

SIX MILE POST

The Student Voice

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Contributed

Georgia Highlands students Stephanie Davis (left) and Andrew Bryan ride the ski lift in Boone, NC, during the annual GHC Ski Trip. Read the story on page 12.

Progress made on Cartersville student life building

The building is slated for completion in August.

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Transfer advice

GHC alumni offer tips on transferring.

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Meet the interim president

Rob Watts is filling in for Randy Pierce until a new permanent president is found.

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Georgia Highlands College - Rome, Georgia

Decision still pending on the Marietta site

By Liv Hood
Staff Writer

GHC is still exploring options for dealing with crowding at its Marietta site on the Southern Polytechnic State University campus.

Rob Watts, newly appointed interim president, said, "We have a really strong partnership with Southern Poly, and I would anticipate that partnership lasting for a long time whether the college gets additional space or not." Watts said that no decisions have yet been made by the college or by the Board of Regents in this matter.

GHC's Marietta enrollment may exceed 1000 this semester, according to Watts.

The growth of both GHC and Southern Poly has led to spacing difficulties.

According to Robert Whitaker, vice president for finance and administration, "We are working hard to identify space in Cobb County to meet the growing demand for our campus. At this time, we have not secured a final space location or lease."

Watts hopes that there will be more information on the subject by the end of the semester.

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Cartersville construction to finish in August

By Jessyca Arndt
Staff Writer

The new student life building on the Cartersville campus is expected to be completed August 2012, according to Carolyn Hamrick, campus dean.

The building will be the start of a new era for Georgia Highlands' Cartersville campus with features such as food services, a new bookstore, a game room, a student organization resource center, student meeting spaces and a recreation center.

Two full basketball courts, an elevated walking track, a cardio room, a weight room and a group fitness room will make up the recreation center. This will give students a place to work out on campus without the added expense of paying for a gym membership.

Meghan Youngblood, Cartersville student life coordinator said, "The Office of Student Life will be moving to the new building. I'm looking forward to having more space to do activities with." Brandon Poché, of the Gaming Club, said,



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

Construction is underway in Cartersville.

"Our game room is so small. Rumor has it that the new gaming room will resemble the Rome campus's gaming room. If that is the case, it will entail more room and more outlets to allow easier gaming, which we all are looking forward to."

Youngblood said, "This is a fantastic move for the Cartersville Campus in pro-

viding more services for our students. We're trying to build a campus atmosphere that encourages our students to come to campus and participate in all we have to offer inside and outside of the classroom, and the new student center is designed to provide that fun 'college' atmosphere on a less traditional campus."



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

The Cartersville campus' student life building should be open by August 2012.

Watts back as interim president

By Jesse Beard
Editor

Interim president Rob Watts wears a bowtie like his recently retired predecessor, Randy Pierce, but Watts will only be here six months to a year.

Watts will be the interim president at GHC until the Board of Regents selects the next permanent president. Watts said that "presidential searches usually take between six and 12 months." Until a new president is selected, he will be filling in for Pierce who he said "retired after 40 years of service to the state of Georgia and the University system. He left quite a legacy here," Watts said.

Watts was the interim president at GHC in 2000-2001 before the Board of Regents selected Pierce as permanent president. He worked as interim president at Middle Georgia College the following year. He was interim president at Georgia Perimeter College in 2005-

2006, and then worked at the Chancellor's Office until he was chosen to be the interim president at GHC.

Watts got a master's degree from both Florida State University and Johns Hopkins University. He came to

"It's a matter of making sure the college stays strong so that the next permanent president will inherit a good place"

-Rob Watts

Georgia in 1974 to do some graduate work at Emory University. He has been working with the University System of Georgia since 1986, including several years as the chief business officer at Georgia Perimeter College.

Laura Musselwhite, associate vice president for academic and student affairs,

was at GHC when Watts was interim president 10 years ago.

She said, "I was here and really enjoyed working with him. He's very conscientious, very personable and really cares about the faculty, staff and students. In the time that he has been here this time around, he has proven again to be extremely generous with his time and open to speaking with people."

