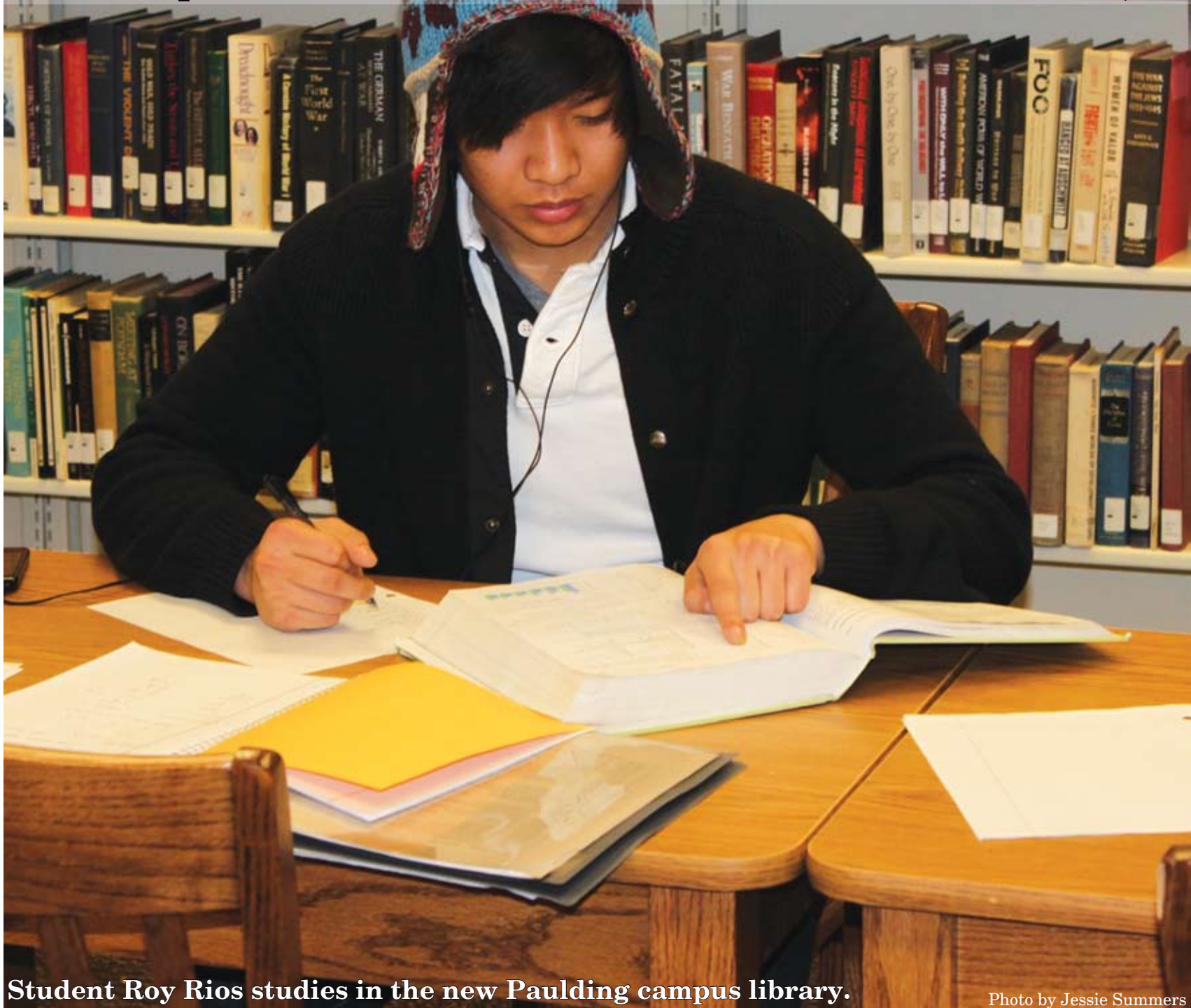


SIX MILE POST

www.sixmilepost.com

The Student Voice

Vol. 42, #6
March 26, 2013



Student Roy Rios studies in the new Paulding campus library.

Photo by Jessie Summers



New library on
Paulding campus
See page 3.

March is Women's
History Month
See page 5.

Baseball, softball
prep for first season
See page 16.

Georgia Highlands College - Rome, Georgia

Science withdrawals are most prevalent

By Neen Snowball
Staff Writer

Science classes at GHC have a higher withdrawal rate than any other type of class. Science plays a huge role in every college student's academic career, whether a student is an English major, a Nursing major, or any other major. Depending on the major, some students will have to take more science classes than others.

According to Laura Mus-selwhite, interim vice president of student and academic affairs, the withdrawal rate for science classes at GHC is 22 percent, which is double the average of that of other class types.

Many students entering into the nursing program have to take anatomy and physiology which accounts for part of the withdrawal rate. Anatomy and physiology requires a lot of memorization. "The Anatomy and

physiology class is a lot harder than I imagined, especially because I already have a full load of courses and two kids. I plan on taking it next semester with only one other class," said Jennifer Hartmann, a dental hygiene major.

Other students find that Science courses involve a lot of mathematics, such as astronomy and physics. Equations and other forms of mathematics can cause a student to become overwhelmed and this contributes to the high withdrawal rate.

The science faculty at GHC is always willing to help students who are struggling with their courses. Students should write down any questions they have and go to the instructor to sit down and discuss areas which are difficult to follow. The tutorial center is also available to help students who are struggling with science courses.



Photo by Ryan Jones

Jarrius Adams (left) and Mason Mull work together on a lab assignment in their astronomy class.

Six Mile Post cleans up at conference

By Sarah Lane
Asst. Print Editor

The Six Mile Post won first place overall in the two-year college division in the 2013 Southern Regional Press Institute (SRPI) held at Savannah State University Feb. 21-22.

Schools represented ranged from the collegiate level all the way to the elementary level.

Six Mile Post Editor-in-Chief Andrew West, Assistant Print Editor Sarah Lane and Staff Photographer Ebenezer Mulugeta attended the two-day convention along with Six Mile Post faculty advisers Kristie Kemper and Cindy Wheeler.

The Six Mile Post also won individual awards. Former staff writer Mark Ewings won first place in the category of best editorial/column. Ryan Jones, chief photographer, won first place for



Contributed Photo

From left: Staff Photographer Ebenezer Mulugeta, Editor-in-Chief Andrew West, Asst. adviser Cindy Wheeler, Asst. Print Editor Sarah Lane, and Adviser Kristie Kemper display the awards the Six Mile Post took home from the SRPI.

best news photo. Also, West took home two second place awards, one for best feature story and one for best sports

story.

West said, "It's always an honor to take home awards for the paper, whether they

are individual or overall, and we always enjoy the Southern Regional Press Institute."

Don't forget to register for your next semester of classes!

Summer registration starts March 25

Fall registration starts April 15



Photo by Jessie Summers

Paulding Librarian Susanna Smith works at her desk in the new Paulding Library.

Cartersville to host speech contest

**By Gene Harmon
Asst. Online Editor**

Student speakers will be vying for the top spot in the 3rd Annual GHC Speech Competition to be held on the Cartersville campus from 3-6 p.m. on Friday, April 12.

Travice Obas, associate professor of communication, and Meredith Ginn, associate professor of communication, are this year's organizers.

According to Obas, students may be involved by entering as a contestant, attending to support the presenters or volunteering as runners and time keepers.

Interested speakers must

be currently enrolled at any GHC campus and either taking or have previously taken COMM 1100, Human Communications, or COMM 1210, Public Speaking.

