



HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

Campus Chronicle

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HIGH POINT, N.C.

Column One News

Martinson named HPU chancellor

The board of trustees named Dr. Jacob C. Martinson chancellor at a board meeting on March 17. Martinson, who has served as university president for 19 years, will continue his presidential duties until his successor has been named. Eventually, as chancellor, Martinson will be relieved of day-to-day responsibilities but will continue as an overall leader.

Under Martinson's tenure as president, High Point has grown from being a college with 1,200 students and 31 majors in 1985 to becoming a university with nearly 3,000 students offering 50 undergraduate majors and 11 master's degree programs.

Coaches recognize women runners for outstanding GPAs

For the second consecutive year, the women's cross country team has been named an Academic All-American Cross Country Team with Distinction by the Women's Intercollegiate Cross Country Coaches Association.

The team's cumulative grade point average of 3.43 ranks in the Top 40 nationally, is the highest GPA among Division I schools in the state and is the fifth-highest nationally among NCAA Division I schools that don't play football.

"Our team takes academics very seriously, and actually has higher GPA goals than this for years to come. They want to lead the country in this category," Coach Al Barnes said.

Team members include: Stephanie Cabarcas, Melissa Caudill, Jemissa Hess, Cricket Indra, Erin Kelly, Catherine Lewis, Shawna Truelove, Jamie Vetten and Tracy Warring.

Lundy and Gathings are honored by collegeinsider.com

Bart Lundy, men's basketball coach, has been named the 2004 National Rookie Coach of the Year by collegeinsider.com. This season, Lundy helped the Panthers improve by 12 victories from last season, which was the nation's biggest turnaround.

Junior forward Danny Gathings was voted Most Valuable Player. Gathings was also recently named to the 2004 Associated Press Honorable Mention All-America team, and the Big South honored the Winston-Salem native by naming him the 2004 Player of the Year and Tournament MVP.

Under the leadership of Lundy and Gathings, the team finished second in the Big South and set a school record for season wins and road victories.

Student car stolen, recovered

By Ali Akhyari Staff Writer

It was 4:39 a.m. on Feb. 25 when a couple of young men were at a local High Point Bank and Trust trying to withdraw some money at the ATM. About 40 minutes earlier, the two of them along with two others had been shopping at High Point University despite the fact that both the C-Store and The Point were closed.



CEDRIC BAKER

This, however, did not matter to them as they did not plan on buying anything. Instead they planned on stealing what they could from as many student cars as possible. That night they left the university with a car stereo amp, a digital camera, a wallet with a check card, CD's and other items. At least six vehicles were broken into, and one was stolen.

The stolen vehicle was driven around town by the group after making a stop by the bank. They had stolen a wallet from one vehicle which included a check card but also a piece of paper that had a name

on it as well as a social security number, date of birth and a PIN number. They decided to take the check card to High Point Bank and try the PIN number and steal some money as well. Fortunately for the card owner, the PIN number did not match the card. Afterwards, they drove the car around and gave it away that day when they realized that the police would be looking for the vehicle.

That same day, the HPU security office answered call after call from students reporting their cars had been broken into or stolen. The security officers took reports and got information from the victims along with the High Point Police Department and shared that information with each other. Det. Terry Green and Det. Ron Meinecke worked the case.

After getting all the information, Det. Green went to work. He was able to trace the stolen check card to the bank the thieves attempted to use it at and retrieve pictures of two of the criminals. The information on the stolen vehicle had been shared with the police department, and officers stopped it at 12:16 a.m. the following night. However, the car was not inhabited by the thieves but by the individual they gave it to and three of his companions. They included Raydonta Williams, Javon McCall, Cordarius Wall and Kelvin Middlebrooks. The four of them were charged with felony possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

Within 24 hours the police, with co-

operation from HPU Security, had retrieved the stolen vehicle, knew who two of the thieves were, had a bead on the stolen merchandise and were discovering who the other two thieves were. After some investigation and interrogation, they learned that the group of thieves consisted of young men from the Daniel Brooks area and included Derrick Manning, Rico Hunt, Cedric Baker and Stacy Small. As of March 11, all but Hunt had been arrested. Those in custody confessed to the crimes after being pinned against the wall with evidence. They are being charged with motor vehicle theft, six counts of breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, three counts of misdemeanor larceny, one count of felony larceny, one count of felony financial transaction card theft and one count of misdemeanor financial transaction card fraud.

So what made High Point University a target for the thieves? Fortunately, Det. Green was able to get that information.

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DERRICK MANNING

Program encourages athletes' activity off the field

By Melissa Caudill Staff Writer

Panther athletes are no longer just competing on the fields with one another; they are vying for superiority in the classroom, university and community.

This year Melissa Perry, senior woman's coordinator for athletics, has implemented a program called the Competition Cup. The competition is among the nine sports programs here and divided into men's and women's teams. The student-athletes compete in these areas—being an active role model and leader; acting as a team; encouraging fellow athletes and overall academic achievement.

Perry said, "The goal of this program is to encourage the athletes to have pride. Pride in their team and in university athletics. A student-athlete is a well-rounded person who does all sorts of things."

Many universities around the coun-

try have similar programs in their athletic department. Perry got the idea from the University of New Hampshire. She took what she learned from its program and adapted it to fit the needs and capabilities of HPU. The program can be used in any size school, from Division III to Division I. It is used to bring athletes' competitive nature to other aspects of college life.

Perry is the scorekeeper. Points can be earned on an individual basis or in conjunction with team members. If 75 percent of the team, or 10 people, provide community service, then 100 points are added to the team total. If it is an individual effort, then two points are added. The policy encourages team participation. When athletes attend a sporting event of another team, they add one point to the team total for every teammate present provided they sign in at the sports mar-

See Competition, page 6

Student recalls Serbian war

By Selda Tahriovic Special to the Chronicle

At LaGuardia Airport, my family of four anxiously waited to pass through customs on our way to a safer and happier future. I thought about all the family and close friends I had left behind in Yugoslavia. The war tore families apart and turned a once beautiful country into a flat land full of corpses, sadness and misery...

When I was 11, the war in my country slowly started changing people. The controversies over religion, freedom and land got worse each day. Friends started parting ways, husbands and wives separated, and after a while, murders occurred more than ever. Presidents and religious leaders did not tolerate disputes.

Even though my parents did a pretty

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Katie  
Drew

Jill  
Amy - main  
strub

## Staff Editorial

# Americans need to take blame for eating habits

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that bans class action lawsuits that aim to hold fast food restaurants responsible for the increasing weight and declining health of their patrons. Finally, there is a victory for personal responsibility and a simultaneous loss for frivolous lawsuits and all they stand for.

An upcoming documentary by filmmaker Morgan Spurlock called "Super Size Me" has made the headlines in the past few weeks, but its premise should be news to no one. As part of his project, Spurlock dined on McDonald's food for a consistent 30 days and suffered the consequences. He felt awful and looked worse, gaining 25 pounds. He alarmed his doctors with his 5,000 calories per day diet.

Obesity is about to replace smoking as the number one cause of preventable death in the U.S. Our society has somehow managed to get heavier while dropping more and more money on the dieting industry, which includes cookbooks, self-help books, surgeries, pills, numerous other gimmicks and the conventional method of gym membership.

The causes and effects of obesity have led to an enormous market.

Maybe we are victims of a self-fulfilling prophecy. The more we are aware about our health, the worse it seems to become. As more and more research about the right and wrong foods becomes available, we seem to listen to the advice less and less.

McDonald's and other fast food chains have the right to continue selling junk food without the risk of lawsuits. Could we imagine life without it? Where else can you get a meal for \$3 that is tasty and quick? What would college students do without the Wendy's drive-in, which is open until 3 a.m. and now takes Visa?

Yes, there is a place for these restaurants in capitalism. But the place is not court. The place should not be part of a daily routine. Sure, fast food restaurants have helped in the decline of Americans' health, but there are no surprises there. They never claimed to be the healthy alternative, just the fast one. If Americans choose to continue their love affair with junk food, they should at least appear smart by not being surprised by the result.

"Obesity is about to replace smoking as the number one cause of preventable death in the U.S. Our society has somehow managed to get heavier while dropping more and more money on the dieting industry..."

"Removing 'obscenity' from television and radio may sound like a morally justified goal, but obscenity is a relative term."

# Censorship difficult, dangerous to regulate

By Josh Farrington  
Staff Writer

Thanks to Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake, there has been a backlash against all that is "obscene" by the American people, television and radio stations and the government itself. Howard Stern is on the verge of destruction, a "five-second delay" is put on all major live telecasts and the FCC is raising fines for obscenity to record levels. This cultural battle revolves around this one word "obscene," that is difficult to define.

Removing "obscenity" from television and radio may sound like a morally justified goal, but obscenity is a relative term. A good example of this relativity is in regards to the debate over gay marriage.

There is a large group of conservatives that believe homosexuality itself is obscene, and thus, shows such as "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" that promote it are also obscene. Yet to those that support the gay-rights movement, those that publicly label homosexuals as "sinners" practice obscene hate-speech. I believe that many things liberal Michael Moore has said, such as accusing President Bush of orchestrating September 11, are obscene. On the other hand, there are a great number of people who think conservative

Rush Limbaugh is obscene in many of his publicly expressed opinions.

One could argue that these political obscenities are different than the sexually explicit obscenity found on television and on the radio. However, obscenity is not reserved solely for sex, as there are many extreme political ideologies that many would consider obscene.

Another argument for censorship of sexually explicit material is that it flies in the face of "American values" and that the American people are sick and tired of having to put up with such "filth" on the airwaves. Howard Stern, though, has the third largest audience in all of radio, which means that although some think he is obscene, there exists a large segment of the population that he does not offend, or at

least not enough for them to change the station.

If the third largest radio host in the nation can be shut down, then so can the second largest the "Dr. Laura Show," and then also can the largest, Rush Limbaugh. All three of these top three radio hosts are extremely controversial and are all on occasion offensive to large segments of America. However, despite their tendencies to offend, they are still the most popular of all programs on radio. Why

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### 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.

## Learning from language difficulties in Nicaragua

Purse your lips like you are about to kiss someone. Now turn your face to the object you are talking about and push forward with your lips. You have just officially pointed to an object like a Nicaraguan. There is so much more to language

than mere words. Hand movements, tone of voice, and here in Nicaragua, lip movement improve the likelihood of understanding people.

Angela is 15 and takes care of a 5-year-old who goes to the school I work at. During recess, she will come over and talk to me. The first time we met, she sat down next to me, introduced herself and then rested her right arm on my leg. She always looks at my jewelry, and when I say "looks," I mean that she touches it and questions where I got my earrings and if I have more. She will wipe my skirt off if I have crumbs on it (yes, I wear a skirt everyday to work) or she will touch my hair when asking if I did it myself. She speaks quickly in Spanish, so I don't always understand what she is saying. But there is no doubt that we are friends, and there is no doubt that tomorrow she will come up to me again and speak to me with her words and her actions.

