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The GEORGE-ANNE

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Monday, April 18, 2005 • Volume 78, Number 7

NEWS

Victims of the
Oklahoma City
Bombings struggle
10 years after the
attacks

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AROUND the HOUSE

Sports

Men's and women's tennis close out their seasons with wins

Baseball hosts Elon for weekend series

Softball sweeps Furman in weekend series

Page 8 & 9

Opinions

Luke Hearn questions the holiness of the papal conclave

Bill Ferguson, a guest columnist, ponders the possibility of a female president

GSU student Chris Marquez says GSU should leave spring break alone

GSU student Amanda Rampley says Luke Hearn's comments on pageants are offensive

Page 4

Quote of the Day

"They say that God is everywhere, and yet we always think of Him as somewhat of a recluse."

Emily Dickinson
1830 - 1886

Only In America

His penis wasn't the bomb, but his package was

A man allegedly unhappy with his penile-enlargement surgery mailed explosives to a Chicago plastic surgeon.

Blake R. Steidler, 24, allegedly made an explosive device that included a model-rocket engine igniter inside a jewelry box, the federal indictment said.

Steidler drove to North Bloomfield, Ohio, on Feb. 10 and mailed the box, but then drive home to Lancaster County, called 911, and turned himself in, according to the indictment.

More OIA on
Page 3

Weekend Weather

Monday



Sunny

HIGH
83°
LOW
53°

Saturday

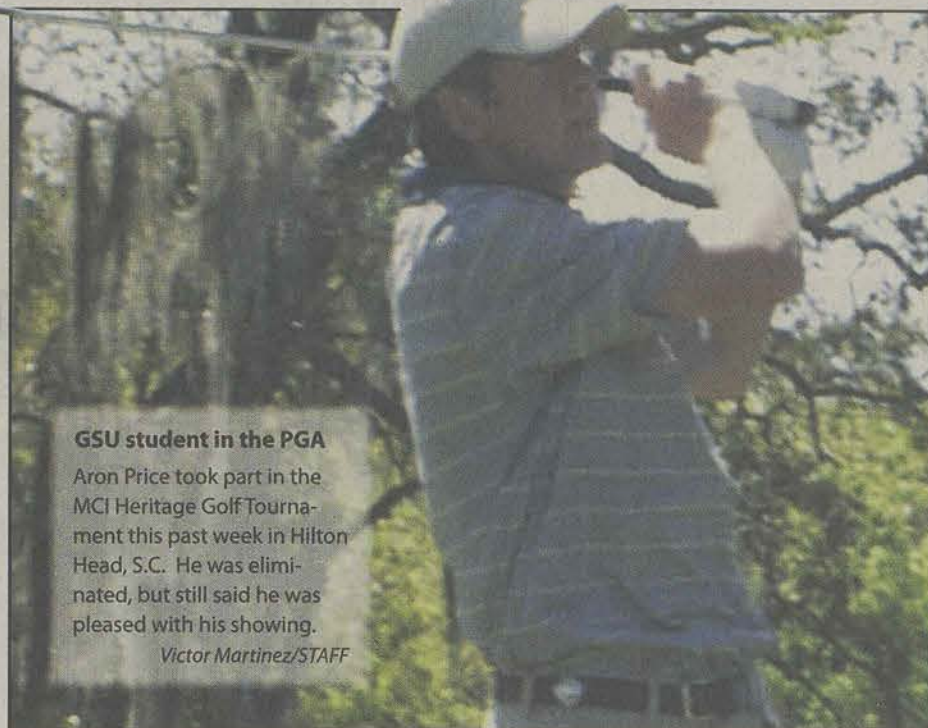


Mostly sunny

HIGH
84°
LOW
58°

Inside

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GSU student in the PGA

Aron Price took part in the MCI Heritage Golf Tournament this past week in Hilton Head, S.C. He was eliminated, but still said he was pleased with his showing.

Victor Martinez/STAFF

This Price is right

GSU student Aron Price continues to impress as he competed in the MCI Heritage this past week

By Matt Rapp
mattrapp111@yahoo.com

Georgia Southern University standout Aron Price competed among the world's best golfers at the MCI Heritage this past week at the Harbour Town Golf Links in Hilton Head, SC.

Price, a senior from Oyster Bay, Australia, earned a spot in this year's field after his win at the Player Amateur this past summer.

As the only amateur competing,

Price said he was excited to get some experience at the professional level. Last year he competed in two pro tournaments, the Australian Open and The Australian Masters, but the Heritage was his first professional tournament in the U.S.

"It's good to get a taste of where I want to be in the future," said Price after the tournament.

Price plans to turn pro at the end of the collegiate season. Currently

See HERITAGE, page 10

ABOUT THE HERITAGE

Heritage champions have combined to win 67 major championships.

Davis Love III is the only player to win the Heritage five times. Hale Irwin has won three times while six other golfers have won twice.

Georgia bases face looming closure threat

Sprawl from growing cities threatens Southern bases

By Jeffrey McMurray
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At military bases in the South, the signs of sprawl aren't high-rise condominiums or eight-lane highways, but endangered woodpeckers and deafening jet noise.

Many of the region's installations were built during or before World War II in places where there was a surplus of land and shortage of people. Despite unprecedented growth in recent years, most Southern bases are still more isolated than those elsewhere — but that could soon change.

How bases are dealing with sprawl is one of the factors confronting the Pentagon this year as it decides which military bases to keep in what is expected to be the largest round of military closings in decades.

"Try to look down the road at the demographics and growth patterns down South," said Ray Clark, who was an assistant secretary of the Army for installations and environment during the Clinton administration. "If they don't do that, they are going to end up inadvertently buying into something long-term they might not be able to sustain."

Depending on how the independent base closure commission conducts its analysis, the timing of this round of closures could benefit Southern bases, many of which are experiencing growing pains, but not yet the concrete-pouring variety.

"I'm absolutely certain the South will make out better than any other region of the country," said Loren Thompson, defense analyst for the Lexington Institute.

See BASE CLOSURES, page 6

GEORGIA BASES AT HIGH RISK

Navy Supply Corps School
Athens, Ga.
Total personnel: 323

Dobbins Air Reserve Base
Marietta, Ga.
Total personnel: 975

Naval Air Station-Atlanta
Marietta, Ga.
Total personnel: 2,904

Marine Corps Logistics Base
Albany, Ga.
Total personnel: 2,983

MODERATE RISK

Fort Gordon,
Augusta, Ga.

Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem,
Atlanta, Ga.

Moody Air Force Base, Valdosta,
Ga.

LOW RISK

Fort Benning,
near Columbus

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Air Field, Hinesville,

Robins Air Force Base, Warner Robins, Ga.

King's Bay, St. Mary's, Ga.



Raphael Pantin/The Statesboro Herald

Relay rakes in \$201,000

Locals, GSU students raise money for cancer research

By Adam Crisp
gadeputy@georgiasouthern.edu

This year proved to be yet another record setter for the Bulloch County Relay For Life, where teams collected more than \$201,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Relay, the largest fundraising effort for the American Cancer Society, is held in communities large and small all over the country. Bulloch County has consistently held a top spot in fundraising, said Chris Mitrison, Bulloch's Relay chairman.

"Per capita were going to out-raise (Savannah) this year," said Mitrison. "Last year we were fourth place in the district and 15th in the nation. People in Bulloch County are just amazing."

Mitrison said GSU students have had a major role in the fundraising for many years.

"GSU students have played a large role in the Relay over the years," said Mitrison. "It's not as much as it could possibly be though. They first started participating 5-6 years ago



Sarah Banks/STAFF

GSU students from the American Marketing Association warm up inside their tent at the weekend's Relay For Life.

and the students were the top money makers."

But Mitrison notes that in recent years, student participation has waned.

"In years past, sororities and fraternities would come out in shifts. They would walk the most laps, but it has fallen off quite a bit for whatever reason. We don't fault them for that,

we don't advertise enough."

But despite the lack of a huge following, students had an obvious impact on the overnight walk for fundraising this past weekend, with many teams set up along the track.

"I'm a cancer survivor," said Margarita Viera, a senior from Ludowici, Ga. who was walking for the GSU

See RELAY, page 6

Process to select new pope begins today

Catholic cardinals struggle with demands for '21st century' pope

By Brian Murphy
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Behind the thick oak doors of the Sistine Chapel, the cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church will do more than pick the next pope. Their deliberations — which begin Monday — also serve as a critical judgment on what the faith needs most as pressures close in from all directions.

The cardinals often mentioned as possible papal successors have already

made their voices heard — addressing the world's 1.1 billion Catholics and their fellow red-hatted "princes of the church" expected at the first conclave in more than a quarter century.

Every speech, text and public gesture has been pored over in recent years for clues about each man's style and priorities.

"They must pick the 21st century pope and address 21st century questions," said the Rev. Giovanni D'Ercole, a commentator on Vatican affairs. "It

may not be easy."

On one end is the blunt tone of the German theologian-scholar Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who has taken on everything from rock music to Muslim Turkey's European Union bid in his role as the Vatican's chief watchdog for doctrine. He may be the only papal prospect with an online fan club.

A more nuanced path is followed by Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn, who has reached out to

See CONCLAVE, page 10

Odds on favorite for papal successor

Several Internet gambling sites are taking bets on who will emerge from the upcoming cardinals' conclave as the next pontiff.



Francis Arinze
Nigeria



Dionigi Tettamanzi
Italy



Claudio Hummes
Brazil



Joseph Ratzinger
Germany



Jean-Marie Lustiger
France

Line 8-1 8-1 7-1 7-2 4-1

SOURCE: Paddy Power (www.paddypower.com)

AP

GSU celebrates Asian/Pacific Culture Week

By Masanori Isaka
masanori_isaka@georgiasouthern.edu

The Russell Union Rotunda was filled with sounds of the Pacific last Thursday as Fushu Daiko, a trendy taiko troupe from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. became a centerpiece of this year's Asian/Pacific Culture Week.

The troupe entertained over 100 people during the day, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with music from the Orient as part of this year's Asian/Pacific Culture Week. The sounds of the Japanese drums blended with the taste and smells of sushi, and other foods from Japan, China and Indonesia.

