

Six Mile Post

The Student Voice

Inside This Issue:

-New Roof.....p.2
-Student Poll.....p.4
-What to Expect.....p.5

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Floyd College - Rome, Georgia

September 25, 2001

— News Briefs —

■ Enrollment soars

The halls of Floyd College may seem a bit crowded this fall.

Enrollment at Floyd College has increased 14.8 percent since last year, according to Lynn Bacon, chair of enrollment management and admissions director.

Bacon said, "There were 2,088 students enrolled last fall and as of Tuesday, Sept. 4, there were 2,398 enrolled."

This includes all campuses. There are about 600 students enrolled in Acworth, 500 in Cartersville, 150 in Waco and around 80 enrolled in the Accelerated Transfer Program at the State University of West Georgia.

As for the reason of the enrollment being increased, there is no single thing or person responsible. Renee Tumblin, recruitment coordinator, said, "The change in the laptop policy helped, as did the tuition freeze."

Dr. Penny Wills, vice president of student development, said, "This is a culmination of all the things we have worked for here (at Floyd College)."

■ Clusters are ready

Clusters of new Gateway desktop computers are available for student use at all Floyd College campuses.

Fifteen units are available in the library at the main campus in Rome, three are located in Cartersville and at North Metro, two are at Heritage Hall, and the Waco campus and the Access Center Office will have one apiece.

Rob Laltrello of the Computer Services Office said the computers are "similar to the systems we already have, but are faster and newer."

The new clusters will feature Windows 2000 and the latest Microsoft Office, Office XP. Each computer is a one-gigahertz machine with 256 megs of RAM. The computer in the Access Center Office will also host a function to assist the visually impaired.

A cluster project is being considered for the student center and the solarium on the central campus, depending on the reception of the current project.

Dr. Pierce begins to settle in

By Jeremy Stewart
Staff Writer

Dr. Randy Pierce, president of Floyd College, is not ready to make any drastic changes to his new surroundings just yet.

"I think the worst thing you can do is rush in too quickly," Pierce said.

Pierce, who took his current position on June 15, believes that three and a half months is not enough time to be making big decisions about a community as important as Floyd College.

Above all, the president promises that any change to come along should and will be in the best interest of all parties. This includes the students, the faculty and the community.

In describing his transition, Pierce said that there were really no interruptions in the way things were run. "Everybody was ready to get this done, settle down and get on with what the college is about."

Pierce was born and raised in the city of Hapeville, Ga., which is very close to Hartsfield Airport. He has spent most of his educational career in and around Atlanta. In



Photo by Crystal Hightower

Students Justin Amos, left, and Beth Brown get acquainted with Dr. Pierce in the student center.

fact, this is the first job Pierce has had outside of Metro Atlanta.

Sitting down with the Administrative Council, he told them that he had a vision. Pierce asked them to think about the college. Who are we? What are we? From there, the administration can establish a framework that will make Floyd the best two-year college that it can be in order to better serve the students and the community.

Pierce was surprised by the

increase of students in the college this year. The college was hoping for an additional 10 percent but managed to garner a 15 percent increase.

Overjoyed by this boost in enrollment, Pierce said that he hopes to continue this trend, but also to retain current students by studying how to better advise those who are having trouble.

The president also hopes to stay with the Instructional Technology Program by overseeing the

completion of the second phase, ITP-2; the beginnings of the third phase, ITP-3; and taking another look at fee adjustment.

Also on Pierce's agenda is a survey of the schedule conflicts that have occurred and a look at boosting interest in evening classes.

Overall, the new president said that the timing of his arrival has been great with positive things already happening.

"I've had a blast!" Pierce said.

Freedom still stands in U.S.

As a human, I was saddened and sickened by the events of Sept. 11. Yet, as an American, I know we will pull together as a nation, support one another as family, and triumph. The staff of the *Six Mile Post* would like to express our deepest sympathy for the families and friends of anyone touched by the tragedy. Our hearts and prayers are with you.

Due to the production schedule and timing, the *Six Mile Post* can provide only limited coverage of these events. We welcome letters to the editor on this or any other topic for possible publication in the print or online issues of the *Six Mile Post*. Letters can be sent electronically to 6MPost@mail.fc.peachnet.edu or dropped off at the SMP Office inside the Student Life Office. Letters should be signed and should include student's major and hometown. Faculty and staff should include job titles. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editors.

Jesse Bishop
Editor



Roof construction inconveniences students and faculty

By Nikki Wells
Staff Writer

Floyd College is funding a new roof for the W-Building.

The project began at the first of August and should be finished by the end of December, weather permitting.

Lambert Roofing of Centre, Ala., is the contractor of choice and is working closely with Doug Webb, director of the Floyd College physical plant.

Since the W-Building's initial construction, there have been problems with water leakage along the walls. The building is built on concrete T's, and where the T's meet, the problem exists.

