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## The George-Anne

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Wednesday

September 11, 2002

Volume 75, No. 24

George-Anne

9/11/02



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GEORGE-ANNE

A year later, and not a moment removed...

September 11 2002

## GSU hosts 9-11 panel, commemorative ceremony

By Michelle Flournoy  
mjf21@hotmail.com

"Terrorism is a phenomenon that does not end," said Dr. Barry Balleck, a GSU professor specializing in international terrorism. "I do not foresee an end to the war on terrorism. I do not see a future president declaring that the war on terrorism is over. It is something we will have to continue to fight."

Georgia Southern, along with the rest of the nation, will take a look today at what the past year has meant for our country.

A commemorative ceremony will be held at 12:00 p.m. in the Russell Union Commons, with Dr. Todd Deal will moderating the event. Jonathan Perkins, SGA president, and Mr. Michael Hardy will also be speaking.

Dr. Jody Caldwell will be available from the counseling center for students having difficulty dealing with the anniversary of the catastrophe.

"The year anniversary usually has unexpected impact," said Dr. Nancy Shumaker, a panel participant from the Center for International Studies.

"We have an excellent counseling center."

"People may be surprised, and the anniversary may have a bigger impact than people expect. Students should be encouraged to take advantage of the counseling center."

Shumaker said that the panel will look over the past year and talk about what has occurred.

"We will talk about what impacts the attacks have had on national security, and we will discuss our relationship with other countries experiencing similar problems with terrorism," she said.

"I would like to focus on what we have learned from the attacks. The important thing that we can try to do is emphasize the positive things that came from the attacks. We have realized that we are all Americans. We are a country of different groups. We have always been that. We want to come away with a positive attitude."

Dr. Darin Van Tassell, who specializes in International Studies and Global Issues, will participate in the panel.

"Last year's panel was amazing," Van Tassell

said, noting that there were about 750 people there. "The same panel from last year will be reconvening. I can tell you that last year I asked students to raise their hand if they felt they had a direct connection to the attacks. I found that one in four felt that they had some connection with someone they knew being involved."

Van Tassell will deal with the impact that the United States is facing a year later and the challenges and changes to U.S. foreign policy.

Other panel participants will include Dr. Vernon Egger, a specialist in the field of Middle East and Islamic studies, and Dr. Lane Van Tassell, who is an expert in international relations.

Egger will be focusing on the process that Americans use to identify Islam with terrorism.

"I also want to raise issues about the government's policy that the best way to deal with terrorism is to overthrow governments," he said. "Terrorism is generated by secret cells

See Ceremony, Page 3

### Memorial Events

#### Panel Discussion—"September 11: The Year After"

WEDNESDAY, 12 P.M.—1 P.M. RUSSELL UNION COMMONS

Moderated by Dr. Todd Deal, with short presentations by SGA President Jonathan Perkins, Michael Hardy and Dr. Jodi Caldwell.

WEDNESDAY, 1 P.M.—2 P.M. RUSSELL UNION COMMONS

The panel, listed below with their specializations, will discuss the attack and the impact it had on us all.

- Dr. Barry Balleck—International Terrorism
- Dr. Vernon Egger—Middle East & Islamic Studies
- Dr. Darin Van Tassell—International Studies & Global Issues
- Dr. Lane Van Tassell—International Relations
- Dr. Nancy W. Shumaker—Moderator

## Statesboro Chamber of Commerce sponsors candlelight vigil

By Shana Bridges  
shanabee99@yahoo.com

It has been a year and the September 11 attacks still remain fresh in American's minds.

In recognition of the year anniversary, the Statesboro Chamber of Commerce plans to sponsor a Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony at 5:30

p.m. in front of the Bulloch County Courthouse.

Barry Turner, Co-Chairperson of the Special Events Committee for the Chamber of Commerce, is just one of the many people working to make this event possible.

Turner said the ceremony will "offer the community a chance to remember those that were lost on

September 11 and to also honor the local public safety officials."

The original idea for a remembrance ceremony came after the one-month anniversary of the attacks. Last year, residents gathered together to honor safety officials for their duty to the public, and the Chamber of Commerce decided to make it an annual event.

The Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony will feature public officials and local talents who will share their thoughts and join the community in honoring those who lost their lives. The event will also include patriotic songs and prayers from local residents and civic leaders.

In addition, the Chamber of Commerce will donate a crape myrtle tree

to be planted in front of the Statesboro Regional Library as a salute to everyone who suffered as a result of the attacks.

"The Bulloch County community would welcome the students to participate," Turner said. "We would like to have a good crowd so that it is an outward sign that people do still care and that they do still remember."

"We would like for Georgia Southern to be a part of it and to participate, if possible, in the event so they can be a part of the whole community."

The event is also sponsored by the City of Statesboro, Bulloch County, and the Statesboro Herald. For more information on this or any other memorial events, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 764-6111.





## Terror Alert

# U.S put on 'high-alert' on eve of 9/11

Attorney General John Ashcroft elevates threat level in U.S. to orange after 'specific' intelligence provided by operatives

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON—The Bush administration raised the nation's terrorism-warning level Tuesday to Code Orange—high risk—after receiving what it termed credible new threats connected to Wednesday's anniversary of last Sept. 11's terrorist attacks.

In addition, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld ordered anti-aircraft missiles to be deployed around Washington to strengthen air defense around the nation's capital.

The decision was "not a response to any specific threat, but is a prudent precaution," according to a Pentagon announcement.

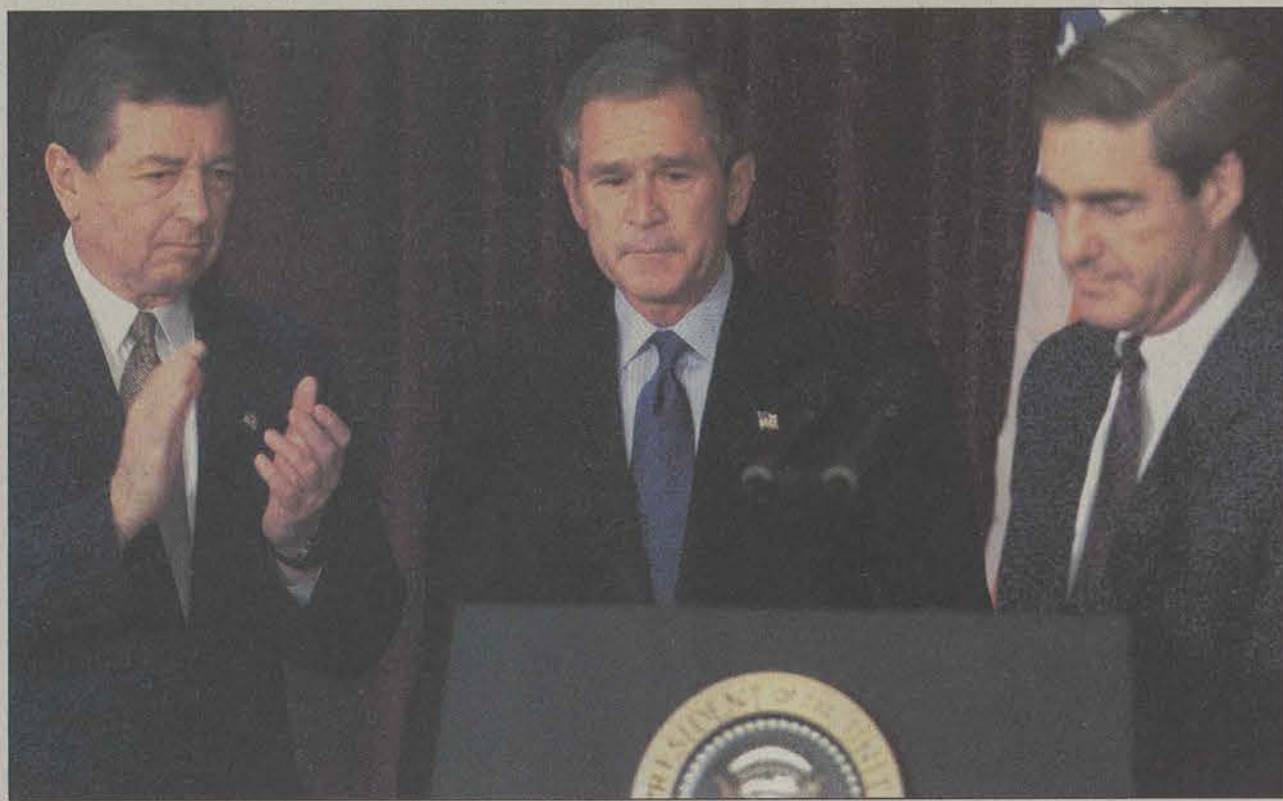
Vice President Dick Cheney moved to an undisclosed secure location Tuesday and canceled his only public appearance. Cheney, whose whereabouts were undisclosed for weeks after Sept. 11 to help ensure the continuity of the presidency, also spent Monday night at a secret secure location.

The flurry of heightened security measures tightened Americans' nerves on the eve of the first anniversary of last year's terrorist attacks, but Attorney General John Ashcroft said intelligence analysis indicated that any new attacks were more likely to target U.S. sites overseas than in the homeland.

The heightened terrorism-alert level came one day after the State Department issued a general alert warning Americans abroad to be vigilant this week. On Tuesday, the department announced that four embassies in Southeast Asia and another nine diplomatic facilities around the world would close temporarily.

"There is a real threat on a global basis that Americans need to be aware of. Americans need to be careful, they need to be vigilant, they need to pay attention to their surroundings," said State Department spokesman Richard Boucher.

Ashcroft said the decision to raise the



President George W. Bush, center, stands with Attorney General John Ashcroft, left, and FBI Director Robert Mueller during a press conference last October. All three men warned the nation yesterday of possible terrorist acts, either at home or abroad.

national threat level from "elevated risk" to "high risk" was based on information gleaned from an unidentified senior al-Qaida operative, who warned of "possible terrorist attacks timed to coincide with the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks." Ashcroft said "valuable" and "significant" information had been learned within the previous 24 hours.

A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the most recent threat information was provided within the last day or two from a key al-Qaida member who has been in custody for several months. The official would not say where the person was arrested, nor would he name the detainee, saying, "It's not a household name."

Senior U.S. intelligence officials said the new information related to an al-Qaida-backed plan to bomb the U.S. embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, and possibly other U.S. targets in Malaysia and elsewhere in



Southeast Asia.

Ashcroft said al-Qaida cells in several South Asian countries had been accumulating explosives since January, preparing "to conduct car-bomb and other attacks on U.S. facilities."

The intelligence community also has learned that one or more individuals in the Middle East are preparing for suicide attacks on U.S. interests, he said. Ashcroft said there was no specific information on where such attacks might occur.

The most likely targets would be trans-

"I believe the U.S. Capitol Building is still the target. The Capitol is the most enduring symbol of our whole nation and terrorists, just as they did with the World Trade Center first attacked in 1993, will come back for another try."

--U.S. Rep. John Mica, R-Fla.

portation and energy facilities and sites "that would be recognized worldwide as symbols of American power or security," the attorney general said. Targets could include military facilities, embassies and national monuments, he said.

"Last year at this time, United States intelligence discerned similar patterns of terrorist-threat reporting overseas," Ashcroft said. "Other recent events paralleled terrorist activity that occurred in the weeks prior to last year's attacks."

He would not say how long the "high



"If travel is in your plans, attendance at a public event is in your plans, we would like you to proceed; to do as you had planned to do, but be wary and be mindful."

--Homeland Security Adviser Tom Ridge



"There is a real threat on a global basis that Americans need to be aware of. Americans need to pay attention to their surroundings."

--Richard Boucher, State Dept. Spokesman

risk" level would remain in effect.

The effectiveness of the government's color-coded threat assessment system remains questionable; in August, a Knight Ridder poll found that 62 percent didn't even know the system existed. Of the 37 percent who were aware of it, just 12 percent knew that a Code Yellow, or "elevated" alert, was in effect at the time.

It is largely up to individual states to decide how to respond to the new threat level. Several state officials said they would try to increase security where they could, but the lack of specific targets makes that difficult.

"We just need to stand by and see what develops," said Col. John Mogan, Tennessee's deputy director of homeland security. "If we go a couple days without an incident, it might be back to normal by the weekend."

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For more information contact: Career Services by Phone at 681-5197 or by Email at [pmiddleton@gasou.edu](mailto:pmiddleton@gasou.edu)





Special to the G-A

The New York City skyline, from lower Manhattan to the Statue of Liberty, yesterday morning.

## On anniversary of attack, people all over the world pause to contemplate

KRT Campus

NEW YORK-- With bagpipes at ground zero and church bells across the globe, the world pauses Wednesday to remember the victims of last Sept. 11 and ponder the future of a world at war with terrorism.

Amid heightened security, solemn ceremonies take place at the three direct targets of terror: A 16-acre hole in lower Manhattan, a rebuilt section of the Pentagon, and a rural field in Pennsylvania where passengers and terrorists wrestled a hijacked airplane to the ground.

Innumerable other cities, from Dallas to London and beyond, will sponsor a variety of commemorations, having also felt the impact of planes that smashed into the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

"What happened down the street from here wasn't just an assault on New York," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said during a recent speech on Wall Street. "It was an attack on our nation, and on all freedom-loving people around the world."

President Bush, who begins the day at a Washington prayer service, also will visit the three attack sites. He will complete the day with a brief, nationally televised address from near Ellis Island, with the Statue of Liberty as a backdrop.

