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SPORTS

GSU men's basketball falls to Evansville 79-72

Despite a valiant comeback, GSU men's basketball failed to conquer the Purple Aces. Details inside.

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LIFE

Singer Lou Reed releases new solo album 'Ecstasy'

Former Velvet Underground singer, Lou Reed releases new solo album 'Ecstasy' as he approaches 60 years of age. Details inside.



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Vol. 73 No. 52

Friday, December 1, 2000

Round two: GSU verses Hofstra



VS.



Jill Burnham

Giovanni Camazzi, Butler's record-breaking predecessor who led Hofstra to the Quarterfinals last season and was eventually the second quarterback selected in the NFL draft, Butler has shined this season. The junior quarterback was at his best last weekend, passing for 262 yards and a score while running for two others in the Pride's upset of sixth-seeded Furman.

The athletic Butler can not only throw, he completed 162-of-286 passes this season for 2,341 yards and 22 touchdowns with just nine interceptions, but he can run too. Butler is the Pride's second-leading rusher, gaining 439

yards and scoring 11 times on the ground in 2000.

But the back that Hofstra will depend on to control the game's pace is Trevor Dimmie, who led all I-AA first-year players in rushing this season. The true freshman complemented Butler and the rest of Hofstra's passing game well, rushing for 1,319 yards and six scores while averaging five yards-per-carry. Last week versus Furman, Dimmie ran for 130 yards against the Paladins.

Running Hofstra's wide-open, spread offense, Butler has distributed the ball rather evenly except for his favorite receiver, Charlie Adams, whose 64 receptions for 1,006 yards and 11 touchdowns leads the team. Steve Jackson (39 catches, 452 yards, 4 TD), Kahmal Roy (38, 620, 6), Jason Maxwell (34, 453, 4), and Bill Morales (16, 179, 2) round out the Pride's dangerous receiving corps.

Defensively, Hofstra is led by a trio of experienced linebackers in seniors Sal Alosi (79 tackles) and Joe Todd (70) and junior Kyle Thorne (75). Junior strong safety Doug Shanahan leads the team with six interceptions while fourth on the team with 69 tackles.

After being limited to 204.5 rushing yards in their last two regular season games, with out Adrian Peterson, 127 yards below their average, the GSU offense got back on track in last week's 42-17 win over McNeese State. Peterson rushed for 203 yards and a score while quarterback J.R. Revere added 133 yards rushing and 110 passing.

Peterson, who, including playoffs, has rushed for over one-hundred yards in 40 consecutive games, finally is healthy after suffering an elbow injury against East Tennessee State five weeks ago. Despite missing the Furman and Elon games, Peterson still leads the team in rushing. Including the McNeese State contest, the '99 Walter Payton Award winner has rushed for

threat in 2000, passing for 1,357 yards and 12 touchdowns while running for another 863 yards and 12 scores.

At full strength GSU's defense would be hard-pressed to shut down Hofstra's offense, so the absence of cornerback Nate Gates, who leads the team with six interceptions, will be felt. The senior missed last week's

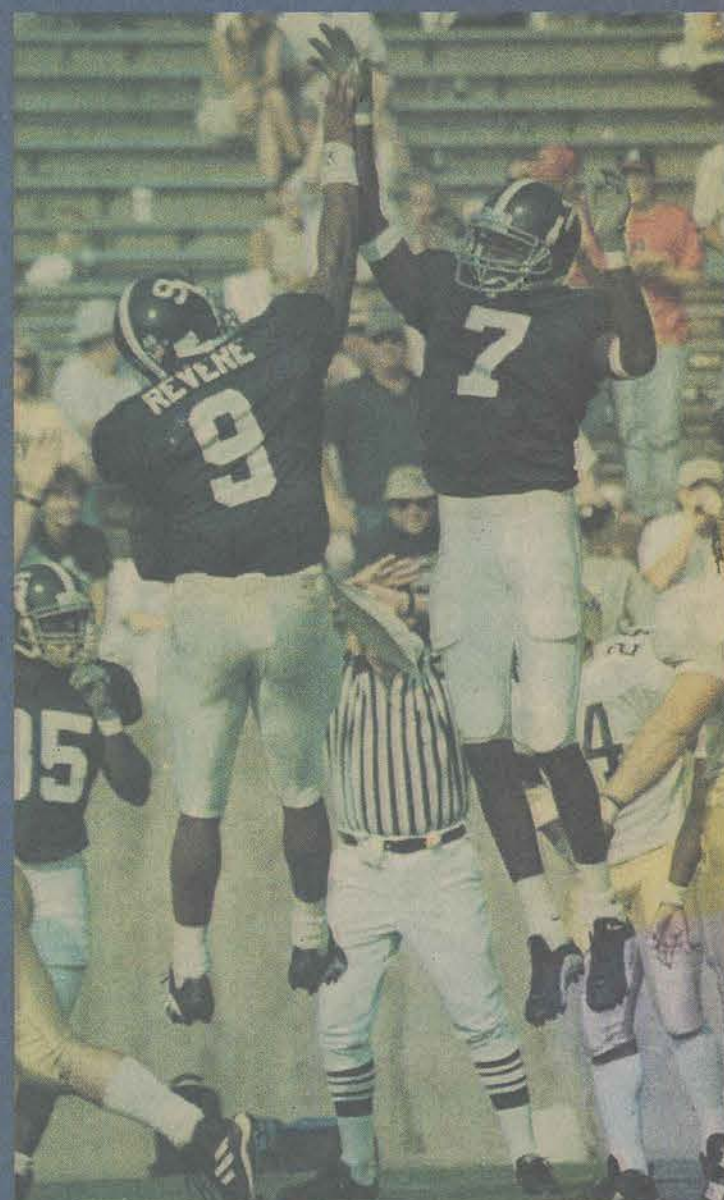
"We're pretty battered and beat up in the secondary and I know they throw the ball around a lot. They've got a good running back and good quarterback and evidently they've got a good defense if they were able to beat Furman in Greenville. It'll be a heckuva challenge but we're just happy to be one of eight teams still playing."

--PAUL JOHNSON

contest with the Cowboys and was replaced by Dreck Cooper and it showed early as McNeese State passed for 186 yards and 17 points in the first half, picking on the first-time

starter often. But in the second half Copper, who finished with a team-high 10 tackles, and the rest of the Eagle defense came alive in the second half and pitched a shutout, limiting the Cowboy offense to just 102 second half yards.

Revere will be key to GSU's success as well as the junior has performed up to expectations in his first year starting under center for the Eagles. Revere has been a double



Luke Renfro

GO EAGLES: Check out Eagle football action this Saturday at 1 p.m. in Paulson Stadium for the second round of the NCAA 1-AA playoffs.