All the Nicaraguans have the same tone of voice when they are annoyed. They super exaggerate the second syllable of their words. And most often they will say "chavalo" which means "boy." Another cultural way of speaking here without using words is whistling. Everyone here whistles. They even have different whistles for different emotions. Yiksa (pronounced Jinksa) and her husband Oscar both work at the school. She has informed me that Oscar has a specific whistle which is how Yiksa knows when he is ready to go. If he is annoyed, he has another type of whistle which means, "Let's go right now!" All the whistles sound the same to me, so when I hear a whistle, I turn and look. I just never know.

The sound "ch" is also used for communication. Most often it is used instead of "sh" as in "be quiet," in the school that is. But once you walk down the street, it is used to get a girl's attention. "Ch Ch Ch" is equivalent to the whistling sound in the States (I hope you understand what I am talking about), which is also used here. The interesting thing is that there are some things we just cannot put in words. There is no way I can type how the whistle sounds, but it is just as much a form of communication as is any word.

Even though I can't translate every word that is being said here, it is inter-

See *Language Barrier*, page 5



≡ Gena Smith ≡  
Staff Writer

# New PETA ads use, abuse religious images

'People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals' cashes in on religious fervor with its latest inflammatory campaign



Drew

McIntyre

Opinion Editor

Those of us here at the Campus Chronicle don't make a habit of beating dead horses. Sometimes, however, the horse just plain asks for it. This time, and rather ironically, the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals deserves another round of abuse. One of our columnists discussed their "Feeding kids meat is child abuse!" program last semester, but now PETA has gotten not only more preposterous, but offensive.

Enter PETA's latest ad campaign. Let's say you're driving along I-40 one day and you spot a billboard that says "I said 'Thou shalt not kill.'" The obvious reference to the Ten Commandments is then flanked by an old white man in a beard (apparently, that's what everyone thinks God looks like) holding asparagus in one hand and carrots in the other. Then you see in bold letters "GO VEGETARIAN." Only then would you notice the PETA label on the bottom and, with any luck, you will either find this ad to be ab-

solutely hilarious or utterly offensive. You should then proceed to your destination and promptly tell everyone you see about idiotic/offensive/insane billboard.

This is only one of several religion-themed PETA ads you could have seen. Three of them say "JESUS WAS A VEGETARIAN" along with various representations of Christ, one of which basically looks like a child's scribbling. My personal favorite depicts a black, Afro-wearing Jesus with the same slogan followed by "Peas be with all who follow him." An example of one of the more disturbing ads is the one that says "Lamb of God" followed by "Choose life! - Go vegetarian." This is acceptable, I suppose, except it also has a rather grizzly image of a sheep hanging from one leg in front of a wall with blood spattered over it. That unsettling image is juxtaposed with a picture of a serene baby lamb. Oh, and don't forget the anti-milk ad that shows Mary breast feeding an infant Jesus. What should one make of all this?

First, PETA is an organization with very positive aims. Animals should be treated with care and respect, and there should be watchdogs to blow a whistle when abuses are being made. As far as I can tell from what literature I have read, PETA's primary concern is the way in which cows, pigs, chickens and other livestock are raised and slaughtered for public consumption. Again, this is a legiti-

mate concern. I have read things about this process that make me question how humane it is. I love meat, though; I'm a carnivore at heart, so this isn't going to be my cause. So to everyone out there I say go for it - learn the facts and make up your own mind. This is the issue that is PETA's main motivation for promoting vegetarianism. We're a country of free speech, and you can theoretically say whatever you want to. Once again, however, PETA has gone too far.

All I can figure out is that PETA - or at least, its advertising department - is run by extremists. Further evidence of this is their previous "Holocaust on your plate" campaign, which put images of captive livestock beside images of Holocaust victims. This religious campaign is only slightly less offensive. For starters, many of the images of God and Jesus on these billboards appear to be lampoons. Then we have some theological and dietary issues to consider. Are we really to believe that God and Christ are against eating meat? I don't want to preach at you from the Bible, but let's just say that animals are all over it: being eaten, turned into clothing and sacrificed left and right. The Bible is a tricky thing, though; we all know it's been used to justify all manner of horrors and injustices throughout history. But nowhere does it say that Christ was a vegetarian or that his followers (or Jews) should be vegetarians - that much

is clear.

At its core, I believe this ad campaign to be cashing in on the religious fervor and controversy surrounding the release and immense popularity of "The Passion of the Christ." That doesn't make it right, though. As a Christian, I don't want PETA or any other money-hungry special interest group using my faith as the basis of a tagline. Yes, we have free speech, but what about good taste? I'd love to see some prominent church figures take issue with PETA, but it seems like the only Christians we (I use 'we' loosely here) can get on TV are Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson. They've given Christians enough trouble, I think.

This should concern everyone, though, not just Christians. If the reader thinks I'm overreacting to or misinterpreting PETA's messages, check them out yourself. PETA.org shows all of these billboards. While you're at it, take a look at MassKilling.com and see how they've trivialized the Holocaust. If I'm wrong, call me on it. I will say, however, I think the fact that any organization could use religion so flippantly to send a message and/or raise money says something tragic about our society. Tolerance and inclusiveness have become such bandwagons these days that we've made it OK to mock religion. We can't possibly be moving in a positive direction, though, when the Son of God is just another face on a billboard.

## Weighing gay marriage and civil unions: separate but equal part II?

By Lisa Bouchard  
Special to the Chronicle

This column offers a rebuttal to Jonathan Miller's column opposing gay marriage which appeared in the last Chronicle.

In case you haven't been paying attention, this is supposed to be a free country. This is why The Pledge of Allegiance states "with liberty and justice for all." Until the government stays out of people's bedrooms and allows two people in a monogamous relationship to marry, regardless of gender, we are certainly on the verge of disaster. So, now we should amend the United States Constitution to say marriage is only between a man and a woman? While we are at it, why don't we rewrite the pledge to say "with liberty and just for only heterosexuals" and endorse a campaign to reinstall slavery into our supposedly "free" society?

By amending the Constitution to discriminate against approximately 10 percent of the population and only enacting civil unions, the United States will reclaim a new era of *separate but equal*. Separate has never been equal and never will be. The black community has fought to gain a level standing ground, just as

the gay community is. The only agenda gay individuals have is the same agenda Martin Luther King had, to be treated as human beings. We are not asking for special rights; we are asking for equal rights.

In the face of controversy, there seem to be a couple of major arguments from those who oppose gay marriage: religion and lack of procreation. Let us begin with religion. A number of religious eccentrics use the Bible to condemn homosexuals, declaring the behavior as unnatural.

Please remember that a higher being did not compose the Bible, people did. In many cases, when people do not understand something, they become uncomfortable and condemn it. This point seems to be true of not only those who wrote the Bible, but those who read it as well.

A number of religious individuals adamantly proclaim homosexuality is wrong because a piece of paper says it is so, but they no longer embrace the concept of slavery, which the Bible also states is acceptable. During the times of slavery in America, Christian slave owners would quote the Bible in their defense by using such passages as, "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto

Christ" (Ephesians 6:5-9). This philosophy and practice are no longer embraced in America, but persecution of the gay community and gay couples is justified. There is no logic in the conservative Christian argument, merely a factor of selective reading.

A plethora of anti-gay marriage activists argue that gays should not marry because they cannot procreate. Should infertile heterosexual couples be banned from marrying or heterosexual couples who do not want to have children? Human beings do not simply exist to feed and reproduce. Two people of the same sex or opposite sex come together because of emotional and physical connection, not with the thought in mind to populate the world. In spite of this debate, a growing number of gay couples are adopting children and rearing them successfully, much to the chagrin of conservatives.

Gay couples are equally as capable as heterosexual couples are of being in a committed, stable relationship and raising children with love. To deny gay and lesbian couples the right to marry is to deny love in its most basic sense. Love cannot be defined or put in a box, delineating boundaries of a relationship to a man and a woman. Love is not "black or white." For all who read this and firmly believe the government should amend the United States Constitution, denying gay couples the right to marry, perhaps you need to rethink what the consequences would be. Would you like a pair of slaves as well?

"By amending the Constitution to discriminate against approximately 10 percent of the population...the United States will reclaim a new era of *separate but equal*. Separate has never been equal and never will

## Spain sets dangerous precedent

Unbeknownst to some, on March 11, Spain endured perhaps the worst terrorist attack in her history. Al Qaeda detonated

10 small bombs, apparently with cheap cell phones, in the suburbs of Madrid, leaving hundreds dead and countless more wounded. And they achieved their goal. The national elections the following day toppled the government headed by the previously favored conservative party and replaced it with a socialist regime. True to pre-election promises, the new prime minister confirmed his intentions to remove Spanish troops from Iraq and Spanish support of America and the Bush administration.



Joel

Stubblefield

Staff Writer

Are you kidding me? Why don't we just hand all the cards to the terrorists and let them stack the deck? This was the worst possible reaction Spain could have chosen. Her message reads as follows: Terrorist attacks can change foreign policy.

This past November, Italy experienced attacks from suicide bombers on her troops in An Nasariya, Iraq. Her re-

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# HPU students consider the upcoming battle for the White House, weigh responsibilities as American citizens

Columnists speak out on Bush, Kerry and politics in general

## President Bush can't hold a candle to Kerry

By Derek Shealey  
Staff Writer

Four years is a period of time that goes by faster than I could have ever imagined. It seems like only yesterday the nation was engulfed in the notorious Florida voting controversy between candidates Al Gore and George W. Bush. A year later, the horror of Sept. 11 occurred, and a wounded but more unified America raised its collective

strength and rallied around our president as he waged a long, complex battle to suppress terrorism, rebuild the economy and create a fair and just society for all Americans. However, if you ask me, four years under George W. Bush have been enough, and it's time for a change.

I enjoy watching presidential campaigns while they progress. Party allegiance and political views aside, you can't

deny the impact that the campaign has on us, the public. The candidates seem to put their all in becoming stark portraits of conviction and honesty, hoping to catch the attention and the support of enough broken, neglected ordinary citizens, who

will connect with their words, believe in their ideas and grace them with the true crown of all political distinctions, "the visionary."

The wearer of the crown, at least for the moment anyway, is Massachusetts Sen. John

"...if [Kerry] presents a strong, well thought-out platform on crucial issues like the economy, education and terrorism...he'll win the presidency by a wide margin."

