April 27th, 2011 is a day that many Alabama residents will remember for the rest of their lives. Kara Faulk, one of last year’s assistant editors at the Athenian, wrote about her experience in the days following the tornados in the May 2011 issue of the Athenian. The E5 tornados and the many other tornados that happened that day not only impacted a large majority of the state of Alabama, but the storm raged through Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia – as well as through the Eastern and Southern areas in the United States. Many members of the Athens State Community experienced the damage of these tornados first hand. We or someone we knew lived in or near an area hit, debris landed in our yards, and countless other reminders. We drive through areas that we see every day and have to take a second look because the familiarity is gone. The experience of a tornado is terrifying and people will never forget living through one. Steve Niven, a student at the University of Alabama, talks about hearing the mile-wide tornado that tore through Tuscaloosa, Alabama. “It sounded like a chain-saw. You could hear the debris hitting things.” Even though there was plenty of warning before this storm, there were still 346 deaths when the dust settled.

President Obama declared Alabama to be a state of emergency not long after the tornados finished their path of destruction. Emergency crews came from all over the United States to help the people affected by the tornados. Many northern Alabama residents were out of power for up to a week. The devastation of these tornados was widespread. Cars were picked up and thrown miles away. Houses were flattened. Personal items were blown well into other states. When flying above the damage, the destructive track of the tornados was extremely clear.

April 27, 2011 tore apart many communities but it also brought communities and the state of Alabama together. People united to help one another. Volunteers cleaned up debris, strangers donated clothes, and even pages were created on Facebook to help return important pictures and paperwork back to people.

Just when life was getting back to what seemed to be normal for many of the families affected by the April 2011 tornados, another set of tornados came through in March 2012. This additional storm brought back many people’s fears. Homes that were being rebuilt from the 2011 tornados were flattened again in March 2012. Even so one year later, the communities are still strongly united. Efforts are still being made to clean up damage from both of the storms, and the community will continue to stick together to make a difference despite the tragedies that have happened.

Please see page 6 for safety tips for tornados...
Members of the campus community may have noticed, in the past few weeks, the presence of some wonderfully creative and humorous signs encouraging students to visit the ASU Writing Center in the Library. These signs were designed for us by Mr. Guy McClure, Director of Public Relations, Marketing and Publications here at Athens State University. They have definitely produced the desired effect of increasing student interest in the Writing Center, and we are very encouraged by this.

The signs also had the incidental effect of making me think, from the perspective of a peer writing tutor, about what sort of post that might design to encourage student participation in the Writing Center. It might include something like this:

In large print at the top: “Write Rightly … Its the Rite Thing Too Do.”

Then below, in smaller print: “Does anything about the above quote catch your attention? Do you find yourself wanting to revise it? If so, you’re not alone! There are a number of errors in the statement according to the rules of standard written English. But, of course, good writing is about much more than spelling, grammar, and word choice - it’s about meaning and getting things done! For example, the ability to write effectively can be a critical deciding factor later on in employment application and promotion processes. We in the Writing Center want you to be successful both in the classroom and your graduation. Please visit us in Room 121 in the Library. We will even give you a free pen upon your initial visit!!!”

Helping students improve their effectiveness in writing is a goal that has increasingly attracted the interest of education professionals since the mid-twentieth century. Dr. Janet Emig, Professor Emeritus at Rutgers University and a pioneer in writing education, has characterized writing as “a unique language process” (8). She observes that writing engages both hemispheres of the brain: the right hemisphere, where information is processed in linear mode, as well as the right hemisphere, where the more elusive and inexact creative and emotional aspects come into play. Emig points out that these otherwise disparate linear and creative learning processes are uniquely synthesized in the activity of writing. This synthesis is one of the points of the above imaginary poster is centered around the reality that the first sentence - “Write Rightly … Its the Rite Thing Too Do” - includes several common writing errors. These errors will inevitably distract a potential reader, thereby weakening the potential impact of the message. Such common writing errors are among many things we in the Writing Center can assist students in discovering and correcting. We can also help with structural issues, coherence, the construction and development of strong thesis statements, and many other aspects that contribute to overall writing effectiveness. As a matter of policy, we do not “edit” papers for students, but we do provide comprehensive feedback that can empower students to pursue opportunities for self-improvement and development in their college writing experiences.

Attention future teachers! Trying to find your place on campus? Looking for a common bond with fellow students? Want to tap into educational resources and have a little fun in the process? Soon there will be a special place for you on the Athens State University campus.

A new club for students in the College of Education is in the works. The ASU Teacher Ambassadors club hopes to be approved this month in time to participate in Preview Day for prospective students April 21. Being a presence at campus events will be central to the mission of the club. The club also seeks to serve as ambassadors for the College of Education, provide leadership, professional development, service and social opportunities for its members.