Daiko's three men and women performers wore traditional Japanese clothes and also played Japanese flutes and gongs. Since their establishment in 1991, the international group, with members from Japan, Brazil, Colombia, New Zealand and the U.S., has played as many as 200 times a year. They have performed around the world, to larger crowds from Brazil to Germany and many cities around the U.S. too.

Schools and universities are their regular venues for performances. "We love to play at universities because they are open-minded," said Ben Miller, a leader of Fushu Daiko. "Unlike the West Coast where there are Japanese music groups," Miller added, "The East Coast is hungry for this kind of music."

Besides the taiko performance, Georgia Southern also saw a series of other events during the week. Jeff Palis, coordinator of GSU's study abroad program, hosted a gathering of past, present and future exchange students to Asia on Monday at noon. Students got to share their experiences as well as their aspirations.

On Tuesday morning, Dr. Michelle Zjhra of the Biology Department shared her insights and experiences about Madagascar, an island nation off the coast of East Africa in the India Ocean. Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world. About 2000 years ago, Indonesians and Malays settled in Madagascar and later the Africans began to settle the coastal regions. These Afro-Asian traditions still can be seen throughout the country.

The evening fashion show at Russell Union Commons area formed another major attraction of the Asian/Pacific culture week. The show opened with Lion Dancers. The group performed drums and a lion dance. It drew over 50 spectators. After the Lion Dancers, about 25 student-models showcased indigenous dresses and apparels from Japan, India, Taiwan and South Korea.

Apart from the focus on conventional arts and culture of Asia, the week also helped highlight the recent plight of hundreds of thousands

of Asians. On Wednesday afternoon, a video entitled "Tsunami: Killer Wave" was presented. Dallas Rhodes, department chair of Geology and Geography made the presentation and led a discussion on the topic. The discussion was followed by a Tsunami Relief Panel Discussion at the Commons Area.

In December 2004, many Asian countries were devastated by Tsunami waves, resulting from a magnitude 9.3 earthquake. The world's most powerful earthquake in more than 40 years killed over 285,000 people and earned the title of the worst natural disaster in recent history.

Friday morning, At the Asian Economy Colloquium, Dr. Zhenhui Xu from Georgia College & State University talked about the Chinese economy and its relation to the U.S., entitled "China's Exchanged Rate Policy and Its Trade Balance with the United States."

On Friday evening, "Zatōichi," a movie and the final event of the week-long festival, was shown in the Russell Union Theater. The movie is about a blind nomad in 19th century Japan and how he makes his living as a gambler and masseuse.

The Asian/Pacific Culture Week was organized by the Center for International Studies and sponsored by Multicultural Student Center, University Housing, Henderson Library, Museum, Communication Arts Department, Department of Foreign Languages, the George-Anne and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

The week-long festival started in 2001 and many activities entertain the audience every year.

"About 500 people come to enjoy it every year," said Joan Stalcup, an Administrative Coordinator for International Students in the Center for International Studies.

Around 500 people enjoyed the cultural exchange this year as well.

"Compared to last year, I think it was wonderful," Stalcup continues, "because it has continued to grow. More international students have participated."

This year, the English Language Program at GSU were involved Thursday with the festival. "It was great opportunity for this program's students to involve the U.S. students to practice English," said Stalcup.

In the festival, Chinese students prepared for a power point presentation and explained the differences between China and Tibet. Japanese students were writing American names in Japanese. Korean Student Alliance displayed information about Korean culture. Local restaurants, China Super Buffet and Nikko, provided samples of Chinese and Japanese foods as well as Indonesian foods provided by an Indonesian group.

A member of Fushu Daiko performs on traditional Japanese drums on Thursday, April 14, under the Russell Union Rotunda.



Masanori Isaka/STAFF

Angie Threatte, who is an Administrative Specialist and an organizer of Asian/Pacific Culture Week in the Center for International Studies, thought the event was successful, but she was disappointed with the participation in the Tsunami Relief Panel Discussion held on Thursday in Russell Union Commons area. There were only about five listeners and some of them even did not pay attention to the discussion. "Because this discussion was not right after the event, the Tsunami waves, people did not pay attention," Threatte continues.

"I think we should have made campus-wide effort," said Threatte. She is already planning for the events next year, to re-invite Fushu Daiko, as well as having more local restaurants' with not only samples of food, but also cooking demonstrations, and last but not least, to enlighten more American students about the Asian cultures.

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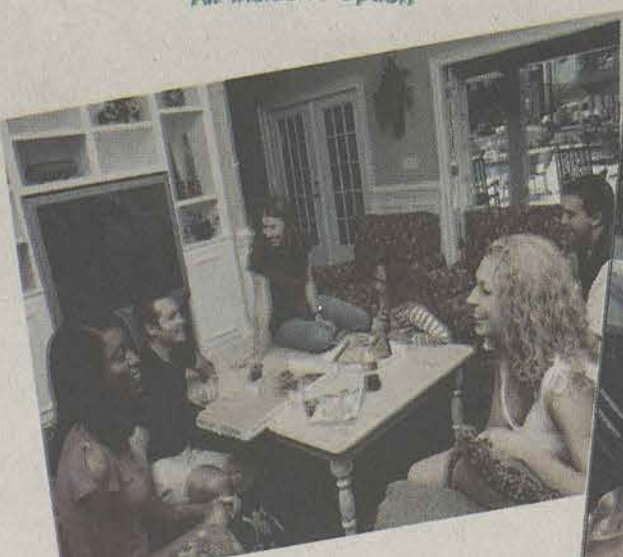
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Why "Wood" You Want to Live Anywhere Else?



Campus hunger strike ends, after national protests

Associated Press

Student protesters who are advocating for better pay for Washington University contract workers will meet with Chancellor Mark Wrighton three times this week to discuss the issue.

The agreement, announced Saturday evening after Wrighton met with some of the student protesters, convinced some of the students to end the six-day hunger strike.

However, the students said they would continue a sit-in at the undergraduate admissions office until they meet with Wrighton Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

About 15 students have been camped out in the undergraduate admissions office since April 4 and 12 of the protesters began their hunger strike last Monday.

The students want the university to negotiate a living wage for the school's lowest-paid workers, such as groundskeepers and food service workers.

Wrighton met with the students Saturday night after a rally earlier in the day drew about 160 people who supported the students.

Wrighton has not issued a statement since the student protesters rejected his offer Thursday to contribute \$500,000 toward salaries of campus contract workers.

Wrighton also agreed the university would join the Workers Rights Consortium, a nonprofit labor rights group for college workers. Wrighton also promised to meet with contract companies to discuss health care and contract guidelines.

Students elsewhere have been making similar demands. A hunger strike for workers rights at Georgetown University ended last month. The strike was a protest aimed at raising the pay for student workers.

This week, students at University of Missouri-Kansas City protested against rising tuition costs and part-time faculty pay.

Students at Yale University, Columbia University and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst were expected to stage protests this week for contract extensions, union representation and higher wages for graduate workers.

"It's absolutely part of a national movement that students are becoming more aware of their dependence on the exploitation of workers," said Washington University sophomore Joe Thomas, 19, spokesman for the Student Worker Alliance, which has coordinated the protests at Washington University and chose this month for its sit-in, as hundreds of prospective students and their parents tour campus. "And they're understandably not happy with that idea."

Only in America

Man upset with penile surgery mails bomb

STEVENS — A man allegedly unhappy with penile-enlargement surgery he underwent mailed explosives to a Chicago plastic surgeon, according to a federal grand jury indictment.

Blake R. Steidler, 24, allegedly made an explosive device that included a model-rocket engine igniter inside a jewelry box, the federal indictment said.

Steidler drove to North Bloomfield, Ohio, on Feb. 10 and mailed the box, but then drove home to Lancaster County, called 911, and turned himself in, according to the indictment.

East Cocalico Township Police, who received the 911 call, apprehended Steidler and turned him over to federal authorities, officials said.

The federal grand jury indictment charged Steidler with using a weapon of mass destruction, sending explosives through the mail, interstate transport of an explosive, and related offenses.

Man gives chicken 'mouth-to-beak'

COLLBRAN — First there was Mike the Headless Chicken, a rooster that survived for 18 months after having its head lopped off with an ax.

Now, western Colorado has a new chicken survival story, this one involving a man who claims he saved his fowl by giving it mouth-to-beak resuscitation.

Uegene Saffen says one of the chickens in his young flock had gotten into a tub of water in the yard last week and appeared to have died.

Saffen said he swung the chicken by the feet to revive it. When that failed, he continued swinging and blowing into its beak.

"Then one eye opened," Saffen said. The chicken's beak opened a little wider, and Saffen started yelling at it: "You're too young to die!"

Mike the Headless Chicken survived a beheading in 1945 in Fruita, Colo. Afterward, Mike could go through the motions of pecking for food, and when he tried to crow, a gurgle came out. His owner put feed and water directly into Mike's gullet with an eyedropper.

Scientists examined the chicken and theorized Mike had enough of a brain stem left to live headless. He was a popular attraction until he choked to death on a corn kernel.

Prison guards do puzzles for 'training'

SACRAMENTO — California prison officials ordered an end to using word puzzles as a substitute for guard training Friday after a state assemblyman questioned how finding hidden words such as elf, snow and gingerbread prepare officers to handle dangerous convicts.

Guards at some prisons were being told they could complete nearly one-quarter of their annual training

by doing word-search and cross-word puzzles on the job.

Correctional officers are supposed to receive 52 hours of training each year in such things as firearms, use of force and transporting prisoners.

Forty hours are hands-on but a union contract that took effect last July required the remaining 12 hours be spent studying bulletins with policy changes, administrative directives — and puzzles.

One exercise required guards to find the names of professional football teams hidden among a jumble of letters: "Complete the word find puzzle below and submit it...to receive one hour...credit. Good luck and have fun!"

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National News Briefs

Detective killed inside police station, shot by his own gun

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A police detective was killed with his own gun at department headquarters by a suspect who was not handcuffed and managed to get hold of the weapon, the police chief said.

