

SIX MILE POST

The Student Voice

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**Chargers
basketball get
conference win
see page 15**



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Charger point guard, Chris Wright, right, looks to pass around a Gordan State player during a conference game on Jan. 12.



**New student
life coordinator
for Paulding/
Douglassville**

See page 4.



**First
Amendment
student poll**

See page 8.



**Chargers
baseball
season
preview**

See page 16.



Photo by Joseph McDaniel

The old employee parking lot located between the Lakeview Building and the McCorkle Administration Building on the Floyd campus is being turned into a green space.

Employee parking lot is being demolished and replaced by green space on the Floyd campus

By Danielle Griesemer
Staff Writer

The faculty and staff parking lot between the Lakeview and McCorkle buildings on the Floyd campus is being replaced with green space, according to both Phillip Kimsey, the director of plant operations and Todd Jones, vice president of student affairs and Floyd campus dean.

Construction was originally supposed to be completed by the time students' returned after winter break. However, due to weather delays the green space should be

completed by early February, if weather permits. Until summer, students will only see sod in this new green space.

The purpose of this new green space will be to encourage outside learning and provide an outside meeting place for students.

There will also be a back entrance to the Lakeview and the McCorkle Administration buildings coming soon. It will be a courtyard with trees, grass, and seasonal flowers. The hope is that this will make the campus more pedestrian friendly as well. This area will also be irrigated.

“These are improvements, in large part, for the students... to help achieve their educational goals.”

Todd Jones, vice president of student affairs and Floyd campus dean

Kimsey said that at the very beginning of President Donald Green's time at GHC,

a survey was done with a group of architects to discuss how the Floyd campus could be improved.

Students, faculty, and staff were all represented at these meetings and gave their input. Creating more green space has been one of Green's top priority projects for the Floyd campus. The funding for this particular project came from a contingency fund comprised of leftover funding from all departments. The cost of this project has been approximately \$100,000.

In addition to the leftover department funding, between

1% and 3% of student tuition has also gone into this project as well as others.

In addition to the cost, this project has also relocated about 24 faculty parking spots. These have been moved to the main lot outside of McCorkle.

This green space, along with other updates and changes, are steps in modernizing the campus to give students the best possible college experience.

Todd Jones, said “These are improvements, in large part, for the students... to help achieve their educational goal.”

GHC offers students a chance to study abroad

By Olivia Fortner
Asst. Online Editor

Whether the need to travel runs through one's veins, or if someone is curious and ready to get out of his or her comfort zone, GHC Study Abroad has a lot to offer students in 2019.

This summer students have the opportunity to go on four trips overseas.

During the week of the Fourth of July holiday, there is a trip planned for Panama so students will not have to miss any school days.

This also allows students to get even more credit courses under their belt in a shorter amount of time.

GHC students and faculty will stay in hotel style housing at the City of Knowledge during their entire stay in Panama. They will be visiting the Panama Canal and touring places like Dell.

Director of Global Initiatives Bronson Long will be assisting and teaching students

alongside the trip. Long said, "Study abroad is both an incredible learning experience and a great deal of fun."

There are two trips on the itinerary for Montepulciano, Italy. The early summer trip dates are May 16 - June 20, and session two will be from June 27 - Aug. 1.

These trips are a part of a study abroad consortium with Kennesaw State University.

Students will live in apartments at La Fortezza, a restored medieval fortress. Montepulciano is also centrally located between Rome and Florence with accessible bus and rail transportation to the rest of Italy.

Students must take two courses, for a total of six or seven credit hours during their stay in Italy.

Professor of History Jayme Feagin will teach History courses and help students on session one, while Assistant Professor of Sociology Christina Wolfe will teach Sociology

courses and help students on session two.

The application deadline for this program is Feb. 1.

Also, the European Council will offer students the opportunity to visit the cosmopolitan city of Berlin, Germany.

The Berlin program is structured so that students are in the classroom two days a week, on field trips in the city two days a week, and have three day weekends for enjoying the local life or traveling to other places in Germany and other European countries.

This is a five week program extending from June 27 - July 31. Additionally, students will be able to take one or two 3-credit hour classes.

Assistant Professor of History David Hensley, who went on the Berlin study abroad trip last summer says, "It's good to prepare for your trip by looking at guidebooks of the city and checking out the local attractions online before hand."

Hensley will be teaching



Contributed

David Hensley, assistant professor of history, stands with his students on one of GHC's study abroad trips to Berlin.

the history classes on this program and will assist students who go on it.

The deadline for application fee and form is March 15.

For more information on these study abroad experiences and other European Council trips, visit the Georgia Highlands College website.

For more info on the Berlin study abroad trip,

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Paulding, D'ville get new student life coordinator

By Hannah Vande Zande
Staff Writer

This semester at Georgia Highlands, the Paulding and Douglasville campuses are welcoming a new student life director, Chelsea Signoret.

Signoret is from Douglasville, Georgia, and attended Georgia Highlands College. She has an associate degree in psychology and transferred to Kennesaw State University to receive her bachelor's in communication with a concentration in media studies.

Signoret's employment history includes working at the Joel A. Katz Music and Entertainment Business Program at Kennesaw State University. She has also worked in the film industry.

Signoret is very excited about her next journey and working at Georgia Highlands.

Signoret said, "I absolutely love working at Georgia Highlands. It is something new every day, and I love the interaction I get to have with all the students."

She said her goal is to "con-

tinue to make Georgia Highlands grow."

Signoret also said, "I am glad to have a part in making that happen and putting smiles on students' faces."

Signoret is here to help any students on the Paulding and Douglasville campuses. Anyone who just wants to talk is welcome to come visit her. She is ready to help and bring smiles to anyone.

For any additional information on Chelsea Signoret, her email address is csignor@highlands.edu.



Photo by Michelle Hardin

Chelsea Signoret, new student life director for Paulding and Douglasville.

The new website Navigate comes to the students of GHC

By Kara Ledbetter
Staff writer

GHC recently launched a new website called "Navigate". Navigate allows students to use tools which give

the opportunity to help with their daily student needs.

One of the first links shown after logging in, Navigate will display for the student a detailed list of his or her classes and even

show a schedule viewer. Along with a schedule, the Navigate will also show students a "to-do" list.

The list includes tasks such as, "Apply for financial aid." "Don't lose out on free

money!" and "Learn about our campus technologies."

Students can now view their placement test results and explore their chosen pathway.

For example, they can find out how many credits are re-

quired in their pathway, average salary in their field, and hiring demands on Navigate.

To log in (using their usual d21 username and password), students can visit highlands.navigate.eab.com.



Old Red Kimono deadline is Feb. 12

By Catie Sullivan
Editor-in-Chief

GHC's literary magazine known as the Old Red Kimono accepts art, poetry, prose and photos from students, faculty, staff, alumni and outside contributors that wish to have their works published for the GHC community to see.

ORK has been at GHC for 47 years and is currently advised by Nancy Applegate, English professor. The literary editor for the Old Red Kimono is Jasmine Holley, Floyd campus student.

The deadline for submis-

sions is Feb. 12, and the magazine will be released sometime in April.

