



In A&E: Summer brings blockbusters to the screen



HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

# Campus Chronicle

VOL. 13, NO. 1

TUESDAY, August 23, 2005

HIGH POINT, N.C.

## Column One

### Donations at HPU are now at an all-time high

The funds keep mounting. Eight months into his first year as president, Nido Qubein has raised \$31 million for High Point University, including \$11 million since most of you left for summer vacation.

On Aug. 17, the president announced that among the summer donations is the largest single gift in institutional history—\$5.75 million from an anonymous benefactor for the construction of a new residence hall.

Qubein's spectacular fundraising this year dwarfs the university's previous one-year record of \$6 million. The president got the greenbacks rolling by making his own \$1 million contribution in January.

Friends of the university and alumni have been driven by a giving spirit since Qubein assumed the helm.

"They share our vision, have confidence in our strategy and are willing to support us in a big way," the president said. "The HPU family is one of our most valuable assets, and their support fuels our desire to transform High Point University into the national leader it deserves to be."

### Farewell to a guiding light

High Point University lost one of its most illustrious friends and benefactors when Mrs. Pauline Lewis Hayworth died Aug. 11.

In honor of their generosity, the Fine Arts Center is named after her and her husband Mr. Charles Emerson Hayworth Jr. In addition, the Pauline Theater bears her name.

Mrs. Hayworth provided inspiration and support to countless civic organizations and institutions in High Point and throughout North Carolina. She was renowned for a devotion to the arts typified by her interest in English Literature and Greek when she took an undergraduate degree at Queens University (magna cum laude) and a master's from Trinity University.

On Aug. 13, a memorial service for Mrs. Hayworth was held in the uni-

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## Celebration ends in tragedy

Well-known sophomore Terrence McCann died after school ended last May

By Justin Spinks  
Staff Writer

Behind the Eastchester Village apartment complex in a small wooded area lies a creek no deeper than six inches nestled in a steep trench. This is where the body of Terrence Patrick McCann was found by a woman walking her dog two days after he was reported missing on May 8.

McCann, a 20-year-old sophomore from Glenside, Pa., was on his way home after a night of celebrating the end of the school year with his friends at Cleary's Hidden Shamrock Pub, 2104 North Main Street, at the Eastchester Drive intersection. He cut through the dense foliage behind Eastchester Village off Johnson Street to shorten the long walk to his



TERRENCE MCCANN, AGE 20

house on Circle Drive. He apparently tripped and fell into the ditch while attempting to cross it, drowning in the shallow creek. Toxicology results later showed that his blood alcohol content was .2, more than twice the legal limit for driving in the state of North Carolina.

Brandon Wright, a 21-year-old senior, was charged with a misdemeanor-- giving alcohol to the underage McCann at Cleary's. He knew something was wrong when he found out the next morning his friend had not returned home the previous night.

"He [Brandon] knew something was up," recalls junior Kevin Lamb, another of McCann's friends. "I told him that he's

just passed out somewhere and not to worry about it." Lamb didn't want to believe that something happened to his friend, but when McCann's family arrived that same morning to take him back to Pennsylvania and he was still missing, he knew deep down that "something's not right."

During his short stay at HPU, McCann was widely known and respected among both students and faculty. Erica Hansen, his girlfriend, attended his funeral service in Glenside and says that more than 2,000 people attended and at least 20 of them were High Point students.

"They were all talking to his family, telling them how great he was," she recalls. "Everyone [at HPU] knew him, and everyone liked him."

Lamb said, "I didn't know anyone that didn't like Terrence."

Dean of Students W. Gert Evans says that he too was fond of McCann. "We had a very positive relationship. He was always very personable and very funny,"

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## New construction is revitalizing campus

By Rebecca Fleming  
A&E Editor

Entering students may not recognize the changes, but returning students will be quick to notice that campus is not the same as when they left. While students were busy enjoying their summer vacations, construction equipment occupied High Point University, working to bring President Nido Qubein's plans to fruition. It was a busy and exciting summer on campus with almost every building affected by renovations and improvements.

The most immediate change students will recognize is the absence of Harrison Hall, Memorial Auditorium, the Annex and the old power plant. These buildings have been demolished to make way for new buildings and allow for green space. Planned buildings include housing for the business school and a student fitness center.

Other visible changes include an expansion of the Roberts Hall parking lot,

three monumental brick fountains -- one in the entrance circle, one in the Chapel circle and one between Roberts Hall and Smith Library; and additional benches placed around campus.

These obvious additions are not the only ones; internal renovations have also been taking place across campus this summer.

Cooke Hall is undergoing modifications to provide a new lobby, renovated office space and an area for the Graduate Studies offices.

The third floor of Slane Center is being renovated in preparation for the relocation of the Student Affairs offices.

The Old Student Center has undergone several changes. The third floor will now be two meeting rooms, and the faculty offices that were there are now on the third floor of the library. The Empty Space Theater and Costume Shop will stay in the OSC but have been updated. The Post Office is temporarily located in the Commons Room in the University

See Construction, page 5

## Orientation 2005 abounds with festivities, fun

By Sylvia Harwood  
Greek Editor

Each year Freshman Orientation assists incoming students with their transition into college life. With planned events, inspirational speakers and nightly activities, the newest additions to the student body are given chances to interact with one another as well as the returning upperclassmen and given glimpses of what the next four years have in store for them.

This year, with SGA Executive Vice President Hillary Cole leading the way, Orientation will host the usual favorites such as a Luau and Bingo Night as well as an exciting new addition: on Friday, Aug. 26, after the woman's soccer team competes against North Carolina State, the field will transform into a theater as a special movie will be shown. Afterwards, High Point will host its first ever fireworks display. "It will be a celebration to kick-off High Point University's fresh new look and to

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# Summer internship leads to better understanding of world relations

This summer I worked as an intern at the Piedmont Environmental Center where we taught kids about the importance of nature and ecology through a hands-on experience in the woods. Each



Ali

Akhyari

Opinion Editor

group of 16 kids attended a week long camp.

At the end of every week, one of the last activities we did was what I called "World Building." The children were given

large sheets of paper on which they were to design a planet. With the knowledge they have gained through the week, they had to consider ways to get water, food, shelter and anything else they wanted.

I was so proud to walk by and see the children using alternative energy sources to power their cities such as windmills, donkeys and giant mutant hamsters on wheels. Their ideas were as diverse as their faces. However, I began to notice that there was a similarity in the worlds they constructed. They thought in terms of islands, separating everything. There was "Energy Land" which was where they produced electricity. "Food Land" was where food was grown. "Animal Land" was where the wildlife could live free and unharmed. "Kid Land" was always separated from "Adult Island." They had a very simple way of thinking.

Of course, at that age, I wasn't sur-

prised that they did not understand the complexity of life that exists as a result of the inevitable and necessary intermingling of all things. Segregation is not going to solve the world's problems.

