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The George-Anne

Georgia Southern University's Official Student Newspaper

Statesboro, Georgia 30460

Founded 1927

BLUE EDITION

Tuesday
January 7, 1997
Vol. 69, No. 39

The oldest continuously
published newspaper in
Bulloch County

Sports



GSU's Eagle basketball

GSU men's basketball coach Gregg Polinsky talks about his team's performance in games over the holiday break.

Please see story,
page 6

Entertainment



Movie Review

The less-than-pious archangel "Michael" leaves audiences with some unanswered questions.

Please see story,
page 11

Weather



Today: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain and a high in the middle 50s.

Wednesday: Cloudy with a chance of rain and a high in the low 50s.

Today's Word

sciamachy (siOMuke)
n. the act of fighting with an imaginary enemy or shadow

Source: Weird Words

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It is a desire of The George-Anne to print the news of Georgia Southern University as accurately as possible. If you believe that something covered is in error, contact the editor at 681-5246 as soon as possible. Thank you.



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The George-Anne

Liked By Many, Cussed
By Some ...
Read By Them All

BANNER draws mixed reviews

By Joshua Edmonson
News Editor

Administrators say that the new BANNER system makes for shorter registration lines, but a glitch in the system caused delays Thursday for students seeking late registration.

Charlene Black, vice president of academic affairs, said that the system is working better than she had expected it to work at this time.

"Anytime you make a change as big as what we made with BANNER, going from a lot of independent systems operated by the different units to a system that is totally integrated, I thought we would have some problems and crashes," Black said.

"But, we really haven't had that."

Black said that student feedback on the new system has all been positive.

"I went to the student forum that the Strategic Planning Council held and there were unsolicited comments from students saying that it was the easiest registration that they had ever had," Black said.

GSU is planning to update the BANNER system even further in the future.

One plan will include the implementing of telephone registration.

Black said that GSU is hoping to test a telephone registration system in the spring of 1997.

The testing will be done on graduate students.



Mike Spilker

NOT A BANNER DAY: Lines backed up outside the Williams Center Thursday as students waited to adjust their schedules. Students were told the system would be shut down for a few hours.

If the new system works, undergraduates will be able to use the telephone registration system the next academic year.

Also in the spring of 1997, the degree audit program will be implemented.

The program will allow advisors to pull up a printed form showing what requirements are needed for the student to graduate.

The printout will also show what requirements the student has fulfilled.

If the student is changing

majors, the program will show how the student's credits will transfer over to the new major.

"This will make advisement easier, but will also help the student in long-range planning," Black said.

The BANNER system was put into effect last quarter.

BANNER uses on-line transcripts, enrollment verifications, duplicate grade reports and on-line transfer credit evaluation to bring the different department records together under one system.

GSU compensates EPA for wetlands destroyed by construction

By Farrah Senn
Senior Staff Writer

GSU has shelled out more than \$100,000 for the replacement of wetlands destroyed in the construction of the new College of Education Building.

The university purchased 20.03 wetland mitigation credits from Wetlands Environmental Technology Inc. to compensate for the 3.23 acres of wetlands lost.

New Environmental Protection Agency regulations will require compensation for the loss of one-third acre of wetland or more, dropped from the previous regulation of 10 acres or more.

The bank sells credits to governmental agencies and private industries who have "unavoidably" destroyed wetlands in their developmental activities.

"This is private industry solving the problems of private industry without government intervention and without using the tax payers' money. We're proud of that," Arthur L. Berger, chairman of W.E.T., Inc., said.

Berger said that the term "unavoidable" is very important.

"You are not allowed to destroy any wetlands you choose," Berger said. "You must have a very good reason and it must be in the public's best interest. This is

"YOU MUST HAVE A VERY GOOD REASON AND IT MUST BE IN THE PUBLIC'S BEST INTEREST. THIS IS DETERMINED BY THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE EPA."

**--ARTHUR BERGER,
CHAIRMAN OF W.E.T. INC.**

determined by the Corps of Engineers and the EPA."

If the result of the development is not deemed more valuable than what is destroyed, the wetlands are not permitted to be disturbed.

In GSU's situation, Berger said, the land was deemed more valuable as an educational building than a wetland area because very few species of wildlife would

be attracted to a wetland area on or near campus.

Purchasing the credits at Millhaven Plantation in Screven County provides a better location and ensures that the wetlands there will be maintained in perpetuity.

Berger said preserving the wetlands is important because they are important sources for fresh water and they provide storage for storm water and a habitat for many wildlife species.

Hardwood trees that grow in wetland areas absorb nitrates and heavy metals, filtering and purifying water as it goes down into the aquifers from which we get

our drinking water.

Wetlands also provide storage for storm run-off. When it rains, water runs down hills and valleys out into the ocean where it is mixed with salt water. Wetlands preserve the water and filter it to our ground water supply.

"The greatest wetland loss occurs in the Mississippi River area, which is the reason you see the flooding that occurs in the Midwest," Berger said.

Wetlands are also important as a habitat to many species of wildlife, including game, fish and birds.

Without mitigation banking, GSU would have had to locate the acreage to achieve the necessary credits, engineer the restoration of the land, and monitor it for five years. If after five years the area was not fulfilling its function, the school would have to continue monitoring it until it was functional.

"Our system is much simpler," Berger said. "All they have to do is write us a

Please see WETLANDS, page 14

Six indicted on cocaine conspiracy charges

By Kevin Bonsor
Assistant News Editor

Two Statesboro men and four others have been indicted on charges related to conspiracy to possess and distribute cocaine and cocaine base (crack).

Elrico "Rico" Rackard, 28, of Statesboro, Lewis Major Jr., 30, of Statesboro, Sammie "Sam Dog" Johnson, 29, of Portal, Heriberto "Bert" Cosme, 25, of Sylvania, Franklin Hagins, 23, of Millen, and David Burke, 28, of Stone Mountain were all indicted on charges of cocaine possession.

In addition to the charge of possession, Rackard, Cosme, Burke and Major were also each indicted on charges of distribution of crack cocaine.

The Grand Jury returned the indictment on Nov. 18, 1996, but it was kept under seal until Dec. 3, pending the arrests of the defendants.

According to a press release from his office, Donnie Dixon, the U.S. Attorney for the Southern

District of Georgia, said, "An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are entitled to a fair trial, in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt."

The indictment is the culmination of a joint investigation by the FBI, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Marshal's Service, Statesboro Police Department, Bulloch County Sheriff's Office, Candler County Sheriff's Office and the Tri-Circuit Drug Task Force.

Det. Wil Merrill of the Statesboro Police Department declined comment on the case, saying that it is departmental policy not to make comment on federal cases.

The United States is represented in the case by Assistant U. S. Attorney Carlton R. Bourne.

According to a spokesman from Dixon's office, the defendants are awaiting trial and the case is now in the discovery phase.

GSU student suspended for possession of 'date rape' drug

By Kevin Bonsor
Assistant News Editor

Local police have charged two people, including one GSU student, who has since been suspended from school, with being in possession of the drug Rohypnol, otherwise known as the "date rape" drug.

Kate Sange, 18, a GSU student, was charged with felony violation of the Georgia Controlled Substance Act on Dec. 3. On the same day, Michael Stasek, 21, of Florida, was charged with similar violations as well as a charge of possession of marijuana.

Police became aware that Sange, a resident of Hendricks Hall at the time, might be in possession of Rohypnol through a confidential informant.

According to Guy Sharp of

Public Safety, a search warrant was then obtained for Sange's room.

The search of the room recovered four tablets of Rohypnol. Sange was then taken into custody.

Police were informed of a possible second person who might be in possession of the drug as they talked to residents of Hendricks Hall.

Public Safety, working along with the Statesboro Police Department and the Tri-Circuit Drug Task Force, obtained consent from Stasek to search his room at the Jameson Inn.

Police found a small amount of marijuana and approximately 60 tablets of Rohypnol underneath an end table in his room.

"This is the largest amounts

Please see DRUGS, page 14

Former GSU employee paid \$175,000 in court settlement

By Kevin Bonsor
Assistant News Editor

A former GSU employee who filed suit against the Board of Regents over several alleged incidents of racial discrimination has settled out of court and will receive \$175,000 under the terms of the settlement.

The July 1995 lawsuit was filed by Teresa Hobbs for what she said was an ongoing problem at GSU.

"Racism is still a prevalent

problem in our area," Hobbs said. "It is internalized within the school."

After receiving her Bachelor's degree in 1987, Hobbs said she applied for more than 20 jobs at GSU.

In 1990, she filed a complaint with the Office of Fair Employment Practices claiming that the school wasn't hiring her because she was a minority.

In 1991, Hobbs applied for an

Please see LAWSUIT, page 14

Beginning-of-the-quarter blues



Mike Spilker

GSU student Patrick Lawrence, 20, from Stone Mountain, Ga., pays out the bucks for his books for the new quarter.

POLICE BEAT

GSU Division of Public Safety

January 1, 1997

• Neil Justin Peeples, 21, of Blackshear, was charged with DUI(.13), weaving and open container violation.

December 22, 1996

• Kelli Shea Gibbs, 22, of Metter, was charged with DUI(.10) and a stop sign violation.

December 21, 1996

• Cedric D. Singletary, 19, of South Mulberry Street, was charged with DUI(.10) and weaving.

Statesboro Police Department

January 3, 1997

• Deitra Redmon, of Hawthorne II, reported damage to property.

January 2, 1997

• Theron Boykin, of Park Place, reported theft by taking of a Malcolm X and a Mount Rushmore picture and an answering machine from his apartment.

• Dalton McGee, of Players Club, reported an unknown person entered his apartment and stole two TVs, two VCRs, a shotgun and a computer. Two gold rings and a cordless phone were also found missing.

• Joshua Humphries, of Eagle Court, reported someone entered his apartment and stole two TVs, a VCR, a stereo, a PPI Amp, a telephone and a clock radio.

January 1, 1997

• Tonia Owens, of Park Place, reported criminal trespass, when she noticed someone had damaged her back door.

• Lisa Ann Perry, of Stadium Walk, reported someone entered her apartment through the back bedroom window and took a checkbook and stereo system.

• Mitesh Patel, of Park Place, reported someone took a VCR and a telephone from his apartment.

• Shannon Patrick Williams, 22, of Statesboro, was charged with discharging a firearm.

December 29, 1996

• David Yarborough, of South College Street, reported theft by taking of a checkbook out of his mailbox sometime between Dec. 6 and Dec. 12.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Things To Do At GSU

Today

• "Bad Behavior" will be playing in the Russell Union Theater beginning at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$2 at the door.

• The Russell Union is now accepting applications for the 1997 Homecoming Chair. Applications may be picked up in room 2024 of the Russell Union or at the Russell Union information desk. Applications are due no later than Friday, Feb. 14 by 5 p.m. Interviews of the applicants will take place from Feb. 17 to Feb. 20. For more information, please contact the Russell Union at 681-0399.

tion, please contact the Russell Union at 681-0399.

Sunday, January 12, 1997

• The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church services will be held in room 126 of the GSU Nursing Building beginning at 10:45 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be a discussion after the services.

Tuesday, January 14, 1997

• The Cinema Arts Program will show "Nobody Loves Me" in the Russell Union Theater.

The show will begin at 7 p.m. and admission will be \$2.

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

• "Vanya on 42nd Street" will be playing in the Russell Union Theater beginning at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$2. The show is being presented by the Cinema Arts Program.

Tuesday, January 28, 1997

• Jean Cocteau's "Beauty and the Beast" will be shown in the Russell Union Theater by the Cinema Arts Program. The show will begin at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$2.

NATIONAL NEWS

University of Wisconsin loses fee lawsuit

By Jason Shepard
The Badger Herald

MADISON, Wis.—A federal judge has ruled that University of Wisconsin-Madison students do not have to fund organizations they do not support.

In a landmark decision that has shocked and outraged UW authorities and student government leaders, U.S. District Judge John Shabaz said Nov. 29 that the current system of mandatory segregated fees is unconstitutional.

"I think it's a victory for the First Amendment, and it's a victory for students regardless of their political or ideological views," said Scott Southworth, one of the three students who filed the lawsuit.

"No students should have to pay for the political or ideological activities of any group on campus, no matter what they believe."

But top UW officials say the decision will have devastating effects on the diversity of student groups at UW-Madison.

"We have one of the most rich and diverse arrays of student organizations in this country,"

said UW Dean of Students Mary Rouse.

"Clearly this will result in a decrease in the number of student organizations at the UW."

Southworth and two other UW-Madison law students filed

"NO STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR THE POLITICAL OR IDEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES OF ANY GROUP ON CAMPUS, NO MATTER WHAT THEY BELIEVE."

—SCOTT SOUTHWORTH,
UW STUDENT

the lawsuit in federal court last spring.

They alleged that their First Amendment rights to free speech and association were being violated by the segregated fee policy.

They objected to their money

being given to groups they do not support.

These groups include WisPIRG and the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Campus Center.

Southworth said he was a devout Christian who opposes abortion and homosexuality.

"The student government has been violating the First Amendment rights of students for years," said Jordan Lorence, the Fairfax, Va., attorney who represented the three law students.

"It has been a flagrant disregard, and I'm not surprised the judge's decision was so strong."

Judge Shabaz said in his ruling that he balanced the constitutional rights of the plaintiffs not to subsidize speech that they object to against the UW's mission to hold a marketplace of ideas.

"This court finds that the balance between the competing interests in this case tips in favor of the First Amendment rights not to be compelled to speak or associate," Shabaz said.

The University of Wisconsin collects mandatory student-activities fees as part of the tuition paid by all students.

Miller gives Georgia lawmakers little room to reform welfare proposal

By Russ Bynum
The Associated Press

ATLANTA—The governor is sending his plan for overhauling Georgia's welfare system to state lawmakers with a warning that he'll accept little, if any, compromise.

