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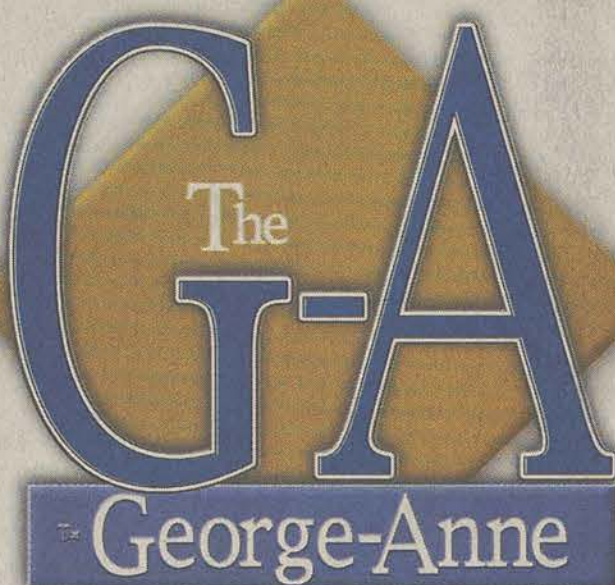


SPORTS

GSU Football begins spring training

Practicing for their seventh national championship win, GSU Football gets into high gear. More inside!

Page 6



LIFE

What happened to LeAnn Rimes?

Where has the innocent country music singer that we once knew gone? Find out inside!



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Vol. 73 No. 70

Wednesday, March 28, 2001

SGA candidates make bids for presidency

Brian Saxton



"I'm running for the right reasons. I want to represent the student body as a whole, not just part of it," Brian Saxton, candidate for the Student Government Association presidency, said.

"I've been involved on-campus with organizations, and being SGA president would give me a way to be involved with everything that goes on on-campus, ... and being able to carry that connection to the students."

He cites good relationships with faculty as one of his strengths, and campus-wide relationships with students, contrasted with opponent James Dixon's advertising to a Greek constituency, he said.

One of Dixon's ideas is to enact a "club council" made up of campus organizations. "I'm trying to lay groundwork as far as planning with that. We're a very diverse campus, and we need to be unified," he said.

Even if not elected, he could accomplish this goal, Saxton added. He refused to set any definite other goals for next year.

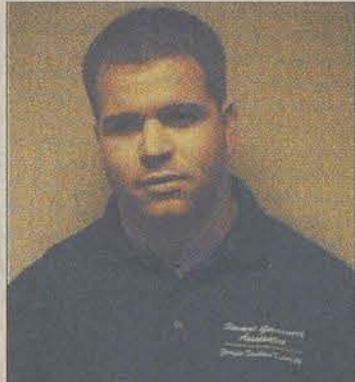
"It's going to have to be more groundwork for stuff," Saxton said. "I'm not going to promise anything, because everything I hear a campaign promise that doesn't get fulfilled ... it would make the whole organization look bad."

That groundwork will partially come from younger members of his presidential ticket who stay in SGA and form a legacy, Saxton said.

Saxton has never been involved with SGA prior to his presidential run, and

See Saxton, page 8

James Dixon



"There's positive and negative about every candidate. I think my positives are as strong as any of the two candidates, and my negatives aren't nearly as negative. I don't have two police incidents, but I do have SGA experience," James Dixon, Student Government Association senator and candidate for the SGA presidency, said.

"[Candidate Brian Saxton] is a really nice guy. The only thing that really sets me apart from him, I think, is that he really doesn't have any experience on SGA. I never saw him at a meeting until he decided to run."

Though opposing candidate Robert Bryant is experienced, he has negative aspects, Dixon said, including a police report filed against Bryant for activities stemming from last year's SGA campaigns. "You hear a lot of stuff about him that's negative. It doesn't really matter if the negative stuff's true, it's just a negative persona comes across," he added.

Dixon feels he is the logical choice for the SGA presidency. "Out of the possible candidates that I saw and talked with before the election, I felt I could do the job better than anyone else," he said.

Dixon has been an SGA senator for the past year, after running on Aaron Nicely's ticket. He said his positive accomplishments of the last year have included bringing a sense of order to meetings and sponsoring an amendment to the new SGA constitution that would put GPA requirements to a student referendum.

See Dixon, page 8

Robert Bryant



"By adding the vision plus experience, that gives me a better chance to lead the student government forward," Robert Bryant, SGA executive vice president and SGA presidential candidate, said.

"I came to the conclusion that I couldn't find anyone that really had the necessary package to make student government effective. Right now, student government has a wonderful foundation." Student government needs someone to build on that foundation, he added.

Last year, Bryant ran as part of Joyce Estrada's unsuccessful bid for SGA president. After Aaron Nicely was elected, Bryant was cited in a police report as threatening Nicely.

"It happened, and we can't deny that fact that it happened. We learn from our mistakes, and that was a mistake that I made," he said.

"I understand now that this year we're running a clean race. We don't have the influence of negativity. No one is running a negative race."

Though Bryant had the opportunity to become SGA president after Nicely was removed from the office last fall, he declined. The time was not right for him to take the reins, he explained, and there needed to be a structure for him to build on.

Bryant painted a rosy picture of SGA's accomplishments this year, which he was involved with in his current position.

"I believe student government has achieved a great deal of credibility and regained

See Bryant, page 8

International Week begins April 1

By Geetha Ramaswamy
Guest Writer

The annual International Week, hosted by the International and Multicultural center, has once again arrived. In the years before, some of the events that have taken place include the tasting of food from around the world, cultural speakers, photo exhibits, and the international talent show.

Last year, the International Students Club hosted the International Fashion and Talent

show. The show ranged from students modeling their native costumes, practices, and performing traditional dances to songs and even a Japanese tea ceremony. This year the club is hosting an International Talent Show entitled "Night of Diversity"

"Night of Diversity" will be the kick off event for the International Week. Performances for the talent show will consist of dance routines from the Bahamas, India, and South America. The show will also include

individual songs, group skits, and piano pieces.

"Night of Diversity" will take place on April 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Union Ballroom. The tickets are \$1 in advance and \$2 at the door. Tickets can be purchased either in the Multicultural and International Center, located in the Rosenwald building, or at the bake sale hosted by the International Students Club on Thursday March 29 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. under the Rotunda.

Budack celebrates 27 years at GSU

By Jason Clary
Staff Writer

When you drive or walk through Statesboro do you see an untapped goldmine? One professor at GSU saw this and a whole lot more when he arrived in Statesboro to teach Finance and Real Estate courses at Georgia Southern even before it was a college. Professor John J. Budack, Assistant Professor of Finance, started his 27-year teaching career at GSU in 1974.

Budack has seen GSU grow from being a small regional college to become the largest University in the southern half of the state of Georgia. Along with his experience of watching the campus grow, he witnessed the tremendous booming growth of businesses and housing around Statesboro into what it has become today, a booming "small town."

Many students might already know Budack since he is landlord to many that rent apartments and duplexes around town, especially near campus. Some of the properties that he owns include Pinewood Court, located off of University Place and the Bird Lane Apartments.

"Most of the property I own is rented by students because it is close to campus," said Budack. Among the other properties that he owns are the Lester Road Condominiums and properties in Country Side.

Budack has been involved with many other aspects of college life among students. He is the current Chapter Advisor for the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity here at GSU and has held this position since 1979. He enjoys helping out the fraternity as an advisor role and even held the Province President position for Phi Delta Theta for the five chapters in the state of Georgia. Budack was involved with Phi Delta Theta in his undergraduate career at the University of Minnesota. Among the many forms of recognition, Budack has received for his help with the Greek community was receiving

the Teacher of the Year award in 2000.

He was also involved in producing the Statesboro Multilist, a compilation of home and land for sale or rent in Statesboro. For many years Budack compiled the information needed for the reports, as "the work on the Multilist was very tedious since I had to compile the information using a sheet of notebook paper for each listing. This was difficult and time consuming since we did not have a computer to help out with the work." The Multilist is comparable to the home and land magazines that are available today.

His favorite classes to teach over the years have been any to do with

real estate. "My favorite class that I taught was the Institutions class that is no longer taught at GSU. It dealt with the financial institutions and the monetary processes involved," said Budack.

He also wrote several journal articles including one co-authored that was published in the Fall-Spring 1999 *Southern CT Business Journal* titled, "Market Size, Pricing Strategies and Selling Prices in Housing Markets." Budack retired from the College of Business Administration in spring of 2000 and currently teaches two real estate courses part time for the University.

MILLIONTH PATRON!



•The RAC announces contest winners



BIG WINNERS: (clockwise, from top left) Russ Jones was the millionth patron at the RAC and received over \$1,000 in prizes in the RAC's Millionth Customer contest. Brian Cooper and Daniel Stallworth won in rounds one and two of the "Guess for a Million" contest, and received prizes in the values of \$400 and \$300, respectively.

--photos taken by LaVene Bell



Jason Clary

PROFESSOR BUDACK: Budack, assistant professor of finance, started his 27-year teaching career at GSU in 1974. Budack instructs courses pertaining to finance and real estate, and was awarded the Teacher of the Year award in 2000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Things to do at GSU March 31

• **Tau Kappa Epsilon** presents the 1st Annual Eagle 5K road race, benefiting the American Heart Association. The race begins at 9 a.m. The cost of \$12, forms at the RAC or sign-up at the RAC.

• **The Annual Meeting of the Association of Georgia Southern Women** will meet at 6 p.m. at Lydia Chapman's house. The cost is \$5 per person. Please call Lydia at 764-8724 for more information.

• **Eagle 5K Road Race** benefiting the American Heart Association at 9 a.m. at the RAC. Pick up forms at the RAC or the day of the race.

April 4

• **GSU's Volunteer Service Student Advisory Board** will sponsor a blood drive through the American Red Cross from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. next to the Russell Union.

April 5

• **The Annual Dycerzian Dance show.** Doors open at 7 p.m. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale from April 2nd until April 5th underneath the Rotunda.

April 1-7

• The ice cold brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. proudly announces the return of Alpha week. Stay tuned for more information.

April 8

• **Sigma Gamma Rho**, along with DJ Dice Law presents "It's Showtime at GSU." Cash prizes will be given away. If you can sing, dance or whatever come out and show off your talent. Info session on March 29 at 7 p.m. in the Russell Union room 2052.

April 11

• **Eagle Entertainment** presents Jam Fest, 3 to 9 p.m. outside of Landrum. Will feature 12 of your favorite Statesboro bands.

Ongoing

• **GSU's NAACP** meets every Monday in Russell Union room 2080 at 6 p.m.

• **Academic Resource Center** will be offering free tutoring in the Library Ground Floor, room 1001 in the following courses: English, Biology, Sociology, Math, Algebra, Probability, Physics and Chemistry. Call 681-0321 for more information.

• The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Support Group

for students, staff and faculty meets in Room 2072 of the Russell Union on Thursdays from 5 until 6 p.m. For more information call 681-5409.

• **Black Student Alliance** meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Check sheet for room number. For more info call 681-5458.

• **Anime Crew** meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in room 1106 of the Forest Drive Building. For more information contact Christina Huey at 688-2536.

• **The Institute for Electronics and Electrical Engineers** meets the first and third Tuesday of every month. Please contact George Fotopoulos at gsf04936@gasou.edu for more information.

• **The Student Government Association 2001 Scholarship.** The application deadline is 5 p.m. on Tuesday April 3. Must have at least a 3.0 scholarship and have completed 24 credit hours from GSU in 2 consecutive semesters. All applicants must have 3 letters of recommendation. Applications available in the SGA office, 2nd floor Russell Union.

POLICE BEAT

GSU Public Safety March 24

• Matthew Nichols reported a Gateway computer was missing from the Newton Building.

• Carolyn Price reported a VCR, stereo, computer and monitor were missing from the College of Business Building.

• Chadwick Whittington reported someone cut the left and right window of his Jeep in the Johnson Hall parking lot and took the faceplate from his CD player.