I chuckled at the children's world view. But my smile quickly faded and the immature philosophy that entertained it turned sinister as I realized that it was not a childhood misunderstanding. It is an untreated disease, allowed to take over our minds as we grow. The relevance in the children's world designs was not in the contrast with reality but in the grim similarity it shared with the world we've created as adults.

We have created a world constantly divided. We have drawn invisible lines across continents and claimed ownership. We kill each other based on these lines and observance of them. In the U.S. we have Northerners and Southerners, Republicans and Democrats, Rednecks and City Slickers. In our own neighborhoods we divide ourselves with gangs and gossip. In our schools, we turn our teenage years into hell just so that we can be part of a group for the simple sake of being distinguished from another group. The boundary between the jocks and the geeks is just as manufactured as the ones that surround our homes, cities and states.

So, we should just burn all the flags and be one happy planet where we all work together and hug as one large ball of communism, right? Of course not. The reality is that it is impossible for all human beings on earth to relinquish their greed. There is only one way to get to paradise.

In the meantime, as individuals, we can live this philosophy. As we take our steps across campus, we can realize that we are all part of the human race, that

any division we have is one we have created. It only exists in the mind and can be erased. This is because as members of this race, we have souls.

We have to fly away from "Never Land," allow ourselves to grow up and realize we don't live on a separate island. The problems we have are shared as a world society no matter how small. Likewise, every action we take has an impact somewhere else on a relative scale. So as we walk through campus, let us understand that "we are more alike than we are unlike." We can take this philosophy across town, state lines and eventually all over the world. In the end you are responsible for your own actions and as fate would have it, the consequences as well. Through eyes that can see the soul, no argument based on skin color, nationality or any other invisible boundary will excuse us.

**"But my smile quickly faded and the immature philosophy that entertained it turned sinister as I realized that it was not a childhood misunderstanding."**

## Join the Campus Chronicle staff

By Michael Gaspeny  
Adviser

Help us blast off while you propel yourself toward a career in the media.

The Campus Chronicle, which has been honored both on and off campus, has openings in every department. Join the team that has won the organization of the year award here and national recognition as the best collegiate newspaper in its category for 2004-5 by The American Scholastic Press Association.

For writers, experience is desirable but not necessary. If you have a clear style and a sense of fair play, we can teach you the rest. While we try to match new writers with areas of their interest, we have a special need for newswriters. The quickest way to advance as a journalist here and after graduation is to master the fundamentals of news and feature writing.

In the art department, we are shopping for cartoonists, illustrators and layout artists with PageMaker experience. We also need energetic advertising representatives, eager to collect a 20 percent commission on every local ad.

To discuss the role you want to play in the continuing success of the HPU newspaper, please write us at [news@highpoint.edu](mailto:news@highpoint.edu) or contact the adviser at [mgaspeny@highpoint.edu](mailto:mgaspeny@highpoint.edu).

Start collecting your own clippings now. When a prospective employer wants to know what you really did with those four years of college, present your portfolio.

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The opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the perspective of High Point University students, administrators, staff or trustees. Signed columns, letters and cartoons solely represent the outlook of their authors and creators. Unsigned editorials, appearing on opinion pages, express the majority view of the staff.

### Letters policy...

The Campus Chronicle urges readers to submit letters to the editor.

The salutation should read: To the Editor. Letters should be typed and should not exceed 300 words. They must be signed and include the author's phone and address for purposes of verification. No letter will be published without confirmation of the author's identity. Please do not send anonymous letters or form letters.

The staff reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and grammar, in addition to the right to reject a letter based on the judgement of the editors and adviser.

Mail your letter to: The Editor, Campus Chronicle, Box 3111, High Point University, High Point, NC 27262. Email your letter to [news@highpoint.edu](mailto:news@highpoint.edu).

## Staff Editorial

# Gone, but not forgotten

McCann's death touches HPU community

Graduation night, 2005.

Hundreds, if not thousands of people were celebrating that Saturday night.

One young man was breathing for the final time.

Tragedy strikes every day. We read about it in the newspaper or watch the evening news. Rarely does it hit so close to home.

Terrence McCann, 20, had just completed his sophomore year; to celebrate, he stayed with some friends, partaking in a few drinks. Yes, he was underage, but that's stopped few people before. They started drinking in the afternoon, later heading to a local bar where a friend passed McCann drinks he had bought for him. When he left, he did not tell any of his friends he was going. When his body was found a couple of days later in a local creek, the High Point University community mourned his loss. Autopsy results showed a blood-alcohol level of 0.2, well above the legal limit.

Though this young man has left us in body, he couldn't leave that easily - not the minds or the hearts of family and friends.

Did McCann know that it was his time? Did he ever stop to ponder what eternity holds? Did he ever think that he wouldn't live to a ripe age of 80-plus years, dying quietly in his sleep? For that matter, how often do we ponder our own

mortality?

Anything can happen. Every day we're alive, we take the risk that we might meet our Maker. We're not promised anything in this life - not happiness, joy, even love. Some of us are lucky, blessed even.

Terrence McCann did not die unloved - we see that through the remembrances here and there. A group on <http://www.thefacebook.com> remembers McCann the best way they know how, with stories about what a great friend he was and the fun that seemed to follow him non-stop. You might think you can hear his laugh floating down the hall or think you see him as you walk through campus. You may not even believe that he's really gone... but he is.

Much can be learned from his death. The trite response is to tell those you love how much they mean to you. Don't hold grudges: You might regret it when you are denied the opportunity to say "I'm sorry." Watch the sunrise - by waking up early, not staying up all night. Take a moment to look at the stars when you can see them - suburbia does prohibit that reality all too often.

Make a list of your goals and set plans into motion to accomplish them. Dream big and dream all the time. Nobody can take dreams away from you. Evaluate your life to this point: What do you want to change about yourself?



## Think outside the cardboard box

*Dealing with homelessness: A complex issue*

There is a large scar extending from his pinky knuckle to his wrist. Inside his right hand, a fiberglass bowl and six screws hold together his metacarpal bone and his ulna. He messed it up in a fight — fighting the man he used to be.



**Gena Smith**  
Staff Writer

John Wilson, 43, was homeless for three years in High Point. He used to steal (even from his mother), cheat and lie, all for drugs. Just recently, someone was trying to steal from him — a life he knows all too well — and in protecting himself and his stuff, Wilson broke the man's jaw. He has a story all his own about homelessness, one he was willing to tell, unlike the majority of other men eating a free breakfast of sausage and boiled eggs at Open Door Ministry on an April morning.

Homelessness is a problem, according to some people, in the city of High Point. But the mayor and city manager don't return phone calls to journalism students questioning homelessness.

"You don't realize how easy it is to just lose it all," said Michelle Cheek, social worker and program coordinator at the Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network, a program that provides a home as a day center for homeless families and connects them with churches to provide other needs. Interfaith currently works with 25 churches and numerous volunteers who stay with the families at night.