"I think it will be a very good year for everyone involved and I know that he will prepare the college well for our new president who will come to us after the search process," Musselwhite continued.

Watts said that he doesn't "think there will be big changes in the college," during his time here. "President Pierce left a healthy, strong, dynamic, growing college. And it's a matter of making sure the college stays strong so that the next permanent president will inherit a good place," Watts said.



Photo by Denise Perez-Campos

Interim president Rob Watts is charged with the task of ensuring a smooth transition between presidents.

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Highlands Happenings

Deadline approaching for study abroad

By Christine Sisson
Staff Writer

The Study Abroad Program allows students to visit another country and earn course credits.

Available for Maymester 2012 are trips to Italy and Greece, led by faculty members Jayme Feagin and Alex MacMurdo, and Ireland with Joan Christian, Harriet Kiser and Elijah Scott. Both of these trips last between 10 and 13 days.

The trip to Italy and Greece starts with a tour of Vatican City in Rome, tours the Aegean Islands and ends in Athens to visit the Acropolis.

In Ireland, the journey starts with free time in Shannon and a tour through the different islands to see the Book of Kells at Trinity College in Dublin. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 10.

France and Germany trips were cancelled due to low enrollment.

Entries sought for speech contest

By David F. Godfrey
Staff Writer

On March 30, Georgia Highlands will host its second annual speech competition.

The competition will be held on the Cartersville campus. It will be open to all students currently enrolled.

Students who have completed or are currently taking COMM 1100 or COMM 1210 are eligible.

The deadline for entry is March 16. Any students interested in entering should visit the event's website at <http://www.highlands.edu/site/communication-speech-competition>.

The website provides an online entry form, rules and highlights from last year's event.

Anyone with questions should contact contest organizers Meredith K. Ginn, mginn@highlands.edu, Trivice Baldwin Obas, tobas@highlands.edu or Erica Simpson, esimpson@highlands.edu.

ORK needs submissions

By Scott Hale
Assistant Print Editor

The Old Red Kimono, Georgia Highlands's own student-managed literary magazine, is back for another year of student submissions of original art work, poetry and short stories.

The ORK is also the sponsor of the LaNelle Daniel Prize for poetry. The deadline for that submission is Feb. 28.

GHC students, faculty and staff interested in submitting material to the Old Red Kimono should contact ORK advisers Nancy Applegate at napplega@highlands.edu or Jesse Bishop at jebishop@highlands.edu.

For more information on what the ORK staff is looking for in terms of submissions, check out their website at <http://www.highlands.edu/ork/neworkweb/WELCOME.html>, or follow the ORK on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/oldredkimono>.

GHC wireless now easier to use

By Jesse Beard
Editor

All GHC campuses except for Marietta have a new wireless network for students called GHC-Chargers.

This network is more secure than its predecessor. It uses a security protocol called 802.1x/PEAP, which is encrypted.

Marietta students connect to a GHC network provided by SPSU which uses a similar security protocol.

According to Richard Davis, information security officer at GHC, the network is much safer than a public wireless hotspot, such as Starbucks, because it uses a more advanced form of authentication when users log in.

Unlike the process for using the previous network, users will now only have to enter their already existing Highlands credentials when they connect for the first time. For more information and a guide to connecting to GHC-Chargers, please visit highlands.edu/wireless.

Shakespeare festival trip sign up starts Feb. 1 at all GHC locations

By Krystin Allaire
Staff Writer

Sign-up begins Feb. 1 for Georgia Highlands College's 27th annual trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery, April 21-22.

This year's trip offers GHC students, employees and their guests the opportunity to attend performances of Shakespeare's "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and an adaptation of Graham Greene's "Travels with My Aunt." Both plays are comedies.

What are the benefits to seeing the productions live? According to Kristie Kemper, English professor and a trip coordinator, there is a different level of excitement

for the audience when seeing a live play. Student and past attendee Debbie Shirley says, "I found the trip very fascinating and really enjoyed my time at ASF."

The itinerary also includes a visit to the Tuskegee Airmen Museum for a look into the achievements of America's first African-American military aviators, who are also featured in the movie "Red Tails."

