Amnesty International hosts Darfur Week

By Pam Haynes
Editor in Chief

Since the beginning of his career as a photojournalist, Ron Haviv has heard a lot of clicks. The first clicks came from newspaper and press associations that he phoned in search of employment. He started with the director of photography at the Associated Press. "I think I made it through a couple of sentences before the phone went 'click,'" explained Haviv to a crowd of students and faculty in the Pauline Theatre on March 24, the first day of Amnesty International's Darfur Week.

After landing several internships, he met an established photographer in 1989 who was going to Panama to cover a controversial election involving dictator Manuel Noriega. Haviv decided to follow the successful photographer to gain experience. It was there that he heard more about a controversial election involving dictator Noriega. The photo made the cover of Time World Report.

Haviv's photos did just that. His images showed the dark skin of Darfurians covered in blood, members of the Sudanese military kicking innocent civilians in the streets and the distraught faces of young female refugees who fled to camps after their villages were bombed by the same forces that had caused the genocide. Amnesty International president Michelle White organized the event in hopes of publicizing the horror.

Ron Haviv, a photographer who traveled to Darfur to cover the genocide there, stands next to a photo that he took of young females leaving their refugee camps to look for firewood. Many times these girls are raped or kidnapped if they leave their camps. Photo by Pam Haynes

Amnesty International knew that we wanted to spread awareness in the most effective way possible," said White, a senior. "We figured we would devote an entire week to raising awareness and show the issue in people's faces."

Haviv's photos did just that. His images showed the dark skin of Darfurians covered in blood, members of the Sudanese military kicking innocent civilians in the streets and the distraught faces of young female refugees who fled to camps after their villages were bombed by the same forces that had caused the genocide. Amnesty International president Michelle White organized the event in hopes of publicizing the horror.

Students aren't indifferent to political issues

By Cole Atkins
Staff Writer

With the 2008 presidential election looming, many wonder whether college students will make an impact this November and shrug off the stigma of being politically apathetic citizens.

John Mero, a visiting political science professor from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University, does not think college students' political engagement should be questioned.

He said, "I think youth are more fed up with political parties than politics themselves. There is such an overwhelming amount of negative partisanship that students are tired of it."

Mero, who plans to receive his doctorate in the summer, explained that voter turnout has increased among 18-to-24 year olds since 1996. He thinks the issue of political apathy is deeper than simply examining voter turnout statistics.

"It's a lot of kids have grown up watching "soft news" in their formative years. Seeing this watered-down news has caused youth to participate less. They are tired of the product and have consequently become detached from the issues."

See Political Apathy, pg. 10

On the Run: What's New

Student shot in attempted robbery near edge of HPU

Senior Adam Utley was shot early Tuesday morning through the leg near the intersection of O.A. Kokum Way and Sixth Street at about 12:20. Utley was treated and released from High Point Regional Hospital the same day.

According to police, Utley was walking to his off-campus residence when a juvenile approached him demanding money. The gun went off as Utley was attempting to hand the suspect his wallet. The suspect ran off after the gun was fired. No arrests have been made. Gart Evans, head of security, said that this was an isolated incident and that the university is increasing safety patrols on campus.

Acclaimed writer Larson will speak here in April

One of America’s most celebrated authors will appear on campus April 30. Eric Larson, who wrote the spellbinding "The Devil in the White City" and "Thunderstruck," will be speaking at 5 p.m. in Norten 101. A reception will follow Larson’s presentation.

His work has received rave reviews and topped the New York Times bestseller list in both hardback and paperback.

Larson’s intriguing narratives are known for the author’s ability to combine history and mystery.

"For a review of "Devil," please turn to A&E.

David Kaplan wins Big South Fan of the year title

David Kaplan was named Advance Auto Parts Best Part of the Year for the Big South Conference. He was selected out of 16 finalists from all participating schools of the conference. Kaplan was the only finalist from HPU. The grand prize was $500 in gift cards to Advance Auto Parts.

In this issue

Opinion: Traditional civility has fled modern America

A&E: Leona Lewis proves to be a soulful new artist

News: Clarence Thomas sparks a variety of responses

Sports: Men’s basketball ends

Alcohol on college campuses: a problem that won’t go away

Staff Editorial

College students get a bad reputation when it comes to drinking. It is assumed that all students will drink and that they will also be irresponsible. However, the two do not always go hand in hand. Here at HPU we have a limited opportunity to drink. Some residence halls are dry even if some students are over 21. The university has been very proactive in controlling drinking. This is a stance that universities need to take. Never will a university want to say, “We promote drinking.” What our university could say, however, is, “We understand that a percentage of our students will drink and therefore we enable them to do so responsibly.”

Is there more that could happen in order to provide a responsible way for students who are over 21 to enjoy alcohol? All Greek housing is on campus. Commuter students are required to live outside of a one-mile radius of campus to prevent outskirt parties. We do have a shuttle around campus, but the shuttle is not allowed to drive to any house.

Students are left to walk to their party locations. West College Drive does not have any sidewalks from the Mills Center to the Vert Stadium parking lot. The road is wide enough for two cars and a parking lane, and if students walk to university housing on the road, they are risking safety in order to drink. If the realistic assumption is that students will drink, shouldn’t the school try to make this activity the safest that it can be?

On Wednesday nights the local bars are crowded with High Point students. Many students look forward to bar “College Nights” to dance, meet new people and drink. It is a well-known fact that students frequent both Club Triangle and Finley’s, which are located two miles from campus.

On Facebook.com there is a group titled, “You know you go to HIP sh...” The eighth reason the group says you know you go to HPU is if you have walked back from Club Triangle. Why would a student walk? Because it is safer to walk one’s life walking back late at night than it is to drive drunk.

If the university offered transportation to and from these local hangouts, it would show a strength of the institution, not a weakness! If the university were to give free rides, then students would feel HIPU’s environment to be even more caring than it already is. The university would not be endorsing or condoning drinking by offering such a service. HIPU would be saying, “If you are going to do it, be safe.” That is a lesson we all should learn.

