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### The George-Anne

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# The GEORGE-ANNE

Monday, March 28, 2005 • Volume 77, Number 76

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

## Easter Sunday Mass

Pope John Paul II delivers an Easter Sunday blessing from his studio window overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican yesterday. To read more on the pope and Easter Mass, turn to page 8.



## AROUND the HOUSE

### Sports

- Women's Tennis fall to UNC Greensboro
- Men's Tennis can't bounce back against the Citadel
- Softball shuts out ETSU
- Baseball wins 9th in a row



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### Opinions

- Luke Hearn wants more bang for his ballot
- New York Daily News columnist E.R. Shipp sides with Bill Cosby on African-American statistics

Page 4

### Only in America

#### Inmate swallows handcuff key

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. - A jail inmate swallowed his key to freedom. During a sweep of the high-security wing of the county jail, deputies discovered that Jose Angel Juarez had swallowed a handcuff key and set off the metal detector during a walkthrough screening. Deputies weren't sure what set off the detector, but they knew the cause was in Juarez's midsection. A 1 1/2-inch handcuff key could be seen in Juarez's belly after deputies ordered him to take an X-ray.

"It's our belief that the inmate would be using this to escape from custody," Lt. Craig Wilson said, adding that authorities don't know where Juarez got the key.

More OIA on  
Page 3

### Quote of the Day

"You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time."

- Abraham Lincoln

### Weekday Weather

Monday



PM Showers

HIGH  
61°  
LOW  
48°

Tuesday



Sunny

HIGH  
79°  
LOW  
49°

### Inside

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## Top SGA candidates running unopposed

Voting runs through Wednesday with limited choices of candidates

Compiled by staff

It's voting time again on campus as the Student Government Association elections are underway. Ballots were available this morning at midnight and elections will end on Wednesday at 11:59 p.m.

This is the first election in recent years where all candidates for the Executive Board — including the office of President and four Vice Presidents — are all running unopposed.

Shri Davis, the candidate for president, said that she is disappointed in the lack of people that came forth to run for SGA offices.

"I've been involved with SGA since I came here in 2002, and there has never been a time where we have seen so few people sign up," she said. "I've ran on two tickets in the past before forming my own, and the presidents were always opposed."

Davis said that she heard two other people were going to run against her, but when the deadline to turn in applications to run passed, she was the only candidate on the list.

"I wish more students would have signed up," Davis said. "When a person runs with no competition, it looks like there was no work involved for the

candidate. I've worked hard to get where I am, and I don't want people to think that the position was just handed to me."

Charisse Perkins, the current President of SGA, said that the lack of student involvement in this year's race is discouraging.

"We're always trying to get students involved, especially in the voting process, and only having one candidate for each position [on the Executive Board], I can see where there may be some apprehension to vote," Perkins said. "We would have loved to see a full slate of

See SGA, page 2



Shri Davis

Running for: SGA President  
Hometown: Atlanta, GA  
Year: Junior  
Major: Psychology



Jonathon Buckner

Running for: Executive VP  
Hometown: Columbus, GA  
Year: Junior  
Major: History



Hillary Jones/STAFF

The 'Take Back the Night' rally shows support to victims of sexual assault. Last year's rally, as well as this year's, occurs during Sexual Assault Awareness Week, which is part of Women's Awareness Month.

## BCSATF, ReVISION to host rally

Last event of Women's Awareness Month to feature a panel of sexual assault experts from all over Bulloch County

By Luke Hearn

gaenews@georgiasouthern.edu

The Bulloch County Sexual Assault Task Force (BCSATF) and ReVISION are sponsoring a "Stop the Violence Rally" Tues., March 29 at 6 p.m. in the Russell Union Theater.

The rally, which is the last scheduled event of Women's Awareness Month, will inform attendees of the community resources available for victims/survivors of sexual assault.

Featured will be a panel of experts in the

area of sexual assault and rape, including Eldonna Hilde, a SANE (Sexual Assault

Nurse Examiner); Katrina Marson, a Detective with the Statesboro Police Department; Eva Hickman, Director of Victims Services with the Bulloch County District Attorney's Office; and Jodi Caldwell, Psychologist with the GSU Counseling Center. These

people will discuss their areas of expertise as well as answer questions dealing with their specialty areas.

The night will also include the showing of a videotaped interview with two rape victims, both of whom were assaulted in Statesboro.

The last 20 minutes of the event will be a "SPEAKOUT" in which anybody from the GSU and Statesboro

See RALLY, page 5

## Renowned entomologist to speak at GSU

David Denlinger to deliver annual LeConte lecture

Special to the G-A

An internationally renowned entomologist will deliver the 20th annual LeConte Scholars Program Lecture at Georgia Southern.

David Denlinger will present "Escape in Time: the Biology of Insect Overwintering" on Tuesday, March 29, at 3:30 p.m. in the Biology Building Auditorium on the GSU campus.

Denlinger is the chair of the Department of Entomology at the Ohio State University. A recently elected member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, he has conducted research on how certain insects are able to survive extremely cold weather and other harsh environmental conditions.

Denlinger has studied an Antarctic midge that spends almost 11 months each year encased in ice. In addition, he has focused on flesh flies, which are flies whose larvae feed on living or dead animals. Also, he has conducted research on gypsy moths, mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus and the African tsetse fly that carries sleeping sickness to humans and cattle.

Denlinger's research has led to a better understanding of the regulation of animal development and to new ideas for controlling insect populations.

Denlinger received a B.S. degree in zoology from Pennsylvania State University and a Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Illinois. He served as a research scientist at the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi, Kenya, and as a research associate at Harvard University.

Part of Ohio State's faculty since 1976, Denlinger edits the Journal of Insect Physiology and has authored over 180 scientific papers. He has received a Distinguished Scholars Award from Ohio State and a Recognition Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry and Toxicology from the Entomological Society of America.

The lecture is sponsored by the Georgia Southern Biology Department, Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi and the University's Institute of Arthropodology and Parasitology.

The LeConte Scholars Program is the first endowed visiting scholars program established at GSU. The program is funded by an anonymous donor who wishes to honor the university, stimulate students and faculty and enrich the scholarly and cultural environment of the region.

The program is named for Joseph LeConte, a noted geologist and conservationist of the 19th century who was born in Liberty County, Ga.

For more information on the LeConte Scholars Program Lecture, call (912) 681-5564.



David Denlinger

## Congressional districts redrawn

Georgia congressmen watch their words in redistricting process

By Jeffrey McMurray

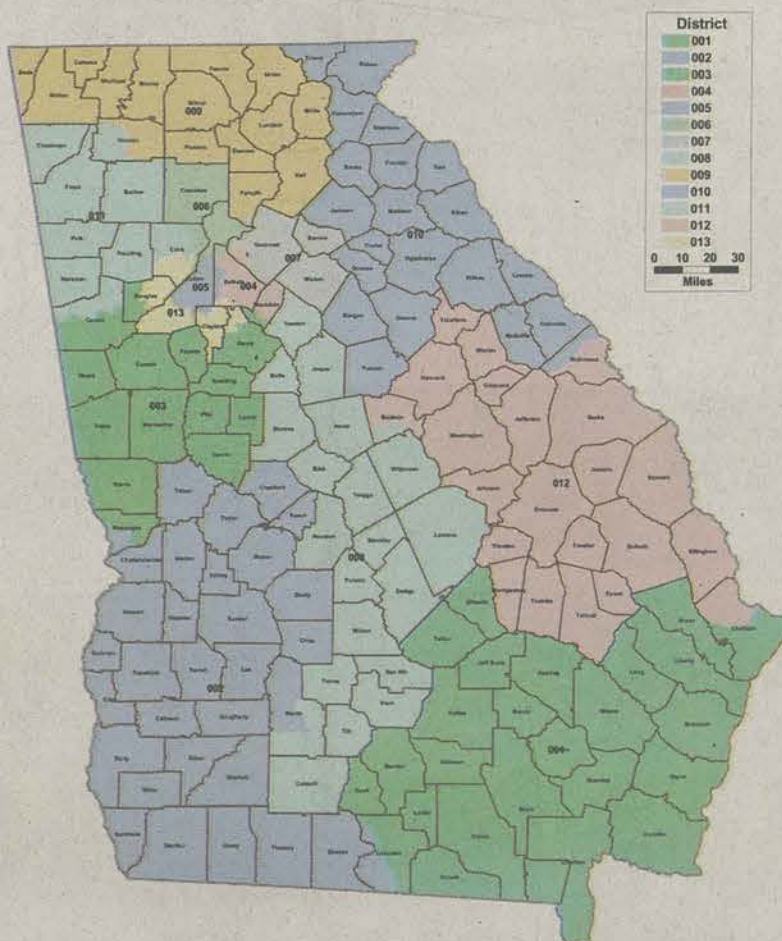
Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Some of Georgia's congressional districts have shapes that only the lawmakers who represent them could love. And if those shapes are changed by the state Legislature, as expected in the coming week, there will be plenty of love for the new ones too.

