

# the Collegian

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Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC 29614

## Play by grad student to premiere on campus

02/26  
2021

Madison Floyd  
STAFF WRITER

*Operation: Turkey Lurkey*, created by the BJU theatre arts department and written by graduate student David Veatch, promises a comedic, romantic and memorable experience.

*Operation: Turkey Lurkey* will be available for all BJU students to see at 7:30 p.m. March 4 to March 6 in Performance Hall.

“One of our big projects for the year is to put on our own play,” said Wilbur Mauk, a theatre graduate student. *Operation: Turkey Lurkey* is the big project of the year for theatre graduate students.

“We cast students from BJU, build our own set, handle budgeting and anything else we can accomplish to put on the show,” Mauk said.

Veatch said he came up with the idea for one of his thesis proposals. “I was writing a new play in three to four days every week,” Veatch said. “*Operation: Turkey Lurkey* was the fourth and final play that I ended up writing in the process.” Veatch said the play, inspired by current American culture, went through eight different drafts before it was finally ready.

Veatch said another inspiration for the



Scriptwriter and actor David Veatch, in '70s costume, and director James Zhang produce the play. Photo: Nick Zukowski

play were his classmates. “With everything that was happening with COVID-19 and the election, it was nice to have somewhere that

See **TURKEY** p. 7 >>

## Maker Zone uses 3D printers to build EggBot with students

Vicki Olachea  
STAFF WRITER

The Maker Zone of BJU Technology Resources is hosting a collaborative engineering project called EggBot that will build a machine capable of decorating eggs.

The machine will be composed of a kit purchased by Technology Resources and a few pieces to be crafted using one of BJU's 3D printers. Students attended an initial meeting on Feb. 22, but the project is still open to anyone who is interested. Workdays will be held from Feb. 24 to March 15 in the Maker Zone on the second floor of the Alumni building.

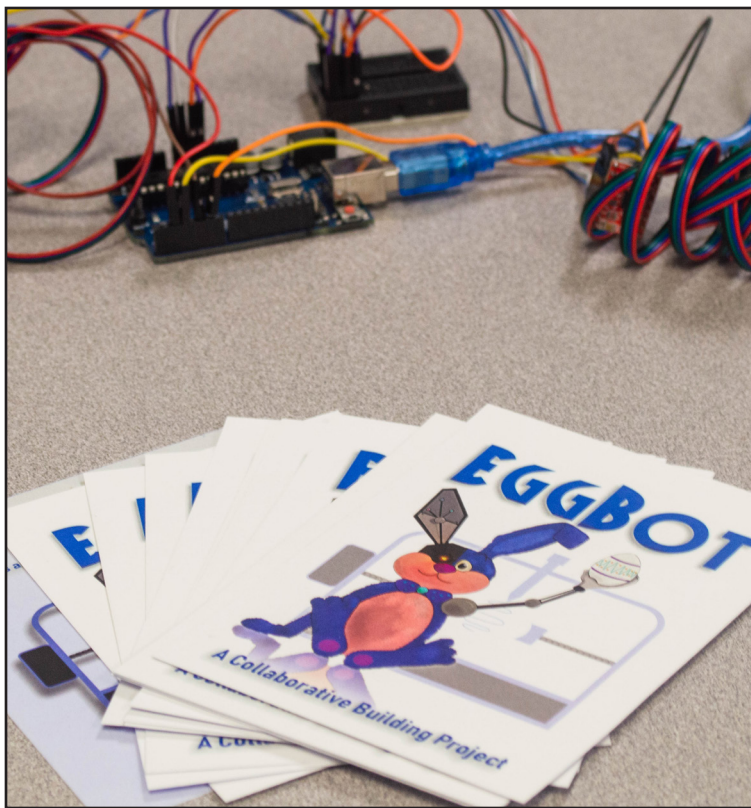
Sam Stephens, staff

member in BJU Tech Resources, said the main goal for EggBot is the same as that of the Maker Zone: to spark innovation in students.

“The Maker Zone is a chance for students to learn about the abilities that they have . . . in a safe environment where they can try new things and make mistakes,” Stephens said.