Over and over again those affected by homelessness repeat the same thing. "[Homelessness] could happen to anyone. Just because they have today doesn't mean they have tomorrow. It doesn't discriminate," said Karen Thomas, an anonymous name for a woman at one of the High Point shelters.

Thomas sat in the office with no make-up on and a sad smile, telling her story. Her husband was having problems with his family members, so he decided to leave their town. They were supposed to meet up with the husband's cousin at the High Point bus station, but he never showed. After staying a few nights at a hotel, the money was running out, and she and her husband found help at a nearby shelter. They were there two months and counting. "I had a fit at first, but it's been good," said Karen. "It's better for my husband because he is learning to budget."

Each year, High Point does a survey called "Point in Time" by the Homeless Prevention Coalition of Guilford County. According to this year's data, about .33 percent of the city of High Point is homeless, .05 percent less than Greensboro. Statistics from nationalhomeless.org say that about one percent of the nation experiences homelessness each year.

One must understand that this number comes from those involved with the different groups and shelters that work with the homeless. For High Point: Open Door Ministry, Guilford Interfaith, the Department of Social Services, Youth Focus, the Salvation Army and others. These numbers cannot necessarily reflect an accurate total due to the many homeless who choose not to live in shelters.

"People really only see the persons on the streets. Those are the handful of people who don't want to live at shelters. They want to live on the street. When you see our families — you'd never know they were homeless," said Cheek.

But Twanna Craft, day monitor at the High Point Salvation Army, would disagree to a certain extent. She said, like Cheek, that some just don't want to follow the rules and that is why they stay on the streets. But some cannot change because of the system. One woman that Craft has interacted with many times shows all the signs of mental retardation, but because she is not harming herself or others, the

See *Homeless*, page 7

## War in Iraq hits close to home

By Elizabeth Rathvon  
Staff Writer

Each morning when I sit down at my desk, I look at the picture of my brother Joe in his Army fatigues, taken a few days before he left for Iraq. With books and papers strewn over my desk, it's astonishing that the picture remains standing. But it continues to stand tall, a proper symbol of my brother who has stood tall and strong during all the tribulations he has had to face.

He isn't my only relative to serve during this war. It was not that long ago that my cousin Sara returned home to Cascade, Md. from Iraq. It had been over a year since I had to say goodbye to her. A year later, as I greeted Sara, I had to say goodbye to my brother.

January 1, 2005 brought one of the toughest moments of my life. As many people were trying to overcome New Year's Eve hangovers, I was on my way to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md. with my father and brother. We were taking my brother to meet up with his Army Guard Unit so that they could head to Fort Dix, N.J. for

training and then ship out to Iraq.

About 10 days before my cousin returned to the U.S., she sent an e-mail saying that she had found Joe in Iraq and that they had spent an afternoon together. I was so excited to learn that they had been able to see each other. I thought to myself how fortunate they were to have family while being stationed in a strange land. I thought of the many soldiers who have only their units for support as they endure the stress of serving in a war zone.

Many Americans don't seem to think about our soldiers working and fighting in Iraq. It appears that if you do not know someone who is a soldier there, then you don't think about the war. People don't want to hear about what is going on in other countries; they want to hear about what is going on in their hometowns. Local newspapers hide the international news at the end of the front section unless the news is sensational. It almost seems that if one person dies or is injured, it is unimportant. It is only important for Americans to know when a lot of soldiers are killed.

See *Penpal*, page 7

### *Straight Talk from Dr. Nido Qubein*

## New and improving: HPU caters to the student

Dear students:

Summer has come to an end. For some, that might not sound like such a great thing. But while you were enjoying your summer — catching up with family and friends, working or taking classes — those of us back at HPU have been working hard to make your return to campus a "WOW" experience. I trust you like all the improvements.

Take a stroll around campus; check out the cafeteria, the library, the dorms. Notice the improved security, the plasma televisions in the cafeteria and dorm lounges. Check out the new clock tower in Roberts Hall, new fountains that grace our two main entrances. Between

classes, take a few minutes to enjoy the hammocks, rocking chairs and patio umbrellas. Most obvious, you'll notice several empty lots where buildings stood as recently as spring finals. We have strategically created a blank canvas upon which to continue crafting the future of your university.

Friends, for all the improvements you can see, there are a dozen you can't. Because of our mission to make the High Point experience an extraordinary one, we have diligently stayed on task. As you discover the obvious — and the not-so-obvious — campus improvements, remember one thing: the faculty and staff of HPU care about you. We are single-mindedly dedicated to providing the best academic programs, systems and facilities that

encourage you to think deeper, dream bigger and strive harder. That is the only way true significance can be found.

Academics are why we exist. All the rest is only intended to enhance the environment so you can learn more, be more and grow in every part of your life.

While the summer improvements are exciting and invigorating, within a few weeks our

campus will begin yet another phase. We will break ground for the first of several new buildings and capital improvements. The announcement of exactly what those buildings and improvements will be, where they'll be located, their features, sizes and architectural

renderings will be available soon, and you'll get your first glimpse into the future of your alma mater.

In the meantime, no great accomplishment comes without some degree of discomfort. In this case, there will most certainly be some inconvenience in parking and moving around campus as major construction gets underway. Please be patient with this temporary situation, and know that you will be watching history being made.

We are beginning a new chapter in the history of High Point University. The excitement is palatable and the momentum is overwhelming. Join me as we embrace greatness together.

President Nido R. Qubein



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALAN WILLIAMS

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NEW FOUNTAIN BY MCEWEN AND SMITH LIBRARY



# Former Campus Chronicle editors, staff members succeeding in life after college

By Michael Gaspeny  
Adviser

Many Chronicle veterans have used their newspaper experience here as an entrée to success in the so-called real world. Here's what some of our alums of the deadline are doing now.

**Editors in chief:** **Andrea Griffith**, last year's tower of power, graduated on a Saturday and on Monday went to work for The (Greensboro) News & Record. She's a reporter and photographer for a special weekly niche paper, The Rock Creek Record, covering news breaking between Greensboro and Burlington. She lives in Greensboro, where she is enjoying the cultural opportunities and the revitalized downtown—when she gets the chance. Andrea will retain her ties to the Chronicle by serving as this year's technical adviser.

**Mike Graff** (1999-2001) is covering Atlantic Coast Conference sports for the Rocky Mount (N.C.) Telegram. One of his main focuses will be on the athletic

fortunes of the N.C. State Wolfpack. He joined the Telegram last spring after meritorious service for The Winchester (Va.) Star where he covered the Virginia state legislature and won several Virginia State Press Association awards for feature writing when he belonged to the sports department. Mike lives in Raleigh and continues to suffer from his addiction to the Baltimore Orioles and Washington Redskins.

