



Nightmares in the Making: The UWG Horror Film Race

Kaden Carr
Copy Editor

One week. Seven days. 168 hours. This is how long aspiring filmmakers have to create their bone-chilling short film for the University of West Georgia's third annual Horror Film Race. Open to film majors and horror enthusiasts alike, this year's race was held on campus from Oct. 10 to Oct. 17, and was met with both excitement and fearful anticipation for all the passionate people involved.

"I had kind of let it get to me for a second. It was to a point where I had several stress related dreams about various logistical issues," said Clay Fillers, director of his own film race team. "There's a little bit of anticipation, there's a little bit of fun, some mystery behind it. There is also the stress of having to write a story."

Fillers talks of a stress that many participants shared. Before the week starts, no team has any idea of what genre their film is going to be. While they're free to develop ideas and form general staff roles, the crew can ultimately only wait in suspense for their genre to be drawn from a hat to begin the race. These genres range from zombie, Japanese horror, possession and even comedy. No matter what genre they pull, each team only had the coming week to write, film and edit their entire short. Beyond the mounting pressure, the wealth of experience that the film race offers to students and alumni is irreplaceable.

"I think that the film race is an important vehicle for students to learn and to improve," said Fillers. "My first set as a student here was the film

race."

Fillers spoke in depth on how previous film races had pushed him to new heights as a filmmaker, each year imparting more and more vital hands-on experience.

"Going into this film race, I knew that I was ready to lead," Fillers said. "I had more of an idea of how to run a film set, how to get what I want out of my actors, and what I want out of my crew."

Participants this year were given the unique opportunity of having their work premiere at the Rome International Film Festival, with the screening taking place at 6:15 p.m. on Oct. 31. This offers filmmakers a unique and valuable chance to network, improve and receive an audience of horror fans beyond campus grounds. UWG students will be given a later opportunity to screen the films on campus on Nov. 7. Both events are free to anyone interested in attending.

"Do it. Straight up. You're not gonna know if you like doing something unless you go out and do it," Fillers said. "Even if you don't know how to do something, you can learn. Somebody will teach you, even if you're not a film student."

Filler reiterated that the Horror Film Race is an event that closes its doors to no one, no matter the skill level, major or ability. It's a powerful avenue to meet like-minded students dedicated to the craft of filmmaking.

THIS WEEK:

Living West

PAGES 1-3

Nightmares in the Making: The UWG Horror Film Race
By Kaden Carr

Greek Life Goes to the Movies to Celebrate Homecoming
By Abbie Klein

The West Georgia Community Gets Ready for Halloween
By Courtney Bixby

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

PAGES 3-4

Outer Banks Season 4: High Stakes, Thriller, Drama and Adventure Return to OBX Once Again
By Cindy Martinez

Kathleen Glasgow's Newest Book Tells a Story of Addiction and Healing
By Breanna Tillie



Photo Courtesy of Clay Filler

Greek Life Goes to the Movies to Celebrate Homecoming

Abbie Klein
Feature Editor

When the stress of midterms and assignments piling up becomes too much, Homecoming serves as the perfect break for UWG students to enjoy the week full of festivities. One of the events planned was the popular homecoming tradition of Greek Grind, which took place on Oct. 16 in The Coliseum.

Greek Grind has been a beloved tradition for years that encourages students to interact and support Greek life through a fun and healthy competition. For students already in Greek life, it gives them the opportunity to get to know other members more.

“I didn’t know what Greek Grind was at first,” said Penelope Sierra, a new member of Alpha Xi Delta. “I had joined as a COB and missed rush and recruitment. So when they were doing tryouts for Greek Grind I just came to the house and tried trying out not even knowing I’d make the team, it was just for fun for me and to meet more of the girls.”

The basis of the event is a themed dance competition between teams made up of fraternities and sororities. This year’s theme was “Greek Grind Goes to the Movies” with each team paying homage to a popular movie in their routine. The chosen movies and teams were High School Musical (Chi Omega and Sigma Nu), Pitch Perfect (Alpha Xi Delta and Pi Kappa Alpha), Footloose (Sigma Kappa, Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Chi), Top Gun (Phi Mu and Kappa Alpha Order), Teen Beach Movie (Delta Zeta and Kappa Sigma) and Step Up (Kappa Delta and Tau Kappa Epsilon).

“I definitely was a fan of the Top Gun and Footloose dance,” said Sierra. “But those were also the only dances I was able to watch and they were really good.”