Though there have been problems during roof construction, Webb insists that the return for actually putting on a new roof instead of repairing the old one is 50 years compared to 20.

The problems existing during construction are minor and are to be expected, though some may feel differently.

Billy Morris, associate professor of geology, knows firsthand of

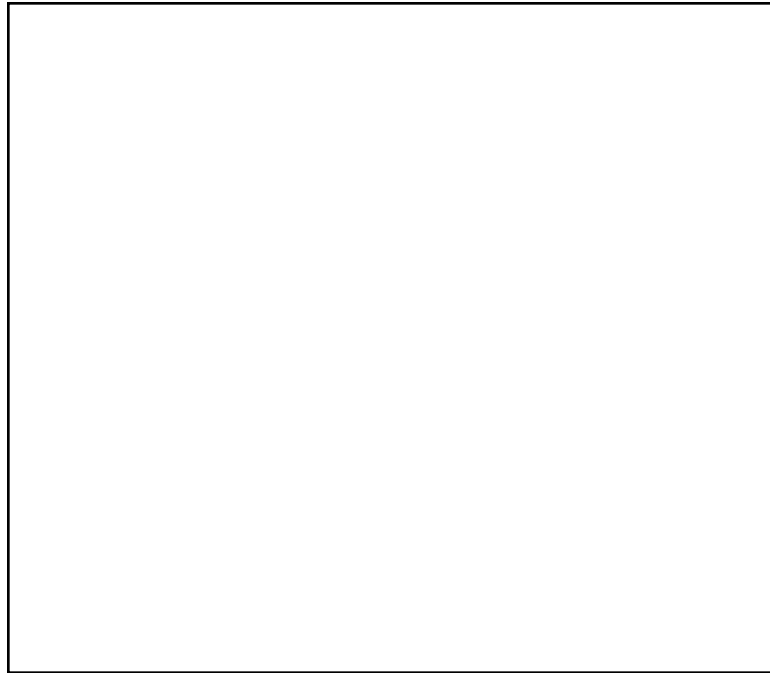


Photo by Crystal Hightower

Workers continue to build the new roof of the W-Building.

the problems that exist. Just days before the beginning of the fall semester, Morris received a phone call telling him his desk and book-

shelf were covered in tar that had leaked during construction.

Gina Montgomery, a secretary in the W-Building's Science and

Math Offices, said that the tar oozed down the walls and puddled on the floor and on Morris' desk. Some tar, on its way down, became frozen from its 550 degree heat and formed tar icicles.

Upon arriving at his office, Morris discovered his desk was already in the dumpster, and the cleanup of his office was underway.

Mark Pergrem, instructor of physics and astronomy, who shares the office with Morris, was lucky; his things were left unscathed.

Other incidents of tar leakage have occurred in the kitchen and biology lab of the W-Building, but other than a coffee pot, nothing was severely damaged.

Students attending classes in the W-Building have also been affected by the construction.

Dental hygiene major Ashley Gresham, said, "The noise makes it very hard to concentrate and hear the teachers."

Meredith King, a pharmacy major, added, "All of the extra noise is annoying, especially when you are in a class for a long period of time."

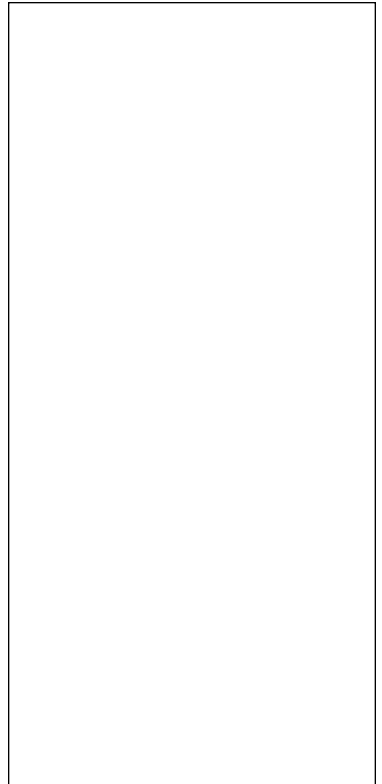


Photo by Crystal Hightower

Workman pours hot tar as part of the roofing process.

Freshmen go to the 'Extreme' in new type of orientation

By Kim Cornett
Assistant Editor

"Mama, Mama, come and see what the red team's done to me!" The halls of Floyd echoed the chant during Floyd College's new Extreme Orientation Program.

Unlike what happens during a normal orientation, new students at the Extreme Orientation had the opportunity to really get to know their peers. The program took place Aug. 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dr. Randy Pierce, the new president of Floyd College, started out the program by welcoming the 19 participants to college.

The students were divided into three groups throughout the day, each group having a returning student as the group leader. The group leaders willingly answered any questions about Floyd College, from buying textbooks to the HOPE Scholarship and how to keep it.

