



Monday, April 2, 2012

GRAYSON COLLEGE

THE VIKING



Volume II, Issue VII

Get involved

Sweet Treats Stop

1st Wednesdays
9:00—10:00 a.m.
2nd Floor—Student Life Center

Student Government Association

Mondays
12:15—12:45 p.m., The HUB

It's My Life Student Leadership Series

4th Mondays
12:15 — 12:45 p.m., LA107

BSM Luncheon

Wednesdays
11:45 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Baptist Student Union

BSM Bible Study

Mondays
12:00—1:00 p.m.
Baptist Student Union

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Tuesdays
6:00 p.m.
Viking Residence Hall Main Lounge

Men of Distinction

Thursdays
12:00-1:00 p.m. – The HUB

Sisters of Destiny

Thursdays
1:15-2:15 p.m.- The HUB

Phi Theta Kappa

Wednesdays
12:00-1:00 p.m. – The HUB

Dental Assisting

Wednesdays
9:00-9:30 a.m. – The HUB

Speech Club

Every other Wednesday
3:00-4:00 p.m. – The HUB

Writers Unlimited/ Sigma Kappa Delta

2nd & 4th Fridays
12:00-1:00 p.m.
GCC Writing Center

Mu Alpha Theta

Tuesdays
2:00-3:00 p.m. – The HUB

Welding Association

Every other Tuesday
12:00-1:00 p.m. – The HUB

Cultural Diversity

1st & 3rd Mondays
1:00-2:00 p.m. – The HUB

CAGED

Recycled Material Art Exhibit

March 21 to April 19
2nd Floor Gallery

Arts & Communication Center

Welding Rodeo

Fri., Apr. 17, 2012

"A Grand Music Event"

GC String Ensemble
Sat., Apr. 21 7 p.m.

Cruce Stark Auditorium

Exhibit This

Apr. 26, 27, 28 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 29 2:30 p.m.

Black Box Theatre

Relay for Life of Grayson County

May 18-19 7 p.m.-7 a.m.

Denison High School Track

Recreation Center

Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Cosmetology gets creative for Fantasy Hair Show

By Charlotte McLain
Director of Cosmetology

Cosmetology is an art that ventures into a broad variety of areas, namely hair, make-up, facial care, and nail care. Cosmetology is a field that changes habitually, which allows creativity to never expire.

Grayson's cosmetology students were challenged creatively in all aspects of cosmetology with creating a "Fantasy Hair Show."

Students were grouped and randomly chose movies that served as the theme of their show, which could not exceed five minutes while presenting. Props were allowed during their performances, and a panel of judges was present, which included Grayson's cosmetology instructors.

Students stunned their audience, as well as the judges, with their ingenuity, which generated positive feedback from their viewers.

This project allowed students to not only exercise their minds, but develop relationships among each other. As a whole, this project was an event that produced a high level of entertaining, exuberant, and memorable moments.



Grayson's cosmetology students stunned their audience and judges with ingenuity in hair, make-up, and nails at the Fantasy Hair Show

Freshman Winners
1st Place: Robin Rosenkrantz, Jache Merritt, and Chelsi Stapleton

2nd Place: Heather Starks, Di-juna Stapleton, Danielle Pleasant, Wende Mashburn, and Ashlee Patton

3rd Place: Kelsi Lyons, Misty Eggleston, Charity Gentry, and Erin Murray

Advanced Students
1st Place: Mekayla Barnes

2nd Place: Kelsi Phillips, Jennifer Pitts, and Cynthia Sanchez

3rd Place: Martha Aviles, McKenzie Creswell, and Lizeth Gutierrez

Esthetics

1st Place: Eva Avila, Jacob Pearson, and Courtney Gibson

2nd Place: Stephanie Chosman, Rachel Rudd, and Kathy Munoz

3rd Place: Celina Baldonado, Esther Ramos, and Amber Garnick

See Fantasy Hair Show, p. 6 for more fancy 'dos.



GC students paint exhibits at Harber Wildlife Museum

By Ramona Popplewell
Biology Professor

Two of our GC students spent a good part of the summer and the fall semester working at the Harber Wildlife Museum in Sherman.

Sarah Popplewell and Sarah Birdsong, recommended by our art department, worked on painting background and surrounding scenery for the exhibits. They were recognized at the museum dedication, and Popplewell was interviewed by KXII.

With the exception of the larger animals and larger trees, most of the exhibit is theirs. They also cleaned up the animals after the taxidermist set them up.



Sarah Popplewell and Sarah Birdsong painted the wall background, foliage, ground cover, and smaller animals (not seen)

GC Tutoring Program earns five-year recertification

By Jeffri Hodge
Coordinator of Tutoring/Disability Services

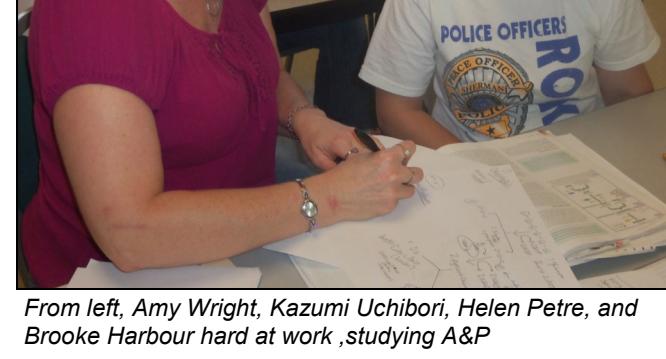
Grayson College's Tutoring Services recently received its five-year recertification from the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). GC's Tutoring Program will remain one of more than 830 tutor training programs worldwide to secure CRLA certification.