• Ryan Omahoney reported someone damaged the left door of his vehicle in the Johnson Hall

parking lot. They also damaged the CD player and dashboard.

Statesboro Police Department March 25

• Corey Hill, 19, Kathleen, Ga., was arrested for reckless driving.

• Dale Welsh, 20, Campus Courtyard #39, reported criminal trespassing.

March 26

• Thomas Murray, 23, Varsity Lodge #189, was arrested for rape.

• Grant Davis, 19, Park Place #128, reported an armed robbery.

• Brian Mathis, 21, Park Place #170, reported suspicious activity.

Editor's Note: Police Beat appears in every edition of the George-Anne in an effort to inform the GSU community of the amount, nature and location of crime. All reports are public information and can be obtained at either the Statesboro Police Department or at the GSU Division of Public Safety.

—All Police Beat information is compiled by Jason Kemp, assistant news editor.

This Week's Weather



Today

Partly cloudy with a high of 62 and a low of 53.



Thursday

Partly cloudy with a high of 68 and a low of 59.

GEORGIA NEWS BRIEF

Rape suspect linked to two other cases

Associated Press

MARIETTA, Ga. — A suspect in a Marietta motel rape has been connected to two rapes in Gwinnett County, police said Monday.

Kyle Evan Johnson, 35, was arrested over the weekend on 13 counts related to a March 11 assault at a LaQuinta Inn in Marietta, including rape, armed robbery, burglary, sexual assault and false imprisonment.

On Monday, Gwinnett County police said evidence recovered from Johnson led them to identify him as a suspect in separate

assaults at a Norcross motel in December and January. They said he is expected to be charged in Gwinnett County soon.

On Saturday, an unidentified caller told police a suspicious individual was lurking around an Econo Lodge motel in Cobb County, wearing a hood or mask. Police said they found Johnson dressed in black and carrying a .32-caliber semiautomatic pistol and an instant camera that belonged to the Marietta victim.

When they impounded Johnson's car, police said they found photographs of the Marietta rape victim

taken at the crime scene before, during and after the attack. Also, the pistol he was carrying was similar to the one the victim described as belonging to the attacker, said Marietta Officer Brian Marshall.

Police searched Johnson's home and found stolen motel card keys, credit cards, IDs, night vision goggles and other items that may be tied to other crimes, Marshall said.

"We feel there will be attachments to a lot of other stuff going on, possibly other sexual assaults," he said.

Macon students make art out of junk

Associated Press

MACON, Ga. — Students from Mercer and Georgia Southwestern State universities will be scrapping it out this weekend to see who can make the most creative art out of junk.

Students in the first Junque Yard Dawg Sculpture Contest have until Saturday to get their creations to the Middle Georgia Art Association's gallery in Payne City. The pieces, made mostly from materials salvaged from the recycling yard of sponsor Macon Iron and Paper Stock Co., will be judged Sunday.

Organizers say the contest gives the public another way of looking at what is usually considered junk.

"There's more to recycling

and the scrap process than what you see at the curb," said Evan Koplin, Macon Iron's vice president. "You're starting to see more and more things that can be recycled when they come to the end of their useful life."

Students at Mercer University and Georgia Southwestern were asked to participate in the contest because Macon Iron has operations in Macon, where Mercer is located, and Americus, home of Georgia Southwestern.

In January, students sifted through Macon Iron's collection and culled the items they needed.

Koplin said he began gauging support for an annual junkyard art contest a few years ago.

"(Koplin) had mumbled it to me last year, and I said, 'What a

great idea, we're game,'" said Georgia Southwestern fine arts professor Laurel Robinson. "We thought it would be a good way to make sculpture out of different things."

Seven Georgia Southwestern sculpture students drew up ideas for the project and other students in the art department were allowed to pitch in and help.

Gary Blackburn, an associate professor of art at Mercer and outgoing president of the Middle Georgia Art Association, said his students also were excited about the contest.

"Mercer is a very eager participant in it," he said.

In future years, Macon Iron plans to invite other colleges with sculpture programs to participate in the contest.

Peanut chips could be new snack-food

Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — It's called a chip, looks like a cracker, and tastes like something completely unexpected: a peanut.

Yao-wen Huang, a University of Georgia food researcher, calls his new invention the peanut chip, and he's hoping that before long they'll be available in snack-food aisles across the country.

That could be great news for peanut farmers in Georgia, who produce almost half the peanuts grown in the United States. In recent years they've seen peanuts criticized by nutritionists as too fatty, and banned by some airlines because of passengers' allergies.

The chip starts with what is basically peanut waste, the pellets that are a byproduct of peanut-oil extraction. Full of protein but minus 80 percent of the fat, they typically are mixed with other food waste and fed to livestock.

The pellets are ground into a fine powder and combined with soybean flour and a pinch of full-fat peanut flour to boost flavor. The mixture is made into a dough, which is flattened, cut into squares and baked to make chips.

The George-Anne

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It is a desire of The George-Anne to print the news of Georgia Southern University as accurately as possible. If you believe that something covered is in error, contact the editor at 681-5246 as soon as possible.

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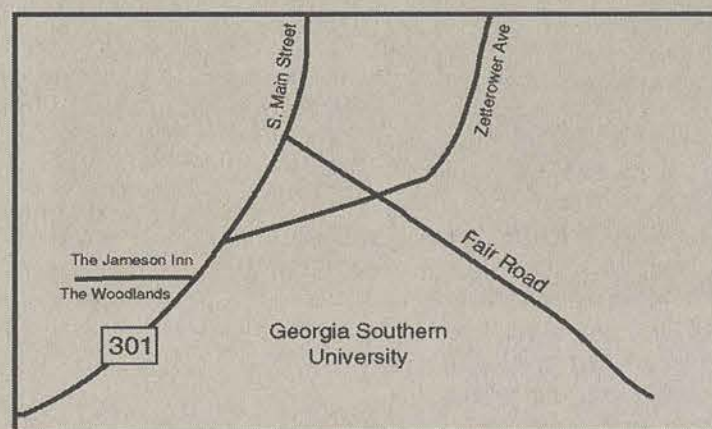
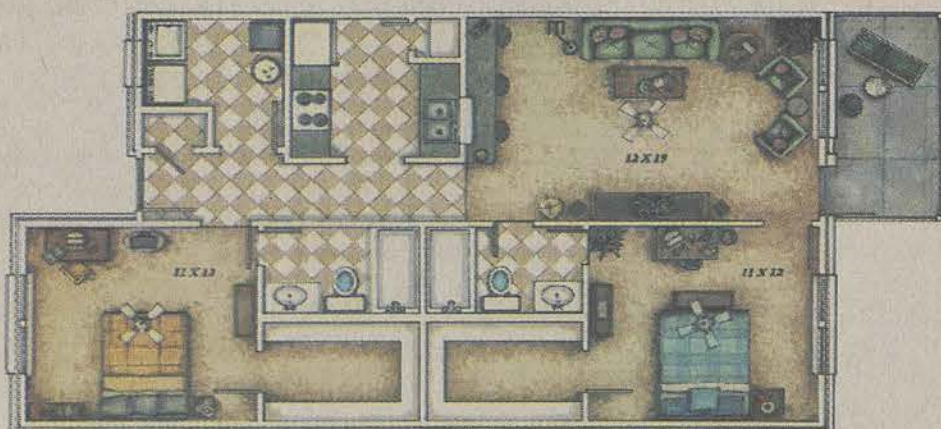


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ONLY IN AMERICA...

1 Iowa

Iowa farmer
houses deformed
animals

Associated Press

MINERAL POINT—Six-legged steers, two-headed calves, five-legged sheep, five-horned rams — they're all welcome at Paul Springer's farm.

"If they were normal, they'd go to the slaughterhouse at 11/2 to 2 years of age. This way people get to see them, just like they'd see a person with an extra finger or an extra toe," the Iowa County farmer said.

His interest in deformed farm animals was piqued in the 1970s when he bought a six-legged calf named Boldegard.

Springer also took Boldegard to the Wisconsin State Fair in the 1970s and 1980s, when he charged 50 cents a peek.

When the animal died at the age of 14, he was stuffed and sold to a Ripley's Believe It or Not museum in Florida.

Springer, 58, hears about the animals from livestock dealers, veterinarians and other farmers.

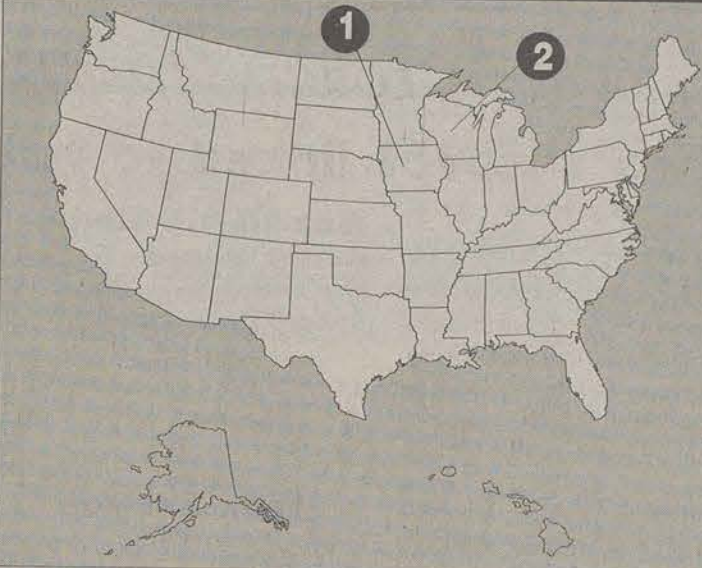
He keeps some until they die, when he stuffs them for display. Others he sells while alive to circuses, freak shows and museums.

"Most people don't even want to fool with them," veterinarian Jack Jenkins said. "They don't want to give them the extra care necessary. Paul has done it long enough he knows what can go wrong. He has to make sure the ones with extra legs don't get caught up in the crotch of a tree."

Springer has his standards. The animals must be fairly rare and must not be in pain.

"I'll have people call and say, 'Oh, I've got a cow without a tail' and I'll say, 'Nah, that's not unusual enough,'" he said. "It's got to be something that's not gruesome to look at but is interesting."

He's seen more than a dozen



animals with five and six legs, two-headed calves, a pig with four front feet, a five-horned ram, a ram with a hoof growing from its side and a donkey with one head and two bodies.

Springer has photographs to document his strange pets.

He bought his farm in 1967 and has no plans to quit farming any time soon.

"I don't go golfing or fishing, but I can come out here and look at my animals," Springer said. "I like seeing the reaction when people see them. They say, 'How does that happen?'"

2 Wisconsin

Man puts truck in
tree for romantic
getaway

Associated Press

CLINTON — A man whose hobbies include stripping has hoisted a 1959 Chevrolet pickup into a 30-foot tree as a clubhouse and romantic getaway for women.

Mark Madson, 48, used a crane to lift the 2,500-pound truck into the tree just off Interstate 43 near Beloit seven years ago. One of his favorite pastimes is climbing inside during windstorms and swaying, he said.

"It's cool 'cause it's kind of rockin' and rollin'," Madson said.

Don't worry, Madson said. The tree trunk is perfectly safe. He dumped five tons of dirt around the tree's base and bolted the truck's frame to the branches.

Once, he wanted to see just how many people he could cram inside, so he sent eight or nine of his buddies up. They all sat inside and drank beer and ate pizza, Madson said.

But Madson, who describes himself as "very single," said women love his hideaway most.

"There's actually more women that want to go up in the treehouse than guys. Especially college girls," he said.

Madson and his father, Hap Little, run the Little Limestone Co. from offices near the tree.

"I claim no responsibility," Little, 74, said.

Little watched stone-faced as his son described other exploits, including an attempt to build the world's largest weather vane — a pickup atop a giant crane. It would have worked, too, Madson said, if he could have found a sponsor.

He took the truck-treehouse down for a few months in 1997, replacing it with a homemade replica of the General Lee, the flame-orange Dodge Charger from the 1980s TV show "Dukes of Hazzard."

