

# Six Mile Post

*The Student Voice*

Floyd College - Rome, Georgia

January 31, 2005

Six Mile Post Online

Vol. 34, #4

[www.floyd.edu/sixmilepost](http://www.floyd.edu/sixmilepost)



Shakespeare watches over the lobby of the ASF theater complex.

See Page 2.

## SEC votes to increase student activity fee

By Amanda Cordle  
[acord00@floyd.edu](mailto:acord00@floyd.edu)  
Staff Writer

Starting next fall students will have to reach into their already stretched pockets for an extra \$13 to go towards their student activity fee.

The Student Engagement Council (SEC) voted on the motion before Christmas break.

The SEC and John Spranza, director of student life, composed a letter to the president asking for the \$13 increase, and it was swiftly approved. The final approval on the activity fee from the University System is expected Feb. 1.

The increase is a result of several factors. One is that next fall with the addition of the Bartow campus there will be two completely functioning student life centers. The fee increase means that each campus will be able to enjoy the same entertainers, game shows, festivals and artisans. Having double the entertainment with the current budget would have been impossible.

Spranza said, "What will be a challenge is coordinating student activities. I am going to try to give each campus the same things." The Heritage Hall campus and possible campuses in

Marietta and Woodstock also must be considered in budgeting.

Floyd is also currently operating on the second lowest student activity fee in the University System. While all other multi-campus institutions charge at least \$42, Floyd's current activity fee is \$23.

The activity fee increase is also a long time in coming for Floyd. While every other school has increased its fee at least once in the last five years, Floyd has maintained a steady fee.

Despite the still low fee, some students are unhappy about the increase. Sophomore Dani Broadway, an English major from Cedartown, says that she didn't approve of the student activity fee from the start. "I don't get to go to most of the activities because it conflicts with my schedule and I haven't enjoyed any of the entertainers or activities I've seen."

The real decision for the SEC was to decide if the activity fee increase should happen all at once or if the fee should be slowly increased annually, until an adequate amount of funds were raised for each institution.

**Continued on  
Page 4...**



Photo by Josh Grubb

**A part of student fees goes to events like the Sno-Globe Photos & Keychains (above), where students had headshots taken and their faces superimposed on pictures of their choice. More entertainment provided by student fees comes in the form of equipment in the game room (right).**



Photo by Rick Climer

## FC to expand to Southern Poly and maybe Woodstock

By Sam Chapman  
[schap01@floyd.edu](mailto:schap01@floyd.edu)  
Editor

The Floyd College community will be expanding to two other campuses in the near future.

Currently, the college is in negotiations with Southern Polytechnic University to use approximately 10 classrooms and labs on its campus. Plans to move onto the Southern Poly campus

will be finalized after an agreement is met on space, offices, technology and which student activities will be available.

The same courses now offered at Acworth on the North Metro Tech campus will be available at Southern Poly, but the variety of courses will depend on the number of students who attend. "If there is a need to teach some classes at North Metro Tech then we are open to that possibility,"

said Dr. Randy Pierce, president of Floyd College.

"Most of the feedback from people at the North Metro campus has been positive," Pierce said.

Pierce thinks the expansion will be beneficial to those students who live closer to the new location. The variety of campuses, Pierce said, "will open up more possibilities for students to come closer to getting a degree."

According to Pierce, teaching at the Southern Poly campus is expected to begin this summer.

Floyd College is also negotiating with Appalachian Technical College to share class space in a former elementary school building in Woodstock.

The plans for this site are not as far along as the move to Southern Poly, but Pierce does not think there will be any issues.

About 300 students will be

expected to attend the new campus in Woodstock, and plans for the new campus to get set into motion are expected for fall.

Pierce hopes that the two new Floyd sites will become permanent Floyd College facilities in the future.

Division chairs are currently searching for part-time and full-time faculty members to teach at the Southern Poly site for the time being.



# Sign-up set to begin for 20th annual ASF trip

By Jeff Denmon  
jdenm00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Floyd College’s annual trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival (ASF) is coming up April 16-17.

“It’s a lot of fun,” said Dr. Nancy Applegate, professor of English at Floyd College. “It’ll make you rethink all of your Alabama and Georgia stereotypes.”

Because last year’s trip registration reached maximum capacity in less than two days, the college has decided to take an additional bus, making the trip available to a total of 92 participants instead of 55.

“We took a school van on our first trip in 1986, and then we progressed to two and then three vans and eventually decided it’d be best if we took a bus,” said Dr. Kristie Kemper, professor of English and one of the trip coordinators.

This year at the festival the students will be seeing the plays “All My Sons” and “The Taming of the Shrew.”

“All My Sons,” by Arthur Miller, centers on a World War II family in which two sons go to fight. As the war ends one becomes missing in action, and other son returns home to the family. “It deals with a war situation and also with people who



Contributed photo

**Alabama Shakespeare Festival’s theater complex is in the 300-acre Blount Cultural Park in Montgomery, Ala.**

profit from the war,” said Kemper.

It is somewhat of a coincidence that the first play the students of Floyd College saw at ASF was “Death of a Salesman,” also by Arthur Miller.

The other play being performed is William Shakespeare’s “The Taming of the Shrew.” In this classic comedy a wealthy nobleman is trying to marry off

his two daughters; however, one of the daughters is extremely “outrageous” in her conduct, which complicates her father’s ability to find willing husbands.

Students participating in the trip will also take a backstage tour of the theater complex, which houses two stages and scene and costume shops, and attend a meet-and-greet with the actors of one or both of the featured plays.

Students on the trip will receive extra credit in English classes; students may also get extra credit in other courses if the instructors approve.

Sign-ups begin on Feb. 7 in the Student Life Office on the Rome Campus and at the FC offices on the other campuses. A \$40 deposit is required at the sign-up and is refundable until Feb. 28. After Feb.28 the deposit

is refundable only if another student can fill the empty slot. The final balance is due by March 15.

Motel rooms are set up as two, three and four persons per room. The trip fee is \$90 a person to stay in a two-person room, \$80 to stay in a three-person room and \$75 for a four-person room. The fee covers the motel, play and tour tickets, tour bus transportation and one lunch – everything but dinner on the 17th and souvenirs. John Spranza, director of student life, suggests that students bring at least an extra \$35-\$45.

“It was educational as well as interesting to meet and socialize with many other unique students from Floyd,” said Sandy Watkins, who went on the trip last year. “It’s a great experience.”

The trip is open to Floyd College students, employees and their guests and is sponsored by the social and cultural studies division and the Office of Student Life.

*For more information, contact the Office of Student Life at 706-295-6363 or ctwilley@floyd.edu.*

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## Probation GPA change coming

By Randie Mayo  
rmayo00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Students who have a cumulative GPA below 2.0 have a new reason to worry.

According to Sandie Davis, registrar, there will be a change in the academic progress policy.

Currently, a student is put on academic probation if his or her cumulative GPA falls below 1.8 after earning more than 15 credit hours.

The new policy will require that a student maintain a GPA of 2.0 or above.

According to the Floyd College catalog, a student who is under academic probation may face dismissal if he or she does not meet the GPA requirements. A student may make an appeal to the Academic Progress Com-

mittee to prevent a dismissal.