Students also had the opportunity to take sample classes in order to familiarize themselves with college life. The new freshmen chose between two classes in the morning and two classes in the afternoon.

The classes offered in the morning were a communications class taught by Judy Sims, professor of speech, and an introduction to criminal justice class taught by Greg Sumner, assistant professor of criminal justice.

After the morning session, everyone moved to the pavilion by the lake for lunch, and at that time the new students were also given the chance to sign up for numerous clubs.

When lunch was over, the groups moved on to the afternoon classes. One class was about how to survive math, which was taught by Dr. Margaret Davis, professor of mathematics, and the other class was a geology lab, which was taught by Dr. Billy Morris, associ-

ate professor of geology.

After the classes were over, the games began. The groups, each now a relay team, competed in an obstacle course that lasted approximately 30 minutes. Some ob-

stacles required teamwork, which brought the teams closer together, and others required individual effort with encouragement from the team.

In the end, everyone gathered

for the closing ceremonies.

Dr. Penny Wills, vice president for student development, said, "I think it was one of the most rewarding programs that we have ever done with students at Floyd. Our goal was to begin to create a student community before the beginning of fall term. We wanted to give the students an edge over others so that they can be successful."

Others who helped with the Extreme Orientation, according to Dr. Wills, were Jeremy Stewart, SGA vice president; Sheryl Ballenger, disabilities support services director; Linda Dyer, secretary to the vice president of student development; and Gail Bentley, secretary to the director of student life.

Beverly Mooney, who attended the Extreme Orientation, said that her favorite part of the program was the relay, and the orientation as a whole was very educational and fun.

Guest photo

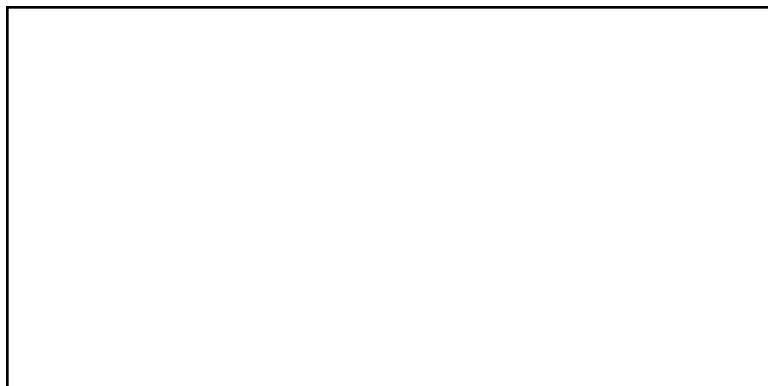
Student volunteer Al Miller and participant Candice Wright rush to complete a certain amount of jumps in the relay.

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Floyd students go where?!?

Have you noticed the increased enrollment? Well, you may have, minus about 70 students or so. Where would these students be? They are not at the Cartersville campus, nor the Waco campus; they aren't even at NMT or Heritage Hall. These students, "Floyd College students," are at the State University of West Georgia (UWG).

How does this happen you say? Well, for one, the students are part of the "Accelerated Transfer Pilot." These are students that didn't meet the admission criteria for UWG and were admitted to Floyd. These students paid their tuition at Floyd College, but aside from that, they are no more Floyd College students than, say, Harvard students.

These students take their classes at the State University of West Georgia. They pay their activity fees at UWG. The real

kicker, though, is that Floyd College professors instruct them. That is correct. Our professors must go to UWG to teach these students.

Why is it that these students pay their fees and take their classes at UWG, but are called "Floyd College Students"?

Somewhere along the administrative food chain, someone thought this a novel idea. Someone thought it would be good for relations or connections between the colleges to have a group of students that couldn't get into the State University of West Georgia call themselves Floyd College students.

Real Floyd College students might take offense at this. Granted, Floyd is no Ivy League school, but our students work hard to keep their grades up and get into a good

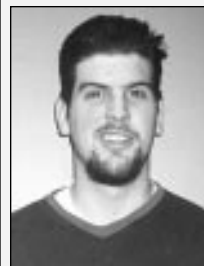
profession or a four-year school. We, as students, have respect for the fact that we are going to college, though it may be at a two-year school.

When the administrators came up with this idea, they failed to think that there might be a few students who were proud of the accomplishments at Floyd College. Then they dump the leftovers on us. Why? If those people couldn't get into UWG, why did Floyd just open the doors?

If the students had to actually attend a Floyd College campus, it would be a different matter. OUR professors are going to UWG to teach these students. Why do our professors have to drive there? Why don't the students drive to Floyd College?

If those students actually attended Floyd College, it would benefit all.

SGA President welcomes students to new semester



Jason Yates
SGA
President

On the behalf of the Student Government Association I wish to welcome you to Floyd College. I am Jason Yates, and I am the president of SGA for this school year.

As the student leader of this organization I hope to accomplish many different things eventually culminating with a huge citywide activity.