According to Stephens, no one in Tech Resources has built the project yet, a deliberate choice made to keep the project completely collaborative. Stephens hopes the environment of collaboration will relieve the pressure of the project. Students can simply

See **EGGBOT** p. 6 >>



Workshops, open days that students can work with Stephens on the project, will be held until mid-March. Photo: Heath Parish

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### THE WEEK

#### Course Withdrawal Deadline

Today is the last day to withdraw as a “W” from a full semester course or change a lecture course to audit. Changes can be made at The Hub before 5 p.m.

#### Graphic Design Exhibition Opening

The graphic design exhibition opens tonight in the Exhibition Corridor in the Sargent Art Building from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

#### String Orchestra

The string orchestra will present its “Baroque Dance” concert Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Stratton Hall, featuring Dr. Esther Waite, department of instrumental studies faculty member.

#### Bruins Baseball

The Bruins baseball team will play Columbia International University on Tuesday starting at 1 p.m. at Conestee Park.

Editorial: is there a moral objection to the COVID-19 vaccine? p. 2

Commitment issues? Benson wrote a thesis on it. p. 4

Students in this division are majorly good at communicating. p. 5

The Bruins track and field team are sprinting for success! p. 7





Comic: Susy Castle

the Collegian

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COLUMN



Johanna Huebscher  
STAFF WRITER

When I was 12 years old, my biggest fear was being unoriginal. The first time I was called basic, I went to the bathroom and cried. I felt like my entire identity was erased and that I was nothing more than a 12-year-old lemming, enticed by Starbucks and sparkles. What followed was a yearslong quest for uniqueness, where I pretended to be disgusted by so-called “basic” things such as pumpkin spice lattes, infinity scarves and Uggs boots. While I can now look

See **COLUMN** p. 3 >>

The Collegian Editorial  
Should Christians take the vaccine?

One of the most overwhelming conversations in the news today is about the COVID-19 vaccine. As students, this topic is even more relevant to us because we are surrounded by hundreds to thousands of people daily. The debate on whether the vaccine should be supported holds two common objections: the use of fetal cells and the potential side effects. Taking caution concerning the vaccine is reasonable, which is why careful research can be liberating for one's personal opinion. The first common objection is that the vaccine is developed from or contains material from abortions, but this is inaccurate. According to the North Dakota Health Institute, “Historical fetal cell lines were derived in the 1960s and 1970s from two elective abortions that were not performed for the purpose of vaccine development.” Researchers were able to use these stem cell lines from both abortions. Neither abortion was done for the purpose of vaccines. The stem cell lines were only used after the development of ‘60s vaccines to determine efficacy, and vaccines today, including the Pfizer and Moderna vaccinations, do not contain any fetal cells. The other common objection is that the vaccine may have harmful side effects. A study from the University of Alabama reports, “The most common reactions were injection site reactions (84.1%), fatigue (62.9%), headache (55.1%), muscle pain (38.3%), chills (31.9%), joint pain (23.6%) and fever (14.2%). These are short-lived

and similar to what we see with the influenza or shingles vaccines. Severe reactions were very rare (< five percent).” This study has been backed up by many other medical resources, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Mayo Clinic. Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines had to be approved by the FDA and validated in multiple studies of thousands of patients. We have a responsibility as Christians to do our research through the lens of the Bible. Ultimately, if taking the vaccine offends our conscience, we should not feel obligated to take it. But Paul encourages us in Romans 12:10 to be considerate of our fellow Christians first, so if we have a conviction against the vaccine, we should take other precautions by wearing masks and physical distancing. As Christians, we are called to love and serve those around us. Our freedom to choose our own actions should not cause us to be inconsiderate of the needs of others, especially when influencing their protection from the virus. More than half a million people have died in the U.S. because of COVID-19. Carelessness over the illness will result in many needless deaths, not counting people who are suffering severe side effects from the virus. We can choose whether to take the vaccine, but we shouldn’t be negligent in our duty to protect others and make considerate choices every day that put the well-being of others before our own comfort or convenience.

TALKBACK

What class would you like to teach?

Photos: Robert Stuber

Photographers  
Lindsay Shaleen  
Heath Parish  
Nick Zukowski  
Madeline Peters  
Robert Stuber

Comic Artist  
Susy Castle

Advisers  
Betty Solomon  
Lewis Carl  
Hal Cook

Ad Manager  
Jonny Gamet



Ashley Zimmer  
SOPHOMORE  
“Robotics class. I think it would be cool to make robots that play guitar.”



Bradley Koons  
FRESHMAN  
“I’d teach Greek. I think the characters are interesting.”



