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# GEORGE-ANNE

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

Wednesday, December 1, 2004 • Volume 77, Number 50

**NEWS:** Club Mud holds bi-annual ceramic sale, selling all student-made products **Page 2**

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## Student evaluations important to administration

By Luke Hearn

ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu

Have you ever wondered what happens to those student evaluations after they are filled out?

According to an official in the office of the associate vice president of academic affairs, the evaluations go back to the particular departments for analysis. While the final results are sent to the Office of the Provost, most of the information gathered is for use at the departmental level.

According to Kay Turner, administrative secretary for the department of Writing and Linguistics, "the survey sheets are reviewed by the chair of the department at the end of the semester." Turner said that the chair of the department uses the student evaluations during faculty evaluations each year.

She also said that faculty members are also able to look at the summaries and students' written comments, but only after the semester is over.

Pat Byrd, the administrative secretary in the School of Technology, said that her department—as well as the others on campus—follow a similar procedure.

Some people question what good the evaluations are. Junior Thomas D'Aleo said that he isn't sure if they are effective. "It's good to do them," he said, "but it's hard to see if our comments are actually taken seriously and actually make a difference."

Mohammad Davoud, acting department head of the School of Technology said that while the evaluations are taken seriously, they cannot be weighed very heavily due to the biases that students can have towards a professor for a variety of reasons.

"We look at all of the evaluation reports to ensure that good teaching is happening in the classroom," he said. "If there is a problem, we want to work to make sure that it is fixed."

## AIDS vigil

*GSU and community help to raise awareness of AIDS and HIV*

Special to the G-A

This year's World AIDS Campaign seeks to raise awareness about, and help address, the many issues of women and girls affected and infected by HIV and AIDS.

Amethyst Project, Inc will be sponsoring two community observances for World AIDS Day in two locations today.

The first event will be held at Thomas Grove Baptist Church in Statesboro at noon. This event is open to the general public. Everyone is encouraged to come out in remembrance of those whose lives have been affected by the AIDS epidemic.

The second event will be held at 7 p.m. under the Rotunda of the Russell Union. This event is open to GSU students, faculty, and staff, as well as the general public. This event is co-sponsored by the GSU Sociological Society and the Zeta Phi Beta sorority.

"The event will promote awareness for World AIDS Day and demonstrate love and compassion for the suffering and loss of lives as a result of the AIDS epidemic," said Nicole Allen, one of the event organizers.

Candles and ribbons will be provided for those who attend.

"Locally, we have a large clientele

See AIDS, page 7

### Weekday Weather

Wednesday



AM Showers

HIGH

69°

LOW

39°

Thursday



Partly Cloudy

HIGH

64°

LOW

39°

### Sports

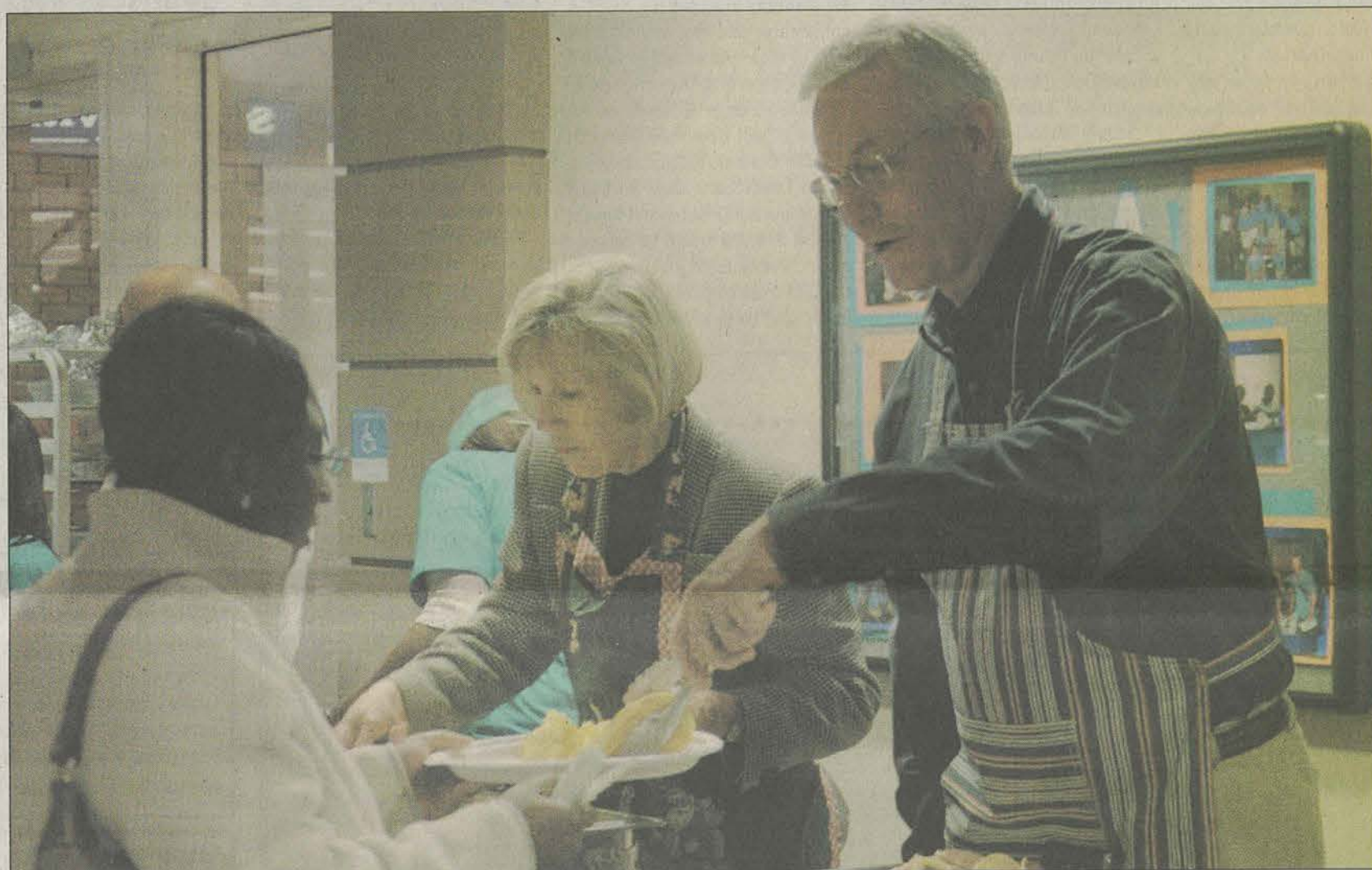
• GSU Men's Basketball defeated by Mercer

• Basketball's Lady Eagles are fall to the Lady Bulldogs



Page 8

## Finals Feast helps relieve stress



Amanda Permenter/STAFF

President Grube and Provost Bleicken serve GSU students breakfast for 'Finals Feast' on Tuesday.

Students were able to enjoy free massages and free food at the Russell Union Commons Tuesday night for Eagle Entertainment's 'Finals Feast'. The event gave the students a chance to relax and enjoy some time off from studying for finals.

Luke Hearn

ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu

What do you get when you mix free massages, free food, hundreds of end-of-the-semester-stressed students, and Georgia Southern administrators with serving spoons in their hands? Finals Feast.

Last night in the Russell Union Commons, hundreds of students came out to the 2004 Finals Feast, an event sponsored by Eagle Entertainment to help students with the pre-finals jitters.

GSU administrators, including President Bruce Grube, Provost Linda Bleicken, and Dean of Students Georg Lewis, served breakfast to students, staff from Serenity Day Spa gave students free massages, and Eagle Entertainment gave away prizes ranging from scantrons and pencils to gift baskets from the GSU Store.

Junior Katherine Dellaporta was very surprised when she realized that President Grube was helping serve breakfast to students.

