

the ³⁰ YEARS COLLEGIAN

Vol. 30 No. 25 | collegianonline.com

Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC 29614



The class of 2017 marks the 90th graduating class of Bob Jones University. Photo: BJU Marketing/Dan Calnon

BJU to observe 90th commencement

REBEKAH ANDERSON
Staff Writer

May 5 marks the 90th BJU commencement. As students in the senior class look forward to the highly-anticipat-

ed graduation day, many seniors reflect back on the ways they've changed throughout their college experience.

For Jordan Walraven, a senior math education major, one of the biggest lessons she

learned during her four years at BJU was the importance of finding balance.

During her freshman year, Walraven found herself turning down opportunities to attend Bruins' games, go

downtown or grab a milkshake with a friend.

"I was so consumed with getting good grades that I did not get involved with society sports, making friends or reaching out to others," Wal-

raven said. "At the end of the year, a mentor of mine encouraged me to find a balance."

She took her mentor's advice. Walraven said the difference between freshman and sophomore years was huge.

"I played Cardinal basketball, got involved with the nursing home ministry at my church and continued to be involved in extracurricular activities such as band and See **GRADUATION** p. 3 »

Collegian claims 13 awards for year's excellence

LUKE MCCORMICK
Staff Writer

The Collegian staff received 13 awards during the South Carolina Press Association's annual meetings and awards presentation Friday, including third place for the paper's general excellence.

Staff of *The Collegian*, Clemson's *The Tiger*, USC's *The Daily Gamecock* and others attended the meetings hosted by Francis Marion University in Florence.

The SCPA represents 13 collegiate newspapers in the state, and the association's competitions are separated between colleges with under 5,000 undergraduate students and those with over 5,000. *The Collegian* participates in the under 5,000 division.

The meetings are annually organized to celebrate and

award collegiate journalism in South Carolina. Attending schools participated in panels and roundtable discussions on topics such as the importance of real news and careers in journalism.

The event's speakers were journalists from the SCPA, the Florence Morning News and *The Carolina Forest Chronicle* of Myrtle Beach.

Entries into the association's competitions were from issues of *The Collegian* published in 2016.

Students could submit entries into any of 26 different categories including writing, design and photography.

Jordan Harbin, comic artist for *The Collegian*, won both first and third place in the cartoon or illustration category.

Jacob Clipperton, layout editor, won third place in page one design and second place in specialty page design.

Amy Sheeter and Rebecca Snyder won first place in specialty page design.

Stephen Dysert, photo

editor, won first place for his photograph of students placing flags in honor of the Sept. 11, 2001 victims.

Photographers Snyder and Ian Nichols won second and third place respectively for sports photographs.

Nichols and Snyder also won first and second place awards respectively for their See **SCPA** p. 3 »

Members of *The Collegian* represented BJU at the SCPA annual meeting. Photo: Betty Solomon

COLUMN



IAN DYKE
Staff Writer

"Death is a great price to pay for a red rose," the nightingale said. "Yet love is better than life, and what is the heart of a bird compared to the heart of a man?"

I first read Oscar Wilde's "The Nightingale and the Rose" as a senior in high school. The story immediately captivated me. It was both inspiring and dreadful, beautiful and tragic.

To this day, the story leaves me contemplative of "the mystery of love."