For students at GC, this is excellent news. It means that highly motivated, capable tutors are available for free to both academic and career/technical students.

In their report, CRLA reviewers commented that the "program is strong at Levels 1 & 2 and has good faculty interaction."

CRLA's accreditation program is endorsed by the National Association for Devel-

opmental Education, the Commission for Academic Support in Higher Education, and the Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations. CRLA's certified programs include postsecondary institutions in the United States, Australia,



From left, Amy Wright, Kazumi Uchibori, Helen Petre, and Brooke Harbour hard at work, studying A&P

Canada, Greece, Japan, Republic of Korea, and Nicaragua. Of the approximately 830 CRLA certified programs, most are in the US. See Tutoring Program, p. 2



In Memoriam

Bobby Brown

Grayson College Board Member

Mr. Brown's insight and leadership will be greatly missed.

GC starts recycling program

By Sara Horn

Imagine that it is the end of the school semester, and there are piles of paper everywhere, papers containing old lecture notes, assignments, and homework.

Most people just throw these out when they are finished with them. Now, multiply that by several million.

Recycling-Revolution.com states that on average, Americans use 2 billion trees' worth of wood-based products each year. If trees could talk, they might not have so many nice things to say about our massive uses of paper on a day-to-day basis!

So what about plastic bottles? How many times has the typical student seen soda bottles jutting out of the lids of GC trashcans, followed by even more plastic

bottles behind it?

Recycling-Revolution.com also states that Americans collectively use 2.5 million plastic bottles per hour, with most of these going into the trash and landfills.

Coming in May 2012, Grayson College is proud to announce the beginning of a pilot recycling program in the Grayson College Library!

Students can recycle materials such as paper, plastics, and metal (aluminum cans). There will be appropriate bins to collect the materials stationed at all entry/exit doors within the library.

Doing little things each day, such as recycling papers and bottles that would otherwise be trashed, can make the world a little greener and healthier for everyone.

GC welcomes new Director of E-Learning

By Brenda Witcher

Library Assistant

Meet Jake McBee, GC's Director of E-Learning. He is responsible for online classes including Blackboard applications.

I know you're thinking, "Great! Now what does that mean?" It means that McBee works with faculty in using the Blackboard applications by conducting training. He also does trouble shooting for Blackboard.

McBee was a captain in the Army Reserves but retired after 18 years. He was called to active duty for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Desert Storm.

McBee has a Master of Instructional Technology degree from the University



Jake McBee, Director of E-Learning

of Nebraska at Kearney. He was an online student at the university, so he brings many years

of field experience with him.

McBee and his assistant, Frances Haratyk, have an open-door policy for faculty and students needing help with their online classes.

McBee is in the process of creating an E-Learning lab in which he will help instructors create podcasts and videos to help students. Soon he will have podcast tutorials on how to use Blackboard available to students.

GC String Ensemble to play "A Grand Music Event"

By Fred Freeman
Music Professor

The Grayson College String Ensemble is in its first semester as an organization. Ensemble members are preparing for "A Grand Music Event," which will take place in Cruse Stark Auditorium at 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 21st. There is no charge for admission.

These Grayson students will combine with other area students and with experienced musicians to form a 45-piece orchestra. Each featured musical selection will showcase a different soloist at the grand piano accompanied by the full orchestra.

The audience will be treated to a variety of melodies:

Confrey's "Dizzy Fingers"
Bober's "Lakeside Dream"
Beethoven's "Für Elise"
Leaf's "Cat in the Halloween Hat"
Bach's "Gigue" from B-flat Partita
Biehl's "Sonatina in C"
Marianelli's "Dawn" from *Pride & Prejudice*
Grieg's "March of the Little People"
Mozart's Andante from Concerto 21
Mozart's Larghetto from Concerto

26
Sager and Foster's "The Prayer"

Through the years, many classical and popular melodies have been written especially for pianists. Piano students, whose teachers are members of the Grayson County Music Teachers' Association, will experience the educational benefits and thrill of performing such melodies with a large ensemble, and

they will provide an hour of wholesome family entertainment for parents, relatives, friends, and fellow students.

