

SIX MILE POST

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The Student Voice

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GHC's new Health Sciences Dean Janet Alexander (back left) visits the dental hygiene lab with Program Director Donna Miller (back right). Dena Kimbrel (front left) and Kolayna Boudreaux are two of GHC's dental hygiene students. See page 4 for more on GHC's newest dean.

Photo by Andrew West



GHC's Cartersville campus has changed over the years, and the new student center is only a part of it. See page 9 for pictures and more details about the evolution of the campus.

Spring Break will be here soon, weeks ahead of the spring season. Next year, Spring Break dates will change. Page 12 has more details.

The Academy Awards are just around the corner, and the Six Mile Post has breakdowns and predictions for its readers. Check page 14 for more.

Still no determination on athletic fee increase

By Pedro R Zavala
Staff Writer

The proposed \$25 athletic fee increase has all of Georgia Highlands attentive.

It is something that has been announced and publicized since the beginning of the spring semester. But nothing had been decided as of Feb. 13.

The proposed athletic fee of \$75 would bring additional revenue for GHC athletics. The athletic fee money is planned to be used for the creation of baseball and softball fields at the Cartersville campus because the teams are planning to use other sports facilities for a fee.

The money would also be used for new locker rooms

on the Floyd campus, the construction of which is approximated to cost around \$230,000 for each locker room.

The athletic fee money is also planned to be used for the addition of other sports. Georgia Highlands currently offers men's and women's basketball, with baseball and softball set to begin in the fall of 2013.

The other sports that are intended to be added are men's and women's cross country, men's and women's tennis and women's volleyball. The fee would also be used for bus trips to games and box lunches for players.

Renva Watterson, GHC's interim president, said GHC has "fallen behind" other colleges in terms of the athletic

fee. GHC currently ranks 11th out of 12 two-year colleges in the amount of its athletic fee. The fee increase would put GHC in eighth place.

There were town hall meetings on every campus to announce the proposed fee increase and get the information out to the student body.

Watterson said, "We've given this a lot of thought. We really want students to vote their conscience."

Students were able to complete a survey through SCORE which was up until Feb. 1, answering questions about whether or not they support the fee increase and what sports they would want added to the athletic program among other questions.



Contributed

Seven students and three faculty members traveled to Athens with the SMP for the GCPA Press Institute.

SMP wins at GCPA

By Neen Snowball
Staff Writer

Members of the Six Mile Post staff visited Athens on Feb. 1 and 2 for the annual Georgia College Press Association (GCPA) convention and awards ceremony.

The convention features panels which give helpful information to student journalists to aid them in their budding journalism careers.

This year, the convention hosted both professionals and students alike, which provided the opportunity for student journalists to meet with a few professional journalists and editors from Georgia about career opportunities with newspapers across the state.

"GCPA is always a great experience for us, and this time was no different. It's always refreshing to be around other young journalists, because it motivates those of us who go to continue our hard work," said Andrew West, a general studies major at GHC and the editor-in-chief of the SMP.

The staff of The Six Mile Post received individual and general awards at the awards ceremony held Feb. 2. Among the individual award winners was Becky Crooks, SMP sports editor, who got second place for Best Column.

In addition, J.P. Erickson, SMP assistant print editor, and Kevin Horan, staff writer,

earned third and first place, respectively for Best Review.

Ryan Jones, SMP chief photographer, won first place for Best Photograph - News.

Jones and Kaitlyn Hyde, former chief photographer, won third place for Best Photo Essay. Hyde, Jones, and Scott Hale, former assistant print editor, took first place in the same category.

West took third place in two categories, Best Sports Story and Best Editorial or Editorial Series.

The general awards received by the Six Mile Post were: first place for General Photography, first place for General Advertising, first place for Layout and Design, second place for Best Campus Community Service - Sports, third place for Best Campus Community Service - Features, second place for Best Campus Community Service - Editorials, and second place for General Excellence.

Three members of Georgia Highlands faculty and seven Six Mile Post staff attended the conference in Athens.

Those who attended were Kristie Kemper, SMP adviser, Cindy Wheeler, SMP assistant adviser, Leslie Johnston, Cartersville campus SMP liaison, West, Erickson, Crooks, Jones, Sarah Lane, Gayle Golden and Neen Snowball.

Lane was elected to the GCPA executive board.

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Highlands Happenings

AllRoads music festival coming soon to Rome

**By Neece Hitson
Staff Writer**

It's almost that time of year again for music, food, fun and activities for all ages.

The second annual All-Roads Music Festival will be held on Saturday, April 20 at Heritage Park in Rome, Ga. from 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

The event was created by Erica Simpson, assistant professor of communication at GHC, and program director with the Rome Area Council for the Arts (RACA).

This is an opportunity for local musicians, of all ages and genres, to gain experience and have their music heard by a larger audience. "Last year we had 22 bands perform in 12 hours," Simpson said.

Purchase your tickets in advance for \$10 to avoid the \$15 door fee at the event. Tickets for children 6-12 are \$5, and children under age five receive free admission.

Go to www.facebook.com/allroadsfest and like the page to view further details and stay informed about the event.

Floyd to host intercultural fair

**By Cole McElroy
Staff Writer**

Students at Georgia Highlands will be putting together the first Intercultural Fair in the coming weeks.

The fair will be held on Feb. 26 in the student center on the Floyd campus.

There will be a broad range of cultures covered during the fair that reflect the different cultures here at GHC. Each culture presented will have its own booth dedicated to that specific culture.

Erica Simpson, assistant professor of communication and organizer of the fair, said, "This is the first year for the fair. The goal of the Intercultural Fair is to highlight the many different cultures among the student body here at GHC."

Geology trip to rock summer

**By Jackson Walsh
Staff Writer**

Billy Morris, professor of geology, will be hosting a trip to the Grand Tetons, Jackson, Wyoming this summer from July 15 to July 27.

This trip counts for eight credit hours for Geology 1121k and 1122k, both

physical and historical Geology, and offers some spectacular scenery as an ideal learning environment.

There will be mandatory meetings at least one night per week in June and July for orientation, lab work and testing.

Students will receive a course grade for which all work would need to be submitted by July 30 at 5 p.m.

Morris does have a trip plan available on the Highlands website, but a full itinerary will be provided before departure.

Cost for the trip is \$1,600, not including tuition or normal fees. For more information, contact Billy Morris at bmorris@highlands.edu or at 706-368-7528.

Zumba class gets down

**By Ashley Bostick
Staff Writer**

Zumba began as an in-home dance game, and now it has reached Georgia Highlands as a group workout. "I love dance fitness, because the energy is high, the other participants are a great support to one another and it is a fun way to be fit and healthy," said Christy Twilley, instructor of the class.

Classes last approximately an hour and cater

to any skill level, allowing participants to set their own pace and level of intensity while toning the arms, thighs and abdominals. Staff member Ana Clayton enjoys the class for its convenience and lack of judgment amongst participants. "It's exercise but it's still fun," says Clayton.

The Dance Fitness classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Solarium on the Floyd campus.

Cartersville hosts blood drive

**By Victor Gonzales
Staff Writer**

The Cartersville campus will be having an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, Feb. 28. Donors will receive free drinks and snacks for the donors.

Also, donors will receive a free t-shirt, and their names will be entered into a drawing to win a \$1,000 gift card to a home improvement store.

The location of the Bloodmobile will be the 10-minute parking zone.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please see Megan Youngblood in the Student Life Center, or go redcross-blood.org/connect.