Kerry. Several months ago, very few people believed that Kerry would make much headway in the Democratic nomination process. Last week, he acquired the party nomination after a series of victories in state primary elections. It could be said that Kerry has to work harder to appeal to the all-important moderate and independent voters, but his past as a Vietnam war veteran and history of fighting corruption have won him much acclaim. I think that if he presents a strong, well throughout-out platform on crucial issues like the economy, education and terrorism and he sustains the growing wave of discontent that voters have about President Bush, he'll win the presidency by a wide margin.

So why is Bush over? A number of reasons are available. He launched the Iraq war without clear motives or results. Saddam Hussein was captured, fortunately, but with the unfortunate and unnecessary loss of thousands of lives. The economy is still struggling, with the number of jobs falling. Some voters are questioning Bush's initial opposition to Con-

See *Bush Finished*, page 5

## Senator Kerry unfit to lead nation, world

By Jonathan Miller  
Staff Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a winner. John Kerry will be the Democrats' 2004 presidential candidate. Now let the race begin. Bush versus Kerry 2004 has started. As potential voters, or hopefully committed voters, you should have enormous interest in the 2004 presidential election. All elections are important, but this is a critical election. We are in the midst of war. Our way of life

faces the evil opposition of Islamic fascism and terrorism. This year's election will allow us to choose how we defend our freedom. We can go with the "appeasement" candidate in John Kerry or the "strong, not backing down until we prevail" candidate in President George W. Bush.

Given that national defense is the main issue of 2004, Bush clearly has the upper hand. Bush is taking the fight to the terrorists, which is how the war should be fought. We can no longer sit around treating this war as if it isn't a war by negotiating with a hostile enemy and no action. If John Kerry is elected, he will do just that. Appeasement and inaction are his plan. Just look at his votes on the Senate floor for evidence.

John Kerry has voted no to approve 27 major weapons systems that improve our national defense. He voted no to approve the Patriot air defense, a very effective missile defense used in the Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He voted no to approve the M-1 Tank, which had an essential part in winning both

Gulf Wars. He voted no on the Cruise missile. He also voted to de-fund the CIA, he voted no on a pay raise for the military and he voted no to approve the use of the death penalty on terrorists who kill Americans. Gandhi would be tougher on defense than John Kerry.

John Kerry's worst vote of all has to be when he voted no to approve the \$87 billion to support the troops in Iraq. He votes to go to war and then he wants to leave our soldiers fighting with no support from back home. This vote is

typical of John Kerry. He has no idea what he believes or what he stands for. He's a "put the finger to the wind" politician. Whatever choice will benefit his political existence is the choice he makes. If we suffer a terrorist attack on Kerry's

watch, first he'll want to ask the United Nations if we can defend ourselves. If the UN gives him the nod, then we'll send troops over inadequately equipped because he's cut the defense budget in half. After the fighting starts, some anti-war protesters will arise, and he'll panic, thinking his popularity is shrinking and then pull our brave men and women back out. The United States cannot afford to have a President who is indecisive and has no vision during a time of war.

The one thing benefiting John Kerry during this election is the liberal media. He has a safe haven with all the major news networks. Don't expect CBS, NBC, ABC or CNN to be critical of John Kerry. He will have a pulpit to preach

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"John Kerry...has no idea what he believes or what he stands for. He's a 'finger to the wind' politician. Whatever choice will benefit his political existence is the choice he makes."

### Censorship, continued from page 2

should the government censor Howard Stern's obscenities when such a large segment of the American people do not find him offensive enough to turn the station?

Censorship, however, should exist on the individual level. I have the power of censorship, not the government. I find Howard Stern offensive, so I change the station. I find Rush Limbaugh entertaining, so I listen to his show. However, for some it is just the opposite, with Stern being entertaining and Limbaugh offensive. Since what is obscene is such a relative term, and censorship of anything that is "offensive" is so broad, should not then the government abstain from this debate? If "America" wants Howard Stern off the air, then it should simply not listen to him and thus lower his advertising rates. This would force him to either tone down his rhetoric or go off the air. Likewise, if enough people are willing to listen to him and find him entertaining rather than offensive, then he should be able to do all the "shocking" he wants.

It should be my own personal decision to define for myself what is "obscene," based on my own religious and moral beliefs. It should never be the job of the government to tell me what is and what is not "obscene."

## Political involvement a duty for all

By Jason Walters  
Special to the Chronicle

"Politics doesn't affect me." It sure does. Politics affects you every day, from sales tax to the sticker on your mattress. "Politics is dirty and corrupt." Well, do something about it; it will never change unless someone takes the initiative. "They aren't talking to me." If you talk to them, they will talk to you. The best way to talk to them is to vote! "I don't care." You should; you and future generations depend on it. "No difference between both major parties." I'm not asking you to join a political party, only

to begin to take an active view on the world around you and formulate your own opinions so you can make coherent decisions. "I'll get involved later." Later might be too late.

All these above excuses have been made by students on this campus to me as to why they don't bother to get involved in politics or current events. It's time to stop making excuses and take responsibility as the young adults that we are. All of us are here getting an education so we can have a bright future individually. Why don't we make an effort so that we can have a bright future collectively?

Now is the time to get engaged. I challenge you to read the headlines, just the headlines, from a major news source. It only takes 10 minutes a day. You quickly will begin to see that you now have a clue what is going on in the world. After you get a clue, you will begin to observe current events and be able to see the bigger picture. You will then be capable of making your own opinions based on your ideas, not political rhetoric.

Young people do have a voice in politics and a large role to play. But it is up to each one of you to decide if you want to keep making excuses or whether you are ready to take responsibility.

## Speakers encourage action in AIDS fight

By Amanda Roberts  
Staff Writer

Capping off the "Putting a Face on AIDS in Africa" campaign that had fueled the English Majors Council ever since December, the presentation on Feb. 25 provided a forum for students and special guests Dr. Paul Wangai and Clive Beckenham from Nairobi, Kenya.

Beckenham and his wife, Mary, created New Life Homes, which rescues babies abandoned as a result of the AIDS epidemic. "Our first time began with a call from the hospital; they had an HIV-infected baby and wanted to know if we would take him," Beckenham stated.

"If we go to a hospital and we have to choose between the best and the worst, we take the worst. Our calling in life is to save the abandoned. They live in a family home, not an orphanage, where they are loved, cared for and have everything children should have. Over 85 percent of our children have been adopted."

New Life has saved the lives of over 500 children in the past 10 years while opening another home in Nairobi. There are over one million orphans to the AIDS virus in Kenya, and the Beckenham's are determined to make a difference.

"These children are left on the road-

sides, in garbage pits, latrines, dustbins—the children are being thrown away like garbage," Beckenham said. "God loves them, so we love them, too."

Wangai shared an incredible story about Lydia, a college student, who, 10 years ago, was abducted by gangsters and raped during her six-day ordeal; when she was finally released, she was HIV positive. "Last

July," he said, "Lydia called in the middle of the night, telling me 'You must come now.' I asked my wife what I should do—there are many times we ask others what we should do when the time to act is now. I went over to her house two hours later, but there was no response. I found Lydia dead on her bed, and I asked myself, 'What had she wanted me to do?' I will do what is in my power to do now...at the best of my ability."

"All of us can make a difference if we put our hearts together. 'What can I do?' You can make it happen. Give a bit of your time. Send a few e-mails to the



governor and the state department. Say that there is a lot going on in Africa and ask how much money delegated to HIV/AIDS will go to the people who need it?" Wangai suggested to the audience.

Speaking of the children infected with the HIV virus, Wangai said that 92 percent of the children born to mothers with the virus are HIV positive. When the mother's blood is out, when the antibodies in the child's blood have fought the virus, the child will become HIV negative and be able to fight off AIDS. "Many doctors felt it was a waste of time helping these children.

Now there is a list of doctors helping because these babies can make it. We have 50 volunteers who come to help out—college students, male and female," Wangai said.

In closing, Beckenham and Wangai urged the audience to speak among themselves, asking "What have you heard tonight? What do you think you can do? What do you think we can do collectively?"

They were presented with a check for \$10,000 from the Student Government Association to go towards New Life Homes and the fight against AIDS.

Spain, continued from page 3

action? The Italian public responded with outrage towards terrorism and pledged their determination to not have the deployment of Italian troops determined by terrorist activity. This sends the proper message. Spain simply rolled over.

The question remains as to where the world goes from here. Certainly major members of the Coalition of the Willing, especially Italy and England, should be on their guard as terrorist motivation has increased due to its recent victory in Spain. Don't expect any change from the Bush administration in the war on terror. As for the rest of the world: Let's all hope that other countries don't cower in the face of terrorism. Terrorism is detestable. But it will never be eradicated by giving in. Spain simply failed the world.

Language Barrier, continued  
from page 2

esting how much I understand despite that. It took me a while to get used to people pointing with their lips; it seriously looks as if they are about to kiss you. But now I find myself doing the same thing, and afterward, I can't help but laugh.

Bush Finished, continued from page 4

gress's forming a 9/11 investigation committee and his reluctance to be interviewed by it. Finally, Bush, despite all appearances, is one of the worst presidents in terms of achieving diversity. He opposed affirmative action and exposed his intolerance by calling for a Constitutional ban on same sex unions. This president has angered too many Americans to occupy the White House for four more years.

I think that the Democratic party has already scored a victory in 2004. While Democratic candidates crisscrossed the nation during the primaries, expressing their views and fighting for votes, they may have achieved something much stronger in the process—outrage against the Bush administration. The general tide of opinion on major issues is changing or at least becoming more diverse.

Howard Dean contributed to this with his position on Iraq. John Edwards raised economic concerns. Dennis Kucinich and Al Sharpton raised concerns about civil rights. There may only be one Democratic candidate, but raising awareness and the question of change was really teamwork. Good move, Democrats.

Kerry's Faults, continued from  
page 4

from and get spoon-fed interviews at those networks. Do expect to see Bush put before the Inquisition. If he even scratches his head differently, the liberal press will accuse him of misleading the American people because they expected him to scratch back to front not side to side. They did it to his father and they will do it to him. Four more years of Bush is more than they can stand.

## Winston recalls her years in modeling industry

By Dana R. Yates  
Special to the Chronicle

The lights. The camera. The glamorous life of a model. To some young girls, it is all they dream of. With each magazine that waits in mailboxes across America, young girls rush to see who has graced the cover. Never do they ask the question of what is going on in the beauty's mind, but the question of what is she wearing. Jassica Winston is aware of what goes on in a model's head, for during her teenage years she used to be one.

Seen around High Point's campus, Jassica is a petite, small-framed beauty with a vivid smile and almond-shaped eyes. The chestnut highlights flowing in her ebony hair complement her chocolate-colored skin. She is a natural beauty with limited flaws. Many are unaware of her past but have probably seen her in the pages of numerous catalogs.

