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The GEORGE-ANNE



Monday
February 18, 2002

Sports: GSU Softball swept by Georgia Tech
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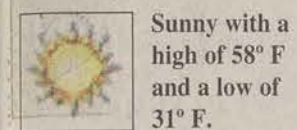
Volume 74, No. 60
www.stp.gasou.edu

ON THE INSIDE:



Covering the campus like a
swarm of gnats

Today's Weather



Sunny with a
high of 58° F
and a low of
31° F.

Only in America

- A child stops his mother's SUV after she has a seizure while driving.
- A woman is charged with murder after placing her newborn in a plastic bag.
- A 77-year-old nun returns home after doing time in prison.

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Opinions

- The recent findings of dead bodies in north Georgia causes Justin Johnson to question the safety of cremation.

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Sports

- GSU Swimming & Diving takes fifth place at the Southern State Championship.



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Features

- NBC's ratings are soaring with combination of Olympics coverage and other entertainment shows.

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Arts & Entertainment

- The cast from the hit television show 'Friends' signs a contract for another year of new material. The actors and actresses are granted a salary increase for the new season.



Page 10

Southern Events

- BASEBALL**
 - GSU Baseball will take on Winthrop at 4 p.m. on Feb. 19.
- BLACK HISTORY MONTH**
 - The Miss African American Scholarship Pageant will be held on Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. in the Union Ballroom.

'Children's Veggie Garden' grows vegetables for local less fortunate

Angela Jones
books2374@aol.com

Three-year-old Sarah was a busy little bee, going from row to row armed with her trusty purple scissors, snipping a few leaves off of each plant in the row and putting them in her blue plastic bag.

"I like to get the big leaves, and then I put them in my bag," she explained, holding up a big dark green leaf.

Sarah's "leaves" are actually collard greens that other children planted months ago.

"We're going to give them away, so the poor hungry people can eat them," Sarah said, looking quite pleased with herself.

Sarah is one of seven children participating in The Children's Veggie Garden, a program sponsored by the Botanical Garden that grows vegetables, then donates them to feed the less fortunate in the community.

"Everything that we are growing here, we're going to give to the Statesboro Food Bank," said Education Coordinator Dianne Zimmerman.

"I think it's nice that we're helping all the hungry people, cause they don't have any food and stuff to eat like we do," said 8 year old Mary Fair. "I like planting the seeds best cause I imagine them getting all bigger and nice-looking."

The children work in the vegetable garden each Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m. weather permitting, planting seeds, weeding, watering, and harvesting ripe vegetables.

The current garden will run from February 6 to March 20.

The program is free, and is open to any child in the greater Statesboro area.

Currently, the program only has room for eight children, who must be willing to commit to participate for the entire seven weeks of the program.

"In the near future, we hope to have a bigger garden, so we can have more children," said volunteer Nikki Cauley.

The current garden, in its second week, features lettuce, collard



Allison Bennett & Stacy Singleton/STAFF

PLANTING FROM THE HEART: Local children are participating in the Botanical Garden's 'Children's Veggie Garden,' a program designed to grow vegetables that will later be donated to the Statesboro Food Bank.

greens, carrots, spinach, Brussel sprouts, jalapeño peppers, zucchini, garlic, cilantro and tomatoes, a green tomato that is used to make green salsa.

This is the third or fourth year that the Botanical Garden has done the Children's Veggie Garden.

"We started this to let the children get involved helping, as well

as to furnish food for the Food Bank," Cauley explained.

"My favorite gardening thing is the watering," said Laura, 6, as she hauled a watering can from the carrots to the zucchini. "I don't like veggies really a lot, I guess hungry people do though. Maybe we could give them spaghetti too, it's yummiar."

Past gardens have featured corn, peanuts, bell peppers, eggplant, radishes, potatoes, tomatoes and turnips.

"It depends on what will grow in each season," Cauley said. "We pretty much grow all year long, and we try to grow things that the children don't usually see, like peanuts."

Fund requests cause mass confusion, long meeting

• Part Two in a two-part series

By Mat Palmer
Gawriterpalmer@hotmail.com

However, Jaja said he was not at liberty to ask for money from the other organization's budget and withdrew the whole request on advice from his BSU advisor.

"We were under the impression... more or less, the school was paying

our way, in a sense," Jaja said. "If this money is coming from any money the BSU can get later or any of the other respective organizations, then we're pulling out."

"Anything done here on this campus is a whole lot more important than going to this conference," he said.

Several senators pointed out that the money could be refunded if the groups did not approve the fund request made on their behalf by Jaja. However, he would not relinquish his stand and withdrew the request.

Senator Tobias Mathis stated he

See SGA, Page 5

Pairs controversy over; men's hockey revs up

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Canadians still smarting from the figure skating scandal are getting a fresh dose of agony on ice: What's with their Olympic hockey team?

Canada's bid to end a 50-year gold medal drought in the country's

national sport got off to an awful start Friday night with a 5-2 loss to Sweden in the opener of the final round.

While the loss doesn't end Canadian medal hopes, for many it dampened a day that began with figure skaters Jamie Sale and David Pelletier

being told they will be getting gold medals, too. Beekie Scott also won Canada's first-ever medal in Nordic skiing.

The Americans collected three more medals Friday, including one by liver-transplant recipient Chris Klug, to boost their overall haul to a record 14. The men's hockey team made its debut with a 6-0 victory over Finland.

On Saturday, Ole Einar Bjoerndalen of Norway became the first triple gold-medalist of these games by winning the men's biathlon 12.5K pursuit and countryman Kjetil Andre Aamodt won the super giant slalom for his second gold.

Aamodt earned his seventh career Olympic medal, two more than any Alpine skier. Silver and bronze went to Austrians Stephan Eberharter and Andreas Schifferer. American Daron Rahlves, the reigning Super G



Associated Press

MIXED EMOTIONS: As the Canadian hockey team lost badly, the nation's figure skaters were told that they would share the gold with the Russians.

See Olympics, Page 5

Arbor Day celebrated, trees planted at Botanical Garden



Lindsay Wise/STAFF

CELEBRATING THE ENVIRONMENT: The Botanical Garden celebrated Arbor Day Saturday, planting numerous trees in the area.

By Angela Jones
books2374@aol.com

"Arbor Day is to plant trees, cause it's close to Spring, and that's when all the trees grow," said 7 year old Joseph Li, who won a dogwood tree as a door prize from the Botanical Garden.

"I thought someone else was going to win it," he said. "I never usually win stuff."

Li and his family were among more than 150 people who attended the Arbor Day celebrations at the Botanical Garden on Feb. 16, from 10 a.m. til noon.

Around 100 Red Bud, Pop Ash,

Swamp Laurel Oak, Loblolly Pine, Live Oak and Water Tupelo trees were given away to encourage people to plant trees.

"That's what Arbor Day is all about, getting people to plant trees," said Dr. Sue Sill, Botanical Garden director. "Trees are such an important part of our ecology."

Live Oaks grow to about 20 meters tall, and are usually found in dry, sandy soils, although they occasionally grow in moist habitats. Pop Ash, also known as Carolina Ash, are around 15 meters high, and are found

See Arbor Day, Page 5

Dr. David Dudley, presents 'Bible: Fact or Fiction'

By Urkovia Jacobs
U_jacobs@hotmail.com

Students gathered Monday night in Watson Hall during ACE (Academic Community of Excellence) hour, for the program "Bible: Fact or Fiction?" with guest speaker, GSU professor, Dr. David Dudley.

A former Lutheran Minister, Dr. Dudley has taught for 13 years at Georgia Southern with this being the first time speaking at a program of this nature. "Religion has always been an interest to human beings. It is a very important part of peoples lives and is studied like other fields," said Dudley.

Considering the topic to be a "provocative title, but not useful," Dr. Dudley said "If you frame the question, 'Bible: Fact or Fiction', it often forces people to make some difficult decisions. I think you should read the Bible for the truth it conveys."

"This program came as an idea from one of our residents after surveys were taken by our Building Director Jasmine," stated Bridgette Reese, the RA who promoted this program. "We have had past successes with topics such as abortion, sex, and drugs, during ACE hour, but they were not from a religious angle. This is the first program of this nature for us."

Some of the questions asked by students included "What, or does, the bible say about dinosaurs and space?" Along with "Do you think there are many ways to interpret the scriptures?"

Everyone was encouraged to share their opinions and thoughts on the bible and was constantly reminded that it was ok to disagree. "Your in a University now where the free interchange of ideas is suppose to be the name of the game," said Dudley.

"His perspective was really good," said Jeff Grant, an RA in Dorman and chaplain for Vision Ministries. "He was not talking down but talking to the people. He understood it was literature," said Grant.

Although not at the programs attendance, fellow colleague Dr. Davidson, who teaches three Introduction to Religion courses and a

See Religion, Page 5



Police Beat

Statesboro Police Department

February 13

•Marvin Kent Maye, 17, was arrested for burglary.

•Jonathan Lambert, 21, was arrested for burglary.

•Antonio Collins, 20, was arrested for burglary.

•Travalian W. Sheffield, 20, was arrested for possession of marijuana.

February 14

•David Seral McMillian, 23, was arrested for obstruction of police, open container and seat belt violation.

February 15

•Cory Patrick O'Brien, 23, was arrested for DUI and hit and run.

•Jeremy Michael Ray, 22, was arrested for DUI, weaving and wanted person.

•Jason Ryan Potter, 19, was arrested for DUI and defective headlight.

•Leslie Ann Morgan, 19, was arrested for DUI, underage possession of alcohol and headlights required.

•Andrew Jackson Williams, 21, was arrested for theft by taking.

February 16

•Marvin Lambert Parrish, 18, was arrested for defective headlights and possession of marijuana.

February 17

•David George Francolihi, 19, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

•Johnny Boatfield, 19, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

•Scott Walter Schindler, 18, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol and public indecency.

•Joseph R. Capello, 19, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

•Jason Allen Walters, 19, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

•Jason James McNeill, 19, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

•John Lee McGhee, 18, was

arrested for possession of marijuana and no proof of insurance.

GSU Public Safety

February 14

•Jarvon Lee reported a banner from the radio station was missing from the Williams Center.

•Cartney Jones reported someone scratched the hood of his vehicle with a sharp object in the Perimeter Commuter parking lot.

February 15

•Marvin Gavins Jr., 19, of Kennedy Hall, was charged with obstruction of officer.

•William Marcello Perez, 19, of Willow Bend, was charged with obstruction of an officer and giving false information to an officer.

--All Police Beat information is compiled by Megan Mulcahy, staff writer.

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

Georgia News

Coastal Georgia Lutherans to advertise faith in educational

Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. -- Ever wonder what a Lutheran is?

Hoping to demystify their faith to Southerners, 18 Lutheran congregations in coastal Georgia plan a \$7,000 advertising campaign around Easter to educate residents about their beliefs.

Ads will appear in newspapers between South Carolina and Florida within weeks, including messages

on city buses and other venues.

It will be the first such effort by the 18-church Ebenezer Conference, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America's Southeastern Synod, which is based in Atlanta.

The Chicago-based ELCA had an awareness campaign several years ago, but that message did not reach much of southern Georgia, said Jane Bozza, a

coastal resident who is working on the advertising campaign.

In Georgia, there are about 37,000 ELCA members, compared with 1.4 million Southern Baptists and 450,600 United Methodists.

"A lot of people do not know what a Lutheran is," she said. Many people ask what Lutherans believe and whether she is a Christian, Bozza said.

Campus News

Stadium Walk Apartment experiences break in

Special to G-A

On Feb. 10, Kwame Esson reported to the Statesboro Police Department that someone broke into his apartment through a bedroom window and stole his TV, Sony Playstation, and leather jacket.

Esson reported to APO

Raymond Miles that he suspected Sharif Jamel Murray of burglarizing his apartment. The case was turned over to Detective Craig Coleman.

After further investigation by Detective Coleman, an arrest warrant was issued the following day for Murray.