The killing of James Allen, a 27-year veteran, came on the heels of a string of incidents that raised concerns about security of people in the criminal justice system.

Allen, 50, was shot in the detective conference room while questioning Estenban Carpio about the stabbing of an 84-year-old woman who survived the attack, Chief Dean Esserman said.

Carpio was not under arrest and

had been taken out of handcuffs, he said.

Carpio, 26, allegedly grabbed the officer's gun, shot him, broke a third floor window in an adjacent office and jumped onto a service road, Esserman said at a news conference.

He was captured after a struggle a few blocks away. No charges had been filed.

The chief would not say how Carpio managed to get Allen's weapon, and would not discuss other details leading up to the shooting.

He would not say if there were witnesses.

"The investigation has begun and we will find answers, but not here

this morning," he said.

Esserman also would not discuss the protocols for carrying weapons inside police headquarters or for interviewing potential suspects.

A gun believed to be Allen's was found below the window where Carpio allegedly escaped.

Deputy Police Chief Paul Kennedy said Allen was an experienced investigator, and one of the department's longest-serving detectives.

His father is a retired police captain.

Allen, who was married and had two daughters, was pronounced dead at a hospital a short time after the shooting.



Associated Press

Providence Police Chief Col. Dean Esserman faces reporters to discuss the death of Det. James L. Allen at the Providence Public Safety Headquarters Sunday.

Group tries to reduce child mortality rates

WASHINGTON — Almost 11 million children in developing countries die before the age of five, most of them from causes that are preventable in wealthier countries, the World Bank said in a report released Sunday.

About 2,000 of these children die in a week, said Francois Bourguignon, the bank's chief economist.

The causes include acute respiratory infection, diarrhea, measles and malaria, which together account for 48 percent of child deaths in the developing world, according to the

report — called World Development Indicators.

"Rapid improvement before 1990 gave hope that mortality rates for infants and children would be cut by two-thirds in the following 25 years," the report said. "But progress slowed almost everywhere in the 1990s."

The report said only 33 countries are on track to reach the 2015 goal of reducing child mortality rates by two-thirds from its 1990 levels.

It said only Latin America and Europe and Central Asia, may be on track to achieve the target.

Five years ago world leaders outlined a number of development objectives, formally known as the

Millennium Development Goals, to achieve by 2015.

They include boosting primary school enrollments, removing obstacles to greater numbers of girls going to school and improving health care.

Sex offender charged in girl's death

RUSKIN, Fla. — A registered sex offender confessed to killing a 13-year-old girl who disappeared a week ago, saying he got into an argument with her and he choked

her to death in her home, the sheriff said Sunday.

David Onstott, 36, was charged with first-degree murder Sunday, a day after investigators found Sarah Lunde's partially clothed body in an abandoned fish pond, Hillsborough County Sheriff David Gee said.

Sarah was last seen April 9, shortly after returning home from a church trip and around the time Onstott, who once dated her mother, unexpectedly visited the family's home.

Onstott, who has a rape conviction, has been held without bail in the Hillsborough County Jail since Tuesday on unrelated charges.

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Our Opinion

And the heat still rises

It's no secret that Rick Blum's article — "More government secrecy means less security for us all" — discloses the truth.

In his article he talked about how the government has successfully, especially during wartimes, hid vital information from the public in order to conceal their "wrongdoings."

Remember "Fahrenheit 9/11?"

We are always glad and assured to know that if the "truth" can't be told by our government, the system that seemingly "protects and secures" us, then God-willing, the truth will be told by us and the public through knowledgeable and less naïve people like Blum and Michael Moore, director of "Fahrenheit 9/11."

And it is sad that America- for so many months and years- has been blind-sighted by what's really going on.

But one cannot always blame some of our naivety; it's our unreliable, money-hungry, "I'm- not-sending-my-child-to-Iraq-but-I'm-sending-yours" government.

After reading Blum's article and watching Fahrenheit 9/11, we have gotten better insight, and become less naïve, to our governmental system.

The way our government entices the naïve person to think that everything is going swell is through confusion.

As Americans, we are all confused about why 9/11 happened, why we found/haven't found "mass weapons of destruction," why our children are going to war.

Oh, and we also wonder why in the hell is George Bush still in office.

Until we know the truth, together as a country, then maybe we can find rest- PEACE- and worry about our next meal- not the amount on our next paycheck.

Until then, the heat still boils.

Letters to the Editor

Mr. Hearn definitely not a pageant girl

I am writing in response to Luke Hearn's opinion on the "archaic age of beauty pageants."

I am actively involved in Miss America Organization Scholarship Pageants. It is obvious that Mr. Hearn has not previously attended a preliminary pageant. The women are more than just "pretty faces"; they have talent, intelligence, and great personalities as well.

The Miss America Organization is the world's leading provider of scholarships for young women in secondary and post-secondary education. The average winner of a preliminary for Miss Georgia wins a thousand dollar scholarship that pays for anything from her tuition and books, to housing and meals.

If Mr. Hearn thinks that beauty pageants are judged on beauty alone, than he is nothing more than an ignorant outsider whose limited observance to the inner workings of pageantry has led to him to an extremely unfortunate bias.

Mr. Hearn states that anyone can have a positive impact on society as a whole without a title and still be just as effective. Not only does the Miss America Organization provide better connections for these opportunities, it allows the contestants to work with a non-profit organization in order to help raise awareness for the individual's platform.

Most of the women are actively involved in their platform long before they ever enter pageantry and I have been working diligently on mine for many years before ever competing.

My platform is "Providing Hope for America's Elderly and Disabled." My mother is a geriatric nurse so I have openly been in-

volved with this outstanding group of people my entire life.

Mr. Hearn, you can not tell me that I have to have a title to make a difference because I have been doing so my whole life. I work with Adopt-A- Grandparent Foundation and have even created my own program, with the encouragement of the Miss America Organization, entitled "Preserving Memories."

This program helps Alzheimer's patients cope with their debilitating disease and volunteers proudly make scrapbooks with the patients to celebrate their wonderful lives and accomplishments.

We focus their attention to the positive and put a smile on their faces, and that in itself is more rewarding than any crown ever could be. Working with them has made me a better person and it has taught me to cherish my life to the fullest.

I will bring this to a close. Yes, we do live in a world where women are fortunate enough to fight for rights as equals, but that does not mean that we should not also have to right to be feminine and be proud of that femininity!

There is a great deal of hard work that goes on behind closed doors that isn't showcased and should be.

Mr. Hearn, therefore, has no right to make women, such as myself, feel like any less than a talented and intelligent individual who can do nothing but show my "tits" and wear a "fake smile."

Amanda Rampley
Miss Altamaha 2005
Arample1@georgiasouthern.edu

Leave Spring Break alone

I would like to respond to the current petition to get spring break changed to a later date.

First of all, I think the timing of our spring break is great. It falls early enough to where we can beat the crowds at popular spring break destinations such as Daytona or Panama.

Second, it has always fallen during the week of St. Patrick's Day, which in case you haven't noticed is a big deal around here. We can go and chill in Savannah without worry of classes the next day or huge hangovers early in the morning.

As far as the break being in the middle of testing, that's something that's never going to

change. Professors always schedule their exams around spring break, usually giving them before so you won't forget anything.

If you change the break to a later date, then that's just more information you'll have to retain. Also I don't think changing the date to better fit for warmer weather is going to help.

It's April 14th right now (as I write this letter) and it's 45 degrees outside. So please let the Calendar Committee do their job. They seem to know what they are doing.

Chris Marquez
GTYJackets0003@aol.com

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DEAD WRONG.



Selecting a new pope: holy or political?

With the process of selecting a new pope beginning today, many are holding their breath, waiting with angst to hear the announcement of who will be the leader of the Roman Catholic Church.

I'm no religious scholar, and my knowledge of how all this stuff works is owed to Dan Brown's two books "The Da Vinci Code" and "Angels and Demons."

But despite my ignorance, I must say I am a little taken aback by all the talk — especially in the media — about the geezer who will presumably head the church.

All the talk surrounding this issue reminds me of watching a political debate show, where experts discuss candidates for a U.S. Senate seat. The kinds of words used in both cases are: conservative, moderate, fiscal responsibility, popularity, power, etc.

I don't know about you, but hearing this talk makes me think of the cardinals sitting in the Vatican, all drinking brandy and smoking fat Cuban cigars, debating possible candidates and their strategies if selected to be pope.

Instead of seeing this as a very sacred, holy process, I'm seeing it as cutthroat, eye gouging process to appoint a man who won't screw things up.

If you think about it, the conclave is not as holy as one may think.

It's a serious political event, with dictation not taken from God, but from men who have their own agendas.

Furthermore, the talk amongst experts has centered on the idea that the new pope may be an Italian, the country that held the papacy for centuries before John Paul II came into power. Some speculate it may even be a black man (gasp!). Wow, wouldn't that put a new spin on things?

I think it's a great idea, but I doubt God would persuade the cardinals to do such a radical thing as to pick a pope who isn't "white."

Sure, the cardinals — I'm certain — do consider at least a little bit how the new pope will relate to the everyday Catholic, but their main focus is to pick a guy that's diplomatic, tactful, charismatic and is able to put a nice face, pretty on an institution that so often seems to make itself look bad.

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



Luke Hearn
news editor

2008 to be the year of the woman (president)?

So how do you address a woman president, anyway? I'm not sure, but I think the proper term is "Madame President." I bring this question up not just as idle speculation, but because it's the kind of thing we really need to start thinking about.

Most people would agree that we will have a woman in the White House "someday." But I am beginning to believe that "someday" may not be very far away at all. Although it's very, very early to be speculating about such things, there are forces in motion that could virtually guarantee that a woman is leading this country in January 2009.

Hillary Clinton is widely recognized as a frontrunner to win the 2008 Democratic nomination, if she decides to run in the next election. Although she is seen as a polarizing figure, she is wildly popular with the Democratic base, and it is not at all difficult to picture her stepping up to the podium to give her acceptance speech at their 2008 convention.

Republicans realize this, and their strategists are already considering ways to counter the wild (and probably mostly positive) press coverage that a Hillary for President campaign would generate. Some of them believe they have the perfect answer, and her name is Dr. Condoleezza Rice.

