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Web Edition

**SERVING BREVARD COLLEGE SINCE 1935** 

May 5, 2021

## District attorney Greg Newman removed from office

As of Tuesday, April 27, Greg Newman has been removed from his position as district attorney. A statement released Tuesday morning stated, "Based on the foregoing finding of fact and conclusions of law, it is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed that Gregory A. Newman is hereby permanently removed from office as district attorney and his salary shall be terminated as of the date of the filing of this order."

The center of Newman's removal hearing was a sexual assault case in which the victim's family claimed that Newman denied them the right to be heard in court. This past February, more than 12 families came together to file a motion to have Newman removed from office permanently because of willful misconduct.

Newman represented Henderson, Polk, and Transylvania counties.

Brevard College alumna Grace Pryor said of Newman's removal, "I feel like I took my first breath of air in so long and it just feels miraculous."

Superior Court Judge Robert C. Ervin issued a 30-page ruling, which laid out the grounds for Newman's termination. The order described willful and prejudicial misconduct. He also cited willful misconduct as acts "done intentionally, knowingly and generally in bad faith."

Lauren Wilkie, from Safeflight, a non-profit for women in crisis, said "I think the change here today is going to be a big support for the community and for survivors to see that their voices can be heard."



Former district attorney Greg Newman at his removal hearing.

## Instructions for graduation on Saturday

Editor's note: The following instructions and logistics for this year's commencement exercises were shared with the campus on Monday by the BC Commencement Team. Check your BC email and/or graduation information on the BC website or MyBC for late-breaking updates or additional information about this year's festivities.

If you are unsure of your ceremony assignment, please let us know as soon as possible and we will confirm with you.

Mask: We are asking everyone a part of the ceremony to please wear your Brevard College mask. Due to the nature of our program and our policies, masks are still required for our in-person commencement. If you do not have a Brevard College mask, please pick one up with your tickets.

Ticket Pick Up: Tickets can be signed out beginning Wednesday, May 5 from the President's Office on the second floor of Beam Admin. Ticket Pick up times must be between 9 a.m.—noon or 1–3 p.m. Wednesday or Thursday, or you can also pick up your tickets during your Commencement Rehearsal Friday evening.

Graduates are responsible for their tickets no matter what. Tickets and hands will be stamped upon entry into the stadium seating on Saturday. Tickets have the assigned Commencement Ceremony and times on each ticket.

Parking passes are no longer needed for guests, but we do ask that you please have your family carpool as much as possible as parking on campus is limited.

Handicap/Accessibility Information: Please let your families who may need assistance know, they can talk to a parking attendants and be dropped off by the stadium field house for easier access to the stands. Limited handicap seating is available.

See 'Graduation' on page 3

## History, English majors present senior projects

By Aia Andonovska Copy Editor

The Humanities Division at Brevard College had in-person senior project presentations on Wednesday, April 28 for history and English majors. Five history majors—Aia Andonovska, Mary Ragan Clark, Samuel Hipp, Madison Ramsey, and Allison Rogers—presented their projects starting at 11:30 a.m. English major presentations followed shortly afterward, by Aia Andonovska, Kenny Cheek, and Margaret Correll.

Aia Andonovska's project is called "People of the Blue Green Water: The Havasupai Tribe and Their Complicated Relationship with the National Park Service." Her project included a

## THE CLARION

### SENIOR STAFF

Editor in Chief . . . Margaret Correll

Managing Editor . .

Copy Editor. . . . . Aia Andonovska Campus News . . . Eleanor Flannery
Opinion . . . . . Eleanor Flannery
Arts & Life . . . . Kym Caldwell

Sports . . . . . .

Layout & Design . . Kym Caldwell . . . . . . . . . Eleanor Flannery Faculty Advisor . . . John B. Padgett

### STAFF WRITERS

Colyn Brannon Simon Donnaway Anna Ervin Ann Farash Caroline Hoy

Jackson Inglis Kellen McGeorge Harell Mitchell Jake Moore Brady Penn

The Clarion is a student-run college newspaper produced by student journalists enrolled at Brevard College. Unsigned editorials represent the collective opinion of the staff of *The Clarion*. Other opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Brevard College.

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travel blog and a historical research paper that specifically focused on the relationship between the National Park Service and the Havasupai tribe, as well as making comparisons to other tribes and their relationship with the National Park Service.