While there is no set theme for the competition, the speeches must be persuasive and delivered extemporaneously.

More detailed rules and requirements for the competition can be found online at <http://www.highlands.edu/site/communication-speech-competition>, including the entry form and pictures from the past two years.

Students should sign up on the website, and the deadline to sign up for the competition is April 5.

Paulding library Now open for business

**By Mary Howard
Staff Writer**

The Paulding campus has a new library located on the first floor of the old courthouse in Dallas. The new library now has over 3000 plus print books, twenty additional computers, two quiet study rooms and a group conference room for students to use.

GHC Paulding librarian Susanna Smith said, "Since we opened on Feb. 20, students are using the conference room to work on group projects, they've checked out books for assignments, and they are finding quiet places to study away from the business of the Bagby Building. And, of course, I'm there 40

hours a week to help with tricky research problems too." Smith believes the new library greatly contributes to the students' overall academic success.

Instructor of communications, Alex MacMurdo, said, "As a Paulding faculty member, I am thrilled that our campus finally has its very own library. My students will now have a sanctuary to read, research, study and relax with their fellow classmates, and it is only a short walk away." Many students share her perspective and are overjoyed about the brand new library.

An official grand opening celebration for the new library was held on March 11.

Severe thunderstorm hits Floyd Campus



Photo by Virginia Robinson

Shepherd's Tree Service works to clean up the debris from the March 18 thunderstorm on the Floyd Campus. The storm caused an estimated \$50,000 in damages on campus.

Chancellor and Board of Regents have not announced search for permanent president

**By Gayle Golden
Staff Writer**

Presently, there is not an announced search for a permanent president at Georgia Highlands College.

Chancellor Hank Huckaby asked Renva Watterson to assume the interim

president position in May 2012 and she says she has "been happily busy at it ever since."

Watterson was told that she could be in this interim president position for a year or so. Any decision as to the future of the presidency will be made by the chancellor

and the Board of Regents.

"On a personal note, I have found this position of leadership very rewarding. My background in academic affairs has proved useful, as have my studies in higher education, organizational and interpersonal communication," said Watterson.

She added, "This is an enormously talented and committed faculty and staff at Georgia Highlands College. The dedication of this administration is remarkable, and I feel fortunate every day to work among colleagues of such strength and character."

Laura Musselwhite, the current interim vice president for academic and student affairs, said, "Dr. Watterson, due to her knowledge of the institution, has been able to maintain the direction and progress of the college, even in our time of leadership transition."

Highlands Happenings

Join Circle K to get involved

By Rebecca Pharr
Staff Writer

Students can make a difference by joining the newest club at Georgia Highlands, Circle K. It involves learning leadership and life skills through community service.

Kirsten Abel is the founder who helped bring the club to the school, so that students would have a way of interacting with their local community.

Kiwanis is a global organization that sponsors and funds Circle K.

The president, Jamie Palmer, and the club's members are in the process of arranging specific days for club meetings to be held, and announcements will be made soon.

Students are encouraged to join, and if interested, they should e-mail Juliana Breithaupt, director of adult and service learning, at servicelearning@highlands.edu.

Honors Night coming up

By Jackson Walsh
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands will host its annual Honors Night on Thursday, April 4, at the Cartersville Student Center. Over 200 students will be honored.

The festivities will begin with a reception at 6 p.m., and the ceremony will start at 6:30 p.m.

Black Jew Dialogues visit GHC

By J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor

Get ready for a comedic romp through the serious issues and history of racism and prejudice. The Black-Jew Dialogues is a highly acclaimed blend of sketch and improvisational comedy, as well as other performance methods.

The show, starring Emmy-award winner Ron Jones and veteran performer Larry Jay Tish, is coming to the Lakeview Auditorium on the Floyd campus on March 28, at 7 p.m.

GHC students to talk immigration issues

By Jacob Perry
Staff Writer

Immigration issues will be the subject of a round table discussion to be held April 2 at 2 p.m. in the Lakeview Auditorium on the Floyd campus.

Sponsored by the Six Mile Post and the Political Science Club, the event will be an informal conversation between students, faculty, staff, community leaders, and at least one state representative.

Scott Akemon, assistant professor of history and political science, said, "It's a way to make people aware of both sides of the issue of immigration."

"Not everyone that comes here has done so illegally. The goal is to educate people on the real issue of immigration," said Akemon.

Leaders of the event are seeking more student organization co-sponsors. To get involved, e-mail Andrew West, Six Mile Post editor-in-chief, at awest9@student.highlands.edu.

Timbre Cierpke to perform at Highlands

By Ashley Bostick
Staff Writer

Tennessee is sending a performer of the classical genre to Georgia Highlands. Timbre Cierpke, a young woman with a soprano voice and the skill of a professional harpist will perform live in the student center on the Floyd campus on April 4.

Timbre's performances are described in her agency roster as "breath-taking and enchanting." She has a history of competition wins and classical training, and played in the prestigious Carnegie Hall in the spring of 2010.

GHC Spirit Day to benefit Relay for Life

By Tia Berger
Staff Writer

Once a month, GHC joins up with the Chick-fil-A at Arbor Place Mall to host a "Spirit Day" to raise money for the GHC Relay

for Life team. Spirit Day stickers are passed out on campus the morning of the day to remind students to go eat at Chick-fil-A for either lunch or dinner.

According to Lyric Sprinkle, student life coordinator of the Douglasville and Paulding campus, "The trick is that students have to show the sticker or tell the cashier that they are with Georgia Highlands College."

Chick-fil-A will then donate the proceeds to the American Cancer Society on behalf of the GHC Relay for Life team. The upcoming "Spirit Day" events are March 24 and April 27, and all Douglasville students are eligible to participate.

ASF trip balance due March 27

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival trip balance should be paid at the GHC Business office by March 27.

Receipts need to be brought to Student Life. Those who have paid in full will be able to pick up their trip packets.

GHC Women's History Month Events

Douglasville

Women's History Tea

Wed., March 27
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Floyd

Civil Rights Panel discussion with local women

Wed., March 27
11:30 a.m.

Cartersville

Women's achievement presentation

Mon., March 25
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

"Miss Representation" screening

Wed., March 27
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Marietta

Women's Lit. readings and Women's History Trivia

Tues., March 19
1 p.m.- 3p.m.

Paulding

Women's History Trivia

Tues., March 26
11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Successful alumnae of GHC sound off

By Neece Hitson
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands College has been the base of education for many successful women in and around the community.

GHC female students have moved on to become judges, doctors, professors and many other extraordinary members of society.

Lynn Plunkett and Susan Claxton are both examples of accomplished women who matriculated at GHC who are reputable and have achieved great success.

Plunkett attended GHC from 1970-1972 receiving an Associate Degree. She is exceedingly decorated in the field of education. She received a B.A. from Berry College, an Ed.S from the University of West Georgia and an Ed.D from Nova South-

eastern University. Plunkett is the recently retired school superintendent for the Floyd County school system and now enjoys spending her time with family.

Success did not come easy



Contributed photo

Lynn Plunkett

for Plunkett. As with most college students, money to pay for college was one of her major concerns.

When asked what advice she would give to other students striving to reach their educational goals, she said, "Don't compromise. Do what your value system tells you is the right thing to do for you. Find your inspiration."

For Plunkett, her younger sisters were her inspiration. She values family and wanted to smooth out the pathway for them to achieve their goals.

