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The GEORGE-ANNE

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

Thursday, January 13, 2005 • Volume 77, Number 52

NEWS: Former GSU student Nuwan Piyasena tells how the tsunami affected his home island of Sri Lanka. **Page 9A**

HIATUS: Read our tips on how to enjoy coffee. **Section B**

SPORTS: GSU Men's Basketball top College of Charleston Cougars 90-72. **Page 6A**

GSU student killed in New Orleans

Levon Jones' death considered a homicide

Staff and Wire Reports

A Georgia Southern student was killed in New Orleans on New Year's Eve. Investigators there are treating the death as a homicide.

News of the death of Levon Jones, a GSU senior, has sent shock waves through the GSU community, who heard of the death after the story grabbed national headlines.

Three Bourbon Street bouncers have been booked with negligent homicide after a coroner said Jones died of suffocation because the men held him in a chokehold for 12 minutes.

Arthur Irons, 40, Clay Montz, 32, and Matthew Taylor, 21, turned themselves into police last week after warrants were issued for their arrests, New Orleans police spokesman Paul Accardo said.

Security video from the Razzoo Bar and Patio on Bourbon Street club in New Orleans shows three bouncers holding Jones, 25, to the pavement. One had him in a chokehold, another was pushing down on his back and a third held his feet. It is not immediately clear which bouncer played which role in Jones' death.

Jones' family, who reside in Statesboro, have filed a wrongful death

lawsuit claiming race was a factor in the fight. Jones was black and the bouncers are white.

The NAACP has also raised questions about the incident, calling for an investigation into whether the club selectively enforces a dress code to keep blacks out.

A lawyer for the bar has defended the bouncers and said investigations would clear them.

The suit says Jones and a friend, Anthony Williams, were entering the bar when a worker stopped Williams and said his clothes did not meet the dress code. One of the bouncers grabbed Williams, the suit said, after Williams said they were discriminating against him because they were allowing similarly dressed white people to enter.

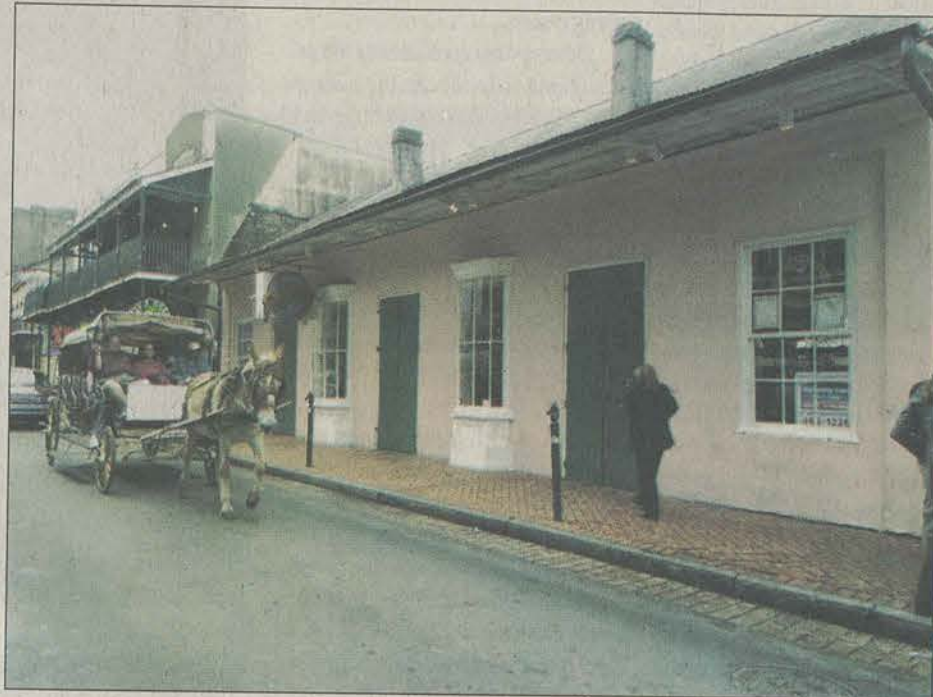
New Orleans police have said Williams was wearing jeans and a button-down shirt.

The scuffle escalated after Jones "attempted to intervene and diffuse the situation," the suit said.

"At that point, suddenly, violently and without warning," the suit said, four bouncers "physically assaulted and detained Levon Jones."

New Orleans District Attorney Eddie Jordan said he planned a grand jury investigation. The NAACP has called for a federal civil rights investigation.

See JONES, page 8A



AP Photo/Bill Haber

A tourist buggy drives down Bourbon Street in front of Club Razzoo in the French Quarter of New Orleans, Tuesday, Jan. 4. Levon Jones, a senior at GSU, died after a fight with bouncers outside Club Razzoo on New Year's Eve. Three of the bouncers that were involved in the fight are being charged with negligent homicide.

Former Georgia congressman, GSU alumnus dead at age 70

Ronald 'Bo' Ginn remembered as a powerful voice for rural Georgia

Staff and wire reports

Former U.S. Rep. Ronald "Bo" Ginn, a five-term congressman from coastal Georgia and a Georgia Southern graduate died Thursday, January 6 in an Augusta hospital. He was 70.

Ginn made a name for himself as one of South Georgia's biggest political power brokers during the 1970s and 1980s by making an unsuccessful run for governor in 1982.

Ginn represented Georgia's 1st

Congressional District from 1973 to 1983 which included Bulloch and most of the coastal area of the state, including Savannah. He lost to Joe Frank Harris in the 1982 Democratic primary for governor and a conviction for bank fraud about 10 years later ended any thought of a political comeback.

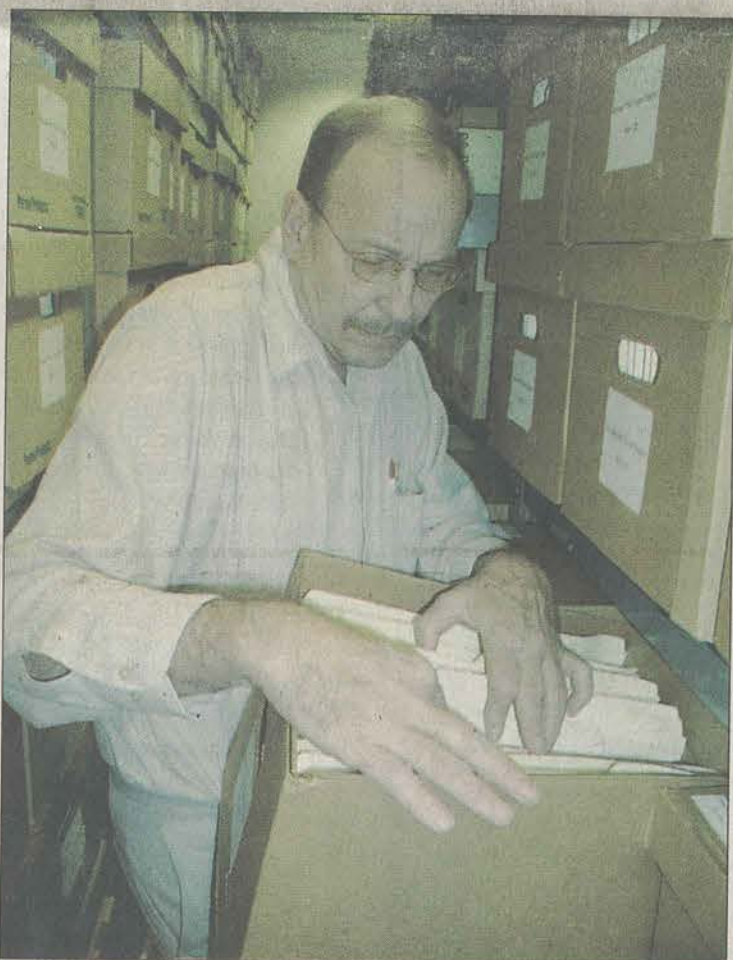
Ginn died of cancer, according to his close friend, former U.S. Rep. Doug Barnard, who provided details Thursday on behalf of Ginn's family.

Barnard said Ginn developed cancer about a year ago and was admitted to University Hospital in Augusta late last month.

"He was a very dedicated individual and was very able," Barnard said. "He represented his district tremendously. He did some things for the district they are still benefiting from."

GSU faculty remember Ginn for his outspoken support of the region in congress. More than 225 boxes of the former congressman's records are housed in the GSU library.

"He was certainly a remarkable legislator and a great representative of the first district of Georgia," said



Jared Siri/STAFF

Marvin Goss looks through the files of deceased Congressman Bo Ginn, which are stored at the Zach Henderson Library.

Robert Dick, a retired professor of political science. "He served five terms in congress. That gave him some seniority. He was an influential congressman."

Barnard and Dick said Ginn was largely responsible for the Navy choosing St. Marys for the King's Bay submarine base and for helping to protect Fort Stewart in Hinesville when its future was in doubt.

"He was able to influence the Army to make Fort Stewart what it is today," Barnard said, adding that Ginn also helped make possible the rebuilding of the Talmadge Bridge in Savannah.

When Ginn lost to Joe Frank Harris in the runoff for governor, Lindsay Thomas was elected to succeed Ginn in Congress.

"To try to fill his shoes was a tremendous task because Bo was one of the most effective members of Congress our state ever had," said Thomas, now a senior vice president for AGL Resources in Atlanta.

Ginn was born in Morgan, Ga., but made his home in his late wife Gloria's hometown of Millen.

He filed for bankruptcy in 1993 and then served time in a federal prison after pleading guilty to bank fraud. He agreed in plea bargaining to a 26-month sentence which was later reduced to 15 months.

In 1995 he was resentenced to 21 months in prison, when the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the first sentence was too lenient.

"Of course it was a tremendous blow to him but I think he was able to overcome it and he served his time and was very remorseful about the incident," Barnard said.

Ginn rebounded to launch his Ginn and Eddington lobbying firm in Washington, representing mostly defense industries.

Ginn and his wife moved to Augusta to be near their children. Gloria Ginn died of cancer about six years

See GINN, page 8A

GSU to celebrate life of Martin Luther King

By Luke Hearn

gahnewsd@georgiasouthern.edu

There will be no classes in session on Monday here at GSU, but there are plenty of events planned to celebrate the birthday of the civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Rev. Martin Luther King

in Statesboro. The keynote speaker at this event will be Erik Brooks, a GSU professor of political science.

Brooks describes the MLK Day activities as "a time where we have to remember those things that King really stood for, things like non-violence and equal rights for all."

The kick-off will be followed by a parade, which starts at 2 p.m. at East Olliff Street and Main Street.

Following the parade will be a reception—which is open to the public—for the African Art exhibit, which opens Monday at the GSU Museum. The exhibit is entitled, "African Art—Diversity in Forms."

Closing events for the MLK Day activities will be held in the Russell Union ballroom at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. L. Perry McNeal of the Georgia Central Missionary Baptist Convention and Pastor of the Jerusalem Baptist Church in Groveland, Ga.

The MLK ceremonies are open to the public. For more information, contact the Multicultural Student Center at 912-681-5409.

GSU enrollment down by 1,100

By Bert Noble

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As a new year and a new semester kick off at Georgia Southern, enrollment is down to approximately 15,000 from the 16,100 students that began this fall. According to Mike Sullivan, Assistant Director in the office of Marketing and Communications, this decline is a normal occurrence.

Each December, GSU holds commencement ceremonies, graduating around 1,000 students on average. This graduation number, according to Sullivan, is normal for a December graduation.

In addition to the graduating students, new transferring students come in, but the influx is not as great as in the fall, Sullivan said.

"One cannot compare enrollment numbers from fall to spring," said Sullivan. "The main numbers that are compared are fall to fall and spring to spring."

Last fall GSU had approximately 15,700 students, down 400 from the fall of 2004.

Overall, the university has grown by the same amount each semester, which according to Sullivan is what was expected from year to year.

"The thing to remember is that when many students graduate after the fall, not as many students will be coming in to replace them. The main time for new students, be they new freshmen or transfers, is in the fall."

Weekday Weather

Thursday



PM Showers

HIGH
78°
LOW
62°

Friday



AM Showers

HIGH
65°
LOW
38°

Opinions

- Amanda Permenter has your books
- DeMarc Campbell speaks of intelligence

Page 4A

NBA Hawks get Georgia Southern's 'Spirit' Falcon from GSU raptor center flies as Atlanta Hawks' team mascot

By Rachel Weeks
crazedrachel@hotmail.com

The Atlanta Hawks gain some "Spirit" with the addition of a Harris Hawk from Georgia Southern's Center for Wildlife Education named Spirit. He is the Hawks' new live mascot.

Spirit makes his appearance at each home game as the players are being introduced. Each player's name and school is announced and Spirit is also announced as being from GSU. His first appearance was in early December with Hawks Vice President and NBA Hall of Famer Dominique Wilkins.

According to Steve Hein, Master Falconer and Director of the Center for Wildlife Education, Harris Hawks are some of the most intelligent birds of prey. They are social birds that hunt co-operatively in the desert Southwest and live in family groups of up to 15 members. Harris Hawks are dark brown with red shoulder patches that match with the Hawks' team colors.

"While the interest in Spirit and his flights before an NBA crowd is understandable, the Wildlife Center's focus is the thousands of people who are given the chance to learn about Spirit and other raptors that are part of the program," said Hein. "The Center's

mission remains environmental education and this association with the NBA Hawks franchise is a unique opportunity."

Spirit, known as Clyde at the Wildlife Center, has been flying for about seven years and has done hundreds of programs both on and off campus, including flights at the Governor's mansion, Sea Island Resorts, and many others.

Hein said his goals during the presentations are to educate the audience about Spirit while acclimating him to the environment. "He is unruffled by any distractions," said Hein. Last Friday, Spirit took his first flight in front of an audience in the Phillips Arena. At the end of the game, he swooped from the Delta Skybox seven stories down to center court.

Lauren Stone, Student Assistant at the Wildlife Center for over a year, has helped with transfer and care of the birds. She said they announced that Spirit would be flying after the game and she was surprised to see how many people stayed to watch him fly. Stone said, "The kids love it and adults really like it too. Sometimes they don't know that much about wildlife and it's good to see them enjoy learning about animals."



Special Photo

Hawks Vice President and NBA Hall of Famer Dominique Wilkins displays carries Spirit to the crowd at Phillips Arena as Steve Hein, director of GSU's Center for Wildlife Education, looks on.

GSU professor presented with prestigious Mendel award

James Oliver gets recognition for his research into ticks

Special to the G-A

Georgia Southern Professor James H. Oliver Jr. has been recognized by an international scientific organization for his work in the field of biology.

The Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic presented Oliver with the G.J. Mendel Honorary Medal for Merit in the Biological Sciences.

Oliver is the Fuller E. Callaway Professor of Biology at GSU. One of the world's leading authorities on ticks and host-parasite relationships, he also serves as the director of the University's Institute of Arthropodology and Parasitology.



Oliver

Oliver was presented with the Mendel award at a formal banquet held in the Czech city of Prague. The medal is named for the late Gregor Johann Mendel (1822-1884), the founder of the discipline of genetics. Established in 1965, the medal honors outstanding contributions in the basic fields of biological and agricultural sciences. Previous winners of the Mendel award include James B. Watson, who is known for his groundbreaking work with DNA.

A graduate of GSU and a part of the university's faculty since 1969, Oliver focuses his research on arthropod pests and vectors of pathogens that are important in livestock agriculture and biomedicine.

Because of his expertise in this field, he has presented invited lectures at universities and research laboratories in at least 24 states and 19 foreign countries. A large part of Oliver's research has been supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Oliver has served as a consultant for various segments of both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy. Also, he was a consultant for the equestrian program at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Oliver is a current or former member of 20 scholarly and professional societies. He served as president of several of these organizations, including the Entomological Society of America and the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists. He has published 12 book chapters and 220 research papers and served on the editorial boards of four national and international journals.

In addition to his work at GSU, Oliver serves as adjunct professor in the Department of Entomology at the University of Georgia. He also served in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at the University of South Carolina.

During his career, Oliver has earned many honors, including awards from scientific organizations in China, Japan, Taiwan, Poland and Russia. He was the first recipient of the State of the Art in Biology Georgia Biologist of the Year Award in 1988, and he won the Phi Kappa Phi Triennial National Scholar Award in 1989.

More recently, Oliver was presented with a Certificate of Distinction by the Council of the International Congress of Entomology in 2004. He has won several distinguished alumni awards from GSU.

Oliver earned degrees from GSU, Florida State University and the University of Kansas. In addition, he was a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at Melbourne University in Australia.

Prior to joining the faculty at GSU, Oliver taught at the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Georgia. He also conducted research for the U.S. Army Chemical Corp at Fort Detrick, Md.

Southern Explosion to compete this weekend in national tournament

Special to the G-A

The Southern Explosion Dance Team will be competing this weekend at the Universal Dance Association's College Dance Team Championships in Orlando, Florida.

Under the direction of captains Whitney Pellisser and Kristen Scheel, the team will be competing

in Division one in the categories Dance and Hip-hop. Preparation for this competition included strenuous six-hour practices each day and fundraising almost \$3,000 in competition expenses.

Former member and coach Levita Pinkney and current member Ben Carter choreographed the

Hip-hop routine. The Jazz routine was choreographed by member Andrea Allen.

"We have altered our style from years past and chose a dramatic selection from a band called From Autumn to Ashes," said Pellisser. "It is the most artistic expression of dance we have attempted and we

hope it is what the judges are looking for. We have already received a bid to the Hip-hop finals so our goal this year is to receive a bid to the Dance finals," she said.

If the team places high enough in the competition, the team may be able to be seen in a competition on ESPN, which will air in late

spring.

Southern Explosion continues to perform at halftime at all of the men's home basketball games.

For anyone interested in trying out for the team, auditions will be held in March. Contact gsudancers@yahoo.com for more information.

GSU student dies over holiday break

From staff reports

Georgia Southern student Jody Anne Whetsell, 21, of Twin City, Georgia, died December 12 in the Savannah Memorial Hospital after a short illness.

Whetsell excelled academically as well as physically. She was valedictorian of the 2001 graduating class at David Emanuel Academy in Stillmore, where she played both basketball and softball. She placed 12th in barrel racing at the 2004 World National Horse

Association competition.

Her goal was to become a veterinarian. She volunteered at the Bulloch Veterinarian Clinic, which is located in Statesboro.

Whetsell was a senior at GSU and had applied to the veterinary school at the University of Georgia in Athens.

She is survived by her parents, John Wayne Whetsell Sr. and Judy Whetsell; her brothers, John E. Whetsell II and John Wayne Whetsell Jr.; and grandparents, Betty and Bob Anderson and Louise Whetsell, all of Twin City.

Police Beat

01-01-2005

• Nicholas Colby Hatcher, 20, of Bland Avenue, Statesboro, was charged with underage drinking and possession of a false I.D.

01-06-2005

• Orton William Johnson, 24, of Valley Wood Drive, Lawrenceville, Ga., was charged with

public intoxication and criminal trespass.