Total per-person fees range \$105 to \$127, and vary according to the number of guests per hotel room. The fee includes transportation, lodging and admission to both plays and the Tuskegee Airmen Museum. The fee also includes all you can eat at Golden Corral Saturday

night and a boxed lunch on Sunday.

Sign-up deadline is March 1, unless the event becomes sold out. A \$50 deposit is required at sign-up.

Financial assistance is available on a limited basis. Forms are available with registration and are due back to the Floyd campus by Feb. 14.

Sign-up will take place in the Student Life offices at Floyd and Cartersville and at the GHC office at Marietta, Paulding and Douglasville.

Some classes are offering extra credit for participation in this event.

The trip is sponsored by the humanities division and the Office of Student Life.



Contributed

A statue of Puck from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" awaits visitors to ASF.

Transferring? Where will you go from here?

By Mark Ewings
Staff Writer

For most Georgia Highlands students, their time here is a short-term goal in the process of achieving a lifelong dream. For others, it is a second chance at life. In either case, students are here for us to learn, express, experience and enlighten themselves, but where do they go from here?

According to the 2010-11 GHC Fact Book, as of fall 2010, GHC was home to 5,214 students, and the average age of students was 24.8 years old. The student body was 62.5 percent female and 37.5 percent male.

Georgia residents made up 98.1 percent of the total number of enrolled students. Full-time students outweighed the number of part-time students by just 16 percent. The most popular degree program was pre-nursing with 1,259, followed

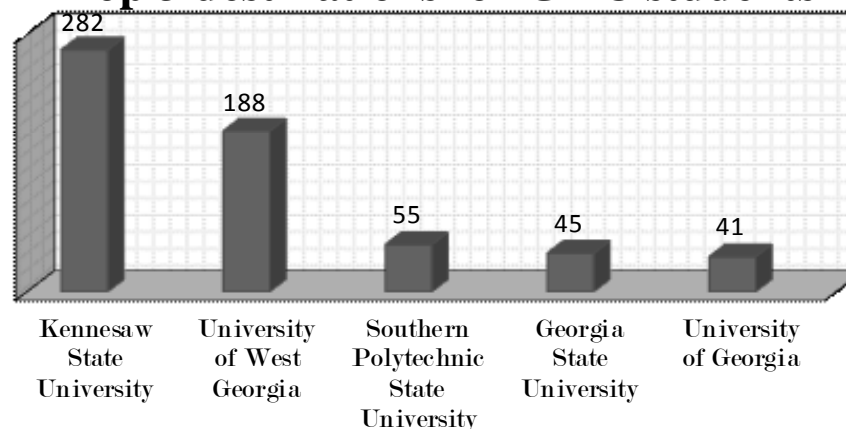
closely by general studies. The third most popular program is business administration.

The goal of most GHC students is to transfer to four-year institutions with the goal of completing a baccalaureate degree. The concept of how the transfer/graduation rate data is gathered is a hard one to explain and quite possibly, harder to comprehend.

Laura Musselwhite, associate vice president for academic and student affairs, explained the University System of Georgia's method for tracking different groups of freshmen students. That method only includes freshmen that enroll full time in the fall. It doesn't include those who have gone to other schools prior to coming to GHC, or who aren't full-time.

By those standards, GHC had 1,085 students enrolled in the fall of 2007. Of those

Top 5 destinations for GHC students



1,085 students, 93 graduated by fall 2010, and 263 transferred within the USG. That figure comes to 8.57 percent of the students graduating and 24.23 percent transferring to within USG. When looking at other institutions comparatively, 8-10 percent is an average graduation rate throughout two-year colleges in the USG.

Examining the total number of freshman from

fall 2006, one finds that the transfer rate more than doubles to 57.3 percent. This is a better representation of the typical path that students take.

According to the USG data, 12.6 percent of students who transferred did so to a research university, 3 percent went to a regional university and 74.2 percent went to a state university. In addition, 5.1 percent

went to a state college and 4.7 percent transferred to another two-year college. Kennesaw State University was the largest recipient of transfer students from GHC.