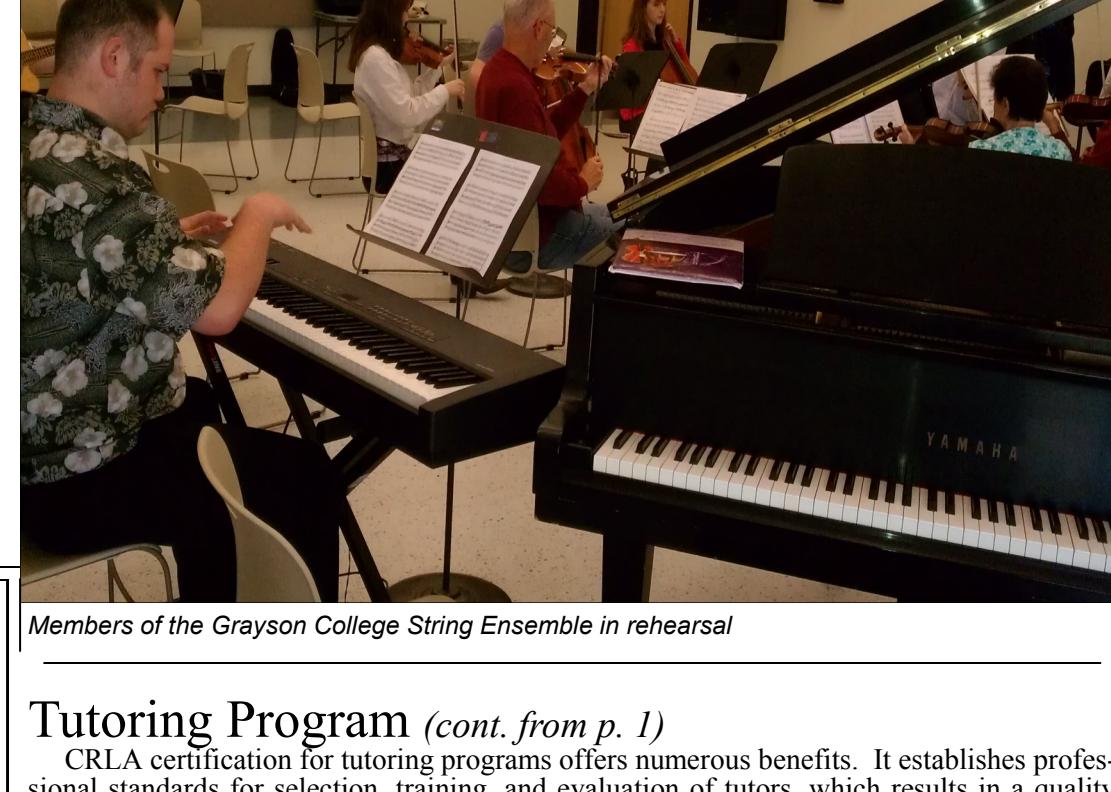
All the soloists are doing "double duty" because each also plays as a member of the orchestra when not seated at the piano.

Laura Burditt, Nathan Chidress, and Timothy Jenkins, three of the soloists, are founding members of the Grayson College String Ensemble. The other founding members are: Emily Burditt, Douglas Carr, Tom Crone, Lydia Pine, and Gail White. Nathan Owen, a Grayson College private cello student, will also be playing in the concert.

These students are simultane-

ously working to prepare a second program of completely different music, which will take place only 12 days later.

Grayson College students, faculty, and staff should plan to attend what promises to be a Grand Music Event, indeed. Direct requests for further information to Grayson College Adjunct Music Professor, Dr. Fred Freeman, (903) 868-2986.



Members of the Grayson College String Ensemble in rehearsal



Come join
The Sisters of Destiny

Thursdays at 1:15 p.m.
The Hub
(upstairs in Life Center)

Join a group of women who uplift and encourage each other. Experience true emotional support with confidentiality and build a healthy heart, mind, and body. Form lasting relationships with other women, and learn to work together in a productive study environment. Reach out to our community with support for our local charities.

With the Sisters of Destiny by your side, you will never stand alone! By joining the **Sisters of Destiny** you are taking a stand to help or be helped by a sister. A sister will never leave you standing alone when you need a helping hand with homework or a project, a study buddy, or just someone to listen. Any female student enrolled in Grayson College is eligible for membership. We hope to see you there!

Tutoring Program (cont. from p. 1)

CRLA certification for tutoring programs offers numerous benefits. It establishes professional standards for selection, training, and evaluation of tutors, which results in a quality peer-tutoring program. It also rewards tutors with wage increases upon completion of certification. Transferability of certification to other colleges with CRLA accredited programs is an additional advantage. A Level 1 or 2 Certificate earned at one institution would be recognized at another. Tutors may also enhance resumes and scholarship applications by including certification information. Finally, certification establishes greater credibility for tutoring programs with the college's faculty, staff, and students and increases their respect for the program.

Because GCC's tutoring program is certified, the College can award CRLA certificates to individual tutors who have met training, experience, and evaluation requirements. Tutors who complete ten hours of training and forty hours of tutoring and receive satisfactory performance evaluations earn CRLA Level 1 certification.

Once a tutor has earned Level 1 certification, he/she is eligible to begin Level 2 training. Level 2 certification involves an additional 10 hours of training, another forty hours of tutoring, and satisfactory performance evaluations.

The college offers a traditional tutoring program, and services are free for both career/technical and academic students who are experiencing difficulty in their courses. During fall and spring semesters, tutors typically meet with tutees individually once each week in one-hour sessions. In summer terms, one-hour appointments are typically twice weekly.

GC's Tutoring Program was initiated in the Fall of 1987 and has become an important component of GC's Student Success Initiative. Tutors must have a faculty recommendation and hold an overall G.P.A. of 3.0 with a G.P.A. of 4.0 in courses they are tutoring. Facilities for tutoring are conveniently located in the Success Centers on both the Main and South Campuses.