**Brent Ayers** (1997-99) is director of education at the Sylvan Learning Center in Greensboro. Brent celebrated his first anniversary of marriage to alumna Leigh Magraw by attending a ballgame in the friendly confines of Wrigley Field. Her surprise gift of the Cubs tickets allowed him to fulfill a lifelong dream. The couple was also glimpsed this summer at the blockbuster Willie Nelson-Bob Dylan concert at Greensboro's First Horizon Park.

**Rob Humphreys** (1995-97) serves as managing editor of the Culpeper Star-Exponent, a daily newspaper in a Virginia

town where many residents commute to Washington, D.C. He oversees a newsroom staff of 12. Rob and his wife Kerrie have two children. He maintains his devotion to the Atlanta Braves and the Godfather trilogy.

**Clint Barkdoll** (1993-4) practices law in Waynesboro, Pa. He has served as a city councilman, on the board of the American Red Cross and as a member of the Sons of the American Legion. His wife, alumna Amy Cavallo, counsels children for the Waynesboro schools.

**Other Staffers:** Opinion Editor **Drew McIntyre** continues his study of religion and potation in the doctor of divinity program at Duke University. **Kathleen McLean**, a stalwart all-purpose reporter for the last three years, is attending graduate school in history at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa. Columnist **Erin Sullivan** is pursuing a master's at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. **Melissa Caudill**, seeking a future in the world of magazines, has entered the graduate commu-

nications program at Clemson University. **Elizabeth Rathvon** has entered the graduate communications program at Shippensburg State.

As a result of his winning a Fulbright Scholarship, alumnus **Justin Martin**, class of '02, is studying in Jordan during the current academic year. Justin earned his master's in journalism from the University of Florida. When he returns to the States, he will pursue a doctorate in communications at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Justin thanks his old professors at HPU for teaching him that "an 'A' at High Point University is an 'A' anywhere."

Assistant Editor **Terence Houston**, class of '02, serves as a staff assistant to third-term Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-Ohio).

After five years with the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle and a short stint with the Anderson (S.C.) Independent Mail, **Heidi Coryell**, class of 1998, has taken her bright writing style and personality to The Greenville (S.C.) News.

## The future has arrived: this year's Chron staff

*Familiar faces returning to serve a noble purpose*

By Michael Gaspeny  
Adviser

At the start of the year, it's fitting for a newspaper staff to remind ourselves and our readers about what a student paper is for.

It's got three purposes. Call them the sacred triad, the galloping troika or the holy trinity. First and most obvious: to serve as the record of campus events—the chronicle—for this year. Second: to provide a forum for the voices of students at High Point University, a medium that encourages and respects all responsibly expressed opinions, regardless of the color, creed or sexual orientation of the authors. Third: to serve as a showcase for the talents of our staff so that their clippings can impress future employers (for proof, please read the article above). Yes, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the future is now.

In the beginning, it's also appropriate to define what a student newspaper isn't. It is not a public relations medium for the University. There are several publications as well as an office devoted to drawing the world's attention to the excellence of this institution. Marketing is critical to the success of this school, but reporters are neither salespersons nor promoters. Their job is to capture the reality of student life. When that reality is good, they show why; and when it's sub-par, they do likewise. A principled and professional newspaper wins awards and recruits new students. In addition, this paper cannot serve as a promotional medium or calendar for the various offices of the university; it can cover only the news that is made by the personnel in those offices as those developments significantly relate to students.

So that's our creed, and here are the

students most responsible for practicing what we've preached. Our new editor in chief is junior Amanda Roberts, double-majoring in English (Literature track) and history, who served as A&E editor last year. A native of Winston-Salem, Amanda has a taste for C.S. Lewis and Harry Potter and the desire to replace Mushin Muhammad as wide receiver for the Carolina Panthers. A knowledge of extremes is conducive to an editor.

Senior Ali Akhyari, majoring in English with a biology minor, will serve as opinion editor. It's fair to say that his job as a security officer has been part of his training because he has already been exposed to an abundance of opinion. Ali's ambition is to become an illustrious novelist who composes his masterpieces on a laptop at Wrightsville Beach.

Junior Rebecca Fleming of Greensboro, double-majoring in English (Literature) and history, has become A&E editor after serving as a columnist and news writer last year. Rebecca's poems won both first place and honorable mention prizes during last year's Phoenix Literary Festival.

Basketball and baseball addict Wayne Watterson has been appointed sports editor.

The indispensable all-purpose writer Gena Smith is returning for the final semester of her senior year, and she's coming from a long way off. Gena spent most of her summer in China, Southeast Asia and Nicaragua. For that same semester, Josh Farrington will continue to write perceptive and balanced pieces for our opinion page. Senior Justin Spinks will be probing the depths of life at HPU as our chief investigative reporter.

Other key operatives are excep-

## Be careful when drinking

*Girls face dangers when not drinking with friends*

By Sylvia Harwood  
Greek Editor

In the first week of my college career, I had already consumed more alcohol than in my past 18 years of life. Why, you ask? Back then I would have told you that it was because I could. I was there, the alcohol was there, and it was just fate. Now I have grown up enough to tell you that I did it to look cool, to make friends and to purposely lower my inhibitions so I could be a more open person. I usually shake my head when I say this because of the naivete that radiated off of me like a neon sign in Las Vegas-- a bright green one that blinked: "I'm a new freshman girl!"

Unfortunately, this is a commonplace on every college campus each fall when the newest batch of undergrads is released from the watchful eyes of their parents. They are quickly introduced to the college nightlife consisting of numerous cases of beer and many bottles of cheap alcohol. Girls are often given special treatment around the kegs or large buckets filled with an almost lethal combination of fruit punch and grain alcohol.

For a majority of these young women, the goal is similar, drink to loosen up and meet people, especially the many new good-looking guys. They are approached by upperclassmen who nicely introduce themselves while offering to get them more to drink. The innocent freshman girl usually accepts the offer and before long, the girl is passing out against a wall or walking haphazardly down O.A.

According to the American Council for Drug Education, 70 percent of college students have had unplanned sex after a night of drinking, and 90 percent of rapes on campus occur when one or the other person has consumed alcohol. This is a frightening statistic for universities nationwide. Among any group of girls, it is common to find those who have regretted spending nights with boys that they had only met

that same evening. When alcohol is mixed with sex, condoms can be forgotten about and not only will a girl have to deal with the embarrassment of everyone on campus knowing about the night's events, she might also have acquired new health problems.

Keeping all of this information in mind, here are a few helpful hints when entering the world of the High Point University party scene. First of all, there is a reason that upperclassmen call this place "High Point High." Word travels fast and things that happen during the night time will be known by a large majority of campus the next afternoon. A reputation can be built by word of mouth, and it can stick around for all four years of college.

