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2012: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

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Faculty members decorate homes for Christmas season

By: **JESSICA KANE**
Staff Writer

For many BJU faculty members, the holiday season not only gives them the opportunity to outfit their homes with the standard Christmas trees and stockings, but it also allows them the chance to decorate with a specific purpose in mind: to reflect the true meaning of Christmas.

In addition to a traditional Christmas tree, Dr. Ed Dunbar, who is the chairman of the Division of Music, sets up a "Names of Christ" tree with his family every year. The tree's "ornaments" look like scrolls hung from hangers that are shaped like ropes.

The names on the tree are from the Old and New Testaments and include Emmanuel, Messiah, Consolation of Israel, Bright and Morning Star, Prince of Peace, Pearl of Great Price and Lily of the Valley. A Scriptural reference is displayed along with each name.

Dr. Dunbar and his wife

incorporated their unique tree into their family devotions during the holidays while their children were still at home. One child would choose a name from the tree, and Dr. Dunbar would read several verses from the chapter referenced on the ornament.

"It was a good way to remind [our children] of what we have in Christ," Dr. Dunbar said. "We always talked about attributes associated with that title [on the chosen ornament] from Scripture."

On a larger scale, Dr. Dave Fisher, the provost for BJU, sets up a life-sized nativity scene each holiday season in front of his home from Thanksgiving until New Year's.

The tradition began more than 60 years ago when Dr. Fisher's father, Mr. Gene Fisher, who is retired from the university history faculty, built a wooden manger scene completely from scratch. He began by tracing silhouettes of character patterns onto pieces of plywood and



Dr. Ed Dunbar's Christmas tree displays ornaments of the names of Christ. Photo: Emma Klak

then cut them into their respective shapes. Then he followed premade patterns to paint each character according to his or her clothing and features. Finally, Mr. Fisher's father mounted the finished figures on stakes and set them up in his yard.

Joseph stands next to Mary, who is holding baby Jesus. There are also the three wise men, a shepherd and sheep.

The scene is a favorite in his community, with

everyone who passes by on East North Street each Christmas being reminded of the true message of the season.

Another faculty member who collects and displays nativity scenes each Christmas is Mrs. Gloria Eoute of the nursing faculty. She owns more than 50 items that portray nativity scenes. These items range from beverage coasters to afghans and music boxes to snow globes.

Mrs. Eoute said her interest in nativity scenes began when she was a little girl. During her childhood in Pennsylvania, she lived across the street from a church that had a live nativity scene that was illuminated nightly.

The first Christmas she and her husband were married, her mother gave them their first nativity scene, and Mrs. Eoute has added a couple of sets to her collection every year since then.

Inside their home, Mrs. Eoute and her husband display their largest nativity scene in a large front window. The scene contains a rectangular wooden panel about 21 inches high as well as plaster sculptures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph inside the panel. The family Christmas tree stands behind the scene, and a light underneath the panel

See **FACULTY CHRISTMAS** p. 3»

COLUMN



By: RACHEL PEED
Editor

Not that anyone needs reminding, but the semester ends in six days, six glorious days. Of course, most of us still have projects, papers and exams that must be completed first.

But nobody wants to talk about schoolwork right now. Just listen to the conversations around campus, and you'll quickly discover what everyone does want to talk about: going home.

Going home for Christmas break is going to be different for me this year because this time, I won't be coming back. That's right—I'm graduating in less than a week. Of course, that means that between shopping for gifts, attending holiday parties and watching Christmas movies, I'll have to be job-hunting and resume-tweaking.

But I'll worry about that later, after I finish worrying about how in the world I am going to fit my entire life from the past three and a half years into my car.

It hasn't really hit me yet, the fact that I'm not coming back. My theory is that it will hit me when I log in to Facebook on Jan. 6, and all my friends are posting about heading back to BJU... and I'm not.

See **COLUMN** p. 8 >>



Excessive union demands to blame for Hostess' bankruptcy

The Collegian Editorial

When Hostess Brands declared bankruptcy on Nov. 16, shoppers snatched up the business' remaining baked goods from store shelves for fear that they would never be seen again. Hostess has been in operation for 82 years, baking some of the most iconic products to appear inside lunch boxes and kitchen pantries, including Sno Balls, Ding Dongs, Donettes, Hohos, Wonder Bread and, of course, Twinkies.

