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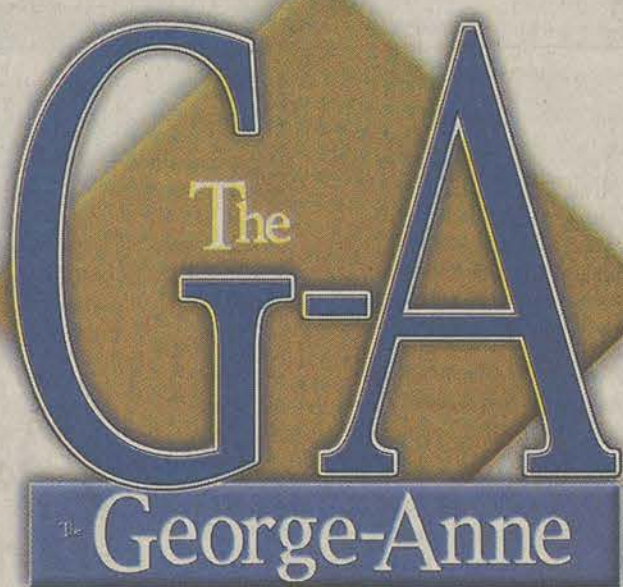


SPORTS

GSU baseball takes three game sweep

The GSU Baseball team dominates their first three games in SoCon against App. State.

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LIFE

Eagle Entertainment presents 'Fifteen Minutes'

'Fifteen Minutes', a movie about two criminals determined to achieve fame, will debut tomorrow night in a sneak preview in Russell Union at 9 p.m.



Page 11

Vol. 73 No. 66

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Graduation Gala to be held March 20-21

By Jason Clary
Staff Writer

The Graduation Gala which will be held in the Williams Center Dining Hall on Tuesday, March 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and also Wednesday, March 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. will provide graduating students with a one stop shopping experience to handle all graduation needs.

There will be many representatives available to meet with students, including representatives from the Registrar, Financial Aid, Business Office, Career Services, Graduate College, Alumni Relations, The University Bookstore, Print Shop, Parking and Transportation, Postal Services, and the Henderson Library.

Students will also have the opportunity to check on graduation fees and can also find out how to get involved with Alumni Relations once they

graduate. The Campus Postal Service will be on hand to sign up students with their forwarding address once they graduate.

Career Services will also have free pizza, popcorn, and Coca-Cola for all that attend the event. Career Services will be available to assist students with their resumes and job search strategies.

The first 300 students each day to attend the gala will receive a free t-shirt from Career Services and will have the chance to win some door prizes to be given away throughout the event.

Herff Jones will be there to take orders for student cap and gowns along with GSU class rings. Students will have the opportunity to have their pictures taken for graduation with Lifetouch Photography.

Students can also discuss career opportunities with representatives from Enterprise Rent-A-Car during the gala.

Career Services is sponsoring this event for graduating students and invites all interested students to attend this event to find out more information on graduation along with an opportunity for free food and prizes.

Career Services has put together a survey for graduating students which is available on line at: <http://www.sta.gasou.edu/GradSurvey>. Students who complete the survey will be registered for their chance to win up to \$100. Amy Williams of Career Services urges students to fill out the feedback form prior to the event, but if you are unable to fill it out prior, you can take part in it at the event.

Students interested in finding out more information regarding the Graduation Gala should contact Amy Williams at Career Services. Amy can be reached at (912)681-5197 or in room #1047 in the Williams Center.

Memorial service held for GSU student

By Leigh-Anne Burgess
News Editor

A memorial service was held on Tuesday at the Union at 2:30 p.m. for a 24 year-old GSU graduate student that committed suicide.

The suicide was reported on Sunday, March 4 at 4:51 a.m., according to Statesboro Police Department police reports. The victim's roommate reported the incident at 4:50 a.m. after the roommate reportedly heard a loud bang and called out to the victim. When the victim did not respond, the roommate went into the victim's room and found him on the bed unconscious with what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. The victim was taken to the East Georgia Medical Center by Bulloch EMS and was listed in critical condition. He later died at approximately 8 p.m. on Sunday.

Welford places emphasis on conservation

• Sponsors summer trip to Ecuador

By Teresa Southern
Staff Writer

When Dr. Mark Welford was in high school, someone told him he would never amount to anything. How wrong they were!

Welford, originally from England, has been at Georgia Southern eight years. Welford is the Associate Professor of Geography and teaches World Regional Geography and Climate and Landscape and visited over 28 countries. He has been in the United States for a total of fifteen years.

"I've seen Georgia Southern grow and develop and feel that it is an important force in the region", Welford said.

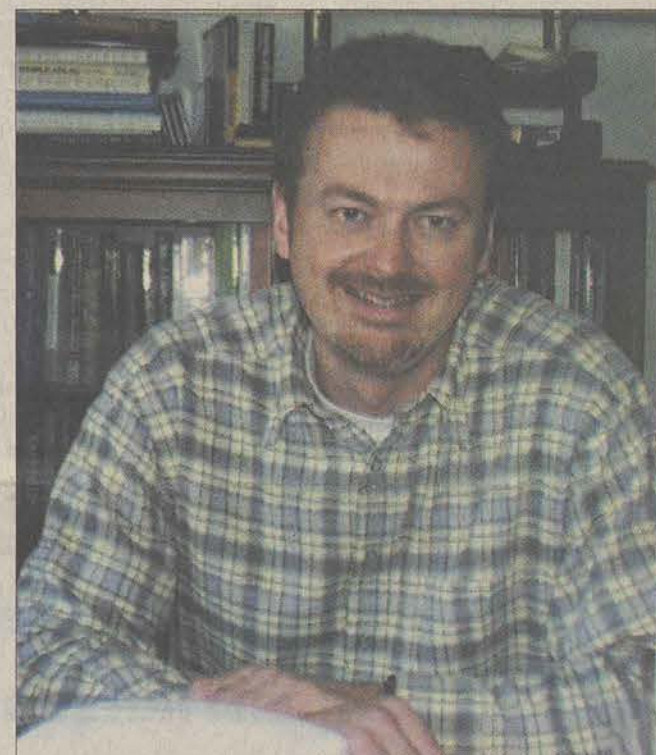
"After earning my masters in

Idaho, I was offered a paid position as a Teachers Assistant. After that, I realized how much I enjoyed teaching," Welford said.

Welford earned his Ph.D. from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His Research interests include Biogeography, Geodynamics and Ecology of Tropical Rain Forests. Welford has several publications about these subjects which include "Conservation potential of former pastures within Wet Temperate Forest, Ecuador," "A review of Coherent Flow Structures in Open Channels," "New record of Swallow-tailed Nightjars for Pichincha province and the west slope of the Andes in Ecuador," "Faculty

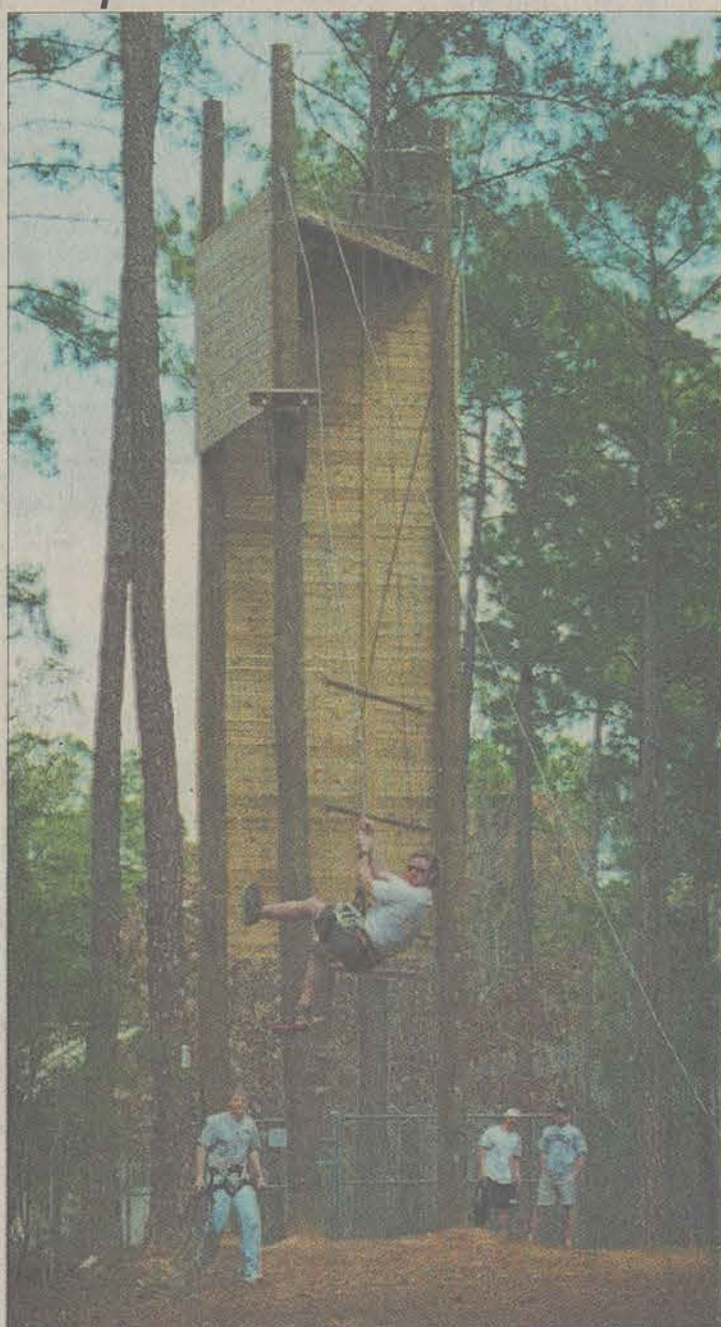
satisfaction with the Combined Geology and Geography Department," and "Experiences, Reflections and Recommendations of a Teaching Assistant in the US."

Welford is sponsoring a Summer Study in Ecuador. The dates this will be held are July 11- July 30 2001. Students participating can earn up to six geography credits and four in Biology. Students will have the opportunity to travel across the country of Ecuador, hike in the Andes and climb up into the canopy of the Amazon rain forest. For more information about this trip contact mwelfgeog@gvms2.cc.gasou.edu



DR. MARK WELFORD: Sponsoring a Summer study in Ecuador July 11-30, students may earn up to six geography credits and four in biology during the trip.

Ropes Course...



TAKING THE CHALLENGE: Students here take the challenge of the Ropes Course that involves both physical and mental challenges and helps to form teamwork and social skills.

Savannah prepares for St. Patrick's Day

• Increased security and events at this year's bash

By Leigh-Anne Burgess
News Editor

Savannah is preparing for its annual St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 15-17 with various events and attractions planned for all ages, and the Savannah Waterfront Association wants to make sure that GSU students are in attendance this year.

According to Scott Searcy of The Savannah Historic Riverfront Association, a few changes have been made this year and many events have been added.

"Our goal this year is to provide a safer and cleaner event," Searcy said.

According to Corporal Jack Willis of the Savannah Police Department, officers will be disbursed differently this year in order to maintain order and safety for those attending the celebration.

"Instead of 50 officers on River Street, ... there will be 60," Willis said. Officers will

also be disbursed between City Market and River Street.

In addition to more security, there will also be improved entertainment, professional bartenders to man all beer stations

set up where various bands and artists will perform throughout the three-day celebration.

Local bands Wallace Green, Statesboro Blues Band and Middle Ground will play for the

"OUR GOAL THIS YEAR IS TO PROVIDE A SAFER AND CLEANER EVENT,"

--SCOTT SEARCY, HISTORIC RIVERFRONT ASSOCIATION

and more food vendors at more locations, Searcy said.

The Riverfront Association has hired a professional company out of Atlanta to oversee this year's St. Patrick's celebration and to make sure that all events are more organized.

Some of the scheduled activities for this year are games for all ages, including sumo wrestling, rock climbing and safari rides. Also, the U.S. Navy Ships will line the waterway of the Savannah River and provide free tours of the ships.

There will also be three stages

St. Patrick's Day celebration. Middle Ground will perform at City Market in front of Malone's around 5 p.m. on Friday and at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Also on Saturday, Wallace Green will play at 2 p.m. and Statesboro Blues Band will play at 10 p.m., both on the West End Stage on River Street.

