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High: 51 | Low: 27
Mostly sunny
Volume 78
Number 69

Slave memories

Speaker tells group that Midway slaves stayed here because it was home | **CAMPUS, p.2**



Marsh: Holiday's purpose pointless

| **OPINION, p.4**

THE GEORGE-ANNE

DAILY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006

That's cool

It's what the kids are saying ... still

By Larry Neumeister
Associated Press

Groovy is over, hip is square, far out is long gone. Don't worry, though — it's cool.

"Cool" remains the gold standard of slang in the 21st century, as reliable as a blue-chip stock, surviving like few expressions ever in our constantly evolving language. It has kept its cool through the centuries — even as its meaning changed drastically.

How cool is that? Way cool, say experts who interpret slang for their messages about society.

"Cool is certainly a charter member for the slang hall of fame," says Robert Thompson, Syracuse University professor of popular culture. "Cool sits back and keeps getting used generation after generation and lets the whole history of the language roll off its back."

It is the all-purpose word for OK, good, great, terrific and every gradation in between, often pronounced nowadays as "kewl."

Before it became slang, cool was, of course, a literal reference to temperature, and later a favorite metaphor of writers as far back as Chaucer in the 1300s. In 1602, Shakespeare wrote that Queen Gertrude told Hamlet: "O gentle son, Upon the heat and flame of thy distemper, Sprinkle cool patience."

By the 17th century, the word helped define a woman's ability to allay a man's passion through sex. During the horse-and-buggy era, "cooling one's heels" described the need to rest a horse with overheated hooves. The 1800s saw the use of "cool off," meaning to kill, and the "cool customer."

Early in the 20th century, it was used to refer to large amounts of money: "a cool million." In the 1920s, Calvin Coolidge's White House campaign slogan was "Keep Cool With Coolidge." By the 1930s, "cool as a cucumber" was "the bee's knees" — slang of the era for "excellent."

But by the 1940s, cool gained popularity through its use in jazz clubs, where musicians employed a word that had already enjoyed wide use among blacks.

In 1948, Life magazine titled an article "Bebop: New Jazz School Is Led by Trumpeter Who Is Hot, Cool and Gone." And in 1948, The New Yorker said "the bebop people have a language of their own. ... Their expressions of



Associated Press graphic

approval include 'cool.'"

Geoffrey Nunberg, a linguist at the University of California at Berkeley, says the word should have faded away at the end of the '50s. Instead, it was adopted and redefined by hippies, followed by surfers, rappers and techno-geeks. "Click here for cool stuff," Web sites say.

Peter N. Stearns, a social historian at George Mason University and author of the book "American Cool," says cool went mainstream in the 1950s and '60s because society needed a word to express attitude without anger.

"We were dealing with a culture that was placing an increasing premium on controlling emotion, particularly anger," he says. The hippies in the 1960s used the word to "promote the notion that they were relaxed and not angry."

Thompson says there is no reason to believe that cool will ever go the way of linguistic dinosaurs like "bad" (meaning good), or "chill" (meaning cool off) or "groovy," which sounds so "Brady Bunch."

"Cool is already firmly ensconced in several generations," he says. "It's got street cred. And it had street cred before we even used the word 'street cred.'"

HOW COOL HAS CHANGED

In 1602, Shakespeare wrote that Queen Gertrude told Hamlet: "O gentle son, Upon the heat and flame of thy distemper, Sprinkle cool patience."



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Those who study pop culture say 'cool' should have fallen out of favor in the 50s or 60s, but Hippies brought it back.

Rappers in the 80s and 90s popularized cool again. It outlasted other 90s terms like radical and awesome.



Jared Siri/STAFF

Rebekah Rotten waves to the crowd after she was crowned Miss Georgia Southern Saturday.

Miss GSU crown passed to Rotten

New title-holder will head to Miss Georgia Pageant this summer

By Ashley Ferguson
Staff writer

Saturday declared a new Miss Georgia Southern at the "Havana Nights" themed Performing Arts Center. Rebekah Rotten was named the 58th Miss GSU. She won the \$1,500 scholarship and \$500 worth of salon packages — and even dry cleaning packages — to help her prepare for the Miss Georgia Pageant in June in Columbus, GA.

The pageant opened up with a dance number by Miss GSU 2005, Leslie Culbertson, followed by an introduction of the contestants by the Master of Ceremonies, Tony Rouse. There were three sets of competition groups: Yellow Roses, Orange Roses and Red Roses.

In each set, the contestants alternated between the talent, swimsuit, and casual wear competitions. The talent varied from poetry readings to dance; the casual wear competition also contained the On-Stage Question where contestants were asked why they chose their platform and then another referring to a personal experience.

A new addition to the pageant program was the Peoples' Choice Award, which went to Melissa Wright. Audience members paid \$1 to vote for the woman they wanted to win. People were able to vote more than once, but had to pay for every time they voted. All the money is going into the scholarship fund for next

year's pageant.

While the judges tallied their scores, Rouse kept the audience in high spirits by doing prize giveaways and telling a few jokes with the help of one or two audience members. Rouse, an alumnus of GSU, was so involved with student activities while a student that he was asked to be the Master of Ceremonies by Pageant Director Tabitha Irvin.

Culbertson gave her Farewell Walk before crowning the new Miss GSU. Her platform last year was overcoming depression in women and even though she did not rank in the Top 10 at Miss Georgia, she is proud of the opportunity it gave her and feels rather bittersweet about passing on the title.

After what seemed like an eternity, the winners were announced. There were awards for other achievements throughout the pageant such as Sales and Marketing won by Victoria Parrish and Miss Congeniality awarded to Ronnisha Watson. The Swimsuit competition was given to Crystal Starling while Rebekah Rotten won in both Talent and the Private Interview.

The Finalists were as follows: Ashley Harper, Erin Todd, Melissa Wright and Jessica Allen. Allen, as First Runner-up, will fill in as Miss GSU should the actual Miss GSU not be able to attend a competition or appearance.

Allen commented that she will continue competing and supporting the Children's Miracle Network with her sisters of Phi Mu. Miss Georgia Southern University 2006 is Rebekah Rotten and her platform is for the American Diabetes Association. She plans to be a "role model for young women" and represent GSU to the best of her ability.

INSIDE

Campus 2 Classifieds 5
National 3 Sports 6
Opinion 4

Didn't lose her head

A native of Haiti was arrested in Florida for traveling with a human head in her luggage. She said it was to ward off evil spirits. | **OIA, p.3**

Museum opens exhibit on packaging

By Myrtice Boone
Staff writer

"Paper Packing: The Secret Lives of Boxes and Bags" opened at the Georgia Southern Museum last Monday.

The exhibit is designed to give visitors a greater understanding of the development of modern paper

packaging.

"We wanted visitors to appreciate the depth and breadth of the paper packing industry, the impact it has on our purchasing decisions and the diversity of the careers and jobs wrapped up in it," said Wendy Denton, the acting director for the museum.

Although a lot of people do not

realize it, a lot of effort goes into paper packaging. The presentation of any package is important because it does the selling of the product.

Most consumers decide what they're going to buy based on its packaging, whether they're reading the nutritional guide or looking at the

see **EXHIBIT**, page 3



Victor Martinez/STAFF

Kelly Gernatt, a GSU alumna, looks over the GSU museum's display on paper packaging.

Speaker: freed slaves stayed for memories

Falk tells audience that blacks stayed in rural South despite bad experience because of ties

By Robert Greene II
Staff writer

A guest lecturer came to Georgia Southern on Wednesday and spoke about the importance of place to African Americans who stayed in the South for many years, despite bitter opposition to their presence.

"I only had one question: why was it, when millions of blacks left, others stayed behind?" says William W. Falk, Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland. "Why did they stay in a place that many wanted to leave, and how did they deal with

segregation and racism?"

Professor Falk's lecture, "Big Lessons from Small Places: The Low Country and Beyond," is the second of a four-part GSU lecture series entitled "Race and the American South." The lecture was free and open to the students and the faculty of GSU, as well as the Statesboro general public.

His lecture focused on the Low Country of Georgia, and towns that are a part of the "Black Belt," a region of the Southeast United States that, according to data compiled by the United States Census Bureau since 1840, has been an area of a large

concentration of Black Americans up until the present day.

The lecture topic was also the focus of his sixth book, "Rooted in Place: Family and Belonging in a Southern Black Community." Falk has dealt with race issues and the American South throughout his career as a sociology professor, writing a masters thesis on the Ku Klux Klan and doing a doctoral dissertation on school segregation.

Falk said of his most recent work, which was conducted by interviewing a family of Black Americans who lived and worked in the low country. He had so much reverence for the subjects of his work that he referred to them as heroes, even more heroic than the famous Freedom Riders, the young civil rights workers who desegregated

the transit systems of the South in the 1960s.

"Not to demean the Freedom Riders, who were heroes, but the people I spent time with were also heroes. They stayed back, and they were brave enough to register to vote, desegregate schools and refuse food from the back of restaurants," said Falk.

So why did so many African Americans stay behind? "They stayed behind because the place contained all of their memories, good or bad, but their memories." He said that many Black Americans see themselves as stewards of the land that has been passed down from generation to generation.

Falk's next projects include the plight of African Americans forced

to migrate around the United States in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and also the new wave of so-called "plantation" gated communities.

The lecture was sponsored by the Campus Life Enrichment Committee, with support from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the Department of History, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the Center of Africana Studies and the GSU Museum.

The next lecture, which is scheduled for March 22, will be presented by Erskine Clarke, a professor of American religious history from the Columbia Theological Seminary, and will be entitled "Dwelling Place: The Midway Community in Black and White."

Study abroad forum answers questions on overseas classes

GSU News Service

The Center for International Studies will have an information table on Study Abroad and Exchange programs in the Russell Union (upper commons level) from 10 a.m. to 2p.m.

Students can take advantage of this time to learn about the various programs offered, ask questions, pickup brochures and view pictures.

When studying abroad, you will have the opportunity to see things you've always dreamed about seeing, increase your knowledge of people and places, and increase your career opportunities by creating for yourself a niche in the job market.

International experience provides second language skills, international knowledge, cross-cultural communication skills, resilience and ability to adapt to new circumstances, and skills to deal constructively with cultural and social differences.

Some of our study abroad programs include England, Costa Rica, Spain, Czech Republic, Russia, Mexico, Italy, France and Greece. Exchange programs include South Korea, Japan, China, Denmark, Germany and Mexico.

If you have any questions about Study Abroad and Exchange programs, feel free to contact Jeff Palis, Study Abroad and Exchange Program Coordinator, in the Center for International Studies at 912-871-1747.



A sea turtle swims in North America's largest aquarium in Atlanta, Georgia.

AP Photo/John Sullivan

Georgia Aquarium trip booked Museum's second visit to Aquarium already filled

By Jennifer Maddox
Staff writer

On Feb. 11, the Georgia Southern Museum made a trip to the Georgia Aquarium in downtown Atlanta. Demand for the visit was significant and slots filled quickly, so the museum decided to sponsor another trip to the Georgia Aquarium scheduled for March 18, 2006. The trip is already booked.

The aquarium, which opened in November 2005, is the only one outside of Asia that has a whale shark, the largest fish in the world. The aquarium also contains beluga whales, penguins and piranhas.

The trip in March is open to both adults and children. The cost is \$50 for GSU Museum members, and \$55 for non-members. The cost includes admission and transportation to and from Atlanta.

According to Museum Interim Director Wendy Denton, the museum sponsors trips an average of two to three times a year in order to allow people to learn more about the coastal region.

"The museum promotes understanding the natural and cultural history of the coastal plain. We like to get people out, as well as help them learn about and appreciate the region," says Denton.

Denton said these trips give students an opportunity to learn more about possible career paths and gain a different perspective about the region that they live in outside of the classroom.

Denton also said such excursions may attract people who are not actively involved with the museum, and the trips have the potential to draw prospective students and donors to GSU.

Museum Educator Becky Warren said the Georgia Aquarium visit, as well as other trips that the museum sponsors, may provide residents of Statesboro with an exciting learning experience they might not get otherwise.

"We try to pick places that offer an experience that residents of Statesboro don't normally get," said Warren. "I

think the museum and the university will both benefit from this trip. The aquarium offers outstanding displays that should get visitors excited about marine science. Perhaps visiting the aquarium will get people in southeast Georgia excited about the kinds of things that can be accomplished in our cultural institutions here."

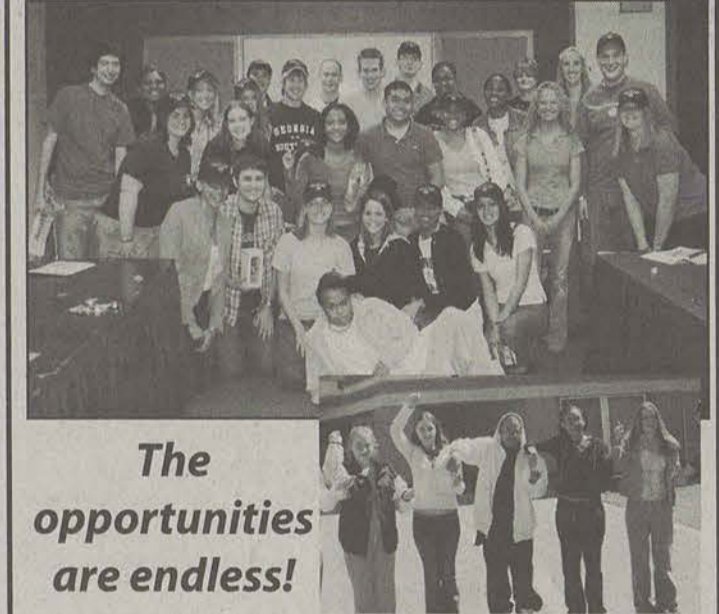
On a personal note, Denton also added that she would also like to see more students involved with the GSU Museum by taking advantage of such trips.

"Students are adults, and we would like them to go on these trips because they are designed with adults in mind," said Denton.

In 2006, along with two trips to the Georgia Aquarium, the museum will also sponsor a trip to the Congaree National Park and Columbia Zoo in April as part of the Coastal Plains Adventures program.

For more information, contact the GSU Museum at 912-681-5444, or visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu>.

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James Joyce book club to meet Monday

GSU News Service

The fifth gathering of the book club dedicated to James Joyce's novel "Ulysses" will meet Monday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m.

The book club is sponsored by the Department of Literature and Philosophy, the Henderson Library and the Center for Irish Studies at Georgia Southern. David W. Robinson, professor, and Howard J. Keeley, assistant professor, both in the Department of Literature and Philosophy, facilitate the book club, a town-and-gown initiative designed to be informal and fun. The book club is offered at no charge and anyone is welcome to participate.

The meetings, which began on Monday, Oct. 17, are held in the Community Room of the Statesboro Regional Library. The final meeting will be held Monday, March 20.

To fuel the relaxed conversation, decaffeinated Starbucks coffee and a selection of nighttime teas and pastries, all compliments of the Sugar Magnolia Bakery, are provided.

For more information on the book club, visit the website at <http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/~irish/ulysses/main.htm> or contact Rebecca Zeigler at the Henderson Library at 912-486-7819.

CALENDAR

Monday, February 13

12 p.m.
Rotary Citizen of the Year in Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Bldg. 1601

4 p.m.
Faculty Senate in Russell Union Room 1042

6 p.m.
Hispanic Student Association Meeting in Russell Union Room 2075

7 p.m.
Black History Quiz Bowl in Russell Union Room 2047. Test your knowledge of African American history.

Tuesday, February 14

4 p.m.
Focus on Excellence Lecture Series in Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Bldg. 2911

6 p.m.
Carnation Ball in Russell Union Room 1042

6:30 p.m.
Habitat for Humanity Meeting in Russell Union Room 2042

7 p.m.
GSU Debate Team Meeting in Russell Union Room 2073

7 p.m.
A Benefit Production of "The Virginia Monologues" at the Performing Arts Center. Tickets on sale at the Rotunda Feb. 6-10 and Feb. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

9 p.m.
Swing Cats in Williams Center Room 2034

Wednesday, February 15

6 p.m.
SGA Meeting in Russell Union Room 2047

7 p.m.
NAACP General Body Meeting in Russell Union Room 2080

7 p.m.
Happy to Be Nappy in Russell Union Room 2047. Learn of and discuss the different perspectives thin African Americans have with each other.

Thursday, February 16

8 a.m.
Timeshop: Wartime England in Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Bldg.

5:30 p.m.
Mathematics Public Lecture in College of IT Room 1005

5:30 p.m.
International Club Meeting in Russell Union Room 2042

POLICE BEAT

02-08-2006

- Amanda Beth Botte, 19, of Olliff Hall, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol and possession of a false ID.
- David Thomas Hispaki, 20, of South Bend Drive, Statesboro, was charged with possession of marijuana.
- Leslie Allison MacDowell, 18, of Olliff Hall, was charged with DUI and minor in possession/consumption of alcohol.
- Benjamin Ulysses Paquin, 21, of Olliff Hall, was charged with carrying a weapon on campus, obstruction of an officer and being a wanted person.
- John Hunter Player, 19, of Laurel Crossing Parkway, Buford, Ga., was charged with criminal trespass.
- A case of simple battery was reported on Akins Boulevard.

02-07-2006

- A spare tire cover was taken from a vehicle and a red substance was put on the window of the same vehicle in the Olliff Hall parking lot.
- Two computer monitors were taken from the Eagle Village computer lab.

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
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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.

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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

Children with Down syndrome sought more often for adoption

By Margaret Stafford
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Seven was not enough for Diane and David Petersohn, so they decided to adopt.

And since one of their seven children has Down syndrome, they decided they wanted another one with Down syndrome.

The Petersohns found that they had plenty of company. The couple from Liberty, Mo., placed their names on national lists of people seeking to adopt children with Down syndrome, and waited.

After waiting nearly three years they turned to a private agency that facilitates international adoptions. Today, they're raising money and completing paperwork to adopt a 6-month-old boy from Ecuador who has the syndrome, a type of retardation caused by a genetic malfunction.

Most who seek to adopt Down syndrome children have had a family member, friend or acquaintance with the disorder, or work with them in medical or school professions.

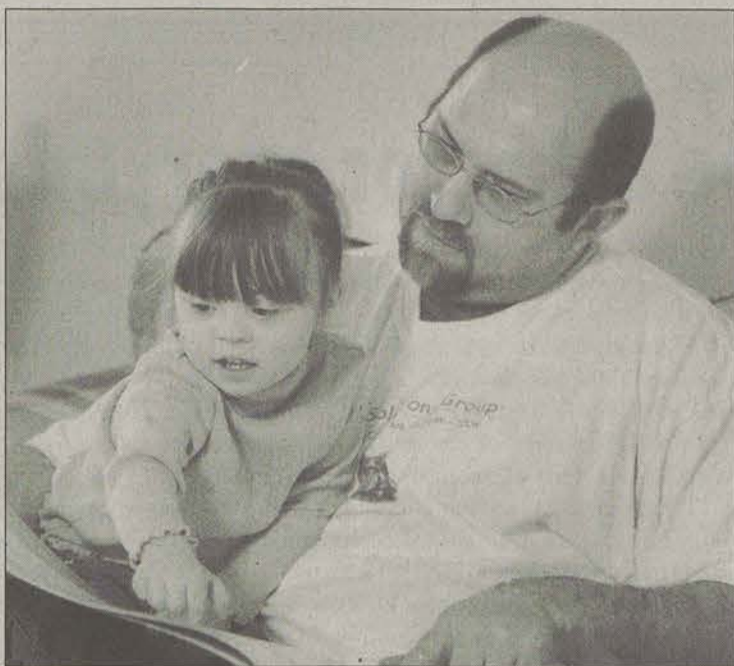
"People think they are just great kids, people feel like they are very lovable," said Rachel Crews, a social worker with the Special Additions adoption agency in Stillwell, Kan.

Changing attitudes toward people with all disabilities and improved medical treatments also are helping unite these children with families, advocates say.

"Society as a whole is much more accepting," said David Tolleson, executive director of the National Down Syndrome Congress in Atlanta.

"Whereas in a prior generation, mothers were told when they had a baby with Down syndrome or another disability, put the child in an institution and forget about them."

That's what happened 34 years ago to a little girl named Martha, whose single mother gave her up for adoption. She was diagnosed with Down



AP Photo/Orlin Wagner

David Petersohn, right, reads with his daughter Darcie, who has Down syndrome, at the Petersohn home in Liberty, Mo., Friday, Feb. 3. The Petersohns are trying to adopt another child with Down Syndrome. Darcie is so outgoing "she has made people smile who look like they don't know how," Diane Petersohn said, but that is partly because her daughter has no sense of safe boundaries.

syndrome and placed in a group home in Cincinnati.

But when Martha turned 4, Robin Steele and her husband met her and fell in love immediately. With one son already, they adopted Martha and have gone on to adopt nine other children.

Martha's adoption also spurred the Steeles to help other families like theirs with families who felt they could not raise children with Down syndrome.

So, 23 years ago, they started the Adoption Awareness Program in conjunction with the Down Syndrome Association of Cincinnati. Steele connects people who want a child with Down syndrome with birth mothers or adoption agencies.

In the first year, she helped find homes for three children with Down syndrome. Now, Steele works with three to five situations a week, she said,

and has a waiting list of 150. Waits average six months to a year.

Allison said the organization does not monitor trends, but "there are easily more people contacting us interested in adoption than we have ever seen before."

Adoption advocates say they stress to prospective parents that all people with the syndrome are not the same.

Nearly half will have some heart defect and about one-third will develop thyroid problems. Roughly 1 percent develop leukemia, and nearly all will have some delay in motor and speech development. Other potential problems include intestinal or spine malformations and hearing difficulties.

Better medical treatments and earlier intervention have increased the life expectancy of people with the syndrome to the 50s and 60s.

ONLY IN AMERICA

stories by The Associated Press

\$400 million house wrongly valued

VALPARAISO, Ind. - A house erroneously valued at \$400 million is being blamed for budget shortfalls and possible layoffs in municipalities and school districts in northwest Indiana.

An outside user of Porter County's computer system may have triggered the mess by accidentally changing the value of the Valparaiso house, said Sharon Lippens, director of the county's information technologies and service department. The house had been valued at \$121,900 before the glitch.

County Treasurer Jim Murphy said the home usually carried about \$1,500 in property taxes; this year, it was billed \$8 million.

Lippens said her agency identified the mistake and told the county auditor's office how to correct it. But the \$400 million value ended up on documents that were used to calculate tax rates.

Most local officials did not learn about the mistake until Tuesday, when 18 government taxing units were asked to return a total of \$3.1 million of tax money. The city of Valparaiso and the Valparaiso Community School Corp. were

asked to return \$2.7 million. As a result, the school system has a \$200,000 budget shortfall, and the city loses \$900,000.

Officials struggled to figure out how the mistake got into the system and how it could have been prevented. City leaders said Thursday the error could cause layoffs and cost-cutting measures.

Lippens said the outside user changed the property value, most likely while trying to access another program while using the county's enhanced access system, which charges users a fee for access to public records that are not otherwise available on the Internet.

Exhibit

from page 1

illustration on the front.

And the work that's put into the packaging does not go unpaid. The packaging affects the price of all products. A jewelry box, as small as the size of a ring, can cost \$4, and a pizza box costs 31 cents.

The exhibit is split into different categories to help ease its visitors into the "secrets" of packaging. It is broken down into sales, recycling, economics and packaging science.

And in each section, the visitor is given little tidbits of information, educated about one career in the field of packaging science and given an optional activity.

"It's fun! It is a hands-on, family-oriented exhibit," said Denton.

One of the activities includes making a package of your own with the provided markers and glue sticks.

Another includes testing the strength of corrugated cardboard.

Although this exhibit is for everyone, Becky Warren, the exhibit educator, said it is targeted for younger children and will create a balance for the other exhibit "Midway: Between Slavery and Self-Sufficiency."

Several careers were highlighted in the exhibit as possible opportunities, including package design, graphic design and package engineer. The professionals highlighted throughout the exhibit ranged in education from a high school degree to a master of fine arts.

"It's [Packaging] not something you just think about. The exhibit was very educational," said Nakeisha Leitzsey, a junior at GSU.

Curated by Hans Mortenson, a professor in the school of technology, "Paper Packaging: The Secret Lives of Boxes and Bags" will be on display until May 7.

The exhibit is sponsored in part by Georgia Pacific, one of the world's

leading manufacturers and marketers of tissue, packaging paper, building products and related chemicals, and Paris Packaging, a multi-location manufacturer of folding paperboard cartons. Both of these companies have locations in Atlanta.

There is no admission fee for the Museum, which is located in the Rosenwald Building on Southern Drive.

The museum is open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

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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.

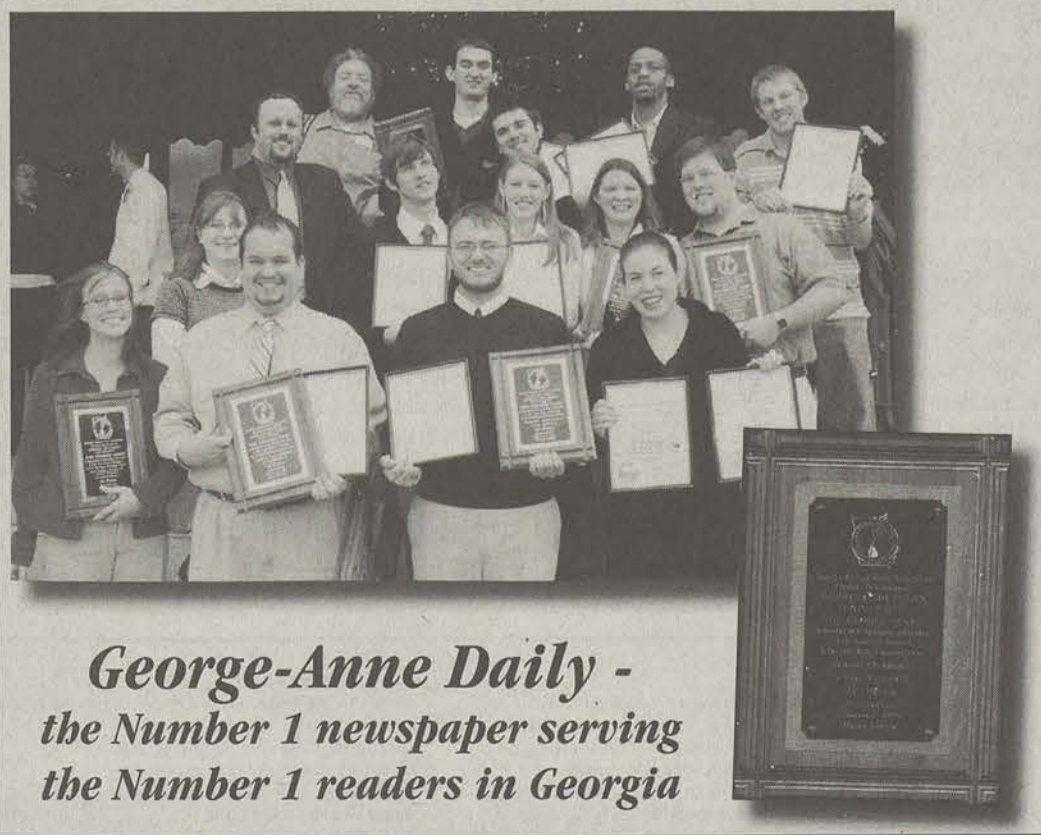
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- **First Place**, Best Campus Community Service- Features
- **First Place**, General Excellence

Individual Awards

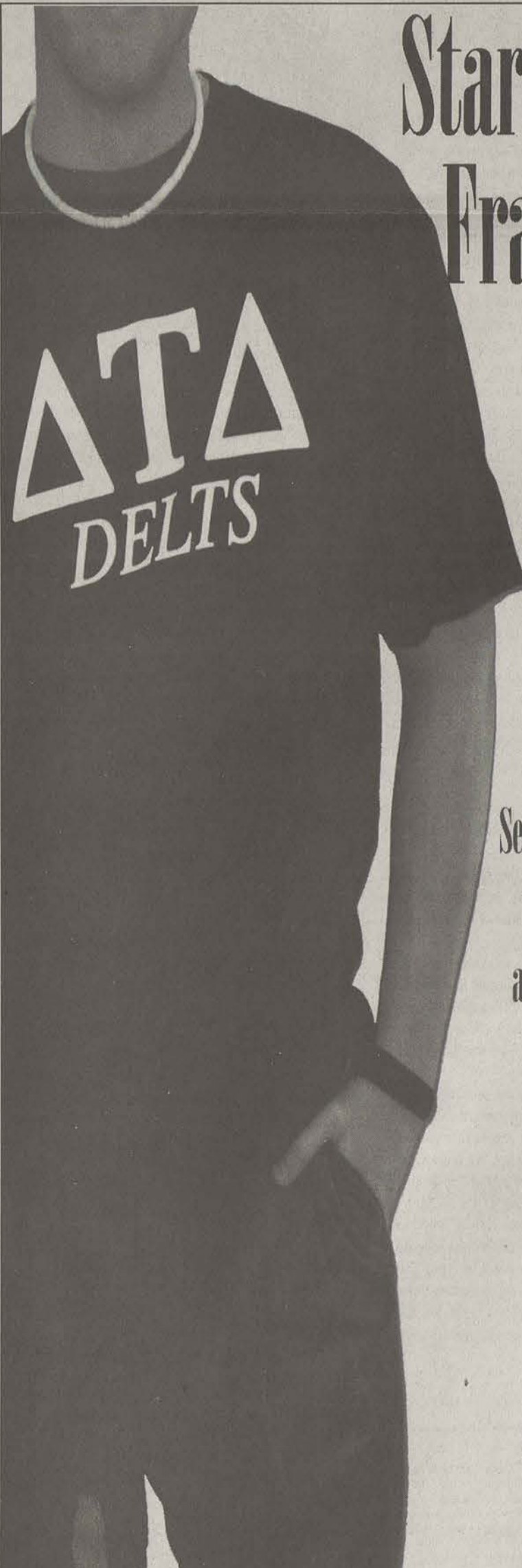
- **Grayson Hoffman**, Second, Best Sports Photograph
- **Grayson Hoffman**, First, Best News Photograph
- **Adam Crisp & Luke Hearn**, First Place, Best News Article - Interpretive/Investigative
- **Wesley Huffmaster**, Second Place, Best Feature Story
- **Brian Metcalf**, Third Place, Best Sports Story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



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"Remember that there is nothing stable in human affairs; therefore, avoid undue elation in prosperity, or undue depression in adversity."

- Socrates
Greek philosopher

OUR VIEW

Valentine's Day can be a day for everyone

Tomorrow is a holiday that seems to be the most scrutinized holiday we have each year. Often called a "Hallmark" or "corporate" holiday, Valentine's Day is a day that is either loved or hated by the masses.

Talk around the office shows that a majority of our staffers aren't the biggest fans of the day marked with a box of chocolates and a dozen red roses.

But we don't want to use this space to be negative about the day of love. Instead, we'll comment on the "holiday" and offer genuine thoughts for those who will be lovey-dovey with their sweetheart tomorrow and those who will burn roses in effigy.

It's important to remember that even though Valentine's Day is for love and whatnot, it shouldn't be the only day out of the year that you do something special for the one you love. To many, this is an obvious assertion and our speaking of it should be insulting, but there are many people who only do special things for the ones they love just because corporate America says that's the way it is supposed to be.

Tomorrow shouldn't be the only day this year that a guy should wake up early to bring his lady breakfast in bed, and nor should it be the only day all year that a girl leaves a sweet message under her lover's windshield wiper.

This sweet stuff doesn't have to happen every

single day, but doing it every now and then doesn't hurt, either.

It's also important to remember that tomorrow shouldn't be the only day to tell the one you love how much you love that person. By all means, tell your special someone that you love her on Valentine's Day, but tell her today as well.

If you plan to buy a gift this Valentine's Day, try to be a little creative. Roses, chocolate and a teddy bear are nice gifts to give, but sometimes being a little creative is a good idea. Try a surprise dinner under the stars, or a picnic on Sweetheart Circle. A scavenger hunt is also a good idea, with clues leading to a gift.

But if you're flying solo tomorrow — and

some of us here at The G-A can feel your pain — remember that Valentine's Day is not just about romantic love. It's a day of love in general, so let those close to you know how much they mean to you. Go to dinner with a friend, or send your mom flowers to let her know that you love her. Better yet, go with a friend to the Vagina Monologues tomorrow night at the PAC.

Whatever you do tomorrow, no matter if you're neck deep in love or a scorned lover, share the love with those around you.

But don't be bitter, because no one ever found love with vinegar.

And you never know, Cupid may have his arrow on you.

Morgan Marsh A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING

Holidays: excuses for selfishness

Okay, I realize that around this time every year, some sour puss uses the editorial page to whine about how much they hate Valentine's Day. They've probably just been dumped or haven't had a good date in a while or just got rid of their significant other. Or maybe they have Valentine's plans but are just wishing they were single.

I don't fall into any of those categories, but I do hate Valentine's Day. I don't discriminate, however, oh no. I can't think of but just a few holidays worth celebrating.



Morgan Marsh is a junior journalism major from Savannah, Ga. She is the managing editor of operations for The George-Anne.

Halloween for instance — it's my favorite holiday, I'll admit. But the way it's celebrated today has nothing to do with its original intent. I mean, seriously, kids run around dressed as pumpkins and dead cheerleaders and collect candy from strangers. It's basically a day for kids to scream "Me! Me! Me!" Pretty sick.

Christmas is another great example. It's a wonderful excuse for families who never take the time to visit each other to cram together under one roof and inhale pounds of ham and pie and champagne. But it too has lost most of its meaning. We focus our attention more on Santa Claus than Christ. I'm not even religious and I think it's incredibly sad. It's part of the name... how did we miss that? Christmas has turned into a day for kids to beg and plead for the newest toys. More of that "Me! Me! Me!" selfishness again.

Easter has fallen under the same fate as Christmas. I'm not sure what hunting for colorful eggs filled with candy and giving chickens and rabbits as gifts has to do with Jesus rising from the dead, but it's ridiculous. Another day for kids to cry — you should have seen this coming — "Me! Me! Me!"

These are only three of the major holidays we all celebrate that have spiraled into childish selfishness, days we look forward to so we won't have to go to school or work, and instead lie around eating way too much and asking for gifts.

Valentine's Day is the worst of them all.

Now before all of you start making plans to send nasty e-mails about how great Valentine's Day is — "It's a day for love!" — let me explain.

Valentine's Day is an exception to other holidays because there is little room for us to transform it into a silly children's day. That may explain why, unlike some of the others, it's lacking a mascot.

But instead of children taking over Valentine's Day, corporations seized it up, making chocolate and bouquet prices sky-rocket two weeks before the special day. They tell us our loved ones will be devastated without that heart-shaped box of gourmet candy, long-stemmed roses and expensive diamonds. We believe them.

Valentine's day is no longer a day for love. It's a day for stuff. Just as if we were to go present-less on Christmas, we're devastated if we don't receive expensive gifts and fancy dinners on this Hallmark holiday. We need to stop depending so much on this one day out of 365 to prove we're worthy of our loved ones' attention.

Instead of using material things to "show" your love on Valentine's Day, actually demonstrate your love on a daily basis. Go out of your way to consider your loved one's feelings and interests. Admit you're wrong to end a pointless fight, even if you swear you're right. Do those extra little things to show you care every once in a while instead of once a year.

Write Morgan at gameo@georgiasouthern.edu.



Jerry Johnson: YOUR TURN

BSU trip to N.O. open to everyone, regardless of faith

Mike Kennedy's response to a poster put up by the Baptist Student Union regarding a trip to New Orleans for relief work saddens me ("Why do I need to be a Christian to help out," *Wednesday, Feb. 1*).

Jerry Johnson is the Senior Campus Minister for the Baptist Student Union at Georgia Southern.

The Baptist Student Union is an unapologetically faith-based student organization here at Georgia Southern. Part of being a genuine follower of Jesus Christ, as I understand it, requires at least two things: to help those in need and to share the good news that God is in the world and in fact wants to be in relationship with us.

On this relief trip we will be learning about Jesus Christ's model in serving people, which is a concept accepted universally. The world acknowledges that Jesus was a good teacher. In response to the disaster, we will both study the effects of the storm and respond to its aftermath.

That aftermath raises political, social, economic and faith questions. As a Christian organization, this trip is planned to touch on all those issues. All GSU students,

Christians, Buddhists, atheists and agnostic have been invited to participate. Part of the understanding and expectations are that all going be open-minded enough to participate fully in the week: working, sharing together, eating together and discussing the questions, emotions and realities of God, life and living.

This trip may not be everyone's cup of tea, but we have not discriminated against anyone who is open enough to being a part of this type of trip. If the anthropology group wanted to go and help out hurricane victims, while having meetings each night to discuss the sociological and cultural impact of the tragedy, I would applaud their efforts. It may not be something of interest to me, but if I went with an open and critical mind, I just might learn something.

At this time, 175 GSU and Armstrong Atlantic students obviously think it is worth their time and energy. I would hope that students like Mike might consider participation in future activities of the BSU and other faith groups on campus. He is certainly welcome.

Write Jerry at jerry@student.org.

Adam Johnson: YOUR TURN

Indecency at halftime show unjustifiable, sends bad message

With the Super Bowl comes two weeks worth of commentary, predictions, gambling and the culmination of months of preparation by the host city and the networks involved. Even after the Super Bowl is concluded, sports columnists write and talk about the outcome, what it means for the winning and losing teams, and try to put it all in "historical" context.

Adam Johnson is a senior English education major from Savannah, Ga.

Absent from the conversations has been the outrage that should have been caused by a heinous and repetitious display of immoral behavior that was the Super Bowl XL Halftime Show.

This year the NFL and ABC decided to invite the bad boys of the British Invasion to the show. As harmless as this seemed, we should have all known that the show wouldn't have gone off without something that should have been controversial. After all, this is the band that

recorded an album titled "Sticky Fingers" that featured a jeans zipper on the original vinyl cover.

And what did we get? We got the exposure of a 62-year-old midriff time and time again.

My concern is this: if we're to tell the youth of America that their midriffs, thighs and chests are to be covered up in an effort to project modesty, then how do we justify someone old enough to have grandchildren going in front of an audience of around 90 million people and doing just the opposite?

The lack of outrage itself is outrageous to me. The FCC has been silent.

This is a matter of consistency. And sixty-two-year-old naked midriff now is as consistently damaging to the youth of America as a thirty-seven-year-old naked breast was then.

Write Adam at Afjohns@gmail.com.

Eric Swanson GUEST COLUMNIST

We should help the world, not destroy it

As the President of the United States of America opened his State of the Union address on January 31, he spoke highly of Coretta Scott King, who had passed that very day. He spoke of hard times and how he was proud of how Americans handled themselves, and proud of the people who have served our country, including himself with that statement. He then continued to make this statement,

"We will choose to act confidently in pursuing the enemies of freedom — or retreat from our duties in the hope of an easier life. We will choose to build our prosperity by leading the world economy — or shut ourselves off from trade and opportunity. In a complex and challenging time, the road of isolationism and protectionism may seem broad and inviting — yet it ends in danger and decline. The only way to protect our people, the only way to secure the peace, the only way to control our destiny is by our leadership — so the United States of America will continue to lead."



Eric Swanson is a history major from Atlanta, Ga. He is a guest columnist for The George-Anne.

In pursuing the enemies of freedom, are we not also pursuing the destruction of their freedom to choose that way of life, while destroying even more of what little the people we are "protecting" still have? The country of Afghanistan is a prime example.

In 1996, a religious-political extremist group named the Taliban formed through anti-government forces known as the Mujahideen, trained and funded by the U.S. through Pakistan's ISI (Inter Services Intelligence), and seized a vast majority of the country.

The amount of orphans in Afghanistan due to war and disputes between occupying forces reached the point of over half of a million children.

Even with recent elections, after 2004 Afghanistan still sees the largest amount of active land mines, and one of the largest markets for heroin and opium products in the world.

It is no wonder that the United States would shy away from admitting that our war on "the enemies of freedom" has left countries unstable and forced to fend for themselves, without freedom.

What can we do though? What can the people of the United States do to help freedom spread throughout the world?

The answer lies not in the size of the guns, the size of the wallet or the God(s) that keeps people in balance. Instead, the answer should lie more on educating people. We are so eager to fight for the right cause that we don't understand that maybe our culture isn't for everyone.

We are so eager to fight for what we take advantage of everyday, that we forget how much we can do to help. In October of 2005 an earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale killed over 53,000 people in Pakistan (population Statesboro: 23,000) and left over three million people (Atlanta, being home to 4.7 million people) homeless without clean water or enough food to survive.

Where are the relief efforts for them?

In this country where "the only way to control our destiny is by our leadership," we can lead through helping the world, not destroying it.

A suggestion to those who are given the opportunity to read, vote and learn: get off your asses and give the gift of freedom, which we have all taken advantage of, through generosity, not illiberality.

Write Eric at wolf1284@yahoo.com.

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The George-Anne Daily welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be 300 words or less, typed, and preferably sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year at GSU, and hometown. The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any submission.

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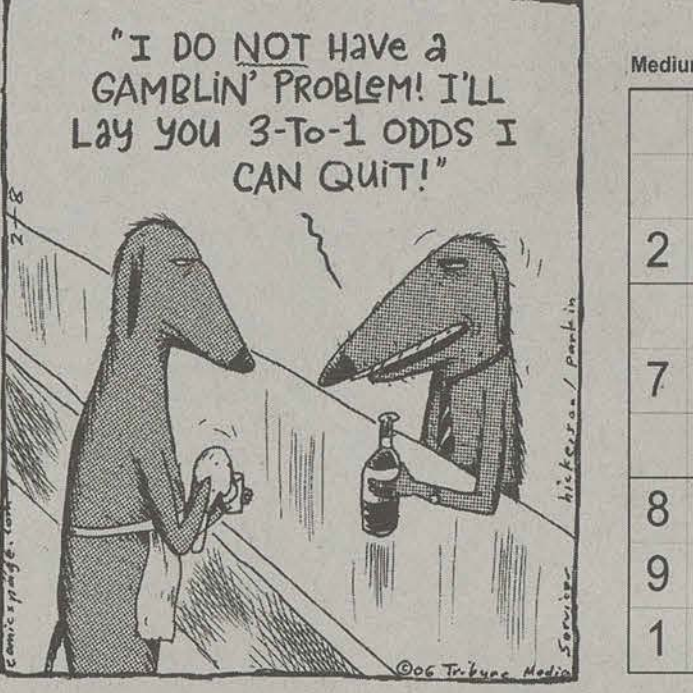
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Mystic Arts Horoscope

Today's Birthday (02/13/06). You can make good financial decisions this year, if you take your time. Consult experts and consider all the consequences. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 6 - There's a disagreement lurking just beneath the surface. It has to do with money, so take care. Those can get nasty. Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - You're encountering fierce opposition, but it won't last forever.



George-Anne Daily SUDOKU puzzle grid and Previous Puzzle Solution. Includes a small advertisement for Prizesudoku.com.

Comic strip panels featuring characters and dialogue such as 'HAD NOGS BY LOUIS CAPOLLA', 'UM... STUFF.', 'FORGET IT THOUGH, I HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO TELL YOU...', 'GUESS HOW MUCH I CAN BENCH PRESS.'.

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SPORTS

Georgia Southern Sports Trivia:
Who holds the record for most grand slams in softball for the Eagles? (look in Thursdays George-Anne for answer)

COUNTRY	TOTAL		
Norway	0	2	2
Germany	2	0	0
Canada	1	0	0
United States	1	0	0
Austria	0	1	0
Netherlands	0	1	0
France	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1

Top-10 medal winning countries as of Feb. 11. Four out of 84 medal events. AP

Eagles tops in standings

Five Eagles score in double figures in 96-68 victory

By Courtney Murphy
Staff writer

On Saturday, the Georgia Southern Eagles (16-7, 7-3 SoCon) took on the Citadel Bulldogs (7-16, 0-10 SoCon).

GSU scored five quick points with a shot by Sean Oliver and a three-pointer by Elton Nesbitt.

This forced Citadel to take a time out with 19:10 left to play in the first half.

The Eagles defense helped lead the host on a 26-3 run.

Emotions ran high during the game as head coach Jeff Price was hit with a technical foul.

Donny McClendon for the Bulldogs hit a three that ended the run and the Eagles led 26-6.

GSU quickly answered when Elton Nesbitt was fouled behind the arc and went three for three at the line to give the Eagles a 29-6 lead.

The Bulldogs called a timeout with 7:20 left in the half with the score 35-13.

GSU continued with a defensive attack and outscored the Bulldogs 46-22 with 3:14 left to play.



Ileana Yustis/STAFF

The Eagles will look to extend their five game winning streak when they face the College of Charleston tonight at 7 p.m.

The Eagles were able to hold on to the lead and ended the half 51-30.

Nesbitt led all scorers with an impressive 20-point first half performance.

During the second half, GSU extended their lead 65-39 with 15:49 on the clock.

A two-point shot by Jimmy Tobias gave Southern a 32 point lead, 80-48.

Defensive stops by GSU forced the Citadel to call a timeout leading, 84-52.

Sophomore Matt Ashe and freshmen Courtnei Houston both hit threes with 3:53 left on the clock.

Although Donny McClendon hit a jumper at the buzzer, Saturday night's blowout couldn't be stopped.

GSU walked away with their fifth straight win, 96-68.

GSU will be on the road Monday Night against the College of Charleston (13-8, 6-4 SoCon) for a 7 p.m. matchup.

The game will be aired on Comcast Sports South and on 107.3 FM in Statesboro, with the pre-game show with GSU play-by-play announcer Ricky Ray and color analyst Frank Kerns beginning at 6:50 p.m.

Lady Eagles fall to Davidson

GSU News Service

Davidson shot 41.7 percent in the first half compared to 23.3 percent for Georgia Southern (9-14, 6-8).

The Wildcats' halftime lead of 15 points proved to be the final margin in a 67-52 win over the Lady Eagles Saturday evening at Hanner Fieldhouse.

The win, coupled with a UNC Greensboro loss, puts Davidson alone in second place in the Southern Conference standings.

The Wildcats started fast, opening up a 7-0 lead in the first two and a half minutes before sophomore Chequilla Jessie finally snapped the drought.

A three-pointer by GSU senior Lee DuBose cut the deficit to 12-9.

Davidson answered with an 8-0 run, capped off with a steal by senior Janell Crayton and a subsequent lay-up by freshman Kelly Gassie.

Four different players scored buckets during the run.

Freshman Nya Daley responded with an old-fashioned three-point play and a jumper from sophomore Shawnda Atwood made the score 20-14.

Another big run by Davidson, this time a 9-0 rally, gave the Wildcats their largest lead of the contest, 29-14 with 6:16 remaining.

DuBose hit another triple, but sophomore Danielle Hemerka answered with a three of her own and Gassie added a jumper for a 34-17 advantage.

After senior Leslie Spoon hit a jumper with 2:16 left in the period, neither team scored the rest of the way and Davidson went into the half up 34-19.

The Wildcats owned the scoring column and won the turnover battle 12-6 with seven steals in the first 20 minutes.

Both teams hit three trifectas and pulled down 23 rebounds. The opening moments of the second half belonged to senior Nicole Newton and the Lady Eagles.

Newton single-handedly cut the margin down to 10 with a three-point play and another bucket.

A few moments later, her lay-up brought the Lady Eagles to within nine, 36-27.

The Wildcats' next six points came on three-point plays, first from junior Tia Washington, then Crayton.

Those six unanswered points kicked the lead back up to 15 points and Davidson led by no fewer than 10 the rest of the contest.

Crayton finished with a game-high 16 points, with 11 coming in the first half.

Washington added 13 while Gassie and junior Jessica Mitchell scored 12 and 11, respectively.

DuBose tallied a team-best 13 points and Newton grabbed 13 boards.

GSU returns to action tonight, hosting Western Carolina at 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL

SoCon Men Standings as of 2/11

North Division		
STANDINGS	W-L	W-L
Elon	8-3	12-12
Chattanooga	6-5	15-11
Western Carolina	5-5	11-14
UNC Greensboro	4-7	11-14
Appalachian State	4-7	10-14

South Division		
STANDINGS	W-L	W-L
Ga. Southern	8-3	17-7
Davidson	7-4	14-9
Coll. of Charleston	7-4	14-8
Furman	6-5	13-10
Wofford	5-6	10-14
The Citadel	0-11	7-17

SoCon Women Standings as of 2/11

STANDINGS	W-L	W-L
Chattanooga	14-0	20-3
Davidson	9-5	13-10
UNC Greensboro	8-6	12-11
Charleston	7-7	10-12
Appalachian St.	7-7	11-12
Ga. Southern	6-8	9-14
Elon	6-8	11-12
Western Carolina	5-9	5-18
Furman	5-9	9-15
Wofford	3-11	7-16

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Chase Lanier/STAFF

The Eagles will need to bounce back this weekend to avoid coming up short again.

Eagles struggle against No. 3 Georgia Tech

By Tyson Madden
Staff Writer

The Eagles' baseball team lost twice this past weekend against nationally third-ranked Georgia Tech, 13-9 and 15-7.

The Eagles have lost three straight and are 1-4 on the season.

On a cold, wet Saturday afternoon, the story was bad pitching for the Eagles in their loss.

The Eagles pitching allowed 13 walks and two hit batsmen, giving up 13 runs.

Junior pitcher Josh Lairsey received the loss striking out three, walking five, and giving up five runs in 2 1/3 innings.

The Eagles hit the ball well with nine runs off 12 hits. The offense brought the team close to Georgia Tech, but Georgia Southern's pitching could not keep the Yellow Jackets' offense at bay.

The Yellow Jackets scored two runs in the first inning off three walks and a two-run double by right fielder Jason Kindel.

Tech continued their success against Lairsey adding three runs in the third after a walk and two hit by pitches.

Catcher Andy Hawranick and second baseman Mike Trapani hit RBI singles.

The Eagles responded to the offense of Georgia Tech by scoring one run in the first inning off Greg Dowling's infield hit.

The team added two runs after a two-run homer by senior first baseman Greg Dowling.

"It was 2-0, a good pitch to hit. I hoped I wouldn't miss, and I didn't," said Dowling.

After the fourth inning the Eagles got closer to Georgia Tech thanks to a solo homerun by sophomore catcher Jeremiah Parker, making the score 5-4.

The Yellow Jackets showed why they are No. 3 in the nation, scoring runs in each of the next four innings. In game two, the Eagles did not fare any better as they lost by eight runs, 15-7.

The Eagles had 14 hits but left 16 runners stranded in the contest.

In the first inning, the Yellow Jackets scored three runs off RBIs by Wes Hodges and a two-run homer by Jason Kindel.

Hodges hit a two-run homer in the second inning as Georgia Tech added

four additional runs. By the end of the third inning, Georgia Tech led 9-2.

GSU scored their 1st two runs in the third off base hits by Dowling and freshman catcher Griffin Benedict.

Everett Teaford struggled early as the pitching woes continued Sunday afternoon, giving up seven runs in two innings while striking out two.

Freshman pitcher Austin Chambliss came in for relief, striking out four batters in three innings, but he walked four batters and gave up three runs.

Junior pitcher Lee Hyde was dominant his first two innings striking out four, but after a bad third inning, where he had a hits batsman and three walks, he was replaced by junior Jared Hyatt.

"We need to pick ourselves up and play better baseball in all areas after this weekend," said Hennon.

The Eagles' Chris Hollis had a great series batting .454 with five runs. Dowling batted .600 with one walk and five RBIs.

The Eagles will be back in action against St. Joseph's at JI Clements Stadium Friday at 4:00 p.m.

The Eagles have a double-header on Saturday beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Life is not a spectator sport. If you're going to spend your whole life in the grandstand just watching what goes on, in my opinion you're wasting your life.

Jackie Robinson