Where Are Your Activity Fees Going?

By Heather Hodges
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Each semester, Gainesville College students pay an increasing amount of money for student activities fees. But the question remains for many GC students: Exactly what happens to this money?

The student activities budget for the 2002-2003 fiscal year is $228,583, according to Alicia Caudill, director of student activities. All of this money comes from the student activities fee that each student pays, in addition to tuition, at the beginning of every semester. The fee is mandatory for each student enrolled at GC. For fall semester, students paying six or less hours at GC paid $20 in activities fees; students paying seven or more hours paid $39.

GC’s student activities fees are comparable to other schools. The University of Georgia charges $25 per student per semester for student activities; athletic and health fees must be paid in addition to this fee, however. Perimeter College, a two-year college like GC, collects $42 from each student every semester; North Georgia College and State University receives $60 from students taking six or more hours, to be used for student activities each semester.

“Student activities fees are a University System mandate,” said Tom Walter, vice president of student affairs and coordinator of grants and contracts. “The University System office approves the amount of the fee for each institution.”

At GC, a group known as the Student Activity Fee Allocation Advisory Committee annually makes suggestions as to what this fee should be. But Angela Megaw, reference instruction librarian and chair of the SAF Allocation Advisory Committee, said, “We are an advisory committee, so we advise any changes to be made to the vice president of student affairs, who then turns to the president, who then takes it to the Board of Regents.”

The final amount of the fee is at the discretion of the University System office.

The SAF Committee has seven members. Four are students, appointed by the SGA president, and three are faculty members, appointed by the dean of the faculty. To be a part of the committee, a faculty member must be a full-time regular faculty member who is not affiliated with a particular club or organization,” said Walter.

As to criteria for the students, Walter says that there is no written criteria. However, Caudill hopes that the SGA president will “look for students who are open-minded in thinking about lots of student needs, and who can be the most fair with what they have,” Wendy DeRoche, the current SGA president, will make her decision by the end of the fall semester.

Caudill said, “We will never be able to please every student, but we certainly want to work with students to take their feedback into account and have them trust that the members of the committee will do the very best with the information they have.”

Once the money is collected, it must be allocated to the necessary organizations. This money is used for a “variety of educational, cultural, recreational and social activities,” according to the Student Activity Fee Policies and Procedures. The money is dispersed among campus organizations to cover supplies for their operation, student sponsored contests, student and advisor travel to conferences and meetings, and student workers. The colloquium series, fitness center, intramurals, drama and certain other programs are partially funded through student activities fees.

The dispersion of this money to over 40 qualifying organizations is also in the hands of the SAF Committee. It meets in spring to determine budgets for the upcoming year. These budgets are based on the current year’s enrollment, not the projected enrollment for the year for which the budget is being created. This is why the budget for student activities is not necessarily representative of the number of students or the growing number of clubs in school.

In spring 2002, the committee, led by chair Ray-Lynn Snowden, determined the allocation of the fees that were paid by students this semester. This year’s committee will have a meeting in the fall to “get an overview of the budget situation,” said Megaw.

The actual allocation process for the committee will not begin until spring 2003. “That is when the work of the committee really happens,” said Megaw. Each organization will be given the opportunity to submit a proposed budget for the upcoming year. Personal appeals at committee meetings will also be taken into consideration as the committee determines budgets. “Each club is responsible for making a budget presentation to the committee,” Megaw said. “We prefer that it be the student president and treasurer of that organization, but a lot of times club sponsors just do it. But we really prefer the students’ input.”

Once each club and organization submits its proposal and gives its presentation, questions will be asked of each organization to clarify any ambiguous uses outlined in the proposal, as well as to address any budgetary problems from the previous year.

According to Walter, these meetings are subject to the Georgia Public Meetings Law, but Megaw warns that the meetings are “very, very long and last very many days.”

Despite this law, each individual committee member’s decisions remain anonymous. Each member will be given a floppy disk, on which there is a spreadsheet that outlines the amount for which each organization is asking, how much they have been allotted in the past, what they actually spent and how much they are requesting. After the members make their decisions, the disks will be returned to Megaw, the amounts will be averaged, and the budget for each club will then be determined. As stated in the Policies and Procedures, “This allocation is considered final unless a request for an appeal is made in writing to the Student Activity Fee Committee within 24 hours.”

Once the money has been dispersed to the various organizations, “They pretty much have the freedom to spend the money, as long as it is within legal and policy limitation, the way that they see fit,” said Walter.

Budgeting will be somewhat different this year due to more clubs, new budgets, like the Athens Center, and late billing from spring 2002. “There is basically the same amount of money, but there are more clubs vying for that same amount,” Caudill said.

“Therefore, it feels, to clubs that have gotten money in the past, that there is less money,” Caudill recognizes that there are positive aspects of the tight funds. “It is a good problem to have because it means that our clubs and groups are really active,” she said.

If any extra money exists that was not anticipated when the budget was created, it will come from fees paid by the increase of students since last year, when the budget was created. Excess money can be used to fund new clubs or to assist clubs that are in need of more funds. However, Caudill noted that “even if we have extra money in fall, we want to be careful about how much of it we give. We know that some clubs will overspend.”

This year, Caudill hopes that organization overspending will be kept to a minimum. She said, “We are working hard with our advisors this year to try to get them to track their budgets, so we can see who is on and who is off.” Ultimately, Caudill wants clubs to “be more aware of the money and more sensitive to it.”
Perception of Two-Year Colleges Changing

By Candice Felice
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When deciding where to pursue higher education, two-year colleges have taken on a broader appeal to students, both academically and financially.

According to Clark Howard, consumer advocate for WSB radio, two-year college enrollment is rising rapidly for several reasons. Compared to a four-year university, tuition is very low at two-year colleges and some can be free. The curriculum the first two years is virtually the same at two-year colleges and universities. In addition, freshman classes at big schools can be huge, which does not allow for much individual attention.

"Gainesville College is a gateway of access that provides students with the opportunity to go on to higher education," stated Michael Stoy, vice president of academic affairs at GC, "Because of local access, two-year colleges can respond to the needs of the community quicker than a four-year school can." Stoy went on to say that the campus average 30 students or less, compared to large universities, where freshmen classrooms can have as many as 300 students, often taught by a teaching assistant.

"Access and excellence" are the words that GC registrar Susan Daniell uses to describe GC. "Students can gain access to four-year universities through two-year excellence in study," said Daniell. "It also provides a second chance for students to do well that didn't in high school. It builds a foundation for a four-year education."

"Even in the light of rapid growth at GC, we still remain student-oriented, and at the same time maintain and provide excellence in student preparation," said Daniell. "The University system student satisfaction survey ranked GC very high in student services overall."

"Gainesville is such a good school and I really couldn't afford to go to my first choice," said Kristy Plattner, a business major at GC. "Also, my older brother is an alumnus here and he talked me into going." Since coming to GC, she has observed many positive qualities of two-year colleges. "I have more one-on-one with my professors than I would at a larger university," said Plattner. "It also allows me to see what college life is really like. I would recommend it to anyone."

John D'Angelo, another GC business major, said that he, too, is satisfied with his choice of GC. "I like the convenience of being close to home, the cost, and the personalized attention from my professors," he said.

Whether students are in the beginning or middle of their college career, or are taking refresher courses for their continuing education, GC proves to be a sound choice for a great educational foundation.

Gainesville College Updates Website For Easy Use

By Christopher McDonnell
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Move over old, there is a new and improved Gainesville College website.

Valarie Reeves, GC webmaster, along with helpdesk worker Brian Gibbs, has given the GC website a whole new look. According to Reeves, "It was time for a fresh new look and the old look had grown stale."

GC was the third college in the University System of Georgia, behind the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech, to release its first website in 1994. The latest GC site was released one week before fall semester 2002.

One factor that contributed to the new look was an Office of Information Technology online survey, created by John Hamilton, director of institutional research. The survey gave faculty and students the opportunity to submit their ideas on changes that needed to be made.

The new GC website has many new capabilities which will help students and faculty navigate their way through the site much more easily. Some of the new features include a google search, which can be used to search anything within the GC campus, a site map under help which is laid out much more nicely, new links to other pages and new pictures. According to Reeves, the new website took approximately three to four months to finish.

The program that was used to create the website, FlashMX, is ideal for people with visual disabilities because it can either magnify text and graphics so that they can be more easily seen or actually read off of the screen to the person.

With the new look can we expect more changes in the future? "As far as I know it is for a couple of years, but nothing is set in stone," said Reeves.

Most of the feedback from the new site has been positive, with a minimum of negative comments, said Reeves. "Most people have really appreciated the new look," said Brandon Haag, assistant director of information technology/academic.

"It looks more modern and it gives the school the look of being more technologically savvy."
Professor Helps to Preserve Local History

By Kari Goodson
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Gainesville College is eternally preserving the voices of Gainesville’s past before they are forever forgotten.

The eternal voices belong to the people who lived in Chicopee Village about 50 years ago. Chicopee Village was a community formed in 1927 and 1928 by the Johnson & Johnson Corporation. The company built houses, schools, churches and a community store around its cotton mill. By doing this, Johnson & Johnson gave an “illustration of corporate paternalism,” said James Lorence, GC’s eminent scholar of history.

