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The Student Voice

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Douglasville campus to close permanently

By Fay Durham

The Douglasville campus is closing its doors spring of 2022 due to low enrollment.

Interim President, Dana Nichols, said in a press release that "We will continue our commitment to engage with future students in the Douglas County area just as we work with students in the surrounding counties around each of our locations, offering remote options and in-person learning at our nearby Paulding site."

Dean of the School of Business

and Professional Studies, Melanie Largin, is the interim site director of the Douglasville campus. She previously taught classes at Douglasville for 5 years. Largin has kept an open door policy for her office located in the Douglasville campus since the announcement of its closure.

Largin said the decision to close the location was made because of the decline in enrollment at Douglasville seen due to COVID-19 and how those enrollment numbers haven't rebounded.

The Douglasville campus opened to students in 2010. The campus moved locations in 2020 to the former Bill Arp Elementary School.

Douglasville student, Kate Morgan, said "I loved the old campus, that was what I set my opinion of the Douglasville campus off of . . . when I heard that this (the current location) was closing, I was upset. But now looking back I can see how it ended up this way."

Morgan said "I've attended the Douglasville campus for almost

three years . . . at least I got to enjoy it (the campus) while it was still here."

Douglasville student, Johnathan Lambertis, said "I have really enjoyed the time I've had here."

Many of the Douglasville students and faculty enjoyed the campus because of the short commute.

Morgan said "The main thing I like about the Douglasville campus is the commute, it's 15 minutes from where I live."

There are currently 135 students attending the Doug-

lasville campus. Douglasville students will still have the option to take classes at any GHC location or to learn digitally.

Largin said students can go "to our Paulding site in Dallas and our Marietta site where a full range of classes will be available . . . Most importantly, students will have access to advising."

Largin then said that the closing "is sad and I think we have to recognize that, but at the same time this will open new opportunities for students."



The Douglasville campus operates in the Murray Educational Center. Starting in 2022, students will have the option to continue classes virtually or on a different campus. *Photo by Ashley Hall*

After 16 years, Marietta campus moves locations

By Daniel Ortiz
Guest Writer

The Marietta campus is moving away from their current location at 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, which is jointly shared with Kennesaw State University. The new location will be at 1090 Northchase Pkwy according to the Marietta Campus Dean, Ken Reaves.

According to Vice President for Finance and Administration, Jamie Petty, spring 2021 will be the last semester held at the current location with the summer 2022 semester as the official start date for the new location.

GHC has been at their current location since 2005. Reaves said that the move was due to KSU needing more room on the Marietta site.

The process of moving had been initiated about "a year and a half or two years ago, now," said Petty.

"They came to us, they came to Dr. Green (the former President), actually . . . that really spurred everything as far as us looking to find us a location," said Reaves.

According to Petty, one of the criteria in selecting the new location was "to keep around the same cost that it was costing us to be at KSU," among other considerations like having sufficient square footage, classrooms and offices.

The new location has 21,000 square feet. Petty mentioned that the new location is on the same bus line that services the current

site, so students who currently use the service will continue to be able to do so.

Students attending the Marietta location can participate in KSU intramurals, student organizations and collegiate sporting events. They can also use the dining halls, library and student center.

Marietta student, Cameron Knudstrup, said that the amenities, environment, and the ability to interact with Kennesaw students were his favorite things about the current location. He said that he enjoyed the access to a Chick-fil-A and Starbucks.

"I'm hopeful that we'll be able to continue some of the services that they have here on this (the current) campus," said Reaves, "The new site that we're on won't have those things."

"We're going to have some conversations regarding their (KSU's) wellness center and things like that . . . hopefully we can do some partnerships either with Kennesaw or even some local Planet Fitnesses or whoever in that area," Petty said.

According to both Reaves and Petty, the new location will continue to offer all courses currently offered at the Marietta site.

"The facility will have about eight classroom facilities, two computer classrooms, I think six lecture rooms," Reaves said, "We'll have offices for some of the staff and a common area for our faculty,"

"We just want the best for the students of Cobb County, to give them the best education they can and pursue their educational dreams," Reaves said.



With an anticipated opening set for the summer of 2022, the new Marietta campus will be located at 1090 Northchase Parkway. Only the first floor will be utilized by GHC. Photo provided by Ken Reaves

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New agreement inked between GHC and UGA

By Daniel Ortiz
Guest Writer

Students at Georgia Highlands College now have a new way of transferring to the University of Georgia through a new articulation agreement between the two universities. The agreement allows students to transfer to the UGA Griffin campus to complete a bachelor's degree in microbiology.

Students must complete an amended associates of science in biology at GHC and maintain a 2.8 cumulative GPA in order to be eligible for transfer. This new agreement guarantees GHC students admission into the microbiology program at the UGA Griffin campus.

Interim Dean for the school of STEM at GHC, Jason Christian, said that the degree students will walk away with from the microbiology program is no different than

what is offered at UGA's main campus in Athens.

Brandy Rogers, Interim Division Chair of the Biological Sciences at GHC, said that she thinks the idea is to grow the program on the Griffin campus specifically and that there are plans to put similar agreements in place in the future.

"They (UGA) want our students as much as our students want to go there," said Rogers.

Rogers said that students can benefit from the research environment that the program offers.

Christian said the program has relationships with the Food and Drug Administration and the CDC.

