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High: 74 | Low: 50
Afternoon T'storms
Volume 78
Number 58

Swim success

Swimming and Diving team
undefeated in conference | **SPORTS**, p.6



Hearn don't thinks grammar gets attention it's needs

| **OPINION**, p. 4

THE GEORGE-ANNE DAILY

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2006

Nothing to sing about

Lackluster fall concert, other factors, cancel spring plans

By Kevin Bell
Staff writer

In the wake of a disappointing turnout for the fall Ciara concert, school officials say they will not hold a concert this semester.

Rosemary Carter, associate director of marketing and communications for Georgia Southern, said rising talent fees and production costs—as well as the demolition of the Lupton Building—figured into the decision not to have a concert this spring.

November's concert at Paulson Stadium, which featured Ciara, Bobby Valentino, and Killer Mike, drew around 1,200 attendees, say school officials. The turnout was far less than the 7,500 that attended the 3 Doors Down concert two semesters earlier.

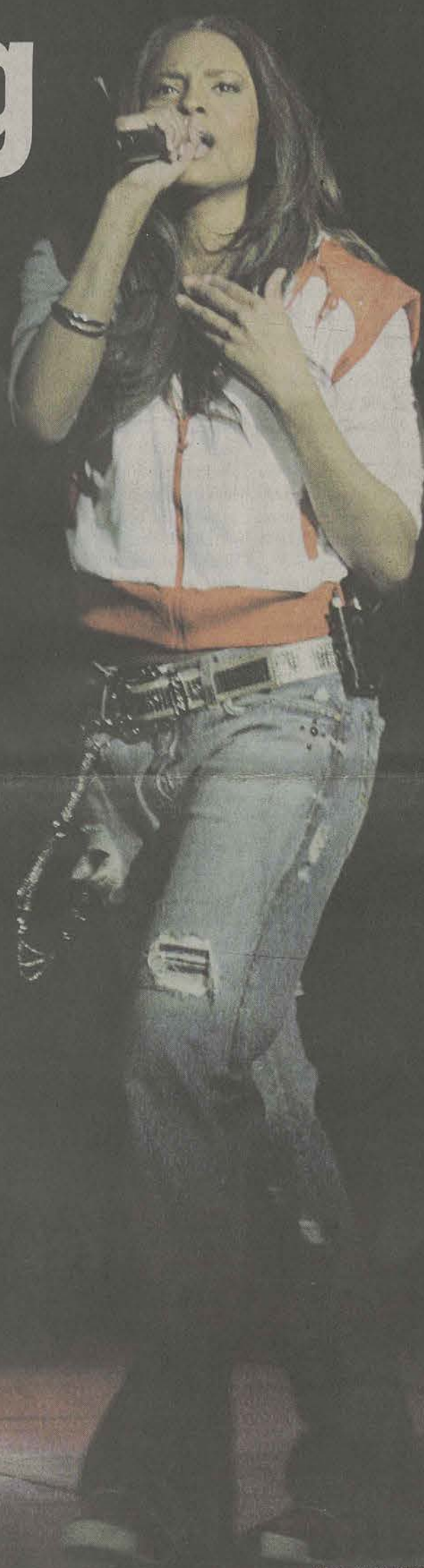
Carter said the budget for the Ciara concert was around \$250,000. That figure includes talent, production, promotion and security. Tickets were sold for \$25 for students and \$35 for the general public.

"You have to spend money to bring big events to campus," Carter said. "And part of being a comprehensive university is making sure that we offer a vibrant college environment."

Before the concert, Teresa Thompson, GSU's vice president of student affairs and enrollment management, said that in student activities, one cannot talk in terms of making or losing money.

"Student Activity fees go to supplement student activities, and that's what we'll do if there are costs not covered by ticket sales," she said.

see **CONCERT**, page 5



Chase Lanier/STAFF

Ciara was the featured act in for GSU's fall concert. But poor turnout for that show, coupled with rising costs and construction at Paulson Stadium, has caused university officials to balk at plans to hold a concert this semester. The school is looking for acts for fall.

Buses due by March

New fleet to replace loaners, will run on natural gas

By Bert Noble

Deputy managing editor

New natural gas buses for Southern Express will be arriving on Georgia Southern in March.

"These buses are going to be our permanent buses for the transportation system," said Bob Chambers, director of parking services.

The buses currently in use have always been intended to be temporary until the new ones arrived.

Chambers did not know if the natural gas motors will have better gas mileage, but said the natural gas motors will have less effect on the

environment.

The buses currently being used are diesel engines.

"I think it is a good thing to look towards the future and use alternative fuels," said Allison Cook, a sophomore.

"These buses are custom ordered to fit the exact needs of GSU," said Chambers.

The interior of the buses will be customized with a better seating arrangement, and there will not be the airport-style luggage racks that are on the current buses.

see **BUSES**, page 5



Victor Martinez/STAFF

Cognisa, the company that operates GSU's buses, will replace the current set of transit buses with a new permanent fleet by March. The new fleet will run on compressed natural gas, which produces cleaner emissions.

Two students die over break

Moniquea Quiana Stanley

William "Will" Stone Jr.

"Moniquea's major was Early Childhood Education and teaching and she loved kids with a passion. She was very reliable and kind hearted," said friend Britanny Martin. "If you needed anything she would give it to you if she had it. She loved her family and friends! I would always go



Moniquea Stanley



Will Stone

Cobbtown - William "Will" Stone, Jr., 20, died January 6, 2006, at St. Joseph Hospital in Savannah, Ga., after a sudden illness. The Chatham County native had resided in Tattnall County all of his life. He was in his sophomore year at Georgia Southern, majoring in geography and minor-

see **STANLEY**, page 10

see **STONE**, page 10

INSIDE

Dying not to pay child support

A South Carolina man faked his own death to avoid paying child support | **OIA**, p.3

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Bill would allow monkey helpers for disabled Georgians

The Associated Press

ATLANTA - Rep. Doug Holt, R-Social Circle, has introduced a bill that would allow disabled Georgians to keep monkeys as helpers, making an exception to Georgia law that bans monkeys from being kept as pets.

"With ample safeguards in place, why shouldn't we do all we can to help

the disabled?" Holt said.

A Boston nonprofit group, "Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers for the Disabled," trains small monkeys to help with errands like getting food, picking up dropped objects and changing a CD.

A quadriplegic Covington woman was about to receive a free monkey from the group in 2004 when she

discovered the ban.

Now Helen Sterling, 42, hopes Holt's bill will change that.

"It's those hundreds of things a day my mother won't have to do," Sterling said. "So it's not only a gift for me, it's a gift for the caregiver."

Bill Fletcher, chief of game management for the state's Department of Natural Resources, says his agency

supports the plan but also reminds people that monkeys can be a health and safety hazard. The goal is to prevent abuse, said Fletcher.

The bill would allow only those who are severely disabled to get a wild animal permit from the DNR. The animal would have to have been trained by an organization that has at least a 10-year track record.



Special photo

Disabled Georgians may be able to keep monkeys as helpers if a bill is passed into law.

Reach new heights with GSU's Climbing Club

By Juliet Macdonald
Staff writer

The Climbing Club at Georgia Southern is an organization for any outdoors enthusiast, not just avid rock climbers, says its members.

The club's main focus is rock climbing and they make trips to rock climbing areas all over the southeast, including Sand Rock, Ala., Linville Gorge, N.C., Foster Falls, Tenn. and other destinations.

The first meeting of the semester will be held Monday, Jan. 30, at 7 p.m., at Eagle's Landing, Apt # 78.

The Climbing Club does more than just climb. Outdoor activities include camping, climbing, repelling and zip-lines.

The group is led by co-presidents Kassie Humphrey who says the climbing club is "a good group of friends that go outside and have fun," and Chris Sanders, who agrees that Climbing Club is about "being

outdoors and being on the rock."

The club has fifteen members and is looking for new dedicated members according to Humphrey, who explained that they would love people who already rock climb or people who want to give it a serious try.

If you are new to climbing, Climbing Club should give you a chance to improve your climbing skills, test your limits, reach new heights and learn important safety issues involved in climbing.

For already experienced climbers, the club gives students a place to hang out with other people who love to climb and a group of people with whom to climb.

Sanders says this group is all about being laid back, going out into the woods for a weekend, putting away the technology and having adventures.

Those adventures could include anything from rock climbing, to

swimming, zip-lines, hanging out by a campfire, cooking pork chops and eating s'mores.

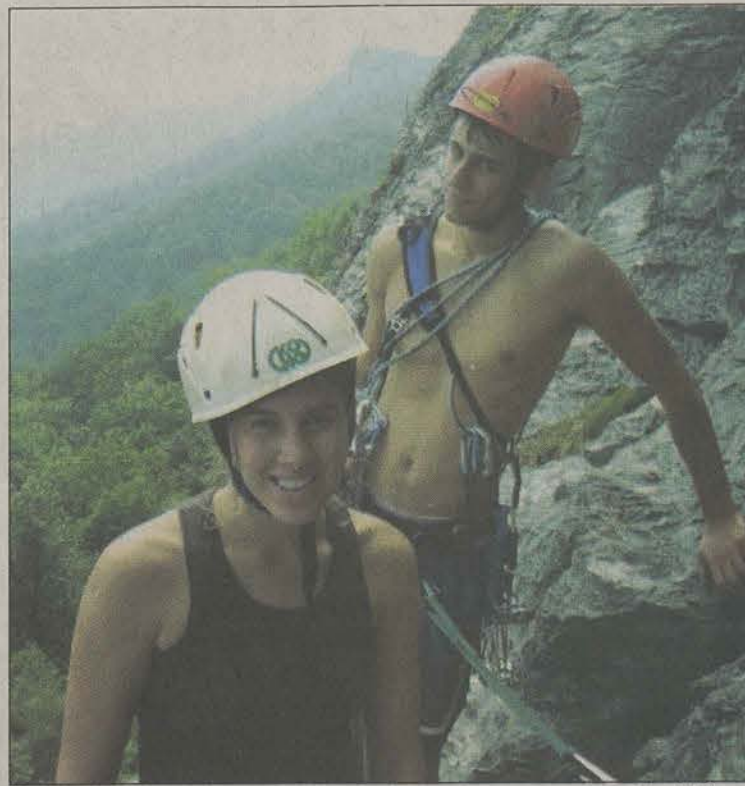
The group practices 'leave no trace' while out camping, which means that campsites and other outdoor locations should be as clean when they leave as when they found them.

The organization also does various community service projects. Last year they helped out with the tsunami relief and cleaned up Lanier Drive.

Climbing Club will have a booth near the climbing wall at the RAC, starting at 7:30 p.m. until the wall closes on Monday Jan. 23 and Wednesday, Jan. 25.

The Climbing Club plans to meet every other Monday at apartment #78 at Eagle's Landing.

For more information on the club and meeting times, contact co-presidents Chris Sanders at colonelrct@bellsouth.net or Kassie Humphrey at koknut27@aol.com.



Kassie Humphrey and Wes Bryan climb in Linville Gorge, NC.

