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Wednesday
August 14, 2002
Volume 75, No. 15

ON THE INSIDE:



Covering the campus like a
swarm of gnats

Today's Weather



Scattered
thunderstorms with
a high of 91° F and
a low of 69° F.

Only in America

- A McDonald's manager is accused of robbing another McDonald's.
- The famed toilet at Grand Teton is removed.
- A family at a funeral learns that the victim was misidentified.

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Opinions

- Tim Prizer invites every student to make this newspaper their channel for voicing their opinion.
- Amanda Permenter on the state of children's literature.

Page 4

Sports

- GSU Football gears up for the new season with daily practices. Game one is just over two weeks away.



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Features

- Find out where to eat in Statesboro this Fall. We have a complete rundown of the 'Boro's eateries.

Page 9

Arts & Entertainment

- Crop circles have a long history of myth and speculation, and M. Night Shyamalan's new movie 'Signs' brings out the common suspicion surrounding them.



Page 10

- New York's The Strokes are the hottest thing in the world of rock music today.



Page 11

Southern Events

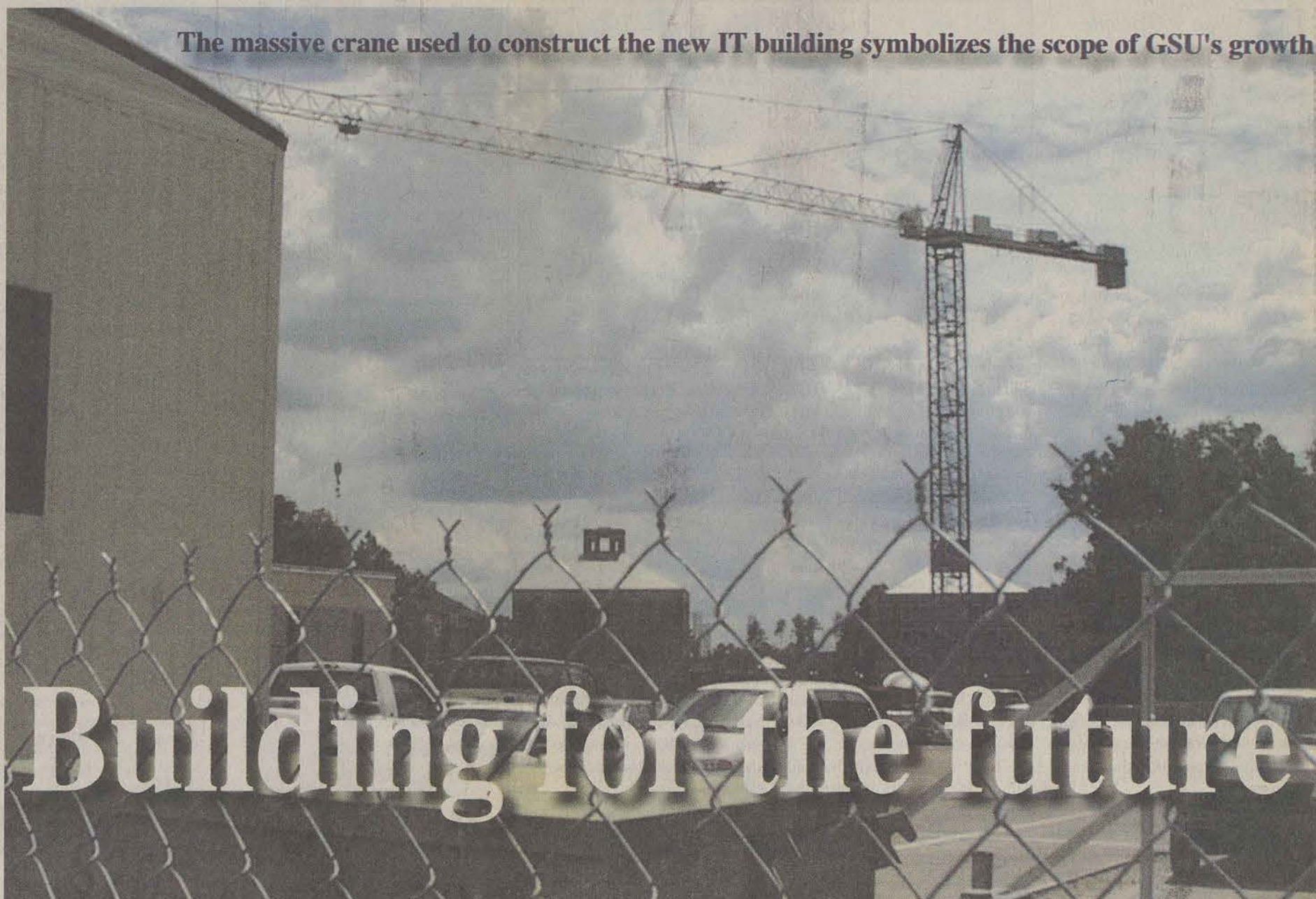
ADMINISTRATION

- Fall Convocation, 10 a.m. Continuing Education Building

FALL 2002 CLASSES

- Fall 2002 classes begin on Tuesday, August 20. Books are now on sale at the University Store.

The massive crane used to construct the new IT building symbolizes the scope of GSU's growth



Allison Bennett/STAFF

Building for the future

By Doug Kidd

doug_kidd@hotmail.com

Physical growth of Georgia Southern's campus will be the highlight of today's University Convocation when faculty and staff meet to kick off the new academic year.

University president Bruce Grube said the construction and planning of new academic buildings and residence halls is the second theme of GSU's Strategic Plan. It will be the focus of his State of the University Address.

"We've come a long way from being a little university on the end of a dirt road," Grube said, noting the growth of the university in the late 80's and early 90's.

A special guest, only identified as a former GSU professor and administrator by Grube, will also give a "historical interpretation" of the campus' physical environment.

"The committee wanted it to be a secret, but it's going to be an entertaining piece," he said.

Following Grube's remarks, a video showcasing GSU's building plans for the rest of the decade will be shown. Including ongoing new structures like the Science and Nursing and IT buildings, the video will also feature planned projects like the addition to

On the agenda...

College meetings are scheduled for Wednesday after the Convocation. Time and locations for College meetings are as follows:

- College of Education, 1:30 p.m., COE Lecture Hall
- College of Business Administration, 3 p.m., COBA, Room 1124
- College of Health & Professional Studies, 2 p.m., Assembly Hall, Continuing Education Building
- College of Science & Technology, 2 p.m., Technology Building, Room 2112
- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, Carol A. Carter Recital Hall
- Henderson Library Faculty & Staff, 3 p.m., Forest Drive Building, Room 1232

Henderson Library, and an Academic Building that would house programs currently in temporary structures.

"That's the big one," Grube said of the planned 100,000 square-foot Academic Building. "[The temporary buildings] are killing us; they're essentially double-wide trailers."

Grube said GSU is still trying to catch

up to its growth from a decade ago, when enrollment nearly doubled between 1988 and 1991.

Along with the onslaught of new students, the demand for more on-campus housing has increased, Grube said.

"We can't take care of students who want housing," he said.

The goal is for 40 percent of full-time students to live on-campus some time in the next six-to-eight years, up from the current 19 percent living in residence halls. Demolition of Oxford Hall and the Pines is slated for later this year, as well as plans to take down Dorman Hall sometime in the future.

Within the decade, the university's housing plan of replacing some and renovating other residence halls should be complete, Grube said. Other residence halls will be built within that same time period.

Academics

Raising admission and academic standards last year's Convocation theme continues to be in the forefront of Grube's plan to improve the university's image. The first goal of the Strategic Plan, Grube is pleased with the progress GSU is making.

See Convocation, Page 15

By the Numbers...

14,700-14,800
Projected enrollment for Fall 2002

6
Core themes of the university's
Strategic Plan

130,000
Square feet to be added in Henderson Library's
"wrap around" addition

1100
Target SAT score university wants to hit for incoming
freshman

122.3
Millions of dollars spent on building and beautifica-
tion costs in the past decade

1
Tier-level Grube envisions GSU joining

University inks contract for new halls in the 'Pines'

By Erik Howard

evonamos@hotmail.com

The Department of University Housing has been working around the clock to prepare for the new school year and its expanding future.

This summer, Olliff Hall went under major renovations that totaled upwards of \$1 million. In addition to new heating and air conditioning systems, there are new electrical systems, data lines, and cable t.v. outlets in every room. There was also asbestos removed from the hall over the summer which slowed down the progress of the renovations.

Director of University Housing, Vickie Hawkins, said they hope to

perform renovations like the one that took place in Olliff every summer until every residence hall is modernized.

While these renovations have been going on, housing has seen a rise in students wanting to stay on campus. When the halls open, there will be 45 students in temporary rooms and 200 more on a waiting list. Students in temporary housing are guaranteed housing; those on the waiting list are not.

Ms. Hawkins attributes the long waiting list to students wanting to stay on campus.

"Parents and students know some students need and want the



(Special to the G-A)

Architect's rendering of new residential facility on campus

structured living that on campus housing offers," Hawkins said.

For this reason, Housing is hoping to add more than 1,100 new beds by Fall 2003, an effort being made to keep with the university's strategic plan that states that Georgia

Southern is to become a residential university.

However, there are currently only 19 percent of students who stay on campus. The new residence halls are going to be built where other vacant complexes have sat,

unused for years.

The Pines and Oxford will be built simultaneously. The development is being done by the Capstone Development firm, a company that

See Housing, Page 15



New apartment style residences will be built at the site of the old In The Pines complex

Georgia's crash-course education program prepares for second year

More than 900 people expected to graduate; head to hard-to-staff rural, urban schools

Associated Press

ATLANTA — After graduating from Auburn University with a marketing degree, Andy Rhodes bounced from job to job looking for the right fit.

He was working at a hardware store in Atlanta when he heard about a new program that could land him a teaching position after just three weeks of classes.

He jumped at the opportunity, perhaps too quickly.

"I wasn't prepared for everything they threw at me," Rhodes said. "I didn't even want to teach fourth grade at first, but they were the only ones who offered me a job."

Rhodes was one of about 750 people who went through the Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program last year. He and dozens of others won't be back in the classroom this fall, but most of the new teachers made it through the year, and state officials said the program will continue to grow.

Gov. Roy Barnes proposed the program, formerly known as Teach for Georgia, as a way to address the severe teacher shortage problem. The state funded the program's \$500,000 startup cost.

Success and some failure

Most of last year's TAPP teachers jumped straight into the classroom after the brief training session. Skeptics wondered whether the stresses of the job and the lack of experience would lead a large number to quit before the end of the school year.

State officials say they have not yet compiled statistics on Georgia's first TAPP term, but a random sampling of school districts showed most new teachers did stick it out.

In Savannah-Chatham County, nine out of 89 dropped out before



Internet photo

STUMPING FOR TEACHERS : Gov. Roy Barnes proposed the fledgling TAPP program as a way to address the severe teacher shortage problem. The state funded the program's \$500,000 startup cost.

the end of the academic year. DeKalb County saw only two dropouts in their TAPP class of 137. At the Albany State University program, two out of 18 students dropped out during the school year. In Henry County, five out of 13 resigned.

The samples, however, only include people who quit during the academic year. Officials say the number who chose to quit after the year and not return this fall—like Rhodes did—is probably much higher.

"TAPP is not for everybody," said Allison Gilmore, who organized the program at Mercer University. "In some situations, when a person is too idealistic, they are going to burn out too quickly."

Getting prepared

For Rhodes, who is currently looking for a job, teaching at Knight Elementary School in Lilburn was "very overwhelming at times." He finished the school year because he didn't want to disrupt his students' lives by quitting midway.

Still, test scores from his class were significantly lower than others at his school. Five of his students failed the Gateway test, a standardized test students have to pass to advance to the next grade.

"It was real hard for me to get used to it," he said. "I hadn't been in elementary school since I was 11.

I didn't really know how to handle it."

Eligibility requirements for TAPP include a bachelor's degree, 2.5 college grade-point-average and passing score on Praxis I, a basic skills test.

But Rhodes said tests didn't prepare him for all the obstacles.

A handful of his students did not speak English as their first language. One student, who spoke Mandarin, became easily frustrated and would often have outbursts when he couldn't understand as quickly as the other students, Rhodes said.

The future

This summer, more than 900 people are expected to graduate from 19 TAPP programs around the state. They will then be placed in hard-to-staff school districts, mostly in rural or urban areas.

Heather Miller completed the program in Atlanta last year. After her three-week training, Miller decided the program was not for her.

"Although it was a tremendous kick-start and a great learning experience, I personally didn't feel at all prepared," she said.

At its best, TAPP ought to work, said Tim Callahan, spokesman for the Professional Association of Georgia Educators.

"It could work, but most are going to find teaching very hard," he said.

Police Beat

GSU Police Dept. 8-12-2002

- Officers issued two traffic citations and three traffic warnings, assisted one motorist and responded to one fire alarm (someone cooking set off alarm).

8-11-2002

- Officers issued one traffic citation and three traffic warnings and assisted one motorist.
- Officers issued one traffic citation and three traffic warnings and assisted one motorist.

8-10-2002

- David Lee Heathcock, 29, of 632 Lakeside Drive, Twin City, Ga., was charged with driving with suspended license and improper starting.

08-09-2002

- Officers issued one traffic citation and two traffic warnings, assisted one motorist and responded to two false fire alarms.
- Daniel Ivory Bush, 19, of 69 Bull River Bluff Drive, Savannah, Ga., was charged with DUI and possession of a controlled substance.
- Officers issued one traffic citation and four traffic warnings and assisted two motorists.

08-08-2002

- Officers issued one traffic citation and two traffic warnings and assisted one motorist.

08-07-2002

- Three people reported their vehicles were damaged by a lawnmower that was mowing grass around Sweetheart Circle.
- Officers issued two traffic citations and one traffic warning and assisted one person with an injury.

08-06-2002

- Officers issued three traffic citations and one traffic warning, assisted two motorists and responded to three false fire alarms (two false).

08-05-2002

- Amir Herron, 19, of 24 W. Jones St., Statesboro, was charged with wanted person.
- Officers issued three traffic warnings, assisted one motorist.

The George-Anne

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

Liked By Many,
Cussed By Some ...
Read By Them All.

responded to a false fire alarm and worked one accident report.

ing and one citation.

08-04-2002

- Torey Eric Wingate, 20, of 403 Granada St., Statesboro, was charged with DUI and failure to maintain lane.

08-03-2002

- Officers issued one traffic citation, responded to one false fire alarm and responded to a burglar alarm that was accidentally set off by a contractor.
- Officers issued three traffic warnings and one traffic citation.

08-02-2002

- Officers issued one traffic warning and responded to one false fire alarm.

07-31-2002

- Joell Ramanchik-Cerpoviez reported a Kitchen Aid mixer was missing from the Family and Consumer Science Building.
- Lisa Lee reported a large grill on a trailer was missing from behind the Landrum Center.
- Jannifer Allison Haynie, 21, of 17931 Hwy. 67 South, Statesboro, was charged with DUI and failure to maintain lane. Officers issued two traffic warnings, assisted four motorists and worked one traffic accident.

07-30-2002

- Officers issued two traffic warnings and responded to a false fire alarm at the MPP Building.

07-29-2002

- Officers issued two traffic warnings and one traffic citation.
- Officers issued four traffic warnings and assisted one motorist.

07-28-2002

- David Horne, 22, of Port Royal, S.C., was charged with driving with suspended license and failure to maintain lane.

07-27-2002

- Officers issued four traffic warnings.

07-26-2002

- Officers assisted two motorists. Shawnta Dashawn Dorsey, 22, of 230 Lanier Drive, Statesboro, was charged with wanted person.
- Officers issued five traffic warnings and two traffic citations.

7-25-2002

- Carlos Jerrod Thomas, 20, of Columbus, Ga., was charged with driving with suspended license.
- Lashonda R. Duncan, 29, of 1822 Chandler Road, Statesboro, was charged with driving with suspended license.
- Officers assisted three motorists and responded to two false fire alarms.

7-24-2002

- Officers issued one traffic warning and assisted one motorist.

7-23-2002

- Officers issued five warnings and one citation.

7-22-2002

- Kevin Chambers reported a Gateway computer was missing from Hanner Fieldhouse.
- Officers issued one warning.

07-21-2002

- Masanori Isaka reported his bicycle was taken from the Lakeside area.
- Officers issued three warnings and assisted one motorist.

07-20-2002

- Laura Self reported a tree limb fell through the windshield of her 2002 Saturn at the Russell Union parking lot.
- Officers issued two warnings and one citation and assisted two motorists.

07-19-2002

- Officers issued one warn-

07-18-2002

- Charrod Qwidruk Taylor, 22, of Athens, Ga., was charged with driving with suspended license and speeding.
- Officers issued two warnings and assisted four motorists.

07-17-2002

- Officers found an emergency call box in the Johnson Hall parking lot that appeared to be pushed over by some type of object. Damage was done to the base of the call box.
- Officers assisted an injured person at Watson Hall.
- Officers issued two warnings and two traffic citations and assisted two motorists.

07-16-2002

- A student reported someone took \$25 from her wallet at the Union Station in the Russell Union.
- A case of harassment was reported at College of Business Administration Building.
- A case of reckless conduct was reported at Kennedy Hall.
- Officers assisted a student with a medical problem at the Russell Union.
- Officers issued one warning and assisted two motorists.
- Officers assisted a resident of Brannen Hall with a medical problem.
- Officers issued four warnings and two citations and assisted two motorists.

07-15-2002

- Jennifer G. Perry, 17, of 1213 Owens Road, Pembroke, Ga., was charged with DUI and suspended license.
- Charles Ricky Keelin, 18, of 1213 Owens Road, Pembroke, Ga., was charged with minor in possession of alcohol.
- An instructor in the Ceramics Studio reported that someone entered the building and trashed the work area.
- A construction worker at the Science and Nursing Building construction site was injured when he fell from a scaffold.
- Officers issued two citations and 14 warnings.

7-11-2002

- Dwight Potter, a visitor, reported that a stop sign had been taken from the Marvin Pittman construction area.
- Officers issued two traffic citations and one warning.
- Kimberly Hayes, a visitor, reported that various amounts of money were taken from four rooms in Cone Hall.
- Officers issued three traffic warnings.
- A student reported that someone removed his Schwinn BMX bike from the Watson Commons bike rack.
- Officers worked one private property accident.
- Officers issued two citations and three warnings and assisted two motorists.

