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SPORTS

Ponder leads Eagle baseball to win over Mercer

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The GEORGIA-SOUTHERN

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

February 26, 2004

Thursday

Volume 76, Number 69

HIATUS

Local bands descend on Champ's to rock the 'Boro

Section B



Elizabeth Penn crowned Miss Black and Gold 2004



Felicia Emanuel/STAFF

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. hosted the Miss Black and Gold Pageant Wednesday night in the Russell Union Ballroom. Ten contestants competed for the crown in categories including platform, talent, swimwear, eveningwear and a question portion.

By Natasha Y. Hartry
nhartry@yahoo.com

Beauty, intelligence, talent and confidence were showcased at the Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant Wednesday night in the Russell Union Ballroom.

The Xi Tau chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. held the annual pageant as a part of Black Awareness Month.

Elizabeth Penn was crowned Miss Black and Gold 2004. She was awarded a \$500 scholarship and will hold the title until next year. Penn is a senior from Lithonia, Georgia pursuing a double major in Secondary Education and Biology. Her platform was "Empowering Minorities Through Science."

Penn won in four categories, including Miss Congeniality, best intro, best swimsuit, and best talent.

Miss Black and Gold 2003, Danielle Wood, took her final walk before Penn was crowned Miss Black and Gold 2004.

Erika Brayboy won Miss Black, the title for first runner-up. Brenda Bridges won second runner-up, and Jewel Denson won the title of Miss 1906.

Marco Pitts, Assistant Coordinator for the show, elaborated on what Miss Black and Gold

stood for. "Miss Black and Gold is a way for any female, not just African-American females, to showcase their talent and win scholarship money for school," he said.

The theme for this year's show was "Egyptian Elegance."

Ten contestants competed in five different divisions: platform, talent, swimwear, eveningwear, and a question portion.

During the talent competition, contestants danced spiritual dances and recited original poems. The highlights of the evening's talent were a tribute to 9-11 by Jewel Denson and Brenda Bridges' dance performance to Britney Spears' "Toxic."

During the swimsuit portion of the competition, each contestant's hobbies and interests were announced as the ladies modeled. Contestants were judged on their poise and confidence in their suits and not on their looks, Pitts said.

Contestants also received trophies and certificates for each division, and new this year was the Best Promotions award for the contestant who raised the most money.

"The more money they raised, the higher

See Black and Gold, Page 8A

SGA applications for coming year now available



Luke Hearn/STAFF

Students interested in joining SGA in the coming 2004-2005 academic year may fill out an application from SGA's website or in the SAC.

By Luke Hearn
lheard@georgiasouthern.edu

The Student Government Association (SGA) is currently in the middle of their annual election drive.

Details on the elections were discussed at Wednesday night's meeting, and Executive Vice President Mike Hardy said that so far, things are going smoothly. "We've had a good response so far, and a lot of people have come by and picked up applications," he said.

This campaign has been highly publicized, including numerous flyers throughout campus and professors encouraging their students to sign-up to run.

See SGA, Page 8A

Mother posts reward for capture of suspected drunk driver

By Amanda Permenter
gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu

The mother of a GSU student has posted a \$500 reward for information leading to the capture of a suspected drunk driver.

The concerned parent, Ms. Judy Wilkes, alleges that a vehicle struck her daughter's car and fled the scene late Thursday night, leaving her daughter in a ditch.

According to the victim, the incident occurred after midnight on Fair Road. A witness described the vehicle in question as a dark SUV, possibly blue and gray. The same witness obtained a partial license plate number. However, a trace on that number led to a vehicle that did not match the description above.

Wilkes says she realizes the person who hit her daughter may be a student or an adult, and is eager to find the suspect either way.

See Reward, Page 8A

Habitat for Humanity reaches out to the community

Volunteer meeting this Thursday, campus chapter meeting next Thursday in Union

By Jessica Luber
jluber@georgiasouthern.edu

For years Habitat for Humanity has been helping others and building homes.

With a mission to provide shelter for the less fortunate and to eliminate poverty, Habitat for Humanity on GSU's campus is rising to the challenge and is currently making way.

Through volunteer labor and tax-deductible donations of money and materials, Habitat builds and rehabilitates houses with the help of the homeowner (partner) families. These houses are sold at no profit, and financed with an affordable, no interest loan.

The Habitat for Humanity chapter here at GSU has been working hard in the community making their purpose known. With over \$2000 donated, the group plans to have enough money to build their own home starting Fall 2004.

President Jessica McCubbins said, "My hope for the members of habitat is that they create a bond that will last through college, while helping the community. To reach the mission and the goals, of Habitat for Humanity, there are three main focuses: Building, Education, and Fundraising."

The group supports Hoofin' for Habitat every Fall semester in which all proceeds go directly to Habitat, and they participate in Habi-Fest in the Spring semester.

Every year, Habitat for Humanity holds fundraising events such as Hire a Habitat, where members of the organization baby-sit, food shop, or do lawn work, and all the money goes directly into the pot for the home. Fundraisers include things such as bake sales, t-shirt sales, and Build a Shack, where people can pay or donate money to rip off part of a shack that at the end will turn into a home.

McCubbins said, "I would love to see our chapter grow. It is extremely important for people to realize that when you donate money or build a home, you're not just helping a family, you're helping a community."

The Habitat for Humanity campus chapter also works closely with the Statesboro chapter as well as the chapter on Hilton Head Island. McCubbins stated, "It is so much fun to go help and build. We get to see the family who is going to live there and to just know that we are making someone's life better is amazing."

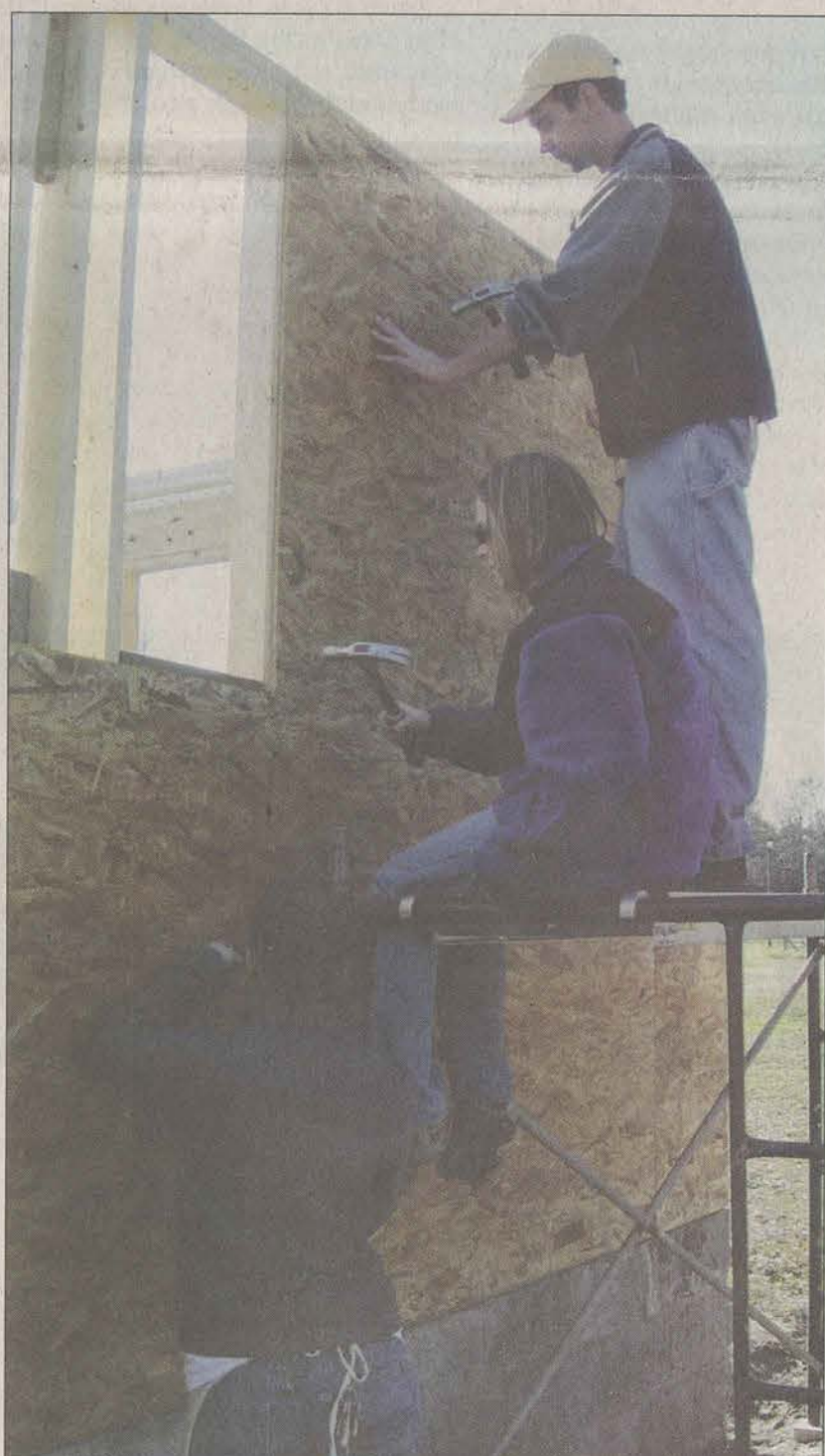
So far, there is a total of 717 campus chapters and more than 25,000 active chapters in the United States. There are also over 300 international affiliates with more than 60 nations around the world involved.

Habitat for Humanity would like to invite everyone to their volunteer open house on Thursday, Feb 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Outreach Center Classroom, 515 Denmark Street. They will also hold a Build Day on Saturday, Feb. 28 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at 309 Tenner Court #25 in Statesboro Pointe Subdivision.

On this same day they will have a Habitat Home Shop from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The GSU chapter will have a meeting on March 4 at 6 p.m. in Russell Union room 2042.

For more information, please visit the GSU Habitat for Humanity website at www.georgiasouthern.edu/studentorg/habitat or the Bulloch County Habitat for Humanity website at www.habitatbulloch.org.



Jessica Langley/STAFF

Habitat for Humanity gives students an opportunity to volunteer in helping those in need while providing a hands on experience for many to learn and interact with friends and fellow students.

Weekday Weather

Thursday



Rain

HIGH
53°LOW
40°

Friday



Cloudy

HIGH
49°LOW
38°

Only in America

• Pole dancing for exercise, not tips becomes popular in Washington D.C.

• Hunter for Bambi banned in Pennsylvania

• Desert tortoise determines an early Spring in Nevada



Page 3A

Opinions

• DeMarc Campbell explains what poppers are

• KRT Columnist David Thompson explores America's obsessions with award shows



Page 4A

Sports

• Sports Editor Eli Boorstein voices his unrest about Chicago raiding the South

• Nikki Slocumb named SoCon Track Athlete of the Week



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Police Beat

02-23-2004

- Someone removed tail light covers from a vehicle in the Hanner parking lot.
- Officers issued three traffic citations and three traffic warnings, assisted seven motorists and responded to one fire alarm.

02-24-2004

- A cell phone was taken from the Recreation Activities Center.
- A door at Johnson Hall was damaged.
- A Sony laptop computer was taken from Johnson Hall.
- A wallet was taken from a purse at the College of Business Administration Building.

- Officers issued one traffic citation and two traffic warnings and assisted two motorists and one sick person.

— All Police Beat information compiled by Luke Hearn and Teresa Southern, News Editors.

Campus News

Jim Walker & Free Flight to appear at Performing Arts Center



Special Photo

Jim Walker and Free Flight have a unique sound that appeals to jazz fans and classical music buffs. The four-piece band will play a concert at the Performing Arts Center at Georgia Southern University on Friday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m.

Special to the G-A

A four-piece ensemble that seamlessly blends jazz and classical music is bringing its unique sound to the Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Georgia Southern University.

Jim Walker & Free Flight will play a concert at the PAC on Friday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m.

Walker is an accomplished flutist who has performed on more than 300 movie soundtracks.

Free Flight features Bryan Pezzone on piano, Tim Emmons on electric bass and Michael Packer on drums.

"Jim Walker & Free Flight have turned jazz fans into classical buffs and classical audiences toward jazz."

PAC director Dagmar Bardo said. "From Bach to Beethoven to Miles Davis to the Beatles, their 'eclecticism without compromise' can be heard not simply piece by piece, but within each composition, blending flavors of classical, jazz, new age and rock into a palatable whole."

Walker formed Free Flight in 1980 as a jazz outlet from his career as principal flutist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

The concept of a flute-led jazz/classical ensemble appealed to a musician who was raised on jazz, but who found his profession in world-famous orchestras.

Walker and his band have played with national and international symphonies, and they have

performed on "The Tonight Show" and "The Today Show."

In addition, Walker was selected by Paul McCartney to perform the former Beatle's Oscar-nominated song "Vanilla Sky" at the 2002 Academy Awards.

Tickets for Jim Walker & Free Flight's performance at the PAC are

\$25 plus tax per person for the general public. Georgia Southern faculty, staff and students will receive a 10 percent discount.

To purchase tickets, visit the Performing Arts Center box office at the corner of Chandler Road and Plant Drive or call (912) 486-7999 or toll free (866) PAC-ARTS. The box office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

News Briefs

Supreme Court blocks reverse age discrimination cases



Special Photo

U.S. Supreme Court Justices.

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that workers in their 40s cannot sue employers for giving better benefits to older colleagues.

The court, in the 6-3 decision, said a federal anti-discrimination law is meant to protect older workers from preferential treatment given to younger workers, but the law does not apply in reverse.

The case had been closely watched because about 70 million U.S. workers are 40 or older, roughly half the nation's work force.

About 200 General Dynamics Corp. workers in Ohio and Pennsylvania brought the case, claiming they were discriminated against because they were too young to get benefits being offered to older colleagues.

Republican leaders push 'Academic Bill of Rights'



Special Photo

State Senate President Pro-tem Eric Johnson of Savannah.

ATLANTA — Saying colleges are dominated by liberal — sometimes Marxist — professors, supporters of a Georgia Senate resolution are calling for an "Academic Bill of Rights" to urge equality in political views on campus.

Senate President Pro-tem Eric Johnson, a Savannah Republican, sponsored the plan, which would not be binding but urge Georgia colleges and universities to welcome

conservative faculty members and be more open to conservative students' ideas in class.

The resolution mirrors one introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. Jack Kingston, also a Republican from Savannah.

University officials and professor groups have complained that such resolutions are a troubling effort by politicians to shape debate on campuses.

At a meeting of the Senate Higher Education Committee on Monday, a handful of students — many of them from campus College Republican groups — told the committee they had been singled out or embarrassed by professors because of their views.

The committee, which is controlled by Republicans, did not vote to send the bill to the full Senate on Monday. Members said they need time to perfect language in the resolution.

University System of Georgia officials say they take student complaints about mistreatment seriously, but believe the stories told by students at the meeting aren't reflective of most of the system's 240,000 students.

Hispanic group calls for hate crime charges in beating case

MARIETTA, Ga. — Representatives of the Hispanic community publicly urged prosecutors on Tuesday to charge the five white teenagers accused of beating two day laborers with a hate crime.

The victims were targeted because they were poor Hispanics who could easily be taken advantage of, said Tisha Tallman, regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Earlier this month, the teens lured the two immigrants with the promise of jobs and then beat the men with pipes, sticks and fists and stole their money, authorities said. The teens spent the money, about \$570, at restaurants and stores, said Canton Assistant Police Chief Jeff Lance.

"This is a crime that is marked with hate that preys on the work ethic of Hispanics," Tallman said during a news conference.

Prosecutors say they will make a decision on whether to pursue hate crimes charges after the investigation is complete. The crime occurred in Cherokee County but was reassigned to Cobb County because of a potential conflict of interest.

"As in all other cases, we will make our charging decision based on both the law and evidence in the case," said Tom Weathers, chief assistant district attorney for Cobb County.

Edwards looks to Georgia for help



Special Photo

Democratic Presidential Candidate Sen. John Edwards.

ATLANTA — John Edwards bills himself as the only Democrat who can beat President Bush in the South but he has won only one state in the region so far, South Carolina, the state of his birth.

A distant second to John Kerry

in the Democratic race, Edwards lost Tennessee and Virginia. He is now looking to Georgia, along with Ohio and New York, in the Super Tuesday primaries March 2 to keep his campaign afloat.

Buoyed by a better-than-expected second-place finish in Wisconsin, Edwards wasted little time in launching his Georgia campaign but steered clear of calling the state one he must win.

For both men, the black vote is key. It accounted for 48.3 percent of the ballots cast in the 2000 Democratic presidential primary.

But there is that question of accent.

Edwards "talks like us," said Chip Carter, son of former President Carter.

Steve Anthony, a former executive director of the Georgia Democratic Party who teaches political science at Georgia State University, said the regional connection theoretically gives Edwards an edge.

Bryant prosecutor running for another term as case proceeds



Special Photo

District Attorney Mark Hulbert, prosecutor in the Kobe Bryant case.

VAIL, Colo. — District Attorney Mark Hulbert will be running for re-election while he prosecutes NBA star Kobe Bryant on a sexual assault charge.

Hulbert said Monday he will seek another term in the Fifth Judicial District, which includes Eagle, Summit, Lake and Clear Creek counties.

It would be his first four-year term.

The 35-year-old Republican was appointed by Gov. Bill Owens in 2002 to replace Democrat Mike Goodbee, who left for the state attorney general's office.

"I decided to run because, although I have accomplished a lot in the short time I have been district attorney, I still feel there's more I can accomplish and benefit the people of Eagle County," Hulbert said.

Bryant was charged last July with raping a 19-year-old resort worker.

The Los Angeles Lakers guard has said he had consensual sex with the woman.

"We're getting bigger cases, such as the Bryant case," he said. "You need someone with experience and that is where I fit in."

Hulbert, who began his career in Eagle County in 1994 as a deputy district attorney, earns \$80,000 a year.

For now, he faces no GOP opponent. Debbie Marquez, a chairwoman of the Eagle County Democratic Party, said she expected a Democrat to run.

— All News Briefs compiled from wire reports by Luke Hearn and Teresa Southern, News Editors.

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1 Washington, D.C.

Pole dancing migrates from the strip club to the health club

WASHINGTON — Once reserved for the privacy of a men's club, pole dancing is turning up in unexpected places. Health clubs and dance studios offering the slow grind are attracting women who might have otherwise settled for an aerobics class.

"You let your hair down, and it's that girl's club, slumber party feel," said Teri Jaworski, who works out at the S Factor, an all-women studio in Los Angeles.

It counts as exercise because it leaves you extremely winded, she said.

Crunch, an urban-oriented subsidiary of Bally Total Fitness with about 30 clubs nationwide, prides itself on offering something different. Strip classes, with or without poles, are no challenge in popularity to step or other big-name dance routines, but they have found a niche among the daring.

"You are becoming a stripper for an hour," said aerobics instructor David Doyle, who leads a cardio aerobics class at a Crunch Fitness club in Chicago. "It's average people who want to do something that is not average."

Strip and pole classes are generating interest in the city, Doyle said, but they're not for every town.

Yet, the classes could be more widely available than Doyle perceives.

Businessman Randy Blacker, of San Jose, California, has patented detachable poles that can be installed in homes and stored discreetly out of sight when not in use. His company, Pacific International Marketing and Promotion, has been selling them for two years, including mail order, to just about every state, he said.

Strip aerobics routines are available on videos as well as in the gym,

and Blacker said the poles can be part of a good workout. "You are doing regular aerobics mixed with the pole," he said. "The unique thing is, it's a sexy workout."

The majority of people in Doyle's class, about 99 percent, have never been this exposed in public but seemed to welcome the opportunity to unwind. The feeling is, "I just worked in a 9 to 5 job all day, and now I get to dance against a pole," he said.