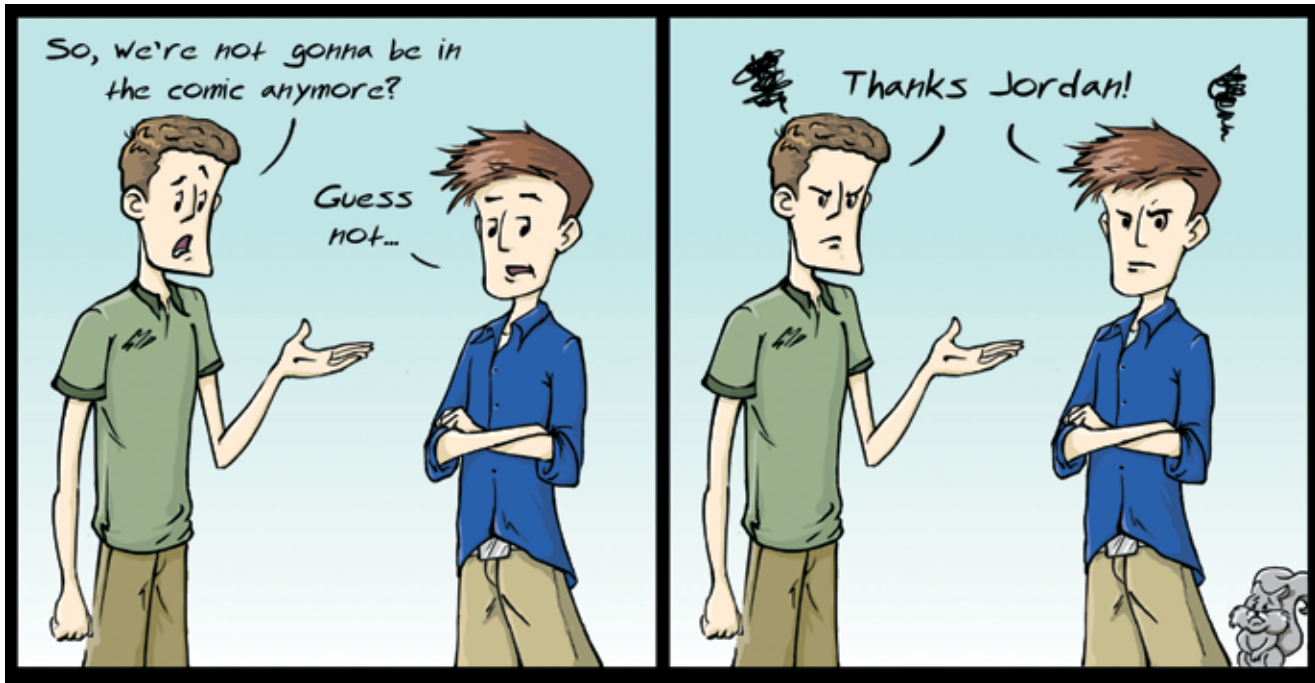
Wilde tells the story of a student whose love agrees to dance with him if he brings her a red rose.

But when he cannot find the rose, the student weeps for his lost chance. From her nest, the nightingale hears the student and flies through the garden, begging each rose tree for one red rose.

When she too can find no red rose, the nightingale determines to press against a rose tree's thorn to stain a white rose in her own heart's blood.

When the thorn pierces her heart, the nightingale feels the pain but stays, singing a wild song, still pressing her heart against the thorn.

See **COLUMN** p. 3 »



COMIC: JORDAN HARBIN

The Collegian Editorial

Diminish fear's power over you, fully trust the unknowns to God

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

Many of us are familiar with this quote by Corrie ten Boom, a champion of faith who saved hundreds of Jewish lives during WWII.

But how many of us actually understand what ten Boom was saying on a practical level.

It's easy to read a quote like this and be inspired for the next 15 seconds, but it's not as easy to apply it to our lives in a practical way.

Most students willingly admit that trust is a common spiritual problem area, especially as the end of the academic year approaches.

We feel overwhelmed with final projects, finals week, summer plans or post-graduation plans.

The common denominator in each of these stress

equations is fear—fear of the unknown.

We are scared of what we don't know, because we can't control what we don't know.

And this fear is a result of a lack of trust—a lack of trust in God.

As we heard in this semester's chapel messages on truth and love, we know that the solution to overcoming fear is love.

That love is a reflection of our trust in God.

Without trust, no love. Without love, more fear.

Dr. Pettit described fear as false evidence appearing as reality.

Our fears of the unknown seem so foolish and unwarranted when we look at fear for what it is—false.

We are the ones who give power to fear by our lack of trust in God.

Like any solid relation-

ship, our relationship with God must be rooted in trust. We trust that God will lead us through life—carrying us through the hard times.

Fear loses its power when we fully trust God and realize the constance of God.

Life is full of changes and unknowns, but God is unchanging and known.

Face your fears head on,

knowing that God will always pick you up when you fall.

You can lean on Him. So let go of fear.

Fill out that summer internship application, go on that mission trip, interview for that dream job or just be still and wait.

Be still and trust your unknown future to your known God, the everlasting Father.



TALKBACK

What's something you've learned this year?



senior
TIFFANY RADLE
"You can't do everything yourself."



sophomore
GOMER JOSEPH
"Not to procrastinate."



junior
SARAH COTTING
"How to master a good cup of coffee."



sophomore
BRISEYDI VELASCO
"I hate painting."



sophomore
AMBROSE ROUSE
"I like espresso."