On Feb. 14, Officers of the Statesboro Police Department found Murray hiding in the bathroom of a friend's apartment at #151 Stadium Walk Apartments.

Murray was arrested and charged for burglary. Murray was transported to the Bulloch County Jail pending further court action.

ORCHESTRA

The Statesboro-Georgia Southern Symphony Orchestra will perform its Masterworks II Concert at 8 p.m. on Feb. 25 in the new Performing Arts Center in the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building on the Georgia Southern University campus.

Advance tickets may be purchased by calling the Performing Arts Center box office at 486-7999 or the Georgia Southern music department at 681-5396.

This concert will be the second of three Masterworks Concerts the symphony performs during the year.

The orchestra also performs two youth concerts, a holiday concert and an outdoor "pops" concert. This year's "pops" concert is scheduled for April 26 in Sweetheart Circle on the Georgia Southern campus.

program and application materials may be found at www.jackkentcookefoundation.org.

Should you have questions, please call the UHP Office at 681-0357 or 486-7926.

PRINT AND STAMP MAKING

Learn to carve images in linoleum and rubber at a special mini-series workshop at Georgia Southern Botanical Gardens. The workshops will run Saturday, Feb. 23, March 2, and March 9 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Costs of the series is \$55 (all three sessions) for members of Friends of the Garden or \$20 for a single session. Non-members will have to pay \$65 which includes all three sessions as well.

For more information call 871-1149.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Help is needed in identifying students eligible for the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship, which awards up to \$30,000 annually to fund tuition and fees for the remainder of a student's undergraduate degree.

A nominee must: (1) be enrolled at an accredited four-year college or university; (2) have achieved sophomore or junior standing at the time of nomination; and (3) have a high level of achievement as demonstrated by superior grades, academically rigorous courses, and participation in challenging extracurricular activities, especially those demonstrating leadership potential.

More information about the

PRINT AND STAMP MAKING

Nationally known plant photographers Carol and Hugh Nourse will be the featured speakers at the Coastal Plain Native Plant Society's meeting Feb. 27, at 6 p.m. at RJ's Restaurant in Statesboro.

There is no charge for the talk and anyone interested in native plants is invited to attend.

The Coastal Plain Native Plant Society is sponsored by Georgia Southern Botanical Garden. For information on the Coastal Plain Native Plant Society call the Garden at 871-1149.

--All Campus News information is compiled by Jenni Ginepri, assistant news editor.

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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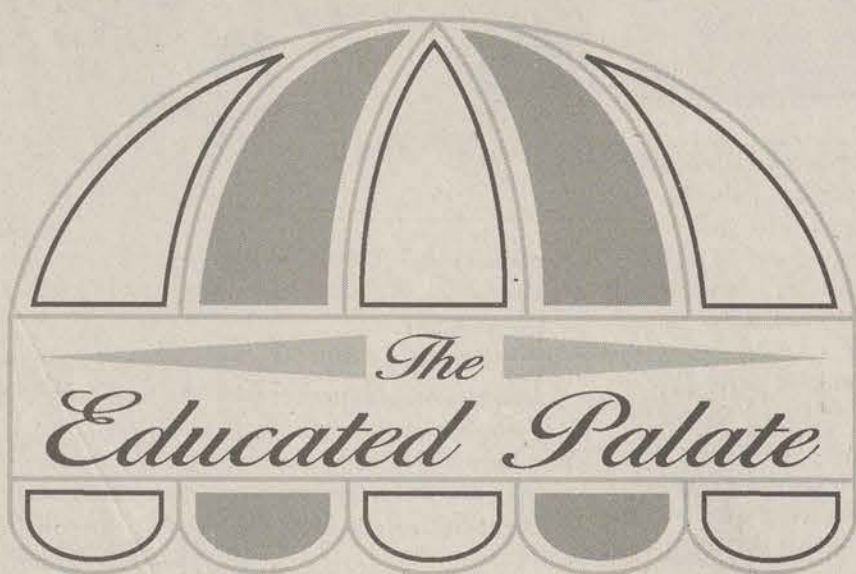


TUESDAY

Chicken
Wings



Including full selections from our tasty salad bar!



Located in The Russell Union

Now open for breakfast, lunch and dinner buffet.
(Sorry--no menu service for dinner.)

Women's Awareness Week Committee

The Multicultural Student Center is currently soliciting students, faculty, and staff members who are interested in assisting with the Women's Awareness Week programming.

The 2002 National Theme is "Women Sustaining the American Spirit."

If you would like to participate by serving on the planning committee, please contact Georj Lewis in the Multicultural Student Center at 681-5409 or email glewis@gasou.edu by Friday, February 22nd, 2002.

ONLY IN AMERICA...



1 Arkansas

Mom has seizure, child stops SUV

LITTLE ROCK -- Authorities credit a quick-thinking, 11-year-old boy for stopping his mother's sport utility vehicle on a busy highway after she had a seizure.

The SUV was on four-lane Cantrell Road in Tuesday rush hour traffic when Tyler Lawrence had to take control.

He first thought his mother, Carolyn Lawrence, was choking when she began shaking so he slapped her on the back. When that didn't work, the boy reached from the passenger side of the vehicle to steer the SUV as it slid along the edge of a ditch, then back onto the road.

He pushed his mother's leg to work the brake and was eventually able to stop the vehicle by jamming it into park.

It all happened within seconds. Tyler knew how to handle the vehicle from having driven his grandparents' SUV in a rural area. He also races motorcycles.

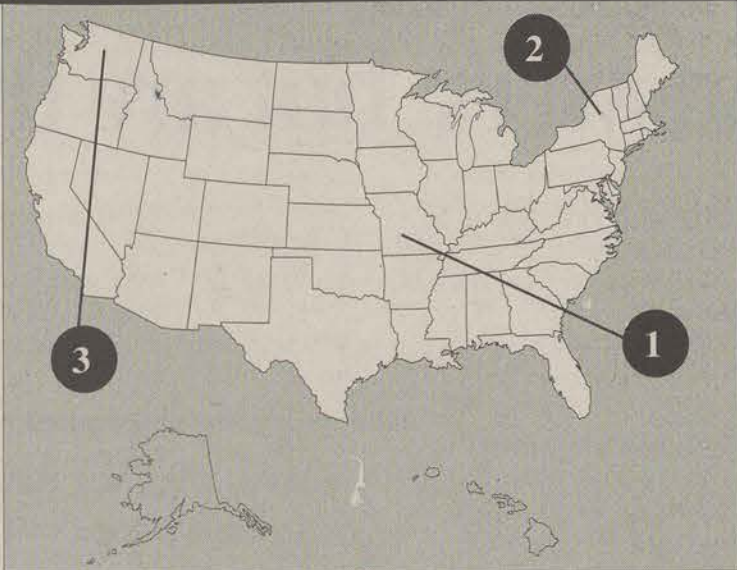
2 New York

Woman charged with murder; says she thought her baby was still born

MINEOLA -- A woman who said she placed her newborn in a plastic bag on Christmas Day because she thought he was stillborn was arraigned Friday on a murder charge.

The medical examiner's office determined the baby died of "some form of asphyxia... that the baby was deprived of oxygen," said Det. Lt. Frank Guidice, chief of the homicide squad for the Nassau County police.

Kathleen Brown, 25, of North Massapequa, pleaded innocent to second-degree murder charges at her arraignment



in Hempstead.

Brown, who was arrested on Thursday, was ordered held on \$5,000 bond.

On Christmas Day afternoon, Brown, a waitress, went into her bedroom and gave birth to the full-term boy while her mother, brother, two grandparents, and her mother's boyfriend were in the other room, Guidice said.

She later told police that she didn't know she was pregnant, and that she thought the baby was stillborn, Guidice said. The next day, Brown told her mother what had happened and her mother took her and the child to Mid-Island Hospital in Bethpage.

Guidice said that a two-month investigation determined the baby had been born alive.

"She should have taken further steps to ensure that that baby was properly cared for."

Brown is due back in court March 18. A message left with Brown's lawyer, Alan J. Reardon, was not immediately returned.

3 Washington

A 77-year-old nun back home after six months in federal prison

BELLEVUE, Wash. -- Federal pris-

oner No. 90294020 Sister Miriam Spencer is back home after six months in prison.

The 76-year-old Roman Catholic nun was convicted of trespassing during a protest two years ago at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly known as the School of the Americas, at Fort Benning, Ga.

"The worst thing was being treated like dirt by some of the guards," Spencer said Friday at the retirement home here for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace.

Spencer was released Thursday from the women's federal minimum-security camp at Pekin, Ill.

"Of course, I'm not going to stop protesting," Spencer said. "They haven't closed the school yet." Spencer added she may not trespass if she ever goes back.

Activists contend the school trains South American military leaders in torture and insurrection.

Four of the 26 protesters convicted in the 2000 protest were elderly nuns, including Sisters Dorothy Hennessey, 89, and Gwen Hennessey, 68, of Dubuque, Iowa.

Spencer's conviction only expanded her list of causes, which now includes concerns about the injustices of mandatory minimum sentencing.

"I promised the women before I left there that I would try to do something about it," she said.

OLYMPICS, FROM PAGE 1

world champion, was eighth. In the men's biathlon, Raphael Poiree of France won the silver and Ricco Gross of Germany won the bronze.

Sweden's Magdalena Forsberg, considered the greatest female biathlete ever, appeared headed to her third medal of the games before fading out of contention in the 10-kilometer biathlon pursuit. Olga Pyleva of Russia won, followed by Kati Wilhelm of Germany and Irina Nikoulitchina of Bulgaria.

Aerials qualifying was highlighted by Evelyn Leu of Switzerland nailing a triple flip with three full twists en route to a world-record score of 203.16. The finals Monday will not include America's top jumper, Emily Cook, or Australia's Jacqui Cooper, both out with injuries.

The U.S. Nordic combined team, the country's best hope for its first Olympic medal in the sport, was in third place after the jumping portion Saturday. The second half, a 20-kilometer cross-country relay, is Sunday.

Other medals to be decided Saturday include men's 1,000-meter speedskating

and short-track speedskating titles in men's 1,000 meters and women's 500 meters.

More action includes the start of men's aerials and two-man bobsled, the U.S. women's hockey team playing Finland in a battle of unbeaten and the men facing Russia at home for the first time since their famous clash in Lake Placid in 1980.

Germany tops the medals chart with 18 (5 gold, 8 silver, 5 bronze). The Americans are next with 14 (3-6-5), then at 12 are Norway (7-5-0) and Austria (1-2-9).

HOCKEY: There were shades of 1980 all over the E Center. United States-Finland, just like the gold medal game 22 years ago. Herb Brooks behind the bench. Mike Eruzione was there, too, albeit in the stands. And the home team won again, helped by John LeClair's three goals and 23 saves by Mike Dunham. Canada's meltdown against Sweden came in the second period, when the Swedes took advantage of the wide international ice and popped four pucks past Curtis Joseph.

Jaromir Jagr celebrated his 30th birthday with two goals and two assists, and Dominik Hasek was solid as usual as

the Czech Republic opened the defense of its gold medal with an 8-2 victory over Germany. Russia beat Belarus 6-4 behind a goal and an assist from Sergei Fedorov, although there was some dismay over Nikolai Khabibulin allowing so many goals to a team with no NHL forwards.

The Russian women beat winless Kazakhstan 4-1 in a game between teams headed to the consolation round.

FIGURE SKATING: A late-night deal struck in a hotel suite enabled the Canadian pair to upgrade the silver they received Monday night for gold, ending the scandal that overshadowed the first week of the games. The International Skating Union also suspended the French judge for misconduct. The Canadians and the Russian pair of Anton Sikharulidze and partner Elena Berezhnaya are now co-gold medalists.

The drama heightened interest in Friday night's dance compulsories, which are usually only for hard-core figure skating fans: Five hours of 24 couples doing the same patterns to the same rhythm of music for only 20.

ARBOR DAY, FROM PAGE 1

in swamps and on pond margins. Swamp Laurel Oaks reach a height of 45 meters, and grow in bottom lands, poorly drained soils and swamp margins. They are rarely found in drier areas.

