

SIX MILE POST

The Student Voice

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**Paulding campus
renovation plans
see page 2**

Contributed

Due to the increase in Paulding students at GHC, more facilities are necessary for success on the campus. When the new classroom areas are open, more classes will be provided on the Paulding campus.



**GHC professor
was once an
animal trainer**

See page 5.



**A look into
life on the
Douglasville
campus**

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**Basketball
teams charge
into postsea-
son**

See page 14.

GHC plans to renovate the Paulding campus

By Danielle Griesemer
Staff Writer

In the midst of the construction on the Cartersville campus, many students are unaware of the future plans of the other GHC campuses.

According to GHC President Donald Green, the Paulding campus will also see some building renovation and new class space open up in the coming years.

About 11 years ago, an old bank building and parking lot in downtown Dallas came into the possession of GHC. Since the acquisition, the college has been maintaining the facility, called the Winn building, but no funding has been obtained yet to begin renovations.

Georgia Highlands is currently seeking \$4.8 million for this next project. The use of the Winn building will double teaching space and also add additional labs.

Green said that Paulding County is a growing area and is a strategic location for GHC.

Currently the population of the campus is approximately 500 students but is slowly increasing each year. This means the campus is reaching a point where “prime-time class hours” (between 9:00am and 2:00pm, according to Green) are maxing out their class space. This new building will double the number of classes that can be offered at those times.

With more classrooms available to Paulding campus students classes that currently can’t be provided on this campus would be available. Students at Paulding will not have to commute to other campuses to get the classes they need as much after construction of the classrooms is complete.

This in turn will make it so students at Paulding can graduate earlier and complete classes they need

Funding for this project must be acquired from the senators and representatives of the state of Georgia. The Winn building is classified as a “small capitalization project” because its costs are under \$5 million. Initially, this means the project is not on the Governor’s List of Importance. But this project is on the Preferred Projects list from the University System of Georgia. Each senator and house representative has funding that they can allot to projects such as this.

Currently, GHC only maintains the exterior of the Winn building, and the inside of the facility is empty. To make this building usable, it must be brought up to building code for a school facility. This includes upgrading fire equipment, reviewing stairwells, and removing non load-bearing walls.

Green stated that GHC’s ultimate goal is to “develop each campus site, and make it appropriate for students.”



Contributed

The Paulding campus is located in downtown Dallas, Georgia. Georgia Highlands College plans on expanding this campus. This will be done through the renovation of current buildings and the addition of more classrooms in a new building. The new classrooms are to be located in the Winn building. The college has been maintaining the Winn building for about 11 years, but no funding has been provided or used for renovations.

Parking problems at Marietta may be no more

By Catie Sullivan
Editor-in-Chief

GHC’s Marietta campus shares space with Kennesaw State University’s Marietta campus. This has resulted in traffic and parking problems due to the amount of students flowing into both facilities. Parking at the Marietta campus has been an issue for

about a year now. Students often times had to park at White Water and ride Kennesaw State University’s buses to the GHC Marietta locations.

However, parking at White Water is no longer available because KSU is expanding two commuter parking lots in the hopes of providing some parking relief for students. These new parking lot areas will

hopefully be open for use in the fall semester of 2018. GHC Marietta site director, Ken Reaves said, “I hope this will provide some relief and better options for GHC students.”

Students in the fall semester of 2017 were sometimes late to class due to the lack of parking spaces on campus as well as waiting and riding the KSU bus to the campus. These

new parking lots should make a student’s day less stressful.

Even though more parking spots are being added to the GHC and KSU Marietta campus, there will still be competition for spots. Due to the increase in student enrollment during the fall parking fills up quicker during that time.

Parking spots become more available in the spring semes-

ter due to Kennesaw students graduating. Kennesaw’s enrollment rate is growing exponentially and this in turn makes it harder for GHC students to find parking within GHC and Kennesaw’s shared lots.

KSU is building these new parking lots to accommodate both Kennesaw students and Georgia Highlands students.

C'ville campus construction is well underway

By Danielle Griesemer
Staff Writer

Students have witnessed many changes in the 2017-2018 school year. One major change that has been on the minds of many students is the new building going up on the Cartersville campus.

A new building has been under construction since the summer of 2017. It will be known as the STEAM building, meaning it will house classes focusing on STEAM fields: science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Currently, there is not much room for science and computer labs across all GHC campuses.

This new building will double space for these types of classes as well as staff offices. There will even be an art studio on the third floor. It will also include more student study and lounge areas. There is hope that this new space will allow an expansion in the four-year programs GHC can offer.

Cartersville campus Dean Leslie Johnson said, "Construction will be complete by the beginning of September 2018." This does not mean classes will take place there immediately. Computers and other electronics will still need to be put into place. Some fall classes may be moved into the



Photo by Kaitlyn Stewart

Crews work on the new academic building at the Cartersville site that is expected to open to students by January 2019.

new building after midterms.

Johnson stated, "The groundbreaking ceremony occurred last spring, but no

ground was actually broken until the summer." Despite these setbacks, she assures students that "we are a little

ahead of schedule from getting a late start." The new STEAM building should be open to all students by January 2019.

Smaller campuses have limited class options

By Kara Ledbetter
Staff Writer

GHC students who go to smaller campuses such as Paulding, Marietta and Douglasville often have very limited options for class selections.

For example, Keily Perla, a GHC student, is in the process of completing her associate's with an art pathway.

Although Perla has no difficulties taking her typical math and English classes, she has problems taking ones required for her pathway. Not only are they just offered at Floyd, but "the studio classes alternate through semesters," she said.

Similarly, student Lauren Moore lives closest to the Paulding campus, but could not find all the classes she needed there. Moore said, "I'm taking a lab that is only offered at the Cartersville campus and

my other classes at Marietta," she said.

"I'm taking a lab that is only offered at the Cartersville campus and my other classes at Marietta."

-Lauren Moore

GHC student
who lives closest to
Paulding site

With these restrictions, many students just like Perla and Moore, struggle with getting the classes they need to graduate on time. Joy Hambrick, the Paulding site direc-

tor, feels and shares their frustration and is "working with every tool in my arsenal to correct this," she said.

Aware of the problem, "Myself and Ms. Julia Areh, Douglasville site director, have made it a top priority to focus on changing this in the upcoming year and bring more major classes to our smaller campuses," said Hambrick.

They are working with academic deans to identify student needs and what has to happen to offer these classes, as well as coordinating schedules between Paulding and Douglasville.

This will make sure that classes will be offered at different times, giving students the flexibility to attend both campuses.

