# theOLEGIAN

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# Verdi opera to be set in WWI-era Spain

# In the know:

#### **Daylight Saving Time** Don't forget to turn your clocks one hour ahead Saturday night for daylight saving time.

White Glove Tomorrow is the University's spring cleaning day in the residence halls. Inspection will take place from 5 until 5:45 p.m.

#### **Concert, Opera & Drama Series** The University Opera Association will present *II Trovatore* Tuesday, Thursday and next Saturday at 8 p.m. in Rodeheaver Auditorium.



Actors portray Manrico and Leonora, the hero and heroine in Giuseppe Verdi's Il Trovatore. Photo: Amy Roukes

# CSC seeks blood donors to save lives, one pint at a time



The Blood Connection brings its "Blood Vessels" onto campus each semester to collect donations. Photo: Photo Services

By: STEFFANI RUSSELL Staff Writer For five days, staff from p The Blood Connection will ti

percent of its blood donations to 16 hospitals in South Carolina and one in Georgia. BJU. She says it's rewarding because she knows how real the need for blood is.

Becca recommends bringing a friend along if it's your first time donating.

"The first time I gave blood, I went with a friend of mine," she said. "We ended up not eating for a few hours afterward—that was a big mistake! But if you're smart about it and follow the staff's advice, giving blood is a great experience."

So what can you do to make this life-saving experience of blood donation as painless as possible? **Before:**  balanced meals. Try to avoid fatty foods right before donating because tests for infections on donated blood can be affected by fats that may appear in your blood if they are eaten in the few hours before donating. Also, drink lots of liquids before donating to keep you feeling well and to cause your blood to flow better. **During:** 

Wear clothing with sleeves that can be easily rolled up above the elbow. Let the staff know if you have a preferred arm for the donation. Sit back and relax! The Blood Connection keeps movies or music By: HEIDI WILLARD Staff Writer

"Spain did not enter the war, but the war entered Spain, and its economic and political impact eroded the fragile foundations of the political system." This quote by author Francisco J. Romero Salvadó inspired the setting for this year's opera, *Il Trovatore*.

*Il Trovatore* was originally set in the 1400s, but Dr. Darren Lawson, the director of this production, chose to set the opera in Spain in 1914, a time of civil unrest. "This is the most modern period in which we've set one of our operas," Dr. Lawson said.

Because the plot of *Il Trovatore* is rather complex, a video has been incorporated into the production to "help the story along," said Jill Iles, a junior speech pedagogy major and assistant director to Dr. Lawson.

In the video, the characters discuss earlier events. "We decided that it would help clarify the plot to have live action of the story integrated into the scene," Dr. Lawson said. "It's working quite well to keep the specific details of the story straight."

While the main theme of *Il Trovatore* is revenge, the opera also has themes of love and war interwoven into it, said Mr. Jeff Stegall, director of costumes and set design.

Since operas require a great deal of planning and hard work, this production has been in the works for about two years. "It's a different look than

BJU's Community Service Council and The Blood Connection will host a blood drive on campus starting Monday. accept student, faculty and staff donations.

The largest non-profit community center in Upstate South Carolina, The Blood Connection provides 100 Junior nursing major Becca Zukowski has donated four pints of blood since she's been a student at

The day before you give blood, plan to eat three well-

See **BLOOD DRIVE** p. 4 **>>** 

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Bob Jones University Greenville, SC • 29614

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### COLUMN



**By: JORDAN WELLIN** Staff Writer

Do you have a cat? If you do, have you ever taken a piece of bread, cut out the center of it and put it around your cat's head? No? Well, what's your problem?

Welcome to the world of "breading," brought to you by a bunch of bored folks who are so over planking, Tebowing and flagpole-sitting.

website Badfads.com (a

must-visit for anyone who

time). I discovered some

needs to waste some serious

fads that I was not previously

weren't really my generation's

thing. Instead, the kids I grew

up with got their kicks out

of Cabbage Patch Kids and

long way from such ridicu-

lous fads. Kids today have

learned their lesson from the

heydays of the '90s and have

moved on to much, much

cooler things like wearing

pajama pants to the store and

places for no apparent reason

(also known as "planking").