Erica Conners  
GRAD STUDENT  
“A current events literacy class, like how to find good info sources.”



Sophia Mont  
SENIOR  
“A volleyball coaching class. I would enjoy teaching others to play.”



»» From **COLUMN** p. 2

back at 12-year-old me and laugh, I am still shaky in my identity. The ramifications of my insecurity still remain. I still struggle to tell people certain things I enjoy because I was made fun of for my hobbies and interests in middle school.

When I was about 15, I decided I was sick of standing out and wanted to fit in. My avoidance with anything smelling faintly of the dreaded mainstream did a full 180. I developed an interest

that festered into an obsession with the popular. I was determined to know everything I could possibly know about pop culture. I was fixated on being on top of trends, from my clothing, to my hair, to my music, to my knowledge of movies and celebrities. Although I was a Christian at the time, I didn't connect my actions to my faith.

When I was on top of trends, I neglected my relationship with God and was absolutely miserable. As soon as I had the

trendiest shirt, the public would become fixated on a different shirt. As soon as I memorized the lyrics to the most popular song, a new song became popular. I felt like I could never be cool enough to truly fit in.

Trying to stay on top of pop culture and its subsequent trends was like trying to ride a wave in the ocean. Even if I was on top for a little bit, I would always fall. The ever-constant wave would continue on, leaving me far behind in its wake. When I was on top of trends, I

would feel on top of the world, like I had no need for God. When I was behind, I would fall into a deep depression and cling to Him.

I felt like I had no identity besides the ever-shifting ocean that was pop culture. When I was in the depths of my identity depression, what got me through those dark days was remembering my ultimate identity: a child of God and a follower of Christ. It didn't matter how trendy I was, because even if I wasn't good

enough for myself or for the world, I was precious to God.

While my interest in the popular and trendy is no longer the toxic mess it was when I was a teenager, it is still something I have to watch very carefully. While there is nothing wrong with enjoying something popular, whether it be Starbucks or football, it can be very dangerous to chase after something because others are chasing it rather than because you enjoy it or it pleases God.

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

# Charles Lacey discovers love for teaching in BJU's math department

Ethan House

STAFF WRITER

Charles Lacey, a BJU faculty member in the department of mathematics, never expected to end up in a teaching position; however, God had other plans.

Originally, the Florida native thought that after he completed his master's degree in statistical analysis from the University of Central Florida, he would get a job in the field of data science, like many of his peers.

After a series of closed doors in early 2018, he prayed one morning that God would lead him to the application for his future job. Later that same day, Lacey saw a job posting from BJU for someone with expertise in statistics.

"I got to the Bob Jones [University] application, and I [closed] the page because I did not want to teach," he said. His supervisor, a fellow Christian, encouraged him to apply, a step that started an 18-month process.

In November 2018, BJU offered him a faculty position beginning in the 2019 fall semester. Lacey accepted and moved to Greenville, becoming the first person in his family to leave Florida.

Before coming to BJU, Lacey had taught only one class as a graduate assistant at the University of Central Florida. Because of his limited prior

teaching experience, Lacey had difficulty adjusting to his new environment during his first semester. "I was like, 'Wow, this

presented its own challenges. 'COVID hit, and for the faculty that [meant] our work hours almost doubled,' Lacey said. "I

teaching applied statistics, digital literacy and college algebra. Lacey said the biggest adjustment for him recently has

hesitancy, Lacey has found a deep enjoyment in his work. "I love teaching and I love teaching here," Lacey said, "I love the students here."

Outside of work, Lacey enjoys playing beach volleyball whenever possible. His biggest hobby is one he has started in the past year: pickleball. "I would love to do that for five days a week," Lacey said, "but if I can do it twice a week, I feel pretty good."

As for the future, Lacey plans to continue teaching for as long as he is able. "As long as the Lord leaves the door open here and doesn't direct me anywhere else, I'm going to teach here," Lacey said. However, he said he recognizes that he still has a lot to learn in his field. Lacey said he is constantly learning from his colleagues how to improve.

His desire to continue teaching is influenced largely by two factors: his love for math and the ability to make a lasting impact on his students. "When [students] come to the office . . . we talk about math, then about what the Lord is doing for them," Lacey said. "The opportunity to talk with them about more than math is my favorite part of my job."

