



SIX MILE POST

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The Student Voice

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GRADUATION EDITION

Commencements return to Floyd

By **Olivia Fortner**
Editor-in-Chief

The GHC graduation commencement ceremonies will be returning to the Floyd campus this spring. To ensure safety through social distancing, there will be three different commencements held outside on the campus grounds on Thursday, May 13.

The commencement ceremonies will be held at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The nursing pinning and commencement will be at 3 p.m. the same day.

The venue area where the commencement will take place is the open area in front of the Walraven and Physical Education buildings.

Seating is limited, and a GHC student ID and guest pass will be needed upon entry. Students have been asked to sign up for one commencement ceremony as a part of their application for graduation.

"This year's commencement, very much like last year's, is very unique. One of the struggles we have faced is GHC's historical pattern to encourage guests and visitors. This year, we are very limited with space to comply with safety precautions," said Tammy

Nicholson, assistant-executive to the president of GHC.

All who attend are asked to wear a required face covering upon entering, exiting and navigating the venue area.

For those who cannot attend the in-person event, a livestream of the ceremonies will be available at commencement.highlands.edu and on GHC's social media pages.

"Speakers for GHC's 2021 Commencement ceremonies will include Professor Billy Morris, faculty recipient of [the] Walraven Award, and Regent T. Dallas Smith, bringing [a] welcome from University System of Georgia Board of Regents," said Nicholson.

Billy Morris, geology professor, has been selected to lead the processional as mace bearer in all three ceremonies.

According to a recent email sent to the GHC faculty, "The mace, a great and splendid staff, is actually a club; it is a symbolic weapon. Medieval universities would not defend themselves with the sword. It was not considered appropriate for gentle scholars to draw blood, but they could

defend, using a cudgel – and they did."

The same email to the faculty also states, "The mace has come to stand as a symbol for two critical matters. First, it stands for the freedom of the academy to see the truth and to teach it. It also stands for the authority of the academy.

This authority is best described by two traditional Latin terms: *magisterium* and *auctoritas*. Under the first term, *magisterium*, is included control of equipment, building and grounds, as well as the behavior of members and visitors – ensuring order and liberty. Under the second term, *auctoritas*, is included a defense of the liberty to do research, to study, to publish and to learn. The mace makes the statement that the academy must protect and foster those things."

For answers to specific questions about commencement ceremonies, tickets and more, please contact the Office of the Registrar at registrar@highlands.edu or call (706) 802-5000. More information may also be found at <https://sites.highlands.edu/registrar/>.



GHC
Commencement 2021

WHEN: Thursday, May 13
10am & 6pm*

**Plan to arrive at least one hour early*

WHERE: GHC Floyd Campus
3175 Cedartown Hwy, Rome, GA

Follow signs for free parking

GRADS: Graduate check-in
one hour before ceremony

*In front of the Walraven building
near the GHC tower*

GUESTS: Guest passes required
*Face coverings and social
distancing required*

Declining enrollment leads to new positions

By **Alexis Johnson**
Entertainment Editor

In mid-March of 2020, numerous colleges across the nation transitioned to online learning almost overnight, shutting down public access to institutions indefinitely.

Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus and the abundance of cases, professors' and students' routines changed in the classroom and at home.

Even as colleges and universities expanded in-person instruction this spring, undergraduate enrollment continued to decline.

According to current preliminary data from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, enrollment across all institution types fell by 2.9 percent this term compared with last spring. These early numbers reveal similar declines to fall of 2020 when enrollment fell by 3.3 percent consecutively overall.

In fall of 2019, GHC suffered a slight -1.7 percent decrease in enrollment but reported record graduation numbers and a new economic impact of over \$181 million.

Fast-forward to fall of 2020; there was a -7.9 percent drop with 5,680 students enrolled compared to the previous year with 6,168 students enrolled, according to the USG Fall 2020 Semester Enrollment Report.

During this same time, undergraduate enrollment declined for all racial and ethnic categories nationally, according to the



Jennifer Hicks named executive director of enrollment.

Photos contributed by J. Hicks and M. Jackson.

clearinghouse data. In the case of GHC, minority enrollment slightly dropped in all types, while the white majority racial group increased from 3,431 students in spring of 2020 to 3,520 students enrolled in fall of 2020.

Division of Enrollment

To aid in this decline, GHC has recently added a Division of Enrollment to focus on new students. Under this new division, strategies are being adjusted to address issues such as financial aid, class offerings, degree requirements and more.

"By merging the areas under one umbrella devoted to student success and focused on the goals that our students have for completing a college degree, GHC will better serve our students from start to finish," said President Don Green.

In addition to this new division, Jennifer Hicks will take on the role of executive director of enroll-



Maggie Jackson named student enrollment supervisor.

ment.

"The goal with the Enrollment Management Division is to bring together units across the institution that have a major impact on enrollment," said Hicks.

This includes enrollment by recruiting respective students and assisting them through advising and registering for classes. The departments that fall under this umbrella include marketing, admissions, recruiting, orientation, veteran affairs and the academic advising team to ensure new students are admitted and on the right track.

The official announcement of this division stated that the financial aid and the business office will also join forces to better address the frequent financial questions asked by students and their families.

Business & Financial Aid

Because of the pandemic, many people lost their jobs or

have been uprooted from their homes unexpectedly. Some may see this as a prominent factor in the enrollment decline. However, the Division of Enrollment will not include information concerning financial options.

"Financial aid is actually not going to fall under the enrollment management umbrella. The financial aid office has actually shifted to our business office," said Hicks.

Currently, the Nelnet payment plans, other payment deadlines and student accounts are handled on one side of the business office. Financial aid will be on the other side.

"I think financial aid is a concern for our students just in the sense that it's a scary process. Filling out the FAFSA can sometimes be overwhelming, but I am confident that our business office team and our financial aid team can begin to work together to address some of those issues," said Hicks.

The enrollment division does coordinate with the financial aid department. They have shared goals when it comes to new students enrolling.

USG Freezes Tuition Rates

In April 2020, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) voted to approve a recommendation of no tuition increase for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Students paid the same tuition rates at all 26 USG institutions for the 2020-2021 academic year as they did for the previous 2019-

2020 academic year.

This same freeze in tuition rates has been approved by the Board of Regents of the USG for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Customer Service Changes

Maggie Jackson works alongside Hicks to bridge the gap between the departments. In her role as a student enrollment supervisor, Jackson will oversee the customer representatives at each campus.

There are one or two customer service representatives at each campus. Before now, they have reported to the campus manager or dean at their respective site.

"There's been a few inconsistencies with the way that [customer service representatives] receive communication trickling down to them. This way, we can group everyone together as one great team. We can get consistent communication out to everyone so that they're all on the same page," said Jackson.

Jackson will develop training modules for the customer service representatives to maintain effective communication across all sites. The customer service representatives will know what they need and will have a specific person to report to. Customer service representatives will be cross trained in all departments, so that all student inquiries may be addressed efficiently.

Jackson said, "They could get a question about anything, so that's where the training modules come in."

Cartersville campus to offer COVID-19 vaccinations

By **Jackson Morris**
News Editor

Vaccination administering events are currently being planned and are expected to begin as early as late April for all interested GHC students.

"Georgia Highlands College is working to provide multiple opportunities for vaccination events for students and employees," said President Donald Green. "Several are currently being planned."

GHC is partnering with West-End Pharmacy, based in

Cartersville, to provide vaccines and administration. The Cartersville campus is currently the only campus that has a confirmed event.

Brenton Bigger, a student from the Cartersville campus said, "Personally, I think that they should be available to all campuses if the students want it."

Juliet Kozee, assistant professor of English, said, "Cartersville is a central location to all of our sites... and one of the largest sites, so it makes sense that it was chosen."

Kozee said, "It would be ideal if the vaccine administration

event could be brought to all campuses and sites, but ideal is not always possible."

In late February, GHC held a vaccine administration event for its faculty. Some students were not pleased that faculty were given an opportunity to be vaccinated before students.

