

# Six Mile Post

*The Student Voice*

Georgia Highlands College - Rome, Georgia

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**Presidential  
Primaries will be  
held on Feb 5 in  
Georgia**

**See Page 2**

## GHC site at North Metro to close by Fall 2008

By **Spencer Musick**  
[pmusick@student.highlands.edu](mailto:pmusick@student.highlands.edu)  
Editor

Dr. Randy Pierce, president of Georgia Highlands College, announced in a Jan. 17 email to the GHC employees that the “long standing collaboration” between GHC and North Metro Technical College in Acworth will be coming to an end.

This means that for the first time in almost 20 years, there will be no GHC classes offered at Acworth starting in fall semester 2008.

“This is really a function of the increased enrollment at NMTC,” said Dr. Virginia Carson, vice president for academic affairs. According to Carson, NMTC has experienced increased enrollment in recent years.

According to Pierce’s email, NMTC stated a need to “build additional classrooms” for GHC use. The email further stated

that “there would be a cost involved per square footage assessment.” Previously, GHC’s contributions to the collaboration consisted of “in kind services.”

“It is important to note that the cooperative degree programs will be unaffected by this change,” Carson stated. A good example of how such a relationship works can be seen between GHC and Coosa Valley Technical College. “Although neither institution offers classes on site at the other, students can still participate in cooperative degree programs,” Carson said.

The nursing program started by GHC at NMTC is expected to continue at another site. “Nothing is definite, but most likely, the nursing program at Acworth will be moved to Marietta,” Carson said.

There are currently 463 students registered for classes at the GHC Acworth site at NMTC according to figures listed on the GHC intranet on Jan 18.



File Photo

**Dr. Vera Brock, assistant director of nursing at Acworth, teaches a class at North Metro Tech.**

## PTK to host debate on First Amendment rights

During Six Mile Post sponsored First Amendment week at GHC

By **Kayla Amos**  
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Staff Writer

Believe it or not, some stu-

“**T**he First Amendment is part of a living document that applies to many aspects of our lives.”

-Scott Akemon

dents might just have to trash those baggy or low-rise jeans sitting in their closet, and it won’t be because their mother can’t

stand them.

According Scott Akemon, instructor of political science, local politicians are already lobbying to make the wearing of these pants illegal in Floyd County.

This hot topic will be the subject of the Phi Theta Kappa town hall that will take place during GHC’s First Amendment Awareness Week.

“We wanted to debate an issue that College students will feel strongly about. The first amendment is part of a living document, that applies to many aspects of our lives,” Akemon said.

Akemon, a faculty adviser of Phi Theta Kappa, stated that banning saggy pants is viewed by some to be a violation of First Amendment rights, which pro-

tect freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly and petition. Since many view their choice of clothing as an expression of themselves, they believe that this choice of clothing should be protected by the First Amendment.

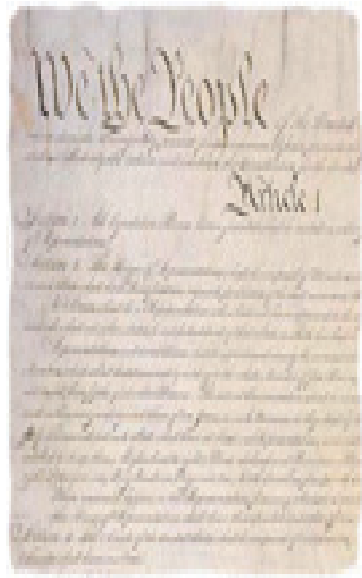
However, many politicians believe that clothing that reveals too much skin, pants in particular, is a violation of public indecency laws and want saggy-baggy and low hip-hugging pants to be illegal to wear. According to [firstamendmentcenter.org](http://firstamendmentcenter.org), in Louisiana these laws are already in place, and a person found in violation of the law can be fined \$500 or sentenced to up to six months in jail.

The town hall will take place in the Solarium on the Floyd

campus on Jan. 31 and is open to all students who wish to attend.

While the main debaters will be members of Phi Theta Kappa, Akemon highly encourages other students to come to ask questions about the laws and add comments of their own to the discussion.

First Amendment Awareness Week (Jan. 28- Feb. 1) is a week-long effort to call attention to the liberties granted to Americans by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It is sponsored by the Six Mile Post and co-sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, College Democrats, the Old Red Kimono, the Baptist Student Union (BSU) and the GHC chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).



# Georgians have choice in Feb. 5 primaries

By LaTonya Burrell  
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Staff Writer

With the Georgia Presidential Preference Primary coming up on Feb 5, deciding which primary to vote in and who to vote for is a daunting task for many. Issues such as the economy and the war in Iraq are being debated among politicians, Georgia residents, and many other Americans.

