



Tech Collegian



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What to Do After You Graduate

By Krystin Barton
Staff Writer

It is almost graduation day for our seniors here at Tech. It's a bitter sweet moment for a lot of seniors; however, it is time to go into the next step of your life. I'm sure some of you are scared, happy, worried, and maybe even clueless about what to do. Some of you know what you are going to do when you get out of college and some of you do not. For the people who are unsure what to do, I will give you some advice. When you first get out of college it can be scary you just finished school you don't know where to go from here, but it is not as scary as you make it. First, you need to do is look at jobs that are hiring that are related to the field your degree is in. When you first come out of college, you cannot expect to get the job that you want right away. You will need to build experience to achieve your dream job. It is best to have an open mind when you go job searching for your first job. You can also consider going to grad school. You never know if you will find the perfect job and have to go back to school for a higher degree. If you do not have an after college plan it is time to make one. Going back to your parents' house is not the most productive thing to do after being on your own for four years, however it is not the worst thing to do just until you get a good job and get on your feet again. There are many opportunities out there for you, you just have to take the time and look for them and never give up on getting that dream job that made you want to go to college in the first place.



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Tech Collegian

Editor

Kassie Shope

Circulation Director

Rob Leibel

Staff Writers

Krystin Barton

Rhea Calica

Rob Leibel

Erika Stoffel

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The Tech Collegian is used for educational prowess purposes with the intent to educate students in form of media, journalism, photojournalism, and a various collection of writing styles. With this in mind, all publications are produced with the intention to fine tune and enhance these writers, photographers, and designers and their individual abilities.

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Senior Spotlights

By Erika Stoffel and
Kassie Shope
Staff Writers

Ashley Burns

Majoring in Criminal Justice with minors in Political Science and Sociology, Ashley has been a ray of sunshine here at Tech and as graduation comes around the corner, Ashley was more than happy to share her greatest memories here at Tech. Through her time here Ashley was named Homecoming Queen and climbed up the ranks in the R.O.T.C by becoming battalion commander over WVU Tech, Glenncville, University of Charleston as well as WV State. Through her years at Tech she had grown a fondness for Dr. Rezek, her favorite professor on campus, "She challenges me to be a better person and to follow your dreams". She soon to be alumni played soccer for two years and plans to be an English teacher in Columbia. She does say however that the biggest thing she will be missing from Tech is her friends.

Her iconic senior quote, she claims, is "Ashley is my girlfriend...said no one ever!"

Adam Westrick

Majoring in Psychology with a minor in Biology Adam is a well-rounded student. Spending time not only to his studies but to his sports Adam ran cross country and swam for Tech during his years at Tech. In his duration here at Tech Adam enjoyed taking long walks on the beach, as he says, as well as spending his off time with the swimmers on the swim team. Adam shared that his favorite professor on campus would be Dr. Beutler, "She is extremely passionate about her subject matter when she teaches". He also claims that his favorite class by far had been abnormal psychology. Adam's biggest accomplishment he says is gaining lifelong friends. After graduation Adam plans to attend med school in his home state of Pennsylvania. He would also like to say "There is no place like Tech." Adam's senior quote is "I'm actually not funny, I'm just really mean and people think I'm joking."

Jolita Dural

Biology major Jolita is a chirping little canary when it came to her time here at Tech. Her two favorite memories of being at Tech were of course joining the sorority where she met her "sisters" and her second favorite was the opportunity to be the manager of the women's basketball team. "The girls made me feel so welcomed and despite me knowing little to nothing about basketball, they helped!" aside from her favorite memories at Tech, her favorite professor is Dr. Beutler. "She is so positive and helpful! Working with her makes you feel like you can be successful." Jolita says that the one thing she will miss the most is the people. The social butterfly she is she felt as if the people here were all just so nice. She shared with us that in fact she is shy and singing has helped her settle in just fine. You can catch Jolita after graduation teaching Biology to high school students while working to further her degree in graduate school.

Jolita's iconic senior quote is "Stop with all this foolishness!"