Water Tupelos grows to about 32 meters, and are found in wet habitats like swamp forests and the borders of streams, ponds and lakes.

Red Buds are only 14 meters tall, and they grow best in moist habitats, although they do also occur in drier areas.

"We always give away pine trees," Sill explained. "All the other trees were donated to us by one of our volunteers who grows them for us."

All the trees given away are native to Georgia.

Trees give us fruits, nuts and maple syrup, which is made from the sap of the maple tree. The wood and pulp is used to make pencils, newspaper, tissue products such as Kleenex, bathroom tissue and paper towels and milk cartons.

Tree derivatives like cellulose and methylcellulose, are used in lipstick, makeup, shampoo and conditioner, photo film and toothpaste.

Timber is the highest valued crop

produced in Georgia, and the state plants an average of 613,000 trees per day, more than five times the number harvested daily.

In addition to the free trees, there were various activities for children: coloring, making greeting cards with paper bugs and thin sheets of yellow plastic to represent amber, and leaf painting.

Arbor Day meant different things to different age groups.

14-year-old Amanda Durden says "we plant trees so we can have clean air and stuff, we learned that in school."

Cristen Durden, 10, says "it's like Georgia Day. We should clean up and protect the environment and stuff."

The Paparella children, Maria, 6, Christina, 9 and Matthew, 8, said that the point of Arbor Day is "to celebrate trees." "Trees are cool," said Matthew. "They give oxygen and they help us breathe."

So, what's the best tree around? "A Christmas tree," said 6-year-old Maria.

Members of SAGE, Student Alliance for a Green Earth, were also present for the celebration. The organization, which often participates in Botanical Garden events, sold popcorn and cotton candy,

and had a table set up to Rufus Moore, a representative form the Wildlife Center, brought out Majesty, a Eurasian Eagle Owl, a King snake and a baby corn snake for the event.

"The forest is important to all these animals," he explained. "That is where you'd expect to find owls and snakes and other animals. In fact, these owls actually depend on some of the older trees to provide them with homes."

Besides the owl, another famous forest resident made an appearance at the Arbor Day event: Smokey the Bear came out of hibernation for the celebration.

"We have to save the trees because they're so pretty," Smokey said. "Besides, I wouldn't have anywhere to live and sleep without any trees."

Stephanie Tames, Botanical Garden PR Co-ordinator, said that Smokey was invited to the event because of the work he's done to educate people about protecting the forests, and forest management.

"He's done a lot of teaching about forest management, and our role in helping to protect and manage the forest," she said.

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OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

Let's show plants some love

What happened to the plants?

We really do take them for granted. After all, they do provide us with the oxygen we breathe. And how many of us have found ourselves sitting beneath their shading branches on a hot summer day? Walking through the soft, cool grass after hopping out of the pool definitely beat the scalding cement.

Think of all of the great spices and herbs that come from plants. Why, without that zesty cilantro in your salsa, there would just be no point. And where would mom's wonderful tomato sauce be without that wonderful garlic?

Or hashbrowns for example. Yes, those steamy scattered, smothered slices of potatoes on your Waffle House plate did indeed make their start in the ground as, you guessed it, plants. Come to think of it, that ketchup you so generously slop on top of your finely grated and fried potatoes came from a plant too.

Lest we forget the apartment, house, or dorm you live in. The wood that frames your room and so rigidly holds the roof above your head came from trees. Come to think of it, that roof is probably made from a good deal of wood too.

Then there's the paper you're reading these words off of right now. Follow along, because here's something that shouldn't surprise you: it's from plants. Those notes you took earlier today that you no doubt doodled on, the course catalog you'll soon be choosing your classes from, the books you'll spend way too much money on and then leave sitting in your cabinet to collect dust: they all have one thing in common. They started off as plants.

It's about time to say thanks to our rooted friends. We suggest hugging a tree. Just make sure no one sees you.

People want answers, but are there any?

My dad always said he wanted to be cremated. This way, he told me, we would always know where he was.

He didn't want to have to worry about a flood coming and destroying his gravesite or a tornado ripping through town and messing up the cemetery. Cremation, to him, was a way for us as a family to always have him with us without worry of something happening to his body.

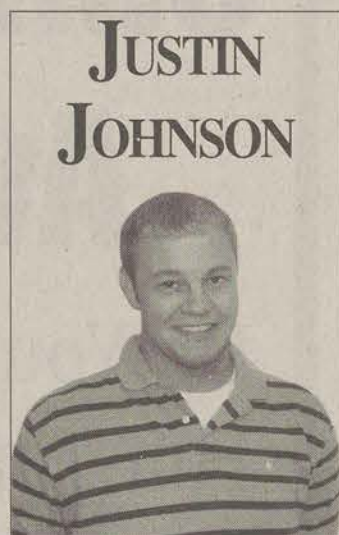
After watching the news last night and talking to him about what we had both watched on CNN he changed his mind about cremation and so have I.

The headline "Bodies Found at Crematory" turned my head.

In Noble, Georgia, a small town in the northwest part of our state, crematory grounds were found strewn with the bodies of a count that could yield 200 plus bodies.

So far, in each of the five different makeshift burial vaults found on the crematory grounds have been found 30 or so bodies. In the woods nearby, four or five other bodies were identified. I thought I'd also mention that each of those burial vaults is supposed to contain one person, not 30.

Ray Brent Marsh, 28, the son of the crematory's owners, was arrested on Saturday and charged with five counts of theft by deception. Marsh was released yesterday after he posted a



JUSTIN JOHNSON

\$25,000 bond. RELEASED?

Unburied bodies just lay strewn on the grounds and shoved in sheds. People want to know the reason why this has happened. Is there one?

Is there even a word to describe this type of cruelty? It's sub-humane. It's inhumane. Hell, I wouldn't treat anything like that. Watching the news made me sick to my stomach last night.

Knowing the fact that my father could die and I ultimately trusting a crematory to follow through with his wishes only to find out that 20 years later that he is just laying on the ground somewhere makes me sick.

People want closure to the death of a loved one and this just opens up a whole new chapter in the whole ordeal. How can people grieve properly if they cannot even insure that their loved ones are not taken care of properly?

Bodies just lying there, rotting. It's sickening. It shows no respect whatsoever!

It makes me mad. It makes me sad. It makes me want to throw up.

It makes me even angrier to know that this has been happening for years! It was not until a nearby resident called the Federal Environmental Protection Agency's office that action was taken. A neighbor! A woman, walking her dog found a human skull.

Nope, this didn't happen in some third world country people, this happened in Georgia!

What's worse is that there is no logical explanation for this.

It looks like greed, pure and simple. It looks like some guy didn't want to be bothered with doing the service he was being paid to do and just dumped 200 bodies in the woods behind his house. Sad, but true.

And I know that sounds really blunt, but what other reason

would have you do something like that? In all honesty, the smell of laziness and fraud that is fuming is a little too thick to bear.

When officials asked Marsh why he didn't cremate the bodies, Marsh simply told them that they weren't working.

Umm, okay like that's a good enough reason? It's not - at all.

Now the Georgia Environmental Protection Division has even began testing well water from the area for contaminants.

I don't understand why people do things like this. Just when you give other people the benefit of the doubt, believing that everyone has goodness deep at heart, you hear something like that that makes your own heart jump and your stomach turn.

To think that Ray Marsh has a family at home that he comes home to each night and gives them a hug and a kiss after dumping other people's children and parents in a creek somewhere is unimaginable. Frankly, it's downright scary.

Justin Johnson is the editor-in-chief of The George-Anne and can be reached at gaeditor@gasou.edu.

KNOWING THE FACT THAT MY FATHER COULD DIE AND I, ULTIMATELY TRUSTING A CREMATORY TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH HIS WISHES ONLY TO FIND OUT THAT 20 YEARS LATER THAT HE IS JUST LAYING ON THE GROUND SOMEWHERE MAKES ME SICK.

Let's not wave the flag in whole world's face

I fully understand Norman Mailer's pique with his fellow Americans - especially since the Winter Olympics opened in Salt Lake City.

Mailer, in a series of interviews that ran in British newspapers earlier this month, expressed his exasperation with what's passing for patriotism in post-Sept. 11 America.

"America has an almost obscene infatuation with itself," he told The Daily Telegraph. "Has there ever been a big, powerful country that is as patriotic as America? And patriotic in the tinniest way, with so much flag-waving? You'd really think we were some poor little republic and that if one person lost his religion for one hour, the whole thing would crumble. America is the real religion in this country."

We do appear to be going overboard. I do believe that some people in places like Long Island are trying to outdo their neighbors for dramatic displays of the flag. And others, especially immigrants from those parts of the world forever etched in our psyches as bastions of terrorism, are feeling not-so-subtle pressure to demonstrate their allegiance to the United States by mounting flags, too.

During the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics, it really struck me that the "U.S.A.! U.S.A.!!" rah-rahing had hit a new - and uncomfortable - level. After Police Officer Daniel Rodriguez's now familiar - and almost de rigueur - rendition of "God Bless America," pop singer R. Kelly sang about Americans being "the greatest." That was very, well, impolite to the athletes, fans and dignitaries from around the world - not to mention the billions watching on television across

the globe - kind of like inviting guests over for dinner and spending the entire time bragging about yourself.

The tussle over the display of the tattered flag from Ground Zero bordered on tastelessness, too. For a while, it was touch and go, with a sizable

they'd long been a part of.

Television coverage of the Olympics seems to focus more on American athletes - whether they finish in the running or not - than it does on winning athletes from other countries. Part of this is because, as Kelly Clark, the first American gold medalist in these games, said after her winning snowboard ride, "We've had a tough few months here," alluding to Sept. 11 and its aftermath. "It's great to give people something to cheer about."

One of her teammates was even more specific: "I'm stoked for the U.S.A.," Shannon Dunn said.

Fundamentally, however, this is American boosterism in overdrive. I'm less interested in tallies that emphasize which nation is ahead in the medals count. I'm much more interested in individual accomplishment - nationality be damned!

On some college campuses, there is a kind of counterpatriotism underway, with students protesting the war effort in Afghanistan and the possible abuse of the rights of Taliban and Al Qaeda soldiers taken into custody by the U.S. Some superpatriots criticize their dissent as dishonorable.

But again, as Mailer told The Guardian: "My feeling is that you're patriotic about America if you're obsessed with America because it's a democracy and its obligation is to improve all the time, not to stop and take bows and smell its armpits and say, 'Ambrosia!'"

Good on you, Norm!

By E.R. Shipp
New York Daily News

TELEVISION COVERAGE OF THE OLYMPICS SEEMS TO FOCUS MORE ON AMERICAN ATHLETES - WHETHER THEY FINISH IN THE RUNNING OR NOT - THAN IT DOES ON WINNING ATHLETES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

contingent of superpatriots demanding that the American athletes march in with the wounded banner as a symbol of American defiance and resilience.

Fortunately, the matter was resolved when the International Olympic Committee permitted an honor guard of police, firefighters and U.S. Olympians to solemnly carry the flag into the stadium during what turned out to be a moving ceremony that was, in the end, bigger than America. After all, the world was wounded Sept. 11. Indeed, other parts of the world were probably saying to themselves that day that the United States was entering the horrid world of war and terrorism that

LETTER AND SUBMISSION POLICY

The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be typed (double-spaced, please), preferably on Macintosh disk in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Works format. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. There is no word limit on submissions. A writer may request to remain anonymous. However, it will be the editor's decision whether or not to print the name. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.

Covering the campus like a swarm of gnats

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SGA, FROM PAGE 1

had "a problem" with the fund request in itself since last year the money was paid by the GSU, not by each attending organization.

Sheena Glover, SGA Advisor stated that there was not enough money to budget this trip from the University; therefore, it was being requested from the SGA.

"As I understand it, it's (the reason GSU is not paying) due to the budget crunch," Glover said. "If SGA can't fund it, there is no money on the President's budget to fund it. There is no money in the Vice President's budget to fund it, which is why they're funneling it through SGA. So, there is no other funding for it."