Those who wish to submit their work to ORK, should email their submissions to NAPPLEGA@highlands.edu or to John Kwist, assistant professor of English at jkwist@highlands.edu.

The literary magazine will be free to all students and faculty.

When the magazine is released ORK will host a release party to which the community is invited to preview the magazine and hear from ORK editors.

GHC students participate in the 40th annual ski/snowboard trip during the winter break

By Kara Ledbetter
Staff writer

Over winter break students and professors from GHC went on the 40th annual ski/snowboard trip.

The trip ran from Dec. 31 to Jan. 4. Everyone who went on the trip received ski or snowboard instruction from the acclaimed French Swiss Ski College in Appalachian Ski Mountain in Blowing Rock, North Carolina.

Students stayed at the Super 8 Motel in Boone, North Carolina and received full day sessions of skiing or snowboarding, lessons, lift tickets, equipment rental, motel charges and even their course textbook all in their trip fee.

Being able to have gone on a trip while earning credit for school, these students received course credit for PHED 1420, Beginning Snow Skiing and Snowboarding, a 2-hour elective physical education class. Not only will this class help students complete their pathway at

GHC, but this course is transferable as a physical education elective to other colleges.

One of the 18 students in particular who attended the trip, Trevor Jenkins, had never been skiing or snowboarding before. He quickly found that it is one of his new favorite things to do.

Jenkins said, "It was hard to learn at first, because it is something new your body and mind are not used to." But on the second day, he began to pick up on the skill easier as he got more practice. Jenkins also said that he started off the New Year with not only a new skill but also new friends.

Bailey Stilwell, another GHC student, went on the trip already knowing how to snowboard and considering himself an "intermediate/advanced rider." Even though he went into the trip already knowing a lot about it, Stilwell said, "The lessons were very helpful in teaching me things I had never known or tried before."

For students considering



Contributed

Students who attended the annual ski/snowboard trip received course credit for PHED 1420, which is a two credit hour elective physical education class.

going on the trip, Professor Reiter "highly recommends students to consider this trip for next year, especially if they need a physical education elec-

tive."

For questions and information on future ski/snowboarding trips, students can email Professor Ken Weatherman.

Although he is now retired, he has run the trip from the first year and will continue. His email is kweather@highlands.edu.

A \$50 deposit is required to sign-up for the trip. The sign-up deadline is March 4. Student Life offices handle sign-ups, and the deadline to pay the trip balance will be March 20.

Prices depend on which rooming option students choose. For a single room it is \$185, for a double it is \$135, a triple is \$120 and a quad room is \$110. Most students prefer to go with the double option, according to John Spranza, director of student life.

This price covers most expenses, including tour bus, hotel with breakfast, play tickets, trip excursions, Saturday supper and lunch on Sunday.

Shakespeare Festival trip sign ups set to begin on Feb. 4

By Joseph McDaniel
Managing Ed., design

Sign-ups begin Feb. 4 for GHC's 34th annual Alabama Shakespeare Festival trip.

For more than three decades, the college has organized an excursion to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery, Alabama sponsored by the humanities division and the Student Life Office. If students participate in

the trip, their English courses and some other select classes offer extra credit. The 2019 trip will be the weekend of April 13-14.

According to Kristie Kemper, English professor and one of the trip coordinators, students will see two plays.

The first, on Saturday night is "Steel Magnolias," a comedy-drama written by Robert Harling. Preceding the performance there will be live

music.

On Sunday afternoon the play will be "Romeo and Juliet," the classic bard tale that has been updated to twentieth-century America. This more modern slant will intensify the original play's theme of how a community can fail its youth.

On Saturday there will be a side-outing of some kind, and on Sunday the group will visit the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.



Contributed

Shakespeare's statue stands in the lobby of the ASF theater.

Students needing financial assistance can fill out a form with Student Life by Feb. 19.

Exploring the roots of GHC at the Floyd campus

By Nick Whitmire
Managing Ed., Online

The Floyd campus is where Georgia Highlands College began. The college was founded in 1970 after the citizens of Rome gathered together and went to the Board of Regents to have them recognize the growing need of a higher education in Floyd County.

Rebecca Maddox, director of the associate's degree in the nursing program said, "Only 12 percent of high school grads went to college in Floyd, so a group of citizens went to the Board of Regents to have the college approved."

The Floyd campus is 252,743 in total square footage and is located on 223 acres of lands with a total of 1500 hundred students. Todd Jones, vice president of student affairs, said, "The Floyd campus has all the things a full campus has and it's the location where all the wheels turn."

On the Floyd campus, students go to interact with each other at the student center in the F-Wing of the administration building. In the student center, John Spranza, the stu-

dent life director, hosts different activities for students to do outside of class. Next to the student center is the solarium, where faculty and staff have meetings and where some of the clubs such as the Gaming Club get together. Most of the clubs at GHC got their start at Floyd and includes Green Highlands.

The Walraven Building at the Floyd campus is where the math and science classes take place. But within the Walraven Building are different labs where students can have a hands-on experience in class by using various tools, models and materials. Recently the Walraven Building has been updated along with the labs. However, Jones said, "One lab costs \$100,000."

Billy Morris, a professor of geology at GHC, was just a kid when the Floyd campus was being built. His father was one of the original employees of GHC when it was called Floyd Junior College. Over the years, Morris has watched the campus grow to what it is today, but he always tries to preserve some of the originality of the campus while embracing



Photo by Nick Whitmire

Students at the student center at the Floyd campus.

the new updates. He even has some of the old cabinets that were used when the college was founded back in 1970.

Morris said, "While seeing the old stuff go tears me up a little, it has been a fun ride to watch the campus change, and it shows that the administration really cares about the campus by keeping it updated. It will always be the heart of the college."

When students need a quieter place to do schoolwork outside of class, they have access to the campus library. The library has a vast number of books, computer labs, quiet rooms to study and one of the college's tutorial centers.

For the business side of GHC, students have access to the McCorkle Building.

Another building on the Floyd campus is the Lakeview Building. Besides having classrooms, the Lakeview Building has an art gallery where students, faculty and staff can share their artwork. It also has an auditorium where events such as orientation for new students take place.

For the more athletic students, the Floyd campus has a gym where students can exercise, take physical education classes and watch the col-

lege basketball games at the Corral. The campus also has tennis courts, a soccer field, a volley ball court and a baseball and softball field.

When it comes to nature, Paris Lake behind the Floyd campus has been a favorite among students and faculty. It is a massive lake with a trail that goes all around it for students to walk on. The campus has canoes that students can rent, or they can bring their own canoes along with their own fishing equipment. It is also a favorite place for the ducks that hang around campus to complement the nature of the Floyd campus.

Through the years the school has evolved from Floyd Junior College to the Floyd College to what it is today, Georgia Highlands College. GHC has always had one goal, a goal that would eventually spread to the other campuses; to bring higher education at an affordable price, and it all started at the Floyd campus. While the campus continues to be renovated and updated to keep up with the times and for the benefit of the students, the Floyd campus remains as the place where GHC got its start.

Donald Green, the president of GHC, said, "This is where it all started. The peo-

ple of Floyd County realized they needed higher education that is convenient, so a group of people got together and founded Floyd College and became GHC. They understood the importance of education."