In wake of an attack by Islamic extremists, Bush praised the inter-faith nature of many events, saying Tuesday that "as we mourn tomorrow, we must remember that our enemy is a radical network of terrorists, not a religion."

"Tomorrow, Americans of all faiths will come together in a spirit of unity and remembrance and resolve," Bush added during a visit to the embassy of Afghanistan.

Commemoration is only half of Bush's three-day visit to New York. On Thursday, the president will address the United Nations about what may be the next step in his war on terror-- the forced removal

of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein for seeking to develop weapons of mass destruction.

Possible war with Iraq has inspired anti-war demonstrators to mount their own Sept. 11 observances.

"I personally would be sad if that (the anniversary) is used as a means of promoting or providing support for war, or depriving more people of civil liberties," said Joe Hamilton as he handed out anti-war leaflets in Union Square.

The one-year anniversary of the deadliest terrorist attack in American history takes place with the nation on alert. Federal officials increased the national alert level on Tuesday

### CEREMONY, FROM PAGE 1

the world. The notion that we are going to Iraq and overthrowing on the basis of terrorism could be counter productive.

"There is no established connection between Iraq and Al Qaeda. When you overthrow a regime you have to take into account how you will replace it. We have already run into problems in Afghanistan because we do not want to spend the money to rebuild and police.

"When you destroy a country like

this you are building resentment and hatred towards America that fuels terrorism. There seem to be long term issues that have not been investigated yet."

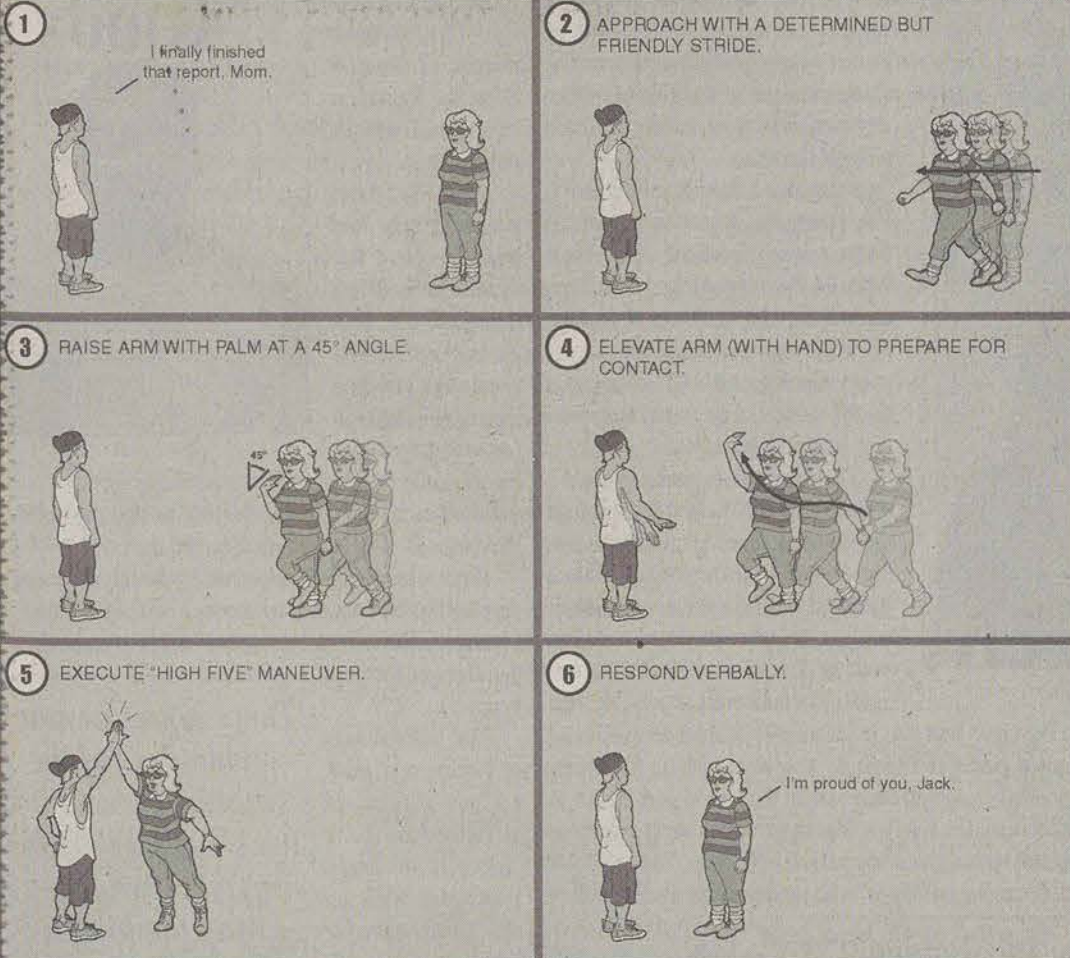
Balleck will also address Sept. 11 from a terrorism standpoint, while also discussing the situation in Iraq and how this ties in with homeland security.

"I think a lot of the discussion will be audience driven," he said "Terrorist attacks are inevitable. I don't see them being on the scale of Sept. 11.

Parental Guide #92

## "THE HIGH FIVE"

(Please see diagram below.)



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# September 11<sup>th</sup>



## Candlelight Vigil

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Please join us on  
September 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00pm  
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For Reflection, Remembrance, & Prayer.

*The prayers and beliefs expressed will be those of the  
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**Eligibility:** Students enrolled in four (4) or more semester hours prepay the health fee each semester. This entitles those students to unlimited office visits during the semester. Students taking less than four (4) semester hours may choose to prepay the health fee to receive the same benefits.

A valid Georgia Southern identification card is required for service.

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# OPINIONS

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## OUR OPINION

### It's time to move on

As hard as it may sound, now is the time to move on. But moving on doesn't mean forgetting, denying, or shunning what we've seen and learned in the past year.

True, much of the progress that was made in political, race and economic relations immediately following Sept. 11 seems to have dwindled. No longer are Republicans and Democrats joining hands at the steps of the Capitol and singing "God Bless America". Instead they have gone back to exploiting broad, general themes in their never-ending quest for votes.

The differences between economic classes also appear to be back to normal, with business owners being swiped with the "greed" brush, by an public angry over losing much of their 401k's. The generous giving—when nearly a billion dollars was raised in less than two weeks after the attack—now seems like a fad.

Tension between different races has made the headlines with each case of American nationalism run amok each time fools smash the windows of a mosque, thinking they're striking a blow against Bin Laden themselves. Images of strangers helping each other, regardless of skin color or religion, look like lost moments in time that we'll never get back.

We've got to move forward, not because we're afraid to do so, but because we should strive for that ideal we realized for just a short, sweet time. For many of us, the thought of coming together without prejudices was a dream, or something from a movie.

But then again so was an attack on America.

#### 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.

### Covering the campus like a swarm of gnats

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## A lesson in Afghan culture

It is a universal truth among human societies that culture is most difficult to recognize within one's own community.

Whether that community is a neighborhood, a city, a region or an entire nation, analyzing it from an outsider's point-of-view becomes extremely challenging. It sounds redundant, but realizing the oddities of our daily routines as Americans, as Southerners or even as GSU students is nearly impossible if for no other reason than it is simply what we do on a daily basis.

Customs that seem natural to us would indeed baffle other peoples in the world. Can you not imagine the ridicule that would follow affirmative answers to the following questions? "You mean you'll use the bathroom *indoors*?" "You wire your teeth together with painful metal bands because you think it results in attractiveness?" "You place squishy bags in your women's breasts to make them larger?"

Clearly, every element of our existence is shaped by our culture—i.e. the sets of learned behaviors and ideas that we all acquire as members of our society.

Conversely and yet understandably, we are easily able to see the peculiarities in cultures of other regions and nations. Their beliefs, values, rituals and behaviors are so evident to us simply because they are so different than our own. Unfortunately, it is also a universal truth among human societies that each tends to use the practices of their own people as a yardstick to measure how well the customs of other peoples measure up—a phenomenon anthropologists call *ethnocentrism*. Innate in such a system is the labeling of cultures as either "superior" or "inferior" to our own on the basis of similarities in behavior and beliefs.

As can be seen regarding many Americans' attitudes towards Afghanistan since the events that unfolded a year ago today, ethnocentrism can also cause us to be blind to the existence of culture at all in other places. It sometimes results in a complete denial of the cultural merit some peoples possess.

Many Americans frequently view the nation of Afghanistan as an "uncivilized" horde of terrorists, lacking and jealous of what makes America so great. They don't have skyscrapers, we say, so they bomb ours. They don't have a comprehensive airline industry as we do, so they hijack our planes. What purpose do they serve in the world, we ask, other than to ride around on camels and make towels a fashion trend?

## I don't need remembrance assistance

No matter how many anniversaries go by, time will never ease the painful awkwardness of 9-11's prolation against my ears.

Daily documentaries could never immunize my eyelids from the formidable necessity to make themselves a barrier against the images of that day. A thousand memorials could not intercept the impulses that flash through my brain at certain sights and the every day cue cards that reinstate pangs of grief in the pit of my stomach. Not even the sound of wind snapping across strategically placed American flags can negate the now year-old awkwardness of so many words on my tongue.

I am not going to watch television today. I am not going to check the day's color-coded terrorist threat level. I probably won't even listen to the radio. My abstinence from such means has nothing to do with any lack of desire to commemorate the date, nor with any dislike of media. In fact, it is to purify and improve the experience of remembrance for me.

Before there were technologies allowing for methods of historical documentation, such as photography and video/audio recording, people had a different way of remembering things. While such modern conveniences have allowed people who couldn't otherwise imagine the proportions of disasters and war to more thoroughly realize the magnitude of historic events, they have also changed and hindered the way we heal after a tragedy.

Once upon a time, remembering something didn't have to involve the ungovernable broadcasting and repetition of disturbing words and images.

The obvious irony here is the fact that you are reading a column written by me, and it is in a newspaper I helped produce in memoriam of this anniversary. In defense of that contradiction I can only say that sometimes things happen in the world that make what I do painful, but I love my job. In the planning of this edition of *The George-Anne* I strove to commemorate this date tactfully by printing stories and

These claims, all of which I have actually heard people say, are blatantly ethnocentric, for they attempt to justify the Afghan's inferiority through the lenses of what we deem precious and important. Due to this line of thought, we have defined Afghanistan as an "uncivilized," "Third World" nation. Some of you may say that, wait a minute, Afghanistan is indeed a Third World country. Yes, it has been *defined* this way, but the term in itself implies that there are stages of cultural development spanning from "primitive" existence to "civilized" development.

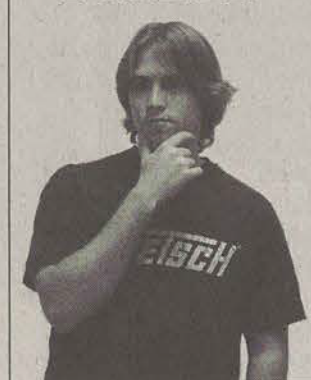
We must understand that humans, by their very nature, have culture. And culture, by its very nature, is equally complex and valuable in the lives of those who practice it—regardless of what our definitions of "civilized," "progress," and "developed" may be. In this age where Americans are so prone to yawn at creation and preservation while applauding so many forms of "progress," it is important for us to understand that most cultures would indeed define our notion of "progress" as absolute destruction. Tearing up precious landscape for commercial expansion is hardly the idea of progress found in much of the world.

Before I launch into an overview of Afghan culture, I think it is important to emphasize that my intentions are neither to protest nor to support the war in Afghanistan. I hope first and foremost to simply cast some light on the people of Afghanistan. This desire has been mounting inside of me since September 11 of last year by recurring ethnocentric misunderstandings amongst people in my own immediate life and in the American media.

For instance, when our nation's military embarrassingly bombed an Afghan wedding, I heard a friend of mine say, "It seems like they would have noticed a wedding." Such a statement is blind to the fact that weddings in many parts of the world are not held under steeples with white frilly dresses and black tuxedos. Also, Comedy Central's "South Park" ran an episode where the famous boys are trapped on an airplane bound for Afghanistan. They reach the country to find nothing but open space, camels being bombed, and a "primitive" culture. Additionally, Robin Williams, in his HBO comedy special, said that while we bomb

See Prizer, Page 9

### TIM PRIZER



Robin Williams, in his HBO comedy special, said that while we bomb Afghanistan back into the Stone Age, they reply, "Oooh! Upgrade!" These are just a small fraction of the available examples of Americans' ignorance toward Afghanistan, a country we think to have brought the world nothing more than hound dogs, blankets, and terror.

### AMANDA PERMENTER



photos of progress, restoration and triumph.

Undoubtedly, we all have stories of where we were when the news came in a year ago because those moments have been preserved with pristine detail by the incomprehensibly powerful catalog of our minds. In fact, most of us can probably remember nearly everything about that entire day, whereas asking someone to describe any other day from a year passed would draw a blank response.

I suppose I should tell my story. I was preparing for class and turned on the news to check the temperature when the first plane hit the South Tower. At that point, nothing was known about the causes of the crash. I went to my Geology class full of sadness for the victims of an event I supposed was a terrible accident.