D. J. Mickey the will be live each day on center stage, while Celtic bands and pipe bands can be seen on the East End Stage on Friday and Saturday, all on River Street.

Big name performers that will



be live at this year's St. Patrick's Day festivities are Rev 7, Angie Arparo and Sister Hazel. All three are scheduled to appear on the East End Stage on Thursday at 6:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 10 p.m. respectively.

All events will take place on Historic River Street between the East Broad Ramp and MLK Boulevard. Event hours for this year will be noon-1 a.m. on Thursday, 10 a.m.-1 a.m. on Friday and 8 a.m.-1 a.m. on Saturday.

The Riverfront Association wants to "provide a fun atmosphere and to give people more things to do than just drink," Searcy said.

However, a \$5 entrance fee will be collected at all entry points of River Street for anyone over 21 wishing to drink at the festival site. This fee will provide patrons with a wristband, which must be worn at all times. Individuals must purchase a new wristband each day of the event and any violation of this ordinance could result in arrest.

For more information, visit the Savannah Waterfront Association web site at www.savriverstreet.com.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Things to do at GSU

March 8
• GSU NAACP presents the "4th Annual Tribute to the African American Woman" at 6 p.m. in the Russell Union theater.

• **The Academic Resource Center** presents Research in the Electronic Age (Ways to Find Really Useful Information for Your Class Papers). Presented by Walker, Richardson and Ziegler. 3 p.m. in the Library MAA

March 20-21

• **The Graduation Gala** will be held in the Williams Center Dining Hall from 10 until 6 pm on the 20th and 10 until 4 on the 21st.

• **The Academic Resource Center**

presents Coherence: Sentence Combining by VonBergen. 3 p.m. in room 1042 of the Library.

April 1-7

The ice cold brothers of **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.** proudly announces the return of Alpha week. Stay tuned for more information.

Ongoing

• **GSU's NAACP** meets every Monday in Russell Union room 2080 at 6 p.m.

• **Academic Resource Center** will be offering free tutoring in the Library Ground Floor, room 1001 in the following courses: English, Biology, Sociology, Math, Algebra, Probability, Physics and Chemistry. Call 681-0321 for more information.

• **The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Support Group** for students, staff and faculty meets in Room 2072 of the Russell Union on Thursdays from 5 until 6 p.m. For more information call 681-5409.

• **Black Student Alliance** meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Check sheet for room number. For more info call 681-5458.

• **Anime Crew** meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in room 1106 of the Forest Drive Building. For more information contact Christina Huey at 688-2536.

• **The Institute for Electronics and Electrical Engineers** meets the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Please contact George Fotopoulos at gsi04936@gasou.edu for more information.

POLICE BEAT

GSU Public Safety March 5

• Dana Huthsteiner reported a Road Master bicycle was taken from the bike rack near the Herty building.

• Paul Lewow reported \$70 was taken from his room in Kennedy Hall.

• Russell Trotter reported a Sony Video Recorder was taken from the trunk of his vehicle in the Perimeter Commuter parking lot.

Statesboro Police Department March 4

• Secunda Robinson, 23, University Pointe #35, reported public drunkenness.

March 6

• Jodi Lansky, 19, 331C North Main Street, reported an unwanted person.

• Ansley Gibson, 18, Garden District #504, reported criminal trespass.

Editor's Note: Police Beat appears in every edition of the George-Anne in an effort to inform the GSU community of the amount, nature and location of crime. All reports are public information and can be obtained at either the GSU Division of Public Safety or at the Statesboro Police Department.

--All Police Beat information is compiled by Jason Kemp, assistant news editor.

This Week's Weather



Today
Partly cloudy with a high of 61 and a low of 35.



Thursday
Partly cloudy with a high of 63 and a low of 45.

President of Coca-Cola resigns

Associated Press

ATLANTA—Jack L. Stahl, Coca-Cola's president and chief operating officer, resigned Sunday as the beverage giant announced a reorganization of its management structure.

The change creates four business units — Americas, Asia, Europe/Africa and New Business Ventures — with the head of each reporting directly to Coke chairman and chief executive Douglas Daft.

The new structure eliminates the president position.

Stahl, 47, was not fired, Coke spokesman Rob Baskin said. Rather, Stahl decided it was time to pursue other career opportunities, considering the company well on its path to financial recovery after several tough years.

Baskin said he did not know if Stahl, who also served as chief operating officer, had been offered another position at Coke. The resignation is effective immediately.

"This new structure is what the Coca-Cola Co. needs for a new century," Daft said in a statement. "Jack Stahl and I held a lengthy discussion about the exciting potential of this new model."

"Jack concluded that, having helped the Coca-Cola Co. reset its agenda and priorities, he wanted to seek new leadership challenges else-

where," Daft was traveling and not available for comment Sunday. Stahl also was not available.

The company named Jeffrey T. Dunn, currently the president of Coca-Cola North America, to serve as Americas chief. A.R.C. "Sandy" Allan will continue as Asia head and Charles S. Frenette, the chief of Coke's Europe operation, will add Africa to his duties.

The company said it will shortly name a leader of its new division, New Business Ventures. The effort, which Daft has discussed in less formal terms since he became Coke's leader, is designed to promote a spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation throughout the company.

Each unit head will be given the title president.

Baskin said the company remains confident it will meet the sales and financial targets it has set for 2001 and that Stahl's departure was not related to the company's performance.

The change represents fewer areas of separate management, merging the previously separate Latin America division with Dunn's group. Africa Group President Donald Short is becoming head of a new joint venture Coke is beginning with Procter & Gamble.

The deal announced last month will create a \$4 billion company that aims to use Coke's global distribution muscle

to spur sales of Procter & Gamble's juices, which include Sunny Delight, and its snacks, particularly Pringles.

No employees will be laid off as part of the changes announced Sunday, Baskin said.

"The idea is to move key decision making closer to local markets," he said, which Daft has long pushed as a way to increase Coke's ability to quickly manage changes in its disparate markets.

Stahl, elected as Coke's president and COO in April, earned \$2 million last year and was granted options to buy 500,000 Coke shares.

He began his Coke career in 1981 in the finance department, working in various positions including executive assistant to the chief financial officer. He served as president of Coca-Cola USA from 1994 to 1999.

The tough years that Coke has endured recently included a health scare and subsequent recall in Europe, a falling stock price and a racial discrimination suit, which the company settled last year for \$192.5 million, the largest settlement ever in a racial discrimination case.

Stahl, who was not immediately available for comment, said in a company statement that he had enjoyed his tenure at Coke.

"Coca-Cola is and always will be a part of me," he said in a statement.

GEORGIA NEWS BRIEF

Teacher shortage forces DeKalb County to seek private help

Associated Press

DECATUR, Ga. — A teacher shortage in DeKalb County has the Board of Education turning to teachers employed by a private company to fill vacant classrooms.

The teachers will be employees of the company, Athens-based Educational Staffing, not the county's education board.

The Athens company will provide up to 20 regular education teachers and up to 30 special education teachers to work for the remainder of this school year. A few of the special education jobs have gone unfilled since the school year started. Midyear resignations have opened other positions.

"This is an unusual way to hire teachers. I don't know anyone else who's doing it but the reason for it is very simple: We have no choice," said school board attorney Stan Hawkins.

DeKalb County has a teaching force of about 6,000, so the private company teachers will make up a small fraction of the district's

teaching work force. Those working for the private company will not be part of the state retirement system.

Some teacher advocates fear the arrangement could lead to two unequal tiers of teachers.

Kelly Services, a temporary help company, has contracted with districts in 26 states to provide substitute teachers.

Contracting for conventional classroom teachers is new, said Jane Leibbrand of the Washington-based National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

"I have heard of it a little bit but just in the past few months," she said.

Mary Pichan, president of Educational Staffing, said teachers can earn a little more up front, but they don't get retirement benefits.

DeKalb County has used Educational Staffing for about eight years for specialists such as physical therapists and speech pathologists. Pichan said her company will continue to focus

on special education while providing only a small number of regular classroom teachers.

The school board has the right to interview and reject prospective teachers, who must have a Georgia teaching certificate. The board can require the company to replace a teacher.

"These teachers have to meet all the requirements for any teacher we hire," said Robert Tucker, head of human resources for DeKalb schools.

The school district will pay Educational Staffing \$242 per day for regular education teachers and \$253 for special education teachers. The cost is comparable to what the school district would pay a first-year teacher with benefits, Tucker said.

George-Anne

Williams Center room 2023
P.O. Box 8001
Statesboro, GA 30460

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E-MAIL TO:

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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.

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Christina, age 6 months, lovingly placed in open adoption at her birth, visiting her birthmom, Sara

Elections

Teacher of the Year

Where:..Russell Union

Date:....March 6, 7 & 8

Time:.....10am to 2pm

Where:.....RAC

Date:.....March 6 & 7

Time:.....6pm to 8pm



Georgia Southern University Wellness Council

Blood Pressure Screening • Health Info • Counseling Services
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Martial Arts • Pilates • Kickboxing • Yoga • Physical Therapy
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Health Behavior • Fatal Vision Goggles • CRI • Games • Give-Aways

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Please call 486-1132 to make an appointment; fasting is required.

••• Bone Density Scan begins at 8:30am •••

ONLY IN AMERICA...

1 Massachusetts

MIT's "Hall of Hacks" closing

Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE—Lack of space is forcing the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to close a museum exhibit dedicated to student practical jokes and pranks.

For 10 years, the "Hall of Hacks" at the MIT Museum has honored capers pulled off by decades of MIT students.

Among the hall's items:

— A cap and gown-wearing plastic cow that appeared atop MIT's Great Dome in 1981.

— A hidden MIT balloon that inflated at halftime of the 1982 Harvard-Yale football game.

— The smoot, a unit of measure invented in 1958 when Oliver Smoot Jr. '62 was laid end to end across the Harvard Bridge. (The bridge is 364.4 smoots long.)

— A replica police car that had to be removed from MIT's Great Dome by crane in 1994.

The shrine is set to be taken down Sunday.

"It was hard, but I think it's the right decision," Jane Pickering, director of the MIT Museum, told the Boston Herald. "I think there are some people who think we're going to throw (the displays) out, which we're not going to do."

School officials said they are looking for another location for the display, possibly the student center.

David Barber, the MIT safety officer who has become the school's expert in removing pranks, said he's disappointed the shrine is being taken down.

"I think it's a cool thing and I think there's a lot achieved by the hacks," he said. "It provides relief from stress for the people who are doing it, it gives them a little bit of notorious fame, nobody gets hurt and MIT gets some positive publicity from it."

2 Wyoming

Airport to see money to accomodate Cheney

Associated Press

JACKSON, — Jackson Hole Airport officials plan to seek additional federal money to accommodate visits from Vice President Dick Cheney.

Air Force Two, the Boeing 757 that carries Cheney, consumes precious ramp space, and the wide security berth it needs could snarl air traffic

Spa dealer wins battle to become newest Trump

Associated Press

MEDFORD, Ore. — Chad Milligan has pulled a Trump card.

The 29-year-old has won a one-year legal battle to change his name to Sir William Trump Jr. in honor of his idol, New York real estate magnate Donald Trump.

A county judge granted his name-change petition on Thursday. Trump Jr. headed straight for the Driver and Motor Vehicle Services office to change his driver's license.

"They said it couldn't be done," said Trump Jr.

The spa dealer was heckled around town for his tailored suits and inflated ego — so much so that co-workers and competitors began calling him "Trump Junior."

Bank workers fired after prank goes awry

Associated Press

ZIONSVILLE, Ind. — Three bank employees were fired Thursday over a prank on a co-worker in which they staged a fake robbery.

An employee of a KeyBank branch was returning to work Wednesday morning when he noticed that all the lights were turned out and saw the legs of a co-worker sticking out from behind a desk, police said. He then left the bank and called police.

"As soon as we pulled up, one of the employees admitted it was a hoax played by several of the bank's em-



during the crowded summer tourist season, officials said.

The airport has little room from expansion because it sits in Grand Teton National Park. Airport manager George Larson said additional federal funding could help alleviate congestion and improve safety.

Airport officials are considering installing thicker pavement to support the weight of heavier aircraft, such as Cheney's plane. They also want federal money to install a radar system to reduce the waiting time for planes to land.