I just don't get it. I don't get

why it's so cool to see how

many people you can stuff

into a phone booth. I don't

understand why girls would

put feathers in their hair. I

would think it was a really

can't figure out why someone

good idea to go out in public

Now call me crazy, but

lying face down in unusual

Thankfully, we've come a

coonskin caps.

aware of. Fads like goldfish-

swallowing and zoot suits

If you haven't heard of "breading," it's probably because you have a life. But if you have, you've no doubt seen the pictures people post online of their cats wearing a bread mane, looking either terribly frightened or bored out of their minds.

But the point of this column is not to point out the abuse of stuffing cats' heads through Wonder Bread. To be honest, I find the whole concept of breading to be rather funny in a stupid, kind of pathetic way.

I remember feeling the same way about my classmates in elementary school who were obsessed with yo-yos, Giga Pets, gel pens and Beanie Babies. Why in the world any child would be infatuated with any of those things, I'm still not quite sure. But like any fad, all those items remained popular for about three days, and then everyone got bored and moved on to the next inane craze.

While perusing the



## Limbaugh misdirects argument from issue to personal attacks

#### The Collegian Editorial

Rush Limbaugh, who has long been a loud voice of the Republican Party on the airwaves, made very personal derogatory comments about law student Sandra Fluke last week, alienating himself from much of the American public.

Fluke had testified before Congress in favor of government-funded birth control for women, and Limbaugh responded by calling her a prostitute, among other things. His unnecessary mudslinging cost him some of his advertisers and the respect of many who had formerly supported him.

Following the rush of criticism and the steep drop in his sponsorship, Limbaugh issued an apology, which many have rejected as halfhearted. In it, he said, "For over 20 years, I have illustrated the absurd with absurdity, three hours a day, five days a week. In this instance, I chose the wrong words in my analogy of the situation. I did not mean a personal attack on Ms. Fluke."

He went on to explain that, with the current serious political issues facing the country, he finds it ridiculous that this issue is being debated in front of Congress and, like many Americans, asks where the government will draw the line of government-funded health-See **COLUMN** p. 8 **>>** care. "Will we be debating if taxpayers should

pay for new sneakers for all students that are interested in running to keep fit?" he asked.

Few if any in the Republican Party would disagree with Limbaugh that the government doesn't need to include birth control in its health coverage. In fact, almost all Republicans would be thrilled with Obamacare's demise.

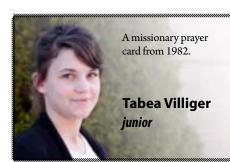
But when anybody expresses personal opinions on social media, in forwarded emails or in conversation, it does no good to attack the wrong people in order to dramatize the point. When Limbaugh started targeting one woman with a personal attack, he distracted from the issue

Many political issues like this are emotionally charged, and all people are susceptible to the temptation to let their feelings rule their discussions. But when critics take aim at the people involved in an issue instead of presenting well-thought-out, logical arguments, the issue is lost, and the attacker looks foolish.

Limbaugh is hardly the first to direct criticism at the wrong target in such matters; he simply has a bigger audience than most. But the same principle that applies to him applies to every American: when airing opinionspolitical or otherwise—don't take a personal swing at anybody and everybody on the other side of the argument. Instead, target the issue.



#### What is the strangest thing you have ever found while cleaning for White Glove?







### **CHEOLFGIAN**

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godless society," he said.

# New play presents source of peace in the face of death

Actors rehearse for the upcoming play Gramercy, written by Mr. Dave Schwingle and directed by Laura Hart. Photo: Jon Baker

#### By: JESSI HARGETT Staff Writer

Senior dramatic production major Laura Hart, along with her actors and design team, are bringing the brandnew play Gramercy to Perf Hall.

Laura said if students enjoyed the last dramatic Vespers, they will love this play. Gramercy will be per-

formed March 12, 14 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. and March 17 at 2:30 p.m. The play lasts around one hour and 40 minutes. Tickets are for sale at Programs & Productions for \$6.50.