PHOTOS: REBECCA SNYDER

the COLLEGIAN

Bob Jones University
Greenville, SC 29614-0001
www.collegianonline.com
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The Collegian is the Bob Jones University student newspaper. The paper is published weekly with issues out on Fridays. For advertising information, contact Jonny Gamet (864) 242-5100, ext. 2973 campusmedia@bju.edu. All contacts © 2017 Bob Jones University.

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PHOTO: IAN NICHOLS

CHRISTINA DOWNING | FRESHMAN HUMANITIES

“Probably my older sister Margaret [has been most influential]. We’re all a really close family, we were all homeschooled and then we all came here. Whenever I have questions, she answers them without making me feel stupid, and she just knows a lot. [She’s taught me] to know my beliefs and stand by them, no matter where I am.

“I like to draw, or doodle, I like to write sometimes [and] I like to read a lot. [I write] short stories. I have an alternate universe of my life I started writing in high school with my high school friends, so I like to write about that, just little things I think about. I like to read fantasy, alternative universe-type stuff. My mother read us *The Hobbit* when I was younger. When I was younger, I didn’t like reading at all, so fantasy books got me interested.”

»SCPA p. 1

photo stories of Caviar & Bananas and Greenville coffee shops.

Elisa Crawley won third place for her column addressing racial profiling, and Abby Sivy, editor of *The Collegian*, won first place for her arts and entertainment story covering last year’s performance of *Hamlet*.

Clipperton said he found the roundtable discussion with fellow designers helpful.

“[The moderator] specifically pointed out the importance of tight photo cropping and keeping faces large,” Clipperton said.

Clipperton said the discussion was also liberating because it made him realize other papers experience similar design frustrations, such as not having photos on time and designs needing to change last minute.

“We were able to share solutions we had discovered,” Clipperton said.

Wright said hearing from young journalists during the panel discussion on a journalist’s life after graduation was very helpful.

“The speakers emphasized the importance of staying passionate about journalism,” Wright said.

“Journalism is a service to the public, and you should focus on how you’re helping others—even in being the bearer of bad news at times.

“As a future journalist, I was inspired to dig for the truth and report it as unbiasedly as possible, because that’s how I can serve the people—give them the truth.”

Sivy expressed her satisfaction with the staff’s performance this year.

“It’s exciting to see our staff members recognized for the great work they’ve done this year,” Sivy said. “Their dedication has paid off.”

»GRADUATION p. 1

Tuba-Euphonium choir while still managing to finish my academic responsibilities.”

Walraven said she will never regret the decision to get involved because she formed precious lifelong friendships through those opportunities.

As a graduating senior, Walraven said 2 Corinthians 12:9 has been a huge encouragement to her throughout her college experience: “And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

In the fall, Walraven will begin teaching at Calvary Baptist Academy in Midland, Michigan.

For fellow senior Stephanie Perez, a biblical counseling major, one of the biggest lessons she’s learned through college is to trust God.

Perez was diagnosed with

multiple sclerosis about a year ago. This disease weakens the immune system, so Perez deals with fatigue, severe respiratory infections and even occasional kidney infections.

When she was diagnosed, Perez said, although she was confused and upset at first, she eventually gave everything—even her health—to God. “I told the Lord, ‘If this takes away my legs, be my legs. If it takes away my arms, be my arms. If it takes away my memory, remind me of Yourself every day,’” she said.

Despite the pain, Perez used her illness to learn more about herself and more about her Creator.

“It wasn’t until I got sick that I realized I wasn’t leaning on Him as much as I should have,” she said. “But I have a lot of peace about this because I know God is going to use this to do something great.”

Perez said she appreciates the many people who have come alongside her to offer

their support—whether it means driving Perez to her doctor appointments or bringing her dinner from the dining common when she doesn’t have the strength to walk. “I’ve had so many helpful people who have made it easier for me,” she said. “God’s given me a lot of support.”

Senior testimonies like those of Walraven and Perez are a highlight of BJU’s commencement ceremony.

Dr. Dan Smith, registrar, said the students’ diverse backgrounds and stories allow for a great opportunity to present the Gospel on commencement day.

“I enjoy commencement tremendously because I enjoy hearing the testimonies of the students,” Smith said.

Many family members of graduating students step onto BJU campus for the first time at graduation, so the senior testimonies are a great way to share how God has grown them throughout their college experience.



Seniors have the opportunity to share a testimony of their BJU experience. Photo: BJU Marketing/Hal Cook

»COLUMN p. 2

Her blood stains the rose red, but the nightingale’s song is hushed.

As I reached the final pages of the story, I prepared myself for an ending as moving as the nightingale’s sacrifice.