• Brian Michael Loftus, 24, of Chandler Road, Statesboro, was charged with public intoxication and criminal trespass.

• Officers issued six traffic warnings, investigated two traffic accidents and assisted two motorists.

01-08-2005

• Ryan Christopher Robinson, 20, of Hawthorne Drive, Newman, Ga., was charged with DUI.

01-09-2005

• A 1997 Chevrolet truck was taken from the Southern Pines parking lot.

01-10-2005

• Chad Lewis Fields, 20, of 1011 Statesboro Place Apartments, Statesboro, was charged with criminal trespass, minor in possession/consumption of alcohol and possession of a fake I.D.
• A Southern Courtyard resident reported his bicycle was taken from Anderson Hall.
• Officers issued four traffic warnings, investigated one traffic accident and assisted four motorists and one sick person.

01-11-2005

• A window in the Williams Center was broken.
• Officers issued four traffic warnings and assisted six motorists.

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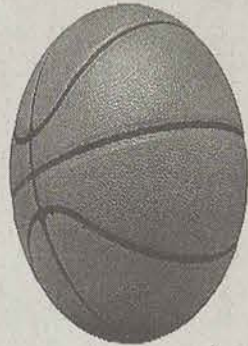
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Pre-Season Tourney Entries Due Jan. 13th

Basketball Entries Due Jan. 18th

Season Starts Jan. 24th

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Officials Clinics in the Aux Gym at the RAC:

Tuesday Jan 18th. @ 9pm

Wednesday Jan. 19th @ 9pm

Thursday Jan. 20th @ 5pm

Kick off the New Year with Soccer

Pre-Season Tourney Entries Due Jan. 25th

Tournament Jan. 28-30th

Reminder:

Club Fencing Tournament Jan. 15-16th at the RAC

Only in America

Woman claims drug dealer ripped her off

WATERLOO, IA. — A woman called police to report that her dealer sold her bad drugs.

The woman made the call about 4:30 p.m. Friday from a coin-operated laundry and told police a drug dealer sold her crack cocaine that was possibly fake.

By the time police arrived, she apparently changed her mind about filing the complaint and was gone.

Principal bans 'freak dancing'

LEMOORE, CA. — Fed up with students' racy moves, a principal at a California high school has taken the unusual step of canceling the rest of this year's school dances.

Principal Jim Bennett of Lemoore Union High School said he warned students at a winter formal dance last month to either quit dirty dancing or face the possibility of not dancing at all.

But he said the students continued "freak dancing," a form of sexually suggestive dancing that involves grinding the hips and pelvic area.

The ban on dances includes the school's Sadie Hawkins dance in February and the junior and senior proms in the spring, but Bennett said they could be rescheduled if students modify their behavior.

Potty prankster still on the loose

DOTHAN, AL. — There's a potty prankster on the loose in Dothan, Alabama.

Since November, someone has tipped over about 50 portable toilets. The last two were tipped over the weekend.

Officers are keeping an eye on building construction sites, and they're considering setting up a sting operation.

Police suspect a group of people may be responsible, since a portable toilet can weigh up to 400 pounds.

Texas snowball sells for \$92 on eBay

BROWNSVILLE, TX. — An unidentified eBay bidder has agreed to pay \$92 for a chunk of what may have been the Rio Grande Valley's first-ever white Christmas.

Bids closed Saturday for the basketball-sized snowball now waiting next to the ice cream in 23-year-old Oscar J. Garza's kitchen freezer.

Eighteen people bid on the ball of "Miracle Snow" between Jan. 3 and Jan. 7, starting at a few dollars.

Garza, a student at Texas A&M University, told The Brownsville Herald he was surprised the snowball actually sold.

"I kind of did it as a joke and I ended up getting local and national coverage," Garza said.

Police say man rages over french fries

DUBOIS, PA. — A Burger King customer berated the employees and nearly hit one of them with his truck after the clerk at the drive-thru window told him they were out of french fries, police said.

Gregg Luttmann, 22, made an obscene gesture at the drive-thru clerk, then walked into the restaurant and cursed at the staff, Sandy Township police Sgt. Rod Fairman said.

When he returned to his pickup truck, he saw restaurant workers taking down his license number and put the vehicle in reverse, nearly hitting one of them, Fairman said.

After being stopped on a highway a short distance away, Luttmann scuffled with police and kicked out the back window of a police car, Fairman said.

Luttmann was charged with assault, reckless endangerment and other offenses. He was freed Monday on \$2,500 bail.

Man chases naked woman through mobile home park

MANDAN, N.D. — A man faces terrorizing and aggravated assault charges after allegedly beating another man with a hammer and chasing a naked woman through a mobile home park.

Police Chief Dennis Rohr said Adolfo Ynfante, 40, struck a 28-year-old man five times with a hammer Saturday after he found the man in bed with a 28-year-old woman.

The naked woman grabbed a blanket and ran, and Ynfante allegedly chased her to a neighbor's house, where she called police, Rohr said.

The man who was struck did not require hospitalization.

Man burns down parents' home

FEASTERVILLE, PA. — A Pennsylvania man is likely on the naughty list for next Christmas.

He's accused of burning his parents house down because he didn't get any presents. Police say 21-year-old Steven Murray admitted his involvement in the fire in Feasterville to friends and investigators.

He asked the judge at his arraignment, "So what if I burned my house down. It's my house."

No one was injured in the fire.

Dog drives truck into store

SPRINGDALE, AR. — Michael Henson left the auto parts store with more problems than when he arrived.

Henson, whose truck had a sticking throttle, brought his dog along for company when he drove to O'Reilly Auto Parts store in Springdale on Sunday.

"He'd left the truck running and the dog jumped over and knocked the truck into gear," Springdale police Sgt. Billy Turnbough said.

The truck raced into the building, stunning Henson.

No one was hurt and no humans or animals were cited, police said.

National News Briefs

NASA launches Deep Impact spacecraft on comet-smashing mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, FL. — A NASA spacecraft with a Hollywood name — Deep Impact — blasted off Wednesday on a mission to smash a hole in a comet and give scientists a glimpse of the frozen primordial ingredients of the solar system.

Deep Impact rocketed away on a six-month, 268-million-mile journey to Comet Tempel 1. It will be a one-way trip that NASA hopes will reach a cataclysmic end on the Fourth of July.

Scientists are counting on Deep Impact to carve out a crater in Comet

Tempel 1 that could swallow the Roman Coliseum. It will be humans' first look into the heart of a comet, a celestial snowball still containing the original building blocks of the sun and the planets.

Because of the relative speed of the two objects at the moment of impact — 23,000 mph — no explosives are needed for the job. The force of the smashup will be equivalent to 4.5 tons of TNT, creating a flash that just might be visible in the dark sky by the naked eye in one spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display.

Nothing like this has ever been attempted before.

Little is known about Comet Tempel 1 other than that it is an icy, rocky body about nine miles long and three miles wide.

Scientists do not even know whether the crust will be as hard as concrete or as flimsy as corn flakes.

Scientists stress that Deep Impact will barely alter the comet's orbital path around the sun and will not put either the comet or a chunk of it on a collision course with Earth.



Associated Press
A Delta II rocket carrying the Deep Impact spacecraft lifts off Wednesday.



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Bryan Juicy Jumbos
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Campbell's Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup
10.75 oz.

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Select Varieties

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11.5-12.25 oz.
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	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

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Search proves futile for WMDs in Iraq

Yesterday, the White House announced that the ever-so important hunt for the weapons of mass destruction in Iraq has ended.

This ends, according to the Associated Press, a nearly two-year search that has cost Americans millions and millions of tax dollars. While the search did cost a boat load of money, it also cost the lives of many innocent people, including thousands of American troops.

Let's think back for a minute. The whole rationale behind going to war with the country of Iraq was to get these weapons that, according to most every Bush administration member, were definitely there and an immediate threat to Americans. Hell, they're the reason we abandoned our efforts to find the real terrorist, Osama bin Laden, in Afghanistan and moved most all of our man power and money to "Mission Iraqi Freedom," a mission that should have really been called "Mission spread our imperialist attitude to a country that was no threat to America."

Despite the admitted screw-up on the part of the Bush team, the head hog himself still defends the war in Iraq, with his spokesperson saying Bush would have "taken the same action because this is about protecting the American people."

Protecting them from what? If we couldn't find even the slightest trace of the weapons, there was probably never a threat. And if it was all about the weapons, and they're not there, then let's bring the troops home...

Oh, wait, we can't. See, when you go into a country and bomb the hell out of it, you have to clean up the mess. So that's what we're doing.

So here's the deal in Iraq now. We went to find weapons that weren't there, at least not by the time we got there. Now we know for sure that they aren't, based on the fact that we've bombed and destroyed everything and still haven't found them. Now we must stay, to keep fighting for the "safety" of Americans from weapons that never existed and a country that has little else but bombed cities and poor people.

Don't you feel safer now?



letter to the editor

GSU alumna values experience with *The George-Anne*

This letter is to the people on Georgia Southern's campus that give *The George-Anne* crap. Those people that like to point out the minor errors. Those instructors who like to use the paper as part of their day's lesson when they have nothing else planned for their instructional period to point out journalistic errors.

It's also for the people who don't appreciate the hard work put in by the students who run the paper and are involved in every aspect but printing it.

Those students have full time class schedules and even work at other jobs, but still put forth a paper three days a week covering a variety of news and campus events. Newspapers in some cities with a full time staff don't come out this often.

These students are paid for their endeavors, but it is not nearly enough for the work they put in.

Visit the Williams Center and meet some of the most unappreciated people on the campus. You will also find the walls covered with awards won year after year by this paper. You can find them at this facility at all hours of the day and night, working to produce a paper that is just for you, providing something *The Statesboro Herald* and *The Savannah Morning News* cannot - the voice of Georgia Southern.

Even though I'm no longer an Eagle, I appreciate *The George-Anne* for giving me experience in the journalism field. Without it being a part of my life for the years I was there, I wouldn't be the reporter I am today.

When I entered the newsroom I currently

work in, it was not new to me. Different people, but the element of work and deadlines was the same. Terms weren't new to me, an Apple computer wasn't an outerspace piece of equipment to me because I had become familiar with them at *The George-Anne*.

The reporting is the same, though there are much harder things to cover now. I wish for the days of camping out for the homeless and the Ms. GSU pageant. Now my lead story is covering the rising tax increases and their effect on education and other government meetings. I cover them terms I can't explain aloud - only write about.

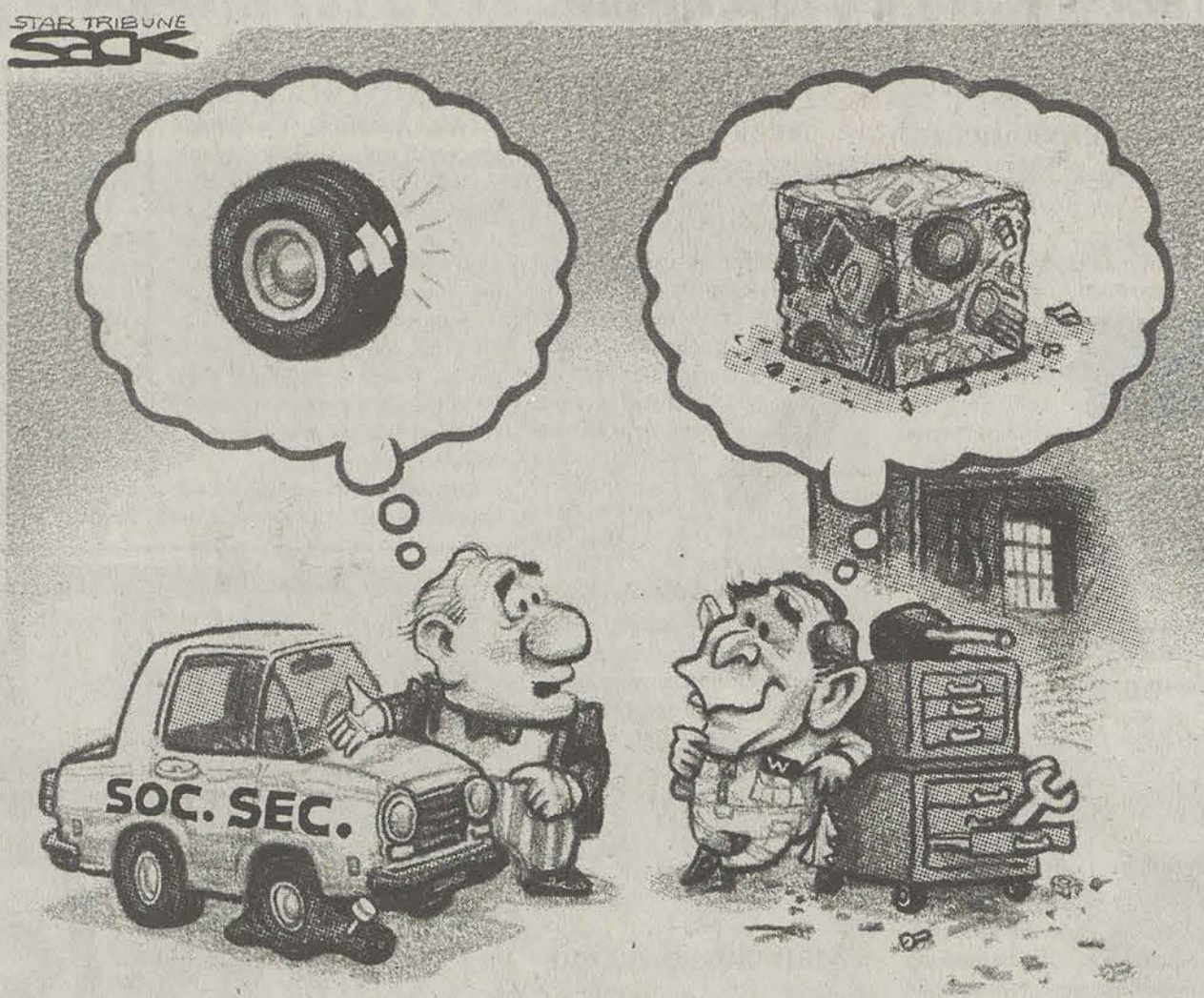
Recently there was a conversation about *The Statesboro Herald* in our newsroom. My editor said, referring to me, "She cut her teeth there." Though I interned there for one summer, and my experience was valuable, I owe that credit to my alma mater's award-winning student paper.

No value could be placed on the things I learned at *The George-Anne*, the people I met and the knowledge I gained.

To all students of various majors, realize when you graduate your degree means nothing without experience. That lovely piece of parchment you've worked so hard for won't be all it will take for you to get a foot in the door, a call back, or even an interview.

Take advantage of the hands-on training available right here on your campus.

Teresa Southern is a Georgia Southern alumna and staff writer for The Houston Home Journal. She can be reached at tsouthern@evannews.com.



Confessions of a bibliophile

You know when you go to the bookstore on the first day of classes, but the text for that one certain course is already sold out? Your professor says, "I don't understand! I ordered enough for everyone." Then you have to wait at least a week for a new order.

Well, I confess. It's my fault. I buy textbooks on impulse... for classes I'm not even taking.

Please don't stone me too hard. I know I'm not the only one. Several folks I know have admitted to it. All that financial aid credit is just waiting there, and so many irresistible books beckon from the halls!

There are a few sections I have poached from over the years: writing, English, anthropology, and sociology, to name a mere several. This semester I fought tooth and nail the urge to buy everything in the criminal justice section because there were several books on death penalty controversy.

And I just love me some controversy.

This year my annual surplus of unnecessary literature is comprised of a Delillo novel intended for a literature course, the story of a Kung woman (which I've had my eye on for a while), and couple of poetry compilations.

It was all I could do to keep from buying several psychology books, and all that kept me from cleaning out the entire linguistics shelf was the fact that I already owned everything on it.

The worst part is I don't quite have a proper home for all these wayward tomes. A loving one, yes. But I

am tragically bereft of enough bookshelves. Even after my fiancée built a giant pine bookshelf a wall wide, it wasn't enough to hold all our books combined...

Oh, shoot. That's putting the cart before the horse, isn't it? You folks don't know yet. I found a soulmate. If that doesn't prove him crazy enough, he's marrying me in October. (Can you believe someone wants to marry me? I know, me either. But never fear: A separate column on that development cometh.)

For purposes of this column you need only know what you'd already expect: His inventory of interests and hobbies, his supply of skills, and his adoration of books all meet or exceed mine.

Needless to say, our libraries are easy rivals. We've already filled one room.

Now that I've come clean about buying out of territory, I feel a little guilty. I want to offer some kind of solution. But I can't sell you the books.

I can't part with them.

I love them.

Beyond hypnotic therapy for my addiction to good reads, I can only suggest you make sure your professors get this message: If a book particularly rocks, play it safe and order extra copies. This is my last semester here, but you never know when an enthusiast like me will strike again.

Amanda Permenter is the editor-in-chief of The George-Anne and can be reached at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.



Amanda Permenter
editor-in-chief

relationships & sex

SPEAKING OF... Intelligence

Hello. Hi. Wassup. Yo. Welcome Back. Blah, blah, blah. I'm sure, like myself, many of you are busting your humps not to be bored to tears reading your class syllabi, or are amused by tests over your syllabi, or are overly frustrated at the price of some of your textbooks. I feel your pain, trust me!

In case you were wondering, my classes are going wonderfully, with Dr. Pemberton's *The Comic Book in American Culture* topping my list of all time coolest classes ever! All Tuesday and Thursday classes again. I've got to make time to work! Even provocative sex writers have to eat and pay the cell phone bill. But, in a year or so, it'll all be over, and I'll probably look back and think about how my college years were some of the best in my life.

Still, even in college, it baffles and amazes me how unintelligent some of my collegiate peers can be. For those who haven't guessed or don't know, I now work in the University Bookstore. Pop in sometimes and buy something.

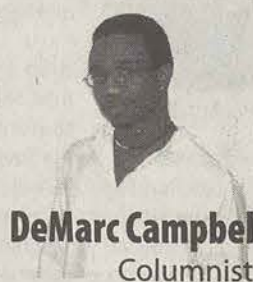
Anyway, like I was saying... it amazes me how simple some of my peers can be. I mean, how many years have some of us been here? Two? Three? Sixth-

year senior? Well, whatever your classification, I'm here to give you all some advice to help get you through the school year in one piece.

1). When you come to the bookstore, please know what you're talking about. Honestly, it helps. I'm sure any, and every one of my co-workers would go out of there way to assist you if you give them a chance. However, telling them to help you find the "Red book" for your class, and of course, you don't have a course number, or even a clue as to who your teacher is, makes life hard on all of us. This is a general life rule. Don't assume that anyone knows anything. Chances are, you'll be at least half right.

2). Go to class! Or at least pay attention to your tardy and absence policies. Nobody wants to hear the sob story about how your uncle's wife's cousin's nephew (twice removed) lost a leg in a horrible LEGO accident and this somehow prevented you from coming to class for five days in a row.

