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The GEORGE-ANNE

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Thursday, December 2, 2004 • Volume 77, Number 51

HIATUS: Read tips on how to protect your home from holiday burglaries **Page 8**

NEWS: GSU student Tia Wright is one of fifty in nation to receive Microsoft Scholarship **Page 2**

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Fraudulent degrees result in teacher firings

By Rachel Weeks
crazedrachel@hotmail.com

On Sunday, Nov. 28, eleven former Georgia teachers who lost their teaching certifications for submitting fake advanced degrees are now appealing to get their jobs back. Georgia Southern professors discuss problems with bogus degrees and what can be done to combat the unethical practice.

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GPSC) revoked 12 teacher's licenses in July after receiving a tip. A report from the GPSC said the teachers received the fake degrees from Saint Regis University, a Liberian-based institution who grants degrees for

little or no course work, and received a combined total of almost \$30,000 in raises after submitting the degrees.

Penny Sikes, who taught in public schools for 29 years, believes the teachers should not be allowed to continue teaching, and that the availability of bogus degrees threatens teaching standards. "If they have obtained degrees that are then they should not be allowed to practice," she said, "It is unethical and will set poor examples for students."



Dr. Michael Moore, professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, agrees that bogus degrees are a threat to the educational system. "I think any bogus degree is a threat to society," he said, "You expect from teachers a certain level of competence. It becomes an ethical issue because the community is paying your salary."

Some professors feel that GPSC can do more to regulate the situation. "The GPSC should establish standards for any school outside the University

System of Georgia," Moore said, "Anybody offering courses accepted by the GPSC should be held to the same educational standards."

Students on-campus feel that there are problems with taking all-online courses to get advanced degrees. Senior Farrah Saxon has taken an Introduction to PR class through the Internet and says there are problems with classes being taken without actual class time.

"You've got to weigh what's more important to you," she said, "It's definitely not as effective as sitting in a classroom, but you have that comfort of attending class from home, or wherever else."

GSU store receives 'Best Practices Award'

Special to the G-A

The University Store at Georgia Southern recently received a "Best Practices Award" from the Board of Regents for its campaign to save students millions of dollars in the purchase of textbooks.

The program titled "How to Save Students \$2 Million" focused on increasing the sale of used textbooks and repurchasing used books from students. It received second place in the finance and business category of the University System-wide competition.

According to Wendy Hagins, director of stores and shops, the used book program saved GSU \$1 million through savings on used textbooks versus the price of new books. The store also returned \$2 million to students through the buy-back of their used books.

"Our used book sales run roughly 45 percent of our total textbook sales in terms of revenue," said Hagins. "By comparison, the national average runs between 11 and 23 percent."

The high price of college textbooks has been a serious issue on both the national and state

level. At its November meeting, the Board of Regents received a report from a special task force on textbook pricing. One of the task force recommendations was to find ways to encourage the resale and reuse of textbooks.

The University Store will usually sell a used textbook in good condition for 75 percent of the price of a new one. The store will buy back used texts for half the original price.

Unlike many college bookstores in Georgia and around the country, the University Store is operated by GSU and is not franchised out to a national book company. The result, according to Hagins, is that while the store must make a profit to stay in business, the bottom line is not the only consideration.

"Our mission is to put the students first and to serve the students of GSU," he said. "It's our job to provide them with excellent service and that means the best value. In this case, the best value is used books."

As the fall term winds down at GSU, the University Store will launch a campaign to buy-back this semester's books Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 9-11.



Felicia Emanuel/STAFF

A University Store employee helps a GSU student with her purchase on Wednesday. The store has recently won an award for helping students save money on buying text books.

AIDS Awareness Day

GSU and community observe AIDS Awareness Day with candlelight vigil



LaVene Bell/STAFF

Dozens of students, faculty and staff, as well as members of the Statesboro community, gather at the Russell Union Rotunda for a candlelight vigil in observance of AIDS Awareness Day. The event included singing, poetry reading and personal reflections from those in attendance.

U.S. forces in Iraq to peak in January

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The United States is expanding its military force in Iraq to the highest level of the war - even higher than during the initial invasion in March 2003 - in order to bolster security in advance of next month's national elections in January.

The 12,000-troop increase is to last only until March, but it says much about the strength and resiliency of an insurgency that U.S. military planners did not foresee when Baghdad was toppled in April 2003.

Brig. Gen. David Rodriguez, deputy operations director of the Joint Staff, told reporters Wednesday that the American force will expand from 138,000 troops today to about 150,000 by January.

The previous high for the U.S. force in Iraq was 148,000 on May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations were over

and most soldiers thought the war had been won. The initial invasion force included thousands of sailors on ships in the Persian Gulf and other waters, plus tens of thousands in Kuwait and other surrounding countries.

The expansion in Iraq will be achieved by sending about 1,500 troops from the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., this month and by extending the combat tours of about 10,400 troops already in Iraq.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld approved the moves Wednesday, according to a Pentagon statement.

"They are the most experienced and best-qualified forces to sustain the momentum of post-Fallujah operations and to provide for additional security for the upcoming elections," the statement said.

The Pentagon originally expected to train and equip enough Iraqi government

See IRAQ, page 7



AP Photo/Jim MacMillan

U.S. Army 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry soldiers return fire during a gun battle with insurgents in Mosul, Iraq, Wednesday, Dec. 1.

Weekend Weather

Friday



Sunny

HIGH
63°
LOW
39°

Saturday



Partly Cloudy

HIGH
59°
LOW
38°

Sports

• GSU Volleyball finishes season on top

• Chaz Williams finishes sixth for Walter Payton Award

Page 6

Campus News

GSU student receives scholarship from Microsoft

Special to the G-A

Georgia Southern senior Tia-vonnia "Tia" Wright was one of only 50 students in the entire nation to receive a Microsoft Research Scholarship that included a trip to an important gathering of computer professionals.

A Computer Science major from Savannah, Ga., Wright attended the 18th annual Large Installation System Administration (LISA) Conference that was held Nov. 14-19 in Atlanta.



Wright

The LISA Conference featured training classes taught by some of the most respected leaders in the Computer Science field as well as sessions that focused on the latest research related to system and network administration.

"It was a rare and wonderful opportunity for a Computer Science major," Wright said. "I was able to apply what I've learned in class to real-world applications, and because the conference was attended by professionals, I was able to network and get information about possible employment or internships."

Robert Cook, the chair of the Computer Sciences Department at GSU and an instructor in one of Wright's classes, encouraged her to apply for the Microsoft scholarship.

As part of the application process, Wright had to submit an essay detailing why she wanted to attend the LISA Conference.

"I explained that I was doing a senior project for the aforementioned class that involved advanced shell scripting, which was a major focal point at this year's conference," Wright said. "I was mainly interested in the session that involved how data is still stored on our hard drives once it has been deleted."

The trip to the LISA Conference was the latest activity in what has been a very busy fall semester for Wright, who is pursuing a minor in Business with a concentration in Management.

In October, Wright and several of her classmates maintained the

audiovisual systems at the 34th annual Frontiers In Education (FIE) conference held in Savannah. The FIE event promoted innovations in computer science and engineering education.

"We provided technical support for the conference presenters," Wright said. "For the most part, we were responsible for making sure the computers and projectors were set up correctly, and for making any small modifications as needed for each presenter."

Wright is scheduled to graduate with a B.S. degree in May 2005, but she wants to continue her education by pursuing additional degrees.

She plans to get an M.B.A. as well as an associate's degree in accounting.

CAMPUS

Campus Calendar

Holiday Happenings

Saturday, December 4

Botanical Gardens Holiday Crafts and Open House
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Botanical Garden will host its annual Holiday Crafts and Open House on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This year there will be crafts for the whole family and poinsettias for sale. The Garden Gift Shop will also hold a 25 percent off sale and free gift wrapping with purchase. Admission is a canned food item or cash donation to the Statesboro Food Bank. For more information, contact the Garden at ext. 1149.

Wednesday, December 8

Annual tree-planting ceremony
2 p.m.

President and Mrs. Grube invite faculty, staff and students to attend the annual tree-planting ceremony at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, near the gazebo on the pedestrian. They will be planting a live oak, which will replace one that was struck by lightning. For those new to campus, this is the Grube's seasons greetings to the campus community in lieu of sending cards. Holiday treats will be offered at Lakeside Café following the ceremony.

December, 2004

Toys for Tots donations

This year the Division of Continuing Education and Public Services has become a Toys for Tots drop point. New or gently used toys can be dropped off at the Nessmith-Lane Building. Monetary donations, made by check, will also be accepted and would need to be delivered to Deborah Champion in the Nessmith-Lane Building or to P.O. Box 8124. Toys for Tots in Bulloch County made a difference in the lives of approximately 500 children last year. This year the need is expected to be even greater. For more information, contact Deborah Champion at ext. 5555 or via e-mail at dchampion@georgiasouthern.edu

Police Beat

Editors Note: The length of this week's Police Beat does not reflect a sudden increase in criminal activity. Due to the holiday break and other space constrictions, the Police Beat has not run since early last month. This is an update.

11-18-2004

- Joeroda Morgan Brown, 19, of Watson Hall, was charged with theft by shoplifting.
- Bethany Lyn Godwin, 18, of Johnson Hall, was charged with DUI and leaving the scene of an accident.
- Jacqueline Y. Horvath, 20, of Lanier Drive, Statesboro, was charged with DUI and failure to obey a traffic device.
- A vending machine was damaged in the Brannen Hall lobby.
- A wallet was taken from the RAC.

11-19-2004

- Kimberly Gael Hammock, 20, of the Woodlands apartments, Statesboro, was charged with driving with a suspended license.
- A radio and several textbooks were taken from Kennedy Hall.

11-20-2004

- Jarad Thomas Butler, 18, of Johnson Hall, was charged with underage drinking and possession of a false I.D.

- A case of battery was reported at Winburn Hall.
- Several CDs were taken from a vehicle in the Johnson Hall parking lot.

11-21-2004

- Benton Williams, 51, of West Jones Avenue, Statesboro, was charged with criminal trespass.
- A wallet was taken from the RAC.

11-22-2004

- A minor affray was reported at the Landrum Center.
- A sign was removed from the front of the Southern Pines clubhouse.
- Someone reported a car was damaged in the College of Information Technology faculty/staff parking lot.
- Someone reported a car was damaged in the COBA faculty/staff parking lot.
- Someone reported being threatened while attempting to leave the Foy faculty/staff parking lot.

11-27-2004

- Jason D. Brand, 23, of Statesboro Place Apartments, Statesboro, was charged with criminal trespass and public intoxication.
- Officers assisted three motorists.

11-28-2004

- A cell phone was taken from the Henderson Library.
- A DVD player was taken from Kennedy Hall.

11-29-2004

- A 1988 GMC truck was taken from near the Foy Building.
- A case of harassment was reported at the Russell Union commuter parking lot.
- A purse was taken from the Biology Building.

11-30-2004

- Jayme Whitley Marsh, 21, of Savannah Highway, Newington, Ga., was charged with DUI and failure to maintain lane.
- A bicycle was taken from the Henderson Library.
- A case of battery was reported at Kennedy Hall.
- A wallet was taken from the Family Life Center.
- Officers issued one traffic warning, assisted seven motorists and responded to one dumpster fire.

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"Why is my period so painful?"

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- All Police Beat information compiled by News Editor Luke Hearn and Asst. News Editor Rachel Weeks.

Only in America

SpongeBob kidnapped

HALMA, Mn. - Police are looking for a blow-up figure of SpongeBob SquarePants swiped from a Minnesota Burger King.

They've found a ransom note, which starts off: "We have SpongeBob." It then demands, "Give us ten Crabby Patties, fries and milkshakes."

The ransom note is signed by SpongeBob's nemesis, Plankton. A postscript reads:

"Patrick is next," referring to the Bermuda shorts-wearing starfish that serves as SpongeBob's sidekick.

Employees are handing out "Missing" fliers with a full description of the popular cartoon figure - featured in a new movie.

TV anchor appears nude on air

CLEVELAND, Oh. - A television news anchor appeared on the air nude in a first-person report about an artist's photographs, drawing a record number of viewers for the time slot, the station said.

Sharon Reed was one of hundreds of people who participated in Spencer Tunick's nude photo installation in Cleveland in June. Reed said she was praised for "standing up" for what she believed, but also was ridiculed for jeopardizing TV news standards.

The station aired advisories before the piece, and FCC spokeswoman Janice Wise on Wednesday said WOIO followed commission rules that prohibit indecent material from being aired on broadcast television from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Man gets probation for castration

PITTSBURGH, Pa. - A man who botched the castration of a transgendered woman will spend the next three years on probation.

"I have no intention of doing this again to animals or humans," Douglas Lenhart, 49, told Allegheny County Judge John Zottola on Monday.

Zottola sentenced Lenhart to jail time he had already served and will let him serve his probation in Kansas City, Kan., where he now lives.

In July, Lenhart acknowledged trying to castrate Catherine Watson, 46.

Lenhart had said Watson was "desperate" to find someone to perform the surgery and he thought he could do it because of his experience castrating animals on a farm.

