

SIX MILE POST

The Student Voice

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GHC future
construction plans
see page 2



Contributed by Jeff Davis

Future construction plans at the Floyd campus will improve the courtyard area to encourage students to enter the school through the cafe/courtyard area instead of the Administration building.



Student
works and
learns at
GHC

See page 4.



SMP First
Amendment
Awareness
week

See page 8.



Baseball play-
ers awarded
Golden Gloves
and rings

See page 10.

Georgia Highlands College - Rome, Georgia



Contributed by Jeff Davis

This is an artistic rendering of the future courtyard entrance between the Walraven and Administration buildings.

GHC plans to modernize Floyd campus

By Danielle Griesemer
Staff Writer

Floyd students are beginning to notice changes on their campus, primarily the interior remodeling of the Walraven building.

It has been confirmed that the Floyd campus can expect more renovations in the near future.

Vice President of Finance and Administration Jeff Davis said that the Floyd campus can expect “endless remodeling and renovating” over the next few years.

The purpose of these changes is to update appearance and efficiency of the campus.

Both Davis and GHC President Donald Green agreed that the interior of all Floyd buildings were outdated.

Green even stated that at the beginning of his tenure at GHC the interior of Floyd “looked like a prison.”

The renovations occurring in the Walraven building last semester were just one of the many projects in store for the campus.

Currently, visitors and

prospective students to the Floyd campus park in the visitor parking spaces between the Lakeview and Administration buildings.

Because of this, the arrival point seems to be “that triangle room.” Davis stated that one future project is to “shift arrival point for visitors to the garden between the president’s office and the Walraven building.”

Other planned projects include improving pedestrian access from the Lakeview building to the other buildings. Currently, students must

walk long distances from the entrance of Lakeview across campus.

As a solution, Green said the parking lot between Lakeview and Administration will be converted to green space with a walkway.

Another proposed project includes adding a deck to the back of the library with direct access to Paris Lake. Green said that as a school “our backs have been turned away from the lake.”

Ideas for renovations were not only those of Davis and Green. Students also had in-



Contributed by Jeff Davis

GHC’s famous bell tower will feature a fountain at its base following future construction.

put in the design.

Corbin Turner, a third year business major, stated, “More updated and modern buildings, both internally and externally...” is an improvement he would like to see continue.

Davis and Green assure future construction will be no more dramatic than what has already occurred in the Walraven building saying, “No buildings will be taken offline.”

33rd annual Alabama Shakespeare Festival trip is scheduled

By Kara Ledbetter
Staff Writer

Sign-ups for GHC’s yearly trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival will begin in early February.

This trip will give students a chance to visit Montgomery, Alabama and watch performances of “The Miracle Worker” by William Gibson and “Twelfth Night” by William Shakespeare.

According to John Spranza, director of Student Life, “The Miracle Worker” is, “a contemporary play about the life of Helen Keller and her teacher Anne Sullivan,” and “Twelfth Night” is “somewhat like a Shakespeare romantic comedy.”

The Student Life office and the Humanities division are sponsoring this trip, and it will take place on April 28-29.

Students who would like

to go on the trip must receive a registration packet from the Student Life Office or online. Payment for the trip will be done in the business office and the receipt and packet will then be brought to Student Life.

The trip fee will include admission into the two plays, hotel accommodations, charter bus transportation, an additional side excursion and some meals.

Pricing may vary depending on occupancy of hotel rooms. A hotel room with more than one person will be cheaper than the cost of staying in a room alone. Participants of the trip can request a roommate or be paired up randomly.

Side excursions will include a Montgomery Biscuits minor league baseball game, the park around the Alabama Shakespeare facility as well as the Shakespeare garden.

Sign-ups will begin February 5 and run through March 5. A \$50 deposit is required at sign up and sign up will be handled by the Student Life Office.

The balance of the trip fee will be due March 20.

“English classes and many other classes as well offer extra credit to students who go on the trip,” said Kristie Kemper, English professor and one of the trip’s coordinators.

Music studio program coming soon to GHC

By Nick Whitmire
Managing Ed., Online

GHC will be getting a new music production software system installed in the libraries on the Floyd and Cartersville campuses.

The music production software called DAW, Digital Audio Workstation, has been made by the Ableton Company and is a new and professional music software. "This new software will allow students to create compositions, manipulate sound and layer sounds digitally," said Samuel Baltzer, professor of music. This new software can even allow students to create new sounds as well.

This is the first time that GHC's music programs will be using a software like DAW. According to Baltzer, DAW was recommended to him by his students, as it is "Industry standard and fully functional and is used by sound designers, and composers of TV, film and games to create music every day." Baltzer hopes that DAW will bring in more student interest in the music courses.

Along with the package of DAW, there will also be a software called the Sibelius Notation software, which will allow students to produce sheet music and play music live, while DAW is used to create composition assignments.

With DAW and Sibelius being at the libraries of the Floyd and Cartersville campuses, the cost of all the software will be \$550 altogether. Since the music courses are not offered at the other campuses, the new software will not be making its way to the other campuses. But Baltzer said that it may be possible if the music courses are offered at the other campuses in the future.

This program came about when a donor gave a \$5000 donation to GHC to put a piano in the Heritage Hall site. Baltzer then used the remaining money to purchase this new software.

As for the libraries' contribution, they will simply provide

the space for students to use the new program. They will also be keeping the keyboards, headphones and computers for students to check out, as it is a first come first serve basis. The software is available for MAC and PC, and the sound can only be heard from the computers, but they must be used by the school computers, not on personal laptops.

Even though music today is made digitally, this new program is meant to keep all options open for students, as traditional writing is only half the field, according to Baltzer.

Baltzer wants to keep things as practical as possible and considers this a huge step forward for the music degree

program. He said that music reflects the time and it is logical to make music technological.

