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# The GEORGE-ANNE

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

Wednesday, March 3, 2004 • Volume 76, Number 71

## DANCIN' THE CHARLESTON

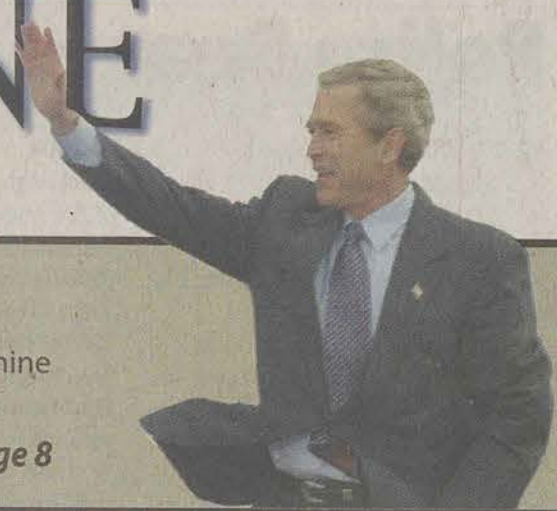
Men's and women's basketball strive for a trip to the NCAA Tournament this weekend in SC

Page 7

## PREWAR INTELLIGENCE

A closed-door Senate session to examine possible flaws regarding Iraqi weapons

Page 8



# Aristide claims he was forcibly removed

Deposed Haitian President says U.S. forces kidnapped him

By Frank Davies  
KRT Campus

WASHINGTON – The Bush administration on Monday vehemently denied ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's claim that he "did not resign" and was "kidnapped" by U.S. diplomatic and military officials.

Aristide's first day in exile, spent in the Central African Republic, was as contentious as his four-year rule, as two members of the U.S. House of Representatives who have supported Aristide relayed his message that he was physically forced to leave by U.S. forces. He later made the charges himself in telephone interviews.

"I'm telling you the truth. I'm a victim of a coup d'etat," Aristide told CNN during a phone interview from the Central African Republic. He said that U.S. forces "kidnapped" him and forced him to leave Haiti.

"That's nonsense," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said. "It was Mr. Aristide's decision to resign."

Secretary of State Colin Powell also vigorously denied the kidnapping charge, calling it "absolutely baseless, absurd," and offered new details about Aristide's hasty departure from Haiti Sunday morning.

The secrecy surrounding the operation and lack of witnesses also fueled rumors about what happened.

Rep. Maxine Waters, a California Democrat who visited Aristide one week before he left power, said the deposed president called her Monday morning after he arrived in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic.

"The world must know it was a coup," Waters quoted Aristide as saying. "That I was kidnapped. That I was forced out. That's what happened. I did not resign. I did not go willingly. I was forced to go."

Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., and Randall Robinson, the former head of TransAfrica, a lobbying group, said they spoke with Aristide and his wife, Mildred, and heard the same complaint.

"He said he was taken at gunpoint," Robinson said from his home on the island of St. Kitts. "The point is he was taken against his will."

Adding to the confusion was a misunderstanding – and possible deception – about Aristide's eventual destination.

Aristide wanted to go to South Africa, a senior State Department official said on condition of anonymity, but that country wouldn't take him. Neither would Gabon or the island state of Sao Tome and Principe.

When the Boeing 757 jet that Aristide

See Aristide, Page 8

# THE ONCE WET PLANET

Opportunity Rover finds strong evidence Mars was home to liquid water



Photos from www.nasa.gov

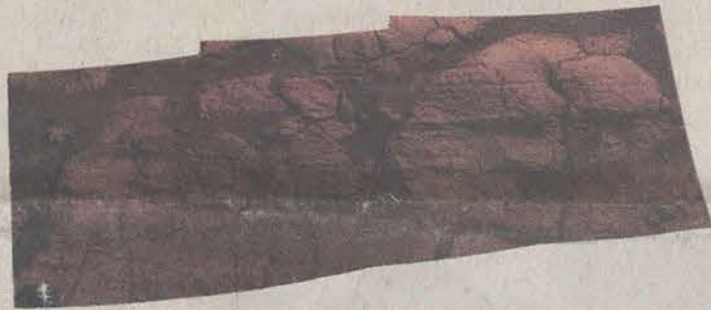
Special to the G-A

Scientists have concluded the part of Mars that NASA's Opportunity rover is exploring was soaking wet in the past.

Evidence the rover found in a rock outcrop led scientists to the conclusion. Clues from the rocks' composition, such as the presence of sulfates, and the rocks' physical appearance, such as niches where crystals grew, helped make the case for a watery history.

"Liquid water once flowed through these rocks. It changed their texture, and it changed their chemistry," said Dr. Steve Squyres of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., principal investigator for the science instruments on Opportunity and its twin, Spirit. "We've been able to read the tell-tale clues the water left behind, giving us confidence in that conclusion."

See Mars, Page 5



This mosaic of images (above) taken by the panoramic camera onboard the Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity shows the rock region dubbed 'El Capitan,' which lies within the larger outcrop near the rover's landing site. The martian landscape surrounding the Opportunity's drop point (top).

# '9 Years'

Student photo exhibit features the disregarded

By Voloria Pettiford  
howlow2go@yahoo.com

A photography exhibition by Ansley Simmons, a graduating senior, runs until Friday, March 5 at Gallery 303 in the Foy Fine Arts Building.

The exhibition is entitled '9 Years,' which is approximately how long a 1860s house in Chandler County, once her grandparents' Sue Nell and the late Leroy Stapleton, has been unoccupied. From broken glass windows to a rotting fireplace mantle, Simmons is able to reflect the splendor of objects that are now old and worn. These are often images that we see each day but don't stop to notice.

"I enjoy photographing the unnoticed or the disregarded," Simmons said.

The flavor and tradition of the country is incorporated into her work. Simmons' exhibition captures the beauty and art of the south; each photo tells a story. Each of the 15 images are hung on a weathered wooden backdrop from an actual barn.

"Some things you do because you want to; others, because there is a driving force inside that summons, and finally demands creative interaction and public exposure," Simmons said.

The Tennessee-born but Georgia-reared Simmons took notice to art and photography after a trip to Paris. She will earn her Bachelor's of Fine Arts in May and plans to pursue her Master's in photography.

Special Photo

# Residence Hall fire leaves one student injured

By Tiffany Shaw  
GAPgirl2k1@yahoo.com

On Thursday, February 26 at approximately 3:13 a.m., the Statesboro Fire Department, along with University Police, were dispatched to Southern Courtyard in response to a fire alarm.

According to the University Police incident report, room 4202 was completely filled with smoke upon the arrival of Officer Bice.

According to Officer Bice, Cathy Crocco, resident of 4202, stated that she somehow combined fire and alcohol, which spread intensely, and she was unable to stop the fire. Crocco also called EMS because her leg had been burned. Upon arrival on the scene, EMS advised Crocco that she had first-degree burns all over her left arm and leg; however, the injuries were not severe enough to transport her to the Emergency Room.

See Fire, Page 5

# Stratford Hall demolition could begin next week



David Caselli/STAFF

Closed after last semester, Stratford Hall will be torn down to make way for the new Eagle Village.

By Natalie Gazaway  
ngazaway@hotmail.com

The long-awaited construction at Stratford Hall has students and residents wondering why and when the area will be rebuilt.

GSU's Construction Projects Coordinator Billy Lane said contracts were sent out last week, and construction could start as early as next week.

The Stratford Residence hall was closed in December when residents were home for the holidays. Students of Stratford returning from Christmas break were shocked to discover that they would soon have to find somewhere else to live. They were moved from the residence hall the first week in January and sent to find a new place to start their second semester.

See Stratford, Page 5

Weekday Weather		Only in America	Opinions	Sports	Inside
Wednesday	Thursday	• Tickets for 'The Passion' bear the mark of Satan in Georgia	• Katie Glorieux shares her thoughts on the subject of gay marriage.	• Bennett, Williams named All-Conference by coaches, media	Police Beat 2
HIGH 80°	HIGH 84°	• Elderly Florida man falls and lies dying while refusing help for three days		• Track and Field claims third place at SoCon Indoor Championships	Classifieds 6
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Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy				Comics 6
					Sports 7-8
					Opinions 4
					Calendar 2
					News Briefs 2



## Police Beat

02-27-2004

- Michael Brandon Sparks, 22, of P.O. Box 744, Sardis, Ga., was charged with driving with a suspended license and driving without a valid tag.
- A Southern Courtyard resident reported receiving harassing phone calls.
- Officers issued one traffic citation and one traffic warning, investigated one traffic accident, assisted two motorists and responded to two fire alarms.

02-28-2004

- Carol Leigh Waters Treharn, 22, of 276 Anderson St., Reidsville, Ga., was charged with possession of marijuana.
- Richard Earl Treharn II, 23, of 276 Anderson St., Reidsville, Ga., was charged with DUI, possession of marijuana and a stop sign violation.
- A purse was taken from the Henderson Library.
- Officers issued two traffic warnings, investigated one traffic accident and assisted one motorist.

02-29-2004

- A case of harassment was reported at Watson Hall.

03-01-2004

- A cell phone was taken from the Recreation Activities Center.
- Officers investigated two traffic accidents and assisted five motorists and one sick person.

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

## Campus Calendar

March 3

### Miss St. Patrick's Day Pageant

Applications are currently being accepted until March 10 at 5 p.m. for the 23rd Annual Miss St. Patrick's Day Pageant. Any single female between the ages of 18-26 on the day of the pageant may apply. No entry fee is required. Over \$500 in prizes will be awarded. Contestants will be judged in the following categories: swimwear, eveningwear, spirit wear and personal interview. [www.973kissfm.com](http://www.973kissfm.com) for more details. Pageant to be held at Benedictine Military School on Saturday, March 13 at 7 p.m.

### Planning Ahead for Graduate School

3 p.m.  
This is one of many events sponsored by Career Services. At the Career Services Center, 912-681-5197 or <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/career>

### Saudi Arabian Radio Personality to Speak

4 p.m.  
Mrs. Samar Fatany, Saudi Arabia's best-known radio personality will speak on "Contemporary Social Issues in Saudi Arabia." As a journalist for Radio Jeddah, Mrs. Fatany has conducted numerous interviews with both foreign and Saudi officials and opinion leaders. Sponsored by the Philosophy, Religious Studies, and International Studies programs. At Russell Union Room 2080, 912-681-0570.