Generally, the dancers are women. The class, held once a week at a Crunch club that opened this month, accepts men, but few have tried it, Doyle said.

Crunch offers cardio strip in all its markets and class sizes vary from 20 to 40. The Chicago class usually has about 30 participants.

2 Virginia

Groom ties the knot, puts crowd in stitches

SALEM — The chapel lights grew dim and music started to play, signaling to Jim DeLong that his bride was about to appear.

Beth Newman, wearing a lavender silk dress, walked down the aisle with her son while clutching her small bouquet of pink, purple and white flowers.

She faced her future husband — and everyone burst out in laughter.

That's not how many brides picture their big day, but it was exactly how the couple had planned it. DeLong married Newman dressed in the way he feels most comfortable — as a clown named Slinky. DeLong, who was a rodeo clown in the 1970s, has been a Kazim Klown with the Shriners for the past two years.

The ceremony, conducted Sunday in Salem, only got crazier as it continued. Newman, who is 5 feet tall, stood on a step stool covered with white paper so she could properly face DeLong, who is 6 feet 5 inches tall.

Newman could barely get through

her vows without laughing at DeLong, decked out in a painted face, curly yellow wig, a multicolored pantsuit and enormous shoes. When it came time for DeLong to present Newman with the ring, he placed a diamond band on her finger and then pulled a large ring with three plastic carrots on it out of his pocket as a joke.

Even the wedding's ending was less than traditional. As DeLong and Newman shared their first kiss as husband and wife, at least 10 of DeLong's Shriner friends, all dressed as clowns, gave them a military-style exit by creating an archway out of balloon swords.

About six months ago, DeLong and Newman were talking about the wedding and started joking that it would be funny to have him dress up as a clown. Newman said she was at first a little apprehensive at the thought of her groom wearing makeup and a clown suit. However, the more she thought about it, the more she liked the idea.

"After a while, it started making sense. He's always been phobic about formal events," she said.

With a minister wearing a red clown nose, a member of the wedding party dressed as a hobo clown and a bride walking around with a heart-shaped "I Met A Clown Today!" sticker on her chest.

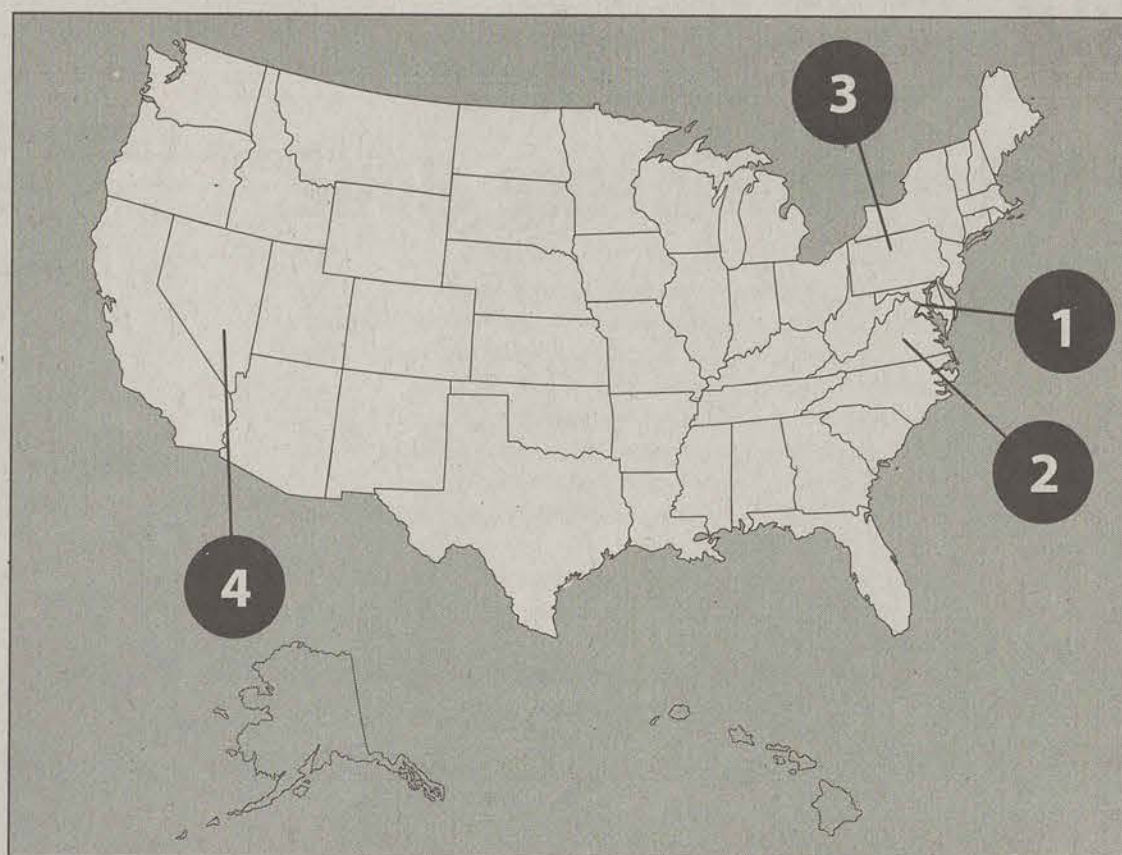
3 Pennsylvania

Organizers ban 'Hunting for Bambi' promoter from outdoor show

MONROEVILLE — A man who sells videos depicting men hunting naked women with paintball guns won't be invited back to a sport and outdoor show held annually in suburban Pittsburgh, the event's organizer said.

But it's not because of the video's contents.

Chris Fassnacht, the organizer of



the Allegheny Sport, Travel & Outdoor Show, which was held at the Pittsburgh Expo Mart in Monroeville last week, hadn't seen the "Hunting for Bambi" video that Michael Burdick sells.

Fassnacht decided not to ask Burdick to return next year after learning Burdick has been charged in Las Vegas with operating without a business license. Burdick has pleaded innocent to the charges.

Burdick sold the videotapes through a company called Real Men Outdoor Productions Inc., but Burdick's name was not listed on the business license application, Las Vegas officials have said.

On the "Hunting for Bambi" Web site, the company sold the videos and offered to book naked paintball safaris for up to \$10,000.

Burdick allegedly admitted the safaris were a hoax intended to promote the videos, but has since recanted the statement, according to Las Vegas officials.

At the outdoor show, Burdick operated a booth and displayed a video that included news footage about his business and clips from the video

he sells. The clips included images of nude women with their breasts digitally blurred.

"The reason they're naked is deer don't wear Levis out in the woods," Burdick told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for its Monday editions.

Only four of the estimated 80,000 people who came to the show complained about Burdick's booth and video, Fassnacht said.

4 Nevada

Forget groundhogs; Nevada desert tortoise says spring has sprung

LAS VEGAS — Easterners may have Punxsutawney Phil, French Creek Freddy and Buckeye Chuck, but when it comes to predicting the arrival of spring in the West, Mojave Max is the reptile to watch.

The decades-old desert tortoise, who makes his home at a southern Nevada conservation area, poked his scaly nose

out of his den at 11:14 a.m. Thursday — less than four months after he burrowed down for the winter on Oct. 28.

Presto: spring has sprung, according to Max.

Unlike the furry groundhogs who make a show — or no show — of seeing their shadow on Groundhogs Day, Mojave Max just shows up when the time is right.

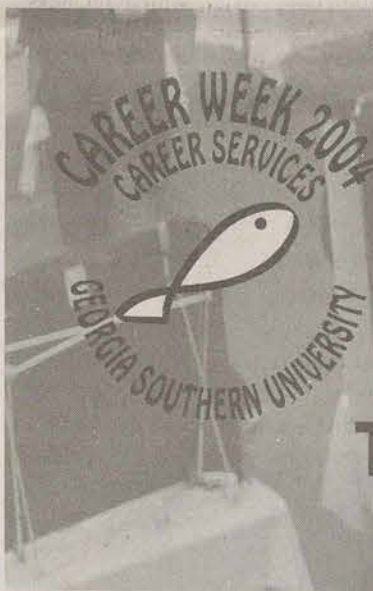
"Shadows? We don't need no shadows," joked Phil Guerrero, spokesman for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

The 15 1/2-inch long, 15-pound tortoise is the poster reptile for the Clark County Desert Conservation Program, an effort to protect desert environments — and the threatened desert tortoise — from development sprawl.

Mojave Max has become a celebrity among school children and may be the only reptile to boast his own Web site.


For the past five years the conservation program has hosted a contest in which students guess when Max will emerge. The winner's class gets a field trip and pizza party.

The goal, said program coordinator Christina Gibson, is to get children interested in earth sciences.



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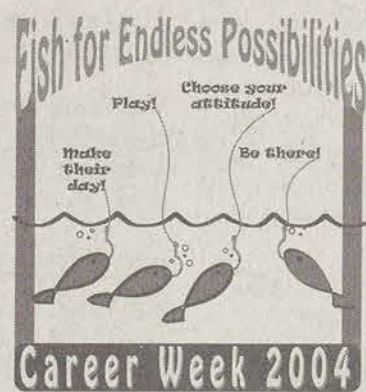
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Currently Scheduled To Attend As Of 2/25

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4A

The
GEORGE-ANNE

Thursday, February 26, 2004

OPINIONS

Not by abstinence alone

The following editorial appeared in the Seattle Times on Monday, Feb. 23:

Here's something to cheer: A new national study has found teen-age pregnancy and abortion rates are continuing a decade-long decline, thanks to better contraception and less sexual activity among teens.

The same study showed Washington's teen pregnancy rate fell dramatically between 1988 and 2000, from 109 pregnancies per 1,000 teens to 75. During the same period, the state's abortion rate fell from 47 per 1,000 teens to 26.

Unfortunately, the great news is tainted by President Bush's recent call to double funding for abstinence-only programs in schools.

The declining teen pregnancy rate should send a strong signal to adults that young people are capable of making sensible decisions about their sexuality when they are exposed to truthful information.

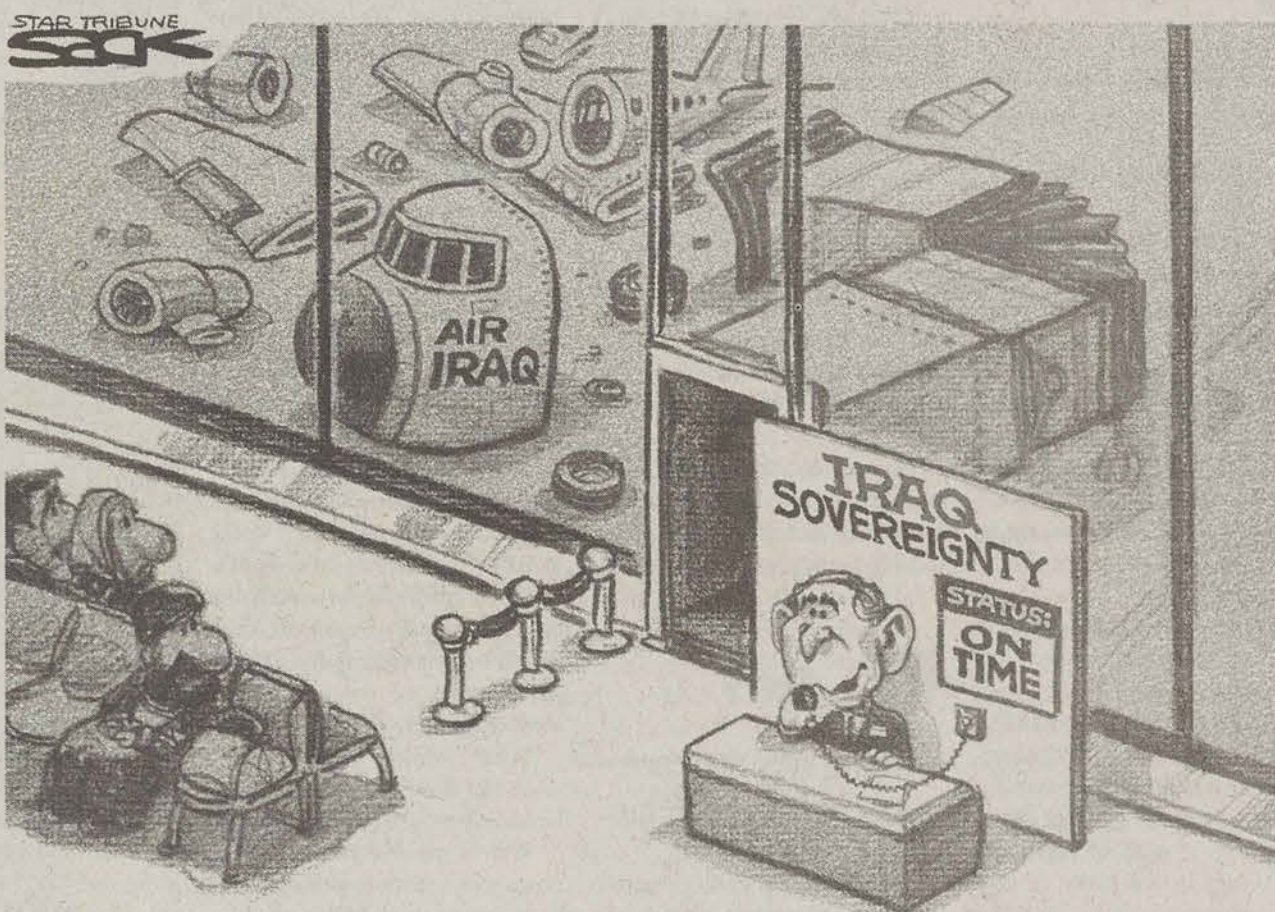
The Alan Guttmacher Institute, which regularly conducts the teen pregnancy study, determined the previous decline in teen pregnancies was mostly due to increased condom use.

Telling teen-agers there is only one way to avoid pregnancy – by abstaining from sex – ignores reality. Withholding information from teen-agers also puts those who can't stick to the wait-until-marriage pledge at risk for unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease. That's a potentially deadly gamble.

Despite contentions by critics of comprehensive sex education, teaching young people about sex doesn't encourage them to have it. Our culture takes care of that part.

Federally funded abstinence-only programs encourage adults to withhold important facts from students. No discussion of AIDS, condom use or other birth-control methods is allowed. That's irresponsible and counterproductive, especially in light of the encouraging decline in pregnancy and abortion rates.

Abstinence has an important role in classroom discussions of sexuality and health. But it should never be a solo act.



'WE'RE READY TO BEGIN PRE-BOARDING...'

Relationships & Sex

SPEAKING OF...
Poppers

During a recent sexual encounter, I was asked if I wanted to use poppers. Naturally, being as naïve as I can be sometimes, images of jalapeño peppers, stuffed with hot and molten cream cheese popped into my head. Sadly, I didn't smell anything cooking so I asked a stupid question. "What are poppers?"

I decided to do a little research and discovered a rather vast amount of info on the subject. "Poppers" is slang for the drug amyl nitrite (and its close chemical relatives butyl nitrite and isobutyl nitrite). Used medically to relieve pain in people with heart disease, amyl is a vasodilator, meaning it causes blood vessels to open wider, easing the heart's labors, allowing blood to flow more freely, and temporarily increasing the pulse rate. Originally, amyl nitrite was inhaled from little glass capsules that broke with a "pop!" Thus the name poppers.

Somewhere around the 1970s, people found that poppers had quite another use. Inhaling them during sex provided a quite a rush. Voila! A new fad was born. I'll let a poppers aficionado describe it for you: "You open the little brown bottle, stick it under your nose, and inhale. A few seconds later, your heart starts pounding, your consciousness changes, and you become utterly absorbed by sex. Instead of being 'me having sex,' I become sex itself, and it's like nothing you've ever felt. Poppers can make mediocre sex good, and good sex spectacular."

How Safe Are They?

That's just one slut's opinion, of course. Other people find the poppers rush disorienting, unpleasant, and headache producing. And, as is the case with so many things that can make you feel good, using poppers is not awfully good for you, though just how "not good" is a matter of debate. People with heart disease, blood pressure problems, glaucoma, and liver disease should stay away; in any of these cases, serious damage, up to and including death, may result. Moreover, the combination of Viagra and poppers can be deadly, too: Who wants to be a stiff stiff?

Back in the early days of the AIDS epidemic, some folks suspected poppers might be the cause of Kaposi's sarcoma or perhaps of AIDS itself. A sarcoma is a cancer that develops in connective tissues such as cartilage, bone, fat, muscle, blood vessels, or fibrous tissues.

Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) was named for Dr. Moritz Kaposi who first described it in 1872. The KS link is now pretty well disproved. There is evidence that using poppers does lower immune function, though the damage is undone in at most a few days. People with impaired immune function should certainly think twice before taking a hit, but the idea that amyl use causes permanent immune-system damage is speculative at best.

As with the use of other recreational drugs, when it comes to poppers, moral issues can overshadow good medicine. The "Just Say No" crowd views poppers as a menace. But Dr. Andrew Weil, author of *From Chocolate to Morphine*, calls amyl nitrite "one of the safest drugs in medicine." Weil, whose approach to drug use centers on harm reduction rather than outright prohibition, explains "when inhaled, amyl nitrite breaks down quickly and leaves the body easily."

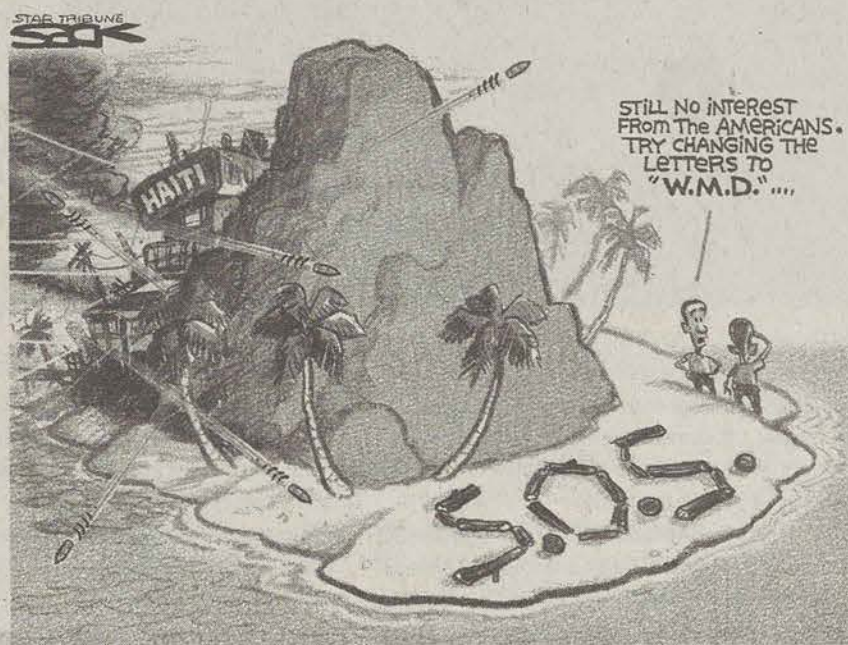
What Are Some of the Other Side Effects?

Safe or not, overuse of poppers can make you feel like hell, producing headaches, dizziness, and a sort of crappiness all over. If you start feeling that way, put the little bottle away, open the windows wide, and take a deep breath. And remember, no matter how disorienting a poppers rush may be, it only lasts a few minutes. The combination of temporary ego loss and becoming a total sex-pig can also tempt guys to do riskier stuff than they might normally do.

Also, the prohibition of the over-the-counter sale of amyl nitrite for medical use means that the poppers sold for recreational use (and labeled "video head cleaner" or "room odorizer") are bootleg blends of anonymous chemicals unregulated by the Food and Drug Administration.

Off hand, a lot of people think using poppers really enhances sex. If you're otherwise healthy, and if you don't drink the stuff or get it in your eyes, there's no hard-and-fast evidence that occasional, moderate use of amyl nitrite poses much of a health risk. But hey, I'm not a doctor, just your average, everyday seppert.