Getting Over Those Finals Week Blues

By Erika Stoffel
Staff Writer

The horrible week we wish we could avoid is finally here. We are all sitting around pulling our hair out and downing those energy drinks, but there is a silver lining believe it or not. Now none of us here are exactly experts at taking finals; however, we can find a way to master the art of keeping a cool composure during this dreadful week.

We can start by taking a few minutes away from studying for ourselves. According to The Huffington Post, all it takes is ten minutes to get your mind back on track. It was suggested that a brief ten minute walk is just enough to get the blood flowing and the brain refreshed and ready to get back in the books. Ten minutes is all it takes!

Hydration, hydration, hydration....

All those energy drinks and venti sized coffee cups are taking one big hit on you. Combine that with sedentary movements in a long amount of time you are almost guaranteed to get dehydrated without even knowing it. Researchers reported to The Huffington Post that drinking water actually helps to improve mental performance. Even more of a reason to put down the cans and coffee mug and pick up that bottle of water.

Finally, and this one is going to be a shocker, DO NOT CRAM! Just don't do it. Yes there are countless excuses to why we should cram each and every night especially the night before the big test, but all that cramming is just setting you back from really keeping what you need to know in mind. Space out the material you need to review and review it bit by bit over the course of a week or so before the exam.

It is only a week, although it is the worst week we could possibly imagine, a few little tips can save you from going crazy in a short amount of time.

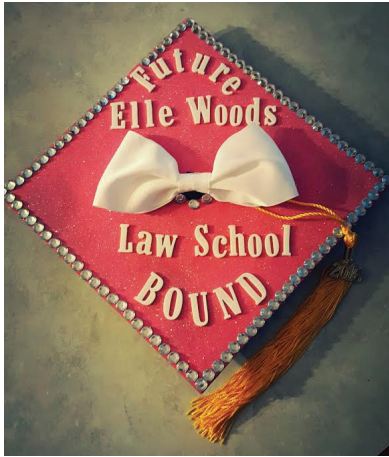
Senior Spotlights (continued)

Kassie Shope

Majoring in History & Government with a minor in Political Science, Kassie Shope has become a well-rounded student in her last four years at Tech. Some of her favorite memories of Tech were working as the editor of the Tech Collegian and eating at the mexican restaurant with her friends. Kassie says her professor on campus would have to be a tie between Dr. Rakes and Dr. Kent. She explains that they both have taught her so much intellectually, but they also were always there for her when she just needed help or needed to talk. As well as being the current editor of the Tech Collegian for the past two years, she was also a four year staff writer for the Tech Collegian. Kassie says her biggest accomplishment is gaining admission into law school, which has been a lifelong dream for her. After graduation, Kassie plans to attend law school in Charlotte, North Carolina, pursuing a career in family law. Kassie says that she will truly miss the warm, feels-like-home atmosphere of Tech.

Her iconic senior quote is, "Once a Golden Bear, Always a Golden Bear."

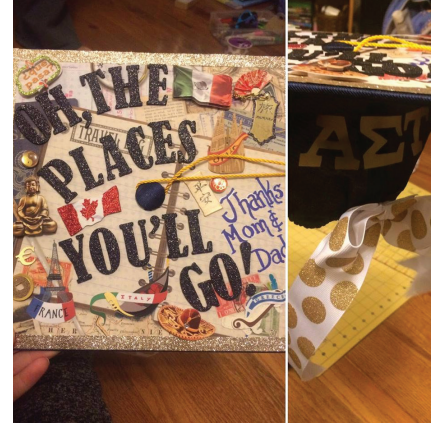
Senior Graduation Caps



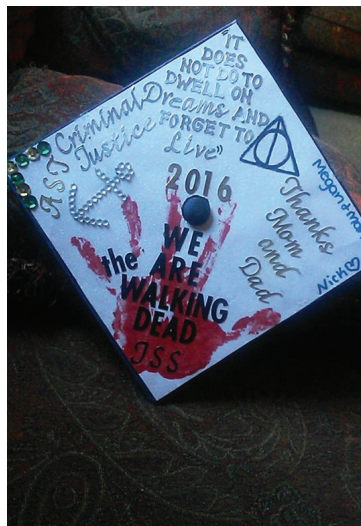
Kassie Shope



Jolita Dural



Ashley Burns



Brittany Smith

The Transgender Restroom War

By Erika Stoffel
Staff Writer

Social media has been abuzz lately with an issue we all know a little too well: The transgender restroom war.