"They (UGA representatives) were talking about students who had gone directly into working for the CDC," said Rogers "so lots of opportunity that you maybe wouldn't think of right off the bat, more opportunity than just microbes on a plate."

Christian quoted a UGA

representative in saying, "This isn't the program if you want to go to Athens and party, this is the program if you want to be career ready, job ready and have a very strong degree that will take you anywhere, international or nationally."

Biology major and Floyd campus student, Cole Alexander, plans to transfer to UGA.

Alexander said that even though he has a GPA that he is proud of, it is very good to know that he has a guaranteed pathway into UGA.

Alexander said the program was "way more attractive" than the traditional transfer pathway.

Christian said that a trip is being planned to visit the UGA Griffin campus around February for interested students. Interested parties can reach out to their advisors, Christian or any biology faculty for more information about the program.



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'Deaf' is not a bad word: ASL event teaches students deaf etiquette



From left, Information Specialist, Debby Zeigler, has worked at GHC for 29 years and was previously a counselor for the deaf and hard-of-hearing program. Admissions Counselor, Trish Lindsey, is certified in ASL. *Photo by Abby Chesnut*

By Russell Chesnut

Students were given hands-on experience with American Sign Language and insight into the deaf community at Student Engagement's ASL basics event on Oct. 18.

Information Specialist, Debby Zeigler, and Admissions Counselor, Trish Lindsey, led the class of 17 over Zoom and in person. Rebecca Cowan-Story translated for Zeigler, who was born deaf and uses ASL to communicate.

Lindsey and Zeigler used a slide presentation to teach the attendees how to sign the alphabet, colors, basic greetings and questions. The audience was encouraged to follow along to practice.

"I learned how to sign an entire sentence," said Samantha Lewis, Cartersville student, "I was able to say it to our host and it genuinely made me happy."

The event included a conversation about etiquette for communicating with those who are deaf.

"Speak directly and clearly," said Lindsey, "Don't feel like you've got to talk any slower. Definitely

don't speak up. Just keep talking normally."

Lindsey said that even if there is an interpreter present, the speaker should still face and speak directly to the person they are communicating with.

Lindsey emphasized that using facial expressions when speaking to deaf individuals helps to convey meaning when signing.

"For example," said Lindsey, "if I'm telling you I'm really upset about something, I'm not going to sit here and have a smile on my face, right? I'm going to look really upset about it, or I'm going to look really confused, or whatever that emotion is. You're matching that with your face."

The presentation included a list of do's and don'ts to follow when communicating with deaf individuals.

"Number one: 'Deaf' is not a bad word," said Lindsey, "One of the things that is important to know is it's not a hearing impairment for them."

Zeigler said "the term 'hearing impairment' itself really is offensive today to many people. It is very offensive to me."

Terminology like "hearing impaired," "deaf-mute" and "deaf and dumb" can be misleading and harmful when used to describe individuals who are deaf.

"When they say that I'm hearing impaired, I'm like 'ugh!'" said Zeigler, "It's almost like . . . If I were to drag my nails on the chalkboard."

"A lot of people in the deaf community do not look at deafness as an impairment, because there's nothing that they cannot do," said Lindsey.

"If she (Zeigler) wants to go sit at a concert, she can go sit at a concert," said Lindsey, "She drives. She goes to work. She goes and does all of these things we typically would do as just any other person who can hear."

"So, for her that's not an impairment. That's just who she is," Lindsey said.

An example of a hearing impairment would be if someone who grew up hearing lost their ability to hear.

"I walked away more aware of how to approach someone who is deaf," said Lewis.

Student Engagement is using the ASL basics event to see if

there is interest in an ASL club or certification course in the future.

Lewis says that if the certification course becomes a reality, she will be the first person to sign up for it.

"I would love to be fluent in ASL," said Lewis, "I would use it to my advantage. I don't have many friends in my community who are deaf, so I would come at

it from a community outreach type of thing. Educating my community and learning from them while I help teach them."

"I hope they set that up, the ASL club," said Zeigler, "I think that would be wonderful for everyone. I think it'll be great for them (students) to learn how to sign, how to communicate with other deaf people."



Cartersville Student, Samantha Lewis, practices ASL by signing to Debby Zeigler, Information Specialist. *Photo by Abby Chesnut*

Film Society Club now accepting new members

By Ashley Hall

The Film Society Club has been officially approved for the spring semester of 2022. The club will serve as the creative meeting place for all students — not just film majors — to congregate and share in their love of everything cinema.

The first official meeting of the club took place on Thursday, Nov. 4. The vision of the club was presented to the four students that attended. The club will not have any official activity until the second meeting on Dec. 2 at 2 p.m., where officer elections will take place. Officer positions include president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Floyd campus student and film production major, Damon Self, is the current acting president of the club and expects to

officially hold the position once the club is fully formed.

The idea was initially proposed by Tristen Tolbert, former president of the Student Government Association and current Floyd campus gaming club president. He is expected to become the Film Society Club's vice president.

The faculty adviser for the club will be Seth Ingram, Division Chair of Film and Theater, as well as the Executive Director of the Rome International Film Festival. Ingram hopes to put the approved SGA budget to good use by funding student film projects and hosting a film festival for GHC.

Film studies is "very new to this school, and I know there are a lot of creatives," said Self, "There are a lot of hidden talents out there that people don't even know that they have yet."