Few topics send members of Congress tiptoeing on political eggshells more delicately than redistricting. Last week was no exception as Georgia's representatives in Washington watched from afar as the Legislature attempted to shuffle their bosses — the voters.

Republicans wanting to re-draw the lines to perhaps expand their 7-6 congressional advantage in upcoming elections were careful not to insult the current constituents much, in case they have to run for those seats again. Democrats trying to block the new map were

See DISTRICTS, page 2





## DISTRICTS, FROM PAGE 1

careful not to demonize the proposed districts, knowing those could well be their future constituents.

"Pretty is as pretty does," said Rep. John Barrow, a first-term Democrat in eastern Georgia's 12th District. "If you've got pretty maps that don't fairly represent the population of the state and do not fairly protect the gains the minority made, it might be pretty on the map but it's not pretty as it works, so you've got problems."

Republicans, who control both chambers of the Legislature for the first time since Reconstruction, say the maps drawn by Democrats in 2001 unfairly carved the state in order to help their own party.

The Legislature usually redraws maps once every decade, after getting new population figures from the U.S. census, but Republicans have made recrafting the congressional map a top priority this year.

Democratic critics say redrawing the districts is unnecessary, since federal judges have signed off on the map, and call it a power grab by Republicans bent on maximizing their power.

The proposed map divides fewer counties and voting precincts than the current plan, and eliminates many of the bizarre shapes Republicans have criticized.

Barrow, who is from Athens, said he has no beef with the new district Republicans are trying to carve for him, which would not include his hometown and could make a GOP candidate more competitive there.

It's changes to other seats — those currently held by Democrat Jim Marshall of Macon in middle Georgia and Republican Phil Gingrey of Marietta in northwestern Georgia — that Barrow says concern him.

Under the proposed changes, blacks in those

"I think it's going to go right through, clean as a whistle. The Justice Department is going to love it. The people of Georgia are going to love it. The only people that don't like it are the whiners that in 2001 stuck these maps down our throats and didn't really say what we said about them."

—Rep. Lynn Westmoreland, U.S. Congress

districts would have less of an influence in elections, Barrow says.

The courts would have to decide whether those districts are compliant under the Voting Rights Act.

Gingrey, on the other hand, would appear to be a near shoo-in for future re-election bids if the courts approve the new version of his district, which excludes some majority black, predominantly Democratic counties he currently represents. But a spokeswoman for the congressman says he has mixed feelings about the change.

"We are obviously sad to lose the people in the southern part of our district," spokeswoman Becky Ruby said. "You give up some of this for what is ultimately a better map for everybody."

Marshall could have the most to lose. His district would stretch farther south along or near Interstate 75 through the middle part of the state, picking up a few more GOP-leaning territories and potentially making the seat more competitive — for future Democratic candidates, if not for him.

He had little to say about the plan — only a one-sentence statement, which hardly slammed it.

"If the districts change, I'll just be representing more people and will keep doing what I have been — trying my best to reflect the values and advance the interests of Georgia," Marshall said.

Democratic Rep. Sanford Bishop, who repre-

sents the southwest corner of the state, had plenty of complaints about the way Marshall's district was redrawn but no complaints about his own.

Bishop said some of Georgia's biggest farming communities would lose either him or Rep. Jim Kingston, members of the powerful Appropriations Committee, as their congressman under the changes.

But of more serious legal concern, Bishop said, is the reduction of black constituents in Marshall's district.

"I see some retrogression in Jim Marshall's district in terms of black voter-age population and the ability of black voters to influence that district," said Bishop, who is black. "It would appear that what has happened is it's been bleached."

Lynn Westmoreland, a freshman GOP congressman and former state lawmaker who has been the delegation's most vocal member on redistricting, says Republicans are ready for any court fight challenging the new map.

"I think it's going to go right through, clean as a whistle," Westmoreland said. "The Justice Department is going to love it. The people of Georgia are going to love it. The only people that don't like it are the whiners that in 2001 stuck these maps down our throats and didn't really say what we said about them."

## SGA, FROM PAGE 1

candidates to run for every office, but we can't make them sign up."

Perkins and Davis both say they agree that overall, student involvement is down.

According to Perkins, student involvement is down throughout the campus.

"Across the board we have seen a lack of interest amongst students. Most all leadership organizations — SOAR, Eagle Entertainment, etc — had lower numbers this year than in the past."

Despite the lower numbers of involvement, Perkins said that she does not feel that SGA is in trouble.

"The low numbers do not indicate that anything needs to be fixed with SGA. The numbers are low and we can't force people to run, and that's just

how it is this year," Perkins said.

Over the course of a typical SGA election season, a debate is usually scheduled between the presidential candidates.

Perkins said since there was no opposition this year, the debate was cancelled; however, the balloting times stayed the same.

While there was no debate, Davis said that she and members of her ticket were out at the Russell Union last week introducing themselves to students and explaining their platforms.

While the positions on the SGA Executive Board are unopposed, many senate seats are opposed.

For more information on the candidates running for SGA offices, visit the SGA web site at <http://studentorg.georgiasouthern.edu/sga/>.

### Writers and Photographers Needed:

We're looking for dedicated writers and photographers. If you're interested in having your name in the paper showing off your talents, contact us at [ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu), 912-681-5246, or come by and see us in the Williams Center, room 2023.

## GSU hosts open house on April 2

Special to the G-A

Georgia Southern will host an Open House for prospective students and their parents on Saturday, April 2, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The activities will be centered at the Russell Union on the University campus in Statesboro.

"This is an excellent opportunity for college-bound students to visit the campus and gather information about the University," said Susan Davies, director of admissions. "We'll provide campus tours, residence hall tours and information about all the University's academic and student programs."

The Open House will include presentations on important topics such as housing, honors programs, financial aid, transfer requirements, and a student and parent question and answer time. In addition, representatives from all the university's colleges and programs will be on hand for informal conversations, along with representatives from financial aid, university housing and other student services.

"We'll have people to provide information and answer just about any question a student or parent might have — anything from the application process, financial aid and housing to the specifics about one of our more than 120 degree programs," Davies said.

For further information or to make a reservation, contact GSU's admissions office at (912) 681-5851. Information may also be obtained from the web site <http://admissions.georgiasouthern.edu>.

### The **GEORGE-ANNE**

Williams Center room 2023  
P.O. Box 8001  
Statesboro, GA 30460

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

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## Only in America

### Mom asks for sobriety test, fails

ALBION — When Diane Viza got into an argument with her son over whether she was sober, she drove to the local police station and asked to take a sobriety test. That turned out to be a

bad idea. The 45-year-old woman was charged with driving while intoxicated after she showed up at the police station in the Orleans County village of Albion and asked officers to administer a breath test. The unusual request came after she had picked up her son at a friend's house and got into an argument with him because he suspected she had been drinking. Viza is due back in village court on April 12th.

### Satan appears on turtle shell

MICHIGANTOWN — A turtle that was the only survivor of a pet shop fire may have emerged with a hellish memento. The palm-sized red-eared slider turtle, named Lucky, was the only animal to survive a fire at Dora's A-

Dora-ble Pet Shop. Owner Bryan Dora now says he sees an image of Satan's face on the critter's shell. He can spot lips, eyes, a goatee, shoulders and a pair of pointy

horns on Lucky's back. "The marking on the shell was like the devil wanted us to know he was down there," Bryan Dora said. "To me, it's too coincidental that the only thing to come out unscathed would have this image on it." The turtle is healthy and there was no change in its behavior, he said. The cause of fire has not been determined.

### It's a bird, it's a plane — it's jet fuel

TAMPA — The Federal Aviation Administration has opened an investigation into a woman's claim that she was sprayed by fuel dumped from a jet flying low over her neighborhood.

FAA spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen said a preliminary review showed no signs that any planes dumped fuel in that area.

Vicki Morris, 51, a real estate agent, said she was walking in her neighborhood about four miles north of Tampa International Airport on Monday night when the alleged incident occurred. She said she may have heard a plane flying overhead, then felt a mist and detected a fuel odor. Morris said she experienced difficulty breathing, plus had skin and scalp irritation.

### Woman finds finger in Wendy's chili

SAN JOSE — A woman bit into a partial finger served in a bowl of chili at a Wendy's restaurant, leading authorities to a fingerprint database Thursday to determine who lost the digit. The incident occurred Tuesday night at a San Jose Wendy's restaurant said Joy Alexiou, a spokeswoman for the Santa Clara County Health Department.

Employees at the Wendy's store were asked to show investigators their fingers after the Tuesday night incident. All employees' digits were accounted for, officials said, adding that the well-cooked finger may have come from a food processing plant that supplies the company.

Health officials believe the finger belongs to a woman because of the long, manicured nail.