But lawmakers from both sides of the aisle are already eyeing Miller's proposal, tougher in some ways than Congress' welfare overhaul and more lenient in others, for possible changes when the Legislature opens its 1997 session.

Some black Democrats are troubled by the plan's four-year lifetime limit on cash benefits and its "two-strikes and you're off" provision for violations of stricter rules.

Republicans, meanwhile, are questioning whether legal immigrants should receive welfare checks for a year.

They're also looking for opportunities to send a stronger moral message to recipients.

But Miller, who acknowledged the pitfalls of seeking the middle ground when he released the plan in November, is starting to dig in his heels before the debate even begins.

"Any significant changes could jeopardize the whole program," Miller said through his spokesman, Rick Dent.

Welfare changes signed into law by President Clinton give states block grants for their own welfare programs.

Georgia will receive \$330 million, an increase of about \$7 million.

Welfare recipients would have to immediately begin looking for work or a related activity, such as school or job training, under Miller's plan.

Once they find a job and get off the rolls, recipients would continue to get benefits such as Medicaid, vouchers for child care, and transportation for up to a

year.

Cathy Johnson, a 36-year-old Atlanta woman who has been on welfare for eight years, said she's worried that she'll be forced to take a job that pays less than she needs to cover her rent and bills while caring for her three children and grandchild.

Ms. Johnson said she worked several retail and fast food jobs before a back injury put her out of work.

"As many years as I have put into the workforce, I deserve

some help until I can do better," she said. "How do you put a time limit on a person?"

Although the federal law caps cash benefits at five years, state welfare officials want to make it four, pressuring caseworkers and recipients to find jobs faster while leaving the state a year to fall back on if needed.

But the four-year cap comes close to the 39-month average Georgia recipients currently receive welfare. Some lawmakers wonder if that's not too close.

The George-Anne

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students and utilizing the facilities provided by GSU. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published weekly newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The ideas expressed herein are those of the editor or the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Student Media Committee, the administration, the faculty and staff of Georgia Southern University, or the University System of Georgia. The George-Anne is published twice weekly during the academic year and three times during summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor (681-5246).

OFFICES, MAIL, PHONES

Room 223, F. I. Williams Center, The George-Anne, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga. 30460. 912/681-5246 (News) or 912/618-5418 (Advertising)

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The George-Anne reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The George-Anne's advertising rates are as follows:

• Students and student groups:	\$2.75 per column inch
• GSU faculty, departments or affiliates:	\$3.25 per column inch
• Statesboro area businesses & groups:	\$4.80 per column inch*
• National rate:	\$8.50 per column inch

*Five inch minimum ad size, otherwise classified display rates (\$6.50 per column inch) apply.
DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one-week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact: Brooks Clements, Advertising Manager, ADS, (912) 681-5418; or Bill Neville, Student Publications Coordinator, (912) 681-0069.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The George-Anne reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The George-Anne's classified advertising rates are as follows:

• Students, student groups, faculty and departments:	Free (25 words or less)
• Others groups or businesses:	20¢ per word per edition (\$4.00 minimum)
• Retail classified display:	\$6.50 per column inch

DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting classified advertising copy is Noon, one-week prior to the intended publication date. Free classified ads from students, faculty and staff must be submitted in writing, with the name of the sender and local address. No free ads taken via telephone. One free ad per person per week.

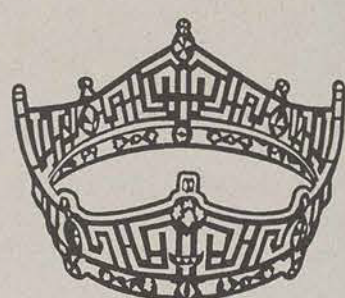
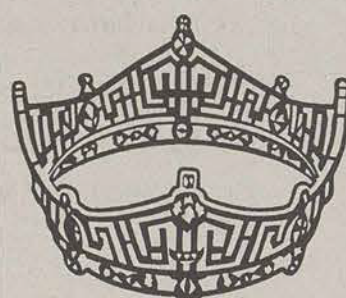
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*We gratefully acknowledge the theft of our slogan - "Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by them All" - from Robert Williams of the Blackshear Times. Call Bob and he can tell you who he stole it from originally.

Be a part of the

49th Annual



Miss

Georgia Southern
University
Pageant

February 8, 1997

Applications are now being accepted for contestants in Russell Union Rm. 2024. Pick-up an information packet and become a part of the excitement. The winner receives a \$1000 scholarship and will go on to compete in the 1997 Miss Georgia Pageant.

For more information see Theresa Beebe in the Russell Union Rm 2024

or
call 681-0399.



Applications due by Fri., Jan. 17, 1997 by 5:00 pm

Great January Specials!

1/2 Price Tanning:

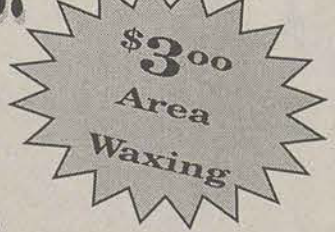
\$3	1 visit
\$12	5 visits
\$19	10 visits
\$25	20 visits

Haircuts:

\$5	Haircut
\$10	Wash n' Cut

Nails:

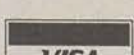
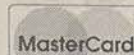
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ONLY IN AMERICA...

1 Virginia

Tickle Me Elmo doll stolen from grave site

The Associated Press

NEWPORT NEWS — Shannon Arbetello put a Tickle Me Elmo and other dolls on the grave marker of her 2-year-old son last summer. When she went back in December, Elmo was gone.

Ms. Arbetello thinks it was stolen because the other dolls were still there.

The furry, red Elmo giggles and was the must-have toy this holiday season, becoming scarce in stores and selling on the street for hundreds of dollars each.

"Someone was so concerned about getting their kid a Tickle Me Elmo that they had to steal it from a grave," said Ms. Arbetello, 29. "There are so many other toys; why?"

"Nicholas had already been through so much. For someone to take this was awful."

Nicholas was born eight weeks premature. He had only one working kidney and had spent much of his short life in the hospital.

In June, two weeks after doctors removed a body cast meant to correct a hip problem, Nicholas wandered into a tub full of water and drowned.

Ms. Arbetello had run the bath for her two other children, 7 and 4.

She closed the bathroom door when she went to get them, but Nicholas somehow managed to get in the room.

Nicholas had loved the "Sesame Street" character Elmo so much that he had an army of various types of Elmo dolls scattered around the house.

His mother buried two of the dolls with him.

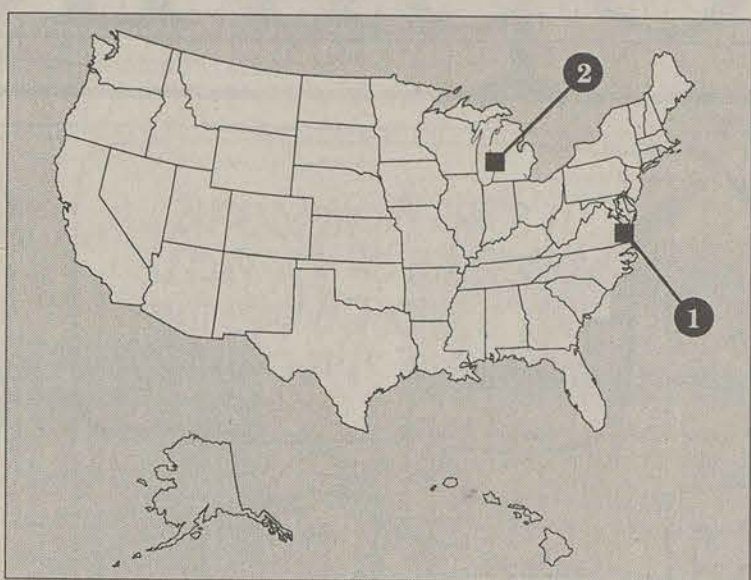
When Tickle Me Elmo appeared on toy store shelves in August, Ms. Arbetello thought that Nicholas would have wanted one.

No one knew then how popular the toy would become.

After hearing about the missing doll, a local woman offered to give Ms. Arbetello a Tickle Me Elmo she had bought for her granddaughter.

Ms. Arbetello turned her down.

"I told her I wanted her granddaughter to have it," she said. "That gave me a little hope that all people aren't bad."



2 Michigan

85-year-old woman shoots intruder

The Associated Press

MUSKEGON — Threatened with rape by a ransacking intruder, 85-year-old Alberta Nicles thought fast and fired faster, riddling the man with bullets from a gun her late husband had hidden in the closet.

"I shot him and he's lying on the floor dead in the closet right next to my bedroom," Mrs. Nicles said later in a 911 call from a neighbor's house.

Mrs. Nicles told police the man removed her pajama pants. Then she remembered her late husband's handgun, which was in a holster hidden under blankets in a closet.

She told the intruder there was money in the closet. She grabbed the gun, stuck it in his stomach and began firing.

The slain man was identified as Michael Moore, 32, who had assault convictions and was awaiting trial on a home-invasion charge. Prosecutors said Mrs. Nicles paid him 5 dollars last week to shovel snow from her walkway.

OFFBEAT

Mattel Toy Company's Cabbage Patch Snack Time Kids accused of eating children's hair

The Associated Press

GREENVILLE, S.C. — Three South Carolina girls are among a handful of children whose hair has been 'swallowed' by new battery-powered Cabbage Patch dolls that mimic eating.

Nine-year-old Victoria Rutland of Easley asked Santa for a Cabbage Patch Snack Time Kid, but she got more than she bargained for on Christmas morning.

"The doll ate my hair," Victoria said.

Her mother, Lavinia Rutland with her husband's help managed to free the crying child from the doll's still-chewing mouth.

Now she plans to return the toy to the store.

"I think they should take the doll off the market, because I think some child might get seriously hurt," Mrs. Rutland said.

"Next time it might be an ear that is being chewed on. Who's to know?"

The dolls have no on-off switch, and parents have reported cutting hair, pulling out batteries and destroying the toy to make it stop chewing.

The Mattel Company has said its products undergo rigorous safety testing and fewer than 10 "isolated" incidents have been reported since the doll went on the market in September.

A Mattel spokesman said that the company is not thinking about recalling the doll, but that they are going to re-examine the doll's structure.

Among the hair-raising stories is Gail Spears', *The Greenville News* reported.

The Rock Hill woman got an unusual call from her daughter's day-care center the day after Christmas.

"I thought, 'This is so silly,'" Ms. Spears said. "A doll attached to her head?"

But it didn't seem silly when

she discovered the doll trying to make a meal out of 7-year-old Hanna.

"It looked really bad," Ms. Spears said. "She was screaming and trying to hold the doll away from her, and the jaws just kept going and going."

Hanna was left with a raised welt on her scalp and a stubby cowlick where a doctor clipped her shoulder-length hair.

Three-year-old Carly Mize of Easley wailed when her doll snagged her hair, pulling a patch right out of her scalp.

"It kept rolling her hair inside the head," said Carly's mother, Tammy Mize.

"It pulled her hair completely from the root. She is completely bald for maybe a hands-length all the way down the back of her head."

In Miami, 5-year-old Carla Fernandez had to have her hair cut when a doll chewed it back to her scalp.

"It just wouldn't stop until my husband stopped it," said Carla's mother, Joanna Fernandez.

A doll belonging to 7-year-old Sarah Stevens of Griffith, Ind., had to be taken apart piece by piece, and emergency workers had to take out a doll's batteries to free 7-year-old Amanda Gomez of New Haven, Conn.

A Lake County, Fla., preschooler had eight inches of

her waist-length hair caught.

Mattel promised 4-year-old Emily Newton's parents a refund or store credit, but the experience soured the family's

Christmas.

"It's a shame it wasn't tested more to know this was going to be a problem," mother Peggy Newton said.

Check-out your campus newspaper,
The George-Anne on-line
<http://www.stp.gasou.edu>

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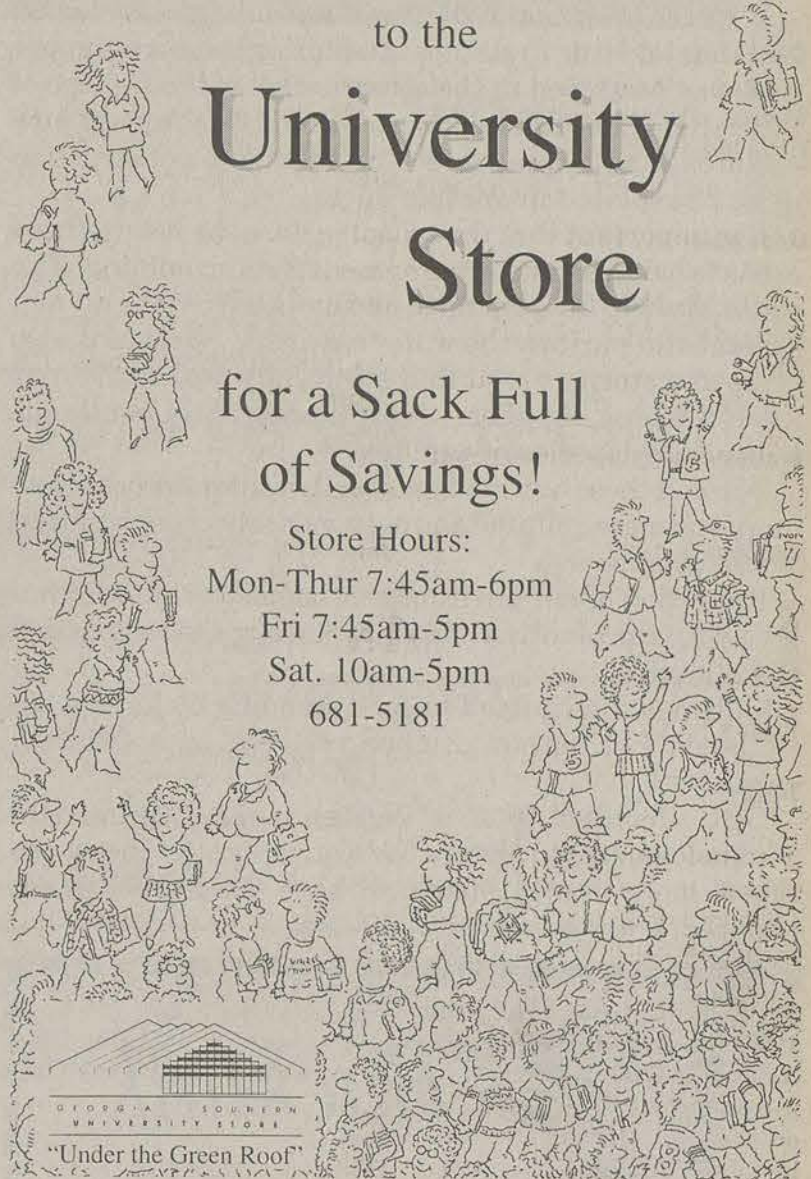
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The George-Anne

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News Editor

Opinions

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Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Our Opinion

Saving the wetlands is imperative for our future

With the purchase of 20.03 wetland mitigation credits, GSU has taken its first steps in restoring the environment that was destroyed in the construction of the College of Education. The Environmental Protection Agency now requires that wetlands destroyed due to construction must be replaced in another spot.