"We'll let the students run the show," said Ingram, "so I want to just throw out the ideas to them and let them pick and form what the projects that we focus on are."

Possible activities for the club include hosting film screenings, bringing in special guest speakers from the film industry and having students create their own short films.

"Another option," Ingram said, "will be for students to attend film festival screenings or maybe go to some conferences that are focused on the film industry."

Ingram, Self and Tolbert, who are all leading the Film Society Club, are also closely involved with the Rome International Film Festival.

"For novice filmmakers," said Tolbert, "the festival is the place to go."

The RIFF affords many opportunities for

networking and showcasing for up-and-coming film industry workers. This year's RIFF took place Nov. 11 to 14 and will return next fall.

Self and Tolbert said the film industry has a plethora of skills that can be applied outside of the industry. Networking, equipment training, video and audio editing, creative writing and teambuilding. According to Tolbert, now is the right time for interested individuals to get involved.

"Even if you're not interested in going into film production as a career, there's still a love of cinema and I think that's shared across any discipline . . . We really don't want this to be exclusively for film students," said Ingram.

Students who are interested can contact Seth Ingram at singram@highlands.edu.

Student design project installed in Cartersville library

By Ammad Caesar

The Digital Art and Design Foundations class has a new project installation in the Cartersville Library. The installation features posters from five students that explain the seven elements and principles of design. The posters demonstrate two of the traits to show an understanding of the material.

The class itself is new to the campus, fall of 2021 being its second semester. The class only has five students but is working hard to grow in size. Professor of Humanities, Valentina Caver, said the program was started to fill a hole she saw at Highlands.

"The students that take this class or come in to learn the basics of graphic design, they have some artistic knowledge from our classes, but not necessarily digital," Caver said, "We go over how do you take an idea or, the visual idea, and how do you take the knowledge that you have and create it into something that is aligned with the objectives of different projects."

"They (the students) come in a lot of times without the basic knowledge of 2D so we cover that as well. Elements of design, things like line, color, scale, shape, alignment, contrast and space. And how do you take that and communicate a message visually," Caver said.

The project is to demonstrate the students' knowledge of color, fonts, shapes

and different design elements. The students each picked two of the elements of design to display in their posters.

"I chose to use contrast and scale. I used big shapes and contrasting colors to grab the attention of the viewer while also making sure they know what the poster is about. I did not want to make the poster too complicated, so I used big shapes to make a simple design," said Hayden Bryant, a Cartersville student.

"Mine is the art deco looking one, it's the one that's really dark. It's red and green and gold. The elements that I really wanted to focus on were line in shape," said Matthew Perry, a Floyd campus student.

The project allowed Perry to tap into a bit of nostalgia and prepared him for his other current undertakings.

"I'm the student council president and we actually have a Halloween event they were trying to do, so I thought 'Hey, why not get some practice for that event by making a poster for another event?'" Perry said.

The library was closely involved with the new installation. Librarian Jessica Osborne reached out to Caver about putting up the posters in the library to help put a spotlight on the new class and to get people interested.

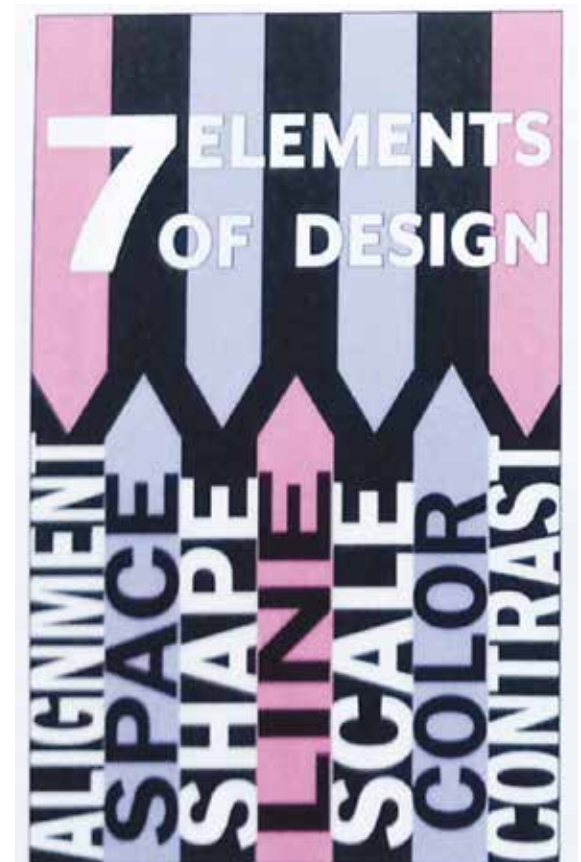
"It could be very good for GHC and for students. Graphic Arts is a field that's in demand. It's also a field that crosses over

into a lot of other fields. So I think it benefits students to know about it," said Osborne, "beyond that, art in the library is important, because this is the first free education in the United States . . . access to education is always free in a library."

The library and Caver plan to continue doing installations of class projects throughout the remainder of the school year. Students have already begun planning their next project.

"I was very pleased with how my poster turned out and I really enjoyed learning more about the program as I designed it," Cartersville Student, Jenna Patterson said. "I am very excited to begin our next project which will mimic the actual process of designing a logo for a client."

The continued projects will educate viewers on the basics of design and share what the new digital art and design class has to offer.