Luke Renfro

ADRIAN PETERSON: Peterson was a huge player in bringing the Eagles to the the NCAA 1-AA playoffs. Look for Peterson to lead the Eagles to victory as he is back in the game and ready for action.

By Doug Kidd
Senior Sports Writer

Unlike last season when they enacted revenge on UMASS in the second round of the I-AA playoffs, the GSU football team won't get any chances to right any wrongs this time around as they play Hofstra this Saturday at Paulson Stadium in Quarterfinal action.

Courtesy of 11th seeded Hofstra's 31-24 win against Furman last week in Greenville, GSU (10-2) won't get the opportunity to avenge their humiliating 45-10 loss to the Paladins four weeks ago. Instead, the Eagles will play host to a very explosive Hofstra squad that comes into Saturday's contest with a 9-3

record despite playing I-AA's most ambitious schedule.

"I'm sure they've got a good football team because they played a tremendous schedule," said GSU head coach Paul Johnson referring to road games Hofstra played against Montana, Maine, UMASS, Portland State, Youngstown State, and Furman, and a home game versus Delaware.

"It's going to be a big challenge," Johnson continued. "We're pretty battered and beat up in the secondary and I know they throw the ball around a lot. They've got a good running back and good quarterback and evidently they've got a good defense if they were able to beat Furman in Greenville. It'll be a heckuva challenge but we're just happy to be one of eight teams still playing."

Hofstra's high-powered, run and shoot offense is led by Rocky Butler. Despite being doubted by some as an able replacement for



HOROSCOPE

TMS Campus

Today's Birthday (Dec. 1). Study technical material this year, and you could become a whiz. Even if you've been all thumbs before, it all starts making sense. Change for the better in December. The work's there, and the money's good in January. Study computers or machinery in February; you'll do better than you thought you could. Get a routine down pat in May and crank out more work than ever. Forgive and forget in

June, and a partnership benefits. You should have a great time next October with new friends. Plan strategies for next year in November.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 7 — Watch for a new discovery. You're in a creative mood and may come up with a brilliant idea, so there's no telling what might happen — and not a moment too soon! Meanwhile, don't forget an older person's request.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 — Take it slow and easy. A problem you run into isn't fatal; it's more likely going to be helpful. When you're trying to do something that's never been done before, it's smart to heed all suggestions. Even the ones you don't like.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is an 8 — You're able to talk people into doing just about anything today. Why not go for something you've been thinking about for ages? This could be the moment you've been waiting for. Discretion is advised.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 5 — Are you the same person you were this time last year? Last week? Don't get stuck thinking about yourself in the same old way; your role may have changed. If you're feeling confused, this may be why. Keep practicing, you'll get it.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — You're a very busy person, that's true. Are you trying to do too much? Nobody else has your style but someone else might be better suited for drudge jobs. Delegate.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — As your performance today shows, you're a pretty good juggler. Of course there's too much for one person to do, but so what?! You routinely do the work of three or four people. You even make it look easy.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Today is an 8 — Do something you've always wanted to do but were afraid to try. If you don't know how, someone nearby can teach you. Romance is blossoming, and you're learning fast, but don't believe everything you hear. Use good sense.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 5 — It's time for a household meeting. You and your family or roommates need to have a little talk. If you don't let your feelings be known, they're liable to do something you won't like. Better nip this in the bud, or at least add modifications.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Venture into new fields. Something you thought was too hard might start making sense, and you're learning quickly. Don't limit yourself based on old memories. You may be even smarter now than you were back then.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 — Push to finish the job as soon as possible, but don't get sloppy. The fewer errors the better. Ask for money now, too. It's better to have it sitting snugly in your account than to wait until later.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — Friends look to you for advice, which you love. You're full of great ideas, but don't offer them too quickly. Add a disclaimer or two, in case your first suggestion doesn't do the trick. Give yourself a little room to work in.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 5 — You may feel pressed, but don't be intimidated. Just because others are more confident doesn't mean they're right. You may get further on intuition than they do on logic.

Speak up if they're missing something you think is important.

"American III: Solitary Man"
Johnny Cash
(American/Columbia)
7 stars

TMS Campus

When you read a review of the new Johnny Cash disc and the rock crit bemoans its lack of "intensity," you should realize that's just code for "Cash isn't doing the country gangsta thing this time out, or singing as many death and despair tunes, so I can't get any vicarious thrills out of it, which bums me out." Which is fine, in a way, because it's just about time to lose some of these bandwagon jumpers anyway.

But it's annoying as hell, too, because it reduces the analysis of one of our greatest artists to a moronic litmus test: If he's dark and depressing, it's a brilliant effort; if not, it's substandard. Gimme a break.

Granted, there isn't anything as quite as revelatory on this new disc as his earlier reinvention of Soundgarden's "Rusty Cage." But you still get Johnny frigg'n' Cash singing Tom Petty's "I Won't Back Down" like it was written for him, and somehow infusing Neil Diamond's melodramatic "Solitary Man" with real dignity and beauty, and writing a great hillbilly-pride anthem called "White Trash." And yeah, his voice is a bit more wobbly this time out, but he grabs a hold of U2's "One" and won't let go until he's busted your heart.

The trendies who tried to reduce Cash to an old, country version of Eminem will shrug their shoulders and move on; the rest of us will welcome this disc for what it is — another shot of the real deal.



MUSIC

ALL ALBUMS TO BE
RELEASED ON TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 5TH

Aaliyah - Untitled
Alice In Chains - "Live"
Dion - "King Of The New York Streets"
Jadakiss - Untitled
Funkmaster Flex - "Vol 4-60 Minutes Of Funk"
DJ Fury - "Still Blowin' Speakers"
K-Ci and Jojo - "X"
Legend (Soundtrack) - Soundtrack
Brian Mcknight - "Win"
Lisette Melendez - "Greatest Hits"
Freddie Mercury - "Solo"
Redman - "Where is Reggie Noble?"
Snow - "Mind On The Moon"
Total Recall (Soundtrack) - Soundtrack
Vanilla Ice - "Mind Blowin'"
Roger Waters - "In The Flesh Live"
Neil Young - "Vol. 1-Road Rock"



MOVIES

ALL FILMS TO HIT
THEATERS ON FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 8TH

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon"

"Dungeons & Dragons"

"Proof of Life"

"Quills"

"Spring Forward"

"Vertical Limit"

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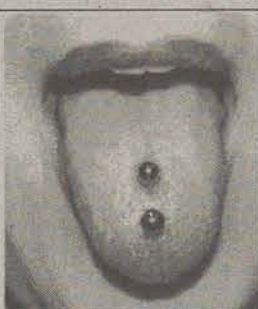
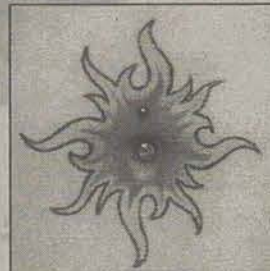
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- Black Lights
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ONLY IN AMERICA...