A university education should not stop short of teaching values such as joy, fellowship and giving. All of those are demonstrated at this university through the ice cream truck, bands that play during lunch, and the kiosks. Can’t being responsible be a value taught through a “safe ride” program for students who drink?

The problem has many solutions. Maybe it should be upon the students to figure out a way to arrange such transportation through SGA. Maybe the school should include the current nighttime shuttle in a “safe ride” program.

The bottom line is that the issue needs to be confronted and solved, before we find ourselves with a tragedy because of a lack of foresight.

Straight Talk From Dr. Nido Qubein

How to communicate effectively in your life

Each day, I observe our students as they go to class, walk across campus, eat in the cafe, hang out in the Slate center and attend athletic events. Without fail, one thing they do very well is something near and dear to my own heart … they communicate. On cell phones, on laptops or face-to-face, students love to communicate.

The purpose of most communication is to influence the attitudes and behaviors of those whom we address. Since the human race is comprised of billions of individuals, each with a different way of responding, no one approach is universally effective. So it’s important to express yourself in a way that will accomplish your purpose toward the individual you’re addressing.

To communicate effectively, you should understand the four basic requirements of communication:

1. A message must be conveyed.
2. The message must be received.
3. There must be a response.
4. Each message must be understood.

Let’s look at these requirements one at a time.

A MESSAGE MUST BE CONVEYED.
That sounds simple enough. You know what your thoughts are, and you know how to translate them into words. But that’s where we lose the simplicity. Each of us has our own mental dialect. It is the common language of the culture in which we grew up, modified by our own unique life’s experiences. Our life’s experiences add color and shades of meaning to different words.

A MESSAGE MUST BE RECEIVED.
The second basic requirement of the one-on-one communication process is that the message be received and understood. Effective communicators know that they have not conveyed their meaning until they have made sure that the other person has received it exactly as they sent it. They test, with questions and observations, to make sure that the real meaning they wanted to convey has passed through the filters and has been received and understood.

THERE MUST BE A RESPONSE. The goal of all communication is to obtain the desired response. You want to say something correctly, and have your hearer understand what you mean by it. But you also want the hearer to do something in response.

EACH MESSAGE MUST BE UNDERSTOOD. Once a message has been delivered, received and responded to, it’s time to take stock of what each person has communicated. The cycle of communication is complete only when you come away with a clearer understanding of the person with whom you sought to communicate. You may not always agree with the other person, and the other person may not always agree with you – but it is important that you understand each other.

As you go about your final few weeks of classes, I wish you continued success and significance.

We LOVE YOU and THANK GOD FOR YOU.

Nido Qubein
nqubein@highpoint.edu
Chuck Norris: An American Hero

By Katie Nelson - Staff Writer

The war in Iraq has been a long and difficult journey which demands new signs of coming to an end. While many politicians rally to remove our troops from battle, the government and some citizens feel there is a need to keep our soldiers in Iraq. So, for the time being, our troops remain in the Middle East, fighting insurgents, aiding civilians and training the Iraqi military and police force. Many American civilians have sent care packages and written letters to the troops, whatever they can to provide a little piece of home and written letters to the troops, whatever they can to provide a little piece of home.

Mr. Chuck Norris has become a cult icon for our armed forces in Iraq over the past few years. He has visited the troops on several occasions, even when other celebrities were afraid to travel and in return he has received many honors from the soldiers. Last year he was made an honorary Marine, and there are several tanks and guns which have been nicknamed “Chuck Norris.” Even Iraqi police trainer Mohammad Rasheed, has named after Chuck Norris due to his vague resemblance to the actor. Cardboard shrines have been erected to the martial arts master with Chuck Norris “facts” etched all over them. This high status with the armed forces is just a part of Mr. Norris’ newfound popularity in our culture.

Chuck Norris has always been known for his martial arts skills. He was the first man in 4,500 years to earn an 8th degree Black Belt Grand Master in Tae Kwon Do in the western hemisphere. Over 30 films have been made featuring Mr. Norris, including his famous roundhouse kicks. His hit TV show “Walker Texas Ranger” has been on the air since 1993 and viewed by millions. However, these accomplishments never made him an A-list celebrity, although recently, his popularity has skyrocketed with Chuck Norris “facts.” These facts affirm his greatness. Here are some examples:

Chuck Norris is loved by so many because of his good-old-fashioned values. He is a refreshing blast of what America used to be and a good role model for everyone.

Who are you supporting for the 2008 Presidential election?

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Chuck Norris. CNN.com

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Lost Odyssey full of clichés; Super Smash Bros. offers more characters than ever

By Jessalyn Graham
Staff Writer

"Lost Odyssey" - Xbox 360, PS3

"Lost Odyssey" is one of the few Japanese RPGs for the Xbox 360. The game is centered around a mortal, Kaim, who has lost his memory. The story hits plenty of clichés and the overall plot boils down to a poorly executed fight for world domination. Its one saving grace comes from the game’s dynamic and realistic characters. As the story unfolds, your traveling companions will slowly mature and evolve, creating a likable cast. The gameplay is a traditional turn-based RPG with random encounters. While this is a combat innovation, it is well implemented and offers an enjoyable challenge. In the end, however, "Lost Odyssey" still falls short because of its heavy emphasis on story that never delivers.