PTK offers aid for storm victims

**By J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor**

On Jan. 30, tornadoes wreaked havoc on the cities of Adairsville and Calhoun. Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is sponsoring relief efforts for this tragedy on all Georgia Highlands campuses.

The people affected by the disasters will be in need of the essentials like non-perishable food, clothing, toiletries and bottled water. A box for donations will be set up in the student center on the Floyd campus and the Hub in Cartersville.

For more information on how you can donate goods, money or time, contact Scott Akemon, associate professor of political science and Floyd campus PTK liaison, at sakemon@highlands.edu or PTK member Kristen Phillips at kphill11@student.highlands.edu.

Black History Month to be celebrated at Georgia Highlands College this month

**By Hilary Williams
Staff Writer**

Each year, Black History Month calls for an observance of the people and events in the history of the African-American culture.

It originated in 1926 with Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History

starting the tradition of the second week of February being "Negro History Week."

Woodson chose February, because Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln were both born in that month.

In 1976 Black History Week was expanded to Black History Month by the federal government.

Black History Month was first celebrated at Kent State University in February 1970.

Anthony McBrayer, a student at GHC's Marietta campus said, "I'm glad there is a Black History Month. We need to be reminded how far African-Americans have come since slavery."

In recognition of Black

History month, all GHC campuses are holding events to commemorate this historical month.

The Floyd Campus had the African American poet Kyla Lacey "Rising Phoenix" come and speak on Feb. 6. The Cartersville campus also hosted Lacey on Feb. 5.

People from Paulding campus will be visiting the

Martin Luther King Jr. Center on Feb. 21 at 2:30 p.m.

The Douglasville campus will also be sponsoring a visit to the MLK Jr. Center on Feb. 20 at 2:30 p.m.

Those planning to take part in any of the MLK Jr. Center trips should RSVP with Lyric Sprinkle, student life coordinator, at 678.872.4223.

New Health Sciences dean endorses a career in nursing field for students seeking fast employment

By Andrew West
Editor-in-chief

Georgia Highlands College has a new dean of health sciences, and her name is Janet Alexander.

With a history in Health Sciences education at the University of Alabama at Birmingham as well as Samford University (also in Birmingham), Alexander offers to GHC the wisdom and experience of a seasoned administrative professional.



Contributed

Janet Alexander

"I was at UAB for eight years and Samford for 21, and I had been in an administrative position at Samford for the last few years over their accelerated second-degree R.N. to B.N. program," said Alexander.

This program provides the opportunity for students who already have bachelor's degrees but want to become nurses to take an accelerated

course load in order to reach their goal.

Alexander's experience with non-traditional educational programs could be put to good use at GHC, with its diverse population of students (including many non-traditional ones).

The dean also helped Samford in its nursing school's transition from a two-year to a four-year program, a transition similar to the one through which GHC is currently going.

"We've done a lot of innovative things trying to offer opportunities for people who wanted to become a nurse or wanted to improve the degree they had in nursing," Alexander said.

Though somewhat unfamiliar with Rome, Alexander is not a total stranger to the city. One of her sons did some modeling in the Rome area through a local agency when he was in junior high.

"It was appealing in terms of where it was, and the job was very appealing," Alexander said of her initial impression of GHC's interest in her. "It was one of those things that just felt like the right thing to do."

Alexander, who holds a doctorate degree in education and a master's degree in nursing, knows the job security the nursing field offers. "I would strongly consider a nursing degree. I have not

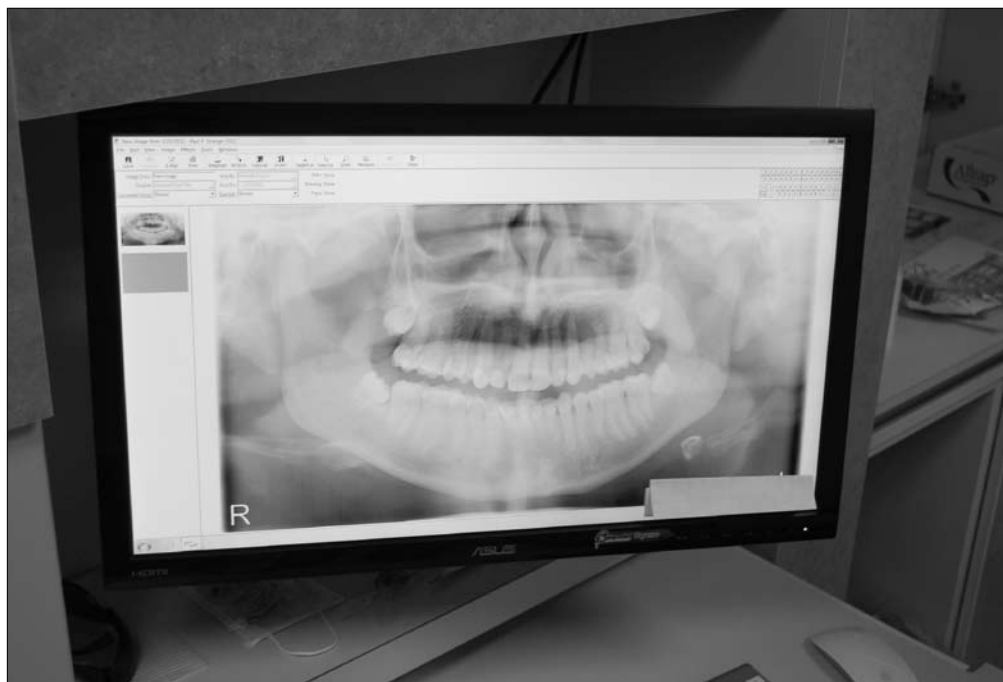


Photo by Andrew West

This is an x-ray taken in Heritage Hall's dental lab. The dental hygiene program has been praised by Janet Alexander, the new dean of Health Sciences, for its involvement in the community.

had anybody in the last 29 years who's not been able to find a job within three months. Many of them have job offers before they even graduate," she said.

Alexander has been impressed by the Dental Hygiene degree program at GHC's Health Sciences School. "The dental hygiene program seems to be in excellent shape to me," Alexander said. "They also run a clinic through the dental hygiene program, which is a great community service."

Concerning students who are considering Health Sciences as a major, Alexander said, "It's a great way to make a living, and it's very welcoming to men and women."

According to a study released in January by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, the nursing field offers job security after graduation, boasting low unemployment rates among recently-graduated as well as more experienced nursing majors.

The study concluded that the unemployment rate among recent college graduates with a nursing degree was four percent.

The unemployment rate among experienced college graduates with nursing degrees was found to be 1.9 percent.

Those with graduate degrees find themselves in a group in which the unemployment rate is only 1.6 percent. All three of these numbers fall substantially below the average.

Women's history: tea time, trivia and tales of triumph

By Mary Howard
Staff Writer

March is Women's History Month.

According to Meredith K. Ginn, associate professor of communications, on Tuesday, March 19, from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. in the D-building breezeway, the Marietta campus will have faculty, staff and stu-

dents performing various readings from female authors as well as biographical summaries of famous women in history.

There will also be several rounds of Women's History Month trivia. All Georgia Highlands students are invited to attend.

The Douglasville campus will have a Women's History Month Tea. According to Ker-

in Miller, assistant professor of English, students can invite mothers, grandmothers and other special women in their lives to the tea.

Students will have the opportunity to interview their loved ones and create an oral history. It is suggested that the students bring one guest each. The event will be held on March 27 and sweet tea and snacks

will be served. The event is open to all.