Thinking outside of the box, Hambrick explained, "I am exploring other options

such as hybrid and Saturday classes, working with Paulding County School District at offering alternative sites, and acquiring more space."

"I am exploring other options..."

-Joy Hambrick
Paulding Site Director

Regarding science, as Paulding only has one lab classroom, Hambrick said, "When we are able to renovate our new building, science labs are a top priority."

Hambrick wants students to know she would "love nothing more than to see a student begin their academic career and graduate right here at Paulding, and I will work consistently to provide them with that opportunity."

ASF
Registration
Deadline
March 5

Cost of trip ranges from \$115-150 per person and covers transportation, hotel lodging, tickets for two plays, tickets to a Montgomery Biscuits minor league baseball game and two meals.

Sign up with
Student Life

Study abroad trips offered at GHC

By Nick Whitmire
Managing Ed., Online

Georgia Highlands College will be sponsoring three study abroad trips to China, Italy, and Berlin in 2018 along with other colleges part of the University system of Georgia and the European Council for Berlin.

According to Bronson Long, director of global initiatives and associate professor of history, "These trips will help students broaden their view of the world and expand their horizons and help bolster their career in a global world."

All students with a good academic standing are eligible to participate in these trips. But first, students will have to complete a GHC study abroad application, which includes meeting with Financial Aid representatives that may lead to helping pay for the trip for students.

The trips to China, Italy, and Berlin will have summer session courses for 2018 linked to them. Long said, "Study abroad is not only a wonderful way to see more of the world, but it can help you earn college credit and further your education."

All three trips include round trip airfare, accommodations, ground transportation, site visits, travel insurance, and most meals. These programs will mostly be all inclusive.

For the trip to Italy, students will be visiting Montepulciano in Tuscany and experience the history of Italy through field trips to Rome, Florence, Siena, Pisa, Venice, and other cities. On weekends, students will be free to explore the Italian Peninsula, with activities that include swimming the Mediterranean and hiking the Alps.

The Berlin trip will be

hosted by David Hensley, assistant professor of history. According to Hensley, "This trip will bring both faculty and students together to engage in learning about a different place, while being in a different place." In Berlin, students will be visiting Fredrick the Great's summer palace, Checkpoint Charlie, a military base used during the Cold War, the Berlin Wall, the town of Wittenberg, where Martin Luther lived and founded the Protestant Reformation Movement, and certain places significant to the Nazi regime, such as a concentration camp.

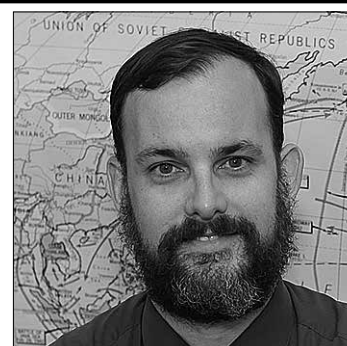
Taking classes in Berlin will help students broaden their horizons and have a further appreciation of the classes they are taking by following the practices of those that came before, like the backgrounds in science, business, and the humanities.

One class will have a sig-

nificant impact on students, the History of Nazi Germany. Hensley says, "With this class, I want to show students that Nazism was not some alien concept that took over the country, as it came from existing trends and developed through popular support." Hensley also wants to show how Berlin today is still struggling with its past with its democratic present. The Berlin trip will cost \$5,300 and the deadline is March 2, 2018.

Students will be traveling around by bus, train, and subway. While there will be bilingual tour guides in China, there will not be in Italy or Berlin. But even though most people in those countries do speak English, it could help if students knew a few simple words.

Long says, "Study abroad is a unique, once in a lifetime opportunity, especially when you are young, as it is a chance



Contributed

Bronson Long

for adventure and to explore the world."

The China trip will be a nine-day trip from May 25 to June 2, 2018. The Italy trip will last from June 28 to Aug. 2, 2018. The Berlin trip will take place on June 28 through Aug. 1, 2018.

For more information, go to hartttravel.com/ghcchina, dga.kennesaw.edu/education-abroad, and ecstudyabroad.net for each individual trip.

To see information on the China trip, go to <http://sixmilepostonline.com/?p=4946> from the October 3 "Six Mile Post" issue.

Highlands Happenings

GHC celebrates Women's History

By David Pulliam
Staff Writer

GHC will commemorate Women's History Month, in March, with events that span all campuses. These events will include film screenings, literary readings, networking opportunities and panel discussions. English Professor Carla Patterson said, "These events will be inclusive enough that all students, staff, and faculty should be able to find something of interest on their campus." The Office of Student Life on each campus will post announcements, and more information will be available at www.highlands.edu/celebrate-women as the month of March approaches and those details become finalized.

EBA is approaching

By Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

Early Bird Advising at GHC is set for March 12-23 on all campuses. Students are encouraged to make an appointment during this time with a professor who teaches in the area of their pathway.

According to Cindy Wheeler, faculty advising specialist for the humanities division, students who participate in EBA can register for fall classes early, beginning on April 2. Students can find advisers in their pathways of study and on their campuses by visiting <https://sites.highlands.edu/advising/student-resources/early-bird-advising/>. EBA information posters will also provide additional details.

Next #Adulting series is planned

By Jacob Williams
Staff Writer

GHC's Cartersville campus Student Life is giving students a few chances to find out what "Adulting" means.

Coming this spring, GHC is offering a free series of seminars that will help prepare them for the adult world.

Whether it's just for a job that a student plans on working through school or the job a student is seeking after he or she graduates, GHC Student Support Services will teach students how to create a great resume on March 13 and 21.

"Spool of Dreams," a local business in Cartersville, will give students some inside info on starting and running a

small business on April 4 and 17.

These seminars will take place in room 102 at the Student Center on the Cartersville campus, starting at 2 p.m. on their listed dates.

Students should look for seminars at all campuses

BBA application deadline

By Epiphany Huff
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands College is offering a healthcare management program and a supply chain management program.

The structure for these programs will consist of 24 upper level hours that concentrate on the business core with courses

in economics, finance, management, marketing and statistics.

The programs will also consist of 24 upper level hours but will focus on the delivery of Healthcare or Logistics and Supply Chain based theoretical and content knowledge.

The programs will also consist of 12 hours and target experiential education, emerging and special topics, professional career management and a capstone course.

People can apply for BBA scholarships at <https://highlands.awardspring.com>.

To apply for an open house students can visit <https://forms.highlands.edu/bbaopenhouse/>. Students will be required to complete a minimum of 50 credit hours under the business administration pathway prior to applying to the BBA program.

Blankenship: Students, tigers and bears oh my!

By Catie Sullivan
Editor-in-Chief

Steve Blankenship, professor of history on the Cartersville campus, has taught both students and animals.