Lorence, along with other GC faculty, decided to study and orally present the history of the Chicopee Village since a faculty member lives there. The village immediately appealed to Lorence because it was consistent with his job requirements, which are to do research and writing on topics relating to Georgia history, and it was of scholarly interest to him. “It was a natural subject to interest me,” he said. Lorence said it was also a “serendipitous interest” between himself and the faculty member living there, because the faculty member wanted to learn more about the village, and studying of the village’s history met with Lorence’s job requirements.

The history needs to be preserved since Chicopee Village is changing so fast. Penny Mills, the director of special programs and owner of a Chicopee Village house, has seen many changes in the eight years she has lived there. According to Mills, many of the original owners are passing away or are too old to live alone. Some of their houses are being sold to young families or single professionals, while others are purchased for rental property. Mills, who is on the neighborhood board of associations, is concerned by the increased number of rental houses. “We’re afraid that the sense of neighborhood and community that has existed in the village may disappear,” said Mills.

Faculty members are hoping to preserve a piece of history that is in danger of being lost. “I think we need to preserve the story of a time when life was slower, simpler, and people forged lasting relationships with a company, the community and the people in it,” said Mills. They also hope to create educational information for students and teachers to use, and they hope to make a public history program about the village. The faculty working on the Chicopee Village project “want to make the community aware of Chicopee,” said Lorence.

Faculty members are gathering information on the village by interviewing 50 people that lived, worked, and grew up there. The college has hired a professional transcriptionist to write down the interviews for up to 20 people. Information is also being gathered through printed materials and items that community members have saved. “We are using whatever we can find,” said Lorence.

People from Chicopee Village said James Lorence, GC’s eminent scholar of history, is “important. The Chicopee community members talk about how living at the Chicopee Village has affected their lives.

Diversity Class Visits Civil Rights Sites Throughout Atlanta

By Heather Hodges
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On Nov. 15 nearly 40 Gainesville College students took a field trip to visit various civil rights sites in the Atlanta area.

The majority of the group was from the Issues in Diversity course, taught by Patricia Worrall, Theresa Dove-Waters and Penny Mills. Some members of the Black Student Union were also present. Worrall accompanied the group on the trip, along with GC professors Clayton Teem and Jeffrey Pardue.

The group met at GC at 7 a.m. in the parking lot of the CE building to board the charter bus. They departed at 7:20 to arrive early at Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Site.

The group first visited Martin Luther King’s Birth Home, located on Auburn Avenue. Though excited by seeing the site, the group was disappointed that they could not see the inside of the house.

From there, they walked to the Martin Luther King Memorial Building, where the group viewed Coretta Scott King’s rose garden, a short film and the exhibit “Without Sanctuary,” a collection of lynching photographs. From there, the group walked to Ebenezer Baptist Church, where King was a co-pastor. Students in the group were delighted to sit in the same place in the same pew where King sat.

The next destination on the tour was the APEX museum. Here, students observed photographs of famous African-Americans, slave documents and shackles used during slavery. Two films were also shown.

For lunch, the group dined on a buffet of fried chicken, fried catfish and cornbread at Paschal’s. King could often be observed here meeting with followers during the Civil Rights Movement. During the meal, an 80-year-old Paschal’s employee told the visitors tales of her experiences at the restaurant. She recalls that King was a “quiet man.”

After lunch, the tour progressed to the home of Alonzo Herndon, the first African-American millionaire in Atlanta. The group walked throughout the house, which was inhabited until the 1970s, to see the early 20th century furnishings.

The last destination was Underground Atlanta, where students and faculty viewed a model train that traveled around handmade models of buildings in old Atlanta. The students were then allowed time to walk through Underground. The well-informed but tired group returned to GC at 6 p.m.

Many GC students were able to enjoy the rose garden at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site during the Nov. 15 field trip. The rose garden was established by King’s wife, Coretta Scott King. Each rose is said to symbolize an attribute of Martin Luther King’s personality. The group also saw a collection of lynching photographs, brought from New York City, called “Without Sanctuary,” and traveled to the Ebenezer Baptist Church, where Martin Luther King was co-pastor.
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Is the Book Buy-Back System Working?

By Diana Macrina
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The book buy-back process begins innocently enough with a well-thought-out guess.

This system starts when Jackie Mauldin, Gainesville College bookstore manager, and her assistant guess an approximate number of books they will receive during the buy-back week. Usually half of the books bought the previous semester are brought back, says Mauldin. The buy-back takes place during final exam week and offers students half the book value.

Although getting half of one's money for text books seems unfair, is the book buy-back a good system? "I don't know another way to keep books in circulation," states Mauldin.

Offering an opposing view, GC student Adam Hamilton suggests, "Although the buy-back is a good idea, the prices should be more in line with the original prices, even if it only applies to used books."

There are a few exceptions when half the students' money will not be redeemed. If a book is not to be used again by the professor, students have the option of trying to sell the book to the used bookstore for 25 percent of its value. Books will not be bought back if they are wet or have pages torn out of them. Absolutely no workbooks can be brought back during the buy-back week.

Profits made from the book buy-back process will go directly to the school.

One concern among students is the multiple editions or different text for the same subject. The professors are the real decision makers on the text and edition used for the particular class, which is "their academic freedom," says Mauldin. The book store simply orders the books requested. So the real solution to this problem may be to have the professors choose one specific text for an entire field.

The buy-back system is a fairly reasonable one. It enables students to get half of their money back to put towards their books for the following semester, and may give those students some pocket money as well.

Get a Head Start on Transferring

By Melissa Maysonet
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Transferring to a new school at the college level requires careful thinking and much preparation, despite where a student may choose to go.

When students consider transferring, they know that two basic steps are mandatory. First, the student applies to the college they decide to attend and then the student has his/her transcript sent to that school. In theory, transferring seems simple enough, but in reality it is not so simple.

What students don't realize is they need to research the school of their choice thoroughly before applying. Most students wind up having problems with meeting requirements made by colleges. It's important to find out what these requirements are.

This information can be found on school websites. The best way to know if a college will accept your credits is by looking on their website. Since minimal hour requirements and grade point average are different in all schools, going to each individual school's website is important. Knowing this will help students to develop an education program useful for their major and the school they want to transfer to.

Students who are transferring between public colleges have a better chance of avoiding difficulty in transferring credits than those who transfer from a state school to a private school. When students transfer in state schools, only the major-specific classes may be affected with a significant change.

Amy Ivester, coordinator of academic advising, warns students to watch what math courses they choose. If students don't pay attention to what math is required for their major, they may end up taking more math than they should. Each major has different requirements for math and knowing which math to take for a major will prevent students from wasting time and money.

Transferring credit hours must be completed when applying to a school. Colleges don't consider courses that are in the process of completion as transferable credits. For credits that will apply to a transfer, students are requested to have their advisor write a program planning sheet that the registrar's office signs and sends to the school that student is transferring to. This is useful in securing credits that are not yet complete.

Also, students need to apply to their transferring school the semester prior to graduating or transferring.

Concerning the topic of students coming to GC, credit hours will be lost if the student coming has not graduated and the courses they have are not offered at GC.

For assistance with all your transferring needs, see the Advising Center located in the Student Activities building.
Academic II Courtyard Revamped for Student Lounging

By April Moore
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On a warm fall day, Jennifer Castello discovered an inviting and scenic little nook where she could sit and enjoy some quiet time away from the monotonous traffic of Gainesville College.

This nook, in the Academic II courtyard, is a spot that has been basically forgotten by students and faculty for quite some time. Before a series of new upgrades, it contained no real seating and was overgrown with shrubbery. However, Charles Karcher, chair of the social sciences division, spearheaded an effort to upgrade and maintain the courtyard for student and faculty use.

Recent additions to the courtyard include new tables with umbrellas and benches. Also, moderate amounts of landscaping have been done.

According to Karcher, he originally rallied for benches in the hallways because “there isn’t a student lounge in the Academic II building.” After he learned it was against fire codes, Karcher focused on the neglected courtyard.

“We did this because the courtyard sat there pretty much empty since I’ve been here,” said Julia Davies, administrative secretary of the social sciences division. She added that a fountain may be a future addition.

According to Davies, funds for the upgrades came from end of year funds. These are funds that are left over from the student activities budget. Faculty is given the opportunity to request portions of the money for certain projects. “It’s kind of a big wish pot,” said Davies.

Castello, a third year student at GC, commented on the appeal of the newly renovated Academic II courtyard, “I found the courtyard by accident one day when I was leaving school.”

“I like to sit in the Academic II courtyard because it’s secluded and away from the traffic, but sometimes during the summer it’s too hot in the direct sunlight,” said Castello. “I think a protective cover would be a great idea and more people would sit out here if there was some sort of protection overhead.”

“This is a good starting point,” stated Karcher. When asked about further upgrades, Karcher said there were no immediate plans, but suggestions were always welcome.
Geese: Nuisance or Not?

By Amber Day
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Gainesville College’s unofficial mascots are becoming more prevalent on campus and are becoming even harder to control. According to Jerry Spiceland, head of plant operations, “There have been several attempts to control the large number of Canadian Geese at GC, but few have been successful.”

The first attempt, which utilized a gun using blanks to distract the geese, worked for a few weeks until the birds became accustomed to the noise and didn’t respond to it anymore. Another failed attempt at controlling the population was the use of reflective tape as a means of distraction.

The canadian geese have become the unofficial GC mascots.

