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THE GEORGE-ANNE DAILY

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008 • VOLUME 81 • ISSUE 25

COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

NEWS

ROTC STUDENTS COMPLETE RIGOROUS TRAINING COURSE

GSU Cadets Cutcliffe and Veal successfully earned Airborne certifications.

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OPINION

POLITICS VS. GEOLOGY

Will Adams debates domestic drilling for oil and why it's not the best answer for the current energy crisis.

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GAS PRICES COULD DRIVE SOME AUTOS TO EXTINCTION

The G-A staff discusses how the increase in gas prices is bad for the gas guzzling auto industry.

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Special Photo

SPORTS

RISING TO THE TOP

Former GSU basketball standout Michael Curry was named head coach of the NBA franchise Detroit Pistons.

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THRU OUR LENS

SOARING THROUGH SUMMER

Check out photos from this week's SOAR session.

Page 8

Housing offers discounts to students at Univ. Villas

By Will Adams
Senior editor

To help students offset the high costs associated with living at University Villas, the Georgia Southern Housing Department has offered current residents a discount of \$400 each semester for taking on extra roommates, according to Assistant Housing Director Jon Coleman.

When asked about 700 students who supposedly have not been assigned on campus housing, Coleman denied it, saying that official housing numbers won't be known until after Fall semester begins.

What used to be Campus Courtyard, University Villas is now a renovated GSU residence hall, converted from an old off-campus apartment complex.

Bought between Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 to create more campus residence space, University Villas is located directly across the street from the Performing Arts Center on

Chandler Road.

"After we realized the size of the units, we thought the high cost could be decreased by taking on more roommates," said Assistant Director of Housing Jon Coleman. "We wanted to give students an option."

That option though, isn't going to cut it with some students who received phone calls from Housing asking if they would be willing to take on more roommates. Sophomore Richard Minshew, a pre-Business major said he thought the idea was stupid.

"If you sign-up for a two-bedroom apartment, you expect two roommates," he said. The total cost of living at University Villas is \$2650 each semester, but would be dropped down to \$2250 if students took on more roommates.

"I wouldn't take on an extra roommate for only \$400, but if it was \$500 or 600 I would consider it," Minshew said. "The rooms are big, but not that big."



Lauren Roesse/STAFF

University Villas, formerly known as Campus Courtyard, will be available to upperclassmen this fall.

Centennial Place in contract talks with Quiznos, Cold Stone

By Will Adams
Senior editor

Georgia Southern is currently negotiating contracts to have gourmet ice cream chain Cold Stone Creamery and Quiznos, a toasted sub shop, featured in the new Centennial Place residence hall complex.

"We're very close to signing," said Auxiliary Operations Director Tom Palfy. "Hopefully within a month we'll have it completed."

The legal affairs department is working through licensing agreements with the chains so they will be controlled by GSU's Food Services department like Chick-fil-A and Starbucks. In addition to Cold Stone and Quiznos, the University is also in "very preliminary negotiations" with Optical Express, a college-based vision care franchise that offers eye exams, eyeglass repairs and retail sunglasses and designer eyewear.

According to Palfy, Cold Stone and Quiznos will be located on Georgia Avenue in the space where Winburn Hall was located.

The Eagle Print Shop and the Pickle Barrel will also be relocated to Centennial Place where Olliff Hall used to be on the corner of Georgia Avenue and Chandler Road.

"The companies been very cooperative and very cordial in helping with the design," Palfy said. "Centennial

Place is so far along, we had to have the design completed before the negotiations are finished."

Strict building codes and insurance policies affected which places the University could negotiate contracts with, and fire codes impacted the type of food that could be served Assistant Housing Director Jon Coleman said.

"There obviously won't be a Mongolian diner or anything like that," he said.

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NATIONAL NEWS

SAT writing section predicts grades

McClatchy Newservice

The controversial new writing section of the SAT is a better predictor of college freshman grades than its math and critical reading sections, according to findings released Tuesday.

The conclusion by the College Board partially rebuts critics who argue that the writing section isn't a good measure of writing skill and favors women and white students.

Overall, however, the studies found that the new and longer SAT test is no better at predicting success than the old one.

"I think the main point is that both tests are very valid," said Laurence Bunin, senior vice president of operations at the College Board, a non-profit in New York City.