It is important that the school restore the lost wetland areas to help keep our environment from crumbling. The wetlands help filter nitrates and metals from the air and ground and purifies the water we drink. Wetlands also serve as a storm run-off that eventually replenishes our ground water supplies. More importantly, wetlands house many species of wildlife.

Without these wetlands, our earth would slowly become more and more polluted and even more species of animals would disappear.

Protection of our environment begins today, whether it be with the planting of a single tree or the restoration of wetlands.

GSU has shown itself in good standing by having the wetlands lost on our campus restored in a different location.

GSU decided to use Wetlands Environmental Technology, Inc. to restore the lost wetlands. It cost the school more than \$100,000 to have the lost wetlands restored, but it is money well spent.



Backtalk

Now you have a chance to "talk back" to *The George-Anne* about whatever floats your boat. It's a quick, easy way to write a mini-letter to the editor. Fill out this form and send it to P.O. Box 8001, or drop it by *The George-Anne* office at Williams Center room 223.

Name: _____ L.B.: _____ Phone: _____

Your words of wisdom:

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The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the Georgia Southern University Community. All copy submitted should be typed (double-spaced, please), preferably on Macintosh disk in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Works format. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. There is no word limit on submissions. A writer may request to remain anonymous. However, it will be the editor's decision whether or not to print the name. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.

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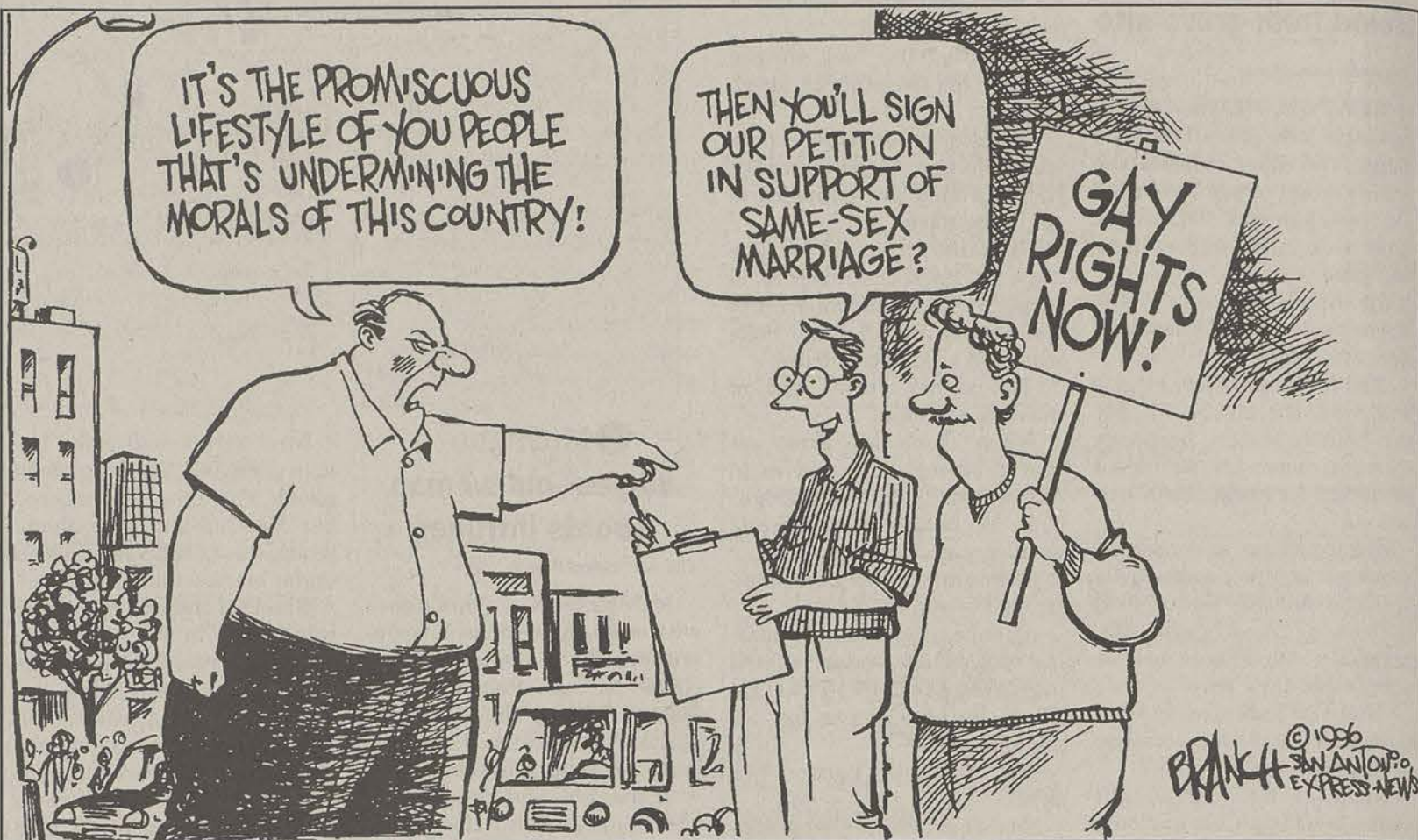
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Does the Georgia flag symbolize hate or heritage?

Hooray for Maryland!

State officials announced Thursday that special license plates black leaders likened to swastika plates would be recalled. The plates, which comprise only 78 of the state's 3.7 million license plates, display a small Confederate Battle Flag on the left side and "Sons Confederate Veterans" under the license numbers.

Perhaps Georgia could learn from these leaders who have recognized the impact of this symbol which represents hatred and oppression to many in the African American community.

Of course, members of The Sons of Confederate Veterans claim that the Confederate Battle Flag does not represent hate, but represents history and heritage. Many Southerners agree with them. But these individuals do not have the right to mandate what that symbol represents to others.

If African Americans feel as if the symbol represents hate, white Southerners cannot very well tell them that it does not. That would be like telling a Jewish person that the swastika represents only the Nazi regime, not the slaughter of millions of Jews at the hands of that regime.

Speaking as a person born and raised in South Georgia, I am all



AMANDA CREWS

EDITOR

for the preservation of Southern heritage. I refuse to give up my Southern accent, regardless of the ridicule I often encounter. I

Georgia flag had displayed the Battle Flag of the Confederacy ever since the Civil War, but it has not. The present state flag

THAT ERA IN OUR HISTORY SHOULD NEVER BE FORGOTTEN LEST WE BE DOOMED TO REPEAT IT, BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE HONORED, REVERED AND PRAISED AS THE SOUTHERN WAY OF LIFE FOR THAT VERY SAME REASON.

also love Southern foods and traditions.

But if being a Southerner means being proud of the enslavement and oppression of an entire race and the bloody battle to preserve that inhumane way of life, then I will call myself a Southerner no longer.

That era in our history should never be forgotten lest we be doomed to repeat it, but it should not be honored, revered and praised as the Southern way of life for that very same reason.

The argument for the preservation of Southern heritage might be a reasonable one if the

was designed by John Sammons Bell, an Atlanta attorney, and was adopted as the official flag of Georgia in 1956.

Notice that was 1956, not 1856.

Now, let's take a stroll down memory lane. What was happening in 1956?

Could it have been that the 1954 Supreme Court decision in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kan.* was mandating the racial integration of all public schools, including ones in the South?

Thanks to that decision and the boycotts and protests identi-

fied with the Civil Rights Movement, some progress was made toward integrating schools and other public facilities in the upper South and the border states.

But the Deep South, including Georgia, was still adamantly against desegregation. And isn't it plausible that the state of Georgia adopted this flag, which had represented rebellion against the federal government, as a protest to the ongoing efforts to end segregation?

If that is the true story of how the Georgia flag came to be, then there should be no question that the flag was born out of a spirit of hate and an uninformed belief that the white race was the superior one.

And as a symbol of such hate, Southerners, many of whom claim to be Christians, should support it no longer.

In conclusion, the Confederate flag does have a place in our society.

It belongs in our museums, history books and classrooms so that future generations may always remember the ignorance of our forefathers and understand the need to appreciate the rich diversity of our country.

The one place this flag does not belong is flying over a state which claims to adhere to the principles of "Wisdom, Justice and Moderation."

California recognizes medicinal value of marijuana

All right, imagine this. You're a person who has been diagnosed with cancer or unbearable chronic pain. Your physician has recommended that you could possibly benefit from the use of marijuana as a form of treatment. Would you or would you not use the marijuana?

A recent survey published in the *New York State Journal of Medicine* found that 35 percent of Americans would use marijuana, which has been deemed illegal by the government as a form of treatment.

With the recent passage of California's Proposition 215, more and more needy people will have the opportunity to use marijuana for medical purposes.

This is the best decision the state of California has made since getting rid of the Los Angeles Rams football team (now the St. Louis Rams).

The passage of Proposition 215 will give deserving patients yet another choice for treatment.

Contrary to popular belief, there have been hundreds of studies done on the medical uses of cannabis since its introduction to Western medicine in the mid-nineteenth century.

Marijuana is a medicine and a drug. It has been used for thousands of years to treat a wide variety of ailments.

It was legal in the United States and prominent in the pharmacopoeia until 1937, when



STACY CLEMONS

MANAGING EDITOR

the federal government outlawed the possession and use of marijuana.

The passage of Proposition 215, the Medical Marijuana Initiative, is the first step for patients to benefit from its therapeutic value.

The most familiar and best established medical use of mari-

juana (smoked marijuana) is as an anti-nauseant for cancer chemotherapy.

A close family friend died last March. She had been diagnosed with breast cancer three years prior to her death. Because the state of Texas did not take part in the clinical research of the usefulness of marijuana, she was unable to receive possible treatment that could have eased her suffering.

During the 1980s, in six different state-sponsored clinical studies in New Mexico, Georgia, Michigan, California, New York and Tennessee involving nearly

1,000 patients, marijuana was proven effective by the majority of the patients and proved to be more effective than both conventional prescription anti-nauseants and oral tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) marketed today.

The state of Georgia has 119 patients who have been taking part in testing the effectiveness

of marijuana since 1988. Of those patients, THC or marijuana was found to be 73 percent effective with only six having adverse reactions from smoke-intolerance and six more suffering panic reactions from THC.

The passage of Proposition 215 will amend state laws and allow persons to grow or possess marijuana use when recommended by a physician. The measure provides for the use of marijuana when a physician has determined that a person's health would benefit from its use in the treatment of cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spasticity, glau-

coma, arthritis, migraine or "any other illness for which marijuana provides relief."

There shouldn't be such a big concern over Proposition 215. This measure is simply designed for patients who might need yet another form of treatment for ailments.

The state governments should focus more on the harder drugs such as cocaine and the sudden increase of LSD usage. I don't know of a single case of someone overdosing on marijuana.

Since the passage of Proposition 215, four more states, including Massachusetts, Nevada, North Carolina and Oklahoma, are considering the medicinal purposes of marijuana.

Why won't every state adopt the measure and put strict regulations on how often and how much marijuana will be prescribed in a specific period of time? This would probably limit the misuse of the program to a minimum.

Evidence in support of marijuana's medical value has existed for centuries and has been validated by numerous studies, researchers, committees and health organizations.

Hopefully, the measure will not be abused and needy patients can benefit from Proposition 215, and perhaps the legislation will also aid as an educational tool for those who do not know of the medical uses of marijuana.

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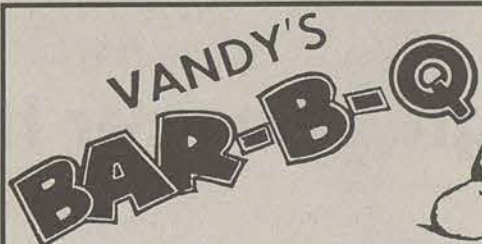
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The George-Anne college football awards

What an ending to a sensational football season in the collegiate ranks. Here are college football's best and worst of 1996... the way we see it:

Best Team: Chomp. No denying it. Neither Ohio State nor Arizona State (and I won't even consider Brigham Young or Wisconsin) should be holding the top spot. Like it or not, hail to the Gators.

Most Improved: You have to consider both Army and Navy. While Army came within a few feet from upsetting Auburn in the Independence Bowl, Navy wowed the Aloha Bowl spectators with their impressive offense, and you can credit new GSU head coach Paul Johnson in sculpting together Navy's awesome attack.