Cartersville student worker, LaChaz Phillips, said, "To be honest, I don't think that it's fair that the faculty could get it and the students couldn't."

READ FULL ARTICLE ONLINE AT SIXMILEPOST.COM

SGA elects new president and updates constitution

By Nattalie Gordon
Staff Writer

Meet twenty-year-old Matthew Perry, a sophomore, Paulding county native based out of GHC's Cartersville campus. Perry is now serving as the new president of the Student Government Association (SGA).

SGA was created and tasked with the responsibility of being a liaison between both students and faculty, ensuring that regulations and initiatives concerning the student body are fair and beneficial. One of its main tasks is to encourage student engagement, and it does so under the Constitution of The Student Body at GHC.

Perry said his new role is, "exciting but heavy" and that he has support from the former president and the extended SGA body.

"I've had the former president as someone to emulate," Perry said.

Since taking over as president, Perry has led the rewrite of a new 2021-2022 constitution showing that he is already busy in his new role.

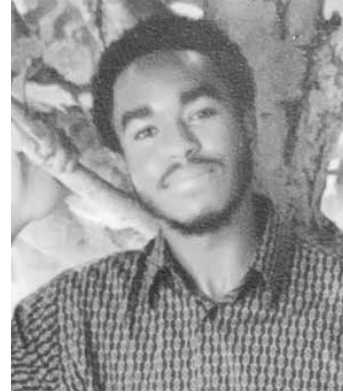
Perry said the new constitution is less confusing and a better fit for the new environment and evolving social climate of the student body.

Perry said he hopes to bring about more, "relatability, visibility and inclusivity," making SGA a continued comfortable and welcoming space in a diverse college environment.

"My aim [is] to make the SGA an organization that people know more about and want to become a part of," Perry said.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an ongoing effect on SGA and will affect future plans.

"In the past we've hosted in-person events and we hope to continue that, but in light of the situation with the virus, we want



SGA President, Matthew Perry, aims to make SGA more inclusive. Photo contributed by Matthew Perry.

to consider those who don't feel comfortable being in close physical spaces," said Perry.

For now, meetings will continue to be on Zoom. Eventually, Perry and SGA will look at ways to bring back face-to-face meetings.

Perry said, "As we move

throughout the semester at GHC, we will enact safety measures such as mask regulations when the time comes to go back to normal."

As part of the new SGA constitution, one of Perry's goals is to appoint new officers to the organization. These officers will be responsible for assisting with recruiting more students to become involved in SGA, ensuring everyone has a voice and that SGA is representative of all students.

SGA officers will act as a sounding board to listen to and discuss any grievances, thoughts or concerns.

Perry is no stranger to school organizations and is a former member of Green Highlands, a group focused on increasing environmental awareness and maintaining a healthy body and mind.

Perry was also a member of Students without Borders, a

group that helps students develop an appreciation for different cultures, customs and encourages studying abroad.

Perry is a Phi Theta Kappa member and serves as Brother 2 Brother (B2B) president. B2B is a group that is focused on providing positive solutions to the social, cultural, intellectual and emotional needs and issues affecting African-American and Latino male students.

In his spare time, Perry enjoys architectural design and drawing. After his time at GHC, Perry plans to enroll in an interior design program.

Students interested in learning more about SGA may contact the coordinator for the Office of the Student Government, Krissy Shannon at kshanaha@highlands.edu or visit Navigate to access the Zoom link to SGA meetings and Perry's contact info.

The Narrative Now: Searching for purpose out West



By Ciara Horner
Contributing Writer

This past year has been one of the most trying of my 25 years on this earth. I can remember being so anxious and nervous worrying what would happen next when it all unfolded.

During this pandemic I felt very lost without a purpose. The gym I was going to five days a week closed, and I felt as if things were spiraling out of my control.

In April, I took it upon myself to quit my job, focus on the present and just roll with the punches. I took this crazy year for what it was and decided to focus on learning more about myself.

I packed two suitcases and booked a one-way flight out to Arizona to stay with family and explore out West for the first time. I was very

blessed with the opportunity to hike and travel in Utah, Nevada and California. Every experience was focused on nature and exploring the world around me.

I traveled for two months. While I was gone, I took time to focus on my future. Upon my return, I decided to get back in school to become an early childhood education major.

I am thankful that I had the opportunity to grow as a person and focus on what truly makes me happy. This pandemic has shown me just how important relationships and interactions are to humans.

My life saver during this would have to be the sweet, chocolate lab puppy my family decided to get. We named her Marley. She helped to have something to focus on and care for when I did not have control over anything else.



Photos contributed by Ciara Horner

2021 Graduation Candidates



Art by Russell Chesnut

Associate of Arts:

Grace Laura Adams
 Logan L Adams
 Justin Carter Alvis
 Faith L Apollonio
 Elijah James Bagley
 Anaya Elouise Baines
 Trevor G Ball
 Sydney N Barnes
 Ethan C Bartlett
 Julia M Belew
 Kayla Breann Berrios
 Pamela Elizabeth Blevins
 Lindsey Ann Boyd
 Bailey Jewell Brewer
 Anah S Brown
 Sarah Lynne Brown
 Molli Ann Brunsvold
 Tynasia Mazetta Bunting
 Alyssa Kellyn Butler
 Maria Guadalupe Calvario Tula
 Zed A Carroll
 Emily Lauren Cash
 Bryan M Casler-Tyrrell
 Marco T Castellanos
 Yadira Chavez-Alvarez
 Courtney De'aundria Clark
 Jennifer Michelle Clark
 Atiyya Taiani Clayton
 Sarah Abigail Corbitt
 Lizeth Cortes Alcaraz
 Amy Coulter
 Amberley Hope Cross
 Tiffany Amber Marie Crowe
 Allison Dorothy Daffron
 Shemetrice Davis
 Dariela Guadalupe Delgado Castro
 Sarah Elizabeth Dewitte
 Mary Ashley Diaz
 Nicholas Alexander Dinkins
 Amethyst Michelle Dunn
 Darrell B Dunn

Brandon Nicholas Eberhart
 Phoebe G Faile
 Kia Antwanette Faison
 Rahma Fakhir
 Charity Angel Farr
 Erik Michael Fichera
 Meleena J Fierro
 Tamia Danyelle Flemister
 Ivy Vanessa Flores
 Carson Channing Ford
 Samuel Dean Gabbard
 Brittany Lee Garwick
 Savannah Michele Gassett
 Victoria Jane Gatewood
 Amber M Geiger
 Kelsie Lynn Gilbert
 Sarah M Gillespie
 Summer Michelle Glenn
 Joi Neshyl Golatt
 Kevin Eduardo Guerra
 Ronald Elbert Hale
 Mandy Elizabeth Halleck
 Amanda Dawn Harris
 Devon Stone Hasbrouck
 Anaya R Hashamuddin
 Samone M Hawkins
 Anastasia Shanice Haynes
 Jack Ryan Heffernan
 Emily Brianna Henson
 Jasmine Nicole Hopkins
 Ashlee Brooke Horne
 Jacob R Hudson
 Armando Jose Irizarry-Vazquez
 Rene Audrey Jardon
 Kameron Christopher Jett
 Alexis Ryan Johnson
 Curtis Alexander Johnson
 Jessica A Johnson
 Mackenzie Danielle Johnson
 Jeffery D Jones
 Kevin Eric Jones
 Matthew Jones
 Makiah M Jordan
 Heather Aleah Keeney
 Nancy Ledford Keeney
 Rachael Amanda Keeney
 Ryan Michael Keeney
 Nicholas Charles Kelley
 Dametrious Zendel King
 Coleman Kurt Kirby
 Matthew James Land
 Julio Cesar Langarica
 Montana J Ledbetter
 Ladejai Shevore Little
 Alyssa Brooke Logan
 Ojilvia Maldonado Lom
 Cindy M Lopez

