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# Farewell, Seniors!



Last year's graduates walk across the Bridge of States on their way to the commencement ceremony. For seniors, commencement represents the capstone of years of hard work and persistence.

In a few days, the 884 graduates of the BJU class of 2009 will walk across the FMA stage to receive their diplomas, closing one chapter of their lives and opening another.

BY AMANDA SAGER

The commencement ceremony will be held Saturday, May 9, at 9 a.m. in the FMA.

Dr. Jeff Heath, the university registrar, said commencement is an important part of the college experience for all in attendance. "It's a milestone in somebody's life; it's a culmination," he said.

Whether they are receiving a one-year certificate or a doctorate's degree, commencement acknowledges those who are graduating. "When we see the students walk across the stage, there's a sense of accomplish-

ment and a sense of excitement," Dr. Heath said. "There's hope for the future."

Dr. Dan Smith, the director of educational services, said five individuals will receive honorary

» Seniors p. 4

# Baccalaureate to challenge seniors

AMELIA PILLSBURY

Reminders of getting regalia, buying a class ring or turning in a final college paper make the end of the tunnel seem not so far away for graduating seniors. This Sunday, yet another event will remind seniors of that long-anticipated graduation day: Baccalaureate.

The day will begin in the dining common with the Legacy Breakfast, where Dr. Stephen Jones will speak to seniors whose parents are alumni and to the parents themselves.

Mr. Wil Messier, executive assistant to the president, said the Legacy Breakfast is a thank-you to the parents for their legacy and for directing their children to BJU.

Following the breakfast, the morning worship service will be held in the FMA. Pastor Seth Mohenu of Ghana will preach the Baccalaureate sermon. Pastor Mohenu completed both his bachelor's in Bible and his master's in pastoral studies as a Timothy student at BJU. He returned to Ghana in 1991 to pastor Faith Baptist Church, and to teach African men to preach the gospel.

"This is our opportunity to give the senior class one more piece of spiritual guidance as they leave to carry on in whatever position of work and service they're on their way toward," Mr. Messier said.

## Spring play to parallel student life

**BRENNA SMITH** 

BJU's Classic Players will perform the Shakespearean comedy "Love's Labour's Lost" Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. and Friday at 2 p.m. in the Rodeheaver Auditorium.

The play follows four men from the land of Navarre who vow not to pursue any women for three years in order to dedicate their lives to higher studies. Naturally, around the time the pact is made, the Princess of France and her three ladies appear on the scene.

In order to get the best of both worlds, each sneaks around on the other three to secure the affection of his beloved.

Just as they're making some progress, however, the princess's father dies, forcing her immediate return to France.

Before her departure, the princess and her ladies leave the four men with tasks that would



Mr. Paul Radford poses for his role as Berowne in "Love's Labour's Lost."

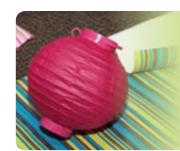
occupy them for 12 months to test their loyalty.

The men's labor of love is not lost, however. As Berowne, their leader, says in the play, "We number nothing that we spend for you; our duty is so rich, so infinite." In modern English, that means people don't mind doing things for people they love

Mr. Jeff Stegall, who is directing this play for the fourth time

in recent years, thinks "Love's Labour's Lost" parallels the lives of college students..

"They have dedicated four years of their lives to study, and so many of them get distracted by relationships," he said.
"They're here to prepare to be a doctor, but you see them googoo-eyed in the Snack Shop. It's sort of humorous in a way. It's a good university production—a good way to end the year."



Room remodel: ladies swap, renovate rooms

Page 5 Pag

Pi Kappa wins men's softball championship







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#### **CHECKED**

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ANDREW BRANDENBURG

The semester is winding down; final exams loom. It's time for me to let go.

Yes, with 26 issues of *The Collegian* under my belt now, it's finally time for me to pass on the editorship and write my final column for *The Collegian*—my goodbye.

For being something so long in coming, this task (and graduation itself) has arrived too quickly—it nearly blind-sided me. And yet here I am preparing to embark on a new phase in my life: post-college.

But as I look forward, I can't help taking a look back—at my time here at BJU, my classes, my friends, *The Collegian*. I can still remember working on the first issue of the year like it was yesterday. And after all 26 of them, I can still remember specific events from each week that make it special.

