

the COLLEGLIAN

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Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC 29614

Greenville Triumph partners with BJU

KAYLA ROMEISER
Sports Editor

The Greenville Triumph, a brand new professional soccer team, entered into a two-year partnership with Bob Jones University in late January.

The Triumph is a pro team in Division III of the U.S. soccer-sanctioned professional soccer leagues.

Athletic director Neal Ring met Chris Lewis, president of the Triumph, through a BJU alumnus.

The two sat down for lunch together, and a partnership began to form. A visit to campus confirmed Lewis' desire to partner with BJU.

The Greenville Triumph
See **TRIUMPH** p. 7 >>



Brody celebrates the new partnership with the Greenville Triumph. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/ BJU Marketing

BJU theatre major to appear in Kendricks film

DANIEL QUIGLEY
Staff Writer

Jack Sterner, a senior theatre major, will appear in a movie titled *Overcomer* by the filmmakers of *Courageous*, *War Room* and *Fireproof* that will premiere this August.

Overcomer, starring its director, Alex Kendrick, is about a high school basketball coach whose life dramatically changes when a manufacturing plant shuts down, causing him to lose his basketball team.

The basketball coach

then accepts a job coaching cross country and helps an unsaved runner improve her running skills while attempting to find his own identity in Christ.

Sterner, who auditioned, accepted and performed the role this past summer, plays

the son of the basketball/cross country coach.

Like his father, Sterner's character struggles to find his identity in Christ rather than in his love of basketball.

Sterner said he intended to work at a camp over the summer until God changed his path.

Sterner went hiking with John Gallant, a senior exercise science major, in the western U.S. before reporting to camp.

While on the hiking trip, he received a Facebook message from a casting director who got his name from a director of a church film he acted in high school.

The casting director asked if he could send an audition tape for the next film by the Kendrick brothers, *Overcomer*.

Sterner and Gallant quickly found a place to record and upload the video.

After flying back to his home in Georgia, Sterner got a call from the filmmaking duo, who asked him tough questions about his relationship with God.

"They had offered the role to several guys," Sterner said. "And then when they interviewed them, they found that all of them were struggling with one thing or the other."

Two days after officially receiving the role, Sterner began rehearsals.

"It was clearly God intervening into my life and dropping an opportunity in my lap when I wasn't even looking for it," Sterner said.

Sterner, who performed in last semester's play *King Lear*, found that film acting offered different challenges.

"I've performed in front of a lot of people on a stage, but having people all around me and very close to me who are watching me perform is very different," Sterner said. "It's a much more intimate experience than being on stage in front of a lot of people [who are] all far away from me."

One problem he had to overcome was his tendency to articulate distinctly.

"I had to intentionally mess up my speech a little bit

more so that I seemed more real," Sterner said.

Sterner said he appreciated the Kendricks' spiritual leadership on set.

Each day began with devotions, and a full-time prayer team on set prayed for individuals and at the locations where they would shoot.

"Any time something went wrong, first reaction was always, 'All right, we're gonna pray over this situation,'" Sterner said.

On his days off, Sterner joined the crew, helping by getting people water, transporting actors and assisting Alex Kendrick.

"I didn't want to just sit in my hotel room while everybody was having fun," Sterner said.

Although Sterner did not originally plan to pursue acting after graduating because of the challenge of receiving roles, his plans have changed.

Now, he wants to pursue it unless God guides him somewhere else.

"If God ever stops
See **STERNER** p. 3 >>



Jack Sterner had the opportunity to act in a Christian film that is being released this summer. Photo: Daniel Quigley

COLUMN



SAMANTHA VEIRA
Staff Writer

Many people have a bucket list. Some people want to skydive. Some want to ride in a hot air balloon. Others want to visit all 50 states.

One thing I have always wanted to do is take a trip to study abroad.

Now when I say study abroad, the image that comes to mind might be of an old favorite film or maybe of students enjoying a glamorous vacation in a foreign country.

But while there is plenty to enjoy on a study abroad trip, it's not at all just a vacation.