3). If you happen to have signed up for a lecture class, here's a small tidbit of info for you. Those BIG lecture halls were made to carry sound, and they do so very well. So, while you may not think that your



DeMarc Campbell
Columnist

See Campbell, Page 5A

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Tort reform would make a great New Year's resolution

By Nathan Tabor
nathan@nathantabor.com

The right to seek justice in a court of law is fundamental to our American way of life. If a person has been wronged, cheated, or hurt by the actions of another, whether intentionally or negligently, the injured party is entitled to just compensation. That's only fair. So I hold a deep respect for the right of individuals to access our civil courts.

But like President Bush, I still believe that we must make reforming our system of civil litigation a top priority in 2005. We need common-sense reforms that will restrict frivolous lawsuits, abolish joint and several liability provisions, and limit outrageous punitive damage awards that are completely out of proportion to actual losses.

The number of civil lawsuits filed in our courts has tripled over the past 40 years. Often these lawsuits have no real merit but are used simply to extort cash payments from the person or business being targeted. (The Reverend Jesse Jackson is an expert at this kind of race-based extortion) And many times, even if the plaintiff is in the right, the 'boxcar damages' awarded by juries are completely out of proportion to the actual harm suffered.

Interesting fact: almost half of the money won in malpractice lawsuits ends up in the pockets of the plaintiff's attorneys. Maybe that's why the American Trial Lawyers are so adamantly opposed to tort reform.

Often innocent businesses have to settle such lawsuits even when they are in the right. Unfortunately, this whole process costs us jobs. When a business is forced to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars defending against frivolous lawsuits, it has less money to expand its operations, invest in research or hire more employees.

This whole corrupt practice isn't about evil corporations and their

hapless victims who need legal protection. It is nothing more than legalized larceny, and it needs to be stopped!

Nowhere is this truer than in the medical profession. The rapidly escalating cost of liability insurance has reached unaffordable levels for an increasing number of medical practices. Some doctors have to pay as much as 50 percent of their gross income for malpractice insurance. Yet in our litigious society they can't afford to be without it. Many OB-GYNs today find themselves forced to cease delivering babies altogether.

Personal story: My wife and I have a baby due in January. However, because of rising malpractice insurance our midwife can no longer deliver our baby.

Every day, the cost of health care in America increases because physicians feel compelled to practice 'defensive medicine,' often prescribing unnecessary but expensive tests, operations or medicines, rather than risk a lawsuit.

North Carolina's Senator John Edwards campaigned for Vice President on the theme that he came from a poor working family but pulled himself up by his own bootstraps to become a self-made millionaire. What hypocrisy.

We need to stop these frivolous lawsuits and put caps on disproportionate punitive damages. Or even better yet, move to the English model. There, if you sue somebody and lose, you pay the legal fees for the other side. This might be a simple solution to a complicated problem.

One thing for sure, tort reform would be a great gift for the American people!

Nathan Tabor is a conservative political activist based in Kernersville, North Carolina. He has his BA in Psychology and his Master's Degree in Public Policy. He is a contributing editor at www.theconservativevoice.com. Contact him at Nathan@nathantabor.com.

CAMPBELL, FROM PAGE 4A

quip-filled conversation with Suzie Sorority is a big deal, when everyone thinks that, it becomes really difficult for those of us who actually care to hear what the teacher is saying.

Oh, and if you have Dr. Peggy Hargis for Sociology, don't talk in her lectures. Mainly, it's because she's actually a good teacher. Secondly, because she will call you! Same rule applies for cell phones. And while putting your cell on vibrate isn't such a bad idea, putting your cell on vibrate and putting it in your purse, is even MORE annoying!

4). If you're gonna party, that's great. But please, do it responsibly! Too drunk to drive? Call someone. Or walk. Campus Police is a lot more tolerant of a drunk walker than they are of a drunk driver. Not to mention the shiny metal bracelets if you get caught.

And let's not forget that the Police Beat will post your name in big, bold letters in *The G-A*, so your shame will be shared with anyone who just happens to know your name.

Georgia Southern Parents Association Founders Scholarship



Application Deadline:
January 31, 2005
5:00 p.m.



- A minimum of 4 scholarships total will be offered yearly.
- At least one scholarship will be awarded per class.
- Each Scholarship will be for a minimum of \$250.
- Scholarships will be awarded at the Spring Family Weekend Parents Association General Meeting, March 6, 2005.

There is an application for Freshman/Sophomore applicants and an application for Junior/Senior applicants. Please make sure the appropriate application is completed.

Applications and criteria are available on the Georgia Southern Parents Association website <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent>

For additional information, contact the Office of Orientation and Parent Programs
Lewis Hall Room 2026 (Sweetheart Circle)

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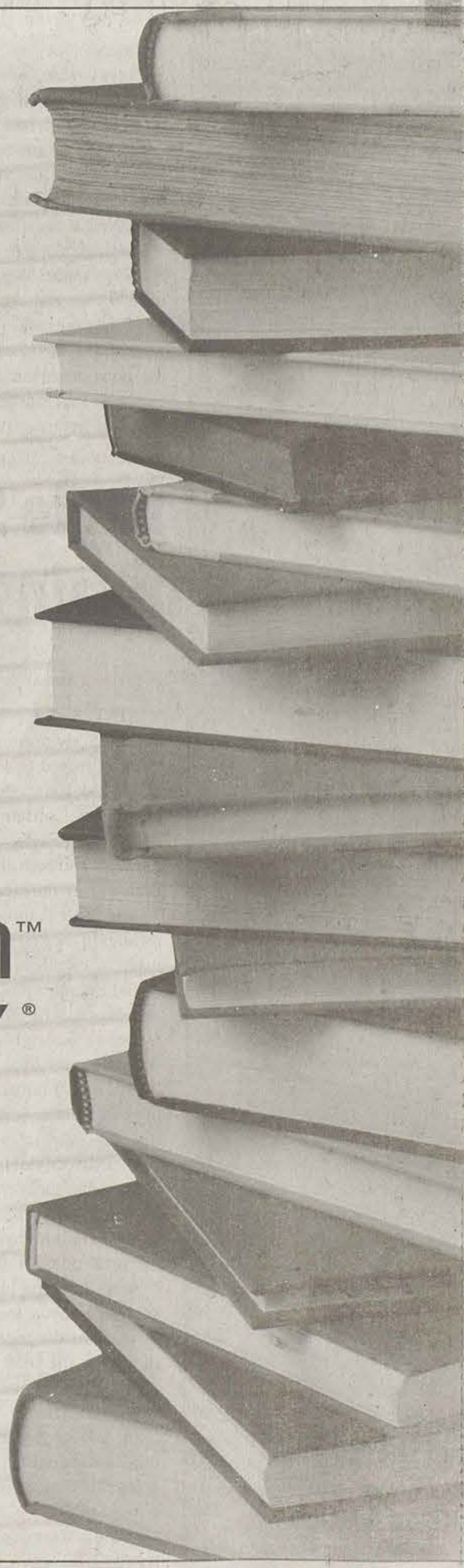
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The Ultimate Challenge

By Bryan Metcalf

michael_b_metcalf@georgiasouthern.edu



Bryan Metcalf
Sports Writer

Looking for something to fill up those boring evenings? Why not head out to the Intramural practice fields at the RAC and join the Ultimate Frisbee Club?

The season is just starting for Eagles and they could always use some more faces. Ultimate is a sport that combines some rules of football and basketball with a simple plastic disk.

One of the best things about ultimate, according to three returning players from last year's club team, is the teamwork and sportsmanship involved. This was proven as the Eagles opened the season up by hosting the "Early Bird Special" tournament last weekend.

It is the only time this season the squad will be split, aside from the pick-up games played last fall and practices during the week.

The rookies had a rough weekend, only managing two wins. However with each point played the young guns got a little better. After losing all four of their games on Saturday, including a very emotional contest with the Veteran Eagles Squad, the rooks took it to the Georgia Bulldogs early and were able to taste victory for the first time in their careers.

The next two games were hard-fought contests that came right down to the end against Georgia College and the UT Chattanooga B-team, with the Eagles losing both times.

With a 1-6 record and their veteran counterparts fighting for the tournament title with College of Charleston, the young guns took on Georgia Tech. The Eagles finished Sunday on a high note by dominating the Yellow Jackets 13-6.



The veterans, meanwhile, dominated in all six victories over the weekend, including an emotionally charged game against the rookies, saw almost every GSU player get hurt.

After getting beaten physically by their younger teammates on Saturday, the Eagles did their best to regroup to battle the UT Chattanooga A-team in their fifth and final game of the day.

The two teams battled back and forth but it would eventually be UTC getting the win 15-14. Back-to-Back wins to open up Sunday had the Eagles right back in the hunt for the title, but it would be College of Charleston getting revenge for their emotional loss to GSU in the finals of last fall's "Chuck-town Throwdown" hosted by C of C.

Charleston led big at the half, but the Eagles battled back and closed the score to 12-10 before C of C could score that last point and complete their 8-0 run through the tournament.

This weekend, the team will travel to Gainesville, FL for their next tournament.

The Eagles will open up against arch rival UGA on Saturday morning. After next Sunday's games, the team will take a small break from competition.

The squad has only two tournaments a month and all of them are on weekends.

So if you need something to do, join the squad Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 7-9 p.m. for practices or check out their tournaments throughout the season. They can always use more fans.

For more information email Coach Tuba at Obiri_7@hotmail.com

Q&A WITH... Terry Williams

By: Matt Rapp

mattrapp111@yahoo.com

Terry Williams is enjoying his senior year here Georgia Southern helping the Eagles Basketball team stand out as a fierce opponent here in the Southern Conference.

Ranking third in school history for three points made (188), Williams serves a dangerous threat for the outside three. Williams has excellent ball handling skills and is able to play both guard positions.

Also a skilled passer, Terry ranks fifth on the all time assist list here at GSU. I got a chance to speak to Terry after practice yesterday to talk about the Eagles and how they feel after the huge win over C of C last Monday.

GA: Has the confidence level of the team risen since the win over the College of Charleston?

TW: Yea, it was hard loosing to the Citadel and this win has really boosted our confidence.

GA: What is the biggest difference you've seen so far between this years team and last years team?

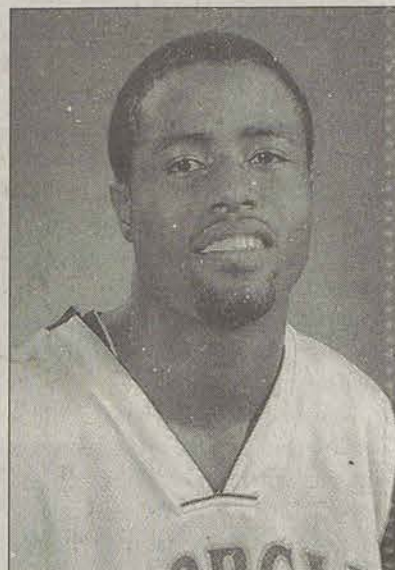
TW: Last year's team was more experienced than our team this year. But this year we eat and hang out a lot more. This season's team is for unified.

GA: What player has had the biggest impact for the Eagles performance this season?

TW: I think Donte Gennie has had the biggest impact. He's stepped up real big come game time.

GA: How do you feel bout the next three straight conference games here at Hanner?

TW: Well we just take one game at a time. Every conference game is difficult. We just have to play our best every game.



Terry Williams

File Photo

Eagles thrash Cougars 90-72

By Jason Burke

jburke@georgiasouthern.edu

The Georgia Southern basketball team stunned the College of Charleston 90-72 Monday night at Hanner Field House. The Eagles (7-7, 2-2 SoCon) routed the Cougars in impressive fashion, shooting 47 percent from the field and outdoing them on the boards 40-31.

The Eagles put an end to the Cougars (10-4, 3-1 SoCon) seven game winning streak and handed them their first Southern Conference loss.

The Eagles sustained an early 7-3 deficit but clawed to even it at nine with 16:05 left in the first half. An Elton Nesbitt jumper put the Eagles up 13-14 and they never looked back. Tenacious defense and stellar shooting lead the team to a first half high 41-28 lead.

Questionable calls allowed The College of Charleston to inch to within nine entering the half.

Jeff Price's team came out of the half clicking on all cylinders.

Another jumper by leading scorer Elton Nesbitt pushed to Eagle lead to a game high nineteen 59-40.

The Cougars then made a push of their own and closed the gap to 61-55. Just as it looked like the Eagles were letting the Cougars back into the game, freshman guard Dwayne Foreman made a game changing play. The freshman standout guard,

who had eleven of his twelve points in the second-half, hustled to get his own rebound and took it strong to the goal to end the Cougar run.

A three pointer by senior guard Terry Williams with 3:05 left in the contest was the nail in the coffin, leaving Charleston with no choice but to foul.

A circus three pointer by Elton Nesbitt put an exclamation point on the victory and gave him a game high, twenty-five points.

Jean Francois proved to be a menacing presence down low, pulling down seven boards and shooting a nifty 8-12 from the field to finish with nineteen.

Senior guard Terry Williams and sophomore guard Donte Gennie also tallied double figures with 13 and 12 points respectively.

The win was made even bigger given that the Eagles entered the game with a 1-2 record in conference and coming off a loss to the Citadel. They left the game looking like a team on the way up with a lot of momentum. The Eagles big win over rivals College of Charleston gives the fans of Georgia Southern, who were the sixth man Monday night, reason for optimism.

The Eagles take the court again Saturday to take on Appalachian State to continue the second of four home games in a row. Come support the Eagles for a 3:30 tip off.



LaVene Bell/STAFF

Georgia Southern junior guard Elton Nesbitt scores against College of Charleston Monday night at Hanner Fieldhouse. Nesbitt scored 25 points as the Eagles sent the Cougars running back to Charleston 90-72.

Eagle Swim team picks up victory against Radford Highlanders

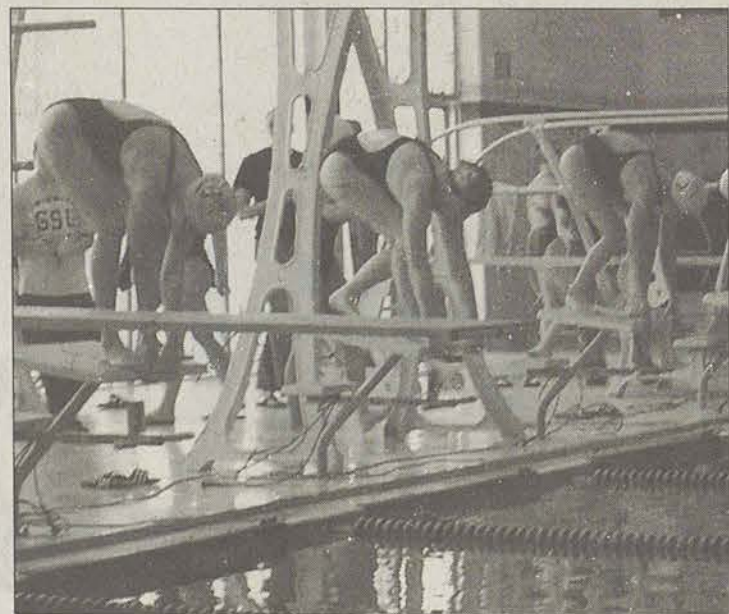
GSU Athletic Media Relations

STATESBORO - The Georgia Southern swimming and diving team improved to 4-0 this season with a 133-106 victory over fellow Northeast Conference member Radford. The Eagles won nine of the 11 events and both diving competitions during the meet.

The Eagles captured first-place finishes in the first six events of the meet in establishing a lead they would not relinquish.

Senior Florrie Cunningham and freshman Kaleigh Kenyon both won two individual events to lead the Eagles. Cunningham continued her outstanding season by recording first-place finishes in both the 200-yard freestyle (1:58.46) and the 200-yard butterfly events (2:14.32). The latter was an exceptionally close race as Cunningham edged runner-up Kyndal Spradlin of Radford by only one one-hundredth of a second. Kenyon took top honors in the two distance events, winning both the 1650-yard freestyle (18:31.26) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:23.71).

A trio of freshmen captured other individual wins for the Eagles as Jennifer Clayton won the 50-yard freestyle (25.79), Kimberly Morris took the 200-yard individual medley (2:13.70) and Allison Cochran



LaVene Bell/STAFF

The Georgia Southern Eagles swim team competes during a meet during last season in which they defeated Agnes Scott College.

captured the 200-yard breaststroke while recording a season-best time (2:24.67). In addition, Cochran's time represented a new pool record at Hanner Natatorium as she bested the previous mark, set by Stacey Scheible in 1992, by seven one-hundredths of a second.

In relay action, the team of Cochran, Morris, Clayton and sophomore Kelli King won the 200-yard medley (1:55.57) while Cunningham, Cochran, Kenyon and freshman Amanda Gerdeman

teamed to record a victory in the 200-yard freestyle (1:44.89).

Freshman Katie Dierkes and senior Leslie Williams split the diving events as Dierkes captured the three-meter event with a total of 248.03. Williams returned the favor on the one-meter board as she posted a total of 246.38.

The Eagles will look to stay undefeated as they travel to Jacksonville, Fla. Jan. 15 to face squads from North Florida and Florida International.

Georgia Southern to honor former Coach Jack Stallings

GSU Athletic Media Relations

STATESBORO - The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia gave final approval on Wednesday for Georgia Southern University to honor its institution's all-time winningest baseball coach. Georgia Southern will name the playing field at J.I. Clements Stadium in honor of former head coach Jack Stallings.

An official naming ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, February 19, prior to Georgia Southern's game against George Washington.

Stallings coached at Georgia Southern from 1976-1999, leading the Eagles to five NCAA Regional appearances including a trip to the

1990 College World Series. He ended his 24-year stint as the Eagles' head coach with an 858-581-5 record, four Trans America Athletic Conference (1980, 1985, 1986, 1987) and three Southern Conference regular season championships (1993, 1996, 1997). In 39 seasons as a collegiate head coach, including stints at Florida State and Wake Forest, Stallings finished with an overall record of 1,257-799-10, which ranks 11th among all-time NCAA Division I coaches.

J.I. Clements Stadium is currently undergoing a major renovation. The completed stadium will seat 3,000, fans in addition to a new press box, radio/TV working area, concessions,

See Stallings, Page 7A

'NASCAR 101' returns to Georgia Southern

GSU Athletic Media Relations

A group of local racing fans and "wannabe" racing fans will experience the thrill, drama and excitement of NASCAR at the Atlanta Motor Speedway on Sunday, March 20.

The special trip to the Golden Corral 500 is the centerpiece of "NASCAR 101," a unique one-day continuing education course presented by Georgia Southern University's Division of Continuing Education and Public Service.

The trip will include a ticket to the

event, motor coach transportation and light snacks on the trip. There will be a brief presentation on the bus to provide the participants with an overview of America's fastest-growing sport.

