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The Best Super Bowl Commercials

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Baseball Preview

Rutgers professor to speak on using digital technology in education

By Chelsie Gastright
Staff Writer

In a world driven by social media, keeping friends and family up-to-date on everything happening is simpler than ever. If you take a photo with your iPhone during a concert, you can open up the Facebook app and post the photo in less than thirty seconds. With the ability to tell people where you are, whom you are with, and what you are doing at the click of the button, concerns of privacy have never been more prevalent. So when does posting about your new cat and what you had for dinner last night become too much for social media?

On Feb. 9, Dr. Richard Miller, a Rutgers University English professor, will be coming to High Point University to answer that question and many more regarding the growing age of technology and privacy.

"I've spent the last thirty years thinking about education and efforts to improve the quality of teaching," said Miller. "Watching my kids move from kindergarten forward, I have seen first-hand how technology is changing virtually every aspect of their lives."

In the past five years, however, Miller has been focusing primarily on how the experience of college is changed and transformed by the easy access to the Internet. He calls this "learning in public" because of the lack of privacy in today's world.

"I am focusing on how activities that were once considered private, including learning, are now subject to being made public at the push of a button. Think of viral videos of professors blowing their stacks in class, or even students posting pictures to Tumblr of their weekend activities."

Miller also wants to stress that using the Internet does have its consequences. Just like getting a tattoo on your skin, everything you do on the Internet is recorded to the archives and this is what Miller calls a "digital tattoo."

Dr. Bill Carpenter, associate professor and director of the first year writing department at HPU, also talked about the idea of this

"digital tattoo."

"Just because you delete a photo off of Facebook or Twitter doesn't mean it's really gone. Someone, prior to removing it, could have downloaded it to his or her computer. There really is no honest way to know if it's gone."

Carpenter also hopes that students understand that Miller will make this presentation and discussion enjoyable and relatable for the college-aged audience.

However, not just scholars have a view on today's technology and growing use of the Internet. Students are some of the most avid users of the Internet and all its social media options. Being able to utilize technology in a way that helps students learn is key in keeping students engaged.

"I think that the technology usage at HPU is more beneficial than harmful," said sophomore Connor Bullard. "It has made many tasks, including homework, grading, and organizing much simpler."

Bullard also mentions that online privacy should fall back on the user, because if you share it on Facebook or Twitter, it will not just be you seeing what you posted.

"Privacy on the Internet rests in what the user is willing to allow be made public. If you give information, expect it to be known by anyone with access to the Internet."

However, sometimes things are beyond our control. With iPhones, video cameras, and webcams, being able to record even the more private aspects of our lives can be posted to the Internet, and sometimes without us knowing.

Understanding the dangers of this growing technology is necessary for college students. It is also important to learn how to properly utilize the Internet, making it something that benefits your education instead of hinders it.

"While there are endless provisions to establish a sense of privacy on the Internet, the truth is that anything that appears on your screen can be captured and reposted," said Miller. "I also know that our institutions are founded on the premise that information is scarce, and now it is not."



'Sweetmates': love, marriage, and classes on top?

By Katie Harmon
Staff Writer

Mary Beth Jones is a junior at High Point University. She is majoring in graphic design, and works part time at a local embroidery shop. Like any other 21-year-old college student, she goes to class, does homework, has lunch with friends, and watches reality TV.

But Mary Beth is no ordinary college student. At the end of the day, most college students go back to their dorms and roommates. Mary Beth goes home to her husband.

There was once a time when an unmarried woman of Mary Beth's age would have been considered an old maid. That time has long past.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average age for women at their first marriage in 2003 was 25. Since then, the estimated average has reached the age of 30. Women are waiting longer and longer to marry and start a family, choosing instead to focus on their education and careers.

So what's up with the Joneses? Why get married now?

Mary Beth first met her husband, Daniel, at their church in Thomasville, N.C. when she was a junior in high school. They dated for three years before he popped the question.

"We really just didn't want to wait,"

Mary Beth explains, "We were ready to start our lives together."

"I knew that Mary Beth was the one for me," her husband, Daniel, adds, "We knew we were going to get married."

The Joneses are not alone. Chris and Jessie Meriwether, from Asheville, N.C., were married two years ago, when Jessie was only a sophomore, and Chris a junior, at High Point University. They too, met in

high school when Jessie was sixteen and Chris was seventeen, and dated for three years before he popped the question and they became engaged.

"We've only been married for 2 years," says Jessie, "and already I can't imagine what it would be like to not be married to Chris."

Both couples agree that marriage was the best choice for them. "I

get to go through the rest of my life with the person I love and care for most in the world," Chris says of his wife, "I have a companion who I share my entire life with. Life is unimaginably sweeter with her."

But marrying young is, by no means, a walk in the park.

On her blog, *The Young and the Married*, Jessie chronicles the ups and downs of being married young.

Her memoirs range from impromptu trips and birthday celebrations to the struggles of bargain hunting and crafting.

"The worst part [about being married in college] is probably being poor," Jessie states, "Not that I would have been much richer without getting married, but there are times when I wish we had a nicer apartment, or could go out to eat more often, but I know that I would much rather have Chris than the money."

Because HPU doesn't offer housing for married couples, they live off campus. Currently, the Joneses live in an apartment built over an office building.

"At first, we thought it was unfair to not offer married housing," Mary Beth explains, "But after looking into it and finding an apartment at a great deal, we came to terms with it pretty fast. We enjoy having our personal lives separate from school."

The Meriwethers and the Jones know that money is tight for most newlyweds, and that is not a modern problem. However, these two couples face a problem that did not exist a few decades ago. In the 1970s the average age for marriage was 21. Everyone was getting married young.

Though the couples' friends and families were mostly supportive, there were also those who did not understand. "You can hear the doubts in the raised eyebrows and questioning looks," Jessie explains a little sadly, "It's definitely not the first thing I tell people about myself - they always freak out a little when they find out."

Chris agrees, "The worst part about being married in college was that my peers could no longer relate to me as well." This is understandable. The marrying age for men has always **See Sweetmates, page 5**



Jessie and Chris Meriwether have been happily married for years and look forward to spending their college years and beyond together. Photo courtesy of Jessie Meriwether.

900 families flock to HPU for Winter Family Weekend

By Olivia French
Staff Writer

This past weekend, over 900 families traveled from near and far to HPU for this semester's Family Weekend. Though the weather was dreary, families did not let it put a damper on what turned out to be a good weekend for parents and students alike.

Many activities were available for families to participate in. Family Bingo was held in the Slane gym Friday night, with prizes ranging from Krispy Kreme Donuts and a case of Cheerwine to a Kindle Touch and an Amazon.com gift card.



Juggling Act. Sean Emery performs on Saturday night in Hayworth Fine Arts Center. Photo by Allie Deatric.

Several HPU professors provided lectures for parents, allowing them an inside look on classes, and views on various contemporary topics.

Performances held in the Hayworth Fine Arts Center, such as a choral concert featuring the three HPU choirs directed by Dr. Marc Ashley Foster and a special performance by the comedic juggler Sean Emery, also kept families busy and entertained as they caught up with their students and explored the campus.

North Carolina Dance Theater made a special performance at HPU, dazzling parents with its unique show.

Families also attended a double header of the men's and women's basketball teams, cheering on the Panthers as they played their hardest, resulting in the first loss for the women and a victory for the men's team.

Many clubs and activities on campus, including sororities and fraternities, also held their own small events for families of current students.

Parents and siblings had the opportunity to enjoy many of HPU's amenities, including several showings of movies in the *Extraordinaire* **See Family, page 4**

Opinion

Oscar season is in full swing

By Chelsie Merone
Opinion Editor

With the 84th Academy Awards just around the corner, critics and movie go-ers have been buzzing about the competition.

Not only has this year been jam packed with great films, but they have showcased great actors and actresses as well. We've seen novel adaptations, historical references, original plot lines, and some amazing creative direction.

This year's Oscars is going to be nothing short of amazing, and to get ready for it, I have decided to see what critics are predicting. Here are a few of the categories, and possible winners.



Best Motion Picture of the Year

My pick: War Horse
Critics say: The Decendants

Best Actor in a Leading Role

My pick: Jean Dujardin
Critics say: George Clooney

Best Supporting Actor

My pick: Christopher Plummer
Critics say: Christopher Plummer

Best Screenplay

My pick: Bridesmaids
Critics say: Midnight in Paris

Best Cinematography

My pick: War Horse
Critics say: The Artist

Best Director

My pick: Michel Hazanavicius
Critics say: Michel Hazanavicius

Best Actress in a Leading Role

My pick: Viola Davis
Critics say: Viola Davis

Best Supporting Actress

My pick: Octavia Spencer
Critics say: Octavia Spencer

Best Adapted Screenplay

My pick: Moneyball
Critics say: The Descendants

Wanted: Real men (boys need not apply)

By Chelsie Merone
Opinion Editor

“Whatever happened to chivalry? Does it only exist in 80’s movies? I want John Cusack holding a boombox outside my window. I wanna ride off on a lawnmower with Patrick Dempsey. I want Jake from Sixteen Candles waiting outside the church for me. I want Judd Nelson thrusting his fist into the air because he knows he got me. Just once I want my life to be like an 80’s movie, preferably one with a really awesome musical number for no apparent reason.”