This program is meant to help students to compose and understand music, and to preserve the music of the past to keep up with the times, since much of the music of the past is timeless. Baltzer said, "It is important for our music programs to be student driven, to meet student needs, and to allow students to be competitive with one another."

This new music production program is planned to be available by the end of January to music majors and students taking music business and theory.

Highlands Happenings

Study geology in Wyoming

By Danielle Griesemer
Staff Writer

Each summer, GHC Professor of Geology Billy Morris takes 12 students to Wyoming to fulfill eight credit hours, equivalent to Geology I and II.

Morris first took students in 1997. He said this trip offers the unique experience of field work and examining all geologic time periods.

The 2018 trip will occur from June 18-30.

All students are eligible regardless of major and year, so long as they are "team players and willing to work in close quarters with each other," said Morris.

Total cost for the trip is \$1700, covering food, lodging and transportation.

Applications must be completed online with references and a deposit.

In recent years, financial aid has begun to help cover costs.

Further information can be found at the website: highlands.edu/wyoming and a GHC FacebookLive video posted Jan. 9.

Civil Rights center trip set

By Epiphany Huff
Staff Writer

The Office of Student Life is sponsoring a day-trip to the The Center for Civil Rights and Human Rights in downtown Atlanta on Feb. 9.

"The group will stop at the Varsity for lunch. Those on the trip will be responsible for paying for their lunch, and there will be vans or carpools leaving from each GHC campus," said John Spranza, Student Life director.

The deadline for trip sign-up was Jan. 25. The college will be buying the tickets for those who have signed up for the trip. But if a student was to drop out, another can take that student's place. There will also be a wait list for those that missed the deadline.

Old Red Kimono seeks submissions for new issue

By David Pulliam
Staff Writer

The Old Red Kimono, GHC's literary and art journal, is considering submissions for publication in its 47th annual issue, which is due out this April.

Students, faculty, staff,

and alumni are encouraged to submit original poems, short-stories, artwork and photographs. There will be prizes of \$50, \$30, and \$20 for the top three creative writing and art submissions.

Submissions can be emailed until Feb. 13 to Nancy Applegate at napplega@highlands.edu.

Applegate said she's "excited about this year's ORK, especially the collaboration with the GHC Creative Writing Club" and added "the editors are working hard to make the 2018 issue 100 percent fresh."

GHC-themed photos submitted to the "ORK Loves GHC" photo contest are eligible to win a \$50 prize.



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Smith-Camacho: Taking charge through art and finances



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Xinia Smith-Camacho

**By Nick Whitmire
Managing Ed., Online**

Xinia Smith-Camacho is both a student and an employee of Georgia Highlands College.

She is currently the financial services accountant at GHC. Smith-Camacho has been a part of GHC since 2015.

Smith-Camacho has proven to be a quick learner, and it is with her passion, determination and positive attitude that has led her to overcome and express her struggles through her work and skill as an artist.

Smith-Camacho was born in Costa Rica and lived there for 16 years. Her fondest memories of Costa Rica are being with friends and family, with all of its good food and culture.

But being in America has taught her to love Costa Rica even more. According to Smith-Camacho, "You tend to appreciate what you love more when you are far away from it."

Costa Rica is where her love for art would also be born, despite limited resources.

"My dad did a little art, and I learned by copying him, by putting stuff together and looking at him constantly," said Smith-Camacho.

When she moved to America and applied to Armuchee High School in March 2009, it was not an easy transition, as she was also struggling with learning English and the school system.

While school was difficult at first, she managed to succeed, particularly in math, physical education and art, class from which her award-winning painting "Donkey" was created in 10 hours. She graduated in 2009.

Before applying to GHC, Smith-Camacho worked many jobs, ranging from fast food, a technician, a travel auditor and even at a bank. As she worked her way at GHC, she was then recommended by the son of Cynthia Parker, the manager of purchasing, to her current job today. As an avid learner, Smith-Camacho said, "If you're willing to learn, you can do anything."

When she is not doing art,

or making sure GHC's expenses have backing, her hobbies include cooking, eating, family, her Mom being her art critic, and being in nature, for nature is the artist that inspires her the most.

According to Smith-Camacho, "Art is in nature, and it allows you to admire what God has created."

Animals are another part of Smith-Camacho's life. They serve as the main motifs for the themes in her art. According to Smith-Camacho, "There is a beauty in animals that make them unique."

To her, animals are the perfect motif for her themes

of struggling with the English language and family, as seen in her pieces "Donkey" and "The Three Cheetahs."

In the future, Smith-Camacho plans to get an Associate degree in Business and her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in accounting.

She is also planning to be a CPA in forensic accounting, inspired by her temporary work for the Floyd County Police, and even going up to the FBI.

When it comes to inspiring artists, her advice would be to always explore, grow as a person and always listen. She said, "You never know what you can do with one step."

Ping-pong team gets ready for competitions

**By Moises Ledesma
Staff Writer**

A group of avid and casual ping pong players decided to form the Georgia Highlands Ping-Pong Club. Team members Joshua Rager and Abby Smith were some of the founders and first trainers of the team. Today they have many coaches that are eager to train new members.

As of the Fall 2017 semester, the team meets every Thursday at 4 pm in the Cartersville campus' Student Activities Center to practice. The coaches are very flexible and will work outside of that schedule if necessary.

Tryouts for the varsity team began in January, but if anyone is still interested in joining, Spencer Kennedy, the team captain, said the team is always looking for new members. No one should be afraid of walking up to them and asking for information. "You will always find someone playing ping pong at the student center," said Kennedy.

Before they became a team,

the club practiced and even organized and participated in several internal and external events. Some of those events included tournaments with different GHC campuses and other schools.