But the Hostess liquidation shouldn't cause snack cake lovers to despair. Many of these products—especially Twinkies—have such high brand recognition that other companies are vying to own and produce them. And companies are willing to pay large sums for those rights.

On the other hand, more than 18,000 Hostess employees who lost their jobs have many reasons to despair.

According to Forbes writer Fred Wszolek, the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union began the strike on Nov. 9 that led to the closing of Hostess. The union wouldn't budge on wage and benefit demands, and Hostess had no choice but to liquidate.

This initial strike serves as a solemn reminder that too much union control is detrimental to business like eating too many Twinkies is detrimental to a person's health.

"Unions kill an American classic, and 18,500 of their own jobs," a Wall Street Jour-

nal article said. "Hostess's 372 collective-bargaining agreements required the company to maintain 80 different health and benefit plans, 40 pension plans and mandated a \$31 million increase in wages and health care and other benefits for 2012."

It's no wonder that Hostess had to turn off its ovens.

These outrageous collective-bargaining agreements required that cake and bread products be loaded into different trucks, even if the products were being shipped to the same location. Workers who loaded cake onto trucks couldn't load bread. Truck drivers weren't allowed to load or unload the products they transported, according

to The Wall Street Journal.

These stipulations may have created more jobs, but they are the same stipulations that caused Hostess to go under. The company couldn't afford all its workers under the collective-bargaining agreements. The work force was too large and therefore created an expensive and inefficient business.

Other unions should reconsider their bargaining strategies if they want to maintain the jobs they fight to protect. Workers have rights, but when stubborn demands for higher wages result in an 82-year-old business's bankruptcy and the loss of more than 18,000 jobs, workers end up fighting for their own unemployment.

TALK BACK

If you were Santa, what food would you want children to leave out for you?



ABIGAIL TROUTMAN
jr.

Starbucks gift cards.



BERNARD FOWLKES
jr.

Reese's Cups.



ERYNN NELSON
sr.

Oreos and chocolate cake.



RICKY ALTIZER
jr.

Black coffee and biscotti.



TREVOR THOMPSON
jr.

Marinated steak.

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The Fisher family's nativity is featured on Main Street in Anderson, Ind., in 1958. Photo: Submitted



One of Mrs. Gloria Eoute's nativity scenes is displayed in her home. Photo: Submitted

»FACULTY CHRISTMAS p. 1

illuminates it for viewers outside.

“The reason I love nativity scenes so much is they portray what Christmas is really all about, and it helps me to focus and share it with my family,” Mrs. Eoute said. “They’re also a good way to pass on your Christian

values to your children through the way you decorate.”

Mrs. Michelle Radford of the art faculty is working more deliberately on her holiday decorating this year. Last holiday season, her twin sons were only several weeks old, so the family’s decorations were minimal. Now that

her twins are older, she and her husband, Mr. Paul Radford of the dramatic arts faculty, are decorating more this year.

The Radfords faced the challenge of keeping their Christmas tree out of reach from their now 1-year-old twins. They rearranged furniture, moving their round dining room

table into the living room. The vaulted ceiling in their home allowed enough room to place the tree on top of the table.

Mrs. Radford said her favorite decorations are the old ornaments she crafted when she was a child. “I’m horribly attached to them,” she said.

Student body to parody woes of holiday travel

By: LEE MILLER
Staff Writer

The FMA will be transformed Wednesday into the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport as the Student Leadership Council presents this year’s Christmas student body program.

Without giving away too much of the story, student body women’s president

Maddie Williams said the plot tells of two students’ problem of a continuously delayed flight. She said they chose this idea since students will be preparing to travel home soon. “We wanted it to be something students could relate to,” she said.

Planning for this year’s program started in early September. The plot idea originated from a group of

students of varying majors and classifications. The airport setting was chosen for the variety of things that can take place there. “There are lots of funny things that can happen in an airport,” Williams said.

More than 40 people are involved in this student body, and campus personalities like Brody the Bruin and Bruins team members will make appearances.

More humor that does not directly relate to campus life will be included this year, according to senior Bible major Ben Hicks. He co-wrote the program’s script with senior communication

major David Baral. “We wanted to do more than just have a bunch of Bob Jones humor,” Hicks said. “We tried to go for something that is universally funny.”

According to student body men’s president Aaron Berry, there will also be a lot of action taking place in the crowds in the background. “We’re going to try to throw some funny surprises in there,” Berry said.

There will also be a surprise ending to this year’s student body. “We’re ending the program in a really exciting way that I think will really get the audience excited,” Berry said.