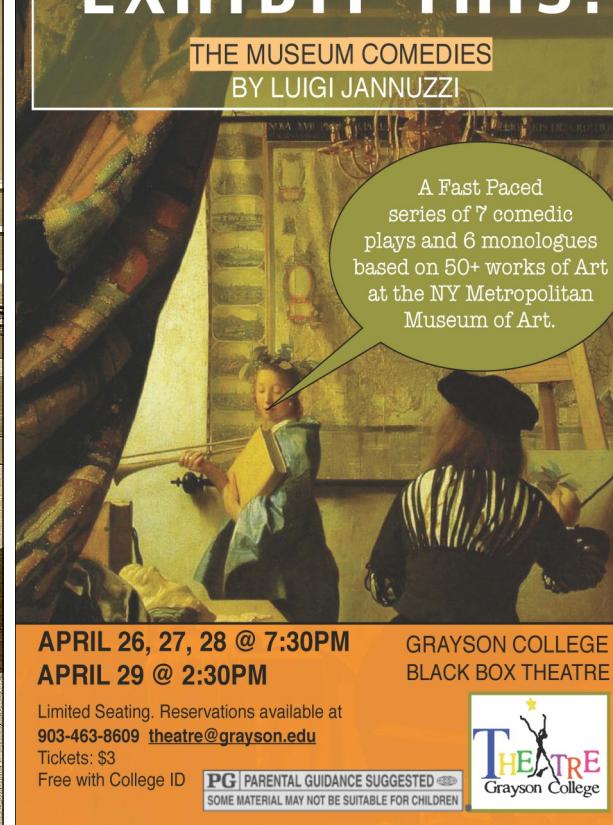
The program's goals for students needing assistance include demonstrating progress toward (1) increased understanding of the content matter in the course being tutored, (2) increased knowledge and use of effective classroom learning strategies, and (3) increased independence in learning.

For more information about GC's Tutoring Services, please contact Jeffri Johnson Hodge, Coordinator of Tutoring and Disability Services, at 903-463-8751 or hodgej@grayson.edu.



GRAYSON COUNTY COLLEGE
WELDING RODEO

Friday, April 27, 2012



Grayson Softball Spring 2012

Feb.	15	Trinity Valley Comm. College	1&3
	18	Northeast Texas Comm. College	1&3
	22	Texarkana College	1&3
	24	Temple College Tournament	TBA
Mar.	29	Ranger College	1&3
	3	Hill College	1&3
	7	Vernon College	1&3
	10	Weatherford College	1&3
	12	Cisco College	1&3
	21	Temple College	1&3
	24	McLennan Comm. College	1&3
	28	North Central Texas College	1&3
	31	Ranger College	1&3
Apr.	4	Hill College	1&3
	6	Vernon College	1&3
	11	Weatherford College	1&3
	14	Cisco College	1&3
	21	Temple College	1&3
	25	McLennan Comm. College	1&3
	28	North Central Texas College	1&3
May	6-8	Region V North Tournament	TBA

The softball field is located to the right of the new culinary arts building.



Support

Viking Baseball

Date	Opponent	Time	Location
4/4	Vernon	1 p.m.	Vernon, TX
4/6	Vernon	1 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
4/9	Eastfield	2 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
4/11	McLennan	1 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
4/14	McLennan	1 p.m.	Waco, TX
4/16	Navarro	2 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
4/18	Hill	1 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
4/21	Hill	1 p.m.	Hillsboro, TX
4/25	Weatherford	1 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
4/28	Weatherford	3 p.m.	Weatherford, TX
4/30	Eastfield	2 p.m.	Mesquite, TX
5/2	Ranger	1 p.m.	Dub Hayes Field
5/5	Ranger	1 p.m.	Ranger, TX
5/12	Regional Tournament	TBA	Lubbock, TX
5/26	JUCO World Series	TBA	Grand Junction, CO

Noah's Top Ten movies college students need to watch (Part I)

By Noah Scheibmeir

Hey everyone, it's been great acting as part-time movie critic for *The Viking* this past year or so, but I will soon have to hang up my pen as graduation is only just around the corner.

As a fond farewell though, I would like to share with all our beloved readers out there not just the most recent Hollywood movie to reach our theatre; I would like as a send off to recommend ten or so movies that I believe everyone here should see.

Some of you, I'm confident, will have seen these, while others, it continues to shock me, have not.

And so without further ado, here are ten movies that every single last college student should see before graduation, or at least that's how it is in my somewhat humble, opinion.

Citizen Kane

This movie with

good cause is, and has

been since its creation,

the number one movie

on the American Film

Institute's list of best

films.

While other movies

have moved in and circulated on that same list, this one has ever remained the number one greatest.

It is black and white, so that may put some of you off, but I assure you, you will never watch movies the same way again.

On top of being an awesome movie in its own right, Orson Welles was only twenty-five when he was given the job as director.

Already he had convinced the United States that it was being invaded by aliens from another planet with his radio broadcast of the *War of the Worlds*, and now he was completely revamping the way movies could be made without ever having made one himself.

For those of you going out this year into your respective fields, let that be a reminder that there is no age restriction on genius, so let your minds soar!

At least one of these five Hitchcock classics:

The Birds
Vertigo
Psycho
North by Northwest
Rear Window

For those of you who don't know him, I wish to extend a hug of warmth for the terrible loss you have incurred until now.

Know that all five of these movies are at our library, along with *Citizen Kane*, for that matter, and are readily available for check out. And that you must.

No one, today, yesterday, possibly tomorrow has been as innovative in the film world as Hitchcock. Now that's a lot to say, but believe me when I say it's true.

Hitchcock did what was unusual to think of then and is still today: He figured out how to be innovative, artsy, and do so while maintaining commercial success within the factory world of the studio system.

One story goes of how Hitchcock wanted to show a passionate kissing scene between Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman in his movie *Notorious* (another worthy of checking out), but the studio system had strict rules back in the day, one of which was that actors were not allowed to kiss on screen for longer than three seconds. I'm not kidding.

So, Hitchcock, wily as ever, had Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman kiss for three seconds, then stop, wait.

Kiss for three more seconds, stop, wait. Kiss for three more seconds, stop, wait. Again and again and again until they had been successfully making out for two and half minutes.

Altogether legal, altogether subversive of the system, he was still playing by its rules. Sadly, Hitchcock would never be awarded best director until the American Film Institute finally gave him the Life Time Achievement award just a few years before his death.