The organization revamped the traditional SAT in March 2005 by adding a new section that included multiple-choice grammar questions and a 25-minute essay.

It eliminated analogies and quantitative comparisons from the test and added shorter reading passages.

The test fee went up from \$29.50 to \$41.50, a \$12 increase. The length went up from 3 hours to 3 hours 45 minutes.

The College Board's studies found the new SAT predicted college success better than high school grades for minority students. For white students, high school grades were a better predictor.

A large majority, 69 percent, of the sample was white.

The organization examined the test scores of 151,316 students from 110 four-year colleges and universities in the United States.

Males, Hispanics, African Americans and Native Americans earned lower GPAs than their SAT scores predicted, the College Board found.

Females, Asian Americans and Caucasians did better than their SATs forecasted.

"The SAT is a national fair benchmark at an era where grade inflation at the high school level is a major problem," said Bunin.

Robert Schaeffer, a spokesperson for FairTest, an advocacy group that opposes standardized testing, disagreed.

He said that the studies' most important finding was that the more expensive and longer version of the SAT was no better than the old one.

"Their study is a devastating indictment of the new SAT," he said.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Vehicle bombing in Baghdad kills 51

McClatchy Newservice

A vehicle packed with explosives detonated in a crowded Baghdad marketplace Tuesday, killing 51 people and wounding another 75 in the deadliest bombing in the capital in months.

The explosion in the mostly Shiite Muslim district of Hurriyah occurred just before 6 p.m., when the area was bustling with shoppers as well as commuters who'd gathered at a nearby bus station to head home after the workday.

The bombing disrupted a period of relative calm during which U.S. and Iraqi forces had made significant gains in the twin battles against Sunni insurgents and Shiite militias.

"People were screaming. A taxi driver pulled over and got out, with his face covered with black from the smoke. He asked me to check whether he was injured or not," said Muhannad Mahmoud, 31, who survived the bombing.

"One of the people told me he was hit by something really hard. He looked to see what had hit him and it was a man's arm."

Iraqi officials said the blast came from a minibus that had been packed with explosives and parked outside a building in the area. U.S. military officials said a team of U.S. bomb experts .

They said preliminary intelligence reports point to what they referred to as "special groups," Iranian-backed Shiite militant cells, and not to Sunni insurgents such as those affiliated with al-Qaida in Iraq, or AQI for short.

Hurriyah, the scene of some of the worst sectarian cleansing of the past two years, is now predominantly Shiite, so it's unclear why Shiite militants would target their own sect.

One theory, according to the U.S. military, is that the vehicle exploded prematurely and really was intended for an attack on American-led forces.

Lt. Col. Steve Stover, a U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad, said intelligence experts had "picked up on" a claim of responsibility by a Shiite extremist cell.

"How difficult would it be for (al-Qaida in Iraq) to get a bomb into Hurriyah? It would be extremely difficult," Stover said.

"It's not the type of (vehicle bomb) usually used by AQI. It's special groups _ Shiite. It's not what we typically see from AQI."

Separately Tuesday, the Iraqi government stepped up its campaign to isolate and eventually deport members of the Mujahedin-e Khalq, an Iranian militant group based north of Baghdad.

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The George-Anne Daily 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 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 the summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor 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.gadaily.com>.

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.

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ADVERTISING

The G-A reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media advisor.

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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. Credit for the other slogan- "Covering Campus like a Swarm of Gnats" - goes to G-A alum Mike Mills.

OPINIONS

...WHERE WE ARE EXPERIMENTING WITH
OUR OWN ALTERNATIVE FUELS.

Submission of Letters to the Editor

The George-Anne Daily welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or less, typed, and sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu or via facebook to Jessica Martin. GSU students should include their academic major, year at GSU, and hometown. The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any submission.

OUR VIEW

Green not mean enough

As gas prices rise, an inevitable truth is becoming abundantly clear. The large gas-guzzling cars and trucks that some have loved and others have loved to hate may soon be reaching their end at the hands of America's oil providers.

It's time for Americans to realize that these just aren't viable as daily drivers anymore and unless a miracle occurs, may never be again.

With that said one problem still remains. Not everyone's needs are met by the sub-compacts that are now touted as the future of the automotive world. This problem isn't about leg room. It isn't about the passing gear. The problem is with usability -- the ability to use a car to do more than just carry a couple of passengers.