Money was no issue to the SGA, though. There is over \$40,000 available, \$3,000 to each campus recognized organization.

However, policy is an issue.

Executive Vice President Nick Pearson noted the questions and concerns of the Senate were becoming more directed towards Jaja and BSU for pulling out. The issue, according to Pearson, was that the request was not of a formal nature from the beginning and should be tabled until a later meeting when the proper procedure could be followed as well as each organization being represented.

"I know for each fund request we get, we have to obtain the signatures of the President, the Advisor or the Event Chair," Pearson said. No signatures were on file for these requests.

According to the SGA Constitution, organizations requesting special funding must submit a fund request application to the Vice President of Finance by 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays. The Financial Advisory Committee reviews fund request one week after submission.

From that point of reviewing, the organizations Project Chair will be contacted. If not available, the President and then the advisor is contacted to arrange a meeting in order to "clarify the project proposal's details." Upon committee approval, the request is then taken to the Senate floor.

"Number one, this fund request did not come through channels every other fund request comes through," Senator Steve Crosby said, noting to "take him

lightly" and that there are "extenuating circumstances." "Number two, each fund request - we have to give them individually. We cannot give them in a lump sum."

"Like I said before, I was given this on Monday by Dr. Gunter," Jaja said. "If the money is going to come from anything BSU can get later on, then we are not going through with this. And I cannot speak on behalf of other organizations."

Gunter admitted he met just this week with students about the fund request. He said the request was not from him but from each organization and that the prospective students were made aware that "the next step is to approach our SGA."

"We are certainly not in the business to hood wing our student organizations in their authority as it relates to fund requests," Gunter said. "It is unfortunate that student organizations are put through this kind of requests; that students are forced to make a choice about one act as opposed to another begs a little attention."

"It may be my fault or it may be the fault of the organizations," Gunter said.

In order to request money from the SGA, each organization would have to separately fill out a special funding request form and turn it into the Financial Advisory Committee for review.

The request was tabled until next week's meeting.

At press time Thursday, no organization had followed up with Gunter or the SGA.

Another request, one from the Sports Management Program, decreased at the last minute requiring a little eleventh-hour computing around the Senate tables.

"I just want the Senate to know, this isn't what they brought to us. The fund was request was the same (as one on projector) - everything was fine," Fauscett said. "And now it is changing so I am confused."

Latoya Stackhouse, president of the club explained, "The reason why it has changed is because the \$750 is for the \$75 for the ten people if we had sent in all our registration forms before the (February) 15. The hotel accommodations included the fourth room for our advisor, which we

will pay for ourselves."

Each student will be penalized \$25 for late registration, increasing the amount to \$100 each.

Following about twenty minutes of questions and number crunching, the club was approved for \$1600. Their original request was for \$2,218.

Despite the urging from several senators to ask for gas money and parking costs, Stackhouse refused to ask for more money.

Each organization, according to the SGA Constitution, is eligible for \$3,000 for approved activities this semester.

In other business, the SGA:

- Installed Thomas Miller and Rusty Williams as At-Large Senators. The two will replace senators recently removed due to under par membership requirements as well as attendance problems outlined in the SGA Constitution. One senator resigned.

Vice President Pearson noted that no other senators would be installed after the Feb. 20 meeting for the 2001-2002 term.

- Approved an \$84,000 budget, an increase of approximately \$12,000, to send to the Activity Budget Committee for review and/or passing.

- Fauscett noted that the SGA would finish the year in the black.

- Approved changes to Article XI of the constitution.

- Switched Articles XII and XIII so that the section on Amendments came before Ratification.

- Announced that the Constitution has been fully revised.

- Pearson commended and congratulated Constitutional Review Committee.

- Announced the President's Round table meeting with campus organization presidents to be held Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Russell Union room 2047.

- Announced SGA banquet to be held April 16. Executive Vice President Pearson said this year's banquet would be a formal event.

- Senator Ramona Howard congratulated NAACP Man of Valor winners who serve on SGA. The men are J.C. Gilbert, Jonathan Perkins, Terrance Mathis and Jesus Furquan.

RELIGION, FROM PAGE 1

Religion and Literature course, said, "Enrollment in the introduction to religion class has increased in the last 3 or 4 years. My sense is that students perceive that religion is an important subject and that they have heard good things about the course."

Dudley said, "I felt privileged to offer this course [Bible Literature] because it is where many students opinions are challenged. Many students realize how much they really know about the Bible."

According to Davidson, religious studies courses differ because, "Many students bring their own interest of the subject, so that it is somewhat easier to get them involved in class conversations and to get them to see the importance of a particular subject. My sense

is that the students' interest in the subject changes much of the tone of the class—they are there because at some level they want to be there."

According to Dudley "The University is in the process of

building the Religious Department."

Currently students can only receive a minor in Religion at Georgia Southern, according to the Student 2001-2002 catalog.

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2 For 1 Appetizers and Drinks

Bo Fulginiti



Why do we still doubt #23?

Let's face it basketball fans: Michael Jordan has spoiled us.

For two decades now he has soared to almost unreachable heights: winning championships, changing the face of basketball, and becoming the only athlete in the history of team sport who is unquestionably the greatest to ever participate in it...and still we doubt him.

Four months ago, he blew the dust off his Nikes and stepped back on the NBA hardwood as a member of the Washington Wizards after a three-year hiatus, while most of us shook our heads.

The experts stated the facts: he is older, slower, on a team that finished last season in the Eastern Conference basement, and taking a huge risk at blemishing a legendary career.

Most of us had our minds made up that he was making a huge mistake, but we all forgot one thing...he is Michael Jordan.

Yesterday "His Airness" turned 39 years of age, and after Friday night's 16-foot buzzer-beating jump shot that defeated the Phoenix Suns, he has once proved to us all that he is not only back, but he is still the best there is when the game is on the line.

"Michael has been the anchor for us, every single night," said head coach Doug Collins. "I wasn't there last year, but they won 19 games, and we were 21-20 at the break this year. You look at the team. The difference has been Michael Jordan."

Now the Wizards are 27-23, and in third place in the Atlantic Division. They are in position for a trip to the playoffs, and Jordan is averaging 25 points, and 5.2 assists a game, while winning with a bunch of players that the rest of the league left for dead.

And at this point in the season, most experts agree that he is neck-and-neck with the New Jersey Net's Jason Kidd for the NBA MVP award.

But he will be the first to tell you that he didn't come back for the personal awards, he came back to teach.

Sure, he doesn't jump as high or stick his tongue out as far as we all remember, but as "the teacher" he has taken a team used to losing, and taught them how to play with the exuberance of a perennial powerhouse.

The only additional scoring threat that the Wizards have is a raw "Rip" Hamilton, and they don't even have a single player that is averaging at least eight boards a game.

But somehow they are getting the job done, and Michael is the one leading the way.

He has taught his teammates to believe in each other, and has taught us all once again that we should never underestimate the heart, grit, and determination of a champion.

We all told him to keep the book of his career shut and locked away in a safe place, but he is still rewriting the final chapter to a story that is as amazing as any figure in history of sports.

And finally, he has also given us one final look at a legend which we have all taken for granted.

Bo Fulginiti is a sports writer for The George-Anne, and can be reached at Bodawg38@hotmail.com

Eagles claim victory in midst of slump

By Doug Kidd
doug_kidd@hotmail.com

Despite both teams in the midst of their worst slumps of the season, Georgia Southern and The Citadel still found themselves on Saturday vying for a first-round bye in next month's conference tournament.

After both the Eagles and the Bulldogs, losers of four of their last six and six of their past seven, respectively, lost shares of first place earlier this month, their chances of finishing better than third place in the SoCon's South Division looked bleak.

But, with Chattanooga and Charleston also struggling down the stretch, the contest grabbed back some of its meaning.

GSU point guard Sean Peterson scored 20 points — 18 in the second half — to push the Eagles past The Citadel 95-86, while moving the Eagles one game ahead of The Citadel.

The victory also gives GSU (14-11, 7-7) a shot at the bye. The Eagles are within one game

of second-place Chattanooga in the South Division standings and will play the Mocs on Monday in Tennessee. Chattanooga lost 86-62 to division-leading College of Charleston on Saturday.

Freshman Terry Williams matched his career high with 19 points, while Kashien Latham tallied 16, Julius Jenkins chipped in 13 and Sam Cox added 12. The Eagle bench accounted for 36 points, its second-best effort of the season.

"Our defense was really solid. We did a great job on their shooters in the first half," said GSU head coach Jeff Price. "We defended and we got a good game out of our bench."

"We wanted to be physical and we were able to take it to them with our guards and with our post play."

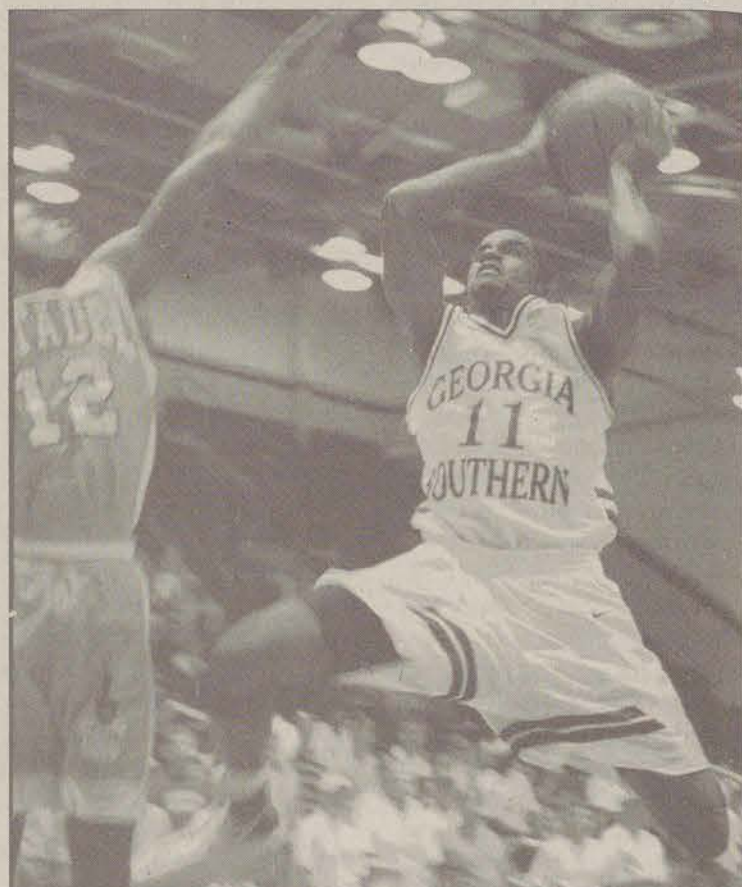
After trailing by five midway through the opening half, the Eagles heated up, using a 12-0 run to grab a 23-18 lead with

8:42 remaining. They increased their first-half advantage to as much as 15 points on a pair of Terry Williams' free throws at the 3:31 mark and took a 46-33 lead into halftime.

The Eagles opened the second half by scoring nine of the first 11 points to take a commanding 22-point lead with 16:21 left in the game. GSU held a double-digit advantage up until the 4:10 mark when The Citadel cut its deficit to eight on a pair of Ben Tobias free throws.

The Bulldogs got as close as 85-80 after a Travis Cantrell three-pointer with 3:00 left. But the Eagles responded, getting a layup and four free throws from Cox to silence the spurt and seal the victory.

Michael Joseph led The Citadel with a career-high 25 points, while Romas Krywonis had 16, Alan Puckett had 15 and leading scorer Travis Cantrell had 11, six under his 17.4 average.



Tim Deaver/STAFF

VICTORY NEAR THE END: As the season comes to an end, the streak of losses the Eagles experienced has, too. The Eagles defeated Citadel 95-86.

Softball slips in doubleheader to Tech

G-A News Service

Georgia Tech pushed across one run in the top of the ninth to break a scoreless tie in game one, and used a Jessica Sallinger no-hitter in game two to sweep Georgia Southern by scores of 1-0 and 6-0 Saturday afternoon in Statesboro.

