson and white. A few have had successful careers in athletics but most have "gone pro in something else" as the NCAA commercials would say.

If you have listened to any Oklahoma Sooner sporting events over the past few years, you have like heard of Toby Rowland, the radio play-by-play voice of OU Athletics and an Emmy award-winning sports reporter. What you might not have known about Rowland, however, is that he was a basketball player at SNU from 1991 to 1995. I had the chance to converse with Rowland about how SNU helped him get to where he is now.

"Everybody in the journalism department was great. They taught me the writing skills and got me the internships that I needed to get where I am today," Rowland said.

He also credits Larry Mills as the person who influenced him the most.

"He [Mills] was the play-by-play guy when I was there, and he stepped aside and allowed me to take over, which I thought was a first class move," Rowland said. "So when you flip on the radio and come across a Sooner football game this fall, remember that's a SNU alum you're hearing."

A couple of other notable basketball alumni are Todd Thurman and Astou Ndiaye-Diatta.

In the early 1980s, Thurman spent his days breaking records and winning SNU's first basketball national championship, but now he spends his days as Southwestern Oklahoma State University's athletic director. He also spent nine years across the late 1980s and early 1990s as an assistant head coach for the Crimson Storm basketball team.

Thurman credits Loren Gresham and Larry Mills as the people who influenced him the most. He also says that SNU "showed me patience and how much they cared me and all the students not only as citizens, but also as Christians." He attended SNU from 1979 to 1983.

Ndiaye-Diatta only lost four basketball games in her entire career at SNU. She was twice named NAIA All-American and won four national championships. She was drafted 22nd overall in 1999 by the Detroit Shock and would end up playing for seven years in the WNBA, winning a championship with the Shock. She also has played for Senegal's national team. She is now an assistant coach for the women's basketball team at Utah State University.

This story is a first in a series of stories featuring alumni of SNU, both athletes and non-athletes. If you know of an alumni whose story should be featured in The Echo, submit your idea to echo@mail.snu.edu



SNU basketball stand-out Astou Ndiaye-Diatta went on to a successful career in the WNBA, including on the Detroit Shock. She is now a coach at Utah State University. (Photo by Jeffrey Simms Photography used under Creative Commons license)

OPINIONS

TheEcho • September 7, 2012 • Page 3

Presenting Jesus in a Hindu culture: view from India

Ashleigh Buchanan, Staff Reporter

During my semester abroad in India last spring, I was dropped into a vibrant culture where nearly everything was completely foreign.

One of the generalizations I had about India was that it was a country of predominantly Hindus who worship multiple gods. This generalization was confirmed almost immediately upon my arrival. From the bindi dot on a Hindu's forehead to the statues and decorations adorning homes and even cars, buses and rickshaws, it was easy to see how different my semester was going to be. Eighty percent of the Indian population is Hindu, and only 2 percent are Christian, making me a minority in more ways than just my skin color.



A Hindu bus driver proudly shows his devotion to multiple Hindu gods by having these decorations on his bus. (Photo by Ashleigh Buchanan)

As I started my Indian classes, I began to learn a lot about Hinduism. While learning about the history of Hinduism in India, I began to realize that Hinduism isn't just a religion in India; it is a culture and a way of life. Everyday Hindus try to

please various gods in order to receive blessings from them. They make sacrifices, burn incense, travel long distances on pilgrimages and have festivals solely dedicated to worshiping specific gods. These acts of worship are what define them as an individual. How many Christians do we see living out their faith this radically? During my semester abroad, I began to learn about contextualization. The basis of this idea is making the gospel relevant to the culture it is being presented to. So for India, it is making Jesus appeal to people in the same way that Hindu gods appeal to people. As the semester progressed, I began to realize that Christianity was not solely meant for a Western context of church on Sundays and Wednesdays.

In India, Hinduism is not just a religion, it is a culture that is integrated into the lives of both devout followers and "casual" Hindus. By asking someone to convert from his or her Hindu lifestyle to a Christian lifestyle, one is essentially asking him or her to completely change his or her life.

Once a Hindu converts, their family shuns them and everything they know is radically changed. And if they follow the Western Model of Christianity, they go from constantly worshiping to worshiping every Sunday and Wednesday. That's backwards of what it should be, right? A solution to this problem is for people to remain Hindu, but leave their old gods behind and trust in only Jesus as their savior. For people to be Hindus and following Jesus is a very interesting and sometimes controversial practice, but it actually makes a lot of sense! I believe that if approached with this more adaptable form of Christianity, Hindus would be more likely to realize that they can trust in the one true God rather than trying to please hundreds of other gods. Hindu bus driver

In 1 Corinthians 9:22, Paul says, "To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." I think this verse means that Jesus has the ability to be

something different to everyone. This brought me to a major realization in my own life: Jesus is bigger than I gave him credit for.