The priority of the Airport Board is a \$1.4 million expansion of a ramp, which could provide parking for Cheney's plane, some board members said.

Cheney has vacationed at the home he owns in Jackson Hole since taking office.

3 Pennsylvania

Intercom system broadcasts court conversations

Associated Press

EASTON, — Visitors have been hearing strange things lately in the Northampton County Courthouse.

Friday began with a defense attorney's call to a probation officer about a client. By late-morning, sneezing and heavy breathing echoed throughout the courthouse. Earlier in the week, two men insulted a county employee. And the week before that, a woman described how much she loved a man named Michael.

The private conversations have turned public because of the county's new \$800,000 telephone system. When employees use the telephone system — whether it is an outside or inside call — the call sometimes is sent over the intercoms.

"This is a problem," Northampton County Court Ad-

ministrator James Onembo said. "It concerns not only the court system, but all of the employees in the county."

The broadcasts have provided a few chuckles for courthouse employees, but Judge Robert A. Freedberg said the glitch can have some "significant consequences."

"Suppose a woman is calling about getting a PFA (protection-from-abuse order) and tells court personnel what her address is. Suppose that information is then (inadvertently) broadcast through the courthouse," Freedberg said. "That could cause a potentially harmful situation."

Family uses corn to stay warm in winter

Associated Press

RUDYARD, Mich. — While heating costs for propane, natural gas, fuel oil and electricity seem to be spiraling ever upward this winter, the Berkompas family has been keeping their home at a steady 73 degrees with a clean-burning, readily available, inexpensive fuel.

Corn.

The grain that also takes the form of animal feed and breakfast cereal has kept the Upper Peninsula family of four's farmhouse warm for more than a decade.

"I went down and bought the 100,000 BTU furnace and installed it myself," Berkompas said. "I love the daylight out of it."

Berkompas purchased the furnace from A-Maize-Ing Heat in Ithaca in 1991 when his wife developed allergies to wood smoke.

Not only did Berkompas eliminate the offensive smoke, he also reduced the cutting, stacking and hauling associated with burning wood.

Despite controlling more than 850

acres of farm land, Berkompas has opted not to grow his own corn.

With the difficulty of harvesting corn here in the fall and the relatively cheap price for purchasing the shelled product, Berkompas does not see any advantage to growing the corn himself.

In an average winter week, Berkompas figures he uses roughly 700 pounds of shelled corn, a little more when it is bitter cold and a little less during a temporary thaw.

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Student Government Association Call for Candidates

The Student Government Association is currently accepting candidate applications for all executive officer positions and all senator positions for the 2001-2002 terms.

Candidates must meet the following qualifications:

- Must be a student currently enrolled at Georgia Southern University
- Must be enrolled for a minimum of 6 semester hours
- Must pay student activity fee
- Must possess and maintain a minimum adjusted GPA of 2.0 on work earned at GSU
- Must plan on being enrolled for the entire 2001-2002 academic year
- Executive officer candidates must have previously earned GSU credit

Applications will be accepted March 5, 2001 through March 9, 2001
and can be picked up at the Russell Union, Room 2022.

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS March 9, 2001, 5:00 PM.
NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS

Student Government Elections will be held March 27-29, 2001 online

"Full partners in the journey to excellence"

SPRING BREAK IS HERE! GO OUT, HAVE FUN, BUT BE SAFE

Spring Break is almost here and it is definitely a much-needed vacation for everyone. We know that the stresses of papers, tests, roommates and part-time jobs have more than likely got the best of everyone lately.

Our Opinion

That means that everyone is probably ready to party hard and relieve all that stress. However, as much as we hate to be that voice of reason that creeps into your head just as you're starting to have a great time, we must remind everyone to be responsible next week.

Of course, we want everyone to have a wonderful Spring Break, just don't forget about the dangers that

can occur when college students party together. Always have a designated driver and know when to say when. Try to control yourselves, and if that means to put that last drink down and walk away then be grown. Also, remember to take responsibility for not only yourself but also for your friends.

If you think that they are about to make a bad judgement call, talk to them and try to reason with them. No matter how safe that you think a situation might be, there is always that window of opportunity for something dangerous to occur. Whether you plan to travel to Florida or Mexico, or even just to hang out at home for a few days, remember that it's always safety first. We want to see everyone back at GSU after the break in one piece!

For 73 years, Georgia
Southern's Official Student
Newspaper
**The 2001 Editorial
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Victims need support at GSU



ERIN A.
MERRITT

Last week as I attended a seminar, I found myself in a reflective mood that followed with me throughout the weekend. In this seminar, a woman told the group that she had been raped once and attacked twice. For her, the problem was that there was no support group for her turn to in order to help her deal with the emotional aftermath of the attack.

Until that moment, I was not aware that Statesboro lacked such a support group. Furthermore, I found myself seriously pondering the implications of this missing link. I started to think about the incidents that have been reported, and recanted, and all the incidents that probably have not been reported at all. Southern has a reputation for being a safe campus, but is the reputation we see in the pamphlets realistic? Why are the allegations of rape typically recanted or not reported at all? I feel mostly safe when I walk on this campus, but I'm wondering if we see the whole picture when we talk about campus safety. Many students look at the statistics and see that one rape happened but it was recanted, and suddenly they feel completely safe. Those statistics give parents a warm, fuzzy feeling inside that their child is at a safe campus where things

like that just don't happen.

The fact is that these things DO HAPPEN, AND THEY DO HAPPEN RIGHT HERE IN STATESBORO! So why has our society chosen to isolate those who are violated instead of supporting them? These victims are cast out into society to bear the brunt of their attack alone. Maybe the victim has friends and family who are there for them, but sometimes the best support is from others who've had the same experience as you. That way you don't have to explain all the emotions you're feeling, they're just understood because the people supporting you know those feelings all too well.

So what is GSU doing for these victims? Unfortunately, at the time, the answer seems to be nothing. Now granted there are self-defense courses here on campus, but this class is hard to get into due to its popularity. This semester there are 6 sections offered, but at one point there was only one section per semester. Not only that, but what about the faculty and staff here? Is their safety not equally important? So while GSU offers help in learning measures to prevent such occurrences, there is no effort to follow up in the event that it does happen. If I were a parent, I would be happy to know that while the campus I was sending my child to was a safe one, the school was taking measures to help my child not only prevent these occurrences, but to also deal

with this should the situation call for it.

Our university puts lots of money into making our campus appealing, and that is a key factor in why many people chose this school. But does this reputation come at a price? And if so, is it all worth it in the end? Since we're putting money into making our campus better and even offer a course to help students learn to prevent and defend themselves, why not put equal emphasis on helping victims overcome the aftermath of an attack?

In the words of Sir Walter Scott, "Oh, what a tangled web we weave, When first we practise to deceive." When we put all this effort concealing something that happens regularly, we make it difficult for those victims to speak out. When there is no where for the people to turn what does that say about GSU and the "tangled web"? You must remember "efforts are being made but it takes more than one or two students, unfortunately it takes groups of students to repeatedly beat the doors down and let the administration know what it wants done...if the groups want to have a rape awareness group on this campus regularly or mandatorily, THEY CAN DO IT!" We're here at this institute of higher learning to become more educated and more open-minded, certainly we shouldn't spend our time here being ignorant.

Erin A. Merritt can be reached at tater_tot13@hotmail.com

Magic Marc and black awareness month



ZACH
RUSHING

It was about Tuesday of last week when me and fellow columnist, Jake Hallman were at one of our favorite after work haunts, The Mellow Mushroom. He and I sat back and relaxed with our pretzels and beer as revelation, no wait, an epiphany stuck me. Now it's not uncommon that moments of great revelation hit people as they drink, but this one was special. As I looked up at one of the many viewing screens in the establishment I read an announcement that will forever change the way I see the world. "In honor of Black Awareness Month Magic Marc will be appearing at...No, no, no, In honor of what? A magic show featuring some fifth rank local entertainer is how we now honor the contributions, achievements, and, sacrifices of an oppressed peoples? That's when it hit me, African American History Month is a waste of budget and time.

That's right I said it, African American History Month is a waste of budget and of time. "How can you say that?" you ask. Simple. The whole thing is not only built on the wrong foundation but more importantly, it's not even taken seriously by the people it affects the most, African Americans. Let me start this another way, how many of you are African American? O.K., what did you really learn this month? No, really, what new fact about our shared past did you happen to run across this month. More than likely nothing more than the "same old, same old." You were bought, you were sold, then slavery ended. Sound familiar, sure it does you've been

told the same thing since you were in the third grade. Believe it or not these slaves (your ancestors) were mistreated, even killed. Now let's look at what you learned next. Whites don't treat blacks right until (get this) Martin Luther King Jr. marches on Washington D.C. and ends it all by himself. Oh yeah, and he's killed but, it's all O.K. because he had a dream. That's black history in a nutshell for most of us right? Needless to say black history is so much more than that.

We as a people have not only failed to understand this fact, but have become complacent in continuing the lie. We have no desire to push into the volumes of our history and learn from our past. Rather than expand the base of our education we have learned to wallow in the defeated politics of the past. How many times we going to allow ourselves to get caught in the debate of "hate or heritage" over the flag of a defeated and failed nation. The concept is ridiculous. We listen to music that degrades our women and lowers the love we have for each other. Then we set back and pat ourselves on the back when MTV picks up the video for heavy rotation. Never mind if the video or song has no intellectual or cultural significance because "the beat is tight as hell shawty!" Why then do institutions, businesses, and private groups go out of their way to acknowledge the past of a people who have no wish to either respect it or themselves.

I realize that last little rant doesn't go for all African Americans but trust me it goes for more than you think. So what should we as a people do to keep our past relevant? First get serious about it! Read, research, and study the history of ALL peoples. The fact that Jesse Jackson is the third (not the first) major African Ameri-

can candidate for the presidency means nothing unless you understand American Political history. Second, stop supporting ignorance! The more you learn about our history the less respect you will have for some aspects of black pop culture. You will find a book by Alain Locke written in 1925, is more honest and relevant than any Tupac lyric. (Just trust me.) Third, leave February for Valentine's Day, and find history all year round. Don't limit your understanding of your past to any 28/29 day timeframe.

I know for the most part I've been pretty critical of African Americans but it has been with due cause. White Americans can take notes from what I said above as well. The need for true black awareness does not rest on the shoulders of African Americans alone. White America, wake up. This country is just as much a product of our forefathers and mothers as yours. For every step in progress and technology, we have been there. It is important that you realize this more than anyone. The next time you think African American leaders are just whining about the past be reminded that the past is less than a lifetime ago. The past of oppression and hurt can still be seen in the eyes of most African Americans over the age of fifty. So when you talk of healing and forgetting, be aware that that's more work than any month of, trivia and TV specials will cover.

In closing, let me say the road to equality is a long one. Just ask women, Jews, and Native Americans. The price of it's toll is time and the reward at the end of the journey is understanding. Zach Rushing is would like to say he's sorry to anyone his columns offend, and he can be reached at Bnova@hotmail.com.



LETTER AND SUBMISSION POLICY

The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU 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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Your Opinion

Editors note: all letters to the editor are printed as is, with all spelling and grammatical errors. It is our goal to not misrepresent the authors in any way.

A matter of creativity

Dear sir,

I am writing in regard to your strong characterization of the "Do You Agree With Kevin?" event's publicity.

First, I would commend you for going to the scriptures in your attempt to hold the BSU accountable to the highest authority. Your exegesis and use of scripture, however, was out of context and missed the point of this type of publicity. It is our hope, though, that BSU students are sincerely trying to live by Biblical standards. We

do feel called to work towards the full measure of Christ, though often we fall woefully short.

On the other hand, I would disagree with your inference that the students responsible for this event were lying, deceiving, or being "shameful" in their ministry and witness. If you had come to the event, you would have been able to see that their attempt was not to "recruit membership" for the BSU (in any case, the BSU has a very loose definition of "membership" and has no rushing, no fees, no requirements beyond wanting to be a part of our ministry on the campus). The closest anyone came to this end was Kevin's mentioning of simply attending a BSU meeting where a substantial existential question was placed before him: "Would I spend eternity in heaven or in hell? Where is my life going and, if I were to die, had I lived it well?" In the back of the room, for those interested, was a list of all the Christian organizations and their contact numbers.