Photo by Nick Whitmire

The GHC Bell Tower that resides over the Floyd Campus is located in the center of the campus courtyard. The bell tolls every hour.



Photo by Nick Whitmire

Paris Lake is a distinguishing feature of the Floyd campus.

Students partake in Week of Welcome between classes Jan. 7-17



Photo by Catie Sullivan

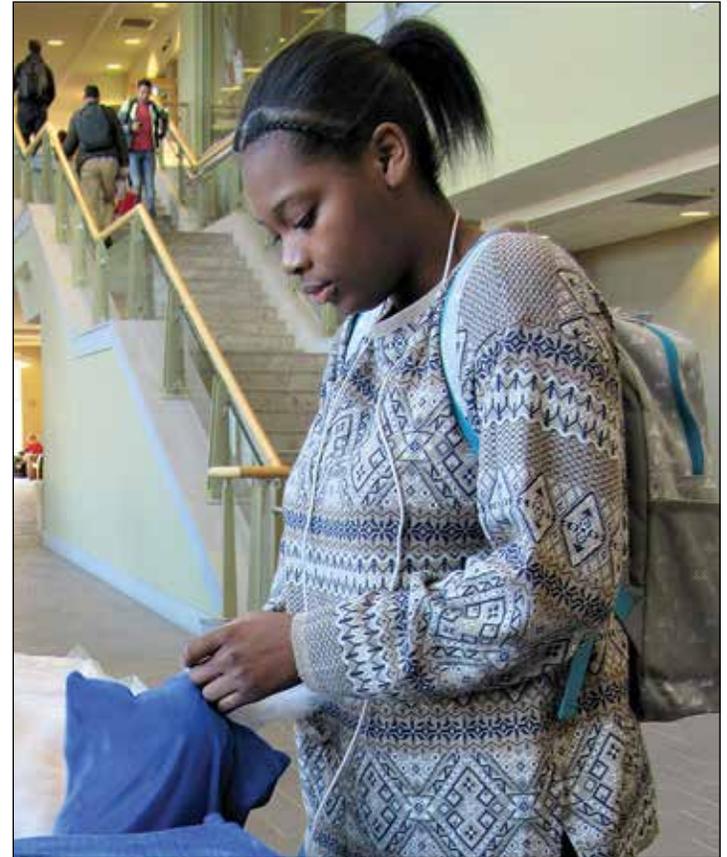


Photo by Sarah Belcher



Photo by Catie Sullivan



Photo by Sarah Belcher

Comedian Nate Woods (lower left) entertained students on all campuses during Week of Welcome. Students at Floyd (top left) and Cartersville (top and lower right) signed up for clubs and made GHC logo pillows.

Timeline of the First Amendment

Graphic by Joseph McDaniel

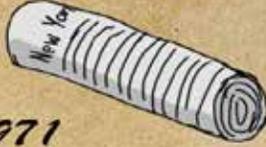
1776 — The U.S. Constitution is signed.

1791 — On Dec. 15, Virginia becomes the 11th state to approve the first 10 amendments to the Constitution, thereby ratifying the Bill of Rights. 

1859 — John Stuart Mill publishes the essay "On Liberty." The essay expands John Milton's argument that if speech is free and the search for knowledge unfettered, then eventually the truth will rise to the surface. 

1918 — Congress passes the Sedition Act, which forbids spoken or printed criticism of the U.S. government, the Constitution or the flag. Repealed in 1921. 

1941 — Congress authorizes President Franklin D. Roosevelt to create the Office of Censorship during the War. 

1971 — In *New York Times v. United States*, the U.S. Supreme Court allows continued publication of the Pentagon Papers. 

2011 — In *Brown v. Entertainment Merchants Association*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that video games are a form of speech protected by the First Amendment. 

2019 — Present year.

Source: <https://mtsu.edu/first-amendment/page/first-amendment-timeline>

Poll: How would your life be different without the First Amendment?

Poll conducted on Floyd campus by Nick Whitmire



Lyons Nida

"Not being able to criticize those in power is very dangerous. You would have to be conscious of what you say and normal conversation would not be natural"



Daniel Smith

"I'd be more cautious on how I address things and I'd be more cautious of what I say."



Rebekah Harbin

"We couldn't express verbally what we think."



Sarah Beth Wheeler

"It would be hard to have an opinion. There would be no individuality. We would never be truly free."

First Amendment Awareness Week

First Amendment Awareness Week is sponsored by the Six Mile Post and is a week where GHC recognizes and celebrates the First Amendment.

Five Rights in First Amendment

- *Religion
- *Speech
- *Press
- *Assemble
- *Petition

"If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."

-George Washington

Study Abroad is a chance to experience

By Olivia Fortner
Asst. Online Editor

Studying abroad isn't all about the study. It's about getting out there and realizing how big the world really is. It's about growing ones character and truly identifying oneself.

When a person steps foot on foreign soil, often times they have high expectations for themselves. They are already so far out of their physical comfort zone that it doesn't seem too strange to step out of

their mental comfort zone. A person should be ready to experience something life changing; and with high expectancy comes result filled actions.

Diana Fain, a GHC student who studied in China said, "I chose to study abroad because I love to travel and feel that it's a valuable experience for anyone. The most beneficial thing about my trip abroad was getting to meet new people and interacting with their culture. It allowed me to see how truly blessed we are in this coun-

try."

According to Fain, "The thing that changed me most about studying abroad was the fact that I was viewed as someone exotic because there are not many African Americans in China. I also found that the way most people purchase things over there is by bargaining and that was difficult for me, because I'm not a good negotiator."

When someone immerses themselves into another culture they are able to reveal their strengths,



Welcome sign to Beijing, China

Contributed

Is there really a point for New Year's resolutions every year?

By James Alewine
Staff writer

Well here we are once again. The New Year is upon us, and with it, a whole new year of resolutions. I for one, have never been able to grasp why we all feel the need to re-invent ourselves simply because the earth managed to swing around the sun for the six billionth time. Nor do I understand

why resolutions are notorious for being abandoned by February, much like your local gym.