Oh, and two other dangers. First, the use of poppers may convince you that the stranger in your bed is the love of your life. And second, the stuff is (really) flammable. Watch that romantic bedside candle, or your next orgasm might turn out to be quite literally explosive.

DeMarc Campbell
Columnist

Today around the world

Christian: Feast of St. Nestor
Jewish: Purim-Feast of Lot

Today in history

On this day in 1983, Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' went to number one and stayed there for 37 weeks.

On this day in 1944, The U.S. Navy appointed the first female captain, Sue Dausser of the nurse corps.

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, preferably via email or on Macintosh disk in Microsoft Word format. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. There is no word limit on submissions. A writer may request to remain anonymous. However, it will be the editor's decision whether or not to print the name. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.

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Why we love awards: America's constant celebrity obsession

By David S. Thompson
KRT Campus

I'm certain that by now you have noticed the return of the annual obsession that grips our country for nearly a full year. Yes, it's award season. And it brings a nearly compulsive desire to watch celebrities deliver rambling examples of public address while holding gold plated figurines. The sheer number of awards organizations and broadcasts provides evidence of their popularity (at least among television networks and audiences).

The decision by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to hold its ceremony in February instead of March has only concentrated the frenzy, as awards offered by similar associations have shifted their schedules to make a splash ahead of Oscar.

What is behind this surge in popularity? Why are there so many awards?

First, let's clarify history. Awards are nothing new. The Greeks gave awards for the best

play at theatrical competitions during the 6th century BC. During the 19th century American actor Edwin Forrest offered prize money for promising new plays as a way to develop vehicles for himself. In between various heads of state and wealthy patrons bestowed honors upon artists in a variety of fields.

The 20th century saw the globalization of awards with the institution of the Nobel Prize. America began its own love affair with competitive honors in 1917 as the first Pulitzer Prizes were presented. Over the years prizes for performing arts, in particular, proliferated and proved popular with the public. (Although historians remind us that the first Oscar ceremonies, like those for the Tonys and other organizations, were low-keyed dinners featuring very few categories and little publicity.)

Why, then, do we love these awards?

First, we love the thrill associated with recognizing accomplishment. It begins from

our earliest school days. Good grades, gold stars, medals, ribbons and certificates of merit are all canonized as outward symbols of personal worth. Furthermore, our mentors teach us to value not just our own successes, but the achievements of others as part of developing good sportsmanship or good citizenship. Thus, any honor is good, whether ours or someone else's. It's something for all to appreciate.

Similarly, when we watch a Golden Globe go to Charlize Theron or Bill Murray, it's partly ours. We revel in the moment of Peter Jackson's Director's Guild win or Johnny Depp's SAG Award. We nod in respectful agreement as Brian Dennehy accepts his Tony. In short, we achieve glory by association. We are part of the picture. So it is also for ourselves when we cheer for Jennifer Aniston's Emmy.

We must also recognize that glamour plays an enormous role in our love affair with awards. For most of us, theater, film, television and music function as our major



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From 'Georgia on My Mind' to 'Sweet Home Chicago'



Eli Boorstein
SPORTS EDITOR

The North has started to begin raiding the South again.

But, before we start calling on the souls of Robert E. Lee and William Sherman to launch a new between the states, the only fighting needed seems to be between Georgia and the city of Chicago — and on the sporting field, no less.

The recent free-agent signing that brought Greg Maddux out of Atlanta and back to his former haunts at Wrigley Field just added to the recent "Georgification" of the Windy City.

With the addition of Maddux, the Cubs now have eight former Braves on their spring training roster. In addition to that group, you can look to reliever Kyle Farnsworth and catcher Michael Barrett, who both hail from Alpharetta, an Atlanta suburb, where they grew up Braves fans.

The city of Chicago has even seen fit to raid our beloved Georgia Southern campus for new athletic talent.

Just after the 2002 college baseball season ended, four Eagle ballplayers were drafted by the two Windy City teams: Brett Lewis, Jemel Spearman and Chris Walker by the Cubs, and Matt Herring by the White Sox. Earlier that spring, all-everything fullback Adrian Peterson was taken in the NFL Draft by the Bears.

While we're at it, why not harken back to 1989, when Jeff Sanders, then the all-time leading scorer for the Eagle basketball team, was drafted by — you guessed it — the Chicago Bulls.

Why do they see it fit to raid our greatest talents? We were nice enough to give them Krispy Kreme and Coca-Cola. Isn't that enough?

What's next? Georgia Southern opening a (very) satellite campus in Chicago?

The last person out of the state, shut off the lights and lock the door, please.

Eli Boorstein is the sports editor of The George-Ann and may be reached at Nietsroob17@hotmail.com and would be perfectly happy to resist the Windy City temptation and stay in Georgia.

Ponder leads Eagles to victory over Mercer

By Matt Rapp
mattrapp111@yahoo.com

The Georgia Southern Eagles had no problem snagging their fifth victory on Tuesday, beating Mercer 14-5 at J.I. Clements Stadium.

The action began when Flint Wipke led off the second inning with a blast to the warning track in left center. Then, with one out, Brandon Ponder knocked a 1-0 pitch over the left-field wall, bringing in two runs and putting the Eagles on board first, 2-0.

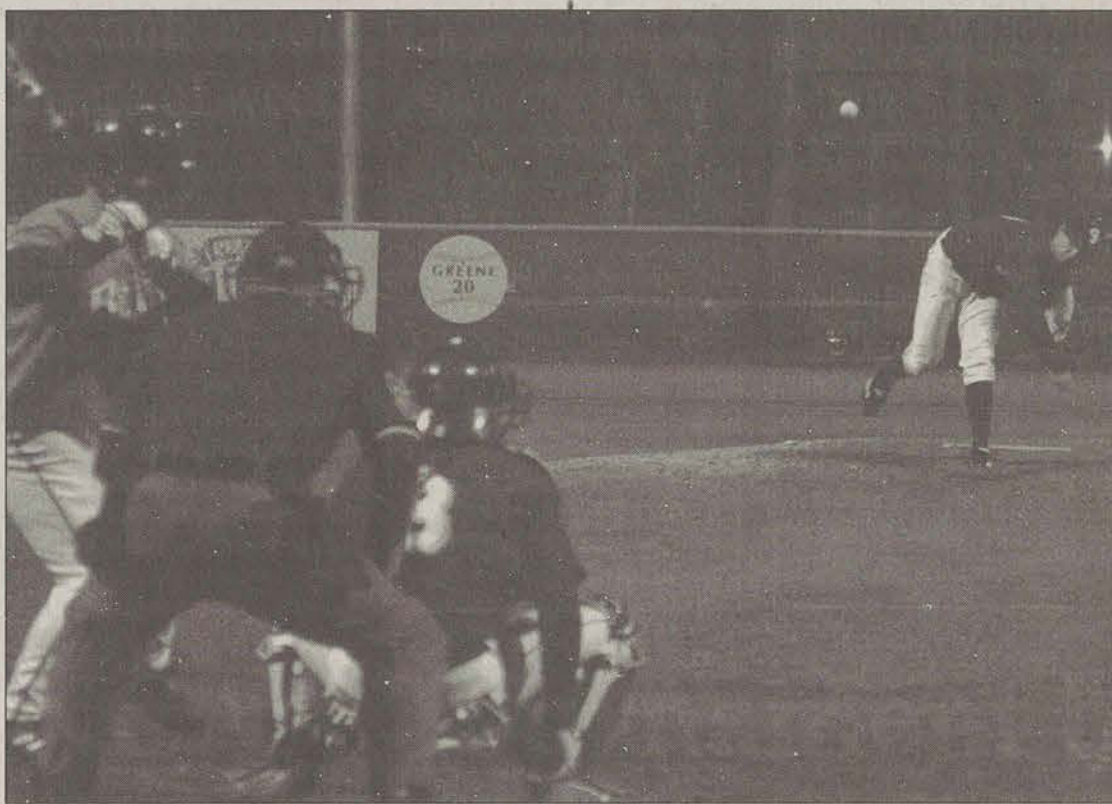
Brandon Long followed with a homer to the same field, giving the Eagles back-to-back home runs and an early 3-0 lead.

In the third, the Eagles loaded the bases with two outs. Ponder had his second hit of the day, sneaking a grounder between first and second that brought in two more runs.

Brandon Burnsed walked to first in the fourth inning, before he collected his first steal of the season to reach scoring position and keep Southern's momentum going. Grant Burruss then smashed an 0-2 pitch out of the park in center for a three-run homer. Jason Hurst then followed it up with a stand-up double. Mike Narveson was then brought in and proceeded to walk Ponder, loading the bases and making the two-out inning last even longer. Brandon Long came up next hitting a long fly to the centerfield warning track, before it died just shy of the fence.

The Bears led off the fifth with a double to leftfield before a missed grounder by Dowling brought in Mercer's first run of the game. The Eagles kept calm and Brandon Burnsed turned a textbook double play to end the inning.

GSU started their side of the inning with a pair of singles from Payne and Burnsed, but a double play and ground out retired the side keeping



Luke Renfro/STAFF

Georgia Southern evened their overall record to 5-5 after topping Mercer by a 14-5 margin on Tuesday at J.I. Clements Stadium. The Eagles need the momentum as they head to Greenville, N.C. this weekend for the John LeClair Invitational, where they will play two games apiece against Clemson and host team East Carolina.

it an 8-1 ballgame.

The seventh inning is where Mercer did most of their damage. The Bears put another run on the board and runners on the corners early with only one out. A passed ball by Wipke brought another player across the plate, making it a five-run game. Sophomore Rick Byrd ripped a grounder through the infield that put two on once again. Freshman starter Dustin Evans was pulled and replaced by freshman David Cogswell. A fielder's choice to Cogswell got the second out, but a single to left brought in Byrd, cutting the Eagle lead to four. Three straight strikes by Cogswell then closed up the seventh bringing, keeping the Bears from getting back in it.

Georgia Southern answered in the bottom of the seventh, spreading the lead back up to eight. Brandon Ponder had a lead-off triple to start the inning before Payne reached on an error. Brandon Burnsed then crushed a double over the leftfielder's head bringing in two runs. Three batters later, Jason Hurst had a late-game drive to left-center that scored two more runs.

Ponder was the key to the offense for Georgia Southern (5-5), coming just one double away on Tuesday from completing the cycle, having a single, a triple, and his first collegiate home run. The freshman from Hahira also finished the night with four runs batted in. Burnsed added three hits of his own as each

Eagle batter had at least one hit.

Andrew Einert and Eric Renfro led Mercer (8-7) with two hits apiece.

Freshman right-hander Dustin Evans collected the first win of his young career, advancing to 1-2. Junior reliever Jared Comstock made his return from Tommy John surgery, as he tossed just three pitches in a perfect ninth inning.

Adam Bowling took the loss for Mercer to drop to 1-2.

Georgia Southern will have two days off before returning to action this weekend for the John LeClair Invitational in Greenville, N.C. The Eagles will meet up for two games apiece against No. 17 Clemson and host team East Carolina.

BASEBALL BOX SCORE

MERCER (8-7)

PLAYER	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A
Alvarez, SS	5	0	1	0	0	1	1	5
Renfro, LF	5	0	2	1	0	2	1	0
Cimini, C	4	0	0	0	0	3	7	0
D. Hurst, 3B	4	1	1	0	0	2	0	0
Grossman, CF	4	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Einert, 1B	3	2	2	0	1	0	10	0
Dandridge, RF	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Megahee, 2B	4	0	1	2	0	2	2	4
Byrd, DH	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
J. Thompson, PH	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bowling, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Narveson, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morrison, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	36	5	9	3	3	10	24	17

GEORGIA SOUTHERN (5-5)

PLAYER	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A
Payne, CF	6	2	2	0	0	0	1	0
Burnsed, 2B	4	2	3	2	1	1	2	6
Dowling, 1B	4	2	1	2	2	0	11	0
Burruss, DH	6	1	2	3	0	2	0	0
J. Hurst, LF	4	1	2	2	1	2	3	0
Wipke, C	4	1	1	0	0	1	10	1
Phillips, SS	3	1	1	0	2	0	0	2
Ponder, 3B	4	2	3	4	1	0	0	3
Long, RF	5	2	2	1	0	1	0	0
Evans, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cogswell, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
M. Thompson, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Comstock, P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	40	14	17	14	7	7	27	14

INNING-BY-INNING

MER 000 010 310 — 5 9 1
GSU 032 300 42X — 14 17 2

E—Grossman, Dowling, Phillips
DP—Bears 2, Eagles 2
LOB—Bears 7, Eagles 11
2B—D. Hurst, Einert, Burnsed, J. Hurst 2
3B—Ponder
HR—Burruss (3), Ponder (1), Long (2)
SB—Payne, Burnsed
MERCER IP H R ER BB SO NP
Bowling 3.2 9 8 8 5 4 103
Narveson 2.2 4 3 1 1 2 46
Morrison 0.2 1 1 1 0 15
New 1.0 3 2 2 0 1 22
GA. SOUTHERN IP H R ER BB SO NP
Evans 6.1 6 4 3 1 8 99
Cogswell 0.2 3 1 1 0 1 19
M. Thompson 1.0 0 0 0 0 1 17
Comstock 1.0 0 0 0 0 0 3
Win—Evans 1-2, Loss—Bowling 1-2, Save—None
WP—Evans 2, PB—Wipke 2
HBP—by Evans (Cimini), by Narveson (Wipke), by New (Burnsed)
Umpires—Home: Jason Bradley, 1st: Arthur Schmidt
Time—3:10 Attendance—905

SoCon honors Slocumb as top track and field athlete of week

GSU Athletic Media Relations

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Appalachian State's Dan Queen and Georgia Southern's Nikki Slocumb have been named SoCon Indoor Track and Field athletes of the week for Feb. 25.

Queen, a junior from Charlotte, N.C. (South Mecklenburg HS), won the pole vault at the Mountaineer Open with a conference leading vault of 15' 6", five inches higher than the next vaulter on the list.

This jump also set an indoor personal best for Queen.

Slocumb, a sophomore from Bonaire, Ga. (Houston County HS), broke her own school record in the shot put at the South Carolina Invitational with toss of 48' 1.25". This effort leads the SoCon for 2004 and is a new personal record for Slocumb by three feet over her previous best. On top of that, Slocumb also set a new personal record in the 20-pound Weight with a toss of 51' 4.50".

Softball doubleheader postponed due to rain

The softball doubleheader pitting Georgia State against Georgia Southern, originally scheduled for Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Eagle Field, was postponed due to inclement weather. The matchup has tentatively been rescheduled for March 31 at 3 p.m. at Eagle Field.

The Lady Eagles will return to action on Saturday at 1 p.m. for a home doubleheader against South Carolina State.

UPCOMING EAGLE ATHLETIC EVENTS

FRIDAY

Men's Tennis at Jacksonville, Noon

Baseball at East Carolina, 1 p.m.

Track and Field at SoCon Indoor Championships (through Saturday)

SATURDAY

Men's Tennis vs. Appalachian State, 11 a.m., Hanner Courts

Baseball vs. Clemson, 1 p.m. (in Greenville, N.C.)

Softball vs. South Carolina State, 1 p.m., Eagle Field

Women's Tennis at Charlotte, 2 p.m.

Men's Basketball at The Citadel, 2 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. East Tennessee St., 7 p.m., Hanner Fieldhouse

SUNDAY

Men's Tennis vs. East Tennessee State, Noon, Hanner Courts

Baseball vs. Clemson, 12:30 p.m. (in Greenville, N.C.)

Women's Tennis at Elon, 1 p.m.

Baseball at East Carolina, 4 p.m.

Projecting the NCAA Tournament brackets

By Dick Jerardi
KRT Campus

PHILADELPHIA — It is unclear exactly where this season went, but Selection Sunday is March 14.

The real NCAA Tournament begins March 18 after the play-in game March 16. Thus, it is time for my field of 65. In one-bid leagues, I am projecting a champion. In multibid leagues, you get my most educated guess about at-large invitations.

The Big Ten and the Pacific-10 are way down and they might get only three or four at-large berths between them. The Atlantic Coast Conference, Big East, Big 12, a solid Conference USA and the Southeastern Conference could account for as many as 26 of the 34 at-large bids.

AMERICA EAST (1): Boston University.

Vermont just got a horrible break when Taylor Coppenrath (23.8 points) broke his left wrist. He is probably out for the season, which makes BU the favorite.

ATLANTIC COAST (7): Duke, North Carolina State, Georgia Tech, Wake Forest, North Carolina, Florida State, Maryland.

Believe it or not, this will be only the second time all four North Carolina teams make the NCAA in the same year. Final Four

threats are all over this league. Five of the previous 13 champs have come from the ACC.

ATLANTIC SUN (1): Troy State.

Did you know Troy State has won 99 games the last five seasons? Did you want to know?

ATLANTIC 10 (3): Saint Joseph's, Dayton, Xavier.

The Hawks remain in great shape for a No. 1 seed. Dayton is fading, but in the mix. Xavier has NCAA-level talent.

BIG EAST (6): Pittsburgh, Connecticut, Providence, Syracuse, Seton Hall, Boston College.

Pitt and UConn are definite Final Four threats. Providence could be very dangerous. Syracuse is the defending champ, but Carmelo Anthony is in Denver. The league has had two of the previous five champs.

BIG SKY (1): Eastern Washington.

Anybody for a 1-16 matchup with the Hawks so SJU can erase a terrible memory from the 2001-02 opener?

BIG SOUTH (1): Liberty.

The Flames were on a roll until upset by 5-19 VMI. Few know that is the league's version of Duke-North Carolina. (Actually, it's not, but don't tell anybody.)

BIG TEN (3): Michigan State, Illinois, Wisconsin.

THE ROAD TO THE ALAMO

The Spartans survived a brutal non-conference schedule and began to win. That could have as much to do with the league as Tom Izzo's team. We'll see in March. Purdue beat Duke in Alaska but has not done much since.

BIG 12 (5): Oklahoma State, Texas, Kansas, Texas Tech, Oklahoma.

The Cowboys are playing lights out. Texas Tech is about to win 20 games for three consecutive seasons, a school first. Say what you want about coach Bob Knight (and everybody has something to say), he can still organize a team and get them to win.

BIG WEST (1): Utah State.

University of the Pacific is actually tied for the top with Utah State. If you want to know some of the reasons St. Joe's non-conference schedule is ranked so highly, look no further than Pacific and BU, two teams that are a combined 29-2 in their leagues and 40-11 overall.

COLONIAL ATHLETIC (1):



Drexel.

I am a believer. The Dragons have been the CAA's best team for weeks. If they can sustain it in the conference tournament, St. Joe's alums Bruiser Flint and assistant Geoff Arnold can join the present-day Hawks in the NCAA.

CONFERENCE USA (6): Memphis, Cincinnati, Charlotte, Alabama-Birmingham, Louisville, De Paul.

Here is how strong this league has been this season: Louisville is in fifth place.

HORIZON (1): Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The Panthers lost to Notre Dame, 70-69, in the 2003 NCAA when a layup slipped off the rim at the buzzer.

IVY (1): Princeton.

Unless the Tigers slip the next two weekends, they are in total control.

METRO ATLANTIC (1): Manhattan.

The last two MAAC champs

have lost to the eventual NCAA champ in the first round. Joe Michalich's Niagara team will be very dangerous in the tournament.

MID-AMERICAN (2): Kent State, Western Michigan.

Kent made 2002 Elite Eight. Not that good again, but scary.

MID-CONTINENT (1): Chicago State.

The top four teams of the MCC have five league losses. Chicago State had zero league wins and five wins overall the last two seasons. The Cougars are 8-6 in the league this season. Watch out.

MID-EASTERN (1): Coppin State.