For those of you who don’t know, this quote is from Easy A, a hilarious movie starring Emma Stone that I suggest everyone pick up immediately and watch. But recommendation aside, your probably wondering why I am quoting this – well here it goes.

As a 22-year-old female who is about to head out into the real world, I am hoping that the media hasn’t completely ruined my chances of finding “Mr. Right.” But as so many college-aged women have come to discover, finding the perfect guy is like finding a unicorn; and we’re starting to lose faith.

It’s rare today to see someone do something out-of-the-blue and romantic for someone they care about. Why? Because in today’s society they would be called a pansy, whipped, or other less politically correct terms. Of course there are the brave souls that defy this standard; and most of them are immortalized on YouTube or other media outlets; but what about the everyday guy? The average 20-something guy you find anywhere in America. Why is it not okay for him to take a step back from his “super-butch” persona and do something nice for a girl? Social pressure, that’s why.

I’m not just talking about pressure from friends; I’m talking about the expectations set forth by the media. This idea of being ostracized by your fellow man for doing something that

may not be in your Bro-Bible is promoted by the very same media empire that idolizes these types of chivalrous acts. Confused? Yes, I am too – so are most women.

It’s no secret that in recent years there has been a shift in how the media portrays men and women. I know, I know, this topic has been beaten to death by activists, scholars and so on; but apparently society isn’t getting the message.

Just because a guy acts like a jerk in the movie and gets the girl, doesn’t mean it will happen that way in real life. Movies are written, and therefore, artificially formulated – get it through your heads people, movies are NOT real life! Stop trying to act out your favorite scenes in hopes of getting the same outcome.

This may seem like a feminist rant, but I think of it more as a textual slap in the face for both women and men. Girls, stop lowering your standards; stop thinking you can change every guy you date; and please stop acting like you aren’t worth the extra effort.

Guys, my advice to you (if you choose to listen) is cut the crap. We all get it, you want to be a man’s man, and that’s fine; but you should take a second to think about how with every sleazy action or superficial comment you are giving the rest of your gender a bad name.

For all of you “White Collar” fans out there, take a few pages from Neal Caffrey’s book. Not only does he dress, talk, and act like a textbook definition of Mr. Right (minus the criminal record), but he also spends a majority of the first few seasons searching for the girl he loves, no matter what the cost. Okay, that may be a little extreme, but it’s a good start.

Bottom line: stop treating your girl like a bro. Open her car door, pay for her meal, don’t play mind-games, and please, please don’t ever use bitch, slut, girl, etc., as a term of endearment (we have names, use them). You do this, and I promise it will pay off in the long run. We may think we want the “bad boy” now, but like the stereotype says, “you can’t take him home to mom.”



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Gov’t acts hurt rather than help online users

By Christian Bettendorf
Staff Writer

So, thankfully, it looks as if the SOPA and PIPA are about to encounter a big roadblock on their way to becoming laws – a roadblock more commonly known as the White House.

President Obama and company have said that as much as they love the idea of giving the copyright owners a few more tools to punch piracy in the face, he would rather have as much freedom of communication and information as possible.

For those not in the know, SOPA and PIPA refer to the Stop Online Piracy Act and the Protect Internet Protocol Act being nudged through Congress’ inner sanctum of legislation.

They are a pair of bills that, in short, are vaguely written and causing a stir on the Internet. The stated intent is to help give copyright holders the ability to combat piracy online by targeting websites dedicated to such wanton theft of intellectual property, and blocking them entirely from access.

And to be fair, they deserve it.

The Internet does make it a difficult task to keep your good name from being passed around like a plate of free entertainment. And piracy has a decidedly harsh effect on the revenue generated for various content like music, movies, and video games.

But there is a severe downside to this, like crippling the In-

ternet, and in turn, hurting the entertainment industry even more than piracy does.

You see, the Internet has a habit of making things that typically wouldn’t be popular, well, popular. I couldn’t begin to count the number of games that have risen to stardom due to the Internet’s massive set of connections.

YouTube has turned filmmakers, bands and video designers into minor celebrities. And of course deviantART has provided writers and artists with the crucial audiences needed to sell their work.

I can imagine this is not a bill Congress was eager to put through. The biggest benefactors are the already established companies who want to put a choke hold on who can view their content (people who pay them for it).

But people are lobbying for it, and unfortunately, they have some deep pockets and stubborn representatives. They aren’t giving up, as shown by the latest attempt to tack pieces of these two bills on the tail ends of other legislation.

As consumers, the best we can hope to do is raise awareness of this ridiculous attempt to censor online content. It’s important to remember that the Internet is really, really big; and trying to do so is something of a lost cause. Pirates will find a way to get around the law.

The better plan is to provide a much better service than the Pirates, and draw away the incentive of getting content free.

The best of Super Bowl commercials 2012

By Caroline Weller
Staff Writer

Football is unarguably one of America's most notable pastimes. People all over the country tuned in on Sunday to watch the Patriots and Giants battle it out for the prestigious win at the Super Bowl (Congratulations Giants!). However, there are some of you out there, myself included, that really only watch the Super Bowl for one thing - the commercials.

The Super Bowl is a prime time for advertisers to spread word of their newest products and promotions because so many people are watching. I spoke with High Point University's own Professor Richard Hargrove to gain some insight on marketing during the big game. He shared, "[The Super Bowl is] the one instance in television viewing where the advertisements are just as important as the game to some people."

Professor Hargrove also explained which companies are looking to market during the expensive timeslots. During the game, typically beer and cars are the major products being promoted. However, certain businesses can benefit according to what cultural

and socioeconomic factors are prominent at the time. For instance, more employment agencies have advertised during the Super Bowl in the past few years. Hargrove states, "Obviously in a down economy when people are looking for jobs, that can apply to anyone who's watching."

I'd say a major factor that differentiates Super Bowl ads from regular old commercials is that the majority of them are hilarious. But why do companies make the ads so funny? Hargrove answers, "It wouldn't make a lot of sense for Bud-

weiser to come on and start telling you about their ingredients and what a good deal you could get. What they want to do is make you laugh because if it's a low-involvement product, then it's better to get you involved in enjoying the ad and that will rub off on the brand. The idea is to get you in a happy mood, have a good feeling about the ad, and that will transfer into a good feeling about the brand."



Now that we understand some of the background information regarding Super Bowl ads, I'll share with you my top favor-

ite commercials from the 2012 Super Bowl.

1. Audi Vampire Party- The moment I saw the fangs, I was not thrilled. I figured, "Oh great... another Twilight spoof." But when the driver parked his car and the vampires began to be annihilated by the headlights, it felt good. Perhaps my pleasure was due to the resentment of being bombarded with images of the Cullen clan for the past several years. Finally, real vampires that don't merely glitter in the light: they explode.

2. E-Trade Fatherhood- E-Trade gets me every year. They have found a goldmine in their hilarious talking baby. I don't know if it's the dorky voice they sync to it, or the overly dramatic gestures they somehow manage to make the baby do, but E-Trade will forever be a winner in my book. The other kid hanging out in the maternity ward trying to "speed date" from crib to crib may or may not have been my favorite part of the entire Super Bowl.

3. Skechers-Mr. Quigley Dog Race- Normally dogs wearing people clothes freak me out, but I guess I can make an exception for dogs wearing



shoes because Mr. Quigley was rocking those kicks. The little guy came out of nowhere mid-race to take first place, even leaving enough time to moonwalk backwards through the finish line. I guess I've always had a heart for the under dogs. Pun intended.

4. Doritos Baby Slingshot- I think I like this ad so much because of the justice that is served to the older sibling who is taunting the poor baby and grandmother. What an exemplary act of teamwork when Granny launches the baby via slingshot right into the tree house to retrieve the coveted Doritos. Just remind me to never let Grandma babysit again.

5. Chevy Camaro Graduation- Sometimes we all see what we want to see. But it's really unfortunate when you're seeing a brand new Camaro convertible instead of that lame mini-fridge your parents got you. But hey, have fun with your pints of Ben and Jerry's and somewhat refrigerated sodas. It's almost the same.

Overall, Professor Hargrove says, "It's the conversation after the Super Bowl, not the ad itself. If people are talking about your product, what could be better?"



Love is in the air & on the doors

Decorate your door today & enter to win prize money on your HPU Passport!