Mr. Dave Schwingle, professor in the Division of Communication, recently wrote the script for Gramercy. Laura said, "It's one of the most incredible scripts I have ever read." The actors described the script as deep

with underlying spiritual truths.

Laura said *Gramercy* is an updated Protestant version of the Catholic play *Everyman*. Mr. Schwingle said the title of *Gramercy* unites two aspects of the Christian faith—grace and mercy—but also alludes to God's grand mercy. The title at one time meant surprise or thankfulness, which Mr. Schwingle believes describes our salvation—unanticipated but sparking a grateful spirit in believers.

The drama tells the story of a young folksinger, Jane, played by senior dramatic production major Lauren Jacobs. The play includes five songs, three written specifically for Gramercy. The setting of the drama is modern Atlanta, Ga., and Pultneyville, N.Y.

The set for the play is simple and non-realistic

The design team is creating a concrete-covered, dirty feel to the set to depict a graveyard and alley. "We're trying to keep the whole set and costumes simple," Laura said. "Because the story itself is so beautiful, we want that stunning simplicity."

The plot of the story begins grimly as Death tells Jane that she must die, and she soon finds herself battling throat cancer. She struggles to find help from her resources: her lover, family, doctor and priest, but to no avail. Lauren said that Jane turns to all the wrong places and does not find comfort and satisfaction until she loses everything. How she eventually finds peace will be revealed in the play.

Lauren said, "Everyone will be able to connect with

See **GRAMERCY** p. 8 >>

# Forum to address scriptural roles of men and women in modern society

#### By: LEE MILLER Staff Writer

Today's Biblical Worldview Forum, titled "Bearing God's Image as Male and Female," will seek to address questions concerning the biblical roles of men and women.

This issue is being addressed because of the cultural attack on biblical manhood and womanhood, according to Dean of Students Dr. Eric Newton, who organized the forum. "Though the assault is intimidating and pervasive, Scripture teaches that Christ can give victory in these areas—even in a largely

The forum panel is made up of two men and two women faculty members-Dean of Men Mr. Jon Daulton, Bible professor

Mr. Kerry McGonigal, Christian ministries professor Mrs. Cindy Melius and mathematics and computer science professor Mrs. Rebecca Weier.

The forum will be moderated by Dr. Lonnie Polson of the Division of Communica-

"In 2012, one of Satan's primary schemes is directed at true manhood and womanhood—what it means to bear God's image as male and female." Dr. Newton said. "This attack manifests itself in multiple ways: broken marriages, pornography, heterosexual and homosexual lust and immorality, sexting, passive or abusive male leadership, role reversal in relationships, immodesty and sensuality." Mr. McGonigal said there is a need to go

to the Bible to understand God's intentions

for men and women. "To have that biblical worldview, we've got to go back to God's created design and understand how He made male and female," he said.

"Our desire is to generate discussion among the student body and to encourage consideration of this issue," Mr. McGonigal said.

Mrs. Weier said the forum will not just focus on marriage and dating, but also on God's plan for men and women in general. Mrs. Weier said, "It's intentional that God made me a woman, so what is it that He wants me to do?"

Dr. Newton said, "This forum is not primarily about any one distortion of God's beautiful intentions for men and women, but about His fundamental purpose and about the grace in Christ that is ours to honor God through our gender."

Another goal of the forum is to challenge cultural stereotypes such as men being only pleasure-driven or women being only

emotional and not logical. Mr. Daulton said, "We want to put before students the difference between [what] our culture presents as the standard and what Scripture presents as the standard."

Mrs. Melius said there are two stereotypical extremes: cultural gender confusion and the belief in some Christian circles that there are tasks reserved just for men or just for women. "I think the key is to find out exactly what Scripture says to help with both extremes, whichever ones people may be exposed to," Mrs. Melius said.

While the panel has been meeting together and preparing for the Biblical Worldview Forum, the exact direction of the forum with be determined by interaction with the student body. It will start with introductory comments, but at least half the time will be devoted to answering questions students text

The forum will be held at 11 a.m. in the FMA.



#### This day in history:

1796 – Napoleon Bonaparte married Josephine de Beauharnais in Paris.