This change in policy will apply to all students who attend Floyd College. Based on a report from Laura Ralsten, Chair of the Academic Progress Committee, 22 students would currently be affected. Davis plans to send letters to warn students before the policy takes effect.

Davis is uncertain whether the change will occur in the fall of 2005 or fall of 2006. “It depends on when the next Floyd catalog comes out,” she stated.

The change in the GPA probation status is due to issues with student graduation, Davis explained. A student can have enough hours to petition to graduate with a GPA below 2.0 and still be at a good standing academically. However, a student needs a 2.0 to graduate.

The Academic Progress Com-

mittee presented this issue to the Floyd faculty in the fall semester of 2004. The faculty voted in favor of the change.

“It’s proactive to help students raise their GPA earlier so it won’t be at the point where they can’t graduate,” Davis said.

Some students and faculty members have shown some concern about the issue.

Kimberly Kerr, a criminal justice major from Rockmart, said, “That’s a little scary; you never know what could happen to your GPA if you withdraw after the mid-term deadline.”

Dr. Nancy Applegate, associate professor of English, saw the change as a way to counteract “grade inflation.” She noted how the status of a “C” was not what it used to be and how the new policy would have a “positive” effect on students.

# Shade set to voyage through the ‘Life of Pi’

By Jacki Padgett  
jpadg01@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Dr. Ron Shade, vice president of student development, will be presenting the novel “Life of Pi” by Yann Martel for the Feb. 22 Floyd College Book Forum at 7 p.m. at the Rome/Floyd County Library.

“Life of Pi’ is a modern day tall-tale,” said Shade.

According to Shade, the novel can be interpreted as an adventure or survival story or even as a “coming-of-age” story. However, it can also be seen as a deeper story that explores many aspects of faith and religion.

Pi is a 16-year-old boy whose family owns a zoo in Africa. In the process of moving themselves and their zoo to Canada, a disaster strikes at sea, and leaves Pi sharing a lifeboat with the unlikelyest of traveling companions: a hyena, a zebra, an orangutan and a Royal Bengal tiger named Richard Parker. The tiger goes down the food chain, and Pi is left with only the tiger for company.

In his 227-day voyage across the Pacific, Pi must find a way to survive both Mother Nature and Richard Parker.

This journey soon becomes more than a struggle to survive. It becomes a test of everything Pi has learned, about both man and beast, about their creator, about the nature of truth itself and



Photo by Bethany Holt

**“The Time Traveler’s Wife” by Audrey Niffenegger is discussed by Sheila McCoy, professor of French, Spanish and English at Floyd, at January’s Book Forum on Jan. 25 in the Solarium.**

about growing up and managing without his family.

Shade recommends this book to anyone interested in adven-

ture books or anyone wanting to just read a good book.

“Life of Pi’ is a fun read,” says Dr. Shade.

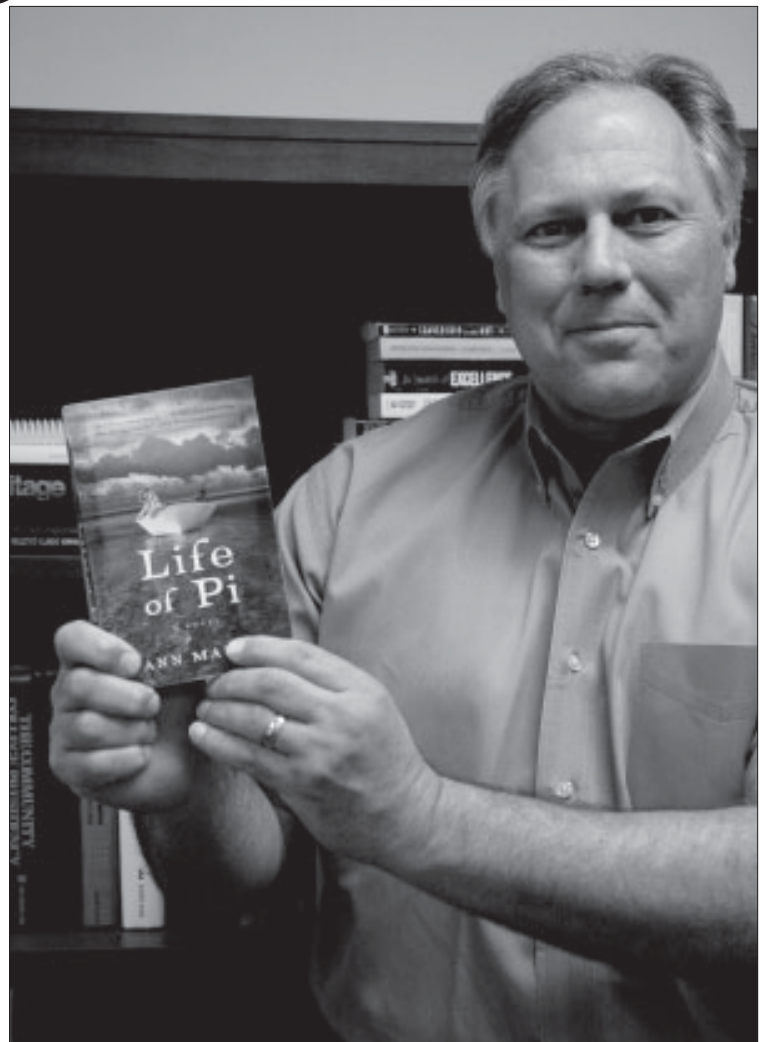


Photo by Josh Grubb

**Dr. Ron Shade, vice president of student development, shows the book he will present at February’s Book Forum. “Life of Pi” is a novel about a young boy that has an adventure with an unusual companion.**

## Cook offers scholarship to explore the world abroad

By Sandy Watkins  
cwatk00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Dr. James F. Cook, history professor emeritus of Floyd College, is a man of many passions, namely Georgia history and education.

His third and latest book, “Carl Vinson, Patriarch of the Armed Forces,” is a chronicle of the life of one of Georgia’s most illustrious statesmen.

“It’s important for us to remember and preserve the contributions and history of this great Georgian for future generations. I was very honored to be asked to write about this great man,” Cook said.

Cook incorporates life experi-

ences with academia through the study abroad trips that he teaches annually.

“Travel can be an education that can change the way you see the world and subsequently yourself for the rest of your life,” said Cook. “All students need to travel abroad, really.”

To encourage more students to study abroad, Cook has contributed \$5,000 to establish the Jim and Ida Cook Scholarship to supplement students who would like to study abroad.

The scholarship may be used with other scholarships or work-study monies.

For more information about Cook’s scholarship contact Judy Taylor, advancement officer for Floyd College, at (706) 802-5457.

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# Poetry rapper Kirk Nugent combines hip-hop and African American oral traditions

By Katherine Kimbrough  
kkimb00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Kirk Nugent, inspirational speaker and spoken word artist, will visit Floyd College on Feb. 10 at 12:30 p.m. in the Student Life Center. This will be his first performance at Floyd College.

Nugent's poetic style is known as "slam poetry." This style is typically passionate and highly energetic. Slam poets shout or rap their pieces to entertain the crowd through a unique approach. Often slam poetry incorporates hip-hop, jazz and words in a revolutionary revision of traditional ideas about poetry.