"That is so interesting," she said. "It's nice to see that the administrators are out here with the students and do not feel that they are above us."

Grube was very happy to be in attendance. "It's great to be here...things couldn't be better."

Student Government Association President Chariss Perkins was also very pleased with the event.

"This was a great idea," she said. "This is the best way to end a semester, and Eagle Entertainment did a really great job putting this event together."

## Eagles stunned with first round loss



LaVene Bell/STAFF

Quarterback Chaz Williams (10) scrambles for a gain at home Saturday.

Williams ran for 159 of the Eagles' 336 rushing yards. GSU lost to New Hampshire 27-23, ending the Eagles' chance for another I-AA National Championship.

By Matt Rapp

mattrapp111@yahoo.com

The Eagles wrapped up their football season this past Saturday at Paulson Stadium in the most uncommon fashion, a first round playoff loss.

Georgia Southern (9-2) faced fifth ranked New Hampshire (9-2) in a treacherous downpour, missing their chance to reach the quarterfinals at home next week.

The Eagle's season mirrored the 2000 season that ended with a National Championship. With only one conference loss this season to the number two ranked Furman Paladins and a loss against the University of Georgia, the Eagles were expected to go far into the playoffs making a run at their seventh national title.

An at-large bid to the playoffs left Georgia Southern with a tough bracket, possibly the toughest they could have had.

The Eagles hadn't lost a game at home all season whereas the Wildcats were undefeated on the road. Up until

Saturday, GSU had never lost an opening playoff game in their long history. With an all-time playoff record of (38-8) the Eagles seemed more than confident that they could win. And that's just how they looked when they came out of the first quarter.

The horrible weather and holiday break seemed to play a factor with fan attendance but the Eagles were off to their usual start with an opening drive that took five plays for 50 yards in only one minute and thirty seconds.

An eight yard rushing touchdown from Jermaine Austin made it a 14-0 game in the first quarter. The Wildcats answered with a touchdown but were unable to score the PAT because of an awful snap.

With a 14-6 ballgame fan favorite Teddy Craft was able to return a kickoff to the Eagles 48 yard line starting them off with excellent field position again.

Southern was stuck at fourth and fifteen and Sewak aggressively decided to go for it. A pass from Williams was far from on target

See EAGLES, page 8



## Campus News

### Club Mud to hold ceramic sale

By Rachel Weeks

crazed Rachel@hotmail.com

Be sure to attend Club Mud's bi-annual ceramics and jewelry sale this Thursday through Saturday. Hundreds of handcrafted, student-created art pieces will be for sale, ranging in price from \$5 to \$300.

The student art sale will take place in the Ceramics and Sculpture Studio located at the corner of Akins Boulevard and Forest Drive from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday and Friday and from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Saturday.

The items for sale will include wearable jewelry made from precious and semi-precious stones and metals from students in the Jewelry Guild, usable ceramic objects like cups, bowls and plates and artistic sculptural ceramic pieces.

"Usually, there are functional pieces like bowls and vases, and there are larger more abstract sculptural pieces too. Some of the jewelry pieces will be functional and wearable, but some will be just display pieces," said art student Stacy Pearson.

Friday at 4 p.m., for those who missed having first pick at the ceramics, Club Mud is having a kiln opening where the public can enjoy seeing freshly fired pieces come straight out of the kiln.

The sale will raise money while making more room in the studio for next semester. It is also an opportunity for the community to



Special Photo

Student art pieces from last year's Club Mud ceramics sale line tables in the Ceramics and Sculpture Studio as GSU students and people from surrounding communities search for just the right pieces.

interact with local art students, and it's a great chance for students to see how people other than their student peers and professors perceive their art. At this time of semester, the art sale is a great chance to pick up those thoughtful Christmas gifts.

Eighty percent of money raised from the art sales will go to the students who submitted the pieces, and 20 percent will go to Club Mud for studio upkeep, equipment, clay and chemicals and supplies for glazes.

As a separate fundraiser, The National Council of Education for

Ceramic Arts (NCECA) table will hold art submitted by students who are planning to attend the NCECA conference, and the money from sales of those pieces will go toward funding the trip to the conference.

Students from all levels of experience will have their works in the sale. Ceramic technician in the studio, Linda Smith said, "We had a big turnout last Christmas and we sold around \$10,000 worth of ceramic pieces." For more information about the Club Mud sale, contact Art Professor Jane Pleak at 681-5358.

### 'Fosse' to play at PAC

By Emily Haymans

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Ballet, tap, and jazz come together to tell the story of Bob Fosse in the latest feature to hit the Performing Arts Center's stage. The performance will take place Wednesday, Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.

"Fosse," the Tony Award-winning musical, praises some of the works of this celebrated choreographer, dancer, and director.

Fosse became a legend in his time, being the only director in history to win an Oscar, a Tony, and an Emmy in the same year.

Employees at the PAC are excited about the play being performed on campus. The musical "Fosse" is a great review of Fosse's work. "He raised isolated body movement to the level of art," said Albert Peralino, director of the PAC.

Admission for the general public is \$39 per person and \$33.25 per person for GSU faculty, staff, students, and groups of 15 or more people.

The PAC is offering a "10 for \$10 Special." Starting 10 minutes prior to any performance, students with a valid university ID can purchase one ticket for any of the remaining seats in the theater for \$10.

Tickets to this Broadway-style show are available over the phone at (912)-486-7999 or at the PAC's box office.

## Focus on Majors

By Jan

Spiffy756@aol.com

Photography teaches you much more than how to take great pictures. It represents the world and enhances one's ability to view all that is around us in new light, claims Jessica Hines, a professor in the Art Department.

For 20 years, Hines has taught at GSU and loves photography because it's like magic. In the literal sense, photo means light, so photography translates into light-writing.

Advertising, fashion, and commercials are only a few of the areas one can pursue with an art major with emphasis in photography. GSU offers both a B.A. and Master of fine arts.

Photography is all around us and plays a role in almost every aspect of life.

Works of photography are often taken for granted, but the average person knows the world through photographs, and many people work in areas where photography is indispensable.

There are currently around 50 students enrolled in this department, and there is plenty of room for more. Photography I is a beginner class anyone can take to see if this subject truly interests them.

If that seems like too much of a commitment, Hines says students who are hesitant about signing up for the class or students unable to get into the class can come on the first day anyway just to see if they are interested. It gives prospective students an opportunity to see if they share the passion of photography; it's inevitable that a few students will drop the class.

Sophomore Elissa Greenberg, photography major, says she became interested in photography because she always enjoyed taking pictures of her friends and capturing good memories. She plans to become a digital photographer because she likes the sense of surrealism it creates.

Hines encourages students to get involved in the photography program and develop their internal voice.

### Society of Communication Scholars sponsors persuasive speech contest

By Kristin Miller

kmiller8888@hotmail.com

Are you influenced by the powers of persuasion? If so, let the Society of Communication Scholars (SOCS), persuade you into attending a speech contest they will sponsor on Dec. 1.

One member from each of the public speaking (COMM 1110) classes has been chosen to present a five to eight minute persuasive speech. Contestants will not only be competing for the "Best of Class—Fall 2004" title, but the top two winners will also receive a cash prize of \$50.

The contestants will be judged by a panel consisting of graduating senior members of SOCS, a faculty member from outside the department, and a

Communication Arts faculty member who is not currently teaching a COMM 1110 class.

This is the third persuasive speech contest that has been sponsored by the Communication Arts Department and SOCS. The first two competitions were held consecutively in the fall of 2003 and in the spring of 2004.

The speech contest will take place at 7 p.m. in room 2080 of the Russell Union. Admission is free, and the event is open to the public.