A core group of students has been meeting to draft a constitution, create a mission statement and outline purposes and procedures for the new club, which is in conjunction with the Philosophical Foundations and Technology Department in the College of Education. Students Morgan Adams, Jeff Byford, Nicole Chambers, Amber Free, Brooke Johnson, Kendal Sams, Erica Smith and Tbolshia Swepe, under the advising of Dr. Wendy Cowan and Dr. Chris Inman, have been involved during the last month in getting the club up and running. The club’s logo – We TEACH – reflects the motto of the Philosophical Foundations and Technology Department, which is Technology, Education and Change.

Please see ASU Teacher Ambassadors on page 5...
Campus News

ASU’s New Provost and Vice President

Morgan Griffin-Morgan, Assistant Editor

Dr. Ronald Cromwell is Athens State University’s new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Cromwell comes to us most recently from Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, PA, where he served as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Education. Dr. Cromwell has also served in positions at Bridgewater State College, State University of New York College of Oneonta, Marist College, and Indiana University East, as well as a number of positions in elementary and secondary education across the country. Dr. Cromwell earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Humanities from St. Thomas College, a Master’s Degree in Speech/Theatre from University of Colorado, a Master’s Degree in Theology/Ministry-Pastoral Counseling from Seattle University, and a Doctorate in Education in Educational Leadership from Seattle University. Dr. Cromwell is the first person to be appointed as Provost on the Athens State University Campus. As Provost, Dr. Cromwell serves in the absence of the President, works with faculty to improve courses, and does many other services for Athens State. He has a very long “To-Do” list that includes developing programs for international students, developing an Adult Degree Completion Program, and working with Calhoun Community College to open our new facility for the teaching of visual arts; while also preparing for the next phases in the North Alabama Center of the Arts program. Students will be offered better learning opportunities by the addition of new majors and programs. Some of these changes will be seen as soon as Fall 2012 with the opening of the Decatur Art Center. Dr. Cromwell’s biggest goal is to give students their best chance for furthering their education.

What *IS* the ETS Proficiency Profile and Why Do I Have to Take It?

Dr. Jackie Smith

If you are graduating this semester and are enrolled in any Capstone course, you have already heard about the ETS Proficiency Profile (ETS PP). Many of you may wonder what it is and why you have to take it. Remain calm – this is not an exit exam! It is simply one of many tools that ASU uses to measure student learning.

The ETS PP is an online assessment that measures college-level skills in three areas: reading and critical thinking, writing, and mathematics. It includes 36 multiple choice questions covering the three areas. Many of you have seen the Building Success through Writing signs and other promotional materials around campus. The data provided by the ETS PP is utilized to evaluate and ensure that ASU faculty and student services are indeed helping you be successful with your writing skills.

The college-level writing questions will measure your ability to:

- Recognize the most grammatically correct revision of a clause, sentence, or group of sentences
- Organize units of language for coherence and rhetorical effect
- Recognize and reword figurative language
- Organize elements of writing into larger units of meaning

Each Fall Semester all entering ASU students are required to take the ETS PP in their Foundations course (ED301, GBA300, HU321, or MG320, depending on College). Each Spring Semester all Capstone students preparing to graduate are also required to take the ETS PP. This provides ASU with 2 snapshots of your writing abilities – one when you arrive at ASU and again as you prepare to graduate.

You do not need to study or prepare for the ETS PP. However, there is a Sample Assessment available that you are welcome to complete. It begins with a tutorial that includes sample questions and allows you to become familiar with the interface. You will see a button in your Capstone course menu in Blackboard entitled “ETS Proficiency Profile.” This is where you will find all the instructions, the tutorial, and the link to the actual assessment. The ETS PP will remain open for students through midnight on Friday, April 27th.

Your Capstone professor will be notified when you have completed the ETS PP. *No individual student scores are reported!* However, aggregate data will be provided to the institution as well as comparison data from similar size institutions across the nation. We *know* that ASU students are among the best in academic ability. Your best effort on this assessment helps us prove it with real statistics!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 19th – ASU Education/Community Service Job Fair</td>
<td>May 11th – Honors and Awards Convocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21st – Athens State University Preview Day</td>
<td>May 12th – Spring graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24th – Tuesday Exams</td>
<td>May 21st – Summer semester begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25th – Wednesday Exams</td>
<td>May 28th – University closed – State holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 26th – Tuesday/Thursday Exams, Thursday Exams</td>
<td>June 11th – Last day to withdraw from 1st half term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27th – Friday Exams</td>
<td>June 14th – Annual Flag Day Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30th – Monday/Wednesday Exams, Monday Exams</td>
<td>June 15th – Last day to apply for summer graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1st – Tuesday/Thursday Exams</td>
<td>June 25th – 1st half term ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2nd – Monday/Wednesday Exams</td>
<td>June 26th – 2nd half term begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7th – Grades due</td>
<td>July 4th – State Holiday-University closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

...
There are numerous misconceptions about scholarships. In my time as a student and working at the University, I’ve heard many explanations about why a prospective or current student did not apply.