March 5

### Cultural Historian Robert Darnton to speak

11 a.m.  
Darnton is noted for his studies of how what people read influences their political attitudes and activities. CLEC, the Henderson Library and the Department of History sponsor this event. At

the College of Education Auditorium.

### Friday Lunch Series

12 p.m.  
The HRM Friday Lunches are the flavorful result of the efforts of the students of the Hotel and Restaurant Management Program at GSU. The price for lunch is \$9 and take out is available. At the Family Consumer Science Building, 912-681-5975 for reservations.

### First Annual U.I.C. Spades Classic

6 p.m.  
This event is sponsored by United in Christ. There is a \$10 entrance fee per team. At Russell Union Room 2047, 912-871-6174

### Guest Artist Recital

8 p.m.  
The Belmont Choir will perform. At Carol A. Carter Recital Hall.

## News Briefs

### Mrs. Bush working on setting up children's medical center in Iraq



Special Photo

First Lady Laura Bush.

WASHINGTON — Laura Bush is pushing a \$100 million children's medical center she hopes will be built in the southern Iraqi city of Basra.

Congress approved \$50 million for the project in November as part of \$87.5 billion for U.S. military operations and aid in Iraq, although some lawmakers, including Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee, have questioned whether the money would be better spent on basic public health measures instead of a modern facility.

The project, in its initial phases, eventually is to be a public-private partnership between U.S. Agency for International Development and Project HOPE, a private organization that has helped establish similar facilities in Poland and China, said Mrs. Bush's spokesman Gordon Johndroe.

The Coalition Provisional Authority has informed Congress that it is ready to do the project, but is waiting for the lawmakers to respond with guidelines on how the money could be used.

The \$87.5 billion approved by Congress includes \$18.6 million for reconstruction. Of this amount, Congress approved \$493 million for improving hospitals and clinics across Iraq, including \$50 million for the pediatric facility in Basra.

### Ballot heading confuses sales tax, bonds

McDONOUGH, Ga. — Although it didn't create the same uproar as Florida's 2000 presidential election, a ballot mix-up in Henry County may have confused some voters in last week's advanced-voting debut.

The ballot stated voters were voting on a sales-tax increase, but the real issue was whether the county school district should be allowed to issue bonds. Election officials said about 900

ballots were cast before the mistake was realized. Despite the confusion, those votes will still be counted.

Buddy Welch, attorney for the school district, caught the error and said it was easily fixed by hanging a sign in the election office. Because only the heading was incorrect, the ballot didn't need to be changed.

"We really didn't have to do anything because the legal question is correct," Welch said.

Ramona Jones, chairwoman for the Henry County Board of Elections, was quick to blame the mistake on the Kennesaw State University Center for Election Systems, which prints free ballots for more than 100 counties. But Chris Riggall, spokesman for Secretary of State Cathy Cox, said the onus is on counties to ensure ballots are correct.

"It's clearly the case that they signed off on the ballot proof with that heading on there," Riggall said, but he added that errors are part of elections. "There's never been an election where somebody didn't make a mistake."

### Louis Farrakhan criticizes Bush, Kerry; pushes for slave reparations



Special Photo

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan says blacks should support Presidential Candidate Al Sharpton.

CHICAGO — In a speech peppered with criticisms of President Bush, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan on Sunday pressed for America and England to grant slave reparations.

Farrakhan, speaking at the final session of the Nation of Islam's annual meeting warned blacks against supporting the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.

"Black people are so angry with President Bush that they're willing to give Senator Kerry a free ride," he said. "Getting rid of Bush and getting John Kerry ... will mean you'll get more of the same."

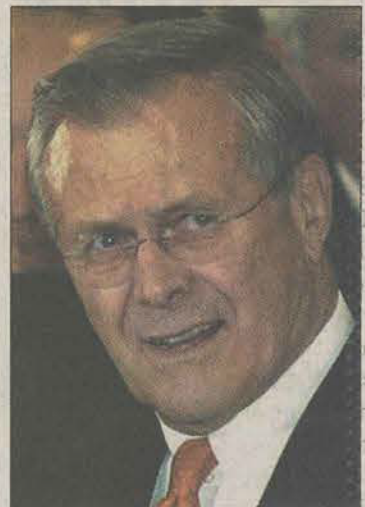
Farrakhan said blacks should consider supporting candidate Al Sharpton to give that candidate more power to promote black issues.

Speaking for about three hours, Farrakhan, 70, said America and Great Britain need to recognize their roles in the slave trade. He urged Congress to consider a bill sponsored by Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich. that would establish a commission to study slavery.

Farrakhan said whites fail to realize they hold privileged positions in America because of slavery.

"If America is not willing to look at ... what happened to us as a people, there will never be a chance for good relations between blacks and whites," he said.

### Bush administration denies forcing Aristide's retreat



Special Photo

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

WASHINGTON — The White House and the Defense Department on Monday dismissed allegations that Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was kidnapped by U.S. forces eager for him to resign and flee into exile.

With U.S. military forces already on the ground in the Caribbean nation and more on the way, chief presidential spokesman Scott McClellan said, "It's nonsense, and conspiracy theories do nothing to help the Haitian people move forward to a better more free, more prosperous future."

At the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld also vehemently denied that Aristide had been forced out by the United States.

McClellan told reporters that Aristide left on his own free will. "We took steps to protect Mr. Aristide and his family so they would not be harmed as they departed Haiti," he said.

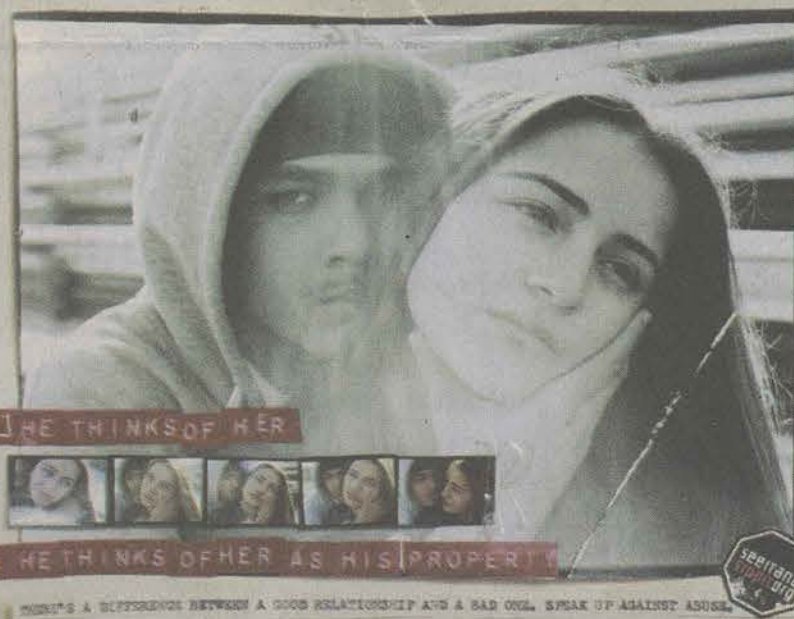
### Pentagon alerts four major National Guard units to prepare for duty in Iraq

WASHINGTON — Four major my National Guard units have been placed on alert for possible deployment to Iraq late this year or in early 2005 as part of a larger force rotation, officials said Monday.

The units are the 42nd Infantry Division headquarters from the New York National Guard, the 256th Infantry Brigade from Louisiana, the 116th Cavalry Brigade from Idaho and Oregon, and the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment from Tennessee, according to several officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The exact number of Guard members who would be mobilized is unclear; the number could change depending on the security situation in Iraq during the course of this year, but they likely would total several thousand or more.

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



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## 1 Georgia

### Number coincidence causes concern among moviegoers

ROME - Tickets at one movie theater screening Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" are being deemed decidedly unholy.

The number 666, which many Christians recognize as the "mark of the beast," is appearing on movie tickets for Gibson's film at a Georgia theater, drawing complaints from some moviegoers.

The machine that prints tickets assigned the number 666 as a prefix on all the tickets for the film, said Gary Smith, owner of the Movies at Berry Square in northwest Georgia. The 666 begins a series of numbers that are listed below the name of the movie, the date, time and price.

"It's from our computer and it's absolutely a coincidence," Smith said. "It has nothing to do with the film company or any vendor. It's completely in our computer."

In the Bible, the book of Revelation says 666 is the "number of the beast," usually interpreted as Satan or the Antichrist.

Several patrons have made comments about the numbers, and one person who was uncomfortable having 666 on her ticket asked for a pass to be substituted for a ticket.

"A lot of people have asked what the numbers mean, some said it seemed odd, some said it was inappropriate," said theater employee Erica Diaz.

The movie, which opened Wednesday, is a bloody depiction of Christ's final hours and crucifixion.

## 2 Florida

### New Port Richey woman fined \$190,000 for overgrown yard

NEW PORT RICHEY - Antoinette Stavropoulos says she is in no shape to maintain the overgrown lawn for which she has been fined nearly three times the value of her home.

Stavropoulos acknowledges that the grass in her back yard reaches 3 feet high and a foot high in the front. But she can't fathom paying the \$190,000 she has accumulated in fines since she was first warned about the grass two and half years ago.

"I'm by myself, I have hernias, I have arthritis in my legs," Stavropoulos, 53, said Thursday. "They said, 'You have to get it done.'"

Communities in the Tampa Bay area have been cracking down on eyesores in an attempt to attract new commercial and residential interests, but Stavropoulos calls her mounting \$200-a-day fines "just goofy."

## 3 West Virginia

### Good samaritan has car stolen

MORGANTOWN - A man whose vehicle hit a guard rail and flipped over got out of the wreckage and stole the car of a woman who stopped to help him, police say.

Terry Junior Moore, 40, of Fairmont was driving south on U.S. 19 when his car left the roadway, hit a guardrail, traveled up an embankment and flipped on its top, landing in the middle of the road about 10:30 p.m. Saturday.

Brandy Eddy of Grant Town stopped her car after she saw the accident and left the engine running as she went to help Moore, who was not injured, then allegedly took her car and fled, said Marion County Sheriff Junior Slaughter.

Eddy called the sheriff's department. Deputies and Fairmont police arrested Moore about 45 minutes later at his ex-wife's home.