The Cartersville campus will have a screening of "Miss Representation" on March 27. Alex MacMurdo, instructor of communication, said that there will be Women's History Month trivia on the Paulding campus March 26 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the student lounge.

The winners of each round will be rewarded with candy and there will be a sweet "grand prize" for the overall winner. The event is sponsored by Students Without Borders.

Carla Patterson, associate professor of English, is currently planning an event on the Floyd campus and hopes to have more information soon.

Veterans still heroes

By Leydi Morales
Staff Writer

Two courageous GHC students, Christopher Tranter, president of GHC's chapter of the Young Veterans of America, and James Wyatt, vice president of the club, performed a heroic act while traveling to a convention in Orlando.

Tranter and Wyatt said it was a beautiful sunny day as they were driving on the interstate in Florida. The two veterans were on their way to a Student Veterans Conference and were about an hour-and-a-half away from arriving in Orlando.

All of a sudden, an automobile that was only three cars ahead of them flipped.

Tranter explains the horrific scene of an automobile flipping across the interstate as if it happened yesterday.

"The car flipped from the middle lane, to the left lane. Then from the left lane, the car fell into the grass and hit the rail which made the automobile fall back on the interstate," he said.

"It was so shocking. It

just happened out of nowhere. After the car did many flips across the interstate, a female passenger was ejected from the car, and we soon pulled over to help. The scene reminded me a lot of when I was overseas. It just seemed surreal," Tranter said.

Tranter and Wyatt decided to pull their car over immediately to help the people affected in the accident.

When they arrived at the scene, the female that had been ejected from car was not moving.

Tranter ran to grab a first aid kit, while Wyatt assessed the situation to see what action should be performed next.

Luckily, a doctor happened to pull over, and he took over the care of the female, so Wyatt and Tranter hurried to the automobile to make sure that the other passengers were all right.

The two men assessed the car and checked for possible gas leaks that could have led to any explosions.

They described the pas-

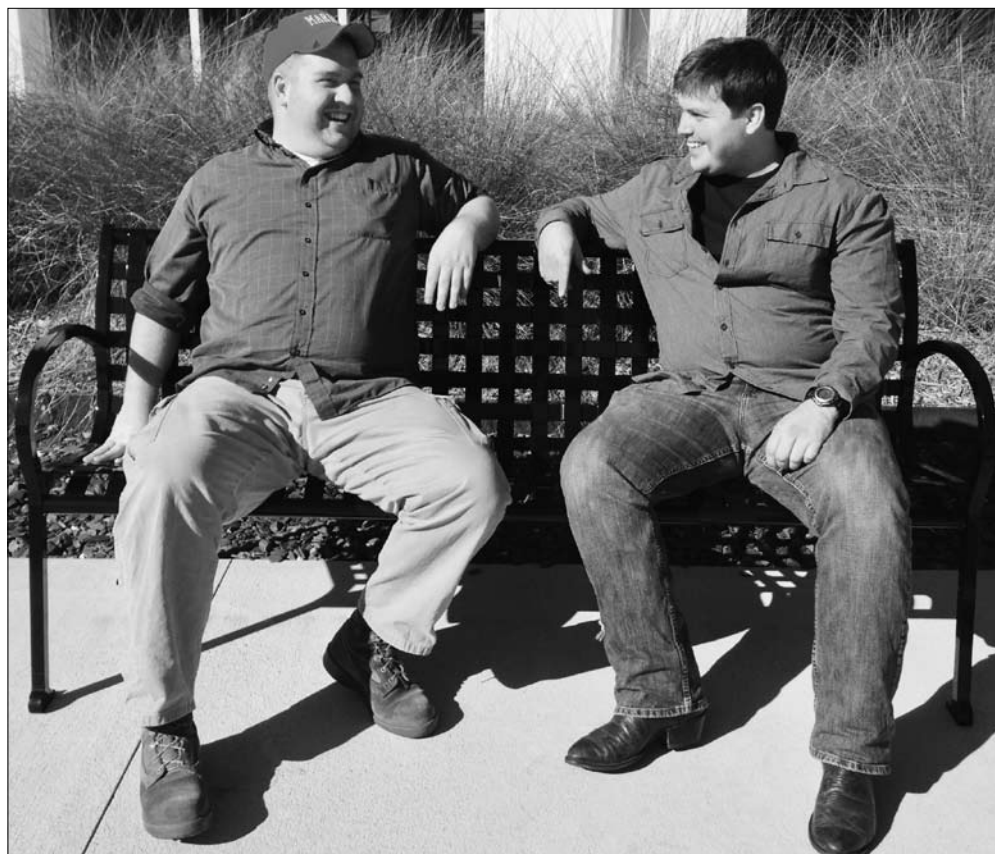


Photo by Tatiana Smithson

Veterans Chris Tranter (left) and James Wyatt recount their crash experience.

sengers as being "shocked and beginning to break down."

The female woke up shortly after the ambulance and police arrived on the scene.

"The adrenaline rush was still going through me when I left the scene. I couldn't stop thinking about it," said Tranter.

Both men did whatever they could to make sure

that everyone involved in the scene was all right.

"This is something that I will never forget. It just teaches me that anything can happen anywhere at any time," said Tranter.

Associate degrees prove beneficial; Passport to Success happening soon

By Chasity Thomas
Staff Writer

Pursuing an associate degree at GHC allows students to earn a degree while also earning transferrable credit hours to many schools, according to Alison Lampkin, specialist in the alumni department and alumni program coordinator.

With smaller class sizes and a well-credentialed faculty, Highlands prepares students for universities with larger campuses.

An associate degree also gives students the minimal amount of training needed for a career.

Both the Floyd and

Cartersville campuses will soon be hosting Passport to Success, a school fair that teaches students the many options when graduating with an associate.

Passport to Success will be held in the Floyd Campus student center on April 3 and the Cartersville Campus student center on April 2.

Both fairs will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Students from all campuses are welcome.

During Passport to Success, several companies and businesses will come to GHC to discuss career opportunities offered for two-year degree students.

Representatives from several colleges in Georgia also come to talk about admissions options, financial aid, and the credits needed for continuing education.

Internships and experience requirements will also be topics of discussion at Passport to Success.

Lampkin, plans to have events such as resume writing and fashion shows for appropriate career interview attire at Passport to Success.

Todd Jones, dean of the Floyd Campus, said that Passport to Success "prepares students for both scholarship opportunities and career opportunities."

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Time will tell what Obama's legacy will be

By Gene Harmon
Asst. Online Editor

In 2008 Barack Obama rode a wave of optimism to the White House, amid cries for progressive change in domestic and international policies.

He made history by becoming the first African-American to achieve this country's highest political office.

The most memorable accomplishment of his first term was the creation and passage of the Affordable Care Act, the national health care program. With a date set in the future for all of it to take effect, the jury is still out on its effectiveness or costs.

The results of the 2012 presidential election granted Obama his second term in Washington.

But before he could even be inaugurated, tragedy

shook the country at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., when gunfire erupted, killing 26 people, most of whom were young children.

In the wake of this trag-

edy, the Obama administration has called for more gun control. This call has been met by resistance from the National Rifle Association.

This dispute has been complicated by the delibera-

tion over how much authority is granted to Washington by the Constitution.

The economy and unemployment are high on the list of concerns shared by the American public. Some jobs have been created in manufacturing while other areas are faced with shutdowns and layoffs.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment average rose from 7.8 percent in December 2012 to 7.9 percent in January.