According to his website, www.kirknugent.com, Nugent likes to use topics for his poetry

that show different points of view that are hard hitting, poignant and thought provoking.

Nugent compares his lyrical use of poetry performance combined with hip-hop to strains of the African-American oral tradition that documents their history and struggles.

Typically Nugent raps about things that are currently happening in politics, the economy, and everyday life.

Many of Nugent's poems have a theme that displays his point-of-view as an activist for unity and leadership within the African-American community.

Born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica, Nugent is affection-



www.cm-life.com

**Nugent raps his poetry during a performance for students in central Michigan last February.**

ately known by his fans worldwide as "The People's Poet."

He immigrated to the United States in 1983 and has performed poetry throughout the United States and Canada for three years.

## Fees cont. from page 1...

Spranza explained the SEC's decision to ask for one large increase by saying, "Given the immediate need of the Bartow campus and the fact that the students don't want to be nicked and dined, we chose to increase the student activity with one large sum."

The SEC will allocate funds from the budget for student organizations at an SEC meeting later this semester. Distribution of money raised from the higher student activity fee will also be discussed.

Each organization that has had a member present for a majority of the biweekly SEC meetings is allowed a vote concerning the distribution of funds. Funds for the new Bartow campus' student organizations will be dispensed at a later date.

Students interested in seeing how their extra \$13 will be spent may attend the SEC meetings every other Friday morning at 10 a.m. in the Towerview Dining Room. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 4.

# PROBE fair to offer transfer, career information

By Sandy Watkins  
cwat00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

The 2005 Career Information and Transfer PROBE Fair will be held Feb. 14 in the Lakeview Building auditorium from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

According to Lauren Wilbanks, Floyd College recruitment officer, college representatives from over 20 colleges and universities in the Southeast will be present at the fair. These representatives will be available to answer questions about their respective colleges and distribute transfer information.

In addition, many professionals from various career fields around the community will be on hand to talk to students about opportunities available upon graduation.

Various Floyd College divisions will have faculty and department representatives to speak with students about FC's degree programs and about how these programs can prepare students for occupations after graduation.

"If you've got questions, we've got answers. This is a great way to get information or even to just choose a major," said Sue Tarpley, event coordinator. "The fair will also provide information and career opportunities for networking in the local business community as students meet and greet prospective employers."

According to Tarpley, prospective employers will not be taking resumes at the fair.

For more information contact Tarpley at (706) 296-6336 or at starpley@floyd.edu.



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**Be sure to check out  
the next issue of the  
"Six Mile Post" on  
Feb. 22!**

# Now that it’s the 21st century, do you know what your rights are?

The Bill of Rights was added to the United States Constitution in 1791. In order for this to happen, 11 of 14 existing states had to ratify the bill.

Undoubtedly, the most famous of the amendments in the Bill of Rights is the First Amendment, giving the country the freedom of speech, press, religion, peaceable assembly and petition.

Currently the First Amendment rights have been coming under fire as people complain that the rights are abused. But isn’t it better for the rights to be abused than for them to not be used, or worse, not having such rights at all?

In a survey conducted by the First Amendment Center in collaboration with the “American Journalism Review,” only 1 percent of the people surveyed knew that the right to petition is guaranteed by the First Amendment. Only one in five freedoms were correctly identified by all surveyed.

Fifty-eight percent of those surveyed said the freedom of

speech is a guaranteed right. Only 17 percent of those surveyed knew that the First Amendment gave us the freedom of religion.

Now, everyone in the fine state of Georgia should know these rights like the back of their hands, since Georgia only ratified the Bill of Rights in 1939.

Jan. 31 through Feb. 4 is First Amendment Awareness Week at Floyd College. The reason that such awareness weeks are held is not only to educate the ignorant but also to respect the cause. It has become obvious that since so few are educated about our Rights, there is not enough advertisement and too much misinformation about them.

So, in honor of First Amendment Awareness Week and Americans everywhere deserving with the right to know, here is the First Amendment: “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 the people

peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

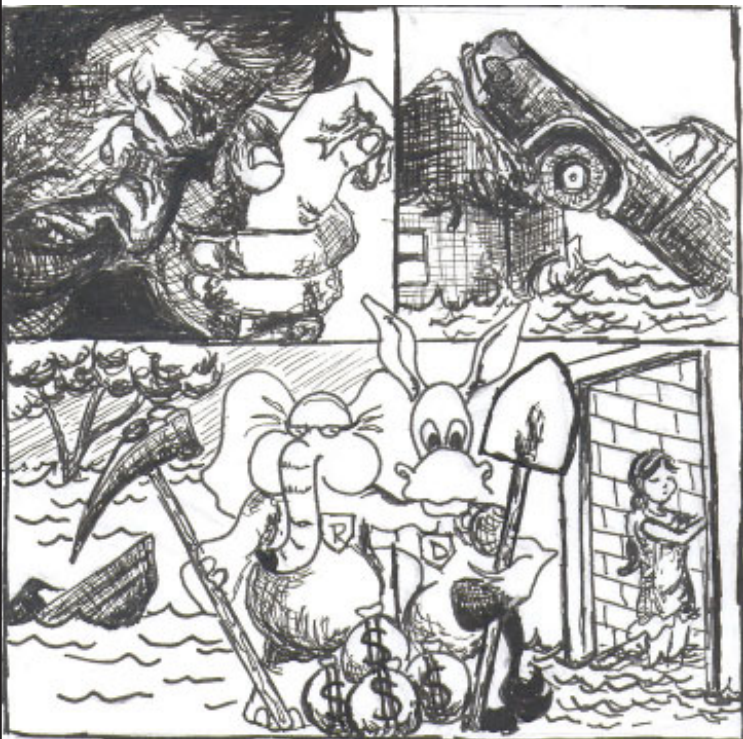
The First Amendment Center’s 2004 survey also found that 30 percent of responders believed that the First Amendment goes too far.

In a country with a government whose policy towards public knowledge leans more towards “loose lips sink ships” than not, with rampant political moralism and with a president who rarely accepts constructive criticism, these are dangerous times for personal freedom and liberty.

Citing past incident as precedent, in peace and in war, especially in the cases of executive orders and the Patriot Act, once something is taken from the people by the government or once the people concede some right or privilege to the government, it becomes increasingly difficult to re-attain.

And as Benjamin Franklin said, “They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

## Why can’t we help each other all the time?



Artwork by Jenn Smith, 2005

### *6MPost@floyd.edu* **Six Mile Post**

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Assistant Online Editor <b>Jamie Bennett</b>	

Chief Photographer <b>Josh Grubb</b>	Business Manager <b>Betsy Wadsworth</b>
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	Photographers	
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Staff Writers	
<b>Amanda Cordle</b> <b>Becky Crooks</b> <b>Jeff Denmon</b> <b>Katherine Kimbrough</b> <b>Randie Mayo</b> <b>Dustin Taylor</b>	<b>Ashley Morris</b> <b>Jacki Padgett</b> <b>Sandy Watkins</b> <b>David Winters</b> <b>Alex Kekel</b> <b>Crystal Belden</b> <b>Chris Bishop</b>

Cartoonists
<b>Atteka Abdou</b> <b>Jenn Smith</b>

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----------------------------------	--

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The “Six Mile Post” (named after the old railroad station and trading post 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, “Six Mile Post,” 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.