Surely, the student would take the rose to his love, and they would dance together and live out a Cinderella-like love story.

But when the student takes the rose to his love, she rejects him, and the student abandons his belief in love. The rose that cost the nightingale her life is thrown away and trampled in the road.

I felt played. The ending violated my every expectation, my sense of justice and my view of life.

The nightingale’s death had to mean something more. But how could it? The student

never danced with his love. He never had his happy ending. The nightingale’s death now seemed pointless.

But the nightingale had done something. She achieved what few people ever achieve, the greatest feat of all humanity—she had loved.

The nightingale seemed to me on another level, out of my reach in some nirvanic existence. She did what I could only hope of doing. She hurt for the student and, for love, paid everything she could pay.

Cost separates the nightingale from the student, true love from cheap imitation. The student gave a rose to fulfill his own desires, but the nightingale gave herself to fulfill another. The nightingale was the true lover.

In this fallen world, to truly love there has to be pain. Pleasant feelings and Cin-

derella endings aren’t love because they have no cost. Love has to cost you something.

I envy the nightingale. Her humility, compassion and courage. Her transcendent love for another that echoes Christ’s love for humanity.

When I look at the world, when I look at myself, I see more students than nightingales. Living a casual sort of existence, never willing to invest it all, never willing to give ourselves, we like but never love.

We stick around when “love” has no cost, but when the pain comes and the thorn presses close, who will stay?

God, give us the grace to love another, to throw ourselves against the thorn, to feel the pain but stay. Let love be better than life.

God, give us the “heart of a bird.”

M&G serves community during renovation time

TORI SANDERS
Staff Writer

The Museum & Gallery's building may be temporarily closed, but that does not mean M&G will stop making an impact on people's lives.

M&G is planning many different events that are geared toward reaching out to the community and keeping the public engaged with the various works of art that M&G is proud to share.

On average, M&G interacts with approximately 45,000 people every year. M&G desires to keep this relationship with the community strong during renovations.

M&G will continue hosting Museum on the Move. With Museum on the Move, two South Carolina certified

educators are sent to schools all over the Upstate.

These educators give 30- to 60-minute lessons on a variety of topics centered on art. The program reaches 10,000 children annually, the majority of whom attend public schools.

M&G will also continue to host the Kids Create camp this summer. The Kids Create camp is a three-week camp that teaches campers about careers in art and real world application of art and beauty. This summer the camp will be hosted in Rodeheaver Auditorium and the Gustafson Fine Arts building.

The Kids Create camp is open to any children in the community who would like to attend.

M&G is looking forward

to continuing the newly-founded M&G Makers Market next Homecoming Week-end. Erin Jones, director of M&G, is hoping to get more students to submit artwork at the next Makers Market.

"These events can be a gateway or introduction for the University's heart and mission," Jones said.

Currently M&G is digitizing much of the content found in M&G at Heritage Green.

M&G has interactive, entertaining and educational content about various paintings, which they want to be easily accessible to individuals. This content has helped visitors understand and gain a deeper appreciation of the paintings.

M&G plans to reformat the content in order for it to

be accessible on the internet. No date has been set for the release of these educational programs, but updates about the new virtual benefits can be found on the official M&G Facebook page.

Some of the paintings are finding temporary homes while M&G is closed for renovations. *Luther's Journey*, along with exhibiting artistic pieces that highlight the life and ministry of Martin Luther, has been moved to the Atrium of the Fine Arts Building.

Art pieces have also been moved to Carolina Alliance Bank, Sen. William Timmons' office and State Rep. Dan Hamilton's office. M&G also has tentative plans for some of the art to be loaned internationally.



Edward Ward's portrait of Luther is on display in the Atrium. Photo: Ian Nichols

Information about more M&G events can be found on both M&G's website and official Facebook page. M&G constituents can also sign up

to be a part of M&G's mailing list where they will receive a monthly progress report and information on an individual art piece.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

ELISA CRAWLEY
Staff Writer

On March 21, another specialty coffee shop was welcomed into the greater Greenville area. Barista Alley, located in downtown Greer, is owned by Andrew Carter and run by a staff of friends and acquaintances who are passionate about introducing specialty coffee to their community.

Serving coffee from Methodistical, a local café and coffee roaster in Greenville, the

café offers the typical specialty coffee menu with lattes, pour overs, espressos, Americanos, macchiatos and more. Matt Patch, a barista at Barista Alley, said, "The main idea is to provide everyone with a place to enjoy specialty coffee in Greer."