The purpose of the event was to get students to ask important questions: before, during, and after the event. As indicated on the cover of the George Anne, students came to the event to judge for themselves the merits of the foundation that Kevin Windham has for his life. For him, the answer was a meaningful relationship with and faith in Jesus Christ.

No student was coerced into coming or once there, to staying for Kevin's 20-25 minute presentation. Deception would involve some sort of "promising one thing and delivering another." Students were promised a chance to see whether they agreed with Kevin—no more, no less.

The lack of a clearly identifiable sponsor was part of the riddle in doing this type

of publicity campaign. BSU student leaders chose not to write BSU in large letters on the posters (only a small symbol identified the BSU as the sponsor on each of the posters). One could, if one wanted to investigate a little further, simply call your offices at the George Anne to find out who paid for the newspaper advertising or call the RAC to see who had reserved the auxiliary gym. Student leaders wanted and got a wider audience discussing the question, asking important ancillary questions, and stimulating interest, momentum, and curiosity. In marketing and similar classes, this campaign was discussed as appropriate, effective, and well executed. One obviously cannot do this kind of publicity for every event. However, the mystery and fun of this publicity helped to accomplish our goal of having a broader audience ask the question, "what would I say if I were to stand up in front of a group of my peers and give the meaning of the foundation of my life?" One's answer to this question is much more personal and all encompassing than simply either "I am a member of the BSU," or even, "I agree with Jesus." Wrestling with life's greatest questions keeps us all more honest to the real task of a university education and the search for meaning and truth, a task that the students who organized this event have tried to take seriously.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jerry Johnson
Baptist Student Union
Campus Minister

Don't be afraid

To: David Koepke and to anyone who agrees with him.
First your title *Are you afraid of Kevin, I am*. 2 Timothy 1:7 states *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind*. You were there at the "Do you agree with Kevin" event, so how can you say it was a cover up to get people to join, that was one of the least concerns nor the focus for the "cryptic"—as you labeled it. Yes, "Do you agree with Kevin" was used as a tactic not a deceptive device but to bring curiosity and mystery, to draw people out. I do not know what you may have been expecting, but like many things it was your choice to see what it was all about, nobody tried to strike fear or tried to fool you into seeing what Kevin was all about. One more thing your misuse of Proverbs 14:5: *"A truthful witness does not deceive, but a false witness pours out lies"*. The word deception in context of the scripture means to lie, where is the

lie David. Kevin was there and gave his personal testimony. Charmaine Flonnory
P.O. Box 16376

It was not deception

Dear David Koepke,

I am writing in response to your accusations toward BSU being "deceitful" with their "Do You Agree With Kevin" idea. First, let me start by commending the Baptist Student Union and Kevin Windham for coming up with such a creative way to lead our peers to Christ. BSU is carrying out God's desire for us to "spread the good news". (Isaiah 61:1-3)

Mr. Koepke, what is it about Kevin that seems to "scare" you? Is it that he didn't advertise his intentions? Or is it because he had the ability to spark your curiosity enough for you to go to the RAC to find that he was only talking about how Jesus Christ made such an impact on his life? Having said that, I must question whether this is really fear that you are feeling or if it is simply disappointment. While you are taking such an interest in the Bible, check out 2 Timothy 1:7. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline."

Would you still be afraid of Kevin if he were trying to get you to agree with him on an issue concerning legalized alcohol drinking at a football game or more commuter lots? What if Kevin were a gay man arguing to legalize same sex marriages? Is it his alleged deception that you are afraid of or is it a fear of what you do not know much about?

Finally, I would like to add that I attended the meeting and heard a reference to BSU only once. That one time it was said was when Kevin was giving his testimony and stated that a friend invited him to one of their gatherings. There were no written or spoken recruitment advertisements for BSU at all. I also noticed that when I left, I was handed some information consisting phone numbers of all the ministries on campus, not just theirs. My prayer is that you not have a fear of BSU's creativity but have an eagerness to join them in making this campus a better place. Thank you for your time.

Maria Gonzales
P.O. Box 17533

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Military crash victim recovery is hampered

Associated Press

UNADILLA, Ga. — Military crews pulled the data and voice recorders from the wreckage of a National Guard cargo plane but slick, muddy conditions hampered the recovery of the 21 victims' remains.

Rescue teams have waded through 3 feet of slippery mud caused by a 4-inch deluge of rain Saturday, when the C-23 Sherpa crashed in a field in south-central Georgia, killing everyone on board.

"It's a quagmire," said Lt. Col. Deborah Bertrand, a spokeswoman at Robins Air Force Base in Warner Robins, that had tracked the plane. "Recovery operations are going to be difficult and protracted."

Defense officials have sent about 150 soldiers and Air Force personnel to the site to provide security, remove the bodies of the 21 National Guard members and search for a cause.

Although the storm had abated, strong wind and standing water still hampered recovery teams, who resumed their work Monday. Temperatures plunged into the 40s overnight, forcing the crews to endure cold winds.

Maj. Randy Noller, a spokesman for the National Guard Bureau in Washington, said aviation investigators "will require a significant amount of time" to sift through the charred wreckage and determine why the twin-engine plane crashed while returning a National Guard unit to Virginia from two weeks of training in Florida.

"Obviously, there was bad weather when the crash happened, but at this point we don't know if that was a factor," Noller said.

Investigators did not know Sunday whether the in-flight data and voice recorders were working, said Col. Dan Woodward, the Air Force commander at the crash site.

The passengers included 18 Virginia Air Guard members. The plane's pilot and two other crew members were from

the Florida Army National Guard's 171st Aviation Battalion.

The C-23 Sherpa was assigned to the Florida battalion, based at Lakeland, Fla. It took off at 9:57 a.m. Saturday from Hurlburt Field near Fort Walton Beach and was headed to Oceana Naval Air Station, Va. No trouble was reported at takeoff, Air Force officials said.

Residents said the plane's engines sputtered briefly before the plane tumbled out of the thick clouds and exploded on impact.

"It was a big pile of burning stuff," said Justin Posey, 17, who rushed to the crash site with his mother when she heard the crash from their home about a mile away.

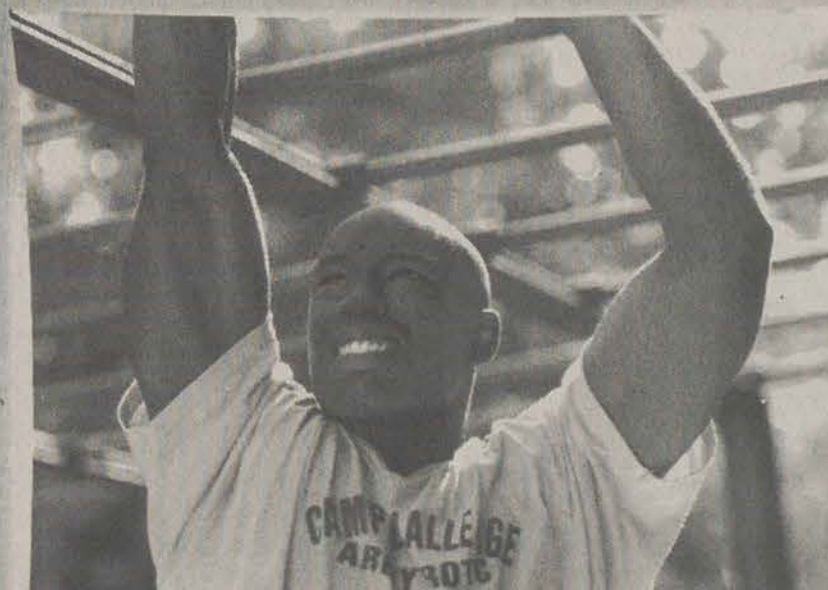
The victims, all men, ranged in age from the early 20s to 60 and include veterans from the Gulf War and Vietnam. Their remains will eventually be taken to an Air Force casualty center in Dover, Del.

"Military service involves great danger, in times of peace as well as war, and this accident provides stark proof of that," Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld said Sunday in a statement.

Families and friends of the air guardsmen, all members of the 203rd Red Horse Squadron, gathered at Camp Pendleton State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach. Red Horse squadrons, which include plumbers, electricians and other skilled workers, are rapid deployment units that can quickly set up tent cities for the military.

"It's been emotionally taxing, but we — I — must be strong for the families," said Larry Harris, a member of the 203rd squadron. "You try to hug them and encourage them. Let them know we're here, that we're family."

The C-23 Sherpa, built in Northern Ireland and modified for the military in West Virginia, can carry up to 30 passengers and provides troop and equipment transport, airdrop and medical evacuation.



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Eagles sweep App St. in first three games

G-A News Service

Junior righthander David Ray scattered five hits and allowed just one run in seven-plus innings of work to set the tone for Georgia Southern's 6-1 win over Appalachian State in the Southern Conference opener Friday night.

The Eagles' junior leftfielder Chris Walker, who went 3-3 on the night, opened the scoring in the first when he bunted his way onto first and advanced to second on a Mountaineer throwing error.

After the three quick runs in the first inning, Georgia Southern (9-3, 1-0) capitalized on another Mountaineer error in the third inning - sending junior centerfielder J.R. Revere to second after his inning-opening single.

Neither squad scored again until the eighth when App St strung together doubles by Wellborn and Timmons for its only run. Revere scored two runs and had a single.

Herring, Henley, Love, Zickgraf and Burnsed combined with Walker's three hits for the Eagles' nine total on the evening.

Tyson Blocker, who pitched seven and two-thirds innings suffered the loss to go 0-2 on the season. Blocker,

who was hit in the head by a Walker single in the fifth inning, didn't allow a hit until the seventh and came out after seven and two thirds innings.

Appalachian State (1-10, 0-1) loaded the bases in the ninth, but freshman righthander Jeff DeRijke struck out the last two batters to preserve the win.

Southern upped its record to 11-3 after defeating App. St. in a double header. The Eagles topped Appalachian State 10-7, scoring three runs in the bottom of the seventh to take the win in the first game of Sunday's doubleheader. In the second game, Georgia Southern took a 3-0 lead in the first inning off back-to-back home runs by senior designated hitter Scott Henley (2 RBI) and sophomore third baseman Carlos Love and went on to win 7-1.

Sophomore catcher Brendon Gilligan hit his first home run of the season in the bottom of the seventh inning to drive in junior leftfielder Chris Walker. The Eagles opened their scoring in the first inning of the first game with Walker taking first on an infield single, then stealing second.

Junior Brett Lewis started for the

Eagles and struck out six Mountaineers, but freshman reliever Brian Rogers (1-0) picked up his first win with junior Jason Cadenhead earning his third save of the season.

Each team scored a run in the fourth.

In the second game, a seven inning affair, a two-run home run by Henley, followed by a solo home run by Love gave the Eagles a quick three-run lead in the first inning.

Georgia Southern continued the surge in the second with two more runs. The Eagles' lead extended to 6-0 when Burnsed doubled Gilligan home.

The Mountaineers put up their only run in the fifth inning when Baughn doubled and advanced on a Thompson single. Georgia Southern took back the run in the bottom half of the inning as freshman first baseman Matt Hammond singled to center.

Freshman Jared Comstock became the Eagles first three-game winner, pitching three innings of relief. Senior Daniel Wheeler started, scattering four hits in four innings.

Georgia Southern (11-3, 3-0) plays a three game series in Charleston vs. The Citadel starting Friday, March 9.



LaVene Bell

SOCON SWEEP: The Eagles competed in their first SoCon match this weekend and won all three games against Appalachian State despite the cancellation of the Saturday games due to rain.

Outdoor track season begins with several wins

G-A News Service

Sophomore Jacqueline Allen and freshman Marlo Mincey were winners at the Masters Inn/Jacksonville University Track and Field Invitational on Saturday to anchor a strong showing in what was Georgia Southern's first outdoor event of the 2001 season.

Allen won the long jump with her mark of 5.65 meters. Sophomore Star Lingo also collected points for the Eagles in the event with her jump of 5.56 meters.

Mincey continued her stellar freshman season with a first-place finish in the 400 meter low

hurdles, crossing the line with a school-record time of 1:02.88. She also was one of Georgia Southern's top jumpers on the day, as she recorded the fourth-best leap in the triple jump with a mark of 11.18 meters.