Blankenship has taught at both Georgia Highlands and Georgia State. Prior to teaching, he was an animal trainer and caretaker. He has taken care of animals such as chickens, rabbits, horses, snakes, monkeys, bears, tigers and many more.

Blankenship is from Shannon, Georgia. He attended college at the University of Florida, Florida State, Emory and Georgia State, where he got his doctorate.

Blankenship began his journey as an animal trainer through the kennel and farm he ran in Conyers, Georgia.

He trained animals for entertainment and media purposes as well as just for fun. His dog Hunter was Sheriff Bill Gillespie's dog on the TV series "In the Heat of the Night."

His turkeys were used

in Honey Baked Ham commercials and various other animals he cared for were featured in media.

All the animals Blankenship had were trained by himself. His dog Hunter was completely hand trained. Blankenship could control how loud or soft the dog barked, make it sit, lie down and play dead among other tricks.

He taught himself how to train animals just by being with them for hours and working with them daily. He once taught a chicken to sit still on a basketball, because the chicken was needed to sit stationary on a globe at a convention in Atlanta.

Along with the care taking and training of animals, Blankenship also rehabilitated animals like hawks, falcons, peacocks and other species.

Blankenship's animal caretaking business grew from taking care of dogs and farm animals to exotic unique creatures, such as a tiger named Catori.

Blankenship said, "If you have never heard a tiger roar



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Steve Blankenship, professor of history at Georgia Highlands, believes that the skills required to train animals can also be used in the classroom.

it literally sounds like the voice of God; it is beautiful to see this awe-inspiring animal up close." Blankenship took care of the big cat from a cub until it was too big and it then lived out the rest of its life at Noah's Ark, an educational animal sanctuary.

Daily life on Blankenship's property involved cleaning pens and runs, replenishing water, feeding, repairing fences and making sure all the animals had their shots and were healthy.

He had thirty-five acres of pasture, runs for different

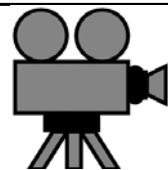
animals and cages for smaller animals.

Blankenship said, "The skills required to train animals are very similar to the skills required to teach. You have to pay attention, exert power and use good voice control to overall be in command."



Tori Pollock is a music education major on the Floyd Campus. Her future career goal is to play music for Disney Studios. Pollock is from Aurora, Illinois and currently works at Duffy's Deli in Rome, Ga.

Student on the street Q&A: Tori Pollock

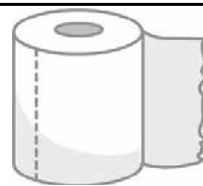


Q.

Favorite Movie and why?

A.

"My favorite movie is 'A Room with a View' because it expresses the idea of unexpected romance."



Q.

Toilet paper: under or over?

A.

"I know this is probably awful but I put it on the roll under."



Q.

If crime was legal for one day...

A.

"... I would probably just take a lot of expensive or valuable items."



Q.

Favorite superhero and why?

A.

"Black Widow is my favorite superhero because she strives to make herself better."

GHC libraries offer many different services

By Jillian Scanlon
Staff Writer

Between the six GHC locations, there are over 78,000 printed books and around 136,000 books online. Leslie Johnston, assistant professor of English, said, "Students also have access to all of the library resources in the University System of Georgia."

"A lot of students don't know we have videos and movies available through GALILEO."

-Carmelita Brunson

The library provides a space where students can study, make copies, print papers/projects and work on

homework and even read just for fun. GALILEO is the virtual library that universities in the USG use. Through GALILEO, many articles, books and magazines are accessible by students here at GHC. "A lot of students don't know we have videos and movies available through GALILEO," stated Carmelita Brunson, assistant librarian for public service.

GHC libraries help students that need other resources as well. Brunson said, "We have some special items that students don't know about, like graphing calculators and MacBooks you can use within the library." The library also has textbooks that can be used by students but not taken home. "We don't have every textbook for every class, but we have some of the lower popular ones, so if you really can't afford the textbook and you would like to use one in the library, you can make limited photocopies or use it in the room for however long you need it," said Brunson.

Librarians are also here to help. Brunson said, "The big-



Photo by Nick Whitmire

The library on the Floyd campus offers services, such as GALILEO to assist students.

gest resource is us, anything, any question and any problem if we don't know the answer we can look it up or get you to the right place." Betsy

Clark, assistant librarian for public services at Cartersville, stated, "Don't be afraid; ask on chat."

According to Sumer Lang, a

library associate, GHC libraries have Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts, where they post updates and events that they host or cohost.

The road of life is one paved with literature

By LaTonya Kilgore
Staff Writer

It can be difficult to find time to read for pleasure but literature provides growth in numerous areas of life.

Sometimes lifelong bonds with literature can be made in surprising ways. A few faculty members stated how literature has affected their lives.

As a high school student, Carla Patterson, GHC English professor, had an average exposure to literature. Not particularly fond of poetry at first, a new knowledge of poetic devices and interpretations found in her undergraduate career mixed with a short attention span sparked a desire, then love for poetry.



File Photo

Carla Patterson

Her favorite poem, "Tintern Abbey" has had a special influence on her life. In what Patterson calls a "happy accident" she was able to visit the abbey mentioned in the poem and she described being there

as an "almost out of body experience."

She explained, "All throughout my life, there have been experiences that I've had that have caused me to reconnect with a different part of that poem in a different way. It has always been relevant to me." As a professor and lover of literature, she admits that what she considers her favorite piece of work may change at times, but this piece has always been special to her.

When asked about the most influential literature in her life, Travice Obas, professor of communication, describes herself as a "voracious reader" and couldn't pick just one.

Instead she broke down her favorites into different cat-

egories. In the area of personal growth and development Obas recommends "Before Happiness" by Shawn Achor, saying, "This book focuses on perspectives. Before happiness and success, comes your perception of the world (cognitive, intellectual and emotional resources) that are necessary for change."

"America, the Dumbest Generation" by Mark Bauerlein tops her list in the area of Communication & Media Technology because it "focuses on the intellect of the 30 year old and younger generation under the umbrella of the digital age."

Literature comes in many different formats and genres and should be explored. What



Contributed

Travice Obas

kind of gems would students find if they asked their professors what piece of literature has been most inspirational in their lives?

A Day in the Life at Douglasville!



Photo by Michael McClain

Students gather around and work together on their studies in the student center at the Douglasville campus.



Photo by Michael McClain

Two students at the Douglasville campus participate in a friendly game of foosball in the student center.

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*Brock Shelton
Admissions Counselor
Jacksonville State University*

Who is the most inspirational black figure?