Thus far, the only process which has been successful is having border collies chase the geese. Without harming them, the dogs aggravate the geese and they leave. Another possible but expensive method is a spray, which resembles the scent of grape peelings. The chemical is planted on the ground, making the grass taste bitter and driving the geese away.

The Canadian Geese at GC, but few have been successful.

Thus far, the only process that has been successful is having border collies chase the geese. Without harming them, the dogs aggravate the geese and they leave. Another possible but expensive method is a spray, which resembles the scent of grape peelings. The chemical is planted on the ground, making the grass taste bitter and driving the geese away. One problem with this, besides the cost, is the fact that every time it rains, the spray has to be reapplied.

Combined with the amount of new geese born every summer, it is almost impossible to rid the area of the birds permanently. Each goose has three to four babies a year, says Spiceland.

The geese were originally brought to Lake Lanier, but eventually spread elsewhere, including GC. One reason for this is that people feed the geese, which makes them want to stay on the campus.

Amid rumors of students being fined for unintentionally hitting the geese, Marion Darracott, director of security at GC, says that, “if a goose is hit, it is considered an accident, and accidents are unavoidable and not intentional.” Of course, if a goose is injured purposely, then the proper punishment will be sought.

Spiceland feels the geese will be at GC for years to come because they will continue to leave lakes and relocate to golf courses and homes. Spiceland sums up his attitude toward the geese by stating, “although to many people the geese are beautiful animals, they create many maintenance problems.”

Darracott has a different perspective. He says, “the geese were here before me and will be here after I’m gone. They are a part of nature, and Gainesville College supports nature.”

Is Everything Really Relative?

By Todd DeWitt
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Is everything really relative? This is what Dr. Paul Copan intended to answer during his Oct. 22 colloquium speech at Gainesville College.

The main focus of Copan’s speech was relativism and the dangers of a relativistic world. “An increasing number of Americans believe that there is no such thing as objective truth, which would be true for all people, whether they believe that truth or not,” said Copan. He said that the relativist believes that “something can be true for one person but not for another.”

“If you are a relativist, then there is really nothing wrong with racism,” said Copan. “If there were relativism, then we could not think clearly about anything, since there is no truth to believe.” He said that relativists often believe that, “Everything is a matter of perspective, if you disagree with my statement then you are wrong.”

He then made three points to back up his beliefs. The first point he made was relativism denies that we are rational beings, adding that, “in theory, we accept contradictory and incoherent beliefs as true.” When Copan gave this point, he stated, “if someone believes that objective truth does not exist, that person probably believes that truth is one’s own perspective or opinion. However, if someone is a true relativist, they will think anyone making universally-true claims is really wrong and will strongly disagree.”

Copan ended his first point by saying that truth does not assume arrogance, but it should entail gratitude and humility. He said that it is a fact that we cannot deny that truth exists. He said that selective relativism is okay. Selective relativism is where a person believes that there is some truth, but is selective in what (s)he believes.

The second point he made was that relativism should be rejected because it demands denying that humans have dignity and rights and are moral beings. “If you believe in rights, then you also have to believe in wrongs,” Copan said. He said that the difficulty with this is that we want human rights to exist; the question is what gives humans their dignity? He explained by saying, “If God is the source of our dignity, then we are accountable to God.” He believes that the reason so many people resist the idea of objective morality is because they see the connection between moral values and God’s existence.

The final point Copan made was that relativism is practically unlivable and would become intolerable if it were unlivable. To avoid this problem, one must become a selective relativist.

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BRIEFS

Cardinals Win Softball
Congratulations to the Cardinals for winning the 2002 Intramural Softball Tournament. Team MVP Ashley Little made several diving catches and hit a walk-off grand slam to ensure a spot in the playoffs. The team never looked back in going on to capture the newly established trophy: The Blue Towel.

Spring Intramurals to be Posted
Make sure to check the Internet over the holidays for upcoming intramural events for spring semester. Go to www.gc.peachnet.edu/students/intramurals or call James Howard in the physical education department for more details.

Trophies Ready for Pick-Up
If you are a member of any championship intramural squad and have not received your Blue Towel trophy, see Joyce Ferguson in the physical education office to get your towel. Students must present a valid student Id.

Are You an Outstanding Athlete?
If you, or anyone you know who is affiliated with GC, excel at a sport and would like to be featured in the Compass, contact (770) 718-3820 or hhod2171@gc.peachnet.edu to set up an appointment.

Little is Big on the Outdoors

GC student Ashley Little is big on the outdoors. At any given time, he could be hanging out in the canopy of a hardwood forest waiting on that 10-point buck to walk across his path; he could be casting into a cove of murky water hoping to hook that 10-pound bass; he could even be roaming the silage fields waiting for a covey of quail to test his 12-gauge shotgun. It just does not get much better than this for the 21-year-old sophomore. I recently had a chance to not only chat with Ashley about what makes outdoor sports so great, but I did so on a still water pond off of Stowers road in northern Hall county. Although we had a slow day fishing, Little was still able to spill his guts.

ZT: So how long have you been involved with outdoor sports?
AL: Forever, man. As long as I can remember.
ZT: (While Ashley was reeling his first fish) So what do you like so much about being out on a pond like this, or sitting in your tree stand?
AL: It’s just relaxing. A getaway, you know. There is nothing better than being outside doing stuff like this instead of playing Nintendo all the time. Don’t get me wrong, I play my fair share, but wearing my friends out over and over again in football gets old.

ZT: Then doesn’t reeling in fish after fish, or shooting another deer get old as well?
AL: Never.

ZT: Why is that?
AL: It’s just a rush. The feeling you get when you pop that big buck, or reel in a monster is unreal. There is just nothing else like it.
ZT: Well from what I understand, you have nick-named yourself DEERSLYR. Can you explain that one to me?
AL: (Laughing) Because that is just what I am! Those guys are just jealous. They also call me Ass-master instead of Bass Master, so who knows.
ZT: Well DEERSLYR, how many trophy bucks have you tagged this year?
AL: I shot a seven-pointer on opening day of gun season, but that’s all so far. I let an eight walk last weekend, but no trophies though.

ZT: I believe I would have taken a shot on that eight. Why did you let it walk?
AL: Well, I saw it at daylight and I would have taken it, but I figured I’d see a bigger one.

ZT: Always looking for the big one, huh?
AL: That’s what it’s all about.
ZT: I hear ya!
Honestly, I could have spent the rest of the evening fishing that murky pond, but I had to run to class and deliver a presentation. It was getting cold, and the fish we caught were pretty small, so we called it a day. The trip was pretty fun, though. As an outdoorsman myself, I can tell you that fishing trips are marked by two key things: the fish you catch and the stories you tell. I know my mouth did not shut for one second, and he can ramble with the best of them. One thing is for sure though: Ashley Little is definitely a hardcore outdoorsman.

P.E. FACILITY HOURS

Fitness Center
M,W: 6-7:50a.m. and 12-9:45p.m.
T,TH: 6-7:50a.m. and 12-9:45p.m.
F: 6-7:50a.m. and 11-3:45p.m.
Sat: 8-10:45a.m.
Sun: CLOSED

Gym
M,T,W,TH: 8-9:45p.m.
F: 8-3p.m.
Sat: 8-10:45a.m.
Sun: CLOSED

Pool
M,W: 6-7:50a.m. and 11-11:50a.m.
4-5:30p.m. and 7:45-9:45p.m.
T,TH: 6-7:50a.m. and 4-9:45p.m.
F: 6-7:50a.m. and 11-11:50a.m.
Sat: 8-10:50a.m.
Sun: CLOSED
Fall Festival Is Success for Kids and Clubs

By Jennifer G. Kent
Clubs Editor
jken7130@gc.peachnet.edu

Gainesville College clubs and organizations were given the opportunity to volunteer their time to local children while enjoying a day of fun and festivities themselves.

Fall Festival was held Nov. 1 in the gym. It is hosted every year by SGA for the kindergarteners of Oakwood and White Sulfur Springs Elementary Schools.

This year was “the best year yet,” according to Jennifer Collom, secretary of SGA. It was huge accomplishment for such a big yearly event that there was not a single complaint from anyone.

There were 16 clubs/associations participating in the Fall Festival. The Anime Club was there showing anime films and passing out Japanese candy.

The Elementary School Teachers seemed to be rather impressed, the children loved it, and the club members participating really enjoyed it as well. “Meet Mr. And Mrs. Scuba” was sponsored by the GC Skin Divers, who utilized the pool to show students the ins and outs of scuba diving, in addition to letting them see two students dressed in full scuba gear. A cake walk was hosted by BSA and the visual arts magazine got together to do face paintings.

One of the more elaborate face paintings was a boy who had his entire face painted to look like a lion. A cd toss was sponsored by the Computer Club.

Any clubs that missed out on this wonderful opportunity should remember that there is always next year.

LSA Sponsors Events

By Summer LaPann
Contributing Writer
slap8232@gc.peachnet.edu

October 22 was the beginning of a new idea starting this holiday season is Snowflake Kids, inspired by Chattahoochee Baptist Association’s Secret Santa Project and co-sponsored by Student Government.

Snowflake Kids is a smart holiday project created to help underprivileged children enjoy a merrier Christmas.

SGA was in the Student Center on Nov. 19, Nov. 20 and Nov. 21 holding sign-ups for the project. People participating signed up at the table and then chose a snowflake from a tree containing the child’s age, gender, shoe size, clothing sizes and the child’s preferred toy.

