“VOTE FOR ME, ‘WASTE” YOUR VOTE”

Libertarian presidential candidate Gary Johnson visits Marian

By Brendan Dugan

Gary Johnson, two-time Republican governor of New Mexico and current Libertarian Party presidential candidate, delivered a wry, and at times impassioned, appeal at Marian University on Thursday, Oct 25.

Claiming, as a libertarian, that he’s both more progressive than President Barack Obama and more fiscally conservative than GOP candidate Mitt Romney, he seeks to “supplant either the Republicans or Democrats” in this election.

“I may have vetoed more legislation as governor of New Mexico than the other 49 governors combined,” Johnson said. This didn’t, he suggested, frustrate his constituents: “I think the ultimate arbiters in how these vetoes worked out were the people of New Mexico.”

“People in New Mexico actually wave at me with all five fingers, not just one.”

During his stump, Johnson expounded his Libertarian platform, which includes instituting a federal consumption tax (and eradicating income and corporate taxes and the IRS); ending the War on Drugs that has added significantly to the world’s largest prison population; acknowledging marriage equality as a constitutional right; and embracing a market-based mixed energy policy.

Instituting a federal consumption, or “fair,” tax, Johnson said, would create beneficial conditions such that corporations and manufacturing jobs would “flock” back to the U.S.

When it comes to the issue of abortion, Johnson affirmed his libertarian position: it is the woman’s choice, up to the point of fetal vitality. Up to that point, the government has no place in individual’s choices, he believes.

“Wasting your vote is voting for somebody you don’t believe in,” Johnson said, refuting the claims some make about voting for a third-party candidate in a system largely dominated by two parties.

On October 25, Libertarian Party presidential candidate, Gary Johnson, visited Marian.

Wryly imploring voters, he asked “vote for me, ‘waste’ your vote.”

Dr. Pierre Atlas, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Richard G. Lugar Franciscan center for Global Studies, along with Libertarian Party chair Sam Goldstein, helped organize Johnson’s stump at Marian.

Johnson will appear as an option on 48 state ballots, including Indiana’s. Early voting for Marion County residents, since Oct 22. Election Day will be Tuesday, Nov 6, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Election Buzz:

Even as election day approaches, the race is still too close to call

An editorial by Aubrey Schrader

Is presidential candidate Mitt Romney’s pin bigger than President Barack Obama’s? What color ties are Mr. President and Mr. Romney wearing? What would it look like if they switched hairstyles? Voldemort 2012? As the presidential race hits a fever pitch, social media trends are alight with political invective and rhetoric.

Some trends appear inane, such as swapping the presidential candidates’ hairstyles or calling for outlandish figures, like Voldemort or Cihulu, to run for President. Others downright castigate either contender. Either way, it seems like another election year in America, complete with annoying and abundant election ads and heated discussions.

As Election Day comes up, though, it is imperative that Americans consider not only the state of Barack Obama’s hair, but also the political issues facing the country. It seems like Americans get caught up in the more frivolous aspects of the campaign, and neglect important issues. By far, the economy is the biggest issue that Americans are debating. Obama takes credit for preventing a further deficit, but Romney counters that the continued economic weakness is a consequence of the failure of Obama’s economic policies.

In the realm of economics, the AP-GfK Poll shows that Romney has the slight lead over Obama as the best candidate to handle the economy, based mostly on his experience as a businessman. However, Obama leads in terms of the biggest issue that Americans are debating. Obama takes credit for preventing a further deficit, but Romney counters that the continued economic weakness is a consequence of the failure of Obama’s economic policies.

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Introducing The Phoenix
An editorial
By Brendan Dugan

The Knight Times has evolved — died, rather, been put to rest — in name but not in spirit. From its ashes, as it were, The Phoenix arises: the new identity of the ongoing student newspaper.

Why the change? It heralds back to an earlier period in Marian’s history — the student newspaper that ran from 1938 until 1981 was called The Phoenix. In light of Marian University’s 75th anniversary, it appeared appropriate now to alter the appearance and, to a degree, the spirit of the paper.

The new name also avoids the ubiquitous “knight” theme that’s been recycled in so many predictable and tiring ways.

Besides, it’s sexy.

Like much of the modern press, we have shifted — or rather, split — our focus to online mediums and to improve those that existed. While still extant, The Knight Times website (marianstudentnewspaper.blogspot.com) will no longer be updated.

Instead, we have introduced this site, which is both more visually aesthetic and functional than the previous blog site. Of course, we’re also on Facebook (facebook.com/MUPhoenixNewspaper).

For a period of weeks this semester, what once was The Knight Times has become The Phoenix. It remains driven by students, unfunded by the university, and largely outside any institutional context, being tied only to the editors’ internship positions. We have been designing a new look from scratch, a new website, and recruiting students interested in news writing, photography, and layout design to collaborate on this project.