1 Louisiana

Last porkers captured, owner arrested

SLIDELL — The last of about 80 escaped potbellied pigs were roundup up Tuesday by St. Tammany Parish deputies who also booked their owner on animal cruelty, assault, battery and resisting arrest charges.

The pigs had been running loose for a couple of weeks, scavenging for food in the River Gardens subdivision northeast of Slidell.

After neighbors complained of minor property damage and a foul odor, animal control officers rounded up about half the pigs last week and caught the rest Tuesday.

Deputies also found three dead pigs and booked owner Gerald Maxey, 53, with animal cruelty, St. Tammany Parish sheriff's spokesman James Hartman said.

Last week, Maxey, who sells the Vietnamese potbellied pigs as pets for up to \$150 each, acknowledged responsibility for letting the animals overbreed and escape their pens. But on Tuesday, Maxey kicked deputies who arrested him and threatened them with a large chunk of concrete, Hartman said.

Besides the animal cruelty charges, Maxey was booked with two counts of aggravated assault, two counts of battery on a police officer and resisting arrest. He was being held in the parish jail in Covington in lieu of bonds totaling \$8,250.

Maxey has signed away his rights to the pigs, which are being kept at the parish animal shelter east of Abita Springs, Hartman said.

The pigs, ranging in size from five to 90 pounds, appear to be in good health, said Berton Brand, animal shelter director. Several

people have inquired about adopting one of the piglets, but Brand said they might not make good pets.

"They have been raised as livestock and are very wild," he said. "They also have been inbred from two pigs he bought seven years ago, which increases their risk of catching diseases."

Brand said officials with the Louisiana State University veterinary school and animal rights groups were trying to find a sanctuary where the pigs could run free. But whatever their fate, Brand said there's little danger of these little piggies winding up on the dinner table.

"From what I've heard," he said, "they have a lot of fat and aren't very tasty."

2 Michigan

UPS driver abducted by gunmen

DETROIT — A United Parcel Service driver was abducted at gunpoint by men who stripped off his uniform and then posed as a deliveryman to try to rob a home, police said.

The driver was forced into the back of his truck, and bound and gagged with duct tape on Tuesday, said Detroit police Officer Arthur Robinson.

After driving the truck around the city for an unknown length of time, the UPS driver's uniform was taken off him, Robinson said Wednesday. One suspect put it on and stopped at a house

in the city.

"Once inside the house, he produced a handgun. The resident wrestled with the man," the officer said. No shots apparently were fired, no one was injured and the suspects took off.

The homeowner found the UPS driver still bound in the back of the truck. Police were looking for the suspects Wednesday, Robinson said.

3 Pennsylvania

After surgery, man can't remember 14-year period of life

DRUMS — Hugh Campbell III can't remember his life between 1980 and his liver transplant surgery in 1994.

"My wife had to introduce me to our five children," Campbell said. "I thought they were still in grade school. I didn't recognize my grandchildren."

Doctors don't know if Campbell, who is now in his mid-60s, will regain the memory he lost as a side effect to the surgery.

"One doctor said it won't happen and another said it could happen," he said earlier this month.

The 14-year gap encompasses some of the most prominent years of Campbell's career as an electrical engineer.

In 1992, as a manager for Pittsburgh-based Dravo Engineers, he went to China to help start a plant that converted low-grade coal to fuel. There's a photo of Campbell at the Great Wall of China but he doesn't remember being there and he can't recognize his co-workers in the picture.

4 Indiana

Parents face prosecution over child's weight gain

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indianapolis child whose obesity led to his removal from his parents' care has lost more than 50 pounds in foster care and his health has improved, his foster father says.

Five-year-old Cory Andis now weighs 80 pounds, or about 15 pounds

Leadingham said.

"When we first got him, he was on a really bad diet, starvation almost, because he was so obese. But now I've got him on pretty much a basic 5-year-old diet," Leadingham said. "He can run now, and he can play and everything else." Cory weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces at birth, and his weight remained within a normal range until 15 months, when doctors began noticing significant weight gain, court documents say.

His weight surpassed 100 pounds in the summer of 1999, when he was 3 1/2. By the time he was 4, doctors at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis became alarmed by his 134 pounds and strongly urged his parents to place him on a strict diet.

The National Center for Health Statistics says the average weight for a 4-year-old is about 35 pounds, and only about one in 20 children of that age exceeds 45 pounds.

"I'd say if there's such a thing as the 150th percentile, he'd be at that level. He'd be at a level of morbid obesity," said David Gallahue, a kinesiology professor at Indiana University.

over his target weight, said Joshua Leadingham, the foster father.

Cory's parents, Heather Andis and Bradley York, face a Feb. 12 trial on five counts of neglect, but their lawyers question whether the family has been treated appropriately.

The boy celebrated his birthday Nov. 17 with a little bit of cake, a rare treat for the boy these days,

Children who are that heavy risk health problems including diabetes, high blood pressure, liver problems, and coronary artery disease.

Cory's mother is extremely overweight. Andis, 23, went on Maury Povich's television program last fall with her son and said doctors and others had told her not to put Cory on a diet.

"They said he was too young and I'd mess up his body," she said.

However, court documents state that doctors, child welfare officials and nutritionists tried repeatedly to get the couple to follow a diet for Cory. A doctor told authorities he counseled Andis in early 1997 about Cory's rapid weight gain.

Court documents say the boy's parents told welfare officials and nutritionists they didn't understand suggested diets or it was too hard to follow them.

Cory's weight began to cause physical problems, court documents show. He had trouble breathing and moving and had to wear a portable oxygen machine. By December 1999, he had obstructed sleep apnea, or brief interruptions of breathing that can be life-threatening, and was taken to Riley Hospital to have his tonsils and adenoids removed.

Welfare officials removed Cory from his parents' custody in February. A month later, prosecutors filed the neglect charges. A court order now prevents Cory's parents from having any contact with their son.

Andis' attorney, Kay Beehler, said the problems the family faced were social and cultural, but not criminal.

"Putting parents everywhere across the country in jail is not going to solve the problem," Beehler said.

The prosecutor's office sought criminal charges because of accusations that the parents had disregarded the advice of medical professionals, said Deputy Prosecutor Suzanne O'Malley.