7-10-2002

- A student reported that someone removed his Schwinn BMX bike from the Watson Commons bike rack.
- Officers worked one private property accident.
- Officers issued two citations and three warnings and assisted two motorists.

7-9-2002

- A Georgia Southern employee reported damage to an interior door at Kennedy Hall.
- A Coca-Cola employee reported damage to the Coca-Cola machine located at the Sports Complex.
- Officers issued two citations and assisted four motorists.

7-3-2002

- A student reported someone removed the wheels from his bike while it was locked at the College of Business Administration bike rack.
- A Biology employee reported the theft of several electronic notebooks and a projector.

7-2-2002

- Officers issued two warnings.
- The following individuals and a 16-year-old juvenile were charged after fleeing from officers on campus:
- Lakevis R. Tanner, 19, of 1822 Chandler Road No. 85, Statesboro, was charged with obstruction.
- Jamario K. Wilkinson, 19, of 1822 Chandler Road Mo. 85, Statesboro, was charged with obstruction.
- Kalonji K. Cauley, 18, 5 N. River St., Claxton, Ga. was charged with obstruction.

7-1-2002

- A Brannen Hall resident reported that a guest took her cell phone. The phone was later returned and the resident refused to file charges.
- Officers issued seven warnings.

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.

--All Police Beat information is compiled by Doug Kidd, News Editor.

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ONLY IN AMERICA...

1 Florida

McDonald's manager accused of robbing another McDonald's

LARGO — A manager at a Largo McDonald's restaurant has been arrested on charges that he robbed another McDonald's, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office said.

Authorities also are investigating whether Slater Smith III, 25, of nearby St. Petersburg, was involved in other fast-food robberies in the Tampa Bay area. Smith was arrested Thursday as he arrived for work at the Largo restaurant, a sheriff's report said.

Smith is charged in a July 3 robbery at a Tampa McDonald's. Two masked men smashed the restaurant's door to get inside, then forced the manager to empty more than \$300 from a safe, the report said.

One of the robbers was armed with a handgun, the other with a butcher knife, the report said.

Employees got a glimpse of one robber's face after his mask slipped down during the robbery, and then picked Smith's photograph out of a lineup, the report said.

Smith worked as a swing manager at various McDonald's restaurants throughout the area, said Pinellas sheriff's Detective Cal Dennie.

2 Wyoming

Toilet removed from Grand Teton

MOOSE, Wyo. — Grand Teton National Park officials have permanently removed the infamous Grand toilet from the Lower Saddle of Grand Teton.

The toilet, a pair of large buckets that were stationed at 11,600 feet, was flown out Aug. 4 because it was full, according to park spokeswoman Jackie Skaggs.

The lofty loo will not be put back because climbers have responded well to a National Park Service campaign encouraging them to pack out their personal waste in Mylar bags called Rest Stops.

Wind screens around the old toilets will remain in place to allow privacy when climbers use their Rest Stop bags.

It cost the park nearly \$10,000 a year to use a helicopter to empty the toilet as many as seven times each summer.

Exum Mountain Guides and Jackson Hole Mountain Guides agreed to require clients to use the bags instead of the toilet.

"We volunteered as a company to use them and sort of volunteered all our clients," said Liz Alva Rosa of Jackson Hole Mountain Guides. "We said, 'This is how the sanitary system works at high camp.' Some people looked at us kind of weird, but once they saw it, it was better."

Exum President Al Read applauded the decision to remove the toilet.

"I hate that apparatus up there," he said.

"When clients get up to the Lower Saddle and see the monstrosity and man's inability to control their waste, they see the problem."

Besides being expensive, it was dangerous for rangers to fly the 5,000 pounds of human waste off the mountain each year.

Rest Stop bags can be picked up for free at any ranger station. Climbers pack out the bags and throw them in the trash at the Lupine Meadows trailhead.

Park Service officials said there has been no problem with climbers forgetting or improperly discarding the bags.

3 Massachusetts

Salem's 'Cow Plop' contest will be cowless this year

SALEM — The annual "Cow Plop" contest in this city is cowless this year.

In the contest, which opens Salem's Heritage Day on Saturday, participants buy tickets that correspond to a square on a field. A cow is set loose on the field, and if she plops manure on your square, you win.

Ed Devereaux, lead organizer of Salem's Heritage Days, told the Salem Evening News he had a cow lined up, but the animal was withdrawn when the owner had to tend to a sick relative.

Devereaux said he hasn't been able to find a replacement. One cow owner told him an unidentified animal rights activist from Peabody had hinted she'd make a stink for anyone who donated a bovine, he said, because it is embarrassing for the animal.

Devereaux said he understands farmers' reluctance to supply a cow.

"When you get to be in business, you don't want to be on the front page," he said.

The contest will go on, Devereaux said, but a volunteer will pick a winning ticket.

"It won't be Mother Nature picking it, it will be a hand," he said.

4 Kentucky

Family at funeral learns that victim in casket was misidentified

BRANDENBURG — Family members mourning the death of a teenager were ready to say their goodbyes at a funeral home when they discovered that the body in the casket wasn't his.

Relatives of John D. Grubs Jr., one of two teens involved in a car crash on July 31, learned during the funeral home visit Saturday that it was in fact the other teen, Jeremy Hylemon, who had been killed in the accident.

Meanwhile, Grubs, who suffered critical injuries but survived, was misidentified as Hylemon by the

dead teen's family.

The body at the funeral home would have been cremated if Hylemon's grandmother hadn't attended the funeral and recognized her grandson, said Meade County Sheriff's Deputy William Sego.

The two teens were flown to Louisville after the crash. Hylemon died later that morning at University Hospital.

Grubs' father and other relatives had identified the dead boy as John Grubs, 16, officials said. Meanwhile, Hylemon's family identified the injured boy as Jeremy Hylemon, 15, and sat vigil over him for three days, said Ken Marshall, a spokesman for University Hospital.

"People have been asking me how this happened, and I have to tell them, 'I don't know,'" said Richard Siclari, a

Jefferson County deputy coroner who escorted Grubs' family into a room at the hospital where they identified the dead teenager as their son.

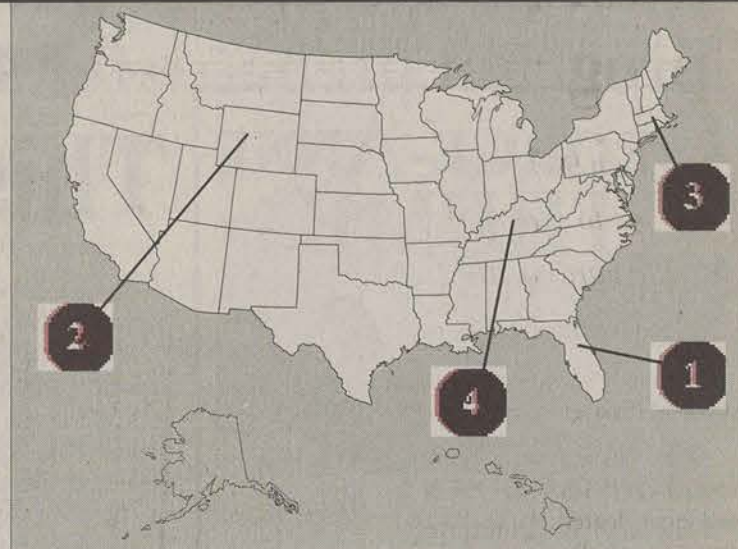
"They cried and prayed and said, 'This is John,'" he said. "It's just a terrible case of mistaken identity."

It was unclear how Grubs was misidentified by Hylemon's family.

At the funeral held for Grubs with Hylemon's body, Sego's stepson, Joe Gatrost, said he looked in the open casket and immediately questioned whether it was Grubs.

"The person in the casket had pierced ears. ... The only reason I had doubts was because John didn't have his ears pierced."

On Monday, the Jefferson County coroner's office positively identified the dead teen as Hylemon using dental records.



The mix-up has dumbfounded officials and hospital employees. Siclari said Hylemon didn't have any facial injuries, but when Grubs' family viewed the body, a cloth covered the

top of Hylemon's head because of a severe head injury. Meade County Sheriff Joseph Greer, who knows Grubs, said he went to the hospital Sunday to clear up the confusion.

ATTENTION STUDENTS!

Important News About...



WebCT

Beginning Fall Semester 2002, every Georgia Southern University student registered for a class at the University will automatically have a WebCT account generated for them. Students will not be required to create an account before they can log into WebCT, and professors will no longer need to leave a key outside of their course to allow students access. Students will log into WebCT at webct.gasou.edu with their new GSU e-mail username as their WebCT ID

and use their WINGS PIN as their WebCT password. If you change your WINGS PIN, there will be a 24-hour delay before your WINGS and WebCT password will coincide. If you do not know or have forgotten these passwords, you can go to: www2.gasou.edu/registrar. Instructions for these new procedures are available when a student logs into WINGS and on the WebCT login page at: webct.gasou.edu.

For problems with WebCT, contact the Distance Learning Center WebCT Help Desk.

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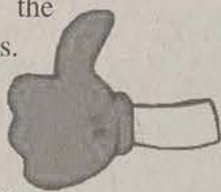
Associate Broker
Re Realty



Page 4 — Wednesday, August 14, 2002

The GEORGE-ANNE THUMB

•**THUMBS UP** to the new freshmen on campus. After move-in day, the rest is fun.



•**THUMBS DOWN** to the late distribution of financial aid checks this Fall.

•**THUMBS UP** to the new email system for students. We finally have folders!

•**THUMBS DOWN** to expensive textbooks.

•**THUMBS UP** to the fast-approaching football season.

•**THUMBS DOWN** to August heat.

Thoughts of the day

• I would rather have a mind opened by wonder than one closed by belief.

— *Gerry Spence*

• The secret to creativity is knowing how to hide your sources.

— *Albert Einstein*

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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For 75 years, Georgia Southern's Official Student Newspaper

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OPINIONS

This space available for your opinion

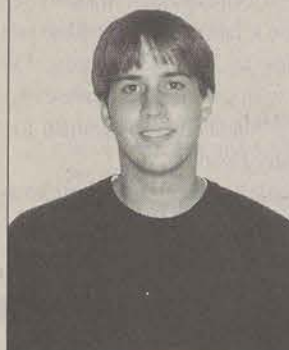
Newspaper people, if you haven't realized, are very opinionated folks.

We catch a lot of flack for what others see as our "mindless altruism," our liberal "propaganda," or a label with which yours truly has been branded in the past, Marxism. We are stereotyped throughout the nation as political progressives, out on a mission to make everyone see things our way, all the while disregarding other, more conservative opinions.

But while most stereotypes are themselves mindless and do not hold true under analysis, journalists, I am not afraid to admit, live up to their label quite universally. It is important, though, to understand just how and why this worldview is so omnipresent among writers and editors. We find, manage, report, and read the news daily, and we analyze it in a manner foreign to most everyday bathroom perusers. We report the injustices of the world, the growing spread between the rich and the poor on both national and global levels. And we *hate* to be censored. Above all, we work our asses off for salaries that bind us, much like peonage, to the work and the lifestyle. As much as you may hate us, we are here for you. We believe that an uninformed public is about as good as a bunch of robots, programmed to do what "they" say.

Hi, I'm your new editor-in-chief. I am a Liberal — yes, I use a capital "L". Flaming, yellow dog, left-winger... call it what you will. And as many of you already know, I am not afraid to express my opinion, no matter how "radical," how seemingly "mindless," or how challenging to the nearly ubiquitous conservatism of south Georgia. I do not

TIM PRIZER



is as opinionated and critical as they come, hugging the left wall of the proverbial political racetrack on nearly every issue. And you all know Adam Brady, our famed Lifestyles editor. He writes with a satirical bite much like that of Michael Moore, Molly Ivins or Jim Hightower. Again, he's also a liberal. Our only real dose of saving grace to keep us from uniformity is Doug Kidd, our new news editor. Mr. Kidd, a fiscal conservative with Libertarian leanings, will help us offer students and faculty some diversity in our Page 4 mudslings.

Like most progressives, one thing we desire most at the newspaper is diversity. Monotony is something we

adhere to the principle that newspaper editors should be politically sterile, middle-of-the-roads who don't even vote in local, state or national elections.

I am the first editor-in-chief of *The George-Anne* since I have been here that holds extremely strong, heartfelt political opinions. And most of the columnists at the paper this year do. Aside from myself, we have our new managing editor, Amanda Permenter. Ms. Permenter

try to avoid at all costs. We feel that a student newspaper should represent the student body — not just the athletes, the Greek organizations, the upperclassmen, the liberal arts and social science majors, or the business students. Everyone's voice should be heard.

We do not want this publication's sole purpose to be to piss off the conservative student population while gathering happy grams and pats on the back from the more liberal faculty.

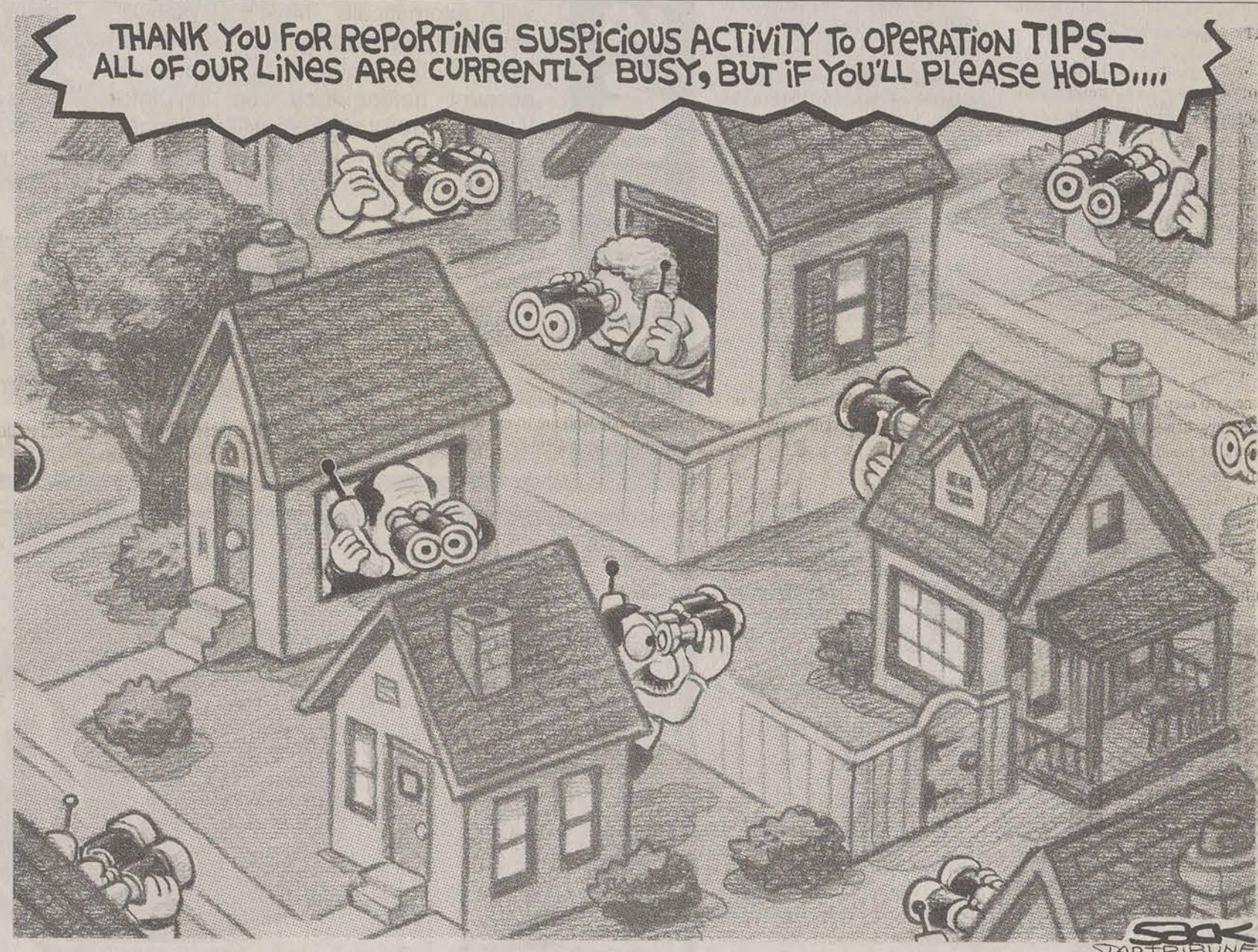
I have heard angered students complain that we at the paper have a channel to voice our opinion, while the voices of other students are stifled. Well, we're here to tell you that this is not only our channel. This is the soapbox of the entire student population.

We stride for varying opinions, but we can't jump this hurdle alone. Our opinions are not going to change, so we must look outside of our newsroom. We need you to write to us. Tell us what you think about what we write. Get involved and don't be silenced.

Part of my interview for this job was a question regarding my political views. "Tim, you're a flaming liberal," the interviewer confirmed. "Would you have a problem printing a column written from an opposite point of view than your own?" The answer to this is a simple "No." In fact, I would like to welcome the entire student body, new freshman included, to submit letters to the editor throughout the year.

Your power is your voice, and your voice should be on our pages.

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



You can't judge a book by its reader

Children's literature has changed in quiet ways since I was a kid.

Nothing can be predicted with perfect accuracy, but methods of contrasting history and present times have great value. We naturally wonder about what lays ahead — the qualities of the people who will eventually work for us, and those people's offspring. I want to know what will be going through the brains of the kids who will sit in our classrooms twenty years from now, the ones I'll be trying to teach.

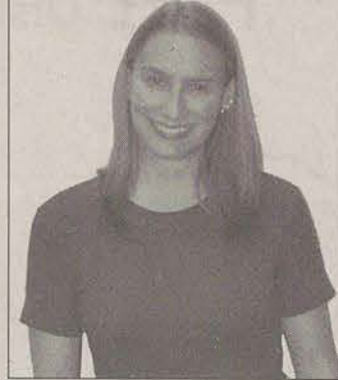
If you ever get curious, go to the children's section of your local bookstore. From there it is surprisingly easy to identify what is shaping the people whose heretofore not conceived social contributions will someday affect everyone's quality of life.

According to the National Institute for Literacy, 94 percent of American kids are well on their way to reading competency by the end of kindergarten. (Though a frighteningly large faction of children attains first impressions of the world from television, they haven't stopped learning to read in school...yet. But, that's another column.) Besides high literacy rates, there are a lot more ways for youngsters to acquire books these days. Books can be sought and bought on the Internet, and there are major high-tech innovations that I would have flipped for as a kid, like "Audio books" and "eBooks."