I'll never forget the late Monday nights, eating Goldfish, drinking energy drinks and finishing each week's issue; coffee; Fiddle Faddle; the beeper, of course; little Jimmy and his innate inability to select a suitable tie; all of the meals with my *Collegian* family—memories I'll cherish for a lifetime.

But aside from the fond memories, I look back at the goal I set at the beginning of last semester in

the first column of the first issue. I made it my resolution for the *Collegian* staff members to achieve excellence in our work this year. It's taken a while, but we're finally here. We've experienced a variety of troubles and rewards. We've had successes and failures.

Thinking about this reminds me of a quote by Mildred Witte Stouven that my supervisor at my internship shared with me: "A clay pot sitting in the sun will always be a clay pot. It has to go through the white heat of the furnace to become porcelain."

As she expanded on the idea, I thought about this quote, and the biblical parallels stuck out to me.

Each of us is a clay pot, molded by our Creator, each possessing our own unique features and talents. More importantly, each of us has potential ready to be actuated.

Like the pottery we're compared to, we're all put through the fire—better known as trials or hard times. But we don't all react

in the same way: some explode, others collapse before they even make it to the fire, and some develop cracks or mars, which damage them to one degree or another. Some just turn out to be duds.

But then there are those who meet their full potential. They are the ones who endure the trials and troubles successfully. They learn from their mistakes and seek the face of God in their lives. They survive the fire—no, they grow from it and become porcelain—something of much greater value than when they started.

This year the *Collegian* staff has been put through the fire. Despite the ups and downs, we met our goal. I saw people work harder than they ever have before. I saw staffers give of themselves for the better of their fellow members, the paper and our readers. I saw people struggle with illness, grades and personal difficulties but never (or rarely) complain. I look at each

of these instances, and all I can do is smile. These people have given a huge part of their lives for the good of others. And I can say for a fact that they've impacted me more than I could ever express in words. This year the *Collegian* staff far exceeded every expectation I held.

This year, my staff achieved excellence to its finest degree in my eyes—and as their editor I could never thank them enough for what they've done.

To the student body and especially my fellow seniors, I encourage you in this area: when you're put through the fire and you begin to sweat, when you feel the burn and you think the pain is unbearable, look to God for strength, endure the discomfort for a time, glean what you can from the situation. Don't crack under the pressure and heat. Let yourself be transformed into porcelain for the betterment of yourselves and to the glory of God.





Going to West Virginia
on a missions trip to do
construction work, and
then I'm also going to
work at a bakery.

Jon Lewis
sophomore

I'm graduating, so I'm moving in with my sister and working until I get into grad school at USC.

Hannah senior **Gray** 

# What are your plans for the summer?

Doing a church internship in Canada. Also, my girl-friend is coming to Japan to meet my family.

Tak Hayashi



PHOTOS BY AUDREY KROENING

# Commencement Concert: an all-American affair

**DAN GASS** 

The BJU Orchestra and combined choirs will present the 2009 Commencement Concert, "American Visions," on Friday, May 8, at 8 p.m. in the FMA.

The concert will feature works by American composers including John Williams, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland and BJU's own Dr. Dwight Gustafson, dean emeritus of the School of Fine Arts.

The two best-known pieces on the program are John Williams' "Summon the Heroes," the theme for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, and "Hoe Down" from Copland's ballet *Rodeo*, a piece many will recognize from its use in commercials.

A highlight of the night will be the orchestra's performance of "Camp Meeting," an arrangement of Dr. Gustafson's score for the 1977 film *Sheffey*. Simultaneous with the performance, footage from the film will be shown on projector screens.

Other pieces to be performed

include "The Cowboys Overture" by Williams; two movements from Hanson's Symphony No. 2 "Romantic"; and two Wilberg choral arrangements, "Saints Bound for Heaven" and "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing."

"The confidence, the boldness, the freedom, the drama all together make this an unmistakably American style," said Sam Arnold, a senior and the orchestra concertmaster.

In preparation for the concert, members of the orchestra were challenged and united together. Dr. Richard Nichols, the concert director and senior manager of SoundForth, said he enjoys challenging students to play better than they think they can by having the stronger players help the weaker players achieve a higher level of performance.

# Students to have fun at final Student Body

#### JOSHUA PRIVETT

Students will meet at 11 a.m. today in the FMA for the final Student Body of this semester.

Alyssa Gomez, women's Student Body president, said the theme of this Student Body program will focus on funny and embarrassing college moments, with specific events acted out in skits and visualized with photos on the screen.