- I won’t qualify.
- The process is too complicated/long.
- My GPA isn’t high enough.
- I already have the Pell Grant.
- I/ my parents make too much.
- I’m not a new student.

These explanations do, at times, stop someone from receiving a scholarship but there are also cases where they do not hinder a student from receiving funding. It takes a minimal amount of time to fill out a scholarship application considering what it could possibly yield.

Between the Alumni Association and Foundation, there were one hundred and fifty six (156) scholarships awarded totaling $133,324 or an average of $854 per award for 2011-2012. The criterion for each scholarship is not always the same. There are basic criteria that apply across the board like completing an application for admissions, having all transcripts on file and being in good academic standing but other criteria vary depending on the scholarship. Some scholarships are based on a minimum GPA, others are need based and still others are based on county of residence or being related to an Athens State alum. The University also awards Academic, Participation, Need Based and Phi Theta Kappa scholarships.

The Alumni Golf Scholarship recipients receive $1500 for an academic year and work events through the Alumni Association. This scholarship is directly funded with proceeds from the Annual Golf Classic. It is awarded to six (6) students, and is one of the few scholarships that come with a volunteer component. Golf Scholarship recipients are an integral part at making the Alumni calendar of events a success. And, having them at events allows our donors to see the face of their donation. This year they have already worked two (2) graduations, the Annual Alumni Awards Banquet, Christmas Concert, and will soon work the Golf Classic, Homecoming Weekend and Bridge Benefit.

Scholarships are available to those interested in seeking them. You only need to take the time to fill out the Scholarship Tracking and Review System (STARS) application from the Financial Aid webpage and upload a few documents. The system requires basic information, a few documents to be uploaded, and is completely online. After you fill out the majority of the application, available scholarships are listed based on the information entered into STARS. A large part of the process is completing the application in full and submitting it by the deadline date.

Don’t let the opportunity pass to receive assistance. Most scholarship deadlines are May 30th but a few are later. Refer to the Financial Aid webpage or office for specific scholarships or for assistance with the process. You can reach them at 256-233-8122. Or, contact Penny Roberts, Enrollment Advisor, at penny.roberts@athens.edu or 256-233-8135.
Academic writing becomes a process of “translating” (Herrington 121) learned material into personalized comprehension in which students attain an ownership stake. “Writing to learn” incorporates an active process of discovery (through insight) and complements the more traditional approaches - listening and reading - with an invaluable integrative experience (Herrington).

All of us can recall, with varying levels of trepidation, the basic modes of academic essay writing: comparison and contrast; cause and effect; classification/division; definition; process analysis; and analogy. Perhaps less familiar, however, may be the reasoning that informs the recurrence of these genres within the context of college writing. Prof. Susan M. Leist of the State University of New York (SUNY) in Buffalo has identified these humble staples of freshman composition as “six generally used rhetorical patterns [...] so deeply enculturated in Western thought and epistemology that they might be said to be the major paths on which academic discourse travels” (13). Writing college essays, then, actually helps students learn how to think and communicate as professionals within their chosen academic disciplines. Who knew?

Many of the initial group members are involved in Student Government Association and other academic clubs on campus, but all agreed the need for a similar club for future educators was a necessity. The Athens State website currently lists 34 clubs and organizations for students to be involved in, but just two for one of ASU’s most popular areas of study: Education. There is also a Physical Education Majors Club and also an Elementary Education Club. ASU Teacher Ambassadors membership will be open to all students enrolled in the College of Education at Athens State, regardless of content area. When the club is officially given a charter, more information will be made available through education classes and around campus. It’s an exciting time to be an education student ASU. Ready, set, TEACH!

As is the case with every worthwhile journey, including the pursuit of the higher education path, the first step is essential. For college students, this is the commitment of enrollment. Equally essential, however, are next steps. “Writing to learn” necessarily leads toward the goal of communicating effectively through writing, a journey of process within itself that spirals incessantly into illumination. We in the Writing Center look forward to sharing this journey with you.

Thanks to Dr. Tony Ricks, Writing Center Director, for proofreading this article and providing very useful feedback and suggestions.

