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The GEORGE-ANNE

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

Thursday, January 20, 2005 • Volume 77, Number 53

AROUND the HOUSE

Sports

- Elton Nesbitt named SoCon Basketball Player of the Week
- Men's Basketball win four in a row
- Swimming and Diving pick up a split
- Eagle Tennis starts season this weekend

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Opinions

- Amanda Permenter remarks on unity in America
- DeMarc Campbell speaks of kink abbreviations

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Only In America

- Arizona Sheriff's deputies use pink handcuffs to stand out in a crowd
- A deceased Washington art lover leaves \$1 million for naked man fountain
- An Arkansas house painter becomes a dog catcher... literally

Hiatus

Find out why hookahs are all in rage in Statesboro and colleges around the nation



Section B

Quote of the Day

"We need to take baby steps in the right direction; instead I think we're taking gigantic steps in the wrong direction."

— Jared Mendenhall, a 20-year-old student from Des Moines, Iowa, on President Bush's second term.

Weekday Weather

Thursday



Mostly Sunny

HIGH
59°
LOW
37°

Friday



Partly Cloudy

HIGH
62°
LOW
38°

Inside

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Columns	5B

Clements Stadium gets a facelift



Brian O'Connell/STAFF

J.L. Clements Stadium is set to open its new facilities on February 12 for the season opener against Georgia Tech.

By Cheryl Frost

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The Eagles' baseball team can expect great things from the 2005 season, including a whole new stadium. Throughout the summer and fall of 2004, J.L. Clements stadium underwent dramatic changes to transform it into a bigger, better and more functional facility.

Why do the Eagles need a new stadium? Anyone who has been to an Eagles game might recall the cramped and uncomfortable seating, poor view from the stands and inconvenient trek to the restrooms and concession stand. The restrooms were

stair-bound and therefore not handicapped accessible. Radio and news media covering the games risked nosebleeds climbing into their designated area.

The new stadium, scheduled to be complete by the opening game on February 12 of this year, will hold up to 3,000 spectators and includes 530 chalk-back seats. In addition, the old dugouts were torn out to make way for the new sunken dugouts, which will allow the fans an unobstructed view of the field. The accompanying 7,500 square-foot facility will have conveniently distributed restrooms, a ticket office, team

meeting room, new press box and a new concession stand.

"It's very spectator friendly," says Sam Baker, GSU Athletic Director. "And it's press friendly too."

The Eagles have needed a new stadium for a while now. The old one had been added onto in the past to accommodate for growth, but each sporadic addition only caused it to become less functional. A new one has been in consideration for the past three years.

See STADIUM, page 7A

BY THE NUMBERS

2.6 million dollars

Total cost of the expansion

7,500 square-feet

Size of new facility added to house rest rooms, ticket office, team meeting room, press box and concession stand

3,000

Seats for spectators

530

Chalk-back seats

Wildlife exams aided by GSU students

By Rachel Weeks

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The Center for Wildlife Education temporarily turned into an animal hospital this weekend as students, professors and doctors from the University of Georgia Teaching Hospital visited to do annual checkups on all the animals. Students used microscopes and other lab equipment to test the blood and waste of the animals on site so that necessary steps could be taken to ensure the animals' health.

The UGA team worked closely with GSU students to subdue and examine the animals.

The animals were first weighed, then lightly sedated so that the vets and students could check heart rates, measure wingspans and take blood samples for tests. The group from UGA spent most of Saturday examining the 27 birds at the Center, including Spirit, the NBA Hawks' mascot, eagles and owls. Then on Sunday the reptiles, including pythons, boas, alligators, turtles and other animals, underwent their annual checkups.

"Basically we bring the birds out, lightly anesthetize them and do an overall physical, including blood smears, fecal smears, basic checks of the eyes, ears, nose, throat," said Thomas Sheffield, Raptor Supervisor at the Center. "We check for abnormalities, test for West Nile virus and give an overall assessment of the animal's health."

Sonia Hernandez-Divers, who works with exotic animals at the Hope Animal Medical Center in Athens, explained that blood work tests white and red blood cells for signs of infection. The tests

See WILDLIFE, page 8A



LaVene Bell/STAFF

David Martinez (left), visiting veterinarian from Spain, and Jennifer Ng, GSU student, examine a hawk from the GSU Wildlife Center. Along with taking the animal's heart rate, other tests were performed to prevent illnesses and provide UGA and GSU students with the opportunity to work with exotic animals.

Bush sworn in for second term



AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite

Snowflakes fall on the door of the presidential limousine bearing the official Seal of the President as winter weather moves into the nation's capital just 24 hours before George W. Bush's inauguration ceremony in Washington on Jan. 19. Bush's motorcade was shuttling yesterday between private and public events, from a visit to the National Archives to see the Constitution, and later to musical performances, fireworks and the Texas Black Tie and Boots Ball.

For more on the inauguration, see page 2A.

Candlelight vigil held for Levon Jones

By Marcy Thornton

sobriquet1@yahoo.com

After the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebrations held on Monday, a group of students, faculty and community members huddled together underneath the Russell Union Rotunda to celebrate a slightly lesser known, but by no means less important life. Braving the bitterly cold night air, the assembly held little white candles aloft and remembered Levon Jones, a Georgia Southern senior who was killed in New Orleans outside of a nightclub on New Year's Eve.

Though the story of his death has sent waves through GSU, Monday evening's candlelight vigil was held in honor of Jones' singular life. Nicole

See JONES, page 8A

President Bush set to take oath for second term



AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite
Fireworks explode over the White House during the 'Celebration of Freedom' festivities on the eve of President Bush's second inauguration

Bush will talk about expanding freedom in inaugural address

By Terrence Hunt
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a city brimming with pageantry under fortress-like security, President Bush looked ahead Wednesday to his second inauguration, pledging to forge unity in a nation divided by political differences. "I am eager and ready for the work ahead," Bush declared.

In his inaugural address Thursday, Bush will tell the country that events and common sense have led him to one conclusion: "The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands. The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom in all the world."

The White House on Wednesday night released excerpts of the speech Bush will give after his swearing-in at the Capitol.

The threat of terrorism prompted what authorities promised would be the tightest inaugural security ever deployed. A half-million people were expected to throng the city for the swearing-in and the traditional parade along Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House.

The President has said Inauguration is a time of unity for our country.

"With the campaign behind us, Americans lift up our sights to the years ahead and to the great goals we will achieve for our country. I am eager and ready for the work ahead."

Bush, 58, was "focused, upbeat, optimistic" about his new term, said Karl

Rove, the architect of the president's re-election campaign and a longtime confidant. "Anybody who's concerned about creating a legacy will fall short if he's not focused... on the right policy and service to the country. And let history take care of itself."

After an early-evening fireworks show, the Bushes and Cheneys were the guests of honor at three "candle-light dinners" for the biggest donors to the inauguration, which was expected to cost more than \$40 million. Dinner tickets were distributed to those who chipped in \$100,000 or more. At noon EST Thursday on the West Front of the Capitol, Bush will place his hand on a family Bible — the same one he used in 2001 — and be sworn in for a second term, a sequel to four turbulent years marked by the nation's worst terrorist attack, a U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan and a war in Iraq that has claimed the lives of more than 1,300 Americans.

Bush begins his new term with the lowest approval rating at that point of any recent two-term president — 49 percent in an Associated Press poll this month. Iraq is the dominant concern of Americans, and Bush is the first U.S. president to be inaugurated in wartime since Richard Nixon in 1973.

In his speech, Bush will talk of America's "need of idealism and courage" and how the nation must protect its own freedoms.

"In a world moving toward liberty, we are determined to show the meaning and promise of liberty," he'll say in the speech.

Taking the oath

President George W. Bush will be sworn in for a second term, beginning at 11:30 a.m. ET, on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol.

Presidential oath

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God."

Octagonal platform
Chief Justice
Rehnquist
swears in
President Bush

North side
Seating
for senators,
governors

Inner platform: Seating for
president, vice president,
family members, Supreme
Court, congressional
leaders, guests

South side
Seating for diplomatic
corps, members
of the House

U.S. Marine Band performs at base of platform

Inaugural program

- **Prelude:** U.S. Marine Band, U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club
- **Call to Order**
Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss.
- **Invocation:** Rev. Dr. Luis Leon
- **Music:** Mezzo soprano Susan Graham
- **Vice presidential swearing-in:** By Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill.
- **Music:** Mezzo soprano Denyce Graham
- **Presidential swearing-in**
By Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist
- **Inaugural address**
President Bush
- **Music:** U.S. Marine Band, U.S. Army Herald trumpets, U.S. Navy Sea Chanters
- **Benediction**
Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell
- **National Anthem**
U.S. Air Force Band

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Source: Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies

U.S. flags hanging



13-star flag 28-star flag 50-star flag

50-star flag in center; on either side, 28-star flags flown when Texas joined the Union in 1845; far ends, 13-star Betsy Ross flags

U.S. Capitol

Tickets, seating

250,000 tickets issued

500 ft. (150 m)



100,000 standing tickets on Mall

110,000 standing tickets, 40,000 seats on lawn

Graphic: Todd Lindeman, Judy Treible

AP Poll: Most Americans hopeful about Bush's second term, worried about Iraq

By Will Lester
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A majority of Americans say they feel hopeful about President Bush's second term, but those hopes are clouded by doubts about when the bloodshed in Iraq will end.

People say Iraq should be the president's highest priority, according to an Associated Press poll that found that those surveyed are not optimistic a stable government will take hold there.

Ahead of Bush's inauguration on Thursday, six in 10 people said

they feel hopeful about his second term and 47 percent said they were worried. Most said they were neither angry nor excited about his final four years in office.

Iraq was cited most often as the president's highest priority, according to the poll conducted for the

AP by Ipsos-Public Affairs. Some 53 percent of those questioned said it is unlikely that Iraq will have a stable government.

Almost two-thirds of those polled described Bush as likable, strong and intelligent. A majority said he is dependable and honest.

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"Why is my period so painful?"

"What is wrong with me?"

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5:00 p.m.

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- 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)
Phone: 912-681-0438 • Email: parent@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

Only in America

Sheriff deputies use pink handcuffs

PHOENIX, Az. - Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies began using fluorescent pink handcuffs Thursday to transport inmates.

Sheriff Joe Arpaio said he introduced the pink handcuffs because he was tired of losing them to his own deputies and other law enforcement agencies. Arpaio said he assumes nobody else has pink handcuffs, so they will be easy to spot.

He ordered 1,000 of the pink handcuffs, which are made in England. They cost 60 cents more than silver ones. Patrol deputies will still carry the silver cuffs, which they pay for themselves.

Maricopa County inmates wear pink boxers and sleep on pink sheets.

Dog caught after falling from balcony

FLORENCE, Ak. - Gary Gallien is a house painter. But earlier this week he became a dog catcher — literally.

Working with a crew at an apartment complex in Florence, Gallien caught a small dog as it fell from a fifth-floor balcony.

Gallien said he had stepped outside the building Tuesday when he heard a woman scream and saw a white, furry object falling toward him.

"Somebody hollered and I looked up and just stuck out my arms and caught it," he said.

"I caught it like a football. I was fixing to run for a touchdown with it."

Nail found embedded in man's skull

LITTLETON, Co. — A dentist found the source of the toothache Patrick Lawler was complaining about on the roof of his mouth: a four-inch nail the construction worker had unknowingly embedded in his skull six days earlier.

A nail gun backfired on Lawler, 23, on Jan. 6. The tool sent a nail into a piece of wood nearby, but Lawler didn't realize a second nail had shot through his mouth.

Following the accident, Lawler had what he thought was a minor toothache and blurry vision. After painkillers and ice didn't ease the pain, he went to a dental office.