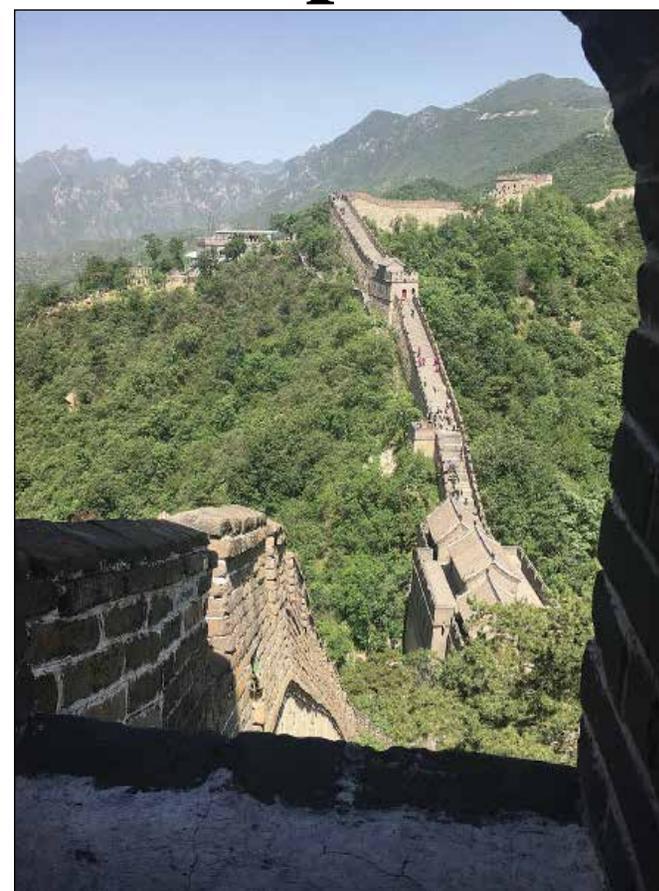
According to Mark Griffiths, professor of behavioral addiction, at Nottingham Trent University, over half of the population make New-year's resolutions, but fewer than ten percent manage to keep them.

Griffiths explains that the most common resolu-

tions pertain to physical or financial changes. Most of us try to lose weight or save more money, and though these would seem like relatively do-able tasks, most of us fail.

Mark explains that this is often because we cannot achieve these goals on the unrealistic time tables we set for ourselves.

The desire to see immediate change is what drives



Contributed

The Great wall of China

uniqueness, and weaknesses. Studying abroad takes away the blinding fog of a person's own culture and allows people to see themselves from many diverse perspectives.

From someone who can look back on the experience as a foundation to their learning, Assistant Professor of History David Hensley said, "Studying abroad as an undergraduate is a great experience that you remember

for a lifetime... It will have a deep, lasting impact on you! I studied abroad as a college student, and it changed my life."

Take the chance. Embark on a new journey. Because just as Professor of History and Director of Global Initiatives Dr. Bronson Long said, "Studying abroad is one of the best things you can do as a college student."

us to make these resolutions, but most resolutions can take months or even years to accomplish and many become discouraged and quit.

So how do we set resolutions that we can achieve? Mark says that there are just two simple things to consider when making a resolution.

Be realistic, know what you are capable of achiev-

ing, and in what time you can achieve it. By setting reasonable goals you can actually progress on, you stand a better chance of achieving them.

Also, choose just one resolution to really strive for. Many of us get bogged down by how many things we want to change we often fall short of changing anything.

So this year pick one thing and give it your all!

Government shutdown has no upside

The United States government has been shut down since Dec. 22 2018. Currently this government shut down is the longest in U.S. history and it should have never occurred. The shutdown is due to Trump's demand for funding to construct his wall.

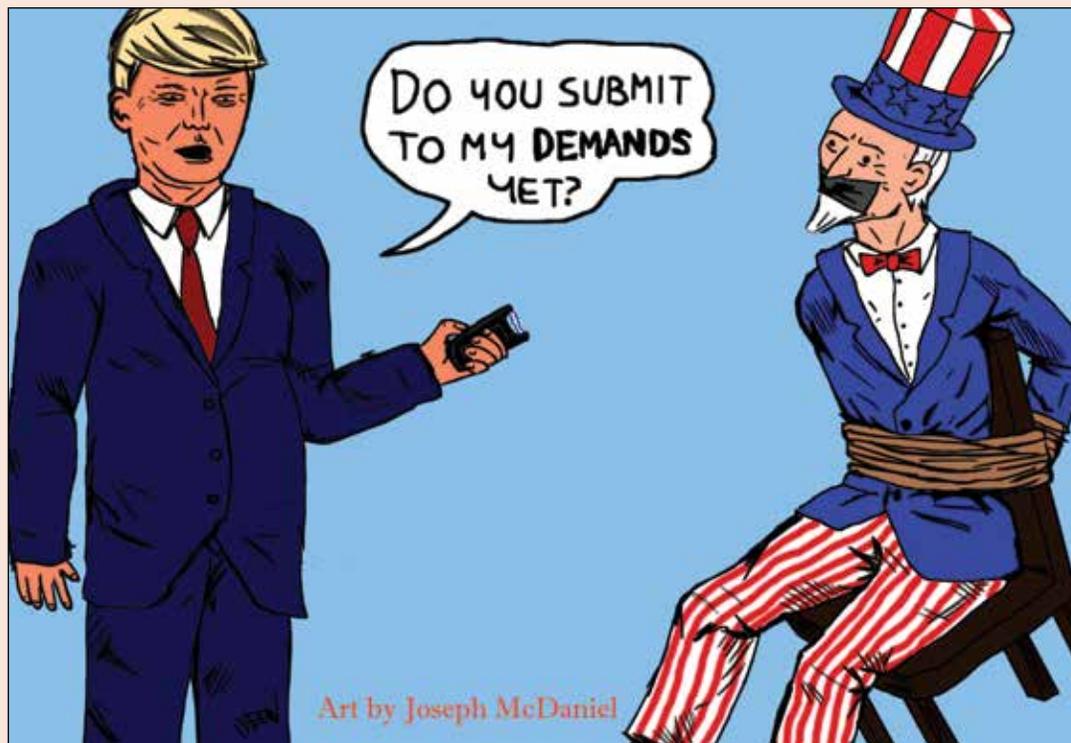
Democrats will not grant Trump the approximately 5.7 billion dollars (APnews.com) for the long talked about wall at the U.S.-Mexico border. In turn Trump insists on vetoing any bill looking to halt the shutdown until he receives the funding.

The shutdown overall is being dragged on way too long and is a financial drain on the government. According to Vox.com, "The government shutdown will soon cost the nation the same cost of the wall."

If funding for the wall is approved following the shutdown, then the nation's debt will increase exponentially. It is not necessary to increase national debt due to a back and forth fight over a giant impenetrable wall. Trump said, "We're going to have a wall, we're going to have a border."

Congressional Democrats are not looking to back down in their fight against Trump's demand for funding for his dream wall. This standoff between the two parties is ripping the government apart.

Turmoil is sweeping the nation as the shutdown looks to put the country in debt as well as divide the nation as the welfare of citizens is at risk. The country should not be stressing



about the President's grand construction plan and should focus on real pressing causes like poverty.

Poverty, unemployment, equality and education should be what politicians and regular citizens are arguing about.

Arguing seems to be a big part of getting things done in this country and it seems like the president enjoys a good argument, however he is stuck arguing to get his wall while other everyday issues are forgotten.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties will not back down and this in turn is prolonging the government shutdown.

Trump has often shared how he believes in nationalism and that citizens should love their country; however, Trump is tearing the nation apart by causing turmoil among common

citizens due to some people being for the wall and others against it.

American citizens who work for the government are not receiving pay and are being harmed financially by the government shutdown.

Trump spoke at a farmer's convention in New Orleans on Jan. 14 to farmers that have been affected by the government shutdown and despite their financial loss they showed up to listen to Trump with their "Make America Great" hats on, cheering him on as he spoke about immigration laws and the need for his wall.