Vandals glue store locks on 'Black Friday'

LAFAYETTE, La. - The busiest shopping day of the year turned out to be a sticky affair.

Vandals apparently glued the locks on dozens of Lafayette's biggest retailers, preventing managers from opening up promptly on lucrative "Black Friday."

Hundreds of shoppers, some of whom arrived before dawn, were forced to wait outside Barnes & Noble, Old Navy and other stores while managers summoned locksmiths.

At least 200 locks on dozens of businesses were glued, including main entrances, rear doors and employee entrances, locksmith Garon Wilson said.

National News Briefs

Powell makes last trip to Haiti as United States' top diplomat

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti - With bursts of gunfire erupting nearby, Secretary of State Colin Powell met on Wednesday with Haitian political leaders and other opponents of ousted President Jean Bertrand Aristide in what is likely his last visit as the United States' top diplomat.

The gunfire erupted shortly after Powell entered the National Palace in the Haitian capital for meetings with President Boniface Alexandre and Prime Minister Gerald Latortue. It was not clear whether

the shots were aimed at the palace, but a palace security officer said they appeared to come from a single passing car.

U.N. security forces guarding the palace returned fire with automatic weapons.

No one was injured, and it was not clear whether anyone was arrested.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Adam Ereli said that at the time of the gunshots, Powell was in a holding room at the palace in advance of his meetings.

Powell went to Haiti to reaffirm U.S. support for democracy there, review American efforts to help the country overcome recent natural disasters, and commemorate World AIDS Day by meeting with young Haitians who receive and provide HIV/AIDS support services.

Powell announced last month that he would leave his post in President Bush's second term.

Bush has nominated White House national security adviser Condoleezza Rice to succeed Powell.



Associated Press
Secretary of State Colin Powell, left, with Prime Minister Gerard Latortue in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday.

UGA student burned during drinking ritual

ATHENS - A University of Georgia student was severely burned during a fraternity drinking ritual, police said.

William Flynn Miller IV, 21, was engaged in a drinking rite inside the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house early Tuesday morning when the incident happened.

The ritual involved 190-proof grain alcohol and a lighted oil lantern. Miller's clothes burst into flame, severely burning his upper torso, Athens-Clarke police said. The student, a senior forestry major from Savannah, suffered third-degree burns to his torso and hands. But his injuries did not appear life-threatening, police said.

When officers arrived on the scene, the floor of the fraternity house was littered with beer cans and bottles, folding chairs were scattered about and the odor of burned hair was in the air. Miller was on the floor and, although conscious, had skin hanging off his fingers, chest, stomach, side and back, police said.

"We're following up to make sure nothing criminal in nature took place and to make sure these types of accidents don't happen again," he said.

U.S. to expand military force in Iraq

WASHINGTON - The United States is expanding its military force in Iraq to the highest level of the war - even higher than during the initial invasion in March 2003 - in order to bolster security in advance of next month's national elections.

The 12,000-troop increase is to last only until March, but it says much about the strength and resiliency of an insurgency that U.S. military planners did not foresee when Baghdad was toppled in April 2003.

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our opinion

Roll up and help
states' rights

The Supreme Court heard arguments this week on whether individuals should be allowed to grow marijuana for medical treatment.

At the center of the case is Angel Raich, a California woman who contends that marijuana has so benefited her medically that doing without the drug would ultimately lead to her inability to care for her child, and eventually to her death.

Some don't buy her story. And while it may be hard to swallow, this case presents more issues than what is apparent at first blush.

Raich's situation isn't simply about medical marijuana, or even drug use. This case deals with the forgotten issue of states' rights.

If the Supreme Court rules that Raich, and other Californians, shouldn't be allowed to grow marijuana for their medical use, they're trumping California law. And with that decision comes the beginning of an era where big government rules the day and state's are merely the tool for an overly powerful federal.

States should have the right to set their own laws. States like Georgia, where politics runs just right of Nazi, should have every right to keep their conservative ideologies reflected in their laws.

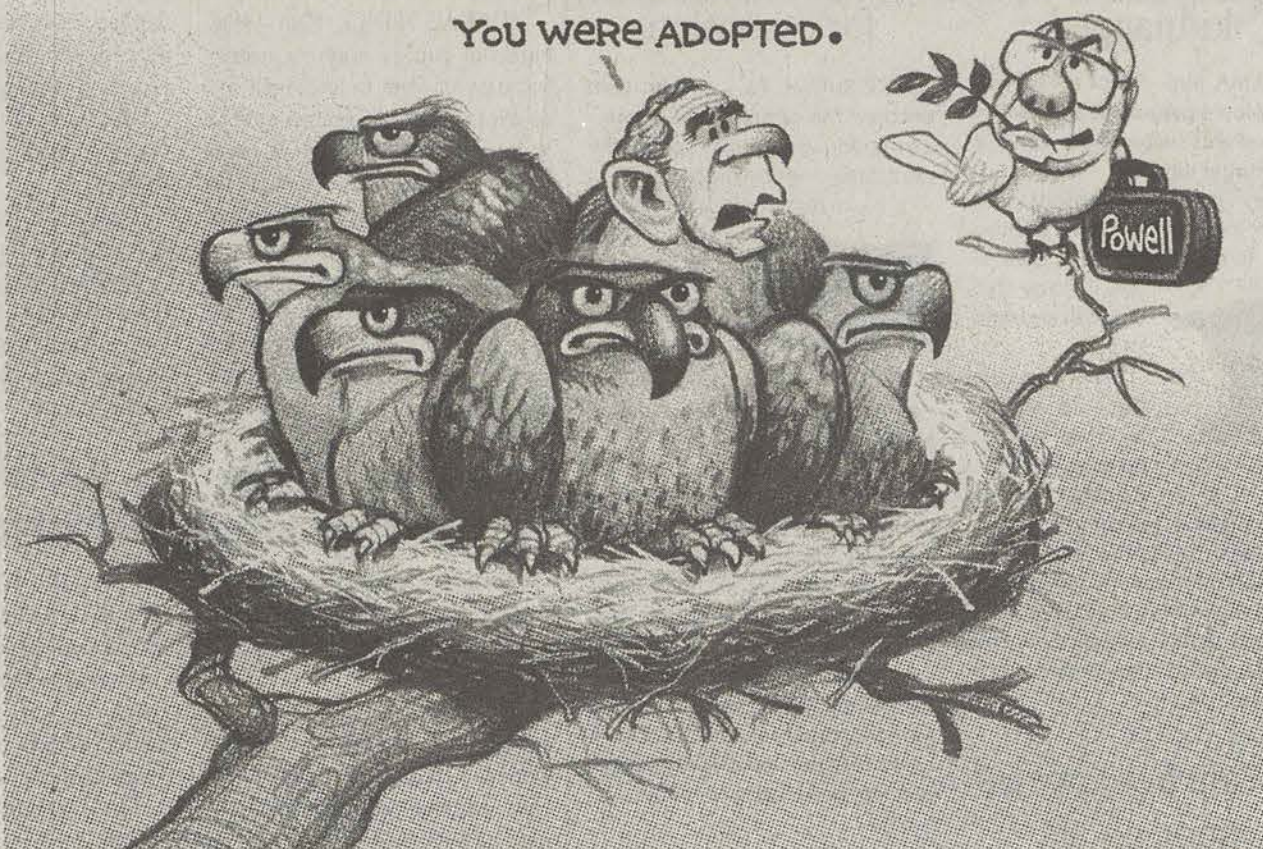
But in states where the constituency leans hard left, voters should have the right to set up whatever laws they see fit. Maybe that translates into legal gay marriage or slack drug laws. But whatever the outcome, it's the will of the residents of that state.

And while the thought of two men picking out china patterns and later smoking a blunt to relieve their medical woes would likely churn stomachs in the Deep South, it really shouldn't.

Legalizing drugs, allowing same-sex marriage and even allowing beer to be sold on Sunday are eons away from reality in these parts. And that's the beauty of states' rights.

We can protect our part of the world from the overzealous liberals in other parts of the world. And, on the same hand, those liberal strongholds can be spared the wretched wrath of Republican Georgians, who thump their Bible and propose Constitutional referendums.

It's a beautiful thing. And, from where we're sitting, if it means that Raich gets to blaze up to help her troubles go away, we'd be happy to send her some rolling papers to help further the cause of state's rights.

STAR TRIBUNE
SOKNOW THAT YOU'RE LEAVING I
SHOULD PROBABLY TELL YOU,
YOU WERE ADOPTED.

Thanks for the letters

This semester has been a fine one here at the newsroom of *The George-Anne*.

Now I'm only six months away from having to leave this place, a thought that saddens me more with every passing day. The paper remains an ever-present source of amazement and pride for me as I witness through it the constant growth of the campus community. With every new story, column or letter, I get to see from a unique perspective what makes Georgia Southern different from (and, in my not-so-humble opinion, better than) every other institution of higher learning in this state.

Since I wrote that column begging for Bush fan mail back in the beginning of September, we've received at least one letter to the editor per edition, but usually more like two. They weren't all from Bush fans, but the consistent flow of student, faculty and community contributions has stimulated the Opinions section to the point that I've been able to meet a primary goal of mine: We are usually able to publish an OpEd page at least once a week.

(For you avid readers of mine, yesterday was my birthday... I got the rest of my wishes, too, including the German chocolate cake. Still can't get enough Moe's to eat, though.)

Maybe it's just because it was election season, but I like to think of the influx of letters as a sign that we're on our way to having a more proactive, less apathetic student population.

I can't possibly express the joy I've gotten out of opening the editor account to new letters from GSU community members almost every single day. It makes me feel like what we're doing up here until one or two in the morning is actually having an effect, like creating a forum for ideas, for instance.

Especially considering there were a plethora of letters that didn't have to do with the election, I'd like to think our publication is rousing some brain activity across the board, regarding not just politics but any thought provoking issue. We've started a few new traditions, with more guest columnists from both sides of the political spectrum and our weekly "International Students Speak Out." I am endlessly impressed with how many international students have voluntarily written pieces for that series.

I'd also like to state, for the record, that all those out there with linguistic biases should read the international student feature every week. Academics from all over the world apparently have far better English composition skills than the average American. I've done about a third as much editing to those columns as I normally do to stories written by our own staff. Putting one's ideas out there for everyone to read takes a lot of guts, no matter where you're from or how well you write, and we appreciate all contributions.

I owe a sincere thanks to all those who have given us the opportunity to make their voices heard this semester, and I want to encourage everyone to keep it up for spring.

If you can read this - whether you're faculty or a student on campus, a member of the local community, or someone who wandered onto our website - your involvement with us absolutely makes this paper. An editor's schedule is hellacious, so we can't usually meet random people for long philosophic discussions over coffee (not even our best friends can track us down most of the time). But we truly enjoy corresponding on a more casual level whenever possible with anyone who contributes views to the paper. Without you, our readers, we're just another inky rag you don't mind

Amanda Permenter
editor-in-chief

Today in History

On this date in...

1981, pop singer Britney Jean Spears was born.
1973, NFL/WLAF punter Kevin Feighery was born.
1925, composer Julio Garreta died at age 50.
1995, photographer Stanley Devon died at age 88.

1933, the first transatlantic telephone wedding was held.

1964, Beatle Ringo Starr had his tonsils removed.

Holidays around the world...

America: Pan American Health Day
Cuba: Landing of Granma Expeditionaries
United Arab Emirates: Independence Day (1971)

The political economy of
anti-AmericanismBy Russell A. Berman
Hoover Institution

Major foreign policy differences, especially regarding the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, have contributed to the deterioration of relationships between the United States and our traditional allies in Western Europe.

There can be no doubt that some European leaders stonewalled the Bush administration on Iraq in order to provide lateral support to the Kerry campaign. With the Bush victory, however, Europe may choose the wiser path of mending fences with Washington.

Yet an anti-American spirit has been unleashed in the European street, and it will be difficult to tame, not only because of foreign policy but also because of economics. Poor economic performance in Europe feeds a politics of resentment, and the scapegoat has been the United States.

In 2000, the European Union launched the ambitious Lisbon process, a reform agenda enabling the EU to become "the most competitive and dynamic, knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth, creating more and better jobs and greater social cohesion" by the year 2010. Lisbon was also a declaration of competition with the United States for global economic primacy. A high-level commission headed by former Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok recently determined, however, that European economic performance was deeply disappointing. The gap with the United States has been growing larger, and the Lisbon goals are further away than ever.

Third-quarter growth in the United States was reported at 3.7 percent, a figure eliciting disappointment because it was lower than some had expected. Compare this, however, with the euro economies, where growth in 2004

See Economy, Page 5

STAR TRIBUNE
SOK

The biggest news of 2004 in an editorial nutshell

As News Editor, it's essentially my job to collect and gather all of the news that goes into *The George-Anne*.

Often times, when reading a story or pondering which stories we will run on a particular day, I have my personal biases that I wish to express, but cannot due to the fact that the news must be objective and free of bias. To sum it up, I can't add in my two cents into a story. The following is a short list of some of the headliner stories we have covered in *The George-Anne* this semester, and this space has been reserved for me to finally let you know what I think about a few of them.