Mincey's winning afternoon was not over. She ran the second leg for Georgia Southern's 4x400 relay team that won the race in 4:00.74. LeiNitia Williams ran the first 400 meters and was followed by Mincey, Nuwana Waters and Ebonie Ogletree.

Allen's afternoon wasn't complete either. She ran the anchor

for a fourth-place 4x100 relay team that featured Lingo, Ogletree and Javonne Blackley. The squad posted a time of 48.30. Allen also finished eighth in the 200 meter dash (25.85).

Additional highlights for the Eagles included Shaletha Lightfoot's second-place finish in the discus throw (37.24 meters) and Williams' third-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles (1:06.53). Lindy Petteway and Elizabeth Nobles finished third and fourth, respectively, in the javelin throw with marks of 33.08 meters and 32.34 meters.



David Whiddon

START WITH A BANG: The Outdoor Track and Field season began with many wins for the Lady Eagles, including four first place finishes, one second place finish, one third place finish, three fourth place finishes, and one eight place finish.

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Athlete of the Week: Mary Rebok

By Suzanne Spires
Sports Writer

This week's player of the week is Mary Rebok of the Georgia Southern Track and Field team. This is her second year running for GSU in the Cross Country and 3000-meter races. In the 1999-2000 season, as a freshman, she established herself as GSU's top returning distance runner on the track team.

Rebok was born in Red Bank,

NJ. In high school she earned two letters in track, two in cross-country, and four in swimming. She said, "Running is my favorite thing to do." Her sophomore year in high school she ran in a road race and decided that she enjoyed doing the cross-country races. She came in first in a road race in Brookings, GA and placed in her age group in a lot of other races held there. She also ran in the Thanksgiving Day Half

Marathon, which is held in Atlanta.

Last year Rebok was the Georgia Southern cross-country team's second-fastest runner in three of the six events. Her best 5k time was recorded at 20:48 at the Auburn invitational. Her personal best 3000-meter time was posted at 11:43 on April 8 of last year.

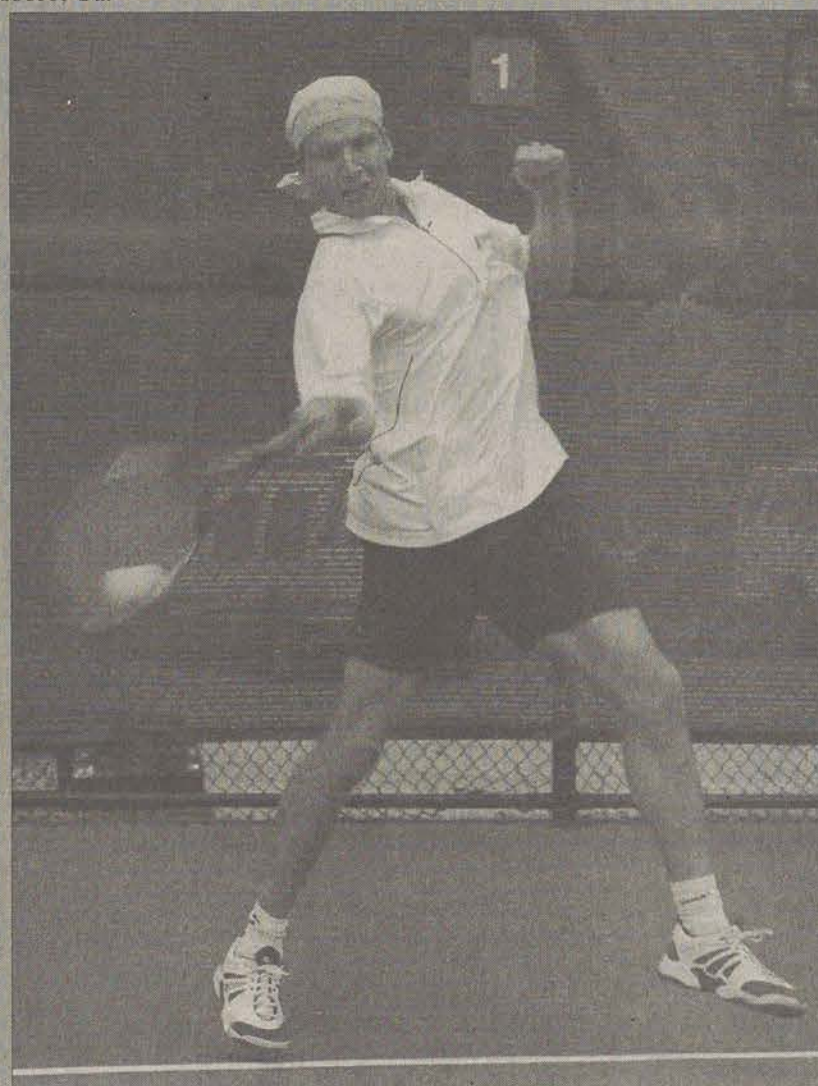
"This year I've been running the 5000. I've done pretty well and the team is really improving with times," Rebok stated, and added that during Spring Break she will be running in a 5K in South Carolina.

Rebok is majoring in exercise science, and when she is not running, she said she enjoys sleeping, playing ultimate frisbee, and mountain biking as her favorite hobbies. Who wouldn't want to sleep after all that running? Maybe Mary will be able to take a breather while reading this article. Congratulations Mary on being this week's player of the week.



Special Photo

STANDOUT: Rebok competes in fall, winter and spring sports.



David Whiddon

AWAY GAME LOSS: The Men's Tennis team was defeated by Chattanooga Saturday at UT Chattanooga. The Eagles are now 4-3, 2-1.

Men's Tennis falls to Chattanooga

G-A News Service

The Georgia Southern men's tennis team was defeated Saturday in Chattanooga by a score of 4-3. The Eagles' record falls to 4-3, 2-1 in the Southern Conference.

This match was the first of the season in which the Eagles swept the doubles portion.

Georgia Southern will return to action against Appalachian State on Saturday, March 11 at 12 noon in Statesboro, Ga.

Chattanooga, UNCG enter the NCAA Tournament

By Dennis Hightower
WVGS Sports

Greenville, South Carolina

The Chattanooga Lady Mocs and North Carolina-Greensboro Spartans will represent the Southern Conference after winning their respective tournaments. The Lady Mocs (24-6) defeated the North Carolina-Greensboro Lady Spartans 64-63, while the UNCG men (20-11) defeated Chattanooga 66-65 thanks to David Schuck's layup with 0.4 seconds left. Both games proved that the NCAA Tournament has the potential to be flashy than ever!

Chattanooga earns the Southern Conference automatic bid to the Women's NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1992. Despite shooting an anemic 17.4% from the three-point line (4 for 23), they dominated UNCG on the boards (48-35 in total rebounds, 21-8 offensive rebounds). Tishay Lewis and Jenny Wilson led UTC with 14 points. Damita Bullock (who also had 10 rebounds) and Heather Dykes added 10 points. UNCG was led by ChoRhonda Gwaltney with 15 points.

The Lady Spartans took its final lead of the game at the 39-second mark, when Sandi Reid connected on a jumper from Katie DelCampo to pull ahead 63-61. After a Chattanooga timeout, the Mocs Bullock drove baseline and fed Nneka Irons, who drained her first three-pointer of the day with 23 seconds remaining for the 64-63 edge. Samika Foster had a final chance to claim victory for the Spartans, but her buzzer-beating shot from 14 feet was off the mark, and the Lady Mocs survived!

"When you need a big play

you have to go to your big time player," said Chattanooga coach Wes Moore. "But North Carolina-Greensboro answered and cut her off. Damita (Bullock) found a way to get the ball across to the opposite corner. We wanted to go for two points by penetrating or getting a jump shot...Nneka Irons hit a special shot."

North Carolina-Greensboro took an early advantage in the championship game, but UTC tied the score at 13 for the first time at the 12:28 mark, when Dykes made a free throw to complete a three-point play. The lead changed three more times before the Mocs Jenny Wilson connected on a jump shot with three seconds on the clock to send the teams to the locker room tied at 33.

After falling behind 35-33 in the early minutes of the second half, UNCG went on a 9-2 run to pull ahead 42-37 with 15:39 to go. The Mocs did not lead again until the 4:49 mark, when Wilson again went "boo ya" on a jumper, this time from Natalie Carmichael, to give Chattanooga a 56-54 "smooth operating lead"!

Foul shooting was key down the stretch, as North Carolina-Greensboro took a 60-58 lead with 2:08 to play on a pair of Foster free throws. UTC tied the score at 60 when Wilson sank two "sweet as lemonade" free throws, but the Lady Spartans regained the lead 61-60, when Foster again connected on the second free throw. Bullock ensured the UNCG's lead was like Foxy Brown would say "Il Na Na" (that's not going to happen in lingo terms), by making the first free throw shot to even the score at 61 with 58 seconds left.

The men's game was wilder than surfing in Hawaii on a summer afternoon! Chattanooga appeared to have the game won with 2.4 seconds left, as guard Clyde McCully scored on a lay up to put the Mocs ahead 66-65. McCully had taken a pass from Toot Young after Courtney Eldridge missed a pair of free throws with 7.9 seconds left. McCully drove the baseline and scored to give the Mocs a one-point lead.

During the timeout, North Carolina-Greensboro coach Fran McCaffery's wife, Mindy was praying for a miracle. The game was intense like your typical NCAA Tournament game.

After the timeout, UNCG's Nathan Jameson inbounded the ball and threw a long pass to Schuck who made the catch at the free throw line and was able to convert the lay up. It kind of reminded me of Princeton's backdoor pass for a lay up that game them the win over UCLA in 1996. Chattanooga could not get the shot before the buzzer.

Schuck led all scorers with 21 points. McCully scored 19 to lead Chattanooga.

This is North Carolina-Greensboro's first ever trip to the NCAA Tournament as a Southern Conference member. The Spartans clinch a berth in the 1996 NCAA Tournament as a Big South Conference member.

Although both Georgia Southern basketball teams were eliminated, "S.P." Sean Peterson and "The Lisa Leslie of Georgia Southern Basketball" Sharon Mitchell made Southern Conference Tournament first team squad. Kashien "Abdul-Jabbar" Latham made second team.



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The NFL's first \$100 million contract

The Associated Press

Ironman quarterback Brett Favre is now the NFL's first \$100 million man.

With free agents poised to cash in, it was non-free agent Favre that signed the most lucrative deal in NFL history.

Favre re-upped with the Green Bay Packers on Friday for a reported \$100 million over 10 years, while free agents Jerome Bettis of Pittsburgh and Jason Sehorn of the New York Giants were happy to stay put with \$30 million plus contracts.

Favre had three years left on a \$47.25 million, seven-year deal. His new agreement eclipsed the \$90 million contract running back Stephen Davis signed with the Washington Redskins last year.

"I do want to be a Packer for life," the 31-year-old Favre said. "I couldn't envision myself playing with another team. ... Don't want to. If that was to ever come up, I probably would just retire."

In other moves Friday, Tampa Bay claimed bad-boy quarterback Ryan Leaf off waivers, Seattle acquired Packers backup Matt Hasselbeck for undisclosed draft picks and Miami defensive tackle Tim Bowens agreed to restructure his contract rather than be released.

Favre, who set the NFL record for consecutive starts with 141, receives a \$10 million signing bonus and the new deal cuts \$4 million off his salary cap number which would have been \$9,474,000. Favre hopes to play through 2006, making his deal essentially a six-year package for cap purposes.

The NFL's only three-time MVP winner, Favre threw for 3,812 yards with 20 touchdowns and 16 interceptions last season. Green Bay finished 9-7 and missed the playoffs for the second year in

a row. The Packers are 1-1 in Super Bowls under Favre.

Schorn, a seven-year veteran who helped the Giants reach the Super Bowl with several key postseason plays, staked his claim as the highest-paid cornerback when he re-signed for a reported \$36 million over six years, including a \$10 million signing bonus.

Last month, Atlanta cornerback Ray Buchanan signed a \$36 million, six-year contract with an \$8 million signing bonus.

Bettis, who has seven seasons with 1,000 yards rushing in eight years in the league, agreed to a six-year deal worth \$30 million that could jump to \$35 million with incentives. Bettis said he passed up more lucrative offers because of "an opportunity to retire a Pittsburgh Steeler."

The 5-foot-11, 250-pound running back receives a \$6 million signing bonus with a 2001 base salary of \$484,000. In 2002, his base pay jumps to \$2.5 million.