"We offered a similar program last fall with a trip to Talladega, and it was so well received we knew we had to bring it back," said Deborah Champion, coordinator of the project. "This is the perfect trip for the first time fan as there will be an instructor on the bus to answer all of your

See NASCAR, Page 7A

GSU Women's Basketball claims victory over Elon

GSU Athletic Media Relations

ELON, N.C. - Three players scored in double figures to lead Georgia Southern to a 69-61 win at SoCon foe Elon at Alumni Gym Monday evening. The win marks the first time that the Eagles have defeated the Phoenix.

Georgia Southern (8-6, 5-3 SoCon) opened the game going on a 6-0 run. The Eagles held the Phoenix (1-13, 0-8 SoCon) scoreless for the first six and a half minutes and held them without a field goal for the first nine and a half minutes before Shashonna Moore drained a lay-up. Georgia Southern went on a 12-7 spurt before Elon's Jessica Williams hit two three pointers to cut the Phoenix deficit to nine at 22-13 with 8:57 remaining in the half. Back-to-back Nicole Newton baskets sparked a 17-9 Eagle run to end the half, giving Georgia Southern the 39-22 advantage at the break.

Newton had nine points and five rebounds to lead the Eagles at the half. Dana Benemon also tallied nine, while Fallon Lee had seven. Georgia Southern shot 48.3 (14-of-29) percent in the opening stanza, compared to Elon's 31.0 (9-of-29) percent.

The Eagles opened the second half with a quick trey by Lee DuBose, giving them the 43-22 lead. Elon's Williams hit four straight free throws to cut the margin to 45-26 with 16:33 to play in the game. The Phoenix put together a 16-2 run to cut the deficit to nine at 52-44 with 7:51 to play in the game. Elon held the Eagles scoreless for five minutes before Kellie Tiller's two free throws ended the drought. A Fallon Lee trey at the 4:15 mark gave the Eagles the 11 point lead before the Phoenix scored four straight to cut the Eagle lead to seven with under three to play. The Phoenix got as close as six

with 21.3 seconds to play, but could not get any closer.

After shooting nearly 50 percent in the first half, the Eagles struggled in the second half, shooting 31.0 percent (9-of-29). The team finished at 39.7 (23-of-58) percent on the night, while Elon finished the night shooting 36.7 (22-of-60) percent. Lee led the Eagles with 16 points, including nine in the second half. Benemon finished with 13 points and eight boards, while Newton recorded 11 points and seven rebounds.

Williams led all scorers with 23 points, including 5-of-11 from behind the three-point arc.

The Eagles return home to Hanner Fieldhouse on January 15 as they host SoCon foe Wofford at 1 p.m. Elon returns to action on Jan. 15 as they travel to Davidson for a 7 p.m. tip with the Wildcats.

Baseball players and owners to announce new steroid agreement

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK - Baseball players and owners have reached an agreement on a tougher steroid-testing program and plan to announce it Thursday, the Associated Press has learned.

The agreement will include penalties for first-time offenders, an AL player said on condition of anonymity. Other details, such as the frequency of tests, were not immediately available.

Commissioner Bud Selig, asked about a steroid agreement at the owners meeting in Scottsdale, Ariz., declined comment but did say: "We'll have announcements to make tomorrow." Gene Orza, the union's chief operating officer, also declined comment.

"I'm glad we could come to an agreement," said Chicago Cubs pitcher Mike Remlinger, who was briefed on the deal Wednesday. "It was the right thing to do. I think it was something that needed to be done, and I think players understand it needed to be addressed."

The sides spent the past month negotiating the deal after the union's executive board gave its staff approval

to pursue an agreement on a more rigorous testing program. Some in Congress threatened to take action unless baseball reached an agreement on its own.

"I think it's going to entail more testing, some out-season testing, yes, more in-season random testing and stiffer penalties," said New York Mets pitcher Tom Glavine, a senior member of the union.

Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer, said he anticipated confirmation of a deal by the end of the owners' meeting.

"It will be wonderful once it's done, but I don't want to pre-empt any announcement, and I certainly don't want to pre-empt all the work the commissioner has done on this, so I'll reserve my comments until after it's announced," he said.

Players and owners agreed to a drug-testing plan in 2002 that called for survey-testing for steroids the following year. Because more than 5 percent of tests were positive, random testing with penalties began last year. Each player was tested for steroids twice over a single five- to seven-day period.

A first positive test resulted in treatment. If a player tested positive

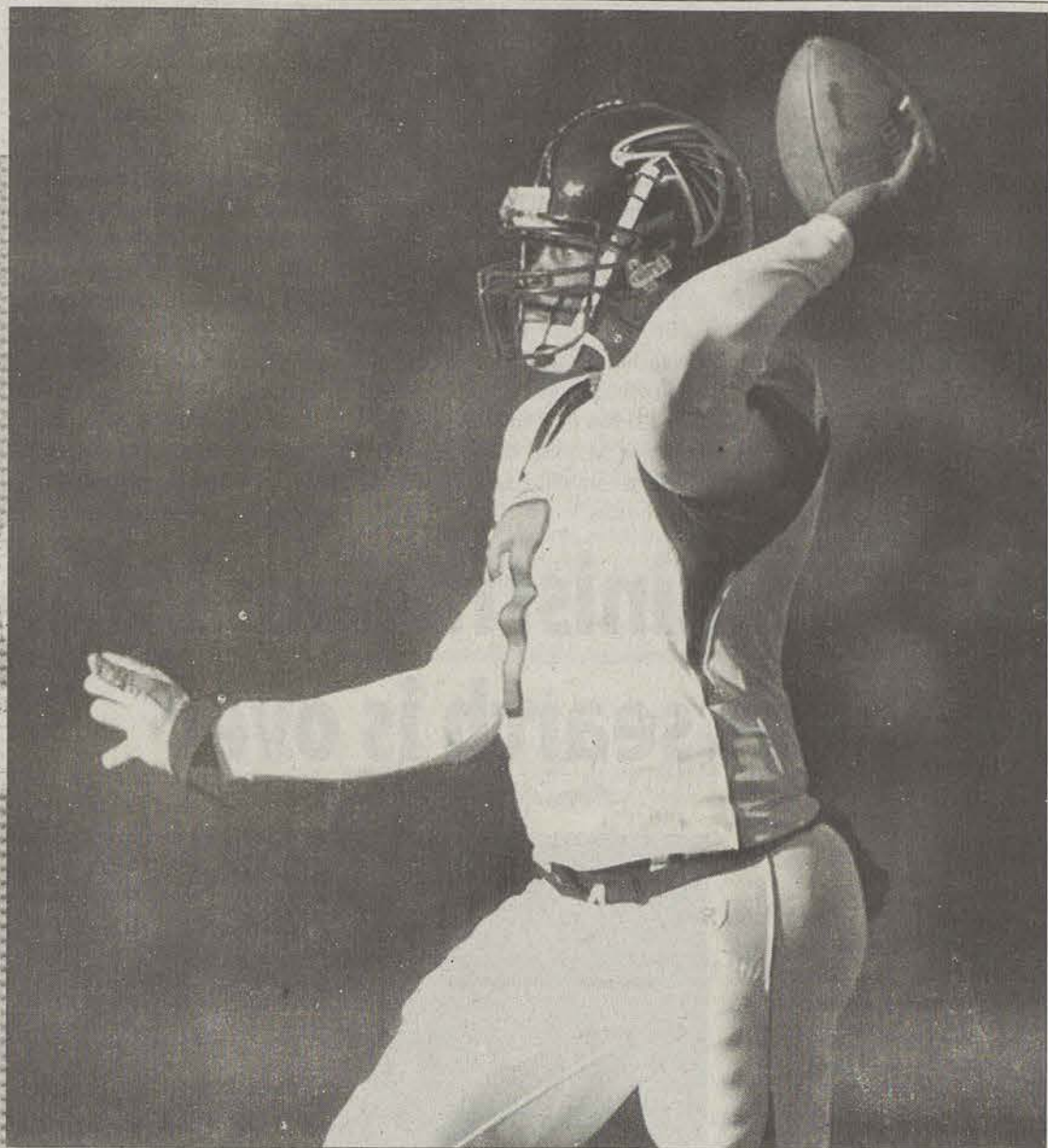
again, he would have been subject to a 15-day suspension.

No player was suspended for steroid use in 2004.

Since the 2002 agreement, baseball has come under increased scrutiny for steroid use. Barry Bonds, Jason Giambi and Gary Sheffield testified before a federal grand jury in December 2003. Giambi and Sheffield admitted using steroids, according to reports by the San Francisco Chronicle. Sheffield said he wasn't aware when he used the substances that they contained steroids.

Bonds, according to the paper, admitted using substances prosecutors say contained steroids.

"Everybody believed that the program we had in place was having an effect and definitely it was doing what it designed to do," Glavine said, "but having said that, with the stuff that was going on and whatnot, it forced us to take a look at revising it or making it a little tougher. It was not a question anymore if that agreement was going to be enough. It was a question to address some of the new issues that came to light and get our fans to believe we were doing everything we could to make the problem go away 100 percent."



John Froschauer/AP Photo

Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick passes against the Seattle Seahawks during the first quarter in Seattle Sunday Jan. 2, 2005. The Seahawks won 28-26.

The Vick factor

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

FLOWERY BRANCH - Michael Vick and those around him keep repeating a familiar mantra: The Atlanta Falcons are a team.

"Who's the best player on our team?" coach Jim Mora said. "I think if you took a poll of the nation, 100 percent of the people would say Mike Vick. Well, I'll tell you how our locker room feels: The best player on our team is our team."

Then again, the Falcons have perhaps the only player in the NFL who's capable of winning a game all by himself.

Not a bad weapon to have in the postseason.

The Falcons get their first home playoff game since 1998 when they host the St. Louis Rams on Saturday night. Rest assured, everyone at the Georgia Dome - both on the field and in the stands - will have an eye on No. 7.

"Mike is going to make plays," teammate DeAngelo Hall said. "Mike is going to be Mike, just like Michael Jordan was always going to be Michael Jordan. Those kind of guys definitely make plays."

Despite finishing with the NFC's second-best record, the Falcons are generally considered a notch below top seed Philadelphia and AFC powers New England, Pittsburgh and Indianapolis.

But no one has a player such as Vick, who is capable of putting everyone else in slow motion on any given play.

Vick could have been the first quarterback to reach 1,000 yards rushing, but he wasn't needed in the final two games. With playoff positioning all locked up, Vick sat out one game and played only 1 1/2 quarters in the other. Even so, he still finished with

a staggering 902 yards on the ground, averaging 7 1/2 yards every time he ran the ball.

If anyone is capable of upsetting the playoff balance, it's Vick.

"I do have the ability to make plays when we need them, with my feet, and that's just our advantage," he said. "At the same time, I've got to pick and choose my spots when I take off and run, make sure I give the guys downfield an opportunity to make plays in this game, too."

"MIKE IS GOING TO BE MIKE, JUST LIKE MICHAEL JORDAN WAS ALWAYS GOING TO BE MICHAEL JORDAN. THOSE KIND OF GUYS DEFINITELY MAKE PLAYS."

DEANGELO HALL

Not even Vick is capable of beating 11 guys all by himself.

Two years ago, after leading Atlanta to a playoff win at Green Bay's Lambeau Field, he wasn't much of a factor in a second-round loss to Philadelphia. The Falcons failed to score a touchdown, the Eagles holding Vick to 30 yards rushing.

"People say I'm the X-factor and I'm the key to winning," he said. "I think the key to winning is our team coming to play as a team and playing together. That's what is going to win the football game for us, I promise you."

Already suspect on defense, the Rams don't plan on letting Vick out of their sight. Stopping him could be another matter.

Vick gives the Falcons an extra runner in the backfield, teaming with Warrik Dunn (1,106 yards, nine touchdowns) and T.J. Duckett (509 yards, eight TDs) to form the league's most prolific rushing attack.

"Defending them is like defending the option," Martz said. "That's something the NFL has not seen before. Everyone is scrambling around, trying to find a way to defend it or at least

slow it down. I don't know if there's a way to do it."

While Mora has harped on the team theme all season, he's not naive. The rookie coach knows as well as anyone that he has a unique player, one who could make the difference between moving on in the playoffs or calling it a season.

"He draws attention," Mora said. "Every single time he takes a snap, he is a threat to beat you in a multitude of ways. He can throw the ball efficiently from the pocket, he can get out of the pocket and throw it, he can run it, he can stay alive for about three hours and throw it down the field, he goes to hand it off and he's a threat coming out on a bootleg the other way. So, he affects the game every time he touches it."

Every once in a while, someone inside the locker room will slip up and actually say what everyone on the outside is thinking.

When it comes to the Falcons, one man might be enough.

STALLINGS, FROM PAGE 6A

sunken dugouts and VIP booth.

According to Sam Baker, Director of Athletics, "We thought with the renovations to J.I. Clements Stadium this provided a great opportunity to recognize Jack Stallings and his accomplishments at Georgia Southern University. J.I. Clements (coach from 1949-66, 1968) certainly had a major impact on Eagle baseball and Jack continued that legacy. Once completed, we think J.I. Clements Stadium will be one of the nation's finest collegiate baseball facilities. So it's fitting that the stadium and field will be named for two of Georgia Southern's all-time greats," said Baker.

The Eagles open the 2005 campaign on February 12th at the new J.I. Clements Stadium/Jack Stallings Field against in-state rival Georgia Tech.

NASCAR, FROM PAGE 6A

questions about NASCAR and many of the drivers."

The bus trip will leave from the Georgia Southern campus in Statesboro at 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 20, and return after the race. The cost of the trip will be \$135.

For additional information, contact Champion at (912) 681-5555 or visit the website at <http://ceps.georgia-southern.edu/content/nascar.html>.

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GINN, FROM PAGE 1A

ago, Barnard said.

Ginn attended Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton and GSU.

A teacher, businessman and cattle farmer, Ginn began his political career as an administrative assistant to U.S. Sen. Herman E. Talmadge before beginning his own time in Washington.

"Political icon is probably a pretty good description because he was involved for a long time," said Bert Lance, who served as President Carter's

budget chief when Ginn served in Washington.

"Anybody who had contact with him came away with high marks for him."

Ginn is survived by three children—Moretz, Ronald Bryan Ginn, Jr. and Kacy Jones— and seven grandchildren.

Ginn's funeral services were held Sunday at the Millen Baptist Church. A scholarship for political science majors is offered in memory of the Georgia congressman.

Associated Press

ATLANTA - Gov. Sonny Perdue's State of the State address Wednesday night opened with a political snub. The new Republican leaders of the Georgia House told Democratic Lt. Gov. Mark Taylor he would have no role in the nighttime joint session of the Legislature — and he didn't.

Traditionally, the lieutenant governor presides over joint sessions of the Legislature, even though they are held in the larger chambers of the House

of Representatives.

A letter from newly elected GOP House Speaker Glenn Richardson of Dallas — delivered only a few hours before the 8 p.m. joint session — informed Taylor that since no formal rules governing the joint session had been adopted, Richardson would "convene and preside over tonight's proceedings."

When senators trooped into the House chamber as a group shortly before the speech began, Taylor was escorted not to the Speaker's podium

but to a seat in the first row of chairs on the floor.

Taylor has announced plans to challenge Perdue's re-election in 2006, sharply criticized him Tuesday at a Chamber of Commerce event and, after Wednesday's gubernatorial address, delivered the response for Democrats.

Republicans have been in control of the House only since the session began on Monday. They have held the governor's office and the Senate for two years.

Michelle Hitt, a spokeswoman for Richardson, said the change was simply to make the Georgia House more in tune with the way presidential addresses are handled in the chambers of the U.S. House of Representatives.

And, she said, "The purpose of the evening is not who presides or who sits where. It's about the governor and the State of the State."

Taylor's spokeswoman, Kristi Huller, said, "If it's not about education, public safety, health care or economic development, he doesn't care."

State of State address opening with a snub

Bush administration: Iraq weapons search is over

By Katherine Pflieger Shrader
Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The White House acknowledged Wednesday that its hunt for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction — a two-year search costing millions of dollars — has closed down without finding the stockpiles that President Bush cited as a justification for overthrowing Saddam Hussein.

Bush's spokesman said the president had no regrets about invading Iraq.

"Based on what we know today, the president would have taken the same action because this is about protecting the American people," said Press Secretary Scott McClellan.

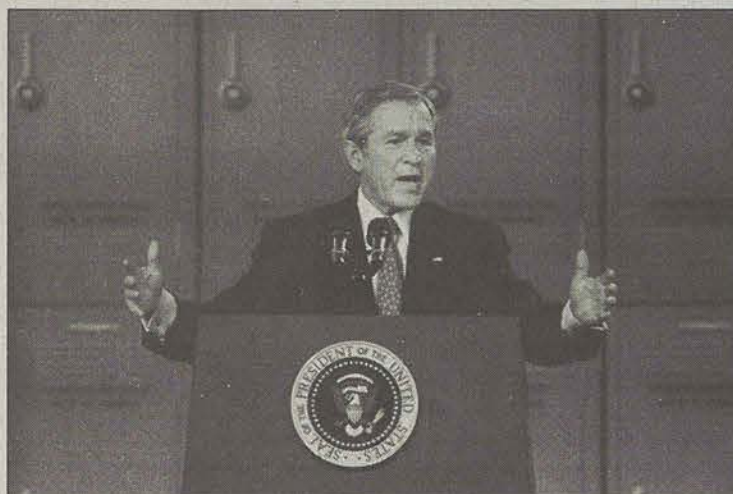
The Iraq Survey Group — made up of as many as 1,500 military and intelligence specialists and support staff — is ending its search of military installations, factories and laboratories where it was thought that equipment and products might be converted to making weapons.

McClellan said the active search had virtually ended. "There may be a couple, a few people that are focused on that," he said, adding that they would handle any future reports that might come in.

At a meeting last month, McClellan said Bush thanked the chief U.S. weapons inspector, Charles Duelfer, for his work. A special adviser to the CIA director, Duelfer will deliver a final edition of a report on Iraq's weapons next month. McClellan said it is not expected to fundamentally differ from the findings of a report last fall.

Duelfer said then that Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction and had not made any since 1991. However, he said the government harbored intentions of recreating its weapons programs and had gone to great lengths to manipulate the U.N. oil-for-food program.

In an interview Wednesday with Barbara Walters of ABC News, Bush



AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite

President Bush outlines his second-term education agenda during a speech to students, parents and educators at J.E.B. Stuart High School in the Washington suburb of Falls Church, Va., Wednesday.

defended his decision to invade Iraq.

"I felt like we'd find weapons of mass destruction — like many here in the United States, many around the world," Bush said in the interview, to be broadcast Friday night. "We need to find out what went wrong in the intelligence gathering. ... Saddam was dangerous and the world is safer without him in power."

In a statement, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California said Bush "needs to explain to the American people why he was so wrong, for so long, about the reasons for war."

The end of the weapons hunt comes as the Bush administration struggles with a dangerous security situation in Iraq leading up to Jan. 30 elections.