Every team did extremely well. The hard work and creativity was clearly shown in each routine, but only one

team could win. Step Up placed first, followed by Pitch Perfect at second and Top Gun at third.

“In my personal opinion, our team practiced a lot and I’m extremely happy with the place we made,” said Sierra. “I’m glad we were able to show everyone the routine we worked so hard on.”

With the level of entertainment and talent that was showcased you would think that everyone that participated had previous experience. While that may be true for some, a lot of participants were completely out of their comfort zone.

“I’ve never danced or performed ever until Greek Grind, so this was definitely a new experience for me,” said Sierra.

It not only takes a lot of courage to get on stage and perform in front of your peers, but it also takes a lot of courage to work with new people. While getting to form new friendships is always fun, it can be nerve wracking to form good connections under the stress of something like Greek Grind. Fortunately, a lot of the paired sororities and fraternities were able to let loose and have fun while collaborating together.

“Working with the boys was fun,” said Sierra. “Everyone was getting hyped and excited for the big day and no one ever made it feel like it was boring. It was honestly such a fun experience and all the boys were nice and trying to keep the energy up.”

Greek Grind is a tradition that I hope will continue in the future. When school can seem so stressful and serious, events like these are important to remind us of the community we have supporting us.

“I really enjoyed performing, and getting all dressed up, and having all our girls there to support us and cheer us on.” said Sierra. “It was a fun experience for me and I would definitely think about doing it again next year.”



Photo Courtesy of Alpha Xi Delta

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The West Georgia Community Gets Ready for Halloween

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Carrollton will be holding several Halloween-themed events this year for families to attend. As we approach the week of Halloween, look out for the spooky events in your area that all members of the family, even dogs, can enjoy.

The festivities will kick off this weekend on Oct. 25 with a free showing of Hocus Pocus at the Amphitheatre in Adamson Square. The movie will run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. to get the community in the holiday spirit. On Oct. 26, the annual Trick or Treat will be held in downtown Carrollton from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Kids can show off their best costumes and merchants in the square will be passing out candy. Outstanding costumes will be recognized with prizes. During this time there will also be a dog Halloween costume contest hosted by Dande Doggico, where the winner receives a free bath.

The Keep Carroll Beautiful organization has also arranged for their annual Green Run along the Carrollton greenbelt to help raise money to put back into the community. The run will begin at 8 a.m. and awards will follow at 9 a.m.

Local Ties brewing company will be hosting Brews and Boos on Oct. 26, a Halloween party from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. with a



Photo courtesy of City of Carrollton

costume contest beginning at 8:30 p.m. The event is limited to only those 21 and over and will feature drinks and a dessert bar. Prizes will be given out for first, second and third place as well as the best group costume and the scariest costume. Local Ties will also be holding Scaryoke, on Oct. 30 where you can show off your vocal range in your best costume.

Historic Banning Mills, a Whitesburg ziplining destination, will be holding moonlight tours Saturday night. The tours will begin at 8:30 p.m. and last until