While it's sometimes hard to agree with the soccer-mom argument that cars just aren't big enough, that often over used excuse to have larger vehicles does have its merits.

There are people in this world that have to carry a t-ball team and groceries (or the equivalent weight of the two in kegs) in the same vehicle.

Automakers are now starting to move away from truck lines -- an example being GM's shutdown of four major truck production plants in North America -- but it doesn't seem like enough attention is being paid to the market that actually does need these vehicles.

Just about every major company is making new fuel efficient "Crossovers." While these are definitely a positive step toward a storage and fuel efficiency package deal, they still only address the needs of suburbia and a quick look at the roads will probably reveal only a handful currently being driven. On top of that, their size and amount of storage space still don't compare with their larger brethren.

Another important issue to tackle is the business and commercial market. In the south, trucks are an integral part of many businesses -- blue collar or white. Many people who buy trucks do so with the understanding that they are a necessary evil to do their jobs. So, with all of the money that is being put into making engines smaller and more fuel efficient it seems that companies have forgotten that there are legitimate needs for horsepower and torque that are useful off the drag strip.

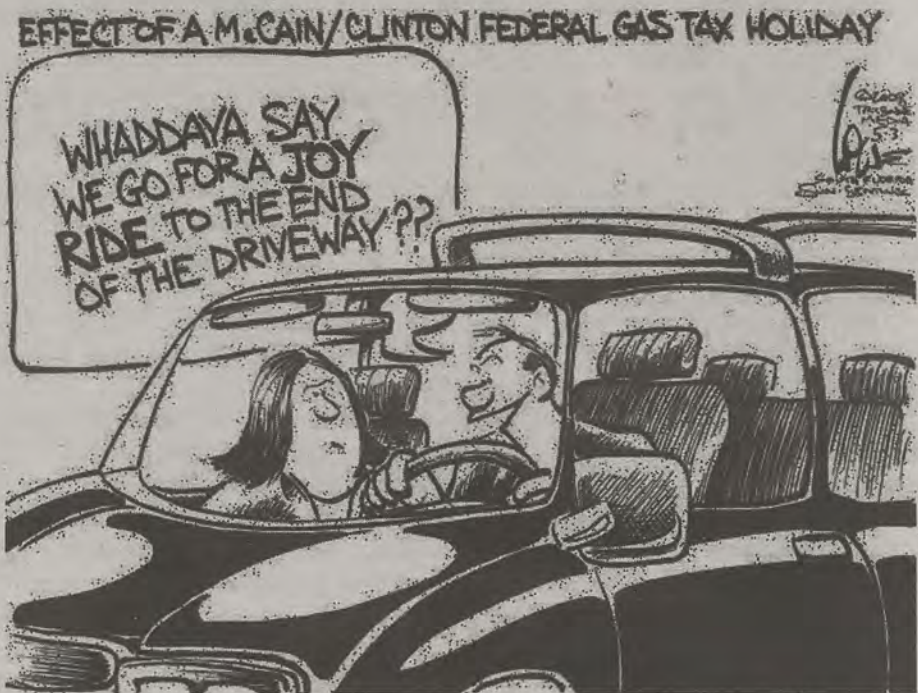
The green movement in the vehicle world is a great step toward less agony at the pump and a better environment in the long run, but car companies need to be sure that when they make the PR move to green vehicles that they don't leave dedicated customers without a reasonable alternative.

Otherwise, vehicle manufactures may see this new bandwagon turn into the turnip truck that they fall off of later.

Let your voice be heard!

Students can submit letters to the editor at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu or comment about a story or article on gadaily.com Also check out the G-A Facebook page.

The George-Anne Daily welcomes your comments and suggestions! - G-A Daily staff



Cagle cartoons

Domestic drilling is only a quick fix

Americans have a long way to go before becoming energy independent, but lawmakers and other Washington bureaucrats think drilling for oil domestically would expedite that process.

Unfortunately, nothing could be further from the truth.

American energy independence is a marathon, not a sprint; and drilling for oil in the supposedly oil-rich region of northern Alaska would be the equivalent of putting a band-aid on a broken arm.