Debby Russell, a history major at Georgia Highlands, feels that there are many issues that need to be addressed. "The education system needs massive reforms and American jobs need to stop being outsourced," Russell said.

Many people are still unsure who is the best contender for their party's nomination.

Katie Cauten, business major, has a boyfriend who is a Marine. "I want a troop withdrawal," Cauten said. However, when asked which candidate she believed would be best for the country, she said, "I don't know. I really don't like any of them."

Brandon Maloney, a math education major said, "There's not a good candidate so far."

"The main concern for the Democratic Party is viability," said Scott Akemon, instructor of political science at Georgia Highlands. Many, like Akemon, feel that the candidates have to prove their electability.

The Democratic Party has three main frontrunners: Barack

Obama, Hillary Clinton, and John Edwards.

Barack Obama, who keynoted the Democratic National Convention in 2004, is running his campaign on bringing hope to Americans. Obama has made the word "change" the crux of his message. Obama wants to provide universal healthcare, reform the "No Child Left Behind" policies and begin a gradual withdrawal from Iraq.

The first former first lady to be elected to the U.S Senate, Hillary Clinton is basing her campaign on 35 years of governmental experience. Clinton's main focus is providing tax cuts for the middle class, stabilizing the economy and bringing the troops home from Iraq.

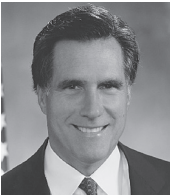
A former United States Senator and a personal injury lawyer from North Carolina, John Edwards believes that his "positive vision" will restore Americans' faith in their government. Edwards wants to stop outsourcing jobs to stabilize the economy, provide affordable healthcare for everyone and begin reforming the Bush

administration's policies. Because the Republican Party has had control of the White House for almost eight years, the Republican presidential candidates face the task of contrasting themselves with the current administration. "Republicans need to find a way to separate themselves from the Bush legacy," said Akemon.

The former governor of Massachusetts, Mitt Romney, who was President and CEO of the Organizing Committee for the Winter Olympics in 2004, believes that the American government is only as strong as the American people. Romney opposes troop withdrawal, wants each state to develop its own system to cover the uninsured, and promotes local governments taking responsibility for their schools.

Romney emphasizes his executive experience in the private sector to substantiate his views on the nation's slowing economy. Exit polls in Iowa and New Hampshire show that this is primary concern for Republican voters.

Rudolph Giuliani, the former mayor of New York City, was also appointed Associate Attorney General by President Reagan in 1981.



Giuliani, despite performing poorly in Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, South Carolina and Michigan, is focusing all of his time and money on Florida, hoping to win enough delegates to make him still a viable candidate.

Having served as governor and lieutenant governor in the state of Arkansas, Mike Huckabee is running his campaign on "five principles" that will be "a fair deal for all Americans." Huckabee, who's five principles are "family, fed, fight, fuel, fair," wants troops to stay in Iraq, believes in making healthcare more affordable and is willing to find alternative energies to reduce America's dependency on fossil fuel.

John McCain, who dropped out of the 2000 presidential race, is running as a "common sense conservative." McCain believes that by reforming the healthcare system, maintaining troops in Iraq, and cutting taxes for the middle class, he can make America better and stronger.

Information on the presidential candidates came from the following websites:



[www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)  
[www.hillaryclinton.com](http://www.hillaryclinton.com)  
[www.johnedwards.com](http://www.johnedwards.com)  
[www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com)  
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[www.explorehuckabee.com](http://www.explorehuckabee.com)  
[www.johnmccain.com](http://www.johnmccain.com)  
[www.rudy.com](http://www.rudy.com)

## Voting Facts

\*Early voting is one week prior to the election

\* Voters are required to provide a photo ID

\*Polls are opened from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on voting day

\*For more info. call 1-877-725-9797 or visit [www.sos.georgia.gov](http://www.sos.georgia.gov)

## Spring Tutorial Hours for Rome Campus

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# GHC partners in mentoring effort

By Sarah Colston  
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Assistant Editor

GHC has a partnership with the 100 Black Men of Rome for a mentoring program that assists students that attend middle and high schools within the community.

According to Dr. Jon Hershey, professor of English, who is involved in the program, "The group has taken on a number of young men who are considered at risk."

Hershey stated that the men-

tors meet the students at their school and "tutor them, and help them out with any problems they may be having."

Along with being a positive influence on the young men, the mentors monitor grades of the young men and get together with them several times a semester outside of school.

"We take them to Atlanta or Birmingham to a museum or to a football game or camping. Sometimes we will do stuff here in town on the weekend," Hershey said.

"Our ultimate goal is to help

them stay in school and to go on and graduate," said Hershey.

Anyone interested in participating in the program will need to complete a short mentor training session and have a background check.

