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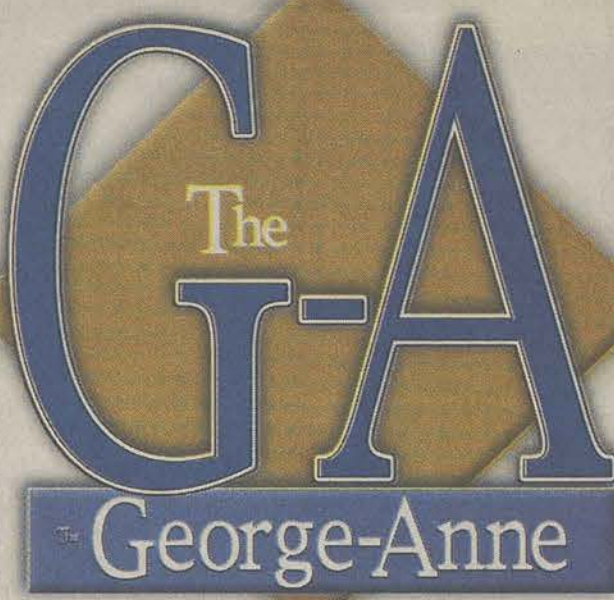


SPORTS

GSU Men's Tennis wins two

Men's Tennis defeated Wofford and VMI, but falls to Davidson, improving their record to 9-7 overall.

Page 6



LIFE

Honoring those who have achieved

Two young ladies recieved very prestigious awards on Honors Day 2001. Find out more inside.

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Vol. 73 No. 76

Wednesday, April 11, 2001

Saxton ticket sweeps SGA elections

By Jake Hallman
Senior Staff Writer

The Saxton ticket swept last week's Student Government Association elections, with Bryan Saxton winning president; Ginger Fauscett, vice president of finance; Nick Pearson, executive vice president; Alicia Robinson, vice president for auxiliary affairs; and Jonathan Perkins vice president for academics.

Saxton won the presidential race by almost a 2-to-1 margin, earning 609 votes to Robert Bryant's 312. "It's kind of overwhelming. I'm still kind of in the shock phase," Saxton said. "I think we're going to do good. I'm happy about it."

Saxton maintained his confidence throughout the race. "I think everybody goes into it expecting to win. You're not going to run if you don't expect to win," he said.

"I'm glad the support was there, and I'm glad people saw I was running for the right reasons."

"We're very happy that it's all over, and hopefully we can move on," Pearson said. "We had a 95-percent completion rate with our personal ticket, and we have a real good group coming in. Everything is good—we're ready to go."



Saxton had kind words for the tickets of opposing presidential candidates Bryant and James Dixon.

"They all ran a great campaign," he said.

Saxton and his ticket hope to hit the ground running. "I want to get everybody on the same page, to get a new vision," he said. "[We will] continue some of the things that have been going on, but kind of get a new vision of where we're going to head next year."

"We start next week. It's time to go on the road and make this school better," added Pearson.

Voter totals were down from the main election, with 960 of the 11,296 eligible voters, or 11.77 percent, casting ballots in the three-day online "election."

PROMOTING GOOD HEALTH:

By Kevin Pierson
Staff Writer

Nestled inside the Dept. of Health and Kinesiology, Susan Geisler makes her living as an Instructor and a Physical Therapist. She hasn't always taught here at GSU. She has completed a journey through several top colleges in the nation, clinics in Florida, and finally arriving here to teach in 1998. She has persevered through rough times and kept to the morals that her parents instilled in her at a very young age of "you don't get something for nothing." She has kept true to this, and has worked very hard to get where she is today.

Geisler was born in Troy, New York, just north of New York City. She was born to a rather large Italian family, where she has 35 first cousins, two brothers, and two sisters. Susan is the baby of the family, where love and guidance are two key virtues by which to live. She was taught to never take anything for granted, and she has lived by these standards her entire life.

As the early 80's hit, "big hair" was in, disco was on the way out, and Geisler was on her way to Siena College. She would get her pre-med. her and transfer after two years to Russell Sage College because Siena did not offer Physical Therapy. She got her BS in Physical Therapy at Russell Sage and graduated in 1984. She then attended St. Peter's, for Physical Therapy until 1985. She would then move to Arlington, Virginia to begin her career path that would take her to GSU. Geisler enjoyed working in an Outpatient clinic in Arlington. There was much for her to learn and many patients to work with. She

worked with many ballerinas, CIA agents, and other high profile patients.

In '84, Susan voted for Ronald Reagan, many of Americans did this, however not many of them met him. In 1987 Geisler met the former President and was invited to the White House Christmas party. She chatted with Nancy inside of the beautiful National home. As she gazed out of the window, she could see the enormous Christmas tree on the front lawn that her and friends watched as it was lit days earlier, and now she was looking at it from the inside. She would leave the D.C. area with fond memories and valued experience in 1989 for "Tobacco Road" and the Tar Heels of North Carolina.

Geisler went to Chapel Hill and met Paul Geisler and they married in June of 1989. She set up a clinic there and began Graduate school at the University of North Carolina. While she was there, she worked with the Women's Soccer team and some famous athletes including Mia Hamm and several Track and Field athletes who would later compete in the Olympics. She graduated in 1991 and who take another step in her life as she and Paul moved to Orlando.

While she was pregnant with her first child, Nicholas, she would become a member of Health South, the largest rehabilitation center in the Nation. She would then become an administrator and head five clinics in the Orlando area. There she worked with more athletes with high profiles that can't be named. However, she did collect memorabilia, such as autographs and pictures. The seven years that she spent there were very

enjoyable, however she and her family decided to move on when they got job offer's from Dr. Hardy here at Georgia Southern.

This is where she currently resides. She loves it here. She believes that Statesboro is an excellent place to raise a family. Her son's are Nicholas and Benjamin, who play soccer and baseball. Geisler divides her time between teaching and coaching her son's soccer team, while Paul coaches baseball. She is athletic and is currently training for a half marathon by running an hour and a half a day. She is frequently at the RAC, and loves to cook dinners where she can experiment with different foods to please her family.

As far as her teaching philosophy, she considers herself a fair teacher. She does not do it just for the check, because she took a huge pay cut to come here. She teaches because she is a people person, who likes to solve problems and help others. She is fascinated by the human body and believes that the key to a healthy body is a healthy mind.



LaVene Bell

LIVING THE HEALTHY LIFE: Mrs. Susan Geisler is an Instructor and a Physical Therapist at GSU who has worked at some of the nation's top universities and physical rehabilitation clinics.

Geisler has led an interesting life and continues to do so. She has been to many places and is very active. Health and science have been her interests for years, and she hopes to pass this knowledge on to our students so that they can be healthy and lead productive lives.

New dean of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences named

By Angela Polley
Staff Writer

Katherine Conway-Turner, professor and chair of the Department of Individual and Family Studies at the University of Delaware in Newark, has been appointed dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at GSU.

Conway-Turner brings a range of administrative, research and teaching experience to her position, which begins Aug. 1.

Since 1999, Conway-Turner has served as the academic head at the University of Delaware's Department of Individual and Family Studies, an interdisciplinary department with undergraduate majors in early childhood education and family and community studies, master's and doctoral degrees in family studies and a pre-school laboratory program. From 1997-99, she served as the interim associate dean of the University of Delaware's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and from 1993-96, was the director of the

Women's Studies Program.

Conway-Turner spent 1996 as an American Council of Education (ACE) Fellow in the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs at the College of New Jersey. The prestigious program annually selects approximately 30 people from colleges and universities across the country to complete a year studying higher education issues.

Conway-Turner has also served as a post-doctoral fellow in the mental health patient advocacy at the University of Southern California and as a National Institute of Mental Health post-doctoral fellow in psychiatric epidemiology at UCLA. Her academic research has resulted in two books and more than 20 professional articles. "I'm very excited about the opportunity to join Georgia Southern University," Conway-Turner said. "The chance to be a part of a dynamic campus that is striving to achieve new levels of excellence is very appealing to me. I look forward to working with faculty, staff and administration to continue those

efforts."

"Dr. Conway-Turner brings an impressive set of personal and professional skills and the ability to lead the College to the next level of excellence," said Vaughn Vandegriff, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at GSU. "Her distinguished record in teaching, service and scholarship will be an asset to our campus. We're very glad that she is joining the Georgia Southern community."

"From what I've heard, she will be a big asset to this (Fine Arts) as well as the other departments included in the College," said junior Art Education major Jean Gray Drake.

Conway-Turner has researched in the areas of adult development and aging, African and African-American family development, and women and intergenerational relationships. She holds a doctorate in Psychology, a Master of Arts in Psychology and a Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology from the University of Kansas.

Obesity on the rise in US, including at GSU

By Tiffany Sellers
Guest Writer

Women students at GSU find it more difficult to maintain a healthy body weight than men students. With obesity, a growing problem due to fast paced lifestyles that promote fast food meals, women are finding it easier than ever before to gain weight during their college years.

In "Psychotherapy Letter," Kelly Brownell, PhD, a Yale University psychologist, reports that the prevalence of obesity is on the rise. Dissatisfaction with body shape is due in part to unrealistic ideas fostered by the news media, advertisers, and the fashion and weight loss industries.

Students find it hard to sit and relax long enough to eat a well-balanced diet, based on the Food Guide Pyramid. Female college students are currently expected to face the "Freshman 15" at some point in their college experience. The "Freshman 15" refers to the 15 pounds that creep up on females during their first year of college. Some students even find themselves staring in the mirror at 25 to 30 additional pounds.

In Heart and Soul magazine, author Retha Hill reports on the weight gain of Adrienne Brown during her first year at Columbia University in New York. She went in carrying 130 pounds on her 5-foot-6 frame, but by spring was lugging 20 more. Even though she worked it off that first summer at home, she gained 25 pounds her sophomore year; she still carried 20 of that as a senior.

"Every time I go back to school, I get nervous about whether it will happen again," Brown says.

Looking back, Brown knows exactly what did it. At home, Brown ate

regular, well-balanced meals. At school, she skipped meals and then filled up on fatty carryout dishes or snacks such as potato chips and candy bars. In high school, Brown played basketball, soccer and volleyball and was a cheerleader. In college, her sole activity was walking to and from class.

Retha Hill, also interviewed Marilyn Nakamoto, a registered dietician and nutritionist at the University of Michigan Health Service Clinic. She says behavior is the classic cause

there been an increase in average body mass in women 18 to 34 years of age, but the number of women considered overweight has also increased.