Legendary coach Ron "Fang" Mitchell, whose career had its beginnings in this area, is closing fast on 300 career wins.

MISSOURI VALLEY (1): Southern Illinois.

This is one of only six teams in the nation unbeaten in conference play.

MOUNTAIN WEST (2): Air Force, Utah.

The Falcons are one of the season's best stories. Love 'em.

NORTHEAST (1): Monmouth.

I like that track.

OHIO VALLEY (1): Austin Peay.

Another of those conference unbeaten.

PACIFIC-10 (2): Stanford, Arizona.

The Cardinal is very good, but you wonder about this league.

PATRIOT (1): Lehigh.

Lehigh beat Lafayette on Sunday to take over first place.

SOUTHEASTERN (8): Kentucky, South Carolina, Vanderbilt, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi State, LSU, Alabama.

One probably won't make it in the end. It's hard to tell whether there are any great teams, but clearly there are many good ones.

SOUTHERN (1): East Tennessee State.

First-year Penn State coach Ed DeChellis obviously left some very good players behind.

SOUTHLAND (1): Southeastern Louisiana.

Did you know it resides in Hammond, La.?

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC (1): Mississippi Valley State.

Might be able to use Jerry Rice in March.

SUN BELT (1): Louisiana-Lafayette.

Got to love the Rajun Cajuns.

WEST COAST (1): Gonzaga.

The Zags are wonderful. Big chance at the Final Four.

WESTERN ATHLETIC (1): Texas-El Paso.

Sorry, no 1966 repeat.

ACC wins court case over Big East

By Donna Tommelleo
Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — The Atlantic Coast Conference defeated the Big East in court for the third time in four months.

A Connecticut judge has dismissed all claims against the ACC and its officers in a lawsuit filed by four Big East schools over the ACC's expansion.

The decision was made public Tuesday, a day after Judge Samuel Serrazza dismissed the lawsuit against ACC commissioner John Swofford and three league officers. The judge determined neither the conference nor the ACC officers had sufficient ties in Connecticut to be sued in the state.

Under the ruling, the Big East schools' lawsuit against Boston College, its athletic director and Miami can move forward.

Boston College and Miami, as well as Virginia Tech, have accepted invitations to join the ACC. Miami



and Virginia Tech join this year; Boston College comes aboard next year.

The Big East plaintiff schools of Connecticut, Rutgers, Pittsburgh and West Virginia allege that the ACC conspired with Miami and Boston College to weaken the Big East by luring away some of its biggest football powers.

The plaintiffs say they spent millions of dollars to upgrade their football programs based on the presumed loyalties of the

departing schools. The schools originally sued in June 2003 and refiled in October to add Swofford and the officers as defendants immediately after Serrazza dismissed claims against the ACC.

Serrazza ruled two weeks ago that the ACC had no legal standing to be sued in Connecticut. On Monday, all claims were dismissed against Swofford, ACC president Carolyn Callahan, vice president Donn Ward and treasurer Cecil Huey.

"The ACC now calls upon the presidents at the plaintiff schools to accept that this lawsuit should never have been filed and to re-establish a positive working relationship with their counterparts in the ACC," ACC attorney D. Erik Albright said Tuesday.

The Big East has rebuilt its ranks with Cincinnati, Louisville, South Florida, Marquette and DePaul. The new members will begin competing in the 2005-06 academic year.

Baseball legend Ryan rejoins Astros as advisor

By Michael A. Lutz
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Another hometown hero came home Tuesday.

Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan, who pitched the fifth of his seven no-hitters in a Houston uniform, signed a five-year personal services contract with the Astros. He joins Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte, a pair of Houston-area residents who signed with the team during the offseason.

"I feel like it's a homecoming for me," Ryan said. "I still have friends here. That's unusual in the game today because of all the comings and goings, but I feel honored to a part of it. It's an exciting time for the Astros."

Astros owner Drayton McLane

said Ryan would work in all phases of the organization, including on-field instruction.

"He pitched 27 years and we might make it 28," McLane joked. "But really, we do have a rotation."

McLane said Ryan will work with Astros manager Jimmy Williams and team president Pam Gardner.

Ryan said he would attend spring training some time in March to meet with Williams and get acquainted with the team.

Ryan began negotiating with the Astros after his personal services deal with the Texas Rangers expired earlier this month. He already is owner of the Astros' Class AA affiliate in Round Rock.

Ryan first joined the Astros after

the 1979 season when then-owner John McMullen lured him from the California Angels with the first seven-digit annual salary in baseball history. The move immediately paid dividends as the team claimed its first division title in 1980.

Ryan helped lead the Astros to a second NL West title in 1986. Along the way, he broke Walter Johnson's all-time strikeout record and became the first pitcher to fan 4,000 batters.

He departed unhappily after the 1988 season when McMullen declined to make a serious bid to keep him. He signed with the Rangers at age 41 and went on to pitch two more no-hitters and boost his strikeout total to 5,714 before retiring in 1993 at 46.

Scrutiny follows Tiger in current slump

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

CARLSBAD, Calif. — Tiger Woods had signed for his best score at Riviera and was cleaning out his locker, a process that usually includes sorting through a number of unsolicited letters.

One was from a woman who implored him to say, "God is good," instead of God-something else whenever his drive sails into the trees, an iron shot lands next to a popcorn stand or a par putt spins out of the hole.

Another came from a teaching pro, who said he's been in the business for 18 years and noticed a swing flaw.

"If you stand in front of the mirror and watch your left wrist..." Woods mumbled as he raced through the words, unable to keep from laughing.

Woods has come to expect this kind of scrutiny.

But he does not look particularly sharp two months into the year, and it could get even more intense considering the recent changes in his game, his life and the landscape on the PGA Tour.

He is coming off a season in which he failed to win the money title or a major championship for the first time since he overhauled his swing five years ago.

His gap in the world ranking is shrinking every week.

He recently got engaged, although



KRT Campus

Tiger Woods has received scrutiny from many different sources lately, as he suffers through a lengthy slump where he failed to win a major for the first time in five years.

the only difference is that Elin Nordegren's left hand is a little heavier.

What really has his competition buzzing is the divorce from swing coach Butch Harmon. Woods has worked with Harmon since he was 16, and now goes it alone on the practice range.

Woods is not measured against other golfers, but against the three-year stretch when he won 23 of 59 times on the PGA Tour, including seven out of 11 major championships.

He has heard the word "slump" three times over the last five years, and unless he defends his title this

week at the Match Play Championship, or next week in Dubai, or if he fails to win the Bay Hill Invitational for a record fifth straight time, it probably will come up again.

It is difficult to gauge where Woods is after only three tournaments and a four-week break in between.

But it is clear he is battling with his swing — and not winning many of the battles.

One week, he drove the ball all over Torrey Pines and was spared by good iron play. At Riviera, he had his best driving week since winning the 2002 U.S. Open, but his iron play deserted him.

WHAT DID THEY SAY?

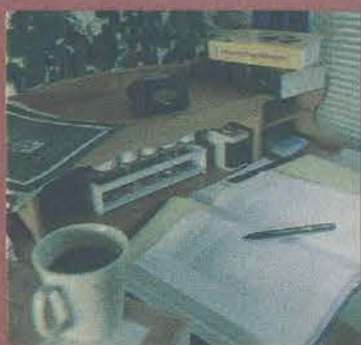
Sports quotes you wouldn't use to inspire your team

"All I had to do is keep turning left!" — George Robson, winner of the 1946 Indianapolis 500

"You can sum up this sport in two words: You never know." — Boxing trainer Lou Duva

"We've got to find a way to win. I'm willing to start cheating." — New England tight end Marv Cook

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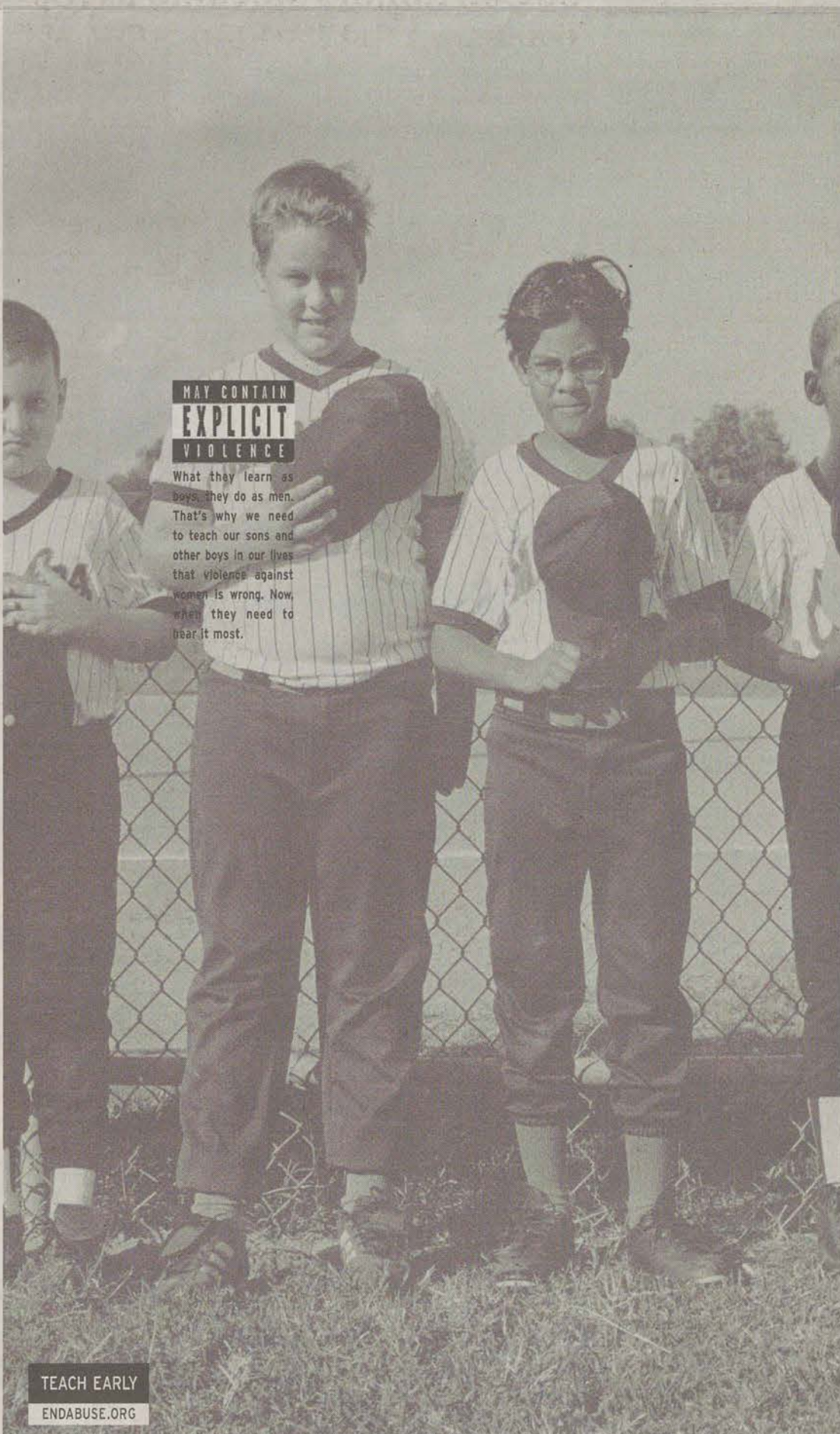
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Having an MBA no longer ensures prosperous professional journey

By Katherine Yung
KRT Campus

It was the educational status symbol of the 1990s, the must-have tool for climbing the corporate ladder.

For years, the MBA seemed like an automatic ticket to a six-figure salary, in many cases a pathway to a new career and a more prosperous life.

But that perception appears to be changing. Demand for master's degrees in business administration is falling for the second year in a row, report several MBA admissions directors across the country. At some business schools, the number of applications has slid as much as 25 percent or more.

Regard for the degree is so low that a FedEx television commercial even mocks it.

"You don't understand. I have an MBA," says Tom, a new employee who's asked to ship some deliveries using FedEx.com.

"Oh. You have an MBA. In that case, I'll have to show you how to do it," his supervisor replies.

"FedEx.com makes shipping so fast and easy even an MBA can do it," chimes in the voice-over narrator.

Three years into an economic recovery creating few jobs, the MBA no longer carries the cachet it used to. Going to business school even the top ones no longer leads to three or four job offers. Although corporate

recruiting of MBA students has picked up, jobs are still scarce, and many recent graduates are struggling to find work.

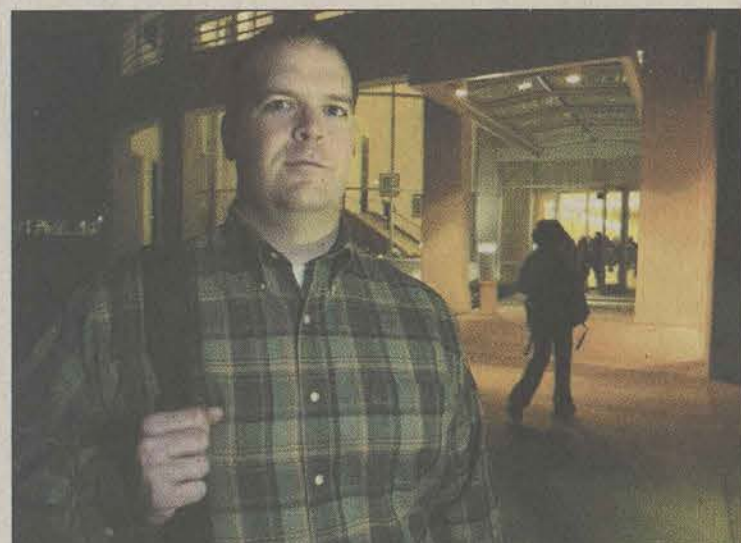
When Mark Davidson entered Duke University's Fuqua School of Business in the fall of 1998, he had high expectations about what an MBA would do for him.

Instead, the 31-year-old is living with his parents in San Diego and doing part-time contracting work in commercial real estate investment. He's been searching for a permanent job since being laid off 11 months ago from a property management company that didn't have enough work for him.

The grim job outlook has led many

potential business school applicants to either give up the idea of earning an MBA or wait until the economy shows further improvement, admissions officials say. Others opt to take night classes while working full time. As a result, business schools are working harder than ever to market their programs.

Last year, a majority of the 289 graduate business school programs reported receiving fewer applications, according to a survey released in July from the Graduate Management Admission Council, a nonprofit organization of graduate business schools. This occurred despite some of the lowest interest rates for student loans in years.



KRT Campus

Mark Pruett shown at the School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas says nobody in his class had a job lined up when they graduated.

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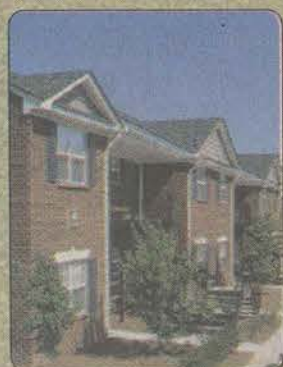
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REWARD, FROM PAGE 1A

"I am one of the lucky moms to still have my 'baby,' Wilkes said. "But I am afraid, if he got away with it once, he will not stop. And someone else might not be so lucky!"

Wilkes has requested that her daughter not be identified. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Lt. Bronson or Officer Tillman of the Statesboro Police Department at 912-764-1693.

BLACK AND GOLD, FROM PAGE 1A

the scholarship went," Pitts said.

Contestants were also recognized for their scholastic achievements.

Seven judges, composed of faculty, staff, and GSU alumni, judged the contestants in each category. According to Pitts, there are never student judges because of certain biases that could occur.

Crystal Ware, a freshman Broadcast Journalism major from Newnan GA, said that this has been a positive experience for her. "All the contestants and coordinators are good people and things went smoothly," she said.

Ware said that by being in the pageant, she wanted to be portrayed as being a, "sophisticated woman who is involved with the community and campus."

Sheena Holmes, a senior Economics major, thinks the pageant is also a good way to voice concerns about things going on in the community, such as with children and with health and fitness. She also said that she has become more confident in herself while being a part of the pageant.

"To be able to do this with all the other contestants and support each other was just amazing," Holmes said.

Each contestant expressed how much they enjoyed the experience and how much they enjoyed being around each other.

"It's so good to see so many positive examples of African-American females," Jewel Denson said.

SGA, FROM PAGE 1A

This year is unique in that the time to turn-in applications has been extended to two weeks instead of one week. Hardy said that the decision to extend the application period is to encourage more participation.

Informational sessions will be held on Tuesday, March 2 and Thursday, March 4 at 5 p.m. in Russell Union room 2047. This session will cover the basics of SGA and give an overview of each position.

SGA election applications are currently available in the Student Activities Center (SAC) located in the Russell Union. The deadline for the applications is March 5 by 5 p.m. Anyone with questions should contact the SAC at 912-681-0655.

Four student organizations also came before the Senate requesting funds for various events. Alpha Phi Sigma, the Society of Communication Scholars, the History Club, and the United Caribbean Association all were approved for the funds they requested.

The SGA Scholarship was also discussed. Applications for this scholarship are available in the SAC or on their website at <http://studentorg.georgiasouthern.edu/sga/>. The scholarship is open to all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Other details can also be found at this site. All applications are due by March 8.

The SGA Constitution was also amended at Wednesday's meeting. The changes can be viewed by visiting the SAC, or on the SGA website at <http://studentorg.georgiasouthern.edu/sga/>. Students have until March 11 to petition these changes. If two percent of the student body, having paid their Spring student activity fee and taking at least four hours, petition the changes, they become void.

Dr. Hames of Health Services addressed the SGA on issues with Health Services. He spoke on the extended wait times that many students are experiencing and attributed that to the high-number of patients that come through the center daily. He said the staff there is working hard to keep patients flowing in and out as quickly as possible. He also said that if anyone has any problems they should contact him directly at the Health Center.

SGA meets each Wednesday at 6 p.m. in Russell Union room 2047 and all are invited to attend.

THOMPSON, FROM PAGE 4A

ment and entertainment. The very notion of such activities, not to mention such careers strikes many of us as the most glamorous pursuits imaginable. Awards presentations not only honor achievements, but they also celebrate the excitement surrounding our favorite stars and their creations.

Additionally, awards help us to validate our own opinions. When our favorite movies, actors or television shows receive nominations, we know that experts have considered them among the best in the field. We know that our tastes are likewise worthy of praise. However, even if our favorites do not win, we can still count ourselves among the experts. Unlike sports or politics, which seem to require a life commitment to qualify for status as an authority, our taste in art cannot be questioned. Particularly for those who equate art with entertainment, "I know what I like" carries near-universal power.

Finally, when we care about awards, it shows that we care about the direction of the culture. We think ourselves more important because others think as we do. Our opinions carry weight because they feed trends. We become part of history, connecting to events dating back to the ancient Greeks.

At the end of it all, perhaps we love awards because they unite us to the rest of the nation and the rest of the world. Not bad for a guilty pleasure.

ABOUT THE WRITER

David S. Thompson is chairman of the Department of Theater and Dance at Agnes Scott College in Georgia. Readers may write to him at: Agnes Scott College, 141 East College Avenue, Decatur, Ga. 30030.





FEATURE

All about black student entertainment groups

Page 3B

The GEORGE-ANNE

Hiatus

A break for your brain



MUSIC

Part two of DJ Fox's take on The Gathering

Page 8B



Lyka Champ frontman BJ Brush is sure to please crowds wherever he and the rest of his band performs, and tomorrow night at Champ's should be no exception.

Photo Illustration By Dallas Oliver

ROCKFEST 2004

Locals 'band' together

By Adam Brady
that_guy@stouthouse.org

Champ's Southern Grille will be alive with the sounds and sights of Statesboro's local music scene tomorrow night as five local acts take the stage with something to prove.