Prizes:

First Place: \$70 on your HPU Passport
 Second Place: \$50 on your HPU Passport
 Third Place: \$30 on your HPU Passport
PLUS! A \$250 donation will be made to the High Point Regional Heart Center in the winners names!

Requirements:

- one door per entry form
- must fill out an entry form at the Campus Concierge
- all doors will be photographed then judged
- winning decorations and decorators will be featured in the February 22 issue of the Campus Chronicle

Entry Deadline:

February 14



Slow motion. Sean Emery shared his talents with the families in attendance during his performance on Saturday night in the Hayworth Fine Arts Center. Photo by Allie Dearie.

From Family, page 1 Cinema and dinner at 1924 Prime Steakhouse, and other locations on campus.

On Sunday morning, a family chapel service was held before parents and students said their goodbyes.

Students were very happy to see their families. Freshman Erica Silich said, "Having my family here makes me have a little taste of home without actually being home. It's a very nice experience."

Freshman Connor Bullard, who lives close to High Point said, "Even though I see my mom a lot more than most students, it was nice to see her here."

Parents, siblings, and other family members were wowed by the spectacular campus that students live on every day. Pamela and Ed Lucas, parents of freshman Carly Lucas, said, "Once again, between the beautiful campus, the excellent hospitality, and the feeling of family during Family Weekend, we know our daughter is at the most extraordinary university we could have ever envisioned."



Sing it out! The mens a capella group, Tocatonones, performed on Saturday during the choral concerts. Photo by Allie Dearie.



Bingo! Families tried to win prizes on Friday night in the Slane Center. Photo by Allie Dearie.



Joyful noise! All three of the university choirs performed on Saturday afternoon for two concerts. The choirs are directed by Dr. Marc Ashley Foster and accompanied by Mrs. Marcia Dills. Photo by Allie Dearie.

Decision 2012: Republican candidates establish themselves

By Jay Rinaldi
Staff Writer

There are four candidates left in the race for the Republican nomination for the presidential election of 2012. The nominating campaign will end at the Republican National Convention in late August with only one candidate remaining to face the Democratic candidate, incumbent President Barack Obama. The remaining candidates include former senator Rick Santorum, former governor Mitt Romney, Representative Ron Paul, and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich.

According to the New York Times, Santorum is an ambitious representative from Pennsylvania who burst onto the national political scene in the early 90s when he won a seat in the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania's 18th district. Santorum then served Pennsylvania in the U.S. Senate from 1995 up until his defeat in the 2006 midterm elections. He is mostly known for his unwavering conservative beliefs; he is anti-gay marriage, anti-abortion, and an advocate of family values. On the economic issues, Santorum has repeatedly brought up the issue of American manufacturing. Recent statistics show that manufacturing in the United States is increasing. However, the United States has lost millions of manufacturing jobs to overseas markets in the last decade. Santorum wants to restore America to a country that makes products within its borders. He proposes to eliminate taxes completely for manufacturers to accomplish this, and cut the corporate tax rate in half. On foreign policy, Santorum sees rogue countries like Iran as being a major threat to United States security. Santorum has gained some attention for his hard-line stance that Iran, by any means necessary, should not be let to acquire nuclear capabilities. This may have been the impetus for President Obama to mention his "nothing's off the table" stance towards Iran in his third State of the Union Address in response.

Mitt Romney, after governing a liberal state like Massachusetts, has been trying to prove his conservative credentials to Republican voters. The first item in Mitt Romney's baggage is his religious affiliation. He is a Mormon, at odds with many Republican's Christian beliefs; this has not been an issue in the primaries, and it is still a question of whether it will materialize as one. Second, Romney was pro-choice when governing Massachusetts but has been pro-life since. His opponents, because of changes in his views like this, have characterized him as a flip-flopper. But if we hold him to his word, here are his stances now.

He is a proponent of the Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* that ruled corporations and unions have the constitutional liberty to spend as much independent money as they wish for political purposes. Romney was against the controversial federal government bailout of the American automotive industry enacted by the Obama and Bush Administrations. He

wrongfully claimed that a bailout of the automotive industry would be akin to "kissing it goodbye." General Motors, among the automotive industries to be bailed out, is now the largest automaker in the world.

Among the many things conservatives want to have are stark contrasts to President Obama. One of these oppositions is to health care reform. All Republican candidates are against the health care reform bill passed by the Obama Administration, especially Romney. However, critics of Romney, point to the similar health care legislation Romney passed when he was governor of Massachusetts, which also mandated citizens to purchase private health insurance. On foreign policy, Romney declared that if he were president he would not allow Iran to get a nuclear weapon; he has foreign policy advisors that were also advisors in the Bush Administration, an administration that was influential in cultivating the "Bush Doctrine," informed by a neoconservative ideological view of foreign policy.

Ron Paul, as he has noted himself, is the only political candidate who has been consistently amassing support since the Iowa caucuses. He points to this as reason to stay in the race. On the issues, Paul is a fervent critic of the Federal Reserve. He believes a central banking system like the Reserve to be antithetical to the Constitution and detrimental to an economy. Paul actually is not a Republican, but aligns himself with libertarians. He only declared himself as a Republican to get into the Republican debates, evidence that he uses to expose the two-party bias in American politics. He self-describes his foreign policy outlook as "non-interventionism," which means that the United States should stay out of the internal affairs and conflicts of other nations if it is not directly threatening America's security. Unlike each of his Republican opponents, Paul is against using military action towards Iran, likening it to "another Iraq coming, it's war propaganda going on," Paul said in the Republican debate sponsored by Fox News on December 15th. On economic issues, he believes that

the United States should change its monetary system and resort back to the gold standard, refrain from giving bailouts to corporations and banks as was done in 2008, and let the markets correct improper economic activity; also known as creative destruction. Paul's economic beliefs are informed by Austrian Economics, which, as Slate writer Matthew Yglesias summed up as the belief that "practically every economic policy pursued by the federal government and Federal Reserve is a mistake that distorts markets." In effect, Austrian Economics is a form of economic libertarianism. He left most people confused when he said "we're all Austrians now" in a speech he delivered on the night of the Iowa Caucuses: not many Americans are familiar with Austrian anything.

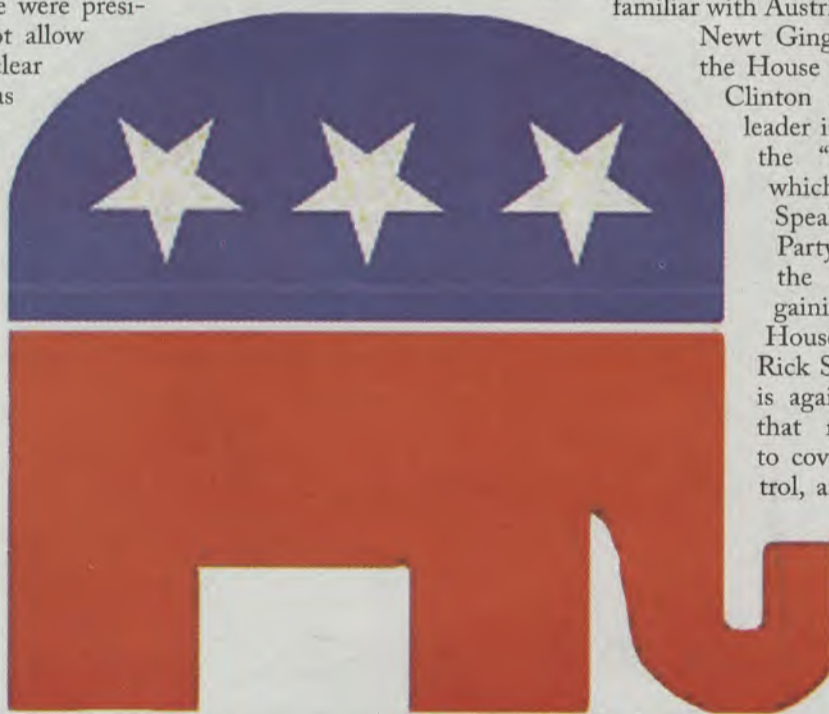
Newt Gingrich was the Speaker of the House for four years during the Clinton Administration. He was leader in what the media termed the "Republican Revolution," which led Gingrich to become Speaker after the Republican Party came out victorious in the 1994 midterm elections, gaining control of both the House and the Senate. Like Rick Santorum, Newt Gingrich is against the federal mandate that requires health insurers to cover the cost of birth control, and even more steadfastly

against requiring religious institutions to prescribe and cover birth control as well. Both Gingrich and Santorum support "personhood" initiatives that would legally declare fertilized eggs to be

persons, according to The New York Times. Romney is also on the record as saying that requiring religious institutions to cover birth control is a "direct attack on religious liberty and would not stand in a Romney presidency."