Claxton attended GHC from 1983-1986, receiving an Associate of Science degree in mental health. She continued her education by receiving a B.A. and an M.A. in Human Services at Georgia State University.

In 2010, she received her doctorate in naturopathy from Clayton College of Natural Health. She is currently associate professor of human services and sociology at GHC.

Though Claxton faced many challenges while trying to pursue her education, she was determined to reach her goals.

She married right out of high school, had a child one year later, worked part-time while caring for her family and continuing her education.

Through the guidance and mentoring of staff at Floyd College (the former name of GHC), she was able to meet and exceed her goals reaching her highest potential.

While attending GHC, Claxton was a member of the Student Government, Human Services Club and worked on staff with the Six Mile Post. She also had a column in the Six Mile Post which was similar to the "Dear Abby" column.

Claxton had some advice for students, saying, "Find your



Photo by Sarah Lane

Susan Claxton

passion. We all have a destination or a goal in mind; however, the journey is more important than the destination because along that journey is where we learn our life lessons."

The success of these two women is evidence that GHC has always provided its students with the tools and support system needed to reach their potential.

History of Hurston and her influential writing

By Hilary Williams
Staff Writer

In "The Harlem Renaissance Remembered," Robert Hemingway said that Zora Neale Hurston "helped to remind the Renaissance (especially its more bourgeois members) of the richness in the racial heritage."



Contributed photo

Zora Neale Hurston

Hurston is most famous for her exceptional writings and novels. Hurston had the opportunity to work with Langston Hughes on a comedic play "Mule-Bone: A

Comedy of Negro Life."

Hurston's first novel, "Jonah's Gourd Vine," was released in 1934.

For this, she received the Guggenheim Fellowship enabling her to work on her most famous novel, "Their Eyes Were Watching God" (1937).

This is a chronological story of an African-American woman, Janie, as she grows into adulthood. After multiple marriages, Janie is able to identify herself through her relationship with whites.

This particular novel is also credited for awakening sexual acceptance with women during the women's movement. Hurston's novel was listed as one of the best literary works by an African American woman.

After more than two decades, Hurston's career started to slowly decline.

According to the Encyclopedia of World Biography, she received backlash for criticism of the 1955 U.S.

Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Board of Education, calling for the end of school segregation.

Hurston died lonely and poor on Jan. 28, 1960. She was buried in an unmarked grave in Fort Pierce, Fla.

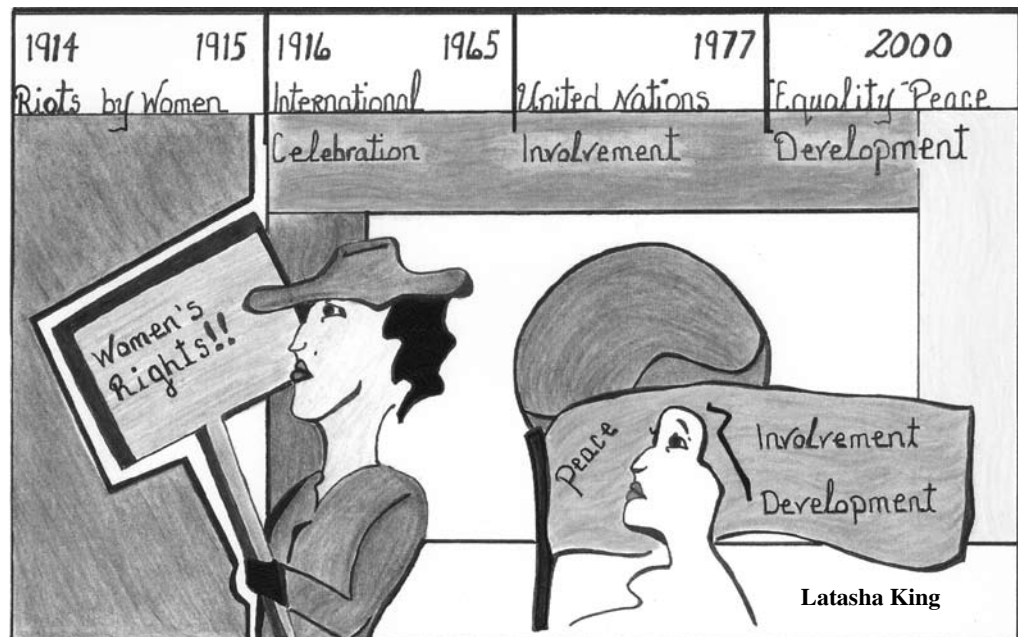
Several years later, Hurston's works were revived by

another influential writer, Alice Walker. Due to the essay "In Search of Zora Neale Hurston" published in "Ms. Magazine" (1975), Walker helped introduce Hurston to younger writers.

Through her tenacious efforts, Walker was able to get publishers to print new

editions of Hurston's writings. Hurston not only influenced Walker but also Toni Morrison and Ralph Ellison, to name a few.

Hurston's life is best described in her own words: "There are years that ask questions and years that answer."



Latasha King

OSL needs help with student involvement

Each year, high school seniors are encouraged to start at a small community college instead of going to a big state university because “everyone’s first two years are basically the same anyway.”

So, most students stay at home for the first two years and then transfer to another school to finish their degree. Thus begins the “floating.”

Students simply float through their time here

at GHC, going straight from class to class and then straight home, just praying that they make it through these two years so their “real” college experience can begin at that big state university. Only then, they think, will they really be college students.

So, what can GHC do to help students break the monotonous “floating” that prevents them from having a college

experience right now? GHC has plenty of clubs to help students to get involved, but sometimes clubs aren’t enough.

The answer lies in the Office of Student Life (OSL). Each campus has a student life coordinator who plans and coordinates activities to make sure students have an enjoyable college experience.

If this is the case, then why does GHC still have

an overwhelming number of “floaters?” Students love their student life coordinators, but one person on each campus simply cannot do it all.

The OSL needs more staff to help plan the activities to help students get involved and have a good time at GHC.

Students who have fond memories of being at the college and enjoying their experience are the ones who are most likely

to donate to GHC in the future.

GHC’s six different locations offer local classes to students all over north-west Georgia. Schedules are flexible and the classes are affordable. All of this makes Georgia Highlands College a great place to begin a college career. Why not also make sure the OSL is equipped to ensure GHC students can have a “real” college experience?

Abandoning some HOPE

The HOPE Scholarship targets and discriminates against non-traditional students.

Unfortunately, students who have graduated from high school, completed home studies or acquired a GED seven years or more prior to attending college are not eligible for the scholarship.

How will this affect a young mother or father who stayed at home with her or his child during the child’s first years?

What does it mean for a person who decided to put off matriculation until he or she spent some time in the work force or even a former student who wasn’t prepared for the college experience the first go-around, and wants to give it another try?

It spells hardship for these students and the University System of Georgia (USG) as non-traditional students comprise 12.5 percent of the collegiate population and 20 percent of GHC’s students.

I have always admired what Henry David Thoreau once said. “If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drum-

mer.”

Life can alter the beat of this metaphorical drum line and delay the process of seeking an education.

Many of these students have a greater appreciation for the value of aspiring towards reaching the goal of earning a degree.

The college campus becomes much more than simply a social forum to many of these students, and instead a place for students to better themselves in a way that can’t help but change lives.

This could be an opportunity in the field that will earn students a living or simply renew a sense of pride that could be all but lost and forgotten in their hearts and minds.

Since the cuts have been made the state has slashed the HOPE award total by 40 percent. During this school year, the scholarship money awarded has shrunk an additional \$80 million.