David Baral, Jared Poe and Tommy Lamper rehearse for student body. Photo: Stephanie Greenwood

WEEK AT A GLANCE

By: Kyle Seiss | Staff Writer

▶ LAST FIRST FRIDAY Tonight, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Today marks this year’s last First Friday art event in downtown Greenville. From 6 until 9 p.m., Greenville artists display their work on the first Friday of every month.

First Fridays promote budding artists and expand the appreciation of visual arts in the area. Participating artists range from painters to potters to glass artisans.

For a complete list of galleries showcased at the event, visit the event’s website at www.firstfridayson-line.com.

▶ DOWNTOWN SKATING RINK Now through January 21, 2013

Another skating season has begun at Ice on Main—the only outdoor skating rink of its kind in the Upstate. Ice on Main is open until 9 p.m. on weekdays and until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and will operate until Jan. 21, 2013. Tickets are \$10, which includes skate rental.

The rink is located between City Hall and the Marriott on Main Street (the block directly after Court Street if you’re going from campus). Greenville Technical College is sponsoring Ice on Main this year, and part of the ticket proceeds will be donated to a local Habitat for Humanity project.

▶ COMPOSITION RECITAL Tuesday, 5 p.m., War Memorial Chapel

This semester’s music composition recital will be held Tuesday at 5 p.m. in War Memorial Chapel. Staff GA Caleb French, who is helping to coordinate the recital, said the composition faculty selects four or five original pieces by both undergraduate and graduate composition students to be performed at the event. Unlike the spring composition recital, where students perform their own pieces, other musicians will perform the selected compositions in Tuesday’s recital.

Study Sense: How to get the most out of studying for finals

By: CAITLIN ALLEN
Staff Writer

Exams: the last thing standing between students and Christmas break. The time has come for late-night studying, 5 a.m. mornings and plenty of highlighted study guides. Everyone prepares for exams in a different way, but what really affects our performance?

First, there's sleep. Many of us love to stay up late and wake up early in order to stuff our brains with information. But the loss of sleep won't help you.

Our bodies and brains need sleep. Dr. William Kohler, a medical director at the Florida Sleep Institute, states in an article on medicalnewstoday.com that a student's performance

in the classroom is heavily determined by the amount of sleep he or she gets the night before.

According to research Kohler has conducted, students can better remember what they learned if they get a good night's sleep after learning the task. On the other hand, sleep deprivation only increases the chances of academic failure. Since no one wants to risk failure on the biggest tests of the semester, students should get sufficient rest.

Food affects us, too. During college, many students choose to fill themselves with junk food and caffeine while studying. But what you eat seriously affects how you study and how you perform.

According to an article appearing on smartcooking.com, iron and B vitamins are especially important in maintaining the physical and mental energy necessary to study well. Fruits and vegetables have many of the vitamins and minerals your body needs. Instead of reaching for potato chips, you should reach for fruit and peanut butter instead. "The natural sugars in fruit offer clean energy, so you don't experience the crash that follows consumption of refined sugar," the writer states.

And getting the proper allotment of fruits and vegetables is essential. Usually, the darker the color of the fruit or vegetable, the higher the concentration of nutrients. Bell peppers or a sweet potato from the potato bar at the dining common are great choices.

Also, be sure to stay hydrated. But don't run straight to coffee. "Caffeine and sugar should be kept to a minimum. Since too much caffeine can make you jittery, try to drink moderate amounts: 400 to 450 mg per day, the equivalent of 2/2.5 cups," the writer suggests. Water, milk, juice or green tea are great substitutes.

When should you start studying for exams, and how often should you study? Mrs. Hannah Bowers, who works in the Academic Resource Center, suggested starting at least four days in advance. "Study for thirty minutes and then take a break, but do something different like walking around or [getting] five minutes of physical exercise," Mrs. Bowers said. "This increases blood flow to the brain and increases concentration. Then, return to studying for another thirty minutes."

"If you like studying with friends, study ahead of time yourself so you can come prepared to quiz your friends and discuss hard concepts," Mrs. Bowers said. "University learning requires understanding how pieces of information fit together to form a 'big picture.'" She suggested using online flashcards (for smartphone users, there are plenty of free flashcard apps), charts and outlines to make studying easier.

And keep in mind that exams come only twice a year. Study hard, and make it through this next week. Christmas is right around the corner.

