



Six Mile Post

The Student Voice

Floyd College-Rome, Georgia

Students honored

Floyd College students to be recognized at the annual Honors Assembly. For a complete list of awards see page 14.



FC grave explained

The white cross marking the grave across from the Plant Operations building belongs to a six-toed cat that once called FC home. See page 6.



Rome Braves play ball

A sold-out crowd turned out to witness the Rome Braves win their home opener against the Savannah Sand Gnats at State Mutual Stadium. See page 13.

Vol. 32, Number 7

www.floyd.edu/sixmilepost

April 22, 2003

Building renamed in honor of founding president



Photo by Brian S. Armstrong

Dr. David B. McCorkle, founding president of Floyd College, reflects on his days at the college from the deck of his home. The Administration Building is being renamed in McCorkle's honor.

By Brian S. Armstrong
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The Administration Building on the main campus of Floyd College, which also includes the student center area and F-Wing, is being renamed in honor of the founding president, Dr. David McCorkle.

The building's new name will be the "David B. McCorkle Building." The Board of Regents approved the renaming of the building on March 12.

Under the leadership of McCorkle, Floyd College pioneered cooperative programs, opened satellite campuses and provided an opportunity for people in the region to "get their feet wet," as McCorkle himself put it.

"We are so pleased to be able to bestow this honor on Dr. McCorkle for the invaluable contributions he made to establish this outstanding community resource," said current FC president, Dr. Randy Pierce.

McCorkle said having the building named after him is "particularly great because I'm alive." He said, "When I was down there the policy was the person had to be dead before you could name a building or anything after them, but they've changed that. It's very nice."

It is still rare for a building to

be named after someone living. According to a press release by Sandy Briscar, director of public information at Floyd College, "The Board of Regents limits the naming of buildings for living persons to those who are 'beloved ex-presidents' or major contributors to an institution."

Sitting, overlooking the back deck at his home, admiring the many birds and prized plants, McCorkle spoke of when he first came to Rome.

"When I came here in '70, that was a soybean field," he said, speaking of the land that currently makes up the central campus of FC. "It's quite an experience starting from scratch. The first quarter we had classes in the old Methodist annex downtown and the old Harbin Clinic, which no longer exists."

"I look back and it's hard to believe we had 845 students the first year," he continued. "That was quite an accomplishment because we only expected about 600."

After explaining the difference between a male and female woodpecker, which incidentally is that the male's head feathers are completely red and the female only has a patch of red on the back of her neck, McCorkle spoke about the college and the path it has taken since his retirement in 1991.

(continued on page 2...)

New Student Engagement Council replaces SGA

By Eric Rose
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This has been a challenging year for the Student Government Association according to John Spranza, Floyd College director of Student Life.

It is also their last, due to a trend of declining SGA participation. Starting in the fall an alternative leadership program called the Student Engagement Council will be implemented.

The SEC will consist of representatives of the student body called "Students at Large," repre-

sentatives of the various student organizations and representatives of the faculty/staff and administration.

The SEC will vote on issues that affect student activities and will also serve as the budget committee for student activities at the end of the academic year.

The decision to replace the SGA with an alternative organization was researched and approved by Spranza and the current SGA.

Spranza said the decision to look at alternate forms of student government was made because of a lack of student participation in

the current SGA.

"Participation was nonexistent," said Spranza. He said that the level of student involvement was "not fulfilling the intent of the constitution when it was changed two years ago."

Spranza said another problem that plagued the SGA was the provision for two senator positions from every campus, which it had been unable to fill, commenting that the SGA was "too large for what FC was equipped to deal with."

Spranza said that SGA elections were another setback. He said that registration for SGA

elections this year was dismal.

"There were only two applications for the three (paid) offices. Both people applied for the same office of vice president," he explained.

The new student government would not be elected directly by the students. The club members will elect their presidents who will serve as council members.

The student-at-large candidates will go through an application interview process, but unlike the current SGA, none of the positions will be paid as part of the SEC.

(continued on page 3...)

Inside this issue:

-News-
Page 2

-Features-
Page 6

-Editorials-
Page 8

-Opinions-
Page 9

-Entertainment-
Page 11

-Sports-
Page 12

-Honors, Graduation-
Page 14

Students support new mascot

The Student Government Association has made another step in its efforts to change the Floyd College mascot.

Instead of a new mascot altogether, the SGA presented students who attended the recent Spring Fling the opportunity to vote on a redesigned Charger, the college's current mascot.

Students were given the chance to vote on one of three designs. The current Charger, an armored knight holding a lance on horseback, was one of the three presented.

The two new designs both featured horses, but no riders.

When the vote was over one of the two new designs (featured at right) had received the majority vote.

Now the two new designs must be presented by Dr. Randy Pierce, FC president, to his President's Cabinet. The Cabinet will then vote on whether the mascot will be changed.

At press time, the vote had not been made, and the Charger had not been officially changed.

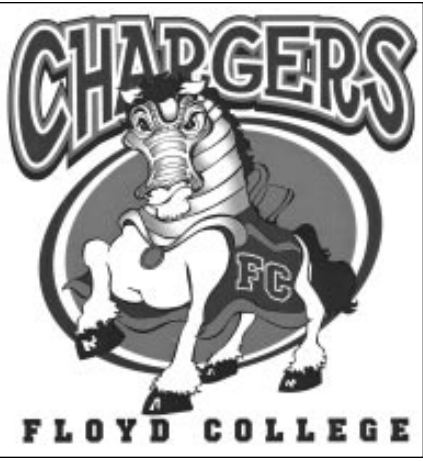


Photo by Daniel Bell

The participants of the Alabama Shakespeare Festival trip gather for a group picture.

Women's History Month celebrated at Floyd College

By Nakisha McNeal
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Women's History Month was celebrated through readings, an art display and audio-visual presentation in the Lakeview Building on March 27.

Laura Musselwhite, associate professor of history, coordinated the program that presented women's various contributions to the world.

"Since March was Women's History Month, I wanted to have some sort of celebration. I thought it would be nice to have various types of presentations so that many different areas of women's activities would be included (art, literature, math, technology, etc.)," stated Musselwhite.

"It wasn't difficult to plan — lots of people helped with the set-up, though," said Musselwhite.

Terrie Earwood in the Lakeview building helped get the area prepared, Garland McKenzie and Randy McFry handled the

technological aspects (projector, microphone, etc.) and Brian Barr hung the art show in the gallery. "Brian put in a lot of extra time to do it and I really appreciated his willingness," Musselwhite said.

Students and other faculty and staff members also participated in the Women's Day Program. Dr. Virginia Carson, Dr. Penny Wills, Carla Patterson, LaNelle Daniel, Kristi Gilleland, Lauren Wilbanks, Sheila McCoy, Priscilla Sullins, Dustin Neighbors and Musselwhite all actually presented.

Others contributed to the program creatively by contributing artwork.

Artists included Barbara Walden, Mary Nell Barrow, Terri Borchardt and Patricia Hershey, to name only a few. There were also several student artists.

"I thought it was a great event. All the presentations were incredibly interesting and we had a nice crowd. I am really proud to have been a part of it," said Musselwhite.

continued from page 1 Building renamed...

"Dr. Pierce has the same philosophy that I have," McCorkle said. "That philosophy is that we are here to serve. We started out calling ourselves an 'opportunity school' because there were a lot of people that could not afford, for various reasons, to go other places, or to attend a private school.

"Part of this goes back to the time when I was a graduate of Georgia Southwestern when it was a two-year school. I never could have gone to college had not that school been down there. I have appreciated that all my life."

McCorkle said that he is really happy with the progress that Floyd College has made and the new opportunities that it continues to offer to the residents and stu-

dents of Floyd County, such as hosting several selected four-year programs conducted by

nearby universities.

"The need for a four-year university just doesn't exist (in Rome), but the need for certain programs does exist, so what happens is that now they can bring these programs that are needed and take them out if they're not needed. It makes sense economically to me," he said.

Talking about Paris Lake (the lake behind the central campus), McCorkle said, "The funniest experience I ever had down there was many years ago. We had some cold weather and the lake froze. I was down there one morning and the ducks and geese came in and they would hit that ice and skid 300 feet."

The tour of the landscaping and the beautiful red bud tree just off of his side-deck provided a break in conversation, but then

McCorkle said, "I have a lot of good memories about the college."



File photo

Dr. David B. McCorkle

Dr. Andrei Alexankov visits Floyd College to discuss studying abroad

By Nakisha McNeal
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Dr. Andrei Alexankov, deputy director of international educational programs at St. Petersburg State Technical University in Russia, visited Floyd College on Monday, March 24, to discuss studying abroad at his university.

The Consortium for International Study of Georgia invited Alexankov to speak at some of the colleges in the University System of Georgia.

"I am pleased to visit Floyd College," Alexankov stated. "I met some of the Floyd College faculty at a faculty seminar in Russia. Dr. (Alberta) Johnson has been very helpful to me. Also, Floyd College has the advantage of having nice, qualified staff and students."

Alexankov's home institution has offered summer courses to students since 1998. Students are able to study a variety of subjects

during this summer session, which lasts about four weeks. Most students study art, history, literature, science and humanities.

There are no specific requirements for participating in this summer semester, but Alexankov suggests that students talk to professors and advisers to compare course content and to determine if it is suitable for them.

The USG sets prices for the study abroad programs and also gives scholarships to qualified students.

Students can find out more by going to the Floyd College website and entering the study abroad link. According to Alexankov, one purpose of the St. Petersburg program "is to let students know more about



Dr. Andrei Alexankov

Russia and other nations."

Alexankov's institution is now working on creating fall and spring semester programs, which are planned to begin spring 2004.

High school students get early start

By Virginia Thompson
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Among Floyd College's diverse population of students are some who haven't even graduated from high school yet.

According to Lauren Wilbanks, recruitment coordinator, the Post Secondary Option (PSO) program has opened up opportunities for students to attend college even before they complete high school.

The program, set into place by the Georgia Board of Education, allows qualified high school juniors and seniors attending Georgia public schools to take college courses along with their high

school courses, and, in many cases, receive both college and high school credit.

According to Wilbanks, the Georgia Board of Education picks up 75 percent of the tuition costs, and FC pays for the rest.