## ‘Awareness’ is more than just a word

Sometime ago, I overheard someone say that they were glad that MLK Day was coming up because it was a day off from classes.

Hearing this didn’t come as a huge surprise, but it made me reflect a little more on what holidays such as MLK Day and on what the months of awareness we have actually mean for others and ourselves.

These times that we set aside for recognition and awareness are so much more than just free class days and what they mean by namesake.

Times of recognition like Black History Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month have a deeper personal meaning to most of those who involve themselves instead of just



### Editor’s Box

By **Sam Chapman**  
**[schap01@floyd.edu](mailto:schap01@floyd.edu)**  
**Editor**

donating a dollar here and there or attending ceremonies and wearing ribbons. For some, it is a celebrated time to show support for a loved one or appreciate the reason that there is even a designated time to do so.

Personally, First Amendment Week, Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Banned Books Week are especially dear to me. I’ve had two loved ones go through scares of having breast cancer, I love to read— especially literature that makes good use of vulgarity, and without our First Amendment you probably wouldn’t be reading this.

These aren’t the only times that are special to me, but they are times that make me feel that there are more people who understand and support the same causes as I do.

So, in lieu of February being Black History Month, take some time to think about what it means, not just to African-Americans and the struggles that have been made for equality in society, but also as a humanitarian time to celebrate how we as Americans can band together and stand up for our rights and freedoms against any form of inequality.



Letter from Iraq...

People from home often ask me what it is like in Iraq. They all get the same standard answer: it's alright.

The only reason that I tell them this is because this is what they want to hear. They don't want to think about all the bad things going on in this war that so many people blindly supported under the flag of patriotism. Only after the smoke had cleared and the bodies kept coming home did they stop to think about it. In truth, Iraq is a horrible, horrible place. It's actually hard to describe it to someone who has never been here. I could just describe the basic items that appeal to the senses, and that should help open your eyes to what it is really like. It is so much more than that though.

It's a lonely place. There are people all around you, but you are constantly alone. Your friends and family are thousands of miles away in a different world. All you can do is look forward to going home and seeing them again.

Of course, this is not a certainty either. Dates to return home are not a guaranteed thing. The possibility of being extended

is a permanent shadow over every soldier until they are physically home. This constant uncertainty is a heavy burden to carry.

There is always that fact the people are trying to kill you. This isn't the bad guys in the shadows type of kill you either. It is a car bomb that just went off a hundred feet from you and blew up a checkpoint right next to your office trying to kill you. The kind of bomb that makes windows shatter and covers people with glass. The feeling of being knocked over by the concussion wave from the blast of mortars that seems to come from nowhere.

Iraq is an extremely dangerous place and no one here ever forgets that, but people at home just don't understand. You see on television that troops did this, or insurgents did that. This isn't just a two-minute story on the evening news for us. It is life.

Ask the troops here if they

want to be here and they will say no. The ones on TV who say that we are doing a great job and are glad to be here helping the Iraqi people are the minority, but they get the air time because that is what people at home want to hear so they feel better about the decisions being made.

I am just one person over here with an opinion, but it is an opinion shared by many. If you think I just have an axe to grind, put yourself in my boots for a while and see how you feel. I wonder if your opinion changes after you hear the ping of rounds off of your vehicle door. Yes, I'm in the military and I freely signed up, but that doesn't mean that I have to agree with what I see happening.

Signed,  
An American Soldier

Editor's Note: This letter is from a real American soldier from Rome, Ga., who is currently stationed in Iraq. He has requested that his name be withheld.

“This isn't just a two-minute story on the evening news for us. It is life.”

“It's a lonely place.”

A tsunami of tears

By Crystal Belden  
abeld00@floyd.edu  
Guest Columnist

Up from the depths of despair rose a tidal wave to claim the lives of thousands, mar families and devastate children. We watched in horror as the news spread from one continent to the next.

I went to work just like every other good soldier that dry, inhuman December Monday. The death tolls grew as the day progressed.

Still, I treaded on with the day's activities. Only in the silence of my car did I feel in tune with the world's affairs – the trauma captivating and demanding on the other side of the globe.

Talk radio was live from Sri Lanka. I was once again horrified at the loss, the misfortune,

and the unhappiness. As we are worried about our next Starbucks run and next incoming paycheck, Sri Lanka searches for its lost family members and a stable source of clean drinking water.

Why the tides had to turn so hard against this humble region is something we cannot comprehend.

Still, we must embrace our keen understanding of the delicacy of the human race. Through heartfelt emotion, let us turn the tides once again to a humanitarian effort during a time of need. Let us give generously of our thoughts, time and resources in a tragedy that has pained and devastated our fellow world citizens.

Millions of dollars have been given to tsunami relief efforts. To give to this effort, see the website

www.usafreedomcorps.gov

However, because so much money is going to Asia, other charity organizations are doing without. Help national

and local organizations fight hunger, homelessness and child abuse:

www.hsus.org  
www.redcross.org  
www.salvationarmyusa.org  
www.bgca.org  
www.ymca.com  
www.habitat.org

SIX MILE POLL

If you could pick a topic for an awareness month, what would it be and why?



Dani Broadway  
Rome Campus  
English Major

“Fashion awareness, because the recurrent fashion mistakes FC students are making are unnecessarily ridiculous.”



Kerianna Pettett  
Rome Campus  
Psychology Major

“Child abuse and neglect, because it's becoming more common and people don't realize the long-term effects abuse has on a child.”



Matt Carnes  
Rome Campus  
Physical Therapy Major

“Ignorance awareness month. Stupidity is common.”



Mindy Wright  
Rome Campus  
Early Childhood Education Major

“Predator awareness, so women in particular could learn to defend themselves in the case of a predator situation.”