Anyone who wishes to participate but missed the sign-up will have another opportunity to do so; just go into the Student Activities office and see Patti Holden for a snowflake. Present drop-offs will be due on Dec. 6.

And as if the rewarding feeling of helping out a deserving child this Christmas is not enough, all sponsors will also receive a blue and silver ribbon in appreciation of their support.
Museums are Out-of-Class Alternative for Athens Students

By Michelle Callner
Staff Writer
mca3581@gc.peachnet.edu

Students at the Athens Center of Gainesville College are not cut short with activities to entertain themselves outside of academia.

From great bands performing every weekend in town to the numerous movie and performance theatres, there are plenty of activities to engage in. When the theatre and rock shows feel dry there is always the magnificently cultural experience of the Georgia Museum of Art or the Lyndon House Arts Center.

The Georgia Museum of Art is a five minute drive from the Athens Center campus and has plenty of parking. There is no charge for the museum, only a one dollar suggested donation. So for a dollar (or the donation that is chosen) students can enjoy great artists’ collections from local modern painter Lawrence Forte, to older more historical painters such as James Abbott McNeill Whistler from the late 1870s. The museum was originally Alfred H. Holbrook’s private collection. Since 1948, the museum has been open to the public. This architecturally beautiful museum has an open and spacious feel on the inside, with huge windows that allow natural light to fill the building. The museum displays paintings, sculpture, ceramics, lithographs, photographs, quilts and even graphic arts. The museum for 54 years has contributed to the culture of Athens.

Like the Georgia Museum of Art, the Lyndon House Arts Center was not originally intended to be a gallery for the arts, but was built as a home for Edward Ware, the first mayor of Athens in the 1840s. During the 1880s, Lyndon bought this home where his family resided until the turn of the century. At this time the city of Athens, only owning city hall, purchased the house. The city used this house for numerous uses from a hospital to a canteen until the 1970s, when it was turned into an art center. The art center was used so frequently that, due to private donations and grants in 1997, the people of the Lyndon House were able to build a 25,000 square foot addition. The addition is serving as seven classroom studios, a wing for children events and workshops, a resource library, a gallery shop and five exhibition galleries. The arts center allows for the public to enjoy the art and history of the home and it has ample space to rent out for special functions and occasions.

Walking through both the Georgia Museum of Art and the Lyndon House Art Center is truly an inspirational experience, and with that inspiration one can sign up for numerous workshops that are offered through both institutions.

If it is not possible to attend the museum or arts center individually, students can sign up for Art Appreciation, and thanks to Stacey Koffman, assistant professor of art at GC, students will be required to embrace these amazing sanctuaries of creativity.

Will the Athens Campus Move?
What will be the fate of the Athens Center if the Wal-Mart proposal dies?

By Michelle Callner
Staff Writer
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A few months ago, a proposal was made for the Athens Center of Gainesville College to be moved into the old Wal-Mart Shopping Center.

Following this proposal, Ronnie Booth, vice president for external programs stated, “The Wal-Mart proposal was tabled by the Board [of Regents] at its last meeting. It may or may not come up again; anything I say at this point would be pure speculation.”

Now GC Athens students are anxious to learn of the new plan. Booth said that he is “weekly looking at other options. Everything from raw land to existing facilities is on the table for discussion,” said Booth. “Our goal is to have a number of possible options up for consideration if the Wal-Mart proposal dies, depending on the financial arrangements for its sale.”

The core of this transition is to accommodate both students and faculty, meeting their needs for classroom space, labs, academic support areas, a library and other accommodations that are now found on the main campus of GC. But as Booth stated, “We cannot instantly replicate in Athens everything that we have in Gainesville.”

Expanding the Athens Center will be implemented as time and money allows. The GC administration is continuously making efforts toward improving the facilities at the Athens Center.

Last month GC began leasing a house in Athens as a temporary solution, which allows students more space for studying, tutorial assistance and computers, as well as supplying faculty some much-needed office space.

The house is proof of the school’s commitment to improve the facilities for students and faculty. This process can be “unnerving,” as Booth states, but is also exciting for everyone involved.
MONEY FOR SCHOOL

"My father pays for everything, but I work part-time at Rich's at the Mall of Georgia.

Name: Ebony Wells
Major: Dental Hygiene
Year: Freshman
Plans for next year: Gainesville College

My parents pay for school, but I have to pay for everything else.

Name: Joe Bryce
Major: Business Administration
Year: Sophomore
Plans for next year: North Georgia College and State University

"My Daddy pays for school, and I pay everything else. I work full-time."

Name: Nicci Morrison
Major: Hospitality Management
Year: Freshman
Plans for next year: Gwinnett Tech

I had HOPE last semester and my parents helped out. This term I'm paying my own tuition out of my savings.

Name: Michael Ashley
Major: Art
Year: Sophomore
Plans for next year: Georgia State University

Get Paid To

Free Money Websites

www.fastweb.com
www.finaid.org
www.collegeboard.org
www.usnews.com
www.hsf.net
www.nasfaa.org
www.college-scholarships.com
www.scholaraid.com
www.collegelink.com
www.srnexpress.com
www.collegenet.com
www.scholarships.com

By Heather Hodges
Editor-in-Chief
Rochester Institute of Technology

Each year over $50 billion in scholarship money is disbursed. Three million of that went to Gainesville College students last year. Did you claim your part? It's not easy, but despite common beliefs, it is possible to have a 3.0 GPA and be a full-time volunteer to get money for college.

Scholarship money often goes unclaimed, sometimes up to $640 million a year. There are multiple websites available to students who are looking for some extra college money. The Internet is one of the easiest and most readily available tools for searching for scholarships. There are multiple websites solely devoted to finding scholarships. In addition to finding academic qualifications that fit a student's individual profile, websites such as fastweb.com gather information from each student regarding academics, interests, location and background which are used to narrow the scholarship results to the particular student.

Scholarship money can be found on the Internet, but just about any student's profile. There is even money out there just for being a non-smoker, a twin or a lefty. The drawback to Internet scholarships is that they are extremely competitive, since many students sometimes thousands, apply for most of these.

Students should never pay money for online scholarship searches. There are a number of free and legitimate websites that will provide this service. And as always, one of the most popular ways to get money is through federal, state and institutional financial aid. But don't forget that it's a requirement to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be considered for any scholarships, grants and loans.

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Where Do You Get It?

Free Money Books
The A's and B's of Academic Scholarships How to Go to College Almost for Free The Scholarship Book How to Go to College for Free Peterson's College Money Handbook Peterson's Scholarship Almanac College Financial Aid for Dummies The Scholarship Advisor The B Student's Complete-Scholarship Book Peterson's Scholarships and Loans for Adult Students

To College

ways, be sure to read the fine print before giving out personal information—some websites sell names to other companies.

For those who may be a little less internet savvy, hundreds of books are printed each year that include compiled lists of scholarships, as well as tips for being a competitive scholarship applicant. Some popular books are "College Financial Aid for Dummies," "Peterson's Scholarship Almanac," "How to Go to College for Free," and "The B Student's Complete Scholarship Book." Like those found on the internet, these scholarships can be highly competitive, but oftentimes, these are the ones that go unclaimed.

GC's financial aid office may be the best place for GC students to find scholarships. Students can pick up a Financial Aid Packet, in which an Institutional Scholarships sheet may be found. On this sheet, over 30 scholarships just for GC students are listed. The money for these scholarships comes from alumni, companies, and other organizations in the surrounding community. When a student fills out the FAFSA, the federal application for student aid, and the SFS, the supplemental financial information sheet, (s)he applies for these scholarships.

The people in the financial aid office can also help students identify potential scholarship opportunities for involvement around campus. The office is located in the student center.

Students who plan on transferring to another school should become acquainted with the financial aid office at their future college to learn about available scholarships. Visiting the school's website may also prove helpful in the quest for institutional scholarships at future schools.

Get out there and compete for those scholarships. With that much money available, why shouldn't you?
'Ragtime' Wows Audiences

By Michelle Gilstrap
A&E Editor
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Before Nov. 7, “Rent” was twice over the most astonishing, inspiring play I had ever seen, but that has changed.

“Ragtime” both amazed and astounded me. There were moments that left me truly breathless. Seeing it was the most incredible theatrical experience of my life. The vocals overall were great, but Jerold Solomon, Becca Ramsey, and Christina Owens surpassed any description I could insert here. Owens’ voice was like a hand on my heart. During joyful songs, the hand lifted up my heart, and during sad songs the hand squeezed my heart until it felt like it would burst. Ramsey and Owens, both Brenau University students, have never failed to impress me, but their performances in “Ragtime” surpassed all expectations that I ever had for them.

I knew that “Ragtime” was going to be a great show because GTA always produces great shows, but the national tour might as well have been performing in the new Hosh Theatre right here in Gainesville, Georgia based on the show quality. The costumes and set were beautiful, as well. Most of them were from the national tour, but they still deserve praise. The choreography was remarkable. The entire stage was utilized so that each audience member felt like he or she had the best seat in the house.

While I have not seen an large number of GTA productions, I feel it is probably safe to say that “Ragtime” ranks among its all-time greatest shows.

'2 Dog' Can’t Run with the Big Dogs

By Jillian Huffman
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While “2 Dog Café’s” premise of a unique cuisine means well, the actual product is not quite up to par.