I first would like to thank all the returning students who voted for me in April during the election. Please remember that I was elected by students to serve the

students. I work for YOU. If you ever have an idea, suggestion, comment, compliment, or complaint, please don't hesitate to contact me at wyate00@mail.fc.peachnet.edu.

The main event that is going on right now is a fundraiser called "Stump Stewart in Star Wars Trivia". The money that is earned from this event will go towards a community service activity that is scheduled for November of this year.

The huge final event that we hope to do is the 1st Annual North Georgia Olympics. The purpose of this event is to help bring together the four colleges of Rome and to help build the college community in our own school. This event is tentatively planned for early April of 2002.

Once again, welcome to Floyd College. Have a great time, good luck this semester and God bless.

Your vote counts!

By Denise Collins
Business Manager

With last year's presidential election came the realization to many that every vote does count.

Even though there is no highly publicized national election this year, it's still important to register to vote.

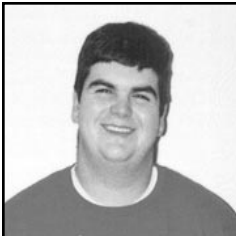
For example, city council elections, as well as local issues that could affect the community, are

being proposed this November in Rome and other communities.

To be eligible to vote in November, registration must be completed by Oct. 9.

Students must be 18 years old, a citizen of the United States and a legal resident of Georgia in order to register.

Online can be done at www.sos.state.ga.us/elections/info/voter_info_2001.



Jesse Bishop
Editor

Should the headline read "Bookstore Causes Drop In Enrollment"? Well, that may be the case if someone doesn't pay attention.

We all know that buying books is part of the hectic activity of those first few days. This is just one of those things we take as a given. Standing in an excruciatingly long line to buy over-priced books is just part of college.

Yet, what shouldn't be part of the experience is the attitude of the people working in the bookstore. Who wants to stand in line for two hours only to get a face full of rudeness when trying to pay for books?

I witnessed several freshmen who seemed to be on the brink of tears when, after standing in line for 45 minutes or an hour to use financial aid, they were told they would have to go print a new schedule and get back in line. I also saw several upperclassmen that seemed on the

brink of utter crisis.

Paying cash? We have a special deal for you! A free bag chocked full of crappy attitude. What a bonus!

Most of the workers in the bookstore acted as though they had something better to do. Well, go do it. Students should not be treated with the disrespect that the bookstore so blatantly offers. What have the students done other than stand in line to buy books? The workers in the bookstore act as though they have the world's most awful job. The only thing I can see is that they possibly have the world's worst attitude towards work.

While standing in line for two hours and 15 minutes I noticed the following. There were two people working up front, and five sitting in the back. One was playing games on the computer, two were on the phone obviously making personal calls, and who knows what the others were doing. I will give credit to the person who was diligently working in the storage room, alone.

If those people sitting in the

back were on the clock, then I see why we get charged over a hundred dollars for a few pieces of used paper. Is it that we are paying their salaries? I realize that without people to work in the bookstore, we would not get books. But why pay people to be rude and lazy?

So, rather than just complain, I will offer my opinion on how to rectify this situation. Try offering a training class for bookstore employees: "How not to be rude to students who need books." Maybe, just maybe, they might lose the bad attitude.

This does not apply to everyone in the bookstore, but some of the workers act as though we have done something terrible by wanting to purchase textbooks and supplies for our classes. Well, sorry to tell you, it is part of the deal. We must have books.

Yes, the bookstore offers a service that is essential to the college. But the attitude is not essential. Bookstore workers, you might try being polite and efficient and smile once in a while. Life can't be that bad.

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Six Mile Post

The Student Voice

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Student Poll

How do you think the recent tragedy will affect you?



Amit Patel
Accounting

It changed my whole life. I never thought this would happen. I thought this was a very safe country to live in.



Gloria S. Davis
Criminal Justice

Something to be remembered by everyone. It is history.



Norma Murphy
Education

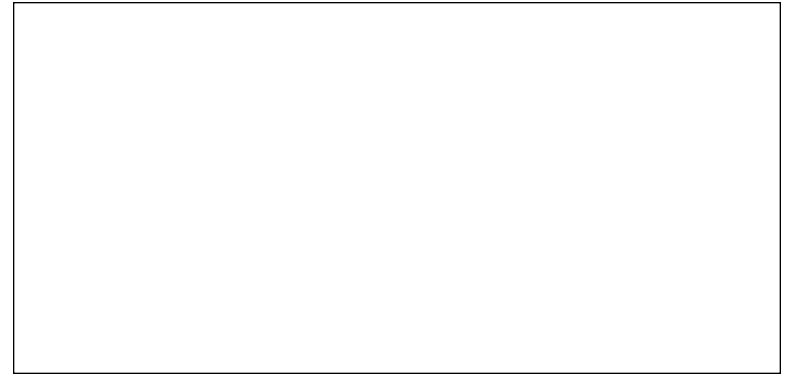
I think I will be torn apart in my heart, but we will come together as a nation and things will not be divided in the government.