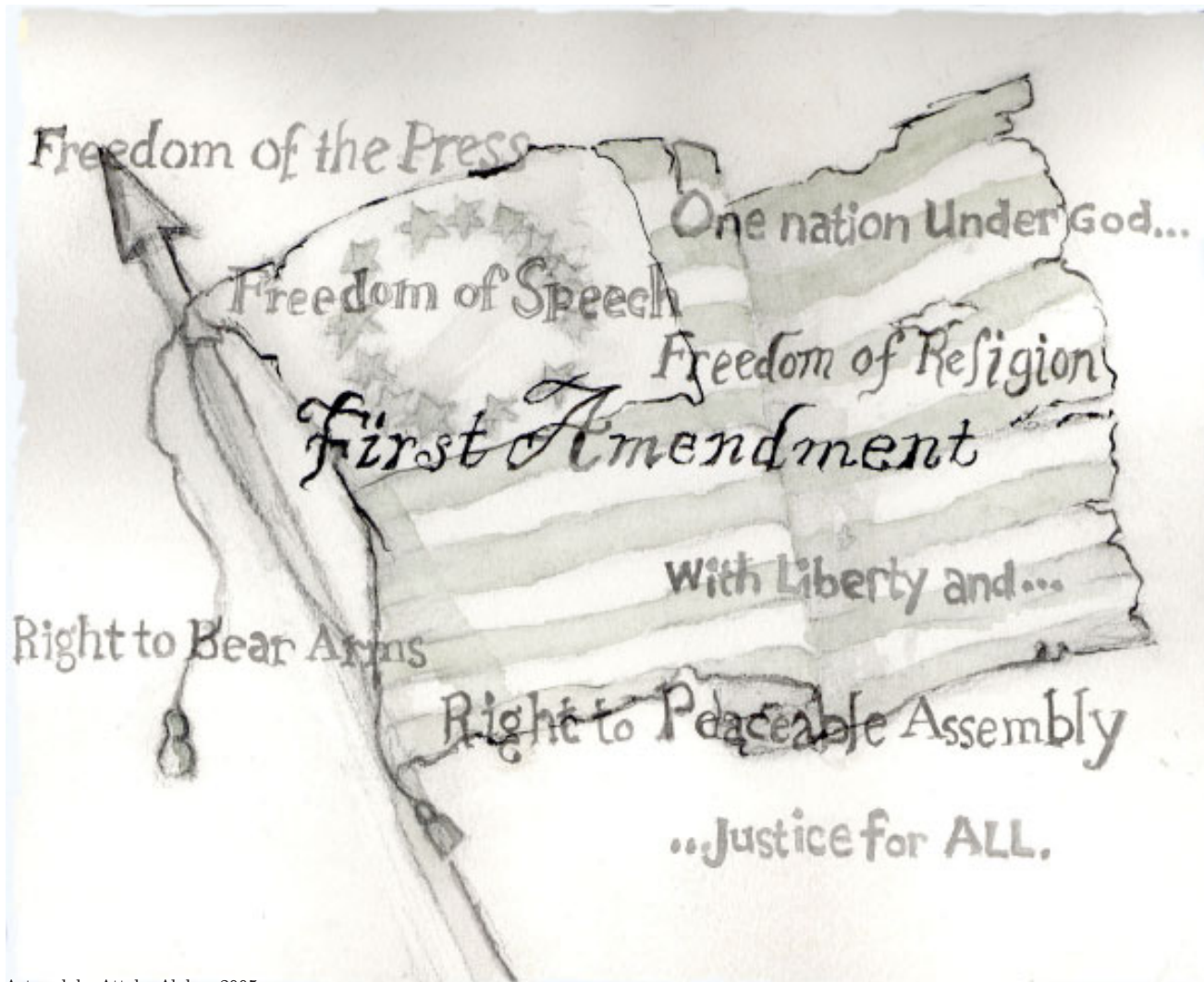


Tim Smith  
Rome Campus  
Education Major

“Trooper awareness, so everyone can grow a mustache and wear a funny hat.”

Poll by Bethany Holt

# First Amendment Awareness Week



Artwork by Atteka Abdou, 2005

The “Six Mile Post,” along with Phi Theta Kappa, the “Old Red Kimono,” the Baptist Student Union, FC Bytes, and the Floyd College chapter of the American Association of Professors, is sponsoring First Amendment Awareness Week at Floyd College Jan. 31 - Feb. 4.

Faculty and students are asked to take a moment to consider the importance of the following sentence:

**“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 the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”**

*-The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution*

## Historical events and a variety of court cases have impacted and shaped our current understanding of the significance of our First Amendment rights

### 1641

The Massachusetts General Court drafts the first broad statement of American liberties, the Massachusetts Body of Liberties. The document includes a right to petition and a statement about due process.

### 1663

Rhode Island grants religious freedom.

### 1735

Libel trial of New York publisher John Peter Zenger for published criticism of the Royal Governor of New York. Zenger is defended by Andrew Hamilton and acquitted. His trial establishes the principle

that truth is a defense to libel and that a jury may determine whether a publication is defamatory or seditious.

### 1801

Congress lets the Sedition Act of 1798 expire, and President Thomas Jefferson pardons all persons convicted under the Act. The act had punished those who uttered or published “false, scandalous, and malicious” writings against the government.

### 1919

In *Schenck v. U.S.*, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Holmes writes that not all speech is protected by the First

Amendment, citing the now-famous example of falsely crying “fire” in a crowded theater.

### 1931

In *Stromberg v. California*, the U.S. Supreme Court reverses the state court conviction of a 19-year-old female member of the Young Communist League, who violated a state law prohibiting the display of a red flag as “an emblem of opposition to the United States government.” Legal commentators cite this case as the first in which the Court recognizes that protected speech may be nonverbal, or a form of symbolic expression.

### 1958

The U.S. Supreme Court allows the NAACP of Alabama to withhold its membership list from Alabama lawmakers. In *NAACP v. Alabama*, the Court states that the demand by Alabama officials for the NAACP to provide them a membership list violates members’ associational rights.

### 1971

In *New York Times v. United States*, the U.S. Supreme Court allows continued publication of the Pentagon Papers. The Court holds that the central purpose of the First Amendment is to “prohibit the widespread practice of governmental

suppression of embarrassing information.” This case establishes that the press has almost absolute immunity from pre-publication restraints.

### 1978

The Illinois Supreme Court rules in *NSPA v. Skokie* that the National Socialist Party of America (NSPA), a neo-Nazi group, can march through Skokie, Ill., a community inhabited by a number of Holocaust survivors.

**The above timeline information was taken from the First Amendment Center’s website:**

[www.firstamendmentcenter.org](http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org)