Of course some students don't transfer, graduate or return the next year. Georgia Highlands College has a retention rate of approximately 60 percent, according to the USG.

GHC alumni offer transfer advice



Nick Godfrey
English Major
Armstrong Atlantic State Univ.

"One of the biggest changes is stepping into an upper level class with four-year students of the same degree, who have all been taking classes together for the last three years and all know one another. It's easy to feel like the odd one out, but something to consider is that you come from another place. Instead of seeing everyone else as foreign, consider yourself as 'the exotic foreigner' who comes with fresh perspectives, insights, and overall ideas that you've gained from studying at not just one college, but two. People won't know you, but use that to your advantage. You'll mesh right in and stand out all at the same time."



Hanna Yu
Journalism Major
UGA

"In order to lay a solid foundation, get your associate's degree before transferring."



Kim Riggins
Journalism Major
Kennesaw State University

"If you are transferring to a large school, and you don't know anyone, don't sweat it. Just do your thing, go to class and don't let yourself be intimidated."

For more information about transferring, please contact an advising specialist:

Floyd - Joan Ledbetter: jledbett@highlands.edu (706)368-7514
Douglasville - Eileen Walker: ewalker@highlands.edu (706)802-5103
Marietta & Paulding - April Welch: awelch@highlands.edu (678)946-1028
Cartersville - Jennifer Purcell: jpurcell@highlands.edu (678)872-8008



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

Musician Jenn Grinels performs for the Cartersville campus.

Week Of Welcome Spring 2012



Week of Welcome was an event held the first week of classes for students at GHC. John Spranza, coordinator of student life at the Floyd campus, said Week of Welcome is to help “ease some of the stress for new and returning students” and to “give students an idea of what kinds of events to expect” during the semester. Each campus had differ-

ent events on different days, including “Make Your Own Soda,” candle art and spin art. The Floyd, Cartersville, Paulding and Douglasville campuses also had a performance by musician Jenn Grinels. Jhamil Adams-Flowers, a psychology major on the Floyd campus, said, “It was a lot of fun. There were a lot of things to do.”



Photo by Kaitlyn Hyde

Students at the Floyd campus line up for the “Make Your Own Soda” activity where they could flavor and then carbonate their own drinks.



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

Students make their own candles at the Cartersville campus.

Student Life Events Spring 2012		
Event	Date	Campus
Speaker Series Joanna Maddox	Feb. 1	Marietta
Comedian Mo Amer	Feb. 15 Feb. 16	Cartersville Floyd
Chair Massage	March 19 9-11 a.m. March 19 1-3 p.m. March 20 March 21 March 22	Douglasville Paulding Floyd Marietta Cartersville
Volunteer Fair	March 26 March 27 March 28 March 29	Floyd Paulding & Douglasville Cartersville Marietta
Speaker Series Matt Glowacki	March 29	Douglasville
Honors Night	April 5	Cartersville (Brown Center)
Spring Fling	April 9 April 10 April 11 April 12 April 13	Paulding Douglasville Floyd Marietta Cartersville
Speaker Series Amy Pederson	April 9	Floyd

First Amendment rights under attack!

The First Amendment is the very foundation of our democracy. But what is it and how does it affect us?

The First Amendment is part of what is known as the Bill of Rights, which consists of the first 10 amendments to the constitution. The Bill of Rights was ratified Dec. 15, 1791.

The First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of people to peacefully assemble, or to petition the government for a redress of grievanc-

es."

These rights have helped to lay the groundwork of our nation.

Without the First Amendment, we here at the Six Mile Post would not be able to do our jobs. That is why the Six Mile Post is sponsoring First Amendment Awareness Week, Jan. 30-Feb. 4.

The freedom of the press is not the only right protected under the First Amendment. The right to peacefully assemble is also protected as well as the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Make no mistake, these rights are under attack. On Nov. 5, 2011, during the Occupy Wall

Street protest in Atlanta, two college reporters were arrested while covering the Occupy crackdown. According to the "The Signal," Georgia State University's student newspaper, the reporters told the arresting officers that they were from the press. One was wearing her press ID. The arresting officers told one reporter that student journalist are not part of the real press.