I had always believed that anyone could ask Jesus into their heart and go to heaven, but I thought this looked the same for everyone. However, while in India I realized that the gospel allows for one's walk with Christ to vary

"The fact that Jesus' message of love a grace translates to many different cultures is what makes him such a great God."

from culture to culture and person to person.

The fact that Jesus' message of love and grace translates to many different cultures is what makes him such a great God. How awesome is it that we don't have to spend our whole lives trying to earn his love and salvation? God is simply waiting for us to let him into our lives. We truly serve a God unlike any other.



The Meenakshi Temple in Madurai, India. Millions of people travel here every year on a pilgrimage to show their faithfulness to Hindu gods. (Photo provided by Ashleigh Buchanan)

As I see it: Geek alert

Patty Juliuson, Staff Reporter

In every class, be it high school or university, there seems to be “that student.” You know the one. Everyone else is heaving heavy sighs and rolling their eyes at having to take the class, and “that student” is perched on the edge of her seat, notebook open, # 2 pencil at the ready, and enthusiastic, bordering on geeky.

True confession: I am that student. I LOVE UNIVERSITY. There, I said it. I am so glad to be a student at SNU, and I can not help but be excited at the beginning of a new semester. So many opportunities! More friends, different profs, and fresh information. Who knows where the path may lead?

New students, take heart: I entered SNU in 2010 as a 51-year-old freshman. I may be a little older than the average bear, but I still have a lot in common with you! I confess that during my first week I got stressed out and cried. I was totally overwhelmed. However, I managed to settle in and learned to make the most of new (translate: disorienting) experiences while adjusting to academic life. My professors were very helpful and encouraging, and I met a few friends along the way who helped ease the anxiety that comes with the unknown.

There have been classes that I really did not want to take as well as those that were so difficult I thought my brain would bleed,

but I tried to treat each one as an opportunity. I challenged myself to learn things I was told I was no good at (math and science), and I managed to get through TWO semesters of Spanish without driving my professor insane (I think). ¡Hola amigos y amigas!

No matter how stressful the class load, I have always retained a sense of wonder that I AM IN COLLEGE. Woot! Proverbs 13:12 (KJV) says “Hope deferred maketh the heart sick; but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.”

Well, this girl’s desire has come, and I am making the most of it. It took so long and

“If I am in one of your classes, keep in mind that I am a student just like you; I just have higher mileage.”

required great sacrifice from a lot of people for me to get here; I don’t want to just get by. I want to do my best, take chances, succeed, fail, learn, experience, and have a great time doing it. What a wonderful phase in my life,



Patty Juliuson (Photo provided by Patty Juliuson)

and what a great place to be having all this fun.

If I am in one of your classes, keep in mind that I am a student just like you; I just have higher mileage. I bring a seasoned perspective to discussions and can offer encouragement and support when things get tough. I am passionate about education, optimistic for myself and you, and have enough experience to know that these are days to be spent and savored.

No big promises, but I’ll try to keep my geeky enthusiasm under control. See you in class.

---“Geek alert” is the first article in Patty Juliuson’s column, “As I See It.”

Is America blessed? Well, yes and no.

Brad Crofford, Editor-in-chief

Consider the following progression of statements:

1. America is fortunate.

The United States has benefited greatly over time from a wealth of natural resources and a strong work ethic. To the extent that this statement describes America’s fortunate economic circumstances relative to much of the world, I agree.

2. God blessed America.

The shift from America’s positive circumstances to God’s active intervention is where I begin to take issue. If America’s past economic success is the result of divine providence, then why does

God not intervene in other countries?

3. God blessed America because XYZ.

To answer the question “Why the US and not other countries?” some would point to our history and values. According to this narrative, the US was founded as an escape from religious persecution and prospered due to its reliance on God and Christian values. Other archetypal American values such as liberty, equality, freedom, and justice may also be invoked at this stage. But if God blessed America and it has a special role to play on the global stage, why does America experience difficulties, like the recent recession?

4. Because we’ve turned from XYZ, things are going downhill for America.

To explain negative occurrences in the pres-

ent, proponents of this religion-infused view of American exceptionalism will typically point to social or political actions that, in their view, violate God’s reason for blessing the United States in the first place.

For example, Oklahoma state representative Sally Kern in July 2009 released an “Oklahoma Citizens Proclamation for Morality.” Beginning with a list of quotes by Founding Fathers correlating America’s success and Christianity (see #3 above), it then explains the economic crisis: “we believe our economic woes are consequences of our greater national moral crisis.” This crisis is evidenced by the United States becoming “a world leader in promoting abortion, pornography, same sex marriage, sex trafficking, divorce, illegitimate births, child abuse, and many other forms of debauchery.”

continued on next page

Our interview with Jocelyn Bullock, continued from page 2

time as well. I like to spend time with my boyfriend. He’s pretty great. I also like to watch NCIS, probably an abnormal amount of NCIS.