Moore was charged with leaving the scene of an accident with damage, joyriding, driving on a license revoked for driving under the influence and second offense driving under the influence.

He was charged with joyriding instead of car theft because, "There wasn't any way to prove he meant to keep it for his own use. He parked it and left it. There was no damage to it," Slaughter said Monday. Nothing was taken from Eddy's car and her purse on the front seat was untouched.

After his arrest, officers discovered that Moore was wanted as a fugitive from justice. In Leon County, Fla., Moore is charged with battery of a law enforcement officer. In Loudon County, Va., he is wanted for felony grand larceny.

Both states have indicated that they want him to be extradited.

Moore was being held Monday in the North Central Regional Jail in Doddridge County. He was scheduled to be arraigned Monday.

## 4 Indiana

### Whimsical voting machine wins Purdue engineering contest

WEST LAFAYETTE - Hundreds of people showed up at Purdue University's Lambert Fieldhouse to watch nine teams of college students try to complicate the voting process.

Purdue was the site of this year's Rube Goldberg Machine Contest, in which engineering students create machines that use multiple steps to complete a simple task.

This year, contestants had to design gadgets to select, mark and cast an election ballot in 20 or more steps. The winning team, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, built a machine that used 70 steps to complete the task.

"I absolutely feel wonderful," Curt McDowell, one of the team members, said Saturday. "We've had some glitches, but we've fixed them all and it's just been amazing. All of our efforts paid off."

The team will now advance to a national Rube Goldberg contest held April 3, also at Purdue. This year marks the 16th national contest.

Judges award points based on the creative use of materials and related themes.

Contest judge Jerry Dale of General Electric Co. explained why GE sponsored the competition.

"In reality this is exactly what engineering is about when you get out of college," he said. "We think this is a perfect example of having fun learning the real part of engineering that complements your education."

In previous contests, students' machines have been required to select, clean and peel an apple; make a cup of coffee; toast a piece of bread; put a stamp on an envelope; and drop a penny into a piggy bank.

The competition pays homage to the late cartoonist Rube Goldberg, who specialized in drawing whimsical machines with complex mechanisms to perform simple tasks.

## 5 New Mexico

### Fruity fish found in New Mexico

MORGAN LAKE - If you were at Morgan Lake and caught a fish with teeth from the faraway Amazon River, who'd eat whom?

Not to worry, fish folks say, the South American fish found this month is no piranha.

The fish, called a red pacu, has a mouth full of teeth, but they're molar-like and not particularly sharp. Unlike the flesh-eating piranha, the fish is a vegetarian, and Amazonian anglers have been known to use fruit for bait.

The solitary pacu, about 20 inches long, was found in the channel near the Four Corners Power Plant, which adjoins the Lake Morgan, over the Valentine's Day weekend. It was found dead in a basket that screens debris, officials said.

The same fish also may have been spotted in 2000, said Nathan Tohtsoni, plant spokesman.

"We can guess it's been there at least four years," he said.

Theories vary on how it got into the lake: maybe from a dumped aquarium, or perhaps from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery in Texas that breeds bass to stock the lake - but also where red pacu are known to live.

So far, no bass have been munched by their toothy pond mates.

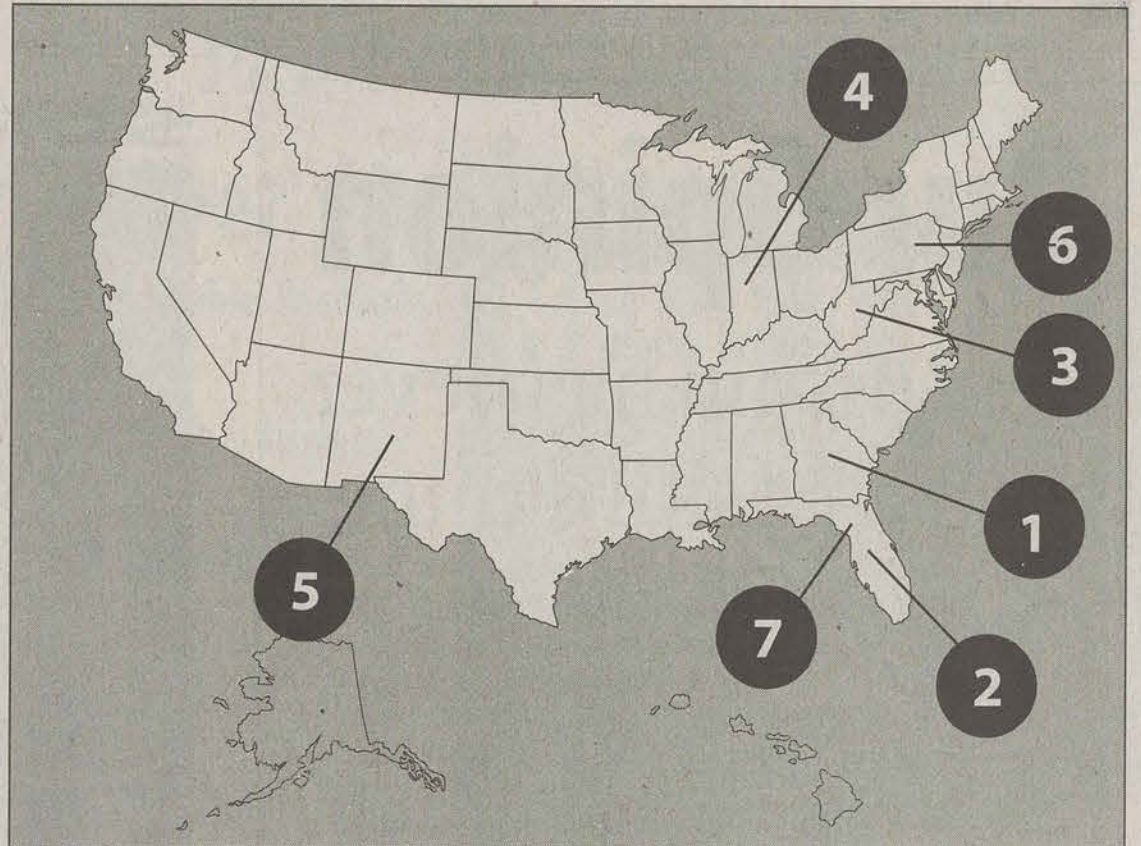
"We know this particular species of fish eats vegetation and insects," Tohtsoni said. "We don't believe it's harming anything else."

## 6 Pennsylvania

### Mom accused of stripping at son's party pleads guilty

MERCER - A woman accused of playing stripper at her teenage son's birthday party after plans to ride go-carts fizzled pleaded guilty to corruption of minors - but doesn't admit stripping for the youths, a prosecutor said.

Patricia M. Johnson, 35, of



Hermitage, will be sentenced April 1 on the misdemeanor corruption charge and with furnishing alcohol to minors. In exchange, prosecutors dropped 25 other counts including indecent assault, reckless endangerment and indecent exposure.

Although the corruption charge carries up to five years in prison, Johnson will likely face probation because of her lack of a criminal record, authorities said.

Johnson, her son, and three of his teenage friends met at a recreation center on July 26 and found that the go-carts they planned to ride were rented out.

Instead, the woman bought the boys beer and rented a motel room where she attempted to touch them inappropriately, lick their faces and began to strip, police said. Johnson gave the boys \$1 bills to put in her bra and panties and tried to lie between two of them after they went to bed, police said.

Johnson did not specifically admit stripping in front of the boys but she did admit allowing the boys to

drink alcohol and participating in horseplay with them, Assistant Mercer County District Attorney William Moder said.

The corruption charge covers a wide range of inappropriate behavior with children under the age of 16, Moder said.

Johnson's attorney, public defender Dan Davis, would not comment on what specific behavior Johnson acknowledged.

## 7 Florida

### Elderly man injured in fall dies lying in yard refusing medical help

ORLANDO - An 83-year-old man who lay injured in his yard for three days, ordering his wife not to call doctors, died after being exposed to rain and temperatures that dropped to 55 degrees, authorities said.

Glen Schibley was found dead Thursday with his wife by his side. He had been working in his yard Monday when he fell and could not get up, said Orange County Sheriff's spokesman Jim Solomons.

Schibley told his 79-year-old wife, Harriet, not to call authorities because of previous bad experiences with doctors, Solomons said.

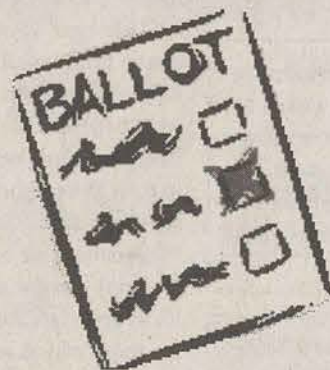
Harriet Schibley was also injured as she brought her husband food, water and medicine and covered him with a tarp during rainstorms, Solomons said. She slept beside him at least once.

The couple was found by their son-in-law when he came by to check up on them. Neighbors never saw them because of a fence around the junk-strewn yard.

During the three days, the temperature once dropped to 55. Nearly 2.5 inches of rain fell in Orlando on Tuesday.

"I don't know what was on Harriet's mind. She loved the man deeply," neighbor Tim Elfman said Friday. "If he said don't call anybody, I guess she figured he would get up."