Madson performs once a year as a stripper during Wisconsin's fall hunting season. He says he guards the women while the men are away.

Christmas burglary never happened

Associated Press

SOUTH HAVEN, Ind. — A South Haven woman who told police her home was burglarized four days before Christmas has admitted to making up the crime.

Audrey J. Kendall, 25, was arrested last Sunday and charged with false informing. She's free on \$1,500 bail.

Kendall called Porter County police on Dec. 22 to report the crime. County 911 operator Chris Sears collected \$200 from officers, including Sheriff David Reynolds and Chief Deputy David Lain, as well as news reporters, to purchase replacement toys for Kendall's three children.

Kendall said she and her husband, Steve, 26, had purchased gifts for their daughter and two sons and their two nieces and four nephews. She told police the losses, including

toys and clothing, totaled about \$1,500.

Sheriff's Department Det. Commander Mike Veal said he found inconsistencies in Kendall's story. He said she failed a voice stress test and admitted making up the story.

Veal said Kendall returned the presents to local stores so she could buy her husband a present.

Kendall said Friday her home was burglarized Dec. 21, but some items she listed as stolen weren't taken.

"I didn't have any insurance to cover losses and had to replace some of the missing presents for the children," she told the Post-Tribune newspaper in Gary. "I am really grateful for the help from the Sheriff's Department."

If convicted, Kendall could face a 180-day jail sentence and a \$1,000 fine.

Medical marijuana grows mold

Associated Press

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — A man acquitted of growing too much medical marijuana may not get his stash back after all now that a mysterious mold has begun to grow on his plants while it was being held in sheriff's evidence room.

Alan MacFarlane, the man who grew the 110 marijuana plants, is skeptical about the contamination, and wants the judge in his case to appoint another expert to investigate.

But Sonoma County officials oppose the request to have the plants returned to MacFarlane and claim the evidence locker where his plants

are held is so badly contaminated the room is off limits.

Authorities estimate it will cost at least \$64,000 to clean up the room with the contaminated plants.

"It's a serious issue," Deputy County Counsel Anne Keck said. "People have to put on an environmental bunny suit to go in there. The spores are airborne."

Two other cases are pending in Sonoma County in which marijuana was returned to defendants whose homegrown plants were returned to them after drug charges were dismissed because they qualified as users of medical marijuana.

Hidden camera found in women's restroom

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A former lieutenant colonel in the Illinois Air National Guard has pleaded guilty to hiding a closed-circuit camera in a women's bathroom at O'Hare International Airport.

Filming women in a restroom without their knowledge is illegal in Illinois, but Mark A. Lynn, 42, of Lombard, was charged in federal court because the camera was on U.S. government property in an

Air National Guard building.

Lynn pleaded guilty Friday to a federal misdemeanor.

Prosecutors said Lynn placed the camera in a ceiling tile of the rest room in early December 1996 in an effort to capture the women on videotape without their knowledge.

Sentencing will be carried out at a later date. Lynn faces a maximum sentence of 364 days in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

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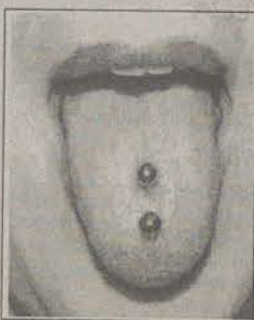
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Student Media Positions Open for 2001-2002

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Managing Editor (\$950 per full semester)

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Program Director (\$1,100 per full semester)
Operations Manager (\$1,100 per full semester)

APPLICATION FORM AND WAIVER

INFORMATION: Questions regarding these positions should be directed to the advisors of the media: Bill Neville (The GEORGE-ANNE) at 681-0069 or Box 8067; Larry Anderson (MISCELLANY) at 681-0128 or Box 8048; Dianne Lamb (REFLECTOR MAGAZINE) at 681-0534 or Box 8091; or Bill Neville (WVGS/FM) at 681-0069 or Box 8067. Additional information and interpretation of the qualifications may be obtained from the chairperson, Bill Neville (681-0069 or Box 8067).

Position(s) applied for (Please check ALL that are applicable):

GEORGE-ANNE	MISCELLANY	REFLECTOR	WVGS/FM
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<input type="checkbox"/> Managing Editor		<input type="checkbox"/> Art Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Director
<input type="checkbox"/> News Editor		<input type="checkbox"/> Managing Editor	<input type="checkbox"/> Operations Manager

1. A student interested in applying for an elected position is required to present (1) a **resumé** (2) a **letter of application** explaining the candidate's qualifications and their plans or objectives for the media position sought; and (3) **assigned waiver** (included below) which gives permission to the chairperson of the Media Committee to validate the candidate's academic standing.
2. A student seeking a position on an editorial or broadcast board must have a **CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE** of at least 2.0 and must not be on scholastic or disciplinary probation. If at any time a board member drops below these standards, that member must relinquish the position.

I, _____ do hereby authorize the Media Committee, in relation to the above criteria for board positions, to contact the CSU student records representatives to validate my academic standing for compliance. This validation may be at a time of application and at any time during the period I would hold a board position.

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This (1) application/waiver form (or a facsimile), together with a (2) resumé and a (3) letter of application for each medium in which a position(s) is sought, should be received by Friday, March 30, 2001, by 5 p.m. to: Student Media Advisory Board, Bill Neville, chair, Room 2022 Williams Center, Box 8067, GSU, Statesboro, GA 30460. Candidates for George-Anne and Reflector must be available on Thursday, April 12, and for Miscellany and WVGS/FM on Thursday, April 19. All interviews are scheduled at 3 p.m., Room 2009, Williams Center (Upper Floor).

ITS TIME AGAIN FOR STUDENTS TO GO OUT AND PICK THIER CANDIDATE

Yes, its that time again...SGA elections. The big change for this year is on-line voting. With what seems to be a growing trend at GSU more and more functions are being updated and modernized. Putting the new voting method aside for a moment

Our Opinion

though, *The George-Anne* would like to wish all the candidates good luck. So far the elections have been clean, with little mud slinging and bad blood. This is the first year a debate for all the offices has been held. The SGA seems to be attempting to change for the better, putting childish ways behind them. More money has been allocated for clubs and the attempts of the current SGA administration to rebuild the bridges with the university

administration seems to be paying off. We would like to congratulate the SGA on all their hard work this year and making it through all the controversies and tribulations that they have worked through.

We also want to remind all students to vote in this year's SGA election. In order to do this, you have to go online, but remember that you can't complain about things at GSU unless you actually participated in the election.

This is your chance to voice your opinion. For those of you who want to make a difference and have a say so in what goes on in student government at this university, now is your chance to make an impact. Don't think that your vote doesn't matter. It does. Show that you care, because in the past, it hasn't really shown that the student body cares a whole lot about what goes on, and that's a shame. Make a difference. VOTE.

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Spring cleaning



ERIN A. MERRITT

Today I was packing, getting ready for May when I head out of here. I was overwhelmed with just how much I have accumulated in living in one house for three years. Not that it was junk, or that I'm a packrat, just that I own a lot of...stuff. Memories from my 22 years, some more vivid than others, slowly were wrapped and stuffed into boxes and put in the back of a truck.

I sat down after I was done and my Mom had pulled away, I was exhausted. Not physically, but emotionally. I have decided that packing and moving can be one of the most liberating experiences but it can also be a real eye opener. Each object that I wrapped brought back memories of my time here and all the things I've done. I suddenly, for the first time, became a bit sad about leaving this town.

This in itself is rather amazing, as I'm always the first one to say, "Man, I cannot WAIT to get outta here!" Instead of thinking about getting out, I started thinking about all the things I'll miss here. Not sights per say, but people, namely friends. None of my friends are graduating with me, so that means when I leave they will all be here. I know wherever I go I am bound to meet new people and make new friends, but it isn't the same.

I have found people here that mean the world to me. As in, I don't know where I'd be without them. While I was packing I was running across little things that they had given me or that I saved that made me think of them. Storing each memory in its appropriate spot and marking the box fragile. I felt my heart sink as my Mom drove off with my things to go put them in storage for the summer. There they go, my things...my world, to be stored

and not touched again until August.

I surely hope that when I move on and unpack that I will have more than just memorabilia reminding me of the friends I've left behind. I wish I could box them up and take them with me, but then, they have their paths too. I wonder if I'll be remembered with the same fondness. I wonder if we'll still keep in touch, or if it's one of those things that we're always meaning to do but there are just not enough hours in the day.

Will I become a pen mark on someone's calendar once a year when my birthday rolls around and they figure they must call? Will they become the same to me? Will they become relics of my past, that I remember when I'm telling people about my time at Southern? Will they become forgotten past only reminded by the little things that I've saved to remind me?

I think about my future and I know I want them with me. I know I'll try my best to do my part to carry those friendships with me into my future. However, there is no time like the present to let those people know what they mean to you. So often we think these things are just known, but often saying it makes it concrete. Like a box you've packed away, you never will know what's inside if it's not marked or you don't open it. Don't let your friendships become boxes in the attic that you're always meaning to unpack but don't have time for. So pardon me while I take this moment to make sure I do my spring-cleaning. For all the people here who have touched my life and made me the person I am, thank you. You have made my college experience rich and exciting. So carry that with you, that way even if we do just become memories, the fragile box will be marked so you'll always know what lies there.

Erin A. Merritt can be reached at tater_tot13@hotmail.com

Parents are the real role models



MARNITE ZACHARY

Graduation is fast approaching and so are all the career fairs. As I prepare my resume and myself for the upcoming education fair I continually find myself imagining my life as an educator. I envision well-behaved students learning, excelling, and thirsting for knowledge. I then wake up only to find yet another school shooting, more violence, and education reform being put on America's backburner. We all seem to be looking around for someone to blame. Is it the parents, teachers, society, or the media? We need not fight, there is certainly enough blame to go around and with that, I have bones to pick with everyone.

I am a future educator. I am not your child's mother, sole disciplinarian, or grocery store. It is your responsibility to care for, feed, scold, and instill values in your child.

My job as an educator is by definition—to educate. I dare say many of us at GSU will one day become mothers and fathers, but if you are not ready to be an effective and efficient parent then please do not procreate. America has enough problems without adding you and your dysfunctional family to the already lengthy list.

If you take "little Bobby" to R-rated movies simply because you want to go, do not be surprised if I later send your child to the principal. The violence, profanity and sex that he sees on the screen are not suitable for his young mind nor my classroom. By not doing your job you force me to shortchange other students who come to learn because I must do the job you have neglected. He is not an adult and should therefore, not be expected to handle adult situations successfully. No need to wonder where he learned those four-letter words, how to "properly" use drugs or even how he became "Big Bobby" the sex offender?

I am the media. I am not your baby-sitter, detective, or policeman.

I cannot decide what is good and what is garbage. Televisions have parental controls, rating systems and what is more important, a power button. Turn the channel or turn it off. Pornography, and provocative videos can and will enter your home if you are complacent. If you allow "trash" to be invited into your child's life please then be prepared to pay the consequences and explain them to me.

Become active in your child's life and it is more likely that you will be more tuned into negative warning signs. You are the one who must inspect your child's room. Oh you think it's an invasion of privacy? Who pays the bills in your home? Go ahead and ignore the arsenal of weapons, bomb making set, or cult membership but please don't be surprised when your child's mug shot is on the six o'clock news as "the latest murderer or deranged Uni-Bomber".

I am a part of society and so are you. You have no control over what I do but you can teach your child how to deal with me. If you teach your

child where not to go, what not to do, how to handle strangers, and any and all life lessons, then he will learn to become a productive part of me. He will teach his children and so on and so forth. Slowly we can begin to heal some of the wounds left by poverty, divorce, homelessness, hunger, and parents who just do not care.

It is evident that no one person can be blamed for all the 'ills' in the family structure. We are not perfect and we live in an imperfect society so inevitably our school system, like our world, is flawed.