Poster by Jenna Patterson

Winter events happening locally

By Ashley Hall

With the spooky season behind us, the holidays continue with Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the corner. Here's a list of upcoming seasonal events for those who want to indulge in local festivities.

Rome

Turkey Trot

The Turkey Trot is returning to the GHC Floyd Campus on Nov. 17 at 11 a.m. GHC students, faculty and staff are invited to the event, which will follow a course around Paris Lake. There will be food and prizes for participants.

Associate Head Men's Basketball Coach, Greg Schiefen, is coordinating the event.

Address: 3175 Cedartown Hwy, Rome, GA 30161

Contact: gschiefe@highlands.edu

Cartersville

A Country Christmas at Pettit Creek Farms

Pettit Creek Farms will reopen for the Christmas season Thanksgiving night for their Country Christmas event.

Operating hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday, as well as 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday to Saturday.

Tickets for a drive-thru or a hayride through an over a mile long Christmas light display are available online and at the gate. Prices for the drive-thru are \$30 for cars (1-8 people), \$35 for vans (9-15 people) and \$45 for buses (16-22 people) with an additional \$3 for every person over 22 people. Hayrides are \$10 per person ages 2 and up.

A variety of other attractions will be featured at this Southern-style Christmas including pictures with Santa at Santa's Cottage, a nativity and petting zoo and a campfire with s'mores.

Address: 337 Cassville Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120

Contact: 770-386-8688

A Christmas Carol

A stage play of "A Christmas Carol" will be performed at the Legion Theatre in Cartersville from Dec. 3 to 5 and Dec. 10 to 12. The play will begin at 8 p.m. on Dec. 3, 4, 10 and 11 and then 3 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 12. Tickets are \$15 to \$18.

See the classic tale originally written by Charles Dickens unfold on stage. The play was adapted by Will Brooks.

Address: 114 West Main Street Cartersville, GA 30120

Contact: 770-387-2610

Dallas

Festival of Trees

The Dallas Merchants Association is hosting the annual Festival of Trees from Nov. 26 to Dec. 3. The event will take place at the water fountain near the gazebo clearing in downtown Dallas.



Located in downtown Dallas, the Tin Bucket Mercantile's "Forever Christmas" displays seasonal knick-knacks and collectibles. *Photo by Ashley Hall*

Sponsors that sign-up for the event will decorate their trees to fit a theme. The trees will be on display in the gazebo clearing.

Address: 401 Main St, Dallas, GA 30132

Contact: Dallas Merchants Association on Facebook

Dallas Theatre

The Dallas Theatre will be hosting a number of Christmas events throughout December.

The Atlanta Christmas Extravaganza features the Brett McDonald Band that will be performing widely known Christmas music. It will be on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 regular and \$23 discounted.

The Nutcracker play will be showing Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$14 regularly and \$12 discounted.

There will be a free showing of the classic Christmas film "It's a Wonderful Life" on Friday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. It is first come, first serve.

Address: 121 E Griffin St, Dallas, GA 30132

Contact: 770-445-5180

Marietta

Lights of Life

A Christmas light ensemble will be on display at Life University in Marietta from Nov. 25 to Dec. 31.

Open hours are dawn to 9 p.m. from Sunday through Thursday and dawn to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Entry is \$10 per car and \$20 per bus. Other attractions include a petting zoo, pony rides and train rides.

Address: 1269 Barclay Cir., Marietta, GA 30060

Contact: 800-543-3202

Atlanta Area

Momocon Winterfest

The Atlanta video game and anime convention will be returning with their two-day Winterfest event at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. Hours are Sat. Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. to Sun. Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. Registration prices are \$30 for Saturday, \$25 for Sunday and \$40 for both days.

This holiday-themed convention will feature special guests and speakers such as voice actors, comic artists and online personalities including Steve Blum and Anairis Quinones. Art and merchandise vendors will be available to visitors. Vendors can register to sell their merchandise at the convention.

Arcades, tabletop games, panels, tournaments and a cosplay contest will also be featured.

Address: 285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30313

Contact: www.momocon.com

Six Flags Holiday in the Park

Six Flags Over Georgia is being decorated with tinsel and candy canes from Nov. 20 to Jan. 6 for Holiday in the Park.

One-day tickets are \$39.99 per person and 2022 Season Passes are currently available for \$54.99 per person. Parking is \$25.

Hot chocolate will be available from food stands throughout the park with the option to purchase a Holiday in the Park souvenir cup for discounted refills.

A train ride hosted by Mrs. Claus will carry visitors around the park through a Christmas light display.

Address: 275 Riverside Pkwy, Austell, GA 30168

Contact: 770-739-3400

Squid Game delivers plenty of gore in a compelling story

By Ammad Caesar

The 2021 South Korean Netflix series, "Squid Game," is a brutal and intriguing exercise in balancing extreme elements of horror and dystopian sci-fi. It does so in a story that has characters that are funny, likeable and most importantly, human.

With an enormous body count, the show will surely satisfy gorehounds and horror fans, but may be too much for anyone who is squeamish or has a weak stomach.

The series, directed by Hwang Dong-Hyuk, begins with the introduction of Gi-Hun, a father who is down on his luck and has a serious gambling addiction.