TE: *What are some of the unique challenges and opportunities of being an RD for a freshman dorm?*

JB: I get to do a lot of roommate mediations because a lot of times students will come in never having had to share a room or a space with people. Coming into a situation where they have a 10 by 10 room that they have to share with one other person or two other people presents some unique challenges. I get to do a lot of conflict resolution. I think a lot of time conflict has such a negative connotation, so getting to take something that has such a negative feel... It also presents an opportunity

for me to live out a godly example not only through conflict but also healthy boundaries in relationships. Whenever my boyfriend’s over, more than likely the door is open just for accountability to let you know there’s more things to do with your boyfriend than things that violate the lifestyle covenant. It’s about living above reproach, a lifestyle that’s wholly acceptable and pleasing to God.

TE: *Do you have any favorite movies?*

JB: My family’s really big into gangster and mob movies. I love AMC’s Mob Week, *Scarface*, *Godfather...Godfather* I and II are cinematic genius in my opinion. Every Thanksgiving it comes on AMC and my family will just act like we’ve never seen it, and everyone’s

in the room, silent, watching this movie. And then it will come on again and we’ll watch it again. Of course, we’ll turn it off when we pray for the food...we typically wait for a commercial to pray for the food. I also like *Kill Bill* and romantic comedies like *Jumping the Broom* and *Love Actually*.

TE: *If you could eat anything for the rest of your life, what would you eat (besides Sodexo)?*

JB: I would pick either Sour Patch Kids or Zebra Cakes. I love a good Zebra Cake. I like to eat all the icing off first, then I like to eat the top layer of cake, and then I like to have the layer of cake with the whipped stuff. And probably some water, but that’s optional.

Is America blessed?, continued from page 4

5. Therefore, we should return to XYZ.

As this progression attributes downturns to an abandonment of foundational values, the clear solution is to return to these values.

In Kern’s proclamation, this is the case. One of the examples is “BE IT RESOLVED that we... solemnly declare that the HOPE of the great State of Oklahoma and of these United States, rests upon the Principles of Religion and Morality as put forth in the HOLY BIBLE” [capitalization in original].

Does this progression sound familiar? Perhaps it should, because it seems to parallel a recurring narrative in the Old Testament. A nation is uniquely blessed, enjoying God’s particular favor. The people, however, turn away from God, engaging in actions displeasing to Him. Things take a turn for the worse. The people then turn from their evil ways and return to God.

I find this narrative that so closely links the United States’ morality, politics, and economic circumstances in a manner that evokes the nation of Israel in Judges disturbing. I agree that the US has been fortunate, and I am not against the verbiage “blessed” per se, but I do reject any implication that the US has been specially favored by God over other nations.

If we are not uniquely blessed though, does the United States have any special responsibility toward others given our econom-

ic position relative to many other countries? Yes.

While I would not argue solely on religious terms, I do think that we have a humanitarian responsibility to aid others. When our country has “more TVs per home than people” (according to The Nielsen Company), we should do something to

help the almost one billion people who lack clean water (according to the BBC). Perhaps as Christians we should not dwell on the question “Who or what messed up our economy and how do we fix it?” but rather “Given our continued material wealth relative to most of the world, how can we help others?”



The United States is clearly a wealthy nation, but is it blessed? (Photo provided by Brad Crofford)

SNU wins overall and individual titles at SWCU Fall Golf Classic

Sports Information

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — If you can't win a golf tournament, at least you hope a teammate has to beat you to win it and that happened for Southern Nazarene as Marion Broedys won her first intercollegiate tournament in her first try.

The teammate she beat did the exact same thing last year as a freshman as well as Jordan Leibold took second just two strokes behind. After shooting a school record five-under par the day before, Leibold led by two strokes over Broedys. The

freshman though fired back with a 69 on the par-72, 6,305-yard South Course at Lake Hefner.

"For her first two rounds of college golf, Marion came out and played exceptionally well," said SNU Head Coach Derrick Taylor. "I couldn't be more proud of a girl who came from Germany and was just scared and amazed to be here. Jordan struggled early in the round, but battled back to turn her second half around."

Broedys and Leibold, who were the only two players under par in the tournament, helped Southern Nazarene fired a 605 as

a team to take capture the Southwestern Christian Fall Golf Classic and finish six strokes ahead of second place Seminole State. Bellvue (Neb.) finished third at 615.

The Crimson Storm had all four countable scored in the top 15 as Laura Quevardo tied for ninth with a 158 (79-79) while Kacey Acker tied for 12th with a 167 (82-85).