Last season, Bettis ran for 1,341 yards and eight touchdowns, but Pittsburgh finished 9-7 and failed to make the playoffs.

By midnight Thursday, the 31 NFL teams were required get under the \$67.4 million salary cap, and many teams ended up cutting big-name players with big-time contracts to prepare for free agent signings. The Colts cut Cornelius Bennett, the Titans waived Al Del Greco, the Bills cut Doug Flutie and the Redskins parted with Dana Stubblefield.

The NFL listed 469 players as free agents Friday. The signing period for free agents ends on July 22 or the first day of the first NFL training camp, whichever is later. The restricted free-agent period ends April 16.

Elsewhere:

The Bucs will take what amounts

to a "free look" at Leaf, the second pick in the '98 draft behind Peyton Manning. "We liked Ryan a lot coming out of college and have a pretty good understanding of some of the problems he has experienced over the last couple of years. For us, this could be a short-term free look, but his abilities warrant that we perform due diligence," Bucs GM Rich McKay said.

Hasselbeck will be reunited with Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren, who was the Packers coach when Green Bay picked the quarterback in the sixth round of the '98 draft. Hasselbeck, who has thrown only 29 passes in the NFL, will replace free agent Jon Kitna as Seattle's starter.

The Denver Broncos re-signed linebacker John Mobley and offensive lineman Dan Neil.

The St. Louis Rams signed kicker Jeff Wilkins to a five-year deal. Wilkins was the league's only perfect kicker last season, hitting all 17 of his field-goal attempts and all 38 extra-point attempts.

Wide receiver-kick returner Derrick Mason, who set an NFL record with 2,690 all-purpose yards last season, re-signed with Tennessee. He signed a five-year deal worth a reported \$23.45 million, including a \$4.45 million signing bonus. Mason made \$472,000 last year.

Defensive end Marcellus Wiley, who had 101 1/2 sacks for Buffalo last season, visited the San Diego Chargers, who are now run by general manager John Butler, the former Bills GM who selected him in the second round of the '97 draft. Wiley also plans to visit Oakland and Seattle.

The Cleveland Browns signed free agent quarterback Kelly Holcomb, a backup with the Colts the past five seasons.

Overlooked Mashburn stars for Hornets

The Associated Press

In a season of streaks for the Charlotte Hornets, it's been easy to overlook Jamal Mashburn.

Not anymore. His play is the primary reason for the Hornets' latest streak, they've won a league-high seven games and nine of their last 10.

During that stretch, Mashburn has averaged 21.2 points, nine rebounds and six assists. He's reached double figures in points and rebounds in five of the games and played excellently in some fourth quarters to keep the streak going.

"He's been phenomenal, unstoppable," guard Baron Davis said. "He's really been asserting himself and stepping up when we need him."

That's not the reputation Mashburn had when he came to the Hornets in a nine-player trade with Miami last summer. He'd always been a scorer, but few counted on him to play well when it truly mattered.

That reputation intensified after his final game with the Heat. Facing the New York Knicks in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference semifinals, Mashburn held up on a 10-footer in the lane. He instead passed to Clarence Weatherspoon, who missed the shot, allowing the Knicks to eliminate Miami for the third straight season.

Now in Charlotte, Mashburn seems to have shaken the rap,

especially during this most recent stretch. He scored 10 points in the final 1:51 of last week's win over New Jersey and had 14 fourth-quarter points in a win over Indiana.

He also teamed with David Wesley to hit a pair of 3-pointers in the final 43 seconds of Charlotte's 86-85 win over Philadelphia. Mashburn shrugs off the notion that he's suddenly producing in the fourth quarter.

"People are too concerned about when I score, they're always making a big deal about what quarter the points come in," he said. "What they don't understand is that basketball is also about making the right play at the right time. It's not always about scoring, sometimes it's about getting a rebound or a steal, too."

Charlotte coach Paul Silas said Mashburn is doing everything he's asked him to. When Silas told the Hornets they needed to jump out to a quicker start, Mashburn responded by scoring 16 of their 39 first-quarter points in Sunday's win over Boston.

"He's been really focused on what he has to do for us to win," Silas said. "He's been our go-to guy down the stretch and he's come up with key assists and rebounds. Whatever we need, he's providing." The one problem Silas has with Mashburn is how few trips he makes to the free throw line. He averages only

4.6 free throw attempts a game.

"One he starts going to the basket tougher, and gets to the line more, I think he can be one of the top scorers in the league," Silas said.

Mashburn has worked on getting tougher, along with a trainer he's worked with for two seasons. Miami first hired Ed Downs to help Mashburn's conditioning in an effort to keep him injury free. It worked, and Mashburn was so pleased with Downs' regime that he hired him as his personal trainer when he was traded to Charlotte.

Downs might also be the reason Mashburn's late-game production has increased. He recently explained to Silas that Mashburn doesn't need a lot of recovery time during breaks and too much rest can slow him down.

"I said 'I'm not a coach, but Jamal doesn't need a lot of recovery,'" Downs said. "If he sits too long, he gets cold and tight. Less rest could prevent some of that."

Downs is still based in Miami but spends every other week with Mashburn whether the Hornets are home or on the road. Mashburn pays his traveling expenses.

"Some people spend their money on cars, I spend mine on personal trainers," he said. "To me, it's worth it. My mind and my body are in agreement on that."

Good Luck to the athletic teams who are competing during Spring Break!

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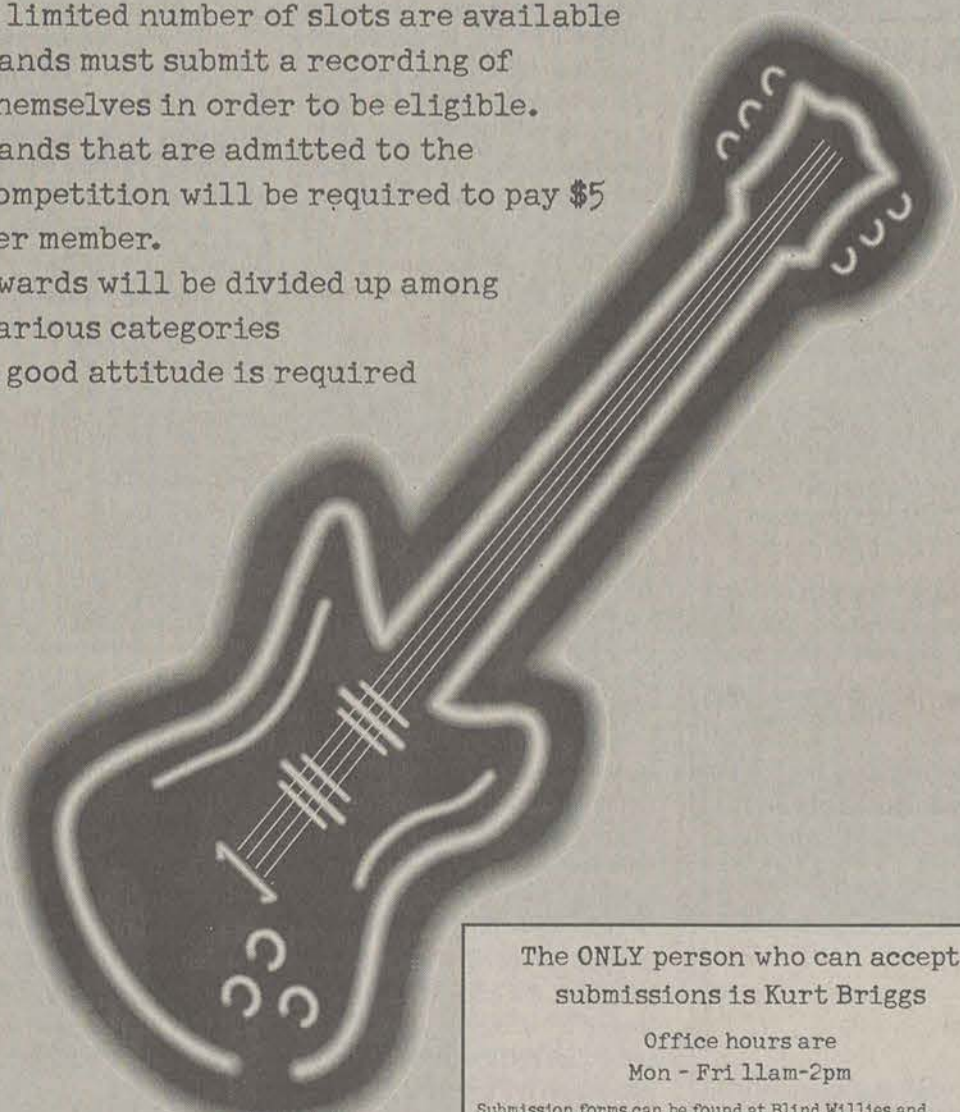
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Submission forms can be found at Blind Willie's and the WVGS office (second floor in the Williams Center) or download one at www.stp.gasou.edu/wvgs/index.html. The website will contain updates.

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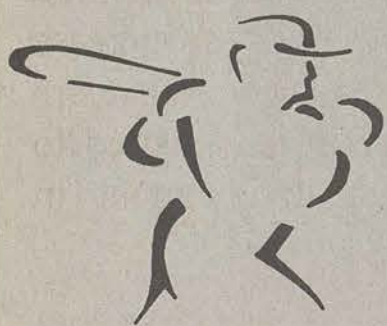
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Student Media Positions Open for 2001-2002

George-Anne

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News Editor (\$1,500 per full semester)

Miscellany

Georgia Southern's Magazine of the Arts

Editor (\$650 per full semester)

Reflector

Georgia Southern University's Journal of Media and Society

Editor (\$1,050 per full semester)
Art Director (\$950 per full semester)
Managing Editor (\$950 per full semester)

WVGS 91.9
RadioActive

Station Manager (\$1,250 per full semester)
Program Director (\$1,100 per full semester)
Operations Manager (\$1,100 per full semester)

The Student Media Advisory Board of Georgia Southern University announces its selection process to choose student editors and managers of the 2001-2002 broadcast and editorial boards of the university's official student media (The George-Anne, Miscellany Magazine, Southern Reflector Magazine, and WVGS/FM).

Students interested in applying for an elected position will be expected to present (1) a **resumé**; (2) a **letter of application** explaining the candidate's qualifications and their plans or objectives for the media position sought; and (3) **signed waiver** (included with this advertisement) which gives permission to the chairperson of the Student Media Advisory Board to validate the candidate's academic standing. Students may indicate the position(s) sought either in their letters of application or on the waiver form. However, a separate application packet (a **resumé**, a **letter of application**, and **signed waiver**) should be submitted for each medium, if a student wishes to apply for more than one medium.

SELECTION AND TERM: The editorial and broadcast boards will be selected by members of the committee based on a majority of those voting, according to committee by-laws. The term of office for the editorial and broadcast boards shall extend through the end of the next spring semester.

QUALIFICATIONS: Specific qualifications for persons holding board positions are available from any media adviser or the chair. Prior experience may be considered in lieu of stated qualifications. The media are listed in alphabetical order but the board positions within each medium are listed in ranking order.

DEADLINE: The deadline for the receipt of all applications for any of these positions is **Friday, March 30, at 5 p.m.** Applications should be sent to Bill Neville, chairperson, Media Committee, in care of Box 8067, or delivered in person to Room 2022, Williams Center.

INTERVIEW DATE: The Committee has established two interview sessions for candidates. All candidates for board positions on **The George-Anne** and **Reflector Magazine** **MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY** for an interview with the committee on **Thursday, April 12**, and for **Miscellany** and **WVGS/FM** on **Thursday, April 19**. Each interview session will begin at **3 p.m.** in Room 2009 of F.I. Williams Center (Upper Floor).

APPLICATION FORM AND WAIVER

INFORMATION: Questions regarding these positions should be directed to the advisors of the media: Bill Neville (The GEORGE-ANNE) at 681-0069 or Box 8067; Larry Anderson (MISCELLANY) at 681-0128 or Box 8048; Dianne Lamb (REFLECTOR MAGAZINE) at 681-0534 or Box 8091; or Bill Neville (WVGS/FM) at 681-0069 or Box 8067. Additional information and interpretation of the qualifications may be obtained from the chairperson, Bill Neville (681-0069 or Box 8067).

