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Established 1927 | *Covering the campus like a swarm of gnats* | The Official Student Newspaper of Georgia Southern University

The GEORGE-ANNE

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

Monday, February 21, 2005 • Volume 77, Number 66

GSU sponsors Sport Management Conference

The thirteenth annual Sport Management Conference was hosted in Savannah this past weekend. Check out page 6 to learn more about who was there.

AROUND the HOUSE

Sports

- Eagle baseball wins first series of the season
- GSU softball host tournament
- Jeff Gordon grabs third Daytona 500 victory

Page 6

Opinions

- SGA senator Jonathan Simpson expressed dissatisfaction with last week's textbook forum
- Editor for Consumer's Reasearch Magazine Eric Peters explains why SUV owners need to know their vehicles' limitations

Page 4

Only In America

Strip club artfully slips by anti-nudity law

BOISE –A strip club in Boise has found an artful way to prance past a city law that prohibits full nudity.

On what it calls Art Club Nights, the Erotic City strip club charges customers $15 for a sketch pad, pencil and a chance to see completely naked women dancers.

Idaho

In 2001 the Boise City Council passed an ordinance banning total nudity in public unless it had "serious artistic merit" – an exemption meant to apply to plays, dance performances and art classes.

Erotic City owner Chris Teague said he got the idea when a customer asked if he could get in for free to sketch the dancers. Realizing that "art classes" were exempt from the law, Teague decided to bill Mondays and Tuesdays as art nights, and let the dancers go without their G-strings and pasties.

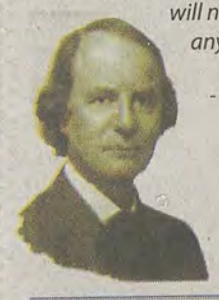
In the two months since they began, Art Club Nights have drawn full crowds of 60 people but no police citations, he said.

More OIA on
Page 3

Quote of the Day

"Never explain–your friends do not need it and your enemies will not believe you anyway. "

- Elbert Hubbard



Weekday Weather

Monday

Few Showers — HIGH 71° — LOW 55°

Tuesday

Partly Cloudy — HIGH 73° — LOW 53°

Inside

Katie Anderson/STAFF

Carmike Cinema 9 starts its renovation plans by adding on three new theaters to the prexsisting nine. Managment hopes to have stadium seating and DTS surround sound in the new theaters, plus future renovations of the current sound systems in the other nine.

Cinema 9 plans to build new addition

By Ryan Jordan
ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu

The Carmike Cinema 9 movie theater will add three new, state-of-the-art auditoriums onto its existing nine. The addition makes up the first phase of a two-part project to completely renovate the theatre by fall of 2005.

General Manager Daniel Beckum said the project will add a number of new features onto the existing building.

"The new auditoriums are going to feature stadium seating and state-of-the-art-sound," Beckum said.

He added that the stadium seating will consist of "plush, high-back" seating similar to most office chairs. All three auditoriums will feature new Digital Theater Sound (DTS) surround-sound speakers.

The second phase of the project, which might take longer than the first, involves an extensive renovation of the existing movie theater.

"We're hoping for stadium seating as well in there, but we will at least get new seats with what we have now," Beckum said, adding that the theatre might also build new sound systems into the existing nine auditoriums.

He stated that part of the renovation also includes a new food services stand, box office and the ability to pre-order tickets at least a day in advance through a new telephone purchase system called IQ 2000.

The theater also plans to allow patrons to order their tickets online through Fandango.com

Beckum said there are no plans to shut down during the remodeling, but the theater might close for a week at the most if necessary.

According to Beckum, an increase in business partially prompted the decision to renovate the theater. However, he also stated that customers played a primary role.

"It's basically for the patrons. A lot of patrons have asked for it," he said.

One such patron, Georgia Southern senior Ashley Anderson, commented that he was glad the local theater has decided to remodel.

"It's actually become a kind of joke around here, how bad it is," said Anderson.

Anderson added that he hopes that, with the new renovation, the theatre will also consider playing more independent films for the demographic of students who favor more than the usual mainstream fare.

"There's a ton of films I wanted to see that they just didn't show," Anderson said.

Georgia lawmaker abandons plans

Rep. Benfield drops bill that would require listing students' weight on report cards

Associated Press

ATLANTA– A Georgia lawmaker who sponsored a bill that would have required public schools to weigh students and list their body mass indices on their report cards says she's dropping the idea.

Rep. Stephanie Stuckey Benfield, D-Atlanta, said calls and e-mails to her office were running heavily against the proposal.

"I've heard from people loud and clear," she said.

Benfield said she still hopes to do something to help with childhood obesity, "but not with this bill."

The measure would have required public schools to weigh students, calculate their weight in proportion to height and list it on report calls.

Parents of heavier students would have been given literature on diabetes and obesity-related illnesses.

Among other things, critics said the bill would harm students' self-esteem.

"That was certainly never my intent, but I'm sensitive to that," Benfield said.

Pablo Martinez Monsivais/AP Photo

President Bush pauses as he answers questions from members of the media after announcing John Negroponte as the nation's first new national intelligence director in a ceremony in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building at the White House, last Thursday.

Bush secretly recorded before presidency

Conversations with old friend reveal Bush's plans for his presidency and that he used marijuana

Associated Press

NEW YORK - Private conversations with George Bush secretly taped by an old friend before he was elected president foreshadow some of his political strategies and appear to reveal that he acknowledged using marijuana, The New York Times reported Saturday.

The conversations were recorded by Doug Wead, a former aide to George W. Bush's father, beginning in 1998, when Bush was weighing a presidential bid, until just before the Republican National Convention in 2000, the Times said in a story posted on its Web site.

The tapes show Bush crafting a strategy for navigating the tricky political waters between Christian conservative and secular voters, repeatedly worrying that evangelicals would be angered by a refusal to bash gays and that secular Americans would be turned off by meetings with evangelical leaders.

On one tape, Bush explains that he told one prominent evangelical that he would not "kick gays, because I'm a sinner. How can I differentiate sin?"

In early tapes, Bush dismisses the strength of John McCain for the nomination and expresses concern about rival Steve Forbes. He also praises John Ashcroft as a promising candidate for Supreme Court justice, attorney general or vice president.

Bush also criticizes then-Vice President Al Gore for admitting marijuana use and explains why he would not do the same.

"I wouldn't answer the marijuana questions," he said, according to the Times. "You know why?

See BUSH, page 10

Abortion bill moves through House

By Kristen Wyatt
Associated Press

ATLANTA- An abortion bill requiring 24-hour waiting periods for women seeking the procedure moved ahead in the state House Thursday – but not before changes were made to alleviate fears that the measure was meant to intimidate women.

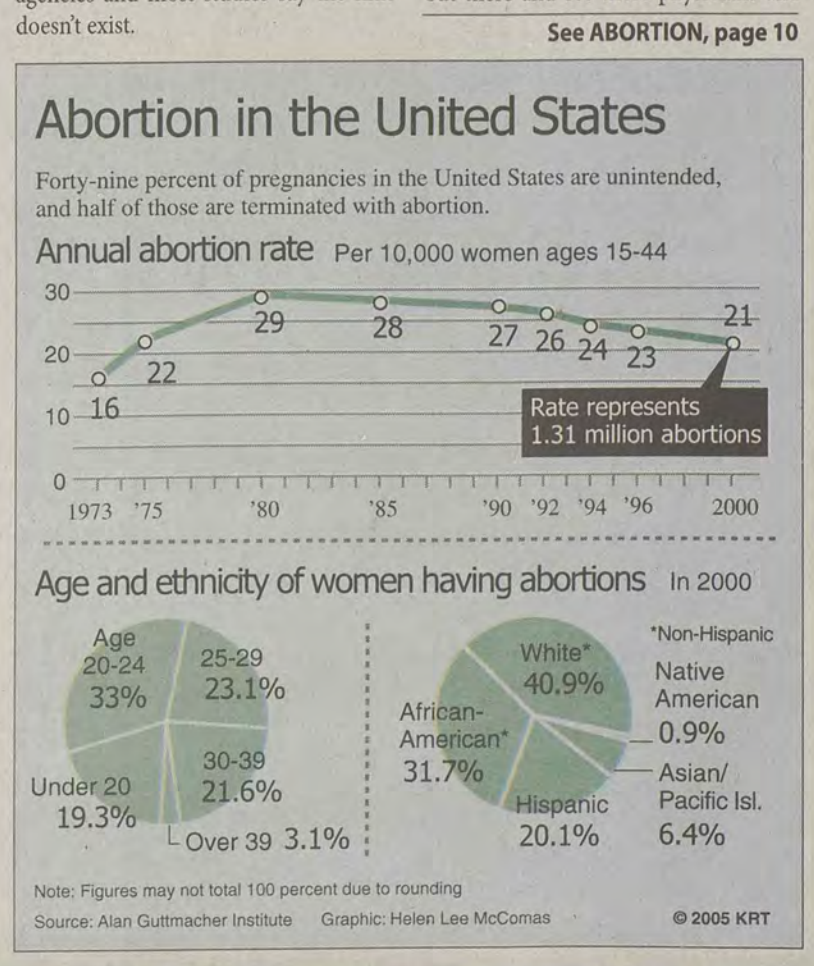
Republican sponsors stripped the most controversial aspects from the bill, especially a requirement that doctors tell women there is a link between abortions and breast cancer. While some doctors believe that to be true, federal health agencies and most studies say the link doesn't exist.

The GOP also backed down on a provision allowing fathers and grandparents to sue a doctor if they thought an abortion was improperly done. That raised complaints that even rapists could make legal claims to an unborn child, and that malpractice suits should be brought by the mother alone.

Sponsors also agreed to keep secret the names of doctors who would be required to report to the state about abortions they perform. Abortion rights activists feared that state reporting guidelines could lead to personal information about doctors turning up on the Internet.

"We don't want some nutcase to go out there and see these physicians and

See ABORTION, page 10



Matt Rapp/STAFF

GSU students help build a house in Statesboro for the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

GSU students volunteer with Habitat for Humanity

Compiled by staff

On Saturday, more that 70 volunteers helped the Bulloch County Chapter of Habitat for Humanity lay the foundation for a better life for two local families.

With over 50 volunteers from Sigma Nu and Alpha Delta Pi, students helped cut wood and nail together the frames for two more houses.

Habatit for Humanity has already completed over a dozen homes for local families in need of shelter.

Local groups and organizations are encouraged to sign up and help on the houses for selected Saturday's.

"This is a great chance for us to gave back to a community that gives so much to us," said Wilks Evans, the president of Sigma Nu.

This is the first time Habitat for Humanity has started two houses at once because of the excellent amount of help from the community.

To sign up or find information on Habitat for Humanity, visit *www.habitatbulloch.org.*

Proposal would allow Indiana students to lock in tuition rates

By Deanna Wrenn
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - A proposal in the Indiana General Assembly would give students the option to lock in tuition rates at state-run universities.

But some university officials say the plan could lead to higher tuition costs.

The proposal, which is part of the House's budget bill, would allow students to pay a fixed tuition rate that would not change during their four years of school.

Although the tuition would likely be higher than normal tuition the first year, parents would be able to predict costs and wouldn't face sudden tuition increases. Tuition and fees have doubled over the last decade at many campuses.

Rep. Jeff Espich, R-Uniondale, compared the program to a fixed-rate mortgage instead of a variable-rate mortgage.

Stan Jones, commissioner of the Higher Education Commission, said the program would be more palatable to colleges than limiting tuition increases outright. A bill that would have capped increases died last year after universities lobbied heavily against it.

Jones said the fixed rate program would provide parents stability, and fewer students might drop out of college because of sudden cost increases.

"We've seen some pretty dramatic tuition increases," Jones said. "It's a good option for students to have."

But some university officials said the program would not work as intended.

Joseph Bennett, vice president for university relations at Purdue, said it would be difficult to predict a fair price for four years of fixed tuition because universities get funding from the state on a two-year budget cycle and never know what expenses might arise.

However, if the university underestimated costs for the four years, it might have to raise tuition for students who chose the traditional option to balance its budget, Bennett said.

Rep. Sheila Klinker, D-West Lafayette, said the fixed tuition program was essentially a cap.

Indiana University spokesman Larry MacIntyre said colleges could face hard decisions if the General Assembly does not provide enough funding and some students have locked-in tuition rates.

Gov. Mitch Daniels proposed spending no new money to higher education. The spending plan proposed by House Republicans would steer some new money to colleges, but only a fractional increase.

The budget would give colleges an additional $23.8 million for enrollment growth, only a quarter of the amount the Higher Education Commission recommended. It would funnel about $46.5 million to student aid programs, just enough to keep up with the increased numbers of students qualifying for aid.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Monday, Feb. 21

•'African American': A Term for Debate
Noon
Russell Union Room 2047

•Fill out FAFSA forms
4 p.m. and 6 p.m
Anderson Hall Computer Center

•Society of Professional Journalism Meeting
6 p.m.
Russell Union Room

•Keynote presentation by Jeffery 'Cousin Jeff' Johnson of BET's '106 and Park'
7 p.m.
Union Ballroom

Tuesday, Feb. 22

•Black History Quiz Bowl
7 p.m.
Russell Union Room 2047

•Learn about HOPE Scholarship
2 p.m.
Russell Union Room 2048

Wednesday, Feb. 23

•Zeta Phi Beta sorority presents 'I'm Every Woman' by actress Teresa-Michelle Walker
7 p.m.
Union Ballroom

Thursday, Feb. 24

•Black Empowerment Reception
7 p.m
Union Ballroom

POLICE BEAT

02-16-2005

•Officers issued one traffic warning, investigated one traffic accident, and assisted nine motorists and one sick person.

02-17-2005

•Rodrigo Perez Velasco, 20, of Southern Pines residence hall, was charged with underage drinking.

•Officers issued two traffic citations and two traffic warnings, investigated one traffic accident and assisted two motorists.

– All Police Beat information compiled from GSU Police Reports.

MEET THE 2005 SOAR TEAM

NAME	MAJOR	HOMETOWN
Kira Ashton	Early Childhood Education	Columbus, GA
Erin Becotte	Sports Med/Athletic Tr.	Canton, GA
Elena Bencini	Business	Gainesville, GA
Brenda Bridges	Broadcasting	Douglasville, GA
Angela Byrd	Broadcasting	Metter, GA
Tiffany Cadogan	Justice Studies	Stone Mountain, GA
Larry Cloud	Political Science/Pre-Law	Ranger, GA
Emily "MC" Crawford	English Education	St. Marys, GA
Alex Cuffie	Civil Engineering Tech	Conyers, GA
Matt Early	Hotel/Rest. Management	Canton, GA
Beth Feagain	Business	Americus, GA
Patricia Harris	Business Management	Atlanta, GA
Heather Holland	Special Education	Calhoun, GA
Bryant Hosch	Accounting	Lilburn, GA
Matt Jones	Writing and Linguistics	Alpharetta, GA
Moneka Jones	Biology	Hawkinsville, GA
Samantha Kosko	Economics	Alpharetta, GA
Jana Loftin	Finance	Augusta, GA
Jemelleh Nurse	Pre-Nursing	Decatur, GA
Mike Spencer	Broadcasting	Powder Springs, GA
Chris Stephens	Sport Management	Waynesboro, GA
Bri Van Alstyne	Psychology	Lula, GA
Leigh Anne Wright	Public Relations	Statesboro, GA

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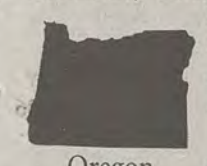
It is a desire of The George-Anne to print the news of Georgia Southern University as accurately as possible. If you believe that something covered is in error, contact the editor at 681-5246 as soon as possible.

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

Only in America

Stolen cutout patrol car back on duty

Albany — The case of the stolen cutout car has been solved — sort of. Last Sunday, someone swiped the cutout of a sheriff's patrol car that Albany resident Rick Pyburn had put up near his house in an effort to slow down traffic.


Oregon

Pyburn said the cutout has been an effective speed trap.

The Benton County Sheriff's Office had no immediate suspects in the theft.

But after the robbery was featured in media reports, tips started pouring in.

Then, late on Tuesday afternoon, the cutout was returned by someone who found it along a roadside.

Even though the cutout car is back in operation, the sheriff's office still has no suspects.

Miller employee fired for drinking Bud

Racine — Just sipping a brewski gave Isac Aguero a career hangover.

Aguero, 24, said he was fired from his job with a Miller Brewing distributor, the same day a picture appeared in the Journal Times of Racine of him drinking a Bud Light, which is brewed by rival Anheuser-Busch Co.


Wisconsin

The photo, taken Feb. 5, was part of the newspaper's weekly "On the Town" feature, which depicts the city's night life.

Aguero said he was called into the general manager's office and told he was fired. He said he was not given a reason.

"It was a Saturday and I wasn't at work," he told The Journal Times. "They can't tell me what beverages I can drink. Bud Light's my beer of choice; I always drink that. Just because I work there, do I have to change what I drink?"

Man gets arm caught in noodle mixer

Portland — A Portland worker was rescued after his arm got caught in an industrial noodle mixer.

Officials said that the man became ensnared in the machine Tuesday after his sleeve or perhaps his hand got caught on the mixer as the machine was turning.


Oregon

The power of the machine pulled his arm through the mixer and out the bottom, lifting the man into the mixing hopper.

A crew of 28 people including 13 firefighters, one chief surgeon and four paramedics were called to help disentangle the man from the mixer.

Firefighters worked on tearing and cutting the machine away from the patient, while medical workers kept him stabilized.

The worker was sedated throughout. His condition is not known.

Health officials will be investigating conditions at the industrial plant.