Sources:


Leist, Susan M. Writing to Teach; Writing to Learn in Higher Education. Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, Inc. 2006.
One pair of tickets available to the first student with the correct answer.

Movie Trivia

In the movie, The Hunger Games, Katniss Everdeen is given a mockingjay pin as a token to wear in the games. Who gives her this pin? Does the movie differ from the book, and if so, how?

All movie passes courtesy of Cinemagic Theatre Athens, AL

Submit answers to the Student Activities Office room 217.

---

Tornado Safety Tips

as provided by the American Red Cross

Look & Listen For:
Large hail, heavy rain, strong winds, frequent intense lightning, bulge with a rotary motion at the base of the thunderstorm cloud, loud roar like the sound of a jet or train.

Seek Safe Shelter:
A basement is best. Otherwise choose ground-floor center rooms surrounded by other rooms. Never choose upstairs locations because tornadic wind speeds increase with height above the ground.

Choose rooms on the north and east sides of your shelter if no interior rooms are available. Stay near the innermost walls. Avoid rooms on the south and west, because tornados usually travel from southwest to northeast.

Choose a small closet or bathroom, because small rooms are less susceptible to collapse. Take shelter within the bathtub if there are no glass tub enclosures or large mirrors nearby.

How to Protect Yourself and Your Family:
Stay calm.
Seek shelter IMMEDIATELY!
Keep a portable TV/radio and flashlight in your shelter.
Wear shoes to protect your feet from broken glass and other debris left by the storm.
Protect head and chest- crouch, face to floor, hands behind head.
Cover yourself with blankets, pillows or coats.
Hide under sturdy furniture.
Avoid candles, gas lanterns and oil lamps.
In schools and offices: seek designated shelter in interior rooms or hallways on ground floor, or lowest floor possible. Avoid auditoriums and gymnasiums.
In shopping malls, seek the smaller interior shops on the ground floor.
In shopping centers, avoid large open rooms as well as the south and west walls.
Evacuate mobile homes and vehicles! Seek shelter in substantial structure, ditch or culvert.

---

ONE Gift Card Up for Grabs!!!

FREE Gas Giveaway

1) Which professor’s name was put on Hebrew?
2) How did Steven Whited develop his book?
3) When will the Decatur Art Center be open?
4) What class created the plastic exhibit?

First Student with correct answers wins a FREE gas gift card from Jiffy Mart.

Submit answers to Student Activities office, Room 217 in the Sandridge Student Center.
With the convocation of the upcoming fall semester, the domain of Athens State University will include a first-time presence south of the Tennessee River. The $8.6 million, 43,000 square foot Downtown Decatur Art Center is expected to open this summer and be ready for students in the fall. The Center is located on the north end of 2nd Avenue at Lee Street, just a few blocks west of 6th Avenue/Highway 31.

This not only marks a first for Athens State in terms of location, but also marks the first time the University will cohabitate with Calhoun Community College in the physical sense.

“This site will act as the major touchstone for the arts in our area,” remarks Athens State President Bob Glenn. “By collaborating with our sister institution Calhoun and the municipalities and organizations that will assist us in maximizing our impact, we set the perfect stage for what can only be envisioned as a fine arts incubator for North Alabama.”

Athens State and Calhoun’s partnership is enhanced by support from the City of Decatur, the Morgan County Commission and the Decatur Downtown Redevelopment Authority.

The Center will serve students from the two institutions as well as individuals and groups from the surrounding community as a working arts and design facility, exhibition, meeting, and performance space. The Center will house fine arts studio and art history courses for both institutions as well as faculty offices, galleries, and community spaces.

For many Athens State students, the foray into downtown Decatur as classroom and event space will create a pioneer spirit. Students will be introduced to new places to meet and study before, after or between classes, and the 2nd Avenue area around the Center will serve them well.

The famous Princess Theater will be just across the street from the Center while restaurants such as Vittone’s Pizzeria, The Brick, Curry’s, Café 113, City Café and the soon-to-be-opened Mellow Mushroom are a short walk. All-Wright Bakery and the Coffee and Play House are a short walk up Moulton Street for a jolt of sugar and caffeine.

A 2nd Avenue Pocket Park project is well underway sponsored by the Decatur Downtown Development Authority. They plan to create small oasis parks in the vacant lots between buildings offering a quiet respite for weary shoppers and stressed students. The first park has been named Casa Grande Park, in honor of the old Casa Grande Hotel, located across the street from the park.

The Decatur Public Library is located two blocks east of the Center and the amazingly bucolic Delano Park is just to the southeast of busy 6th Avenue.