This could indicate a

Editor’s Box

J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor



lack of emphasis on the importance of higher education in the state of Georgia which results in smaller attendance turnout.

But there certainly is not an absence of desire on the part of students of an ilk and demographic that differs from the majority to become what they want to be.

Should one stop to take a look around one would find many of these students in positions of leadership in many facets of clubs and other college organizations.

Instead of punishing non-traditional students for their proverbial late blooming ways, we should reward them for having the persistence and gall to challenge the conventional.

We should remember the words of Thoreau that pertains to those struggling to attune, as he concluded, “Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away.”

Six Mile Post

6mpost@student.highlands.edu

Editor-in-chief
Andrew West

Assistant Print Editors
J.P. Erickson
Sarah Lane

Chief Photographer
Ryan Jones

Assistant Online Editor
Gene Harmon

Sports Editor
Becky Crooks

Staff Members

Floyd Campus-- Neen Snowball, Gregory Karnes, Pedro R. Zavala, Virginia Robinson, Holly Hampton, Cole McElroy, Ashley Bostick, Chasity Thomas, Rebecca Pharr, Michael Hewitt, Gayle Golden, Jacob Perry, Ricky Shirley, Ethan Ray, Latasha King

Cartersville Campus-- Tatiana Smithson, Jackson Walsh, Ebenezer Mulugeta, Sarah Warren, Brooke Govin, Neece Hitson, Leydi Morales,

Marietta Campus-- Hilary Williams, Tia Berger
Douglasville Campus -- Randi Parker

Paulding Campus -- Kevin Horan, Jessie Summers, Mary Howard, Kaylee Long

Adviser
Kristie Kemper

Assistant Adviser
Cindy Wheeler

Campus Liaisons
Leslie Johnston, John Kwist, Kerin Miller, Jacob Sullins

Online Consultant
Jeannie Blakely

The “Six Mile Post,” a designated public forum named after the old railroad station and trading post that was once located near where the college was founded in Floyd County, publishes seven print and online issues a year and is funded through student activity fees and ad revenue.

Letters to the Editor may be brought to the SMP office, emailed to 6mpost@student.highlands.edu, or mailed to Editor, “Six Mile Post,” 3175 Cedartown Highway Rome, GA 30161. Letter must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editors, and letters may appear in print and/or online.

GHC offers inspiration for aspiring writer

For the better part of ten years, I have been an aspiring writer. Writing for me has been my anti-depressant, my stress reliever, and my own way of dealing with difficulties that surround my life. The last four years, I have taken my writing seriously and have been searching for opportunities for publication, to see my work in print for the enjoyment of others. That decision is what brought me to Georgia Highlands.



Path 2 Highlands

Neen Snowball
Staff Writer

As I walked down Broad Street one summer afternoon, I came to Paradise Lost bookstore to look for writers' resources on the publication process. Instead of a book, I found a poster

in the window promoting a book that was written by a professor at Georgia Highlands. My research then took a turn toward writers' education and credentials as opposed to publishing.

I found that most of my favorite authors had either taken college English classes or became English professors to help support their writing careers. I went to the registration office at Georgia Highlands the same week and applied for the following fall semester. That was three years ago.

I graduate this coming May, one step closer to my goal. During my time here I have published a short story, become president of

the Writers' Collaborative club, helped organize Georgia Highlands' first writers' conference and made many new friends along the way.

I often think of the poster that led me here and the professor that unknowingly inspired me. I've never had a class with him and I have never met him personally, but I hope to meet him before I graduate and thank him for inspiring me as a writer to reach a little further to achieve my dream.

Survive college years without breaking the bank

Because most college students are spending a lot more time and money going to college, it can be a little disappointing to see the money that students are spending on other school activities. Students buy books, pencils, notebooks, food, Scantrons and even project materials.

Sometimes these things can be expensive and even unnecessary, but there are ways to cut the cost significantly and save money to spend on other things.

The very best way to save money is by being part



Soap Box

Jessie Summers
Staff Writer

of a group, either in each class or just generally at the campus. Being part of a group gives students multiple perspectives on what classes other students have taken on campus and what students need.

Most of the time, students either have notes or

the book to lend. Students in a group can even trade books from another class they aren't taking that semester thus saving hundreds of dollars.

Little things can be shared between friends, like pens, paper or project supplies. Sharing and

splitting the cost can easily reduce campus spending, but students don't always have a group to help.

If a student doesn't want to pay full price for his or her textbooks, he or she can go to chegg.com or amazon.com to buy or rent the books for less. If he or she doesn't want the textbook at all, they can wait to find someone in the class to borrow the book from and copy the pages as they need them.

If students want to save money on smaller things for everyday use, the Dollar Store or Dollar General

both sell very cheap school supplies, and even most project materials. Scantrons cost a lot, but the administration offices on each campus sell a single sheet for 30 cents.

A lot of restaurants and fast food places near some campuses will give discounts to students either on certain foods or just in general, but it can make going out with friends easier.

A full listing of places that give students discounts, like bowling alleys or theaters, can be provided by student life counselors.

Student Snapshot

Get to know Cantrell Schroeder



- Name: Cantrell Schroeder
- Major: Computer Science
- Campus: Floyd
- Preferred Apocalyptic method: The moon crashes into the Earth
- Last movie seen in theaters: "The Avengers"
- Dream job: Elementary school teacher
- TP-Over or under?: Over
- How do you take your coffee?: Sugar and Creamer
- What's in your cd player?: Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon"

Dental hygiene program puts theory into practice

By Andrew West
Editor-in-chief

Participation in the dental hygiene program is one of the ways students can earn a degree in Health Sciences at Georgia Highlands College. The program also benefits the community as students learn by providing access to affordable teeth cleanings for Rome's citizens.

"Our priority is to be a learning institution," said Donna Miller, dental hygiene program director. "We provide care, but it's important that the students learn also."

The clinic started in 1990 in the offices of local dentist Webster and Stein in Rome. Students would learn about dental care by reinforcing study with practice, cleaning teeth under the watchful eyes of instructors.

The clinic flourished in this location, and eventually was moved to GHC's Heritage Hall in 2003.

"We blossomed and the faculty grew, and it was nice to move over here," Miller said.

The services provided by the clinic are all preventive, meaning patients would need to go to private practice offices for anything other than things like cleanings, X-rays and sealants.



Photo by Andrew West

Donna Miller

"We don't pull teeth, fill teeth or replace teeth. That's the dentist's side of it," Miller said.

Any cleanings for patients ages 12 and under are \$35. For adults, a regular cleaning will cost \$55. A deep cleaning, for those patients who might be "overdue" for one, is \$95.

Miller did note that her program strives to maintain a good relationship with local dentist's offices,



Photo by Andrew West

Dental hygiene student Cindy Palacios does some dental work on client, Jimmy Bowen, in the clinic at GHC's Heritage Hall.

and patients are limited to one visit per year.

"We're an answer for those who may have limi-

"Our priority is to be a learning institution. We provide care, but it's important that the students learn also"

-Donna Miller

tations, who don't have insurance and can't afford to go on a regular basis," Miller said. "Then we have people who have insurance who like to get their cleanings done here and use their insurance money for restorative work."

Kristin Baumann, an instructor with the program,

is a 2004 dental hygiene graduate. She maintains a job in private practice as well.

"As an instructor, helping students take the pieces and make it a whole has been very rewarding," Baumann said.

The dental hygiene program's website, www.highlands.edu/dental, provides more information on the program. Interested students should download the dental hygiene brochure.