What seems like the setup for a grounded story based in reality is quickly disrupted. A mysterious stranger appears and offers to help Gi-hun pay off his debts if he participates in a series of unspecified games. This is where things take a sharp left turn from the realistic k-drama into the realm of a dystopian nightmare.

The show dives into a series of games where the penalty for losing is death. The characters will seemingly do anything to be

the last one standing and win the cash prize. Faceless guards watch the players' every move as they struggle to survive.

Players are pitted against each other in a series of increasingly complex challenges disguised as children's games. The games are designed to bring them to their breaking point through psychological torture and extreme violence.

As the characters form alliances and rivalries, each person's backstory of how they ended up in the games is revealed: a man sold his mother's house to pay his debts, several parents wanted to provide for their families, greedy gang members got too deep in debt and an old man has a terminal illness.

On top of all that, most of this is revealed within the first episode, just barely scratching the surface of what "Squid Game" has to offer.

Be forewarned, "Squid Game" is not for those who cannot handle extreme amounts of violence. While not always showcasing the most creative kills, the show always makes sure that each individual death is seen and felt in a way that borders on sadism.



In the Netflix series "Squid Game," masked guards are seen wearing pink-hooded jumpsuits that frequently become splattered with blood. Art by Russell Chesnut

The violence is not without reason though, as it shows just how far the characters are willing to go to win the games.

Overall, "Squid Game" has a lot

to offer in its compelling story and complex characters, but may be divisive to some due to its over-the-top bloody mayhem.

For anyone with nine hours to

spare and a hunger for hyper-violent media, "Squid Game" is highly recommended.

Nightbooks is a lesson in self-acceptance disguised as an adventure

By Ashley Hall

"Nightbooks," a novel written by J.A. White, is a fairy tale thriller released in 2018 that is targeted towards children ages 8 to 12. The story has its fair share of suspense, mystery and themes that scarily reflect reality through believable characters.

"Nightbooks" follows 12-year-old Alex Mosher, a boy with a creative mind and an affinity for everything that goes bump in the night. Unfortunately, Alex is ashamed of these two virtues, going so far as to attempt to destroy his own scary stories that he houses in simple composition notebooks. He calls these his nightbooks.

The set-up of the story is fast-paced, the writing seemingly trying to get readers to the meat of the story as fast as possible. As a result, the reading can be a bit jarring as the readers are thrown into the plot. However, this is

reflective of how Alex found himself pulled into the magical apartment of the sadistic witch, Natacha.

After his imprisonment, Alex learns something that becomes integral to his survival only three chapters into the 22 chapter novel: Natacha likes scary stories.

Despite Alex being held captive by a literal witch with seemingly unlimited power, the fear of being one's self turned out to be the scariest thing in the book.

Alex didn't want to be the boy that loved zombies and ghosts, he wanted to be normal like the other kids. This meant throwing away his nightbooks full of his scary stories and vowing not to write anymore.

It is only through his trials trapped in Natacha's apartment, alongside fellow prisoner Yasmin, that Alex realizes he has no reason to be ashamed of who he is. In the end, his stories are what save his life and the lives of others.

Self-acceptance is an issue that hits close to home for

an abundance of kids that grew up being called the weird ones—the outcasts. I was one of those kids and embracing myself was something that took time to accomplish.

Speaking from experience, I think this is an excellent theme to include in the story because it's something that needs to be told to children early in their lives. No one should ever try to turn themselves into someone they're not just to please other people.

"'Maybe it's not just me who's weird,' Alex thought. 'Maybe we're all weird in different ways,'" said White in the book.

Netflix released a film adaptation of the book on Sept. 15, and I for one can't wait to see how the world of "Nightbooks" is brought to life. A sequel called "Gravebooks" is set to release Aug. 16, 2022. This is something to look forward to when Halloween rolls around again next year.



Art by Conner Arrington

Bo Burnham's 'Inside' tells dangerous truths about the internet

By Fay Durham

Bo Burnham's "Inside," released on Netflix May 30, isn't just any special — it is an unforgettable masterpiece.

The special portrays many painful yet real emotions that Burnham and millions of other people have experienced due to the quarantine and mass isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Inside" shows Burnham struggling with his own self-isolation and mental disorders.

"Welcome to the Internet" is a song that transparently advertises the internet and its many possibilities. One theme in this song is how the internet has permanently changed the world we live in.

We use the internet to receive news and information quicker than ever before. The internet has its benefits but it also provides us with many problems.

Computer science major, Holt Brewster,

said "I struggled with an addiction to the internet and it stunted my social skills a decent amount."

Everything about this song is beautifully hypnotic, from the music to the lyrical flow. The song is an intense display of many aspects of the internet.

Brewster said "It's (a song) I've actually gone back and listened to a few times."

In the lyrics of "Welcome to the Internet," Burnham said, "Here's a tip for straining pasta. Here's a nine-year-old who died. We got movies, and doctors, and fantasy sports."

Ethan Gist, computer science major, said "Before the internet people would spend hours (in libraries) finding information you can get in seconds now."

The internet gives its users unlimited possibilities, which can make it a very dangerous place.

Gist said "People can lose sight of their productivity just from being on social media so

much. It's a big time consumer."

Burnham says in the song "Show us pictures of your children. Tell us every thought you think."

Burnham is telling listeners how people carelessly overshare their lives online. However, no one's privacy is ever protected online — even the users who don't share their lives on social media at all.