Mary Ragan Clark's project is called "Was he really an environmentalist? Richard Nixon and the Santa Barbara Oil Spill of 1969." Clark researched this because she is a history and environmental studies double-major. She is very interested in environmental law and wanted to know what Nixon did to help the Santa Barbara Oil Spill of 1969, and that is what she based her presentation on.

Samuel Hipp's presentation is called, "Early Modern Revolutionaries in the English Civil War: John Lilburne, George Fox, and James Nayler." Hipp researched how these Quakers contributed to the modern ideals of liberty and freedom and explained the importance of pamphlets at this time which help spread these ideas.

Madison Ramsey's project is called "Which Side Are You On?: How a Regional Protest Song Became an Expression of Internal Exploitation Everywhere." In this project, Ramsey explored the importance of Appalachian folk music and how it related to protests at the time the song was popular. She played the song for her audience during the presentation, enriching her project.

Allison Rogers' presentation is called "How a Forgotten Pandemic Impacted the Rural Piedmont of North Carolina" and it focused on the Spanish influenza pandemic that rocked the world in 1918. She specifically researched through the use of newspaper articles, and based her project on her hometown, Shelby, North Carolina, and Charlotte, North Carolina. Rogers is working towards teacher licensure.

Kenny Cheek's project is called "Messages and Morals in Fiction" in which she presented a lesson plan as a future English teacher for her future students regarding creative writing and short stories. Cheek also read one of her short stories aloud for the audience to hear. Cheek has an emphasis in creative writing and is working towards teacher licensure.

Margaret Correll presented last for the English Department, and her project is called "College during COVID-19: How the Experiences of a Global Pandemic Have Affected College Students." Correll shared information about her interviewees and her findings through using her journalism

Congratulations to all of the senior students in the Humanities Department for all of their hard work and dedication.



Margaret Correll, Aia Andonovska, and Kenny Cheek after their English presentations. (disclaimer: everyone is vaccinated and masks were only off for pictures)



Madison Ramsey, Allison Rogers, Dr. Brown, Aia Andonovska, Mary Ragan Clark, and Samuel Hipp after the history department presentations. (disclaimer: everyone is vaccinated and masks were only off for pictures)

## **Editor farewell**

This is the final issue of The Clarion for the 2020-2021 year and the last issue of my time as Editor in Chief. I have had such a great experience with the newspaper and the staff who work on it. It is very bittersweet having to leave it behind.

I enjoyed the learning opportunities, the staff meetings, and the creation of the paper every week to distribute across the Brevard College campus. I hope that this paper has given everyone some enjoyment and has been informative as it is intended to be.

I cannot wait to pass the baton to the next leader of the paper and I am excited to see what comes next. Even though I will no longer be a student, I am happy to see the paper continuing on. I am looking forward to the future of The Clarion!

— Margaret Correll

## Graduation

### **Continued from Page 1**

### Dress Code under Regalia:

- ☐ Wear cap flat on your head
- ☐ Wear light colored or white top, dark trousers (no jeans), flat shoes are recommended
- $\square$  Tassels should be worn on the right side of the cap
- ☐ No flowers, jewelry, messages, etc. on gowns or caps except for designated regalia

**Friday, May 7:** Bring your REGALIA! *Rehearsals* (rain or shine) will begin on the Ives-Lemel Family Field at the following times:

Commencement Ceremony #1: 4:30 p.m. Commencement Ceremony #2: 5:30 p.m.

All Candidates for Commencement must be at the turf field by 5 p.m. for the **class photo** in full regalia (robe, hood, cap, tassels, and cords).

Saturday, May 8: WEAR your REGALIA!

Commencement Ceremony #1 will consist of Education, Wilderness Leadership & Experiential Education, Business & Organizational Leadership, Criminal Justice, Psychology and will begin at 8 a.m. (Active Thunderstorm Reschedule Time 4 p.m.)

Commencement Ceremony #2 will consist of Art, Music, Theatre, English, History, Integrated Studies, Philosophy & Religion, Biology, Environmental Studies, Exercise Science, Health Science, Mathematics and 2019-2020 Graduates who wish to walk. It will begin at 12 p.m. (Thunderstorm reschedule time 7 p.m.)

**Seating:** Seating will be in the stands of the stadium. Rows will be blocked off to allow for social distancing and we request that families sit together in their row and spaces together in order to allow for everyone's **four guests** (this includes children of any age).

## Mother's Day gift ideas

By Anna Ervin Staff Writer

Mother's Day is coming up, and you may be wondering what you can do for those mother figures in your life without breaking the bank. Here's a few ideas to make your mother feel appreciated on a budget!