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2012

The New York Giants beat the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl with a score of 21 to 17, securing the team's fourth Super Bowl victory.



PETE SOUZA, WHITE HOUSE, FLICKR

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld President Obama's Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on June 28. Part of the president's health-care plan, the act attempts to guarantee that more people receive insurance coverage.

Facebook stock went public May 18, leading users to wonder what changes this will cause in account features and privacy. Over the past six months, stock prices have dropped about \$15 per share.



MARCOPAKO, FLICKR



STEPHEN LUKE, FLICKR



ALGR, WIKIMEDIA

The 2012 Summer Olympics took place in London. Michael Phelps won his 22nd medal, making him the most decorated Olympic athlete in history. The United States won a total of 104 medals, 46 of which were gold.

Twelve people were killed and 58 injured in the bloodiest mass shooting in years at the Century 16 Movie Theaters complex in Aurora, Colo. The shooting took place during the midnight premiere of Dark Knight Rises on July 20.



The Mars rover Curiosity, launched from the Mars Science Laboratory mission, the rover will travel over the surface of Mars.

THE YEAR BEGAN WITH AN 8.3 % UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND CURRENTLY STANDS AT 7.9%.

Staying warm in winter with fashionable flair

By: ERIN KIMBRO
Staff Writer

Recent cooler temperatures have finally forced students to pull out the heavy winter clothes that have been stashed in the backs of closets during the warmer fall months. As bundling up becomes a necessity, students are looking for ways to dress smart in cold weather and still maintain personal style—a task that can some-

times be challenging.

Here are a few tips that can help in the process.

One key to staying warm during the winter cold is layering. Wendi Tripp, a senior apparel, textiles and design major, said layering helps her stay warm on the run. “If you have a choice between one heavy coat and two medium coats, the two

See **WINTER FASHION** p. 8 >>



Scarves are classic accessories that add style and warmth, while multiple layers create a relaxed yet professional look. Photo: Stephanie Greenwood



Dr. Stephen Jones returned to his office after a leave of absence due to illness.



CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON, FLICKR

Andrew Murray and Serena Williams walked away with victories at the U.S. Open in September.

The San Francisco Giants won their second World Series championship in three years against the Detroit Tigers.



MARK C. OLSEN, DEFENSE.GOV

After traveling up the Atlantic coast, Hurricane Sandy made landfall near Atlantic City, N.J., as a “post-tropical cyclone” in late October. Hurricane Sandy was the largest Atlantic hurricane on record and the second costliest.



NASA/JPL-CALTECH/MALIN SPACE SCIENCE SYSTEMS

Base jumper Felix Baumgartner made a 24-mile jump from space Oct. 14 after five years of preparation. Baumgartner wore a specially designed space suit and was sponsored by Red Bull.



President Barack Obama was reelected for a second term in office, defeating Republican candidate Mitt Romney. Securing victories in swing states such as Florida, Colorado, Virginia and Ohio, Obama won with 332 electoral votes and 50.6 percent of the popular vote.

RED BULL GMBH



DESIGN: JOSH FREDERICK, RYAN THOMPSON; TEXT: CARLIE MALDONADO; PHOTOS: AMY ROUKES, SUBMITTED

The Bob Jones University Bruins began their inaugural year this fall competing in men’s and women’s soccer and basketball. The men’s soccer team had a successful season finishing at 10-4-1, and the women’s team finished at 7-10-0. Four Bruins athletes made it into the NCCAA top 25 rankings.

Nov. 26, 2011, landed in A’s Mars Science Laboratory over the surface of the planet, exploring and gathering data.

COLUMN



By: DAVID BARAL
Sports Writer

There are more than 500,000 student athletes in the United States, and chances are, you passionately cheer for a handful of them every week. Whether it's our very own Bruins or the public college down the road,

you loyally support your favorite team and desire to see them succeed.

But which word in the "student athlete" title is more important: student or athlete? Some would say that academics ought to always come first. After all, that's what college is about. On the other hand, you could argue that athleticism is still important, because nobody wants to go to a school with a lousy sports team.

Should student athletes be held to the same standard as non-athletes? The pro-athlete arguers will remind you that the athletes are busy with games, conditioning and practices. The pro-academic stance will point out that every student is busy with his or her own requirements, and that most students are involved in time-consuming activities, such as orchestras or student newspapers.