Meanwhile, other countries — notably Iran and North Korea — are suspected of developing covert nuclear weapons programs.

When asked whether the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq would damage U.S. credibility in handling future threats, McClellan said the president would continue to work with the international community, particularly on diplomatic

solutions. He said pre-emptive military action was "the last option" to pursue.

"We are acting to make sure we have the best possible intelligence," McClellan said, adding that a number of changes have been made since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Almost one year ago, Bush formed a presidential commission to investigate U.S. intelligence capabilities on weapons of mass destruction, focusing not only on Iraq but on how well the intelligence community understands the threat from other countries and terror networks. Its report is due March 31.

The closing down of the weapons search was first reported in the Washington Post on Wednesday.

David Kay, who headed the Iraq Survey Group until stepping down last January, said he was not surprised the group was concluding its efforts without finding any major weapons stockpiles.

"It is like dropping a shoe a little late. Quite frankly, I don't think anyone who follows it very closely has suspected anything else over the last year. It was a matter of when the obvious would be done," Kay said.

JONES, FROM PAGE 1A

FBI spokeswoman Sheila Thorne said the agency is looking into the matter to see whether there were civil rights violations.

Friends who were on the trip say the news of the alleged murder has upset the close group of athletes.

Keldrin Stovall, a GSU senior, was the team captain for Levon Jones' flag football team. Stovall said Jones' talent on the football field was noticed by many and his death has created hole in the network of close athletes and friends.

"Our team was one of the most competitive in our conference," said Stovall. "He was really good. He played high school and college football. He was one of the better athletes out there."

Stovall was among the student athletes who traveled to the flag football conference in New Orleans. News of Jones' death spread fast through the group.

"When we heard the news we were just in shock and disbelief," he said. "We just thought, 'this couldn't be true.' We heard about it around 3 a.m. Our first thought was that it just couldn't be possible. We had just seen him a couple hours before."

"Everyone is kind of distraught about it," said Stovall. "Our thoughts go out to his family. We know they are suffering."

REFLECTOR

yearbook archive

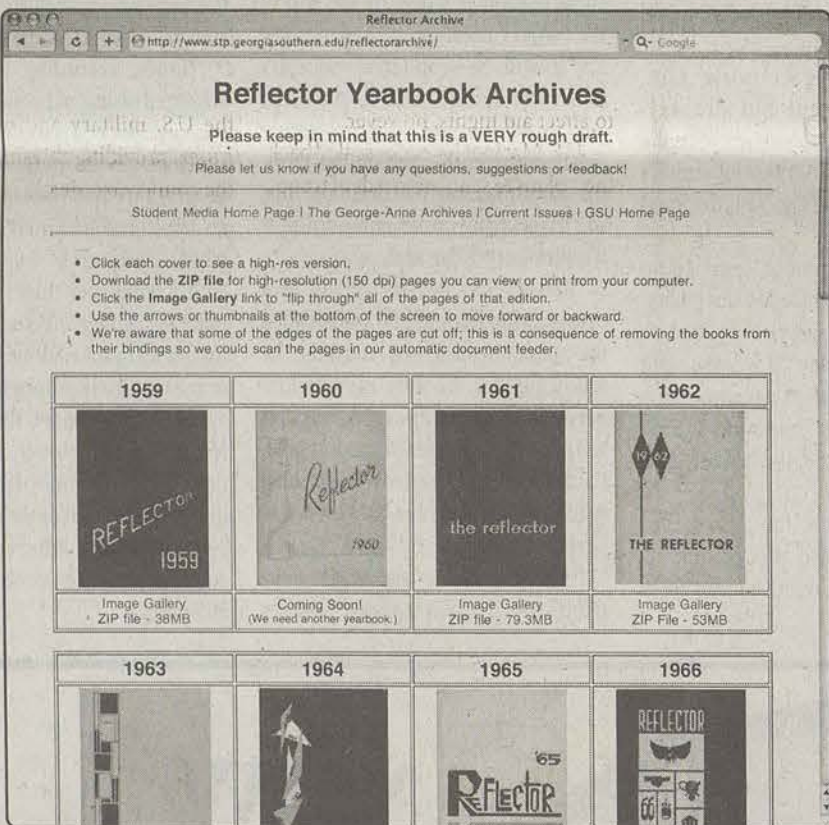
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Former GSU student recounts family's Sri Lankan experience

By Chuck Thomas
tawvgs@yahoo.com

The tsunami disaster affected us all in one way or another, but for former GSU student Nuwan Piyasena, the event hit much closer to home.

"You never hear about Sri Lanka on the news," said Piyasena. "Then one day you call your family for Christmas and all the phone lines are down, and you start to get a little concerned."

The former co-host of WVGS 91.9's fan-favorite Mixed Nuts radio show recalls the emotions surrounding the event.

"Initially, we freaked out. The death toll started out at around three

thousand, but continued to steadily rise as time passed. Sri Lanka is a relatively small island; it's about the size of Georgia and one of the Carolinas put together. However, our family lives in Colombo, which is a city further inland, and no one was hurt. There was flooding in the streets, but it wasn't really hit," said Piyasena.

The only casualty was a family friend's house. Although the strong stone structure was maintained, the inside was swept away. Nuwan's father was originally making plans to build on the island, but those plans have been halted. Despite his family's luck, he still feels for the country's unfor-

tunate victims.

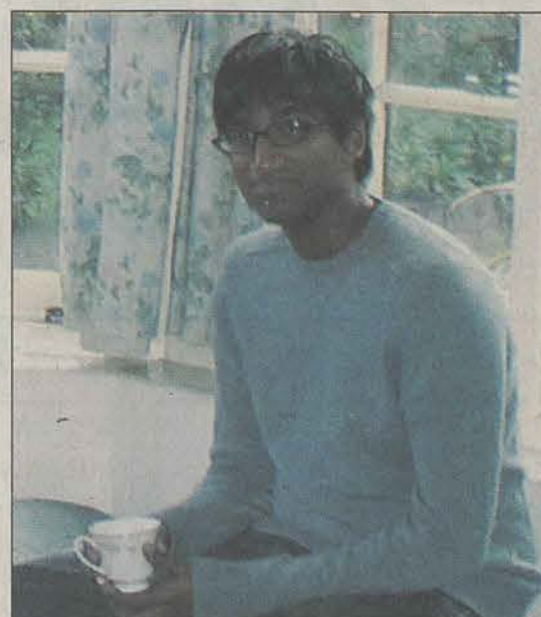
"Sri Lanka's beaches are government owned. They are much too large to be patrolled, so most of the island's poor population lives on the beach making their living as fishermen, living in dorm-room sized shacks." He said those are the people that were hit the hardest, as they were in the direct path of the giant wave.

"The ones that weren't killed are homeless now, so they have moved into cities like Colombo. Most of the shops there have closed due to fear of looting, and people have to be careful because people will just sleep on their property," he said.

Another problem, he says, is the fresh water. Salt water and sewage has contaminated the drinking water, and is one of the main problems on the island.

With all the bad news, he has remained hopeful and appreciates the outpouring of concern he has received.

"Being Sri Lankan, I get to know a lot of people and I am their only Sri Lankan friend. I have gotten all these phone calls during this, and it warms my heart that people are caring so much," he said. "Even the late-bloomers that have just heard about it will call and make sure everything is OK."



Former GSU student and employee at WVGS, Nuwan Piyasena, originally from Sri Lanka, tells of his family's experience in the wake of the recent tsunami.
Special Photo

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Indonesia: foreign troops providing relief must leave by end of March

By Jim Gomez
Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia - Indonesia announced that U.S. and other foreign troops providing tsunami disaster relief must leave the country by the end of March and ordered aid workers Wednesday to declare their travel plans or face expulsion from devastated Aceh province on Sumatra island.

The government's moves highlight its sensitivities over a foreign military operation in this country - albeit a humanitarian one - and underscore its efforts to regain control of Aceh province, the scene of a decades-old conflict between separatist rebels and federal troops accused of human rights abuses.

The latest restrictions placed on the international presence came as the aircraft carrier leading the U.S. military's tsunami relief effort steamed out of Indonesian waters Wednesday after the government declined to let the ship's fighter pilots use its airspace for training missions. The USS Abraham Lincoln's diversion was not expected to affect aid flights, however.

U.S. Marines have also scaled back their plans to send hundreds of troops ashore to build roads and clear rubble. The two sides reached a compromise in which the Americans agreed not to set up a base camp on Indonesia or carry weapons.

Instead, the Marines - some 2,000 of whom were diverted to tsunami relief from duty in Iraq - will keep a "minimal footprint" in the country, with most returning to ships at night, said Col. Tom Greenwood, commander of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit.



An Acehese man tries to lift a collapsed wall to retrieve a bicycle underneath the debris at a village flattened by the Dec. 26 tsunami in the town of Meulaboh, Aceh province, Indonesia, Wednesday.
AP Photo

In Washington, the White House asked the Indonesian government to explain why it was demanding that the U.S. military and other foreign troops providing disaster relief leave the country by March 31.

"We've seen the reports. ... We'll seek further clarification from Indonesia about what this means," said Scott McClellan, press secretary to President Bush. "We hope that the government of Indonesia and the military in Indonesia will continue the strong support they have provided to the international relief efforts so far."

In announcing the decision, Indonesian Vice President Jusuf Kalla said Tuesday that "a three-month period is enough, even sooner the better."

Congratulations to the Graduates of Eagle Leadership EDGE!

These are the next student organization presidents and leaders at Georgia Southern University. The students are already active members in Eagle Entertainment, Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, Residence Hall Action Team Officers, Georgia Southern Chorus and Symphony, NAACP, the Track & Field Team, Residence Hall Judicial Board, Sociological Society, Wesley Foundation, DIMES, Latino Outreach mentor, Student Government Association, Cycling Team, College Republicans, Young Democrats, Camp Eagle and more....



Tuesday Class

Front row (l-r): Elizabeth Childs, Adrienne Mott, Rashedah Arnold, Chabre Woods
Second Row (l-r): Theresa Beebe Novotny (Instructor), Kameisha Newton, April Ullm, Brittney Barber, Brittany Smith, Lauren Jacobs, Hope Grant, Courtenay Davis (Peer Leader)
Third row (l-r): Frances Sheard, Jessica Bayne, Danielle Peterson, Eric Smith



Monday Class

Front row (l-r): Kelly Jones, Ronnisha Watson, Christie Carmichael, Erin Todd, Mya Green
Back row (l-r): Lauren Daniels, Ashley Fernandez, Brian Domit, Danielle Fusaro, Kristen Crawford, Josh Parris, Joey Newton, Kimberly Goler, Jill Jones, Lakisha Gray, Jason Gassett, Jami Kuhns (Graduate Assistant), and Theresa Beebe Novotny (Instructor)

For information concerning the Eagle Leadership EDGE program or Leadership Accent, please call 871-1435 or e-mail leader@georgiasouthern.edu. Classes began on January 10 but you can still enroll.

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Spring Semester, 2005

January

Tuesday 01/18

Managing Meetings

Guest Presenter: Dr. Patrick Novotny, Associate Professor of Political Science
Russell Union, Room 2084
5:30-6:30 pm

February

Tuesday 02/01

Dealing with Conflict

Russell Union, Room 2084
5:30-6:30 pm

Tuesday 02/15

Motivation Members with Rewards and Recognition

Guest Presenter: Susan Davies, Director of Admissions
Russell Union, Room 2084
5:30-6:30 pm

March

Tuesday 03/01

Program Planning

Guest Presenter: INSPIRE
Russell Union, Room 2084
5:30-6:30 pm

Tuesday 03/22

*Officer Transition/
Planning for Next Year*

Guest Presenter: Theresa Beebe Novotny, Director of Student Leadership Programs
Russell Union, Room 2084
5:30-6:30 pm

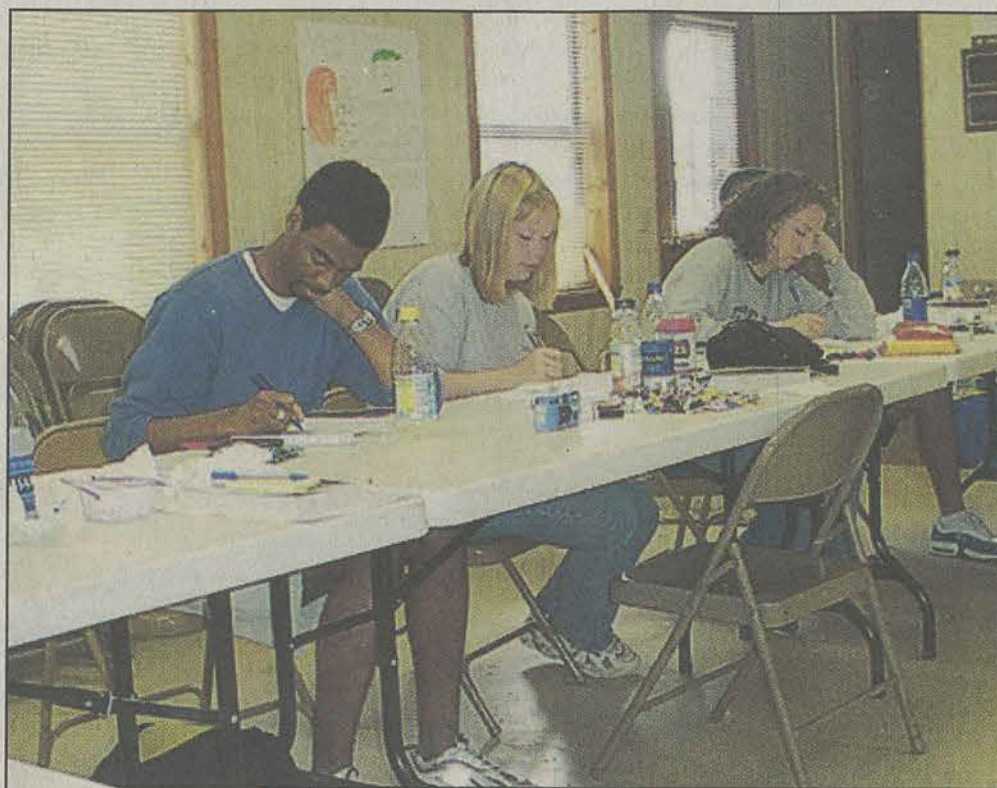
April

Tuesday 04/05

Bring It All Together

Guest Presenter: INSPIRE
Russell Union, Room 2084
5:30-6:30 pm

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ON THE SHELVES THIS WEEK

Open Water

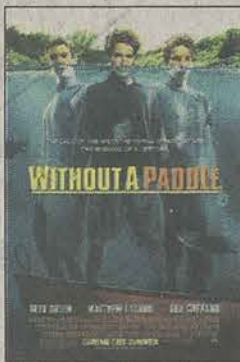
Depending on how your various phobias are prioritized, this short but taut film about a couple of cruise passengers who get abandoned in the middle of the ocean during a scuba diving excursion may give you a serious case of willies. "Open Water" isn't jump-out-of-your-seat scary; rather, it's enormously unsettling, playing mind games with you rather than focusing only on what is actually happening. Cleverly filmed and expertly paced, with a couple of great twists at the end.

Extras: Two commentary tracks (one with the filmmakers, one with the cast), a brief primer on how to make and market an indie film, "making-of" feature, deleted scenes, bonus on-location footage.

Without a Paddle

Take one part "Goonies" and approximately three parts Tom Green movie and you have "Without a Paddle." The premise, centered around three thirtysomething friends in search of a treasure they obsessed over as kids, is a good one. This film manages to stay on track better than others of its genre, thanks in part to a well-cast crew (Seth Green, Matthew Lillard and Dax Shepard) and a great guest spot by Burt Reynolds. "Paddle" also manages more laughs than one might expect, though many of the gags are more predictable than the period at the end of this sentence.

Extras: Video cast and director commentary, director audio commentary, deleted scenes, "making-of" feature, promo spots.



Harold and Kumar go to White Castle

Product placement and minority relations soar to new heights with this opus about two guys (John Cho and Kal Penn) who risk it all for stoner America's fast food of choice. Much is made of the fact that the lead characters are Asian and Indian (instead of the usual white and whiter), and "Harold and Kumar" tells some of its best jokes when addressing the respective stereotypes and stomping them. Still, most of the film consists of the usual collection of sight and sound (quick, guess which body part!) gags, and it's the bit players (Christopher Meloni as Freakshow and Jamie Kennedy as a common weirdo) who get the funniest lines. A so-bad-it's-good cameo by Neil Patrick Harris (as himself) makes this a must-see, though, if only for the morbidly curious.

Extras: Outtakes, deleted scenes, backstage feature, music video, three commentaries.

The Manchurian Candidate

You thought the election in the Ukraine was corrupt? Right here in the U.S., a giant corporation can literally reshape history in order to mold a popular politician (Raymond Shaw, played by Liev Schreiber) in its own image. (Let's hope Wal-Mart doesn't get any ideas.) Sounds like something a crackpot would say, and such is the mess in which Shaw's former commanding officer (Denzel Washington) finds himself. Amazingly, "The Manchurian Candidate" stays on the level despite the outlandish possibilities. There are some genuinely silly moments, and the movie is too long for its own good, but its ability to avert disaster is commendable, and Meryl Streep puts on a show as Shaw's stone cold crazy mother.

Extras: Director/writer commentary, deleted scenes, outtakes, backstage features, more.

Shaun of the Dead

"Shaun of the Dead" isn't the funniest comedy you'll ever see, nor is it the scariest horror film, the most poignant coming of age tale or the most grandiose action/love story. Rather, it's a remarkably coherent amalgamation of all these things — and thus, one heck of a fun movie. The title screams "spoof," but "Dead" instead pays serious homage to George Romero's zombie classics, whose inspirational fingerprints are all over the place. "Dead" is gory, funny, clever, sweet and even a little scary in the same breath, and it features one of the most oddly perfect leading performances (Simon Pegg as Shaun) of 2004. If you find a way to not enjoy this one, please share your secret.

Extras: Commentary, deleted/extended scenes and outtakes, plot holes feature, interviews, casting tapes, backstage features, more.

COFFEE CONFUSION

Ordering coffee can be like taking a foreign language quiz. Why is coffee so confusing?

by Luke Hearn • ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu

So what's the deal with coffee these days—why is it so popular? Despite the fact that it's really good (to most of us, anyway), the drink has evolved into something more than just ground beans and water—it seems to be a new kind of lifestyle.

You might remember when "Friends" came on the air. The group of stylish New Yorkers gathered daily, sometimes even hourly in a cozy coffee shop. They were stylish, and since then, the stylish dens of caffeineated delight have become all the rage. It seems like just a few years ago no one had heard of Starbucks, and now they are almost as common as McDonald's.

Now they have latte this and mocha that, add in a breve here and a cappuccino there; put these all down on some paper and you have a menu in a coffee shop that, to many, might as well be written in Mandarin Chinese.