As this or any student effort at forging a space for dialogue strives to evolve, paralleling the growth of the university, how will it fare? How will this or other media, predominantly outside of the curriculum, lacking much explicit university monetary support, and produced largely by the labor of student volunteers, be capable of creating and maintaining a dialogue between students or between students and faculty?

Such questions we have encountered as we reflect upon the internal changes to our efforts, and time will tell whether or not our concerns are in vain, our changes worthwhile, our goals reachable.

In the meanwhile, we’ll be writing.

Election 2012
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On international matters, Obama continues to point towards his efforts to combat terrorism, including his authorization of the military operation in Pakistan, and the withdrawal of American forces from Iraq. Romney, on the other hand, complains that Obama has been weak with American adversaries such as Iran, as well as unaccommodating towards allies such as Israel.

Romney also declares that he will enforce stricter rules and regulations on what he views as unfair trade practices by China. Obama, in this case, seems to have more experience and insight into international issues, due to his four years as President. One need only look at Romney’s debate debacle overseas over the summer to see his naiveté in matters of political delicacy. Insulting the British Olympics, being accused of racism by Palestinians, and insulting Polish union leaders did not exactly endear Romney to the global community.

All in all, the race could come out in a myriad of ways. In about forty-one states, plus the District of Columbia, the results are rather predictable. States like Texas and Alabama are almost guaranteed to support Romney, whereas the states of California and New York are among those that favor Obama, according to a USA Today/Gallup Poll. A tally shows that Obama is ahead in the Electoral College with 237 votes, while Romney is ahead in the Electoral College with 237 votes, while Romney is ahead in the Electoral College with 237 votes.

Whether or not President Obama or presidential candidate Romney comes out on top is in the hands of the voters, and either way, the country promises to head in new directions, hopefully.

Clubs host presidential debate viewing
By Kate McConnell

On October 22, Political Science Club, Prelaw Society, and The Union for Black Identity sponsored a viewing of the presidential debate on foreign policy in the lobby of Clare Hall. Prior to the viewing, Dr. Pierre Atlas and Dr. Marcello Hoffman prepared students for what they should look for during the presidential debate on foreign policy.

For Black Identity sponsored a viewing of the presidental debate on foreign policy in the lobby of Clare Hall. Prior to the viewing, Dr. Pierre Atlas and Dr. Marcello Hoffman prepared students for what they should expect to see. As a way of keeping the debate fun, the sponsoring clubs handed out bingo cards full of words and phrases that were predicted to be used during the debate.

Professor Pierre Atlas opened the Debate viewing by suggesting what students should look for during the presidential debate on foreign policy.

Showing his Red, White and Blue election pride, freshman Thomas Patterson checks his debate bingo card.

Photos by Michael Schrader
Marian goes purple for cancer

By Adriana Zermeno

From Oct. 27 at 8 pm until Oct. 28 at 7 a.m., over 100 individuals participated in the first Relay for Life on Marian’s campus. These participants were made up of survivors and supporters in the Marian community. Despite cold temperatures, dozens of students bundled up in several layers and sacrificed their health and Saturday night to walk to fight cancer.

Relay for Life is a walkathon to raise money for research and awareness about cancer and supports the American Cancer Society with their research and assistance. In Relay for Life, teams walk against each other in competition to raise the most money. During the 11 hours, there must be at least one member from each team walking laps.

All over campus, students collected donations for Relay’s debut on Marian’s campus. The Relay for Life team worked hard in preparation for the big event. They found ways to raise funds on campus, such as raffling gift baskets at football games and smashing cars to getting the word out.

The idea for Marian to host a Relay began from Mary Lutz and Kyle Downs last year. This duo wanted Relay to be a touching experience that served a purpose for all those affected by cancer, especially those in the Marian community. Relay’s goal this year is $10,000, which greatly surpasses the general $3,000 goal that the American Cancer Society holds.

The race began with a touching Survivor dinner. The first of many chilly laps began at 8 pm.

“My favorite highlight was the first lap because everyone including the survivors and caregivers were excited and it truly felt like a community!” said Lutz.

Throughout the event there were several activities such as a bounce house, a bonfire, a corn-hole tournament, musical performances by a few students, a few game tables and Zumba. Also the team provided plenty of water, donuts and chips to keep the walkers hydrated and energized. White paper bags with glow sticks, served as luminaries which served to remind onlookers of those who lost their battle with cancer. Chalked footsteps lined the path around the fountain quad that formed the route for the walkers.

At the closing ceremony, which ended an hour early due to weather conditions, the standing total was $7,943.17.

“The Relay team will continue to collect donations until Christmas break, in hopes of reaching the goal,” said Lutz. To attain this goal there will be post fund-raising, if you would like to donate or help with future preparations email Mary Lutz at mlutz342@marian.edu.