### Inmates donate hair for kids

PHOENIX — Female prison inmates donated more than 104 feet of their hair this week to create wigs for ill children.

The 313 inmates at the Arizona State Prison Complex — Perryville paid \$20 each for the haircuts and also donated extra money to the non-profit Locks of Love program.

Combined, the inmates raised more than \$6,000.

"We are encouraged by the number of inmates participating in the Locks of Love program" Denny Harkins, warden of the Perryville prison, said in a statement.

"It's a chance for many of these women to do something positive and give back to the community."

### Whitney Houston back in rehab

NEW YORK — A year after her first reported stay in rehab, Whitney Houston has again checked into a rehabilitation facility.

In March 2004, Houston checked herself into an undisclosed rehabilitation center.

After years of denying drug use, the pop diva said she had used

cocaine, marijuana and pills in an interview with Diane Sawyer on ABC's "Primetime" in 2002.

She has said she was using the power of prayer to help her get over drugs.

In January 2000, Houston left behind a bag at an airport in Hawaii that allegedly held less than half an ounce of marijuana and three partially smoked marijuana cigarettes; a petty misdemeanor drug charge was dismissed when a counselor said Houston didn't need treatment for substance abuse.

## National News Briefs

### Black doctors group looking to save Southwest hospital

ATLANTA — By the time bankruptcy closed the doors of Southwest Hospital and Medical Center three months ago, it had long been abandoned by its black doctors and patients.

But four decades ago, the hospital opened as a source of pride for a black community whose doctors could serve nowhere else and whose patients could be treated nowhere else

— a pride some community leaders are using as the catalyst for saving one of the country's few black-owned medical facilities.

The Atlanta Medical Association — one of the largest black physicians groups in the country — encouraged a group of about 30 doctors to try to buy the hospital. They plan to enter a bid Wednesday to purchase and rebuild Southwest, and say they will

get help from an unnamed investment group.

The doctors face a daunting task. Southwest's mission — to help those who cannot afford health care — is what forced the hospital to close Jan. 8.

Unable to attract paying customers or serve those who could not pay, Southwest declared bankruptcy in September.



Associated Press  
Dr. Christopher Edwards, left, and Michael Murphy stand in front of the hospital they hope to save.

### Jackson says he's victim of conspiracy

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Declaring himself "completely innocent" of child molestation charges, Michael Jackson said Sunday that he is the victim of a conspiracy and asked fans around the world to pray for him.

In an interview with the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the entertainer would not elaborate on his conspiracy belief, citing the court-imposed gag order that prevents him from discussing his trial in detail.

The bill would require public colleges and universities to create policies regarding credit card companies on campuses.

As part of the policies, the schools could ask the companies to register with them, limit the times and places they could market the cards and even prohibit the gifts companies offer to students.

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

### Schiavo family asks protestors to go home

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. — With their hopes of a miracle fading and other options exhausted, Terri Schiavo's parents and siblings appeared quietly resigned Sunday and asked protestors to spend Easter with their families as the severely brain-damaged woman spent a ninth day without food and water.

Those outside the hospice where Terri Schiavo is being cared for were not as calm, with the first of what would be four morning arrests coming as ministers attempted to bring Schiavo Easter communion.

About a half-dozen people in wheelchairs later got out of them and lay in the driveway, shouting "We're not dead yet!"

### Bill would regulate marketing credit cards to college kids

OLYMPIA, Wash. — For college students tired of cheap beer and ramen noodles, credit cards can offer a seemingly easy road to a life of plenty. Throw in the gifts and perks offered by credit card companies and getting a card can be almost irresistible.

But not so fast, say a few Washington lawmakers.

The state House is considering a bill that would restrict the marketing of credit cards to college students on the state's public school campuses. The Senate already approved it.

Credit card companies recognize that most unemployed college students will find a job after graduation — and there's the few whose parents will foot their bills, said Marie O'Malley, the vice president of marketing for Nellie Mae, the student loan organization.

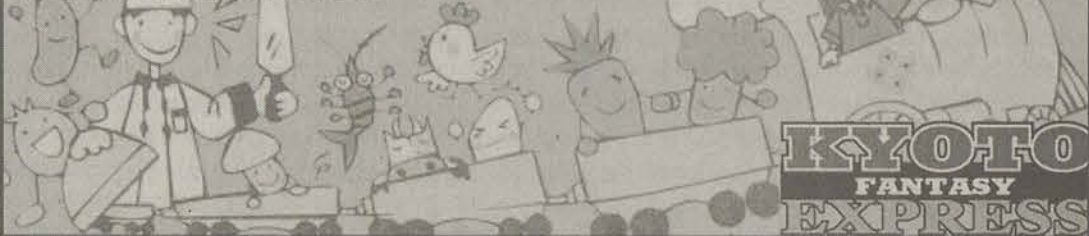
In Olympia, student lobbyists say whether fiscally responsible or financially challenged, they are tired of being targeted by credit card marketers.

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## LeaderShape

Application deadline:  
Friday, April 1 by 4 p.m.  
in Russell Union Room 2022

*LeaderShape,  
a 6-day intensive leadership workshop,  
will take place July 31 - August 5, 2005*

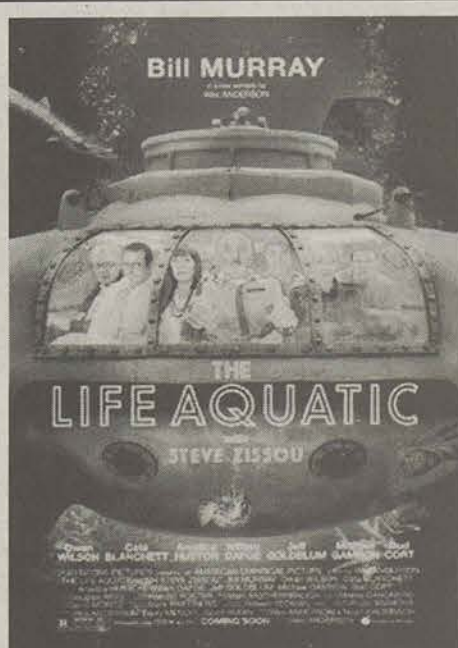
*Interact with 60 other college students  
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*For more information or an application visit the Leadership website  
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## LeaderShape

## THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVEN ZISSOU

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# Our Opinion

## Go ahead, waste a vote

Two years ago, two SGA presidential candidates took a case to GSU's Judicial Affairs, one candidate specifically citing that he thought the elections were not a "level playing field."

Proceedings in this year's voting have been level so far this year, but that might be because nearly every candidate this year is running unopposed.

Having a majority of candidates working together isn't necessarily a bad thing, leaving them with a great deal of time to carefully plan out their administration in the coming year to provide students with the best public service they're capable of providing.

On the other hand, the lack of challengers sets the elections in a vacuum, removing all of the competition of differing thought and ideas.

Differing opinions can develop into new ideas that would inevitably promote better solutions to problems facing students, or create better ways for the organization to operate.

Another point of interest from the post-election proceedings two years ago that might be important to consider are the various charges and discrepancies filed on behalf of some alleged wrongdoing, misuse, or malfunction of the voting software on WINGS. While this system proves effective and easy to use, parts of the process can become a hassle and the subject of investigation.

However, no program is perfect, and the WINGS voting system is probably the best and easiest way to reach students and encourages voting if for nothing else, its simplicity.

But something more important to any election than simplicity has been forgotten.

When the ballot system was switched over to be computer operated and executed, a place for a write-in vote was eliminated. Students voting on WINGS have a choice between the candidates and a vote to abstain. While on one hand this requires anyone elected to attend several informational meetings about elections and SGA in order to get their name on the ballot, it deprives voters of a fair opportunity that's provided even in our nation's own electoral process.

SGA is for the students, by the students, and no voting system should deprive any possible candidate of the chance to lead in that capacity.

It may be too late to change this year's voting method, but perhaps SGA can take a closer look at elections to assure a "level playing field" for all candidates — announced and unannounced.

Log-on to WINGS, and submit a ballot: we hope that everyone does that. But whether or not you choose to select a candidate for a certain position is your own decision: perfectly blank ballots are acceptable.

### Letter to the Editor

#### Killing Terri Schiavo is 'crude and barbaric'

Your opinion concerning Terri Schiavo in the March 24th edition of *The George-Anne* was just too much. It reaffirms what I have come to expect from this particular column — an opinion that doesn't seem to rely much on research. I've witnessed this on more than one occasion.

You say that the decision should be solely left up to her husband. That's completely irresponsible considering the man's actions so far concerning the treatment of his wife. It seems you want the man who has kept Terri Schiavo out of recommended rehabilitation since 1993 to decide whether she should receive nourishment? This is the same guy who, two years after the tragedy, told medical staff not to treat potentially dangerous infections, put "Do Not Resuscitate" on her charts and kept medical information from her concerned and loving parents.