It's a long-shot scenario, of course, and Rice has stated that she has "no intention of running" for president or any other elected office. But in the world of politics, saying that you have "no intention of running" is very different than saying you are absolutely not going to run, and can usually be translated as "I'm keeping my options open."

More than a few prominent Republicans are absolutely giddy about the prospect of stealing Hillary Clinton's thunder by forcing her to face off against a tough, con-

servative black woman with a list of advanced degrees as long as your arm.

The question that comes up again and again in discussions like this is whether or not America is really "ready" to elect a woman as president.

Personally, I think it's a silly question. I think a better question is this: Would most Americans vote against a candidate who best represented their values and views just because that candidate was not of the male gender?

Look at it this way. Is a die-hard conservative Republican going to choose John Edwards or John Kerry over Condoleezza Rice just because she's a woman? Is your typical bleeding-heart liberal Democrat going to throw his support to Jeb Bush or Rudy Giuliani instead of Hillary Clinton just so the White House can remain an all-boys club? I don't think so.

We all have a certain amount of inborn prejudice regarding things like race and gender and yes, there are some Americans who will never vote for a woman, or a minority or what have you. But I think that kind of thinking is largely a relic of the past.

For most of us, a candidate's ideas and philosophy are much more important than gender and ethnicity.

There is no question in my mind that America is ready for a woman president. We've just been waiting for the right woman to come along. And who knows — we may just find two of them in 2008. Wouldn't that make things interesting?

Bill Ferguson is a columnist for the Macon Telegraph and can be reached at fergcolumn@hotmail.com.

Is your typical bleeding-heart liberal Democrat going to throw his support to Jeb Bush or Rudy Giuliani instead of Hillary Clinton just so the White House can remain an all-boys club? I don't think so.

Student Media Advisory Board announces new leaders

The Student Media Advisory Board chose the new leaders of Student Media for the 2005-2006 academic year on Friday.

The Advisory Board, chaired by Student Media adviser Bill Neville and charged with handling the affairs of Student

Media throughout the year, selected the new leaders for The George-Anne, the Southern Reflector magazine, and the Miscellany magazine of the arts.

Those chosen are to head The George-Anne are: Luke Hearn, executive editor; Mor-

gan Marsh, managing editor of operations; Adam Crisp, managing editor of news; and Rachel Weeks, news editor.

Chosen as editor-in-chief of the Miscellany is Ashley Stevens, and Katie Glorieux will be the editor-in-chief of the Southern Reflector magazine.



Hearn **Crisp** **Marsh**
Weeks **Glorieux** **Stevens**

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Victims of Oklahoma City bombing struggle getting along 10 years after

By Howard Witt
Chicago Tribune

OKLAHOMA CITY — What is the value of an American life claimed by terrorists? The answer, it turns out, depends on where and when you die.

Congress gave the families of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks generous federal compensation payments. Most ended up millionaires.

Congress gave the families of victims of the April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City bombing a two-year reprieve on their federal income taxes. Some ended up losing their homes.

The families of victims of future terrorist attacks may get nothing at all.

For all the nation's focus on homeland security and the probability that the United States could someday be struck again by terrorists, the vexing question of what would happen afterward — whom the government should try to make whole — remains unasked.

And the lesson of Oklahoma City remains unlearned.

"Everybody thought that all the people from the bombing were taken care of," said Tim Hearn, who quit a promising college basketball career to return home and care for his four younger siblings after his mother was killed in the bombing. "That's how the media made it look. But it wasn't nothing like that. We're living day by day."

The site where the Alfred P. Murrah

Federal Building once stood was long ago covered over by a striking memorial. A modernistic — and blast-resistant — new federal building stands defiantly across the way. The scarred downtown has been sleekly remade.

But 10 years after the Oklahoma City bombing, which killed 168 people and injured 842 others, the shock waves are still radiating outward.

Despite more than \$40 million in donations that streamed into Oklahoma City in the days after the bombing to help the victims, more than 60 families of modest means were thrown into such poverty as a result of deaths or injuries that they must still rely on charities to meet their basic needs. Another 70 victims are still receiving psychiatric care.

Theirs are not the stories most likely to be heard this week as the nation momentarily returns its attention to this heartland city in solemn commemoration of the bombing. Instead, the ceremonies at the Oklahoma City National Memorial, titled a National Week of Hope, will focus on "stories of life moving forward."

It turns out, though, that while the Sept. 11 attacks were vastly more devastating in both human and economic terms, the Oklahoma City bombing was a more intimate crime. Officials here estimate that more than one-third of the 1 million people in the Oklahoma City metropolitan

area knew someone who was killed or injured in the bombing.

The Oklahoma City attack also struck a more vulnerable population. While the World Trade Center towers in New York were gleaming icons of American prosperity occupied largely by office workers, executives and stockbrokers, the Murrah Federal Building was a dowdier destination, a place where workaday government employees served working-class constituents.

Yet in a state buffeted throughout its history by oil booms and economic busts and Dust Bowl droughts and killer tornadoes, deep religious faith and unblinking middle American values seem to have guided many Oklahoma City bombing victims to a quiet acceptance of their fates.

How else to explain the equanimity of a man like Hearn, 37, whose life was upended by the death of his mother, Castine Deveroux, 49, an employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"I think the reason why we went through the situation is to get close to God," he said. "We had a lot of evil in our life. The devil was in this house a lot of times. But we always found something positive out of everything."

Concerned about what would happen to his siblings, Hearn gave up his basketball scholarship at the University of New Mexico to move back home to raise them.

When the bills became overwhelming, Hearn sought help from one of the principal charities designated to help bombing victims, the Oklahoma City chapter of the American Red Cross, which assisted with some mortgage payments.

Hearn has accomplished his main goal — keeping his family together. But he's not sure how much longer he can provide for everyone. He believes, like many here, that Congress should compensate the Oklahoma City families just as it did the Sept. 11 families.

"I felt like my mom worked for the government and she died for the government and they should have stepped in and helped her kids," he said.

It is a faint hope.

In the weeks after the Sept. 11 attacks, Congress swiftly approved a \$7 billion compensation package for the victims, whose families received an average of \$2.1 million each. But every time the issue of compensation for other terrorism victims has been raised since then, lawmakers have ducked.

In 2002 and 2003, Congress declined to reopen the question of compensating victims of past terrorist attacks such as the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.

Lawmakers have refused to provide any budget funding for a terror victims' compensation fund that Congress itself voted to establish.

A Senate committee conducted



AP Photo/David Longstreath

Rescue workers stand in front of what is left of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, in downtown Oklahoma City, in this file photo shot April 19, 1995. A decade after Timothy McVeigh parked his anger against the government in a Ryder truck outside a federal office building, the people and place go on — but with scars that speak to what his bomb changed forever.

one hearing to examine a Bush administration proposal to set a standard compensation award for future victims of terrorism.

Then it promptly dropped the matter.

Congress' decision to compensate the Sept. 11 families "set an incredible precedent that will be very powerful if

a large event like this happens in the future," said Lloyd Dixon, an analyst at the RAND Institute for Civil Justice in Santa Monica, Calif., who conducted a study of Sept. 11 compensation issues. "But the bottom line is: There really isn't any ongoing strategy at this point of how we're going to deal with compensation if this happens again."

Children who survived reflect on bombing, can't help but ask why

By Arnold Hamilton
The Dallas Morning News

OKLAHOMA CITY — They were mere toddlers when the yellow rental truck exploded just beneath the windows of their second-floor day-care center.

Some spent weeks in intensive care. Others required years of therapy. All will forever be scarred.

But they are alive.

It was 10 years ago Tuesday that six children survived the life-shattering hell that Timothy McVeigh unleashed on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City.

Nineteen children perished, as did 149 adults. Hundreds more were injured when the fertilizer-and-fuel bomb pulverized the nine-story federal office building, leaving a massive pile of crumbled concrete, twisted steel and shattered glass.

As the surviving six stand on the cusp of the oft-tricky teen years, they spoke — many for the first time — about a cataclysmic event that thrust them into the American consciousness, but about which they have no memory.

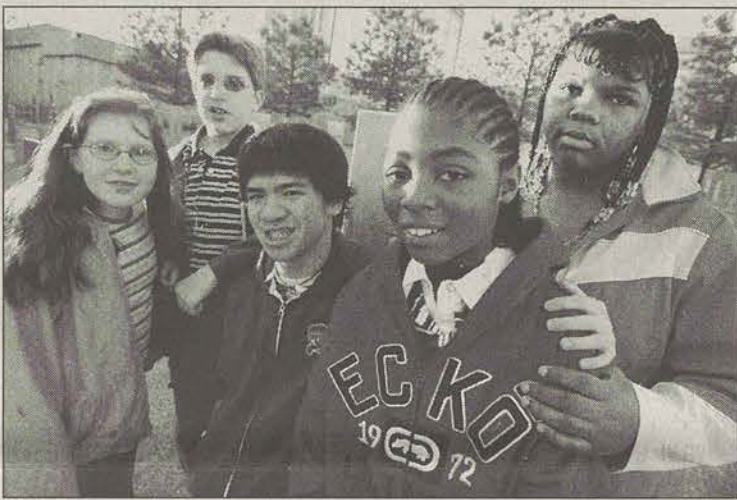
"I'm very grateful for being here," said Christopher Nguyen, the oldest at 15. "There were hundreds of people in the building that day. Only six kids survived. It was pretty miraculous, I'd say."

And sometimes, they can't help but wonder why. "My (grandmother) said it was because God has a plan for me," said 11-year-old P.J. Allen.

Nekia McCloud has no memory of the Oklahoma City bombing, but she lives with the after-effects every day.

At 14, Nekia McCloud's life is in serious transition.

She clings to her childhood passions, spending hours riding her pink bicycle, playing with her Barbie dolls and feeding the ducks at Oklahoma City's Dolese Park.



KRT Campus

L to R: Rebecca Denny, 12; Brandon Denny, 13; Christopher Nguyen, 15; Phillip "P.J." Allen, 11; and Nekia McCloud, 14, were all present when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was bombed in April 1995 in Oklahoma City. They survived and have learned to deal with adversity.