He was taken to a suburban Denver hospital, where he underwent a four-hour surgery.

The nail had plunged 1 1/2 inches into his brain, barely missing his right eye.

Art lover requests naked man fountain

SEATTLE, Wash. - An art lover left his hometown about \$1 million to buy a new fountain. But not just any fountain.

The late Stu Smailes made clear the work must include the figure of at least one life-size naked man.

Smailes was a retired computer analyst for Safeco. He was an only child, with no immediate family.

The fountain bequest represents Smailes' entire estate, except for a charitable trust of about \$400,000 that has been distributed, said his attorney, Tim Bradbury.

National News Briefs

Senate panel votes to confirm Rice as Secretary of State

WASHINGTON - The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted Wednesday to confirm Condoleezza Rice as Secretary of State after two days of hearings in which she faced strenuous Democratic assaults on the Bush administration's handling of Iraq.

Pending approval by the full Senate, Rice would be the first black woman to hold the job.

She was confirmed by a 16-2 vote with Democrats John Kerry of Massachusetts and Barbara Boxer of California voting no.

A vote by the full Senate was expected by Thursday.

As the committee voted, Secretary of State Colin Powell bid farewell to his "family" at the State Department.

"You were my troops, you were

America's troops," the former Army general said. "You are the carriers of America's values."

He called Rice "a dear friend" and said she would bring "gifted leadership" to the department.

Rice surmounted two days of sometimes contentious questioning on the administration's execution of the war.



Associated Press
The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted to confirm Rice as Secretary of State Wednesday.

Cancer a bigger killer than heart disease

WASHINGTON — For the first time, cancer has surpassed heart disease as the top killer of Americans under 85, health officials said Wednesday.

The good news is that deaths from both are falling, but improvement has been more dramatic for heart disease. "It's dropping fast enough that another disease is eclipsing it," said Dr. Walter Tsu.

Bush prepares for second inauguration

WASHINGTON — Relishing history as he awaited his second oath-taking, George W. Bush paused amid celebratory galas Wednesday to contemplate America's most treasured historical documents, including George Washington's inaugural speech.

Asked whether he was feeling the history of the moment, Bush said "Absolutely."

He and Laura Bush studied original

versions of the Declaration of Independence so faded that most signatures were illegible, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Washington's address and Bible.

Perdue proposes felony for e-mail spammers

ATLANTA - Georgians who flood the Internet with spam e-mail could be charged with a felony under a bill proposed Wednesday by Gov. Sonny Perdue.

The Georgia Slam Spam E-Mail Act would punish spammers with a felony if they send more than 10,000 false or misleading messages in one day, generate large amounts of money from spam, or use minors to help them transmit the e-mails.

The bill also outlines misdemeanor charges for lesser violations.

Perdue said the state law would only allow prosecution of spammers based in Georgia, but he said he hoped other states would enact similar laws.

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4A

The
GEORGE-ANNE
Thursday, January 20, 2005

OPINIONS

Our Opinion

A toast to talk of fair government representation

We here at *The George-Anne* have high expectations for the next four years.

We have hopes that what Bush and his republican-controlled Congress decide to do will be bi-partisan and what is best for the people of America.

The new buzzword for politicians is "bi-partisanship." Whenever one of those old white men in a blue suit stands up and gives one of his jolly speeches, every other word out of his mouth is one attempting to reassure his constituents that he will, in fact, vote for the people he represents, and not along party lines. It's the thing to say, and people fall for it.

Bi-partisanship, by its very nature, implies that two parties must work together and sacrifice for the good of the people. It does not mean that one party is to rule the roost while the other is forced to bow to the majority's wishes.

Despite the fact that republicans are in control of Congress and the White House, there are still many out there who relate to the views and ideals of democrats. There are people who aren't so conservative, aren't so Bible-oriented and otherwise more dedicated to liberal causes. Just because the elected government of America is leaning one way doesn't mean we all have to suffer.

The politicians talk about being bi-partisan, and by God they need to be. While there are so many stereotypes (some named above) that are associated with each political party, the average American will be better off if everyone works together.

STAR TRIBUNE



Out of diapers, donkeys and elephants

Toward the end of high school, when I began to become aware of my political plumage, I started landing rather often on this feeder labeled "liberal."

Since there were only two other platters hanging around nearby – "conservative" and "yellow-bellied sap with no opinion" – and I hadn't much taste for either of their grainy contents, I assumed the liberal dais was supporting my weight better than any could.

Being particularly convinced of the importance of political activism and finding myself with an outlet called the Opinions page, I wrote my heart. Hence, I gained a reputation for flocking with liberals.

What I didn't fully realize until just last year was eagles don't fit in pigeonholes.

I came to this profound conclusion last summer after I met Russ Garlow, a recent GSU graduate whose quest for philosophic enlightenment quite mirrors mine. His predilection, however, has led him more frequently to the conservative feeder, since being caught with no opinion was decidedly no option and the seeds of liberality had a bitter aftertaste.

And so it was that we each spent the first couple of decades of life developing – in the eyes of the rest of society, at least – into opponents of sorts. And that was how we found each other: looking across to opposite ends of a poorly segmented spectrum.

Like what I assume is the case for many fellow Eagles who meet me, Russ knew "me" through my columns before we'd ever spoken. Through what I'd authored, he'd long since decided I was a tree-hugging, bleeding-heart, liberal hippie chick. As for me, the mere knowledge that his votes helped turn our state red

turned my stomach. Ideologically, he is the antithesis of everything I believe in, fight for, want.

Ideologically.

That's the trouble with ideology. It's too limited to explain why, after our first long, thoughtful conversations in June of last year, Russ and I found more of ourselves in each other than in the rest of the world combined. We fell in love, and were engaged by the end of October.

Some of our friends balked. With such differences of opinion, how would we ever get along?

Hand-in-hand we've defended our position, ever attempting to convey something this nation's mainstream political system (and even most of its underground) provides no frame of reference for.

There are ideas beyond the same old recycled ones the system keeps feeding us.

Russ and I disagree on the technicalities of many issues. If we stood on our respective planks of weak network news ideology, our platforms would bend to different degrees, and it would be impossible to see eye-to-eye. But we don't waste our time on unsteady ground. In fact, even as often as we discuss hot topics, we don't fight at all. We agree on a level that far transcends typical American politics.

We can listen to each other's thoughts and evaluate them independently, with minds that are open and prone to concession. When we don't agree, we simply don't agree, but we recognize the reasoning behind each other's decisions because we respect each other's intellect. And intellect produces significantly more permanent results than mindless categorization.

Monkeys can sort things. It takes real human



Amanda Permenter
editor-in-chief

FAVORITE WEB SEARCH ENGINE, GOOGLE, WILL SCAN ENTIRE COLLECTIONS OF SEVEN LIBRARIES



letter to the editor

Campus youth groups lack real support system

Happy New Year GSU!

Over the holiday break and last semester I had the urge to write in to *The George Anne* on some issues here on campus that drive me nuts. First and foremost, I would like to introduce myself. I am a student here at GSU. Next, I would like to say that my purpose in this article (and maybe others) is not to tick people off but to sound my opinion on certain topics.

Today's topic is one that has bothered me since my freshman year. Campus youth groups here drive me crazy. I have attended a few of the meetings these groups hold and I know many people who belong to these various youth groups.

Now I will admit I have not been to all of the different organizations, but the few that I have been to may be known by their three letter acronyms. Before I tell you why these groups bother me, I want to say that I consider myself to be a Christian, and I feel that I live a pretty good life.

My issue with these groups is that they present themselves as more than a youth group. They almost lean toward being a cult. The members of these groups seem to take being "Christian" to a whole new level. These people are not just a group you meet with once a week to worship God and have a good time, these are people who are in your business probably more than your parents are.

The people that I have come into contact with in these groups both from knowing people in the groups and my experiences going to these groups pride themselves in being such perfect Christians that most of the time they end up being hypocrites. The people in these groups gossip terribly. They meddle into your personal lives and they look down on people who drink alcohol and have sex; yet they turn around and do these things themselves. They try to play roles of intervention in the lives of their members to the extent that you no longer have a personal life. I don't know about anyone else, but this really seems drastic and cultish to me.

These actions really do not seem very Christian-like to me and I am one to believe that a person really needs to figure out personal issues with themselves and the people closest to them, not the hundred or so members of your youth group. My purpose in this is not to say that these groups are bad or should not exist. But maybe they should be taking a second look at what their group is about and what they're trying to accomplish. And also, how they look to outsiders.

I know I am not the only one who thinks this way about some of the youth groups on campus.

Ben Marcell
mrcontrovsygy@yahoo.com

relationships & sex

SPEAKING OF... kinky

When I was in high school, my friend Amelia Vogel had a saying: Sticks and stones may break my bones, but whips and chains excite me!

Granted, she was just joking, but it got me thinking recently on the people that Amelia's little quip actually applied to.

Recently I met a girl named Heidi, and she seems to fit into that category... or at least she has a thing for leather. And since I like to know exactly what kind of freaks I'm dealing with, I decided to do a little research.

Kinky sex is like alphabet soup... it's just full of letters, so I first had to figure out the A-B-C's of S-E-X. That was the easy part:

B&D = "bondage & dominance" or "bondage & discipline."

S&M = "sadism & masochism."

D&S = "dominance & submission."

Some people seem to like being controlled, letting someone else have all the power (sexually, that is). For some, it can be a real turn-on to hear "I'm yours. Do with me what you will." This is D&S; one person being dominant, and one person being submissive.

D&S can come in several flavors. There's the Master/Slave, Dominatrix/Naughty Boy, Student/Teacher... whatever floats your boat. D&S is supposed to be a game of sorts. A game of sexual power where everyone's getting what they want.

Ever heard the saying, "Save a horse, ride a cowboy?" Generally, the cowboy conjures images of ropes. Another kinky way to play is to tie your partner up (or down), putting them completely at your mercy. Once done, you're free to tease, taunt, tickle and hopefully satisfy. This is B&D (bondage and dominance).

Some people even like a little pain with their bondage. "Spank me! I've been a naughty girl!" At that point, it becomes the other form of B&D, bondage and discipline. And if you're too cheap to buy some handcuffs, I've heard that silk neckties work great, and they don't leave you with that "fresh from prison" feel.

Lastly, you've got S&M; sadism and masochism. Everyone knows this one. It's the one with all the "pleasurable" torture devices. Whips, chains, clamps, and anything else that can make you say ouch. Some say there's a fine line between pleasure and pain.

I suppose it can be a very erotic experience to submit yourself to someone who wants to cause you pain, if not requiring a tremendous amount of trust. Supposedly, pain can be the gateway to the Olympic heights of ecstasy.

Personally, I'd like to win with lottery, but I suppose nibbles and bites just do it for some people... just not me.

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but loan checks and cash excite me!



DeMarc Campbell
Columnist

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Letter and Submission Policy

The *George-Anne* welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be 250 words or less, typed, preferably sent via email in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.

Domestic and international goals for 2005

"Expect the worst, and you'll never be disappointed." Some people, and especially lots of liberal media pundits, seem to live by that philosophy.

As I look forward to the New Year, I believe that a spirit of optimism and hope is appropriate. I personally prefer great expectations instead of cynical pessimism any day. So here are some good things I'm hoping for in 2005.

On the domestic front, I believe that we are going to see the influence of real, true blue conservatives continue to increase as we work overtime to build and strengthen our base nationwide. The fact is, we have better ideas, and we faithfully articulate and expound those common sense ideas in the public square, more and more Americans are going to respond and join our ranks.

As a result, we are going to see some substantive changes in our public policy. For example, traditional family values — including abstinence-based sex education and creation science — are going to become more highly visible in our schools and society, both public and private.