Coffee shops are huge these days. They're on corners in big cities and in small towns as well. Even the small town of Statesboro, where pop culture sometimes takes a while to catch on, has a few of these new cultural icons scattered throughout the city. So to make things a little easier, we've compiled a few tips here on ordering and some suggestions and definitions about the various kinds of coffee drinks.

A few varieties we think you might enjoy...

• **Regular** coffee is the easiest one on the list. It's essentially coffee beans ground up finely with hot water run through it, creating a nice coffee taste. Add cream and sugar as you wish and enjoy.

• **Espresso** is a pure and concentrated shot of coffee. It is quite strong, and served in very small cups. Many

use this as a quick jolt to get going or stay awake during a late-night study session. Espresso is the main ingredient in most coffee drinks.

• **Cappuccino** is a fancy name that seems to be more recognized, as these drinks have been around for a while, especially in gas stations. A cappuccino is a shot of espresso mixed with

steamed milk, topped with foam. Often, these drinks are flavored with French vanilla and toffee, just to name a few.

• **Lattes**, though new to some, really aren't too complicated. They are essentially a shot of espresso with steamed milk. Often times people add flavoring, some like them plain. When a

flavor is added, many coffee joints call these macchiatos.

• **Mochas** are essentially lattes, with chocolate milk added instead of regular steamed milk.

• **Americanos** are composed of espresso, but are diluted with hot water instead of milk.

• **A breve** is—you guessed it—an espresso drink as well, but it's mixed with half and

half instead of steamed milk or water.

• **Café au lait**, while in and of itself looks and sounds complicated and fancy, is merely a drink mixed with half regular coffee (or chicory, a stronger blend) and half steamed milk.

For the most part, all of these drinks—except for the mochas, which have a sweet taste because of the chocolate—have a strong

coffee taste. What cuts this taste and makes them more enjoyable to some is adding more cream, sugar or some flavored syrup.

After looking over this list, it is our hope that the next time you visit a coffee shop, you are able to order with conviction, knowing what you want and what your drink will taste like.

HOW COFFEE IS PRODUCED



1. The coffee bean is the seed of a coffee cherry. Each winter (dry season) the ripe, red cherries are harvested using a variety of methods.

2. The coffee cherries are brought to the processing plant immediately after harvesting. Ripe, overripe and under-ripe cherries are mixed together at the point. If they were not separated, the coffee would have a dusty unpalatable flavor with few desirable attributes.

3. In the wet-process, the ripe cherries are pulped (removed) from the cherry by applying pressure. The beans are then sent to fermentation tanks where they remain in water for approximately 8-20 hours.

4. During this time, the outer coating ferments and is washed from the bean.

5. After the mucilage is removed in the fermentation tanks, the coffee is dried on patios, in mechanical dryers, or using a combination of the two. Stored in burlap bags, the beans can now be sold to importers.



7. The importer will then send the coffee to coffee roasters around the country. Coffee roasting is the most important process for flavor development. Darker roasts will portray a heavier body and a more complex taste. Unfortunately, darker roasts are typically used to attain consistency or even worse, to hide defects.

8. After roasting, the coffee can be brewed in a variety of ways using an espresso machine, French press, vacuum pot or drip maker.

Photos and information: www.coffeeresearch.org

At 70th birthday, Elvis career gets fresh start



Simon Luxton, an Elvis performer from Wellingborough, England, stares into the eyes of the Elvis at 13 statue while visiting the Elvis Presley Birthplace in Tupelo, Miss., with other British tourists Monday, Jan. 10, 2005.

By Woody Baird
Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS — Would the pompadour be gray? Would arthritis have stilled the swiveling hips? Would the lip now curl above false teeth?

If he were still alive, Elvis Presley would have turned 70 on Saturday. But old age and the unfortunate problem of being deceased haven't slowed down the King.

"There's no age to him," said Jerry Engelby, one of 800 or so fans gathered on Graceland's front lawn for a cake cutting and "Happy Birthday" sing-along. "He's just Elvis."

For the faithful, with "Good Rockin' Tonight" blasting from a pair of speakers, Elvis was as hot (or as cool) as ever.

That he was born in 1935 and died in 1977 did little to tarnish the fans' memories of a rock 'n' roll rebel or bespangled superstar.

"In the movies we're watching, he's still just Elvis. The songs we're hearing, he's still just Elvis," said Engelby, 62, of Jefferson City, Mo., who wears pink and black to Graceland because Presley favored those colors early in his career.

That career, which began in 1954, is still strong, too, with Presley's run as a star lasting longer after death than in life. And now, at 70, Elvis may be on the cusp of a whole new phase in his career.

Elvis Presley Enterprises, the business arm of the estate, brought

see ELVIS, page 5B

CALENDAR January 13-20, 2005

13 Focused Bible Study, Union RM 2084, 6 p.m.
Collegiate 4-H Meeting, Union RM 2044, 5 p.m.

14 'Huygens Reaches Titan' Space Commentary, Planetarium, 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 5 p.m.

A live commentary from the European Space Agency, via NASA, as the Huygens probe lands on the largest moon of Saturn. For more information,

contact the Physics Department at 912-681-5292

International Coffee Hour, Union RM 2080, 11:30 a.m.

17 African Art exhibit, Museum, Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

'The Commedia Princess and the Pea' Family Night outing, Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.

The production is based on Hans Christian Andersen's "The Princess and the Pea." The actors will sing dance, sword fight with giant bread sticks and create fairy tale

magic. For ticket information, contact the box office at 912-486-7999.

18 MAP Game Night, Union RM 2041, 7 p.m.

Sports Management Major Club, Union RM 2047, 7:30 p.m.

19 MasterClass, Performing Arts Center, 1:30 p.m.

Boston Brass, Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for GSU staff and faculty and \$3 for all students with student ID

The CIN List

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

Rest in Peace

After seven years of knowing each other and four years of marriage, Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston decide to separate. Over the past several months, there have been speculations about the couple regarding baby rumors, few public appearances together, and time spent apart.

According to various sources, Pitt wanted children but Aniston didn't because her career was just starting to take off after the end of "Friends." Aniston is set to star, if not co-star, in several movies in the coming years. As a result of Aniston constantly being away shooting, Pitt and Aniston seemed to be living separate lives.

Why now? Why? They were the Hollywood "golden couple." They were the "it couple." Don't they know they're suppose to stay together for the children? By children, I mean the public.

Alas, I am torn. I love them together. But now that they're apart, Brad is single. This is a mystery. Then again, Brad is single and he is hot. Forget this, Viva le Brad Pitt!



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

A hot mess

So, Halle Berry married recording artist Eric Benet. They divorced because he was a sex addict and had numerous "inappropriate relations with members of the opposite sex."

Through it all, Berry was able to maintain a relationship with Benet's 12-year-old daughter, India. Finally, there was a ray of sunshine for Berry. Benet decided not to challenge the prenuptial agreement he signed when they wed back in 2001. According to sources, if the pre-nup was not ironclad, Benet would be entitled to a portion of Berry's fortune and real estate holdings. Since Benet isn't exactly working, Berry would be paying spousal support to Benet to maintain the lifestyle for which he had grown accustomed.

So what can we all learn from this? Well men should learn that a scorned woman will always get their revenge.



Halle Berry

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We want to feature the best rides that roll at GSU

Campus organization reaches out to non-traditional students

By Ryan Jordan
gahiatu@yahoo.com

The Non-Traditional Students Organization will hold their first meeting at 1 p.m. Thursday, January 13 at the Student Disabilities Resource Center (SDRC) at building 805 off Forest Drive. The meeting will allow students to see first hand what the on campus organization offers.

According to Chandra Moye, a graduate assistant working with the Non-Traditional Students Organization at the SDRC, the term non-traditional applies to students over

the age of 25 who have been out of school for two to three years and do not fit into the traditional 18-22 year old demographic.

Moye said the organization began because GSU felt the need to meet the demands of this growing demographic. Approximately 1,278 students fit under this category at present.

Some non-traditional students carry the double responsibility of both academics and childcare. The Non-Traditional Students Organization seeks to combine efforts with the

Campus Single Parent Association (CSPA) to help students who fall under this category.

Moye said the organization offers the services of tutoring, mentoring and early registration for classes. She added the organization is working with the RAC to develop a daycare program for non-traditional students. However, such a program could only exist after the RAC building expansion.

The Non-Traditional Students Organization can be reached by calling (912) 871-1566.

TOP TEN

Movies

1. Meet the Fockers
2. White Noise
3. The Aviator
4. Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events
5. Fat Albert
6. Ocean's Twelve
7. Spanglish
8. National Treasure
9. Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera
10. The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou

Albums

1. Eminem-Encore
2. Green Day-American Idiot
3. Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz-Crunk Juice
4. Jay-Z/Linkin Park-MTV Ultimate Mash-Ups Presents Collision Course
5. Ludacris-The Red Light District
6. Usher-Confessions
7. John Legend-Get Lifted
8. 2Pac-Loyal To The Game
9. Various Artists-Now 17
10. Destiny's Child-Destiny Fulfilled

Singles

1. Let Me Love You-Mario
2. 1, 2 Step-Ciara
3. Drop It Like It's Hot-Snoop Dogg
4. Lovers and Friends-Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz
5. Soldier-Destiny's Child
6. My Boo-Usher
7. Over and Over-Nelly
8. Disco Inferno-50 Cent
9. Wonderful-Ja Rule
10. Breakaway-Kelly Clarkson

DVD & Video Rentals

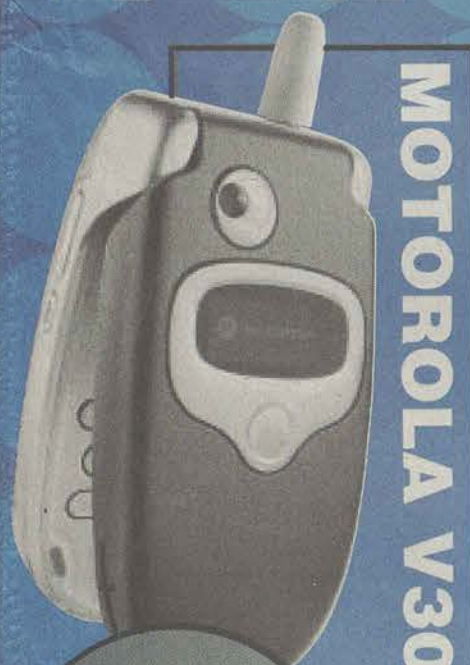
1. I, Robot
2. The Manchurian Candidate
3. Collateral
4. Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story
5. The Bourne Supremacy
6. King Arthur
7. Napoleon Dynamite
8. Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid
9. Elf
10. The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement

Books

1. The Da Vinci Code-Dan Brown
2. State of Fear-Michael Crichton
3. The Five People You Meet in Heaven-Mitch Albom
4. Life Expectancy-Dean Koontz
5. Night Fall-Nelson DeMille
6. Black Wind-Clive and Dirk Cussler
7. A Salty Piece of Land-Jimmy Buffett
8. London Bridges-James Patterson
9. By Order of the President-W.E.B. Griffin
10. Hot Target-Suzanne Brockman

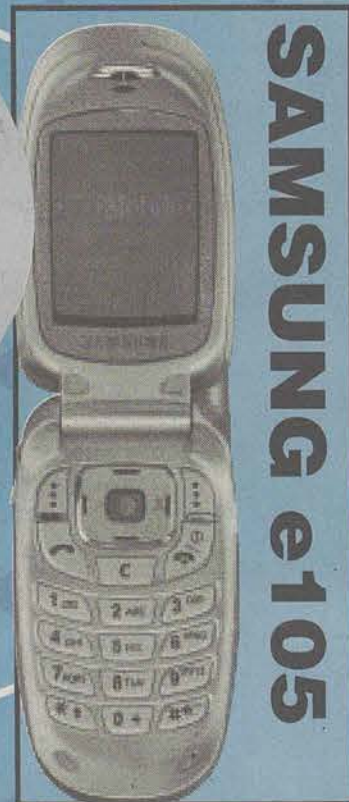
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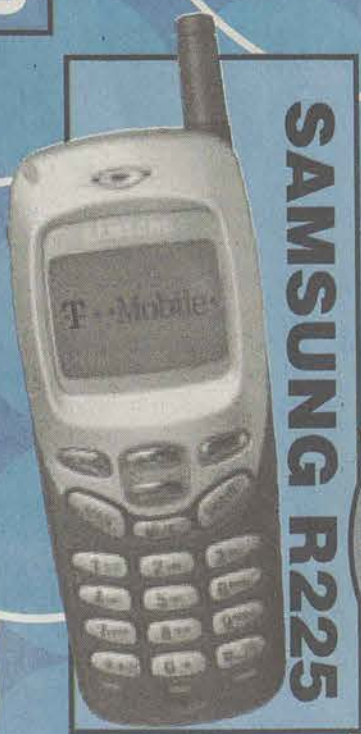
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Boston Brass set to perform concert at PAC

Special to the G-A

The internationally renowned brass quintet, the Boston Brass, will perform in concert at Georgia Southern University's Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2005, at 7 p.m.

"They are considered to be one of the finest brass quintets in the world today," said Richard Mason, assistant professor of music. "Each performance is a blend of repertoire that captivates and bedazzles audiences of all ages and musical tastes."

The Boston Brass has been featured on "The CBS Morning Show" and National Public Radio's "Performance Today." The group has released many diverse recordings, including its latest, "Out of This World."

The concert is sponsored by the Campus Life Enrichment Committee. Tickets to the concert performance are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for Georgia Southern faculty and \$3 for all students with a student I.D.

Earlier in the day the Boston Brass will conduct a master class designed primarily to help music students improve their performance abilities. Beginning at 1:30



AP Photo

The Boston Brass will perform a concert as well as offering a master class to help music students.

p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, the master class will be open to the public and admission will be free.

For additional information, contact the Georgia Southern Department of Music at (912) 681-5396 or the Performing Arts Center box office at (912) 486-7999.

African art exhibit brings cultural diversity to Museum

Special to the G-A

The Georgia Southern University Museum will join the celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Day with the opening of a new exhibit of African art on Monday, Jan. 17.

Titled "African Art — Diversity in Forms," the exhibit is a collection of significant art objects representing diverse cultures from across Africa. The art comes from several sources, including the collection of Statesboro attorney Lorenzo Merritt.

The museum will host an opening reception for the exhibit from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The reception is open to the public and admission is free.

"This exhibit will approach the

art from a cultural perspective," said Wendy Denton, acting museum director. "The activities and narratives associated with the exhibit will be geared towards the art's sociological and anthropological significance."

The exhibit is curated by Georgia Southern art professor Onyile Onyile. It will be on display at the museum, which is located on Sweetheart Circle on the Georgia Southern campus, through Sunday, March 27. The museum's hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends. It is closed during recognized holidays.

For additional information, call the museum at (912) 681-5444.



AP Photo

A sample of African art



AP Photo/Reed Saxon

Michael Moore holds the award for favorite movie for his work on "Fahrenheit 9/11" backstage at the 31st Annual People's Choice Awards, Sunday, Jan. 9, 2005, in Pasadena, Ca.

'Passion' and 'Fahrenheit 9/11' win honors, Moore and Gibson surprised

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Filmmakers Michael Moore and Mel Gibson were all smiles after they won top honors at the 31st Annual People's Choice Awards.

Both men had controversial films that fared well at the box office last year. Moore's film "Fahrenheit 9/11," which took a critical look at President Bush's actions after the 2001 terror attacks, won the favorite movie award, while Mel Gibson's explicit "The Passion of the Christ" won in the favorite drama category.

Moore dedicated Sunday's win to the U.S. troops fighting overseas and said he was "amazed" that people voted his film their favorite. "I love making movies and I'll take this as an invitation to make more 'Fahrenheit 9/11s,'" Moore said.

Gibson echoed Moore's appreciation, saying the award "means a lot more to me this time than anything before."

"I depended on you and you were there," Gibson said. "If it wasn't for you guys, we would have been dead in the water."

The animated "Shrek 2" swept a number of categories, being named favorite comedy, favorite sequel and favorite animated movie.

The character of Donkey in "Shrek 2," voiced by Eddie Murphy, was

named favorite animated movie star, while "The Fairy Godmother," voiced by Jennifer Saunders, won in the favorite movie villain category.

Perennial favorites took many of the top awards, including many of this year's new categories. Julia Roberts and Johnny Depp won for favorite female and male movie star. Matt LeBlanc and Marg Helgenberger won for favorite male and female TV stars.

"Will & Grace," won for favorite TV comedy. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" was named favorite TV drama.

After votes cast via the Internet during the first hour of the live telecast were counted, "Joey" was named favorite new TV comedy, while "Desperate Housewives" won for favorite new TV drama.

The People's Choice Awards, hosted by Jason Alexander and Malcolm-Jamal Warner, were presented at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium and broadcast live on CBS. The awards covered 38 film, television and music categories, including a number of new ones.

The nominations were determined by editors at Entertainment Weekly, the People's Choice production team and a panel of pop culture fans. Winners were determined by Internet voting.