Lacey said there wasn't much opportunity to speak about Christ at his last university job, so he loves that chance he gets as a professor at BJU.



Lacey enjoys sudoku puzzles like those in *The Collegian*.

Photo: Heath Parish

is a lot of work," Lacey said. "Then, spring came around, and it was going all right."

The spring semester

felt as though, being a bit younger, it was a little bit easier, just with technology and such."

This semester, he is

been finding ways to keep quarantined students engaged in class and to help them stay on track.

Despite his initial

"I LOVE  
TEACHING AND I  
LOVE TEACHING  
HERE. I LOVE  
THE STUDENTS  
HERE."

-CHARLES  
LACEY



# Freshmen to commit to local churches at end of semester

Katie French

STAFF WRITER

As freshmen are faced with committing to a church at the end of this semester, members of the BJU community share their advice on selecting a church for the duration of one's college career.

Vice President for Student Development and Discipleship Dr. Alan Benson relates to the church selection process since he recently underwent it himself. After pastoring for many years, Benson was used to shepherding a church rather than searching for one. When he and his family moved to Greenville, they had to go through the process of finding a new home church.

Benson said he and his family first identified what they were looking for in a church and then went from there. Major steps for his family were to visit for five to six weeks, attend prospective membership classes and evaluate how their family could be involved with the church. Through

this process, the Bensons chose a church where they felt like they could both grow and serve.

In addition to his personal experience, Benson wrote a dissertation on equipping Generation Z students at Christian colleges to select and commit to a church. His research and advanced insight led to expanding the church commitment requirement at BJU: after being given time to search churches, students are then required to commit to regular attendance at a specific church. "Our passion in doing all of this is one to have students personally internalize the importance of church for their spiritual life in general," Benson said.

Benson said a difference has already been seen since implementing the church commitment requirement. Pastors have reported to him that they are seeing the same college students attend consistently, rather than seeing different students every week. "Students that actually

choose a church, and build that kind of community at church, actually do much better as a student at Bob Jones [University]," Benson said. "Their whole identity is not rooted just in their education."

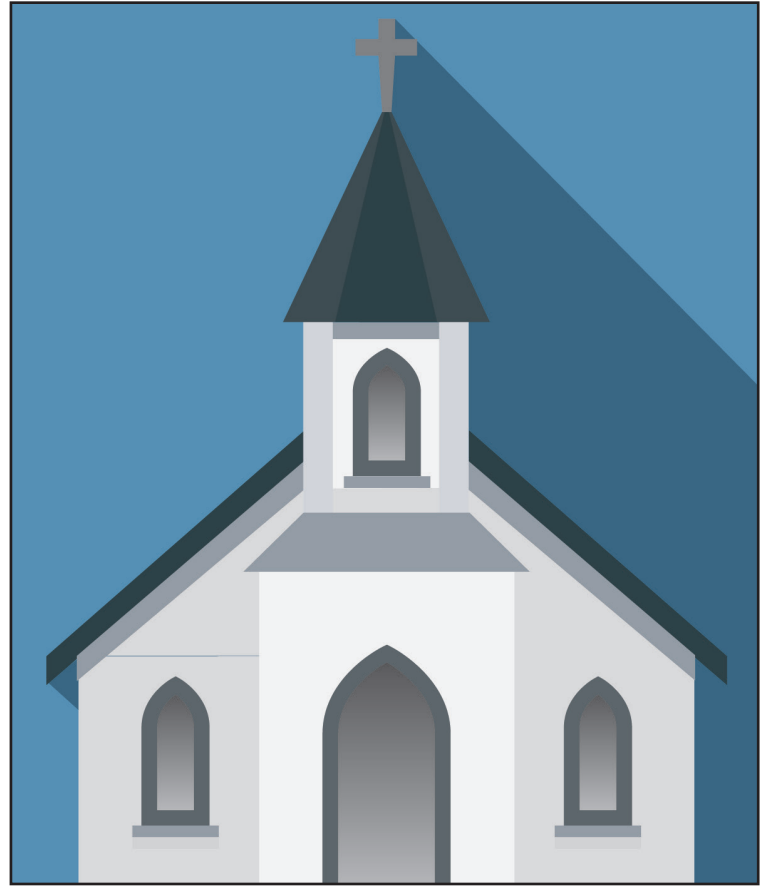
Regarding the high number of Gospel-preaching churches in the area, Benson recommends students first decide what they personally want to find in a church. "Narrowing, starting with you, before you start with the church is an important step," he said. He also noted the benefits of technology to browse websites or listen to sermons remotely.