A good guy, huh? He also banned Terri's brother and sister from visiting her. He even tried to reverse an Appeal court's decision to give Terri medical and neurological tests. I won't go into detail about how he is engaged to another woman, has started a family and stands to inherit Terri's estate. He has a good bit to gain from her death, seeing as how she has won over 1.4 million dollars in malpractice trials and settlements.

This money was, according to Mr. Schiavo, going to be used for further treatment and rehabilitation. Months later, he ordered that she was not to receive any of the recommended rehabilitation. The money he personally received from the malpractice suit doesn't seem to be enough.

Would a man who did all these terrible things, to both his wife and her family, also make derogatory remarks about his wife and her demise? Does he seem like the kind of

person who would, as Carla Iyer affirms in a signed affidavit, on occasion ask, "When is the bitch going to die," or "Is she dead yet?" I don't put it past him. If you want to know the real Michael Schiavo, ask his ex-girlfriends. I wonder if they believe he is lying about Terri's wishes.

You assert that the "bobble heads in Washington" should have no authority in this case because it is a "family issue." Are you aware that the debate is over whether or not it is legal, not right, to starve another person to death? You also say their attempts at a stay of execution are "laughable." I don't know, maybe it's just me but that is incredibly insensitive. People are trying to save a woman that, based on evidence, could be rehabilitated to a greater degree than she already is. Maybe you guys are the only ones who are entertained by "laughable" attempts to save a human life?

You also say "let's face it...she has not shown signs of recovering to any level of normalcy." I agree a person who has extensive brain damage, more than likely, will never reach a "level of normalcy," especially one who has been denied numerous attempts of rehabilitation. The whole statement doesn't sit well with me. Since when is a "level of normalcy" the standard for a right to live? Who defines it? I know some severely mentally handicapped children and adults, given all the time in the world, will never reach any "level of normalcy." They will always need care and will be limited in their interactions and experiences with the world. They are people too.

It reminds me of an earlier Opinion article you guys had about Capital Punishment. You guys wrote, "This seems barbaric to us, having the government decide if someone should die or not." You claimed it was "crude" and "barbaric." How then do you describe star-

See SCHIAVO, Page 5

STAR TRIBUNE

I WANT YOU—



—AND YOUR OLD MAN, TOO.

# Elections should mean choice

It's SGA election time again, and the spirit of political competition is not in the air. Yes, you heard me right: there is no spirit of competition in this year's race for anyone on the executive board (the top five positions), something that usually makes an election interesting and makes the candidates actually have to campaign to their constituents.

This year's only candidate for President of SGA is Shri Davis. There are signs hanging up on campus that say vote for the Davis Ticket, and list her name, along with the four vice presidents running with her, who are also unopposed in the race.

I wonder why these people even took the time to hang up the signs. It couldn't be because they were scared they'd lose. The only rational reason I can think of is because they know that students on campus are about as concerned with SGA as they are with llama procreation, and that scares them.

As far as I can tell, the only people concerned with SGA are those sitting on the board and those asking the body for money.

So what's the deal? Why didn't anyone sign up to run for SGA President or Vice President besides those already involved, and why only one person per position?

There are people on this campus who care boatloads about GSU, and it rattles my brain that not one of them threw in their hat.

I thought of running for SGA. A fellow editor and I thought about forming our own ticket and running on the platform of "we don't really know what we want to do, but hey, we're outsiders so at least you won't have to worry that we're gonna keep doing the same old things."

We were all but on our way with our reporter pens to sign up when we realized that being on

SGA — and even running — while editing at the school's newspaper would be an extreme conflict of interest. So we decided not to.

But now that no one else has signed up to challenge the current candidates, I wonder if our jobs would have been worth running for SGA. We may have been beaten like a piñata full of Twinkies at a camp for fat kids, but at least we would have given the students a choice, something I feel we've all been deprived of.

I don't mean to talk bad of SGA necessarily. They have a purpose and they act well in that purpose. But there's a problem when there is no more than one student in over 16,000 that decides to run for student body president or vice president.

One more thing: despite lack of competition, where have the candidates been? I haven't seen one candidate out and about on campus giving away anything as little as a handshake, and I'm on campus pretty much all day every day. Unopposed or not, these candidates need to get with it. Sure, it may be too late now, but looking at the prospects for student involvement with their organization, SGA is in trouble. If students are not aware of the institution on campus that represents them in all aspects of academic and student life, we have a problem.

Call me crazy, but if I'm confused — working at the school newspaper — about what's going on with all this, you better believe Joe Student is as well.

Luke Hearn is the News Editor at *The George-Anne*. While he is not on the ballot for SGA President, he will be glad to hear your concerns regarding campus issues and see that the right person(s) be informed about them. Luke can be reached at [ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu).



Luke Hearn  
news editor

# Cosby may be flawed, but he speaks the truth

By E.R. Shipp  
New York Daily News

Bill Cosby, America's favorite television dad, is the first to acknowledge that anyone who wants to call him a hypocrite is on sure footing. As he admitted in an interview with me last week, he's one of the ultimate "do-as-I-say-not-as-I-do" guys.

But whether he cheated on his wife or had inappropriate relations with other women, he's still carrying an important message.

"You can make fun of Bill Cosby and throw around the word 'hypocrisy' all day long. I will be that in your mind, but these numbers that are out there are growing," he told me. "Bill Cosby is a hypocrite," someone will say. OK, but what does that have to do with these numbers?"

A few of the numbers he alluded to during our conversation are the statistics that show poverty among blacks is twice that among whites. And according to the National Urban League, blacks and Latinos are more likely to drop out of high school than their white counterparts. And of men in prison, 2.2 mil-

lion, representing about 700 per 100,000 of the populace, black men account for about 4,800 per 100,000. About 10 percent of all black males in the United States between the ages of 25 and 29 are incarcerated. One can go on and on and on.

Cosby told me: "Bill Cosby has not said 'Follow me.' He's saying: 'Wake up. Here are some numbers you need to be serious about.'"

Our imperfect messengers are there to be seen, heard, sliced, diced and fried. But their primary role is to get the conversation going — and hoping that we'll listen. The numbers don't lie, as Cosby says.

Cosby's main message is that blacks have to make fewer excuses for not succeeding in America in the 21st century. He says he's not interested in regaining credibility. But, to be real, his problems may have gained him more credibility with some of the people he's tried, clumsily at times, to reach since, at a recent gathering, he shocked many people by railing that "the lower economic people are not holding up their end in this deal" by lousy parenting

and little interest in education.

As he juggled business calls and one from Camille, his wife of 41 years, he offered this simple explanation of what he's saying: "We're talking about love, saving, stopping the bleeding."

I wonder how long we hang in there with people who don't live up to their message. When does the messenger taint the message so much that he needs to step aside? Or is it that we still need the drawing power of even a flawed messenger to get the message out?

Wouldn't it be lovely if people who can walk on water were spreading the word? Of course. It's past the time that all those more perfect intellectuals and moralists and fence-sitters and backbenchers get into the game and deal with those numbers. I would join Cosby in the applause.

"It's not about white people any more," he says of the major challenges facing blacks. Cosby says: "Get up, move. We've got to do

See SHIPP, Page 5

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The *George-Anne* welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be 250 words or less, typed, preferably sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to [gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu).

All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.



## Terrorists with an ideology of one

By Brian Levin  
KRT Campus

When high-profile acts of seemingly symbolic violence occur, like the tragic murders of U.S. District Judge Joan Lefkowitz's husband and mother in Chicago, we often look for large conspiracies with deep political meanings. Many times, however, the apparent terrorist is something less than is believed — a loner with a deeply personal motivation or severe psychological impairment.

There are various categories of people who undertake terrorist acts — that is those who target institutional symbols or random citizens to bring attention to a perceived injustice or reformist agenda. However, an examination of history reveals that some of the nation's worst 'terrorist' killers, assassins and bombers were often simple frustrated people coping with vengeance, mental illness or a compulsion for riches.

Because their rationales revolve around personal revenge or a specific sought-after benefit, these terror producing offenders are often most elusive and unpredictable. The fact that many of them are also deeply troubled and frustrated people who possess contempt for the institutions of society only enhances their capacity for violence.

While political and religious-based terror movements operate over time with much publicity, the vengeful, impaired or benefit-seeking offender's motives are usually only unraveled in hindsight. That appears to be the case in the Lefkowitz homicides, where a man's personal legal defeat in a medical malpractice case may have caused him to lash out.

There are various categories of people who undertake terrorist acts — that is those who target institutional symbols or random citizens to bring attention to a perceived injustice or reformist agenda. However, an examination of history reveals that some of the nation's worst "terrorist" killers, assassins and bombers were often simple frustrated people coping with vengeance, mental illness or a compulsion for riches.