For more information on being a mentor students should contact Hershey at [jhershey@highlands.edu](mailto:jhershey@highlands.edu). According to Hershey, "We try to assign the mentors to one student that they work closely with, and we like for them to meet with the student for at least one hour a week at their school."



# Alabama Shakespeare Festival sign-ups start Feb. 4



File Photo

GHC students enter the Alabama Shakespeare Festival Theater during a previous trip.

**By Miranda Lockridge**  
Staff Writer  
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GHC will be taking its 23rd trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival on Saturday and Sunday, April 19-20.

Co-sponsored by the Office of

Student Life and the humanities division, the trip is available to faculty, students and guests.

Students will be awarded extra credit for all English classes and some other classes as well.

The tour bus will leave at approximately 8 a.m. Saturday from the Floyd campus. Stops at

a Montgomery mall, the Civil Rights Memorial and Wall of Tolerance are planned.

"The Diary of Anne Frank" will be performed at the Faulkner University Dinner Saturday evening. Dr. Kristie Kemper, professor of English, stated, "The Diary of Anne

Frank' is a new version of the play and will include parts of the diary that were not originally published."

On Sunday, participants will take a guided backstage tour of the ASF Theater and eat boxed lunches on ASF's 300-acre landscaped park. Visits to the gift shop can also be made at this time.

After "Romeo and Juliet" is performed, there will be a short discussion with some of the actors.

The estimated time of return is 11 p.m.

When asked what she looked forward to the most, Kemper replied, "I like the friendliness of the trip and getting to know the students. I enjoy introducing them to drama that they may not have had the chance to see before."

Sign-up is Feb. 4 through March 3 at the Office of Student Life on the Floyd and Cartersville campuses and at the GHC offices on the other campuses.

The trip is expected to fill quickly.

A refundable \$45 deposit is due at the time of sign-up, and the complete payment is due by April 1.

The trip fee will cover the following: tour bus transportation, one night's lodging at Wingate Inn, admission to the

two plays, the backstage tour at ASF, dinner on Saturday night, the boxed lunch on Sunday and a background information packet on the plays. An additional \$20-30 will be needed to cover the cost of meals.

The trip cost varies by persons per motel room. The prices per person are as follows: 4 per room- \$95, 3 per room- \$100, 2 per room- \$115. Rooms will be furnished with two queen beds. Only married couples are allowed co-ed rooms. The Office of Student Life will help find roommates if needed.

Limited financial aid is available for students who cannot afford the total fee. A faculty member's recommendation is required to be eligible. Financial assistance forms are obtainable at the sign-up locations and online. The forms are due by Feb. 25.

Additional information can be obtained from the following trip coordinators: John Spranza, director of student life (Floyd) at 706-295-6363 or 1-800-332-2406; Jenn Wright, assistant director of student life (Cartersville) at 678-872-8040; or Dr. Kristie Kemper at 706-368-7626 or 1-800-332-2406.

Trip information is also available at GHC's website <http://www.highlands.edu/campus/travel/alabama/asf.htm>.

## Study day added to spring semester

**By Desiree Knight**  
Staff Writer  
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A study day has been added to spring semester between the last day of class and the first exam day, thereby extending the semester by one school day.

According to Dr. Virginia Carson, vice president of academic affairs, there was formerly a study day in the exam schedule at GHC, but then it was excluded for some unknown reason. By including the study day this semester, students will have additional time to prepare for their spring finals.

The new exam schedule begins on Wednesday, April 30, and continues through Monday, May 5, with the study day on Tuesday, April 29.

Exams will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Monday and will continue through 8

p.m. in two-hour periods. There will be two exam periods on Friday and Saturday, one at 8 a.m. and one at 11 a.m., coinciding with Friday/Saturday classes. Any student having three final exams in the same day may delay one with permission of the academic division chair.

Carson has high hopes for the inclusion of the study day in the GHC final exam schedule for the 2008 spring semester. "I experienced a study day as an undergraduate student and at the college where I previously worked. I found it helpful in both environments," she said.

"I feel this study day will assist me in preparing for my spring finals. It will allow students a day to visit the Tutorial Center and get any last minute help needed. I think it can only help students," stated freshman Lauren Roberts, an undeclared major from Rome.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!**

The GHC Alumni Association, Counseling & Career Services, Chargers Raising Colts, and the Foundation want to thank everyone who participated in our first Non-Traditional Student Essay Contest.

**1st Prize- Alvin Smith**

**2nd Prize- Lynn Cunningham**

Thank you to all 24 students who submitted essays!



Bhutto assassinated on Dec. 27, 2007



Benazir Bhutto

Courtesy of zimbio.com

By Jeffery Barwick  
Assistant Editor  
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Benazir Bhutto, age 54, was assassinated on Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007, in the city of Rawalpindi, south of the Pakistani capital Islamabad.