North Dakota has the lowest unemployment rate with 3.2 percent, and Rhode Island weighs in with a hefty 10.2 percent. Georgia ranks 42 with an 8.6 percent rate.

The approval rate is another concern for the administration. According to the Gallup Poll, presidential approval has fallen from a

high of 69 percent in January 2009 to a current rate of 53 percent. However, the White House is not alone in this drop in approval.

Polarization has seemingly deadlocked the majority of legislation in Congress, including the ability to reach an agreement on the budget.

Congressional approval has remained low, staying below 39 percent since early 2009. It has not been above 25 percent since December 2009, and it currently sits at 18 percent.

These are tumultuous times for any president to begin a second term. This administration has many issues before it which raise passions and demand for action.

Will party lines need to be ignored for the benefit of the people? Americans are ready to see what the next four years bring.



Contributed

Obama will face the nation's mounting issues for four more years.

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Cartersville counselor remembered



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

Angie Wheelus (left) and Magan Breeden demonstrate how lanterns were to be released in McKinney's honor.

By J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor

Sheryl McKinney, head student success counselor on the GHC Cartersville campus, was dedicated to her students' well-being. McKinney passed away on Dec. 29, 2012.



"GHC has suffered a great loss. She was a vital part of the services we provide for our students at the Cartersville campus," said Amy Wise, enrollment management specialist.

McKinney was also a cofounder of Anderson Care Pregnancy Clinic in Anderson, SC, which is a non-profit organization that supports and provides services for pregnant women who are struggling to choose between having an abortion, giving their child up for adoption or keeping their child.

Carolyn Hamrick, dean of the Cartersville campus, said, "Sheryl was the 'momma hen' of the Hub area. If you had forgotten your lunch, Sheryl would find you something to eat. If you had cut your finger, needed an aspirin or throat lozenge, she was always ready with her first-aid kit."

Hamrick read two messages left by her students at McKinney's memorial, which described McKinney's exceptional listening skills and their special connection to her. Hamrick closed by saying, "We all love you and we truly miss you."

Jesse, the lake monster: fact or fiction?

By Ryan Jones
Chief Photographer

Many people notice that there are ducks and geese around Paris Lake at Georgia Highlands College's Floyd campus, but we might also have our very

own lake monster.

Though it has been about 25 years since the last confirmed sighting, there have been reports of a possible sighting of the monster in Paris Lake recently when tornadoes passed through the area,

coming right by the lake.

It is unknown whether this is the original monster, Jesse, or if it might be one of his offspring.

Jesse, as the monster was named by a Six Mile Post staff of the past, was first declared to be a Floyd-dicus Juniorous Monstercious but was later found to be a Policiesaurus.

According to a former article in the Six Mile Post, Jesse left Paris Lake when the lake was drained in 1980.

He was going to go stay with his cousin Nessie, but was unable to do so because of discrimination against lake monsters.

Jesse was relocated to a nearby pool for a short duration but decided to come back when the lake was refilled.

Many people have reported strange occurrences while they were boating or canoeing on the lake, but



Artist's rendition of the lake monster

there have not been any unexplained tragedies.

As Chris Piller, a staff writer from the past, said, "I don't think that the mon-

ster would actually hurt anyone, but come to think of it, swimming isn't allowed in the lake, so who's to know."



Photo by Ryan Jones

Floating piece of driftwood or baby lake monster?

Music program will sound off in the fall

By Gayle Golden
Staff Writer

A new music major program is planned to start in the fall of 2013 at GHC.

Sam Baltzer, professor of music, came to Georgia Highlands College from Shorter University at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year and is currently working to have the music program ready for the fall.

Baltzer is establishing new programs and the pep/jazz band at GHC is one of his first efforts thus far.

The band consists of GHC students and members of the local community with approximately 14 members.

The pep/jazz band first performed during the fall

semester of the 2012 and now performs during each home basketball game.

Baltzer's goal for the next year is to have a full jazz band.

"The pep band music is to rally the fan's spirit before the game. Jazz literature is more rigorous and will be more challenging.

"Currently, the band can play music from the 1930's and 40's, such as Glenn Miller's, In the Mood, String of Pearls and Tuxedo Junction," said Baltzer.

Beyond the jazz band, Baltzer hopes to have a choir as part of the music program in the 2013-2014 school year.

Baltzer has lived in Rome for the past 26 years and enjoys being involved

in R.O.M.E. (Rome's Own Musical Ensembles), a community non-profit. He serves as artistic director and conductor for their music ensembles.

Baltzer also serves as community of arts liaison and will be establishing and building relationships within the local community.

Dimychael Ross, a first-year student and member of the men's basketball team, said about the pep/jazz band, "It makes it more college-like. The different types of music can relax you or fire you up. It's nice."

Anyone who is interested in the GHC music program should contact Baltzer at sbaltzer@highlands.edu.



Photo by Jacob Perry

Paul Knox provides the percussion for the Jazz/Pep band.



Photo by Jacob Perry

From left, student Matthew Williams, and community members Hunter Moss and Greg Crider prepare to energize the fans and Chargers alike for their home games.

Evolution of Cartersville brings new activities to students

**By Brooke Govin
Staff Writer**

In the fall of 2012, the Cartersville campus transformed into what can now be described as an entirely different college experience.

The new student center allows students to stay on campus, have some lunch and enjoy the amenities the building has to offer.

Another change at Cartersville is the variety of intramurals offered each semester and the new sports teams to come.

Along with the student center and intramurals, ground-breaking courses have been added to the curriculum.

The student center at Cartersville is the main attraction on campus. Not only does the center provide an area to play some games such as pool and ping-pong, it also has many rooms which students may not always think to use to their advantage.

The office rooms on the upper level can be a used to have club meetings and/or

study groups. In addition, there is a yoga room which can be used as a new place to start a club or athletic class for women in Cartersville.

Another way the campus has transformed over the years is through the various intramurals offered to students.

More sports-related activities like Frisbee, ping-pong, volleyball, kickball, five-on-five soccer and baseball are now recruiting players. Also for the more logical thinkers, there is now a poker showdown for anyone daring enough to play.

The now confirmed rumors of a baseball and softball team arriving in the spring of 2014 will give the Cartersville students a chance to bring spirit to the campus.

This spring, GHC-Cartersville provides new chances to meet people by signing up for the first-ever speed dating session.

With the rising number of students attending the Cartersville campus, the courses offered at the location are also evolving. New

special topics classes are available to assist students with broadening their views in an innovative way.

Debbie Conaway, associate professor of psychology, offers a course in which films are the main teaching tool. The focus for the class is to better understand psychological disorders and how society views those who are affected by them based on the films.

The Area B special topic courses changes each semester, which essentially gives students a broader range of classes to choose from.

Commenting on the new look of the campus, Carolyn Hamrick, Cartersville campus dean, says, "It gives a different feeling and adds to the college experience."