In addition to the coffee menu, the café also offers smoothies and carries Circa doughnuts. Customers can order either the traditional smoothie or a smoothie bowl, which is topped with fresh fruits and can be ordered with

granola. All their ingredients are locally sourced and organic. Circa is based in Greenville, and the shop's granola comes from a supplier in Clemson.

"Customer service is paramount to everything we do," Patch said. "We always say we would rather have the customer have a great experience and a good cup of coffee than the best cup of coffee in the world and have an average experience," Patch said. "We don't want to make this a pretentious thing."

Owner Andrew Carter is passionate about his com-

munity and has instilled in his staff the value of a good experience.



Fruit smoothie bowls with granola are a popular item at Barista Alley. Photo: Rebecca Snyder

With drinks priced be-

tween \$3 and \$6, this brick-walled, spacious and friendly café is a 20-minute drive from campus and open Monday-

Saturday 6 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m.-6 p.m. for all of your early morning and late night coffee needs.



Barista Alley baristas top off each carefully-crafted espresso drink with latte art. Photo: Rebecca Snyder



A wall of windows facing the street floods the café with natural light. Photo: Rebecca Snyder

BJU Year In Review

September

☺ **Opening exercises:** Bob Jones University ushered in the 2016-2017 academic school year by welcoming incoming freshmen in their annual opening service.

☺ **Society rush:** Societies began their semester by rushing new students throughout the first two weeks of classes and especially during the Friday rush party. The men's society, Epsilon Zeta Chi, rushed the most freshmen with a total of 37 and the women's society, Theta Delta Omicron, rushed the most freshmen with a total of 47.

☺ **Go Greenville:** Students served the Greenville community by reaching beyond themselves and ministering to others.

☺ **The 5 Browns:** The 5 Browns, who performed the first Concert, Opera & Drama Series of the year, delighted many with their classical performance in Founder's Memorial Amphitorium.



October



☺ **CGO dedication:** The Center for Global Opportunities dedication service was held outside the Alumni Building during chapel hour. A ribbon was cut that signified the official opening of the CGO.

☺ **Homecoming:** BJU's second annual homecoming was a special time for students and their families as well as the Greenville community. Attendees enjoyed a variety of activities including hot air balloon rides, games and food.

November

☺ **Bruins Success:** The Bruins intercollegiate teams claimed regional and national championship titles.

- Volleyball regional champions
- Women's soccer national champions
- Men's soccer national champions
- Men's cross country national champions

☺ **Little Women:** BJU performed its first musical, *Little Women*, under the direction of Dr. Darren Lawson. This performance was enthusiastically received by the student body and positively reviewed by The Greenville News.



February



☺ **Seminary Conference / Creation Education Conference / Bible Conference:** The seminary held "The Church and the Battle for Biblical Creation" conference, while speaker Ken Ham spoke at all three conference. Bible Conference was held with the theme "The God of Hope" with several guest speakers.

☺ **Intercollegiate Athletic Success**

- Women's basketball regional champions
- Men's basketball region champions

March

☺ **Bruin Daze:** Bruin Daze was a time when BJU showed appreciation for its student body. Students were divided into four teams and competed in several activities. The week included a showing of "Monsters University," free doughnuts, a campuswide tag game and a shortened class schedule for Friday where students could wear casual dress all day. The Greek Games concluded the week, and the blue team won the Bruin Daze competition.

☺ **Jubilate Deo:** Bob Jones University choirs along with the BJUSO performed *Jubilate Deo* three times. They performed as part of the Concert, Opera & Drama Series at BJU, at The Peace Center in Greenville and in Orchestra Hall in downtown Chicago.

☺ **Merchant of Venice:** The artist series *The Merchant of Venice* is a Shakespearean play in which Dr. Bob Jones III performed the leading role.



April

☺ **Living Gallery:** BJU held its 20th *Living Gallery* production in 2017, featuring several works of art, a new projection feature and music from Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*.

INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS

01

NOVEMBER

- Alpha Theta Pi Razorbacks crowned Turkey Bowl champions



02

DECEMBER

- Alpha Theta Pi Razorbacks win men's intramural 7v7 soccer championship
- Zeta Tau Omega Seagulls win women's intramural 7v7 soccer championship



03

MARCH

- Lanier Falcons claim title as men's intramural basketball champions
- Pi Delta Chi Classics win women's intramural basketball champions



04

APRIL

- Beta Gamma Delta Patriots named men's volleyball champions.
- Theta Sigma Chi Colts crowned women's volleyball champions



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Bruins volleyball finishes inaugural spring season

AJ PAPAGNO
Staff Writer

Similar to the other inter-collegiate athletic teams, the Bob Jones University Lady Bruins women's volleyball team has just finished its spring season.