"It was a great start to the year and it's hard to ask anything more than a win," said Taylor. "We had two ladies go out and shoot two great rounds of golf and as a team we are off on the right track."

Top five debut: SNU posts pair of top five finishes in season opener

Sports Information

WICHITA FALLS, Texas — Southern Nazarene placed all of its runners on the women's side in the top 25 and the top five were all nearly in the top 20 while the men had three

in the top 20 as both teams finished in the top five at the Strohm Dental Stampede.

The women finished at 1:22:26.63 to take third behind host Midwestern State (Texas) and East Central that went 1-2. The men took fourth with a time of 1:36:00.84. East Central took the top spot at 1:29:22.10 and was followed by Cameron and Western Texas College.

Freshman Morgan Sawyer led the way for the Crimson Storm on the women's side with a 16:00.32 on the 4k course as she took 14th. Sarah Keller was right behind in 15th at 16:03.67.

Chesney Burgweger and Catalina Keo went 18-19 as Burgweger ran a 16:34.06 and Keo finished at 16:41.72. Emily Keller rounded out the top five with a 17:06.86 to take 21st.

Edith Suarez-Dolphin ran a 17:14.14 to take 22nd while Breanna Simmons took 25th at 18:02.96. Kristen Michael also ran a 19:09.29.

Andrew Leahey had the first top 10 finish of the year with a 17:58.13 to take sixth on the 5.6k course. Dustin Barrier took 12th with an 18:20.55 while Grayson Haws also finished in the top 20 with a an 18:50.25. Luke Winslow took 29th with a time of 20:21.75 and Jakob Williams rounded out the top five with a 20:30.16 to take 32nd.

Adam Youngbear ran a 21:24.10 while Josh Frees was right behind at 21:28.72. Tony Pinazza also ran a 21:46.05 and Loren Heap finished at 22:32.74.

Southern Nazarene will now run at the UCO Land Run, Sept. 8.



Both men and women's cross country place in top five at Strohm Dental Stampede. (Photo from Sports Information)

Keep up with results and scores
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Jake's movie review: Premium Rush entertaining, but average

Jake O'Bannon, Staff Reporter

Have you ever been to a movie where you walk out of the theatre and you really have nothing to say? I don't mean an "I'm speechless – I can't believe we don't know whether the top is going to stop spinning or not," kind of silence. What I am talking about is when a movie is so average that you honestly don't have anything good or bad to say about it after first review. You just pick up your popcorn, shake out your legs, and walk to the nearest exit of your favorite local cinema establishment.

To be completely honest, this is the feeling I got after watching Premium Rush, starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt (JGL) and Michael Shannon. In fact, what drew me in were the two actors I just mentioned: Gordon-Levitt and Shannon.

There is not a more intriguing actor in "The Biz" right now than JGL. Since (500) Days of Summer, the thirty-one year old has been making

his presence felt in a number of movies, some of my favorite being Inception, 50/50, and of course The Dark Knight Rises. Not only that, but he has become the poster boy for the hipster movement, even starting a company called hitReCord, which their Twitter page describes as, "An open collaborative production company directed by Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Come work with us!" He is currently the definition of hip.

Then there is Michael Shannon, whom I consider to be one of the more underrated actors in Hollywood today. I was introduced to him in his 2011 Indie film Take Shelter, a role that nabbed him a number of award nominations last year. He has also played roles in other big films such as Vanilla Sky and Pearl Harbor. My calculations told me JGL plus Shannon would equal a quality film.

You knew I would eventually get to actually reviewing this film, right? Premium Rush tells

the story of a New York City bike messenger (Gordon-Levitt) who finds himself delivering a package that contained more trouble than he ever bargained for. JGL's character, Willee, finds himself being hunted by Bobby Monday (Shannon), a detective who is searching for more than just a crime. We follow the story from pre-delivery to the final hand off, experiencing a number of twists and turns throughout.

In the end, I was entertained. That is the best way I can put it. But let's keep it real here; I didn't have many movies to work with this weekend. Remember, this was the weekend that had the worst opening box office number for a movie...ever. Yes, "The Oogieloves in the Big Balloon Adventure" racked in a whopping \$448,131 last weekend to The Internet Movie Database (IMDb). According to Catholic Online, that means only 30 people saw this movie in each theatre over three days. Come save us, Christopher Nolan!



Joseph Gordon-Levitt is the poster boy for the hipster movement and perhaps one of the most intriguing actors currently in the film business. (Photo by Gage Skidmore used under Creative Commons license.)



Photos by Amy Lauver.

Enjoy Naz Nite?

Share your pictures with us for a chance to win a gift card!

Email your photos to images@mail.snu.edu by Friday, September 14th. The winning photo will be chosen by The Echo's editorial staff based on quality and creativity and may be featured in The Echo.

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