The next time you are in Decatur, drive past the construction site and check out the progress and don’t forget your pioneer spirit. Athens State is proud to be a part of the revitalization of downtown Decatur and look forward to all the adventures that that will bring with it.

Photos submitted by Guy McClure.
In February, members of the Student Government Association visited Athens Middle School to help the Special Needs students create necklaces. Below are pictures from the visit taken by Lori Otto, a Special Education teacher at Athens Middle School.

Mr. & Ms. ASU Recognition Ceremony

Ms. ASU Lauren Baker and Mr. ASU Stephen Embry.
SGA Around Campus

Pictures from the SGA Cookout on Tuesday, April 10th. Photos courtesy of the Athenian Staff.
Students in AR 431: Sculpture Workshop created works of art using fuel oil as a theme and plastic as materials. This exhibit was in the Bear Cage for the month of March.

Photographs by Brianna N. Kiddie.

PSI CHI: A New Year

Stasha McElyea

PSI CHI (The International Honor Society in Psychology) is looking forward to the changes 2012 has in store. We are currently brainstorming new fundraising ideas and are excited to take part in campus activities. We are also looking forward to attending Preview Day, for new students, on April 21st from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We will have a table set up and will be passing out applications to prospective students. We recently nominated new officers for the upcoming school year and held an induction ceremony in April. Congratulations to all our new inductees: Brandi Smith, Corey Cordell, Crystal Clark, Danielle McAlister, Elizabeth Robison, Hannah Kilpatrick, Jason Easter, Karen Jared, Kevin Smith, Laurelyn Carter, Page Martin, Pattie Townsend, Stacy Solis, Stasha McElyea, and Wanda Wade. We would also like to thank our graduating officers and members for all their hard work. We are recruiting new members and encourage you to join us. For membership information and requirements please contact Dr. Mark Durm at Mark.Durm@athens.edu or Mrs. Jean Martin at Jean.Martin@athens.edu. Enjoy the summer.
Student, Author, Police Officer, Father: All in a Day’s Work

Brianna N. Kiddie, Editor

Steven Whited, a current student at Athens State University studying Justice Studies, is a published children’s author/illustrator. Whited is also a full-time police officer and is currently employed as a school resource officer. His children’s book, A Day with Sgt. Rocky Bear, focuses on not being a bully, learning and understanding respect for others, and being responsible. “Students learn more than ABC’s today. Teachers are teaching students conflict resolution, manners, respect for others and so much more,” says Whited. Whited’s stories can be used as a teaching tool for both parents and teachers.

Whited’s stories had Preston’s teddy bear as the character, and so Sgt. Rocky Bear was born. Whited hopes that his story will help others teach children about law enforcement and help them learn that respect, trust, and pride for the law enforcement.

Recently, Whited returned to his junior college to speak to students about his book. He shared his personal experiences of developing into a published author as well as an illustrator, since all of the illustrations in A Day with Sgt. Rocky Bear are done by Whited. Whited also talked about his experience with children that are at risk discussed the positive reinforcement that is needed in schools for manners and morals.

A Day with Sgt. Rocky Bear is available for purchase online through Barnes & Noble, Books-A-Million, and Amazon. Additionally, it is for sale at the Bookshelf in Fort Payne, Alabama.

Don’t forget to try to win free movie passes and the free gas card!

Hebrew, the Athens State University Mascot, was found in early March with an apron and a bra decorating him. Written on these items was “Gadberry’s Angels.” While it is a mystery as to why it was done and who the culprit was, it did not go unnoticed by the Athenian staff. If anyone has any information that they would like to share about this, please e-mail us at: the.athenian@athens.edu
Education/Community Service/Government Job Fair
April 19, 2012
Sandridge Student Center Ballroom
9:00a.m.-11:30a.m.

EDUCATION
Colbert County Schools – www.coletail2.al.us
Decatur City Schools – www.dcs.edu
Franklin County Schools – www.foes.net
Limestone County Schools – www.lcsk12.org
Madison City Schools – www.madisoncity12.al.us
Marion County Schools – www.mchc.net
Montgomery Public Schools – www.mpk12.al.us
Morgan County Schools – www.morgank12.org
Russellville City Schools – www.rcsk12.al.us
The Country Day School – www.country-day.com

Education
Education
Education
Special Education, Math, and Elementary
Education
Secondary, Math, Science, and Special Education
Early Childhood, Elementary, All Secondary
Education
Special Education, Math, Science, English, Art
Education

