

TrevEchoes

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Percentage of Nazarene students at Trevecca decreases over the last 15 years

BY ZACH FARNUM & EMILY MOWRY
CONTRIBUTORS

Less than 40 percent of Trevecca's current undergraduate traditional students identify as Nazarene, according to a list of statistics the university publishes each year.

According to the Fall 2014 TNU Factbook, the percentage of undergraduates who self-identify as Nazarene is

at an all-time low of 38.3 percent. But, university administrators said that number could be off because of a change in the application that allows students the chance to identify as "Christian" before they see "Nazarene" as an option.

Two years ago the TrevEchoes reported that the percentage had dropped below 50 percent for the first time in school history.

"We're pretty sure that 38 percent

is wrong, because [the application] rearranged denominations in alphabetical order, so Nazarene is way down toward the bottom, and what happened is, students would have to go past 'Christian' and several other things that they may have checked," said Dan Boone, President of Trevecca.

Boone is convinced that the real percentage is closer to 45 than to 38, he said.

Eight more Nazarene freshmen enrolled in 2014 than in 2013, said Melinda Miller, Director of Admissions.

While the university saw a slight increase in Nazarene freshmen this year, the overall increase of the freshman class in general was an additional 78 students. That means that around 10 percent of the additional number of students identify as Nazarene.

After a year of low enrollment and budget cuts, Trevecca hit its ambitious goal of 320 freshmen in the fall. The record enrollment is due to a combination of factors, including branding the university as a Christian university in the heart of one of America's hottest cities.

The tagline, 'Trevecca: a Christian University in the Heart of Nashville,' was rolled out in March and omits the word

"Nazarene" from the university's name.

"We definitely are trying to broaden our brand so that non-Nazarene students can appreciate what Trevecca has to offer," said Matt Toy, director of marketing and communication. "We are a Nazarene school and our roots run deep in that, but there is a shrinking percentage of denominational students at denominational schools in general."

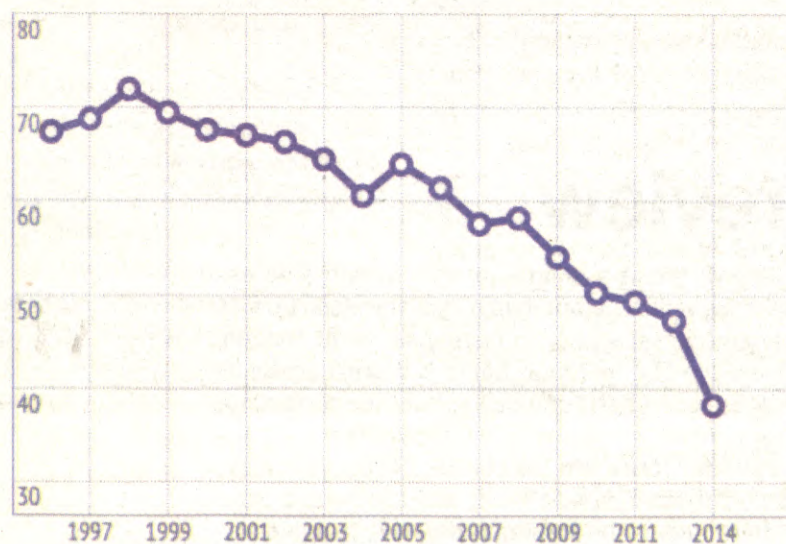
On average, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) schools have reported that 41 percent of their student bodies belong to the sponsoring denomination of each school, though that number ranges from 15 to 63 percent.

This broadening of the brand has been met with mixed feelings.

"In theory, I guess, it would be easier just to brand Trevecca, which is what we're doing. I personally wince at the idea that we need to pull 'Nazarene' out of there," said Michael Johnson, director of alumni and church engagement.

Some Nazarenes are not excited about the omission of the word "Nazarene" in the marketing material, Johnson said.

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The percentage of students that claim Nazarene as their denomination has steadily dropped since 1998. (Source: TNU factbook)

Student debt

Trevecca's president is unveiling a new plan that he hopes will allow students to work in exchange for part of their tuition.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 4

Urban farm barn

Trevecca's urban farm begins to build a barn for the animals.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 3

Grammar is important, even after elementary school

BY ANDREW RANEY
COPY EDITOR

They're, their, there.
To, too, two.
Your, You're.
Affect, effect.
Commas, periods, apostrophes, semicolons, spelling.

The English language is full of rules, exceptions, and practices for speaking, reading, and writing.

English conventions can be tricky. Despite years of learning and practice, many of us still don't have an adequate grasp of the technicalities of communicating effectively in English.

There are a variety of reasons we don't fully understand our own language. For some, adequate education was and is a problem. For others, English is their second language and that creates unique barriers. For many, learning disabilities or bad examples have made grasping these conventions difficult.

These are acceptable reasons for someone's grammar skills to be sub par. Not caring, however, is not an adequate excuse.

Although condescendingly correcting and embarrassing peers is not a great idea, I like to think that "Grammar Nazi's" are headed in the right direction. They care about how they sound when speaking and how their writing looks.

Why should you- a/an music, nursing, religion, communications, biology, education major- care about knowing your punctuation, spelling, homophones, and the like?

For some of us, the answer to this question might be fairly obvious.

For others, the answer may not be as apparent. I would argue that outside of intrinsically valuing written and spoken language and feeling responsibility to maintain its integrity, we have selfish reasons to have a firm grasp of grammar and conventions.