On the economy, Gingrich would have the capital gains tax eliminated, citing that it would lead to more investment and higher rates of economic growth. On foreign policy, Newt Gingrich is a realist who believes that both the Bush and Obama Administrations have been too weak in its dealings with "rogue" states that have or are trying to acquire nuclear weapons, such as North Korea and Iran.

As of now, Romney has won two primaries, Santorum one (Iowa Caucus), and Gingrich one. In the last primary, Florida, Romney won the state by the greatest point margin yet. Florida is considered to be the most representative of the nation; giving Romney restored credibility as the GOP frontrunner.



A&E

Five Fashion Secrets that will Update Any Wardrobe

By Jordan Breetz
Staff Writer

Want a new look but can't spare the cash because you're saving for that amazing spring break trip? Recycle and renew your wardrobe with these five fashion tips that are sure to take you from drab to fab with items that are already in your closet.

Layer- When layering, be sure to pull out your favorite dress. Pair with a cute cardigan or blazer and add a scarf to complete the look. This look is effortless and perfect to dress up a drab day. It can turn any of the dresses you already own into a more winter/fall appropriate look! It is also the perfect outfit to wear out at night or on a date!

Add a boot- Take your normal everyday outfit and add boots, cowboy boots to be exact. These suckers aren't just for the rodeo anymore but perfect for Rodeo Drive! Embrace your inner southern girl! Cowboy boots can be paired with anything from your favorite tee and skinny jeans to a cute day dress with a cardigan. They can dress up any look without looking like you are trying too hard!

Lazy Day- Turn your normal yoga pants and a t-shirt into a chic but comfortable lazy day look. You can keep the oversized shirt, but instead wear it with leggings, boots and bangles. This is a great blah-day outfit. You will feel comfortable but with these simple accessories and the right makeup, you'll still be fabulous.

Warm day weather- Try cuffing your favorite pair of straight legs or skinny jeans to create a crew cut or Capri style pant. Not only is it extremely easy but also you'll look like you just stepped out of a J. Crew magazine, which is never a bad thing! Pair with a cute blouse, tuck it in, and add a belt and flips. Top it all off with your favorite pair of sunglasses. This preppy chic look will catch people's eye as you walk around campus.

Shorts- Pull out your shorts ladies! If it's a warm day, wear them with a long-sleeved billowy top. This way if there is a breeze, you'll still be covered enough. Even if it is a little chilly outside the shorts will still work! Add a pair of tights and boots and rock those shorts all day long! You'll be ready to go anywhere.

It is tempting to run out and buy a new wardrobe every laundry day but lets face it, we are normal broke college students, not the Kardashian sisters who can afford to buy couture clothes on the daily. While it would be nice to live the celebrity life, next time you are at loss for what to wear, or feel like your look is starting to repeat, think about these quick tips and I promise you will end up looking adorable.



Celebrities everywhere have taken on the trend of adding a pair of tights to shorts in order to take them from a summer to fall look. Photo from myfashioncents.com



Taylor Swift is known for rocking the dress and cowboy boots look! Photo from styleitgirl.blogspot.com

From Sweetmates, page 1

been higher than that of women.

Daniel and Chris both admit that they got a little nervous before the wedding. Chris recalls the rare moments when he wondered if he and Jessie were just "stupid kids" rushing into marriage.

"I married when I did because I knew that Jessie was the woman I wanted to spend the rest of my life with," Chris explains, "I knew that I could never find a

woman better than her and I also realized that she helped bring the best out in me. I would have been so stupid not to marry her. Why 'waste' time dating the woman I know I am going to end up marrying?"

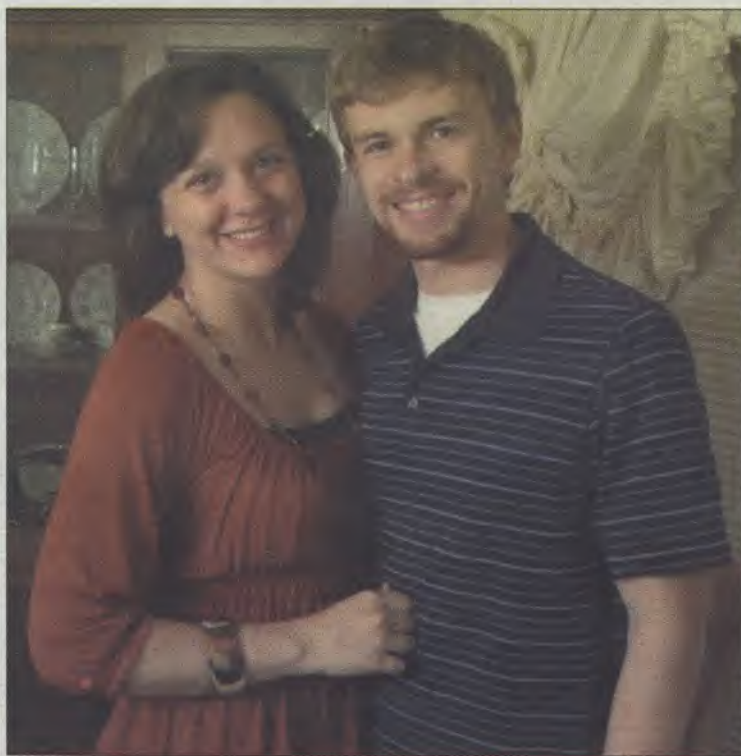
As Jessie points out, getting married in college is not for everyone, and what works for one couple may not work for another, but both couples agree that marrying in college was right for them.

As Mary Beth reflects on her wedding day and her decision to marry Daniel, she says with a smile, "my feet weren't even chilly."

Though marriage in college is unconventional, there are those couples that seem to make it work. The Jones's and the Meriwethers are a shining example that sometimes following your heart is the right move to make.



Mary Beth and Daniel Jones. Photo courtesy of Mary Beth Jones.



Jessie and Chris Meriwether. Photo courtesy of Jessie Meriwether.

Top three romantic comedies to watch on Valentines day

By Jodi Guglielmi
A&E Editor

Valentine's day is known for love, and Hollywood is not one to ignore that. If you don't have a date to take out on the special night, or if you and your date just want to spend the night in relaxing, here are the top three romantic comedies to watch on Valentine's Day.

"Love and Other Drugs"-at first this film seems as if it is the classic story of a damsel in distress who needs a prince to come in and save the day. However, in this story, the damsel and the prince both seem to need a bit of saving. Using sex and dirty jokes as the primary form of humor, this movie follows the two lovebirds through their trials that pull them apart but eventually lead them back together. I give this a 5 out of 5 on the laugh scale, and a 4 out of 5 on the heartwarming scale.

"No Strings Attached"- This is a story we've all heard before but finally got turned into a movie. The two characters in this film start having a sexual relationship claiming that it is just sex, without the feelings. But of course like any other romantic comedy they end up falling for each other in the end. The film thrives off of semi-awkward moments and conversations along with truly funny dialect. Part of why it is so funny is because to some degree, everyone can relate to the story line and situations. Also, Ashton Kutcher, the male lead in the film, doesn't always have his shirt on- which is always a plus. I give this a 5 out of 5 on the laugh scale and a 3 out of 5 on the heartwarming scale.



Photo from celebritybirthdaywish.com

"Life As We Know It"- This movie is perfect for you single ladies. You get to laugh and ugly cry, all in one movie! The premise of the film centers on a baby whose parents tragically died. The humor comes in when two people who seemingly hate each other, are left in charge of the child. The trials and tribulations that come along with raising a child are heightened and hilarious in this movie, as the two adults have no idea what they are doing. Naturally, at the end of the film, the two fall in love and end up adopting the baby to parent together. I give this movie a 5 out of 5 on the laugh scale and a 5 out of 5 on the heartwarming scale.

Watch any of these movies and your Valentine's Day is sure to be full of constant laughter and the occasional "aww" at those heartwarming moments. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the day of love!



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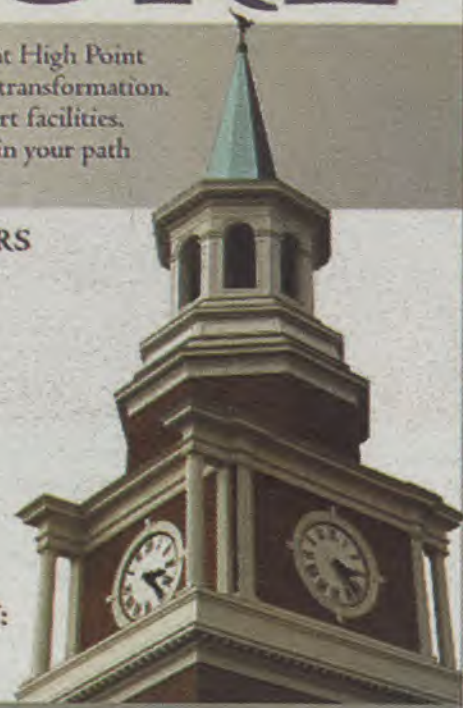
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Organizations

P.R.I.D.E. adds diversity, open-mindedness to HPU

By Chelsie Gastright
Staff Writer

“I think one of the most important things is that it really doesn't matter what you are, who you are, or what happens, you will not be judged. It is a complete safe zone.”