So when you're going out into the world, don't worry about if people see your genius; know that it will always show itself in the end.

Singing in the Rain

For readers in the know, I still can't believe you haven't seen this. This is a great movie musical, which is especially appropriate to watch now in view of the success of *The Artist*.

It is about a silent film star, who, when sound rears its loud

and ugly head, finds himself on the verge of unemployment unless he can change with the times.

Along the way, he finds love, fun, and perseverance, all to the upbeat jazzy show tunes of the 1930's.

Nightmare before Christmas

'Nuff said. I have very little concern that the vast majority of the teenagers of this generation have missed out on this particular film.

Hugo

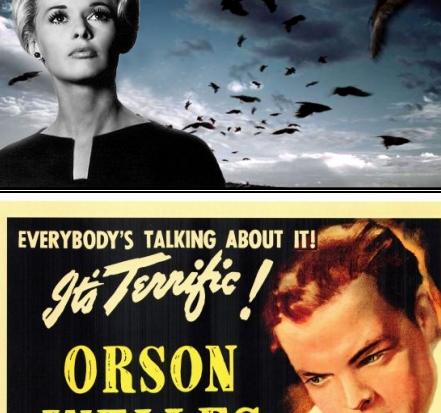
For all cinephiles like myself out there, this is the ultimate movie to see. Martin Scorsese's love letter to the history of film is poignant, funny, dark, and light.

The cinematography alone will make this movie stand out as a classic forever.

Also, to all of you who, like myself, get annoyed by the constant sight of "in 3-D!" everywhere (code to all of us wallet watchers for "we'll charge you an extra three extra dollars for poorly done special effects"), this movie is an ultimatum to Hollywood.

It is evidence, actual proof, that 3-D can be done well and even add to the movie watching experience.

I have not actually had the pleasure of viewing this in 3-D, but I know from watching the standard format version that it screams out and begs to pop out and reach back from the boundaries of the screen. If you can see it in 3-D,



do so, you won't regret it.

Part II will appear in the August Viking.

Jade the Cold

By Nicole Booher

A bright child, a bright future, crushed. An energetic child, filled with warmth, cold. A destiny brought to surface, Reluctant acceptance forced, pain. A future to all, bright; A future to one, empty. Endurance.

Kristen's Eternal Note of Sadness

By Nicole Booher

To the Smiling face, Long since forgotten, I will remember you. The form before me, Though a shadow, Is still so very precious. The manners meek, The actions mild, The eyes, however, hold, An eternal note of sadness.

This curse can never be broken.

English 1302 Vocabulary Words in Action

An Editorial by Lane Reese

A Rhetorical Abstract Assertion on the State of Our Government Today

I would like to be as possible about the arising in America today. The of the and powerhouse. In recent years, the of the government has been set by towards communism.

The attitude has embarked on a

on the national debt of \$31,871 per legal man, woman, and child in this country that seems to

have become a for the current administration. The of borrowing more and more money to get

American out of debt is no and is worth . The use of

from the government for free is really an . The use of

not paying their fair share when 48% of Americans pay no income taxes is a false

incites class warfare. The time for is now. The

that the Constitution is alive, should evolve, and is outdated, are complete

I would like to once again. Do we want to go down the path of Greece? We will see in November what the , and is:

or , equality of opportunity or equality of outcome.

Word Bank:

Critical thinking

Slippery slope

Equivocation

Concise

Assertion

Self-respect

Conflict

Pathos

Aberration

Sentimental appeals

Characterization

Character

Philosophies

Red herring

Logos

Enigma

Characterizations

Pathos

Equivocation

Pace

Juxtaposition

Emotional transfer

Values

Consensus

Annotating

Focus

Fallacies

Connotation

Avoid common mistakes when completing the FAFSA

By Jamie Wagner
Financial Aid Officer

Registration is right around the corner! Do you have your 2012-2013 FAFSA application completed?

Remember that a FAFSA application has to be filled out for each academic year that you plan on attending.

Are you a first-time student? We can help you with your FAFSA in the Financial Aid Office, or if you are a new student or getting ready to transfer to another college, you can make an appointment with Pam Polk, the Educational Opportunity Center Guidance Specialist, in the Counseling Office.

Each year, the US Department of Education awards billions of dollars of financial aid to students enrolling in educational programs beyond high school. Don't miss out on your opportunity to get assistance to pay for your college education.

The FAFSA application is easier to fill out than in previous years; however, there are still some common mistakes that we regularly see.



Entering your Social Security number incorrectly

For the FAFSA, your social security number is your identity. Having even one incorrect digit can cause processing issues. Because this part of the FAFSA is so important, you should always

double check that you have entered it correctly and be just as careful when you fill in your driver's license number.

Blank Fields

If an item doesn't apply to you, don't leave it blank. Depending on the specific field,

fill it in with not applicable or the number 0.

Not entering Grayson's school Code (003750)

Many students will forget to enter the school code for the school that they are planning to attend. Without that school's code on your FAFSA, the school will be unable to access your FAFSA application. If you are still trying to decide which school to go to, you may enter up to 10 school codes, and your information will be sent to each school.

Entering your tax information incorrectly

One improvement that has been made to the FAFSA application is the IRS Retrieval Tool. You should wait 2-3 weeks after filing your taxes before completing this step. By using the IRS retrieval tool you are able to make sure that your tax information has been entered correctly. Please note that making changes to any numbers that have been transferred over could cause a delay in the processing of your FAFSA application once it reaches Grayson, and additional steps may be required. You should still have

your 1040 with you when filling out your tax information.