Special Photo

CALENDAR

Monday, January 23

Legends Series-Sculpture & Drawings presented by Bruce Little in the Legends Gallery Averitt Center for the Arts

Midway: Between Slavery and Self-Sufficiency-The Remaking of a Black Community, 1860-1875 in the Museum Rear Gallery Rosenwald Building

Art Exhibit, Foundation: Form and Content Foy Fine Arts Building

Fee payment deadline for registration or changing registration during Drop/Add period

6 p.m.
Hispanic Student Association Meeting
Russell Union Room 2075

6 p.m.
Financial Program for Freshmen
Russell Union Room 2047

7 p.m.
Lecture - Award-winning poet Albert Goldbarth
COBA Building Room 1124

8 p.m.
Cinema Arts Film- Talk to Her Spanish with English Subtitles Admission is \$2.
Russell Union Theater

Tuesday, January 24

4 p.m.
Focus on Excellence
Lecture Series
Continuing Education Building

7 p.m.
FYE Success Series
Russell Union Room 2080

7:30 p.m.
Sports Management Club Meeting
Hollis Building Room 1118

8 p.m.
Movie: Wedding Crashers
Russell Union Room 1085

9 p.m.
Swing Cats
Williams Center Room 2034

Wednesday, January 25

10 a.m.
Blood Drive
Russell Union Ballroom

3:30 p.m.
FYE Success Series
Russell Union Room 2042

5 p.m.
SGA Elections Forum
Russell Union Room 2084

6 p.m.
SGA Meeting
Russell Union Room 2047

7 p.m.
Mr. GSU Information Meeting
Russell Union Room 2042

7 p.m.
Pillow Talk:
What Mother Didn't Tell You
Russell Union Room 2075

Thursday, January 26

9 a.m.
Graduate Committee Meeting
COGS Conference Room

7 p.m.
Christ Ministries Prayer Meetings
Russell Union Room 2041

7 p.m.
Mr. GSU Information Meeting
Russell Union Room 2042

POLICE BEAT

01-18-2006

- Shannon Kristin Goodwin, 17, of Olliff Hall, was charged with DUI and failure to maintain lane.
- A bicycle was taken from the College of Education Building bike rack.
- A case of harassment was reported at Paulson Stadium.

Student employee of the year nominations begin

GSU News Service

The Department of Financial Aid is sponsoring a campus-wide search for the Student Employee of the Year. The department is encouraging faculty members to nominate their best and brightest student workers for this honor.

The winner will move on to represent Georgia Southern at the Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators' regional competition.

Students will be evaluated on the following, equally-weighted qualities: reliability, quality of work, initiative,

professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. Students are evaluated by faculty and staff members from different departments based on all of the requirements and a supporting letter of recommendation from co-workers.

A campus-wide committee of faculty and staff will select a single winner from those nominated and eligible.

The winning GSU Employee of the Year will receive a plaque and \$100 gift certificate to the University Store. GSU's winning student can advance to a regional competition.

The winning students and all nomi-

nations will be recognized in a campus ceremony during National Student Employment Week, April 10-14.

Last year's Student Employee of the Year was Angela Hipps, a senior nursing major working at Financial Aid, who was able to maintain a 4.0 GPA. "It was definitely a surprise knowing that I was appreciated and it helped me gain more self confidence as an employee and made me want to work that much harder. To win was an honor that made me feel humble and grateful," she said.

Eligible students include undergraduate and graduate students who are employed on campus in student

employee positions and on the student employee payroll, including resident advisors and graduate assistants. Teaching assistants are not eligible, unless they hold a student employee position in addition.

Full-time students must have been employed for a minimum of 3 months and part-time students a minimum of 6 months between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (anticipated).

Please submit your nomination packet, including evaluation form and supporting letter, to Misty Harvey, Financial Aid, P.O. Box 8065, or through e-mail at mharvey@georgiasouthern.edu, no later than February 3, 2006.

AAUW report, grant to be announced at GSU Jan. 24

GSU News Service

Students and faculty are invited to gather at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 24, in the atrium of the College of Information Technology to hear about the release of a new AAUW report titled 'Sexual Harassment on Campus.'

At the same time, the university will announce a campus action project grant that will result in proactive measures and improved education about the issue of sexual harassment on campus.

"Keeping with Georgia Southern's commitment to a student-centered learning environment, we want to open the lines of communication on this topic among our students, faculty

and staff," said Lori Amy, director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program and the lead project advisor on the grant.

From 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. the Center for Women's and Gender Studies will present an information table in the atrium with materials related to this important issue.

"Our goal with this grant is to get an online education and reporting mechanism on the Web, making it easier and more comfortable for individuals to communicate about the difficult issue of sexual harassment," said Amy. "We want to educate and equip our students with knowledge and communication skills they'll take with them into their professional lives."

Cinema Arts opens with Golden Globe winning movie 'Talk to Her'

GSU News Service

Cinema Arts opens its Spring 2006 season this Monday at 8 p.m. with a showing of Pedro Almodovar's acclaimed masterpiece, "Talk to Her." The movie is in Spanish with English subtitles and lasts 107 minutes.

Almodóvar filmed "Talk to Her" in Spain in 2002 as the follow-up to his Oscar-winning hit 'All About My Mother.' With a hospital waiting room as its nexus, an intricate drama unfolds.

Javier Cámara is a lonely male nurse infatuated with a beautiful, comatose ballerina played by Leonor Watling. He befriends a writer played by Dario Grandinetti who unrequitedly loves an injured female bullfighter, played by Rosario Flores, also in a coma.

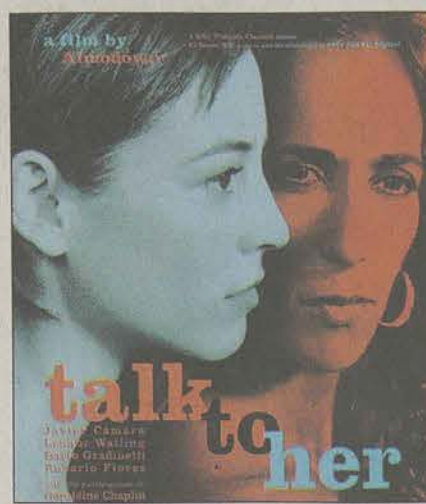
Weaving lucid melodrama and dark wit, fetishes and philosophies,

Almodóvar presents a careful exploration of human emotions and actions, romance and remorse. Almodóvar is winner of some 40 international awards including Golden Globe for Best Foreign Film, Oscar for Best Screenplay, and a host of European Awards for Best Film and Best Director of 2002.

Posters for this semester's Cinema Arts films will be displayed in glass cases outside the

Russell Union Auditorium.

Programming director Tomasz Warchol encourages students to attend the Cinema Arts movies this semester. "We hope you can help us celebrate our 25 remarkable years, which is by far the longest running cultural event at GSU," said Warchol. "Hope to see you at the films."



Writers Needed:

If you are interested in writing for The George-Anne, call 912 681-5246 or email News Editor RachelMcDanielatganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu.

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THE BIG STORY

Bolivia's first Indian president sworn in

By Fiona Smith
Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia — Leftist coca grower Evo Morales, a fierce critic of U.S. policies who helped topple two of his predecessors in deadly street uprisings against Bolivia's ruling elite, was inaugurated Sunday as the nation's first Indian president.

The former llama herder and leader of Bolivia's coca growers union raised his fist in a leftist salute just before he swore to uphold the constitution during the ceremony in the ornate Legislative Palace.

Morales wept and bowed after he was presented with the yellow, red and green presidential sash, the colors of the Bolivian flag. Outside, tens of thousands of people, led by brightly dressed Indians, cheered and blew on cow horns as fireworks crackled overhead.

They then sang the national anthem amid shouts of "Evo! Evo!" in support of Morales, a farmer's son who has promised to lift one of Latin America's poorest countries out of the misery it has endured since the 16th-century Spanish conquest.

Morales said his election marks the beginning of the end to hundreds of years of discrimination and repression

of Bolivia's Indian majority.

"I wish to tell you, my Indian brothers, that the 500-year indigenous and popular campaign of resistance has not been in vain," Morales declared.

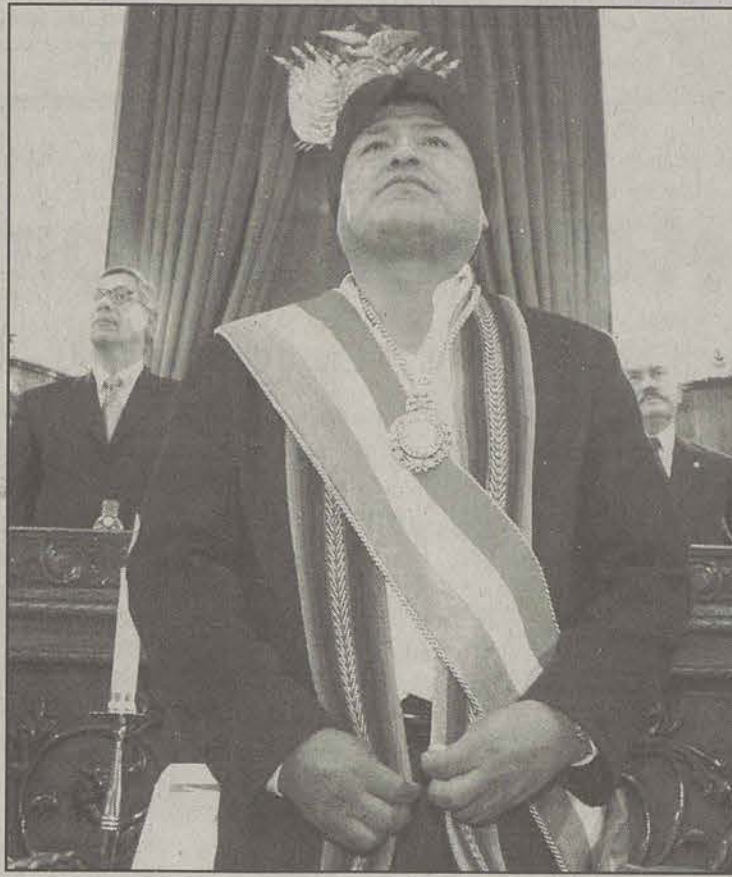
He also said he would "change history" but "without vengeance," and his government would serve all sectors of Bolivian society.

Timeless in character with his informal style, the former opposition leader vowed that his leftist Movement Toward Socialism would be stubbornly independent, avoiding any outside influences. While he has said his government would welcome warm relations with the United States and other governments, he vowed he would not "submit" to any outside powers.

As part of a more nationalistic and leftist agenda, he also said he would move ahead with plans to nationalize Bolivia's abundant natural gas reserves and convoke a constitutional assembly later this year to answer Indian demands for a greater share of power in society.

A potentially prickly subject in U.S. relations with Bolivia is the production of coca, the raw material for cocaine.

Poor Bolivians traditionally chew



AP Photo/David Mercado

Bolivia's new President Evo Morales fits his suit after swearing in to his new office in La Paz on Sunday.

the leaf to combat hunger and the effects of altitude.

Morales has said he wants to

expand the acreage allotted for coca while cracking down on the international cartels that traffic the plant.