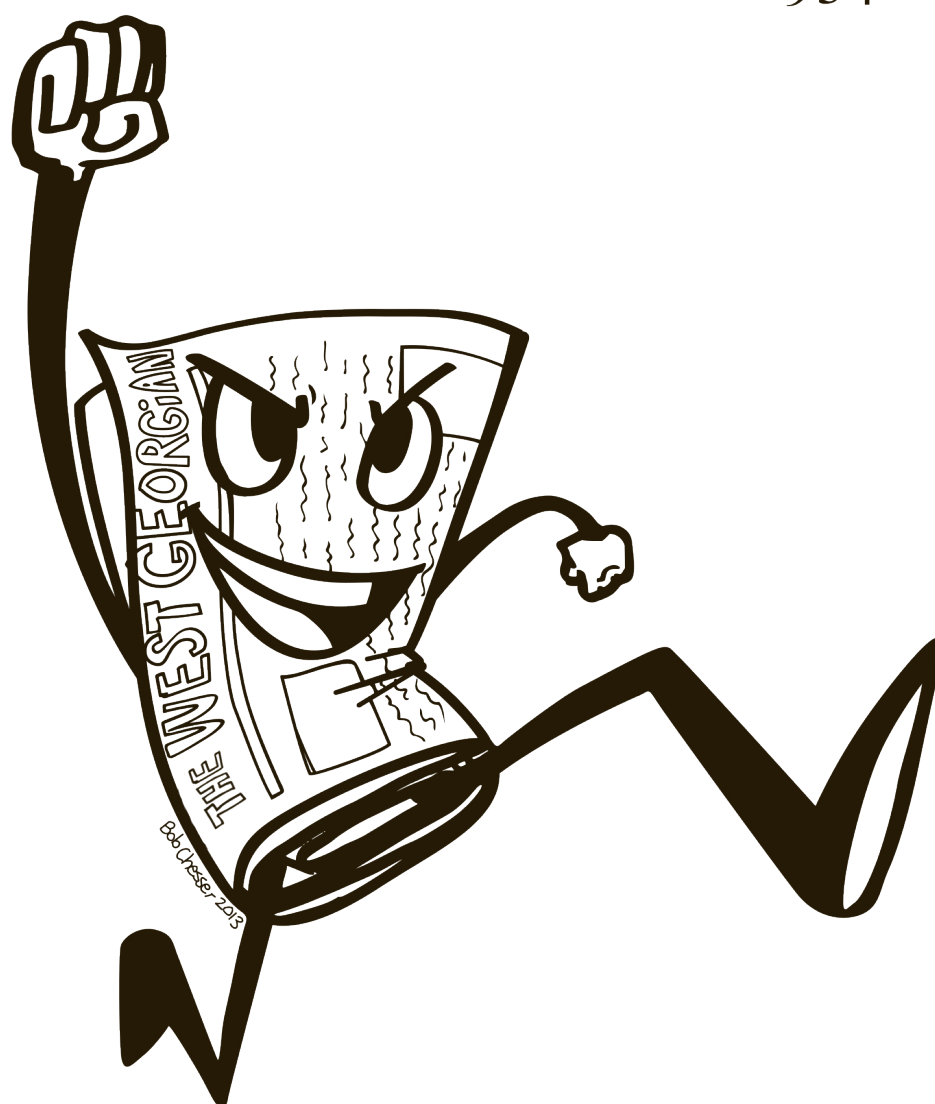
approximately 10:30 p.m. The cost is \$109 per person, and you will skip to levels two, three and four with only the glow of the moon to guide you. Costumes are welcome as long as you can wear a helmet and harness properly.

Newnan will also be hosting Halloween events this weekend. Munchkins and Masquerades, the annual trick or treat for families will be held Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. followed by a local market where costumes are encouraged. The local market will include food, music and

local vendors.

Senoia, on the other hand, will be hosting the Moonlight on Marimac Masquerade on Oct. 26, encouraging guests to wear masquerade attire, but make it spooky. The masquerade will feature a live band, an aerialist, fire performances and a strolling magician. Knife and Stone will be providing food and refreshments. The masquerade is 18 and older, and general admission begins at 6 p.m.

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Arts and Entertainment

Outer Banks Season 4: High-Stakes, Thriller, Drama and Adventure Return to OBX Once Again

Cindy Martinez
Contributing Writer



Photo courtesy of Netflix

The new season of Outer Banks brings back all the excitement and drama fans have come to love and adore. The Pogues led by John B (Chase Stokes) and Sarah (Madeline Cline) find themselves bringing Pougelandia back home with them. They find themselves in even more thrilling adventures, and the chemistry between the cast is more electrifying than ever.

As the Pogues return to the Outer Banks, they set out to build Pougelandia, a safe haven where they can create new memories and move on from their past treasure-hunting adventures. The Pogues now wanting to lead a simple life aim to focus on friendship and fun, hoping to leave the treasure-hunting life behind.

However, as fate would have it, the

treasure adventures always have a way of finding them once again, leading to new challenges that pull them back into the exhilarating world they thought they'd left behind.

Stokes and some other cast members described their experiences in an interview with Netflix for season 4.

"This season is all about growth and resilience. John B faces challenges that test his limits," said Stokes.

John B's character journey reflects the struggle for friendship and loyalty, especially as secrets threaten to cause a rift and threaten to tear the group apart.

"The stakes are higher this time, and we see how the characters evolve. It's not just about the treasure, and it's about what we're willing to do for each other," Cline said in an interview.

The action in the new season was highlighted, with casts performing adrenaline-pumping chases and dangerous scenes.

"We pushed our limits this season, both physically and emotionally. The action is bigger, and so are the consequences," said Jonathan Daviss, who portrays Pope.

Visually, the season is stunning. With the Pogues back in OBX, viewers are treated to beautiful scenes and unfolding drama.

"Filming in such gorgeous places makes you feel like it's a real-life adventure. We're not just acting; we're living it," Cline remarked.

As the first half of the season comes to a close, fans are left with plenty of questions and cliffhangers, fueling anticipation for the second half, which is set to release on Nov. 7.