Statements such as these clearly indicate an ignorance of the rights protected under the First Amendment. In an information age, when anyone can instantly become an I-reporter, who decides who the "real" press are?

Recent controversial legislation known as SOPA and PIPA threaten to destroy the freedom of speech on the Internet. Google, Craigslist, Facebook and a number of other companies joined a massive protest on Jan. 18. SOPA's bizarre copyright rules could virtually eliminate sites like YouTube, Vimeo and even Facebook.

So, get out there and exercise your right to be heard. Take time to stay current on recent political issues, and speak out on blogs, Facebook, Twitter etc. Do your part to teach others what the First Amendment is. If we lose these rights, then we may never get them back

First Amendment Awareness Week Co-Sponsors:

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English Major Assoc.

My freshman college experience



Editor's Box

Christina Presnell
Assist. Online Editor

School is much different than I remember it being 15 years ago. I started college last fall very excited about finally pursuing my goal of one day becoming a counselor. It did not take long until I found myself completely overwhelmed. I realized very quickly that computer technology is now an inherent and indispensable part of my higher education.

Maybe, like me, you have found yourself inundated with new technology to learn in addition to the information presented in your courses. We have all heard that technology is meant to make our lives easier. I decided that I would find ways to utilize this idea to help

me in my studies, rather than continuously frustrate me!

My first problem to solve was the overwhelming schedule. I had five different projects due at five different times. Also, I could not put the rest of my life on hold just because I was in school. Work and home responsibilities had to be scheduled in as well. I was beginning to feel as if I needed my own personal assistant to manage my time!

A quick Internet search led me to cozi.com. This is an amazing free utility that allows me to make to-do lists, shopping lists and send myself text message reminders. I downloaded the application

to my phone, and can even coordinate the schedules of everyone in my household. Cozi is a lifesaver.

The second issue I had was finding time to study. Lugging books to work and staying up until 2 a.m. was taking its toll on me. A decade ago, I used flash cards to help me. This concept has new life at studyblue.com. Now, I can upload flashcards, power points, and other study materials to take with me on my smart phone anywhere. I enjoy taking a few minutes to study while waiting at the doctor's office or on my lunch break. This free website allows others in my class to join together in study groups, and share each other's flash cards. Genius!

Ultimately, I have learned so much in just a few months at Georgia Highlands. I have learned that I can be a great student even at 35 and that learning can be a lifetime adventure.

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The "Six Mile Post," a designated public forum named after the old railroad station and trading post that was once located near where the college was founded in Floyd County, 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@student.highlands.edu, or mailed to Editor, "Six Mile Post," 3175 Cedartown Highway Rome, GA 30161. Letter must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editors, and letters may appear in print and/or online.

Americans stand together for the Olympics



Soap Box

Becky Crooks
Staff Writer

It is a true statement to say that the United States is a melting pot. Everyone has his or her own view about anything and everything.

People dislike others simply for identifying with a different political party than them. There are many things that can bring people together, but I've found that the fastest way to connect and come together is through sports.

The 1980 Olympic Games are a great example of this. When the underdog American hockey team took on the Soviet Union's "unbeatable" team, which had won the gold every year since 1964, the Americans won and shocked the world.

This game was quickly named, and will be forever remembered as, "Miracle on Ice." For that shining moment, we were not Republi-

cans or Democrats. We were Americans.

This year, when the name-calling will be in full swing, the Summer Olympics are going to be taking place in London, England.

Though the popularity of the Olympic Games has dwindled in the past, I hope that this year will be different.

I think now, more than ever, we need to remember what it's like to have pride in our country.

We need that moment where an entire nation stands still, holding its breath for one common goal. We need to remember how it feels to throw aside our party ties and put the importance

of our country first.

Maybe it's silly of me to hope that simple games will help anything, but I feel that the adrenaline and emotion that happens during the Games will resonate throughout this great nation.

I am proud to be an American, and though I don't believe in a lot of what our government does, I do believe in this country.

I think many people are losing sight of hope, and I know that times are hard.