A recent study, based on the national health surveys, found a general rise in the trend toward obesity. It was highest among black women. Padmini Shankar, a nutrition professor at Georgia Southern University and a registered dietician, says that studies available show a general trend for African American females to be more obese overall. "This can be seen on GSU's campus," Shankar said.

Jodi Caldwell, PhD, a counseling psychologist at the GSU Counseling Center, said, "African-Americans are considered to be more beautiful for being fuller. But, a rising trend of eating disorders is occurring among the African-American community, because the African-American role models are becoming thinner."

Shankar also said, "Nutrition is a very vital part of a person's health. Students are provided the basic information for healthy living prior to attending GSU. Moderation is the key and students need to make wise food choices. With most college students, it's not eating alone, it is also their lifestyle behavior, exercise, and use of alcohol. Alcohol will definitely influence weight."

The eating locations on campus were observed to see if they offer and promote healthy eating. All locations offer healthy foods based on the Food Pyramid. For example, Lakeside Cafe offers a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, along with lean meats during their lunch shift. "All local student facilities are aware of

Please see OBESITY, page 5

THE JOBS COME TO YOU



LaVene Bell

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND: National, state, and local businesses gathered Tuesday for a Career Fair held in the RAC. Students went to various stations to learn valuable information about job opportunities available to them after graduation.

POLICE BEAT

Statesboro Police Department

April 7
• Brandon Williams, 20, Garden District #1301, reported theft.

April 8
• Elgin Roberts, 23, Park Place #76, reported battery.
• Ashley Holmes, Varsity Lodge #166, reported criminal trespass.

April 9

• Kristopher Llewellyn, 20, 7B University Place, was arrested for obstruction.
• Colin Harrison, 20, Player's Club #195, reported a case of entering an auto.

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 GSU Division of Public Safety or at the Statesboro Police Department.

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



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Things to do at GSU

April 9
• **Panel Presentation:** Black, Gay and Proud, in room 2048 or the Russell Union. Begins at 2 p.m. For more information call the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Resource Center at 681-5409.

• **Kick-off and Reception for OutWeek 2001.** Free refreshments. Begins at 7 p.m. in room 2048 of the Russell Union.

April 10

• **Movie Night: The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert.** Begins at 7 p.m. in room 2048 of the Russell Union.

April 11

• Eagle Entertainment presents Jam Fest.

3 to 9 p.m. outside of Landrum. Will feature 12 of your favorite Statesboro bands

• **OutWeek 2001 Keynote Address:** Being Black and Gay in America by Keith Boykin. Begins at 7 p.m. in the College of Education Lecture Hall.

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 Tuesdays of every month. Please contact George Fotopoulos at gsi04936@gasou.edu for more information.

This Week's Weather



Today
Partly cloudy with a high of 88 and a low of 63.



Thursday
Partly cloudy with a high of 91 and a low of 66.

GEORGIA NEWS BRIEF

Civil War artifact found in north Georgia

Associated Press

Thomas Edwin Greenfield Ransom was a Union general who died deep in the Confederacy during the Civil War. It took a British novelist, working from 5,000 miles away, to secure a historical marker honoring him.

Ransom, a highly decorated commander who was wounded in battle at least four times, was leading his troops northward after the fall of Atlanta when he fell ill and died of typhoid fever at a private home near Rome in October 1864.

His Civil War heroics were mostly confined to the history books until London writer Sandee Gylanders found out about him while reading the memoirs of Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman.

Thanks to her efforts, a historical marker will be erected in Rome next fall to mark the house where Ransom died.

Ransom was "famous in his own time," appearing in Harpers Weekly

and many Northern newspapers, Gylanders said. She figures he is not better known now because he did not die in combat.

"His crime was dying of disease instead of falling in battle," she said. "Falling in battle is far more likely to get you remembered, but people forget that he was pulled down by so many wounds gained in battle."

Gylanders' research led her to James Huffstodt, a Palm Beach, Fla., resident who wrote a book on Ransom called "Hard Dying Men." It was Huffstodt's book that led her to Rome to look for the John Berryhill house, where Ransom died.

She couldn't find it on that trip, but Jim Doyle of the Rome-Floyd County Library later located the house, which is still standing and occupied.

Gylanders decided to look at the Georgia Historical Society's Web site to see whether an official marker might be erected at the house. Before she knew it, she was deep in the

process of applying for it — completing mountains of paperwork, turning in photographs and slides and enlisting sponsors for the marker.

Norwich University in Vermont, Ransom's alma mater, agreed to pay the \$2,000 to have the marker erected.

The marker will be dedicated Oct. 27. Gylanders, who plans to be in Rome for the occasion, said she chose that date because it falls on the weekend closest to the date of Ransom's death. He died Oct. 29, 1864, one month short of his 30th birthday.

James Holder, a descendant of Berryhill, said his family is excited about the marker. His uncle, James Green, was born in the house and still lives there.

"That was something that has not been passed down in our family," Holder said. "Nobody knew anything about this until a few years ago when I started doing some research into our family history. You wonder why that was not passed down over the years."

Barnes travels state to sell his education plan

Associated Press

NORCROSS, Ga. - Gov. Roy Barnes went to a Gwinnett County elementary school Monday to sign his latest education reform bill, which includes a controversial provision to end social promotions.

The ceremony at

Meadowcreek Elementary School was the first stop on a two-day swing during which Barnes planned to sign the legislation in seven more cities. Similar ceremonies were scheduled Monday in Dalton, Columbus, Leesburg and Bainbridge and Tuesday in Macon, Augusta and Savannah.

Despite charges from some critics that poor and minority children will bear the brunt of the change in social promotions, Barnes insisted the initiative will improve education in Georgia.

"No one wants to have to make the decision to hold a child back," he said in prepared remarks. "But promoting a child who is not ready to move on can put them even further behind and make schools' and teachers' jobs more difficult than they already are."

The new law, which became effective with Barnes' signature, requires pupils in the third, fifth and eighth grades to pass standardized tests before being promoted to the next grade.

Third graders will be tested in reading beginning in the 2003-04 school year. Starting the next year, fifth graders will be tested in both reading and math. The year after that, eighth graders will be tested in reading and math.

Students who fail the tests will get extra instruction and will take the test again automatically.

Barnes has said the tests will be administered in March with results returned in as little as two weeks, meaning children could catch up and retake before the next school year begins.

"If, after the second try, the student still does not meet a passing standard, their local school principal will determine whether that student should be retained, using the standards set out by that local school system and state policies as a guide," Barnes said.

Then, he said, "if a principal does decide to retain a child, the parents will have the opportunity to appeal the decision."

The local school is required to provide the necessary programs to bring a child back to grade level if he or she is held back.

The measure also requires all middle schools, not merely those performing below expectations, to provide five hours of academic instruction per day, up from the current 4.5 hours.

It is Barnes' second reform law in as many years. Last year's reform bill, among other things, required reduced classroom sizes. A special funding bill this year provides millions of extra state dollars to help school systems build the classrooms that will be required.

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

**Liked By Many,
Cussed By Some ...**

ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!!

Summer Registration via WINGS has been reopened.

If you *have not* registered, you may register during the times listed below after seeing your advisor and obtaining your Registration Access Number (RAN).

If you *have* registered, you may make changes in your schedule at these times.

WINGS will be available as follows:

April 9 beginning at 3:00 a.m. through April 30 at 3:00 p.m.

May 4 beginning at 3:00 a.m. through May 6 at 3:00 p.m.

May 14 beginning at 1:00 p.m. through May 18 at 3:00 p.m.

ONLY IN AMERICA...

① Connecticut

Airport protestor,
81, begins prison
sentence

Associated Press

ENFIELD, Conn. — An 81-year-old man has been ordered to prison, three years after being convicted of cutting down fences at Bradley International Airport.

On Wednesday, Augustus "Ozzie" Simmons began serving an 18-month sentence on charges including criminal mischief and trespassing.

Simmons had owned the land he is convicted of trespassing upon, and had battled the government over what he claimed was its illegal acquisition of the property for the airport.

Simmons cut down a portion of a fence erected by the National Guard, which leases some of the land from the airport.

Enfield Superior Court Judge Patricia Harleston sentenced Simmons in 1998 to 18 months in prison, and ordered him to pay \$1,975 in restitution to the state for damage to the fences.

Shortly after his sentencing, Simmons posted a \$25,000 appeal bond, and has since remained free. His conviction was upheld by the state Appellate Court and the state Supreme Court denied a request for consideration.

Simmons, who was to have turned himself in March 16, wrote Supervising Assistant State's Attorney John Malone and other court officials that he did not intend to surrender. He said he did not recognize the Superior Court's jurisdiction over the land, and wrote that he would have had "rocks in his head to commit to incarceration."

Simmons was subsequently arrested on charges of failure to appear in court.

During his court appearance Wednesday, Public Defender Judy Machuga argued that Simmons has health problems that would make incarceration a hardship.

But Judge Michael R. Dannehy said the appeals process has expired and would not delay the sentence.

Before he was led away, Simmons urged Dannehy to reconsider, arguing that the court had no right to imprison him.

"If I prevail, (the government) will have been found to be trespassing," Simmons said. "And if I don't, I am willing to serve double the time."

Simmons brushed aside the plea.

"This is a criminal matter," the judge told Simmons. "You were tried and convicted. Now is the time for your sentence."

② New Jersey

Last bachelor
standing collects
prize

Associated Press

CHERRY HILL, N.J. — It's a plot right out of a movie, or is it a case of art imitating life?

A Camden County man will collect a pot of money Saturday night as the winner of a bachelors bet made 20 years ago.

The last one to get hitched would win a kitty that began as a favorite six-pack of beer but became a savings account that has grown into thousands of dollars. The pact resembles "Tomcats," a recently released film about a group young men wagering on the longevity of their bachelorhood.

John Cheney, 38, of Westmont, a diesel mechanic, is the last standing bachelor. On Saturday night, he and the eight others involved will gather at Pat's Pub in Westmont, where it all started.

"I guess I just haven't found the right person," Cheney told the Courier-Post of Cherry Hill in Saturday's editions.

The pact began between Noel Anderson and a friend over a few beers at the pub, with a six-pack bet as the prize. The number of participants grew to nine men, all 1981 graduates of Haddonfield Memorial High School, and the prize turned into cash.

Members would not reveal the exact amount of the prize, but said it's in the mid-four figures.

"The amount of beer was getting unwieldy," said Anderson, 38, of Haddonfield, an English teacher at Shawnee High School in Medford, who got married in November, leaving Cheney the winner. "One of the brighter people in our group wanted to make the bet more quantifiable."

In February 1986, the group decided to close the pool and set their bet down on paper. They had an attorney notarize the charter.