We can't drill our way to energy independence, but we can begin a concerted effort to start researching and developing clean, renewable energy sources as an environmentally friendly and cost-effective alternatives to wean ourselves of both foreign and domestic oil.

According to a 1998 United States Geological Survey there could be as many as 16 billion barrels of oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), a 19 million acre untouched nature preserve.

But 16 billion barrels is the survey's highest estimate. The amount that can technically be recovered for the refining process and be used to power cars and trucks is far less, closer to seven or eight billion barrels.

But think about this: even if 16 billion barrels could be completely extracted and fully refined for

use in cars, that would be about two years worth of oil; and that's only if the U.S. doesn't increase its average use of about 20 million barrels a day, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

And let's not forget the estimated seven to 12 total years it would take to refine however much is actually recoverable there.

So, ask yourself: is it a worthwhile long term solution to energy independence and high gas prices?

No, drilling at home would only nurse America's addiction to oil and delay the inevitability of higher gas prices after our domestic supply is exhausted twenty or thirty years down the road. And then our kids will just have more of the problems that we have created to deal with.

High gas prices should be the incentive that America needs for new, creative solutions to the energy crisis. Instead,

others would rather just be lazy, buy cheap gas and care less about the environmental impact of the persistent use of fossil fuels.

By making a concerted effort to becoming energy independent and funding 'green' technology, the U.S. could seize a unique opportunity to lead the world and set an example in developing renewable energy resources and becoming energy independent through good, old fashioned American ingenuity.



Will Adams is a senior journalism major from Dunwoody, Ga. He is a senior editor for the George-Anne Daily.

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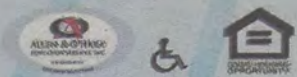


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SOAR

First Night Out at the RAC

Top left: SOAR participants' check out the club booths at the front of the RAC.

Top right: SOAR students play volleyball at the RAC.

Middle: Incoming freshmen play a game of basketball during the First Night Out at the RAC.

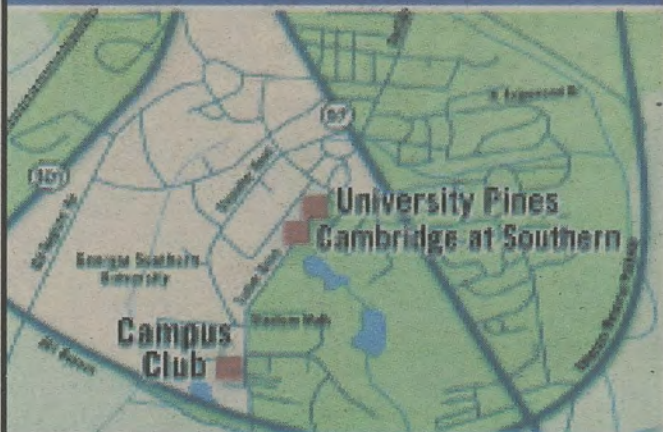
Bottom left: SOAR students rock out with Rock band.

Bottom Right: Incoming freshmen and SOAR workers enjoy a game of Dodge ball at First Night Out.

All photos by Laura Pallini/STAFF



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Cadet Cutcliffe receives a pin after he completed the Airborne training.

Special Photo

Two GSU students complete Airborne

Special to the G-A

Georgia Southern U.S. Army ROTC cadets, Ryan Cutcliffe and Josh Veal, successfully completed the Army's Basic Airborne Course.

The rigorous three week training school is located at Fort Benning, near Columbus, Ga. and graduated 464 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines.

Cadets Cutcliffe and Veal were subjected to a number of difficult training exercises to prepare them for their ultimate test of safely parachuting from a C-130 aircraft five times.

The first week of training, commonly referred to as Ground Week, began with a Physical Training (PT) Test to ensure that all military personnel are physically capable to make it through the course.

The students were graded and had to complete two proper landings from each position, which includes falls from the left, right, front, and rear.

The second week of Airborne School is Tower Week. Students practice mass exit techniques, parachute malfunctions, combat equipment

jumps, and reserve parachute deployments.

Students were graded on every jump and had to complete five satisfactory jumps in order to continue.

Next, the students practiced the use of parachute risers on the Suspended Harness Trainer.

They learned how to slip (or turn) in the proper direction and how to deal with problems such as collisions, getting stuck in trees, and water landings. The third and final week of Airborne School is Jump Week.