Professionalism plays a huge part in employability, regardless of career field. Speaking and writing with correct grammar is a huge part of presenting oneself in a professional manner. For example, emailing a potential employer about a job opportunity or interview may be counter-effective if your email contains a number of spelling mistakes. If you consistently misuse homophones and punctuation in workplace written communication, bosses do take note. When interviewing, attention to crafting your sentences will benefit you greatly, as potential employers pay attention to how you formulate and communicate your thoughts.

Using good grammar in communicating can play a role in your personal life too. Most people won't refuse to be your friend or go on a date with you because you used "your" instead of "you're" in a text, but maladies in your written or spoken communication can be off-putting nonetheless. Knowing how to communicate effectively may save you many misunderstandings as well.

I completely acknowledge the point that language changes as our culture develops. Concepts and application of language conventions change slightly as the public need and context change. That being said, I don't believe that a lot of the major felonies of grammar common today fall into this category.

I don't expect anyone to have impeccable grammar skill. I'm definitely not a grammar guru myself. However, I would encourage everyone regardless of experience or career to at least put forth effort to improve their reading and writing skills. Being the best you can in these areas will not only benefit you professionally and personally, but you'll help maintain the integrity of written language.

Why should you care about your grammar? I think the real question is: what reason do you have to not care?

TrevEchoes

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TrevEchoes Comments

The *TrevEchoes*' mission is to serve the Trevecca community by bringing you relevant, timely information about our campus. Let us know what you think about an issue on campus or a recent story in the paper. Also, some of our best story ideas come from you, our readers. So, find us on Facebook or send your story ideas to TrevEchoes@gmail.com

Academy Awards preview

BY T.J. HAYNES
STAFF WRITER

The Academy Awards, or Oscars, is an American tradition which has occurred annually for more than eighty years. This year's nominations were announced Jan. 15, at 7:30 a.m. Central Standard Time, and there were some exciting choices. But there were also upsets.

My first point of fury comes from the Best Animated Feature Film category. Big Hero 6 and The LEGO Movie were the two big contenders; no one knew who would beat the other. However, The LEGO Movie only received a nomination for its catchy song, "Everything Is Awesome."

David Fincher's *Gone Girl*, starring Ben Affleck, only nabbed one nomination, which disappointed a lot of people, including myself.

On the other side of the upsets, *The Imitation Game* and *The Grand Budapest Hotel* received eight and nine nominations, respectively. *The Imitation Game* garnered nods for almost everything for which it was considered,

and I believe this is a mixture of the industry's obsession with Benedict Cumberbatch and the depiction of a martyred homosexual from history. All in all, though, I don't believe *The Imitation Game* is a great movie. It has all these great parts of a movie, but they don't come together to make a cohesive and effective film.

The Grand Budapest Hotel is Wes Anderson's most recent film. It has reaped critical and commercial success, where Anderson's former flicks have appealed to mainly his dedicated fanbase. It received the most nominations of any film, none of which were for acting. But I find Anderson's *Hotel* overrated and self-congratulatory. It is a pleasant film, and it looks beautiful, but I don't think it deserves to sweep the upcoming Oscars.

Birdman or (*The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance*) led the pack with *The Grand Budapest Hotel* grabbing nine nominations each. The 87th Academy Awards ceremony airs on Feb. 22, at 6 p.m. Central Standard Time.

Continued from page 1

"Over the years, the Church of the Nazarene has been the primary resource from which to draw prospective students, and, because of the way the Church of the Nazarene is set up, millions and millions of dollars over the years," said Johnson.

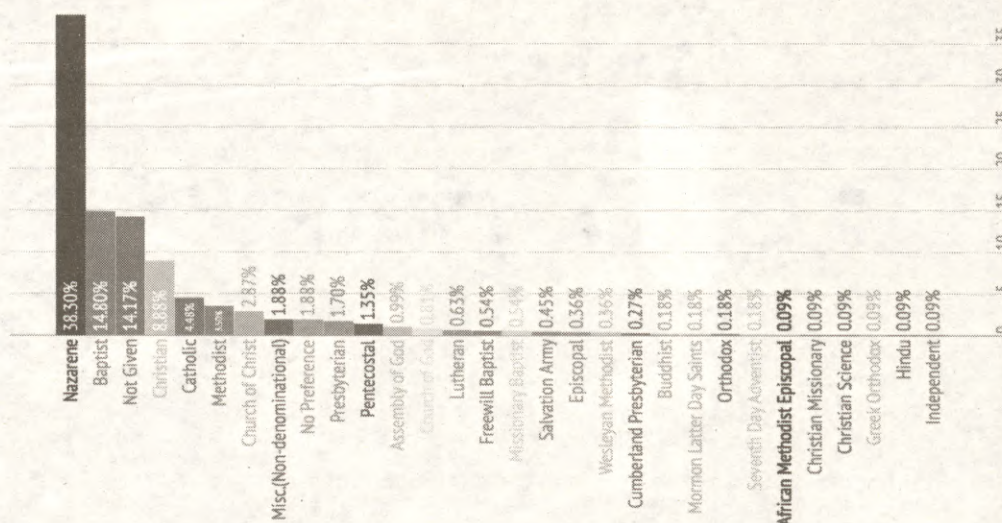
Trevecca gets about \$2 million of funding each year from the Church of the Nazarene and has no intentions of severing any ties with the church, Boone said. But, the base of potential Nazarene students is not as strong as it was 10 year ago, he said.