Secondly, every woman should know her limits when it comes to alcohol. It's a personal choice on whether one wants to overstep that line between slightly tipsy and fully drunk but as long as a girl knows that line, she will be more in control of her actions. Next, games such as beer pong, quarters, kings and flip cup will get you intoxicated fast, kind of like mashing the gas pedal when you're trying to pass someone on the highway. Lastly, stick with friends. They can be your best escape route from the drunken guy who won't leave you alone and they will make sure that you end up in the bed where you're supposed to be.

Now I have to be honest. I still have my nights where I drink too much and lose track of the evening. But unlike my freshman year when I was unassuming and inexperienced, I now know that I have friends who will look after me and I have more self-control. I've made my mistakes and learned from them but always tried to keep away from being labeled "that girl." As incoming freshmen or those who are entering the social scene for the first time, the choice is yours--whether you want to be remembered for your good conversation skills or your best re-enactment of the girls featured on "Girls Gone Wild."



# Greek life offers close bonds, good times

*Campus teems with organizations and opportunities for the seeking student*

By Sylvia Harwood  
Greek Editor

Before you begin to read this article, stop what you are doing. Close your eyes and take a deep breath. Exhale and open your eyes. See? You really have made it! All the past few months of stressing, preparing and shopping for the latest dorm equipment have passed, and you are now a college freshman with a world of possibilities lying before you. Once your parents finally decide to leave, you are on your own, allowed to stay out as late as you want, wear what you please and hang out with whomever you choose.

College life offers a whole list of choices for every student no matter what the age. From the incoming freshman to the seasoned senior, every person can face each fall with the question, "What do I want to do this year?" College is the only place where you are given so many options to mold yourself into the person you wish to be when you graduate and head out into the "real world."

For a good portion of students at High Point, their choices over their years as students lead them to join one of the fraternities or sororities on campus. Far beyond the obvious benefit of becoming part of a national organization and developing a close bond of brother or sisterhood, this choice also presents more opportunities to get involved both around school and in the community. Many of the Greeks on campus are involved in at least one other organization, and through their philanthropies or charities, they give back to the city of High Point.

Another advantage to joining a fraternity or sorority is the social aspect. Through events such as mixers and formals, the students can interact in casual atmospheres and get to know people they may have ordinarily never met. An additional highlight of Greek life is Greek Week. The six days leading up to Alumni Weekend are reserved for some friendly competition among matched-up teams of fraternities and sororities. Each team earns points through events such as Toga Bowl-

ing, Tug of War and the favorite Friday night Lip-Synching contest. The team on the top at the end of the week is granted the title of Greek Week champions and given bragging rights for the rest of the year.

While freshmen have to wait until second semester to decide to rush, there are plenty of other options to get involved during the first months of school. If you are interested in the environment and like to be adventurous, there is an Outdoor Activities Club which takes annual rafting and hiking trips. For those who have strong political views, there are both the College Democrats and College Republicans who are always eager for new members. Keep an eye out for flyers around campus or just check the Greek/Organization page here each month for information on upcoming events for each club. From singing to sports, planning campus events or recording the year for The Zenith yearbook, there is an organization for everyone. All you have to decide is what you want to do this year.

McCann, continued from page 1

says Evans.

Adam Riscoe, McCann's former roommate, said that he was full of energy and life. "He was always up for anything - for a good time," says Riscoe. "He was my best friend for two and a half years. He'd go out of his way to help you out."

Brian Riley, a rising junior from Rochester, N.Y., says McCann was one of the first friends he met at HPU. "He seemed like a very fun guy," says Riley. "He just loved life."

Riley fears that McCann's accident will tarnish his reputation, leaving people thinking "he was just some drunk kid." He says, "He didn't have to drink to have fun. He was just rowdy and stupid that night."

Evans says that McCann was not out of the norm. "He was an average college student," says Evans. "This could have happened to anybody. We just have to learn from it."

McCann, a former cross country runner at La Salle College High School in Pennsylvania, enjoyed Philadelphia 76ers basketball. He would wear his Allen Iverson jersey as he watched, jumping up and down, cheering his favorite team on. He was also an Eagles and Phillies fan.

All who knew McCann agree that he was unique and loved to make everyone laugh. He would frequently dress up in a gorilla suit and chase people around just to get a rise out of them. He owned a Sponge Bob Square Pants suit as well.

Erica Hansen, a rising sophomore, says that he was a cut-up even when he was a child. "When he was seven, his mother asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up, and he said 'a ball,'" she says, laughing.

Most of all, though, McCann loved his family. He was considering not returning to HPU this fall and instead attending a school in the Philadelphia area just to ease the financial strain on his parents. "He always thought of his family," says Hansen.

The two years Terrence McCann spent at High Point University earned him a wide net of friends who are all left with unforgettable memories of a truly fun-loving, kind-hearted individual.

"He will be missed," says Evans.

A special chapel service will be held in remembrance of McCann on Wednesday, Sept. 14. His parents will be among those in attendance.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALAN WILLIAMS

Roberts Hall (above) boasts a new clock tower to aid those who forgot their watch; outside the hall, parking lot (below) undergoes construction mere days before students return to campus.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALAN WILLIAMS

Construction, continued from page 1

Apartments; it will eventually be moved to the main level of Slane. The space where the Post Office was formerly will soon be the new home of Campus Security offices.

Smith Library has an updated look with new furniture, lighting and a new layout on the main floor. The third floor of the library is being used as a temporary home for five faculty offices, athletic study hall and two art studios.

The dorms have also been undergoing some interior decorating/renovation - new carpets, painting and general aesthetic improvements are ready to greet students.

The renovations are widespread and fast-moving. In one week away from campus during the summer, enough could have changed to amaze anyone familiar with the old look of HPU.

Recent graduate Kathleen McLean stopped by campus and was surprised by

the changes that have occurred since May. "I pulled in and was confused for a minute. I almost didn't know where I was."

More plans for change are in the works. According to Dr. Don Scarborough, vice president for administration, who is overseeing the projects, "over the next 24 months all of this will be completed, and much will be done in the next 12 months."

Junior Steven White feels the changes to campus are a positive move - "While some things are going to have to be relocated and there might be a little confusion, the final product will be worth any inconveniences we might have to deal with. As long as a college is growing student-wise, it's going to need to grow campus-wise, so it's just further proof that our university is growing at an amazing rate."

High Point University has entered a new phase, and if the activity of the summer is any sign, it's guaranteed to be an exciting and interesting one.



# Highlighting this summer's blockbuster hits

By Amanda Roberts  
Editor in Chief

## Batman Begins

This movie has an air of originality that enchants viewers, drawing them along with the plot, regardless of how odd it seems at times. Christian Bale is a superb choice for the Caped Crusader, a vast improvement over George Clooney. Bale connects with the role, showing how he internalized the trauma inflicted by the loss of his parents, manifesting him into the savior of Gotham City. A cut above the other superhero fare of the summer, the "Fantastic Four," seemed shallow in comparison. Michael Caine as Alfred shines, fitting into the role as though born to it. It seems inconsistent, when you compare the era it's set in with the other movies in the Batman series, as the current incarnation looks modern. "Batman Begins" is a movie that should be seen in the theatres and is a must for DVD.