Rabid coyote attacks woman

Barnstable — A woman is receiving treatment after being attacked by a rabid coyote in her yard. Cindy Parker-Kelley heard her Norwegian elkhound barking as she was getting ready for work Thursday morning. When she went out to check on her dog, she saw the coyote.


Massachusetts

She reached out to shoo it away, and the wild animal clamped its jaws on her left wrist.

Parker-Kelley's husband, David Kelley, heard her screams and rushed to the back yard in his underwear.

"The coyote was hanging off my wife's arm," Kelley told The Cape Cod Times in a story posted on its Web site.

Kelley told the newspaper he grabbed a piece of lumber from his garage and swung repeatedly as the coyote lunged at him, hitting it seven or eight times before it stopped.

Parker-Kelley was taken to Cape Cod Hospital for treatment of her wounds and released. She began rabies treatment.

Eighteen nurses pregnant after rest home viagra party

Los Angeles — A rest home has been forced to close after 18 nurses, aides, assistants and orderlies got pregnant following a "Viagra party" for the facility's elderly patients.

"It was supposed to be a morale booster — and now we're out of business," says Mary Stinson, a receptionist who lost her job when the owners of Merry Rest Retirement Home, in Los Angeles, announced they were shutting down under pressure from the State of California.


California

"I told them they were crazy to give those old goats all those pills, but did they listen to me? No!" said Stinson.

The party that was held in mid-August lasted as long as the erection drug held out, which, according to sources, was about four hours.

Although there were plenty of elderly women the old guys could have lured into the sack, they went instead for curvy young nurses and aides, many of whom, it is reported, were drunk.

A spokesman for Merry Rest confirmed in a prepared statement that 18 employees are now pregnant and that DNA testing to match them with the fathers is now under way.

Woman refuses to leave hospital bed

Brayton — More than a year after Sarah Nome was deemed healthy and given her discharge papers, the 82-year-old woman stubbornly refuses to leave her hospital bed.

Nome admits there is no reason she should be racking up unpaid medical bills — which have now topped $1 million — but says she has nowhere else to turn.


Arizona

Now Kaiser Permanente's San Rafael Medical Center in California is suing her for the cost of her stay and trying to show her the door.

"It isn't that I'm not ready to go. I just have nowhere to go," Nome said in a telephone interview from the hospital north of San Francisco.

Exasperated hospital officials persuaded a judge to approve her eviction.

But because Nome is bedridden and cannot walk, they have no intention of wheeling her onto the street. Instead, they hope the ruling encourages her to pack her bags.

National News Briefs

Teen star Sandra Dee dies at 63 from kidney disease

Los Angeles, CA. — Actress Sandra Dee, the blond beauty who attracted a large teen audience in the 1960s with films such as "Gidget" and "Tammy and the Doctor" and had a headlined marriage to pop singer Bobby Darin, died Sunday.

She was 63.

Dee died at 5:57 a.m. at the Los Robles Hospital & Medical Center in Thousand Oaks, said nursing supervisor Cynthia Mead.

She died of complications from kidney disease after nearly two weeks in the hospital, said Steve Blauner, a longtime family friend who represents Darin's estate.

Blauner said Dee had been on dialysis for about four years.

The family is expected to hold private funeral services.

At Universal Studios, Dee was cast mostly in teen movies such as "The Reluctant Debutante," "The Restless Years," "Tammy Tell Me True" and "Take Her She's Mine."

Occasionally, she was able to do secondary roles in other films, such as "Imitation of Life," "A Portrait In Black" and "Romanoff and Juliet."

Born Alexandra Zuck on April 23, 1941, in Bayonne, N.J., Dee became a model while in grade school.

In a mid-career interview with The Associated Press, she explained her name change: "I used to sign vouchers and sign-out sheets with 'Alexandra Dee.' Somehow it stuck."

When she was signed to her first film, she said, "'Sandra Dee' was the name they gave me."

Her name was resuscitated in 1978 with the film "Grease," which featured the song "Look At Me, I'm Sandra Dee" mocking her squeaky-clean image.

But Dee didn't mind, Blauner said.

"She always had a big laugh about it. She had a great sense of humor," he said.


Associated Press

Actress Sandra Dee portrays a nurse's helper in the motion picture production 'Tammy and the Doctor.'

Woman returns cash found in parking lot

MACON — A Warner Robins woman who found $35,000 in cash in a post office parking lot faced a quandary that is easy to understand — what should she do with the money?

Lisa Vining decided to turn the money into police on Friday, about 24 hours after she found it in a sealed plastic bag lying on the ground in a lot behind a Macon post office.

Police said the money belongs to Loomis, Fargo & Co., a Houston-based cash handling service. The company's investigators are trying to determine how the money was dropped in the parking lot, said Kerry Bray, a Macon police detective.

Vining said she never considered keeping the money.

"A couple thoughts came to mind on what I could do with the money," she said. "But I was always taught to do the right thing."

Inmates seek better lives through jail GED program

ATHENS — In a small trailer behind the Clarke County Jail, Gregory Litwin Jr. tries to reclaim the life he had long before he ended up behind bars.

Litwin said he used to be an "A" student, but drifted away from school and eventually dropped out in the 11th grade after his sister and the grandmother who raised him passed away.

Now 37, he's working toward his GED while serving time related to a family violence charge, hoping to get his life back on track when he's out.

Litwin is one of several dozen inmates taking GED classes at the jail. Many say they're doing it to improve their lives once they're released, and jail officials believe the program also will dramatically reduce their chances of being incarcerated again.

More than half the inmates in the jail, which currently holds about 435 people, report having an education level of 11th grade or lower. In the past five years, 91 inmates have taken the GED exam while in jail, and 46 of them have passed.

About 30 inmates currently are taking the classes, which are conducted by teachers from Athens Technical College and funded by the inmate store and inmate pay phones, said instructor Anne Ipock.

– All News Briefs compiled from wire reports by Morgan Marsh.

CDC seeks earlier detection of autism

ATLANTA — Tiffany Fleming knew something was wrong with her son, Connor, when he was just 6 months old.

He would let loose bloodcurdling screams with enough emotion and intensity that he would turn purple and shake.

He would repeatedly open and close drawers and it seemed like he didn't know how to play.

At age 2, Connor was diagnosed with a form of autism.

Because half of all children with autism or similar developmental disorders aren't diagnosed until age 4 to 6, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Monday planned to launch a campaign to make doctors and parents aware of the need of early diagnosis.

Children can be diagnosed as early as 18 months old.

The CDC is working to fill doctors' offices around the country with posters and checklists that describe developmental milestones for each age. CDC officials want to make sure parents and doctors know what to look for.

The early detection campaign will help educate doctors about when to diagnose the condition.

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MGC-Dublin Center's 9th Annual
Battle of the Bands
Friday, March 25 6:30 p.m.
MGC-Dublin Center is seeking entries from bands who are interested in gaining exposure and being critiqued by veterans of the music industry, including Paul Hornsby (recorded for Marshall Tucker Band, Charlie Daniels Band) and Alan Walden (2003 Georgia Music Hall Inductee, former manager of Lynyrd Skynyrd).
Bands vie for first prize of recording time in a studio that has produced gold records and $500! Second place takes $300!
ALL GENRES ARE WELCOME–
. COUNTRY . Rock-n-Roll
. Metal . Alternative
. Christian . And anything in between!
To enter, mail $35 entry fee, completed entry form, band bio and a vhs or dvd home video of at least a two-song performance by Feb. 25 to:
Battle of the Bands
MGC-Dublin Center
1900 Bellevue Road
Dublin, GA 31021

Band Name:	Band member/contact:
Genre (circle): Country Rock Metal Christian Alternative Other: _____	Phone no:
	E-mail:
Previous awards:	Address:
	City, State, Zip:

FOR ENTRY FORM, RULES OR MORE INFORMATION
CALL 478.274.7808 OR E-MAIL fmullis@mgc.edu

Our Opinion

Censorship is more offensive

The current staff of *The George-Anne* has never really had to deal with censorship.

Generally, we have an active campus community and a supportive and journalism-savvy administration, both of which allow us to serve as a reliable source of information and a dependable forum of ideas for Georgia Southern and Statesboro.

Unfortunately, sometimes even the most educated of people miss the point of free speech.

Word got around to us last week that a department on campus took it upon itself to remove the *Hiatus* section of all the G-A copies they had on display in their building for fear that a cover story would offend visiting parents. The story in question did indeed involve controversial topics – all the more reason not to hide them under a bushel, if you ask us.

What these folks seemed to fear so greatly was coverage of GSU's performance of "The Vagina Monologues," a play that educates the public about sexual assault and violence against women. Subtextually, and not surprisingly, the play also fights ideas that the human body is something shameful and dirty.

It's an unfortunate and twisted irony that inspires an educational department to crush the very spirit of such an idea simply because the word "vagina" is in the headline.

Way to manipulate the public. Way to defeat the purpose.

Even if a parent – or a potential student, for that matter – saw the article and found their delicate sensibilities offended, we say that's great. Furthermore, if parents and their adult children are not at a point in maturity at which they can discuss important issues such as violence and rape, perhaps we don't want them in our institution, anyway.

Several of the employees in the department of which we speak are friends of *The George-Anne*, people we know are extremely intelligent and ethical. We like to believe they had nothing to do with this blatant form of censorship. But it's hard to tell. Topics that are so taboo for the rest of society – even if they shouldn't be – can pressure even smart people to do dumb things.

We just hope anyone involved now understands how we feel about what was done, and doesn't even think about doing it again.

SUV owners should know limitations

By Eric Peters
KRT Campus

WASHINGTON – SUVs are once again in the crosshairs – accused of being "unsafe" because they continue to be involved in a higher number of rollover-type accidents than ordinary passenger cars.

This issue can be looked at several ways – but the determinative factor in rollover-type accidents is very often not the SUVs themselves. Rather, it's the way SUVs are sometimes driven; specifically, the way they are often driven inappropriately by people who don't appreciate and respect the built-in limitations of these special-purpose vehicles.

Unlike passenger cars, SUVs are not designed for safe high-speed driving – or for high-load cornering and abrupt lane-changing maneuvers. These are not indications of "defective design," however, – but a consequence of the built-in features like high ground clearance and mud/snow-rated tires that give SUVs an advantage off-road in heavy snow and on rough, unpaved roads.

Those off-road advantages also put SUVs at a distinct disadvantage in highway driving compared to conventional passenger cars, which have a lower ride height and center of gravity, as well as suspension systems and tires designed primarily for on-street driving.

Driven with respect for their unique capabilities and the limitations they impose, however, SUVs are no more dangerous than sports cars – which are just as vulnerable when driven in heavy snow or on rocky unpaved backwoods trails.

Yet while most people understand the built-in limitations of sports cars, you rarely hear of a person attempting to take his Corvette on a hunting trip and subsequently complaining because it slid off the mountain or got hung up on a rock.

In contrast, SUV owners regularly ignore the built-in design limitations of their SUVs and drive them no differently than they would a passenger car – or even a high-performance sports car.

Head out on any freeway and you'll see them all around you – SUVs buzzing along at 70, 80 mph (or faster), their drivers weaving in and out of traffic, one hand on the wheel, the other clutching a cell phone.

Fundamentally, however, the problem lies with the way SUVs are driven – not with the SUVs themselves.

Part of the problem is that SUVs have become mass-market vehicles that have been sold to the general public as no different in their driving dynamics than passenger cars. Their on-street limitations are deliberately played down – or ignored entirely – while their "fun to drive" qualities are played up.

Modern SUVs are also deceptively easy to drive – and to drive excessively fast. As a result, many people are driving SUVs well beyond the "safety zone" and their own ability to correct for driving mistakes.

This mess is only going to get worse as the number of SUVs on the road increases. SUVs have grown from about five percent of all new vehicle sales to more than 50 percent today. As their popularity grows, so also will the number of needless accidents involving SUVs.

> SUV owners regularly ignore the built-in design limitations of their SUVs and drive them no differently than they would a passenger car – or even a high-performance sports car.

Fixing this will require two things – neither of which is a new law or mandated piece of costly add-on "safety" equipment to idiot-proof SUVs.

First, automakers must begin educating the motorists about the inherent limitations of off-road vehicles – warning about their minuses as well as applauding their plusses.

Second, SUV owners need to respect the built-in limitations of their special-purpose vehicles and learn to drive them within their "safety zone" – no more cruising along in heavy traffic at 75 mph or more, no zipping around corners at well above the posted speed limit. And no more tailgating so close that you have to swerve violently to avoid a rear-ender when the car ahead brakes suddenly.

A little common sense will go a long way in keeping SUVs upright and reducing the nation's tragic mounting traffic fatality toll.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Eric Peters is a contributing editor to Consumers' Research magazine. Readers may write to him at: 721 Hummingbird Lane, Copper Hill, Va. 24079.

Letters to the Editor

Textbook 'forum' proves disappointing

One of the most annoying aspects of college I have encountered is the price of textbooks. I attended the textbook forum last Wednesday (which was so conveniently held at 1 p.m. and far from the center of campus) only to discover that no one is willing to do anything about the prices.

The general response was to just get over the cost. One of the reasons textbooks cost so much is because of the publisher's expense (paper and printing), which comes out to be 32.2 cents to the dollar.

So, it is logical that we get rid of the useless graphics, huge pictures and create a more controlled format. I asked the publishers, but the question was dodged. I also asked about adding crap I don't need to textbooks just to increase the price.

The publishers seemed to hide behind some rhetoric that they cared about our education and wanted students to have resources. My concern is that if they do care about students having resources, they will make their textbooks cheaper and therefore more available!

Now, I agree that publishers do a good thing for students by creating our textbooks. But the simple fact is I want textbooks to be cheaper. Among other things, we should not have to pay sales tax on textbooks and we should be able to write off textbook costs as an educational expense when filing taxes.

Thanks again for the forum, but I hope better progress is made in the future.

Jonathan L. Simpson
Freshmen SGA Senator
jonathan_l_simpson@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

Wanted: Any Godly professors

This is my gripe: professors who use obscenity, foul language, and inappropriate joking.

I'm going to say something that will shock many of you. Believe it or not, every college student *does not* find humor in obscenities and perverse and sexist jokes. Not everyone is negative, cynical or sarcastic. Not every college student drinks alcohol, parties and watches Saturday Night Live. I'm noticing that some professors are getting bolder and bolder, while some just flat out don't care.

I told one professor I found his language offensive and he told me that I was going to hear it anyway. I'm pretty sure some of you are thinking the same right now. And this is true in a sense. Sometimes, in passing, I do hear foul language. Sometimes you can't avoid it. Believe me – every time I hear profanity, it does something to my spirit. Those of you who have become desensitized won't be able to relate to that one.

But, I don't pay to hear profanity. And, since I'm paying for my courses, I don't purposefully put myself in environments where I already know without a shadow of a doubt that offensive language will be present. Instead of a classroom where you are learning course material and how to apply it outside of the classroom, you are hearing professors vent their opinions on life and their atheistic worldview as if it were apart of the course material. Don't get me wrong; I like humor. In fact, the bible says it is good for the soul. But if all of your jokes are crude and rude, then we can definitely pass on the humor.

To break it down, we as Christians are called to speak up and represent what is right, and that's what I plan on doing. I don't expect everyone to agree with me and I don't anticipate responding back and forth with someone in disagreement with this article. That would not benefit anyone.

Moneka Holt
Miss_Moneka@yahoo.com

Editorials from Around the Nation

The Chicago Tribune – Wednesday, Feb. 16: Strong move, Maya

No 19-year-old deserves to have rumors about her sexual orientation be a subtext to her father's homophobic senatorial campaign. That wasn't the first time it was difficult for Maya Marcel-Keyes to be the daughter of Alan Keyes, and it won't be the last.

"Liberal queer plus conservative Republican just don't mesh too well," Maya said Monday, disclosing the long-assumed fact of her homosexuality at a gay-rights rally in Maryland.

During his campaign for an Illinois seat in the U.S. Senate last year, Alan Keyes called homosexuality an act of selfish hedonism.

"If my own daughter were a homosexual or a lesbian," he said, "I would love my daughter, but I would tell my daughter that she was in sin."

Maya Marcel-Keyes said Monday that her father's private stance toward her sexual orientation has been consistent with his public statements. That heavily freighted sentence hints at the powerful forces that can smash apart a family. Just a few months ago, she worked on her father's campaign. Last week, she said, her father told her to leave his apartment, and he won't pay for her college tuition because of her sexual orientation and liberal activism.

Perhaps two other powerful forces – the passage of time, the realization that we don't have one another forever – will permit a healing.

For those on the outside, this is a story of family members who hold unusually fervent beliefs. They speak their beliefs to the world. They worry not about how others will view those beliefs.

Maya Marcel-Keyes has made a strong move.

Think what you will of Alan Keyes.

He and his wife raised an impressive daughter.

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Rock the Vote: Keeping it unreal on Social Security

By Keith Miller
KRT Campus

"Get GEAR" blares the ad on RocktheVote.com. And what's the latest "gear" available from the self-proclaimed leader of youth politics? A brand new T-shirt with this less-than-edgy message: "I (Heart) Social Security."

That's the gist of the activist group's latest PR push: the ludicrous notion that young people think Social Security needs no real reform. With this shirt, Rock the Vote has officially "jumped the shark," forfeiting whatever remaining credibility it had as a voice of America's youth.

Conventional wisdom holds that, among all age groups, the young most strongly favor fixing Social Security by letting workers invest some of their retirement taxes in personal investment accounts. This wisdom is conventional for a good reason: For years on end, poll after poll has found it to be the case. That's not surprising, though. Younger workers stand to lose the most under our current Social Security system and would reap the greatest benefits from the personal accounts proposed by President Bush and various members of Congress.