Downey back at work after drug arrest; 911 caller

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, California — Robert Downey Jr. was back on the "Ally McBeal" set Tuesday with possible drug charges facing him after a weekend arrest but resolved to keep fighting addiction, his publicist said.

"He's concentrating on work and himself," said spokesman Alan Nierob. "He's a recovering addict. Recovering addicts have relapses. He's working hard at his sobriety as he has for the last 18 months."

Downey was arrested Saturday in Palm Springs for investigation of drug possession, being under the influence of a controlled substance and committing a felony while free on bail. He is scheduled to be arraigned in a Riverside County court Dec. 27.

An anonymous 911 call led police investigators to a room at the Merv Griffin's Resort Hotel and Givenchy Spa where they allegedly found Downey with cocaine and methamphetamine.

The 35-year-old actor, who has admitted to a continuing fight against addiction, was released in August after serving a year in prison in connection with a previous drug case.

Since then he has technically been free on bail while the courts decided whether he had served enough time. But Downey is expected to be reclassified soon as having served a previous sentence.

A state appeals court ruled last summer that a trial judge erred in calculating Downey's sentence and that the actor had served his required time already. The state attorney general challenged the ruling, but the California Supreme Court has denied review, authorities said Tuesday.

Downey made a quick and successful comeback after his release from prison in Fox's "Ally McBeal," signed for the film "American Sweethearts" and agreed to play Hamlet on stage in January in a Mel Gibson-

directed Los Angeles production.

As the new love interest for "Ally McBeal" star Calista Flockhart, Downey had completed eight planned episodes and was signed to do two more after viewers and television critics agreed he was a boost to the 4-year-old series.

Fox and series producer David E. Kelley fully backed Downey's return to the series following his arrest, Nierob said.

The network was supportive, but pragmatic, in addressing the issue.

"We certainly hope he'll be part of it (the show) and if he is that will be wonderful, and if not we have Anne Heche coming in for three episodes" as a guest star, said Gail Berman, Fox's programming chief.

"We certainly have our wishes and prayers with him but we have a television show to produce," Berman told a telephone news conference.

Downey's commitment to begin filming "American Sweethearts" in January would prevent him from continuing with "Ally McBeal" at this time, Nierob said. The publicist declined to predict whether Downey's legal problems would interfere with the film or with "Hamlet."

The actor, who was released on \$15,000 bail Sunday, was staying at an undisclosed location, Nierob said. "Ally McBeal" is filmed at a studio in Manhattan Beach, southwest of downtown Los Angeles.

Palm Springs police were trying to discover who made the 911 call from a pay phone in nearby Cathedral City, said police Sgt. Patrick Williams.

"They're considered a witness," he said. "As with any witness to a crime, we like to have as much information of their knowledge of whatever the issue was." Police also were trying to locate a woman seen outside Downey's hotel room, he said.

"If we don't locate the woman or the 911 caller, it doesn't really go to the heart of the matter. We don't need them to file a case," Williams said.

Investigators were preparing a report for the Riverside County district attorney's office that would be the basis of any charges. The report could be finished as early as Tuesday or no later than the end of the week, Williams said.

Meanwhile, the TV show "Access Hollywood" said it had obtained an interview with the Downey case's "mystery woman," identified by the show as Laura Burnett of Palm Springs.

In the report scheduled to air Tuesday and Wednesday, Burnett claims she was with Downey before his arrest.

"He was really down most of the time. He was a little upset (about) the holidays and not being with his family," she told the show. Burnett also said she believed the 911 caller "was just somebody who knew he (Downey) was there and wanted to make a big ordeal about it."

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Man arrested for killing teen skateboarder

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO - Religious figurines and bright chrysanthemums stood beside the blood-stained sidewalk where a 17-year-old boy fell dead when a neighbor opened fire on a group of skateboarders.

Ray Huffman, a high school senior, had been videotaping friends skateboarding as part of a project for his drama class Tuesday evening when Ruben Tadepa, 44, allegedly shot at the teen-agers with whom he'd often clashed.

Huffman had been preparing to tape a final few minutes of the teens performing tricks before nightfall when Tadepa ran onto the street brandishing a rifle, witnesses said.

"I ran back to my backyard because I was scared. And when I came out, there was Ray on the floor," Jesus Leos, 15, said.

Tadepa was arrested Tuesday evening and jailed for investigation of murder. He suffered minor injuries when police fired on him after he leveled his rifle in their

direction. He was to be arraigned Thursday or Friday, according to the San Diego County district attorney's office.

Several teens from the racially mixed, working-class Lomita neighborhood of eastern San Diego said they'd long quarreled with Tadepa, who complained if kids went near his car.

Bill Huffman, Ray's stepfather, said Tadepa was short-tempered and had brandished weapons before. "He's always been a problem. He's a bully and he tried to bully all the kids all the time," Huffman said. "And every time I'd go over there ... he'd shake my hand and say 'Everything is fine. I won't hurt the kids. All I want to do is scare them.' I'd say, 'You don't pull a weapon out on a kid to scare him.'"

Police efforts to calm the situation were futile, Huffman said. A neighbor, Serena Mendoza, described the teens as good kids. "I have them at my house all the time," she said. "They're not out painting gang signs. They're just skating. It's the hobby they have."

Mike Whaley, the manager of the Skateboard Heaven shop in northwest San Diego, said people often mistakenly see skateboarders as troublemakers. "Skaters may not be the most respectful kids in the world but it's not like they're out doing drugs or raping girls," said Whaley, 27. "They're doing something positive."

The shooting, he said, pointed to the need for more parks that would give skaters a safe place to practice their sport.

Ray had broken his hand while skating in May and no longer performed tricks, his father said. Ray's school video project, "Skateboard Survivor," was to be turned in Friday.

Bill Huffman said the son he'd raised since he was 2 was a good kid who avoided problems. "He was never in trouble. He wasn't running with gangsters. He didn't even know gangsters. He wasn't into drugs. He was a good boy," he said, struggling to remain composed.

"I saw him laying over there - dead," Huffman said, sobbing.

Lou Reed encourages fans to try 'Ecstasy'

• Former Velvet Underground singer still going strong as he approaches 60

By Zane Thomas
Staff Writer

Lou Reed is one of the most influential figures in rock music. For the past 35 years, he has been banging out music that has inspired numerous musicians and delighted many fans. First, there was his band The Velvet Underground in the 60's, which helped pave the way for alternative music. Then, after going solo, he recorded more memorable songs such as "Walk on the Wild Side" and "Satellite of Love."

His latest album, "Ecstasy," is his first studio album in four years and it's certainly been worth the wait. Reed has continued his great musicianship and songwriting, and surely hasn't lost his unique voice - one often referred to as a rather acquired taste. Similar to the voices of legends like Bob Dylan and Neil Young, critics of Lou Reed have been known to call him "the worst singer ever."