Located on the square of downtown Gainesville, “2 Dog Café” has a setting which resembles that of a more metropolitan city. The café is owned by Tim Roberts and has been in business for about 5 years. Roberts is a self-taught chef who has owned other restaurants before. Roberts says the name of the café comes from the fact that he has 2 dogs and it is “as simple as that.”

Overall, the dinner prices are affordable for the college student in search of a nice meal. Appetizers, which include an incredible bruschetta, are about five dollars each.

The menu includes typical cafe fare, ranging from pizza to quesadillas to pasta dishes. One of my friends decided to stick with what was safe and order pizza (I find that pizza remains best when made at a real Italian restaurant). The quesadilla choices include one which is stuffed with feta, havarti cheese, white cheddar and parmesan cheese, topped with their own ranchero sauce—adding a kick to the common quesadilla. I enjoyed the special of the night, shrimp and portabella mushrooms on a bed of angel hair pasta with alfredo sauce. While the idea was nice, I must say that I was a little disappointed with the dish. The alfredo sauce contained nothing special to make it different than any other alfredo. I believe maybe a garlic butter sauce would have done the mushrooms more justice. The house specialty, on the other hand, was a rendition of beans and rice. This dish can be topped with either portabella mushrooms or sausage and feta cheese. This was quite tasty and fortunately is offered on the menu every night. “2 Dog Café” takes the everyday norm of popular food and adds a little kick to the palate. A salad came with the entrée I ordered; it was topped with balsamic vinaigrette, and was also very tasty.

The best part of the meal comes last—dessert. There was only one dessert the night I went. Made from scratch at the café, 2 Dog’s peanut butter pie with chocolate ganache was to die for. The dessert was rich and the portions were large enough for everyone at the table, and it satisfied all of our cravings for something sweet.

The paintings of various chickens and the warm lighting enticed me to experience the food of the creatively decorated “2 Dog Café.” The menu differed from the typical foods found on typical café menus. The restaurant declares their cuisine to be “Rustic Euro Soul Food.” With a wide selection of food and beverage choices, the restaurant appeared to be a great place to dine with my friends one Friday evening, and perhaps enjoy a glass of wine.

Aside from the food, the atmosphere was relaxed and calm for a Friday night. The air was reserved with a minimum amount of conversation. Dress is casual, but you wouldn’t be out of place if you decided to get a little dressed up. I really feel that low set jazz or blues music would have been perfect for the mood of the restaurant, but unfortunately tunes were nowhere to be heard. There was an artful little boutique above the restaurant, called “The Artchoke,” which is owned by the 2 Dog’s owner’s wife Tina Grubbs. One could browse through the store while waiting to be seated. 2 Dog’s décor aims for a contemporary bohemian setting, and is carries over to the art work for sale upstairs. In general, though, the food did not live up to the expectations set by the décor.

Dinner hours are 5-9 Tues., Wed. and 5-10 Fri. and Sat., closed Mon and Sun. Lunch hours are Mon-Fri. 10:30-2:30 and 11-4 on Saturdays.

Chestatee Review Needs You

By April Landry
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Are you an unpublished author or artist, waiting to be discovered?

The Chestatee Review, the literary magazine of Gainesville College is now looking for writers and artists. The Chestatee Review provides unpublished writers and artists the opportunity to see their work in print, says CR editor Matt Lewis. The Chestatee Review accepts poetry, short stories and artwork such as paintings, photographs or drawings.

Students interested in seeing their work in the spring 2003 edition may submit work to Tom Sauret in Academic II, room 172. The deadlines are Jan. 17, 2003 for written works, and Jan. 31, 2003 for artwork. Those interested in joining the staff of the magazine can sign up for ENGL 2802, the Magazine Production II class in charge of the Chestatee Review.

In addition, the English Club is holding a writing contest for student writers at GC. Submissions are due by noon, Dec. 5, and should be turned in to Sauret. First place winners receive a prize of $100, second place winners receive $75, and third place receives $50. Winning entries take pride of place in the magazine. Winners will be notified by April 16, 2003 (date subject to change). Prizes will be awarded spring semester 2003.

Chestatee Review will be submitted to the magazine contest of the Southern Literary Festival, a regional conference of college-based authors and writers. In the past, CR has received second- and third-place prizes at the festival, as well as several honorable mentions.

SEA Sponsors Art Exhibit

'Earth Art' Proves That GC Students Really Do Care About Preserving the Earth and Our Environment

By Josh Poole
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There are those who really do care about the earth. This was the message of the Students for Environmental Awareness Earth Art Exhibit sponsored Ed Mayhew.

One might certainly be inclined to believe so after having viewed the display, which was shown through November 14 in the Continuing Education building. The exhibit was a collection of more than 150 pieces of art from various high schools in the Gainesville-Hall County area.

The works shown were placed in a variety of categories, and one of particular interest was the recyclables group. This collection showcased artwork constructed from recyclable materials such as soda and water bottle labels, old newspaper and magazine pages, and even aluminum foil.

"It's a wonderful attempt to show that students are interested in saving the planet," says Janice White, visiting from neighboring West Hall High School. "The way some of these exhibits are constructed, whether it be the materials or the raw thought, is phenomenal."
ARE YOU AN ASPIRING, UNPUBLISHED AUTHOR OR ARTIST?
THE CHESTATEE REVIEW WANTS YOUR WORK!

The Chestatee Review
SPRING 2002

Submissions are now being accepted for the Spring 2003 edition of the CHESTATEE REVIEW,
Gainesville College's award-winning literary magazine.
Short stories, poems, and artwork of all kinds needed!
Please contact Matt Lewis (mlewow0530@gc.peachnet.edu) or Tom Sauret, Academic II, room 172 for details.

Deadline: January 17, 2003 for written works, January 31, 2003 for artwork

SEE YOUR WORK IN PRINT! GET PUBLISHED IN THE CHESTATEE REVIEW!
How Holiday-Ready is Your PC?

It is getting to be that time of year again. The holidays are right around the corner and it's the time of season for goodwill, good friends, too much shopping and a warm sense of security. Looking for some gift ideas? These sites can help you out. Want to know that this Christmas your pc is as safe as your ADT protected household? Here are some helpful hints to relieve your mind.

You've looked far and wide for that perfect gift. You have a big heart and shallow pockets. Hop on over to YourFreePresent.com, where for the low price of just $5.93 in shipping (per item) you can pick up something nice for a friend or family member. The website has a limit of twenty free items per person (not bad, aside from the evil shipping charges). Should you decide to use this site, just make certain that the item you get is worth the shipping charges.

Still can't find a thing? Or maybe you have a bit more money that you can spend. Hit up www.Surprise.com for gift ideas for every occasion. Just use it for ideas though, because the websites that it directs a user to in order to buy the gifts are a tad expensive. Need another opinion on gift ideas? Then head over to www.findgift.com. Both sites are quite helpful when looking for that one impossible-to-buy-for person.

Now you've found the perfect gifts and you know they're safe because of that awesome security system your house is protected with. However, while buying your gifts on-line, some hacker managed to steal your credit card number. That is definitely not good. To help keep your credit card number safe while shopping online, always make certain that the site you are using is a secure site or use Verisign. If you really want to be sure though, abstain from buying on-line.

A few more helpful items to lock down your computer this holiday are VirusScan or Anti-virus software. This will protect you from losing all of your valuable information and keep you from having to buy another pc right around the holidays. There are two big VirusScan companies out there at this point: Norton and McAfee. Having used both, McAfee is the more impressive and user-friendly of the two (not to mention, in a good number of stores, McAfee is also cheaper than Norton). If you feel that you need to try out the product before buying it, McAfee also has a trial version (though you'll be required to fill out a questionnaire before download). Find the evaluation software at http://download.mcafee.com/eval/evaluate2.asp.

Also for maximum protection this holiday season a firewall is always a good thing to have, so grab ZoneAlarm for serious pc protection. You can either buy it or download the free version. Unless you own a big business that requires the pay version, stick with the free version for personal home use. Find ZoneAlarm at www.cnet.com under the downloads section.

Stay safe, happy and enlightened this holiday season. Safe knowing that the firewall is protecting all your information, happy, now that you know what to get for the impossible-to-buy-for person and enlightened by way of the web.

‘Lord of the Rings’ on DVD

As I write this, I am waiting (im)patiently for the arrival of my Super-Deluxe Platinum Ultra-Special Highly-Limited Limited Edition Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Rings DVD box set to arrive from Amazon. This thing is beyond cool. Five, count ‘em, FIVE discs. An entire half-hour of extra footage, not merely tacked on to the end, but actually REINTEGRATED INTO THE MOVIE. Something like six hours (SIX!!) of commentaries and documentary footage! And, AND, two hellaciously cool cold-cast resin bookends modeled after the Pillars of Argathon! What I’m trying to get across here is that the only way this thing could be any cooler is if Gandalf the Grey were to ride up on Shadowfax and deliver it to me in person (Okay, so I’m a geek. Sue me).