Why not replace the word blame with the word responsibility? It is up to each of us as individuals to take inventory of our actions and the effects they have on other people. Children are truly a gift from God and perhaps the most precious one. They follow the examples presented before them whether good or bad. Parents should be role models.

Marnite Zachary is a senior English major and columnist at the *George-Anne*. She can be reached for comment, questions, or concerns at marnitez@hotmail.com.

Road to romantic ruin is paved with practical gifts



DAVE BARRY

The other day, my son and I were talking, and the subject of women came up, and I realized that it was time he and I had a Serious Talk. It's a talk every father should have with his son; and yet, far too often, we fathers avoid the subject, because it's so awkward.

The subject I am referring to is: buying gifts for women.

This is an area where many men do not have a clue. Exhibit A was my father, who was a very thoughtful man, but who once gave my mother, on their anniversary, the following token of his love, his commitment, and — yes — his passion for her: an electric blanket. He honestly could not understand why, when she opened the box, she gave him that look (you veteran men know the look I mean). After

all, this was the deluxe model electric blanket! With an automatic thermostat! What more could any woman WANT?

Another example: I once worked with a guy named George who, for Christmas, gave his wife, for her big gift — and I am not making this gift up — a chain saw. (As he later explained: "Hey, we NEEDED a chain saw.") Fortunately, the saw was not operational when his wife unwrapped it.

The first rule of buying gifts for women is: THE GIFT SHOULD NOT DO ANYTHING, OR, IF IT DOES, IT SHOULD DO IT BADLY.

For example, let's consider two possible gifts, both of which, theoretically, perform the same function:

GIFT ONE: A state-of-the-art gasoline-powered lantern, with electronic ignition and dual mantles capable of generating 1,200 lumens of light for 10 hours on a single tank

of fuel.

GIFT TWO: A scented beeswax candle, containing visible particles of bee poop and providing roughly the same illumination as a lukewarm corn dog.

Now to a guy, Gift One is clearly superior, because you could use it to see in the dark. Whereas to a woman, Gift Two is MUCH better, because women love to sit around in the gloom with reeking, sputtering candles, and don't ask ME why. I also don't know why a woman would be ticked off if you gave her a 56-piece socket-wrench set with a 72-tooth reversible ratchet, but thrilled if you give her a tiny, very expensive vial of liquid with a name like "L'essence de Nooquie Eau de Parfum de Cologne de Toilette de Bidet," which, to the naked male nostril, does not smell any better than a stick of Juicy Fruit. All I'm saying is that this is the kind of thing women want. (That's why the ultimate gift is jewelry; it's totally useless.)

The second rule of buying gifts for women is: YOU ARE NEVER FINISHED. This is the scary part, the part that my son and his friends are just discovering. If you have a girlfriend, she will give you, at MINIMUM, a birthday gift, an anniversary gift, a Christmas/Chanukah/Kwanzaa gift, and a Valentine's Day gift, and every one

of these gifts will be nicely wrapped AND accompanied by a thoughtful card. When she gives you this gift, YOU HAVE TO GIVE HER ONE BACK. You can't just open your wallet and say, "Here's, let's see... 17 dollars!"

And, as I told my son, it only gets worse. Looming ahead are bridal showers, weddings, baby showers, Mother's Day and other Mandatory Gift Occasions that would not even EXIST if men, as is alleged, really ran the world. Women observe ALL of these occasions, and MORE. My wife will buy gifts for NO REASON. She'll go into one of those gift stores at the mall that men never enter, and she'll find something, maybe a tiny cute box that could not hold anything larger than a molecule, and is therefore useless, and she'll buy it, PLUS a thoughtful card, and SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHO THE RECIPIENT IS YET. Millions of other women are out doing the same thing, getting further and further ahead, while we guys are home watching instant replays. We have no chance of winning this war.

That's what I told my son. It wasn't pleasant but it was time he knew the truth. Some day, when he is older and stronger, we'll tackle an even more difficult issue, namely, what to do when a woman asks: "Do these pants make me look fat?" (Answer: Flee the country.)

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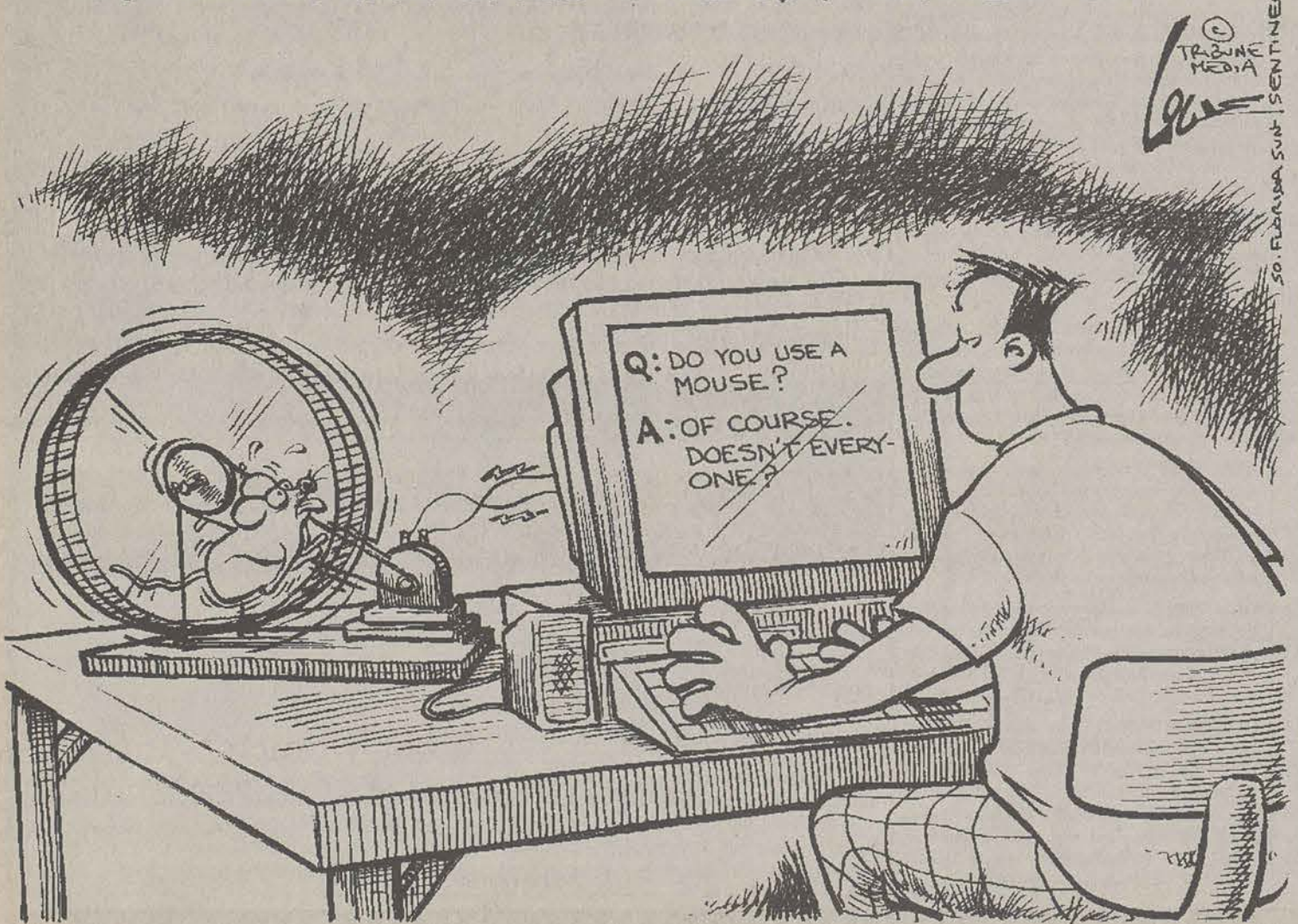
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2001 football spring training begins without a hitch

•The coaching staff's main concern is looking for depth

By Doug Kidd
Senior Sports Writer

It might not have been Finley Stadium in Chattanooga but GSU head football coach Paul Johnson felt a little excitement on the Eagle Creek practice facility when his team took the field for the first time since winning its sixth national championship last December.

"It's been fun," Johnson said of the Eagles' preparation for the 2001 campaign, "because each year you start out with a new team. I don't care how many guys you have coming back; it's a new team that will find their own identity and work habits. You'll see different leaders emerge and it's kind of fun to watch that."

107 GSU players went through a light workout in helmets and shorts on Monday with, what Johnson said, "just a lot of learning and going through assignments." The hour and forty-five minute practice was the first of a scheduled eleven practices for the Eagles this spring. GSU will also have three Saturday scrimmages and the Blue-White game on April 21 at Paulson Stadium.

During the next three weeks, Johnson and his staff will take a look at mostly the younger players on his roster, getting an idea of the players who redshirted a year ago.

"The spring gives the younger guys a chance to get coached and get focused on

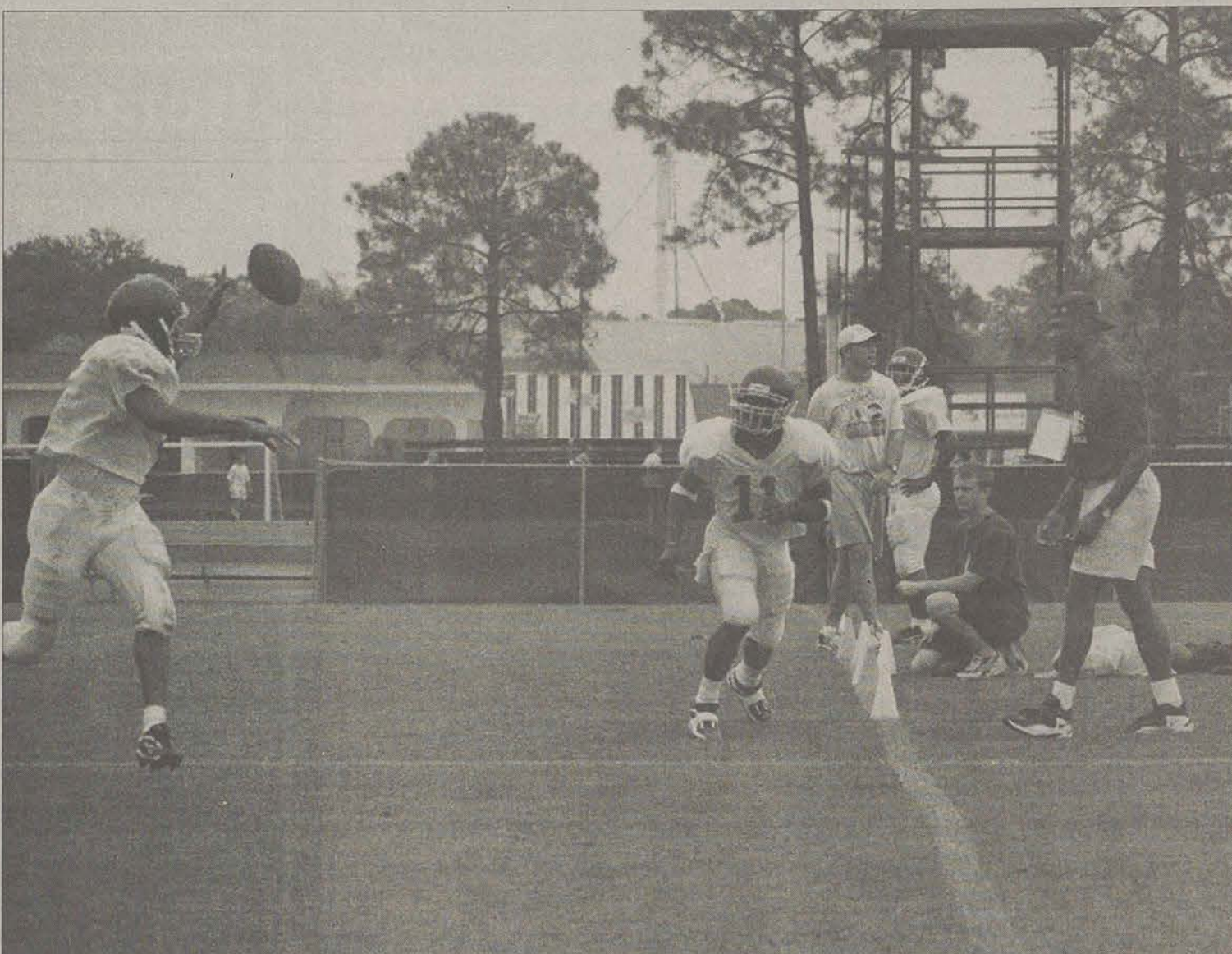
what they have to do and it gives the coaching staff the chance to evaluate them," Johnson said, also adding that the coaching staff will be looking for depth, particularly in the defensive backfield and on the offensive line as well as evaluating all the players on the squad. "The spring is a chance for everyone to have an opportunity."