Not surprisingly, most violence and threats against judges revolve around revenge for their rulings. Hundreds of threats against some of the more than 2,000 federal judges and court employees have resulted in 12 being provided with round the clock protection. In 1988, the father of a defeated pro se plaintiff in a sexual harassment case murdered Judge Richard Daronco. A sniper murdered federal District Judge John Wood in 1979 for presiding over a drug case. Judge Patrick Kelley faced a barrage of threats in 1991 after ruling against anti-abortion protesters. Later in the 1990s anti-government extremists set up their own "common law courts" and threatened judges who usurped their "sovereign" authority.

Judges aren't the only symbolic targets of disgruntled, unstable loners bent on violence.

George Metesky, the legally insane "mad bomber" who terrorized New York in the 1940s and 50s, had a signature motto for "fair play." A disgruntled lawyer who failed to get appointed to a counselor position assassinated James Garfield in 1881. A mentally ill John Hinckley attempted to kill President Reagan in 1981. Dan White killed San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk for damaging his political career.

Another motive behind these loner attacks is personal gain. Two product-tampering cases involving poisoned over-the-counter headache remedies spread fear across the nation, but were committed by spouses who wanted to be free of their partners. The Washington, D.C., sniper case is another instance where the offender attacked numerous people as a possible cover to target a spouse.

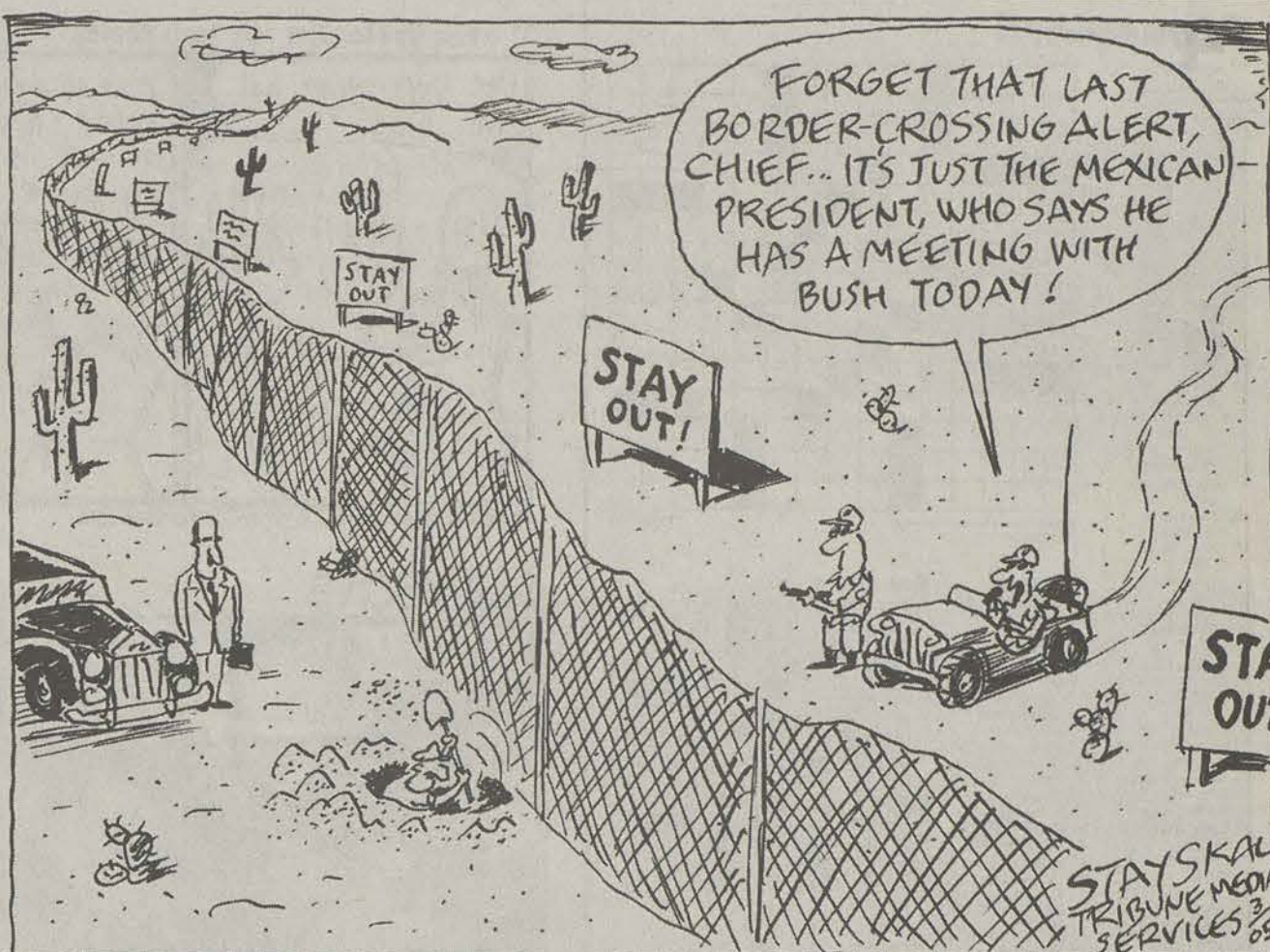
But perhaps the worst example of the benefit-seeking terrorist is John Graham. In 1955 Graham, who desired to collect on his mother's insurance policy, bombed a United Airlines plane in flight over Colorado, killing about 60 people.

The unfortunate lesson of these cases is that those blinded by defect, seeking benefits, or aiming for revenge can wreak the kind of violent disrespect for society and concomitant harm that we usually consider the domain of traditional ideologically motivated terrorists.

While the relative anonymity of judges in the pre Internet age has traditionally offered a degree of security, their work makes them targets not only as symbols of justice, but because of their tangible authority over the lives of some who are very violent and unstable.

### ABOUT THE WRITER

Brian Levin is an associate professor of criminal justice at California State University, San Bernardino, where he directs the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism. He's also the co-author of a forthcoming book about terrorism against United States interests.



### SHIAVO, FROM PAGE 4

severely mentally handicapped person to death? Do you care about people and their lives? I urge you to fight for Terri. She deserves a better chance at life than Michael Schiavo and liberal judges are giving her. She deserves the same chances we would give our own sisters, daughters and mothers. In the end, she's dying at the hands of the courts.

By the time this is read, Terri Schiavo will probably have died of starvation. She will be cremated, despite Michael Schiavo's catholic belief, and those mysterious bone fractures, that may be clues of spousal abuse, will become history. She will have been sentenced to death by the courts with the blessings

of the majority of Americans, including *The George-Anne* staff. Have we become a society of death? The 'Quote of the Day', in the same edition as your opinion, read "It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society." I agree.

I will end this with a quote from the above-mentioned article about capital punishment. It's about Saddam killing his citizens. "Sure, they may have done it 'inhumanely,' but what does it matter in the end, really? They killed their people and we're killing ours as well." Amen.

Rusty Boatright  
boatright@gmail.com

### SHIPP, FROM PAGE 4

something. Call me any kind of name you want to, but this must stop, and the best way to stop it is with our own resources."

Too many young people don't even listen to folks who don't have Cosby's baggage, which, by the way, is the baggage of a whole lot of public figures from the pulpit to politics. "Examine the message," Cosby says. "There are people without these problems who are saying the same thing. They are role models. And you're not paying attention to them."

Flawed as he may be, Cosby can gain the

attention of America just by showing up and speaking out. He can be the difference between attracting 25 people to a gathering about kids or 1,000 — and that's what he's doing now that he's determined that it's okay to resurface.

### ABOUT THE WRITER

E.R. Shipp is a columnist for the *New York Daily News*. She won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 1996. Readers may write to her at the *New York Daily News*, 450 West 33rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10001; e-mail: ershipp2003@hotmail.com.

### RALLY, FROM PAGE 1

Statesboro communities can speak, make a comment or ask a question of the panel.

At the conclusion of the event, keychain lights inscribed with the Rape Crisis Hotline number will be handed out.

According to Linda Rohrer Paige, GSU professor of Literature and co-Chair of the (BCSATF), is very hopeful that this event will attract many people from GSU and the community, and said that it's important that everyone be aware of sexual assault.

"Sexual assault can happen to anyone, regardless of sex, age, color, etc. We need to inform the students [of GSU] and the members of the community that there is a need to be aware of these types of crimes," she said.

The rally is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Paige at 912-681-0222.

### Writers Needed:

If you're interested in writing  
for *The George-Anne*,  
contact us at  
912-681-5246.

**MEET THE GREEKS**

**GREEK AWARENESS DAY**

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 30, 2005**

**RUSSELL UNION ROTUNDA 10AM-2PM**

Sponsored by:  
National Panhellenic Council (NPC)  
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**Off-Campus Housing Fair**

The Off-Campus Housing Fair scheduled for Tuesday, March 22 on the Pedestrium Walk near Lakeside has been **RESCHEDULED TO Tuesday, March 29 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Russell Union Rotunda**

Come explore and learn about Off-Campus housing!