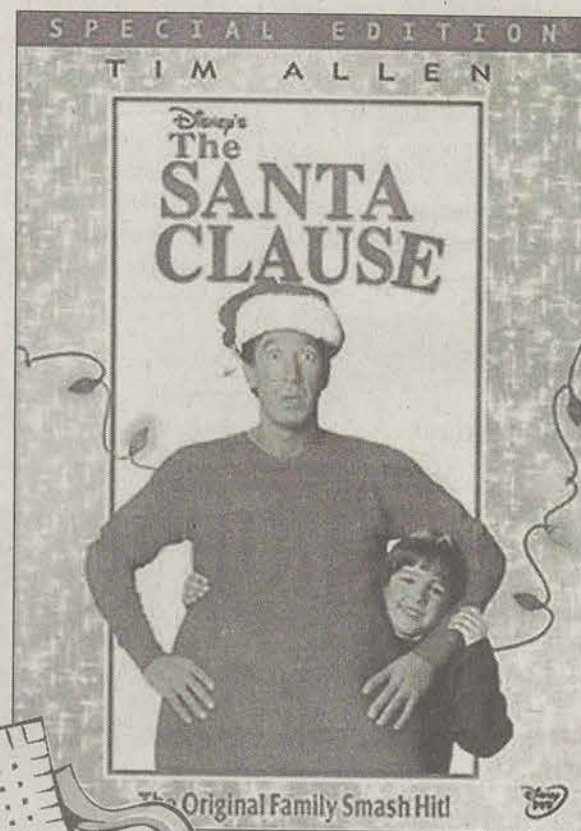
For further information, you may contact Patrick Wheaton at 912-681-5933, or you may contact Tiffany Helmly, the president of SOCS, at 912-663-2670.

#### HELP WANTED

Are you good with grammar? Do comma errors jump off the page? We need your help. *The George-Anne* is seeking a copy editor for the spring semester. The perfect candidate should have a strong background in English and writing. Qualified candidates will be given a test of their editing skills. To apply, drop off your résumé at *The G-A* office in room 2023 in the Williams Center. For more information, e-mail Luke Hearn, news editor, at [ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu).

## OUTDOOR MOVIE!

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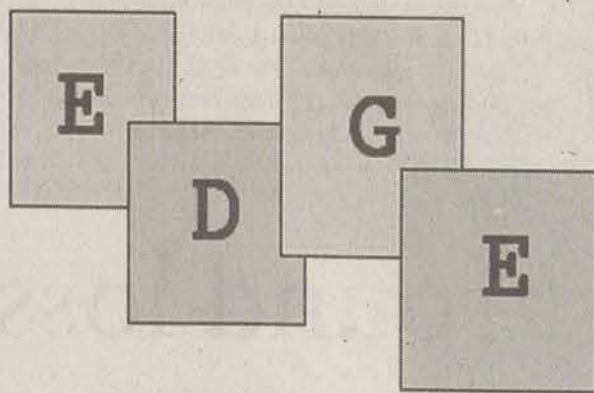
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**Applications are due Friday, December 10th**

Stop by the Center for Student Leadership Development

Russell Union, Rm. 2022 or

email: [leader@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:leader@georgiasouthern.edu) or

download an application from <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/leadership>



## Only in America

### Driving instructor charged with DUI

MERRIMACK, N.H. - A Nashua School District driving instructor is due to appear in Merrimack District Court Dec. 1 after being charged with drunk driving Monday.

Arthur Desmeules, 66, was on his way to teach a driving class in a government vehicle when he ran off the Everett Turnpike in Merrimack and hit a post, state police said.

A trooper arrested him after responding to a call about a disabled vehicle. The car had flat tires and damage to its passenger side.

Desmeules is free on bail. Police are still investigating and have asked witnesses to contact authorities.

### Mom locks son in car to party in bar

SAN DIEGO, Ca. - A San Diego woman has pleaded guilty to felony child abuse charges for locking her seven-year-old in the trunk of her Volvo while she partied in a bar.

A witness alerted police to the boy, who was found with a pillow and sleeping bag. He told police he'd been locked in the trunk 10 times before.

His mother had been celebrating her birthday inside.

Sarah Powell also pleaded guilty to false imprisonment as part of a plea bargain. She and her boyfriend are likely to be sentenced to probation with credit for time served.

Powell was jailed for three weeks after her August arrest. She told police she put her son in the trunk for safekeeping because she couldn't find a baby-sitter.

The boy is living with a foster family while his mother attends parenting and substance-abuse programs.

### Nude man jumps into crocodile tank

NEW YORK, N.Y. - A man was undergoing psychiatric evaluation after he jumped naked into a pool of carnivorous reptiles at the Bronx Zoo.

The episode happened at about 1:30 p.m. Friday, when the man stripped off his clothes and climbed a 5-foot wall surrounding the zoo's tank of caimans - a type of crocodile from Central and South America, police said.

The tank was inside the zoo's World of Darkness section, which features nocturnal animals.

He tried to touch one of the toothy lizards before police and zookeepers were called to the scene and pulled him out.

"Thankfully, no one got hurt and it didn't happen while there were any school groups around," zoo spokesman Linda Corcoran told the Daily News for Saturday editions.

It was not clear why the man jumped into the tank. He was taken to Jacobi Medical Center for observation.

### Beavers make dam out of stolen money

GREENSBURG, La. - A bag of bills stolen from a casino was snapped up by beavers who wove thousands of dollars in soggy currency into the sticks and brush of their dam on a creek in eastern Louisiana.

The money was part of \$70,000 to \$75,000 taken last week from the Lucky Dollar Casino in Greensburg.

St. Helena Parish deputies searched for the money for days until a lawyer called and said the money had been discarded in the creek. Police Chief Ronald Harrell said.

Officers searched the creek during the weekend, finding one money bag right away and spotting a second downstream against the beaver dam.

The third bag of cash couldn't be found, so deputies started breaking down the beaver dam to drain the pond it was holding. That was when they saw the dam's expensive decoration. They eventually found the missing bag, which the beavers hadn't completely emptied.

Altogether, deputies found about \$40,000, and they expect to find the rest in a safety deposit box at a bank in Mississippi, authorities said.

### Man eats 69 burgers in eight minutes

CHATTANOOGA, Tn. - Takeru "The Tsunami" Kobayashi ate 69 Krystals in eight minutes to collect \$10,000 and be crowned the first Krystal Square-Off World Hamburger Eating Champion.

The 130-pound Kobayashi, who is also the champion of Nathan's International Hot Dog Eating Contest held on Coney Island, N.Y., beat 13 other contestants.

Six Krystal Company staff members prepared more than 700 burgers for the contest, which drew hundreds of spectators to a mall parking lot.

### Man bites dog

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Police say a man bit an officer and his dog Friday after trying to stiff a cab driver on an early morning fare.

Mark A. McClarty, 28, of Kansas City, Missouri, was charged Friday with assaulting a police officer, resisting arrest and stealing.

Capt. Rich Lockhart said a cab driver told a police officer at 2:15 a.m. that someone had refused to pay a fare. When the officer found the man nearby, the man spun around and punched the officer.

The officer released his police dog from the patrol car to join the fight. After the dog bit the suspect, the man bit back and nearly took off the dog's ear.

The suspect also bit the policeman's hand before other officers arrived and used a Taser stun gun to subdue him.

The officer was treated at a hospital, while the dog's ear was reattached by a veterinarian.

### Cat skeletons found in couple's home

PORTERDALE - Eighteen cat skeletons were found in a home where a couple was being evicted, and now the couple faces animal cruelty charges.

Melissa Payne, 28, and her boyfriend, Aleix Thomas, 32, were arrested after sheriff's deputies on an eviction call found the cat carcasses in a sealed-off bedroom.

The room also was infested with fleas and cockroaches and was full of feces, said Investigator David Jones with the Newton County Sheriff's Office.

Authorities said they didn't know why the cats had been neglected because ample cat food was found in the home.