While fans adore Reed's raspy vocals, no one can deny the beauty in his poetry, and his music is some of the best ever written.

Though "Ecstasy" is a solid recording, not all the songs on it are great. In fact, his 18 minute-long song "Like a Possum"



File Photo

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE: Lou Reed's latest solo release, "Ecstasy," remains true to the style of his past works of brilliance.

grows tiresome after the first 10 long minutes. Others songs such as "Mad" and "Turning Time Around" are worth listening to, but can be skipped over when considering the quality of other brilliant songs.

"Paranoia Key of E," "Future Farmers of America," and "White Prism" are fast, loud rock songs reminiscent of the Underground's second album, "White Light/White Heat."

Other songs such as "Modern Dance," "Tatters," and "Rock Minuet" are slow songs with terrific lyrics.

Then, there's the title track, which may very well be the best song on the disc. It has an eerie tone that is both haunting and engaging.

"Ecstasy" might not be the best of Reed's solo albums, but pushing 60 years old, Reed shows only minimum signs of aging in his music.

Does Stone Cold hog the WWF limelight?

By Michael Russo
Staff Writer

It seems to me that just about every wrestling fan loves Stone Cold Steve Austin. The beer swilling, defiant, and foul-mouthed Texan is a character that has hit Federation fans harder than any over the last three years.

I too enjoy seeing Austin defy authority, attack everyone in sight, and afterwards drinking a few Steeweisers in the ring to celebrate. Unlike some Federation fans, I don't have a problem with the fact that Austin has basically been put back on main event status almost instantly. However, what I do have a problem with is the fact that Austin is receiving a tremendous amount of attention at the expense of other WWF Superstars who have come a long way since Austin's departure one year ago.

Now I'm not denying the fact that Austin is no doubt one of, if not the most popular wrestler in the business. Nor do I deny that fans are beginning to grow tired of seeing The Rock and Triple H in the main event of the night's programming or pay-per-view telecast. So with that being said, I can see why WWF fans would enjoy watching Austin take on Triple H more than watching The Rock take on WWF Champion Kurt Angle. I can also understand why the booking committee would add Austin to the main event on shows such as RAW and Smackdown!, even though he's not where other "main events" are at this point.

But what I don't understand is how the WWF feels it's fair to push everyone on the roster, who have worked their butts off in Austin's absence, to the side just to get their "invest-

ment" back on top.

Superstars like Rikishi and Chris Benoit are no doubt major players and have had lengthy battles with Superstars like The Rock and Triple H. But then suddenly Austin comes back into the picture and he defeats both men with no problem. What does that say about Triple H and The Rock who have gone to pay-per-views with these same guys and have gone thirty minutes plus with them? And all the while, Austin defeats them in less than eight minutes with little to no problem.

The whole thing bothers me. It bothers me tremendously how the WWF puts so much faith into Stone Cold Steve Austin. Can he deliver? Yes. Is he popular? Yes. Is he talented? Yes. But so are a lot of other guys on the WWF roster. I have no problem with watching Austin climb back to the top of the WWF roster, but don't destroy the reputation and credibility of other WWF Superstars who have worked their ass off to establish themselves, just because your "moneymaker" has returned.

The bottom line is this: if the World Wrestling Federation gave more wrestlers the same push that they give Austin, then there would be more than one Rattle Snake within the Federation. The problem, though, is that the WWF doesn't want that, but more importantly, neither does Steve Williams (Austin).

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'Unbreakable': A train wreck of a film 'The Miracle Worker' opens in McCroan

By **Chamica Armstrong**
Staff Writer

The latest movie from the creators of "The Sixth Sense" doesn't quite live up to the ghostly brilliance that preceded it. Despite starring two of the best actors in the business, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson, "Unbreakable" was an extreme disappointment.

After seeing the chilling previews and knowing that these two stars would be featured, moviegoers everywhere were psyched to see the new film. According to the Entertainment Tonight movie review, the movie made 47 million dollars last weekend alone.

The previews made the story line seem immensely entertaining, showing a deadly train wreck in which Willis was the sole survivor.

The fact that Willis doesn't even have a scratch on him makes him begin to question the meaning of his existence. Jackson is to help him understand the meaning of his life.

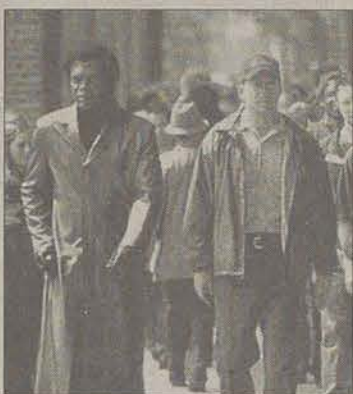
Though the story line sounds creative on the surface, the actual movie is dry and did not live up to my expectations. The simplicity of the plot dulled the movie, and the ending kept the audience wondering why they even left the house.

The entire movie turned out to be a two-hour story about comic books. If for some reason you want to brave the mediocrity and see "Unbreakable," I won't spoil the poor ending.

The train wreck that is featured on the previews presents a powerful start the story, but it just goes downhill from there. Not only is the story bad, but the characters are lackluster. I expected the two big name stars to have great dialog and exciting situations in the film, but it seems that the director was scared and hesitant to try anything controversial.

In such a film, one would expect explosive special effects, but this was not the case.

As "Unbreakable" came to a close, the theater was filled with statements of disapproval. I didn't hear one positive comment about the movie. Something is wrong when Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson can't make a film good.



Special Photo

A TRAIN WRECK: "Unbreakable" is an immense disappointment.

By **Amanda Permenter**
Staff Writer

The opening night of William Gibson's "The Miracle Worker" proved to be an impressive act, and held true to a compelling story. Any fan of human spirit, or theatre, will likely hail this performance as one of the best efforts to date from the Georgia Southern Theater and Performance Department.

GSU's version of "The Miracle Worker" is an excellent fulfillment of the classic story of Helen Keller, and her teacher, Annie Sullivan. Helen Keller was born in 1880, and was discovered to be blind and deaf at the infant age of 19 months.

When Helen was seven, a determined, free-spirited

young woman named Annie Sullivan was assigned to somehow bring knowledge to the colorless, soundless world of Helen Keller.

"The Miracle Worker" unfurls the internal and external struggles involved with teaching Helen and her family a new way to see and hear.

The entire cast completed a spectacular rendition of the production Wednesday night. Senior Theatre major Melanie Kitchens, as Helen Keller, delivered a stunning performance, remaining convincingly in character throughout the play. Not until the curtain call is the audience reminded that Kitchens is a fully-sighted and hearing twenty-one-year-old portraying a blind, deaf child.