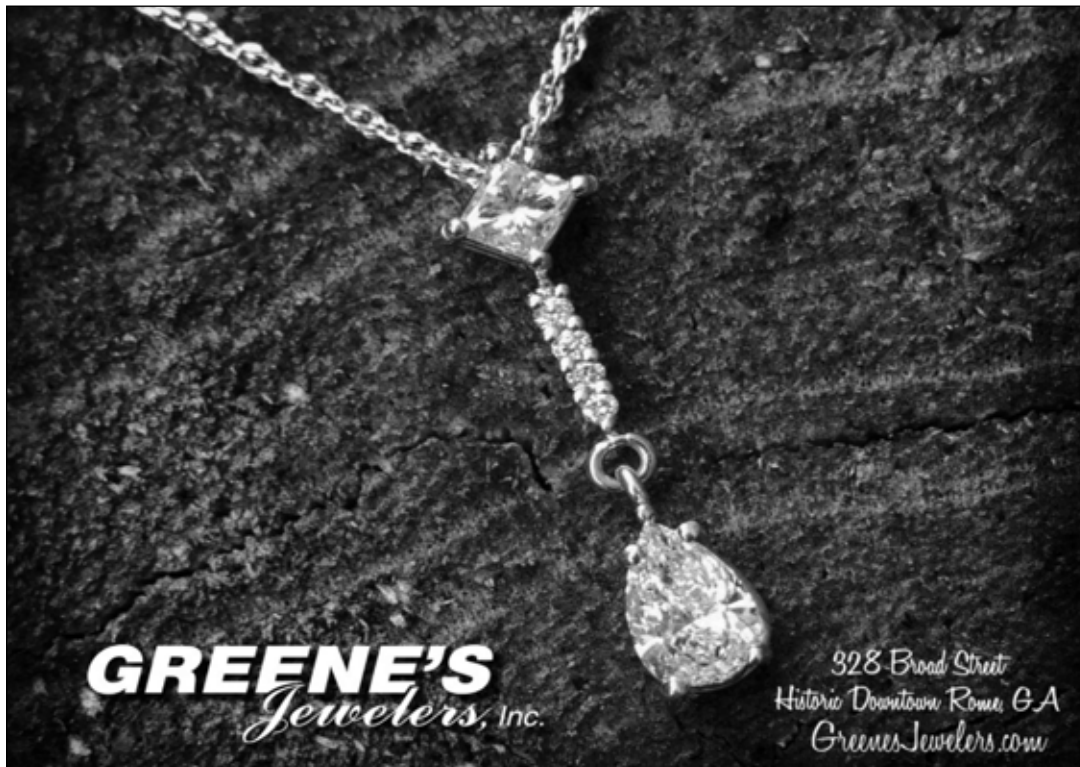
During the Fall 2017 semester, they entered their first official tournament organized by the International Table Tennis Federation. Although the team did not win, the tournament was a milestone for them. Kennedy said, "For the first time we made a name for ourselves."

The team will participate in its second official tournament at the Lucky Shoals Park in Atlanta on Feb. 10.

The team members also encourage more women to join and form the women's ping-pong team.

The team's goal is to eventually make it to nationals and gain sponsorship and scholarship opportunities and to purchase a second ping-pong table.

For more information, email Kennedy at: jkenne13@student.highlands.edu



Georgia's film industry provides opportunity

By Jillian Scanlon
Staff Writer

The film business is booming in Georgia. With movie and TV productions taking off, chances to be a part of a production have increased as well.

Being an extra in a movie is just a Google search away. But people should make sure that the agency is credible.

College students are always looking for a little extra cash. While being a movie extra will not make a significant change in a person's bank account, some extra positions pay eight dollars an hour.

On Backstage.com, a TV series called "Greenleaf" was filmed in Atlanta on Jan. 24.

They were paying their extras eight dollars an hour as well.

Another show, an Adult

Swim series, "Your Pretty Face is Going to Hell," filmed Jan. 18, paid extras 17 dollars an hour.

"You get a lot more three-dimensional picture of what it takes to pull a film together."

-Carla Patterson

That being said, there is much to gain besides money. According to Professor of English Carla Patterson, who has been an extra in two movies, "Logan Lucky" and "Tag," "You get a lot more three-dimen-

sional picture of what it takes to pull a film together."

Professor of English John Kwist also wanted to emphasize the non-acting opportunities available such as makeup, costumes and special effects.

Students could use this to gain experience in a future career field and networking, as Patterson stated, "You also get to meet a lot of interesting people."

Even students with no desire to pursue a career in acting can take advantage of this opportunity.

In show business, scheduling can be tough. Students should plan around their school schedule.

Patterson offers her words of advice, "Don't EVER skip class to be an extra."

A place to get started is Backstage.com.



Contributed

Carla Patterson, English professor, and her daughter Halley, GHC alum, are on the set of the film they were extras in over the summer.

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Brock Shelton
Admissions Counselor
Jacksonville State University

Fake News takes away journalism's credibility

In today's modern era almost every single person in the world consumes some sort of news coverage on a daily basis. To accommodate the people's craving for information, news coverage is pumped out every second of every day. This results in a mass amount of news stories and not all of these stories are factual. News that is false has within the past years developed a name for itself: fake news.

According to Cambridge Dictionary, the definition of fake news is "false stories that appear to be news, spread on the internet or using other media, usually created to influence political views or as a joke."

Fake news has resulted in people having a lack of faith in modern journalism. Fake news is degrades a journalist's career. Articles or news stories cannot always be trusted to be factual anymore. A news article on Facebook was read by 993,205 Facebook users. The title of the article was



"Morge employee cremated by mistake while taking a nap." Despite how shocking the story may seem it is fake news.

The article did not have any sources to provide quotes on the acclaimed morgue incident and the article was laid out and written in a mediocre fashion. If this article was to be compared to a factual article it would be evident that the fake news story does not have as many components or in-depth research as the real article.