This, coupled with the imminent release of LOTR: The Two Towers next month, brings me to our topic. I recall that, upon leaving the theatre after my umpteen viewing of Fellowship, I was given pause by the rather loud conversation of a couple walking behind me. The girl said, “It was pretty good, but I didn’t like the ending. It just sorta stopped.” To which her erstwhile boyfriend replied in the exasperated tone one uses with uncultured hoi polloi, “It’s supposed to end like that. There’re two more movies to come!” “Oh,” she said. “I didn’t know.” I managed by a heavy application of molar to tongue to refrain from comment at the time, but I sympathized with the poor devil. Subsequently, during a post-movie orgy of posting on AinItCoolNews.com (best site on the web for genre film—tell ‘em “Shai-Hulud” sent you!) I was to discover that this woeful ignorance of Tolkien’s work was much more widespread than I realized. Several folks posting that night were of the mind that the books didn’t matter; that the film was all you needed. Naturally, my English-major blood boiled at this, and I dashed off an inductive-laden missive decrying the general ignorance of the posters (and with some unfortunate comments on their lineage and personal hygiene; I was pretty hacked off). I guess what irks me is that some people seem to feel the fact that a film has been made of a book obviates any need to actually read the book. I can’t understand this attitude. Films of books are all very well, and indeed, in some cases, such as Fellowship, are utterly brilliant, but nothing can take the place of actually, physically reading the story. Think about it. Those of you who have read the Lord of the Rings trilogy understand that the written story is far deeper and richer than the filmed one, magnificent though it is. From Tom Bombadil to the Barrow-wights to the intricate family politics of the Shire, the elements of the story that the film leaves out give the written tale a lush detail that it might take ten films to show. And not only that, but the sheer act of reading in and of itself is something that no film can replace. Watching a truly good film is a wonderful experience, but reading a good book is at least equally wonderful, if not more so. I love movies, as I hope my little column over the past couple of months has made abundantly clear, but to sit in an easy chair and surrender to the lure of a really good book is an experience like no other. Film is at heart a visual medium; it can’t give you the multisensory experience a book can. The feel of the paper crackling under one’s fingertips, the style of the font, the very pattern of the words on the page, the crack of the spine of a new paperback, the creak of that of an old hardcover, the sharp smell of new ink, or the musty, dusty scent of a forgotten tome rediscovered in some used-book shop: these are sensations the true bibliophile knows can never be supplanted by mere celluloid. I’m looking forward, in my geekish way, to having the Fellowship film in my hands, but if you were to give me a choice between having the film and having the books, I know which I’d pick.
Patterson Changes from Thills & Chills To Love & Tears

James Patterson’s novel, “Suzanne’s Diary for Nicholas” is unlike any other novel he has ever written. We come to expect thrillers and suspense novels from him, such as his best sellers “Along Came a Spider” and “Kiss the Girls.” “Suzanne’s Diary for Nicholas” is the complete opposite of these books.

This book is a love story and a tear jerker through and through. Sorry boys, this is a sappy story for the ladies on campus. There is no hidden plot, no murder mystery that just has to be solved before time runs out. You may be asking, “Can Patterson actually write a love story? Does he know how to get out of the thriller mode and really write something romantic?” The answer is an unequivocal YES! Patterson takes us on a journey through heartache and love so compelling and emotional that you find you can’t put the book down until the very last page has been read.

“Suzanne’s Diary for Nicholas,” is a story about a woman who loses love and can’t understand what has happened until she reads a diary her former lover had given her. The novel takes us back and forth between what is written in the diary and the thoughts and feelings of Katie, who is reading it. Suzanne, the author of the diary, decides to record all her thoughts and feelings in a journal so that her son can read it when he is older. She starts the journal when little Nicholas is just two weeks old. She talks about how she and the baby’s father met, fell in love, how they got married and what her pregnancy was like. She writes in the journal consistently up until his first birthday. Then the unthinkable happens. Now this is where I stop. I don’t want to give anything away. What would be the point of you reading it if I did?

Obviously, Katie’s lover turns out to be Matt, Suzanne’s husband and Nicholas’ father. You find that out just by reading the jacket of the book. And as you read the book, tons of different concepts will filter through your mind. Why does Matt have Katie as a lover if he has a wife? What happens between them? Will Katie and Suzanne ever meet? Will Katie get to see Matt’s son?

The book is a page turner till the end. Patterson puts such feeling and emotion into this book that you find it hard to believe it’s not real. You find yourself sympathizing with all the characters and at some points cursing them.

I loved this book so much that anytime a friend asks me to recommend a book for them to read, if they haven’t already read it, this is the one I recommend. I think that even a guy could enjoy this book, and if you’re embarrassed to read a love story, read it in private. If you don’t mind a few tears falling, it’s a great story to read. Patterson is an amazing storyteller and he proves it by taking a break from the thriller novels and opening up this enchanting, soul searching tale.

The Queens Mix It Up

Queens of the Stone Age have been there for me since day one. Whenever I am sick and tired of hearing the same old recycled pseudo-metal riffs over bad raps by kids who have never even seen the ghetto, their music is always there to provide me with the hot rock. Imagine the original Thin Lizzy line-up and early Metallica jamming at the same time and you have got Queens of the Stone Age. So when I heard that The Queens were coming out with a new album (the first 200,000 copies also come with a DVD) I was really excited, to say the least. But “Songs For The Dead,” a good album, sadly falls short of its predecessors.

The album opens up with the blistering “Millionaire,” a song that will have you on the edge of your seat as you strain to hear it one second, and then it will blow you right back into your seat as it kicks in at full force. The frenetic pace comes to a sudden halt as you are jarred into the single from the album, “No One Knows.” While this is a good song, it sounds a lot like ZZ Top’s “Sharp Dressed Man” played by a metal band. The song sounds bad, but it will grow on you and infect your head with its catchiness. The Queens pretty much keep up the style of slow one song, fast the next for the entire album. There is no middle ground on this record.

While there are many hits on this album, it is got its share of misses. “The Song For The Dead” lumbers on and on upon the same riff with no real changes in sight, save for a couple of interludes and solos. “Go With The Flow” sounds like a bad teenage garage band trying to sound just like The Ramones. The lyrics on this album are a bit adolescent as they sing about murderous hitchhikers (“Six Shooter”), “bad” love (“First It Giveth”), and the obligatory drug song (“Millionaire”). I won’t even get into the secret track, “Mosquito Song,” as they jam on and on to the point of sheer annoyance.

The good outweighs the bad and, in the end, The Queens have turned out a really good rock-and-roll album made to be played loud enough to puncture your eardrums. This album is no masterpiece, but it’s still good enough to buy.

*WARNING: This album contains explicit lyrics.*
GC Out & About!

The Compass wants to know where you go, what you do and who you do it with!
The best photo each month will win a prize!
Submit your photos and location to:
Diego Ibarra @
oiba6199@gc.peachnet.edu
Aquarians:
The Water Bearer
Jan. 21 to Feb. 19
"Two whales are swimming together. One says to the other in a coo, 'oooooowoooo' (do this noise as long as possible). The other whale looks at him and says, 'What did you say?'" Fortune: Old McDonald had a farm, EIEIO, and on that farm he had a pig.

Pisces:
The Fish
Feb. 20 to March 20
Honor your mother by beginning everything you say this month with, "My mother would say..." like "My mother would say, 'I need to get this removed,'" and so on. Fortune: Your mother passes onto you her good qualities, not her underwear.

Aries:
The Ram
March 21 to April 20
Honor your crazy side by ending everything you say this month with, "in accordance to the prophecy." For example, "I'll have two tacos and a bean burrito, in accordance to the prophecy," and so on. Fortune: Prejudice is present when you refuse to eat black beans.

Sagittarius
The Archer
Nov. 23 to Dec. 21
Did you know you could name a star after someone? That's a great way to get someone's admiration, unless they JUST DON'T LIKE YOU! You could buy the Milky Way and they'd still snub you! Heck, God is a creator and people hate him. So much for your romanticism. Fortune: Great stories arise not from war, but from great experiences with sadomasochists.

Capricorn:
The Goat
Dec. 22 to Jan. 20
Don't you ever feel like getting DIRTY? I know that deep down inside that pristine exterior there's a nasty little creature of filth lurking. My little creature likes ice cream, in my lap. You need to take your creature out for a little walk and buy it ice cream to dump all over yourself, too. Fortune: When someone turns their nose up to you, it probably means you stink.

Taurus:
The Bull
April 21 to May 21
Just because you are PERFECT does not mean that you have to point out everyone's imperfections. If Taurians heeded this advice, little teeny-boppers would actually let their lunches digest! Fortune: Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, or in the eye of the cyclops.

Gemini:
The Twins
May 22 to June 21
You can't tell a Gemini to shut up because it just makes us talk more and when we talk more we ramble and when we ramble we talk about weird things like oil deposits in Canada. Fortune: Big things come in small packages and little peckers come in expensive sports cars.

Cancer:
The Crab
June 22 to July 22
You can sleep when you have won the battle against Corp. America and it's enslavement of a lazy society in the form of "Goober Grapes". You are justified with the concern of the public's inability to take a knife and separately spread PB&J. Fortune: Help! I am being held prisoner in a Chinese bakery.

Leo:
The Lion
July 23 to Aug. 22
Okay so I have more Leonian friends than I thought I had, and I do like all of you! But until you quit whining, "It's my horoscope and I'll Leo-bash if I want to! Leo-bash if I want to! You would bash, too, if a Leo knew you!" Fortune: Watch your back!

Virgo:
The Virgin
Aug. 23 to Sept. 23
Madam Mariquita says, "A second-hand gift is rarely appreciated when at first-hand it was declined". Stop being so cheap, and live a little. Fortune: A penny saved is a penny you can't spend on a "forty," for your honey in the back seat.