Dues were \$20 a year, payable on New Year's Eve, and anyone who didn't pay could be kicked out, according to the charter. The men even received semiannual reports about their fund.

Mike Koontz, 38, of Haddonfield, was the first member of the group to get married in 1987. By 1993, five bachelors remained.

"We all figured we'd be bachelors for a long time," Koontz said. "I think we all thought we'd be bachelors forever."

Although the pact began as a joke, Anderson said it has helped the men stay in touch over the past two decades.

③ Florida

Used car salesman
won't sell until
eggs hatch

Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — The stereotypical used car salesman would do anything to sell the autos on his lot.

But here's something Allan Lazar won't do — disturb a dove or her nest.

When the Eurasian-collared dove recently built a nest on the hood of a 1993

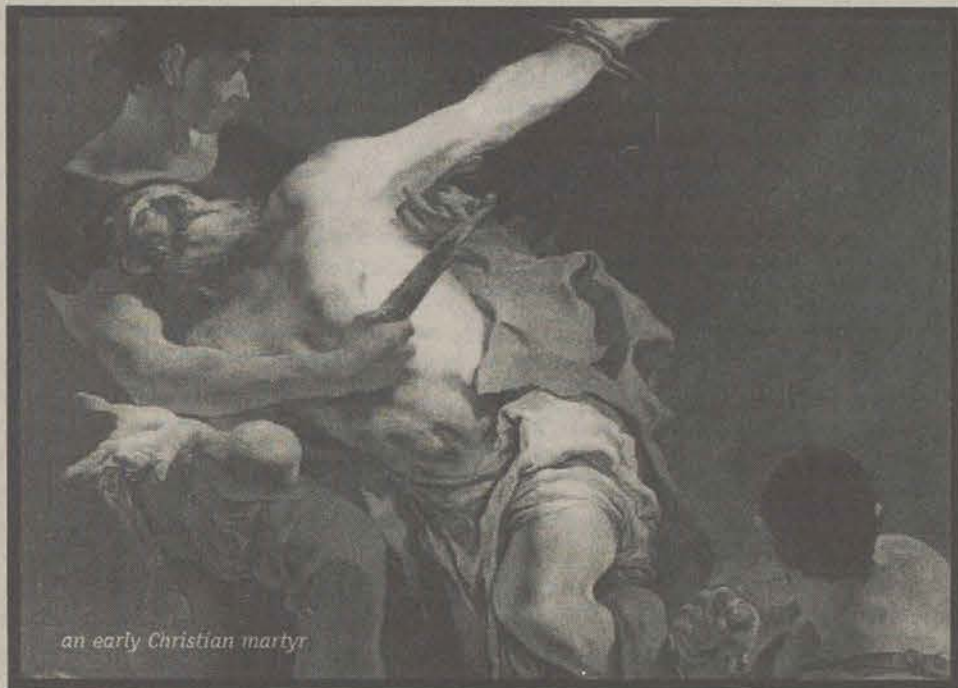
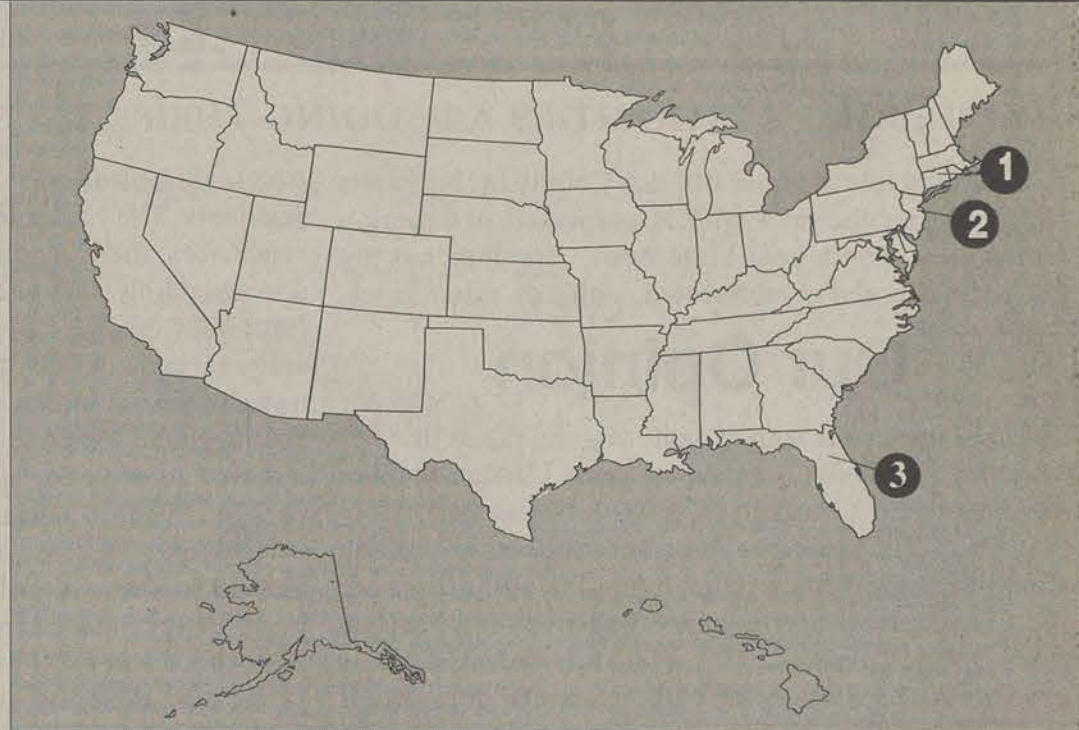
Suzuki Sidekick on his suburban Fort Lauderdale lot and laid some eggs inside, he placed a "Not for sale" sign in the car's window and told an interested customer to look elsewhere.

"I told all the salespeople to leave her alone," Lazar said.

Lazar, 58 and a car salesman for 35 years, even protected the dove from blackbirds that were dive-bombing it. He placed decoy owls on the car's antennas to scare them away.

The tactic worked: the blackbirds left the pinkish-beige dove alone.

The Eurasian-collared dove originates from India and parts of Turkey. The birds were introduced into the Bahamas in the 1970s, and reached South Florida on their own by the mid-1980s. There are now thousands of them throughout the state and they have recently been seen in Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and parts of eastern Texas.



If the resurrection was mere fiction why endure such harsh reality?

Three days after His crucifixion, Jesus was missing from His heavily guarded tomb. Some say His disciples stole His body and concocted the story that He rose from the dead. If that's true, then many of them died excruciating, premature deaths for something they knew was a lie.

Would you do that?

Peter was crucified for following Jesus. John was exiled and imprisoned. Stephen, another follower, was stoned to death. The apostle Paul was whipped, beaten and stoned. Some of Jesus' closest followers died merciless deaths for proclaiming what they had seen and knew was true — that Jesus had indeed risen, proving He was everything He claimed to be . . . the Son of God and Savior of the world.

To learn more about Jesus and the facts supporting His resurrection, read the section titled 'John' in the Bible, or contact one of the following Christian Faculty or Staff.

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STATESBORO AUTHORITIES ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO SOLVE RAPE CASE

We would like to praise Bulloch County investigators for capturing the man who is suspected of raping a woman last month near Statesboro. The man has not yet been charged or connected with any other rapes,

Our Opinion

but still, this is one step to capturing the rapist that has tormented the area over the past year. Currently, there has been a lot of attention to rape issues and safety concerns among students and other residents of Bulloch County. Some people believe that the authorities are ignoring the issue and not putting as much emphasis on finding rape suspects. However, this recent arrest is proof that the Statesboro authorities are doing their

best to make Bulloch County a safer place for all of the residents. The community must keep in mind that with rape cases, there is sometimes little evidence to use in apprehending the suspect. This arrest also sends an important message to others considering committing criminal acts, or even those that think they have gotten away with something. Eventually, they will be caught. Just because someone is able to allude authorities for a period of time doesn't mean that they will never be caught. And it certainly does not mean that the investigators are slacking off and not trying their hardest to locate the alleged rapist. Our support should be 100% for the men and women working hard to make Statesboro and GSU a safer place for everyone to live. In the end, the good guys always win.

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Who has the right to determine the fate of another man?



**MARNITE
ZACHERY**

Today, one of my peers enlisted my help in preparing a speech for his Public Speaking class. His survey asked whether students believed in the death penalty, and why or why not. He told me that this survey would only take two minutes. While those around me politely handed theirs in, I found myself pondering a question for quite some time. Who has the right to determine the fate of another man?

As a Christian, I believe that no man can determine the fate of another and murder is wrong. However, as an imperfect human who finds herself angry about the violence in our schools and our society, I think that something has to change. Supporters of the death penalty argue that it is a deterrent for others and is necessary in hate crimes, such as in the case of James Byrd Jr., a man who was dragged by racist, ignorant people simply because he was a black man. Two of the men in this case showed no remorse and

even took pride in viciously killing a man. Two of them were sentenced to die. The other was given time in jail because he supposedly, was not an "active" participant. Will the death of these two men give James Byrd Jr. another chance at life? No. Will their sentences send a message to those who may think of committing future hate crimes? Maybe.

This is one of the problems with the death penalty. Was Shawn Berry somehow less responsible because he did not drive the car, but allowed his vehicle to be driven and was a passenger? He watched a heinous crime be committed and then went home and took a nap instead of reporting it. Where is the fine line drawn in determining who receives a death sentence and who does not? More importantly, who drew this line? Was it George W. Bush? Or maybe it was America who herself, is filled with racism and corruption?

Every week there seems to be another school shooting. My high school in Atlanta has had metal detectors since my senior year, and it was a school of excellence that had no prior incidents of violence involving guns. Many of us complained about the invasion of our privacy and the fact that these measures were too time consuming. One of the

most popular legitimate excuses for tardiness was, "I got caught in the metal detector." Today, I would be much more appreciative.

Let us visit the land of a death penalty-free America for a moment. What are the ramifications of criminal behavior? How would we deter crime? Perhaps life sentences should actually last a lifetime. As a child, I could not understand why judges handed out three and four consecutive life sentences. I asked "Officer Friendly" at school, and he carefully explained to me that "life" meant about 12 years. Some people could even get out early if they were "really good." So, what exactly is the point in calling it life? Maybe a better term would be "a few minutes". Does good behavior in prison, where choices are limited, necessarily correlate with good behavior in a free society? No, of course not because each case is different. Can one truly be reformed after a few years in prison? For some crimes, probably.

And why exactly do we have so much exercise equipment in prison? One of the most informative Nightline broadcasts I have ever seen was a report on America's prisons—the equipment there was comparable to that of both Gold's Gym and the RAC put together. Why would

we let murderers buff up in prison? So that when they come out they will be even stronger than when they went in? Something is definitely wrong with this logic.