People believe because they lack a profile picture or their name isn't on the account, that they are anonymous. That is not the case. Your digital data is collected and sold to any company willing to pay enough.

"All of the big companies track your information online, these companies know everything and anything about you," Brewster said.

The internet might not be entirely good, but Bo Burnham's "Inside" is incredible. This special is a work of art and a must-watch on Netflix.

Dave Chappelle's 'The Closer' is an important critique of the LGBTQ community

By Brandon Dyer

Dave Chappelle's newest special, "The Closer," has sparked controversy because it is misunderstood. While some people think that it is antagonizing to the LGBTQ community, it is actually a valuable critique of problems that he sees within the community.

His last project with Netflix, Chappelle's driving point is that the LGBTQ community is not free from criticism. He tells the audience how he feels from the viewpoint of a racial minority.

Chappelle says in the special that he isn't transphobic and that he wants to see trans people have more rights, even calling North Carolina's controversial 2016 transgender bathroom bill "horrible."

Chappelle says that the LGBTQ community has had an easier path to get their rights compared to African Americans. He says that because the movement includes white people that they

have been looked upon more favorably.

That doesn't mean that LGBTQ people don't have struggles in their daily lives or as a community, but Chappelle uses his personal experiences to show that their struggles are not equal to those of black people.

Chappelle talks about an incident where a white person filmed him and his wife at a bar without their consent. He said that he tried to get the person to stop filming by using strong language.

He realized the person was gay and said that the person called the police on him in response to the confrontation. Chappelle says that this is a problem that the LGBTQ community should work on.

"Gay people are minorities until they need to be white again," said Chappelle, "A black gay person would not have never done that to me because a black gay person knows when the police show up, they're not gonna care who called them."

Chappelle's critique is that the LGBTQ community can be reactionary and doesn't always take into consideration the struggles of other minority communities. He points out that even those with a minority status can be blind to the struggles of other minority groups.

He has been criticized before for making misogynistic, homophobic, and transphobic comments in the past, but he is speaking from lived experiences that can't be discounted.

Chappelle makes the example of rapper DaBaby, who in 2018 shot and killed a man in Walmart with little repercussion to his career. Fast forward to 2021, and members of the LGBTQ community have boycotted DaBaby after he made homophobic remarks. "You can kill a (expletive), but you better not hurt a gay person's feelings," said Chappelle.

Chappelle makes an important point about how voices from the LGBTQ community are some-

times treated with more credibility and weight than might be expected from a minority group.

The special ends with Chappelle talking about the story of Daphne Dorman, a friend of his that was a transgender comedian. Dorman committed suicide shortly after the release of Chappelle's fifth Netflix stand up special, "Sticks and Stones."

The special was accused of being transphobic by people on Twitter. Dorman came to Chappelle's defense, where she faced backlash from the LGBTQ community.

Chappelle explains that he doesn't know what was going on with Dorman's life personally, but that he credits in part the backlash she received for trying to defend him.

This shows the power that the LGBTQ community has when it comes to canceling people online and the dangers it can pose.

Chappelle pleads with the LGBTQ community to stop

canceling comedians and celebrities.

Chappelle says that he is done making jokes about the LGBTQ community until he is sure that they are laughing with him and that he isn't "punching down" on them, something that he has been accused of doing to the LGBTQ community in the past.

"All I ask from your community, with all humility, will you please stop punching down on my people," said Chappelle.

Chappelle said that this will be his last show for a while. He said that he could face being canceled, so he needed to be precise on why he felt the way he did towards the LGBTQ community.

Chappelle's perspective is not one that is often represented in popular media, so it is important for a broad audience, including the LGBTQ community, to consider it.

No minority group is beyond criticism.

Food is expiring in campus food pantries

By Editorial Staff

The food pantry is a resource available to students through Student Support Services. However, food is expiring on campus shelves as the resource isn't being utilized.

Every GHC location has a food pantry. If the campus is open, the food pantry is as well. Items available include canned goods, cereal, snacks, dry foods and toiletries. Students can use the pantry confidentially after filling out the participant agreement form.

According to the food pantry FAQ, 42% of college students experience food insecurity in some form.

No student deserves to go hungry, yet this might be the case at GHC seeing that the pantry is going underutilized.

It's possible that students are unaware that they are qualified to use the food pantry. Students may also think that getting food from the pantry takes away from others in more need.

Paulding site manager, Christina Henggeler said "I think that all students who are in need do need to be able to access our resources."

Assistant Vice President of academic retention and resources, Michelle Lockett, is heavily involved with Student Support Services and is looking into ways to encourage students to visit the pantry.

Lockett said, "We are brainstorming how to take a different approach to how we advertise our services to students . . . so that they know these services are available at all of our locations."

An effective solution would be to have dedicated signage and emails with information about the food pantries. These signs should be located where every student on campus is guaranteed to see them.

The signage and emails should specifically advertise the food pantry and its purpose and include important information such as the location of the food pantries, who can utilize them and the simplicity of using them.