Because the redshirt freshmen didn't spend much time with the main coaches last fall in their initial season at GSU, the spring is the first time to impress the coaching staff with all eyes on them. Senior quarterback J.R. Revere remembered that his first spring practice was where he solidified himself as Greg Hill's successor as the Eagles backup signal-caller.

"The spring is a time because Coach Johnson doesn't get a chance to look at you when you're a redshirt because he's paying attention to the older guys—that you can show what you can do," said Revere, who led the Eagles to a 13-2 record in his first season as a starter.

"In the fall everything goes so fast you don't have time to work as much with the younger players," Johnson said. "In [the coaching staff's] mind we have a good idea of who's going to play and you have to get them ready."

But for the next three



File Photo

weeks the first and second year players will be in the spotlight, especially with most of the upperclassmen resting and taking in few reps. Trey Hunter, a redshirt freshman quarterback from Guyton, knows that when the Eagles practice in full pads later this week it will be his and his classmates time to shine. "That's when we get to show what we can do," Hunter said.

THE QUEST FOR NUMBER ONE...AGAIN: The Eagles completed one of eleven scheduled practices for the 2001 Spring Training season in hopes of repeating the 2000 season with a seventh national championship win. The Eagles will be preparing for the fall season with eleven practices, three Saturday scrimmages, and a Blue-White game on April 21st.

Women's tennis slips to UT-Chattanooga

G-A News Service

The Georgia Southern women's tennis team was defeated Saturday by a score of 5-2 at the University of Tennessee - Chattanooga.

In doubles action, Brooke McNamee and Callie Ward defeated Daniela Greco and

Katie Hangstefer 8-5 in the No. 2 position for the Lady Eagles only doubles victory.

Isabella Kling and McNamee brought home wins in No. 1 and No. 3 singles, respectively. Kling defeated Greco 6-3, 6-3 while McNamee was victorious over

Catherine Allen 6-4, 6-1.

The Lady Eagles fall to 5-7 overall, 2-2 in the Southern Conference.

Georgia Southern returns to action on Wednesday, March 28 at 2 p.m. against the College of Charleston in Charleston, S.C.

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Scott Henley named SoCon player of the week for baseball

G-A News Service

The Southern Conference today announced Georgia Southern designated hitter Scott Henley has been named the SoCon's Player of the Week.

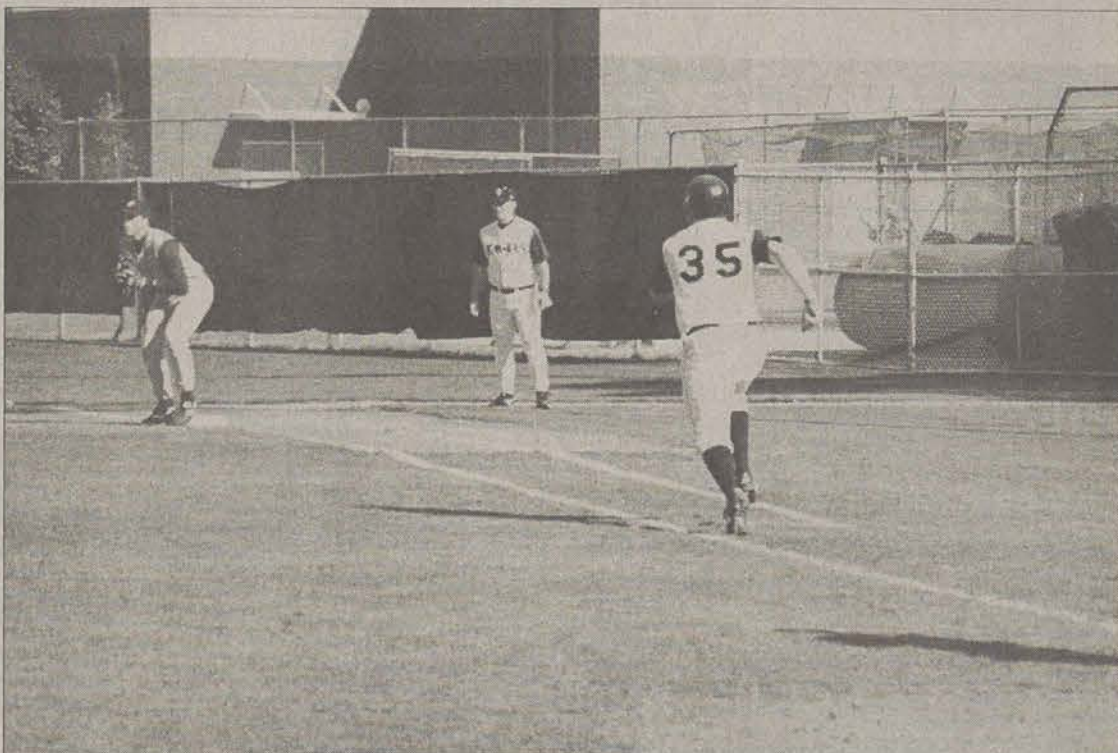
Henley hit .684 in four games last week, collecting 13 hits in 19 at-bats with 10 RBIs and four home runs. The senior from Grayson, Ga, homered in all four games and raised his season batting average from .372 to .433.

Henley collected two hits in five plate appearances in a game against Georgia State March 21. He hit his third home run of the season in that game as the Eagles claimed a 24-6 victory.

In a weekend series at Western Carolina, Henley went 11 for 14. He went five for five with a home run and a double in the first game of the series. Henley also scored three runs and collected four RBI in the contest.

In the second game, Henley was four for five with two runs scored and three RBI. He completely the week by going two for four in the series finale, scoring one run and driving in two.

Henley currently leads Georgia Southern in batting average (.433), hits (42), home runs (6), doubles (8), RBI (34), slugging percentage (.701), on-base percentage (.464) and sacrifice flies (4).



LaVene Bell

OUTSTANDING RECORD: Eagle designated hitter Scott Henley received the honor of being the Southern Conference player of the week for the baseball team after a stellar weekend of four games and a leading batting average.

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SOAR magazine voted 'Best in the Nation'

G-A News Service

SOAR Magazine, Georgia Southern University's football game-day program, has been judged as the "Best in the Nation" according to a recent release by the College Sports Information Director's of America.

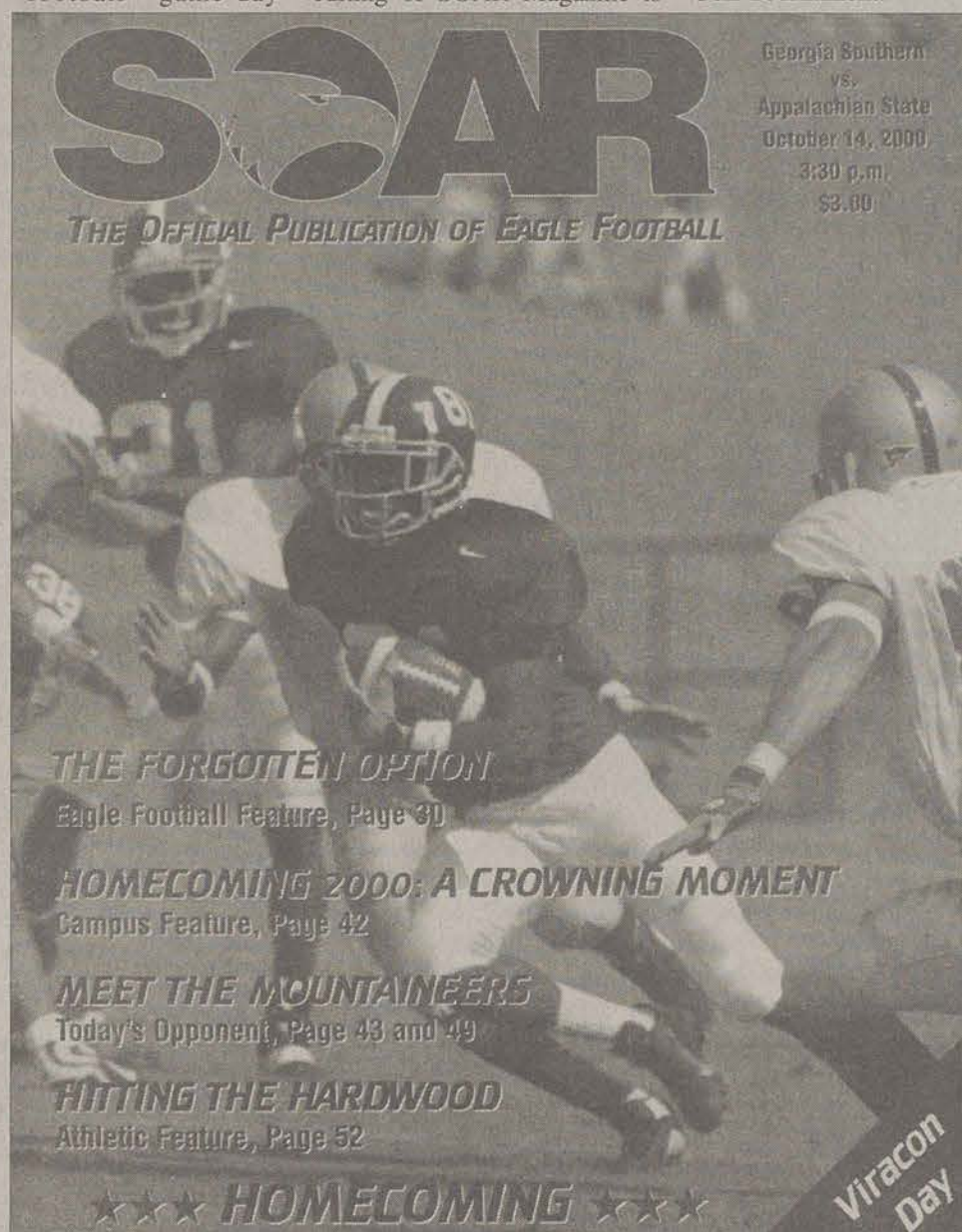
The honor marked the third time overall, and first since 1995, the publication has been cited as the nation's top NCAA Division I-AA football game-day

program.

Published each home contest by the Georgia Southern Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, SOAR Magazine features rosters, statistics, schedules and feature stories about Georgia Southern's six-time national champion football team.

The annual development, game-by-game coordination and editing of SOAR Magazine is

headed by Joey Warren, Georgia Southern's Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director. Warren, who is in his third year on the Eagle athletic media relations staff, also directly handles all publicity efforts for the men's basketball, golf and women's soccer programs. In addition, he also serves as media coordinator for the annual Schenkel E-Z-GO Invitational Golf Tournament.



NUMBER ONE: The SOAR magazine is published weekly and is available at all home games.

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Lavene Bell

OUTSTANDING CATCHER: Junior Pansulla plans to lead Eagles for the rest of the season.

Athlete of the week: Suzanne Pansulla

By Suzanne Spires
Sports Writer

Suzanne Pansulla, #7 of Eagle Softball, is this week's player of the week. Pansulla came back to the 2001 season after missing all of fall camp due to back surgery.

