

Table of Contents	
Honors Service.....	1
President's Welcome....	2
Art Shows at UWF.....	3
Meet your e-board.....	4-5
Where are they now?.....	6

Infinite Wisdom

1st Quarter, Fall Semester 2007

UWF's Honors Newsletter

Honors at Ronald McDonald House

Chelsea Pitvorec Honors Service Chair

The UWF Honors Council has always been actively involved in Community Service. The Service Committee has paved the way with their many projects, including such events as Adopt-A-Highway and Habitat for Humanity, as well as several others.

The first official Community Service event for this semester took place Sunday, September 30 at Ronald McDonald House. For those who do not know, Ronald McDonald House is a place where family members can stay for free if they have a very sick child in the hospital. Guests are allowed a maximum stay of one month if they need it and must reapply if they need to stay longer as there is a waiting list. Many residents of the house have children that have been born prematurely and are in very critical condition. Ronald McDonald House provides families with the opportunity to stay close to their loved one in need.

A group of five Honors students, Lindsey Russ, Billy Abbott, Sean Lacey, Sheila Mettetal, and myself went to this house to make dinner for its residents. We prepared a delicious meal of seasoned chicken, butter and herb mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits, and fudge brownies. Several residents passed by the kitchen as we were cooking and thanked us profusely for making them dinner. One woman, whose husband and young daughter come to visit on the weekends while she stays with the couple's two month

premature son, said that "It is a real treat to have a home cooked meal." One man had his young son in his arms, whose newborn baby sister is currently in the hospital because she won't eat. This man and young boy were clearly pleased that we were making a nutritious, home-cooked meal.

(continued on page 2)

Right: the final product of these Honors students' hard work. Who knew volunteering could taste so good?



Want to make a positive change in the community? Check out the volunteer opportunities Honors has to offer!

Left: Chelsea Pitvorec adds spice to the main course.

cont. from front page

This was my third time cooking for residents of the house and each time it is something different. There are new meals, new people to meet, and another feeling of satisfaction knowing that taking a couple of hours out of my day meant so much to



so many families who are going through a difficult time.

As the new Community Service Chair for Honors Council this year, I would love to give more people the

opportunity to feel this satisfaction for helping people. I am greatly encouraging involvement in all of our service projects, not only because it is a rewarding experience for volunteers, but also because of the happiness we have the power to bring to people in our community. The appreciation on the faces of everyone in Ronald McDonald House was apparent as we made for our departure. It was worth every minute spent having fun in the kitchen.

For more information about Ronald McDonald House and what you can do to help, call 850-477-2273 or visit their website at <http://www.rmhc.org/rmhc/index.html>.

And now, a word from our President

Welcome All! On behalf of the whole Honors Council, I would like to welcome you to another exciting and busy year at the University of West Florida and our fantastic Honors Program. I hope these first few weeks of Fall Semester have gone smoothly for you!

I can't tell you how excited I am about all the great ideas we have for this year! All of our committee chairs are hard at work planning terrific events like a Halo 3 Tournament, Make a Difference Day, and the annual Halloween Party, to name a few! Watch for announcements about each of the events sponsored by the Honors Council; we'd love to see you there! Also, please feel free to contact us if you have any ideas for a new event you would like us to implement! We are here to work for you and make your Honors experience more fun!

It is truly a great year to be an honors student at UWF! There is so much going on in the life of UWF and our Honors students, with the start of the Creating Great Futures campaign, homecoming week, the Great Books I midterm, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the University of West Florida and much, much more! These are sure to provide great experiences for all who participate!

Once again, welcome back and I look forward to seeing you around campus and at Honors Council events throughout the year!