That day we happened to have a Geology Lab "field trip" amongst the campus pines. Our group was somewhere near the Russell Union, gathered around a prime example of soil erosion, when the newscame that both the Twin Towers had collapsed as result of deliberate attacks. By then the Pentagon was also in flames. We heard it all in bits and shouted pieces from people who were rushing from their cancelled classes to their cars in the Union parking lot. A frightened silence fell over us as we nervously shuffled our feet and looked from one person to another. Then all of us looked to our professor, who motioned without speaking for us to disband and go home.

I did not go home. Rather, I went directly to the newsroom where I spent the next twenty hours. My fellow editors and I watched minute after minute, hour after hour of new reports as they broke. With each new report came horrific new visuals and repeats of the equally horrific original images from as early as 8:45 that morning.

As long as I live, I will just as vividly remember the feeling of dread and desperation between all of us as we

See Permenter, Page 9

## No more excuses

Last night was one hell of a night.

I don't mean that in the traditional way that we've developed in our vernacular for meaning that the night was amazing. Maybe last night was more of the night from hell. But either way, it wasn't my fault. I hadn't gotten enough sleep or taken any medication to fight off the allergy attacks I'd been suffering through all day, but that couldn't have contributed to the problem. And it definitely wasn't the stress from classes, tests, and other extracurriculars that have been starting to wear steadily on me since the beginning of the week.

Nope. The blame for my most uncomfortable night can be directly attributed to the attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

After all, this is the September 11<sup>th</sup> edition of *The George-Anne* and did take a lot of work. And I wouldn't be working so damn hard to make this issue one of the best I've been a part of producing during my tenure here at the G-A if the whole incident had never occurred, now would I?

Go ahead. Stop reading for a moment and criticize my reasoning. It just might be the first time in a year you'll think differently than to blame something directly on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

For the past 12 months, the media, the government, and most of the population of America have blamed its problems on an event that rocked our nation. The event, as tragic and terrible as it was, shouldn't been a source of excuses. Especially excuses for very serious actions and very serious matters of life—and death.

Taking a defensive posture during the times of uncer-

### ADAM BRADY



For the past 12 months, the media, the government, and most of the population of America have blamed its problems on an event that rocked our nation. The event, as tragic and terrible as it was, shouldn't been a source of excuses. Especially excuses for very serious actions and very serious matters of life—and death.

See Brady, Page 13

## No need in negativity

Like most folks, my eyes had started to glaze over any time the television flashed back images of Ground Zero, the Pentagon or the military in Afghanistan.

And like most people I still had deep respect for those who had lost their lives last September, or those who spent days at a time rummaging through the wreckage, rubbing their hands raw—even through gloves—trying to find the bodies of their friends or even complete strangers.

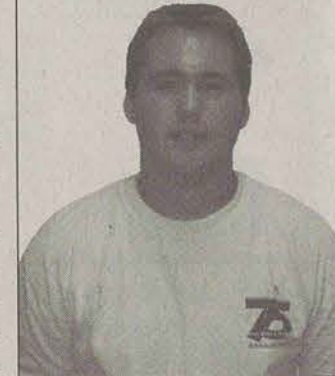
But it wasn't until I hopped out of the cab and made my way up the sidewalk near where the towers once stood, that I realized not much had changed in my life, yet everything had changed for these people.

The tattered rags of t-shirts and posters and trinkets of all kinds still hang on a chain link fence. Folks still walk up and leave whatever they have on them, taking a ring off their finger or a business card out of their wallet—anything that has meaning to them.

The place where the World Trade Center fell is nothing but a pit these days. The mangled wreck of steel has been hauled off across the river; there's nothing to look at but a smooth dirt surface.

A lot of people still visit the site, not nearly as many

### DOUG KIDD



There aren't as many reminders of the attacks if you know which areas to avoid, maybe purposely taking the long way to your destination instead of passing by a loved one's favorite pizza parlor, or a movie theatre that brings back lots of memories.

See Kidd, Page 13



## GSU: One Year Later

# With the shock worn off, university students are looking to the future

*Scenes of Sept. 11 are still etched in the minds of some, but many want to move on with life*

By Angela Jones  
tastecake00@yahoo.com

It's been a year since the Twin Towers crashed into the streets of Manhattan, taking nearly 3,000 lives with it.

After that act of terrorism, along with the Pentagon and Pennsylvania tragedies, everywhere we looked images of the World Trade Center, along with police, firefighters, and others who stepped up to the plate have been center stage.

Police and firefighter teddy bears, action figures, dolls for both sexes, and everything from 3-D puzzles to music boxes to sheet cakes in the shape of the World Trade Center's Towers have flooded the market in the past 365 days.

So, what are people thinking and feeling on the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.?

"The shock is gone, but the impact is still felt," said Scott Corwin. "It certainly will make a big date for future chronologies."

Some people, like journalism major Jerel Watkins, are sick and tired of watching the constant replay of the towers being attacked, it doesn't seem to faze them any more.

"I've seen the Twin Towers fall so many times, it's like I'm watching a playback of sports footage," he said. "I've seen and heard and read about it so many times I am becoming used to it."

Dr. Vernon Eggers, Professor of Middle Eastern History, feels that much of the desensitization to the events of Sept. 11 is due to the constant media attention over the last year.

"The media focus has been done to the point of obsession, it has reached the point where people are saturated and don't want to hear any more about it," he said. "It's ironic that a great tragedy has been trivialized."

Others, like Mary Daigle, feel that the event was tragic, but that it has been somewhat exaggerated over the last year.

"A lot of people were affected by it, but I don't think it's as big as people are making it out to be, I mean, it's not World War II or anything," she said.

Chad McKinney said he isn't totally numb to the images of the terror attack, but he doesn't think the coverage should go on forever either.

"This type of tragedy doesn't happen very often here in America, so I think it was good to continue covering it after Sept. 11 itself," he said. "But after Wednesday, America needs to refocus, and look towards the future, not the past. America is ready to move on."

According to a recent CNN poll, about 63 percent of the people polled shared McKinney's reaction: the events of Sept. 11, tragic and terrible as they were, should be commemorated with all due respect, and then the country should move on with life.

"There's been enough coverage of the event," said April Fordham. "Now we need to focus on the consequences of



The Russell Union Commons area was packed last Sept. 12 when GSU gathered for a discussion of what had happened the day before.



The same group from last year's panel will be back for today's event in the Russell Union Commons.

our vulnerability. It's time for unity progression and unity, united we'll stand, divided we fell."

But Amber Wilhoit is concerned that, without periodic reminders of the event, people will fall back into their routine lives and forget the event and its effects on America.

"Sept. 11 was a profound event that affected all of us, but unfortunately, this country is quick to forget things," she said. "Americans have a tendency to move on with their lives, which is good, but we also easily forget the sacrifices that have been made for so we can go on with our lives."

Local commemorative events and gestures for Sept. 11 vary.

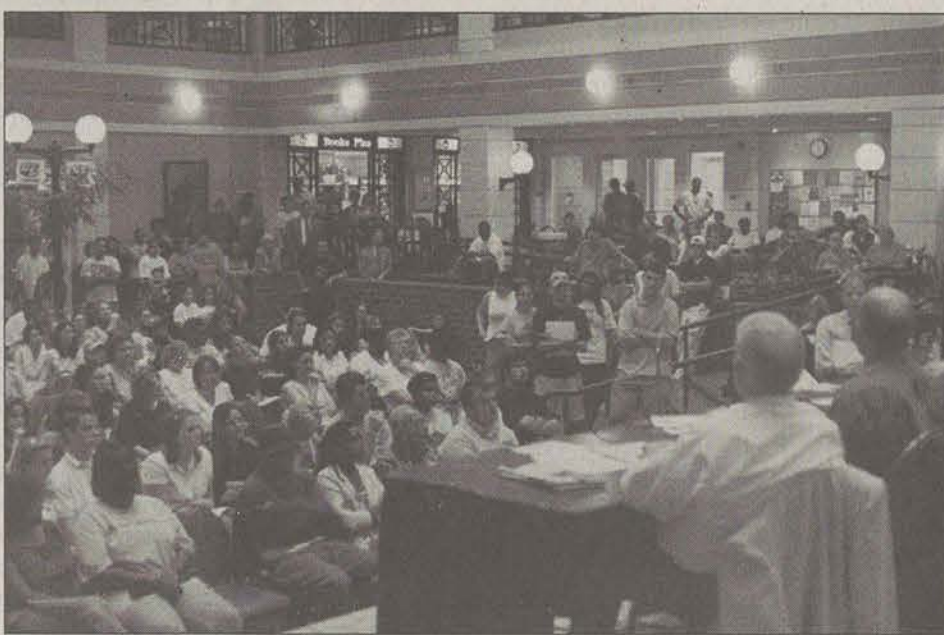
Several apartment complexes plan to have a moment of silence in memory of those who died, followed by a balloon release at the entrance, or near the front office. All K-mart stores will open at 10 a.m. to mark the early morning attacks. There will be panel discussions, candlelight vigils and guest speakers on campus to mark the event as well.

"I think the event should be commemorated, for the victims and their families, but I think the ceremonies should be smaller, more low key, because making it a major thing, like a holiday or something, would be like giving the people who did this a lot of credit," Daigle said.

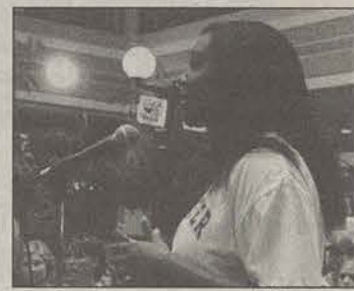
"They should honor the people and not the day, because it's all about the people and what they went through."

*"Americans have a tendency to move on with their lives, which is good, but we also easily forget the sacrifices that have been made for so we can go on with our lives."*

--Amber Wilhoit, GSU student



Dr. Barry Balleck said today's panel will be "audience-driven," much like the one last year, which was attended by hundreds of people.



File Photo

A GSU student speaks during last year's Sept. 11 panel.

## Today's events will highlight diversity and understanding

*Cultural Week purposely reserved for Sept. 11 week*

By Michelle Flournoy  
mlf21@hotmail.com

GSU will offer a variety of programs for students who wish to acknowledge those lost in the Sept. 11 tragedy.

At 9:00 a.m. students and faculty are asked to observe a moment of silence.

GSU will host a commemorative ceremony that will be held at 12:00 p.m. The following panel discussion, "Sept. 11: The Year After" will begin at 1:00 p.m.

The multicultural center is hosting diversity week. Understanding diversity is significant to understanding what took place on Sept. 11.

"What happened was that actually I was planning the events before I knew this was the week of Sept. 11," said George Lewis, director of the multicultural students.

"I saw that Sept. 11 would fall on the same week so we thought we would program around it and that some of the activities could shed some light on what happened. They were thought of independent of each other, but ended up working together."

Julie Stoffer, from the Real World New Orleans cast, will be speaking in recognition of Diversity Week. The speech will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The multicultural center will also host "One Race, One People, One Peace" in the Russell Union Ballroom at 8 p.m.

It is a two person performance. The program talks about ethnicity, gender, nationality, and sexual orientation. There will be a tribute to Sept. 11 at the end of the program.

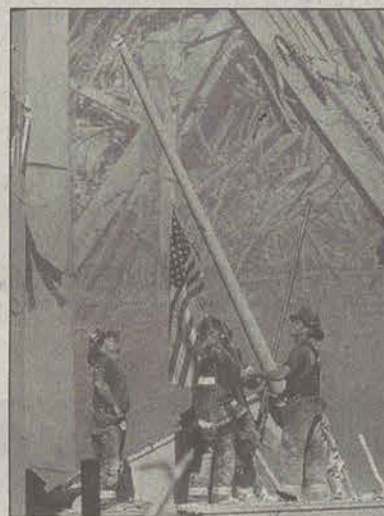
A candlelight vigil is also being held today at the Bulloch County Courthouse and at the Russell Union Rotunda.

According to the Chamber of Commerce, the courthouse vigil will begin at 5:30. It will be an hour-long service and will include music by the community choir. Speeches will be made by Jay Studstill, Chairman of the Board of the Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce, Joe McGlamery of the Statesboro Herald, and Joe Brannen, Mayor Pro-tem. The speeches and music will be followed by the lighting of the candles.

The Baptist Student Union will sponsor the service at the rotunda. The program is scheduled to begin at 10:00 p.m.

Classes will not officially be cancelled for the ceremonies. All class cancellations will be up to individual faculty members. Students wishing to participate will need to check with their instructors to find out class policies.

File Photos



Internet Photo

Images like this one, where New York firefighters raise the American flag near Ground Zero, have been in high rotation in the media throughout this past year.

## Terrorism is going to be with us for a while, even if it comes in different forms, says terrorism expert

By Christopher Johnson  
cjohns10@eagle4.cc.gasou.edu

Every day a new opportunity presents itself. Today, millions of people will line the streets and fill department stores, banks, schools, and office buildings in cities all along the eastern seaboard. Tomorrow, they'll do the same.

It could happen in Miami, Atlanta, Boston, Baltimore, New York or any one (or a combination) of numerous other possibilities. The list of potential terrorist targets could stretch on for pages.

The world will never be free from or rid of the threat of terrorism says Assistant Professor of Political Science and local terrorism expert Dr. Barry Balleck.

"[Terrorism] is a common form of resistance when the weak take on strong," he said. "What makes the U.S. such a vulnerable target is our

great military presence throughout the world, especially in the Middle East.

"We said that we would be leaving Saudi Arabia after the Gulf War, and we're still there. Now, many people see our military presence as intrusive, and they want us out. Basically, we've broken our promise."

So, the United States must now face the fact that future attacks will probably occur.

