

## Inside IN FOCUS



Students enjoy Spring Break across globe, at home  
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## OPINION



Thank you, unsung heroes of winter  
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## ENTERTAINMENT



'Ring Two' takes a different direction, still a flop  
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## SPORTS



Let's play two: Appalachian sweeps Sunday double-header  
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## ONLINE

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## WEATHER

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Presidential candidate John B. Artman (far left) meets with vice presidential candidate Benjamin "Rico" Diaz. Diaz's running mate, Chelsea M. Hunt (far right), looks on.

Artman/Radford and Watkins/Pereira fight it out in the final week of campaigning. Hunt/Diaz are staying in the race, but putting support behind Artman/Radford.

### Watkins, Pereira focus on one-on-one interaction for campaign win

**JUSTIN BOULMAY**  
Senior Staff Writer

Aside from university affairs, Student Government Association presidential and vice presidential candidates P. Jud Watkins and Christopher R. Pereira both enjoy outdoor sports and reading. An author they both enjoy is Nicholas Sparks.

Watkins said he's a bigger fan of "A Walk to Remember," while Pereira enjoyed "The Notebook." Pereira said he did not realize the two old characters were the same as the two young lovers whom the story follows.

"At first, I drew that connection then I pulled it back apart and I was like, 'No, maybe that's not it,' especially when she saw her kids and didn't recognize them," Pereira said.

These days, however, the two running mates have not had much time to read. Voting for the SGA elections began yesterday, and Pereira said the duo has spent about 25 hours per week on the campaign.

"Right now, you have to kind of cut out stuff, even stuff that you love, like reading," Pereira said.

"That's been a narrowing point," Watkins said. "I've had to ski less and campaign more."

Their campaign strategy has been to put up signs and meet with students in personal and group settings.

"Reading a sign isn't going to make you pick someone," Pereira said. "Meeting them, realizing that they're the best choice for you and will get work done and will make Appalachian a better school, that's the reason to vote for someone."

Watkins said the point was to promote a set of ideas, not candidates.

"The main reason Chris and I are meeting with these clubs and organizations is not so much to push our names but to push a platform, to push what the students want," he said.

Watkins and Pereira said they spent time during the last year assessing what issues they wanted to cover in their campaign.

Their top three are retaining the textbook rental system, keeping tuition costs low for students and protecting the environment.

"The chancellor's motto is 'Students first, quality in all,'" Watkins said. "I think we can achieve quality in all by keeping the textbook rental system, and I think that the faculty is not putting students first."

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### Artman, Radford focus on their concern for Appalachian's future

**JENNIFER SCHNEIDER**  
Staff Writer

John B. Artman and Jason S. Radford took careful consideration of their strong concern for the future of Appalachian State University and its students when deciding to run for Student Government Association president and vice president.

Artman, an individual design major with a concentration in Chinese studies, said his interest in SGA began his freshman year when he was involved with the American Civil Liberties Union club.

"The senate meetings I attended left me disillusioned as to the goals and effectiveness of SGA," he said.

The disillusionment encouraged Artman to get involved. "There doesn't seem to be a very great effort to make the impact of SGA seen in the daily lives of students," he said. "I will be working every day to coordinate the desires of students with the restrictions of the administration."

Radford, a philosophy and religion major, also joined SGA because he wanted to make a difference.

In high school, Radford said he did not enjoy his time with student governments and saw them simply as popularity contests.

Radford wanted to get more involved and decided to give student government another try at the collegiate level.

"I quickly came to understand what SGA could do and began to reapply and further develop my compassion through SGA."

The duo has a variety of goals and role models that have shaped them.

Artman said he looks up to his mother the most. "She is hard working, responsible and highly motivated, all qualities that I wish to emulate," he said.

Radford, who grew up as a minority in his mostly African-American high school, said the environment led him to feel excluded, but also compassionate, for those around him.

"This compassion, blended with my personal studies in Buddhism and Hinduism, allowed me to develop and tap this compassion to motivate my life and direct my goals," Radford said.

The duo's reasons for attending Appalachian may be different, but they both have no regrets over coming.

Artman said he believes God had more of a hand in his decision to attend Appalachian than he did.

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# The race is on



Both photos by Jonathan Williams | The Appalachian  
P. Jud Watkins hands out election material to students outside Plemmons Student Union.

### Hunt, Diaz learn from debate mistakes, encourage voter turnout

**ANNA OAKES**  
Senior Staff Writer

Following the Student Government Association presidential and vice presidential debate March 15, candidate Chelsea M. Hunt said she is still running for president. Her support, however, is for another ticket.

Hunt also said she and her running mate, Benjamin "Rico" Diaz, were less prepared for the debate than the other two tickets.

"I had to call and wake Rico up," Hunt said. "He forgot about the debate. After the debate, I realized I don't know as much about different areas as I need to."

Although she said she is in support of the Artman-Radford ticket, Hunt also said she is still running for the presidency.