However, I feel that nothing is more inspiring than the entire world coming together and setting aside all political agendas simply to take part in the

Olympic Games, to continue a tradition that began in a time of legends and mythical beasts.

Can we not, then, set aside our beliefs as voters in order to save a country as grand as ours?

As the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Pierre de Coubertin, once said, "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well."

So, this summer as our athletes take center stage to make Americans proud, let's do our best to become a country that will make them proud.

Looking back and moving forward as the long journey near its end



Nursing Notes

Christie Boyd
Staff Writer

As I walk down the halls of James D. Maddox Heritage Hall, I can't help but think of all the nurses that came before me.

There are big frames lining the hall of the nursing program with photos of each graduating class member since the nursing program began.

We can see several of our instructors, past and present, in those photos and we know where they've been in their careers since they graduated from the program. Life is a circle and it led them back to where they started.

When I am walking down those halls, I see many friends of mine, too. I feel

their presence in the hallways looking down on me, and it makes me want to do my best. I want to make them proud of me.

When I am with my classmates, I don't usually pay as much attention to those photographs of the ones who came before, but when I'm alone, sometimes I tear up.

I know the challenges that I've faced since I started school and I'm sure they faced the same or similar ones.

Some of my classmates have dealt with devastating challenges and problems but we are here, walking the hallways, waiting for our photographs to be in a big

frame on the wall.

One of the things that I looked forward to the most during our last semester happens Feb. 27. That is the day we will wear our uniforms to school and have our graduation pictures made. It is the day before we get out of school for spring break.

When I saw that day on our class schedule, it made my heart lurch in my chest.

There is light at the end of the tunnel and since nursing graduation picture day is in the middle of the semester, it really is a milestone on our way to graduation in May.

There are many things to look forward to and sometimes to dread in the nursing program--the first day of class, the first day of clinicals, and the last--and graduation, which looked so far away when we began school, is just over the horizon.

Thank you to all the ones who went before and look out for us, the class of 2012. We are almost there!

What did you do over the holiday break?



Shauna Sharp
Rome
Early Childhood
Education

"I babysat my little cousin and nothing happened besides the tornado coming through. My power was out for three days."

Janet Prater
Rockmart
Human Services

"Nothing really interesting happened, but I had a great Christmas with the family."



Weser Orellana
Rome
Computer Science

"I just spent some time with my family."

Are energy drinks worth the health risk?

By Sarah Lane
Staff Writer

College students are incredibly busy. Whether they are full-time or part-time, living on campus or off, working or taking care of a family, students are busy and they require energy to make it through their day.

However, most students have a deficit when it comes to energy, and to fill that void students often turn to drinking energy drinks with-

out realizing the effects.

According to the official journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, "Frequently containing high and unregulated amounts of caffeine, these drinks have been reported in association with serious adverse effects."

Some of these adverse side effects of energy drinks include increased heart rate, increased blood pressure, and wild fluctuations of blood sugar levels.

The large amounts of caf-

feine in energy drinks can give the human body quite a beating. A typical energy drink has three times the amount of caffeine as one cup of coffee.

Ken Weatherman, physical education professor, describes people who drink energy drinks regularly as having an "increased risk for heart palpitations and dehydration."

Weatherman also says long-term energy drink consumption creates cardiovas-

cular stress that can damage the heart.

The only positive thing Weatherman had to say about energy drinks is that they can possibly help concentration, perhaps during a test.

He also says effective study habits can eliminate the need for concentration boosts.

Weatherman believes that the best way to have an abundance of energy is a good night's sleep.

Haley Irvin, an early childhood education major at the Floyd campus, stated, "I don't really drink a lot of energy drinks, but my two favorites are Red Bull and the green Monster."

Coincidentally, those two energy drinks are the ones available for purchase on the Floyd campus.

Krista Terry, a nursing major at the Floyd campus, says, "Red Bull is my favorite, but I rarely drink energy drinks."

It takes a year-long resolution to keep off excess weight

By Kaitlyn Hyde
Chief Photographer

The first thing on many people's minds in the New Year is how to get rid of all those pounds they packed on over the holidays. While exercise is good, there are other lifestyle changes that will get the weight off and keep it off.