She also stretches toward adulthood: She grins and drops her head shyly when asked if she's interested in boys. She delights in Natalie's Goin' Crazy and Bow Wow's rap. And she's picked out her first car, a Nissan Altima. White. Definitely white.

"I like it," she said, "because it's fast."

Indeed, there are few visible signs that Nekia suffered severe head trauma and other injuries a decade ago in the Oklahoma City bombing.

Yet, it's a reality that hits home every weekday, when she arrives by bus at Western Oaks Middle School and heads to classes for seventh-graders with learning disabilities.

"We've come a long way, considering," said her mother, Lavern McCloud, a clerical worker for the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission.

"She had to completely relearn everything from a baby stage. They didn't know if she'd ever walk and talk again."

She said Nekia's injuries didn't require surgery, but there was an almost dizzying schedule of doctor visits and

therapy sessions. And she still attends special reading classes at Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Okla., not far from Western Oaks.

She even talks of someday becoming an English teacher. And she displays an amazing knack for bowling, routinely rolling scores of 250.

"It's my prayer," her mother said, "she'll be able to learn like a regular 14 year old."

Every request for help with Nekia's recovery — including the Southern Nazarene program — was met, McCloud said, with funds administered by the American Red Cross and the Oklahoma City Community Foundation.

Nekia and her family purposely kept a low profile in the years after the blast. A recent Dallas Morning News photo session, her mother said, was the first time in about eight years that they'd seen the other surviving children.

"She didn't like the crowds when she was younger," McCloud said. "She'd get agitated and cry, so we stopped going to some of the events and just focused on getting her well."

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Taylor tells protesters Legislature hurt women's rights

Lt. Governor talks to abortion group about legislative activity

By Charles Odum
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The state's top-ranking Democrat, Lt. Gov. Mark Taylor, told abortion rights supporters Sunday that this year's Republican-controlled Georgia Legislature attacked women's rights.

"The rights of women, the respect for women, took serious blows under this gold dome last session," Taylor said.

The one-mile "Walk for Women's Lives" march to the Capitol was inspired in part by a bill passed by the Legislature that puts a 24-hour waiting period on abortions.

The bill also requires doctors to inform women seeking abortions about medical risks and alternatives, including adoption.

"The last session they said to you the women of Georgia that you don't make a health care decision until 24 hours before you want that procedure," Taylor said. "That is an outrage to think that the women of Georgia need an additional 24 hours to make a decision on an important health care procedure."

Taylor, seeking the Democratic nomination to challenge Republican Gov. Sonny Perdue in the November 2006 election, told a mostly female crowd of about 200 on the Capitol steps that he will be their ally.

"We are about the Georgia that was back in the day only three years ago when women were respected in this building," Taylor said.

"I'm going to be here with you, regardless of who stands with me, behind me or in front of me. I'm going

to be with the women of Georgia."

Added Taylor: "We need to be speaking to the men and the men of Georgia need to do a better job of listening to the women of Georgia."

A small group stood across the street from the Capitol rally, holding anti-abortion signs.

Errin Vuley, executive director of Georgians for Choice, said she hopes the march and rally will become an annual event.

Vuley said about 500 participated in the march.

"I am so excited about the turnout," Vuley said. "We figure it was about double what we expected. People were just so excited and so passionate."

Vuley said the protesters were inspired by the actions of the Legislative session.



Lt. Governor Mark Taylor

"The rights of women, the respect for women, took serious blows under this gold dome last session."

Republican lawmaker may vote no on U.N. nominee

WASHINGTON — A top Senate Republican raised the possibility Sunday that he might vote against President Bush's nominee to be U.S. ambassador to the United Nations if more accusations surface about John Bolton's alleged harassment of analysts who disagreed with his views.

With a Senate Foreign Relations Committee vote expected Tuesday, Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska was asked whether he would endorse Bolton.

"At this point, I will ... but I have been troubled with more and more allegations, revelations, coming about his style, his method of operation," said Hagel, the committee's No. 2 Republican.

"We need a uniter," he told CNN's "Late Edition." "We need a builder. We need someone who will reach out to



Senator Chuck Hagel

our friends and our allies at the United Nations."

Bolton, who is now undersecretary of state, has been a vocal U.N. critic and rankled some lawmakers with his tough talk on foreign policy.

RELAY, FROM PAGE 1

Chemistry Club. "We've raised \$900 this year and that's a pretty good amount for us."

Other students echoed Viera's sentiment.

"I've been affected by cancer in a lot of ways," said senior Lara Ham-

monds from Vidalia, Ga., who was walking for the GSU Collegiate 4-h Club. "We've had a car wash to raise money and we sat at the rotunda to collect money."

Mitrisin, who took Saturday to recover from the 24-hour Relay, said

he's already looking to next year.

"We never set our goal more than 10 percent beyond our previous goal, but my personal goal is always better than last year," said Mitrisin, noting that last year the group took in about \$175,000.

BASE CLOSURES, FROM PAGE 1

In a bit of a policy change, the Pentagon devoted several million dollars this year to confront encroachment issues head-on — something Clark says he advocated more than a decade ago to little fanfare. Much of the money will likely go to the South, where there is still time to plan before its bases become suburbs.

Fort Bragg in North Carolina has been heralded as a model for how to deal with growth and encroachment issues. The endangered red-cockaded woodpecker is native to the area, but rather than battle to get the base closed, environmentalists fought to keep it open.

A unique partnership among the state, U.S. Army and Nature Conservancy led to the establishment of a 2,500-acre preserve for the woodpecker near Fort Bragg.

That partnership was so successful that the Nature Conservancy has been working on others with military bases including North Carolina's Camp Lejeune Marine Corps base, Florida's Eglin Air Force Base and Georgia's Fort Stewart. More than 350 endangered species live on military bases.

"Some people may think it's counterintuitive, but there is such biodiversity and critical habitat on military bases, and the military needs a lot of

nature habitat to produce its training exercises," said Karen Foerstel, communications manager for the Nature Conservancy. "It's really a win-win situation."

Besides dealing with the woodpecker issue, communities around Fort Bragg have offered to waive property taxes for landowners who agree not to develop their land.

"These efforts can't be a one-time deal," said Bill Martin, president of the Cumberland County Business Council. "It's got to be a concerted, long-term basis."

Environmental regulations posed the greatest threat to Robins Air Force Base in Warner Robins, Ga., although that issue now seems to be resolved.

Originally the Environmental Protection Agency tagged Houston County, where the base is located, as being in violation of smog limits, which would have required new controls crippling some training exercises. Community activists were able to convince the EPA that the pollution was coming from nearby Bibb County and that Houston County's air was sufficiently clean.

"Had we not taken that initiative, we would have wound up in non-attainment, and there could have been very unfortunate consequences," said Maj. Gen. Ron Smith, chairman of the 21st Century Partnership — a support group for the base.

In Atlanta and Jacksonville, Fla., sprawl in the more traditional sense has arrived at the edge of military bases. Development has left little room for military growth at a Navy Depot in Jacksonville and four Atlanta-area bases: Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Naval Air Station-Atlanta, Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem.

That could make those bases susceptible for closure this year because the Pentagon is expected to advocate a realignment plan that calls for fewer but larger installations.

Gen. James Shane, who helped lead the base closure process for the Army in 1995 and is now working to protect Kentucky's bases this time, says the Pentagon shouldn't be concerned about the spread of cities around installations. Such growth could actually be positive for the military, he said, provided those communities are supportive — as most in the South are.

"I see our military bases in the future becoming more of a component, being integrated into the community and less isolated than we've seen in the last 50 years," Shane said.

Clark, who started his government career at the now-defunct Fort McClellan in Anniston, Ala., said the Pentagon hasn't always paid enough attention to sprawl when deciding which bases to close.

For example, one of the reasons McClellan got the Army's Chemical School in the early 1980s was because Anniston allowed smoke-training exercises while its previous home, Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland, did not. Yet McClellan was still closed in 1995, and the chemical school was moved to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Population density didn't allow for smoke training there either.

Clark says McClellan is just one example of an unwise closure for a strategically located base because the Pentagon didn't adequately consider issues pertaining to growth.

"We can't just stop at our fence line and think we don't have to deal with those things happening outside the fence," Clark said.



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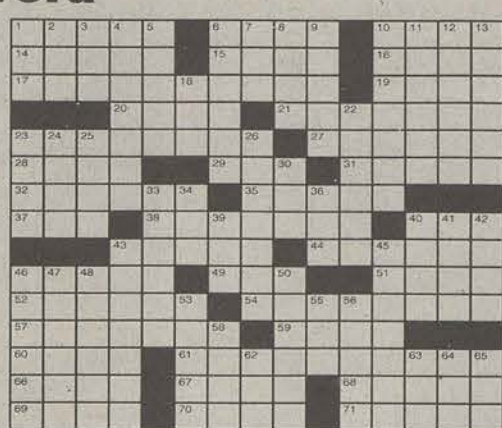
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Crossword

ACROSS
1 Hinged fasteners
6 Torn ticket
10 Fixed charge
14 Bandleader
15 Biblical weed
16 Track shape
17 Rich, creamy dressing
19 Poet Teasdale
20 Seasonal song
21 Bring before the bar
23 Canal or channel
27 Hollered
28 Lotion ingredient
29 Gangster's rod
31 Swollen, fluid-filled sacs
32 Reseal a package
35 Pitcher's bag
37 Lair
38 Chewy candy
40 Lout
43 Italian salami
44 Bank employee
46 Ballplayer
Guerrero
49 Mining product
51 Ireland
52 Playwright
Eugene
54 Provide
57 Public disgrace
59 Big rig
60 Pulled apart
61 Classes
65 Toledo's lake
67 Wickedness
68 Add up
69 Ownership
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70 Dupes
71 Access



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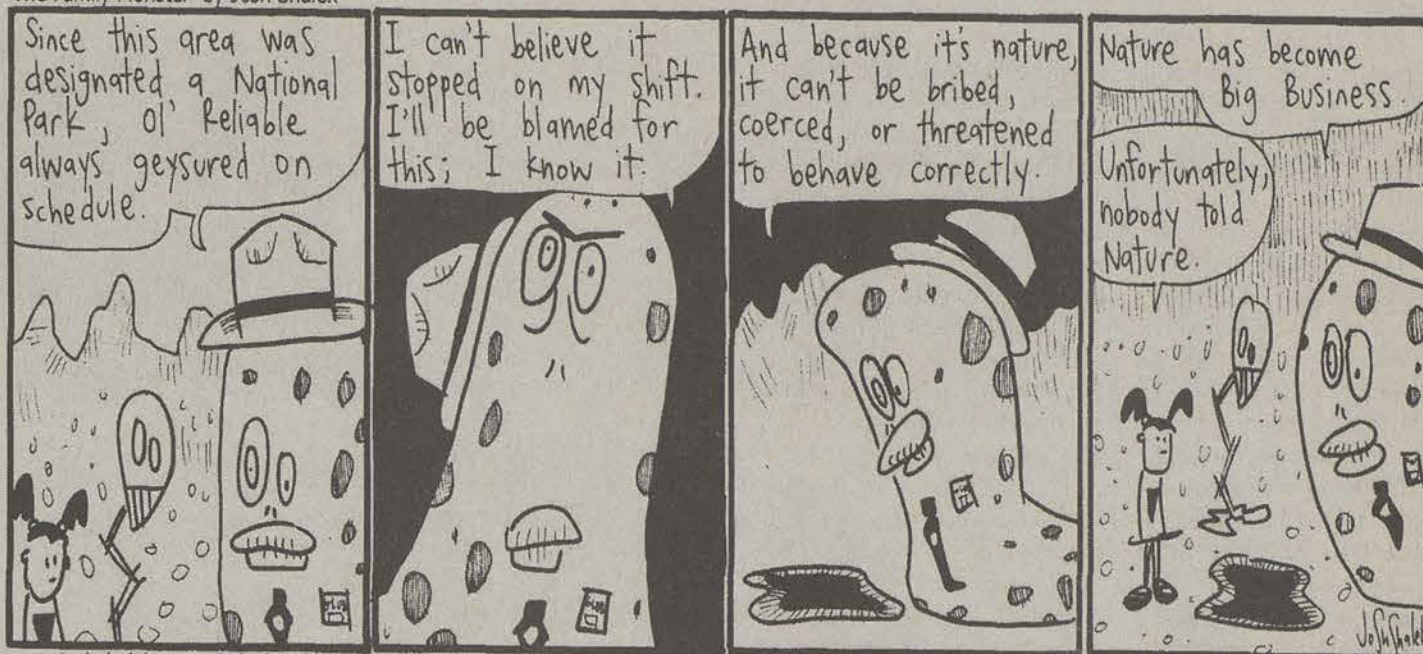
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9 HOLLYWOOD
10 NOBEL
11 IS
12 BULL
13 AFRICAN
14 ANTELOPE
15 UNUSED
16 COOK
17 BONDI
18 HOLLYWOOD
19 AWAY
20 HAMLET
21 SQUARE
22 ROCKY
23 ANCIENT
24 PLAY
25 DRUNK
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27 DYNAMIC
28 BARNEY
29 BEDROCK
30 SMILED
31 SHACKLE
32 ASSIGNED
33 ADDITIONAL
34 PERFORMANCE
35 SWEETIE
36 ART
37 BROGAN
38 BEER
39 OVERACT
40 VOLCANIC
41 GRATITUDE
42 ADDAMS
43 CORN
44 CUNNING

The Family Monster by Josh Shalek



www.joshshalek.com kid_shay@joshshalek.com

Not Quite Wrong



By Ross Novell

2 Dudes



By Aaron Warner

20 Announcements

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AMERICAN RED CROSS is offering Adult/Child/Infant CPR & First Aid Saturday, April 23 from 8:30-3:00 pm at the Chapter Office. Call 912-764-4468 to register or for information.

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The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students and utilizing the facilities provided by GSU. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The ideas expressed herein are those of the editor or the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Student Media Advisory Board, the administration, the faculty and staff of Georgia Southern University, or the University System of Georgia. The George-Anne is published three times weekly (Monday-Wednesday-Thursday) during the academic year and six times during summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor at by phone at 912/681-5246 or fax at 912/486-7113. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives staff by visiting our web

site at <http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu>.

STUDENTS BEWARE

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

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

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90 Education

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on Rebekah Rd (across from Talon's Lake). \$325/mo plus 1/4 utilities. Call 912-507-6994.

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Name: _____
Telephone: _____
Address: _____

Name, address and telephone number is required for ALL free ads.

Send your classified ad to:

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P.O. Box 8001
Statesboro, GA 30460

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FOR MORE INFO, rate

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sified ads from students, faculty and staff must be non-commercial in nature and submitted in writing, with the name of the sender, local address, and phone number. No free ads taken via telephone—at this price we don't take dictation. One free ad per person per week. Commercial classified are 25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum per insertion. Tearsheets are \$2 extra per insertion.

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NOTE

We gratefully acknowledge the theft of our slogan—"Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by them All"—from Robert Williams of the Blackshear Times. Call Bob and he can tell you who he stole it from originally.

Street pitches Eagles to sweep over Furman

GSU Athletic Media Relations

Junior A.J. Street tossed her second complete game shutout in as many days, as the Georgia Southern softball team topped Furman 2-0 to wrap up a series sweep Sunday afternoon at Eagle Field.

Street (9-9), who blanked the Paladins 8-0 in the series opener Saturday, showed little wear and tear on Sunday. The Lilburn native, who has gone 17.2 innings without allowing a run, struck out four batters and gave up just four hits in beating Furman.

Street, along with game two starter Logan Free, wrapped up a masterful weekend from the pitcher's circle, as the two combined to allow just 10 hits and an unearned run.

In Sunday's finale, GSU (21-24, 8-4 SoCon) capitalized off an early offensive outburst, as the Paladins (11-35, 2-10 SoCon) were able to stymie any further rally the Eagles attempted.

With one out in the first inning, Aurora Johnson reached on a single through the left side before moving to third on Heather Smith's team-leading 13th double of the season. Johnson then scored on a Robyne Siliga ground out that also moved Smith ahead to third base. Maria Laurato then accounted for the second RBI of the inning, as her single into right field brought Smith across the plate.

The Eagles had a strong chance to score in the fourth, loading the bases

with no outs, but Furman reliever Rachel Henley managed to silence the scare. Starting pitcher Blake Murray allowed singles to Ciera Dunn and Shanita Black before a walk to Johnson put a runner on every base. Paladin head coach Dana Jenkins then brought Henley in, a decision that proved to be key.

The Eagles' Smith and Siliga both struck out on 2-2 pitches before the inning ended quietly when Black was forced out at third on a Laurato grounder.

Furman, however, was unable to mount a rally of its own, getting just two batters on base through the final three innings of the game.

Johnson reached base in all four of her plate appearances Sunday, with two singles and a pair of walks. Dunn added a 2-for-3 day with her first career stolen base, while Black was 2-for-4 with two steals, increasing her career-high total to 21 on the season.

Murray (3-9) took the loss for Furman, allowing both runs off six hits before Henley wrapped up the game from the fourth inning on.

GSU will head out of conference Wednesday, traveling to Athens for a 3 p.m. doubleheader against 11th-ranked Georgia. Furman has a Thursday doubleheader at Winthrop set for 4 p.m.



Grayson Hoffman/STAFF

GSU junior Shanita Black slides safely into second base during a steal attempt during the second inning of yesterday's game.

Men's tennis defeats Davidson 6-1 for third straight win

GSU Athletic Media Relations

The Georgia Southern men's tennis team won its third consecutive match Sunday at Hanner Courts. The Eagles closed their regular season by downing Davidson 6-1 to even their SoCon mark at 5-5, pulling into a likely four-way tie for fourth place.

GSU, who finishes at 6-15 and 5-5 in the conference, may be somewhat disappointed that their regular season is over, as they played some of their best tennis in disposing of the Wildcats, who wrap up their 2005 season at 11-13 and 4-6 against SoCon opponents.

The Eagles jumped out to an early 1-0 lead by sweeping the doubles matches. Tom Green and Charles-Henri Trottet teamed at the No. 3 spot to take the first match completed, defeating Joe Cheaney and Flav Simihaian 8-4. The victory was the duo's third in a row and improved their SoCon mark to 5-4. GSU clinched the point when Vincent Patry and Danie Van den Heever captured an 8-5 decision against Russ Burns and Donald Miles at No. 1. Like Green and Trottet, Patry and Van den Heever's triumph was their third in a row and gave them a team-best six SoCon wins during the season. The win was also Patry and Van den Heever's 18th of the 2004-05 season, which is the highest total for any Eagle tandem since the 2000-01 season when Ryan O'Keefe and Florian Scheidat also had 18. In the last match to be completed, Lasha Janashia and Germano Knorr jumped out to a 6-2 lead against Daniel