Get her some of her favorite flowers! They look pretty, smell good, and if you want to step it up you can also buy a nice vase. These work well with thoughtful notes too.

If your mother figure is a fan of coffee or tea, get her a mug and a box of her favorite form of hot drink. Mugs are available at various price ranges, from Dollar Tree to Walmart, and are easily customizable.

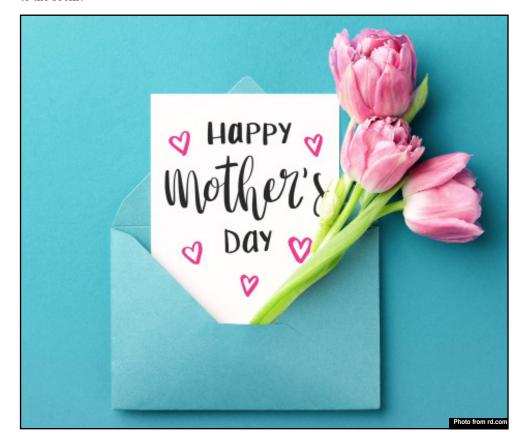
A candle and some fuzzy socks are sure to make her feel appreciated. Find her favorite scent, or if you don't know that, you can always get a candle in her favorite color and match it to the socks.

If you're feeling sentimental, get your mother a photobook! These are customizable online and are simple and fast to order. If you're feeling crafty, you can print photos of you and her and assemble a frameable photo collage.

You can never really go wrong with a box of chocolate or her favorite candy. It's easy, and you can easily make it into a basket of little items.

If you enjoy spending time with your mother, you can plan an event or take her somewhere she enjoys. Pack some sandwiches and fruit, and you're ready for a picnic, buy her a ticket to the movies, take her on a hike to her favorite place, make her dinner; the options are endless. This also works well if you have a group of siblings that all want in on giving the same gift.

Whether or not you use any of this, be sure to call the mother figures in your life to let them know you love them.



**Senior Profile** 

## Solomon Turner to graduate

By Aia Andonovska Copy Editor

Solomon Turner is from Snow Camp, North Carolina, which is a rural town in the Piedmont region of the state. Turner came to Brevard College with the intention of taking a preveterinary route of study since he competed in Veterinary Science for four years while he was in Future Farmers of America, or FFA for short. After arriving at Brevard College, his interests quickly changed to plant and microbiology. Thus, Turner majored in biology with minors in sustainable agriculture and natural history. "This is an area I am looking forward to continuing studying and getting a career in." Turner said.

When asked about his happiest memories at Brevard College, Turner stated, "My best memories almost always involve the friends I have made and the comradery we have had. Late night shenanigans and spontaneous adventures have been some of the best times I have ever had. I have found some of my best friends here and I am always going to cherish the TV binges, hikes, rides, games, and heart-to-hearts I have had with the people who mean the most to me."

Turner's advice to freshmen is as follows, "Get lost in the mountains around Brevard at least once. Get in a car, grab a friend or two, and go. You will find secluded stunning vistas and areas, places that you'd never see without having gone and seen it with your own eyes.

Find a game or running joke you can play with your group of friends for an entire semester. It will cause no end of fun and only get better as it continues. On a more serious note, from personal experience I would advise all students to know the requirements, credit or otherwise, for each and every one of your scholarships because the Financial Aid department will only notify you after you can't do anything to rectify any discrepancies."

His favorite courses have been with Dr. Maveety and Dr. Frick-Ruppert. "They are both strong, independent, and intelligent women

that I am absolutely honored to know. Dr. Maveety has been absolutely pivotal in my success here as her expertise and knowledge, and encouragement and advice has been worth more than gold to me. Plants and Animals of the Southern Appalachians Fall/Spring, Plant Biology, Microbiology, and Evolutionary Biology have been my absolute favorite classes," Turner said.

Turner is graduating with honors. He has made the Dean's List all four years at BC. He is also a member of Tribeta, Alpha Chi, and Omicron Alpha Kappa Honors Societies. He was awarded the highest GPA in the Biology Department for 2021. He also received an award for Outstanding Work Study of the Year in 2019. "I have been a supplemental instructor all four years, the Tribeta Rho Phi Chapter President, the Biology Club President, and the Agriculture Club Vice President." Turner added.