The Scott Peterson Case:
Apparently, no other man in the United States killed his wife and

child this year. Or, if another man did, it was a much less significant loss than that of Laci and her unborn child. While the Peterson story is extremely sad, it's no sadder than any other murder that happened this year, especially a husband killing his wife. Scott Peterson became an instant celebrity because he is an attractive wife-killer, and Laci received more justice because she was a pretty white woman, and not some white trash lady knocked-off by her husband. That's sad, and I believe the media failed the people by making this story so important while neglecting all the others.

Dan Rather Scandal:
Here's the gist of what happened: There were some theorists who questioned President Bush's service

in the Texan Air National Guard (TANG). Well, Rather received some under-the-table information that supposedly confirmed the doubts about the President's service and he made them public on his news station.

Turns out, Rather never really checked the credibility of his sources, and ended up eating his words and having to say that the documents that he received may have been, in fact, about as credible as the Fox News Channel.

Rather really screwed up—big time. He made a fool of himself, losing the trust of the millions of Americans who took his news as the gospel each night, and he essentially ruined his career. Instead of ending his rein as an esteemed news

Luke Hearn
news editor

See Permenter, Page 5

See Hearn, Page 5

THE GEORGE-ANNE STAFF

For 77 years, Georgia Southern's Official Student Newspaper

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Adam Crisp, Hiatus Managing Editor
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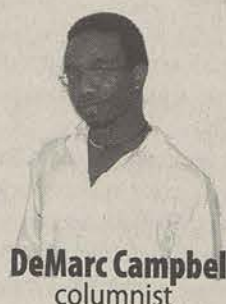
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Letter and Submission Policy

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 250 words or less, typed, preferably sent via email in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.

relationships & sex

SPEAKING OF... the other woman



DeMarc Campbell
columnist

I was in a computer lab over in the IT building not too long ago when one of my loyal readers asked me to write a column about her friend. It seemed a reasonable request, and my curiosity was piqued! I asked myself, "Why would she want me to write a column about her friend?"

Being the overly blunt person that I sometimes am, I asked. She told me the reason was because her friend was in the worst position any woman can be in: She was the "other woman."

Let's talk about that. Now ladies, we hear songs about it on the radio every day. Beyonce (Is She the Reason), Changing Faces (The Other Woman), Xscape (My Little Secret), and Kelly Price (As We Lay). All divine divas singing (and whining) about the other woman, to the other woman, or about being the other woman.

It's a phenomenon that I will never seem to understand. Sexy, intelligent, beautiful women who think so lowly of themselves, that they feel the need to chase after someone else's man. But I mean, how can you blame them? Why wouldn't you want to steal someone else's two-timing, dishonest man? I'm sure his promises to be loving and faithful to you are as heartfelt as they were to his most recent ex. But, if you don't know you're the other woman, then that's another story.

So, you think that maybe your guy may have a little something on the side? Maybe you're just being paranoid, or maybe you've got yourself the "Playa's Playa!" If you suspect that you might not be the focus of your man's full attention, here are a few signs to look for:

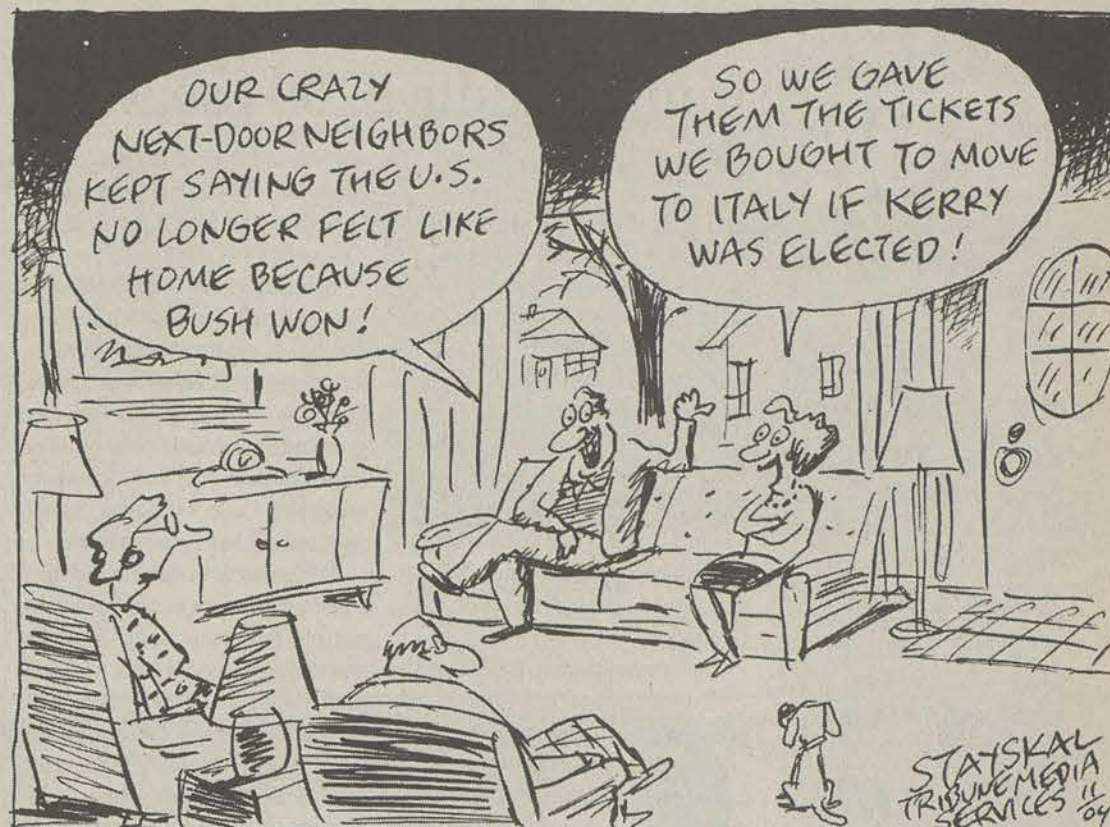
- His availability goes down... WAY down!
- He guards his cell phone like the secret service (so you won't pick it up if it rings, or so you don't look at the stored numbers).
- He suddenly starts really caring what he looks like.
- He feels the need to "get back in shape!"
- He wants to try new freaky sexual acts on you out of the blue. (If he suddenly wants you to tie him up and pee on him, that's a real red flag.)
- He seems to purposely start arguments or he nitpicks over petty things.
- He suddenly starts hanging with known players and poon hounds.
- He has random bouts of extreme niceness, and you can't think of any reason why.
- He starts showering... a lot.
- If he says things like "I'm running to the grocery store real quick," but takes an hour...

Honestly, I hope this doesn't describe anyone you know!

And to all the young women out there who just happen to BE the other woman, I have some advice for you. If he's telling you that it'll soon be over, or that she treats him like dirt, then ask yourself this: If the relationship is so bad, why are they still together?

I realize that's an overly simplified question, but think about it honestly. But more importantly, I want you to stand up, take pride in yourself, and not chase after someone else's leftovers.

You deserve better... and those guys don't deserve you.



ECONOMY, FROM PAGE 4

may only reach 1.8 percent and is predicted to climb at most to a breathtaking 1.9 percent in 2005. Why is growth so slow? The Koks report blames politicians for failing to carry out necessary reforms.

The inability to reform—in the labor market, in impediments to trade, and in the social welfare network—is precisely where the problem of anti-Americanism enters. Efforts to deregulate and liberalize the economy are easily tagged with negative labels: French pundits denounce them as "Anglo-Saxon"; German politicians shun them as the feared "American conditions."

Although Europe urgently needs structural reform, it hides behind the smoke screen of anti-American-

ism, which is really anti-capitalism. Rejecting America because of capitalism, however, means repressing the European tradition of free market thinkers from Adam Smith to Friedrich von Hayek.

Many Europeans believe that their slow economy is the price they must pay for their elaborate welfare state. This, however, turns out to be an illusion.

A recent study by the Austrian Labor Council shows that the portion of GDP devoted to the social safety net is greater in the United States than it is in Europe; although European states generously pay out more in welfare benefits, they take much more back through higher tax rates.

At the end of the day, anti-Ameri-

canism as a block to economic reform inhibits European prosperity. The more Europeans demonstrate, the farther they fall behind. Good-bye to Lisbon.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Russell A. Berman is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and the Walter A. Haas Professor in the Humanities at Stanford University. He is the author of "Anti-Americanism in Europe: A Cultural Problem" (2004). Readers may write to the author at Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. 94305-6010; Web site: www.hoover.org. For information about the institution's funding, please go to <http://www.hoover.stanford.edu/Main/brochure/finances.html>.

PERMENTER, FROM PAGE 4

draping over your head when it rains on the way from class to the parking lot.

That being said, I know there are things we've missed. I know there are duties and story ideas and even entire people that have taken a back seat this semester. Like any human endeavor, we have cracks, and it is literally impossible to escape a few months in this business without a few things falling through those cracks. I'm grateful for neglected tasks that keep fresh until we can get to them, and I appreciate people for granting us patience. Even though I know there are dozens of satisfied G-A fans for every disgruntled one, it still gives me that sinking feeling in my chest when I know something isn't getting

the coverage it deserves.

So, there you have it. This is my typical, expensive way of saying thanks. I've droned on for over six hundred words now. But, if I had to put it into three, they'd be "you all rock." Thanks for a great semester, and please keep the letters coming when we return in January. *The George-Anne* is your paper. Feed it. It'll grow.

Amanda Permenter is the editor-in-chief of *The George-Anne* and she wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday break. Sending mail to her at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu over the vacation would be a bad idea unless you don't want her to receive it. Try dweezelshay@hotmail.com, instead.

HEARN, FROM PAGE 4

news broadcaster, Rather will go down as the man who screwed himself while trying to prove what we all know about George W (I'll never be able to speak correctly) Bush's service in the Guard, but couldn't find the right, authentic documents to prove it.

Gov. Sonny Perdue and his efforts to kill higher education in Georgia:

In September, the Governor of this fine state failed in his fiscal policy plans to make the state appear to have money when it really didn't, and tried to shove the burden of that screw-up on us, the poor college students. As he allocated which state agencies would help pay back the \$180 million in debt, he slapped the University System of Georgia with a tab of about \$69 million to pay up, which translates in layman's terms to something they call a tuition increase. While the Governor denied to my face (read: lied) that that's not what happened and disputed the numbers that I questioned

him about, the numbers sent a clear message that Perdue wanted to raise tuition for students. After protests by members of the Student Governments from institutions across the state in the midst of an unprecedented increase in tuition, Perdue twisted the arms of the members of the Board of Regents, causing them to not raise tuition. The problem: the University System of Georgia is still having to foot the \$69 million and Perdue looks like he saved the day by forcing the Board of Regents to not raise tuition. The moral of this story, well...there isn't one, except for the fact that we need to vote someone else (a Democrat, and hopefully Cathy Cox) into the Governor's mansion in 2006.

I would go on, but this is getting insane.

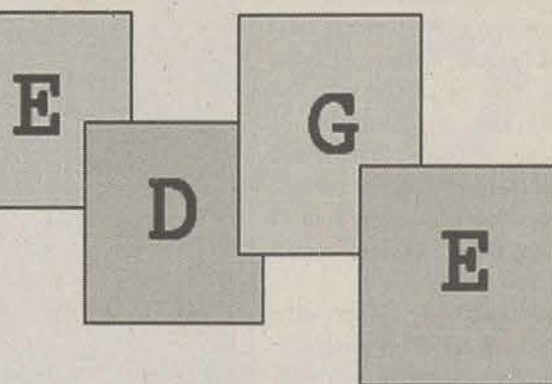
Luke Hearn is the news editor of *The George-Anne* and can be reached at ganews@georgiasouthern.edu.

Do you want to learn how to
become a LEADER on campus?

OR

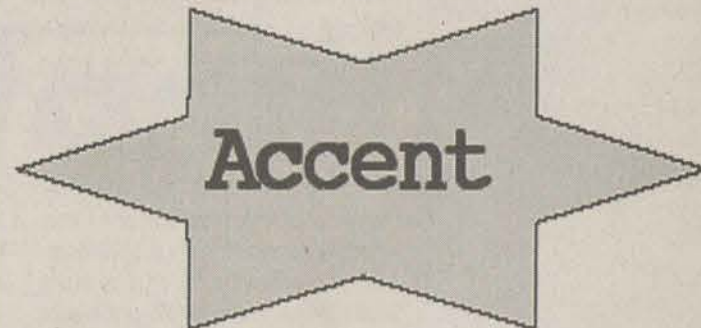
Are you currently a LEADER on campus,
and you want to learn how to perfect your
leadership skills?

If you answered YES to one of the above questions, the Center for Student Leadership Development has just the class for you!



Experience...Develop...Grow...Emerge
The EDGE class is the first step to learning how to become a leader on campus. Students learn self-knowledge, commitment, citizenship, and collaboration, and they make several new friends.

Classes are offered on
Mondays from 3:30pm-5:00pm, January 10-April 25
OR
Tuesdays from 3:30pm-5:00pm, January 11-April 26



Have you already taken the EDGE class or do you already have some basic leadership skills? If so, take the second step by joining us in the Accent class and develop an understanding of leadership theories and your personal leadership style.