Game one remained scoreless through the first eight innings of play. Georgia Tech (5-1) pinch-hitter Tasha Waugh led off the inning with a walk, and was replaced on the bases by Kirin Kumar. Kumar advanced to second when Tara Knudsen coaxed a walk, and then scored on Jamie Frost's single to center.

Georgia Southern (0-8) managed two singles by Suzanne Pansulla and Stacie Cooper in the bottom of the ninth, but could not push the tying run across. Cooper finished the game 3-5 with a double, while Pansulla posted a 2-3 ledger. Knudsen led the Yellow Jackets, going 2-3. Mary Utt also added two hits, including a double.

Aimee Littlejohn went to at least nine innings in her second consecutive start, scattering five hits and striking out two. Erin Voeltz earned the win for Georgia Tech, striking out five and allowing seven hits.

Georgia Tech scored two runs in the first inning of game two. Felicia Coursey walked and advanced when Tara Neff reached on an error. A Knudsen single sent Coursey home, and Neff scored on a Mimi Utt ground ball

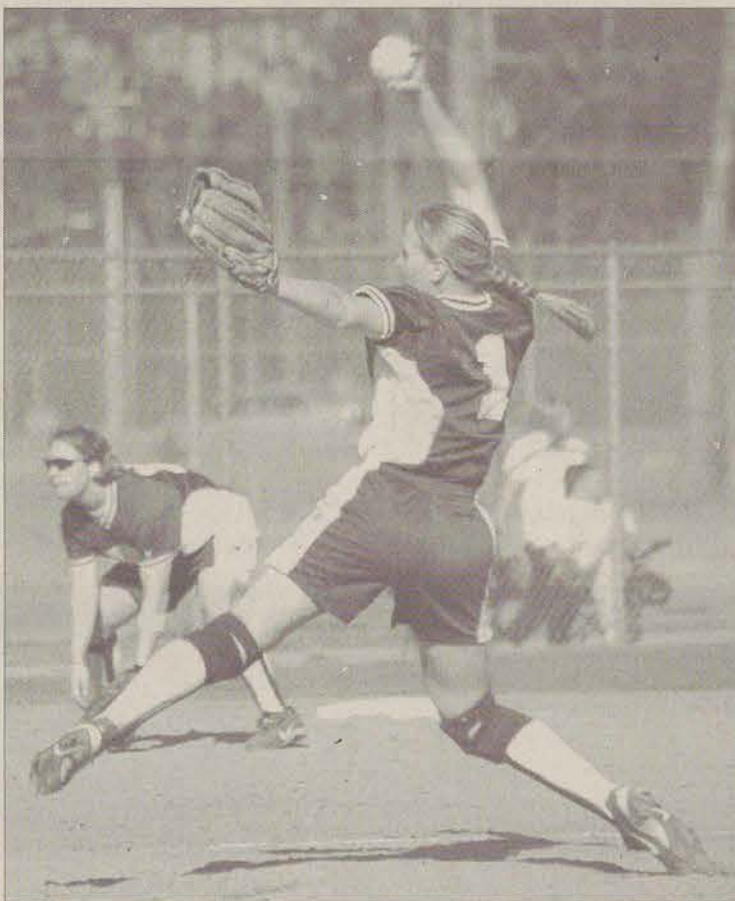
to second that Cooper made a diving play on to retire Utt at first.

The Yellow Jackets added four more in the second frame. The big blow in the inning came when Knudsen smashed a double to center, chasing home three Georgia Tech base runners.

Sallinger tossed her second no-hitter in three career starts for the Yellow Jackets. Sallinger struck out eight, but walked 11. Crystal

Crews allowed just one hit for Georgia Southern in five innings of relief, striking out two.

Georgia Southern returns to action next weekend as they host the fourth-annual GSU Invitational. The Eagles begin pool play on Friday at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. facing Troy State and Campbell. Georgia Tech sees action again on Wednesday as the host Georgia State at 2:00 p.m.



LaVene Bell/STAFF

FIRST HOME LOSS: The Lady Eagles hosted their first home game this weekend and lost the doubleheader to Georgia Tech.

Swim and dive team finishes fifth at Southern States

G-A News Service

The GSU swim and dive team finished with 474 total points to claim fifth place in the Southern States Championships held Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the University of North Florida. The Eagles trailed fourth-place College of Charleston by 7.5 points. The championship was won by North Florida with 753 points.

The highest finisher for Georgia Southern was sophomore Lauren Bird who was the only Eagles named to the All Southern States

Team. She placed second in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:08.69. Sophomore Erin Downs took fourth place in the same event with a time of 2:10.80.

Freshman Sasha Murray finished fourth in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 2:13.77 while in the same event junior Nicole Darrow placed eighth.

In the 1650 freestyle, the Eagles claimed three of the top eight spots as junior Ashley Burger finished fourth with a time of 18:15.78 while sophomore Rachel Card

came in sixth place and junior Carrie Kile placed eighth.

Freshman Kaley Marshall finished sixth in the 100-yard freestyle and freshman Florrie Cunningham took eighth in the same event. Junior Annie Burton took eighth in the 200-yard breaststroke to round out the Eagles' attack. Also, Georgia Southern's 400-yard free relay team of Cunningham, Marshall, Downs, and Bird finished fourth.

The meet marked the end of the 2001-02 season for the Eagles.



Allison Bennett/STAFF

FINAL SEASON MEET: The GSU swimming and diving team travelled to the University of North Florida to compete in the Southern States Championships, placing fifth overall.

Women's tennis tripped by South Florida

G-A News Service

The University of South Florida women's tennis team defeated Georgia Southern 7-0 Saturday afternoon at the USF Varsity Tennis Courts.

Due to weather the teams played singles first where the Bulls jumped out to the early lead by taking all six of the singles. In doubles play, South Florida took two out of the three matches to win the doubles point.

The Eagles only win of the day came at No. 2 doubles where Charlotte Bruneteaux and Brooke McNamee improved their record to 2-0 on the season by beating Genevieve Houle and Claudia Nieto. 8-6.

Georgia Southern (1-3) begins a three-match homestand on Wednesday hosting Jacksonville followed by Campbell on Friday and Troy State on Sunday. All matches will be held at the Hanner Courts.

SINGLES

- #1 Natalie Schwartz (USF) def. Amy Bartlett (GSU) 6-2, 7-6 (7-2)
 - #2 Genevieve Houle (USF) def. Sarah Iqbal (GSU) 6-0, 6-2
 - #3 Ashlee Callahan (USF) def. Brooke McNamee 6-1, 6-1
 - #4 Patricia Kileo (USF) def. Charlotte Bruneteaux (GSU) 6-0, 6-3
 - #5 Claudia Nieto (USF) def. Callie Ward (GSU) 6-1, 6-3
 - #6 Jackie Spicijaric (USF) def. Sally Williams (GSU) 6-0, 6-1
- DOUBLES
- #1 Kolendo-Schwartz (USF) def. Bartlett-Ward (GSU) 8-2
 - #2 Bruneteaux-McNamee (GSU) def. Houle-Nieto (USF) 8-6
 - #3 Callahan-Spicijaric (USF) def. Leslie Bechtold-Iqbal (GSU) 8-0

GSU Baseball loses tripleheader to Alabama

G-A News Service

Peter Stonard and Beau Heard both picked up three hits and drilled home runs while centerfielder Scott McClanahan threw out a potential Eagle tying run at the plate in the eighth inning to lead Alabama to a 7-6 non-conference victory over Georgia Southern Saturday night at Sewell-Thomas Stadium.

Georgia Southern (0-4) had an opportunity to tie the game in the eighth, adding three runs against Tide reliever Adam Pavkovich. Pavkovich opened the inning by allowing Jemel Spearman (infield single) and Matt Herring (double) to reach before Matt Hammond keyed the frame with a two-run double. Rocky Baker greeted second reliever Brian Reed with a single to move Hammond to third and Carlos Love drove made it a 7-6 contest with a sacrifice flyout to centerfield. Brandon Williams kept the inning alive with a single to send Baker to second but the Eagles were denied an opportunity for a game-tying run when McClanahan threw out Baker at the plate following Chris Walker's single.

Alabama (3-0) scored first, jumping out the 1-0 lead in the bottom of the second inning against Georgia Southern starter Brian Rogers. Heard laced a one-out double down the leftfield line and promptly stole third base. After Rogers struck out Spencer Pennington, McClanahan followed by working the count full before delivering a single through the left side of the infield to score Heard.

Georgia Southern quickly answered with a run in the top of the third, using Chris Walker's two-out bloop single to score Carlos Love. Love had opened the frame reaching on a hit batsmen before moving to third on a Brandon Williams sacrifice bunt and a Chad Hall groundout.

After the Eagles narrowed the deficit to 5-2 on Baker's sacrifice flyout which scored Herring in the top of the fourth, Alabama added a pair of runs in its half of the inning. Pennington started the rally by reaching on GSU first baseman Love's error and Travis Garner followed with an infield bunt single. Stonard smacked a double to the right-centerfield wall to plate Pennington before Eagle third baseman Baker mishandled Brent Boyd's grounder to allow Garner to cross the plate for a 7-2 Crimson Tide lead.

Alabama starter Josh Baker (1-0), a fourth-round draft pick by the Texas Rangers in the 2001 June amateur draft who made his inaugural collegiate appearance, worked the first seven innings to earn the victory. He scattered seven hits and three runs, did not walk a hitter and struck out six during his 82-pitch effort. Reed picked up his second save of the season by pitching a scoreless two innings.

Rogers (0-1), who made his first collegiate start after appearing in 29 games as a reliever last season, suffered the loss after allowing nine hits and seven runs in four innings of work. He also struck out four and did not issue a base on balls during his 74-pitch outing. On an impressive note, Georgia Southern benefitted from a sterling relief performance by freshman Kevin Culpepper who allowed just two hits and struck out one in four scoreless innings of work.

Love led off the Eagle seventh with a double down the leftfield line against Baker, moved to third on Williams' groundout and scored on Chad Hall's run-scoring grounder to shortstop to trim the margin to 7-3. Herring and Walker led Georgia Southern offensively with three hits each while Hammond added a pair of hits for the Eagles.



OLYMPICS 2002: The Olympics that changed everything

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Born out of shame and bribery, the Salt Lake Olympics had hoped for a more pristine legacy. Uniting America? Crowning Michelle Kwan?

No such luck, Salt Lake. Thanks to Skategate, the enduring postscript of the Olympics is assured of being a matching bookend to their preamble.

These are the Corruption Games.

The quick decision on Friday to award two gold medals in the pairs skating controversy that has dominated the first week of competition was clearly an effort to let athletics, not controversy, star in the second week. To redirect the course of the Games. OK, that's taken care of. Let's move on to bobsled, shall we?

Not so fast. The figure skating scandal isn't closed. It is a story that will continue deep into Week Two of the Olympics. It will endure long after the Olympic flame at Rice-Eccles Stadium is extinguished and well after most people have grown bored by the tale.

There will be a ceremony tonight in which Jamie Sale and David Pelletier will be awarded their gold medal. The Russian pair, Anton Sikharulidze and Yelena Berezhnaya, have been invited to attend. NBC is planning to centerpiece the ceremony on its prime-time telecast and will milk the melodrama for all it's worth.

That will be followed Monday by an International Skating Union council meeting, the gathering where the judging matter was originally supposed to be debated, until International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge stepped in and pressured the ISU to speed up its process. The controversy is expected to be the top item on the meeting's agenda and the ongoing investigation will be discussed and possibly advanced.

And the media - encouraged by the IOC's new stated policy of "transparency and openness" - will push relentlessly to learn the unanswered details of the case. Who actually pressured French judge Marie Reine Le Gougne and for what purpose? What was the role of the other judges on the panel? Is anyone else - someone who may have known before the competition of pressure being applied



KRT Campus

WOMAN'S HOCKEY: USA's Natalie Darwitz (top) celebrates her goal as Finland's Riikka Nieminen skates around her.

erase the stain.