# Student Government Elections

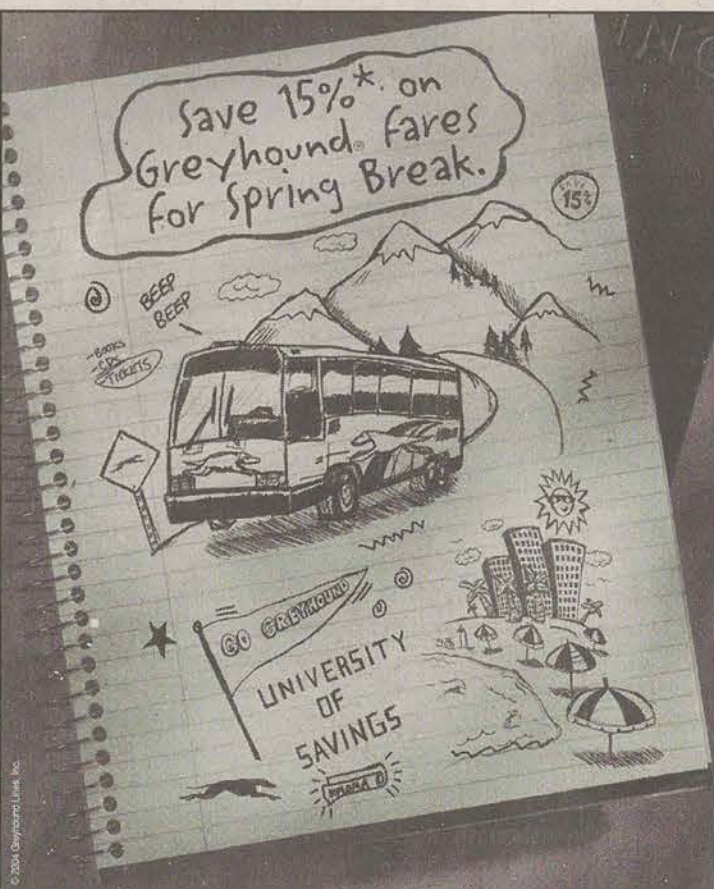


There will be an information session  
on March 2 and March 4  
from 5:00-6:00  
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# Our Opinion

## Censorship has never been a positive thing

Over the past century, many different groups, causes, and political figures have done their best to try and censor certain material. Hitler and his Nazis did so by burning books during the World War II era; while Jerry Falwell and the Religious Right did all that they could to rid the world of indecency in their dealings with *Hustler Magazine* in the 1970s.

From the beginning of time, there has been some form of censorship. The very first newspaper ever printed in North America in 1690 was banned after only one printing because of its critical content about the British King.

Many of the greatest books ever written have spent their fair share of time on the banned book list. Some of the titles include, "Of Mice and Men," "Huckleberry Finn," "Gone with the Wind," and "Frankenstein." All of these books, unarguably literary classics, were once banned because some thought they were indecent or obscene.

We're still dealing with censorship; dare we mention Janet's breast? The FCC came down hard on the network on which the event was broadcasted. Yet flip to the National Geographic Channel and you're libel to see many women who are virtually naked (and without a nipple cover), but you see no one crying about that. Whether it's a saggy breast of some jungle woman or the nice perky one of some American superstar should not matter: A breast is a breast. If "educational channels" can show nude humans, then so should every other channel.

The most recent attempts at censorship came this week with Clear Channel Radio dropping Howard Stern from many of their stations around the United States. Stern is known for his vulgarities, and his show is so popular, that it even airs on TV every night. We're no media geniuses, but if a radio show is so popular that people will actually watch it on TV, it must be doing something right.

When people are going to wake up and see that we are in the twenty-first century? Ok, ban Howard Stern so we can't hear the dirty talk and whatnot; just go to your home computer – or maybe even the local library – and look for things ten times nastier on the Internet. Or, just turn on the local news and you will probably see a dead body, or hear the reporter talk in detail about a local woman being raped.

Who is supposed to be protected here by these censors? Is it Joe American with 2.5 kids and a dog that they are protecting, or is it the children of tomorrow? We would bet the farm that it isn't Joe.

Here's a great solution. Attention parents: Do your jobs! If you don't want your kids listening to "filth" on the radio, make sure of it yourself, just as you make sure they don't drink the bleach under the kitchen sink.

At some point, things get ridiculous, and it would be safe to say that time has come.

Censorship isn't meant to protect everyone. It is obviously something schemed up by special-interest groups who have nothing better to do than impose their ideologies on others.

If your group doesn't want to read a certain publication, listen to a certain radio station, or watch a particular show, then don't. Just leave the rest of us alone.

### 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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For 76 years, Georgia Southern's Official Student Newspaper

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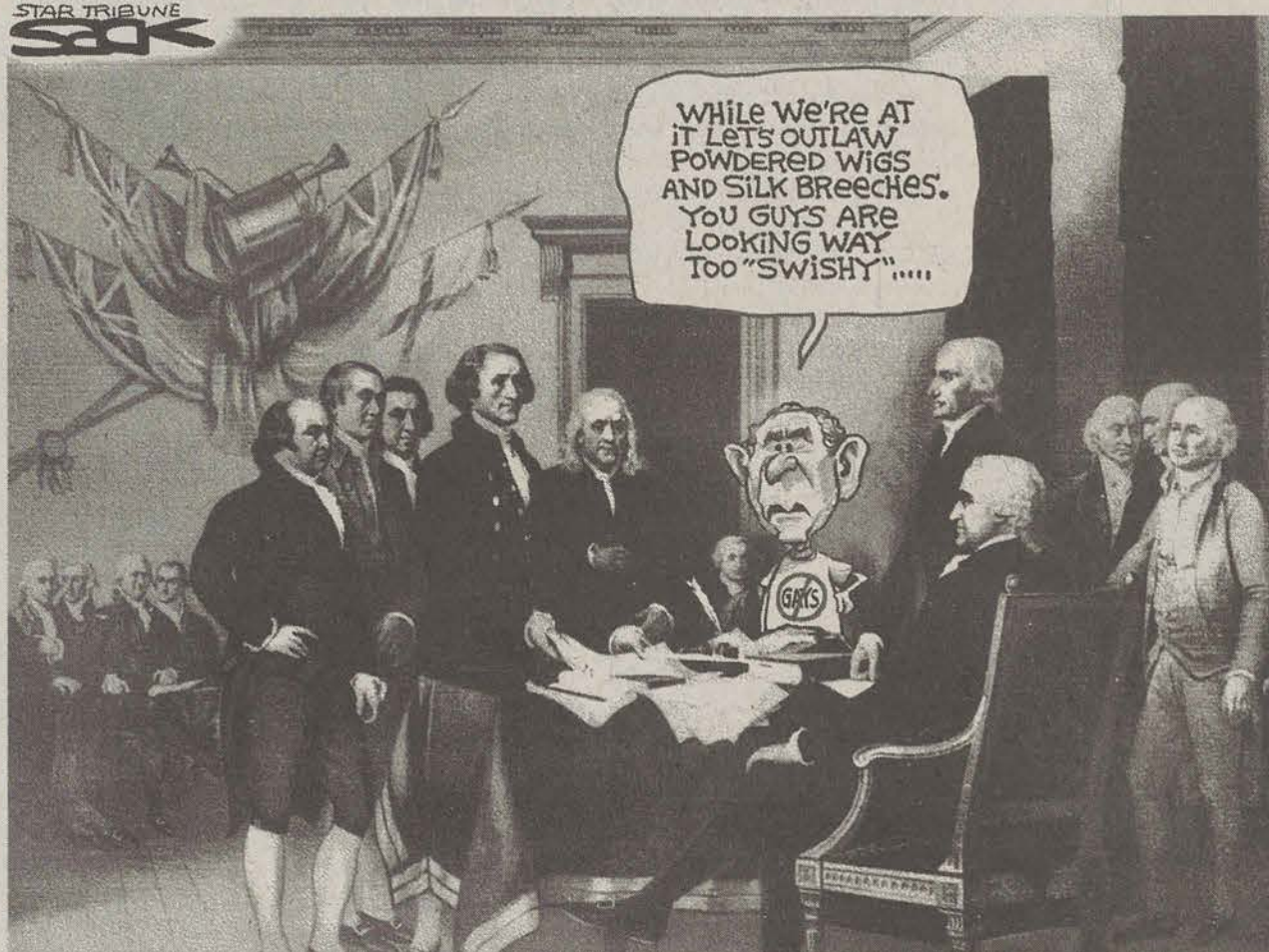
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## It's not a matter of religion anymore

*I know the follow opinion column may seem anti-Christian, and it may seem like I am totally against organized religion in general. For the record, I am not. I know that some people need and want God in their lives, while others may not. I also know that not all Christians think that homosexuality is wrong or are against homosexual marriage. Please keep this in consideration while reading the following material.*

This column could offend. For those of you who are Christians, and do not like your religious beliefs being challenged, stop reading now. For those of you who may feel strongly in opposition to gay marriage, or who are tired of hearing about it, stop reading now.

Okay, for the select few that are left, who decided to go on and continue to read despite the above indications of what is ahead, thank you for your time and I hope this will give you a new perspective on things, or at least make you consider some new possibilities.

This weekend, as my boyfriend and I were returning from out of town, we saw a sign and some bumper stickers that spawned such awe in me that I couldn't speak. All of the above-mentioned forms of publication said 'Marriage is between a man and a woman.' Now, this has been talked about quite a lot this past year, and most fervently in the last few months. It has always been an issue. But, now that it is an election year, it is being brought to the top of the list for a lot of candidates, including our current president who wants to change the constitution to make marriage between two men or two women illegal.

This type of narrow-minded thinking comes from uninformed people who would rather follow than lead. Most of the people who believe that homosexuality is wrong have most likely never met an out gay person in their lives, or believe everything that they are spoon-fed and do not allow themselves to think outside the box.

Don't give me any of that 'Well, God says it's wrong' crap. I am sick of hearing it. Jesus, for those of you who 'live by his teachings' said at the Last Supper, "And now I give you a new commandment: love one another, as I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples" (John 13, 34-35). How can persecuting homosexuals be 'loving one another'? How can denying them the right to marry the person they love be right? Marriage is supposed to be a union of two people who care for and love each other.

For those who are 'loving the sinner and hating the sin' by trying to save these lost souls, that is just an attempt to justify imposing your beliefs on another person. There is such a thing as separation of church and state in this country, and allowing a law banning gay marriage visibly crosses that line.

Jesus also said in Matthew chapter seven, verses one and two, "Do not judge others, so that God will not judge you, for God will judge you in the same way you judge others, and he will apply to you the same rules you apply to others." So why are religious groups so up in

arms about all of this? If it is wrong, God will make the final judgment on those people's lives. No one, according to the Bible, has the right to pass moral judgment on anyone else other than God.

This country was founded on money, not religious freedom. It was a way for the British to capitalize on a wonderful resource (unspoiled land) and to get rid of the people that were bad for their country, the prisoners of debt. From those humble beginnings, the United States has risen to the majesty at which we now stand. We have produced some of the most memorable people and moments in history. We are the strongest country in the world, the country that other countries look to for advice and help. Yet, we will not allow people who love each other to get married. It isn't even really about if they can or cannot get married anymore. It has become the government taking freedom away from its people, about putting limitations on something so pure as love. This country prides itself in being 'the land of the free,' but a small part of our population may not be able to marry the person they love.