"I don't want to drop out because I'm not a quitter," she said.

Hunt stressed she and Diaz want the ticket with the most achievable goals to win.

"One thing I kind of dislike about one ticket is that I truly believe in setting achievable goals," she said. "I can say, 'Hey, parking decks are a great idea,' but seriously, what kind of power does the SGA president have to really make that decision?" Hunt said.

Hunt said she and Diaz will use this week to try and get as many students as possible to vote in the SGA elections.

"One of the things I'm doing for campaigning is going around at lunch and [introducing myself] and asking people to please vote for somebody," Hunt said. "My main objective is to just get the numbers up, not who they vote for. That's what I'm going to be doing this week, getting people to vote."

Hunt said her constant involvement in leadership roles on campus has helped her understand a lot of different perspectives.

Both Hunt and Diaz are active members of Alpha Phi Omega, a co-educational service fraternity. Hunt is APO's alumni secretary and Diaz serves as the organization's sergeant-at-arms.

A sophomore hospitality and tourism management major, Diaz is originally from Costa Rica. His family moved to the United States when he was 6 or 7 years old, he said.

After he graduates, Diaz hopes to return to Costa Rica to work in the tourism industry.

Diaz said he feels Hispanics are underrepresented on campus, which was a reason he decided to run for SGA vice president.

# Peacock installation will honor past, present, future of ASU

**JUSTIN BOULMAY**  
Senior Staff Writer

Appalachian State University will see its sixth chancellor, Dr. Kenneth E. Peacock, installed into office April 22 at 10 a.m. in the Holmes Convocation Center, a little over 10 months after he assumed the office July 1, 2004.

"It's actually a chance to celebrate the university and the history of the university, but also to celebrate the new chancellor coming on board," Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Tim Burwell said.

"This is one of very few chancellors," Director of the Registrar's Office Don R. Rankins said. "You don't have a big turnover in chancellors for a university. It's a very important time for Appalachian."

Delegates from across the state, such as officials from other universities and the Board of Governors (BOG), will be in attendance. Activities are scheduled throughout the week, including a

student celebration on April 17 and a staff and faculty appreciation luncheon on April 21.

An installation gala is scheduled April 22 from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Provost Stanley R. Aeschleman canceled classes April 22 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. to give students the opportunity to attend as well.

"We're hoping that there will be a very good turnout of students," Burwell said. "Obviously, if every student showed up, we wouldn't be able to seat them all, but certainly, because this is a very public gathering and in terms of which we have a number of dignitaries here, we hope students would come and hear what some of these folks have to say and show their interest in terms of new directions for the institution."

The ceremony itself is expected to last two hours and will include speakers, a keynote address and the swearing of Peacock into office. Rankins said the event did

not take place sooner for several reasons.

"I think Appalachian needed to get the administration in place," Rankins said. "There was business at hand. There were things to do."

Rankins said Appalachian has purchased new chairs and banners for the event. In place of advertisements, displays will be hung on the light boards that show something about Appalachian's history.

"Everything you see at that event will be something that we'll get to carry forward into future commencements, and that's very special," he said.

Rankins also said the installation will give his office the chance to experiment with things they can do for graduation ceremonies, such as a video made by the office of Information and Technology Services.

"What's so good about this, our video, we've never had every event videotape available for a student or parent who might want a DVD of their graduation," he

Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock's Installation	
Sunday, April 17 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Student Celebration Plemmons Student Union
Monday, April 18 5 - 9 p.m.	Museum Night & Arts Showcase Appalachian Cultural Museum Turchin Center for the Visual Arts
Tuesday, April 19 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Research Day Plemmons Student Union
Wednesday, April 20 8 p.m.	Premiere of Appalachian Symphony Rosen Concert Hall
Thursday, April 21 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 4 - 6 p.m.	Staff & Faculty Appreciation Luncheon, psu 25th Anniversary Open House for Appalachian Studies, LLC
Friday, April 22 8 a.m. - Noon 10 a.m. 8 p.m. - Midnight	All Classes Cancelled Installation of Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock, Convocation Center Installation Gala, Convocation Center
Saturday, April 23 12:30 p.m. 8 p.m.	ASU Alumni Association Awards Luncheon, Broyhill Inn Steely Pan Band Reunion Concert, Farthing Auditorium

said. "Well, after this event, we'll actually be set up to do that."

Director of Student Programs David L. Robertson said an international display will be in place in the Holmes Convocation Center during the ceremony, but will later move to Plemmons Student Union.

"There are 73 countries represented by different people at Appalachian," Robertson said.

"We have arranged to purchase 73 flags that represent those countries that ASU students have come from."

The flags represent countries from which either students and facul-

ty members have come or have exchange agreements with Appalachian. After the installation ceremony the flags will eventually be moved to the hallway in the student union between Crossroads and the University Bookstore. Each flag will be hung from the ceiling.