Politically, we can hopefully expect two very important breakthroughs in 2005. First, the obstructionists in the Senate, who in the past have blocked President Bush's conservative judicial appointments, are finally going to see the handwriting on the wall and bring those nominations to a vote in the full Senate, where they will be confirmed.

Second, we can hopefully expect the Congress to pass a Constitutional Amendment defining legally recognized marriage in America as the union of one man and one woman. Once that seminal legislation has been enacted on the federal level, we can reasonably expect the requisite number of state legislatures to ratify the law rather quickly.

Why will this happen? Because, to paraphrase Ronald Reagan's famous dictum, it's not necessary that lawmak-

ers see the light, merely that they feel the heat.

Oh, I know that the ACLU-type Liberals will wail and scream, but the cultural tide has finally turned. The Godless, left-wing agenda reached its high water mark in 2004, with the John Kerry candidacy, and it failed miserably. Now it's our turn to lead.

Internationally, we need to see some major breakthroughs. Getting a stable government established in Iraq and a modicum of peace restored to the region would be a huge accomplishment. No, that won't happen overnight, but over time we will prevail.

Another high priority of international statesmanship has to be U.S. diplomatic negotiations with both Iran and North Korea, leading to their compliance with established nuclear non-proliferation protocols. Expecting the United Nations to accomplish this result is not likely to bear much fruit, so American leadership will be crucial to success.

But my number one international goal for 2005 must be the capture of Osama bin Laden and his swift punishment. Whether he is hiding in Iran, as some insist, or in the rugged mountains along the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, this international criminal must be apprehended and brought to justice. There can be no lasting victory in the War on Terror while Osama remains at large, and our military experts must leave no stone unturned until he is found.

Are these realistic expectations for the coming year, or just wishful pipe dreams? Time alone will tell.

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.

PERMENTER, FROM PAGE 4A

...to truly embrace environment, history and heritage, then use it to formulate revolutionary goals for society. I vaguely remember learning that folks like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson had ideals like that.

Russ and I quickly determined that none of the previously affixed labels really fitted either of us. We also found that our core values are almost identical. We just have different ideas about how to reach them.

These days, we consider ourselves politically autonomous — full of strong opinions and exacting action, but fitting in practically nowhere.

Such grand private discoveries have further influenced my already strong public belief that this country is in dire need of an ideological revolution — one that begins at the grassroots with two main premises.

Number one: *education*. Not just book smarts and formal instruction, but a full exploration of humanity, culture, nature and science. Nothing but our own wit keeps us from following our instinctive, natural impulse to discover our own way in the wilderness and abandoning the deceptive comfort of being fed what to believe.

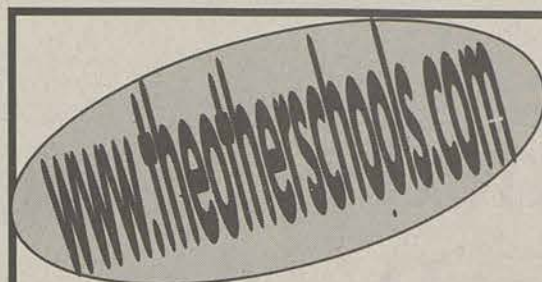
Add that to *communication*. Flaws and breakdowns in this one process are the cause of every single conflict the world has ever seen. Improvement upon it is improvement upon life.

Currently, America appears so stuck on the concepts of right and wrong and party loyalty that we constantly fail to recognize new alternatives, and collectively continue contributing to the harsh division of our nation's people.

What makes our country great is the opportunity for individuality. What makes it miserable is the tragic belief that individuality comes at the cost of unity.

Our country needs unity. For me, the marriage I will enter into on October 2005 fulfills a lifelong personal dream. But, it's more than that. It represents a microcosm of what I dream of seeing happen to America.

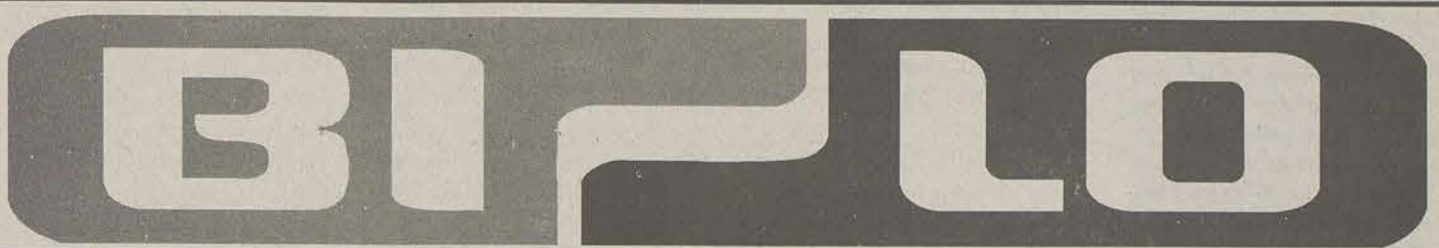
Amanda Permenter is the editor-in-chief of *The George-Anne* and can be reached at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.



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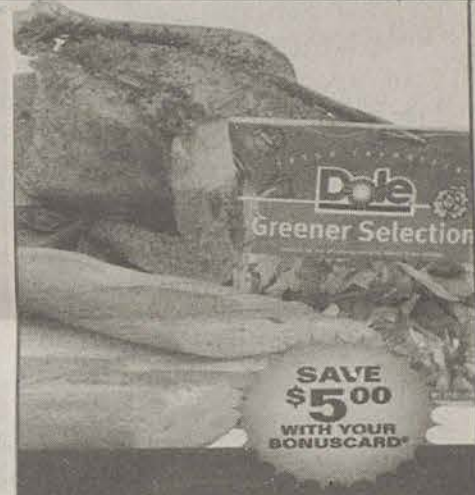


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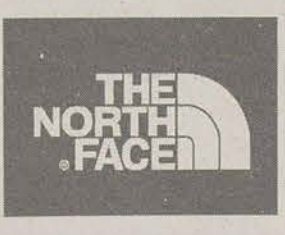
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In case you missed it...

**Braves sign Jordan;
invite others to spring
training**

The Atlanta Braves signed left fielder Brian Jordan to a one-year contract Wednesday; terms were undisclosed. Jordan played with the Braves from 1999-2001 and was with the Texas Rangers last season, where he spent most of his time on the disabled list.

Atlanta also signed RHP Adam Bernero to a one-year contract and invited him to spring training. Others invited were OF's Jeff Francoeur and John Barnes and RHP's Kevin Barry and Zach Miner.

**Clemens files for record
amount in arbitration**

Future Hall of Famer Roger Clemens filed for a record \$22 million in arbitration with the Houston Astros on Tuesday. The Astros countered his request with a \$13.5 million offer. Clemens, 42, earned a 5 million dollar base salary last season with Houston while helping lead the team to within one win of the World Series. Clemens, who can't decide whether or not to retire, would be playing in his 22nd season if he comes back for the 2005 campaign.

**Jets fan offers to sell
kicker on eBay**

A disgruntled New York Jets fan reportedly placed the team's kicker, Doug Brien, on eBay. The bidding reached \$99,999,999 before the auction was removed by eBay, as it is against their policy to sell people on the auction site.

**Falcons one win away
from Superbowl, face
Eagles Sunday**

The Atlanta Falcons and Mike Vick travel to Philadelphia this weekend to face the Eagles and Donovan McNabb in the NFC Championship game. The Falcons' last Superbowl appearance was in 1999, when they were defeated by the Denver Broncos 34-19. Also this Sunday, the New England Patriots will be in Pittsburgh where the Steelers hope to pull out an upset and go to their first Superbowl since the Dallas Cowboys defeated them in 1996.

**Swimming and
diving picks up
split at double
dual meet**

GSU Athletic Media Relations

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - The Georgia Southern swimming and diving team earned a split at a double dual meet Saturday at North Florida. The Eagles topped Florida International 121-108 but fell 165-76 to a strong North Florida squad.

The Eagles picked up victories in three of 13 events during the meet. Freshman Allison Cochran continued her strong performance by winning the 200-yard breaststroke with a season-best time of 2:24.36. Fellow freshman Kimberly Morris also gained an individual victory, capturing first place in the 200-yard individual medley (2:13.07). The third win came in the 400-yard medley relay, where the team of Cochran, Jen Clayton, Florrie Cunningham and Kelli King finished with a time of 4:02.28.

In other events, freshman Kaleigh Kenyon established a season-best time in the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:03.09) while finishing fifth in the event. Second place finishes were garnered by Cunningham in the 200-yard freestyle (1:59.10), Cochran in the 50-yard freestyle (25.79), and the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Cunningham, Clayton, Morris and freshman Amanda Gerdeman (3:44.18). Senior diver Leslie Williams was able to collect two third place finishes on the day, finishing with totals of 248.65 on the three-meter board and 215.50 from the one-meter height.

With the split, Georgia Southern now stands at 5-1 for the season, with an unblemished 4-0 record in Northeast Conference play. The Eagles are off for nearly two weeks before ending the regular season by hosting two meets. Gardner-Webb visits Hanner Natatorium on January 28 at 7 p.m., followed by a four-team meet the next day featuring the Eagles, Gardner-Webb, Florida A&M and College of Charleston.

Nesbitt named SoCon Player of the Week

GSU Athletic Media Relations

STATESBORO - Following his back-to-back career-high point productions, Georgia Southern University's Elton Nesbitt received the Southern Conference "Player of the Week" award as announced on Tuesday. The junior guard, picking up his first SoCon weekly award this year and second of his career, helped the Eagles extend their winning streak to three straight.

GSU (9-7 overall) improved to 4-2 in the SoCon, now tied for second place in the South Division.

Nesbitt hit a late three-pointer at the end of the College of Charleston game on January 10, snapping a 0 for 18 slump from beyond the arc. In the following two games, Nesbitt has connected on 17 of 25 treys - a blistering 68 percent - and 25 of 39 overall from the field. He also converted 15 of 16 free throws in

that span.

Against Appalachian State, Nesbitt scored a then-career high 39 points leading GSU to a 92-88 victory. He made 13 of 14 free throws, falling one completion away from setting a GSU FT percentage record. His 39 points were the most by an Eagle in more than 30 years.

North Division leading Chattanooga found out that Nesbitt's performance against Appalachian State was not a fluke. Nesbitt went off for 43 points as the Eagles won 107-84. The junior guard drilled an Eagle record 11 three-pointers, second-most in SoCon history and tied for the 12th most all-time in NCAA Division I. In fact, those career-high 43 points equal the highest individual total this season in Division I and 11 bombs rank as the most.