Of course, they say that this reduces tension and stress, and makes for a happier inmate. Why not choose other, less physically demanding activities like shuffle board or volleyball? We should use the weight lifting equipment money to fund educational programs to give them something that they can use once they get out. Being muscular may get you a manual job, but being educated can help you (1) realize that there is no money in a life of crime and (2) enable you to gain a trade or a career that will allow you to take care of yourself forever.

As I finally gave him my questionnaire, I told him that I had left the answer portion of it blank and perhaps they could determine my answer from my explanation. He said that they would figure out what I meant and how I felt for certain. Perhaps they could explain it to me.

Marnite Zachery is a senior English major and columnist at the George Anne. She can be reached at and would appreciate any questions, comments or concerns at marnitez@hotmail.com.

Follow your own beat



**ERIN
MERRITT**

This past week, I have decided favors are good, but pressure is bad! We all know that when we feel pressured into something, we suddenly don't want any part of it.

Back in the day when I was applying to universities, people kept riding my case about applications this and applications that, which made me lose interest fast. The end result was that I applied to only two schools and then picked one. Two doesn't really leave a lot of options open does it?

Well, I am running into this same problem this week. Seems there is someone who wanted to "talk" to me, and I wanted to talk to him too. Doesn't that sound like the perfect situation? Wrong, because it only seems everyone and their mother wants us to talk too.

Now, I know that these other people are just trying to help, which I appreciate. Being that I'm shy when I like someone, my friends feel this need to help things along for me.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not being ungrateful since they're the reason I met him. Only I feel all this pressure to talk to him whenever he's around and I get asked a million times a day if he called, did I call him, etc.

Then, since everyone says something about it all the time, when I see him I don't know what to say, and I can't just be casual because I feel like everyone is watching...waiting. Secretly I wish inside they'd just let

me do this on my own. I mean, if it's going to happen, then it'll happen. Right?

In all likelihood, he feels just as pressured as I do. I like to speculate that this is the reason why he hasn't called. Really, I guess it could be any number of things, but I feel better thinking it's just that he doesn't want to feel pressured into doing something. Since I have made my move by showing interest, I figure the ball's in his court and when, and if, he wants, he knows where to find me.

As friends, we have to know that fine line of being helpful and meddling. There is a limit in every relationship that must not be crossed, or else you will find yourself in unstable territory. Seriously, if two people are going to get together, then they'll get together and no amount of pressure is going to help the situation. There really is only so much someone can take before they lose interest all together.

However, you must also remember that a good word here and there never hurt anything either. Like I said earlier, if my friends hadn't introduced me, I certainly wouldn't of done it myself. Plus they had all sorts of nice things to say about him, so that must mean something.

Point is, if your friends are pressuring you, just ignore them. Follow your instinct. If you are interested in someone and want to talk to them, then do it. Just remember to do it because it's what YOU want and not what THEY want.

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

I changed my name to bilk you better



**DAVE
BARRY**

Several months ago, out of the blue, a company named "Cingular" started sending me bills. I had never heard of Cingular, and I honestly did not know what these bills were for, so I put them in the pile where I keep documents that I intend to scrutinize more carefully later on, after my death.

Then I started seeing TV commercials for Cingular, but of course they did not make it clear what Cingular is, because the First Rule of Modern Advertising is: "Never reveal what you are advertising." In the Cingular commercials—maybe you've seen them—these little characters, which look like mutant starfish from space, walk around and make gestures. It is not at all clear why they are doing this. It crossed my mind that maybe they ARE mutant starfish from space, and Cingular is the name of their home planet, and they've sent bills to all of humanity, and they are

gesturing to indicate that if we don't pay them, they'll vaporize the earth.

Eventually, I found out that Cingular is the new name of my cellular telephone company. It used to be named BellSouth Mobility. Before THAT, I think it was just BellSouth, and before THAT, it was Southern Bell, and before that, I'm sure it was several other things. If you go far enough back, you'd probably find out that at one time, the name actually included the words "telephone company," so you could tell, from the name, what it did, which today would be a serious violation of business ethics. So I paid my Cingular bills, because I need my cellular phone to communicate vital information ("Hello? Hello? Can you hear me? I can't hear you. Hello?"). I apparently have a special cellular plan wherein all my calls are routed through a Burger King drive-thru intercom in Bolivia. I envy the people whose cell phones always seem to work—the people you see in airports, with their phones attached to earphone/microphone devices, so they can stride around, gesturing and talking really loud into the air, looking kind of like Hamlet delivering

his soliloquy ("To be, or not to be, that is the... Hello?").

But my question is: Why do companies keep changing their names? And why do they always change them to names that don't MEAN anything? We consumers like names that reflect what the company does. We know, for example, that International Business Machines makes business machines; and Ford Motor makes Fords; and Sara Lee makes us fat. But we don't know, from the name "Verizon," what Verizon does. And what in the world is "Accenture"? This is a company that buys a LOT of ads, the overall message of which seems to be: "Accenture — A Company That Buys a LOT of Ads." I checked the Accenture Internet site, and here's what it says about the name: "Accenture is a coined word that connotes putting an accent or emphasis on the future." Swell! I am all for the future! But what does Accenture DO? What if it sends me a bill? Should I pay it? What if I don't, and it turns out that "Accenture" is the new name for the organization formerly known as "La Cosa Nostra"? My body parts would be found in nine separate

Hefty bags. The police would shake their heads and say, "Looks like he didn't pay his Accenture bill." This brings me to my idea for how you can make big money. You start by inventing a new, modern-sounding company name, such as "Paradil" or "Gerbadigm," which are coined words that connote a combination of "paradigm" and "gerbil." Then you print official-looking invoice forms for this company, and you send out a mass-mailing of bills for, let's say, \$20.38 apiece, to several million randomly selected people. You enclose an announcement with a perky corporate marketing statement that is clearly a lie, and thus appears totally realistic, such as: "We've changed our name to serve you better!"

Granted, some consumers would throw the bill away. But a LOT of them would pay it, because they're used to companies suddenly mutating on them. You'd get rich!

The only flaw in this plan is that the postal authorities might question its legality. If they give you any trouble, refer them to me, OK? My name is now Enron P. Citigroup.

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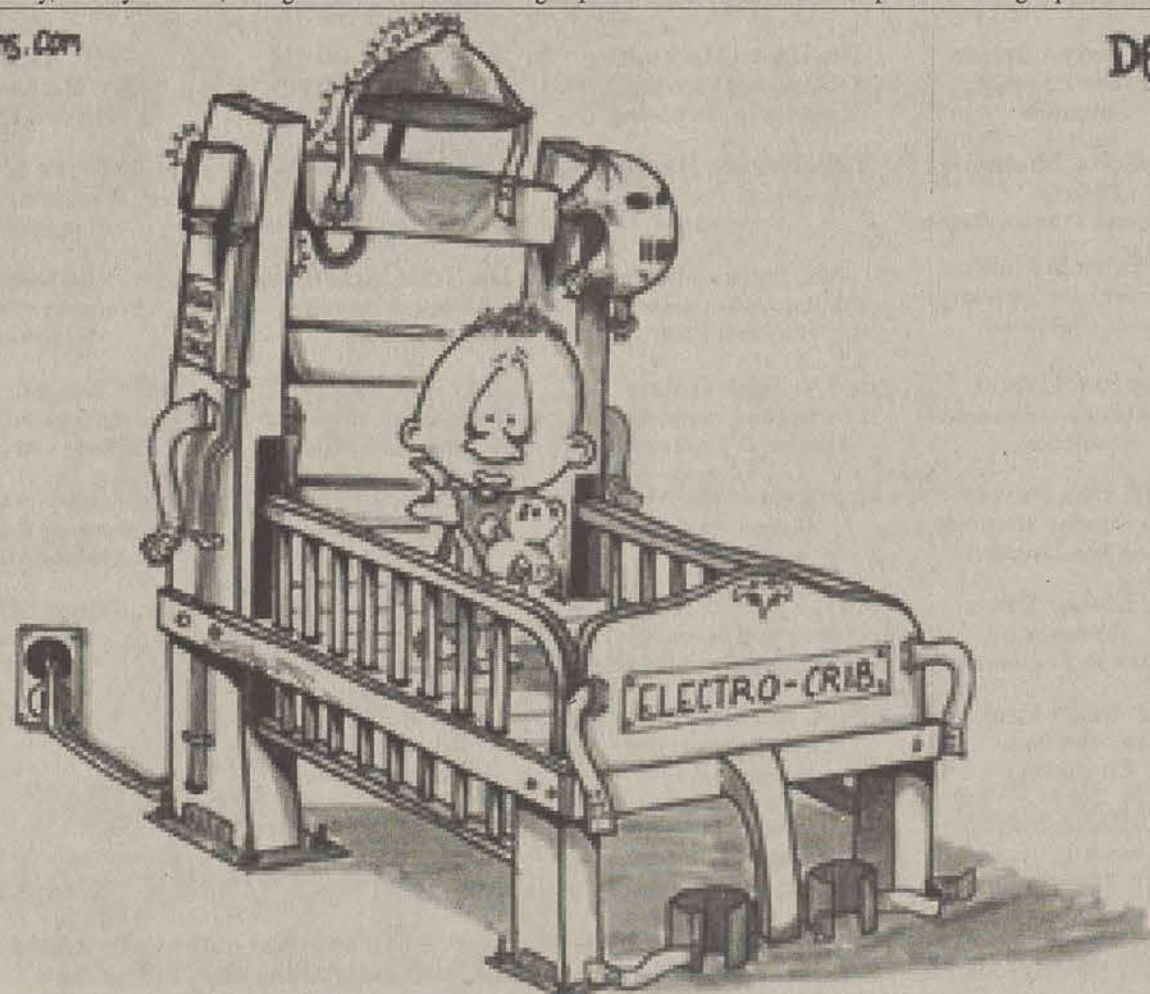
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Time running short with China, Bush warns

TMS Campus

WASHINGTON — With few options at its disposal, the Bush administration achieved no breakthrough Monday in the second week of intensive diplomacy aimed at winning the release of 24 U.S. service members and closing a major rift with Beijing.

The crew of the Navy surveillance plane remain confined to their rooms and subject to questioning at a Chinese military base. President Bush warned further delay in their return home could damage U.S.-Chinese relations. The State Department said that damage was already beginning.

"Every day that goes by increases the potential that our relations with China could be damaged," Bush said at the start of a Cabinet meeting at the White House.

Signaling a new White House assessment that negotiations could be protracted, Bush said, "All of us around this table understand diplomacy takes time. But there

is a point — the longer it goes — there is a point at which our relations with China could become damaged."