Whale stranded in Thames dies during rescue attempt

By David Stringer
Associated Press

LONDON — The lost and distressed whale stranded in the River Thames died Saturday as rescue workers ferried it on a rusting salvage barge in an effort to release it in the open sea, an animal rights group said.

The 20-foot-long Northern bottlenose whale had been lifted onto a barge by rescuers and was being taken downriver toward the North Sea when it suffered convulsions and died, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said.

The whale struggled with the effects of being out of the water as it was ferried toward the Thames Estuary,

officials said.

"It was a brave, valiant, but ultimately tragic effort to get the whale to safety," RSPCA scientific officer Leila Sadler said.

Swaddled in blankets on the barge, the marine mammal, watched by thousands in London as it spent two days swimming up the murky river past some of the capital's most famous landmarks, had shown signs of increasing stress and stiffening muscles, an indicator it was in serious difficulty.

"The animal suffered a series of convulsions at around 7 p.m. (2 p.m. EST) and died," Sadler said. "It was already dehydrated, hadn't been feeding

and the being out of the water would have, in effect, shriveled the animal's internal organs.

"It was essential to try to take the whale out to sea on the barge, but there was always the risk this would happen."

A crowd of 3,000 people at Albert Bridge in south London had cheered and applauded as the whale was tethered to a sling and lifted by a crane onto the barge Crossness. Rescue crews were heading toward Margate, on the southern English coast, where they hoped to let the whale back out to sea.

"There was a real chance that the rescue attempt could have succeeded,

but these type of mammals are very prone to the effects of stress and I'm afraid it all became too much," said Tony Woodley, spokesman for the British Divers Marine Life Rescue group, which led the rescue attempt.

"It was always going to be a race against time to get it to the ocean, especially with the effect being out of the water has on a whale's body."

A veterinarian will conduct a necropsy aboard the salvage vessel to determine the cause of death.

"All the crew on the barge are shattered by the death," Woodley said. "They were tired and exhausted but had been determined to do everything they could to get the whale to safety."

Quick, what's new

THE REGION

Deaths push calls for mine safety overhaul

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — In death, 14 West Virginia coal miners have achieved something that just a month ago seemed an unlikely goal: labor, industry and lawmakers are united in demanding that a dangerous subterranean occupation be made safer. Hours after the bodies of two missing miners were found Saturday in Aracoma Coal's Alma No. 1 mine at Melville, Gov. Joe Manchin and West Virginia's congressional delegation called for a major overhaul of state and federal mine safety laws.

THE NATION

Investigators question prison system's use of inmates to keep order after guard deaths

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The California prison system's use of some of its toughest, most feared inmates to help keep order behind bars led to the slaying of a guard, state investigators say. Federal authorities are looking into whether the practice contributed to a second death.

Halliburton Cited in Iraq Contamination

WASHINGTON — Troops and civilians at a U.S. military base in Iraq were exposed to contaminated water last year and employees for the responsible contractor, Halliburton, couldn't get their company to inform camp residents, according to interviews and internal company documents. Halliburton, the company formerly headed by Vice President Dick Cheney, disputes the allegations about water problems at Camp Junction City in Ramadi, even though they were made by its own employees and documented in company e-mails.

THE WORLD

At least 23 Iraqis die in spate of attacks

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents fired rocket-propelled grenades at a policeman home northeast of Baghdad on Sunday, killing his four children and his brother and raising to at least 23 the number of Iraqis killed in attacks this weekend. Also Sunday, police found the bullet-riddled bodies of nearly two dozen men abducted last week north of Baghdad after being rejected entry into a police academy, officials said.



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Georgia Southern Career Services

Spring Recruitment Calendar

Employers Attending as of 1/19

2006

DATE	COMPANY	INTERVIEW TYPE	JOB TITLE	RESUME DEADLINE	LOCATION
1/26/06	Harcon, Inc	Open	Project Engineer	1/23/06	Williams Center
2/2/06	BB&T	Preselect	Management Associate	1/23/06	Williams Center
2/3/06	Rockford Manufacturing	Open	Structural Engineer	1/31/06	Williams Center
2/6/06	Eagle Global Logistics	Open	Management Trainee	2/1/06	Williams Center
2/8/06	Robins AFB - Palace Acquire Program	Preselect	Industrial Management Specialist, Inventory Management Specialist	2/2/06	Williams Center
2/9/06	TIC, The Industrial Company	Open	Field Engineer (FT/Intern/CO-OP)	2/6/06	Williams Center
2/23/06	Brasfield & Gorrie	Open	Field Engineer (FT/Intern/CO-OP)	2/16/06	Carruth Building
2/23/06	Southstar Funding	Preselect	Entry Level Mortgage Professional, Loan Officer, Underwriting Trainee	2/6/06	Williams Center
2/23/06	Accredited Home Lenders	Preselect	Management Trainee	2/15/06	Williams Center
2/23/06	Turner Construction	Open	Field Engineer (FT/Intern/CO-OP)	2/6/06	Carruth Building
2/23/06	GA Department of Audits	Preselect	Staff Auditor	2/6/06	COBA
2/24/06	Lowe's Companies, Inc.	Preselect	Distribution Coach-in-Training	2/6/06	Williams Center
2/28/06	Universal Forest Products	Preselect	Production Management Trainee, Sales Trainee	2/14/06	Williams Center
3/2/06	Target Stores	Preselect	Assets Protection Leader, Executive Intern, Executive Team Leader	2/16/06	Williams Center
3/2/06	Norfolk Southern Corporation	Preselect	<i>For a complete list please log into EagleTRAK</i>	2/16/06	COBA
3/6/06	Sherwin-Williams	Preselect	Management/Sales Trainee	2/20/06	Williams Center
3/9/06	Walgreens	Open	Management Intern	3/7/06	Williams Center
3/9/06	ABF Freight System, Inc.	Preselect	Management Trainee	2/23/06	Williams Center
3/21/06	Progressive Insurance	Preselect	Claim Rep Trainee	2/28/06	Williams Center
3/23/06	United McGill	Preselect	Sales Engineer	2/28/06	Williams Center

This is just a partial list.

For an up-to-date listing of who is interviewing on campus, be sure to check EagleTRAK by visiting this link:
<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/career/eagletrak/Questions??Comments??>

Feel free to contact Dorsey K. Baldwin or Wallace Brown by phone at 681-5197 or by E-mail at careersv@georgiasouthern.edu

OPINION

THE GEORGE-ANNE DAILY EDITORIAL BOARD

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"Remember that a government big enough to give you everything you want is also big enough to take away everything you have."

- Barry Goldwater
 Former U.S. Senator

OUR VIEW

Ciara concert not crowded, but spirit was still there

AT ISSUE: Despite the low number of attendants to Ciara concert, GSU did great job with the time they had

The fall concert headlined by Ciara in November drew an unimpressive crowd of about 1,200 attendants. In the end, the university spent about \$250,000 on the concert, a price that included the talent, the production, stage and security.

A quarter of a million dollars is quite a lot of money to spend on a concert that probably didn't bring in any more than a fifth of that price.

If every person in attendance bought a ticket at the non-student price (\$35), ticket sales would have only amounted to about \$42,000, but we know that not everyone in attendance bought a \$35 ticket, so that number is extremely high.

But the point is not that the concert cost Georgia Southern over \$200,000, the point is that they tried to bring a major event to campus that would be entertaining for all students.

We have to admit, Ciara isn't necessarily the epitome of popularity in the music industry today. We know that, you know that and the GSU officials who brought her to campus know that as well.

Despite knowing her limited popularity and fame, we have to commend the university for pulling off the concert in the short time that they did. After Kanye West cancelled his scheduled

show in our small town, the administration scrambled to bring another big-name act for our students.

While they might not have been able to bring someone with the same prestige as West, the compromise wasn't too bad considering the short amount of time they had to reschedule.

A silver lining to the whole situation could be that—despite Ciara's lack of appeal to everyone—bringing her allowed concert organizers to have GSU students showcase their talent in front of a live audience of over 1,000 people.

Those who attended the concert were very

pleased with the show, as far as we could tell. Many members of our staff were in attendance and can report nothing but high spirits among those that braved the cold to attend the concert.

We appreciate the group of campus leaders that helped bring Ciara to Statesboro, and we also appreciate their speed at remedying the gap that West left when he punked out and decided to stay home instead of coming to perform for us.

Though the attendance was less than expected and the show may not have been what everyone wanted, GSU tried to make us happy, and we thank them for that.

LUKE HEARN SPEAKING PLAIN ENGLISH

Stop with this bad grammar, please

You know, I wouldn't be insulted if someone called me a grammar nerd. To be quite honest, I enjoy studying about language — how it works, why it works and what it is that makes it work for us.

But I do have a confession: I cannot really call myself an expert. I know how to apply most all of the rules regarding mechanics of the English language, but my downfall is being able to identify every single part of a sentence correctly. But, realizing this problem, I am currently taking a class on linguistics and grammar and hope to be a full expert really soon.

But the point of this column is not for me to boast about how much I love grammar per se; it's to explain why I fear that the rules we have are being ignored, and to let you know who's to blame and why we need to address the problem.

In my grammar class the other day, a fellow student of mind asked the professor how she could explain to someone the necessity of a comma in regard to a certain grammar rule.

The professor said the rules are the way they are not because of some scientific or mathematical theory, but because we as users of language have agreed on where commas go, just as we have agreed that "dog" means domesticated K9 animal, and "moon" means that thing we see in the sky at night.

Grammar only works because it has been agreed that it works. And in that regard, it's important for us to all understand how it functions, particularly in our writing.

It's sad that there are people at this fine university that cannot identify the subject and predicate of a sentence, or recognize and be able to distinguish between a verb and a noun. It's also very disappointing that major corporations such as McDonald's have logos and slogans — which, I might add, are very recognizable to children — that include bad grammar. McDonald's current slogan is "I'm lovin' it." Now this sentence (if you want to call it a sentence) would not confuse a young learner of English in regard to improperly identifying a verb or a noun, but it does present a problem with a.) the first letter of the sentence not being capitalized, b.) "I" not being capitalized, and c.) the fact that one of the words in the "sentence" isn't even a real word: "lovin'."

Superstars like 50 Cent don't help things either. 50 Cents would be the proper way for the man to describe himself; 50 Cent is wrong, and that name does nothing but perpetuate improper grammar.

We are in a time period where the proper use of mechanics in our language is being ignored. Instant messages, blogs, message boards, text messages and informal e-mails are prompting us to ignore the rules we've known our whole lives. And with younger children who are just now learning to properly use the language being exposed to situations where "proper" language is not required, it's going to cause problems, especially when they're being told to capitalize proper nouns in class, but are not required to do so online.

I'm not writing this because I have some magical solution that would change all this in an instant. The only solution I have is education and the acknowledgement of the rules and regulations set in place to guide us with our writing.

The funny thing is, some of you have probably already identified some sort of grammatical error in this very column, or may find one here or there in the paper today; if so, good for you — that's not the point of this column. The point is that there is a problem with people ignoring the rules that we're supposed to follow in our writing, and if we don't address it, we're going to have some dumb people walking around knowing nothing, but thinking they know everything.