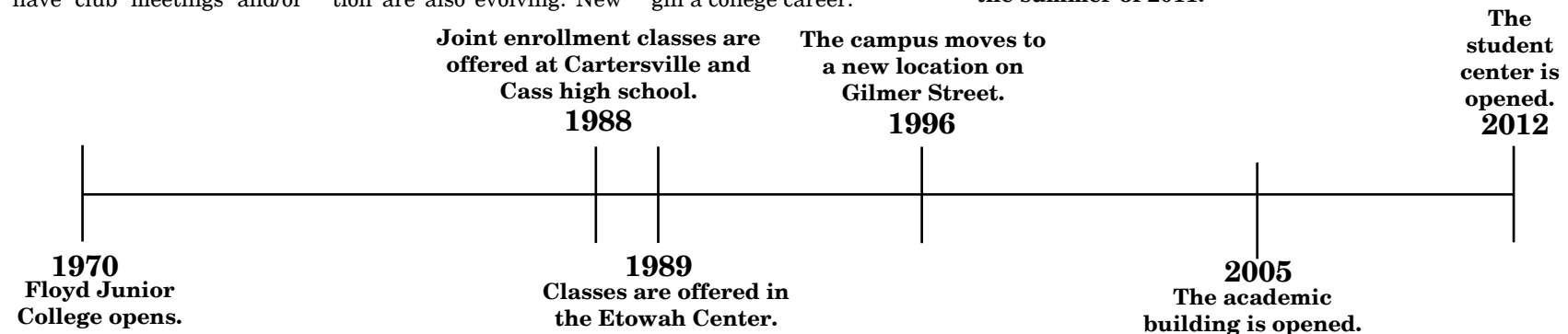
As Cartersville keeps transforming, the students attending are also changing. Hamrick feels they are becoming more engaged with activities, and they interact more in class.

She says the campus now looks more like a place where students want to begin a college career.



File Photo by Erin Baugh

Construction on the new student center began in the summer of 2011.



File photo by Rick Climer

Construction on the academic building started in 2002.



Photo by Sarah Warren

The academic building completed construction in 2005.



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

The new student center brings many possibilities for students.

Embrace on-campus diversity for equality

The United States has taken quite a journey since the signing of the Declaration of Independence 237 years ago.

The American people recently watched our first African-American president get sworn in for his second term, and they also saw a historic decision lifting the ban on women in front-line positions.

These were large steps in the right direction for this country, but as a nation, we still have a long road ahead of us before we are living up to the declaration that "all men are created equal."

The people that walk the hallways of Georgia Highlands all have different stories. Get to know them. Understand their story. That's what promotes equality, knowing and understanding someone else.

Keeping an open mind will allow for great things to happen in this country.

Views are going to differ. That's part of the beauty in this nation. No one is the same as someone else, and that's okay.

We should push ourselves to understand differing views, even if they aren't something agree-

able. It's about opening the mind and finding new ways to see things.

It's not about the beliefs that one group has; it's about what's right. Rights aren't a privilege. They are not supposed to be given or taken away.

Teaching children to understand the significance of discrimination and prejudice is a step in the right direction.

Separate them by hair color and tell them that only the brunettes are allowed to go outside to play for recess. Their reaction is a mixture of anger and sadness.

Children don't understand why the other

group is special. Why should they be? They simply have another hair color. It seems ridiculous when one looks at it that way.

That's what it is. Judging people simply by their outward appearance, skin color, sexual orientation, gender, etc. makes as much sense as only allowing brunettes to play on the playground.

There is not going to be a change in how we look at these issues until we stop calling them "women's rights" or "gay rights." These are not special rights. They are human rights. All Amer-

icans deserve the same rights that the other human beings in the United States have.

It's time to stop idly standing by as people are being insulted, bullied or discriminated against.

On a small scale, it's a group of people teasing someone because his or her clothes are tattered.

On a large scale, it's the government denying one group of people rights that other groups are able to enjoy.

Stand up for human rights because, someday, it may be your rights that someone is trying to take away.

Life is about moving forward



Editor's Box

Sarah Lane
Asst. Print Editor

I never saw what happened to the other car.

I was sitting at the red light, attempting to change the radio station because I didn't like the song that was playing. My hand never made it to the dial.

I'm not sure what made me look up. Perhaps it was a nudge from God, or maybe something shiny that I saw out of the corner of my eye. All I saw when I looked up was the hood ornament of a white Mercedes as it barreled into the front end of my car.

I don't remember the initial impact. I don't remember

hitting my head against the headrest.

What I do remember was my screaming. I had never been so terrified in my life.

The police report said that the white Mercedes was attempting a left turn when its driver saw a red Jeep coming from the opposite direction. The driver of the Mercedes was expecting the Jeep to turn right, but instead it came straight through the intersection.

The Mercedes hit the Jeep, and both cars lost control. The Jeep hit the concrete median, causing the car to flip

on its side. The white Mercedes struck my car head-on, pushing my car sideways into oncoming traffic.

I never saw the Jeep. I find myself looking back on this experience and wondering if there was anything I could have done to prevent this. So far, I've come up with nothing. It took me awhile to realize that it was not my fault that this happened.

I can't go back in time and change the outcome, and honestly, I'm not sure I want to.

This experience has reminded me of how blessed I am, and I am a stronger person because of it.

Our past defines who we are. We must learn to accept the past, embrace it, mourn for it, glorify it and learn from it. Then we must let it go.

We fix the car. We start the engine. We drive forward. We move on.



Editor's picks for this issue

- Alum breaks running record (Page 16)
- Music program developing (Page 8)
- Student veterans' heroism (Page 5)

Six Mile Post

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The "Six Mile Post," a designated public forum named after the old railroad station and trading post that was once located near where the college was founded in Floyd County, publishes seven print and online issues a year and is funded through student activity fees and ad revenue. Letters to the Editor may be brought to the SMP office, emailed to 6mpost@student.highlands.edu, or mailed to Editor, "Six Mile Post," 3175 Cedartown Highway Rome, GA 30161. Letter must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editors, and letters may appear in print and/or online.

The long and winding path is sometimes the right one



Path 2 Highlands

Andrew West
Editor-in-chief

Life is full of decisions, which determine the paths down which we travel. The path I took on my way to Georgia Highlands is a long and winding one, full of a lot of good times, some not so good times and a lot of stuff I simply don't remember.

My first few attempts at college failed somewhat miserably. I discarded a substantial amount of scholarship money after one year at Berry College, because I

knew I was not ready for school.

Then, I began to have some pretty serious conflicts with my parents regarding my future, which lead to a mediocre semester at Shorter University and a semester here at GHC, in which I took four zeros, because I never bothered to come to class or even withdraw.

As a 26-year-old student at community college, I've

learned many things about myself.

For instance, I'm capable of managing (however well or poorly) a student newspaper staff, a feat which I never would have attempted if not for some persuasion from a friend and former editor of the Six Mile Post.

Also, it turns out that I have some pretty good leadership skills, and I'm smart. These qualities were beginning to develop in me at a much younger age, but I wasn't ready to put them to use, so I took a break from school.

The reason I gave for this was that I needed to learn what it meant to be responsible by working and

paying bills, and there was a lot of truth to that claim.

Learning those things really was important to me. However, another (and probably a more accurate) reason was that I just wanted to party. So, I did party. I partied a lot.

Five years of my life were spent in a haze of over-the-top substance abuse.

On top of that, I put myself in an emotionally abusive relationship over and over again.

However, almost three years ago, that tumultuous five-year relationship came to a very permanent end in a very sad and dramatic fashion. This provided the impetus I needed in order to get serious about finish-

ing my education.

So, I came back to GHC, and I have not looked back since. These days, I spend more time worrying about my future, which is what I should be doing.

Highlands has been a great experience for me, but I do not regret the bad decisions I made. Those decisions made me who I am, and they are part of the reason that I'm here at GHC.