The Lady Bruins volleyball team is entering the program's second season and is looking to replicate the success the women experienced last season.

In their inaugural season, the Lady Bruins compiled a regular season record of 27-13 and went undefeated in all 11 of their regular season NCCAA matches.

At the beginning of the semester, the team's practices consisted of conditioning and specialty training and gradually moved towards a couple of team practices each week.

Then, they played a shortened spring season in which each game is more like an hour-long scrimmage.

"Usually, we can play about two sets in an hour," Lady Bruins head coach Vickie Denny said.

The Bruins have had a successful spring season so far,

beating Toccoa Falls College 4-1 and Montreat College 3-2 in the last two weeks.

The Lady Bruins also played three one-hour scrimmages Saturday at Coker College in Hartsville, South Carolina.

Coach Denny said the team has done well in the spring season and that the team is focusing on the details in preparation for the fall season.

Coach Denny said that as the spring season concludes, she is meeting with the players individually to

help them improve in their skill development.

Repeating last year's success is also a goal of the Bruins.

"It's our second year, (and) we're still young," Coach Denny said. "It will be a tougher schedule overall."

Coach Denny also said that the team is bringing back maturity since most of their players played last season.

She said she believes the team will have more depth entering the fall.

The spring season has also seen three showcase events at

which Coach Denny and the team were able to meet and talk with prospective students.

"We've had a lot of visitors come through," Coach Denny said. "We got to meet some good prospects."

The team does a Bible study together to grow them as they head into the summer and prepare for the fall season.

"We have a Bible study in the offseason," Coach Denny said. "During the offseason it really helps us to grow spiritually as a team."



Kendra Jeffcott stretches to send the ball over the net. Photo: BJU Marketing/Derek Eckenroth



Rachel Tubbs sets up the ball. Photo: BJU Marketing/Derek Eckenroth

bruins spotlight

1 | What sparked your interest in playing volleyball?

"I've always loved playing sports, and I wanted to play a sport I could beat my brother at."

2 | What is your favorite memory from your time in sports?

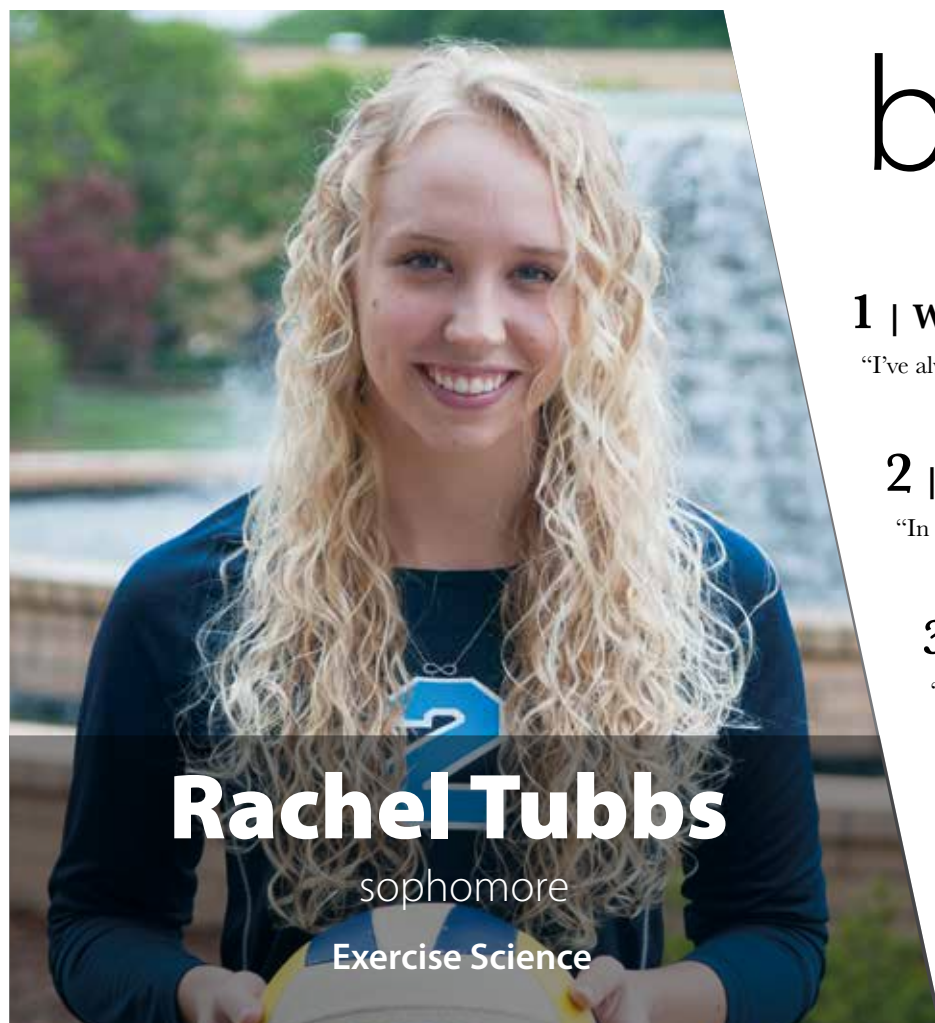
"In high school when our team won our first state championship."