Bush appeared to have few options beyond patience and restraint.

The Pentagon has dismissed any sort of military rescue as reckless and unwarranted. Bush is reluctant to threaten economic retaliation that could have negative consequences at home. And he has made clear he will not meet China's demand for an apology.

At issue is more than saving face and getting the 21 men and three women home after the collision April 1 with a Chinese fighter plane that apparently caused the fighter pilot's death and forced the damaged American aircraft to land at a nearby Chinese base.

The Pentagon is intent on preserving its right to fly surveillance missions in international airspace. The U.S. believes international airspace begins 12 miles off the shores of all countries. China claims sovereignty over much larger zones that are not internationally recognized, in some areas as much as 200 miles from the coast.

"The Navy has this big thing about international waters and airspace. It's in our consciousness, and we protect that point," said a senior Navy officer.

Bush is feeling pressure from conservatives in Washington to take a

harder line with China, while his strategy has been to take a softer line with Beijing in order to win release of the crew.

Key lawmakers, including Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., chairman of the House International Relations Committee, have said they may vote to revoke China's normal trading status. The legislation passed last year granting China so-called permanent normal trading status was contingent on China's becoming a member of the World Trade Organization by June 3 or another bill would be re-



Special Photo

TIME IS RUNNING OUT: Bush is feeling pressure from conservatives in Washington to take a harder line with China, while his strategy has been to take a softer line with Beijing in order to win release of the crew.

quired this year.

Even if the stand-off over the Navy plane ends soon, bitter feelings in Congress could make it a close vote. Such a vote would represent a defeat for a pro-business administration that strongly supports normal trade relations with China.

Lawmakers may also be more likely to approve the sale of sophisticated weapons to Taiwan, an act China would vehemently oppose.

The Bush administration could benefit if Beijing's fear of a congressional backlash leads to quick release of the crew members. But administration officials fear they will lose control of China policy to an angry Congress even as delicate negotiations in Beijing continue.

A key date is April 24, when Congress returns from its two-week recess and when Defense and State Department officials are set to conclude deliberations on what kind of weapons the Bush administration will sell Taiwan.

Regarded by Beijing as a renegade province, Taiwan wants to defend itself against possible Chinese attack by acquiring sophisticated destroyers equipped with Aegis radar systems.

As much to avoid a public relations backlash at home as to mollify the Chinese, the Bush administration has been careful to avoid incendiary language. Administration officials

adamantly refuse to use the word "hostage" to describe the detained crew members, instead emphasizing how comfortable, high-spirited and well taken-care-of they are at their military base on Hainan Island in southeastern China.

In comments made on the condition of anonymity, however, a different picture emerged Monday. Defense and State Department officials said the 24 are confined to their dormitory rooms. They have not been allowed outside for exercise, despite the protestations of the U.S. diplomats who have met periodically with them. The pilot of the plane, who has not been identified among the names of the crew members released by the Pentagon, has been largely isolated from the other service members.

A State Department official said Chinese interrogation of the crew members continues, though not quite as frequently as last week. And the Chinese have made no commitment to allowing regular, unmonitored contact between the diplomats and the U.S. crew members.

In Beijing, meanwhile, draft language of a possible joint communique ending the crisis went back and forth Monday between the Chinese Foreign Ministry and Joseph Prueher, the U.S. ambassador to China.

"We are in very intensive discussions with the Chinese government to resolve this matter," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Monday.

The formula Beijing is pursuing closely resembles the 1968 U.S. communique to North Korea that ended the Pueblo crisis in which North Korea had captured a U.S. Navy surveillance ship and its crew. In that document, the United States said it "shoulders full responsibility and solemnly apologizes for the grave acts of espionage committed by the U.S. ship." It was seen across Asia as a major humiliation for the U.S.

The Bush administration response has been to express "regret" for the loss of the Chinese pilot and for entering Chinese airspace during the emergency landing.

"That's not an apology and we have nothing to apologize for," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer.

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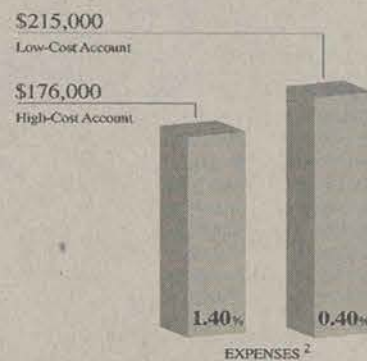
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OBESITY

From page 1

government regulations and try to plan their menus accordingly," Shankar said. "It is up to the students to make the wise decisions. But, there is always a mixture. You will never find a restaurant with just totally nutritious foods."

A recent survey was conducted at GSU by two nutrition majors. They randomly surveyed 50 female students, between the ages of 18 to 25, about overeating and its causes, obesity trends, participation in healthy eating habits and exercise, and how the females viewed their overall appearance. Out of all the females surveyed, only ten percent thought that they overate on a daily basis. When asked what caused them to overeat, 40 percent reported that boredom was the main cause, followed by anxiety with 30 percent. Sixty percent thought that obesity was a growing trend on college campuses. But, 70 percent of the interviewees stated that they eat well-balanced meals and exercise three to four times per week. Forty percent of the females viewed themselves as being overweight.

Caldwell reports that boredom alone will not cause overeating. "Research has shown that when women

are exposed to media images, it lowers their self-esteem, which increases depression and leads to overeating," Caldwell said.

The American College Health Association reports that the American culture encourages people to base self-worth on body weight and shape. At the same time, food is often used as a source of love and comfort, and eating is an important part of social events. The resulting confusion can lead to conflict about why and when to eat. Women are especially vulnerable because their physical appearance is viewed as very important in attracting a partner. When it comes to obesity, men are far less accepting than women, says a new division of Nutritional Sciences study in the Human Ecology Forum.

Eating for most people is simply not a pleasure. A person's enjoyment of food may be hindered by weight worries, feelings of guilt or by the fear of losing control. Moreover, food may serve as a substitute for love or as a means to fill emotional emptiness. In a recent issue of Redbook, registered dietician Beth McKinney, acting as director of the wellness program at Cornell University was interviewed. She said,

"We're all emotional eaters. It's baked into our culture."

Retha Hill also interviewed Nancy King, a registered dietician of Nutrition Designs in La Canadas, Ca. She offers some advice. "If you reach for ice cream," King said, "you could be needing soothing and comforting. If you go for quantity, you may be looking for something to fill your time and your life. There are three smart ways to cope: Keep and analyze an eating record, rate your hunger, and let it out another way."

Nakamoto recommends that students stock their rooms with healthful snacks such as fruit, pretzels or trail mixes. "Eat lean meats and get protein from such sources as tuna and chicken. Don't forget to exercise, walk or jog to class, hit the pool, play volleyball."

"A major cause for concern is childhood obesity and we see that the effects spill over into the college community where many students begin obesity in their childhood and remain obese as they become adults. College is really an important opportunity to develop life-long eating behaviors and exercise habits," Shankar said.

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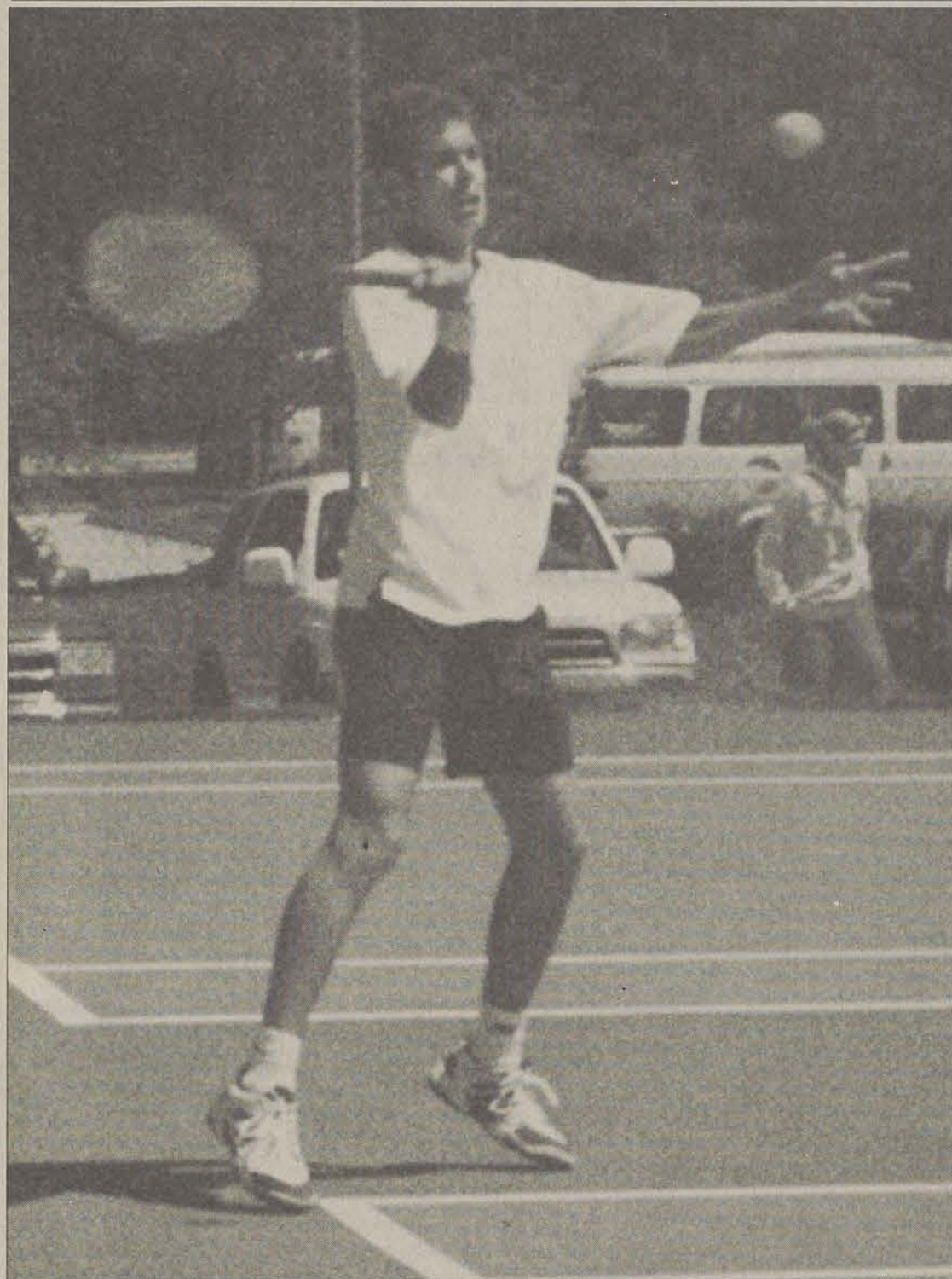
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A FINAL WIN: The Eagles ended their regular season Tuesday with a sweep of VMI, 7-0.