At the age of 14, Jassica was discovered in a mall during a shopping trip with her mother. "This man out of nowhere, comes up and invites me to come to this hotel to have my picture taken for this small modeling agency," she recalls. When first approached, she thought it was a joke. Never before had she considered the field of modeling.

One of Jassica's first jobs was to

be a real-life mannequin. She would stand in a store window, frozen in a pose. "People would literally come up and touch me, not knowing if I was real," Jassica jokes. Jassica would stand for hours, with short breaks in between. All she thought about was when it was going to end so she could sit down and rest.

Jassica was fortunate in later years as she received offers to do print ads in catalogs for companies such as Delia's, a clothing line for teens. As her modeling career became more appealing, Jassica became more interested in it. "I thought to myself, 'someone is actually going to pay me to do this,'" she says.

Life for Jassica then became quite different. She had options of travel with many trips to New York for jobs, and she was given free clothes and makeup by the companies she modeled for. But life in front of the camera became challenging. Waking up early with little sleep, Jassica would go down to the studio for makeup and wardrobe. She would pose for numerous photos, as the photographer worked to find the perfect shot. Her mind stayed blank as she attentively listened to everything the photographer said. He

would continue snapping away until he felt he had what he wanted.

"Sometimes you feel as though you're not even a real person. They are constantly tweaking you, trying to make you perfect," Jassica says. Criticism in modeling is very grueling. Jassica would receive comments about her weighing too much or having skin that was too dark. "I became so self-conscious, because these remarks would tear you to pieces," she says.

In her normal life, Jassica began to wear baggy clothes to cover her body and refrained from wearing makeup. She felt this would limit the opportunity for anyone to com-

ment on her appearance. "For a model, mentally you're a mess. You are constantly worrying about what people tell you, and eventually you worry about when your career is going to end," she says.

Sometimes Jassica's physical state was just as vulnerable as her mind. During shoots involving swimwear layouts, she battled chilly temperatures in her barely covered frame. "When people see swimsuits magazines, they are unaware that these photos are taken prior to the season. It would be cold, but for the cam-

era you had to focus," she remembers. In between shots, assistants would be ready with robes to rescue her and keep her warm.

At the age of 17, Jassica signed a contract with the Elite Modeling Agency in New York. Her career was beginning to accelerate. She was yet to complete high school, when her mother showed concern for her daughter. Jassica's mother wanted her to graduate from high school, believing that an education was highly important. At her mother's wishes, Jassica chose to take a break from modeling. After graduation, she made the decision to continue her schooling by coming to High Point to study Interior design.

As Jassica nears graduation in May, she looks forward to starting her career as an interior designer. "If there was an offer to go back (to modeling), I would take it. The money is good, but I want my career to be in interior design."

Though it was a very challenging part of her teenage years, Jassica still speaks highly of the modeling industry. Many of the girls she started with have gone on to have successful careers, including one who now models for Victoria's Secret. Jassica thinks the image models represent is not negative. She believes that people look to models for the standard on how women should present themselves.

"Sometimes Jassica's physical state was just as vulnerable as her mind."

## Genesis lets students worship and serve

By Pamela-Montez Holley  
Staff Writer

*Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary. Praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him for His mighty acts. Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet praise Him with the psaltery and the harp. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance, praise Him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord, praise ye the Lord." -Psalm 150:1-6*

That is exactly what the Genesis Gospel Choir has been doing for the past nine years. The choir began with 12 members. After its first "Gospel Fest," the group asked Pastor James Brown and Pastor Deborah Brown to train and direct them. Since then, Genesis Gospel Choir has experienced rapid growth in members who love to praise the Lord.

There are about 50 members in the choir, and they have joined for many different reasons. "I joined Genesis to be around other Christians who have a stronger walk of faith that would help me build a stronger foundation with the Lord," said Dekesha Seay. "I like being a member because I like worshipping God through music since that is one of my passions," continued Seay.

"I joined because I wanted to be in an environment where I could feel safe and secure, I wanted to better my life as a Christian and I enjoy the company of people," commented Ishmael Josiah. "Being in this choir is like a learning place outside class. We not only learn songs and dances but we learn how to carry ourselves in a good fashion."

I am proud to say that I am also a Genesis member. I joined my freshman year and I have noticed one thing that we all have in common, we love the Lord. I can honestly say that when I arrived at High Point University last year,

I was nervous that I wouldn't find many people who were passionate about God.

But God proved me wrong. He opened the door to Alpha Delta Theta (a Christian service sorority), Campus Crusade and Genesis Gospel Choir. Genesis seemed like the perfect blend.

It was great for music lovers, it was great for those who loved the Lord and it was great for those who loved getting involved in their community.

Genesis has devoted many hours to the community by feeding the hungry at homeless shelters, making Christmas care packages for children and helping at the 5k Race.

"I helped out the homeless shelter, and it felt great to help others and it felt good to let others know that we care about them," said Mia Watts. Sherry Wyche also gave a helping hand. "I helped make Christmas gifts for the children. I was a sophomore at the time, and up until that point, I never really did any community service because everything I did was school-based. It felt good to help someone out besides High Point," Wyche joked.

Genesis is a busy organization. The choir has numerous rehearsals and performances. It just returned from touring. Multiple organizations seem to be branching off from Genesis. "Impact" is a Bible study that meets every Wednesday night. It is headed up by Crishauna Horsley and it is comprised of many Genesis Gospel Choir members. There is also "Acts of God," a group of multi-talented members who dance and put on mini-plays. Rhonda Bethea belongs to both. "In some ways we are a part of Genesis, but sometimes I think that we do a bit more that kinda makes us our own group as well as a part of a Genesis," she said.

So, what does the future hold? In April, Genesis will host its ninth annual Gospel Fest here at High Point University. Genesis will be doing what it does best, praising their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## Meeks offers a new view of Christian living

By Brianne Coone  
Staff Writer

As a cold March rain fell outside of Hayworth Chapel, Keller Visiting Scholar Dr. M. Douglas Meeks delivered a warm sermon addressing the table manners of God by which all Christians should live.

Meeks said that most people have forgotten the economy of God and in order to have hope "the first thing we have to do as Christians is to regain our memory." What he meant by the economy of God is how God manages his household.

According to Meeks, the key to managing any home occurs around the table; therefore we must learn the proper table manners in order to live successfully. If people do not learn how to behave, they will not succeed in life. Some may end up homeless.

The word homeless does not only pertain to persons without shelter. Meeks said, "It's not just the people who have no money that are homeless... people who never hear their names called, people whose stories are not known by anybody else, people who have no place at the table... also are homeless." Do you know anyone who seems to be a loner, someone who never seems to fit in anywhere? Maybe that person is homeless, and Meeks said, "Homeless people are subjected to death."

So what can we do about it? Meeks suggests that if we follow four table manners of God, there will be hope.

"The first table manner we have to learn is to begin to give as God gives. God gives without expectation of return," said Meeks. Our society is full of "what's in it for me?" people. Some people give selfishly with a motive in mind. If the giver expects something in return, then he is also a taker. When a person gives with-

out expecting anything from the receiver, then the giver has given as God, "freely...joyfully."

"The second table manner is that we have to witness to our society that not all things are commodities," said Meeks. Some people think that everything they own can be exchanged for something else that they deem as necessary to have. However, not all possessions are redeemable. For example, would you give up

water for the rest of your life in exchange for your deepest desire? The true necessities in life are not commodities.

Meeks said, "The third table

manner is that we have to disbelieve the notion of our society that those things necessary for life are scarce." People get what they need in abundance. Just because someone wants something, it does not mean it is a necessity. A Rolling Stones' line comes to mind, "You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you just might find you get what you need."

"The fourth and final table manner (is) we have to ask our society, again, to reconsider this notion of absolute and exclusive private property," said Meeks. No one wants to be excluded or labeled an outcast. Meeks said that we should share with others not separate ourselves from them. All humans have the right to belong.

While at HPU, Meeks has led a seminar for 16 students called, "Jesus and Globalization." Each of the students is working on an essay about how Jesus offers Christian solutions to questions of globalization.

Meeks said, "We live in a fearful time but we also live in a time of great promise... Let's encourage each other to follow the table manners of life that we have learned at the Lord's Table."

"Let's encourage each other to follow the table manners of life.."

## Criminals, continued from front page

tion from the thieves, who also target rich neighborhoods like Emerywood. Thieves are obviously drawn by expensive cars which the university has no lack of. In addition, the university houses hundreds of vehicles which give the thieves many more possible break-ins from a single location. It is like a mall for thugs. When asked how they got into the vehicles, they said that they were unlocked. They simply walked around campus and checked for unlocked doors while avoiding security. They also commented that the car they stole had a key left in it.

Although we have a security force and a city police force, it is also the responsibility of individuals to make their property as safe as possible. After all, no one cares more about your property than you do. Obviously, it is rare that owners

leave their vehicles unlocked on purpose knowing that they could be broken into, but caution must be exercised. On that note, Det. Green has some advice for the car-owning students of HPU: 1) keep valuables out of sight; 2) be sure to lock your vehicle; 3) never leave spare keys in the vehicle; 4) report any suspicious persons to the Security office before they have a chance to commit a crime. Following these rules will make it much more difficult for thieves to walk away with your belongings.

Although being violated by thieves is never a good time, this story has a happy ending. The stolen vehicle was recovered, and much of the stolen property has been and is being recovered as well. Furthermore, a ring of thieves and repeat offenders has been broken up and put behind bars. Hopefully, the students of HPU can sleep a little better tonight.



RICO HUNT



STACY SMALL

## Competition, continued from front page

keting table. The male and female team with the highest GPA and the male and female individual with the highest GPA will earn 100 points for their teams.

For the most part, the student-athletes have gotten involved in the competition. "The most difficult part has been the communication of what the program is and what the athletes need to do," said Perry. "The SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Committee) leaders have really been driving it because it's up to the athletes to get it going." Cricket Indra and Jeff Fairman are SAAC co-presidents. Their role has been to promote the Competition Cup and motivate their teams to participate. Indra said, "At first I was skeptical, but shortly after I realized that it cultivated Panther pride and increased attendance at HPU home games."

Since this is the first year, Perry and the SAAC are still developing the program. Indra said, "Each meeting of the SAAC we suggest where more points could come from, and we discuss and

choose events that could earn us points."

SACC-sponsored events include raising money for Habitat for Humanity (about \$150) and a toy drive in which over 215 toys were donated to Fox 8 for local children.

The competition lasts the entire school year. The winning team will be announced in April to allow time for the team to receive prizes. Specific prizes have not been determined.