ORGANIZATIONS
Alabama Dept of Rehabilitation Services – www.sdrs.gov
Alabama Dept of Revenue - www.ador.alabama.gov/
Business, Accounting, Finance
Alabama Mentor - www.ador.alabama.gov/
Behavioral Sciences, Psychology, and Sociology
Army Audit Agency - www.hqda.army.mil/aaaweb/
Accounting, Finance, and Business
City of Athens - www.athensal.us
Decatur Career Center – https://joblink.alabama.gov/eda/
All majors
All majors
Will provide career search information.
All majors

Huntsville Hospital - www.hhshs.org
IT, Computer Science, Health & Wellness Mgmt, Health Science

Limestone County Dept. of Human Resources – dhr.alabama.gov
Business and Social Science
Missile Defense Agency – www.mda.mil
Human Resources, Acquisitions and Contract Management,
Logistics, Finance, Computer Science, Accounting,
Management, Mathematics
Network Enterprise Center – http://www.70egmd.army.mil
IT and related majors, ESM, ISM
Tennessee Dept of Audit - www.comptroller2.state.tn.us
Accounting
U.S. Army – www.goarmy.com
Volunteers of America Southeast – www.voase.org
All majors
All majors

GRADUATE SCHOOLS
Alabama A & M, Dept of Community and Regional Planning - www.aamu.edu
University of North Alabama - www.una.edu/graduate
University of Alabama in Huntsville - www.uah.edu

Josten’s—Will provide an opportunity to view and

Reasons to attend Career Fairs
- Learn about career opportunities and research
  prospective employers
- Identify and/or create employment opportunities
  (intern/co-op, full-time positions)
- Sharpen job-hunting skills
- Network and meet hiring managers
- Land a job

Career Fair Preparation Tips
1. Research Companies in Advance
   Review websites of companies you plan to visit.
2. Have a Well Written Resume
   Take 20-30 copies of your resume to the fair.
   Carry them in a Folio to keep resumes organized and ready.
3. Know Your Job Interests and Qualifications
   Be able to express your qualifications including strengths, academic preparation, related experiences, and skills
   (i.e.: communication skills, technical, leadership).
   Prepare a 30 second introduction that highlights what you can do, not what the prospective employer can do for you.
4. Appearance Counts
   Demonstrate confidence; make eye contact, give a firm hand shake, and smile!
   Dress professionally. Wear Business, Business Casual or Interview attire.
   If available, visit your school’s Registration booth to sign-in and obtain a name tag.
5. Ask Questions, Listen, and Keep Notes
   Find out what you can do to be considered, get more information, and arrange an interview or secure an on-site visit.
   Make notes after each stop at the fair on the information you gain, especially follow-up and interview plans.
   Pick up business cards and firm literature.
   Write a follow-up note as soon as possible expressing interest and further research findings.

Prepare for a Career Fair like it’s a job interview!
job FAIR
thursday
APRIL 19
9 A.M to 11:30 A.M.
Sandridge Student Center Ballroom
Athens State University Main Campus

Local education, government, non-profit and community service organizations have been invited.

A list of participating organizations is available on the Career Services website:
athens.edu/counseling/career_fairs.php
That entire summer had been like an illusion, as if it were an idea that, although promising, had never fully developed. The heat had driven everyone inside, the blinding sun bleaching the world pale of its comforting contrasts. “Just one more day of this heat,” they had said, and they said it every day, but their efforts to believe it seemed only to drive the cooling rains further away.

Rosita arrived in town early one morning on the bus, in the cruelly tantalizing cool before the Southern summer revealed its true scorching nature by midmorning. She carried only a dog-eared paperback and a canvas overnight bag, her dark hair in short disarray, peach-tinted lip balm her only attempt at make-up. Everything she still owned in life was in that small canvas bag, and while some women might find that depressing, Rosita just felt light. There was a power, a potency, to having survived devastation; the ancianos in her family personified that. Even as a young girl Rosita had taken her spirit from their stories, from their indigenous strength.

“I’ve never owned a thing in my life that wasn’t a great relief to let go of,” she had laughed to herself more than once. “I’ve just never been a real fan of luggage.”

Rosita was tough – she knew she could have disintegrated in that year after the rape, but the blood in her veins flowed from those who had survived centuries of adversity, and she instinctively embraced the lightness of loss. There would later be much discussion of her psyche, her character, her motivations, but it was all hyperbole, as it really came down to one simple fact: she had learned to favor buoyancy over ballast.

Rosita kicked up little clouds of dust with her sandals as she crossed the street to the only boarding house in town. Rey followed at a discrete distance, curiosity and boredom charting the street to the door of the rented room, his hat down over his eyes. The shade itself had grown hot now, the motionless air seeming to accumulate weight until it settled over him like an oppressive blanket. The only thing to do, really, was drowse, become inanimate, meld into the environment until a cool second wind filled everyone’s lungs and the little town came to life again.