But rather than be embarrassed by its legacy, Salt Lake may eventually find its place in Olympic history something to embrace. The city may have hosted the Olympics that created sweeping reform.

"Times are changing," said IOC Vice President Kevan Gosper.

Salt Lake bought the Olympics through promises and gifts. But that bribery scandal also directly created the environment that led to what occurred Friday.

"It certainly seeded the cloud," USOC executive Mike Moran said.

The Salt Lake scandal created an environment that would no longer allow a judging controversy to be swept under the Olympic rings. It led to new IOC leadership committed to cleaning up the Olympic movement.

In a strange way, Sale and Pelletier can thank corrupt bid committee leaders

handling of the controversy "new and exciting."

"It's something that would not have happened a decade ago," she said. "Out of the Salt Lake scandal, some very good things came. We will see some future changes out of the ISU that will benefit the sport greatly."

IOC Director General Francois Carrard recalled that it used to take 18 months to correct a wrongdoing, as in the case of the synchronized swimming gold medal that was incorrectly awarded in 1992.

"Can you imagine us dealing with this at the congress in 2003 on Waikiki Beach, hula singing?" Carrard said. "It makes no sense. The athletes are here."

The new leadership of the IOC seems unafraid to set a precedent whose future repercussions are unclear.

"We dealt with the problem of the day," Rogge said. "We'll see tomorrow how we deal eventually with other problems."

Ultimately, the Salt Lake Olympics may be credited with accomplishing the most difficult task of all: cleaning up the murky, dirty world of figure skating.

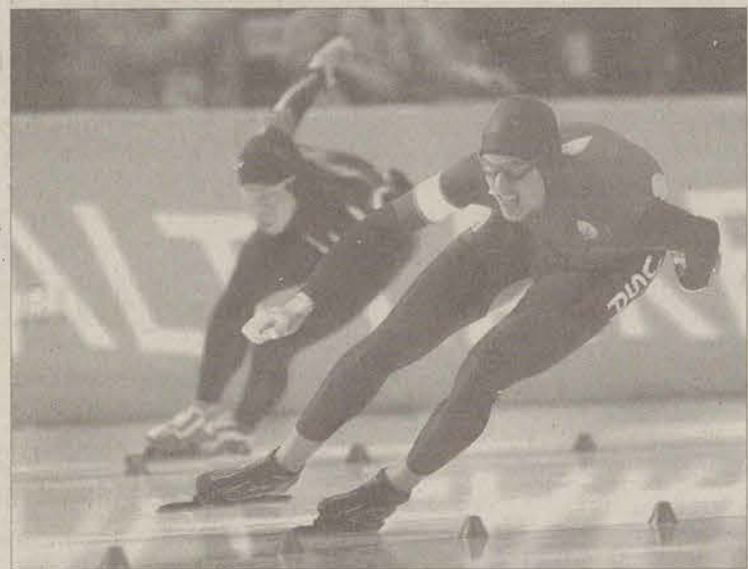
What happened in figure skating was bound to happen on the Olympic stage at some point.

"The corruption is so institutionalized that it had to break out some time," retired ice dancer Isabelle Duchesnay told Le Parisien newspaper.

But it's no accident that it surfaced in Salt Lake, where officials are keenly aware of the appearance of impropriety, where tolerance of corruption has been lowered. Skating reform could be the silver lining of this mess.

Carrard was asked on Saturday night what would happen to the silver medals that Sale and Pelletier were originally awarded.

It could be an extraordinary exhibit. The medals that reformed the Olympic movement.



KRT Campus

SPEEDSKATING: USA's Nick Pearson (right), who finished 6th, is ahead of Japan's Yusuke Imai in the mens 1000 meter race.

- also guilty of misconduct?

Be assured that even a gold-medal performance by Kwan - once predicted to be the queen of these Olympics - won't

Tom Welch and Dave Johnson for their gold medal.

Sandy Baldwin, the president of the U.S. Olympic Committee, called the quick

2002 Olympic medals tracker:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Germany	5	8	6	19
USA	3	7	6	16
Norway	8	5	0	13
Austria	1	3	8	12
Russia	4	4	2	10
Italy	3	2	2	7
Canada	2	0	3	5

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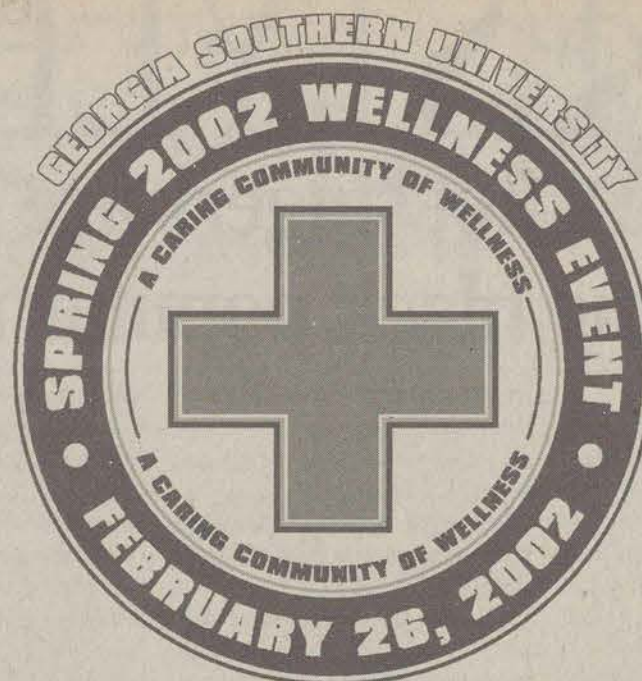
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test **PURE**

The latest hot singers are rewinding black popular music

KRT-Campus

With 13 Grammy nominations going to a pair of rookie soul singers, India.Arie and Alicia Keys, soul music is industry-certified as the latest big thing. Grammy choosers might even go on to something. The fast rise of these two performers and the general acclaim flowing toward their peers - including Jill Scott, Erykah Badu, Angie Stone, D'Angelo and Eric Benet - have the feel of

movement gathering force and demanding attention.

This surge of artists who share ideas and influences even as a name: neo-soul. And if every trend scatters one before it, the neo-soul train

should be rolling right over the crude rappers, dishy divas and randy romances who have dominated - some say deposed - black popular music of late.

Or so the story goes. The truth, as a glance at the pop charts shows, is less dramatic. Of the 100 tunes on Billboard's latest tally of "Hot R&B/Top 100 Singles & Tracks," only a handful could be called soul - the strain of R&B that prizes melody and songcraft as much as rhythm, and brings the fervor of gospel music to matters of the heart as well as wider social concerns. And only one of these 100 songs appears in the chart's Top 10, "A Woman's Worth" by Keys, who is on her first headlining national tour.

The majority of the sales and airplay activity still belongs to the beat-raved party girls and boys, who might claim "soul" as a modifier without practicing it as a genre. But there is no missing the resurgence of soul music or the talented artists stoking a move-

ment that is part revival and part reinvention.

If anyone takes offense at Keys' current hit, "A Woman's Worth," it might be the rappers accustomed to portraying women as disposable playthings.

That Keys wrote or co-wrote most of "A Minor's" 15 tracks speaks to another tenet of soul: Musical ability is a must. Schooling in music - formal or

informal, in church choirs or conservatories - is a hallmark of the evolution of soul and a recurring fact in the biographies of soul-music greats: Southern lights Sam Cooke, Otis Redding, Aretha Franklin, James Brown, Isaac Hayes and Al Green; Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder out of Motown; Curtis Mayfield from Chicago; Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff, creators of the orchestral Philadelphia sound.

The stars of new soul bring some of that dedication to craft to their work. Scott learned more informally than most, singing in Philly coffeehouses and developing her songwriting and singing skills largely on her own. Keys, from New York, is a classically trained pianist. The Atlanta-based Arie sang in school choirs and learned her way around a whole section of brass and wind instruments: saxophone, clarinet, recorder, French horn. D'Angelo, a Virginia preacher's son, was introduced to piano at age 6 and was win-

ning talent shows at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem by age 18. Benet, born in Milwaukee, gained experience singing backup in touring bands before emerging as an artist in his own right.

These stars came to pop directly through music, in other words, and not through involvement in television, fashion, nightclubs, street gangs or theme park productions. And they appear to want that distinction to be heard and understood. The electric-not-electronic vibe, sophisticated arrangements and sharp production of the typical new soul record are reflections of an ethic that says: Music is knowledge

matters; mastery of instruments is important; software cannot replace a good live band because software has no soul. But soul has not re-emerged in some kind of backslashing lather, utterly opposed to what's already popular. Scott and D'Angelo, for example, show that soul can draw on the verbal percussion and machined rhythms of hip-hop and still retain its old-fashioned sincerity. The forthcoming record by MeShell Ndegeocello - who has tampered with soul's musical DNA like no one since psychedelic hipster Shuggie Otis - is said to be steeped in hip-hop as well as jazz, rock and soul's harder, heavier off-spring: funk.

New soul reminds the listener that there is more than one way to be "old school." The newcomers are incorporating soul's history into their own music, honoring and interpreting it, without necessarily hiring DJs to scratch on vintage records.

It's FOR THE FANS: 'Official bootlegs' help bands thwart pirates, give fans raw talent

KRT Campus

A recording of the famously raucous, bluesy 1970 Doors concert in Detroit - the longest show the band ever played - can't be found in stores.

Nor can Jimi Hendrix's blistering show from the Oakland Coliseum in 1969, which featured an 18-minute version of "Voodoo Chile" and a fiery take on Cream's "Sunshine of Your Love." And you won't find the Grateful Dead's sparkling, two-and-a-half-hour 1968 show from Lake Tahoe, Calif., either.

But they can be found on the World Wide Web. The Doors', the Dead's and Hendrix's official Web sites are offering previously unreleased live recordings that show rare, sometimes surprising glimpses of the three pioneering '60s acts.

The mail-order CDs come complete and unedited, offering a purity that many hard-core fans cherish. While traditional live rock albums have been in stores for decades, they are typically studio-enhanced efforts.

Doors keyboardist Ray Manzarek says the Internet releases feature the shows "as they went down."

"It's a way to relive the concerts - there we are in Boston, Detroit and New York City," Manzarek says in a phone interview. "The idea was just to make the concerts available to fans, and it's growing."

For '60s acts, the niche can help them stay commercially relevant in today's industry. Super-

star acts such as the Dave Matthews Band, Radiohead and Phish all released live albums in 2001, along with popular charity efforts such as The Concert for New York City.

show and a disc of demo recordings from 1969 and 1970. Hendrix's father and sister are releasing the discs through the Web site and company they established

after winning the guitarist's copyrights in 1995. The family formed a label, Dagger Records, for the live releases.

Executive producer John McDermott helped launch both the Doors and Hendrix Web sites in 1998.

"There is a huge base of fans out there who want more than the official (major label) releases - that's why there's bootlegs," McDermott says. "This was a way to look after the legitimate interest of those fans, without confusing the larger audience who want official releases."

The idea was fathered in 1991 by the Grateful Dead, whose "Dick's Picks" series offers fans 23 concerts ranging from 1968 to 1991. Band spokesman Dennis McNally says the vast majority of sales still come through the Dead's

Web site, although some "Dick's Picks" have trickled into stores.

"Dick Latvala, our archivist, was an utterly meticulous chronicler of the band's concert tapes, and he had all these marvelous notebooks on the stuff," McNally says. "He eventually became the band's archivist, and he kept proposing certain shows for release. Eventually, he won the argument. It just seemed like a fabulous project to give something to fans."



Internet Photo

BOOTLEGGING THE '60S: The Doors', the Dead's and Hendrix's official Web sites are now offering previously unreleased live recordings that show rare, sometimes surprising glimpses of the three pioneering '60s acts.