Division of Ministries faculty member and pastor Dr. Jason Ormiston said he believes students should attend a church where they will develop a bigger view of God. Truth and discipleship play a large part of his view.

As senior pastor of Palmetto Baptist Church in Piedmont, Ormiston has been able to interact with a variety of college students and see their impact on a church. College students played a significant role in Palmetto's opening through serving in the nursery and children's ministries. Ormiston credits these students for helping bring Palmetto to where it is today. He said, "We really value every person as an image bearer of God." To him, this means college students play an important role in the church and shouldn't be thought of as merely extra people.

Ormiston also emphasized the importance of belonging and discipleship, and said Palmetto's discipleship process of "come, grow, connect, go" should apply to church selection as a whole. He suggests students evaluate where they are spiritually and make decisions from there. "[Ultimately], go to churches that are not trying to hang on to you, go to churches that are trying to send you out," he said.

Sophomore Giovanna Sasamine, who attends a



Graphic: Arianna Rayder

church in Easley, said, "I chose the church I go to because I like the music and preaching; every [aspect] points to Christ and not to men."

Students at BJU

currently attend approximately 200 churches in the Greenville area. Students may visit the intranet home page to find a list of Greenville area churches.



Many local churches have bus transportation available for students.

Photo: Lindsay Shaleen



Benson underwent his own family's search for a church when they moved to Greenville in 2018. Photo: Lindsay Shaleen



# Storytelling unites comm majors



Cinema department head Sharyn Robertson teaches students in a March 2020 cinema class.

*Photo submitted.*

Vicki Olachea

STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University's Division of Communication develops the experiences necessary for success in the field of communication through focused yet expansive majors.

The Division of Communication offers the majors of theatre, journalism and mass communication, communication studies and cinema, as well as media technology, a new associate's degree and the only associate's degree in the division. The division also offers two graduate programs, one in theatre and another in communication studies.

Each major in the division offers a broad skill set while focusing on storytelling, the theme that ties the majors together according to Dr. Lonnie Polson, former Division of Communication chair.

Polson said each program is designed to teach a wide variety of skills including critical thinking, problem-solving, analysis, teamwork and interpersonal communication. "What we really try to do is give our career-focused students the very best of that kind of education—and we also exist to give other students, including those not majoring in the field, a really solid introduction to the field of communication," Polson said.

One of the career-focused majors is journalism and mass communication, a degree designed to develop the storytelling

expertise through both the technical side of broadcasting as well as the communication side. The major combines academic classes with project-based classes, teaching students both the broader goals of communication as well as the focused application for journalism and public relations careers.

The major allows students to experience the variety of media opportunities today while also being an individualized program for students' specific career goals.

In the past five years, students in the journalism and mass communication major have won more than 45 state, regional and national awards.

Steve Choi, communication studies graduate, said the major teaches many broad communication ideas while focusing on leadership.

Some of the electives offered in the communication studies program are crisis communication, conflict management, nonverbal communication, strategic narrative and intercultural communication.

Students can take their communication studies degrees into the fields of marketing and politics as well as the business world.

According to Choi, one strength of the graduate program is the faculty who work with the students, helping them stretch themselves to turn their weaknesses into strengths. "I know that after these courses,

[students] will be ready to step further into our field," Choi said.

Sharyn Robertson, head of the cinema department, works with students daily to develop marketable soft skills as well as one ability critical in any field—teamwork. According to Robertson, the Division of Communication produces well-rounded students with the skills

they need to communicate to everyone.

From her cinema perspective, Robertson emphasized the opportunity and necessity of team building and networking in the field of communication. Every student learns to connect with people they work with from any major. Robertson said this forced teamwork teaches students the interpersonal basics required for networking.

The teambuilding skills that students learn are designed to give them a platform for their own stories. "You don't have to be this dynamic personality; you just have to have a good story to tell and tell it well—and you can influence a lot of people's lives," Robertson said.

Chantel Dewar, a cinema major graduate, shares Robertson's enthusiasm for developing professionalism in interpersonal communication. Dewar stated one of the most important skills she learned in her major was teamwork, citing the long

hours on set as valuable time to develop her professionalism during times of conflict.