Athletes have participated enthusiastically. "This says a lot about the athletes and that they're participating for the right reasons," said Perry. Teams have held sports clinics for kids, done after-school programs for the YMCA, assisted with a church pumpkin sale, participated in promotions at McDonald's, cleaned out a storage shed and sent Christmas cards to troops overseas.

"The cup is a journey, much like the college career is a journey. It is a way to track progress in various areas. Just like the student-athletes go beyond themselves, the cup does as well," said Perry.

"The most difficult part has been the communication of what the program is and what the athletes need to do."

# Student survives turmoil while living in El Salvador

*Harrowing account of growing up in war-torn homeland*

By **Ada Hernandez**  
Special to the Chronicle

I can still remember the gun shots, the helicopters roaring, the smell of gunpowder and the people screaming on the streets surrounding my grandparents' residence.

It was 1986, the left-wing Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), also known as the guerillas, were taking over the city of San Miguel in El Salvador. They were killing civilians or as my aunt heard them say "cleaning the city." I was 3 years old when I first experienced the war.

While I was sitting next to my sister, I was playing with my doll's hair on a red couch that faced the patio. Suddenly, we saw a soldier dressed in green, with a machine gun strapped across his shoulder walking on our patio. My aunt was leaving the kitchen when she walked toward the door and saw my sister and me staring at the soldier. She looked at him and froze. He looked at us, and then climbed the patio's wall and left.

A few minutes later we heard shots in the air. Far-right National Republican Alliance (ARENA) helicopters were shooting the FMLN soldiers on the ground. My grandparents came running toward us, screaming, "Hurry! Hurry! Go to your room and stay underneath the bed." We obeyed, with my aunt right behind us telling us the same thing. She

kissed both of us and then took the keys that were attached to the door, closing and locking it behind her. My sister and I were scared. We were alone in the room, listening to the excruciating sound of bullets and helicopters flying over. I didn't understand why we had to stay underneath the bed, so I asked my sister, who was three years older than me, and she explained that underneath the bed we were less likely to get hurt by stray bullets.

The strife began in 1977, when farmers, peasants and workers led by Farabundo Marti formed the FMLN. They protested against human rights violations. By 1980, the archbishop of San Salvador, Oscar Romero, was assassinated and the country was on the verge of civil war. The right-wing National Conciliation Party (PCN) formed death squads that killed around 30,000 people. The FMLN despised the PCN and wanted to become a legitimate party. France and Mexico recognized the FMLN as such, while the U.S. continued to assist the El Salvadorian government, whose army backed right-wing death squads.

My father worked as a detective for the military security of the Armed Forces. He was in charge of investigating the terrorism cases and any plots that the FMLN had against the government. To the FMLN, he was considered an enemy. One day, my dad was walking out of the house when the guerrillas seized him. He was taken to a park where he was beaten up

and stabbed in the eye with a knife. A police car came near the park and the FMLN left the scene. My dad was wounded, but was helped by some people who called the police. My father lost the vision in his eye.

After that incident he asked to be transferred from San Miguel to the capital San Salvador. My mother was eight months pregnant when the guerillas knocked on her door and asked if any military person lived in the house. She said no. They took her and my sister who was 2 as hostages for four hours. They were released because my mother knew one of the guerillas. When I was born, my dad could not handle the war anymore. Ten months later he left El Salvador, like many people did at that time, and came to the United States. A year later my mom followed his path and left my sister and me in the care of my grandparents.

It felt like years underneath that bed. My sister and I were just hugging each other, hoping that it would all be over soon. Hours later my aunt came and opened the door. She slid underneath the bed and told us that we would spend the night on the cold floor. It was difficult to sleep because we still heard the helicopters flying above us, and we were afraid of anything that could happen. But that is how it was each night after that.

Alfredo Cristiani (ARENA) became president in 1989. The rebel attacks intensified. I remember taking a bus to visit my uncle who lived in La Union, a state

away from San Miguel. I was with my aunt and my sister. I was sitting on the window side and when we passed el Rio Lempa (the Lempa River), I remember seeing two bodies hanging from the rails of the bridge. They were wearing police uniforms, and their faces were covered with blood. One of them was missing half of his leg. When I saw this, I turned to my aunt who was completely pale and did not say a word. I did not ask anything because I knew that we were in the middle of a war and we could not do anything about it but keep our mouths shut.

Year after year, I became used to the death threats, the violence and the attacks that happen when a civil war dominates a country for 12 years. My best friend's father was used as a shield when two soldiers were fighting against each other and he was killed. I remember walking to my friend's house and passing her father's blood stains on the ground. Women were constantly getting raped, including a maid in my house who was also killed.

I was one of those children who witnessed things that most children never see. I thought the horror was never going to be over, but the day came, on Jan. 16, 1992, when a peace accord sponsored by the UN was signed by representatives of the government and the FMLN, which then became a political party. By that time I was 9, and the war was finally over.

War, continued from front page

good job trying not to let my brother and me see the reality of the war, we still knew that the Serbs and Muslims had religious conflicts. Since we lived in Belgrade, the capital of today's Serbia, my family found it hard to live a normal life as Muslims. I will never forget getting ready for school and seeing military vehicles with large guns fixed on the roofs and filled with army soldiers passing by our house. The cold-hearted looks on their faces terrified

me, not to mention the guns and dead bodies the vehicles carried.

In the two years that we lived through heart-stopping terror, I couldn't imagine what was going to happen in the end and when the end was coming. Would we be one of the families killed in the war? I ask myself many questions as the days went on. Two specific days remain fresh in my mind. The day my mom told us that we had to move shocked me. She

began packing all of our things and told us not to mention to anyone that we would be leaving. Luckily, my parents both worked for airline companies and knew exactly what to do and how to get us out of the country. I wanted to take some of my personal belongings, but my mom didn't let me. The next day as we got ready to leave for the train station, I can remember my grandmother holding my brother and me and crying as if someone

had died. All of my friends gathered outside our house to say goodbye, and a lot of them even came to the train station. I don't think that I have ever cried so much in my life. I hugged everyone in sight because the thought that I would never see them again kept running through my head. As the train left the station, I stuck my head out the window and waved until everyone's faces started fading.


Others would see us now as refugees.

Our train ride to Vienna, Austria, took about 12 hours. I can remember my mom holding us and telling us that everything would be OK and that when we got to the United States, our lives would change for the better. Ironically, I never thought that we lived a sad life. I loved Yugoslavia; I loved all my friends and I didn't want to leave my family. Once we got to Austria, we stayed with one of my mom's close friends. After a few days, we left for New York City.

The second day I will never forget came when we reached LaGuardia. My dad waited for us on the other side of customs. The tight security guards turned some people away and forced them back to their countries because they didn't have their visas or other documents required for entering the United States. This greatly frightened us. Our turn arrived to get our passports checked. After waiting in line over five hours, we stood only a few moments away from being reunited with our dad, moving to New York City and claiming it as our home.

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# Linkin Park rocks student's first major concert

By **Kathleen McLean**  
Staff Writer

I am a fan of Linkin Park because their music has hard sounds and powerful lyrics. I'll listen to one of their CD's while I'm lifting at the gym or running on the Greenway. And I'll check their website occasionally to see when the band's new music is coming out or to watch a music video. Although my room isn't filled with the band's posters and pictures, when I heard they were coming to Greensboro, I had to get a ticket.

I had never been to a major concert before March 2, and it was an experience I'll never forget. I have been to concerts at bars and other places like Triangle and Cafe Jam, but the Greensboro Coliseum is a lot bigger, and the bands playing were better known than local bands of High Point and Wilmington.

I sat in the nosebleed section with my friends, but I could see the stage perfectly. I also enjoyed the seating because I was nowhere near the mosh pits on the ground floor. Several times during the show, I could see small groups of people jumping and running into each other. It made me grateful that I would walk out of that arena with all of my teeth.

The first band on stage was Story of the Year. I had never heard of this band before, but I liked their song "Until the

Day I Die;" it sounded like a cross between SR-71 and Hoobastank. The band had a lot of energy and towards the end of the set, the guitarist did a back-flip off of a speaker.

Hoobastank took the stage next and since I knew the songs, I sang along. The best part of their performance came when they played "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." All the girls around me were singing along and laughing. It was a good introduction to their new single, "Out of Control."

After the stage cleared again, screens were raised with P.O.D. banners. Unlike the other bands, P.O.D. went from one song right into another and during their performance of "Youth of a Nation," they brought 10 audience members on stage to sing the chorus.

When I first entered the coliseum, the seats weren't all filled. It wasn't until Linkin Park took the stage that I found it difficult to find an empty green seat in the crowd.

The arena had gone black just before each band had performed, but this time

the audience was kept in suspense. Linkin Park played an introduction tape while they sat behind the screen on the stage. And when the first band member walked out, the entire audience stood up, screamed and clapped, myself included.

They had a great stage presence. The band screamed just like they did on their CDs. Singers Mike Shinoda and Chester Bennington ran from one end of the stage to the other, taking turns singing lines of their songs with the fans.

The entire stage was used for the band's performance, which included two side platforms that hung off the stage and brought the performers within arm's reach of the audience.

The lights were everywhere and they were turned on the audience each time the band wanted them to sing. I watched hands fly in the air and people crowd surf in mosh pits. The ground floor looked like a sea anemone with the swaying hands and lighters imitating the motion of the ocean.

Linkin Park made sure that the audience got what they paid for, but it also included a performance by the road crew.

Bennington said, "These guys have been practicing during our tour so we're gonna bring them out here." Although I heard some people argue, they cheered and laughed as the road crew attempted to keep tempo. But given their two minutes of fame, the road crew took their places behind the stage and let the band show them how to play "Faint."

After "In the End" was played, people started filing out of the coliseum, but the house lights still hadn't come on. Then the band came out and played "My December." Then the lead singers of the three previous bands came out to join Linkin Park for the last song, "A Place for My Head."

When the music finally ended and the crowd stopped cheering, I finally sat down in my seat after an hour of singing and dancing with the music and just smiled as the road crew packed up Linkin Park's gear. I couldn't believe what I had seen. Listening to the music and having the powerful bass move me to the beat felt like being in my room. I was dancing and signing like no one was watching me. I didn't get back to campus until midnight, but the smile still hadn't left my face.

I never thought I would experience the Meteora World Tour. But now that I've gotten a taste of Linkin Park's live show, I can't wait until they come back to North Carolina. They are definitely an experience not to pass up.



## Concerts worth seeing

### Williams: a one-man jam band visits Ziggy's

By **Justin Spinks**  
Staff Writer

Smoke lingers in the stage lights as people fight their way forward to get closer, but the old, barn-like building is packed so tight, moving is becoming an impossibility. However, people are still lined up outside the door for their chance to get in. They are there to see a one-man jam band.