John Buchanen Lucas
 Taylor Tamarra Luke
 Hisham Maarouf
 Ansley Brooke Magee
 Deena Samantha Maitre
 Hunter R Martin
 Beatrice Martinez
 Kayla J Mathis
 Joshua Robert Maurer
 Alexander Cole McDermont
 Jessica Grace McElwee
 Richard McRae
 Jordan Nicole Mccoy
 Hunter Andrew Mccreary
 Kayla Marie Mcdonald
 Dakota Ray Mcdowell
 Jayla R Mcelrath
 Tabitha Elizabeth Mclendon
 Hannah Mcleod
 Sydney N Meagher
 Karla Vanessa Melo
 Catriona Louise Michel
 Brandon Javante Miles
 Marisa S Milligan
 Maria Alejandra Miranda
 Joshua Melvin Mitchell
 Marlowe T Mitchell
 Hillary Shannon Moore
 Ruben De Jesus Morales Rivas
 Jackson S Morris
 Tiffany Sherima Morris
 Christina Michelle Nelson
 Gabriel Tatum Nelson
 Jordan A Nelson
 Daniel Nguyen
 Stone Lucas Nicholson
 Celina Gabrielle Norton
 Connor R Oguin
 Charles Larry Oswalt
 Brett Matthew Otterlee
 Richard D Peck
 William G Perez
 Deanna Nicole Posey
 Nya M Powell
 Haley R Prouty
 Daniela Ramirez-arias
 Paola Rangel
 Jacob Hunter Ray
 Kayla Pilar Reid
 Linetter Robey
 Cayland Denise Rucker
 Leslie Diane Ruiz
 Lacey Nicole Rutledge
 Tamira La'shay Sams
 Kimberlee Nikiesha Samuels
 Daphne N Segovia
 Kayla Marie Sherfesee

Jamon C Sherrell
 Alexa B Shuman
 Mickell Angela Simas
 Starlee Shea Simmons
 Matthew Quentin Singleton
 Edward Alexander Smith
 Kali Danielle Smith
 Michelle Nicole Smith
 Cheyenne Marie Spinks
 Ramsey L Start
 Tiffani T Stephenson
 Elizabeth C Stout
 Sierrah M Strange
 Patricia Gayle Strickland
 Mary Catherine Sullivan
 Charles Tyler Summers
 Robbie Michelle Sykes
 Bailey C Talley
 Donna S Tempelman
 Jeremy Earl Thaxton
 Elysia Jasmine Thompson-Fields
 Fabiana Tomas
 Chase Addison Townsend
 Chandler Shay Traylor
 Tammy Trinh
 Megan S Turner
 Andrew Albert Vahanian
 Lucille Grace Van Valkenburg
 Lauren Nicole Varner
 Brandy Ann Wacker
 Brianna C Wade
 Kayla Nicole Walker
 Alexa J Wall
 Chiyyia N Waters
 Patrick Jake Weatherford
 Riley Kent Werner
 Jacob Thomas Whitehead Han-
 nah Catherine Wilczynski Roy
 Eugene Willingham
 Donna Leigh Willis
 Javion Rashaun Wilson
 Anna Rebecca Winters
 Kimberly Cherie Wood

CLASS OF 2021

2020-21:

Cares Act provides pandemic relief.

Black Lives Matter movement protests police killings.

Joe Biden announces running mate Kamala Harris.

Wildfires rampage parts of California and Oregon.

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg dies at 87.

First presidential debate dominated by shouting and insult slinging.

White House sees corona-virus outbreak. President Trump tests positive.

FBI uncovers plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Joe Biden wins the presidency.

Trump claims voter fraud and demands recounts.

COVID-19 vaccinations begin in the U.S.

Electoral college confirms Biden's victory over Trump.

Trump supporters storm the capitol leaving four dead.

Biden is inaugurated as the 46 President of the United States.

Major winter storm leaves many dead and without power for days.

Atlanta area shootings target Asian businesses and leave eight dead.

COVID-19 claims more than 32,250,653 U.S. lives.

2021 Graduation Candidates Cont.

Associate of Science:

Matthew Ridge Coalton Abernathy
Michael David Adams
Oluwatomisin M Adeogun
Rashonda Monae Adeyinka
Vanessa Aguirre
Joshua Nathan Akers
Arin Amber Allen
Dormecia Monae Allen
Lauren Davis Allison
Lauren Mackenzie Allred
Ryan Lee Alsobrook
Ashley Lauren Alves
Aleksandra K Arana
Angel Rusbel Armas-Alvarenga
Alexander A Armstrong
Jada Christina Armstrong
James C Armstrong
Lamyalia Breeze Arnold
Corey Alan Arrington
Victoria Ashley Avery
Ariadna Nitzabel Avila-Ortuno
Shante' Monet Ayeni
Cara Nicole Bacon

Kaitlyn Gayle Bailey
Trudi L Baines Floyd
Charlie Abigail Santana Baker
Dasia T Baker
Kayleigh E Baker
Suada Barlov
Anna Nicole Barnett
Jacob Reid Barnette
Andrew Shepard Barrere
Jessica D Barrett
Nathan Christopher Barrett
Hollis Rose Barton
Emily Riley Bates
Johanne Ashley Bayard
Zilma T Beaupierre
Alyson Nicole Beavers
Sarah Elizabeth Belcher
Donna Garner Bell
Maria Guadalupe Belman
Michael David Beltrami
Brittany Diane Bennett
Brandee Lenee Benson
Ticie Breanne Benton
Matias Ezequiel Bernat Fuks
Nora Germaine Berry
Karime Betancourt
Brandt Avery Bettis

Jasmine Taylor Biles
Jessica Anka Bilikha
Amanda Grace Bishop
Charlotte Hope Black
Karsten Claude Black
Brooke Nicole Blackburn
Amanda Ryan Blalock
Emily Nicole Blalock
Cody R Boazman
Kaitlyn Nicole Bohannon
Adam Wesley Bomar
Michael S Bonds
Dana Michelle Bonner
Robyn Lee Booher
Lindsey F Bray
Valerie Leigh Brickell
Jasmine Renee Brooks
Alexandra Marie Brown
Cahiem Shypiek Brown
Jacob A Brown
Jahquel Z Brown
Jakob Thomas Brown
Jonathon C Brown
Justin Andrew Brown
Kaylen R Brown
Shannon Elaine Brown
David Charles Browne

William Christopher Bruce
Hannah Lynn Sarah Bruley
Jada Shenell Brumbelow
Jason Micah Brumbelow
Savana Josephine Brunet
Vashti Mardia Bull
Jourdan T Bunkley
Judith Aine Burns
Emma Bythewood
Mark Cabrera
Michael William Caloca
Maria Guadalupe Calvario Tula
Karla Camacho
Keershton T'Ran Camara
Corrie Danielle Camden
Makenzie Taylor Campbell
Graham Avery Cargle
Heather J Carlock
Takeivious Clay Carroll
Molly Renee Carter
Thomas K Carter
Lorenzo Raphael Caseiro
Stephanie Castillo
Christina Ruth Cebelenski
Tabitha Jean Chamlee
Shelby Nicole Chapman
Trinity M Chapman

Seth Alexander Chastain
Aida C Chavarria
Richard Kyle Chewing
Kaila Chivers
Gavin John Cissa
Michele Lynne Clardy
Garren Chase Clark
Hannah T Clark
Wyatt Scott Clark
Madisen T Clines
Christopher Timothy Collins
Neely S Collum
Heather Lynn Combs
Sean Riley Combs
Jesse Aron Conner
Janahi Contreras
Danielle Gayle Cook
Jacob Dale Cook
Steven Anthony Cook
Alysha M Cooper
Joy Denise Cooper
Riayah Nioni Copeland
Sadie Destin Cosby
Jackson L Cospers
Brandon Chase Cox
Emily Macallaster Cox
Jennifer A Crawford



Art by Russell Chesnut

2021 Graduation Candidates Cont.



Art by Russell Chesnut

Associate of Science Cont.:

Haley Nicole Crider
 Kelly Dale Criswell
 Hailey F Cronic
 Caleb Joshua Currier
 Robert O Daniels
 Victress Lyncia Daniels
 Edward Denzell Dascanio
 Ayanna Daiseree Davis
 Brina Anne Davis
 Jacob Alan Davis
 Angelina Marie De Stefano
 Mahmud Z Deeb
 Andy Delgado-morales
 Madelyn Anne Dennard
 Josie Tuesdaye Depew
 Priya Dey
 Kara Leeann DiCarluccio
 Brandon K Dobbs
 Patrick Dolph
 Aisha K Dosreis-Amado
 Michelle Carol Douglas
 Nathalie Doumit
 John Thomas Dow
 Alyssa S Duncan
 Ashley N Duran
 Francia Estivalis Duron
 Emily Lauren Dutton
 Bethany Pittman Duvall
 Brenlee Nicole Edwards
 Jeremy Lee Edwards
 Andrew Jason Ellithorpe
 Akeia Deneyce Escobar
 Sarah Elizabeth Jean Estes
 Krystiana Malinie Etwaroo
 Katie Rose Ferguson

Emily Rebecca Fickett
 Marymar Figueroa Acosta
 Patrick Daniel Fletcher
 Victoria Maxine Fletcher
 Emilli Noemi Flores
 Cody Paul Flowers
 Andrew Gauge Floyd
 Kayla Cheyenne Floyd
 Stephanie Blair Ford
 Justin Fortier
 Madison Nicole Fossett
 Madison Kristine Foster
 Tajah Rasheed Fraley
 Joshua A Francis
 Marlyse Naomie Francois
 Yanis A Frausto
 Kennesha L Frazier
 Preston J Frazier
 Tennesha L Frazier
 Alexis M Free
 Tayte Shirece Fuqua
 Desmarie Ebonie Gadsden
 Catrina M Gage
 Keagan P Gallagher
 Anslie J Garrett
 Halle Belen Gary
 Rachael N Gatien
 Dalton Matthew Geary
 Logan Everett Dudley Gepfert
 Jesse Donovan Gilley
 Tristin D Gilliland
 Isabella Liane Glass
 Kylee Nicole Godfrey
 Montana Sky Godfrey
 Hailey Christina Gomisich
 Angela Leighann Goodson
 Kirsten Nicole Gordon
 Lukas Barry Gottesman
 Chloe E Green
 Grayson Cooper Grimes
 Hannah Marie Grogan
 Rachel Michelle Grooms
 Brittany Elaine Gunter
 Jaelin Xavier Gustave-Lyons
 Makenzie Brooke Gwin
 Dalton Gage Halyard

Edwin H Hammond
 Kristen Noel Handberry
 Emma G Hanson
 Morgan Paige Ham
 Lucas Eston Harper
 Laura Elizabeth Harrington
 Kayla Brooke Harris
 Victoria Faith Harris
 Kenneth Winston Harrison
 Margia Hassan
 Charles Bradley Hawkins
 Carl Roland Hayes
 Lillian G Hayes
 Devin Tristian Hazzard
 Elijah James Heath
 Tanner Dean Heathcock
 Emily Amanda Heckler
 Grayson Helton
 Breanna Michelle Hembree
 Mariah Dorothea Henderson
 Astrid M Hernandez
 Brittany Ruby Hernandez
 Diana L Hernandez
 Leslye Ivette Hernandez
 Natalia Herrera
 Brooke Nichole Hester
 Sharon Robin Hewlett
 Michael David Higgins
 Peterson Hilaire
 Linda Hodges Hill
 Parker Weston Hobbs
 Emily Suzanne Holcomb
 EternalJoi Holmes
 Noah E Holton
 Connor Reece Hubbard
 Ashley-Savannah Nell Hunter
 Megan Jo Hunter
 Mackenzie Paige Hutcheson
 Robert Whitaker Hutchins
 James Ethan Jackson
 Jerney Camille Jackson
 Alexis Yvonne James
 Reginald O James
 Kathina Jean
 Alesia A Jenkins
 Bailey Cole Johnson
 Cameron Edward Johnson
 Jeffrey Glen Johnson
 Megan Jane Johnson
 Mikayla Teara Johnson
 Tate A Johnson
 Lacinda K Justice
 Koffi Charles Makey
 Robert D. Kelley
 Jeffrey E Kern
 Dillon Jacob Kilpatrick
 Gi Yoon Kim
 Emily B Kiser

Jessica R Knight
 Sanne Marie Louise Kramer
 Sarah Elizabeth Kramer
 Melissa Anne Krause
 Kaliee Jessica Kready
 Aubry Marie Kubik
 Lamin Kuyateh
 Felicha Rachel Laforest
 Bryan C Lallemand
 Xiquera Lambert
 Jillian Paige Lander
 Kacie Renee Lane
 Shermerial Lashay Langford
 Lilly Anita Lawrence
 David E Legg
 Ethan M Lester
 Cory Dylan Lewis
 Crysta Nicole Lewis
 Deyonce K Lewis
 Samantha S Lewis
 Miriam Grace Lister
 Austin Phillip Little
 Savanna Marie Littlejohn
 Vincent Middle Loccisano
 Kirsten E Lockhart
 Walter Ivan Lon Morales
 Rowan Evander Longhurst
 Haley BriAnn Lopez
 Maria Lopez
 Cristopher Lopez Cortes
 Jocelyn Jazmin Lopez Escamilla
 David L Lowe
 Leyda Denisse Lozano-herandez
 Jackson A Lucas
 William Christopher Lucas
 Andrew T Lumpkin
 William Christopher Lundy
 Thien Diep Luu
 Zaire S Mack
 Matthew Madrigal
 Jhon Magana
 Ashley N Manchester
 Abby Rae Manis
 Ashton Louis Manous
 Tamera N Maphenduka
 Isabel Grace Marcotte
 Mara Victoria Mardini
 Nora A Martin
 Kevin Reyes Martines
 Carolina Martinez
 Mallory Rhea Massey
 Joshua Jordan McCrary
 Rhiannon Lei McPherson
 Ana McTier
 Brighton Carol Mccollum
 Ansleigh Nicole Mcemore
 Patrick Lamson Mejia
 Blanca R Melendez

Heidy Judith Mendez
 Jennifer Mendoza
 Manuel Felipe Mendoza
 Ashley A Merrill
 Abigail Helena Michel
 Carmen Idania Mijangos-Melendez
 Anna Kate Miller
 Brooklyn F Miller
 Isaac Michael Miller
 Taylor Nicole Miller
 Kasey Alexandra Mills
 Eric Kofi Minta
 Jordan Lesa Mobbs
 Austin Alexandria Molden
 Lauren Nicole Moore
 Isela S Moraga
 Christopher Omar Morgan
 Harlan Francis Morris
 Madalyn R Morton
 Joel Mosqueda-Arreola
 Megan Ralyne Moss
 Chandler William Mott
 Amber Dawn Munday
 Lesley Janet Munoz-Flores
 Marquaja Shardae Murph
 Ja'Quanna Murray
 Caroline Grace Musco
 Natalie Brianna Myers
 Christina Elizabeth Nardini
 Alexa B Neal
 Shelby Ann Nelon
 Maria Anastasia Newberry
 Matthew Austin Nicholson
 Jimmy R. Nolasco
 Chinelo Adaora Nwokike
 Brittney N Ochoa
 Adaeze Chiadi Osy-odife
 Haley Marie Overton
 Amaria Breshae Owens
 Brooklyn N Owensby
 Kaitlyn Renee Pace
 William Logan Palmer
 Natalie G Parker
 Sara Emily Parker
 Parth Patel
 Sheena Paresha Patel
 Vanessa R Payne
 Nicholas B Pearson
 Amanda R Peetoom
 Teonta Nichole Pegues
 Abigail Perez
 John Foster Perkins
 Matthew Norris Pilchard
 Yathziri Pineda
 Amanda Beth Pittman
 Shelby Lynn Ponder
 Elizabeth Avery Pope
 Jessie Nicole Pope