After a great turnout, there is a plan set for a Relay for next year. After all, like Lutz said “Cancer doesn’t stop, the team shouldn’t stop. A battle doesn’t give breaks! We are fighting for those who are fighting cancer!”

Luminaries, made from white paper bags and glow sticks, served to remind onlookers of those who lost their battle with cancer.

Photos provided by Sarah Lunn

Stories of Our City:
CityWrite documents memoirs of Indy residents

By Brendan Dugan

Various businesses, universities, and organizations hosted the documenting event of personal histories and memories of Indy residents in honor of the National Day on Writing, Saturday Oct. 20.

“The day ... [was] meant to capture the common and everyday experiences that shape our lives and impact our community, yet remain undocumented moments in history,” said Mark Latta, assistant director of Marian University’s Writing Center.

Latta collaborated with Darolyn Jones, a professor of English at Ball State University, in planning and implementing CityWrite. The goal of the project is to collect and document the experiences and memories of Indianapolis residents, themed around each of the sites, such as libraries, churches, shelters, community centers, bookstores, and local universities.

Students and faculty from Marian, Butler University, and IUPUI volunteered alongside others from across the city to complete the first CityWrite project undertaken in Indianapolis.

“I learned more about the city I live in,” said Alexis Bailey, senior English major and Writing Center intern. She noted the experience also presented her and other volunteers with a networking opportunity, and a chance to recognize the dignity of the individuals who shared their stories.

“I was really attracted to the idea because I think it’s important what people can say if you give them the opportunity,” said Olivia Gehrich, a junior English major and site facilitator at the Marian University site. “They get this chance to share a story, whatever that may be.”

“Most of the time, the only voices that are going to be remembered are those rare few...this is a way for a marginalized voice to be recognized,” said Michael Bush, a senior studying English, who facilitated at Big Car Service Center, a community organization on Lafayette road.

“It’s more raw, from the trenches.” That is the spirit of the project: forming a collective narrative of this city and her residents both for the purpose of granting individual empowerment and constructing the city’s identity, in part at least, from the grassroots.

Gehrich noted similar projects have been completed in other cities and with more specific demographics, such as nursing home residents and troubled youth. Similarly, Gehrich noted that, even in a broader application, “when people came to write [their stories] down, there was sort of a healing. It reconciled a lot for them. It put it down in words.”

“What made this unique is that it was 25 different sites on the National Day on Writing,” said Gehrich. Some were chosen specifically to capture the sentiments of particular demographics, such as the Indiana Special Needs Moms’ Writing group, the Metro Nightclub, and Wheeler Mission Minis-try Men’s shelter.

Altogether, 362 individual memoirs were recorded, all of which will be archived and eventually searchable on citywriteindy.org.

Marian University, Indy Reads Books, Second Story, Big Car Service Center, IUPUI, The Writer’s Center of Indiana, the Hoosier Center for Writing Project, and the Indianapolis Public Library and others supported the project.
Knight Fusion:
Show choir performs for the first time

By Brendan Dugan

The Marian Knights football team continues to enjoy a spotless seasonal record with twenty three wins under its belt, maintaining their number one rank in the division with NAIA league 8 – 0. The Knights battled the Menlo College Oaks, securing another victory with a score of 34 – 7, another near-shutout for the Knights and an addition to a winning record. The Oaks scored their only touchdown in the final quarter, with less than five minutes on the clock; not nearly enough to counter the Knights' offensive drive from the earlier quarters.

In the Oct. 20 game against Concordia University Cardinals, the Knights had established a twenty-one point lead over the cardinals by the beginning of the second quarter. An interception by junior linebacker Robert Palmer resulted in a change of possession during the Cardinals third down at the Knights forty-seven yard line, but a penalty put things on hold. Regardless, this proved to be a decisive moment, as junior running back Clifford Brown scored a touchdown on the next play.

The Knights recovered a fumble by the Cardinals midway through second quarter and pushed hard to the thirteen yard mark; Brown scored the sixth touchdown shortly after. A sixty-six yard punt return granted the the Knights their seventh touchdown of the game, putting them ahead by forty-two points by halftime. The Knights emerged victoriously with a score of 59 – 7.

The Knights charge ahead to defend their winning record in the NAIA Football Championship series Nov 17 and 24.

Cycling Team comes in third place

By Adriana Zermeno

Over the weekend of October 19th to the 23rd, the Marian Cycling Team went to Angel Fire, New Mexico to participate in the Collegiate Mountain Bike Nationals. Beyond beautiful mountains tops and lovely weather, the team collectively won third place in the Division 1.

Mission Statement

The Phoenix is a student newspaper dedicated to serving the Marian University student community. Our goal is to inform the Marian community about campus, local, and global issues. We strive to report the stories that matter and take student opinions and comments into consideration. We want you to read, comment, and enjoy!

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