Class is offered on
Wednesdays from 3:30pm-5:00pm, January 12-April 27

Applications are due Friday, December 10th

Stop by the Center for Student Leadership Development

Russell Union, Rm. 2022 or

email: leader@georgiasouthern.edu or

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



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Men's Basketball December Schedule

Dec. 04, 7:30 PM
DAVIDSON

Dec. 11, 7:30 PM
AUGUSTA STATE

Dec. 15, 7:30 PM
ARKANSAS STATE

Dec. 19, 1 PM
at Florida

Dec. 30, 7:30 PM
FORT VALLEY STATE

Women's Basketball December Schedule

Dec. 04, 5 PM
MIDDLE TENNESSEE ST.

Dec. 11, 4 PM
at College of Charleston

Dec. 15, 5 PM
MERCER

Dec. 18, 3 PM
WESTERN CAROLINA

Dec. 21, 5 PM
at Appalachian State

Dec. 28, 7 PM
at East Tennessee State

The Rapp Report

Basketball bounces
back to Hanner



Matt Rapp
Sports Editor

Basketball season is finally here with both the men and women's squad six games deep into their

schedules. As football is unfortunately over, Eagle fans look forward to some exciting action here on campus at Hanner Fieldhouse.

The Lady Eagles just finished a disappointing loss to in-state rival UGA yesterday in Athens. The 61-50 loss brought their record to an even 3 and 3. Looking to get back on track, the Ladies face Middle Tennessee State here at Hanner this Saturday at 5 p.m.

The Men however are looking to avenge their losing record as they take on Davidson here at home on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. The long and tiring campaign in Fairbanks, Alaska at the beginning of the season was a chance to get any last minute kinks out of the way and prepare the Eagles for what is to be a promising season. The men's stand on Monday was a nail-biter as the Eagles lost their comeback bid in double overtime.

This spring, Eagle fans can look forward to the diamond, as both baseball and softball will begin in mid February. If you haven't noticed, the new J.I. Clements stadium is getting a face-lift. The construction includes new dugouts, press box, ticket office, and concessions. Construction is said to be on time for the season opener against Georgia Tech on February 12.

Swimming and Diving will pick up in January along with Golf.

Come on out and show your Georgia Southern pride with friends and fellow students. It's free and a great way to kick back after a day full of classes and studying.

Women's Soccer concludes injury-riddled 2004 season

GSU Athletic Media Relations

The 2004 Georgia Southern women's soccer team wrapped up its 2004 schedule in November after enduring a season in which the team was decimated by injury.

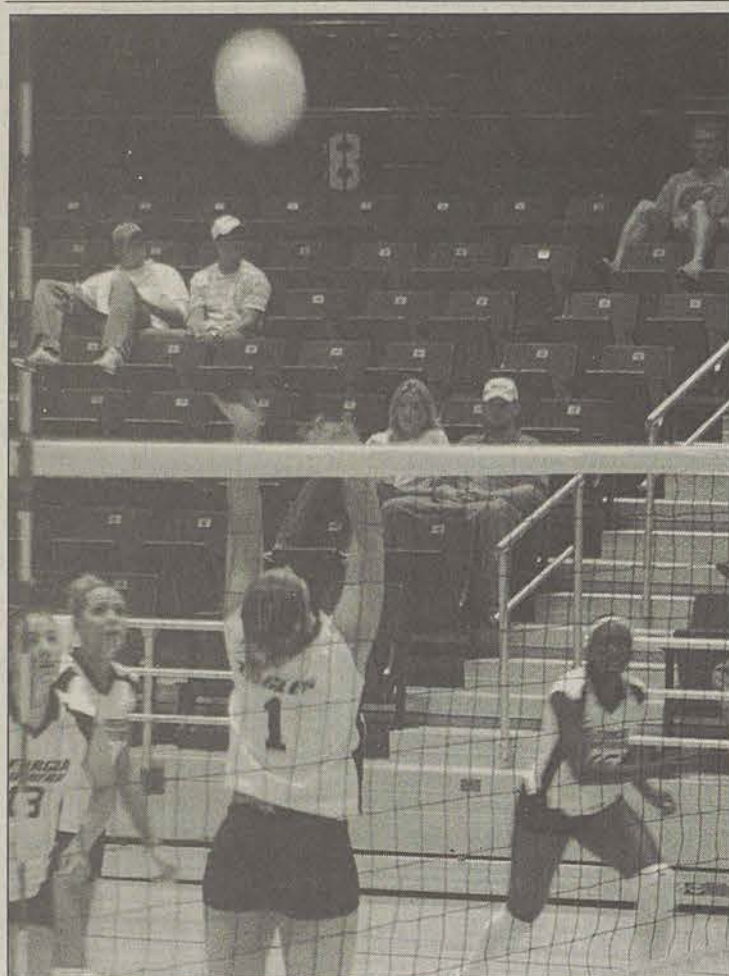
Entering the year with just 17 players on their roster, 10 of which were freshmen, the Eagles lost three players to injury before the season even began, leaving just 14 healthy players for the season. The injury bug would reappear throughout the season as just 10 of the remaining 14 players saw action in all 17 matches.

Georgia Southern fought through the injuries to post a 4-12-1 record for first-year head coach Ashley Hart, including a 2-9 mark against Southern Conference competition. The SoCon

victories came as GSU defeated East Tennessee State 2-1 in overtime on October 1 and in a 3-2 win at The Citadel October 6.

Senior forward Katy Znosko led Georgia Southern in scoring, tallying three goals and three assists for nine total points. Freshman forward Jenni Boykin was right behind with two goals and three assists for seven points while Znosko's sister and sophomore midfielder Colleen Znosko scored one goal and had two assists.

Freshman defender Shea Hickey and sophomore forward Ellen Shuler matched Boykin for runner-up on the team in goals scored with two each while junior midfielder Jessica Rice tied Colleen Znosko for third on the team in total points with four, scoring a goal and tallying two assists.



Felicia Emanuel/STAFF

Georgia Southern junior Natalia Galantini sets up a shot during the Eagle's victory over Georgia State on October 5. The volleyball team finished the season with a 20-10 overall record.

Volleyball completes productive season

GSU Athletic Media Relations

STATESBORO - Despite suffering a loss in the semifinal round of the Southern Conference Tournament in Cullowhee, N.C., the Georgia Southern volleyball team completed a successful campaign over the week-end, wrapping up with their fourth consecutive 20-win season.

The Eagles, who sat at 20-10 overall with a 13-3 mark in conference play, entered postseason play as the second-ranked team out of the South Division. After handling Western Carolina with ease in the opening round, taking a three-game sweep, the Eagles had a tough time handling the offensive attack of Appalachian State in the semifinal, falling in four games.

Despite the early exit from the conference tournament, it was a productive season for Georgia Southern, which finished the year sitting among the top four teams in the conference in the SoCon statistical columns, led by a league-high, and team-record, 14.60 assists per game. The Eagles also ranked second in hitting and kills per game, third in service aces per game, and fourth in blocks per game and digs per game.

Georgia Southern continued to

prove its might in Hanner Fieldhouse, building a 28-match home winning streak, which began Aug. 31, 2002 and stood until the Eagles fell to Appalachian State on Oct. 24. The streak was the second longest active string in the nation until the point it was snapped. The Eagles had also built a 19-match conference winning streak at one point.

Individually, honors were bestowed on two Eagle players this season in junior outside hitter Iulia Porumbescu and senior outside hitter Kristen Kasprak. Porumbescu, who finished the year first in the league in kills, third in service aces and seventh in digs, earned inclusion on the all-conference first team, as well as the all-tournament team. Kasprak, who sat second in the league in attack percentage, was part of the all-conference second team.

Head coach Kerry Messersmith also saw an honor of her own, as on Oct. 9 at Wofford, she became the all-time winningest coach in team history, collecting her 84th win at Georgia Southern. Overall, Messersmith has built a record of 95-41 in four seasons as Eagle head coach and 453-241 in her 17-year career.

By Bryan Metcalf

michael_b_metcalf@georgiasouthern.edu

On September 15, 2004, the National Hockey League's Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) expired.

With owners and the National Hockey League Players Association (NHLPA) unable to come to an agreement before that date, NHL owners locked out the players. The two sides have not met since September 9 when the players presented their four-point plan that included salary rollbacks and a luxury tax. Their proposal was immediately shot down by the owners and the lockout began a week later.

The major sticking point in the whole argument is revenue. The NHL owners are reporting that 75 percent of nearly two billion dollars of revenue generated goes to player salaries, up from 57 percent of total income during the 1993-94 season. Since the '93 season, revenue has increased 173 percent.

Player costs, however, have increased by 261 percent. The NHLPA disputes this information, claiming that only a handful of teams have problems and the league is trying to spin it their way.

The NHL refuses to open the doors back up until the players accept the

Williams sixth in Payton voting

GSU Athletic Media Relations

STATESBORO - Georgia Southern University quarterback Chaz Williams finished sixth in the final voting for the Walter Payton Award. The prestigious trophy is given to the top offensive player in NCAA Division I-AA football.

Announced by the Sports Network, voting was conducted among nearly 100 media members and media relations professionals covering I-AA. Voting was based on performance during the regular season only.

Williams recorded the fourth-most points among quarterbacks. Overall he received five first-place votes, nine votes for second place, five each for third and fourth place then nine more for fifth place. His 95 total points were three behind the next closest vote getter, running back Charles Anthony of Tennessee State.

The three finalists include: quarterback Lang Campbell of William & Mary, wide receiver DaVon Fowlkes of Appalachian State and Sam Houston State quarterback Dustin Long. The winner will be announced on December 16 at the 18th Annual I-AA

College Football Awards in Chattanooga, TN.

GSU head coach Mike Sewak, named last week as Southern Conference Coach of the Year by his peers, was one of the finalists for the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year award. That final voting result will also be announced during the College Football Awards presentation.

This year Williams improved his GSU and SoCon record of 38 touchdowns accounted for, surpassing his former record by two set two years ago. He recorded the most TDs of any player listed on the ballot. The senior signal caller rushed for 25 scores and tossed a GSU record 13 more. He totaled 737 yards rushing and a personal-best 1,178 yards through the air, completing 51.3 percent of his passes (59-of-115). Williams threw only two interceptions all season, including a streak of 91 consecutive attempts without a miscue to close out his stellar career. His final passing efficiency rating was 171.18, one of the top ratings in the country.

He should also finish as the national scoring leader, averaging 12.67 points per game. The next closest

active player, Eastern Washington's Eric Kimble, is a full two points per game behind.

"What a great three years Chaz had as our starting quarterback. He's been a leader both on and off the field. Chaz should finish as the national leading scorer this season and he helped Georgia Southern to not only a scoring title but our fourth straight rushing title," said Sewak. "He did a good job taking care of the football (the team committed only 12 turnovers all season) and running our offense. Since Chaz took over he went 25-8 as a starter and helped us win two SoCon titles."

"He's one of the guys that made us believe we could win a national championship. I think you need to credit not only Chaz but the entire senior class for their leadership this season."

The Eagles closed out their 2004 campaign at 9-3 but in the process captured their eighth Southern Conference championship (co-champs). Fourth-seeded GSU dropped a 27-23 decision to New Hampshire in the NCAA I-AA playoffs.



LaVene Bell/STAFF

GSU senior quarterback Chaz Williams rushes into the endzone during the second quarter against Elon on October 2. The Eagles defeated the Phoenix 48-14. Williams accounted for 184 of Georgia Southern's 508 total yards in the game.

NHL= No Hockey League

\$31 million salary cap per team the owners have proposed. The players believe that the league has overstated their \$224 million losses from last season by failing to take into account all sources of revenue for team owners. For instance the league only included half of the New York Islanders cable deal, worth \$17 million per season, in their Profit & Loss reports. They also to include the \$15 million generated for Chicago Blackhawks' and United Center owner William Wirtz from the 212 luxury sweets in the United Center.

Despite the best efforts of the owners, there will likely be casualties if the NHL ever resumes play. According to

GSU Business professor Tony Barilla, the best estimate is, of the 30 teams that were in the league when the lockout began, 18 will remain when the labor dispute is settled.

The six original teams (Detroit, Boston, Montreal, Toronto, Chicago, and New York) will be safe because of their history. The other four teams north of the border will likely be safe as well because they are in the category of teams that are actually making money. Teams that will most likely be cut are the Florida Panthers, Anaheim Mighty Ducks, Phoenix Coyotes, and the Pittsburgh Penguins. All four had operating incomes in the red last year, but only the Ducks

went into double digits, losing \$22.4 million. Other recent expansion teams like the Atlanta Thrashers might also face the guillotine if the league must make cuts.

Regardless of how much teams make or how much they are worth, owners and players will have to meet eventually or else the money for the league will dry up. According to Barilla, "If the money does dry up, don't look for the world's greatest hockey talent to be in the NHL." Never has a full season been cancelled in any of the four major sports, but the way things have been going we may not see professional hockey in North America for quite some time.