"I took all of last semester off from school, and stayed at home [in Florida]. The surgery was in September so I had time to do physical therapy, and was able to play in the first game of the season," she said. The back surgery was apparently due to lifting weights which she did in training for softball. Pansulla has been playing in the catching position for a many years.

Born and raised in Florida, Pansulla played recreation softball, as well as playing on traveling teams and at Riverview High School.

"In Florida we played fast pitch, so I've never played slow pitch before," stated Pansulla. She said that she has played the catching position for as long as she can remember. In

her freshman year at Riverview High School she was a part of the 6A Florida State Championship winning team and was given the team's 110% award. She had a batting average of .407 her senior year for which she received All Area honorable mention with honors. She helped the Rams to win district championship and regional runner-up. They ended the final season 23-8 and she was awarded the team's Golden Glove Award.

Pansulla came to Georgia Southern to major in business management. She learned of GSU from her brother who also came to school and played football here. She came and talked to the coach about scholarship offers and the rest is history. Pansulla played in 58 games for the Eagles in her freshman year. She committed only two errors out of 297 chances and had the top fielding percentage out of the every-day players at .933. Pansulla was a perfect 5-5 in stolen bases. She hit .228 and had 13 RBI's also in her freshman year. In the 2000 season,

she threw out 11 base runners attempting to steal and registered 195 put-outs.

When asked how she liked the position, Pansulla said, "I really enjoy catching. You control the field because you can see the whole field. You get to play more, too."

Catchers see a lot of action behind the plate, and they have to be pretty brave to catch a fast pitched softball, squatting up under a metal bat.

Pansulla has been the starting catcher for some of the Eagles biggest games, including the SoCon title winning game two years ago. She has committed only six errors behind the plate during her first two seasons at GSU—a span of 105 games. With her nerves of steel and devotion to the team, Pansulla has definitely earned the player of the week spot. The team has started their conference games now.

Pansulla said, "That's what we look forward to." Good luck to the Eagles in the upcoming games.

Former NFL player sentenced to 15 years in prison

The Associated Press

Former Miami Dolphins running back Cecil Collins was sentenced Tuesday to 15 years in prison, less than two hours after a jury convicted him of sneaking through a neighbor's window to watch her sleep.

The sentence, for felony burglary, was the maximum under Florida law. Circuit Judge Joyce Julin told Collins that he got the maximum because of his earlier conviction in Louisiana for a similar offense.

Collins closed his eyes as the sentence was read, then stared at his lap until courtroom deputies came over, handcuffed him and took him to a side table for fingerprinting.

Collins was arrested in December 1999 on charges he broke into an apartment where Tina Nolte and her husband, Ron, were sleeping. They awoke to see him and recognized him as their neighbor.

When arrested later, Collins told police he only wanted to watch Tina as she slept. Defense attorney

Sebastian "Benny" Cotrone tried to convince the jury in closing arguments Tuesday that Collins and Nolte were lovers and that Nolte lied about it to save her marriage. The couple spoke to the judge before sentencing.

"In the community where I live, and where I work and where my family lives, I had to see myself smeared on the radio and in the media and by the lawyers ... portrayed as a woman who would cheat on her husband," Tina Nolte said.

Ron Nolte told the judge that on the night of crime, he rose to defend his wife from an intruder. But, he said, pointing to Collins and his two defense attorneys, "I don't know how to defend her from people like you, and you, and you."

Earlier, after the six-member jury delivered its verdict, Tina Nolte said she felt "vindicated. You can't believe the pain and suffering this has caused my family."

In his closing argument, prosecutor Gregg Rossman pointed to Collins

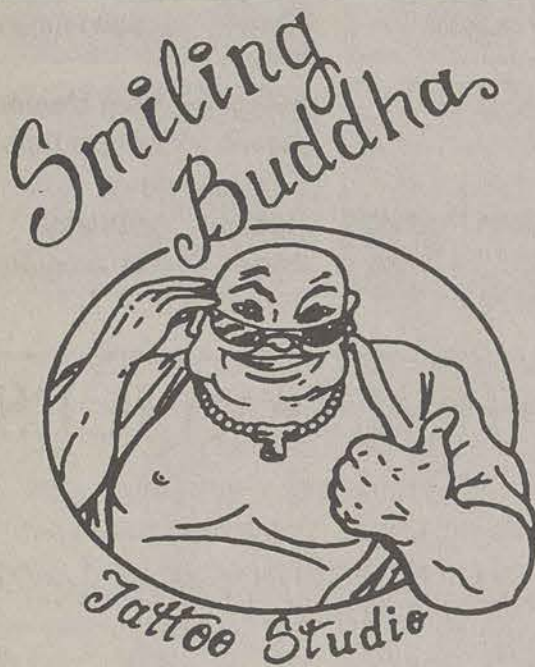
and told jurors that Collins had bad intentions when he sneaked through the Noltes' window.

"He wasn't there to steal a VCR or money, he was there to steal Tina Nolte's dignity and humanity," Rossman said.

The prosecutor played a taped police statement in which Collins admitted he entered the apartment through a side window, then fled when Ron Nolte confronted him in the couple's bedroom. "I just wanted to go look at her," Collins said on the tape.

Collins, 24, has served the past 15 months in jail, because the arrest violated his Louisiana probation on a similar conviction. The Dolphins released him two months after the arrest.

The jury could have convicted Collins of a lesser charge of misdemeanor trespassing or could have cleared him of the Florida charge. He now faces a return to Louisiana for his probation violation.



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INTERNATIONAL WEEK 2001
March 30 - April 7
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 30- APRIL 7	Art From Around the Globe	Henderson Library-Second Floor A Henderson Library Poster Exhibit
FRIDAY, MARCH 30	A Display of International Flags	Russell Union
SUNDAY, APRIL 1	International Student Talent Show: Night of Diversity	Russell Union Ballroom Sponsored by the International Student Club
MONDAY, APRIL 2	Crime from an International Perspective	Russell Union-Room 2047 Colloquium by Dr. Nathan W. Pino
3:00 p.m.	The Art of Cooking Around the World: West Meets Middle East: The Challenges of Being the Chef at King Hussein's Palace	Museum Keynote Speaker: Chef Jeffrey Brown, CCE, CEC
3:30 p.m.	A reception with authentic international appetizers.	
TUESDAY, APRIL 3	International Criminal Tribunal on Rwanda	Russell Union-Room 2080 Colloquium by Ms. Renata Jallow
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	International Meal at Southern Traditions \$5.29 cash, \$4.64 Eagle Express	Landrum Cafeteria
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	International Food Tasting	Ballroom Prefunction Area
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	International Cuisine Fest	Russell Union -Room 2041 Prepared by Dr. Darin Van Tassel's Class
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Chinese Miners Place Attachment to the United States	Russell Union-Room 2047 Colloquium by Dr. Sam Couch
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4	100 Days of Field Experience: Semester at Sea	Russell Union-Room 2047 Colloquium by Dr. Vincent Kohler
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.		
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Into the Rainforest: An Environment on the Edge	Russell Union-Room 2047 Colloquium by Dr. Mark Welford

THURSDAY, APRIL 5	Faculty Experience in Nigeria, Ghana and South Africa on a Fulbright Scholarship	Russell Union-Room 2070 Colloquium by Dr. Godwin Okafor, Ms. Zisca Burton & Mr. David Zimmerman
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.		
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	International Food Tasting	Ballroom Prefunction Area Sponsored by African Student Association, Hispanic Student Association, German Club, Spanish Club, Moslem Student Association, United Caribbean Association and Korean Student Alliance
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Study Abroad Fair	Ballroom Prefunction Area Sponsored by the Center for International Studies
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	You Think Life's a Beach, But it Ain't Necessarily So	Russell Union-Room 2047 A Slide Presentation of Caribbean Life by Dr. Marcia Jones
FRIDAY, APRIL 6	International Coffee Hour	Russell Union-Room 2080 Sponsored by the Korean Baptist Church
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.		
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch From Around the World	Prepared by the Hotel and Restaurant Management Program \$8.00 for Reservations: stalcupl@gasou.edu or call 681-5975
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	A Presentation on the Privatization of State-Owned Firms in Russia During 1993	COBA Room 1124 By Dr. Constantin Ogloblin
SATURDAY, APRIL 6	International Soccer Tournament	Club Sports Fields next to CRI Complex GSU's International Student Soccer teams Inter-Champs, Augusta State University, Georgia College & State University, Kennesaw State University & State University of West Georgia
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Southern Says Thanks International Displays	
	Other Events Sponsored by University Housing:	
	•International Theme Bulletin Board Contests;	
	•American Films with International Themes in Cone Hall at 6 pm, April 4-April 7: Gladiator, Hideous Kinky, Nuremberg, Anna and the King;	
	•International Food Tasting Events on Thursday, April 5, 5-7 pm (Olliff Hall: Korea & China; Winburn Hall: Jamaica & Greece; Sanford: Switzerland & Bahamas; Brannen: Brazil; Veazey: Japan; Cone: India; Kennedy: England; Stratford: Germany; Watson: Peru; Dorman: Sri Lanka; Johnson: Italy; and Hendricks: TBA)	

SAXTON, FROM PAGE 1

he believes that lack of experience will not hinder him.

"In my view, experience does not delegate your leadership ability," he said. In addition to serving as a SOAR leader, Saxton has also been involved in forming the United Student Honors Association.

To that end, he proposes to make the meetings more accessible by having them in a more public place, such as the Russell Union Ballroom, which would also combat student indifference to SGA proceedings.

In Monday's presidential debate, Saxton said he would work to make SGA the premiere organization on campus, promoting more unity on-campus and making SGA more visible. Further, he said that SGA must show Statesboro that GSU is a big part of the community.

"For the last three years, I have been a normal student. Even if I win this election, I'm not going to run around saying 'oh, I'm the SGA president,'" Saxton added. "I'm going to walk around like a normal student, just like everybody else."

DIXON, FROM PAGE ONE

"It's not our organization. It's the students' organization," he added.

To encourage service projects, Dixon believes in leading by example. Though he admitted he is not a registered volunteer and has no plans to do so, he is involved in volunteer projects, such as helping build a camp for the handicapped in Texas over spring break.

If elected, Dixon would push for changes in the SGA technology committee, which he currently is head of. "If they would run it more efficiently, you could make everybody on campus happy with half of the money they have right now. I can guarantee you that," he said.

Dixon also would make sure more campus organizations knew how to request funds from SGA, which ties into a general sense of student apathy about the body.

"They don't know what it does. They never see anything about SGA unless it's negative," he said.

"I would also like to see the meetings run a little more orderly," he added. "I think we could get more done."

Dixon has an endorsement from the IFC, and said that Greek fund requests from SGA should be handled no differently from those of other organizations. "Yes, I'm targeting the Greek vote, not exclusively, but I'm not the only ticket," he explained.

Dixon said he worries that the SGA campaigns are popularity contests, with candidate giveaways taking precedence over their leadership records.

"I haven't done anything outlandish like buy pizza or Coke or anything like that," he said. "I'm not going to say that's a bad thing, since I've gotten some free pizza from one of the other tickets."

BRYANT, FROM PAGE ONE

respectability from the administration as well as the city," he said. Administrators are impressed with SGA's performance since this year's leadership change, Bryant added.

His campaign seeks to continue the progress made in SGA this year, Bryant said. "We want to bring unity to the campus, and make sure that we develop our student organizations and make sure students are heard," he explained.

"Last year, people were disenfranchised, and didn't care. This year, we're trying to grow and show them student government is not a big joke. Right now, it's in a nourishment stage. It's renourishing itself."

"The Bryant team has vision and experience, and we are the only ticket that offers a mission statement. We are the only ticket that has goals that can be attained."

Unlike his opposition, the Bryant team has received financing from outside the ticket. "We asked senators for donations, we provided donations ourselves," Bryant said.

"We asked for sponsorships from the community as well as people we know." Some of those sponsors include Ellis Meat Market and Claxton Poultry, according to Bryant, though he was careful to note his campaign has received nothing for free.