#### **Russian Presidential Election:**

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin claimed the Russian presidency Sunday with exit polls giving him a sizable majority. "I promised you we would win," he said. "We have won. Glory to Russia." It remains to be seen how effectively his return to the presidency (he previously served as president from 1999-2008) will quell the accusations of fraud by rival candidates and the unrest among the middle class in Russia.

#### They said it, not me:

"I guess I'm taking the law into my own hands, and, guite frankly, I'm proud of it." - A Philadelphia man caught using an illegal cell phone jammer to keep his bus ride quiet.

#### This week in weird:

The sometimes annoying autocorrect function on smartphones caused a more serious miscommunication than usual last Thursday for a Georgia highschool student. Although he intended to send "gunna be at west hall today," his phone changed "gunna" to "gunman." The police had to lock down the school for an investigation.

# **Resident assistants offer** cleaning tips for White Glove

#### **By: GLORIA GIBRAEL** Staff Writer

Lysol, paper towels, Disney music and a lot of dust—what do these have in common? You guessed it: White Glove.

While some dread this all-consuming cleaning process, we have the secrets to a perfect room, straight from those who will be doing the checking: the resident assistants. What They're Looking For

Mack RA Karis McAllister says she tries to keep a balanced perspective when she checks. "The rooms should cover all the basics listed for them to clean, but I don't go looking for small things to mark off for unnecessarily," she said.

Johnson RA Josh Csire said the amount of time spent checking each room is not much greater than an average chapel check. However, the RAs know exactly what to look for. Johnson RA Ethan Weaver said, "We only spend about a minute checking a room, though I've seen other groups go much slower. We just know what to look for." **Trouble Areas** 

"I remember the biggest spot people missed last semester was the space in between the sink and the bed," Karis said. "Another trouble spot was the ledge to the

#### >>OPERA D. 1

we've ever had before," Mr. Stegall said. "I'm glad I had the opportunity to explore new visual territory."

As with any opera, the music will play a major role in this production. "Il Trovatore is an opera that gives to the audience some of the best tunes that were ever written," said Dr. Stan Eby, the conductor for the opera. "It's a tune feast for the audience.

Not only will the music be enjoyable, but it will also be familiar. One of the most widely recognized tunes of all time, the "Anvil Chorus," will be performed. "People [who] don't even know they know the 'Anvil Chorus' know the 'Anvil Chorus,'" Dr. Eby said.

The music depends heavily on four guest performers—Laquita Mitchell as Leonora, Mark Walters as Count di Luna, James Tavlor as Manrico and Mary Phillips as Azucena. The role of Fernando will be played by Dr. Dave Parker of the BJU music faculty.

The superior characterization in this opera demonstrates the great skill of its writer, Giuseppe Verdi. "He was a great genius," Dr. Eby said. "I have a great deal of admiration for Verdi. He was the master of the music for the stage."

side of the sink. Most people didn't clean that off or wash dishes they had stacked there."

Gaston RA Alayna Pennington said she's found several areas girls consistently miss. "Too often I've seen that girls forget to clean the top of the phone, the bottom of the recycle bin and the grate of the A/C unit," she said.

Josh said students usually forget to clean unused bunks. "Even though no one is using a certain bunk, it still needs to be dusted," he said.

Ethan said dust on the lights in the room and on the blinds was usually a problem. "Also, gross recycling bins and trash underneath the mattress were trouble areas," he said.

#### **Tips to a Great Room**

Alayna said taking the blinds down off the window makes them much easier to clean. "This way you can really press on them and pick up any specks of dust off them," she said.

Ethan suggested students make plans with their roommates and start early. "Make sure everything is covered and that no one person leaves the room," he said. "Set time goals for yourself so you can go hang out with your significant other, or work on finding one, on Saturday."

But preparing a work written by a master genius is no easy task. "Opera practices are time-consuming," said Tina Nguyen, a junior music education major who is playing the part of a nun in the opera. But Tina said she enjoys spending time with the cast. "We have as much fun as we can and just enjoy being together. It's a great opportunity to build relationships and encourage one another."