"We've set the stage for some big revelations," teased Stokes, hinting at the surprises in store.

Overall, Season 4 of Outer Banks successfully balances thrilling action, heartfelt moments, and the complexities of friendship. With engaging storytelling and strong performances, it's no surprise fans are eagerly looking forward to the next half of the season. This show is a must-watch if you love adventure and mystery.

Kathleen Glasgow's Newest Book Tells a Story of Addiction and Healing

Breanna Tillie
News Editor

Kathleen Glasgow is a young adult author who is known for writing books that are difficult to read, but absolutely necessary. Glasgow does not shy away from heavy topics and intense themes. Glasgow's book, "Girl in Pieces", tells the story of a broken young girl struggling to put herself back together after a suicide attempt. Her book, "How to Make Friends with the Dark" deals with death and grief after the main character loses her mother. Her book, "You'd be Home Now," handles the opioid crisis and the lives impacted by drug addiction.

Glasgow's newest book, "The Glass Girl," released on Oct. 1, features a teenage girl named Bella who is navigating the death of her beloved grandmother, the divorce of her parents, and the heartbreak of her boyfriend breaking up with her. Bella is overwhelmed and underprepared for all of these changes. She drowns her sorrows in alcohol as a coping mechanism, but this turns into an addiction with devastating consequences.

Glasgow masterfully divides "The Glass Girl" into four parts. Part one of the book tells of Bella's background before she goes to rehab. Instantly, it is clear that Bella's reliance on alcohol is unhealthy. Bella's thoughts about her recent losses often consume her mind and overpower her thoughts. She discusses how the only way she is able to make it through each

long day is knowing that at the end of it, she will forget about all of her problems when she gets to drink. This experience is highly relatable with not just alcoholism, but any self-destructive habit.

Her dependence on this substance reveals itself to be problematic in a number of ways. Her grades suffer in school when she misses assignments. Her health suffers as she feels sick from hangovers all of the time. Her friendships suffer as they cannot tolerate her emotional outbursts when she is drunk. However, more than anything, her self esteem suffers when she is forced to constantly confront the shame and humiliation of her drinking.

Glasgow does an excellent job painting the painful picture of how the cycle of self-destruction continues. Self-destructive behaviors are so addictive because they temporarily soothe internal turmoil. However, the sense of shame of these short-term gratifications comes back multiplied. In order to cope with the shame, addicts indulge in even more self-sabotage. A downward spiral continues until the addict eventually hits rock bottom.

Bella's rock bottom is displayed in part two of "The Glass Girl." It is brutally sad to read, but it is portrayed quite realistically. She goes to a party, drinks too much, publicly embarrasses herself, and eventually blacks out. Her friends leave her outside of her mother's

house for dead, she is taken to the hospital for alcohol poisoning, and she is forced to go to rehab.

Though it hurts to see Bella descend into such a low place, rock bottom is where a person stops digging. Bella's journey towards recovery in parts three and four of the book is not perfect, but inspiring nonetheless. Glasgow has constructed such a complex, messy, and beautiful character that readers cannot help but root for. All readers will be encouraged by this book to not necessarily avoid ever making mistakes, but to know that redemption is always possible.

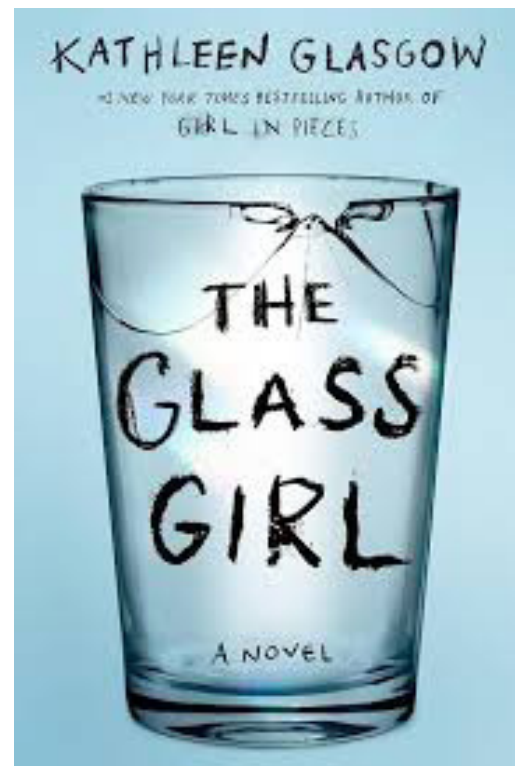


Photo courtesy of Kathleen Glasgow