Libra:
The Scales
Sept. 24 to Oct. 23
Fortune will shine upon you this month! You will lose your pants and gain a friend! Yippee! Don't let this excitement fool you, if you don't reciprocate the favor you'll end up coming up short, if you know what I mean. Fortune: Don't count your chickens till you've got them hot and heavy and ready to hatch.

Scorpio:
The Scorpion
Oct. 22 to Nov. 22
Disregard what you might have learned before about appearances of the opposite sex. Set your standards high when choosing a significant other. Do not settle for missing teeth and appendages that could have been prevented. Fortune: Appearances can be deceiving, but it doesn't matter in the dark.
Dear Anchor Man readers,

My wife just left me; she took our beautiful kids with her. My little dog ran away. My company fired me because I lost the big account. My comic got bought out by a film company jumping on the superhero band wagon. "Anchor Man" will be a major motion picture next fall. Macaulay Culkin is coming out of retirement to play the role of Anchor Man. It will feature an all star cast of Charlie Sheen, Robert Downey Jr, J-Lo and one of those Baldwin brothers. The film company shamelessly stole the rights to the comic. I will receive no compensation for my creative property. Due to contractual reasons the comic has been discontinued and I am being sued. The joke's on them, though. I have a terminal disease and will be dead within three months. (Suckers!) Sorry...

Sincerely,

Drew Sherwood
The guy who created and wrote Anchor Man
THE VOICE OF THE COMPASS

Keep Our Best Interest in Mind

Every semester, each Gainesville College student is given 500 sheets of paper on which (s)he may print from any of the student-accessible computers on campus.

Each student essentially pays for all 500 sheets, used and unused, when (s)he pays tuition and related fees, but not all students take full advantage of this account.

Some students go over their limit, having to pay for extra sheets, but others use only a few sheets. These students are never reimbursed for the unused sheets.

Students could never be paid back for the unused sheets in their paper accounts; that would be pointless, since paper costs so little to begin with. But there is one way that students could take full advantage of the sheets that they are allotted.

Many GC students are much more apt to use the copy machines on campus than to print from a computer.

Paper from copy machines does not come out of a student's paper account. Students are required to pay 10 cents per copy made. Although this may not seem like a lot of money, it can begin to add up. Just ask a student who is required to read something for a class that can only be viewed in the library, unless it is copied. And usually the material can only be checked out for a short period of time. This is both inconvenient and costly, especially when students have already paid money for books and copies can be made off-campus for considerably less.

Students could take full advantage of the paper in their account if copies made from copy machines were included in the account. It could be done in the same way that students log on to a computer, or in the same manner that the faculty makes copies. By entering a pin number into the machine prior to copying, students could subtract the copies made from their GC paper account. The pin number used could be each students social security number because each number is unique.

This would be a logical and convenient solution to the paper predicament that, though seemingly small, plagues many students. As students we struggle balancing school, jobs, family and friends.

Money is scarce, so every little bit counts. And isn't it the promise of this school to keep the students' best interest in mind?

Congrats GTA for 'Ragtime'

The Compass would like to congratulate all of those who were involved in the production of "Ragtime" on a job well done.

The show was amazingly executed in all aspects of production. Your time and commitment to the show undoubtedly paid off and shined through in your performances, your direction and your design. We can also not forget the behind-the-scenes people, who often go unnoticed, but who are just as integral to the production. Not one negative comment about the show could be heard.

We know how wonderful it is to work hard and to see it pay off, and especially to get positive feedback from our peers on campus.

And above all, we are proud to be a part of a school that is so often commended for its excellence in all areas—none more than our theater program and the Gainesville Theater Alliance.

Thank You for Your Support

To those who have supported the Compass throughout this semester, thank you. Without your loyalty to our newspaper, we could not produce the award-winning student paper that we do.

We look forward to an even better spring semester. You can help us in multiple ways. You can keep us updated on Gainesville College events, on and off campus. Give us feedback, good and bad, on each of our issues. You can work on our newspaper, either by writing, taking photographs, editing, drawing, selling ads or a number of other ways. And finally, you can continue to read our monthly newspaper.

We hope that you have enjoyed our newspaper this semester. Look for our next issue in February in spring semester.
Patriot Act Brings Back Hoover’s Tactics

COINTELPRO is not a word most people have heard. COINTELPRO, which stands for Counter Intelligence Program, was a program enacted in 1956 by J. Edgar Hoover that gave the F.B.I. the power to discredit any sort of organization that would protest U.S. government policy. Their methods ranged from harassment of protest group leaders, searching the homes of Communist party leaders with no warrant and would go so far as to infiltrate public anti-war rallies and would seek to incite rallies and cause violence as to discredit these peaceful protests and make them look as violent as possible. The massive COINTELPRO network extended across the globe and was finally discovered and put to an end in 1971. A program like COINTELPRO seems like an atrocious and horribly unconstitutional program. If something like this were to exist in the modern age, it seems we would know about it and try to fight it. Guess what. It’s happening again right underneath our noses within the guise of the U.S.A. Patriot Act.

Perhaps you’ve heard of the Patriot Act. Whenever you hear the conservative party talk about the Patriot Act, they talk of strengthening America’s defense system against terrorism and acts of domestic terrorism. This sounds all well and good because the Patriot Act provides for payments to the widows of those lost in terrorist attacks and grant federal law enforcement agencies more authority in gaining information on potential terrorists. Yet again, this sounds great in theory, but let’s take a closer look.

In section 216 of the Patriot Act, law enforcement agencies are allowed to tap your phone without probable cause. All that’s needed is a rubber stamped warrant that you may never see in your lifetime. This violates the probable cause provision of the Fourth amendment. To further evade the Fourth amendment, law enforcement agencies would also be allowed to tap your phone line and monitor your computer usage without showing probable cause, as long as there is a “significant” intelligence purpose. In section 802, the Patriot Act creates the act of “domestic terrorism,” criminalizing any act that would appear to be intended “to influence the policy of the government by intimidation or coercion” or to “intimidate or coerce a civilian population.” With such a broad definition, any act of civil disobedience or public protest would now be considered a crime. Protest organizations can also be classified as terrorist organizations; this gives the government the ability to detain and arrest immigrants indefinitely for simple visa violations, which constituted all but five of 1,200 known immigrant detentions.

Do we want to live during another era COINTELPRO? How many of you readers agree with all of government policies? How many of you can honestly say you have never criticized the government at all? The Patriot Act could very well make such statements illegal, a frightening Orwellian concept that we must fight to the bitter end. I urge every single person out there who seems to care at all about their liberties and freedoms to contact their senator and write to their president and urge that this terribly unjust law be repealed and done away with for good. We must not relive our past mistakes. I hope I don’t get arrested for this article.

I Want That Old Time Rock-N-Roll

Tell Me...What ever happened to good solid music?

What ever happened to good, solid music? Why is it the norm to be mediocre, boring, and talentless? Why can’t music have heart and soul like it used to?

I see all these new bands jumping on the freakin’ bandwagon because some corporate dumbnass liked what they heard. These people shouldn’t be responsible for what I listen to, and what I want to hear and buy.

Bands like Flaw and Third Strike, what is up with this redneck metal these days, or should I call it, “nu-metal?” This music just plain sucks. The “nu-metal” horse has been kicked and kicked so much, that nothing good can come out of it.

And what’s up with these cookie-cutter bands that all look the same and sound the same and dress the same? And no, I’m not just talking about NSYNC or the Backstreet Boys, but if you take a look at MTV or listen to the evil that is 99X, you will hear so many bands that just completely suck and have no business being on radio, or much less TV.

Where are all the bands that have the balls to say what they want and not give a crap what they say or how many records they sell? Where are the bands like Tool, Metallica, Deftones and Hatebreed that put their heart into everything they do, and are actually talented and give a crap about what’s going on?

I miss the days when music was fresh and experimental and not the norm. I get so bored with all these bands that just want to make money. True, money is a good thing and we have to live on it, but who is the jerk who said it is okay to “sell out” or play music that sells Pepsi, Snickers or what ever fattening American food they want to hawk? As Bill Hicks put it, “I want my rock stars...dead!!!”

Another thing that gets to me are these bands like the Strokes, the Vines, the White Stripes or even the Hives, who all sound like the same repetitive neo-grunge crap that should have died when Kirt Cobain died, when Soundgarden broke up, or when Layne Staley died. Sure I love the above bands, but give it a rest, the grunge horse has been beaten to death. And please don’t try to dress all retro or seventies just because you think it gives you an edge on your music. Get your own style and be freaking original!

So to end this rant, I am not sorry if I offended anyone because I could care less what you think and how you feel. Basically, I am right and you are wrong. Peace and much respect to anyone who stands up against the norm and changes things. Be yourself, because in the end you will die alone. In the words of the great Bill Hicks, “We live in a world where John Lennon was murdered, yet Barry Manilow continues to put out records.”
Help Me Help You: Clean Up Our Campus

Attention all you flops, this is Drew (you know, the guy with the cart). I wanted to tell you all about the work that we do... It is just work that we do, you know? I'm talking about the staff that keeps everything nice and clean. I am a member of Plant Operations (represent). We work very hard in order to keep the campus litter free. It feels good to go home at the end of the day knowing that I helped to make something better for everyone. I get paid by the state, which helps to pay for college, but I work for our mother, the earth.