Three living cats were taken to Newton County Animal Control.

## National News Briefs

### Army helicopter crash kills general and six other soldiers aboard

BRUCEVILLE-EDDY, Tx. - Living close to President Bush's ranch, the Eickes have become accustomed to helicopters buzzing their house. But this time, the sounds were different. "It sounded like a big tree cracking," Delia Eicke said.

The Army helicopter hit a web of support wires on a TV transmission tower early Monday before going down in a fiery crash, killing all seven people aboard.

The tower itself was not hit. The victims were a brigadier general and six other soldiers, all from the 4th Infantry Division based at Fort Hood.

Lights on the tower had stopped working early last week when strong storms hit the area, said Jerry Pursley, general manager of Waco-Temple-Killeen television station KXXV, which owns it.

The station notified the Federal Aviation Administration. FAA spokesman Roland Herwig said the agency sent a notice last Wednesday to a computer database on potential hazards checked by pilots before they fly. Hundreds of such notices are issued every week around the country, he said.

Maj. Randy Cephus, a spokesman for the 4th Infantry, said safety

investigators were trying to determine whether the pilots consulted the FAA database before taking off.

The helicopter, bound for the Red River Army Depot in Texarkana, went down about 30 miles northeast of Fort Hood.

The fog was so thick at the site that when emergency crews arrived that they could not see more than halfway up the tower, authorities said.

The UH-60 Black Hawk was headed to check out equipment being readied for use in Iraq, said Lt. Col. Jonathan Withington, spokesman for the 4th Infantry Division.



Associated Press  
**Richard L. Brown, 29**, was one of seven soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division killed on Monday when the Army helicopter crashed.

was hospitalized in March 1994 for an apparent heart attack.

He had been recuperating from having a pacemaker implanted last February when he suffered a stroke.

### ROTC students accused of attack plot

SPANAWAY, Wa. - Pierce County sheriff's deputies have arrested three Junior ROTC students accused of plotting an attack on Spanaway Lake High School.

The arrests were made Monday after a parent called the school to express concern about a group of students. School administrators and Pierce County sheriff's deputies conducted follow-up interviews and determined that the students had discussed an attack on the school, Bethel School District spokesman Mark Wenzel said Tuesday.

The students did not have weapons or explosives, but investigators believe the threat was real because the two 18-year-olds and one 16-year-old are members of the school's Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps.



Associated Press  
**New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg** speaks during a news conference at the Dance Theatre of Harlem School in New York, Tuesday.

### Dance Theatre of Harlem School reopens

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The world-renowned Dance Theatre of Harlem will reopen its school this weekend after supporters poured in more than \$1.6 million, including \$500,000 contributed anonymously by a donor a source identified as Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

The school had closed in October due to poor finances and lack of insurance; the dance company shut down in September. Bloomberg said the school's reopening was a step on the road to getting the company performing again.

The Dance Theatre of Harlem School provides training in classical ballet and the allied arts. The school is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance and is listed as an institution of higher learning by the state Department of Education.

Along with the money, the organization has been restructured through the pro bono efforts of Michael Kaiser, the president of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Kaiser was hopeful about the company's future. "I'm very optimistic but we're not done yet," he said.

### Former House Speaker Murphy hospitalized

ATLANTA - Former Georgia House Speaker Tom Murphy, who suffered a stroke last winter, has been hospitalized in Atlanta.

Emory University Hospital spokeswoman Cindy Sanders confirmed Murphy was a patient but said she had no other details.

Murphy, 80, a staunch Democrat, was one of the state's most influential figures for more than two decades until his defeat for his west Georgia legislative seat in 2002. He was elected to the House in 1960 and held the Speaker's post from 1973 to 2002.

Murphy had surgery in 1992 to clear a blocked artery in his neck, and

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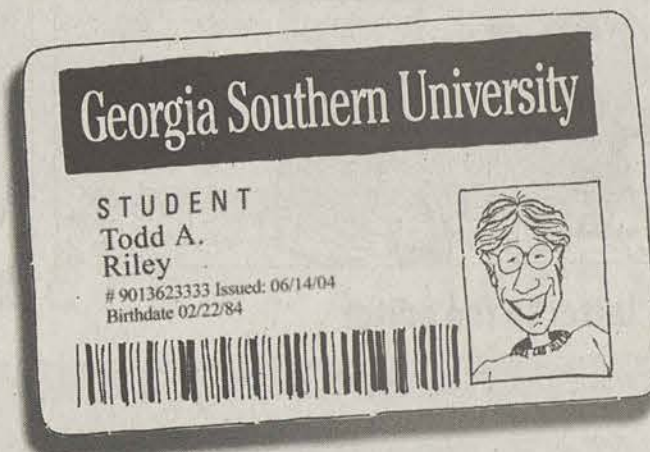
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## our opinion

## Violence of war goes beyond battlefields

The violence occurring daily in the streets of Iraq has had its influence on America. The fear of possible terrorist attacks has made people more uptight and less forgiving, and they are letting off steam in the most violent of ways.

The shrinking economy and rising unemployment has helped push many living in poverty to steal in order to live. More violent acts are occurring in the nation during this time of war. People are becoming less compassionate, aggressive even. It is as if violent actions in the homeland are nothing to worry about compared to the dismal fighting overseas.

The sports world has been shaken by some intense fighting in recent weeks. In basketball, players are going crazy and charging on their own fans to viciously beat them right in front of thousands of people and a couple well-trained cameras. When did heckling from the stands become a crime punishable by a brutal bruising?

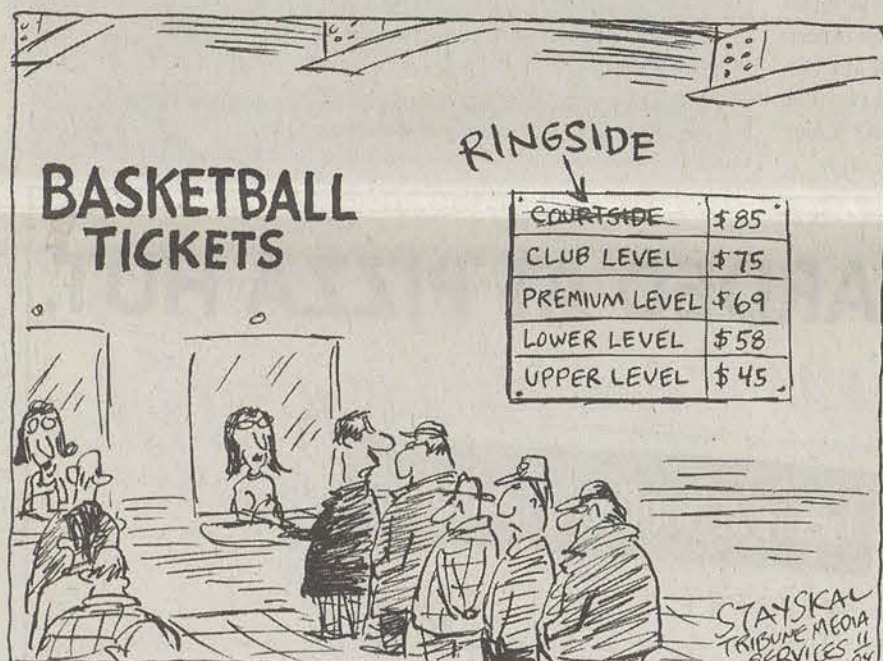
In a Clemson vs. South Carolina game, a Clemson player was kicking another player in the face and both benches cleared to brawl on the field. Twelve players were suspended.

Just in the last two weeks, a hunter in Wisconsin waited in a tree stand to snipe down six other hunters as they approached the stand. A Michigan schoolteacher's own son testified against her for hacking his father to death with a hatchet and a pocketknife. It is almost as if people in America have implemented their own rules of war. Since America is fighting and killing those that "the nation" doesn't like, then maybe people feel as if they too should be able to kill at will and take the power of life and death into their own hands.