Poll conducted by Michael McClain



Payton Thomson

"I would say Barack Obama. He paved the way for the youth to aspire for greater heights"



Melijah Mason

"Oprah Winfrey showed us how big African Americans can be when they stay determined and expand their brand."

GHC visits museum

By Jillian Scanlon
Staff Writer

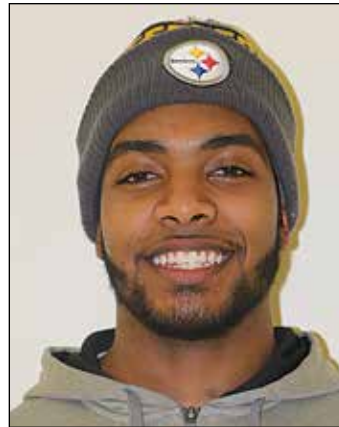
GHC students took a trip to the Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta on Feb. 9. Students got to experience and explore five different exhibits: The Civil Rights Movement, the Global Human Rights Movement, Live the Legacy Series, Breaking Barriers, and The Morehouse College MLK Jr. Collection.

The museum has pictures of the first African American patrolmen in Atlanta in 1948. There is a display that talks about Brown v. Board of Education. Students were engaged by different interactive displays as well. Marietta Student Life Coordinator Megan Simmons says, "You get

to experience it, like at the lunch counter...you get to feel it."

One very intense interactive display was the "lunch counter." This display involved putting headphones on, placing your hands on the counter and closing your eyes. During the simulation you could hear and feel how an African American was treated during the Civil Rights Movement.

Cartersville Student Life Coordinator Clifton Puckett says, "We try to take students on this trip every year; it's very educational." A student from the Floyd Campus, Deepesh Pahari enjoyed the experience and said, "There was lots of information and it tells a lot of the history."



Elijah Bransford

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., because of his notoriety, national reach, and peaceful methods."



Rahmeer Smith

"Nat Turner. He made me broaden my thoughts on slavery and showed me the importance of black people being present in their own religious practices."

Brother to Brother offers support and tips

By LaTonya Kilgore
Staff Writer

Brother to Brother is a part of Georgia Highlands African-American and Minority Male Excellence, otherwise known as GHAME. The organization "is part of a statewide initiative to increase the recruiting, retention and graduation rates of African American male and Latino male students," explains Jon Hershey, GHAME director, on the Georgia Highlands website.

The program has proven to be very successful. Evan Snelling, the GHAME coordinator explained that minority men who participate have shown to have a higher retention and graduation rate. Members of Brother to Brother have a 27% graduation rate where non-members have only a 3% graduation rate.

What makes the organization so successful is the support it offers. They meet once a week on campus plus have a weekly tutoring session. They also provide tips for success to their members.

Snelling explained that often minority men are less likely to ask for help. Brother to Brother gives them a community of support and mentorship. They provide tips and tools on how to be successful in college, such as advising members to sit at the front of the classroom and emailing professors prior to the beginning of the semester to introduce themselves.

Brother to Brother also offers support finding scholarships and other financial aid advising, along with academic advising. Another important aspect of the organization is community service and field trips.



Photo by Nick Whitmire

The organization seeks to make a difference in the life and college experience of African American and minority men. They rely on assistance from professors to encourage potential members to join the organization, as well as reaching out personally to incoming students and high school seniors.

The organization made a personal impact in the life of Snelling, the GHAME coordinator who was the student president of Brother to Brother when he attended the Cartersville campus of Georgia Highlands.

Mark McCray comes to GHC to speak about animation

By Moises Ledesma
Staff Writer

As part of Georgia Highlands College Black History Month activities, guest speaker Mark McCray, senior manager of programming operations for Adult Swim, was invited to several GHC locations to talk about his experience with the television industry, Saturday morning television and about African American Influences in cartoons.

McCray entered the television industry by launching "The Best Saturdays of our Lives" monthly newsletter in 1992. The newsletter was sent to various companies involved with children's content such as Nickelodeon, Marvel, Cartoon Network and DC Comics.

After his success with the newsletter, he started working with Cartoon Network where he became responsible for television programming and strategy.

In 2015, McCray revisited and updated his previously released monthly newsletters



and published the book "The Best Saturdays of Our Lives". It allowed him to update and correct commentary which he had previously released.

At GHC, McCray explained how ratings impact advertisements and how the budget and the animation quality of cartoons are affected. He also talked about the debut of the first wave of African American characters.

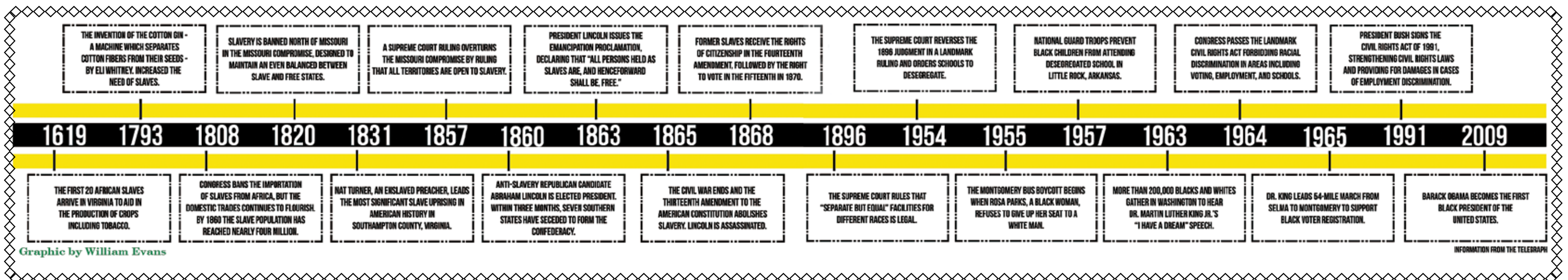
Pete Jones of the "Hardy Boys" (1969) was among the first African American characters to appear on Saturday morning television. The "Harlem Globetrotters" (1970) was the first African American series and "Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids" (1992) was the first and longest series to feature an all-African American animated cast.

McCray also talked about

the wave of animated celebrity African American stars such as "I Am the Greatest: The Adventures of Muhammad Ali" (1977) and "Mister T" (1983).

He also explained how Saturday morning television began to decline in the mid-1990s, but its legacy gave birth to 24-hour networks dedicated to children's programming.

A TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY





Cellphone use and abuse

Cellphones are visible to a person throughout their day. Whether a person is looking at their own device, walking down the street, waiting in a line or driving they see a cell phone being used by either themselves or others. Due to the increase of social media and the normality of cellphone use, multiple psychological and physical issues have arisen.