Rey leaned back in an old rocker on his small front porch, pulling his hat down over his eyes. The shade itself had grown hot now, the motionless air seeming to accumulate weight until it settled over him like an oppressive blanket. The only thing to do, really, was drowse, become inanimate, meld into the environment until a cool second wind filled everyone’s lungs and the little town came to life again.

Rosita paced like the jaguar in her bisabuela’s stories, from the window to the door of the rented room, back and forth, again and again. There would be no rest for her today; there had been none for some time. She stood silently at the window for a moment and watched the force of communal inertia pass over the town like a cloud, but she felt light and outside the humanity of any physical need.

She hunted in the nameless border towns because they were impoverished and dispossessed and unconnected, easy to peel off from any alliance. The personas that populated these towns were about as non grata as you could be, and most importantly, without influence to marshal any real investigations. A few family members or a hopelessly overwhelmed policia might do their best, but it was a futile effort always.

Rosita enjoyed stalking her prey by playing the prey animal herself, allowing herself to be pursued while maintaining absolute control over the hunt. It heightened the challenge and sweetened the conquest – hell, it made her salivate.

He found the small, aging woman straightening her kitchen, and Rey smiled a bit to himself, thinking that she was a true reflection of her element – faded, threadbare, but always washed clean.

“She’s the real thing,” Mrs. S. startled him by speaking first, “a real stranger in town.” She waited for Rey to ask for more information, thoroughly enjoying making the introspective young man work for it.

“I don’t know where she’s from,” she continued after enduring as much silence as she could. “She left most of her registration form blank.”

Propping the screen door open with her foot, the woman swept a thick line of brown dirt out, successfully ignoring double that amount that blew back in on a quick puff of hot breeze.

“I could have refused to give her a room for that, you know,” she added, hoping that Rey would view her as exercising either kindness or power, although the directness in the young woman’s eyes a few minutes earlier had made Mrs. Soto distinctly aware of her absolute lack of both.

Rey glanced briefly at the old staircase leading to the second floor where he knew the stranger was lodged, then turned and left without another word. “He’s a stranger too,” Mrs. S. whispered to herself, “just one from right here.”

As the little border town baked hotter under the swelling sun, the townspeople withdrew into shade, corners, thinking and moving more slowly to avoid the heat that quicker reactions produced. The siesta took over after lunch as if the town was a single organism in repose. What little traffic there was disappeared; no conversation was exchanged; even the street dogs filed their barks away for later.

Rey leaned back in an old rocker on his small front porch, pulling his hat down over his eyes. The shade itself had grown hot now, the motionless air seeming to accumulate weight until it settled over him like an oppressive blanket. The only thing to do, really, was drowse, become inanimate, meld into the environment until a cool second wind filled everyone’s lungs and the little town came to life again.

Rosita paced like the jaguar in her bisabuela’s stories, from the window to the door of the rented room, back and forth, again and again. There would be no rest for her today; there had been none for some time. She stood silently at the window for a moment and watched the force of communal inertia pass over the town like a cloud, but she felt light and outside the humanity of any physical need.

She hunted in the nameless border towns because they were impoverished and dispossessed and unconnected, easy to peel off from any alliance. The personas that populated these towns were about as non grata as you could be, and most importantly, without influence to marshal any real investigations. A few family members or a hopelessly overwhelmed policia might do their best, but it was a futile effort always.

Rosita enjoyed stalking her prey by playing the prey animal herself, allowing herself to be pursued while maintaining absolute control over the hunt. It heightened the challenge and sweetened the conquest – hell, it made her salivate.

**TO BE CONTINUED……**

Look for the rest of *Border Towns* in the June edition of the *Athenian.*
Students’ Corner

Our Own Dreams

A Short Story
By Elizabeth Nance

Every eye closed, everybody relaxed, every heart beating, every chest rise up and down, up and down.

The dream begins, the unconscious self realizes its chaotic realizations, connections, inner knowledge and begins to float away in vivid images, intriguing thoughts, and fresh ideas that may or may not be generally or individually interpreted in full understanding to the conscious mind, or may slip away from the mind like a leaf onto the ground in fall as we regret to inform ourselves of what happened the night we drifted into a place of true relaxation of our thought.

We then do what is known as wake up to a world, one surrounded and indulged in the dream of the planet as we each individually live our dream of pure personal intention and purpose.

Focused so intently, thinking so intensely about our true purpose and being of reality. We create our own reality and what is reality when nothing is absolutely real and no word has meaning and power, but the meaning and power that those personal dreamers create within their own level of importance and intention?