But forget it. I'm going with Louisiana State and its incredible 10-2 season. Watch out SEC. This team is for real.

Biggest Whiners: Don't tell me that Florida coach Steve Spurrier is a bigger crybaby over Georgia fans. As upsetting as its season may have started, the Dawgs showed tremendous improvement, and anyone who thinks that Jim Donnan was not the right man for the job will be eating their words in a few years. Mark it down.

Best Fans: While there are many, Ohio State supporters might have been the deciding factor in the Rose Bowl. They were loud and their presence was felt.

Worst Fans: Well let's see, exactly how many people did I not see at Paulson Stadium against top-ranked and eventual champions Marshall earlier this season?

Biggest Upset: In a year that saw many upsets take place, it's hard to argue that Memphis' astonishing win over Tennessee was the biggest. If the Vols win, they are likely to be in the hunch for the national title. But Memphis prevailed for the first time ever.

Toughest Break: BYU. Try going 14-1 and still falling short of the national title. Also, let's toss in Michigan as a runner-up. Not only did they lose to under-dog Alabama in the Outback Bowl, but they saw arch-rival Ohio State, a team they had beaten a month before, capture a huge win in the Rose Bowl. Go back to bed.

Best Offense: Chomp.

Best Defense: Before last Thursday, I would've said Florida State. But giving up 52 points in your bowl game (no matter who it's against) doesn't exactly bold well in this category. Give it up for Alabama.

Best College Player: Of course, it's hard to decipher between all the positions. But Ohio State's Orlando Pace is simply phenomenal.

Best Coach: Not Spurrier. Not Bobby Bowden. Jerry Dinardo of LSU. What a rebuilding job he has done with the Tigers in the SEC West.

And finally, **The George-Anne Award**, given to the person who is liked by many, cursed by some, but loved by them all: Who other than our boy who saw GSU run 311 yards against his defense, Steve Spurrier. As cocky as he is, no one can argue with what he has done at Florida, and he now has the national championship hardware to prove it.

Willie returns to the GSU after brief departure

GSU News Service

Sophomore guard Rod Willie has rejoined the GSU basketball team after a brief departure, head coach Gregg Polinsky announced Monday afternoon.



Rod Willie

Willie was reported to have not returned to a Dec. 25 practice and left the team, as well as GSU, officially on Dec. 28 due to personal reasons.

Now, after his brief departure, the transfer from Alabama-Birmingham returned to a 9 p.m. practice for the first time Sunday night at Hanner Fieldhouse after apologizing to the team and coaches for his absence.

Both Willie and GSU basketball coach Gregg Polinsky would only comment through a formal press release.

"I would like to apologize to my teammates, the coaching staff, administrators and supporters of GSU basketball," Willie said. "I thank my teammates and coaches for accepting me back on the team and am happy to once again be a part of this basketball program."

A native of Huntsville, Ala., Willie transferred from Gene Bartow's program at UAB, where he played as a true freshman in 17 games for the Blazers.

After playing through a red-shirt last year, he started eight games for the Eagles this season, posting team-high scoring numbers on four occasions.

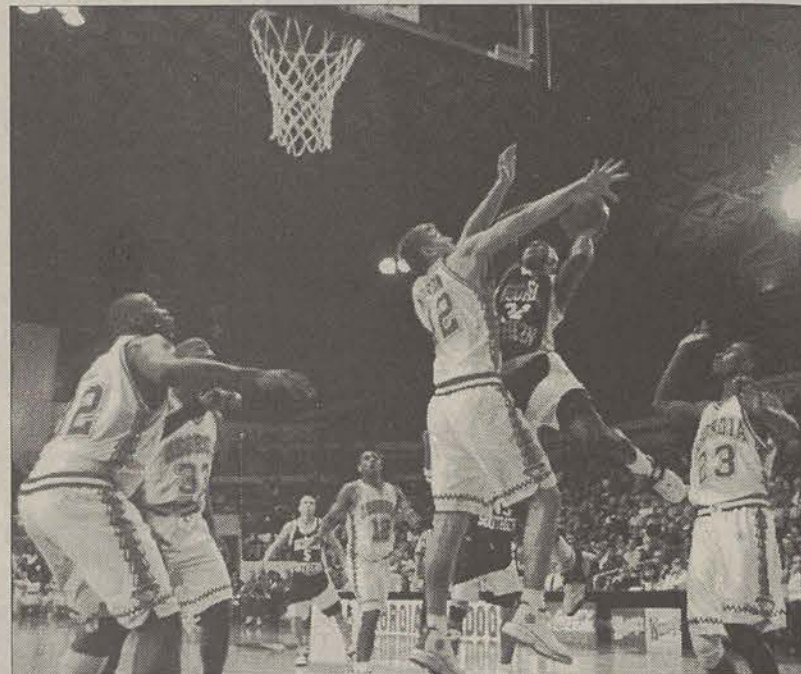
He left the team leading in scoring with an average 16.0 points per game.

Willie is tied for second in rebounding (6.5 per game) and second in assists (22 total). He was averaging 28.8 minutes per contest.

Willie knocked in 26 points and pulled down eight boards against Mercer on Dec. 14, as he guided GSU to its third win of the season.

"I am happy that Rod has returned to the program," Polinsky said. "I think it will be beneficial to all of us. I know Rod is going to work hard to gain the confidence of the people who support the GSU program."

Willie did not play in Monday night's contest against ETSU.



Chaz Pike

WILLIE BACK: Rod Willie has officially returned to the Eagles after a brief departure and is looking to lead GSU just as he did before he left.

Up and down, Eagles battle consistency

By Mike Davis
Sports Editor

GSU basketball coach Gregg Polinsky is actually quite honest about where his basketball team stands right now.

It's a game with numbers, according to the second-year coach, and quite frankly after battling injuries as well as motivational problems, the Eagles are short a few.

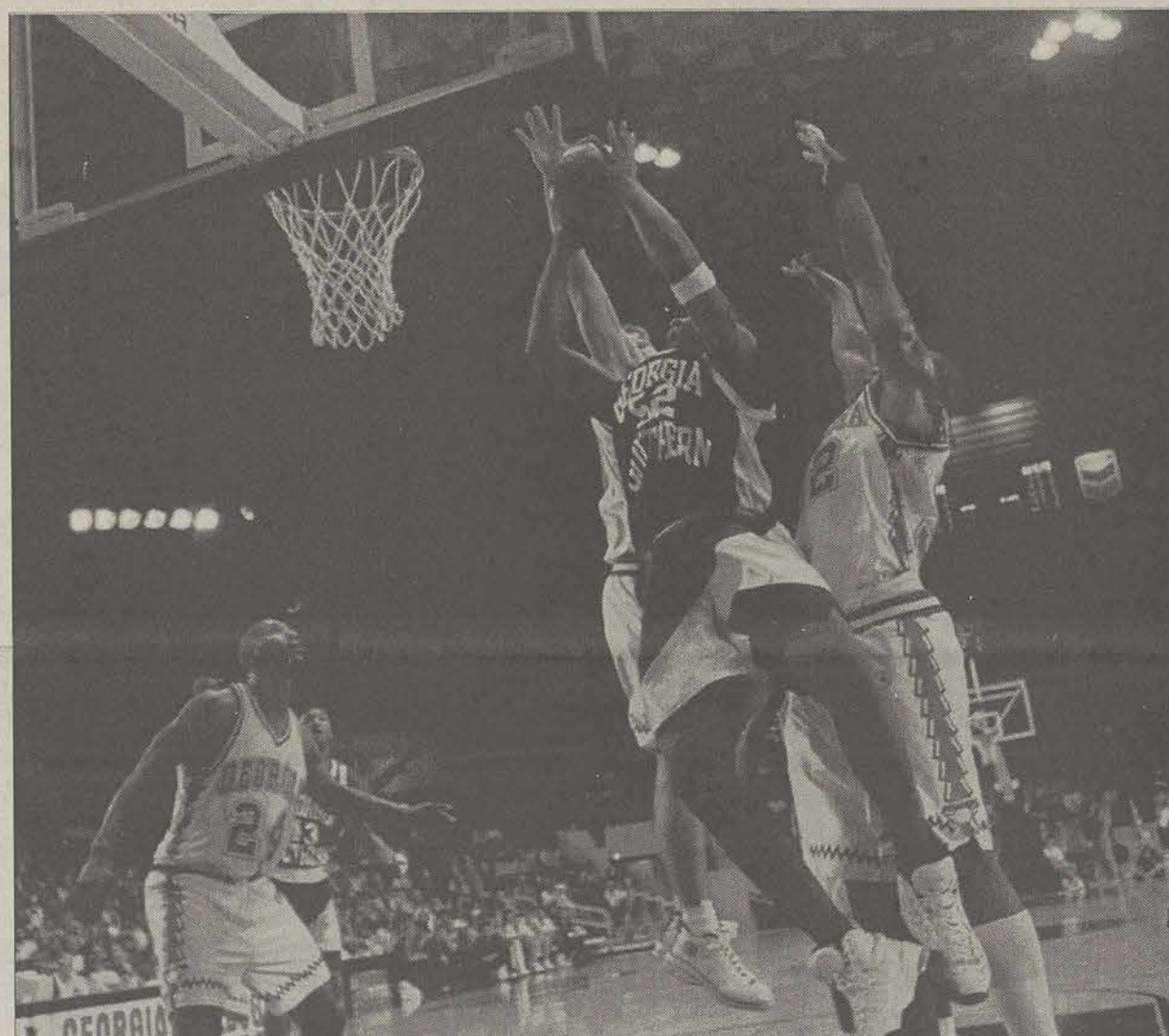
After taking a step forward by securing its fourth win of the season by topping Florida A&M, GSU has then proceeded to do exactly what that round, orange-leather tool they use every day does. They go up. And then they go back down.

Two wins over the holiday season were then followed up by three losses. Two in the Toledo tournament, where they suffered a 89-67 loss to Toledo and a 63-61 heartbreaker to Buffalo, and then an emotionally devastating defeat to Coastal Carolina, 61-21.

"That was probably as poor as we have ever played," Polinsky said on Sunday. "What is disappointing is that we gave Coastal enormous confidence by playing so poor."

"Bottom line is that if there are guys who don't want to play hard, then I'll put someone in that will. That's pretty much what happened and that's why we came away with only 21 points."

If anything positive came out of the holiday break, it is that



Chaz Pike

WHATCHA 'SEAY' ABOUT THAT: Eagle sophomore Johna Seay takes it strong to the hole in a game against University of Georgia earlier this season. The Dawgs topped GSU 90-56 in Athens.

fourth win, which is one more than the Eagles could muster all last year.

"It is good to get that win," Polinsky said. "But we have to get better daily. Each practice,

each game has to be progress. We are getting better. We had some disappointing games but we also had ones that gave us hope.

Junior college transfer

Elvardo Rolle walked away from the Toledo Invitational with All-Tournament honors.

"Individually, it is good," Rolle said. "But I wish we could have at least won one of those games. It would have felt better."

GSU ATHLETICS

Lady Eagles soccer honored academically

GSU News Service

The GSU women's soccer team has been awarded the second-ever National Soccer Coaches Association of America's Team Academic Award by bringing in a cumulative grade point average of 3.01.

The Lady Eagles are one of 35 other collegiate schools to earn the award, and one of only 14 Division I schools to be honored.

To be eligible for the award, a team must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the year based on a 4.0 scale.

GSU ended their 1996 year with a 13-8 record and a second-place conference tournament finish.

Head coach Tom Norton was named Conference Coach-of-the-Year after reaching the championship game in the conference tournament, while four Lady Eagles earned All-Conference honors in recognition of their seasonal performance.

To coincide with the women's soccer honor, GSU Assistant Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Affairs Scott Farmer announced that a total of 101 student-athletes earned a 3.0 grade point average or better during

the term with an additional 39 earning selection to the Dean's List (3.5 or higher).

Nearly half (49.5 per cent) of GSU's 93 women student-athletes turned in a 3.0 or better GPA.

Lady Eagle programs combined for a 2.83 grade point average, highlighted by the strong performance in soccer as well as the tennis team, respectively.

Each of the 15 intercollegiate teams had at least one representative who maintained a 3.0 standing or higher through fall course work.

Four teams reached double-figure totals, with the GSU football squad bringing in the most with 17. The Lady Eagles soccer team's 12 representatives was second-highest, while baseball (11) and women's swimming (11) rounded out the rest of the top teams.

The baseball team topped all male programs with a combined 2.75 GPA while the swimming team turned in a 2.71 mark.

Jack Stallings' baseball squad and Tom Norton's Lady Eagles soccer team each had seven student-athletes earn Dean's List honors.