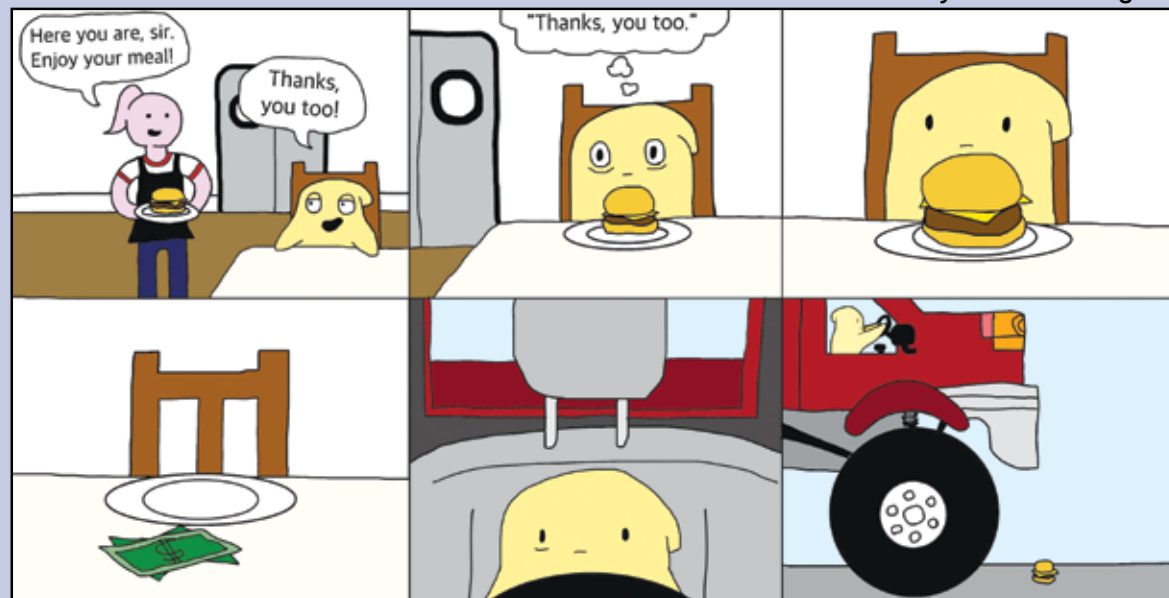
If Student Support Services manages to more widely inform and encourage students to use the food pantry, there will be less of a stigma about using it and less food will go to waste.



The Charger Food Pantry on each campus is stocked with a variety of canned and dry foods. Some items are expiring after spending months on the shelves. Photos by Abby Chesnut and Russell Chesnut

ORIGINAL COMIC - 002

Comic by Conner Arrington



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Is third time the charm?

Lady Chargers point guard Sandra Lin and forward O'Maryiah Tucker both enter their third season with the Lady Chargers looking to finally lead their team to a GCAA title.

Photos by Brandon Dyer

Leadership series: Sandra Lin takes the court

By Brandon Dyer

There have been plenty of leaders come and go for the Georgia Highlands basketball program, and every year offers new opportunities for players to step into leadership roles for the teams.

This season, the Lady Chargers are returning a large part of last year's team, with six of the ten players returning for another year.

One of those players that stick out is Sandra Lin, who enters their third season with the team.

Lin says that she has played an impact both on the court and off the court for her.

"I get more use to how teams work and how schools work so it's more comfortable for me," said Lin.

Lin came to Georgia Highlands in 2019 from Taiwan to further her basketball career. The 5'4" point

guard plays in a way that the position has traditionally been played: a facilitator.

Last season, Lin played more of a leadership role with the team on the court, with the biggest things that she told her team during games revolved around their transition offense.

"We play transition a lot more than other teams," said Lin, "so I had to let them know where they needed to run so we can connect with each other."

Lin is excited to be a leader for the team, but she says that she has stepped up when needed.

"When I first came here, I didn't think that I could handle a leadership role," said Lin, "but I just kept learning from other teammates and coaches around me. I feel like I can lead better when I can pull everybody together."

Her presence can be felt on

nearly every offensive possession, with her best ability being that she is able to find an open teammate that leads to a basket for the Lady Chargers, averaging 6.8 assists per game last season.

With only three new faces on the team, Lin thinks that the team still needs to work on their chemistry on court, saying "I feel like we are still building chemistry with each other and that's a key on how we can stay competitive."

This season may be a new one for the Lady Chargers, but Lin says that the key to keep winning is to "play hard at every game and every practice."

With this being her last season with the Lady Chargers, Lin comes into the season knowing that she will have to impress scouts in order to advance her college basketball career.

"This is my last chance to go to

a four-year college so I need to be my best on the court."

While Lin is still learning to be a leader, she says that she isn't exempt from criticism herself.

"Last season, we got a lot of opportunities to score and got in position, but we really didn't take the best shot, so going forward I need to do a better job of slowing down and organizing our players to where we can score more," said Lin.

Women's head coach Brandon Harrell praised Lin on her leadership with the team during the offseason on his appearance on the Post Buzzer podcast on Oct. 13, saying "I think our most consistent player is the person who is always our most consistent player and that's our point guard, Sandra Lin."

"She's the one where when she comes out of the game, other

players we can sub in and out that are great players but you don't see the team drop like they do when Sandra comes out," said Harrell.

Harrell thinks that there is still room for growth with Lin though.

"We've seen her take shots in some of the preseason games already that she has to take this year to stay competitive," said Harrell.

Men's basketball head coach JJ Merritt also spoke highly of Lin on the podcast, saying that she was an "unbelievable player."