For more information, call: 871-1987, or visit <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/offcampus/>

## Stop the Violence: Sexual Assault Awareness Rally

What can I do?

How long do I have until I can decide to prosecute?

What is a Rape Kit?

Who can I call for help?



**Tuesday,  
March 29th  
at 6 pm  
in the  
Russell  
Union  
Theatre.**

**Rape shows no preference.**







## Pitchers guide Lady Eagles softball to series-clincher at ETSU

GSU Athletics Media Relations

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. – The duo of pitchers Logan Free and A.J. Street combined to silence the East Tennessee State bats, as the Georgia Southern softball team took a 1-0 win in the rubber game of its conference opener Saturday afternoon at Metro-Kiwanis Park.

Free (8-7) started the game for the Eagles, striking out five in four innings and taking her second victory of the series. The sophomore from Sandpoint, Idaho has now gone 13.1 innings without allowing an earned run. Street came into the game before the fifth and allowed just two runners to reach base in picking up her second save of the season.

Saturday's game was a pitchers' duel throughout, but an offensive outburst by the Eagles (15-21, 2-1 SoCon) in the top of the first proved to be all that was needed for the win. Aurora Johnson reached on a fielder's choice

and advanced to second. Johnson then made it around the home when ETSU rightfielder Briana Knight fumbled a fly ball off the bat of Heather Smith.

It was then the chance for the Eagle pitchers and defensive unit to prove its worth, as GSU was able to squelch the Bucs' best chance at scoring in the bottom of the fourth. With runners on second and third with just one out, Free struck out Knight before an Amanda Haverman ground out ended the inning.

Shanita Black led the Eagle bats on Saturday, batting 2-for-4 while also adding to her career-high of 18 stolen bases. Smith's RBI was her team-leading 22nd of the season.

GSU wraps up its season-long 12-game road trip Thursday at Noon for a doubleheader at South Carolina State. East Tennessee State (13-19, 1-2 SoCon) also returns to action Thursday for a home doubleheader against Middle Tennessee State.

## Men's tennis suffers setback against The Citadel Bulldogs

GSU Athletics Media Relations

Playing for the first time in 10 days, the Georgia Southern men's tennis team dropped a 6-1 decision to SoCon foe The Citadel Saturday afternoon at Hanner Courts in a match that was much closer than the score would indicate. Senior Danie Van den Heever accounted for the Eagles' point with a win at No. 2 singles.

GSU put itself into an early 1-0 hole when The Citadel (8-7, 4-3 SoCon) jumped out to a 1-0 lead by winning at the second and third doubles positions. Diego Flores and Germano Knorr, teamed together Saturday for the first time this season, lost 8-4 to David Lara and Nicholas Medica at the second spot while Tom Green and Charles-Henri Trotter fell 8-5 to Derek Jose and Ananda Sawmynaden at No. 3.

The Eagles did take the match at No. 1, as Vincent Patry and Van den Heever posted a 9-8(5) victory against Daniel Dossetor and James Eason in a tightly contested match. The win improves the GSU duo's record to 8-6 and 2-1 in the conference, and was just the second conference loss in seven matches for The Citadel pairing.

Van den Heever upped his SoCon singles mark to 2-1 with a convincing 6-4, 6-3 win over Sawmynaden at the No. 2 spot, but none of his teammates could find the consistency needed to

claim victories in other matches. GSU players were involved in a trio of tight three-set matches, but could not produce a win in any of them. Had they won all of them, the team would have walked away with a victory.

Patry, who has played at the No. 1 spot for the Eagles all season, won the first set of his match against Dossetor 6-3 before dropping a tight second set 5-7. The Citadel got the crucial point when Dossetor triumphed 6-4 in the decisive third set. Green cruised during the first set of his match against Eason at the third spot, winning 6-1. He could not sustain the momentum however, losing the second set 3-6 and coming up just short in the third, falling 5-7. In the last of the three-set marathons, Trotter bounced back from narrowly losing the first set 5-7 to Medica by winning the second 6-2. The two players were engaged in a fierce battle for the third set when Trotter was forced to retire trailing 4-5.

With the loss, GSU drops to 2-12 overall and 1-2 in the conference. They will attempt to even their conference record Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 against Elon. The Phoenix have yet to win in SoCon play, standing at 0-5 and 3-10 overall, but they boast one of the conference's best players, Pramote Malasitt. The senior, who has already garnered three Southern Conference Player of the Week awards, sits at 12-1 overall and 5-0 in the conference.

## Women's tennis falls at UNC Greensboro

GSU Athletics Media Relations

GREENSBORO, NC – The Georgia Southern women's tennis team suffered a 5-2 loss to UNC Greensboro Saturday afternoon as they dropped their fourth consecutive match. Singles wins by Heather Reynolds and Kim Wollett provided the Eagles' points.

The Spartans (6-8, 4-2 SoCon), who snapped a two-match losing streak with the win, jumped ahead 1-0 by winning the doubles point and clinched the match by winning four of the six singles matches.

GSU was able to field its traditional doubles pairings with the return of Ciara Finucane, who missed Friday's match at Davidson. Unfortunately, Finucane's return was not enough to make the difference for the Eagles. She teamed with Szilvia Zsakay at No. 1, but the duo suffered a 9-7 loss to Kate LaCoste and Erica Zabkar, only their fourth setback of the spring. At No. 2, Stephanie Tyrell and Wollett fell 8-6 to Whitney Miles and Emily Wade. The Eagles got a win at the third spot, as Charlotte Bruneteaux and Reynolds improved their SoCon mark to 4-0

with an 8-4 victory against Ana Martin and Sophie Rychlik.

The Eagles put two points on the board during singles play as Reynolds and Wollett both won their matches. Reynolds swept Martin in straight sets, winning 6-1, 6-3 at the fifth position. The victory is Reynolds' eighth this spring and improves her record against SoCon rivals to 3-2. At No. 6, Wollett triumphed 6-3, 7-6(4) over Rychlik, upping her spring mark to 9-6 and her SoCon record to 3-2. The nine wins also places the junior in a tie with Zsakay for the team lead.

In other singles matches, Tyrell dropped a 6-3, 6-4 decision to Miles at No. 1. Finucane was forced to retire after losing the first set 6-0 to Wade at No. 2. Bruneteaux lost 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (12-10) to Zabkar at No. 3 and Zsakay was beaten 6-3, 6-2 by LaCoste at No. 4.

GSU, who now stands at 6-9 overall and 2-3 in the conference, will look to break the four-game skid when they kick off a three-match homestand against Elon Friday, April 1, at 12:30 p.m.

## Herschel Walker to speak at Deen Day Smith Awards banquet tonight

By Trevor Long

gasportseditor@yahoo.com

Herschel Walker, a Georgia football legend, will be the keynote speaker for the 17th annual Deen Day Smith Service to Mankind Awards banquet at the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Center tonight at 7 p.m. The banquet, which is by invite only, is to honor local citizens who give selflessly to help others without thought of gain or recognition.

Walker, who has a long record of

charitable giving and service to others, makes a fitting guest to honor someone else who values the gift of giving.

Walker, a Wrightsville, GA native, is most known for his glory days at the University of Georgia, where he set the NCAA freshman rushing record while leading UGA to the national title in 1980, and winning the Heisman trophy in 1982.

After college, Walker played for the New Jersey Generals of the USFL from 1983 to 1985, he then went to the Dallas Cowboys in 1986, where he played

until 1989 where he also returned to finish his professional career in 1997. He also had stints in between with the Minnesota Viking, Philadelphia Eagles, and New York Giants.

Counting his years with the USFL and the NFL, the versatile Walker ended his career as the all-time leader in yards gained. In 2002, Walker was voted into the Collegiate Football Hall of Fame, and was selected as the second greatest college football player in history, where he stands behind only the legendary Red Grange.



Herschel Walker



Grayson Hoffman/STAFF

GSU shortstop Jeremy Beckham gets ready to apply a tag to a Furman runner during the Eagles victory Saturday.

## Smith's grand slam sends Eagles to ninth straight win

GSU Athletics Media Relations

Derrick Smith hit his first grand slam as an Eagle, sending Georgia Southern to a 6-3 win over Furman Saturday afternoon. The Eagles (15-7 overall, 8-0 SoCon) won their ninth straight overall and 11th in a row at J.I. Clements Stadium.

GSU's current winning streak is the longest since the 2002 team won 12 consecutive games.

Will Stembbridge started the game off by sending a line drive past a diving Eagle centerfielder James Payne. The ball rolled to the fence and Stembbridge ended up with a triple. Dustin Evans responded by striking out the next three batters to end the threat.

Greg Dowling drew a leadoff walk in the second inning. Brent Stephens hit a grounder up the middle but shortstop A.J. Davidiuk bobbled the ball and both runners were safe. Brett Pelfrey dropped a single to right field loading the bases. Smith nailed a shot down the right field line, GSU's first grand slam this year and his SoCon-leading ninth homer.