Academic Eagle Fall 1996 GSU Athletics 3.0 Club

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Joseph Aldridge*, Donnie Coe*, Chad Fussell*, Brian Hall, Shane Marquis*, Matthew Meadows, Dennis Moore*, Jody Pollock*, Stephen Walson, Tyson Whitley, Brandon Williams*

Women's Basketball

Rosalie Arnold, Rhonda Bledsoe, Tori Durrett, Sharon Mitchell, Mary Perry, Danelle Toole*, Nikita Whatley

Men's Basketball

Kendall Hill

Women's Cross Country

Amy James*, April Sapp*, Meredith Shepard, Stacy Synan

Men's Cross Country

Michael Deal*, Michael Dumas, Chris Sandoval*

Football

Voncellies Allen, Harold Carter, Chris Chambers, Roy Clayton, Dietrich Everett, Cherard Freeman, Jamie Glover*, Devin Johnson, Chad Nighbert, Lavar Rainey, Eric Thigpen, Edward Thomas, Kiwaukee Thomas, Jeffrey Vanaman, Joshua Weekly, Anthony Williams, Christopher Wilson*

Golf

Richard Ayers, Paul Davis, William Turocy*

Women's Soccer

Jodi Berto*, Sandra Bonfim*, Kelly Burrell*, Jaclyn Flock, Susan

George*, Lindsey Grossman*, Allyson Hood, Megan Pinkston, Leon Satterwhite, Allison Tetrault*, Rachel Tolliver*, Vanessa Vickrey

Men's Soccer

Tim Blom, Chris Brown, Charles Dumas*, Jeremiah McClure, Joshua Sanstead*, Johan Soderstrom, Christopher Starks

Softball

Jessica Brott*, Amy Cook, Linda Diaz, Samantha Dunn, Jennifer Harris, Jacklyn Kaylor*, Jennifer Miller*

Women's Swimming

Roni Barker, Lucy Flippin*, Nicole Goodwin, Jennifer Mayhew, Erin Merritt*, Kristin Strickland*, Christa VanDrie*

Men's Swimming

Jason Baumstark*, Matt Duchette, Brian Gupton*, Kevin Hyland, Kevin Kolling, Sean Lee, David McAninley*, Jason Nawyn, John Norton, Patrick O'Connell*, David Waits

Women's Tennis

Melissa Brown*, Anita Buggins*, Iris Kraft*, Britta Wilms

Men's Tennis

James Crowder*, Brett Hollitt, Volleyball, Jill Bobbitt, Amy Flaherty*, Megan Pfeiffer*, Ami Pim, Ruth Sorrel

*denotes Dean's List

EAGLE BASEBALL

Eagles 29th in pre-season poll

GSU News Service

After a stellar 46-14 mark last year and a trip to the NCAA regional playoffs, the GSU baseball program will enter the 1997 season ranked 29th according to *Collegiate Baseball's* Pre-Season Fabulous 40 Poll.

The Eagles will return 18 lettermen, including four position starters and seven pitchers, off a 1996 squad which won the Southern Conference championship and earned GSU's eighth NCAA Regional appearance, where they went 1-2 with a win over Old Dominion.

Florida State tops the list of 40 after compiling a 52-17 record last season. UCLA, Florida, Rice and Oklahoma State round out the top five.

Individually, junior relief pitcher Tod Lee was selected to *Collegiate Baseball's* Pre-Season All-American Second Team. Lee, GSU's all-time saves leader with 22, posted a 7-4 record with a 1.18 earned run average last season.

His 11 saves ranked ninth nationally among all NCAA Division I closers in 1996.

The 29th spot is the Eagles' best since the pre-season poll of the 1991 campaign.

1997 Collegiate Baseball Poll

1. Florida State (52-17)
2. UCLA (36-28)
3. Florida (50-18)
4. Rice (42-23)
5. Oklahoma St. (45-21)
6. Southern Cal. (44-16-1)
7. Mississippi St. (38-24)
8. Louisiana St. (52-15)
9. Cal. St. Fullerton (45-16)
10. Georgia Tech. (40-24)
11. Long Beach St. (34-26)
12. Arizona St. (35-21)
13. Wichita St. (54-11)
14. Miami, Fla. (50-14)
15. Stanford (41-19)
16. Alabama (50-19)
17. Clemson (51-17)
18. Texas A&M (37-21)
19. Missouri (39-19)
20. Texas (39-24)
21. Tulane (43-20)
22. Fresno St. (36-24)
23. Stetson (43-23)
24. Texas Tech. (49-15)
25. Arkansas (39-20)
26. Tennessee (43-20)
27. Auburn (32-24)
28. South Alabama (42-17)
29. Ga. Southern (46-14)
30. California (27-29)
31. Washington (30-28)
32. Notre Dame (44-18)
33. North Carolina St. (42-19)
34. Penn State (33-24-1)
35. Santa Clara (40-22)
36. Ohio State (36-20)
37. Pepperdine (33-19)
38. South Florida (47-19)
39. Oklahoma (32-25)
40. Arizona (24-32)

AROUND THE SPORTS WORLD

Start the celebration, UF now champs

By Jackie Hallifax
The Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — A thousand fans gathered to greet the nation's top college football team Friday. The sun was shining, the crowd was chanting and the Florida Gators were finally No. 1.

"This is the next best thing to having your children," said Karen Casey, a mother of two who wore a T-shirt proclaiming the Gators as national champions.

The exuberant crowd welcomed its team at the Gainesville Regional Airport barely 12 hours after Florida had completed its 52-20 victory over arch-rival Florida State in the Sugar Bowl.

Missing was Heisman Trophy winner Danny Wuerffel, who didn't return to Gainesville with the team because classes don't resume until Monday.

Coach Steve Spurrier, looking

relaxed and wearing a No. 1 pin on his blazer, addressed the fans briefly and thanked them for coming out.

"Like always, we share," Spurrier said. "Everything we win, you win. When we're No. 1, all Gators are No. 1."

Most of the fans wore the school's orange and blue colors. Some waved school flags; others carried copies of The Gainesville Sun, which proclaimed the good news: "CHAMPS!"

Car horns honked and the crowd chanted, "We're No. 1" and "It's great to be a Florida Gator."

Wendy Kissinger of Gainesville said she turned out to "show support and to hoot and to make an absolute wild, crazy fool of myself." She said the Sugar Bowl win was more like Christmas than Christmas itself.

"This is just the most absolute incredible Gator team in our history," she said.

John McGriff said he found the Gators' achievement a little hard to comprehend Friday morning, but the reality hit in by the time he reached the airport.

"There should be no doubt in anybody's mind that they are the best team in college football in 1996," McGriff said.

Scott Koons attended the game in New Orleans, flew back ahead of the team and was on hand to greet the players and the coaches.

"I've been waiting for this day for a long time," Koons said. "It's an incredible feeling to have the team finally achieve this lifelong goal of Gators."

"They're No. 1," said Chris Bell, a 16-year-old from Putnam Hall. "Nobody can stop them. It's my dream to play for them in two years."

"I just feel wonderful," Hilda Jackson said. "This is the best thing that could happen."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Reeves next Falcon coach?

The Associated Press

SUWANEE, Ga. — Former New York Giants coach Dan Reeves met with the Atlanta Falcons president to discuss the team's head coaching vacancy, and proclaimed himself to be very interested.

Reeves, fired from the Giants last month, first considered joining the Falcons 19 years ago, when as a Dallas Cowboys assistant he had to stand in line to be interviewed for an Atlanta job that eventually went to Leeman Bennett.

Now, he is considered the front-runner to replace June Jones, who also was fired last month after a 3-13 season.

"This time, I don't question my qualifications or my resolve," Reeves said Friday during a brief break in talks with Falcons president Taylor Smith at the team's training complex northwest of Atlanta. "Based on everything I've heard so far, it's safe to say I'm very interested."

Buckeye fans celebrate

COLUMBUS, Ohio — About 10,000 screaming Ohio State fans greeted the Buckeyes at a pep rally to show their appreciation for the team's first

Rose Bowl victory since 1974.

Some fans, including Lowell Ramey, 36, of the Columbus suburb of Worthington, flew back from California just in time to attend Friday night's event on campus at St. John Arena.

"It was a very good and exciting week there. We stayed in the same hotel with the cheerleaders and the band," Ramey said. "I'm happy for the kids and (coach) John Cooper."

"There can be no harder place to coach than here at Ohio State. Well, maybe Alabama."

Legendary coach dies

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Pokey Allen, the popular former head football coach at Portland State, was remembered Friday as a humorist, a friend and a great coach by those closest to him.

Allen died of cancer Dec. 30 in Missoula, Mont., where he'd been visiting with family over the holidays. He was 53.

During a memorial service in Portland, Al Egg, team chaplain at Portland State, told a crowd of more than 300 not to mourn Allen, but to celebrate his life as he would have wanted.

Allen had resigned last month after doctors told him that his cancer was spreading.

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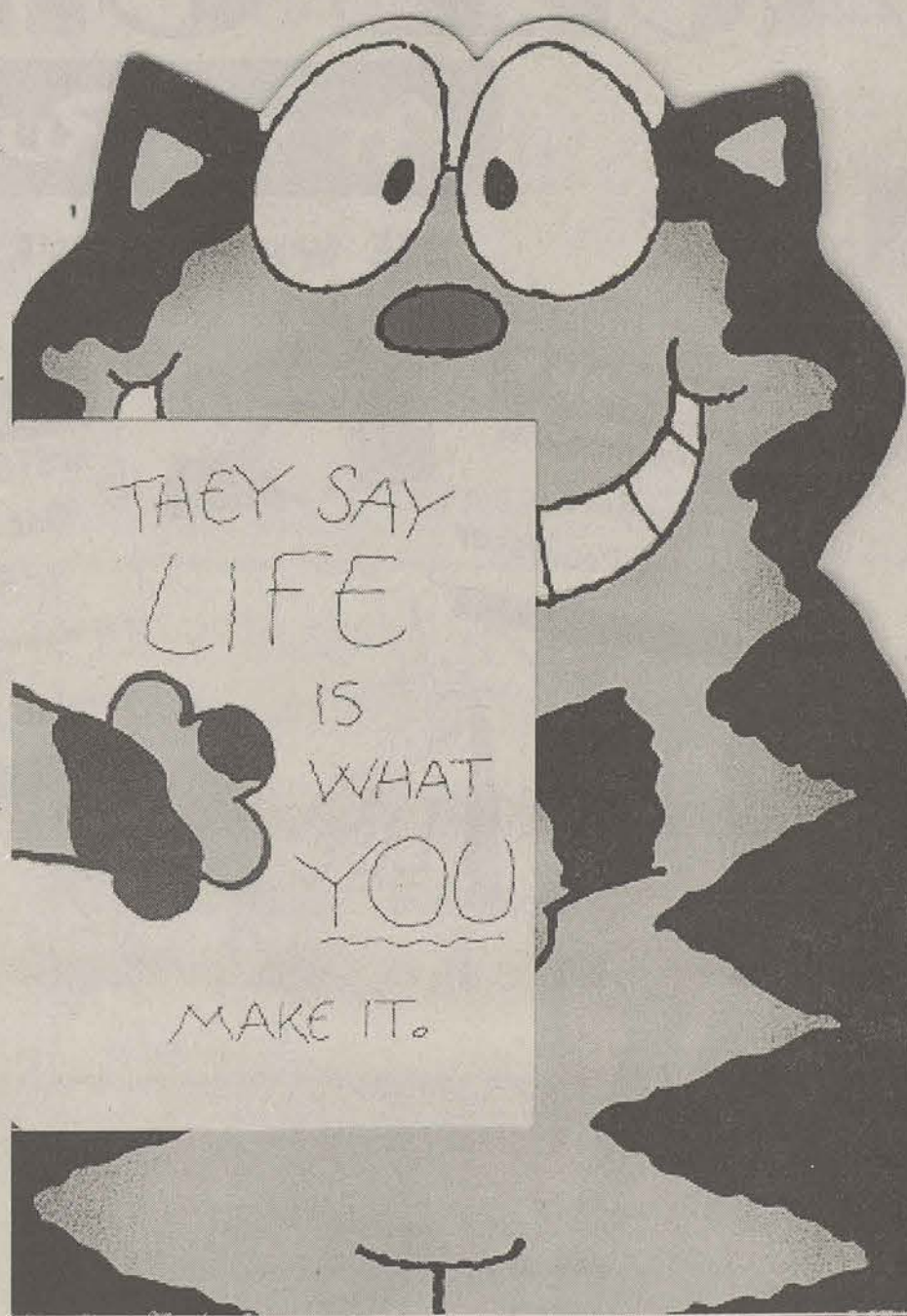
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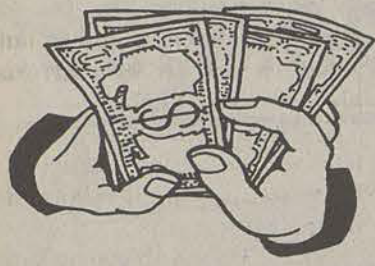
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MONEY-MANAGING TIPS

Advice for handling credit cards



By Colleen DeBaise
College Press Service

Easy credit has a double meaning for college students: it's easy to get . . . and it's easy to use.

According to the Roper CollegeTrack Financial Services study, 64 percent of college students have a credit card.

Fifty-nine percent of these students have a general credit card, such as a Visa, MasterCard or American Express card, in their wallet.

But it's a way that these cards are managed that make all the difference.

Loren Schmerler, president of Bottom Line Management, offers advice to students on how to responsibly manage credit cards.

First, apply for a low line of credit, and make it a habit to pay off the monthly balance in full to avoid interest charges of 18 percent or more.

"Don't get in the habit of just paying the minimum balance," he warned. "You will start to live beyond your means."

Also, never, ever miss a monthly payment. If you don't have the funds to pay even the minimum balance, call your creditor and explain your circumstances.

Most creditors will work with people, such as accepting a smaller payment, if they're honest about their circumstances, Schmerler said.

A little embarrassment is a lot less painful than seven years of bad credit.

"Late payments become a part of your credit profile for seven years and are always reported

even after you bring your account current," he said.

Students also should read the fine print carefully, because not all credit cards are the same. Find out if your card gives you a "grace period" or charges you interest from the date of the charge, Schmerler advises.

Also, most cards require payment of an annual fee; some have no annual fees but have other expensive charges. Weigh all the factors when choosing a card, he said.

More and more banks are offering a debit card, which acts like a plastic checkbook by subtracting a charge directly from a bank account.

But security problems arise with the debit card. A thief can clean out "whatever you've got in your account," Schmerler cautioned. "The debit card is just a wide-open liability situation."

Also, as with ATM cards, people often forget to record purchases debited from their accounts and wind up bouncing checks. "A lot of people are lazy when it comes to that," he said.

Schmerler offers some advice for those who rely too heavily on credit cards when it comes to holiday shopping.