Anyone who has experience with the military knows that troops are taught the highest degree of efficiency in killing, so it is no wonder that they often use those abilities when they are out of the war zone. Private Timothy Payne was charged with murder for shooting four people outside of a strip club in Texas. In Georgia, a woman and her boyfriend planned to kill her husband, who was a deacon, by stabbing him to death.

Charges against an officer in Columbus were dropped when the grand jury decided not to indict a former sheriff's deputy for shooting a black man twice in the head during a traffic stop. The vehicle he was driving was searched and no drugs or weapons were found on any of the four men in the Yukon. Police are conditioned to fear and to wield supreme aggression in defense of 'the law' much like soldiers are conditioned for war.

With violence in America at all-time high, rivaling most countries in the world, should we really be spreading the violence to other nations?



## letter to the editor

## True Eagle fans support the team through it all

To all the Georgia Southern Football fans: Thanks for your support this year.

Georgia Southern is lucky to have such great fans. To all the fair weather fans, I hope that you can find yourself to be a true fan in the off season.

If you can only cheer for your team when they are winning then what is the point? You cannot quit on your team, they are yours whether they are winning or not.

Do you quit your job when you have a bad day? Do you divorce your spouse when they cook a bad meal? Do you drop out of school when you make a bad test grade? Do you shoot your dog when it craps on the floor? No, you don't do any of these things. Why? Because these things are worth sticking with, and there is nothing that comes in this life without hard work.

So, I say thank you to the seniors. I know you wanted more than we got this year, but what you gave us we will never forget. I will never forget the players coming into the stands with us at the Wofford and App State games.

I will never forget the 28 points against UGA. I will never forget the 20-yard punt fake against the Citadel. I will never forget

the kickoff return touchdowns by Foster. I will never forget the incredible passes caught by Teddy and PJ and Jayson and the passes made by Chaz, Trey, and Foster.

I will never forget the pass caught by Jude. I will never forget the runs by Austin, the hits by Mohring, Sewak starting the Georgia Southern chant at Furman, and all the other great memories made by the 2004 Eagles!

You guys gave me and everyone else an unforgettable season. To the seniors, believe me when I say we will miss you dearly. To the returners, have a great off season, and we will see you next season.

There is no greater team in Div. I-AA than Georgia Southern. Keep in mind we do not need to win a national championship every year to be the best. We are the best because we have a great school, a great team, great coaches, great players, and most importantly great fans. So please continue to be great fans, and never question the support you give your team.

**With Eagle Pride,**  
**Eric J. Guenther**  
southernpenguin@hotmail.com

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## Supreme confusion

The Supreme Court has ruled that the highly debated words "Under God" in our United States Pledge of Allegiance reflect religious faith.

No. Actually, the Supreme Court ruled that they are not a statement of religious faith or belief.

Well, okay, both statements are correct.

The Supreme Court overruled the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals that the words "under God" do belong in our United States Pledge of Allegiance.

The resolution stated, "The phrase, 'One Nation, Under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag reflects that religious faith was central to the founding fathers and to the founding of the Nation."

First of all, I'm shocked the Supreme Court feels that the words "Under God" reflect our founding fathers' religious faith, considering those words were not a part of our original Pledge of Allegiance, written in 1892.

Congress added those words to our Pledge only 50 years ago during the Cold War. They wanted to prove that our country was inherently different from the Soviet Union because our citizens, unlike theirs, were free to worship God.

I'd like to know how these words reflect our founding fathers, when they are not the ones who said it.

But honestly, I couldn't care less whether our founding fathers were Christians or atheists.

The Supreme Court believes our founding fathers were religious, and that religious faith was important to them and the founding of the nation.

Whether that statement is true or not isn't so important.

What is much more interesting is the fact that the Supreme Court says the Pledge reflects religious faith, yet the second main part of the resolution states that "reciting the Pledge, including that phrase [Under God], is a patriotic act, not an act or statement of religious faith or belief."

Wait. I thought the words "Under God" portrayed our founding fathers' religious faith? That is what the first part of the resolution states, after all.

Either it is religious or it isn't. The meaning of "Under God" in our Pledge should not change whenever it happens to be convenient.

The Supreme Court seems to be just as confused about the issue as everyone else.

Morgan Marsh is a layout & design specialist for The George-Anne and can be reached at morgan\_l\_marshall@georgiasouthern.edu.



**Morgan Marsh**  
layout & design specialist

## World AIDS Day reminds us of a fight we must win

**By Elaine L. Chao**  
Secretary of Labor

On Dec. 1 – World AIDS Day – men and women all around the globe will renew their commitment to fighting one of the most wrenching humanitarian tragedies of our time: the HIV pandemic that is destroying the lives of 38 million people.

I saw the urgency of winning this battle firsthand during a trip to Africa. I met with valiant men and women committed to using every available means to roll back this plague in their countries. During the trip I launched projects – part of the president's unprecedented \$15 billion plan to combat HIV/AIDS worldwide – that focus on workplace education and prevention. This has proved to be an effective way to reach out to HIV victims, the vast majority of whom are employed.

The need to address HIV/AIDS in the workplace is urgent. In Africa and many other countries, AIDS is dealing a heavy blow to the most productive members of society. About half of the new cases of HIV infection occur in those under age 25 – and few of these people live to see their 35th birthday. It is causing an alarming reversal of the trend toward longer life spans that we see in the developed world. Experts predict that by the end of this decade, HIV will reduce average life expectancy by 30 to 40 years in some of the nations of sub-Saharan Africa.

Without effective action, many poor countries will face not only a humanitarian crisis but an economic one, as HIV deprives them of the workforce necessary to grow their way out of poverty. That's just one reason the United States, through the Department of Labor, supports workplace-based HIV/AIDS prevention and education. The department works with local communities to help them cope with the fear, social stigmatization and discrimination that inhibit prevention and education efforts that can prevent infection.

In the last four years, the Department of Labor has funded and obligated nearly \$35 million in tailored, comprehensive workplace-based HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs. These programs address the need for behavior change and help stricken workers and their families find the care and support they need.

Some of these projects support the formation of HIV/AIDS steering committees at work sites and others have provided training for HIV/AIDS educators and peer counselors at the worksites of the largest employers in Malawi, Namibia, Haiti, India, Vietnam, Ukraine, Nigeria and the Dominican Republic. Still other projects assist governments, employers and workers in coming together to fight HIV/AIDS.

Especially noteworthy are the U.S.-funded projects that focus on teachers, a sector of the

workforce hard-hit by AIDS. American-supported programs in Uganda, for example, are educating teachers about prevention behaviors as well as providing the afflicted with support and services.

In reaching out to these teachers, we are not only helping them to protect themselves. We are ensuring that their knowledge and awareness will be passed on to their pupils. It is a sad fact that myths and taboos about HIV/AIDS persist in all too much of the world. Teachers can be an invaluable resource in dispelling these misperceptions and spreading accurate information that can save lives.

These programs are a good example of the many different ways to approach the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The president has committed nearly every government agency to joining this worldwide campaign. It is an unprecedented effort to fight a battle that the world must win.

## ABOUT THE WRITER

Elaine L. Chao is secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor. Readers may write to her at: 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

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# Ridge steps down as homeland security secretary

By Katherine Pfleger Shrader  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Tom Ridge, the nation's first homeland security secretary, announced Tuesday that he is resigning after three years of reworking American security and presiding over color-coded terror alerts. He's the seventh Bush Cabinet officer leaving so far.

Ridge oversaw the most significant government reorganization in 50 years. He'll be remembered for his terror alerts and tutorials about how to prepare for possible attacks, including the controversial "disaster kits" that caused last year's run on duct tape and plastic sheeting.