There are now approximately 100 students at Floyd College who are participating in the program. Many actually attend classes on campus; however, some of the PSO courses are taught in certain area high schools.

Wilbanks said the experience of college-level work can help to prepare the high school student for the college experience because there tends to be less of an adjustment period once the students become actual college freshmen.

"It's a set-up for success," she said.

Parents of PSO students have been very satisfied with the program and what it provides. One parent stated to Wilbanks that her child who had the opportunity to attend Floyd College classes as a PSO student later graduated and transferred to Georgia Tech. The parent stated that the preparation Floyd College gave her child prepared her for what college would be like and that the classes at Floyd College were equally as challenging.

All information concerning the PSO program can be found in the Floyd College Office of Enrollment Management at (706) 295-6339 or by visiting the website at <http://www.floyd.edu>.

Marable to speak at FC graduation

By Rebecca Alford
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The 2003 Floyd College graduation ceremony will be held at the Forum in Rome on May 10 at 10 a.m.

The graduation speaker will be Richard O. Marable, businessman and former educator and state senator.

Marable was elected to the Georgia State Senate in 1990 and represented Floyd and Bartow Counties until 2002.

Marable was a part of several

committees and served as chair of the Senate Education Committee and as Senate Majority Whip.

He taught special education in the Rome City Schools for 30 years and was honored as Teacher of the Year in 1976.

Marable was recently inducted into the Floyd County Hall of Fame.

Marable will be presented with Floyd College's President's Award for Meritorious Service during the graduation ceremony in recognition of his support and aid to the college during his years as a State Senator.

According to Sandy Briscar, Floyd College public information officer, Marable's leadership "resulted in Floyd College partnering with other institutions to bring select four-year bachelor's degree programs to the Rome campus—a community-wide goal."

Marable earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Berry College and a master's degree in education from West Georgia College.

The annual pinning ceremony for the graduating nursing students will be held at the Forum the night before graduation and will begin at 7 p.m.

continued from page 1 SEC replaces SGA...

Since the SGA's constitution required only its own approval for the change, the change was voted on and then passed to Floyd College president, Dr. Randy Pierce.

A new constitution was drafted by Spranza with help from the current SGA and others. The new document is entitled "The Constitution of the Student Body of Floyd College."

The model for the new student government program came from Dalton State College's program, which is successfully completing its first year. "I took what they created and adapted it to Floyd," said Spranza.

The largest body of the SEC will be the Presidents' Leadership Council. The PLC will consist of the presidents of all the student organizations as well as two student-at-large representatives from the main campus and one from each of the satellite campuses.

The "Students at Large" will not be affiliated with any clubs or organizations and will represent the student body.

Along with the PLC, the SEC will also contain the director of student life, the vice president of student development, the vice president of finance and two faculty members nominated by the vice president of academic affairs.

The SEC will convene to discuss and vote on issues that affect student activities. It also has

the power to approve the forming of new student organizations and the functions of all FC clubs. There will be three main committees for the planning and execution of student activities—one for publicity, one for entertainment and one for cultural arts. Spranza said other committees can be added as needed.

In order to serve on the SEC, students must have at least a 2.25 GPA.

The PLC elects the chairperson from its own membership; the chairperson holds the deciding vote in a tie. PLC members can be removed from the SEC by a unanimous vote of the membership, but only for just cause.

PLC members must attend at least 51 percent of the meetings held in their term of office to be able to vote during the budget hearings at the end of the academic year.

In order to institute a change to SEC policy, such as the addition of an amendment, the SEC must be presented a proposal that has the signatures of 50 Floyd College students.

"If anyone wants to make a change to this constitution, they can bring it to the SEC along with a show of student support," Spranza said. The SEC must then consider a proposal for two meetings prior to calling a vote.

Commenting about the SEC, current SGA president Amit Patel said, "It looks good. It should work."

FC students earn credit hours for gazing at the stars

By Jesse Bishop
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Students in the Physical Science II class, also known as Astronomy, have been pointing telescopes at the stars this semester.

Charles Garrison, lab assistant, said students really seem to enjoy the campus's Bishop Observatory.

"They gain confidence in 'star-hopping,'" he said.

"Star-hopping" is a method of locating stars with the naked eye then using a pattern to find things that are not visible to the naked eye with the telescopes.

Students can view various stars, nebulas, planets and occasionally a satellite or two from the observatory.

The observatory is comprised of three different areas. The actual observatory building is where the largest of the telescopes is located, while the student viewing area is available for students to work in small groups using somewhat smaller telescopes. The final area is a classroom.

The observatory building features a rolling roof and two large telescopes, 12 and 16 inches.

The 16-inch is the telescope most frequently used and has an assortment of lenses for different uses, said Garrison.

Parents, relatives and friends are often welcome to accompany students to the viewing sessions, according to Garrison. And usually one night is set aside each semester for an open house, during which the community is invited to come try out the facility.

However, bad weather earlier in the semester prevented the open house from being held

this time, Garrison said.

The Bishop Observatory is named for Dr. John Bradford Bishop, a former assistant professor of physics and mathematics at Floyd College who spearheaded efforts in 1994 to bring a quality observatory to the college.

Bishop was an FC student from 1978 to 1980. He then attended Berry College, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Physics in 1983.

After working at the Naval Intelligence Support Center in Washington, D.C., Bishop went on to the University of Alabama in Birmingham to receive his Ph.D.

He was involved with research dealing with insulin crystal growth in space, a project later picked up by NASA, with Bishop's experiment being carried aboard a space shuttle.

Bishop was teaching at Floyd College in 1995 when he was killed in a traffic accident.

Garrison said the observatory was built where a "bait shack" used to be. He said the bait shack had only one telescope for student use.

The observatory was dedicated to Bishop on May 17, 1997. Since that time hundreds of students have been able to peek into the universe like never before.

Students interested in astronomy may want to register for Physical Science II, which will be offered in the second summer class session. Physical Science I is not a prerequisite for Physical Science II. For more information about the class students may contact Mark Pergrem, instructor of physics, by emailing him at mpergrem@floyd.edu or contacting the division of science and math at (706) 295-6306.

Explore Wetlands Preserve here at FC

By Savannah Ruth
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Photo by Savannah Ruth

The boardwalk allows visitors to view the wetlands without getting wet.

One of the untapped resources of Floyd College is the Wetlands Preserve, located behind Paris Lake.

Students who commute and then rush off to home or work may not even be aware of this vibrant natural area just waiting to be explored.

Wetlands are areas of land associated with water (the water can be underground or up to six feet deep) and are excellent habitats for many different birds, fish, amphibians and mammals.

The water level here at the FC Wetlands Preserve varies in different spots and also changes with the seasons. The 1,200 foot boardwalk over the water allows the visitor to experience the sights and sounds of the wetlands without ending up with wet feet.

Tracks of various animals can be seen in the mud surrounding the water, and several beaver dams are spread throughout the wetlands.

Spring is an especially good

time of year to visit the wetlands. Birds are beginning to build nests, the trees are getting leaves again and the water flows quite rapidly from the April showers.

The FC Wetlands Preserve is intended to reach out to the public and to educate them on the importance of wetlands, according to Becky Fiorillo, science lab assistant. It is also used for student research. The wetlands provide the FC biology students with a hands-on experience to complement their classroom studies. Local elementary, middle and high school students are also given tours of the FC Wetlands.

Wetlands are important to the entire eco-system and are especially useful to people: the birds that live in the wetlands help with insect con-

trol, and wetlands are a good watering source, particularly for drinking.

The FC Wetlands Preserve is located directly behind Paris Lake, which is behind the library. The wetlands are open to the public, but guided tours are also available by contacting either Dr. Mark Knauss, associate professor of biology (706-368-7535) or Fiorillo (706-368-7532).



Photo by Savannah Ruth

Spring has put the wetlands into full bloom.

New two-year Medical Laboratory Technology program getting underway

By Bobby Moore
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The new Medical Laboratory Technology program is already underway at Floyd College.

The two-year program is part of a joint partnership with Darton College in Augusta that allows students to take their required lecture classes online while completing their lab requirements at the FC central campus in Rome.

This allows students to complete all the requirements within driving distance.

The internship hours will also be completed locally at Floyd and Redmond Hospitals.

The program currently has two students enrolled this semester. According to Shannon Collins, program director, "The students are currently taking hematology, and both students have signed up to take immunohematology this summer."

The program has begun small, but it will be in full swing by the

fall semester.

Collins said, "We have more students coming in for the fall semester. We can only take 10 and spaces are filling up."

She said this program may be of interest to students who enjoy chemistry and microbiology. Shannon Collins said, "Lab techs are like detectives because they search for medical-related clues."

Students interested in the new Medical Laboratory Technology program can contact Collins at Scollins@floyd.edu.

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Faculty members to retire at end of semester

George Simcoe wants to play more golf

Billingsley looks to travel



Contributed photo

George Simcoe is retiring after 34 years of teaching.

**By Julianna Hunt
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Staff Writer**

Dr. George Simcoe, professor of communications, will retire in June after a long career in college education.

Simcoe began teaching in the spring of 1969 as a graduate assistant at Murray State University in Kentucky, where he was working on his M.A. He was an English major at Florida Atlantic University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1968.

Simcoe said that he changed his major to communications because he "liked English, particularly journalistic writing, but also liked the areas of speech and mass media, too."

The communications graduate program at Murray State was so new when Simcoe started his M.A. that each of his graduate classes only had about a dozen students in it. He then studied at the University of Denver, where he received his Ph.D. in 1974.

Before coming to Georgia, Simcoe taught for four years near San Antonio at Texas Lutheran University. He taught speech and journalism there, but wanted to return to the eastern part of the United States.

Simcoe has been teaching at Floyd College since the fall of 1997, after 12 years of teaching at Kennesaw State University.

Floyd has been a wonderful experience for me," Simcoe said. "I enjoyed my experience at KSU also, but the classes simply got too big. I'm just not someone who can walk into a class of 40 or 50 students and be happy teaching there. I know that at the University of Georgia and Georgia State University there are class sizes of

a few hundred or more. If I had to teach classes that big, I'd rather go work at a car wash." Simcoe said that if he were to leave behind any advice for students it would be "education is the key to success."