Keller Williams usually packs Ziggy's, the popular music venue in Winston Salem, and this night was no different, except ticket prices rose and somehow more people managed to make their way into the sweltering, cloudy haze.

On stage it appears as if there is an arsenal of instrumentation for a band of at least 8, maybe 10 or 12, but when the lights go out, and then a single acoustic guitar rings from the sound system all around, only one man emerges from behind the stage.

Keller starts out with an insanely fast and difficult acoustic guitar riff, unique to his style, and then adds his whimsical lyrics that can make you both laugh and think. Then something incredible happens as Keller puts down his acoustic guitar, but still ringing are his intricate guitar musings, and he dances to the other side of the stage to pick up a bass. The next thing that fills the crowd's ears is a funky bass line to be intricately woven into the looped guitar riff. The audience

is amazed at this impressive feat, and the next thing they hear is percussion, but they look to see not a trap set of any kind. Instead it's just Keller standing in front of the microphone, manipulating his mouth to sound exactly like drums and cymbals, and that is looped on top of everything else. He loops the music he plays through various effects pedals so he can play a few seconds on one instrument and make it continue to play after he puts that instrument down so he can go to a completely different instrument to layer upon what is already being heard. Keller, smiling and dancing, then could bring out a plethora of toys he can stimulate his fans with. He picks up one of his electric guitars and solos a bit, making crazy high-pitched

sounds, then moves his way to a xylophone and tantalizes the audience a bit with that, but then returns to his acoustic to segway into the next song to close the first set, the fan favorite by the Allman Brothers called "Midnight Rider." The concert is far from over.

Ziggy's is one of many stops for Keller on his spring tour which takes him

all over the country in addition to two dates at the Australian Blues and Roots Music festival. Keller has been nominated for two Jammy Awards, one for his song "Above the Thunder" and the other for his album cover for his latest release *Home*.

Keller's virtuosic musical talents and entertaining live performances still go largely unrecognized though his fan base continues to grow. Keller tours from coast to coast relentlessly, playing mostly in bars, small venues and music festivals, but no one will probably ever see him on MTV or *Rolling Stone* magazine, unless it is part of something larger, such as the Bonnaroo Music Festival in Manchester, Tenn. Popular music has no place for a one-



man jam band.

The lights go back out, and the acoustic guitar once again rings from the sound system as set two begins. Keller opens this set up with "Gimme Shelter," a Rolling Stones cover, that really gets the audience going, then continues his feats that seem like magic, even controlling sound with what looks like the movement of his

hands, dazzling the audience, leaving them to say, "How does he do it?" Continuing to play his acoustic, he imitates almost perfectly the sound of a trumpet with his mouth then sings the wah-wah of an electric guitar. He then goes into the humorous fan favorite "I Could Drink a Case of You" and loops its guitar part so he can pick up a large tribal drum and jam on that for a bit. After he finishes beating the drum, he returns once again to his signature acoustic to close the set with "Kidney in a Cooler," a fun tune off his most popular album *Laugh*. At this point in the show everyone is convinced there really is nothing that this man cannot do.

After the show, fans spill out of the smoky sweatbox and gather to discuss what they had just seen. "Man, that was awesome, but it was so crowded, I could barely see," remarks one fan to the other. "Yeah, I know, but that was incredible. I can't believe I had never heard of this guy before. How many guitars did he have? Six? Seven? And what was that one thing he had, with the crazy sounds? That was intense!"

Keller takes a solo act to the next level and pushes the boundaries of just how far one man can go with musical ability. He keeps out of the lime-light because he is his own act. He is not quite "jam," nor is he quite anything else. He, like his followers, seeks something different.

# 'Passion' presents powerful Christian vision

By Drew McIntyre  
Opinion Editor

It's a rare thing these days for movies with substance to make serious bank at the box office. I'm not sure if that is reflective of society or industry—probably both. In any case, "The Passion of the Christ" has gone against the norm and managed both to be a movie with depth and purpose, while at the same time reaching a large audience. Mel Gibson hasn't made a perfect film, to be sure, but for what it is, "The Passion" is about as good a movie as it could possibly be.

If you don't know who Mel Gibson is — first off, just quit reading the A&E page. Gibson is the star of movies like "Mad Max," "What Women Want," "The Patriot" and four "Lethal Weapon" installments. He also directed and starred in "Braveheart," one of the greatest epics of this generation and a personal favorite—not to mention a multiple-Oscar winner. "The Passion of the Christ" is only his second major directorial effort, and though the technicalities are on a much smaller scale, the subject matter is far grander.

I shouldn't need to tell you the plot. Even most non-Christians know something of Christ's story. "The Passion of the Christ" follows the last 12 hours of his life, beginning with his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane and through his execution. There is also a hint at the resurrection as well. Gibson's claim throughout the making of this film



has been the he was making a movie based on the passion narrative found in the New Testament Gospels. He never claimed to be making a movie about the life of Christ or a movie filled with all that modern and

post-modern theology has added to Jesus' story. Gibson simply wanted to make a realistic depiction of Christ's sacrifice as seen in the New Testament. Whether he should have done something else is immaterial. What matters is that, for what this movie is, it is a masterpiece.

There are a few clever things Gibson employed as director that are worth noting. Satan has a presence throughout the movie. While I don't believe that this is clearly stated in any of the four Gospels, I found this to be a very effective way of showing that Christ was tempted throughout the ordeal. The way Gibson represents Satan is interesting; he appears as a woman, but speaks with a menacing, masculine voice. The observant viewer should look at the way Satan stalks through the crowds during Jesus' torture and compare that to the way Gibson showed Murrin walking through the crowds during Wallace's execution in "Braveheart." Also, there are flashbacks throughout the movie. They seem to increase with intensity as the trial and execution does. These serve a couple of purposes. They give the viewer a little bit of a reference point to moments in Jesus' life, from childhood and adulthood, that give a sense of history and make Him more human to us. Moreover, the flashbacks are honestly a welcome break from time to time from watching the grizzly torture onscreen that Gibson succeeded at making realistic.

There are only two actors of serious

note in this film. Jim Caviezel ("The Count of Monte Cristo") portrays Christ, and Monica Bellucci ("Tears of the Sun" and the last two "Matrix" installments) plays Mary Magdalene. Caviezel was



an excellent casting choice for several reasons. First of all, he can pull off playing a Semitic character; it's nice not to have a Gentle Jesus for a change. Also, he

has enough acting experience to be recognized for his talent, but isn't famous enough to distract moviegoers. The same can be said for Bellucci. Caviezel deserves extra praise, though, for literally suffering to make his depiction accurate. He was hurt several times during the filming, most notably when a stunt went wrong and he was actually flogged. Oh, yeah, and he was struck by lightning...twice. Gibson also has to get recognized for his intestinal fortitude. A lot of people didn't want to see this movie make the light of day. Some had good reason to. Passion narratives have historically been used to blame Jews for Christ's death and inspire anti-Semitism with violent consequences. I believe he handled this controversy very well, though. He stuck to his guns, made his movie the way he wanted it and let the critical chips fall where they may. Critics were mixed on it, not surprisingly — but check out Roger Ebert's review; he gave it four stars and was dead on. The public has not been so mixed. The film has made nearly \$300 million at this point, and it's still number 2 at the box office. This is a just reward for a movie that

Gibson poured not only his heart but his bank account into.

Odds are such that many of you have seen this film. I've heard very few negative reviews by my friends. If you haven't seen it, check it out. I would add that I don't agree with this movie being used by evangelical groups to "save" people. This is a movie people need to come to with a little bit of knowledge. It is a movie for those that know and respect Christ's story and wish it to be made more real for them. "The Passion of the Christ" does just that. Gibson has made what I'm sure will be the standard for movies of its kind of decades to come.

## Theron is 'Monster'

By Sara Gray  
Staff Writer

Serial killer Aileen Wuornos walked along the Florida highways finding her way by prostitution. She robbed and murdered eight men in the years 1989-1990. She was arrested in 1982, convicted and then executed by the electric chair in 1992. Charlize Theron completely transforms herself into Aileen Wuornos in the film *Monster*. Theron gained thirty pounds, endured facial prosthetics and hours of makeup to make her look complete. The final result was astounding. She unmistakably looked the part.

*Monster* is narrated by Aileen and is told from her point of view. It follows the two years of her criminal life. The real story begins when Aileen unknowingly enters a gay bar to spend her last five dollars on booze. There, she meets Selby, (Christina Ricci) a lesbian who wants nothing but to find a loving relationship after being sent away by her parents. When Aileen meets Selby, she rebuffs her advances and attempts to get close to her. However, Aileen is lonely and desperate for anyone to love her and they begin a relationship.

Aileen continues to prostitute the Florida highways and after an arrangement goes bad and she is raped, she begins her killing spree with this first encounter. Fueled by her love for Selby, she gives her anything and everything she wants with the money she acquires. Their relationship deteriorates as Selby becomes more money hungry and uses Aileen. Desperate to keep the unhealthy relationship going, Aileen continues to rob and murder men, using her rape as an excuse to make her actions valid.

As the film progresses, the audience feels sympathetic for her sad life and desperation. It is hard to find compassion for the character, but you begin to understand her feelings and pain. Theron gives a jaw dropping performance which won her an Academy Award for Best Actress. She accurately shows all the emotions that Aileen must have felt; the loneliness, love, guilt and terror that plagued her life. Ricci plays Selby quite well too, making her an unlikable character in this film.

*Monster* is one of the best films of this past year. Even with its difficult subject matter which hits the audience hard, it proves to be worth watching. This film is one of my recent favorites and is a must see!

## 'Eurotrip': a soon to be college classic

Don't expect this one to win an Oscar; it isn't that kind of movie

By Katie Estler  
Layout Editor

Life can be depressing, and so are some of our movies, "The Passion of the Christ" in particular. Who wants to spend \$7.50 to be depressed? I suggest "Eurotrip." This high school trek across Europe is a classic nonintellectual college humor movie. When this DVD



comes out, it will fit nicely between "Super Troopers" and "Old School." Let's talk bad days. On graduation day, Scotty Tomas (Scott Mechlowicz) basks in the joys of his high school accomplishment. Fiona (Kristin Kreuk), the love of his life, comes running up to share in this moment, well actually to break up with him for no apparent reason. This moment is also forever immortalized in the family home video. In an effort to lift his spirits, he goes to the graduation party with his friend Cooper (Jacob Pitts). He has some drinks, hangs out with some people and listens to the

band, which is playing a very catchy tune that runs through the movie "Scotty Doesn't Know." Imagine Scotty's surprise when the lead singer (Matt Damon) asks his girl to come up to the stage, and there goes Fiona tearing up to the stage. That is a real stab to the back, but what about as the song goes on to tell about their freaky sex life but "don't tell Scotty, because Scotty doesn't know." After an understandable night of binge drinking, Scotty returns to his room to find a slightly suggestive e-mail from his Berlin pen pal buddy, which he responds to less than enthusiastically.