Ukraine's opposition scores big victory as parliament votes to oust government

By Anna Melnichuk
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine—Ukraine's opposition scored key victories Wednesday in its bid to scrap a disputed presidential election as parliament voted no confidence in the government and European-brokered talks provided momentum toward holding a new ballot.

Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko urged throngs of supporters to stay on the streets until plans for what he demanded — a rerun of the Nov. 21 runoff with Kremlin-backed Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich — are worked out. He said such a vote could be held as early as Dec. 19.

But President Leonid Kuchma, who backed Yanukovich, instead proposed an entirely new election, which would allow his Russian-allied government to field a more attractive candidate as it scrambles to stay in power with his 10 years in office running out.

European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana, who mediated

talks Wednesday between Yushchenko and Yanukovich, also suggested a new vote but didn't indicate whether it would be a repeat of the runoff or a new election. Kuchma, who earlier in the day called the idea of a new runoff "a farce," also left the issue unclear.

The two candidates signed a deal to set up a group of lawyers to work out proposals for the "completion of the election," a reference to drafting legislation for a settlement of the dispute. The statement also urged protesters to lift their siege of official buildings that have paralyzed the government's work — but Yushchenko urged his backers to press ahead with their street protests.

Hours after the deal was signed, throngs of Yushchenko's supporters continued to besiege the Cabinet and the presidential administration buildings, while thousands clad in his orange campaign colors crammed the central square under fireworks and listened to rock bands in a raucous celebration.

Yushchenko said he expected the

Supreme Court to deliver a ruling Thursday on his campaign's appeal to invalidate the runoff result — based on claims of widespread violations across Yanukovich's eastern and southern strongholds.

Yanukovich has tried to counterattack by launching his own appeal contesting the vote results in pro-Yushchenko western provinces and the capital, but it wasn't immediately clear when the court would address it.

The opposition has asked the court to declare Yushchenko the winner based on his narrow edge in the election's first round, on Oct. 31. But

his call for a revote suggested he does not believe the court would pronounce him the winner.

Yushchenko, Yanukovich and other participants in the talks in the ornate Mariinsky Palace presidential residence emphasized the need to prevent any actions that could split the country. Yanukovich's supporters in the east have called for regional autonomy, sparking fears of Ukraine's breakup.

Participants in the talks emphasized the need to avoid the use of force and said the next round of talks would be held after the Supreme Court's ruling.



AP Photo/Sergei Grits

Supporters of Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, the official winner of Ukraine's presidential election, wave a blue and white campaign balloons and flags at the central square in Donetsk, an industrial city in eastern Ukraine, Wednesday, Dec. 1.

Persuasive speech contest showcases student orators

By Kristin Miller

kmiller8888@hotmail.com

Last night, Maria Collins won the title of "Best of Class" in the Fall 2004 Persuasive Speech Contest. Collins' speech, entitled "The Arts," delivered a compelling message that stressed the importance of artistic knowledge and expression in the classroom.

Backed by her public speaking classmates and a crowd of approximately seventy students and faculty members, Collins accepted her award of \$45 with a big smile. "It felt really great [to win]," said Collins, a sophomore here at GSU. "I was really nervous!"

The second place award went to Josh Cato, a Business Management major. Cato delivered a persuasive speech entitled "Student Organization Member Today, Employee Tomorrow." Cato strongly encouraged GSU students to take an active role in campus organizations.

According to Cato's argument, involvement in student organizations today will help participants gain a crucial edge over competitors in the workforce tomorrow. In his speech, Cato stressed the importance of communication skills in the workplace. Ironically enough, it was Cato's own impeccable communication skills that won him the runner-up prize of \$25, which he says he will use to buy his mom a Christmas gift.

"It feels very good," said Cato when asked how it felt to win second place in the Persuasive Speech Contest. "I performed to the best of my ability."

Paul Belongie, who took home third place, persuaded us to get fit with his speech entitled "Exercise versus Corpulence." His speech argued that

exercise will not only prevent obesity, but it is also a great way to improve one's overall quality of life.

Belongie persuaded his audience to combat the rigors of stress, especially during the week of finals, by following a regular exercise routine. After introducing the newly updated version of the food pyramid, Belongie ended his speech with a very powerful quote: "Tough times don't last; tough people do."

A total of ten students participated in the persuasive speech competition. Subjects ranging from abortion to dental care were addressed.

Audience members claim that they were persuaded on a number of issues. "Now I'm going to floss more," said Alex Mattei.

Woody Woodcock, who MCed the event, thoroughly enjoyed the evening. "I was very impressed with audience enthusiasm as well as the enthusiasm of the speakers."

The Fall 2004 Best of Class Persuasive Speech Contest was sponsored by the Communication Arts Department and SOCS, the Society of Communication Scholars.

"I am extremely pleased with the turnout and the speakers," said Tiffany Helmly, the president of SOCS. "I would like to thank everyone for coming out to support us. It's been a great semester, and I think that [the contest] is a great way to end the semester."

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.

Alpha Phi Alpha steps up for charities

By Danielle Powell

danniep29@hotmail.com

On Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. the Xi Tau chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc. will be hosting their annual Toys for Tots Benefit Step Show. It will be held in the Russell Union Ballroom with the doors opening at 6 p.m.

Participants in the step show will include members of Delta Sigma Theta and Zeta Phi Beta sororities

and Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Beta Sigma and Omega Psi Phi fraternities. The show will also feature the Southeast Bulloch Steppers and Diverzions Dance Team.

Tickets can be purchased at the Russell Union under the rotunda between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. All proceeds will go to Toys for Tots.

IRAQ, FROM PAGE 1

forces to fill the security gap in the weeks leading up to the elections, but that hope was not fulfilled.


The military is reluctant to extend soldiers' combat tours because of the potential negative effect it could have on their families, and thus on their willingness to remain in the service. In this case, Gen. George Casey, the most senior U.S. commander in Iraq, decided it was necessary to keep up pressure on the insurgents while also providing security for the elections.

One unit, the 2nd Brigade of

the 1st Cavalry Division, is being extended for the second time.

Its soldiers originally were told they would be going home in November at the end of a 10-month assignment, but in October they got the news that they would remain until mid-January. Now they are being extended until mid-March.

The 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cavalry and most of the other extended units will end up serving about 14 months in Iraq, exceeding by two months the 12-month standard set by the Army.



SAVE WITH YOUR BONUSCARD!

Thanks for your Support! Good luck on your Finals! Happy Holidays from your BI-LO family! See you in January! GO EAGLES!

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[CALENDAR]

DEC.
02-08, 2004

2 'Soul Evolution' Art Exhibit, Foy Fine Arts Building Gallery 303, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ROTC Christmas Party, Union Rm 2084, 4 p.m.

Brass Chamber Recital, Union Rm 2048, 8 p.m.

Gamma Rho Lambda Interest group meeting, Union Rm 2042, 7 p.m.

3 Free Health Screenings, Nursing/Chemistry Building, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Screenings are for basic cardiovascular risk, osteoporosis, diabetes, vision and hearing problems. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. To call for an appointment, the number is 912-681-5166

A Holiday Showing, Planetarium, 6 p.m., 7 p.m. & 8 p.m.

'The Santa Clause' Outdoor movie, Parking lots of Nessmith-Lane Building and Johnson 7 p.m.

4 Voices in Ministry Christmas Ball, William Center Dining Hall, 4 p.m.

Alpha Phi Alpha Step show, Union Ballroom, 7 p.m.

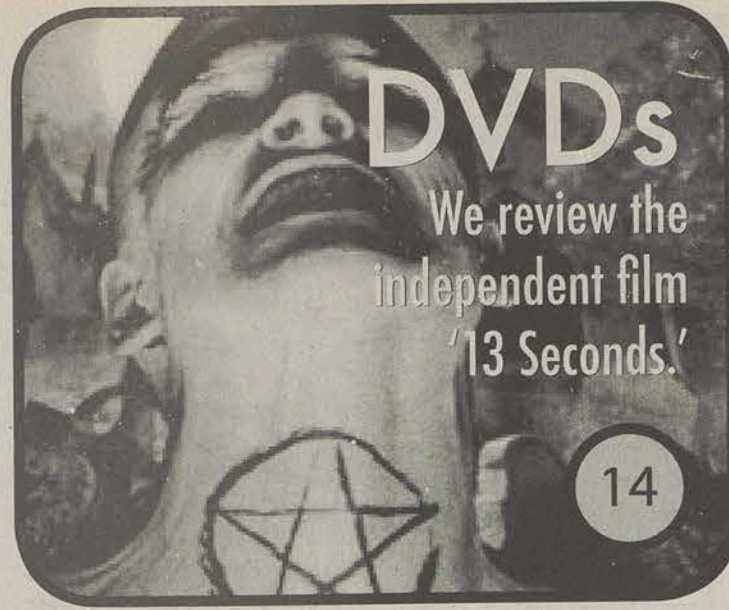
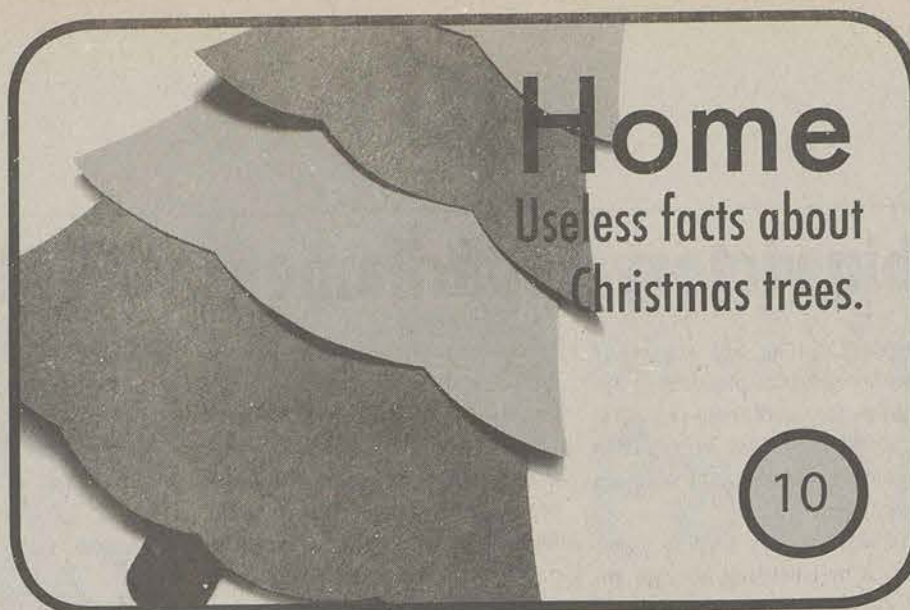
5 Holiday Choral Concert, Performing Arts Center, 3 p.m.

6 Beginning of Finals Week

NAACP meeting, Union Rm 2047, 7 p.m.

■ Have a great holiday

We're taking a Hiatus for the holidays and our next edition will be available Thursday, January 13, 2005. Once again, we hope you have a safe and happy holiday.



Don't fall victim to a... Holiday Heist

After nearly 40 home burglaries last year, police urge caution during coming holiday absence

By Bert Noble
robert_e_noble@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

Holidays are supposed to be a time for giving. But for some, this holiday season will be a chance to go on the take.

Students' apartments are a near perfect target for home burglars bent on making a quick buck at the expense of absent Georgia Southern students.

Last year, Statesboro Police arrested at least four men after holiday burglars swiped more than \$20,000 in goods from about 40 off-campus student residences.

The crooks purloined items ranging from jewelry, guns, and electronics, and even managed to walk away with a box of condoms and a peach cobbler from one home.

Police say empty student housing is an attractive temptation to savvy burglars.

"As long as students are going home for the holidays, there will always be crime at their homes. There are big and small years, but it will always happen," said Detective Sergeant Thomas Williams, a 13-year veteran of the Statesboro Police Department.

Burglars, who are bent on breaking into college students' homes, employ a number of methods, said Williams; they will watch homes over a period of time, see if mail does not get picked up, or simply check for vacancies by knocking on doors to see if someone is home.

Williams believes the best method of protection is prevention. He suggests students take valuable items

see **BURGLARS**, page 9

A FEW TIPS



CANCEL MAIL AND PAPERS

When away for an extended period of time, cancel mail and suspend newspaper delivery. An accumulation of mail and newspapers is a sure sign that a resident is not at home. Arrange in advance to have a neighbor take in any papers, mail or free samples that may arrive while you are gone.



ASK NEIGHBORS FOR HELP

Have a trusted neighbor watch your home when you are away. So many burglaries could be stopped or prevented if only more people would report suspicious happenings. Tell the neighbor who is watching your home where you will be and how long you will be gone.



MAKE YOUR PLACE LOOK LIVED IN

Be sure your home always looks lived in. Leave some interior lights on when gone from home. A couple of timers set to turn your lights on and off automatically should be used. However, don't leave the lights on 24 hours a day. Lights burning night and day do not look natural.



DON'T HIDE YOUR KEYS

Do not leave a door key under a doormat, in a mailbox or other outside locations where a burglar could easily find it. If you must leave a key behind, leave it with a trusted neighbor. Make sure that each member of your family knows where the key is.