From Around the State: THEIR VIEW

Columbus Ledger-Enquirer on sexual predator legislation

It's a sure bet that most of us, when it comes to sexual predators, have precious little sympathy; for those who prey on children, none whatever. For the worst of the worst, there is no sentence long enough to compensate for the damage — sometimes permanent — they inflict on their victims.

If the current move by Georgia's Republican legislative leaders to toughen penalties on sex offenders is the result of demonstrable inadequacies in state law, and not just political posturing, then by all means let's explain clearly what the loopholes are, and make sure those who need to go to prison go there and those who need to stay there don't get out. If Georgia is swarming with repeat sex offenders, and weak laws make judges unable to impose the kinds of sentences that protect public safety, then indeed we should bring the hammer down harder.

Surely we've spent time and public money enough over the last 10 years or more paying the cost of the last round of such laws, passed in a similar political climate. The result has been a prison system packed beyond capacity and a judicial system stripped of discretion to make reasonable distinctions among even the most

obviously different degrees of crime.

It's interesting that this issue comes to the fore during the confirmation process for Judge Samuel Alito, President Bush's latest nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court. Alito, pressed for his judicial philosophy on a host of politically hot issues, has consistently answered that his ruling would depend on that ever-present set of variables lawyers call "the facts of the case." It's an answer Alito's Democratic foes criticize as cagey and evasive and his Republican supporters defend as a reasonable and necessary understanding of judicial discretion.

Now lawmakers in Georgia — with more than a decade's worth of compelling evidence that mandatory minimum sentencing is a fiscal and correctional disaster — want to specify sentences for crimes that haven't been committed yet?

The principle Alito articulates is crucial to the discharge of law and justice, whether the issue is abortion, presidential power or crime and punishment. If Georgia's sex offender laws are too lax, then give courts the power to be tougher. But let's not emulate those grandstanding senators who demand a ruling before anybody knows the facts of the case.

Today in History	Spain at age 84.
Today is Monday, Jan. 23, the 23rd day of 2006. There are 342 days left in the year.	Ten years ago: -Delivering his State of the Union address to a skeptical Republican Congress, President Clinton traced the themes of his re-election campaign and confronted GOP lawmakers on the budget, demanding they "neveever" shut down the government again.
Today's Highlight in History: -On Jan. 23, 1973, President Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War.	Five years ago: -California energy officials eked sufficient power out of tight West Coast electricity supplies to avoid rush hour blackouts as lawmakers scrambled to make longer-term deals to buy power. -Five Falun Gong followers set themselves on fire in China's Tiananmen Square; one died.
On this date: -In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C. -In 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. -In 1920, the Dutch government refused demands from the victorious Allies to hand over the ex-kaiser of Germany. -In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination. -In 1950, the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution proclaiming Jerusalem the capital of Israel. -In 1964, the 24th amendment to the Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified. -In 1985, debate in Britain's House of Lords was carried on live television for the first time. -In 1989, surrealist artist Salvador Dali died in his native	One year ago: -Former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson died in Malibu, Calif., at age 79. -Viktor Yushchenko was sworn in as president of Ukraine. -The Philadelphia Eagles defeated the Atlanta Falcons 27-10 to win the NFC championship game; the New England Patriots won the AFC championship by beating the Pittsburgh Steelers, 41-27.
	<i>Today in History provided by The Associated Press</i>

Morgan Marsh THE MELTING POT

Abortion debate still ongoing, real

A letter to the editor in last Thursday's edition of The George-Anne said that abortion is the slavery of our time, claiming that allowing women to have abortions is the same today as men being able to own slaves. The letter stated: "Both of these practices...reduce a human life to someone else's property."

It was a new, fresh perspective on the issue, I'll agree with that. But I have a very hard time comparing the two. During slavery, men were trading for or buying other human beings that were considered less than men just because of their skin color. Slaves were treated miserably, forced to work as if they were nothing more than animals, and most often in incredibly inhumane conditions. They had no rights and no freedom to make their own decisions regarding the lives and futures of themselves and their families. It was a time of selfishness and extreme ignorance toward other human beings based on something as trivial as the tone of their skin. Abortion has nothing in common with this.

I did consider the idea that being allowed to choose to have an abortion may "reduce a human life to someone else's property." But that only compares abortion — not the countless other decisions we make daily.

Is using birth control reducing your sperm and eggs to your property, so you can choose to get pregnant or not? Is masturbating reducing your sperm to your property, to do with it whatever you like? How about just simply choosing not to have sex because you don't want children? Are you enslaving your sperm or eggs by not allowing them to fertilize or become fertilized?

Regardless of what your religion may tell you is the "moral" decision considering abortion, please at least consider the practical side of the issue.

Children in married-couple families were much less likely to be living in poverty than children living only with their mothers, according to childstats.ed.gov. The percentage of children living in poverty with both parents present in the United States was nine percent in 2003. The percentage of children living in poverty with only one parent present was 42 percent in 2003. I would think that if a woman is all alone and does not have the financial means to take care of a child yet, the responsible thing to do would be to get an abortion, rather than bring a child into the world that she is unable to take care of and raise properly.

Let's not forget about those horribly unfortunate situations when a woman is raped and then becomes pregnant by her attacker. I would hope that no "moral" person would tell that woman she must have that child, no matter what she was trying to achieve or do with her life at the time, and then be reminded every time she looks at that child that his father attacked and took advantage of her and forced her into a responsibility — a human life to take care of forever — that she was not emotionally or financially ready for. There are countless situations like these where the responsible, moral thing to do is to choose not to have a child.

Allowing women to choose whether or not to have children is a right that, when not taken advantage of, is extremely important. There should be abortion laws in place — I would never disagree with that. I see nothing wrong with enforcing strict, reasonable abortion laws. But comparing abortion to something as severe as slavery and claiming that it is immoral in any situation to have an abortion is an ignorant and purely emotional response. We do still have a long way to go, but claiming that having the right to choose conflicts with the "right to live" is only setting us further back from reaching the practical — and moral — answer to this long-debated issue.

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The George-Anne Daily welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be 300 words or less, typed, and preferably sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year at GSU, and hometown. The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any submission.

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Man buries BMW to collect insurance

1 RAVENNA, Ohio — A man facing a big bill because he had blown the engine in his 1997 BMW decided to bury his car instead and collect \$20,000 from his insurance company by claiming it was stolen. Matthew Mueller rented a backhoe in October 2002 and buried the car on property owned by his father in rural northeast Ohio. Police received tips last year and excavated the vehicle. Mueller, 35, of Akron, was sentenced to a year in prison for insurance fraud, tampering with evidence, falsification and receiving stolen property. He apologized in Portage County Common Pleas Court on Tuesday and paid restitution to Progressive Insurance along with \$15,500 to state officials for their costs digging up the vehicle. "It was stupidity and completely out of character," he said. "I broke the law and I tried to conceal it."

Police arrest man wearing a toga

2 MORGANTON, N.C. — Police captured a man wearing only a toga while he sped away in a car with women's underwear inside. Michael Sean Ostrander, 33, was arrested Monday after allegedly breaking into the home of a Burke County woman and making off with some of her clothes.

The woman told police she was visiting a neighbor when she heard her burglar alarm go off and saw a man flee in a car.

The woman gave chase and called the police, with the state Highway Patrol and local officers joining the pursuit along North Carolina Highway 181.

According to the patrol, Ostrander was arrested near the Burke-Avery county line after stopping his car. The Burke County Sheriff's Office said it found panties and photos belonging to the woman inside Ostrander's car.

Ostrander is charged with breaking, entering and larceny, possession of stolen goods and speeding to avoid arrest — all felonies.

He spent four years in prison following a 2001 conviction in Catawba County on a second-degree rape charge.

A judge on Wednesday set a probable cause hearing for next month.

Card collection found in home

3 BOSTON — Police were called to guard the condemned home of a reclusive man whose death led to the discovery of a valuable collection of vintage sports cards.

The collection, stored in 400 to 500 boxes in John F. Hessian's home in Boston's Roslindale section, included cards of such long-gone baseball stars as Ted Williams, Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays and Roberto Clemente.

Hessian also had football and hockey cards dating to the 1940s in a collection police estimate could be worth up to \$1 million, according to a report published Thursday in the Boston Herald.

"This is like Fort Knox inside," said Michael Wiseman of Aftermath Cleaning Co., which was hired to tear through piles of trash 6-feet high to reach the cards.

Hessian, 83, lived alone in the home his entire life, until a neighbor discovered him dead there on Jan. 2.

Four truckloads of the cards were removed from the house last week. Hessian also had some valuable cards stored in a safe deposit box in an unknown location.

Hessian is survived by two cousins who are left to hunt for a will.

Man fakes death to keep child support

4 COLUMBIA, S.C. — Police arrested a man accused of faking his death more than 25 years ago to avoid paying child support.

Johnny Sterling Martin, 58, had a relative call Family Court in 1979 and report that he died during a bar fight in Alabama, authorities said. That call came a few months after he escaped from a work detail while serving a one-year jail term for failing to pay \$4,120 in support for two children.

He was captured Tuesday and jailed, and now owes more than \$30,000 in child support and faces an escape charge, authorities said.

"Johnny Martin is the ultimate deadbeat dad, faking his own death to avoid paying money to support his young children who were living in Lexington County," Sheriff James Metts said.

Martin has been living in Myrtle Beach, about 150 miles away, and had been using his real name for about 20 years, investigators. He has been married four times — twice since his disappearance — and has a third child, sheriff's Maj. John Allard said.

The investigation was reopened last week when police got a tip from one of Martin's ex-wives that he was alive and living in Myrtle Beach. A fingerprint analysis confirmed Martin's identity, investigators said.

They are working to identify the caller who told family court Martin was dead.

Evacuees want Louisiana rebuilt with better levees, cheap housing

By Mike Stobbe
 Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Louisiana residents who attended forums in 30 communities across the South Saturday told federal and state officials what they want most of all when their hurricane-ravaged state is rebuilt — stronger levees, affordable housing and better schools.

Some evacuees at the "Louisiana Speaks" forums also worried that officials have no real plans to restore certain neighborhoods, such as New Orleans' impoverished Lower 9th Ward.

Most of the forums — sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Louisiana Recovery Authority, which Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco created in October — were held in Louisiana. Six were held in Atlanta, Houston and four other cities where tens of thousands of Louisiana residents fled after the hurricanes.

Louisiana expects to receive between \$8 billion and \$11 billion in federal

funding for the rebuilding of the state, and Saturday's forums are part of a planning process in figuring out how to best use that money, Louisiana officials said.

On Thursday, Blanco announced a "dream team" of planners, designers and architects that will work with cities and towns to develop a long-term regional vision for rebuilding South Louisiana.

Of the roughly 44,000 Louisiana residents evacuated to Georgia, mostly to the Atlanta area, about 35 showed up at the Atlanta event Saturday morning — a small turnout that some evacuees blamed on the rain and others on insufficient publicity.

They said the availability of affordable housing will make or break their decision to return to New Orleans.

Housing and transportation were major issues also for the two dozen evacuees who attended the meeting Saturday morning.

Buses

from page 1

Six of the new buses are scheduled to arrive in March, with two more arriving later.