Each day began at 3:30 p.m. in which the students would go over exiting techniques, PLFs, emergency landings, and equipment inspections one final time before they jumped.

The first day, the students completed two "Hollywood" style jumps, which means they jumped with no combat equipment.

The final day of jumping included one combat equipment jump.

Cutcliffe and Veal were able to complete all five jumps with no problems and no injuries, and had completed the Army's Basic Airborne Course, and thus become Airborne qualified.



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	8			6	
	2		6		1
5	4		2		8
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	1		4		7
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8	6	4	3	2	1	9	7	5
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4	1	5	9	3	8	2	6	7
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Shehan signs with Braves

GSU News Service

Georgia Southern University's Chris Shehan agreed to terms on a contract with the Atlanta Braves. Shehan will report to the Rookie Class A Danville (Va.) Braves in the Appalachian League. On Wednesday (June 11), Shehan was named Pro-Line Athletic First Team All-America by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

Shehan is the first Eagle since Scott Henley in 2001 to earn All-America status and he was the only Southern Conference representative on the First Team. Shehan, a 30th round pick by the Braves last week, joined senior Jeremy Beckham (17th round, Tampa Bay) and junior Blake Nation (22nd round, Seattle) in getting drafted.

In just three years, Shehan ended his career with the third-best career batting average in program history, a .376 clip (254-676). He tied for ninth in career hits and ranked seventh scoring 182 runs. Shehan narrowly missed the career 'Top 10' listings in: doubles (48), home runs (34), total bases (414), walks (93), RBI (160) and stolen bases (40-46).

"They (Atlanta) made an attractive offer and it was hard to turn down. This is a great opportunity to start my professional career with a great organization," said Shehan, who saw his older brother also play in the Braves organization.

Shehan paced the 2008 offense with record numbers. The SoCon's 'Player of the Year' (sports media association) batted .438 - the fourth highest single-season average. He became the fifth Eagle to be named SoCon 'Player of the Year'.

Starting in all 58 games, Shehan tallied 84 runs scored (GS season record), 77 RBI (tied 9th), 17 doubles, three triples, 22 home runs (tied 8th), .557 on-base percentage, 53 walks (tied 8th), 22-of-24 stolen bases, 187 total bases (tied 6th) and six outfield assists. A Third Team Academic All-District pick, Shehan recorded a team-leading 33 multi-hit games and 23 multi-RBI games. He ended the year on career-high 15-game hitting streak and earned a spot on the SoCon All-Tournament Team.

During his freshman year he tied a single-game record with six hits (vs. Coppin State). Shehan also tied game records



Brandyln Brown/STAFF

Shehan heads for first for a single against Kennesaw State last season.

in walks (4 vs. Jacksonville in 2008) and doubles (3 vs. New Jersey Tech in 2007). He accounted for two of the team's NCAA single-game record 14 home runs hit in a 26-8 win earlier this year against Columbia.

Shehan, who plans on finishing his degree in Accounting, said there were many memorable moments as an Eagle.

"I was able to play with a great group of guys. I'll miss my teammates. I became great friends with them and the relationships I built at Georgia Southern are unforgettable. We had a lot of great memories over those three years... some great wins, setting a NCAA record and school records. I will definitely miss Georgia Southern," said Shehan.

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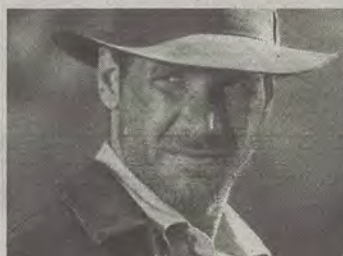
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this summer's hottest movies and bring the ticket stubs by the G-A office in the Williams Center. Be sure to write your name, Eagle ID and contact info on the back of the stubs. During the beginning weeks of the fall semester the person who submitted the most stubs will win a special prize.

Rules and Regulations:

- Must be a Georgia Southern Student and present their student I.D.
- Only one stub per movie may be accounted for per contestant.
- All students and faculty associated with student media are ineligible to play.
- The tickets presented may be from any movie theater, however the movie must be one that premiered in the summer months (May 1- August 1).
- Any movie that premiered between these dates are eligible.