Not signing your FAFSA application electronically with a PIN

Your PIN is the digital equivalent of your signature. Using your PIN to sign your FAFSA results in faster processing as opposed to signing the paper signature page and mailing it in.

Be sure to get your financial aid in order by filing your FAFSA now so that you can participate in early registration because classes fill up fast. Come by our office with any questions or concerns and if you need help with your FAFSA application.

It generally takes at least 3-5 business days for your FAFSA to be processed and sent to Grayson College. Once we receive it, you will be able to see your financial status in your Campus Connect account.

Come by our office with any questions, concerns, or if you need help completing your FAFSA application.

Need a job? Check out GC's online job board

By Gretchen Huff
Job Placement Specialist

Students: Are you looking for PT or FT employment? Are you looking for a summer job?

Don't forget to register on Grayson College's online job board. Check out the job postings regularly as local employment opportunities are added frequently!

To view the jobs, you must first register at www.collegecentral.com/grayson and follow the prompts to register as a student.

You may also access the link on the GCC Portal Page. Click the yellow advising tab; then click on "Job Placement" and "College Central Network."

Assistance is available for students and alumni in the Ca-

reer Services Office, upstairs in the Life Center, for one-on-one sessions for completing job applications, writing an effective resume, preparing for an interview, and developing job search strategies.

The Career Services Office will be open during the summer sessions.

For more information, contact Gretchen Huff, Job Placement Specialist, at 903-415-2544 or huffg@grayson.edu.

Students and Alumni: Are you looking for a job? www.collegecentral.com/grayson

Employers: Need to post a job opening? www.collegecentral.com/grayson

Relay for Life (cont. from p. 5)

hundreds of luminarias (bags lit along the track with in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend) light the way under the stars to remember those who have faced cancer—those we've lost, those still fighting, and those who have fought cancer and won.

This ceremony of light symbolizes the hope and perseverance with which we all continue to fight and helps us remember why we Relay. Each luminaria is sold for \$5.00 and can be decorated by the individual who buys one, or the name of the person they are honoring or remembering will be placed on one for them. For the second year, super luminarias are also available for \$50.00, which are boards placed on tiki torches and decorated by the person.

A Chance to Fight Back—

Every dollar collected, every person you told, and every step taken helps in the fight against cancer.

At Relay, there are other opportunities to fight back too, opportunities to learn about cancer prevention, pledge to get healthy or quit smoking, share your story with your legislators, and get involved as a volunteer. Take this chance to make a difference!

One amazing team is named Team Keshawn, which is made up of family and friends who are Relay-ing in honor of Keshawn Kemp, who was diagnosed at two months old with retinoblastoma, which is an eye cancer that begins in the retina.

Since he was 2 months old, he has undergone numerous months of chemo-

Miles apart: The struggles of military families

By Desire Stevenson

One of the toughest jobs is to be a family member of a soldier; it is not a job one volunteers for; it is a position one is "volun-told" into. "On some of the darkest nights I can feel my husband's presence home with me..." said Courtney Walker, the wife to a deployed Marine.

Her husband, Lance Corporal William Walker, was deployed six months ago to the sea around Okinawa, Japan. When a soldier is deployed, there are many different people left behind; wives, husbands, children and parents.

"I wait by my phone and computer to hear from my son [Michael] every morning between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m., only to hear from him maybe every two weeks if I'm lucky," said Bonnie Massey, the mother to a deployed Army soldier. Mrs. Massey's son, Staff Sergeant Michael Massey, was deployed five months ago to Afghanistan with an Aviation Unit, as a sheet metal mechanic for the planes.

Contact from soldiers to their family is sometimes once in a blue moon. Due to different living conditions and war zones, soldiers are not always allowed or have the means to contact their families.

Although most military units strive to maintain contact between the soldiers and families, it doesn't always work out as planned.

There are several different ways to stay in touch with friends and family members such as social networking, E-mail, satellite phones, Skype (a free phone and web cam chat service through the computer), pay phones, and, of course,

"snail mail," which takes an average of a week and a half one way minimum if they ever receive it at all.



SSG Michael Massey talking through Skype to his son, Michael, Jr.

Communication also depends on if one is on a base or what one's mission is. Many soldiers are constantly on the go, so when they get to an area where there is phone or internet services, they also have to time manage. Soldiers often have to choose between taking a shower, getting a hot meal, or standing in long lines to use communication services while on a tight time line until the next mission starts.

One of the hardest people to leave at home is the child. "No please don't go Daddy [Michael]; I don't want you to go back to work. Please stay home with me. I promise I will be good," said Mrs.

Massey's grandson when his father had to return to the war, after a two-week break at home.

"They are either too young to understand and have no concept of time or old enough to stress about if their parent will return home safely," Diann Martinez, Fox Company 949 FRG (Family Readiness Group) leader said with teary eyes.

Even though the military offers many different groups and resources to help the families, there is only so much the military can do for the children. "There are

many different group activities with other military families that are put together such as Yellow Ribbon ceremonies, Children of Deployed Soldier outings, and monthly camps for spouses and children."

Martinez also mentions, "There is a program for the soldiers overseas called 'Read with Me.' The soldier picks a book, records it for their child, then it is placed on a DVD and mailed to them for free," Martinez recalled.

Mrs. Massey pulled a children's book from next to her television; inside was a DVD. She placed it in the DVD player and pressed "play." It was a soldier (Massey), sitting in fatigues, reading the children's book she was holding and trying not to cry.