"We have demonstrated our ability to strike back, but no victory that sees the end of terrorism will ever come," Balleck said. "So, what we have to do is be prepared for the next time."

This preparation includes both our ability to physically defend against terrorism as well as the ability to cope mentally with the aftermath of possible attacks.

"Future attacks probably won't take the form

*"These people don't work on a time frame. They could strike on Wednesday of next week or on a Wednesday in five years."*

--Barry Balleck, Assistant Professor of Political Science, GSU

of planes being flown into buildings, but what we could see is the use of chemical and biological weapons," he said. "[The terrorists] have already shown that they have the resources, and these people don't work on a time frame. They could strike on Wednesday of next week or on a Wednesday in five years.

"That's what makes it such a scary thought. You just never know."



Special to the G-A

A bulldozer crushes the bodies of 500 kg bombs designed for chemical weapons in Iraq in 1992. UN arms inspectors were in the country as late as 1998 before being kicked out. Weapons like these have many in the United States and throughout the world worried.





# PERSPECTIVES. *GSU students from all walks of*

By Amity Zvanut  
amityz30@yahoo.com

Last year, Philip Collier walked into his GSU orientation class on September 11 to find that class was cancelled because America was "under attack." He was advised by his teacher to go to the nearest television and watch the news. Collier followed his feet to Landrum and watched the tragic events as the day unfolded.

"I was in complete shock. I was thinking about my brother and what was going to happen next," Collier said. He then went to his residence hall room and called his dad to ask about his brother Stephen who was stationed in Japan in the Marine Corps Infantry. Thankfully, Stephen was safe and had not been deployed.

Collier continued to watch TV and "started praying for the victims, my family, friends, and anyone I could think of because I knew once this happened, it was going to impact a lot of people. That is what scared me," Collier said.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2001, 62 days after September 11<sup>th</sup>, Collier received a shocking phone call while in his dorm room. He was told to get everything the army issued to him together because he was being deployed for no less than one year and no longer than two years unless ordered otherwise.

Collier had no choice but to drop his classes and tell his family and friends goodbye as he departed to fight for America.

Collier left soon after for Fort Benning, Georgia to go through combat training for chemical agents, firing ranges, and common tasks. Then he took a seven and a half hours long flight to Germany. "I was anxious the day we left. (It was) Like a nervous anxiety," Collier said.

Collier and his Airdrop Unit were very crucial to mission support. "If a lot of the missions could not have been accomplished by us, then we may still be over there," Collier said.

The reservists packed between 100,000 to 200,000 pounds of humanitarian aid supplies daily to drop them to military personnel and refugees in Afghanistan. His job was so crucial that he and his superior had to sign their name, rank, and unit on each parachute they packed to be dropped. If the supplies did not reach their target because of the packing job, that soldier could be jailed.

"The first month I was there was extremely hard. We were pushed to the max of our mental and physical abilities. We worked at least 14-15 hours a day from November until the end of December," Collier said.

There were only a few reservists that were still in school, like Collier, at the time they were deployed. Therefore it was easy to make a connection with senior Tray Brantley from Mercer who only had one or two semesters left. "We helped each other through it. We had mutual feelings about the

situation. We were glad to be there to help, but we were concerned about our futures," Collier said.

College students all over the world were affected by the September 11 attacks. Nikki Tucci, a transfer student at GSU this year, was sitting in her pre-calculus class at Kennesaw State University when she heard that a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center. Her first thought was of her father, who was flying out from Hartsfield airport for vacation.

Sophomore Tucci, 19, said "At first I did not believe it at all because our school [Kennesaw] really didn't talk about it," Tucci said. She later found out that it was true — America was under attack. She tried calling her father on his cell phone since he was supposed to be flying on vacation, "but his cell phone was out of range and would not pick up," Tucci said. She waited all morning and into the afternoon, yet did not hear from her father.

"Finally he called later that afternoon and told us that he was alright, but no one could not leave the airport because of security reasons," Tucci said. Tucci's father, like hundreds of other people, was waiting in line for a payphone at the airport to tell his family and friends that he was not either of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Centers.

After attending GSU for two years, communications major Jana Pedersen, 21, was in Denmark last year to gain dual citizenship while attending Roskilde University, a school that GSU allows credits to be transferable.

A man told her about the attack while she was working out in a gym, yet assumed he "had translated wrong because I thought there was no way that could have happened. But when I went into the common area, everyone was watching the news. I knew it was true," Pedersen said. "I just kept watching the same planes fly into the World Trade Center towers over and over again for about an hour and a half."

Pedersen said that she was not worried about her well being in Denmark, yet "my mother told me not to tell anyone I was American, to tell them I was Canadian instead," Pedersen said. Because Denmark did not broadcast

the September 11 attacks as much as America did, Pedersen said "the event left my life a lot sooner than people in the U.S."

Collier went to New York City and signed the banner at ground zero. He wrote the time he left and got back from his military mission. "It was very touching to see a building near by draped in black with a flag on the front of it."

"I feel what happened will never be forgotten, but the nation will have to learn from it. Yet, there is no reason to be afraid in your own country. We are a great nation and we will thrive and learn from this event. Terrorism will never go away, yet America can't be afraid all the time and wonder 'what if?' because you can die anywhere — even in a car wreck," Collier said.



Internet Photo

Ground zero smoldered for months after September 11, leaving recovery crews with a massive and daunting around-the-clock job.



Internet Photo

The terroristic destruction of September 11 left a chunk of the Pentagon in ruins.



Internet Photo

Wreckage is all that remained after Flight 93 careened into a field in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

## The American Media: Facing challenges and changing perceptions

By V.A. Patrick Slade  
vaps18@go.com

Many Americans learned of the tragedy of September 11th through one type of media outlet or another. And through those images shown, we as Americans experienced first hand how truly grave terrorism can be.

Removal of movies from the theaters, the subject matter of terrorism popping up in popular television shows, and the president urging Americans to live their lives normally day after day on television were just some of the things that affected the American public and their entertainment.

The first day the tragedies happened it seemed like every media conglomerate wanted to get the most up-to-date pictures and stories of the event.

Every channel provided images of the collapsing towers, people jumping to their deaths, and people covered with ash, running for their lives. It seemed like if your neighbor's grandson's cousin twice removed on your father's side was in the towers, at the Pentagon, or on the planes, you were on television recanting your story of loss. Your grief became America's grief.

The second day came and then the third. Not to sound insensitive, but the American public grew tired of seeing the collapsing towers on every channel. And where one media outlet lacked, another was there to take up its' slack.

The new television season, which had not yet begun, felt the immediate effects of the tragedies and the coverage. The networks were slated to roll out the new season within days of the tragedies.

Two new shows in particular, "24" and "The Agency," received threats from the network heads that they may not even premier. This was because the content of both shows dealt with terrorism, and the network heads weren't sure if the American public would react positively to them. And it was still uncertain when the rest of the television shows would have their season premiers.

Television wasn't the only entertainment medium that felt the effects of September 11th. Many movies were pulled from the theaters, and many didn't get released because of their content. "Big Trouble," "Behind Enemy Lines," "Black Hawk Down," and "Collateral Damage" were just some of the movies pushed back because of their content. Many weren't released until after the new year because of terrorism plots.

The music business also felt the effects of the tragedy, but their response was in a more positive way. Many popular artists from mainstream pop, rock, R&B, hip-hop, country, and other musical genres came together to do a tribute to the victims of AIDS before September 11, and it was retooled afterwards into a reworking of Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On" to fit the tragedies. The single raised money for AIDS and the victims of the 11th.

Many benefit concerts were organized in order to raise money for the victims and their families. Many "tribute to America" albums have also been released, selling millions.

Fast-forward a year later, and the entertainment business is trying its best to get back on its feet. With millions of dollars of lost revenue, the big networks, the movie studios, and the record industry are pulling out all the stops.

A few months after the tragedy the industries were trying to be sensitive with the things they put out to the public, but now they are seeking out what makes the most money.

Many movies subsequently have been released with terrorism plots. The media feels as though life should get back to normal. And with a box office record of over three billion dollars in revenue from the summer of 2002, the American public feels the same way.

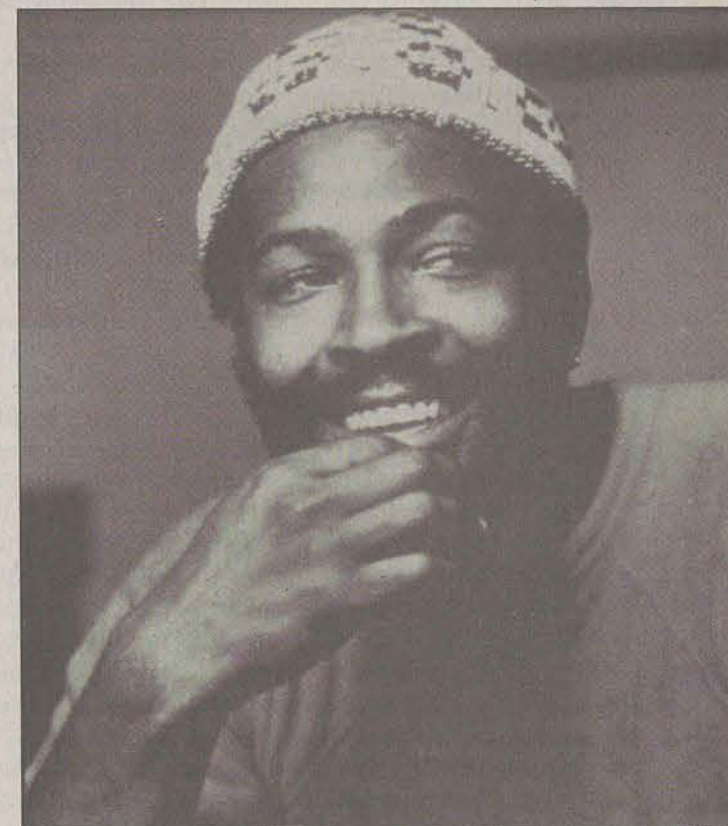
There have also been many television shows that dealt with the aftermath of the tragedies. The once threatened shows of "24" and "The Agency" are back for a second season with little apprehension from network heads. The entertainment business is slowly but surely returning back to "normal" as the anniversary of the tragedies faces us.

Through those images on television screens and other media outlets a year ago, the events of September 11th will forever be engrained in our memories. September 11th is here again and we will again see the images on every television screen and partake in tributes to the thousands that lost their lives. This is a sensitive story, but it's also a money-maker.

The networks, movie houses, publications and the record industry will pull out all the stops in order to make their money.

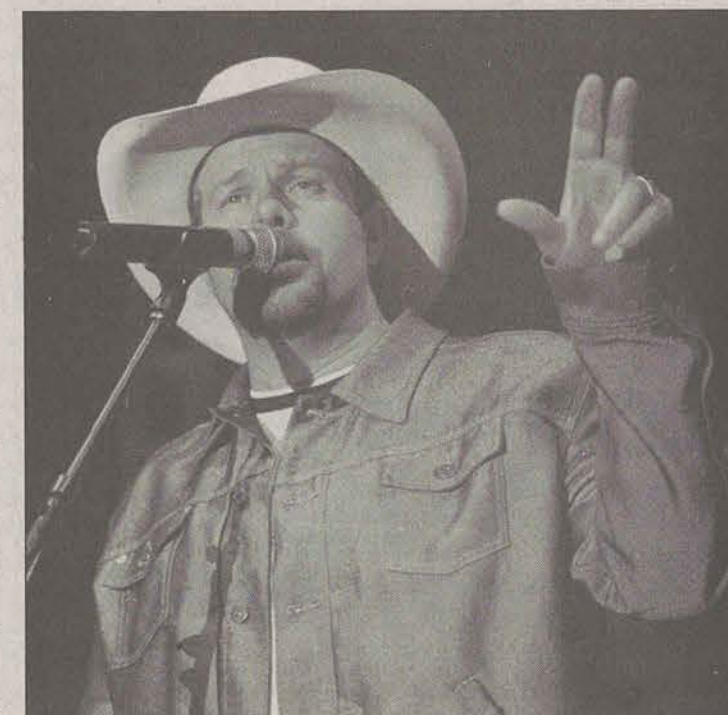
September 11th is a day of remembrance. It has had an effect on American entertainment as we know it. We will never be the same. The shows we watch, the movies we view, and the printed publications we have in our homes will always show the effects of the tragedies. This was our generation's Pearl Harbor.

Our entertainment will forever reflect that fact.



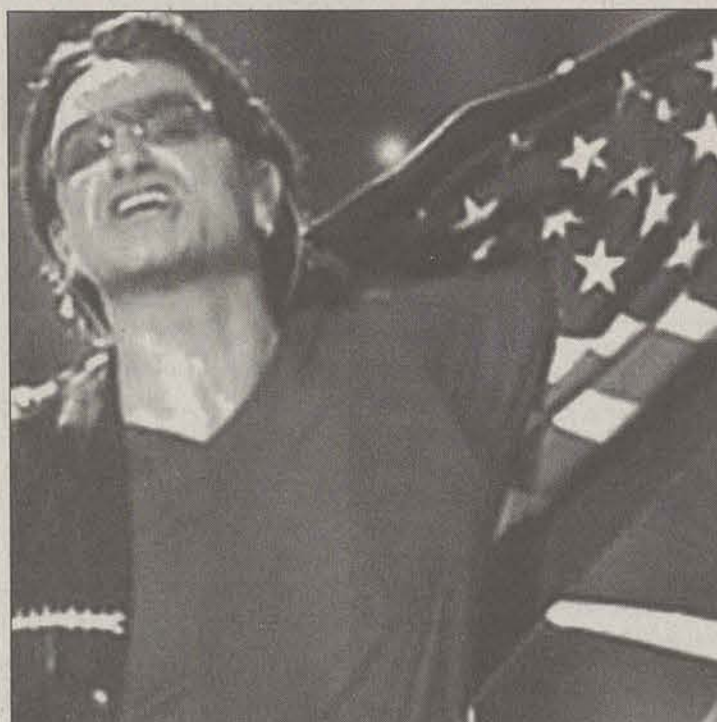
Internet Photo

Several music superstars came together to record a version of Marvin Gaye's 'What's Going On' to benefit AIDS Worldwide and the September 11 Fund.