That's bad. Now imagine waking up the next morning to have your brother point out that the nerdy Berlin guy turned out to be a beautiful girl that Scotty has grown extremely close to. Now she has blocked him due to that drunken e-mail response.

The girl you love is in Germany. What do you do? You go to Berlin or at least Europe.

Cooper and Scotty hitch a cheap ride to London where they are abducted by the Manchester soccer fans and wake up to find themselves in Paris. With only the luck found in movies, they catch up with their friends from high school, twins Jenny (Michelle Trachtenberg) and Jamie (Travis Wester) that are touring Europe.

They are four crazy kids loose in Europe on a quest to find Scotty's true love. These American kids get to enjoy Europe to the fullest. There's a trip to one of Europe's famous nude beaches, which features possibly the largest collection of male nudes in movie history. There's also a cameo by Lucy Lawless (that's right Xena Warrior Princess) as Madame Vanderesexxx as the crew explores the freedoms of Amsterdam. After getting mugged, they learn the American has a great value in certain parts of Europe. And, yes, you also see the famous preview scene where brother and sister make out and prove that absinthe being banned in America is a good idea.

If you want Hitler jokes and blatant disregard for the Pope, this is your movie. It isn't deeply moving; it isn't going to make you think; it is just to make you laugh and laugh you will.

### Alpha Gamma Delta ΓΘ

First we want to congratulate our 13 new members: Sarah Dixon, Morgan Hunt, Melissa Cheseldine, Jeanna Butler, Jessica Wubbenhorst, Ginnine Vietro, Alana Esposito, Anna Fox, Bridget Mears, Caitlin Stroczkowski, Heather Martindale, Ali Conant and Laura Wolf. You girls are all so great and we cannot wait until we can call you our sisters! We hope that everyone had an amazing and wonderful Spring Break and we are glad to see that everyone has returned safely.

We want to thank everyone who came out to our two most recent philanthropy events: Gam night at Triangle and the car wash that was held this Saturday. The money we made has brought us so much closer to our \$2000 goal. All the proceeds will be donated to the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation for Juvenile Diabetes. We also want to thank everyone who participated in our 50/50 raffle. Zac Cuffe was the winner! Congratulations, Zac! Thanks again to everyone who helped support the fight against this horrible disease.

Last month we celebrated Valentine's Day with the girls of Zeta Tau Alpha. It was a great date party and lasting memories were made. Thanks again ZTA! We

### College Republicans

College Republicans are staying active this spring! Election years are always exciting, and this year is no different. Members are preparing to hold voter registration drives at local public and private high schools through the end of this semester. We hope to encourage teenagers to get and stay politically active by providing a convenient way to get involved.

We had a great debate against College Democrats on Feb. 24. Thank you to all who came out for the event and participated in the discussion.

March 2 was Conservative Coming

### Kappa Delta ΚΔ

The Sisters of Kappa Delta would like to start out by thanking everyone for their support for our Shamrock 5k Fun Run. With clear blue skies and a brisk early spring breeze, runners lined up at the starting line for the 8th Annual Shamrock 5k Fun Run. With the sound of the police car speaker, the race began, lead-



ing the participants throughout the nearby streets of High Point. This year, we once again helped the children of High Point and around the country by raising money through their yearly philanthropic event for Prevent Child Abuse America. and the local High Point Hallelujah House. The event, held in March of each year, brings together people of the city as well as the campus community to run approximately 3.2 miles around the surrounding neighborhoods. Waiting at each turn are Kappa Delta Sisters, cheering them on and pointing them in the right direction.

This year's event, chaired by Sabrina Ugolik and aided by Robin Lindsey, raised a large amount and is still receiving donations from outside sources. The sisters spent a good part of the semester

always have a fantastic time with you.

Last month we also had a giant hall crawl with the sisters of Kappa Delta. We had an awesome time with you girls and cannot wait to this with you all again. Thanks ladies! We also want to extend thank yous to the brothers of Lambda Chi for recently having a barbeque with us and a great game of sloshball. Thank you to the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi for our great Penalty Party. We cannot wait to be partners with you all in Greek Week next year. And finally to the brothers of Theta Chi...we tried to get rid of the nasty winter cold with a Spring Break mixer. Jimmy Buffett on the radio and everyone dressed as if we were all in Miami Beach, Fla...what more could you ask for?! We love mixing with you all and thanks so much for another great mixer!

This Saturday we will be having a White Trash Trailer Bash with the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha. We cannot wait! Also this Saturday we will be taking a sisterhood hike at Pilot Mountain. We will take this time to enjoy the beautiful weather and strengthen our bonds of sisterhood.

On April 4 we will be hosting another car wash. Hopefully the weather will have warmed up! Please come out and support your Gams. Keep your eye out for a location.

Out Day for Republican college students. It was a day to celebrate being on the right side of the spectrum and to encourage others to base their political views on thinking versus feeling.

On March 24, College Republicans held a Support President Bush and the Troops day to remind everyone that we still have troops overseas and we must continue to support and stand behind them and the president.

The semester is coming to a close in just a few weeks, but you are highly encouraged to join us any time, especially this fall, as it promises to be very exciting!

collecting monetary and food donations from area companies, restaurants and stores. Some of the donations went to a raffle held at the end of the race. Items such as tanning sessions, free dinners and items from Omega Sports went to the lucky winners. Food and drinks were provided for the runners as well. All of the Kappa Deltas look forward to an even greater and bigger event next year and the years to follow. With help from the whole community, they can change the lives of many future generations of children.

Congratulations goes out to all of our big and little sisters this semester! After a week of anticipation, the littles finally got to see who their bigs were and it was a surprise to many! Congratulations also goes out to the new members on their initiation this week. We know that you all will make a big difference in our sisterhood! We are planning on enjoying a great time at our White Rose Formal.

Another big thank you also goes out to everyone who came to our KD St. Patrick's Day party at Triangle. The sea of green outfits was a great sight to see!

The month of April brings papers and exams to many of our sisters but we are looking forward to having some fun as well! We plan on bringing our Girl Scout Troop to classes with us for a career day and a Dumpster Dive is planned with Lambda Chi Alpha to raise money for both of our philanthropies. When the sun starts to shine a little bit more we will be breaking out the hoses and buckets for a car wash or two, so be on the look out for info on all of our events.

### Lambda Chi Alpha ΛΧΑ

The brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha hope that everyone is having a groovy spring semester. Spring Break just ended and the end of the school year is coming to a fast close and we still have a lot to get done! The brothers will be traveling to northern North Carolina for a Sparta style retreat at the end of March! We will have an opportunity to reflect on and further enhance our fraternal bond while also learning about the culture and lives of those weird bad men from "Deliverance." In April we will be hosting our annual Rock-A-Thon in order to raise money for the American Cancer Society. A special and warm thanks to the other Greek organizations on campus for their support and assistance in completing this charitable occasion (sarcasm). Also, Lambda Chi would like to congratulate the recipient of our Associate Member of the Se-

### Pi Kappa Alpha ΠΚΑ

First of all, we would like to give a belated congratulations to our 10 new pledges: Brandon Howell, Mike Peeler, Milton Stewart, Gardner Walden, Mike Donato, Ryan Mcrae, Chuck Bisland, Billy Russo, Pat Christensen, and Chris Cottrell. This is an exceptional group of guys who have already become assets to the fraternity. We look forward to calling them Brothers.

On Feb. 28th we had our annual Dream Girl Formal at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro. We would like to congratulate Kaci Martin of the Kappa Delta Sorority for being named 2004's Dream Girl. Along with Kaci, we also named several ladies as Chapter Sweethearts: Nicole Harper (ΑΓΔ), Kelly Watt (ZTA), Caroline Rinehart (ZTA), Sondra Morris (KD), and Megan Greene (KD).

A few of the events we are looking forward to this semester are our annual

mester Award, Mr. Jeremiah P. Hood. Your commitment and willingness to spend time is greatly appreciated!

Our intramural basketball teams had a sub par season. Highlights include the B-teams destruction of those "boys from across the pond" in a barn burning double overtime victory! MVP Ronnie "JR" Utt led all with seven points, ensuring our only victory of the season. We are eagerly looking forward to the upcoming softball season so that we can compete in the only sport we are somewhat decent at. Steven "Calvert County" Kramer will be the man to watch as he performs his ape like shenanigans in the outfield and rallies the rest of the team. Special kudos to Duggan and Co. as they flawlessly deliver yet another spectacularly organized intramural program to the students of HPU. In closing, we would like to thank the Gams for the great time we had at Slosh Ball and we are happy to finally of met you.

Beach Weekend (April 8-11) and our First Annual Alumni Pig Roast at High Rock Lake (May 1). We will once again be cleaning our part of Lexington Ave. for the Adopt-A-Highway Program. We recently named the Amani Children's Fund (started in-part by Dr. Jane Stephens) as one of our philanthropies. We also participated in the Kappa Delta Shamrock Event and we will be entering two teams in the Zeta Tau Alpha Golf Tournament. Brothers Clark Robertson and Darrin Sita are representing the Pikes by coaching a soccer team of 3-5 year olds for the YMCA "little kicks" league. Go Vipers!

In intramural sports, our A and B basketball teams have been throwing the games because we don't have anyplace to put another Championship trophy. Not really, but they are trying their best. Water Polo is up next... that should be fun. Finally, there are tons of pictures and up-to-date info on our website: www.hpupikes.com.

## Baseball team off to slow start

By **Bethany Davoll**  
Staff Writer

The High Point baseball team has had its share of struggles this season, getting off to a 4-19 start. The Panthers won their first game of the season against Georgia Southern 14-7, but so far this season they have had trouble combining runs and consistent defense to pick up the W.

The Panthers played Elon on March 17 and lost 13-3 despite leading early, 3-1 off of Corey Steng's first home run of the season. Josh Doane scored Rey Rojas from first off with an RBI double for the Panthers' other run in the game, but Elon would use four runs in the fourth and five in the seventh to take the lead and pull out of High Point's reach. Clayton Gordner was the starting pitcher for HPU and went 3 and 2/3 innings, giving up seven hits and six runs while striking out five.