"Super Smash Bros. - Wii"

If you take a trackdown of Nintendo mascots and have them duke it out, you get "Super Smash Bros. Brawl" for the Wii. This is the third game in the series and the first to grace Nintendo’s newest console. The game plays relatively the same as its predecessors, but thanks to a dual-layered DVD, there is more to enjoy. With over 30 playable characters and 40 stages, the game is bigger and better. You can play offline with four other friends, or challenge people across the world with Wi-Fi play. Disappointingly, the online modes do not work well, and are often unplayable because of connection errors. The game also boasts an eight-hour single player adventure, but it is with friends when you play. "Brawl" really shine’s when you try out the previous games in this series, "Brawl" will fit right in there. If you never tried "Smash Bros." before, "Brawl" is a perfect place to start. Nevertheless, if you do get to see "Princess Peach" dash out speedily across the screen, you might think she was born to be rivals." Throughout the film there is a feeling of Henry VIII as a king’s mistress. In the beginning, the king is outraged at the idea, which violates her morals, although she ends up falling in love with the king. Anne welcomes the idea of being the king’s mistress, and as soon as she gets the opportunity, she does everything in her power to poison the king’s mind and gain power over him. As a result, she finally convinces King Henry VIII to marry her and provide a male heir to the throne and thereby keep the royal line of the Tudors from irreparable damage to herself and her family.

"The Other Boleyn Girl" features serious actors who take their abilities to the next level. The scenes are often dark, instilling the mood in the audience. The music also helps in setting the mood for the film, from lively party music of the time to romantic music to mysterious tones when the plot is thickening. Along with the impressive lighting and music, the film also includes a few graphic scenes, including capital punishment to give a fairly accurate sense of 15th century life.

If you appreciate experimental folk music, you should listen to Matthew and the Arrogant Sea. This five-piece band gives folk music a new face. With their catchy lyrics, they could be mistaken for a pop group. However, listen to their use of the instruments, harmonies, reverberate verses, and it won’t take long for you to discover that there’s much more to Matthew and the Arrogant Sea than meets the eye and ear. They don’t just play their instruments or sing straightly. Rather, they experiment with every instrument, finding any new sounds. They also play with their harmonies and shoot for high notes (and do they ever hit them!). The two vocalists, Matthew and Caleb, know their strong points, and feed off of one another. Their voices always blend to bring about perfect harmonies.

The band journeys to a new realm with each song, with lyrics that could be mistaken for a big fiery sun,” and “Out in the desert, I am a flower.” (Did I mention they do an incredibly spot-on cover of Bob Dylan’s “Man in the Mirror?”) With each track comes a new character, idea or memory. They’ll always leave you wanting more.

Matthew and the Arrogant Sea have soul that emerges in all their songs, albums and live performances. They aren’t your average band, which is part of what makes their sound so uniquely pleasant. With a burst of energy and a head full of ideas, they’ll continue experimenting in the studio - their own personal laboratory.
By John Winn
Opinion Editor

Human nature is a fickle thing. While humans are capable of untold kindnesses and gigantic achievements such as sheltering the homeless or designing skyscrapers, we also fight, wage war and torture one another in ways that make even demons blush. Sometimes these conflicting forces exist on us at the same time. The duality of man has long been a staple of literature, going back to biblical times. But in recent years the notion of good and evil has fallen out of favor, replaced by pseudo-intellectual concepts like moral relativism, until Erik Larson's "Devil in the White City" (Random House, 2003. $14.95).

Set during the Chicago World's Fair of 1893, the book is a Dickensian account of two real-life characters on opposite sides of the moral divide, Daniel Burnham and Dr. H.H. Holmes. Burnham is a self-professed underachiever and businessman who through pluck and luck, rises from obscurity to become one of the most important architects of the fin-de-siecle era. Holmes is a professional, too, but primarily focuses on Bumham and his colleagues, Louis Sullivan and Frederick Law Olmstead, as they struggle to make deadline before the Columbian Exposition's opening day on May 1, 1893. We get a sense of Burnham's insecurity, Sullivan's ego and Olmstead's grumpiness, but hardly any sense of who Holmes is, beyond the fact that he is a charlatan and psychopath. Partly that is because of the paucity of first-hand documents from Holmes or the detectives and insurance agents tasked with investigating him. But it is also because of the documents that did survive, many were half-truths and outright fabrications written by Holmes, with the express intent of making him look innocent in the face of damning evidence to the contrary. To say that Holmes is an unreliable narrator is an understatement, but where Larson comes up short on the facts, he compensates with dramatic, sometimes wrenching descriptions of the grisly murders in the "castle" that doubled as a death chamber for Emily Cigrand, Minnie Williams and countless others who visited Holmes's hotel—and never came back. For a book filled with death, there are some lighter moments. Theodore Dreiser's bumbling wooing of his future wife, Sara White comes to mind, as do Buffalo Bill Cody's endorsement of feminist and humanitarian Jane Addams at his Wild West Show near the Exposition's grounds, a scandalous event in the conservative Midwest. In fact, the cast of notable and celebrities in Larson's book is so large as to rival any of E.L. Doctorow's works. Even Woodrow Wilson stops by to tour entrepreneur and future congressman Sol Bloom's works. Even Woodrow Wilson stops by to tour entrepreneur and future congressman Sol Bloom's works, replete with its snake charmers and sensuous belly dancers. Overall, "Devil in the White City" is a delightful, if bone chilling read.
High Point has more to offer than meets the visiting eye

By Lauren Croughan
Staff Writer

So you think there is nothing to do in High Point besides going out at night? Think again. As an experiment, I decided to spend a day in the city to see what else I could find.

Who else knew we had the only doll museum in North Carolina, and why didn’t someone tell me about it? This charming little tourist stop was worth the very small admission fee. There were dolls that were 300-400 years old, and then there were modern dolls, including the very recent American Girl Collection. The collection also has historical figures, including Princess Diana and Charles, Teddy Roosevelt and an entire case dedicated to Shirley Temple. When I went, the staff was about to open a Japanese exhibit and close the African American exhibit, which included Oprah, Booker T. Washington and Thurgood Marshall. Also, look at miniatures of famous bedrooms for a treat. The museum is on the corner of Main and West Green Street.