Jennifer Kirk, as Annie

Sullivan, acts with pure passion and devotion to her character, delivering her movements and lines faultlessly.

Neither Julie Jackson, as Helen's mother, nor Jeff Kozee, as Captain Keller, batted a single eyelash as they acted with pure candor and confidence.

"The Miracle Worker" was also staged Thursday, November 30, and will be performed again tonight, Friday, December 1, as well

as Saturday the 2nd, at 8 p.m. nightly.

The event takes place in the McCroan Auditorium in the Marvin Pittman building.

Tickets are available to be purchased at the door of the theater. Tickets are \$2 for GSU students, \$4 for faculty and staff, and \$6 for the general public.

For more information on "The Miracle Worker" or on any upcoming Spring performances, call 681-0123.

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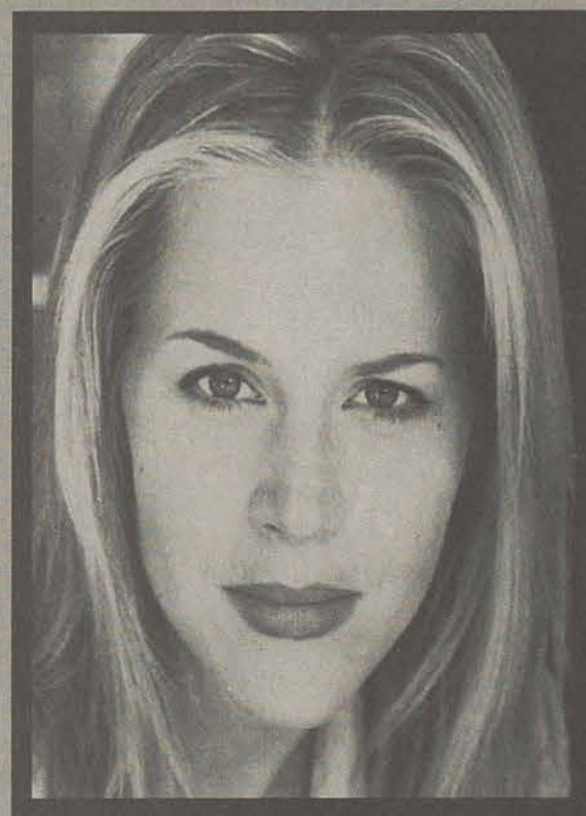
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Eagles fall short despite comeback

G-A News Service

Georgia Southern's backcourt trio of Sean Peterson, Todd Shipley and Julius Jenkins combined for 54 points against Evansville Wednesday night, yet it still wasn't enough to overcome the Purple Aces as a late Eagle comeback attempt fell short in 79-72 loss at Roberts Stadium.

The Eagles (1-3) trailed just 26-24 before a 15-4 run in the final 4:59 of the first half gave the hosts a 41-28 halftime lead. Kyle Runyan's 11 first-half points and 11 turnovers in the game's opening 20 minutes proved to be too much of an obstacle for Georgia Southern to overcome.

However, the Eagles did manage to cut the Aces' lead in the second half to just six points on two occasions. Jenkins three-pointer with 5:17 left sparked an 11-3 Eagle run that got Georgia Southern to within 72-66 at the 3:05 mark. The Eagles pulled to within six twice more, but Evansville made eight of its 10 free-throw attempts to nix any comeback hopes. On the night, the Purple Aces made 22 of 31 free throws, while the Eagles went to the charity stripe just four times, connecting on three.

Georgia Southern returns home to host Belmont Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. in Hamner Fieldhouse.



Jill Burnham

A LATE COMEBACK: The Eagles fell short to Evansville, Ind. 79-72. The Eagles host Belmont Saturday night at 7:30 pm.

Top-ranked Notre Dame heads to semi-finals

The Associated Press

Though Notre Dame is top-ranked and undefeated, Irish coach Randy Waldrum doesn't see his team as the favorite going into this weekend's NCAA women's soccer final four.

"Until someone knocks off North Carolina a couple of years in a row, they will be the team to beat," Waldrum said. "They have had success that I think is unprecedented in college sports. People talk about John Wooden's success in basketball or some teams' success in football, but no one's done it like they have in soccer at Carolina."

The fifth-seeded Tar Heels (19-3) have won 15 NCAA titles in 18 years, including beating the Irish 2-0 in the title game last season. The Tar Heels have a 64-3 all-time record in the NCAA tournament, a winning percentage of .955.

The Irish (23-0-1), who have the second best winning percentage with a 23-6-1 tournament record (.776), face the Tar Heels Friday in San Jose, Calif. In the later semifinal game, unseeded Portland (18-3) faces sixth-seeded UCLA (18-3-1).

"We wanted to face North

Carolina in the Friday game because it gives us a chance at revenge," Irish goalkeeper Liz Wagner said. "Plus, being able to beat Carolina would be a wonderful feat."

North Carolina, which had lost only one Atlantic Coast Conference game before this season, went 4-3 in the conference, losing back-to-back to Florida State and Wake Forest. It marked the first time in 18 years the Tar Heels lost successive games. But they've won seven straight since then by a combined score of 23-2, including a 5-0 win over Wake Forest to avenge their earlier 1-0 loss.

"They have a wonderful legacy, a wonderful story there. But I think most people see that parity is coming," Waldrum said. "Who would have thought North Carolina would have three losses in a season?"

The Tar Heels' three losses are the most they've had in a season since going 21-5 in 1980. Their fifth-seed is their lowest ever in the tournament.

The lone blemish on the Irish record is a scoreless tie against Connecticut. They have outscored opponents 75-8 this season and have trailed for a total

of 28 minutes, all against Boston College, a game the Irish won 2-1.

Waldrum said this year's squad is probably not as talented as last year's after losing all-time leading goal-scorer Jenny Heft, All-Americans Jenny Streiffer, Jen Grubb and goalie LaKeysia Beene. But he said this year's squad plays better as a team.

"Last year when we struggled I think the team looked to one of the seniors to get us going. This season I think everyone has stepped up and taken on more responsibility," he said.

The Irish won their only NCAA title in 1995, beating North Carolina 1-0 in the semifinals and Portland 1-0 in triple overtime. North Carolina leads the series 7-2-2 including going 4-0-1 the last five games against the Irish.

Waldrum said the key to beating the Tar Heels is limiting their scoring chances. North Carolina is leading the nation in scoring at 4.23 goals a game, while allowing 0.67 goals a game.

"We have to come out and put a lot of pressure on them and not sit back on our heels and wait for things to happen," Wagner said. "We need to be the ones to make things happen."