Fake news can still be tricky to spot. Political sto-

ries can be very believable and are often times the most common fake news stories. President Donald Trump is the face of fake news stories. It seems like if a list of all the fake news stories from the past year was made Trump's name would be in over half of them. Trump as a result aims to make fun of fake news by giving out a "Fake News Award."

Trump tweeted, "The Fake News Awards, those going to the most corrupt and biased of the Mainstream Media, will be presented to the losers on

Wednesday, Jan. 17, rather than this coming Monday. The interest in, and importance of, these awards is far greater than anyone could have anticipated!" The President, news sites and the world all recognize fake news as an issue.

Quizzes and online sites are available to improve one's ability to spot fake news. If people do not realize how much fake news has taken over the media they become pawns for fake news organizations.

**-Six Mile Post
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Don't kill the laughter

There are many aspects about free speech in the world today that are challenged. The one that has most actively affected me is the more outlandish stance that some have developed about jokes and the limits we take our comedy. I like to say what is on my mind, and a lot of that involves making fun and commenting on the world around me. It's a valuable way to resolve tension, and to just enjoy life a bit more. I'd never say that I'm good at trying to be funny, but I enjoy it all the same. That's why I think it's rather idiotic, when people make a fuss about an offensive or misconstrued

joke.

I'm not defending humor that is specifically originated to cause hurt or discomfort to a person or group of people, because there are those out there who are more interested in the offensive part of a joke. I firmly believe that humor intended to make people laugh is ok, regardless of most subject matters.

Humor is intrinsically originated in offense. If you try to make jokes that are mostly attempting to be bland, and that appeal to every one's sensibilities, it's just not going to be funny. Comedy is rooted in pain and expression. Humor



Editor's Box

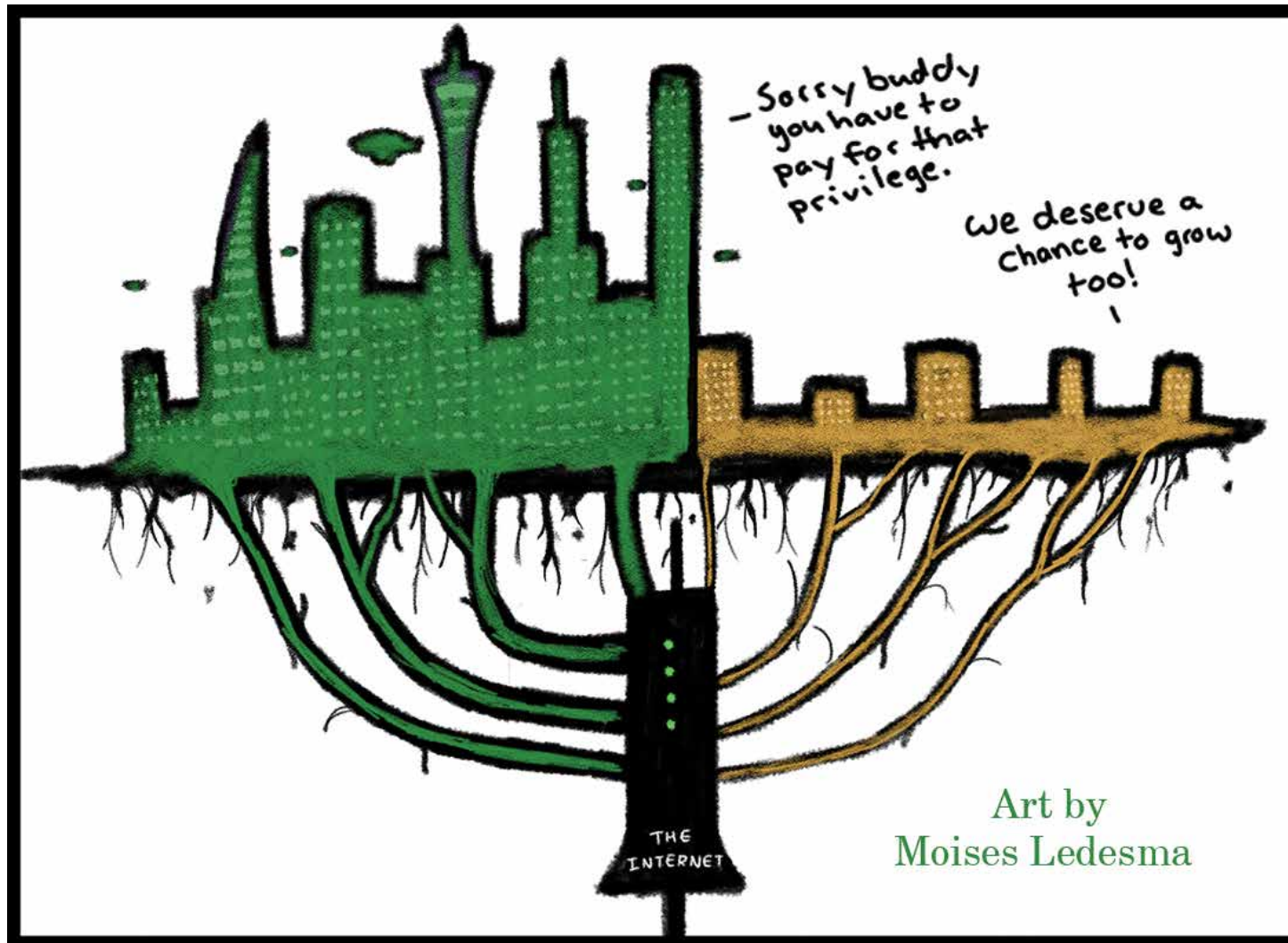
Joseph McDaniel
Managing Ed., Design

should objectively try to challenge one as a person and us as a society. Surface level comedy doesn't actually provide anything nuanced or witty. If one jokes about sensitive topics, people just have to actually use their brain to make sure they aren't being purposefully malicious.