Those experiences taught me how to balance the fun and partying with my other responsibilities like school and the SMP.

My path to Highlands may have been a non-traditional one, but I do firmly believe that it was the right path for me.

Take advantage of the opportunities college presents while here



Soapbox

Kevin Horan
Staff Writer

For many students at Georgia Highlands, their time here can be incredibly exciting, but it can also be intimidating, particularly in the first semesters. Schedules will inevitably be more hectic, and professors will expect a level of

quality in students' work that they may not be used to.

Additionally, many of the friends students had come to know from high school and earlier may have gone to different universities, removing a famil-

iar safety net.

Even in that, however, there is opportunity. Too often we allow ourselves to be defined by the people we associate with rather than ourselves. Think of college as a chance to find new interests, what really interests you, not just your friends. It's almost impossible not to find people who share your interests and make new friends along the way.

If students are unsure where to start, the college

has several clubs students can join to give an idea of what some interests may be.

Even if it turns out that a particular club is not of interest, there's still a good chance to meet interesting new people anyway, making it time well spent. The clubs, on the other hand, will be more than happy to have a new member.

Part of going to college is not just expanding the mind, but expanding horizons as well, so be sure

to grasp the opportunity while it's there.

There will be few times in life in which we are as free as we are now to try new things and experiment with new hobbies or ideas, so why not go with whatever seems exciting?

Maybe some of the things we try will turn out to be not for us, but that's ok, because we'll be richer for the experience. But to go through life without trying anything new would be rather dull.

Dear Editor,

Although I do not know any of the SMP writers personally, I just wanted to say that I read the Jan. 29 edition yesterday and was very impressed with the high quality of writing and topics. I have been away from the GHC environment for 10 years. I retired from my high school position this past May, and this was a refreshing experience, reading well-written articles of relevance and interest.

One of the articles I particularly enjoyed was Brooke Govin's "Misconceptions." Over the years I have always encouraged my high school seniors to begin their studies at GHC or Dalton College. In so doing they have two years to mature, save money

and have time to consider a major, before taking off for the sometimes distracting freedom of life on a college campus. (So many of my students who go off to big college campuses lose sight of their goals during the first year.)

I have copied Brooke's article and shared it with the senior teachers at my former high school. J.P. Erickson's "Living" also speaks eloquently of the experience of so many of my former students, and I am also sharing his article.

Darlene Callan
Part-Time Instructor of English
Cartersville campus

Letter to the Editor



Valentine's Day: day of love or money?

By Rebecca Pharr
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is a day typically associated with romance and love. However, in America, this day of love has grown a materialistic side to it as well.

According to History.com, Valentine's Day is acknowledged because of the ancient priest Valentine from Rome, Italy.

After Claudius II outlawed marriage for young men, Valentine took the matter into his own hands and continued to wed young

couples in secrecy. Claudius found out about Valentine's illegal act and sentenced him to death.

The holiday has a different meaning today than it did back in the third century.

Every year, the Census Bureau provides statistics on the amount of money Americans and businesses spend on this pink and red-themed holiday. The facts could come as a shock.

Chocolate is the number-one candy sold on this day. The most common form is a heart and the sizes vary

from a small Hershey's Kiss to a seven-metric-ton heart revealed in Madrid in 2004.

The National Retail Federation proclaimed that \$1.5 billion in revenue was collected by the candy industry in 2012.

\$1.8 billion was spent on flowers alone in 2012. The Census Bureau found 17,124 florists in the U.S. in 2009.

Valentine's Day is ranked as the second-most popular holiday for giving and receiving cards. There are 180 million cards that are exchanged annually.

Many people wait until at least six days prior to Feb. 14 to purchase a card, and these last-minute purchases accounts for almost 50 percent of the total sales. Forty percent of the consumers are parents buying their children a heart-felt reminder.

Jewelry has become more associated with this holiday over time. \$4.1 billion was spent on jewelry in 2012, and solitaire engagement rings were the biggest hit, beating out wedding bands and diamond earrings.

In a 2011 poll, it was

shown that ladies would much rather prefer a relaxed, romantic dinner than the showcased jewelry.

Americans spend around \$17.6 billion on this special holiday that only comes around once a year. It seems that gifts are the main attraction and draw the most attention.

Is love and affection seemingly becoming underrated? Perhaps all the glorious presents are just a fun, exaggerated way of showing loved ones how much thought and appreciation is put into it.

What are your spring break plans?

Tyler Williams
Cartersville

"I am unsure, but hopefully going somewhere with a friend."

Abbi Ledford
Cartersville

"Cleaning the house and going to the last weekend of Momo Con."



Photos and poll by Kaylee Long



Happy spring break!

2014 spring break changes

By Randi Parker
Staff Writer

Spring is approaching quickly, and with the coming of spring comes a college student's much needed and anticipated spring break.

Trees are shaking the cold from their branches, awakening from the dull, gray winter. Leaves are starting to come back and flowers are beginning to bloom.

The sunshine feels warm and the earthy smell of freshly cut grass will soon be here again.

Whether travelling or just relaxing at home, all students are looking forward to spring break to take a pause from schoolwork, tests and projects.

March 4 is the day students are anxiously awaiting this year. For the last two years, spring break for Georgia Highlands students has

fallen during early March.

This date, however, will shift beginning in 2014. Spring Break dates will move from the usual ninth week of term to the eleventh week of term.

Director of Admissions and Registrar, Sandra Davis said, "In the past we have tried to have Spring Break be (as close as possible) between the first 8-week and the second 8-week sessions."

Davis explains that the reason for the change in Spring Break dates was suggested "so that it would fall after the last day to withdraw without academic penalty for full session classes."

Virginia Robinson, a first-year student at GHC's Floyd campus, had to say of next year's changes to the Spring Break schedule, "If you're going to have a Spring Break, you may as well have it in the middle of the semester."

Student Snapshot

**Get to
know
Michael
Russo**



Name: Michael Russo
Major: Psychology
Campus: Paulding and Cartersville
Preferred apocalyptic method: Natural Disaster
Last Movie you saw in theaters: "The Hobbit"
Dream Job: Counselor
Toilet paper, over or under: Over

Best picture Oscar nominee 'Lincoln' is a must see

By J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor

"Lincoln" is the epic story of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln's race to acquire the number of congressional votes needed to abolish slavery in the final stages of the Civil War.

It is nominated for 12 Academy Awards including best picture, best director (Steven Spielberg), best actor (Daniel Day-Lewis), best supporting actor (Tommy Lee Jones) and best supporting actress (Sally Field).

As Lincoln, Daniel Day-Lewis, winner of best actor for "There Will Be Blood" in 2008 and "My Left Foot" in 1990, delivers a powerhouse performance.

Day-Lewis portrays this towering figure in American history with an appropriate blend of temperance and emotion.

This is shown in his dealings with the radical Republicans, whose unanimous vote and support were imperative to the passage of abolition, making the scenes

which necessitated a great deal of visible passion from the president tremendously dynamic.

The ensemble cast includes Joseph Gordon-Levitt, David Strathairn, James Spader, Hal Holbrook and Tim Blake Nelson. These titans of stage and film aid in creating an authentic atmosphere of dissenting factions that nearly tore our nation apart.

The audience follows Lincoln and his constituents as they cleverly manipulate and persuade lame-duck Democrats to change their minds and votes as the war is drawing near its close.

This is of particular significance, because if he is unable to push the 13th Amendment through before the rebel surrender or peace, then the Southern states won't ratify the amendment.