Mayberry’s has other locations in North Carolina, and why didn’t someone tell me about it? This charming little tourist stop was worth the very small admission fee. There were dolls that were 300-400 years old, and then there were modern dolls, including the very recent American Girl Collection. The collection also has historical figures, including Princess Diana and Charles, Teddy Roosevelt and an entire case dedicated to Shirley Temple. When I went, the staff was about to open a Japanese exhibit and close the African American exhibit, which included Oprah, Booker T. Washington and Thurgood Marshall. Also, look at miniatures of famous bedrooms for a treat. The museum is on the corner of Main and West Green Street.

My first stop for dinner was Harrison’s at the corner of Main and Dayton. The outer building is purple, and the menu is fantastic. The eatery features sandwiches and kabobs, but everything about this place was heavenly. The kabobs were delicious, and the atmosphere was surprisingly chic. There’s a bar with wine and beer selections [for those 21 and up] and awesome service. Look for the yellow sign, and you can see what this High Point-only restaurant has to offer.

No matter where you go in America, Mom and Pop stores still thrive, and High Point has its share. Three shops in particular are on Main Street. The first is the Gilded Lily, which has a huge collection of Vera Bradley handbags. There are also lamps, decorations, art and other knickknacks of interest. This stop is perfect if you are looking for something unique for your dorm room. The second is the Grassy Knoll, a garden and artificial flower shop, which has a different vibe. There are live doves by the entrance, and the shop features items for a garden, the perfect place to get a gift for mom. Next door is a simple, well-stocked consignment shop. It had every picture, tea set and china you could ever think of. There are also games and children’s books. The best thing about it, besides the nice people who own it, is the vintage magazines in the corner. Most of them are from the 1960s, and there still are some left (I bought three of them).

You have to explore the city around you to get the best of it. I grew up in the area, and I never knew some of these places existed until I stumbled upon them. Support the local area shops and tell a friend or parent. This place is not just meaningful for those who live here, as “visitors” can enjoy it too.
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Study abroad opportunities range from the Mississippi River all the way to China

By Megan Keany
Staff Writer

Dr. Janet McPherson, Director of Study Abroad, believes that “Study Abroad allows students to see parts of the world and learn about themselves, and it prepares them to live in a global society.” What student wouldn’t want to reap these benefits while making friends and memories that will last a lifetime?

From France to China, High Point University offers programs and classes around the world that count towards general education classes, electives or major requirements.

There are opportunities to study abroad during May. These programs give students the chance to learn about the society, culture, and traditions of a destination of their choice. Trips to London, Wales, Ireland, China, Florence, Germany and the Mississippi River provide a better understanding of the world we live in.

For students who would like to spend a whole semester getting to know a country, there are trips to England, Italy, Scotland, Wales, Spain, France, Germany and Ecuador. HPU is affiliated with some of the most prestigious universities around the world:

- Laura Wolf, who graduated in ’07, studied abroad for a semester at Oxford Brooks University in England and said, “It was an incredibly fun and rewarding experience. It was so amazing to be able to travel all over Europe while experiencing other cultures, it was one of the best decisions I ever made! Studying abroad challenged me to get out of my comfort zone and open doors I didn’t even know existed.”

- Study abroad is especially beneficial for students studying foreign language. There is no better way to become fluent than to immerse oneself in the culture and daily life of the people who speak the language natively. Students are typically housed with families who can help students adapt to their new environment and become more comfortable speaking the language.

- If you are nervous about being far from home and living in a foreign place, McPherson suggests that you talk to people who have traveled abroad and remember that “it always works out and that students adapt better than they realize.”

- HPU also offers a Study America series, providing opportunities for students to attend classes and complete coursework at a U.S. location outside our area. Last June, students went to Alaska with Dr. Kelly Norton and traveled to 5 cities while earning credits in hiking, kayaking and first aid. More trips are being created for future study experiences in the country. The newest opportunity, which is offered for the first time this May, is called “Exploring the Mississippi River.” McPherson highly recommends this trip. Students will study Mark Twain’s river literature and the history of the Mississippi River Valley. An adventurer himself, Twain advised that “twenty years from now, you’ll be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. Explore. Dream. Discover.”

- A benefit of studying abroad through High Point University is that fellow students and professors, some of whom you might already know, will be by your side. Hannah Staples, a junior, has taken advantage of summer study abroad programs and ventured to China and Mexico. She recommends both because, “There is no experience that compares to living out every budding rock star’s dream of making it from the basement to the stage. This event, paired with CAT’s Pantherpalooza, will make for quite an exciting April, perfect for celebrating the successful completion of another semester.

- If you are interested in a study abroad program for the summer or a semester, check out the HPU website for more information. McPherson’s office is located in Slane 317 and you can contact her at jmcphers@highpoint.edu.
Commencement speaker debate continues

Dean advocates open mind toward Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas

By Leslie Stephenson
Staff Writer

Here comes the judge! And what an opportunity this judge has given HPU faculty members to express themselves.

About the selection of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas as this year's commencement speaker, Dr. Alberta Hayes-Herron, dean of the微信公众账号, advocates maintaining an open mind.

"At High Point University, we not only embrace the diversity of flesh, but also the diversity of ideas," she says. "We use critical thinking skills to sift through information that is relevant for us as individuals. That does not mean you have to agree or accept it; people have a right to their own opinions. However, at least listen."

All Supreme Court justices have supporters and detractors of their rulings. Dr. Anthony Gabrielli, assistant professor of political science, referred to a couple of years ago when the Supreme Court said that Congress did not have the power to tax individuals. That does not mean you have to agree or accept it; people have a right to their own opinions. However, at least listen.

According to the Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States, federal preemption and the commerce clause.

"Searching and seizure came to the forefront of American life in the latter part of the twentieth century, with the metadrome rise in illicit drug use and drug empires. A case brought to the Supreme Court from Arkansas involved law enforcement officers entering a known drug dealer's residence without announcing their presence. The Arkansas Supreme Court said that the officers did not violate the Fourth Amendment. Justice Thomas said that the framers of the Fourth Amendment did not mandate the police must always announce themselves before entering, because vital evidence could be destroyed, the suspect could escape or the police officers could be put in physical danger. "Justice Thomas believes in a strict law and order model," Gabrielli says. "He readily sacrifices civil liberties in exchange for guilt of individuals. I disagree with this approach. Protection of civil liberties is more important than the guilt of specific individuals."