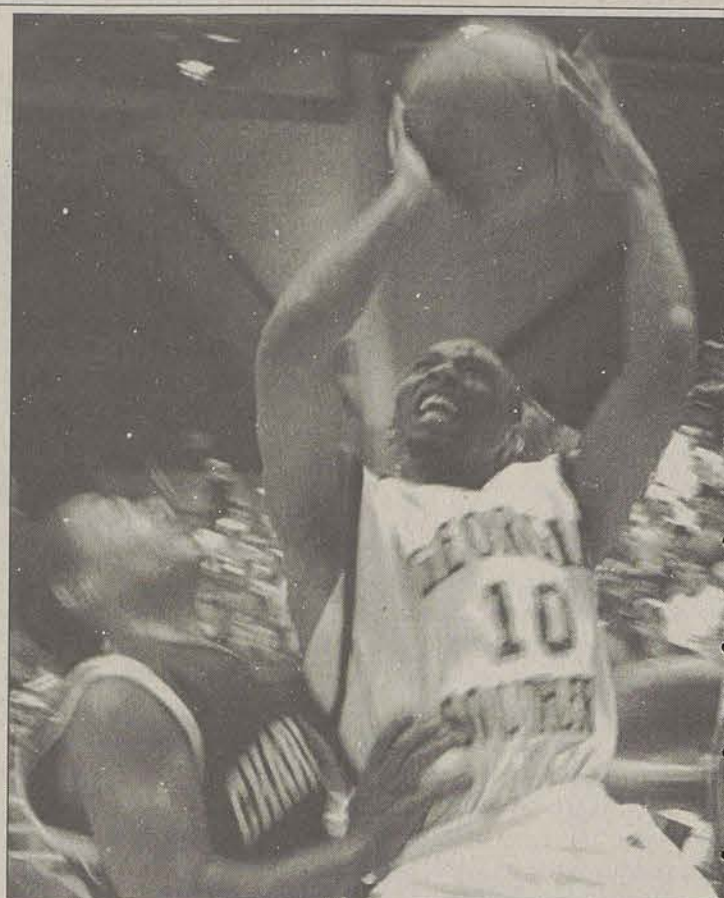
Nesbitt finished 15-of-21 from the field against Chattanooga, 11-of-16

from long distance, and hit both free throws. The junior guard, who had 20 of the team's first 29 points, committed only one turnover in 30 minutes.

"Tonight was one of those nights, to be shooting like that is very special. My teammates did a great job getting me the ball. Everyone fed off me tonight," said Nesbitt after his record setting performance. "I give Chattanooga a lot of credit, they played very well tonight but we just kept hitting our shots."

GSU scored the most points against a Southern Conference team since putting up 101 at Appalachian State in January 2002. The team's 22 3-pointers against Chattanooga not only broke the SoCon record but ties for the eighth highest total in NCAA Division I history.

The Eagles wrap-up their four-game homestand on Wednesday (Jan. 19), hosting in-state rival Savannah State at 7:30 p.m.



Georgia Southern junior guard Elton Nesbitt scores two of his 25 points against College of Charleston on January 10. The Eagles beat the number one ranked Cougars 90-72.

Eagles glide to easy victory

By Jason Burke

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The Georgia Southern Eagles basketball team defeated the Savannah State Tigers 79-53 Wednesday night at Hanner Field House. The win was the Eagles' fourth straight and their sixth in their last seven contests.

The Eagles jumped out to a 7-2 advantage early, highlighted by a Donte Gennie to Louis Graham alley-oop. The undermanned Tigers, who only dressed seven, kept it close trailing only 15-11 early in the first half.

The Eagles superior talent and depth then proved too much for the hapless Tigers (0-23) as a Terry Williams three pointer made it 31-17.

A 13-0 run extended the Georgia Southern lead to 39-17, and halftime had Jeff Price's bunch in a laugher, ahead 51-29.

The second half was more of the same as Georgia Southern continued its domination of Savannah State. The big lead allowed the Eagles to play very loose and give some reserves playing time.

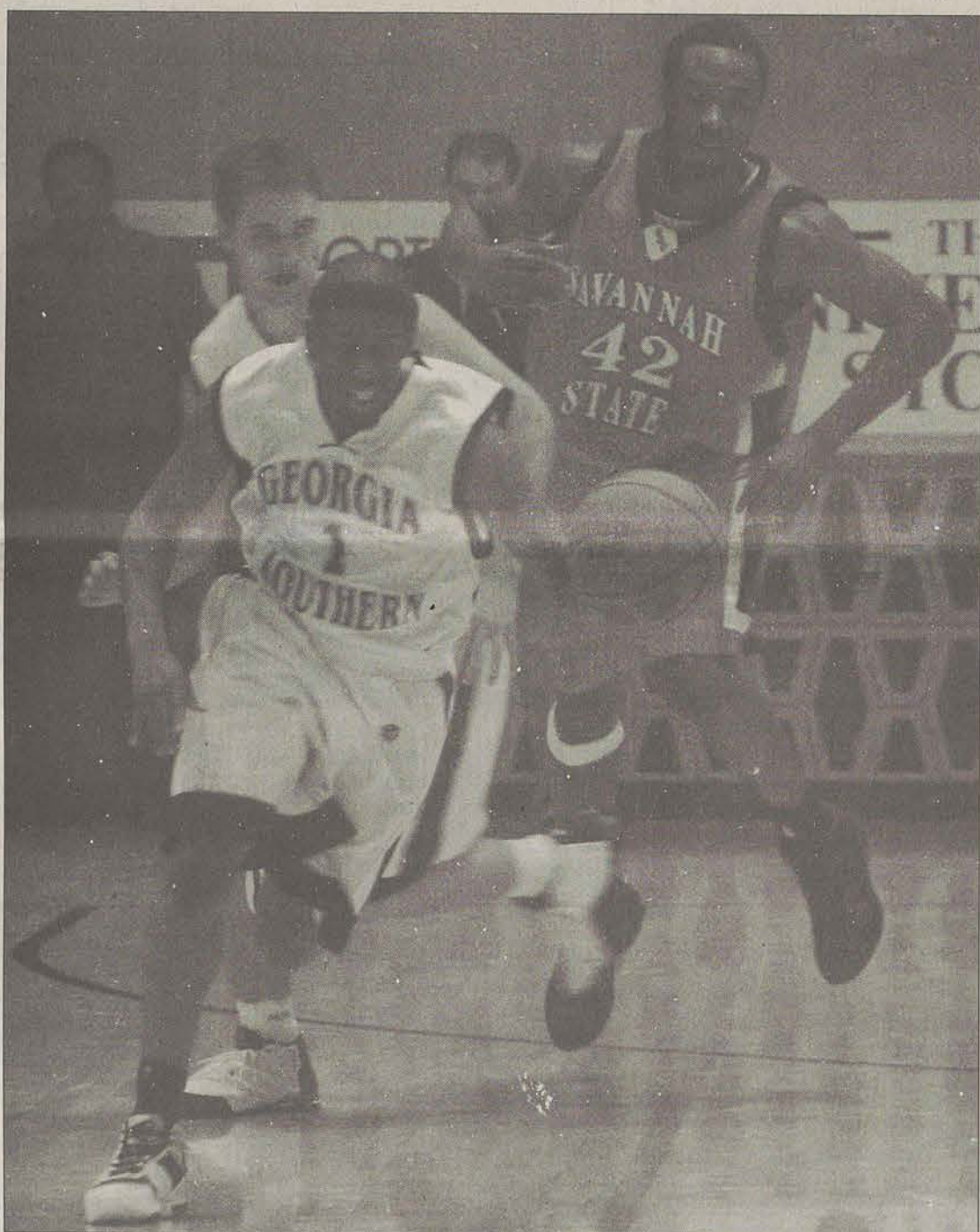
Getting more playing time than usual, freshman Louis Graham and junior Willie Dunn scored 20 plus points each to lead the Eagle charge.

The loss was the 23rd straight for the visiting Tigers and they remain the only division one team without a victory.

Georgia Southern is still looking up at Davidson in the Southern Conference South division, who defeated Western Carolina 80-57.

The Eagles have a game coming up Saturday night at Elon and a home game Monday night vs. Wofford before the big show down in Charleston.

Come support your Eagles as they face off against Southern Conference foe Wofford Monday night at 7:30.



Georgia Southern freshman guard Dwayne Foreman moves down court en route to one of his six assists as he and the Eagles caged the Tigers from Savannah State 79-53.

With help from Nesbitt, Eagles win again

By Kenny Cofer

kennycofer@hotmail.com

Georgia Southern defeated Appalachian State Saturday afternoon 92-88. Elton Nesbitt led the Eagles with a career high 39 points on 10-18 shooting from the field. The win marked the second straight SoCon victory and put the Eagles over the .500 mark at 8-7 overall.

The Eagles started quick out of the box, shooting close to fifty percent from the field in the first half. Three-point land was where the Eagles made their mark, however, as they were able to convert on 8 three-pointers in the first half alone. Nesbitt led all scorers at the half with 23 points, as the Eagles led the Mountaineers 45-28 at the break.

Appalachian State was able to turn their game around in the second half, making sixty percent of their shots. Mountaineer guard D.J. Thompson led the charge for App. State, as he scored 30 of his career high 32 points in the second half.

Defense was also a key factor for the Mountaineer turnaround, as they were able to hold Nesbitt scoreless for almost 17 minutes in the second half. Nesbitt scored his 30th point early in the second half and did not score again until the final minutes of the game.

After watching their 17 point halftime lead disappear, the Eagles were able to hold off the Mountaineers just long enough to walk away victorious 92-88. With the win, Georgia Southern improved their record to 8-7 overall and 3-2 in the Southern Conference.

Women's basketball falls to Furman

By Bryan Metcalf

michael_b_metcalf@georgiasouthern.edu

The Georgia Southern Eagles fell to 9-7 on the year with an 82-67 loss to archrival Furman in front of a home crowd of 1,149 fans.

The loss puts GSU at 6-4 in the Southern Conference, which ties them with UNC Greensboro for third place.

Furman jumped out to an early 7-4 lead, but GSU countered with six unanswered points. Furman retook the lead with 10-0 run and, after a Lee DuBose trey cut the deficit to three, added a 9-0 spurt to take a 12-point lead. A 12-4 Eagles run with four freshmen on the floor closed the gap to only four points at the break.

Back-to-back Nicole Newton baskets opened up the second half before Furman went on a 13-2 run. Trailing 46-37, the Eagles went on a 9-2 run that included a Tiffany Brown three-pointer.

With under six minutes to play, the Paladins held their largest lead of the night, 18 points, thanks to a string of free throws. A 10-3 run had the Eagles back to within 11, but they couldn't get any closer.

The Eagles made only four of 25 shots from beyond the arch in the game and shot 33 percent from the field. The Paladins (12-5, 7-3 SoCon) shot 49 percent from the field and 80 percent at the free throw line. Furman guard Tommi Paris led all scorers in the game with 24 points.

Newton earned her third double-double of the season, leading the Eagles with 15 points and 11 boards. Dana Benemon added 11 points and 8 boards for the Eagles, who out-rebounded Furman 52-32. GSU turned the ball over 28 times to Furman's 21.

The Lady Eagles play their next game at Western Carolina on Saturday, January 22.



GSU junior Nicole Newton attempts a shot Monday evening as the Eagles were upset by Furman 82-67.

Georgia Southern football hands out 2004 awards

GSU Athletic Media Relations

STATESBORO - Members of the Georgia Southern football team were honored with awards Saturday evening as part of the annual postseason football banquet, held at the Russell Student Union Ballroom.

Head coach Mike Sewak presented plaques to the group of 18 seniors: T.J. Anderson, Clint Barbour, Derrick Butler, Victor Cabral, P.J. Cantrell, Paul Collins, Leonard Daggett, Kevin Davis, Tim Gehrsitz, Eric Hadley, Trey Hunter, DeShawn Jude, Eric McIntire, Matt Rio, Albert Turner, Eric White, Chaz Williams and James Young.

Williams was voted as the team's Most Valuable Player. He accounted for 1,915 yards of total offense and finished sixth in voting for the Walter Payton Award honoring the nation's top I-AA player while breaking 10 Georgia Southern individual records (single game, season and career). He led the nation in scoring, averaging 12.7 points per game.

Freshman wide receiver Richard Murphey was given the team's Dedication Award while freshman quarter-

back Melvin Greer won the Offensive Scout Team 'Player of the Year Award'. Freshman linebacker Seth Brownlee won the Defensive Scout Team 'Player of the Year Award'. Barbour earned the team Academic Award.