"These buses take much time to make. We cannot just go to a bus dealership and buy six new buses for the school," said Chambers.

Parts for the buses are all made by different companies and are then brought together and installed, said Chambers. According to a Cognisa representative, the metal used to make the gas tanks for the new buses is used for equipment in Iraq, which has delayed production of the new buses.

Other noticeable improvements from the current buses will be working air conditioning, and all buses will be handicap accessible.

Since the current buses belong to the company that runs the

transportation system, the school has no say over what happens to them when the new ones arrive.

Chambers added that the buses will not run during the summer terms.

The transportation system has not changed from the fall semester to the spring, but changes for possible improvements will be discussed over the summer.

"I cannot guarantee there will be changes, but we will look into it," said Chambers.

The construction on Chandler Road that will add a new turn lane will aid in large trucks' or buses' ability to make turns on that intersection.

Statesboro is responsible for the construction, not GSU. The bus route first went down Chandler Road in the fall, but the buses could not navigate the turn safely and took an alternate route down Forest Drive, according to Chambers.

This project's completion will have no bearing on the routes this spring.

Go Greek!

IFC Fraternity Recruitment

Tuesday, January 24, 2006

Russell Union Theatre

5:30 P. M.

Alpha Tau Omega

Delta Chi

Delta Sigma Phi

Kappa Alpha Order

Kappa Sigma

Pi Kappa Alpha

Pi Kappa Phi

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Sigma Chi

Sigma Nu

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Sigma Pi

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Concert

from page 1

Carter said the weather on the night of the concert might have been a reason for the small number of concert attendees.

"It was a very cold night," said Carter. "With outdoor concerts, you take that chance. There's nothing you can do about it. Who's to say if it wasn't a 70 degree night it would have done better?"

Ciara was a quick replacement after Kanye West announced he wouldn't perform at GSU. That concert would have brought Fantasia, Common and Keyshia Cole to the 'Boro, but West announced he wouldn't do an outdoor show two weeks after he signed the contract.

Carter said West's absence might have contributed to the poor showing.

"The situation was difficult. The initial artist had to change his schedule. People may not be as excited for the second one," said Carter. "At first we weren't going to do it."

Despite the financial loss, Carter was pleased that it gave some GSU students a chance to perform on-stage as opening acts.

"It was incredible to have student talent there - a lot of the community showed up. We have a very vibrant

"People weren't really feeling those artists. They were like 'We would stand in the cold for Kanye, but not for Ciara.'"

Ivari Lewis
 GSU Idol winner,
 opening act for Ciara

community here on campus," said Carter. "It was neat to have the community embrace it."

"It kind of made me feel like celebrity," said Ivari Lewis, a junior who was the first opening student act. "The crowd was really supportive and I got a huge rush being on stage."

While there are currently no plans to hold a concert this semester, they are keeping concert possibilities open for the fall semester. Thompson had said previously that the school was looking for a country act to perform this spring, but there was no word on what genre the school will seek for fall.

Lewis had some advice for school planners.

"I think that fall concerts are really nice but it should be early on in the semester not toward the end," said Lewis. "People are winding up the semester, their money had run low."

"People weren't really feeling those artists. They were like 'We would stand in the cold Kanye, but not Ciara.'"

GOT A STORY TIP?

We'll give \$10 for the best story idea of the week. E-mail us at gamed@georgiasouthern.edu. It's confidential and no story is too controversial.

For more information stop by the Greek Life Office,
 Russell Union, Rm 2007, call 912-681-5185
 or e-mail grklife@georgiasouthern.edu

SPORTS

The GSU baseball team's season starts off Feb. 4 against the University of North Florida at J.I. Clements Stadium.

12 DAYS



A tough weekend for GSU Basketball

Miscues by both teams play role in losses

GSU News Service

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Davidson's Eric Blanchett scored a career high 17 points to lead the Wildcats to an 83-58 win over Georgia Southern Saturday afternoon at Belk Arena. The Wildcats improve to 11-6 on the year, 5-1 in SoCon play, while the Eagles fall to 12-6, 3-2 in SoCon action.

After a quick basket by Davidson's Boris Meno, the Eagles jumped out to an early 5-2 lead at the 17:51 mark. Elton Nesbitt scored his second three pointer of the game with 14:15 to play in the half to give the Eagles the 10-6 advantage before the Wildcats answered.

Davidson went on a 10-0 run to retake the lead for good at 16:10 with 10:36 on the clock. GSU got within four at 22:18 but the Wildcats put together a 19-3 run over the next five minutes. Two quick baskets by the Eagles made the halftime score 45-28.

Davidson shot 60.0 percent in the first half on 18-of-30 shooting from the floor. GSU shot 10-of-26 (38.5 percent) and only shot 57.1 percent from the charity stripe.

A Sean Olivier layup cut the Wildcat lead to 15 at 45:30 with 18:53 to play in the game, but that was as close as the Eagles would get. Davidson put together a 6-2 spurt to extend its lead to 20 at 60:40 with 14:08 remaining in the game.

The Eagles responded, putting together their own 7-3 run to cut their deficit to 16 on a Nesbitt try with 10:36 on the clock. The Wildcats extended their lead as they went on a 10-0 run, holding the Eagles scoreless for four minutes, putting them up 80-52 with 3:40 to play. GSU did not quit, as they fought back, going on a 6-0 run to end the game, making the final score 83-58.

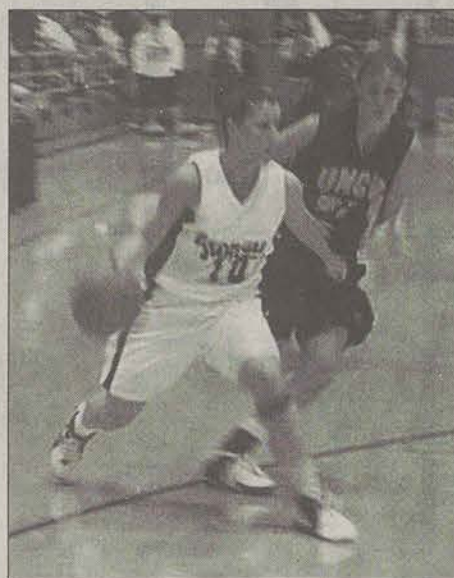
Nesbitt led the Eagles with 15 points and five rebounds, while Donte Gennie added 11. Jimmy Tobias had nine points and six rebounds. Davidson shot 50.8 percent on the day while Georgia Southern shot a mere 38.3 percent.

The Eagles will look to snap their two-game losing skid as they head to Boone, N.C., to face Appalachian State on Monday. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.



Jared Siri/STAFF

Senior guard Lee DuBose makes a pass in an earlier match vs. UNC-Greensboro this season. DuBose and the Lady Eagles host conference unbeaten Chattanooga tonight. The Lady Mocs are averaging almost 74 points/game with the SoCon's second lead scorer Kaitasha Brown.



Terrance Williams/STAFF

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Appalachian State defense forced a key five-second violation on an inbounds play with 20.3 seconds left and a Georgia Southern three-point attempt went off the front of the rim at the buzzer, giving the Mountaineers a 78-75 victory Saturday afternoon at Holmes Center.

The win by Appalachian snaps a 14-game losing streak to the Lady Eagles, dating back to the 1999-00 season. ASU improves to 8-9 and 4-4 in the Southern Conference while GSU drops to 7-10, 4-4.

GSU senior Nicole Newton (Dublin, Ga.) led a contingent of four in double-figures with 16. Freshman Ashley Melson (Newnan, Ga.) had 15 and sophomore Shawnda Atwood (Pensacola, Fla.) and senior Lee DuBose (Jefferson, Ga.) tallied 13 and 11, respectively.

GSU found themselves down six (72-66) with 3:37 left in the contest and began a 7-0 run to take the lead. DuBose jumpstarted it with a triple from the top of the key, then after two free throws from Newton, added two more at the stripe for a 73-72 lead.

Bennett converted two at the line to take back the lead, but Newton

put-back a missed shot to go up 75-74 with 34 seconds on the clock.

Kiki Conyers wasted little time in answering, nailing a jumper with 27 seconds left to put the Mountaineers up for the final time.

GSU had an inbound opportunity on the sideline following a timeout, but was unable to get the ball in, turning it over.

Conyers hit both shots from the line with 6.3 seconds left and Newton's attempt, while on-line, hit the front of the rim and bounced off.

"Our post game wasn't there the first half," said head coach

Rusty Cram. "It got better in the second half, but we fell behind and it became a guard-game. In a game like this, you have to keep a cool head, and we have freshmen out there who are learning on the court. But we broke down at times and didn't get the look we were going for.

"We had 14 turnovers just in the first half and seven turned into breakaway layups," Cram added. "We didn't come prepared to attack until we got way behind and had to play catch-up ball for the rest of the night. For some reason, we can't get off the bus and attack right off the bat, get in a lead and maintain it."

UP NEXT
Who: UTC (14-3, 8-0)
When: Mon., 7 p.m.
Where: Hanner Fieldhouse

Swimming and Diving team remains undefeated in conference competition

GSU News Service

The Georgia Southern Swimming & Diving team (7-2, 3-0) captured eight of 11 total events to down the visiting Campbell Fighting Camels 94-87 Saturday, (Jan. 21) at Hanner Natatorium.

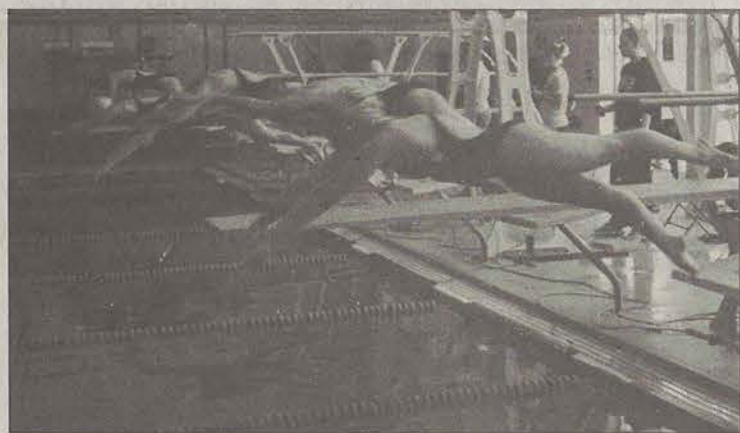
The meet closes out the home schedule for the Eagles as they sweep the season to go undefeated at their home pool and remain undefeated in conference competition this year.

"This meet was a great opportunity to fine-tune as we approach the Northeast Conference Championship meet in February," said head coach Nate Kellogg. "Surprisingly, we had a few season bests, which indicates to me that the girls steadily improve week after week—something that we try to communicate to them during every meet."

Junior Kelli King took first place in both distance freestyle events, and in doing so, set one new season and two new personal bests.

She completed the 500y Free in 5:23.97 and the 1000y Free in 11:02.57 for tops on the Eagle squad this year. Her 500y Free time improves on her previous personal best by nearly five full seconds.

Freshman Courtney McCarthy



James Hall/STAFF

The Swimming and Diving team has wrapped up a perfect home season.

posted the other season top five time for GSU in the 100y Fly. She won the event by more than three seconds with a time of 1:01.19 to give her the second fastest time in the event this season. McCarthy also saw victory as part of the first place 200y Medley Relay team.