But while bands like Dave Matthews rule the sales roost with today's chart-topping music, the Doors, the Dead, Hendrix and other classic-rock acts can offer history. The Doors have eight mail-order releases available - two volumes of interviews, a radio show, a disc of 1969 rehearsal recordings, a disc of concert highlights, and three concerts from 1969 and 1970.

There are four Hendrix releases - two 1968 concerts, one 1969

BSA holds Valentine's 'Evening of Poetry'

By V. A. Patrick Slade
vaps18@go.com

Mellow music played; the lights - dimmed, and poetical excellence heard. This was the perfect ending to a sometimes dreadful holiday for many.

On Thursday Feb 14, The Black Student Alliance presented their 5th annual Enchanted Evening of Poetry. Dealing with life issues such as relationships gone bad, no good men, the love for a mother and pride for one's race helped provide a delightful evening of entertainment.

The first poet, Java White, took the podium and set the tone for the entire evening. Resounding words that flowed flawlessly off of his tongue evoked emotions that many thought were dormant themselves. His perceptions of love and lust brought forth truth that seemed universal and all the while delightful to the ear. He was just one of many poets that spoke that evening. The talents of these artists was impeccable. Many didn't even need the aid of tablets or books to recite their poems.

Love became the night's central theme, and became as multi-dimensional as the people who brought their interpretations of the word forward. The poet "Silky Red" told of a relationship gone bad from a male's point of view, though she spoke in terms that both male and female alike could understand. Many of the poems delved into sexual relationships as well. Some poets reflected on the need to have one, while others completely disagreed with the need to have a sexual relationship. Some poets went so far as to question the need to have one.

A mother's love was another familiar topic that many of the poets indulged upon, especially the men. They relayed their relationships with their mothers to the audience in ways that were heart wrenching, yet very cheerful at the same time. They told of being scolded for coming into the house late, a mother's sacrifice, and that special bond between a mother and her child. These poems became almost similar as each one brought to life an aspect of motherhood that many found familiar.

The night's highlight was the guest speaker Jon Gode from Atlanta. A published writer, deejay and young laureate, Goode brought his own unique, rhythmic sounds to the evening of poetry reading. He spoke about his bad experience in a corporate world, his love for his mother, and his love for a darker skinned woman. His remarkable rhetoric flowed as easily as a conversation and became breath-taking yet comical all at once.

This evening of poetry was wonderfully put together by the BSA. The applause, the slight "ummm hmmm's," and laughter conveyed the pure joy of the audience at the event. It was a delightful evening with truly gifted poets sharing their thoughts and feelings with their fellow students. Valentine's day is not the only time the BSA puts on such an emotionally stirring night. Every other Thursday they present "The Esoteric" at 8 p.m. in room 2044 of the Russell Union. The next "Esoteric" will be held next Thursday, Feb 28.

Statesboro-Georgia Southern Symphony to perform Feb. 25

Special to the G-A

The Statesboro-Georgia Southern Symphony Orchestra will perform its Masterworks II Concert at 8 p.m. Feb. 25 in the new Performing Arts Center in the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building on the Georgia Southern University campus.

"We are so excited to be playing in the Performing Arts Center," said symphony association president Jerry Anne Singletary. "It will add a whole new dimension to the audience's appreciation of the performance."

"The Performing Arts Center, with its excellent acoustics and its seating capacity of over 800, will provide an excellent listening experience for the audience," said David Mathew, the chairman of Georgia Southern's music department.

"This center is a tremendous addition to the performance venues at Georgia Southern."

The orchestra, directed by Dr. Douglas Graves, will perform Haydn's "Clock Symphony No. 101," Smetana's "The Moldau" and Holst's "St. Paul Suite for Strings."

The Statesboro-Georgia Southern Symphony Orchestra is comprised of Georgia Southern students, faculty and staff, and members of the Statesboro community. The Symphony Association supports the orchestra by providing scholarships for student musicians.

"We think this is a great example of the university and Statesboro community working together to present a cultural event that benefits everyone," said Kathleen Burke, dean of Georgia Southern's Division of

Continuing Education and Public Service.

Tickets for the concert are \$12 for adults and \$5 for those under 18. Georgia Southern students are admitted free with a student ID. Advance tickets may be purchased by calling the Performing Arts Center box office at 486-7999 or the Georgia Southern music department at 681-5396.

This concert will be the second of three Masterworks Concerts the symphony performs during the year. The orchestra also performs two youth concerts, a holiday concert and an outdoor "pops" concert. This year's "pops" concert is scheduled for April 26 in Sweetheart Circle on the Georgia Southern campus.

This bracelet was a gift Amber Apodaca received from the center where she helped teens with drug and alcohol problems. She was wearing it when an underage drunk driver took her life.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Photo by William Kozak

"Live like no one's watching."

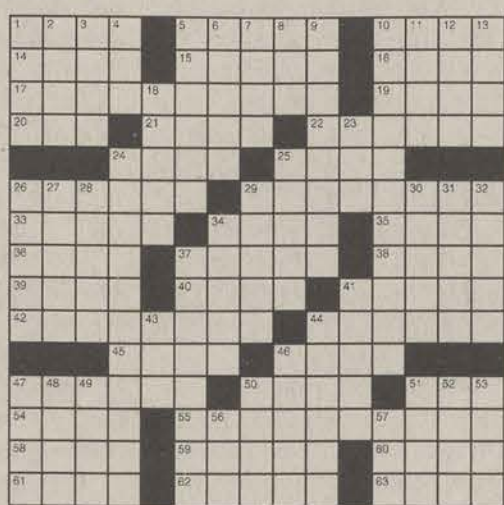
CLASSIFIEDS, ETC.

Monday, February 18, 2002

Page 9

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Unflappable
5 Ancient Yemen
10 Toll House
14 Star State
15 Christmas tune
16 Take on
17 Rude
19 Way off
20 Chairman
21 Stick with a stick
22 Northern weasel
24 Gratitudes
25 Dreary
26 Shoves
29 Supervisor
33 Like a rainbow
34 Car on call
35 Gossipy Barrett
36 Skiers' ride
37 Savory jelly
38 Assumed a reclining position
39 Container weight
40 CD alternative
41 A la
42 Ground troops
44 Swindle
45 Prickly plants
46 Caramel-topped custard



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01/17/02

Solutions

1 DOWN
1 Quagmire
2 Ms. Chaplin
3 Suspicious of
4 Kauai souvenir
5 Quantities of ice cream
6 Pulp writers
7 New York state
8 Long scarf
9 Hypersensitive
10 Sovereign's chief steward
11 Pre-stereo sound system
12 Persia, now
13 Pierre's father
14 Caught sight of
15 College cheer
16 Near that place
17 The South
18 Singer Smith
19 Clitellid
20 Table runner
21 Delighted
22 Comments from Simba
23 Form a bond
24 Judging committee
25 Winter Palace rulers
26 Captivates
27 Abyss
28 Kernel
29 Overcast
30 Aspect
31 Consider
32 Highest point
33 Singer
34 Kristofferson
35 Not kosher
36 Patron saint of
37 sailors
38 Clinton's attorney general
39 Way out
40 "Sands of Jim"
41 In favor of

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NOTE: We gratefully acknowledge the theft of our slogan—"Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by them All"—from Robert Williams of the Blackshear Times. Call Bob and he can tell you who he stole it from originally.

FREEBIE INFO ALL FREE student and faculty ads to be run in the George-Anne must have a NAME, P.O. BOX and PHONE NUMBER. Ads will be rejected if they do not have this information. NO EXCEPTIONS.

20 Announcements

DYVERSION DANCE Team will have tryouts. Information session @ 8:00pm on Monday Union room 2047. Tryouts @ the Rac February 19th and 20th @ 9:00pm

WORK STUDY Students Needed Desperately. Must have eligibility form from financial aid. Call 681-0634 or stop by Rosenwald Room 1066.

A CHILD needs you! The center for latino outreach is looking for volunteers. Spanish speaking is not necessary. Please contact Virginia at 486-7759

CALLIGRAPHERS WANTED Will pay \$75.00. Saturday, March 23 9:30am - 1:30pm. Call Kandice Foreign Language Dept. 681-5281 before noon.

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HELLO?



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BOY, SOME PEOPLE, RIGHT?



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PAUL

HELLO, MR. ROSSBERG'S OFFICE... WHO? UH... VHS IN A MEETING. HE'LL CALL YOU BACK.



HEY, I'M NOT IN A MEETING.



WELL YOU'RE NOT IN A MEETING EITHER.



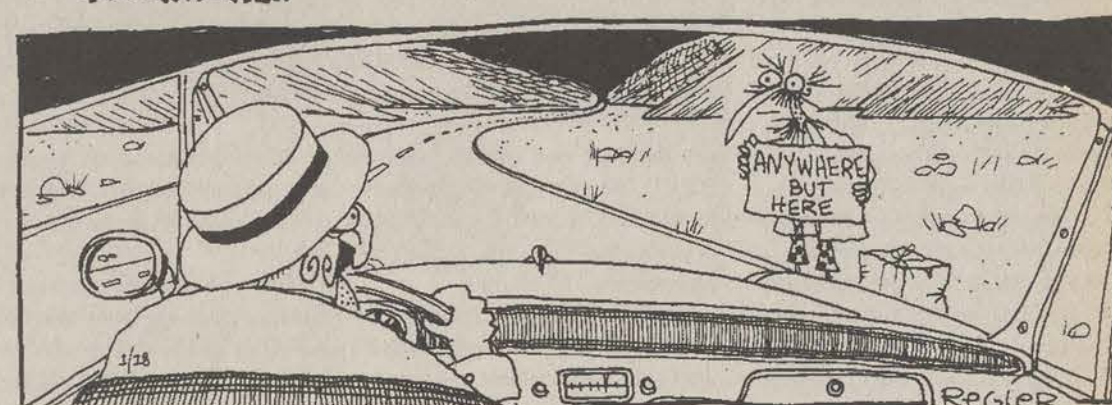
ACTUALLY, AT 9:30 IN THE MORNING, IT'S CALLED A BREAKFAST BREAK. ALSO KNOWN AS A DOCK IN PAY.



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THE GONGFARMER

BY RANDY REGIER

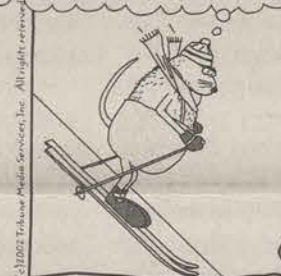


Lewis

MY NATURAL ATHLETIC ABILITY MAKES SKIING A BREEZE.



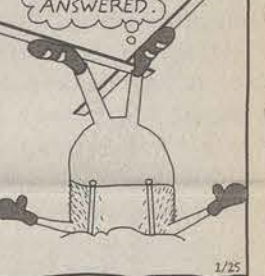
I WONDER HOW YOU STOP ON THESE THINGS?



AUGH!!!



QUESTION ANSWERED



CALLIGRAPHERS WANTED Saturday, March 25th 8:30am-12:30pm \$75 call Kandice Foreign Languages 681-5281.

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SUBLEASE BERMUDA Run Apartment for \$150/month - I will pay the rest. Call Mac - 912-550-1172 or 912-285-2949 or email richardsmith79@yahoo.com

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RESPONSIBLE CLEAN non-smoking female needed to share 2BR 2BA apt. located in Georgia Villas rent \$237.50/mo plus 1/2 utilities for more information contact Telicia 681-8598

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WANTED PHOTOGRAPHER for Wedding on March 9th in Midway Georgia (1 hour) drive form Statesboro must have portfolio call Jeff at 681-2139 or Jennifer 541-8000

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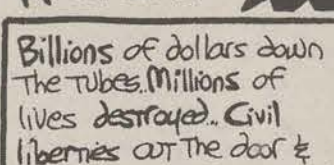
The K CHRONICLES "No, Dad...you got it all wrong..."

VISITED MY DAD RECENTLY... & WE GOT TO HAVE ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE "FATHER/SON" CHATS...

Dad, Declaring a War on Terrorism sounds cool, but if you think about it, even for a second, you realize how futile a gesture it is.