Study abroad programs give students the opportunity to learn more about the topic they're studying in a different way than just in a classroom.

These programs give students the chance to immerse themselves in a new culture and to build new friendships.

Study abroad trips provide
See **COLUMN** p. 3 »



COMIC: MAX BURAK

The Collegian Editorial

Responding to our country's polarization

The United States recently witnessed the longest government shutdown in our history so far, and some of the effects were widespread.

Government employees missed several paydays, those on welfare or other forms of federal aid were severely impacted and even airport security lines slowed.

Even students at BJU may have seen the strain of their families' financial situations, especially those with parents in the government.

The shutdown is just another example of the polarizing opinions in our country. Americans disagree on government practices, abortion, gender issues and even what the definition of truth is.

In such a time of turmoil, controversy and uncertainty, Americans, and Christians in particular, have a lot of questions. How should we respond to the shutdown and other hot

topics? How can we show the light of Jesus in a world that cannot even agree on fundamental moral issues?

In situations like this, we as Christians have the opportunity to respond and even proactively do something to further the Gospel and help others.

The biggest problem in our country is that we are collectively turning away from God.

With no clear morals and no direction based on truth, our country is in turmoil as there is much disagreement on important matters.

Because the problem is spiritual first of all, one thing we can always do is pray: pray for our leaders, our government officials and people who are suffering.

We should pray for our country as a whole, too. With such a diverse group of people, the United States is in a time of constant debate and

disagreement, and a big thing we can do to help is to ask God for His guidance and His help to solve our problems.

Of course, sharing the Gospel is of utmost importance. That's what Americans need the most, to see the love of Jesus and to turn to Him.

However, we also have a lot of hurting and suffering in our country. Looking at our problems in a humanitarian light, there is a lot we can do to physically meet the needs of those around us.

Many of us, as college students, don't have a lot of money or time. But God sometimes calls us to give sacrificially. As students at BJU, we are all a part of churches in the area, so one way to help would be to get involved in your local church's outreaches.

Not only can we meet people's physical needs this way, but we also have more chances to share the Gospel

through these outreaches.

We can also help our country by being involved politically. If you're not called to be a politician, you can always vote, and that's an important thing to do, too.

Lastly, remember to trust in God and share His love with everyone around us. In times of success and happiness, it's easy to say we trust in God. It's in times like government shutdowns, when everyone around us is fighting, that our faith in God is truly tested.

1 Peter 3:15 says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

When everyone around us gives in to fear about how our country is changing or how things are falling apart, we can turn to God, the One who never changes.

the COLLEGIAN

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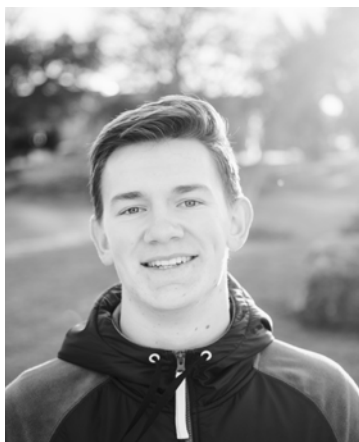
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TALKBACK

What was your favorite show as a kid?



freshman
DAVID YOUNG
"Winnie the Pooh"



sophomore
ELAINA LEHNER
"Blue's Clues"



sophomore
STEPHEN BLACKMAN
"The Flintstones"



graduate student
KIM CORNELIUS
"Andy Griffith"

PHOTOS: ROBBY JORGENSEN

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blessing me on that path, then I will stop immediately and do something else,” Sterner said.

In whatever Sterner does, he wants to glorify God.

“Any time for any reason God chooses to make my name known, I would use that as an opportunity to make His name known,” Sterner said.

BJU cinema faculty and staff members Christopher Zydowicz, John Murray and Steve White visited the set and were background performers in the film’s opening scene.

Three BJU grads also worked on the crew.

Overcomer will be released in theaters Aug. 23 this year.