REKEY YOUR LOCKS

If you move into a previously occupied house or apartment, change or re-key all locks. In many burglaries, entry was made with a key or through an unlocked door. You've defeated the purpose of locks if you don't know where your keys are. If there is a chance that a former owner or tenant might still have a key, change or re-key the locks. When replacing locks, replace with a deadbolt lock.

Gifts under \$20 available at discount stores, on the Internet

By Kathryn Wexler
Knight Ridder Newspapers

With all the presents that come due each December, no one's going to complain if you set an upper limit of \$20 for certain gifts.

Well, not to your face, anyway.

And with some serious sleuthing at great discount stores like Loehmann's, Marshalls and Ross, it's not likely they'll be able to tell the difference. Add to that the abundance of Internet options, and finding quality gifts at low prices is perfectly feasible.

What's more, you'll have lots of company. According to the New York City-based customer loyalty research firm Brand Keys, about 75 percent of shoppers surveyed will at least partly rely on discount department stores like Kmart and Target for holiday shopping.

"What we've found in the past couple years is that ... folks want to be seen as being smart about where they shop," said President Robert Passikoff. "It's the Wise Shopper syndrome."

When buying gifts for women this year, consider vintage and hand-crafted jewelry. The online company Ruby Lane (www.rubylane.com) sells jewelry from vendors and artisans who use fixed prices or bids.

Since most items cost more than see **GIFTS**, page 9

Holiday travel tips

By Cynthia Wilson
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

BY LAND

If you're driving, don't speed. Officers will use unmarked cars, high-powered radar and helicopters to catch lead-footed motorists.

Be prepared for emergencies. Carry a charged mobile phone, flashlight or flares in case your car becomes disabled or you must call or signal for help. Pack blankets and snacks in case you are stranded for a long time.

Know how to get access to cash or credit in case of an emergency.

If you need to rent a car, the Internet may be the fastest and cheapest way to reserve one.

To ensure availability, reserve a seat if you plan to travel by bus or train.

BY AIR

Carry government-issued photo identification, such as a driver's license, and put identification tags on and inside all luggage.

Because of security inspections, don't lock suitcases and don't wrap gifts.

Generally, passengers are allowed only two carry-on items. A purse, briefcase or laptop computer would count as one carry-on. Airlines are enforcing baggage limit policies and will charge for extra baggage and for luggage that exceeds the weight limit. Check specific policies with your airline or travel agent.

Don't be late. If you miss a flight, you may have to pay a fee to take a later one — if seats are available.

Terrorism jokes are a no-no. You could be arrested.

Check the Transportation Security Administration's Web site, www.tsa.gov, for other travel tips, including information about prohibited items and how to pack medicine, film and gifts.

NOT CROSS POLICE

TOP TEN

Movies

1. National Treasure
2. The Incredibles
3. Christmas with the Kranks
4. Polar Express
5. The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie
6. Alexander
7. Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason
8. Finding Neverland
9. Ray
10. After the Sunset

Albums

1. Eminem-Encore
2. Destiny's Child-Destiny Fulfilled
3. Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz-Crunk Juice
4. Clay Aiken-Merry Christmas with Love
5. Shania Twain-Greatest Hits
6. Snoop Dogg-R & G
7. Toby Keith-Greatest Hits 2
8. Various Artists-Now 17
9. Usher-Confessions
10. Chingy-Powerballin'

Singles

1. My Boo-Usher & Alicia Keys
2. Drop It Like It's Hot-Snoop Dogg
3. Over and Over-Nelly
4. Lose My Breath-Destiny's Child
5. Let Me Love You-Marion
6. Wonderful-Ja Rule
7. Let's Go-Trick Daddy
8. Breakaway-Kelly Clarkson
9. 1, 2 Step-Ciara
10. Goodies-Ciara

DVD & Video Rentals

1. The Stepford Wives
2. Shrek 2
3. White Chicks
4. The Day After Tomorrow
5. Van Helsing
6. Around the World In 80 Days
7. The Clearing
8. Garfield The Movie
9. Raising Helen
10. Dawn Of The Dead

Books

1. America The Book: The Citizen's Guide to Democracy Inaction-Jon Stewart, Ben Karlin, and David Javerbaum
2. When Will Jesus Bring the Pork Chops-George Carlin
3. How to Talk to a Liberal (If You Must)-Ann Coulter
4. The Last Season-Phil Jackson with Michael Arkush
5. His Excellency-Joseph J. Ellis
6. Chronicles: Volume One-Bob Dylan
7. What's the Matter with Kansas?-Thomas Frank
8. A Paper Life-Tatum O'Neal
9. My Life-Bill Clinton
10. Eats, Shoots & Leaves-Lynne Truss

GSU Preview:

Your guide to what's hot

Department of Music sponsors 'A Seasonal Celebration of Choirs'

Special to the G-A

Georgia Southern will present "A Seasonal Celebration of Choirs" on Sunday, Dec. 5.

Sponsored by the Vocal Arts Area of the university's Department of Music, the concert will be held at 3 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center on the Statesboro campus.

"A Seasonal Celebration of Choirs" will feature the GSU Chorale, the Uni-

versity Singers, the Women's Choir, the Statesboro-Georgia Southern Community Chorus and the Statesboro Youth Chorale as well as the Faculty Brass Quintet.

The concert is free and open to Georgia Southern students as well as members of the community.

For more information on the music department at GSU, visit <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/music>.

Southern Courtyard to host "Winter Masquerade"

Special to the G-A

It's Friday night and you're broke and hungry or just not totally ready to go to the club? Come out to Kennedy and get ready to party. This Friday, December 3, Southern Courtyard's Action Team is hosting

its first annual "Winter Masquerade". The party is being held in Kennedy Hall's multi-purpose room at 8 p.m. This campus-wide event will provide free food, drinks, and a live d.j. Also, masks will be provided on a first-come first-serve basis.

CHEAP GIFTS

from page 8

\$20, you must comb through the offers to find the right prices, but a little hunting can go a long way. One vendor recently advertised turquoise earrings from the 1950s for \$18.

And don't overlook eBay (www.ebay.com). There are literally thousands of inexpensive items to choose from - not all of them used - and plenty of people swear by the site.

With cell phones that snap photos all the rage, Internet companies that develop film will also reproduce your favorite photo on a growing number of objects. One, Snapfish, (www.snapfish.com) will reproduce a photo on a puzzle (\$13.99), baby bib (\$9.99) or even a dog collar (\$14.99).

Dog owners might also want a water bowl for the holidays whose lights blink when it needs to be replenished. The ThirstAlert! bowl is \$19.95 (www.gojobananas.com), or \$14.95 each if

you buy three.

Bedtime clothing is another category to explore. Wal-Mart has some festive flannel pants for men that will set you back only \$7.74. JC Penney has quirky fleece slippers for \$9.99.

Tree ornaments also tend to be affordable and, hey, they'll keep paying off in years to come. Hallmark offers a tiny circular shoe rack laden with Barbie shoes for \$19.99 and a collection of three tiny dresses on wire busts for the same amount at certain stores and through their Web site (www.hallmark.com).

And remember: Don't bother dropping three bucks on a card they're only going to throw away. Buy some festive stationery in bulk instead.

Even better, get out the magic markers and make your own. It'll certainly be more valuable to the recipient than a generic card.



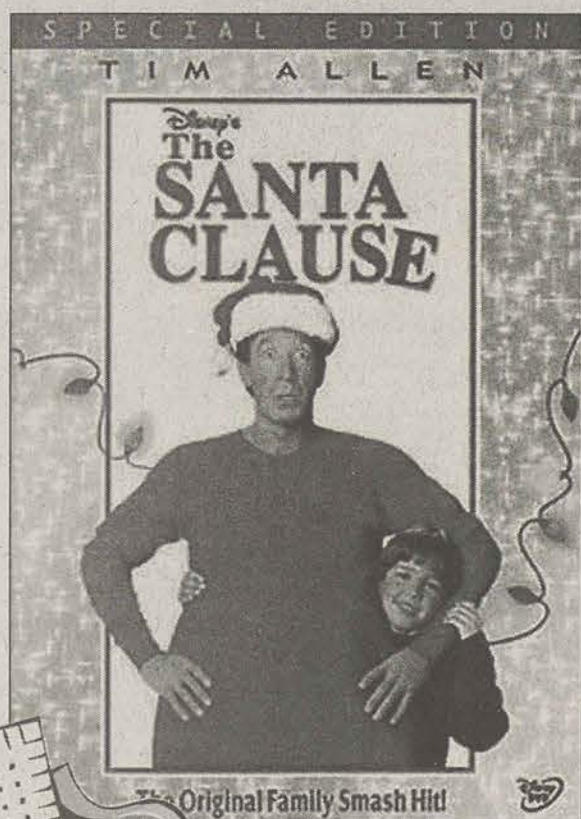
We're headed home...

Thanks a for a great year! This is our last edition of the newspaper until next semester. Have a safe holiday!

Our next edition will be Jan. 13

OUTDOOR MOVIE!

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Behind Performing Arts Center



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BURGLARS

from page 8

home for the break. But if students do leave anything behind, Williams suggests taking an inventory, including detailed descriptions, photos, and serial numbers. Later, that accounting could help with insurance claims, he suggested.

The police aren't alone in warning students about the risk of break-ins. Leah Wynn, a Leasing Consultant at Hendley Properties, said their units had no reported break-ins last holiday season, but they still inform renters about the risk.

"We warn renters to lock their doors and take valuables home in our monthly newsletter, as well as having our maintenance people check the neighborhoods each day over the holidays," said Wynn.

Law enforcement suggest asking a friend or neighbor check in on your home or pick up mail. But they say following common sense can be the best deterrent.

But, police acknowledge there is only so much students can do to protect their property from a few hundred miles away.

So, to help with the protection, SPD offers free drive-by patrols during the holiday season. To request the service, give the police department a call at (912) 764-9911. The service is only available inside the Statesboro city limits.

ONE MORE TIP...



CALL THE COPS

Neighbors helping neighbors are necessary to prevent burglaries and other illegal activity in your neighborhood. Don't be afraid to call and report suspicious activity that you observe. Be a good observer. Try to write down details if you see suspicious activity.

UP CLOSE

The CIN List

When Celebrities are in the News, you can read about it here...

The first was better

The Wachowski Brothers, known for the Matrix Trilogies, have recruited three film critics to provide commentaries for the DVD release of the Matrix Movies. I would pay to see the commentaries, but someone would have to pay me to buy the last two movies.

The second one was a disappointment. That movie literally spent an hour and a half on mind-numbing action and explosions and then spent the last twenty minutes on deep, heavy stuff. I don't know about you but I had a brain cramp leaving the theater.

The third one was bad because Neo died. And if you didn't know that, where have you been? The first one was good because the Wachowski brothers had the actors do the majority of their stunts. The last two were complete cop outs when they used computer generated stunts. CGI is so fake you can spot it a mile away. I could go on but I'm going to stop now because my hand's cramping.

Looking good pays the bills too

Former 'Baywatch' star Pamela Anderson is developing a television sitcom. The show would be about a woman with a weakness for bad



Ashley Stevens
A&E Editor - gahiatu@yahoo.com

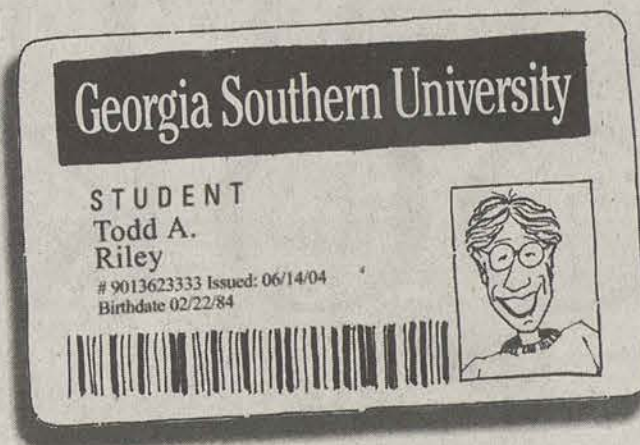
boys who decides to change her life. Wait, that idea sounds awfully familiar.

Pamela Anderson is a woman who has a weakness for bad boys-Tommy Lee and Kid Rock - and she's trying to change her life by actually wearing clothes that fit and cover her. First, the television executives could have put more effort into the idea of the sitcom. Instead, executives should play up to Anderson's strength-looking good. But please don't let her act. It won't be good for ratings. If they don't want it to end up like Anderson's show 'VIP', then just let her be the eye candy.

Hey, little girl, want some candy?

According to sources, a fake article was released that R.Kelly was hitting on Ashanti's underage sister. What's funny is that if I had read the article, I would have believed it. R.Kelly is only chasing after the young girls because all the women have heard his lame pick-up lines. There's so much going on with R. Kelly that no one really cares.

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TREE TRUTHS

Facts, tips and trivia about Christmas trees

By Daniel Cooper • Fort Worth Star-Telegram

1. How did the tradition of decorating evergreens at Christmas begin?

The tradition of decorating evergreens can be traced back to ancient times in Rome and Egypt in celebration of the winter solstice. In 1510 A.D., the first Christmas tree was displayed in Riga, Latvia. Early decorations included ribbon, food, lace and tin. The custom was later brought to America during the Revolutionary War by Hessian mercenaries.