"Charging is heaviest at the holidays," he said. "If they're going to charge something, they should put a notation in their checkbook as if they've already spent the money. It's a trick to fool yourself into thinking you have less money than you do."

If you lack the discipline to properly manage your credit cards, you may wish to turn them into frozen assets, suggests Dr. Barney Raffield, associate professor of management at Lebanon Valley College, Pa.

"Wrap the cards in foil, place them in a container of water and freeze them," Raffield said. "If you want to use the cards, you'll have to wait until they thaw out,

How do your credit card habits measure up?

To avoid the pitfalls of financial responsibility, take a good hard look at your credit card habits.

Select the response that comes closest to your situation:

1. What portion of your credit card bills do you pay each month?

- The entire balance.
- A good portion of the amount owed.
- Only the minimum payment.

2. When do you tend to pay your credit card bills?

- When received.
- As close to the due date as possible.
- Skip some payments.

3. How much of the credit line on your credit cards do you owe?

- None, I pay my entire balance each month.
- Less than one-half.
- I have charged to the maximum.

4. Do you know your credit card debt?

- Yes.
- Rough estimate.
- Afraid to add it up.

If you answered "C" to any of the above questions, you could be in financial difficulty. Re-examine your priorities, budget and credit obligations.

For assistance in budgeting or working out your debt problems, call 1-800-388-2227 for a budget and credit counseling agency in your area affiliated with the National Foundation for Consumer Credit.

Source: College Press Service

since the foil wrap prevents you from using a microwave. That way you have some time to think about why you're making the purchase with credit cards."

Also, it's important for students to understand that credit cards should only be used in an emergency, rather than as a way to supplement a lifestyle, Raffield said.

"Don't use credit cards to purchase shirts or dresses because they are on sale," he said. "And never use them to fund a party."

If you're having trouble with making monthly payments, contact the National Foundation for Consumer credit at 1-800-388-2227.

They'll give you some advice on budgeting or working out your debt problems.

Also, Bottom Line Management offers a 50-minute video specifically for students on "How to Establish and Maintain Good Credit." The tape can be purchased for \$19.95 by calling (404) 847-0103.

TRENDS

Body art making its mark

By Jennie Tezak

The Orion California State University-Chico

CHICO, Calif.—When we see them, we whisper and gawk and point. If we work up enough nerve to talk to them we might ask "Why did you do it?" or the classic question: "Did it hurt?"

Who are "they"? Those brave souls who allow a person armed with a needle to trace a design onto their various body parts or who have metal ornaments attached to their bodies. These are the people who have tattoos and body pierces.

The art of tattooing, according to Max Kilbourne, a talented tattoo artist at New Creations on 631 Plume Street in Chico, has been around for 2,000 years. Recently a man 2,000 years old was found with two tattoos of both a man and a sun on his body.

So what is the draw of tattoos and body piercing? Why do people do it in the first place?

Jessica Meeks, a sophomore business major at Chico State University, had wanted a tattoo since age 16. She has four tattoos, a nose pierce and a librett (chin pierce). Meeks' tattoo of a Celtic cross on her lower back symbolizes death, strength and immortality.

Now that the ink has dried and the piercing holes have healed, Meeks said she feels no remorse. Her parents, however, didn't exactly accept their newly decorated daughter with open arms.

"My mother didn't talk to me for three days, and my father said that he was just glad that I haven't hit amputation," Meeks said.

"But they don't mind as much because I don't do drugs, and I've been on the dean's list since I've been at Chico State."

Aisha Olmedo, a sophomore majoring in physical therapy at Chico State, had her tongue,

nose, and bellybutton pierced at one point. She had each one removed because of the various crusty infections, and also because of her mother's negative reaction to her pierced tongue.

Olmedo also got a tattoo done with her ex-boyfriend (Chinese letters declaring their love for each other) and regrets it. "You know you're going to break up with someone if you get their name tattooed on you," Olmedo said.

Kilbourne, when asked about how much preparation a person should go through before getting a tattoo, said that "the person should be decisive, they should know what they want, and they should find an artist who works best for their type of art and to not let money be an obstacle."

When asked about whether or not tattooing was becoming an "in" thing,

Kilbourne said "tattooing will last as long as rock n' roll."

"We all have a little bit of James Dean in us," she said. "As long as you have to be 18 to do it, it will never die."

Sometimes people get tattoos to remind themselves of a loved one, as was the case at New Creations recently.

According to Kilbourne, a high school age boy was killed in a car accident, and a large number of people in his family and his neighbors and friends came in to New Creations to get identical tattoos to remind themselves of him.

"They were just crying as I did their tattoos," Kilbourne said.

A piece of advice for anyone considering getting a tattoo: Be sure to get one for the right reason. Don't tattoo yourself to anger your parents, or because all of your friends have one. Pick something that is a symbol of you and which has some significance to your life. It is a work of art that you will have forever.

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NAMES IN THE NEWS

Comedian Jerry Seinfeld to host classic car auction

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — You ever wonder about those classic car collectors? Why do they have so many cars, anyway? They don't really drive them. The cars just take up space. Why not get rid of one, like Jerry Seinfeld?

The comedian, who has 16 other classic cars in the garage, is auctioning off his ivory 1954 Porsche 356 Speedster in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Once owned by road racer Skip Hudson, the car beat actor James Dean at Torrey Pines and Palm Springs in 1955, according to the auction company.

Since it was restored in 1994, the car has been driven only 698 miles and runs beautifully, said Sam Cabiglio, Seinfeld's automotive consultant.

The classic car auction will be held Jan. 16-19.

BOZEMAN, Mont. — Whenever those Kennedy newbies go, their little dog goes, too.

For New Year's, the black-and-white dog named Friday stayed at the Big Sky Ski resort with John F. Kennedy Jr. and Carolyn Bessette Kennedy.

"We had a great time,"

Kennedy said after the trip.

The couple tried to avoid a reporter's attention at the airport. "It's our vacation. It's not cool," Mrs. Kennedy said.

Friday, who did not travel incognito, sprinted in the terminal and turned several heads before being tucked away in a travel cage.

"He goes everywhere," Kennedy said.

NEW YORK — Lois Lane wants to know, Superman: You're not going out dressed like THAT, are you?

After 60 years of wearing the same red, yellow and blue costume, Superman is getting a new outfit from DC Comics, a white and blue bodysuit with lightning-bolt stripes and no cape.

"I just don't see Superman without a cape," said Noel Neill, who played Lois Lane in TV's "The Adventures of Superman," the 1950s show that starred George Reeves as the Man of Steel.

"If they're going to change everything about him, they should change his name, too, because he's not the same character," she said in *The Daily News*.

Mike Carlin, DC Comics executive editor, said he understood traditionalists would be upset but added that the change was necessary.

"I personally change my clothes every day, so why shouldn't Superman change his once in 60 years?" Carlin said.

LOS ANGELES — Lauren Holly says she got so bumped and bruised during the making of the movie "Turbulence" that she "kind of looked like a relief map."

The actress stars as a flight

attendant forced to land a plane when it's hijacked by a terrorist played by Ray Liotta.

Holly said she always wanted to make an action picture but didn't anticipate the risks of doing her own stunts.

Many nights, she went home "wrapped in ice packs" and headed for the tub.

In an interview with TV's "Access Hollywood" that is scheduled to air this week, Holly said she prepared for the role in a flight simulator. But asked if she was able to land properly, she said: "I didn't make it once." The movie opens Jan. 31.

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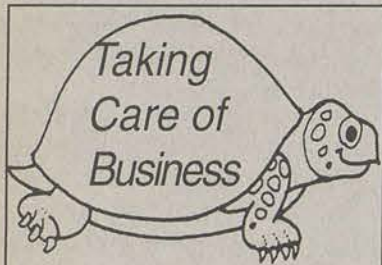
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The George-Anne Entertainment

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

The oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County

Page 10



By
Melanie Weinberg

Since all the other magazines and newspapers are celebrating the new year by critiquing last year's pics and pans, I figured why be creative and ingenious and rack my brain for hours trying to conjure up something different.

1996 had a lot to offer and it definitely spewed out chunks of interesting headlines that will remain crucial in the entertainment world.

Who was big in the news last year? Ahhh, the King of Pop — Michael Jackson. He sparked up controversy by marrying Lisa Marie Presley, then electrified the world when they divorced. Adding insult to injury, he then marries a woman six months pregnant with his child.

The drug abuse manifestation went over real well last year.

Robert Downey Jr. sure did show us what he really has to offer. His best performance yet was wandering into a neighbor's house and falling asleep in their child's bed. How cozy. Yet when he hosted Saturday Night Live, he flaunted his infamous attitude with a no-holds-barred performance. In his opening monologue, he made fun of himself. The dude has guts.

We've heard enough about the Smashing Pumpkins and Stone Temple Pilots so I will spare you the agony of reading about it further.

In movies, we had the hyped-up, over-advertised, "Independence Day," which I thought was terrible. I mean, cheese doesn't get any moldier than this. Then came all the alien toys, and when ID4 was released on video, people were crazed as if Elvis were back in town. With the amount of intellect that it takes to enjoy this movie, I really fear the future of the movie industry.

Other films like "Trainspotting," "Fargo," "I Shot Andy Warhol," "Casino" and "Leaving Las Vegas" took a stand against the norm and ended up in a good position.

Audiences began to expand their intake levels and actually went out to watch movies with a not-so-famous cast, directed by no-name directors and produced by unpopular producers. I would say that 1996 was a revolutionary year for the movie you needed brain capacity to watch.

In the music scene, Canadian Alanis Morissette invaded the States, and now she won't seem to go away. Surpassing records set by Elvis, the 22-year-old will not stop. You don't have to buy her CD because every radio station is always playing one of her songs. Can we say radio free Alanis?

For some of us, last year was just a blur. To others, all the years are just the same. To me, however, I consider 1996 to be one of the best blurs I have experienced. But not for any particular reason, might I add.

I wish I could remember what was big in the news last January, a lot of us do. But a lot happens in a year and all we can do is select what we deem worthy and add it to our life-long collection of memories.

I can't wait until 30 years from now when I can pull out this column and laugh. Laugh at what I thought was memorable and laugh at Michael Jackson.

CD REVIEW

Vigilantes of Love redeem Athens' 'hippy culture'

**Vigilantes of Love
Self-titled
Warner Brothers
Records**

By Robbie Bruce
Staff Writer

The Athens, Ga., of the early '80s produced a fertile music scene out of which many great acts eventually broke into the pop mainstream.

REM, the B52s, and Matthew Sweet are all alumni from this scene that was allowed to ferment 'till big record companies acknowledged the bountiful talent there.

As the '90s rolled in, not much credence was given to the Athens area as a breeding ground for hot musical talent.

Sure, many good college bands still call it home and play the bars there as religiously as REM and others do, but it remains that no band from Athens has broken big since the '80s.

Enter Vigilantes of Love, an Athens band that carries as much of the "college band" aura as any group did during the last decade.

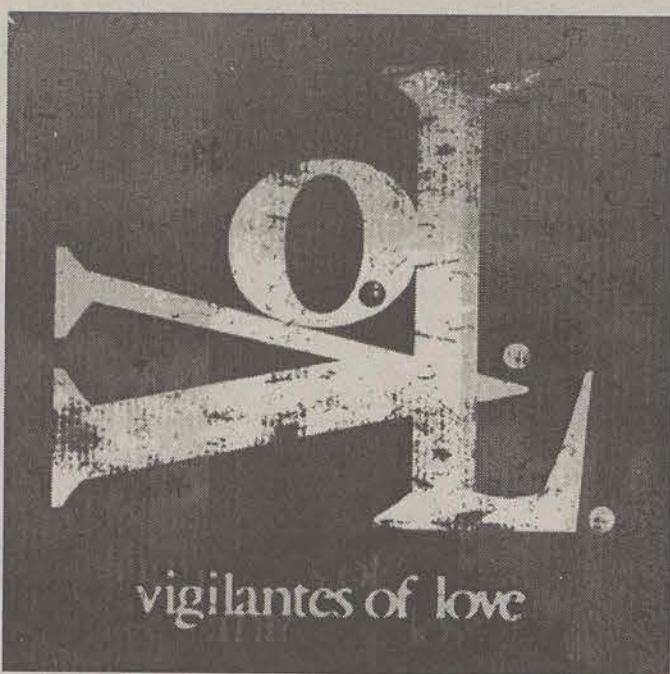
With their shaggy hair and comfortable mode of dress, nothing could scream louder of Athenian hippy culture.

Such external details, however, are highly irrelevant to the

music of the Vigilantes of Love.

Led by vocalist/guitarist/sole-songwriter Bill Mallonee, VOL in their latest release (a self-titled compilation), showcase their originality and give many signs that they may be the next Athens band to break big.

Mallonee's strong sense of melody and catchy pop hooks find their way onto this compilation.



He shows that with compact lyrical and instrumental phrasing, he can concoct true musical jewels.

"The Real Downtown" is the prime incarnation of Mallonee's pop genius. And the jangly guitar dominance of "Tempest" is also of this vein.

In many of Mallonee's tunes the tendency to become a long-winded philosopher is evident. But the monotony of what could easily evolve into introspective ramblings is peacefully broken

by timely guitar changes and ultra-melodic bass lines — qualities that also exemplify REM.

Mallonee's prosy-verse is revealed on "And You Drown" and "When I'm Broken." Poetry resulting from painful experiences, mixed with a personal opinion, then flavored by musical competence makes these songs listenable and highly enjoyable.

A few of VOL's tunes are inspired by works of art or particular artists.

On "Glory And The Dream," Mallonee croons of the Georgia folk artist Howard Finster.

Finster is sung of as a secluded, almost naive man, expressing universal truths via his art: "You see so much/see not much at all," Mallonee sings.