"We are unapologetically Christian. We're a Christian university, and

[the board] would have real trouble with moving away from that," said Boone, noting that the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the marketing slogan 'a Christian University in the Heart of Nashville'.

Around 15 percent of students self-identified as Baptist and around 8.8 percent self-identified as "Christian." Nearly 15 percent of students did not report an affiliation.

"Some may view it in a less positive light, but I think there's also great opportunity," said Toy. "This campus becomes a place where students can learn in a safe environment and have a very real, honest conversation about their faith and



(source: TNU factbook)



Trevecca's urban farm animals get a home

BY CHRISTY ULMET
STAFF WRITER

Within the next few days, Trevecca's urban farm animals will have a new place to call home.

The urban farm, which is used as an outdoor classroom for the environmental justice classes, is in the process of building a state-of-the-art barn to house and protect its goats, pigs, guard dogs and chickens.

The barn, which is set to be completed within the upcoming week, will be 60 ft. x 48 ft in area. There will be 10 stalls, two rows of five separated by a 24 foot-long middle aisle.

In the past year, Jason Adkins, environmental projects coordinator and farm operator, has realized the need for the security of the barn the hard way. The farm has lost numerous animals as a result of some security threats.

Most recently, four stray dogs made their way onto the farm through an opening in the fence and attacked some of the pigs. While one pig was able to escape the attack, four of the rare Juliana miniature pigs did not survive.

"The attack, which happened on the same day we first broke ground on the barn, kind of verified [the need] for us," Adkins said.

The farm has also suffered losses from natural occurrences.

Last spring, one puppy didn't make it through a severe rainstorm that

resulted in a flood on the farm. This is not the first time the farm has flooded. Brown's Creek, which sits just below the farm right off of Trevecca's campus, has caused numerous floods on the farm, threatening the animals' safety.

Providing a secure home for the animals, Adkins explained, can prevent disasters like this.

The barn will be built on higher ground, adjacent to the current farm, in order to solve the flooding issue.

While the animals will spend much of their time in the barn, they will have access to the farm so they can have space to move around. The chicken coop will stay where it currently is, in the middle of the enclosed farm area. The goats will be moved around from time to time to graze different areas on campus.

The barn will help facilitate the natural needs of the animals by providing a way to separate the male from the female, have a special stall specifically for birthing animals, and provide room for multiple farm volunteers to work with the animals.

Along with housing the animals, the structure will serve many purposes.

"The barn will be a place where campus visitors can see what Trevecca is doing, as well as provide a little bit more credibility for those seeking to give money towards the farm," said

Jamie Casler, director of the J.V. Morsch Center for Social Justice, which provides an environmental justice degree.

Casler hopes that the barn will become a place where children from the surrounding neighborhoods, who might otherwise not ever see farm animals firsthand, can come and interact with the farm animals. In addition, Casler and Adkins are working to host workshops and classes in the barn. They expanded the original planned size of the aisle to 24 feet in order to accomplish this.

Dan Boone, university president, has taken the lead on the financial side of the project. In order to help the program begin the construction of the barn, Boone gave \$2,000 as the first gift towards the project.

Last December, the marketing department launched a campaign to help have the barn completed by Christmas. The campaign was made public the week before Christmas.

"We were trying to take advantage of the Christmas season, as a sort of 'stable campaign,'" Boone said. "We thought it would be a perfect time to encourage alumni to consider the project in their 'end of the year' gifts."

While the campaign failed to produce the \$100,000 needed for the barn, it did prove successful in getting the word out. So far, Boone estimates that around \$15,000 has been given.

The barn itself will only cost

around \$40,000, but the other \$60,000 will be set aside for a new farm manager.

Adkins realized the need for a full-time employee as the farm began to grow last year. The farm manager will oversee the daily care of the animals, as well as the sale of items produced by the animals—eggs, salves from the honey produced by honeybees, yarn spun from the wool of the angora goats, and more.

The money raised by the sale of the items will help fund electricity and running water in the future, Adkins said.

As the work on the barn makes its finishing touches, the urban farm will begin looking at ways to utilize it to suit the needs and interests of the people around it.

"I'm really grateful for the support that the donors and administration have been in getting behind this expansion," Adkins said. "I think it really marks a commitment to the urban farm and all the ways it enriches the students' lives and learning that they have dedicated their time and efforts to. I'm really honored that they've put their weight behind this and given their attention to these needs."



President Boone takes on initiative to lower student debt

Carol Tran, junior, steams milk as part of her student worker job as an Abba Java barista

BY CHRISTY ULMET
STAFF WRITER

Trevecca's president is unveiling a new plan that he hopes will allow students to work in exchange for part of their tuition.

Dan Boone's dream of allowing students to work for money that will reduce their student debt is in the beginning stages with the formation of a task force and plans to pilot some form of the program next fall.

"I resolve to find a way to reduce the debt of graduating students at Trevecca while simultaneously reducing the growing cost of unfunded aid to students," Boone recently wrote on his personal blog.

The idea is that students will take a job either on or off campus that will pay them with a "labor grant" for their education costs.

The average 2014 Trevecca graduate has nearly \$22,000 in student loan debt. Boone projects his idea could reduce that number to closer to \$16,000.

Paying Their Way

While he was at Trevecca, Boone worked 30 hours a week to help get himself through college, as he often reminds students. He's a big supporter of students working in order to pay their way through college, so he's implementing a plan that will help prepare students for future careers in the workplace while also helping them pay for

college.