The work that I do is not difficult, it is just time consuming. I work to the best of my ability and I go beyond the call of duty. I have spent much time on my hands and knees picking up the foul cigarette butts that infest our fine, beautiful campus. My boss has never asked me to do this. I just decided one day that I should do it. I think it is horrible that, due to the laziness of a couple of flops, everyone has to suffer. Do you realize how frustrating it is when you have spent a great deal of your time picking up after a bunch of lazy people who can't seem to find a trash can or ashtray? It feels good until you come in the next morning and everything is thrashed out again like somebody had a kegger in the smoke shack.

I do not mind doing the work that I do. I think some people feel sorry for me; I don't know why. I love what I do and it's honest work. It takes a lot of pride to pick up other people's trash, especially all the hotties walking around. Have you ever tried to get a girlie's phone number after she watched you pick up her trash? Yeah, me neither.

It also bothers me how the workers around here get treated. It is as if we are sub-human in some of your eyes. I have walked up to some of the smoke shacks and said "hi" to everyone only to receive a look of either utter disgust or a quick glance to the ground. You could at least acknowledge that I am a human being. I'm not complaining about my job and I don't expect someone to do my job for me. It would be nice though, if I did not have to waste my time picking up garbage. It is so easy to prevent. There are these receptacles where trash is supposed to go. If you cannot figure this basic concept out, then I wish you the best of luck in your scholastic endeavors. Quit being so foolish. You people are paying to go to school here. Who would want to represent a college that resembles a trash pit? Also, in effect, you are paying my salary (thanks). I could help make GC look a lot better if everyone would just throw their stuff away. As it is, I am forced to play catch up everyday. If you want to waste your money like this, go ahead. I'm not losing any sleep. I know that this probably won't change anything and I know most of you do not care what some worker has to say, but if I didn't try to fix this I would be worse than you. My last point is really just a serious tip: The Earth doesn't like this treatment and it is not smart to anger the being that you live on.

Smoke Rises, Get Over It

I love cigarettes.

Sitting in a hazy coffee house late at night, reading a book and smoking a cigarette with my coffee in hand. As hard as it may be to understand, a moment like this is incredibly pleasurable for the average smoker.

My life expectancy is probably something I should be worried about, but I'm not. I know I'm not invincible, and I know that smoking will eventually kill me, but doesn't everything? All of the non-smokers out there always pester me with the same solutions to my assumed problem. Well, I see it differently. Sorry to be so blatant, but the truth is, everything you do contributes to your death (in case you forgot about that). Honestly, I think that the world is a beautiful place, but every excuse to quit smoking and stay healthy has been so overplayed that the thought of dying from it doesn't seem to phase me anymore. Frankly, the whole "smoking kills" cliché that I hear constantly just irritates me until I want another cigarette.

I don't want to quit, and if I did it wouldn't be because some stranger told me to. I'm sure I will when it starts noticeably affecting my well-being, but I haven't noticed anything yet.

So why do I like to smoke cigarettes? I find it incredibly relaxing, and it gives overly anxious people like me something to look forward to. So before one of you anti-smokers approach me again about my supposed "problem," come up with a better excuse than "that is going to kill you one day." Pretty insightful way to warn someone about the harms of smoking, Please, tell me something at least a little more motivating.

Another thing that bothers me is that I keep my distance from non-smokers while I am smoking so that I do not "pollute their air," and some still have the decency to complain, which in turn I put my cigarette out and just smoke more later when they're not around. So, in essence, they are killing me faster with their horror stories and complaints about why I shouldn't smoke. It must be emotionally disturbing to be an anti-smoker.

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GC STUDENT POLL

Do you think we should have child care facilities at GC?

"If it would be used, I think it would be a great idea." 
Billy Brookshor Education

"I am a babysitter and there is always somebody that needs someone to take care of their kids...I think GC really should." 
Adel Diedericks Paralegal Studies

"I think that students should have that available. Not only for their own children, but it would be a really good training tool for the childhood majors. They would be able to have their lab practicum on a regular basis. I think it's a really good idea." 
Mary Reddy Nursing

"Yes! It provides for mothers that would like to further their education a place to put their kids if they do not have someone to take care of them at that moment in time." 
Bill Rogers Agriculture
November

25
Intramurals-Basketball, Rain Make-up Day
8-Ball Tournament, Game Room, noon-1:30 p.m.

26
Thanksgiving Holidays 26-29

27
Gym Closed through Dec. 1

December

2
Application Deadline for New Students
Family Holiday Concert, Free to Public, Ed Cabell Theatre, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
International Club-Deserts of the Season Potluck, Student Center, noon

3
Spring Pre-Registration, Tuition/Fees Due

4
CAB: Study Break by Stress Breakers, Student Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
GTA-“Servant” Auditions Begin, Ed Cabell Theatre, 6 p.m.

6
Semester Classes End (Full, 2nd, Last 10-Week Sessions)
Lobby Chorus Concert, CEF Building, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Regents’ Test Scores Available on GC Web page

7
SORBA-Board of Directors Meeting, Chicopee Agricultural Center, 10 a.m.
SORBA-Christmas Party and Night Ride, Chicopee Agricultural Center, 4 p.m.

9
Finals Begin
All PE Facilities Close at 7:45 p.m.
Bookstore-Buy Back Books Until 6 p.m.

10
Finals
Bookstore-Buy Back Books Until 6 p.m.

11
Finals
Bookstore-Buy Back Books Until 6 p.m.

January

12
Finals
Bookstore-Buy Back Books Until 6 p.m.

13
Finals
GTA-“La Pastorela,” Ed Cabell Theatre
Bookstore-Buy Back Books

14
GTA-“La Pastorela,” Ed Cabell Theatre

15
GTA-“La Pastorela,” Ed Cabell Theatre

3
Orientation & Registration for GC and Athens Campus
Bookstore-Extended Store Hours, until 7 p.m.

4
Saturday Classes Begin

6
All Classes Begin
Bookstore-Buy Back Books until 6 p.m.
Bookstore-Extended Store Hours, until 8:30 p.m.

7
Bookstore-Buy Back Books until 6 p.m.
Bookstore-Extended Store Hours, until 8:30 p.m.

8
Club Fair, Student Center, noon
Bookstore-Extended Store Hours, until 8 p.m.

9
Bookstore-Extended Store Hours, until 8 p.m.

13
Presidents Council Meeting, Student Center, noon
Coffee Talk, Academic Buildings, 5-6:30 p.m.

14
Coffee Talk, Academic Buildings, 5-6:30 p.m.
“Study Smarter,” Lanier A/B-Student Center, 11 a.m. or 5 p.m.

15
Coffee Talk, Academic Buildings, 5-6:30 p.m.
Colloquium Speaker, CE Building, noon
Free Money Websites

www.fastweb.com
www.finaid.org
www.collegeboard.org
www.usnews.com
www.hsf.net
www.nasfaa.org
www.college-scholarships.com
www.scholaraid.com
www.collegelink.com
www.srnexpress.com
www.collegenet.com
www.scholarships.com

Free Money Books

The A's and B's of Academic Scholarships
How to Go to College Almost for Free
The Scholarship Book
How to Go to College for Free
Peterson's College Money Handbook
Peterson's Scholarship Almanac
College Financial Aid for Dummies
The Scholarship Advisor
Peterson's Scholarships and Loans for Adult Students

Get Paid to Go To College

By Heather Hodges
Editor in Chief
10/00/2022

There are many resources available for finding scholarships, but the internet is one of the easiest and most readily available tools for searching for scholarships. There are multiple websites solely devoted to finding scholarships that fit a student's individual profile. For example, fastweb.com gathers information from each student regarding academics, interests, location and background, which are used to narrow the scholarship results for the particular student.

Scholarships to be found on the Internet can fit just about any student's profile. There is even money out there just for being a non-smoker, a twin or a lefty. The drawback to Internet scholarships is that they are extremely competitive, since many students, sometimes thousands, apply for most of these.

Students should never pay money for online scholarship searches. There are a number of free and legitimate websites that will provide this service. And as always, be sure to read the fine print before giving out personal information—some websites sell names to other companies.

For those who may be a little less internet savvy, hundreds of books are printed each year that include compiled lists of scholarships, as well as tips for being a competitive scholarship applicant. Some popular books are "College Financial Aid for Dummies," "Peterson's Scholarship Almanac," "How to Go to College for Free," and "The Scholarship Book." Like those found on the internet, these scholarships can be highly competitive, but sometimes there are the ones that go unclaimed.

Colleges' financial aid offices may be the best place for GC students to find scholarships. Students can pick up a Financial Aid Packet, in which an Institutional Scholarships sheet may be found. On this sheet, over 30 scholarships just for GC students are listed. The money for these scholarships comes from alumni, companies, and other organizations in the surrounding community. When a student fills out the FAFSA, the federal application for student aid, and the FIS, the supplemental information sheet, they are applying for these scholarships.

The people in the financial aid office can also help students identify potential scholarship opportunities for involvement around campus. The office is located in the student center.

Students who plan on transferring to another school should become acquainted with the financial aid office at their future college to learn about available scholarships. Visiting the school's website may also prove helpful in the quest for institutional scholarships at future schools.

Get out there and compete for those scholarships. With that much money available, why shouldn't you?