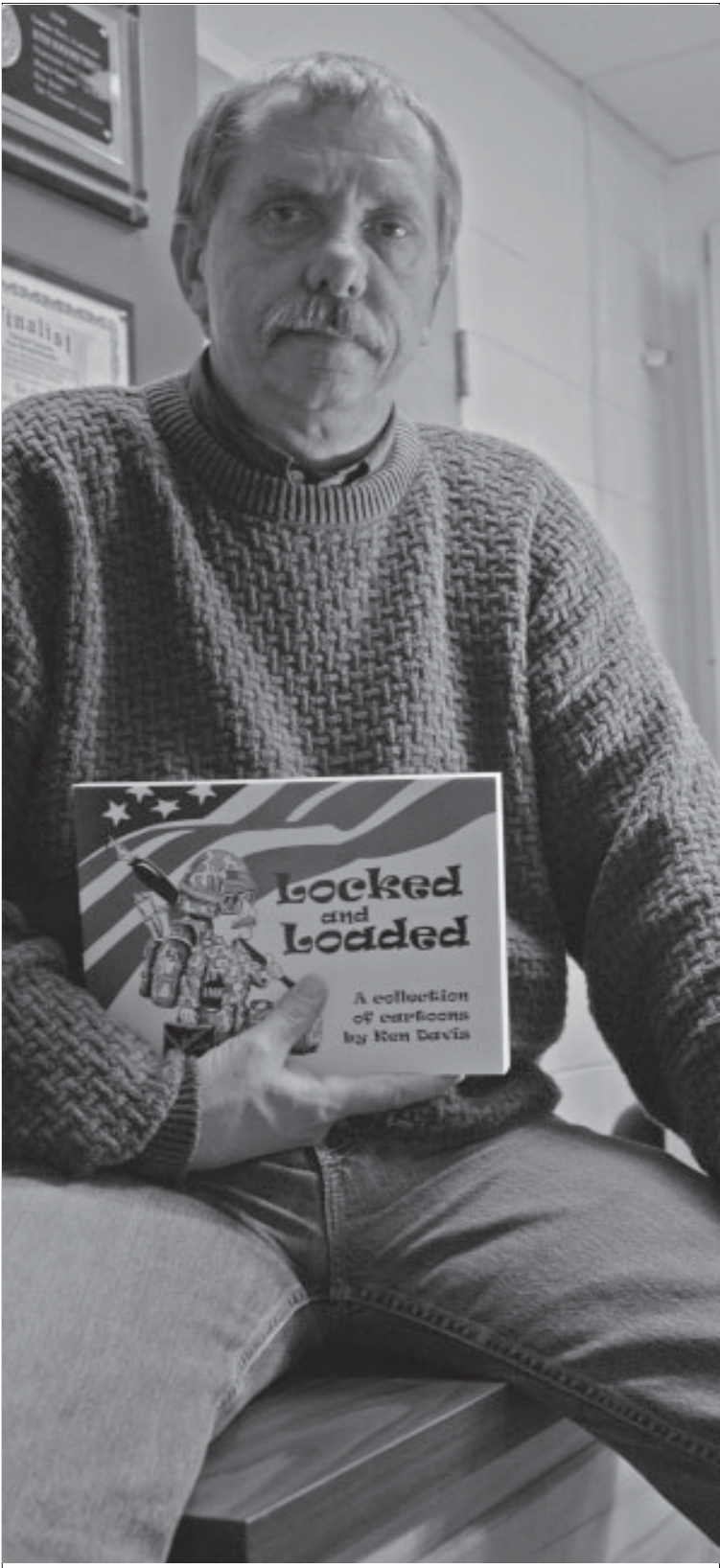


Photo by Josh Grubb

ABOVE: Ken Davis, publications editor at Floyd College, is also a published and award-winning cartoonist. Davis works on Floyd College’s “Focus” magazine and designs many of the posters and flyers seen around campus. His book, published in 2002, is titled “Locked and Loaded.”

RIGHT: A cartoon drawn especially for the “Six Mile Post” by Davis. “When designing a brochure, a poster, an advertisement or any piece of literature, first you have to determine who your audience will be,” says Davis.

# Davis voices opinion through cartoons

By Dustin Taylor  
dtay106@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

After many years of working as the publications editor at Floyd College, Ken Davis took a second job- drawing cartoons.

Now a critically acclaimed artist, Davis’ work has been published in several newspapers nationwide. He has won several awards throughout his career and has even published a book featuring his work.

Davis began drawing cartoons, not as a hobby, but as a means for voicing his opinion.

A Cedartown native, Davis published his first comics in “The Cedartown Standard.”

He drew a weekly cartoon for “The Atlanta Journal Constitution” from 1996 to 2002 and for the past four years he has worked as the cartoonist for the “San Jose Business Journal” in San Jose, California.

Drawing didn’t exactly come natural for Davis. “It was a labor of love,” he said, “but like anything, the more you work at it, the better you become.” Davis added, “Everything else is a matter to blending information and art together and coming up with a finished

product that will keep the reader’s attention while conveying your message.”

Davis’ awards include first place in the Georgia Press Association’s Better Newspaper Contest as well as the Green Eyeshade Award for Editorial Cartoons.

Additionally, his cartoons have been published in Charles Brooks’ annual book, “The Best Editorial Cartoons of The Year,” for the past five years.

As a self-syndicated, freelance

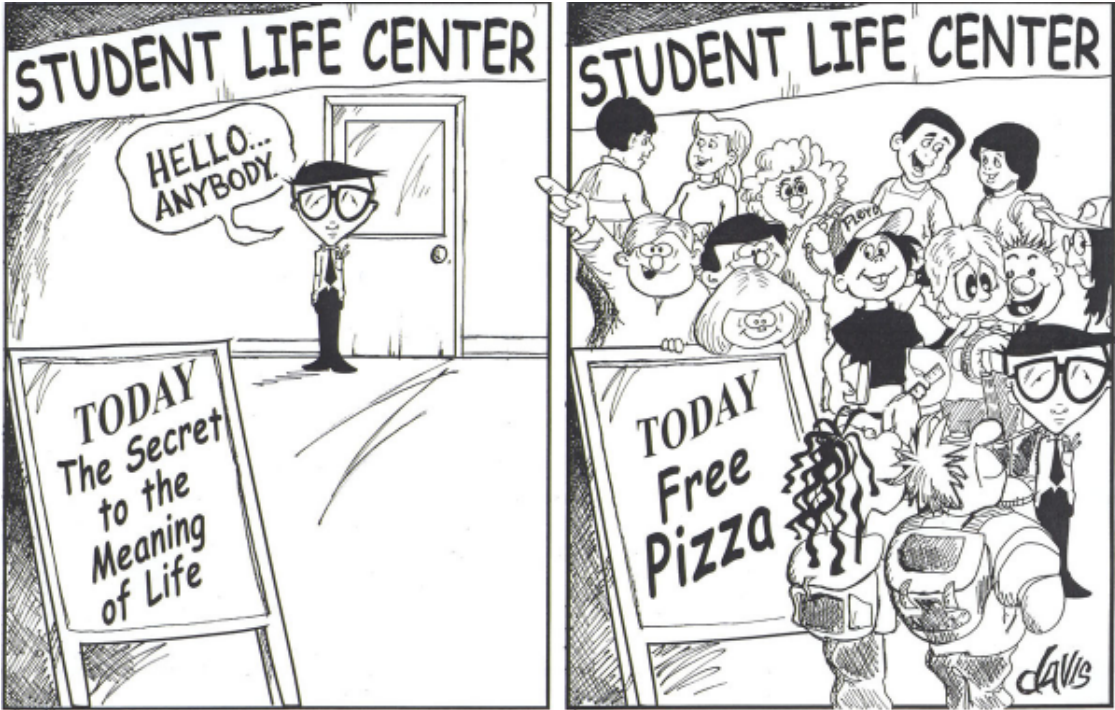
editorial cartoonist, Davis found it difficult to properly catalog his cartoons. To solve that problem, he published a book in 2002.

“Locked and Loaded” is a compilation of cartoons he drew throughout the past decade. From the Clinton-Lewinski Scandal to Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, Davis’ cartoons are primarily inspired by politics.

“After the many long hours of work I had put into my cartoons,” recalled Davis, “I thought it would be a good way to make sure I had a record of what I had done.”

For more information about Davis or “Locked and Loaded,” Davis may be contacted by calling (706) 368-6784 or at kdavis@floyd.edu.

“It was a labor of love, but like anything, the more you work at it, the better you become.”  
-Ken Davis





# Black History Month, MLK Day celebrated at FC

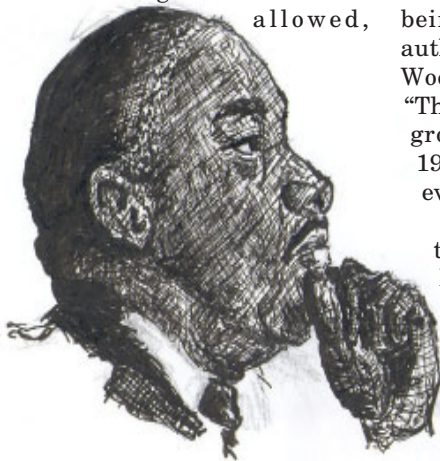
By Amy Waters  
awate03@floyd.edu  
Assistant Editor

Black History Month will be celebrated throughout February. Floyd College has two performances scheduled to celebrate the month. Kirk Nugent, a poet, will read some of his works in the Student Life Center on Feb. 10 at 12:30, and Alfred and Seymore, who are comedians that entertained students of Floyd College last year, are scheduled to perform on Feb. 16 at 12:30.