## War of the Worlds

"War of the Worlds" is a spooky, spectacular remake, set in New Jersey, home of movie suburbia. Steven Spielberg, the blockbuster king, scored again this summer with a movie of alien invasion. It's not the alien invasion part of the movie that scares, it's how the script and directing, work on your mind. They play on the fears of millions of Americans - what does the future hold? This fear recalls that of the Cold War era when the fate of humanity was in doubt. Playing a divorced father who does not see his children nearly enough, Tom Cruise has many fine moments in the film; however, the star is preteen Dakota Fanning, who acts with such verve in every role she's given. While not as alarming as Orson Welles' radio broadcast in 1938, this movie offers chills aplenty! The DVD

should have tons of special features.

## Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith

It was going to happen; we just didn't

know how. Anakin Skywalker becomes Darth Vader in this cinematic experience, the best piece of the new trilogy. Thin on the acting, brilliant in special effects, "Star Wars Episode III" delights viewers while breaking their hearts. George

Lucas on additional movies: "NOOOOOOO!!!!!!" Questions are finally answered, and we left the theaters with a sense of loss, only to go home and watch the original trilogy for catharsis. See Movies, page 7

## Summer reads of the Chronicle staff

"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," JK Rowling  
"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" finally arrived after two years of painful agony for millions of fans. The series, the characters - and the fans - have grown up tremendously since the first printing. Darker than the previous tales, Half-Blood Prince journeys deep into the minds of characters. Harry Potter and his friends grow up, experience romance, betrayal, subterfuge and death, all in fewer than seven hundred pages. The series is wrapping up, as we find many questions answered (like why there's been a new Defense Against the Dark Arts teacher every year). Fans now await - and dread - the last book in the series. Will there be life after Potter? Stay tuned.

"Sushi for Beginners," Marian Keyes  
Three women, one problem: they're unsatisfied with life. High-maintenance magazine editor Lisa chooses her career over marriage. Instead of being promoted to the top magazine in the States, she's sent to Dublin to head up a new magazine. Her new second-in-command, Ashling, got sacked from her last job, and her obsession with fixing things threatens to destroy life as she knows it. Childhood best friend Clodagh groans with displeasure at her picture-perfect life with handsome husband and adorable children. Add to this unlikely trio managing editor Jack Devine, whose love life entertains the office. In this sharply written novel by Marian Keyes, these three women learn how

their relationships to their families, friends and significant others influence their life. The three women take turns as narrator; by the time you've finished the book, you feel as though you've known them for years. The book is a quick read, perfect for a rainy day.

"The Undomestic Goddess," Sophie Kinsella  
The bestselling author of the "Shopaholic" novels succeeds again with her latest novel. Following the trend of addicted heroines, Kinsella's main character - Samantha Sweeting - is a workaholic lawyer. Her career takes a drastic downward turn, and "Sam" learns to unwind, slow down and relax. In the process, she gets to know herself. The novel is a fun, easy read with several memorable moments - especially at the end.

"Redeeming Love," Francine Rivers  
A love story with a unique twist is the main theme of Rivers' historical novel. Angel is a prostitute during the California gold rush, and Michael is the man who shows her what true love is. At first glance it looks like just another piece of 'chick lit,' but both sexes can learn from this novel, and enjoy themselves in the process.

"True Believer," Nicholas Sparks  
Nicholas Sparks does it again. A scientific journalist, who makes his money disproving miracles, discovers that some things are unexplainable when he visits rural Boone Creek, N.C. Science doesn't always have an answer, and sometimes you just have to accept

the magical - even when it opens yourself up for hurt.

"Anna Karenina," Leo Tolstoy  
In this classic of Russian literature, Tolstoy manages to tell two separate - but intertwined - love stories. Mingled throughout is a social commentary - not just of the period, but also of people in general. Perhaps it's not the typical fun read, but by the time you reach the end, it's well worth the effort.

"The Tale of Despereaux," Kate DiCamillo  
Winner of the Newberry Award, "Despereaux" is a children's book that even older readers will enjoy. An engaging fairy tale containing a mouse, a rat, a serving girl, a princess, some soup and a spool of thread. There are dark moments and light moments, and things that will stick with you long after the book is over.

"On the Art of Horsemanship," Xenophon  
This is for horselovers, historians and the oddball bookworm. Written by one of Alexander the Great's cavalry commanders, this is a detailed account of how to interact with horses. Everything from how to purchase the best horse for your money to how to train your horse in the battle-arts is discussed. The practices recorded within are still used today in the local stable, as well as at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, giving relevance to what otherwise might be a purely scholastic read.

Compiled by Rebecca Fleming

## Another Dave Matthews Band 'truly golden' album

Backstreet comeback surprisingly good; Fantasia moonlights on Missy Elliot album

By Lauren Croughan  
Staff Writer

### Pop

Backstreet Boys- *Never Gone*

"BACKSTREET'S BACK ALRIGHT!!!" Or, if you have been sleeping on the beach getting roasted extra crispy by the sun, the phrase would probably wake you up and make you run in terror. As much as I was obsessed with these guys in middle school, I was expecting the worst. I read about how

horrible they were rated across the board, and I was happily surprised. This CD actually is not that bad. Most of the songs are mushy and romantic, which is what they were famous for in the first place, but they have enough

upbeat music to keep your toes tapping. Five for Fighting is a guest star on the album.

Final Grade- B

### Alternative

Head Automatica- *Decadence*



BACKSTREET BOYS

to it 20 times. Yet, that is not the only good song on the CD. I found myself rocking and singing along with the powerful guitar and vocals. The band combines good rhythm with good old-fashioned screaming for quite the

Glassjaw's old front man, Daryl Palumbo has a new band. This very interesting rock band debuted in late July on Fuse with their song "Beating Heart Baby." When I first got this album, I hit repeat on that song and literally listened

masterpiece. And the lyrics were magnificently deep and stuck to the album's theme.

Final Grade- A-

### Hip Hop

Missy Elliot- *The Cookbook*

Ah, another Missy Elliot album. One thing I always like about her music is how sometimes it makes me want to dance and then throw a chair at somebody. Just like the Jerry Springer Show almost. The guest stars on the stellar album are Mary J. Blige, of course, her protégé Ciara as featured on "Lose Control," and also High Point's own Fantasia. This is an album full of rhymes, rhythm and reason, and yet another reason for everyone to get on the dance floor, but

please leave the furniture at home.

Final Grade- B+

### Rock

The Dave Matthews Band- *Stand Up*



DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

This space here is where I am supposed to give praise to the musical geniuses that these guys are. The album was truly golden. I had tears in my eyes before I knew it, and the uplifting songs scattered throughout really stitched a quilt that makes this one of my favorite albums, period. "Stay (American Baby)" had a big impact on me because of the video, which showed Americans from all walks of life. It was purely a mixture of fun and sadness thrown into a desperately wanting pop culture.