Displaying balance on both sides of the ball, the Eagles staked claim as the only I-AA team to finish among the top five in both total offense (third) and defense (fourth). That played a big role as the Eagles captured their eighth Southern Conference title and returned to the NCAA I-AA playoffs as the number four seed.

The Southern Conference head coaches voted Sewak as 'Coach of the Year' and Jayson Foster as 'Freshman of the Year'.

Six Eagles received All-American accolades, including: A.J. Bryant, Chad Motte, Turner, Butler, Jermaine Austin and Young.

Georgia Southern led all other SoCon members in total players to receive all-conference honors as 17 Eagles received recognition as voted by the coaches - nine on the First Team and eight on the Second Team.

By Paul Newbery
Associated Press

"It will be open," Bakers said. "There are no other options... we have a game that day and the construction will be finished."



Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick goes aerial during first half play in the NFC Divisional playoff game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on Saturday, Jan. 15. The Falcons beat the Rams, 47-17.

The women's squad heads to Tallahassee, FL to start their season this Saturday. On Sunday, they stay in Tallahassee and travel to the Florida State campus to take on the Seminoles.

The schedule doesn't ease up as they travel to Athens to take on the Bulldogs the following weekend.

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Insurgents unleash car bombs in Baghdad ahead of elections

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Insurgents unleashed a wave of five car bombings across the capital Wednesday, killing about a dozen people, despite stepped-up U.S. and Iraqi measures to protect this month's elections. North of Baghdad, insurgents killed a British security officer.

Iraqi police also said insurgents kidnapped a Japanese engineer, but on Thursday officials in Tokyo cast doubt on the report, saying they had no information on the incident.

Gunmen also fired on the Baghdad office of a major Kurdish party and two senior officials escaped assassination in separate attacks in the north.

The U.S. military put the death toll from the day's Baghdad bombings at 26, saying the number was based on initial reports at the scene. Iraqi officials gave a lower toll - 12 people killed in the bombings and one at the Kurdish office.

Sunni Muslim insurgents have threatened to disrupt the elections, and the five car bombings - four within a span of 90 minutes - underscored the grave threat facing Iraqis at this watershed in their history. U.S. and Iraqi forces have stepped up raids and arrests in Baghdad, Mosul and other trouble spots as the elections approach.

Nevertheless, the attacks had little effect on preparations for the Jan. 30 balloting, in which Iraqis will choose a 275-member National Assembly and regional legislatures. At Baghdad airport, Iraqi authorities Wednesday received the largest shipment of ballot boxes and other elections equipment to date.

Elections official Farid Ayar said



AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed
An elections poster of Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi is seen through a windshield of a car damaged in an explosion outside a police station in Baghdad, Wednesday.

90,000 ballot boxes had already been flown to Iraq along with millions of ballots printed mostly in Canada and Australia.

Throughout the morning Wednesday, the routine clatter of big city traffic was punctuated by the crisp sound of distant explosions. U.S. military helicopters rattled low overhead, roaming the bright blue sky for any sign of trouble.

Al-Qaida's branch in Iraq claimed responsibility for the first of the day's blasts, which occurred about 7 a.m. at the Australian Embassy in the capital. A truck packed with explosives blew up outside the concrete barriers in front of the embassy, killing two people and wounding several, including two Australian soldiers.

A half-hour after the embassy blast, another car bomb exploded at a police station next to a hospital in eastern Baghdad. The U.S. military said 18 were killed there, but the Iraqi Interior Ministry put the death toll at six, including a policewoman.

A third car bombing struck at the main gate to an Iraqi military recruiting center located at an unused airport in central Baghdad. Police said the driver told guards he was delivering potatoes and detonated his explosives at the gate, killing three Iraqi soldiers and injuring one American.

The U.S. military also said a car bomb detonated southwest of Baghdad International Airport, killing two Iraqi security guards. The fifth car bomb exploded around noon near a Shiite mosque and a bank in north Baghdad, killing one person and injuring another, police said.

Also in the capital, insurgents in a car fired on an office of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, killing one of its members and wounding another, party officials said.

Elsewhere, an Iraqi police officer was killed Wednesday in another car bombing in the largely Shiite city of Hillah south of Baghdad, the Polish military said.

Remembering Levon Jones

JONES, FROM
PAGE 1A

Allen, a friend of Jones who spoke at the vigil, described him saying, "his smile is so bright, it just brightens up the room...He is a very good person, a good friend, a good child." Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity member Michael Bertty described the sentiments of many GSU students when he said, "everybody says that he was a great individual...he was the sort of person that you are supposed to be. There will always be a struggle [for equality and justice]."

After the candles were lit, Bryan Toles, the president of the GSU chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) opened the vigil with a solemn prayer, saying, "Let justice be done...let this be a wakeup call to many that the fight for justice and equality is not over."

Following the invocation, the gathering stood in silent reflection as a GSU student sang a stirring rendition of "Amazing Grace." Afterwards, Allen spoke, wiping away tears as she recounted Jones' charming sense of humor and devotion to his friends. Toles then closed the vigil, sharing the story



Katie Anderson/STAFF

GSU students light candles in memory of slain GSU student Levon Jones.

of Jones' death at the hands of three white bouncers outside a club in New Orleans. He drew connections between Jones' death and the case of Kenneth Walker of Columbus, Georgia, a young black man killed in December 2003 by white police officers after an incident; Walker was unarmed. Both cases are currently under investigation by authorities and the NAACP.

According to Toles, the NAACP of GSU specifically chose to have the vigil after the MLK Celebration, hoping that students would recognize the significance of both

the Jones case and MLK holiday.

"I would like to challenge the students of GSU to realize their surroundings...the Declaration of Independence [says we were] created with inalienable rights, and racial profiling goes against everything [that] stood for," Toles said.

In accordance with Toles' words, Dr. Francys Johnson of the GSU Justice Studies department said, "I think the Levon Jones case certainly gives us a reality check that there is still much work to be done against prejudice. This holiday gives us hope...we can rise above."

WILDLIFE, FROM PAGE 1A

revealed that most of the birds at the center have been exposed to the West Nile virus and have developed antibodies to protect them from the disease. "The idea is preventative medicine primarily. We do annual physicals on the animals to pick up things before they get too serious," she said. "It's

more beneficial if you catch things early and examine the animals on a regular basis."

The arrangement is beneficial to students from GSU as well as students from UGA, and especially to the animals who are treated early for illnesses that could lead to their demise. "The center gets

the benefit of making sure all the birds and animals are healthy," said Michael Sullivan, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications. "On the other hand, the veterinary students have the opportunity to work with exotic animals that they might not get to work with otherwise."



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DVD/Video Releases

'Friday Night Lights'

Billy Bob Thornton stars in an engaging, gritty, energetic adaptation of H.G. Bissinger's book chronicling the 1988 championship drive by the Permian High Panthers of Odessa, Texas, where high-school football is a religion. The well-stocked DVD features a 20-minute selection of choice deleted and extended scenes, much of it as good as anything that made the final cut. Thornton is at the center of much of the cut footage, which presents him delivering an elongated version of a pep talk to his team, chewing out players during practice and suffering his own dressing-down from an injured athlete's bitter uncle. Bissinger and director Peter Berg team for commentary, and the DVD has a featurette on the casting of country singer Tim McGraw as a star player's deprecating dad. DVD, \$29.98. (Universal)



'The Forgotten'

Proof that scary movies don't have to be all that scary to find an audience, Julianne Moore scored a solid mini-hit with this tepid thriller that's a cross between "The X-Files" and "Without a Trace," about a woman whose hubby, therapist and friends insist the dead son she's mourning never existed. The DVD has the theatrical cut of the movie and an extended version that actually plays a little better, adding a prolonged variation of the ending and a couple of scenes offering nice morsels about the characters of the husband (Anthony Edwards) and therapist (Gary Sinise). Those additional scenes also can be viewed separately, and the DVD has commentary with director Joseph Ruben and screenwriter Gerald DiPego. DVD, \$28.95. (Columbia TriStar)



'Catwoman'

Halle Berry better hope her career has nine lives after this action flop, a loose spinoff from the DC Comics "Batman" series. Berry plays a mousy commercial artist who stumbles onto dark secrets at the cosmetics company where she works, is killed for her troubles, then brought back to life with super strength, agility and attitude through the intervention of a posse of pussycats. DVD extras include a dull alternate ending, five equally dull deleted scenes and a couple of background featurettes, one showcasing Catwoman's various styles over the decades, culminating in Berry's hardly-there catsuit. DVD, \$27.95. (Warner Bros.)



'Cellular'

Great, another thriller about a kidnap victim who randomly dials a surfer dude's cell phone and pleads for help. Kim Basinger stars as an abductee who gets a stranger (Chris Evans) on the line and convinces him to chase around in a desperate search before the kidnappers disconnect her from the land of the living. Director David Ellis offers commentary on deleted and alternate scenes and teams with the writers for commentary on the full flick. The DVD also has three behind-the-scenes featurettes. DVD, \$27.95. (New Line).



HOOKED ON HOOKAHS

By Kylian Swain • kylan_z_swain@georgiasouthern.edu

A modest diner in the middle of tiny Statesboro might be the last place one would go for an up-close view of ancient Middle Eastern practices.

But for young Georgia Southern students, Eagle Diner, tucked between the Gate gas station and Taco Bell on South Main Street, is just the sort of place they go to take part in the centuries-old practice of smoking tobacco through elaborate systems of water pipes called hookahs.

Use of hookahs began centuries ago in Middle Eastern palaces and harems. But today the past-time has reemerged, energized nationwide by college students who like the smooth feel of smoke that has passed through the cool water inside the hookah.

"It's lot less harsh than smoking a cigarette," said Nick Benton, who works as a barrista at the diner's coffee shop. "It tastes much better and the tar is lower."

The hookah consists of four basic parts. In the head, burning charcoal heats a bed of tobacco. Inhaled smoke is drawn through the body into the third section, a water-filled bowl at the hookah's base. A disposable mouthpiece is connected to a hose through which the user inhales the smoke after it has bubbled through the water.

In the Middle East, hookah users favor harsher, drier tobacco. However, young American users prefer sweetened tobacco with tempting flavors like apple, watermelon and licorice. Eagle Diner is no exception. Owner Al Mansoul offers more than 25 varieties of flavored tobaccos for the hookahs, which are rented for about \$8 per hour.

Mansoul said his goal for the restaurant is to provide an appealing and safe place for college students. He says students refer to him as "Uncle Al," which further reflects the friendly nature of his business.

Mansoul said he wants the restaurant to be "the best hangout the students will ever have. I want them to have the safest, the most fun and the most relaxed environment possible... I want the students to know that I will always listen to what they have to say."

With cushy chairs and a sofa, the hookah bar is designed for comfort, said Mansoul. The hookah is a communal device, where users pass the apparatus around.

"It's a community thing," said Benton, who has been a hookah user since the diner purchased the pipes. "You are forced to sit around and talk with people."

To make the process more sanitary, a separate mouthpiece is issued for each smoker and every hookah is sanitized after its individual use.

But since many patrons do not smoke, the diner is composed of two sections: a non-smoking portion and the adjacent hookah bar. Separate ventilation systems help keep the smoke from entering the diner.

Two years ago Statesboro invoked a ban on smoking in all restaurants. But Mansoul was able to get around the ordinance by selling the tobacco for his hookahs and offering live entertainment. Today, the restaurant is one of the few spots in town where patrons can actually smoke and have a cup of coffee.

see HOOKAHS, page 3

At right: Al Mansoul, who owns Eagle Diner in downtown, smokes from a hookah inside his coffee and hookah bar.