Amid warnings that the country may face increased terror risks around the holidays and the Jan. 20 presidential inauguration, Ridge said he will remain on the job through Feb. 1, unless his replacement is installed sooner.

Ridge acknowledged he could not prove the costly and complex security measures that have been put in place have foiled any terrorist attacks inside the United States, but he said the country is safer today than before the suicide hijackings on Sept. 11, 2001, killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

"I am confident that the terrorists are aware that from the curb to the cockpit we've got additional security measures that didn't exist a couple years ago," Ridge told reporters at the department's Washington campus, which he helped create.

Ridge sent his letter of resignation to President Bush at midday Tuesday, after attending a morning White House threat briefing with CIA and FBI officials. The former Pennsylvania governor thanked Bush for giving him the opportunity to fight back against terrorists. He recalled that the passengers on Flight 93 who forced their hijacked plane down in a Pennsylvania field had also fought back.

"There will always be more to do, but today, America is significantly stronger and safer than ever before," Ridge wrote Bush.

Ridge is the seventh of Bush's 15-member Cabinet to announce they won't be part of the second term. More are expected, and administration officials say Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson appears to be next.

The turnover in the Bush Cabinet is typical of second-term presidencies. Presidents Clinton and Reagan had seven Cabinet seats change hands after they won new terms, President Nixon nine and Presidents Truman and Johnson four each.

Among those mentioned as possible candidates to replace Ridge are Bernard Kerik, the former New York City police commissioner who helped rebuild Iraq's police

force; former Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Allbaugh; Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt; and White House homeland security adviser Fran Townsend.

Others are also believed to be interested in the job, including Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary for border and transportation security in the Homeland Security Department.

Ridge leaves behind a department that's still learning to work together. Culled from 22 often disparate federal agencies, the 180,000-employee organization still faces criticism over aspects of its massive government merger, including the coordination of finances to computers systems.

Ridge, consistently a defender of the department, stood by its efforts to warn the public of possible terror threats, saying it preferred to disclose more information than some officials believed was wise.

Ridge, who is married with two children, said that for the future he intends to "raise some family and personal matters to a higher priority," including attending his son's rugby games.

In October 2001, Ridge became the nation's first White House homeland security adviser, leading a massive undertaking to rethink all aspects of security within the U.S. borders in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Congress subsequently passed legislation establishing the Homeland Security Department, with Ridge taking over as the department's first secretary in January 2003.

He has presided over six national orange alerts - second highest on the five-color scale - when the government boosted security out of concern that an attack may be coming.

Yet Ridge, a politician by nature, fought criticism leading up to the election from those who said he was using terror warnings to boost support for Bush. Ridge repeatedly said: "We don't do politics in the Department of Homeland Security."

Ridge, who has spent 22 years in public service, came home from Vietnam, earned a law degree and went into private practice in Pennsylvania. He ran for Congress in 1982 and was re-elected five times.

The six other Bush Cabinet figures who are leaving are Attorney General John Ashcroft, Commerce Secretary Donald Evans, Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham.

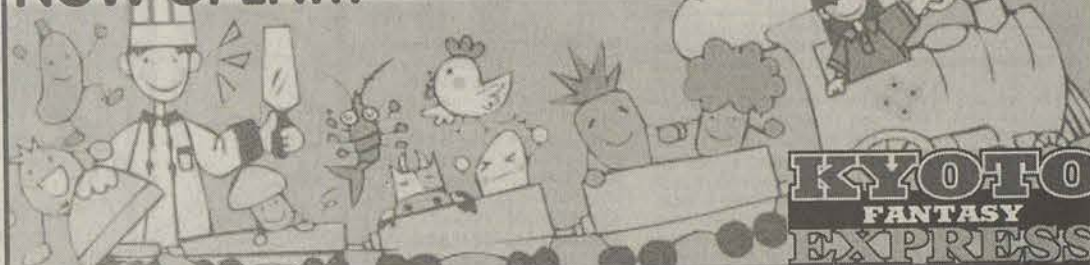
Bush has chosen national security adviser Condoleezza Rice for the State Department, White House counsel Alberto Gonzales for the Justice Department, Carlos Gutierrez for Commerce and Margaret Spellings for Education.



AP Photo

**Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge** walks out of his press conference after he announced his resignation Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2004 in Washington. Ridge whose name became synonymous with color-coded terror alerts and tutorials to the public about how to prepare for possible attack, submitted his resignation in writing to President Bush on Tuesday morning.

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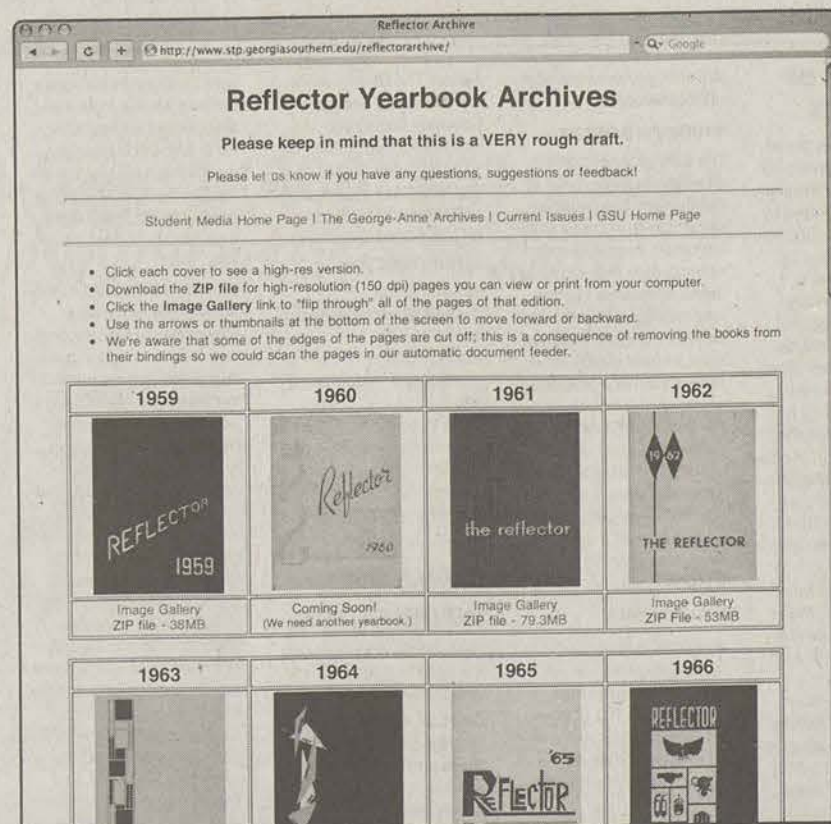
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# Bush says he wants better relations with Canada but stands by his policies

By Scott Lindlaw  
Associated Press

OTTAWA - President Bush tried on Tuesday to repair U.S.-Canadian relations strained by years of bickering over trade and Iraq, although he stood by policies that have irritated Canadians.

He did promise Prime Minister Paul Martin to work toward easing a U.S. ban on Canadian beef.

Even as thousands of Canadian protesters thronged the streets to protest his visit, Bush brushed aside suggestions that his decisions had damaged U.S.-Canada ties. Asked about polls that show Canadian opposition to his policies runs high, Bush pointed to his own re-election this

month as the survey that mattered.

"We just had a poll in our country when people decided that the foreign policy of the Bush administration ought to stay in place for four more years," Bush said at a joint news conference with Martin.

Indeed, Canadians for the most part lived up to their reputation for reserve as Bush made his way from the airport to downtown Ottawa. Most stood waving excitedly at Bush's enormous motorcade as it snaked down the road.

Many of Bush's opponents were polite. One of the first signs he saw read "Please Leave."