Carruth on trial for shooting pregnant girlfriend

The Associated Press

Rae Carruth asked if he would be taken from a hospital in handcuffs the night the NFL player's pregnant girlfriend was shot, a police officer testified Wednesday.

"Mr. Carruth turned to me and said 'Are you guys going to take me out in handcuffs and out something over my head to hide my face when we go out?'"

Officer Kevin Wallin testified. The officer said Carruth, sitting on the floor of a hospital hallway, also asked if there was any way to determine whether a gun had been fired from inside his vehicle. He said Carruth wanted to know if the hospital was surrounded by police and whether the news media was outside.

"When he made the statement to me, I felt like obviously it was an admission of guilt," Wallin said. "It struck me as odd for someone to say."

The officer's testimony followed that of another officer who said Cherica Adams, Carruth's girlfriend, said the football player was involved in the shooting.

"I had asked her point blank if her boyfriend was the one who shot her and she said yes he was," Officer Peter Grant said.

On cross-examination, Grant said his report didn't mention that Adams implicated Carruth. Earlier witnesses said they learned from police that Carruth was a suspect.

In other morning testimony, a former girlfriend told jurors that Carruth had asked Adams to have an abortion and she refused.

On Tuesday, a key prosecution witness ended two days of contentious exchanges with Carruth's lawyer, who questioned his honesty and

past transgressions.

Co-defendant Michael Eugene Kennedy stuck to the story he told last week for prosecutors that Carruth hatched a plan to kill Adams in November 1999.

Defense attorney David Rudolf spent most of Tuesday in cross-examination trying to show Kennedy was a violent drug dealer who would lie under oath in order to get a reduced sentence at his own trial. Kennedy said he is telling the truth because he wants to make Carruth accountable.

"There are a lot of things I could have done and should have done," Kennedy said near the end of nearly eight hours of testimony that spanned four days.

"Rae also knew it was a bad plan..." Then Rudolf interrupted him, saying: "No, Rae says he's innocent and he says you're a liar."

Kennedy's mother and sister told reporters after his testimony that they were proud of Kennedy.

"He's been telling the truth since the beginning," Bessie Kennedy, his sister, said outside the Mecklenburg County Courthouse. "He was up there to tell what really happened."

Kennedy testified that Carruth masterminded the drive-by shooting to avoid having to pay child support to Adams, who was eight months pregnant.

Kennedy said that he drove the car from which shots were fired at Adams and that Carruth was in another car that stopped in front of Adams' vehicle. A member of the Carolina Panthers at the time, Carruth has denied any involvement in the shooting.

Rudolf's cross-examination of Kennedy included questions about

the witnesses past drug dealing and his role in a 1994 shooting of another drug dealer.

Prosecutor David Graham following the cross-examination, asking Kennedy why he voluntarily submitted to a police interview eight days after Adams was shot on Nov. 16, 1999.

Kennedy said that he was called by investigators.

"Why... didn't you just crawl into the trunk of your car?" Graham asked, a reference to Carruth's flight to Tennessee in the trunk of a female friend's Toyota Camry after Adams died last December.

Carruth, 26, could be executed if convicted of arranging the killing of Adams. Adams, 24, gave birth to a son. The boy is in the custody of Adams' mother.

Kennedy, Carruth and two other men were charged in the shooting; Kennedy testified without immunity from prosecution.

Kennedy said he rejected two plea offers from the state because he believed he was innocent although he drove the car from which the shots were fired.

Co-defendant and confessed triggerman Van Brett Watkins already has confessed to shooting Adams, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and agreed to testify against Carruth.

Carruth's defense team contends Watkins shot Adams in anger because Carruth reneged on a promise to pay for drugs and because she made an obscene gesture at Watkins from her car.

Kennedy and another co-defendant, Stanley Drew "Boss" Abraham, are to be tried separately on murder charges.

Kings incorporate prayer into pregame ritual

The Associated Press

Beyond the usual shooting and stretching, several Sacramento Kings incorporate another component in their pre-game routine: prayer.

The contingent: Nick Anderson, Lawrence Funderburke, Bobby Jackson, Darrick Martin and Chris Webber; now also has a permanent home to practice their faith.

One hour and five minutes prior to each home game at Arco Arena, the group participates in a 20-minute, non-denominational chapel service in the Royal Room, which also serves as the players' family lounge.

The chapel service, conducted by Pastor Sherwood Carthen, fol-

lows a strict time schedule. The players return to the locker room at the required 45 minutes prior the start of pre-game introductions.

"We started out in the weightroom," said Carthen, now in his 11th season conducting the chapel service. "They've moved us around, but we have a permanent home now."

Although some NBA teams do not offer religious services, the Kings' program is also available to visiting teams.

"It's not one of those things where we keep them (the players) separate," Carthen said. "Everyone is welcome."

A chapel service notice is posted in the Kings' and visiting

locker rooms.

"We've give them books and daily devotion handouts," Carthen said. "We try to talk about personal issues that we all share and we also have personal prayer requests. In fact, we've had a couple of victories this year with personal prayer requests."

Players have asked for prayers for sick family members or more personal issues.

"We try to keep them encouraged," said Carthen, Pastor of the Family Worship Center in Sacramento. "When they step out on the court, it is our goal that they be at one with themselves, no struggles whatsoever. We just believe if they are at peace, they perform better."

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White Sox's Valentin chooses happiness over salary

The Associated Press

Jose Valentin could have had more money—a lot more money.

But in an age where salaries for professional athletes reach eight figures and some contracts include private suites and jet service, the free-agent shortstop was looking for something else.

"To me, being comfortable and being happy in a place is first," Valentin said Tuesday, speaking for the first time since reaching a \$15.5 million, three-year deal with the White Sox last week.

"Another team offered me a four-year deal with more money, and I turned down that one," he said. "I don't think money was the reason. It was being in a place where I feel comfortable and happy. That's first for me, and then the money."

Sure, Valentin is still getting a bundle of cash. He'll make \$5 million a year, and the deal includes a \$5 million team option for 2004 with a \$500,000 buyout.

But he could have had more. The Baltimore Orioles offered him a four-year deal worth a reported \$21.4 million, and two other clubs also were willing to pay him more money.

Instead, Valentin chose to stay with the manager he likes and the team that got him to the playoffs for the first time in his nine-year career.

"Yeah, it was close," he said. "I sat and talked with my wife about the money and the offers.... She wanted me to be happy. That was the first thing she said to me."

"I just decided to be in the

place that I know where I'm going to be and make sure I'm going to be around players that really are for each other."