At the time of her death Bhutto was the leader of Pakistan’s largest political party, the Pakistan People’s Party, and a candidate for president. She had twice been elected as prime minister of Pakistan, becoming Pakistan’s first woman leader.

If the situation in Pakistan continues to destabilize, the

western nations will be extremely concerned about “who will control the nation’s nuclear arsenal,” said Dr. Rob Page, chair of the social science division.

At first it was thought that Bhutto was killed by gunshot and shrapnel but according to the Pakistani government Bhutto died from her skull being shattered by the force of the blast from the suicide bomb slamming her head against a lever in her car’s sunroof. The controversy over her death may never be resolved since there was never an autopsy done to confirm the cause of death.

Pakistan’s government said

on Dec. 28, that Al-Qaeda was behind the assassination of Bhutto. They also offered a transcript from a phone tap as proof.

There was a previous assassination attempt on Bhutto on Oct. 19, 2007, in Karachi, Pakistan, in which more than 120 people were killed and hundreds were injured. This incident was one of Pakistan’s worst acts of political violence.

According to the TIME magazine website, “As a Muslim woman leader, Bhutto was almost an iconic figure in the West. But her actual career in office was one of great populist spectacles and little governmental achievement.”

According to Page, Americans tend to view Pakistan as violent or associated with Muslim extremism. This misconception is due to the images seen on television of riots and protests in the streets.

Page pointed out that while Pakistan is still an ally of the United States, the disruption of Pakistan’s current leadership could lead to instability and a possible loss of control of its nuclear weapons.

Access Center here to help students with special needs

By Sarah Colston  
Assistant Editor  
scolston@student.highlands.edu

Most students are aware of the disability statement listed on instructors’ syllabi; however, many students are unaware of the services offered by Georgia Highlands College’s Access Center.

The Access Center is here to help students with all types of disabilities. “The Access Center may be able to provide help to students with physical, emotional and educational problems,” stated Wilma Maynard, assistant director of disability support.

Many students at GHC may not be aware that the Access Center may be able to help with ADD and emotional problem like anxiety.

Students should also contact the Access Center if they have health problems such as diabetes, heart conditions or anything that could potentially cause a

problem while on GHC campus. This information is helpful to the Access Center so that “if a problem were to arise the Access Center can contact an ambulance and be able to make emergency personnel aware of the student’s condition,” stated Maynard.

If a student thinks he or she needs assistance, the first step would be to stop by the Access Center. Maynard said, “Anyone in our office would be willing to work with a student to see what accommodations may be available and explain what paper work the student will need to have.”

The Access Center does not cost the student any additional money unless further documentation is needed to evaluate their disability.

If students feel they need accommodations, they can contact the Floyd/Heritage Hall office at 706-802-5003, Cartersville and West Georgia at 678-872-8009 and Marietta and Acworth at 678-915-5021.

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# Scholarships now available to help with study abroad

By Breanne Johnson  
sjohns42@student.highlands.edu  
Staff Writer

The deadline to apply for the study abroad scholarships is Jan. 31.

According to Jeff Brown, director of extended learning, the Jim and Ida Cook Study Abroad Scholarship is open to all Georgia Highland College students. It can be used for any study abroad program offered by the University System of Georgia. Students can apply online at [www.highlands.edu/studyabroad](http://www.highlands.edu/studyabroad). Students will need

to submit an essay. The scholarship award is \$500-\$1000.

The GHC Summer Abroad Scholarship is also open to all GHC students. However, it can only be used for summer aboard programs offered by GHC. Students may also apply for this scholarship online at [www.highlands.edu/studyabroad](http://www.highlands.edu/studyabroad). Students will need to submit an essay. The award is \$500-\$1500.

More information is available from Brown at [jbrown@highlands.edu](mailto:jbrown@highlands.edu) or at [www.highlands.edu/studyabroad](http://www.highlands.edu/studyabroad).

**Deadline for study abroad scholarships is Jan. 31**

## Springtime registration crunch



Photo By Colleen Fries

Students (from left) Stevie Ivey, Leigha Corbett and Allison Johnson pay their tuition at the Accounting Services Office.

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## New foreign language teacher joins GHC faculty



Photo by Jeffery Barwick

not of Latino heritage. Greger remembers being interested in the language of Spanish as early as middle school. However, his true inspiration was a teacher in high school.

While his start here may have been slightly challenged, Greger has adapted well. For that reason, Greger has introduced a new

While Greger does not have many long term plans at the moment, one thing he would like to achieve is his Ph.D.



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# Every child left behind: testing our children to death

With presidential primary season in full swing yet again, all one who searches for a lethal dose of the empty rhetoric that pervades our nation’s public discourse need do is turn on a television. Several hot button topics are being discussed amongst those competing for a chance to lead their respective parties to victory this November.

Sadly, the issue of education reform is seldom entertained in debates and town hall meetings.