Now to be clear, sides are not being taken here. As everyone knows, there are now cases where individuals who were born a certain gender are starting to use the restrooms of the opposite gender. The only issue is, no one knows if there are any rules and regulations to this.

Opposing voices go back and forth saying the transgender community means no harm, while the other side claims there may be foul play.

The only issue between these opposing voices is that neither are actually doing anything to get the word out about what is really acceptable in this situation.

News and social media has only covered the ugly side, the side that has just been flat out complaining about the issue instead of giving the population facts and advice. Although there are some topics in a higher demand, there are issues that need to be addressed about transgender restrooms.

As the saying goes, ignorance is bliss. Well, in this instance, ignorance is not acceptable. The general population does not know much about the law and the issues surrounding transgender restrooms, and this is the root of what is wrong.

For example, a recent video was released showing a transgender woman in the ladies' restroom dressed as a man.

Though there is nothing wrong with this and the woman was still in the restroom she was assigned at birth, authorities were called under suspicion of a male in the women's restroom. Needless to say, the transgender woman was escorted out of the restroom. Given this video, we have to ask ourselves if there are any guidelines to work under when it comes to social equality. At this point, it seems that not even the authorities know what to do.

Not knowing what to do has been the epitome of why society has begun to turn its back on our noble men and women in blue. Under the guidelines, in simple terms, law enforcement officers are expected to keep the peace. Referring back to the video, the assumption is that the school staff was not at peace with who they thought was a man in the women's restroom and so the police officers acted on behalf of the people who called them to come and deal with the situation.

This, in turn, lead to the student body degrading the law enforcement officers.

There needs to be a brighter light shed on the issue of transgender restrooms so that people understand the law. There have been many successes for people in the LGBTQ community. Although some people are not comfortable with transgender restrooms, a bit of education can go a very long way for those on both sides of the issue.

The best way education can be accessed is through education being provided. LGBTQ organizations are well equipped to provide education about the matter. Education from these organizations would help folks to learn the ins and outs of the laws regarding the LGBTQ community.

Fayetteville: A Town Full of Adventure for Summer!

By Taylor Hunley
Guest Writer

Hey Golden Bears! Are you tired of doing the same old stuff day in and day out? Why not take a road trip with a few good friends to one of the coolest small towns in America? Fayetteville may be a small town, but it is packed full of adventures that any adrenaline junky would approve of.

Fayetteville is the county seat of Fayette County, West Virginia, with a population of only 2,892. But don't let lack of population fool you. Fayetteville attracts tourists from all over the country. It was listed as one of the coolest small towns in America in Budget Travel Magazine (2006) and Best River Town in Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine (2013).

Whitewater rafting down the famous New River. Kayaking the swift waters of the Gauley River. Even zip-lining through the treetops of the beautiful West Virginia Appalachian Mountains. These are just a few things that this awesome small town offers.

Not into this kind of stuff? No worries! There's plenty to do for you people who enjoy more relaxed activities. Fayetteville has hiking trails around every corner. Some of these include Long Point Trail, Endless Wall Trail, Kaymoor Trail, Burnwood Trail, Arrowhead Trail, and Canyon Rim Overlook Boardwalk. These trails are sure to give you a spectacular view of the New River Gorge Bridge. There are many more leisure activities as well. Fayetteville offers horseback riding, jet boat/hiking tours through historic coal towns, and numerous museums that will impress any history buff!