Tamra Pierce
Legal Assistance

I don't feel safe in my country any more.

Photos by Laterah Dunham



Ashley Wood smiles for the camera.

Photo by Sandy House

Student Life Office gets new director

By Denise Collins
Business Manager

Ashley Wood, the new director of student life, seems ready for the challenge.

Wood, who began her career at Floyd College in July, brings years of experience with her. Her most recent position was at the Mississippi University for Women as the student life assistant director.

Wood comes to Floyd with fresh ideas and a commitment to the students. For example, she already has plans for more events in the solarium, located near the cafeteria by the student center. There will be singer/songwriters

performing as well as comedians.

Describing her aspirations for Student Life, Wood said, "I'd really like to launch more leadership programs here and would appreciate any suggestions or opinions from the student body." She went on to say that she's enjoying her time here and looks forward to getting to know the students.

The Office of Student Life, located near the cafeteria, houses many organizations, including the Student Government Association, student publications and student clubs. Wood invites students to stop in with questions or suggestions or to e-mail her directly at awood@hermes.fc.peachnet.edu.

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ad

What new students can expect at Floyd College

By Kim Cornett
Assistant Editor
and
Julianna Smith
Staff Writer

It's the first day of classes and students suddenly realize how different college is from high school.

There is more responsibility, less busy work, ungraded homework and the main part of the final grade is determined by a few tests.

The professors are not watching every second to make sure that studying and homework is being done. It is up to the student. Professors are willing to help in any way they can, but they are also expecting the student to go home, read the books, look over the notes and spend time with the material.

In high school, most people would look over the material for a few minutes before the test, memorize it the best they could, take the test, make a good grade and it would all be over. In college, it all comes back. The professors are suddenly covering things that students only memorized for a few seconds in high school. Now stu-

dents are actually expected to learn and know the material.

New technology is another issue not covered in high school. Of course most people have learned about the Internet and how to look up books in the library, but not everyone knows about taking graded quizzes on WebCT, checking e-mail from professors at Neomail, taking online courses, getting semester grades online and much more.

Here are some tips from Julianna Smith, a returning student to Floyd College.

As a returning student, I have become accustomed and somewhat adjusted to college life. The largest adjustment for some students may be the use of technology at Floyd. Though I have not personally taken a WebCt test or web based classes, I understand that at times it may be somewhat overwhelming. Students do have an option when it comes to their computers and computer related questions. The first place that a student should go is to the Help Desk. The people at the Help Desk

can help you with questions, and if they do not know the answer, they will find out or send you to someone who can provide an answer.

Some students may have trouble adjusting to the freedom that comes from being a college student. It is hard to adjust to not having someone looking over your shoulder and reminding you to study, do your homework or show up to class. Just keep in mind if you don't show up to class, you will run the risk of failing that class. My best advice to students is that if you have missed a lot of class and you are not planning on returning, make sure that you officially withdraw before the deadline to avoid failing.

It may also be hard for some students to stick to a study schedule. It is often very helpful to have a study group that meets regularly. For students that can't or don't wish to meet with a study group, there are different ways to study independently. Some people tape record their classes (always ask the professor's permission first). Students can also make flash cards from their notes as



Photo by Jeremy Stewart

Julianna Smith, right, tells a student about the Ambassadors.

well as creating their own tests to quiz themselves. Some of the books that are required for classes may have a CD-ROM disk or a web address for further study of the material.

If you still struggle and are doing all that you can in your classes, most of the professors will meet with you to see if they can help. So don't be afraid to utilize the faculty and staff.



Jason Bourne
Staff Writer

In a nation that seemingly has more money than it knows what to do with, there is a very important problem facing the disabled citizens of the United States.

The problem that I am speaking of is the lack of handicapped accessible facilities such as ramps, elevators and public handicapped restrooms in our nation's shopping malls, restaurants, hotels and sporting facilities.

I have been in a wheelchair since before I started kindergarten and I have come to notice a lack of respect for the handicapped citizens of America.

I have been many places where I have to go out of my way to find a ramp and where there is sometimes not even a well-furnished handicapped restroom or elevator. This really makes me sad because it makes me feel like people are not even aware that I am here on the Earth.

The thing that bothers me most is the simple fact that there

Bourne with an Opinion Too few handicapped accessible facilities in our public places

are way too few handicapped restrooms in our public facilities.

Being in a wheelchair, I cannot use the restroom like a normal person would. Instead, I have to take all my medical supplies out and lay them out where I can get to them.

I usually have a table or desk to lay my materials out on, but in most of the public restrooms there is not a table to lay my stuff on, so I have to balance it on the silver metal pole that runs parallel to the wall.

As you can imagine, this outrages me because there is no respect for a handicapped person's medical needs.