Sophomore Kimmy Morris garnered two first place finishes in the meet. One as part of the 200y Free Relay team, (1:44.85) and the other individually in the 100y Back, (1:03.04).

Other individual wins were contributed by freshman Katelyn

Woolfolk (200y Free; 2:02.74) and sophomore Patrina Best (50y Free; 25.23).

GSU will face two more opponents before heading into the Northeast Conference Championships in mid-February. The team travels to Boiling Springs, N.C. to take on reigning NEC champion Gardner-Webb and conference foe North Carolina A&T on Friday and Saturday.

Friday's action will begin at 5 p.m., with Saturday's finale getting underway at 10 a.m. The meet will conclude the regular season for the Eagles.

also won the Spirit Award.

"In recruiting her we were looking for someone who as an outfielder, already knows the position, and has a good understanding of it," Poole added. "We are looking forward to her being a part of this team."

Iduate, from Norcross, Ga., earned four varsity letters at Norcross High School and was a two-time Gwinnett All-County selection.

She won the 2003 and 2005 team Most Valuable Player and the 2004 NHS Best Defensive Player awards, and is the first Norcross softball Division I signee.

She led the Brookwood Blaze club team to the 2003 16A ISA state championship and the Georgia Fire placed third in the 2005 18U Gold Canada Cup.

Iduate hit .365 for the Fire in 2004-05.

Iduate excelled in basketball as well, being named to the All-County team.

"We went out with the mission of finding someone that could play the middle infield and outfield equally well. Offensively, she is a slapper who has made a difference on the teams that she has been on and we are very excited about her being a part of this program."

Side, a native of Loganville, Ga., earned all-state, all-county (Atlanta Journal-Constitution and Gwinnett Daily Post) and all-region accolades in 2004, batting .433 with 17 runs, 19 runs batted in and a .619 slugging percentage.

She missed most of the 2005 season with a broken thumb, but still managed a .304 batting average and .478 slugging percentage, and was named all-state.

Side helped guide South Gwinnett High School to the 2005 Region 8AAAAA championship and participated in the North-South All-Star Game.

Eagles complete Niswonger Foundation Invitational

GSU News Service

The Georgia Southern Track & Field team opened the 2006 portion of the indoor season by competing at the Niswonger Foundation Invitational over the weekend. The large gathering was hosted by East Tennessee State University and featured over 600 athletes from 33 institutions.

As action got underway on Friday, the Eagles showed why the outlook for this season continues to be positive. Junior Lauren Jacobs took first overall in the women's Long Jump with a distance of 19'00.50". The leap is not only a personal indoor best for Jacobs, but also places her third in school history in the event.

In the Triple Jump, the Eagles placed two juniors in the top 10. Nicole Brown garnered a distance of 40'9.75" for second overall and Brittany Chase placed seventh with a distance of 38'00.00".

On the throwers side of competition, two new personal bests emerged for the Eagles out of junior Emily Greeson and sophomore Monique Pitts. Greeson placed 10th overall in the Weight Throw with a toss of 48'07.50" for her new personal indoor best and Pitts outdid her previous best in Shot Put with a distance of 35'07.75". Pitts also placed just behind Greeson, at 12th overall, in the Weight Throw with a 47'03.00" throw.

Freshmen dominated the 800M

Run for GSU, as London Ryles and Danielle Shaurette both had outstanding showings. Ryles captured sixth place overall in the event with a time of 2:22.16 and Shaurette took 11th place with a time of 2:26.26.

Saturday's action saw five more top 10 finishes for GSU. The highlight was in the 60M Hurdles in which Brittany Chase, Lauren Jacobs and sophomore Amber Wilson all compiled top times. Chase finished in 8.90 for fifth overall, Wilson set a new personal indoor best to finish just behind Chase with a time of 8.91 for sixth place and Jacobs also set a new personal indoor best, coming in eighth with a time of 9.00.

Amber Wilson also topped her previous best in the High Jump by almost three inches with a height of 5'03.00" good for third all-time at GSU.

The final two top finishes for GSU came from senior Brittney Jett. Jett completed the Mile Run in 5:37.40 for seventh overall and took fifth in the 800M unseeded run with a time of 2:26.89.

The Eagles will look to take the momentum from the Niswonger Invitational with them to Clemson, S.C. this week (Jan. 27th & 28th), as they will compete in the Clemson Multis. The team will have little less than a month to gear up for the Indoor Southern Conference Tournament, also to be held in Clemson.

VanGorder adds Collins to staff

GSU News Service

Georgia Southern football coach Brian VanGorder announced the hiring of Mark Collins as an assistant coach on defense.

Last year Collins served as the defensive coordinator at Southern Conference member Elon. He also coached and played at former SoCon member East Tennessee State.

During the 2005 season, Collins was in charge of a defense that produced All-America linebacker Chad Nkang. The Phoenix ranked 18th nationally in pass defense and 39th in total defense.

Prior to his arrival at Elon, Collins spent two years as an assistant at the University of Michigan, where he was a defensive quality control coach in

2003 and a graduate assistant helping with the offensive line in 2004.

Previous to Michigan, he was an assistant for four years (1999-2002) at ETSU, working at one time with all the defensive positions.

He was a four-year letterman and four-year starter for ETSU.

Collins spent his first year after graduation as the defensive ends coach and coordinator at Cumberland College for the 1998 season.

"I am excited to have Mark join our staff. He brings a wealth of knowledge about the Southern Conference, both from his playing days and as a coach," said VanGorder. "I think he has a lot to offer as an assistant coach working with our defense."

ROUND-UP

SoCon Men Standings as of 1/22

North Division

	W-L	W-L
Elon	5-0	9-9
Western Carolina	3-2	9-11
Chattanooga	2-3	11-9
UNC Greensboro	2-3	9-10
Appalachian State	1-4	7-11

South Division

	W-L	W-L
Davidson	5-1	10-6
Furman	5-1	10-6
Ga. Southern Coll. of Charleston	3-2	11-7
Wofford	1-5	6-13
The Citadel	0-6	6-12

SoCon Women Standings as of 1/22


	W-L	W-L
Chattanooga	8-0	14-3
Davidson	6-2	10-7
Appalachian St.	4-4	8-9
UNC Greensboro	4-4	8-9
Charleston	4-4	7-9
Ga. Southern	4-4	7-10
Elon	3-5	7-9
Furman	3-4	7-10
Western Carolina	3-5	3-14
Wofford	1-7	5-12

TONIGHT IN THE SOCON

MEN

Elon		
Furman		7 p.m.

Citadel		
UNC Greensboro		7 p.m.

Charleston		
Western Carolina		7 p.m.

Davidson		
Chattanooga		7 p.m.

Furman		
Elon		8 p.m.

WOMEN

Furman		
Elon		6 p.m.

Western Carolina		
Charleston		7 p.m.

Steelers, Seahawks to meet in Super Bowl XL



Associated Press

Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Cedrick Wilson (80) pulls in a 12-yard touchdown pass ahead of Denver Broncos cornerback Champ Bailey at the AFC Championship game Sunday in Denver.

By Eddie Pells
Associated Press

DENVER - The wildest road trip since "Animal House" rocks on.

The next stop for Big Ben, The Bus and all those Terrible Towels will be the Super Bowl in Detroit, thanks to a 34-17 dismantling of the Denver Broncos on Sunday in the AFC title game.

"We were sitting, looking at an outside shot to be in the Super Bowl," Steelers linebacker Clark Haggans said. "This is an unbelievable feeling to be here right now."

Unbelievable and almost unprecedented.

Led by 275 yards and two passing touchdowns from Ben Roethlisberger and a touchdown by Jerome Bettis, the Steelers became the first team since the 1985 Patriots to win three road games en route to the Super Bowl. Counting the regular season, they've played five of their final six away from Pittsburgh.

Outschemed, outplayed and pushed around all day, the Broncos (14-4) shuffled off to their locker room, heads down, after their first home loss in 10 tries this season.

"We did not complete the mission and it's frustrating," linebacker Ian Gold said. "But anytime you make it

to the AFC championship game and you lose, you hope to lose to a team like that."

The first drive resulted in a field goal. On Denver's next possession, Pittsburgh's Joey Porter blitzed to force a Jake Plummer fumble. Five plays later, Roethlisberger hit Cedrick Wilson for a touchdown and a 10-0 lead.

After a Denver field goal, the Steelers essentially salted this game with a 14-play, 80-yard drive that ate up nearly 7 1/2 minutes and had the Broncos defense totally off balance and gasping for air.

Bettis capped it by bulling in from the 3 for a 17-3 lead to put him well on his way to the Super Bowl. Cowher smiled widely for that one, remembering Bettis' near disaster on the goal line last week in Indy.

"This is a great group of guys, how we got here, we're a different team," Cowher said. "We're a focused team, no matter what's happened, we've stayed together. We've got a resilient group."

Plummer, who had played so well in the lead all season, finally faced some comeback pressure and failed miserably. He went 18-for-30 for 223 yards with two lost fumbles and two interceptions.

"It's tough," Plummer said. "They were getting after it and when they got



Steelers vs. Panthers
Sun., Feb. 4
6:30 p.m.
ABC

a lead, we get one dimensional."

Trailing by two touchdowns late in the first half, Jake the Snake lobbed a terrible pass into the flat that was easily intercepted by Ike Taylor.

It set up Roethlisberger for his best throw of the day - a 17-yard touchdown that barely cleared the fingertips of Al Wilson and Nick Ferguson, before finding Hines Ward tucked neatly in the back of the end zone.

That made it 24-3.

Roethlisberger ran to the sideline and celebrated by pretending to fire six-shooters from his hip.

"He's the catalyst of our whole offense," Ward said. "The quarterback has to have confidence, or how else will the rest of the 10 guys follow him? He's going out there confident and having trust in his teammates to make plays."

Midway through the fourth quarter, Denver pulled within 27-17 and got the ball back at its 20.

But Plummer lost a fumble on fourth-and-10 and that pretty much made it official: The Steelers would be back in the big game after becoming the first team to beat the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 seeds in the playoffs.

The Steelers had played five AFC title games since 1994, all at home, and managed only one victory, leading many to wonder if the pressure of being a favorite, or doing it in front of the home crowd, was something the Steelers could handle.

Barry Wilner
Associated Press

SEATTLE - With their MVP back in business, a fierce defense and all the comforts of playing at home, the Seattle Seahawks punched a ticket to their first Super Bowl.

Shaun Alexander came back from last week's concussion to rush for a team playoff-record 132 yards and two touchdowns Sunday, and Seattle pressured Carolina stars Jake Delhomme and Steve Smith into oblivion in a 34-14 rout for the NFC championship.

The Seahawks picked off three passes in winning their 12th straight home game and shattering the fifth-seeded Panthers' stunning postseason road run.

The NFC's best team during the season, the Seahawks (15-3) will have to beat yet another wild card, the Pittsburgh Steelers, in the Super Bowl in Detroit on Feb. 5. Pittsburgh beat Denver 34-17 earlier in the day.