There are people out there who don't use their brains to react to the humor that challenges them. It's like their passion in life is being offended. They lash out and label the

person in question any outrageous label they want, without stopping to think that maybe what they said was under a basis not to be taken seriously.

I believe the PC culture to be good in theory. If taken in extreme, it's rather bad for society and the way we express ourselves. We should demand to have our humor affect us positively, and provoke our sensibilities. Unless people give what the comedian is saying actual thought, they may miss out on that.



Poll by Xavier Freeman
What are your college goals for the spring?



Brianna Stump- Nursing
 "To study more and get better grades"



Elizabeth Carver- General Studies
 "Maintain my GPA and keep my study habits healthy"



Sarah Churchwell- Nursing
 "Keep my GPA and grades up"



Michelle Nash- Nursing
 "Get accepted into the nursing program"

GHC Dreamer defends DACA

Soap Box

Jeimy Celon-Alcantara
 Staff Writer

Being a DACA student, it makes me sad that the program may no longer exist. It is a program that has helped over 800,000 undocumented students attend school, obtain a job and get a driver's license. I would not be writing this if it were not for DACA.

It truly saddens me to hear

and read what some people say about Dreamers. These things include that we are here to take away their child's school benefits, their jobs, scholarships and feed off welfare that we do not qualify for.

We are not those people. We grew up the same way as any citizen has grown up in the U.S., attending the same

schools and speaking the same language. Even with DACA, we do not qualify for benefits because they are benefits for citizens, something we are not but dream to be.

Our parents did not come here with the intent to steal away from the citizens of the United States. They came here to give their children a better life than their own. Parents who have to forcibly learn English and work countless hours only to get paid minimum wage if not sometimes lower.

We are people who come from pain and suffering. People looking for refuge from

their own country.

Although, I understand many people's concern with Dreamers, just know that we do not take benefits given to us by DACA for granted. We are grateful for any opportunity given to us in order to have a stable life here in this great country.

I hope those who see us in a negative light can someday look at us without anger in their hearts.

I hope they will someday understand that we had no choice but to grow up in a country different from our birthplace. A country that we love nonetheless.