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students with a far more comprehensive experience than they would be able to get from online classes or even by attending classes at a local college for the summer.

For example, on literature trips, students don’t just learn about the works of authors and poets.

Instead, students also explore these writers’ homes and cities as well as other places that would have inspired them and shaped their writing.

Part of the allure of a study abroad trip, at least for me, is that it’s a way to earn class credit over the summer.

I had always thought that the trip alone was enough experience to be counted for credit.

Recently, though, I found out that students

"It was clearly God intervening into my life and dropping an opportunity in my lap when I wasn't even looking for it," Sterner said.

Have any ideas for The Collegian?

email to editor@bju.edu

who are on the trip also have formal classes taught by the professor for credits. In the case of foreign language study tours, students are immersed in the target language for the duration of the trip.

Additionally, it gives students the chance to learn more about the people and culture of that area as well.

By studying in a different country, students have the opportunity to experience food, music and customs they may never have

encountered before.

I think that knowing about a person’s culture is a great way to open conversation with them, whether at home or abroad.

These conversations can open the way to witnessing opportunities or even new friendships.

Even though total immersion would be challenging, I hope to one day be able to go on a Spanish language study abroad tour to improve my speaking skills and learn more about different people around the world.

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BJU – The Collegian

"The Dancers" to premiere in Performance Hall

DANIEL QUIGLEY
Staff Writer

BJU students will produce and direct “*The Dancers*,” written by Pulitzer Prize winner Horton Foote, from Feb. 21 to 23 in Performance Hall to fulfill two students’ senior capstones.

The play, by the Oscar-winning screenwriter of “*To Kill a Mockingbird*,” tells the story of a high school graduate going to his first dance with a girl before he heads off to college. “*The Dancers*” occurs in Harrison, Texas, in the 1930s.

Gabrielle Prairie, a theatre major, is directing the play for her senior capstone. She first read the play after Ron Pyle, head of the theatre department, pointed her to it. After checking it out, she fell in love with it.

“It’s just a really sweet story and has a lot of universal truth in it,” Prairie said.

Jordan Ford, another senior theatre major, partially fulfilled her capstone requirements with last semester’s *You Can’t Take It With You*. Ford is continuing to complete her capstone by assistant directing “*The Dancers*.”

The main character of “*The Dancers*,” played by Josiah Shank, a freshman theatre major, struggles with a lack of confidence.

Prairie said that confidence is doing something despite your fears. “We all have struggled with finding confidence,” Prairie said, “I just think I like how Foote handles it. It’s not super dramatic; it’s real life.”

Susanna Smith, a sophomore nursing major, plays the girl who helps him find his confidence. “It’s not confidence to just go out and change the world necessarily, but confidence to just go outside your comfort zone,” Smith said.

As Prairie directed Smith during rehearsal, Smith realized her character had more confidence than herself.

“I just realized I was being super self-conscious about all my movements,” Smith said. “I could just be more relaxed and comfortable.”

Prairie is trying something different with this play than most adaptations of Horton Foote. “We’re trying to use a little bit more abstract and use a little bit

See **DANCERS** p. 6»



Josiah Shank and Susanna Smith practice for their roles in "The Dancers." Photo: Charles Billiu

A Week at a Glance

Saturday

16th

BJU women’s and men’s track at University of South Carolina

The second meet this year, both the BJU men’s and women’s track teams will compete at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, this Saturday, Feb. 16.

Saturday

16th

BJU women’s and men’s basketball vs Johnson University

After success in Pensacola, Florida, against the PCC Eagles, both the BJU men’s and women’s basketball teams are ready to play Johnson University Florida this Saturday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. here in Greenville. This is the second time they will play Johnson University of Florida this season.

Monday

18th

Christian School Leadership & Recruitment Conference

This annual conference enables all BJU students to stop by the Davis Room Monday and Tuesday to visit with many different school administrators and find potential jobs. See Tabitha Leaman’s article, on page six, in this issue for more information.