Traditionally, a university commencement speaker is expected to give a speech that is inspiring and insightful. For this year's speaker, HPU faculty members join students in their curiosity about what sort of impression Thomas will make. In fact, members of the HPU community will be reaching a verdict on a specific individual.

Thomas was nominated to the Supreme Court by President George H.W. Bush in 1991 to replace Thurgood Marshall, the first black justice. Critics maintained that Thomas was under-qualified and at the age of 42 too young to become a justice. Organizations including the NAACP and the Urban League opposed the appointment of Thomas due his criticism of affirmative action. The National Organization for Women also opposed Thomas because it was unclear whether he was a supporter of the Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade. During hearings to confirm his nomination to the Supreme Court, things only got worse for Thomas. Days before the final Senate vote, it was discovered that he had been accused of sexually harassing a woman he worked with years before. Anita Hill, a law professor at the University of Oklahoma, informed the courts of many occasions upon which Thomas allegedly talked with her about his own sexual experiences and certain aspects of the pornographic film. Thomas denied the allegations and called the hearings "a high-tech lynching for uppity Blacks," calling himself a victim of racism even though Hill and many of his opponents were black.

Hill's testimony is said by some to have largely influenced public awareness of the issue of sexual harassment in the U.S. It is also linked to what is known as the year of the woman (1991), when a significant number of women were elected to the federal legislative branch which led to an increase in the involvement of women in politics. Because there was no physical evidence to support Hill's charges, soon it became his word against hers, leaving the Senate to vote 52-48 in favor of Thomas' appointment to Supreme Court Justice.

Although some students and faculty at HPU have recently been voicing their disapproval of Thomas' upcoming appearance, there are some like senior Peace Calloway who don't understand what all the fuss is about. Calloway said, "I don't care about the case. Everyone has a past." Since Nido Qubein became president of High Point University, the faculty has had a say in choosing the guest speaker for commencement. A list of possible guests is e-mailed to the faculty and staff. Dr. Qubein then reaches out to the people the school has a chance of attracting and from there, the invitation to be HPU's commencement speaker is sent out. However, it would be misleading to assume that the faculty chose Thomas, whose name was merely on a list.

Mr. Chris Dudley, vice president of community relations, maintains that Thomas was invited to speak because he has a success story to tell.

"Justice Thomas was selected because he has a great story of overcoming obstacles to achieve great successes," Dudley says. "We try to select a speaker who can be motivational and share a message of leadership and the art of the possible with our graduates."

Qubein agrees with Dudley, saying, "A school like HPU is fortunate to find high-visibility speakers with national prominence, who are willing to visit us. Justice Thomas was selected because of his incredible rise from poverty. He will speak on leadership and not on any controversial topics.

However, some students and professors have criticized the selection of Thomas.

Junior John Mullen feels that Thomas simply isn't the right man to appear at graduation, saying, "If you pick a court justice to come speak, pick someone current, someone (closer to) our generation like John Roberts."

In a letter to the editor in the Novembar issue of The Campus Chronicle, sociology professor Dr. Terrell Hayes called the decision to invite Thomas "indulgent folly." Hayes has made sure to set aside time in his Social Deviance course to discuss the Clarence Thomas/Anita Hill case. Students are required to conduct confirmation hearings and produce a paper that relates social deviance to the Thomas case.

In an interview, Hayes said, "When a school chooses a guest speaker, they want it to bring national attention. I think Thomas is a polarizing figure and will only bring negative attention."

Make up your own mind about whether you agree with the administrators or the students featured in the November Chronicle who said they were "shocked" or that HPU is "taking a step back" by inviting Clarence Thomas here.
Voter Apathy, continued from pg. 1

According to Dunston, some students feel apathy is a problem but don’t fully blame the students. Sage Dunston, a 21-year-old junior from the Bahamas, said, “As a Cherokee Indian Reservation, I am the president of the HPU College Democrats. In his second term, Dunston leads a group of about 20 members.

Dunston believes there is a generational divide in the way politicians communicate with college students. You have a lot of candidates running very dated and archaic campaigns mean to woo young voters, but it doesn’t work,” he said. Dunston believes that social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace remain mostly untapped resources. “The Internet could be a valuable tool for a candidate to get the youth vote. There are some candidates who are taking advantage like Ron Paul and Barack Obama, but it could be developed further,” Dunston said.

In truth, all of the current presidential candidates have websites, but some candidates use these social networking sites more than others. Steve Davis, the author of “Click on Democracy,” has examined the Internet’s power to change political apathy into civic activity. Davis believes “the Internet provides citizens who are separated from each other by time and space a way to reconnect and become more concerned about each other and their society.” He thinks it can have a positive effect on the political engagement of citizens.

Mero also believes the Internet is an exciting new arena for politics. He said, “Today you can go to YouTube and watch citizens express their views through videos. It is a very exciting prospect to see this. The Internet is not just for fundraising anymore.”

Dunston added, “College kids want to know how the issues will directly affect them. The political sites could be used to cater to youth-specific issues. That might create more interest.”

Nick Ruden, a 20-year-old High Point native and a member of the HPU College Republicans, he feels the HPU campus is slightly apathetic and chills that up to a sense of powerlessness. He said, “Most students feel as though they can’t make a difference in the affairs of our country.” Mero understands Ruden’s grip and says he constantly encourages his students to realize their votes matter. He feels students have trouble grasping their important role in democracy. He said, “I try to show my classes that political decisions are a group effort. You need a president, a Congress and public opinion. All of these things come together and each matters immensely.”