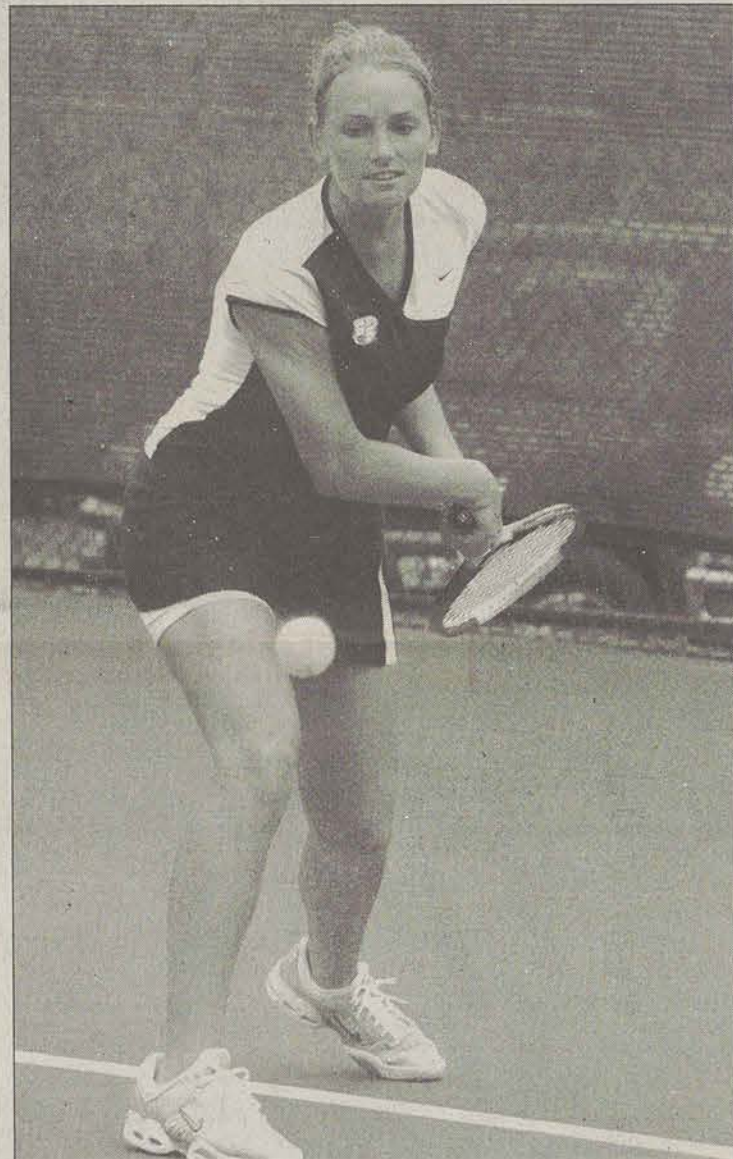
Bermeo and John Bolton at No. 2 and then held on for an 8-4 victory, their fifth SoCon win of the season. In an exhibition match, GSU's Diego Flores and Nathan Tinggen scored a 9-8(5) victory against Jay Chitty and Phillip Compeau.

Janashia upped the Eagle lead to 2-0 as he quickly disposed of Bolton, winning 6-3, 6-3 at the No. 3 position.

Davidson closed the gap to 3-1 when Bermeo picked up a 6-1, 6-2 win against Knorr at No. 4, but the Eagles quickly responded and put the match away with victories in each of the final three matches.

Trottet picked up his second straight win to clinch the match for GSU, taking a tight first set 7-6(4) against Burns at No. 5 before cruising in the second set 6-2. Trottet's season totals now include seven wins and a team-best six Southern Conference victories.

Sunday's victory will likely push the Eagles into a four-way tie with Wofford, The Citadel and Chattanooga for fourth place in the conference standings. By virtue of their 1-2 record against those opponents, GSU looks to receive the No. 6 seed in next week's conference tournament. If that happens, the Eagles will open against No. 11 seed Elon at noon on Thursday, April 21 at the Earle Tennis Center on the campus of The Citadel. The winner of that match will then square off against No. 3 seed College of Charleston the following day.



Grayson Hoffman/STAFF

GSU sophomore Stephanie Tyrell returns the ball during Saturday's match.

Eagles Men's & Women's Tennis

Next Game: SoCon Tournament
When: April 21-24
Where: Charleston, SC



Women's tennis caps regular season with win

Eagles defeat Wofford 4-3 to finish at 5-5 in SoCon

GSU Athletic Media Relations

The Georgia Southern women's tennis team closed their regular season with a 4-3 win over SoCon rival Wofford Thursday afternoon at Hanner Courts. The Eagles and Terriers split six singles matches before GSU claimed the victory by winning two of the three doubles contests.

Appropriately enough, it was senior co-captain Charlotte Bruneteaux, playing her final match at Hanner Courts after four standout years as a member of the team, who got the first win of the day and staked the Eagles to an early 1-0 lead. Bruneteaux won her third consecutive match as she easily handled Laura Lynn Williams at the No. 3 spot, winning 6-1, 6-3. The victory was also her team-leading 13th of the spring and gave her six wins against conference opponents.

Wofford (7-10, 3-5 SoCon) tied the match at 1-1 when Sarah Shelley posted a 6-4, 6-2 win against Ciara Finucane at No. 2. GSU then answered as Kim Wollett defeated Lauren Prickett 6-2, 6-4 at the sixth slot to give the Eagles a 2-1 edge. With the victory, Wollett finishes her season with 12 overall wins and six within the conference. The see-saw battle continued when Wofford's Tara Hartness downed Heather Reynolds 2-6, 6-1, 6-2 at No. 5, tying the match again.

The Eagles assured themselves that they would not lose the match during singles play when Szilvia Zsakay

prevailed in three sets over Delaine Hare at the fourth position. The 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 victory gave the Eagles a 3-2 cushion and upped Zsakay's season totals to 12 overall wins and six SoCon scalps.

GSU had a chance to close out the match with a win from the final singles match to be completed. Stephanie Tyrell, playing at her customary No. 1 spot, lost the first set of her match against Ellen Rogers 5-7, but bounced back to take the second set 6-4. She could not close the match out however, and lost the third set 3-6, sending the match to doubles play to be decided.

Wofford won the first doubles contest to be completed when Hartness and Prickett beat Bruneteaux and Reynolds 8-5 at the third spot. Needing to win the remaining two matches in order to claim the victory, the Eagles did just that.

The Eagles finish the regular season with an overall record of 9-12. Their win Thursday improves their SoCon mark to 5-5 and, coupled with UNC Greensboro's win against Appalachian State earlier in the day, likely translates to a sixth-place conference finish.

The team will begin their quest for an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships next week as they travel to Charleston, S.C. to compete in the SoCon tournament. The tournament will begin Thursday, April 21 with the championship match to be held on April 24.

Biffle makes Texas victory his second of the season

By Mike Harris
Associated Press

FORT WORTH, TX - It took Greg Biffle a little while to overcome the mental and physical discomfort from a crash in practice at Texas Motor Speedway.

It took hardly any time at all for him to make the rest of the field feel bad in Sunday's Samsung/Radio Shack 500.

"I was sore when I went to bed, sore when I woke up and I'm still sore," said Biffle, who ran over debris on the track during a Nextel Cup practice on Saturday, cutting down the right front tire and slamming into the wall on the fast 1 1/2-mile oval.

"It's been in the back of my head thinking about it ever since, but it hasn't slowed me down."

After charging from the rear of the 43-car field in a backup car, the Roush Racing driver was overpowering Sunday, leading 219 of 334 laps to grab his second victory of the season and the fifth of his career.

"As soon as I caught my breath after

the crash, I told the guys I was OK and to get the backup out," Biffle said. "They did an incredible job of getting that car ready. I want to thank all the guys from the other (Roush) teams. There were probably five or six different color uniforms over there working on getting that car ready."

"It was a good thing we still had some practice time left because I was a little nervous when I went back out there, a little intimidated thinking about that tire going down and hitting the fence. But I was confident we'd have a good car in the race."

Fortunately for Biffle, his backup No. 16 Ford was the same car in which he won earlier this season in California, so he wasn't too concerned about being competitive.

He picked off cars two and three at a time early in the race, moving all the way to 15th by lap 26, slipping into the top a few laps later. He took the lead for the first time on lap 87.

Biffle kept pulling away from the rest of the pack, but the race was slowed by 11 caution flags, keeping him from turning it into a rout.

The leaders made their final pit stops on lap 298 after Tony Stewart's engine blew, setting his Chevrolet on fire and bringing out the yellow flag. Stewart sustained minor burns to his right leg and right arm and was treated and released at the infield medical center.

Casey Mears, who had been running a distant second to Biffle, took only two tires during his stop and beat Biffle out of the pits to grab the lead.

There was an aborted restart on lap 304 when Dave Blaney spun between the first and second turns, but the green flag was displayed for the final time on lap 309. It took Biffle just three laps to work to the inside of Mears' Dodge and regain the lead.

"We might have had something for him with four tires there at the end, but we were making the call to try to win the race, not finish second," said Mears, who was also in a backup after crashing on Friday in the opening practice. "I tried to run the bottom and we just couldn't run fast enough."

After Biffle regained the lead, it was no contest. He pulled away to win by

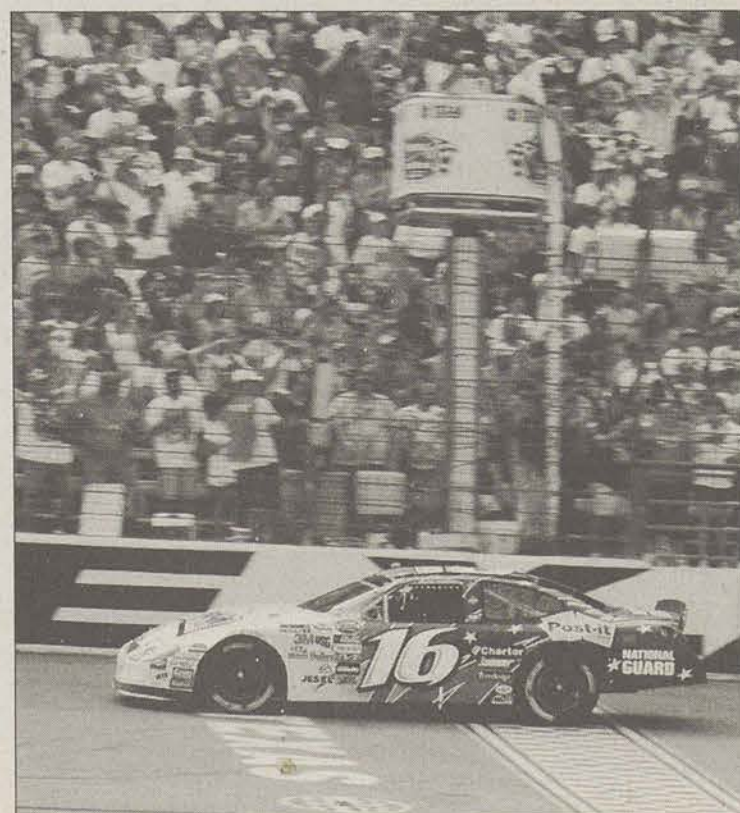
3.244-seconds - about 20 car lengths ahead of runner-up Jamie McMurray, Mear's teammate. Biffle is the ninth winner in as many Cup races at Texas. He had not finished better than 28th in two previous Cup races here.