Being an Argonaut is a lifestyle,

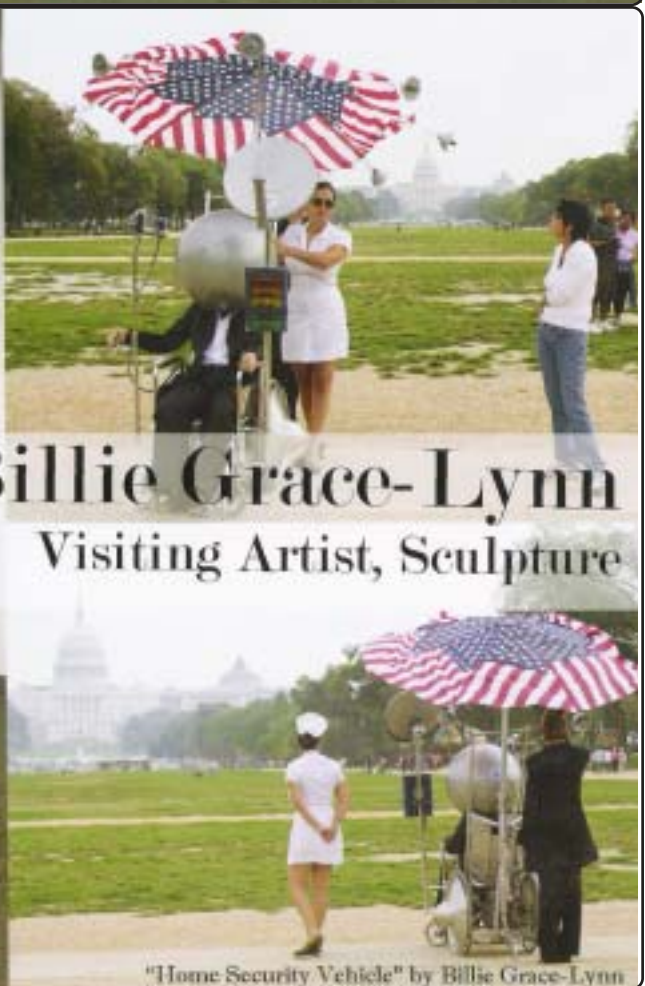
Kim Stetser

Honors Council President



Above: President Stetser

Make sure you take a break from homework to check out the exhibits at the UWF Center for Fine & Performing Arts (bldg. 82).



Get to know your 2007-08 E-Board

Monika Scott Honors Social Chair

“Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right!”

It is a new and exciting year here for us in the Honors Program of the University of West Florida. And for the many new faces coming to join our great program, it's difficult to be sure just who to get to know.

Well, here is a little glance into the faces that are the “driving force” of your program. The Honors Council is a compilation of approximately 40 UWF Honors Students who have gone through the democratic process and have been voted into council. We help our great Director, Greg Lanier, and our fabulous Assistant Director, Tina Hesse, make things happen for the students like getting enough community service, raising money to buy t-shirts, and even where to hang out on a Saturday. And just like the Honors Council keeps the program organized, the Executive Board keeps the Council organized. E-Board is a group of 7 people who help keep our council running. These 7 include our President, Kim Stetser, Recruiter, Melody Tarro, Executive Coordinator, Christine Thomas, Bookkeeper, Aspen Cosson, Fundraising Chair, Jenny Gulley, Service Chair, Chelsea Pitvorec, and Social Chair, Monika Scott. So let's get to know the heart and soul of the heart and soul of the honors program.

Kim Stester is an Elementary Education Major with a Biology Minor in her 4th final year at UWF. She is obsessed with *The Office* (we literally leave Council before 7:30pm so she can get home to watch it), loves to read, and be generally silly. Kim's biggest goal as the President for this year is to make the Mentoring Program a tradition in the Honors Program and have lots of fun! Kim's first choice honors event of the year: Make a Difference Day because “giving back to the

community is one of the most important and beneficial things people can do.”

Kim wants to be a gopher...I mean Platypus. She would love to be a Platypus.

Melody Tarro is a Biology Major in her 5th year at UWF. She is the Recruiter of Honors Council and is the woman behind the mentoring program this year. Melody loves tattoos, piercings, and salt and pepper potato chips. Melody was unable to comment to Infinite Wisdom so we are unsure what animal she would like to be.

Christine Thomas is a super excited 5'0 tall Humanities major with a love for Waffle House. In her spare time she makes bracelets. Her first choice honors event of the year: Honors Formal. “It's a great excuse to get prettied up and have a blast with all my Honors pals.” Christine wants to be a giraffe.

Aspen Cosson, our Bookkeeper, is a History Major with an Education Minor. She loves dancing, beach, movies, shopping, and going out. Aspen's goal of the year is help council get more organized with funds and the books as well as creating an Honors Council Scrapbook so future members can look back on our traditions. Aspen's favorite honors event is definitely Formal because she “loves to get dressed up and go dance with friends, and if nothing else, you get to reuse your old prom dress!” Aspen wants to be a Manatee because they are easygoing and very cute.

Jennie Gulley is our fundraising chair and a sophomore majoring in International Studies at UWF. She loves traveling and random events around the great Pensacola area and really hopes this year to get all UWF students involved in the campus this year. When I asked Jennie what event she said “Well, I would say come to all of my events, but as for social events, I would have to say the Halloween Party and the Pillow Fight are most fun.” Jennie wants to be a Spider Monkey so she can sit in trees and throw fruit at people.

Chelsea Pitvorec is a sophomore and is the service chair of honors council this year. Her major is Public Relations with a minor in Psychology. Aside

from community service, Chelsea loves anything having to do with sports and a good time with her friends. Chelsea's favorite honors event is Assassins because this year she "hopes to take the win." So watch out everyone, tennis balls are flying. Her big goal of this year is to really get people involved in community service with events such as Habitat for Humanity, The Ronald McDonald house, and many other great events. Chelsea has no idea what animal she wants to be, so she, in reality, wants to be a dolphin.