3 | What are your favorite hobbies or pastimes?

"At home, I enjoy volunteering to work with special needs children."

4 | What do you want to do with your degree after graduation?

"I want to work at an occupational therapy school."



Rachel Tubbs

sophomore

Exercise Science

the COLLEGIAN



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NEWS

BJU to celebrate historic solar phenomenon

ANDREW MILLER
Staff Writer

Greenville will have front row seats on Aug. 21, 2017, to the first total solar eclipse in the continental U.S. since 1979. And BJU will host the Eclipse Experience from 1 till 3 p.m. to allow campus guests a chance to see the historic event.

An eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the earth and the sun, causing a dark shadow to crawl across the landscape.

In Greenville this moment of darkness will last approximately two minutes and 10 seconds.

Greenville is one of the prime places in the U.S. where the eclipse can be seen. As the solar eclipse drifts from the West Coast to the East Coast, the total eclipse will cross over 14 different states.

The next total solar eclipse will not be visible in the U.S. until 2024, and the next total solar eclipse visible from Greenville will not be until May 11, 2078.

BJU's website states that guests of the Eclipse Experience event will be able to

use university telescopes equipped with solar filters to observe the eclipse and take pictures using smartphones.

Experiments will also be conducted to monitor the air temperature, brightness levels and spectra before, during and after the solar eclipse.

Certain phenomena can be seen only during this total solar eclipse.

Moving, wavy lines of light and dark, called shadow bands, can be seen on the ground for about one minute before the totality of the solar eclipse. The outermost layer of the sun, the corona, shines as a dazzling sunlight along the edge of the moon.

This phenomenon, called diamond ring, occurs as the moon covers the entire disk of the sun around 15 seconds before totality. The diamond ring fades, and the corona becomes visible as a faint ring around the moon.

Another phenomenon, appearing five seconds before totality, is Bailey's beads. These beads of light at the edge of moon are caused by sunlight passing through the gaps in the moon's mountains and valley.

The sun's chromosphere, the lower layer, provides a red glow that can be seen for a few seconds after the totality of the solar eclipse. The eclipse ends with the phenomena repeating in reverse order.

The first 2,000 campus guests will receive a free pair of solar eclipse glasses to view the sun safely (simple sunglasses won't cut it this time).

Other educational events will be presented during the BJU Eclipse Experience, including an autonomous vehicle demonstration by the BJU engineering students. Bob Jones Academy students will present robot demonstrations.

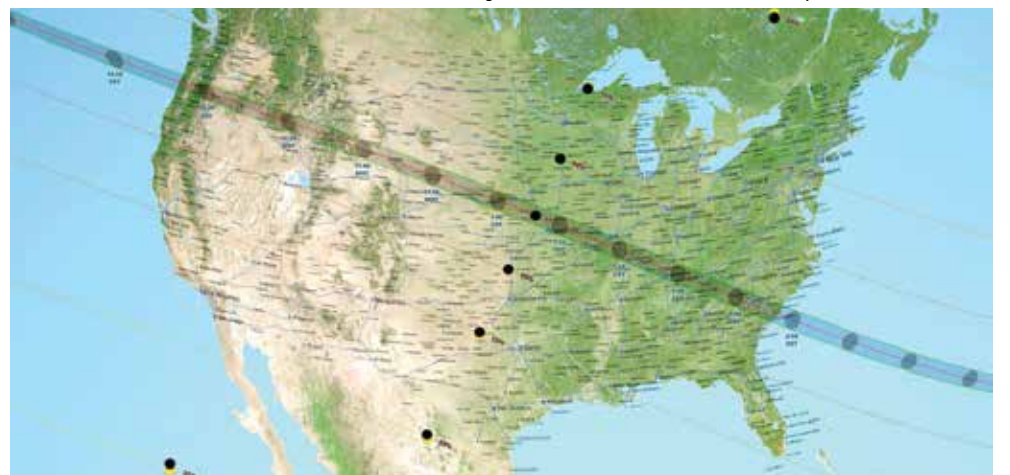
Participants can also attend lectures by BJU professors from the science and Bible faculties. Topics include the origin and purpose of the moon as well as God's precision in mathematics.