Final Grade- A+



# Chick flicks offer valuable learning experiences

By Rebecca Fleming  
A&E Editor

Summer is the time for doing things you don't get to do during the school year. Things like staying up really late doing nothing and sleeping late the next morning. It's also a time for cultural expansion – for me anyway. I spent the summer reading and watching a lot of chick flicks. Between the two of 'em I learned a lot, but I think chick flicks taught me the most.

Before you dismiss me as a total nut case, allow me to elaborate. When I watch a movie, I watch it for pure entertainment value. I don't approach everything I do with an analytical mind. I do like to enjoy myself! But if something happens to grab my attention



– some thought, some idea – then I will look closer and attempt to discover why. That's how I learn from chick flicks.

I should also clarify what kind of chick flicks I watch. There are several kinds, but the ones I love the most are those targeted towards girls, ages 12-16. Movies like "The Princess Diaries," "The Princess Diaries 2" and "A Cinderella Story" that teach me the most. I also happen to think they can teach others;

even guys could learn a thing or two from watching these chick flicks.

Are you still reading? Good. Do you think I'm a little weird? You might be right. But I'm a girly girl, which explains the chick flicks, and I want to be a children's librarian one day, which explains the choice of titles. There's a method to my madness. Keep reading.

Now that I've got your attention, let me tell you some of the things I've learned.

"What a Girl Wants" taught me it's absolutely necessary to be comfortable with yourself. If you're constantly changing to meet the expectations of others, you're only going to succeed in making yourself miserable. It's important to realize that who you are, deep down inside, is the only you that will feel right. Society is fickle, and who wants to be bossed around by the masses anyway? Find yourself; love yourself; be comfortable with you are. This is something guys and girls alike need to realize.

If "What a Girl Wants" addresses being yourself, then the "Princess Diaries" movies take that and develop it even further. Princess Mia learns not only how to be comfortable in her own skin, but how to share that with others. A person who's content with their own quirks and eccentricities is very intriguing and can be very influential and convincing.

"First Daughter" is about second chances, something we all need to be re-

minded of. This theme really struck home with me because of my history, and I think if we're really honest with ourselves, we've all been in a second-chance situation. It's important to remember that no one is perfect, and we all mess up. That's why we've been given another chance and another and another.

There's something about an everyday girl winning the love of a prince and living happily ever after that reaches deep inside us. "A Cinderella Story" is a fun portrayal of this theme – with more than a few modern additions, like a cell phone instead of a glass slipper. I think this movie has a little bit of everything, but what struck me the most was the dress. There was a subtle theme revolving around the dress that whispered of femininity and beauty. Throughout the movie, little things kept catching my attention that emphasized the feminine; a



very welcome change from the "go get 'em," pro-Feminist voice that appears in a lot of movies.

There are overlapping themes and elements in all movies like this, but some are more effective in presentation than others. Each of these taught me something about myself – and I don't mean the fact that I'm a hopeless romantic who likes little girl movies and beautiful gowns. There's something more to chick flicks than meets the eye – and while it may not be intentional, I do believe it's there, if we look close enough. Give 'em a chance, and see what you can learn.

## Homeless, continued from page 3

–government will not provide her with an income. So because of the rules of the Salvation Army, Craft can only help this particular woman out every 60 days. The rest of the time, she is on the street.

John Wilson would agree with Cheek. "There's no such thing as can't... [People on the street] are homeless by choice. You know it. They know it," he says. During his 36 months of homelessness, Wilson never went to a shelter because he "didn't like being around a lot of people." Instead, he slept in abandoned houses and used a shopping cart by day to find junk to sell as well as steal car parts. With the money he made, he never needed a shelter to provide food. "I loved it in a way because I didn't have to answer to nobody." He never had to dig for food in a garbage can, but "I would if I had to."

Ignorance about the humanity of the homeless is a major part of the problem. "I come to work everyday and I look around me and never consider myself working with homeless. I work with people. They have names. They are my friends. We laugh, work and cry when things go wrong," said Steve Key, executive director of Open Door Ministry.

Misconceptions about homeless people are abundant. Craft told the story of one woman who showed her how to work the office

computer. Craft was having problems and didn't know what to do. "She was smart. If someone would give her a chance and not judge her because she lives at 301 W. Green St.," she said. Many of Craft's clients have a job until the employer realizes where they live. As for solutions, each person has his or her own idea.

Cheek isn't completely positive about the solution, but "handing someone a chunk of money – that doesn't resolve underlying issues."

Key agrees. "It's not a cookie-cutter problem," he said. "Eight hundred [men] came in [to the shelter] last year, and probably 800 solutions were needed."

The community needs to "support programs in place. I'm not for building more shelters. [We need] to be sensitive to developing new ideas in order to further impact lives. We need to be able to think outside the box," Key said. Craft has one thing to ask of the government, "More money, more money, more money – you know." But in regards to finding a solution, "If I knew the answer, I would fight for the solution; but I don't know what it is," she said.

For Wilson, his mom had the solution. She told him, "I taught you two words, boy, 'yes' and 'no.' Learn to say 'no.'" He did. Sometimes he has to fight to say it.

## Movies continued from page 6

"Revenge of the Sith" shows the insidious growth of evil in the heart of one who only wants the best for his wife and will go to any length to achieve it.

## Wedding Crashers

"Wedding Crashers" is a not-so-surprising comedy smash that feels new despite previous years' unabashed movies of



WEDDING CRASHERS' WILSON AND VAUGHN

debauchery and fun (remember "American Pie", "Old School", etc.?). Starring Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson as buddies who artfully crash weddings

– and this summer, they're hitting the big time. The wedding to crash: that of the Secretary of the Treasury's daughter. As the Secretary, Christopher Walken takes to the role with his normal panache, but the highlight is the relationship between Wilson and Rachel McAdams' characters. The movie drags a bit, especially towards the end

(one wonders if the movie will ever end). Overall, the movie pleases, but there's no reason to rush out to the theaters – it'll be on DVD soon enough.

## Penpal, continued from page 3

Since 9/11, displays of patriotism have increased. No matter where you drive, you see cars adorned with yellow ribbons. Showing patriotism is great, but actions speak louder than words. Saying you are concerned about our troops is one thing; supporting them is another. Because you lack a relative in Iraq does not mean that you can't help. Many soldiers are not fortunate like my brother and cousin who have a large family, church family and friends, and are the frequent recipients of packages, cards and letters.

While my cousin was in Iraq, she wrote home to say that one of the members of her unit wasn't getting much mail. I felt bad for him and decided to take action. As I tried to write him, I wasn't sure what to say; I didn't know him at all. I decided to tell him about myself and ask questions to find

out what he was like. This was the beginning of a new and strong friendship. We learned much about each other, and I became a support system for him. My correspondence made his weeks better. When he was sad and feeling homesick, he would read my messages and know that someone was thinking about him at home. In addition, he became someone I could talk to and go to for advice. We both benefited from our friendship.