Tuesday

19th

Graduate Fair

The Grad Fair for Prospective Graduates will take place in the Bruins Shop on Feb. 19 from 11:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Herff Jones representatives will be available if students have any questions about their graduation orders. This includes announcements, regalia rental, diploma frames and class rings.

Artist Series features American Spiritual Ensemble

JO ELLEN WALKER
Staff Writer

An important part of black history is the spiritual songs that slaves sang, especially in Southern states.

Bob Jones University will celebrate this history at its Concert, Opera and Drama Series on Feb. 19 with the American Spiritual Ensemble.

Dr. Fred Coleman, a professor in the Division of Music, said the upcoming Artist Series will give BJU students exposure to a different culture and different way of worship.

"For a long time, our country was so isolated in ethnicities," he said. "It's becoming important to acknowledge literally spiritual brothers and sisters who choose to express [their faith] in a different way than what we're used to."

He said this exposure to different cultures helps students see people unlike themselves as image-bearers of God.

"It's important for us, considering our subculture as gospel-believing conservatives, to recognize that there are other people groups that sing differently the same

truths," said Coleman.

"[This artist series is] beneficial beyond even spiritual things for just recognizing the various cultures that make up America's melting pot," Coleman said.

Coleman said that while there is an element of enjoyment to every artist series, they also provide an opportunity to learn how to share the Gospel more effectively within other cultures.

"They are about broadening your exposure," he said. "That was [BJU's] founder's vision."

The American Spiritual Ensemble is one such group formed in 1995 by Dr. Everett McCorvey, the music director of the spiritual ensemble. McCorvey and the ensemble carries the African American spiritual to audiences around the world.

The group is composed of world-renowned soloists who sing American spirituals and Broadway numbers as an ensemble.

The mission of the American Spiritual Ensemble is to ensure that these spirituals aren't lost to history.

The ensemble performed at the University in 2012 with the BJU Chorale.

African American spirituals often reflect the hardships slaves faced and the hope they had of one day gaining their freedom.

Coleman said slaves found that the suffering in their own lives often paralleled the suffering of Bible characters.

Many spirituals especially expressed their identification with the sufferings of Jesus.

Coleman said slaves seeking freedom sometimes used spirituals to communicate with each other on the Underground Railroad.

Harriet Tubman sang "Go Down Moses" to tell slaves she was in the area to help them escape to freedom.

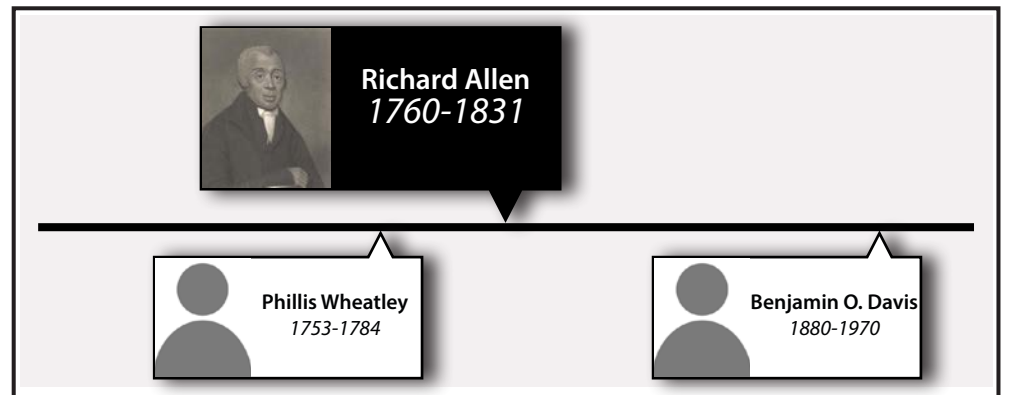
Coleman said the American spiritual style originated at camp meetings, using a call and response method.

A leader sang a simple phrase, and the congregation either repeated the phrase or gave a simple response.

Coleman said spirituals reflected the slaves' African roots through their rhythms and soulful melodies.