"[They're] the kind of everyday, embarrassing moments the awkward things that happen to people," she said.

After the funny program,

Josh Kaighen, men's Student Body president, and Alyssa will introduce the new student leadership council.

Senior Chris Pennington will preach a message to conclude the program.

The inspiration for this Student Body came from observing the everyday life of students, Alyssa said.

"[Humor] doesn't have to be at someone's expense or in any way harmful, but you can just have fun and laugh at yourself," Alyssa said. "Everyone lives, and things happen to people every day, and it's funny."

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# The Collegian wins 15 awards at state competition

Fourteen members of *The Collegian* staff attended the South Carolina Press Association's Collegiate Meeting and Awards Presentation for 2009 Friday, April 3.

The Collegian received 15 awards for the 2008 collegiate competition in the "Under 5,000" enrollment division. Other schools that competed in the "Under 5,000" division include Winthrop University, South Carolina State, College of Charleston and Wofford College. Details for awards are as follows:

#### **STAFF AWARD**

The entire staff of *The Collegian* received second place in the "Best Overall" category in its division.

#### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

#### First Place

- Andrew Brandenburg, Sarah Centers, Jen Wetzel and Jeff Wert — "Front Page Layout and Design"
- Ali Orlando "Editorial Writing"
- Gregory Schmidt "Sports Photograph"
- Brenna Smith "Feature Story"
- Rob Wheeler "Photograph"

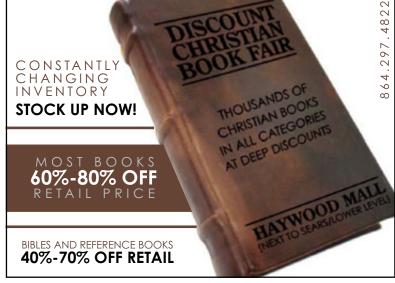
#### **Second Place**

- Dan Gass "News Story"
   Joff Wort "Specialty Page
- Jeff Wert "Specialty Page Layout and Design"
- Jen Wetzel "Illustration or Informational Graphic"
- Rob Wheeler "Sports Photograph"
- Jen Wright "Arts and Entertainment Story"

#### Third Place

- Blake Meyer "Humorous Illustration or Cartoon"
- Jeff Wert "Illustration or Informational Graphic"
- Jen Wetzel "Specialty Page Layout and Design"
- Rob Wheeler "Sports Photograph"











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# NEWS

## SENIOR MEMORIES

The Class of 2009, made up of 1,056 freshmen, entered BJU in 2005. Soon they will exit the FMA in much the same way they entered. With them, they will take a degree. But more importantly, they will take away many memories that will last a lifetime.

A few seniors took time to reflect on these memories from their time at BJU.

#### THE BIG WHOOP OF 2007

On Nov. 19, 2007, the first case of whooping cough was diagnosed at University Medical Associates. BJU was in for an epidemic. Chapel was canceled, Grab 'n Go became the in-thing, and many students were isolated in Barge. Then the

unthinkable happened: the semester ended early. Teachers and students scrambled to finish classes and finals. Students also had to rethink travel arrangements.

Senior Stephen Parish remembers his roommate's reaction. When the epidemic began, his roommate put a sign on his dorm room door that read, "Whooping Cough," with an international

"no" symbol striking through the words. However, upon hearing the announcement of the school year ending early, he promptly replaced the sign with a heart-shaped sign that read, "I love you, whooping cough!"

#### DR. JONES' GOATEE

In the fall of 2007, Dr. Stephen Jones grew a goatee for his role in the Shakespearean play "Much Ado About Nothing." Students loved the goatee, as did Dr. Jones. The regulations concerning faculty men's facial hair were also about to change. Knowing that the policy would not be changed until the next semester, students began to passionately plead with Dr. Jones to keep his goatee. Students adopted slogans such as "Save the Goatee," and many students signed a petition trying to save the

goatee. But alas, Dr. Jones shaved it off.

Following the change, the goatee made a comeback the following semester. Since its appearance, the elusive goatee has occasionally disappeared, much to the disappointment of many in the student body. Its most recent disappearance took

place a month ago. It is still missing.

#### **BJU's New Face**



Since their arrival on campus, many students have seen numerous projects completed across campus. When students arrived first semester, workers had just finished renovations on the FMA sidewalks and entryway. Seniors then watched as the parking garage, the campus front entrance, Cuppa Jones, Alumni covered sidewalks, Dean Hall and Rodeheaver's lobby were completed.