Men's tennis defeats Wofford and VMI, falls to Davidson

G-A News Service

The Georgia Southern men's tennis team defeated Southern Conference rival Wofford on Saturday afternoon. The Eagles won all six singles matches and two of three doubles to pick up the victory.

The Eagles improve to 8-6 overall and 4-3 in Southern Conference play.

Georgia Southern travelled to Davidson on Sunday, April 8 at 1:00 p.m. and fell to the Southern Conference rivals. The Eagles won three singles matches, but were swept in doubles.

The Eagles fall to 8-7 overall

and 4-4 in Southern Conference play.

Georgia Southern then hosted VMI on Tuesday, April 10 at 1:00 p.m.

The GSU tennis team defeated Virginia Military Institute 7-0 at Hanner Courts. The Eagles were led by seniors Ryan O'Keefe, Florian Scheidat, Alex Franqui and Fredrik Wilander, all of whom were victorious in their last matches at home.

Franqui and Stephen Dubiensi set the Eagles in motion with an 8-0 win at No. 3 doubles. O'Keefe and Scheidat secured the point at No. 1 with an

8-1 victory. Wojciech Nowak and Darren Clark also defeated their opponents 8-2 in the No. 2 spot to sweep the doubles matches.

Georgia Southern's Wilander dominated in No. 6 singles, defeating his opponent 6-0, 6-0. The rest of the matches followed in similar fashion with GSU earning every singles point in straight sets.

The Eagles improve to 9-7 overall, 5-4 in the Southern Conference.

Georgia Southern will finish up the regular season on Friday, April 13 at 1:30 p.m. against Furman in Greenville, S.C.

Lady Eagles slip to Davidson and Furman

G-A News Service

The Georgia Southern women's tennis team was defeated by Davidson 5-2 on Saturday.

The Lady Eagles' Isabella Kling and Amy Bartlett won their No. 1 doubles match against Elizabeth Moreno and Yasamina Hilu 8-0 giving GSU its only doubles win. Kling and Bartlett

also went on to defeat their opponents in singles competition.

Georgia Southern returned to action on Sunday, April 8, taking on league-leading Furman in Greenville, S.C. at noon.

The Georgia Southern women's tennis team was shut out by Furman 7-0 at Mickel Tennis Center on Sunday in their last regular season match.

The Lady Eagles' Isabella Kling and Amy Bartlett won their No. 1 doubles match against Gene Holman and Natalie The 8-6, giving GSU its only win of the match.

Georgia Southern will return to action in the Southern Conference tournament championship, which will be held April 19-22 in Charleston, S.C.

Eagles prepare for SoCon championships

G-A News Service

Freshman Marlo Mincey leaped to a mark of 38' 03.50" to win the triple jump and establish a new Georgia Southern track and field record at the Georgia Tech Yellow Jacket Invitational over the weekend.

With the exception of a meet in Savannah this Wednesday, the Yellow Jacket Invite was the Eagles' final big tune-up for the Southern Conference Outdoor Championships on April 19-21.

Mincey also finished second in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:00.09, which is only .90 off the NCAA qualifying standard. In the same race, Pearl Griggs and LeiNitia Williams posted personal-best times of 1:03.29 and 1:03.79, respectively, to finish fifth and sixth.

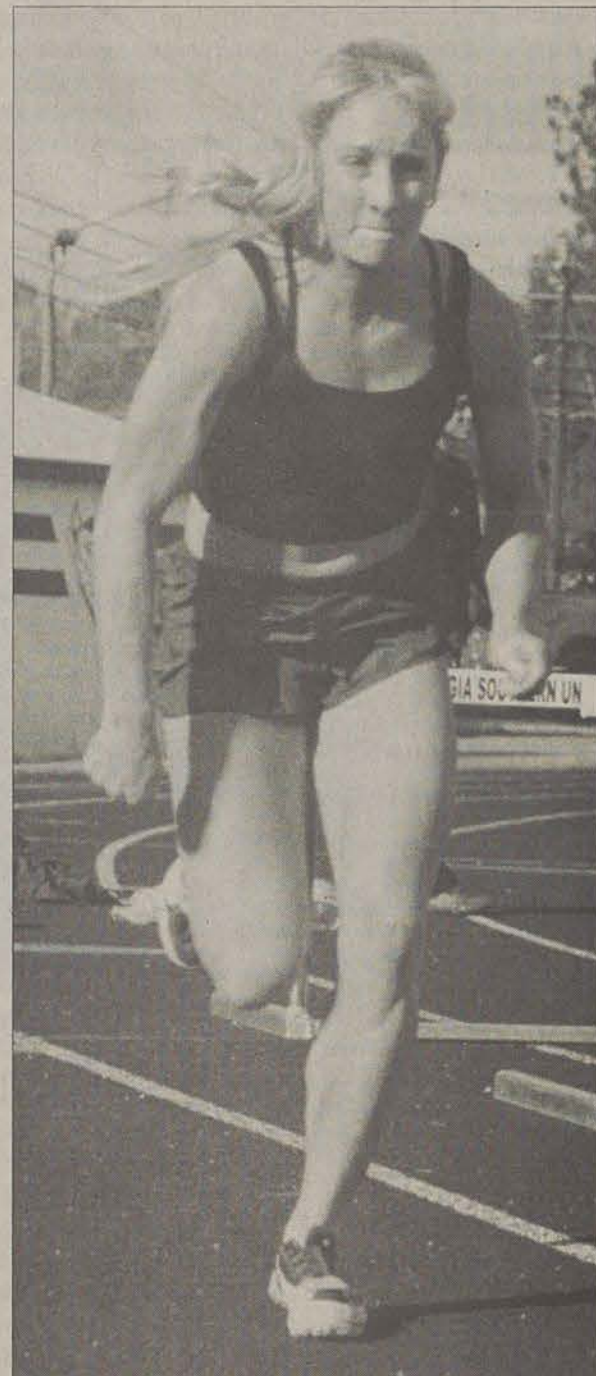
"This was a super meet for us," said GSU Head Coach Todd Lane. "We definitely had some big break-throughs and outstanding performances across the board."

Not surprisingly, Georgia Southern's relay teams once again posted top finishes to further highlight the Eagles' day. The 4x400 relay team of Williams, Nuwana Waters, Griggs and Mincey set a new school standard with a time of 3:52.87, and the 4x100 relay team of LaDonna McClure, Star Lingo, Javonne Blackley and Jacqueline Allen placed third with a time of 47.08.

Likewise finishing third was Amber Tiggs in the hammer throw (130' 11"). Allen ran to a sixth-place finish in the 100-meter dash (12.08) and Blackley secured seventh in the 200-meter dash with a school-record time of 24.57.

Georgia Southern will next direct its focus to a meet in Savannah on Wednesday and then the Southern Conference Outdoor Championships on April 19-21 in Lexington, Va. The Eagles finished sixth in their first-ever SoCon Outdoor Championships last

season behind the effort of Jacqueline Allen, who earned all-conference honors by finishing third in the 100-meter dash.



David Whiddon

CHAMPIONSHIP PREPARATION: The track and field team has one meet left before the SoCon Outdoor Championships April 19-21 in Lexington, Va.

Athlete of the week: Justin Kolumber

By Nick Fierstos
Sports Writer

While much of the golf world may be focused on the recent Masters tournament and the victory of Tiger Woods, Georgia Southern Junior star golfer Justin Kolumber has his mind set on a mission at hand: the Southern Conference Championship. Only a week and a half away, the tournament seems to be easily within the golf team's grasp. Justin, though, isn't taking any chances. "I think we have a good chance to take the tournament, but that's not the mindset I'm in right now. I have to be mentally prepared to win."

It seems as though being

mentally prepared to win hasn't been a very difficult task recently for Kolumber. He has placed within the top twenty places for the past four tournaments in a row, including first place in the Ironwood Intercollegiate March 13. Kolumber helped Georgia Southern to a first place finish in the tournament, the first team title for a GSU golf team since February of 1996. The last time an individual GSU golfer has won a tournament was in February of 1997. Two weeks after the Ironwood, Georgia Southern placed second in the Schenkel EZ-GO tournament here in Statesboro, defeating schools such as Florida, Clemson, Duke, LSU,

North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

A finance major, Justin is from Allentown, Pennsylvania, and attends Georgia Southern on a golf scholarship. He says that his greatest accomplishments this year have been some of the decisions he has made spiritually. "My talents were given to me by the Lord, and I am thankful to Him," he said. "The reason I've succeeded in golf is because I put God before my own personal satisfaction."

The Southern Conference Golf Championships are April 20-22. Good luck to Justin and to the Georgia Southern golf team.

Herring named baseball player of the week

G-A News Service

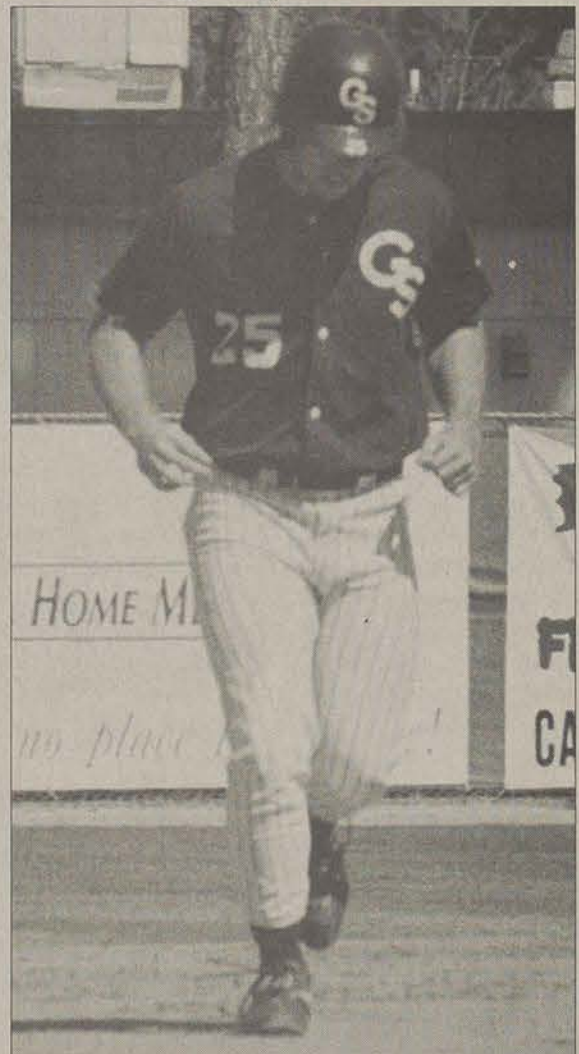
The Southern Conference today announced Georgia Southern right fielder Matt Herring has been named the SoCon's Player of the Week.