After slavery was abolished in 1865 with the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, spirituals gained popularity across the country and around the world.

Coleman said a group of former slaves from Fisk University formed the Jubilee Singers in the 1870s, traveling across America and Europe singing spirituals. Other groups like this began to form, and the genre grew in popularity.



RICHARD ALLEN

SETH JOHNSON
Editor

Richard Allen received salvation through Christ in 1780, and six years later, he bought his physical salvation from slavery for \$2,000.

That same year, he began preaching at St. George's Church, a racially mixed Methodist congregation in Philadelphia. The church soon became too crowded for the growing congregation, so the leadership elected to build a balcony.

Unfortunately, the black members of the congregation were then forced to sit there, segregated from the rest.

During a prayer one Sunday, deacons forcefully

removed Allen, one of their preachers, from the lower section of the church. Before long, Allen and the other African-American members of the congregation left.

After buying a blacksmith shop and moving it to his property, Allen opened Bethel African Church. Because of his roots with Methodism, Allen and his church joined the Methodist conference.

Soon, Methodist leadership attempted to control who preached at Bethel African Church. However, a court ruling declared that the church could decide who would preach in their renovated blacksmith shop.

Gaining courage from Allen's example, other African Methodist congregations started sprouting in northeastern cities. They too experienced difficulties with the mainline, white Methodist congregation. And so, Allen and these other congregations came together to form the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME).

This new church elected Allen as bishop, a position he held until his death in 1831. Today, AME still exists as a thriving denomination, and its motto reflects its roots: "God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, the Holy Spirit Our Comforter, Humankind Our Family" (www.ame-church.com).

THE COLLEGIAN IS LOOKING FOR

TALENTED, MOTIVATED AND DILIGENT
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Feb. 19 • 8 p.m.
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The American Spiritual Ensemble were at BJU in 2012. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/ BJU Marketing

Seven questions to ask *before* Artist Series

As if academic anxiety wasn't enough, Artist Series is only four days away. But don't panic. The Collegian's own Cupid is here to answer your questions.



Is it too late to ask someone to go with me?

Well, we never like to say never, but you had better hurry. Tickets were supposed to be secured Monday . . . but if you have someone in mind, go for it, and hope they don't already have plans.



Should we get dinner together?

Not a bad idea, especially if you want to know them better. After all, the actual performance doesn't allow for much conversational time. Just be sure to close your mouth while chewing, and don't speak with your mouth full.



Should I give my date something?

Do you want to go on future artist series together? If so, then a gift is a good idea. If they're just a "friend," then you're probably good without a gift.

What should I give my date?

It depends. How many times have you been to artist series together? If never, see question two. If once before, then you should equal or top what you did last time, if you want it to last. If multiple times, then you really don't need our advice.



What should I wear?



Well, of course you must follow BJU's guidelines first. But after that, many women appreciate it when their dates match (or at least coordinate) their suit and tie with their dresses.



Where should I meet my date?

Meet at the dorms if it's going to be a date. This also makes it extra special if you have gifts! Don't worry about where to stand; just follow the flow.



Should I walk my date back to her dorm?

If you really like her, definitely walk her back! This will make her feel special, and it will make the night feel more like a date for her. If you're just going as friends, but still don't want her to walk back alone, you can always walk back in a group to make it less awkward.



PRO TIPS:

Need conversation topics and want to sound informed?

See our article about the American Spiritual Ensemble on page 4

Want to see them again soon?

The next artist series isn't until March, so we would suggest asking to hang out before then at the very least. You don't want them to think you've lost interest if you haven't!

WHAT NOT TO SAY:

– Anything about your last date. (i.e. "My last date got me flowers and chocolate, my last date and I got ice cream afterwards; my last date went horribly wrong because he...")

– That you're bored. Your date will think that you're saying they're boring!

– "I hope this gets over soon." Your date may think that you don't like hanging out, not that your tie or shoes are too tight.

»DANCERS p.3

more expressionism,” Prairie said.