There is a harsh critique of American society on "America." Yet it is expressed within the framework of a gentle song, so Mallonee's dis-

pleasure is not immediately evident.

VOL has not yet penetrated the American mainstream, but even a casual listen to this compilation is proof enough of the potential the band has for future greatness.

One last note: Before the winter break, VOL played in the Union free of charge to students. If you missed it, your loss.

But check them out the next time they roll into the Statesboro area.

MUSIC NEWS

Tonic effervesces with 'Lemon Parade'

By Kira L. Billik
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — In the midst of the three-chord alternative mania sweeping radio today, there's one song that's conspicuously different.

It has a guitar line that's melodic and exciting, one that stays in your head even after the chorus fades.

The song is "Open Up Your Eyes," from Tonic's debut album, "Lemon Parade." And even though it's been catching ears nationwide, it's not necessarily a tune that most accurately represents the many-faceted quartet. They didn't even want to release it as a single.

The song is about seeing things as they are and not letting, as singer-guitarist Emerson Hart says, "your mind tell the story," or relying on preconceived notions to deal with a situation.

"I just was in a very low place as far as habits at that point in my life, and I needed to get away from them," Hart said of the song. He spoke in a telephone interview from New York, where the band was opening for Dishwalla and the Refreshments.

He's cagey and elusive about lyrics, but he will say he's influenced by poet Robert Frost.

"I did grow up reading a lot of Frost and a lot of Thoreau — my mother gave it to me," he said. "It helped my mind grow. She didn't give me a computer, she gave me books. ... Frost is just an influence simply because his words are so beautiful."

He's also moved by the Irish music that's part of his heritage; the song "Celtic Aggression," which tackles the pressure immigrants to the United States often felt to be more American, comes out of that.

"I've always been fascinated because they had a sense of melody and telling a story in a melody," he said of the Irish. "The songwriting was so honest."

And he did tell the story be-

hind the title track, "Lemon Parade."

"A lot of the writing I do comes from dreams, and that was actually a dream that I had," he said. "I was sitting on my bike and I was watching this girl behind a lemonade stand. She wasn't attractive, but I knew that in 10 years she was going to be just beautiful."

"Boys were riding by on their bicycles and throwing lemons at her head. As the dream moved on, we got older and went through high school. I was a step behind her the whole way, and when she got older, she realized that I had been in love with her all that time, but she didn't love me. That seems to be my luck."

Many songs on the album deal with relationships: the vulnerable, needy type ("Lemon Parade"), the powerful temptress ("Mountain"), or the emotionally troubled ("Thick").

Hart says his songs come from both internal and external observations.

"Ninety percent happens to me, 10 to others; it depends how I view it," Hart said. "Sometimes if I see something happening to somebody that's really (messed) up, I'll write about it, but on this record, it just happened to be a lot of the stuff was happening to me."

"When you get into a relationship, you see all different sides. All the colors come out — beautiful, ugly, rotten."

With the emphasis the band places on creative guitar parts, Hart still calls himself "a pretty sloppy guitarist."

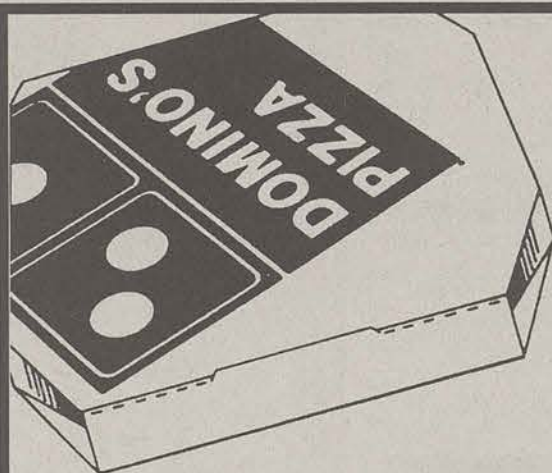
"If I ever said I wanted to be like somebody, I feel like I would insult them," he said with a laugh.

"So I just don't look sideways and do what I do. I think if you start looking around about what's going on musically, you're dead, because you should always listen to your heart and listen to what you're going through at the time."

Top 20 Modern Rock Tracks

1. "No. 1 Crush," Garbage (Capitol)
2. "Swallowed," Bush (Trauma-Interscope)
3. "Don't Speak," No Doubt (Trauma-Interscope)
4. "The Distance," Cake (Capricorn-Mercury)
5. "Thirty-Three," Smashing Pumpkins (Virgin)
6. "Lady Picture Show," Stone Temple Pilots (Atlantic)
7. "What I Got," Sublime (Gasoline Alley-MCA)
8. "All Mixed Up," 311 (Capricorn-Mercury)
9. "Blow Up the Outside World," Soundgarden (A&M)
10. "Bound For the Floor," Local H (Island)
11. "Desperately Wanting," Better Than Ezra (Swell-Elektra-EEG)
12. "A Long December," Counting Crows (DGC-Geffen)
13. "Hello," Poe (Modern-Atlantic)
14. "Radiation Vibe," Fountains of Wayne (Tag-Atlantic)
15. "Tattva," Kula Shaker (Columbia)
16. "One Headlight," The Wallflowers (Interscope)
17. "Love Rollercoaster," Red Hot Chili Peppers (Geffen) **EqE**
18. "Crash Into Me," Dave Matthews Band (RCA)
19. "Naked Eye," Luscious Jackson (Grand Royal-Capitol)
20. "Fire Water Burn," Bloodhound Gang (Republic-Geffen)

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MOVIE REVIEW

'Michael': a feel-good movie for everyone, in spite of the flaws

By Eric Bray
Staff Writer

Any controversy over the film "Michael," starring John Travolta as an angel who engages in less-than-pious activities such as drinking and smoking, would certainly be understandable. I can imagine that this notion could be somewhat offensive to certain viewers.

For instance, the trailers feature the catch-phrase, "Finally an angel we can all believe in," as if we have trouble believing in angels that don't drink and smoke. I mean, I don't have trouble believing in people who don't drink and smoke.

Essentially that's all Travolta's character is, though, an angel who acts "secular." It doesn't make it any more believable than watching a film about the Loch Ness Monster drinking

and smoking.

This isn't Travolta's fault. He does his best to try to flesh out the part of the archangel, but ultimately he comes off as one-sided as any beer-gutted slob in a comedy.

Michael's humanistic pastimes may be easy for people to relate to, but they don't jive with his enigmatic, other-worldly personality. This is the fault of poor writing more than anything else.

Besides the aforementioned irreverent activities, he also engages in such earthly pleasures as picking up women left and right, gluttony and bar-room brawls.

While these endeavors may contribute to conduct considered unbecoming of an angel, they seem innocent enough on the surface as Michael seeks to enjoy life to the fullest, while spouting,

"All you need is love" in his happy-go-lucky fashion. However, I fail to see what love has to do with one-night stands, punching people and even assaulting animals.

The worst part is that "Michael" neglects to offer an explanation for the apparent paradox in the angel's activities. Regardless of your own personal theology, this is an element in the film that cannot be overlooked.

Rather than address this issue, the plot is light-hearted but

remains shallow, seldom extending itself past the premise we all witnessed in the previews. In fact, it appears the writers couldn't even conjure up a significant reason for the angel making his appearance on earth.

By the end of the film, it seems as if his only goal during his stay is to assist costars Andie MacDowell ("Unstrung Heroes," "Bad Girls") and William Hurt ("Jane Eyre," "Trial By Jury") in hooking up. I suppose this is as good a cause as any, but I doubt it requires divine intervention.

McDowell and Hurt, along with Robert Pastorelli ("Eraser," "Striking Distance"), portray reporters for a cheap tabloid journal who discover the angel.

Hurt is an excellent actor, but he plays this role with detached self-consciousness, sleepwalking through the part as if he is aware it's beneath him.

McDowell, on the other hand, has stooped to no-brainers ("Groundhog Day," "Multiplicity") and gets into her role, but she sacrifices her sophistication (one of her best features) in favor of a more dingy persona. Also, in addition to Travolta's obligatory dance scene, McDowell sings a solo in the film.

Bob Hoskins ("Mermaids," "Super Mario Brothers") plays the editor-in-chief of the tabloid. This is one of the few roles in which I've heard him use his

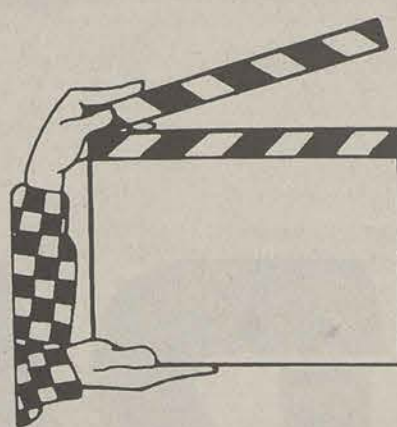
natural accent.

Cameo appearances are made by Terri Garr ("Dumb and Dumber") and Jean Stapleton, whom you might recognize as Edith Bunker from "All in the Family."

Renee Zellweger also plays a bit part. After landing the starring role opposite Tom Cruise in "Jerry McGuire," she's come a long way from the likes of "Love and a 45."

Overall "Michael" is a feel-good movie for older adults. It has all the right ingredients: all of the stars are over forty, and it features a Randy Newman song as the opening track.

This doesn't mean it can't be a feel-good movie for everyone, though. Despite its flaws and an anti-climactic finish, "Michael is, for the most part, an enjoyable film.



FASHION NEWS

Vinyl is leather's funky cousin

By Francine Parnes
The Associated Press

There was a time when imitation leather was a sorry substitute, a mainstay for customers who couldn't spring for the real thing.

Times have changed. Today, the stylish synthetic is part of a growing family of fabulous fakes, from mock mink to diamond look-alikes.

Leather's funky cousin, better known as vinyl, goes by the alias of pleather or PVC (polyvinyl chloride).

In the form of trendy bootleg pants, a miniskirt or skinny jacket, the pseudo stuff is bound to show up on your most-wanted list.

It's a guilt-free purchase, offering neither your budget nor lovers of lambs and cows.

An added plus: the occasional "I-can't-believe-it's-not-leather" factor.

Leather is more shiny, but thanks to modern technology, some of the imitations run a close second to animal hide.

Spy it across a crowded department store floor, and until you get up close, it's practically leather for less.

Still, some shopping tips.

Better-made versions tend to be more supple, less like plastic. As a synthetic, leather doesn't breathe, so outerwear is a more body-friendly option than, say, a skirt or pants that touches your skin.

Leather typically comes with a fabric backing, but pieces with a lining help eliminate the stickiness factor.

Leather became fashionable during the 1960s, as bright outerwear, particularly hip-length "scooter coats."

Today, it's once again bringing on the funk and attracting a young, hip crowd, with leather-look jeans from Todd Oldham, cropped outerwear jackets from Guess and XOXO, boot-cut pants from Product and BCBG, and structured handbags from the Gap and Guess.

"It's been a real strong look in the juniors department because it's moderately priced and fashion-forward," says Alan A. Bobin, president and CEO of Generra in Seattle. "Our skirts are very short, the jackets are cropped to the waist, the vests are very abbreviated and the colors are vibrant."

The advantages over leather, says Bobin, are "primarily price, and we're not killing any animals."

"And certainly the look of leather is there," Bobin says. "If we went down around the streets of both downtown New York and Santa Monica, that's essentially what you'd see."

Generra offers A-line and straight miniskirts, cropped buttonless vests, baseball jackets, motorcycle jackets, bomber jackets and hooded anoraks.

The collection comes in navy, royal blue, hunter green, black, charcoal, red, plum and cinnamon.

At \$20 to \$30, they're sold at J.C. Penney and Sears.

Indeed, the price is still right. Like, how about a fingertip-length, boxy-belted jacket by London Fog in black with animal print collar? It's \$169.

"You're getting the fashion trends of the season without a huge investment," says Chrissy Kern, Denver fashion coordinator for Joslins, which is also selling zip-front vests in black or brown by Counterpart for \$28. "It's a fun way to look updated for the season at a value price."

At BCBG, a women's sportswear line, "We call it galactic leather because it's truly the fabric of the future," says Felicia Geller, national advertising manager in New York.

"We introduced the fabric in a coat for spring '96, and due to the level of success we decided to carry it through for fall with coats, jackets, skirts and pants," Geller says.

BCBG offers military-inspired jackets, \$296; slim knee-length raincoats, \$412; hipster bootleg pants, \$184; and an A-line short skirt, \$124. In olive, wine, burnt orange and chocolate brown, they're sold at BCBG stores nationwide, Bloomingdale's, Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus.

"It's appealing on several levels," Geller says.

"People are thrilled that they can have an outerwear piece that's waterproof and you can just clean off with a sponge. When you invest in a leather piece," she says, "you continue to pay for maintenance, whereas with PVC your initial investment is all you have to make."

Just add soapy water and a soft cloth.

There's More Than One Place To Buy Textbooks

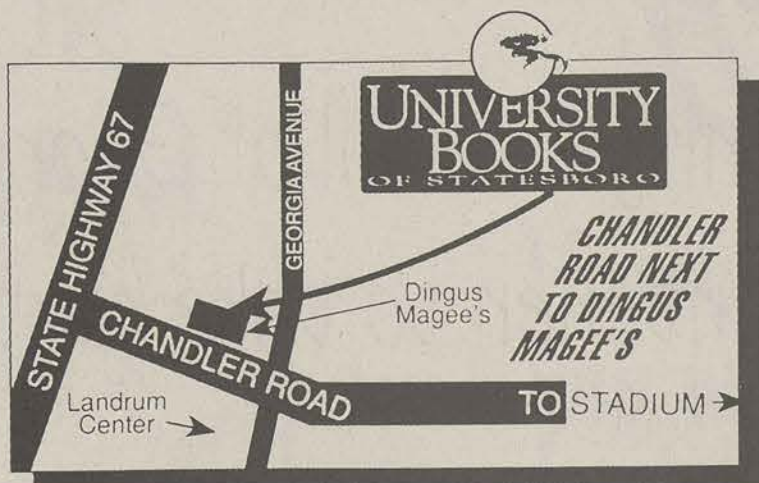


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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Pitt and Paltrow plan to tie the knot

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — "They're engaged!"