"People helped us out as far as prices go, that's about it," he added.

GSU launches effort to help Latinos in the state of Georgia

G-A News Service

The U.S. Hispanic population skyrocketed approximately 58 percent during the last decade—up from 22.4 million in 1990 to 35.3 million in 2000, according to data released Monday from the U.S. Census Bureau.

As this segment of the population grows, GSU is launching a new initiative to ease educational, cultural and social transition pains for Southeast Georgia Latinos.

Opened in Fall 2000, the grant-funded Office for Latino Outreach and Research Services offers educational assistance to Southeast Georgia Latino families. Hispanics, or Latinos, assisted by the Office come from a range of Spanish-speaking countries and are usually new to Southeast Georgia. Most do not speak much English, and are employed in construction, farming, nursery sales and retail.

Becky Arant knew she wanted to be a teacher, but wasn't sure what to expect when she signed up to be a mentor in the new program. Arant, of Pitts, Ga., is a Georgia Southern junior majoring in Spanish education, and was assigned to mentor a fifth grade girl from Mexico twice a week. She is one of 35 Georgia Southern volunteers who mentored 35 Latino students in Bulloch County, grades K-12, during the fall.

"These students need to improve their English, but it's more than that," Arant said. "We work on whatever she's working on in class—science, math, reading—but I'm there to be a friend. Sometimes, we might just read a book together."

The office was founded by Debra Sabia, an associate professor in Georgia Southern's Department of Political Science who specializes in Latin American politics. In 1995, after doing volunteer work with a local non-profit group, Sabia became interested in Southeast Georgia's growing Latino community of migrant farm workers. That interest led her to apply for and win a \$101,000 three-year grant from the Patch Trust Foundation to develop the office, based in Georgia Southern's Anderson Hall.

"This program provides educational and social support services to Latino children and their families," said Sabia, who serves as the office's director. "It also provides assistance to service providers and businesses who are working with the Hispanic community."

Sabia said there is a growing need for these kinds of services, given that Georgia's Hispanic population increased 118 percent from 1990 to 1999, the fourth fastest state growth rate in the nation. Hispanics make up about 3 percent of Georgia's population—approximately 600,000 people.

"Hispanic families coming into our community face a range of obstacles, from language barriers to acceptance issues," Sabia said. "We offer resources in helping them to overcome those obstacles."

"I spent a month in Costa Rica this summer, so I got a taste what it feels like to be in a place where no one else is the same as you," Arant said. "But that was just a month—many of these Latino students we tutor are staying here."

"I think this is absolutely wonderful," Arant added. "I always thought that I



Special Photo

ASSISTING ASSIMILATION: Political Science professor, Dr. Debra Sabia, founded the Latino Outreach Office to help Latino families assimilate into the American culture.

wanted to be a teacher, and this experience reaffirms that. My student wrote me a letter, saying 'Becky is my teacher and my sister and my friend.' That really touched my heart—that I was able to reach out to her and make that difference."

The mentoring program is a vital resource for area classroom teachers as well. Betsy Noland, a Georgia Southern early childhood education major from Statesboro, tutored an 8-year-old Latino girl during the fall.

"Classroom teachers appreciate your help, because it is hard for them to meet the needs of all students," Noland said. "Oftentimes, people don't understand that."

Demetress Roberts, a Georgia Southern sociology major and mentor, is also gratified that he has been able to fill a need.

"I enjoy the energy of young people—and turning that energy into something positive," said Roberts, who worked last fall with a 13-year-old Latino boy who is a high school freshman. Roberts, a native of Sylvania, Ga., went to the boy's school for one hour, twice a week, to help with homework, talk sports and just be a friend.

"My number one responsibility, I think, was to see what problems he was having most in adjusting to the school setting," Roberts said. "I didn't go just to tutor."

Roberts also volunteered to help the boy after school, even giving him a ride to basketball games. "I tried to be a big brother," Roberts said. "I think these students are getting a connection to main-

stream society. A lot of them haven't been here in the United States very long, and I think this program shows them that there's not that big a gap between them and mainstream society—somebody actually cares."

Roberts also worked to show his student the many opportunities that can exist as he reaches adulthood.

"I feel like I've benefited by helping him fit in," Roberts said. "I've helped him begin to think about 'Well, what can I do after high school is over? Do I have to work the fields and farm tobacco, or can I go to school?'"

Looking to the future, Sabia wants to continue developing community outreach efforts that will work in concert with the office's educational initiatives. Whether assisting Latinos to answer social services questions or helping businesses to better understand immigration law, the opportunities for support are numerous. Still, helping children remains the core of the office's mission.

"We have an obligation to provide opportunities to further education—education for all children," Sabia said. "For the local community, it is vitally important to help keep these youths in school and off the streets. Then, they too can become contributing members of society."

"Cultural assimilation is important for the well-being of any societal group," Sabia added. "Developing an understanding about all of our neighbors is critical, and strengthens our overall sense of community."

someone did, they found themselves losing millions of dollars.

Now, let's talk about WrestleMania X7. This Sunday's event certainly has all the makings of a spectacular event filled with emotion, drama, action, and even a little humor. With eleven matches on the card, you can be rest assured that the event will go the full four hours. So relax, get comfortable, grab some food, and be prepared to be entertained Federation style.

With this year's April classic pushing close to 240 minutes, there's no doubt that The Rock and Austin have a challenge awaiting them like none other.

I would suspect that somewhere close to two and a half hours into the event, fans are going to get tired which will result in the difficult task of keeping their attention. That means both Rock and Austin are going to have to pull off some maneuvers and a few others things that fans haven't already seen. It may certainly prove to be a nearly impossible task when you've got a street fight, a technical matchup, and a Tables, Ladders, and Chairs match all prior to your match.

I'm not trying to discourage you from

thinking this match is going to be one hell of a showdown, but I am trying to point out that both men headlining this year's WrestleMania have an incredible task at hand, which will most likely result in some very creative moments in order to hold your attention.

The technical match between Benoit and Kurt Angle has a tremendous amount of potential and shouldn't be overlooked because it was the last match to be announced. Mark my words.

The street fight between the McMahon men can be very entertaining in my opinion if the match stays either in the ring or at ringside. Take this one to the back and I think fans will lose interest.

I certainly cannot share all of my opinions on every match at WrestleMania X7 with their being eleven matches on the card, but I will share with you that, aside from the matches announced, I think there are going to be a few surprises here and there, especially now that the WWF has WCW talent resting in the hands of the McMahon's.

But whether or not there are a few surprises thrown in or not, I think you're going to be in for a real treat.

Oscar: the man wanted by all

TMS Campus

Oscar, the man that everyone wants, got handed out to more than a few Sunday night. Julia Roberts was more than a little excited to get a piece of his action. But for those of you who had to work, or otherwise unable to watch, here is the final list of the Academy Awards.

Best Picture – "Gladiator" A Douglas Wick in association with Scott Free Production Douglas Wick, David Franzoni and Branko Lustig, Producers

Best Director – "Traffic" Steven Soderbergh

Best Actor – Russell Crowe in "Gladiator"

Best Actress – Julia Roberts in "Erin Brockovich"

Best Supporting Actor – Benicio Del Toro in "Traffic"

Best Supporting Actress – Marcia Gay Harden in "Pollock"

Best Screenplay (Original) – "Almost Famous" Written by Cameron Crowe

Best Screenplay (Adapted) – "Traffic" Screenplay by Stephenaghan

Best Foreign Language Film – "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" A Zoom Hunt International Production Taiwan

Best Cinematography – "Crouching Tiger, Hidden

Dragon" Peter Pau

Best Editing – "Traffic"

Stephen Mirrione

Best Art Direction –

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" Art Direction: Tim Yip

Best Costume Design –

"Gladiator" Janty Yates

Best Makeup – "Dr.

Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" Rick Baker and Gail Ryan

Best Music (Original

score) – "Crouching Tiger,

Hidden Dragon" Tan Dun

Best Music (Original song)

– "Things Have Changed"

from "Wonder Boys" Music

and Lyric by Bob Dylan

Best Sound – "Gladiator"

Scott Millan, Bob Beemer

and Ken Weston

Best Sound Editing – "U-

571" Jon Johnson

Best Visual Effects –

"Gladiator" John Nelson,

Neil Corbould, Tim Burke

and Rob Harvey

Best Documentary**Feature** – "Into the Arms of

Strangers: Stories of the

Kindertransport" A Sabine

Films Production Mark

Jonathan Harris and

Deborah Oppenheimer

Best Documentary Short**Subject** – "Big Mama" A

Birthmark Production Tracy

Sereteau

Best Animated Short**Film** – "Father and

Daughter" A CineTe

Filmproductie bv/

Clouddrunner Ltd.

Production Michael Dudok

de Wit

Best Live Action Short**Film** – "Quiero Ser (I want

to be...)" A Mondragon

Films Production Florian

Gallenberger

Irving Thalberg Memorial**Award** – Producer Dino

De Laurentis

Honorary Academy**Award** – Cinematographer

Jack Cardiff

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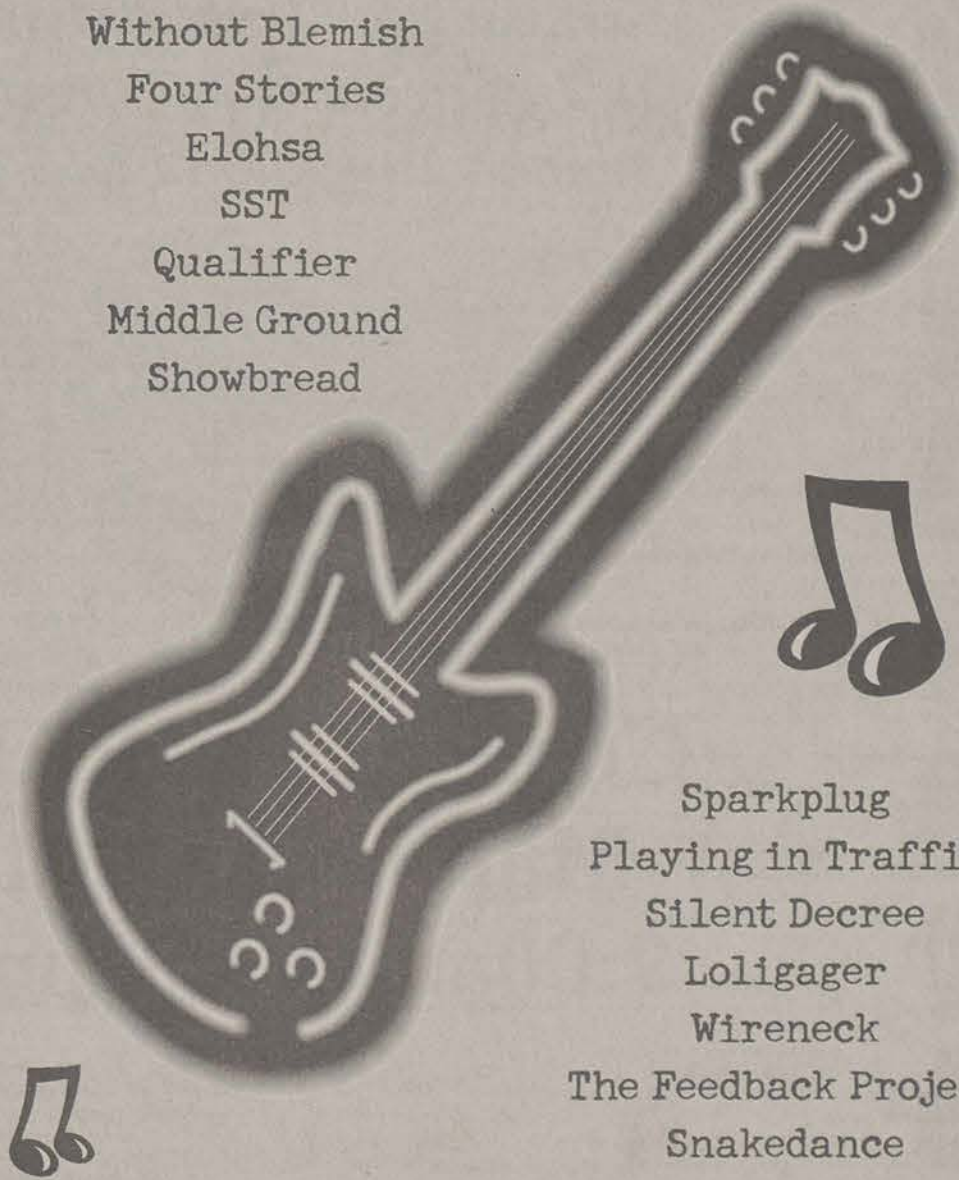
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What happened to little LeAnn Rimes? Way too much, way too fast

TMS Campus

Today, the photo looks like a time-capsule relic: LeAnn Rimes on the cover of her 1996 national debut, "Blue." She's fresh-faced, dreamy even in her simple red dress. Her blond hair cascades down her lightly blushed cheeks. At 13, the sparkle of youth mingles with impending adulthood.