Internet Photo

Toby Keith was one of the many musical artists who supported benefits for the families of 9/11 victims.



Internet Photo

During last year's Superbowl U2's Bono sang in a moving tribute for those who died as a result of the attacks of September 11.



# Some tough times, but mostly good for GSU student immediately after Sept. 11

*Sally Hamoud felt a little uneasy walking around campus because of her Islamic dress, but many were behind her.*

By Nick Pearson  
nickpearson@eagle4.cc.gasou.edu

Unity, peace, and harmony: all qualities attributed to the American people following that dreadful morning, now one year ago.

But, remembering the time that has passed since that infamous day, it seems necessary to recount the experiences of all individuals following that tragic event.

To ask the question: Were all American citizens recipients of these valued emotions?

Many millions of Muslim-American citizens were in an instance faced with many contradictory emotions caused by allegiance to both country and religion. The fear of pending retaliation and unjust violence.

One such individual was Sally Hamoud, a senior, International Studies/ French major at Georgia Southern, who-- although born to an Egyptian father and Mexican mother-- is a natural citizen of the United States.

Hamoud experienced the same feelings of loss, anger, and disbelief as most American's when she learned of the attacks the morning of September 11th.

But, these emotions were compounded by the negative stereotypes she experienced simply because of her traditional Islamic dress and devout belief in the Islamic faith.

Hamoud tells of her experiences that day and of the positive and negative emotions experienced since.

It began with her first seeing the hushed crowd in the RAC lobby,

standing aghast while watching the events as they unfolded on the television screens in front of them.

Aat that time Hamoud was completely unaware of what had happened, but "everyone was looking right at me, and I figured something was not right. Something was going on with Muslims or Arabs or something."

It wasn't until a professor instructed her later to "be careful" and stay with groups and not by herself, that Hamoud became aware of the stringency of the situation.

Not only was she faced with the prospect of protecting herself from those who might inflict harm on the country she loved, but also those fellow citizens who were eager to point a finger at someone whose only physical similarity to those same terrorists, came in the guise of her dress and religion.

Despite her anxiety of negative reactions, Hamoud continued going to class, ignoring the pleas of her mother who warned of "those ignorant individuals... who will try to fight and bother you."

"I am not worried, the professors are there for me," she remembers saying to her mother.

When asked of any negative reactions experienced as a result of the attacks, Hamoud recalls only one particular incident that left her completely dumb-founded.

While driving to school she remembers a couple in another car continually attempting to run her off the road.

After pulling onto the roads shoulder, Hamoud recalls that she "was not angry, but frustrated that they tried to stereotype me as such".

But Hamoud is quick to contrast this incident to those expressed upon her arrival on campus.

"People at school were very compassionate to me, people I didn't know

asked me if I needed anything," she said.

Hamoud said that all of these reactions were a complete surprise to her, considering her expectations of anger. Instead she was bombarded with individuals wanting to know more about Islam and the Middle East.

"I guess it was a good thing," she said. "It helped people think about (my) religion in a positive way, instead of negative."

Hamoud, like most Americans, has also taken time to look back and compare the state of America and its individuals one year following a day that shall live in history.

She reflects on the influence of media in contorting the minds of individuals into what she calls "misinformed, negative opinions of

Islam and its followers."

Her opinion of GSU students and their attitudes during this long, trying year is different though.

"Everyone was very supportive and protective of my rights and feelings," she said. "They were all very helpful."

But Hamoud is eager to let others know what is needed to rebuild our country-- understanding.

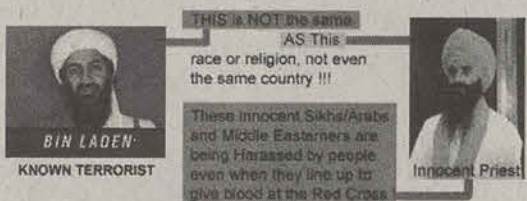
She is doing her part, spreading the understanding by, "giving speeches and lectures about Islam" and letting "people know that we are not terrorists."

She implores everyone who has questions to not be shy.

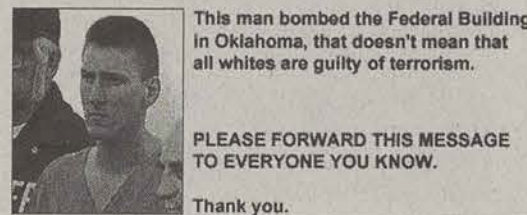
"Come and ask me," she said. "I am not a monster."

## PLEASE STOP THE UNJUST HATRED

Because of the recent bombing in New York and the intense media attention many North Americans have been lashing out at people that resemble those responsible for the attack. This is an e-poster to bring attention to the harassment that innocent people are suffering because they seem to look like the terrorists that are being shown on TV.



## PLEASE REMEMBER



Special to the G-A

Messages like this were scattered throughout the country urging Americans not to take their anger out on innocent Muslim Americans.

## Healthy Women Needed for Cervical Cancer/Genital Warts Prevention Study

If you are a woman age 16 to 23 and you don't have an HPV (Human papillomavirus) infection or a history of abnormal Pap smears, you may qualify to participate in a study to determine the safety and effectiveness of a vaccine intended to prevent HPV infection. HPV causes genital warts and abnormal Pap smears and may cause cervical cancer.

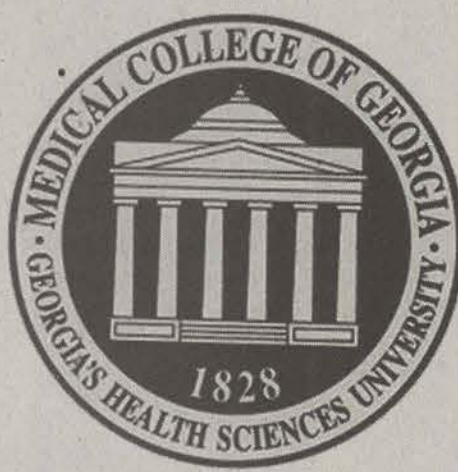
Benefits of the study include free Pap smears for 4 years and free HPV testing. Participants will be paid for their contributions to the study. For more information, please contact:

Medical College of Georgia  
Department of Family Medicine

Alysia Poon  
Project Manager  
apoon@mail.mcg.edu

Lynn Allmond, RN, F  
Nurse Practitioner  
lallmond@mail.mcg.edu

Call Toll Free: (877) 643-1414  
Principal Investigator: Daron Ferris, MD



## CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

SEPTEMBER 6 - 13, 2002



## Cultural Diversity Week Events

**MTV's Real World New Orleans** Sept. 11 6:00pm Russell Union Ballroom  
With Julie Stoffer  
Julie Stoffer, cast member of MTV's hit reality show, presents the "real world" as she sees it from the perspective of a female from Wisconsin who never knew a gay person or had a friend of a different color. Sponsored by Eagle Entertainment

**September 11th: One Race, One People, One Peace** Sept. 11 8:00pm Russell Union Ballroom  
A theatrical performance by Chapmyn Spoken Word that looks at racism, homophobia and terrorism through monologues and poetic scenes. Performance to include a special recognition of the September 11th attacks. Sponsored by the Multicultural Student Center

### OTHER CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK FEATURES:

**Student Organization Banner Contest & Display** Sept. 6 - 13 During Russell Union Hours Russell Union Balcony  
Attention all student organizations! Participate in this contest and display your talent by creating a banner that depicts diversity! ALL HOMECOMING ACTIVITY FEES WILL BE WAIVED FOR THE WINNING ORGANIZATION. Call the Multicultural Student Center for entrance details at 681-5409.

**The Henderson Library Welcomes You to the World!** Sept. 6 - 13 During Library Hours Henderson Library Second Floor  
Explore Multiculturalism through various forms of literature and print. Sponsored by Henderson Library

**Cultural Cuisine** Sept. 13 11:30am - 2:00pm Landrum Dining Hall  
Enjoy lunch in Landrum Dining Hall and enjoy a wide-ranging selection of ethnic foods.

Sponsored by the Multicultural Student Center  
(912) 681-5409 • Rosenwald Building, Suite 1065



## TRiO

RONALD E. McNAIR  
POST-BACCALAUREATE

THE GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
RONALD E. McNAIR POSTBACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM  
SEEKS TALENTED UNDERGRADUATES

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program seeks talented undergraduate students. The purpose of the McNair Program is to increase graduate degree attainment for students from segments of society that are underrepresented in certain academic disciplines. The program is designed to prepare fifteen participants for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities.

### SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED:

- Mentoring, seminars and other scholarly activities
- Eight week summer internships and research opportunities for students who have completed their sophomore year
- Academic counseling
- Assistance securing admission and financial aid for enrollment in graduate programs
- A \$2,800 stipend for successful completion of the summer research experience

### ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS:

Students who qualify for McNair must be enrolled in an academic program which can lead to a postbaccalaureate degree; has a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 and meets certain other academic requirements; is a citizen, national or a permanent resident of the United States or is in the United States for reasons other than temporary purposes; and is a low-income and first-generation college student or a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education or certain academic disciplines. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

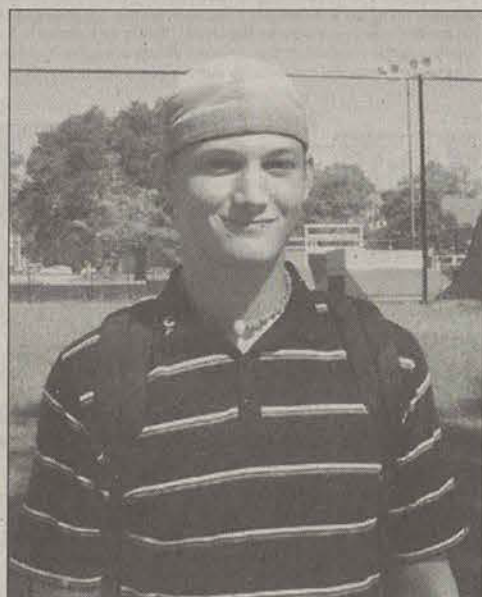
### APPLICATION PROCESS:

- Typed Application
- One page typed essay. The essay MUST ACCOMPANY the application.
- Two letters of recommendation (may be sent separately)
- Current Academic Transcript
- Interview
- Eligible students must not be enrolled for classes for the summer semester
- Deadline for 2002 interview is October 1, 2002.

For further information, visit the McNair Program Office in Room 1022 of the Williams Center, or call (912) 486-7448. Address: P.O. Box 8071-02 or E-Mail: mwoods@gasou.edu. Homepage: http://www2.gasou.edu/sta/eop



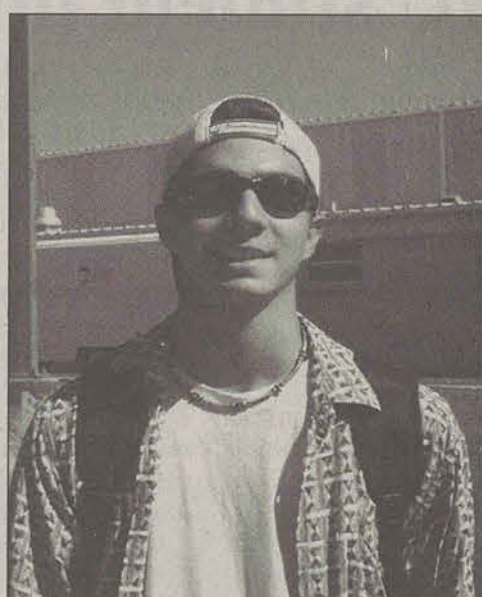
# How have the events of September 11 affected you?