Homosexual marriage will not lead to bigamy, bestiality or rampant child molestation. In fact, statistically speaking, 98 percent of pedophiles are self-proclaimed straight men. Allowing homosexuals to marry will not defile the sanctity of marriage because marriage is not a national law, and it should not be. It is a personal decision made between two consenting adults that love each other. If a homosexual getting married is going to affect your marriage directly, then the problem is not with a man marrying a man, it is in your own relationship.

Homosexual marriage will not lead to more people becoming homosexual because it is not a choice. You are either gay or you're not. Homosexuality is not a 'disease' that can be caught. It is not a rash that can be spread if you touch someone who has it. It is genetic, nature's way of population control, because two creatures of the same sex cannot reproduce. They will, however, be able to provide good, loving homes to those children who were abandoned by their 'straight' parents.

It has been scientifically proven that homosexual males have a high concentration of aromatase, a chemical in the brain that changes testosterone into estrogen, in their hypothalamic region, which is found right above your cerebellum. This structure is typically smaller in heterosexual males, yet was found to be larger in homosexual males, similar in size to that of a female. There have also been studies that have found a genetic marker on the X chromosome (the chromosome that the mother provides) that may be the cause for homosexuality, considering that 82 percent of homosexual males have that particular marker. Scientists are now working on a more in-depth study of this.

If you are the type of person who takes the approach that you don't want gay marriage to be allowed because you don't want to see it, or you are afraid of the 'gay agenda' being forced upon you, then look at it like this: A ban on gay marriage would force those people who



**Katie Glorieux**  
deputy managing editor

See Glorieux, page 8

### Today around the world

**Arab:** Mohammed's Birthday  
**Bulgaria:** Liberation from Ottoman Rule  
**Morocco:** National Day  
**Sudan:** Unity Day  
**World:** Day of Prayer

### Today in history

**On this day in 1978,** Charlie Chaplin's remains were stolen in Switzerland.  
**On this day in 1933,** Mount Rushmore was dedicated.  
**On this day in 1845,** Florida became the twenty-seventh U.S. state.



## MARS, FROM PAGE 1

Dr. James Garvin, lead scientist for Mars and lunar exploration at NASA Headquarters, Washington, said, "NASA launched the Mars Exploration Rover mission specifically to check whether at least one part of Mars ever had a persistently wet environment that could possibly have been hospitable to life. Today we have strong evidence for an exciting answer: Yes."

Opportunity has more work ahead. It will try to determine whether, besides being exposed to water after they formed, the rocks may have originally been laid down by minerals precipitating out of solution at the bottom of a salty lake or sea.

The first views Opportunity sent of its landing site in Mars' Meridiani Planum region five weeks ago delighted researchers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., because of the good fortune to have the spacecraft arrive next to an exposed slice of bedrock on the inner slope of a small crater.

The robotic field geologist has spent most of the past three weeks surveying the whole outcrop, and then turning back for close-up inspection of selected portions. The rover found

a very high concentration of sulfur in the outcrop with its alpha particle X-ray spectrometer, which identifies chemical elements in a sample.

At the same location, the rover's Mössbauer spectrometer, which identifies iron-bearing minerals, detected a hydrated iron sulfate mineral called jarosite. Germany provided both the alpha particle X-ray spectrometer and the Mössbauer spectrometer. Opportunity's miniature thermal emission spectrometer has also provided evidence for sulfates.

On Earth, rocks with as much salt as this Mars rock either have formed in water or, after formation, have been highly altered by long exposures to water. Jarosite may point to the rock's wet history having been in an acidic lake or an acidic hot springs environment.

The water evidence from the rocks' physical appearance comes in at least three categories, said Dr. John Grotzinger, sedimentary geologist from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge: indentations called "vugs," spherules and crossbedding.

Pictures from the rover's panoramic camera and microscopic imager reveal the target rock, dubbed "El Capitan," is thoroughly pocked with

indentations about a centimeter (0.4 inch) long and one-fourth or less that wide, with apparently random orientations. This distinctive texture is familiar to geologists as the sites where crystals of salt minerals form within rocks that sit in briny water. When the crystals later disappear, either by erosion or by dissolving in less-salty water, the voids left behind are called vugs, and in this case they conform to the geometry of possible former evaporite minerals.

The images obtained to date are not adequate for a definitive answer. So scientists plan to maneuver Opportunity closer to the features for a better look. "We have tantalizing clues, and we're planning to evaluate this possibility in the near future," Grotzinger said.

JPL, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the Mars Exploration Rover project for NASA's Office of Space Science, Washington.

For information about NASA and the Mars mission on the Internet, visit [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov).

Images and additional information about the project are also available at [marsrover.jpl.nasa.gov](http://marsrover.jpl.nasa.gov) and [athena.cornell.edu](http://athena.cornell.edu).

## STRATFORD, FROM PAGE 1

Not much has been done so far concerning the renovation, except removing furnishings and other odds and ends.

When construction starts, the first thing that will be taken care of is removing lead paint and checking for asbestos. After that's done, they will be able to tear down the hall and start laying bricks for the new residence hall, Eagle Village.

Even though this may have put a burden on most of the students that lived there, they did receive first priority of where they wanted to live.

Vickie Shaw, the coordinator for the residence area, said they signed up for a place to stay and were usually first or second in line to get into the building.

Vickie Hawkins, housing director, said students were given the option of living in one of eleven on-campus residence halls, without having to pay extra. Others were also given a chance to move off campus if they would like, without penalty. When major construction begins to take place, Knight Dr. will be closed, which now extends from Harvey Drive to Georgia Ave.

During renovation, work will be done in order for Knight Drive to be extended to Lanier Drive. All of this will be taking place in the middle of May, when students are home for the summer.

The new housing, Eagle Village, will be finished in Fall 2005, equipped with 772 beds and deluxe suites for first year students.

## FIRE, FROM PAGE 1

According to the University Police incident report, both the comforter and the mattress on Crocco's bed had been burned. The ceiling, walls and floor were damaged by water. Several of Crocco's personal belongings were soaked as well, including her computer, keyboard, and radio.

Crocco was also administered a Breathalyzer as she appeared to be intoxicated, but the test rendered a blood alcohol level of 0.00.

The fire is currently under investigation and has been deemed the scene of a possible crime. Crocco was unavailable for comment, and the Resident Advisors that were on duty the night of the fire have been advised to not give out information concerning the incident.

# WORK FOR UNIVERSITY HOUSING SUMMER ONLY SUMMER ONLY

**Over 60**  
Available Positions

- Facilities Assistants
- Office Assistants
- Housing Orientation
- Team (HOT Staff)
- Resident Advisors

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Place To Stay?**

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LOCATED IN WATSON HALL  
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**live place!**

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**DON'T GET  
BURNED  
THIS SPRING BREAK!!!**

For information on staying safe, free giveaways, and more visit our Information Tables:

<b>Monday</b> <b>March 8, 2004</b>  <b>Alcohol &amp; The Sun</b>  <b>Russell Union Commons</b> <b>10am-1pm</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>March 10, 2004</b>  <b>Spring Break Safety</b>  <b>Russell Union Commons</b> <b>10am-1pm</b>
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**Free Give Aways!**

**Safe Spring Break Kits  
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And More....**

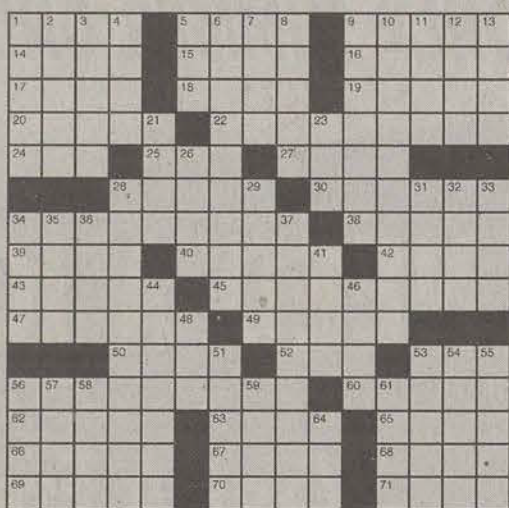
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Office of Health Education and Promotion  
871-1732 or email us at:  
[Healthed@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:Healthed@georgiasouthern.edu)



## CLASSIFIEDS, ETC.

## Crossword

ACROSS  
1 Couch  
5 Yacht pole  
9 Object mildly  
14 Extended family  
15 Despire  
16 Skip the church ceremony  
17 Mine entrance  
18 Aphrodite's child  
19 Poisonous secretion  
20 Old treasure  
22 U.S. citizens  
24 Printer's measures  
25 Circle part  
27 Diplomat's asset  
28 Island farewell  
30 Mother or Calcutta  
34 Hanover, NH college  
38 Gomorrah's neighbor  
39 Landed  
40 Correspond  
42 Sub shop  
43 Bounds' partners  
45 Animated  
47 Aromas  
49 Immigrant's island  
50 Raised platform  
52 Poetic  
53 Outscore  
56 Arctic predator  
60 Ham it up  
62 Concerning  
63 Baby's bed  
65 Involved with  
66 Dove's desire  
67 Singer Turner  
68 Acute  
69 Invited  
70 Epic story  
71 Does wrong



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02/18/04

## Solutions

8 Change an alarm  
9 Contrivances  
10 Current  
11 Poet Van Dyuyn  
12 Informed about  
13 Radiation units  
21 Tranquil  
23 Clavell novel, "King"  
26 Aussie hoppers  
28 Crowd count  
29 Make amends  
31 Utopia  
32 Exclusive  
33 Surrounded by  
34 Beaver blocks  
35 Guinness or Waugh  
36 Sacred ceremony  
37 Shouting out  
41 Stack  
44 Flipped the switch  
46 Climbing plant  
48 Bro or sis

51 Factions  
53 Skin cream  
54 River frolicker  
55 Unskilled workers  
56 Dad  
57 Billfold fillers  
58 Breach of secrecy  
59 Operatic number  
61 Myers or Nesmith  
64 Sheep sound

THE  
ADVENTURES  
OF  
SKULLY  
BY  
WILLIAM  
MORTON  
©MMIII  
PIRATE  
SKULLY

originally.