Is it really possible for students to have high GPA's and a high stats season? In the

past few years there have been both good and bad student athletes, as shown in the following illustration. Imagine these student examples as teams; team A (or F more appropriately) are those students who are simply at school to play sports, earning poor grades, while team B members are responsible and work hard in both academics and their sport. The line-up for team A would include Greg Oden, a basketball player for Ohio State University (2006-2007), who was an undeclared major and enrolled in "The History of Rock 'n' Roll." One can only imagine the difficulty of that course. Also starting for team A is Julius Peppers, a football player at the University of North Carolina. He played for four years with a sub 1.95 GPA.

Team B is much more inspiring, like Christian Moody, who didn't receive a scholarship to play basketball for the University of Kansas out of high school but walked onto

the tryout court as a freshman. Moody was part of a top 10- ranked team his senior year. All of this athletic success came while he was pursuing a degree in pre-medicine with a 3.65 GPA.

There's also Craig Krenzel, who played quarterback for Ohio State University and led the Buckeyes to the National Championship in 2002. Krenzel graduated with a degree in molecular genetics while earning a 3.75 GPA.

Obviously, not every athlete will graduate *summa cum laude*. But expecting students to work hard at their sport and their homework is not unfair. After all, in the future, employers will be hiring from team B. Plus, the character developed from balancing academics, projects, practices and games will have great rewards. So, even if you won't be taking Advanced Linear Algebra next semester, working hard in the classes you do have will ensure success both on and off the field.

Bruins fall to Wildcats

Mercado leads team with 22, but turnovers cost BJU the game

By: JON CLUTE
Sports Writer

The Johnson and Wales Wildcats defeated the Bruins men's basketball team 71-57 on Saturday afternoon. The Bruins fell to 1-11 overall, while the Wildcats moved to a 3-10 record.

The Wildcats jumped out to an early 7-3 lead courtesy of a Taylor Thomas three-pointer. After a pair of free

throws from Ray Holden Jr. to make it 7-5, Josh Clater stole the ball on the defensive end before running the length of the floor to get the ball back. Holden then scored a tough shot while being fouled. He completed the three-point play to put the Bruins up 8-7.

The Bruins offense stumbled, however, and the Wildcats took advantage,

moving to a 22-13 lead.

A great drive and dish by Bruins guard Zach Mercado found Clater in the lane for an easy flush to get the Bruins going again. Another bucket by Clater made it 22-15, but a couple of quick scores capped by a long three- pointer extended the Wildcats' lead to 30-17.

At halftime the Bruins trailed 36-25, but the Bruins didn't lose their composure.

"We've been there before so we don't have the worries that we had before," Holden said. "We just try to buckle down and come out ready for the second half."

Holden converted several drives to the rim, and a layup from Mercado closed the gap to four points.

"We got some turnovers, knocked down some shots and created opportunities

purely with energy and good effort," Coach Neal Ring said. "We climbed, clawed and scratched our way back into it."

Poor shooting and some costly turnovers derailed the Bruins before they could overhaul the Wildcats, who pushed the lead back to 50-39. The Wildcats stayed in front for the rest of the match with many second-chance points from offensive rebounds and turnovers. Eventually the Bruins had to start fouling in an attempt to get the ball back, and the game ended 71-57 in favor of the Wildcats.

Mercado led the Bruins with 22 points and Holden finished with 16. The Wildcats' high scorers were Thomas and Robbie Sterling, who finished with 18 and 12 points respectively.



Darnel Antoine goes for a layup during Saturday's loss to JWU. Photo: Emma Klak

BRUINS

12/7 Men Bruins vs. Southern Polytechnic University @ 5:30 p.m.
12/7 Women Bruins vs. Columbia College @ 7:30 p.m.

WHAT 2 WATCH 4

INTRAMURAL

12/8 Flag football championship field #1 @ 4:30 p.m.
Girls basketball championship:
Chi Theta Gators vs. Theta Omicron Tigers

AROUND the WORLD

Indiana- The Indiana Hoosiers men's basketball team is currently #1 in ESPN power rankings. The Hoosiers lead the nation in points, with an average of 87.8 points per game. They also downed a strong North Carolina team by 24 last week, leading some to speculate a possible championship run by the Hoosiers.

South Africa- The South African team has proven its cricket prowess to the world, beating a tough Australian team in three games. South Africa is the first team to win two consecutive cricket championships.