Describing his senior project, Turner said, "The work that I have done here, that I am most proud of, is my Senior Project on the Impact of Invasive Plants on Soil Bacterial Diversity. I compared the bacterial diversity under invasive bamboo, grass, and ivy to the native rhododendron and explored the relationship of invasive plants to their soil. This project gave me the best opportunity to explore, research, and present my findings and interests in a truly relevant, professional way. The skills I learned doing my research will go with me wherever I build my career."

After graduating from Brevard College, Turner is going to take a year off from school and is planning on getting an internship that works with soil and water testing and treatment while also working part time at his local farm. "For the next year I will work and prep to take the GRE and get into the Soil Microbiology Master's Program, preferably at NC State." Turner said.



Solomon Turner

## **Senior Profile**

## Covington to graduate

By Ann Farash Staff Writer

Gabriel Covington likes all of his classes and feels like he has learned valuable life lessons from all his professors at Brevard. As a graduating senior, one of his last classes is Young Adult Literature, taught by Besty Burrows. The class has a demanding reading schedule of one book a week, but Gabriel is unfazed and laid back, despite the edge that COVID-19 has put on everything. He is Vice President of the Black Student Union which recently won Outstanding Club of the Year on campus.

Gabe is a soft spoken and understated gentleman who hails from the big city of Charlotte, North Carolina. Gabe was attracted to Brevard College due to its size and intimacy and also was bowled over by the local scenery. He finds peace and solace frequently by sitting at the edge of Kings Creek on campus.

On days that Gabe wears shorts there is visible scripture tattooed on his right calf. On closer inspection it is Proverb 3:5-6. The location has special meaning for Gabe since he was born with a congenital bone disease that required many surgeries in his younger life. Sometimes deep wounds and the subsequent healing in childhood have everything to do with a future path in life. Gabe will be graduating with a BA in Exercise Science.

Gabe feels like he is paving the way for other male members in his family to embrace higher education. He is proud of the fact that he is the first of his male relatives to get a college diploma. Gabe currently works for a chiropractor in Brevard and sees himself becoming a doctor of Chiropractics. His calm demeanor should work wonders when applying spinal adjustments one day.

Gabe will be enrolled in Brevard next semester as a graduate student. He will be earning his Master degree in Health and Human Performance. This profile will be continued next semester as we learn more about Gabe and his new course of study at Brevard.



**Gabriel Covington** 

## **OPINION**

## **Album Review**

## Evanescence's 'The Bitter Truth' - was it worth a 9 year wait?

By Jackson Inglis Staff Writer

"The Bitter Truth" is Evanescence's first album of original material in nine years (not counting 2017's "Synthesis"). That's a long wait, and fans were expecting Amy Lee and the gang to bring something big and anthemic after all that happened in 2020. Now that the album is out, people seem to be polarised. The major publications seem to like it while the individual music critics on YouTube

including but not limited to Rocked, ARTV, Spectrum Pulse, The Metal Meltdown and Crash Thompson were far more critical. What do I think?

When I pressed play and first heard "Artifact/ The Turn," I was hooked. It's a solid and haunting intro track. However, as soon as I got to the chorus of "Broken Pieces Shine," I knew something was wrong. Most negative reviews of this album claim that the production and mixing is off, and they're absolutely right. It's clear that Amy Lee is a great singer and is giving a strong performance on "The Bitter Truth," but her voice is pushed so far in the back that it's impossible to make out a word of what she's saying.

The riffs in these songs are loud and heavy, and there's a mystical, symphonic atmosphere to the album that suits the album, very similar to that of "Fallen"; this is unmistakably Evanescence. "Use My Voice" is probably the best song on the album with its "political"

See 'Disappointing' on page 6

## **Movie Review**

## 'Mortal Kombat' makes it to the big screen

By Kellen McGeorge Staff Writer

If you are a fan of fighting games, you probably know about Mortal Kombat. With its interesting characters, epic music, and brutal finisher moves, Mortal Kombat is a staple of fighting game history, and while it has gotten two movies in the past, this newest movie proves to be incredibly faithful, if not just as brutal as the games.

Set just before and during the events of the first game, we follow the events of Cole Young, a former MMA champion now down on his luck, after being attacked by the legendary Lin Kuei assassin Sub-Zero, he discovers is one of many people chosen for the tournament of Mortal Kombat, a inter-realm tournament held to determine Earth's fate. With 9 tournaments belonging to Outworld, Earth is one tournament away from being invaded by Outworld and absorbed by Shao Kahn. Cole must now train alongside Raiden, Liu Kang, Kung Lao, Jax, and Sonya Blade to defend

Earth from the forces of Outworld.