So says producer Bruce Paltrow of his daughter Gwyneth Paltrow and heartthrob Brad Pitt.

"We are thrilled," Paltrow tells People magazine in its Jan. 13 issue. "We think it's perfect."

The news ends months of speculation about whether Hollywood's hottest couple planned to tie the knot.

The proposal came in Argentina last month, where Pitt was

filming "Seven Years in Tibet." Ms. Paltrow wasted no time in accepting and quickly called her parents in New York on Dec. 20 with the news.

The next day, Pitt took a break from filming and flew with Ms. Paltrow to his hometown Springfield, Mo., where they celebrated with his family over Christmas.

Ms. Paltrow, 24, starred in "Emma" last year, while Pitt, 32, dubbed "The Sexiest Man Alive," by People in 1995, won a Golden Globe for "Twelve Monkeys."

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IFC RUSH

Monday, January 6th
Through
Thursday, January 9th
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Sign up tables are located at:

- Greek life office in the Union
- Lakeside Cafe

The Interfraternity Council of Georgia Southern invites
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Today's Quote

"From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life."

-- Arthur Ashe

CLASSIFIEDS, etc.

Crossword

ACROSS

- Highway charge
- Refers to
- Monastery head
- Length times width
- Egg-shaped
- Defeat
- Talk wildly
- Bogged down
- Horace —, educator
- City officials
- Juneau's state
- Took to court
- Kind of bomb
- Hurry
- Makes believe
- Fruit drink
- Weighing machine
- Look in secret
- Volcanic flow
- Antelope
- Fork section
- Uncloses
- Jeweled headress
- Female pig
- Afflicted
- Goos inside
- John —, naturalist
- Information
- Make over
- Rule over
- Give off
- Cover with metal
- Determination
- Baseball team
- Duck
- Long auto, for short
- Unrefined metals
- Marsh plants
- First garden

DOWN

- Scarlett's home
- Spoken
- Furnish
- Most modern
- Begin
- Covered with climbing plants
- Mountain pool
- Summer, in Paris
- Prim
- Supplies of war
- Large snakes
- Military bed
- Volcanic peak
- Regrets
- Building sites
- Place for sports
- Luminous rings
- Make suitable
- Cut
- Unadorned
- Clatter
- Philanthropist
- Gives off
- Modify
- Enlivens
- Visionaries
- Foul coating
- Against
- Salmon
- Snarl
- Lavished love

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8 Summer, in Paris
9 Prim
10 Supplies of war
11 Large snakes
12 Military bed
13 Volcanic peak
21 Regrets
23 Building sites
25 Place for sports
26 Luminous rings
27 Make suitable
28 Cut
29 Unadorned
30 Clatter
31 Philanthropist
32 Gives off
35 Modify
38 Enlivens
40 Visionaries
43 Foul coating
45 Against
48 Salmon
50 Snarl
52 Lavished love

53 NV city
54 Arabian ruler
55 Climbing plant
56 Miami's county
57 Dry
58 Referee's call
59 Jacket style
62 Recline

ATTENTION: The George-Anne screens all classified ads prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products & services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads, particularly those which ask for money or a credit card number in advance of delivery of products or services. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper (at 681-5418) any suspicious offers they might see in the classifieds. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

The Scuba Club will hold its first meeting Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 7 pm in the Union, Rm 2071. If you have any questions call Christine at 764-3038

03•Autos for Sale

1991 Ford Thunderbird, custom paint job, rims, etc. Worth \$10,000, asking only \$7500/OBO. Call Brandon at 489-5983 and leave a message.

91 Ford Thunderbird. Custom paint job, 76,000 miles, custom rims etc., Kenwood tape deck, 10 disc CD player. Asking \$6,500 OBO. NADA book value. Call 489-5983 Brandon.

SEIZED CARS from \$175. Porches, Cadillacs, Chevys, BMWs, Corvettes. Also Jeeps, 4WDs. Your area. Toll free (1) 800-218-9000 Ext. A-7828 for current listings.

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05•Business Opportunities

\$1000'S POSSIBLE READING BOOKS. Part time. At home. Toll free 1-800-218-9000 ext R-7828 for listings.

\$1000'S POSSIBLE TYPING. Part time. At home. Toll free 1-800-218-9000 ext T-7828 for listings.

Are you interested in making money and earning free long distance? A new business opportunity has just come to Statesboro and needs representatives. Call 681-9788 for more information -- don't let this opportunity pass.

Need extra money. Join Avon. Be your own boss. Make as much money as you like. Call Melissa Disney at 587-5450 for info.

11•Help Wanted

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13•Miscellaneous for Sale

FORE SALE: Packard Bell 486X multimedia computer, Microsoft Money, Works, Windows 3.1, and Encyclopedia CD-ROM software included. Best offer. Call Amy at 681-0555, leave message.

Selling brand new bookbags, \$10 a piece, only 15 left. Buy them while you still can, call 489-5983 and ask for Brandon.

SOFA BED (queen size, Serta mattress \$100), WASHER (Hotpoint, large capacity \$225), ANTIQUE OAK DINING TABLE (\$200), EPSON PRINTER (NLQ with manual \$30). Cash only. Call for evening appointment, 587-5068.

14•Motorcycles

1994 Kawasaki Ninja 500. Only 972,000 miles, one owner, great shape. Asking \$3700/OBO. Call Brandon at 489-5983.

19•Rentals & Real Estate

DESPERATE! \$200/mo starting Winter Quarter. Big house across from College Cinemas. If interested, call 681-2665 and leave a message. Don't miss this great deal.

Female needed anytime to take over Jan - Aug lease. Beautiful Players Club 4-rm flat, rent neg. Call collect Rebecca 770-992-0742 or contact Lin in P-Club Clubhouse.

FOR RENT: Unique upstairs apartment with nothern exposure... one bedroom, bath, great room/kitchen w/cathedral ceilings, ceiling fans. Utilities, cable TV provided. Furnished or unfurnished. For an appointment, Call 681-0069 (weekdays) or 764-4673 (after 5 pm).

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One apartment for rent includes all utilities. \$375/mo. First month rent and deposit already paid. Across from campus 681-2477.

One bedroom apartment for sublease, beginning of January. Great location, across from campus, and new carpet. \$285/month, no deposit. Please call, 681-6560 until the end of the quarter, then call (770)973-0349.

Reasonable Rental: 764-5003.

Stadium Club Apartment for rent. Completely furnished. Rent is \$209/mo. Please call 912-681-9202 for 912-681-7208 and ask Rhonda for more info.

SUBLEASE NOW! Graduating, must move. Great roommates! Quarterly lease. \$219/mo water included. Close to campus. Furnished. Call 681-3655. Leave a message.

20•Roommates

Needed ASAP! W/F roommate to sublease room in Bermuda Run. \$235/mo. Own room, bathroom and telephone line. Call 871-7126 ASAP!

Roommate needed to sub-lease two bedroom apartment. \$212.50/mo plus 1/2 utilities. Near campus must finish summer quarter. Please call Tanisha at 681-3230

Roommate needed. Quiet, hardworking, good grades, clean person. No females. A bedroom in a two story house is open for the taking. Call 489-5983 Brandon. \$220/mo plus utilities. Great location.

21•Services

Personal tutor
Fromer college professor (Ph.D., 13 yrs full-time college teaching experience) wishes to tutor interested students in math/algebra, analytic geometry, trig, calculus) and computer programming (BASIC, Pascal, FORTRAN, C); \$15/hr, call Dr. Kline at 489-3121.

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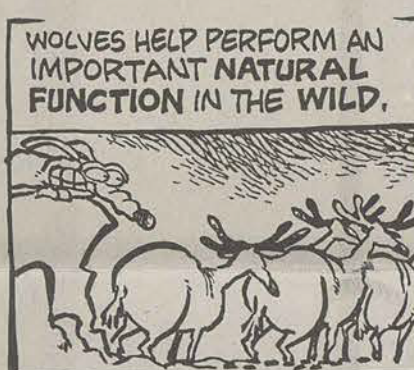
26•Vans & Trucks

1994 Chevy S-10 LS pick-up. Sharp! Silver, 4 cyl, 5-speed, diamond cut toolbox, wheels and tires, CD, CB, 68K miles, \$8300. 912-858-3983 leave message if no answer.

Chevy 1992 S-10 pick-up for sale. 80,000 miles. Great condition. Will sell for under blue book price (\$8500) -- will sell for \$7500. Call 681-9788.

28•Weekends & Travel

\$29 SPRING BREAK PACKAGE
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IN THE NEWS

Robber charged with murder in Indiana University student's death

The Associated Press

MIDDLEBORO, Mass. — A man accused of stabbing to death an Indiana University student during a botched robbery attempt at her father's home was arrested and charged with murder, authorities said.

IU sophomore Tara Gillon, 20, was killed said Plymouth County District Attorney Michael Sullivan.

Gillon's father and step-mother found her body when they returned home from a New Year's Eve supper at a local restaurant at about 11 p.m., Sullivan said.

Ryan Burgess, 18, who also lived in Middleboro, was charged with Gillon's murder.

Gillon was stabbed repeatedly with a kitchen knife, Sullivan said.

A preliminary autopsy concluded that she also was strangled.

The Gillons apparently surprised the killer while he was ransacking the house.

They told police they heard him run outside when they arrived.

Although nothing appeared missing, the house was in disarray.

"Drawers were taken out and tipped over," Sullivan said.

State and local police descended on the small town about 30 miles south of Boston, using dogs and a helicopter to search wooded areas.

Following footprints from the door of the house, the dogs picked up a trail that broke off near the intersection of Routes 44 and 28.

Although there are single-family homes flanking the Gillon house and across the street, none of the neighbors reported hearing anything suspicious to police.

Police resumed the search and also continued to question residents.

He was expected to be arraigned in Wareham District Court.

A couple who lived with Burgess said there was no sign of blood or anything suspicious about his behavior when he came home cold and wet.

"He had no nervousness or nothing," Catherine Shelley said. "Usually you can tell when someone has done something like that."

During a news conference, Sullivan refused to elaborate on the evidence that led police to Burgess, or how he was caught.

"There was more than one piece of evidence," he said.

Tara Gillon was visiting her father from Indiana University at Bloomington, where she was listed as an English major in the college of arts and sciences. She was visiting for the holidays.

The family's telephone number in Middleboro was unlisted and nobody answered Tara Gillon's telephone on the IU campus.



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

by Mike Peters



WETLANDS

continued from page 1

check. We are responsible for maintaining the land."

The average cost to obtain mitigation credit by the old system was \$40,000 per credit.

With the system used by W.E.T., the cost is only \$5,000 per credit.

The exact cost is determined by the Corps of Engineers.

They evaluate the land in terms of its value as a wildlife habitat, the amount of storage for storm run off, and its value as a fresh water resource.

After purchasing the land to be restored, W.E.T. must restore the drained land by rehydrating, revegetating with the native species, removing intrusive species, and repopulation the wildlife.

Once the area is restored, a permit must be acquired in order to sell credits.

It takes approximately six months to a year to obtain a permit.

Hydrologists, geologists, biologists, and zoologists must design, construct, and plant, the plants and wildlife must survive, and the wetland must be functional.

"Any number of skills is needed to make it work. It's not as simple as plugging in a ditch and planting a tree."

W.E.T. has acquired 350 acres at Millhaven Plantation in Screven County and has restored 110 acres.

This bank serves the Savannah River region from north of Augusta to south of Savannah. It is the first mitigation bank to provide mitigation credits to private purchasers.

W.E.T. will also have yet another bank located in Conyers at the Monastery of the Holy Ghost.

This bank should be completed sometime in February and will serve the entire Atlanta Metropolitan area.

LAWSUIT

continued from page 1

administrative position in the Office of Research that was later given to a white woman.

In 1992, Hobbs gained a similar position in the same department.

Hobbs claimed in the lawsuit she was treated as inferior by her peers, given less responsibility than her peers, and given a smaller pay raise than white employees with the same job.

Hobbs said she complained about the pay raise that was given to her despite an excellent job performance evaluation.

She alleges she was than harassed and disciplined for coming in late, something she claims white employees also were doing and were not disciplined for.

She then filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Hobbs was fired three weeks after she made her complaint to the EEOC.

Hobbs was reinstated after

challenging her firing through GSU's internal appeals process, but she says she continued to be harassed in the workplace and her responsibilities were reduced.

She also received low job performance evaluations and smaller pay raises.

"There is differential treatment for being able to progress for black people," Hobbs said.

Hobbs has been working at Ogeechee Tech for the past two years as the Director of Media and Library Services.

She said she is just happy the whole ordeal is behind her now.

"I'm not what you would call bitter, my life is going on," Hobbs said. "My main intent for the whole thing was to make people see it and open their eyes."

University officials in the Public Relations office and the President's office declined to comment on the settlement as of Friday morning.

DRUGS

continued from page 1

of Roxyphol that has been recovered in this area," Sharp said.

According to Edward Bayens, Judicial Affairs Officer at GSU, Sange has been suspended from the university for one full calendar year.

Sharp said the drug is hard for law enforcement officers to identify because it is similar in appearance to many legal drugs.

"It looks like any other medi-

cine," Sharp said. "It's a little thicker than Tylenol."

The drug that local law enforcement has found has the letters RH with the number 2 inscribed on one side.

On the reverse side the tablet is divided into quarter sections.

Sharp said that there are other forms of the drug but that this is the only kind that has been found in the Statesboro area.

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