After he retires, Simcoe plans on playing more golf, traveling and joining the Master Gardeners of Georgia or the North Georgia Model airplane club. He also said that he doesn't want to give up teaching entirely.

The thing that Simcoe liked best about Floyd College was the people. He said, "There is still a spirit, morale, a positive attitude that exists among the Floyd personnel, faculty, staff and administrators."

"Yes, we're each different in some ways, but we all have the desire to come together and get the job done, whatever it takes. Every now and then whenever any of us have our 'grumpy' days, we don't take that grumpiness out on those around us," he said.

Simcoe wants students of Floyd College to remember him as someone who not only enjoyed every minute of his teaching, but who also believed in the critical importance of human communication skills for success in life.

**By Jason Bourne
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Amelia Billingsley, professor of language arts, is retiring after 19 years at Floyd College.

Billingsley has primarily taught English 0099, but has also taught Reading 0099, English 1101, FCST 1101 and other classes.

She claims to have liked "the

people, students and faculty" best during her time at Floyd College. She said she will miss them when she retires.

Billingsley believes one of the greatest privileges of her life has been "students granting me a part in their lives." Billingsley said she will miss seeing students grow in confidence and miss talking to them a couple of semesters after teaching them and hearing of their success.

Most of Billingsley's good times involving the faculty of FC include lunches full of laughter and being part of a "family of faculty."

She also pointed out that the faculty has been by her side through a lot of good and bad times.

She said she will not miss "English department grading sessions, committee meetings that go nowhere and anything with the words 'Institutional Effectiveness' attached to it."

As to what she plans to do after she retires, Billingsley replied, "Whatever I want to! Whenever I want to do it! Probably a lot of traveling, hiking on the Appalachian Trail and writing a book."



Contributed photo

Amelia Billingsley taught at Floyd for 19 years.

Suzanne Black plans to continue teaching part time in the fall

**By Julianna Hunt
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Staff Writer**

Suzanne Black, assistant professor of psychology and education is to retire from Floyd College at the end of this semester.

Black has been a full time instructor at FC since 1993.

She began her career at FC as a curriculum consultant, then coordinated the health services technician program, and later taught part-time before moving up to full-time status.

Black received her B.A. in

sociology from the University of Richmond; she then received her Master's in Science in Education Degree at Indiana University. She has also done graduate work at Virginia Tech and the University of Iowa.

Black became interested in teacher developmental psychology after working with the health service technician program. She was hired part-time to teach just the developmental psychology course, and since she became a full-time instructor has taught the entire gamut of psychology at Floyd College.

Black feels that it is time for a change in her life and is looking

forward to not having the added stress of teaching on a full-time basis. Black is also looking forward to spending time with her husband and grandchildren and going on short trips.

Black said that she does not have any big plans in the near future but will continue to teach on a part-time basis in the fall.

Black stated that she was "excited to be a part of the mission of Floyd College." She said that she has always enjoyed working with the students, especially those who might need a little extra help along the way.

She said that some of the things that are most meaningful

to her are statements from students like "you listened to me" or "you made it possible for me to do what I am doing."

The day-to-day interactions and the chance to do things for students are some of her favorite parts of teaching.

She said the things she would miss the most are the student contact in the classroom and her fellow faculty members.

Of the classroom interaction, Black said, "This is what you get into teaching for."



Contributed photo

Suzanne Black has been with Floyd full-time since 1993.

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Grave on campus explained

By Daniel Bell
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Editor

Those who sometimes use the back exit from the central campus of Floyd College may have noticed a white cross marking a grave just in the edge of the woods across from the Plant Operations Building. Written on this makeshift headstone is the name "Tom."

Tom was a polydactyl cat that used to call Floyd College home. Polydactyl means "having extra toes," and in Tom's case, that meant six toes on both of his front feet.

"He just showed up one morning," said Ken Lewis, skills trade worker and employee of Physical Plant. Lewis and Herman Fitzgerald, grounds department, began feeding and taking care of the black and white tomcat.

According to Fitzgerald, "Tom was a friendly cat," and it is his belief that Tom was once someone's pet.

"Tom wasn't shy. He was a lap cat," agreed Lewis. Lewis affectionately described the cat's extra toes as looking like "catcher's mitts," while Fitzgerald said they looked like "snowshoes."

Tom lived on the FC campus for about a year and a half and would have eventually lived with Lewis.

"I was going to take him home with me once I finished building my new house," said Lewis. "But he died two weeks too early."

Tom died almost a year ago because he had feline AIDS and feline leukemia. Currently there is no available treatment for feline AIDS.

To honor their six-toed companion, Fitzgerald and Lewis built a little casket and brought stones from Indian Mountain to encircle the grave.



Photo by Daniel Bell

Tom's grave is located across from the Plant Operations Building.

"We just couldn't put Tom in a hole," said Lewis looking back. "We are going to make a concrete headstone too."

Since then the two have regularly pulled weeds and cleaned up debris from the Tom's grave.

As additional tribute to Tom the six-toed cat, Lewis said he has a new cat at his house that he calls "Tom 2."

"Not only people need help," said Lewis. "We have taken care of lots of animals over the past ten years."

Fitzgerald said he once took home a dog that had wandered up. The dog then gave birth to 11 puppies. "The important thing," he said, "is to make people aware."

According to Lewis one of the biggest problems around the campus is people polluting the lake and its surroundings.

"There is a one-legged duck here that lost its leg because it got tangled up in some fishing line," he said. "There are trashcans all around the lake, yet we see trash lying on the ground right next to them."

Fitzgerald and Lewis have taken care of many dogs and cats over the years. What's more, they

pay for everything the animals need out of their own pockets.

"There was a black lab once," said Lewis, "that had a broken leg. We took up money, and it cost \$551 (to treat the dog)." Lewis said the Humane Society helped out a great deal with "Black Dog" and that the Humane Society has foster homes for stray pets.

"They take animals and put them in foster homes until they can find something permanent," said Lewis.

For now, a white cross with the name "Tom" stands as a monument to the beloved six-toed cat of the FC Physical Plant.



Contributed photo

Tom the six-toed cat is buried at the central FC campus.

Blood Drive Success

Many students from the Floyd College main campus join in to help Blood Assurance by giving blood on April 7. The donors' blood goes on to help sick and injured people in need.




Photo by John Persinger

Nurse Amanda Montgomery takes blood from Matt Foster, one of many FC students willing to help.



Photo by John Persinger

Kristy McKinzy, English major, donates blood.



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'Factory Farming' economically viable, environmentally unconscious

By Chris Hammonds
Chamm02@floyd.edu
Assistant Editor

Paul McCartney once said that if all slaughterhouses had glass walls, the whole world would be vegetarian. Everyone knows where their food comes from, but many people aren't aware of the process most livestock goes through on the journey from birth to the dinner plates.

The family-owned farms of yesteryear have become almost irrelevant. Global economics have given rise to the factory farm, an institution where animals are bred, slaughtered and packaged in a mass-production environment. The processes involved in factory-farm production are largely automated. This has led to widespread concern regarding animal treatment and environmental well-being.

Sow pigs nurse their piglets for around three weeks before being re-impregnated. The piglets are then old enough to be separated into their own small metal crates, where they are subjected to a diet of chemicals and antibiotics. Because of the psychological trauma suffered by the pigs (who have roughly the intellect of dogs), they routinely undergo processes in which their tails are removed and their teeth are snipped so that they cannot harm themselves by nervous biting.

Antibiotics are withdrawn around the last week of the pig's six-month life. Because they have been fed a steady diet of chemicals since their birth, the loss of the antibiotics often causes them to contract pneumonia, which results



Many animals die in transit because the cost of buying trucks to give them more space would outweigh their economic worth.



Dead and dying male chicks are disposed of behind an egg hatchery. Because of their breed and sex, they are useless to both egg farmers and poultry meat farmers.

in violent shaking and loss of bowel control. They then make the journey to the slaughterhouse, often seeing the sun for the first, and last time of their lives. The pigs are then electrocuted, stabbed in the jugular and tied so that they can be dunked in scalding water to remove hair. The workers often wear earplugs to muffle the screaming of the dying pigs.

Both boiler chickens and egg-laying hens often have the tips of their beaks and toes snipped very early in their life in an effort to minimize the damage they can do to each other and their eggs while

confined to small spaces. They are also typically kept in the dark to prevent fighting.

Lighting schedules are used to maintain the illusion of an eternal spring—a practice intended to maximize egg production in factory hens. According to a www.factoryfarming.com report, egg-laying chicken breeds are selected for maximum egg production and do not grow fast enough or large enough to be raised for meat. Therefore, male chicks are of no economic value and are typically disposed of upon birth. Common methods for disposing of the

newly hatched chicks are grinding them up alive or piling them in trash-bins to suffocate.

Veal calves are separated from their mothers almost directly after birth and confined to small crates where there is rarely even enough space to turn around or stand up. They are fed a low-iron diet to prohibit muscle development so that their flesh is light colored and tender, which is a consumer preference when purchasing veal. Antibiotics are also injected into veal calves to keep them alive and enhance their growth rate. The average life span of a veal calf is around four months.

The milk produced for the calves during the mother cow's lactation is used for dairy products. Dairy cows are given hormones to increase milk production. Many of these hormones cause health ailments such as calcium deficiency and birth defects.

Male cows are routinely castrated and de-horned without anesthesia.

Because of the use of antibiotics on factory-farmed animals, it comes as no surprise that millions of Americans are infected every year by contaminated animal products.

The pathogens infecting the animal products become virulent because the antibiotics and hormones used to maximize factory farm production allow viruses to grow resistant or immune to the current treatments.

According to the Center for Disease Control, an estimated 76 million Americans (around one-third) get sick and 5,000 die annually from food-borne illnesses, which are often caused by aberrant farming practices.

According to a 2001 Sierra Club report, compiled from USDA



All photos courtesy of farmsanctuary.org

Veal calves such as this one are raised in small, dark crates and fed a low-iron diet to prohibit muscle development.

factsheets, Excel Corporation, America's third-largest meat-packing enterprise, recalled approximately 190,000 pounds of fresh ground beef and pork in June 2001 from southern states (including Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee) when the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service's samples of the meat tested positive for E. Coli bacteria.