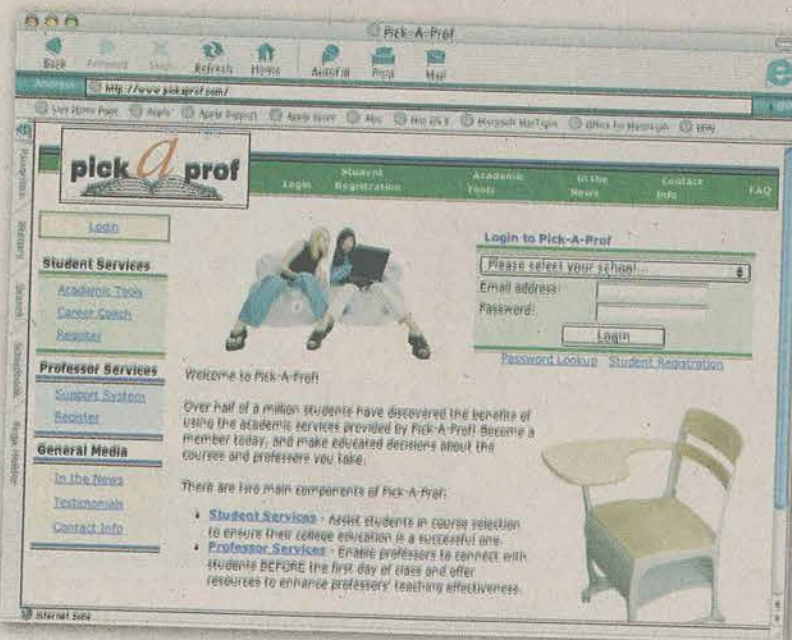
Students are able to grade professors on pickaprof

By Jessica Cole
gahiatu@yahoo.com

Finding top notch professors at Georgia Southern is easier than ever.

Thanks to a newly discovered website, pickaprof.com, students around the country are now able to find the best rated teachers at their school. The site allows students to exchange thoughts online about professors and even gives an overall workload of the class in which that professor is teaching.

Pickaprof was started by two Texas A & M students who wanted to set up a website to gather information about what professors at the school were best. The site began with only two members and traveled quickly throughout the Texas A & M campus. The site now has additional components, which include a student services site and a professor



services site. Each is able to ensure students they are receiving proper education while professors are able to reach students before the first day of class to let them know what to expect.

Today, pickaprof serves over 50 colleges and universities all over the United States including GSU. Students login to the website every semester to rate past professors and let other students know what to expect from the professors and their classes.

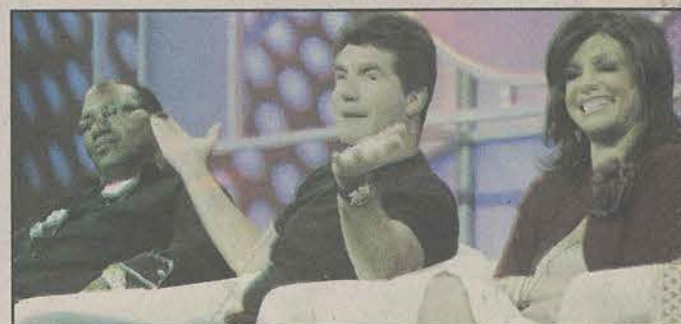
To become a member it requires a

login of your email and password and a submission of your address. It's \$5 a semester and summer is included in the fall semester.

Rosanne Grant, an education major, has been a member since her sophomore year at GSU.

"I found out about the site through other people in my classes," said Grant. "When I first learned about the site, it was easy to log on and it was free, but now they charge you."

see PICKAPROF, page 3



AP Photo/Nick Ut

'American Idol' judges, from left, Randy Jackson, Simon Cowell and Paula Abdul speak to media recently.

Hearty ratings for first week of 'American Idol'

By David Bauder
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - TV viewers couldn't wait for their "American Idol" fix, turning out 33.5 million strong for its season debut.

No other show this season has attracted so large an audience, and it represented the third-highest ratings night of entertainment programming in the Fox network's history.

Last year's season debut was seen by 29 million people. The season opener even eclipsed last

May's finale: 31.4 million people saw Fantasia Barrino crowned the third champion.

The two-hour debut Tuesday night featured auditions in Washington, D.C., with the heart-warming story of Regina, who sold her wedding ring for a chance to get on the show and was rewarded with a trip to Hollywood.

"It was pretty impressive," said CBS Chairman Leslie Moonves. "I think Gail undersold it very well. Very smart. I'm sure there's happiness over at Fox today."

CALENDAR

January 20-26, 2005

20 Huddle UP, Union RM 2041, 5:30 p.m.

Focused Bible Study, Union RM 2084, 6 p.m.

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

Blaqshion, Union Ballroom, 7 p.m.

'Reaching for the Stars: Technology of Interstellar Space Travel,' Planetarium, 6 p.m. & 7 p.m.

22 Handmade paper workshop, Botanical Garden, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

For more information or to register, contact the Garden at 912-871-1149

Ship Shape, Museum, 2 p.m.

24 Women's Basketball, GSU vs. College of Charleston, Hanner, 5 p.m.

Men's Basketball, GSU vs. Wofford, Hanner, 7 p.m.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day, Hanner

A faculty/staff All-Star game will be featured during half-time of the Eagles vs. Wofford game. Admission is free to faculty and staff with I.D. For more information call 912-871-1500.

'Sexy Beast,' Union Theatre, 7:15 p.m.

26 Red Cross Blood Drive, Union Rotunda, 9 a.m.

How to participate
E-mail us your events to gahiatu@yahoo.com. Please have you event turned in by Wednesday at noon for Thursday's Hiatus calendar.

The CIN List

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

Survive this, Hatch

Original 'Survivor' champ Richard Hatch is pleading guilty to charges of tax evasions. Hatch failed to report his one million dollar prize as well as other related income. As part of his plea deal, prosecutors will recommend less than the maximum of five years in a federal prison and a \$250,000 fine for each charge.

Well, well, well; look how the mighty and smug have fallen. Let's face it: I didn't like the guy anyway. Hatch's time in prison should be called, 'Survivor: The Federal Edition.' He won't be walking around naked this time. Here's a little piece of advice for Hatch; don't drop the soap.



Richard Hatch



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

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree

O.J. Simpson's daughter Sydney was arrested and charged with resisting arrest. According to sources, she would not stop yelling at police officers. The incident occurred when a fight broke out at a basketball game involving Sydney's old prep school. This sounds oddly familiar. A Simpson is resisting arrest. Can I say like father, like daughter?



O.J. Simpson



File Photo/Associated Press
Is it hair? Is it really there? Or is the product of a mistake with Nair. Larry King examines Donald Trump's unusual hair.

Ode to a hair piece

By Ashley Stevens • gahiatu@yahoo.com

Star of 'The Apprentice' Donald Trump is collaborating with Mark Burnett to develop 'The Apprentice: The Musical.' According to Burnett, the musical will be a love story. Burnett is writing the book for the musical as well as several songs. There is no word on whether Donald Trump will star in the musical.

Here is my rendition of a song or a monologue which should be in 'The Apprentice: The Musical.'

My hair, my hair why isn't it there?
Why, oh why, does everyone stare?
Each morning, there is more and more in my sink.
The guy on the hair club infomercial lied, that fink.
Why, oh why, is my hair disappearing?
Why, oh why, can't people stop leering?

I couldn't stand it, so I did something about it.
I found on the Internet a home-making wig kit.
With a little glue and some cat hair,
I didn't shave the cat. I just used Nair.
I like my hairpiece; I think it's quite shabby.
I borrowed some hair from my orange tabby.
My head, my head, it isn't bare.
Why, oh why, do people still care?
In the tabloids, there are pictures of my hair.
Reporters say things which aren't fair.
My hair, my hair, you know what, I don't care.
So what if people point and what if they stare.
I know when I walk; I walk with my head held high.
I love my hairpiece, I think I might cry.
My hair, my hair, I love my hair.
I love it so much, I made another pair.

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HOOKAHS

from the front

Benton said the hookah bar has seen a steady increase in customers. He attributes the popularity to a recently-introduced, Starbucks-like coffee bar. And while the increase in popularity is seen locally, national trends show that hookahs are gaining ground all over.

Smokers say the smoke is more enjoyable and less dangerous. But health officials have raised flags about the possible dangers of hookah smoke.

"The data we have clearly shows that carbon monoxide is present in large amounts in smoke from water pipes, as is nicotine and the compounds we call 'tar,'" said Thomas Eissenberg, a researcher at the Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University in a recent article in *Healthday*.

Eissenberg suggested that the cooled smoke creates the illusion of a less-dangerous inhaled tobacco.

"What you get (after the smoke has passed through the water) is smoke that has been cooled by the water," Eissenberg said.

"Water pipes have been around for centuries, but it looks like they are making a real comeback," Eissenberg said. "They're making a new appearance in the U.S., but they're also coming back in the Middle East. They've also shown up in Germany, Brazil, and in Thailand — where they were recently outlawed."

And while health advocates say the dangers are apparent, users say occasional hookah use outweighs the potential health risk.

"There's not much better than getting together with a group of friends and smoking the hookah," said Benton. "It might not be any safer than cigarettes, but it's not something you do every day of the week, either."

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Saturday by appointment



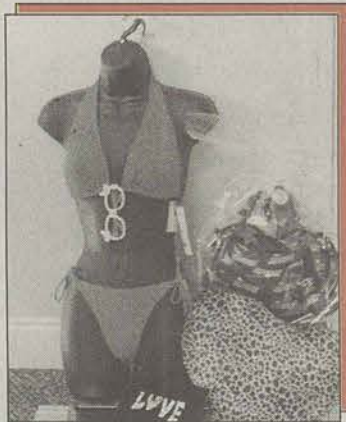
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TOP TEN

Movies

1. Coach Carter
2. Meet the Fockers
3. Racing Stripes
4. In Good Company
5. Elektra
6. White Noise
7. The Aviator
8. Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events
9. Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera
10. Fat Albert

Albums

1. Green Day-American Idiot
2. Eminem-Encore
3. Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz-Crunk Juice
4. John Legend-Get Lifted
5. Ludacris-The Red Light District
6. Destiny's Child-Destiny Fulfilled
7. Shania Twain-Greatest Hits
8. Jay-Z/Linkin Park-MTV Ultimate Mash-Ups Presents Collision Course
9. Usher-Confessions
10. Kelly Clarkson-Breakway

Singles

1. Let Me Love You-Mario
2. 1, 2 Step-Ciara
3. Lovers and Friends-Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz
4. Drop It Like It's Hot-Snoop Dogg
5. Soldier-Destiny's Child
6. My Boo-Usher
7. Over and Over-Nelly
8. Disco Inferno-50 Cent
9. How We Do-The Game
10. I Don't Want To Be- Gavin DeGraw

DVD & Video Rentals

1. Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy
2. The Manchurian Candidate
3. I, Robot
4. Collateral
5. Open Water
6. Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story
7. The Bourne Supremacy
8. Resident Evil-Apocalypse
9. King Arthur
10. Napoleon Dynamite

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Hey Hey Hey! 'Fat Albert' is Back

By Cheryl Frost
gahiatu@yahoo.com

Bill Cosby has done it again, tickled our funnybones with the reincarnation of that loveable, chubby teenager from the 1970's cartoon series, "Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids."

A live-action and animated mix, "Fat Albert" begins with the appearance of a teenage girl named Doris Roberston (Kyla Pratt) who is struggling with teen issues like acceptance and loneliness. She's sitting at home alone watching "Fat Albert" reruns and wallowing in hormonal self-pity when one of her teardrops falls into the TV set and disrupts the cartoon. Fat Albert (Kenan Thompson) realizes that "someone has a problem" and sets out to fix it.