That is what Gissela Van, High Point University junior, had to say about People Representing Individuality, Diversity, and Equality, otherwise known as P.R.I.D.E., here on campus.

P.R.I.D.E. is what many people would call a Gay Straight Alliance, or a GSA. However, do not be fooled into thinking that P.R.I.D.E. is just for the gay community.

“I strongly encourage anyone who can make it to attend. It is not just for people who are [in the gay community], it is for anyone who wants to see equality or wants to support us,” said Van.

Anna Huckelba has been a part of P.R.I.D.E. since her first year at HPU and still enjoys going just as much as she did

the first day.

“I liked going to meetings because I really enjoyed talking and spending time with people who were in it,” said Huckelba.

The group meets once a week on Wednesdays in Norton 202 and has a very casual, laid-back atmosphere. During a typical meeting, articles are shared and opinions are voiced about different topics of the gay community, and the movement towards equality.

“Even though we have similar view points, a lot of us have different opinions on things,” said Jacqueline Anderson, HPU P.R.I.D.E. president. “We are just a close knit group trying to better both High Point University and High Point community as a whole.”

The underlying theme of P.R.I.D.E. has been a sense of security and family. College is an important time to become comfortable in your own skin and that is something that P.R.I.D.E. is proud to offer.

“P.R.I.D.E. has given me a place where I feel like I can talk about anything, whether it's P.R.I.D.E. related or personal,” said

Alex Mills, HPU freshmen.

Beyond what the organization does for the students of HPU, Anderson also likes people to know that P.R.I.D.E. does volunteer with community projects.

“We as a group know what it's like to be struggling, so we are trying to help places that know the same struggles and adversities. We try to go to soup kitchens, animal shelters, or any place that we can relate too and help.”

On top of reaching out to the community in High Point, P.R.I.D.E. is also reaching out to other GSA's around the Piedmont Triad area. Other universities that are

willing to work with the HPU chapter include the University of North Carolina - Greensboro and Guilford College.

One other thing that P.R.I.D.E. feels is special about their group are their faculty advisors. Anderson mentioned that all of the faculty advisors dedi-

cate a lot of effort toward helping the students involved in P.R.I.D.E. reach all of their goals and that they're very supportive.

If you are looking for a different way to become involved, try P.R.I.D.E. This group welcomes any person regardless of your differences with open arms and a sense of security.

“Being in P.R.I.D.E. means that you have an opportunity to promote awareness and support for the gay community. They are a group of people that do not let judgment be a factor in what they do.

For more information, HPU P.R.I.D.E. can be found on Facebook.

“We just want to create a safe place people can go...”

~Jacqueline Anderson

President of
P.R.I.D.E.



Above: The HPU P.R.I.D.E. group displays this international symbol of gay pride on their Facebook page.

As school expands, so do class options

By Chelsie Gastright
Staff Writer

As High Point University continues to grow in its physical size, students are also starting to take notice to changes in the classroom as well. New dorms are being built and renovations are being made to places like the bookstore and the C-Stores. With the continuously growing student body, keeping things new, fresh, and entertaining are key in making sure that students get the most out of their college years.

One of these changes is the addition of new physical education classes, known as PEC in the course catalog. Some of the classes that are being added, but are not currently offered, include underwater photography, paintball, Zumba, and the second level of horseback riding.

“I know if I was a student, more variety is key,” says Dr. Rick Overstreet, coordinator of all physical education classes at HPU.

The PEC courses have something for everyone with every kind of interest. New classes that have made their way into the course catalog include both ice-skating and ice hockey.

One student at HPU talked about how much she has been enjoying the Ice-Skating I class after one week.

“I decided to take ice-skating because I've known how to ice skate for a long time and really enjoy it,” said Alex Ortowski, HPU freshman. “Even though it is off campus and has a higher course fee, this class is worth it. I can't wait to get home and show off what I'll be learning!”

Chuck Burch, the Ice Hockey I teacher has been with HPU since the fall of 2011. He feels that the wide variety of PEC classes is a great opportunity.

“I think the fact that HPU is willing to recruit these teachers and offer these

activities differentiates them from other universities.”

Overstreet is very ecstatic about his position and understands quite well that being able to offer bigger and better things is just as key as offering variety.

“I started looking at other schools for examples and once Dr. Carole Stoneking put me in charge of the department I wanted to make the classes better, better than other schools have,” said Overstreet.

Overstreet also raved about how after the new additions have made their way into the course catalog, the number of students taking these classes have multiplied. Two years ago there were only 600 students taking extra PEC classes, but after the new additions there are over 800 students currently enrolled.

One of the more popular classes that is currently being offered through the PEC department is the women's self-defense class. This class gives the women involved hands on experience with scenarios they could encounter and how to handle them. The class meets twice a week for 50 minutes at an off-campus martial arts studio in High Point.

Many students make excuses for why they cannot take a one-hour course here and there. However, there are certain PEC classes that are only offered once a week for two hours for half the semester. One of these special cases is Rock Climbing I and II.

HPU does offer many activities for students year-round, through new classes and new on campus opportunities. As the semesters unfold, there will be plenty of new PEC options to help round out a tough 16-hour semester. Make sure to keep checking the course catalog to know exactly what is offered each semester.

Alpha Chi becomes official

By Rachel Smedley
Staff Writer

Greek row is proud to present a new addition to their family! The Alpha Chi Omega sorority filled their first founding class this spring, adding 116 new girls to the over 600 High Point ladies who are currently involved in Greek life.

The decision by Alpha Chi to start a chapter here at HPU was largely motivated by “the beauty and vibrancy of the campus, the visionary plans for HPU's future, the student focus, the enthusiasm of the HPU administration and the high quality of the students we've met,” said the sorority's national president Marsha King Grady.

Alpha Chi Omega was founded at DePauw University in Indiana on Oct. 24, 1885. At a time when people were still getting accustomed to the idea of women in colleges, DePauw's Dean of Music, Professor James Howe, took the initiative to create a women's society at the university.

The seven original founders turned their society into a women's fraternity, in order to become the sixth to be formed in the entire country. Today, over 200 years later, Alpha Chi Omega boasts more than 200,000 members, 130 collegiate chapters, and 200 alumnae chapters worldwide.

Here at HPU, the women of Alpha Chi Omega continue to represent their roots by promoting pride and power in women through their domestic violence awareness philanthropy. They also represent the sorority's musical heritage with their symbol, the Grecian lyre.

Bid day for the HPU Alpha Chi pledge class was one that filled the new

girls with joy. Since the sorority was selecting it's founding class, they did not participate in rush week with the rest of Greek row, but instead selected their members through a series of interviews with Alpha Chi national representatives.

The girls received their letters and shirts in the University Center on their bid day and then paraded over to the Greek conference center where the new members were surprised with a huge crowd of supporters made up of HPU's five established sororities, welcoming them in.

“We weren't really sure what to expect, being the new sorority on campus, but seeing all the other girls with their posters and signs, waving us in, was really neat,” said sophomore Haley Ruehle of bid day.

Since the bid day, the sisters have been busy with all the obligations that come with being a founding class. The girls will have to write their own traditions, plan their signature philanthropy event and decide positions within the chapter.

This extra effort, however, does not come without perks. Photos of every member will be taken and hung in the Alpha Chi house for years to come.

Currently, the sorority is exploring different domestic violence programs and shelters in the local area, looking for an organization to pair with and fundraise for through their philanthropy events. A lot of work is ahead of them as they begin to form the identity and structure of Alpha Chi Omega at High Point University, but it shouldn't be too difficult for these “Real, Strong, Women.”

Women interested in rushing this sorority will have to wait until the spring semester of 2013 when PanHellenic rush starts up again.

Organizations

FRATERNITY BID DAY 2012

By Rachel Smedley
Staff Writer

High Point University fraternity recruitment finished up on Jan. 28, ending a week of serious male bonding time.

The boys began rush week much the same as the ladies, starting on Monday night with meet and greets at every frat house. However, this is where many of the similarities between sorority and fraternity recruitment ended.

"I feel like it's a whole lot more relaxed, with a lot less structure to it. It also gives you a little more freedom, like if you have an idea of what fraternity you might fit into," said Davis Whitmere, a new Kappa Sigma pledge, about rush.

"You have the opportunity to spend more time with that group of guys."

The following four days provided flexibility in which houses the boys visited, allowing for as much time as they wanted to be spent with a particular fraternity.