Jerry Manuel, who won AL Manager of the Year honors for taking the White Sox to the AL Central title despite a payroll of only \$37 million, was a big factor in Valentin's decision. The quiet, humble manager has great ideas, Valentin said, and was the perfect manager for a young White Sox squad.

He's also the perfect manager for Valentin. In his first season with Manuel and the White Sox, Valentin batted a career-high .273 with 25 home runs and 92 RBIs. He also established career highs in homers, total bases (279), doubles (37), extra-base hits (68) and runs scored (107).

He became the fifth White Sox player to hit for the cycle on April 27, when he went 4-for-5 against the Baltimore Orioles. He fell a single short of hitting for the cycle again on May 27 against Cleveland.

"Jerry was a special manager," Valentin said. "He got the support and respect from the players and we got the same thing from him. He was unbelievable.... I just feel happy to see him be the Manager of the Year, and hopefully he'll get many more."

Valentin is also hoping the White Sox make more trips to the playoffs. Though he thinks they can compete with the Cleveland Indians without major personnel changes, the White Sox would get a huge boost if they could lure Alex Rodriguez to Chicago.

Rodriguez is the biggest player in free agency this year, expected to get a long-term deal that will pay him \$20 million a year. Chicago is one of the few teams that could pay him that kind of money.

But signing Rodriguez, a shortstop, would mean a position switch for Valentin.

"All I want to do is be in the lineup," he said. "To have Alex Rodriguez in the same lineup, anybody would like to have Alex as their teammate. If they sign Alex and they want me to move somewhere else, I'll do it. I just want to play."

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Southern hosts High-Tech Roundtable

By Jake Hallman
Staff Writer

Senator Max Cleland (D-GA) hosted a "high tech" roundtable discussion yesterday in the Russell Union Ballroom.

Cleland, a member of the Senate Commerce Committee and Senate Subcommittee on Telecommunications, joined technology, government and education leaders to discuss the prospects of increasing access to technology in Southeast Georgia.

The roundtable was co-hosted by Georgia Southern and East Central Technical Institute, and sought to explore the future role of the high-tech sector in education and economic development, particularly in Southeast Georgia.

Panelists included Dr. William Kennard, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and Dr. Stephen Portch, chancellor of the University System of Georgia.

"As the digital divide grows, people without access to new technology are increasingly left behind," Cleland said. "Through collaboration and new initiatives, however, we can bridge the gap for all Georgians."

"This roundtable is designed to highlight the incredible resources at our disposal in Southeast Georgia for education and

information technology."

In addition, the roundtable was to look at what technology access could mean to both people in this area and in places across the country similar to Southeast Georgia, he explained.

"I am particularly excited to have a man of Dr. Kennard's stature and expertise in attendance," Cleland added.

As chair of the FCC, Kennard has made the commission an advocate for worldwide telecommunication competition, and believes that all Americans need access to the technologies that are driving

the economy and shaping society.

"What we're talking about today is vitally important to the future of our country," Kennard said.

The roundtable dovetails with recent announcements about the College of Information Technology soon to be added to GSU, whose curriculum was finalized Wednesday.

The university will begin construction in 2002 on a building to house the college, with completion scheduled for 2004. The \$19 million facility will be 125,000 square feet, making it the largest building on campus.

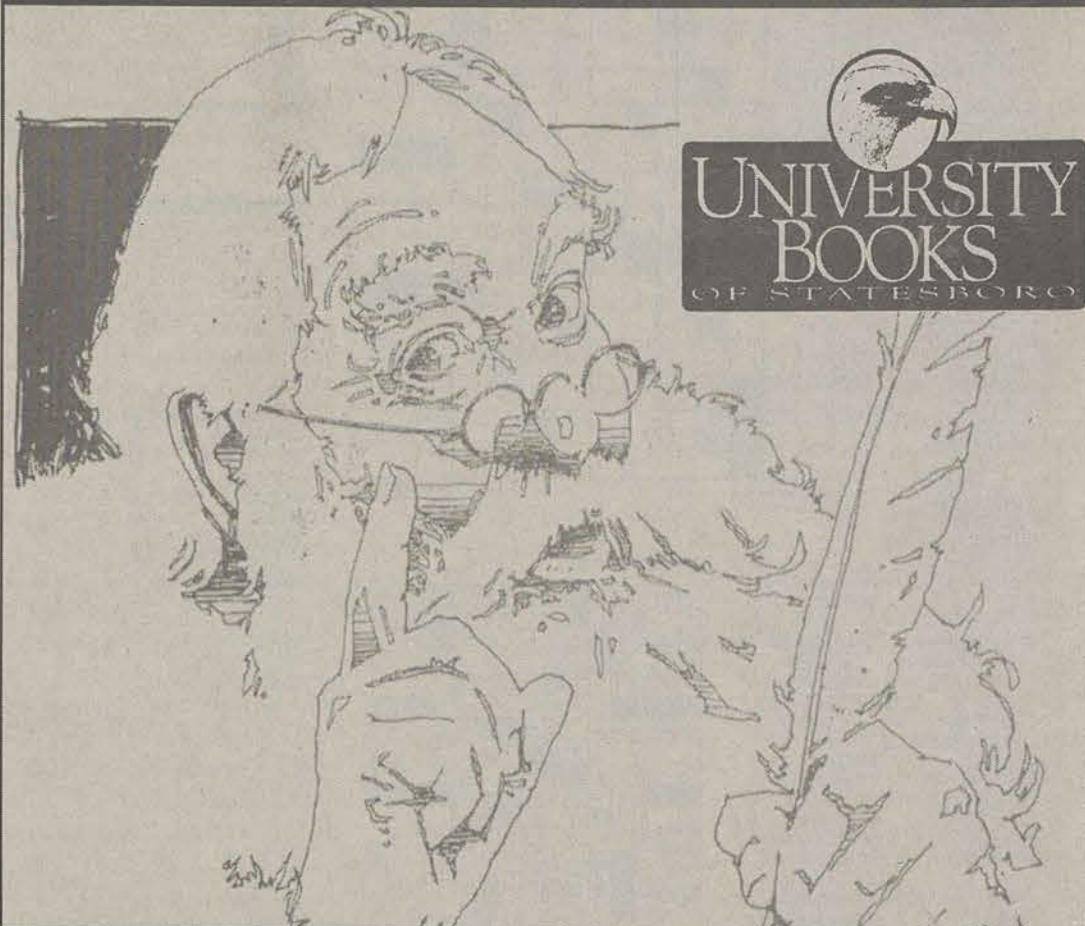


BRINGING HIGH-TECH TO RURAL GEORGIA: Senator Max Cleland visited GSU to speak about Georgia's high-tech future.

Photos by David Koepeke



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