Herring hit .600 in four games last week for Georgia Southern as the Eagles posted a 3-1 record. GSU swept a three-game series from VMI and dropped a non-conference contest at Georgia.

Herring went nine for 15 on the week with five home runs and 11 RBI. He was seven for 12 in the three-game series at VMI with a pair of multiple homer games. Herring had two homers and five RBI in the series opener on Saturday; a homer and three RBI in the second game of Saturday's double-header and two home runs and three RBI on Sunday. He also scored nine runs and posted a remarkable 1.600 slugging percentage for the week.

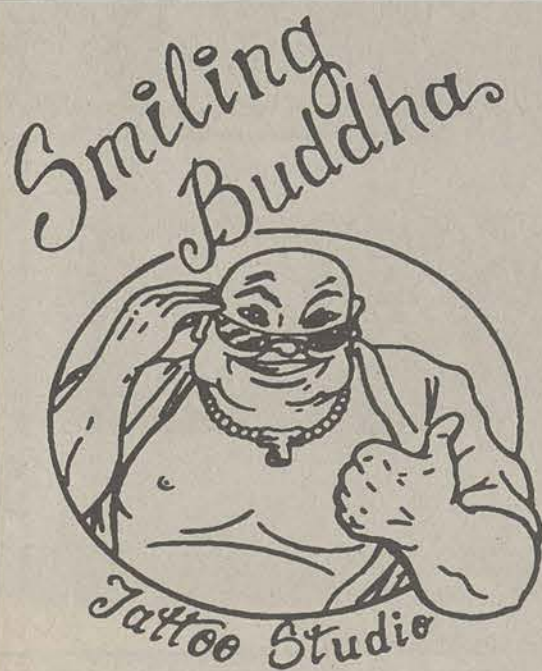
Herring's five home runs on the weekend was one shy of his career total entering the weekend while the five RBI in game one of the VMI series matched his career high.

Herring is currently batting .346, with 37 hits, nine home runs, seven doubles, and 35 RBI.



LaVene Bell

STELLAR PERFORMANCE: Right fielder Matt Herring earned the SoCon player of the week title for his performance in the VMI series



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For young credit users, bankruptcy on the rise

TMS Campus

MIAMI – Nguyen Matos got his first two credit cards shortly after he arrived as a freshman at Florida International University.

"Usually the first couple of days at school, you run into 10 or 11 of them offering you free stuff like coffee mugs, T-shirts and posters," Matos said, referring to the companies that solicit on campus. "I thought, 'I don't have a credit card. Let me fill out these applications. Why not?'"

Within a year, Matos had charged both Visa cards to their \$500 limits. His minimum-wage job didn't bring in enough to cover his car expenses and phone bill and for him to make his credit card payments, too. "I missed three months of credit card payments and found I owed another \$300," an incredulous Matos said.

With the number of young people with credit cards increasing, their debt sometimes mounting into the tens of thousands and the number of bankruptcies among those 18 to 24 on the rise, the issue of credit card debt is gaining notice in Congress and among lenders and debt counseling firms.

And with credit experts saying that many parents aren't teaching their children how to avoid credit pitfalls, some colleges and universities, including FIU, now require students to complete a financial management course that includes guidance on how to handle debt responsibly.

Credit card firms are not limiting their heavy marketing to students at colleges, consumer credit experts say. Anticipating fierce competition for

students on campus, "companies are marketing to young people before they even hit their senior year in high school," said Harvard law professor and bankruptcy expert Elizabeth Warren. "They're signing on these kids starting at 17, 16, even 15 years old."

Less stringent underwriting criteria at major credit card companies,

percent, to an average of \$2,748 last year, according to Nellie Mae's study. And 9 percent of the students had balances of more than \$7,000 last year, the study found.

"We noticed in the mid-1990s that students were starting to get credit cards, where in the early 1990s they did not have credit cards unless they were older students and independent," said Nina Prikazsky, vice president of operations at Nellie Mae.

A major indicator of trouble: rising bankruptcy rates among people 18 to 24. Two years ago, 118,000 people in that age range filed for bankruptcy nationwide, research by Warren found. That's up 51 percent from 1991. Credit card debt, Warren said, was the main problem cited when those people were asked why they filed for bankruptcy.

"I've helped people who have never had a job, but have \$30,000 in credit card debt," said Mark Blomquist, director of counseling for Auriton Solutions, a financial counseling firm.

The rising tide of young people tussling with credit card debt has

attracted attention from lawmakers.

Last week, U.S. Rep. Louise Slaughter, D-N.Y., who has co-authored legislation that would tighten up on student credit, pitched her bill to members of Congress. Her proposal, called the College Student Credit Card Protection Act, would limit credit lines to 20 percent of a student's annual income and require parents to approve before credit limits are increased on cards for which they have co-signed.

The bill is now before the House subcommittee on financial institutions and consumer credit.



TMS Campus

OH, THE WOES OF CREDIT CARDS: Credit experts warn that many parents aren't teaching their children how to avoid financial problems with credit.

coupled with the direct push to students, have led to easy access to credit cards for students with absolutely no credit history, according to a recent report by Nellie Mae, a national provider of student loans.

In 1998, 67 percent of college undergraduates had credit cards, the company found. By 2000, 78 percent of undergraduates had at least one credit card; 32 percent of those had four or more credit card accounts.

Credit card balances held by college students are also rising. While undergraduates carried card balances averaging \$1,879 three years ago, their credit card debt has jumped 46

Apples Jacked: Purdue peels off victory at Rube Goldberg Contest

TMS Campus

The problem: You want to peel an apple.

The solution? Simple. Just roll a marble down a ramp and watch as it crashes into a bell, which clangs loud enough to wake up a bird, who pecks at a button, which releases a lever, which allows a 1000 lb. weight to the fall and land on another button, which ignites a series of doohickies that, somehow, peel your apple. That's the legacy of cartoonist Rube Goldberg, who was best known for drawing sequences of overly complex machines performing extremely simple tasks. If you're a fan of cartoons or have ever played the game Moustrap, then you've witnessed Goldberg's vision firsthand.

But at the 13th annual National Rube Goldberg contest, sponsored by the Theta Tau Fraternity and hosted Saturday by Purdue University, students did more than merely witness Goldberg's vision. They brought it to life.

The theme for 2001: Apples. Students had to create a machine that selects, cleans and peels an apple in at least 20 steps. The more creative and overly complicated the machine, the better the score, although students lose big points every time they need to assist the machine once it has started.

In the end, home field advantage ruled as the Purdue's student chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers took home top honors, which included a national championship trophy and \$500.

The team's machine, "The Big Apple," featured a New York motif, including King Kong climbing the walls of the Empire State Building,



TMS Campus

THOSE SO-SMART ENGINEER STUDENTS: Purdue Society of Manufacturing Engineers team members, Beau Wendholt and Mark Pund, react to a successful run of their machine, "The Big Apple." The team's contraption claimed first place last Saturday in the 2001 National Rube Goldberg Machine Contest at West Lafayette High School. Competitors in the 13th annual event had to build a machine to select, clean, and peel an apple without human intervention.

the Brooklyn Bridge and a snippet from "New York, New York," which along with other musical numbers chimed in time with the machine's operation.

The University of Toledo, which presented its Olympic-themed "Apple Olympics," finished second after its machine required more human assistance than Purdue's widget. The University of Texas at Austin, which won last year's competition, finished third.

Purdue's thingamajig took more than 40 steps, or twice the minimum amount required, to pick and prepare the apple. It required a little human intervention on two of its four runs, but it wasn't enough to knock the

team off the top of the leaderboard.

Purdue senior and team member Eric Grossman said that he and his teammates invested more than 700 hours of work into the machine since November, and that being recognized for all the hard work is gratifying.

"It's such a sense of accomplishment," Grossman said. "We had a little trouble at the wrong time, but it didn't matter in the end."

Students in previous competitions have had to fashion machines that could set up a golf tee and place a ball on the tee, insert and play a compact disc, make toast, and open a padlock. In 1987's inaugural competition, students had to find a way to put toothpaste on a toothbrush.

Theater convention hosts a snack-bar screen test

TMS Campus

LAS VEGAS – Purveyors of popcorn and pop at last month's National Association of Theater Owners/ShoWest convention had no real reason to fear that some upstart company would introduce a treat so universally appealing that it could turn the concessions business on its head.

Still, it was amusing, at least, to sample some of the wares that were laid out by pretenders to the crown.

"I wanted to develop a shish kebab without a skewer, and then I FIGURED OUT A WAY TO PREPARE A HAMBURGER PATTY WITHOUT A CASING, IN A CONVENIENT SHAPE LIKE A HOT DOG."

– SHLOMY WEINGARTEN, CEO OF HI FIVE FOODS INC.

which introduced the Burgerpipe sandwich at ShoWest. "It can be held in one hand, and there are no chemicals or preservatives. Basically, anywhere you once prepared a hot dog, you now can serve a hamburger."

"You put it on a roller, or in a steamer or microwave ... in theaters, ballparks. We have chicken, cheeseburgers, veggie and other flavors."

Weingarten, an affable man who speaks with a thick European accent, probably couldn't appreciate how much of a culinary leap of faith it would take for moviegoers to lay down \$3 for a hamburger in the shape of a hot dog. Most Americans have yet to warm to gyros and falafel, so why would they take a shine to a cigar-shaped burger?

Well, once one gets over the sensory discomfort of imagining such a thing, Burgerpipe scores pretty well in a test nosh.

Against all odds, this tube of meat does, indeed, taste like a hamburger ... a pretty good one, at that. Whether it will play in the nation's multiplexes is another question altogether.

If Burgerpipe ever does take off, it's a safe bet that the Fryworks'

XL commercial french-fry maker also will be given a close look by exhibitors.

Bulky and unattractive, the Fryworks XL is to kitchen appliances what the Tinman of Oz was to lumberjacks. The machine's claim to fame comes in its ability to turn out 120 medium-size cups of quite-tasty french fries an hour.

the highly lucrative popcorn industry.

This didn't discourage the folks at Pop N Go from displaying their Model 7000 hot-air popcorn vending machine. All customers have to do is put a dollar or so into the Model 7000 machine, and wait up to 90 seconds, while their healthy treat is popped fresh, before their eyes.