On Thursday night, the house meetings became invite-only and then on Friday, the brothers hosted off-campus activities to really get to know their future members outside of the more formal atmosphere of recruitment.

Some fraternities went bowling, others went out to eat, but the overall goal was for the recruits to relax and get to see their future brothers in their natural element and how they interacted with each other. Finally, on Saturday, bid day arrived.

For anyone who witnessed the sorority

bid day, the fraternity equivalent was much more relaxed. Void of any balloons or sorority chants, the gentlemen met in the Greek conference center, taking their seats in a large circle around the conference center.

This was made possible by the fact that while over five hundred girls rushed this spring, just over 200 males turned out for fraternity recruitment, allowing for a more private venue.

Beginning with the highest GPA fraternity, a representative stood in the center of the circle and called out the names of their selected potential new members, shaking their hand and giving them their certificate and t-shirt.

They took their seats again in the circle until every name had been called. Once every recruit was proudly donning the name

of their new fraternity, they were all ordered outside where they ran into the crowd of brothers waiting just outside. In a sort of frenzied celebration, the guys joined their frats, yelling and jumping up and down.

"I'm still only a pledge, but I can definitely see, with the experience that I've had with the guys so far, what they mean when they're talking about brotherhood. It's exactly like a family, there's definitely a strong bond here."

Over the next few weeks, as pledge classes from both sororities and fraternities settle in with their new sisters and brothers, this bond is only expected to grow and there are sure to be some great experiences to come for these new members and their Greek families.

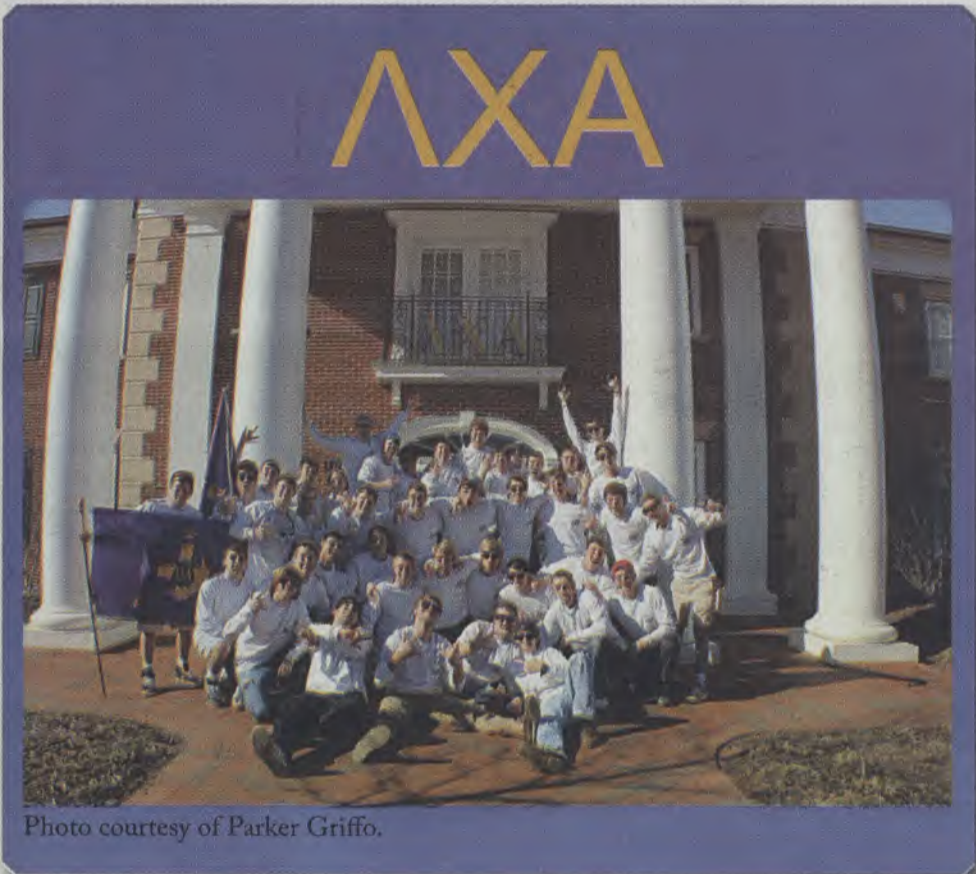


Photo courtesy of Parker Griffo.

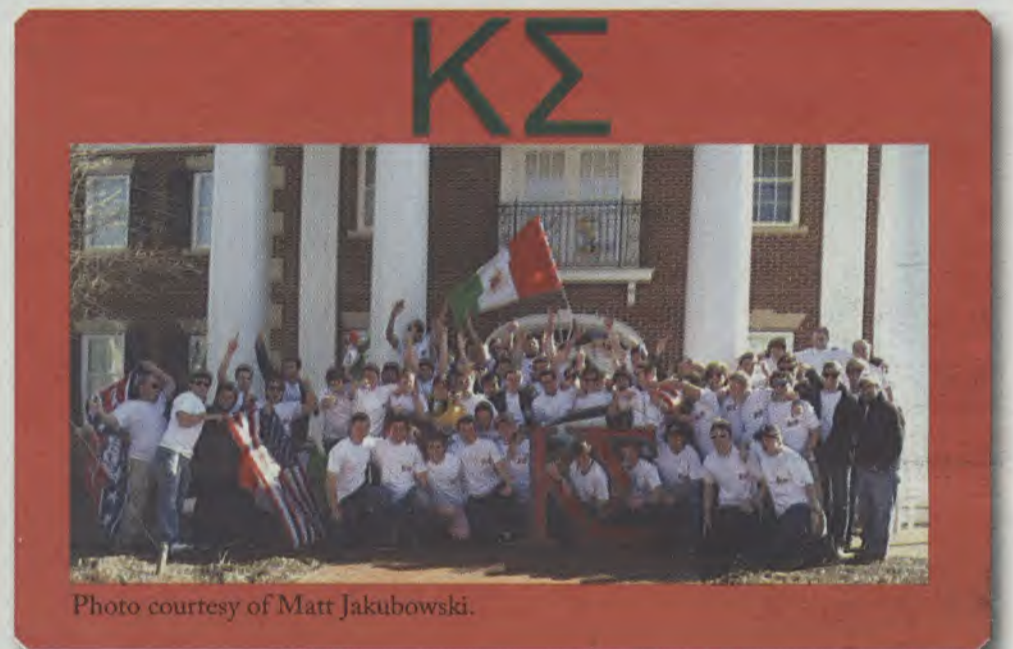


Photo courtesy of Matt Jakubowski.



Photo courtesy of Dan Kissel.



Photo courtesy of Tyler Odenath.



Photo courtesy of Bryce How...



HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY FEBRUARY

Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday

<p>CULTURAL ENRICHMENT SERIES</p> <p>3 Family Weekend Features: North Carolina Dance Theatre 7:30PM - Hayworth Fine Arts Center, Pauline Theatre</p> <p>4 Family Weekend Features: Choral Concert 2PM & 4PM - Hayworth Fine Arts Center, Pauline Theatre</p>		<p>4 Sean Emery 6:30PM & 8:00PM - Hayworth Fine Arts Center, Pauline Theatre</p> <p>16 HPU Theatre Presents - The Glasses by Ron Burch 2:00PM - 19, 26 7:30PM - 16-18; 23-25 Hayworth Fine Arts Center, Pauline Theatre</p> <p>25 Winter Choral Concert 7:30PM - Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church</p>	<p>1 WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE Karaoke Night 8PM</p>	<p>2 Men vs Presbyterian College 7PM Groundhog Day</p>	<p>3 IDS Event Today IDS Event - North Carolina Dance Theatre 7:30PM - Hayworth Fine Arts Center FAMILY BINGO 7:30PM SLANE CENTER</p>	<p>4 IDS Event Today IDS Event - Choral Concert 2PM & 4PM Hayworth Fine Arts Center Family Weekend Features: Sean Emery 6:30 & 8PM Hayworth Fine Arts Center Women vs Radford 4PM Men vs Gardner-Webb 7PM</p>	
<p>5 CAT SUPERBOWL PARTY Family Weekend</p>		<p>6 Women vs Liberty 7PM MONDAY MOVIE EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 8PM & 11PM</p>	<p>7 CAT Speed Dating</p>	<p>8 WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE Mike Rayburn Guitar Virtuoso 7:30PM Extraordinaire Cinema</p>	<p>9 IDS Event Today Faculty Cultural Enrichment Grant Series Dr. Richard Miller 7PM Phillips Hall Room 120</p>	<p>10 CAT BOWLING Peer Mentor Applications due for details email peermentor@highpoint.edu</p>	<p>11 CATFLIX EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 10PM Women's Lacrosse vs Navy 12PM</p>
<p>12 70 DAYS UNTIL The Fray</p>		<p>13 Wilson Commerce Ballroom - 6PM MONDAY MOVIE EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 8PM & 11PM</p>	<p>14 Men's vs Radford 7PM Valentine's Day HPU Mascot</p>	<p>15 Baseball Olympics WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE Jazz Band The Great Day Bakery 8PM</p>	<p>16 IRC Panther Pop Quiz 10:10PM Slane Café SGA Meeting Community Affairs Board Phillips Lecture Hall 7PM</p>	<p>17 CAT PRESENTS LIVE GAME OF CLUE! CONFERENCE CENTER 8PM Baseball Opening Day vs Army 4PM</p>	<p>18 CATFLIX EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 10PM vs Army 2PM</p>
<p>19 vs Army 1PM HPU Theatre Presents The Glasses by Ron Burch 2PM • Hayworth Fine Arts Center</p>		<p>20 Wilson Commerce Ballroom - 6PM President's Day MONDAY MOVIE EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 8PM & 11PM</p>	<p>21 MARDIS GRAS vs Charlotte 4PM</p>	<p>22 Men vs Campbell 7PM</p>	<p>23 PRIME Culture & Cuisine Series Sign up at the Campus Conierge SGA Meeting Phillips Lecture Hall 7PM</p>	<p>24 CATFLIX EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 10PM vs Dayton 4PM</p>	<p>25 IDS Event Today IDS Event Winter Choral Concert 7:30PM Wesley Memorial Women vs Presbyterian College 4PM vs Dayton 2PM</p>
<p>26 vs Dayton 1PM HPU Theatre Presents The Glasses by Ron Burch 2PM • Hayworth Fine Arts Center</p>		<p>27 Wilson Commerce Ballroom - 6PM Women vs Winthrop 7PM Men's Big South Tournament MONDAY MOVIE EXTRAORDINAIRE CINEMA 8PM & 11PM</p>	<p>28 vs Virginia Tech 4PM Wilson Commerce Ballroom - 6pm Carolina Diner Exam Break 9pm</p>	<p>29 MID-TERM Women's Lacrosse vs UC Davis 3PM Men's Big South Quarterfinals vs Elon 4PM</p>	<p>February 29th NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUES BYRON MOTLEY 8PM Extraordinaire Cinema</p>	<p>FACULTY LITERARY FILM SERIES Located in The Extraordinaire Cinema</p>	<p>February 28 HPUREC Captain's Meeting Congdon 138 Softball - 5PM</p>

Sports

Talk of the Big South: Women's hoops hot start breaks Division I record

By Jessica Strickler
News and Design Editor

The HPU women's basketball team made it to 7-0 in the Big South Conference. Then they were 8-0, holding a new school record. And now, against all odds, the team went to a perfect 9-0, after defeating Presbyterian College on the road.

"It's a great start, and it's right where we want to be," said senior Shamia Brown, of leading the Big South Conference, "But we still have a lot of games to play, so we can't get complacent."

First year head coach Jennifer Hoover attributes much of the team's success thus far to hard work, along with the strength and conditioning workouts led by head athletic trainer, Tim Teefy.

"We don't just talk about how hard we have to work, we actually go out and work hard everyday and we talk about how our goal everyday is to get better every time we step on the floor," Hoover said.

The Panthers practice an average of 14 hours per week on the court, in addition to at least two hours of strength and conditioning with Teefy and his staff. Hoover said many people don't realize how important it is for athletes to get in good workouts outside of the gym because it is a confidence builder.

"They would all tell you they love [Teefy], and they would all tell you they hate him too," Hoover said, "We talk about nutrition and eating and we are on them all

the time about that, but we let him do his thing. It's a definite advantage."

"We are now the best conditioned team in the conference," said redshirt freshman, Lindsay Puckett, "We definitely appreciate that now."

With a brand new coaching staff this season, the ladies were at first concerned with the changes to the program.

"We definitely have had harder workouts, and they are a lot more strict," Puckett said, "At first, we were kind of worried



Senior Shamia Brown has played a key role in the hot start the Panthers have had in the Big South. Photo by Jeremy Hopkins

about it, but now, being first in the conference, it's all paid off and we're definitely more excited about the change and we love our coaches now."

But the new coaches have higher standards, which has benefited the team in more ways than one.

"They expect more from us on the court, as well as off the court," Brown said, "In our classes, they hold us higher, they expect us to get good grades. They expect us to come out here everyday and practice and work hard and I feel like that's a big difference from last year."

Big goals for Track & Field in prep for Big South Conference Tournament

By Joseph Wetzler
Sports Editor

The main focus of the men and women's track and field team at High Point University has been the Big South Conference Championship, taking place on February 24 and 25 at Virginia Tech.

Every school in the Big South Conference competes in this event and HPU's goal is to compete against its conference opponents.

For the time being, the team is concentrating on training hard to prepare for the upcoming championships.

Manika Gamble, the Big South's Indoor Track and Field Freshman of the Year in 2008-09, has focused on improving her performance this season, while sophomore Evan Emery looks to break the school's 60-meter dash record.

Gamble currently leads the women's 4 by 400 team, which is determined to place into the faster heat for the upcoming conference championship.

"If we don't run the 4 by 400 before the conference championship we will have to start in the slower heat," Gamble said, "That makes it tougher to place into the faster heat at the Championships."

Emery, an all-Big South sprinter a year ago, ran a school best 22.1-second 200-meter dash at the Virginia Tech Invitational. Emery is looking to break another school

record this season. When asked about his expectations for the rest of the season, Emery said he anticipates breaking the school's 60-meter dash record.

"While I look to improve on my 200 time, I'm very focused on breaking the 60 record" Emery said.

Head coach Mike Esposito anticipates big things from his team this season, expecting both the men and the women to place in the top 3 at the conference championships, just three weeks away.

Thus far, Esposito has been very impressed with the men and women sprinters, hurdlers, and middle distance freshmen.

"With the distance runners coming around after finishing second in the cross country championship, we feel confident of achieving our goals at the indoor championships," he said.

While the members of the men and women's teams are working hard on the track, they are working equally as hard, off

Puckett, who redshirted during her freshman year, had surgery on her foot last January and was participating in modified workouts up until the team returned to school in August. Now averaging 18.3 minutes of playing time, and 7.4 points per game, Puckett has become a major contributor on the court.

"I came out more focused, and I have more confidence now," Puckett said, "I'm just trying to find my role within the team and be the first scorer off the bench. I just want to do everything I can for the team."

With seven games left in the regular season, and only two left to play in the Millis Center, the Panthers face a battle of playing on the road, but can take comfort in the knowledge that they have already beaten every team in the Big South Conference once this season.

"We talk a lot about being road warriors," Hoover said, "[On the road] we've got to go into hostile environments. We make sure we are staying hungry. We continue to push every day to get better."

To stay hungry, Hoover said, the team focuses only on the game in front of them. Instead of dwelling on records and who scored the most points, by the time they reach the locker room, the team is already ready to focus on the next game. For Coach Hoover, it's proof of the growth and maturity level the team has had over the course of the season.

As for winning the conference, and a NCAA tournament berth, Hoover said it's not impossible.

"I wouldn't have taken the job if I didn't think we could do it. And I couldn't sit in a room and tell Shamia Brown, being my lone senior, that we were going to try to win a championship in two years or in three years or in four years. I felt like we could compete this year."

And while the team is playing better than they ever have before, they still have a lot of work to do before they can call themselves Big South Champions.

Athletics seeing upgrades, but more changes are necessary

By Nick Sturdivant
Staff Writer

Within the past seven years the campus of High Point University has seen major upgrades. I would probably guess that even Joan Rivers would be impressed by the face-lift that the university has gotten.

Even though HPU has made extreme efforts to make the campus extraordinary, it didn't neglect the athletic facilities.

Since 2007, every athletic facility has seen some type of significant upgrade. The Steele Sports Center was opened in 2007, which includes locker rooms, study areas, offices, and a weight room. It has benefited all teams on campus.

Rob Aycock, Associate Athletic Director for External Relations, specifically mentioned that the school added on to Steele, a women's lacrosse locker room, along with a wing in Steele for the men's soccer team.

The biggest changes were the rededication of the Vert Stadium in which the athletic department added turf to the field, and over 1,000 purple stadium seats. Additional, major renovations were done to Willard Stadium, formally known as Erath field. The stadium now models a minor league baseball stadium.

Growing up in High Point all of my life, it was hard picturing these upgrades ever happening. Vert Stadium was nothing but a reminiscence of a football stadium from when William Penn High School played its home games. The track was torn to pieces, half of it was there and the other half - well it wasn't.

Athletic facilities here at HPU have come a long way, but there is still some work to be done.