Flint Wipke followed with a single and eventually stole second base. He advanced to third on Payne's ground-out. Logan Phillips walked. During the

next at-bat he and Wipke pulled off a double steal, making it a 5-0 game.

Furman scored an unearned run in the third. Spence Gibbs hit a leadoff single then took second on Stembbridge's one-out single. Andrew Greene's grounder up the middle was fielded by Jeremy Beckham, who flipped to Pelfrey at second for the forceout. However, while trying to turn the double play, Pelfrey's throw

**"We didn't swing the bats as well today as we have been lately, but we found ways to score runs."**

-Rodney Hennon, GSU head coach

went into the Furman dugout allowing Gibbs to score.

GSU got that run back in the fourth. Beckham reached on a two-out single up the middle. Running on the pitch, Beckham went to third on Payne's single through the right side. The Eagles pulled off another successful double steal, making it a 6-1 game.

Evans worked out of another jam in the fifth. After walking two batters to put runners on first and second, Evans struck out Stembbridge then Greene grounded out to end the threat.

The sophomore right-hander won his fourth straight decision (4-3), scattering five hits through six innings. Evans allowed the one unearned run while walking one and striking out five.

"Dustin gave us another strong effort. That was huge today. The big grand slam from Derrick got us going," said head coach Rodney Hennon. "Defensively we picked him up today."

Brent Stephens made a couple of catches in right field and Flint Wipke threw out a couple of runners helping both Dustin and A.J. (Battisto). We didn't swing the bats as well today as we have been lately, but we found ways to score runs."

Furman (9-12, 3-5) rallied in the ninth. Matthew Betsill, Davidiuk and

Case Cassidy hit consecutive one-out doubles off Steve Cogswell scoring two runs. The GSU closer struck out Michael Rumpke for the second out. Phillips fielded a hot shot at third base by Joe Daysh and threw him out in time to end the game.

Eight of the GSU starters had a hit, two coming from Pelfrey who extended his streak to seven consecutive multi-hit games. Battisto pitched two scoreless innings, allowing one hit. The four through nine hitters in the line-up each scored a run.

Bert Hunter (4-2) was charged with all six runs (four earned) on five hits. In 3.2 innings he walked two and struck out two. The Paladin bullpen scattered four hits from then on and did not walk a batter.

Yesterday's game was canceled due to rain. Due to Southern Conference rules, no makeup game will be set.

The Eagles return to action this Tuesday night where they host Georgia State in a two game series. Tuesday's first pitch is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Box Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Furman	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	9	2
Eagles	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	X	6	9	1
Win - EVANS (4-3). Loss - HUNTER (4-2).												

## GSU Baseball - Team Leaders

Hitters:	Batting Avg.	Homeruns	RBI's	Top Pitchers:
Jason Hurst	.404	Derrick Smith 9	Flint Wipke 22	Everett Teaford - 4-1, 3.56 ERA, 46K's
Greg Dowling	.375	Flint Wipke 8	Jason Hurst 19	Josh Lairsey - 5-1, 5.44 ERA, 32K's
James Payne	.369	Logan Phillips 5	Greg Dowling 19	Steve Cogswell - 2-1, 5.75 ERA, 6 Saves
Total Hitting: Record: 15-7				Total Pitching: 15-7, 5.43 ERA, 178K
Hitting: .317, 29HR, 151RBI				Derrick Smith 19

## Georgia Southern hosts Ultimate Frisbee Tournament

By: Bryan Metcalf

gsuhockey20@sbcglobal.net

The intramural fields at the RAC and also at Mill Creek Park. Overall, the tournament was a success. All the teams who attended enjoyed themselves, giving a good reputation for Georgia Southern who will be hosting the Regional Tournament April 30 and May 1. The top 16 Atlantic Coast Regional winner will advance to the National tournament in Washington later this

spring. Over 200 games were played at the RAC and also at Mill Creek Park. Overall, the tournament was a success. All the teams who attended enjoyed themselves, giving a good reputation for Georgia Southern who will be hosting the Regional Tournament April 30 and May 1. The top 16 Atlantic Coast Regional winner will advance to the National tournament as well.

This tournament was coordinated by the GSU Ultimate Frisbee club, which also competed in the event. The club has grown from the seven founding members in 1999, to over 40 participants and 25 competing members this season. This was the fourth year the club has hosted the event and it will not be the last as the team is already making plans to host

next year's event.

When the weekend was over it was Chico State who traveled the 2700 miles from California that emerged victorious in the men's division. North Carolina State won the Women's division. GSU will now travel to Gainesville, FL for their next tournament. The dates for that tournament are April 9 and 10.



# Pope unable to speak at Easter, blesses crowd only with hand

By Nicole Winfield  
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY - Pope John Paul II delivered an Easter Sunday blessing to tens of thousands of people in St. Peter's Square, but the ailing pontiff was unable to speak and managed only to greet the saddened crowd with a sign of the cross, bringing tears to many.

Aides had readied a microphone, and the pope tried to utter a few words from his studio window overlooking the square. But after making a few sounds, he just blessed the crowd with his hand and the microphone was taken away.

Vatican watchers had been anxiously awaiting John Paul's appearance for signs of how the 84-year-old pontiff was faring after Feb. 24 surgery to insert a tube in his throat to help him breathe. After the dramatic appearance, many in the crowd cried or applauded in sad appreciation for John Paul's pained efforts to greet them on the holiest day of the church

calendar.

John Paul last spoke to the public March 13, shortly before he was discharged from the hospital.

"Look, it's Easter and everybody is so sad, and so many have tears in their eyes," said Hubert Wichert, from the German town of Essen, who was in the square.

For the first time since John Paul's papacy began in 1978, Easter Sunday Mass at the Vatican was celebrated without him as he continued his convalescence following two recent hospitalizations for breathing crises. John Paul also suffers from Parkinson's disease, which makes it difficult for him to speak, and knee and hip ailments.

As a result of his infirmities, the pope missed participating in all major Holy Week events and designated top cardinals to stand in for him.

On Sunday, it fell to the Vatican's No. 2 official, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, to celebrate Easter Mass in the flower-decked square jammed with more than

50,000 people. Millions more watched in TV hookups in 74 countries.

John Paul appeared at his window after the service ended, drawing applause from the crowd. He coughed at first, but remained at the window for 12 minutes, looking stronger than he has in recent appearances.

He had papers on his lectern and turned the pages himself, following along as Sodano read his Easter message in the square below.

At the end of the message, a microphone was put in front of him and John Paul touched it as if readying to impart the papal blessing. After trying to utter the words, the pope rested his hands on the lectern in apparent resignation that he could not speak and the microphone was taken away. Soon after, John Paul withdrew from the window.

The Vatican had said the pope would appear to the faithful Sunday, but officials never confirmed he would speak and many in the crowd said they were not necessarily expecting it.



AP Photo

Pope John Paul II gives his Easter Sunday blessing from his window at the Vatican on Sunday. For the first time since his papacy began in 1978, the pontiff skipped Easter Sunday Mass at midmorning while he continues his convalescence following two recent hospitalizations for breathing problems.

## Legislature enters hectic, 'scary' final days

By Doug Gross  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Scary. Hectic. Dangerous. Bewitching.

Those are all words used by lawmakers to describe the frantic final days of Georgia's Legislative session.

The quick, in-and-out meetings of January are long gone as House and Senate members return this week for the final three days of their 40-day session. Now, the marathon, morning-to-night meetings have begun — bringing with them the opportunity for mistakes, omissions and old-fashioned political trickery.

"We're at that bewitching time," said Senate Republican Leader Bill Stephens of Canton. "Virtually anything can happen."

Capitol regulars can recite instances

of efforts gone awry in the final days of past sessions. Like House leaders simply forgetting to vote on a highway-funding plan that they had gone out of their way to announce earlier in the session. Or a hastily amended Senate plan that, technically, made it illegal for nurses to give shots.

"Things get so hectic," said University of Georgia political scientist Charles Bullock. "There are times when something will get passed on the last night, then the legislators go to the governor and say, 'Could you veto that?'"

Bullock said the assembly's 40-day limit — one of the nation's shorter legislative sessions — creates havoc by its very nature.

"In Congress, you may want to get out of town, but you don't have a drop-dead date," Bullock said. "Here,

you do."

Adding to this year's hurry is a desire by statehouse Republicans — who control both chambers for the first time in 134 years — to adjourn on the Legislature's 39th day. It's a largely symbolic gesture, since lawmakers may take as much time off between in-session days as they like, but one they believe will show they are more efficient than the Democrats who were previously in control.

Among the bills still hanging in the balance when the Legislature returns Tuesday will be an overhaul of the state's child support laws, Gov. Sonny Perdue's government ethics reforms, and the \$17 billion state budget.