The problem is two-fold, Boone said. And reducing debt isn't the only goal for this program.

"The business world has attacked universities about lack of preparation to graduates seeking jobs," Boone said.

Students will receive a work transcript alongside their grade transcript, which will detail the types of jobs they worked, as well as their performance grades and evaluations from their employers. This program will help students in the long run. Boone hopes that employers will decide to hire many of their workers right out of college through their established connections.

Boone started a task force, which is chaired by Ryan Jolley, Abba Java coffee shop manager, in order to help implement the plan by next fall for incoming sophomores. The class will serve as a test group for the program, which was inspired by Berea College in Berea, Kentucky.

How the Plan will Work

When students begin their sophomore year, they will be given the opportunity to work around 10 hours a week at an employer that partners with Trevecca. The majority of the money students make will go into their financial accounts, and what's leftover will be given to them as pocket change for gas, social events, etc.

Boone has no firm commitments from outside businesses, but said since

his blog post he has heard from several Trevecca alumni in Nashville who are interested in partnering with the university to create jobs for students.

Regular on-campus jobs and work-study opportunities, separate from the program, won't completely disappear, but they might change to accommodate the new program. Trevecca currently pays approximately \$637,000 per year to its student workers, \$200,000 of which is given by the government for the work-study program.

Eddie White, director of financial aid, hopes to bring this number down by encouraging alumni and friends to consider giving to Trevecca students in their estate plans, wills, or gifts to the university.

"It would be great if as much of the labor grants could be alumni-funded as possible," White said. "That could help take pressure off the university."

Allowing students to work with the labor grant for three years of their time in college will earn them an extra \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year, which will be put directly towards their schooling, Boone said. This will bring their overall student debt down.

If alumni give more money to the upperclassmen, it will decrease the amount of money financial aid will need to give. This will allow the incoming freshmen to receive higher financial awards, which Boone hopes will look attractive to prospective students. For

Tennessee students, who will soon be able to attend community college for free, these financial awards might draw them to Trevecca.

A Group Effort

White, who is a part of the task force for the program, offered his insight from the financial side.

"This program is still in the embryo stage," White said. "For this succeed, the campus as a whole will have to buy into it."

On-campus employers are encouraged to hire students based on the labor grant, and they will need to do more work than they have with work-study students.

Employers will need to take regular evaluations of their student employees, as well as serve as mentors for the students.

To read Boone's full post on reducing student debt, visit his blog at www.danboone.me.

Average student debt of Trevecca graduates

Class of 2010 - \$17,169
Class of 2011 - \$18,723
Class of 2012 - \$21,502
Class of 2013 - \$20,740
Class of 2014 - \$21,552

(source: TNU Financial Aid)

Jan Greathouse resigns after two decades of service

BY BAILEY BASHAM
STAFF WRITER

Longtime Trevecca employee Jan Greathouse has resigned from her position as director of university public relations after nearly 20 years with the university.

Greathouse's resignation was announced to faculty and administration on Tues., Jan. 20.

"I resigned because I thought it was time and I just wanted a change," said Greathouse.

Matt Toy, director of marketing and communications, said he will begin a search for a new marketing employee.

"I'll need to step back and take a look at Jan's role and see how we can fill all the different holes in ways that will be right for the university," said Toy. "Any time someone has had a job for 20 years, there are a lot of things that everyone will have to learn and figure out as we go. Jan has done a lot for us that many of us might not even realize.

She's got a lot of history and relationships within the university, and she will be missed by many."

Along with working with the media to promote Trevecca, Greathouse had a role in a large number of Trevecca departments and services including editor of the Treveccan magazine and the faculty advisor for the yearbook.

Greathouse will continue teaching with the College of Lifelong Learning in the Management and Human Relations program.

"We are so very grateful to Jan for her service to the university. She has made many significant contributions to Trevecca. It has been an honor to work so closely with her," said Peggy Cooning, vice president for external relations.

Greathouse made many significant contributions and meaningful impacts both on the university and on the faculty and students she worked so closely with.

"Interactions with students have been very special to me, and my con-



Photo courtesy of TNU Marketing

tribution to the yearbook and MHR program were so well worth those investments," said Greathouse. "I have wonderful friendships with colleagues at Trevecca, and I love the relationships I've been able to form with both colleagues and students, those are the

things I will miss most. Luckily, I'm not too far away."

A farewell reception in honor of Greathouse is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 5 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Hardy Alumni Building.

Students win competition, aim to educate student body about clean water issues

BY BRECK SHARBEL
STAFF WRITER

Around 780 million people in the world don't have access to clean water and a team of Trevecca students is getting paid to help do something about it.

A new campaign to raise money called "Drop by Drop" launches on campus this month after a team of five Trevecca students took first place in a competition to raise awareness about the issue.

Last fall, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries challenged all Nazarene universities to raise awareness and funds for clean water initiatives.

After spending months creating a proposal, the Trevecca team won \$9,000 to fund their campaign and \$2,000 each

in scholarship money.

Trevecca faculty nominated five students to be part of an interdisciplinary team: Stephens Hiland, a Communication major; Rachel Mudd, a Business major; Erica Russell, a Social Justice/Nonprofit Leadership major; Taylor Fleming, a Social Justice/Environmental Justice major; and Athyn Galardi, a Religion major. With Jason Adkins and Jamie Casler as the faculty advisors, the Trevecca team submitted their proposal at the beginning of December.