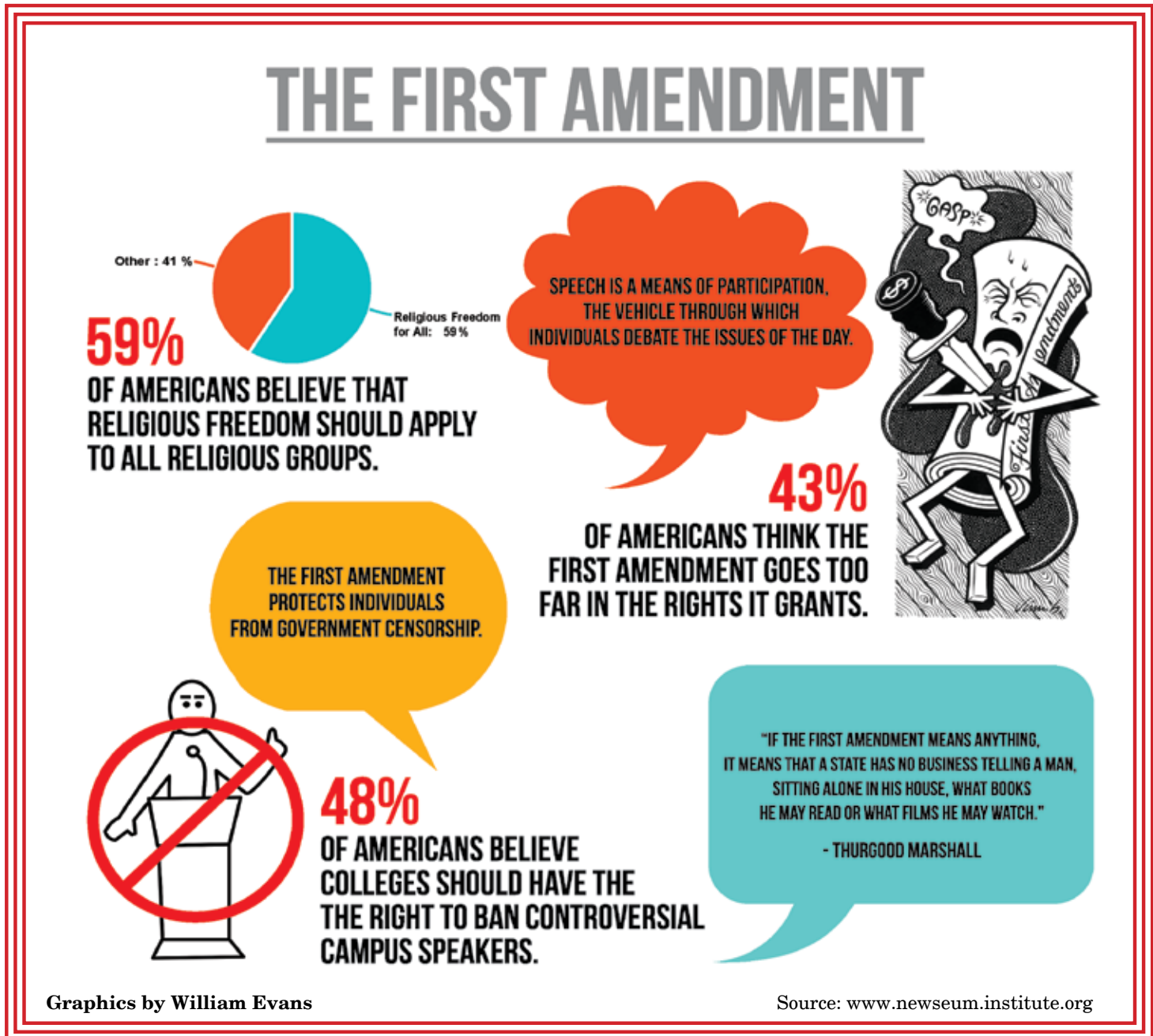
First Amendment Week

FIRST AMENDMENT QUIZ

- Who was the person who officially wrote the first amendment?
 - James Madison
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - Benjamin Franklin
 - George Washington
- Which of the following is not explicitly protected by the first amendment?
 - Assembly
 - Privacy
 - Religion
 - Press
- Was the First Amendment originally part of the bill of rights?
 - Yes
 - No
- Everson v. Board of Education (1947) was a landmark decision of the United States Supreme Court which applied the Establishment Clause in the country's Bill of Rights to
 - Schools
 - County Law
 - State Law
 - Offices
- New York Times Co. v. Sullivan established the actual malice standard which later led to
 - Unhindered coverage of the women's suffrage movement
 - Limiting rights of the free press
 - Public officials being given more free rein
 - free reporting of the civil rights campaigns in the southern United States

1A, 2B, 3B, 4C, 5D

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." - **The First Amendment**



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| 5. The Creative Writing Club | 12. Green Highlands |
| 6. Baptist Student Union | 13. Charger Cheerleaders |
| 7. Old Red Kimono | 14. AAUW at GHC |

BEST FILMS OF 2017

By Joseph McDaniel
Managing Editor, Design

Finely crafted pieces of cinema were repeatedly hitting theatre screens in 2017. There naturally isn't room to mention all of the greats that this year has produced, especially in detail. But before going to the very best, here are all the honorable mentions in alphabetical order:

The Big Sick, Coco, The Disaster Artist, Dunkirk, Get Out, Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2, Lady Bird, John Wick Chapter 2, Okja, Split, Thor Ragnarok, War for the Planet of the Apes, Wonder Woman

Now here are the top six best films that were released last year.

6. BRIGSBY BEAR

Even though this is possibly the most unconventional film here, "Brigsby Bear" most benefits from a viewing in which one goes in knowing basically nothing. If

someone wishes to get a feel for what kind of film this is, he or she should check out the first teaser trailer and nothing else.

All that needs be said is that it has one of the most unabashedly optimistic sentimentalities that's been seen in film in a long time. And that's something that we need in the current climate.

5. BABY DRIVER

Edgar Wright is tied with Christopher Nolan as the best filmmaker working today, and his latest film is no exception to that. A fast paced, immaculately edited thrill ride with vibrant characters and near perfect direction, it also supports a soundtrack of songs that are deliberately synced to the visuals on screen. Talent is oozing off every frame, and it couldn't be any more entertaining.

4. STAR WARS THE LAST JEDI

This film is the best installment in the Star Wars franchise since 1983's "Return of the Jedi." It takes risks and subverts expectations in a genuinely surprising fashion.

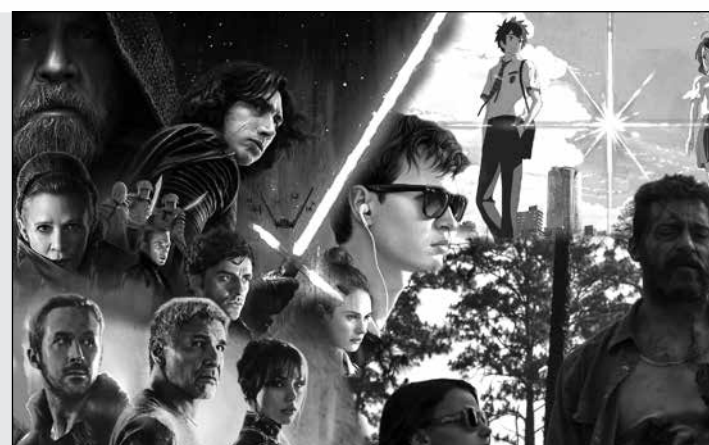
It may take several viewings, but in the end one can become enamored by what the movie did. The film also sports a career best performance by Mark Hamill, with Luke Skywalker being given a powerful continuation to his story.

3. BLADE RUNNER 2049

With "Blade Runner 2049," Denis Villeneuve has crafted one of the finest science fiction films ever made. Incredibly rich breathtaking visuals, a well written screenplay, outstanding performances across the board and an unforgettable atmosphere are what make this film a masterpiece. Much like its predecessor, 2049 is one for the ages.

2. YOUR NAME

Hand drawn anima-



tion is becoming a lost art, and it's sad that in America we seem to put out nothing except the computer generated variety.

Thankfully, Japan still produces 2D animation, and "Your Name" is one of the best. Presenting some of the most gorgeous animation ever put to the silver screen, "Your Name" has an exquisitely clever narrative, superb direction by Makoto Shinkai and great music.

1. LOGAN

The X-men franchise has had many ups and downs, but "Logan" is the ultimate example of the series at its best, presenting a finely crafted character piece as opposed to superhero spectacle. The entire cast impresses, but the standout is Hugh Jackman, giving possibly the greatest performance of the year.

Everything comes together perfectly, delivering an emotionally resonant and satisfying closure to the character.

WORST FILMS OF 2017

By Nick Whitmire
Managing Ed., Online

2017 has come to a close and 2018 has come upon us. Looking back on 2017 it was a great year for movies, but unfortunately, there are still problems that continue to plague movies today.

When it comes to film, it is the job of everyone involved to take risks, to do things that have never been done before. When you do the same things repeatedly, originality and innovation tend to run out.

The "Transformers" films, including this year's "Transformers: The Last Knight," have continued to be plagued by messy plots, no character development, and visual effects all over the screen that leave the audience wondering what is going on.

"The Snowman" and "Fifty Shades Darker" are based on best-selling novels, but their film adaptations ended up with one as a boring, disconnecting mystery, and the latter a cringe worthy love story where even the actors look miserable.

