

## 2017 Department of Biology Awards

### CHRISTENSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Jacob Rex Andersen, Biology*



On an early spring day, at least in Idaho, I was born, Jacob Rex Andersen. My grandfather couldn't be happier, a grandson. I am an only son of an only son. So, no pressure to have a son of my own to carry on the family name. Being the oldest isn't always easy with two younger sisters. I have learned a thing or two, such as, there is no such thing as equal bathroom time. And yes, all the drawers are theirs except the tiny one on top which I gladly take.

At the early age of five I started playing hockey, which was my dad's favorite sport and soon became mine. I learned great life lessons on and off the ice from the great coaches I had, including my dad. Persistence is the word that comes to mind. I've learned that you are going to fall or miss the shot. It's what you do after, do you have the persistence, the perseverance to get back up? Wayne Gretzky says it best, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."

Currently, I have a 4.0 GPA and am part of the Honors Program and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. I am also involved in the Pre-Med Club where I get to interact with other students planning on a career in the medical field. I work for a local nursing home as a CNA and medication technician.

I have loved living in Cache Valley, and I plan on graduating from USU in 2020 with Honors. Then, I will hopefully be accepted into the medical school here in Utah. I am extremely interested in becoming a cardiologist. My dream would be to come back to Cache Valley to complete my residency and start my career.