"We're trying to get the whole town to see there's a lot of good music here," said Elohsa lead singer Travis Royce.

Royce and Elohsa have been playing in Statesboro and the surrounding cities for nearly three years and released their first album "217 Snapshots" last October.

"You don't have to go as far as Atlanta or Jacksonville to hear good music," insists Royce.

Rockfest, as it came to be called, was first conceived following Elohsa's first performance at Champ's. Royce and members of other 'Boro bands thought it would be great to have an opportunity for numerous local acts to showcase their talents, and Royce saw an opportunity with Champ's to see the idea materialize.

According to Royce, Champ's Manager Mike Poppell originally proposed a battle of the bands, but Royce wanted to take the competition out of the performance.

"I just wanted to see a showcase of the area's talent," said Royce.

After getting locals Lyka Champ, MiddleGround, Qualifier and Life on Earth on board, Rockfest became a reality. Along with Kismick, an act out of Fitzgerald, Georgia, six bands will present some of the best musical talent the local scene has to offer.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for sound check, and the show begins at 7 p.m. Each band will play a 45 minute set, with 15 minutes in between for stage changes.

Appearing at Rockfest 2004

Kismick

7 p.m.

Qualifier

9 p.m.

Elohsa

11 p.m.

Life on Earth

8 p.m.

Lyka Champ

10 p.m.

MiddleGround

12 a.m.

This day in history...

Event

1998 - Oprah Winfrey beats Texas cattleman in beef trial



Birthday

Erykah Badu, 1971, Singer



Event

1987 - First release of Beatles compact discs



BOOKS

Join the literary locus for a look at some science fiction

Page 5B



CD REVIEWS

Locals Elohsa and their debut album, '217 Snapshots'

Page 5B



OUT AND ABOUT

Check out the latest celebrity gossip

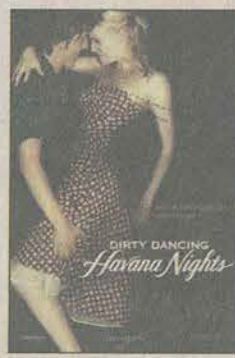
Page 2B



IN THEATERS

New movies in theaters tomorrow

Page 4B



THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 26, 2004

Volume 76, Number 69

8 reviews

Classifieds	6B - 7B
Entertainment	3B - 5B
Out and About	2B
Comics	6B - 7B
Top 10 Lists	2B
Movies	4B
Feature	3B

THURSDAY

Feb 26

Eagle Expo Career Fair & Education Career Day
Rac,
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The host of the Eagle Expo Career Fair is Career Services. The Expo is an all-campus event that provides the campus community with information regarding the world of work. Employers from a wide variety of fields have registered to attend the event. Contact Career Svcs at ext. 5197 for more information.

Concert Band
Performing Arts Center,
8 p.m.

The performance will be played by the Georgia Southern Department of Music Concert Band.

Diana Abu Jabar:
Reading from her fiction
Newton Hall Classroom,
4 p.m. &
College of Education
Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.

Novelist and short-story writer Diana Abu-Jabar will read from her award-winning fiction. The reading is free and open to the public.

Shag, Jitterbug & Swing Class,
College Plaza Activity Room
7 p.m.



The class is every Thursday thru April 1. For more information or to register, call ext. 5555.

Compiled by Ashley Stevens
dannny2325@hotmail.com

FRIDAY

Feb 27

Women's Tennis
GSU vs. Jacksonville, 10 a.m.

International Coffee Hour
Union Rm 2080,
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.



Meet, greet, and eat! Visit and learn about both educational and work-related international opportunities.

'A King's Ransom in Gold: The Great Longitude Prize of the 18th Century'
Planetarium,
7 p.m.

Come and listen as Clayton Heller, assistant professor of physics discusses the history of the quest and great prize of determining longitude.

Jim Walker and the Free Flight
Concert
Performing Arts Center,
8 p.m.



From Bach to Beethoven to the Beatles, this group blends together flavors of classical, jazz, and rock. For ticket info contact the Box Office at 912-486-7999.

SATURDAY

Feb 28

Men's Tennis
GSU vs. Appalachian State,
11 a.m.



Softball
GSU vs. South Carolina State,
1 p.m.

Women's Basketball
GSU vs. East Tennessee State,
7 p.m.



Faculty Recital
Carol A. Carter Recital Hall,
8 p.m.

TUESDAY

March 2

Irish Music Festival
Performing Arts Center,
8 p.m.

Tickets prices are \$10 for the general public, \$8 for GSU faculty, staff, and senior citizens, and \$4 for students. They can be purchased by calling the Performing Arts Center box office at 912-486-7999 or toll free at 866-PAC-ARTS.

SUNDAY

Feb 29

Men's Tennis
GSU vs. East Tennessee State,
12 p.m.

Come out and show your support for our GSU Eagles.

Graduation Recital
Carol A. Carter Recital Hall,
3 p.m.

MONDAY

March 1

'9 Years' Photography Exhibit
Gallery 303, Foy Fine Arts,
1 p.m.

The artist behind "9 Years" is graduating senior Ansley Simmons. She will earn her Bachelor's of Fine Arts in May and plans to pursue her Master's in Photography.

The Misadventures of Celebrities

By Ashley Stevens
dannny2325@hotmail.com

So, Janet Jackson flashed a little boob. The infamous Janet, I mean Ms. Jackson if you're nasty, flashed one of her assets at the Super Bowl Halftime Show. If you haven't witnessed the 3.2 second event, then I'm sure you've heard about it now from everyone. Taking scandal up a notch, Ms. Jackson was reportedly slated to play the legendary Lena Horne in an upcoming TV biopic. However, the role of the legendary song bird was taken from her after Horne officially complained she was "appalled by Jackson's classless halftime shenanigans." Ain't life grand.



For once, Eminem's suing instead of being sued.

Mr. Slim Shady himself (actually his music publisher), is suing Apple Computers Inc. for using his song "Lose Yourself" in a TV ad for iTunes pay per download music software. Apparently, Apple used it without their permission. Is it such a shocker? After all, This is the music business.

P. Diddy was temporarily back in court. On Monday, a jury found in favor of P. Diddy when a lawsuit was brought about by a TV Talk show host who claims he was assaulted by the rapper's entourage following a 1999 interview. People, people: Let's just leave the man alone.



Nothing like Bill Cosby to have your back. Bill Cosby is making an appearance at Martha Stewart's trial for illegal insider stock trading to show his support for his friend. Now, the real question is when did Cosby and Stewart become friends?

Several pounds lighter, Anna Nicole Smith's got her career in shape. The former Playboy centerfold has lost a reported 69 pounds thanks to the weight loss program Trimspa. Everyone said she would never get her figure, I mean, career back.



Micheal Jackson's Family Affair
Today, Micheal Jackson and Debbie Rowe are hiring a retired judge to deal with an unspecified family law matter. Sources believe the matter concerns the custody of his children. Micheal, when are you going to realize everything you do will be in the paper? Hey, kind of like this one.

Pam Anderson is taking a break. Pamela Anderson has announced she is taking a break from the acting business to be a stay at home mom with her two little boys. Also, this Tuesday in Las Vegas, she has released her new line of clothing. The line features cruelty-free Ugg boots, lingerie, jewelry, and T-shirts. First off, when was she a bonafide actress? Secondly, who doesn't have a fashion line?



Martin Lawrence has to go a couple of more rounds. Martin is being sued for \$25,000 for allegedly striking a woman in the jaw while attending a party at the Playboy Mansion on Jan. 18. The court date is set for June 7. He didn't mean to hit her, but some people just like it rough.



Prince is ready for his comeback. The Artist Formerly Known as Prince is launching his first nationwide tour after six years. The tour coincides with the release of his latest CD, Musicology. When was the last time we got down with Prince? Wasn't it like 1999.

Miscellaneous

Top Ten Box Office Hits (02/22/04)

1. 50 First Dates
2. Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen
3. Miracle
4. Welcome to Mooseport
5. Eurotrip
6. Barbershop 2: Back in Business
7. Mystic River
8. Against the Ropes
9. The Butterfly Effect
10. The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

Top Ten TV Shows (02/22/04)

1. CSI
2. Friends
3. American Idol (Tues)
4. E.R.
5. Survivor: All Stars
6. Without a Trace
7. American Idol (Wed)
8. Everybody Loves Raymond
9. CSI: Miami
10. Apprentice

The Top Ten Albums (02/28/04)

1. Norah Jones-Feels Like Home
2. Kanye West-The College Dropout
3. Kenny Chesney-When the Sun Goes Down
4. OutKast-Speakearboxxx/The Love Below
5. Josh Groban-Closer
6. Harry Connick Jr-Only You
7. Evanescence-Fallen
8. Twista-Kamikaze
9. Incubus-A Crow Left of the Murder
10. Various Artists-2004 Grammy Nominees

Top Ten Singles (02/28/04)

1. Yeah-Usher
2. Slow Jamz-Twista
3. The Way You Move-OutKast
4. Me, Myself, and I-Beyonce
5. Hey Ya!-OutKast
6. One Call Away-Chingy
7. Hotel-Cassidy
8. Topsy-J-Kwon
9. Sorry 2004-Ruben Studdard
10. You Don't Know My Name-Alicia Keys

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Laura Blackley Band @ Dingus
Ladies Night @ Retrievers
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Little Brown Peach @ Dingus
Blackeyed Susan @ Retrievers
Dj Garrett @ Apex

Saturday

Dj Garrett @ Bajas
Drink-n-Drown @ Woodin Nikel
Barefoot Hooker @ Dingus
Dj Jeoff @ Retrievers
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The New Era of Black Student Entertainment Organizations

By Maria Folsom

riamichelle2000@yahoo.com

Other than going to classes, being involved in extracurricular activities, and doing volunteer work, would the "college experience" truly be complete without the nightlife?

Although some negative images such as fights and drunkenness are commonly associated with the club scene, it provides young adults with yet another outlet to be social. But to particular groups of students at Georgia Southern University, the club scene has fostered their talents and ambitions, making them not only your average clubgoers, but savvy business people.

The emergence of entertainment groups at GSU has marked a trend in the new era of black student organizations. Many students believe that without them, there would be a considerable lack of nightlife that targets students, particularly African-American students, in search of an urban, hip-hop setting.

Willie Brown, a junior Criminal Justice major, frequents the events thrown by these various groups.

"It's a great thing that these students bring musical acts and other events. Without their presence, it would be really hard to get people interested in the clubs."

The first entertainment group to originate at GSU was Monopoly Brothers & Sisters. Once members of MBS began to graduate, more and more students saw a need to bring fun and entertainment to the campus, applying classroom knowledge with street wisdom.

Steady Rizin' Entertainment (SRE) followed Monopoly and has risen to become a widely recognized and vocal part of campus life.

Founded in Spring 2000 by Derrick Thomas and Justin Morgan, the coed SRE has been bringing the noise for four years strong. Ac-

cording to members Ishmael "Ish" Johnson, Darius "Dre" Lawson, and Brendan "Baby" Reynolds, the mission of SRE is to "steady rise above adversity," hence the name of their organization.

"We want to make progress, especially in the Atlanta area," said Johnson.

Along with the release of SRE's first album, "Out Tha Trunk," the group would like to see SRE expand into a record label. Sponsoring events along with the promotional company Botchey Entertainment, collaborating with Certified Crunkness, and recruiting new members, SRE hopes to preserve their presence at Georgia Southern while expanding beyond Statesboro's borders at the same time.

Yep Boyz and Girlz Entertainment, founded in Fall 2000, by Ahmad Ali and Russell Trotter, set out to bring new spice to the concert circuit.

"We wanted to bring the best possible entertainment for students at affordable prices," explained Ali.

Since then, the group has gone on to bring memorable concerts to GSU, such as the Ludacris concert at Maguires and the recent Kanye West concert in Savannah at Frozen Paradise.

"Expanding all over is important. That's one thing everyone in this sort of setting should know," added Ali.

Expansion is probably the number one goal of another group called Paid-N-Full Entertainment. Founded in Spring 2003, Martez Craft, David Williams, and Lance Butler decided that it was time to join in on all the fun.

Craft, an up-and-coming d.j., saw this as a great business venture.

"D.j.-ing at the clubs wasn't going to be enough," he stated. "You want to make this into an actual organization with a mission and year-round events."

Paid-N-Full (PNF) began their party-hosting skills at Club Flip

Flop's, just as the club's popularity grew. However, Flip Flop's closed its doors last year. PNF decided to take their promotional and entertaining duties elsewhere.

Just recently, in collaboration with Omar Entertainment, PNF hosted Club Legends with a live performance from Universal Records recording artist Pastor Troy.

Craft's mission for PNF is to promote and host events statewide and not just in particular regions of our state.

"Those different experiences with different crowds of people will only help you move forward, despite mistakes that could be made along the way," he added.

Presently, Paid-N-Full is an all-male group, but it's obvious that the ladies have something to say as well when it comes to the social circuit.

One of the newer additions to the entertainment arena is Eye Candy Entertainment, which was founded by Tiffany Allen and Ebony Collins in Fall of 2003. "Eye Candy" is a hip-hop term for attractive, good-looking girls. However, member Onnameaga Daniel believes there is more than what meets the eye. These young ladies have brains and motivation.

Daniel is an Art major who specializes in making outfits for the groups that were later showcased. Member Ebony Cromartie, an Information Technology major, is now working on the group's webpage. In addition, Eye Candy boasts Sports Management majors who utilize their resources in the business aspect of the organization. Majors within all these groups include Public Relations, Broadcasting, and Marketing.

Some may call these groups social organizations, such as the Greeks, particularly the "Divine Nine" who are noticeably absent on GSU's campus.

"The Divine Nine" is composed of the traditional nine black fraternities

and sororities. As of Fall 2003, the population at GSU reached 15,700. African-American students accounted for 23.9%, according to Cara Dawn Byford, Director of Greek Life. Of that percentage, 0.6% of these students are in Greek-lettered organizations, totaling in at less than 1%.

While the history nor the presence of the "Divine Nine" cannot be forgotten or overlooked, members of these organizations find that the comparison is undeniable.

"I believe that the need for black student organizations is crucial," added Daniel.

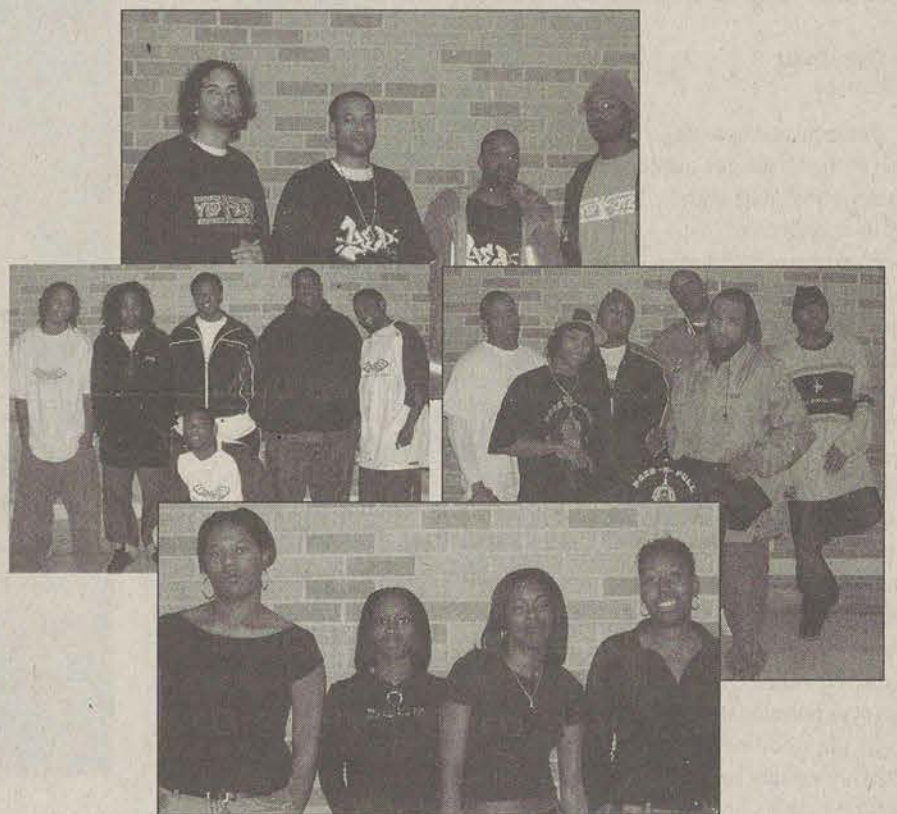
"In all honesty, if we had more frats and sororities on campus, there would probably be no need for ECE, SRE, or any other group."

Various entertainment groups have developed; some from existing entertainment groups.

New Era Entertainment founded in Spring 2003 by Silas Cook, Brian Little, and Victor Wilkerson would like to see their organization jump start in the summer, due to lack of activities in the area during these months.

"Even though there are a lot of groups, everyone is different," said Cook. "We just want to bring in our vision and style of entertainment."

Rashaad Middlebrooks, a member of Steady Rizin' Entertainment, has begun his very own WorldWonder Entertainment. The influx of entertainment groups includes J.A.C.L.,



Photos by Teresa D. Southern

Yep Boyz (top), Paid-n-full (right), Eye Candy (bottom), Steady Rizin' (left) bring a new brand of entertainment to the 'Boro.

Soft Touch, and Omar Entertainment, with more to follow.

With all these groups clamoring for their chance to shine, there is speculation of competition and rivalry.

"No," insisted Paid-N-Full co-founder David Williams. "If there is any, it's healthy competition. Statesboro has a limited number of clubs, so everyone is trying to get the same location."

Although there are differences in each of these groups, the similar goal to achieve is apparent among them. However, these students have different opinions on one issue: the choice of being an officially recognized Georgia Southern organization.

"I believe that all of us [entertainment groups] could step up

our game with a campus backing and resources," said Daniel. "We are students, and we cater to a large population of students."

"Dre" Lawson of Steady Rizin' disagrees with that change.

"We do events at GSU, but being recognized by the school would take away from our group being family-oriented. SRE is my family."

Whether or not students at GSU attend any of the events held by these groups, their missions are an everyday job.

Lawson's colleague, Brendan Reynolds, cleared misconceptions about entertainment groups and their missions.

"We take this seriously; we're not just playing around. We want to progress as a business."

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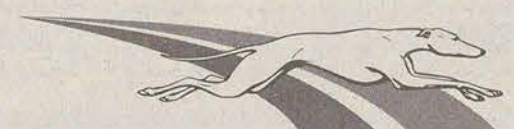
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'The Passion of the Christ' hits theaters this weekend

By Chris Hewitt
 KRT Campus

Powerful and upsetting, "The Passion of the Christ" is a movie about a Jesus who is, quite literally, dying to get up on that cross.

Focusing on the idea that Jesus was eager to fulfill his destiny and to do what was needed to save his people, Mel Gibson's bluntly effective movie has to be the most single-minded cinematic version of the final hours of Christ ever. That's why the film moves so swiftly. It is so specifically focused on Jesus' torture (the Resurrection scene is painfully brief, as if Gibson doesn't want to give us relief from the two hours of agony that precede it). That's why Jesus looks almost victorious in his final moments. And that's why the film is so relentlessly violent.

It's the Bloodiest Story Ever Told, with the brutality beginning long before the Crucifixion and not ending until well after the final nail is hammered into the cross. It is possibly the most gruesome movie I've ever seen, and my opinion on the violence vacillated as I watched it.

On the one hand, Gibson's prolonged scenes of torture tip over into sadism, not on the part of the torturers, but of the director. On the other hand, I appreciated the horrifying degree to which Gibson pushes the carnage, since his point is to make the level of violence come as close as possible to matching the level of sacrifice the movie's Jesus attains. This Christ movie is not about his relationship with his disciples or the tenor of the times but about the enormity of his physical sacrifice. And it's worth pointing out that, here, "passion" means "suffering."