During a stop in Macon over my short summer break, I dropped into one of my favorite places in the world — Barnes & Noble. I was intrigued with what I discovered by wandering into the children's section.

Some things simply haven't changed, or are too timeless to be subject to much alteration. Remember the book "Goodnight Moon," by Margaret Wise Brown and Clement Hurd? It's still second on the Top Five list of books for ages four

AMANDA PERMENTER



pioneering recognition of racial and social diversification in children's books since its first episode in 1983.

On the other hand, a lot of things have changed — many for the better and others in less admirable ways. Some guy named David Wiesner recently re-wrote the story of *The Three Pigs* so that Pig Number One gets blown away with his straw house and appears in some random location on each page of the book. It's the number four bestseller right now. Congratulations, Mr. Wiesner: Way to make barrels of money off a story most of us could recite from memory.

Replacing old favorites like *The Hardy Boys* series are *Harry Potter* books, which currently occupy the number four and five spots on the list of Top Five children's books.

I feel like a scoundrel just telling you this, but if you've been holding on to any of the original Dr. Seuss favorites with which my generation was raised, you might be sitting on a

gold mine. Since the famous author's death on September 24, 1991, the prices of vintage, hardcover first editions of his books can be found topping out at near \$1000.

Racial representation has improved immensely since the days of my youth, as have books on subjects of history, that were once grossly glossed over, from American wars to American Indians. Books with fun themes have emerged that, in a Forrest Gump-like fashion, present historical events from a personal perspective by following the corresponding lives of young characters.

The identity of hero characters has showed marked progression. The Newbery Award Winning book when I was growing up in 1985 was "The Hero and the Crown," by Robin McKinley. The story contains a default line-up of evil witches and white wizards, but the hero of the story is a girl. In 1999, the Newbery Award went to Christopher Paul Curtis' "Bud Not Buddy," in which the hero is a ten-year-old black orphan searching for his father during the Great Depression.

Most of the books I grew up with gave birth to the "token" ethnic character. I was lucky to have parents who searched for diversity in literature for me, but many kids didn't. Fortunately, that is becoming less of a problem. There are entire areas of the children's section devoted to literature featuring characters of other ethnicities.

Diversification is good. But, if we examine it further, it hasn't integrated very much. Parents are still buying the books that relate to their own cultures and conceptions of history. There is a shelf for blacks, a shelf for Asians and the same old shelf for whites. While we've come a long way, I propose that we take it one step farther.

Throw them all on one shelf together and let the kids sort them out.

Amanda Permenter is the managing editor of *The George-Anne* and can be reached at gamed@gasou.edu.

Financial aid checks to come late

By Michelle Flournoy
mlf21@hotmail.com

Student's financial aid checks for fall semester will be issued on Sept. 4, not on the first day of class as they have in the past.

Connie Murphey, director of financial aid, stresses that this is not a GSU policy.

"This is a new policy issued by the Department of Education," Murphey said. "It starts with a new federal regulation that requires that we verify students are eligible for financial aid. By eligible, we mean that the student is attending classes. The Department of Education looks at school as a job. In order to get money, it has to be earned."

Attendance verification will be done Aug. 20 thru Aug. 23. Instructors will call roll on these days to assure that students are attending classes. Undergraduates must attend a minimum of 6 credit hours to meet eligibility requirements. A student only has to attend one class session throughout the week to be verified as attending.

"I have gone around with Mike Deal and done a presentation to inform the faculty about attendance verification," Murphey said. "Some probably will take role everyday for at least the first week. If the professor does not verify the first week, we will allot some leeway. The instructor can work with Mike Deal's office and do

the verification the following week."

Students depending on financial aid to purchase textbooks and supplies will be allowed to debit money from their financial aid checks at the University Store. The HOPE book allowance will also work as a debit.

Richie Aikins, a University Store representative, says that the bookstore will be using the debit system for students to purchase

textbooks Aug. 12 thru Aug. 28th. Aikins said that students will present their ID to take advantage of the debit system.

"Students can use a maximum of \$500.00 as a debit from their financial aid check for books and supplies. This should

take care of 99 percent of our customers," Aikins said.

"A student may not purchase any type of clothing items, novelties, music, greeting cards, or anything else that is not school related with the financial aid debit."

Aikins does not anticipate any problems with the debit system.

"Everything seems to be running smoothly. We did quite a few debits the first day and did not run into any problems."

Students with questions about fall financial aid disbursement may call the financial aid office or visit the financial aid office's website at www2.gasou.edu/sta/finaid.

"THIS IS A NEW POLICY ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. IT STARTS WITH A NEW FEDERAL REGULATION THAT REQUIRES THAT WE VERIFY STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL AID."

— CONNIE MURPHEY
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID

Law could deter teens from birth control

KRT Campus

Most Wisconsin teen girls would stop using sexual health care services or delay treatment for sexually transmitted diseases if their parents were told they were attempting to get prescription contraceptives, a new study shows.

The findings, published Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association, suggest that mandatory parental notification would increase the number of pregnancies and the spread of STDs in a state already plagued by high pregnancy rates among its teens.

"We have confidential services and we need to keep it that way," said Diane Reddy, an associate professor and director of health psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee who authored the study. "Requiring parental notification would have a very negative impact here."

Reddy said that many of the girls "are fearful of being physically or emotion-

ally abused by their parents, not being allowed to see their boyfriends, losing privileges and of disappointing their parents," and that although they would stop seeking services, most would continue to have sex.

"We strongly support parental involvement," she said. "But the point is, requiring parental notification won't force girls to talk to their parents."

According to the study, 47 percent of the teens surveyed statewide said that they would stop using all Planned Parenthood services if their parents were notified. In addition, 7 percent would delay treatment or testing for HIV or other STDs and 4 percent would discontinue pregnancy testing. However, although they would stop using sexual health care services, 99 percent of the girls indicated they would continue to have sex.

Data for the study was collected from 950 sexually active teens who agreed

to take the written survey while waiting to be seen at one of 33 Planned Parenthood sites.

A separate sample, obtained from three clinics in Milwaukee, had similar findings.

Planned Parenthood aims "to ensure confidential access to care" for its patients, said Lisa Boyce, vice president of public affairs at Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.

But the organization is required to notify authorities in cases of abuse or if a child is mentally ill or young, Boyce said.

"Government should not be a barrier to teens who are trying to act responsibly and seek important medical care," she said.

Mandatory parental notification for teens seeking prescribed birth control pills or other devices is a controversial topic that has been discussed but not enacted in Wisconsin.

Canadian universities increasingly attractive to American students

KRT Campus

DETROIT — Way up north where the brisk wind blows, Canadian universities have turned on the porch light for American students.

Andree Goldsmith of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., saw it. She turned down Wellesley, Cornell and the University of Michigan for McGill University in Montreal, where she starts as a freshman in about a month.

Tammy Kristall of the Detroit area saw the light, too. She's a senior English major at the University of Windsor and will commute every day across the Ambassador Bridge starting Sept. 5.

And Michigan student Nicole Belisle saw the light so strongly she is now a sophomore at Brandon University way out in Brandon, Manitoba. She's not sorry.

"I've never wanted to go with the grain," says Belisle, 21, whose studies resume Sept. 4. "It was nice to branch out and do something that no one else was doing and do it well."

Two years ago, 4,124 U.S. students attended Canadian universities. Then the secret started to spread about the schools' low cost and high quality. American applications to Canadian universities have soared 70 percent since.

Slowly, very slowly, the trend is spreading.

"It's hard to find information about a college in Canada because they don't send you the propaganda all the U.S. universities do," says Kristall, 20, who attends the University of Windsor, which sits nearly under the Ambassador Bridge. Windsor is "not like Wayne State at all; it's very relaxed and smaller," Kristall says. It

also offers a NAFTA-inspired base tuition rate of \$3,500 a year. It has 9,000 full-time undergraduates, 46 of them Americans.

Belisle, who had an A-minus average in high school, chose Brandon first with her heart because her boyfriend lived there. Then she investigated and discovered she could get a four-year, liberal arts degree at Brandon for about \$3,200 in tuition per year, a fraction of the cost of attending most Michigan universities.

But she had to apply entirely on her own.

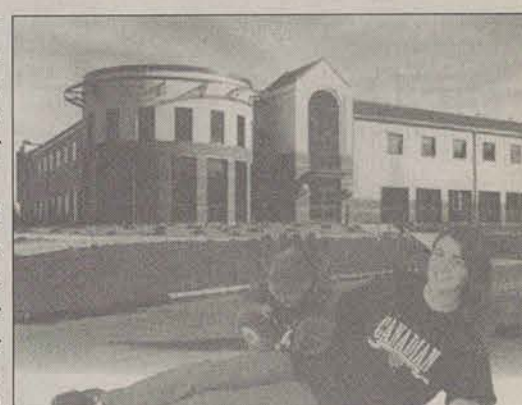
"The only thing my high school counselor knew was the address. He didn't have a clue," she says.

Brandon, in case you don't know, is north of North Dakota. Belisle admits the weather is a slight drawback.

"The first time I went to visit, I got off the plane and it was minus 30 degrees," she says. "And the wind!"

Opposite in environment from Brandon, which has 1,881 undergraduates, is the University of Toronto in the center of Canada's largest city. It has 34,063 undergraduates.

Toronto — the school — is world-renowned and only four hours from Detroit, but recruitment counselor Dave Zuta says American students astonishingly know little about



Internet Photo

NORTHERN EDUCATION: Students from across the United States have begun considering Canadian universities for their college educations. The number of American students in Canadian institutions has increased dramatically over the last decade.

it. Last fall, 205 U.S. students were enrolled.

"We have only recruited for four years in the United States, and we go into some places and they've never heard of us," he says. Along with the University of British Columbia and Queens University, the University of Toronto plans to recruit in metro Detroit in November.

Ashley O'Dacre, 20, of Ann Arbor will be a senior biology major at the school. Born in Toronto and still a Canadian citizen, she comes home frequently to see her parents. She thinks students in Michigan need to expand their options.

"A lot of Americans don't realize it's less expensive to go to a Canadian school," she says. Canadian universities also have fewer freshmen requirements, allowing focused students to forge ahead in their majors earlier.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FINANCIAL AID

FALL FINANCIAL AID REFUNDS ISSUED SEPT. 4TH!

- ✓ For Fall semester 2002, financial aid refund checks will **NOT** be issued on the first day of class as they have in the past.
- ✓ Federal regulations now require the University to confirm your class attendance before financial aid can be released to your GSU Office of Student Fees account.
- ✓ HOPE Scholars who are eligible for the HOPE book allowance will not receive checks on the first day of Fall classes if they owe the University any outstanding fee. The HOPE book allowance will be applied to outstanding fees.
- ✓ Once the financial aid is applied to your account, if you are due a refund, a check will be cut and released by the Office of Student Fees on Sept. 4th.
- ✓ Many students have relied on their refund check to purchase textbooks and other supplies. If you are due a refund, you will be able to purchase books in the University Bookstore the first week of class using your GSU ID, and the amount will be debited from your anticipated refund.

•••••

FINANCIAL AID AND EAGLEGRAM

- ✓ Check your Georgia Southern email account regularly for EAGLEGRAM notices and check our WINGS website www2.gasou.edu/sta/
- ✓ EAGLEGRAM is the way that the Financial Aid Department will notify you of important information regarding your financial aid.
- ✓ It is your responsibility to forward your Georgia Southern email account to your preferred email address to ensure delivery of important EAGLEGRAM messages.
- ✓ If you have questions about your Georgia Southern account, visit our EAGLEGRAM website at www2.gasou.edu/sta/GSUemail or contact the helpdesk at (912) 681-5429.

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IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- ✓ By **September 4, 2002**, refund checks will be processed by the Office of Student Fees, (912) 681-0999, for students whose class attendance has been verified by their class instructor.
- ✓ Beginning **January 1, 2003**, complete the 2003/2004 Free Application for Federal Student Aid online at www.fafsa.ed.gov to be reviewed for 2003/2004 financial aid. GSU's federal code is 001572.
- ✓ Beginning **March 1, 2003**, complete the 2003 Summer Financial Aid Application at www2.gasou.edu/sta/finaid to be reviewed for 2003 summer financial aid.
- ✓ Continue to check your financial aid application status through WINGS at www2.gasou.edu/sta because completing a FAFSA alone is not always sufficient for the financial aid process. If additional information is needed from you after we receive your FAFSA, you will be able to check it through WINGS.
- ✓ Be sure to check your GSU email account for important financial aid EAGLEGRAM information.
- ✓ Email your financial aid counselor at www2.gasou.edu/sta/finaid for help or if you have questions.

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UTC looking forward to Ball's return

G-A News Service

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.---UTC head coach Donnie Kirkpatrick said he will use Thursday's intra-squad scrimmage to watch the running back competition closely. Juniors Jason Ball and Mario Hain are currently running one and two, and there is a need to find a third back.

"We need to see who our third running back will be," Kirkpatrick said. "We won't use Jason Ball much if we use him at all. I don't think he is in as good condition as he could be. We will give (true freshmen) Patrick Flanagan and Torrey Love a chance to see what they can do along with (redshirt freshman) Michael Dodd. We want to see how they will react to live action."

Ball suffered a fracture to his right ankle last season in the third game of the season and was lost for the year. After surgery and rehabilitation, he was cleared to compete at the end of spring drills. Hain is a transfer from Northeast Oklahoma A&M.

Appalachian State
BOONE, N.C.---Appalachian State University opened its first official day of football practice with the added incentive of being tabbed the No. 2 program in the nation by the Sports Network.

"Whether a team is picked No. 2 or 102, it still has to work hard and develop into a team," stated head coach Jerry Moore. "We had a good, sharp first practice. We are gradually trying to work some of the younger players in to what we are doing. Hopefully we can respond to this ranking in a real positive way."

The Mountaineers received 1,838 points to earn the second spot and their fourth straight top 10 pre-season ranking by the Sports Network.

Picked as the preseason favorite to win the Southern Conference by both the league's media and coaches,

The Citadel
Charleston, S.C.---Citadel head football coach Ellis Johnson is getting his team ready for his second season at the helm of the Bulldogs program.

"It has been a long off season and we are really excited about getting the freshmen out on the football field," Johnson stated.

All totaled there will be 45 freshmen involved in practice, with 27 of them being scholarship recipients.

"This is probably the largest group of signees and walk-ons in recent history," Johnson continued. "Almost half of our team will be taking part in the freshmen two-a-days."

Wofford
Spartanburg, S.C.--- Wofford College inside linebacker Erik Hutchinson and defensive tackle Bill Pryor will be sidelined for the season due to injury.

Hutchinson is recovering from a torn ACL in his right knee, suffered while working out this summer.



14 days 'til Delaware Eagles count down to kickoff

Sewak era begins as GSU readies for the season-opener

Eagles wrapping up preseason workouts

By Bo Fulginiti
B o
Fulginiti@hotmail.com

It's the quiet before the storm. As the whistles blow and the helmets collide in the midst of another scorching August in Statesboro, the players and coaches of Georgia Southern football are nearing their final stages of preparation for the 2002 campaign. And for first year head coach Mike Sewak, it's no mystery to him where all eyes will be pointing come Aug. 29 in Newark, Delaware.

"I know the spotlight is gonna be on me, and I want it on me," said Sewak.

With the team enduring full contact workouts that began last Saturday, and wrapping up a grueling two-a-day practice schedule tomorrow afternoon, coach Sewak has taken the same approach to practice that his predecessor coach Paul Johnson had when Sewak was offensive coordinator.

"We haven't changed (our approach) much at all," said Sewak. "I just want them to play good hardnosed football, attack each other each and every day, and get together at the end and be able to get Georgia Southern to breakdown and know that we are a team."

Coach Sewak has also had to address many glaring issues this summer, with his current quarterback situation



Chris Walker/STAFF

Defensive line coach John Pate, far right, watches as redshirt freshman Shannon Williams runs through a drill yesterday. Led by Buchanan candidate Freddy Pesqueira and Eric McIntire, the defensive line figures to be a strength of the Eagles' defense this season.

taking center stage. But in a continuous battle for the starting spot between sophomores Trey Hunter and Chaz Williams, Sewak has made it clear that the fans will have to wait until game day to hear his final decision.

"They are trying to be the leaders of this football team, and they have to gain the confidence of this offense," said Sewak. "They also have to be able to move the football team and make plays and that is going to be the biggest factor in deciding who is

going to start for us this year."

Set to have their first scheduled scrimmage this Saturday at Allen E. Paulson Stadium, the Eagles will also have a final follow up scrimmage on Thursday, Aug. 22, before they begin game-week preparations for their season opener against the University of Delaware Blue Hens.

The only major changes that are set to take place within the program are the walk-on candidates that will hit the field next Tuesday with the start

of the fall semester on campus. There is expected to be a minimum of 25 players, which includes those who are returning from last spring, and a few who will be joining the Eagle squad for the first time.

But as the countdown to kickoff winds down, coach Sewak continues to have his players and staff focused on taking everything one day at a time.

"We've got a long way to go, but at least we are going to be at full speed from now on."

COMING BACK HOME

Americus' Chan Gailey happy at Tech

KRT Campus

In his new position as head coach at Georgia Tech, Chan Gailey doesn't talk a lot about his days with the Dallas Cowboys.

But his words and wisdom often have roots in those hectic days of 1998-99, when Gailey was the head coach of an aging, frustrated NFL team.



Chan Gailey

Two years as coordinator of the Miami Dolphins put a little distance between Gailey and the Cowboys. In that time, he has never publicly criticized Cowboys owner Jerry Jones or others who hastened his demise in Dallas.

What he does say, though, hints at lessons learned and routes he'd rather not re-travel. One does not have to be creative to draw the attachment to the Cowboys.

For instance: Despite the fact that Gailey, 50, has specialized in offense and called plays for the Cowboys, he surprised many when he arrived at Georgia Tech by asking offensive coordinator Bill O'Brien to stay.

"I was surprised, myself," O'Brien recalled

of his first meeting with Gailey.

O'Brien had been with previous Tech coach George O'Leary and was scrambling to find a new job. The Minnesota Vikings were interested in him becoming their coordinator.

O'Brien knew better than to assume that Gailey would not bring his own offensive system to Tech. But after a short talk with Gailey, O'Brien knew he wanted to stay in Atlanta.