As a cinema student, Dewar said she valued the times she has had to work around technical difficulties or people's schedules. Through these challenges, Dewar developed the abilities she needed to pursue her passion as well as the basic communication skills to aid her pursuit of it. Dewar plans to produce media for Christian organizations using the valuable skills she has learned through her program in the Division of Communication.

Theatre, another major in the Division of Communication, specializes in teaching students skills such as acting, costume design or directing.

The many yearly productions of the Department of Theatre not only offer theatre majors hands-on opportunities to learn their field, but many productions are open to non-majors allowing other students to benefit from the program.



BJU graduate Steve Choi is currently working on a master's in communication. *Photo submitted.*



»» From **EGGBOT** p. 1

watch or work their way from watching to building. Stephens stressed that no skills are necessary—only curiosity.

Stephens plans for the

project to be finished in time for Easter, when EggBot will be open for students to use it to design and decorate eggs. “The machine itself creates a creative outlet because once the machine is built,

then people can start creating designs to draw on little eggs,” Stephens said. The logistics for offering the opportunity to design eggs to all students will take shape after the machine’s creation, Stephens

said.

Stephens’ goal for the project is a perspective change for students who believe in “creativity as a commodity,” a concept that implies that some people are creative and others are not. Every moment, Stephens said, people make choices based on information, which is inherently a creative process. For him, the goal is to teach students they can make solutions to problems rather than find a solution from someone else.

Matt Gardenghi, IT director of Operations and Academic Technologies and founder of the Maker Zone, came up with the idea of EggBot with exactly that perspective change in mind. “We want to inspire students to create more than they consume,” Gardenghi said. According to him, many people struggle to view themselves as able to create things, thinking creativity is reserved for artists. “[EggBot] was a tactile way to change that,” Gardenghi said.

Gardenghi said the collaborative aspect of the project will provide an emotionally safe space where students can feel

completely comfortable attempting to create. In fact, the Maker Zone purchased replacements for each of the machine’s parts because the project is designed to be a learning process for everyone involved.

“It could go horribly wrong,” Gardenghi said. “Failure is an option, and failure is part of the learning process.” If the kit works every time, he said, students would learn nothing other than to follow instructions.

After EggBot’s completion, Gardenghi plans to continue the creative process by painting designs on hollowed-out eggs—and gifting them as Christmas ornaments. Whether students participate in the building process or only design eggs, Gardenghi hopes to give students the experience of creating something, teaching them to view themselves as creators in the image of God, the original Creator.

“My end goal is that we become slightly dissatisfied with simple consumerism, and we start bringing something to the world, because I believe that’s a reflection of who God is,” Gardenghi said.



Students from several majors have also used the 3D printers for class projects. Photo: Heath Parish

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Lewis Latimer

Although Edison is credited for creating the lightbulb, his invention did not keep its light for more than a few days. Lewis Latimer fixed this issue by creating a filament to extend the life of a bulb. Because of his ingenuity, lightbulbs were efficient enough to be used in household settings.

Frederick Douglass

Even in times of struggle, abolitionist Frederick Douglass found many ways to fight oppression. When he became free, he made it his purpose to free others and used his writings to encourage, educate and empower those who did not have the strength to empower themselves. “The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress,” Douglass said.

In collaboration with METES



Graphic: Marissa Castor

sudoku

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|   |   | 5 | 4 |   |   | 7 |   |   |
|   |   |   | 9 | 2 |   | 1 |   | 5 |
|   |   |   |   | 5 | 7 |   | 3 |   |
| 5 |   |   |   |   | 4 | 3 | 8 |   |
|   |   | 2 |   |   |   | 6 |   |   |
|   | 4 | 7 | 3 |   |   |   |   | 2 |
|   | 5 |   | 8 | 3 |   |   |   |   |
| 9 |   | 4 |   | 1 | 2 |   |   |   |
|   |   | 3 |   |   | 9 | 5 |   |   |



# Track and field starts off with split



Assistant coach Roach instructs his team. Photo: Madeline Peters

## Katelyn Lain

STAFF WRITER

The BJU men's and women's track and field teams are starting the spring semester season by splitting into two sections, short sprint and distance sprint, with new assistant coach Ken Roach joining

to coach short sprint.

Roach has coaching experience training at a track club, co-founding Carolina Homeschool Cross Country and Track and Field Program in Spartanburg and coaching at Spartanburg Methodist College. He said, "I really buy into [Bob Jones

University] and what it does and the consistency of its values."