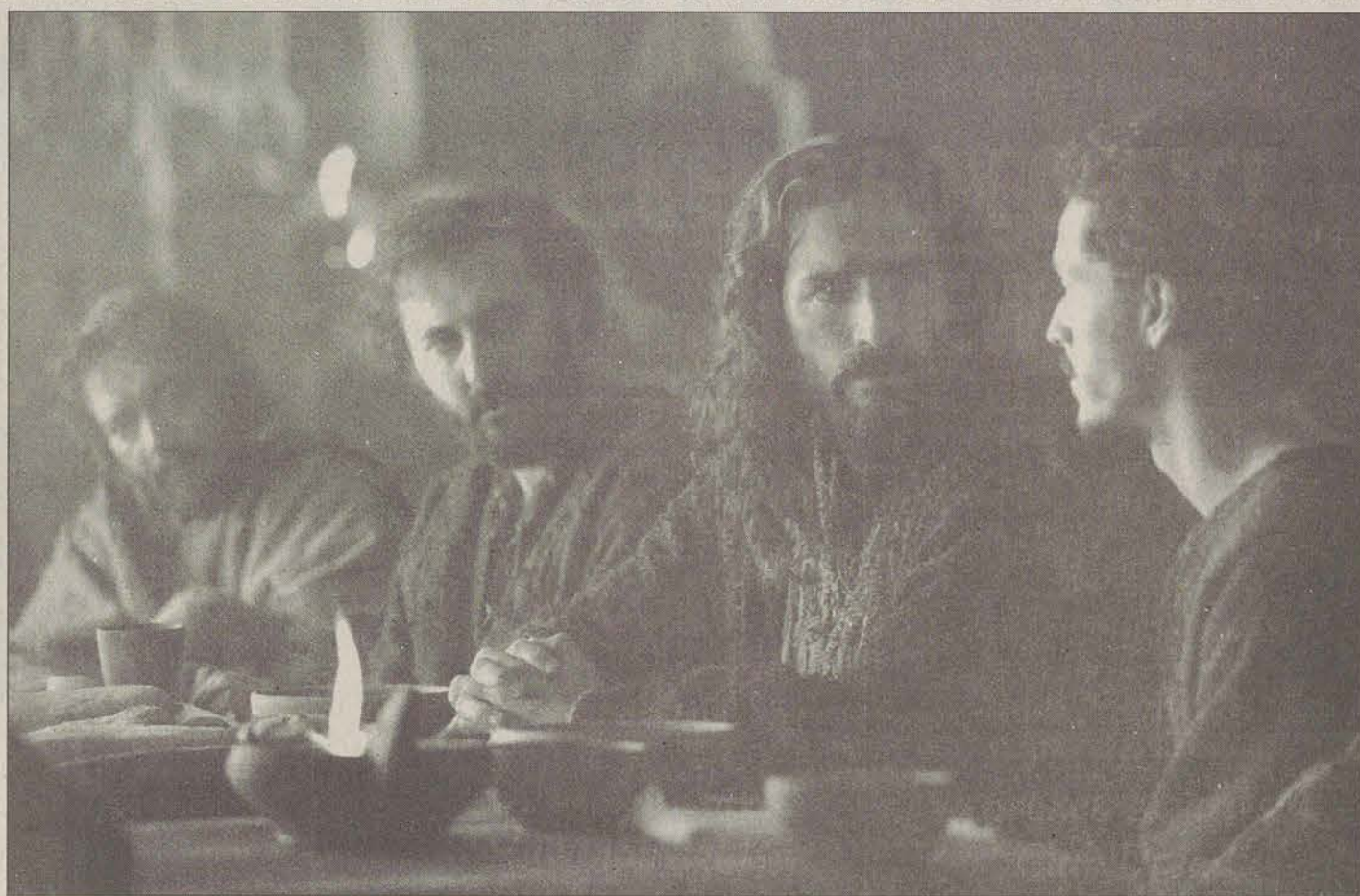
The movie does not spend time with the loving, gentle parts of the Christ story, which are seen in short flashbacks. The implication is that we are being shown how painful and almost unendurable the suffering was as a reminder of how much compassion

and love it represented. This point hits home movingly when Jesus is being nailed to the cross and Jim Caviezel, as Jesus, chokes out the line, "Father, forgive them." It is a great scene, filmed, like the entire movie, in gorgeous widescreen, and almost everything that comes before it leads directly to that moment.

I say "almost" because Gibson is still the gifted, but occasionally crude, filmmaker who expected us to cheer the murder of a character in "Braveheart" simply because he was gay. "Passion" doesn't do anything that dopey, but Gibson delights in lingering over the way Jesus' torturers cackle and smack their spitty lips while they carve away his flesh. These scenes would be so much more interesting if Gibson spent time delving into what could make humans behave so inhumanely rather than simply depicting them as monsters.

As to charges of anti-Semitism, "Passion" didn't strike me as overtly anti-Semitic, although it offers plenty of fuel for the prejudices hateful people might already possess. I also think that's beside the point. You could scan the faces and clothes of Jesus' accusers to find "Semitic" features, I suppose, but you'd be missing the movie's assertion that all of the people in this story are, in an odd way, playing their parts in sending Jesus to the destiny he longs to fulfill. In the scenes where Jesus is being hurried to his fate, I forgot to look for the differences between the people who accused him because all of them seemed alike to me: human, struggling and flawed.

More than anything, the pain and confusion in those faces struck me as a metaphoric plea for belief, regardless of what it is that you believe in. Whether it's the Talmud, Jesus, the Koran or the beating heart of the person who wakes up next to you in the morning, it doesn't matter. What matters is that we need that belief to survive.



Special Photo

Mel Gibson's directorial effort 'Passion of the Christ' comes to theatres this weekend amidst controversy and anti-semitic statements from the director's father.

Gibson's father gets *Passionate* about Jewish History

By Tracy Connor
 KRT Campus

A week before Mel Gibson's movie about Jesus Christ hits theaters, his father has gone on an explosive rant against Jews, claiming they fabricated the Holocaust and are conspiring to take over the world.

"They're after one world religion and one world government," Hutton Gibson, 85, said in a radio interview that aired Monday night.

"That's why they've attacked the Catholic Church so strongly, to ultimately take control over it by their doctrine."

In the bizarre interview, Gibson also said Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan should be lynched and called for the government to be overthrown.

But the timing of his latest comments is certain to fuel the uproar over his son's movie, "The Passion of the Christ," which opened yesterday, Ash Wednesday.

Some critics say the movie blames Jews for the death of Christ and will provoke anti-Semitism, and they question why Mel Gibson hasn't denounced his father's views.

Hutton Gibson spoke Monday to Steve Feuerstein of "Speak Your Piece!" on WSNR-AM, a show syndicated by Talkline, the largest syndicator of Jewish programming.

Some of his most outrageous rants focused on the millions of Jews exterminated by Adolf Hitler.

"They claimed that there were 6.2 million in Poland before the war, and they claimed after the war there were 200,000, therefore he must

have killed 6 million of them," he said. "They simply got up and left! They were all over the Bronx and Brooklyn and Sydney, Australia, and Los Angeles."

He said the Germans did not have enough gas to cremate 6 million people and that the concentration camps were just "work camps."

"It's all — maybe not all fiction — but most of it is," he said.

Gibson repeatedly smeared prominent Jews as money-grubbing power-mongers.

"Greenspan tells us what to do. Someone should take him out and hang him."

He even belittled the Pope's reported endorsement of "The Passion," recounting how Mel referred to the pontiff as an "ass."

Gibson reserved most of his

vitriol for Judaism, asking: "Is the Jew still actively anti-Christian? He is, for by being a Jew, he is anti-everyone else."

Mel Gibson's spokesman, Alan Nierob, had no comment on the elder Gibson's tirade.

But Abraham Foxman, of the Anti-Defamation League said they were the words of a "classical anti-Semite."

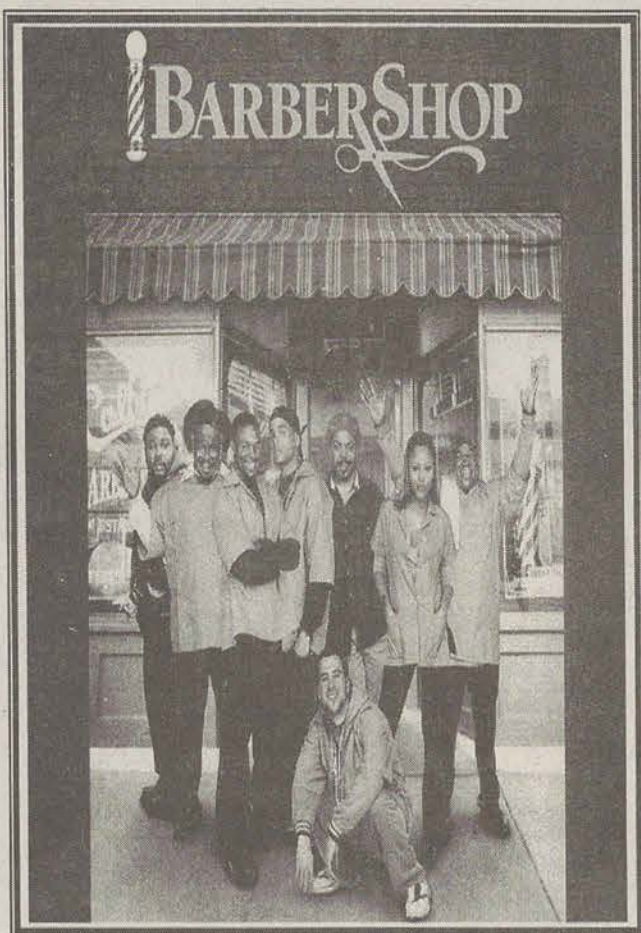
"If it wasn't so sad, it would be funny," he said.

He's troubled by Mel Gibson's failure to condemn his father's beliefs, and pointed to a recent interview where Gibson said his dad never lied to him.

"Well, he's been lying to the world, but it sounds like truth to the son? That's strange," Foxman said.

E-Cinema

Eagle Entertainment and The Multicultural Student Center Present...



Thursday

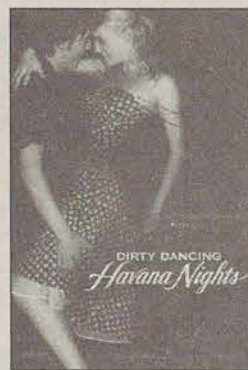
February 26

Russell Union Theatre

7:00pm & 9:30pm

Calvin (Ice Cube), who inherited a struggling barber shop on the south side of Chicago from his father, views the shop as nothing but a burden and a waste of his time. After selling the shop to a local loan shark, Calvin slowly begins to see his father's vision and legacy and struggles with the notion that he just sold it out. The shop is filled with an eclectic cast of characters that share their stories, jokes, trials and tribulations. Eddie (Cedric the Entertainer) is an old barber with strong opinions and no customers. Jimmy (Sean Patrick Thomas) is a highly educated barber with a superiority complex who can't stand Isaac (Troy Garity), the new white barber who just wants a shot at cutting some hair. Ricky is an ex-con with two strikes against him and is desperately trying to stay straight. Terri (Eve) is a hard-edged woman who can't seem to leave her two-timing boyfriend.

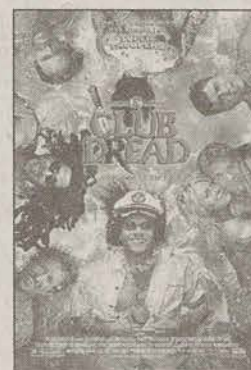
WEEKEND BOX OFFICE PREVIEW



Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights

It's Havana, Cuba in 1958. Chrysler has just opened a plant on the island nation. Katey Miller and her family have come to Havana to take part in the booming economy. When Katey picks the sensual salsa over her family's ballroom dancing, Katey's conflict begins.

PG



Broken Lizard's Club Dread

From the creators of *Super Troopers* comes this film about a Costa Rican resort for single, nubile adults.

Flanked with drugs and alcohol, the island's festivities are interrupted by a serial killer with machete in hand. It's up to the staff to find the killer.

R



Twisted

Ashley Judd stars as a police officer whose father was a notorious serial killer. Now she finds herself in an intense investigation as her ex-lovers start to die at a fast pace. Samuel L. Jackson also stars.

PG-13

ALSO IN THEATERS

50 First Dates

Miracle

Eurotrip

Barbershop 2: Back in Business

Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen

Buy It or Burn It

By Eric Haugh

ehaugh1_1@hotmail.com

FEATURED ARTIST: ELOHSA

ALBUM: 217 Snapshots

REVIEW: Album review this week takes a peek at Statesboro's favorite: *Elohsa*. These guys have the raw talent that harkens to even the most skeptical critics and blows them in a wave of pure energy.

I had a chance to see *Elohsa* last Thursday at Champs Bar and Grill and I must say, "These guys put on one hell of a show." I cannot put my finger on what I felt that night. Something about the show made me rush up to the stage in a dancing fury.

I'm not sure whether it was the concert lighting, the enchantment of the music, or the five or six beers I had before the show, but somehow I felt pure magic last Thursday. They played

a loaded set list with several covers featuring *Weezer* and *STP*. The night got even better when I got a copy of their album during set intermission when the lead singer [Travis Royce] and the drummer [Robby Tacheny] swapped places to do a five minute interlude including free toss-ups of their album "217 snapshots".

The intermission was largely prompted by a cheap fetish from Robby, who was in the mood to watch a little pole dancing by a lucky female fan. I told him I'd dance for him if he gave me free music; he didn't seem so enthusiastic by my proposition.

After the show I went to listen to my personal slice of heaven. It didn't feel the same. I kept trying listening to the CD the next day several times on the way to work until I got back into the same bouncy groove like the night before. Honestly, I'm impressed with *Elohsa's*

first effort. It may not be the same as the live experience, but the vibe of the 'Boro is air apparent in every single track.

I love the album's vibrant energy and trust me *Elohsa* is ebbing with it. My favorite tunes on the album were "Battle Scars" and "Ga\$ money", both of which kind of remind me of a young *Zepplin* or *Def Leopard* (minus the one armed drummer). This eerie similarity came out in folds when I heard the shredding guitar of Brandon Kunka blended with the eclectic harmonies of bassist Sam Jameson.

VERDICT: Do yourselves a favor and go SEE THEM LIVE! Yes. Even you can reach out and touch these guys (not literally).

Look forward to seeing *Elohsa* as they grace the stage of Champs Grill this Friday for "Champs Rock Fest" Remember to bring a friend, and I'll see ya there.

Literary Locus: 'Apprentice to the Flower Poet Z'

By Jeff Faulk

jprussia2@hotmail.com

Occasionally this newspaper receives books from publishers to review. When one considers that the average college student can spend more than \$300 on textbooks for a single semester, this will sound attractive.

I am extremely sorry to disappoint my fellow students, but unfortunately these are not textbooks—they are usually works of fiction, almost literally hot off the presses and often by new authors. *The George-Anne* has recently received one such book, a novel by Debra Weinstein entitled "Apprentice to the Flower Poet Z."

This rather unusual title reflects the content of the book accurately enough; a young lady, a junior in college in New York, becomes the secretary and titular "apprentice" to the poet Z. (a pen name; she is actually Elizabeth).

Incidentally, a warning to pro-Southern readers may be appropriate here: there are absolutely no Southern characters, and everybody speaks in extremely Yankee accents... That past, the book is not the best I've ever read. It does not even approach that exalted height; but it is not the worst work of literature that I have had the bad luck to read, either.

Annabelle, the young lady—I don't believe I ever noticed her last name—is a promising student, who becomes Z's assistant at school, and eventually is bumped upwards to become her secretary and general maid-of-all-work.

Throughout Annabelle's often confusing journey, she goes from

such essential tasks as taking down the names and characteristics of flowers for Z. (who, for a supposed "flower poet", knows nothing of flowers) to buying new hand towels for her mistress' bathrooms.

As she does all this, she is working on her own poetry, which she occasionally shows to Z., slavishly listening with rapt attention to every word that falls from her mentor's garishly painted lips.

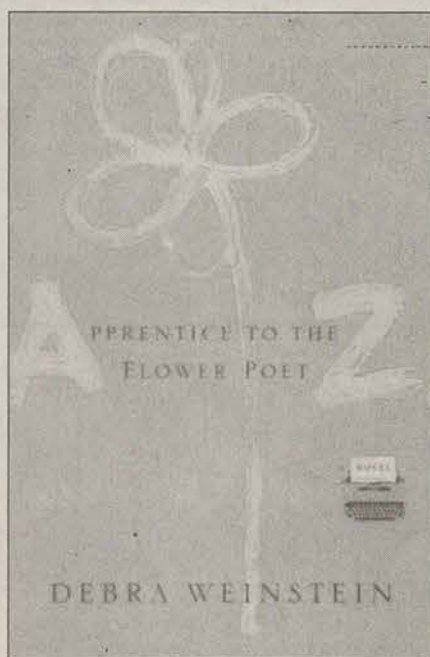
She encounters Z's husband and daughter (an actor turned writer and a possibly lesbian aspiring poet, respectively); various members of the rarefied and generally shallow New York literati; and a young man with a James and Nora Joyce fetish, with whom Annabelle has a brief affair.

As the story progressed, I found myself becoming numb to all the poetry (surely you didn't expect a book with "Poet" in the title to be entirely prose, did you?), most of it of (in my opinion) low quality. A few I could understand; but the rest are incomprehensible.

This could be said for the book as a whole: sometimes understandable, but for the most part impenetrable. I am aware that there are audiences for this kind of thing, and my tastes are admittedly somewhat unique; but I do know what I like, and this definitely does not fall into that category. You are welcome to read this book and form your own conclusions; as for

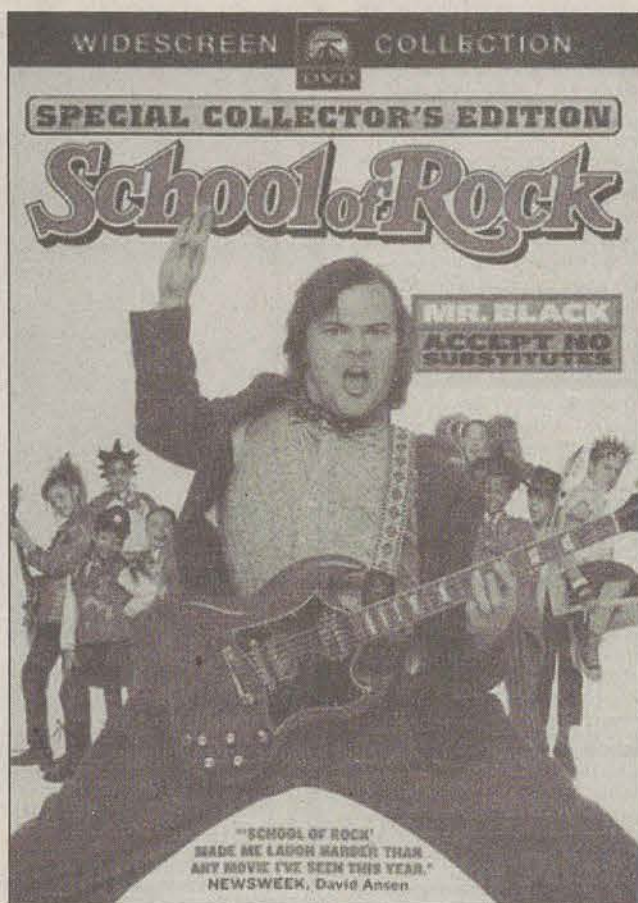
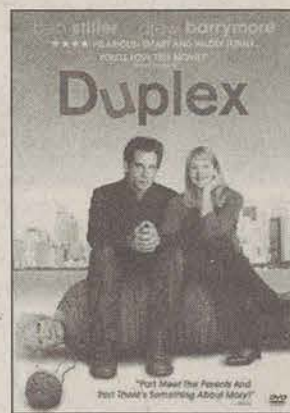
me, it shall see the back of my heels in short order...