According to reports from the Sierra Club, the quantity of waste produced by livestock is more than 130 times greater than that of humans. Agricultural runoff, including waste, kills millions of fish and is a primary cause for the pollution of rivers and streams.

Around 70 percent of the grain produced in the United States is used to feed livestock. It is estimated that if Americans reduced their meat consumption by 10 percent it would free 12,000,000 tons of grain— enough to feed 60 million people.

Interested in being a part of the SMP?

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By Daniel Bell
Dbell01@floyd.edu
Editor

Editor’s Box

Dildos and free cake not the way teach safe sex

As I passed though the Student Center on my way to class today I was pleased to hear music playing loudly and to see someone giving away free cake. But then reality set in and I realized the song I was hearing was “Let’s Talk About Sex,” and just a few feet away from the cake was a load of free condoms. But what was most disturbing was the fact that “experts” were on hand to demonstrate the correct way to put on a condom using, get this, plastic penises (AKA dildos). The idea behind all this was to promote AIDS awareness and to encourage students to practice safe sex. Granted, it’s not such a bad idea. I have no problems with the promotion of protected procreation, but the manner was somewhat embarrassing. Giving someone a free slice of cake, a jimmy and a lesson on applying it seems like it should do the trick, right? No harm in that, huh?

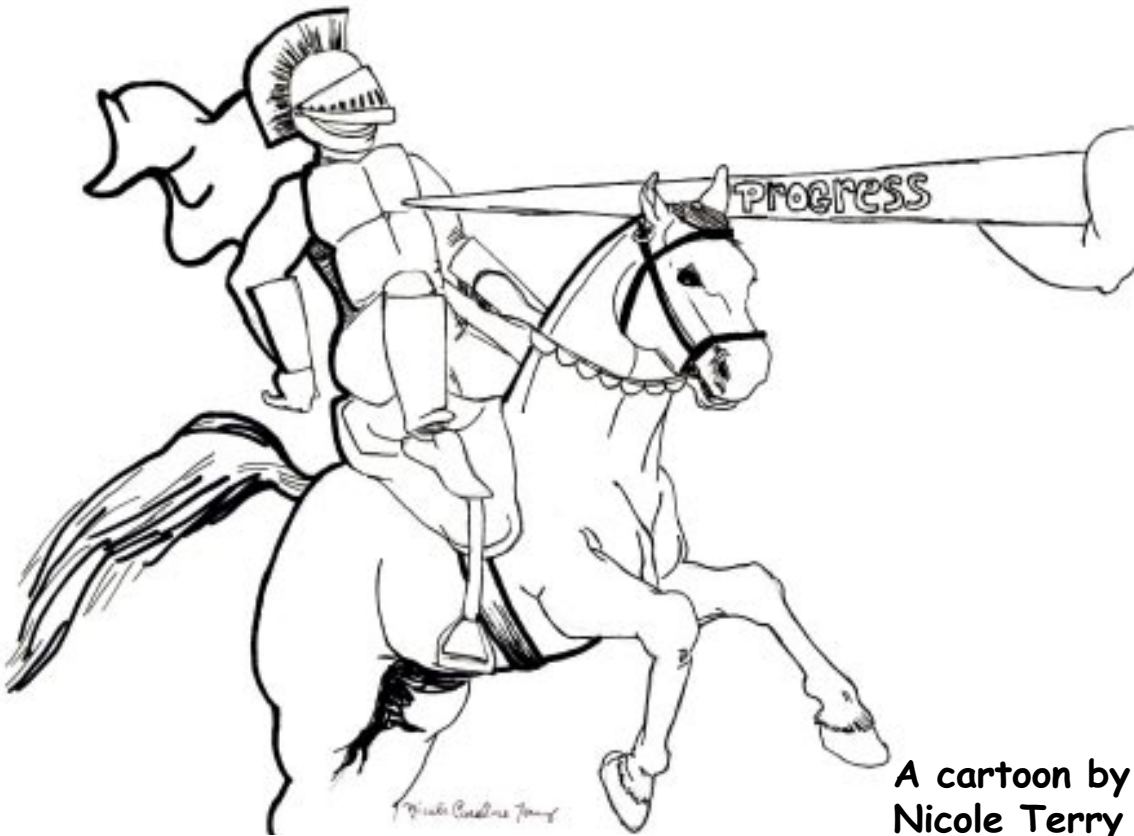
However, what I saw was inflated condoms (in assorted colors, sizes and flavors!) left in the floor by thankless students, lots of childish giggling and one potential student visiting the college asking why we were playing “Like a Virgin.” Mission not accomplished! Haunted as I am by visions of condom-wearing dildos, I do think whoever organized this had their hearts in the right place. I just think it should have been done in a more intimate atmosphere. The truth is most college students are sexually active and could truly benefit from a lesson of sex education. But playing sexually themed songs and handing out latex love (and cake!) is probably not the best way to handle it. When students still in their teens and early 20s are faced with an uncomfortable subject, such as sex, they tend to overcome that awkwardness by laughing, poking fun or just passing by the would-be educators altogether. They can’t take the subject seriously when forced to face it in front of everyone else in the Student Center. My suggestion is to do it in a classroom situation. Make it a credit class that everyone has to take. I know this sounds like a class that should have been covered in high school, but the teachers at my school skipped that chapter of the book (which could explain the four or so pregnancies in my graduating class). Most students are not going to approach this subject willingly and still be comfortable. This is why it needs to be handled in a classroom, not in the Student Center. If students have to take sex Ed for credit, then they will be forced to sit down and listen. That way the learning cannot be avoided. AIDS is an unquestionably serious subject and students need to know about ways to prevent it. There are so many misconceptions that everyone has that a sex Ed course would be helpful to everyone. I just don’t agree that waving a raincoat-wearing sex toy in someone’s face and handing out free contraceptives is the way to educate young college students about the dangers of unprotected sex.

Student government should focus on more relevant issues

Floyd College is not exactly a school of grand tradition. When the Student Government Association decided to have a vote to change the school mascot, the common consensus among most students was, “What mascot?” The result of the vote was to simply update our current mascot (The Charger), but the issue to be had with this sort of thing is nonetheless significant. It’s not as if we have much in the way of a competitive sports team to speak of. Giving us a new image is not going to instill more school spirit in the students because there’s not much to be spirited about. It’s just impractical. And let’s face it — a large percentage of our school is comprised of non-traditional students and second-chancers. Floyd is an excellent and relatively inexpensive two-year option to the university or technical college route. We’re not UGA, and no one enrolls with great hopes of becoming an FC Charger. The whole thing is just silly. It is ironic that the SGA, which serves as the “voice for all students in college affairs,” according to the FC website, isn’t listening to anyone but themselves. Furthermore, on the relative scale of school-related issues, tweaking a mascot that many people still aren’t even aware we have seems like small potatoes. What about recent quibbles over cafeteria price gauging? Even that makes, by comparison, the state of our irrelevant mascot seem, well, irrelevant. With the SGA evolving into a new form next year, maybe increased student participation in the SEC will encourage them to tackle more important matters than the SGA did. A major problem with the old student government was that many students with school-related issues were not being heard simply because they weren’t speaking up. Perhaps a student government that is actively involved with the rest of the students in trying to improve campus life and student services will instill more school pride than anything.

The Floyd College Charger gets knocked off the horse!

(please see 'Students support new mascot,' page 2.)



A cartoon by Nicole Terry

<i>6MPost@floyd.edu</i> Six Mile Post The Student Voice	
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The <i>Six Mile Post</i> (named after the old railroad station and trading post that was once located where the college is now) publishes seven print and online issues a year and is funded through student activity fees and ad revenue. Letters to the Editor may be brought to the SMP office, emailed to 6MPost@floyd.edu, or mailed to Editor, <i>Six Mile Post</i> , P.O. Box 1864, Rome, GA 30162-1864. Letters must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editors.	



By Sandy House
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Staff Writer

House of thought

Quit writing letters and send something useful!

Alright, I know that all the local elementary and middle schools, churches and other organizations are writing letters to the troops over in Kuwait and Iraq.

Well, I have some news for you all. Writing the troops is OVER RATED. Most soldiers do not value the letters they receive; in fact some even detest getting random, meaningless letters from people they do not know.

I think that writing the troops is more for the people back home to get a warm and fuzzy feeling because they feel like they are making a difference.

Here is what one United States Marine, whose name I can't mention, has to say about it: "I hated it. They are so generic. We got some from a church, and I swear they were almost all the same. So we disliked those letters

because they just feel so fake."

There you have it folks, straight from the horse's mouth.

Now some of the troops do not mind. One Marine stated that he was preoccupied at the time but it was nice to know that the folks back home were thinking of them. So it's not like the troops even have time to read the letters.

On another note, most of the troops in Iraq are not even getting mail because the supply lines are needed for supplies, not mail. Most of the ones getting mail and packages are those that are still in Kuwait, and they are just as busy supporting those in Iraq.

If you really want to do something good for the guys overseas, send them a care package with baby wipes and junk food. Showers are scarce and so is good food. Imagine eating MREs (Meals Ready to Eat) three times a day.

In a letter from a U.S. Marine, whose name I also cannot mention, he said, "This place wouldn't

be so bad if we had hot meals and cold beer."

Granted, you cannot send alcohol in a care package but chips are much appreciated. But don't send chocolate or anything that will melt in the hot desert sun, and don't send magazines. Perhaps packages of hot chocolate that they can mix with water would be good. Beef Jerky is also a favorite. Care packages can get pretty costly, but they sure do help as opposed to a monotonous letter.

Some do enjoy getting letters of support, mostly the ones who have never been deployed and it is their first time. They are the easily amused.

So when you are looking for a troop to write, pick out the Pfc's or Lcpl's (Private First Class, Lance Corporal). Those are usually the new guys.

Perhaps they will enjoy the letters more than you do because, as I said before, support letters are for those left behind.

Bourne with an opinion

Bible belief provides support of U.S. troops



By Jason Bourne
Jbour00@floyd.edu
Staff Writer

In a previous issue of the SMP I said that I felt that war is a wrong solution to what has transpired since Sept. 11.