#### >>BLOOD DRIVE p. 1

playing for donors. Right after the donation, you'll find a "rest area" with juice or soda and other goodies to replenish the sugar that was taken with your blood. Take full advantage of this rest stop and sit down for a few minutes before running to your next class or appointment.

After: Keep the colorful wrap on your arm for at least one hour after donating and leave the adhesive bandage on for the rest of the day. Keep drinking plenty of fluids during the next couple of days. Get plenty of sleep at night and go easier on yourself than you normally would. Avoid strenuous physical activity or heavy lifting for five to seven hours after giving.

# **OPERA COSTUME AND SET DESIGN:** BEFUND THE SCENES This year's opera, set in Spain during WWI, brings two years of design, set building and musical preparation to Rodeheaver Auditorium. This is the first production of *Il Trovatore* set in a time period completely different from its original setting of 15th-century Italy.

SET:

Mr. Jeff Stegall—designer of the sets, costumes, hair and makeup-



2 years ago.

summer before the school year even started.

The nine sets for the opera were built during the

This year's set design presented a challenge because the action of the opera cloes not

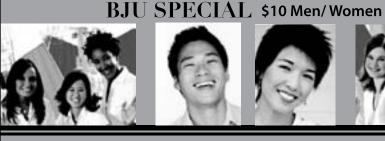
between scene changes, and the cast members have to move some parts of the set.



"We needed to build sets that could be moved quickly and efficiently because there are so many different scenes," Mr. Stegall said. "There is a simplicity about the set, but I'm excited about when Mr. Streeter [the lighting director] chooses the right colors and moving light pieces to make it







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# **COSTUMES:**

This year, the number and complexity of costumes has proved especially intensive for the costume department. "Because we've set the opera in this time period, much more tailoring is required for the costumes," Mr. Stegall said.





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# Z defeats Pi Kappa 66-59, clinches No. 1 seed in A.L.

By: DREW MISHLER **Sports Writer** 

The Epsilon Zeta Tornadoes emerged the victors over the Pi Kappa Cobras Saturday night in a hard-fought game of basketball with a final score of 66-59.

This game had huge playoff implications as both teams were undefeated and vying for the No. 1 seed in the American League. With the victory, Z secured that spot and, more importantly, won the right to avoid perennial power Beta until the championship.

With the new playoff setup, A.L. and N.L. teams will be mixed in the playoff brackets, so the No. 2 seeded Cobras will be in the same bracket as the Patriots and will face the Rovals.

Z secured Saturday's victory with clutch shooting down the stretch. Pi Kappa outplayed Z in many aspects of the game, winning the rebounding battle (35-31) and having more assists (18-6) and fewer turnovers (16-13).

But in the end, it came down to Z's ability to knock down shots in the second half. "Whenever they needed a play, they hit the shot," Pi Kappa senior Jon Edwards said.

The Cobras were especially hurt when point guard Caleb Davis picked up his fourth foul early in the second half and had to sit out for eight minutes. During this time, Evan Brondyke of the Tornadoes took advantage of

the mismatch on defense, scoring 16 of his 24 points (nine from beyond the arc). Evan also had six rebounds and four steals.

Pi Kappa also lost Gregg Hayes to fouls with three minutes left in the second half. The score remained close for most of

the game, but Z pulled away in the closing minutes.

"We were really aggressive and got some of their key guys into foul trouble, and we did a great job closing the game out down the stretch," Z senior Josh Baun said. He finished with 14 points and three steals despite turning over the ball nine times.

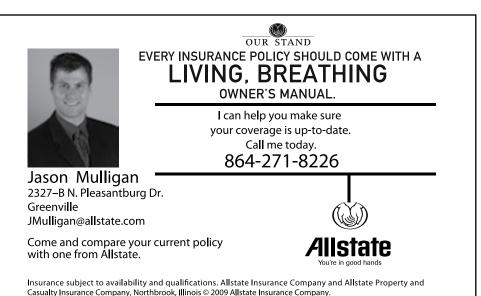
Pi Kappa was also hurt by the fact that, despite scoring 17 points, hauling in seven rebounds and dishing out six assists, big man Jon Edwards did not get to the free throw line once. Senior Andy Dulin played a strong game in a losing effort, finishing with 14 points and 12 rebounds.