Dr. Bob Hill, astronomy faculty member, described the significance of this event by quoting Psalm 19:1. "The heavens declare the glory of God—we're constantly finding beautiful things and details that you never would have imagined," Hill said.

"Everybody just has a



Sometimes a thin outer ring of the sun can still be seen in a total eclipse. Photo: Kevin Baird



The total solar eclipse will cross over 14 different U.S. states. Photo: NASA/Goddard/SVS/Ernie Wright

sense of wonder no matter who they are," Hill said. "[The solar eclipse] shows you how complex God has created everything and the sense of wonder with it."

BJU faculty, students and

members of the Greenville community will be welcome to attend the Eclipse Experience. Refreshment trucks and vendors will also be provided for guests' enjoyment.

In the case of overcast

skies or bad weather, a truck outfitted with screen coverage from NASA will be available for viewing.

For more information about the solar eclipse, visit nationaleclipse.com.

Seniors premiere films, showcase 2 years' effort

MACEY YARBROUGH
Guest Writer

The Cinema Department of Bob Jones University will premiere the senior cinema majors' short films on April 29 at 7 p.m. in Stratton Hall.

At the premiere, Luke Brubaker, Candace Burkett, Abby Cole, Will Craven, Destry Edwards, Brian French, Nathan Kidd, Daniel Yerkes and Larissa Loeffler will present their films.

These nine seniors started working on the scripts for their films during their junior year, began production fall semester of their senior year and then produced most of the films during spring semester.

"I've been working on my film for over a year now, and I'm finally satisfied with what it has become," Loeffler, filmmaker of *Alex*, said.

During the fall, the seniors were able to recruit other cinema majors as crew. Most of the months of October and November were spent filming. Following that, hours upon hours were poured into the editing process to make their vision come alive.

Coming into the major,

students are highly encouraged by cinema faculty to get involved and find opportunities to go out on film shoots and get as much experience as they can to prepare them for what's ahead.

During the students' senior year, cinema faculty member Christopher Zydowicz, widely known as Mr. Z, takes on the role of the adviser and guides the students as they make their eight- to 12-minute short film.

"Their senior year they're put to the test to tell a story—a story that's unique to them—that they want to reach out and tell other people," Zydowicz said.

Zydowicz motivates the seniors while pushing them beyond their full potential.

As for the rest of the cinema majors, Zydowicz has repeatedly encouraged his students from the moment they join the major to always "get involved."

"The students get involved at each level so that by the time they're a senior they know how it all works together and what they need to tell their own story," he explained.

Tomas Moreno, a junior in the major, emphasized Zydowicz's encouragement.

"[Zydowicz] strives for you to do your very best to reach your full potential," he said.

Nicole Winot, a junior cinema production major, also commented on Zydowicz's teaching.

"He knows how to adapt style to what we need," Winot said.

Brubaker said that he wants to use his creativity to inspire

people. In his film, *Character Study*, he was able to channel his creativity in such a way to create the comedy of the premiere's line-up.

French views film as a way to "[invite] you to think differently, or to see something in a new way." French continued to describe film as a unique way to present the Gospel, much like Christ used parables.

Most, if not all of the seniors, will be placing their films into festivals as they continue on after graduation. Because of this, their films will not be available for viewing for at least a year or more after the films are submitted.

Tickets for the premiere are \$6 and are available for purchase through Programs and Productions or at the door the

evening of the premiere.

As you begin to prepare for the week of finals, take a well-deserved break for just an hour or two and go to the annual senior film premiere.

The countless hours these seniors, with the help of their fellow classmates and cinema faculty, have put into making and perfecting these short films will be well worth your time.



Senior Destry Edwards and junior Stephen Dysert shoot footage for Edwards' senior film. Photo: Nathaniel Wolfe