The children are not the only ones left behind; wives and husbands are also left behind to assume roles their spouse once played and to keep day-to-day life going as smoothly as possible.

Just because a soldier deploys doesn't mean time is frozen until they return. Bills still come due monthly, holidays come around like clock work and months pass by. "It would have been nice if William would have left all the information I would have maybe needed before he left, and became unreachable," stated Walker.

One of the most important preparations usually goes unthought-of, personal information that at the time might seem useless. Many family members said, "Time to prepare for the deployment would have been nice instead of just leaving and not knowing important information."

Knowing a little of what happens behind the scenes in a military family makes people appreciate the strength that it requires. Strong individuals protect the front line, just as strong individuals keep the home front moving forward smoothly in their absence.



Ambulance simulator enhances GC EMS program

By Shelle Cassell

Director of Marketing and Public Information

There may not be sirens wailing in alarm, but serious business is going on inside the Grayson College Health Sciences building.

The college's Emergency Medical Services Program's new ambulance simulator attracts a crowd of students eager to practice skills and complete training in the state-of-the-art instructional lab.

Located in a classroom, the full-sized replica of an ambulance's box (patient compartment) houses the same equipment, supplies and storage its motorized counterpart carries in the field. It also features the same tight space, introducing students to conditions they are likely to encounter on the job.

The ambulance simulator enhances the education of students enrolled in GC's three EMS programs: Emergency Medical Technician Marketable Skills Award (a basic program), Certificate of Completion in Paramedicine (an advanced program) and the Associate of Applied Science in Paramedicine (a two-year associate's degree program).

Upon successful completion of the programs, students may be eligible to sit for the National Registry examination to become certified or licensed at the level they completed.

"Part of our mission is to prepare students for the workplace, and the workplace for these students is the back of the ambulance," said Lori Lefevres, GC's Director of Emergency Medical Services. "When they're in the classroom, everything is nice and handy and in a controlled situation. Not so in the back of the ambulance: they're reaching over each other in a cramped space. They need to know what that environment is like before we send them into the workforce."

"The realism of the ambulance simulator better prepares them," she continued. Brandon Poteet, professor of EMS at the college and a firefighter/paramedic, agrees.

When meeting with EMS departments, Poteet looks for feedback on how the GC programs can benefit them by providing students they want to hire. As "end-users," the departments want to know the students can do whatever skills in specific environments, whether it is outside under dimly lit conditions, inside a patient's home, or during trans-

port in the back of an ambulance.

"Now we have the ability to simulate that experience in the back of an ambulance," Poteet said. "That's crucial to training because ultimately every patient ends up there."

While it may be missing the flashing lights and loud siren of a field ambulance, the simulator's patient compartment works just as hard.

It is a fully functioning unit that's stocked and equipped with everything students will encounter on the job. It features storage bins for equipment and supplies, a gurney, and other medical devices such as oxygen therapy that can be used on the "patient," a mannequin designed for medical training.

"We can actually use onboard oxygen therapy rather than just portable oxygen therapy," Poteet said. "Everything is real, and that realism serves the students well."

The simulator's design incorporates cut-away panels — viewing windows — that allow instructors to observe, instruct, and direct the students' activities without being in the box with them. There's also a video system with several small, strategically placed cameras that help instructors see things that might be missed otherwise.

"We can direct from afar because those angles allow us to fully see and record what they're doing," Lefevres said. "We can display what's happening to the rest of the class in real time, and we can do critiques after an event, episode or activity with the students involved."

Jason Norris of Durant enrolled at GC to complete the Paramedicine Certificate program, but emergency medical service isn't new to him. He's been a firefighter with the Ardmore Fire Department for nearly five years. AFD provides first response and then works with the city's private EMS ambulance when it arrives on scene.

"This class gives me a higher level of training with more intensive care for the patient," said Norris, who also has worked on ambulance service with Bryan County EMS.

Norris chose the GC program based on its reputation and proximity to home; plus, it offers the class on a shift basis that works with a firefighter's schedule of 24 hours on and 48 off. Norris was one of the first students to utilize the new simulator.

"The classroom is open, and everything you need is laid



Students in Grayson College's paramedicine program get a dose of real-world practice in the college's new ambulance simulator. From left are Jacob Anderson of Whitesboro; Tony Elmore of Sherman; Jason Norris of Durant; Brandon Poteet, EMS professor; and Noah Stroud of Paris.

out. However, the back of the ambulance is a more confined space, and you've got to get used to working around a patient on a cot," he said. "You have to learn where stuff's going to be in the cabinets and know that you'll be reaching around or digging for it while providing patient care."

"Both are essential to training, but it's really good to put everything we've learned in the classroom to work in the simulator," Norris said.

When Staff Sergeant Rey Lazarin of Bonham deploys to Afghanistan in July, he'll put into practice the training and skills he's receiving in GC's paramedicine program. A 16-year veteran (four years of active duty in the U.S. Army and 12 years in the Army National Guard), the combat medic has completed three tours of duty in Iraq since 2004.

He spent the first tour attached to an infantry unit as a line medic, which is equivalent to a civilian paramedic. During his last two tours, Lazarin was the non-commissioned officer in charge of a medical aid station. He also completed a short tour in the Czech Republic, where he taught a combat life-saver class to the Czech army.

Lazarin believes the new ambulance simulator is a major asset to the college's program because it gives students the opportunity to practice loading and unloading patients as well as performing skills in the same environment they'll find in their careers — all before they ever get on a real ambulance. He also thinks that watching others work from the outside is a great benefit.