Shortly thereafter, they won first place.

"It's incredibly exciting to be able to use my strengths not only to work toward ending the water crisis and lowering these numbers, but also to help Trevecca students embody the mission

that we are called to as Christians," said Hiland.

On social media and through videos, the team will work to familiarize students with the global water crisis and related public health concerns.

On February 18th, coinciding with the beginning of the Lenten season, Drop By Drop will hand out Nalgene water bottles to students who want to incorporate Drop By Drop's mission as part of their Lenten fast.

Students can then fill the Nalgene with tap water—while also filling Drop By Drop's donation jars with the money they would have spent on things like soda or coffee.

The team is aware that many of their fellow students are on a tight budget, and so Drop By Drop's fundraisers

are designed with that in mind.

For starters, they will have jars for collecting spare change at key locations throughout campus. Working with Trevecca's meal services at on-campus restaurants, Drop By Drop is exploring the possibility of donating a portion of a meal exchange—should a student chose tap water over a bottled drink.

Jamie Casler, director of the J.V. Morsch Center for Social Justice, said education is the first step in getting students to care about the issue.

"A lot of people don't have a direct connection with unclean water, especially in the United States," Casler notes. "Clean water is a privilege here at Trevecca and in the United States."



The undercut: yes, that men's hairstyle has a name

BY SYDNEY WISMAN & OLIVIA KELLEY
CONTRIBUTORS

A hairstyle originally made popular by German Nazis is now making a comeback.

The undercut, a men's hairstyle where the sides are buzzed and the top ranges from two to six inches long, is the latest in the world of popular men's hairstyles--especially in Nashville.

The haircut first became popular in the 1930s as a military haircut for German Nazis. It lost its popularity in the 1970s but reemerged in the early 2010s.

Men's haircut trends come and go, but an unofficial survey taken in the Trevecca cafeteria, indicates as many as one in four Trevecca men sport the undercut. Christina Corzine, a hairstylist on campus, said that more than half the haircuts she gives are the undercut.

Part of what has made the undercut so popular in college students is that it is so easy to manage and maintain.

"My roommate cut my hair in the bathroom in our dorm," said Nathan Brooks, sophomore on campus.

Stephen Mason, guitarist from Jars of Clay and professional barber said the style provides some variety in men, because of its many variations.

The hairstyle can be done with a side part, messy top, quiff, or slicked back style.

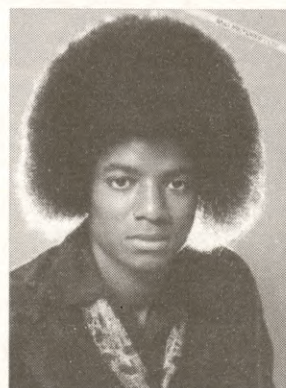
Even though a lot of men have this hairstyle, they can make it their own.

"It's not completely different but offers a more angular structure that is not completely intense," said Mason.

While professionals agree the undercut is particularly popular in Nashville, many of the men on campus didn't even realize how popular it really was.



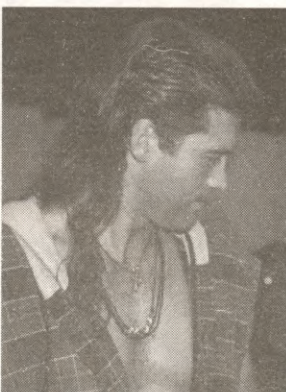
60's - The shag



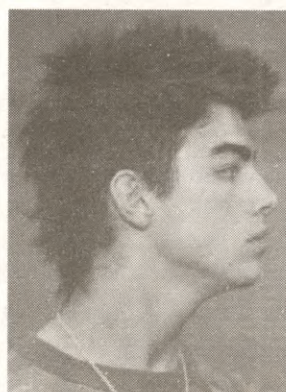
70's - The afro



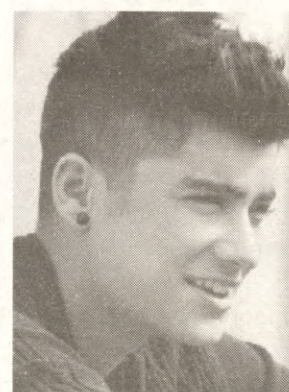
80's - The rat tail



90's - The mullet



00's - The fauxhawk



2014 - The undercut

"I didn't even notice it," said freshman Stephen Sherer, "Everyone has long, preppy hair back in Mississippi, so I thought it was something different."

"I didn't notice its popularity until I came to Nashville. A lot of guys try it out here," said Corzine.

The haircut has only recently made a comeback, but experts believe it will be around for a long time to come. According to undercuthairstyle.com, a website designed by expert barbers, the undercut has been one

of the best hairstyles for men since 2011 and its popularity has only changed with regards to the top.

Mason, who is rooting for the 60s mop to make a comeback, said he thinks the undercut is here to stay.

"This classic men's hairstyle will always be in our culture. It's a very handsome look."