#### STANDING CHINA CHAPEL

Students expecting an average chapel message on Oct. 24, 2006, were in for a surprise. Mr. Mark Vowels, BJU's director of



missions, began his message on the persecuted church in China by asking the audience on the main floor to stand. Throughout the message, Dr. Vowels asked if the audience was uncomfortable. This reinforced his point of how comfortable Americans are in their Christianity, contrasted with the incredible persecution experienced by the Chinese Church. The audience stood the entire chapel service.

"It helped me appreciate more that we have seats to sit in, while in China it is standing-room only," said Laura Wolstenholme, a senior publishing major .

#### THE SINGSPIRATION OF 2005

In the fall of 2005, BJU held a singspiration as part of the Day of Prayer. The day began with cold temperatures, and as a result, many students dressed in warm clothing. By the time of the singspiration at Alumni Stadium, Greenville's infamous 15-minute weather cycle changed from a winter-like morning to a summer-like afternoon.

As students were singing, several girls began to pass out from the heat. Many people were confused as they watched the students being carried down from the stands.

Ben Smith, a graduate assistant, remembers the event vividly. "I had an incredible view of all these people dropping like flies and being carried out," he said with a chuckle.



**« Seniors** p. 1

doctorate degrees. "We always have individuals who are recognized for their accomplishments."

BJU's commencement ceremony is unique. Rather than having a guest speaker as many colleges and universities do, a number of graduates will share personal testimonies. "The focus is where it should be—it's on the ones who have done the work," said Mrs. Susan Peck of the Records Office.

"Going to commencement is a way for students to support their friends," Rebekah Buccio, a senior church music major, said.

As a parting word to her

classmates, Rebekah encouraged students not to wait until their senior year to take advantage of opportunities that abound in college. Will Garrett, a senior health, fitness and recreation major, said the challenges of his senior year taught him to rely on God. "I had a lot on my plate with classes,

work, studying and training for the military, and it all seemed overwhelming at times, but I kept reminding myself of Philippians 4:13," he said.



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# NEWS



#### **CREEL 224**

**Designer:** Sharon Niega **Roommates:** Ealia Padreganda, Rachel Smitley and Erin Gillam

The sun is bright and the palm trees are blowing in the warm breeze—all inside Creel 224. The girls of Mack 216 and designer Sharon Niega created a relaxing tropical theme with bright colors and seashells. For a study area, the girls stood the extra mattress on its side on the top of the double to create a couch, adding cushions and blankets for extra comfort.

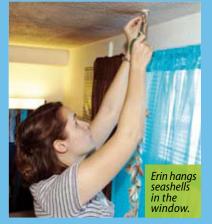
A beach theme fit well with Sharon Niega's favorite design styles, and the hanging seashells from the center of the window reflect her style.

"I love bringing nature's elements into the living space because it adds freshness to one's eye," Sharon said.

Erin Gillam, a freshman nursing major, said her favorite decorating moment was hanging the beach scene above the top of the triple bunk.

"It made me ready to go lounge on the beach all summer," Erin said.









# **ROOM REVAMP**

If you lived in a drab, boring room all year, don't let it happen again. Use these ideas to make next year's living space an enjoyable place to relax. The Collegian helped two rooms make over each other's space by giving them a budget of \$50 and two senior interior design majors. Visit www.collegianonline.com for more decorating tips.









#### **MACK 216**

**Designer:** Angela Jackson **Roommates:** Megan Vocu, Melissa Adair and Katrina Bumagat

Summer may have arrived for Greenville, but inside Mack 216, with its spring yellow flowers and purple accents, summer is still just around the corner. Designer Angela Jackson and the girls of Creel 224 created a functional spring-inspired room. The mattress in the middle of the triple was removed to make room for a coffee pot and other food items. To block the sink light from shining on the top of the double, the girls created a barrier above the headboard with a collage of pictures and a yellow background.

But apart from the novelty of a made-over room, Katrina Bumagat, a freshman nursing major, decided her favorite part had nothing to do with making over the rooms.

"My favorite part about making over the other room is the bonding time that I had with my roomies," Katrina said.





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# SPORTS&HEALTH

## Pi Kappa wins softball title

**BRANDON HODNETT** 

The Cobras finished what they had started 16 days prior, capturing the softball championship with a 7-6 victory over the Sigma Spartans, April 20.