Many government employees have been hurt by the shutdown. Columbia Broadcasting System said, "Among 800,000 thousand people are not being paid during the government shut down." Families in

this nation do not need to be financially hurt any more than they already currently are.

The shutdown has done nothing but increase national debt, stall already prolonged political issues, harm citizens financially, pit neighbor against neighbor and overall harm the country as a whole as the longest government shutdown in history continues.

Major problems everyday citizens' face, that do not include constructing a wall, need to not only be our nation's main concern but the president's main concern.

-Six Mile Post Editorial Board

EDITORS NOTE:
When the Six mile Post was sent to press, the shutdown was still in place- and had gone on far too long.

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The younger generation is all talk but no actual action

In this generation, the world is entering a new age of technology and everything is at the touch of a fingertip as people are becoming more tech savvy and faster paced.

By default, people expect everything to run at the same pace, and if not than an interest is lost. Changing history doesn't just happen in a day, week, or month. It takes years and consistency to pill back the constitutional tradition. If the youth wants changes to be made than being more consistent needs to be the top prior-



Soapbox

TJ Parker
Staff writer

ity.

The youth community chooses not to take the information that is freely given to them and make a change in history on topics or actions that makes them feel indifferent. There's definitely some re-examination that needs to be

done when it comes to taking action towards causes people believe in. This generation is just supporting from the sidelines by cheering every step of the way while contributing as little help as possible.

Not to downplay any of the important responsibilities

people have in their lives such as being a college student, a parent, work, student clubs, balancing a social life and many more events that can make it difficult to organize time to fit events that aren't in the normal everyday schedule. For example, the March of our Lives is the biggest to date youth protest since the Vietnam War with at least 1.2 million people in the march for better gun control in the U.S. The movement was to convince lawmakers to address the issue in gun violence, par-

ticularly in schools. The one problem is Americans support gun control, but don't see it as top priority.

As a community, people need to understand that problems don't just end in marches. Marching is the easy part. The hard part is getting those same people who marched to vote on the same issue.

So that Congress can see people are serious and want change. This example is how people often fall into traps of supporting causes and movements.



BEST FILMS OF 2018

By Joseph McDaniel
Managing Ed. Online

2018 was an unprecedented good year for cinema. The great films released this year were a solid mix of independent film, documentaries, enormous blockbusters and innovative animation. But out of all of the creative standouts of the year, here's a look at the ten that stood out as the absolute best.

10. "CREED II"

The way that this film took the intense 1980s cheese of Rocky IV and transformed it into drama, along with great fights and direction was astounding. The film actually makes Ivan Drago a well-developed and interesting character. In addition, the way Adonis Creed goes through genuine human issues, which go all across the board, is absolutely amazing to see. Not quite as masterful as the first installment, but still great.

9. "ISLE OF DOGS"

The charm of a boy going on an adventure to save his dog, and in turn, all the dogs of a country just hits a viewer hard. Wes Anderson continues to prove himself as a master of every detail that goes into the movies he directs. It is gorgeously animated. The voice

acting usually hits the right notes, and the soundtrack by Alexandre Desplat is killer.

8. "AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR"

By far the biggest movie of the year, Infinity War stands out because of how good it is against almost impossible odds. There are so many character and storylines intertwining here that it feels like it should be a mess. Yet it somehow manages to be effective in terms of both action spectacle and emotional investment. Josh Brolin's performance as Thanos ties everything together brilliantly.

7. "ANNIHILATION"

Annihilation is very strange in both concept and execution, and some truly freaky stuff is displayed. However, if one is into Science Fiction that really makes them think, then it is recommended highly. The direction, cinematography, writing and acting are all brilliant.

6. "EIGHTH GRADE"

Coming of age films can widely vary. Eighth Grade is definitely on the higher tier. The main character goes through an arc that feels charming and relatable. The framing device of the protagonist's YouTube videos works well, and the way it addresses

themes of today's youth and technology is great. Bo Burnham's directorial debut will hopefully be remembered in time as one of the best of its genre.

5. "BAD TIMES AT THE EL ROYALE"

Drew Goddard is so damn cool that he can make a tense, entertaining scene that just hinges on a woman singing and clapping her hands occasionally. This movie is an incredibly suspenseful and entertaining thriller composed of incredible actors and with some big topical themes at its core. The movie has an important thing to say, and Goddard knows how to pull it off without killing the mood or tension built up.

4. "WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?"

Documentaries can capture real life stories in a way no other film format could, and the story of Fred Rogers was perfect for being explored this way.

With all that goes wrong in the world, it's worth finding that there once was a person who was good in every shape and form. Everyone in this movie who knew Mr. Rogers talks about him like he was one of the greatest humans ever, and he may have well

been.

3. "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: FALLOUT"

This is by far one of the greatest action films ever to be exhibited onto the big screen. Every single element serves to ramp up the tension and excitement towards the action scenes, and those bombastic set pieces are some of the best ever to be visualized in a cinema. Tom Cruise and Director McQuarrie were just announced to be filming two more of these back to back, and they can't come soon enough.

2. "PADDINGTON 2"

It's bizarre that a film that came out last January, which is generally the dumping month for movies, is in the second highest spot, but Paddington 2 is legitimately a masterpiece. It's pretty much the purest film ever made. It's the story of a bear who traverses all sorts of places with his ability to find the essential good in everyone. This movie is so wonderfully beautiful and wholesome in every way imaginable that its shocking there was a movie this year that surpassed it.

1. "SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE"

After Spider-Man Homecoming was a passable but bland and soulless entry in the

Spider-Man franchise, many wondered if the heights of the wall crawler in cinematic form were far behind us.

Then comes this heart-felt, passionate, and emotionally resonant work of art. The driving force of Spidey flows through every frame of this film. The visuals are the most innovative use of CGI animation since the creation of the medium. It's too early to say if it's the best of 3D animation, but the beauty and creativity that this movie displays is astounding. The characters are all finely rendered, even the minor ones. Miles Morales though is really the heart and soul of the movie. He's made the most unique iteration of the character yet, and his maturity as a Spider-Man was amazing to see.

The central theme of the movie is perfect, which goes back to the main idea that the recently deceased creators, Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, built this character on. Anyone can be Spider-Man.

This is the characters as they have been most finely realized on the silver screen since 2004. Moreover, as that central message hits the viewer with all its inspirational worth, they feel ready to swing into the horizon.

BEST BOOKS OF 2018

By Danielle Griesemer
Staff Writer

Each year, authors publish many new books. Some are published by first time authors, others are published by seasoned writers. Here is a list of the top five novels of 2018:

5. "Circe"

by Madeline Miller

Circe is the follow up novel to Miller's The Song of Achilles. It is Miller's interpretation

of the life of the witch Circe in Greek mythology. The novel uses a strange but powerful character to show the dangers, but also the strengths of independent women.

4. "Educated"

by Tara Westover

Educated is a memoir of Tara Westover's life growing up with overly protective and paranoid Mormon parents. It follows the journey of her life

and how she reached the peak of education, despite having to cut many ties.

3. "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones

An American Marriage by Tayari Jones was on Oprah Winfrey's 2018 Book Club list. This novel portrays a newlywed African-American couple living "the American Dream" with much promise before their lives are turned upside

down by a wrongful conviction and incarceration.