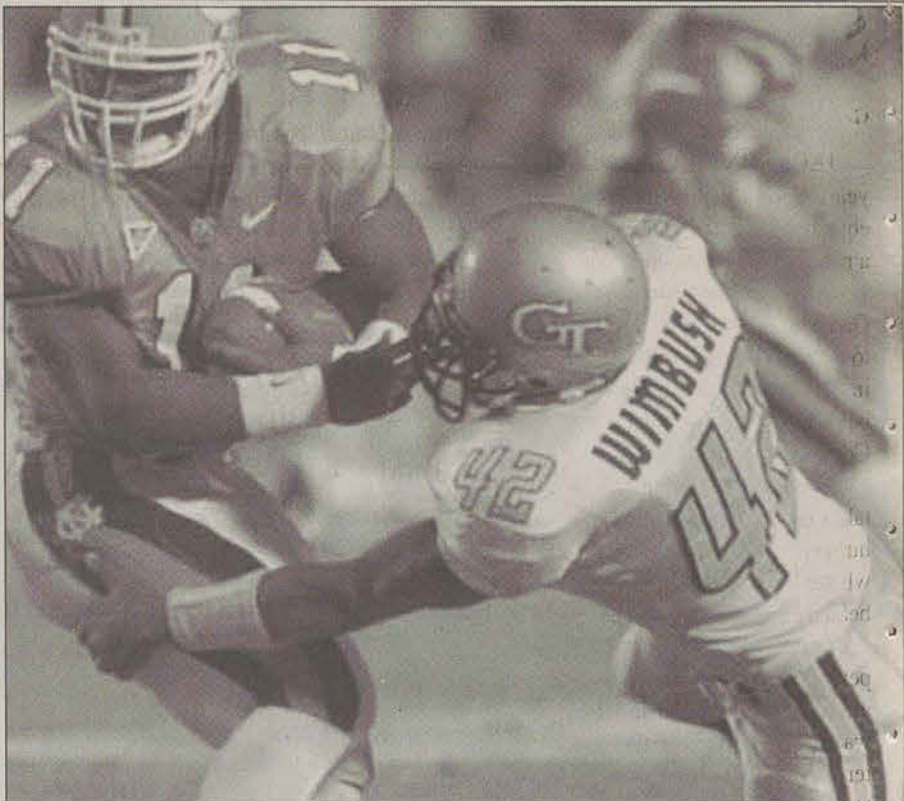
Gailey had decided that being the head coach meant not being the coordinator, and he took one look at Tech's production last season and knew he wanted O'Brien.

"I'm not putting in my system," Gailey said. "Billy O'Brien's offense averaged 31.8 points a game. It's not like it's broke."

Still, this is a change in philosophy for Gailey, who died on the sword of his offensive philosophy in Dallas. Apparently, that experience changed Gailey's attitude.

"The last time I was a head coach, I was head coach and offensive coordinator. I won't do that again. You don't do either job justice when you try to do both," he said. "And you don't make a change just because you want your system."

In the seven months since Gailey's arrival, O'Brien has found his new boss enlightening,



Ga. Tech Media Relations

but not invading.

"Knowing about his reputation as an offensive coordinator, I was very flattered that he would use my offense," said O'Brien. "It's been great, because he has a lot of ideas that help."

"He's brought me a better understanding of the run game from ideas he's developed over years in the NFL. And the other thing is to be unique, and not settle for what we've done in

the past."

But Gailey says he is careful not to take over the job of coordinator.

"I don't want to become a meddler," Gailey said. "I've been on the other end of that."

Georgia Tech athletic director Dave Braine introduced Gailey by telling fans "his soft-spoken manner" would remind people a great deal of the legendary Bobby Dodd.

Defending champ Montana tops I-AA, GSU ranked fifth heading into season

G-A News Service

PHILADELPHIA-- Defending I-AA National Champion Montana begins the 2001 season in a familiar position as the number one team in The Sports Network Top 25.

The Grizzlies, who won their second I-AA national championship last season, are ranked in the preseason national top five for the eighth consecutive year, and sit atop the preseason poll for the first time since 1997.

Montana, which has been a top 10 team for 44 straight rankings dating back to 1999, were predicted to take home the Dec. 20 national title by a national panel of media and sports information directors.

The NCAA I-AA championship will be played in Chattanooga, TN on December 20.

Last season, head coach Joe Glenn led Montana to an 11-1 regular season mark and a Big Sky Conference title, before the Grizzlies marched to the I-AA title game

for the second consecutive year.

After defeating Northwestern State, Sam Houston State, and Northern Iowa in the playoffs, the Griz won the NCAA crown by defeating Furman, 13-6. Montana returns many of its key players from last year's team, including senior QB John Edwards. Montana received 79 of 87 first-place votes in the preseason poll.

In the No. 2 slot heading into 2002 is Appalachian State, which received 1,838 points and is No. 2 in the poll for the first time since Nov. 21, 1995.

ASU, which is 50-14 in Southern Conference play since 1994, has also been ranked in every I-AA poll since Sept. 7, 1998.

Gateway Football Conference preseason favorite Northern Iowa is third with 1,769 points, followed by No. 4 Eastern Illinois, which registered 1,641 points.

Georgia Southern, a winner of six I-AA national championships, rounds out the

top five after receiving 1,588 points.

Finishing out the Top 10 are No. 6 Lehigh, No. 7 Furman, No. 8 Youngstown State, No. 9 William & Mary, and No. 10 Grambling State.

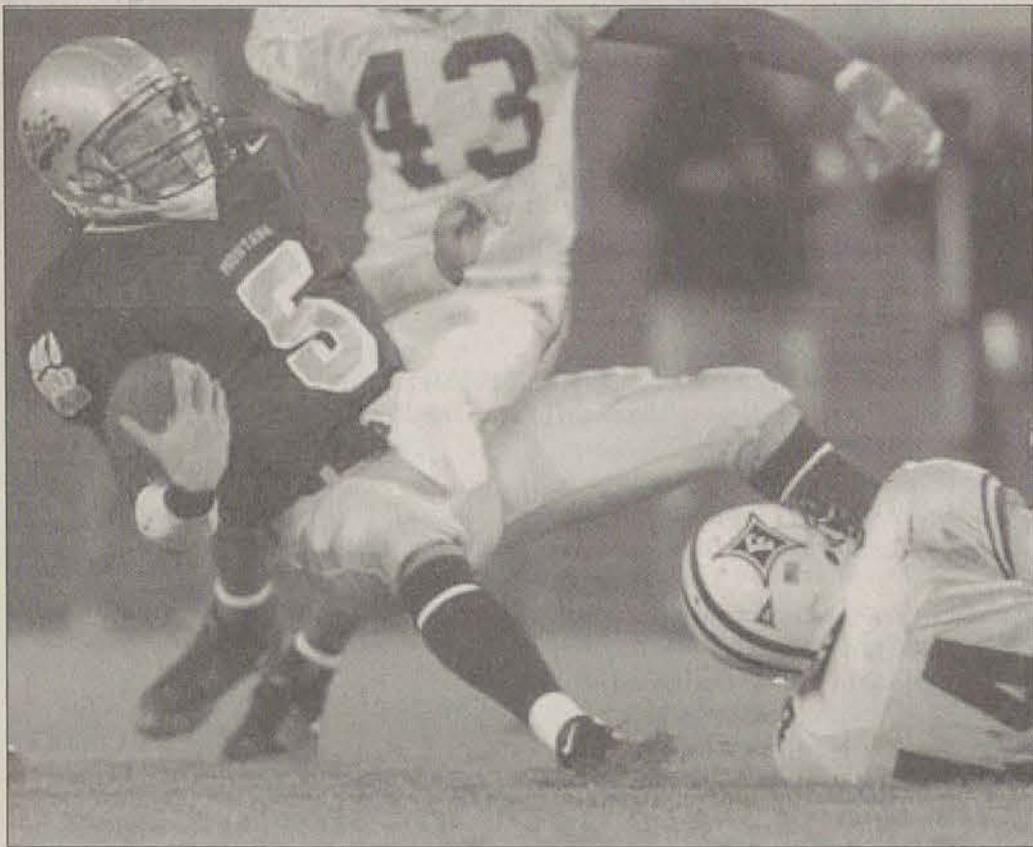
In at No. 11 is McNeese State, followed by Sam Houston State at No. 12, Maine at No. 13, Eastern Kentucky at No. 14 and Hofstra at the No. 15 spot.

Florida A&M is No. 16, Portland State is No. 17, Western Kentucky is No. 18, with Northwestern State at No. 19 and Montana State ranked 20th.

Closing out the Top 25 is Northern Arizona at No. 21, Delaware at No. 22, Harvard at No. 23, Jacksonville State at No. 24 and Hampton at No. 25.

The Atlantic 10, Big Sky, and Southland Conferences lead all I-AA leagues by placing four teams each in the Top 25.

The Southern Conference is represented by three schools (including three of the top seven), as is the Gateway Football Conference.



Univ. of Montana Media Relations

Montana quarterback John Edwards, shown here against Furman in last year's national championship game, returns for his senior season for the Grizzlies. Edwards' return is one of the reasons the defending champs are ranked first heading into 2002.



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Date	Opponent	Card
9/7	Gardner-Webb	Greg Hill
9/21	Wofford	J. R. Revere
10/5	VMI	Tracy Ham
10/19	ASU	A. Peterson
11/2	ETSU	Raymond Gross

11/16 Jville St. Erk Russell

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History seems stacked against Bobby Johnson

Former Furman coach not given much of chance to succeed at Vandy

G-A News Service

NASHVILLE, Tenn.-- He is Vanderbilt's fourth head coach since 1990, and he inherits a program trying to avoid a 20th consecutive losing record in 2002.

Bobby Johnson isn't shying away from that possibility.

"The thing you can't do is just say, 'God, all these people are so good. This is the SEC. We just got to try to be little old Vanderbilt and just be as good as we can,'" he said.

"That's the worst thing you can do, the worst way you can go about it."

A South Carolina native, Johnson, 52, knew what to expect when he left Furman with a 60-36 record in eight seasons.

Vanderbilt chancellor Gordon Gee convinced Johnson he wants to win and will support the program accordingly. Gee, whose resume includes stops at Colorado, West Virginia and Ohio State, has been on the job two years.

"I wouldn't have come here if it wasn't going to be like that," Johnson said.

Vanderbilt opened a new football-only weight room last winter, and the Commodores have new practice fields.

Johnson is preaching patience and discipline before the Aug. 31 opener

at Georgia Tech. Getting his Commodores to keep their hair cut neatly and attend class may be easier than giving hope to fans.

The Commodores have won four Southeastern Conference victories in five years and none during last season's 2-9 record.

"You can only go so fast," Johnson said.

The only way to improve Vanderbilt is through recruiting, and Johnson's staff did what they could last January. They had a class of 20 led by wide receiver Erik Davis.

Compare that to Tennessee, which hasn't had to worry about a new coach saving recruits since 1977 when Johnny Majors was coming off a national title at Pittsburgh.

"You just can't say because we're working harder and practicing harder, we have more discipline and we're more accountable that that's going to make up the gap right away," Johnson said.

Johnson has to replace a three-year starter in quarterback Greg Zolman, now in the NFL, and linebackers Antuan Bradford and Nate Morrow.

Fourteen starters are back led by senior wide receiver Dan Stricker, who was third in the SEC and 18th in the nation averaging 90.4 yards receiving per game. M.J. Garrett also is healthy after dislocating his shoulder in 2001.

Johnson plans a two-back look for an offense that was 62nd in the nation last year averaging 374.7 yards per game.

Either redshirt junior Benji Walker or redshirt freshman Jay Cutler will be

the quarterback. Walker may have the edge. He rushed for two touchdowns against Florida last year but is 2-of-7 for 48 yards in his career.

Vandy also needs a new starting running back with Lew Thomas and Rodney Williams gone. Norval McKenzie and Ronald Hatcher played well last spring, and new fullback Matthew Tant has a chance at playing when Vandy needs only one back.

Fixing the defense is imperative, and Johnson will go with a 4-3 approach. The unit that led the SEC in recent years slumped to 111th nationally, giving up 489.2 yards per game in 2001.

Cornerback Rushen Jones (broken hand) and safeties Justin Giboney (leg) and Jonathan Shaub (shoulder) are back and healthy.

Punter Joe Webb is gone, leaving Johnson without a punter on the roster who has kicked in college. He hopes someone like walk-on Matt Weiss or freshman Greg Johnson will earn the job.

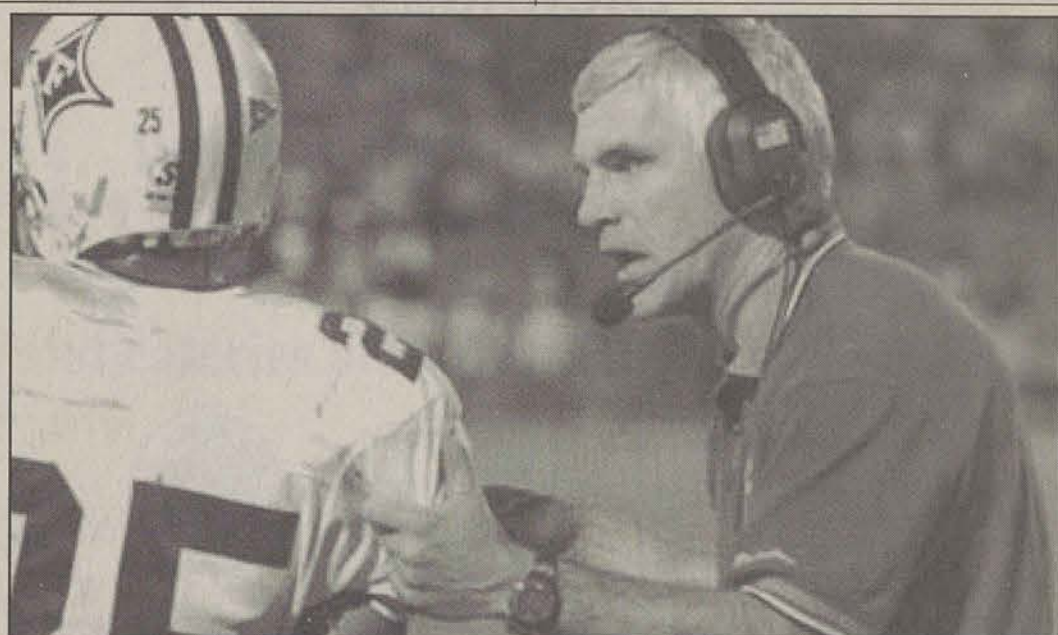
Still, this wasn't the season for Vanderbilt to play 12 games.

That team ended up being Georgia Tech in a schedule already loaded with SEC opponents including Tennessee, Alabama, Auburn, Georgia and Florida.

Not even the home opener Sept. 7 against Furman, the I-AA national runner-up under Johnson last season, looks easy.

"The good thing about playing a tough schedule, you have an opportunity to do something special," Johnson said.

Or keep counting.



Furman Media Relations

ROCKY ROAD AHEAD? Former Furman head coach Bobby Johnson isn't expected to pull Vanderbilt out of the SEC East cellar, despite his past success with the Paladins.

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J'Ville State looks to make run on Southland Conf. behind Rogers

G-A News Service

JACKSONVILLE, Ala.-- Ten years ago, Jacksonville State celebrated its exit from Division II with a national championship.

Coming off a 5-6 season, the Gamecocks might be hard-pressed to similarly punctuate their tenure in the Southland Football League before departing for the Ohio Valley Conference.

"I would hope that this season takes on the tone of a championship hunger," said coach Jack Crowe, whose summer was marred by a heated argument with his boss.

Athletic director Tom Seitz suspended Crowe for three weeks in July after the two argued. The suspension was overturned by the university after Crowe appealed and he returned to work.

Jacksonville State's hopes of improving on last year's seventh-place league finish (2-5) begin with quarterback Reggie Stancil and tailback Rondy Rogers.

Stancil, a three-year starter, al-

ready ranks in the top five in school history in career passing and total offense.

"I think when you talk about winning championships, you have to have a championship quarterback," Crowe said. "Reggie has been emerging in that direction and this is clearly a year that it will be an expectation."

Rogers set a school record with 1,417 yards last year and rushed for 13 touchdowns, averaging 6.7 yards per carry.

"I think Rondy is the best running back in America," Crowe said. "He has the talent to take over a game. I have coached four All-Pro running backs, and Rondy has made as many dominating plays as any one of them."

"I would buy a ticket just to see Rondy run."

The trouble is, Rondy will run behind three new offensive line starters and a new tight end.

Leading receiver Ralph Jenkins is back after hauling in 33 catches for 759 yards and eight TDs last season despite missing the final game with a

knee injury that required surgery.

The defense has only two senior starters, lineman Jermaine Hoyt and defensive back Markee Coleman, from a unit that allowed 401 yards and nearly 28 points per game. Hoyt had three sacks and seven tackles for loss last season.

Coleman led the team with 73 tackles and three interceptions.

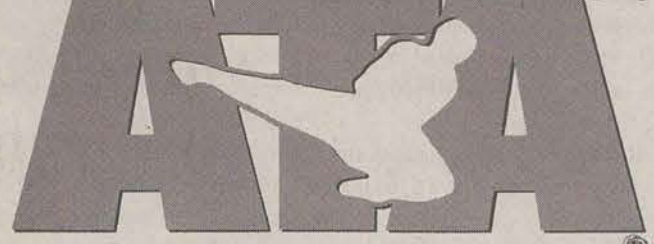
"I think we are an emerging defensive football team and I think with those two guys, I see us making considerable improvements from the beginning of the season over what we've done the past two seasons," Crowe said.

The Gamecocks lost their last five games in 2001, getting outscored by an aggregate 36.8 to 19.6 points after a 4-0 start.

The Gamecocks will play their first Southeastern Conference team on Sept. 14 at Mississippi State. They close the season at Division I-AA power Georgia Southern.

Crowe calls Jacksonville State's slate "the toughest schedule in the country."