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**Did you
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The course for the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines was set up by Georgia Southern alumnus Mike Davis. Davis' duties included inspecting the greens, pin placement and making sure the grass was the correct height. Davis graduated from GSU with a business-finance degree.

Atlanta Braves in need of change

After losing last night, the Atlanta Braves have fallen to 35-37 on the season and are 6.5 games back from the division-leading Phillies.



By **Leighton Maher**
Guest writer

With their pitching staff decimated by injuries and their lineup being extremely inconsistent at the plate, General Manager Frank Wren needs to step in and make some changes now.

The most obvious need for the team is a fourth starter. With Tim Hudson, Jair Jurrjens and a healthy Tom Glavine, the Braves have three solid starters for the front end of their rotation.

The team has used multiple people in the fourth and fifth spot this year, but none of them have pitched exceptionally well.

Wren has a lot of pieces to play with here to bring in an arm.

When lefty Mike Gonzalez returns, Royce Ring will become an odd man out in the bullpen by being the third southpaw along with Will Ohman.

Ohman is a good pitcher but there will be no need for three lefties. He will take over the lefty-on-lefty match up role Ring used to occupy while Gonzalez will be the left-hander to pitch full innings.

Along with Ring, the Braves could toss in another reliever, such as Blaine Boyer or Buddy Carlyle, along with troubled prospect Jordan Schaefer to make a good trade.

Wren should also look at adding an everyday left fielder to the roster. Bringing in a veteran who will produce each time out could help stabilize the Braves hitting.

Gregor Blanco, Josh Anderson and Brandon Jones played well this year, but as rookies they get hot and cold at the plate.

They could use a couple of these young players to go out and make a deal.

A couple of new faces in the clubhouse could provide the team with the spark they need to get things turned around.

Whatever Wren does, he needs to do it soon before he finds his team out of the race by the all-star break.



Special Photo

Curry's basketball career began here at Georgia Southern. He currently holds the school record for playing in 119 games.

Curry said to be 'new voice' of Pistons

By **Courtney Baker**
Sports editor

Assistant coach of the Detroit Pistons and Georgia Southern alumnus Michael Curry took over as head coach Thursday, June 10.

After the Detroit Pistons lost against the Boston Celtics in the Eastern Conference finals for the third time in a row, head coach Flip Saunders was dismissed by President Joe Dumars.

Dumars pronounced that the team needed a "new voice."

Curry's basketball career began here at Georgia Southern. He currently holds the school record for playing in 119 games and holds the single-season record for a 62.1 field-goal percentage.

He led the 1989-1990 Eagles in scoring, on average, 16.6 points per game and rebounding an average of 7.0 per game.

The Eagles went 56-21 with Curry in the starting lineup and is the only player in Eagle history to score a total of 1,000 points. He is ranked top 10 in rebounds, steals and field-goal percentage.

On Feb. 22, 1990 in a game against Georgia State, Curry scored his career-high of 33 points. He led the Eagles in scoring 14 times during his senior year.

Curry is second at GSU with a 56.3 percentage on the shooting list and helped lead the Eagles to three consecutive post-season appearances in 1987 at the NCAA Tournament and 1988 and 1989 in the National Intercollegiate Tournament.

He was inducted into the GSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 2000.

After graduating GSU in 1990, he went undrafted to the NBA and played for Germany, Belgium, Spain, and Italy, as well as playing in three U.S. minor leagues.

In 1993-1994, Curry signed as an undrafted free agent with the Philadelphia 76ers. In 1995, Curry began his career with the Detroit Pistons. He played backup guard and appeared in 46 games.

He highlighted the 1997-1998 season scoring a high of 25 points and had three assists. He helped bring home a 117-109 victory over the Boston Celtics. He was soon to be known as the "Detroit's defensive

stopper."

"Michael has been a proven leader throughout his NBA career as a player, administrator and assistant coach," Dumars said according to NBA.com. "Given his strong knowledge of the game and tireless work ethic, we feel he is the right person to lead our team. Michael understands the culture of our franchise and its expectations."

Curry signed a guaranteed three year contract worth \$2.5 million each season with the fourth year being left open.

He is looking to fill a new staff since Dave Cowens is the only one returning.

"The biggest difference [is] trying to make sure I get a really good staff in here," Curry said according to NBA.com.



Special Photo