President Bush’s No Child Left Behind act reaffirmed the federal government’s policy of “standards based education reform.” Now, instead of teachers, local administrators and parents, Washington lawmakers have the privilege of deciding what these standards are and how they are to be imposed upon our nation’s

schools. Their answer to the quagmire of educational reform is to subject our children to sadistic amounts of standardized testing.

This reflects a trend that began in many parts of the country at the state level to use government designed standardized test scores as an indicator as to which schools, teachers and principals are underperforming.

This trend does not end at the high school level. To use Georgia as an example: new students at state colleges are placed by scores on a computer administered standardized test called the COMPASS. Students who may understand the material, but simply do not test well, have little to no recourse in the University System of Georgia. No alternative form of assessment is

in place for students to take advantage of.

Student scores on these standardized tests speak for themselves. Cookie cutter, “one size fits all” tests do not work at the primary, secondary or post-secondary levels. Absurd amounts of standardized testing only give teachers a shorter amount of time to cover an impossibly large body of material.

No Child Left Behind is doing the opposite of its intended goal. Instead of ensuring that our children receive a quality education, we are depriving them of the same by forcing government standardized curricula on them and those who educate them.

As you walk into the voting booth, keep this issue in mind. Do you trust the federal government to educate your children?



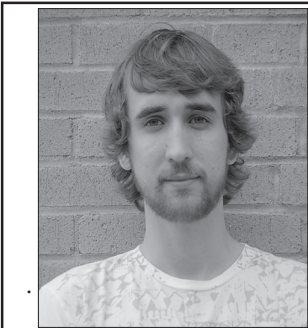
Artwork by Bryan Dillard, 2007

## Reflections of an expectant father

As a 20 year old father-to-be there are many things running through my head. How did this happen to me? What am I going to do? What if I am not going to be a good father? How am I going to go to school and work to support my family?

At first, all of these things were overwhelming, but over time it all fell into place. The first two months I was freaking out, with these questions running through my head it seemed that I was going to go crazy. However, with a very supportive family to talk to, all of these fears dissipated with time.

I have realized that I really should not have worried if I am going to be a good father to my child. Everybody has it in him to be a good parent. The problem is not that everybody tries hard enough to find that “good parent” hidden within. I have noticed over the months that my being concerned with my girlfriend’s weight gain, the baby’s movement and all the other fun stuff involved during



### Editor’s Box

**Jeffery Barwick**  
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Assistant Editor

pregnancy indicates that I am going to be a good father.

Now that there is only a month and a half left before the baby arrives the question of school and work is reappearing. Having a baby is extremely expensive, and there is stress caused by the thought that I don’t want to have to depend upon my family for money. Even with a planned pregnancy these questions still run through the heads of the expecting parents. Pregnancy can either break or make a relationship.

There are two things you can possibly do: either buckle under pressure and stress, which ulti-

mately destroys the relationship, or work together and be open about your feelings, which will in the end strengthen the relationship.

I say to all the fathers-to-be, to hell with being “strong.” If you do not show your partner that you are struggling just as much as she is, then she is going to think that she is weak and not going to be a good mother.

Women, just like men, struggle with the same thoughts and feelings, and they need reassurance that they are not in this alone and that the father is feeling the same way.

# Do not forget to vote on Feb. 5!

## Six Mile Post

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Letters to the Editor may be brought to the SMP office, emailed to 6MPost@highlands.edu, or mailed to Editor, “Six Mile Post,” 3175 Cedartown Highway Rome, GA 30161. Letters must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editors.

# GHC doesn't have an easy button



Photo By Spencer Musick

By Erica Baker  
ebaker2@student.highlands.edu  
Guest Columnist

As I near the end of my studies at Georgia Highlands College, I notice more and more student complaints about the core curriculum. They say there are too many unnecessary classes or the

courses require too much effort. Students question why they cannot just get started with their major.

The answer is no one in this world is just given something for nothing. Demonstrated effort is required. Yes, we must complete the core to eventually gain passage to our preferred classes. How else can a student prepare for upper-level college curriculum or the real world? How can students prove to the university system that they have the initiative to earn their degrees?

We don't expect paychecks with no work, so we should not expect formal degrees with no challenging courses.

The courses in the core are all designed to build upon one another, culminating in a well-rounded and extremely informative foundation. They are not there just to take up space. I

promise all students that if they cannot write a simple essay or perform a basic algebraic problem, they will find it nearly impossible to communicate or perform effectively in their upper-level courses. Better yet, how can one accomplish anything in life without basic skills such as communication, logic and reason?

The bevy of English, mathematics, humanities and science courses are exactly how students may build these necessary skills, whether their majors are business, nursing, criminal justice or even undecided.