Photo by Andrew West

Donna Miller, dental hygiene program director, center, talks with student, Dena Kimbrel, right and an instructor in the dental lab at Heritage Hall.

Students host inaugural Intercultural Fair

By Pedro Zavala
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands' Floyd campus hosted the Intercultural Fair on Feb. 26, revealing different cultures present on the campus.

"What we mean by culture isn't necessarily countries but a group you can identify with," said Erica Simpson, assistant professor of communication. Simpson's intercultural communication students were the ones who set up and ran the event.

There were seven different booths at the fair, each displaying different cultures that can be found at GHC. The cultures included introverts, freshmen, sophomores, student athletes, non-traditional students, religious diversity and the LGBT community display.

"I didn't enter the contest but I saw the booths and they caught my attention," said Angelina Aceves, freshman at the Floyd campus. She added, "I went over and I liked how they talked in-depth about their topics,



Photo by Cole McElroy

GHC student Kursten Hedgis explains the culture of introverts to students at the Intercultural Fair.

especially the introverts one."

Students who went to four or more displays had the opportunity to enter their names for a chance to

win prizes. The prizes included a free Charger Café lunch, a GHC t-shirt, a gas card, a Bath and Body Works gift card and a Mel-low Mushroom gift card.

"It all went very well," Simpson said. "Everyone presenting went up on stage and talked about their display."

She added that there

were 75 students who entered the contest.

Sixty-three students also signed up for extra credit that was available in return for their attendance.

Want to get involved with the Six Mile Post in the fall?

Applications will soon be accepted for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Paid Leadership positions include:

- Editor-in-Chief
- Sports Editor
- Graphics and Design Editor
- Online Editor
- Assistant Online Editor
- Chief Photographer
- Advertising Manager
- Assistant Advertising Manager

Watch for more information coming soon.

It's easier to succeed with a little help from your friends....

at

Student Support Services

career, counseling, and disability support

Available on all GHC campuses

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



Performer Lindsay Benner (center) juggles short swords while balancing on the arms of student volunteers Caleb Parris (left) and Giovanni Escobar.

Photo by Cole McElroy

Comedian mixes his musicality with punchlines in Cartersville

By E. Mulugeta
Staff Photographer

The Cartersville campus welcomed its first comedian since the opening of the new student center with a performance by Bryan O'Sullivan on March 12.

But O'Sullivan is not a typical comedian. Like most comedians, he travels across the nation, sharing his unique sense of humor with anybody who is willing to listen, but instead of standing there telling his punch lines to the crowd, O'Sullivan does something that not many comedians do; he sings his jokes.

Armed with a guitar and an iPod, O'Sullivan sings parodies of today's popular

songs, touching on subjects from the Jersey Shore to dead celebrities.

O'Sullivan never planned to be a comedian when he first started out, but instead wanted to be an actor. "When I first moved to Los Angeles, it was harder to act trying to do someone else's work, so I started creating my own work, then accidentally fell into doing this full time," he said.

The guitar was added later to the ensemble. "I wrote songs when I was a little kid because I wanted to be like Weird Al. Then in college I realized if I learned guitar I didn't have to play these stupid background songs on my computer when I sang my parodies, so a friend of mine taught me how to play

the guitar," O'Sullivan said.

The show had probably the best turnout of a school-sponsored speaker Cartersville campus has had. Most that came stayed for the whole show.

Not only were the jokes funny, but O'Sullivan interacted with the crowd, answering questions and shooting out snide rebuttals to any outbursts from the crowd and even asking the crowd to help Mad-lib a song.

Overall, O'Sullivan's performance was a huge success, and many students would want to see his unique style of comedy again. The fact that the crowd demanded an encore after his set was proof of that.

Circus acts, magic at Floyd campus

By Cole McElroy
Staff Writer

Entertainer Lindsay Benner performed in the student center at Georgia Highlands' Floyd campus Feb. 19. Hailing from Los Angeles, Benner incorporates various circus acts such as juggling to add to her shows. Benner has traveled all over the world performing.

Benner's show, entitled "A Book of Love," included five chapters. In such chapters as "The First Date" and "Domestic Bliss," Benner played the role of a quirky woman looking for love in creative ways.

Members of the audience gave Benner the help she needed to begin the show. The volunteers acted as Benner's boyfriends.

After she found the lucky guy, the first date was set. After the first date, things progressed until eventually Benner and the volunteer were married.

During the "Domestic Bliss" chapter, Benner, now married to the volunteer, attempted to cook a romantic dinner for the new husband. Benner incorporated magic by appearing to crack an egg into a frying pan, but after doing so she blew into the pan, and the egg seemed to turn into black confetti.

Benner finished by including one more volunteer to play the role of a new guy Benner is seeing. This led into the finale and the last chapter of "A Book of Love," entitled "Divorce." With the help of one more volunteer, Benner got atop them and proceeded to juggle three knives to bring an end to her performance, leaving the crowd roaring.

After the show Benner said, "It was a great welcoming audience from to start to finish."

Audience member Sean McIntosh said, "The show was very interesting and fun to watch."



Photo by Tatiana Smithson

Comedian Bryan O'Sullivan sings his comedy routine while playing his original songs.

Immigration a tradition in United States

By Ethan Ray
Staff Writer

One of the pillars that support America's roof of freedom is immigration. The words on the Statue of Liberty say, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

According to the website america.gov, in the 17th century, the majority of immigrants came to the U.S. from Northwestern Europe and the British Isles. In

the 18th century, the majority were Chinese, and in the 19th century came the Southeastern Europeans.

Today, the top three nations with immigrants in the United States, according to nationmaster.com, are Mexico, India and China, with Mexico being the greatest contributor.

With this mass diversity comes racial and ethnic tension, and this tension has been present throughout history. One can find evidence of this tension in the gang wars

of New York City and bills or laws such as the National Origins Act. Many believe that this tension cannot remain and America's immigration policies need to be reformed. President Barack Obama is taking a neutral stance on policy reform by setting a "back-up plan" for a possible grid-locked Congress.

According to latinopost.com, the "back-up plan" will include four-year temporary visas, an increase in Mexican-American border security and the required use

of the E-verify program for all businesses. It is thought that Obama would push this back-up plan using the power of an executive order.

Although this can be considered as a start, a more proactive response might be necessary, whether it is for vote security or a change in the nation's attitude.

The US Census Bureau released population predictions for the year 2060, and the results were (in millions): Black at 61.8, Asian at 34.4 and Latino at 128.8.

The white population is estimated to peak at 199.6 in 2024 and decline from there.

With the knowledge of this increase in population being so widely known, the responsibility of the American people becomes apparent. America may need to find a solution, and many Americans believe legislators should be proactive in integrating these immigrants into society, while finding a way to allow them to maintain their own national heritage.

Local schools cut jobs, outlook somewhat grim for education majors

By Chasity Thomas
Staff Writer

Since the onset of the recession in 2007, states all over the country have significantly reduced the amount of government funding for K-12 public schools.

Though emergency aid from the federal government

was a safety net for the severity of the cuts to school funding, the aid expired at the end of the 2011 fiscal year.

According to Darrell Sorrells, assistant professor of education, state funding has been reduced more with each passing year in the last decade or so. These funds are based upon the number of

students and programs within each K-12 school system.