But that doesn't suit Hans Riemer. Prior to joining Rock the Vote as its first-ever political director, he fronted the 2030 Center, a now defunct advocacy group dedicated to opposing Social Security reform.

Under Riemer's leadership, Rock the Vote earlier this year joined with AARP to commission a nationwide poll on "Public Attitudes Towards Social Security and Private Accounts." Far from a scientific study of popular opinion, this study adopted a hopelessly flawed methodology. To produce the desired, anti-reform "conclusion," it deliberately framed questions to elicit a particular response and then combined dissimilar responses into one group.

Rock the Vote's press release about this poll trumpets three conditions under which variously 63 percent, 70 percent or 65 percent of young voters would oppose a system of personal accounts.

If this were a legitimate study, it would be remarkable news and could have the potential to derail the reform effort. But the underlying polling data belie their spin.

The poll actually found that only 31 percent of younger voters believe Social Security will "be there" for them when they retire. Sixty-eight percent of young voters favor investing some of their payroll taxes in personal retirement accounts.

That's the normal finding. But it doesn't suit Rock the Vote's agenda. Of necessity, then, the poll zeroed in on those who actually favor reform and bombarded them with negative information until they consented to oppose personal accounts.

Young workers with the temerity to "generally favor" reform that would let them fund personal accounts were presented with various bad scenarios (for example, "private accounts will create losers as well as winners, and the losers may need additional help from the government") and asked if this information would make them rethink their position.

Then they were asked about Bad Scenario B. And so on, through nine "questions," each presenting a hypothetical downside to reform. Eventually, most of the poll's respondents gave in to this persistent badgering and switched their support.

At that point, Rock the Vote and AARP lumped together anyone who "no longer favored" personal accounts with the group that initially opposed the reform plan. Voila! They were able to cobble together (er, find) staggering majorities opposing reform.

Of course, this is bad polling science. But it gave the folks paying for the poll the results they wanted.

Worse, though, is the fact that Rock the Vote would betray its professed constituency for the sake of a partisan platform. This issue, more than any other, has a real generational component. A youth organization should try to protect the younger generation by delivering honest information, rather than trading in half-truths and half-baked slogans like "I (Heart) Social Security."

Anyone who has been paying attention over the last few years should know that the theoretically non-partisan Rock the Vote does little more than parrot DNC talking points.

During the 2004 election cycle, the issues featured on RocktheVote.com (such as bogus claims of plans to reinstate the draft) were all spun to encourage young voters to reject President Bush.

Of course, legitimate post-election polls found that 45 percent of voters under 30 pulled the lever for Bush. Could it be that the MTV demographic turns to sources other than self-anointed "youth politics" organizations for political guidance?

As a 25-year-old deeply worried about my future if Congress does NOT fix Social Security via personal retirement accounts, I seriously doubt Rock the Vote's propaganda on this issue will convince many of my contemporaries to adopt its position... much less buy its T-shirt.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Keith Miller is a researcher in the Roe Institute at The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org.

Facts and figures

Current beneficiaries

Retirees, their families	32.6 million
Disabled workers, their families	7.6 million
Survivors of deceased workers	6.8 million

Average monthly benefit

Retired men	$1,038
Retired women	$797
Retired couple	$1,523
Disabled worker	$862

Current payroll tax rates

Employee (5.3% Old-Age and Survivors' Insurance + 0.9% Disability Insurance)	6.2%
Employer (5.3% Old-Age and Survivors' Insurance + 0.9% Disability Insurance)	6.2%
TOTAL (10.6% Old-Age and Survivors' Insurance + 1.8% Disability Insurance)	12.4%

Source: U.S. Social Security Administration

- More than nine out of 10 Americans 65 and older receive Social Security benefits.
- Social Security benefits make up 39 percent of the income of the elderly. Social Security is the only source of income for about 22 percent of the elderly.
- Ninety-six percent of all workers — about 159 million workers — are covered under Social Security. Fifty-three percent of the work force has no private pension coverage, and 32 percent have no savings set aside specifically for retirement.
- Since the Social Security program began in 1935, the life expectancy of a 65-year-old was 12½ years — now, it's 17½.
- Between now and 2031, the number of older Americans will almost double, from 37 million to 71 million.
- Today, there are 3.3 workers for each Social Security beneficiary. In 2031, there will be 2.1 workers for each beneficiary.
- Between 1937, when the first Social Security taxes were collected, and 2002, the program has received more than $8.7 trillion in income.

PAGE SOURCES: SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION: WWW.SSA.GOV; KRT RESEARCH; KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Mr. Jeff Johnson
"Cousin Jeff"
"Considered the voice of leadership for the new generation of black youth"
by BET.com
to speak on
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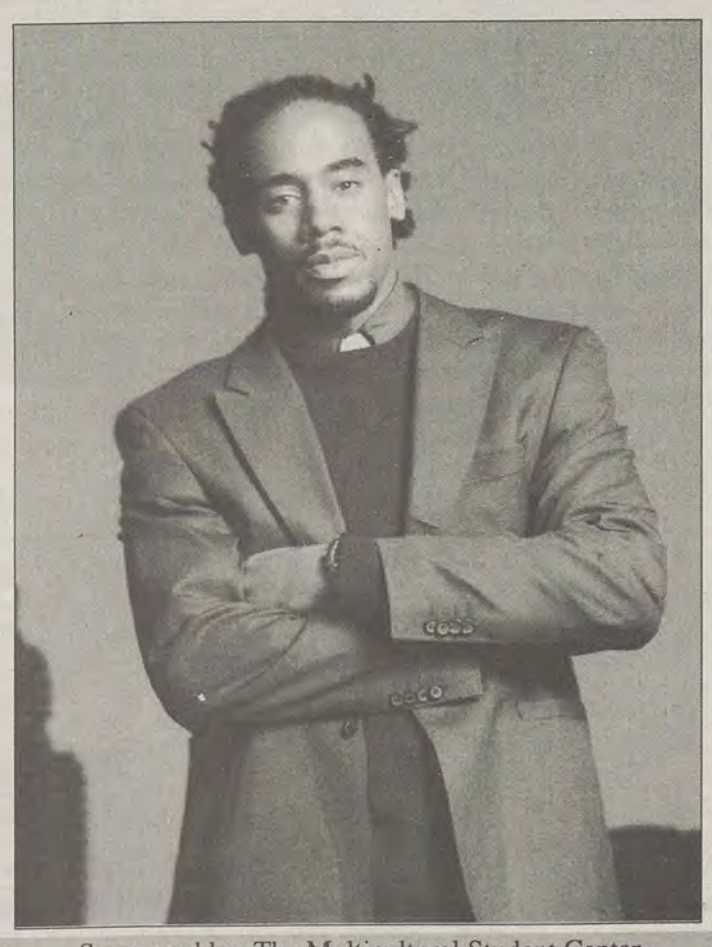
Monday, February 21, 2005, 7 p.m.
Russell Union Ballroom



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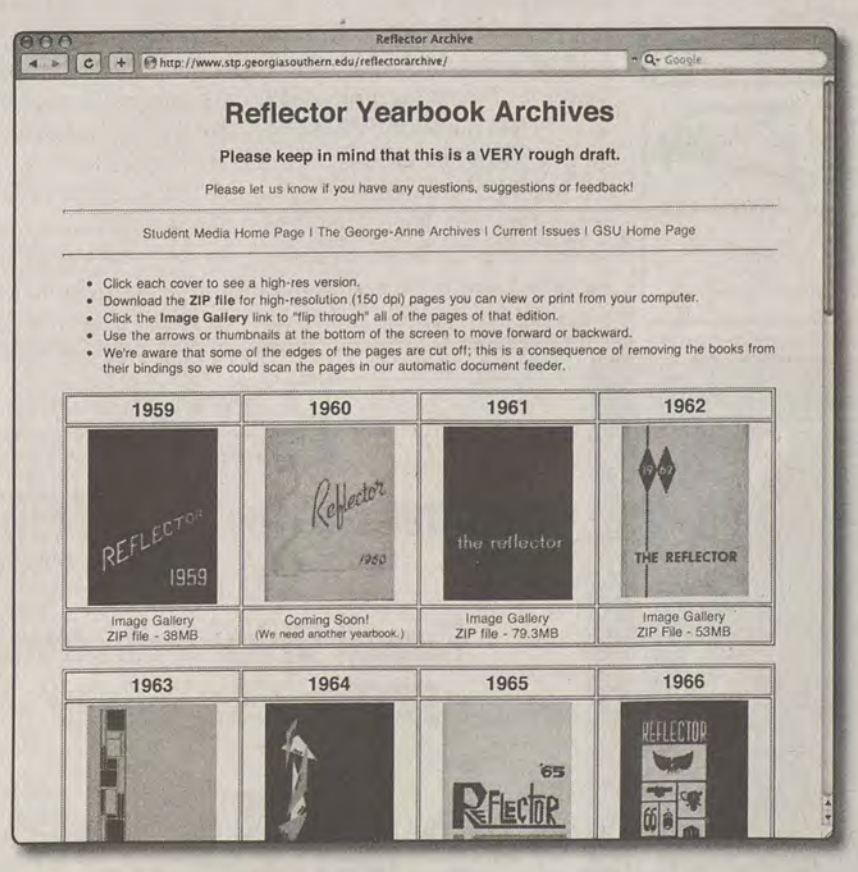


Matt Rapp/STAFF

Matt Defabo, manager of Inside Sales, Seattle Supersonics, talks with a student at the Georgia Southern Sport Management Conference last weekend.

GSU hosts annual Sport Management Conference

By Matt Rapp
gasportseditor@yahoo.com

Georgia Southern University held its 13th annual Sport Management Conference this past weekend at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah, Georgia.

With over three dozen schools represented ranging from the University of Florida to Delaware State and over 400 students in attendance, the conference was a chance for students, both undergraduate and graduate, to learn about the sport industry from some of the top professionals in sports.

Dr. Willie Burden, a professor of sport management here at GSU, said "These schools return annually because the conference is a great value for their students. It provides students the opportunity to listen, interact, and speak one-on-one with some of the highest ranking executives in the sport industry. The fact that the conference sells out (over 400 participants) early each year is a testament to its worth and the respect that the Georgia Southern brand carries."

Lasting from 1 p.m. on Friday to 3 p.m. on Saturday, students were able to hear from over six speakers. Between speakers, students could attend breakout sessions that gave students the opportunity to interact and ask questions with the speakers up close and in many cases make valuable contacts for future job possibilities.

The Sport Management Conference is the only conference of its kind that allows employers to come to students. With resume in hand, students were able to conduct interviews with the National Basketball Development League(NBDL) for immediate job opportunities.

Also in attendance was Mike Cooney, Director of Human Resources for the PGA Tour. Mike is a regular at the conference and was a speaker last year.

> "The fact that the conference sells out early each year is a testament to its worth and the respect that the Georgia Southern brand carries."
> -Dr. Willie Burden

"It is a great opportunity to network with students and speakers," said Mike at the conference on Friday.

The Atlanta Spirit, which owns the Atlanta Hawks, Thrashers and Phillips Arena, was also accepting resumes and looking for talented graduates.

Cathy Connors, Manager of NBC sports communications, was a main speaker along with Dr. Bill Sutton, VP of Team Marking for the NBA, and Matthew Difebo, Manager of Inside Sales for the NBA's Seattle Supersonics.

Difebo attended the conference during his years at the University of Florida and credits Bill Sutton as a major influence in his life and career. Matthew worked with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays before taking on his current role with the Supersonics.

GSU was strongly represented at the conference with over 400 students that attended.

"I feel that this conference is a must-have for any student wanting a career in sports," said Trevor Long, a GSU senior Sport Management major at GSU.

Back-to-back wins give series to Eagles

By Ian Mcdowell
Ian_m_mcdowell@georgiasouthern.edu

The Georgia Southern baseball squad found their first two wins of the season this past weekend against George Washington University here in Statesboro at the new J.I. Clements stadium.

The Eagles baseball team went into this past weekend looking for their first win of the season. Unfortunately, it would not come Friday night against opponent, George Washington. The Eagles took the field trying to find the elusive first win behind the arm of Dustin Evans. The arm wouldn't hold up against the Colonials as they took a run in the second and two in the third. The Eagles trailed all game, even with a two-run homer by Derrick Smith and a two-run triple by Brandon Ponder. By the end of the game the Eagles' bats weren't enough to overcome a 10-5 loss to George Washington.

The Eagles looked to Saturday being a special day in GSU baseball history. Before the game started, GSU honored the 1973 and 1990 Eagle squads by adding them to the Mason Clements "Wall of Fame." It was also a special day for one of college baseball's greatest coaches, Mr. Jack Stallings. Stallings, the all-time winningest coach at GSU was welcomed by having the new baseball field named after him. Therefore, with all the pre-game honors, the Eagle baseball team came out and took their first win of the season away from George Washington.

> "We found a way to win. It's nice to get our first victory under our belt."
> -Rodney Hennon

The Eagles took a 9-8 win with a two out, RBI single in the bottom of the eighth by James Payne. Flint Wipke started the eighth with a double and then stole third to put himself into scoring position for Payne.

Starting pitcher Everett Teaford had a monstrous outing striking out nine in 7.2 innings, without issuing a walk.

"I'm proud of the way we responded when they tied the game. We found a way to win. It's nice to get our first victory under our belt," said head coach Rodney Hennon after the game.

Sunday afternoon the Eagles captured their first series victory with a 6-3 win against George Washington.

The Eagles won back-to-back games with solid pitching performances from their starters. With Josh Lairsey going seven innings allowing three runs and having a career high seven strikeouts.

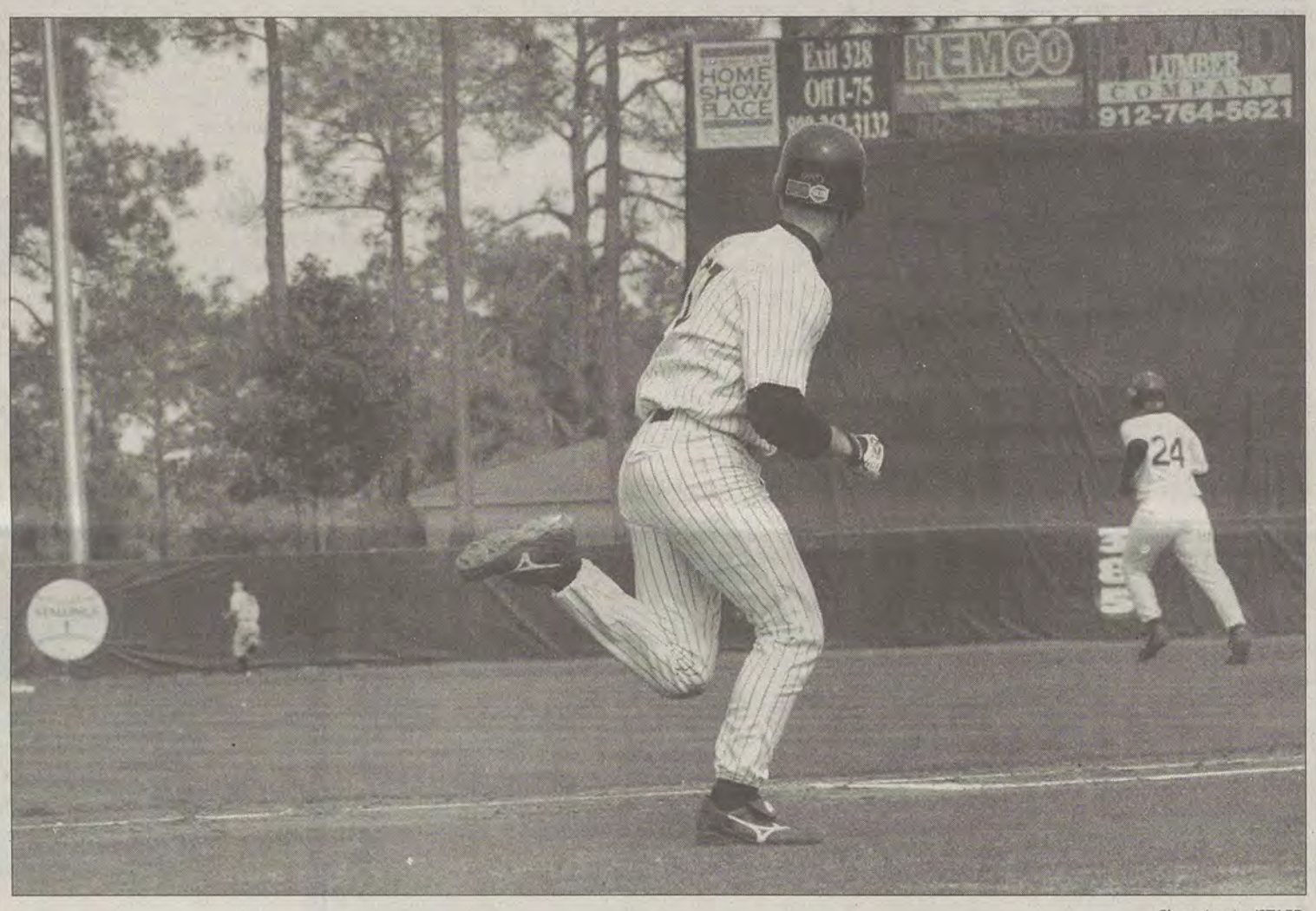
Derrick Smith, leading the team in home runs with three started the game with a solo shot. Then, Logan Phillips, who went 3-3 on the day, ended the game with a three run shot over the center field wall. Pitcher Steve Cogswell shut the door on the Colonials going 1-2-3 in the ninth to record his first save on the season.