2021 Graduation Candidates Cont.

Summer Jade Porter
Sierra Rachel Post
Emily G Prewett
Sarah Prom
Haley R Prouty
Alexis Chalice Pullen
Skylar Paige Rakestraw
Bianca Joanna Ramirez
Juan U Ramos
Vanessa Resendiz
Jonathan Tyler Reynolds
Steven Reynolds
Jeffrey Tyler Rhinehart
Chasity Essence Ridore
Kaysha Roberts
Daniel L Robinson
Kelsey D Robinson
Tonya Larose Rodgers
Jacqueline Rodriguez Orozco
Alan J Rogers
Ricardo Sanchez
Ashley Sanders
Ai'Den Q Sanford
Cindy Santos
Palmer Harrison Sapp
Madhavi Olena Scharko
Kaitlyn Seagle
Damon Charles Self
Nekoda Self
Rachael Nicole Self
Devonte Sellers
Hanna K Sewell
Robert Austin Sewell
Amy Kristine Seymour
Analeigh Elizabeth Seymour
Matthew Paul Shambra
Logan Ryann Shepherd
Kathryn R Shortell
Monica Rodrigues Silva
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Camelia Singh
Matthew Quentin Singleton
Marshall Peyton Singley
Aislyn Renee Smith
Breanna Nicole Smith
Ginny P Smith
Seth Charles Smith
Lauren Elizabeth Sowden
Alonna Cree Sparks
Tegan Cheyenne Spence
Donald Herbert Spencer
Ollie Anna Springfield
Amanda J Stanley
Dominic Armand Stephens
Madison Paige Stephenson
Mary Nichole Stevenson
Saphara Paris Stiles
Mikayla R Stockett

Haley Anne Stooksbury
Jana Nichole Stubblefield
Hannah M Studdard
John Robert Surret
Morgan Alysse Swain
Morgan Leigh Swann
Gavin Tyler Tan
Ashley Grace Teefy
Maddox Wright Teems
Alexus Blaire Thompson
Faith J Thompson
Joshua William Thorpe
William Casey Thurmond
Oleg A Tkachenko
Tristen K Tolbert
Peyton Alyssa Tomberlin
Lindsey B Touchstone
Gladys Gaelle Toungue
Jordan B Townsend
Jesus A Trevino
Breanna Michele Tucker
Jack Vaughan Tunnell
Trace Nathaniel Twardoski
Courtney Jeanne Ulmer
Rao Mumin Umar
Isai Uriostegui
Kiarrah Rowanna Vance
Victoria Louise Vaneffen
Gillian Elizabeth Vansciver
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John Matthew Vaughan
Jaylen D Vaughn
Olivia Cynthia Marie Venuti
Crusberto David Vergara
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Holden S Wade
Loren Alexis-Taylor Walker
Jack Hanson Wall
Andrew Zachary Wallace
Matthew Quade Wanner
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Vanessa Marie Washington
Zachariah Glen Watson
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Jacob Scott Welch
Lisa Marie Welch
Andrea Diane Wesley
Haley Michelle West
Destiny T Westmoreland
Madison E Whatley
Benjamin Tyler Whelchel
Austin Douglas White
Allison Rae Whitley
Andrew Corry Wilcoxson
Nikera Williams
TeKirah Monique Williams

TeKirah Monique Williams
Timothy D Williams
Trevor C Williams
Rachel Nicole Wilsey
Destiny Nicole Wilson
Joseph Edward Wilson
Kristopher M Wilson
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Annaleise Wittenmyer
Skylar Tracy Wolfe
Stephanie Anne Woodard
DeAdrienne Lechelle Wright
Ryo Yamazaki
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Jason F Lanyon

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Lesleigh Amber Middleton
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Paul Mock
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Wendy Jill Mull
Sarah J Murray
Katherine Anne Newman
Morgan A Ong
Kourtney Leeanne Perry
Samantha E Perry
Julie Anne Pike
Jacqueline Pineda
Ashley Lauren Pottinger
Aleesha Louise Primos
Riley James Purdy
Kasey Hope Quick
Amber Marie Riley
Kristen Nicole Rivers
Emily Robertson
Heather Rogers
Kayla Ellen Rogers
Madison Odom Rogers
Tiesha Michelle Rogers
Leah Nichole Rowell
River Jannon Russell
Ashley Dakota Sanders
Megan Noel Sawyer
Anna Elaine Schreier
Reginald Lamar Scott
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Mackenzie Linn Thornton
Christine Jasmin Valdes
Brooke Liz Walker
Kassie Danielle West
Vanessa Renea West
Mary Elizabeth Whitner
Erin C Wilder
Jeanene F Wolk
Marlee Nicole Wright

Bachelor of Business Administration:

Guillermo Aguilar
Yajaira Yasmin Aguilar

2021 Graduation Candidates Cont.

Daniel Thomas Belisle
 Nora Germaine Berry
 Camden Brooke Bridges
 Joria Sianne Brooks
 Jacob A Brown
 Kaylen R Brown
 Maxxi Lynn Bryant
 Nancy Wangechi Chiuri
 Collin Ryan Coleman
 Chastidy Marie Collins
 Nicole Lydia Corrao
 Michele Liddle Crowe
 Destiny Nicole Dial
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 Zachary Eaves
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 Daniel Jonathan Fabry
 Jessica N Geiger
 Erica Renee' Geise
 Courtney Lynn Godfrey
 Grayson Cooper Grimes
 Stephen Holsten Harmon
 Megan Taylor Harris
 Sharon L Hostler
 Eric T Jones
 Bailee Darlene Kerr

Noora M Khateeb Jabara
 Jacob Dylan Klein
 Kayla Elizabeth Legg
 Tiffany Rebecca Loera
 Rowan Evander Longhurst
 Cherish E Lowery
 Raul Enrique Madrid
 Haleigh Elizabeth Mckenzie
 Kristi Nicole Medley
 Trent D Mull
 Breanna Jean Normandy
 Breyuna Symone Olayanju
 Maria Edith Palmerin Palmerin
 Lakeshia Eason Pendleton
 Michael Stephen Peters
 Kayla Winona Phillips
 Kristen LeAnn Phillips
 Kymberly Lynn Postell
 Matia Celine Probus
 Alexis Chalice Pullen
 Meghan Lynn Shelton
 Kari Elizabeth Soeder
 Victoria Leighann Stafford
 Georgia Claire Steele
 Tiffany A Stewart
 Keifer Elijah Stroup

Shakira Monique Tennyson
 Kaylyn Lee Tomlin
 John Matthew Vaughan
 Jaylen D Vaughn
 Taitt E Vosatka
 Alonzo Dakariai Wallace
 Macy Mae Wallace
 Marah Shea Warren
 Zachariah Glen Watson
 Andrea Diane Wesley
 Blake Thomas Wilson
 Breana Rose Wisniewski

Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice:

Joshua T Conant
 Janahi Contreras
 Darrell B Dunn
 Breanna Lee Moore
 Kevin James Morang
 Richard D Peck
 Tommy Dante Ray
 Joel Keith Stroupe

William S Wacker

Bachelor of Science, Health Science:

Shelby Ann Nelson

Bachelor of Science, Nursing:

Shirley Ann Bryant
 Kyleigh Belle Carney
 Leonard V Carrese
 Deborah Pettyjohn Dobbins
 Joseph Clayton Foster
 Heather Leigh Gooch
 Taniesha Neichell Harrison
 Johntavious J Johnson
 Matthew A King
 Kaitlen Danielle Kiser
 Amanda Lee Lewis
 Giselle Martinez

Laura Dee Martinez
 Melissa Michelle Mestizo
 Rebeka L Neal
 Jordan Kyle Osteen
 Laquisha Q Pillow
 Jolie Alexis Puckett
 Princesa Maritza Reyes
 Shervonna Norvette Richardson
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Art by Russell Chesnut



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24/7 MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT LINE:
1-833-855-0082



Thrive@GHC
Webpage

<https://sites.highlands.edu/student-support-services/thrive-ghc/>

FasPsych

Free psychiatric services for currently enrolled GHC students; services include evaluation, as well as medication and prescription management.