Studies by WebMD.com

have proven that cellphone usage can cause anxiety as well as depression. Now the level of anxiety cellphones provide may not be that noticeable, but it is a small defining factor in the mental toll that cell phones have on a human.

Often, young adults look to their phones as a crutch in any situation. They wish to escape their problems and dive into the world of social media rather than

complete a task at hand. This is when depression due to lack of productivity sets in.

Cellphones may not cause extreme feelings of anxiety and depression, however, their use still creates additional mental turmoil.

Often, people hear how technology screens can harm their vision. This is a fact. Eyeglass companies are now selling anti-blue

light eyeglasses for people to wear only while using computers or cell phones to avoid exposure to harsh lighting.

Cellphone lights can make a person's eyes tired and overtime too much direct exposure can affect one's vision.

Cellphone use can also affect the way someone perceives another. If a student is always on their phone in class the respect that student's teacher has for them can be low. Why should a teacher pay any attention to someone and give them any respect when they are scrolling through Twitter during the duration of their class?

Almost every Snapchat, text message, Twitter mention and Instagram comment can be put off. None of these social media notifications are emergency dire issues that need attention right away.

However, some youth live by the buzzing and ringing of their phone. Cellphone use is cureable. It may be hard and may be painful, but putting down the phone won't kill you.

Six Mile Post Editorial Board

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Editor's Box

Abigail Allmond
Asst. Sports Editor

Bored? Take a hike

Some people enjoy going to the beach, shopping, or camping for fun. However, I choose to go hiking for fun.

Hiking has always been something that has calmed me and has been more exciting

than anything. Most people don't like hiking because it's so much work, but it has always been number one on my list of things to do if I am bored.

More and more people should hike as it is a great

stress reliever, great exercise and people can really connect with themselves on a whole different level.

When I go hiking, I always leave with a clear mind, a smile on my face and a new view on life. I never use music when I hike because I love being able to hear the wind, listen to the birds and listen to the water flowing in a nearby stream or river.

Some of my favorite hiking spots include Blood Mountain Loop, Tallulah Gorge Sliding Rock Trail, Raven Cliff Falls

and Panther Creek Falls. These trails are close to home and the drive to get there is just as beautiful as the hike itself.

When I go hiking I take a small Kavu Rope Bag, trail mix and granola bars for a light snack. I also take plenty of bottles of water and a wireless charger just in case my phone dies.

Always take a friend or an animal companion on a hike. Also, never hike alone as it can be dangerous and make sure to always stay on the trails.

What is your favorite winter Olympic sport and why?



Kinsley Padgett

"Snowboarding because it looks cool."



Derek Kopp

"I like watching curling because it is different."



Imani Hampton

"I like skiing because I like how fast they go down hill."



Megan Bridges

"Freestyle skiing is cool and I like to see what everyone can do."



Brett Teems

"Skiing is my favorite sport to watch."



Kateryna P. Khomenko

"Ice Skating is fun to watch because there is music and dancing"



Jared Shelton

"Curling because it's unique and you don't have to be super athletic to do it."



Yadira Chavez

"I like gymnastics because it is aesthetically pleasing."

Poll conducted by Six Mile Post staff

What's really important?

With the world we live in today, it can be easy to get caught up in the most recent breaking news about Donald Trump or the newest meme to become viral (Tide Pods anyone?)

Although politics and pop culture are important aspects of our lives, we often can forget about what truly matters the most.

Many of us live day-to-day stressing about "important" things such as bills, jobs or even when our next homework assignment is due.

We get caught up in materialistic things such as how much Bitcoin we need to become rich or how many retweets or followers we received from our latest tweet.

We criticize and sometimes

even obsess over celebrities. Why would Kylie Jenner hide her pregnancy? What does Tom Brady have to say now that his team has lost?

Although we are good at questioning celebrities and worrying about problems which are not our own, what about our own problems? Am I taking care of myself? Have I told the people I care about

how much I love them? These answers are what should matter the most.

The people around us are the most important of all - not politics, not celebrity gossip. Not only the people, but the

love we have for those people.

We all have one truth in common: we only get one life here on Earth. How we use and spend our lives is what varies. People should be focusing on what is important.



Soap Box

Kara Ledbetter
Staff Writer

Thoughts on the nominations for the 90th Academy Awards

By Joseph McDaniel
Managing Ed., Design

The Oscars have always seemed to be an overblown celebration of the same sort of films that are nominated every year. It's either a war film, a drama or biopic intended to be a showcase for an actor's talents, a musical or something that is socially relevant. It rarely strays from these conventions, and whenever it does, it's a complete surprise, such as when "Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" took home eleven Oscars in 2004.

They typically never look into Horror Sci-Fi, or Fantasy categories besides the technical categories involving spectacle and ignore the meaningful elements to each of them. That's why I am very pleased to see "Get Out," a horror film, nominated for Best Picture, Director, Actor, and Original Screenplay, and the comic book based film "Logan" to be nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay.

There were some snubs this year, as "Blade Runner 2049's" gorgeous themes about humanity were not enough to get a best picture nomination, Patrick Stewart was ignored for his beautiful final performance as Charles Xavier in "Logan, and Edgar Wright was looked over for his immaculate artistic direction on "Baby Driver," along with many others. However, "Wonder Woman" was not snubbed like some have been saying. Even though it was a very good film, nothing it presented was Oscar worthy in any standout area, besides it being the first decent female superhero film.

Regardless, the Oscars are still able to provide recognition for many good films that would be overlooked otherwise. Here is a brief review for each of the films nominated by the Academy for Best Picture:

DARKEST HOUR

This is basically typical Oscar fare, a Fictionalized account of Winston Churchill's early days as prime minister. There is nothing notable about the film, besides an excellent performance by Gary Oldman. Everything else was mediocre. The director Joe Wright isn't exactly the best, with his last film before this being universally panned. Not a high recommendation, and besides maybe Oldman as Churchill, I hope it doesn't win anything. **C+**

PHANTOM THREAD

"Phantom Thread" mostly exists to be a showcase for Daniel Day Lewis' acting, and while he is very good in this, the rest of the film is either too boring or too strange to the degree that none of it ends up coming together in an interesting whole. **C+**

THE POST

It's gotten to the point where if Meryl Streep is in a film, she's just instantly nominated for it. Not to say that she isn't good in "The Post" or that "The Post" is a bad film, but it's clearly not her, Tom Hanks or Steven Spielberg at their best.