However, after reading the Bible story of David and Goliath I now know that Jesus Christ will be behind our troops and President Bush while we are fighting the war against Saddam and Osama.

I still do not think we necessarily had to go to war against Osama and Saddam. I think that we should have confiscated all of the nuclear weapons that Saddam and Osama have in their possession. I also think we need to take Saddam, Osama and their followers into custody and make them rot in jail for the terror they have inflicted on the world in the past decade.

I think we should also send Osama and Saddam to the electric chair so they will not be able to terrorize the world ever again.

Now, don't get me wrong. I am not a big supporter of the

electric chair, but when my safety and the safety of my friends and family are involved, I want everything possible done to ensure our utmost safety.

I know most of you are thinking, "How are we going to capture them if we can't find them?" I have wondered this myself, but just stay with me, and I'll attempt an answer.

I believe we need to have about 500 additional black hawk helicopters patrolling the skies above Iraq and Afghanistan to see if they can find Osama and Saddam.

I also think we need to send more ground troops over there with tear gas so they can smoke Osama and Saddam out of their little hiding spots like Ernest T. Bass smokes out an opossum on the "Andy Griffith Show."

If by some chance we do not find them this way, we can send the mighty Floyd College geese over and have them hunt for the terrorist masterminds.

If by chance we do capture the terrorists, I think we need to have them flown to Floyd College's main campus and have THEM terrorized for a change by the FC geese.

I guarantee they won't terrorize Rome, Georgia. I bet they don't even join archery class!!

But let's remember that whatever the United States does, that Jesus Christ will be watching over the troops and will bring them home safe. Let's go get 'em boys!!

By the way, I wonder what fried Osama and Saddam tastes like? Chicken, maybe? Or rabbit?



Photo by Tammy Nicholson

Staff members of the Six Mile Post gather to wish everyone a great summer.

Letters to the Editor...

Just saying "thanks" to Floyd College

Dear Editor,

Please permit a small space in your esteemed newspaper for me to thank all who have made my experience at Floyd College unforgettable. I am from the Bahamas, and coming to Floyd was a rewarding experience; not only did I grow academically, but I also grew intellectually, culturally and personally.

Unfortunately, I graduate in May. I will truly miss this fine in-

stitution. Therefore, I want to take this opportunity to extend a hearty "thank you" to the qualified, competent and patient lecturers at Floyd College. "Thanks" should also go to the staff of the various parts of Floyd College and to the students. I have nothing but wonderful things to report about the college and I am proud to have been a part of the "Floyd Family."

C. Sean Deveaux
Business Administration

Former Floyd College student agrees with article

Dear Editor,

As a former SMP staff member (late 1980s), I was delighted, but not surprised, to see the paper continuing to excel.

Here are a few specific comments:

The story on page one with the headline "Former students attributing their current success to Floyd College" (Feb. 18) resonated strongly with me.

I credit Floyd College as an es-

sential part of my success as a conservation biologist and land manager.

Floyd not only catalyzed my education by exposing me to many outstanding and inspiring professors and advisors, it also ingrained in me a sound study and work ethic, and laid the foundation of knowledge that would serve me later in my baccalaureate and masters studies in forestry, wildlife ecology and environmental philosophy at the UGA.

Floyd even helped me to become a much better father.

To sum it up, and please excuse the cliché, Floyd College opened up a "whole new world" to me, and I appreciate it! I encourage students to take advantage of what Floyd has to offer!

Johnny Stowe
Heritage Preserve Manager
Wildlife Diversity Section
South Carolina Department
of Natural Resources

Floyd College speaks out about loved ones overseas

By Michelle Huskins
Chusk00@floyd.edu
Staff Writer

The telephone rings on the desk of Andrea Mathis, network systems senior specialist for Floyd College, but it is not a routine call. The phone lines have connected her to her brother, Tony Mathis, stationed thousands of miles away in Afghanistan with the 310th chemical unit of the Army.

He has waited in line over an hour for this opportunity to use the phone because he is not certain when he will have this chance again before further deployment.

Before being sent to Afghanistan Tony spent time in Korea, and is now preparing to leave for Baghdad. The emotion on Mathis's face conveys what this call means to her.

Both Mathis's brother and her brother-in-law, David Miller, were called in from the reserves shortly after Sep. 11, 2002.

Her brother was a newlywed of only a week before he had to leave, and Miller has yet to see his son, born in October 2002.

Many other Floyd College staff and students know firsthand how precious these conversations are, as they too eagerly await messages from their loved ones serving in the war effort.

An e-mail connection delivers comfort to Dr. Virginia Carson, vice president of academic affairs, whose son, Bryan, joined the Marines after graduating from Georgia Southern University.

His reserve commitment was scheduled to end December 2002. Instead he was called to active duty in January 2003 and has spent the last six weeks in a 15-man tent in the desert in Kuwait.

Bryan is not the first in his family to be stationed in the desert. His

grandfather, Virginia's father, spent three years in a desert in Persia (present day Iran) during World War II. After this Army veteran returned home, he never left the house without a container of water.

A call home on his father's birthday, one month ago, gave Bryan an opportunity to hear how proud his entire family is of him.

Beanie Weenies, baby wipes and cookies are what Staff Sgt. Connor Middleton hopes to find in the care package his mother, Sheryl Middleton, and Amanda Mayo, his sister, both Floyd College students, are sending.

"It is very hard for me and the rest of the family because he is the only son," said Sheryl. "God is what keeps me going and helps me not to worry very much."

"I am concerned about the hot sun; he has already been sunburned very badly," she said. Sheryl adds that she will include burn cream and lots of love with the package headed for Kuwait.

For now, e-mail and text messages keep Connor connected to his family, including his wife, young daughter Kate and five-month-old son Gannon.

Not being able to communicate with her husband, Shea, is the

hardest part for Allison Ledbetter, life-long friend of Candy Gibbs, an FC human services major.

He is in the Army Rangers Special Forces and left for Iraq over a month ago. That was the last time Allison spoke with him. "I know he is doing what he really wants to do and that makes it easier," she said.

Their two small boys, ages five and six, are proud of their brave father, but anxiously look forward to his return. "They really miss him on the weekends, because that's when they spend the most time with him," said Allison.

Allison is thankful for her con-

nection with other military wives and a supportive family that join her in praying for a speedy reunion.

Until that day comes, the message on her answering machine is a greeting to her much missed husband, including the birthday chorus sung by Brett and Christian.

Surely Shea will be back home to open gifts on his next birthday, but until then he gives his country a gift of service during this critical time in history.

Writer's Comment:

A war clearly affects us all, but none more than the families of our military. On campus are many of these family and friends that stand as a reminder of these sacrifices for freedom.

Even some Floyd College students have been called to active duty, leaving empty seats in our classrooms.

Countless other Americans follow the news of the war effort with great care and concern for these honorable men and women.

This sacrifice is not only a price paid for our freedoms, but a gift given to us by the selfless men and women who trade time away from their own families to secure, defend and protect.

Many are showing their support by displaying yellow ribbons and filling care packages with comforting items for deployed soldiers.

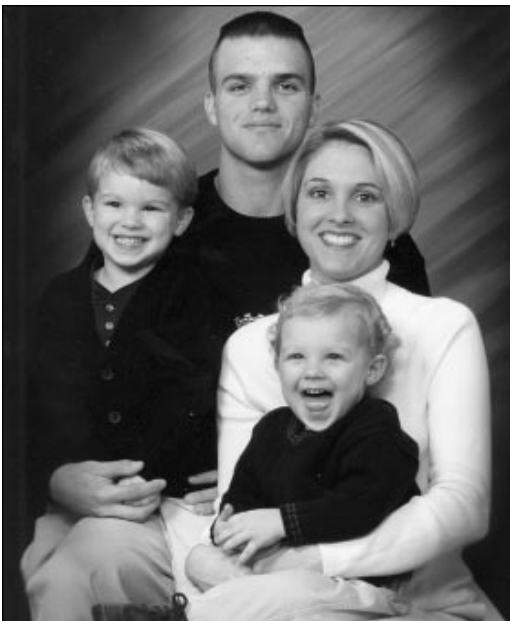
Andrea Mathis utilizes some helpful websites that offer support to her brother and brother-in-law, as well as other service members, while they are stationed overseas.

Undivided support is the most fitting way to honor our troops, and we join with their families in hoping for a swift and safe conclusion to the world events that have separated them.



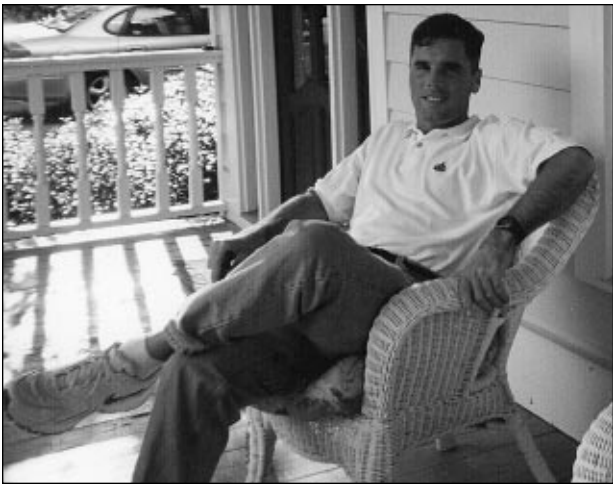
Contributed photo

Tony Mathis, brother of Andrea Mathis, senior network systems specialist, prepares to head for Baghdad.



Contributed photo

Shea Ledbetter, his wife Allison and their two sons Brett, left, and Christian. Shea has been stationed at Fort Hunter in Savannah, GA.



Contributed photo

Marine Bryan Carson is the son of Dr. Virginia Carson, vice president of academic affairs.



Contributed photo






Staff Sgt. Connor Middleton and wife Kimbre say their goodbyes before he leaves for Kuwait.

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Stripes' 'Elephant' is a massive success



photo courtesy of Amazon.com

'Elephant' is a raw album that took only ten days to record, according to frontman Jack White.

By Chris Hammonds
Chamm02@floyd.edu
Assistant Editor

The White Stripes have become lumped in with a slew of other successful faux-retro, pseudo-underground "s bands" like The Strokes, The Vines and The Donnas.