Position(s) applied for (Please check ALL that are applicable):

GEORGE-ANNE	MISCELLANY	REFLECTOR	WVGS/FM
<input type="checkbox"/> Editor in Chief	<input type="checkbox"/> Editor	<input type="checkbox"/> Editor	<input type="checkbox"/> Station Manager
<input type="checkbox"/> Managing Editor		<input type="checkbox"/> Art Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Director
<input type="checkbox"/> News Editor		<input type="checkbox"/> Managing Editor	<input type="checkbox"/> Operations Manager

- A student interested in applying for an elected position is required to present (1) **resumé**; (2) a **letter of application** explaining the candidate's qualifications and their plans or objectives for the media position sought; and (3) **signed waiver** (included below) which gives permission to the chairperson of the Media Committee to validate the candidate's academic standing.
- A student seeking a position on an editorial or broadcast board must have a **CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE of at least 2.0 and must not be on scholastic or disciplinary probation**. If at any time a board member drops below these standards, that member must relinquish the position.

I, _____ do hereby authorize the Media Committee, in relation to the above criteria for board positions, to contact the GSU student records representatives to validate my academic standing for compliance. This validation may be at a time of application and at any time during the period I would hold a board position.

Signed _____ Box No. _____

Social Security No. _____ Date _____

E-Mail address _____

This (1) application/waiver form (or a facsimile), together with a (2) **resumé** and a (3) letter of application for each medium in which a position(s) is sought, should be received by Friday, March 30, 2001, by 5 p.m. to: Student Media Advisory Board, Bill Neville, chair, Room 2022 Williams Center, Box 8067, GSU, Statesboro, GA 30460. Candidates for George-Anne and Reflector must be available on Thursday, April 12, and for Miscellany and WVGS/FM on Thursday, April 19. All interviews are scheduled at 3 p.m., Room 2009, Williams Center (Upper Floor).

Two killed in high school shooting

• **At least 13 injured and two killed by ninth-grader in San Diego**

TMS Campus

SANTEE, Calif. — In the worst act of school violence since the Columbine massacre, a high school freshman allegedly shot two fellow students to death and wounded 13 other people on Monday, smiling as he fired the gun.

The boy, who had spoken over the weekend about going on such a shooting spree but was not taken seriously, was arrested at the school and questioned late Monday. Officials said he would be charged as an adult with murder.

Law-enforcement officials said they might never know the motive for the shooting, but the suspect is a slight boy who was frequently teased about his size and recently had two skateboards stolen from him, students said. His name was not released.

Most of the victims in the shootings at Santana High School were between the ages of 14 and 18, law-enforcement officials said. Two of the injured were adults: Tim Estes, a student teacher, and Peter Ruiz, a school security guard. The dead were identified as Bryan Zuckor, 14, and Randy Gordon, 15.

Chris Reynolds, 29, the boyfriend of the mother of a Santana student who is a friend of the suspect, said the boy spent Saturday night at his home, and talked about taking a gun to school and shooting people. But Reynolds

said the boy said he was only joking.

On Monday morning, as Reynolds stood among a throng of red-eyed parents, weeping teenagers and grim police officers in a strip mall across the street from the school, he said he regretted not having told someone about the boy's remarks.

"I'm upset with myself for not doing anything," Reynolds said. "I made a bad choice."

A friend of the boy was so

since April 20, 1999, when two Columbine High School students in Littleton, Colo., shot to death 12 students and a teacher and wounded 23 others before killing themselves.

Karen Degischer, principal of Santana and its nearly 2,000 students in grades 9 through 12, said she was attending a meeting at the school district's office when the shooting occurred.

An assistant principal placed the 911 call, she said.

"As principal of Santana High School, this is my worst nightmare," she said.

She said the school staff had drilled for a possible shooting incident and that teachers and others had followed the guidelines, including having teachers herd students into classrooms.

San Diego County District Attorney Paul Pfingst said the teen would be charged as an adult under the provisions of Proposition 21, a California ballot initiative that passed a year ago.

The initiative gave the state's prosecutors, rather than judges, the power to decide whether juveniles charged in many types of crimes should be tried as adults.

"This is a sad day for Santee, a sad day for San Diego County," Pfingst said.

He said he had spoken with the mother of one of the dead boys, though he did not say which one.

"She wanted to know why, and we could not provide an answer," Pfingst said.

Though the suspect had made statements, nothing revealed a possible motive, Pfingst said. "There is no real answer," he added.

Pfingst said the boy would be arraigned Wednesday and charged with murder, assault with a deadly weapon and various gun-related charges.

Santee Mayor Randy Vopel said he had been in the office for just a short time, but that even if he had been mayor for nine years he would not be prepared for what happened in this community of 59,000 located about 15 miles northeast of San Diego.

As word of the shooting spread, worried parents rushed to the strip mall across the street from the school, searching for their children.

Students said the boy under was "always picked on" because of his small size. And he seemed to have made clear to many students that he had access to a gun.

"Everybody picked on him and he didn't have any way to defend himself," said Jessie Cunard, 18, who graduated last year but knew the boy from a local skateboard park. "I guess this was his way to get back at everyone."

Brittany Evjen, 15, a freshman, said the teen was very quiet and kept to himself. "He seemed down all the time," she said. "Every time I would see him, he would have his head down."

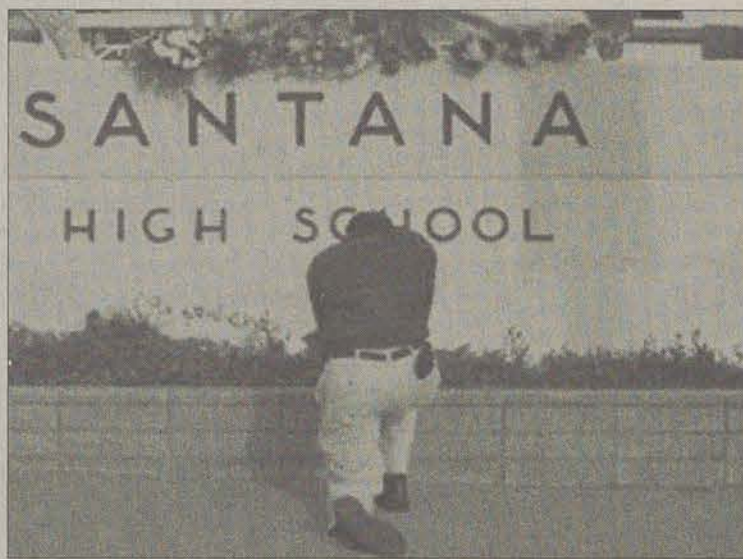
Jacob Kaforey, 14, said the suspect had talked previously about owning a gun and about stealing a car and going to Mexico.

The boy also recently had two skateboards stolen from him, said Neil O'Grady, 15, another student.

San Diego County Sheriff William Kolendar said officials had contacted the boy's parents but did not elaborate.

There will be no school for students Tuesday. Counselors will be available at a nearby church.

"We are a very close-knit community and staff," Degischer said. "I see this as something we will do together, and we will get through it."



TMS Campus

Another school tragedy: One student prays in front of Santana High School, the scene of a shooting rampage on Monday morning. A ninth-grade student opened fire at the suburban San Diego high school, killing two and wounding at least 15.

concerned about the boy's remarks that the friend had "patted him down" as they left for school Monday morning, Reynolds said. But the gun apparently was in the boy's backpack, and so his friend had not detected it, Reynolds added.

Students who witnessed the shooting said the boy stepped out of a bathroom and began firing as the bell rang before second period. "I looked at the kid and he was smiling and shooting his weapon," said John Schardt, 17, Jordan Freymiller, an 18-year-old senior, said he was standing nearby when the shooting began.

"I thought it was just a pellet gun at first because it was kind of quiet," Freymiller said. Then he saw a boy on the floor, his face bleeding.

"Everyone was stopping to see if the kid was all right," he said, but when the sound of shooting continued, a friend said, "Let's go."

Freymiller said he ran, following a trail of blood drops coming from another student who had been shot in the leg.

"All you could hear were the caps going off," he said.

Matt Martin, a 17-year-old senior, said, "I heard bullets whizzing past my head. I saw everybody running, and it was nuts."

The school, with a spread-out, open-air campus, does not have metal detectors, but Martin said security was tight at the school.

For instance, he said, students have not had lockers in many years, largely to prevent them from having a convenient place to store drugs or weapons.

Lt. Jerry Lewis, chief of the San Diego Police Department's homicide division, said the boy used a .22-caliber, eight- or nine-shot handgun.

When police arrived, "the suspect gave up without any argument, without any fight," Lewis said.

The first police to respond were two officers already on the open-air campus. One was teaching a class and the other was registering his child for classes and also was involved in the suspect's arrest.

After the boy was taken into custody, one law-enforcement official went into the bathroom where the suspect had been and found two students in rear stalls. Both had been shot.

One was able to talk and seemed to be only slightly injured, but the other was "not responsive," according to San Diego Police Officer Robert Clark, who was at the school registering his daughter when the shooting took place.

The shootings represented the worst violence in a U.S. school

Action-packed '15 Minutes' to show in Union tonight

By Amanda Permenter
Staff Writer

If you think there's nothing to do on a Wednesday night, think again. The Russell Union theater will be showing a free screening sponsored by Eagle Entertainment of New Line Cinema's latest flick, "15 Minutes" at 9:00 p.m. tonight. Passes are available at \$22 in the Union. Be sure to get a pass, no one will be admitted without one.

"15 Minutes" is an action-thriller with an all-star cast, including Robert De Niro, Edward Burns, and Kelsey Grammer. De Niro plays hot shot homicide detective Eddie Flemming. Ed Burns plays his rival, arson investigator Jordy Warsaw. The two polar opposite cops are forced to team up to solve a New York City double

murder in connection with a terrible fire. The fast-paced movie unfolds through the eyes of hype-driven television media, as two murderers from the Czech Republic use the media to keep the police just short of their tracks, and simultaneously achieve a certain level of stardom. As the two investigators stay hot on the murderers' trails, they are also being chased by tabloid news anchor Robert Hawkins, played by Kelsey Grammer. Hawkins will do anything to get the inside story, and the chase turns into a media frenzy whose spotlight grows hotter by the minute. Unfortunately, these criminals will stop at nothing to reach the next level of social recognition, and the curious public feeds the fire with demands of up to the minute reports and live coverage.

Suddenly, no matter who is the quarry, everyone is after his own "15 Minutes" of fame.

The story doesn't stop there. As if the plot weren't thick enough, a romance evolves and is thrown into the center of everything. Melina Kanakaredes falls desperately in love with the high-profile hero Eddie Flemming.

Director John Herzfeld, who also wrote the script, purposefully filmed the movie as though it were through the lens of a live television news report—with the camera swerving and cutting from one scene to the next. The film comes face to face with the potential hazards regarding America's fascination with gruesome-as-you-can-get media coverage. "People are willing to do anything so long as they

do something that puts them in the spotlight," Herzfeld says. He goes on to explain, "I think news shows have a job to do and they're doing it. Sometimes they do cross ethical boundaries and it's important to call them on it."

Accuracy is a major concern for Herzfeld. In order to ensure that the film would be realistic, he spent days going on ride-alongs with New York City cops and fire marshals. He worked with NYPD Homicide Detective Steve Davis to help him with the character of Eddie Flemming. He also consulted two real arson investigators.

"It's hard not to be intrigued by such a compellingly controversial film," says producer Keith Addis. Why not check out the screening and see for yourself?



Special Photo

FREE SCREENING: '15 Minutes' stars Kelsey Grammer and Robert De Niro and will play in the Russell Union theater tonight.

WVGS 91.9FM

SHOW SPOTLIGHTS



Jarvon Lee

'The Tom & Tom Show'

For the best in humor that appeals to all 31 flavors of GSU students, we have the "Tom & Tom Show." It's every Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. The two guys who do this are stylin' and profilin'. Josh "Big Poppa Pump" Sagel is a 6'0" 235 lb. senior, who is the most electrifying WVGS Station Manager in student media history. Tom "Moro-rocco" LaRocco is as funny as Jim Carey, Chris Rock, Steve Harvey, and Jimmy Fallon combined. He also won

two national championships as a free safety on the GSU football team. They have parodies that are off the "foshezee!" The parodies include "the ten things not to say while having sex," "eargasms," and "9 Coronas." These guys can relieve your college stress without a doubt. They have helped WVGS Sports as they did the pregame show for the nationally televised broadcast on ESPN. These cats are the MVPs in comedy!