I would not have to balance my things on the metal pole if the government would find the time and the money to put a table or desk in the restroom.

Building a simple little table or desk should not take more than an hour and a half and \$100 at the most, and if the government can't find the time and the money to build a table or desk, then there is something terribly wrong.

Fortunately for me, I attended Woodland High School, which has

faculty and administrators who care about the disabled students of the school. The faculty and administrators furnished a restroom with a table in the teacher's workroom, and I can't thank them enough for their thoughtfulness.

Another thing that makes me both sad and a little angry is the lack of ramps at our local shopping centers and restaurants.

I have gone to a few places like Town Center Mall, where I have to go way out of the way to find ramps because they are not directly in front of the door to go in or out.

Again, if the government would only find the time and the money, we could have handicapped ramps in no time.

Still another thing that makes me mad is all the stairs in our public places.

Town Center has about half a dozen elevators for people with disabilities and I thank them for that, but in my church, Tabernacle Baptist Church, my dad had to pull me up at least three flights of stairs to get me to Sunday School before they added a new building onto the main sanctuary that now

has an elevator so the handicapped people, like myself, can get to where we are going a lot faster.

As you can see, the government looks down on the handicapped citizens of America. The government does not provide enough handicapped accessible facilities like ramps, restrooms and elevators in our public places like malls and restaurants.

As you can also see, I am outraged and very saddened by the lack of respect for the handicapped citizens of America because it hurts to know that people seemingly only care about themselves, money and power.

I've got news for all the people who feel that the handicapped citizens of America don't deserve the same attention and respect that normal citizens do. Handicapped citizens, just like any normal person, have FEELINGS, wants, needs and deserve to be treated like any normal citizen would be treated.

In short, just let me say, handicapped citizens are people and they do have FEELINGS and they do deserve to be treated with RESPECT and DIGNITY.

Brown studies in Germany

By Brooke Worley
Staff Writer

Emily Brown, a student at Floyd College's North Metro Tech campus last year, is spending a year in Germany on a work-study scholarship program sponsored by the Congress-

Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals.

Brown stated, "I can't believe that they chose me out of so many applicants."

Brown attended two days of orientation seminars in Washington, D. C., at the end of July before flying to Cologne, Germany, on Aug. 1 for two months of study at the Carl Duisberg language school.

Currently Brown is very busy, because she is moving to eastern Germany at the beginning of October to begin studying for a business degree in a university.

Brown uses email to keep in touch with her family and friends. She has also agreed to occasionally email the *Six Mile Post* about her study abroad experiences.



When in Rome...

By Brandon Kerr
Staff Writer

Rome has long been a patron of the arts, with institutions such as the Rome Symphony Orchestra and Rome Little Theatre drawing crowds every year.

However, Rome may soon play host to a burgeoning scene of new music from talented artists of the local and surrounding areas.

Several of the restaurants and clubs in downtown Rome feature live music three to four nights a week, consisting primarily of local artists.

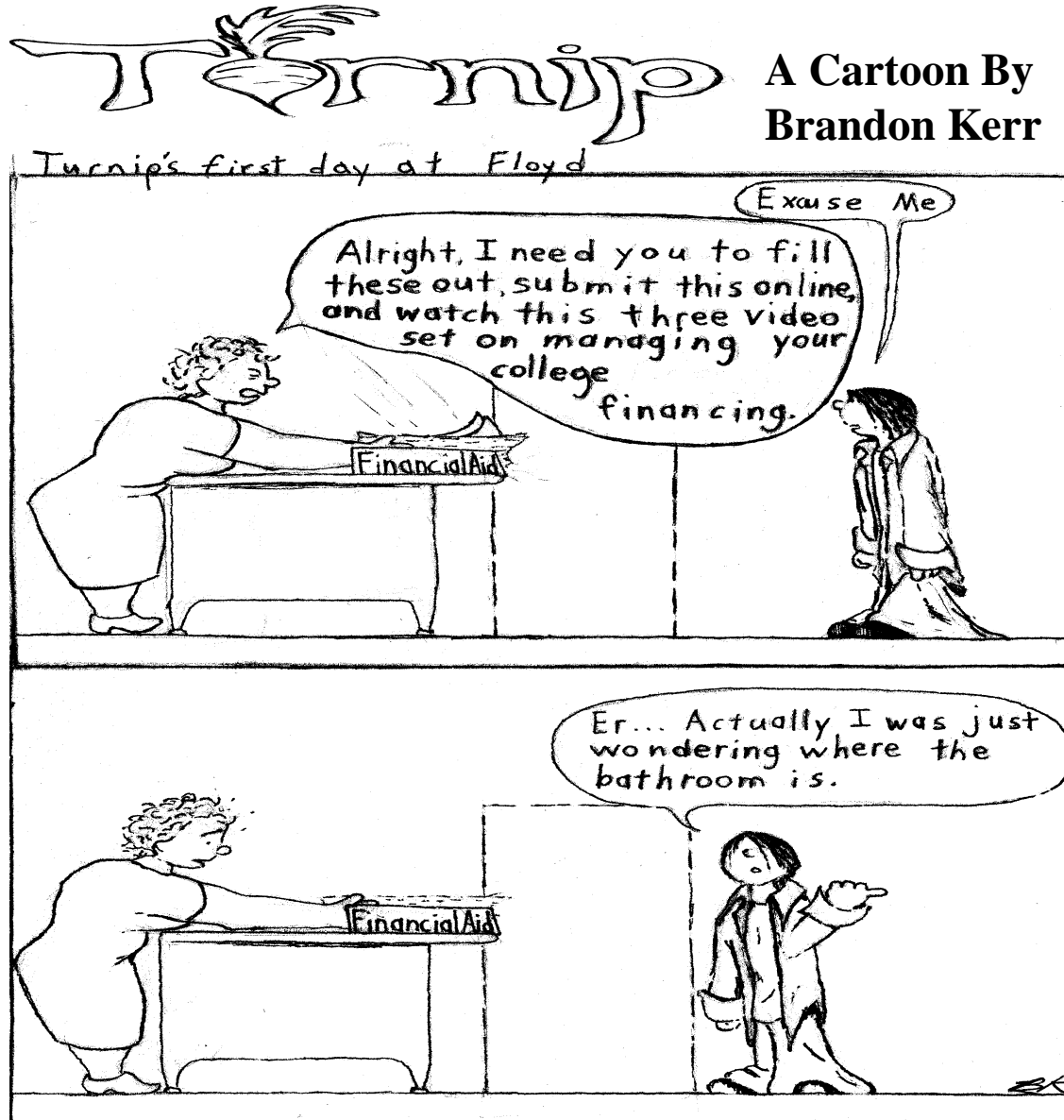
Schroeder's Deli on Broad Street has live music in its courtyard during the warm months on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights with poetry readings and a