Oprah's "Dr. Oz" has a "Just 10 Challenge" that is a good rule of thumb when it comes to losing weight and keeping it off. The

challenge is basically about making small changes in everyday life that will eventually amount to a healthier, lighter weight.

The first step to losing weight is cutting out soda. Not only does soda have a direct effect on a person's weight, but it also decays tooth enamel and contributes to long-term bone loss.

Movement is another major aspect for losing weight. Movement, however, does not have to be exercise, although exercising is

recommended. A 10 minute walk from Lakeview to the PE building and back would work, as would parking further away from the building, if it's safe.

Portion control is also a good thing to master when trying to control weight. Dieters should not eat directly out of the chip bag, and when snacking, they should not eat a snack larger than the average size of a fist.

Although, for college students, a day-to-day routine can be hard to establish.

People should avoid eating three hours before going to bed, as this will cut down on the amount of calories the body will retain.

Taking a Vitamin B complex daily, along with other suggested vitamins, will boost the body's natural energy and can actually reduce stress. With this added energy, the body will feel more alert and motivated throughout the day.

Watching the portions of food that the body needs is important. This information

can be found in almost any high school textbook, or on the Internet. Knowing what the body needs will help with eating the right things.

Instead of eating a Snickers bar for a snack and being hungry an hour later, a favorite fruit or vegetable is better. Not only will this satisfy the body for longer, but it will make it feel better in the long run as well.

These simple lifestyle-changing guidelines will make 2012 happier and healthier.

**It's easier to succeed with a little help from
your friends....**

at

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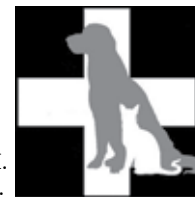
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Grinels a big hit with Highlands students

By Rachel Buckley
Staff Writer

Red-haired and blue-eyed, Jenn Grinels taps her brown boot and strums her guitar. As she effortlessly belts out notes, students at the Cartersville campus stop in their tracks, end their conversations and slowly make their way over to the small stage.

Audience members sing with her and rock side to side. Her music and personality are magnetic. As students pass by, she laughs and jokes with them as if they were old friends. She seems to care about her audience as much as she cares about her music.

Grinels, an indie musician from California, and her wonderful sense of humor appear to be right at home on the Georgia Highlands stage.

Before mixing vocals and guitar, Grinels had been studying theatre. While in college, she picked up the

instrument in an effort to expand her musical capabilities, an indie singer/songwriter was born. Since discovering her passion, Grinels has dedicated her time to building audiences and sharing music in a welcoming atmosphere.

For over four years, Grinels and her team have been on the road. Grinels laughed about leaving her apartment. She then rolled her eyes and jokingly said, "I haven't lived in my car or anything."

Following her performance, she sits on a table and swings her feet back and forth, occasionally laughing with students who have gathered. She is optimistic about her future and the future of her music.

Handing out CDs and downloads, Grinels is eager to share the music she has worked so hard to create.

Garrett Grabowski, a biology major at the Cartersville campus, was impressed.



Photo by Ryan Jones

Jenn Grinels (left) and student Korie Hetter prepare to perform a duet during a performance on the Floyd campus.

"She was really funny, and I thought her voice was very powerful," Garrett said. Grinels also performed at the

Floyd Campus on Jan. 10, Paulding on Jan. 11 and Douglasville on Jan. 12.

For more information

about Grinels and to get free downloads, visit her on Facebook or follow her on twitter @JennGrinels.

World of Tanks hits the mark

By Brandon Allen
Staff Writer
Game Review

A freemium game recently released has been taking the gaming community by storm.

As a freemium game (a free to download and play game with the ability to purchase in game items with real cash), World of Tanks has combined the elements of a strategy game with a first-person shooter involving World War II tanks.

The most simplistic mode is in random battles, where two teams of 15 players each go head-to-head in various environments. These environments include countryside filled with large trees to run over with a tank, or towns which can be leveled by a speeding vehicle as well. There are many maps.

However, the player does not choose the map in the random battle mode.