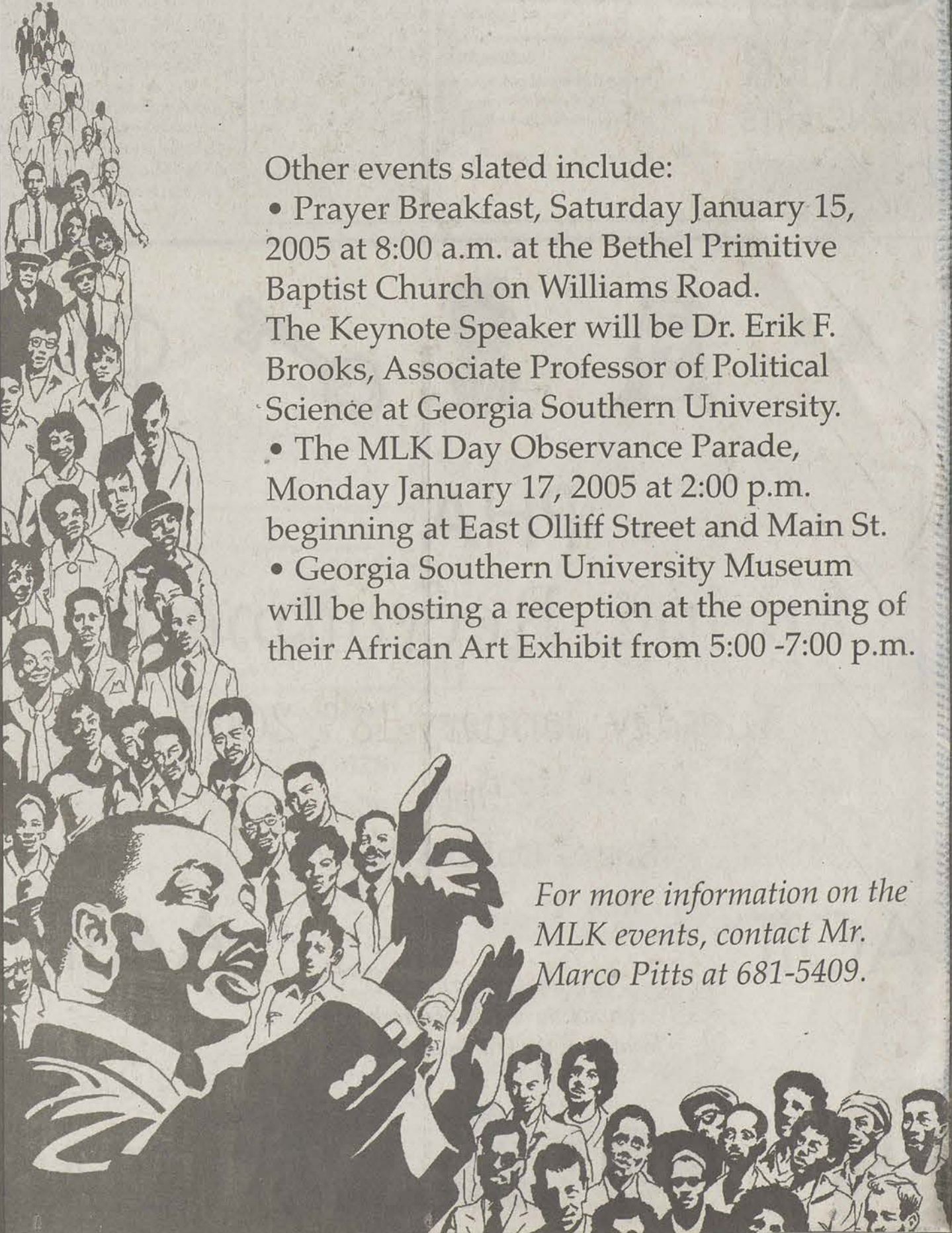
Martin Luther King Jr. Day Activities

There will be a program honoring Martin Luther King Jr. on January 17, 2005 at 7pm in the Russell Union Ballroom. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. L. Perry McNeal of the Georgia General Missionary Baptist Convention and Pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church.

A reception will follow this event.

All are welcome to attend.

This event is being sponsored by the Xi Tau Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Black Student Alliance, NAACP and the Multicultural Student Center.



Other events slated include:

- Prayer Breakfast, Saturday January 15, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. at the Bethel Primitive Baptist Church on Williams Road. The Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Erik F. Brooks, Associate Professor of Political Science at Georgia Southern University.
- The MLK Day Observance Parade, Monday January 17, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. beginning at East Olliff Street and Main St.
- Georgia Southern University Museum will be hosting a reception at the opening of their African Art Exhibit from 5:00 -7:00 p.m.

For more information on the MLK events, contact Mr. Marco Pitts at 681-5409.

Television companies join forces to recreate Jackson trial

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An American and a British television company found a creative way around the ban on cameras for Michael Jackson's child-molestation trial: dramatic re-enactments.

E! Entertainment Television and satellite company British Sky Broadcasting, BSkyB, are joining to present daily recreations of the trial, executives announced Tuesday.

Given international interest in the pop star's case and the lack of cameras, the series will "bring the trial to life," said Ted Harbert, president and chief executive officer of E! Networks.

The partnership calls for five

ing the course of the trial, scheduled to start Jan. 31.

Court transcripts will be used to highlight the previous day's testimony and court events, with each network packaging the recreations with its own hosts. The versions will be produced by E! News and, in Britain, Sky News.

On E!, the series also will include commentary by legal analysts. A Saturday wrap-up show is planned.

The series also will air on E! International Network, seen in more than 50 countries.

Jackson, 46, has pleaded not guilty to charges of molesting a boy, conspiracy and administering an intoxicating agent, alcohol, to his alleged victim.

Inside the inauguration

On Jan. 20, George W. Bush will be sworn in for his second term as president. Take a look at the traditions surrounding the presidential inauguration and the history of this solemn ceremony.

OATHS

Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution sets out the presidential oath of office:



KRT Campus
George W. Bush takes the oath of office in 2001.

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of the President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

First president George Washington added "so help me God" at the end of the oath, a tradition that has been carried on by his successors.

The vice president takes the same oath as other highly ranked federal officials,

which isn't specified by the Constitution. The present oath has been in use since 1884:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

COMMITTEES

The inauguration is overseen, organized, and funded by three committees:

- Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC): The first 28 inaugurations were overseen by the Senate. Since 1901, the joint committee has overseen all inaugurations and is in charge

of all inaugural ceremonies that take place at the U.S. Capitol.

- Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC): This committee is appointed by the president-elect, and is responsible for all official inaugural events not held at the Capitol.

- Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (AFIC): The AFIC, directed by the secretary of defense, coordinates all military participation at the inauguration, including military musical units, marching bands, color guards, ushers and more.

THE THEME

The theme for the 55th Presidential Inauguration is "A Vision of America." The JCCIC chooses

the theme in consultation with the Senate Historian's Office. The theme is incorporated into the program, luncheon menu, and decorations.

The 2005 theme commemorates two events: the centennial of Theodore Roosevelt's inauguration as president, and the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition reaching the Pacific coast.

COST

The cost of the inauguration is split between the PIC and the JCCIC. Congress appropriates funds for official functions relating to the inauguration, including the swearing-in ceremony and the Congressional luncheon.

The rest of the events, such as the official balls and the parade, are covered by funds raised by the presidential committee.

According to The Washington Post, the 2005 inauguration is expected to cost \$30 million to \$40 million. This is the first inauguration since the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and security costs not covered by the government are included in that estimate.

THE CEREMONY

The inauguration ceremony takes place on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol with the Jan. 20 president-elect being sworn in by noon. According to the 20th Amendment, that is when the terms of the current president and vice president expire. Prior to the addition of the "lame duck" amendment, Inauguration Day was held March 4, the last day of the congressional session.

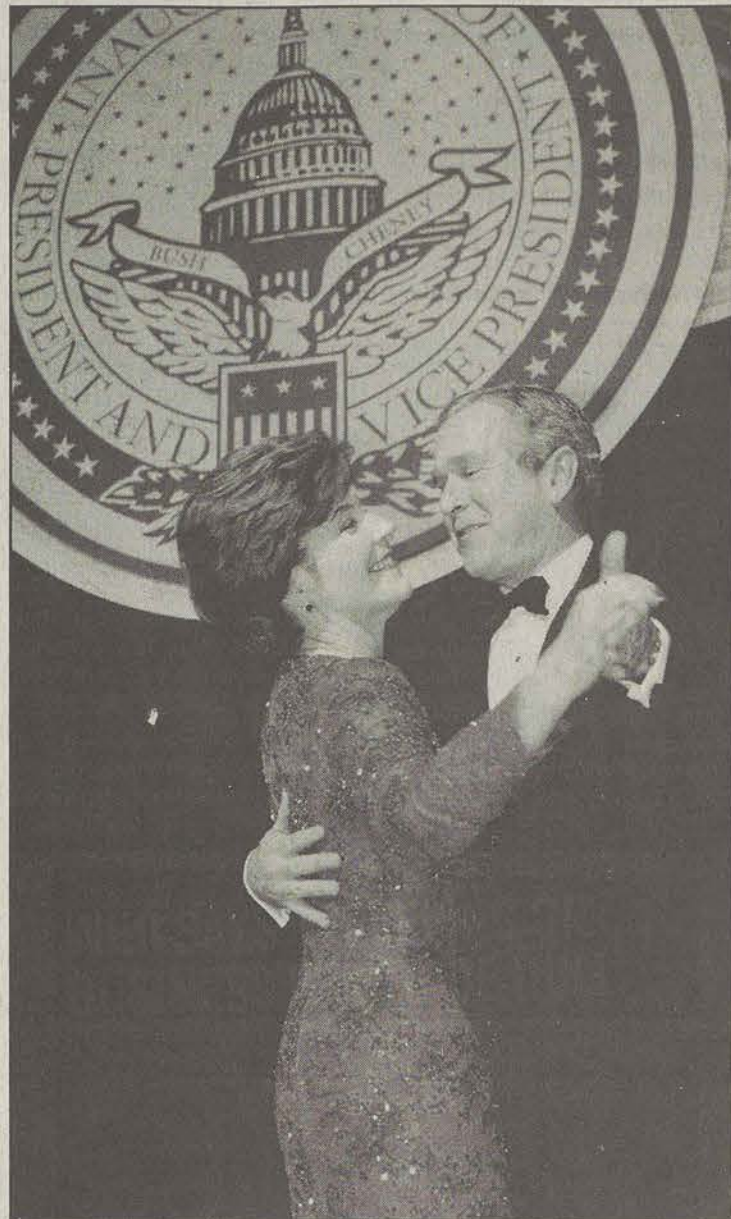
PARADES

The first inaugural parade featured only militia, which accompanied James Madison to the Capitol in 1809. Celebratory shots were fired by militia for fifth president James Monroe.

Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural parade included African Americans for the first time. William H. Harrison's parade in 1841 featured floats, political clubs, college students and military bands.

Estimates of funds raised by previous Presidential Inaugural Committees:

Year	Estimated cost
1969	\$2 million
1973	\$3.9 million
1977	\$4.5 million
1981	\$9.6 million
1985	\$9 million
1989	\$29 million
1993	\$33 million
1997	\$30 million
2001	\$40 million



CHUCK KENNEDY/KRT Campus
The President and Mrs. Bush dance at one of the eight balls held in Washington in 2001.

WOMEN

In 1909, William Taft's wife, May, was the first to ride in the inaugural parade with her husband.

Women first participated in the inaugural parade in 1917 when Woodrow Wilson was sworn in.

Lyndon Johnson's inauguration had two beginnings for women. Johnson was sworn in by a woman, U.S. District Judge Sarah T. Hughes, and his wife, Lady Bird, held the Bible during his oath on Air Force One.



National Archives
Lyndon Johnson takes the presidential oath of office aboard Air Force One Nov. 22, 1963.

QUIZ

Test your knowledge of the presidents and their inaugurations.

- Who was the first vice president to assume the presidency following the death of a president?
a. Chester A. Arthur
b. Millard Fillmore
c. Andrew Johnson
d. John Tyler
- Which two presidents have published books of poetry?
- The first president to be inaugurated on Jan. 20, the new date set by the 20th Amendment, was
- True or false: President Ronald Reagan had the honor of being sworn in during the Bicentennial Inauguration.
- Who was the youngest president at the time of his inauguration?
- In which year was the first televised inauguration?
a. 1941
b. 1945
c. 1949
d. 1953
- Which vice president was sworn in as president by his father, a notary public?

ANSWERS: 1. d; 2. Presidents Franklin Pierce and Jimmy Carter; 3. Franklin D. Roosevelt; 4. False, it was George H.W. Bush; 5. John F. Kennedy; 6. c; 7. Calvin Coolidge.

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AN ARMY OF ONE

The Averitt Center for the Arts and the Statesboro Youth Ballet announce auditions for their first spring performance:

Les Sylphides

This ballet celebrates the lyrical and poetic qualities of romantic ballet. Set to the timeless music of Fredric Chopin, *Les Sylphides* expresses the sublime nature of dance.

Friday, January 21, 4:30 - 6:00
on the Emma Kelly Theater Stage

Ages: Intermediate & Advanced Dancers
Females must have pointe experience

Audition Attire:

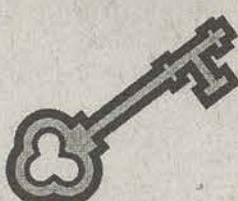
FEMALE: black leotard, pink tights, pointe shoes, hair in bun

MALE: white t-shirt, black tights, black or white ballet shoes

\$5.00 audition fee

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PHA

Spring Recruitment

Tuesday January 18th, 2005

7-9pm

Russell Union Ballroom

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A ▲ TT

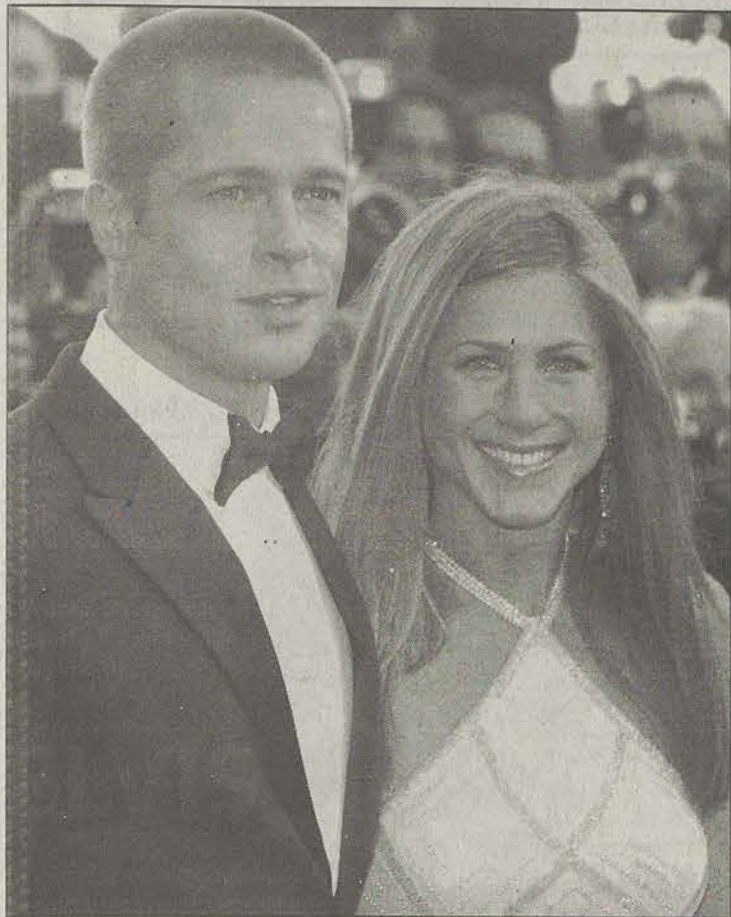
For more information,
contact the Office of Greek Life
located in the Union at 681-5185.

KKΓ



ZTA

Magazine editors race to cover Aniston-Pitt split



Lionel Cironneau/AP Photo
Brad Pitt, left, and his wife Jennifer Aniston arrive for the screening of the film 'Troy,' directed by German director Wolfgang Petersen, at the 57th Film Festival in Cannes, France, in this May 13, 2004 file photo. Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston have split, Pitt's longtime publicist confirmed Friday, Jan. 7, 2005.

By Derrick J. Lang
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — In the world of celebrities and those who love them, the Jennifer Aniston-Brad Pitt breakup was like the fall of the Berlin Wall.

That sent celebrity magazines hurtling into a race to be first in the biggest breakup story of, well, the year.

"It's the biggest story since Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck broke up," *Us Weekly* Editor in Chief Janice Min said Tuesday.

Us Weekly, which typically closes its issue by midnight Monday, went into overdrive after Friday's announcement, which stated "our separation is not the result of any of the speculation reported by the tabloid media."

Min said her staff "came in all weekend" and moved up production

by 24 hours.

The situation was similar at *People*, which usually doesn't close its edit until Tuesday.

"We launched all boats to figure out what went wrong," said *People* Deputy Managing Editor Larry Hackett. "It's a mix of a number of things: issues about when to start a family, how she was feeling about her husband. I think, like most adults, it wasn't one thing or another."

Both magazines hit newsstands Tuesday. Using cultivated sources, the glossies crafted multidimensional stories exploring details about a breakup including Aniston and Pitt's recent Caribbean vacation itinerary, their family values and their division of assets.

The official separation announcement from Aniston and Pitt's publicist

was first reported by *People's Web* site and later picked up by other news organizations and local tabloids, such as the *New York Post* and *New York Daily News*.

But unlike news organizations that have prepared obituaries for when somebody dies, Min said, "We don't have relationship obituaries ready to go."

Us devoted 31 pages to Aniston and Pitt; *People* 12. Both magazines had sidebars titled "The Angelina Factor," citing rumors that Pitt may have had an extramarital affair with "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" co-star Angelina Jolie.

Said *People's* Hackett: "We treat this stuff as if we're reporting on arms negotiation treaties or sports or politics. That's the way we tell a story."

Not every celebrity-driven magazine jumped on the Brad-and-Jen

quick-to-print breakup bandwagon. Tabloid-turned-glossy *Star* magazine's current issue proclaims, "Brad and Jen: Back On! IT'S BABY TIME."

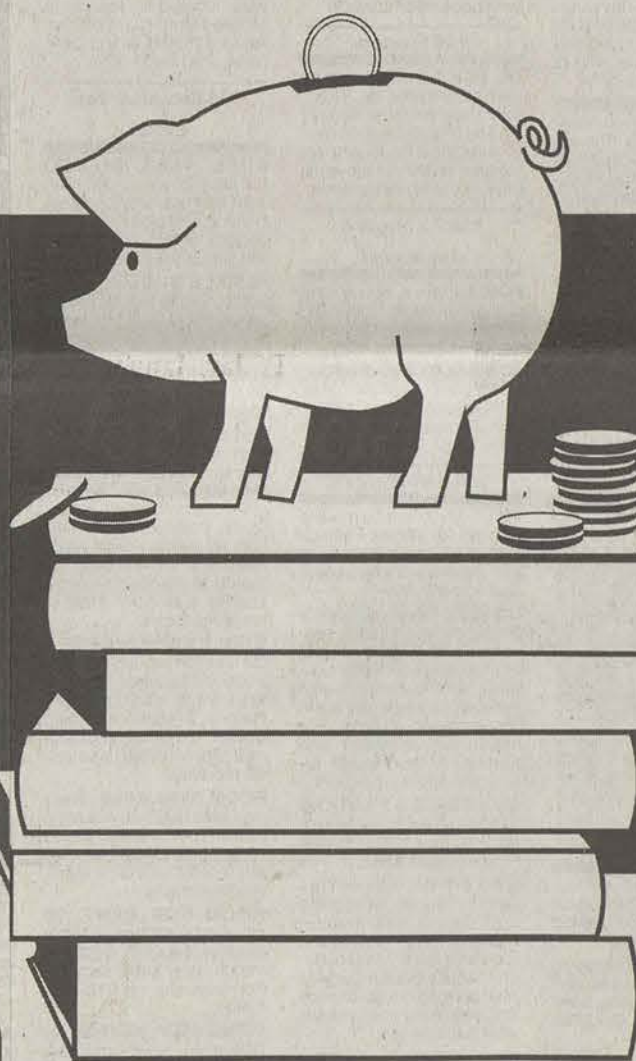
Whoops?

Bonnie Fuller, editorial director of *Star* parent company American Media, said her company decided to spend their energy on more reporting instead of going to press early. But she insists *Star* was the first to report the shattered relationship last month in the Dec. 13 "MARRIAGE CRISIS" cover story and the Dec. 20 follow-up "Brad & Jen's SEPARATE LIVES!"

"What we believe happened is that they took this vacation, encouraged their close friends Courteney Cox and David Arquette, to try and really put it back together, to try for the miracle reconciliation."