It feels like a courtesy nomination. The Post tells an important story, but not exactly one that is especially entertaining. **B-**

CALL ME BY YOUR NAME

"Call me by Your Name" isn't exactly a revolutionary film, besides the gay subject matter that it covers. But it still executes it in a very well made fashion. The performances by Armie Hammer and Timothee Chalamet are incredible, and hopefully films like this are able to exist more without it being considered a big deal. **B+**



Art by Joseph McDaniel

Art represents "Get Out" (right) "The Shape of Water" (left) and "Dunkirk" (top)

THE SHAPE OF WATER

Guillermo del Toro is incredible. "Pan's Labyrinth" is a masterpiece of cinema, and all the films he's made afterwards have been really entertaining as well. However, "The Shape of Water" is like Guillermo Del Toro wanted to make a fantasy film, but he also wanted to make it noticed by the Oscars, so he shoved in every kind of prejudice known to man just so it could get attention. The problem with this is that most of it is unnecessary and is unessential to the plot. But in spite of a rather plodding second act, the rest of the film is gorgeously directed with powerful performances. Good overall, but disappointing. **B**

LADY BIRD

It's cool to see that films written and directed by women are finally getting a place in the spotlight. "Lady Bird," however, isn't exactly Oscar worthy. If anything, it's reminiscent of a very similar female directed film that came

out in 2016 called "The Edge of Seventeen," only that in that film, I found the protagonist to be much more likable, and the overall presentation had more heart. Still Lady Bird is a pretty good film, and Laurie Metcalf deserved her nomination as the struggling mother. Everything else... not really. **B**

THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING, MISSOURI

"Three Billboards..." is a great film, one that takes time to ask interesting questions, and is led by a fascinating performance by Frances McDormand, who is a big favorite for best actress. Also great in the film is Woody Harrelson, and Sam Rockwell, who portrays a fascinatingly unique character with a nice arc. It's a weird experience, and a darkly comedic tale, but an excellent movie. **A**

GET OUT

It's great that a horror film has been nominated in four categories at the Oscars. Jor-

dan Peele crafted together a well-made thriller that scares, entertains, and provides thoughtful social commentary along the way.

It gives viewers something to actively think about and is clever in the way it executes its messages. It subverts all the horror tropes in the best ways, and the entire cast is stellar. **A-**

DUNKIRK

Out of all the Oscar nominations, the best is Dunkirk, directed by Christopher Nolan. Even though this isn't exactly Nolan's greatest work, it is his first to be recognized with a Best Director nomination, presumably due to the war topic.

"Dunkirk" is an enthralling experience that inserts the viewer right into the horrors of the event recreated.

If not at least winning for Best Picture, hopefully there's a chance for Best Director and Best Original Score, as both were phenomenal. **A**

Georgia Highlands student juggles raising children, work and school

By Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

Balancing college classes and a manager position at a restaurant while being a mother to five children is not for everyone. But this is Floyd campus student Jerlisa Dennis's daily schedule.

Dennis said that balancing all of these facets of life is very difficult. Dennis is a nursing major at GHC and a full-time manager at Taco Bell in Cedartown.

Dennis revealed that she has made a balanced schedule for herself that makes her life not quite so hectic. She explained, "I get very little hours of sleep, but I get everything done and manage to find a way to work around school hours."

On Mondays and Wednesdays, Dennis comes to classes, but does not work. She said, "Those nights, I have cook time, homework time and get everything finished before work on the other days." Dennis

works every other day except Sunday. "Sunday is get the house together, laundry and stuff like that day."

Dennis said about her schedule being like it is, "I get overwhelmed, but I never give up."

Dennis enjoys taking classes at GHC. She decided to come to GHC because it was her closest and best option considering how much she has going on in her life.

Dennis said, "I think it's better for me to focus on school specifically the two days I do use for school because I don't want my grades to get behind versus trying to make more money because I am comfortable with the money I make now."

Dennis hopes to become a registered nurse (RN) soon. She will be getting her CNA from the organization "CPR With Mickey" in Dallas, Georgia, and will then be applying for the nursing program at GHC in April.

Dennis confessed that she wants to become an RN because she loves babies. She said, "I have five babies, and I can't have anymore because I can't afford them efficiently. So, I want to work in labor and delivery where I can see babies for the rest of my life every day."

Dennis believes that her biggest challenge to overcome was being pregnant twice in high school. Many longtime friends turned their backs on her.

One person that continued to support Dennis was her mother. Dennis said, "My mom was mad at me, so we kind of had a distant relationship through the way, but my mom was always my reliable babysitter since my first job when I was 15. Even with her being mad at me, she didn't leave me."

Dennis said, "My favorite thing about coming to Georgia Highlands is probably the teachers and the students.

With having so many kids at a young age, I don't get to interact with my other friends like normal, so being here kind of gives me a relief."

Dennis then said, "I can talk to people and be my normal 25-year-old self. There's no responsibility. I don't have to worry about taking care of anyone here. They take good care of me here and the teachers are very nice and understating about a lot of things."

Dennis said she loves being in class with students straight out of high school.

Dennis revealed, "I love listening to the new gossip because being a young parent, I want to be able to keep up with my children. When I hear the students saying new words, I go home and repeat them and my kids think I'm crazy."

She continued, "I like keeping up with what's going on because it opens my eyes to things my kids are going to be closer exposed to, so that way, I, as a parent, know how to



Photo by Josh Mabry

cope with that."

Many students that are in class with Dennis say that having her in class is like having a mother in class because she always has items such as pens handy. About this, Dennis said, "I love it because that means at home, I'm somewhat doing the right thing."

Student Support Services seeks to assist GHC students with school and life

By J. Celon-Alcantara
Staff Writer

Angela Wheelus, director of the Student Support Services, is determined to assist students through the difficult life that is college.

Wheelus said, "The Student Support Services provides students with counseling, disability assistance, academic and career advising, and its newest addition, a food pantry."

SSS allows students to schedule free personal and academic counseling sessions with their on-campus counselors. This can be extremely beneficial for students as they can learn skills and methods to deal with school, mental disorders and any other personal difficulties.

SSS also allows people with disabilities to have a more comfortable experience

in college as they can easily accommodate their needs.

Students with disabilities at Paulding and Cartersville can contact Kimberly Linek. Students at Floyd can contact Angela Wheelus. Those at Marietta and Douglasville can contact Phillip Thompson for assistance.

GHC also receives \$500,000 annually for students who qualify for the WIOA, a federally funded program that helps dislocated and qualifying adults re-enter the workforce by providing education and training.

The Student Support Services' food pantry was first established in early 2016 on all GHC campuses. It allows students to shop food items and toiletries for free once a week. Such items include canned goods, fresh produce, toothbrushes and shampoo.