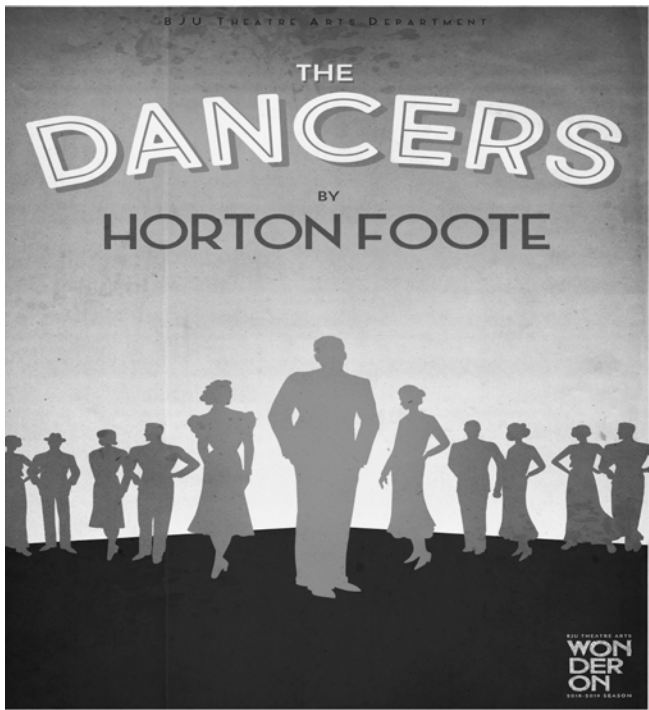
Smith said that added dance sequences are used in an abstract way. Prairie also said one of the difficulties with adapting Foote is not seeing the characters as stereotypes. “You really have to get to know the characters and understand that they are very relatable,” Prairie said.

Smith said she loved working with the cast and theatre students, since she’s normally around fellow science majors.

Prairie said she likes the collaborative aspect of theater, and she’s always been passionate about theater. “There’s some-

thing about live theater, like anything could happen,” Prairie said. “That is just so exciting to me. Something goes wrong; you have to trust the other actors to pick you up and to listen and to make it work.”

According to humanities-texas.org, Foote originally tried to become an actor before learning he was more skilled as a playwright. Foote wrote “A Trip to Bountiful,” which was performed in Performance Hall in 2017. He won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama for “The Young Man from Atlanta.” Foote also voiced Jefferson Davis in the Ken Burns documentary “The Civil War.”



“The Dancers” focuses on themes of confidence. Photo: CJ Billiu

HORTON FOOTE

- Pulitzer prize winner for drama for “The Young Man from Atlanta”
- Oscar winner for “To Kill a Mockingbird” movie
- Wrote “A Trip to Bountiful,” performed in 2017 in Perf. Hall.
- Voiced Jefferson Davis in the Ken Burns documentary “The Civil War”



GO

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Christian schools recruit BJU students at conference

TABITHA LEAMAN
Staff Writer

More than 75 Christian schools will arrive on campus Monday for the annual Christian School Recruitment Conference, an event BJU has hosted since 1970.

Since the beginning, the

conference has served to connect BJU students with Christian schools all over the U.S. and the world who are looking to recruit teachers, administrators, coaches, office staff, marketing staff and more.

Throughout Monday and Tuesday Feb. 18-19, school administrators will be set up with their displays in the Davis

Room of the dining common.

All students are welcome to stop in on Monday from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

On Monday evening, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. the displays are open specifically for all juniors and seniors, and then from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. the displays will be open to all students again.

Any interested students are encouraged to stop by the displays Tuesday from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m., when the conference will end.

Jane Smith, director of Career Services who oversees organizing the event, said the conference is for students from all majors.

While the event is re-

quired for all students in the School of Education, Smith said there are many different opportunities at the conference for any students who go.

“The schools also need

working skills.”

Smith said the conference will give students an opportunity to see the needs in Christian schools.