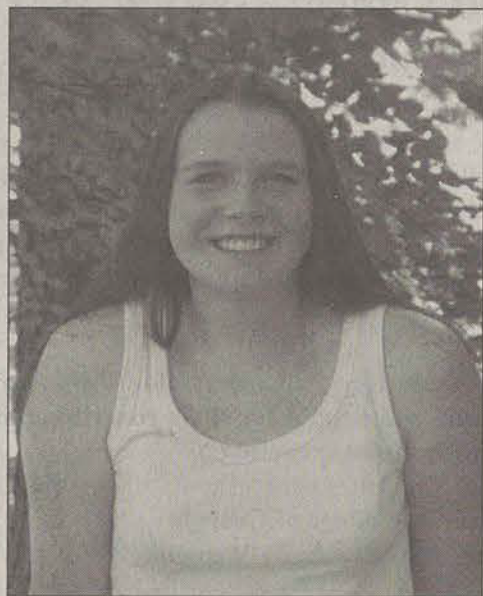
"America is not invinsible and life can be fragile."  
-Garrett Bollinger, Freshman  
Marietta, GA



"Other than the media; being in southern Georgia, it really hasn't affected my life that much."  
- Alysia Farmer, Freshman  
Vidalia, GA



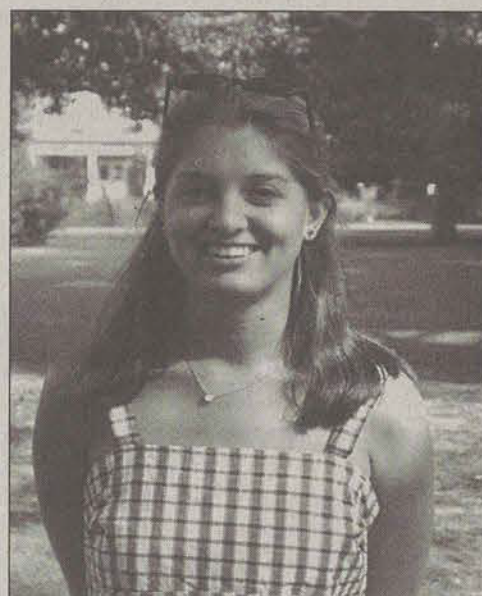
"Because of September 11th, I have learned a lot about different cultures."  
- Chris Marquez, Freshman  
Clarkstone, GA



"I am closer to my friends and family and I don't take life for granted."  
- Jamie Myers, Freshman  
Marietta, GA



"My life has changed for the better. You never know what may happen and should live life to the fullest."  
- Lacy S. Johnson, Senior  
Upson, GA




"It makes you think about what's really important in your life. Live life for the moment, not the future."  
- Melissa Garrison, Graduate Student  
West point, GA

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## PRIZER, FROM PAGE 4

Afghanistan back into the Stone Age, they reply, "Oooh! Upgrade!" These are just a small fraction of the available examples of Americans' ignorance toward Afghanistan, a country we think to have brought the world nothing more than hound dogs, blankets, and terror.

Some facts about Afghanistan may surprise many of us. According to a *lonelyplanet.com* article written by Robin Clewley, Afghanistan was a "beautiful country filled with lush flowers" just a quarter century ago. Moreover, around the same time, "National Geographic called it a 'great vacation spot.'" Indeed, the article confirms, Afghanistan has a dramatic landscape with multiple biomes "from arid steppes to alpine fields." It is also the home of many plant and animal species, which exist nowhere else on the planet.

According to *afghanistan-culture-site.com*, the country is made up of at least eight different ethnic groups—the Pathan, the Uzbek's and Turkmen, the Tajiks, the Hazaras, the Nuristanis, the

Aimaqs, and the Balochis—all of which can claim a distinct culture. These groups, and perhaps others, share at least an astounding 31 languages, all of which are spoken in Afghanistan.

The same website emphasizes the important role folklore plays in Afghan life. Aspects like oral narrative, folksongs, folk tales, riddles, jokes and poems are all important to Afghan people, for they serve to reflect "certain values and beliefs that form some part of the basic understanding of the people where these stories are told." Afghan music and song differs greatly from ours in scales, note intervals, pitch and rhythm. The beloved Afghan singer Ahmad Zahir is commonly referred to as the greatest Afghan singer ever to live.

Afghanistan has a reach fan base in sporting events as well. The national sport is called Buzkashi, a game in which horses are commonly given as much recognition for performance as are the people riding them. Naiza Bazi (or tent pegging) is also popular, and also involves their adored horses.

This short lesson in Afghan culture not intended to engender sympathy for the nation during war; it is simply informative. It is important, in my mind, for us to understand that we are not at war with a faceless, cultureless enemy, despite what our government may like us to believe.

Afghanistan has been in turmoil for at least 50 years, and during the last 24 of these, they have been overwhelmed in full-blown civil war. The nearly 27 million people who live there remain stationary at a life expectancy figure of just 46 years old. Throughout this turmoil, Afghan culture is on the verge of extinction. Their cultural heritage has largely been destroyed and their museums have been looted.

We must keep in mind, if simply to avoid utter ignorance, that all of the world's people have complex culture systems, and that losing that culture is the most devastating possibility that faces any society on the globe.

Tim Prizer is the editor-in-chief of *The George-Anne* and can be reached at [gaeditor@gasou.edu](mailto:gaeditor@gasou.edu).

## PERMENTER, FROM PAGE 4

stood awestruck in the newsroom, too shaken to sit still. We watched as footage came in of Flight 93, and with unified consternation we worked to react in print to every other grievous detail that followed. The draining experiences of that single day brought the staff of this newspaper a hundred times closer in a bond of shared perplexity and pain.

Everything I witnessed that day is branded on my memory. Decades from now I will relay the tale of how I spent those hours to my grandchildren and recall each detail just as vividly as I do today.

If I never heard anyone speak about 9-11 again, if I never saw another TV special or read another memoir, my ability to recollect it and consider its effects still would not fade. Actually, I'm certain that time and life experience will only enhance my perception

of the tragedy.

We are built to recall what is important, and not just recall it, but reflect upon it and relate it to our present state.

Reason—it's supposedly what makes us human.

It is midnight, officially September 11, 2002 as I write this. Many rumors abound about our own so-called plans to invade Iraq and the danger of possible attacks on us today.

The One-Million-Dollar Question today appears to be whether or not this nation has "really changed" because of 9-11, which is a mild and rhetorical enough topic that the world of news can safely explore it without drifting out of its ever-perfunctory objective stance.

The day has barely begun, and yet there is more hype and reiteration of violence than I can bear.

Contrary to a year ago, I don't need

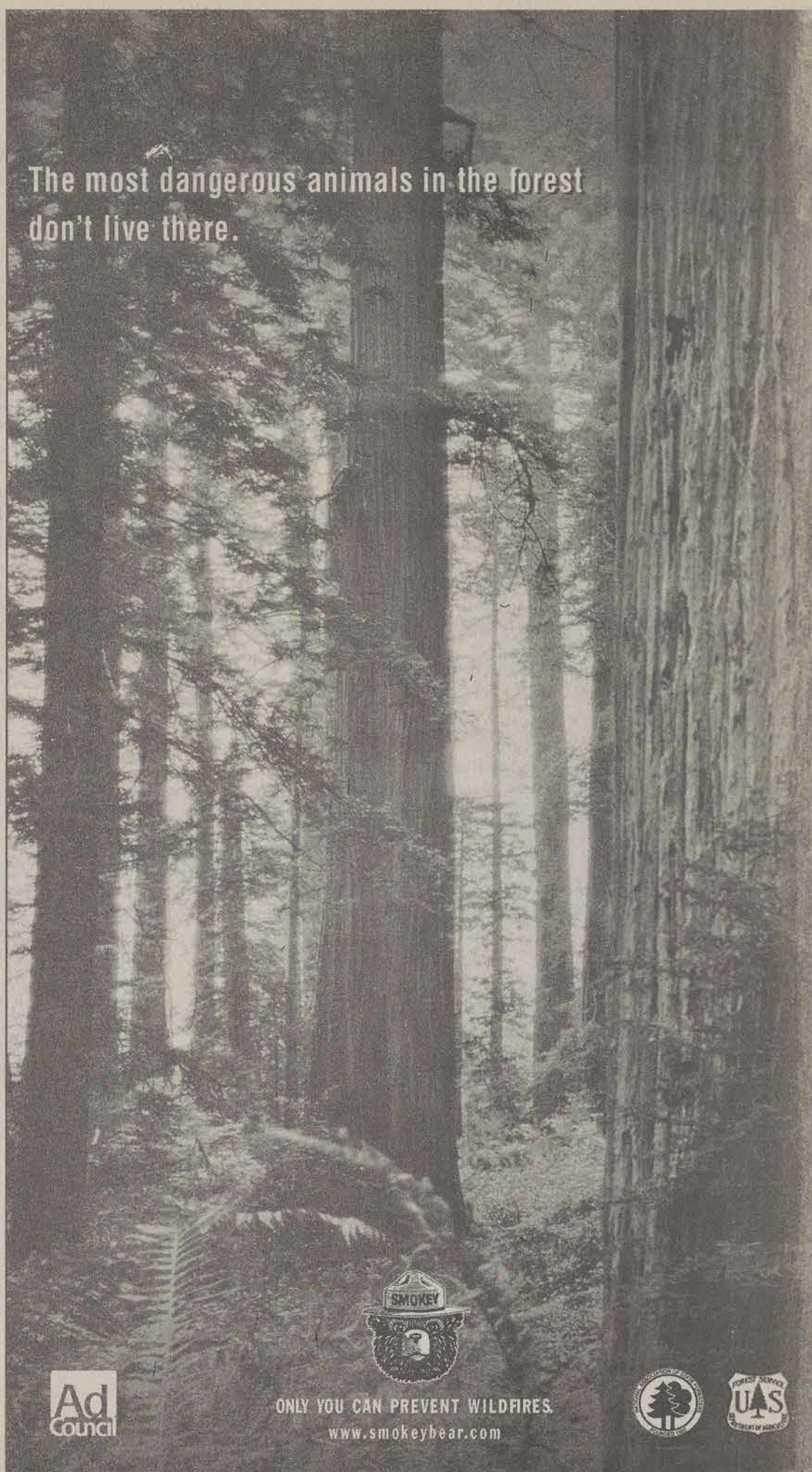
any questions answered today. Of course our nation has changed. Without a doubt, my lifetime will not end before there are more tragedies, more wars and more crises perpetuated by our own cultural ignorance. I have seen all I need to see in order to make peace with my grief and move on.

I prefer to reserve this day in celebration of the life that remains. I refuse to let the suffering born on 9-11-01 celebrate its birthday inside of me.

The best description of what the pain has become to me hails from songwriter Ryan Adams: "...it's all just folklore now/ It's washed out in blood and memories/ Yeah it's all just folklore now/ That's all I'll ever let it be."

Amanda Permenter is the managing editor of *The George-Anne* and can be reached at [gamed@gasou.edu](mailto:gamed@gasou.edu).

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Melissa  
Connors



Once 9/11 occurred, I took a step back to look at the whole picture in a sports editors aspect—since my section was not important at the time. I immediately noticed our lack of patriotism at sporting events.

Sure, the band plays the national anthem and everyone stands for it, most men even take off their hats. But I have hardly ever heard it sung at Paulson Stadium.

All college sporting events were cancelled to mourn and remember the

## When I realized it

loss, and then began again the following week. The Eagles were away for their first post-9/11 game, so I went to visit my sister at our rival school, UGA, who was playing Arkansas at home that weekend.

Sorry, but the family wanted me to come home.

Things had changed; I saw more red, white, and blue than black and red while I was tailgating. We all anticipated the pre-game show that had been changed to fit the situation.

Upon arriving at Sanford Stadium we were handed large paper flags with several song lyrics printed on the back. This was to be used for the pre-game and half time show. We squeezed into a spot in the student section where I found myself surrounded by 30,000 drunken college students. Oh well, it wasn't anything new to me and it just added to the bittersweet realization that we were returning to normalcy.

The pre-game show began with all the pomp and circumstance concern-

ing our country that you could imagine. A few minutes into the show that included members of the government, the military, and members of local police force and fire departments, Lee Greenwood's song "Proud to be an American" began playing.

Within seconds, 86,500 people, most of them intoxicated, began singing the song that most reminds us of why we are free and proud. The people sang so loudly; I could no longer even hear the music.

I was so overwhelmed by the patriotic outpour I was speechless. The remainder of the show included a few small speeches, a military fly over, several more patriotic songs played by the Redcoat band, and the loudest and most awe-inspiring National Anthem I have ever heard. The entire game was a moving event. It was a fabulous moment that everyone should get to experience at some point in their life. And I don't mean a UGA game, I mean here. I wish everyone could

have been there, maybe you might understand me a little better.

Of course, back in Statesboro, after two full seasons of being an avid Eagles fan at every game, I've certainly noticed that when the National Anthem is played by the band, no one is singing. I really don't think you want me to be the only one singing every Saturday...REALLY.

So help me out. I know that you know the words to the anthem, it's just one of those things everyone knows. And next Saturday at the Wofford game, give a little more back to the country, even if it is just your voice.

I'm not one to dwell on the past, but I do have more respect for the citizens and heroes of our country and I think the least we can do is show a little patriotism by singing our country's national anthem...even if you are a bit tipsy. Wink, wink.

Melissa Connors is the sports editor and can be reached at MelCon2000@aol.com

Sara Miller



Debris has been cleared. Remains have been found. Victims have been identified. Tributes have been paid. Businesses have reopened. People fill the streets. The sights, sounds, and smells are the same. But are we?

A year ago today I was just like any other college student. School was only a few weeks old so the pressures of tests, projects, and papers had not yet begun. It was

## One year later, and what has changed?

a happy time filled with laughter, late nights, and good times with friends. Then the phone call came that would change me forever and life as I know it. "Turn on the television!" I heard the urgency in my boyfriend's voice. "A plane has just hit the World Trade Center!" As I lay there in the early morning, I didn't think it was possible, it must have been a bad dream. But then my nightmare became a reality. It was one plane, then two, then three. The World Trade Center became nothing but ashes and a hole in the skyline. Then the unthinkable...the Pentagon in Arlington, VA. For the remainder of the day I was glued to the televi-

sion, my cell phone planted in my ear frantically calling everyone I knew. Thoughts raced through my head. I was overcome with fear, doubt, anger, sadness, and a million other conflicting emo-

was all consuming.

