

THE COLLEGIAN

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Angel Vadillo

ONLINE EDITOR
Dalton Carver

ASSISTANT ONLINE EDITOR
Hanna House

SPORTS EDITOR
Bailey VenJohn

NEWS & OPINION EDITOR
Kylie Stamper

FEATURES EDITOR
Maggie Dunning

STAFF
Daniel VanSickle
Garrett Chapman
Pete Moyer

FACULTY ADVISER
Stacy Sparks

The Collegian is the student publication of Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. Feature stories and opinion pieces are published and distributed monthly during the fall and spring semesters. Timely news and sports coverage is published in electronic version at updatesc.org.

News contributions will be accepted by sending an e-mail to angel.vadillo@sckans.edu or through campus mail addressed to: The Collegian, Southwestern College, 100 College Street, Winfield, KS 67156.

Editorials are written by the Collegian staff members and do not necessarily represent the views of The Collegian or Southwestern College.

Letters to the editor are encouraged. To be published, letters must be verified, either with a signature or some other means of identifying the writer. All letters are subject to editing.

Subscription rates: first copy free to students, faculty and visitors to Southwestern College. Subscriptions are available for \$10 per school year mailed.

News Analysis

Kansas religious freedom bill dies in senate

By Maggie Dunning
and Hanna House
Staff reporters

The debate on equality seems to always be on the hot seat. The newest question being asked is should businesses be able to refuse service to people that essentially have different beliefs about marriage than the owners?

The Kansas bill HB 2453 short titled protecting religious freedom regarding marriage was introduced into the house on Jan. 16, reported www.kslegislature.org.

As the bill's short title says, it is a bill about what religious freedoms people have regarding their views on marriage.

The bill is designed to give people who own or operate businesses the option to legally refuse service to customers who don't

align with the owners belief of what is proper sex or gender classifications.

The bill is comprised of five sections outlining what individuals and religious entities can do in regards to serving sex or gender that they disagree with.

What that means is anyone who runs or owns a business or non-profit can refuse to provide any services to anyone who identifies as gay, lesbian, transgender and bisexual.

The beginning deals the most with information regarding why the bill is important for people who want to express their religious freedom in business.

The first part of the first section deals with what services owners are allowed to refuse and why.

The section starts off with stating that any individual or religious entity doesn't have to serve

anyone based on the owners own religious beliefs.

It goes into even more detail when the section breaks into smaller points going over what services people can refuse to do and what type of relationships they can disagree with that would allow them to refuse service based on that.

First, the bill lists what services are allowed to be denied. The services can be grouped into social services, employment and accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges.

It ends with saying that these services are only to be denied when the owners feel they are, related to or in celebration of any marriage, domestic partnership, civil union, or similar arrangement that they don't agree with because of their own religious beliefs.

The section ends with stating that people also don't have to treat any of the above mentioned relationships as valid or formalize any of them.

The full bill can be read at www.kslegislature.org/li/b2013_14/measures/documents/hb2453_01_0000.pdf.

Is this the kind of issue that can be completely resolved? Is it even for us to decide one way or another? If not, who should be able to decide these kinds of issues?

As of now, nothing has been passed one way or another with the Kansas bill, but who knows what the future is going to hold.

Maggie Dunning is a sophomore majoring in communication. Hanna House is a freshman majoring in communication.

You may email at margaret.dunning@sckans.edu or at hanna.house@sckans.edu.

Sports Column

America's glaring need for sports academies

By Pete Moyer
Staff reporter

The United States needs to make a dramatic push to develop sporting academies such as the prominent soccer academies in Europe. Such a resolution would solve many of the current problems in sports.

While college is an outstanding opportunity, simply put – it isn't for everyone.

So allow those who want to thrive with their athletic prowess thrive without having to use the college athletics route.

There needs be a system designed for athletes to allow them to grow within a system through their adolescent life and be able to pursue their athletic career as an adult.

There are several issues regarding college athletics and the debate of whether players should be paid.

While many athletes feel like they should receive compensation because their abilities on their respective playing surfaces lead to the contributions to what can add

up to millions for the university, their amateur status does not allow for them to receive such.

Athletes at any age should be able to sign a contractual agreement and then abide by the terms of said contract.

Those under 18 would obviously need an additional signature from a parent/guardian.

The terms of the contract could be presented in several ways: a stipend program, an annual salary or on a wage system. These academies could be developed independently by the National Football League and other prominent sport leagues. Nike, Adidas and Under Armor would all lung at the opportunity to sponsor new clients.

As with any organization, they would play a set schedule of games and be held to their own set of standards.

Pending the establishment of a governing body and a trial run, this model can be instituted with both football and basketball, two of the country's biggest sports.

Another raging debate that supports change in the system is the

argument of whether high school basketball players should be forced to wait a year before being eligible to declare for the National Basketball Association draft.

The current requirement says that players must be turning 19-years-old in the year of that draft and one-year-removed from their high school graduation.

Many choose to spend just a year in college before becoming what's known as a "one-and-done."

Others decided to find a professional team overseas for a season before returning to the NBA circuit.

These spots temporarily held by these "one-and-dones," in addition to those who don't plan to graduate from college at all, take away spots from potential applicants who actually do plan to go to college for the full four years.

Albeit unorthodox to American cultures, sporting academies would be beneficial to more people than just those who play a sport.

This would increase the percentages of students who actually

want to be in college and aren't just going because they need to pass classes to remain eligible. This addition of the academies doesn't eliminate sports in college, it is just an alternate solution.

As one response to the current problems with the NCAA, the more notable college sports association, former Northwestern University quarterback Kain Colter aligned with United Steelworkers President Leo W. Gerard to form the College Athletes Players Association in attempts to "eliminate unjust NCAA rules that create physical, academic, and financial hardships for college athletes across the nation," according to Colt.

While some schools may struggle with declining success due to the lack of elite talent choosing to avoid the college route, it would expose the current system that takes advantage of the college athlete.

Pete Moyer is a junior majoring in communications. You may email him at pete.moyer@sckans.edu.