Despite their success, the duo's third release and major label debut "Elephant" is surprisingly and perhaps suspiciously devoid of high production values.

It's this kind of faith in tradition that keeps the Detroit duo safely and dependably stuck in their niche of cranking out energetic and minimalistic old-school rock.

"Elephant" sounds, probably, exactly what it would have sounded like regardless of whether or not the Stripes hit it big with "White Blood Cells."

Make no mistake about it, this is a great rock album. Recorded

on equipment that pre-dates The Beatles, there's no denying the honesty of the music. "Elephant" is raw, smart and occasionally playful.

Jack White's unique voice runs this gamut almost as much as his guitar does throughout the 14 tracks that make the album. White's vocals can seemingly channel Rod Stewart, Mick Jagger and Jerry-Lee Lewis all on the same album. It's really quite amazing.

The album opens with the imitation bass riff (yes, that's a guitar with an octave pedal, not a bass) that starts off the current radio success "Seven Nation Army." Cynics may dismiss "Seven Nation Army" as radio single fodder, but there's no denying the purity and immediacy of the album that follows.

The third track, "There's No Home for You Here" is a mix of pop-hook bliss and ingenious spoken word lyricism.

"Ball and Biscuit" is a blues-drenched seven minutes of half-serious, half tongue-in-cheek sexual innuendo where Jack White proclaims, "It's quite possible that I'm your third man, girl / But it's a fact that I'm the seventh son." Think of it as a less-than-subtle take on the themes of Depeche Mode's "It's No Good."

Meghan White, the other half of the duo, also finds her voice and sings on the minimalistic and chill-inducing "In the Cold Cold Night"

The only possible weakness of "Elephant" is the song "Hypnotise" which sounds, debatably, a little too much like a retread of "Fell in Love With a Girl," the single that exposed them to the masses in America.

Speaking of the masses, the closing song "It's True That We Love One Another" is a joke that should amuse Stripes fans, and leave others scratching their heads.

'Phone Booth' enjoyable ride for all

By Rebecca Alford
Ralfo00@floyd.edu
Assistant Editor

Never before has answering a phone call been as entertaining as in the new movie "Phone Booth."

For Stu Shepard (Colin Farrell), a low-rent media consultant, it is a day like any other day, until he goes to make his daily phone call to his girlfriend inside a phone booth. The phone booth he goes to is the same phone booth that he uses everyday at the same time, except today somebody is waiting for him to step inside and make his call.

Now, Stu is trapped in the phone booth with a sniper (Kiefer Sutherland) watching his every move and threatening to kill him if he hangs up the phone. When a man is killed by the sniper outside of the phone booth the police become involved, thinking that Stu is the killer.

As evening approaches Stu has been forced to come clean of several things he has done wrong in front of all the media, his girlfriend and wife. He has been pushed to the limit in agreement for his freedom and is still being held hostage.

Finally, Stu has had enough when the sniper threatens to kill his wife, Kelly (Radha Mitchell). In a



Photo courtesy of imdb.com

Colin Farrell (left) stars in 'Phone Booth,' which opened number one at the box office.

daring effort to save his wife he risks his life and hangs up the phone and steps out of the booth.

The ending has a nice little twist, adding a last little bit of excitement.

It was amazing how well the movie turned out considering that the entire setting takes place in or around one phone booth. It gave the film a unique feel and cut back on any confusion of jumping from place to place, from person to person, as some movies do.

Overall the movie was very enjoyable and a must see for all those drama/thriller fans out there. The guys will like the action and the girls will like the drama.



Tension runs high in the film.



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Six Mile Ducks claim Floyd College intramural basketball championship

By Brooke Worley
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Staff Writer

The Six Mile Ducks are the Floyd College intramural basketball champions after a heated 60-54 victory that called for double overtime play.

In the first half of the championship game, played in the gym on April 13, the Six Mile Ducks and Faculty/Staff battled it out keeping the score tight.

With two seconds left in the half and the Faculty/Staff down by one, Seth Ingram in-bounded the ball by throwing a long ball to Kyenon Hammond at the other end of the court. Hammond made the last shot, giving Faculty/Staff the lead at halftime.

At the end of the half the score was 24-23 Faculty/Staff.

During the second half, Faculty/Staff took control of the boards for the first few minutes, but the Six Mile Ducks caught up with 3-point shots from both Jarrett Grey and Mack Rolling. With 17 seconds left on the clock Faculty/Staff were down by three.

Jason McFry of the Faculty/Staff was fouled, which allowed him to shoot three free throws. McFry made the first shot bringing his team within two points, but



Photo by Ken Caruthers

Six Mile Duck team member, Tim Smith, makes his way through his competitors trying to find an outlet.

then missed the last two. Hammond rebounded the final attempt and managed to tie the score at 52, sending the contest into overtime.

After a couple of missed free throws and some low scoring, the game was still knotted up when time expired, forcing a double overtime.

In double-overtime the Six Mile Ducks pulled ahead to win and were crowned champions.

The Six Mile Ducks are made

up of Tim Smith, Grey, Rolling, Eric Cheatwood and Dayne Styles. Both Cheatwood and Styles scored 16 points each in the championship game.

The Faculty/Staff consists of Ingram, Barry Greeson, McFry, Hammond, Dr. Maurice Wilson and Lucas Lu. Hammond, despite being on the losing team, led both teams with 24 points.

The Mob Squad came in third, and And1 took fourth place in the tournament.

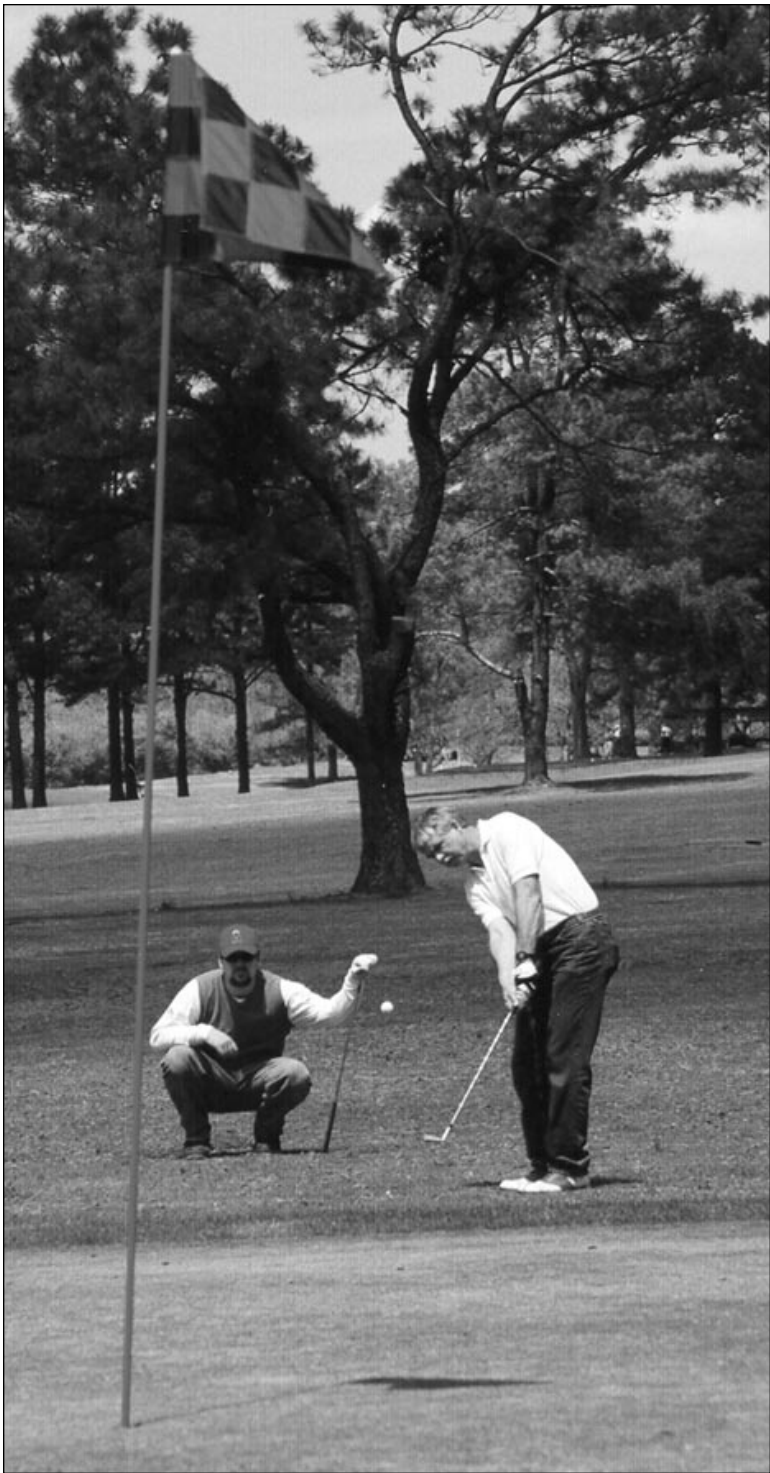


Photo by Daniel Bell

Jason Yates, left, observes Dr. Ken Weatherman chipping onto the green.

Minor League baseball is affordable, family-friendly and now in full swing



By Bobby Moore
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Staff writer

After months of anticipation, it is finally time to play ball. After attending the Rome Braves' inaugural home game, I am convinced that minor league baseball is the most family-friendly of the major sports.

While major league baseball is full of wealthy, self-centered superstars, minor league players are very accessible. They are only trying to work hard and learn so they can make some

cash at a higher level. That sounds a lot like college students!

Baseball is something we can all relate to because most of us have played either baseball or softball at some point in our lives.

State Mutual Stadium is a great place for a family to spend an evening without spending a lot of money. Sure, there may be a lot of alcohol consumption, but you are likely to observe worse behavior and hear worse language in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

You can enjoy this wholesome entertainment locally. There is no longer any need to drive to Chattanooga or Atlanta to see a baseball game.

In recent years, we have been told that NASCAR is the foremost family-friendly sport. Although the drivers do a great job embracing their fans, I have trouble seeing left turns and car crashes being the paragon of family entertainment.