Jarvon Lee

'The Hot Spot'

For those of you who don't already know, the Tuesday spot on WVGS is the hottest thing the station has on the air on a regular basis. DJ Butter is a sophomore at GSU and has been working with campus radio since she was a freshman. The radio station hired DJ Butter to serve as Assistant Operations Manager during the 2000-2001 school year. Butter plays urban music, which includes rap, hip-hop, and old school. Every once in a while she likes

to take it back with some of her favorite old school players. The show is popular for taking requests, dedications, and school wide "Shout-outs." Her laid back personality and great sense of humor makes her a pleasure to listen to. DJ Butter prides herself on her early start with campus radio and is the youngest female personality on the air. You can "Sizzle on the Hot Spot" with Butter every Tuesday from 3-5 p.m.



Jarvon Lee

'The Midday Cafe'

Every Monday on WVGS 91.9FM, the Late-Late Low-Low family takes center stage and from 6-9 p.m. you can stop by the Midday Café with Mi-Kay. Here you can be sure to hear the best of hip-hop, R&B, and procreation music. This is a show that you can definitely kick back and relax to after a long day of classes and studying as Mi-Kay (Tamika Mills) and Peter Parker do their job in "liberating your mind." Mi-Kay

loves to entertain and make people laugh. You can also catch her at the urban café lounge every other Wednesday along with Red Alert, DJ Spider, and the whole Urban Café Family. Mi-kay, a senior, will make her last on air appearance sometime in late April, and her unique personality will be missed. Mi-kay's favorite motto: "Say whatever you want to say, go whatever you want to do. Peace is already out!"



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GSU professors take evaluations seriously

By Jonathan Finley
Guest Writer

Like students, professors are going through the semester knowing that a big test is waiting for them. This test, for teachers, comes in the form of teacher evaluations.

These evaluations allow professors to get useful feedback on classroom needs and the opportunity to bring in new teaching techniques into the course. Professors also take these evaluations seriously, so it would be beneficial for students to utilize this opportunity to let their voice be heard.

"I take [evaluations] seriously," said 41-year teaching veteran Dr. George Shriver, who teaches orientation classes at Georgia Southern University. "I read them all."

GSU philosophy professor, Dr. Glen Rawson, said that he takes the evaluations "quite seriously" and uses them not just to see what students think about his class but also to measure the effectiveness of his teaching.

As students voice their opinions on the evaluations, time must be taken to write down what they think about a course. Their comments could make a difference with the instructor's teaching.

"I read all the comments," said communications arts professor, Dr. Chris Geyerman. "I read them all and consider them."

Many instructors will use the teacher evaluations as a way to turn a class in a different direction if there is enough concern to merit the change.

"Yes, there is no question about that," Shriver said when asked about changing subject matter around for a class. He has

taken out some material, including readings, from various classes. However, for classes dealing with majors, he has been pretty strict with course content.

The comments help a professor to see if there are strengths that could be built on or if there is a weakness that must be addressed, according to Geyerman.

Experimenting with different things in your teaching is also good, he adds.

Professor E.C. Barksdale reports in *Contemporary Educations*, in a 1998 article on

been found that students who are expecting higher grades like an A or B gave teachers higher ratings than those who were getting the C, D or F grade in a course.

However, Shriver is unsure about that. After teaching for many years, he has taught classes where some students have been doing poorly, but have written good evaluations.

Geyerman has a similar view on the connections between grades and teacher evaluations.

"The vast majority [of students] are fair," he said. "They know what they are talking about."

However, many professors become the "scapegoats," according to Geyerman, of students who do not want to lay the proper blame for why they are receiving a lower

"THE VAST MAJORITY (OF STUDENTS) ARE FAIR. THEY KNOW WHAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT."

— DR. CHRIS GEYERMAN

GSU PROFESSOR

teacher evaluations, that a few semesters ago, a number of students criticized his exams for being too vague. In an effort to react to the critique, he made some changes in exam practices. "I've adapted my teaching according to those comments on the back of the evaluations sheets. I'm sure some of my test questions are still vague, but I've tried to make them more accurate," he wrote.

Rawson has also found, through evaluations, that using visuals has helped with the learning environment of the classroom. "So I'll keep doing it," he said.

This shows that students hold a certain power in their pencils.

However, no matter the power being wielded by the student, required content cannot be thrown out. There are some things, no matter how boring or irrelevant they may seem, that have to be taught. English 1101 ring a bell.

Although professors take teacher evaluations seriously enough to change class structure around, many students brush off the evaluations as being too cumbersome. In 1998, Paul Hightower, author of the article, *Teacher Evaluations*, has found that "data shows that student-evaluators may not be taking the job as seriously as others expect." This finding may suggest that student rating forms ask questions pertaining to matters that put students in a position to judge unreliably. For instance, questions asking students to decide if a professor is or is not knowledgeable about his/her subject may be pushing the envelope too far, according to Hightower. He also points out that in a study by educational researcher Jerry Hudson, it has

grade. Despite the research, some students do make the best of the teacher evaluations.

"Just because a teacher is easy, doesn't mean that they are a good teacher," said Crystal

Jones, an accounting major at GSU. "I try to evaluate depending on how well I thought they actually taught. I do not let my grade have any influence on my evaluations."

"I try to take evaluations seriously, but it depends what day it is and how I feel that day," she also said. "Also, if I don't think I can answer a question well enough, I skip it. Like judging a teacher's knowledge of the subject."

GSU sociology major, Brian Owens, believes that the way a teacher conveys the material in class is the basis for evaluation.

As seen from both sides, teacher evaluations can be a positive experience. However, there has to be an effort made by teachers and students.

The challenge for evaluations is to make the evaluation process a meaningful experience, not simply an empty exercise, according to educational researcher Ronald Boyd in his 1989 paper, *Improving Teacher Evaluations*. Boyd believes this can be done by following a few simple steps: Delivering the feedback in a positive and considerate way; offering ideas and suggesting changes that make sense to the teacher; maintaining a level of formality necessary to achieve the goals of the evaluations; maintaining a balance between praise and criticism; and giving enough feedback to be useful but not so much that the teacher is overwhelmed.

The Weather Channel gets excited

Associated Press

NEW YORK — While the snow-storm churning up the East Coast annoyed millions of people kept home from work, school or travel Monday, it was a gift from the gods for The Weather Channel.

One forecast the normally sleepy, Atlanta-based cable network can count on: viewership often quadruples when the snow piles up or a hurricane bears down. The Weather Channel's correspondents stood in the snow, sleet and freezing rain to report on conditions Monday. When computer models spit out predictions of mega-snow late last week, "it sounded like it was right out of 'The Perfect Storm,'" said Terry Connelly, senior vice president at The Weather Channel.

Connelly immediately dispatched correspondent Bill Keneely to Washington, Jim Cantore to Manhattan and Mike Seidel to the Boston area. But with the storm headed on a more northerly track, Keneely was sent racing up the highway to Hartford, Conn. Cantore, a bit frustrated fielding "where's the storm?" barbs from passing pedestrians in Times Square, was ordered to pack up and head toward Albany. The network's winter weather expert, Paul Kocin, was already starting to fret about his ear-

lier predictions for the storm. Kocin has barely left his office at the network since Friday, occasionally catching a few hours of sleep on a couch. He usually appears twice an hour on the air.

"The only thing that can possibly keep me going is adrenaline," he said. "The worst thing that can happen is if something starts to disappoint me."

He wasn't giving up on this storm, though, and Connelly wasn't second-guessing The Weather Channel's preparation. Backed by dramatic music, the network titled its near-constant coverage, "Winter Blitz: March Lion of the Northeast."

"There will be a lot of people saying you hyped it," Connelly said. "If it had happened the way we had predicted, they would be thanking us. But that's the nature of weather. It's not an exact science."

On NBC's "Today" show Monday, forecaster Al Roker quipped that folks at The Weather Channel were so excited about the storm that one of its meteorologists exploded on the air.

Actually, The Weather Channel prides itself on sobriety. Roker, in an interview, said he believed the network did a wonderful job.

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WrestleMania is changed for the better over the course of one night

By Michael Russo
Staff Writer

All day I prayed, hoping that Paul Hayman, who was pre-viewed to be on RAW, wasn't going to provide color commentary. Obviously, I didn't pray hard enough. However, I will give credit where credit is due. Considering the time restraints Hayman was under, the owner of ECW wasn't all that bad. However, I'm still hoping Hayman isn't going to provide color commentary on RAW on a regular basis.

For the first time in Angle's career, people are starting to listen and take this man seriously. I like Angle's mean streak and can't help but wonder where this new tenacious side will take him as we approach the granddaddy of them all.

It's too bad that every time a relationship forms in the WWF, there has to be some type of rivalry among friends, or siblings for that matter. I was hoping the WWF would take a different approach when dealing with Matt Hardy and Lita's new found love for one another. If this story turns into the Mega Powers from the eighties, I'm going to be very disappointed. However, I must admit that I liked the curve that was thrown when the Hardy's captured the tag titles from the Dudley's. I'm going to keep a close eye on this story, hoping that WrestleMania X7 doesn't host Jeff Vs. Matt, "The Hardy Boys Explode."

Don't get me wrong, I'm a fan of the Undertaker, and I

firmly believe Kane is "the" most underutilized WWF Superstar on the roster. But in all honesty, Taker and Kane's match this past Monday with the "island boys" was less than impressive. I'm not sure if there were any extenuating circumstances to have caused this, but in any event, I think both fans and officials expect more of these two men. I hope both Superstars perform on a higher level during their next outing.

Humiliation isn't the word to describe what Trish Stratus went through this past Monday. I think it's fairly obvious that the lovely Canadian will endure anything to get back at the McMahon family.

In one night, the face of WrestleMania has changed, and for the better. When Austin made his return, many fans began wondering when in fact Austin's marriage to Debra would be incorporated into a story line. Well, that question has been answered.

At this time, it's too early to see if The Rock will have any say in McMahon appointing Debra as his manager, and if not, does this mean that this new business relationship will last until WrestleMania, or is this current angle just a diversion? At this point, it's too early to say. But presently, nonetheless, I think you'd have to admit that the WWF is delivering some outstanding programming. And with four weeks remaining until the WWF takes over Houston, the road to WrestleMania has just begun.

Gooding accepts Samford deanship

G-A News Service

Carl Gooding, dean of the College of Business Administration at Georgia Southern University, told his faculty Thursday that he is retiring from the University, effective June 30, to become the business dean at Samford University, a private institution in Birmingham, Ala.

Gooding's 15 years as dean has spanned Georgia Southern's transition from a college to a university and has advanced the business school from a faculty of less than 50 to a college with nearly 100 professors, serving 3,200 majors. When the college moved to the University's then-largest and newest academic building in 1995, Gooding led a campaign to raise \$2.5 million in private funds to furnish and equip a state-of-the-art facility.

Gooding said he came to Georgia Southern in 1986 intending "to stay about five years and move on to something bigger and better."

"Well, moving became unnecessary, because 'bigger and better' happened here on a continuous scale," he said in his remarks to the faculty. "It has been an exciting, challenging, and enjoyable experience, truly a labor of love. You have made me proud to be your dean."

University Provost Vaughn Vandegrift also addressed the business faculty, calling Gooding a "truly great educator and leader who laid the groundwork and built the college to a very high standard. But his legacy will result in even bigger and better things."

Gooding's leadership has garnered a highly-regarded reputation beyond the university and the state. He has been known as "dean" of business deans in the South, serving as president of the Southern Business Association and two southeastern institutes of business and management.

Nationally, he serves on the Board of Directors of AACSB-The International Association for Management Education, the accrediting association which sets the standard for business degree programs. Gooding has visited more 30 campuses as chair or a member of accrediting teams. Georgia Southern's business college was recently named one of only 27 in the nation selected by a blue-ribbon committee to participate in a process to redefine accreditation quality. The list that includes Harvard, Duke, and the University of Chicago.

Georgia Southern President Bruce Grube said that under Gooding's leadership, the college is gaining the national respect that the University seeks for all its academic programs.



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