Theater students stage The King Stag

BY MANON LANE
STAFF WRITER

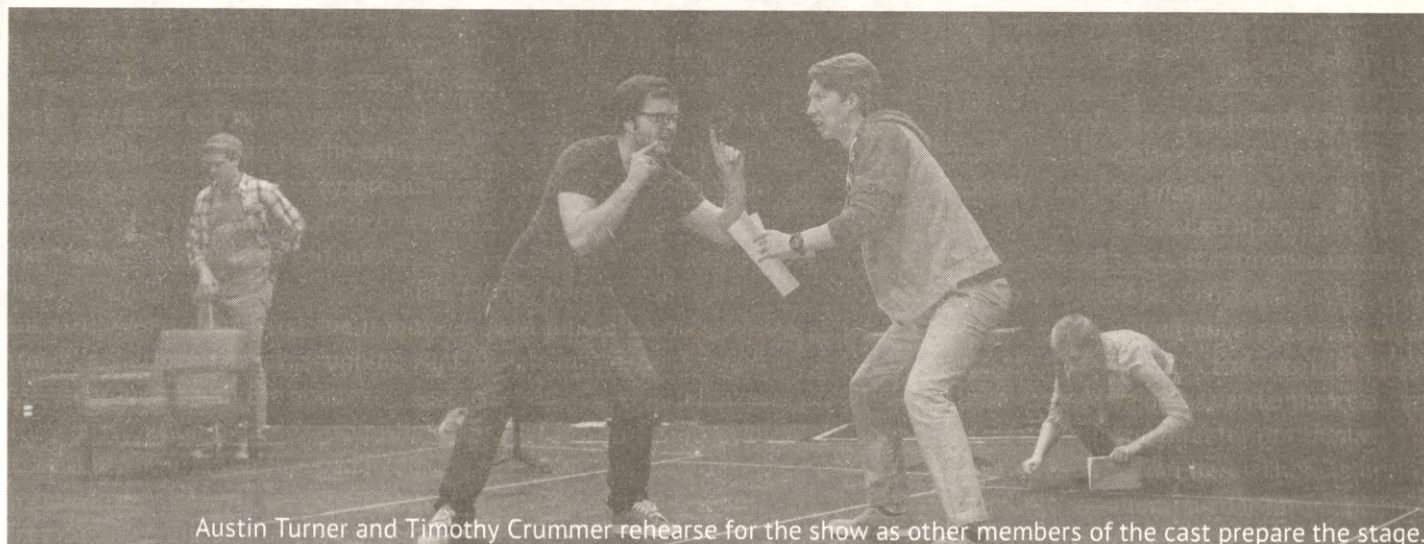
The King Stag is the next show to come to Trevecca's stage and with it will be masks, puppets and costumes made of recycled material.

"It's a really fun show because it kind of covers everything. It covers comedy, it covers tragedy, it covers all the artistic elements that theater can have," said Cassie Hamilton, a Trevecca alumna and director of the play.

Eberle Thomas and Barbara Redmond's adaptation of the Carlo Gozzi play follows Dermo, the king of Serendippo, as he ends his search for a wife who will love him for himself. He finds true love in Angela, the beautiful daughter of his Second Minister. However, she is loved by the evil Tartaglia, Prime Minister of Serendippo, who upon learning of their love, sets about to destroy it.

Junior Shalen Eggleston plays two roles, one of which is that of a talking parrot, and has had fun researching and rehearsing for a role that incorporates the use of a puppet with a squawking dialect.

"I'm basically learning how parrots function as an animal, and how they actually mimic people's sounds," said



Austin Turner and Timothy Crummer rehearse for the show as other members of the cast prepare the stage.

Eggleston, a dramatic arts major. "They just make the sound, whatever is common, whatever they hear, in the same exact inflection. They don't change it, and it's all within the throat."

The part of Leandro, the King's palace guard, is played by Tyler Manivong, a junior dramatic arts major.

Manivong likes the quirkiness of the production, he said.

"Everyone's bringing their own little different types of personalities, different quirks, so I'm bringing this Antonio Banderas [Zorro] persona," said Manivong, a hint pointing to a possible sword fight.

Following in the tradition of the popular 17th century Italian commedia dell'arte (comedy of art), theater students are creating masks to use as representational of main characters, along with the newer element of puppets, including the Japanese style, Bunrakuto.

In keeping with the "not everything's as it seems" storyline in The King Stag, the costumes, set and puppet designers are getting creative by recycling and repurposing materials.

"Currently Chelsea [Abney] has designed a skirt that's really cool...it's a tutu and it actually looks like its got these metal pleats on top, but it's made

of cardboard," said Hamilton.