According to the Charlotte Observer's Nov. 17, 2001 issue, between 1990 and 2001, 29 spectators died at car races, five of which were children. Last Dec. 12,

USA Today ran an article in which they seemed astounded that no driver was killed during the 2002 NASCAR season. Throughout the long history of baseball, there have only been five reported deaths that took place during games.

I once attended a Busch Series race with a Boy Scout troop. Before the race, I witnessed three intoxicated men put a drum inside a tent and build a fire, a feat worthy of a Darwin Award nomination. Luckily, no one was injured. The only thing that was hurt was my perception of racing fans.

I am not trying to condemn racing. I just feel that minor league baseball is a lot safer for not only the players, but the fans as well.

Baseball can also teach a child lessons about teamwork. I doubt these lessons can be learned while watching a pit stop.

Minor league baseball is the most affordable and fan-friendly sport, and now it is finally in our backyard.

Scramble won by three strokes

By Daniel Bell
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Editor

The annual Wesley Walraven Golf Scramble was won by the team consisting of Mike Cooper, Robbie Nash, Jason McFry and John Reiners.

The winning team shot a 67, while the second place team, made up of Todd Bailey, Monty Buck, Wesley Clayton and Seth Ingram, shot a 70.

Cooper also won the longest drive contest, and Simon Peace won closest-to-the-hole.

Each player received a golf-related prize, such as a sleeve of balls, just for participating.

In all, 16 players showed up to play in the scramble tournament held at BEAA golf course. Players signed up as individuals and were teamed together according to skill

level.

Each of the four members was allowed one shot from the tee. Then, each player took another shot from the closest of the drives. The play continued in this fashion until one of the team members put the ball in the hole.

This scramble format allows anyone of any skill level to participate without crippling the team's score. Playing the "best ball" means that one bad shot will not disrupt the progress towards the hole.

The tournament is named for Dr. Wesley Walraven, former vice president of academic affairs at Floyd College.

Ken Weatherman, tournament director and professor of physical education, said, "Dr. Walraven was an avid golfer and a friend to everyone who knew him. He was especially close to the students."

Rome Braves get first win in new stadium

By Chris Lundy
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Staff Writer

A sellout crowd of 5,105 cheered in excitement as the Rome Braves stepped onto the field for the first game at State Mutual Stadium to battle the Savannah SandGnats, the Single A team for the Montreal Expos.

The SandGnats scored first when Larry Broadway,

centerfielder, blasted a 3rd inning solo homerun over the Applebee's sign in right field. Another run came later in the top of the 4th inning, to put the Braves behind 2-0.

The bottom of the 4th looked promising for the Braves. Jeff Francoeur, Rome's centerfielder, hit a double, putting himself in scoring position. After a foul out by first baseman Yaron Peters, third baseman Cole Barthel hit a single to bring in Francoeur and

boost the hopes of the crowd.

The SandGnats scored again in the 6th inning, bringing the crowd to a restless, doubtful state.

By far the best inning for the Braves was the bottom of the 8th. With back-to-back singles from the Braves to start off the inning, everyone in the crowd did the famous "Tomahawk Chop" as the pitching coach for the SandGnats came out to talk to his pitcher. Soon the bases were full of Braves, waiting for someone to bring them home.

Carlos Guzman, the designated hitter, had been silent all night. With a strikeout and two pop fly outs in his first three at bats, his situation did not look promising. But Guzman came through with a two-run single, scoring Francoeur and Peters to tie the game.

Another run was scored shortly after, giving the Braves a 4-3 lead. The crowd loved every bit of it, chanting "YMCA" as reliever Nick Long came in for the SandGnats. Long stopped the Braves' scoring streak, but the damage had been done.

Pitcher Brad David came out with confidence for the Braves in the 9th with the huge crowd sup-

porting him. David struck out one batter and forced the other two to hit ground balls, ending the game.

Guzman, the game's hero, said winning was a great feeling. "This is the best feeling in the world. The crowd loves me and I love them.

The new stadium was a great feeling too," he said.

"It's important to get the first win under our belt for the team," said Ralph "Rocket" Wheeler, Braves manager. "We have the second youngest team in the league, so it's like rookies going up against veterans. We're still developing one game at a time, but the kids will be ready when (Bobby) Cox calls them up."

Wheeler went on to express his feelings about the crowd. "We had a super turnout. The city of Rome and Floyd County put everything into building this stadium. The first win was very big for the fans, for the team and for the city of Rome," he said.

The Braves played the SandGnats through the weekend at State Mutual Stadium. Saturday, April 12, the Braves won 3-2. On Sunday they lost the first of a doubleheader 5-0 but won the second 3-0.



Photo by Ken Caruthers

The Rome Braves claim a 4-3 victory over the SandGnats.



Photo by Ken Caruthers

Capitol recording artist John Berry sings the National Anthem.

Don't have time to go off campus for lunch?

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Honor Assembly to recognize outstanding students

The 31st annual Floyd College Honors Assembly will be held on Thursday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lakeview Building on the main campus.

Dr. Randy Pierce, president of Floyd College and Amit Patel, SGA president, will make opening remarks. John Spranza, director of student life, will be the master of ceremonies.

Organist Carolyn Walker will provide the music.

The Barbara Holden Floyd Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship Award will be presented to **Allison Green**. This award is for a freshman-nursing student, resident of Floyd County, who has potential for exemplary professional service.

Melesia Brookshire will receive the Redmond Regional Medical Center Outstanding Nursing Student Award. This award recognizes competent clinical performance and outstanding academic achievement.

The Outstanding Academic Achievement in Nursing Award for the highest cumulative and graduating grade point average for a nursing student will go to **Lisa Adams**.

The Floyd Medical Center Greatest Dedication and Achievement in Nursing Award will be presented to **Connie Cuzzourt**. This award is for students who have demonstrated outstanding clinical performance and dedication to nursing.

Seventh District Georgia Nursing Association's "Excellence in Bedside Care" Award will be presented to **Connie Cuzzourt**. The candidate for this award is nominated by the sophomore nursing class based on competent clinical performance. The award recognizes the student who has demonstrated, through his/her nursing care, the most concern for patients.

The Coosa Valley Home Health Care Agency Award for excellence in nursing and a demonstrated interest in home health will be presented to **Tamica Ragland**.

Tracy L. Clay will receive the Sigma Phi Alpha Award for being a dental hygiene student who is a member of the National Dental Hygiene Honor Society and exhibits high qual-

ity in academics and character and demonstrates potential for future growth and attainment.

The inductees to the 2003 National Creative Society are **Odell Abram, Jr., Michele Alvey, Rebecca Alford, Rebecca Anthony, Charlotte Baker, Jason Bourne, Adrian Bowers, William Caruthers, Kim Causey, Chris Hammonds, Clara Michelle Huskins, Jessica Lindberg, Lillian Long, Jessica Lovell, Chris Lundy, Amanda Mayo, Amanda Mays, Kristen McCary, Bobby Moore, Savannah Ruth, Matt Sunrich, Nicole Terry, Virginia Thompson, Betsy Wadsworth, Nikki Wells, Brooke Worley and Heath Yates**.

Jason E. White will be the recipient of the Dr. Melvin Perry American Association of University Professors Outstanding Future Educator Award. The award is presented to students with a minimum 3.0 GPA who demonstrate an aptitude for and commitment to excellence in teaching.

The *Old Red Kimono* Creative Writing Awards will go to **Jessica Lindberg** (first place), **Matthew Sunrich** (second place) and **Joshua Burkhalter** (third place). The *Old Red Kimono* Art Awards will go to **Kim Myers** (first place), **Tyler Morgan** (second place) and **Amanda Mays** (third place).

The Floyd College Leadership Award is for students who have demonstrated exemplary leadership in campus and community activities while maintaining high academic standards. **Julianna Hunt** and **Lisa Holbrook** will receive the award.

The Floyd College Spirit Award will be presented to **Brian S. Armstrong** and **Teela Davis**. This award is for students who have shown dedication to campus life, been active in school and community projects, and shown outstanding promotion of school spirit.

The *Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges* awards recognize students for their service to the college and community and their academic average. The recipients will be **Odell Abram, Jr., Lisa M. Adams, Brian S.**

Armstrong, Canada Astin, Daniel Bell, Linda S. Beuoy, Cynthia Bing, Lynn Blalock, Samuel Bosempen, Jason Bourne, Kimberly Carrigg, Joy Cash, Tracy LeAnne Clay, David M. Conway, Connie M. Cuzzourt, Teela A. Davis, Ray Davis, Robin Davis, Debra L. Evans, Amy Gilliland, Allison Green, Jennifer Harrell, TuRhonda Harris, Kimberly Holliday, Leah Honea, Barry Tim Hufstetler, Julianna Hunt, Michelle Huskins, Brooke Hyde, Leigh Ann Hyde, Jessica A. Ingram, Mike Johnston, Tiffany N. Lankford, DeLeah Leath, Lillian L. Long, Elizabeth Ann Talbert Lorenson, Tina Loyd, Jesse Ray Mayo, Amanda S. Mayo, Maureen McTyre, Alice O. Nixon, Amit Patel, Amber K. Rogers, Eric Rose, Serpentfoot, Rebecca D. Shiflett, Evie Standeford, Matthew Sunrich, Kathryn A. Teat, Leslie N. Wells and Mandy Wells.

The Community Criminal Justice Award of Excellence will be presented to **Joshua B. Kerce**. The award recognizes a student who has demonstrated a commitment to embracing and fostering higher education in criminal justice, dedication to community service and a true sense of honor, integrity and professionalism.

The Warren Akin IV Excellence in English Studies Award, which is given to a student who has demonstrated excellence in writing ability and personal interest in literature and who has at least a 3.0 GPA, will be given to **Nakisha L. McNeal** and **Leslie N. Wells**.

Jeremy C. Fowler will receive the Regents' Test Essay Award for making a perfect score of 4.0 on the Regents' Test Essay.

The Business Merit Award will go to **Vickie Sutton**. This award is given to a business major who has completed 30 semester hours, maintained a 3.4 GPA and exhibits potential for success in the business environment.

The Georgia Society of CPA's Excellence Award will go to **Rachel M. Johnson** for excellence in the study of the principles of accounting.