Five years later, a startlingly different LeAnn Rimes graces the cover of "I Need You," her sixth studio album. She struggles to look like a grown woman — heavy makeup, teased hair and a leather-and-fur choker blouse — ignoring the little girl hidden underneath the vixen facade.

The transformation — shocking or calculated, depending on your level of cynicism — happened mighty fast, even by the image-conscious standards of the pop music world. Just a handful of years ago, the country heard the ingenue with the big pipes sing "Blue," a song written for the legendary Patsy Cline.

In just five years, Rimes watched her career peak in a glowing heap of Grammy awards and multi-platinum albums, stall through a pair of critically and commercially disappointing CDs and then sink in a sea of lawsuits against her father, former co-manager and record label. Now, she's living in Los Angeles, away from both her parents, and she's disavowed the "I Need You" disc in a long letter she wrote to her fans on her Web site.

What an adolescence. Her lightning-quick rise and equally speedy fall is yet another case of the too-much-too-soon disease that plagues most artists, from singers to actors, unprepared for sudden stardom. Yet today, when teen-dreams dominate and wide-eyed kids from pop princess Britney Spears to country cherub Billy Gilman are catapulted into the national spotlight, Rimes' story is a sad example of what can happen to children playing in a grown-up world.

For Rimes, who was born in Jackson, Miss., and grew up in Garland, Texas, it all began with great, yet head-spinning promise. She sold 12 million copies of her first three albums — 1996's "Blue," 1997's "Unchained Melody: The Early Years" and "You Light Up My Life: Inspirational Songs" — and enjoyed huge pop crossover success with 1997's 3-million-selling single, "How Do I Live." Earlier that same year, she became the youngest artist to win a Grammy in a major category when she took home the best-new-artist prize.

But by the middle of 1998, she lost considerable commercial luster. Her fourth effort, "Sittin' On Top of the World," stopped at the 1 million mark. Ditto for 1999's "LeAnn Rimes." The sales dive accompanied a personal blow, the divorce of her parents. Then, she spent much of 2000 awash in legal wrangling. She sued her father, who once co-managed her career, and his partner Lyle Walker, claiming they fleeced her out of more than \$7 million in five years.

Six months later, Rimes countered with a lawsuit against his daughter's management company, Dallas-based LeAnn Rimes Entertainment Inc. As if that weren't enough, late last year she sued her record label, Nashville-based Curb, which sought to void the recording contract she signed when she was 12. She recently dropped that suit.

Neither side is talking publicly. "I Need You," her latest CD, hit record

stores stained by a public dismissal from the artist herself. She disowned the record in a Feb. 1 Web site letter she wrote to her fans. "As you can imagine, I was shocked! This album was made without my creative input. It consists largely of unfinished material and songs that didn't make other albums. I have not heard the album so I cannot tell you my opinion on it."

Those are strong, negative words at a time when the positive promotion machine usually cranks into overdrive. And yet, that comment is just another ugly reminder that Rimes remains stuck in an artistic and personal limbo. She lacks direction, guidance. She still hasn't found the proper channel for her pitch-perfect voice, an instrument that wowed the industry and fans five years ago.



Special Photo

SUCH A CUTE LITTLE KID: Just a few short years ago, LeAnn Rimes was a chubby, baby-faced singer on the rise. Now, the media has transformed her into a superstar with sex appeal.

Creatively, her best work remains her debut. Aside from the title cut, a traditional gem with a timeless melody, "Blue" found Rimes trying several styles of country and succeeding every time. She was effervescent on the country-pop hit "One Way Ticket (Because I Can)," emotional on the torchy ballad "Hurt Me" and engaging on the smooth number "The Light In Your Eyes." Heck, she even managed to turn in a convincing reading of the country standard "Cattle Call," recorded with legend Eddy Arnold.

But since then, her artistic choices have been spotty at best, embarrassing at worst. Some of that blame must go to her handlers, from father, former co-manager and album producer Wilbur Rimes to

Curb Records president Mike Curb. Since she signed a recording contract at 12, Rimes has been surrounded by adults who have a stake in her career and probably pressured her into recording songs they thought would hit commercial paydirt. It's a common landmine for child artists — they have the talent but lack the thoughtful life experience to follow their creative muse and make wise artistic decisions.

Rimes oversaturated the market with one half-baked, ill-advised album after another. There's "Unchained Melody: The Early Years" — that title says it all — and "You Light Up My Life," in which she not only covered the much-maligned Debby Boone hit, she actually aimed for the contemporary Christian audience.



Special Photo

MY, HOW TIME HAS FLOWN: Little LeAnn Rimes has turned into this sexy 'Coyote Ugly' babe in what many feel like was just a very short time.

With 1998's "Sittin' On Top of the World" and 1999's "LeAnn Rimes" we got more innocuous pop-country ditties ("Commitment," "Big Deal") and a slew of cringe-worthy covers, from Prince's "Purple Rain" to — gasp! — Janis Joplin's "Me and Bobby McGee." All the while she wailed, eager to showcase her vocal octaves.

On "I Need You," the album Rimes has shunned, she's actually not oversinging. The songs are mostly disposable pop, but there's a sweeter tone to her pipes that gives the record warmth, makes her sound more accessible.

She could use some of that casual accessibility right about now, especially in her personal life. LeAnn, now based in Los Angeles with a new, high-powered manager, has been acting "like a spoiled brat," according to the lawsuit filed by Wilbur Rimes in Dallas County late last year. Rimes states that in 1999 his then-16-year-old daughter was living with a 20-year-old boyfriend, actor Andrew Keegan. He claims she was spending money frivolously, buying a \$150,000 Ferrari that Keegan "immediately wrecked" and a \$350,000 Bentley that she "immediately wrecked."

Sadder yet, Wilbur Rimes says "he discovered from LeAnn's credit card bills that she was also buying liquor." That eventually led to a Family Court judge in Texas ordering "family counseling and drug testing."

At the heart of all these accusations are a father and daughter whose relationship has broken down so much that they are dealing with each other through lawyers and subpoenas. The dirty laundry is air-drying on a public clothesline. Gawkers are welcomed.

There's the heartbreaking aftermath of fame and fortune. But Rimes' story is, unfortunately, a sign of the times.

Communication Arts department to hold 'Success After Southern'

G-A News Service

Students seeking to have their resumes critiqued or passed on to potential employers are encouraged to attend "Success After Southern" on Friday, March 30, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The event will take place in room 2047 at Russell Union.

"Success After Southern" is this year's annual Communication Arts Alumni Day. Some of the students in the Public Relations Practicum are responsible for planning the

event.

Dr. Donald Panther-Yates, the instructor, said the goals of "Success After Southern" are to "promote alumni relations [with] the department and students, promote student involvement, and give recognition to the students in the practicum class." It also gives the students hands-on experience in planning and implementing an event.

Students from any major can attend, and there will be free refreshments. Molly

Eason, a student in the practicum, said "Success After Southern" is important for students because it gives them ideas about what they want to do after graduation. She also said that this is an opportunity for students to communicate with alumni.

Ty Duffy, another student in the class, said "Success After Southern" gives students the opportunity to hear alumni "tell the tales of how to apply [their] degree."

The will include two keynote speakers. The first speaker, J. DeCesare, works for AT&T. His multimedia presentation is entitled "Networking the new E-economy." After his presentation, there will be roundtable discussions. Suggested topics for the roundtable discussion are resumes, interviews, and frequently asked questions during interviews according to Eason. Job-seeking techniques, technology in the workplace, non-traditional Communication Arts careers,

and the importance of continuing education will also be addressed, along with any topics the students have.

The second keynote speaker is Julie Turner-Davis. She is Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Bank of America and a charter member of the GSU Public Relations Advisory Board. The title of her presentation is "Surviving Mergers and Acquisitions: Will PR Get Kicked Off the Island."

Dr. Panther-Yates said the students chose these speakers because they are "highly placed in major organizations and are role models for respective areas of communication." There will be another roundtable discussion in the afternoon after Turner-Davis' presentation.

Other alumni attending "Success After Southern" are Dakeya Woods, who appeared in "Remember the Titans," Patrick Hodel from Frito Lay, and Tripp West from Star FM Radio in Atlanta.

Nun uses religion to teach physics

Associated Press

TINLEY PARK, Ill. — Had Sister Noel Dreska been in Kansas during the 1999 controversy over whether children should be taught evolutionary concepts, she might have found herself embroiled in all the hullabaloo.

Dreska, head of the physics department at Lewis University in Romeoville, teaches a course that combines physics and religion.

"I try to show there is no incompatibility between Darwin's theory (of evolution) and the belief in a creator," she said.

Dreska was glad to see the Kansas State Board of Education vote last month to resume teaching the theory of evolution.

"It was a foolish controversy," she said.

Dreska has taught physics at Lewis for 30 years, but didn't start teaching the Physics and Faith course until 1998. In 1995, she read about grants available through the Templeton Foundation, which was looking for scientists and theologians interested in getting together to learn how to teach a course combining science and religion.

In 1996, she attended a workshop on the issue at the University of Toronto. After she returned, she was in the Lewis cafeteria talking to a colleague about her interest in developing such a course when Brother James Gaffney, president of Lewis University, overheard her conversation. Interested in what she was talking about, Gaffney offered to be her theology consultant for the course.

"That inspired me to really work at it," she said. Dreska submitted her plans for the new course to Templeton, and the foundation awarded her a \$10,000 grant to help buy support materials for the course. Dreska taught the first course in fall 1998, and Gaffney spent about two-thirds of the semester helping her teach it. She's now teaching the course for the third time.

Most challenging for her is leading the class discussions. Being a physics instructor, she has no problem answering questions in physics and math classes because it's all black and white.

Despite her relationship with God, Dreska says she has no problem with the course's subject matter. The way she sees it, evolution is the way in which God chose to create.

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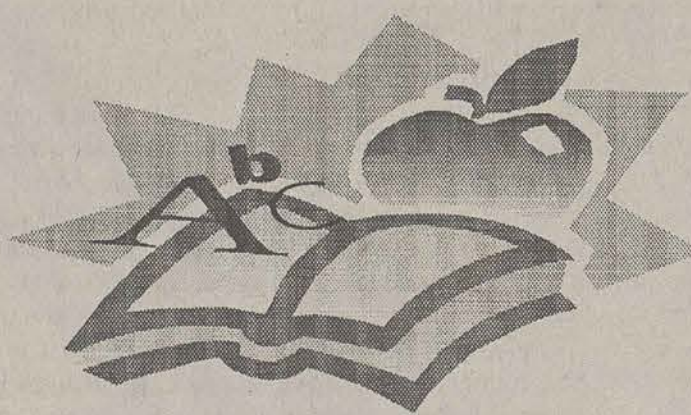
Christine, age 8 months, lovingly placed in open adoption at her birth, visiting her birthmom, Sara

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