September 11, 2001 seems like just yesterday but September 10 is nothing but a distant memory. But here I am, one year later, a college student, with the pressures of tests and projects, late nights and good times with friends. Life does go on...but this time it's different. I'm different; we're all different; the world is different.

I face the future a little more seriously than a year ago and realize just how precious life is and how

quickly it can change. I'm more patriotic and can't sing the National Anthem without a shedding a tear and look at average Americans "just doing their jobs" in a different way.

With our sense of innocence forever changed we have moved forward and will continue to do so in these uncertain times for it is the strength of our resolve in who we are that will not let this act of terror change who we are...our American spirit and the pride in our country will carry us forward - something that has not changed.

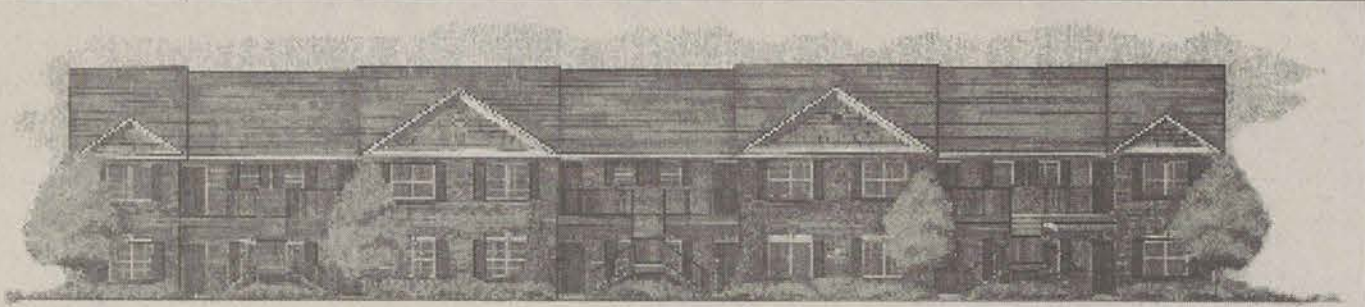
**LIFE DOES GO ON...BUT  
THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT.  
I'M DIFFERENT; WE'RE ALL  
DIFFERENT; THE WORLD IS  
DIFFERENT.**

tions. The phone lines were down. All I could think was "Where is my family?!" "Why are they not answering?!" "Why have they not called?!" My Mom and dad as well as my boyfriend's mother were within blocks of the Pentagon, many friends working downtown Manhattan and my old school and friends just blocks from the World Trade Center. There was no way in and no way out, just pure chaos and I was a thousand miles away. My city, my home, my family, my life...the terror, the panic, the disbelief, the rage, the sadness; it

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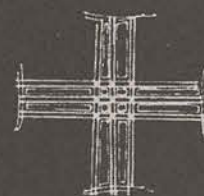
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# In trying times, Americans found comfort in sports

KRT Campus

The stirring sight of linebacker Chris Gizzi waving a huge American flag and leading the Green Bay Packers onto Lambeau Field during a "Monday Night Football" game is nearly a year old.

It was the first "Monday Night Football" game to be played after the Sept. 11 terror attacks. The moment, captured on national television, had special significance for Gizzi, an Air Force reservist who is now out of football, recovering from back surgery in Colorado.

That same Monday night, the national TV audience saw members of the Packers and the Washington Redskins and local firefighters and police officers holding an American flag on the playing field.

Indeed, Gizzi's run was replayed several times Sunday morning during the pregame football programs.

"It was very emotional," John

Jones, the Packers' senior vice president, recalled of the Monday night game on Sept. 24. "We lost a friend who was on the flight that hit the Pentagon. I sent the Packer flag to his widow, the flag that flew that night above the stadium for the Redskins game."

Connected because sporting events have the capability of bringing Americans together to sing the "Star Spangled Banner" or "America the Beautiful," and cheer for the home team. For many fans, those songs had new meaning at sporting events in the past year.

"There is no question that sports acted as a salve for the country to begin the healing process," said Peter P. Roby, director of Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society. "Sports were an opportunity for people to put their concerns and their anxiety aside, if just for a few hours, for something

fun and entertaining."

In New York last fall, sports played a crucial role in the healing after Sept. 11. The New York Yankees made it to the World Series, again, and played a

Even the flag that was recovered from the World Trade Center was placed on national display at sporting events: the Super Bowl, the Winter Olympics at Salt Lake City and at the

During the season-opening game Sunday against the Atlanta Falcons, the scoreboard flashed a message to fans during the game: "Please be assured that all aircraft flying near the stadium are approved by the FAA."

It has been costly: Colleges, universities and professional sports franchises have seen their security and insurance costs jump dramatically.

"The time it takes to get into a ballpark these days is a lot longer," Roby said. "In some cases, you can't get a non-transparent bag into the stadium or ballpark. That certainly has changed things quite a bit."

"We don't mind having our bags searched," Sokol-Katz said. "It's inconvenient but we get peace of mind."

Roby said the events of Sept. 11 had convinced him more than ever of the importance of sport.

"Sports will end up being more important because we need additional

opportunities for people to sort of work out some of the frustration and anxiety they feel is happening in the world that they can't influence," he said.

"But sports is also a way to share a common love for something that brings people together. We feel sports is a great common denominator."

At the same time, sports fans need to keep things in perspective, something "Monday Night Football" broadcaster Al Michaels reminded reporters recently.

"This is entertainment. This is a lot of fun. People get a lot of enjoyment out of it. And it really shouldn't take anything apart from that to make it anything but what it really is. It's great to be a fan. And it's great to be passionate about your team and all the rest. But, I mean, I hope we are to the point where we just never again have to say it takes something like a horrible tragedy to put things in perspective."

## Bo Fulginiti

## Some words are sacred



Sorry coach Bowden, but you should have known better.

In life there are some things that are just too sacred.

There are things that mean more than bowl games and gatorade showers.

They last longer than winning streaks and coaching records.

And they stay with us long after we leave the stadium parking lot.

On that infamous day in September last year, Todd Beamer was a passenger aboard Flight 93 that crashed in Pittsburgh.

He and some of his brave cohorts were heard uttering the words "let's roll" before they courageously overtook the hijacked plane and crash landed in a deserted lot in Somerset County, Pa.

Now, Florida State head football coach Bobby Bowden has decided to use that slogan to inspire his Seminole players during the college football season.

Well, I'm sorry Mr. Bowden, but you just don't have the right to.

We as a country did indeed find out that sports are more than just a game; they made us feel like

Americans, and they made us feel normal at a time when we didn't know what was going on.

But, the men who risked their lives did more than strap on shoulder pads and run down the sidelines to make a game-saving tackle.

Their actions deserve more than a few tomahawk stickers on the back of a bronze helmet. Florida State is a great football team, and Bobby Bowden is sure to be the winningest coach of all time when he walks away from the game... But "let's roll" is something that shouldn't be printed on the shirts that they wear or on the signs that hang over their lockers.

They are words that are sacred; words that were spoken by heroes.

## Since 9/11, teams are present for anthem

KRT Campus

Sometimes, the smallest gestures have the biggest impact.

Every Big Ten team planned to recognize the one-year anniversary of 9/11 in some way this week. The gestures are heartfelt and sincere, but many college football teams already have been doing one small thing that perhaps speaks louder.

Since 9/11, teams now stand on the sidelines while the national anthem is played. For years, this display was absent from college football. But now that Americans have a renewed reverence for the flag and the anthem, coaches have brought the tradition back.

But maybe more noteworthy, the practice is continuing this year. Teams easily could have abandoned it after last season, but coaches wanted it to become part of the game, as it was when many of them played.

"In my mind, we're still under siege as a country," said Michigan State coach Bobby Williams, who made it a permanent policy to keep his players on the sidelines for the national anthem. "We need to recognize that and honor the victims."

Williams decided his team always would be present for the anthem after the Spartans played at Notre Dame last season, which was the first weekend of play following 9/11. The emotion displayed by his players convinced him that this could be a small way of showing support.

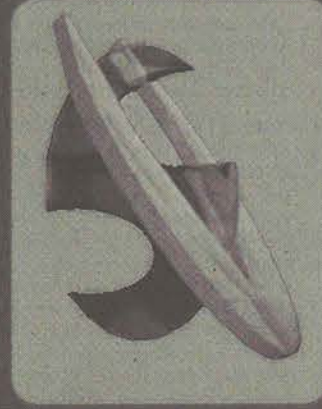
"They were singing the national anthem with all 80,000 fans," Williams said of the experience at South Bend. "I looked, and several guys had tears in their eyes. To see the emotional effect it had on the team made me realize the impact it had on our team."

Many coaches played during an era when it was unacceptable not to

be on the field for the anthem. But increased television coverage helped change that. Pregame activities became a scripted production, and the networks wanted to show the teams running onto the field but not take time for the anthem.

"When I was a high school player, the teams were always on the field for the national anthem," said Michigan coach Lloyd Carr, who has continued to have his players on the field for the anthem. "I always thought it was a great experience."

"Television, the timing of the bands and getting on and off the field, those things impacted the decision" not to have players out there. "Until last year, for a number of years, I don't remember ever being out there for the national anthem. I think it's a wonderful thing for them to experience and positive for everybody at the game to hear that great anthem and be a part of it."



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Students who qualify for McNair must be enrolled in an academic program which can lead to a postbaccalaureate degree; has a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 and meets certain other academic requirements; is a citizen, national or a permanent resident of the United States or is in the United States for reasons other than temporary purposes; and is a low-income and first-generation college student or a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education or certain academic disciplines. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

#### APPLICATION PROCESS:

- Typed Application
- One page typed essay. The essay MUST ACCOMPANY the application.
- Two letters of recommendation (may be sent separately)
- Current Academic Transcript
- Interview
- Eligible students must not be enrolled for classes for the summer semester
- Deadline for 2002 interview is October 1, 2002.

For further information, visit the McNair Program Office in Room 1022 of the Williams Center, or call (912) 486-7448. Address: P.O. Box 8071-02 or E-Mail: mwoods@gasou.edu. Homepage: http://www2.gasou.edu/sta/cop



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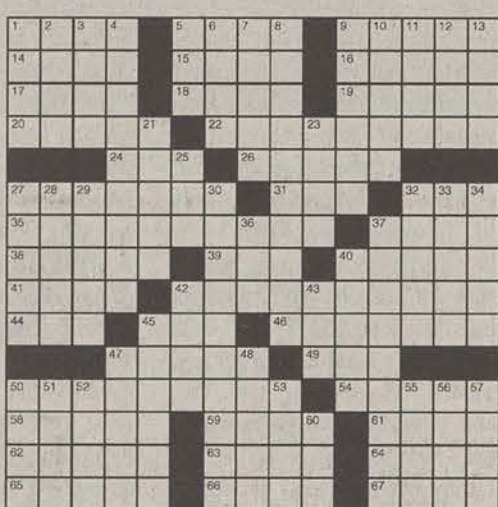
# Classifieds, Etc.

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Page 12

## Crossword

- ACROSS
- Subdue
  - Monumental
  - Kind of rocket
  - Trojan War hero
  - "Peyton Place"
  - Handled like a lug
  - After-bath powder
  - Fleetwood Mac album "House"
  - Tire feature
  - Quarters
  - Long-term employees
  - Animal doc
  - Cassettes
  - Abraded
  - Set the pace
  - Make a mistake
  - Excessive talker
  - Hook's mate
  - Carnival attractions
  - Debtor's chit
  - Make amends
  - Writer Bagnold
  - Disappeared
  - Court
  - Three in Trieste
  - Main courses
  - Gargoye
  - Lubricate
  - Turning point
  - Five after three
  - During a broadcast
  - China land
  - Sticky stuff
  - Zodiac sign
  - Imperfection
  - Queen of the gods
  - Organic compound
  - Lofty
  - Swiss marksman
- DOWN
- See-ya!
  - Not quite closed
  - Stag or hart
  - Engaged in
  - digging
  - Wapiti
  - Two some
  - Estuary
  - Casaba cousin
  - Got back to even
  - Merits
  - Oak or maple
  - Raise
  - Vegas quote
  - Clan divisions
  - Summit
  - PGA prop
  - Nail alternative
  - Trousers fabric
  - Active starter?
  - Mechanical power transmitter
  - Ham it up
  - Actress Adoree
  - Marsh grasses
  - Long, fluffy scarf
  - Night brightener
  - Band leader
  - Shaw
  - Important
  - periods
  - Lennon's love
  - Dread
  - Sandy color
  - Inventor Nikola
  - Used a loom
  - Black cuckoos
  - Tasty dessert
  - Pushbutton forerunner
  - Mirth
  - Fling
  - Blue shade
  - Hole-making tool



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08/07/02

### Solutions



However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit [www.stp.gasou.edu](http://www.stp.gasou.edu). It is the goal of the newspaper to have its edition placed on-line within 24 hours of publication. Breaking news will be placed on-line as warranted. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern University campus through delivery sites located in campus buildings, at off-campus sites, and in residence halls.

**NOTICE:** Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 35 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

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

**FREEBIE INFO ALL FREE** student and faculty ads to be run in the George-Anne must have a **NAME, P.O. BOX and PHONE NUMBER**. Ads will be rejected if they do not have this information. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

### STUDENTS BEWARE

**ATTENTION --** The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads - particularly those which require a credit card number, other personal information, or money in advance of the delivery of a product or service. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad. **Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.**

### 20 Announcements

**IF YOU** stole my laptop, please just return the hard drive to PO BOX 18426. I won't prosecute! Thanks Jeremy Foreman, Power Book G4.