"I thought all three of our pitchers threw well. Josh gave us another great starting effort…A.J came in and threw the ball well and Steve turned in his second straight good outing." said Hennon, on the Eagle's second win.

The GSU baseball team improved to 2-4 on the year.

The Eagles next game is against in-state rival University of Georgia this Saturday in Athens.

Eagles
Next Game:
Georgia Bulldogs
When: Feb. 26, 3 p.m.
Where: Athens, Ga.



Chase Lanier/STAFF

GSU 3rd baseman Logan Phillips watches his three-run homerun sail over the centerfield wall during the Eagles' 6-3 victory over George Washington University Sunday afternoon at J.I. Clements stadium.

Eagle softball hosts GSU Invitational

By Renaldo Stover
stovedizzy@hotmail.com

The Georgia Southern women's softball team had plenty of company in town this weekend during the GSU Invitational. Teams that participated were preseason Horizon League favorite Illinois-Chicago, Mercer, Charleston Southern and the nationally ranked, Lady Vols of Tennessee and their national player of the week, pitcher Monica Abbott.

GSU head coach Natalie Poole said that although Charleston Southern and Mercer are both familiar ball clubs, the Eagles would have to show up to play in all games and not look past any teams. Coach Poole went on to say that early season tournaments such as the GSU Invitational are a great way to improve upon skills such as hitting, which she is focusing on before conference play begins, while also providing a gauge for how the team may perform in postseason tourneys.

In early action Friday, the Eagles faced off against the Bears of Mercer University. Mercer jumped out to an early two run lead in the top of the first inning, but the Eagles were able to answer back and tie the game at two runs each heading into the second frame. The Bears and Eagles exchanged runs in the next two innings and would remain tied at the end of seven innings of play.

Offense would pick up in the extra innings with Mercer scoring two runs in the top of the eighth. The Eagles quickly answered back when junior A.J. Street hit an RBI double down the right field line followed by an RBI single from sophomore Logan Free to knot things back up. After holding Mercer to one run in the ninth inning, the Eagles would seal the victory when freshman Robyne Siliga hit an RBI single up the middle allowing sophomore Heather Smith to score the winning run in a game that saw the Eagles tie a season high for hits with 11.

GSU faced the Flames of Illinois Chicago in their second game of the day. After trailing by three runs early in the game, the Eagles picked up their offense, highlighted by a Robyne Siliga homerun in the top of the third inning to close the gap down to one run. Sophomore Maria Laurato would add another homerun in the fourth and sophomore Aurora Johnson would blast a two run shot in a seventh inning rally that saw the Eagles come up short 8-5.

Day two

Day two started with the Eagles and Charleston Southern swinging into action. The Eagles raced out to an early 3-0 lead in the top of the first with junior Shanita Black, Nicole Gutierrez and Robyne Siliga all scoring runs during the inning. Charleston Southern would score on an error by the Eagles in the fourth inning to close the gap but the Eagles proved to be the better team in this match up.

After a Heather Smith RBI in the fifth inning, the Eagles exploded in the sixth inning thanks to a pair of errors by Charleston Southern that allowed the Eagles to add 4 runs to the scoreboard. Courtney Jones would cap off the scoring courtesy of a double which gave the Eagles a new season high for runs in a game and a 9-1 over Charleston Southern.

GSU on Saturday also faced up against No. 7 Tennessee and the Lady Vols moved quickly with speedster Lindsay Schutzler giving them an early 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning.

Eagles pitcher Logan Free would get the Eagles out of the inning though, striking out the next batter. The Eagles played strong defense at times during the contest and were able to avoid major damage in the fourth inning when the Lady Vols loaded the bases with no runners out. Sophomore Maria Laurato made a great catch when Katherine Card lined into a double play. Logan Free was then able to get the next batter to ground out to third base, keeping the score at 1-0.

Abbott struck out eight of the final 12 Eagles batters she faced displaying her tremendous power. The Lady Vols scored three additional runs in the fifth and one run in the sixth inning to complete the scoring and add a game to their win column with a final score of 5-0.

Following the loss to Tennessee the Eagles were seeded to play Mercer in an elimination game with the winner facing the Charleston Southern v. Illinois-Chicago winner for a chance to knock off the Lady Vols in the championship.

See SOFTBALL, Page 8

Eagles
Next Game:
Georgia States Panthers
When: Feb. 23, 3 p.m.
Where: Atlanta, Ga.

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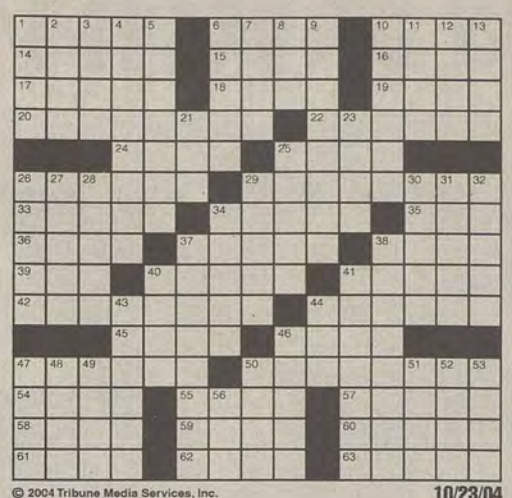

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26 Assassinated Caesar
29 Colonnaded walk
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34 Photo session
35 Ms. Gardner
36 Minor dent
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38 Certain feds
39 Letters for shock treatment
40 Muffler's cousin
41 Sportscaster Musburger
42 Oxford fastener
44 Odysseys
45 Drake or bull
46 Confident
47 Nabokov novel
50 Bawls out
54 Teheran land
55 Sledder's cry
57 Racket
58 Short note
59 Competent
60 Stunned
61 Dutch South African
62 Navy mascot
63 Novel thoughts

DOWN
1 Autumn
2 La Scala showstopper
3 Skeptic's retort
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30 Domesticates
31 Happening
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34 Parking spot
37 Rascal
38 Arboreal amphibian
40 Box spring support
41 Country on Lake Tanganyika
43 Musical key with one sharp
44 Quid pro __
46 Piece of paper
47 Branch
48 Nabisco cookie
49 Hobble
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51 Dimensions
52 Under sail
53 Danson and Turner
56 "Six Feet Under" channel

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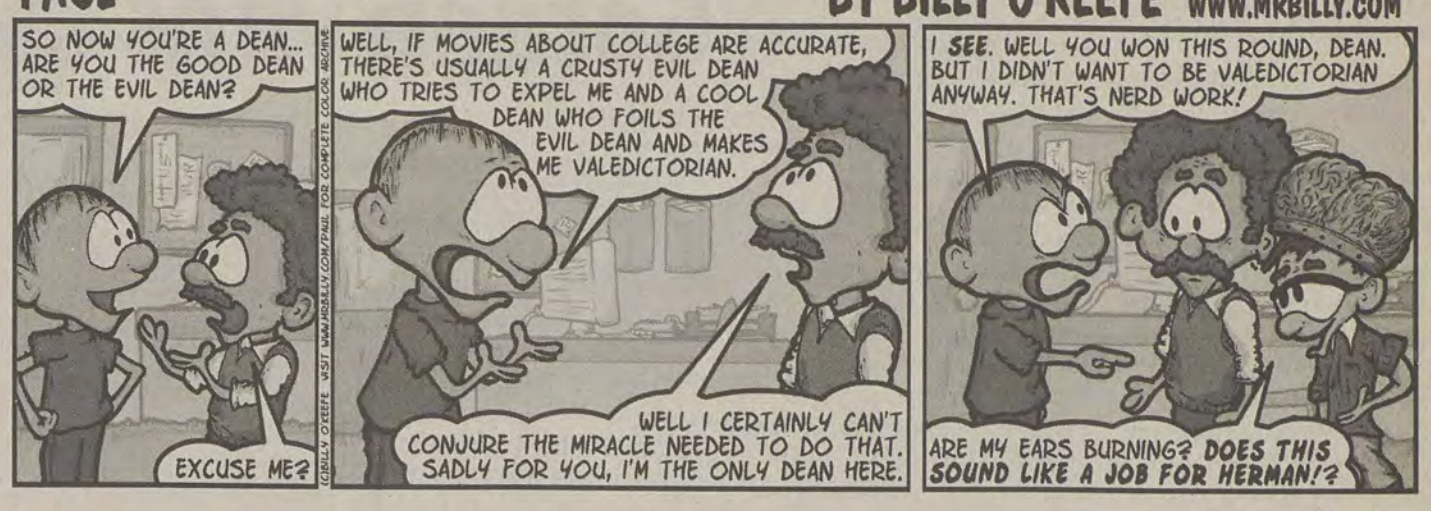
10/23/04

Solutions

PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE WWW.MRBILLY.COM



Peace Girl

by Martin Cizmar

The Family Monster

By Josh Shalek

20 Announcements

HAVING A meeting next week? Place an ad in **The George-Anne** to boost your attendance!

VOLUNTEERS AND New members welcomed! The Humane Society of Statesboro and Bulloch County meets first Mon. of every month at 6 E. Grady St. 7:00. For more info www.biar.petdefender.com or 912-681-9393.

40 Autos for Sale

NISSAN SENTRA '94. AC, Cruise Control, Power Steering. $1900. Automatic with 117000 miles. Perfect condition. Call 912-871-7684.

IF YOUR in the market for a new car, place an ad in **the G-A** to sell your old car fast.

65 Camps & Counselors

SCCS IS currently seeking pastoral and clinical counselors in Hinesville and surrounding areas. Please fax resume to 912-876-5254 or email to sccs@coastal-now.net.

70 Child Care

CPR/FIRST AID certified student looking for babysitting clients. Can provide references upon inquiry. Call Katrina 912-688-2938.

75 Churches

DO YOU want to bring students to your church activities? Place an ad in the G-A!

80 Computers & Software

FOR SALE: D-link wireless internet adaptor, 54Mbps, for Windows XP/2000/ME/98: Paid $50, asking $30. Call 912-681-4744.

90 Education

MONEY FOR COLLEGE. The Army is currently offering sizeable bonuses of up to $20,000. In addition to cash bonuses, you may qualify for up to $70,000 for college through the Montgomery GI Bill and Army College Fund. Or you could pay back up to $65.000 of qualifying student loans through the Army's Loan Repayment Program. To find out more, call 9121-489-8717.

FUN & STUFF Visit our Web site for list of things to do that are educational and fun.

http://www.stp.georgia-southern.edu/funstuff/

100 Etcetera

IDEAS ON what to call the Curtis Smith Street team? Go to curtissmithmusic.com let us know and win cool stuff!

STRESSED OUT of your mind? Contact Ursula Sterling at 912-484-0134 to learn "Inquiry". No charge for a limited time only.

140 Help Wanted

MONEY FOR College? The Army is currently offering sizable bonuses of up to $20000. In addition to the cash bonuses, you may qualify for up to $70,000 for college through the Montgomery GI Bill and Army College Fund. Or you could pay back up to $65,000 of qualifying student loans through the Army's Loan Repayment Program. To find out more, call 912-489-8717.

FILING AND copying medical records in a local medical office. 15-20 hours a week, flexible hours, pay $6.50 an hour. Healthcare majors or filing experience welcome. Fax resume to Statesboro Cardiology, 912-489-6346.

CALLIGRAPHERS WANTED! Will pay $75, Saturday, April 16 9:30-1:30. Call Kandice at the Foreign Language Dept. @ 912-681-5281 before noon daily.

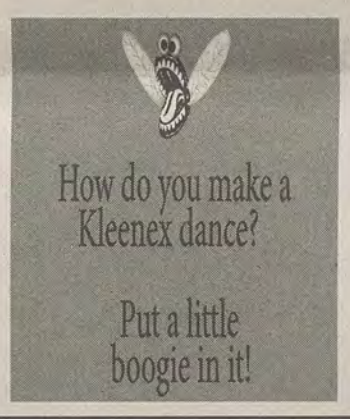
FUN IN the Sun! Lifeguards wanted in North Myrtle Beach, "Will train," no experience. Apply www.nsbslifeguards.com.

LIFEGUARDS WANTED: Pay scale $8.00-$9.50hr. Lifeguard and pool manager positions are now being filled for Summer 2005. Work locations in Suwanee, Lawrenceville, Duluth, Alpharetta, Grayson, Dacula & Cumming. Training classes are available!! Call AMS Pool Management at 678-859-4117! Sign up early to secure your summer $Jobs$

160 Miscellaneous for Sale

BROWN COACH purse and additional clutch. Asking $75 but negotiable. Worth $175. Both worn a total of 10 times. Call 678-468-6175 for more info.

170 Motorcycles



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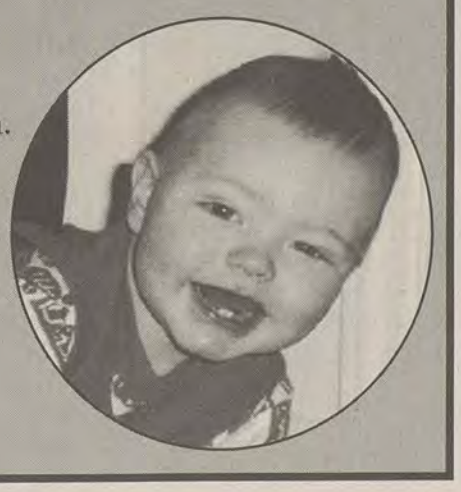

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STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students and utilizing the facilities provided by GSU. The newspaper is the oldest continuously d in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The ideas expressed herein are those of the editor or the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Student Media Advisory Board, the administration, the faculty and staff of Georgia Southern University, or the University System of Georgia. The George-Anne is published three times weekly (Monday-Wednesday-Thursday) during the academic year and six times during summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor at by phone at 912/681-5246 or fax at 912/486-7113.

Readers may access the newspaper and its archives staff by visiting our web site at http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu.

STUDENTS BEWARE

The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads — particularly those which require a credit card number, other personal information, or money in advance of the delivery of a product or service. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

FREEBIE INFO

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

OFFICES, MAIL, PHONES

Room 2023, F. I. Williams Center. The George-Anne, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga. 30460. 912/681-5246 (News) or 912/618-5418 (Advertising) or 912/486-7113 (Fax); 912/681-0069 (adviiser).

EMAIL DIRECTORY

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ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The George-Anne reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date.

FOR MORE INFO, rate cards, sample publications, contact: Lindsey Treadwell, Marketing Director, ADS, (912) 681-5418, ads@georgiasouthern.edu; or Bill Neville, Student Media Coordinator, (912) 681-0069, bneville@georgiasouthern.edu

PROOFING/ERRORS/OMISSIONS: The newspaper makes every reasonable effort to present correct and complete information in advertisements. However, the advertiser is responsible for proofing the ad upon publication and should notify the newspaper immediately in the event of an error. The newspaper is not responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

CLASSIFIED ADS: Free classified ads from students, faculty and staff must be non-commercial in nature and submitted in writing, with the name of the sender, local address, and phone number. No free ads taken via telephone – at this price we don't take dictation. One free ad per person per week. Commercial classified are 25 cents per word with a $5 minimum per insertion. Tearsheets are $2 extra per insertion.

CIRCULATION INFORMATION: Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu. It is the goal of the newspaper to have its edition placed on-line within 24 hours of publication. Breaking news will be placed on-line as warranted. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern University campus through delivery sites located in campus buildings, at off-campus sites, and in residence halls.

NOTICE

Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

NOTE

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

Rip us off

That's right, classified ads are free for students, faculty and staff. Here's the deal: 20 words or less, submitted with this handy form or via email to ads@georgiasouthern.edu. You can also place ads in person at the G-A office, Room 2022, Williams Center. One ad per person per issue. Non-commercial use only.

_____
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Name: _____
Telephone: _____
Address: _____
_____

Name, address and telephone number is required for ALL free ads.

Send your classified ad to:

The George-Anne
P.O. Box 8001
Statesboro, GA 30460

Sorry, no free ads accepted by telephone. At these prices we don't take dictation

Red-hot Flames burn Eagles 92-83

GSU Athletics Media Relations

CHICAGO, Ill. - UIC's Cedrick Banks and Rocky Collum combined for eight three-pointers, leading the Flames to the 92-83 victory over Georgia Southern Saturday afternoon at the UIC Pavilion as part of the ESPN Bracket Buster series.

The Eagles (16-11) opened the game with a quick three-pointer by Elton Nesbitt before UIC's (13-12)Collum answered with a trey of his own for the first tie of the game with 18:55 on the clock. GSU put together a quick 4-0 spurt, giving them the 7-3 edge, but the Flames responded with a 10-0 run of their own, taking their first lead of the game, 13-7 at the 14:45 mark.

Louis Graham knocked down back-to-back jumpers cutting the Eagle deficit to one, 15-14. The Flames increased their lead to 10, at 24-14, sparked by two straight jumpers by Justin Bowen.

Nesbitt hit three free throws with under nine to play in the half, getting the Eagles within seven before a Collum trey put the UIC lead back at 10, 27-17. The Flames went on a 13-4 run over the next two and a half minutes, giving them the 37-22 lead, their largest of the half. The Eagles answered back, with baskets by Terry Williams and Nesbitt, cutting the Flames lead to nine with under five to play. Five unanswered points from Nesbitt put the Eagles within seven with under three minutes in the half before UIC's Armond Williams hit back-to-back jumpers to give the Flames the 45-36 lead at the break. Nesbitt led all scorers at the break with 13, with teammate Louis Graham contributing 10. Banks led the Flames with 12. UIC forced seven Eagle turnovers, resulting in eight points for the Flames.