Leading a basketball team is not something that is easy to do, but it seems like Lin could have what it takes to take the Lady Chargers back to the NJCAA national tournament.



and O'Maryiah Tucker brings the hustle

By Brandon Dyer

O'Maryiah Tucker joined the Lady Chargers in 2019 and she has made a name for herself, starting in 43 of her 56 games since her arrival.

Turner made a name for herself at McEachern high school in Powder Springs, GA, where she quickly moved up the ranks in her recruiting class.

At the end of the 2019 season, Tucker had become the fifth-ranked player in her recruiting class in the state of Georgia, eventually committing to the Lady Chargers.

The place that her presence

can be felt the best is in the paint, where she averaged 7.1 rebounds per game last season.

Tucker says that the key to winning for her is by playing hard.

"Hustling and going hard every play. Play through the whistle. You're not going to be more tired taking that one extra step so do it," Tucker said.

Her second year on the Lady Chargers proved to be one where she had to assert herself into one of the key leader roles for the team, something that she says is an honor.

"It feels good to have players looking up to me and the coaches looking at me differently

than other players. Take it head on because if I fall behind the team does," Tucker said.

The Lady Chargers found themselves in the GCAA Championship Game against the South Georgia Technical College Jets, where Tucker said that she had to step up and be a leader for the team.

"In the GCAA championship game, I had to lead the team on the court at times because I was on the court the whole game," said Tucker.

The Lady Chargers would end up losing the game in overtime, but they are trying to bounce back this season.

The team has now gotten used to offseason practices, something that they weren't able to do much of before last season due to COVID-19 protocols. Tucker said this has impacted the conditioning this offseason.

"Starting slower and a lot of us are out of shape so there has been a lot of conditioning," Tucker said.

Tucker says that the biggest strength to the team this season is their speed.

"Ability to run the floor because we're quick and have a lot of speed," said Tucker, "Transition points should help us get wins."

This season, Tucker will try to

continue her college career by trying to obtain a scholarship to a four year college.

"I feel like I should be at a big college by now, but hopefully I can bring a championship to Georgia Highlands. Staying here for the extra year is going to work out in the end," said Tucker.

Tucker said the biggest thing that she keeps in mind about being a leader is the mental part of it.

"Keep an open mind and don't be scared to make a mistake. If they make a mistake, correct them that way they know what to do," Tucker said.

Should the College Football Playoff be expanded?

Yes:

By Austin Williams

The four-team playoff system is simply not enough and expanding could open the door for teams outside of the major Power Five conferences.

Playoff expansion is needed, probably now more than ever. Making it into the College Football Playoff seems more like a popularity contest, rather than doing what matters most ... winning games.

Teams such as the Cincinnati Bearcats and Oklahoma Sooners have proven themselves as winners, as both are currently undefeated. Their position in the first playoff rankings disrespects both teams, as they were ranked behind teams like Ohio State, Oregon and Alabama who all have one loss in their season.

The committee has consistently shown that brand means more than winning out. Cincinnati is in a tough position, as no team outside of the Power Five confer-

ences (SEC, Big 10, ACC, Big 12, and Pac 12) have ever been included in the playoffs. The closest team to make it, outside of the Power Five, was an undefeated UCF in 2017. The Knights were left out of a playoff position, due to not beating enough quality teams. This is not the case of the Bearcats who have a top-10 win, on the road, against Notre Dame.

The playoff committee also recently came up with the idea of creating a 12-team playoff system. This was brought up, during the summer of 2021, but no major moves have been put in place yet; nevertheless, this is a step in the right direction.

The main objection of expanding the playoff is that it lessens the importance of regular season games, by allowing teams to make early errors and losses and still make the playoffs. Also, player health is a concern as a possible 17 games season can be a lot, mentally and physically, for any student athlete.

Expanding the playoff would just make the great game of College Football more fun. No more "What ifs" if a team did not make it in,

more non-conference head-to-head games, it makes these colleges and television networks more money, and the NFL and Division II football both hold playoffs with 14 (NFL) and 28 (Division II NCAA football) teams. Why only hold a spot for the CFP aristocracy? I say expand the playoffs.



**HEADS
OR
TAILS?**

SPORTS COMMENTARY



No:

By Brandon Dyer

In 2015, the NCAA replaced their BCS system with the College Football Playoff and mayhem ensued as fans were split on the decision.

Now fans are wanting to expand the playoffs to include more than four teams, something that I think will have negative repercussions.

The biggest reason why I don't want the College Football Playoff to expand is because it takes away from a mentality within college football that I love: every game matters, and if you want to get to the National Championship, you can't afford even one loss.

This mentality is one that separates college football from the NFL, because in the NFL you can lose seven games and still go on to win the Super Bowl, as the 2007 Giants did.

There has only been one national champion in the past 61 years that had more than one loss, the 2007 LSU Tigers. There

is little room for error in college football. I fear that if the playoffs expand, then that room for error will increase exponentially.

Another reason that fans want the playoff expanded is so that it includes the Group of 5 schools. I'm not saying that these teams are necessarily bad, but they lack the competition that the Power 5 schools face.

Instead of letting these teams in after an undefeated season that includes significantly less competition than the Power 5 schools, show them that they should be scheduling schools that are of higher competition to boost their resume at the end of the year.

I think that allowing four teams in is the perfect amount to be put in the College Football Playoff. Fans shouldn't complain about expanding more and more every few years because their team didn't get in.

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