We need English to communicate and speak as intelligent human beings. Yes, there is purpose in writing an essay about television violence or your summer vacation, and speaking in front of strangers is often a necessity in school and beyond.

History reminds us of our

past so we can prepare for our future. Science helps us understand our natural world and our place in it. Mathematics helps us perform logically and efficiently in a world driven by numbers and the status quo.

The list goes on and on. Psychology, sociology, political science and more are all applicable to society as a whole.

I appreciate every single thing I have learned at GHC. I will be the first to admit that I have complained in the past about how long it was taking me to finish. But, it is up to me and me only. The more I accomplish, the stronger and smarter I become. I understand why teachers expect so much of me. I should expect the best of myself.

Administrators, professors and instructors at GHC are not here to waste your time or theirs. They know what it takes to be a

successful student. They all were students and some still are. They have come so far with hard work and determination. They are scholars and masters of their subjects. Take your chance to learn from them rather than arguing and looking for an easy way out. Nothing worthwhile comes easy.

I do not mean to sound preachy, and I do not think I know everything. I do know that we are adults. We are responsible for our education, lives and futures. We are not in high school anymore!

We are at an extreme advantage to change the world. No matter how corny it may seem, knowledge is power. So, suck it up, study and do the work. You will be prepared for the future. Remember what Bill Gates said, "If you think your teacher is tough, wait until you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure."


## College is a place to grow up

I am staring down a three-year tenure at a two-year institution.

Knowing that one must dedicate him or herself to anything for 731 days is a daunting task, but college in itself is a particularly grueling experience.

Financial woes are a ubiquitous concern regardless, but knowing that one requires at least \$1,000 plus book costs to further fuel one's dreams and aspirations is enough to bring even the most stoic to tears.

It's not easy. In fact, it's absolutely heartbreaking. For what is supposedly "the happiest time of one's life," many are most certainly living anything but a blithe existence. Math tests become a trek of trepidation. Test results are no longer indicators of one's forward progress, but a demarcation of where one's dream life may die. Suddenly, college life becomes "real life."



Somebody's got to say it

By James Swift  
jswift@student.highlands.edu  
Staff Writer

"College," despite any connotation the word may have absorbed, is not a reference to an educational institution or a geographical location. College is a trial, a continuous tribulation in which one transitions from the irresponsible bastion of adolescence into becoming a full-grown adult, complete with all of the hardships associated.

One must consider what he or she wants to do in life and what he or she must do in life. Often,

the branching paths do not coincide.

For those of you out there lingering on the prospect of fulfilled dreams, remember that life isn't anchored by hopeful prospects, but rather the notions of stability and financial dependability, a painful initiation into reality.

College isn't a place to earn a diploma or secure previously unachievable job opportunities. It's a place where one goes to grow up.

## Online Poll results

Do you wish GHC were a four-year school?

Yes: 87% No: 13%

## February online Poll

Will you vote in the Nov. Presidential Election?  
Vote online at  
[www.highlands.edu/sixmilepost](http://www.highlands.edu/sixmilepost)



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# ‘I Am Legend’ explores a different kind of terror



Courtesy of wikipedia.com

By Kyle Jones  
Staff Writer  
kjones32@student.highlands.edu

## Movie Review

“What if you were the last guy on earth...?”

How many of us have pondered that question at one time or another? Well, to doctor and military officer Robert Neville (Will Smith), that scenario is much more than just a passing thought. It is a grave and lonely reality that he is faced with in one of this season’s better flicks, “I Am Legend.”

Will Smith stars in this latest adaptation of a 1954 sci-fi novel by Robert Mathewson. Smith plays the lone resident in a depopulated Manhattan. It has been three years since the deadly KV virus swept through mankind and turned everyone into flesh-eating, light-allergic zombies.

Neville, along with his loyal German Shepard, Sam, spends the better part of his days in his laboratory working on a cure for this epidemic. In his leisure time, he scours vacant apartments for canned vegetables and hits golf balls from the wing of a jet airplane that’s stationed on a docked aircraft carrier. Neville always makes sure to be home before sundown.

The movie opens with a stunning visual sequence.

Picture modern-day Manhattan: a city that never sleeps, each hour more lively and frantic than the one before. Well, director Francis Lawrence gives us a glimpse of post-apocalyptic Manhattan. The city is deserted. The streets are lined with abandoned cars. Various forms of wildlife now inhabit the land. Vines and

weeds have grown upon the streetlights, and grass has begun to sprout up through the concrete. This once hectic and populous metropolitan has decayed into a still and desolate wilderness.

The sheer imagery of these scenes is impressive, and it sets a somber and daunting tone that is fitting for the rest of the film.

Lawrence effectively generates suspense throughout the movie, all while managing to stay away from many of the trusty horror movie staples, i.e. monsters jumping out of the dark and so forth. The suspense that Lawrence and Will Smith bring to this film focuses on the human psychological struggle that one would undoubtedly be forced to contend with in this most dire of situations.