A hidden genius can be found in all movies. But it can be brought down by flaws that ultimately render it useless.

For example, "Mother!" is a film that is filled so many allegories that lead the viewers making connections to the Bible and climate change that show the film is about how humanity has ruined nature. But they lead nowhere, and leaves the audience wondering what the point was.

"Geostorm" brings the idea of a satellite in space that can control the weather, which could go into themes of



climate change. But in the end, it ends up being just another generic action movie.

While filmmaking is an art form, it also is a business all about making money. But when corporate capitalism goes too far by cashing in on trends, audiences end up with joyless and formulaic movies.

laic movies.

"The Emoji Movie," arguably the worst movie of the year, is nothing more than a trendy, humorless, and horrific film that is riding on the highs of trends that are now the norm, product placement, and much better films.

"The Mummy" is another bland action movie trying to cash in on cinematic universes, while completely forgetting the horror elements that made the original Universal monster films classics.

While these are problems that continue to haunt the world of film, I cannot help but hope that movies continue to be an innovative medium of character and story first, and not focus so much on corporate interests. If so, then 2018 could be another great year for cinema.

Pitcher wants 10 wins in the 2018 season

By Abigail Allmond
Asst. Sports Editor

Pitcher Drew Wilson had a phenomenal season with the Georgia Highlands baseball team last year. The team made it all the way to and won the NJCAA region 17 conference championship. The winning season was Wilson's first season as a Charger.

Wilson transferred from Roane State Community College after reconstructive shoulder surgery and chose Georgia Highlands to be his comeback school his spring semester of his freshmen year and he

quickly became acclimated.

Georgia Highlands was Wilson's first choice after high school but at the time thought Roane State was the place to go. He injured his shoulder his senior year of high school. Wilson ended up having surgery as soon as the season started at Roane State due to his shoulder popping at practice.

The injury didn't keep him away, however. The love of the game is what brought him back. Last season was a great season for Wilson and the Chargers. Wilson had 8 wins while giving up 77 hits, 42 runs, two home runs and had

an earned run average of 3.25.

Some of his personal goals include having at least 10 wins and an earned run average of under 2.

Danyel O'Neill, head coach, had nothing but positive words about Wilson.

O'Neill called Wilson a phenomenal pitcher with a great future ahead of him. Wilson hopes to accomplish having another great season with the Chargers by winning in the playoffs as well as winning another conference championship and winning the national championship. Wilson believes this will be the season



Photo by Abigail Allmond
Drew Wilson

and is working as hard as he can with the Chargers to make that happen.

Game Alert

The GHC baseball team opens at home at LakePoint on Jan. 31 with a doubleheader against LaGrange starting at 5 p.m.

Students, faculty and staff get in for free with their GHC ID. There will probably be a parking fee, however.



Photo by Jaida Lovelace

The Chargers baseball team received their GCAA conference championship rings at halftime of the men's basketball game on Jan. 10. Nick Fink (in Georgia Highlands jersey) and Devin Bilardello (far right on bottom row) received National Golden Gloves at halftime.

New Lady Chargers softball season has entire team excited

By Abigail Allmond
Asst. Sports Editor

The new season for the Lady Chargers softball team has the entire team excited.

According to shortstop Shayla Smith, "There are no concerns going forward. We are really relying on the freshmen this season to make a dif-

ference because we don't have as many sophomores so there will really be competition, but that's what makes the game better."

Melissa Wood, head coach, seems just as excited as the players for this upcoming season. "No concerns here! We do have a new player on our roster who transferred from

Gardner Webb. We are trying to get everyone adapted and on the same page. We have great sophomores and freshmen," said Wood.

Wood also mentioned the players who were all-region. Those players include all-region pitcher Micayla McCoy, all-region shortstop Smith and all-region second baseman

Hannah Wills.

The Lady Chargers have a tough schedule ahead of them but are ready to take it on and play the way they know they can.

Wood stated, "They put us in the middle of the pack last year; in conference we always have a good winning record. This last year we were 43-13

so they put us in the top division of each tournament, so we are playing a ton of ranked teams and that's where we want to be."

Last season, the Lady Chargers were very close to winning the regular season by one game and this year their excitement has them heading in full force ready to win it all.

Johnson picked GHC because of its basketball history

By Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

TaJuan Johnson, a sophomore guard for the Chargers' men's basketball team from the Chicago area, has been playing basketball since 5th grade.

"TaJuan has a bright future in college basketball."

-Phil Gaffney

Johnson said that he has not always played basketball. "I used to play football but then I stopped when I broke my ankle. I decided to stick with basketball," said Johnson.

Johnson grew up in Chicago with his parents and brother until they decided to move



TaJuan Johnson goes for a layup during the game on Jan. 10 against South Georgia Tech. GHC won 87-82 this night.

to Maywood, a suburb about 10 minutes away from down-

town Chicago.

When it was time for John-



Photo by Joshua Mabry

TaJuan Johnson

son to go to college, he decided to attend Kaskaskia College in Illinois.

Johnson said he transferred to GHC for his sophomore year because his coach from Kaskaskia released him.

After being released, Johnson said, "Georgia Highlands' assistant coach called me and told me they wanted me to come in. They were going to offer me a full scholarship."

Johnson then said, "I

looked at some of GHC's history and saw they had won the most games in the country. Also, a lot of people went to top D1 colleges from here. I thought it would be a good fit, so I decided to come here."

After GHC, Johnson hopes to continue his basketball journey at a four-year, hopefully D1, college.

He plans to major in business. "After that, I'll graduate from there and see where basketball leads me," said Johnson.

Phil Gaffney, head men's basketball coach, said, "TaJuan has a bright future in college basketball. He is our captain, and has played great for us this season. He will certainly continue playing at a four-year school next year."