Words only have the power and the meaning that we allow them to have and dreamers, other than ourselves, only have the power and meaning that we allow them to have.

We are under no circumstance bound to any earthly individual, and they are without right to assume a position that attempts to jeopardize the happiness found in our own dream.

No being can influence our dream unless allowed to under circumstance and authority of the dreamer.

As individual dreamers who are seeking knowledge, attempting to reach understanding, and questioning all that enters our own dream, we set our own standards and rules which may or may not be fully accepted into the idea of an ideal being in the eyes of the planet’s dream and therefore are, as a result, labeled for the path chosen for thier dream.

Daily individual dreamers who embrace diversity are enclosed by individuals who embrace the strictest pinpointed restrictions and rules that the planet has layed out like biblical truth for the people to follow, and are daily criticized and persecuted for embracing themselves and UN-planetarian beliefs.

And when they are unaccepting and only persecuted, then the individual dreamers of true personality feel no compassion for those drowning in ignorance of letting their lives be overtaken by a force that is unimportant and unrealistic of their true self.

As the dreamers of the planet deepen their wounds of deceptive sorrow and choke on the false teachings of worldly importance, I will prevail as a follower of the true force and will embrace true happiness of having the knowledge and embracing my true self and true feelings about everything in this temporary dream.

This dream is not important because this is our temporary home, but individual dreamers of true self seem to be more open to the idea of hope of future bliss and embracing the idea that this dream is short lived for the purpose of future bliss.

As we wait patiently we learn, we dream, we conquer.

Boot Camp Again

An Essay
By Douglas Young

I see the looks. I get them from everyone – students, professors, friends, and strangers. They’re all the same. Well, at least they all ask the same unnerving question. Why in the world is a 33 year old junior college student with enough credits to graduate taking English 101? The reasons for my belated stint in “boot camp for college,” as one professor so aptly labeled it, are many, and I wish I could say they were not my fault.

Everyone has a time, or in some cases, times, in their life that they are not proud of. Fall of 1994 was one of those times for me. I was fresh out of high school, thought I knew everything, and had a list of a thousand things I wanted to do. Unfortunately, attending class and completing assignments were not on my list. After a semester of partial credit and taking the maximum number of cuts without being dropped, my grades came in the mail and I got the good news. I didn’t fail a single class, not even English 101. Whew! Then the bad news hit like a ton of bricks; it wasn’t high school anymore, and D’s didn’t transfer. I could have blamed it on the instructor for giving entirely too much work. I could have blamed it on the part time job I had for taking me away from studies. But the truth was, it was entirely my fault.

The smart thing to do would have been to turn right around, take that class again the next semester and ace it. Did I do the smart thing? Of course not! I did what any self respecting, know-it-all teenager would do. I acted like it never happened. I went right on with my college education just like I had made an A. I took classes I needed. I took Rec Games, a class which included board games and badminton. I even took English 102. My denial didn’t change anything. I still had a D in 101 and like it or not, eventually I would have to face it.

It would be nice to be able to say that my procrastinating nature eroded with my youthful immaturity, but it simply wouldn’t be true. Even when I returned to college at the age of 31, after a good dose of real life, I found myself putting off the inevitable. Every semester while registering for classes, I easily found a scheduling conflict or some other legitimate issue to prevent me from retaking that dreaded class. Once again, I found myself tempted to point the blame in another direction and after a quick glance at all my current responsibilities, most people would have probably excused my latest round of class dodging. But I knew better. Deep down inside, I had hoped this day would never come. I had dreamed that somehow, some way, I would get out of making a second trip through “boot camp.”

A lot has changed since the fall of 1994. I have a little more belly and a lot less hair. I’m married to the woman of my dreams and we have five wonderful children. I serve as the Pastor of the church where we attend and even try to coach my oldest son’s pee wee football team, but because of all my slacking, denial, and dodging, one thing is still the same. I’m just another rookie, slacking, denial, and dodging, one thing to inform ourselves of what happened the night we drifted into a place of true relaxation of our thought.

Picture taken by Elizabeth Nance.
CASH FOR BOOKS
WE BUY BACK EVERY DAY

Convieniently located
Located on E. Hobbs
directly in front
of McCain Hall

Customer Service
We are here to help, just
give us a call

Cash for Books
We buy back books every
day of the year, stop on by!

Off Campus Bookstore
USED BOOK HEADQUARTERS

ATHENS
304 E. Hobbs St.
Athens, AL 35611
P: 256-233-0888
F: 256-230-0107

HUNTSVILLE
1009 Henderson Rd.
Huntsville, AL 35816
P: 256-837-9529
F: 256-837-0916

www.OCCBS.com