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

## STUDENTS BEWARE

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

## 20 Announcements

## 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.

**AMY FROM UNL**, we met at the RAC on the 12th. Would like to talk with you again! Carl, 489-6146.

**HAVE A** special friend or significant other with an upcoming birthday? Show your love by announcing to the world that it's their birthday! Place an ad in the G-A today.

**FEELING SAD** blue 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!

## 40 Autos for Sale

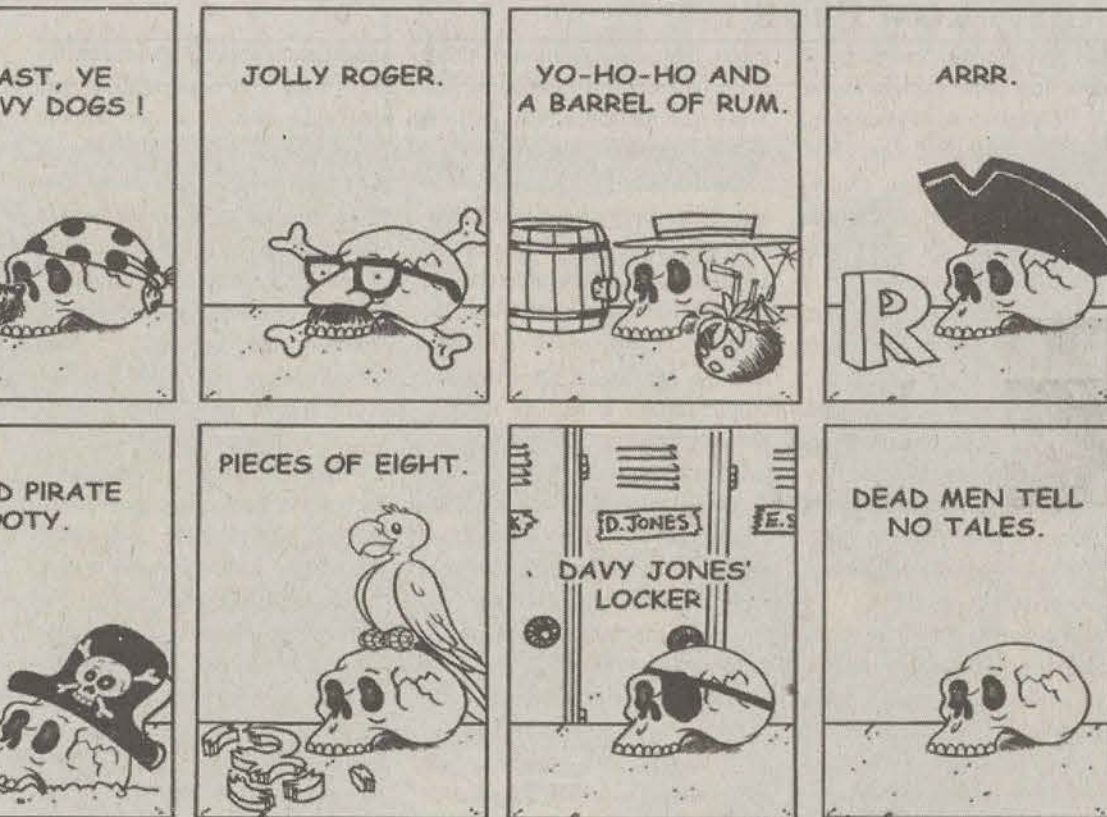
**1988 FORD** Taurus V6, 3.0, black, 136,000 miles. Needs work but runs. \$400.00 obo. Call Chad at 641-0314.

**1997 MITSUBISHI** Galant ES. Maroon, 4 doors, 76k miles, great condition. \$5,000 obo. Please call 912-541-4494.

**JUST GOT** a new car, need to sell your old one? Place an ad in **The George-Anne** and 15,000 people are going to read about it.

**NISSAN MAXIMA** SE90, beige, good condition, low miles. New transmission, tires, brakes, battery, struts, alternator, muffler, power package. \$3500, obo. Call 681-5886 or 681-8808.

## 55 Books -- Swap or Sell



mortco@mindspring.com

#162

## PAUL

OKAY, SERIOUSLY. WHAT'S WITH THE HAT? THE YEAR ISN'T EVEN ALL THAT NEW ANYMORE.



## BY BILLY O'KEEFE

WELL WHY ARE YOU STILL WEARING IT? YOU'RE SO DANG WEIRD!!



www.mrbilly.com

AW, I'M SORRY PAUL. IT'S JUST THAT -- NAW, I'M JUST KIDDING. I DON'T ACTUALLY GIVE A CRAP WHAT YOU THINK. THIS HAT RULES. AND I FOUND IT IN THE STREET.

Covering the Campus  
Like a Swarm of Gnats

"The minute you start talking about what you're going to do if you lose, you have lost."

-George Shultz

"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."

-General George Patton

## 10 G-A Action Ads

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS:** The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students and utilizing the facilities provided by GSU. The newspaper is the oldest continuously d. in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The ideas expressed herein are those of the editor or the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Student Media Committee, the administration, the faculty and staff of Georgia Southern University, or the University System of Georgia. The George-Anne is published three times weekly during the academic year and five times during summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor at by phone at 912/681-5246 or fax at 912/486-7113. Readers may also send electronic messages to the newspaper staff by visiting our web site at <http://www.stp.gasou.edu>.

**OFFICES, MAIL, PHONES:** Room 2023, F.I. Williams Center. The George-Anne, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga. 30460. 912/681-5246 (News) or 912/618-5418 (Advertising) or 912/486-7113 (Fax)

## ADVERTISING INFORMATION

## 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**NEED** to sell old books? Buy new ones? Place an ad in **The George-Anne** and take care of the book situation. Stop by the Williams Center, room 2023 for details.

## 60 Business Opportunities

**MAKE MONEY** taking Online Surveys. Earn \$10-\$125 for Surveys. Earn \$25-\$250 for Focus Groups. Visit [www.cash4students.com/geosou](http://www.cash4students.com/geosou)  
**SPECIAL REMINDER:** time spent at the career center is inversely proportionate to the time spent living in your parent's basement. To learn more, call 681-5197 today!

## 70 Child Care

**NEED A** babysitter? Place an ad in **The George-Anne** classified section, and we promise, one of the 16,000 students on this campus will respond.

## 75 Churches

**DOES YOUR** church have student services or meetings? Place an ad in **The George-Anne** and new members might join.

## 80 Computers &amp; Software

**COMPUTER FOR SALE.** Dell Pentium 4, 2.4 GHz, 256 RAM, 60 GB hard drive. DVD, CD-RW, Zip, Floppy Drives. Windows XP and other installed software. 1 year old. \$500 obo. Call Darren 681-7014.

## 90 Education

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

## 120 Furniture &amp; Appliances

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

## 140 Help Wanted

**EGG DONORS** wanted! Fee for donation. Women must be 18-30. Call for application. Steven Litz, Attorney. 317-996-2000 lic # 10238-49

**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 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](http://www.aroundcampus.com).

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

## 150 Lost &amp; 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

**SONY EXPLODE** in-dash TV and DVD player, motorized screen. \$700. Call 706-231-7580.

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

**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.

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

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

**FORMAL DRESS** for sale. Paid \$140,



"Allow me to present the honorary Oscar for Most Bloated Budget."

asking \$90 obo. Worn only once. For more information call 681-8251.

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

## 190 Personal

**STUD, HAVE** a very happy birthday. I love ya lots! Love, B.A!

## 220 Rentals &amp; Real Estate

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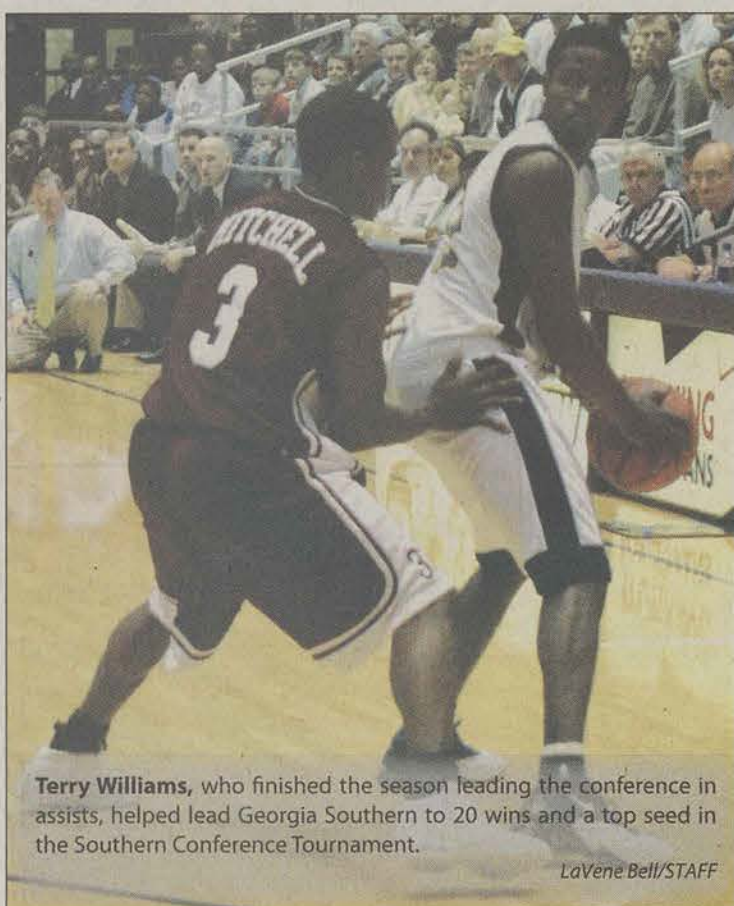
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# DANCIN' THE CHARLESTON

## SOUTHERN CONFERENCE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT PREVIEW



**Terry Williams**, who finished the season leading the conference in assists, helped lead Georgia Southern to 20 wins and a top seed in the Southern Conference Tournament.

LaVene Bell/STAFF

### Eagles look to avoid an early exit after season-ending lapses

By Eli Boorstein  
Nietzroob17@hotmail.com

The top-seeded Georgia Southern men's basketball team triumphed through their best regular season since joining the Southern Conference eleven years ago.

However, the Eagles' triumphs came with its share of troubles, including last Saturday's season-ending loss to the conference's worst team in The Citadel, a club who had won its first league game just five days prior.