Z got very little contribution from its bench, but it didn't matter as the starters scored all 66 points. Ransom Love had a monster game for Z with 18 points and 16 rebounds.

Both teams head into the playoffs with high hopes. "We are going into the playoffs with a lot of confidence," Josh said. "Tonight was a big win for our team. We lost to this team twice last year, so it's a big confidence boost for our team moving forward."



Mark Allamon of Pi Kappa drives to the basket against Zeta Chi. Photo: Amy Roukes



## Colts survive late charge by Bear Cubs, hold on for 2-1 win



The Colts' Rachel Niarchos and the Bear Cubs' Tiffany Smith make a break on the ball. Photo: Mark Cronemeyer

**By: ABBY STANLEY** Sports Writer

The Theta Sigma Colts continued their winning streak with a 2-1 win over the Beta Chi Bear Cubs in women's soccer Friday

Although the first 15 minutes looked like warm-up time, both teams began to figure out the other team's strategy at the end of the first half.

Colts player Juli Smith consistently forwarded the ball to waiting strikers Debra Hart and Rachel Niarchos. The Colts' offense dominated, taking four straight shots and making quick passes that stopped the Bear Cubs' attempts at possession.

Bear Cubs goalie Angela Potts had several saves that kept her team in the game. However, a weak spot was found when

Juli hustled for a cross from the left to Debra,

who passed it back to Rachel to place it the lower right corner.

After halftime, the teams regrouped, and the Colts quickly took advantage of a tired Bear Cubs' defense. Colts midfielder Chelsea

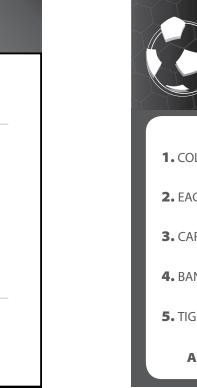
The Bear Cubs worked hard for a chance in the game, and a break finally came with a corner kick at 14 minutes in. Bear Cubs midfielder Alyssa Beck took the shot, a clean kick put the ball in front of the net, multiple players rushed the goalie and the ball dribbled in, putting the Bear Cubs within one goal of the Colts.

Neither teamed scored again after the Colts' defense clamped down on any opportunities for the Bear Cubs to score.

With their solid passing skills and ability to generate goals, the Colts have the chance for a possible championship run. Playoffs

Kern ripped a shot into the lower left side on a cross from Debra.

began Tuesday for girl's soccer.



# SPORTS PICKS

staff		Men's Basketball Cobras vs. Royals	Women's Soccer Champion	Big East Champion
Scott Jennings	(8-10)	Cobras	Cardinals	Syracuse
Abby Stanley	(7-11)	Cobras	Cardinals	Syracuse
Drew Mishler	(10-8)	Cobras	Cardinals	Syracuse
Caleb Davis	(11-7)	Cobras	Colts	Syracuse
Allison Harrod (	(13-5)	Cobras	Eagles	Syracuse
Jon Clute	(12-6)	Cobras	Colts	Syracuse
guests				
Kyle Lefler	(12 ()	Royals	Tigers	Syracuse
male guest Emma Smith female guest	(12-6) (13-5)	Cobras	Tigers	Syracuse



adventures.

make a team.

## SPORTS & HEALTH The Collegian · March 9, 2012

#### **BASKETBALL**

- Omega 78 | Lanier 51
- Pi Gamma 56 | Kappa Theta 24 Phi Beta 67 | Sigma 64
- Beta 65 | Phi Beta 33
- **ZAP 46** | Nu Delt 37
- Bryan 71 | Theta Chi 48
- Phi Sigma 55 | Lanier 45
- Phi Kappa 51 | Nu Delt 36
- Omega 75 | ZAP 49
- Alpha 71 | Theta Kappa 32
  - Chi Alpha 73 | Basilean 45
  - Zeta Chi 66 | Pi Kappa 59