2. What is the height of the tallest tree in history?

The world's tallest recorded Christmas tree was a 221-foot Douglas fir at the Northgate Shopping Center in Seattle in 1950. In 2001, the tallest artificial tree stood at 170.6 feet and was displayed at Moinhos de Vento Park, Porto Alegre, Brazil. Also known as the "Peace Tree," it was made of green PVC foliage and had a lightning rod and flashing lights to warn aircraft.

3. Can I buy a tree, sight unseen?

Yes. Approximately 330,000 real Christmas trees each year are sold via the Internet or catalog.

4. How long does it take a Christmas tree to grow?

Depending on the variety, the average tree takes seven years to grow 6 feet, the average retail height. Some trees require 15 years of growth to reach the same height.

5. How do trees get that perfect shape?

Evergreens do not naturally grow into the picture-perfect shape that is popular for Christmas trees. As trees grow, farmers control their shape through regular shearing. By using clippers to control the width and form of the branches, farmers force trees to grow into the popular cone shape.

6. Are real trees more popular than artificial ones?

Most people prefer artificial trees because they require little work. During the 2002 Christmas season, almost 50 percent of households displayed an artificial tree. Only 21 percent used real trees.

7. Where are most Christmas trees grown?

There are about 15,000 tree growers in the United States, with farms in every state. The top Christmas tree-producing states are Oregon, California, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

8. Has the government ever made any tree regulations?

The government once banned the use of tinsel because it contained lead and was a health hazard. Today's tinsel is made of plastic and is safe to use. President Teddy Roosevelt banned Christmas trees from the White House for a time because he thought the tradition was harmful to the environment.

9. How can I keep my Christmas tree fresh?

The following tips can keep a tree fresh and hydrated through the holiday season:

• When shopping for a tree, choose one that is not losing needles or fading. Both are signs of excessive dryness.

• Make a fresh cut before placing the tree in its stand to allow maximum water absorption.

• The average tree needs 1 quart of water a day. Additives such as aspirin or commercial powders are not necessary and could harm the tree.

• Place the tree away from heat sources such as fireplaces or television sets, which could cause the tree to dry out.



Douglas fir



Noble fir



Scotch pine



Fraser fir



Virginia pine



White pine

9. What are the most popular Christmas tree varieties?

The most popular Christmas tree varieties include Douglas fir, Noble fir, Scotch pine, Fraser fir, Virginia pine, and White pines. In South Georgia, you're most likely to find Fraser firs, White pines, and Douglas firs in local stores.



Pablo Alcala/KRT



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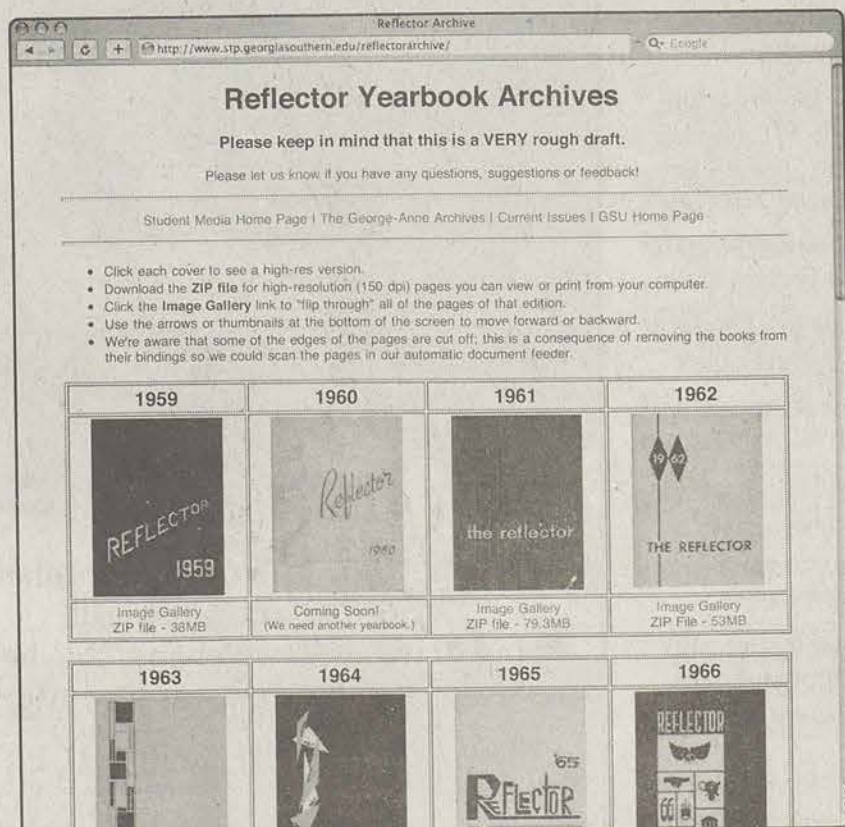
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Abandoning animals during the break could carry criminal penalties

Local businesses care for students' animals during holiday season

By Britt Coleman
gahiatu@yahoo.com

Christmas Break is finally upon us. Finally, students get to go home, relax, and just take a break from school. But what about Fido? Or Fluffy? What are they going to do during the break?

The most obvious answer is to take them home. Who wouldn't want to take their little bundle of fur home for the holidays?

"I'm taking my dog home for Christmas. I couldn't imagine leaving Duke here for the holidays," said Vick Tollison, a GSU student. "Duke, who is a chocolate Labrador Retriever, is not only part of the family, but will also be used duck hunting during the holidays."

Many students agree that there is no way they could leave their pet behind. But there are those few students who have no choice. They can't take their pet home because mom and dad don't know about them. And if mom and dad did know, they would be a little less than happy. Many of these cases result in the student having to return the animal to the Bulloch County Animal Shelter.

"Many of our animals are adopted by students, and then returned later because pets aren't allowed where

the student lives, or the parents find out and make them return the animal," said Tamara Thompson, an employee at the Bulloch County Animal Shelter.

And don't think about abandoning an animal or leaving it at your house through the holidays. Officials warn that you could be charged with abandonment or misdemeanor animal cruelty. Depending on the judge, you could face up to a \$1,000 fine or even jail time.

According to Thompson, GSU students are not bad about abandoning animals, just returning them.

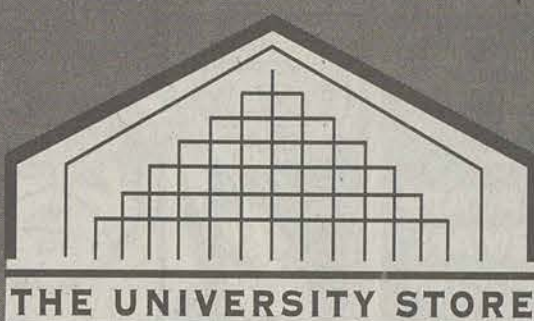
Local pet boarding facilities offer an alternative to student pet owners. There are about half a dozen businesses that offer pet sitting and animal boarding in Bulloch County. They report the holiday season as one of their busiest.

Tommy's Grooming and Boarding has been in the pet boarding business for more than 30 years. Boarding is \$9.50 a night for dogs and \$7.00 a night for cats.

"We always have a lot of business from students. It mostly depends on what day Christmas falls as to how much," said Dick Connell, part owner of Tommy's.

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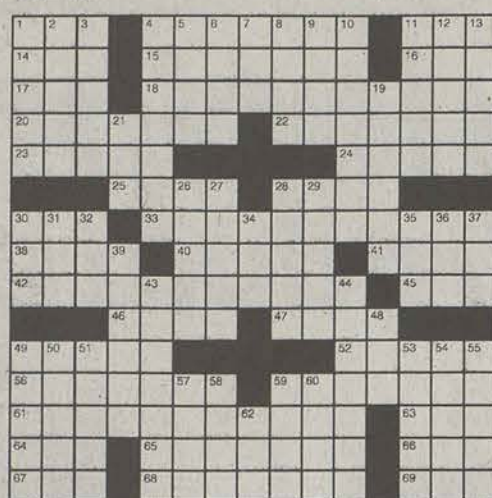


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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Monogram on a dime
4 Break to bits
11 Pen partner?
14 "Exodus" hero
15 Pub order
16 ...de-France
17 Chasing game
18 Law of gravity
20 Quantities
22 Port of Pakistan
23 Insect stage
24 Actor Hawke
25 "You Shook Me
All Night Long"
rockers
28 Detonator cord
30 To the point
33 Track event
featuring skulks
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Out of my Head

by Scott Carlson



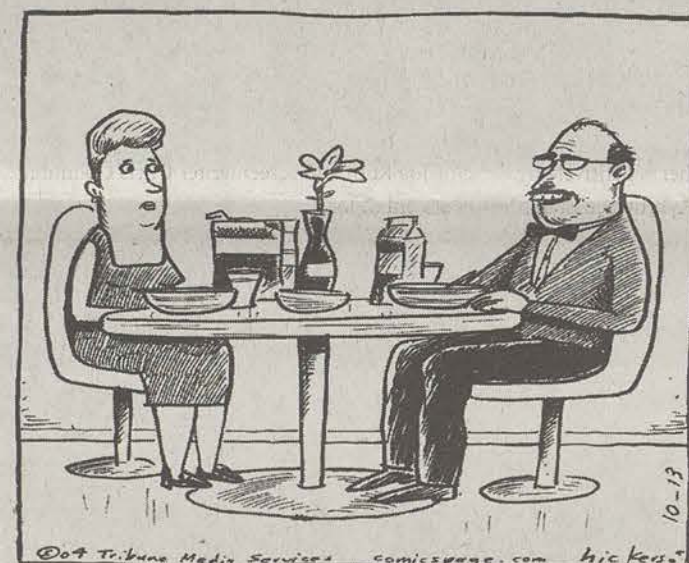
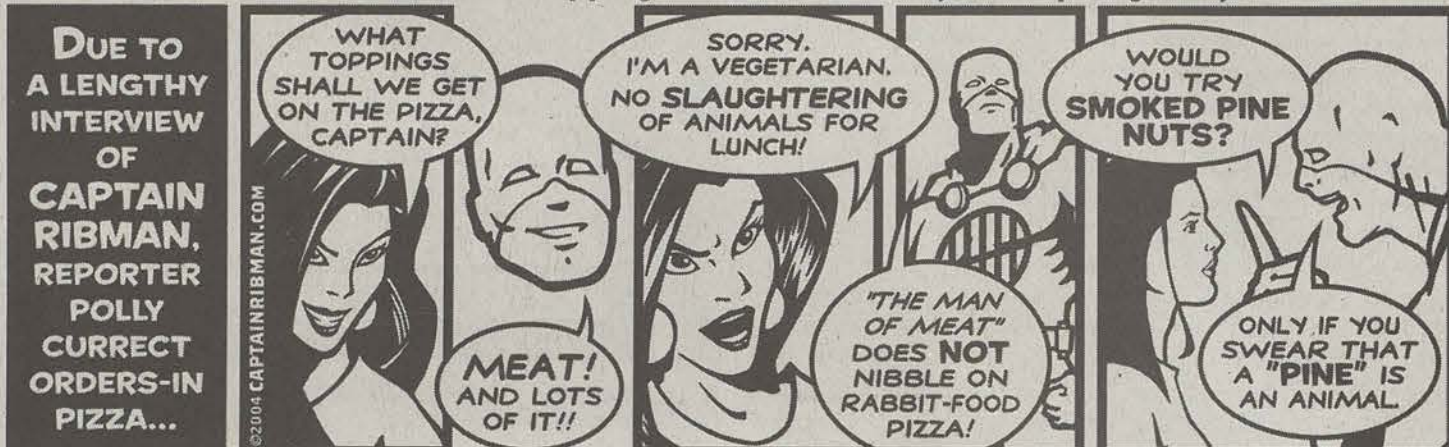
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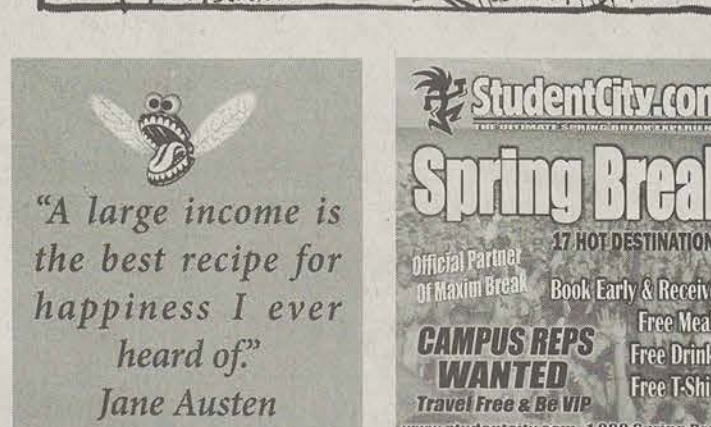
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MOVIE REVIEWS

GEORGE-ANNE
Hiatus 13
Thursday, December 2, 2004

'Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason'-more like the edge of ridiculous

By Cheryl Frost
cfrost@planters.net

Have you ever heard a child tell a joke? If people laugh, the child will repeatedly tell the same joke until the end of eternity. This is how it felt to watch "Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason." Fans of "Bridget Jones' Diary," brace yourselves for a major bout of disappointment.