The Flames put together a 7-3 run to open the second half, increasing their lead to 52-39 with 18:16 remaining in the game. Jean Francois cut the Eagle deficit to nine, at 52-43, as he tallied four unanswered points. UIC's Banks and Bowen combined for the Flames' next 11 points, extending the lead to 13, at 70-57, their largest lead of the half. The Eagles got within five points, at 84-79, on a pair of Dwayne Foreman free throws with 1:45 remaining, but could not get any closer, as the Flames rolled to the 92-83 victory.

Nesbitt and Banks each finished with a game-high 24 points, while Graham poured in his fifth double-double of the season with 14 points and 11 rebounds. Francois finished with 15 points and Williams added 11. UIC's Collum added 15 points, all coming from behind the arc, as he went 5-of-8 on the night. The Flames shot 88.9 percent from the charity stripe, connecting on 24-of-27, while the Eagles shot 75.7 percent, hitting 28-of-37.

The Eagles will play their final road game of the regular season on Monday, Feb. 21 as they travel to Spartanburg, S.C. to face Wofford at 7 p.m.

SOFTBALL, FROM PAGE 6

Things were looking good for the Eagles in the first inning when sophomore Heather Smith hit an RBI double to right. For the Eagles though, that would be all the fireworks the Eagles would receive in this game.

Although the first game between these two teams lasted nine innings, the outcome this time around would be decided much sooner. With the game tied in the bottom of the first inning, Ashley Anderson would give Mercer all the offense they need when she hit a grand slam over the outfield fence-off-pitcher, A.J. Street.

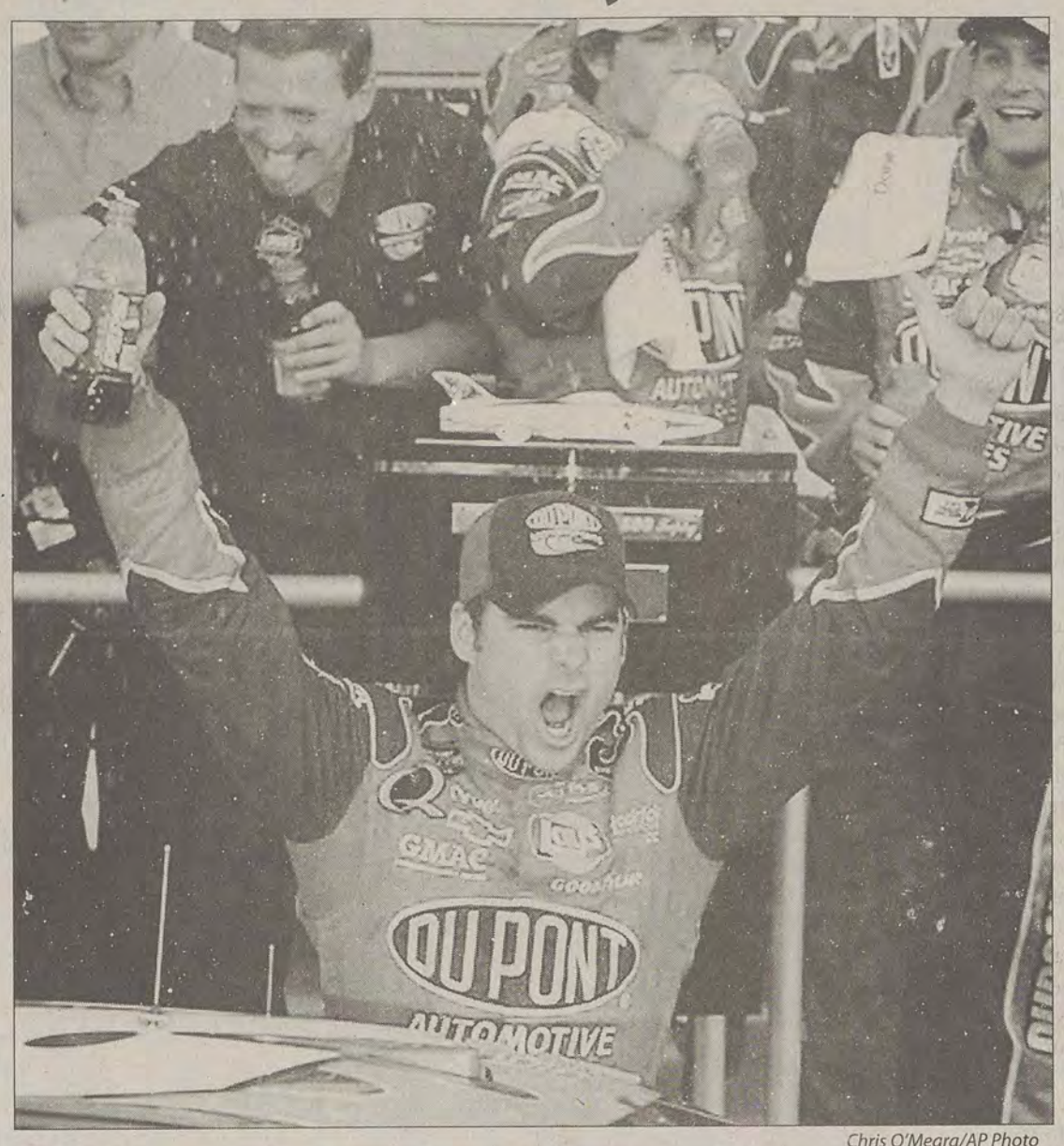
The remainder of the game was a pitching duel as sophomore Logan Free came in for Street and allowed just two hits and no runs over the final 5.2 innings and Mercers Katie Rosentreter refused to give up a run.

The loss eliminated the Eagles from championship play Sunday and denied the ball club a shot at a rematch with eventual champion Tennessee who beat Illinois-Chicago 8-0 in the final.

The Eagles face the Georgia State Panthers on Wednesday.

Gordon wins third Daytona 500

By Mike Harris
Associated Press



Chris O'Meara/AP Photo

NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon celebrates his victory in the Daytona 500 at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., on Sunday.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Jeff Gordon grabbed the lead from Dale Earnhardt Jr., then held off Kurt Busch and Earnhardt in extra laps to win his third Daytona 500 Sunday.

One of the wildest finishes in the 47-year history of NASCAR's biggest race saw four lead changes in the last nine laps. Earnhardt, the defending champiion, came from as far back as 30th to grab a late lead, only to watch four-time series champion Gordon pass him seconds before a caution flag waved with three laps to go.

The race went three laps beyond the scheduled 200-lap distance, with Gordon hanging on over two final laps of green-flag racing to beat Busch by two car-lengths.

"Oh, my goodness, what an amazing day," a jubilant Gordon said. "Three, baby!"

He is the fifth driver to win three or more Daytona 500s, joining Richard Petty (7), Cale Yarborough (4) and Bobby Allison and Dale Jarrett (3).

Tony Stewart dominated the race for a second straight year, leading 107 laps, and was well on the way to his first 500 win before a rash of late caution flags triggered the furious finish.

Earnhardt, who struggled with handling through most of the race and had not led a lap, suddenly dove to the outside, just in front of Gordon and charged past Stewart to grab the top spot on the 197th lap.

"I was real, real happy," Earnhardt said. "I'm telling you, man, the car was way, way off. It was hard. It was amazing the difference between the car (at the end) and maybe 50 laps before then. I mean, it was really fast."

Fast enough to scare Gordon, but not fast enough to beat him.

Gordon finally pulled alongside Earnhardt and nosed ahead just moments before the 10th yellow flag of the race froze the field.

On the restart on lap 202, Busch, the defending Nextel Cup champion, drove his Ford past Earnhardt and bore down on Gordon.

Behind the three leaders, things got really wild, with three- and four-wide racing and cars banging and bumping off each other to the finish.

Scott Riggs wound up fourth, followed by Jimmie Johnson, Mark Martin in his last Daytona 500 and the frustrated Stewart.

In a nearly identical situation last spring at Talladega, a heavily partisan crowd angrily threw beer and soda cans and seat cushions onto the track after NASCAR said Gordon was ahead of Earnhardt when the caution came out near the end of the race. Gordon went on to win that race under caution.

That reaction prompted new NASCAR chairman Brian France to change the rule and allow a two-lap, green-flag sprint for the win when a caution comes out before the final scheduled lap.

The victory was the 70th for Gordon, who barely missed his fifth series title last year when he finished just 16 points behind Busch and eight behind Hendrick Motorsports teammate Johnson in the closest points race in NASCAR history.

"I didn't know what the week had in store for us," Gordon said. "I knew we had a good car. We hadn't shown everything. I knew over 500 miles, with that pit crew, that team, that hopefully some patience would pay off there at the end."

UNIVERSITY JUDICIAL BOARD
REQUEST FOR STUDENT NOMINATIONS

The University Judicial Board (UJB) needs your help to fill student positions on the Board for the 2005-2006 academic year. You are asked to nominate students you feel would be responsible and conscientious UJB members. All regularly enrolled students who have completed at least 15 hours of academic credit at Georgia Southern are eligible for appointment provided they meet the following criteria:

(1) they must not have a disciplinary record for the last two semesters of university attendance;
(2) they must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher;
(3) they must not hold the top executive office in any campus organization;
(4) they must be a full-time student; and
(5) they must be planning to attend Georgia Southern the entire 2005-2006 academic year.

If you know students who would be excellent UJB members, please submit their nomination by Friday February 25, 2005. All nominations should include the nominee's full name, last four digits of the social security number, current phone number, current Georgia Southern University P.O. Box number, and a paragraph stating why you think the nominee would be an effective UJB member. Feel free to nominate as many students as you like. All nominations must be signed by the person making the nomination and must be submitted by Friday, February 25, 2005, to:

Janet O'Brien
Chair, University Judicial Board
P.O. Box 8132
Georgia Southern University

Thank you for your help in selecting student UJB members. A complete description of the procedures for appointing UJB members may be found in the Student Guide, Appendix C, http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/sta/guide/05GuideWeb.pdf

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UJB STUDENT NOMINATION

Nomination by: _____

Phone # GSU PO Box # Signature Date

NOMINEE (full name): _____

Phone # GSU PO Box # Last 4 digits of Social Security #

Why do you feel the nominee would make an effective UJB member?

Wednesday

Russell Union
10:00am - 2:00pm

Graphic Careers Expo

Choosing a major or changing a major?

Come see what careers are available in the graphic communication fields.

Company representatives, executives, and alumni will be present to talk to you about career opportunities.

Bush bringing conciliatory message to Europe after rift over Iraq

Bush to discuss unity, strong friendship, support of Iraqi people during 5-day tour of Europe

By Terence Hunt
Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium - President Bush sought to repair rocky relations with Europe, opening a visit Sunday to soothe allies embittered by the U.S.-led Iraq war and frustrated that their views were often ignored by the White House.

Bush, in a speech Monday, will urge allies to work together to advance freedom and democracy, particularly in the Middle East, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said on Air Force One as Bush flew there. Bush also will urge support for the Iraqi people.

Hoping to set a more conciliatory tone for his second term, Bush will meet over five days with some of his toughest critics: French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, both of whom fiercely opposed the U.S. led invasion.

Bush also will see Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has alarmed the West with Moscow's retreat from democracy.

An alliance of 88 environmental, human rights, peace and other groups planned two days of protests in Brussels, beginning Monday, to demand "no European complicity" in a U.S.-designed world order.

Brussels police readied 2,500 officers – 1,000 more than the usual number for the three or four summit meetings that bring European Union leaders to the Belgian capital every year.

While seeking to move past old divisions, Bush and European leaders still face major differences.

Washington strongly opposes Europe's plans to lift a 15-year-old arms embargo against China. Bush has been cool toward Europe's negotiations to persuade Iran to abandon its suspected nuclear weapons program. The White House prefers asking the U.N. Nations Security Council to punish Tehran.

Hard feelings linger from Bush's opposition to the Kyoto climate change treaty and the International Criminal Court.

An issue where the allies may find common ground is a demand that Syria withdraw its forces from Lebanon – a declaration prompted by the assassination of a former prime minister, Rafik Hariri, in a massive bombing in Beirut.

Courting France, the president has a private dinner Monday night with Chirac.

On Tuesday, Bush is attending NATO and EU meetings. Wednesday finds the president in Mainz, Germany, for a meeting with Schroeder. The trip ends Thursday with talks with Putin in Slovakia.

Bush's talks with the Russian president are the most important of the trip, said Sen. Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, the senior Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Putin "has come out very recently and said the Iranians are not producing nuclear weapons, it's only nuclear power, and, therefore, he's going to go ahead and continue helping them. And I think that's a stern conversation they need to have," Rockefeller told "Fox News Sunday."

AP Photo/Michel Spingler

A caricature of President George W. Bush, right, is seen in the center of Brussels during a protest against Bush's upcoming visit to Belgium on Sunday. Bush set out Sunday on a European trip to strengthen ties with allies after sharp disagreements over the war in Iraq and is making stops in Belgium, Germany and Slovakia over five days.

The question on European minds is whether Bush, after offering olive branches during his visit, will put his conciliatory words into practice and engage in give-and-take diplomacy with allies. Many Europeans are skeptical.

"Clearly Bush has learned in his first term that there are limits to what America can do by itself," said Ivo Daalder, a European expert on the National Security Council staff during the Clinton administration.

"He only has to look at Iraq where 85 percent of the foreign troops, 90 percent of the casualties and 95 percent of the reconstruction dollars are American," Daalder said.

In a signal of unity, NATO is expected to announce Tuesday that all 26 allies finally have agreed to contribute to the alliance mission to train Iraq's armed forces, even though some will only work outside the country or just help cover costs.

The world's most powerful military alliance has struggled to find the 160 instructors it needs to complete the first phase of the operation, which offers training for senior officers within Baghdad's heavily guarded "Green Zone."

Across Europe, Bush is widely disliked. European perceptions of an arrogant America were symbolized for many people by photos of abuse at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison.

The hard feelings were aggravated over the last four years by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's dismissal of Iraq critics as representing "old Europe" and then-national security adviser Condoleezza Rice's statement that France should be punished and Germany ignored for opposing Bush.

Rice has improved relations recently by making Europe her first destination after being sworn in as secretary of state. Rumsfeld, too, suggested he has turned a new leaf by saying his earlier criticism came from the "old Rumsfeld."

Edwards will not limit White House options

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. - Former vice presidential candidate John Edwards will not talk about whether he plans to run for the White House in 2008, but he is not pledging to stand aside if running mate John Kerry tries again.

Edwards

Edwards said in an interview aired Sunday on ABC's "This Week" that he and Kerry have talked often since they lost in November to President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney.

"Not only are John Kerry and I friends, our families are close," Edwards said. "I have enormous respect for him. But I'll decide what's the right thing to do based on what's going on with my own family."

Edwards, a former senator from North Carolina, said his wife, Elizabeth, is doing well in her fight against breast cancer.

He said he doesn't feel that God is testing him with his wife's disease or the death of their son, Wade, in a 1996 traffic accident.

Edwards said while his faith seeps into every part of his life, he is reluctant to make it part of campaigning.

"I think it looks political. It looks like you're just moving around for politics' sake," he said.

He applauded Iraqis for braving terrorist threats and voting for a national assembly last month, but said Bush administration policies have had a mixed effect in the Middle East.

U.N. refugee chief resigns over sexual harassment scandal

By Alexander G. Higgins
Associated Press

GENEVA - The U.N. refugee chief told Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Sunday he was resigning because of a lack of confidence in him over sexual harassment allegations, but maintained his innocence.

Ruud Lubbers

Ruud Lubbers' letter of resignation as U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees was sent to Annan on Sunday, a spokesman said.

"The complaint of sexual harassment could not be substantiated," Lubbers wrote.

"For more than four years I gave all my energy to UNHCR," he said. "Now in the middle of a series of problems and with ongoing media pressure you apparently view this differently."

After allegations first surfaced last year that Lubbers had made unwanted sexual advances toward a female employee, Annan said there were insufficient grounds to fire him. On Friday, however, Annan consulted lawyers, clearly angered at the resurgence of sexual harassment allegations following a newspaper report that included graphic details.

Lubbers, a former Dutch prime minister, maintained his innocence, and noted that Annan had closed the case last July after obtaining legal advice.

Indicating the secretary-general had decided it was time for him to go, Lubbers said, "To be frank, and despite all my loyalty, insult has now been added to injury and therefore I resign as high commissioner."

He criticized U.N. investigators for compiling a biased report and of constantly leaking developments to the news media. He rejected the investigators' allegation that employees feared retaliation if they complained.

"There was no retaliation at all," Lubbers said.

Lubbers told Annan he would continue to be available to UNHCR "until you have found the successor and she or he is confirmed by the General Assembly and ready to take over."

