

The Lantern



ILLUMINATING HISTORY

March/April 2012

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

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X Marks the Spot

The John Brown University Entrance Marker and flagpoles has served many purposes during its existence. It welcomes students and visitors alike as they pull onto campus, a symbolic monument that proudly displays the two flags which JBU lives under. The U.S. flag and the Christian flag were raised on either side of the monument in honor of John Brown Sr.'s dream of uniting Christian ideals and American citizenship within a collegiate education.

It is a place to sit, sun yourself, work on some homework, or just read a good book. It has been the site of many pranks, from items run up the flagpoles to students having

picnics a top the base. Many students use the flagpoles as a rendezvous point, launching many adventures from the base of the steps – whether it be a walk around town, cross-country road-trip, sporting event, or mission trip.

However, did you know there's something more to the flagpoles than a first look would reveal? A plaque set into the side quietly marks the location of JBU's very own hidden treasure.

During Homecoming of 1982, several hundred alumni gathered on campus and witnessed the dedication ceremony of the Entrance Marker. As a special memento of JBU

history, several items descriptive of the university's past were enclosed in the monument that will be revealed in a ceremonious opening in the year 2019 (the one-hundredth anniversary of the John Brown). This monument was made possible by the generous donation of the family of Bob Jackson, Sr.



Plaque marking the location of the time capsule

Milestones

March 14, 1958

After months of bewilderment, the women of John Brown University were allowed a glimpse into the Men's dormitories during open house. The hour and a half was filled with exploring rooms, cookies and punch, and the highlight of course was the awarding of the winners for best room.

April 2, 1998

After 8 years with food service provider Pioneer Foods, JBU makes the switch to ARAMARK. Even with the switch, ARAMARK foods has agreed to keep the popular sandwich smashers in the cafeteria.

ECHOES OF THE PAST

Assassins on campus

February 1, 1985

The unsuspecting victim starts his day in the normal manner. He gets out of bed with a yawn and starts for the door. As he opens the door, his assassin is waiting in the shadows. With a quick movement of the assassins trigger finger, a life is snuffed out. It sounds like a scene from a detective story, but this type of thing is taking place every day on the JBU campus. There is a growing circle of assassins. Alvin who lurk in the shadows with their *Blue Star Trek Tracer Disk Guns*.

Assassination is a game that has been played on college campuses and high schools for years. Eric Stehle along with his cohorts have introduced this game to the JBU campus.

Assassination can be compared to "tag" except everyone is "It" and if you get "tagged" you're out of the game. Then there is a meeting of all the players to find out who they are to assassinate. The game doesn't actually start until midnight that night.

"That's when you start looking over your shoulder," says Eric. "You don't know who is after you, and it's hard because you live with them."

Every player must buy his own blue Star Trek Tracer Disk gun which shoots colored disks. Here are some of the other rules of the game:

1. Every assassin must try not to have witnesses.
2. Halls and bathrooms are safety areas where you cannot be killed.
3. If you are being shot at you can shoot back in self-defense.
4. If you shoot your victim, he gives you his slip of paper and you get a new victim.

Toward the end of the game there are only two assassins left and each of them holds the other person's name. With a final battle, a winner emerges. One game usually lasts about five days. Then it starts all over again.

To play *Assassination*, sign up on the sheet in the J. Alvin lobby. Mayfield and Catalina dorm residents and professors are encouraged to sign up.



Insights

Works from John Brown, Sr.

The most sublime picture in all literature is that which is found in the inspired record of the Last Supper. One of His followers was to betray Him and sell Him into the hands of a bloodthirsty mob. Already this traitor had gone out into the dark night, a night the blackness of which seemed unusually portentous and sad. Just out there is the Garden of Gethsemane, with its sweat and blood! Just over there is the judgment hall, with its cruel scourge and crown of thorns! Just up there is Calvary's hill, with the cross of the empty arms! Down in the streets the mob is already forming, and their muttered oaths are heard on the night air. Outside that little room, everything breathed of hatred and death! Amidst all this, and in the presence of all this, Jesus sat peacefully singing. "He sang a hymn," is the official record of that last sad hour!

Grand, lonely, majestic, calm and peaceful soul, singing in the hour of His betrayal and in the hour of His death! What a wonderful peace God must have put into His soul, that He could sit and sing while the world rushed in to crucify! "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you." It must have been that a little of this peace possessed the heart of Stephen, for when they were stoning him to death he prayed, "Lay not this sin to their charge," and kneeling quietly, with the face radiantly beautiful, he gave up the ghost.

It must have been that a little of this peace possessed the heart of St. Paul, for, with back torn by the cruel lash and feet made fast in chains and stocks, he sang songs in the night- songs in the night! [...] Only the peace of Christ, placed in the heart of the believer by the Holy Ghost, can keep the heart singing while the mob gathers, and keep the heart singing while the stones are thrown and keep that heart singing while the cruel lash cracks and stings, and keep that heart singing while the nails are driven into hands and feet! This was the peace which possessed the heart of Christ, and this was the peace that He left with His disciples, and this is the peace that is the inheritance of the saints through all the ages."

Excerpt from "The Fruit of the Spirit"