Last week, Senate Republican whip Mitch Seabaugh, of Sharpsburg, spent most of a day shuttling between the House and Senate, helping a colleague

### At a glance

With time running out, here are a handful of the issues yet to be settled in the Legislature:

— The Budget: Both the House and Senate have passed their own versions of the state's \$17 billion budget.

— Child Support: A bill passed by the House would overhaul Georgia's child support law, taking into account both parents' income.

— Voting ID: A plan that would eliminate many of the forms of ID people can use at the polls.

— Spam: A measure by Perdue targeting e-mail spam has passed the Senate but is still pending in the House.

get a bill passed. He said his job of keeping members of his party in line on key votes gets tougher as the session gets later.

"This is the scary time," Seabaugh said. "This is the time something could slip through if you're not careful."

## Severe storms bring floods and large hail to Southeast

Associated Press

Severe storms brought flash flooding and golf-ball-sized hail to parts of the South on Sunday, while snow and heavy rain persisted in the Pacific Northwest.

Thunderstorms hammered parts of the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

In Alabama, flash flooding occurred in Montgomery, large hail fell in Dadeville and a funnel cloud was seen in Eclectic.

In Georgia, strong winds blew down trees in Preston, and flooding was reported in Columbus. Fort Benning, Ga., received 4 inches of rain.

Elsewhere, scattered showers and thunderstorms developed in parts of

Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

The Pacific Northwest — particularly northern California, western Montana and Idaho — reported heavy rain and mountain snow. Snowfall ranged from three to six inches by midday across the Cascades.

Widespread showers and thunderstorms were also reported across the Ohio and Tennessee valleys and over the northern Appalachians.

Much of the Great Lakes and Northeast saw a mostly clear sky and dry conditions.

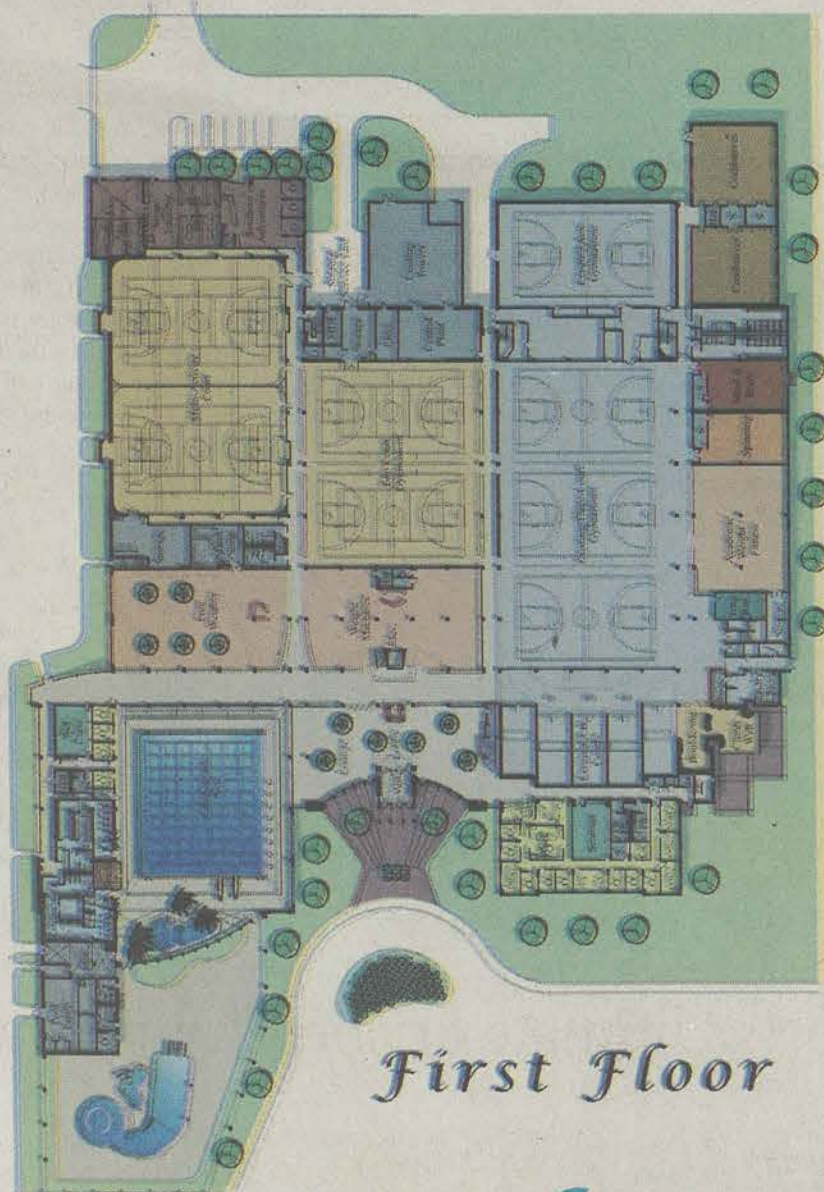
Sunday's temperatures around the Lower 48 states ranged from a low of minus three degrees in Clayton Lake, Maine, to a midday high of 91 degrees in Cocoa, Fla.

FREE food!

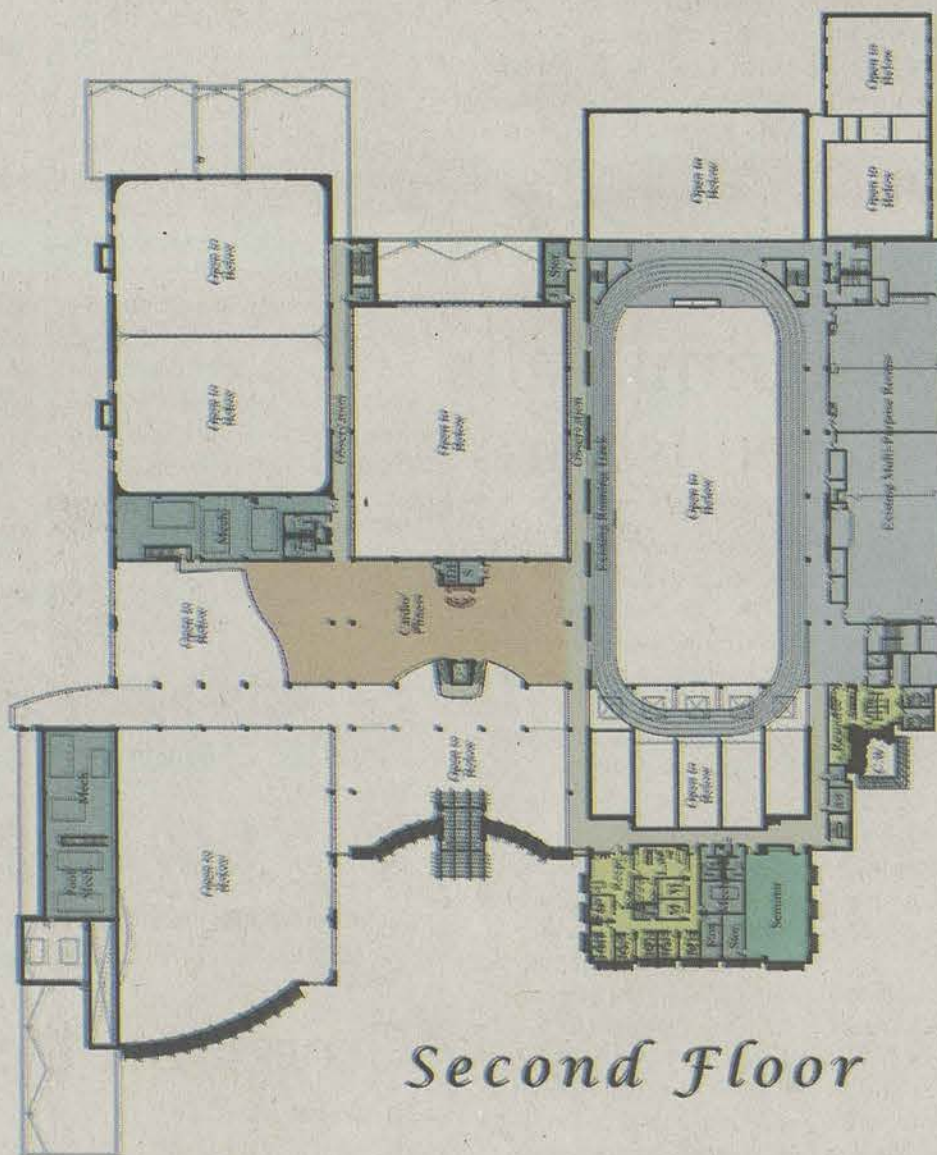
# RAC Expansion Groundbreaking

Giveaways!

All Students are invited to come to the RAC and join CRI to celebrate the RAC Expansion Groundbreaking!



First Floor



Second Floor

March 29th, 2005 at 4:00pm

[www.georgiasouthern.edu/services/cr/extension](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/services/cr/extension)