"It is important to all students here at Floyd College to explore other cultures in order to understand them better," said Judy Sims, professor of communications. She went on to say that, "Only through this time spent gathering information about other people and maybe even experiencing other cultures can we truly understand and appreciate one another."

Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson

is considered the father of Black History Month. Woodson (1875-1950), the son of former slaves James and Eliza Woodson, was born on a small farm in Virginia. When he was allowed,



-Martin Luther King, Jr.-

he attended the local school, and went on to receive his Ph.D. in History from Harvard University in 1912, becoming the second African-American to earn such a degree from Harvard.

He was the founder, in 1915, of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History based in Chicago. In the same year he founded the Journal of Negro History, a publication that is still being printed today. He also authored more than 30 books. Woodson's best-known book is "The Mis-Education of the Negro," originally published in 1933 and still considered relevant in today's culture.

In 1926, Woodson initiated the annual Feb. observance of Negro History Week. He chose Feb. for the observance because Feb. 12 was Abraham Lincoln's birthday and Feb. 14 was the accepted birthday of Frederick Douglass. By the 1970's, Negro History Week had expanded to become Black History Month.

Dr. Woodson once said, "If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in dan-

ger of being exterminated," according to www.infoplease.com.

On Jan. 17, Floyd College was closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Rachael Daniels, a pre-nursing major from Silver Creek, said "It was nice to be out of school in honor of such an inspirational man."

On April 8, 1968, just four days after Dr. King was assassinated, Congressman John Conyers (D-Michigan) introduced the first legislation requesting a federal holiday in honor of King's life. During the 1970's and 1980's controversy surrounded the idea of a federal holiday in honor of King. Both congressmen and citizens petitioned the Presidents to make Jan. 15, King's birthday, a federal legal holiday. Others wanted to make the holiday on the day he died. Still others wanted no holiday at all.

King once said, "We have flown the air like birds and swum the sea like fishes, but have yet to learn the simple act of walk-

ing the earth like brothers."

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan declared the third Monday in Jan. a federal legal holiday in honor of King's birthday.

In Jan. 1999, over 30 years after his death, the holiday was celebrated by all 50 states. Today the holiday is celebrated in 100 countries around the world, according to www.lib.lsu.edu.



-Malcolm X-

Art by Jenn Smith, 2005



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# Movie viewers should ‘Meet the Fockers’

By Ashley Morris  
amorr00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Movie Review

There aren’t many who missed the introduction of Jack Byrnes and Greg Focker in the 2000 hit “Meet the Parents.” If you liked the first one, you’ll like the sequel.

Ben Stiller is back as Gaylord “Greg” Focker, who is six months away from marrying his fiancée, Pam Byrnes (Teri Polo).

After the first film we gained knowledge about Pam’s father, Jack (Robert De Niro), who is an overpowering, controlling, anal, retired C.I.A. agent. So the tables have turned in this one. It’s the Byrnes’ turn to be in the hot seat and meet their complete opposites, the Fockers.

The film begins with Greg Focker and Pam getting ready for the two-year purposely postponed meeting between their parents. The trip starts off extremely well, and calm, which is

totally unexpected.

They arrive at the Byrnes’ house, where they are told that they are no longer taking a plane to the Focker’s home, but are now taking Jack’s new monstrous RV, equipped with hidden cameras and all.

Greg, Pam and her parents arrive at the Focker home early. The meeting begins, and so do the laughs. Dustin Hoffman plays Greg’s father Bernie – a liberal-hippie-lawyer father who loves to hug and kiss everyone. Barbra Streisand is Greg’s mother, Roz, who is a sex therapist for seniors. The Byrnes family brings along their new grandson on the trip whose first word is learned from Greg saying “ass-hole” while babysitting. A little crude, but really funny. You were expecting a comedy with manners? I think not.

Whether you decide to see this movie in theatres or not, it’s at least worth renting. It’s a movie you can bring anyone to see, and you’re guaranteed a few laughs.

# ‘Rapture of Canaan’ enraptures readers

By Amanda Cordle  
acord00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Book Review

“The Rapture of Canaan” by Sheri Reynolds is a compelling story that tugs at the reader’s heartstrings from the instant they are introduced to Ninah, the young teenage girl that the story centers on, until they turn the last page and set the finished book in their lap.

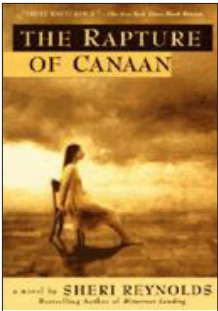
The story is about Ninah and how she deals with the ridiculously extreme religious lifestyle that her family has chosen, her blooming sexuality, self-loathing and her fear of God. These all transplant the reader into her world. One may really feel her self-inflicted pain and her disbelief at the cruelty of the world.

This is a really new and interesting story. Most novels these days that center on religion trendily follow suit, discussing the death and resurrection of Christ or the mysteries revolving around Mary

Magdalene. This novel centers on the present effects of religion on a sect of people.

The setting inside the church community of The Church of Fire and Brimstone and God’s Almighty Baptizing Wind lends much of the dark humor and searing drama to the story of Ninah. The community is isolated from everything. Ninah only sees the outside world at school, where she is ridiculed. Growing up is hard for any teenage girl, but imagine her trying a transition into womanhood inside of the stifling harsh cult led by her zealot grandfather.

The hormones of a teenage girl often leave her vulnerable to lust and desires. Ninah finds her desire to be her prayer partner, James. Reynolds illustrates how a seemingly shallow relationship between two hormone-driven



teens can result in disastrous outcomes that will affect each individual forever. While trying to find God, they find the joy of each other’s bodies.

Ninah ends up pregnant and must find her own way to deal with the task God has put before her. Despite the reaction from her family and James, the young protagonist searches within herself to find a way to survive the strife and start life anew. The clarity of mind Ninah reaches can only inspire readers to evaluate their own decisions and plans.

“The Rapture of Canaan” is an easy but extremely emotional read. It is almost impossible for the reader to put the book down , for example to watch an episode of “The Gilmore Girls,” without feeling as if poor Ninah is left in suspense waiting for the horror to come.“The Rapture of Canaan” is recommended to anyone that needs a little inspiration to set him or herself in action. This is an incredible book.

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# There is no doubt, Stefani disappoints with debut solo album

By Alex Kekel  
akeke00@floyd.edu  
Staff Writer

Music Review

If this had been the debut album of some blonde pop tart it would have been easily and widely accepted as a breath of fresh air in the stifling world of Britney and Ashlee. Yet in reality it was the fifth album from a previously well respected musician. To put it simply, Stefani is better than this.

Most of us can remember those not so long ago days of the 90’s when No Doubt first appeared on the music scene with its fresh faced front girl and ska inspired sound.

Over the years we watched that front girl grow into a powerful, pink haired musical force.

But after the hair dye was replaced with a fashion label and the jaded ex-girlfriend became a loving wife, Gwen Stefani’s sound

had changed with it.