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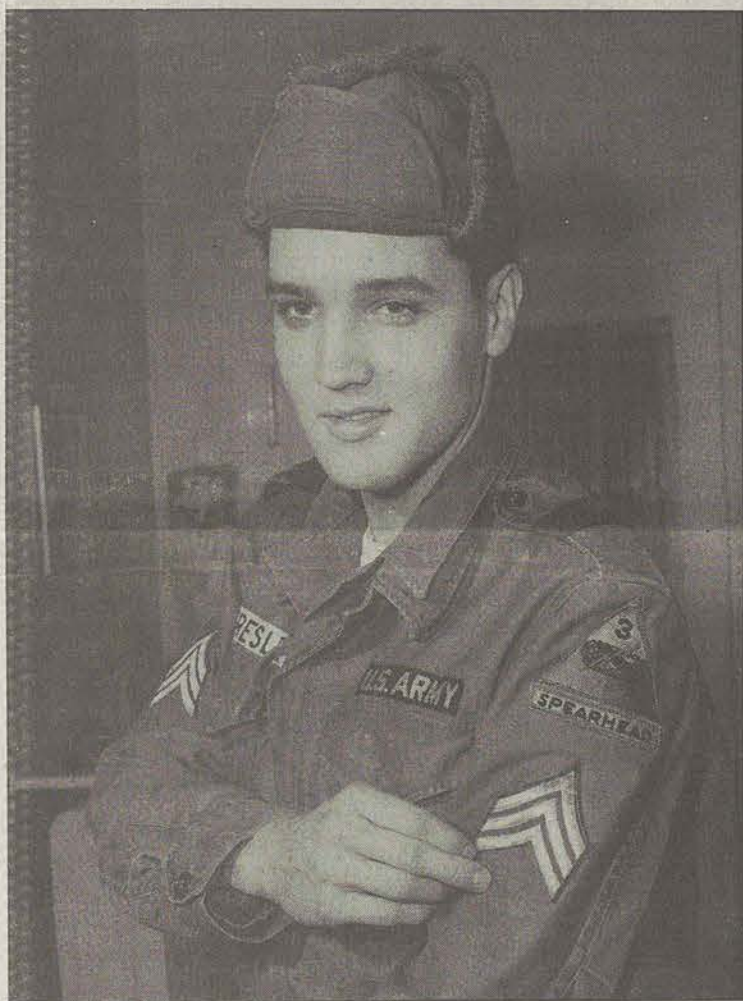
Back-to-School Hours:

Jan 10-13	7:45a.m.-7p.m.
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FILE/AP Photo
Corporal Elvis Presley is seen in this Jan. 21, 1960 file picture taken in Bad Nauheim while serving for the US army in Germany. The 'King of Rock 'n Roll' who died Aug. 16, 1977 would be turning 70 years old on Saturday Jan. 8, 2005.

ELVIS

from the front

in \$45 million last year, making Elvis one of the top earning dead entertainers in the world.

Since his death, the estate, including the rights to his name and image, have been solely owned by his only heir, daughter Lisa Marie Presley.

But now, Robert F.X. Sillerman, the founder of music and sports promoter SFX Entertainment, is in the process of buying 85 percent of the estate's assets. He plans to take the business public and look for new markets for Elvis ventures — perhaps shops, museums or other attractions elsewhere in the United States or abroad.

Lisa Marie Presley will keep title to Graceland itself and the house will generally remain unchanged.

While Graceland draws 600,000 visitors a year, thousands of them from other countries, the estate has focused most of its business in the United States.

"The demand for Elvis is already in place and strong in all kinds of places all over the world: Australia, Japan, Asia, Europe," said Jack Soden, Graceland's top executive. "This gives us more resources to do more things, bigger things and to do them sooner."

Many in the birthday crowd at Graceland were from abroad, including several hundred in a tour group from Great Britain.

Ester Blajer, 59, of Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she believes Presley would have turned more to gospel

music had he not died young.

As a teenager, Blajer wrote to a celebrity magazine's pen pal page and began corresponding with other Elvis fans around the world.

"One pen pal, we have been writing for 42 years," Blajer said. "I just spent Christmas and New Year with her in Madison, Wisconsin."

After singing "Happy Birthday," the fans packed in around an outdoor stage to cheer the cutting of a white and yellow birthday cake with Presley's image outlined in icing. Most also paid visits to Presley's grave in a small garden beside Graceland, many leaving flowers, teddy bears or other small tributes.

A birthday dance, featuring a band playing Elvis music, was scheduled Saturday night at a hotel near Graceland and The Official Elvis Presley Fan Club of Great Britain planned a brunch and disco party on Sunday.

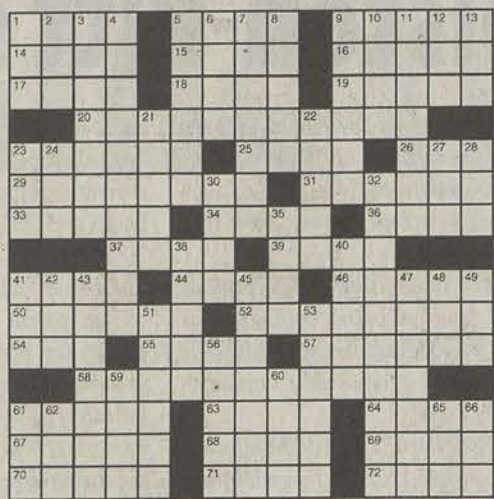
Word that new owners are taking over Graceland's business affairs and will control how Presley is marketed has some fans apprehensive.

They want Elvis presented to the world the way they still remember him.

"That's good if it's done in a positive way, the way that Elvis would have wanted it," said fan Engelby. "You have to always think of what would Elvis want. He would want us to love each other, bond together as a family and be kind and giving. We're Elvis family, not just fans."

Crossword

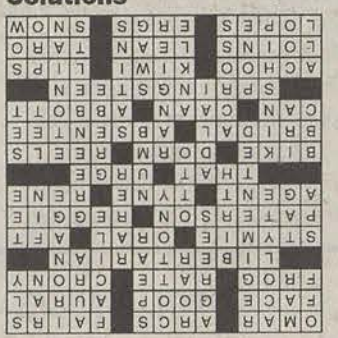
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32 Jackson
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34 Actress Daly
35 M. Descartes
37 Be... as it
39 Strong
41 10-speed ride
44 College pad
46 Sluggers
50 Type of shower
52 Not in residence
54 Metal container
55 "Thief" star
57 Costello's
58 straight man
59 The Boss
61 Sneezing sound
63 Fruit with green
64 Cup brims
67 Cuts of pork
68 Jack Sprat's
69 diet
70 Tropical root
71 Runs easily
72 Work units
73 Singer Phoebe



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08/30/04

Solutions



DOWN
1 and running
2 Bismarck
3 Devoted follower
4 Subjected to
5 Comes to terms
6 Laugh loudly
7 Fluffy

8 Primitive
9 Easy
10 Charismatic
11 Ancient period
12 Managed
13 Slightly shifty
14 Nativist
15 More scarce
16 Mineral spring
17 Playground
18 pastime
19 Half a sawbuck
20 Kickoff aid
21 Sgt. Snorkel's
22 dog
23 Strings of
24 parks
25 Desensitized
26 50s candidate
27 Stevenson
28 Diving bird
29 Eng. channel
30 Author Levin
31 Family ties
32 Having longer,
33 slender limbs
34 Certain English
35 schoolboy
36 Permit to
37 Ready to go
38 Spanning
39 Smooth, shiny
40 fabrics
41 Leg joint
42 Corn concoction
43 Stolen money
44 Every last one of
45 Talk baby talk
46 In favor of
47 Boar's mate

Out of my Head

by Scott Carlson



PUL

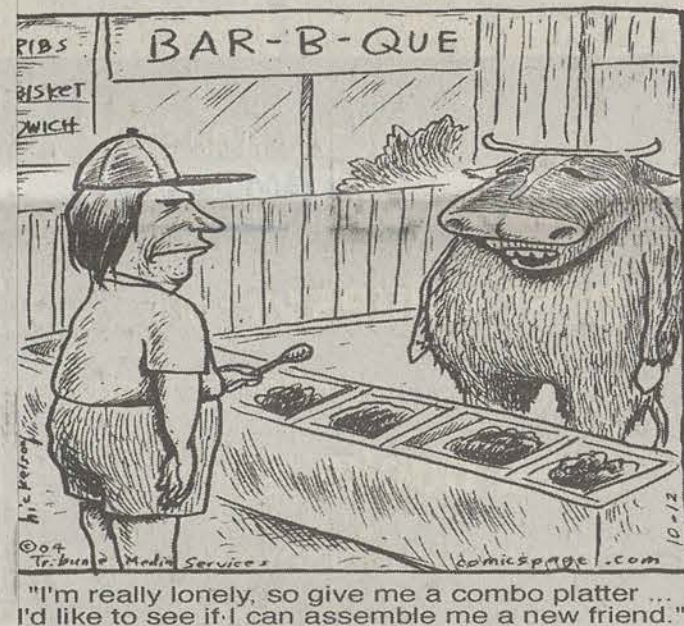
BY BILLY O'KEEFE

WWW.MRBILLY.COM



CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Over The Toppings

by John Sprengelmeyer & Rich Davis



"Go for help! my butt! Lassie needs more booze so she can finish her memoirs!"

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TO

20 Announcements

HAVING A meeting next week? Place an ad in The George-Anne to boost your attendance!

ALPHA DELTA Chi Ruhl! January 18 through 20! Join Room number posted on commons area! Questions, call 404-579-4110! Hope to see you there!

HEAD TO http://bwwmovies.no-ip.org for the best reviews of the worst movies on the planet! We are always updating, so check often.

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100 Etcetera

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REVIEWS

GEORGE-ANNE
Hiatus 7B
Thursday, January 13, 2005

'Baptized' by Lenny Kravitz needs some divine intervention

By Eric Haugh
ehaugh11@hotmail.com

Recently a good friend of mine got ahold of Lenny Kravitz's seventh album, "Baptized," as a Christmas present for me during the break.

After listening to it thoroughly—I wish he hadn't!

This album came as a shocking blow to me because on the one hand, I love Lenny Kravitz's music. I believe he is an original, relative, ingenious musician; in contrast, I'm plumb convinced that "Baptized," and his last dismal flop, "Lenny," are over-indulgent cattle fodder, created by a hit-factory, for a hit-factory.

Speaking of his relative style,

Lenny's recent music sounds complacent and lazy; after listening to this, my appreciation for Mr. Kravitz's artistic craft has waned considerably. Not only was I disappointed, I was also rather vitriolic to the sales clerk at Media Play who refused a full refund.

Until recently, Lenny has always had a "Midas Touch" in the studio. After "5," it seems that Lenny has lost this spark. "Baptized" is no different. Following the trend of dismal mediocrity, the album is plagued with derivative melodies and a complete lack of energy. At best, "Baptized" is an unfinished work. However, I do agree at least that Kravitz attempted at making a pop-sensible album. Tucked away

in the privacy of the studio, Lenny produced, wrote, and performed all of the tracks of the album. Although he has created catchy licks such as "California" and the album's first single "Lady," yet missing the bar completely on filler tracks such as "Minister of Rock and Roll" and the musical oddity "The Other Side."

One last disappointing note: after listening to the album, I learned that Cindy Blackman (the drummer of the Lenny Kravitz band) is no longer in the line-up. It may not sadden the generic music fan, but to me Cindy Blackman made Lenny Kravitz's music novel inventive. As a pioneer in female percussion, her loss in the line-up is

Save your money for the offering plate

I would be hesitant to spend my hard earned dollars on this album. Die-hard fans may appreciate it, but if you are a budding Lenny fan I would strongly consider buying "Mama Said" or "Are You Gonna Go My Way" before purchasing "Baptized." You could probably get your jollies off from simply downloading singles like "Lady" or by idly watching silly GAP commercials on TV.

★★★★

another testament of Lenny's direction which is simply overexposed, boring, and heavily commercialized.



Lenny Kravitz's latest album lacks the luster of his previous hits.
Special Photo

'White Noise' sounds like a thriller, but its poorly written script is the only scary part of this movie

By Chuck Thomas
tawvgs@yahoo.com

After virtually disappearing from Hollywood's radar for a number of years, Michael Keaton is back with the unfortunately sluggish and jumbled White Noise.

When Jonathan Rivers' (Keaton) best-selling author wife Anna (Chandra West) is killed in a mysterious accident, he is contacted by a man that claims to have been talking to his wife from beyond the grave using Electronic Voice Phenomenon (EVP). The idea is that the dead can contact the living through television

and radio static or through low-level sound waves in an empty room. As Rivers ventures deeper into the world of contacting the dead, it becomes apparent that there are malevolent forces at work, some of which are attempting to hurt anyone that is meddling with EVP.

Many other reviews have talked about how bad the story is, but how well Keaton does in spite of the material. While I agree with the former, I never noticed anything spectacular from any of the actors (except for maybe Ian McNeice as the crazy EVP expert). Keaton himself even seemed

to be phoning in the performance. One particular montage scene (which takes place while Rivers attempts to figure out the EVP stuff on his own) is so overacted and cheesy that it is difficult to take seriously.

Unfortunately with horror/suspense mixed movies today, the jump-out "Boo!" scares are commonplace. White Noise is completely riddled with them. There are no other scares in the movie; even no authentically creepy moments. In fact, the end has a jump scare attempt in it which includes the screen going black and the movie ending with hardly a plot point explained.

But hey, at least the disclaimer at the end is poorly placed, or at least some sense would have been made of the completely thrown together second half of the movie.

Speaking of which, if you've ever looked into EVP before, then what screenwriter Niall Johnson does with the real-world phenomenon will no doubt baffle you. It has been beefed up for the screen so much that any resemblance of realism has been completely eradicated. Even when the plot begins to unfold in the second half, it all falls apart like a wet tissue.

The only positive thing I can

say is that the opening credits were done very well. They took the idea of white noise on television and radio and interspersed it with the names and locations of the movie—cutting quickly between static and the movie itself. However, if you have epilepsy, be careful.

To top everything off, the credits roll with one of the worst songs in history, "Somewhere Out There" by Our Lady Peace. This is a movie to be skipped at all costs.

White Noise is rated PG-13 for violence, disturbing images, and language.

Save your money

You'll only have nightmares about how much it cost and how little it gives in return. Stay home and pop balloons for a bigger thrill.

★★★★ 1/2 out of 5

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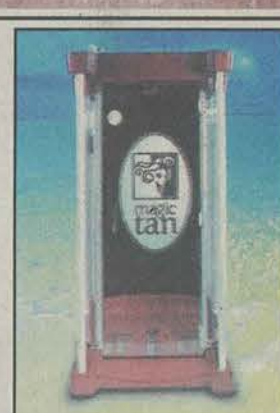
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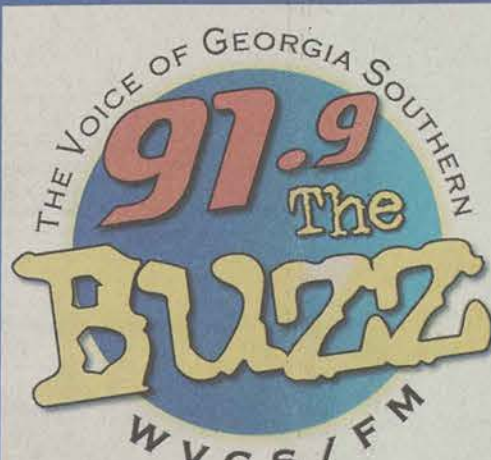
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Teen television dramas help emerging musicians

Associated Press

When Casey Stratton was a struggling singer-songwriter a few years ago, he had idealistic notions about artistic integrity. High on his list of what would jeopardize it: licensing his music to television.

That was before the producers of the teen-oriented drama "Tarzan" called and asked to use the bittersweet ballad "Hollow," from his debut album, on the WB show. Stratton gave the go-ahead, and while the exposure from the show (which was canceled last year) didn't catapult him to stardom, it drew enough attention to help generate some buzz for his self-titled album.

Other artists are finding out the same, as more TV shows, especially those heavy on melodramatic teen plotlines, rely on musicians to intensify the emotion of a heart-wrenching breakup, intense makeout scene or tear-jerking tragedy.

"Our challenge is always to make the show contemporary and to make it resonate somehow with kids," says Mark Schwahn, creator, executive producer and writer of the WB drama "One Tree Hill."

Time was when the tears flowed on a drama, the only music that accompanied it was some middling variation of the show's instrumental theme music.

Now it's become standard practice for teen-oriented dramas such as "Everwood," "The Gilmore Girls" and others so much so that many have their own soundtracks. "One Tree Hill's" is coming out Jan. 25, while Fox's "The O.C." has already released three, including a holiday album.

John Schwartz, creator, executive producer and one of the writers for "The O.C.," which follows the wild, reckless and beautiful kids of the pampered set in Orange County, says the trend speaks to the way a new generation of TV producers has been influenced by film.

"I know for me, I'm a huge Cameron Crowe fan, and I love the way he uses music in his movies," says Schwartz.

The shift is proving to be a boon to new, alternative artists, who tend to be the kind of musicians tapped for such shows, partly because of producers' eclectic tastes and partly because of their shows' tight music budgets.

"The reason why we use a lot of undiscovered music or brand new music is because those albums are just breaking, and the artist and the labels want that advertising, they want that promotion," says Schwahn.

Artists not only get a small payment, but also the exposure which can be worth much more.

Gavin DeGraw has seen the payoff. When his debut album, "Chariot," was released in the summer of 2003, it was accompanied by high expectations, but his yearning ballads didn't get much attention from radio or music fans.

However, DeGraw did receive weekly attention from TV notably from "One Tree Hill," whose producers made "I Don't Wanna Be" the show's theme song when it debuted on the WB in fall 2003. And as the show steadily grew in the ratings, "I Don't Wanna Be" grew in popularity as well. By the end of 2004, the song had become a hit and the album had been certified gold.

Schwartz noticed that even having characters on "The O.C." mention Death Cab for Cutie caused a sales spike for the band Rooney. Appearing on the show produced even greater dividends for the band.

Even multiplatinum acts have gotten in on the act; "The O.C." has played songs from U2 and Gwen Stefani, while "One Tree Hill" credits a Sheryl Crow sales jump to one of her songs being featured.

But producers say the incorporation of music is not a cross-promotional marketing gimmick. Music is so central to how Schwartz and Schwahn depict a story that they sometimes write scenes around a particular song that's moved them.

"I scripted the song '23' by Jimmy Eat World because I saw the song so clearly and it represented exactly what I wanted," Schwahn says.

Schwartz takes pride in his show's ability to shine light on music, especially non-mainstream acts like Rooney.



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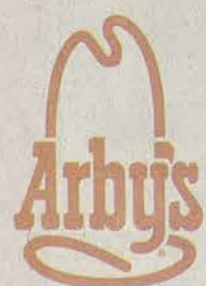
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