While Alexander paced the ball-control offense, it was the defense that really carried the Seahawks. It yielded only 62 yards, three first downs and no real threats in the first half.

Then, with Carolina desperate, Seattle allowed virtually nothing until it had a 30-point lead.

Mike Holmgren, only the fifth coach to lead two franchises to the

Super Bowl - he won in 1997 and lost in 1998 with Green Bay - praised his defense this week for the enormous pressure it applied to opponents all season. That defense led the league in sacks and was always in Delhomme's face, helping force two first-half interceptions that were decisive.

The Panthers weren't helped when starting running back Nick Goings was sidelined in the first quarter after a massive hit by linebacker Lofa Tatupu. They already were minus their top two runners, Stephen Davis and DeShaun Foster.

The Seahawks had their horse,

though, and by the second half, they could turn to Alexander. As he always has this season, he delivered some big runs as the crowd chanted "M-V-P, M-V-P."

Alexander finished with 132 yards on 34 carries and by the end, the fans turned their chants to "Super Bowl, Super Bowl!"

Matt Hasselbeck finished off the Panthers (13-6) with a gorgeous pump fake that had cornerback Chris Gamble on all fours. Darrell Jackson caught the 20-yard pass for a 27-7 lead, and it was time to celebrate in the Pacific Northwest.



Associated Press

Seattle Seahawks' Darrell Jackson celebrates with fans in the endzone after his third quarter touchdown during the NFC Championship game.

We're hiring

Arts and Entertainment editor

The George-Anne Daily is searching for an arts and entertainment editor. The ideal candidate should possess excellent writing abilities and an eye for grammar and design. Successful applicants will be energetic, creative and industrious team players who enjoy telling stories through words, photos and graphic design.

The A&E editor works about nine hours per week, with a bulk of that time being spent helping to design the Hiatus, The G-A's expanded Thursday edition. The newspaper uses the latest in digital technology, Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. Training will be provided in the areas of design, but we expect applicants to possess and eye for news and feature stories and to be able to spot grammatical, punctuation and style errors.

The A&E editor is one of seven editors on The G-A staff. Preference will be given to those applicants who have experience in journalistic writing - especially those who have served on the newspaper's staff. The job is open to any Georgia Southern University student.

If you meet these qualifications, please drop your resume, cover letter and any writing samples by The George-Anne Daily offices, Rm. 2023, Williams Center. Applications will be accepted through Jan. 26 at 5 p.m.

Copy editor

The George-Anne Daily is searching for a copy editor. Successful applicants must be able to spot a typo at 50 paces. The ideal candidate should be familiar with the Associated Press Style as well as standard grammar and punctuation usages.

The copy editor will work Wednesday evening from about 6 p.m. until 11 p.m., proofreading completed pages. The copy editor works under the supervision of a staff of editors, but often their eyes are the last to view pages before being printed.

Preference will be given to those applicants who have experience in journalistic writing - especially those who have served on the newspaper's staff. The job is open to any Georgia Southern University student.

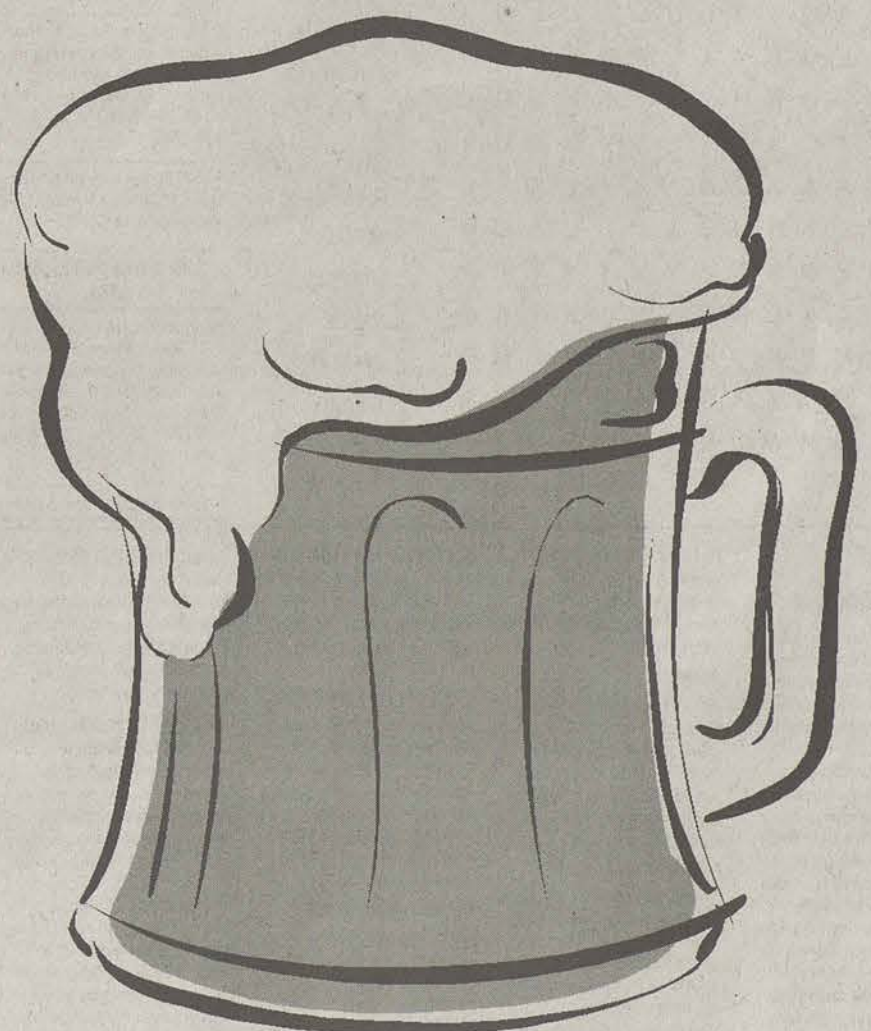
If you meet these qualifications, please drop your resume and cover letter by The George-Anne Daily offices, Rm. 2023, Williams Center. Applications will be accepted through Jan. 26 at 5 p.m. A timed copy editing test will be administered to finalists for the job.

STUDENTS!

Tell us what you think about the campus drinking issue!

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THE GEORGE-ANNE DAILY

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You must include your names, address and phone number for freebies. No phone calls please, at this price we don't take dictation.

CLASSIFIED CATEGORIES

100 Announcements
110 Auditions
120 Freebies
130 Lost & Found
140 Other Announcements

300 Employment & Job Services

310 Career & Job Services
320 Child Care Needed
330 Child Care Provider
340 Internships/Volunteer
350 Jobs/Full Time

400 Housing & Real Estate
410 Apartments
420 Lofts & Rooms
430 Mobile Homes
440 Real Estate for Sale

480 Sub Leases

490 Vacation Rentals

500 Personals

600 Services
610 Education & Tutoring
620 Financial Aid/Loans
630 Legal Services
640 Resumes/Typing/DT/TP
650 Services/Miscellaneous

Covering the Campus Like a Swarm of Gnats The George-Anne Daily Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Mystic Arts Horoscope

Today's Birthday (01-23-06). You're quick, and you're also thorough this year. It's a powerful combination. Don't leave much of anything to chance, but you won't get there without faith.

Tightrope, so don't get excited and do something ridiculous. Tempers may be a tad short, so proceed with caution.

THE PennyPress CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS 1. Tiny bit
4. Knot
8. Emulates a thespian
12. Personality
13. Out of port
14. Filly's father
15. Bread truck
16. Catches
17. Punt
18. " - Alive!"
19. Illusion
21. Flabbergast
22. Covered with foliage
24. Gold-coated
26. British title
27. Temper steel
28. Scold
31. Party
33. Command for Mr. Ed
36. Psychological

Announcements 100 - 199

130 Lost & Found REWARD for missing Tiffany & Co watch stainless steel engraved on back. Date of missing 12/8/05. Very sentimental!! PLEASE CALL Lauren at 770-855-2285.

250 Computers & Software

Gateway Computer: Includes everything- monitor, tower, keyboard, mouse, and speakers. Brand New - 128 memory, motherboard, and 40 GB hard drive. \$400.00. Call 912-541-1858 for more info.

George-Anne Daily

Very easy 8 3 1 2
2 6 8
9 3 2
9 7 4 2
4 8 9 5
3 2 8 9 5
1 7 5 4 3
8 9 4 5 1 2
5 8 7 9

SUDOKU

To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.

Covering the Web Like a Swarm of Electrons www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu AP News Updates 24 Hours a Day

THE PennyPress WORD SEEK PUZZLE

I Know "Y" Although the letter Y is near the end of the alphabet, it's front and center in this puzzle. The letter Y is the middle letter in all of the 5- and 7-letter words listed below.

140 Other Announcements

American Red Cross First Aid training is January 25 from 6-9 pm at the Chapter Office. Call 764-4468 to register.

260 Miscellaneous for Sale

Ti83 calculator, excellent shape, \$65 obo call brandon@678-908-9596.

Employment & Job Services 300 - 399

340 Internships/Volunteer Internship in Alaska! Informational meeting January 31st, time TBA. E-mail at christaray1@yahoo.com for details.

350 Jobs/Full Time

Cashiers needed at FlashFood #251. Apply at store located at 301 South of the Bypass. Look for the red roof. 2nd shift Flex hours some benefits.

380 University Work

Night Owl? Need Work? Housing seeks upperclass students to serve as Night Supervisors; \$5.65 per hour. More information at www.gshousing.com.

Housing & Real Estate 400 - 499

College Walk Apartments Rent negotiable, two rooms for yourself. Call 404-798-8939 and ask for Caitlin for more detail!

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.

SUPPORT

The G-A is funded primarily through revenue from advertisements placed in the paper and receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

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 912/681-5418 (Advertising) or 912/486-7113 (Fax); 912/681-0069 (adviser).

ADVERTISING

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

NOTICE

Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites.

420 Lofts & Rooms

One or 2 bedrooms available in Statesboro Place Apartment. All inclusive, fully furnished \$365/month. This month free! Call Victoria 404-660-6342.

430 Mobile Homes

14x76, 3 BR/2BA mobile home for sale in nice park near GSU. Included: couches, washer & dryer, entertainment system. \$12,500. Call 912-844-0188.

440 Roommates

Sublease needed: 2 bd/1 ba in Stadium Walk. Rent is \$400 a month. Will pay \$100 of first

Miscellaneous 900 - 999

910 Pets & Pet Supplies Pit bull puppies for sale. Ten weeks old. Three males, one female. For more info, 912-492-2052.

Heaven Travel 700-799 "People! We're sorry but we've overbooked! We've got vouchers here for reincarnation, all expenses paid! Anyone? Anyone?"

710 Spring Break Travel BAHAMAS SPRING BREAK CELEBRITY CRUISE! 5 Days From \$299! Includes Meats, Taxes, Entry To Exclusive MTVu Events, Beach Parties With Celebrities!

480 Sub Leases Garden District Sub-Lease 2 bedroom, 2 bath ground floor flat Normally \$880; Now \$700 (or \$350 a person) Utilities included in rate. Available mid-December. Please call 681-0116 or 871-2182.