He jumps out of the television and into the 21st century with his weird group of junkyard cronies. Doris, who is not nearly surprised enough that a bunch of outdated graphic images just materialized in her living room, assures the gang that she does not have a problem to solve and they should go back at once. Only too bad for the gang, because their show is over and they have to wait "until next time."

That was about the first fifteen minutes of the film and really all that was needed for anyone looking for a Fat Albert fix. After that, it was really just a matter of stomaching it.

The movie set out to do what was intended, which was to simply provide a brief encore performance of one of Cosby's greatest creations. Thompson played Fat Albert to a tee with all the goofiness and clueless humor of the original cartoon character. But this potentially fabulous idea was unable to strive on merit alone. Sure, there were a few laughs, but mostly we were laughing at the film, not with it. There wasn't enough substance in the story line to make you want to stay until the end.

Sticking it out did have its reward, however. Once Fat Albert and the gang went around causing mayhem in a sequence of embarrassing events, we finally get to see a face-off of cre-



Photo/Twentieth Century Fox
Kenan Thompson in 20th Century Fox's Fat Albert.

Wait for the DVD

This is a cute movie, but it's not worth paying the full theatre price. Wait for the DVD.

★★★★★ 3 out of 5

ator and created. Fat Albert decides to pay a little visit to Bill Cosby and although it was fun to see, there was nothing fun about Cosby in this scene. In fact, Cosby was probably the most serious he has ever been in his life when he explains to Fat Albert that he was created after Doris' grandfather, Albert Robertson, the *real* Fat Albert, who recently passed away. The entire movie, it turns out, was a 90-minute praise honoring the man who inspired the character. Although it was a touching sentiment, it made the story line all the more insignificant.

The movie concludes with an introduction to the real-life junkyard gang as they place flowers on Albert's grave. It is a sad, but effective closure.

This is another one of those films that is worth seeing, but not at full theater price. Pay your respects to the legend through one dollar video rental. Remember, this was the guy who played the radiator in the band. I think he'd understand.

PICKAPROF

they started the \$5 membership fee because of the growth of the student population at GSU and there really wasn't any other way of covering the site.

"It's essentially free," Bragg said. "Students receive redeemable certificates from Ecampus which works with pickaprof at GSU," said Bragg. "There are 6,000 reviews done by GSU students alone."

While students seem interested

in the site, some professors have mixed feelings. Math professor Donna Saye is rated one of the top professors at GSU.

"When a student is new to Georgia Southern and unfamiliar with faculty, it is good for them to hear advice from their peers," said Saye. "However, just because one student likes or dislikes a particular professor does not mean that other students will feel the same way."

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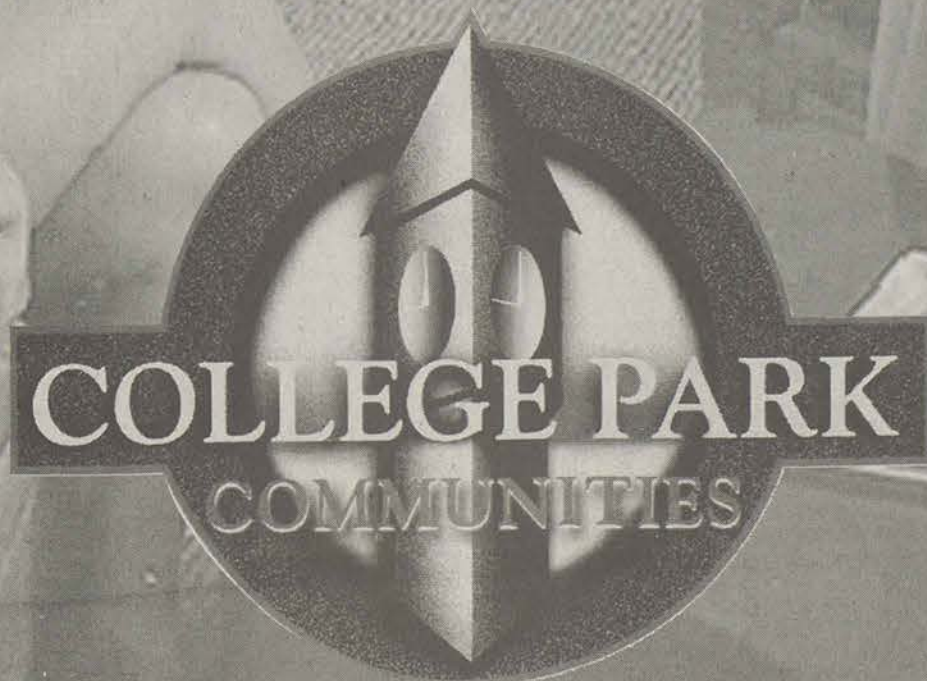
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Samuel L. Jackson takes to the court in latest flick 'Coach Carter'

by Christy Lemire
Associated Press

You pretty much know what you're getting when you walk into a sports movie that bills itself as "an inspirational account ... inspired by a true story."

And with "Coach Carter," you pretty much get that: The story of Ken Carter, the basketball coach at Richmond High School in a tough section of the San Francisco Bay Area, which features rousing, crowd-pleasing moments and breathless buzzer-beating action. It's also full of the obligatory speeches about turning athletes into students and turning boys into men.

The difference here is that the person making those speeches is Samuel L. Jackson. He's not threatening to strike down upon anyone with great and furious anger, as he did so famously in "Pulp Fiction." He has dialed down his wrath, but despite his character's overly polite practice of calling everyone "ma'am" and "sir," he's still tough.

Jackson avoids melodrama it just isn't part of his repertoire — and director Thomas Carter, who previously directed another MTV movie, "Save the Last Dance," for the most part does the same, though he could have trimmed the film by about a half-hour.

The result, like the recent "Friday Night Lights" and "Miracle," is a movie that manages to transcend its predictable, by-the-numbers structure, even though its tough-love themes inevitably will remind you of "Stand and Deliver" and "Dangerous Minds."

As told by screenwriters Mark Schwahn (creator of the WB series "One Tree Hill") and John Gatins ("Summer Catch"), the rigid Carter is hired to coach the dull Richmond

High basketball team, for which he was a star player in the early 1970s.

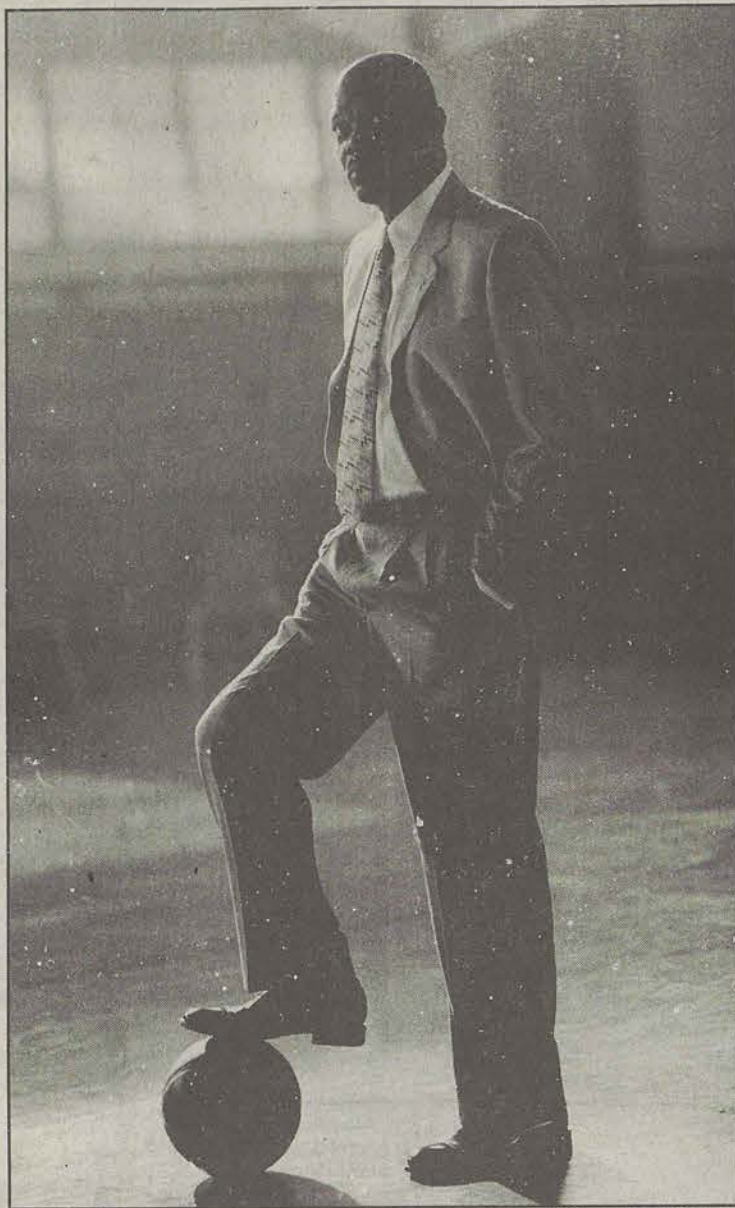
These kids are failing both on the court and in the classroom, and he immediately sets out to fix both problems. He works them harder than they've ever worked before, with endless drills, sprints and push-ups, and he forces them to sign contracts requiring them to maintain at least a 2.3 grade point average.

Everything seems to be going great in the film's first hour, which includes the victories as the team cobbles together a surprising undefeated season. Carter's innovative tactics include naming strategies after his ex-girlfriends and sisters. He also kills his players with kindness and tricks them through reverse psychology, tactics familiar to his son, Damien (Robert Richard) a freshman who has pulled himself out of private school and enrolled at Richmond, just to play for his dad.

Then "Coach Carter" becomes a totally different movie when Coach Carter realizes that several of his players haven't been upholding their end of the contract academically, with the complicity of their teachers and parents. He padlocks the gym, forces the entire team to meet at the library to study and cancels games, drawing the ire of parents and the community, who just want to see a winning team.

If all this hadn't actually happened, it would sound too impossibly feel-good to be true. While Jackson plays a huge role in making the film believable, the casting is exceptional all the way down the line.

Rob Brown, who made his acting debut starring with Sean Connery in "Finding Forrester," is quietly confident as one of the team's stars. R & B singer Ashanti, who plays his



Samuel L. Jackson stars in "Coach Carter," which is based on the true story of an inner-city high school basketball coach

pregnant teenage girlfriend, proves she can act beyond the meager skills she's displayed in videos opposite Ja Rule. And Rick Gonzalez (who played Spanish in "Old School") provides a palpable nervous energy as a student torn between basketball team and

the easy money he makes helping his cousin deal drugs on the streets.

No surprises here

"Coach Carter," a Paramount Pictures release, is rated PG-13 for violence, sexual content, language, teen partying and some drug material. Running time: 137 minutes.

★★★★★ 4 out of 5

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Associated Press

Jennifer Garner shines in 'Elektra'

Blissfully Ben Affleck-free, this "Daredevil" spin-off benefits greatly from the presence of Jennifer Garner, who steps from the shadows of Hell's Kitchen rooftops into the spotlight of her own butt-kicking chick flick. In fact, you'd never know that "Daredevil" ever came out in 2003 from watching this movie, and that's a good thing. Garner already has proven herself the ideal action figure from her star-making role on TV's "Alias." Playing Elektra, the Marvel Comics warrior princess, is a perfect fit for the perfectly fit actress. But Garner's charms extend beyond the mere physical. Simply by showing up, she makes

High action, good cast

"Elektra" is not what you expect. Jennifer Garner is what shines in this action packed flick

★★★★ 2.5 out of 4

"Elektra" far more entertaining than it has a right to be. Yes, she's smart and sexy and strong, but she also has a girl-next-door likability that makes her seem accessible. Goran Visnjic and the confident Kirsten Prout play the father and daughter Elektra protects from dark forces. Rated "PG-13" for action and violence.