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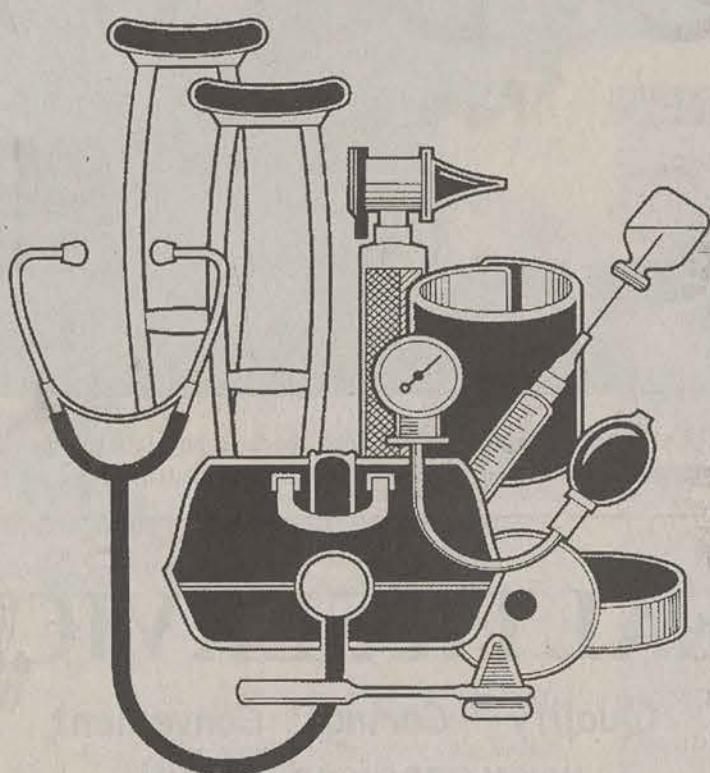
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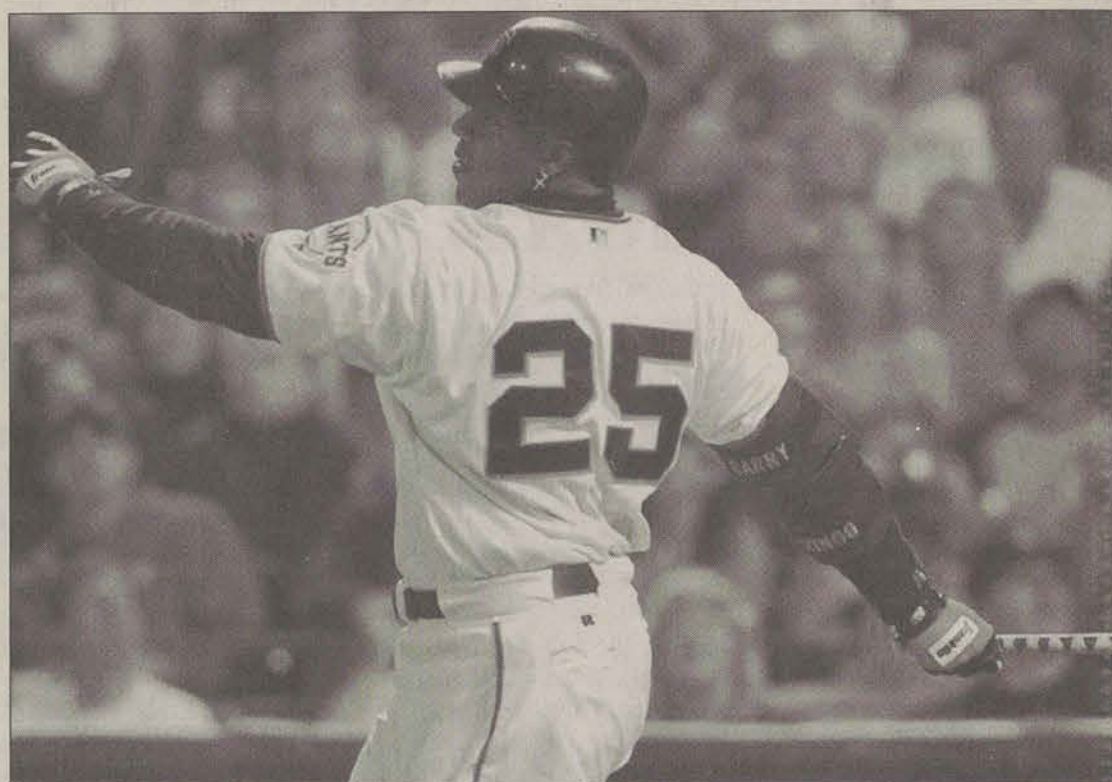
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Internet Photo

WATCHING ANOTHER ONE GO: Barry Bonds begins his home run trot after one of his 600 career homeruns. Bonds is now within firing distance of Hank Aaron's all-time record for longballs in a career.

Getting better with age

By Matthew Lund
mattlund91@hotmail.com

Another name was added to the elite list of Major League Baseball players who have hit 600 homeruns last Friday in San Francisco.

Barry Bonds did it in the sixth inning of a nightcap against the Pittsburgh Pirates, off a young up-and-coming right-hander named Kip Wells, whom Bonds had barely ever seen before.

He is 38 years old, but seems to be getting stronger than ever before, and has begun fully focusing on the mechanics of hitting, and the science of his swing.

The capacity crowd at Pac Bell Park roared with amazement, and cheered with delight as he circled the bases for the 600th time in his illustrious career, for it was the third time since the beginning of the 2001 season that Bonds had reached a milestone.

In April of 2001, Bonds hit his 500th homerun, which added him to an elite list of baseball's finest, all of whom are in the Hall of Fame or will be someday.

He continued on a tear of homerun hitting that led him to October, where again, in San Francisco, he muscled a pitch into the Pac Bell cheap seats for

his 71st homerun of the season. That broke Mark McGwire's record of 70, which had, itself, only stood for three years.

To break Hank Aaron's all-time record of 755 homeruns, Bonds will have to hit 156 more before he leaves the game.

Only Aaron, Babe Ruth, and Bonds' godfather, Willie Mays, have hit more homeruns in their careers.

Whether or not he goes on to pass these great legends is up to him, but even if he never hits another homerun, he is assured a place next to them in Cooperstown.

Players postpone strike date for now, to meet this Friday

KRT Campus

CHICAGO-- Atlanta Braves pitcher Tom Glavine, the National League representative in the Major League Baseball Players' Association, put it best Monday when he summarized why the players chose not to set a strike date during a meeting of their executive council.

"Setting a strike date, going on strike, is not something we take lightly," Glavine said. "We understand the ramifications of that. We all understand what happened in 1994 and what it did to the game of baseball."

"I don't think that anybody will argue that setting a strike date will throw a wrench into the whole process. We all understand the rhetoric that starts with that. We feel there's a window of opportunity in the next few days to get something done and we're willing to explore that without throwing a strike date into it."

"It hurts nobody by giving it a couple of extra days."

Donald Fehr, the executive director of the players' association who briefed the players in Chicago on Monday, said a conference call involving club player representatives would take place Friday.

It is possible a strike date could be set then. Fehr said the association's executive council had that mandate to take such action at any time.

Fehr said he had spoken to commissioner Bud Selig earlier in the day, a call initiated by Selig. Perhaps Selig beseeched the association not to set a strike date. "(Selig) gave no assurances of any rewards (if a strike date wasn't set)," Fehr said.

Fehr didn't provide details of his conversation with Selig but said any decision reached by the group Monday was not his, saying, "Contrary to popular conception from time to time, this organization always has operated from the bottom up, not from the top down."

The players and owners have reached accord on some issues but the most significant ones remain: the amount of revenue sharing, the method of distributing it, and a luxury tax.

Monday was the eighth anniversary of the last labor stoppage. In 1994, feelings ran much harsher than now. A strike date that year had been set on July 28. And that prophecy of doom was fulfilled.

Glavine, who was playing in 1994, said he felt the vibes to be different this time. "In '94, there was virtually no chance we were going to reach an agreement without a work stoppage," he said.

The owners have pledged not to lock out the players during the course of play this season, including the postseason, but the players had been fearful that they will be locked out before next season and that the owners would try to implement new rules, which they attempted in 1994 only to have that action overturned by a federal judge.

Along the way in negotiations, the two sides have agreed on a \$300,000 minimum salary and the mechanics of a universal draft.

The two sides also have submitted proposals on steroid testing. The owners also want mandatory testing for nutritional supplements.

The luxury tax clearly is the major issue, though.

Fehr said he didn't want to make the explanation so simplistic but he said a luxury tax isn't satisfactory to the players for the following reasons:

"The philosophy of the luxury tax encompasses that it will penalize someone for hiring somebody. That's a real problem for us."

The tax operates in a fundamentally unfair way, which is to say that the only person who feels the effect of the tax is the player who signs above the threshold. If your tax threshold is \$100 and your tax is 50 percent, if your team has \$100 in salaries, it pays no tax.

If it wants to sign me for \$6, without any tax it signs me for \$6. With the tax, it signs me for \$4 and is taxed \$2. The club is in the same position. It still spends \$6. The rest of the players are in the same position. Their contracts aren't affected. Mine has been cut.

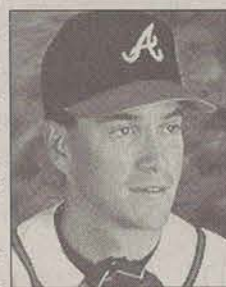
"By definition, what a tax like that will do is restrict the willingness of clubs to spend what they would otherwise spend."

Fehr, asked if the luxury tax was a "deal breaker," said, "I'm not going to put that kind of a label on it. It's no secret that it's a big hurdle."

To date, the players have shown little or no interest in the owners' luxury tax proposal, in which the owners want teams with payrolls over \$98 million to be taxed 50 percent over that figure.

Owners negotiator Rob Manfred, who spoke to reporters by conference call, seemed discouraged by the players' hesitancy in setting a strike date.

"What I would say is I remain optimistic that we can get a negotiated agreement in the near future," Manfred said.



Glavine



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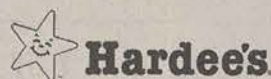
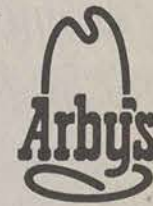
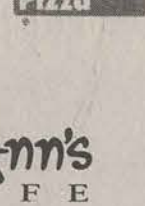
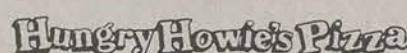
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Eatin' in the 'Boro

Your guide to the restaurants and eateries of Statesboro



Statesboro has a wide variety of restaurants, from fast food to complete Southern dining. And whether you're looking for a formal night out on the town or a snack well past the midnight hour, it's important to know what kind of options are available. It's even more important to know what you're getting yourself into. So the George-Anne has put together this guide to help you find the perfect restaurant to rid you of those awful hunger pains associated with late receipt of your financial aid check. We've rated each eatery in three categories:

Cost: The more you see, the more money you'll need.

Portions: The more you see, the more you get for your money.

Quality: Gnats are picky little buggers, so the more of you see, the better the food.

Arby's

622 Fair Rd.
681-6782

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Blimpie

715 Northside Dr.
764-4126

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Burger King

550 Fair Rd.
681-6436

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Checkers

701 Northside Dr.
489-8800

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Chic-Fil-A

703 Northside Dr.
764-7941

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Dairy Queen

No 1 Northside Dr.
764-2949

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Hardee's

612 Northside Dr.
764-3802

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Huddle House

216 Lanier Dr.
681-4044

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Kentucky Fried Chicken

202 N Main St.
764-6197

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Krystal

732 Northside Dr.
489-4000

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Larry's Giant Subs

620 Fair Rd.
681-7827

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits

526 Fair Rd.
681-1078

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Royal Waffle King

12399 S Highway 301
681-8951

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Sonic Drive-In

322 S Main St.
489-4544

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Subway

510 S Main
764-9878

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Taco Bell

224 S Main St.
764-2501

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Waffle House

446 S Main St.
489-8556

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Wendy's

College Plaza
681-4289

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Applebee's

804 Highway 80
489-5656

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Archibald's

470 S Main St.
764-6597

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Beaver House Inn & Restaurant

121 S Main St.
764-2821

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Buffalo's Café

120 Lanier Dr.
681-3030

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Captain Joe's Seafood

12218 US Highway 301
681-3482

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Chinese Kitchen

456 South Main St.
764-4828

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Dragon Chinese Restaurant

600 Northside Dr.
764-6460

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

El Sombrero

406 Fair Rd.
764-9828

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Farfalles

21 S Zetterhower Ave.
764-2161

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Ristorante

21 S Zetterhower Ave.
764-2161

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3



Franklin's Restaurant

221 N Main St.
764-2316

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Golden Corral Restaurant

418 Northside Dr.
489-4746

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Hachi Restaurant

7 College Plaza
681-1759

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Holiday Pizza

406 Fair Rd.
764-7669

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

International

800 Highway 80
764-4341

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Leigh Ann's Café

609 Brannen St.
764-7858

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Longhorn

719 Northside Dr.
489-5369

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Nikko Japanese Steak and Seafood House

609 Brannen
489-4007

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Papa John's

620 Fair Rd.
871-7272

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Ocean Galley Seafood

503 Northside Dr.
489-4145

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Peking Chinese Restaurant

102 Brannen St.
489-8816

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

RJ's Seafood & Steaks

434 S Main St.
489-8658

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Ruby Tuesday

724 Northside Dr.
764-4333

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Southern Palace

602 Brannen St.
489-8813

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Vandy's Barbeque

Statesboro Mall
746-3033

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Western Sizzlin'

409 Fair Rd.
764-9007

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Zaxby's

502 Fair Rd.
681-2000

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Bigfella's Pizzeria

200 Lanier Dr.
681-7339

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Domino's Pizza

17 College Plaza
681-4326

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Hungry Howie's

607 Brannen St.
764-6565

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Mellow Mushroom

6 University Plaza
681-8788

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Papa John's Pizza

620 Fair Rd.
871-7272

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Pizza Hut

129 S Main St.
764-5489

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Pizza Inn

711 S Main St.
681-9066

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Daylight Donuts and Gourmet Sandwiches

455 S Main St.
764-9536

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Dunkin' Donuts

606 Fair Rd.
681-1227

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

Snooky's

11 E Kennedy St.
764-7190

Cost: 3
Portions: 3
Quality: 3

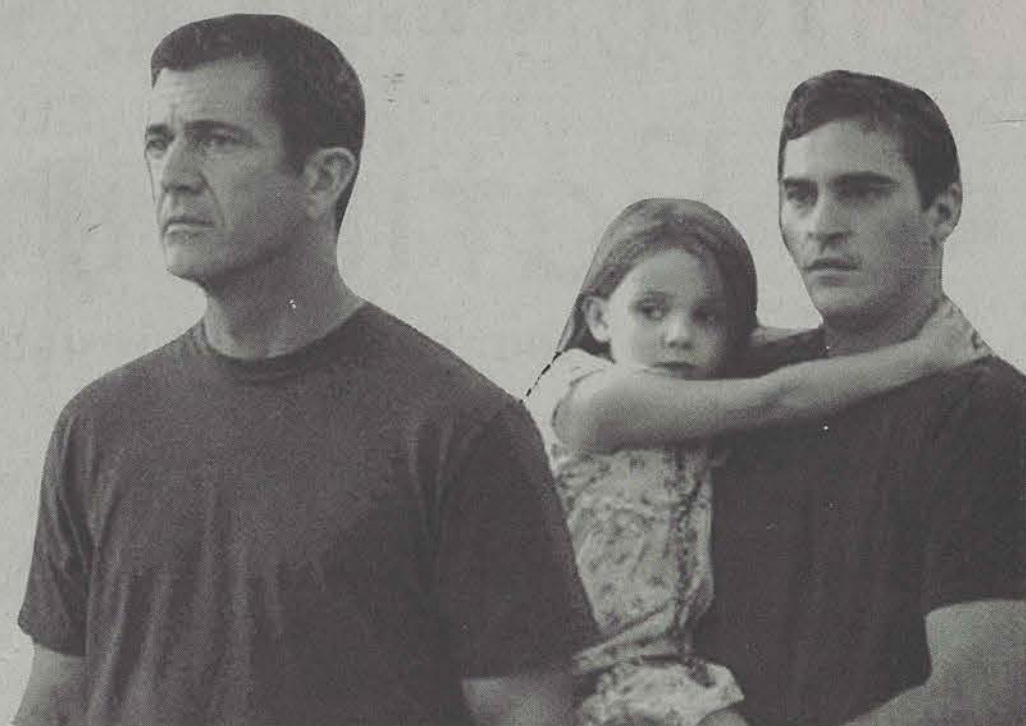
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M. NIGHT SHYAMALAN'S 'SIGNS'

After more than twenty years of secrets, myths and hoaxes, an answer comes from Hollywood on the stranger-than-fiction formation of crop circles



Internet Photo

By Adam Brady
that_guy@stouthouse.org

I never thought I would ever appreciate the fact that Statesboro is surrounded by cotton fields.

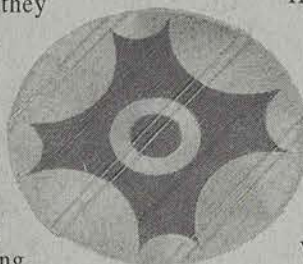
It could be worse: they could be corn fields.

M. Night Shyamalan exercises his powers of suspense and mystery once again in this summer's addition to his quickly forming library of mind-thrillers, "Signs." Following the box-office success of "The Sixth Sense" and "Unbreakable," "Signs" has already been declared a hit by critics and moviegoers alike.

Starring Mel Gibson as Graham Hess, the movie revolves around Hess's loss of faith after his wife's death. He teaches his children, Morgan and Bo (Rory Culkin and Abigail Breslin), and his brother Merrill (Joaquin Phoenix), that learning and reason can be used to explain away life's mysteries. Religion and faith have been driven out by Graham's bitterness for the loss of his wife.

But when strange circles begin forming in Hess's cornfields, all of that changes.

National news stations



begin round the clock broadcasts starting with the appearance of the crop circles and ending in the rebuttal of all those who had called them hoaxes. Flying lights and an invading army drive the story further to terror and send the Hess family into hiding.

"Signs" combines suspenseful moments with looming mystery, letting your imagination run wild. The fear of what Shyamalan excludes defines "Signs" as psychological thriller on the same level of confusing terror as "Poltergeist," and "The Blair Witch Project." Shyamalan uses many of the same ideas as Alfred Hitchcock, including the "Psycho"-esque music emphasizing dramatic points, but leaving those moments to pass quickly and piecemeal, leaving the rest to the imagination.

Graham has periodic flashbacks to the night of his wife's death throughout the movie, each one explaining more of the past, and eventually providing the key to the conclusion.

"Signs" is comparable to "Contact" in its message, and relies less on dogmatic law for answers, and more on simple faith and the belief that everything that happens for one reason or another.

Mel Gibson goes further than the epic hero he's starred as in relatively recent movies like "Braveheart" and "The Patriot" to face the daunting task of fatherhood in rural Pennsylvania.