He said the biggest challenge of track is unifying the team with one common goal. "[I want the team] buying into the individuality [of the sport] and also connecting it to that team aspect," Roach said. "God's created our bodies to have massive amount of potential—physically, mentally, and spiritually." Through consistent work, that potential becomes developed, even in the area of track.

Emma Landry, a freshman childhood development major, is in her first semester of track. Landry said, "[Coach Roach and I] are trying to take the season to figure out where I want to be, where I'm at, what I want to focus on."

Landry said Coach Roach focuses more on teaching technical aspects of running, like form, instead of just sending the team out on a run. She said her philosophy is to trust her coach and the system, keep working hard and have a good attitude.

Landry said her coach has been teaching her that she must train her twitch muscles, specific skeletal muscles, to have quick energy bursts. Unlike short sprint, distance sprint trains the slow twitch muscles to contain energy for longer periods of time. Short sprint trains fast twitch muscles for speed.

While assistant coach Roach oversees short sprint, head coach Landon Bright oversees the distance sprint for track. The short sprint includes long jump, triple jump, 100-meter, 200-meter, relays, hurdles and long hurdles. Distance sprinters usually do anywhere from 800 meter to a 5k, steeplechase or relay.

The short sprint focuses more on building strength, for example strength workouts with running. The distance sprint works on endurance sprinting, especially by sprinting multiple sets of repeats. Repeats are short distance sprints done at faster-than-race-pace tempo multiple times for building speed-endurance.

Jessie Heath, a graduate student, is starting in her first semester of track for distance sprint, though she ran for cross country all four years. Heath was injured every track season during her undergrad. She planned to run track her last semester of undergrad in spring 2020 but because of the shutdown, her dream failed.

Because she returned for grad school, Heath can fulfill her dream of running track like her dad did in college. Heath thanks the Lord for this opportunity she thought she had lost. Heath said, "I love the challenging aspect of [track] because Coach [Bright] pushes you to the limit."

Heath also appreciates the relationship between the women and men on the distance team. "Out of all the teams that we have at [Bob Jones University] I feel like our teams are the closest with the girls and guys because we constantly work out together...we travel together...we have that whole family relationship."

»» From **TURKEY** p. 1

I could go and find joy," Veatch said. Veatch also plays the role of Larry in *Operation: Turkey Lurkey* and is the costume designer for the show.

"I love things that are fun and the opportunity to sit back, laugh, relax and enjoy a play," Veatch said.

Veatch hopes the key thing the audience takes away is a sense of joy. "I hope the audience has a lot of fun," Veatch said. "I hope they laugh, and it's a relief of the tension of the semester from coming out of a rough year."

"The story is based around Thanksgiving and follows the main character, Ryan, who is not put together," Mauk said. "His family asks him to host Thanksgiving and, with the help of a friend, he tries to show his family that he is better off than he really is."

Mauk plays the role of Derek, who is Ryan's best friend. "He's very funny, chill and relaxed," Mauk said, "Ryan

is the complete opposite and very nervous and self-conscious."

Mauk said the main message to take from the play is it is better to be who you are instead of trying to impress other people. "The writing is very strong, thanks to David," Mauk said. "One aspect I really like is that the play is really funny. I really enjoy playing the part of Derek and cracking jokes on stage."

Madeline Bell, a first-year theatre graduate student, plays the role of Aunt Karen, a carefree, peace-loving kindergarten teacher.

"It's been nice to take part in a comedy," Bell said there are a lot of modern references to be on the lookout for in the play that connect the storyline to comedic elements relatable to students. Bell said the play is a very goodhearted comedy that goes deep but gives students a chance to get away from the business of school.

"One thing I hope that people take away from this is a brand-new look on

theatre," Bell said. "I hope that this play shows people that theatre can be really fun."

Bell's advice for someone starting out in theatre is to be confident and avoid overthinking

things. "You're going to run into a lot of different people with different personalities and experience, but you're all there for the same purpose: to create live art," Bell said.

"There's nothing like an audience full of people laughing," Veatch said. "Come laugh at us. It's going to be a good one." Students can reserve their tickets for \$8 at [bjuni-versitytickets.com](http://bjuni-versitytickets.com).