• Kappa Chi 55 | Omicron 40

- SOCCER
- Tigers 3 | Kangaroos 0 Wildcats 8 | Jaguars 2
  - Pirates 3 | Dragons 0
  - Eagles 5 | Bandits 1
  - Cardinals 2 | Bear Cubs 0
  - Kangaroos 6 | Mustangs 1
  - Classics 3 | Flames 2
  - Tigers 1 | Seagulls 0 (forfeit
- Classics 8 | Mustangs 1 • Colts 3 | Gators 0

• Flames 8 Jaguars 0

• Eagles 5 | Pirates 0

Bandits 3 | Bobcats 1

• Colts 2 | Bear Cubs 1

• Cardinals 12 | Dragons 1



Stephanie Steeves (8) and Abigail Petersen (12) coached the Jaguars' makeshift team. *Photo: Amv Roukes* 

# Athletes unify to form soccer, basketball teams for small societies

By: JON CLUTE **Sports Writer** 

It's 6 p.m. on a Monday, and the basketball courts are filling up with several societies for daily practice. Players gather under their assigned basket and warm up, some stretching while others shoot around and joke about upcoming tests or weekend

Under one goal, however, the story is a little different. Guys from five different societies—Beta, Z, Chi Alpha, Pi Gamma and Phi Sigma—gather to form a single team for the Phi Sigma Sentinels.

Filling out the roster with players from other societies became a necessity when Phi Sigma could not field enough players to

Out on the soccer field, the Gamma Chi Jaguars faced the same problem and took advantage of the option to recruit girls from other societies. Stephanie Steeves was given charge over the team, despite having never

coached before, and tasked with assembling enough players for every game.

The first challenge for both Phi Sigma and the Jags was finding players. Michael Darlin, an actual Phi Sigma member, recruited many of the players. "Once I found out that we weren't going to have enough guys for the team just from Phi Sig, I still really wanted to play basketball," he said, purposing to do whatever it took to find a team.

Michael turned to guys from his custodial crew to see if they wanted to play for Phi Sigma. Some of his coworkers talked to their friends, and eventually a full roster was made.

For Stephanie and the Jags, just having enough people to avoid a forfeit was a good week. Having substitutes was a bonus. Stephanie said the Jags had a new girl almost every week to fit into the lineup.

Getting a somewhat random collection of guys and girls to play basketball and soccer for these eclectic teams presented an unusual challenge to everyone involved.

Without normal society ties, many players had to get to know their teammates as the season began. Others primarily played different sports and not necessarily basketball or soccer. Establishing a coach with a clear chain of command that everyone would respect took time as well.

Will Edwards from Beta spoke of the adjustment that Phi Sigma had to make to become an actual team. "At first there were more coaches than players," he said. "Throughout the season, based upon skill level and respect, those egos died, and we started to work better as a team."

Stephanie said she and her new teammates were able to connect through common ground. "We're not connected through society, through majors," she said. "The only bond we have really is Christ."

Her job became more complicated when the Jaguars joined forces with the Sigma Kappa Rho Firebirds to share a roster. The extra players turned out to be a blessing, however, as Stephanie now had more girls

available to play.

On the basketball court defense became a major focal point for Phi Sigma this year, which was actually aided by the players who were recruited.

"We can actually match up with guys from the bigger societies because we have athletic guys," Michael said. "Even though we might not be as skilled as them, we can still match up, which really helps our defense."

Stephanie said she is glad she had the opportunity to coach. "Personally, I've learned a lot about leadership," she said. "As a team, we've learned a lot about playing together, having fun and not getting discouraged."

Both teams have struggled through blowouts and tough losses as any other team would, but they've also bonded together just as other societies do. Despite many players having little in common with each other, Phi Sigma and the Jaguars have transformed a mix-matched group of guys and girls into two cohesive teams, proving that unity isn't confined to society ties.