First, the Millis Center's seating capacity seems to be too small for the type of games the school wants to host. For instance, the Dec. 7 men's basketball game against Wake Forest was a challenge for HPU to host. Seating was first come, first serve. From a fan perspective it was not ideal. Not only was seating a struggle for the Wake game, but for any other big time conference game.

Second, with the recent addition to two new lacrosse programs, there needs to be a home for the teams.

"Obviously we need to have a lacrosse building - if you look around campus men's lacrosse needs a home, the women already have a locker room, but the men will need one when they compete," Aycock said.

Only time will tell if these eventual upgrades will come into fruition, but the changes are not that far off to continue the unprecedented growth at HPU.



Senior Manika Gamble competes at the Wake Forest Open. Photo courtesy of HPU Sports Information.

of it. Gamble said that the team's goals for the season are to not only be in the top three in the conference, but also to have a 3.0 team GPA.

So far, the team has exceeded that.

Track and Field will have its work cut out for them if it wants to achieve its season goals. Gamble said if they keep up the hard work and dedication to getting better everyday, the teams would be a big factor at the upcoming Big South Conference Championship.



Front rendering of a new "Lacrosse Center" (left in photo) attached to the Steele Center (right) in response to the addition to two new programs. The building's construction is dependent on funding and the plans may change. Photo courtesy of HPU Athletics.

Panther Baseball 2012

New bats, arms and gloves look to be surprise in Big South Conference



By Patrick Budd
Sports Editor

Projected Starting Line-up

1. Willie Medina, SS, Jr.
North Lauderdale, Fla.
2. Sean Wilson, CF, R-Jr.
Crystal Lake, Ill.
3. Ryan Retz, RF, Jr.
Tucson, Ariz.
4. Sal Pezzino, DH, Sr.
South Huntington, N.Y.
5. Ryne Rush, 3B, Fr.
Asheboro, N.C.
6. Spencer Angelis, Catcher, Fr.
Orlando, Fla.
7. Zach Tessier, 1B, Jr.
Sterling, Va.
8. Devin Bujnovsky, LF, Jr.
Winter Haven, Fla.
9. Zach Hubbard, 2B, Jr.
Kissimmee, Fla.

Projected Pitching rotation

- Midweek*- Jared Avidon, Jr.
Waxhaw, N.C.
- Midweek*- Zach Haile, R-So.
Longwood Fla.
- Midweek*- Ryan Retz, Jr.
Tucson, Ariz.
- Friday*- Malcolm Clapsaddle, Jr.
Geneva, Fla
- Saturday*- Jacob Newberry, Jr.
Eagle Lake, Fla.
- Sunday*- Matt Armstead, Jr.
Newport News, Va.
- Middle relief*- Joe Goodman, Fr.
Ames, Iowa
- Closer*- Jaime Shultz, R-So.
Castleton, N.Y

Meet the Coaching Staff



Head Coach
Craig Cozart, fourth season
Central Florida, '96



Associate Head Coach
Bryan Peters, fourth season
South Florida, '97



Assistant Coach
Rich Wallace, fourth season
Central Florida, '04



Volunteer Assistant
Jamie Serber, second season
High Point, '11



Athletic Trainer, Tyler
DePew

The first day of practice for High Point University head baseball coach Craig Cozart was almost like being a teacher on the first day of grade school.

New names, new faces and a fresh beginning.

His team of 35 guys took the field on Jan. 28 for the first official day of full-practice, something 25 of them didn't do a year ago.

"There's a lot to be decided in the next couple of weeks of practice, that's for sure," said Cozart, who is entering his fourth season with HPU.

The Panthers will look to put aside a injury-filled, 24-32 overall season from a year ago, and improve on its first round loss in the Big South Conference tournament.

Perhaps 21 new players from the monstrous recruiting class will bring them better luck this season and get the Panthers to where they want to be.

"We have yet to establish ourselves as a program, we want to be in that conversation of elite teams in the Big South," Cozart said, "This season I feel that we can do that with a whole new set of guys."

The Panthers graduated eight key players last May, including two players that were selected in Major League Baseball's first year player draft. Catcher Kyle Mahoney signed with the Los Angeles Angels, and pitcher Cody Allen went to the Cleveland Indians.

But with the addition in two junior college all-American pitchers, in Jon Carlson and Malcolm Clapsaddle, the loss of last season's studs may have minimal impact.

"The best thing about our team this year is our depth, and that's something we didn't really have last year because of injuries; it's going to be a great advantage because of all the possible roster movement," Cozart said.

Cozart admits that the team is very young, and inexperienced, but he noted that it will play as another great advantage when other teams go for a scouting report.

Only two seniors are listed on the roster this year - Sal Pezzino a utility player that played every infield position last year, and Nick Schumacher, a left-handed specialist out of the bullpen.

"Our ultimate goal is obviously a championship," Schumacher said, "But we want to take it one game at a time and finish as one of those top four teams in the conference, especially since we are hosting the Big South tournament this year."

Schumacher had a 3.31 ERA in 21 appearances last season as a key off-balance, middle-reliever.

Perhaps the most experience the Panthers have for the 2012 season is in the bullpen with Adam Pratson, John Maloney, Kyle Wigmore, and Jaime Schultz.

Schultz, who was sidelined all last season because of elbow surgery, will assume the closer position this year after a monstrous freshman year. He posted a 2.70 ERA with 68 strikeouts, good enough to earn him a spot on the all-Big South second team. His power out of the bullpen will be a strong force in late games for the Panthers this season.

"Last season when an opposing team put its closer in at the end of the game, we had nothing to counter that with," Cozart said, "This season we have plenty of role-playing guys that will be able to finish off games."

In a conference with powerhouse teams in Coastal Carolina, Liberty and Radford, Cozart emphasized how important pitching will be when it comes time for conference play.



Junior Ryan Retz will move to right field this season after hitting .288 with nine homers. Photo by Jeremy Hopkins.

"The league has elevated this season, it's becoming one of those elite baseball conferences, many improved arms with strong rotations is what we are up against this season," Cozart said of the Big South.

The Panthers were projected to finish eighth in the Big South preseason polls that came out on Jan. 24; a projection that Cozart and his players find to be an unfair assessment as a team.

"A lot of teams are going to be surprised when they come to play us," Clapsaddle said, "It's an unfair assessment for our team and if they were out here watching our practices they would think otherwise."

Offensively, HPU will put a totally transformed lineup on the field with only three returning starters. Ryan Retz, right-fielder, Zach Tessier, first-basemen/catcher, and Pezzino will be the strong returning bats in the lineup.

Retz, who played in all 56 games in center field last season, will move to right field to make room for Sean Wilson, a two-hole hitter with plenty of speed. Retz will be the likely three-hole hitter after leading the team with homers last year, and posting a .288 batting average.

Newcomers include third basemen Ryne Rush, a freshman from Asheboro, N.C., and shortstop Willie Medina, a junior-college transfer that will likely bat leadoff.

"There has been a lot of competition within our practices throughout the fall and in the weight room, that's always a good thing to have on your team, especially when trying to fill so many vacancies," Cozart said. "There will be situations where starters will be on the bench this season, because our bench players will be a better matchup."

Expectations for the team have been set high knowing the team has an advantage at the end of the season with the Big South tournament being held at Willard Stadium.

"I'm expecting this year to be the best season HPU has ever had," Pezzino said.

Fifteen of the first 17 games are at home for the Panthers, as they welcome in a variety of opponents, including Wake Forest, Virginia Tech, East Carolina, and Elon. The Panthers will also be tested on the road playing big schools such as Missouri, North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and Virginia.

"We play some quality opponents this year from all different conferences," Cozart said, "But that's part of our philosophy, to test ourselves on the road and early in the season in hopes it will prepare ourselves for later during conference play."

After a difficult season last year with unexpected injuries and tough stretches, HPU seems as if they are as optimistic as ever in the fourth year in the Cozart-era.

The team will open up its season against Army with a weekend series, Feb. 17-19.


Schedule of key games:

Feb. 17-19	Army
Feb. 22	at Wake Forest
Feb. 28	Virginia Tech
Feb. 29	Elon
Mar. 16-18	at Missouri
Mar. 20	App. State
Mar. 21	East Carolina
Mar. 27	Wake Forest
Mar. 30- Apr. 1	VMI
Apr. 13-15	Presbyterian
Apr. 17	at UNC
Apr. 18	at Elon
Apr. 20-22	at Coastal
Apr. 24	at App. State
May 4-6	UNC-Asheville
May 11-13	Liberty
May 15	at East Carolina
May 17-19	at Winthrop
May 22-26	Big South Tourn. High Point, N.C.



Fourth year head coach Craig Cozart is hoping his team can "establish itself" this season with 21 newcomers. The Panthers will kick off the season on Feb. 17 against Army. Photo courtesy of HPU Sports Information.

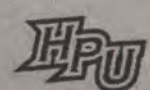
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"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." Henry Ford



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