This may be his best performance to date, and sided by Joaquin Phoenix, Gibson

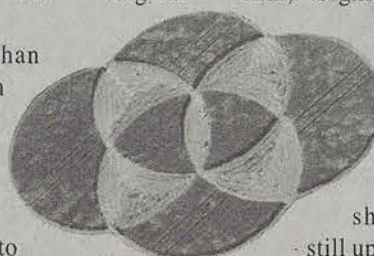
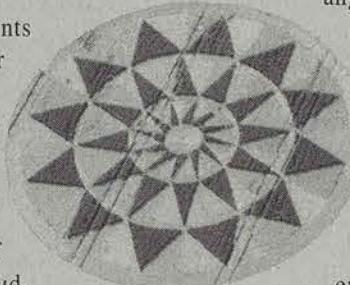
shines brighter than the strange lights that dot the skies over the world of "Signs."

Phoenix once again redefines himself, this time as the loving brother. From playing a snuff-film enthusiast in "9mm" to the angry, incestual Roman emperor in "Gladiator," Phoenix displays an absolute command of acting, and his role in "Signs" will not let audiences down.

Rory Culkin and Abigail Breslin remain as believable as the suspense that keeps you on the edge of your seat throughout the movie. Children always play some sort of pivotal part in Shyamalan's films, and these two budding actors do well to fill the quota.

There's much more to Shyamalan's "Signs" than the previews would you to believe. As usual, the film takes what seems like a simple story a step further to leave the audience guessing at every change of scene.

A great film, "Signs" is fit to add to Shyamalan's growing collection. But I'd still recommend seeing the twilight show: the sun is still up once the movie's over.



REAL LIFE 'SIGNS'...

Crop circles all over the world have been documented for over 20 years

- Crop circles are unexplained designs that are imprinted over the span of usually one night in fields of mostly wheat and corn. They have also occurred in barley, oats, rape (canola), grass, trees, and even snow.
- They occur in crops during the Spring and Summer seasons throughout various regions of the world such as the U.S., Canada, Europe, South America, Asia and Australia.
- Researchers have measured a distinct emission of energy at 5KHz emanating from fresh (few days old) crop circles, corresponding to reports of eye-witnesses who often claim to hear a "trilling" sound coming from the direction of the formations.
- There have been instances where certain formations take on an entirely different appearance as they continue to grow in the field.
- Though reports of crop circles began to be documented in the early 80's, historical findings date the first evidence of crop circles back to 17th century England.

Source: www.paradigmshift.com

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New York's hottest underground band moves into the mainstream

KRT Campus

At least 60 percent of being a real New Yorker is about attitude. You've gotta know when to act tough, when to chew someone out and when to help pick up your neighbor's groceries after their shopping bag spills into the street.

For music fans, few contemporary bands have represented the city as well as the Strokes, a scruffy quintet of rockers who have mustered one of the most dramatic ascents in recent rock history. Playing with a powerhouse blend of timeless hooks, Velvet Underground-influenced grooves and punk energy, the band has been the subject of massive press hysteria since its first E.P., "The Modern World," was released in Britain last year.

This is the act Rolling Stone called "the best young rock band in America." Spin described their debut album, "Is This It," as "a short, sharp punk-rock thrill that's equal parts glamour and grit, and sugar and sleaze."

"The hype didn't really affect us as much as it should have," says guitarist Albert Hammond Jr. of the past year. "We just focused on other stuff, and we didn't really take it seriously. But it's cool to think that now we've survived all that."

Although they've just announced plans for a nationwide tour in the fall, the band has been keeping a relatively low profile of late. Hammond says the group has been meeting every day to hash out material for the next record, due out in 2003. Audiences will get to hear the new "I Can't Win," "You Talk Way Too Much" and "The Way It Is."

As far as the critical acclaim goes, Hammond and his bandmates—singer Julian Casablancas, guitarist Nick Valensi, bassist Nikolai Fraiture and drummer Fabrizio Moretti—say they don't understand why so many people have compared them to New York legends such as Television, the Ramones and Patti Smith. And despite their touring dates with the White Stripes, they don't feel a brotherhood with like-minded bands.

Critics "always try to put us into this rock scene," says Hammond, whose father wrote such hits as 1972's "It Never Rains in Southern California." "But I think we're trying to do something different."

What's really different about the Strokes, Hives, Vines and White Stripes is that they've garnered attention without kowtowing to the prefab images and sounds that dominate MTV and top 40 radio. The Strokes' first video, for "Last Night," was a low-budget affair that had the group playing in what looked like a cheap '60s-era television studio.

Similarly, the White Stripes are up for MTV's Video of the Year with a clip animated with Legos. And the Vines managed to debut at No. 11 on Billboard's album chart even though most of their songs sound like one long snarl.

One explanation for the success of these artists is MTV's decision to gamble on viewers embracing bands without the overtuned rage of rock-rap or the slick sweetness of teen-pop.

"We had a great run with Kid Rock and Limp Bizkit and Korn," says Tom Calderone, senior vice president of music



Internet Photo

A STROKE OF GOOD LUCK: After a successful debut year, The Strokes are keeping a low profile while planning a nationwide tour and a second album.

programming at MTV, "but we were looking for what's going to be the next big thing. As popular as Nickelback and Hoobastank were, you couldn't really pick them up out of a lineup."

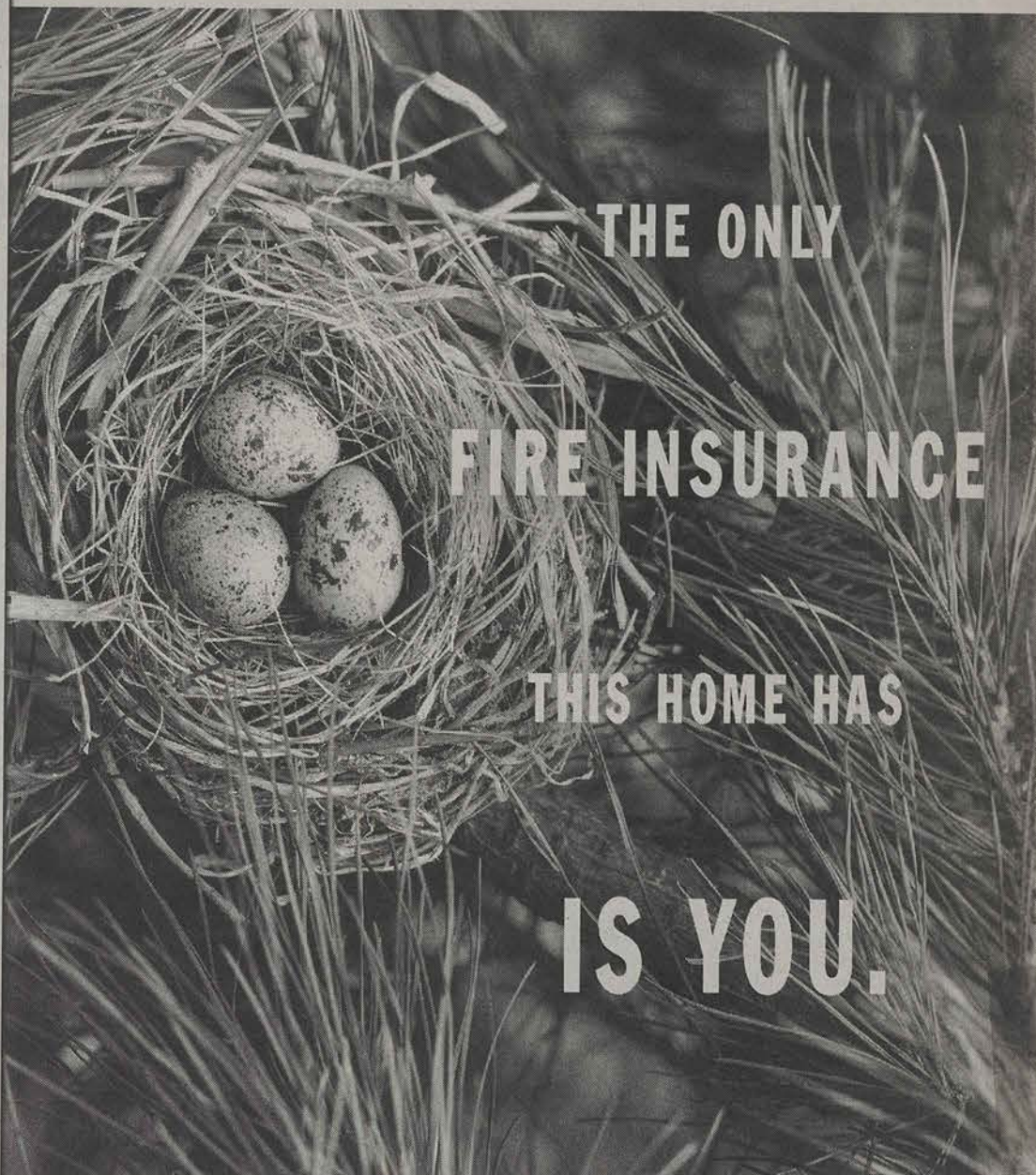
"So we thought, if we're going to take a musical risk at this time, let's go through this retro rock," Calderone adds. "When we got the video from the Strokes for 'Last Night,' we made it 'Buzzworthy' immediately. We saw from our audience feedback that people were starting to like this stuff."

With the support of influential radio stations such as Los Angeles' KROQ, you can now hear the Strokes and the Vines on many of the same modern-rock stations that play Linkin Park and P.O.D. But just because they're adding an interesting flavor, doesn't mean they're pointing the way to the future.

"They're wonderful bands and they're selling good units, so that's great," says Mike Shea, editor of Alternative Press magazine, which covers left-of-center rock. "But I don't think it's going to be the new generation of anything. When you have nothing else to listen to, you pull out your old records."

If you play a Strokes record next to albums by bands such as the Stooges or the Velvet, what's most remarkable is the group's dedication to songcraft. Even as they generate a sound that is both aggressive and full of fuzztones, there is amazing precision in the arrangements, in which simple parts mesh tightly.

"It's like a watch and everything's got a part," Hammond says. "We try to hone it so that this is the song right here and nothing more. This is what we think is perfect."



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Top Ten Box Office Hits

Week of 8/11/02

1. XXX
2. Signs
3. Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams
4. Austin Powers in Goldmember
5. Blood Work
6. The Master of Disguise
7. Road to Perdition
8. My Big Fat Greek Wedding
9. Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat
10. Stuart Little 2

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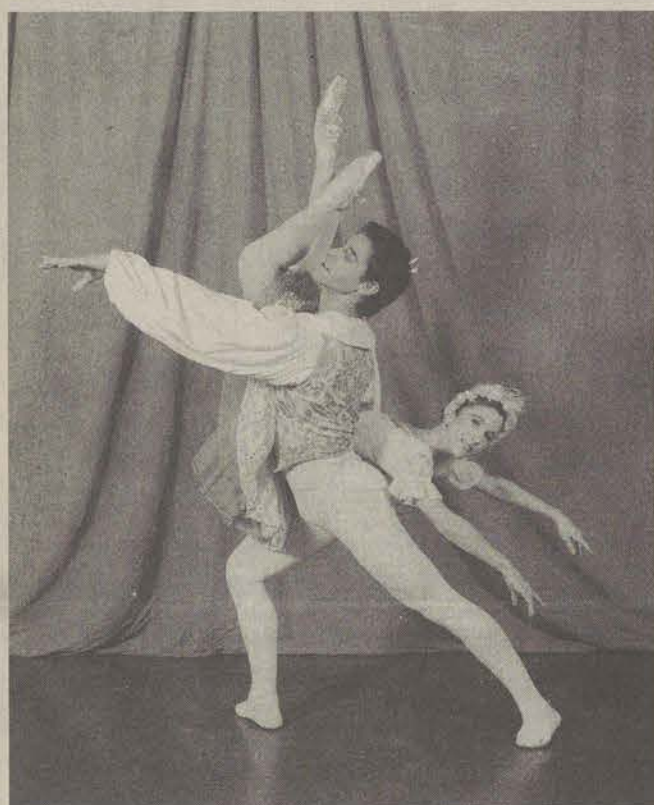
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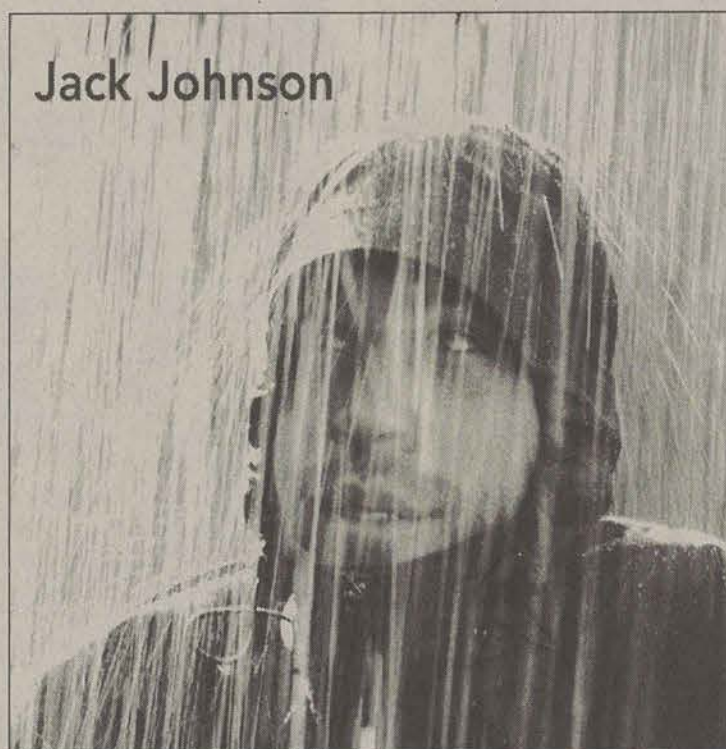
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CD Reviews

The Good, The Bad, and The Other

Jack Johnson



Special Photo

'BRUSHFIRE FAIRYTALES': Jack Johnson's sophomore release includes catchy melodies and a guest performance by Ben Harper. Fans of Dave Matthews, John Mayer and David Gray should listen up.

By Rachel Sugrue
rachelsugrue@yahoo.com

You know how you hear a song at the beginning of the summer and it becomes your theme, your summer anthem? You live, eat, and breathe the soothing melodies and dream of a life you could or should have. This summer my theme record has been Jack Johnson's sophomore album, "Brushfire Fairytales."

Warning: when listening you may become entranced by this former pro-surfer/film director's slightly upbeat yet slow and simple lyrics.

Although this is not a new release, I felt it was of merit and worthy of review for those of you who have yet to hear it. The first song I heard, "Flake," features a guest performance by Ben Harper on slide guitar. The song starts slow and explains that "Maybe/ Pretty much always means no" then turns into a completely different rhythm and gets into the funky "Please, Please" that always gets stuck in my head. Although this is the reason I bought the album, I quickly discovered the other mellow tracks accompanying it.

"Bubble Toes" tells about a girl that was a friend turned

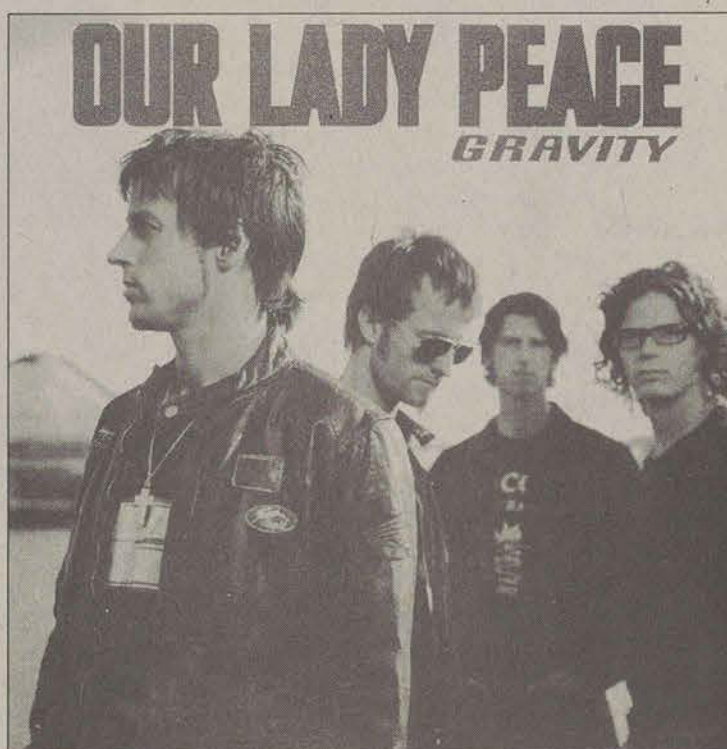
into a girlfriend, and even has some "La, da, da, da's" to sing along with. "Fortunate Fool" deals with a girl that seems too good to be true and slowly builds adding more instruments and melody. "Inaudible Melodies" lets us know to "Slow down everyone/ you're moving too fast/ frames can't catch you when you're moving like that". "Middle Man" reflects on how it feels to get stuck in the middle when people fight and how the person in the middle always has to tell the others what the other one said, is a true song of don't kill the messenger.

Just three people created these simple tracks. Jack Johnson with the vocals, guitars and piano, Adam Topol on the drums and other percussion, and Merlo is the bass. With guest appearances on "Flake" by Tommy Jordan and Ben Harper, Brushfire Fairytales is a timeless hit.

This is a mellow CD you may want to do "whatever" to. Play it for the ladies, hang out with friends, or tune in on the drive to and from Statesboro.

If you like the musical styles of Dave Matthews Band or John Mayer, you will probably like Jack Johnson.

OUR LADY PEACE GRAVITY



Special Photo

'GRAVITY': Our Lady Peace's newest release is less abrasive than their past albums. And with the help of their new producer and guitarist, the band has moved in a Pop/Rock direction.

By Rachel Sugrue
rachelsugrue@yahoo.com

Since famed Canadian hard-rock band Our Lady Peace ditched their producer Arnold Lanni and guitarist Mike Turner for the legendary producer Bob Rock of Metallica and Detroit guitarist Steve Mazur, things have been sounding a little bit different.

Lead vocalist Raine Maida has thrown away his voice modulator for more common sounding vocals giving the band a generic sound. With the introduction of a new guitarist and producer comes a completely new and commercial friendly reverberation.

Traditionally, Our Lady Peace has never been one of those mainstream Pop/Rock radio-friendly bands. "Gravity" will probably bring the end of that.

The album isn't necessarily bad, it just sounds different than their past mind-blowing albums such as "Clumsy" or "Spiritual Machines."