Columnist Note: I have looked over my reviews from the past few issues, and it occurs to me that most of the books and series that I have reviewed have primarily niche audiences. They have been bestsellers in their time, but despite this, they are not as widely known as I would appreciate. Therefore, I am asking for titles to review. If anybody is interested, they may email the names of their three favorite books to this address: jprussia2@hotmail.com. Nonfiction books are acceptable, although fiction is preferable; also, please consider carefully your titles before you send them in, and please indicate whether they can be found at the Henderson Library. The winner gets the pleasure of seeing his/her book reviewed in 2 weeks!



NEW ON DVD

03/02/04



School of Rock, Duplex, Cold Creek Manor & Good Boy comes to DVD and VHS on Tuesday March 2, 2004. Jack Black's comedy could take the No. 1 position, if the film's theatre run is any indication.

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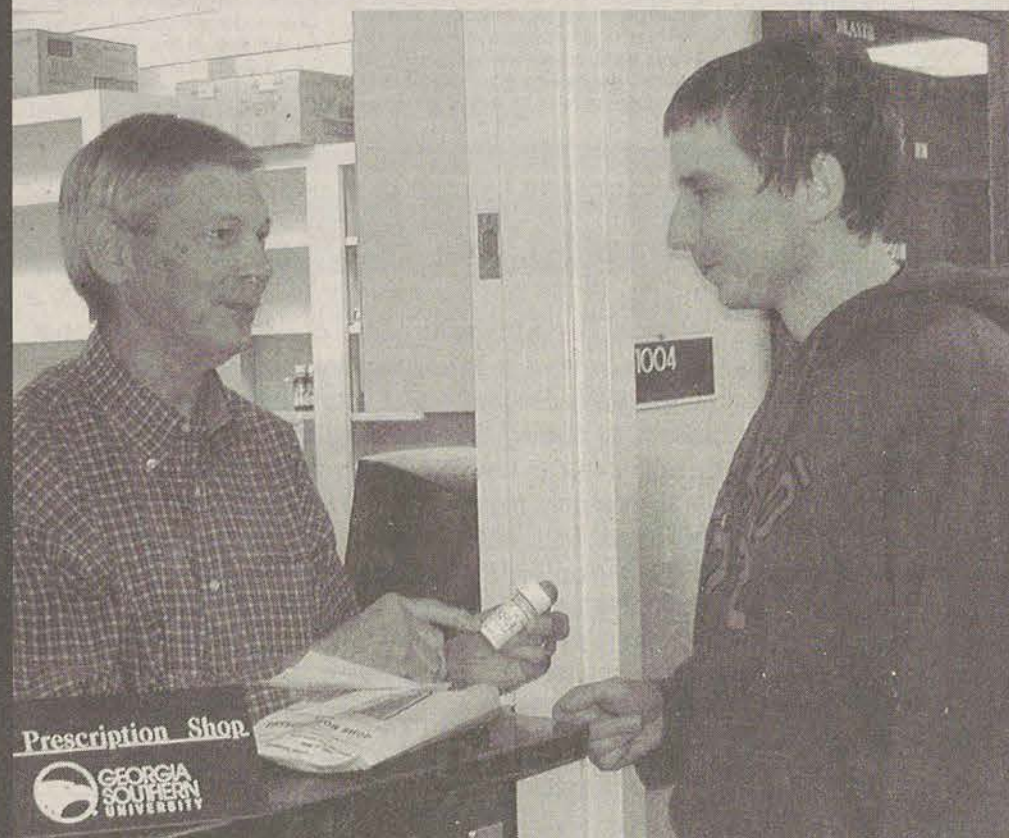
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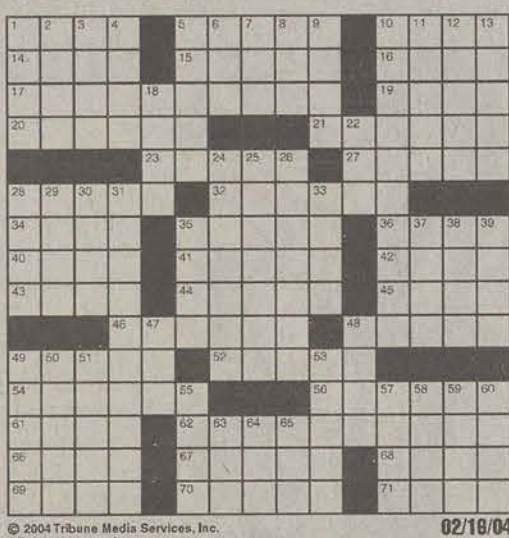


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Crossword

ACROSS
1 Declines
5 Pays attention to
10 Circle sections
14 Zhivago's love
15 Actor Flynn
16 Pound or Frost
17 For the most part
19 Italian explorer
20 Value highly
21 Laborer
23 Wan
27 Bill of "I Spy"
28 Sneezing powder
32 Scilian code of silence
34 Sandburg or Sagan
35 Barrel part
36 Rugged cliff
40 Mayberry boy
41 Putter Palmer
42 Suffer from
43 " of the d'Urbervilles"
44 "The Man Who Be King"
45 First name in daredevils
46 "Messiah" composer
48 Manipulators
49 Give birth to
52 Snooze
54 Brass and pewter, e.g.
56 Guthrie and Herman
61 Ballet skirt
62 Deliberate self-denial
66 Arabian sultanate
67 Hearth implement
68 Venetian villain
69 Inept loser
70 Roasting rods
71 Deli side

DOWN
1 Hamburg's river
2 Bengal and Biscay
3 Irritating child
4 Rational
5 Ships' tillers
6 Period
7 Slip up



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02/18/04

Solutions

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CLASSIFIEDS, ETC.

Mystic Stars: weekly horoscope

KRT Campus
March 1-7, 2004

Aries (March 20-April 18). Delayed business permissions may soon arrive. Pay special attention to letters, messages or calls. Bosses and managers will clear a pathway to success. Expect advancement to come in the form of divided projects, last-minute promotions or unusual work partnerships. Thursday through Sunday also accent new friendships and complex group activities. Avoid competing schedules, if possible, and expect minor jealousies.

Taurus (April 19-May 19). Long-term leases, official deeds and titles will be finalized over the next few days. After Tuesday, watch for unusual financial information to demand completion. Family ultimatums or rare home proposals may also be accented. Carefully resolve all outstanding legal documents. Friday through Sunday, powerful dream experiences may bring new awareness. Areas affected are trusted friendships, romantic triangles or family expectations.

Gemini (May 20-June 20). Ongoing financial and business questions soon will be settled. Before mid-March, new sources of long-term security may arrive without warning. Over the next nine days, revitalized career and social contacts will lead to lasting success. After Friday, however, carefully study taxation and spending records. Wednesday through Saturday also highlight serious family discussions or revised romantic promises. Emotions may be high. Take time to clearly explain your needs.

Cancer (June 21-July 21). Early this week, past romantic or social promises will be either finalized or dismissed. Before Wednesday, watch for loved ones to adopt new attitudes or revise unrealistic schedules. Use this time to establish romantic expectations. Friends and lovers will offer positive responses. Thursday through Saturday, pay attention to new debts or sudden financial changes. Delayed payments will not work to your advantage. Remain determined to settle outstanding accounts.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22). Relatives and romantic partners may suggest new home routines. Key areas of concern involve parent/child relationships, daily duties or long-term renovations. Be receptive. Family proposals or revised home plans will soon prove rewarding. Wednesday through Saturday also accents improved relations and renewed trust between friends. Stay firmly dedicated to the present and expect recent disputes or power struggles to steadily fade.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21). Respond quickly to all job offers or business proposals. Office productivity and social planning will bring valuable employment options. Virgos

born after 1972 should also pay attention to the health sciences or community services industries. At present, new career paths or educational programs may provide unique opportunities. Later this week, romantic proposals will be reversed. Don't be dismayed; renewed passion will soon become a top priority.

Libra (Sept. 22-Oct. 22). Over the next eight days,



loved ones may neglect established home duties or discuss stressful family gatherings. By early next week, however, revised emotional rules work to your advantage. Expect tensions between siblings, complex schedules or financial obligations to be permanently resolved. After Friday, some Librans may also encounter a rare social invitation or sudden romantic proposal. If so, remain quietly reserved. New relationships may be difficult to initiate.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). Public images, social reputation and revised business roles are on the agenda. Before Wednesday, watch for key officials to offer greater access to restricted or difficult projects. People skills and team management will prove vital. Expect temporary job promotions and fast career proposals. Later this week, someone close may ask for special advice. Marital discord, social triangles and romantic trust may be key concerns.

Remain diplomatic. Passions may be high.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20). Social communications and business messages may be controversial over the next eight days. New employees, improved team roles or quickly established policies will require delicate discussions. Let authority figures handle all such details. Complex personality clashes may soon be revealed. Thursday through Sunday, dream activity, sudden impressions and quick insights are highlighted. A troubled relationship may soon be revealed as unproductive or outdated. Stay focused on trust.

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19). Workplace romance and social complications may be draining over the next few days. Late Tuesday, colleagues or close friends may ask probing questions, confront established routines or reveal unusual information. Play the diplomat. Before next week, loved ones may feel a strong urge to publicly defend their ideas. Wednesday through Sunday also accent new financial or legal deadlines. Stay alert. Key officials will announce revised policies or extended permissions.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Early this week, friendship and romance become top priorities. After Tuesday, expect loved ones to confidently state their intentions or long-term plans. Emotional stagnation in key relationships will soon end. Use this time to enjoy intimate moments or develop common goals. Friday through Sunday, family members or trusted friends may request clarification. Group plans, daily activities and social loyalties are accented. Offer detailed explanations and wait for key decisions.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 19). Subtle comments may reveal important information. Expect loved ones to gently request family improvements or express a need for change. Boredom and restlessness are key. Find positive ways to address ongoing frustration or social irritations. Some Pisceans, especially those born after 1974, will encounter a complex or mildly unethical romantic proposal. If so, remain quietly distant. At present, new relationships will take extra time to become reliable.

If your birthday is this week ... Find creative ways to involve new friends, family members and romantic partners in social activities. Group awareness and common goals will bring added strength to long-term relationships. Over the next five weeks, respond quickly to all invitations, proposals or social requests. After mid-May, several business or financial opportunities are due to arrive. Areas strongly affected are marketing, business administration, legal services or personnel management. Ask for firm details and reliable paperwork. By late July, a new career path may be made available. Later this summer, romantic passions intensify. Expect potential lovers or new friends to compete for your time, attention and loyalty.

Covering the Campus
Like a Swarm of Gnats

"Some people weave burlap into the fabric of our lives, and some weave gold thread. Both contribute to make the whole picture beautiful and unique."

-Anon

10 G-A Action Ads

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.**

FREEBIE INFO ALL FREE

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ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The George-Anne reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date.

For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact: David Brennaman, Advertising Director, ADS, (912) 681-5418; or Bill Neville, Student Media Coordinator, (912) 681-0069.

PROOFING/ERRORS/OMISSIONS: The newspaper makes every reasonable effort to present correct and complete information in advertisements. However, the advertiser is responsible for proofing the ad upon publication and should notify the newspaper immediately in the event of an error. The newspaper is not responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occurred in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

CLASSIFIED ADS: Free classified ads from students, faculty and staff must be non-commercial in nature and submitted in writing, with the name of the sender, local address, and phone number. **No free ads taken via telephone — at this price we don't take dictation.** One free ad per person per week. Commercial classified are 20 cents per word with a \$4 minimum per insertion. Tear sheets are \$2 extra per insertion.

CIRCULATION INFORMATION: Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit 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.

20 Announcements

FEELING SAD because no one attends your club meetings? Put an announcement in **The George-Anne** classified section and fill those empty seats! Just **Rip Us Off**, it's free!

PUBLIC NOTICE

On October 22, 1997, WVGS/FM was granted a license by the Federal Communications Commission to serve the public interest until April 1, 2004.

Our license will expire April 1, 2004. We have filed an application for license renewal with the FCC.

A copy of this application is available for public inspection during our regular business hours. It contains information concerning the station's performance during the last seven years.

Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to our renewal application and to whether this station has operated in the public interest should file comments and petitions with the Commission by March 1, 2004.

Further information concerning the Commission's broadcast license renewal is available at the WVGS/FM Studios, F.I. Williams Center, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia, or may be obtained from the FCC, Washington, DC 20554.

LIFE IN HELL



DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



"Printer's jammed."

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

BRAND NEW wood sleigh bed and bedroom suite. Will sacrifice for \$1,600 obo. Call Melissa 678-3061.

130 Garage Sales
YARD SALE Friday PIKE lot, 9-5.

140 Help Wanted

CALLIGRAPHERS WANTED
Will pay \$75.00
Saturday, March 6
9:30-1:30
Call Kandice
Foreign Language Dept.
681-5281 before noon daily

SUMMER INTERNSHIP
Excellent advertising, sales, and marketing opportunity. Earn \$3000 to \$7000++ and gain valuable business experience working for the Official Campus Telephone Directory. **GREAT RESUME BOOSTER!** Call Kiersten

opportunity. Earn \$3000 to \$7000++ and gain valuable business experience working for the **Georgia Southern Official Campus Telephone Directories**. **GREAT RESUME BOOSTER!** Positions available in **Atlanta, Macon, and Statesboro**. Call Kiersten at AroundCampus, Inc. 1-800-466-2221 ext. 272 www.aroundcampus.com.

BARTENDER TRAINEES Needed
\$250 a day potential
Local Positions
1-800-293-3985 ext. 312

AMERICA READS needs your help! If you enjoy helping children and are work-study eligible, please call Mary Woods in the Educational Opportunities Program for details.

SUMMER INTERNSHIP — Excellent Advertising, Sales and Marketing opportunity. Earn \$3000 to \$7000++ and gain valuable business experience working for the Official Campus Telephone Directory. **GREAT RESUME BOOSTER!** Call Kiersten

Rip Us Off

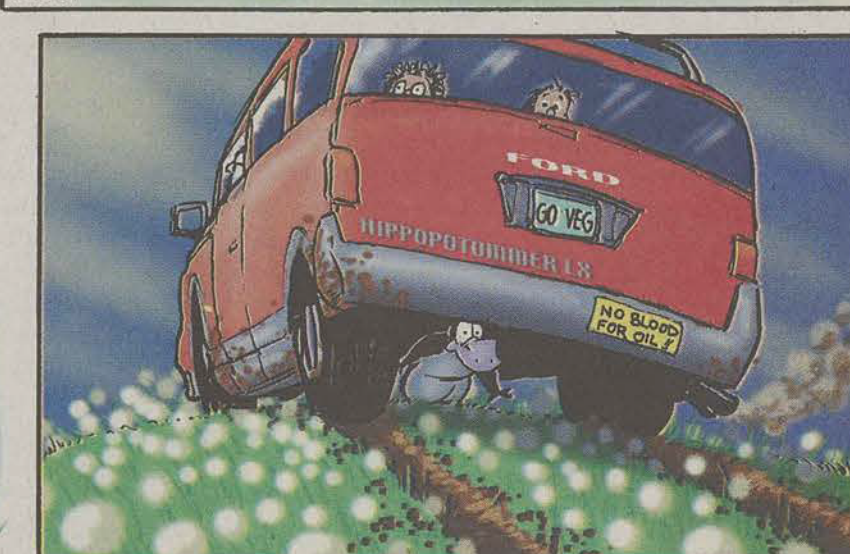
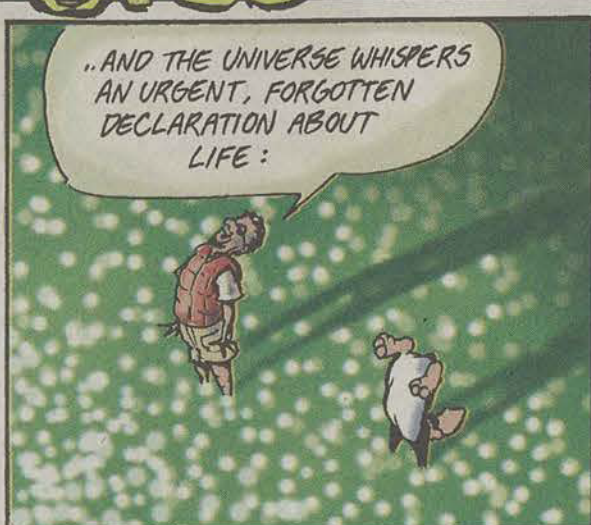
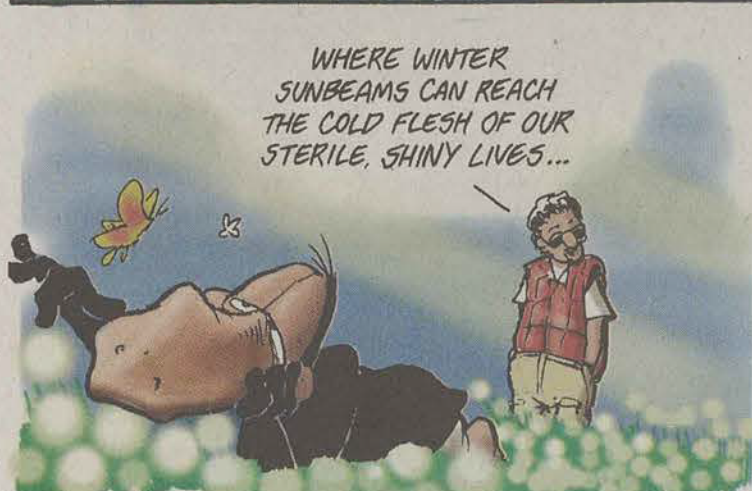
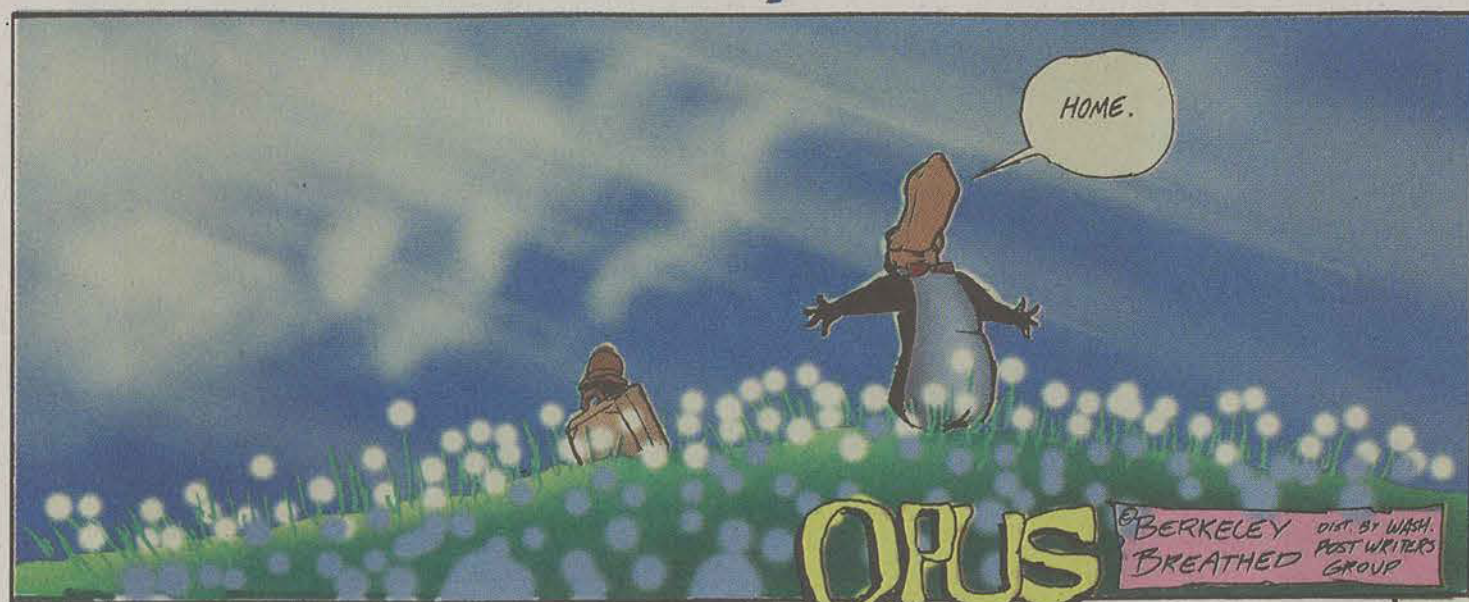
That's right — you heard right. Rip us off. Get something for nothing. Say hello to a friend. Find a roommate. Get a job. Find a home for a litter of kittens. Buy a wombat. Or sell your Beamer (right, like you expect us to believe that you — and not your folks — actually have the title to that BMW). Regardless of your purpose (or even if you are a congenital liar like the Beamer owner), Georgia's liveliest classified ad section is for you. Students, faculty and staff can have their 20-word action ads published for nothing (non-commercial listings only, please). Fill out the little rectangles below, and send your ad to G-A Action Ads, POB 8001, GSU or drop them by our offices in the Williams Center, Room 2023. **You MUST include your name and P.O. Box number to qualify for a freebie.** Remember, keep it short: students, faculty and staff must pay 20¢ per words for those which exceed the 20-word limit. And, please — no telephone calls... at this price we don't take dictation.

YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS PART TO QUALIFY FOR FREEBIE

Name _____ POB _____ Phone # _____

CLASSIFIEDS, COMICS ETC.

GEORGE-ANNE
Hiatus 7B
Thursday, February 26, 2004



NOW LEASING FOR FALL

3 Bedroom/3 Bath • 2 Bedroom/2 Bath
2 Bedroom/1 Bath • 1 Bedroom/1 Bath

Some units available for earlier occupancy.

764-3697

at AroundCampus, Inc. 1 800-466-2221 ext 272. www.aroundcampus.com

150 Lost & Found

LOSE SOMETHING? Find it by placing an ad in The G-A today.

FOUND! CINGULAR phone, Siemens model. For inquiry, call Jay (478) 278-4714.

160 Miscellaneous for Sale

NEED TO sell something...anything? Put it in The George-Anne's classified section. One man's trash is another man's treasure.

FOR SALE: 13" TV/VCR combo w/remotes, \$80. Sharper Image CD player w/subwoofer, \$75. Small water fountain, very relaxing \$15. Call Barry 660-0442.

FIREPLACE INSERT w/blower, \$300.00; computer desk \$25.00; recliner \$50.00; couch w/recliner on both ends \$100.00; twin bed \$125.00. Call 764-7469.

NEON BUDWEISER sign for sale. Email Adam@greer.net for pictures and information.

FORMAL DRESS for sale. Paid \$140, asking \$90 obo. Worn only once. For more information call 681-8251.

APR DRAG wing, universal fit, brand new, \$300. Silver 16" Rage rims and tires, good condition. \$250. Call 681-6106.

220 Rentals & Real Estate

SUBLEASE DUPLEX for summer, Sherwood Forest, \$250/month, pet friendly, great place for keg parties. Call 681-2905 or shelou@gasou.edu.

NEED TO sublease your apartment? Advertise on Off-Campus Housing Office website. Sublease forms available in Russell Union 2022.

"LOOKING FOR a house to rent next year?" We have 5 houses located in Sherwood Forest and University Place available in August 2004. Call 912-690-2698 or visit

www.wildoakinvestments.com for details. HOOD HAS HOUSES FOR LEASE IN AUGUST NO PETS. 24 HOUR REPAIRS. 764-6076

ATTENTION STUDENTS: Please read Hood's Website: DIRTYBANKING.COM

6BR5BATH available Aug. 1, next to Holiday Inn Express - Loaded - no pets. 682-7468 or 764-6076

APARTMENT AVAILABLE for sublease beginning of May at The Woodlands. All utilities are included. Please call 229-344-1426 for details.

SUBLEASE SUMMER 2004. May-August. Furnished Apt. Private room/bathroom. \$335, utilities and cable included. Call 843-345-7914.

TIRED OF ROOMMATES? Want you own apartment? \$265+ flexible leases - Quiet Environment. Also, 2 + 3 BR Houses recently renovated. Call Parker Realty at 764-5623.

230 Roommates

FEMALE SUBLEASER needed. Southern Courtyard, May 9-July 31. 4BR, 2BA. All inclusive, can be covered by financial aid. Call Candace 689-7177.

ROOMMATE NEEDED. Garden District Apts. Largest bedroom, fully furnished. Internet and utilities included. Two balconies. Please call Matt at 770-313-0543.

STILL TRYING to figure out a way to fill that empty bedroom? Place an ad in The George-Anne and find a roommate in no time.

NEED A roommate? Advertise on Off-Campus Housing Website. Roommate forms available in Russell Union 2022.

240 Services

ADOPT a pet and save a life. Bulloch County Animal Shelter, visit 301 North Statesboro or www.adoptionfairly@petfinder.com.

260 Stereo & Sounds

2 ROCKFORD Fosgate HX2 12" Subs. New model Kicker KX 800.2 AMP. All for \$600 obo. Includes wiring and bass controls. Call 681-7790 for more information.

290 Travel

SPRING BREAK Cancun, Acapulco, Jamaica & Florida. Free drinks & parties. Best Hotels, Lowest Prices! Our students seen on CBS' 48 Hours. www.breakertravel.com (800)985-6789.

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL

"Spring Break" World Famous Tiki Bar Sandpiper Beacon Beach Resort 800-488-8828 www.sandpiperbeacon.com "The Fun Place"

BAHAMAS SPECIAL SPRING BREAK & WINTER BREAK

\$199.00 per person! 5 days/4 nights Package includes: *Round trip cruise Plus *Food aboard ship Plus

*Resort accommodations on Grand Bahama Island

Toll Free: 888-85-BEACH (888-852-3224) www.GoBahama.com

FUN & STUFF

Visit our Web site for list of places to visit and things to do that are both educational and fun. On-line at http://www.stp.gasou.edu/funstuff/

SPRING BREAK 2004. Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring campus reps. Call for group discounts. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

SPRING BREAK

Beach and Ski Trips on sale now! Call 1-800-SUNCHASE today! Or visit

www.Sunchase.com

GEORGIA SOUTHERN East Coast Surfers

interested in taking a Spring Break trip to Florida call Turner 489-4957.

305 Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at the Bulloch County Animal Shelter. www.adoptionfairly@petfinder.com.

"Reality" Spring Break 2004

As seen in "The Real Cancun" Movie! Lowest Prices, Free Meals & Parties Book before Oct 15th! 2 Free Trips For Groups! 1.800.426.7710 www.sunspashtours.com

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL **SPRING BREAK**

Book early and save \$\$\$! World's longest Keg Party - Free beer all week! Live band & DJ, Wet T-Shirt, Hard Body & Venus Swimwear contest. Suites up to 12 people, 3 pools, huge beachfront hot tub, river ride, water slide, jet skis, parasail.

Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort 800-488-8828 www.sandpiperbeacon.com

UNIVERSITY JUDICIAL BOARD REQUEST FOR STUDENT NOMINATIONS

The University Judicial Board (UJB) needs your help to fill student positions on the Board for the 2004-2005 academic year. You are asked to nominate students you feel would be responsible and conscientious UJB members. All regularly enrolled students who have completed at least 15 hours of academic credit at Georgia Southern are eligible for appointment provided they meet the following criteria:

- (1) they must not have a disciplinary record for the last two semesters of university attendance;
- (2) they must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher;
- (3) they must not hold the top executive office in any campus organization;
- (4) they must be a full-time student; and
- (5) they must be planning to attend Georgia Southern the entire 2004-2005 academic year.

If you know students who would be excellent UJB members, please submit their nomination by Friday February 27, 2004. All nominations should include the nominee's full name, social security number, current phone number, current GSU P.O. Box number, and a paragraph stating why you think the nominee would be an effective UJB member. Feel free to nominate as many students as you like. All nominations must be signed by the person making the nomination and must be submitted by Friday, February 27, 2004 to:

Janet O'Brien
Chair, University Judicial Board
P.O. Box 8132
Georgia Southern University

Thank you for your help in selecting student UJB members. A complete description of the procedures for appointing UJB members may be found in the Student Guide, Appendix C.

clip here clip here clip here clip here

UJB STUDENT NOMINATION

Nomination by: _____

Phone # _____ GSU PO Box # _____ Signature _____ Date _____

NOMINEE (full name): _____

Phone # _____ GSU PO Box # _____ Last 4 digits of Social Security # _____

Why do you feel the nominee would make an effective UJB member?

CONCERT REVIEW

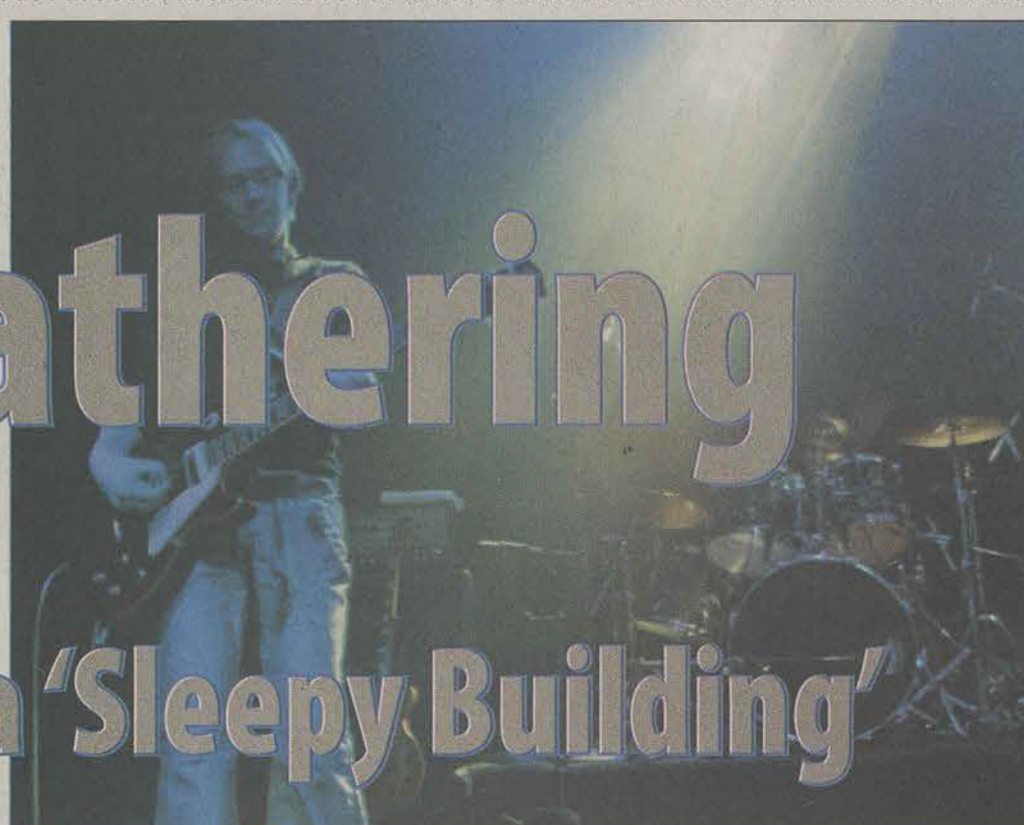
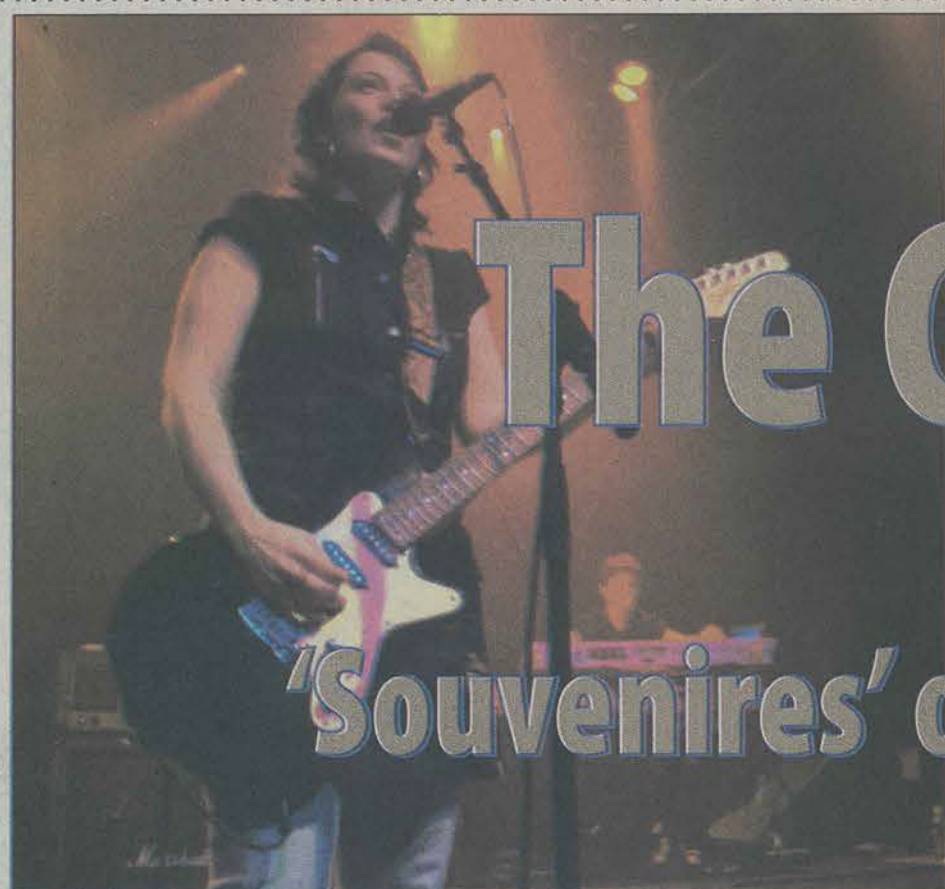


Photo By DJ Fox

Vocalist Anneke van Giersbergen, Guitarist Rene Rutten and Drummer Hans Rutten share an intimate performance with the crowd at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C.

The Gathering

'Souvenires' of a 'Sleepy Building'

By DJ Fox
tawvgs@yahoo.com

This story is part two of a two part series.

Last week was DJ Fox's review of the band. Now it's time that the rest of the crew gets in on the action to tell what they thought.

DJ Fox's View: Twenty hours. Endless sodas. Heated tempers. Burned out headlight. Was it worth it? Can any ONE band be worth all this ridiculousness? We can't be serious when we say that we did all this for one band, can we?

Sleepy Buildings, the live CD version of The Gathering's semi-acoustic world tour, is set to be released on March 9 in the U.S. It includes the new song "Sleepy Buildings," which serves as the title track to the album. The CD itself is magnificent, featuring a good mix of known and unknown tracks, some of which we didn't hear in Washington D.C. when we saw them.

As perfect as the album is, it still does not accurately convey how great the band was live.

If you've ever had a band that was THE band, you'll definitely understand how we felt going up to the show, and back. Considering that Captain Cool and I were going up on a 'maybe' on tickets (remember, twenty hours!), it would be safe to assume we're dedicated fans. Before the show, Anger and Vixen were on the fence about the band, but were converted to hardcore devotees afterwards, which might give you an inkling of how awesome the performance was.

Overall, the whole experience was enlightening. Now, when I drive to Atlanta and back the same night, I can never complain again. The only thing that would be bigger than this would be to drive to, say, Japan, and back the same trip. If the aforementioned trip was to see the Gathering, count me in!

Capt. Cool's View: Alright, alright. Now that Fox has gotten all that frilly, professional, literate crap out of the

way, I'll tell you how it really was. Imagine ten Meccas piled up on top of each other and eating big ol' bags of perfect. That's about 15.7 percent of what we experienced that night in Washington, D.C. For ourselves, DJs Capt. Cool, Fox and the newly acquired followers, Anger and Vixen, it was the height of glory, the end all be all. Many have thought of us as dum-dum heads for driving 20 hours back and fourth to experience such greatness. But hey, Shut up!

Well, forget about all the stuff about the openers. November's Doom was okay and Antilock (or however you spell their name) was well...

So, anyway, it's finally here our one and only reason for traveling as far as we did. The Gathering. After everyone's jaw dropped to the floor, they began with one of the best tracks ever created, "Red is a Slow Colour." Though, in this case, it was a much more acoustic version of the song, which was more of a precursor of what to expect for the duration of the blessing.

I have never, in any show I have been to, felt like such a fan boy. Everything about the performance was no less than perfect. This band is nothing but raw talent. The Gathering are definitely true veterans at what they do. I wish I could go into further detail but I am at a loss for words still. They are truly that good. Everyone in attendance was in complete awe, and if not, they're stupid.

Although, I bet it was mostly because they were all watching Anneke, but I cannot blame them. She's all that and then some. Not only is she very talented musically and vocally, she is hot. Most people wouldn't think so, the pictures do her no justice. Either way I have to say I was moreover entranced with their new bassist Marjolien. That woman has some serious skill AND she's mad hot.

Anyway, even though the attendance was not of our expectations, it was obvious that all who were there were there to see The Gathering, and to me made it seem that more authentic. It was also cool that their stuff on

sale was heavily overpriced like other shows I've been to. You could have walked out with any of their albums for ten bucks. Of course I had to get my t-shirt, which ironically cost me more than one of their full-length albums.

I have to say the whole experience was well worth it, period. Would I do it again? You betcha! Would I drive to Japan like Fox? Yeppers...Buy all their albums!

Anger's View: It's not often that one has the opportunity to sit in a car for some 20 hours in a 30 hour period and stand in freezing weather in the heart of Washington, D.C. solely for the purpose of seeing a band live, so I had to jump at the chance. The band of the hour was The Gathering, a band with a devoutly ferocious following overseas and what is nothing more than a cult following here in the States.

Having only heard a few songs prior to the trip, I was going out on a limb by agreeing to go to the show with nothing more than Fox's

and Captain's ardent recommendation. Was it worth being crammed in a car for 20 hours? Was it worth sleeping in the most uncomfortable positions possible? Was it worth risking the current driver passing out and slamming into a tree at 75mph? Was it worth standing for some 6 hours? My answer to every one of those questions is, without a doubt, YES.

The Gathering put on a tremendous show that showcased the sheer musical talent of each member of the band, and the amazing vocal prowess of Anneke, the Gathering's beautiful lead singer. After the show I was a new man. Well, I was a new fan at least. I have officially joined Fox's and Captain's Gathering cult, and I am looking forward to converting many new recruits to our cause. If you haven't heard The Gathering, you need to do all you can to find one of their albums or catch one of their shows. If you have any true musical taste at all, you will NOT be disappointed.

Go to www.gathering.nl to learn more about the band.

Out & About in The 'Boro

Express Tune & Lube

Tire, Alignment
& Exhaust Center

612 S. Zetterower Avenue
489-4444

www.expresstuneandlube.com
Monday - Friday 7:30am - 6:30pm
Located a half block north of Wendy's.

Oil Change Special

Includes up to
5 qts. of Castrol
10W30 or 20W50

\$13⁹⁵

expires 5/31/04

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Prepare for
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We have the best beds in The 'Boro! You will see the difference!

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764-7256

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Past Wendy's, next to
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We provide a tanning schedule for all tanners.



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SPRING BREAK '04