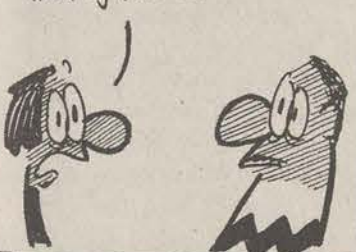
I mean...who is a terrorist and who isn't? The U.S. drops bombs on Iraq regularly. Our sanctions are killing thousands of children every month while Saddam Hussein sits well fed, safe and sound.



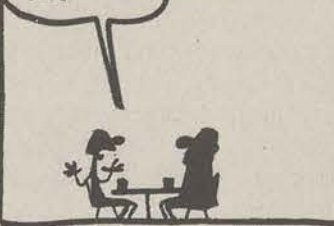
What about the IRA? or The people that bomb abortion clinics? Are they terrorists?



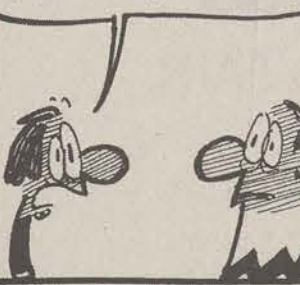
When was the last time we declared war on a non-country? It was THE WAR ON DRUGS. What kind of result has that given us?



Billions of dollars down the tubes. Millions of lives destroyed. Civil liberties cut the door & countless resources wasted.



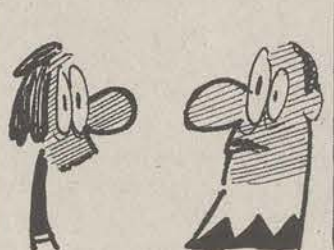
It's been almost twenty years since The War on Drugs began. Now let me ask you something...



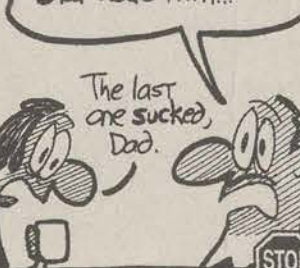
Has it gotten any harder for you or me to go out there & score just about any type of drug we could possibly imagine?



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I liked it better when all you would talk about is the next Star Wars film...



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'Friends' cast signs on for one more season with an increase in salary

By V.A. Patrick Slade
vaps18@go.com

It was announced last week that the cast of television's "Friends" would be back for a final and ninth season, but their salaries would increase to an all time high.

Each star would return at a salary of 1 million dollars an episode. Following in the footsteps of the cast of "Seinfeld," the "Friends" cast will make a reported 24 million dollars a piece over course of their last season on the air.

Although, the cast of "Friends" will be paid a huge salary, they don't compare to some. These salaries are nothing in comparison to what professional athletes, high profile lawyers, or movie stars make.

The average basketball player makes around 1 to 4 million dollars per season. Johnny Cochran, the lawyer for O.J. Simpson, and other such lawyers walk away from many of their high profile cases putting a few million in their pockets.

Actress Julia Roberts received 20 million dollars for her work in "Erin Brockovich." That doesn't include her royalties, and revenue from video and DVD sales.

And this salary is still considered low for a actress of her status. What can be said for these outrageous salaries for entertainment and protection?

The average teacher makes 35,000 dollars a year. They are the ones that teach the skills that get people hired for their careers. Some would say they are not getting paid what they deserve.

They receive a retirement package, health benefits and paid vacations.

Is this an accurate salary for 12-hour days, endless paperwork, and nagging children.

Most of their salaries don't cover their cost of living in many of the cities that they teach in.

The cost of living usually begins at a minimum of 30,000 dollars a year in big cities such as Atlanta, New York, Dallas or L.A.

Government employees also



Special Photo

'FRIENDS': After much speculation, the cast of "Friends" ultimately decided to sign new contracts and return, for at least one more season, but with a higher salaries.

get the bad end of the "salary stick." The average police officer makes 25,370 dollars a year. This is just a few thousand above the poverty level of 19,000.

Officers are required to put their lives on the line on daily basis and deal with the problems of a sometimes-dysfunctional society. Firefighters don't have it much better.

They also must risk their lives daily rescuing people from burning buildings and vehicles.

With all their hard work, the average salary for a beginning firefighter is 22,787 dollars a year.

Janitors who help to maintain cleanliness around office buildings, schools, dorms and other public places are also poorly paid in most cases.

Their average salary of 19,093 dollars doesn't compare to the work that they do on a daily basis. Many have to take additional jobs in order to make ends meet.

Lawn Maintenance, Garbage men, grounds keepers, and social worker's salaries are near poverty line.

These people who may receive no respect are the ones that keep our cities and towns clean.

There are a lot of jobs out there today our society couldn't survive without.

Many positions are very low paid. Some are barely making ends meet yearly, and the pay scale isn't increasing by any means currently.

Our society perpetuates the pay scale of its entertainers by going to see the movies, watching the television shows, purchasing the DVDs, and also buying the products that make the rich and the famous more rich and famous.

The "Friends" cast's salary is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the entertainment business beating out some of the more important jobs in society.

But hey, that's the price for entertainment.

NBC's ratings soar on packaged mix of Olympics and entertainment

KRT Campus

The intertwined Olympic rings long have signified five continents competing peacefully in a wide variety of athletic competitions.

Look closer, though, and you might see a three-ring circus bordered by a pair of soap bubbles.

If so, you've been watching NBC, which is presenting the Games as a winter carnival of sights, sounds and melodramatic storylines punctuated by Jay Leno's shtick-packed "Olympic Tonight Show."

It's a no-boundaries environment where gold-medal winners hear their national anthems played on the same stage later rocked by groups such as Foo Fighters and Barenaked Ladies.

And where skier Picabo Street was canonized by commentators before a last bid for Olympic glory ended with a 16th-place finish Tuesday behind two barely noticed teammates.

"We're not getting to see natural drama. We're getting to see pre-packaged drama," said American University director of athletics Tom George, who previously orchestrated the marketing of Olympic heroes including speedskater Bonnie Blair.

"It's almost like you're watching a soap opera."

NBC also is the place where prime-time anchor Bob Costas told viewers he'll be picking up bar tabs in the West Dover, Vt., hometown of snowboard champ Kelly Clark.

And check out brawny U.S. bobsledders Jean Racine and Gea Johnson, who visited Leno's show before they headed for Salt Lake City. "Hey, baby," he greeted Johnson before she promised to lift him over her head if she emerges a gold medalist.

alist.

The overall presentation "probably is too packaged for sports fans, but it seems just right for non-sports fans," said Susan Eastman, telecommunications professor at Indiana University.

"It's colorful, upbeat, fast-paced and, in the short term, it builds broad-based ratings." To which NBC executives might add, "Get used to it."

The network paid \$545 million to telecast the 2002 Winter Olympics, which so far are drawing 25 percent more viewers than the 1998 Games from Nagano, Japan.

the black guy in the crowd" at the snowboarding venue. The cameras found one man waving from the back.

Recently added "X-Game" competitions such as snowboarding and moguls skiing have figured prominently in NBC's prime-time coverage.

U.S. moguls star Jonny Moseley, already booked to host the March 2 "Saturday Night Live" before he came up short of a medal Tuesday, brought his daring "dinner roll" jump to the proceedings.

The on-air description of the maneuver by analyst Trace Worthington wasn't exactly in



Internet Photo

2002 WINTER OLYMPICS: This year the Olympics have captured many viewers with controversial situations and spectacular coverage of the events.

NBC also has a \$2.3 billion contract to present the 2004 Summer Games in Athens, Greece; the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy; and the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

At those prices, straight-from-the-shoulder, jocks 'n' socks presentations are out of the question, NBC executives contend.

"The Olympics really are much more than a sporting event," Randy Falco, chief operating officer of NBC's Olympics coverage, said in a teleconference.

"It really is an entertainment event, and in that sense it brings to the set a much more diverse audience."

Super Bowls and Oscar telecasts likewise cut across age and generational divides, but for one night only.

As a half-month sports miniseries, the Olympics are "in the tradition of the '50s and '60s, where the whole family can come in front of the television set for a show," said NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol.

"We live in a much more 'niche' society, and the Olympics tend to bring young and old together." Not without a fight, though, particularly among a new generation of 18- to 34-year-olds.

"They have a lot of other outlets and interests," Falco said. "That's one of the reasons why our promotional campaign really targeted young viewers for the Olympics."

Nielsen Media Research says that 18- to 34-year-olds are responding, although not like viewers overall.

The first three nights of Olympics coverage ranked fifth, seventh and 12th for the week among the younger audience but couldn't come close to beating back-to-back episodes of Friends.

The Olympic telecasts aren't a hit in black households, however.

Friday's opening ceremony, a runaway No. 1 last week in total viewers, did not make the top 10 attractions among African-Americans. Their No. 1 choice was "The Bernie Mac Show" on Fox.

Comedian Dave Chappelle, one of the "Olympic Tonight Show's" on-site "correspondents," stated the obvious Monday night when he played "find

the mold of longtime Olympic anchor Jim McKay.

"He mixes the water with a little flour, adds the yeast, preheats the oven, bakes it, the dough rises and he delivers a fresh dinner roll!" Worthington enthused.

There wasn't nearly as much dough at stake the previous time the Winter Olympics originated on home soil.

It cost ABC a scant \$15.5 million to telecast the 1980 Games from Lake Placid, N.Y., which climaxed with the U.S. hockey team's stunning capture of the gold medal.

ABC's then-whopping 53.5 hours of Olympic coverage contrasts with NBC's 168.5 hours from Salt Lake City and an additional 207 hours on cable partners CNBC and MSNBC.

The Games in Salt Lake City opened with a prime-time, star-driven extravaganza that went twice as long as the relatively plain-wrapped afternoon opening ceremony from Lake Placid.

"It was like an elaborate Ice Capades," University of Cincinnati communications professor Michael Porte said of Friday's ceremony.

The Olympic torch had barely been lit when Leno joined NBC's coverage.

"I thought the ceremony was great," he told co-hosts Costas and Katie Couric. "I especially liked it when all the 'axis-of-evil' countries came in together. I thought that was very, very moving."

Leno's "Olympic Tonight Show" since has been a key player in NBC's coverage, with guests ranging from first lady Laura Bush to pop singer Britney Spears.

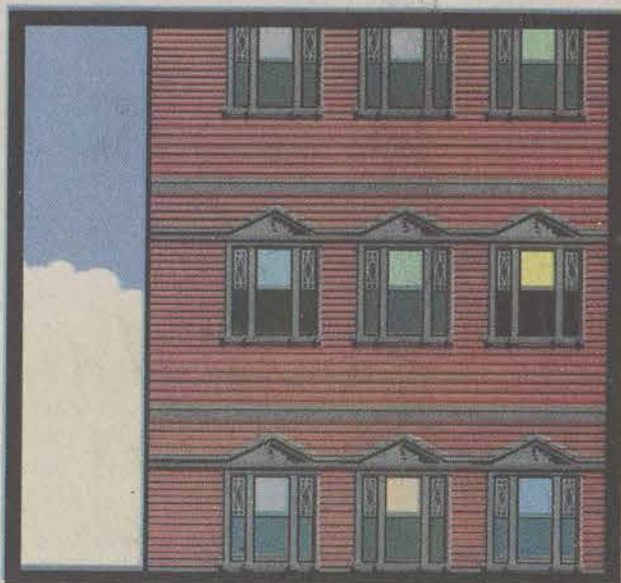
The show's accompanying Olympic segments and Leno's monologues have been heavily spiked with drug and sex humor.

Noting that the 1980 U.S. hockey team had lit the Olympic flame together, he asked, "What is it about lighting up that makes people pass things around?"

It's all part of NBC's big-brother Olympics show, which will continue through the Feb. 24 closing ceremonies. Coming Wednesday: the much-awaited skeleton competition, in which sledders rocket downhill headfirst.

Or as Leno put it on Tuesday's show, "Riding the skeleton. That sounds like Anna Nicole Smith's honeymoon, doesn't it?"

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