So far, there have been a

combined total of 1250 visits to all food pantries and the number will increase as this school year comes to an end.

SSS also provides Cartersville students with a closet full

of professional attire which they can take for free. They can use the clothes for interviews, work and classroom presentations.

Overall, there are three

counselors, two disability specialists, one WIOA coordinator and a food pantry available to the students at all times whenever they might need assistance.

- ✓ Professional Clothes Closet
- ✓ Charger Food Pantry
- ✓ Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA)

You can "✓" us out at any of our campus locations, or online!

www.highlands.edu/student-support-services/

✓ Career Exploration

✓ Counseling Support

✓ Disability Support

Basketball teams hope to win their conferences

By Scott Rosario
Staff Writer

GHC basketball is entering its post season.

As of Feb. 14, the women's team is 15-12 overall and 10-5 in the GCAA conference.

This puts them third place in the GCAA conference standings.

There are only six games remaining for the Lady Chargers.

According to women's head basketball coach Brandan Harrell, this means they could climb into that first spot in the conference.

Harrell says to guarantee a spot in the playoffs the women must finish in the top four. If they can, the Lady Chargers will host a first round playoff game on Feb. 27.

According to Harrell, if the Lady Chargers can win that game, they will likely travel to South Georgia Tech for the semifinals and finals which will be on March 2 and March 3.

As of Feb. 14, the men's team record was 15-7 and their



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Anna Stewart goes for a free throw at the game on Feb. 5 against Albany Tech. The Lady Chargers won 65-53.

GCAA conference record is 9-1. That conference record places the Chargers in first place.

According to men's head basketball coach Phil Gaffney, for the men's division of bas-

ketball, there are nine teams.

Gaffney also said the top eight teams make the playoffs. With that said, the Chargers have only nine games left in the regular season. These are



Photo by Catie Sullivan

AJ Banton looks for an opening during the game on Feb. 5 versus Albany Tech. The Chargers won 85-55.

all conference games.

If the men's team can hold to that first spot in the standings, then they will face the number eight seed which is

currently Gordon State College at home.

On March 9 and 10, the semifinals and the championship game will be held.

Stewart transferred to GHC to be closer to her family

By Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

Anna Stewart, originally from Toledo, Ohio, is a sophomore guard for the Lady Chargers that has been playing basketball almost her entire life.

"I've been playing basketball since I started walking, so like 2 years old," chortled Stewart.

Stewart's uncle introduced her to the game. Stewart said, "My uncle had the potential to go straight out of high school to the NBA but then life happened. Ever since that, he always put the ball in my hand and taught me how to play. He's the main reason I play."

Stewart moved to Cart-

ersville in her early teenage years and said that she likes living in Georgia better than Ohio. She admitted, "I love my hometown, but there are more opportunities here for me. I'm very happy to be here."

Stewart decided to transfer to GHC for her sophomore year to be closer to family. She started playing college ball at a college nearly 10 hours away.

Stewart said that her mother was unable to attend her games at her other college. Stewart's mother watched her games online but that was not the same.

"My mom ended up getting sick near the end of my freshman year of college. I made the decision that I needed to be with my family because I



Photo by Joshua Mabry

Anna Stewart

think they need me more being home to help her," said Stewart. Now that Stewart is at GHC, her family can come to her games.

Stewart said that besides basketball, the best part about GHC is the people. "The people who come to the games, it's ei-

ther my teachers or someone like that, so they tell me what I do wrong in the games," she said.

Stewart continued, "I really love the people here at GHC. They are really nice and they make me feel like family. They welcomed me with open arms when I came here."

Stewart is currently majoring in General Studies. After GHC, she plans to go to a four-year college where she hopes to major in graphic design and continue playing basketball.

Stewart revealed that she is also a photographer. "If basketball doesn't work out for me, I want to explore the world and take pictures of what's going on and do some sports photography," she said.

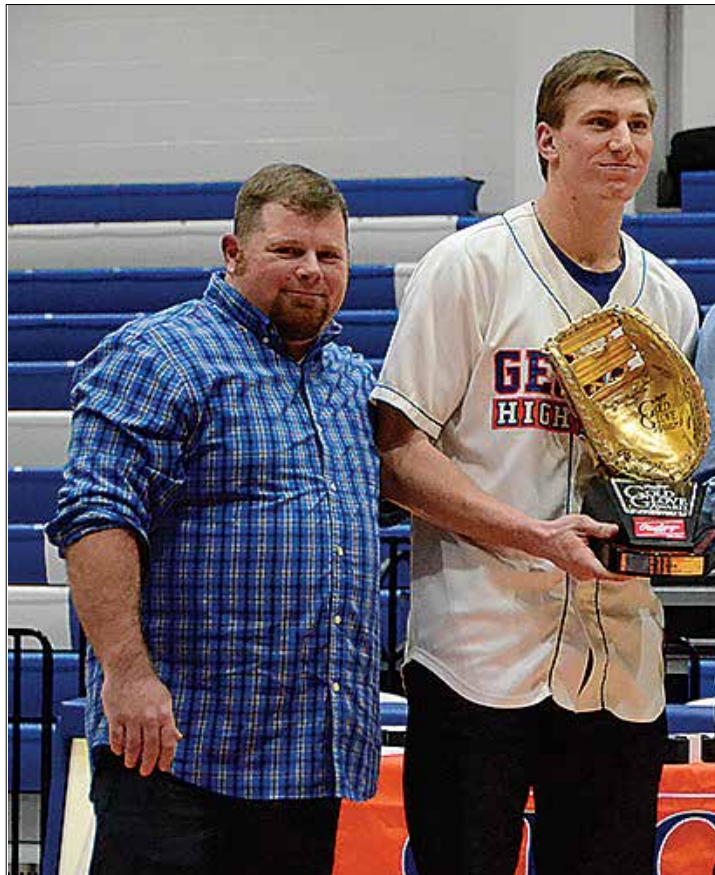
When Stewart is not playing basketball, she likes to eat and watch Netflix. She also likes to call her mother and play NBA 2K.

Brandan Harrell, head women's basketball coach, believes Stewart is a great addition to his team.

He said, "She has been our most consistent scorer on offense and has worked really hard to get better on the defensive end."

Harrell continued, "Anna has been a cornerstone of the program this year by not missing a single game all year and playing 30-40 minutes in all those games."

Harrell said, "I can't wait to see what the future holds for Anna."



Nick Fink (right) receives his National Golden Glove alongside his coach, Dash O'Neill.

File Photo

Fink successful after his time playing baseball at GHC

By Abigail Allmond
Asst. Sports Editor

Striving forward is something everyone wants to do whether it is in a sport, career, or just daily life.