For Georgia Southern to make it to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1992, they will need to hope for the same burst that guided them to a season sweep of the College of Charleston. A repeat of the loss to The Citadel, or the nail-biting finish against Elon on Feb. 23, and the

Eagles could be heading back down to Statesboro early.

As a benefit of earning the top seed from the South Division, Georgia Southern will get an extra day to prepare, while their two possible first-round opponents face off on Wednesday.

Fourth-seeded UNC Greensboro and fifth-seeded Wofford will battle at 6 p.m., the winner to face the Eagles 24 hours later at the North Charleston Coliseum.

Eagle fans are likely hoping for Wofford to pull out of that game as the winners, as UNC Greensboro became the only visiting team to win at Hanner Fieldhouse all season, sneaking away with an 80-79 victory on Feb. 21. The Eagles could not handle the strong-shooting Spartan squad who

were led by Ronnie Burrell's 27 points and nine rebounds, and Jay Joseph's 20 points and nine rebounds.

Wofford, on the other hand, could not muster much success against Georgia Southern, falling 81-63 on Jan. 7 in Statesboro, and 82-73 in Spartanburg twelve days later.

Should the Eagles advance into the semifinal round, they would face either Appalachian State, Chattanooga or the College of Charleston, teams they had luck against this season. Overall, Georgia Southern is 6-1 against teams from their half of the bracket.

It is the other half of the men's bracket that could prove troublesome, as Georgia Southern is a combined 5-4 against Furman, Western Carolina, Elon, The Citadel, Davidson and top-seeded East Tennessee State.

(1S) GEORGIA SOUTHERN vs.  
(4N) UNC GREENSBORO or (5S) WOFFORD

Thursday • 6 p.m.  
North Charleston Coliseum

#### RECORDS

Georgia Southern (20-7, 11-5 SoCon)  
UNC Greensboro (11-16, 7-9 SoCon)  
Wofford (8-19, 4-12 SoCon)

#### HEAD COACHES

GSU: Jeff Price (83-59, 5th season)  
UNC: Fran McCaffery (72-74, 5th season)  
WOF: Mike Young (22-34, 2nd season)

#### SEASON SERIES

Georgia Southern lost to UNC Greensboro 80-79 on Feb. 21 in Statesboro, but swept Wofford, winning 81-63 in Statesboro on Jan. 7 and 82-73 on Jan. 19 in Spartanburg.

#### LEADING SCORERS

GSU: Elton Nesbitt & Frank Bennett, 15.4 ppg  
UNC: Jay Joseph, 16.9 ppg  
WOF: Howard Wilkerson, 13.5 ppg



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(8) GEORGIA SOUTHERN vs.  
(9) APPALACHIAN STATE

Wednesday • 2:30 p.m.  
McAlister Field House

#### RECORDS

Georgia Southern (14-13, 9-11 SoCon)  
Appalachian State (7-20, 6-14 SoCon)

#### HEAD COACHES

GSU: Rusty Cram (126-100, 8th season)  
ASU: Adrienne Shuler (16-39, 2nd season)

#### SEASON SERIES

Georgia Southern won 68-53 on Dec. 6 in Statesboro, and won 64-62 on Feb. 25 in Boone.

#### LEADING SCORERS

GSU: Jessica Everett, 12.1 ppg  
ASU: Aisha Bryant, 13.0 ppg



**Lee DuBose** was the Lady Eagles' most dependable outside shooter as she made 35 percent of her three-point attempts. The Lady Eagles will look to ride a recent swing of momentum towards a second consecutive trip to the Southern Conference championship game.

LaVene Bell/STAFF

### Challenging road lies ahead for eighth-seeded Lady Eagles

By Eli Boorstein  
Nietzroob17@hotmail.com

The weather forecast calls for cloudy skies over Charleston during the Southern Conference Tournament.

For the eighth-seeded Lady Eagle basketball team, hopes are that lightning will strike twice as they look to make a return trip to the conference championship.

However, before aiming for the final game on Saturday, the immediate need is to advance out of Wednesday's opener against ninth-seeded Appalachian State at McAlister Field House.

That task could be easier said than done, as the Mountaineers gave Georgia Southern its share of fits just one week ago in Boone, N.C. The Lady Eagles trailed by as much as 16 points in the first half, but managed to rally back and stay close into the second half.

Down going into the final minute of play, Jessica Everett came through, sinking a pair of jumpers as Georgia

Southern eked out a 64-62 victory. Along with a 68-53 Lady Eagle win on Dec. 6 in Statesboro, Georgia Southern has now won the last eleven games against their northern rivals.

If the Lady Eagles can upend the Mountaineers in the opener, a much tougher opponent lies ahead of them on Thursday in top-seeded Chattanooga, who finished the regular season at a perfect 20-0 in league play, and 25-2 overall, their only losses coming against Butler and nationally-ranked Tennessee.

The Lady Mocs, who beat Georgia Southern in last year's SoCon title game, 66-52, swept both games against the Lady Eagles during this season, including a 70-32 rout in Chattanooga. In that game, Georgia Southern was held to just 10 first-half points, as they only shot 12.7 percent for the game.

The return game in Statesboro once again saw the Lady Mocs win 81-64, but saw Georgia Southern play a much more inspired brand of basketball,

dominating the boards by grabbing 49 rebounds. The Lady Eagles also cut down on the turnovers, an aspect that has victimized them all season, committing a season-low 14.

Chattanooga will be led by the Southern Conference Player of the Year in Katasha Brown, who led the league with a 14.7-point scoring average.

If any team has a shot at keeping Chattanooga from claiming their fourth consecutive SoCon crown, it would be second-seeded Furman. No team came closer to beating the Mocs than the Paladins did – falling by five in Greenville and by seven in Chattanooga.

After Furman, for the team that battled closest with Chattanooga, you have to look far down the SoCon standings – to Appalachian State. Mixed within their 14 league losses, the Mountaineers saved some of their best stuff for the Lady Mocs, falling by just seven points in each of the teams' two meetings.

### SOUTHERN CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(all games played at North Charleston Coliseum)

(4S) Furman

GAME 1: Wednesday, Noon

(5N) Western Carolina

GAME 5: Thursday, Noon

(1N) East Tennessee State

GAME 9:  
Friday, 6 p.m.

(2S) Davidson

GAME 6: Thursday, 30 min. after Game 5

(3N) Elon

GAME 2: Wednesday, 30 min. after Game 1

(6S) The Citadel

(4N) UNC Greensboro

GAME 3: Wednesday, 6 p.m.

(5S) Wofford

GAME 7: Thursday, 6 p.m.

(1S) Georgia Southern

GAME 11:  
Saturday, 1 p.m.  
LIVE ON ESPN

GAME 10:  
Saturday, 5 p.m.  
LIVE ON CSS

GAME 10:  
Friday, 30 min.  
after Game 9

(2N) Chattanooga

GAME 8: Thursday, 30 min. after Game 7

(3S) College of Charleston

GAME 4: Wednesday, 30 min. after Game 3

(6N) Appalachian State

### SOUTHERN CONFERENCE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(first two rounds at McAlister Field House; other games at North Charleston Coliseum)

(4) East Tennessee State

GAME 4: Thursday, 11 a.m.

(5) Elon

GAME 8:  
Friday, Noon

(1) Chattanooga

GAME 5: Thursday, 30 min. after Game 4

(8) Georgia Southern

GAME 1: Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.

(9) Appalachian State

(7) UNC Greensboro

GAME 2: Wednesday, 30 min. after Game 1

(10) College of Charleston

(2) Furman

GAME 6: Thursday, 5 p.m.

GAME 9:  
Friday, 30 min.  
after Game 8

(6) Western Carolina

GAME 3: Wednesday, 30 min. after Game 2

(11) Wofford

GAME 7: Thursday, 30 min. after Game 6

(3) Davidson



## Bennett, Williams named all-conference

Eagles' Price runner-up for coaching honors

### GSU Athletic Media Relations

SPARTANBURG, S.C. - The Southern Conference men's basketball coaches today named East Tennessee State's Zakee Wadood as the 2003-04 Player of the Year.

ETSU's Murry Bartow was named the Coach of the Year and Furman's Quan Prowell was named the Freshman of the Year. East Tennessee State also placed a league-high three members on the Coaches All-Southern Conference team.

Wadood, a 6-6, 210-pound senior, has led East Tennessee State to a 24-5 overall record and the Southern Conference's North Division title. Wadood is averaging 14.8 points per game and is leading the SoCon with 7.8 rebounds and 2.83 steals per game. ETSU point guard Tim Smith was the runner-up for Player of the Year and College of Charleston's Thomas Mobley finished third.

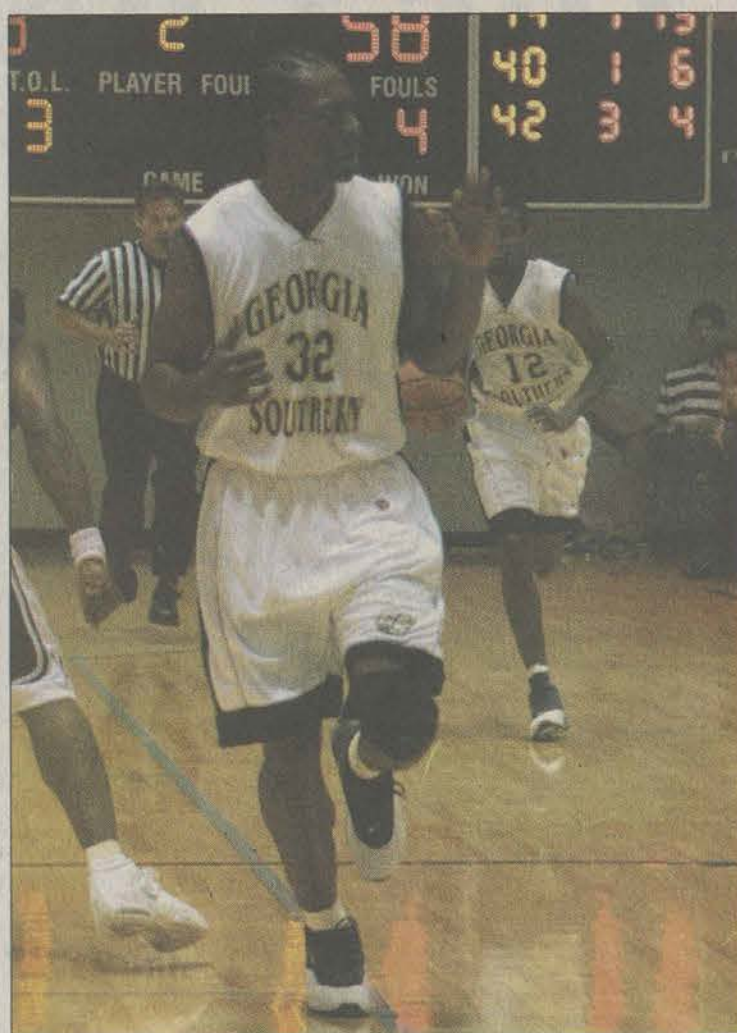
Bartow, in his first year as the head coach at East Tennessee State, earned Coach of the Year honors. He has guided the Bucs to a 15-1 league record and the number one seed in the North Division in the Southern Conference Basketball Championship which begins on Wednesday, March

3 at the North Charleston Coliseum. Jeff Price of Georgia Southern was the runner-up and Elon's Ernie Nestor finished third.