Others were more blunt. At lunchtime, a sign close to Bush's motorcade urged him to go home and depicted

him riding atop a missile with a swastika on it.

Twelve protesters were arrested after they clashed with riot police, officers said. One police officer was reported injured.

The beef ban is a leading irritant in a relationship that has suffered during Bush's presidency, and the issue loomed large in Bush's first official trip to Canada.

In their private meetings, Martin vented "a great deal of frustration that the issue hadn't been resolved yet," Bush said.

The Bush administration has since opened its border to some Canadian beef, but live cattle remain prohibited. Canadian ranchers are desperate, estimating they have lost more than

\$2 billion.

Bush hinted strongly that he already has decided Canadian beef should be allowed back into the United States. At a Tuesday night dinner with Martin, he said with a smile that he was "pleased to see when I opened up the menu that we'll be eating Alberta beef."

The latest study rests with the White House's own Office of Management and Budget, and Bush said he had ordered the OMB to "expedite that (process) as quickly as possible."

Yet a resolution is months off. OMB has three months to study a rule that would allow into the United States boxed beef and live cattle younger than 30 months; the deadline for completion of the study is mid-February.

Then Congress has two months to scrutinize the proposed rule, a senior administration official said.

Bush had a cool relationship with former Prime Minister Jean Chretien, and the president canceled an official visit to Canada's capital in May 2003 after their disagreement over the Iraq invasion broke out into public view.

The trip to Ottawa opened a broader reconciliation tour he plans to continue in Europe early next year.

Martin, who succeeded Chretien as Liberal Party leader and has been in office less than a year, has sought to repair the damage. Bush embraced the opportunity for a fresh start with the United States' northern neighbor and its 32 million people.

The two leaders emphasized areas

of agreement and cooperation, papering over their countries' contentious history about the Iraq war.

Canada has pledged more than \$200 million in humanitarian aid and reconstruction money and has agreed to forgive more than \$450 million in Iraqi debt, Bush said. Canadian officials said the two leaders discussed what role the country might play in Iraqi elections two months off. Canada is experienced in monitoring elections.

At a time when Canada is debating whether to participate in the new U.S. continental missile defense program, Bush told Martin the shield would protect much of North America, a senior Bush administration official said.

## AIDS, FROM PAGE 1

who we serve, at Amethyst, and 90 percent of the clients are women.

"These women have families to support while struggling with their illness. They are afraid to speak out about AIDS because of the stigma that is associated with the illness, and they want to protect their children from any form of discrimination," said Jeanette Andreou, case manager for Amethyst Project. "There are also some children in the Statesboro area who are HIV positive due to perinatal transmission."

According to the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS), globally, young women and girls are more susceptible to HIV than men and boys, with studies showing they can be 2.5 times more likely to be HIV-infected as their male counterparts.

Their vulnerability is primarily due to inadequate knowledge about AIDS, insufficient access to HIV prevention services, inability to negotiate safer sex, and a lack of female-controlled HIV prevention methods.

At the same time, UNAIDS states all over the world women do not enjoy the same rights and access to employment, property and education as men. Women and girls are also more likely to face sexual violence, which can accelerate the spread of HIV.

Around half of all people living

with HIV in the world are female. This is why HIV-positive women have a unique and valuable role to play, both in society and in fighting HIV and AIDS.

Women hold families and communities together and they are a source of great strength in the face of HIV and AIDS.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that at the global level, the number of people living with HIV continues to grow - from 35 million in 2001 to 38 million in 2003. An estimated five million people acquired HIV in 2003, the greatest number in any one year since the beginning of the epidemic. In 2003, almost three million were killed by AIDS; over 20 million have died since the first cases of AIDS were identified in 1981.

According to the Centers for Disease Control in the United States, up to 950,000 Americans are estimated to have HIV, with 40,000 new infections every year.

Among women, minorities—particularly African Americans—are hit by the vast majority of AIDS cases. These women are suffering from rates of HIV infection 10 to 20 times those of white women, and AIDS is one of the leading causes of death among women aged 25-44 years.

For additional information, contact Allen at 912-764-6923.

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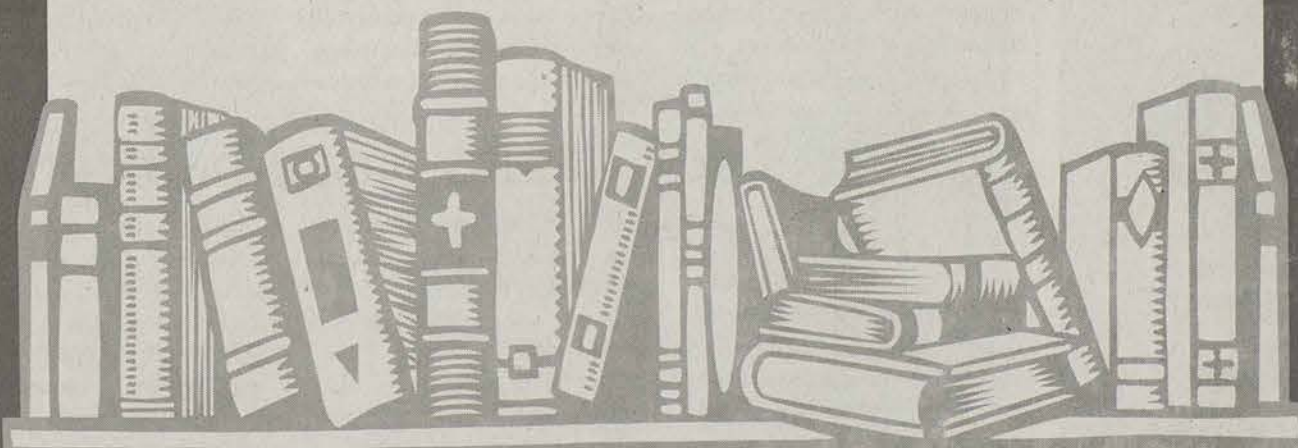
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New Hampshire 27  
Georgia Southern 23

## I-AA Weekend Results



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Lehigh 13



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Eastern Washington 35  
Southern Illinois 31



Lafayette 14  
Delaware 28



Edward Waters 15  
Florida Atlantic 49

# Eagles quest for seventh title will have to wait until next year

EAGLES, FROM PAGE 1

resulting in a turnover. That was the beginning of some questionable play calling by Sewak.

Austin broke through with a 16-yard run at the beginning of the second quarter. Williams grabbed his second rushing TD of the day on the same drive making it a 21-6 game with 12 minutes still left in the half.

The Wildcats bounced back with another touchdown and Williams made his first of many fumbles on the next drive. By halftime the Eagles had successfully fumbled the ball three times. At the half New Hampshire had narrowed the Eagles lead to just eight points.

The second half didn't go as planned for the Eagles. Chaz started his drive off with another fumble but the Eagles recovered. Williams connected with Craft but the 26-yard gain

was called back for holding.

When the Wildcats got the ball for their second drive it took them seven plays for 76 yards to reach the endzone. With a two point game, the Eagles started to feel the pressure.

Sewak went to the trick book for the play that has proved successful this season. But a lateral pass to Craft that resulted in major yards was called back and was deemed a forward pass. This momentum swing frustrated the Eagles and continued throughout the fourth quarter.

A 60-yard scoring drive by Wildcat quarterback R.J. Harvey put New Hampshire on top and ultimately won them the game.

The second half resembled much of the second half of the Furman game where the Eagles lost a commanding

lead and fell apart trying to rely on a not-so-solid passing game. Passing just was not working for the Eagles on Saturday as the rain stayed consistent throughout most of the game. Sewak went for it on fourth down again in the fourth quarter and missed it. All the Eagles needed to do was make two field goals of score a touchdown to win the game. Southern continued to try to force the pass which was still not working. Frustrated and out of time, the Eagles were left with only a minute to work with after New Hampshire successfully ran the clock as low as they could.