According to Mero, there are several small groups that exist within the youth sector that all contribute to a supposed apathy. He said, “There will always be that small group of students who just don’t care, but there is also a small group who just doesn’t think their vote will ever matter and still another group who will be content with either candidate.”

From a foreign perspective, Daniel Walsh, a graduate student from Dorset, England, notices little political activism on campus. He said, “During my four years here, not once have I overheard students discussing politics. There is no evidence around our campus that the presidential race is well under way either.” Although Walsh is hopeful the College Democrats and Republicans are working to strengthen their numbers, he has seen minimal results.

When he arrived in the United States, he was shocked to learn he knew more about our political process than some of his peers. He added, “One student didn’t even know what the Fifth Amendment was! This was a real eye-opener for me.”

By the way, the Fifth Amendment guarantees due process of law and protects property rights, among other things.

Mero is not as disheartened about the situation. The Ladd Report, which details activity among voluntary civic organizations, showed that although citizens 18-29 may be less politically involved, they are more civically engaged than ever before.

Mero said, “Look at how many students choose to take alternate spring breaks or the high percentage of students in volunteer organizations. Students are helping more than ever before. They like these groups because they are void of politics and partisanship.”

In fact, Alpha Phi Omega, a national co-ed service fraternity at HPU, has over 50 members. They are active in a variety of service projects for organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross and UNICEF. Every semester, trips are made to different parts of the country to provide aid in various capacities. Dan Costello, a member since 2005, said, “The past two semesters we have seen 40 to 50 people come out over the rush process. Students seem eager to help out.”

According to Mero, things seem to be on the right direction. He believes in the idea of social capital theory, which says that social networks create connections among individuals and, in turn, enhance the productivity of individuals. Simply put, increased civil engagement is a precursor to increased political engagement. Maybe college kids will be OK after all.
**Blue Dog Democrat learns new tricks with blog**

By John Wima
Opinion Editor

Ask anyone who has ever blogged about politics, and they will tell you it is a demanding, if rewarding, occupation. Ask Gary Pearce that same question, and he would likely agree. Yet Gary Pearce is no average guy when it comes to the blogosphere.

Pearce, along with political colleagues Carter Wrenn, is the editor of talkingaboutpolitics.com, a political blogging site that receives thousands of unique hits from Carolinians across the state. The Greensboro News and Record, oftalkingaboutpolitics.com, a political blogospher.

**Freshman business major serves as campus barber**

By Larry Daniels
Staff Writer

It's another Friday night and time to go out and party. Your wardrobe is coordinated, and you smell like new money. But there is one problem—you look like Teen Wolf. For all the freshman guys that swing through the barber shop, look no further. In Finch-403, Nelson Shaw can "get you right."

The inspiration of his late, grandfather, who was a barber, Nelson Shaw, a freshman business major from New York, has been cutting hair since 2005. He heard stories about how his grandfather excelled at cutting hair and was a respected community leader. His grandfather's legacy compelled him to receive his license from Eastern Suffolk, Doce, a barber school in New York.

Those who learn the barber's art are more than just cutting hair. Growing up, Shaw learned that barbering meant showcasing your intellect about women, life and sports. Shaw says, "It's a lot of things you learn in the barber shop that you will not gather from the classroom. After I got my hair cut at a barber shop (younger), I left with knowledge that I would carry out throughout my lifetime, such as how to handle my relationships with people.

The barber was known to give words of wisdom to all his customers.

Cutting hair didn't come easy for Nelson Shaw. He recalled when he first started cutting his own hair and messed up a spot. Another memory when he experimented with his little brother and let him with spots as well. But with time and practice, Shaw was able to sharpen his skills. His first and most fruitful customer is in his cousin and roommate, Larnar Nelson. Nelson also has over 15 male and female customers on campus.

Senior Ricardo Williams, a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Inc. and a tool for students.

Shaw was also known to give words of wisdom to all his customers. His first and most fruitful customer is in his cousin and roommate, Larnar Nelson. Nelson also has over 15 male and female customers on campus.

Senior Ricardo Williams, a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Inc. and a tool for students.

Shaw was also provided Shaw with the opportunity to become a personal financial advisor for your specific needs.

Another major concern of students is what they would be doing. Some of those jobs included working for businesses like American Express, Cessna Aircraft Corporation, La-Z-Boy and the Phoenix Suns.

Senior Leightn Lawson has been able to raise money and organizational support in states like Iowa, Maine and South Carolina—states that Hillary Clinton has lost.

"Why else do you think that Obama was able to raise over 12 million dollars in January?" Pearce asks as if to make his point.

As the campaign manager for Governor Jim Hunt's 1994 Senate campaign, Pearce was on the receiving end of attacks made by Senator Jesse Helms and Wrenn, Pearce's counterpart. Most of them amounted to accusations that Jim Hunt was a carpetbagger and a homosexual, a common refrain among red-meat conservatives during the decade. The only difference between then and now, he says, is that the attackers are now more vitriolic, and anonymous.

While Wrenn and Pearce have made their peace since then, they hope to use their experiences to facilitate civil discussion online, a role Pearce likens to that of a sportscaster calling a football game.

"I like to think of us as the John Madden's of politics. We can use the blog to provide the public information about blogs and maybe that way influence the tenor of the conversation."

As the Greensboro News and Record, oftalkingaboutpolitics.com, a political blogosphere.
Sigma Tau Delta Inductions

High Point University’s chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, an international English Honor Society, inducted new members on March 13. Left: Austin Carty receives his induction certificate while Dr. Ed Piacentino, professor of English and Carty’s academic advisor, gives a small speech about Carty. Above: Sigma Tau Delta member Cole Atkins, a senior, presents Jason Storrey, also a senior, with his induction pin and certificate. The following members were inducted into Sigma Tau Delta during the spring ceremony: Courtney Adamo, Austin Carty, Lauren Croughan, Tiffany Cuyler-Greenhill, Amber Parrish, Claire Pierce, Brittany Roberts, Jason Storrey, Katie Tana, Christopher Thurley and John Winn. Photos by Pam Haynes.