In the military, Lazarin re-

ceived extensive training with a field litter ambulance to become familiar with the confined space and location of supplies. He didn't have an FLA simulator, however, so when others were doing their practices, it was difficult to observe, and he had to wait his turn before experiencing anything.

"GC's ambulance simulator does away with that," Lazarin said. "We take turns in the unit, practicing skills and becoming comfortable with the environment. When our turn is over, we can see other students' techniques very easily from the viewing windows, assessing what they're doing to determine what we could do differently or the same to allow for better patient treatment and care."

"I think every combat medic in the military should go through a paramedic program like Grayson's — especially if it has a simulator — before taking a leadership role as a non-commissioned officer," he continued. "The program includes a lot of things that complement my military training, things that greatly benefit patient care and the sustainment of life. I believe the simulator is bettering my skills as a paramedic."

The ambulance simulator's realism extended to its "sticker price" of \$26,000 that was funded by a Perkins Grant. Each year, the grant provides federal funding to augment the education of workforce education students at Grayson.

Steve Davis, Dean of Workforce Education, got the entire GC faculty and staff involved to identifying workforce edu-

cation students through their degree majors. That effort showed the college had an increase in workforce education students, and GC was awarded \$140,000, which was a significant increase in Perkins funding.

The ambulance simulator had been on Lefevres' wish list ever since a national accreditation visit confirmed her belief that it would enhance the college's EMS program. Davis agreed, and the simulator was installed in November.

"This was not an EMS program workforce education project all alone," Lefevres said. "Everybody on campus who participated in making Steve's assessment of student majors for the Perkins grant -- every person -- helped us get the ambulance simulator."

"It has so much potential for further enhancing the program," Lefevres said. "We've only just begun."



Relay for Life of Grayson County to be held May 18-19

By Christina Saenz

Relay for Life of Grayson County will be held from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. at the Denison High School Track on May 18-19, 2012.

A Chance for Everyone—Relay for Life is a community gathering in which everyone can participate in the fight against cancer.

Teams of people camp out at the Denison High School Track. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event — because cancer never sleeps.

Relay for Life is an overnight event that celebrates survivors, remembers loved ones, and brings together millions of people to raise money to help prevent cancer, save lives, and diminish suffering from the disease.

Teams are asked to bring tents, chairs, coolers with drinks or snacks and decorate their campsites according to Relay's theme, which this year is "Happily Ever After."

During Relay there will be games and activities throughout the night such as a dance contest, Mister Relay, hula hooping, water balloon toss, Simon Says, and a contest for the best-decorated campsite.

There will also be



themed laps that will include paper mache', poker lap, and a three-legged race.

The concession booth will be open all night. All the food is donated by Tyson, and all proceeds made are donated to the American Cancer Society and helps with awareness of cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and patient support.

Relay brings people together from all walks of life with the common goal of eliminating cancer.

Our event chair for the second year in a row is Mary Linder, a History professor here at GC. Linder's reason to Relay is for her grandfather. She was young when he passed away from cancer and sadly, she has also

lost other family members to this horrible disease. Last year she also went through the loss of a dear mentor and friend.

Linder says, "Seeing how hard my family members and my friend fought to battle cancer has inspired me, and it drives me to do all I can to help end this horrible disease. I feel that if I don't do something, then it's like saying that their fight didn't mean anything."

Linder has participated in Relay for Life for 5 years now, and it was her first year as a team captain that she decided to get involved on the committee, which consists of individuals who are in charge of certain things that bring Relay all together.

She then was talked to about being event chair.

Linder says, "It was challenging last year since I was new to this side of Relay, but I found it extremely rewarding and had no hesitation about serving as event chair again this year."

A Chance to Celebrate—All survivors (anyone who has faced a cancer diagnosis) are invited to join us as our honorary guests in the Survivors' Victory Lap, which opens the Relay for Life.

Their strength and courage help the community see that cancer survivorship is real and celebrate the fact that we are making progress in the battle against cancer.

Joann Adkins was diagnosed with breast cancer on October 5, 2010. As of today, she is in remission but still has a long road of surgeries to come. This will be Adkins' second year to Relay and also participate in the survivor activities.

She says, "Relaying is very inspirational, and being a survivor, you get a different feeling about the whole experience. It's a great way to meet other survivors and hope to raise money that will help make a change and find a cure."

Adkins has undergone eleven radiation treatments and has had numerous surgeries since her diagnosis, which include several bi-

opsies, partial reconstruction of her breasts and skin grafts.

Due to her being unable to heal and several infections after her last surgery, she had to endure hyper-baric oxygen chamber treatments for six weeks that affected her vision, making her unable to drive. Due to her missing so much work, she was let go.

When she received her diagnosis, Adkins said she walked down

to the parking lot, sat in her truck, and asked to herself over and over, "Why me?"

Even though the cancer was caught early, she still felt devastated because she had seen other friends, including my father, and family members go through this disease.

A Chance to Remember—When the sun goes down,

See Relay for Life p. 4

HIST 2321.HRS: World Civilizations
Chase E. Machen, Ph.D.



Come join me for a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, religious, and intellectual history of the world from the emergence of human cultures through the 15th century. The course examines major cultural regions of the world in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania and their global interactions over time.

Fall Semester 2012

MW 1:00 – 2:15PM

For more information please contact Dr. Machen.
Email: machen@grayson.edu Phone: 903-415-2587

Can you identify the fantasy?