FasPsych services available:
 Mon-Fri 11:00-7:00, Sat 9:00-3:00

Please contact GHC's Counseling services sss@highlands.edu for scheduling and referral.

ICARE

Research-supported, internet-based and mobile-friendly self-guided cognitive behavioral training (ICBT) developed specifically for college students experiencing depression, anxiety, or both who do not need psychotherapy.

Please contact GHC's Counseling services sss@highlands.edu for scheduling and referral.

Thrive@GHC is a part of the University System of Georgia Mental Health Initiative.

Don't miss these summer events

By Alexis Johnson
Entertainment Editor

No one was expecting a season of canceled vacations and social distancing, but that doesn't mean there's nothing to do during the warmest and most enjoyable part of the year. Here is a list of local things to do this summer to check out and put down on the calendar.

ENTERTAINMENT IDEAS ANY TIME

Blended Smoothie & Juice Bar

Address: 4215 Jimmy Lee Smith Pkwy Suite 21, Hiram, GA 30141

Blended Smoothie & Juice Bar has been serving Paulding County since 2017. It is a healthy lifestyle company whose mission is to blend health, taste and community. They have smoothie bowls, smoothies, protein shakes, power juice shots and different blends to fit your health needs. All of their detoxes and cleanses can be ordered online at <https://www.blendedbars.com/> for pickup and curbside. They offer catering options and provide healthy drinks at events, private parties and more.

Qualusi Vineyards

Address: 440 Blossom Trl, Acworth, GA 30101

Qualusi Vineyards are family-owned and operated by the Gilbert family. They honor the Cherokee natives' land with the name Qualusi which means grapes in their native language. Qualusi vineyard is a family and pet-friendly environment with large outdoor areas set among the vines. Indoor seating is also available. On most weekends, they have live music, wine and local food trucks. Check out their calendar for a list of upcoming events at <https://www.qualusivineyards.com/>.

Dallas Theatre Rental

Address: 121 E Griffin St, Dallas, GA 30132

Is there a birthday, anniversary or special event to celebrate? Think about playing a favorite movie on the big screen with family and friends. The Dallas Theater is available to rent for a private family movie night. Grab some snacks and favorite Blue-Ray or DVD to watch on the big screen! Visit <https://dallastheaterga.com/> for more info.

Motherhood Blessings

Address: 9453 GA-5, Douglasville, GA 30135

SIP. PAINT. RELAX. Painting with a Twist offers sip & paint parties and they have a special Mother's Day class going on. Masks are required for this special event. It's 18 and up after 6 p.m. and it's BYOB. The class is \$38 per person and is from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Learn more at <https://www.paintingwithatwist.com/>.

SCHEDULED EVENTS LIST

May Market at Rose Lawn

Address: 224 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120

The two-day festival features handmade arts & crafts and southern food and garden products. The festival highlights 200 heirloom roses blooming on the grounds of the historic home of Rev. Sam Jones. Take a Victorian House Museum tour. Enjoy two full days of musical entertainment. Shop and learn at the Bartow County Master Gardeners Spring Plant sale. Sample a variety of fresh foods and delicious treats. Admission is free and it happens on May 1-2.

Farmer's Market at Ridge Ferry Park

Address: 363 Riverside Pkwy NE, Rome, GA 30161

Support local farmers and artisans at the Farmer's Market at Ridge Ferry Park in Rome for fresh produce, meat, eggs, dairy, canned items and homemade crafts. A special event is happening May 8, from 7-11 a.m. It's also open Wednesdays and Saturdays from June 2 through October 17.

Flourish Networking for Women

Address: 1124 N Tennessee St STE 103, Cartersville, GA

The Flourish Network and Flourish Networking for Women meet-ups and events are all about helping individuals grow and be successful. They are a non-compete business network for women. At their meet-ups and events, there will only be one business type represented per attendee. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. The event is on May 18, from 10:30-12 a.m. Get more info at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Atlanta Funk Fest (Two Day Pass)

Location: The Home Depot Backyard, 1 AMB Drive Northwest, Atlanta, GA 30313

What was initially set for 2020 is now happening on May 29. The star-studded event lineup includes The Dream, Lil Kim, Missy Elliot, Ludacris and many more. Visit your favorite major ticketing site for details.

Sprint Extreme Car Show 2021

Address: 305 Market Place Blvd, Cartersville, GA.

Spring Extreme car show 2021 will take place at on June 5, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Cartersville Mardi Gras Benefit 2021

The 10th Annual Mardi-Gras Benefit Gala, presented by Glenda Mitchell Law Firm, will be held June 11, from 7-11:30 p.m. at the Clarence Brown Conference Center. All attendees must be 21 or older, and proceeds will support the Red Door Food Pantry at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension and their charities.

Tickets include a New Orleans style dinner and open bar stocked with beer and wine. Visit www.cartersvillemardigras.com for details.

Lost Art Music Festival

Address: 8000 Capps Ferry Rd, Douglasville, GA 30135

The Lost Art Music Festival presented by Cathead Distillery will be on June 12, from 12-10 p.m. The festival takes place at the Foxhall Resort in Douglasville with a lineup featuring St. Paul & the Broken Bones, Shovels & Rope, The War and Treaty, Ben Nichols of Lucero and The Pink Stones, plus a Friday Night Kickoff Show with Aaron Lee Tasjan. Visit <https://lostartmusicfest.com/> for ticket info.

The Weekend

Abel is coming to town! The Weekend is performing in Atlanta on July 13, at the State Farm Arena. He is set to perform songs off of his hit 2020 release "After Hours." Tickets are available now at all major retail sites.

Def Leppard/Mötley Crüe/Poison/Joan Jett and the Blackhearts

Location: Truist Park, Atlanta, GA.

Def Leppard, Mötley Crüe, Poison and Joan Jett and the Blackhearts are back for the Joint Stadium Tour on August 15. Tickets are now available at all major ticketing sites.

What summer plans do you have that you are most excited about?



Hakeem Khati Floyd Campus

"I'm taking English with Ms. Wheeler this summer. I'm excited!"



Derick Garcia Floyd Campus

"I'm excited about going to the beach in Florida."



Nya Powell Floyd Campus

"I am looking forward to traveling to Tennessee and exploring Chattanooga."

MLB moves All-Star Game from Georgia



Sports Commentary

By Brandon Dyer
Sports Editor

The 91st annual Major League Baseball (MLB) All-Star Game was planned to be held at Truist Park, the home of the Atlanta Braves, but that all changed on April 2 when MLB commissioner, Robert Manfred, announced they would be moving the All-Star Game due to new voting laws in the state of Georgia.

I think the MLB made the right decision on behalf of the players to move the All-Star Game out of Atlanta.

Manfred released a statement which said, "Over the last week, we have engaged in thoughtful conversations with clubs, former and current players, the Players Association, and The Players Alliance, among others, to listen to their views. I have decided that the best way to demonstrate our values as a sport is by relocating this year's All-Star Game and MLB Draft."

"Major League Baseball fundamentally supports voting rights for all Americans and opposes restrictions to the ballot box. In 2020, MLB became the first professional sports league to join the non-partisan Civic Alliance to help build a future in which everyone participates in shaping the United States," said Manfred.

Solutions for mass shootings go far beyond gun control

Staff Editorial

We can see that the pandemic is no longer keeping people inside of their homes because mass shootings have returned.

At the time of this writing, the news reports another fatal shooting in Indiana.

According to the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit organization that tracks shootings in America, as of April 17, there have been more than 140 mass shootings in 2021 alone. If we were to average that total among the calendar days since January 1, that means there has been more than one mass shooting per day.