Spring 2008 Election Dates:

Executive Council:
Petition Week: March 24-28
Campaign Week: March 31-April 4
Election Week: April 7-11

Class Officers:
Petition Week: March 31-April 4
Campaign Week: April 7-11
Election Week: April 14-18

A Φ Ω News

The members of Alpha Phi Omega fraternity would like to congratulate their newly inducted members. New members are as follows:

Meighan Avalos
Steven Beck
Jimmy Brewer
Rachel (RED) Davis
April Engstrom
David Fatheree

Sondra Finkbiner
Chelsey Handrigan
Jamie Hendrix
Jillie Johnston
Matt Long
Alex Mrofchak

Renee Parks
Brendan Porter
Ryan Rodgers
Stephanie Shagoury
Court Sheldon
Amanda Strom

Left to right: Ben Kern, Cally Lanning, Elyse Barrier, Caitlin Bonner and Jamie Rose, all members of Alpha Phi Omega, traveled to Laredo, Texas during spring break to volunteer their time to build houses for the community. Photo submitted by Jamie Rose.
Raising the Bar: Cheerleading is harder, more important than you think

By Bryan A. Rothamel
Staff Writer

I now call cheerleading a “sport” not because of rivals but because I actually attempted participating. I have played a few sports. I was a varsity letter winner three years in high school in baseball and golf. I played soccer, basketball, lacrosse and volleyball growing up. I was pretty versatile, maybe not the best, but able to play the various sports.

After school one day I saw the cheerleaders practicing. Of course, I thought at the time that it was absurd to practice cheerleading. I asked the squad if they could show me a cheer so I could try my hand. I didn’t want to try out for the team, just wanted to prove that cheerleading was easy.

They showed me a simple cheer. I don’t remember the words, but it was the basic clap, clap, stomp, stomp, say a few words and do some hand motions. It was the most difficult thing I have ever attempted! I couldn’t clap and say the words at the same time. The foot motions had me in a pretzel. I was all out of sorts. I was embarrassed because I couldn’t do it at all.

The sad part isn’t my embarrassment but that most people will never appreciate the cheerleaders’ skill. A lack of coordination is a problem many students face. They would become pretzels just as I did.

Sometimes crowds are oblivious to or disrespectful of cheerleaders. In fact, some students try to overshadow them by shouting their own cheer louder than the cheerleaders. Never do we say, “Wow, did you see that awesome cheer they just did.” The rhyming was uncanny! Never will the game recap talk about the media timeout cheer. The cheerleaders know this. We should generate more enthusiasm for them.

What we can do is appreciate what we see a little more. We might not have a powerhouse cheerleading school like University of Central Florida or University of Alabama, but we can support our squad better by paying more attention to its performance.

I’m not saying you have to go make cheerleading the “high point” of your night. I’m saying you could at least give the squad a glance, join in on one of their cheers or just applaud seeing them throw their flyers in the air.

If you don’t know what a flyer is in cheerleading, I recommend you do some research on the sport. I’m not trying to ask for much here. I’m just trying to raise the bar.

Men’s basketball team loses in BSC, looks forward to hopeful 2009 campaign

By Bryan A. Rothamel
Staff Writer

The men’s basketball team ended its unpredictable season in the semifinals of the Big South Conference tournament. In a series of close losses, the Panthers fell to Liberty in the second round, 61-53, finishing the year at 17-11 overall and 8-6 in Big South play.

The game ended the careers of Arizona Reid, Mike Jefferson, Kyle Wilie and the injured Jared Minnis. Reid scored 21 points and pulled down nine rebounds. After scoring the game’s first five points, the Panthers relinquished the lead never to hold it again.

Despite the third place regular season finish, the team had highlighted throughout the season: To open Big South play, HPU beat Winthrop. The victory was only the second all time for High Point against WU.

“I think the win against Winthrop and the surge of the court by the students (was the biggest highlight of the year),” head coach Bart Lundy said.

Freshman walk-on David Campbell surprised many Panther faithful this year. Campbell finished the year fourth on the team in minutes played and games started. He was only one of four Panthers to play in all 31 contests. He averaged 4.5 points and 3.4 rebounds per game. “Dave sensed opportunities and was able to insert himself into the starting lineup,” Lundy stated.

Reid finished his brilliant career with gusto, averaging 23.9 points per game, 11 rebounds per game and 35.3 minutes per game. He led the team in all three categories. Nationally he was sixth in points per game and seventh in rebounds per game. He also became the first player in Big South conference history to have 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds.

Reid was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches District 5 regional second team. The first and second teams were made up of all ACC players except for Reid and Davidson College’s phenom sophomore Stephen Curry. Reid also was voted Big South MVP for the second straight year.

Jefferson had his most productive year at High Point. He led the team in points and assists. He was fifth in the nation in assists per game. He achieved 1,000 points in his career this year. Jefferson also ranks first in three-pointers made and assists in High Point history.

“Mike’s leadership and his ability to use his basketball skills to run our team were vital,” Lundy said of his graduating point guard.

Next year looks promising for the Panthers. They have recruited two highly rated point guards, according to ESPN.com. Also eligible for playing time will be red-shirted sophomore forward Jourdian Morris. He posted 13 points against Syracuse University when he played for St. Bonaventure his freshman year.

Some changes will occur in coaching staff for High Point. Josh Schertz has been named head coach at Lincoln Memorial University. Schertz has been with Lynchburg College. Schertz was associate head coach until being named LMU’s head coach March 20. He recruited some of High Point’s finest players.

High Point’s big games next year include away games at South Florida, NC State and the opener at Duquesne. Youngstown State and Towson are on the tentative schedule for home contests.

“I think basketball at HPU will continue to get more exciting. The games we will hopefully be the highlight of the students’ week. We need to pack that gym every game,” Lundy said.