Both Pi Kappa and Sigma struggled at the plate in the lowscoring game. Sigma eked out 11 hits, one more than Pi Kappa.

Sigma's coach Rodney Willoughby wasn't satisfied with his team's offensive output.

"If you don't score 10 runs a game in softball, you're going to lose," Rodney said. "The top of the order was getting on, but we left too many guys on base."

Pi Kappa's first inning was reminiscent of game one, as they sprung to an early lead again.

Noah Smith started the game

with a single to right field, and Andy Dulin followed with a double. Both runners scored on a line drive by Cole Dulin right past Sigma's Ben Derhammer.

Cobras' Stephen Stine upped their first inning lead to 3-0 with an RBI double to left field.

Sigma's Ben Derhammer redeemed himself in the bottom of the first by smacking a RBI triple to center field. Ben got caught between third and home, trying to stretch his triple into a home run. Pi Kappa catcher Matt Owen chased him down and tagged him out.

Ben went 2-for-4 in the game, with two RBIs.

The Spartans charged to a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the third off RBI hits by Drew Mishler and Bruce Knisley.

Drew batted 2-for-3 in the

game, with a walk. Bruce contributed two doubles in four at-bats.

The Cobras rebounded with four runs in the fourth, taking the lead 7-4 and apparently exhausting their offensive production. From that point on, they batted 1-for-12, thanks in part to the magnetic-like glove of left fielder Drew Mishler.

Pi Kappa's Jon Hess led off the inning with a single to center field, and after a double by Stephen Stine and a single by Matt Owen, the bases were loaded.

Andrew Hilton decided to unload them.

He drove a screaming groundball past a diving Tim Fortney at second base, scoring all three runs with a stand-up triple.

Andrew Hilton, Noah Smith and Stephen Stine all batted 2-for-3, and Jon Hess led the way defen-



Pi Kappa's Andrew Hilton swings away, putting the Cobras ahead for good.

sively with several diving stops.

In the fifth, Ben Derhammer's line drive to center scored Ben Fortney, cutting the gap to 7-5. But, Sigma's comeback was thwarted when Drew Mishler was thrown out going to home. Rodney Willoughby gave Sigma another run in the sixth as he slid his way around the bases.

But Sigma's two runners thrown out at home proved to be the difference, and Pi Kappa held on, winning 7-6.

## Cardinals, Classics and Pirates split sports

**HEATHER HELM** 

The 2008-2009 women's sports season was full of surprises and excitement, with close calls, skilled athletes, and nail-biting competitions

Starting with volleyball, the Beta Epsilon Cardinals quickly dominated the competition and won the championship against the Classics. The Cardinals, led by MVP Lacey Hendrickson, won all three sets, with scores of 25-22, 25-18 and 25-23.

Soon basketball season was approaching and Beta Epsilon and Pi Delta were back at it, fighting for the championship title in an intense competition.

The Classics held the lead at halftime 34-23. After the Cardinals scored 15 of 20 free throws, they were back in the game and won



The Pirates hoist the softball trophy. From left to right: Brittany Clemens, Jenna Fenderson, Amanda Rankin, Anna Niarchos, Paige Payne, Andrea Moger, Kristin Mittan, Katie Niarchos, Karina Yurchak and Alyssa Clemens.

66-61.

With two championship titles under their belt, the Cardinals hoped to sweep the rest of the major sports.

But the Pi Delta Classics were

determined to win soccer this year after losing to the Pirates in the championship game last year.

The Cardinals and Classics faced off in the championship game, and the Classics emerged with a 2-1 victory.

Women's softball closed out the sports year.

The Classics, the defending champions, represented the American League in the championship after knocking off the Gators.

The Pirates, last year's runner-up, defeated the Cardinals to represent the National League.

The Tri Epsilon Pirates dominated the Classics 11-4, in the championship game. The Pirates ended the year with two titles, one in water polo and one in softball.

With a year as unpredictable as this one, who knows what women's sports will be like next year.









Congratulations to our graduating student star

Robyn Anastos Rebekah Black Kassie Bock Angela Bowers Jeremiah Brobst David Brokke Mark Dupont Brandon Glenn Samantha Hahn Glenn John Griffin Stephanie Lilyea Jessica Little Lyndsey Lowe Katie Lynch Allison Miller Heidi Moffitt Michelle Newman Lydia Schaefer Jennifer Spangler Melanie Torres Jonathan Ubben Angela Vanaman Lydia White



#### The Collegian · May 1, 2009

## Lanier volleyball perfect, wins back-to-back titles

**ANDREW HARROD** 

The Lanier Falcons successfully defended their volleyball title Saturday night by defeating the Zeta Chi Tornadoes in three games.