GSU out-gained New Hampshire 399 to 325 in total yards, 113 in the fourth. By the end of the day the Eagles made six fumbles, three of which resulted in turnovers.



Richard Burkhardt/AP Photo/Savannah Morning News  
**GSU junior fullback Brandon Andrews** runs against Hampshire's Aaron Thomas (22) during their NCAA Division I-AA playoff, Saturday.

# Men's basketball falls to Mercer in double overtime



Special photo

**GSU junior guard Elton Nesbitt** fires a three-pointer during Monday night's game against Mercer.

GSU Athletic Media Relations

MACON, Ga. - Mercer withstood a Georgia Southern comeback bid to defeat the Eagles 103-94 in double overtime at the University Center Monday evening.

The Bears (2-1) led by 18, at 73-55, with 9:54 to go when Georgia Southern (2-4) began its comeback. The Eagles scored the next 10 points of the game and, after a four-point spurt by Mercer, scored 19 of the final 26 points of regulation, using an Elton Nesbitt jumper in the lane with 46 seconds remaining to tie the contest.

GSU scored the first four points of the first overtime to go up 88-84, but had Mercer's Jacob Skogen, who scored a game-high 34, hit a three and

Will Emerson hit a lay-up to give the home team the lead back. A Nesbitt jumper and two free throws by Terry Williams pushed the Georgia Southern lead back to three, at 92-89, but James Odoms banked in a three from the top of the key to force the game into the second overtime.

The Eagles again jumped in front in the final period, on a Jean Francois jumper, but would go cold the rest of the game as Mercer scored the final 11 points for the victory.

The first half proved to be a series of runs as Mercer used a 14-0 run to grab a 16-5 advantage, only to have GSU respond by scoring the next 10 points to cut the deficit back to one. The Bears again grabbed a double-

digit lead with a 14-4 spurt while the Eagles closed out the half on an 11-2 run to trail just 42-38 at the half.

Francois recorded his second double-double of the season as he tied Nesbitt for a team-high 21 points while also pulling down 13 rebounds. Donte Gennie set a new career-high with 18 points in the game, connecting on seven of his 13 field goal attempts, while Terry Williams also scored in double figures with 10. The Eagles owned a 56-48 advantage in rebounding, but turned the ball over 26 times, including eight times in the two overtime periods.

The Eagles return home Saturday as it opens Southern Conference play against Davidson at 7:30 p.m.

# Notre Dame fires head coach after third season with the team

By Tom Coyne  
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. - Notre Dame's return to glory under Tyrone Willingham was brief. Too brief.

That's why he was fired Tuesday after just three seasons at Notre Dame, the shortest tenure of any full-time coach since Hunk Anderson was there from 1931-33.

The school thought they found the perfect coach during Willingham's first season. He got off to an 8-0 start, the second best start in school history, and after a surprisingly easy victory at Florida State, the Irish, at No. 4, had their highest ranking in eight years. Then they played Boston College.

Fans wearing green "Return to Glory" T-shirts flooded Notre Dame Stadium, and the Irish wore green jerseys for good luck. The Irish lost 14-7, though, and the glory days were over.

The Irish went 2-3 their last five games that season, including a 28-6 loss to North Carolina State in the Gator Bowl. They went 5-7 last season, losing by 30 or more points to Michigan, Florida State and Southern California.

This season the Irish pulled off upsets of Michigan and Tennessee but also were beaten badly by USC and Purdue. They also lost games they were expected to win against BYU, Boston College and Pittsburgh.

Players were stunned. "I think it's a shock to everybody," tight end Jared Clark said.

Other players declined comment, but were clearly surprised and saddened by the announcement.

"As a player, you think it's our fault. We didn't get the job done," Clark said. "I think coach Willingham was a great coach, and I enjoyed playing under him."

Notre Dame officials said Willingham had decided not to speak publicly Tuesday about his firing.

White praised Willingham's handling of the team, especially the Irish's strong academic record.

"From Sunday through Friday our football program has exceeded all expectations, in every way," he said. "But on Saturday, we've struggled."

The timing of Willingham's ouster broke with recent Notre Dame practice that even gave struggling coaches Gerry Faust and Bob Davie five seasons to prove themselves.

Notre Dame hired Willingham, the first black head coach in any sport for the Irish, from Stanford to replace George O'Leary. The former Georgia Tech coach resigned five days after



Michael Conroy/AP Photo

**Notre Dame coach Tyrone Willingham**, who was fired Tuesday.

taking the job because he lied about his academic and athletic achievements on his resume.

So White, who conducted the searches that led to O'Leary and Willingham being hired, said he would set out Wednesday in search of a coach. He said he would head the search and likely would not talk to the media again until the search is complete.

One coach certain to be mentioned as a possible replacement for Willingham is Utah's Urban Meyer, a Notre Dame assistant from 1996-2000. The Utes are 11-0 and ranked No. 5 in their second year under Meyer, who has a clause in his current deal that allows him to leave for Notre Dame without a buyout.

Meyer wouldn't say whether he'd be interested if Notre Dame called.

Other possible candidates include California's Jeff Tedford, who has had success at a school with high academic expectations, Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz, who was hired as head football coach at Maine in 1990 by White when he was athletic director there, and Tampa Bay Buccaneers coach Jon Gruden, whose name was mentioned prominently in the Notre Dame search three years ago. He grew up in South Bend and his father was an Irish assistant under former Irish coach Dan Devine.

Notre Dame has won eight AP college football national championships, more than any other school, with the last in 1988 under Lou Holtz. Players from the school have won the Heisman Trophy seven times, also the most in college football, with the last one being Tim Brown in 1987.

But the Irish haven't won a bowl game since ending the 1993 season ranked No. 2 after beating Texas A&M 24-21 in the Cotton Bowl. Since then, the Irish have lost six straight postseason games and haven't finished a season ranked in the top 10 since 1993.

# Lady Eagles basketball come up short in Athens



GSU Athletic Media Relations

ATHENS, Ga. - The Georgia Southern Eagles were defeated by the no. 6 Georgia Bulldogs Tuesday night 61-50 in front of 1,965 fans in Athens. After leading the game by as many as five points, the lady Eagles just could not hold on for the victory.

Georgia Southern opened up with an early 4-2 lead on a Lee DuBose jumper. Georgia answered back,

scoring five straight points before the Eagles responded with six unanswered points, taking the 10-7 lead with 10:46 remaining in the half on a Shawnda Atwood layup.

The Bulldogs held the Eagles scoreless over the next three minutes, going on a 7-0 run, and taking their largest lead of the half, 14-10. Dana Benemon scored back to back baskets to tie the game for the third time in the first half.

Nicole Newton scored her first three-pointer of the season, giving the Eagles a three-point lead with less than five minutes in the half. A 9-4 Bulldog run ended the half, with Georgia up by only two at the break, 25-23. Georgia Southern forced 15 Bulldog turnovers in the opening stanza, compared to their 10.

The Eagles came out hot in the second half, connecting on two straight three-pointers, taking the

29-28 lead. Georgia responded with a 6-0 run, taking the five point lead. Tiffany Brown exploded with 14:04 remaining in regulation, recording seven straight points, putting the Eagles back on top, 36-34.

A DuBose trey with 7:49 remaining gave the Eagles their largest lead of the night 45-41, before Georgia's Cori Chambers scored back to back threes to give the Bulldogs the 47-45 advantage with less than six minutes

in the game. Georgia Southern could not answer back, as Georgia went on a 12-2 run to end the game.

Brown led the Eagles with a career-high 11 points on 5-of-8 shoots while DuBose finished with 10, including two three-pointers. Benemon led the Eagles on the boards, with seven.

Georgia Southern returns to action on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 5 p.m. as it faces non-conference opponent Middle Tennessee State.