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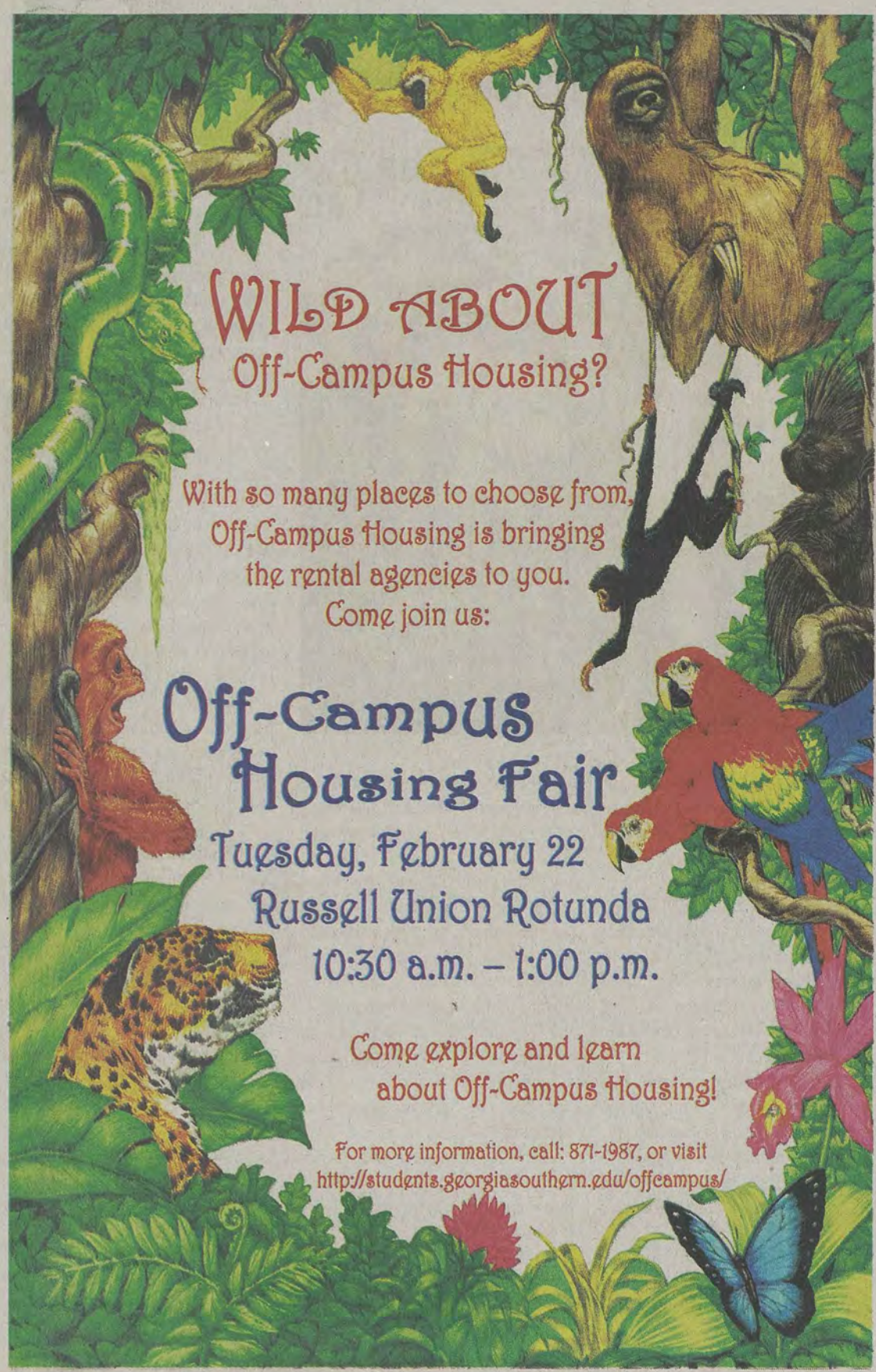

Former presidents promise relief

By Christopher Torchia
Associated Press

LAMPUUK, Indonesia - Former presidents Bush and Clinton traveled Sunday to ground zero of tsunami devastation where they described the destruction as unimaginable and promised survivors who begged for shelter that more help would come.

On the second day of their relief mission to the region, the two former leaders flew in U.S. military helicopters from the provincial capital Banda Aceh over a barren landscape that was once a patchwork of rice paddies, to the village of Lampuuk, where the sole structure left standing is a large white mosque.

The village had 6,500 inhabitants before the Dec. 26 disaster. Only 700 remain.

"I've never seen anything like this in my entire life. Ever," Bush said.

As he looked out of the helicopter, Bush said he was counting his blessings. "In my own heart, I was saying we're very lucky, we're very lucky people not to have to go through something like this."

Clinton shook hands with Rahmayadi, one of thousands of survivors left homeless by the disaster.

He said his house in Lampuuk had stood in the neighborhood where the Americans visited but was flattened by the tsunami.

AP Photo/Gerald Herbert, Pool

Former U.S. Presidents George H.W. Bush, center left, and Bill Clinton, center right, visit the USS Fort McHenry, which is involved in rebuilding efforts in Aceh Province, Indonesia, as they tour the tsunami affected areas of the country on Sunday.

BUSH, FROM PAGE 1

Because I don't want some little kid doing what I tried."

According to the article, Wead played 12 of the tapes to a Times reporter. He said he recorded them because he viewed Bush as a historic figure. He is the author of a new book on presidential childhoods.

The White House did not deny the authenticity of the tapes.

"The governor was having casual conversations with someone he believed was his friend," White House spokesman Trent Duffy said, referring to Bush.

ABORTION, FROM PAGE 1

cause them harm or death," said the bill's sponsor, Republican Rep. Sue Burmeister of Augusta.

After making those changes, a House committee approved the bill. Now the matter awaits scheduling for the vote by the full House. A similar bill already awaits a vote in the Senate, although that version is the original form opposed by womens' rights groups.

Republicans and abortion opponents said they're still in favor of the House bill, which they call the Women's Right To Know Act. It requires women to wait 24 hours before receiving an abortion, and requires doctors to alert them to possible medical risks from the procedure. It would be up to a doctor to decide how the frame the warning talk.

Women would also have be sent a pamphlet that shows the development of a fetus, along with pictures of unborn babies in periodic states of development. Some Democrats still oppose that requirement.

"This is strictly, in my opinion, used to dissuade, not inform. This is truly inflammatory, when we're showing pictures like this to a woman who is already under stress," said Rep. JoAnn McClinton, D-Atlanta.

Burmeister replied that fetal pictures are commonly shown to schoolchildren, and that women seeking abortions should be reminded of it.

"When they choose abortion, this is what they're aborting. I don't see that as an affront. ... I see it as educational," Burmeister said.

After the vote, abortion opponents hugged each other in the hallway. They said they hoped for a full vote by next week. "It's such a great day," said Patricia Chivers of Georgia Right To Life.

On the other side, abortion rights supporters said they would still work to defeat the bill, although that appears unlikely, especially after the changes.

Rep. Karla Drenner, a Democrat who said she isn't sure yet how she'll vote on the final bill, said she was happy with the changes.

"It's just a cut-and-dry waiting period. I think the vast majority of people don't think that's an unreasonable thing to ask for," Drenner said.

Need a new pick-up line? How 'bout "I got a job."

Georgia Southern Career Services'
Eagle Expo Career Fair
and Education Career Day
Wednesday, February 23
@ The RAC From 9AM - 2PM

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Over one hundred and twenty five organizations will be on campus to inform Georgia Southern students about the skills and qualities needed to compete in today's employment marketplace. Those in attendance will learn about specific organizations and industry leaders that may hold the key to their future career.

Employers from public and private organizations are scheduled to participate, from areas including:

- School Systems
- Allied Health
- Business
- Social Science
- Engineering
- Sports/Recreation
- Hotel/Restaurants
- Public Relations
- Government
- Military
- Civil Service

... and more

Contact GSU Career Services for more information:
Suite 1058, F.I. Williams Center
912-681-5197

Or visit us online to obtain an up-to-date listing of companies at:
http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/career

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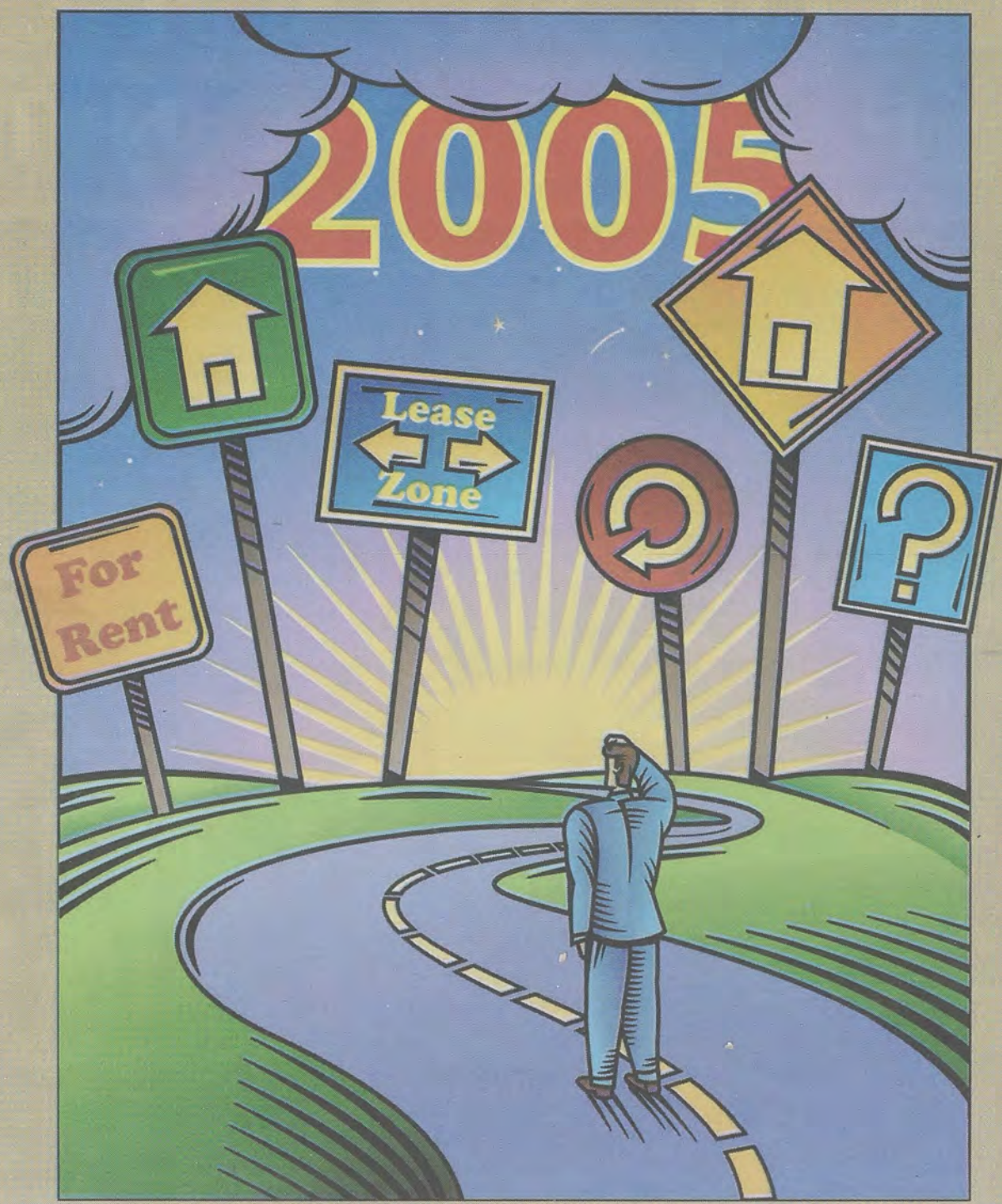

10th Annual Off-Campus Housing Guide

For More Information on Off-Campus Prograams & Activities, Contact:
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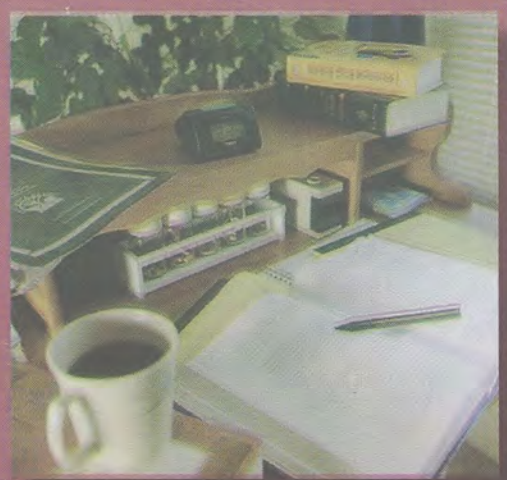

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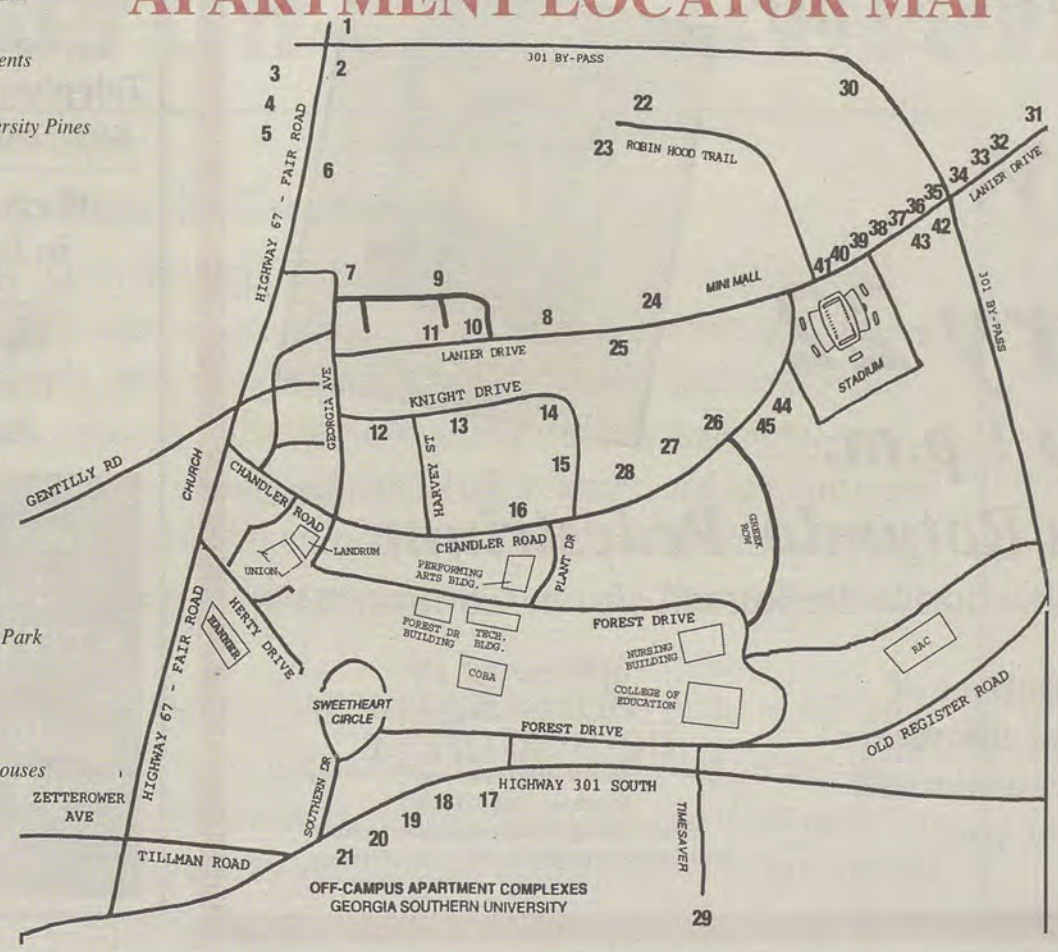
APARTMENT LOCATOR MAP

1 The Garden District
2 Johnson's Trailer Park
3 Sagebrush
4 Hawthorne
5 Greenbriar Apartments
6 Bermuda Run
7 Players Club
8 College Park University Pines
9 University Place
10 Heritage Square
11 Plantation Villas
12 Eagles' Nest
13 The Lodge
14 College View
15 Campus Courtyard
16 University Pointe
17 The Woodlands
18 Vista View
19 Quiet Place
20 Boardwalk
21 Bonnie Glen
22 The Seasons
23 Robin Hood Trail
24 Stadium Walk
25 Lanier Apartments
26 Southern Villas
27 Georgia Villas
28 Property Mart
29 Varsity Lodge
30 Statesboro Place
31 C&S Mobile Home Park
32 St. Charles Place
33 Park Place
34 St. James Place
35 Eagles' Court
36 Eagle Villas
37 Eagle Creek Townhouses
38 Ellis Apartments
39 Stadium View
40 College Walk
41 Sherwood Forest
42 Stadium Place
43 Campus Club
44 Willow Bend
45 Towne Club



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GSU Community Advisor Program

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Varsity Lodge
The Woodlands
The Seasons
Player's Club
Statesboro Place
Eagle Creek Townhouses
Perimeter Properties
Campus Club
The Property Mart
College Walk
Campus Courtyard
Greenbriar & Hawthorne

For more information, please contact the
Off-Campus Housing Office, in Lewis Hall Room 2026
Telephone: 912-871-1987 - Email: offcampus@georgiasouthern.edu
http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/offcampus/

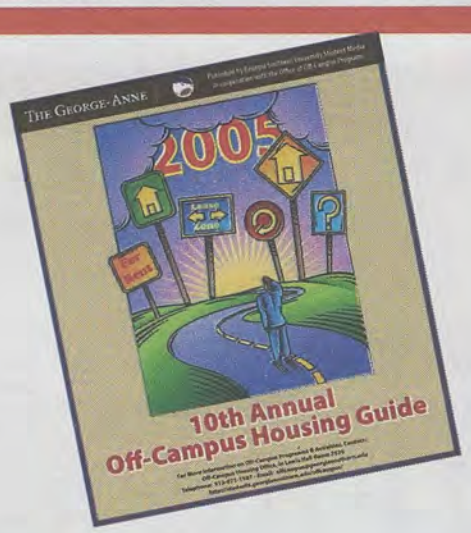
Annual Housing Fair

Tuesday, February 22

10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Russell Union Rotunda Pedestrium

(Inclement Weather location is the Russell Union Commons)



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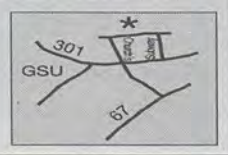

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2005 Off-Campus Housing Guide

A Message from the Coordinator

The Off-Campus Housing Office, located on Sweetheart Circle in Lewis Hall Room 2026, offers all Georgia Southern University students information, resource referrals, services and support in the off-campus housing experience. The office plays an active role in educating students residing off-campus regarding their rights and responsibilities, both as tenants and as members of the community. Our goal is to make a positive impact on off-campus living, which includes assisting students residing off-campus in connecting with the University.