The audience observes Neville as he goes through a series of coping mechanisms in an effort to maintain his mental composure. We see him converse with plastic store manikins, approaching them as if they are just as alive as he is. We watch as he develops a strange sense of attachment to a portion of bacon, treating it with the kind of regard typically reserved for loved ones. This conflict of Neville battling the brink of insanity is every bit as intriguing as his dilemma with the flesh-eating zombies.

Smith deserves endless applause for this film. The charming and goofy leading man is primarily called on to play less serious characters. Smith took a convincing step outside of his comfort zone in this role. Not very many actors can be captivating in isolation movies such as “I am Legend.” Tom Hanks did it in “Cast Away,” and Smith pulls it off brilliantly in this movie.

This film is compelling on several different levels. It’s premise explores the quandary of mankind’s self-destructive nature, taking it beyond the scope of the everyday horror, slasher movie.

That being said, there’s enough action and visual detail to keep the gore-mongers happy.

- ★ ★ ★ ★
- ★ ★ -Lost at the beginning
- ★ ★ -Didn’t like it too much
- ★ ★ ★ -Not too bad
- ★ ★ ★ ★ -Saw it once
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ -Would see it again

# Jamming violins



Photo by Colleen Fries

Will-B from Black Violin entertains student in Floyd student center.

Michael Frosburg’s “Incognito” will be at Floyd Campus Feb. 7.

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Photo By Eric Celler

**“To actually study this semester”**

**Maurice Ogujiofor**  
**Woodstock, GA**  
**Biology**

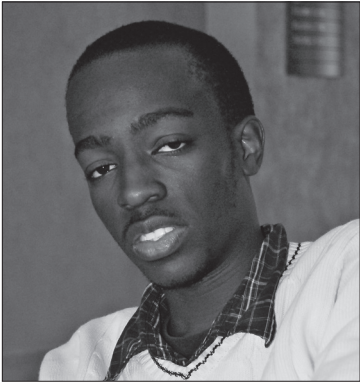


Photo By Eric Celler

**“Make money”**

**Murchigi Kimari**  
**Kenya, Africa**  
**Finance**

**Are you enrolled in a Career program?**

Do you receive public assistance or have you been laid off from a job recently?

You may qualify for financial help (tuition, books, transportation, and childcare) through the Workforce Investment Act. WIA is a federally funded program that assists eligible students who have been laid off from work or with low income.

**Contact GHC Counseling and Career Services to speak with the WIA Career Advisor for more information.**

(706) 295-6336  
1-800-332-2406

# Students make New Year’s resolutions

**By Jeffery Barwick**  
**jbarwic@student.highlands.edu**  
**Assistant Editor**

Are New Year’s resolutions made to begin a fresh start or just because people are expected to make one?

The answer is all of the above. Some people make a New Year’s resolution to try to start the year with a fresh start; others do it out of tradition.

Dr. Alberta Johnson, professor of psychology and adviser of Psi Beta, the national honor society for psychology, said that it is important to set goals since

that is how we improve ourselves, but the problem is some people set unrealistic goals.

The chance of success solely depends upon the practicality of the resolution.

According to Johnson, many people set goals that are unrealistic. To be successful first you have to set a goal that is reasonable, then lay it out on a calendar and make a timeline of steps with the ultimate goal at the end.

“It is important to set goals, but it doesn’t have to be at the beginning of the new year. There is always opportunity for self-improvement, and it is important

to take advantage of the opportunity for self-improvement when one arises,” said Johnson.

Johnson gave the following example.

A student wants to exercise but cannot find the motivation. Then that student meets another person saying that he or she is going to start walking every day between classes. That is the perfect time to take advantage of the opportunity for self-improvement.

Johnson encourages students to have their eyes open and recognize opportunities when they come along.



Photo By Eric Celler

**“Study a lot, make good grades and meet some girls who aren’t crazy!”**

**Jerry Gabbert**  
**Marietta, GA**  
**Business**



Photo By Eric Celler

*Exercise More*

**“To quit drinking domestic beer”**

**Brad Bunder**  
**Kennesaw, GA**  
**Business**  
**(Right)**

*Lose Weight*

*Quit Smoking*

**“To learn a new sport like fencing or rugby”**

**Aimee Fleming**  
**Kennesaw, GA**  
**Criminal Justice**  
**(Right)**



Photo By Eric Celler

*Study More*

**Last day to withdraw from full term classes Feb. 28**

**Considering Abortion?**

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# Sign-up now underway for spring intramural sports with dodgeball competition being offered for the first time ever

By Erin Spearman  
[espearman1@student.highlands.edu](mailto:espearman1@student.highlands.edu)  
Staff Writer

Dodgeball has been added to the sports offered, at the request of the student body.