Schools in the Floyd County area such as Coosa High School and Pepperell High School have seen the repercussions from these cuts. Larger class sizes are a significant consequence of fewer teachers. Jacob Sheridan, a teacher at Pepperell High

School, is one of the hundreds of teachers in Georgia who will be jobless within the next few months. Sheridan is one of three social studies teachers who are being released from Pepperell High School.

Sorrells said, "Though the demand for teachers is low right now, the long-term looks pretty good." Sorrells

suggests education majors get a head start on getting to know the faculty and staff of local schools and volunteer as substitute teachers.

Sheridan said that students expecting a degree in education "should be flexible with location, because there may not always be jobs available in their area."



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Student's writing inspired by his adversity

By Brooke Govin
Staff Writer

Just one conversation with Justin Soriano and one can't help but want to see him again and listen to what he has to say.

Soriano has attended Georgia Highlands for three years now and plans to graduate in the spring.

He is just like any other student, but Soriano has a disability most people have only heard of in stories.

Born with cerebral palsy, his life has been much more difficult than most. Although Soriano has had some troubles with his disability, he has met an astonishing goal. He is in the process of completing his book, "The Boy With Six Legs," which he wrote to inform children about disabled people with empha-

sis on his own condition.

The book starts with Soriano explaining what cerebral palsy is and how his main character is just like everyone else, but somewhat special. Then he tells how the book gets its name. Soriano explains how with the help of his walker, he has six legs.

Soriano plans to have the book published and advertised within the next few months.

The children's book has 12 cartoon drawings designed by artist James Fairly to complement the simple writing to appeal to kids.

Soriano's tutor, Lynn Maxwell comments, "Anyone can benefit from this book."

With big plans for the future, Soriano can't wait until his book is complete

and ready for people to read. He also has arrangements to set up a website for the book, so students and other people in the community can purchase it online. Also, Soriano is applying for grants and scholarships to help him advertise and sell his masterpiece.

Soriano is not quite done yet in his college career, and in life. He is hoping to attend Point College or Kennesaw State University once he graduates from GHC.

Soriano is still deciding on a major, but is leaning towards something in business.

"I like business. Buying, selling and investing. I'd like to be the guy negotiating the business deals," says Soriano about his future dreams.



Photo by Brooke Govin

Justin Soriano tells the story of a boy with cerebral palsy in his children's book.

Fighting poverty by giving a voice to the voiceless

By Michael Hewitt
Staff Writer

Kelsey Timmerman, author of the book "Where Am I Wearing?" has started a nationwide effort to combat poverty known as the Facing Project, and Georgia Highlands is getting involved.

In Rome, members of GHC's faculty and student body have joined with those from Georgia Northwestern Technical College and Berry College to form Facing Hope.

This program will allow students to work with one of 20, or more, non-profit organizations and be partnered with a client to learn about their lives while facing poverty.

Beyond helping participants to learn about these people, the Facing Project is about feeling what the impoverished feel and taking on the role of these people to see how they live.

Each student will be paired with a mentor who will act as a guide through the process of this project. Allen Dutch, lecturer of communication at Georgia Highlands College and one of the mentors, said, "We worry so much about what we are going to learn in the class that we never take that out of the classroom, and these kinds of projects allow our students to see that there is value to the community."

The students will write a creative literary work to show, from a first-person perspective, how these people live.

Juliana Breithaupt, director of adult and service learning at GHC, said, "From the students' writings, we will work with community members to produce other creative works, in hopes of giving more of a voice to the voiceless."

The literary works written by the students will be pub-

lished in a book which will be circulated in anywhere from 1,500 to 3,000 homes and business.

This will be followed by a community-wide celebration of students' efforts. Anyone interested in joining the effort should contact a representative at servicelearning@highlands.edu. The training for students, as well as the pairing with a mentor, will begin on April 1.



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'The Newsroom' brings insight to TV journalism

By J.P. Erickson
Asst. Print Editor

TV review

In 2012, HBO's drama "The Newsroom" burst onto the scene with a synergistic take on delivering real news stories in its fictional platform. Aaron Sorkin (the Emmy award-winning creator of TV's "The West Wing") brings viewers his latest fast-paced, dialogue-driven writing via the small screen.

The show stars Jeff Daniels as lead character Will McAvoy, who returns to his newsroom after a meltdown at Northwestern University to find that things have changed.

His rant left students, his colleagues and viewers alike both dumbfounded and offended. After unloading his political views, the



Contributed

Jeff Daniels stars in HBO's drama series "The Newsroom" as the lead character, William McAvoy.

incident causes a shockwave throughout the network and blemishes his previously neutral image with controversy.

"The Newsroom" also

stars Emmy award-nominated Sam Waterston (of TV's "Law and Order") as network executive and functioning alcoholic Charlie Skinner. He serves as the

advocate and pseudo father-figure to McAvoy.

Skinner brings in MacKenzie McHale, executive producer and McAvoy's ex, played by Emily Mortimer

to "right the ship," much to McAvoy's chagrin. The tension is palpable as they tip-toe around their old flame.

This show within a show relies on the incredibly dynamic, utter train-wreck of a genius, McAvoy, to anchor its hard-hitting news coverage.

The pithy dialogue lends itself to the legitimacy of the high-caliber minds, which are necessary to produce this rogue show bent on cutting through party lines and unabashedly speaking the minds of those involved.

"The Newsroom" will leave its viewers wanting more as the filming of season two wraps up. The pilot episode re-airs Saturday, March 30 at 11:05 p.m. on HBO2, where the full-season will play for weeks leading up to the season premiere in June. Viewers shouldn't miss an opportunity to catch up on this frenetic version of Sorkin's look behind the scenes of TV journalism.

UK indie-rock band a hit Alt-J has something for everyone

By Holly Hampton
Staff Writer

Music review

Alt-J, an indie-rock band based in London, England, released its first album, "An Awesome Wave," in September 2012. With an unusual mixture of diverse instruments, catchy beats and harmonizing vocals by its four founding members, the album has been a smash hit in its genre.

Although there seems to be no overall theme, this album still has a wide range of sounds that appeal to most music lovers. The different themes and sounds shine throughout each song, piquing curiosity and leaving listeners aching for more.

From the song "Tessellate," with its music video based on the painting "The

School of Athens" by the Italian painter Raphael, to the song "Something Good," with its emphasis on positive, uplifting beats, the album covers a broad spectrum of sound. An especially intriguing track would be "Ripe and Ruin," specifically for its soothing harmonies and easygoing tone as it rings of poetry.

This album hit number 13 on the UK albums chart and has had nothing but positive reviews all across the globe. Perfect for any occasion, whether one is struggling through a late night study session or on the way to the beach, this eclectic selection is worth checking out.

Nintendo continues 'Fire Emblem' RPG series

By Kevin Horan
Staff Writer

"Fire Emblem" is one of Nintendo's longest-running series, now going on 23 years, although it is relatively new to North America. Nintendo decided to give the franchise a chance when characters Marth and Roy proved popular in Super Smash Bros. Melee despite being unknown. "Fire Emblem: Awakening" is now the fifth game in the series to be released in the United States, and the first to be released on the 3DS.

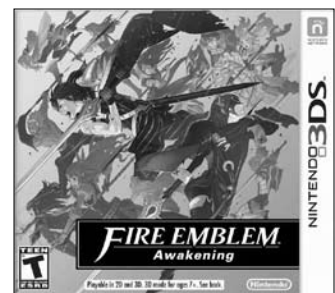
The story of "Fire Emblem: Awakening" focuses on Chrom, who is tasked with keeping the nation of Ylisse peaceful. The player creates a character to serve as the avatar who serves as the technician in his army. Together, the two must command an army of diverse

characters to ensure the safety of the country they serve.