Lincoln is also faced with a scrupulous decision. He can continue on the quest for the abolition of slavery and make one step closer to equality for all men, or end



Contributed photo

Sally Fields (left) and Daniel Day-Lewis (right) star in the best picture nominated film "Lincoln."

the war and save the lives of countless soldiers whose brothers' deaths would be in vain should the amendment die.

The script, written by Tony Kushner, is up for best adapted screenplay, and can be touted as a contender for the Oscar. Steven Spielberg's seventh nomination in the category of best di-

rector will go head-to-head with And Lee's direction of his visually incomparable film "Life of Pi" at the Academy Awards, which received 11 nominations. Spielberg has already won two Oscars for best director. He won for "Schindler's List" in 1993 and "Saving Private Ryan" in 1998.

Viewers and fans should

look for Spielberg to come out on top in this category. The film should complete a near sweep in multiple other categories including best picture, best actor and best supporting actor.

This is a must-see for any fan of historical film-making and dialogue-driven drama which keeps movie-goers enthralled throughout.

Students give mixed reviews on T.I.'s latest hip hop album

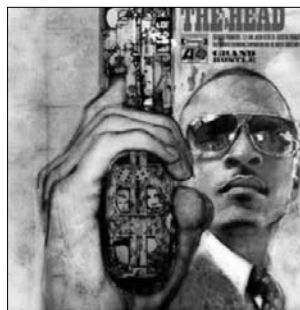
By Tia Berger
Staff Writer

T.I.'s new album "Trouble Man: Heavy is the Head," which debuted December of 2012, receives mixed reviews from GHC students.

Freshman Gerrad Walker, said the album started off good with T.I.'s number six song "Sorry," but shifted his viewpoint after hearing song number two "G Season."

He said the profanity, and vulgar language used was a little unbearable for his ears. On a scale from 1 to 10 he rated this album a 5.

On the other hand, sophomore Erica Chineth,



Contributed photo

T. I.'s new album "Trouble Man: Heavy is the Head."

said she loved the album. "It's relatable and his song 'Guns and Roses' starts my day off," she said. She gave the album a high rating of 8.

The latest album actually falls somewhere in between the two students' opinions.

'Nintendo Land' is a party-lover's paradise

By Michael Hewitt
Staff Writer

Game review

The arrival of the Wii U brought many new games in its wake.

Some of them were cross-platform games, such as "Call of Duty" and "Assassin's Creed" that step away from the Wii games of the previous generation by using the pro controller. But fear not, "Mario Party" lovers and "Wii Sports" fanatics, Nintendo kept you in mind with "Nintendo Land."

While this game has solo play modes, the multiplayer games are what bring back the party game feel of the first Wii console. These mini games that feature a number of lovable characters from Nintendo's past and

present, this game is sure to bring something to the table.

The competitive attractions allow two to five players to face off against one another in settings inspired by "Super Mario," "Luigi's Mansion," and "Animal Crossing." The controls in these games can be a bit clunky and the camera angles on the GamePad are purposefully restricted giving the team using the TV an advantage.

The team-based games, which are for one to five players, are played using the GamePad and Wiimotes, too. The same camera angle issues occur here when

playing with multiple players, though not enough to counter the entertainment value.

While these games offers a variety of multiplayer options, Nintendo did not neglect the solo gamer. The solo games use the GamePad and TV in conjunction to provide different views of the game. These take place in familiar Nintendo games like "F-zero," "Nazo no Murasame Jō," "Donkey Kong," "Balloon Fight," "Yoshi" and the "Game & Watch" title, "Octopus." This set of games is well thought out and has simple controls and objectives.

"Nintendo Land" is a Wii U game with a Wii feel and will easily find a place in the collection of party-game lovers everywhere.

Academy Awards: Preview and Predictions

By J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor

The 85th Annual Academy Awards will bring together an eclectic blend of films, showcasing the diversity in filmmaking of this day-and-age.

Take the category of best picture, with its nine nominees. There are films like "Life of Pi", a young, multi-religion obsessed Indian boy's story of survival as he and his Bengal tiger, "Richard Parker" cross the Atlantic.

Then there's Tarantino's latest effort "Django Unchained," which features a freed slave turned bounty hunter, bent on revenge and saving his wife from a plantation owner.

"Lincoln" is the screenplay adapted from a biography written by Tony Kushner to accurately depict the president's passionate pursuit of the abolition of slavery.

Academy Award Winner Kathryn Bigelow, who previously won best director for the Hurt Locker, stays with the military drama genre with "Zero Dark Thirty," her tale of the mission to take out the mastermind behind 9/11, Osama Bin Laden.

The other nominees include in the best picture category the consummate musical classic "Les Misérables" and "Argo," the story of a group of U.S. embassy workers' extraction in Iran by some creative operatives.

"Silver Linings Playbook," the tale of a man's breakdown and redemption after being sent over the edge upon witnessing his wife's infidelity is another

nominee. An elderly couple's struggle to maintain a semblance of life and love after the wife suffers two strokes is the story told in "Amour."

A father and daughter fight to save their way of life

actress nominated in the category.

Conversely, Quvenzhané Wallis of "Beasts of the Southern Wild," at the tender age of six during filming, is the youngest to be nominated.

Thaddeus Stephens.

Best actress will go to Jennifer Lawrence for "Silver Linings Playbook," while best supporting actress should be Anne Hathaway in "Les Misérables."

Don't be surprised if

Thomas Anderson's "The Master" with just three nods.

None of the nominations, save for Joaquin Phoenix's best actor and Philip Seymour Hoffman's best supporting actor for "The Master," were in major cat-



against an encroaching conventional civilization and catastrophic flooding in Louisiana's bathtub in "Beasts of the Southern Wild," which is the final nominee in this category.

The latter two films include two of the nominees for best actress in very different stages of their lives. In "Amour," 85-year-old Emmanuelle Riva sets the record for the oldest

For best original screenplay, Wes Anderson's all but snubbed "Moonrise Kingdom" will take home Oscar gold. Best adapted screenplay will be David Magee for "Life of Pi."

Best picture will go to "Lincoln," as well as best director (Steven Spielberg), best actor (Daniel Day-Lewis as Lincoln) and best supporting actor (Tommy Lee Jones) for his portrayal of

"Life of Pi" gets best cinematography for Claudio Miranda's breathtaking visuals, while "Prometheus" steals the award for best visual effects in Ridley Scott's prequel revisit to his sci-fi classic, "Alien."

Some notable oversights include Peter Jackson's "The Hobbit" which received only three nods. Also overlooked are Sam Mendes's "Skyfall" with five nods and Paul

egories.

Seth MacFarlane of the film "Ted" and television's "Family Guy" will host the awards show with impertinence or restraint, which is something for which he is not known.

The Dolby Theatre, formerly the Kodak Theatre, in Los Angeles will be the venue for the ceremony which will take place on Feb. 24 on ABC.

(1938) "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" won one Oscar and seven mini statuettes	(1963) Sidney Poitier becomes first black Best Actor winner	(1997) "Titanic" with 11 Oscars ties the record for most wins	(2009) Heath Ledger joins Finch in winning posthumously for "The Dark Knight"
(1927) First Oscars	(1952) "Ben Hur" sets the record for most Oscar wins with 11	(1976) Peter Finch is the first to win an Oscar posthumously for "Network"	(2001) First Oscars where both Best Actor and Best Actress, Denzel Washington and Halle Berry, were black
(2013) The Best Actress category holds the oldest and youngest nominees			

Intramurals bring Floyd students together

By Thorne Hale
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands offers a variety of intramural sports for students who want to get involved.