According to a 2019 article posted on npr.org, "How The U.S. Compares With Other Countries In Deaths From Gun Violence" by Nurith Aizenman and Marc Silver, the United States has the 28th highest rate of deaths from gun violence around the world. This is tremendously higher than what is reported in other wealthy countries.

The continued problem of mass shootings through gun violence begs the question, what is America doing to stop it? The answer — not enough.

There is no doubt that deadly shootings are a continued problem in our country. And yet, this problem continues to exist and numbers continue to climb. Why? In large part, because

this has become a highly political topic with people at both ends of the spectrum loudly screaming from their opposing platforms to either ban guns or leave well enough alone.

In truth, the solution to this problem likely lies in the moderate middle. In the gray area. In the place that makes others so uncomfortable because it takes trust, communication and compromise to exist there.

The fact is that we could be doing more than we are to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our neighbors and we just aren't. Things like mental health screenings, longer waiting periods, limits on how many and what types of guns can be owned and how much of an ammunition stockpile is reasonable for one person are all reasonable steps to reduce this problem without taking away a person's right to bear arms. That's the moderate middle. That's the area of compromise that requires everyone to give a little to get a lot — a lot of lives, that is.

Other countries have processes in place that lower the risk of these types of shootings. Japan issues tests before a citizen can own a gun. The U.K. Parliament is passing laws to ban ownership of semi-automatic firearms and requiring shotgun owners to register their weapons. In the U.S. a background check is the only significant requirement.

"We proudly used our platform to encourage baseball fans and communities throughout our country to perform their civic duty and actively participate in the voting process. Fair access to voting continues to have our game's unwavering support," said Manfred.

If the MLB feels that their players are not comfortable playing in the city, then they shouldn't be forced to.

The new wave of Georgia voting laws that went into effect on March 25 have been met with controversy, with many prominent people within the media calling the bill "Jim Crow 2.0." The new law tightens voting restrictions. The people affected most by the new laws are African American.

The counties that seem to be most affected by the new voting laws would be the most condensed ones, which are also African American majority counties such as Cobb, DeKalb and Fulton.

With the All-Star Game now being moved, sports fans will not have to worry about players choosing to sit out because they do not agree with the new voting law, so moving it will not diminish the overall quality of the game itself.

Hopefully other professional sports leagues can look at the action from the MLB as an example to follow. This might encourage others to have open conversations with players and ask them whether or not they are comfortable participating in these events in the future.

In my opinion, the statement put out by the MLB was courageous. They showed that sometimes there are things that are bigger than sports, and with the whole country watching them, I can personally say that I agree with the action. I hope other leagues follow suit.

Six Mile Post

6mpost@student.highlands.edu

Editor-in-Chief

Olivia Fortner

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Russell Chesnut

News Editor

Jackson Morris

Opinion & Editorials Editor

Online Editor

Mariah Redmond

Entertainment Editor Social Media Manager

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Baseball season breaks records

By **Brandon Dyer**
Sports Editor

It has been a record-breaking season for the GHC baseball team and Head Coach Dash O'Neill. As of April 17, the Chargers had a 36-6 record, the best record through their first 42 games in program history. 25 of those wins came at home while the other seven came on the road.

Though the Chargers were ranked nationally earlier in the season, as of April 17, they are no longer nationally ranked. But they are right on the outside looking in. They had the second most receiving votes of a team that did not get into the top 20.

O'Neill said, "As far as getting higher ranks and staying ranked, we have to make some noise in the post season and have sustained success.

"If you're not from Florida, Texas or Kansas — the three conferences regarded by the national office as the strongest — it can be difficult to get the respect you deserve until you can get into the JUCO World Series and show them in person how good you are."

As of April 17, the Chargers were highly ranked in multiple categories, ranking third in stolen bases, 135, and third in shutouts with nine. The Chargers were in the top 15 in multiple categories. Their .361 batting average ranked eighth in the nation and their 19 triples ranked 10th. They ranked 11th in the nation in extra base hits, 149, on base percentage, .463, and doubles, 89. They ranked 12th in runs batted in, 323, 13th in total bases, 680, and sacrifice flies, 22, 14th in hits, 430, and 15th in runs scored, 359.

O'Neill said, "...rankings don't matter once you are out on the field playing the game, and we've got a very good team right now at GHC. There isn't another group in the country I would trade them for."

The Chargers have a high-ranking offense, scoring 8.5 runs per game as of April 17. Freshman outfielder, Connor Todaro, led the team in batting average at .469. He is also tied with sophomore infielder, Palmer Sapp, for the most triples on the team, both sitting at four. Todaro also leads the team in hits with 67 and runs with 50.

Sapp leads the team in runs batted in,

with 50, and slugging percentage, .717. He was also second on the team in batting average, .442, hits, 53, and on base percentage, .517.

David Smith led the team in home runs and is second on the team in runs batted in, with 46, while being tied with freshman infielder, Joe Sutton, for second on the team in runs, with both players having 41. Sutton is also third on the team in hits.

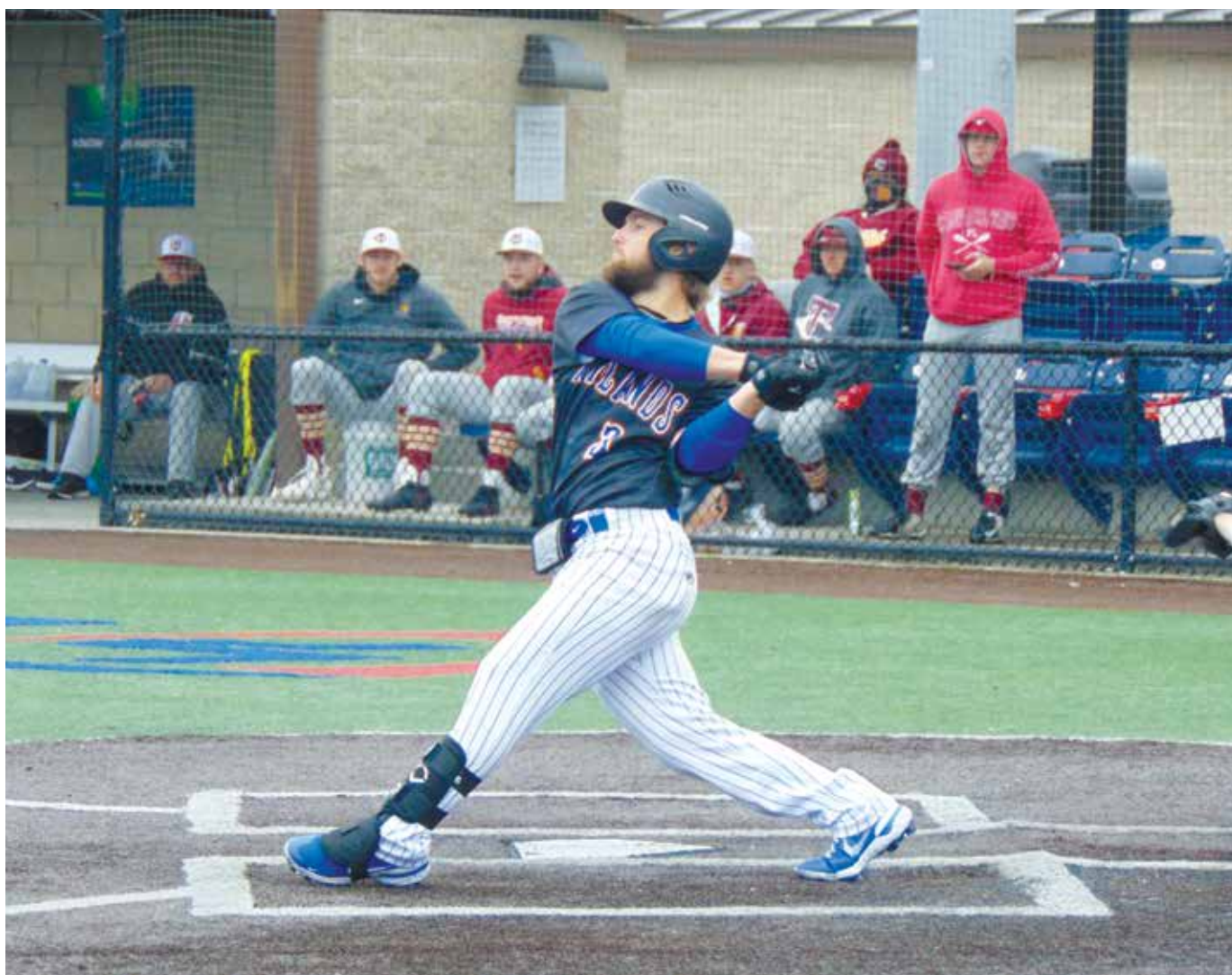
The Chargers have seen multiple pitchers have good seasons. Johnny Dow threw GHC's first ever no-hitter earlier this year on February 7, against Snead State.