Including the playoffs, Lanier ended the season 13-0.

Zeta Chi jumped out to an early lead in game one, but Lanier quickly recovered. Zeta Chi's problems stemmed from unforced errors at the net. Stephen Yates and Tyler Jones both overpowered a number of hits out of bounds.

Coupled with weak play at the net, the Tornadoes struggled

to handle Lanier's serving. As a result, Zeta Chi struggled with its passing. Despite struggling in the first game, Zeta Chi hung around, but at the end of game one, Lanier claimed the 25-19 victory.

Both teams started the second game strong. Zeta Chi did not let the game-one loss discourage them. Stephen Yates and Tyler Jones both started to find their form, resulting in two kills for each in game two.

For Lanier, John Pobuk and Mark Ferguson dominated play. John blocked three spikes and rained down four kills.

Mark Ferguson added three

blocks of his own, along with six kills. Zeta Chi held its own for a majority of the game, but unforced errors at the end of the game allowed Lanier to pick up a 25-22 win in game two.

Game three followed a similar story line to game two. John and Mark slammed a number of balls down on the Tornadoes, and Zeta Chi could not answer.

Stephen Yates again led his team with two kills. The Tornadoes fought valiantly, but the skill and speed of Lanier proved to be too much for Zeta Chi.

Lanier reclaimed its championship title with another 25-22 win in game three.



The Falcons from left to right: Eric Pegarido, Jai Johnston, John Pobuk, Cyril Mirasol, Jamie Bumanglag, Jeriah Garcines, Mark Ferguson, Kevin Yeh, Brady Cox and A.J. Gillespie.

### NL takes three of four

#### **DEREK BREITENSTINE**

Beta entered the 2008 soccer season with a target on their backs. Everyone knew about the storied basketball tradition of the Patriots, but could they capture that elusive soccer title?

Beta's MVP Anthony Lehn powered the Patriots to the Turkey Bowl as they cruised past Phi Beta and Omega by four goals each in the playoffs.

Again, Basilean emerged as the dominant American League force and went undefeated in league play.

The Eagles had no problem in the first round of the playoffs but needed a late game-winner from midfielder David Moore to advance past Pi Kappa and into the Turkey Bowl.

Beta quickly silenced all the Turkey Bowl hype in the first few minutes of the game. Beta opened up the scoring when

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Micah Wright finished off a loose hoisted the basketball trophy. ball in front of the net for Beta's first goal. Anthony Lehn scored a clutch penalty kick, setting up Beta for a 2-0 victory and its first Turkey Bowl crown.

Beta sought to stake its claim as BJU's premier sports society by defending the basketball title. With the AL not providing much of a challenge to Beta's dominance, the task of stopping Beta landed on Sigma and Omega.

Beta went through the regular season undefeated, but MVP Dave Peterson came up huge for Sigma in the playoffs, giving the Patriots their first loss in three seasons. Sigma then faced Omega who used its speed to race past the Spartans into the

After defeating Z in the AL final, Pi Kappa challenged Omega in the school championship.

Omega converted key free throws down the stretch and

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As men's softball season went late into the year, the Pi Kappa Cobras washed away disappointing memories of soccer and basketball defeats as they conquered Sigma in two games to take the softball championship.

The only sport to have a team win back-to-back champions was volleyball. Lanier continued to dominate the sport and knocked off Z in the championship game.

The outlook for next year could be dim for teams not wearing red, white, and blue.

Beta will more than likely open up both soccer and basketball ranked number one—their entire basketball team will be back next year.

Softball will, as usual, be up for grabs, and time will tell if Lanier can pull off a three-peat in volleyball.

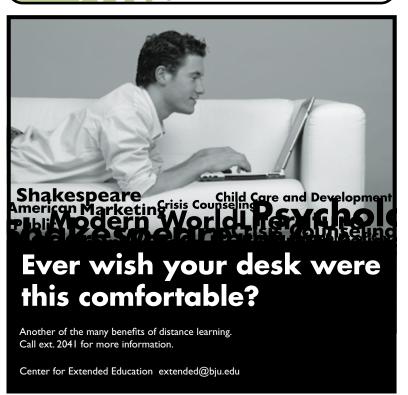
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