2. "The Word is Murder" by Anthony Horowitz

Once again Anthony Horowitz has reinvented the crime novel with The Word is Murder. For the first time in Horowitz's career, he includes himself in the novel as a writer assisting the detective Daniel Hawthorne after a wealthy woman pays for her own funer-

al and then dies mysteriously.

1. "There, There" by Tommy Orange

There, There is Tommy Orange's debut novel. Written similarly to Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, the novel tells the story of twelve urban Native Americans living in Oakland, California who attend a powwow. It brings to light the hardships faced by modern Native Americans.

BEST ALBUMS OF 2018

By Scott Rosario
Managing Ed., Sports

It was a phenomenal year for music. Here are the top five albums for 2018.

5. "ASTROWORLD" by Travis Scott

This album is chock full of exotic and unorthodox production. It is Travis Scott's greatest strength but also his greatest weakness. For the most part the production was enjoyable, but in some of the tracks it is a little overwhelming.

A flaw with the album is that a lot of the features were lackluster. Overall the album was enjoyable. It definitely has replay value for sure, but not

the whole album.

4. "THA CARTER V" by Lil Wayne

The legendary producer Mannie Fresh, Metro Boomin, DJ Mustard, Swizz Beats and many more were the producers for the album. From start to finish, this album is classic Wayne. With highlight tracks like "Dedicate", "Uproar," and "Let it fly."

3. "K.O.D" by J Cole

K.O.D stand for three different things Kidz on drugs, King overdose and Kill our demons. Hip-hop is known for its drug culture, and K.O.D has a message to it and its fans.

Cole talks on how they are dealing with their problems all

the wrong way. On several different tracks Cole talks about different things like drug use and how it could affect relationships.

This is not Cole's best album, but conceptually it is his best album.

2. "TRENCH" by Twenty One Pilots

The story of "Trench" is a beautiful and hopeful take on mental illness. All of these story elements can be viewed in a metaphorical sense and seen as things that deal with the theme of the album, mental illness.

It is about a character named Clancy who must escape a walled city called

Dema, viewed as mental illness as a whole. Nine bishops rule the city, ruling the people by forcing the citizens to follow a religion, called Vialism, representing depression. Clancy joins a group of people called the Banditos, the people who have been successful with their battle with depression and now want to help people currently in that battle.

1. "SWIMMING" by Mac Miller

Mac Miller's break-up with artist Ariana Grande and his arrest served as an inspiration for the metaphor for "Swimming." Rather than sitting in self-pity and the moan and groan of heartbreak, Miller

makes the attempt to swim back to life or to the shore. Through the album, Miller inspects the conflict of his recent problems and his new sense of optimism and hope.

Miller begins the album with optimism and a self-care feel. Then the album moves heavy and truthful with "Hurt Feelings." By the album's end, Miller is leaving us with an almost posthumous track that feels like he had finally conquered his problems and moved forward.

This album is one of my all-time favorites because of the structure and layout of the album, lyricism, concept and overall sound of the album.

BEST GAMES OF 2018

By Nick Whitmire
Managing Ed., Online

It was a great year for entertainment, especially when it comes to the world of video games.

Last year has pushed the boundaries of gaming through great storytelling and character work, gameplay, world building, genre, graphics, sound design and replay ability.

Here are the top five best video games of 2018.

5. "Mario Kart 8 Deluxe"

As an enhanced version of the original "Mario Kart 8" for the Wii U, "Mario Kart 8 Deluxe" brings an even better version of the game for the much superior Nintendo Switch.

The game has new features, enhanced game modes and new outfits for characters and vehicles. The racing in the game is amazing along with the new flying mechanics, graphics, sound design, different driving modes and replay

potential.

4. "Super Smash Bros. Ultimate"

"Super Smash Bros." was the best game to come out for the Nintendo Switch in 2018. It is a culmination of every character and stages, plus new ones from the previous Super Smash Bros games and refines every aspect of the game that continues to make it stand out in the fighting genre.

With polished gameplay, massive roster of characters and stages and replay ability, Super Smash Bros Ultimate is the perfect celebration of the history of Nintendo and offers great fun for the player.

3. "Marvel's Spider-Man"

"Marvel's Spider-Man" from Insomniac Games for the PlayStation 4, gave us the definitive Spider-Man experience in gaming. The player will be in awe and get lost just by the game's incredible web swinging with its perfect recreation of New York City. Most missions, particularly the main

story, were a fun experience.

But what made Marvel's Spider-Man one of the absolute best adaptations of Spider-Man was not just the story, but the complete understanding of what makes Spider-Man/Peter Parker one of the greatest comic book characters, which is the consequences and sacrifice of being a superhero. With a new but unique take and complete understanding of the character, Insomniac Games have created the best Spider-Man game and possibly the best superhero game ever made.

2. "God of War"

"God of War" is a perfect game that reinvigorated the franchise. After completely wiping out all of Greek Mythology in the previous six "God of War" games, protagonist Kratos steps into the world of Norse Mythology.

But Kratos must face a new, a more compelling challenge, raising a son. With his son Atreus, Kratos travels across the Norse realms to

spread the ashes of his diseased wife all while rekindling his relationship with Atreus and by fighting the Norse gods and monsters that oppose him.

"God of War" completely reinvents the formula of the "God of War" franchise with new and innovative gameplay mechanics that involve Atreus as a partner, a world a little more open than the previous games, exploration, more grounded but still massive and epic boss battles and quieter moments that complement the themes of story.

Also, the connections the game makes with the previous games in the franchise are not done for nostalgia but are made in service of the story and the growth of the characters in what is arguably the best video game story of 2018.

1. "Red Dead Redemption II"

Red Dead Redemption II is a masterpiece of gaming. It is a living and breathing world with tons of variety. Its story and character work are cin-

ematic and superb. The gameplay expands from the original game by bringing a more innovative flare with some of the most realistic mechanics ever conceived in a video game. The missions, side missions and the world present the player with colorful characters and new ground to explore. The graphics are breathtaking, the score is astounding and the sound design is excellent.

"Red Dead Redemption II" is everything that a prequel should be. It builds upon what was established in the original game and even though the player knows how the story is going to go down if he or she played the original game, the game still manages to emotionally shake and surprise in ways that the player never sees coming. "Red Dead Redemption II" has some of the best and most complicated characters in a story of the Old West dying and the consequences and meaning of civilization. The game is perfect across the board.

Cheerleaders support the basketball teams

By Trevor Gonzales
Staff writer

Passion, determination, and school spirit are what it takes to be a cheerleader. The GHC cheerleaders show up to the Corral every single home game for the men's and women's basketball teams.

When Coach Erin Kingston took over for the cheerleaders, she knew it was a dream come true.

Kingston said, "I have always loved cheerleading. As much as I wanted to do it growing up, I never had the chance to be one. But when the opening for the new GHC cheerleading coach arose, I knew I wanted to do it."

Seven cheerleaders have motivated the basketball players and crowd throughout the season, having to memorize numerous cheers. It is a lot of hard work, and it takes a lot of time to master all the steps.