The tanks currently available in the game are World War II-period U.S., Russian, German and French. Some of them are not only real tanks, but also experimental ones being researched by their respective side during the war. In the player's garage, research points are spent to improve various aspects of the tank, from the gun to the tracks, and even to research new types of tanks.

There are also multiple tiers of tanks, including light, medium and heavy, as well as tank destroyers and self-propelled guns.

Strategy tends to be dictated by both the map and the types of tanks present. For instance, it would be highly advisable for a light tank to simply spot a heavy tank and

call for artillery instead of attempting to attack it head on. Most shots in such an ill-fated attempt are destined to simply ricochet off, while simultaneously giving away the light tank's position.

However, the fact that the heavy tanks have superior armor and firepower compared to the light and medium tanks does not make them invulnerable.

Artillery can be easily radioed in by the speedy light tanks on scout duty, and medium tanks have large enough guns to damage the heavies while also possessing greater speed and maneuverability.

This style of game is heavily recommended for somebody with interest in WWII tank battles, fans of the first-person shooter genre, and anyone who enjoys a team-based strategy.

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GHC ski trip a success

By Neen Snowball
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands faculty and students kicked off the New Year with a ski trip to Boone, N.C. Jan. 2-6.

Ken Weatherman, professor of physical education, is the coordinator for the ski trips, which are usually offered once a year and can be used as credit toward a physical education elective. Many of the 35 trip-goers took the trip for credit toward graduation.

For the first two days of the trip, the weather was very cold with windchill factors falling between 0 and -15 degrees.

The high winds also made it hard to ski. However,

the last three days were excellent for ski sessions.

The 35 attendees, including a retired faculty member and her husband, reported that they had a wonderful time out on the slopes and getting to know one another.

While most of the trip was focused mainly on ski sessions, trip-goers could dine where they wished and engage in a little shopping at the local shops.

On the last night before departure, most of the attendees got together for one last meal together to reminisce about their week.

This is a trip that gives students, and anyone else wishing to attend, an opportunity

to learn something new, stay in shape and meet people with the same interests.

Linh Ho, a forensic psychology major said, "I had a wonderful time and met wonderful new people while staying in shape and active at the same time. It's worth the money and you won't regret it."

"This is the 32nd year offering the program and I consider it to be a successful event," Weatherman said.

Weatherman also hopes more students will consider signing up for the trip in the future.

Sign-ups generally begin during fall semester for anyone who is interested in attending.



Contributed

Nita McHann (left) and Stephanie Davis enjoy their time on the slopes during this winter's ski trip.

Search for women's b-ball coach still underway

By Becky Crooks
Staff Writer

This fall, Georgia Highlands will be dipping its toes into the water that is the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) with men's and women's basketball.

Though the time will pass quickly, there is still much to do before the opening season of Georgia Highlands

basketball.

One of the main items on the agenda is finding a women's basketball coach.

Phillip Gaffney, athletics director, stated that though there has been plenty of interest shown in the position, the vacancy won't be officially advertised until late February or early March. Gaffney went on to explain that one reason for waiting is to allow the high school

basketball seasons to end, thus widening the pool from which to choose a coach.

Though it is all new to this college, the NJCAA has been around for many years.

According to the association's website, www.njcaa.org, the organization has been around since 1938. Though it started out with just track and field, by 1947 basketball was added as a

sport.

In 1975, women's sports were approved to join the association. This was three years after the enactment of Title IX, which prohibits discrimination based on sex. In other words, if a men's sport is offered, a women's equivalent must be available as well.

Within three years of the approval of women's sports, membership to the NJCAA

nearly doubled in size to 1045 members.

Now the association has grown to more than 57,000 members. There are 525 member junior colleges, and within the next year, Highlands will be added to that list.

As the months fly by, Highlands will continue to ready itself for full immersion into NJCAA membership.

Six Mile Post Ping Pong Tournament on Floyd and Cartersville Campuses

The Six Mile Post is hosting its fourth annual Ping Pong Tournament with the help of the GHC intramural sports program. Champions from Floyd and Cartersville tournaments will receive a custom engraved SMP trophy.

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Cartersville students - call 678.872.8411

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