The movie takes quite a few liberties with some of the games lore, mixing characters from different games and explaining away some of the characters' powers all coming from the same place, however, the film more than makes up for it with the many epic fight moments and use of gore. Following the many necessities of Mortal Kombat, the movie focuses on quick fighting and brutal finishers in its fights. The CGI can also be very convincing at times, and even when it is clear that it is CG, it is barely noticeable with everything going on.

I recommend this movie to anyone who likes a good brawl and just enjoys seeing insane fights with impractical logic. If you are someone who enjoys the lore of Mortal Kombat, you might not like this movie with how lenient it is with the timeline of events. If you don't really care about the timeline and just want to see a good fight between your favorite characters, then you should definitely check out this movie.





## Disappointing album garners less than favorable reviews

### **Continued from Page 5**

message being vague enough to apply to literally anything but still powerful. The rest of the album lyrically is about isolation, drugs, depression and similar topics; it's a record that sounds like something that would've come out of the COVID-19 era.

"The Bitter Truth" was not a terrible listen, but it reeks of wasted potential and so much talent gone down the drain thanks to bad mixing. The guitars, drums and vocals sound so compressed together at points that it sounds like it's coming out of bad speakers, and I listened to this with expensive bluetooth headphones. If I was an Evanescence stan, I would be disappointed. Despite this, many fans seem perfectly satisfied, so take that for what it's worth.



## attempts to stay in the

By Jake Moore Staff Writer

This whole season has been wild for BC baseball, they have experienced every emotion possible along the way. Starting out their season hot, winning six straight to falling into a small slump losing a few games. Then when things were looking bright again the team had to quarantine and it looked as though their season might be cut short. Getting to finish the season got this team fired up and ready to play for a chance to continue their season further into May.

After some losses late in the season the Tornados found themselves in a tough spot. Going into their last series of the season playing against Huntingdon they found out they had to sweep to have any chance at the playoff. On top of that Piedmont and LaGrange were playing and if Piedmont were to win one game then BC would be out, even if they did win all three of their last games.

Even with the odds against them, the Tornados went into the first game fighting. They gave up three runs in the first inning and didn't push across a run of their own until the third. Going into the bottom of the fourth the Tornados found themselves down 5-1. Knowing how important these games are BC dug in and scored five runs to put them up 6-5. They went on to keep Huntingdon scoreless for the rest of the game and won 8-5.

On Saturday, May 1, 2021, BC played a double header to finish the three game series. The tornados made quick work of Huntingdon putting up 18 runs between the two games. They won the first 7-3 and won the second 11-2. Everything ended the way this team wanted it to and all that was left was to see if LaGrange would sweep Piedmont. In the last game of the series LaGrange scored the go ahead run in the top of the ninth which would end up being the winning run and meant that Piedmont had got

Since the records are the same between Brevard and Piedmont they will play a game on Tuesday, May 4, to decide who is second in conference and also who will live to see another game this season. Come out and support the Tornados as they fight to keep this season alive.

## BC baseball Student athletes win big at the Bespys

By Margaret Correll Editor in Chief

Brevard College Athletics held their annual Bespys awards for student athletes on Tuesday, April 27, at 8 p.m. Since cancelling last year's event, the 2020-2021 plans were to hold the awards banquet fully virtual. Sports Information Director Phil de Montmollin hosted the online ceremony while being accompanied by members of athletics like Athletic Director Myranda Nash and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee's (SAAC) president and vice-president, Brittany Franks and Ali Grace Hartman.

Snippets of video from games as well as pictures were scattered throughout the evening, but the highly anticipated awards were what the student athletes were looking to see. The awards are placed into two categories, the first are the BC Athletics awards for the year and the second are the Bespys superlatives voted on by the athletes. The awards are as follows:

BC Athletics 2020-2021 awards

Female Rookie of the Year: Taylor Richardson

Male Rookie of the Year: Logan Clark Female Perfect Storm: Destiny Williams Male Perfect Storm: Adam Spencer Female Athlete of the Year: Rebeccah

Male Athlete of the Year: Joc Pledger Tornado Cup: Women's Soccer Team GPA Award: Women's Tennis

2020-2021 Bespy Superlatives

**Most Likely To Be In The Training Room:** Bailey Ray

Most Likely To Go Pro: Dante Anderson Most Likely To Forget a Mask: Raley

Most Superstitious: Abbie Petrosky

Congratulations to all of the winners for the BC Athletic banquet and the Bespys awards ceremony!