Smith has talked to some



Over 75 schools will come to BJU looking to hire students. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/ BJU Marketing

**“There are so many opportunities and so many needs,”
Smith said.**

Bible teachers, coaches, business personnel, marketing personnel and other support staff,” Smith said. “I encourage all students to be open to ministry opportunities. This is not just for teachers!”

Smith said there are many benefits for students who attend. “This conference gives students an opportunity to talk with and get to know the administrators of these schools,” she said. “This will certainly help them develop their interpersonal and net-

students who became interested in a school after attending the conference during their freshman or sophomore year and ended up signing a contract with that school before their senior year. “There are so many opportunities and so many needs,” she said.

Dr. Jeremy Watts, chair of the Division of Teacher Education, said he recently talked to a BJU graduate who, when she was a freshman, contacted a school through

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will use BJU as a practice facility until the team is able to establish its “forever home” in Greenville, according to Ring. This agreement will last two years, possibly three.

Currently, as a Division III team, the Triumph is two steps down from Major League Soccer. However, they are looking to join Division II in the future.

According to Ring, both the students of Bob Jones University and the Triumph benefit from this partnership.

Already, the Fremont Fitness Center has begun to change.

The dividing wall in the men’s fitness center has been pushed back approximately 15 feet.

In the larger two-thirds of the fitness center, the students’ aerobic and strength and conditioning areas are being combined.

The other third of the fitness center is reserved for the Triumph.

The Triumph will be installing a locker room as well as strength and conditioning equipment for their own use.

Two racquetball courts are being used as office space. An athletic training room is

being installed as well.

The entrance to the FFC was changed because the lobby is being renovated into a player lounge for the Greenville team. Couches and televisions are being added to increase comfort.

The student side of the FFC is also receiving some new equipment.

According to Ring, a strength and conditioning company looked at the space in the FFC and gave suggestions on how to maximize it.

All upgrades will be done at no cost to BJU, and once the Triumph has their “forever home,” the upgraded facilities will be available for the University’s use.

In addition to the FFC, the Triumph is using the practice fields beginning in February.

The team practices early in the morning, and therefore the practices will not interfere with any events such as summer camps, Bruins’ soccer practices or society soccer in the fall.

The Triumph’s games will start on March 29 and will end in early October.

They might occasionally use the Davis Field House pool or indoor track as well.

The Triumph and BJU exchanged schedules to try to avoid conflicts.

“[BJU events are] being carefully monitored and scheduled around,” Ring said. “We’re trying to impact as little as we can of the status quo.”

Ring and the Triumph have talked about other possible benefits specifically for BJU students and constituents.

These could include scrimmages hosted on stadium field, player signings at games, special game ticketing or interactions at soccer camps and Bruins practices.

Students may also be able to take part in game day operations, possible internships and other job opportunities.

“We will maximize the opportunities for our students, recruits and players,” Ring said. “We want to get the most benefit out of [the partnership] for the students.”

Ring believes there will be knowledge and information shared between the coaching staffs of the Triumph and the Bruins.

However, the Triumph will determine the level of integration they will have with BJU.

A benefit for BJU as a

university is the connection to what could be a powerful brand in the community.

The connection to the Triumph, and the claim of being the team’s first training home, will open opportunities to connect with the Greenville community.

The brand will also help recruiting for BJU’s intercollegiate sports.

Ring, President Pettit and the executive board believe that BJU’s partnership with the Greenville Triumph will be positive for both parties, as well as give BJU a new opportunity to minister to the community as good hosts.



Brody celebrates new partnership. Photo: BJU Marketing



Chris Lewis, president of the Triumph, and Neal Ring, BJU athletic director, formalize partnership. Photo: BJU Marketing

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What is “plant-forward” eating?

According to Menus of Change (a collaborative conference of Culinary Institute of America and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health), plant-forward is “a style of cooking and eating that emphasizes and celebrates, but is not limited to, plant-based foods.”

Multiple research studies provide evidence that more plants on the plate yield health benefits galore.