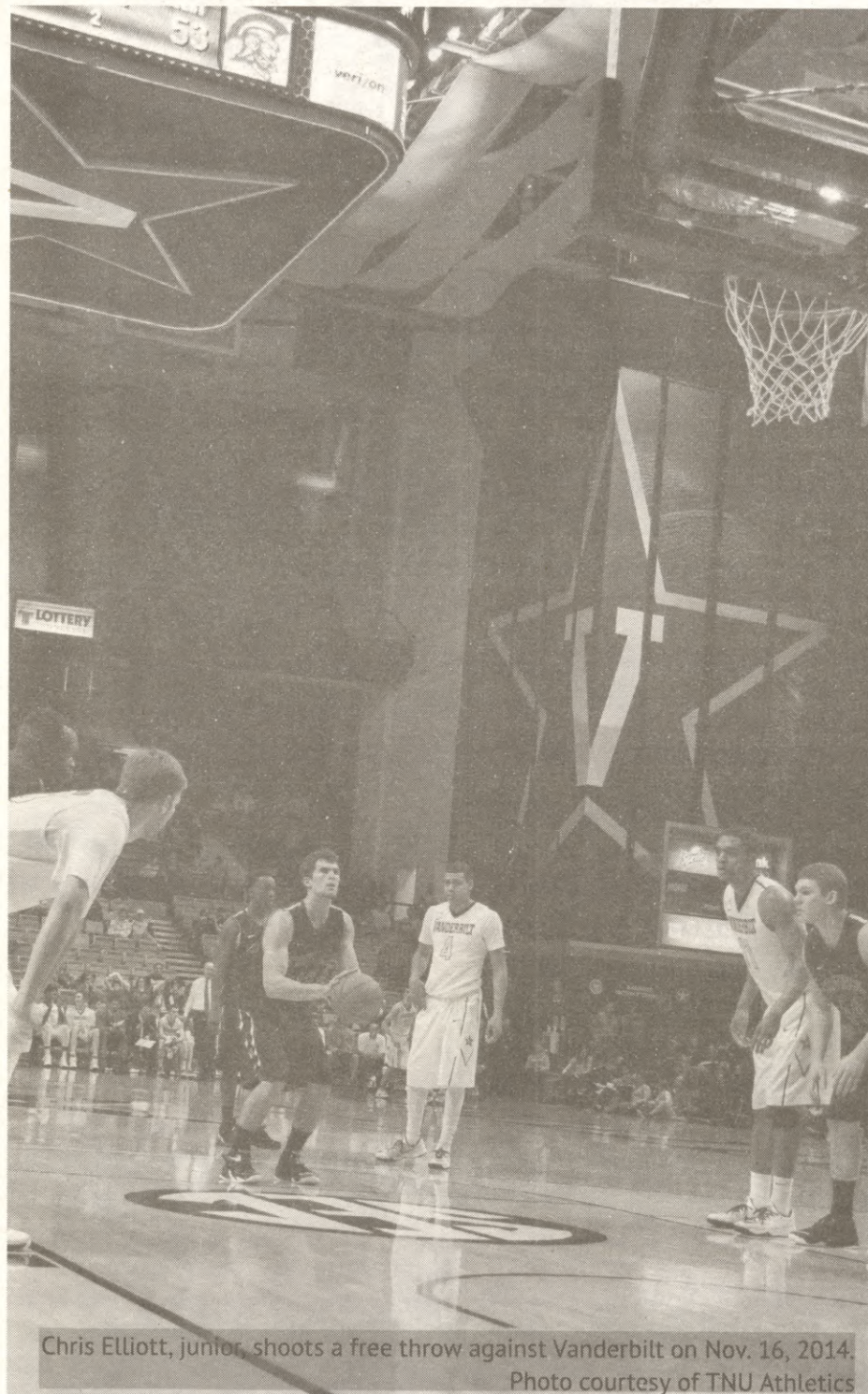
If you go:

- Feb. 12, 13 and 14
- Feb. 19, 20 and 21

- Show Times:
7 p.m. with a 3 p.m. matinee on Feb. 21st

- Tickets: \$5 with student ID
\$8 kids/ Senior
\$10 Adult

Trojans make money by playing Vanderbilt, Belmont



Chris Elliott, junior, shoots a free throw against Vanderbilt on Nov. 16, 2014.
Photo courtesy of TNU Athletics

BY COLLIN WELKER
STAFF WRITER

The Trevecca men's basketball team earned \$13,000 to play games against Belmont University and Vanderbilt University in November.

Paying for play is a multi-million dollar business in college sports. The idea is that larger programs pay a smaller school to come play a game. The larger school's team gets practice and it provides a bigger stage for a small school.

This is the first year Trevecca, now an NCAA Division II school, has been paid to pay a game.

"It is a great opportunity for our players to play on a little bigger stage. It's a great experience for our players," said Mark Elliot, athletic director.

In November, Trevecca lost to Belmont (96-76) and Vanderbilt (83-56), but the teams paid them \$5,000 and \$7,000 respectively to go across town to play.

Some schools use the money to

improve facilities and resources for athletes.

For instance, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN has used the money they have accumulated over the past five years to reconstruct their football stadium.

Not only is the money nice, but it helps with name recognition for the university, said Elliot.

"It is helping us market our names in ways that we cannot afford," he said.

There are plans for more games in the future with Belmont, Vanderbilt, and possibly other SEC (Southeastern Conference) teams, said Elliot.

"Both men's and women's basketball would like to get an SEC team to play every year as an exhibition and get paid between \$10,000 and \$20,000 that they would pay us," said Elliot.

Upcoming Trojan Games



Men's Track and Field

February

- 1 TSU Tiger Invitational
- 13 Samford Invitational
- 14 Samford Invitational
- 28 G-MAC Championship

Men's Basketball

February

- | | | | |
|------|---------|-----|-----------------------------|
| • 7 | 4:00 PM | Vs. | Kentucky Wesleyan College |
| • 12 | 8:00 PM | Vs. | Cedarville University |
| • 14 | 4:00 PM | Vs. | Central State University |
| • 19 | 6:30 PM | @ | Davis & Elkins College |
| • 21 | 3:00 PM | @ | Alderson Broadus University |
| • 26 | 8:00 PM | Vs. | Ohio Valley University |
| • 28 | 4:00 PM | Vs. | Salem International |