In theaters, the device is intended to be placed next to the soda-pop vending machines, and be used primarily by customers – health-conscious or not – who don't enjoy waiting in line at the snack bar.

In truth, however good for you, air-popped popcorn isn't nearly as tasty as the real McCoy. Knowing this, Pop N Go is encouraging exhibitors to offer their customers separately wrapped tubes of fat-free flavoring, called FlixStix.

Coincidentally, just around the corner from Pop N Go, Highland Park, Ill., native Brian Taylor is pitching his brainstorm, Kernel Season's, to anyone who will listen.

"While I was at the University of Michigan last year, I started a company that made seasonings for popcorn," said Taylor, whose retail Web site is titled www.nomorepopcorn.com.

"I made popcorn every night and would go to the store to buy garlic powder, onion powder, chili powder, to throw into the popcorn. My friends loved it, and, so, I started a company."

"Now, we're in about 25 theaters, including the Classic and Landmark theaters in Chicago. The theaters offer it for free, and people get excited about the different flavors, just like potato chips."

The inexpensive seasonings would be placed alongside other condiments at the concession stand, and offered as a customer service, like ketchup and napkins.

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Estill discusses concern for the South's forests

By Travis Jones
Staff Writer

Elizabeth Estill delivered an entertaining and informative lecture concerning our nation's forests to GSU students and faculty Monday night at 7 in the Biology Lecture Hall.

Estill, a University of Tennessee graduate and former Harvard University instructor, is the Regional Forester of the Southern Region of the U.S. Forest Service, headquartered in Atlanta. She oversees cooperative efforts with state and private landowners for 13 states in the Southeast.

To begin her presentation, "What is Happening to the South's Forests, and What We Can Do About It," Estill familiarized the audience with some factual information by showing that foresters aren't just tree planters or fire fighters — they can be game show hosts. Estill chose six audience members to compete for prizes in "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire: The Smokey the Bear Version." Joseph Shuford, 20, a sophomore business major from Dalton, Ga., was the big winner, taking home several prizes including posters and a T-shirt.

Estill opened her lecture by describing some changes involving the U.S. Forest Service over the past two decades. As a result of environmental laws, distrust in large government and the wealth of information available via the Internet, the public's desire to get involved in the management of public and private forests has grown tremendously, said Estill. Likewise, Estill said the ser-

vice is focused on reaching out to the public so they will be more informed and involved.

"I think the most insidious job or role of the Forest Service is to make sure that Americans understand the connection that they have with the natural environment,

cern that the southern timber industry can continue to meet growing demands for other uses...conversion of the land and recreation, as well as the huge wood products business that the South really relies on for so much of its economic development," said Estill.

As a result of these growing concerns, the service, in conjunction with the EPA, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Fish and Wildlife Service, has launched a comprehensive sustainability study of the South's forests. The Southern Forests Research Assessment involves a team of over 25 scientists addressing questions from public sessions about the environment. It focuses on the 13 states in the region, evaluating such information as forest health, supply and demand of forest products, and aquatic and terrestrial habitats and species.

Estill was optimistic that the study will help people understand the effects of the changing demands on our forests and expressed a need for people to regain respect for our forests.

"There's a real danger that people are going to be demanding more of these natural systems with absolutely no clue of what they're doing and the impact of it," said Estill. "This study will provide context so people can understand that forests today are not like they used to be."

For more information on the U.S. Forest Service or the Southern Forests Research Assessment, visit www.srs.fs.fed.us/sustain.



LaVene Bell

ON BEHALF OF THE FORESTS: Elizabeth Estill, a representative of the U.S. Forest Service, spoke in the Biology Lecture Hall, Monday night, to concerned students and faculty.

particularly with the forests," said Estill.

Estill discussed the growing demands placed on forests, including recreation, industry, housing, and energy companies, and stated concerns of the southern timber industry to continue to meet these growing demands.

"The South is home to 6 of the 10 fastest growing states. It's a logical con-

Dailey and Simmons named top achievers at Honors Day

G-A News Service

Georgia Southern University students Adrienne Frances Dailey and Amelia Jane Simmons were recently presented the Georgia Southern University Alumni Association Scholarship award at the annual Honors Day convocation.

Dailey also received the University System Academic Recognition award, an Excellent Scholarship-Graduating Senior with GPA 3.9 or higher at Georgia Southern and the Mathematics Award.

Simmons also received a Leadership/Service Award and an Excellent Scholarship-Graduating Senior with GPA 3.9 or higher at Georgia Southern.

The Alumni Association Scholarship is presented annually to seniors who have applied for graduation, completed all work in residence and attained the highest cumulative grade point average.

The University System Academic Recognition award is presented to a Georgia resident based



Special Photo

HONORING ACADEMICISM: These two ladies were recently awarded the GSU Alumni Association Scholarship at Honors Day. The Scholarship is presented to seniors who have applied for graduation and have attained the highest cumulative grade point average. L-R Ms. Sheila Hoynes, President, Georgia Southern Alumni Association; Amelia Simmons; Adrienne Dailey

on academic achievement. The student represents the institution in the University System Academic Recognition Day Program.

Dailey and Simmons are senior middle grades and secondary education majors from Rocky

Ford.

Seventy-four individual awards were presented to 152 students at the annual Honors Day ceremony. Inductees into various honor societies were also recognized.

'Blown' away by bad taste in mirrors

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Small mirrors distributed to promote the Johnny Depp film "Blow" have reflected badly on the drug-trafficker tale. Critics charge the rectangular mirrors promote drug use because dealers use the items as cutting boards for cocaine.

The souvenir mirrors, contained in a rubber sleeve featuring the "Blow" title, were distributed with invitations to advance screenings of the film, which opened nationally Friday. They also were handed out in bars and outside

sporting events, The Orange County Register reported Friday.

Tracy Aaron, 35, of Cypress, Calif., said she was angry that her husband received one of the mirrors after an NCAA playoff game in Anaheim. "I was disgusted," she said. "They're passing out drug paraphernalia, basically."

Debbie Lips, a director for The Hope Institute, a Costa Mesa drug rehabilitation center, said the film promoters are "sending out the wrong message" by giving away such items.

New Line Cinema, which is distributing "Blow," said it gave away between 200 and 1,000 of the mirrors.

The film is about the collapse of a real-life cocaine empire during the 1970s. The lead character, George Jung, played by Depp, is in a federal prison, on various drug charges through 2014.

"Anyone who sees 'Blow' recognizes that this highly acclaimed film does not promote or glorify the use of drugs," said Steve Elzer, senior vice president of New Line's corporate communications.

'Police Academy' co-star Graf dies

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — David Graf, a character actor best known for the overzealous officer Tackleberry in the "Police Academy" movies, has died. He was 50.

Graf, a Lancaster, Ohio, native who lived in Studio City, Calif., collapsed and died of a heart attack Saturday night at a family wedding in Arizona, said his agent, Lisa DeSante. Graf did not have a history of heart trouble, she said.

"He was not ill. He did not have high blood pressure. He was in shape," DeSante said. "He was a very youthful 50. He didn't even look 50. I couldn't even get him parts for a 50-year-old because didn't people believe he was that old."

Graf, who would have turned 51 on April 16, played military officers in last year's "Rules of Engagement" and in a recurring role on TV's "The West Wing."

Born April 16, 1950, Graf moved to Los Angeles in 1980 and began landing film roles and TV guest spots. Graf co-starred as the militantly aggressive Tackleberry in "Police Academy" in 1984, and he appeared in the film franchise's six sequels over the next decade.


In 1994, Graf played Tom Arnold in the TV movie "Roseanne: An Unauthorized Biography." His other television credits included guest spots on "Touched by an Angel," "Sports Night," "Becker" and "Caroline in the City."

Among Graf's theatrical film credits were "Guarding Tess," "The Brady Bunch Movie," "Citizen Ruth" and "Irreconcilable Differences."

DeSante became Graf's agent about five years ago, and they became good friends. Graf was supposed to be a speaker at DeSante's wedding later this year, she said.


"David was an amazing person," DeSante said. "He was very talented and very loved, and he made all of our lives so bright. It is a true tragedy to lose somebody so young."

Graf is survived by his wife, Kathy, and two sons, Daniel, 10, and Sean, 7. A memorial service was planned for Friday.



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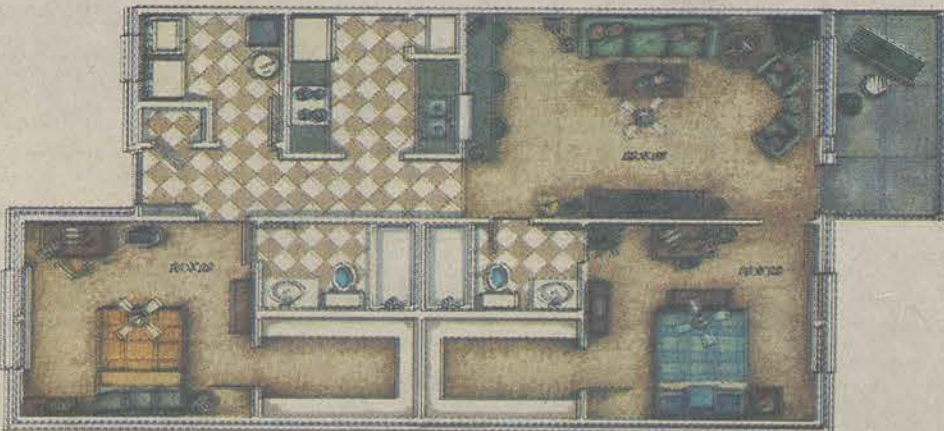


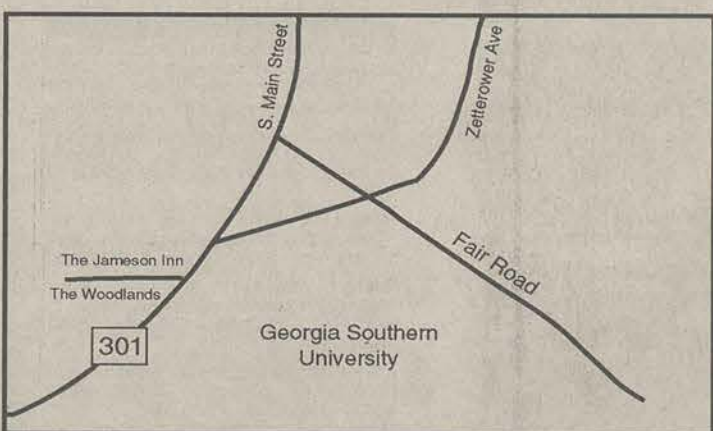
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