Actors Mary Conn, Steven White and Wilbur Mauk rehearse in costume. Photo: Nick Zukowski



# Student fundraising events help exceed 200K health center goal

Johanna Huebscher

STAFF WRITER

The BJU community raised over \$214,000 for the construction of Hope Christian Health Center in the Ivory Coast during Bible Conference, and donations are still coming in.

The Theta Delta Omicron Tigers and Phi Kappa Pi Rams' fundraiser was a pieing event. Students could throw a "pie" in the face of other students, RAs, faculty members or administrators. The pies were a combination of whipped cream and mashed potatoes in a pie tin. Participants were willing volunteers who were given a hairnet, a garbage bag poncho and a tarp to protect the rest of the participant's clothes.

Director of the center for leadership and development Dr. Matthew Weathers was the master of ceremonies for the entire event, calling out comedic encouragements like, "Get pied for the children!" and "Every pie is helping further the kingdom of God." Weathers himself later got pied.

The event was the brainchild of Tigers'

president Joanna Jarrell, senior accounting major, who thought of the idea over break. The Tigers and Rams raised \$1,500 with the fundraiser. "I like how interactive this one is," participant Kate Dunwoody, a senior at BJU, said. "I think it's a lot of fun to do something unique. It just brings people together in a fun way."

The Nu Alpha Pi Flames and Sigma Alpha Chi Spartans hosted a black tie event: a murder mystery dinner. They had 130 participants total and raised around \$1,000. Everyone who came was assigned a character they had to play throughout the evening. The premise of the story was the murder of an awards show host during the dinner. Ten of the participants were playing main characters, people who were up for the award. The guests then had to figure out which of the main characters murdered the host by the end of the evening.

"I thought, 'Why not, it's for a good cause,'" Jessica Teruel, participant and senior journalism and mass communication major, said. "I love participating in activities

like this, especially when it's with my friends. It's a good way to bring people together for a good cause."

Flames president Lauren Cathers did a murder mystery dinner at her church and had the idea to

hosted a volleyball tournament and raised around \$1,000. The Colts' athletic director, sophomore Caitlyn Benson, organized the event. "We tend to be a really athletic society, so this is right up our alley,"

themed scavenger hunt, got cancelled due to weather, they remained undeterred and rescheduled the event to be held in March.

"The scavenger hunt includes both logical, physical and mental challenges," Knights society president and junior ministry and leadership major Nicholas Gore said. The challenges include finding a hidden faculty member on campus, deciphering riddles, finding hidden objects and more. Gore had the idea last semester and successfully incorporated a smaller-scaled scavenger hunt into Rush. "It was a big hit, and I was like, why don't we do this on a bigger scale, for Bible conference," Gore said.

While the Knights were skeptical at first, Gore won them over. Determined to help regardless of the weather having postponed the hunt, several Knights helped fundraise by participating in the pieing event, where they pied Gore.

Donors can still contribute to the cause online at [www.bibleconference.bju.edu](http://www.bibleconference.bju.edu).

"IT'S A GOOD WAY TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER FOR A GOOD CAUSE."  
- JESSICA TERUEL

throw one at Bible Conference. "It was definitely a more interactive fundraiser," Cathers said. "It was fun to not just sell something that people enjoyed, but also . . . to help raise money for Hope Christian Hospital."

After the final Bible Conference service, the Theta Sigma Chi Colts

Benson said. There were 16 teams that participated in the event. "I wanted a good way to give money while having fun," sophomore Virginia Serviss said.

When the Alpha Sigma Omicron Ambassadors and Kappa Sigma Chi Knights' fundraiser, a campus-wide Hobbit



Participants in the Murder Mystery Dinner fundraiser study their notes from interactions to discover which one of the characters, played by volunteers, is guilty. Photo: Taylor Caldwell

FOOD  
FOR  
THOUGHT

Theatre Department



Alyssa Chapman  
Junior  
Theatre Major

IT'S NOT JUST AN ACT

Congratulations! You've been cast in your first show. But what does it take to be a good actor? First, always read the show before your first rehearsal. You will bring more to the table when you know what is going on.

Next, remember to listen and be available to the other actors on stage at all times. I'd say roughly

45% of good communication is listening, so if you take that to the stage you'll bring an authenticity to your performance that your scene partners will love you for.

The theatre process takes an immense amount of work, so do your work in and out of rehearsal, stay present and have fun doing it!