Baseball

February

- | | | | |
|------|----------|-----|----------------------------------|
| • 6 | 3:00 PM | @ | USC - Aiken |
| • 7 | 12:00 PM | @ | USC - Aiken |
| • 8 | 12:00 PM | @ | USC - Aiken |
| • 13 | 3:00 PM | Vs. | Maryville University - St. Louis |
| • 14 | 12:00 PM | Vs. | Maryville University - St. Louis |
| • 20 | 3:00 PM | Vs. | Walsh University |
| • 21 | 12:00 PM | Vs. | Walsh University |
| • 24 | 2:00 PM | @ | North Alabama |
| • 27 | 6:00 PM | Vs. | Wayne State University |
| • 28 | 12:00 PM | Vs. | Wayne State University |

Women's Track and Field

February

- 1 TSU Tiger Invitational
- 13 Samford Invitational
- 14 Samford Invitational
- 28 G-MAC Championship

Women's Basketball

February

- | | | | |
|------|---------|-----|-----------------------------|
| • 7 | 2:00 PM | Vs. | Kentucky Wesleyan College |
| • 12 | 6:00 PM | Vs. | Cedarville University |
| • 14 | 2:00 PM | Vs. | Central State University |
| • 19 | 4:30 PM | @ | Davis & Elkins College |
| • 21 | 1:00 PM | @ | Alderson Broadus University |
| • 26 | 6:00 PM | Vs. | Ohio Valley University |
| • 28 | 2:00 PM | Vs. | Salem International |

Softball

February

- | | | | |
|------|----------|-----|------------------------------|
| • 6 | 1:00 PM | Vs. | Wayne State University |
| • 6 | 3:00 PM | Vs. | Southern Arkansas |
| • 7 | 12:00 PM | Vs. | Miles College |
| • 7 | 2:00 PM | Vs. | West Georgia |
| • 16 | 1:00 PM | Vs. | Nova Southeastern University |
| • 24 | 1:00 PM | @ | Union University |
| • 27 | 10:00 AM | Vs. | Lewis University |
| • 27 | 2:00 PM | Vs. | Saint Joseph's College |
| • 28 | 10:00 AM | Vs. | University of Indianapolis |
| • 28 | 12:00 PM | @ | Southern Indiana |

FEATURE

Missionary kids make a home together at Trevecca

BY EMILY MOWRY
CONTRIBUTOR

Amber Eby can think of many times her past has alienated her from her peers.

For instance, filling up a car with gas is something most college students can do. But growing up in countries like Kenya and Senegal can mean daily tasks of American life are confusing and overwhelming.

Eby and the other former missionary kids squeezed in on a couch in the Center for Leadership, Calling and Service nodded in agreement as she put into words one of many issues they have all struggled with in the transition to life in America.

Eby is one of several missionary kids who met over the summer before coming to TNU. While technically "American," many missionary kid students feel like aliens sometimes.

Eby used a friend as an example, one who was adopted from China at a young age and grew up in America. Simply because she appeared foreign, people seemed to cut her a lot more slack.

"We don't look like foreigners, but in a lot of ways we are," said Eby. "We're not treated with the same kind of grace. If I don't know how to pump gas, I'm an idiot."

Others agreed.

"I find myself thinking, 'I wish I had a foreign name,'" added freshman Lexi Sunberg, "so that people would realize immediately when they meet me - I'm not fully American."

Since getting to know one another this summer at Rendezvous Plus, a Colorado retreat for teenage Nazarene missionary kids from around the globe, the eight students have made a point to spend time with and support one another at Trevecca.

Amanda Johnson, a freshman who lived most recently in Kenya, said that it has been a blessing to have this group of people who understand her.

"I don't feel like I'm alone," she said.

Missionary kids identify as "Third Culture Kids," which means they were raised in a culture other than their parents'. Because of their unique childhood experiences, Third Culture Kids rarely find peers they can relate with aside from others in their situation. The group began discussing the culture shock they experienced at Trevecca. They cited everything from extracurricular activities to worship styles to cafeteria food.

"There are more churches in Nashville than there were in our entire field," Sunberg said with a laugh.

Eby said that she went on the retreat this summer because she missed this kind of connection so much. It was then that she found out so many missionary kids would be coming to Trevecca.

International Student Advisor Rebecca Merrick believes that having this close-knit support system in place increases these students' chances of staying at Trevecca through graduation.

There are not many other resources available to make the transition to college easier on missionary kids, said Merrick.

Eby, who has some family nearby, said that both sets of her grandparents have extended an open invitation to their homes for the group.

"I was glad when last week I ran into somebody, and she was like, 'Well, we're all getting together tonight.' You know, oh, I'm so glad," Merrick recounted. "I think they are their best supporters."

Eby, who expects to graduate this year, expressed a wish that this kind of camaraderie had existed sooner.

"I've been here longer, and I did not have everybody here at Trevecca when I came. There was one other MK

(missionary kid)," she said. "I think the hardest part for me is having my American friends be able to understand my past. It's been a struggle to figure that out - when am I more African, when am I more American?"

They all agreed that it was an uphill battle finding people who were genuinely interested in learning about this huge part of their lives.

"The people that you talk to, they're nice to you about it, but they don't really want to know," Johnson said.

The missionary kids reinforced the importance of having this group of friends with whom

to relate.

"Most people don't have the patience to listen long enough to really understand. It's too much of a headache," said Eby. "That's who ends up being your real friends - only the close people who really care."



LtoR: Amanda Johnson, Alex Carney, Amber Eby, Sierra Flemming, Lexi Sunberg, Bryan Cyr, and Taylor Flemming.