However, this is very counterintuitive to the way we plan our meals—with meat protein being the shining star at the table.

Next week we will continue this discussion with some ideas for giving plants their proper place in our diets.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS TIP

By MELANIE SCHELL



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this conference and was able to build a relationship with the school throughout her time at BJU. When she was ready, she was offered and accepted a job from the school. “What an incredible story!” Watts said.

Dr. Brian Carruthers, Dean of the School of Edu-

cation, encourages all students from freshmen to seniors to stop by the Davis Room and speak with the recruiters. He said the conference is one of the largest recruiting events on campus.

“Even if students aren’t immediately looking for employment, they can be building relationships with these

ministries,” Carruthers said. “It definitely is an encouragement to these ministries, who come at a sacrifice of time and money.”

Smith advises students to dress professionally and have their resumes ready. Practicing their “elevator pitch,” a brief introduction of themselves, is another good idea.



Recruiters mingle in the Davis Room. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/ BJU Marketing



Students interact at the recruitment conference. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/ BJU Marketing

Students who need help polishing their resumes and introductions can stop by Career Services in Alumni 206 for help.

Smith also suggested that students go on the Career Service’s website and look at the list of schools coming to the conference so they can decide which ones they would like to visit.

She said events like these can be a little overwhelming to students, especially for those who are attending for the first time. “A little prep will help minimize that,” she said.

Smith said she hopes students will take full advantage of the opportunities ahead. “They should pursue open doors and see where God leads them,” she said.



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New coffee shop opens near campus

ANDREW SCHMIDT
Staff Writer

Bridge City Coffee, a recently-opened coffee shop and roastery, is located just a quick walk from Bob Jones University at 1520 Wade Hampton Blvd.

The café offers a variety of types of coffee, including drip coffee, cold brew, macchiatos and lattes.

They also sell a few kinds of teas. Some dessert and pastry items such as cookies and homemade pop tarts are also available.

The interior is well-lit and spacious and offers enough seating for larger groups. Wi-fi access is provided, and there is a drive-thru to allow

customers to grab a cup of coffee on the go.

All coffee is roasted in the coffee shop, and customers can purchase bags of the coffee to take home.

Some of the coffee varieties that customers can buy include seasonal blends and Guatemalan coffee.

Customers can also pay a subscription fee to have bags of coffee shipped directly to them from the roastery every month. Customers can pick which kinds of coffee they would like each month.

Gregory Ward, the founder and owner of Bridge City Coffee, said, “We always strive to create a top-notch, quality-crafted product that people truly enjoy, both with the coffee

we roast and the beverages we serve in our shop.”

Bridge City Coffee could be considered just another coffee shop, but the unique vision and goals of the owner help it stand out.

Ward started a blog related to the shop in July 2017 before the current location had been secured.

He adds a new post once or twice every month. Ward shares many of his personal desires for the shop on this blog.

In one blog post, Ward said his goal for the coffee shop is to work with nonprofits, mainly those nonprofits that help young people, in order to help them transition more easily

into the real world.

“Our goal is to pick up where our partner organizations leave off and bridge the gap between nonprofit services and real-world employment,” Ward said.

Ward’s unique business model primarily focuses on offering unique and valuable experience to inexperienced workers. “I wanted to create a place where people who are

often overlooked or neglected could receive deep, high level training they wouldn’t be able to find anywhere else at an entry level position,” he said.

Ward also said he and his associates seek to create meaningful relations between communities, including customers, coffee growers and the shop itself.

“We believe coffee can be used for so much more

than just a great beverage,” Ward said.

Ward said that he runs the shop under three central pillars: “Everyone Matters, Courage, and Excellence in the Small Things.”

Bridge City Coffee is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The coffee shop is closed on Sundays.



Bridge City Coffee offers a variety of drinks. Photo: Charles Billiu



Bridge City Coffee has many areas for study and relaxation. Photo: Charles Billiu



Bridge City Coffee is located on Wade Hampton Boulevard between White Oak and Karen Drive. Photo: Charles Billiu