The Panthers were coming off a victory against Charlotte before the Elon game, winning 6-4 off a strong performance from the HPU pitching staff. Bob Helman picked up his first win of the season, going 5 1/3 innings yielding 6 hits, 4 runs (3 earned) while striking out six. Matt Kniginzky pitched 1 1/3 innings and only gave up one hit and no runs to go along with two strikeouts. Mark Shorey picked up his first save of the season, going the last 2 1/3 innings,

giving up no hits and runs, striking out four. Center fielder Chris Ramirez (.329 BA) continued hitting well with three hits and two RBI. Shortstop Matt Calcagni also picked up three hits and two RBI's and scored two runs. Rey Rojas, Corey Stang, Brent Myers and Justin Pinyan each picked up a hit.

On March 10 against ranked North Carolina the Panthers would come close to beating the #25 team in the nation, before losing 9-7 in ten innings. Heading into the bottom of the ninth, the Panthers held the lead 7-7, but Carolina would tie the game at 7-all before winning off a tenth inning two run homer by Mell Adams. Josh Cotton had a solo home run for the Panthers in the eighth inning and went 3-4 on the night. Chris Ramirez went 3-4 as well, and catcher Matt Keever was 1-4 with 3 RBI.

Matt Kniginzky pitched seven solid innings for the Panthers, giving up 5 runs, 3 earned, while striking out three. Travis Motsinger and Mark Shorey closed out the game for the Panthers, yielding a combined 4 runs, with Shorey picking up the loss.

The Panthers hope to turn their season around and post better results against Big South opponents. With more than half the season left and the conference just getting started, High Point will be looking for the opportunity to improve upon their record.

## Indoor track season ends with success

By **Melissa Caudill**  
Staff Writer

The men's and women's indoor track season concluded with the NCAA National Meet held March 12 at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Taylor Milne became the second High Point University athlete to qualify for the national meet by running a school and conference record time of 4:02 in the mile. He placed 13<sup>th</sup> in the event.

Numerous school records were broken this year, as the teams continue to grow stronger. On the women's side, Kia Westbrook broke both the 200 and 400 meter record; Jemissa Hess broke the 800 and mile; Nicole Garner broke the weight throw; Casey Gillingham broke the pole vault and tied the high jump record with Angel Diamond. For the men, Kirk Rudder broke the 200 record, Henrik Webb the 400, Milne the mile and 300 and Ken Diaz for the weight throw.

Coach Al Barnes said, "I was very pleased with the indoor season. Not putting a lot of emphasis on the indoor season beyond that of preparing us for outdoor track, I was very happy with some progress I'm seeing on both the men's and women's side. I feel we're nicely poised for an even more successful outdoor campaign that should continue to produce multiple school records and all-conference level performances."

*Individuals interested in editing the sports page next year, please contact Mr. Gaspeny at x9115*

## NCAA tournament full of surprises

The NCAA college basketball tournament has put me to the ultimate test. No... not guessing who will win more games than my friends because that will not happen any time soon. The test will be how many hours can I sit in front of a television and do nothing but watch a single sport. This weekend I had to come close to breaking the record for a person that is not paid to watch and analyze the games. If it weren't for class, work, eating, and the occasional restroom break, I do not think I would have gotten up out of the blue chair in my living room. Just ask anyone that walked through my house; I'm not lying.

Why did I, a 21 year-old college student with the ability to run around outside on nice days, decide to sit on a ratty old piece of furniture with the curtains drawn? The answer is simple...I didn't want the glare on the screen. I don't think "Stacy's mom" walking down the street in a bikini could have gotten me off that piece of furniture. All right, I would have positioned myself in the chair so that I could get a good look out the door, but I would not leave the chair.

These games have been perfect to watch, except for Duke winning and Maryland losing. Life isn't perfect. However, people cannot tell me that watching Nevada and Vanderbilt winning their respective games to get into the Sweet Sixteen is not fun to watch, unless you are a Gonzaga or N.C. State fan. It was great to sit in the living room with friends watching Nevada's Todd Okeson bury three after three creating an uproar in the neutral arena as the fans

began pulling for the underdog.

What's not to like about underdogs? Unless you were a Maryland fan like me, why wouldn't you want to see UTEP knock them off in the first round in dramatic fashion? Why wouldn't anyone outside of Duke fans root for Illinois in the coming round? I might even buy an Illinois shirt for the game. Why should anyone cheer for Kansas when they play the University of Alabama-Birmingham? Honestly, our country was founded by underdogs, so rooting against them would almost be unpatriotic.

Now that the Turtles have been slain by the Orangemen, I have decided to pick up the Nevada Wolf Pack as my new favorite team. I haven't found anything not to like about them. Nevada is a pretty cool place except the whole barren desert thing. Other than that, I know close to nothing

about this team except that they really enjoy playing basketball. There was a point in the game when one of the players made a clutch shot and started doing what I could only figure being some kind of dance that has been outlawed in 35 states. The point of the dance is that he was having fun and never gave up.

There are 13 games left in the tournament and the only thing that can be said for sure is that nobody knows what will happen. ESPN's Andy Katz and Dick Vitale picked Stanford and Kentucky to win respectively, and now both teams have been sent packing for home. The only thing that I can guarantee about the upcoming games is I will be watching all of them in the blue chair in my living room.



**Kenny Graff**  
Sports Editor

## Women's hoops falters in tournament opener

By **Bethany Davoll**  
Staff Writer

The High Point women's basketball team had their season come to an abrupt halt after being upset by #6 seed Coastal Carolina 68-62 on March 3 at home in the first round of the Big South Tournament. The Panthers found themselves down the entire game to Coastal, unable to find the team play that earned them the 3<sup>rd</sup> seed in the conference, after UNC Asheville narrowly beat them out for the number two ranking.

Junior Kate Jenner, playing in what would be her last game in a High Point uniform after deciding to return home to Australia following the season, had one of her best games, scoring 13 to go along with 15 rebounds, 2 blocks and 3 steals. But Nikki Reddick would lead the way for Coastal Carolina, pouring in 33 points on the night en route to carrying her team to the victory. HPU was down by six at half time, 37-31, and Coastal's lead would grow as high as 14 with 9:28 remaining in the second half off of a three-pointer by Reddick. High Point clawed their way back, pulling to within 2 with 37 seconds left in the game off a layup from Katie O'Dell. The Panthers were then forced to foul, and after missing her first foul attempt, Reddick stole the ball back on the rebound, and converted her next two foul shots. Coastal Carolina would seal the victory with two more from the line.

Point guard Shorty Martin (13.7ppg, 4<sup>th</sup> in conference), named to the All-Big South Conference first team, had 14 points in the game, while Katie O'Dell (14 ppg, 3<sup>rd</sup> in conference) also named to the All-Conference first team, had 12 points and nine rebounds, and freshman Katie Ralls added 10. Ralls, who made the All-Freshman team, led the Big South this season in assist to turnover ratio (1.76).

In their last regular season of the game, the Panthers won at Winthrop, 82-57 with an all-around superb team performance. Katie O'Dell and Shorty Martin each had 14 points while O'Dell added 8 rebounds, Chan Ingram scored 13, Katie Ralls 11, and Kate Jenner added 10 points and 7 rebounds. High Point was ahead 48-25 at half time after freshman Erica Brockmyer was fouled on a good three-pointer at the buzzer, and hit the ensuing foul shot for the 4-point play. HPU's lead would grow to as many as 34 points in the second half, as the whole team saw playing time and all but one scored.

The Panthers' lost a heart-breaking game at home, 55-52 against Radford, on a three pointer by Sarah Stephens with 6.2 seconds remaining, her first three of the year. High Point and Radford battled for much of the first half, with the Panthers taking the lead into the locker room 27-25 off a layup from Shorty Martin at the buzzer. High Point got out to a 10-point lead to start the second half, but Radford battled back throughout the game before pulling ahead in the last seconds on Stephens' long three. Katie O'Dell was the high scorer for the Panthers with 13, Katie Ralls had 11, and Martin added 10.

High Point, which lost three potential starters at the beginning of the season, closed the year out with a 14-14 record, 8-7 in the Big South.

## Men's squad falls one step shy of championship

By **Taylor Humphreys**  
Staff Writer

It started this past fall semester during Family Weekend when the women's soccer team advanced to the Big South Championship game versus UNC Asheville and won in a close shootout. The energy continued and jump-started the men's basketball season to their best start ever in the conference with a 7-1 record. What am I talking about? I'm talking about finally having school spirit when it comes to sports during the Big South Conference playoffs.

The men's basketball team entered the tournament as the number two seed only behind Liberty University. After winning by one in the last 1.2 seconds against VMI, High Point saw the Keydets again only six days later in the first round of the tournament. HPU made their first eight shots and had a 12-point lead only six minutes into the game, eight of those points coming from Danny Gathing dunks. After a jumper by VMI to cut the lead to 28-15, the Panthers then held the Keydets scoreless for the last 8:14 of the period and finished on a 12-0 run to go into the locker room up 40-15.

HPU out-rebounded the Keydets 49-29 and had 11 points off the bench from Chris Meeks. Coach Lundy said, "Chris needed a game like tonight. He's struggled with injuries... he was a big key for us tonight." High Point won easily 75-43.

After losing at home to Coastal Carolina on Feb. 9 by 21 points, the Panthers got revenge in the second round of the conference tournament by winning by 14, 63-49. The first half featured 16 lead changes and six ties as High Point trailed 30-28 at halftime. HPU then took control early in the second half with an 11-0 run spurred by three straight three-pointers by Zion White. Danny Gathings had his league-leading 12<sup>th</sup> double-double and White tied his career high with 26 points. UNC Asheville made it 47-45 with 9:40 to play, but with High Point scoring 14 of the game's last 15 points, the Panthers emerged victorious.

High Point then traveled to Liberty University on March 6 to face the Liberty Flames on ESPN2 in the Big South Conference Championship. High Point only shot 25.4 percent from the floor and were 1 for 14 from three-point land. Jerry Echenique led the Panthers with nine points while White and Landon Quick both contributed seven apiece. HPU

turned the ball over 21 times. Coach Lundy commented, "I'm very disappointed, but our guys have nothing to be ashamed of." The Panthers won 19 games, shattering the old record of 11 and were also the second most improved team in the nation with 12 more wins than last season.

As a senior closing in on graduation, I feel like it's great to have a basketball team that we can brag about. It's good to see the student section, whether sober or inebriated, screaming at the top of their lungs in hopes that the opponent misses a free throw or a jump shot. Knowing that you need to get to the game 20 minutes early so you can get a seat in the student section is a good thing. But this is what I don't get—people that complain because they can't see because of fans that actually stand up throughout the game. If you can't see—MOVE.

It's about time we stand up and cheer for a basketball team that loves student involvement. I will definitely miss pregame across the street with 25 of my closest friends to make sure the other team goes to hell and back for 40 minutes while in the Millis Center. For that, I praise this year's Lundy Lunatics.