These sports include coed beach volleyball, a pingpong tournament, an Ultimate Frisbee league, men's and women's five-on-five basketball, a billiards tournament, and many

more.

According to Gary Broadhurst, intramural director on the Floyd campus, most of the activities are seasonal and are separated in the fall and spring. Activities are designed to accommodate all levels of skill.

The five-on-five basketball tournament is already underway. The players compete for bragging rights and a chance to advance.

While most events involve competition, the Intramural Program emphasizes and promotes participation, sportsmanship, social interaction and exercise, which promotes health.

Students can either stop by the Intramural Office, room 108 in the P.E. building, or email Broadhurst at gbroadhu@highlands.edu to sign up for whatever program in which they are interested in participating.

Students who have participated in intramural sports around Georgia Highlands all agree that it is a great way to get in-



Photo by Pedro Zavala

From left, Joel Bigham guards Rashon Dean in the post.



Photo by Pedro Zavala

From left, Fabian Maciel prepares to crash the boards as Rashon Dean closes out on Joel Bigham.

involved.

Ramsey Brown, a student at GHC's Floyd campus who played in the fall flag football league last year, said that she "loved playing" and plans to participate in the tournament next year.

Brown also said, "It was very organized and well

planned."

Many students also agreed that flag football was the most popular sport and wished they had a spring time league in which they could participate.

Intramurals can be a great way to get involved at Georgia Highlands.

Super Bowl goes down to the wire in the Big Easy

By Becky Crooks
Sports Editor

The Baltimore Ravens and San Francisco 49ers met up in New Orleans on Sunday, Feb. 3 for Super Bowl XLVII.

Within the first few minutes of the game, it was evident that the Ravens took to the field prepared to take home the Lombardi trophy.

In comparison, the game was one of the few times since rookie quarterback Colin Kaepernick took over the role of starting quarterback that the 49ers showed their inexperience. Within their first two plays, they were

penalized for illegal formation.

The Ravens held the 49ers to only three yards for their first possession, and within minutes of receiving the ball from the 49ers, the Ravens scored their first touchdown.

The tide didn't change for the first half of the game, with the Ravens leading 21-6 at halftime.

After returning from halftime, the 49ers kicked off to the Ravens, specifically wide receiver Jacoby Jones, who ran it back for a 108-yard kickoff return touchdown, which tied the NFL record for longest kick-

off return.

Shortly after this happened, the electricity in half of the stadium went down. For 34 minutes, players, coaches and fans waited for the electricity to come back on.

When they got the electricity back on, they also turned the spark on for the 49ers.

Almost immediately, they scored their first touchdown of the game, bringing the score up to 28-13.

Once the Ravens regained possession, they were then playing the part of the inexperienced team, eventually leaving their quarter-

back, Joe Flacco, open to be sacked.

The Ravens punted the ball but still allowed great field position for the 49ers, which they took advantage of with another touchdown.

While the 49ers were fighting hard to erase their first half deficit, the Ravens began to get their momentum back and added two more field goals to the board, making the score 31-29 after Kaepernick had set a Super Bowl record for longest touchdown run by a quarterback with 15 yards.

The 49ers worked themselves all the way down to the red zone with the two-

minute warning passed, but with the Ravens' tough coverage, Kaepernick was unable to get another touchdown.

The Ravens got the ball back, but in hopes of running down the clock, they allowed the 49ers to get a safety.

The 49ers had one last chance with four seconds left on the clock to run the Ravens' kickoff back for a touchdown, but they were unsuccessful in their attempt.

The Ravens won the hard-fought game against the 49ers 34-31, with Flacco receiving the M.V.P. award.

The love of the run

By Sarah Lane
Asst. Print Editor

GHC alumni Scott Brockmeier loves to run. He loves to run so much that he participates in 100-mile races.

In 2012, Brockmeier broke the world record for the most 100-mile races in a year by a male with 27 races.

Brockmeier has always enjoyed endurance sports, but running was not his first love. "I was big into rock climbing for 17 to 18 years," said Brockmeier.

Unfortunately, being in graduate school in North Carolina hindered his ability to keep his endurance up. "It was kind of frustrating. I wasn't able to get out very often and I wasn't able to climb very long because I had lost my endurance," said Brockmeier. So Brockmeier looked for something he could train for in his own backyard.

The first thing he came up with was adventure racing, which is a race that includes two or more endurance sports such as cross-country running, mountain biking and paddling. However, the logistics seemed to

be too much to handle.

While researching adventure racing, Brockmeier came across ultrarunning, which involves races that are longer than the standard marathon distance of 26.2 miles.

He started to train for a standard marathon, and in the summer of 2001, he completed his first marathon. In October of the same year, he ran a 50-mile race in Virginia.

Brockmeier continued to train, and in April of 2002, he finished his first 100-mile race in North Carolina.

From then on, he was hooked. Brockmeier said, "I fell in love with it right away, and I fell in love with the people. A big part of the attraction to the sport is the people who do it."

After years of running 100-mile races, Brockmeier began to wonder how many he could complete in a year. In 2012, he decided to find out.

With the end goal of completing 30 races, Brockmeier set out to test his limits. The previous record set in 2010 was 25 races in a calendar year.

While he did not make his personal goal, Brock-



Photo by Virginia Robinson

Scott Brockmeier shows off his prized belt buckles which represent each of his races in 2012.

meier managed to break the record for males by two races, finishing the year with

27 races.

Brockmeier never won any of the races he competed

in, but for Brockmeier, the goal was "always about finishing."

Sports: Winning can go way beyond the scoreboard

By Becky Crooks
Sports Editor

Someone asked me once, "Why do you like sports? Why is it so important?" At first, I didn't have an answer. I didn't really know why I liked sports; I just did.

However, this conversation got me thinking about sports in a bigger picture, and soon I realized that it was simple. I like sports because they have the power to make changes in society—changes that have nothing to do with sports.

Racism was a commonality in 1974, and African-Americans were treated as

a lower-class than whites. A baseball game played one spring night in Atlanta in 1974 helped bridge that gap

men ran beside him patting him on the back. It wasn't about color in that moment; it was about greatness.



In the Zone

Becky Crooks
Sports Editor

just a little with a single home-run over the left-center wall. As Hank Aaron rounded the bases after hitting his 715th home-run, which passed Babe Ruth's all-time record, two white

The 1980 Olympic hockey game, when the United States beat the "unbeatable" Soviets, had this entire nation holding its breath. It was just a game, but it was a game that made people set aside their differ-

ences and root for this country—their country. This game restored faith in the United States during the on-going Cold War.

When the apartheid came to an end in South Africa in 1994, Nelson Mandela became president of a country still torn by years of racism and distrust. Though he is known for many great things, Mandela understood the importance of sports to a country and backed South Africa's rugby team, the Springboks. At first, both races fought this endorsement. The whites didn't want anything to do with Mandela, and the blacks didn't want to be as-

sociated with anything from the apartheid era. However, by the end of the season, the whole country had come together to root for the "Boks" and share in the excitement of the game. The season led to South Africa's first appearance in the Rugby World Cup, a game which they won 15-12 against the New Zealand All Blacks.

Sports can have great power over people. They can make a grown man cry, and they can bring a country together when it needs it the most. It's not always about what team is winning or losing. Sometimes, it's about something greater.