Johnson said that a lot of people do not know that he can drum.

Also, he used to be into wrestling, rapping and he has played almost every sport, including baseball and tennis.

Basketball season is nearing an end

By Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

The GHC Chargers' men's basketball team are 3-1 in GCAA conference play and have an overall record of 9-7 as of Jan. 22 after defeating Gordon State 87-75 on Jan. 20.

The Chargers are in first place in the GCAA conference as of Jan. 22.

Phil Gaffney, head men's basketball coach, is pleased with how his team has performed so far this season. He said, "We are excited to be 3-1 and in first place in the GCAA conference."

Going forward, Gaffney said, "I hope we can continue our strong play and host the regional tournament in March."

The Lady Chargers are 9-11 for the season and 5-4 in

GCAA conference play as of Jan. 22.

The Lady Chargers are tied for third place with Albany Tech in the GCAA conference as of Jan. 22.

"I still believe we can make a run here in the last third of the season."

-Brandan Harrell

Brandan Harrell, head women's basketball coach, said, "Obviously we are disappointed with our record at this point in the season, and we feel like we have let a couple of games get away from us."

Harrell said injuries have hit the team once again this season and that has hurt the team's depth. He said that the team is working to overcome those setbacks.

Harrell said, "I still believe we can make a run here in the last third of the season. We are going to put our heads down and continue to work everyday to get better and try to finish on a high note."

The Chargers and Lady Chargers return to action on the road on Jan. 31 at Andrew College. The women tip-off at 5:30 p.m. followed by the men at 7:30 p.m.

The next home game for the Chargers and Lady Chargers will be on Feb. 5 against Albany Tech. Tip-off is at 5:30 p.m. for the Lady Chargers and at 7:30 p.m. for the Chargers.



Photo by Jaida Lovelace

Ozahria Fisher looks to pass during the Lady Chargers game against South Georgia Tech on Jan. 10.

Students, staff that love sports should make effort to support GHC's student athletes

GHC student athletes typically come from a variety of locations.

They come from other regions of Georgia, other states and even other countries. Most of the player's families and friends are not around GHC to support the players at games.

That's why Georgia Highlands students, faculty and staff need to support our athletes both on the field or court as well as on a personal level.

When students, faculty and staff see our athletes in class or the hall, they should speak to them.

We need to remember that they may not have many friends here at GHC besides their teammates and coaches.

The best way to support our student athletes, however, is by attending their games. While I think attendance at intercollegiate events is improv-



Mabry's Pitch

Joshua Mabry
Managing Ed., Sports

ing at GHC, some work still needs to be done.

There are a lot of students here that talk about how much they love sports but never come to any of GHC's sporting events. I understand that work and personal schedules conflict sometimes.

However, sport lovers should make an effort to come to at least some baseball, softball or basketball games.

GHC student athletes work hard to be competitive in both the classroom and on the field or court and they deserve the proper recognition and support.

They have to take a certain number of credit hours per semester to be able to graduate on time to play at the next level. They wake up early, go to classes, do homework, practice or play and then do more homework.

Their day can be super hard. To make an athlete's day better is as easy as sitting in the stands and cheering them on.

The basketball season will be nearing an end soon, but the baseball and softball seasons are just getting started.

Make sure to get out and support our Chargers!

SMP Ping-Pong Tournament

Cartersville Site: Tournament March 7

Registration ends March 6 at noon

Contact: Clifton Puckett at cpuckett@highlands.edu

Floyd Campus: Tournament March 7

Registration ends March 2

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

Cosponsored by GHC Intramurals

GHC Soccer Club!

By Scott Rosario, Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands is forming a co-ed adult league soccer team. The soccer team will be entering the co-ed adult league with the YMCA Arsenal Program in Rome.

Any Georgia Highlands student can join the club. Practices are being held currently at the Floyd campus. The games will be held on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. beginning in February.

The Floyd coaches will be Stephen Gremli and John Spranza. Spranza said, "Our plan is to have at least one team organized to play in the spring adult league with the Rome YMCA Arsenal soccer program." He also stated, "We hope to get enough students to join the state-wide intramural soccer league in the fall."



2017-2018 CHARGERS

basketball

MEN'S UPCOMING BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Wednesday Jan. 31	Andrew College	Cuthbert, GA	7:30 PM
Monday Feb. 5	Albany Tech	Rome, GA	7:30 PM
Wednesday Feb. 7	Atlanta Metro	Rome, GA	7:30 PM
Saturday Feb. 10	South GA Tech	Americus, GA	3:00 PM
Wednesday Feb. 14	South GA State	Rome, GA	7:30 PM
Saturday Feb. 17	Albany Tech	Albany, GA	4:00 PM
Wednesday Feb. 21	Gordon College	Rome, GA	7:30 PM
Saturday Feb. 24	East GA State	Rome, GA	4:00 PM
Wednesday Feb. 28	Central GA Tech	Macon, GA	7:30 PM
Saturday Mar. 3	Andrew College	Rome, GA	4:00 PM

WOMEN'S UPCOMING BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Wednesday Jan. 31	Andrew College	Cuthbert, GA	5:30 PM
Saturday Feb. 3	Snead State CC	Boaz, AL	3:00 PM CST
Monday Feb. 5	Albany Technical College	Rome, GA	5:30 PM
Wednesday Feb. 7	Atlanta Metro State College	Rome, GA	5:30 PM
Saturday Feb. 10	South Georgia Technical College	Americus, GA	1:00 PM
Friday Feb. 16	Andrew College	Cuthbert, GA	5:30 PM
Saturday Feb. 17	Albany Technical College	Albany, GA	2:00 PM
Saturday Feb. 24	East Georgia State College	Rome, GA	2:00 PM



Go Chargers



Yellow = Home Games

BOLD = GCAA Conference Games