Foodies are guaranteed to love this town as well. Fayetteville is home to some of the best cuisine West Virginia has to offer. The restaurants located in Fayetteville are unique, fun, and delicious! Pies and Pints serve up delicious pizzas of any sort. They range from the classics we all know and love to more unique recipes like grape and Gorgonzola. This restaurant lives up to its name by having a separate menu especially for drinks. They range from nationally known beverages to locally brewed. No matter whether you stick to classics or try something new, you'll be sure to leave satisfied! If you're more of a sandwich person, then Secret Sandwich Society is for you! With a sandwich selection from meatloaf to chicken to eggplant, there is bound to be a sandwich for everyone to love. The menu also includes a large selection of burgers and pimento cheese fries to die for! Some more of the local favorites are Cathedral Café, Gumbos, Dirty Ernie's Rib Pit, and Whitewater Bar and Grill. If one thing is for sure, it's that you'll never go hungry in Fayetteville, WV!

Fayetteville is only 45 minutes away from campus, which is good news for all of you! Most college students can't afford to go on a weekend getaway, but Fayetteville is close enough for a day trip. This should be music to every fun-loving student's ears. So what are you waiting for? Nature's playground awaits you!

Don't Ever Give Up

By Zuberi Idy
Guest Writer

Being a college student and trying to maintain a good GPA is really difficult. You are going to have some ups, and you will have some downs. As the semester continues and only few weeks' left, all I can think about is how will I finish this semester with the perfect GPA. According to Bryan Golden, author of *Dare to Live Without Limits*, "Persistence is the foundation of success. Although there are many ways to describe success, there is only one definition of failure – giving up. Whatever your meaning of success, you will only achieve it through persistence." Many students give up when they have low grades in class. Students say when the semester comes to an end, it gets rough because of projects, essays, and exams. To the students it seems that the professors add more workload than the students can handle. This causes the students to freak out due to the amount of work and the small amount of time they have to turn it in. This is where the lack of motivation kicks in. Students sometimes think that since they have already done a lot of work in a class, not turning in one assignment will not make a difference. Well, in fact, completing that one assignment can help the student from failing the course. Sometimes professors think that their students are only taking two or three classes, but in reality they, most college students are enrolled as full time students with an average of twelve credit hours or more. This is the reason why students sometimes lack the motivation to do their assignments; they can feel overwhelmed.

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence.

Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent.

Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb.

Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts.

Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent." -Calvin Coolidge.

There are days when you just feel like giving up because of the grades and the homework you are being assigned. But that is what helps you to understand and achieve many great things because without struggle nothing could be done. To obtain great things, you must go through hardship.

There will always be people that put you down and say that you are not capable of achieving great things. You are born without the concept of failure. How did you manage to pass all of your classes? School has always been hard; each year just gets harder and harder. But you didn't know you couldn't succeed and immediately tried your best. And again you failed. But you never gave up. Hundreds of times you repeated this process until you learned how to beat the system by working hard, succeeding, and never giving up.

"When you feel like giving up, you must keep going. Only by continuing, when most others won't, will you achieve your goals. Don't join the ranks of those who have given up just around the corner from success. You never know where your corner is so you must never stop." said Bryan Golden. If everyone else is doing it why can't you?

Keep up the positive attitude, Golden Bears. And for students who are graduating this year, keep up the positivity as you move on to bigger and better things!

"All of our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." - Walt Disney

On This Day in History..

May 1, 1937 - President Franklin Roosevelt signs act of neutrality, keeping US out of World War II .

May 2, 1970 - Student anti-war protesters at Kent State University burn down the campus ROTC building.

May 3, 1865 - President Abraham Lincoln's funeral train arrives in Springfield, Illinois.

May 4, 1942 - United States begins food rationing.

May 5, 1865 - 13th amendment ratified, abolishing slavery.

May 6, 1916 - US Marines invade the Dominican Republic

May 7, 1877 - Indian chief Sitting Bull enters Canada with a trail of Indians after the Battle of Little Big Horn

May 8, 1942 - The Battle of Coral Sea between the Japanese Navy and the US Navy ends.

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