If we could all take five minutes out of our busy schedules and write a letter to a stranger, imagine the difference it would make. A stranger's letter could bring a smile to a soldier's face. Your letter could keep a homesick soldier from becoming depressed. Your words could renew that person's will to return home. And, if your friendship has flourished, you could welcome that soldier home.

## Area music

Check out Triangle Billiards on Main Street for live music most of the week. Ziggy's in Winston-Salem has shows most nights, often drawing in big names such as Vertical Horizon, while Ace's Basement in Greensboro shows many local bands and bands on the verge of getting a record contract. Nearby Charlotte and Raleigh bring concert tours often – in September, Coldplay, Three Doors Down, Staind, Rascal Flatts, The Allman Brothers and Lynyrd Skynyrd will be performing.



## Dorm Sweet Home



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALAN WILLIAMS

New furniture, carpeting and paint are just among the few new improvements in many of the campus dorm rooms. Relax on leather couches with your friends while watching TV on plasma screens in dorm lounges. See High Point University change before your eyes as each day brings something new.

### News, continued from page 1

versity chapel, which is named for Mr. Hayworth's father.

### Weekend Extravaganza

The campus is being transformed, and so is the university social agenda. For the first time, Homecoming and Family Weekend have been combined and re-named. Alumni and Family Weekend will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 2.

Among the highlights are the HPU Open Golf Tournament on Friday and two key Saturday events—the Picnic and International Foods Fair Saturday at noon and dinner with Jeanne Robertson, acclaimed humorist and public speaker in addition to being a former Miss North Carolina.

For complete details, go to the HPU webpage.

—Amanda Roberts

## Looking to make friends, do something different?

Check out one of our many campus organizations!

Alpha Phi Omega	Habitat for Humanity
Art Club	Honors Club
BCA	International Club
Campus Activities Team	Model United Nations
Cheerleading	NC Student Legislature
Chapel Choir	Outdoor Activities Club
College Democrats	Pre-Law Club
College Republicans	Student Government
Campus Crusade for Christ	Writer's Club
Dance Team	Yearbook

## Fall Soccer Schedule (through early September)

Women's	8/26	N.C. State	Home 7 p.m.
Men's	8/27	Gardner-Webb	Home 7 p.m.
Women's	8/28	The Citadel	Home 2 p.m.
Men's	9/02	Alabama A&M	Away 5 p.m.
Women's	9/02	Wofford	Away 7 p.m.
Men's	9/02	Louisville	Away 5 p.m.
Women's	9/06	UNC-Greensboro	Away 7 p.m.
Men's	9/07	Radford	Home 7 p.m.
Women's	9/09	Mount St. Mary's	Away 5 p.m.
Men's	9/10	Elon	Away 5 p.m.
Women's	9/11	St. Peter's College	Away 1 p.m.

## Amount of trash produced by U.S. astounding

*Are we missing the lessons about recycling taught in elementary school?*

By Amanda Meadows  
Staff Writer

In our fast-food eating, high-speed internet-surfing, multi-tasking, swiffer-using, picture-in-picture watching society, it's hard sometimes for us to realize that not everything is set up for our convenience. While recycling may not always seem convenient, it is a single action that can have an impact on our future. When others look back on our generation, how will we be remembered? What legacy will the students of High Point leave behind for others?

First one should consider the state our country is in concerning the amount of trash we produce. Consider that every day about 1,000 tons of garbage is deposited in each landfill. Yearly over 40 million tons of hazardous waste are produced by all landfills. We all know the three R's mean reduce, reuse and recycle, but who's actually doing it? With numbers like these it seems that people simply think taking trash to the dump means it just disappears. Well, it doesn't. In fact, on average it takes Americans only seven years to fill a landfill. The sad thing is, for 30 years afterwards those landfills must be maintained to ensure that leaks do not occur. That's right, leaks, also known as "garbage juice" or scientifically as "leachette." This is the runoff that occurs in landfills and a major factor of contamination around landfills.

Fresh Kills Landfill in Staten Island covers 3,000 acres of land and is over 500 feet high. It is officially the highest point of land on the East Coast. We can literally build mountains out of our waste. What has to happen before we realize that this problem is in our backyard? It affects us today and it will affect our children and grandchildren tomorrow, but we keep tossing our glad bags in the dumpsters. They disappear, right? Not your problem anymore. The bottom line is that the more trash we produce, the fuller landfills become, and the closer we

are to the pollution. Landfills harbor all kinds of air-borne bacteria and viruses, as well as small insects and hazardous chemicals which can be carried by the wind. Ronald White of the American Lung Association said, "Dirt in the air may be a pollution killer second only to second hand cigarette smoke." I know people who will move in a restaurant to avoid others' cigarette smoke. Is this to say that Americans aren't going to budge

and stop being wasteful until there are landfills directly beside their homes? I hope this is not the case.

The landfill nearest to High Point University is Kersey Valley Landfill. It is located between Kivett Drive and Kersey Valley Road. This landfill is within half a mile of 535 people's homes. This landfill was built in 1993 but has just expanded to allow a separate dumping area for construction materials. While Kersey Valley has definitely met its limit of seven years, it continues to expand in order to accommodate more

trash. Expansion is often the final step taken before a landfill is shut down. It is ignorant of us not to understand why recycling is important. Whatever we don't recycle, reuse or reduce goes to a landfill and landfills never go away.

The best way for us to reduce the waste we produce is to become more aware of the environment. Realizing the effects our trash causes is extremely important. Just consider how long it takes

for materials to become biodegradable. If you didn't recycle your aluminum soda can, it will take 80 to 100 years to decompose. Those plastic bags that you throw all your trash into take 450 years. Anything glass biodegrades in 1 million years, and plastic bottles never become biodegradable. We make materials that outlive us but we can't make those materials disappear.

The best way for us all to help is to start with ourselves. If you don't recycle because your city doesn't pick up recyclables, find the nearest recycling center and make a trip once a month. These centers are everywhere and make it convenient to dispose of recyclables. There are also a few tricks which can help when it comes to reusing and reducing material. Don't throw away plastic shopping bags, plastic cups or containers that can be reused. This little trick helps save money also because you don't have to buy new plastic cups, Tupperware or trash bags. Before throwing out old clothes or books, make a trip to Goodwill. If you can't use it, someone else can. It's up to our generation to preserve our environment; we're at a turning point and cannot afford to continue filling landfills. Always remember that the best way to influence people is through example. Make sure that your reducing the amount of trash you produce will encourage others to do the same.

**"If you didn't recycle your aluminum soda can, it will take 80 to 100 years to decompose. Those plastic glad bags that you throw all your trash into, take 450 years.... We make materials that outlive us but we can't make those materials disappear."**