songwriters' guild each meeting once a month.

The River's Edge Tavern, also a favorite spot of many of the local musicians, has music on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights year round.

Stage1, which is located where the Opera House used to be, is a combination music venue and dance club and features more hardcore and dance oriented acts. Stage1 also has attractions several nights a week.

In addition to these, many of the other restaurants and lounges lining the streets of downtown occasionally feature live music. They also sponsor events such as open mike nights, writers' clubs and readings by local poets, including some from Floyd College.



'Coffee house' events scheduled for Solarium

Rachel Smith
Staff Writer

The Solarium Series, a new type of event for the fall semester, will feature a "coffee house kind of atmosphere."

Ashley Wood, director of student life, says that the new event

series will have a "more intimate, low key, relaxing feel." Wood hopes to enhance the atmosphere of the solarium with a contribution of student artwork.

The first scheduled entertainer is comedian Carey Long, who will perform at 7p.m., Sept 26. Long hails from Athens, Ga, and

performs world wide. He has even appeared on 'The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.'

Upcoming performers will include guitarist Del Suggs, who will perform on Oct. 11. Comedian Mark Anthony will appear on Nov. 14 and singer/songwriter Doug Wood will perform on Nov. 29.

Hundreds attend Romafesta

By Jason Yates
Staff Writer

Romafesta was a "college night out." All four of the area colleges were invited by the City of Rome. In all, an estimated 600 students came to the event. The festivities were held in downtown Rome at Bridgepoint Plaza on Aug. 24. Headlining the stage were the bands "Picnic With Fish" and "The Strange." The local radio station K-98 allowed the students to play "basketball" which is basketball on the back of a bus. Some other activities included rock climbing, riverboat rides and an inflatable boxing ring. Rome plans to continue the event next year.

C-3PO, Chewbacca converge on Atlanta

Jeremy Stewart
Staff Writer

Every Labor Day weekend, stormtroopers, knights, Klingons and sci-fi fans of all ages invade downtown Atlanta for an event known as Dragon*Con.

This annual gathering, located at the Hyatt Regency and Marriott Marquis hotels, is one of the largest conventions held in Atlanta. From Aug. 31-Sept. 3, over 20,000 attendees flooded West Peachtree Street in order to see 338 actors, writers and comic book artists and to take part in almost 750 panels.

This year's festivities included

such guests as *Star Wars'* Chewbacca, Peter Mayhew; *Indiana Jones'* Sallah, John Rhys-Davies; and *Star Trek's* Scotty, James Doohan.

The Master of Ceremonies was Anthony Daniels, who portrayed C-3PO in the *Star Wars* movies. He served as host of the opening ceremonies and the costume contest. He was also given his own panel to discuss his inside stories from the set of the *Star Wars* films.

Harlan Ellison was named Dragon*Con's Millennium Artist. A writer of many short stories and newspaper and magazine articles, Ellison has been called the "20th

century Lewis Carroll."