Cheesy plot apparent in 'Are We There Yet'

Planes, trains and automobiles apparently aren't enough anymore.

In straining to twist every imaginable last laugh, this cruel road trip comedy also trots out a horse, a blinged-out sport utility vehicle and an armada of 18-wheelers driven by misinformed, overzealous truckers.

None of this helps, though, when the passengers of the vehicle are the manipulative, high-maintenance brother-sister duo of Lindsey (Aleisha Allen) and Kevin (Philip Daniel Bolden) who are under the watch of Nick (Ice Cube). Nick tolerates them

Lacks laughs, good plot

"Are We There Yet" lacks the plot to keep the viewer laughing. Don't waste your time.

★★★★ 1 out of 4

in an effort to woo their exceedingly hot, divorced mother, Suzanne (Nia Long). It's numbingly one-note until it shifts abruptly into a second note that clangs even worse: It tries to be sentimental. Rated "PG" for language and rude humor.

'Assault on Precinct 13' features all-star cast

The phrase "cult classic" has been used to describe the original "Assault on Precinct 13" — John Carpenter's 1976 urban Western about cops and criminals banding together inside a police station against a multicultural siege of gang members.

This new "Assault on Precinct 13" is a classic by making it bigger, louder and more obvious. An all-star cast (Ethan Hawke, Laurence Fishburne, Drea de Matteo, Gabriel Byrne) replaces the unknowns from the original, and the action has been moved from Los Angeles to Detroit in

Overdone

Plenty of stars, but it lacks the luster of the original.

★★★★ 1.5 out of 4

a blinding New Year's Eve snowstorm. It is perhaps an attempt by French director Jean-Francois Richet to obscure the muddled action sequences. Rated "R" for strong violence, language, and for some drug content.

Seems like we've seen 'Racing Stripes' before

Dismissing this as a paltry retread of "Babe" would be mean, and it's hard to be mean to a movie that's so

Seen it before, babe

It smacks of other well-intentioned movies like "Babe."

★★★★ 2 out of 4

well-intentioned. The similarities are awfully hard to miss, though — as are the differences. Whereas the talking little piggie of "Babe" wanted to be a sheepherding dog a decade ago, the talking baby zebra of "Racing Stripes" (voiced by Frankie Muniz) wants to be a racehorse. Like Babe, Stripes the zebra lives on a farm, where he's surrounded by a bundle of wild creatures. Here, their voices are provided by celebrity talent (Whoopi Goldberg, Joe Pantoliano, Snoop Dogg and the best of all, Dustin Hoffman as a Shetland pony). What "Racing Stripes" offers in star power, though, lacks in heart. It's strangely distant. Rated "PG" for mild, crude humor and some language.

MTV helps maintain focus on tsunami disaster

Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand — Pop stars from around the world will appear live or contribute taped performances to a Feb. 3 concert sponsored by MTV to support tsunami relief work.

Performers at the MTV Asia Aid benefit, to be held in Bangkok's IMPACT Arena, will include Good Charlotte, Kelly Clarkson, Hoobastank, Simple Plan, Asha Bhosle, Jay Chou and Tata Young. Alicia Keys is also scheduled to attend.

"MTV Asia Aid will help to maintain the world's attention on the devastation and loss that the tsunami has caused for millions of people," Richard Bridle, deputy regional director of UNICEF, said in a statement.

UNICEF will be the primary recipient of funds raised by the event.

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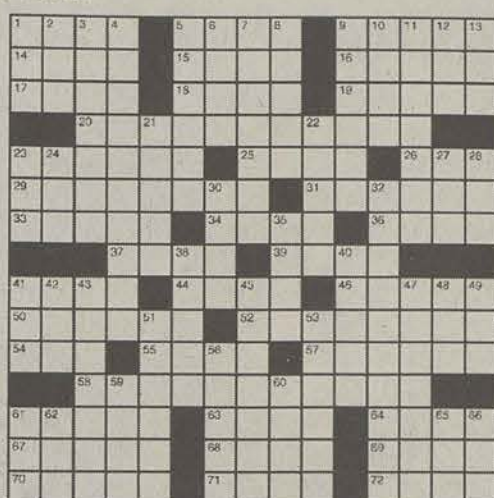
Submission information is available in the Williams Center, room 2009. The deadline for submissions is Friday, February 19th, 2005.

miscmag@georgiasouthern.edu

Miscellany Magazine of the Arts - 912-681-0565 - PO Box 8001 - Statesboro, GA 30460

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Sharif or Epps
5 Curving courses
9 Exhibitions
14 Turn toward
15 Goody stuff
16 Of hearing
17 Kermit, for one
18 Fixed charge
19 Longtime pal
20 Believer in free will
23 Flummox
25 Roberts University
26 Away from the prow
29 New Jersey city
31 Miller or Jackson
33 Go-between
34 Actress Daly
36 M. Descartes
37 Be... as it may...
39 Strong inclination
41 10-speed ride
44 Collage pad
46 Stagers
50 Type of shower
52 Not in residence
54 Metal container
55 "Thief" star
57 Costello's straight man
58 The Boss
61 Sneezing sound
63 Fruit with green pulp
64 Cup brims
67 Cuts of pork
68 Jack Sprat's diet
69 Tropical root
70 Runs easily
71 Work units
72 Singer Phoebe



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08/30/04

Solutions

MONS SUE S E D O T
O B Y I N V E I S N I O T
S I T I I M I X O O H O V
N E E I S O N I H S
L I O B B Y N V O N V O
E E L I S B Y I V O T H B
S T E E B W O O E X I R
E N E B N A L I N E B V
E I O B B N O S E L I V
L I V T V O E I W A L S
N V I W L E B I T
A N O H O E L Y H O H
T V W I V D O O E V V
S E I V I S O H V E V W O

DOWN

1 and running
2 Besmirch
3 Devoted follower
4 Subjected to rigid order
5 Comes to terms
6 Laugh loudly
7 Fluffy

8 Primitive weapon
9 Easy
10 Charismatic glow
11 Ancient period
12 Managed
13 Slightly shy
21 Nativity
22 More scarce
23 Mineral spring
24 Playground pastime
27 Half a sawbuck
28 Kickoff aid
30 Sgt. Snorkel's dog
32 Strings of parks
35 Desensitized
38 '50s candidate Stevenson
40 Diving bird
41 Eng. channel
42 Author Levin
43 Family ties
45 Having longer, slender limbs

47 Certain English schoolboy
48 Permit to go
49 Ready to go
51 Spanning
53 Smooth, shiny fabrics
56 Leg joint
59 Corn concoction
60 Stolen money
61 Every last one of
62 Talk baby talk
65 In favor of
66 Boar's mate

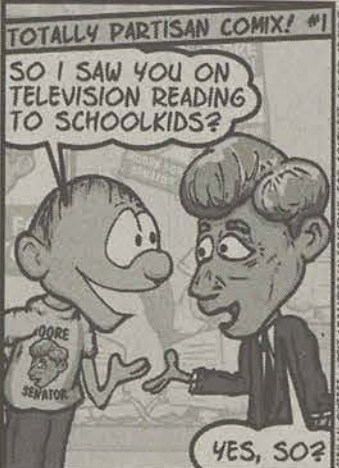
Out of my Head

by Scott Carlson



PAUL

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CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Over The Toppings

by John Sprengelmeyer & Rich Davis



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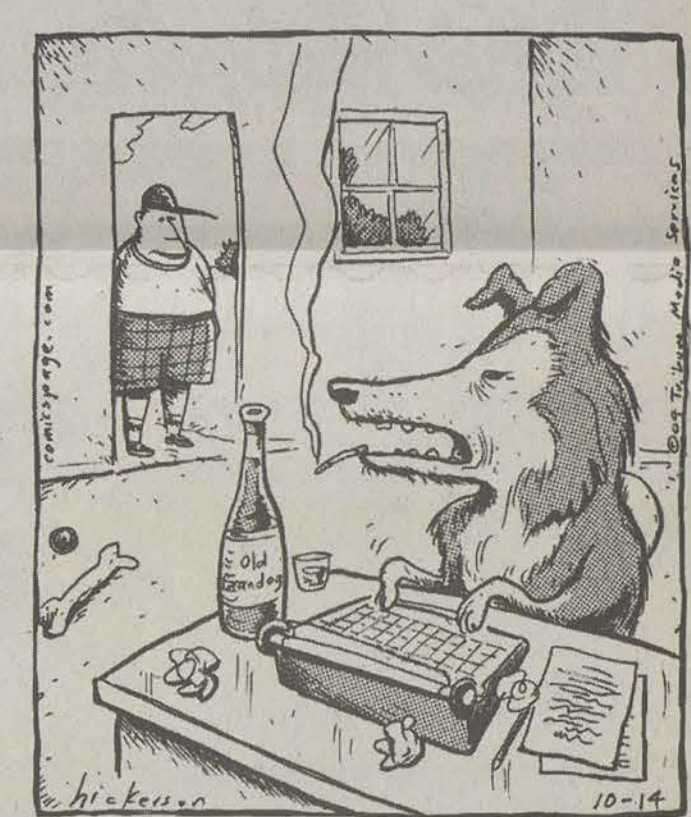
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Fur? Sure!

Faux fur, that is.
It's a white-hot trend.

By Wendy Donahue
Chicago Tribune

It's the season of the pretender: acrylic fur, artificial jewels on brooches, fake snake handbags and mock croc shoes. No doubt animal lovers such as Charlize Theron and Anna Nicole Smith, featured in the latest PETA ad campaign, prefer fake fluff to the real thing.

"A lot of the fur that you see when you're walking down the street is in fact faux fur," said PETA campaign coordinator Lisa Franzetta.

"Some actually looks quite real. So for people who want the look of fur, faux fur is a great option. It's inspired by the beauty of animals," said Franzetta.

FAUX REAL

In a year when real fur has cropped up in lavender and other shades not typically found in nature, faux is an even hotter alternative than usual.

"Faux fur is one of the hugest trends of the season," said New York-based fashion styl-

ist Sarah Shirley — a trend expert for Sears. "Faux is fun and you don't have to sink a lot of money into it."

"Faux causes less ethical pause than real fur for some wearers and the quality has improved," said founder of The Trend Report Judy Gordon.

"It's not like the old days when it didn't look good and didn't feel good," Gordon said. "There are some pieces where it's almost indistinguishable. If you look closer, of course, you can tell."

Gordon also believes that although fur pieces will go out of trend, it doesn't mean that faux pieces should be evicted after this season.

"Real or fake, retro stoles and capes inevitably will tumble from trend lists," said Gordon. "My mother used to say fashion repeats itself every 20 years," Gordon said. "Now it's about every two seconds. The pieces I really love, I never get rid of them because — boom! — they're back."



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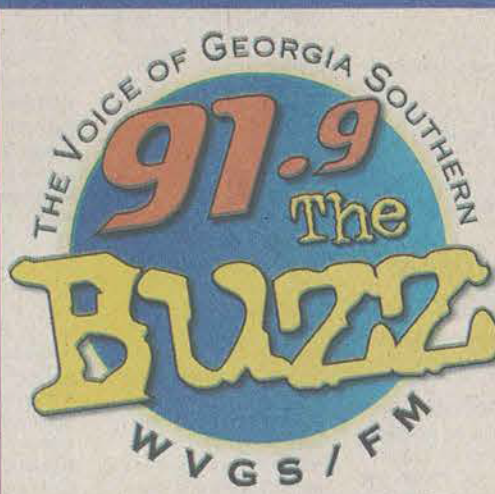
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