Former Georgia Highlands baseball player first baseman Nick Fink is striving forward even after his time at Georgia Highlands and he is succeeding tremendously.

Fink graduated from Georgia Highlands in 2017. He was a part of the NJCAA region 17 championship team and is now studying nursing and continuing his baseball career at LaGrange College.

Fink was committed to Young Harris College, a pri-

vate university in Young Harris, Georgia.

“Playing at Georgia Highlands really helped me to keep striving forward and work harder every single day.”

**-Nick Fink
2016-17 Charger**

He decided to continue his education at LaGrange Col-

lege, a private university in LaGrange, Georgia.

At LaGrange, he plans to focus on getting his nursing degree and continue playing the sport he loves at the same time.

Fink said, “Playing at Georgia Highlands really helped me to keep striving forward and work harder every single day.”

Fink continued, “Coach O'Neill really pushed the team to be the best we could be every day.”

In his final season with Georgia Highlands, Fink batted .245.

Fink also had five home runs, 28 RBIs and had a .399 slugging percentage.

Fink received a national Golden Glove Award after his sophomore season at GHC.

Nick Fink's stats at LaGrange as of Feb. 12

21 at bats
5 runs batted in
No errors in seven games

Smith wants to bat over .400 this softball season

By Kaelie Campbell
Staff Writer

This softball season has high hopes for Shayla Smith. Smith is a sophomore at Georgia Highlands.

Smith's jersey number is 2 and she has played softball since the age of four.

When Smith found Georgia Highlands, she knew it was for her.

It was not too far from home for her, so she knew it was a good fit.

She also knew that Melissa Wood, head coach, has a good reputation for getting players where they want to be.

This season, Smith wants to obtain conference MVP.

She has a personal goal to bat over .400 this softball season.

Smith also wants to win a team ring, have the most conference wins, and to accomplish beating last year's record which was 43-14.

Smith seems confident in her team that they can accomplish her goal.

So far this year, the team is 5-2.

Smith grew up in Stone Mountain, Georgia. She graduated from Stephenson High School in 2012.

After Georgia Highlands, she plans to transfer to a bigger college to continue her softball career.

Smith voices great confi-



Photo by Kaelie Campbell

Shayla Smith

dence in her team and success for the season.

Chargers' Baseball, Softball Upcoming Home Games

Baseball

Feb. 22 at noon vs. Shorter University JV
Feb. 22 at 4 p.m. vs. Emmanuel College
Feb. 24 at noon and 4 p.m. vs. Sinclair

Home games at LakePoint
755 Old Georgia 293, Emerson, Ga.

Softball

Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. (doubleheader) vs. Gordon College
March 3 at 2 p.m. (doubleheader) vs. Georgia Military
April 14 at 1 p.m. (doubleheader) vs. Andrew College

Home games at Stars Field
2200 Joe Frank Harris Pkwy, Cartersville, Ga.

Students, faculty and staff get into all home games for free with their GHC ID. There may be a parking fee at LakePoint, however.

Floyd spring intramurals will start up later this month

By Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

According to J.J. Merritt, associate head men's basketball coach and Floyd campus intramurals director, spring intramurals will start up soon at Floyd, and it is not too late to sign up for an activity.

Sign-ups are currently being held at the intramural table in the Student Center next to the game room and Student Life office. Any GHC student, faculty or staff member can sign up for intramural activities.

The first intramural activity that will take place is the NBA2K18 tournament. This starts on Feb. 26 in the game room. According to Merritt, the winner of this tournament will receive a \$10 gift card.

Co-ed 3-on-3 basketball will begin on March 5 at noon in the gym. According to Merritt, if someone shows up and plays in at least three games, they will receive a free t-shirt.

The Six Mile Post cosponsored ping-pong tournament will start on March 7 in the game room. The winner of this tournament will receive a trophy and recognition in the April Six Mile Post.

"My favorite thing about being over intramurals at Floyd campus is the different people I meet and interact with during the activities."

-J.J. Merritt

The pool tournament will begin play on March 7 as well. Merritt said the winner of the

pool tournament will receive a \$10 gift card.

Merritt enjoys being over intramurals at Floyd. He said, "My favorite thing about being over intramurals at Floyd campus is the different people I meet and interact with during the activities."

Merritt encourages others to join intramurals to make new friends and be more involved in campus activities.

David Mathis, assistant director of athletics, believes that intramurals are an important part of the college experience.

Mathis stated, "You meet new people and can play a variety of sports both as a team or individually."

Mathis continued, "Intramurals give students a break from the daily grind of their studies."

If anyone has any questions about intramurals, they can contact Merritt at jmeritt@highlands.edu or 404-399-6363.

SMP Ping-Pong Tournament

Floyd Campus: Starts March 7

Registration ends March 2 at noon

Contact: J.J. Merritt at jmeritt@highlands.edu



Cartersville Site: March 7

Registration ends March 6

Contact: Clifton Puckett at cpuckett@highlands.edu

Cosponsored by GHC Intramurals

Floyd upcoming intramurals

NBA 2K Tournament - Starts Feb. 26

Co-ed 3-on-3 basketball - Starts March 5

Fans, players and coaches should always respect officials

I am always amazed at how easily fans turn on officials at sporting events.

When a disagreeable call is made, the officials receive verbal backlash.

This can happen when emotions are heightened but should be avoided.

Sporting officials are people, and people are imperfect. They are bound to make mistakes just as coaches and players make mistakes.

Naturally we want to blame someone and the easiest person to blame is the official. We need to remain calm.

Fans, players and coaches do not realize how much time

it takes to become a sporting official.

"Fans, players and coaches need to realize the message they communicate when they constantly argue about calls."

According to Major League Baseball's website, people that desire to become umpires have

to go through a long process.

They have to go to school and finish in the top of their class.

That means people that actually become Minor League and Major League Baseball umpires have to be knowledgeable of the game.

People that desire to be football and basketball referees have to go through a similar rigorous training.

Even if sporting officials do not always make the right calls, people need to remember that the officials are very knowledgeable of the game they are officiating and rarely do fans actually know all the

rules.

In addition, fans, players and coaches need to realize the message they communicate when they constantly argue about calls.

This intolerance of mistakes says that mistakes are not okay when in actuality, mistakes are a normal part of sports and life.

This can be confusing espe-

cially for kids.

As a result, fans, coaches and players should always display tolerance toward sporting officials even if they disagree with a call that was made.

As an avid fan, I have seen the GHC baseball, softball and basketball players and coaches along with fans, remain calm and display tolerance to the officials most of the time.



Mabry's Pitch

Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports