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High: 64 | Low: 33
Sunny
Volume 79
Number 71

Artists' foundations

Annual exhibit shows off art majors' work from the year | CAMPUS, p. 2



Swim and dive team prepares for NEC finals | SPORTS, p. 5

THE GEORGE-ANNE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2007

Don't let the cold get you down

By Rachel McDaniel
Executive editor

Many Georgia Southern students are sniffing and sneezing their way across campus, which is most likely caused by the common cold, made worse by lack of sleep and stress from midterms. Hundreds of students have visited Health Services to find relief from their symptoms, setting patient visit records of 271 students on Monday and 251 students yesterday. Of those students, there were only 27 confirmed cases of the flu on Monday and 16 lab-proven cases of the flu yesterday.

"It is clear that flu season has arrived on the GSU campus, and this year's flu strain is a severe one and is making students very sick," said Health Services Director Paul Ferguson. "We have plenty of injectable flu vaccine remaining, as well as some FluMist nasal vaccine. It is still not too late for uninfected students, as well as faculty and staff, who have not received the influenza vaccine to be immunized for this seasonal flu."

Many of the symptoms of the common cold and the influenza virus overlap. Carol Turknett, registered nurse at Health Services said there are ways to tell

which is which.

Although a runny nose is common with the cold, it can also be present with the flu, and the same goes for sneezing. However, it is rare to have a fever with a cold and is a standard symptom for the influenza virus.

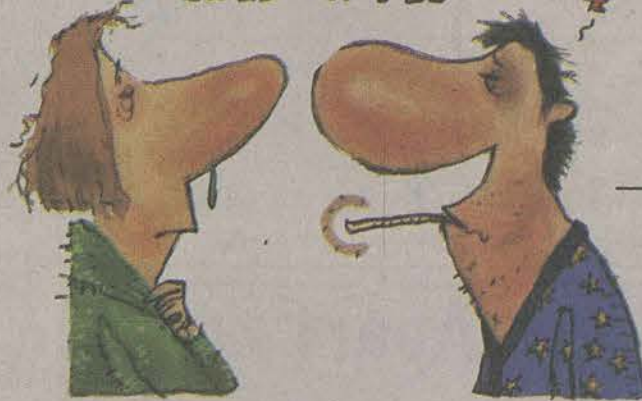
"With the flu, the fever will be 102 degrees or higher and it hits you like a bomb," said Turknett. She said headaches are also common with the flu, and are less present with a cold. Fatigue is another telltale signal. Fatigue is mild for someone with a cold, but can be severe, lasting two to three weeks, for someone suffering from the flu.

Complications from the flu may also arise, especially if not taken care of by students. These complications can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections and dehydration.

Preventative methods are best for students to stay well and avoid sickness. Besides vaccinations for the flu, practicing good hygiene will prevent both the cold and the flu. Washing hands frequently and not sharing dinnerware and drinks is what Turknett recommends. If, however, preventative methods fail, then treatment will be necessary. For the common

see **FLU**, page 8

COLD vs. FLU



Symptoms	COLD	FLU
Fever	Rare	High (102-104); lasts three to four days
Headache	Rare	Prominent
General aches and pains	Slight	Usual, often severe
Fatigue, weakness	Quite mild	Can last several weeks
Exhaustion	Never	Early and prominent
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Chest discomfort, cough	Mild to moderate, hacking cough	Common, can become severe

'Sick leave' plan allows faculty recovery time

By Jerriod Grizzle
Staff writer

Georgia Southern has announced a new program for 2007 hoping to help GSU employees, and professors in times of need.

The Sick Leave Donation Plan that went into effect January 16, 2007 will allow GSU employees to donate hours of sick leave to other employees by way of a leave donation pool.

If employees become seriously injured or ill and have had to use all their sick, vacation, and compensatory leave, the employee will be able to receive ample sick leave during their recovery.

"The program was an idea three years ago. We considered a number of programs before, but we drafted this one for GSU," said Jack Heidler, director of human resources.

Heidler said that he hopes this program will greatly benefit GSU employees.

The program allows employees to donate up to 180 hours of available sick leave hours to others who are in need of more leave.

The application and approval process is very simple stated Heidler.

"All the person needs is an application and a doctor's letter to explain why the person needs to use the leave donation program," he said.

To be eligible to get donated leave, an employee must have been at GSU for a year and may request donated hours after using all accrued sick leave, annual leave, compensatory leave and holiday time.

Heidler said that the donation of time is completely voluntary a person who receives a donation of sick leave can only receive up to 480 hours.

"This is a great thing," said Stacey Roark, secretary of communication arts. "This will be good for people who are in times of hardship or have a sudden illness. I know people are trying to be careful with their sick leave but with this hopefully people will be generous."

The leave program has already been tried and proven. Earlier, an employee of GSU applied for leave under the donation policy, an e-mail was sent out and in two hours another e-mail was sent out that said the request had been filled.

Proposed policy would require background checks for staff

McClatchy Newspapers

The University System of Georgia is planning to require all newly hired faculty and staff members to undergo criminal background checks, a policy that has drawn fire from an organization that represents professors in the state.

Chancellor Erroll Davis sent a memo to university presidents in December telling them that he had asked the system's legal affairs office to draft a "more systematic policy" on background checks that would require them for all full-time hires.

The state's 35 public institutions vary widely with respect to the criminal checks, he said in the memo, with some requiring them for all employees and others who check only those in a position of trust.

The new policy would require a state and federal criminal history check covering a minimum of seven years, a Social Security check and, for those in professional, faculty and academic positions, an academic credentials check.

The policy, which has not yet been adopted, has not gone over well on some university campuses.

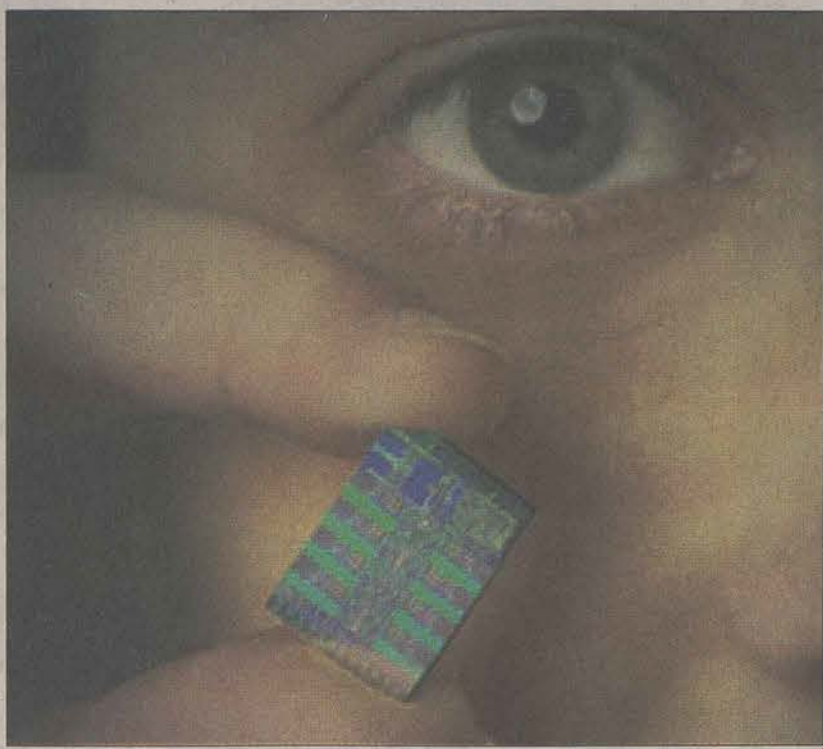
Hugh Hudson, a Georgia State University history professor, sent a letter to Davis last month saying he had been contacted by a number of faculty and administrators who had "deep concerns" about the potential for abuse under the new policy.

At Davis' invitation, Hudson is working with the system's legal department to address privacy concerns.

The policy has created buzz on campuses around the state.

Faculty groups at both UGA and Georgia State will be discussing the issue at upcoming meetings.

Professor plays with P3 technology



Special Photo

The 'Cell Broadband Engine Architecture' is displayed. The Cell is a tiny computer chip with nine processors, compared to the normal PC which has only one processor.

GSU News Service

Georgia Southern's Robert Cook recently spent time on a Sony Playstation 3, but it wasn't to play games.

Instead, Cook, Yamacraw professor of computer science in the University's College of Information Technology, worked with top researchers at the first-ever "hack-a-thon."

The event was sponsored by Colorado-based Terra Soft Solutions, a leader in the use of the Linux computer operating system. Cook was the only computer science faculty member in attendance from the U.S.

"Most people do not realize the advanced capabilities of the processor used in a Playstation 3," said Cook.

"It uses IBM Cell technology, which is a computer chip with nine processors. A normal PC has one processor. For a computer programmer, a Playstation 3 is like having a personal supercomputer."

The Cell or Cell Broadband Engine Architecture is a microprocessor architecture jointly developed by a Sony, Toshiba and IBM alliance known as STI,

see **P3**, page 7

Georgia Southern starts study for vaccine against Herpes

By Brittany B. Thomas
Staff writer

If you were to ask the average student a year ago about the disease HPV, you would not have gotten very much information, if any at all. Research to create a vaccine for HPV was conducted at Georgia Southern, and research is beginning here to test a vaccine for Herpes.

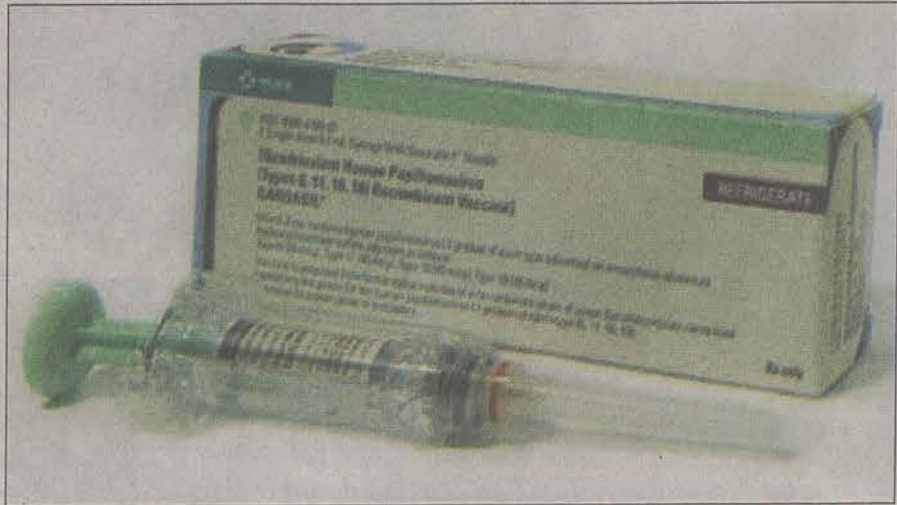
Human Papilloma Virus, HPV, is the most common sexually transmitted disease. People can contract the disease and never know about it because the human body's immune system eventually fights it off. Unfortunately, certain strands of HPV cause cell abnormality in the cervix, which can become cervical cancer if not caught and removed in precancerous stages.

Now more students are slowly becoming

aware of the virus, thanks to the preventative vaccine Gardasil.

"The goal of our office is to help students identify the connection between cervical cancer and the sexually transmitted disease HPV. I don't want to students to come in and feel as if they are receiving a vaccine to prevent cervical cancer, but instead I want them to know its connection to STDs and begin safe and healthy sexual lifestyles," said La'Shanda Johnsons, interim director of the office of health education and promotion.

Gardasil was officially approved by the FDA in June 2006. Many studies were conducted over the past few years to test its effectiveness. GSU was one of the many testing sites for the



Special Photo

see **VACCINE**, page 8

GSU research helped the vaccine Gardasil become FDA approved in June 2006.

'Foundations' features student work

GSU News Service

The annual juried exhibition of artworks created by students enrolled in the Foundations Program of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art will be featured in the exhibition "Foundations," opening Feb. 12.

A closing reception and awards ceremony will take place in the Arts Building on the Georgia Southern campus on Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Foundations Program courses are required of all students who major in art. These courses include Drawing I and II, Two and Three Dimensional Design and Art History.

Through rigorous and intense study, art students learn the classical

study of art principles, composition strategies, linear perspective, figure drawing and how to portray form in space. They also develop a comprehensive understanding of global art history from ancient to contemporary.

The purpose of the exhibition is to showcase and honor the efforts of beginning art students; to provide an avenue through which high achieving art students can earn recognition and awards; and to demonstrate to future students the expectations placed on students who take foundations courses.

The foundations knowledge enables the contemporary art student to express an artistic vision with the essential skills developed by master artists.

A panel of GSU art professors, who teach upper division courses in various artistic areas, juried the exhibition, which includes drawings, design studies and small sculptures representative of the work typically required in the rigorous battery of foundations art courses.

Those who selected the works were Onyile Onyile, Patricia Walker, Christina Lemon and Megan Jacobs.

The event is free and open to the public. Gallery programming is supported by GSU student activity funds.

For more information regarding this exhibition, call the Department of Art at 912-871-1712 or visit our web site at <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/art>



Special Photo

Student's work, like the one featured above, will be shown at the Foundations Exhibit at the Arts Building beginning Feb. 12.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 7

5 p.m. – 10 p.m.
RHJB group hearing
Russell Union 2054

6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Traditions and spirit
Russell Union 2075

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
SGA meeting
Russell Union 2075

6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
VGA meeting
Russell Union 2041

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Bible study with professors
IT lecture hall 1005

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Spring break info meeting
Russell Union 2044

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Anime crew
Russell Union 2042

8 p.m. – 9 p.m.
First Wednesday
Russell Union Commons

Thursday, February 8


8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
NPHC appreciation day
Russell Union Rotunda

8 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
High school model UN
Nessmith Lane Ballroom

5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Ties that Bind
IT auditorium 1004

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Happy to be Nappy
Russell Union 2047

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
SCA masked ball
Russell Union Ballroom




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- | | |
|---|---|
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|---|---|

Individual Awards

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grayson Hoffman, First, Best Editorial or Feature Photograph • Tao Ventre, First, Best Sports Photograph | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chase Lanier, Second, Best News Photography • Grayson Hoffman, First, Best News Photography • George-Anne Staff, Third, Best Feature Story |
|---|---|



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NATIONAL POLITICS

Bush to boost national park funding

McClatchy Newspapers

The brochures are coming back to national parks. So are the park rangers, if President Bush has his way. Park supporters say Bush's proposed federal budget for fiscal 2008 would make a big difference at the 390 federally owned parks, monuments and other sites controlled by the National Park Service.

In an otherwise lean domestic budget, Bush wants to boost park funding by \$230 million the first installment in an ambitious plan to spend as much as \$3 billion on America's natural treasures over the next 10 years.

Of course, first Congress must go along, and it's not clear that it will. The plan includes a controversial proposal to leverage federal funds with matching private donations.

Insiders see the influence of first lady Laura Bush, an avid hiker who visits a national park with her Texas pals at least once a year. She and the president will travel to Virginia's Shenandoah National Park on Wednesday to promote the parks-improvement plan.

"They've put a lot of new money on the table," said Ron Tipton, senior vice president for programs at the National Parks Conservation Association, a private group that pushes for more parks funding.

"Every park in the system, for the first time ever, would get a real dollar increase. It would make a real difference."

Tipton said park visitors would see the results by the summer of 2008. Harry Truman's former home would get new drapes. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park would get 55 more park rangers. Everglades National Park would be able to better protect its aquatic specimen collections.

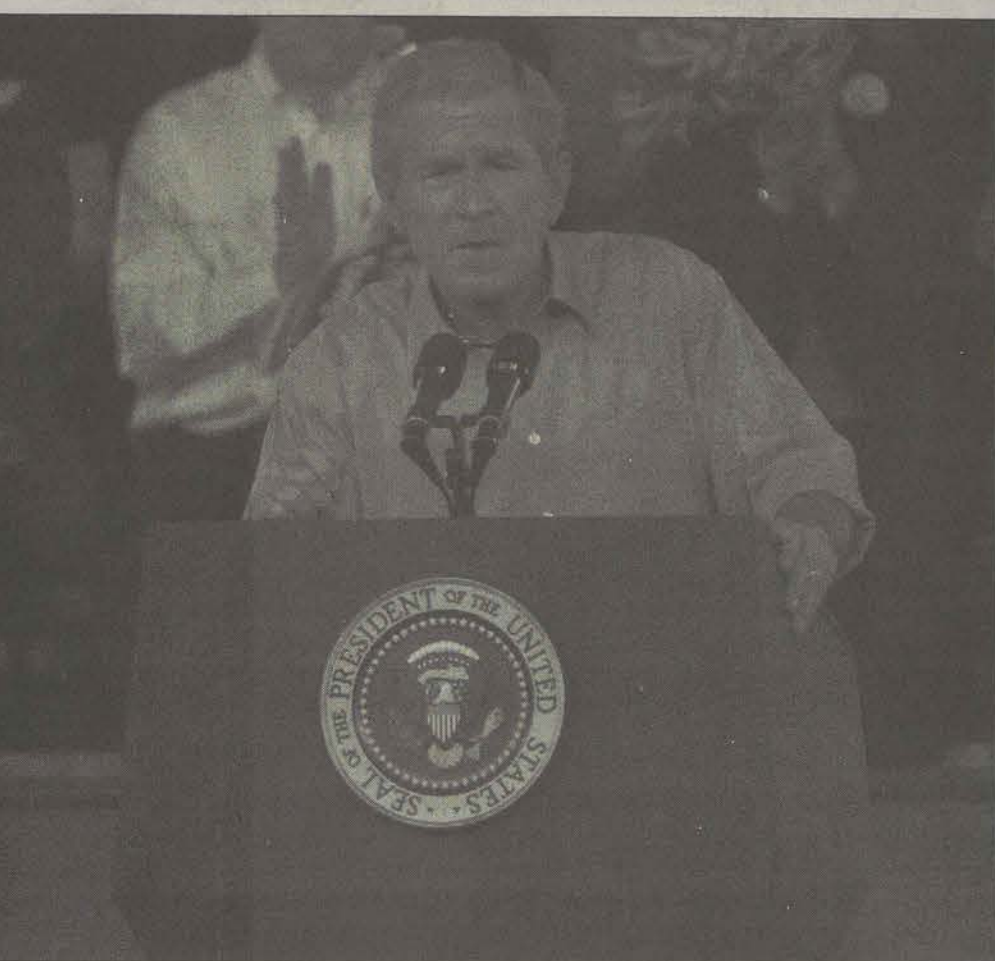
The park service plans to hire 3,000 more park rangers and 44 additional volunteer coordinators.

Some visitor centers would get extended hours. About \$1 million would be used to make sure the park system has enough brochures.

Park service officials say the extra cash would also improve campgrounds, restroom cleanliness, trash removal and trail maintenance.

"People are smiling in the hallways here today," said Jeffrey Olson, a spokesman at the agency's Washington headquarters. It's no secret that the parks have been squeezed for years.

The addition of new national parks in the 1970s



President Bush speaks at Hanner Fieldhouse last October in support of former Georgia Southern professor Max Burns.

and the 1980s, coupled with an increase in visitors, strained parks across the country.

The park system gets about 270 million visitors annually, including repeat visits. As a presidential candidate in 2000, Bush pledged to eliminate the maintenance backlog, but his previous increases in the park service budget failed to meet the needs.

Now Bush wants to try a new approach. His 2008 budget includes \$100 million for a new parks program that would match private contributions, dollar for dollar.

The goal is to come up with \$3 billion in public and private money by the time the park service celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2016.

Critics dismissed Bush's plan as a gimmick that seeks to avoid government responsibility for public land.

"Our national parks are national treasures, and their funding is a national responsibility," said Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., the chairman of the House

Natural Resources Committee.

He called the funding plan "an illusion." But Tipton, the parks advocate, thinks it could work — if Congress is willing to give it a try. "I don't think it's pie in the sky," he said.

"It will not be easy to find \$100 million (in donations) every year, but I don't think it's an outrageous figure either." And no one would be surprised if Laura Bush helps shake the money tree.

She was the star attraction at a \$1 million fundraiser last October for the National Park Foundation, a private group formed to raise money for the parks. Regan Gammon, one of the first lady's best friends and a hiking companion, serves on the foundation's board.

Laura Bush and her friends have been traveling to national parks every year since her 40th birthday 20 years ago. As first lady, she's hiked at Yosemite, Yellowstone, Death Valley, the Grand Canyon, Denali, Glacier, Olympic and Mesa Verde.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

From Universal Press Syndicate

Easy-Baked Fingers?

• About 985,000 Easy-Bake Ovens sold since last May have been recalled because children can get their hands or fingers caught in the oven's opening, which poses an entrapment or burn hazard. The company has received 29 reports of children getting their fingers or hands caught in the product, including five reports of burns. The recalled plastic ovens are purple and pink. They resemble a kitchen stove with four burners on top and a front-loading oven. "Easy Bake" is printed on the front of the electric toy, while "Hasbro" and model number 65805 are stamped into the plastic on the back. The recall does not include Easy-Bake Ovens sold before May 2006. Toys "R" Us, Wal-Mart, Target, KB Toys and other retailers nationwide sold the toy from May 2006 through February 2007.

• Archaeologists in Italy have discovered a couple buried 5,000 to 6,000 years ago, hugging each other. "It's an extraordinary case," said Elena Menotti, who led the team on their dig near the northern city of Mantova. "There has not been a double burial found in the Neolithic period, much less two people hugging — and they really are hugging." Menotti said she believed the two, almost certainly a man and a woman although that needs to be confirmed, died young because their teeth were mostly intact and not worn down. "I must say that when we discovered it, we all became very excited. I've been doing this job for 25 years. I've done digs at Pompeii, all the famous sites," she told Reuters. "But I've never been so moved because this is the discovery of something special." A laboratory will now try to determine the couple's age at the time of death and how long they had been buried.

• For centuries, readers thumbed through the crackling pages of Sweden's Post-och Inrikes Tidningar newspaper. No longer. The world's oldest paper still in circulation has dropped its paper edition and now exists only in cyberspace. The newspaper, founded in 1645 by Sweden's Queen Kristina, became a Web-only publication on Jan. 1. It's a fate, many ink-stained writers and readers fear, that may await many of the world's most venerable journals. Queen Kristina used the publication to keep her subjects informed of the affairs of state, Holm said, and the first editions, which were more like pamphlets, were carried by courier and posted on note boards in cities and towns throughout the kingdom. Today, Post-och Inrikes Tidningar, which means mail and domestic tidings, runs legal announcements by corporations, courts and certain government agencies — about 1,500 a day according to Olov Vikstrom, the current editor. The paper edition was certainly not some mass-market tabloid. It had a meager circulation of only 1,000 or so, although the Web site is expected to attract more readers, Vikstrom said.

• An 80-year-old Hampden woman who was watching the Super Bowl alone faked a heart attack to scare off a man who had broken into her home and was pushing her toward the bedroom, police said. Daniel Thanem, 45, of Winterport was arrested a short time later and charged with aggravated criminal trespass and assault. Thanem is a convicted sex offender in Alabama, police said.

The woman was watching Sunday night's Super Bowl when she spotted a man walking through her house, said Hampden police Sgt. Dan Stewart. When she asked the man what he was doing, he grabbed her from behind and began pushing her toward the bedroom.

Stewart said the woman pretended she was having a heart attack and told the intruder her heart medication was in her car in the garage.

QUICK, WHAT'S NEW

Bremer defends spending in Iraq

Democrats in the House of Representatives on Tuesday grilled the former U.S. administrator of Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, demanding that he account for billions of dollars distributed in Iraq that no one seems able to trace. Much of the questioning focused on

\$12 billion — mostly in \$100 bills packed in huge bundles, 363 tons of cash in all — from Iraqi oil sales and frozen assets of Saddam Hussein's regime. The United States shipped the money to Iraq for Bremer's organization to disburse to Iraqi ministries.

African American HIV rates climb

More than 25 years into the AIDS epidemic, HIV continues to soar in the black community, accounting for nearly half of the newly diagnosed infections in the U.S. in a recent yearly assessment by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

At the same time, health officials say, the African-American community has been slow to acknowledge the problem, prompting the CDC and grass-roots organizations to mark a yearly observance to bring attention to the epidemic.

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Readers may access the newspaper and its archives staff by visiting our web site at <http://www.gadaily.com>.

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"What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, race hate, and religious prejudice."
 - Carter Woodson

OUR VIEW

GSU researches revolutionary new vaccines

AT ISSUE: After helping get Gardasil FDA approved, GSU moves on to finding a new vaccine for Herpes

As a research intensive university, Georgia Southern is making medical moves by testing new vaccines for viruses that can eventually lead to cancer.

With the help of research conducted on this campus, the vaccine that helps prevent cervical cancer in women, Gardasil, was FDA approved.

After months of testing young women volunteers on campus, the vaccine was finally FDA approved in June of 2006.

GSU is continuing to grow and research pos-

sible vaccines for widespread viruses, including the latest study in preventing Herpes simplex, taking place right here on campus.

By continuing to fight to find vaccines, GSU is on a strong path to helping future generations prevent illnesses and the spreading of them to others.

This research is a great opportunity for students to become involved in the testing process, and working with the health center to improve vaccine opportunities for future students.

With help from student volunteers all over

campus, GSU can solidify itself in the state of Georgia and lead by example in the fight against sexually transmitted diseases. To become involved in the research would be a historic step for students. If anyone is interested in taking part in the study, contact the GSU Health Services center for further information.

As a doctoral research university, GSU students have a unique opportunity to help themselves and especially others to help find a cure and other vaccines for those suffering around the nation.

The successful research and vaccination approvals show just how much of a contribution that GSU students and professors are making here in Statesboro.

Hopefully the future of GSU medical research will discover a vaccine for all types of cancer. With the help of volunteers and medical professionals, it is possible.

We're on the right track to making medical history, and helping generations of people to avoid the suffering associated with cancer and current treatments for it.

Terrance Laney GUEST COLUMNIST

Ms. King's message is behind the times

As a Black man I must say that I have a special affinity for the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his wife Coretta Scott King. They achieved so much in life and transcended the limitations that society placed upon Black men and women in their era by asking society to do something so profound and yet so simple as treat others with respect and dignity.

Their stories serve as another example of what a blessing and good fortune it is to be born American with more freedoms than in any other nation that has ever existed. The legacy of the Kings is one that liberals in American political life should truly be proud of and cherish; however after attending the lecture given by Reverend Bernice King I am convinced that Ms. King is not an addition to that legacy.

Ms. King stated that "this nation has been in a stand still since 1968... with a little progress here and there." Well I don't know what rock Ms. King has been living under, but what I have seen since the late 1960s are countless achievements on the behalf of Americans and especially African Americans including but not limited to at least a dozen presidential candidates, two billionaires, countless millionaires, thousands upon thousands of college graduates, and two African-Americans within direct line of succession to the presidency.

I won't focus on the fact that Ms. King said this while sitting next to the African American SGA president as well as a female African-American administrator of a southern Georgia university.

While the achievements that I have listed are outstanding and do not depict the standard of living for the entire Black community, they are nonetheless indicators of the tremendous change in social attitudes since the era of Dr. King. Ms. King's statement highlights the alarmist and negatively driven attitude that has attempted to retard a move towards greater tolerance and progressive change across the board in America.

Dr. King was such a great orator who left such a lasting impression upon the landscape of American thought that we are willing to listen to his offspring even if they lack innovative and progressive ideas. Ms. King's speech makes one recall snake-oil salesmen of yesteryear who diagnosed fake illness and declared that they and only they had the remedy. Her remedy not surprisingly was the return to traditional Christian morals and a repressive society that would surely make puritans proud.

The truth is that while African-Americans share many struggles the only oppressor that is causing havoc in our community is the lack of self-esteem and determination that is caused by the belief that we are unworthy of success.

While I am sure Ms. King enjoyed providing her audience with a negative thrill by saying "titties" and "God's sperm" in public, she managed to say little to provide a sense of empowerment and the encouragement to do even more.

It's quite sad that even in this new millennium Ms. King is unwilling to take a deep breath and applaud achievement. Maybe she should have taken her message to those in "the hood" who might have been more impressed by her exploiting the dividends of her genetics rather than college kids who have already gotten the message to strive for a better community, or maybe she couldn't sell enough books there.

Write Terrance at tlaney@georgiasouthern.edu



Lauri Auburn: YOUR TURN

What's the deal with wind energy

Wind energy is zero-emissions energy, a renewable resource that many environmentalists and alternative energy proponents feel is one of our last, best hopes for staving off devastating climate change.

According to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), the average wind turbine can prevent the emission of 1,500 tons of carbon dioxide each year.

Globally, wind energy has grown 500 percent since 1997. In 2003, 8,133 megawatts of wind-generating capacity were installed worldwide, according to a recent joint announcement from AWEA and the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA).

This brought the world's total wind power generating capacity to 39,294 megawatts, enough to power 19 million European households, according to EWEA. World wind leaders include Germany, the U.S., Spain, Austria and India, each with more than 1,000 megawatts. A number of other countries, including the Netherlands, Italy, Japan and Great Britain, are nearing the 1,000-megawatt mark.

In the United States, there are now wind energy installations in almost every state west of the Mississippi, and in many Northeastern states. California leads with more than 2,000 megawatts of installed wind energy, followed by Texas with nearly 1,300 megawatts. In total there were nearly 6,400 megawatts of wind power in the United States

as of January 2004, enough to power 1.6 million U.S. homes, and up 50 percent from the installed capacity in the U.S. at the end of 2001, says AWEA.

Offshore wind has enormous growth potential as well. Germany, for instance, recently finalized an agreement to build a 350-megawatt project (with 70 five-megawatt turbines) anchored on the ocean floor off the island of Rügen. Here in the United States, in Massachusetts, the Cape Wind Project hopes to construct a \$700 million, 420-megawatt, 130-windmill development that would stretch for five miles off Cape Cod, though it has drawn opposition from some residents, as has the German project, for fears that it will be an eyesore and could harm migrating birds.

Recent G-A feedback from the web

Response to Column: It's time to bring back Eagle spirit from Jon S.

"I think it's a GREAT idea to have the "Southern Century" as the required textbook for GSU 1210. It is also a great idea to get more pumped up about Georgia Southern sports!"

Response to: Students bring new sounds to the 'Boro from Anonymous

"I can't wait for this show! EEE rocks! They bring the best music ever! Its about time someone stopped to think about what we want to hear and actually brought it down! Keep the good music comin! Thanks!"

Response to Column: National defense laws threaten U.S. from Brandon D.

"It is American to question the laws that are passed in Washington. It is American to disagree with the actions of your government. It's American to be from different ethnic backgrounds. It is American to stand up for injustice, even at the highest levels." Pfft. Someone's not watching his Colbert."



gadaily.com
 Covering the web like a swarm of gnats

John Harris GUEST COLUMNIST

I heard Obama went to a Muslim school

That's what a friend of mine said when I brought the man up in conversation. He listens to a fair bit of right-wing talk radio, as I used to years ago, so things like this seem to come up from time to time. He's not really a right-winger, but the frequency with which these little conversation stoppers come up could be seen as indicative, of something.

I thought that was a strange thing to hear, since I myself had only really found out who Obama was a couple of weeks before. When I did, I thought the story of the man was remarkable.

Not the story of him being an African-American member of the Senate, although that is quite remarkable considering how, shall we say, racially pure the Senate tends to be.

What's really interesting about Barack Obama is that there seems to be a lack of cluelessness about him. People who are smart and very principled rarely succeed in politics, especially U.S. politics, because to become elected one has to sign away enough pieces of his soul to lobbyists to obtain the campaign funds needed to break through the Obscurity Barrier.

By the time they get elected, it's no wonder that the candidate looks a bit anemic making his victory speech. It's not exhaustion or age, it's that his veins have been leached dry to provide the ink for contracts with multiple Mephistopheleses. And devils are just like any other investors; they want to see results. So far, however, Obama seems to be doing surprisingly well, and has said almost no things that would indicate the presence of a brain slug on his head. Which is, perhaps, why the Muslim school issue came up.

What's interesting is that, so far, that is the worst anyone can seem to say about Barack Obama. I'm sure that, should he actually become the Democratic candidate for 2008, that stops will be pulled in finding out things in his past, anything that could be used against him, and if they can't be found they will certainly be forged, just ask Kerry about the whole Swift Boat business if you want proof of that.

Obama's interesting as a presidential candidate because of that feeling of difference from him, which extends far further than either the color of his skin or the political party he's a member of.

His primary competitor for the Democratic primaries is popularly seen to be Hillary Clinton, who has been seen visibly grasping for any hot-button issue she can exploit. Does anyone remember when she threw her lot in with Jack Thompson, the hateful, panic-hawking, video game censoring lawyer/crusader who seeks to attach to Grand Theft Auto the kind of know-nothing stigma that got tied to Dungeons & Dragons in the 1980s?

Imagine a world in which the President of the United States is not a puppet tool, animated by the dark will of a consortium of groups determined to wring whatever financial advantage out of the political system they can before the next flopping puppet tool is elected, which may be manned by their opposition. That may begin to give you some idea of the reason behind the enthusiasm with which Obama is greeted in some circles.

And it may illustrate why people on right-wing radio are trying to make a point of him having attended a Muslim school at some point in his life.

Write John at johnwh@gmail.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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SPORTS

Who's
HOT

NCAA Football: The Southeastern Conference. The SEC has produced six of the top 10 spots in recruitment rankings. With national champion Florida holding the number one spot, they are followed by South Carolina, Tennessee, LSU, Auburn and Georgia.

Who's
NOT

NBA: Tyrus Thomas. The Chicago Bulls fined forward Tyrus Thomas \$10,000 on Tuesday, one day after the rookie said he only was interested in the prize money at the NBA's slam dunk contest.

NBA: The Boston Celtics. The franchise hit an all-time low with a loss to the Pistons Wednesday night. The Celtics have now lost 15 straight and currently hold the league's worst record at 12-35.

Back on top, softball looks to repeat

Lady Eagles look to build on last season's Southern Conference Championship

GSU News Service

Defending Southern Conference Tournament champion Georgia Southern was picked first in the 2007 softball preseason coaches' poll released this week.

The Eagles had three players picked to the All-SoCon teams.

"It's exciting to see that our peers in the conference feel like we deserve to be picked at the beginning of the year," said Head Coach Natalie Poole.

"They know that we are returning the same pitching staff, which is always tough - pitching is very important," said Poole.

"We did lose some key hitters, but I don't feel like we're any weaker because of that," she said. "I feel like we have some kids who are going to take those spots and do well for us offensively."

The Eagles return four starters and all four pitchers from last year's 35-35 team that won the SoCon Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

"I definitely think that we're going to be a team to contend with and I'm very appreciative of the respect that's been given by the other coaches and where they feel like we're going to be this season," added Poole.

GSU earned 46 total points including five first place votes.

Chattanooga claimed the second spot with 37 points, edging out the 2006 regular season champions Western Carolina by one point.

The Lady Catamounts also garnered one first place vote to land in third.

GSU had two players named to the first team: junior pitcher Melissa Laliberte (Cobourg, Ontario, Canada) and senior first baseman Heather Smith (Williamson, Ga.). Senior third baseman Maria Laurato (New Orleans, La.) was tabbed to the second team.

Laliberte went 16-12 with a league-leading 1.90 earned run average last season, earning her First Team All-SoCon honors.

She tied for the top spot in the conference and set a new school record with eight shutouts.

She was named the league's player of the week three times and was the player of the month for May.

Smith was also a 2006 first team selection and led the team in four different offensive categories including slugging percentage (.500), on base percentage (.443) and doubles (14).

Her RBI (39) and walks (31) totals last year tied for second-best in a single season at GSU and she currently ranks fourth all-time in career doubles with 32.

Laurato is a two-time All-SoCon pick and was the 2004 Conference Freshman of the Year.

She connected for six home runs in 2006, third on the team, and started all but one game.

Her 14 career home runs are fourth-best in school history.

The GSU Lady Eagles softball team opens the 2007 campaign Saturday with a doubleheader against the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets at 1 p.m. in Atlanta.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN FOOTBALL NATIONAL SIGNING DAY 2007

Signed, Sealed, Delivered

By Zac Case
Sports editor

The past two weeks have been hectic for new Georgia Southern head football coach Chris Hatcher.

"We've had to compress six months work into a few days," said Hatcher, who will be signing his first Eagles recruiting class Wednesday.

Hatcher said he expects to sign between eight and 15 players. The Eagles had 13 seniors last fall, and while Division I Football Championship Schools (formerly I-AA) can have up to 63 scholarships, they are split amongst players.

While former Head Coach Brian VanGorder had identified some specific areas of need, Hatcher has not had that luxury.

Hatcher was hired Jan. 19 after VanGorder resigned to take a job as the linebackers coach with the Atlanta Falcons.

"I have not had a chance to assess the talent on hand," said Hatcher. "We are concentrating on signing the best athletes available. We're not looking to fill a number at any one position because we haven't identified any definite needs."

"We're looking to get athletes. Offensive linemen are at a premium, and defensive linemen are scarce."

As a head coach at Valdosta State, Hatcher often found himself competing with GSU as both schools recruited the same areas. Now, being at GSU has its advantages.

"We've had a lot more doors open for us since we came to Georgia Southern," Hatcher said. "We always had good success recruiting in south Georgia and north Florida at Valdosta, but being at Georgia Southern has enabled us to get into more schools and homes."

Hatcher confirmed Friday that Rance Gillespie was officially hired as the Eagles' offensive coordinator.

Gillespie, head coach at Peach County the past six seasons, won the GHSA Class 3A state championship with the Trojans the past two seasons.

"He's a guy I've known and respected for a long time," said Hatcher, who was back in Statesboro to host potential recruits after being on the road all week. "He's well connected in the state of Georgia, and he brings a lot of energy."

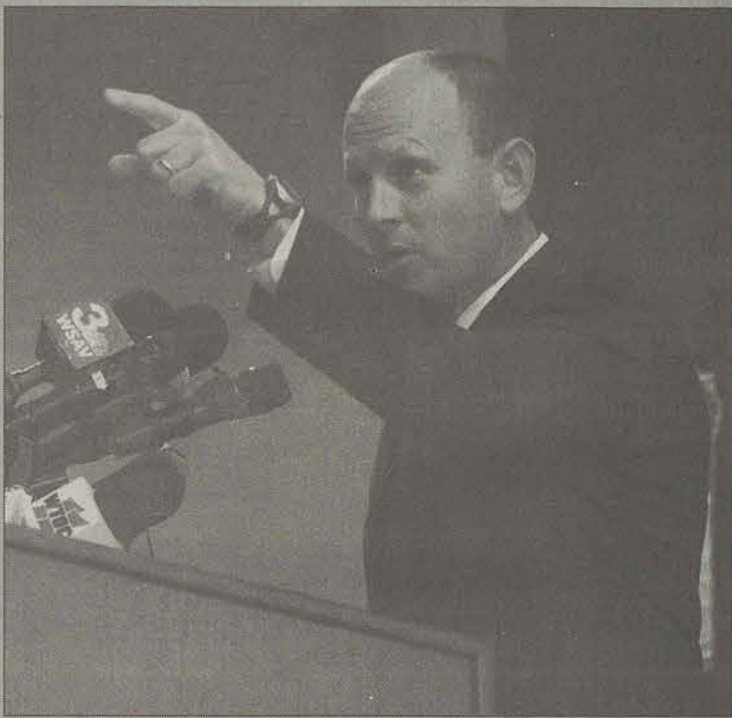
The 37-year-old Gillespie was 65-16 in six years with the Trojans, notching only eight losses in the past three years. His likely successor at Peach County is defensive coordinator Chad Campbell.

While adding Gillespie to his staff, Hatcher lost wide receivers coach Jeff Beckles, who resigned to take a similar position at Central Michigan, where he was before joining VanGorder at GSU.

Beckles was VanGorder's recruiting coordinator, a position now handled by secondary coach Keith Hatcher, who came to GSU with Hatcher from Valdosta State.

While coaches cannot comment on players, Hatcher did say going into the weekend that the Eagles had six total verbal commitments. Three of those are known, and one of them was a bit of a surprise.

Bleckley County running back



Hatcher went 76-12 in seven seasons as head coach at Valdosta State University. *Jamie Tuten/STAFF*



Chris Covington will look to keep his position as running back as recruits will challenge his spot in the spring. *Tao Ventre/STAFF*

2007 GSU Football Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
09/08/07	WEST GEORGIA	TBA	Statesboro
09/15/07	at Coastal Carolina	TBA	Conway, SC
09/22/07	CHATTANOOGA	TBA	Statesboro
09/29/07	WESTERN CAROLINA	TBA	Statesboro
10/06/07	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	TBA	Statesboro
10/13/07	at Elon	TBA	Elon, NC
10/20/07	at Appalachian State	TBA	Boone, NC
10/27/07	THE CITADEL	TBA	Statesboro
11/03/07	at Wofford	TBA	Spartanburg, SC
11/10/07	FURMAN	TBA	Statesboro
11/17/07	at Colorado State	TBA	Ft. Collins, CO

BRIEFS OUTSIDE OF THE 'BORO

NFL

Bears' Rivera interviews with the Dallas Cowboys

Chicago Bears defensive coordinator met with Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones on Tuesday to discuss the head coaching vacancy left by former Cowboys coach Bill Parcells. Rivera, 45, played nine seasons in the NFL and has been a coach for 10, the last three as defensive coordinator of the Bears. Although he's never been a head coach, he's interviewed several times this postseason and last offseason.

Redskins sign Jansen to five-year \$23 million deal

Jansen, who plays right tackle, is Washington's longest-tenured player and had two years left on his previous contract, but he agreed to a new deal that includes more than \$10 million in bonus money.

NBA

Celtics forward Paul Pierce sent home with injury

Celtics forward Paul Pierce, who has missed 22 games and all of Boston's franchise-record 14-game losing streak, was sent home from Detroit on Tuesday because of swelling in his left elbow and a low-grade fever.

Miami Heat's Gary Payton suspended for talking back

Heat guard Gary Payton was suspended one game without pay Monday for talking back to an official who ejected him during a win over the Milwaukee Bucks on Saturday. Payton will serve the suspension Monday night when Miami hosts the Charlotte Bobcats.

PGA TOUR

Front nine dooms Els; Tiger finishes 2 strokes behind Henrik Stenson

Woods finished two strokes behind winner Henrik Stenson in third place Sunday, unable to make a successful title defense at the Dubai Desert Classic before a gallery that included Roger Federer and Michael Schumacher.

Woods can take consolation in knowing his streak of seven straight victories on the PGA Tour is still alive, but he knows there's work ahead.

NHL

Briere, Sabres outlast Lehtonen, Thrashers

The Atlanta Thrashers took their third straight loss with a loss to the Buffalo Sabres Wednesday night. Daniel Briere, the Sabres leading scorer, made two goals in regulation and another in the shootout, leading the Buffalo Sabres to a 4-3 win.

Swimming prepares for NEC finals

By Jessica Martin
Assistant sports editor

The Swimming and Diving team is preparing for the Northeastern Conference championships on Feb. 15-17, held in Landover, Maryland.

The Eagles finished the regular season with a 6-5 record and a second place performance in the Highlander Thanksgiving Tournament. "We have prepared for this meet since day one," said Head Coach Nate Kellogg. After working hard all

season, the Eagles are resting up and recovering from some illnesses that have been affecting the team.

The last meet of the regular season was on Jan. 27.

GSU finished fourth in last year's NEC championship behind Gardner-Webb, who has won the title the past three years, Central Connecticut State and Wagner.

These three teams will be the Eagles toughest competition again this year. GSU has not faced CCSU or Wagner yet this season, but

was defeated by Gardner-Webb in the last meet of the season, 186-155.

"It is going to be a dogfight between the four teams," said Kellogg.

A strong point of the team is its depth and any swimmer is capable of stepping up at any given point in the meet, as they have over the course of the season.

The Eagles have two goals going into the championship meet: race hard and have fun. "If we do both we will be successful, no matter where we finish," said Kellogg.

GSU News Service contributed to this article



The GSU Swim and Dive team will participate in the Northeastern Conference Championships Feb. 15-17 in Landover, Maryland. *Special Photo*

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250 Computers & Software
260 Miscellaneous for Sale
270 Motorcycles for Sale
280 Trade & Barter
290 Wanted

300 Employment & Job Services

310 Career & Job Services
320 Child Care Needed
330 Child Care Provider
340 Internships/Volunteer
350 Jobs/Full Time
360 Jobs/Part Time
370 Opportunities/Business
380 University Work
390 Wanted Jobs

400 Housing & Real Estate
410 Apartments
420 Lofts & 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/DTTP
650 Services/Miscellaneous

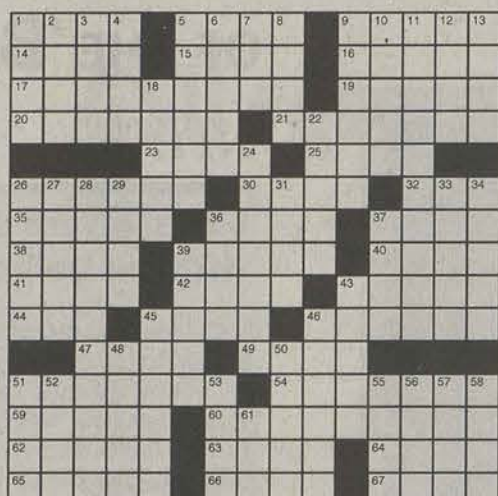
700 Travel
710 Spring Break Travel

800 Transportation/Rides
810 Transportation/Rides

900 Miscellaneous
910 Pets & Pet Supplies

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Limb's partner
5 Skycap's burden
9 Tropical ray
14 Mountain goat
15 Cockeyed
16 Waikiki hi-ya
17 Hard hit
19 Pentateuch
20 In all probability...
21 Lurches
25 Give temporarily
26 Collared
30 Comet rival
32 Charlie Rose
34 TV outlet
35 Country south of the Alps
36 Prerequisites
37 Gravy holder
38 Ram or bull
39 Lowly laborers
40 Not in the dark regarding
41 Hall or Pitt
42 Homeless child
43 Stun gun
44 Yang's partner
45 Keep from view
46 Leave the country?
47 Nav. ratings
48 Satisfy fully
51 Sanitize
54 Touch
59 War-hero/actor
60 Camp worker
62 Patent medicines
63 Abhor
64 Verdi opera
65 Shooting sport
66 Mine finds
67 Spend the night



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- "Changing _____" (Ben Affleck 2002)
- "_____ Quest" (Tim Allen 1999)
- "The _____ Detective" (Peter Falk 1978)
- "The Astronaut's _____" (Johnny Depp 1999)
- "_____ Street" (Harrison Ford 1979)
- "Lost in _____" (Bill Murray 2003)
- "_____ Bride" (Julia Roberts 1999)
- "The Last _____" (Tom Cruise 2003)
- "The Haunted _____" (Eddie Murphy 2003)
- "Mr. & Mrs. _____" (Paul Newman 1990)

Announcements 100 - 199

130 Lost & Found

FOUND: one key on keyring in Hendricks Hall parking lot. Call Janette at 681-5076

140 Other Announcements

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Join Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)! The first meeting will be Monday, January 29th at 7pm in the Communication Arts building, room 1006. All majors welcome! For more information contact us on facebook: GSU PRSSA

Buy or Sell 200 - 299

210 Autos for Sale

1998 BLACK ISUZU RODEO, V6, AUTOMATIC, PWR WIN & LOCKS, TINTED WIN, CD CHANGER, AM/FM, A/C, 135,000 MILES, GREAT CONDITION, \$3,500 CALL STEVE @ 770-315-6044

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Sportscraft Football Table for sale! Glow-in-the-Dark table! Only missing 1 guy. Still in good condition. Email to come check it out!

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340 Internships/Volunteer

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Housing & Real Estate 400 - 499

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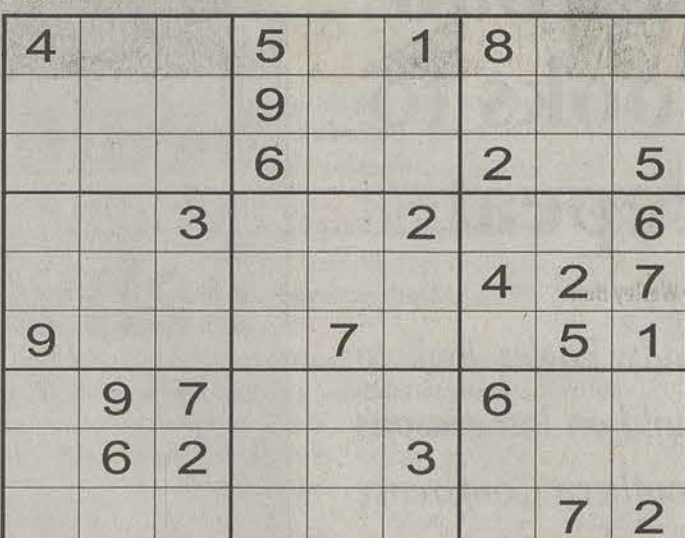
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One bedroom to Sublease in Eagle's landing apt. Apt 4 at the front of the complex. Rent is 320 All Inclusive and the sublease is for summer 2007. Call Gordon at 404-403-9249

Female needed to sublease in The Woodlands Apartments. 2bd/2ba. \$460/month, all utilities included. Room is available now. Call 912-856-1888.

I need someone to take over my lease. I live in a 4 bed/2 bath apartment in Player's Club. The rent is \$320 a month, includes all utilities. Three wonderful roommates (one is leaving in May and another may possible leave too). Very close to campus. Please contact Kia at 912-429-2389.

1 bedroom for sublease in St. Charles Place #10 from now until August 31, 2007. Rent is \$350 and water is included. Contact Randall at 912-682-9603

Apartment lease for Campus Courtyard need someone to take over. Lease is from now until July. Rent is all inclusive. Large upstairs room with walk-in closet and bathroom. One respectful male roommate to share downstairs living room and kitchen with. First month's rent is free. Rent is around \$475/mo. Call Michael at 912 492 1745.

Sublease available for summer '07. May thru July. 4 Br 3 Ba townhouse located in Hawthorne II off of Fair Rd. Rent only \$262.50! plus utilities. Pool access. Contact Katy @ 770-317-4093

2 bedroom 2.5 bathroom townhouse for sublease May 15th. \$400 a month per bedroom, Power, water, internet and cable included. Interested?

Call Danielle 404-434-2734

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Interested in the Ferret Ad but no number to contact??? Please call Jennifer at 596-3482!

Male yorkie looking for pure yorkie female to mate. Male yorkie is pure breed, 1yr 6mo, 6lbs. Please call 912-856-1888 if interested.

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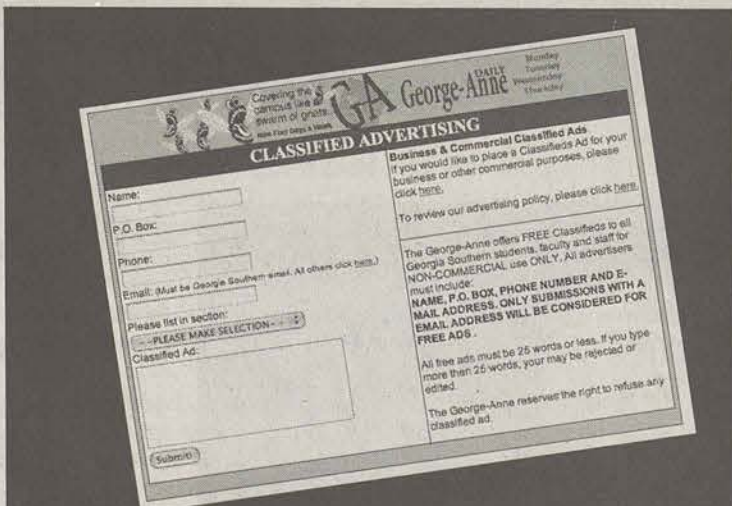
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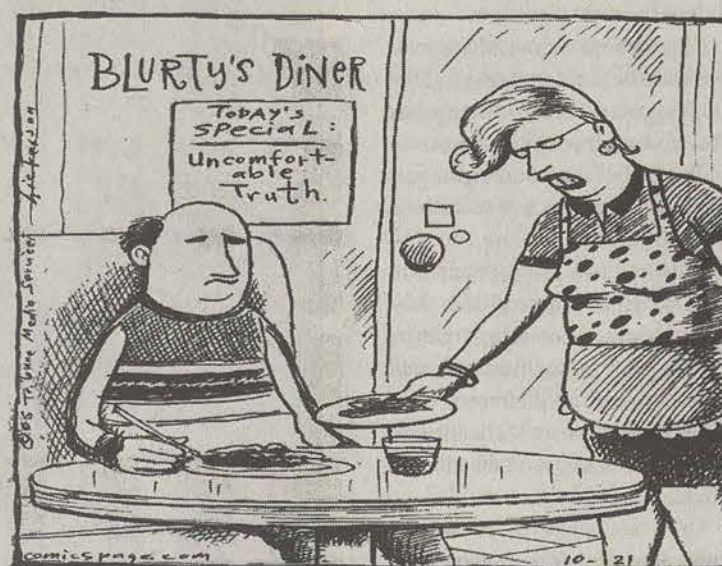
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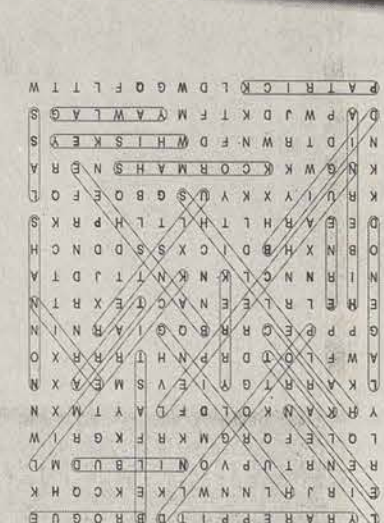
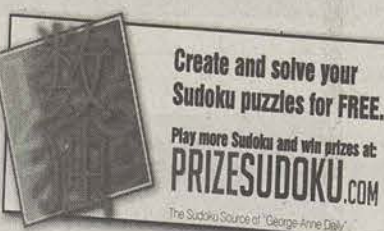
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Special photo

The Native American Student Organization will meet today at 6 p.m.

American Indian club returns

By Wesley Huffmaster
Staff writer

The Native American Student Organization (NASO) is being revived at Georgia Southern after years of silence.

The focus of the organization is to serve the community by providing a forum for those interested in the past and present of our country's indigenous peoples, particularly those of Georgia and the southeastern region of the state.

The purpose is also to serve the American Indians by initiating food and clothing drives.

"I hope the group will raise awareness of current American Indian issues and struggles and cultivate an

appreciation for their heritage while still being entertaining and fun," said Frank Sharpe, a NASO member.

The organization intends to sponsor guest speakers and performers as well as interesting lectures by resident professors.

The organization also plans to engage in volunteer work, visit local schools and sponsor fun trips.

"I like the group because it has a humanitarian purpose," said Jessie Emery, a NASO member. "Although intended to be fun, it has a focus on something deeper."

Those who have an interest in our country's first peoples should attend the first NASO meeting of the semester at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 7th, in room 2073 of the Russell Union.

Need a creative and wallet friendly way to tell that special someone Happy Valentine's Day?



Rent a spot on the marquee outside of Starbucks for \$5.

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www.herpevaccine.nih.gov

GSU study participants will be seen at the GSU Health Center

This vaccine CANNOT give you herpes.

P3

from page 1

and Sony's Playstation 3 is the first major commercial application using this new technology.

Cook said there are innumerable scientific and engineering breakthroughs that can be accomplished with the increased computational speed of Cell processors.

"The next generation of supercomputers will be Cell computers linked together," said Cook.

"They will be able to perform billions of billions of instructions per second. It has profound implications, especially in the area of bioinformatics."

As an example, Cook said scientists studying DNA and RNA proteins could study and manipulate individual proteins by comparing them through computerized databases.

"Proteins are the individual building blocks of life," Cook said.

"Computerized databases can be created to store proteins from every living thing. When a researcher needs to identify where a protein came from, it takes time to compare samples. Cell-powered supercomputers will speed the process."

In addition to studying complex proteins and molecules, Cook said advanced computer technology could aid researchers to better predict changes in the Earth's climate and ecosystem, develop more fuel-efficient, less polluting cars or understand the origin, spread or mitigation of infectious diseases.

Cook said the challenge is to create the software that can take advantage of the Cell technology.

The "hack-a-thon" at Terra Soft Solutions' headquarters in Loveland, Col., was the start in how to address this challenge.

"It was an exciting atmosphere at the hack-a-thon," said Cook.

"There was a maelstrom of intellectual give-and-take that resulted in a rare free-flow of ideas. Software vendors were modifying product specifications on-the-fly based upon feedback from us, the attendees," said Cook. "Becoming coding buddies with total strangers was a great experience."

The George-Anne Daily needs writers

Contact us at ganews@georgiasouthern.edu, call us at 912-681-5246 or stop by the newsroom in the Williams Center room 2023.

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Flu

from page 1

cold, temporary relief can be found through common cold medicines and decongestants. The flu only has antiviral medications available.

"Usually, if diagnosed with the flu, the doctor will give them antivirals and tell them to stay hydrated," said Hart. Antivirals can make the flu less contagious and reduce symptoms.

Despite treatment availability, the best option is to get vaccinated and practice a healthy lifestyle to strengthen the immune system in order to stop the flu, and the cold, before it hits.

The cost is \$13 for the injectable vaccine and \$25 for the FluMist. Students wanting the flu vaccine have to sign in at the front desk to have their medical records pulled, and then they will be directed to a separate waiting room adjacent to our Immunization/Injection Office where they can be seen in a short amount of time.

Students can also call the Immunization Office at 912-681-7782 or the Appointment Office at 912-681-5484 or use MedBuddy U to make an appointment for their flu vaccination.

Immunization Prices

Injectable Vaccine
\$13

FluMist
\$25

Avoiding the Flu:
Priceless

Preventative techniques

- 1) Most importantly, wash your hands on a regular basis
- 2) Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing and use tissues when possible
- 3) Try to maintain some distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing, even if they are covering their mouth or using tissues
- 4) If flu-like symptoms appear, call for an appointment or go to health services.

Vaccine

from page 1

study, which was administered by the Medical College of Georgia.

Women between the ages 16 and 22 who participated in the study were randomly assigned to either receive the Gardasil vaccine or the placebo in a series of three shots. After the last shot, the women were followed up for an average of 17 months.

The results of the study showed that for women who were not previously exposed to HPV, the vaccine is nearly one hundred percent effective.

However for those who had previously been exposed to the virus, the vaccine showed no effectiveness.

Currently, there is a second study being conducted to test the dosage levels of the HPV vaccine.

"The benefit of participating in this study is that the placebo that is given is Gardasil itself. So not only do the women who participate in the study help with modifying the vaccine, but they also receive protection for themselves," said Paul Ferguson, director of health services.

The Gardasil vaccine has also led researchers into a new study for a vaccination against Herpes, which is also a sexually transmitted disease that causes oral and genital herpes.

This study will also be conducted at the GSU Health Services. Women who are eligible are women between the ages 18 and 30 without oral or genital herpes.

The benefits of participating in this study are a free screening for herpes, an investigational vaccine against herpes or hepatitis A, and financial compensation for your time and travel.

For more information, contact the Medical College of Georgia at 877-643-1414 or visit www.herpessvaccine.nih.gov.

GSU is also a testing site for this study. For more information contact GSU Health Services at 912-681-5641.