Bridget Jones (Renée Zellweger) is back to record more unpleasantness in her diary. Though the end of the first Bridget Jones movie appeared to have a "happily-ever-after," the producers mistakenly took the audience's applause to be a shout of "encore." The same plot and bad humor seemed to be regurgitated into its sequel. "Sequel" is a bit of a loose term for it, it was

more like déjà vu. Once again, we follow Zellweger through moment after moment of embarrassing situations, except this time she is older, fatter and less appealing than ever.

I never understood why Zellweger had to gain weight to play this role. Was it because she was playing a pathetic loser and only fat people are losers? Or perhaps it was a way for the writers to slip in a few cheap fat jokes.

In "Bridget Jones' Diary," the weight gain was acceptable because Jones really wasn't that overweight. She simply was not a stick figure and therefore the perfect brunt of a few jokes. In fact, her less-than-perfect characteristics were what made her so adorable. In "Edge of Reason,"

her chubbiness and the constant close-ups of her blotchy face were far from cute. They were an annoying distraction. What was worse was that the serious work the actress put into developing a flawless British accent fell lax and she actually sounded like an American faking her way into the United Kingdom.

Colin Firth, returning as Marc Darcy, offered his usual contribution of standing where the director told him and looking utterly perplexed. He was actually given three or four speaking parts but he mumbled them so dryly that he'd have been better off not saying anything. Comic relief did finally come more than halfway through the film by way of the weakly explained entrance of Hugh Grant

as Daniel Cleaver. Unfortunately, Grant's appearance was too brief to save the increasingly rancid movie, staying only long enough to crack a few fat jokes and a couple of sexist comments and then crawling back into the shadows from whence he came. Sadly, the most exciting scene was a wet cat fight between Grant and Firth - borrowed laughs from the first film - but without the desire for either of them to win.

If you have never seen Firth, Grant or Zellweger in "real" movies, this is not the one to become introduced. Save your money. Fans who simply must see it due to compulsive curiosity, at least do yourself a favor and wait for it to hit the 99 cent shelf at the rental store.



Bordering on ridiculous
Lack of humour and originality
★★★★★ 2 out of 5

AP Photo

Renée Zellweger reprises the role of British gal Bridget Jones in the sequel to 'Bridget Jones' Diary'.

Movie reviews for new releases: Your guide to what's hot

A Very Long Engagement

By Christy Lemire
Associated Press

Imagine the director (Jean-Pierre Jeunet) and star (Audrey Tautou) of "Amélie" reuniting and applying the same quick pacing and quirky humor of that 2001 French comedy to a World War I film that's equal parts love story and sweeping historical epic. Sound impossible? Well, here it is - and it's not only possible, it's one of the year's best films. The charming, doe-eyed Tautou plays the fiancée of a soldier (Gaspard Ulliel) who's been court-martialed along with four other men, all of whom have been sent off to no man's land between the French and German armies and left for dead. She believes in her heart that he's alive, though, and is determined to find him. It's a film that's romantic, funny, sweet, sad, and sometimes brutally hard to watch, but it's an astounding success on every level. Four stars out of four.



AP Photo

Audrey Tautou stars as a Parisian woman searching for her fiancée.



AP Photo

Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis star as Luther and Nora Krank.

Christmas with the Kranks

By David Germain
Associated Press

Earnest performances by Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis make this holiday trifle tolerable at times. But laughs are scarce, and the tinsel-thin story based on John Grisham's "Skipping Christmas" plays out like two separate one-note jokes. Allen and Curtis are a couple opting-out of Christmas in favor of a Caribbean cruise since their daughter, who's joined the Peace Corps, won't be home for the holidays. When she calls on Christmas Eve to say she's coming after all, they bustle about to create an instant holiday for their little girl. Both halves of the movie essentially are two shallow successions of gags strung together repetitively by director Joe Roth and screenwriter Chris Columbus. Dan Aykroyd co-stars. Two stars out of four.

Alexander: Fortune favors the bold

By Christy Lemire
Associated Press

Far from great, "Alexander" sporadically lumbers toward watchable, but mostly it's just bad. We're talking all-out, big-budget-bomb bad. Probably not the reaction director and co-writer Oliver Stone had hoped for when he began dreaming of this project decades ago. Nothing about "Alexander" feels like a Stone film, at least not until a breathtaking battle toward the end involving elephants in India. But perhaps Stone was doomed from the start.

In telling the story of the Macedonian warrior-king, who had conquered the vast majority of the known world by the time he was 25, Stone has created a film that feels both too long and too cursory. We hear Alexander (Colin Farrell) talk a lot about wanting to bring various lands and people together, but we never truly understand what drives him. Part of the problem is the dialogue, which alternates between stilted speeches and laugh-out-loud anachronisms. One and a half stars out of four.



AP Photo

Colin Farrell stars as Alexander and Angelina Jolie as his mom Olympias.



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'13 Seconds' hardly worth that much time

By Chuck Thomas

fox@bwwmovies.no-ip.org

Apparently "13 Seconds" won all sorts of awards from various independent film companies. What I want to know is: what movies did this flick go against to win?

Awakened by strange noises one night, a man named Davis goes to investigate. The phone rings, the T.V. comes on, typical scary-stuff happens. The front door opens up, and Bat Boy (you know, from the tabloids?) attacks him, sticking his fingers into his arm. He then regains consciousness on the floor, no worse for wear.

We then cut to the next day. The rock band Night Gallery, which Davis is a member of, goes to a secluded old house to record their third album. They bring along two sound guys, Mac and Sidetrack, to help them. Tagging along are two girlfriends, Kara and Talia. The band takes a couple of hours off, wandering

around the house, and sleeping; Davis and Gage go downstairs to shoot up some heroin. A presumed fourth member of the band, Shapiro, shows up at the house mumbling "better late than never." Soon after, some spooky things begin to happen. A tricycle wanders down a hallway...but no one is on it! And there is a crazy art gallery that shows people's fates on it. Band members start dying left and right, and the remaining members are left to figure out what's going on.

Let's get this out of the way: the "acting" in this movie has got to be the worst, ever. I don't mean the worst I've seen, I mean just ... ever. I know this is an indie film and all that, and that's what you're supposed to expect, but damn. Monotone dialogue and blank faces abound. There are, seriously, two instances where acting is actually attempted, and they are both by Sidetrack, near the end of the movie. BAD.

That being said, I can look past it, usually. So, maybe the premise is good? Well, not so much. Someone on a message board said that this was "like Jacob's Ladder." That's a little like saying that the hole outside that you were burying your pet canary in is "like the Grand Canyon." It's obviously missing something...depth, among other things like a script and a point. That doesn't even make sense, much like this movie.

Now that I think about it, this is Jacob's Ladder, minus all the stuff that made it so well done. They took all the character study out, made the characters flat, and added lots of gore, and long, pointless shots of the interior of the house.

This is just another thing that is overdone in this movie; every "scary" part is done 5,000 times so it becomes stupid. The Gimp-guys with axes try to do the "shaky person" thing (again, from Jacob's Ladder),

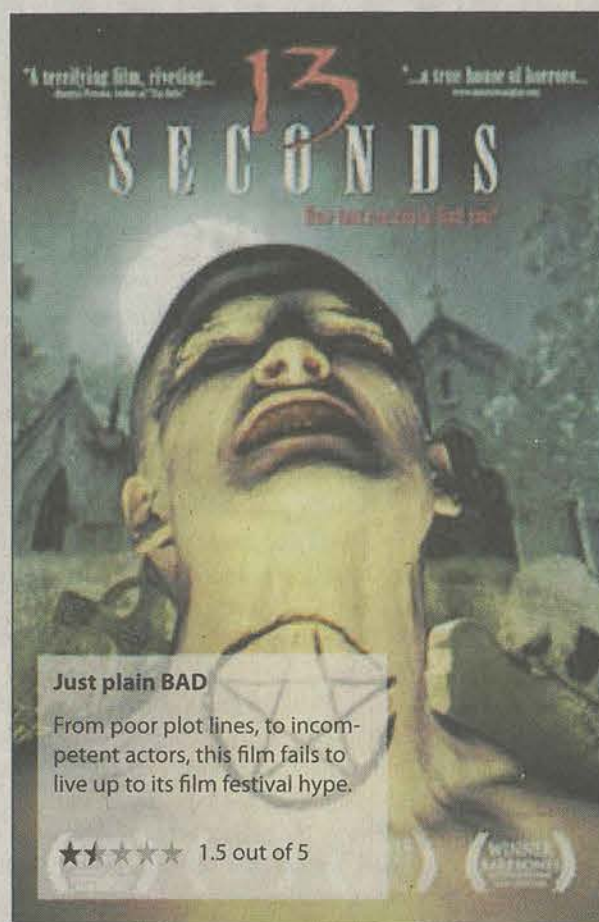
but fail miserably. I know it had a point to it, but it just looks stupid. Some of the kills in here are pretty good; I especially liked Mac's.

The effects aren't all that bad, considering. It's just the rest of the movie is so BAD. Ironically, the title refers to how the movie plays with time; funny, considering this movie seems like it went on for about, oh, a week or so.

And why does the music sound like it's from Resident Evil?

There aren't any extras to speak of, so what you see is what you get. The video looks pretty good, considering the low budget nature of the movie. Also, the sound quality is good, though the levels can be a little off sometimes, especially with everybody whispering and shouting all the time.

For the rest of this review and to see more like it, visit <http://bwwmovies.no-ip.org>.



The DVD release of '13 Seconds' won all sorts of awards at multiple film festivals, but fails to live up to Chuck Thomas' expectations.

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Over 30 Franchised Restaurants in The Area

We Can Quickly Make Your Favorite Dish. So You Get In and Out in a Hurry!

Hibachi Steak • Shrimp Tempura
Teriyaki Chicken & Shrimp
Sushi • Salads • Appetizers and Much More...

Dine In or Carry Out **912-764-5150**
fax 912-764-5655
Hours: 11 AM - 9 PM 7 Days A Week www.capitaljapan.com

K-Mart
Now in Statesboro at Southern Square Shopping Center

May 09

Xtreme SPORTS & SCUBA

2000 ct. White box Paintballs
\$32.95

Scuba Classes & Equipment Rentals

489-DIVE

419 Page Place Rd.
(down from Hobbytown & The Tint Shop)
Open: Tues. - Fri. 10-7 p.m. & Sat. 8-3 p.m.

With this coupon, offer good through 12/31/04 while supplies last

MAUI SMOOTHIES & COFFEE HOUSE

Get your juices flowing

620 fair road, #2
statesboro, ga 30458
(912) 681-7979 or fax (912) 681-7982

Don't accept imitations

Holiday's Greek & Italian Restaurant **764-7669**

Two 12" Pizzas • Special

1 topping - \$7.99 • 2 topping - \$9.99
3 topping - \$11.99

New additions to menu! Expanded dining room!
We accept Visa, MasterCard & EAGLEXPRESS™

405 Fair Road • Next to Rec. Dept. • Free Delivery!
Open Daily from 11am - 11:30pm

LASAGNA • SPAGHETTI • STEAK GRINDERS • GREEK SALADS • BAKED ZITI

Magic Tan Spray Booth

• Serious Tan
• Seriously Fast
• 100% UV Free
• In & out in 60 seconds

Hours: Mon-Fri • 9am-9pm & Sat • 10am-6pm
1525-A Fair Road • Statesboro, GA 30458 (Next to Gold's Gym)
912-681-BODY

Dos Primos
Besa mi Cerveza!

Nightly Drink Specials

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
2 for 1 Margaritas \$1.50 Bourbon & Domestics SIMPSON TRIVIA	\$1.50 Vodka \$3 White Russians 2 for 1 Margaritas TRIVIA W/ THE MATTS	\$3 Big New Castles \$2 New Castle Bottles \$2 Daiquiri, \$1 Drafts \$1.50 Rums FREE LIVE MUSIC
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
\$2.00 Pitchers \$1.50 Tequila \$2 Big Beer After School Special \$2 Margaritas, Daiquiris and Big Beers - Mon.-Fri. 3-7 p.m.	\$1.50 Wells \$2 Mexican Beers	\$34 Tour of Mexico \$1.50 Vodka \$3 Big New Castles \$4 Premium Tequilas \$4.00 Lunch Specials #1-#10 til 3:00 p.m.

200 Lanier Drive | Stadium Walk Plaza | 681-1372

Express Tune & Lube

Tire, Alignment & Exhaust Center

612 S. Zetterower Avenue
489-4444
www.expresstuneandlube.com
Monday - Friday 7:30am - 6:30pm
Located a half block north of Wendy's.

Oil Change Special

Includes up to 5 qts. of Castrol 10W30 or 20W50
\$13.95
expires 12/31/04

91.9 The BUZZ
THE VOICE OF GEORGIA SOUTHERN
WVGS / FM

Buzz Lite
Jazz, News & Blues, 6AM-4PM

The Buzz
Today's Rock & R&B
4PM-10PM

BUZZ ULTRA
Rock, Rap, & R&B, Overnight