North Carolina- The Lady Tar Heels soccer team scored three goals in the second half of the NCAA Championship game to beat the Penn State Lady Lions 4-1. With the win, the Tar Heels have now won 22 soccer championships, all under legendary head coach Anson Dorrance.

California- Superstar soccer player David Beckham played his last game on Sunday but left on a triumphant note. His team, the LA Galaxy, won the MLS trophy over the Houston Dynamo 3-1.

Tigers, Gators win playoffs, headed to championship game

By: ADAM GINGERY
Sports Writer

The Theta Omicron Tigers jumped out to an early lead and never looked back in Monday night’s semifinal against the Pi Delta Classics, winning 48-27.

Theta Omicron owned the offensive and defensive glass from the start, earning second-chance buckets and holding the Classics to one-shot possessions for most of the game.

Katie McCormick, Beth Crosby and Rebecca Bredehoft sparked the Tiger offense with active hands in the defensive front court and quick help positioning against the catch-and-slash style of Classics leading scorer Kristin Jeffcott, holding her to perimeter shooting

the first half. The Tigers fell into a mid-range rhythm 10 minutes into the half and closed with a 27-13 advantage, led by a shooting streak from point guard Bredehoft.

Jeffcott finished the final 10 minutes of the first half with an eight-point run, and the Classics’ defense finally came to life, forcing several turnovers before half-time and carrying the intensity to the second half. However, the Tigers’ offense kept producing and held the Classics at a distance, winning the game and an opportunity to win the championship tomorrow afternoon.

Later on in the evening, the Chi Theta Gators battled for a 48-38 win over the Theta Sigma Colts in the second game of the women’s intramural basketball play-

offs. Both teams started the half with intense defensive efforts, but the Colts had an early edge by forcing turnovers and keeping their hands in the passing lanes. The score remained close despite the Colts’ advantage on the offensive glass. The largest lead of the half was in the Colts’ favor at 24-17 just before halftime.

The Gators came out strong in the second half with an early block and a score in transition. That momentum proved to be the story of the second half as Chi Theta steadily overtook Theta Sigma. Once the Gators gained the lead at 25-24, they didn’t give it up. The Colts were unable to recover, and the Gators advanced to the championship tomorrow with a final score of 48-38.



Theta Omicron's Juli Smith dribbles around a Gators defender. Photo: Jacob Larsen



Kristin Jeffcott tries to make a move against the Tigers’ defense during Monday night’s playoff game. Photo: Jacob Larsen

BOXSCORES

MEN SCORES

12/1- Bruins Men lost 57-71 vs Johnson and Wales University
12/4- Bruins Men lost 64-78 vs Southern Wesleyan University

WOMEN SCORES

12/4- Bruins Women lost 51-72 vs Southern Wesleyan University

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Teach English in Zambia

Central Africa Bible College (Dr. Phil Hunt from Missions Emphasis Week) has an immediate need for someone to teach English beginning in January.

This would be a missions opportunity so you would need to raise support.

Please contact Mark Vowels (AL 52, x.8044, mvowels@bju.edu) for more details

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Tips for the trip: staying safe on the road home

By: JESSI HARGETT
Staff Writer

When the last exam is completed and Christmas break is finally here, we may find ourselves tempted to rush back to our dorm, cram all our stuff into our car and get home as quickly as possible, plowing through anyone who gets in our way.

Although we all want to get home, arriving there safely should be our primary objective. Capt. Ken Coppins of BJU's Public Safety suggested some vehicle safety checks before even leaving the parking lot.

First, check car fluids and the air pressure in your tires, including the spare.

Capt. Coppins also sug-

gested picking up a gallon of drinkable water to stash in your car in case you get stranded. In addition, the water can be used to cool down an overheated engine.

He also warned against using electronic devices, especially cell phones, while driving. According to *Distraction.gov*, 3,092 people were killed in 2012 in

crashes involving a distracted driver. The website lists texting, eating and fiddling with a navigation system or radio as some of the distractions that draw drivers' attention away from the road.

Here are some other tips for the road that Capt. Coppins suggested for drivers to keep in mind as they travel home. Although many of these tips seem obvious, they should not be overlooked and could mean the difference between life and death.

Don't speed. The small amount of time you save isn't

worth sacrificing your safety.

Travel with a friend to increase safety and to keep you awake.

Wear your seatbelt.

After one to two hours of driving, take a 10-minute break to stretch your legs and refresh yourself.

Avoid taking any medications that make you drowsy.

If you're driving on ice or in the rain, slow down and increase your distance from the car in front of you.