Joc Pledger, winner of the Male Athlete of the Year, in the final game of the season against NC Wesleyan on April 3, 2021.

# Jucker, Melton earn final player and pitcher of the week honors of 2021 from USA South

By Joseph Marvin Digital Media Director

BREVARD, N.C. – Junior shortstop Jason Jucker and senior right-handed pitcher Ben Melton have claimed the final weekly award honors from the USA South of the 2021 season, as Jucker was selected as the conference's Player of the Week, while Melton earned Pitcher of the Week honors.

The selections come after the Tornados turned in an impressive 4-1 week, splitting a home doubleheader with Covenant College before an emphatic three-game sweep over visiting Huntingdon College to set Brevard in prime position to potentially clinch the program's first postseason appearance as a member of the USA South Conference.

The awards mark the fifth and sixth weekly honors garnered by BC baseball student-athletes over the course of the 2021 campaign. Trenten Anderson claimed a pair of Rookie Pitcher of the Week accolades earlier in the season, while Zach Allison was selected as the conference's Player of the Week on March 15. Senior right-handed pitcher Huntley Hacker earned Brevard's first DIII-era national accolade with a selection onto the D3baseball. com Team of the Week.

Jucker, a native of Altamonte Springs, Florida, went a combined 12-for-20 (.600) with a .609 on-base percentage and an .800 slugging percentage to go along with five runs scored, nine RBI, four doubles, two walks and one stolen base as the Tornados posted a 4-1 record last week against USA South opposition. In a doubleheader split with Covenant, Jucker was a combined 3-for-7 with two runs scored, one run batted in, one walk, and one stolen base. In a three-game sweep of

Huntingdon, Jucker was a combined 9-for-13 with three runs scored, eight RBI, four doubles, and one walk.

All told, Jucker has maintained a .356 average in 26 games played, totaling 36 hits including six doubles with 19 RBI's and 15 runs scored. The junior captain has also stolen three bases and has totaled a .402 on-base percentage and a .416 slugging percentage.

Melton, a product of Valdese, North Carolina, earned two wins in two starts last week for the Tornados against USA South competition pitching a total of 11.1 innings with a 1.59 ERA, allowing two earned runs on seven hits with six walks and six strikeouts. In a 10-4 win over Covenant, Melton went five innings and allowed four runs, only one of which was earned, on four hits with four walks and two strikeouts. In an 11-2 victory over Huntingdon, Melton tossed six and one-third innings and allowed one run on three hits with two walks and four strikeouts.

The senior captain has accrued a 3-0 record in six starts this season, striking out 27 batters in 32.1 innings pitched while maintaining a career-low 3.06 ERA. Melton struck out a career-high eight batters on February 28 at Averett and dazzled in his Senior Day start on Saturday.

Jucker, Melton, and the rest of the Tornados will have an opportunity to advance to the USA South Conference postseason, as Brevard matches up with Piedmont College at Gil Coan Field on Wednesday, May 5 at 3 p.m. Currently, the Tornados sit in second position in the West Division with a 7-5 conference record, while Piedmont sits half a game behind with a 7-6 mark in conference. Both teams split head-to-head in a conference doubleheader on Monday, April 19.

Brevard College Tornados selected as USA South Athletes of the Week (2020-21 season)

Rebeccah Rojas, Women's Soccer, USA South Defensive Player of the Week (twotime)

Taylor Richardson, Women's Soccer, Rookie of the Week

Trenten Anderson, Baseball, Rookie Pitcher of the Week (two-time)

Eli Carr, Football, Offensive Rookie of the Week (two-time)

Vinicius Giannaccini, Men's Soccer, Player of the Week

Ethan McGee, Men's Tennis, Player of the Week

Ashley Royster, Women's Soccer, Player of the Week

Zach Allison, Baseball, Player of the Week Ernest Smith II, Football, Defensive Rookie of the Week

Quentin Jackson, Football, Defensive Player of the Week

Jason Jucker, Baseball, Player of the Week Ben Melton, Baseball, Pitcher of the Week

To follow the latest news and updates surrounding Brevard College Athletics, follow the Tornados on Twitter Instagram @ BCTornados, subscribe to 'Brevard College Tornados' on YouTube and SoundCloud, and follow 'Brevard College Tornado Athletics' on Facebook. In addition, follow 'brevardcollege' on Flickr for photos from BC events.