Series points leader Jimmie Johnson was third, with Mears fading to fourth - matching his career best. Johnson has finished in the top 10 in each of his seven starts this season. He came into Sunday leading runner-up Biffle by 160 points and will go into next Saturday's race at Phoenix 135 ahead of the race winner.

Johnson was followed by Sterling Marlin, another Ganassi entry, and Michael Waltrip.

Kurt Busch, the defending series champion, ended a string of crashes in three straight Cup races by finishing seventh, while former Texas winner and fan favorite Dale Earnhardt Jr. was ninth.

Jeff Gordon, who was coming off a victory the previous week at Martinsville and was trying to win for the first time at Texas, was never a factor, finishing 15th.



Larry Papke/AP Photo

Greg Biffle takes the flag after crossing the finish line to win the NASCAR Samsung/RadioShack 500 at the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas, Sunday, April 17.

Eagles rally, but come up short against Elon

By Eric Powell
a1rice8@hotmail.com

Georgia Southern nearly wrapped up the weekend sweep yesterday against Elon, but fell just one run short of another bottom of the ninth rally.

Trailing 7-3 heading into the home half of the ninth after Phoenix leftfielder Chris Price broke the game open in the top half of the frame with his second career grand slam, the Eagles (24-11, 11-3 SoCon) put up three of their own, yet failed to win their second game of the weekend in their final at-bat leading up to the final score of 7-6.

The GSU bullpen allowed five of the seven Elon (22-16, 12-9) runs and spoiled a tremendous outing from Eagle starter Dustin Evans who went seven innings allowing only two runs, one earned, on four hits while striking out 10.

Evans effort was yet another solid

day on the mound for GSU starters who have collectively recorded at least 10 strikeouts per game in their last four starts.

In game two of the series played on Saturday, the team benefited from a dominating performance by starter Josh Lairsey who threw a complete game en route to an easy 8-1 victory.

For the day, Lairsey gave up the one unearned run on seven base hits while striking out a career-high ten Elon batters.

"It all goes out to the great play of our defense and how our offense stepped up today," Lairsey said. "It's an honor to go nine (innings) against a solid team."

Second baseman Brett Pelfrey gave the team all of the offense they would need in the game during the bottom half of the first with his two-run homer off Elon starter Lance Cole.

"He (Cole) tried to come in on me

like a schoolboy and I jumped on it," Pelfrey said. "Josh threw a wonderful game today as well."

Right fielder Brent Stephens collected his first homerun of the season in the contest when he took Elon reliever Chris Vasami deep to right field on the first pitch he saw in the eighth inning.

The win was Lairsey's seventh on the season running his record to 7-1.

In game one on Friday, Eagle first baseman Greg Dowling added to the team's number of walk-off wins on the season with his game-winning single in the bottom of the ninth giving the club a 5-4 win.

The two-out hit scored centerfielder James Payne from second base.

GSU pitching again was brilliant in the game as starter Everett Teaford pitched seven solid innings while striking out a career-high tying 11

Phoenix hitters.

GSU next sees action Wednesday in Statesboro against Charleston Southern at J.I. Clements Stadium beginning at 4 p.m.

| Box Score | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | R | H | E |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|
| Phoenix | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 1 |
| Eagles | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 2 |
| W: Regan (1-1) L: S. Cogswell (7-3) | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Grayson Hoffman/STAFF

GSU second basemen Brett Pelfrey looks on as first baseman Greg Dowling tags out an Elon baserunner.

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Track and field enjoys Banner Day at Solid Orange Classic

GSU Athletic Media Relations

CLEMSON, SC – The Georgia Southern track and field team enjoyed a very successful Saturday as they competed in the Solid Orange Classic at the Rock Norman Track and Field Complex on the campus of Clemson University.

As a team, the Eagles captured 17 podium finishes, including six first-place finishes. Individually, Lauren Jacobs (long jump) and Nicole Brown (triple jump) both surpassed NCAA regional qualifying marks while Brown and Nikki Slocumb (shot put) each set new school records.

Jacobs began her day by finishing second in the long jump preliminaries. Her distance of 19'1.25" (5.82 meters) was a new outdoor career best, and easily qualified her for the event finals. She then captured first place with a jump of 19'6.75" (5.96 meters), which just eclipsed the NCAA regional qualifying standard, set at 5.95 meters. Her jump in the finals was also the second-best ever recorded by a GSU outdoor track athlete.

Already the school record holder for the indoor shot put, Slocumb put her name atop the outdoor shot put list as well. She finished first in the event finals with a toss of 45'5", which edged the mark of 45'1" that was set by teammate Jamila Minnifield earlier this season.

Much like Slocumb in the shot put, Brown's performance in the triple jump left her with the school records in both the indoor and outdoor categories. She posted a distance of 43'3.75" (13.20 meters) to finish in first place and join Jacobs as a NCAA regional qualifier, easily surpassing the standard of 12.26 meters. The distance was also the longest recorded in the SoCon this season.

Two other Eagle athletes managed to capture first-place finishes during the meet. Junior Rashedah Arnold established a new outdoor career best with her time of 57.01 seconds in the 400M dash. The time is the best by any GSU athlete in the event this season and places Arnold third in the GSU annals. Wilson continued her excel-

Eagles Track & Field

Upcoming Event:
Spec Towns Invitational
Outdoor Track and Field
When: April 23
Where: Athens, GA

lence in the hurdles, winning the 400M event with her time of 1:05.05.

Senior Giselle Cunningham garnered a third-place showing in the 100M dash with a time of 12.04 seconds. Her performance established a new career best and ranks fifth in the GSU outdoor record book. Already the school record holder in the 200M dash, Cunningham tied with teammate Brown for fourth in the 200 finals, recording a time of 24.34 seconds. That time represents the fastest mark recorded in the Southern Conference during the 2005 outdoor season. Another senior who performed well Saturday was Melissa Reyes. The distance runner from Columbus, Ga., finished the 5000M run with a season-best time of 19:21.48 to earn third-place in the event. On the other end of the spectrum, freshman Lauren Niles showed that excellence can be attained without the benefit of four years of experience, capturing third in the discus with a career-best throw of 139'. The toss was the best of any GSU athlete this season and places Niles in third place on the GSU outdoor record list.

The final top-three finishes were captured by a pair of relay teams. Freshmen Tiffany Banks, Lisa Crum and Carla Ballard teamed with veteran Arnold to claim second in the 4x400M relay, clocking in at 3:54.64. The Eagles also recorded a second-place finish in the 4x750M shuttle hurdle relay.

The Eagles will get their final tune-up before the SoCon Outdoor Championships next weekend as they travel to Athens, Ga. on Saturday, April 23, to participate in the Spec Towns Invitational.

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HERITAGE, FROM PAGE 1

ranked sixth in the amateur rankings, Price knows he has the skills and ability to compete at the professional level.

Arriving at Harbour Town last Sunday, Price played his first practice round on Monday and felt confident with his performance. Price already has four wins on the season. But by Thursday morning, the jitters seemed to set in.

With an opening round of 77, Price shot four bogeys and one double leaving himself with a lot of catching up to do.

"I got a little anxious on the first day, I hit the ball fine and put myself in good position," said Price.

On Thursday, Price started out strong paring the first four holes followed by a birdie on five. But he found trouble at six with a bogey and couldn't make par again until nine. Price birdied twelve and fifteen, but bogeyed five more times to finish five over at 76.

Out of 133 players, Price finished the tournament tied for 109th place, beating out both players in his pairing, D.J. Trahan and Kevin Stradler.

"I learned a lot. Its cool to say I played in the PGA Tour" said Price after the tournament.

On Sunday, it was fellow-Ausi, Peter Lonard, from Sydney, Australia who won, beating out Darren Clarke with an unimpressive 75 on the day. Lonard finished the tournament seven under par.

Price is currently with his fellow Eagles, competing in the Southern Conference Championship in Charlotte, N.C.

CONCLAVE, FROM PAGE 1

Islamic leaders but also has encouraged Jewish settlement of the Holy Land. The Latin Americans considered "papabile" — the Italian word for papal candidates — speak forcefully about confronting poverty.

But none have signaled any support for major policy reversals such as easing opposition to contraception or dropping priestly celibacy. It's a fact that pro-reform Catholics are slowly absorbing: Priests do not rise to cardinal by challenging the system.

The conclave, with 115 cardinals under the age of 80 and eligible to vote, must juggle multiple demands and make some hard choices. With no clear papal favorite, the outcome likely will be about compromise and what new priorities attract the biggest following.

There's geography: Do they note that nearly half the world's Catholics are in Latin America and select a "new world" pope for the first time? Or reward the vibrant African Catholics with a pope of their own? Or choose a leader who could reinvigorate a fading flock in Europe?

There are internal dilemmas, including how to reverse the priest and nun shortage in the West, stabilize the money-losing Vatican finances and restore credibility following crippling clergy sex scandals in the United States and elsewhere. The cardinals also must ask: Who among them can handle the important dialogue with Islam and other contemporary moral quandaries like cloning and biotechnology?

Rising above it all may be the powerful legacy of the charismatic Pope John Paul II. The cardinals heard the cries from pilgrims last week at the pontiff's funeral: "Santo subito!" — meaning make him a saint immediately.

"The church cannot go backward," said Fernando Segovia, a theologian at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

The process begins Monday with a special Mass. Then comes the conclave. The cardinals are cut off from the rest of the world until they reach a decision.

Cardinals will decide after taking their oath Monday whether they will take a first vote that day or wait until Tuesday. Then it's four rounds a day until two-thirds of the cardinals — at least 77 — back one name. If no pope emerges late in the second week, a simple majority can vote to change the rules so a winner can be elected by a majority — at least 58.

It took eight ballots over three days in October 1978 to elect the first Polish pope. The prelate who appears this time in the central window of St. Peter's Basilica will be caught in the reflected glare of John Paul's history-making papacy.