The Off-Campus Housing Guide is designed to benefit students residing off-campus by offering useful information on topics, including security deposits, leases, safety and roommates. This is only a guide and is not meant to offer legal advice or replace the services of an attorney. For more information about the Off-Campus Housing Office, visit our web page at **http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/offcampus/**, stop by the office in Lewis Hall, email **offcampus@georgiasouthern.edu**, or call 912-871-1987.

Emily Chandler

Coordinator, Off-Campus Housing

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Georgia Southern University is home to 16,000 students, of which approximately 13,000 reside off-campus. The Off-Campus Housing Office strives to meet the needs of these students by providing a variety of services and programs. The office serves as a clearinghouse for listings of vacant rental property, subleases and students seeking roommates.

A database designed to automate searches for off-campus accommodations and roommates is available on the Off-Campus Housing website at http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/offcampus/. The website allows searches to be based on an individual's criteria (i.e. housing type, rent amount, location, etc). Tenants are responsible for housing arrangements and these arrangements must be made directly between the tenant and the landlord.

This listing of off-campus housing is made available at no charge for the convenience of current and prospective students who use this listing at their own risk. It should not in any way be construed as warranting, endorsing, or otherwise approving the security, safety, or habitability of the premises listed. This institution specifically disclaims any liability for injuries or damages which may be sustained as a consequence of or in any way growing out of the occupancy, use, or rental of the private housing accommodations listed herein.

Services provided in addition to the listings and databases are the Community Advisor Program, Housing Fairs and the Off-Campus Housing Guide (published each spring).

The Off-Campus Housing Office is located in Lewis Hall Room 2026. The telephone number is 912-871-1987 and email address is **offcampus@georgiasouthern.edu.**

HOUSING FAIRS

Housing Fairs are annual events sponsored by the Off-Campus Housing Office. They are held during the months of February, March and November. Students have an opportunity to meet area rental companies, speak with rental housing vendors, see floor plans, and collect information on housing options and available rentals. During these Fairs, property owners and managers showcase their available units to students looking for housing for the next academic year.

COMMUNITY ADVISOR PROGRAM

The Community Advisor Program was established at Georgia Southern University in the Fall of 1992 to meet the immediate needs of students residing off-campus. The Program has grown from the initial two apartment complexes to approximately sixteen complexes.

The purpose of the Community Advisor (CA) is to make connections between the students of an off-campus rental community and Georgia Southern. CAs plan programs and events, prepare a monthly apartment complex newsletter, and help students residing off-campus get connected to the Georgia Southern community.

The Community Advisor (CA) role is unique to Georgia Southern in that a CA receives their training through the Off-Campus Housing Office, but is supervised and compensated by the manager/owner of the property. Compensation consists of a concession off of the rent amount (to be determined by the complex management) in exchange for work. Georgia Southern does not subsidize nor underwrite the rent concession. Therefore, the property manager becomes the employer.

LIVING OFF-CAMPUS

Choosing to live off-campus is a major decision that will greatly impact your college experience. Living off-campus can provide students with more privacy and a feeling of independence, but with this comes a different set of responsibilities: cooking, cleaning, budgeting, staying connected to campus life and finding transportation to and from campus.

Items you need to consider while you ponder moving off-campus are outlined in the 2005 Off-Campus Housing Guide. We hope it will serve

How Much Will Living Off-Campus Cost?

Calculate Your Expenses	Monthly Cost
Rent	$
Telephone (home & cell phone)	$
Electricity	$
Utilities (gas, water, garbage)	$
Internet hookup	$
Cable	$
Groceries	$
Laundry	$
Transportation (Parking Permit)	$
Entertainment (dining out, movies)	$
Renters Insurance	$
Other Expenses	$
TOTAL COST	$

With the questions answered and your budget prepared, you are able to determine what your needs are and what you can afford. Now you can begin your search.

as a convenient tool as you begin the process of locating, arranging and moving into a residence off-campus.

DETERMINE YOUR NEEDS

The task of finding a place to live can be made easier if you know in advance what you want and what you can afford.

1. Ask yourself the following questions:
   a. Can I afford to live alone or do I need a roommate?
   b. Can I drive to campus or do I need to live within walking distance?
   c. Will I need furnished or unfurnished accommodations?
   d. What type of lease – year or semester?
   e. Are pets allowed?
   f. What amenities (dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer, internet access) are available?
   g. Will I need to drive or be within walking distance to stores, laundry facilities, etc?
2. **Prepare a budget of your expenses.** Use the table on this page to estimate monthly costs of living off-campus. Rent may seem affordable, but many services and utilities may not be included in the price.

WHERE DO I BEGIN?

Students who are planning to live off-campus need to actively begin their search during the spring prior to move in. The availability of apartments starts to decline in the summer months. The longer you wait, the more likely it is that you may have to accept a place that does not meet all of your needs. However, do not be pressured into signing a lease or pre-lease agreement unless you are certain you want the unit.

1. **Begin your search by narrowing the area in which you would like to reside and research the available property in the area.**
   - Obtain a listing of available rental property from the Off-Campus Housing Office located on Sweetheart Circle in Lewis Hall Room 2026. In addition to maintaining an updated listing of vacant off-campus housing, the office also maintains a Roommate Needed list and a Sub-Lease list.
   - Check out the website at http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/offcampus/.
   - Make plans to attend Georgia Southern's Housing Fair.
   - Talk to your friends and acquaintances about housing possibilities.
   - Obtain a copy of the George-Anne, Georgia Southern's student newspaper, and review the rental listings in the classified section.
   - Review the rental property listed in the classified section of the Statesboro Herald, our local newspaper.
2. Once you decide on an area, **walk or drive through the neighborhood** during peak hours when residents are home to insure it will meet your safety standards.
3. Contact the landlord and **arrange for a tour of the unit**. (Make a list of the things you are looking for in an apartment and take it with you).
4. **Ask to see the actual apartment you will be leasing**; the model will look very nice – often better than the actual units.
5. **Check the safety/security features:**
   - Does the building have a security system?
   - Is there a security patrol?
     - o 24 hours
     - o At night
     - o On weekends
   - Is the lighting in the parking lot and on the exterior of the building adequate?
   - Do doors and windows open easily?
   - Do the windows lock? Are there screens?
   - Do the front & back doors have dead bolt locks? Peep holes?
   - What happens if you misplace your key?
     - o Is there a charge for unlocking the door?
     - o Is there a charge for making a new key?
   - Are there working smoke detectors? Are there fire extinguishers? If not, can they be purchased and installed and at whose expense?
   - Are your street address and apartment numbers clearly marked?
6. **Inspect Fixtures and Appliances**
   - Are the kitchen appliances clean and in good working order?
   - Is the air conditioning and heating system in good working condition?
     - o Who is responsible for purchasing and changing filters?
     - o How often is this required?
   - Are the carpet and walls clean?
   - Do all the bathroom fixtures work? Turn on faucets, flush toilets, check for signs of water leaking.
   - Is there adequate water pressure?
   - Is there a working doorbell?
   - Check the baseboards and around doors and windows for holes that may indicate air leaks or pests. Open cabinets and drawers to check for evidence of pests. Ask about exterminators.
     - o Is regular extermination service provided?

Who pays for it? Is this written in the lease – if not, can it be written in?

7. **Amenities**
   - Will the apartment be large enough for all the tenants?
   - Is there adequate closet and storage space?
   - Are there ceiling fans? Do they work?
   - Are there mailboxes for each apartment? For each tenant?
   - How far are grocery and convenience stores from the complex?
   - Is there a yard? Who is responsible for maintaining it?
   - Does the complex have recreation facilities and a clubhouse? Are they well maintained?
8. **Ask to see a copy of the lease and READ it carefully BEFORE you sign it.** It should cover:
   - How much is the rent per month? What day of the month is rent due? What are the late penalties and when do they begin? Do weekends and university holidays count?
   - What is the term or length of the lease?
   - How much advance notice must be given in order to renew the lease?
   - What are the requirements for a full refund of your security deposit?
   - Is subleasing permitted? Under what conditions?
   - Who pays for water and sewer? Trash removal?
   - Who do you call for repairs and emergencies?
   - Is there a non-refundable cleaning or maintenance fee? How much is it?
   - Does the property offer individual leases?
   - Is the apartment furnished?
   - Are pets allowed? If so, is there a pet deposit? How much is the deposit and is it refundable? If yes, what are the conditions?
9. **Speak with current tenants** in the building or complex. Ask if they plan to renew their lease. Ask about the response time to maintenance request.

COMMUTER STUDENT PARKING PERMITS

GSU Parking Permits are <u>not</u> available to residents of the following apartments:

Cambridge Apartments	Campus Courtyard
College View	Davis Apartments
Eagles Nest	Eagles Walk
Eagle Village	Knight Apartments
Lodge Apartments	Southern Villas
University Point	Village Apartments

The non-commuter zone may be extended to include all housing that fronts Lanier Drive or with a Lanier Drive address from Georgia Avenue to the 301-bypass. (Decision to be made May 2005). Contact Parking and Transportation, 912-681-0702 for additional information.

UTILITY INFORMATION

Georgia Power, 305 S. Main St., 912-489-3671. $20.00 to establish account. Deposit based on credit history.

For electrical service outside Statesboro City Limit contact: Excelsior Electric Membership Corp., 4402 Northside Dr. W., 912-764-2123. Deposit based on credit history.

City of Statesboro Utilities, 50 East Main St., 912-764-5468. Utility application available on City of Statesboro website: **http://www.statesboroga.net/index.html. Water:** $35 Deposit, $10 Service Fee. **Natural Gas:** $35 Deposit- applied toward final bill, $10 Service Fee.

Frontier Communications, 912-764-9131. Call Monday – Saturday Between 8 am – 6 pm for service co. .ction; $16-$30 non-refundable connection charge; allow plenty of time for hook-up. You select your own long distance service.

Northland Cable Television, 32 E. Vine St., 912-489-8715. Apply in person at the office. $29.99 installation fee, and the first month's fee is required at signing.

ESTIMATED HOUSING COSTS

The rent you pay will vary with the type of housing, the ownership, amenities, and distance from campus. These figures are 2004 estimates, for informational use only.

The most popular types of student rentals include:

4 Bedroom - $199-$330/person/month.
2 Bedroom - $225-$380/person/month.
1 Bedroom - $300-$415/month.

ESTIMATED UTILITIES COST

Electricity	$40/person/month
Cable Television	$15/person/month
Water & Sewer	$18/person/month
Local Telephone	$5/person/month
Total Utilities	$78/person/month

***Based on four students in a four-bedroom apartment.

LEASES

What is a lease?

A lease is a legally binding CONTRACT between the landlord and tenant to transfer possession of property to the tenant for a certain period

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2 Bedroom/1 Bath • 1 Bedroom/1 Bath

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- Sand Volleyball Court
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- Lake
- Beautifully Landscaped Grounds
- Walk to Class

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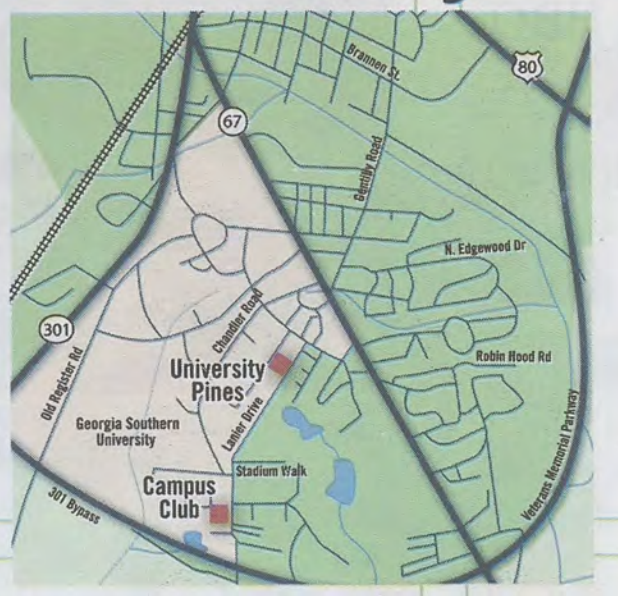

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of time in exchange for rent payments. Make sure you have read and understand every provision of your lease before you sign it. Leases are binding contracts and are difficult to break once signed.

Important Things to Look For In A Lease

Standard clauses in a lease include:

- Names and addresses of all parties involved.
- The amount of rent, when it is due, and late fees.
- The beginning and ending dates of the lease.
- The amount of the security deposit.
- Who is responsible for paying utilities (water, electricity, gas, phone, etc.).
- Whether or not pets are permitted.
- Who is responsible for repairs and maintenance (who replaces air filters).
- Who is responsible for trash disposal and yard maintenance.

READ YOUR LEASE CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING,...

Especially the small print.

It is important that you understand your rights and responsibilities as outlined in a lease agreement. Have a parent or other responsible person read it. It is not recommended that you sign a lease on an apartment that is under construction unless you fully understand and accept the risk involved.

What is a rental agreement?

A rental agreement is merely a page of information about you, (including your financial status), which the landlord uses to decide whether or not he/she wants to rent to you. However, the landlord is prohibited from discriminating against you on the basis of race, sex, religion or ethnic origin. When filling out a rental application, you may be required to pay the landlord a fee for running a credit check on you. Read the application carefully to ensure that it does not place any obligation on you if you decide not to rent.

What is an agreement to hold a unit?

During the spring (while you are looking for a place to live in the fall), you may be able to sign an agreement and pay a deposit to hold the unit until fall. Make sure you know if this agreement is an actual lease or only an agreement to hold the unit. Examine a blank copy of the lease before you sign the holding agreement, so you will know what you should expect to sign in the fall. You should insist that a holding agreement be in writing. Make a copy of the "hold" check and a copy of the hold agreement for your records.

Important Terms To Know

1. **Joint and several liability** means any one roommate can be held responsible for the actions of any or all other roommates.
   a. Any or all roommates can be sued to recover the damage done by one roommate.
   b. All roommates can be evicted if one roommate fails to pay the rent.
   c. If one roommate moves out, the total monthly rent remains the same, and the remaining roommates are responsible for paying it.
2. **Separate or Individual Leases** have a relationship comparable to that of tenants who live in separate apartments in the same building.
   a. If a roommate leaves, the other roommates are not required to make up the departed roommate's rent payment.
   b. The landlord may evict one roommate without evicting all roommates.
   c. Generally, if one roommate moves out, the landlord can fill that space without consulting the remaining roommates.
3. A **Guarantor** is someone who signs the lease with you to guarantee payment. If you fail to pay your rent, the guarantor will be legally responsible for paying it.

Breaking the Lease

If you need to move or vacate the premises before your lease is up, it would be wise to speak with the landlord. It may be possible for you to negotiate with the property owner/manager to terminate the lease or sublet the apartment. You should not think that you will only forfeit your security deposit if you move out early. According to the terms of the lease, you are liable for the rent for the remaining months on the lease.

There are some legitimate reasons for leaving before your lease expires. Some examples include: the apartment has been damaged by fire or the landlord is not in compliance with the rental agreement. You may consider seeking legal advice before giving notice.

Points to consider if you must break your lease:

1. Talk to your landlord. He/She may have another tenant ready to move in and allow that person to take over your lease.
2. Send a certified letter to the landlord giving notice that you intend to break your lease and the date you will be vacating the apartment.
3. In some cases, the landlord may want to be compensated for the trouble of re-renting the unit.
4. If you are able to negotiate an amicable lease breaking, you and the landlord should sign a written statement of release.
5. If you are unable to obtain a written release and your lease permits you to sublease:
   a. Stop by the Off-Campus Housing Office, Lewis Hall Room 2026, and complete a sublease form to list your vacancy on our website.
   b. Place an advertisement in the classified section of the George-Anne.

Subleasing

Subleasing occurs when a tenant rents the apartment to a third party (subtenant). The subtenant is responsible to the tenant for performing all obligations set forth in the sublease agreement. This means that finding a subtenant does not release you from your obligations under the original lease. For example, if the subtenant does not pay the rent, you remain responsible for the amount due. Contact the management office before you negotiate a sublease agreement. You must be sure that you are entitled to do so under your lease. Some management companies may assist you in subleasing the rental property.

BE A RESONSIBLE TENANT

It is important for you to know your responsibilities as a tenant. If you are not familiar with your responsibilities, you may find yourself unintentionally breaking the lease agreement.

1. Pay your rent on time.
2. Respect the property. Remember you are responsible for any damage done to the property by you or your guests.
3. Obey the law and landlord rules.
4. Do not disturb the neighbors.
5. Notify the landlord of any needed repairs or maintenance. Remember to follow-up verbal requests in writing.
6. Place garbage and trash in proper containers.

DEPOSITS

Landlords usually require a security deposit at the time the lease is signed. The deposit is normally equal to one month's rent. Remember, if you sign a lease in April for September occupancy, you must submit a reservation deposit, or possibly a security deposit at the time the lease is signed.

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Security deposits:

1. Are normally refundable, either in full or in part depending on the condition of your unit at move-out. *Your responsibilities and requirements for the return of the deposit should be clearly stated in your lease.*
2. May not be the same as the last month's rent and usually may not be applied to rent due under the lease terms.