Battles in "Fire Emblem: Awakening" take place in turns, first the player and then his or her enemies. Weapons are involved in a rock-paper-scissors-like system where swords beat axes, axes beat lances and lances beat swords.

Game review

Other types of weapons are also effective against particular units, such as bows being effective against flying units, and none of this takes into account magic users. As a result, battles are fought by keeping units in a position to attack favorable units while they cannot be attacked by unfavorable ones.



This is the first game in the "Fire Emblem" series in North America that allows you to turn off the permanent death option (characters who die are usually unrecoverable), which will be far more forgiving to beginners. Meanwhile, fans of the series will enjoy the challenge of its hard and lunatic difficulty setting.

"Fire Emblem: Awakening" features a memorable cast of characters and is the perfect game for anyone looking for an RPG on the go.

Celebrate an unusual holiday during March

**By Becky Crooks
Sports Editor**

There are many famous holidays throughout the year. In March, many people celebrate Easter and St. Patrick's Day.

If two holidays in one month aren't enough, March is full of unusual and previously unheard of holidays to enjoy.

According to holidayinsights.com, next year on March 3, Americans can celebrate their pride in this nation with National Anthem Day.

They can play the National Anthem, wave flags and wear red, white and blue to show their patriotism.

Students feel the stresses and pressures of juggling work, school and life. On March 9, they can let go of all their worries and just panic for National Panic Day.

March 12 is a great holiday for movie buffs. According to mentalfloss.com, it is considered National Alfred

Hitchcock Day.

James Madison is considered the "Father of the Constitution."

He was born on March 16th, and according to holidayinsights.com, his birthday can now be remembered through the Freedom of Information Day.

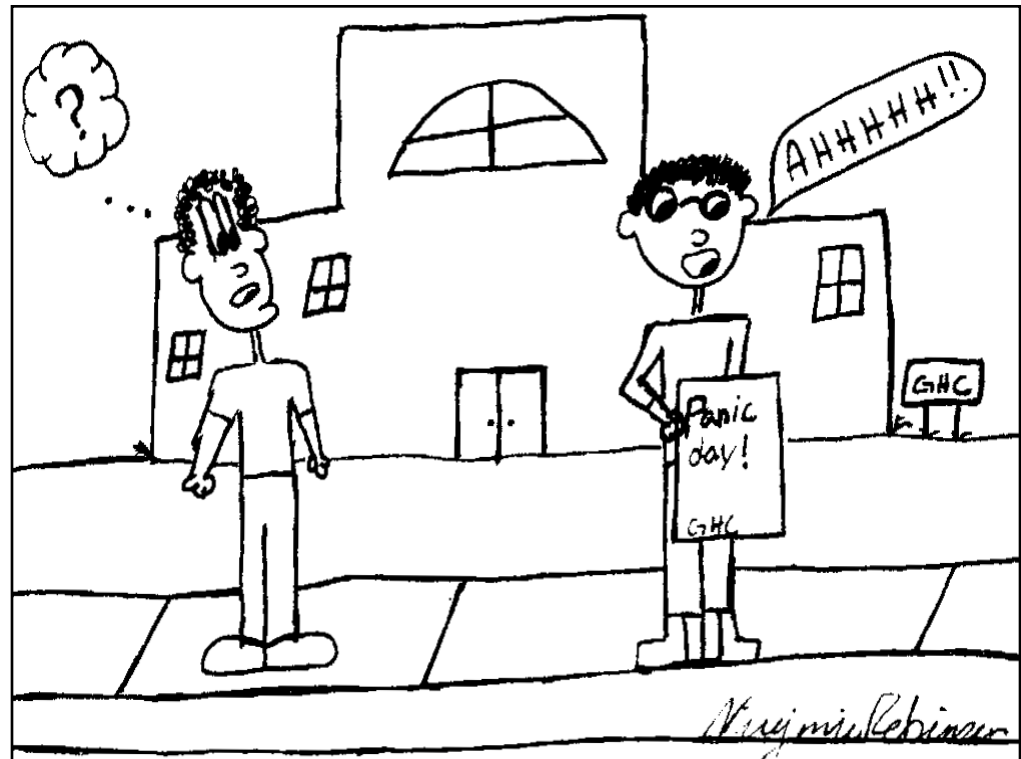
Nationalpuppyday.com has claimed March. On this day, people can enjoy playing with, looking at or adopting the puppy of their choosing.

According to zanyholidays.com, March 30 is "I Am In Control" Day, which is named for former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Jr.

On March 30, 1981, there was an assassination attempt on then president, Ronald Reagan.

Haig made a statement saying, "As of now, I am in control here in the White House..."

According to cbsnews.com, this was a very controversial moment because there were so many un-



known factors surrounding the shooting.

Though the quote isn't on the front burner of the media these days, people can still celebrate this day by taking control of any-

thing that has gotten away from them.

Though these days may not be "official" holidays, it doesn't mean people can't celebrate them.

If the struggle to find a

perfect holiday is too much, daysoftheyear.com has March 26 as "Make Your Own Holiday" Day. That way, students can create their own holidays to celebrate.

If you could create your own holiday, what would it be?



**David Smith
Floyd Campus**

"It would be called a Cool-Holiday. It's when you go out, spend time with your friends and do cool stuff."



**Kursten Hedgis
Floyd Campus**

"A national Whovian Day. A Whovian is an intense fan of Doctor Who, like a fan-girl or super-fan."



**Gregory Karnes
Floyd Campus**

"I would call it Noire Day. Everyone would dress in black and white, drink coffee and solve mysteries."

Here comes Peter Cottontail; but where did he come from?

**By Randi Parker
Staff Writer**

When asked where she thought the Easter Bunny came from, freshman Gabrielle Minter said she was not really sure, but that she was positive it had to do with Easter Sunday and Christianity.

While never mentioned in the Bible, the Easter Bunny has been a part of Easter tradition for many years. The exact origin of the Easter Bunny is unclear, but historians have a few ideas.

According to the Discovery Channel's website, discovery.com, the first Easter Bunny in the world can be traced back to pre-Christian Germany in the 13th cen-

tury. During this period, people worshipped several gods. Eostra was the goddess of spring and fertility, and therefore her symbol was the rabbit because the animal has a high reproductive rate.

The first documentation of the Easter Bunny in the United States was in the 1700s. German immigrants are believed to have brought the Easter Bunny legend to the Americas.

By the 1680s, the German immigrants' story of the egg-laying hare was documented. According to history.com, the Germans called this hare the "Osterhase" or "Oschter Haws." Children made nests for the hare so it could lay colored eggs.

Lady Chargers end their inaugural season

By Becky Crooks
Sports Editor

On Feb. 26, Georgia Highlands hosted their first GCAA Conference game in history with the Lady Chargers versus the Lady Jets from South Georgia Technical College.

Both teams came out playing hard in the beginning, and by halftime, the Lady Jets were leading the Lady Chargers 35-32.

After the half, the Lady Jets' offense seemed unstoppable, which led them to a 14-point lead, the biggest difference of the game.

The Lady Chargers fought hard to get back the lead, but the Lady Jets outmatched them and had ample substitutions in comparison to the short-staffed Lady Chargers.

Within the last few minutes of the game, the Lady Chargers fought their hardest, trying anything to regain the lead, but they couldn't overcome their mid-game deficit.



