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Work for Disney

Internship opportunities at Disney • topic of talks this month | **CAMPUS, p. 2**



Toy makers look to capitalize on robots

| **HIATUS, p. 7**

THE GEORGE-ANNE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2006

Happy hour may return

Council makes first vote to change liquor ordinance

WHAT MAY CHANGE

• Patrons will be able to purchase two drinks at a time. The ordinance passed in November limited the number to just one.

• Bars that haven't violated any liquor ordinances or had the police called to their business more than 25 times in the previous year will be able to have happy hour from 5-7 p.m. The November ordinance banned any drink specials at all.

• Now, drink specials must be just half the normal price offered during the rest of the day.

By Adam Crisp
Managing editor

Drinkers who have missed their happy hours may soon be able to drink easy.

The Statesboro City Council has made the first steps towards scaling back the alcohol ordinance passed in October. The council voted unanimously Tuesday to allow happy hours between 5-7 p.m. and to allow patrons to purchase and possess two drinks at a time.

The council has to vote favorably once more for the changes to become law. The next vote is scheduled for Feb. 21, and the change would be immediate.

According to George Wood, the city manager, the council proposed the changes with several restrictions. Most notably, bars that want to have a happy hour must have a clean record for the prior 12 months. Businesses can't have

violated the city or state liquor laws over the past 12 months, either.

In addition, the establishment can't have had more than 25 visits by the police department over the past year. Responses to traffic accidents or calls associated with the fire department or EMS won't count.

"If you've run a good operation and we haven't had problems, we're OK with you having a happy hour," said Wood.

Wood said drink specials, in addition to being limited to 5-7 p.m., must also only offer drinks at half the price compared to the rest of the day.

Wood said allowing patrons to purchase more than one drink at a time came from residents who complained that the rule was inconvenient.

"We got some complaints from people who said they didn't like making two trips to the bar just to get a drink for their wife," said Wood. "That was the primary reason for that change."

Brent Hulsey, a part-owner of the French Quarter Cafe, said he's hopeful that the council will approve the changes that would allow for a happy hour.

"If nothing else, what happy hours do is attract people to restaurants during the deadest part of the day," he said.

Hulsey said when happy hours were first outlawed last November, he had just started advertising a happy hour at his restaurant.

"Our happy hours were doing well," he said. "After about six weeks, though, the council passed the ordinance changes and we had to stop."

Hulsey said in the month after the council nixed happy hours, he lost nearly \$10,000 in revenue.

"Not having happy hours definitely hurts the small, local businesses," Hulsey said. "It's our catch, and we hope to have happy hours again soon."



Victor Martinez/STAFF

This file photo shows patrons at Retrievers. A proposed change to the city ordinance that banned drink specials last year may now allow happy hours.

Attend four games, enter to win \$500

Program rewards students who attend all GSU games held on Saturday with \$500 cash, tickets

By Chad Bishop
Sports Editor

This Saturday the Georgia Southern athletics department is holding an Eagle Fan Challenge for all GSU students and fans for a chance to win \$500 in cash. The program, sponsored by First Southern National Bank and Eagle's Landing Apartments will begin at 1 p.m. at Eagle Field for the season-opener of the Lady Eagle softball season.

Fans are asked to obtain a card from an athletics staff personnel at the

softball game against Kennesaw State. The card will be stamped at each subsequent athletic event throughout the day (baseball at 1:30 p.m., basketball at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.). The cards can be stamped at the customer service booth at J.I. Clements stadium and the doors of Hanner Fieldhouse.

Students who wish to take the challenge will be eligible to win \$500 in cash and two tickets to the Southern Conference basketball tournament March 2-5 in Charleston, S.C.

All non-students will have the chance to win two Southern Conference basketball tournament tickets plus two football season tickets for the upcoming 2006 season.

The winning card will be drawn during the first-half of the men's basketball game against The Citadel beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse.

Tired of waiting, New Orleans residents break the law to get their lights back on

Much of the city remains powerless during recovery

By Rukmini Callmachi
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Tired of waiting in the dark for the lights to come back on, Walter Vine took matters into his own hands: He unscrewed his electrical meter and rigged it to bring power into his flood-damaged home.

Vine, a building contractor, broke the law and risked serious injury or death. But like so many others in this hurricane-ravaged city, he figured it was the only

way to avoid the red tape and hair-pulling frustration so many have faced in trying to get their electricity restored.

"People cannot possibly do this by the book and stay in the city," said Vine, who lives a block from one of the city's former mayors in the upper-middle-class Broadmoor neighborhood.

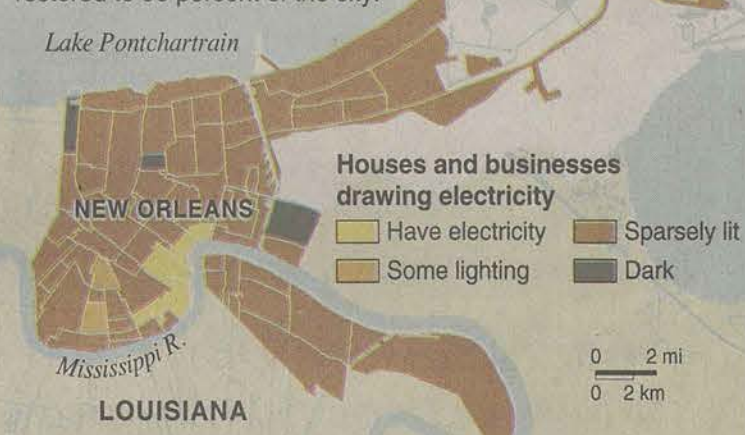
Five months after Katrina plunged New Orleans into darkness, roughly 124,000 homes and businesses — or more than 66 percent of the city's structures — still have no electricity, according to the utility, Entergy New Orleans.

The really frustrating part is that since December, power has been restored to 90 percent of the

see **LIGHTS**, page 5

Red tape keeping lights off

Only 34 percent of the homes and businesses in New Orleans are currently drawing electricity, even though power has been restored to 90 percent of the city.



SOURCES: Greater New Orleans Community Data Center; New Orleans City Planning; Entergy; U.S. Census Bureau; ESRI

AP

AN EDITORIAL

Don't place blame, turn this negative into a positive

Believe it or not, we at The George-Anne are just as disappointed about the cancellation of the Kenny Chesney concert as the next guy. It's disappointing.

We are not apologetic for the coverage we provided the entire situation.

We will not apologize for playing hardball with the local organizers who went against the prescribed arrangements for ticket sales, nor will we apologize for trying to

contact Chesney's spokesperson to try and find out why plans changed at the last minute.

As journalists, it's our job to find out and provide information to our readers. If for no one else, we looked into the shady ticket selling for those 300 or more students who lined up for tickets early Monday morning but were turned away and told our newspaper had it wrong when they all knew we didn't. In addition to the story written by

our staff, Chesney's people bought a full-page ad and specifically told the newspaper to run it on Monday — the day ticket sales were supposed to begin.

The reason the show was cancelled was not because of anything that any reporter from this newspaper did. It was cancelled, and this reasoning comes straight from Chesney himself, because those here in Statesboro were not up front about all aspects of the show.

Legends didn't have a liquor license, and that was the deal breaker. We're sure Kenny Chesney's people never thought to ask if a well-known bar would have a license to pour alcohol — it seems second nature. While we haven't confirmed this, one could speculate that Will Britt (Legends' owner) probably thought his license would be reinstated by February when Chesney booked the show in December.

What's truly unfortunate in this whole debacle is the fact that the concert was to benefit Habitat for Humanity. This organization lost the most. Students won't be able to go nuts over a huge country act. Habitat lost sorely needed money that could have helped needy families.

So to help our local Habitat chapter, we've decided to donate space equal to one full-page ad to the local chapter, an amount equal

to what Chesney and his people paid to run their ad. We feel it's the least we can do.

For those few students who were able to get tickets, we suggest thinking about donating your refund to the local chapter of Habitat as well. It's \$10 that you have technically spent anyway, and yours added in with others could make a nice donation to a charity that helps those who truly need it.

TODAY
High: 54 | Low: 27
Mostly sunny

FRIDAY
High: 58 | Low: 38
Mostly sunny

SATURDAY
High: 52 | Low: 26
Few showers

SUNDAY
High: 50 | Low: 25
Sunny

Campus 2
OIA 3
News 4
News 5

Sports 6
Feature 7
Olympics 8
Hiatus 9, 10, 11

THE OLYMPICS START FRIDAY
Read our full page coverage of the winter games in Torino, Italy.

USG Chancellor slow to make big changes

By Greg Bluestein
Associated Press

The new leader of the state's higher education network said Wednesday not to expect any rash or immediate changes under his watch.

"I expect that I will make changes over time, but they will not be precipitous," said Erroll B. Davis Jr.



Erroll B. Davis Jr.

"Change should be rational, its basis understood, and where possible, be fact and data driven."

Davis, the former chairman of a multi-billion-dollar utility, was appointed chancellor of the state's 35 colleges and universities in December.

Supporters say what he lacks in

academic experience he makes up for in business acumen, ambition and an outsider's view.

"We live in a world where other countries are realizing the dynamic power higher education holds to transform societies," said Davis. "Our role in affirming that truth here in Georgia takes on a new urgency."

Davis takes over a system in flux. His predecessor, Chancellor Tom Meredith, left last year to take a similar post in Mississippi after clashing with the state's political leaders over an untimely tuition hike.

In his first formal remarks as chancellor of the Board of Regents, Davis tried to set a collaborative tone while urging the system to forge a new way to measure progress.

"In the coming weeks and months, I'll be working with you and others to shape a coherent

strategy that we can use to move the system forward," he said.

He praised Republican Gov. Sonny Perdue's budget proposal for the state's higher education network, one of several measures the system will be closely watching this legislative session.

Perdue backs an amendment that would require state lottery money to be spent only on the HOPE scholarship and pre-kindergarten programs.

The proposal failed to muster the votes needed in the state Senate last week but will likely return to the floor for another vote.

Lt. Gov. Mark Taylor, a Democrat, backs a rival proposal that would have put broader protections on the popular college scholarship plan, which has sent thousands of Georgia students to state colleges tuition-free.

Georgia Democrats are also supporting a proposal that would allow

students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their high school classes to be automatically admitted to any state college of their choosing.

While the regents have made no public stand on the proposal, it concerns some school presidents.

Michael Adams, president of the state's flagship University of Georgia, said he has yet to review the proposal point-by-point.

"But generally, I'd say we're a microcosm of the college prep kids in the state," said Adams. "I think the current representation is fine."

Davis said he plans to visit the state's universities and colleges within the next four months to grasp the pressing issues each is facing.

"People and businesses are drawn to centers of education and intellect, and you are the nucleus of intellectual activity," said Davis. "That is why what you do has so many implications for the future prosperity of this state."

Proposed GRE testing changes postponed until fall 2007

Special to the G-A

According to an announcement by the makers of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), changes to the GRE test originally scheduled to roll out in October of this year will be delayed until the fall of 2007. The significant postponement of an overhaul that promises to be the biggest in the test's 55 year history may cause confusion among students and may impact their test taking plans.

"Though the year-long delay in the change to the GRE may wreak short-term havoc on aspiring graduate students' test taking considerations, it's ultimately a good thing as it gives students additional breathing room and more time to take the current, shorter version of the test," said Matt Fidler, GRE program manager for Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions, the largest provider of test prep worldwide. "Once the new

test is implemented it will be longer and more challenging for some, so we are still recommending that students who can adequately prepare for the test take it before it changes."

Nearly 500,000 future teachers, psychologists, journalists, scientists, and other grad school applicants take the GRE each year. The GRE is required for entry to most graduate level programs ranging from education and journalism to the arts and sciences.

Established in 1938, Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions leads the test prep industry and has served millions of students in nearly 70 years. Kaplan offers preparation for more than 60 standardized tests in the U.S. Kaplan also provides college and graduate admissions consulting services.

For information on GRE preparation options, students can go to www.kaptest.com/graduate.

Congratulations to Us! The G-A Wins Again!

The George-Anne is the top collegiate newspaper in Georgia. The newspaper captured First Place honors in six of nine general categories, and capturing first in three of seven categories for individual performance.

Team Awards

- **Second Place**, Best Website
- **First Place**, Best Campus Community Service-Editorial Excellence
- **First Place**, Improvement
- **First Place**, General Advertising Excellence
- **Third Place**, General Photography Excellence
- **First Place**, Layout and Design Excellence
- **Third Place**, Best Campus Community Service- News
- **First Place**, Best Campus Community Service- Features
- **First Place**, General Excellence

Individual Awards

- **Grayson Hoffman**, Second, Best Sports Photograph
- **Grayson Hoffman**, First, Best News Photograph
- **Adam Crisp & Luke Hearn**, First Place, Best News Article - Interpretive/Investigative
- **Wesley Huffmaster**, Second Place, Best Feature Story
- **Brian Metcalf**, Third Place, Best Sports Story
- **Luke Hearn**, First Place, Best Column
- **Rachel Weeks McDaniel**, Third Place, Best News Article

Three George-Anne student were elected to statewide office with the Georgia College Press Association. Elected as vice president of the GCPA was Rachel Weeks McDaniel, currently G-A news editor, and elected to the organization's board of directors were Morgan Marsh, managing editor for operations, and Casey Altman of the newspaper's staff.



George-Anne Daily -
the Number 1 newspaper serving
the Number 1 readers in Georgia

Intern at Disney resorts

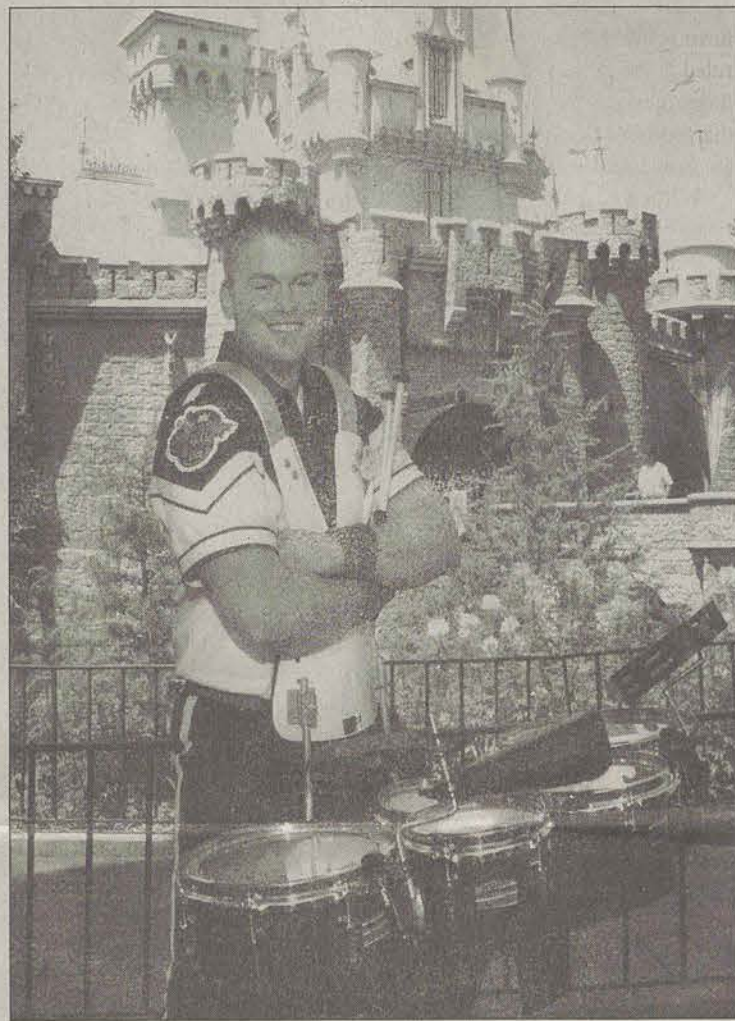
Special to the G-A

For 25 years, college students from across the United States and Puerto Rico have been taking on the opportunity of a lifetime, an internship with the Disney College Program. Georgia Southern students will have the chance to speak with a Disney College Program recruiter to create their own career-building opportunity on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

While involved in the Disney College Program, students have opportunities to network and learn from Disney leaders, gain real-world experience working in theme parks and resorts, and create lasting friendships with college students from around the nation and world. They also have the opportunity to enhance their education by participating in one of seven completely redesigned courses offered as part of the Disney College Program.

The courses include the Disney College Program Practicum, Disney Communications Course, Disney Hospitality Management Course, Disney Experiential Learning for the 21st Century, Disney Human Resource Management Course and Disney Organizational Leadership Course.

The American Council on Education has recommended the seven courses for credit. Students should meet with their academic advisors for details about receiving credit. Students in the Disney College Program gain crucial experience through a variety of jobs in attractions, culinary, custodial, food and beverage prepara-



Special Photo

Slippery Rock University senior Patrick Kennedy, of Butler, Pa., qualified to become the drummer for Disneyland's 2005 All-American College Band.

tion, hospitality, housekeeping, life guarding, merchandise, park greeter, quick service restaurants, recreation and transportation.

In addition to their roles, students have the opportunity to network with leaders throughout the Walt Disney World Co. by participating in on-

property and Disney College Program Recruiter to interview for the program. The Disney College Program is open to all undergraduate students in any major who have completed at least one semester of school. For more information visit www.disneycollegeprogram.com or call 1-800-722-2930.

Are you interested in joining The George-Anne Daily's team? Do you have ideas for stories or just love to write?

Contact news editor Rachel McDaniel at (912) 681-5246 or send an email to ganews@georgiasouthern.edu



Special Photo

Students learn of cultural practices like bullfighting through Spanish club.

Mesa de Conversación offers dinner completely in Spanish

By Daniel McHair
Staff writer

Study abroad programs are ideal for total immersion into a foreign culture, but such trips are not always feasible. Campus activities offer a great alternative for any who wish to learn about other cultures without traveling abroad or enrolling in foreign language classes.

Through the Spanish club and "Mesa de Conversación," students are given ample opportunities to learn about Spanish cultures. The best aspect of these activities is that they are not limited to students who are enrolled in Spanish courses. Membership is open to all registered GSU students.

The Spanish club is a multicultural organization in which students learn about the cultures of Spanish speaking people. The primary purpose of this

organization is to promote interest and understanding. Meetings are held every other Wednesday at 5 o'clock. Flyers are distributed throughout the Forest Drive Building to announce upcoming meeting times and locations. The Spanish club promotes Spanish language and cultures through such activities such as community outreach, parties, salsa dance instruction and traditional Latino food.

"Mesa de Conversación" is conducted at Dos Primos Mexican restaurant on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Students in attendance practice their Spanish speaking skills and assist others with conversational dialogue. "Mesa de Conversación" takes place during the off weeks of Spanish club meetings. Many Spanish professors offer extra credit as an incentive for their students to attend these foreign language-enriching activities.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

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 newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern University community. 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 four times weekly (Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday) during most of 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>.

SUPPORT

The G-A is funded primarily through revenue from advertisements placed in the paper and receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

STUDENTS BEWARE

The G-A 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.

FREEBIE INFO

ALL FREE student and facul-

ty ads to be run in the G-A must have a NAME, P.O. BOX and PHONE NUMBER. Ads will be rejected if they do not have this information. NO EXCEPTIONS.

OFFICES, MAIL, PHONES

Room 2023, F.I. Williams Center. The George-Anne, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga. 30460. 912/681-5246 (News) or 912/681-5418 (Advertising) or 912/486-7113 (Fax); 912/681-0069 (adviser).

EMAIL DIRECTORY

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Managing Editor: ganmed@georgiasouthern.edu
News Editor: gannews@georgiasouthern.edu
Advertising: ads@georgiasouthern.edu

ADVERTISING

The George-Anne reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date.

FOR MORE INFO, rate cards, sample publications,

contact: Lindsey Treadwell, Marketing Director, ADS, (912) 681-5418, ads@georgiasouthern.edu; or Bill Neville, Student Media Coordinator, (912) 681-0069, bneville@georgiasouthern.edu

PROOFING/ERRORS/OMISSIONS

The newspaper makes every reasonable effort to present correct and complete information in advertisements. However, the advertiser is responsible for proofing the ad upon publication and should notify the newspaper immediately in the event of an error. The newspaper is not responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

CLASSIFIED ADS: Free classified 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 available only from our online site at www.gsuaads.com. The price of commercial ads is \$7 for 200 characters for line ads. Ads must be paid for using a major credit card. For classified display ads, contact ads@georgiasouthern.edu

CIRCULATION INFORMATION

Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu. It is the goal of the newspaper to have its edition placed on-line within 24 hours of publication. Breaking news will be placed on-line as warranted. The G-A is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern University campus through delivery sites located in campus buildings, at off-campus sites, and in residence halls.

NOTICE

Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

NOTE

We gratefully acknowledge the theft of one of our slogans — "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. Credit for the other — "Covering Campus like A Swarm of Gnats" — goes to G-A alum Mike Mills.

THE BIG STORY

Dark SUV now sought in the Alabama church fires probe

By Jay Reeves
Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Federal agents said Wednesday they were looking for a dark sport utility vehicle in the investigation of nine rural Alabama church fires.

Two members of Old Union Baptist Church in Bibb County said they saw such a vehicle driving slowly by the church at Brierfield when they arrived moments after the fire was set around 4:05 a.m. Friday.

"They were looking at the church when I spotted them," one of the witnesses, Alvin Lawley, told The Associated Press in an interview Wednesday. "It was like they wanted to see what they had done."

Lawley said he got in his vehicle to briefly pursue the SUV and saw a white man in the passenger seat but couldn't see the driver.

Lawley and member Hilman Moses had hurried to the church after being alerted that other church fires along rural roads had erupted early Friday in the county just south of Birmingham. All five fires have been ruled arsons, and federal agents say they are working on the assumption that the four Tuesday in west Alabama are linked to those in Bibb County.

Witnesses and authorities re-



AP Photo/Steve Barnett

An agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms investigates the remains of the Morning Star Baptist church Tuesday, near Boligee, Ala. Fires damaged or destroyed four Baptist churches across Alabama Tuesday, less than a week after a string of five blazes were ruled arson.

ported a similar pattern at several of the burned churches, including Old Union.

Witnesses in west Alabama also reported seeing a dark SUV near at least one of the burned churches.

Austin Banks, a special agent of the federal Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agency, told The Tuscaloosa News that two white men were seen near the church fires in west Alabama. But Eric Kehn, a spokesman for ATF, said Wednesday he had no

information about anyone in the SUV. Birmingham FBI Special Agent Ray Zicarelli declined to comment in advance of a news conference Wednesday afternoon. Banks did not immediately return a call for comment.

The four churches that burned Tuesday in three adjoining counties on the Mississippi line all have black congregations. But four of the five churches set afire in Bibb County have white congregations. Agents said they do not have a motive in the arsons.

Delta doesn't pay, planes not maintained

By Aleksander Rozens
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A bankruptcy judge on Wednesday ordered Delta Air Lines Inc. to pay a bondholders' trustee \$2 million a month as a cushion against drops in the value of jets the carrier pledged as collateral.

The trustee, Wells Fargo Bank, had asked the airline to ensure proper maintenance of the jets. Wednesday

was the second day of hearings on this issue. As a trustee, Wells Fargo ensures that Delta bond holders receive timely principal and interest payments each month.

The bond holders have not received any of these payments, about \$250 million, since Delta's September bankruptcy filing in New York. That money is not expected to be paid back until the company emerges

from bankruptcy.

Wells Fargo is worried that without proper maintenance, the planes' value would diminish and be worth less than Delta owes the bondholders.

Delta asked the bankruptcy court's permission to reinstate its pre-bankruptcy severance practices for 144 officers and director-level employees.

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Robbers on school worksheet draw criticism

1 BALTIMORE — An elementary school worksheet that tells the story of four people who get away with robbing a house and describes how to do a card trick has drawn criticism from a Baltimore mother who sees it as promoting criminal activity.

The worksheet, called "The Four Robbers," is part of a booklet for children for standardized tests in March. It is intended to teach fourth-graders about sequence of events.

But Kenyona J. Moore, whose 9-year-old brought the worksheet home last week, said it promotes criminal activity in youngsters.

Moore's, Mustapha Muhammad, told her: "I don't wanna rob a house, Mommy."

The worksheet describes a card trick with four jacks, instructing the person doing the trick to say, "Imagine that the four jacks are robbers. They're going to rob a house." The first card, slipped into the bottom of the deck, represents the first robber, going into the first story of the house. The second and third cards are the robbers on the second and third stories. The fourth card, on top of the deck, is the robber on the roof looking out for police.

On Monday, Jeffery N. Grotzky, Area Academic Officer, told principals at 27 elementary schools he oversees to stop using the worksheet about the robbers, a Baltimore schools spokeswoman said.

Police arrest pastor during his sermon

2 CHICAGO — Some members of a Lutheran parish on Chicago's far South Side said they are outraged police arrested the Rev. Jimmy McCants in the middle of his sermon.

McCants, 54, has been the focus of a dispute between rival factions at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The church's board of directors told police the board fired McCants on Christmas Eve, and a woman affiliated with the church signed a complaint against him for trespassing on church property, said Chicago Police spokeswoman Monique Bond.

But a Lutheran Church official said the board fired McCants without going through the proper steps to resolve disputes.

"They have removed a pastor inappropriately," said the Rev. William H. Ameiss, president of the Northern Illinois District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. "The real tragedy is the ministry gets put on hold for a power struggle."

McCants was not handcuffed when police led him out of the church Sunday. He was booked on a misdemeanor charge of criminal trespassing and released in lieu of \$1,000 bond.

ONLY IN AMERICA

stories by The Associated Press

Suspect covered in pot after chase

3 WAXAHACHIE, Texas — Wildflowers may not be the only thing sprouting up along a 15-mile stretch of Interstate 35 in Ellis County this spring.

Seeds of an illegal plant were inadvertently sown after a police officer stopped a car with no license plate light early Friday morning and smelled a strong odor of marijuana. When the officer returned to his car and called for backup, the driver drove away, Milford Police Chief Carlos Phoenix said.

As several law enforcement



agencies joined the chase, the fleeing driver tore open and threw 17 to 19 bags out of his window.

"There was marijuana flying everywhere," Phoenix told the Waxahachie Daily Light.

After driving over a second set of spikes set out by authorities, the suspect finally stopped and was taken into custody, and he was "literally covered in marijuana," Phoenix said.



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Old School

Hip-hop arose in the 1970s in the Bronx borough of New York City. By the end of the decade, it had spread to many major cities in the United States, developing into various regional styles.

EARLY '70s

D.J. Kool Herc, considered the godfather of hip-hop, begins DJ-ing block parties in the Bronx. He creates what is known as a breakbeat using two copies of the same record to extend sections in songs for breakdancers to dance. He also creates the first emcee crew called Kool Herc and the Herculoids.

1977

DJ Grandmaster Flash develops the cutting technique to blend music from two records to create a new sound. DJ Grandwizard Theodore invents scratching.

1979

Hip-hop's recorded history is made when the Sugarhill Gang releases the hit single



"Rapper's Delight" and The Fatback Band with King Tim III release rap records.

1980

Kurtis Blow releases "The Breaks." It becomes the first hip-hop single to be certified gold.



1981
The first non-black hit to feature rapping is Blondie's

"Rapture" as Debbie Harry raps on the group's hit release.

1982

Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five release "The Message." It is the first record



to deal with social issues in poor communities. Afrika Bambaataa and Soul

Sonic Force release "Planet Rock," mixing rap with synthesized electronic sounds inspired by the German band Kraftwerk.

1984

Run DMC's album "Run-DMC" becomes the first rap album to be certified gold.

1986

Run DMC release their album "Raising Hell." It features a hip-hop remake of Aerosmith's



"Walk This Way." The record becomes a crossover hit. The Beastie Boys

release their debut album, "Licensed to Ill," on Def Jam. It becomes the first rap album to reach No. 1 on the charts.



1987
Salt 'N' Pepa, the first major black female rap group, get their first hit single, "Push It."

SOURCES: The Vibe History of Hip Hop, Wikipedia, VH-1, B-Boys.com, GRAMMY, The Recording Industry Association of America

Photo illustration by: Karsten Ivey, South Florida Sun-Sentinel and KRT

A New Era

West Coast gangsta rap rises into the mainstream as hip-hop continues to grow.

1988

NWA releases their hit debut album, "Straight Outta Compton," bringing gangsta rap to mainstream audiences. DJ Jazzy Jeff (Jeff Townes) and the Fresh Prince (Will Smith) win the first Grammy in Best Rap Performance for "Parents Just Don't Understand."

1989

De La Soul releases their debut album "Three Feet High and Rising." It is considered one of the first albums in the alternative rap genre.

The Miami group 2 Live Crew releases their third album, "As Nasty As They Wanna Be." It becomes the first album to be deemed obscene in the United States.

1990

MC Hammer releases his second LP, "Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em." It sells 10 million albums in the United States, making it the biggest selling rap album ever.

1992

Dr. Dre, a former member of NWA, releases "The Chronic." He produces a new sound called G-funk. Arrested Development releases their hit album "3 years, 5 months and Two Days in the Life of ..." It opens the door for other southern rap groups to achieve mainstream success.



1993

The Wu-Tang Clan emerges during the reign of West Coast rap with the release of their hit album "Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)." Snoop Doggy Dogg's album "Doggystyle" becomes the first rap album to rise to No. 1 on the charts during its first week of release.

1994

Da Brat releases the album "Funkdafied." She becomes the first woman to achieve platinum success.

1996

West Coast rapper Tupac Shakur and East Coast rapper Notorious B.I.G. begin feuding, marking the beginning of the rivalry between the two coasts. In September, Shakur is shot in a drive-by after attending a boxing match in Las Vegas. He dies a week later.

1997

In March, Notorious B.I.G. is killed as he leaves a Vibe magazine party in Los Angeles just weeks before the release of his second album "Life After Death."

1998

Lauryn Hill releases "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill." She becomes the first woman in Grammy history to be nominated for 10 awards. She wins five.

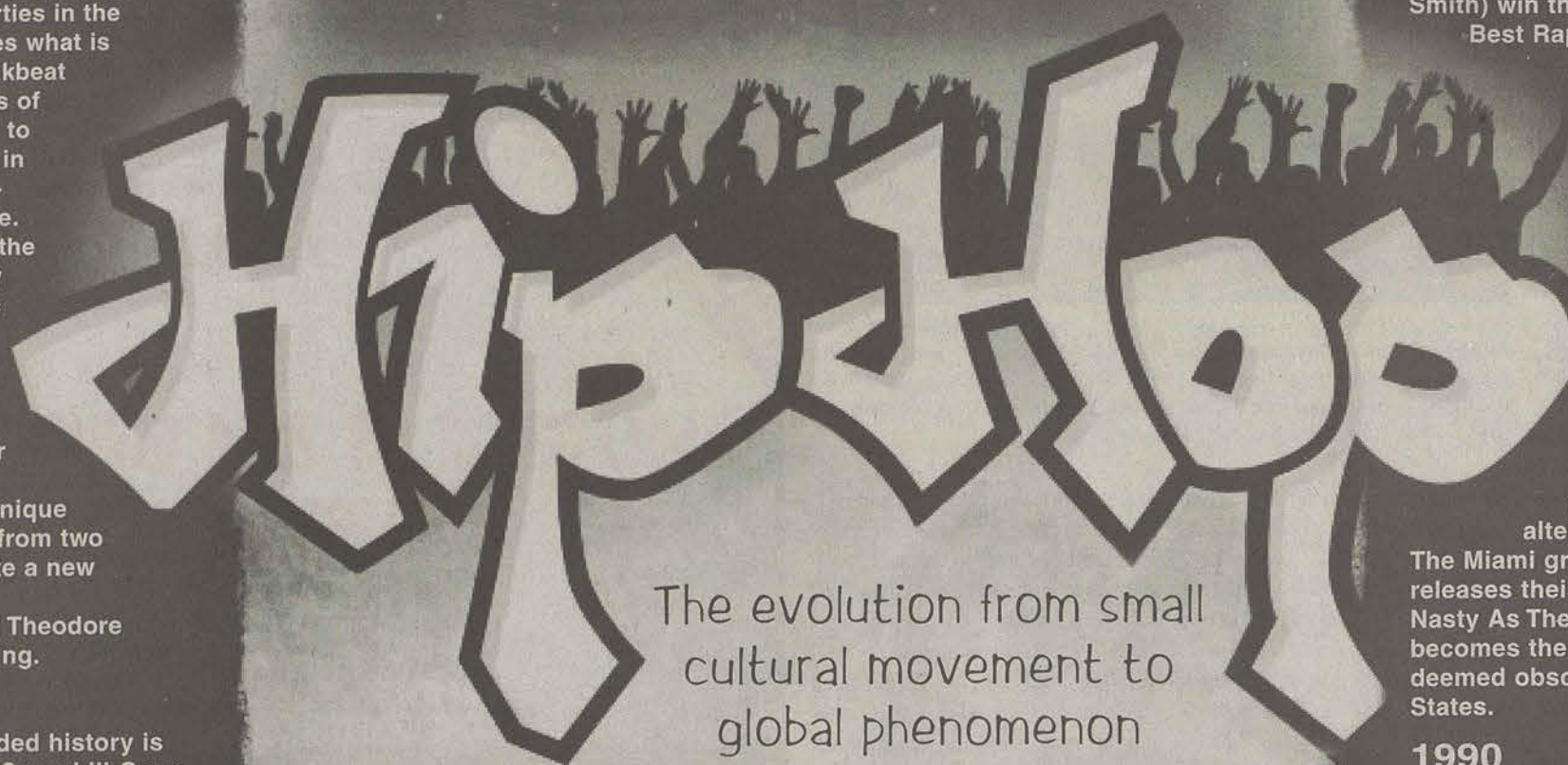


2000

Eminem wins the Grammy for best rap album for "The Slim Shady LP," becoming the first white rapper to win the category.

2004

Outkast earns with album of the year honors at the Grammys for "SpeakerBoxxx/The Love Below."



The evolution from small cultural movement to global phenomenon

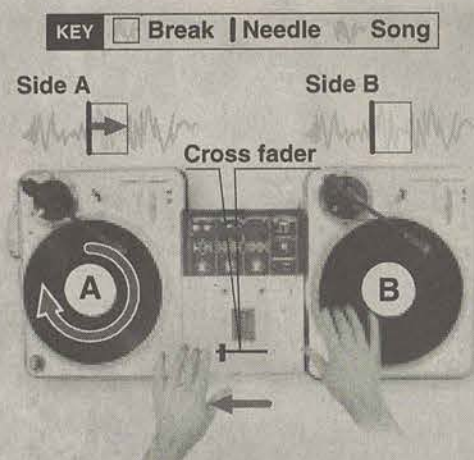
Hip-hop culture consists of four elements — DJ-ing, rapping, breakdancing and graffiti art.

The DJ

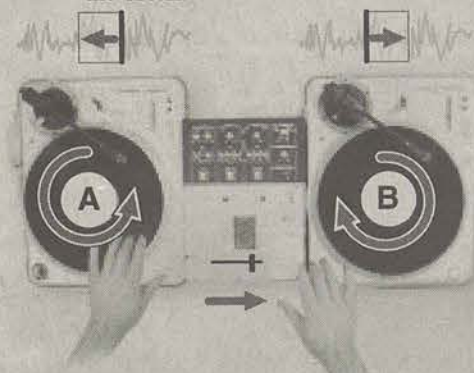
CREATING A BREAKBEAT

Originator of the breakbeat, D.J. Kool Herc extended the "break" sections of songs, the part of the song without vocals, only percussion or instrumental. He used two turntables that each had a copy of the record.

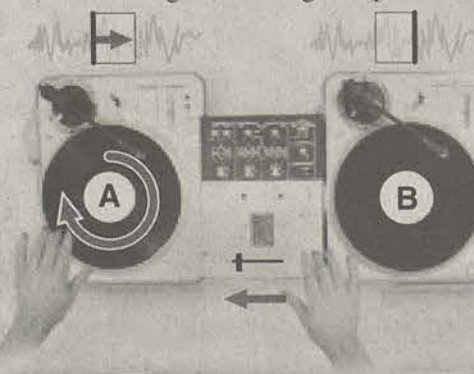
1 The cross fader is positioned to side A, so only the sound from that record is heard. The record on side A plays until it reaches the break in the song and plays through. The record on side B is cued up to the beginning of the same break.



2 The cross fader is switched to side B at the end of the break on side A. Side B begins playing the break. Side A is reversed to the start of the break.



3 Side B plays through the break to the end. The fader is switched back to side A. Side A begins to play the break again, finishing a loop.



Rapping

The role of an emcee in early hip-hop was to introduce a DJ at parties and keep the crowd excited. Over time, the role grew to rhyming lyrics over the DJ's music.

Breakdancing

Breakdancing is an acrobatic dance style developed in the late '70s in New York and Los Angeles.



SAMUEL DEAN/KRT

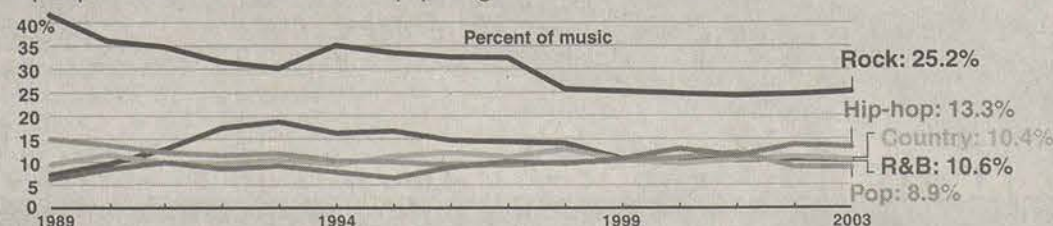
Graffiti art is illegal in many cities and towns.

Graffiti

Often illegal, spray can art was present in the '60s in Philadelphia and made popular in New York because of elaborate drawings on its subways.

THE RISE OF HIP-HOP

Hip-hop has risen to the second most popular genre in the United States.



NOTE: EACH MONTH TAYLOR NELSON SOFRES INTERSEARCH CONDUCTS A NATIONAL TELEPHONE AND INTERNET SURVEY OF PAST MONTH MUSIC BUYERS (3,051 PER YEAR). CONSUMERS ARE ASKED TO CLASSIFY THEIR MUSIC PURCHASES; THEY ARE NOT ASSIGNED A PARTICULAR CATEGORY. THE MARGIN OF ERROR IS PLUS OR MINUS 1.7%.

U2 steals Mariah Carey's spotlight at Grammys

By Nekesa Mumbi Moody
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Mariah Carey ended her 16-year Grammy drought, but rock gods U2 smashed her comeback queen dreams by snatching five trophies Wednesday, including song and album of the year.

Carey, one of the best-selling artists of all time, hadn't won a Grammy since her first two as a fresh-faced ingenue in 1990. This year, she was nominated for a leading eight and won three in the pre-recast ceremony. No woman had ever won more than five in one night.

But Carey was shut out through the entire televised portion, losing twice to U2, once to Green Day for record of the year and once to former

American Idol Kelly Clarkson for best female pop vocal performance.

"If you think this is going to go to our head, it's too late," U2 frontman Bono said after the group won song of the year.

After winning the night's big award, album of the year, Bono told Carey, "You sing like an angel."

John Legend won three awards: best new artist, best R&B album for his debut, "Get Lifted," and best male R&B vocal for the piano ballad "Ordinary People." His mentor, Kanye West, also won three.

Clarkson won two, including best pop album.

"I'm sorry I'm crying again on national television," said Clarkson, tearful and shaking as she held her first Grammy. "Thank you so much,

you have no idea what this means to me."

The highlight of the show was the appearance of Sly Stone, the mercurial, psychedelic pioneer who disappeared from the music scene decades ago and hadn't performed in public since 1993.

Toward the end of a sizzling all-star tribute, Stone emerged sporting a pale Mohawk against his 61-year-old brown scalp and made his way through one of his biggest smashes, "I Want To Take You Higher." Though the tribute was planned, many didn't expect Stone — who hasn't performed in public in years — to show up.

Keith Urban was answering questions backstage when Stone's performance began playing on a nearby monitor, and he had to stop talking.

"I think we just got upstaged," Urban said in amazement. "Everything pales in comparison."

Aside from winning the most awards, U2 provided one of the more rousing performances in the jam-packed show as they sang their hit Vertigo, then collaborated with R&B queen Mary J. Blige's gospel-inflected fervor for their classic "One."

West's three Grammys matched his total for last year. The brash rapper/producer played up (or lived up to) his egotistical reputation as he won best rap album for "Late Registration."

"I had no idea, I had no idea," West said in mock shock as he pulled a huge sheet of paper that read "Thank You List."

Alison Krauss & Union Station also had three awards, including for best

country album, while Stevie Wonder, who released his first album in ten years last year, had two.

The show started off on a two-dimensional note as the cartoon-fronted rock group Gorillaz performed their record of the year contender, "Feel Good Inc." with the help of animation, a blue screen and guest rappers De La Soul. The performance then segued into a Madonna moment, as the pop queen — who was not nominated for any awards — shimmied through the Gorillaz' virtual space while singing her latest hit, "Hung Up."

Mariah Carey performs with a jeweled microphone at the 48th Annual Grammy Awards on Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2006, in Los Angeles.



AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill

Lights

from page 1

electrical grid — and the street lights are back on in many neighborhoods — yet only one-third of homeowners can draw juice into their homes.

That is largely because the city requires a permit before the utility can reconnect a meter at any home whose wiring was damaged by flooding. Getting that permit from one of the city's few electrical inspectors has been a bureaucratic nightmare involving phone calls, waiting in line at city offices and waiting some more at home.

Late last month, Mayor Ray Nagin suspended the rule that said all electrical work done by contractors needs approval from a city inspector. Now, any state-licensed electrician can certify the work.

Greg Meffert, one of two deputy mayors, could not say how many residents have taken matters into their own

hands, but acknowledged the practice appears to be widespread.

The Associated Press interviewed six people who restored power to their homes on their own. Two of them showed the AP how it is done.

"It's better than sitting in the dark," said Jeff Bennett, 40, who broke a small lock on his Entergy electric meter, unscrewed the glass bubble and popped off two pieces of plastic that locked the current out of the house. It was that simple.

Bennett is living in a trailer home, parked alongside his gutted house. The trailer is powered by an orange extension cord running to a socket inside his house.

For weeks after he rigged his meter, Bennett would wake up and hurry out in his boxer shorts in the morning chill to unplug the cord, in case the inspector showed up. In December, two months after he turned the power on himself, the inspector finally arrived.

"We weren't supposed to do it. But everybody is so fed up," said retiree David Snyder, 74, who lives in a pink

stucco house. An electrician tipped him off to how to fix the meter to accept power.

The meter-riggers are not getting the electricity for free. "Even if a customer has illegally connected himself, the meter is still spinning and we can still get a read on their usage," said Entergy spokesman Chanel Lagarde.

Katrina flooded 11 of the city's 18 electrical substations, causing an estimated \$275 million in damage to New Orleans' utility infrastructure,

Lagarde said.

Within weeks, residents began returning to the city, gutting their houses and replacing their flooded wiring. But once it came time to have the electrical panel inspected, they found there were only six city inspectors charged with issuing permits for the thousands of rewired houses.

"We can't waive the inspection because unfortunately the liability would be too great," said Clinton Vince, an attorney who advises the City Council's

utilities committee. "The electrical work needs to be inspected because if the wire is not installed properly, it could cause serious safety problems — including loss of life."

Meffert, the deputy mayor, said the city tried to get money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to hire more inspectors. But FEMA spokeswoman Nicol Andrews said FEMA money cannot be used to pay a City Hall employee's salary.

While concerned about the illegal

hookups, Meffert said, the city will not prosecute homeowners. "I can't blame them," he said. "These are extraordinary times."

Vine has had his lights on illegally since Nov. 11, the same day he applied for a permit. An electrical inspector has yet to show, but the utility bills never stopped coming.

I told my wife, "Pay it," Vine said. "The last thing I want is for them to come and put a real lock on my meter."

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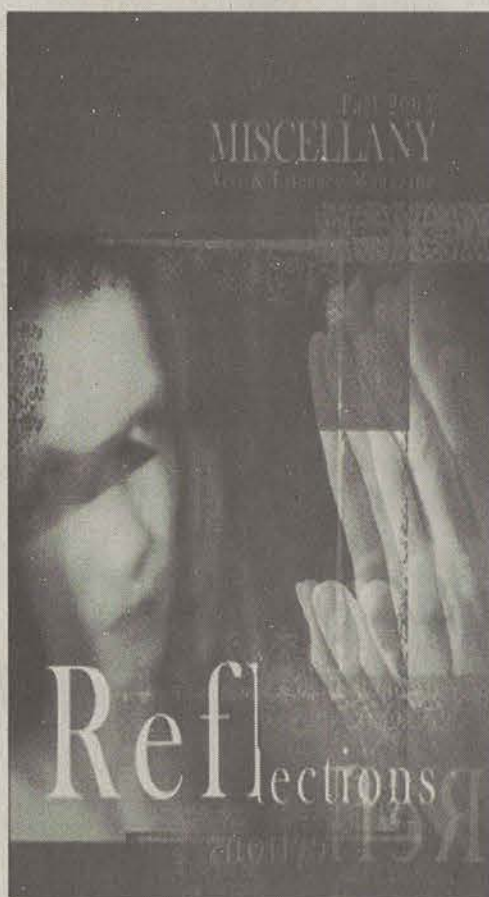
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Performing Arts Center
Tickets are \$8.00

SPORTS

Renaldo Stover

STAY ON THE GRIND

Just my opinion

Okay, so now the Super Bowl is over and done with. Officially that is. There probably are some Seahawks fans who are hoping that the NFL will allow a redo for every play they felt the Seahawks received a bad call on.

If you are a Seahawks fan, though, you should be proud of your team and what they accomplished to get to the Super Bowl. If you tuned in to see the stars and performances, you should definitely feel great. Honestly, I almost threw my television out of the window when I heard the National Anthem. Didn't Aaron Neville have a song titled, "Everybody Plays the Fool?" Forget it, let's talk about something else.

Can you imagine what it feels like to be an NHL fan right now? For a professional sport that is coming off of a season when there was no season, the news of an alleged sports gambling ring that may involve possibly the greatest player of all time is a major blow.

Wayne Gretzky hasn't been charged with anything, but investigators believe his wife may have placed bets on games. There are some serious charges coming up. Rick Tocchet, Gretzky's assistant coach with the Phoenix Coyotes, is charged with second-degree promoting gambling, money laundering and conspiracy.

When the dust settles on this situation, I wonder how it will compare to other scandals and whether this will be the last straw for a sport that has never really taken hold in the U.S. This is where I do my Drew Rosenhaus impression, "No comment."

Now let's skip over to the hardwood and talk college basketball for a moment. Has anyone had a chance to catch the J.J. Redick show this season? Warning, I am not a Duke fan. That being said, Redick has really shown what it takes to be a great college player. The key word is college.

Does he have what it takes to hold his own in the NBA? That remains to be seen, but since this is my column I'll answer that by saying no. Redick reminds me of Trajan Langdon, who had a good run at Duke but disappeared in the NBA without the luxury of being able to just spot up and shoot.

Can you imagine the debate that will take place when Redick is forced to guard a guy like Dwayne Wade? Like Gonzaga's Adam Morrison's chances in the league over Redick's because not only does he have the size, but the guy can actually do more than just spot up for the jumper. Not to say Redick is limited, I'm just saying that he may be limited once he leaves Duke.

Well, that about covers everything for this time. I should probably take a break anyway if I'm going to attempt "The Challenge" on Saturday.

I'm sure I fit at least two of the invite requirements according to Chad's column on Wednesday.



Renaldo Stover is a senior majoring in journalism from Camden, SC. His sports column appears in The George-Anne on Thursdays.

Eagles get two with Tech

By Todd Steinmetz
Staff writer

Georgia Southern hosts Georgia Tech, Collegiate Baseball's No. 10 ranked team in America, Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at J.I. Clements Stadium.

The GSU baseball team comes into this home series after splitting their last home stand against North Florida.

In the second game of that series, the Eagles displayed an impressive offensive showcase that produced 11 runs on 13 hits.

The pitching was equally impressive as starting pitcher Josh Lairsey pitched five innings, allowed only one unearned run on five hits, and even retired 10 straight batters at one point.

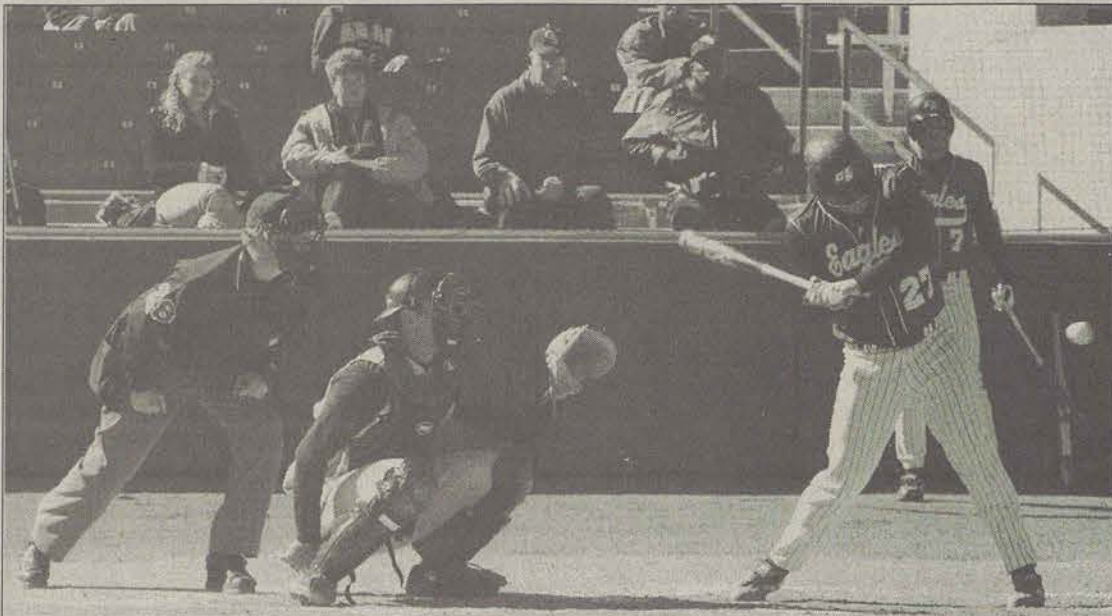
The pitching staff finished the game with a total of 13 strikeouts leading the Eagles to an 11-3 victory and a series split.

GSU is young, but the offense, led by Brett Pelfrey and Greg Dowling, has put up 18 runs on 26 hits during the first three games of the season.

Pelfrey is batting .455 with a slugging percentage above .600 and Dowling has scored four runs while batting .444. Chris Sheehan is batting .375 and Mike Economos has also done well with four RBI.

The Yellow Jackets are anchored by their three preseason All-Americans: Wes Hodges at third base, pitcher Blake Wood, and catcher/pitcher Matt Wieters. Hodges led Tech in 2005 with a 106 hits and a .397 batting average.

Sophomore Blake Wood finished



Georgia Southern sophomore Jeremiah Parker takes a cut during last weekend's series against North Florida.

Chase Lanier/STAFF

Eagles vs. #10 Ga. Tech

Saturday, 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m. (Live on CSS)

- Georgia Tech leads the all-time series 72-22.
- The Jackets won 20 straight from 1999-2003.
- The Jackets swept the Eagles last season four games to none.

last season with a record of 10-1 and an ERA of 2.85, while Wieters hit .366 with 10 homers and posted six saves with an ERA of 2.85, earning him the 2005 ACC Rookie of Year Award.

Georgia Tech returns almost all of their pitching staff and eight of their nine starting position players from last season.

In total, the Yellow Jackets have 19 letter winners coming back from

a team that advanced to the NCAA Super Regionals with an overall record of 45-19.

This leaves the team with good depth at most positions, but there are questions surrounding the short stop position as two players compete for the starting spot.

Both players appear to be solid hitters, but their defensive ability is unproven.



Tech is led by head coach Danny Hall who is the winningest coach in Yellow Jacket history

with 529 victories.

He has headed up the team for 13 seasons and has won three ACC Coach of the Year Awards. During his 18-year coaching career, Hall's overall record is 737-347.

Saturday's game will be "blue and white day," and the team is encouraging all GSU fans to wear blue and white to the game.

Sunday's game will be held at 2 p.m. and will be the televised live on Comcast Sports Southeast.

Rugby gets Rosey at RAC

Annual tournament one of the biggest ever with 15-team field

By Chad Bishop
Sports editor

The Black Rose rugby tournament is set to kick off Saturday morning at 9 a.m. at the Recreation Activities Center.

Fifteen teams are expected to compete, making this tournament one of the biggest ever.

"This is real important for us," said tournament director Mark Maholchic. "It's important for our team to gain some game experience against quality competition."

The Eagles begin their day at noon against the University of Central Florida, although that match-up is not set in stone.

Maholchic said last minute cancellations have reduced the field and made planning a definite schedule difficult.

"Either way," said Maholchic, "this is great for our rookies and it gives some of the older guys on the team a chance to catch up with alumni and raise some donations."

The men's team will finish their season by traveling to Georgia Tech next weekend, then hosting Auburn the weekend after that.



Brian Prusa/STAFF

The GSU rugby club practices earlier this week in preparation for the annual Black Rose Tournament.

2006 Black Rose Participants

MEN

Georgia Southern
University of Central Florida
Longwood University
Georgia Tech
Georgia Southern Alumni
Augusta Club Team
Savannah Shamrocks
Atlanta Renegades
Statesboro Blues
Greenville (S.C.) Club Team

WOMEN

Georgia Southern
Clemson University
University of Georgia
Furman University
Savannah Shamrocks

Q&A with GSU's Dr. Tony Barilla

By Bryan Metcalf
Staff writer

Tony Graham talked about his experience with "The Buzz Blitz" talk show in the sports section of Wednesday, Jan. 25, George-Anne.

But although he hosts the sports talk every Sunday morning at 11 a.m., he isn't the only cast member. With this in mind I sat down with the "Mad Italian" Dr. Tony Barilla to get his take on the show.

Q: How long have you been doing the Buzz Blitz?

A: This is my second year. I started last year with Kenny Cofer and then Tony asked me to do it again this year.

Q: What inspired you to do the show?

A: I've been on other sports talk shows and it's just something I like to do. Sitting around and talking sports.

Q: How do you feel about the student aspect of the show?

A: It's a college radio station, and I think that Tony is on the right track when he says we need to bring in more college athletes.

Q: What are some of your favorite topics that have been covered?

A: Terrell Owens is the one that usually draws the most heat. Him and Ron Artest. It's just like with any sports talk show, the controversy is the one everybody loves. We also have a lot of fun bashing the BCS.

Q: How much longer do you think you'll be a part of the Buzz Blitz?

A: As long as they want me and as long they keep doing a good show I'd be happy to help.

Q: What do you think of Tony Graham?

A: I like Tony. I think he's a quality individual and anything I can do to help him out I will.

Basketball twinbill starts at 5 p.m. on Saturday

By Chad Bishop
Sports editor

An Eagle basketball doubleheader kicks off at Hanner Fieldhouse on Saturday with the Lady Eagles hosting Davidson and the men welcoming The Citadel.

The women are coming off a 72-62 loss to UNC Greensboro on Monday and are right smack dab in the middle of things in the SoCon race for second place.

Chattanooga clinched at least a share of the league title on Monday night with a win over Davidson.

The Lady Eagles are 6-7 in conference play and currently hanging on to fourth place. Four of the five remaining games for the women, however, are in

the friendly confines of Hanner, where the ladies are 4-1 this season.

While playing at home will give the ladies a slight advantage, the home stretch will be anything but a cakewalk. Western Carolina is the only remaining team on the schedule that has a worse record than GSU.

The Lady Eagles still have dates with Charleston, Appalachian State and the aforementioned Lady Mocs of UTC, who have won 18 straight.

Davidson won the first match-up between the two teams 71-52 in Davidson. The Cats come into Statesboro having won two straight on the road and are led by Janell Crayton's 12 points/game.

The men welcome conference

cellar-dweller The Citadel immediately following the women's game. The Bulldogs are 0-10 in the Southern Conference and have lost 20 straight conference games overall dating back to Jan. 24, 2005, and including last year's conference tournament.

The Dogs did break their 12-game overall losing streak on Tuesday night with a 80-73 win at home over Savannah St.

The Eagles are currently in a tie for first place in the Southern Conference's South division, and should be drooling at the beak for the chance to get a healthy Hanner win Saturday. GSU won the earlier season match-up 83-65 in Charleston. Recently named SoCon player of the week Elton Nesbitt scored

a then career high of 33 in the win.

GSU is going for their fifth straight win and will try to avoid overlooking The Citadel before a huge match-up with Charleston on Monday night.

After Saturday the Eagles begin a four game stretch against South division opponents, three of them on the road. The Eagles still have road trips to Furman and Wofford sandwiched around the final home game of the season, Feb. 21 vs. Davidson.

The Bulldogs are ranked last in free throw percentage, scoring margin, field goal percentage, field goal percentage defense, assists and defensive rebounds.

Tip off for the women is at 5 p.m. with the men to follow at 7:30 p.m.

BASKETBALL

MEN SCOREBOARD

UNC Greensboro	73
Davidson	92

SATURDAY MEN

Elon	
Appalachian St.	3:30 p.m.
Charleston	
Furman	6 p.m.
Chattanooga	
UNC Greensboro	7 p.m.
Davidson	
Wofford	7 p.m.

TONIGHT WOMEN

Western Carolina	
Chattanooga	7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Western Carolina	
Appalachian St.	1 p.m.
Elon	
Charleston	2 p.m.
Wofford	
Furman	3:30 p.m.

SoCon Men Standings as of 2/7

	North Division	
STANDINGS	W-L	W-L
Elon	8-2	12-11
Chattanooga	5-5	14-11
Western Carolina	5-5	11-14
UNC Greensboro	4-6	11-13
Appalachian State	3-7	9-14

	South Division	
STANDINGS	W-L	W-L
Ga. Southern	7-3	16-7
Davidson	7-3	14-8
Coll. of Charleston	6-4	13-8
Furman	6-4	13-9
Wofford	4-6	9-14
The Citadel	0-10	7-16

SoCon Women Standings as of 2/7

	W-L	W-L
Chattanooga	13-0	19-3
Davidson	8-5	12-10
UNC Greensboro	8-5	12-10
Charleston	7-6	10-11
Appalachian St.	6-7	10-12
Ga. Southern	6-7	9-13
Elon	5-7	10-11
Western Carolina	5-8	5-17
Furman	4-9	7-16
Wofford	2-10	6-15

BASEBALL

FRIDAY

Virginia	
Citadel (Conway, S.C.)	Noon
South Carolina	
Elon	3 p.m.
Liberty	
Wofford	4 p.m.
High Point	
Charleston	5 p.m.

SATURDAY

Liberty	
Wofford	1 p.m.
High Point	
Charleston	1 p.m.

Elon	
South Carolina	1:30 p.m.

Campbell	
Citadel (Conway, S.C.)	4 p.m.

SUNDAY

High Point	
Charleston	1 p.m.
Liberty	
Wofford	1 p.m.
Elon	
South Carolina	1:30 p.m.

Not your average robot

The toy industry has made huge strides in the advancement of robotic toys. The newest trend is lifelike pets or playmates to be featured at the American International Toy Fair in New York, Feb. 12-15.



1955

Sparky Robot
Windup toy, made of tin, featured eyes that emit sparks as it walks; made by Yoshiya

SOURCE: "Ultimate Robot"



2006 Cuddle Chimp, Hasbro

Facial expressions change and can give hugs; also claps hands and bottle-feeds

Mindstorms
NXT, Lego

1984

Transformers

These "robots in disguise" from Hasbro/Takara spawned a TV series and movie

Eyes measure distance, movements and detect objects; PC and Mac programmable



1999

AIBO dog

Pets made by Sony walks, responds to voices and faces; moves in three directions

AP

Toy companies push high-tech toys

By Anne Dinnocenzio
Associated Press

NEW YORK - If children didn't get their fill of high-tech toys during the 2005 holiday season, they should brace themselves for more wizardry later this year.

With young consumers growing out of toys faster and preferring iPod digital music players and video games, the nation's toy makers are working harder to come up with more high-tech products, particularly robotic playmates.

Such robotic toys, which are even more lifelike than a year ago, are among the thousands of toys to be featured at American International Toy Fair, officially beginning Sunday. This year's robotic lineup includes a life-sized miniature pony that responds to touch, a Barbie doll that follows the child's dance moves and a robot made from a Lego building set that can be programmed.

Toy makers are hoping these items and a slew of other toys — the bulk of

which will be in stores for the holiday season — will reverse a sales decline since 2003.

"Children are migrating to consumer electronics faster than toy companies can take them there," said Sean McGowan, a toy analyst at Harris Nesbitt. He expects the industry to report a sales decline of up to 4 percent in traditional toys for 2005, despite what he expects was an improvement last holiday season.

That would follow a 3 percent dip to \$20.1 billion in 2004 from \$20.7 billion in 2003, which posted a similar decline over 2002, according to NPDI Group Inc., a market research company in Port Washington, N.Y. NPDI is expected to release 2005 figures on Friday.

But the industry figures don't fully

reflect toy makers' increasing business with consumer electronics stores and other nontraditional outlets, said Chris Byrne, a New York-based toy consultant.

"As the toy industry defines itself as an industry of family entertainment, there are signs of real significant health and growth," Byrne said.

The good news is that as microchips have come down in prices, toy makers are able to make more advanced toys that are still affordable. At least 75 percent of the toys at this year's event will have some sort of microchip in them. Watching how parents spent more than \$200 on iPods for their children has given toy makers more confidence in offering higher-priced toys packed with high-powered technology.

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Study: Lack of females in G-rated movies

By David Germain
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Male characters outnumbered females 3-to-1 overall in top-grossing G-rated films from 1990 to 2004, according to a study whose sponsors say the disparity diminishes the importance of women in children's eyes.

"We're showing kids a world that's very scantily populated with women and female characters," said actress Geena Davis, founder of See Jane, a program of the advocacy group Dads & Daughters that encourages balanced gender representation in entertainment for children.

In the 101 animated and live-action films examined, 28 percent of speaking characters were female, and just 17 percent of people in crowd scenes were female, researchers found in the study released Thursday by See Jane.

"It's important for what kids watch that as far as possible, they see the real world reflected, to see men and women, boys and girls, sharing the space," said Davis, co-star of the female-empowerment film "Thelma & Louise" and star of TV's "Commander in Chief" in which she plays the U.S. president. "They should see female characters taking up half the planet, which we do."

Davis and others involved with the study — titled "Where the Girls Aren't" — planned to discuss the findings at a forum Thursday night in Los Angeles. They said they hope to use the research to push Hollywood toward giving female characters equal time on screen and encourage parents to vote with their wallets by choosing films offering balanced gender representation.

The results came as little surprise to researchers. Studies have found similar imbalances between male and female roles in films for adults and on TV shows, and anyone who channel-surfs or goes to the movies regularly knows anecdotally that men dominate the screen.

February 18, 2006 NIRSA DAY 5K Fun Run/Walk

When

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2006
8:30 a.m. 1/4 Mile Kids Run
9:00 a.m. 5K Fun Run/Walk
(Walkers please start behind runners)

Where

All events begin and end at the Campus Recreation & Intramurals (CRI) Pavilion on the Georgia Southern University campus in Statesboro, GA. The Pavilion is located on Akins Blvd., which is accessible via the southern entrance to campus off Veteran's Memorial Parkway (i.e., Hwy 301 Bypass). There is plenty of free parking and showers will be available afterwards to race participants!

Entry Fee

5K Fun Run/Walk

\$15.00 Early registration (postmarked by Feb. 13th)

\$20.00 Registration Feb. 14th-18th

\$10.00 Students (with ID)

\$2.00 Discount for Statesboro Pacers

1/4 Mile Kids Run

Free, but you must register to participate;
\$5.00 if T-shirt desired.

Applications & More Info

Contact Julie Kuykendall at CRI, (912) 681-5436, <http://services.georgiasouthern.edu/cri> or download application from www.StatesboroPacers.com. Online registration available at [active.com](http://www.active.com)

Entry Form - NIRSA Day 5K Fun Run/Walk & 1/4 Mile Kids Run

Make check payable to: Campus Recreation & Intramurals, P.O. Box 8078, Statesboro, GA 30460

☐ 5K Run/Walk ☐ 1/4 Mile Kids Run (Free Registration; T-shirt \$5.00)

Male Female Age on Race Day Date of Birth Day Phone

T-shirt size: Youth Med S M L XL XXL (\$1.50 extra)

Name _____ Email _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In consideration of your accepting my child's registration, I hereby for myself, my child, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damage I or my child may have against CRI including all representatives who are in any way connected with this event/program. Further, in the event of an injury, I do hereby give permission and consent to authorize such First Aid and/or medical and/or hospital care or treatment as deemed appropriate. In addition, I am fully aware of the provisions covered by the fee for this event and I understand that if any emergency arises, any and all additional expenses incurred must be borne or assumed by the participants.

Date _____ Signature (Parent or Guardian Signature, if participant is under the age of 18 years)

Amount Enclosed
Entry Fee _____
Kids T-shirt \$5.00 _____
XXL Shirt \$1.50 _____
UNITY Teen _____
Donation _____
Statesboro Pacers _____
Discount \$2.00 _____
Total Amount _____

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Special Photo

U.S. skier hopes injury holds out for Olympics

By Erica Bulman
Associated Press

SESTRIERE, Italy — It's not the symmetry Kristina Koznick wants. The top-ranked U.S. women's slalom skier is hoping that her Olympic career doesn't end the way it started — on the injury list instead of the slopes.

Koznick partially tore ligaments in her right knee while warming up for a World Cup race in Germany last weekend, and she doesn't know if she'll even participate in Friday's opening ceremony, much less the women's slalom on Feb. 22. She said she won't march if she's on crutches.

"I'm at least working toward a chance, which is better than nothing," she said by phone Wednesday on her way to be fitted for a brace.

Koznick said she should know more Thursday, when she expects to meet with U.S. Ski Team doctor William Sterett. Then she could face an unhappy choice: Race injured or surrender her spot to another U.S. hopeful.

"Right now, as far as competing, we don't know whether that's going to happen," said Koznick's coach and boyfriend, Dan Stripp. "If she feels like she can't, she's going to say, 'I can't do it.'"

While Koznick's ACL is still attached, Stripp said, her bone was bruised and the doctor will probably share the decision. Meanwhile, it's rehab and a dose of hope.

What to watch at the Winter games

Don't miss the excitement this month as the Winter Olympics head to Italy

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — If you want to watch the Winter Olympics, NBC and its related cable networks will have something for you at virtually any hour of the day or night. The games begin Friday and end Feb. 26.

Besides NBC prime-time, there will be coverage on USA, CNBC, MSNBC, Telemundo and Universal HD.

Among the highlights:

Friday: Opening ceremonies at Olympic Stadium, with some 2,500 athletes from 85 countries marching in. NBC's coverage is anchored by Bob Costas and Brian Williams. USA Network also debuts "Olympic Ice," a daily, one-hour show with exhaustive coverage of ice skating.

Saturday: Let the skating begin! Despite being Chicago residents, Tatyana Totmianina and Maxim Marinin are skating in the pairs competition for Russia, with Totmianina back after falling headfirst on the ice a little more than a year ago. New Hampshire moguls competitor Hannah Kearney is on the slopes, and

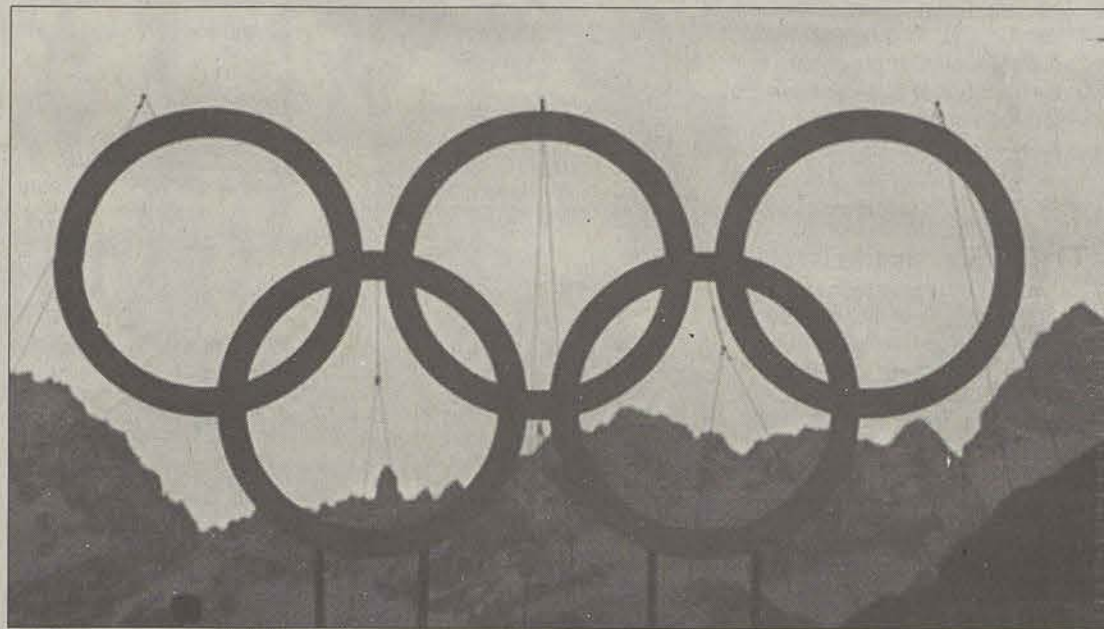
the U.S. women's hockey team opens competition against Switzerland.

Sunday: U.S. skiers Bode Miller and Daron Rahlves compete in the men's downhill ski race. Speed skater Apolo Anton Ohno, a gold medalist in Salt Lake City, returns to the ice. Armin Zoeggeler has a chance to capture Italy's first gold medal of the Olympics in the luge.

Monday: Casey FitzRandolph won the gold medal in the men's 500-meter speed skating competition in Salt Lake City, and he'll try again in Turin. A deep U.S. women's halfpipe team, including defending gold medalist Kelly Clark, will be in action.

Tuesday: Another chance for gold for Miller, this time in the men's combined action. With the women's 500 meters final, women vie for the title of fastest speed skater in the world. Colorado's Courtney Zabolocki looks to upset the Germans in women's luge.

Wednesday: The women's downhill skiing competition takes center stage, with longtime American rivals Lindsey Kildow and Julia Mancuso on the slopes. Mark Grimmette and



AP Photo/Kevin Frayer

Large Olympic rings are seen at sunset on the roof of the hotel being used as the athlete's village for the alpine events in northern Italy Thursday. The opening ceremonies of the Winter Olympics will take place Friday.

Brian Martin, competitors in the men's double luge, try to become the first American men to win medals in three different Winter Olympics. And the U.S. men's hockey team opens against Latvia.

Feb. 16: With Russian Yvgeny Plushenko leading the package, men's figure skating heats up. The snowboard cross competition makes its Olympic debut, and the skeleton final will send 15 women hurtling face-first down the ice.

Feb. 17: Ski jumping, a sport dominated by Finns, is highlighted. Vermont's Lindsey Jacobellis will try to win the first gold medal in women's snowboard cross. Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto of Michigan are attempting to be the first Americans to win a medal in ice dancing since 1976.

Feb. 18: The men's Super-G gold medal final features the world's best skiers. Ohno skates for a gold medal in the 1,000-meter speed skating final, and the bobsled competition begins.

Feb. 19: In curling, featured on the USA Network, the U.S. women's team takes on Switzerland live. The two-man bobsled finals are held, with American Todd Hays in the mix. The acrobatic aerialist competition begins.

Feb. 20: The women's gold medal hockey match will be aired live on the President's Day holiday. The ice dancing competition concludes with the free dance. The U.S. men's curling team takes on Canada.

Feb. 21: Can Michelle Kwan finally win gold? The women's figure skating competition begins. Chicago's Shani Davis, the first black American to compete on a speed skating team, is among the favorites in the men's 1,500 meter race. The first black athlete ever to win gold for a U.S. team, Vonn Flowers, is back in the bobsled trying to win again.

Feb. 22: Ohno tries to be crowned fastest speed skater in the world in the men's 500 meters competition. Cross-country skiing is featured on NBC

daytime, and it's down to eight teams in the men's hockey competition.

Feb. 23: The gold medal night for NBC: the finals of the women's figure skating competition, usually the Olympics' most-anticipated event. Women's snowboarding and curling conclude.

Feb. 24: Hays is back in the four-man bobsled competition. An exhausting 18-mile course must be navigated for cross-country skiing gold. The semi-finals of the men's hockey tournament will be covered live.

Feb. 25: The slalom competition concludes with a probable confrontation between Miller and Austria's Benjamin Raich. Ohno is in action in two races, and Germany's Claudia Pechstein tries to win her fourth straight gold medal in the 5,000 meter speed skating competition.

Feb. 26: After the men's hockey gold medal game and the 30-mile cross-country skiing competition, the closing ceremonies are held.



AP photo/Luca Bruno

Flags of competing nations flutter in the breeze outside the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games athletes village in Sestriere, Italy Tuesday.

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 330 Child Care Provider
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 380 University Work
 390 Wanted Jobs

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 420 Lots & Rooms
 430 Mobile Homes
 440 Real Estate for Sale
 450 Roommates Wanted
 460 Storage & Moving Services
 470 Student Housing

480 Sub Leases
 490 Vacation Rentals

500 Personals
 510 Personals

600 Services
 610 Education & Tutoring
 620 Financial Aid/Loans
 630 Legal Services
 640 Resumes/Typing/DTP
 650 Services/Miscellaneous

700 Travel
 710 Spring Break Travel

800 Transportation/Rides
 810 Transportation/Rides

900 Miscellaneous
 910 Pets & Pet Supplies



Covering the Campus Like a Swarm of Gnats
The George-Anne Daily
 Monday • Tuesday • Wednesday • Thursday

THE PennyPress CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
 1. Select
 4. Gator's kin
 8. Counterfeit
 12. Roofing substance
 13. Steakhouse request
 14. Yellowfin, e.g.
 15. Pierce anger
 16. October gemstone
 17. Asian ruler
 18. Belief
 20. Kind of caterpillar
 22. Make bare
 24. Disintegrate
 27. Grimm meaning
 30. Misjudges
 31. Sash for a kimono
 32. Safes
 34. Achieve
 36. City on the Danube

DOWN
 1. Of the ear
 2. Young salmon
 3. Sycamore or dogwood

37. Shed tears
 39. Mannered
 40. Street guide
 41. Coves
 43. Poker bet
 44. Giraffe's kin
 48. Went by airplane
 51. Kind of bean
 53. Coal measurement
 54. Sly glance
 55. Recycled
 56. of

4. Sing sentimentally
 5. Sharp blow
 6. Speaker
 7. Make merry
 8. Printer's term
 9. Droning sound
 10. Cuckoo
 11. Deface
 19. Fight for two
 21. Bird's nursery

Yesterday's Solution

23. Indignant
 24. Elsa's sound
 25. Solemn notice
 26. Very small
 27. Egg cell
 28. Grand party
 29. Cut of beef
 33. Jacob, to Esau
 35. Objective
 38. Tickle pink
 42. Certain amphibians
 43. Amiss
 45. On the summit of
 46. Flow
 47. "Long Day's Journey
 48. Cold-weather ailment
 49. Knee's locale
 50. Snake-like swimmer
 52. Former GI



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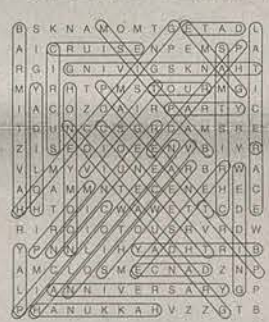
Homework

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 CHART
 COMPARE
 COMPOSE
 CONSTRUCT
 CONTRAST

CORRECT
 CRITIQUE
 DIAGRAM
 DRAW
 EXPERIMENT
 EXPLORE
 GRAPH

INDEX
 INTERVIEW
 LIST
 MEMORIZE
 NOTE
 OBSERVE
 OUTLINE
 PAINT
 PRACTICE
 PROGRAM
 PROVE
 READ
 RESEARCH
 REVISE
 SKETCH
 SOLVE
 STUDY
 SUMMARIZE
 TYPE
 WRITE



Yesterday's Solution

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 P E Z I R A M M U S Y H L P E
 S P R H T S A R T N O C X A X
 E M A O P I T D Y M U T E K P
 L V P I L S Q D D L T E D U E
 O E L K N P U A S L K N S R
 D H S O P T X T E C I S I T I
 E V C G S R E E O M N V X Q M
 S B S R E R O R R B E T L R E
 O D C A A A R G V R S V L T N
 P A D P M E M O R I Z E O N T
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Mystic Arts Horoscope

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To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 6 - In making changes, try not to simply make a bigger mess. Well, if you do, while being creative, also clean it up.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - The more you learn, the more excited you'll become. You're gaining independence as well as practical skills.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - Don't be afraid to work hard, and stretch your imagination. It's a good, and profitable, habit to acquire.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is an 8 - For the next several weeks, it's easy to take long flights of fantasy. Take along friends

and loved ones, by sharing your stories.

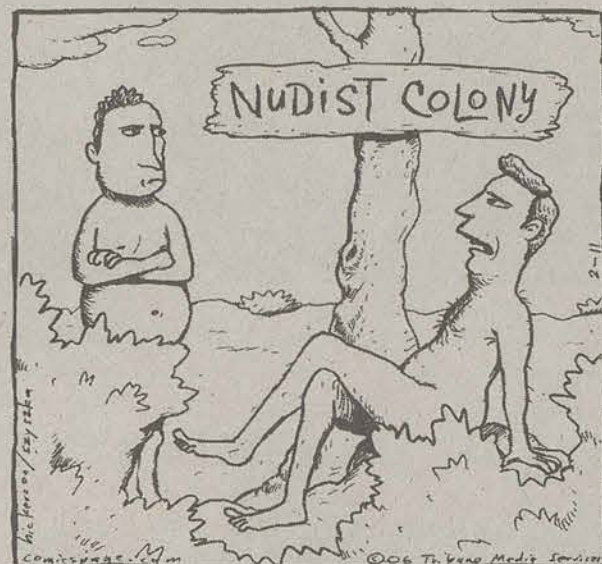
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - Emotions are gaining energy, the facts don't seem to matter. If you're trying to convince people for the next few weeks, remember that.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - Your friends are there to lend a hand. Together, you can solve a puzzle that's had you baffled. This is good.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 - The more you take care of others, the more they'll take care of you. They might even make you rich beyond your wildest dreams.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - You'll find it easier to relax for the next few weeks. So, start working more private time into your busy schedule.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - Your subconscious mind is taking over a lot of your regular chores. In other words, you can do them now while thinking about something else.

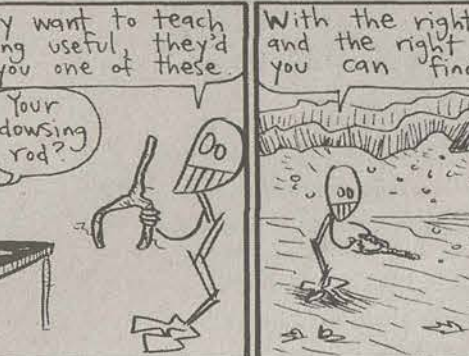


"I had the dream again ... I'm walking down the hall in high school and everyone's pointing and laughing ... and that's when I realize — I'm wearing all my clothes!"

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OUR PICK

Singing Valentines



Send your sweetie a singing valentine, courtesy of the BSU. Including a stuffed animal, candy, and the declaration of your love by BSU students who will serenade your valentine, they'll be delivered between Feb. 9 and 14. Cost is \$25. For info, call 912-681-2241.

ALL AROUND TOP TEN

SONGS, MOVIES, DVDS

DVD RENTALS

1. **Flight Plan**
Jodie Foster
2. **The Fog**
Tom Welling
3. **Wedding Crashers**
Vince Vaughn
4. **Lord of War**
Nicolas Cage
5. **Two for the Money**
Al Pacino
6. **Transporter 2**
Jason Statham
7. **The Aristocrats**
Sarah Silverman
8. **Hustle & Flow**
Terence Howard
9. **The 40-Year-Old Virgin**
Steve Carell
10. **Red Eye**
Cillian Murphy

MOVIES

1. When a Stranger Calls
2. Big Momma's House 2
3. Nanny McPhee
4. Brokeback Mountain
5. Hoodwinked
6. Underworld: Evolution
7. Something New
8. Annapolis
9. Walk the Line
10. Glory Road

ALBUMS

1. Barry Manilow, The Greatest Songs of the Fifties
2. Mary J. Blige, The Breakthrough
3. Andrea Bocelli, Amore
4. Jamie Foxx, Unpredictable
5. Heather Headley, In My Mind
6. Il Divo, Ancora
7. Eminem, Curtain Call
8. Carrie Underwood, Some Hearts
9. James Blunt, Back to Bedlam
10. Train, For Me It's You

Source: Entertainment Weekly

WHAT IS NOW PLAYING

Carmike Cinema 12
(912) 489-4492

Big Momma's House 2
(4:30), 7:00, 9:30

Brokeback Mountain
(4:05), 7:00, 9:55

Chronicles of Narnia
(4:00), 7:00, 10:00

Glory Road
(4:10), 7:05, 9:45

Hoodwinked
(4:05), 7:10, 9:15

Hostel
(4:20), 7:40, 10:05

Last Holiday
(4:20), 7:15, 9:50

Nanny McPhee
(5:30), 7:45, 10:00

Something New
(4:15), 7:00, 9:30

Walk the Line
(4:10), 7:10, 10:00

When a Stranger Calls
(5:20), 7:30, 9:40

Underworld: Evolution
(4:15), 7:00, 9:30

Parenthesis denotes matinee

'Vagina Monologues'

Spread the word

By **Emily Haymans**
Staff Writer

Georgia Southern students are working with women around the country to give new meaning to a once-commercial holiday.

Feb. 14 is more than just another consumer-happy holiday; it now marks the third annual performance of *The Vagina Monologues* at GSU as part of the V-Day College Campaign. The play, a compilation of over 20 monologues, is designed to raise awareness, as well as a few eyebrows, in the process. Themes of the monologues include everything from periods to domestic violence to sexuality and everything in between. Filled with heartbreaking, hilarious, and sometimes cringe-worthy moments, Eve Ensler's brainchild tells the story of women, their struggles, their triumphs, their beauty and, most importantly, their vaginas.

The "V" in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine, and Vagina. V-Day's mission is simple. It demands that the violence must end. It proclaims Valentine's Day as V-Day until the violence stops. When all women live in safety, no longer fearing violence or the threat of violence, then V-Day will be known as Victory Over Violence Day (www.vday.org).

The National Organization for Women (NOW), in conjunction with Theatre & Performance, is running the event. Crystal Noll, president of NOW, will be directing the event, with Micheal Hernandez co-directing. The show will take place in the Performing Arts Center at 7pm on Valentine's Day and will last about

two hours. This year's performance is dedicated to the memory of Betty Friedan, a leader in America's post-war feminist movement.

"We are in the midst of a new women's revolution, and to be a part of it, a part of a new generation of empowered, talented, educated women is the single most important role of my college career. *The Vagina Monologues*' puts that passion into words and I am honored to be involved with it," said Carrie Blackmon, NOW Vice President and assistant to the show.

There has been some controversy over the past few years because of the play's sensitive subject matter and because of the less than subtle fundraisers, like the sale of chocolate vaginas, which are anatomically correct. "[The chocolates] are not something to be embarrassed about," said Blackmon. "The most important issue [in this show] is self-perception, how women perceive themselves."

In addition to the show on Valentine's Day, fundraisers and other V-Day related activities will be taking place in the Russell Union Rotunda in the days prior to the performance. Themed chocolates, t-shirts, tickets, and cups will be on sale. All proceeds will go to benefit Safe Haven, a local battered women's shelter, and the Comfort Women of Japan. Tickets for the show will go on sale this week. The cost for students is \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door, and \$10 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased in the Rotunda or by contacting the PAC Box Office.

For more information, visit www.vday.org.



58th Annual 'Ms. GSU' Pageant to be held Feb. 11 at the PAC



File photo
Lesley Colbertson, last year's Ms. GSU, displays the emotion of being crowned.

By **Ashley Ferguson**
Staff writer

This Saturday night marks the 58th annual Ms. Georgia Southern Scholarship Pageant, sponsored by the Office of Student Activities. The theme of this year's pageant is "Havana Nights" and the Performing Arts Center will be decorated in warm tones of red and orange to capture a tropical, exotic feel. The Ms. GSU Pageant is a preliminary for the Miss Georgia Pageant, which is in June. Contestants are judged based on a private interview, talent showcase, an on-stage question, lifestyle and fitness in swimwear, and presence and poise in evening wear. This year's audience will also be able to vote for their favorite contestant in various People's Choice categories.

Kristie Stramaski, who is working very closely with the organization of the pageant,

said that the process of Ms. GSU begins in September with information sessions and decisions on the date and theme from the Traditions and Spirits committee. Bill Pickett, director of the office of student activities, stated that committees are formed within Eagle Entertainment. Volunteers are then responsible for advertising the info sessions to potential contestants. The contestants are then given roughly two months to prepare their platform for the competition.

Brenda Bridges, who is participating in the pageant, commented that the Ms. GSU Pageant "gives ladies, and me, an opportunity to showcase their talents, intelligence, and passions through their platform." Ronnisha Watson, who is also competing, confessed that even if she did not win, "[she] still plans to follow through with her philanthropy platform." Both

women said that the pageant is a once in a lifetime opportunity and a good chance to make friends and meet people "who want to change the world, like me," added Watson.

The women participating in the event are both excited and nervous about gracing the stage at the PAC. The winner of Ms. GSU is given a \$1,500 scholarship and \$500 worth of materials to prepare her for the Miss Georgia Pageant.

The Ms. GSU Pageant will be on Saturday, Feb. 11th, at 7pm in the Performing Arts Center, located on Chandler Road and Plant Drive. Tickets are \$8 and are available at the PAC box office Monday through Friday from 10am to 5pm. Call 912-486-7999 or go to <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/pac> for tickets.

THE BOTTOM LINE

by ADAM CRISP

Super museum sights

Museums have never been able to hold my attention. Blame it on my ADD or maybe just that I'm completely crass. Whatever

the reason, I find myself whipping through these places in no time flat and feeling all much better for getting some culture.

So this Sunday is a perfect chance to get to see Savannah's 30 museums for

free. Whip through these old houses, places of worship and art museums all for free this Sunday from noon-4 p.m. For more information, visit www.savannah-visit.com.



BOTTOM LINE

For the ADD in everyone, every museum in Savannah is open for free this Sunday. Visit all of them for a glimpse of history.

BET chooses Kanye over King

Instead of covering King's funeral, BET opted to go with its usual music video lineup

By Gail Shister

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Coretta Scott King or Kanye West? BET went West.

In a shocker, Black Entertainment Television took a pass on live coverage of the King funeral Tuesday, going instead with its usual lineup of music-video shows from noon to 3 p.m. EST.

"Was it an easy call? Absolutely not," says Michael Lewellen, BET's senior vice president for corporate communications.

"We weighed a number of different options. In the end, we chose to offer a different kind of experience for BET viewers," said Lewellen.

BET streamed live coverage on its Web site. On TV, it ran taped, 60-second cut-ins from the funeral by BET senior correspondent Andre Showell. A 30-minute taped tribute was shown Tuesday night.

BET received about "two dozen" phone calls and "a handful" of e-mails from viewers Tuesday, Lewellen says. That's slightly above BET's average, he adds.

The network's decision was based

on its desire not to replicate live coverage of the first lady of civil rights' funeral being carried on CNN, MSNBC and Fox News Channel, Lewellen says.

"If BET erred, we erred on the side of giving viewers a different choice. ... We wanted people to have access to this wherever they were — at work, at home, traveling, at school. The online experience would give them that."

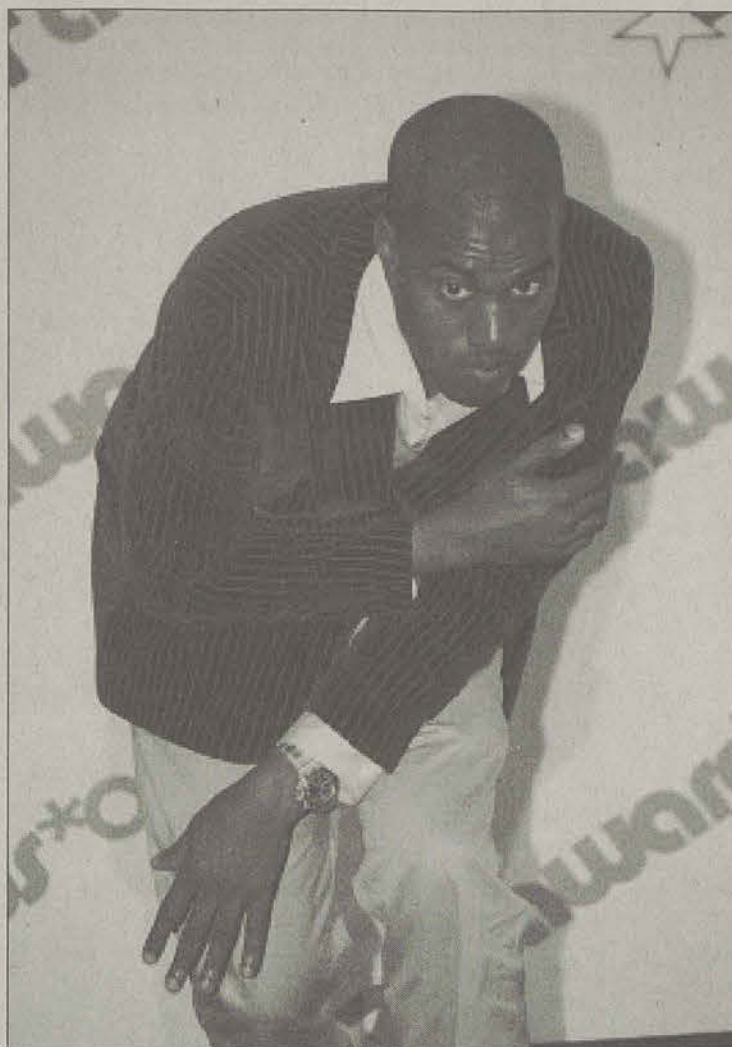
Ratings had no influence on BET's decision, Lewellen says.

Had BET wanted live video, it would have had easy access through CBS Newspath, the network's 24/7 affiliate news service. CBS is also a Viacom property.

While acknowledging that BET "has not satisfied what every viewer would want" in regard to King's funeral, the network provided "an informative, enriching experience," Lewellen says.

The experience won't hurt BET's image, he insists.

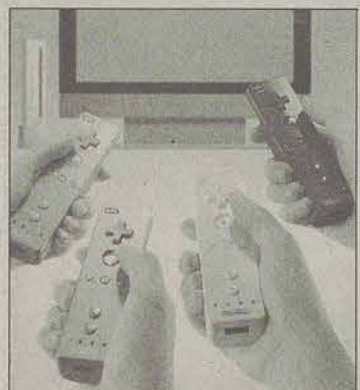
"This is the same network that pre-empted more than three hours in prime time in September and raised more than \$12 million for Hurricane Katrina victims. We use BET's brand and strength to reach our viewers in different ways."



Kanye West poses at last year's BET award ceremony.

Special Photo

Disabled man applauds one-handed game controller



Special photo

By Mike Antonucci

Knight Ridder Newspapers

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Nintendo has been in the technology spotlight since announcing plans for a video-game controller that can be used with only one hand.

To Travis Taft, 19, the controller was a stunning godsend in his fight against an injury that left him a quadriplegic.

He has tried to call national atten-

tion to the unintended benefits that the gadget will offer for people with a variety of physical disabilities.

Like many people with spinal-cord injuries that affect all four limbs, Taft retains some use of his arms and hands.

But it's not enough for effectively operating the typical, two-hand game device.

He's confident his relatively strong right hand will be able to manipulate the new controller, which is part of

the Revolution game system that's still under development by Nintendo.

"Video games have been a major factor in my life," said Taft, who has resolved to take the most optimistic approach possible to his rehabilitation.

"I was eagerly hunting for some way to get back into it," he said.

Nintendo is expected to make the Revolution game system and one-hand controller available late this year.

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Cat Power's 'The Greatest' lives up to its name

By Edgar Fernandez
Music Reviewer

Do not be fooled by the title of Cat Power's newest CD.

"The Greatest" is not a greatest hits collection; it is actually 12 new and original songs. Chan Marshall, the voice behind the name, has created some of the most bitter-sweet ballads in folk music for over a decade now. Her latest album follows this tradition with outstanding results.

This time around, Marshall has joined forces with great Memphis session musicians like Teenie Hodges, Leroy Hodges, and Steven Potts. These musicians have played the type of music that inspired Marshall since she was little, so it's no surprise that the chemistry between these artists has worked better than with other group collaborations.

The album is melodic, with both simplicity and density. The

'The Greatest' Cat Power

Label: Matador Records
Released: Jan. 24, 2006

Prices:
amazon.com - \$8.96
barnesandnoble.com - \$10.48
bestbuy.com - \$7.99

Grade - 4.5 of 5 ★★★★★

instruments range from acoustic guitars and fiddles to drums, all working in great unison.

Cat Power is known for songs that are downright depressing. This album is no exception. Throughout the album there is a theme of grief, woe, loathing, all the while with an air of apathy. From the lyrics, to the delivery of the vocals, Marshall's voice (and even the backup singers') is filled with beauty and pain.

As previously mentioned, the album has 12 songs. The first track, "The Greatest," is the best on

the album. The song is stunning, with splendid vocals and backups, not to mention the exceptional music.

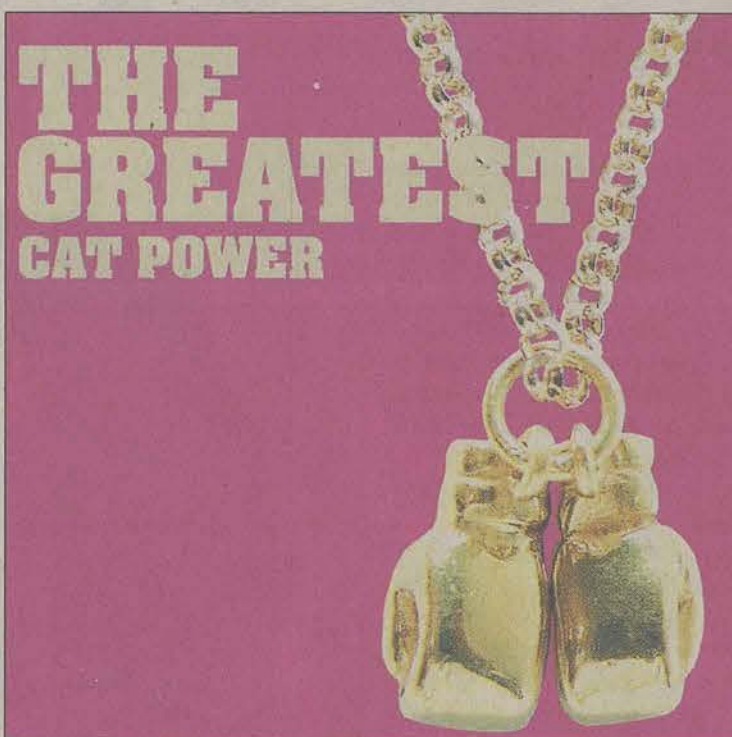
The other songs on the album are great too; it is a shame that none of them are as good as "The Greatest."

Songs like "After It All" has great use of pianos and acoustics. "Hate" has a plain sound, but its emotion is quite strong.

At first, "Empty Shell" threw me off a little with its use of fiddles. It sounded too much like a country song, but I got over that after listening to it for a couple of times.

Other songs like "Where Is My Love" sounds too whiny, even for Cat Power. Also, I did not like "Love & Communication" too much; I found it kind of boring.

Still, this album is a true masterpiece, especially for anyone that has a taste for mature folk music.



Special photo

Calling the album "The Greatest" is somewhat of a hyperbole and

not very modest, but it's not like it isn't justified.

'The New Sexy' look premieres in New York

By Ashley Ferguson
Fashion Correspondent

New York has been flooded with designers recently. As a result, stunning clothes are being premiered and lusted after. This week I will bring you one trend that is leaving everyone breathless: "The New Sexy." Since Valentine's Day is fast approaching, this will be good insight for dress ideas if you are still wondering where all the sexy clothes in your closet went.

Asymmetrical hems and bandage dresses ruled the runways. Louis Vuitton highlighted a rose viscose jersey dress with patent straps worth at least two big refund checks. Alexander McQueen displayed a gold bandage chain dress. Both are seductive and represent the styles available this coming spring. On one hand, you have



photo courtesy of www.style.com
Rose Vis Rose viscose jersey draped dress with patent straps by Louis Vuitton, \$2,850.

flowing fabrics that show off your legs

when you walk, while on the other hand you have tight dresses to show off your figure. For those women who love to be different, Zaldy has a sequined dress with a fringed hem that screams individuality.

Off-the-shoulder dresses, halters, plunging necklines, and lots of fabric to trail behind as you walk; that is what is going to be in stores. Of course, everything I have mentioned is highly expensive and not within a college budget whatsoever, but trends have to start somewhere at some price.

I encourage all the women to go over to www.style.com and take a look at all the dresses shown in the "New Sexy" trend report. With the Grammy's on the way, I would not be surprised to see some female nominees flaunting these hot new looks. Happy shopping!

Denisof joins 'How I met your mother'

By Hanh Nguyen
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Aside from some humorous moments during his time on "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and "Angel," Alexis Denisof hasn't had much chance to do comedic work. That will soon change, as Denisof is joining his wife, Alyson Hannigan, for a couple of episodes of Hannigan's CBS sitcom, "How I Met Your Mother."

"He actually just did an episode of our show. It was so much fun," Hannigan told reporters last week during interviews for her film "Date Movie," which opens Feb. 17. Hannigan and Denisof, who met when he joined the "Buffy" cast in the show's third season, have been married since October 2003.

"How I Met Your Mother," which airs Monday nights on CBS, is also Hannigan's first regular role in a TV

comedy, although most of her movie work has been comedic. She says she's enjoying the camaraderie she shares with the cast, which also includes Josh Radnor, Cobie Smulders, Jason Segel and Neil Patrick Harris.

"I was actively looking for a half-hour (show) because of the family aspect of television, going to work with the same people for the majority of the year and getting to do what I love to do," she says. She's also hopeful that the series will earn another year on CBS; thus far this season, it's drawing about 10.3 million viewers per week, along with fairly positive reviews.

"We're so lucky. We're having such a blast," Hannigan says. "We just hope we get to come back next year. They have to see all their pilots and make sure that, you know. It would be shocking, I think" if the show isn't renewed.

Roses are Read: Technology yields new ways to get to know your sweetheart

By Mark de la Vina
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Don't even think about getting her phone number. And stop worrying whether he'll call you the next day. In this age of high-speed instant communication, the manner in which potential lovers interact is a complicated, tiered system that has reconfigured the way we court.

Gone are the days when potential paramours exchange phone numbers and contemplate too long and hard over a call. With the emergence of e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging and handheld devices like Treos and BlackBerrys, dating has evolved

so that the thrill of a quick response goes hand-in-clammy-hand with the uneasiness of knowing you are reachable no matter where you are.

As doctoral student in neuropsychology at San Jose State University, Fontana used to give her phone number to an interested suitor. Now she prefers exchanging e-mails to establish communication. If she likes what she reads, she suggests talking via Yahoo! messenger or her cell phone.

"If you have a thought or feeling, or if something happens that you want to share, technology allows you to be spontaneous in a way you couldn't before," Fontana says. "It gives you a

new avenue to touch them."

Today, people who date are likely to make that first post-introduction contact through e-mail. A phone conversation follows after some flirtation and virtual footsies are played via text messaging or instant messaging.

A biological anthropologist at Rutgers University who specializes in the evolution and future of sex, love and marriage and gender differences in the brain and behavior, Helen Fisher says new technologies have expanded our ability to communicate while increasing the possibilities - and emotional impact - of dating.

"Not only can you express your emotions almost instantly and have

the other person respond, but if you express yourself and they don't respond, you instantly want to know why not."

The downside of text messaging is its depersonalized nature. An e-mail, for example, isn't always something the recipient is obligated to respond to, says Stacie Hrabal, 41, who manages trade shows. And though breaking up on the phone was once considered a potentially heartless act, those who dated briefly and mostly communicated through e-mail can conveniently end their courtship with an electronic message.

"I went on several dates with a guy, and we weren't feeling the vibe," she

says. "So we actually hammered out ending it on e-mail. I preferred that to the phone or talking in person because it allowed me to sit back and carefully think about what to say instead of reacting to him on the phone."

There are pitfalls to establishing a rapport electronically, says Robbie Blinkoff, a principal anthropologist for Context Research, a Baltimore-based ethnographic research company that has tracked such cultural trends as electronic communications.

"You have to understand when it's time to put the phone or the BlackBerry down and have a face-to-face," Blinkoff says. "That's a key moment of transition."

Kitchen gadgets make cooking fast and easy

By Alicia Howe
Culinary columnist

Every cook, beginning or experienced, should have convenient cooking gadgets in their kitchen. Gadgets reduce the time and difficulty of preparing a good meal and, well, they are just plain fun to play with.

Here are three affordable kitchen tools that make cooking easier:

1. Garlic press: Mincing (v. to finely chop) garlic isn't exactly the most time friendly way of adding flavor to meals. This handy gadget is perfect for cooks who hate chopping fresh garlic, but can't stand to buy it pre-minced.

After removing the skin, the garlic is literally pressed through a series of tiny holes, making it mushy enough to incorporate into food.

A garlic press can be found at any store that sells kitchenware and can range anywhere from \$3.00 to \$35.00 depending on the brand.

2. Adjustable measuring cups: If you've ever had to use one or more measuring cups while cooking a meal, this is the gadget for you. Adjustable measuring cups are exactly what they sound like: they are measuring cups you can adjust to any amount.

I would suggest buying the Wondercup Adjustable Measuring Cup, which has all the measurements you need for cooking, including teaspoons, tablespoons, ounces and pints. The Wondercup also is designed for measuring the stickiest ingredients, like butter or molasses, with its adjustable stand that pushes out the ingredients after they are measured.

The Wondercup can be found online at www.kitchencrafts.com for \$4.95 (one cup)/\$7.95 (two cups) or www.amazon.com for \$6.95 (one cup)/\$7.95 (two cups).

3. Bottles: This may sound simple, but bottles are a cook's best friend in the kitchen. Two bottles that are great to have in the kitchen are plastic squeeze bottles and squirt bottles.

Plastic squeeze bottles are great for holding oils and vinegars. The tiny tip at the top of the bottles prevents massive amounts of the contents from spilling out onto your food, and the protective plastic cap keeps the contents fresh.

Squirt bottles are fantastic for frying. Putting oil in a squirt bottle allows even dispersal when searing (v. cooking food at a high temperature to form a crust). Squirt bottles can also be filled with liquids such as apple juice or beer to create a flavored smoke while grilling.

Plastic bottles can also be found at any store that sells kitchenware, and range from \$1.00 to \$7.00.

Adding just a few gadgets to your kitchen's artillery will save you both time and money in the long run, not to mention preventing all those headaches that can come from working too hard while cooking.



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