If you feel the car hydroplaning, don't put on your brakes; the tires need to grip

the road but can't when the brakes are locked.

If you are being pulled over by a police officer but don't feel safe at the present location, turn on your interior lights, slow down and wave your hand outside the window to inform the officer that you see him and will pull over once you reach a well-lit area.

If you are in doubt whether the person pulling you over is a police officer, you can call 911 and ask the dispatcher to check.

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It's going to be weird next semester (I wonder when I'll stop thinking in "semesters" and start thinking in "years" again) when I don't come back—when I don't have to scour the Internet for textbooks or write six syllabi into my planner, when I don't have to make sure I have dinner plans every night and swipe my ID card before meals, when I don't have to trek to the *Collegian* office every night to work with some of the most awesome people I know. It will definitely be different.

Even though it seems like ages ago, I vaguely remember having some of the same feelings about leaving high school. I was sad to leave my friends, glad to be done and anxious about the next stage in my life. The transition from high school to college wasn't easy either, but the Lord got me through it.

When I first arrived on campus, I knew only three people at BJU. As I pulled up to my residence hall, the first person I saw was one of those three people. He had no idea when I would arrive, but God did, and He put him there at that exact moment to help me move in and reassure me.

A few days later, I went to pick up my textbooks from the Campus Store. In my bag along with my books, one of the employees had put a chocolate bar along with a note saying she was praying for me as I started

college. It was just one more sign from God that He would take care of me as I made that transition.

And He did. I've made some amazing friends during my time here. I've learned so many life lessons, not just academic facts, from godly teachers much wiser than myself, and, most importantly, I have grown in my relationship with Jesus Christ.

My Father guided my steps all the way, as I know He will do now as I make another transition. No, I don't know yet exactly what I'll be doing after I graduate, but I have peace knowing that the God of all things controls my little life too.

So, fellow December graduates and even those who will be graduating in May, we don't have to worry. Yes, we should actively plan for our future, but as children of God, we have the privilege of being able to be "anxious for nothing." I know you've heard it a thousand times and will probably hear it a thousand more over Christmas break, but it's one of the truest statements you'll ever hear.

To those of you who have a little longer before that next step, know that God still has many lessons to teach you, and be looking for them. And when it's time to come back after break (I know, I know, no one wants to talk about that either), know that you have lots of people who are praying for you, including this former *Collegian* editor.

»WINTER FASHION p. 5

medium coats are going to keep you warmer because layering traps air, and air is one of the best insulators," she said.

She also suggested wearing light layers under heavier ones, such as a light tank top under sweaters that are not close knit. "It's going to help keep in more warmth than you realize," she said.

Choosing the right fabric can also make a big difference in warmth. Natural fibers such as wool, cotton and silk are much warmer than synthetics, according to Tripp.

Wearing warm accessories is another strategy that can help you stay warm and look good. Scarves have become a popular accessory, and there are many different ways of tying scarves in order to add visual interest and to trap heat. "Lots of people just wrap scarves around [their neck], but if you fold it in half and tuck it through it's going to keep you warmer," Tripp said. "Scarves are great accessories because they're not too expensive, and you can change your outfit quite a bit with a scarf."

Boots are another accessory highly in vogue. Tripp said comfortable flat boots are a staple for her. One of her favorite outfits pairs a black skirt with brown boots. "I used to be very against black going with any

shade of brown. Now I do it all the time," she said.

Emily Lewandowski, a senior radio and television broadcasting major, said she likes to accessorize with hats and gloves. "Your head and your feet are the greatest exports of heat in your body, so I love wearing hats," she said. "Even sitting at a game or walking to class, it keeps me a lot warmer."

Rob May, a senior business finance major, said students who want to dress professionally and stay warm can consider a number of options. "If it's really cold, wearing a suit will add an extra layer, and you can wear a pea coat and a scarf over your suit and stay very professional," he said. He also mentioned that a nice pair of gloves adds to a professional look and helps in keeping warm. "In my major it's important to look good. If you don't want to wear a suit or a sports coat, there are other options, but stay professional."

Ellis Schoolfield, a junior dramatic productions major, said that students shouldn't have to sacrifice fashion for warmth. For him, putting thought into your wardrobe is the most important thing when it comes to fashion, and that principle applies year-round. "Overall, your outfit should be intelligent," he said. "It should look like you put it on with care and then you forgot about it, like it's just a natural part of you."

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