Ellison signed many of his books and was involved in a reading of his favorite works.

According to its website, www.dragoncon.org, Dragon*Con was started in 1987 by a group of gamers and role-players based out of Atlanta. It was to be an outgrowth of the group, which was hoping to evolve into something bigger at the time.

Over the past 15 years and through many consolidations with other conventions, Dragon*Con has become the largest annual popular arts convention in America.



Photo by Randy Stewart

Jeremy Stewart, left, meets Anthony Daniels, who portrayed C-3PO in the *Star Wars* films.

Driven, a local band not afraid of making noise

By Eric Rose
Staff Writer

Driven is a local band with a style all its own.

Hailing from Cartersville, they play most of their shows at Stage 1, here in Rome. They have opened for touring bands, such as Stereomud, at venues across metro Atlanta.

Their music is a blend of different styles of heavy metal. The band's lineup itself is unique because they have two vocalists, each having a different style.

Eric Carter's vocals are brutal, baritone barks similar to those of Pantera's Phil Anselmo. His vocals are the rhythm and most of the verse of the band.

The sound ranges from subtle intros and blissful melodies, to full on slaughter.

Abram Colston's vocals range from spoken voice and chants to demonic, death-core screams enhanced by electronic distortion effects. His dual-mode style gives the band three distinct voices.

The vocal personalities present themselves in almost every song and the instrumentalists follow.

The musical dynamics range from a soft, wandering melody with Colston's vocals to pounding, driving metal behind the combination of Colston's distorted wails and Carter's bone crushing barks.

Driven's instrumental lineup is as spectacular as their vocal roster.

Guitarist Jeremy Lemons uses a fast, staccato sound that seems to scatter around the room like a churning mosh-pit. The sound ranges from subtle intros and blissful melodies, to full on slaughter.

Bassist Keith Collum plays

brutal, crushing bass that supports and adds texture to the guitar sound, while drummer Colt Bowen rounds out the lineup bludgeoning the drums.

Driven's sound is described as "death-core" by vocalist Colston. He lists Cannibal Corpse, Marilyn Manson, Pantera and even the early Rolling Stones as the band's influences.

Colston writes most of the band's songs from his personal experiences.

The band will not hesitate to tell listeners what any given song is written about.

Though their lyrics are sometimes indiscernible in the fray of volume, those that are understood deal with issues that are impor-

tant to the band and their fan base.

The song "Revelation" was written from Colston's personal experience. The lyrics center on the final, apocalyptic Bible book the song is named for, "Locusts swallow souls like blasphemy / a thousand plagues the spread of leprosy / scratch / the more you scratch the more you bleed."

The band is currently taking a break from playing shows, but they hope to put out a demo CD that they will sell at their shows soon, and will resume performing at the end of September.

To find out more about Driven, check out the website (www.driven.moonfruit.com).

**Regents' Test will be given on Oct. 30.
The deadline for registration is Oct. 5.**

American Criminal Justice Association will hold its first meeting on Oct. 3 in the Solarium at 11:30 a.m.

Everyone is welcome and there will be free pizza for those who attend.

Students show an interest in starting intramural soccer teams

By Daniel Bell
Assistant Editor

Sign ups for intramural sports are well underway and according to David Mathis, intramural director, things are going really well. "We have enough people to have several teams for basketball, football and volleyball. And there are

plenty of people involved in the FIT program," Mathis said.

Of all the sports available, there is at least one that is not on the list. Floyd College does not have intramural soccer.

The college has the field and the equipment, so why no soccer?

"We have done soccer in the past," says Mathis, "but usually

there just isn't enough interest."

Several students tend to disagree.

Matt Echols, who is signed up for the tennis tournament, says, "I'd love to play soccer. I think I could get a team up with the number of people I've talked to about it around campus."

Justin Stone is also interested in a soccer team. "I would sign up for soccer. It would give me a way to get involved in intramural sports."

So Floyd College has the field, the equipment and plenty of people interested in playing. What has to happen next before the students can get soccer here?

Mathis says that he would like to have intramural soccer at Floyd also. "If a couple groups of people wanted to get some teams together, we would love to organize it. That's what we are here for."

The ball is now on the soccer fans' side of the field. Any students that may be interested in playing can contact Mathis or Bridgette Stewart, teaching assistant, at the P.E. Office or by calling (706) 295-6353.



Photo by Jeremy Stewart

Bridgette Stewart informs a student about the Intramural Sports Program.

Events

3-on-3 Basketball

Sept. 18-Nov. 6
Tuesdays at 1:30 in gym

Beach Volleyball

Sept. 19-Oct. 31
Wednesdays at 1:30 on beach volleyball courts

Flag Football

sign-ups: Aug. 20-Oct. 5
Oct. 11-Nov. 8
Thursdays at 1:30 on soccer field

Tennis Tournament

sign-ups: Aug. 20-Sept. 25
begins Oct. 1

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