Some complexes charge a cleaning or redecorating fee in addition to the security deposit. Generally, these fees are non-refundable. If the fee is non-refundable, it must be stated as such in the lease.

Read your lease carefully and if it does not say, "refundable" or "non-refundable" for the deposits or cleaning charges, ask for clarification in writing as part of the lease agreement.

BEFORE YOU MOVE IN

Inspect your new apartment to document any pre-existing problems. Ideally you and the landlord should walk through the rental unit before moving in any of your belongings. Ask a friend to accompany you -- four eyes are better than two. **Many apartment complexes have preprinted inspection forms to record any damage or problems you may see. If not, get a pad of paper or notebook to record your findings. At the end of the inspection you and the landlord should sign and date the form.** You keep the original and give a copy to the landlord for their records. Videotaping or taking pictures during your walk through will provide a visual supplement to your written notes. (Failure to perform a move in inspection may cause problems with refunding your security deposit).

What to look for:

1. Inspect all the walls and ceilings: make a note of any dents, holes or cracks in the plaster; scuff marks that don't rub off; and tears, bubbles or peeling wallpaper.
2. Inspect all the floors: make a note of stains or discoloration in carpets; tears in linoleum; cracked or chipped tiles; and dents, scuffs or stains on hardwood floors.
3. Inspect all trim (including moldings, door and window sills and door and window frames) for stains, cracks, leaks or other problems.
4. Inspect all electrical outlets and lights to make sure they are functioning; pay close attention to any 2- or 3-way light switches and dimmers.
5. In the bathroom(s): make sure all faucets (hot and cold) work without leaking; inspect for chips or scratches in fixtures and tile; inspect walls around the tub for 'sponginess'; and check countertops for dents, scratches, or stains.
6. In the kitchen: make sure all faucets (hot and cold) work without leaking; inspect for chips or scratches in fixtures and tile; inspect countertops for dents, scratches, or stains; and make sure all appliances work and are clean.
7. Make sure all exterior doors and windows work, seal properly, and have functioning locks; be especially alert to evidence of water infiltration.
8. If you have a deck, balcony or patio, inspect it for chipped flagstone, warped or cracked boards, or problems with exterior siding.
9. If you have a storage area, make sure it is cleaned out and that the locks are secure.
10. Check all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
11. If your landlord gave you an apartment inspection sheet, complete it noting all problems, no matter how small; if the landlord didn't give you an inspection sheet, write a formal letter noting the problems you found.
12. Request that your landlord repair any problems you want taken care of as soon as possible.

Your unit should be clean when you move in. If it is not clean, ask the landlord to have it cleaned or make an adjustment in your first month's rent to offset the cost of cleaning it (make sure to get this in writing).

Getting Repairs Made

The most common problem for tenants is getting the landlord to fulfill his or her responsibility to make necessary repairs on the premises. If you are living with several people, identify one individual as the spokesperson for the group. When there are problems, have your spokesperson immediately contact the landlord and follow-up in writing if necessary. Do not be afraid to keep calling if the problem is not resolved.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Be part of a community that cares about the area in which you live and have consideration for the people who live there – Be a good neighbor.

1. Introduce yourself and get to know your neighbors.
2. Put your trash where it belongs – in the trashcan.
3. If you are living in a house, maintain the lawn and trim hedges.
4. If you have pets, clean up after them. Also, be aware of your pet's effect on others.
5. Park your car in the designated area, and inform guests where they are to park.
6. Inform neighbors when you are having people over and keep the volume down.

When you're outside make sure to smile and wave at your other neighbors. Start a conversation. These small actions make good neighbors and neighborhoods.

ROOMMATES

Choosing a roommate can be difficult: Do you live with friends and risk harming the relationship if you have disagreements? Do you take a chance to broaden your views and live with new people? Off-Campus Housing maintains a list of students who have a place to live and are in need of a roommate. If you are searching for a roommate, please stop by the office located on Sweetheart Circle in Lewis Hall Room 2026 and complete a Roommate Needed Form.

While there are benefits to shared living and divided expenses, there could also be some challenges when living with someone who has different ideas on cleanliness, studying and social habits. Roommates can have an emotional as well as financial effect on each other's lives. It's important to choose a roommate wisely and to get to know your roommate.

Be open and honest about your expectations. To determine your compatibility, ask the following questions.

1. What time do you prefer to go to bed/wake up? Are you a morning person or a night person?
2. What room temperature are you comfortable with?
3. Do you prefer peace and quiet or do you prefer to have the stereo/television on for noise? What hours are acceptable to watch TV/listen to the stereo? At what volume? What kind of music do you like to listen to?
4. How neat do you like for your room to be?
5. Do you smoke? Are you willing to live with someone who smokes? Can guests smoke in the apartment?
6. Do you drink alcohol? Are you willing to live with someone who drinks alcohol? Can guests drink in the apartment?
7. Are there times you would prefer to have no guests in the apartment? (Also, friends of the opposite gender?) Are you willing to live with someone who has overnight guests?
8. Do you like to study alone/with others, in quiet/with music, in your room/in the library?
9. Do you feel comfortable sharing clothes, food, appliances, music, personal hygiene items, electronic equipment, computers, books, etc.

10. Would you prefer that I ask to borrow an item before I use it?
11. How will the utility bills be divided and paid?
    - TIP: It is a good idea to split the utility bills between roommates. This way, one person is not responsible for all of bills.
12. How will we divide the cleaning duties?
13. What are your pet peeves?

ROOMMATE CONFLICTS

Laws exist that define the tenant/landlord relationship, but there are none governing roommate relationships. Therefore, you may want to consider:

1. Establishing guidelines relating to your living arrangements and put them in writing. A Roommate Agreement Form is available in the Off-Campus Housing Office.
2. Asking the landlord for individual leases with individual security deposits. **REMINDER:** If you sign a lease with the words, "joint and several liability" that means you and any remaining roommates will be responsible for the entire rent if any or all of your roommates move out.
3. Tell your roommate(s) nicely when they are doing something that bothers you. They may have no idea that their actions have bothered you.

Most roommate conflicts derive from:

- Lack of open communication.
- An individual's inability to respect and tolerate differences between people.
- Not anticipating problems and preventing them ahead of time.
- Not dealing effectively with problems that do occur.

The best way to avoid a conflict is to speak openly, honestly, directly and immediately to the person(s) involved. Do not put off problems or concerns. Small problems can lead to explosive problems that may become more difficult to resolve.

Some helpful hints to resolve conflicts are:

1. Be willing to compromise, but also assert your rights.
2. Be honest and tactful with your feelings.
3. Be aware of what you value most.
4. Consider not what is ideal, but what is reasonable.

Serious problems (ones that may threaten your health or safety or deprive you of your right to use the apartment) may occur. Consider these steps in resolving them:

ROOMMATE AGREEMENT

1.

You may think all of these precautions unnecessary among friends, but you should never assume anything about a person with whom you share a rental. Co-tenants may think nothing of using your soap without permission or playing loud music at 2:00 AM. Having a frank and honest discussion of everyone's standards and expectations before moving in will help to insure a pleasant living situation.

I agree to the following arrangements regarding:

Communication – How to communicate to resolve problems?

_____

Food - for individual and communal consumption. Discuss how food will be purchased and prepared if this will be a group activity. Consider designating specific cabinets/shelves for each individual. _____

_____

Housekeeping - List tasks to be done daily, what will be shared and individual responsibilities. _____

_____

Parties/Entertaining - Address areas as to notice, times permitted, number of people and how often. Be sure to set rules for your guests - especially when alcohol will be consumed. Discuss appropriate behavior and acceptable noise levels.

_____

_____

Personal Possessions - List all items to be mutually shared and all items that are personal and not to be used by others _____

_____

Phone Usage/Messages - What hours are too late for the phone to ring? How are messages to be delivered? _____

_____

Smoking - Give consideration to you and your guests _____

Study Time - Designate specific study hours and study areas for each of you daily, what conditions must exist, TV on, radio etc. Will visitors be allowed during these times? _____

Visitation/Overnight Guests - Address areas such as what times, how many and how often members of the same sex and members of the opposite sex may visit.

_____

_____

Additional Remarks _____

_____

As a party of this agreement, I realized that I, as well as each of my roommates, have equal rights to the use of space and facilities in the dwelling with the exception of the areas we have designated as each one's private space. This agreement is intended to promote harmony between roommates by clarifying the expectations and responsibilities of roommates to each other. **It is not necessary to witness or notarize this agreement. Each roommate should sign below and receive an original copy.**

The parties have executed this agreement on (date) _____ 20 _____.

_____ _____

Resident's Signature and Date Resident's Signature and Date

Adapted from Texas A & M Adult, Graduate, and Off Campus Student Services 2002 Off Campus Survival Manual. The Georgia Southern University Off-Campus Housing Office provides this agreement for the mutual benefit of roommates. The University assumes absolutely no responsibility for the use of this form.

Ask your roommate(s) to stop doing the action that is causing the problem.

2. Offer to work out a solution.
3. If that doesn't work, document the problems in your rental log. Record dates and what was said or what happened.
4. Write a letter to your roommate. Document the problems and what you did to resolve them. Present the letter to your roommate in person and keep a copy. Ask for an end to the unacceptable behavior. If the situation continues or worsens, you will have a record of your efforts to do something about it.
5. Go to the University Counseling Center and ask for mediation.
6. Let the landlord know about the problems. Send the landlord a letter describing the problem and request help in resolving it. If the landlord responds, you will have help. However, landlords are not obligated to mediate roommate disputes.
7. If your roommate has violated the terms of the lease, and you have documented it; you can ask the landlord to evict the problem roommate. There are risks involved with this approach, including the option that the landlord may evict all roommates.
8. Finally, if a roommate threatens or assaults you, or steals your belongings - Call 911. Get a police report for documentation and stay overnight with a friend.

BEFORE YOU MOVE OUT

Just as you inspected your apartment for damages before you moved in, management will inspect it for damages when you move out. The condition of your apartment after you leave it will often determine how much of your security deposit is returned. Being organized and taking your time can make all the difference. Follow these suggestions to help make your move out inspection easier.

1. Give written notice of your intent to vacate (usually 30 days before you plan to leave, but check your lease for accuracy), even if you plan to leave when your lease expires.
2. Obtain a copy of the move out cleaning instructions.
3. Schedule an appointment for both you and the landlord to inspect the empty, cleaned apartment.
4. Clean the apartment in accordance with the manager's move out cleaning instructions. If none are available, follow these suggestions:

- Move all of your belongings out of the apartment before starting.
- Make a final run through, checking all closets, cabinets, appliances, and your storage area for forgotten belongings.
- Clean sinks, tubs, toilets, and countertops in the kitchen and bathroom(s).
- Clean all kitchen appliances, including the oven.
- Make a last run to the dumpster – don't leave trash behind for your landlord to remove.
- Check your balcony, patio, or deck for forgotten plant pots, barbecue tools, etc.
- Make sure all light fixtures have working bulbs.
- Make sure all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors work.
- If you painted any walls, you might want to seriously consider re-painting them the original color (your landlord may charge you for re-painting if s/he must do it after you leave).
- Sweep or vacuum all tile, linoleum, or hard wood floors (your landlord may require you to clean them).
- Vacuum all carpeted floors (your landlord may require you to shampoo them).

5. Complete your Move Out Inventory Form and walk through the empty, cleaned apartment. Compare the condition of the apartment with the Move In Inventory to ascertain that you are responsible for any damage found.
6. Write down the damage for which you are responsible or any additional cleaning which the landlord wants you to perform.
7. If you and the landlord agree on the damage and cleaning items, both of you should sign the list, and indicate which items you will be permitted to clean or repair before turning the premises back over to the landlord.
8. Provide the landlord with a forwarding address to mail your security deposit.
9. Turn in all keys to the apartment and mailbox.

ADDITIONAL THINGS TO CONSIDER

Moving Preparations

Whether your move requires you to travel hours or just across town, you should make some arrangements in advance.

1. Obtain empty boxes for moving. While you can purchase boxes from moving companies, you may be able to obtain empty boxes from supermarkets and print shops. Keep box weight to a limit that is easy for you to move.
2. Purchase packing supplies – remember tape and markers to label boxes. Use zip lock bags for storing hardware (nuts, bolts, screws, etc.).
3. Pack seldom used belongings in advance to make moving day easier.
4. Reserve a rental truck/trailer in advance.
5. Turn in change of address form to the Post Office.
6. Reserve hotel accommodations for family members assisting you with the move.
7. Arrange for connecting/disconnecting utilities, phone, cable, etc.
8. Arrange for storage if you are moving from one apartment to another and the move in day does not coincide with the move out day.

Renters Insurance

Many tenants are under the false assumption that their personal belongings are insured under the landlord's policy. Your landlord's insurance generally only covers the building where you live – not your personal belongings and your liability. Therefore, it is up to you to insure your personal belongings. Your belongings may be covered by your parents' homeowners insurance; check with the insurance company for verification.

To understand why renters insurance is a wise investment, simply add up the total cost of everything you own. If you can't afford to replace these items at a moment's notice, you should consider purchasing a renters insurance policy.

Renters insurance will cover most of your personal belongings against fire, smoke damage, lightning, vandalism, theft, explosions and other disasters, and possibly living expenses if you are forced to move. *Finally, renters insurance may provide liability coverage if someone is injured in your home, and it may also provide legal costs in the event you are sued for this injury.* **Unlike other personal property policies, renters insurance is relatively inexpensive; coverage starts as low as $80 a year.**

Pets

Pets are a part of many of our lives. Renting with one can be difficult, however. Being organized can make the process easier and more likely to be successful. You need to understand the requirements of your lease in regards to pets. Many leases require a deposit and give specific guidelines that must be followed. Here are some basic guidelines to follow and information to have with you when you are ready to sign a lease.

- Make sure your pet is up-to-date on all shots.
- Get your pet's current health and immunization records from your veterinarian.

- Ask your current landlord for a letter of reference for your pet.
- Get some current photos that show your pet in a positive light.

Be honest with your landlord – don't try to sneak a pet into your residence. Be prepared to pay an extra security deposit for your pet. Once you have moved in, introduce your pets to your neighbors and let them know they can speak to you about any problems or concerns.

Safety Off-Campus

Burglary is a crime of opportunity. Burglars aim for the easiest targets. Almost half of all completed residential burglaries are the result of thieves simply gaining entry through unlocked doors or unlocked windows. Most burglars will give up and move on if they can't break in within a few minutes. To keep burglars away from your house or apartment, make their work difficult, risky and low-profit. Double check to verify doors and windows are locked before leaving your residence. Make certain they are locked even if you are out for only a few minutes.

Remember to use common sense. Do not let yourself become a victim of crime.

- Keep your doors and windows locked at all times - especially when the apartment is unoccupied.
- Determine who is on the other side of the door before opening it. Verify with management or roommates that repairs have been requested and ask the repair or service persons show ID before entering.
- If you return home and something looks suspicious (broken window, opened door, etc.) DO NOT go inside. Dial 911 for the Statesboro Police Department.
- Keep blinds or curtains closed to discourage peepers.
- Make a list of valuables with their serial numbers. Make a list of the brand, model and serial numbers of all of your property. Store the list in a safe place.
- Make sure outside lighting is in working order. Notify management when repairs need to be made (remember to follow-up with a written request).
- Mark your items with your initials, birthday, or some other numbering system that you will remember. DO NOT USE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER or bank account numbers. Valuables to engrave might include computers, radios, televisions, tape recorders, cameras, musical instruments, sporting goods, etc. Many burglars will avoid taking valuables that are engraved, because such items are difficult to sell or pawn. ***The Off Campus Housing Office, located on Sweetheart Circle in Lewis Hall Room 2026, has an engraver that you can borrow to engrave on your property. To take advantage of this opportunity, stop by the Off Campus Housing Office, show your GSU ID and leave a $20 deposit, which is refunded when the engraver is returned.***

If you are going home for the weekend or the holidays:

Take expensive, portable items with you.

- **Keep valuables out of sight.** Do not place purses, portable radios, stereos, television sets, or other such articles near a window – glass can be smashed and objects stolen.
  Lock all doors and windows. Sliding glass doors can offer easy access if they are not properly secured. You can secure them by putting a broomstick or large dowel in the inside track to jam the door. The same thing can be done in windows to prevent them from being raised.
- **Keep keys in your possession.** Don't place your keys under mats, over doors, in mail slots, or in the other obvious hiding places. Instead, give an extra key to a trusted neighbor.
- Connect one or two lamps and a radio to an automatic timer. Timers are inexpensive, some less than $15.00, and help to make your home appear "occupied."
- Advise a trusted neighbor of your travel plans and ask him or her to watch out for suspicious people and/or activity around your home or apartment. Make sure they have a number to contact you during your absence.
- Don't allow deliveries of any kind, including mail and newspapers, to accumulate on your doorstep. If you don't wish to cancel deliveries, arrange for a neighbor to pick them up, or you can arrange for your local post office to hold your mail until you return.
- Refrain from publicizing your absence.

Prevent auto theft & auto break-ins:

- Turn the ignition off and take your car keys with you, even if you have to be gone for just a minute.
- Lock your doors and close windows when exiting the car.
- Don't leave valuables in plain view in your car. Items that can be removed (radios and CD players) and packages should be locked in the trunk.
- Park in busy, well-lit areas.

Be alert to suspicious behavior in your neighborhood.

Police officers ask citizens to alert police to suspicious behavior. Officers urge citizens: ***When in doubt, call 911*** **and the dispatcher will contact the** Statesboro Police Department or the Bulloch County Sheriff's Office.

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