As of April 17, Dow led the nation in shutouts this season with three. His 1.39 ERA ranked seventh in the nation, while his five complete games rank third. Dow was 7-0 as of April 17, with his seven wins ranking 14th in the nation.

"I could not be more proud of Johnny Dow and the rest of our athletes. What these guys have done in the circumstances we have been faced with is remarkable, and I am just humbled and proud to get to go to work with them every day. This is one of the most resilient, mentally tough teams I have ever been a part of," said O'Neill.

Freshman pitcher, Chase Townsend, has started the most games for the Chargers this season, with 10. His 52.2 inning pitched is good for second most on the team, only trailing Dow. Townsend, Dow and freshman pitcher, Connor Perry, are all tied for the team lead in wins, with seven a piece. Perry's 3.2 era is good enough for second on the team, trailing only Dow.

As of April 17, the Chargers were in a prominent position to make a run in the GCAA tournament and possibly a deep playoff run in their path to the JUCO World Series.



Palmer Sapp bats against the Triton College Trojans at Lake Point Center in Emerson, GA in the March 2 game. Photo by Brandon Dyer.

Lady Chargers win first NJCAA tournament round

By Brandon Dyer
Sports Editor

Bringing home a 65-62 win against the Southern Idaho Golden Eagles in their April 19, NJCAA National Tournament game, the Lady Chargers Basketball team shows fans that they aren't going down without a fight.

The scoring started late for both teams, with the Lady Chargers being outscored 16-13 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Chargers shot just 27 percent from the field, making five of their 18 shots in the first quarter.

The Lady Chargers were able to score 21 points in the second quarter despite only making eight field goals in the quarter. They were able to get to the free throw line 15 times in the quarter, making 11 of them.

At half, none of the Lady Chargers had made multiple field goals. Three players tied for the team lead in points, Jada Alston, Sasha Shishkina and Jashanti Simmons, all

having three points. The Lady Chargers went into halftime with a 34-32 lead.

The offensive struggles for the Lady Chargers continued at the start of the second half, scoring only 12 points in the third quarter. Crystal Corley was the only player to score multiple field goals in the third quarter, scoring five points. With just one quarter remaining, the Lady Chargers trailed 49-46.

The fourth quarter was tight throughout. The game was tied 55-55 with just over four minutes left to play. It would be nearly two minutes before the Lady Chargers would score again, allowing Southern Idaho to build a seven-point lead before making another basket.

Southern Idaho held a 62-55 lead with two and a half minutes on the clock, but the Lady Chargers did not give up. They went on an 8-0 run over the next two minutes of the game, getting the lead back with 53 seconds remain-

ing.

Sophomore forward, Rasheka Simmons, made two more free throws in the final minute to bring the Lady Chargers' lead to three points. Southern Idaho missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer, securing the Lady Chargers win.

Freshman guard, Jashanti Simmons, led the team in points, scoring 16. The only other starter to score in double digits was sophomore forward, Sasha Shishkina, who scored 11 points. While sophomore forward, O'Mariyah Tucker, only had six points, she also had 10 rebounds.

The biggest help for the Lady Chargers came from the bench. Sophomore forwards, Rasheka Simmons and Crystal Corley, were able to combine for 22 points coming off the bench and combining for 10 rebounds.

At print time, the Lady Chargers will face South Plains College next on April 20. For a full tournament recap and season updates check <https://sixmilepost.com/category/>.

Softball team finds rhythm after full quarantine

By Brandon Dyer
Sports Editor

After a shortened 23 game season in 2020, when the GHC Lady Chargers softball team went 12-11 with a .522 winning percentage, fans hoped for a similar track this year.

As of April 19, the Lady Chargers were 11-18 on the season and their .379 win percentage is their lowest since 2016.

"The team has experienced a lot this season," said Head Softball Coach Savannah Sloan.

"At the start of the season, we had to go into a full team quarantine for the first time. During this quarantine, we had another athlete test positive.

"The team was scheduled to come out of quarantine just in time to make our first trip of the season to Clearwater, FL. While most of the team was able to go, one apartment had to stay behind and finish an extended quarantine. Once the final quarantine ended, integrating the ones who missed the Florida trip was harder than expected. They felt as though they were behind, so at first, they were pressing too hard."

The Lady Chargers showed promise early in the season, starting 4-2, but that quickly turned

when they lost eight of their next nine games.

Sloan said, "Very early we found out that all our Tennessee dates that we scheduled to play would have to be canceled... I began looking for other schools with availability to play, but I was only able to pick up one or two in place of the six that we lost. This made it hard to get into a rhythm as a team."

As of April 19, the Lady Chargers were ranked below 100 in 15 of the 25 team stats by the

NJCAA. Their highest statistical standing, in opponent batting average, ranked 25. Their lowest statistical standing, in on base percentage, ranked 143.

"We have been able to catch a solid rhythm recently," said Sloan. "The season is coming to an end, so as a coach, I am glad to be hitting our stride in this moment."

As of April 19, freshman infielders Madison Bennett and Izzy Marcotte are the only two players to play in every game for the Lady Chargers this season.

Bennett led the team with 98 at bats, while also leading the team in hits, with 31. Her 13 stolen bases were the most on the team, 10 more than the next person on the team. Bennett is also second on the team in runs, with 25, and doubles, with six.

"Madison Bennett and Izzy Marcotte have been a very vital part of our lineup. What is making them successful is their consistency. Neither of them gets too high or too low in any situation. They don't take the game too seriously," said Sloan.

Marcotte is the only person with more runs than Bennett, with 31. Her nine home runs are four more than the next closest player on the team. Marcotte leads the team in runs batted in, with 26, with no other Lady Charger having more than 16.

As of April 19, freshman infielder Hailey Chronic led the team in batting average, with .412. Her on base percentage of .455 is the second best on the team, trailing only Marcotte.

Freshmen infielders, Natalia Herrera and Lacey Rutledge, have had success as well, with both having 16 runs batted in, tied for second on the team.

Herrera was second on the

team in home runs, with five, and Rutledge led the team in doubles, with six.

As of April 19, freshman pitcher, Montana Ledbetter, has started the most games for the Lady Chargers, with 12.

Ledbetter is the only pitcher with a winning record on the team, sitting at 6-4 on the season. Her 81 strikeouts are the most on the team, and her 3.91 ERA is second best, trailing only fellow freshman pitcher, Madalyn Morton, who has a 3.42 ERA.

Morton leads the team in innings pitched, with 69.2. While Morton has a 4-6 record on the season, she has allowed the fewest runs.

While the Lady Chargers sit at 11-18 as of April 19, the team still has some upside to it and plenty to look forward to next season.

Sloan said, "...softball is a sport that you must play. It is not a job.

"Many of the girls are beginning to grasp this concept, and our lineup is coming together. Our bench is deep, as well, meaning no matter who is in the lineup, they can get the job done."

"We are looking to finish out a great season, and shooting for Nationals," said Sloan.



Izzy Marcotte looks to make a play in a game against Gordon State College on April 7, at Stars Field in Cartersville, GA. Photo by Brandon Dyer.