"I have always loved cheerleading. As much as I wanted to do it growing up, I never had the chance to be one. But when the opening for the new GHC cheerleading coach arose, I knew I wanted to do it."

-Coach Erin Kingston

When asked what made her want to be a GHC cheerleader, freshman Kristin Hatfield said, "I always had wanted to be a cheerleader and show spirit for the school." The majority of



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Cheerleaders support GHC Chargers during the Jan. 23 game against East Georgia Bobcats: (top row from left) Kristen Hatfield, Jazlynn Mercer and Madison Bartlett; (bottom row from left) Hannah Moody and Hannah Maxwell.

students at GHC went to high school and attended either a basketball or football game at least once or every single game. Aside from the athletes playing sports, a group of cheerleaders would always be on the sidelines, braving the elements of winter weather in football or the

stuffiness of a packed gym cheering their team on and showing off their school spirit. What is most important to the cheerleaders is the camaraderie between them and the growing friendships they develop. Freshman cheerleader Hannah Maxwell said, "My favorite part

about being a GHC cheerleader is the team effort. We are all one team, and we work together. It is good for us to be there for moral support for both teams."

Catch the cheerleaders in action at any of the Georgia Highlands Chargers and Lady Chargers home games.

College football playoff committee did it again

By Scott Rosario
Managing Ed., Sports

At this point I feel like the fish on "SpongeBob" telling the old man about teaching him a lesson, except the old man is the college football playoff committee. So the college football semifinal matchups were Alabama vs. Oklahoma and Notre Dame vs. Clemson. I watched both games, and they were boring.

After the first quarter of each game, I wanted to change the channel.

But I am not here to complain about how boring these games were. I am here to tell you yet again that the college football playoff system is broken.

To begin, Notre Dame scored once, which was a



Editor's Box

Scott Rosario
Managing Ed., Sports

field goal. Nothing cool like a deep bomb to a wide receiver for a score or an amazing power-run right through the gut for a touchdown. No, it was just a 28-yard field goal. That was to tie with Clemson after they previously kicked a field goal. After Notre Dame's field goal, it was time for Clemson to score at will. By the end of the game Clemson had scored four touchdowns to make it 30-3.

Before we look into Notre Dame's record, it is

important to note that they did win all their games this year—except the Cotton Bowl, of course. These close games were against, Michigan, Vanderbilt, Pittsburgh, Ball State and Southern California.

Michigan ended the season with a 49 offensive ranking and 2 defensive ranking. Vanderbilt ended the season with a 58 offensive ranking and 99 defensive ranking. Pittsburgh ended the season with a 97 offensive ranking and 59 defensive ranking.

Ball State ended the season with a 63 offensive ranking and 109 defensive ranking. Michigan ended the season with an 87 offensive ranking and 60 defensive ranking.

With that said, Notre Dame almost lost to those teams by a 8, 7 or 5 points this season.

Who else could have taken Notre Dame's place? That's easy Georgia and Ohio State.

Before you have an aneurysm about Georgia because of the Texas loss, Georgia started the game with nine freshmen on defense. Out of those nine freshmen, two had to guard 6 foot 5 wide receivers, and the freshmen were both under 6 foot. Also, the only games Georgia lost were one against LSU and a really close game with Ala-

bama.

Ohio State only lost one game, and that was against Purdue, who beat two other ranked opponents. Ohio State beat both Michigan and Northwestern by at least 21 points, and like I stated early, Notre Dame struggled against both of those teams.

In closing, I am proud to be that fish from "SpongeBob" that is yelling at the old man about teaching him a lesson. The college football committee has got it wrong two, arguably three, years in a row. There are plenty of ways to fix it, like getting a new system or adding more teams in.

I have said it once, and I will say it again. The college football playoff system is broken.

Chargers win crucial conference game vs Gordon

By Scott Rosario
Managing Ed., Sports

The Chargers won a close big game against conference leader Gordon State at home Jan. 19.

The Chargers took an early lead five minutes into the game with the score being 9-15. Then Gordon State would capitalize off two turnovers and a few missed shots and take the lead going in the 13 minute 21-19. GHC would shrink the margin to 29-25, and it would stay close to the end of the quarter with the score being 45-41. Five minutes before the half, Charger Khalyl Waters had a powerful tomahawk dunk.

The Chargers would open the second half sluggish but pick it up about the 17th minute with Charger

Chris Wright scoring a 3 pointer to make the score 52-48. The score would go back and forth until a sequence of many turnovers from Gordon College when GHC applied pressure during the inbound. During that sequence Carl Johnson would steal the in-bounds pass and pass it to Derrick Cook, who would lay it up and draw contact for the foul. With that pressure, GHC would get ahead of Gordon with the score at 84-71.

With about three minutes left in the game, GHC was up 91-79 and looked to secure the win.

Gordon State came back to make the score 97-98 but could not finish, and GHC took the conference win on Saturday night, with a final score of 100-97.

Phillip Gaffney, director

of athletics and head men's basketball coach, said that the pressure was needed to win the game. "They turned the ball over 30 times, which won us the game. With our big men out we need to press at the beginning to try to have a chance to win any game."

Chris Wright led the game with 30 points, and he also led the game in assists with 9. Wright said, "Our game plan is simple, which is to run the floor and pass it. Passing gets me into the game and gets my teammates going as well."

Carl Johnson had 12 points and led the game in steals with 7. Johnson said, "It feels good. I got great offence, but I try to do outstanding on defense as well. If I'm active on defense, then we can get active on defense



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Carl Johnson goes for a lay-up against Gordon.

more to try to win the game."

GHC is now third in conference play with a record of 4-1 and Gordon is tied for

first place with a 5-1 record.

GHC will be back at home against Andrew College Jan. 30 at 7:30. p.m.

Lady Chargers dominate East Georgia

By Scott Rosario
Managing Ed., Sports

The Lady Chargers defeated the Lady Bobcats of

East Georgia State at home on Jan. 23.

The Lady Chargers started the game outstanding on defense with two

blocks and three defensive rebounds in the first three minutes. By the fifth minute the Lady Chargers were leading 4-11 with Jahnarria Brown making a layup.

At the beginning of the second quarter, the Lady Chargers were leading 22-8. East Georgia began the second quarter on a run due to some missed shots to shrink the margin to 12.

At the end of the second quarter, the Lady Chargers were leading by 18 with the score of 34-16 at halftime.

The Lady Chargers went on to score 18 points in the fourth quarter along with four blocks and two steals.

Nijeria Jordan led the Lady Chargers in scoring with 20 points and 3 rebounds. Ciara Thompson ended the game with 9 points, 22 rebounds and 3 assists.

The Lady Charger's next game will be home against The Andrew College Lady Tigers on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 5:30.



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Sharai Lay drives to the basket against East Georgia.