Prowell, a 6-8, 210-pound freshman from Columbus, Ga., is the second-leading freshman scorer in the Southern Conference at 10.1 points per game. Elon's Matt Nowlin was second in Freshman of the Year balloting while Furman's Robby Bostain finished third.

Wadood also headlines the 10-member All-Southern Conference team as selected by the league coaches. He is joined on the team by fellow ETSU teammates Tim Smith and Jerald Fields. Georgia Southern placed two players on the All-Conference team in Frank Bennett and Terry Williams. Also on the Coaches All-Conference team are Mobley, Brendan Winters of Davidson, Ashley Champion of Chattanooga, Maleye Ndoe of Furman and Kevin Martin of Western Carolina. Martin is the second-leading scorer in the nation with a 25.2 scoring average.

Furman is the first team in Southern Conference history to place three freshmen on the All-Freshman team. Prowell is joined by Furman teammates Robby Bostain and Moussa Diagne. Also named to the All-Freshman team were Elon's Matt Nowlin and J'mel Everhart of The Citadel.



LaVene Bell/STAFF

Senior Frank Bennett (32) joined teammate Terry Williams (12) in being named all-conference by the both the Southern Conference coaches and media. Bennett finished the season as the league's most consistent shooter at 59 percent, while Williams finished first in assists at 5.6 per game.

## Track & field claims third at SoCon Championships

### GSU Athletic Media Relations

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. - Western Carolina claimed its first SoCon Men's Indoor Track and Field Championship since 1999 on Sunday while Appalachian State's women claimed their fourth consecutive team title at the meet held in Johnson City, Tenn.

The Catamounts edged two-time defending champions Appalachian State by 21 points. The ASU women's squad had a sizeable 83.5-point margin over second place Chattanooga.

Shannon Wommack of Chattanooga continued her dominating performance in the women's distance events by claiming the mile (4:55.61) and 5,000-meter (17:40.19) titles, adding to the 3,000-meter championship that she won on Saturday. With her three titles this weekend, Wommack was tabbed as the Women's Indoor Track Performer of the Year.

Fellow Lady Mocs distance runner Kathleen Turchin, who placed second behind Wommack in all three events, was named Freshman of the Year.

In the 60-meter hurdles, Appalachian's Ronda White won with a time of 8.62 while Georgia Southern's Marlo Mincey claimed the 400-meter dash crown at 55.6.

Fellow Lady Eagle Kellie Mitchell also won first place - in the pentathlon event.

Winning the 60-meter dash was ETSU's Chantelle Vernon (7.54) while her Buccaneer teammates, Kim Simmons (2:14.55), Jennifer Habbestad, and Tiffany Collier swept the podium in the 800-meter run.

ASU's Jennifer Claud won the 200-meter dash at 24:59, and in the 4x400 relay, Western Carolina placed first (3:47.59).

In Sunday's women's field events, Ronda White of Appalachian State set a new SoCon record and hit an automatic NCAA mark with a leap of 13.30 meters in the triple jump.

College of Charleston's Chakosha Lance won the weight throw with a toss of 16.33 meters, earning the Cougars their first individual title at a SoCon indoor meet.

Also setting a SoCon record and earning an NCAA provisional qualification in the pole vault was Western Carolina's Laura Tieszen (3.95m).

White of Appalachian and Kellie Mitchell of Georgia Southern were named Women's Indoor Field Performers of the Year, and in leading his squad to its fourth consecutive conference title, ASU's John Weaver earned Coach of the Year honors.

## U.S. Senate to meet in historic closed-door session on pre-war intelligence

By Kristina Herrndobler  
KRT Campus

The last time the U.S. Senate met in a closed-door session excluding press and visitors, shutting out most staffers and imposing a television blackout was during the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton in 1999.

But the Senate is again gearing up for a rare secret session, this time to scrutinize the flaws in America's prewar intelligence about Iraqi weapons.

And like last time, political charges and countercharges are swirling about the motivation and agenda for the session.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., agreed on the closed session, which will be held in coming weeks, after Democrats threatened to force the issue.

Any two senators can force a closed session, and Republican leaders decided to go along despite criticism from some in their ranks that the closed session is an unnecessary political stunt designed to turn up

the heat on President Bush.

Democrats insist the session is a legitimate, even important, way for lawmakers to explore how the intelligence community could have been as mistaken as it apparently was in saying that Iraq was concealing significant stockpiles of chemical and biological weapons.

That is of particular concern to senators who relied on such assertions when they voted to authorize Bush to use force in Iraq, Democratic leaders said.

"The senators who voted for the Iraq resolution want to see how the intelligence they based that vote on could be that wrong," said a senior Democratic aide. "This is a very rare occasion, and any time a closed session would be called, it would be about the most important type of debates."

Joe Shoemaker, spokesman for Intelligence Committee member Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., agreed.

"This has become too big of a topic for the Senate not to address it as a whole," he said.

But some Republicans questioned their opponents' motives, noting that the Intelligence Committee and an independent commission are already investigating flaws in the prewar intelligence.

"This is nothing to do with weapons of mass destruction or intelligence," Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa.,

told the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call. "Everybody wants to get to the bottom of what is going on there, and the bottom line is they want to play politics with the issue."

Although no date has been set, Democrats are pressing to hold the session soon now that Congress has returned to Washington, while the GOP leadership wants to wait longer.

Daschle is calling for administration officials, including CIA chief George Tenet and Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, to attend the session to answer questions. But Republicans object to this strongly.

"Sending our troops to war is the most critical decision a lawmaker can make, so it makes sense to have people like that there to be able to comment and answer questions," said one Democratic aide.

Since David Kay, the former chief U.S. weapons inspector in Iraq, asserted last month that Saddam Hussein likely had no stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction.

Bush has faced growing pressure to explain how the U.S. could go to war for a seemingly faulty reason.

Bush named an independent commission, headed by former Sen. Charles Robb, D-Va., and retired federal Judge Laurence Silberman, to examine the nation's intelligence agencies.

It remains unclear exactly how the closed session will proceed or what it will encompass. It is even uncertain how much of it will remain secret, given the participation of 100 senators.

But the Senate session is likely to add heat to a debate already fueled by the presidential campaign.

Frist's press secretary confirmed that the majority leader has agreed to a closed session, but would not offer an estimate on when it would take place. "I wouldn't say it will be within a couple of weeks, because they just haven't gotten that far in discussions yet," Bob Stevenson said.

Although the Senate's reputation as a deliberative body would seem to contradict the idea of closed sessions, the Constitution does not require the Senate to meet in open session. In fact, said associate Senate historian Donald Ritchie, senators did not regularly open their debates to the public until 1929.

Susan Tolchin, a professor of public policy at George Mason University, said national security and intelligence are topics that have traditionally prompted the Senate to close its doors.

"Intelligence Committees have never been open," Tolchin said. "In many cases, national security has been used for frivolous reason. But in this case with Iraq, I think our policy of secrecy is sound."



Condoleezza Rice

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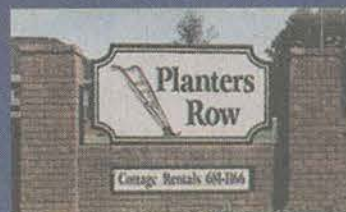


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## ARISTIDE, FROM PAGE 1

was aboard lifted off from Port-au-Prince, the final destination was unclear. According to one official, the French government helped arrange for the destination to be Central African Republic, a former French colony, and Aristide was told that in mid-flight.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Monday that Aristide's stay in the Central Afri-

can Republic, which has a history of coups and strife rivaling Haiti's, was "temporary," and U.S. officials were talking with other nations about Aristide's exile.

Aristide said in his televised interview that no official of the Central African Republic had contacted him and that he was waiting for instructions on what he was supposed to do.

## Opinions

### GLORIEUX, FROM PAGE 4

support homosexual marriage to accept the Christian point of view that homosexuality is wrong. Those people, myself included, do not want to have the 'Christian agenda' forced upon us.

If someone on campus hands you a pamphlet, nine times out of ten what do you do with it? Politely say "no thanks" or take it, mumble thanks and walk away are the typical reaction. You don't give it a second thought for the most part. So would that group be enforcing their 'agenda' on you? How is the gay community forcing their agenda upon the rest of us? By making the personal decision to get married? No one is in your face telling you to accept gay marriage or go to hell. However, some gay people face ridicule like that every day.

What if this whole debate was about revoking women's right to vote, or wanting to bring back slavery? Would you want to pass a law that allows that to happen? Some people would say that it is not the same thing. I disagree. It is the same thing because a minority group in this country is being punished for being different.

Being a U.S. citizen is a gift as far as I am concerned. If I lived in any other country, I would not be allowed to write a column like this without the fear of going to jail. I love this country and the fact that it stands for freedom for all people, despite race, religion, and hopefully sexual preference.

Whether or not it happens within the next few years, homosexuals will be accepted as equals in all aspects of life. Historically speaking, it will happen, because every other group who has fought long enough and hard enough has received equality in the United States. One day we will be reading about their struggle in the history books.

Katie Glorieux is the deputy managing editor of The George-Anne and may be reached at Coiler03@yahoo.com.