In her newest album, “Love, Angel, Music, Baby,” Stefani takes one more step away from the 90’s by going solo. This move really shocked some of us hardcore No Doubt fans, but we were willing to give it a chance. I don’t think anyone expected to be so disappointed.

The album has some interesting tracks and catchy lyrics but, coming from the creator of “Don’t Speak,” it is campy and cheap. And it features so many other artists I’m not sure who deserves the credit, or rather, the blame.

The album is part R&B, part techno and part high school cheerleader. On certain tracks, like “Cool” and “The Real Thing,” you can see Stefani reaching for the magic that she had with No Doubt by once again identifying



with the brokenhearted ex-girlfriend in her listeners. But something just doesn’t feel right about those songs.

Oh yeah, that’s right-she doesn’t feel that way anymore. She’s happily married to one of the hottest men alive and is rich and famous to boot. No one wants to hear songs about someone who has everything they ever wanted. And I think I speak for most of us when I say, the music was better when she was unhappy.

At one point she was apparently trying to pull off that Japanese chic sound with all the harijuku references. The result, however, is one weird track with a lot of little Asian girls singing the chorus.

The soundboard induced background noises are supposed to distract us from the fact that the lyrics are atrocious. “This shit is bananas B-A-N-A-N-A-S!” is a far cry from her first popular album, “Tragic Kingdom.” Rather than grow, we’re seeing her take the easy way out.

Gwen, we’re all happy for you, but please, just let us remember you the way you were.



## Rome Renegades have the cure for the long off-season football fever

There are few things like walking into Sanford Stadium in Athens on Saturday afternoons after tailgating, ball playing and just being around 90 some-odd thousand of my closest friends who I have actually never met- just to watch football.

But in January, all of football is almost over.

So until August the football-minded person has to have something to satisfy the need for the glory of the game.

For me, the real season ends the first week of January with the College Football National Championship.

Congrats to the men of Troy from the University of Southern California. May God bless those who play them next season with a ton of returning starters, including quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner Matt Leinart.

This year during the long off-



### Sports Column

By Tony Potts  
[apott01@floyd.edu](mailto:apott01@floyd.edu)  
 Guest Columnist

season, Romans have something special in the form of an indoor arena football team, The Rome Renegades!

I am pretty excited about this team. If any of you have ever attended a game of The Georgia Force, then you know why! The fans are so close to the action that you feel as if you can reach out and touch the players.

So come March, the people in Rome will have something to fulfill their needs for the pulse-pounding, heart-racing, hard-hitting action of football! If you are a traditionalist, give it a shot. What do you have to lose?

For ticket info for the Rome Renegades, call the Rome Forum Box Office at (706) 291-5281.

## Intramurals gear up for spring season

By Becky Crooks  
[rcroo00@floyd.edu](mailto:rcroo00@floyd.edu)  
 Staff Writer

This semester students can sign-up for intramural volleyball Feb. 5 - Feb. 25. Volleyball play begins March 1.

Sign-ups for soccer are from Feb. 5 to Feb. 22. Soccer play begins on Feb. 23 at 1:30 p.m.

The FIT Program, a 10-week "at-your-own-pace" fitness program for students who do not like the overall commitment level of regular sports, began Jan. 24.

Five-on-five basketball sign-ups began Jan.10. Play begins Feb. 1 at 1:30 p.m. in the gym.

After all the sports have concluded, there will be an intramurals banquet for the contenders on April 27.

To sign-up for any intramural sports or for additional information, contact David Mathis at (706) 295-6353 or at [dmathis@floyd.edu](mailto:dmathis@floyd.edu).



Photo by Josh Grubb

## Pepperell Dragons make the FC gym their temporary after-school lair

The Pepperell Dragons have been renting the Floyd College gymnasium after school from 3:15 p.m. on into the early evening. The team will use the gym while their school gym is under reconstruction.

# BOOKSTORE NEWS

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# Students hit slopes during winter ski trip

**By Bethany Holt**  
**bholt00@floyd.edu**  
**Staff Writer**

Seventeen Floyd College students experienced a ski adventure at the Appalachian Ski Mountain in Boone, N.C., during the winter break not just for class credit but the fun of the snow.

Students on the trip had the option to earn two credit hours in physical education. The trip was supervised by Dr. Ken Weatherman, professor of physical education. This year was a special treat for Weatherman because he was given permission by the college to take his son, Andrew, along on the trip.

The trip was not limited to students on the Rome campus, but included students from all campuses in the Floyd College system and their guests. The five-day trip took place Dec. 12-16.

Upon arrival the students were pointed in the direction of Ski French Swiss Rentals, where they rented ski equipment and

were instructed on how to choose the proper and safest equipment to fit their individual needs.

The staff worked with students one-on-one to guarantee a successful ski experience.

Every morning the students met at the Appalachian Ski Resort, where the slope was covered with students from other schools like Clemson, Valdosta State and the University of Georgia. During the morning meetings, classes would be held with designated instructors employed by Ski French Swiss. Students were chosen to be in particular classes by ski ability – beginner, intermediate and advanced.

The Floyd College students, most of whom had never been skiing before, were taught how to walk in the snow with skis and techniques on how to get back up after a fall because, according to the instructors, it is a certainty that beginners will fall and fall again.

As the week progressed, students learned more and more

about skiing and the proper way to go down a slope, slow down, stop and accelerate.

After each class, students had the freedom to leave but most stayed and tried out the skills they had so vigorously been working on during class.

At the end of the week the class was given a written test and a technique test.

The last day on the slope put everyone's skills to the test. No classes were held, but the students showed up to see what they were really made of. Both of the chair lifts were running, and there were more slopes open on this particular day. FC students took advantage of the situation, enjoying the versatility of the slopes and the skills that had prepared them all week to go down them.

History major Scott Blair of Rome said, "I had a great time in North Carolina, I thought the karaoke bars were top notch and I'd love to go back and ski some more."



Contributed Photo



Contributed Photo

**ABOVE: Dr. Ken Weatherman, professor of physical education, poses with his son, Andrew, before they hit the slopes. CENTER: FC student Scott Blair, a history major from Rome, catches air going over a hill.**

**TOP RIGHT: Jarrett Gray, a middle grade education major from Silver Creek, stops after skiing down the slope. RIGHT CENTER: Floyd College skiers pose in front of the ski lodge before skiing. BOTTOM RIGHT: FC student Jarrett Gray sits with his fallen comrade Sterling Peace, a political science major from Trion.**

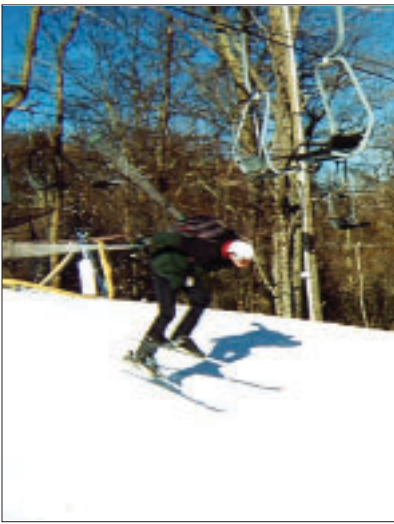


Photo by Jessica Keener



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