Now those who enjoyed dodgeball as children have an excuse to play as adults.

According to David Mathis, intramural sport coordinator, matches begin March 3 with games being played on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. Students may sign up through Feb. 1 in the Physical Education Office or email [dmathis@highlands.edu](mailto:dmathis@highlands.edu).

Other sports being offered this semester will be three-on-three basketball, volleyball and the Spring Fit Program. Also the Wesley Walraven Intramural Golf Scramble will take place at a time still to be announced.

Three-on-three basketball will begin on Feb. 6 with games being played on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the gym. Students may sign up with a team or as an individual to be placed on a team.

The Fit Program kicked off Jan. 28 and will conclude April 6. This is a run-walk and weightlifting program. Participants set goals for themselves and log their miles or weight



Photo By Amanda Stegall

**Martha Kirkpatrick, senior secretary of physical education, is responsible for keeping track of the achievements of fit program participants.**

workouts by 3 p.m. each Monday by emailing Martha Kirkpatrick, senior secretary of physical education, at the following address

[mkirkpat@highlands.edu](mailto:mkirkpat@highlands.edu).

There are both beginner and advanced programs. All of the workouts can either be done on

campus or at home and at the participant's own pace. T-shirts, sweatshirts, gym bags and gift certificates will be awarded at

the end of the program.

The volleyball tournament will begin March 25 at 1:30 p.m. in the gym. Sign-up is Feb. 4-22.

The Wesley Walraven Golf Scramble tournament date and time is to be announced. GHC students, faculty and staff are encouraged to join in the fun.

The golf tournament will be played in a four-man scramble format. According to Mathis, awards will be given to the overall winners as well as the longest drive and closest to the hole winners.

The Intramural Luncheon will be held April 23 at 12:30 p.m. in the gym lobby. Awards will be presented at this time. Anyone participating in intramurals is welcome to attend.

Last semester there were a total of four flag football teams, 27 tennis players, 72 participants in the Fit Program and 38 who took part in the Turkey Day Walk-run, according to Mathis.

**Dodgeball  
Sign-up ends  
Feb. 1**



## The Extra Point

By Jeff Capen  
[jcapen@student.highlands.edu](mailto:jcapen@student.highlands.edu)  
Staff Writer

# NFL season comes to an end Season full of surprises for fans on and off the field

Up to this point the 2007-2008 National Football League season has been entertaining, historic, emotional and unpredictable.

Opening week saw Buffalo Bills' Kevin Everett paralyzed after a vicious collision with now New York Giant Domenik Hixon. It's truly a blessing to see Everett make a full recovery, but he will likely never play professional football again.

In the same week, the "Spygate" scandal erupted as the New England Patriots were

accused of videotaping the New York Jets' sideline signals.

The very same Patriots have put together an incredible season, becoming the first team ever to finish an NFL regular season with a perfect 16-0 record. Quarterback Tom Brady and wide receiver Randy Moss both had career years, setting individual-season touchdown records for their respective positions.

A handful of surprising teams managed to squeeze into the playoffs this season.

A resurgent Brett Favre led

his Green Bay Packers into the playoffs once again.

The Tennessee Titans, a team with very little big-name talent, fought their way into the wildcard playoff before losing in San Diego.

Speaking of the Chargers, how many of us expected to see them march into Indianapolis and knock off Peyton Manning's Colts in the divisional round? Not many.

Who expected Peyton's little brother, Eli, to lead his New York Giants to the NFC Champion-

ship game after a turbulent off-season, beating the NFC East champion Dallas Cowboys on the road in the process?

Before we see a new NFL champion crowned, let us take a moment to remember the talented young men we lost this season.

On May 28, 2007, Marquise Hill, defensive end for the New England Patriots, lost his life in a jet-ski accident in Louisiana.

Only half a year later, All-pro Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor was gunned down in

his Miami, Fla., home by a small group of burglars.

Both men were only 24 with promising careers ahead of them when their lives were cut tragically short.

It's certainly been a wild, inexplicable season that has brought out the very best and very worst in pro sports. We can only hope that next season brings a safer year for players, coaches and fans, while delivering the same amount of drama, excitement, heartbreak and glory as this season has.



# Photo Album

## Never a dull moment at GHC



Contributed Photo

From Left Patricia Worthy Susan Claxton and Shonna Nance (right) watch over the human services booth during club round up on the Floyd campus.



Photo by Colleen Fries

Kev Marcus from Black Violin jams at the Floyd campus.



Photo by Colleen Fries

Will- B from Black Violin performs at the Floyd campus.



Contributed Photo

Ski trip participants pose for a group photo during the December trip to Boone, NC.



Photo By Colleen Fries

Josh Underwood (right) and Katie Bell check out the orientation leaders booth during club round up at the Floyd campus.