Ann Simpson will receive the Spanish Award. The award recognizes excellence in Spanish.

Daniel Bell will be recognized with the Journalism Award. This award is for students who have served on the student newspaper staff for a year or more, who have held leadership positions on the staff and who have also demonstrated exceptional journalistic achievement.

The Steve Burns Service Award will be presented to **Amanda Mays**. This award is given to a student who has demonstrated a commitment to serving others.

Kenneth Hudson will receive the Jim McKeel Human Services Achievement Award. This award is given to students that demonstrate commitment to the field of Human Services and are involved in volunteer experiences and demonstrate a genuine concern for the community.

The Political Science Award is for students demonstrating excellence and exceptional scholarship in political science. **Adam Wheeler** will receive this award.

Kelly P. Shane will receive the Mathematics Award for high achievement in mathematics presented to the student with the highest class average in Calculus 2262 or 2263 as determined by mathematical reasoning.

Charles McDonald will receive the Biology Award. This award is given to a student who is a biology major and who has demonstrated academic ability in the field, application of knowledge in the laboratory and a dedication to the field as a career.

The Dr. Philip Dillard Achievement Award honors students who, in spite of disability, are making achievements in intellectual, social and cultural endeavors or students who enhance disability awareness in the Floyd College Community by demonstrating a desire to educate and inform others about disability issues through such involvement as participation in campus organizations and activities and volunteer services. **Natalie Maxwell** and **Jason Bourne** will receive this award.

The United States Achievement Academy Collegiate All-American Scholar Awards recognize high academic achievement. The recipients will be **Lisa M. Adams, William A. Bentley, Linda S. Beuoy, Cynthia Bing, Joy Cash, Tracy LeAnne Clay, David M. Conway, Debra Lynn Evans, Amy Gilliland, Allison Green, Julianna Hunt, Michelle Huskins, Leigh Ann Hyde, Jessica Amanda Ingram, Lillian L. Long, Elizabeth Ann Tolbert Lorenson, Tina Loyd, Jane Kay Lynch, Amanda S. Mayo, Kari Ann Revak, Adriana Shults, Evie Standeford, Ashley N. Stubblefield, Kathryn A. Teat and Leslie N. Wells**.

The Berry College Transfer Scholarship Awards are given to students who exemplify both academic excellence and good citizenship and who plan to attend Berry College. The recipients will be **Tammy G. Barton, Jessica E. Dixon and Jacob T. Jones**.

Jessica Lovell will receive the McCorkle Creative Society Award. This award goes to a returning student who excels in one or more artistic areas of prose, poetry, visual arts, theatrical or musical performance and who serves as a role model to other students interested in creative expression.

The Lovie Borchardt Memorial Scholarship is presented to an education major who has promoted excellence in education and is awarded by the Alpha Delta Kappa educational sorority. **The recipient will be announced at the Honors Assembly**.

The FELLOWS Achievement Awards go to students completing the Floyd Emerging Leaders – Learn, Organize and Win program on leadership development. The recipients are **Bo Bowling, Joy Cash, Sean Deveaux, Tara Durham, Debbye Kollman, Chris Lundy, Dustin Neighbors, Megan Wallace and Ariel Zachery**.

The Certificate for Outstanding Literary Achievement is awarded for meritorious scholarly contributions and for extraordinary creative endeavors. **The recipient will be announced at Honors Night**.

Congratulations to Floyd College class of 2003

Associate of Science

Amy Williams

Ashley Elizabeth Amos
Sarah Nicole Barron
Hope L. Beall
Daniel J. Bell
William A. Bentley
Jennifer Lynn Carder
Kimberly Lee Causey
Robert Bradley Church
Joseph Wade Clemons
Candice Collins
Denise L. Collins
Patricia J. Davenport
Teela Davis
Jennifer Decker-Snyder
Charleston S. Deveaux
Shelley Ann Ely
Jane Howell Ensley
John Kirby Fisher
Ladd G. Floyd
Anna Frasier
Dwayne Dual Free
Jennifer Crystal Garcia
Kerri Alison Garmon
James Wesley Garrett
Jennifer L. Gilbert
Marcin Goj
Jessica Lea Harmon
Micah Humphrey
Jennifer Hogsed
Misty D. Isbell
Brittany M. Jackson
Stacy LeAnn Jacobs
Tara Johnson
Crystal Leigh Kelley
Wendy R. Linley
Rickey Garron Mize
Norma Jean Murphy
Amit Patel
Phuc H. Pham
Jennifer R. Phillips
Tequila A. Pinkard
Josh Queen
Dustin L. Poole
Annette Roskosky
Rebecca DeAnna Oswalt
Amanda K. Smith
Jodi Bentley Smith
Victoria A. Smith
Kasie Lee Stanford
Ryan E. Teems
Amanda Tucker
Andrew M. Turner
Alyson Ward
Steven M. Welchel
Jason Corey West
Crystal E. Wheeler

Associate of Science in Human Services

Vondra Margia Cooper
Melissa D Masterson
Sandey R. Mathis
Stephanie E. Millican
Catriona N. Robinson
Lisa Thomas
Brilliant V. Worsham

Associates of Arts

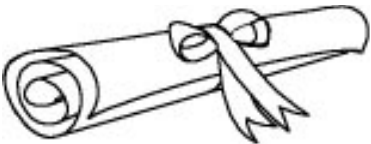
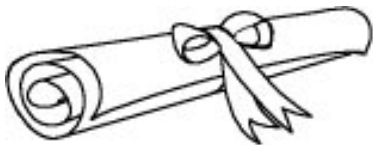
James Erale
Kerri Alison Garmon
Joshua Bradley Kerce
Nakisha McNeal
James Tillman
Destiny S. Welch-Mbenga

Associate of Applied Science in Business In Cooperation with Coosa Valley Technical College

Joshette M. Coffman
Miquina D. Ferguson
Angela F Kinnebrew
Tamela D. McConnell
Monica Michelle Lee
Wanda J. Rowell
Dustin L. Sheridan
Shannon Hope Ward

Associate of Applied Science in Business In Cooperation with North Metro Technical College

Lita A. Bailey
Rebecca M. Byers
Trishia Alena Dellorco
Stephen D. Jenkins
Elizabeth A. Leib
Michael Eric Miller
Beverly Ann Price
Linda V. Simons
Deborah A Stephenson



Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology

Lawrence David Smith

Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene

Rebecca Elaine Allen
Kimberly D. Chambers
Tracy LeAnne Clay
Shannon Leigh Cofield
Candice Nicole Collins
Danielle N. Condry
Debra Lynn Evans
Amy Gayle Gilliland
Jennifer Ann Goodman
Leigh Ann Hyde
Jennifer Jackson Reece
Elizabeth Talbert-Lorenson
Kristi Westhoven

Associate of Science in Nursing

Lisa M. Adams
Robin D. Alvarado
Ruth Canada Astin
Robin D. Baker
Jessica Maria Bishop
Patricia L. Black
Lynn Blalock
Melesia K. Brookshire
A. Ray Brown
Lisa M. Burns
Kimberly M. Carrigg
Terry L. Chandler, Jr.
Martha Cooper-Mason
Sheila Marie Cox
Connie M. Cuzzourt
Tammy L. Dill
Mary Louise Dillard
Melanie Stovall Drake
Denise D. Elrod
Amanda Farrar
Belinda J. Fleming
Lindsey Rose Gentry
Mistee M. Graham
Melissa A. Griffin
Erik L. Herte
Lisa F. Holbrook
Rebecca Holder

Amy Chriswell Holley
LoEsther Holmes-Tinsley
Gina Hulsey
Rachel Elizabeth Huskey
Paula Michelle Hyde
Margaret Teresa Johnston
April Dawn Jones
Kacie Nicole Ledford
Terrie Mathis
Stefanie Hope Mathis
Maureen Ann McTyre
Evelyn Joyce McWhorter
Jeannie P. Mears
Alison L. Montcalm
Kristy Michelle Neighbors
Shelley Howell Newton
Edith O. Oloyede
Jennifer L. Pedro
Amy Jones-Pittman
Tamica Lawond Ragland
Angela Denise Reynolds
Stacy Woodall Roberts
Isabell Evie Standeford
Marty S. Teems
Angela Marie White
Katie Leanne Wilson
Beth Rainey Winkler

Certificate in Information Technology

Lawrence D. Smith
Randall J. Allen
Brandon Shane Sims
Amanda S. Mayo
Richard Curtis Carnes

Certificate in ASL ITPI

Maria Borea
Vondra Cooper
Stephanie Jacques
Bertha Mack
Melissa D. Masterson
Frank Nesbit
Catriona Robinson
Lisa Thomas
Mary Ann Townsend
Pamela White

Note: These students have applied for graduation; those receiving degrees must complete all necessary requirements.



Artwork by Nicole Terry

Spring Fling sprung indoors because of rain

Old Man Weather attempted to rain out the Floyd College Spring Fling, scheduled to be held outside on the central campus April 9, but the Office of Student Life moved the “Beach-less Beach Party” inside the Lakeview Building and the event went on mostly as planned.

Among the festivities were huge, inflatable games, a rock wall, a volleyball tournament (originally intended to take place in the sand courts, but moved into the gym), free food and drinks, caricaturist Steve Gibson and music provided by Q-102. The OSL and the Student Government Association provided all this to students and faculty/staff free of charge.

“It was great fun,” said Brianna Stone, psychology major. “I really enjoyed having a way to get a break from class.”



Photo by John Persinger
Ken Caruthers climbs the rock wall despite the poor weather.



Photo by Ken Caruthers
Nicole Bonds shoots the basketball toward the inflated hoop during Spring Fling.



Photo by Ken Caruthers
Heath Burrage shows his abs while hitting the volleyball.



Photo by Ken Caruthers
Ryan Hudgins was one of many students to participate in this game in which the object is to attack your opponent.



Photo by John Persinger
Steve Gibson, right, draws free caricatures for students.



Photo by Ken Caruthers
SGA secretary, Sandy House, sports her leis.



Photo by Ken Caruthers
Mitchell Hewell dives to place the football.

Online registration is now available on the Floyd College homepage, www.floyd.edu

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