**WORKSTUDY POSITIONS** available. Academic success center. 681-5371. If interested in employment, please call for details and an appointment for an interview.

**ECONOMICS CLUB** Meeting! Sept. 17: 5:00PM COBA room 3346. Holiday elections and hear form one of our very own Professors from Jamaica while enjoying Jamaican food. Everyone's invited.

### 40 Autos for Sale

**1988 MUSTANG** for sale. Runs good, good on gas. \$1000 OBO. Call Brad at 481-1790 for more details.

**1993 CHEV S-10** pick-up, reg cab, white, 2.8L, 6 cyl., 5 speed, bench seat, reliable transportation, \$2200 OBO. 706-402-1534.

**1992 HONDA Accord EX 4 door AC**, sunroof needs work \$1000 OBO. Call 481-0515.

### 50 Auto Parts, Repair

**17 INCH Enkie rim** and tires aluminum polished 4 lug. \$500. 772-6251 or 308-2492.

### 80 Computers & Software

**COMPUTER FOR sale.** Pentium 166 MMX, 17" monitor, Windows 98, Office 2000, DVD ROM, 2GB HD, sound card. \$150 can add CDRW for \$35. 871-4065

### 90 Education

**FUN & STUFF** Visit our Web site for list of things to do that are educational and fun. On-line at <http://www.stp.gasou.edu/funstuff/>

### 120 Furniture & Appliances

**FOR SALE** waterbed king size. Heater and mattress in good condition headboard and storage space. Call 478-552-7185 want \$100 for everything.

**FOR SALE:** A day bed, a tv with stand, and a computer stand. All negotiable prices. Call 912-764-5437

### 220 Rentals & Real Estate

**FOR RENT** by owner. Stadium Walk or Park Place. Has Washer and Dryer. Newly Renovated. Small pets accepted in some units. 764-7528 or 541-4885

**APARTMENT FOR rent.** One room own space, first month free, no deposit. Call Jon-Tay at 678-595-5543. Already furnished, close to school (walking distance).

### 230 Roommates

**ROOMMATE NEEDED** to share an apartment in Willow Bend. Rent is \$175/month plus 1/4 utilities. Call 541-1259 and leave a message.

**FEMALE ROOMMATE** needed 3 bedroom 2 bath house owned by Christian Campus Fellowship \$265/mo. No drinking no smoking no pets. Call Danny 912-681-8634 or Michelle 912-393-5256 ASAP!

### 260 Stereo & Sounds

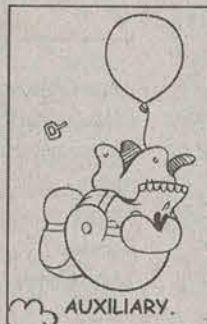
**GUITAR AMPLIFIER:** Crate 120W head, and sovtek cabinet with 2X10's. Two channel, overdrive, reverb, and effects loop. Very loud!! Asking \$450. Call Price Houston 912-541-0998.

### 310 Wanted

**FEMALE STUDENT** wanted to pick up child from school and help with tutoring. SSN and references required. Contact Debbie Cooper 681-0111.



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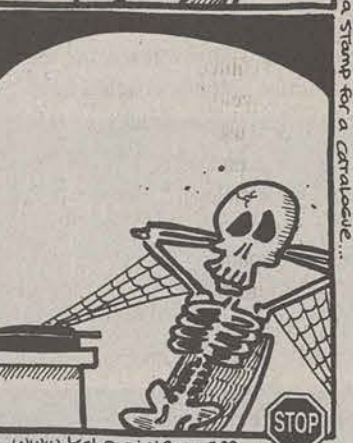
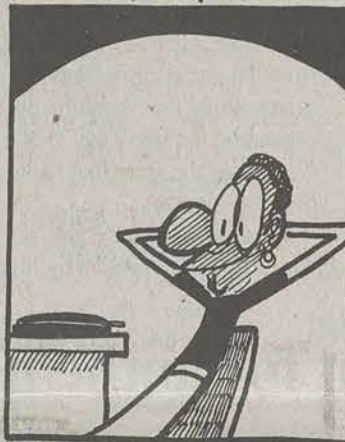
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- Pay for your ad (checks or money orders, only, please)
- Send it to us. By mail: G-A Action Ads, POB 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA 30460; or in person: visit Room 2023 or 2022 Williams Center (top floor) during normal business hours (9am to 4 pm daily)

### Commercial and Non-Student Display Advertising

Call 681-5418 for assistance. The display classified rate are \$7 per column inch. ADS representatives will be happy to help you.

### Student, Faculty and Staff Action Ads

Current students, faculty and staff members may place a free classified ad in the newspaper at no charge. To qualify, advertisers messages must be 25 words or less in length, non-commercial in nature, and the advertiser MUST provide their name, Landrum Box and telephone numbers for our records. (Or use the "Rip Us Off" free classified coupon which appears periodically in the newspaper). Free classified may be mailed to G-A Action Ads, POB 8001, or brought by Room 2023 Williams Center on campus. Please no phone calls for free ads... at this price we don't take dictation.

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Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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02-Arts & Crafts	12-Lost & Found	22-Sports & Stuff
03-Autos for Sale	13-Miscellaneous for Sale	23-Stereo & Sound
04-Auto Parts, Repair	14-Motorcycles	24-Swap & Trade
05-Business Opportunities	15-Musical	25-Television & Radio
06-Child Care	16-Personal	26-Vans & Trucks
07-Education	17-Pets & Supplies	27-Wanted
08-Freebies	18-Photography	28-Weekends & Travel
09-Furniture & Appliances	19-Rentals & Real Estate	29-Etcetera
10-Garage Sales	20-Roommates	

Ad Message \_\_\_\_\_

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YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS PART TO QUALIFY FOR FREEBIE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ POB \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



# Survivors of Pentagon attack reflect on their ordeal

## KRT Campus

Juan Cruz puts on his glasses, sits at his kitchen table and demonstrates how he learned to once again use a fork.

He'd struggled for two weeks to grasp the utensil with his hands, both mangled as he escaped in the Pentagon Sept. 11. It was his daughter, Marissa, then 14, who suggested he turn the fork slightly, so that he could hold it with the three remaining fingers on his right hand.

"Such a simple thing, a fork," said Cruz, 53, who suffered burns over 49 percent of his body and damaged corneas when the hijacked American Airlines Flight 77 slammed into the Pentagon. "But only if you have fingers to use."

Wednesday may be the day that the nation marks the first anniversary of that tragic day. But for those who crawled from the Pentagon, often badly burned and scarred, every day is a reminder. They fear both noise and silence, crowded restaurants and malls. They brace themselves for looks people give when they pretend not to notice the scars, stitches and brown and pink skin discoloration.

Some plan to venture to the Pentagon to take part in the commemoration ceremonies.

But when Sept. 12 dawns, they will keep commemorating the day, through each surgery, with each

nightmare and each start at a sudden noise in the middle of the day, trying to get to a place where things are simple again, knowing life will never be the same.

Louise Kurtz misses her fingers. She misses the way she could place country baskets and cute bears just so around her home. She misses the French manicures she faithfully set aside \$35 for every two weeks. She missed the feel of a pencil or the click of computer keys under her nails.

Sometimes she forgets they are no longer there, said her husband, Michael, 50. Not too long ago, she casually mentioned, "I've got a hang nail on my finger."

"You don't know what the heck to say," he said. "That's the part that hurts. She mourns her fingers every day. Every day."

Kurtz does not want to talk about Sept. 11 anymore. She doesn't remember much anyway. It is enough that she can no longer decorate her home, no longer cook, clean, work, open a door, wear clothes with zippers or buttons, or see to her own basic hygiene. The couple moved to a single story house in March in Fredricksburg, Va., selling their Stafford, Va., townhouse because Kurtz could no longer climb the stairs.

On laundry day, she still manages to fold the shirts, rubbing out the wrinkles with her wrists.

"They want you to go on, yet everybody wants you to rehash," said Kurtz. "I can't keep looking back. There's nothing more I can tell. It's harder now than 11 months ago."

Cruz's co-workers come to visit at least once a week. One by one, nine of the 16 people he supervised as a civilian accountant at the Pentagon walk in. But it is only a dream. They

are all dead.

Initially, the vision was calming, an affirmation that it was okay that he had survived the attack, crawling "for I don't how long" through black smoke and amid voices, until a man he still does not know pulled him out of the rubble.

But soon the dream changed, and the visits "became like nightmares."

The employees were with a group of strangers, but only the workers were wearing numbers. And the numbers meant they would die.

He wakes shaking, said his wife, Veronica, and asks her, "Do you have a number? What's your number?"

Cruz estimates he has had 25-30 surgeries, including skins grafts and still faces a cornea transplant, more

reconstruction on his eyelids and face and prosthetic ears. Although he lost his eyebrows, he grins with satisfaction at the fact that his mustache survived.

His wife, a defense department employee, stays home to care for him. She still receives full pay because co-workers donate their annual leave to a fund from which she can withdraw.

## BRADY, FROM PAGE 4

tainty and unseen dangers, our government began to slowly test the waters of the constitution and its protection of civil liberties. In the beginning no one seemed to mind. After all, who wasn't willing to make a few sacrifices in order to keep the country safe?

It was wartime, and terror would be stopped. No matter the cost. What followed was a string of violations of human rights that began with our "war on terror" in Afghanistan and the arrest of hundreds of Americans suspected of connections to terrorists. But no one seemed to mind in the beginning. We would do anything in our power to win the war against terror.

In a bold move, President Bush attempted to form a new Department of Homeland Security. By combining the efforts of several already formed governmental agencies, the head of said department would have the ability to quickly and decisively deploy measures to protect America and its people.

Our representatives on Capitol Hill caught wind of Bush's plans and argued fiercely over handing over so much power to a single department. Someone had begun to notice.

Then came Operation TIPS, another daring move by the President to step up the protection against terrorism at home. The plan would allow for individuals like you to call a hotline and report suspicious activity that could possibly be related to terrorism. Now not only would Big Brother be watching, but your neighbors, postman and garbage man would be keeping their eyes on you too.

The ACLU immediately began to speak out in defense of the rights of every American. The Postal Service rejected the plan, and without their support, Operation TIPS was defeated.

Label me a bleeding heart liberal if you like, but I'm not the only one who's seen the blatant disregard for rights the United States has observed since September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Only a few days ago, outgoing UN Human Rights Chief Mary Robinson made accusations that the United States had bended the rules on many civil liberties in the United States and abroad.

Instead of developing the sense of brotherhood that came out of the tragedy, our government used it to perpetuate the pompous attitude of being the most powerful nation on Earth. And now, as we're on the verge of invading Iraq, I wonder how much longer America will be able to use an already jaded excuse to do whatever we please.

I'm just as patriotic as any American, but I will not stand by and watch as the rights and liberties upon which this nation was founded are slowly chipped away.

I saw the first tower fall as I stood in a group of scared and confused classmates in the Communication Arts building.

I know how many Americans died in the attacks and how many rescue workers were killed trying to save the lives of so many of our fellow citizens.

Television specials or newspaper spreads can do little to give these men and women justification for serving their country.

They should be honored by the continuation of the freedom and justice that America was built upon.

Adam Brady is the Lifestyles Editor of The George-Anne and may be reached at that\_guy@stouthouse.org.

## KIDD, FROM PAGE 4

as there used to be, and now it's mainly tourists—both American and foreign.

The native New Yorkers have been back to work—even some could say—back to normal, for the past half-year or so. They say the biggest thing to get used to wasn't the lack of the Trade Center towers dominating the lower Manhattan skyline, but more of the smell. For the longest time a putrid mix of dust, dirt, smoke—even human remains—filled the city with some of the worst smells imaginable.

Now that that's finally cleared up, there aren't as many reminders of the attacks if you know which areas to avoid, maybe purposely taking the long way to your destination instead of passing by a loved one's favorite pizza parlor, or a movie theatre that brings back lots of memories.

It's tough to be in New York and not find someone with their own Sept. 11 story. And it's not like most of ours, which resemble some six-degrees-of-Kevin-Bacon type of theme to it: Our mother's boss had a girlfriend whose father-in-law just got out of the building...

No, their stories are first-hand and are more real than we can imagine. They just didn't see the planes crash and explode into the buildings, or see people make a desperate jump from a burning window dozens of stories up, they smelled that awful mix of terror and fear and heard those bodies as they came crashing to the ground.

And still, they get up each morning and head off to work or school and try to make the best of the situation. I guess that's really all any of us can do.

Doug Kidd is the News Editor for The George-Anne and can be reached at ganeews@gasou.edu.

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# The George-Anne Remembers...

## September

## 2001



## Have You Seen Me?

By Susan Pearson

Have you seen me?  
I am the tear in the widow's eye  
As she holds a child her husband will never see.  
I am the fear on an orphan's face  
When he's told "Mommy's not coming home."

Have you seen me?  
I am the courage in a fireman's face  
As he charges into a blaze from which he knows he won't return.  
I am the regret in the soldier's heart  
As he leaves his sweetheart behind to go to war against an invisible enemy.

Have you seen me?  
I am the tremor in the President's voice  
As he tells a country a word they don't want to hear: War.  
I am the souls of those lost in the Twin Towers  
As they look down on those they love.

Who am I?  
I am the spirit of a nation  
Whose flame should not die.  
Please, I beg you,  
Never forget me.