I am the Social Chair and a 2nd year here at UWF. I am majoring in Pre-Professional Biology and Psychology with a minor in Philosophy. I mostly

just love to hang out with my friends and drive in the car with the top down listening to music. If I had to choose one event to go to I would definitely say Formal because that's where I had the most fun...but as Social Chair you will see me at every event. When I was asked what animal I would be, I said a seahorse. They are the only animal of which the male actually gives birth to the babies.

So here we are, your leaders of 2007/2008. Please come to us for any questions or ideas and especially just to hang out. We are here to help and make this program as fun and useful as it can be. We hope to see you all at Honors Council soon!

Ten reasons to geek and freak at the annual Honors Halloween party

1. The Great Books extra credit you'll get for a home-made costume. Trust us; it'll come in handy for when you just can't remember which Greek dude did that thing with the stuff on a pop quiz.
2. You'll get to sample the AMAZING party snacks offered by your fellow Honors chefs.
3. Where else can you see a Boy Scout get down on the dance floor with Rainbow Bright?
4. Did we mention the extra credit for Great Books?
5. The chance to immortalize your name in The Book of the Dead.
6. You may get your photo snapped and find yourself in the next issue of Infinite Wisdom (man, can there be any better reason than that?).
7. The sight of château Lanier decked out in full Halloween decorations.
8. Science fiction double feature! Can you say Rocky Horror Picture Show at the Silver Screens after the party?
9. The costumes: give an Honors student a week, a yard of fabric, and a hot glue gun and watch the magic happen.
10. GREAT. BOOKS. EXTRA. CREDIT.

Need we say more? 10/27 7pm-10pm Be there, or be elsewhere.

Where are they now?

Christine Thomas **Honors Executive Coordinator**

If you've been associated with the Honors Program at any time in the past five years, you know Ms. Keysha Cron. She has been an asset to the Honors Program during her years at UWF. Thankfully, for the sake of the program, Keysha has decided to continue her graduate work at the University of West Florida, and continue to be an integral part of the Honors Program. Here's a little background info on one of our favorite Honors Alumna.

Full Name: Keysha Lynn Cron

Age: 23

Hometown: Fort Walton Beach, FL

Graduate Major: Non-Licensure Mental Health Counseling Track of Psychology

Year of Graduation: Fall 2009

Why did you decide to join the Honors Program? It was the continuation of high school. How could I not do Honors is the question.

Below: the ever-lovely Keysha



What have you contributed to Honors? I sat on the Honors Council for 4 years, acting as both Social Chair and as the Executive Coordinator. I brought the first Honors Pillow Fight and I also started the Honors Symposium.

What has Honors done for you? Given me another family.

What is your job, now, for the Honors Program? I am the Honors Graduate Assistant and more specifically, the Honors Academic Counselor. So I can help you pick out your classes but I'm there to give you a hug if your boyfriend/girlfriend breaks your heart.

How would you like to see the Honors Program grow? In all facets. I hope the council can one day hold 60 members and take all of them to conferences. I would also like to see the honors thesis completion rate go up. I mean, come on guys, it isn't that hard and it pretty much guarantees you a spot in a grad program. Professors love undergraduate research!

Thoughts about Retreat this year? It'll be weird since I'm not a member of the Council but I know it will be fun nonetheless!

What are you going to be for the Halloween Party? I need to talk to Tina about that. I think we should go as a pair or something. I don't think I could convince her to be Frodo and I Samwise.

Favorite Honors memories? Way too many... However, Matt Kruse and Christina Genualdi beating each other up at the first pillow fight was a pretty righteous sight to see.

Anything else you'd like to share? Not right now... come visit my adorable office on Wednesdays in the Honors office!

*Congratulations to these newly elected
Honors Council members!*

Kaitlín Weeks

Loflorentino Vespíanti

Sean Lacey

Rachel Killam

MaryAnn Vaughan

Oscar García

Deborah Barkley

Lindsey Russ

Charity VanderWall

Anne Swisshelm

Kenneth Hedeén

Amy Underwood

ATTENTION HONORS STUDENTS!

Due to a change in Honors policy, the following classes will no longer be accepted as Honors by Contract courses:

WTF9000 Underwater Basket Weaving
SHH4534 Sleeping On Hard Desks
BUR3344 Advance Belching Technique
BBQ1123 Interpretive Square Dancing
OMG4953 Proving Einstein Wrong II
LOL2040 Quoting Monty Python
BRB7337 Nude Yoga

If you have any questions regarding these classes please type them out in a 12 point font, double-spaced, with proper citation and throw them at your roommate's head. Response time may vary.

Hey you! Yeah, you! If you can read this font, than you can submit work for publication in the Honors' Newsletter! You know...Infinite Wisdom! You're reading it right now! Send us your articles, editorials, photographs, artwork, or creative works of poetry/fiction to kap19@students.uwf.edu! And then send us a dollar so we can buy some more exclamation marks! This was our last one!



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Contact us at kap19@students.uwf.edu!*