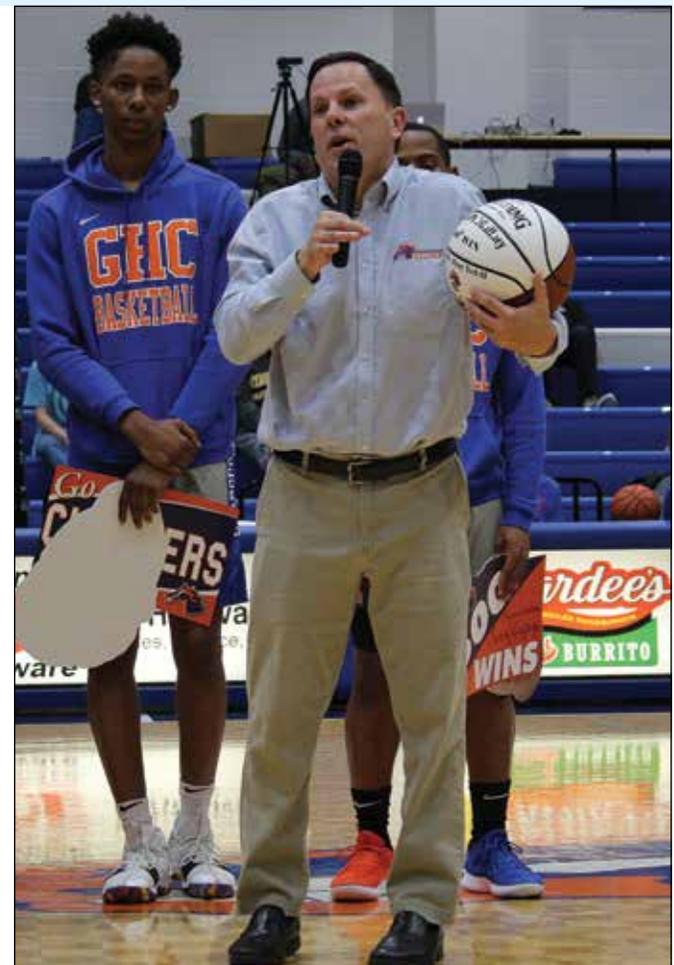


Photo by Catie Sullivan

Phillip Gaffney, head men's basketball coach, was honored at half time of the women's game for achieving 500 career wins. Khalyl Waters is on the left.

Chargers coach O'Neill's expectations are very high

By Trevor Gonzales
Staff Writer

It seems like every year, the baseball season begins earlier and earlier, and GHC's Head Baseball Coach Dash O'Neill couldn't be happier.

"Opening Day is like Christmas morning to me, so finally getting a chance to see our Chargers hit the field in a real game will be a lot of fun," O'Neill said.

O'Neill said, "My expectations are very high, so 2019 will be no different.

"I expect us to build on what we've done the past two seasons and be very competitive on the field. More importantly, I expect us to graduate and advance several talented young men to the next level."

There are some big shoes to fill on the roster as all nine sophomore players moved on to play for four-year in-

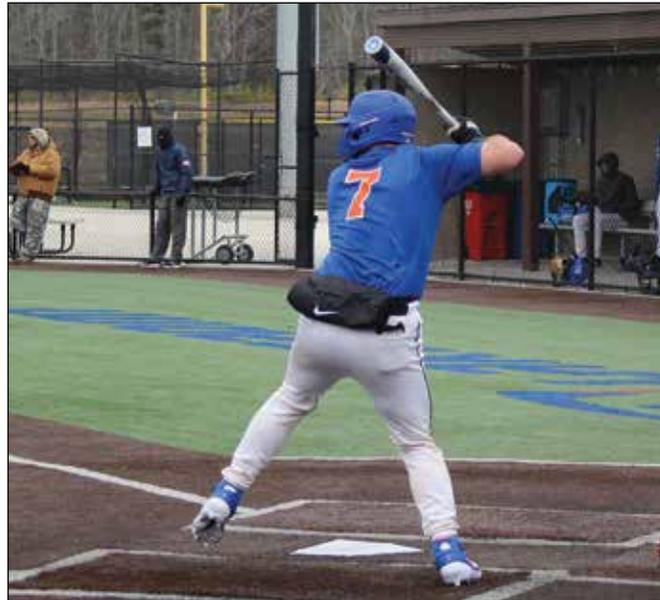


Photo by Catie Sullivan

Parker Orr works on his swing.

stitutions, including five players that signed NCAA Division I scholarships.

Also, the first ever GHC Charger, pitcher Noah Bryant, to be drafted by an MLB team was drafted by

the Kansas City Royals in the 17th round of the 2018 MLB draft.

The Chargers return five pitchers from last year, and first team All-GCAA catcher Parker Orr, who is expected



Photo by Catie Sullivan

Keith Lyle prepares to hit during practice.

to be the primary catcher throughout the season.

All four infielders from 2018 will be returning for this season: third baseman Skyler McPhee, shortstop Austin Foster, second baseman Willis Kemp and first baseman Bryson Horne.

The outfield will be full of new players, and there will be a five-man to six-man rotation for players out in right, center and left field.

O'Neill stated, "I really like our young arms and their ability to throw strikes. I think we will be

able to score runs as long as everyone does their job.

"The players are chomping at the bit to get started. They have been working hard toward this season since August, so for them it is the culmination of so many months of hard work and preparation."

The next home game for GHC will be at 3 p.m. on Feb. 1 at the Perfect Game Park South at the Lakepoint Sporting Community in Emerson, Georgia. The Chargers will face Chattanooga Community College.



Softball team is looking forward to the season

By Josh Maddox
Staff Writer

A new year means a new season. For Head Coach Melissa Wood and her softball Lady Chargers, it means a chance to take care of business and make the 2019 postseason. Leadership, chemistry, and speed will be key factors that will make a difference for the Chargers this season.



Photos by Kayley Agan

Lady Chargers practice at Stars field in cartersville. Next home game will be Feb. 2.

MEN'S UPCOMING BASKETBALL SCHEDULE				WOMEN'S UPCOMING BASKETBALL SCHEDULE			
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Wednesday 30-Jan	Andrew College	Rome, GA	7:30 pm	Wednesday 30-Jan	Andrew College	Rome, GA	5:30 pm
Saturday 2-Feb	Southern Crescent Technical College	Rome, GA	4:00 pm	Saturday 2-Feb	Southern Crescent Technical College	Rome, GA	2:00 pm
Saturday 9-Feb	South Georgia Technical College	Rome, GA	4:00 pm	Wednesday 6-Feb	Central Georgia Technical College	Rome, GA	5:30 pm
Wednesday 13-Feb	South Georgia State	Waycross, GA	7:00 pm	Saturday 9-Feb	South Georgia Technical College	Rome, GA	2:00 pm
Saturday 16-Feb	Albany Technical College	Rome, GA	4:00 pm	Saturday 16-Feb	Albany Technical College	Rome, GA	2:00 pm
Wednesday 20-Feb	Gordon College	Barnesville, GA	7:30 pm	Wednesday 20-Feb	South Georgia Technical College	Rome, GA	5:30 pm
Saturday 23-Feb	East Georgia State College	Swainsboro, GA	4:00 pm	Saturday 23-Feb	East Georgia State College	Swainsboro, GA	2:00 pm
Wednesday 27-Feb	Central Georgia Technical College	Rome, GA	7:30 pm				
Saturday 2-Mar	Andrew College	Cuthbert, GA	3:00 pm				