However, there are some really good tracks on "Gravity." Highlights include the power-ballad about far-away love (complete with a string section)

"Somewhere Out There." "Do You Like It," the album's second track, sways to the tune of a relationship gone wrong. The fourth track, "Innocent" closely mirrors the sound of past Our Lady Peace albums, accenting the despair of teenage life and the trials that accompany it. "Made of Steel," the fifth track on the album, is a self-esteem anthem that leaves you with the opinion that you can do anything if you put your mind to it.

If you're one of those who tends to know which songs will be hits before they are, "Sorry," the album's eighth track, is sure to be the next one: it has all the ingredients to make a Pop/Rock hit.

"Sorry" opens with guitar strumming and Maida singing: "Today's the reason for living, today's the blood from stone... Today we carry each other, Today the past is a freak, Today's a time for forgiveness, You were never good to me..." then comes the drums and crashing guitars for the chorus.

The main recurring theme of the album is one of hope. In a lost and sometimes hopeless world, I don't mind the positive attitude.

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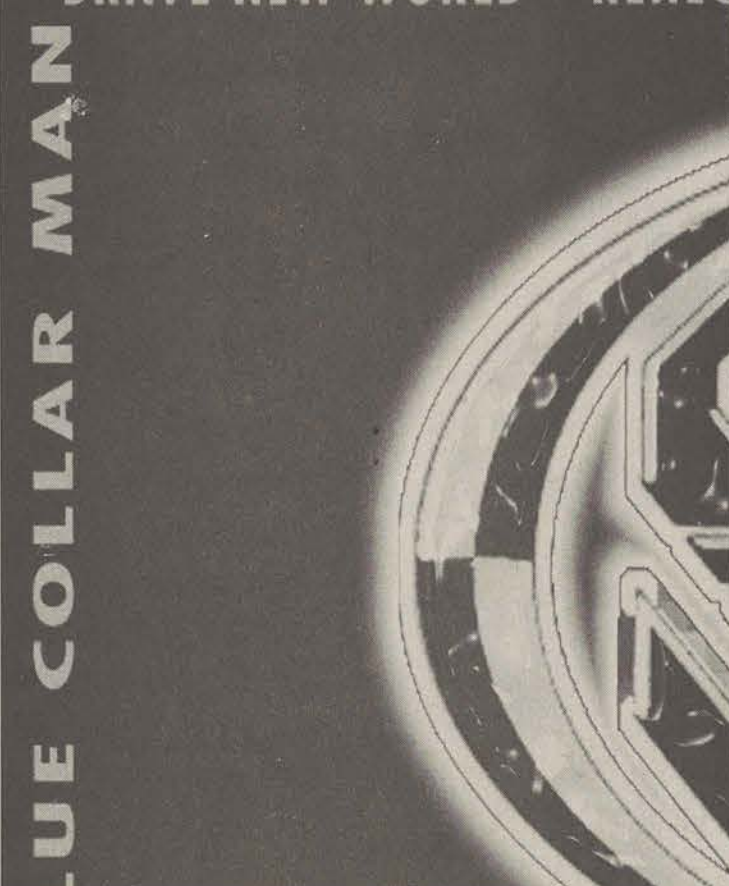
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Top-Selling Albums

Week of 8/8/2002

Artist	Album Title
1. Bruce Springsteen	The Rising
2. Linkin Park	[Reanimation]
3. Nelly	Nellyville
4. Various Artists	Now 10
5. Eminem	The Eminem Show
6. Toby Keith	Unleashed
7. Dave Matthews Band	Busted Stuff
8. Avril Lavigne	Let Go
9. Amerie	All I Have
10. Red Hot Chili Peppers	By The Way

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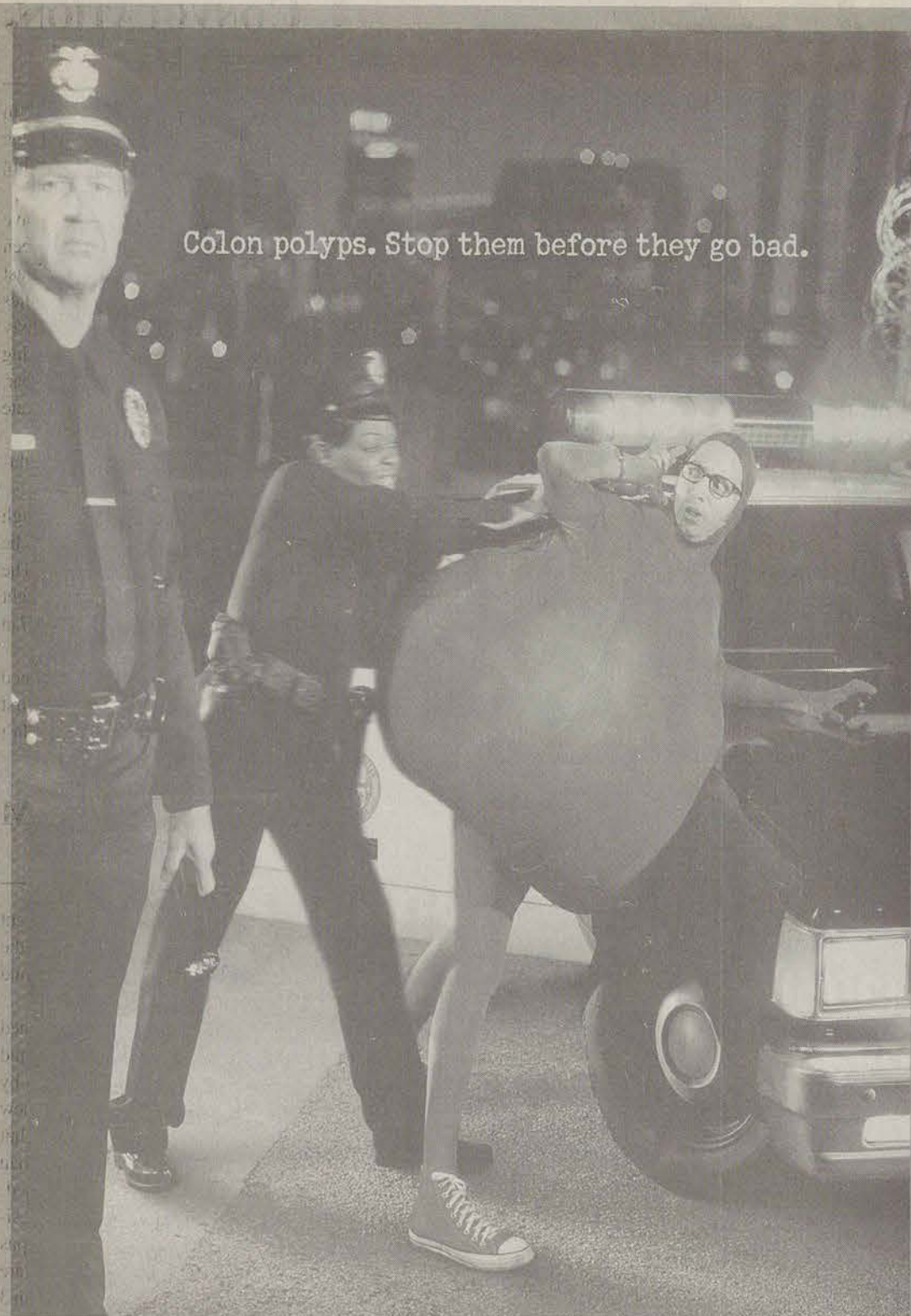
Kim Werther hands out one of the 2,300 antacid tablets she served to overstuffed participants at Monroe County's annual Chili Cookoff.

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Law & the Internet

GSU signs contract to develop web sites for Georgia court system

G-A News Service

Web design used to be nothing more than a hobby for attorney Rebecca Davis, but she has found an ideal way to combine her computer knowledge with her legal background in a professional setting.

An associate professor in Georgia Southern University's Department of Political Science, Davis has been designing web pages for courts in four state judicial districts that cover 86 counties.

Her work will continue after the University signed a contract on Monday, Aug. 12, with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), which is coordinating the web page project.

"This is a wonderful way of getting important information out to people, and it also lessens the load on the court system," Davis said. "When people can pull up information on a web page, it means they don't have to call the clerk or make a trip to the courthouse."

Accessible at www.georgiacourts.org, the web site contains links to courts all over Georgia, ranging from the state Supreme Court to local probate courts. Kennesaw State University, Valdosta State University and Sandersville Technical College are also involved in the project.

"I'm very excited about what this consortium has done for our web site," said Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Norman Fletcher, who was present for the contract-signing ceremony. "People need to know about our judicial system, and they should have ready access to important information."

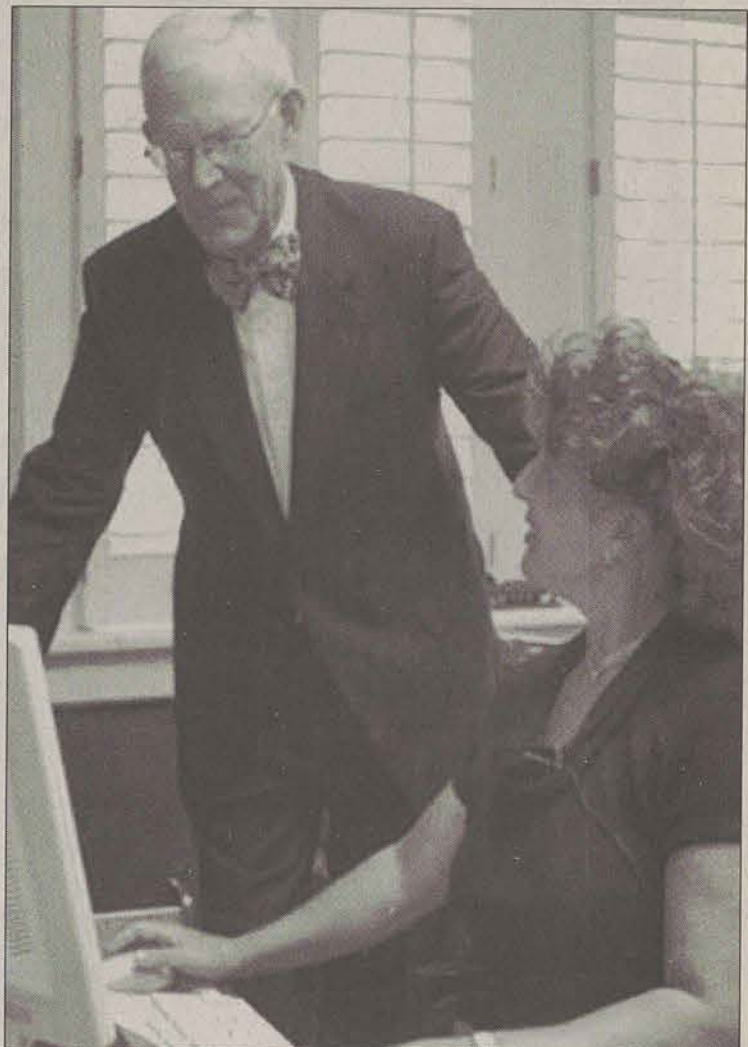
"By tying the whole state together, this web site will allow people to access this information quickly and easily."

Davis began working on the project in 2000.

"The state legislature allocated funds for a web site development project, and they specifically wanted to get Georgia Southern involved," she said.

"Bill Golden, the University's liaison with the legislature, called to find out if there was somebody on campus that would be interested and capable of conducting the project."

"Eventually, the calls made their way to me. I am an attorney, and web design is a hobby of mine, so we had a meeting and decided it would be beneficial to both Georgia Southern and the courts for me to take on this challenge."



Special to the G-A

Attorney and GSU Associate Professor Rebecca Davis shows one of her web site designs to Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Norman Fletcher Monday afternoon.

Under the direction of Greg Arnold, the assistant director for Technology and Research for the AOC, Davis was assigned courts in the first, third, eighth and 10th judicial districts. That's a huge geographical area that stretches from the coast into the hills above Athens and cuts across the middle of the state all the way to the Alabama line.

"We create web pages for anybody in the judicial system who wants them: magistrate court, superior court, juvenile court, probate court, whoever," Davis said. "We talk to the judges and find out what they want and what they need, then try to translate that into an actual web page."

The resulting web pages have run the gamut from basic to elaborate.

For example, in addition to general information such as a directory of judges, the Bulloch County page contains a virtual tour of the courthouse.

Davis praised Steve Bonham and Raleigh Way of the Center for Excellence in Teaching Excellence for their assistance with the project.

"I had an awful lot of help from them," she said. "They're the ones who gave me most of my technical skills."

Davis also acknowledged the contributions of former student assistant Casey Jackson, who is now employed by the AOC as a research associate, and current student assistant Jesse Knight.

In addition, Davis thanked Arnold, AOC Director David Ratley and AOC Associate Director for Administration P. Vinson Harris for their support.

"A lot of people have worked very hard to make this project a success," she said.

And there's still a lot of work yet to be done.

"Even though we've done web pages in 86 counties, we haven't done all of the courts in all of the counties," Davis said. "Of course, even if we do all of the courts, we're always going to be updating and changing some of the information, such as the directories."

"When you look at it like that, this is probably going to be an ongoing project."

Georgia Supreme Court Justice Norman Fletcher praises GSU's role in state-wide web project

Uniform rules of '83 might be realized with help of the Internet

By Doug Kidd
doug_kidd@hotmail.com

Tying the entire state together through the internet is important for the future of Georgia's courts, said Georgia Supreme Court Justice Norman Fletcher, on Monday.

In town to celebrate the signing of Georgia Southern's participation in designing a uniform web site for the state court system, Fletcher was impressed with the way the project has been going.

"This project has become exceedingly important because people need to have access to our courts," Fletcher said, noting that availability to forms and other information will help people "resolve their problems easier."

"It's very important what the university has done," he said.

Set up by GSU professor Rebecca Davis, the web site contains links to

courts all over the state, from the state Supreme Court to local probate courts.

Teamed up with Valdosta State, Kennesaw State and Sandersville Technical College, the goal was to make the state court system more efficient and economical.

Fletcher said that since 1983, rules have been in place to provide for a uniform court. If someone filed paper work in a court in Savannah, it should be done on the same forms and in the same procedure as in other places, like Dalton.

But that hasn't always been the case.

"Hopefully, this project will help alleviate those problems," Fletcher said.

Davis said another key point was to make courts more accessible for "regular folks as well as lawyers."

"It's going to be helpful, especially in places like magistrate courts," Davis said, "because a lot of people represent themselves. They can now get forms over the internet."

These officials and dignitaries were present when Georgia Southern University signed a contract on Aug. 12 to continue to develop web sites for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

•Chief Justice Norman Fletcher, Georgia Supreme Court

•Rebecca Davis, attorney and Georgia Southern associate professor

•Vaughn Vandegrift, Georgia Southern provost.

•Curtis Ricker, acting chair, Georgia Southern Department of Political Science

•Greg Arnold, assistant director of Technology and Research for the AOC

•Judge William Woodrum, chief judge, Ogeechee Circuit

•Judge Gates Peed, Ogeechee Circuit

•David Ratley, AOC director

GSU School of IT upgrading to College of IT

G-A News Service

The GSU School of Information Technology will become the College of Information Technology as of July 1, 2003.

Under the plan, the new college will continue to house the information technology degree program, and it will also assume responsibility for the degree programs in information systems, currently housed in the Col-

lege of Business Administration, and computer science, currently housed in the College of Science and Technology.

"This allows the University to carry out the vision supported by the University System... to establish a first-rate Information Technology program..." said President Bruce Grube said.

In the University System, a col-

lege is usually a larger unit than a school, and may have various schools contained within it. Until next July, the School of Information Technology will continue to be housed in the College of Business Administration.

"[This reorganization] will also make it easier for us to expand our executive training programs and other computer-related continuing

education programs to businesses in our region," Vaughn Vandegrift, provost and vice president of academic affairs, said.

The College of Information Technology is scheduled to move into its new \$33 million, 135,000-square foot building which will be finished next summer.

The three computer-related programs in the College of Informa-

tion Technology, combined with the Georgia Tech Regional Engineering Program (GTREP) major in computer engineering, allows GSU to offer a full range of computer-related degree options.

Under the GTREP program, computer engineering majors transfer to Georgia Tech for their junior and senior years, but continue to take all their courses on the GSU campus.

Updated student email system replaces gsaix

By Michelle Flournoy
mlf21@hotmail.com

Students can say goodbye to outdated GSU email. All student email accounts will be switched from gsaix to a new service called Eagle 4.

Student gsaix accounts will be closed, but mail will be instantly forwarded to the new accounts. Forwarding will continue thru Sept. 30, but Computer Services advises students to notify senders of the address change as quickly as possible.

According to Computer Services' online information, email has been serviced by gsaix for the past nine years. The switch comes as an effort to bring faster service to GSU students.

"The benefit of the new service will be increased student account size. The machine running this email is much faster. It will offer capabilities that the old email tool just did not have," says Lisa Spence, director of Information and Technology Services.

The new service also allows students to access other email accounts such as Hotmail. The Eagle 4 service will have online technical support, will provide weather updates, and will come equipped with spell check.

Unlike the old email system, the new system will come with easy to remember addresses. The addresses will be based on the first letter of the student's first name and up to 7 letters of the student's last name.

Students may find their new addresses and passwords by logging into the personal information section on Wings.

Faculty and staff will still be using gsaix.

"We are investigating a separate tool for faculty and staff since they have a different set of needs," Spence says.

"Faculty and staff are currently on a separate email system, but we are looking to standardize a system for them within the academic year."

CONVOCATION, FROM PAGE 1

"With the largest enrollment in GSU history, and highest average SAT for freshmen those are two big milestones," he said.

Grube said early projections have the university's enrollment between 14,700 and 14,800 from last year's 14,371. Part of the reason lies with higher retention rates. Sixty nine percent of the 1999 entering class came back for a second year, while 2001's class returned at a rate of 75 percent.

"Our goal is to have it in the eighties," Grube said.

SAT scores are also up, although Grube said exact figures won't be known for a few more weeks. The 2002 class will mark the fourth straight year test scores have risen, from 987 in '99 to 1008 in '00 to 1028 in '01.

"An interesting thing happened this year," Grube said. "For the first time people are saying they couldn't get into GSU."

HOUSING, FROM PAGE 1

that concentrates its development primarily on residence halls across the nation. The Pines will be all suites and Oxford will be apartments.

The new halls will be furnished with classrooms, computer labs, and amenities that rival those offered by off-campus housing. With these new buildings, some older ones will be shut down. As of now Cone and Dorman halls are tentatively set to be closed.