Tennis teams dominate Presby; men hold 6-3 record on season

By Kelly-Jayne Tolman
Staff Writer

The men’s and women’s tennis teams are midway through their season and are fast approaching some big conferences matches in coming weeks. These include away games at Winthrop, Radford, Coastal Carolina and Liberty.

Both teams have three now players this spring with two of these players entering the lineup at the number one position and having impressive starts to their High Point career.

For the men’s team Charles Bottoni, a freshman from Acqueguire, France, has gained a commanding record of 8-1, losing only to an opponent from Campbell University.

For the women’s team Audrey LePottier, also a freshman from France, has also been dominating with a 7-3 record so far this season and a 1-0 record in conference play.

The men’s team currently has a strong 6-3 record and is hoping to build and improve on the approach the team had through matches of the season. The team battled hard against Charleston Southern to snatch their first conference victory, winning four of the six available singles points after a slow start in doubles.

The women’s team were competing the same day at the HPU tennis complex and unfortunately were unable to wrap up a win against the Buccaneers, losing 6-1. However, the women’s team bounced back defeating Presbyterian College 6-1 with an impressive doubles performance from all three pairings.

Henri Mangin, a sophomore from Lunerville, France, has also been a solid player for the men’s tennis team this season, losing only one match forcontenting at the number three position.

Caroline Mount has also had a strong start to her junior year on the women’s team, attaining a 7-3 winning record competiting at the number four position in the HPU lineup.

The tennis team urges you to come down to support your Panthers for home matches at the High Point University Tennis Complex.
Week including MVPs from the Champion games. It is a new ACIS competition for the best players of the latest news, statistics and photos, and to leave your comments. How was he supposed to broadcast his idea at a school with (at the moment) no campus radio? Rothamel's brother has been involved with making a real estate blog and told him about Blogtalkradio.com. Essentially, it is a blog with audio.

Nuckles was approached by Rothamel sometime last year about doing the show. Nuckles says, "It was his idea, I have to give him the credit. He asked for my help, and we went from there." Nuckles has been the lead editor for the Chronicle's sports section since 2006. Like Rothamel, he has experience in broadcasting, having been involved in the SportSouth television broadcast of the men's basketball game against Coastal Carolina. Also, Nuckles has been working for the athletic department doing online broadcasts of men's and women's soccer, volleyball and baseball.

After Rothamel recruited Nuckles, the name for the show was a no-brainer. "The Back Page" is the page of the Chronicle the two are most involved with; the sports page. The two share their passion for sports here at HPU through the show.

With both of them having some experience in broadcasting, they believe the show is working smoothly so far, even with only two shows under their belts. "Hardly anyone knows about it. But what we have is very capable of being something worthwhile." The show runs every Thursday on Blogtalkradio.com/thebackpage. When the radio station is resurrected in the new Dr. Nido Qubein School of Communication building, the crew hopes to move it there. "Our long term goals are to be on the radio station when it starts again soon, possibly even broadcasting multiple times a week," says Nuckles.

Both Bryan and Mike agree that the only thing holding back the show from being great is you. Student involvement is key to this radio show. "It is a call-in show, so we depend on those interested in HPU athletics," says Rothamel. Nuckles added, "We need these different opinions to gauge people's interest and to cause them to think critically about HPU athletics."

With High Point's athletic department growing in awareness and popularity like the rest of the school, both of them agree that this show could be a useful tool in raising interest in HPU athletics. Nuckles says, "Any type of talk about a sports program through a type of media will build tool, with emphasis on "I don't want to be arrogant about the show. This show could be a part of building awareness for our sports program, but how big of a part is the real question. Only time will tell," Nuckles concludes.

Up to speed with IM sports

This week in IM sports was a big one with the newest events underway and the ACIS basketball wrapping up. Watch out for the Rec Center to begin an IM marketing team. Check out the CampusChronicle.org sports sub section, IM sports, to view some of the latest news, statistics and photos, and to leave your comments. Below is a schedule of upcoming and current events including an ACIS "Toughest Player of the Week" list of winners. It is a new ACIS competition for the best players of the week including MVPs from the Champion games. For women's ACIS Basketball, BAMF completed a perfect 8-0 season with a win over Team HPV. For Men's, the D1 Prospects completed a 10-0 run throughout the season.

Women's Regular Season - Allie Cleaves (BAMF)
Women's Championship Game MVP - Megan Garafola (BAMF)
Men's Regular Season - Brian Thomas (Pi Kappa Phi)
Men's Championship Game MVP - Henry Garrard (D1 Prospects)

ACIS Basketball

Tournament ended March 24. Watch CampusChronicle.org and Highpoint.edu/HPURec for photos and final stats of the games. This year's winning teams were the D1 prospects for men who won 62-50 over Team No Sense and BAMF for the women defeated Team HPV, 50-37.

Intramural Racquetball

Games start April first and run until April 17. Good luck to the 15 men who have signed up so far.

Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate frisbee starts March 27 and ends April 17. Ten teams are currently registered.

Women's Regular Season - Allie Cleaves (BAMF)
Women's Championship Game MVP - Megan Garafola (BAMF)
Men's Regular Season - Brian Thomas (Pi Kappa Phi)
Men's Championship Game MVP - Henry Garrard (D1 Prospects)

Toughest Player of the Week
High Point University Presents...

OAR

Saturday April 12th 2008!

7:00pm @ Vert Stadium
Opening Act: Sparky's Flaw
Rain Location: Slane Student Center

Tickets will be available at the Campus Concierge Desk 841-INFO!
then there were 16

Campus Chronicle.org

1. North Carolina
4. Washington State
3. Louisville
2. Tennessee
1. Kansas
12. Villanova
3. Wisconsin
10. Davidson

1. Memphis
5. Michigan State
3. Stanford
2. Texas
1. UCLA
12. Western Kentucky
3. Xavier
7. West Virginia

SPORST

Friday, March 28, 2008