Photo by Pedro Zavala

The Lady Chargers shake hands with their opponents for the last time in their inaugural season after losing to the Lady Jets of South Georgia Technical College in the first round of postseason play.

The Lady Jets won the game 76-67.

Gabreille Kendall led the Lady Chargers with 20 points, while Portia McCray put up 21 points for the Lady

Jets as their top scorer.

Though the Lady Chargers' spirits were low after the game, Assistant Coach Demetrius Colson was still very optimistic about their

inaugural season and their chances next year saying, "We only lost seven this season. We're going to come back next year ready to play with another good, optimis-

tic group."

Freshman Shakierya McClendon, who posted 17 points for GHC, agreed with Colson stating, "We're going to win it all next year."

Floyd intramurals lack student participation

By Becky Crooks
Sports Editor

Georgia Highlands' Spring Intramurals have started, though it has been a tough beginning for them already.

Gary Broadhurst, intramurals director, has had to postpone and change the sports according to participation, or lack thereof.

At the beginning of the spring semester, sign-ups for 5-on-5 basketball were announced.

Because of a lack of commitment from the people who have signed up, the games have stalled out.

Broadhurst lowered the number of people required, from five people to three, in

hopes of getting more teams and actually being able to play games on a regular basis.

The FIT program, which consists of weightlifting and walking or running, is currently nearing its ten-week benchmark. Participants should have logged 30 miles by that time.

"Those who are participating and dedicated are very close to their goals," said Broadhurst. "They should be maxing out at five times a week."

The participants log their miles in each week to help keep a good track of their progress.

Broadhurst hopes for more participation in all of the intramurals, stating

that there is "a big interest shown for the sports, but then no one shows up to play."

Co-ed Beach Volleyball and Ultimate Frisbee are taking sign-ups right now. Currently, there are a few individuals interested, but only one team has been set.

One part of the FIT program that has a good amount of participation is a Zumba dance fitness class. The class is taught by Christy Twilley, administrative assistant, and usually has 20 to 30 participants for each class.

For more information about participating in any of the intramural sports, contact Gary Broadhurst at gbroadhu@highlands.edu.



Photo by Pedro Zavala

Sarah Lane (left) and Ana Karen Alverado (right) participate in the Zumba class on the Floyd campus.

Baseball, softball recruiting for first seasons

By Andrew West
Editor-in-chief

Georgia Highlands' baseball and softball teams are currently working on filling out their rosters while planning for the beginning of practice seasons this fall. The regular seasons will kick off for both teams in the spring of 2014.

The baseball team has already had one signing day on Jan. 15 at which 11 future Chargers signed their letters of intent to play for GHC. Additionally, seven more players have committed in the time since then.

With an expected roster size of about 30 to 34 players, the team still has some work

to do. Mike Marra, head baseball coach, noted that while the team is waiting for potential student athletes (PSAs) to commit, they are actively recruiting talent, including left-handed pitchers.

Marra said, "Our biggest need right now is left-handed pitching. That's really where our focus has been." He added that a hard-throwing left-handed pitcher would be good for match-ups late in games.

GHC baseball is set to reap a portion of the benefits from any future athletic department revenue increase with the acquisition of its own playing field. Current plans for playing locations include a rotation involving

various high school fields in the Bartow and Cobb county areas.

"It hurts us a little bit, because it doesn't allow us to create revenue," Marra said of the team's lack of a home field.

June 15 and April 22 are going to be important for the baseball team as these are the dates for their prospect camp and second signing day, respectively.

Concerning roster size, the softball team's situation differs from that of the baseball team. Having already signed 20 players, Coach Melissa Wood and her staff have the roster nearly full.

Two future Charger softball players are current students at GHC. Brandi Hughes, a student at the Floyd campus, is one of four pitchers who are committed to the team.

Lindsey Roach is a utility player the coaches have recruited from the flag football field at GHC's Carters-



Photo by Ebenezer Mulugeta

Jerrica Littlejohn, left, a possible GHC softball recruit, and her father discuss future plans with Coach Melissa Wood.

ville campus.

"Initially what caught my eye was her speed," Wood said of Roach. "It's nice to have two of them that already go here. It's nice to have a 20 and a 21-year-old to acclimate the other players to the area," she added.

Stars Field will be the permanent playing site for the Chargers softball team in its inaugural season. The site was formerly that of Cass High School's team.

"The Bartow County Recreation Department is working with us to make this a good thing until we get our stadium built," Wood said. "It's got a locker room, press

box and storage, the whole deal."

The softball team held a prospect camp for high school students on March 16. Wood plans for GHC to host an instructional youth camp for regional elementary and middle school students on April 20.

Both the baseball team and the softball team will have a practice season in the fall before regular-season play begins.

For more softball information, visit www.ghcsoftball.com. Visit www.highlands.edu/athletics/mens/baseball for more about the baseball team.

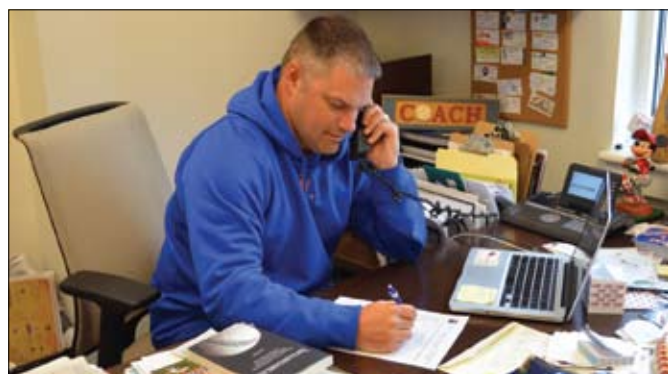


Photo by Ebenezer Mulugeta

Mike Marra, baseball coach, seen here in his Cartersville office, is preparing for the team's first season.

First-ever basketball season brought highs and lows

One of the best things about sports is that they are unpredictable. Sometimes they break your heart. At other times they make you incredibly happy.

Georgia Highlands College's inaugural basketball season did just that. It was a tale of two teams.

Who knew what to expect from our first season? No one had any idea what would happen. Everyone just wished for the best.

However, even with all of our hoping and wishing, I'm not sure anyone would have guessed what the Lady Chargers would pull off this season.

Women's basketball some-



In the Zone

Becky Crooks
Sports Editor

times gets the short end of the stick, but the Lady Chargers demanded attention.

By the end of last semester, it seemed they were unbeatable, and there were whispers of an undefeated season.

However, injuries got the better of the team, and they suffered a heartbreaking loss at the first of the year.

Still, after suffering loss-

es, the Lady Chargers dominated the court throughout the season and procured a spot in the post-season tournament.

The Chargers' season is a different tale.

It is a tale of hard-fought battles and heartaches.

The men's team was a brand new basketball program made up entirely of freshmen, many of whom

were far from home. The odds were stacked against them before the first game was even played.

The Chargers could not overcome their inexperience and injuries this season, but they did show us something else.

They never let their losses show. When the men took the court, they always tried their hardest and fought down to the buzzer in every game they played.

Sometimes even when a team plays its hardest, it's not enough.

Though many may remember the Chargers' season for their lack of wins, they should remember it for the

lesson the team could teach them.

Sometimes, you win. Sometimes, you lose. The true spirit of the game is how you play and act no matter what the stats say.

The Chargers let their losses show in the way they practiced harder. They showed it by continuing to play hard and never accepting the fact that they would lose.

The only thing certain about sports is that nothing is certain. There have been many "Cinderella tales" throughout the years. So, don't count the Chargers out yet because there's always next year.