The housing plan is to move residence halls to the perimeter of campus where the new academic buildings are being built. Hawkins hopes that, in 3 years, they will be able to house 30 percent of the student population in the type of housing that many students are looking for.

Hawkins says the effort on being made is more than financial. There is also the educational aspect the halls provide, since studies show that on-campus students do better than those residing off campus.

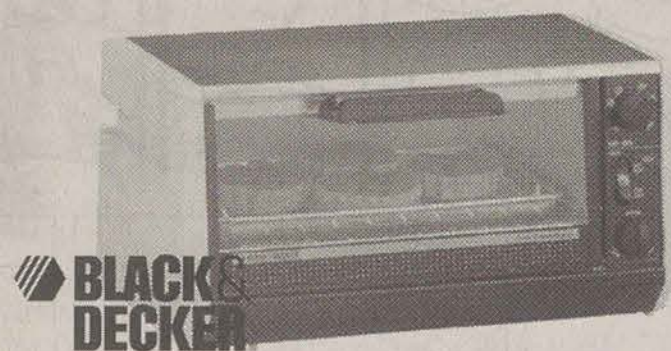
As Hawkins puts it, "There are leadership opportunities in the halls that help provide more connections to the university for those that stay on campus."



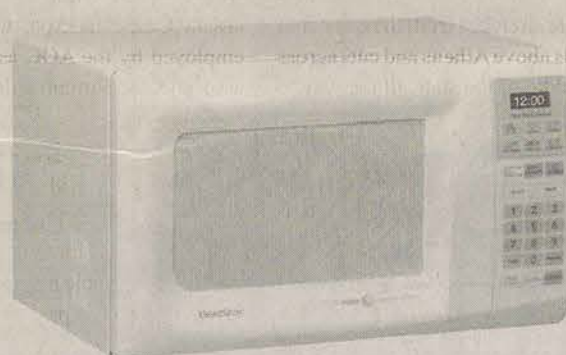
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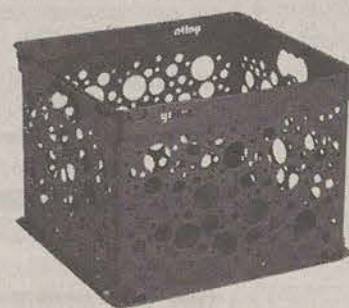
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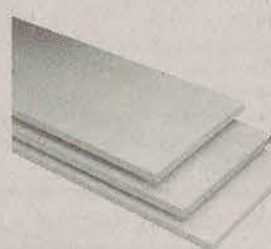
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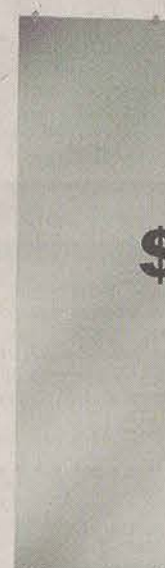
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Bush economic forum upstaged by Federal Reserve warning

KRT Campus

WACO, TEXAS-- President Bush tried to rally public confidence in the economy Tuesday by insisting that "even though times are kind of tough right now ... the foundations of the American economy are strong."

But Bush's sunny assessment at a half-day economic forum he staged at Baylor University was overshadowed by a warning from the Federal Reserve that the economy could slip back into recession, and by Wall Street's subsequent stock slide.

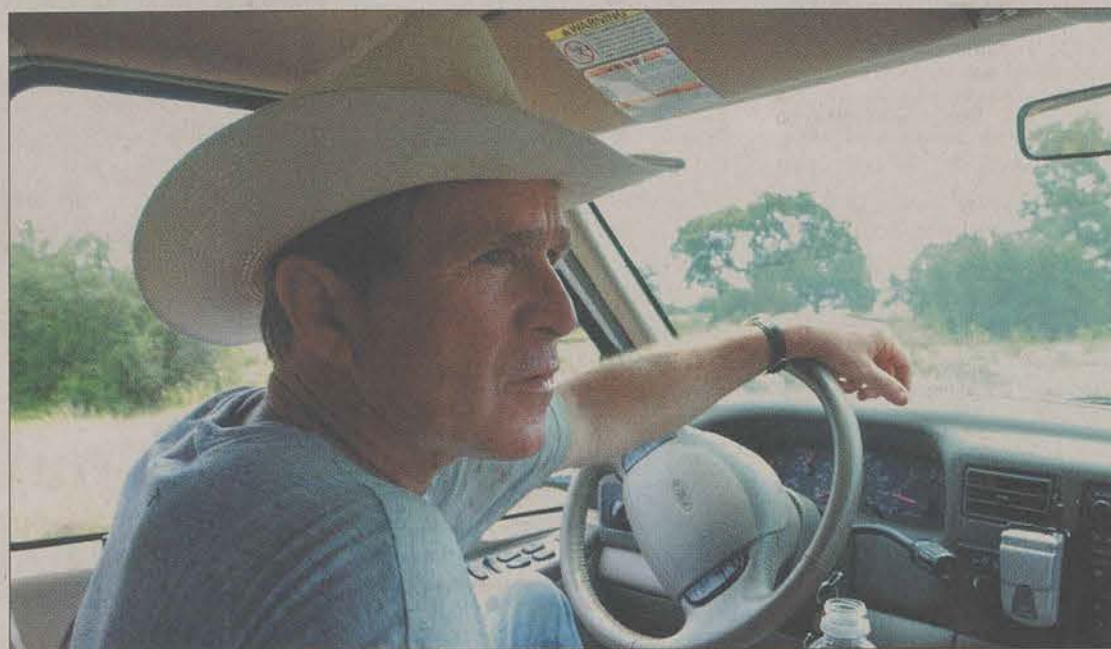
The mixed messages highlighted the fragility of America's stumbling economic recovery and left in question whether Bush's effort to steady public nerves by staging the conference would earn him the political dividends he sought.

Democrats are trying to turn public anxiety about the economy and corporate scandals into victories in this November's congressional elections.

Hoping to bolster confidence both in the economy and his handling of it, Bush promoted his economic agenda at a gathering of nearly 250 corporate leaders, economists, laborers and students and top administration officials.

"We do have hurdles," Bush said. "There may be some tough times in America. But this country has gone through tough times before, and we're going to do it again."

New retail sales figures for July seemed to support Bush's optimistic view. Driven largely by a spike in auto sales, retail sales rose by 1.2 percent



KRT Campus

President Bush takes time out for reporters on his ranch in Crawford, Texas two days before traveling to Waco for an economic forum. House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt called the gathering "a one-sided reaffirmation of a failed economic policy."

in July from June, indicating that consumers are still willing to open their wallets despite recent losses on Wall Street.

"The recovery seems to have begun," said Peter Sperling, a finance professor at Yeshiva University in New York. "The bottom has probably been hit, but the recovery is slow."

But later in the day the Fed, the nation's central bank, disappointed investors by refusing to cut interest rates even as it acknowledged that the economy remains at risk of renewed recession. The double-barreled bad news prompted a late-afternoon sell-off on Wall Street, where the Dow

Jones Industrial Average closed down 206.50 points, or 2.4 percent.

Bush's economic forum was one of a series of White House events designed to reassure Americans and show them that Bush is working on their behalf even as he spends August mostly vacationing at his Texas ranch. Bush will take his message on the road Wednesday with a two-day trip that will take him to Wisconsin, Iowa and South Dakota.

Despite their varied backgrounds, participants at the Texas forum voiced enthusiastic support for Bush's economic policies, especially his tax cuts. Although lots of other ideas were

tossed out during panel discussions led by Bush's cabinet secretaries, most were squarely in line with the president's agenda.

Bush moved from meeting to meeting, spending about 20 minutes at four of the eight panel discussions. Vice President Dick Cheney sat in on the discussions that Bush missed.

"History will show that your strong leadership got us through this quickly and kept our economic lifeblood flowing," Harry Alford, president of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, told Bush, in a comment that seem to be a consensus view at the forum.

Business schools find lessons in accounting revelations

KRT Campus

HACKENSACK, N.J.-- Rutgers Business School is adding a new accounting course to the curriculum, with the jazzy title "Cooking the Books." Students won't learn how to falsify financial statements, of course, but how to recognize finagling when they see it.

"We're basically going over recent accounting scandals-- Enron, Krispy Kreme, Global Crossing-- and showing them what happened, why it happened," said Dan Palmon, head of the Rutgers accounting department. "We'll teach them how to spot fraud."

The curriculum change is just a small piece of how recent corporate scandals are affecting the accounting industry.

With its once-strong reputation for integrity weakened, the industry also now faces the strong possibility that the federal government will be looking over accountants' shoulders when accountants look over the books at large corporations.

"I think the accounting profession needs to be shaken up so that investors can have confidence in financial statements," said Newark lawyer John J. Fahy, a former Bergen County prosecutor who is also a certified public accountant and former federal prosecutor specializing in white-collar crime.

The accounting scandals at Enron Corp., WorldCom Inc., and other corporations have wiped out billions in investors' wealth and tens of thousands of jobs.

Accountants are in the spotlight largely because of the legal troubles of

Arthur Andersen, one of the industry's Big Five firms.

Andersen was convicted of obstruction of justice in connection with its audit work at Enron, the failed Houston energy company that used unconventional-- some say misleading-- accounting methods.

Andersen expects to end its audit practice by Aug. 31, and is now helping clients transfer to other accounting firms. Thousands of Andersen's 26,000 employees have moved to other accounting firms or been laid off.

As a result, accountants' public image-- which used to be "dull but honest"-- has suffered. A Gallup poll in February 2002 asked people to rate the honesty and ethical standards of six professions. Only 32 percent of respondents ranked accountants "high" or "very high"-- down from 41 percent a year earlier.

That rankles accountants. "I taught accounting for eight years. I didn't teach anybody how to shred papers," said Howard Bookbinder, an accountant in Fair Lawn, N.J.

"I went into this profession because I had independence, objectivity, and integrity. ... I don't like it when people poke fun at my profession."

In response to the scandals, several of the Big Five firms have put forth proposals for cleaning up corporate accounting. The head of PriceWaterhouseCoopers, for example, has called for global accounting standards and fuller disclosure by corporations.

"You could play games up to 5 percent with any numbers; after that other numbers would be out of whack," Fahy said.

Job openings in retail, economy coming back?

KRT Campus

DALLAS-- Job seekers looking for the next hot hiring sector may want to head to their nearest shopping center.

The retail sector is the quiet giant in the labor market right now, though it may not be quiet for long.

Job openings are abundant locally and nationally, and business experts are predicting that retail will be the industry to recover the fastest as the economy regains its footing.

A recent survey by TEC International, a group of more than 6,000 chief executive officers, found that most CEOs-- 33 percent-- say that retail will be the fastest-recovering industry, beating manufacturing, biotechnology and information technology.

"I think that perspective is pretty spot-on with what we see," said Paul Rostron, senior vice president of human resources for copy giant Kinko's Inc., which relocated to Dallas earlier this year. "Our business is kind of a mix of traditional retail, as well as business services and more commercial outsourcing. So we're the kind of business that's insulated from big economic downturns."

Rostron said Kinko's (www.kinkos.com) is now filling a variety of positions.

"Obviously, we've moved our corporate offices here, so we are kind of restaffing many of the corporate functions across all the different groups such as marketing, finance, information technology, etc.," he said.

"Then we have our retail stores," he said. "We've got several hundred retail members here in town, and we're always looking to backfill positions at the store level, from entry level to store management."

Finally, Kinko's is adding to its corporate sales force, hiring both local and national salespeople, Rostron said.

Overall, Kinko's is hiring an average of about 700 to 800 people a month nationwide, he said.

Other retailers are ramping up as well.

One long-established company launching a massive recruiting effort is asking the federal government for help.

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Possible Internet Explorer "loophole" may be giving away passwords, other personal info

Microsoft investigating claims of attacks; "Fairly serious" problems has E-Commerce sites worried

SEATTLE-- Microsoft Corp. is investigating claims that its popular Internet Explorer software has a loophole that lets attackers pose as legitimate Web site operators, potentially giving them access to computer users' names, passwords and credit card numbers.

Although Microsoft said it's too soon to judge the severity of the problem --and even whether the flaw exists --some programmers and consultants said it could threaten the security of everything from online banking to Web-based commerce.

The problem is "fairly serious," said Elias Levy, a member of software security company Symantec Corp.'s security response team. He said that the complexity involved makes the probability of widespread attacks unlikely.

Attackers taking advantage of the loophole could trick computer users into thinking they are visiting legitimate Web sites, and could convince them to divulge personal information.

Mike Benham, a San Francisco programmer who discovered the problem, posted his findings Aug. 5 on a popular security-alert Web site.

Other web browsers are not affected, Benham said.

Benham said Internet Explorer versions 5.0, 5.5 and 6.0 have loop-

holes in handling Web sites' digital certificates, such as those from VeriSign, which verify Web sites as being legitimate and also include unique code for encrypting information.

Essentially, any Web site operator with a valid certificate could pretend to be any other Web site operator.

Theoretically, he said, attackers could successfully hijack computer users-- such as over a company's internal network-- as they went to banking or e-commerce Web sites and intercept their information. Or they could send hijacked users to dummy Web sites and get them to give personal information.

Microsoft is still investigating and is unsure even whether to call it a vulnerability, said Scott Culp, manager of Microsoft's Security

Response Center.

The possible flaw comes as Microsoft has launched a high-profile effort, called its Trustworthy Computing initiative, to resolve security concerns. But problems remain. The company has issued 41 security bulletins with patches so far this year.

Microsoft criticized Benham for not contacting Microsoft first when he discovered the problem, and instead posting it on the Internet. Benham said he did not directly notify Microsoft because he was frustrated by their response to other security researchers in the past.

Microsoft maintains it is difficult to wage an attack as Benham outlined, although Levy and another security expert, Bruce Schneier at Counterpane Internet Security, said it is possible.



KRT Campus

US Airways flights should stay as normal, at least to the end of the year. After that, the airline will become the first major carrier to go out of business since Midway in 1991.

US Airways customers should be fine for next 6 months, experts say

KRT Campus

Barring another terrorist attack or economic swoon, US Airways should keep flying through that Christmas visit to the in-laws, travel experts said Monday.

After that, they said, the future is less clear.

US Airways says it is honoring tickets, and plans to emerge from bankruptcy reorganization early next year as a leaner, profitable airline. Many passengers received an e-mail from US Airways President David Siegel on Monday assuring them the airline would continue operating its frequent-flyer program.

Travel experts agreed Monday travelers would notice few changes in the next few months. But they said passengers should be cautious about buying tickets for flights more than six months ahead.

"The (airline) industry has not been in such dire straits," said Tim Winship, publisher of the frequentflier.com newsletter. "You have to be careful. I think (US Airways) can get through the next six months. I don't see anything that should torpedo them."

A day after it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, passengers looked at all the angles.

Gary Silverstein said some clients called his Mann Travel agency in Charlotte, N.C., Monday asking about switching carriers. Others talked about canceling their flights, wondering if the airline would stay in business.

"They were much more concerned that I thought they'd be," Silverstein said. "This is a positive for US Airways. This is a way to keep them flying into the city."

Rafael Emmanuelli, a computer trainer from Tampa, Fla., said he's holding off buying tickets to see his brother in Charlotte at Thanksgiving to see if the airline might lower fares.

"I know it's kind of a gamble," he said.

For those who collect miles as part of US Airways' Dividend Miles program, the track record of recent airline bankruptcies is good, experts said.

The last major airline frequent-flyer plan to fail was Midway in 1991, experts said. Continental Airlines and America West kept their frequent-flyer

programs intact during bankruptcy protection filings, while American Airlines took on TWA frequent-flyer members as part of its purchase of TWA last year.

"Dividend miles are the most valuable part of US Airways," said Joe Brancatelli, an online travel columnist.

And it's possible US Airways could offer more to keep fliers from landing on other carriers, including fare sales. (US Airways announced a fare sale to Denver Monday.)

Plus, US Airways said it still plans to share flight reservations and frequent-flyer programs with United Airlines. But United is considered a bankruptcy filing candidate itself.

"There are no guarantees," said Paul Hudson, president of Aviation, Consumer Action Project, a Washington watchdog group. "People need to be cautious and protect themselves."

One way passengers could have sought some protection is gone --travel insurance. Two major travel insurers, American Access and TravelGuard, stopped issuing policies Sunday that would have protected US Airways ticketholders in any shutdown. Passengers can still buy policies to insure against other unexpected events, such as a death in the family.

Mark Cooper, the Consumer Federation of America's research director, believes a leaner US Airways will cut unprofitable flights. He also said they could consider restrictions to the frequent-flyer program to save money.

"They need to do everything they can to squeeze profit," he said.

US Airways officials provided no new details Monday on how the airline would change or cut back flights.

Randy Petersen, who runs AwardGuard, which offers insurance for frequent-flyer miles, said his office was busy Monday fielding calls from worried US Airways and United frequent-flyer program members.

"It's way too early to push the panic button," he said. "There's no danger that over the next 90 days they won't honor the program. They have enough cash and promises and enough white knights for 90 days. After 90 days, there's a little bit of danger."

Continues Traveling Off-Campus

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Latest beef over fries: Who gets money?

KRT Campus

When fast-food giant McDonald's announced in May that it would pay out \$12.5 million to settle a class-action suit over its deceptive use of beef flavoring in its French fries, it was hailed by vegetarians and religious groups with strict dietary laws about eating meat.

McDonald's apologized for telling customers for a decade that its fries were cooked in 100 percent vegetable oil, when all the while its raw potatoes were first seasoned with beef extract.

But getting McDonald's to agree to the multimillion-dollar payout may have been the easy part.

Animal-rights activists say they're being excluded from the big payout in favor of vegetarian groups less outspoken in their criticism of McDonald's.

Muslims are objecting, saying they should have been included along with

the Hindus, Sikhs and Jews originally named in the settlement. The lead attorney in the case, Seattle's Harish Bharti, has been accused by lawyers representing other vegetarians of monopolizing the limelight, while he accuses them of caring more about their fees than the cause of vegetarianism.

"This whole settlement is a sham," said Bharti, who said the four other attorneys representing vegetarians and Hindus in the class-action lawsuit are "joining hands with McDonald's" to craft a settlement that excludes deserving organizations.

"In a case that's about deceiving consumers, the lawyers should not be engaging in the same deceptive practices," said Bharti, a Hindu and vegetarian.

More than 100 organizations, varying from a Pennsylvania cow sanctuary to a yoga meditation center have applied for part of the settlement.