#### Rankings as of March 6.

OLTS	The Colts were the highest-ranked team to come through the playoff quarterfinals, having tasted defeat only once this season.
AGLES	A massive come-from-behind win against the Classics has put the Eagles on the doorstep of the championship game.
ARDINALS	The Cardinals are still a strong team with a terrific offense, but they'll have to face equally strong offenses in these last games.
ANDITS	A shocking upset of the previously top-ranked Tigers gives the Bandits their highest ranking in years.
GERS	The Tigers suffered a frustrating end to an excellent season. They will be firm favorites to lift the trophy next year.

ALSO RANKED: 6. Classics 7. Flames 8. Wildcats 9. Pirates 10. Seagulls

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL Rankings as of March 6. The Patriots' win over the Bulldogs gives them their sixth **1.** BETA (9-0) consecutive undefeated regular season. **2. ZETA CHI (8-0)** Except for brief scares from the Razorbacks and Cobras, the Tornadoes have been dominant all season, though they haven't played the Patriots. **3.** PI KAPPA (6-2) The loss to the Tornadoes might have cost the Cobras more than the A.L. title as they are now in the Patriots' half of the bracket. **4.** PI GAMMA (6-3) The Royals will finally get a second shot at an A.L. team in the Cobras and a chance to redeem their double-digit loss to the

THE COLLEGIAN SPORTS

**5.** OMEGA (7-3) The Lions' season has been wildly inconsistent, but they had a great start to the playoffs with a double digit win over the fading Spartans.

ALSO RANKED: 6. Phi Kappa 7. Phi Beta 8. Alpha 9. Sigma 10. Chi Alpha

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and perch like an owl. (This is, not surprisingly, called "owling.")

Why are such fads sweeping the nation? Perhaps it's because people want to be recognized for doing something seemingly clever. Thanks to the wonder that is the mobile upload, you can plank while your best friend snaps a picture on his phone and posts it to Facebook. Within seconds, you'll get 25 likes and 13 comments from people who are really bored and probably have nothing better to do than "like" your photo.

The sad fact about fads is that they're temporal. They come and go without making any impactful, lasting effect. So when will people finally start doing something with their lives that matters?

Now I know what you're thinking—I'm "the fun killer," trying to discourage everyone from participating in the aforementioned activities. Maybe I am. But look at it this way: thanks to these fads, Americans have been denigrated to "those people who run around doing stupid things for short periods of time until everyone realizes how stupid they actually are and finally stops." Is that something we really want to be remembered for in history?

Here's something to consider: is it really that fun or special to do something that everyone else is doing? Apparently a lot of people think so—at least, while they're actually following a particular fad. (Later, they may realize how ridiculous they, and everyone else, looked and acted.) And that is why we are living in the age of fads, for better or for worse.

Now if you could all do me a favor and put the bread down, climb down from the flagpole and stop swallowing that goldfish, please. I'll thank you, the world will thank you and—most importantly your cat will thank you . . . maybe.

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ALUMIKI

#### **}}GRAMERCY** p. 3

Jane in some way." She said that each of us holds on to something and refuses to let go. But only when we let go will God show Himself in a mighty way.

Senior dramatic production major Lana Tagli said this play teaches the lesson that humans do not have control over their lives. Lana plays the role of the doctor who tries to help Jane throughout her struggle with cancer. However, Lana said that even though the doctor does not see the need for help from outside forces, she struggles with the fact that she cannot stop her own death. Gramercy deals with this fact—death is coming for all.

Many of the actors found

that participation in this play has had a significant impact on their own lives. Lauren said, "I feel as though this is a divine appointment from God for me to share Lauren's story through Jane."

Omar Maldonado, who performs the role of Angel, said his main purpose in the play is to make people think by asking quiestions. He also has seen God working in the lives of the actors throughout the preparations for the play. Because of the difficulty and depth of the script, he said that he could not have understood it without God's help.

Laura said, "What I've really seen in this play is God working in spite of us."

Laura said that *Gramercy* does not spell out the play's meaning for the audience.

"You just can't come in to watch it to be entertained," she said. "You've got to put your thinking cap on." Laura said that the more effort the audience exert to understand the drama, the more it will be enriched. Mr. Schwingle said he wants this play to relate the truth that man can only find salvation in Christ's mercy and grace, not any earthly means.

Omar said, "If you want to understand a little more about yourself, come."





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