440 Roommates Sublease needed: 3 bedroom with study, \$305 a month plus utilities (\$50 est.) Players Club. Call for more info 706-830-7862.



Grayson Hoffman/STAFF

GSU graduate Heather Scott kicks back in her new downtown clothing store for women, 'Paper Doll.'

New store hopes to cater to GSU crowd

Georgia Southern alumna Heather Scott opens store for college girls on a budget

By Marcy Thornton
Staff writer

Heather Scott, a Georgia Southern alumna that has worked in advertising for big name companies like Abercrombie, Bloomingdales and Fuel, has recently opened a new boutique in downtown Statesboro that is committed to providing hot new fashions for the GSU girl on a budget.

Paper Doll is all about "clothing for the college-aged girl," says Scott. She is out to prove that California boutique clothes do not have to have the matching price tag.

"I do all my buying in L.A.," Scott said. "A lot of the designers [that she carries] are virtual unknowns."

Still, just because one may not recognize the name on the label, make no mistake: "A lot of the lines may not be something you've ever heard of before, but they're the ones that will eventually maybe make it big," Scott said.

The almost anonymity of some of the designers allows Scott to offer

her sleek couture at delightfully down-to-earth prices. Scott offers a wide selection of beautiful dresses, fun shoes, and the latest in must-have denim.

With great denim lines like Blue Colt, AG Jeans and the new Joe's Jeans subsidiary company, Indie, (which features perfect posterior-shaping styles), Paper Doll "is really the only [boutique in downtown] that is really geared towards younger people."

Named after Scott's advertising agency, Paper Doll Media, this fun, new store is perfect for every GSU hottie, whether she is dressing up for a formal in a BCBG dress, going out on the town in a sexy pair of Bella Dahl blue jeans, or heading to class in a 2 B Free jumpsuit (as seen on Paris Hilton and Jessica Simpson).

Located just off Main Street (by Sea Island bank) with extra parking in the rear, Paper Doll is a do-not-miss when it comes to cute designer clothes at a fraction of the price.

Soy isn't the 'magical cure' to cholesterol

By Jamie Stengle
Associated Press

DALLAS — Veggie burgers and tofu might not be so great at warding off heart disease after all.

An American Heart Association committee reviewed a decade of studies on soy's benefits and came up with results that are now casting doubt on the health claim that soy-based foods and supplements significantly lower cholesterol.

The findings could lead the Food and Drug Administration to re-evaluate rules that currently allow companies to tout a cholesterol-lowering benefit on the labels of soy-based food.

Based on its findings, the committee said it would not recommend using isoflavone supplements in food or pills. It concluded that soy-containing foods and supplements did not significantly lower cholesterol, and it said so in a statement recently published in the journal *Circulation*.

Nutrition experts say soy-based foods still are good because they often are eaten in place of less healthy fare like burgers and hot dogs. But they don't have as much direct benefit as had been hoped on cholesterol, one of the top risk factors for heart disease.

"We don't want to lull people into a false sense of security that by eating soy they can solve the problem (with cholesterol)," said Dr. Michael Crawford, chief of clinical cardiology at

University of California San Francisco Medical Center.

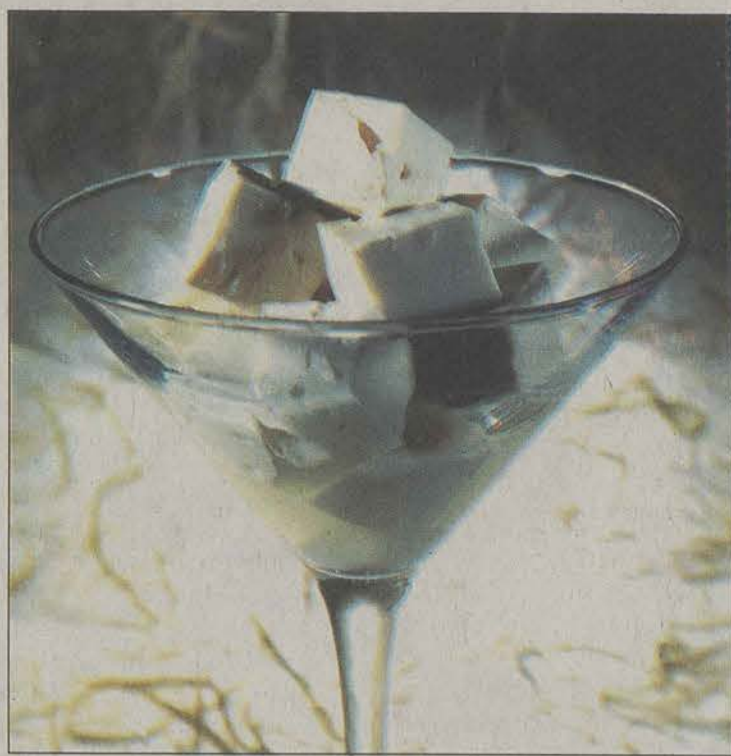
The FDA in 1999 started allowing manufacturers to claim that soy products might cut the risk of heart disease after studies showed at least 25 grams of soy protein a day lowered cholesterol. A year later, the Heart Association recommended soy be included in a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol.

But as more research emerged, the Heart Association decided to revisit the issue. The committee members reviewed 22 studies and found that large amounts of dietary soy protein only reduced LDL, or "bad" cholesterol, about 3 percent and had no effect on HDL, or "good" cholesterol, or on blood pressure.

They did a separate analysis of isoflavones. The review of 19 studies suggested that soy isoflavones also had no effect on lowering LDL cholesterol or other lipid risk factors.

"Soy proteins and isoflavones don't have any major health benefits other than soy protein products are generally good foods," said Dr. Frank Sacks, a professor of nutrition at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston who led the committee. "They're good to replace other foods that are high in cholesterol."

Still, the Heart Association statement notes that soy products like tofu, soy butter, soy nuts and some soyburgers should be heart-healthy because



Bob Fila/KRT

New studies have shown that, while soy is a healthy alternative to greasy hamburgers and other fatty foods, it isn't the 'miracle cure' for high cholesterol many people previously thought.

they contain a lot of polyunsaturated fats, fiber, vitamins and minerals and are low in saturated fat.

"Soy isn't a magic bullet, but it can be a valuable contributor to a heart-healthy diet," said Jo Ann Carson, a professor of clinical nutrition at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas who was not

part of the panel.

"There's no quick fix," said Dr. Michael Lim, director of the cardiac catheterization lab at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. "Our bad cholesterol numbers would certainly get worse if instead of eating tofu burgers we went out and had hamburgers each night of the week."

Rallies mark anniversary of Roe v. Wade abortion ruling

By Justin M. Nortion
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Thousands of abortion opponents shouldering signs with slogans such as "Peace Begins in the Womb" marched in protest of the 33-year-old Roe v. Wade decision, while abortion rights supporters along the march route waved clothes hangers and shouted "Bigots go home."

The dueling protests — marking Sunday's anniversary of the Supreme Court decision — reflected the growing tension at a time the makeup of the high court is about to change with Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's retirement.

The Supreme Court handed down its decision in Roe v. Wade on Jan. 22, 1973, and abortion has been legal in the United States ever since. But efforts to restrict or outlaw the procedure

have been just as enduring; 34 states have passed laws requiring parents either to be notified or to give consent when their underage daughters seek abortions.

"Abortion rights have been slowly whittled away while we haven't even been looking," said Kitty Striker, 22, who decorated her hair with small coat hanger replicas for the counter-protest. "That's what's so shocking and so scary to me."



AP Photo/Craig Lassig

Meghan McMurray, right, listens to a speaker during an anti-abortion rally on the 33rd anniversary of Roe v. Wade Sunday.

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This ad is a public service for the Georgia Cancer Coalition and the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

Attention Juniors and Seniors ... Do Your Manners Need A Check Up?

Don't Miss the Spring Dining for Success Program

Tuesday, February 21st - 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Nessmith-Lane Southern Ballroom

Juniors and seniors, come enjoy one-on-one networking time with employers prior to the Eagle Expo to learn the rules of Dining and Business Etiquette!

Be a part of the Dining for Success Program by filling out a registration form and bringing it to Career Services, located in 1058 Williams Center with a deposit check for \$20. This deposit will be refunded if you participate in the event or cancel by Feb. 1st.

This event is only open to juniors and seniors. Juniors have first seating priority. First come first served!

Deadline to secure a seat is February 14, 2006
no exceptions

Visit us on the Web for more information and download your registration form...
<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/career>
Career Services, Williams Center 1058
681-5197

ON THE STREET

What are you going to do with your financial aid money?

"I'm going to put it in savings for a rainy day."



Jessica Bailey,
Sophomore

"I'm going to buy my mother some real jewelry."



Marlow Wren,
Junior

"I'll use it for art supplies as I need or want them."



Katie Carlberg,
Sophomore

"I'm going to LA for Spring Break to be on Wheel of Fortune and the Tyra Show."



Steven Austin,
Senior

"First, I'm going to buy my books, and the rest goes toward spring break and liquor."



Steve Dorsainvil,
Junior

"I plan on paying my rent, because I live off campus."



Tanifla Hossain,
Junior

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE

If you have a question you'd like us to ask, e-mail our managing editor at gamed@georgiasouthern.edu.

'Christmas in January' for stores as troops return from Iraq aiming to burn money

Thousands of 3rd ID troops return to southeast Georgia

By Russ Bynum
Associated Press

HINESVILLE, Ga. — One short test drive and Army Spc. Todd Strange is gushing "Oh, sweet! I love it!"

He's been home from Iraq a little over 30 hours and already he's trading in his little 2001 Dodge Neon for a muscle car, a 2006 Mustang GT, V-8 engine, price tag \$26,320.

"I'm buying the car to show off, pretty much," admits Strange, 26, of St. Louis.

Business has been booming in this southeast Georgia town since just after Christmas when thousands of 3rd Infantry Division troops from neighboring Fort Stewart began returning from a yearlong tour in Iraq and finding their bank accounts flush with combat pay, tax breaks and bonuses.

"Christmas in January" proclaim newspaper advertisements for onelocal furniture and electronics store.

That's especially true for retailers who suffered through 2005 while some of their best customers were overseas. Now, they worry about keeping new cars and home theater systems in stock.

"It's been a lonely year," said Monica Doering, manager of Freedom Furniture and Electronics, less than a mile from Fort Stewart's main gate. "It's not only the soldiers' Christmas, but what we're experiencing now is actually our Christmas."

The 3rd Infantry has 19,000 troops returning to Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield in nearby Savannah and Fort Benning in Columbus.

Hotels in Hinesville have been booked solid by soldiers' families attending homecoming ceremonies. Restaurant parking lots are full, and rental properties that sat vacant for nearly a year are filling up again.

"We needed it badly. If they are not here, we can hardly pay our bills," said Mike Randerwala, manager of the Quality Inn in Hinesville. "Last year, I had a loss of more than \$100,000."

The overall economic hit hurt but doesn't appear as bad as many feared, Mayor Tom Ratcliffe said. For the first

10 months of 2005, the latest figures available, sales tax revenues in town were down only 6 percent compared with the same period in 2004.

It's not just a year of being unable to hit the shopping malls and car dealers that has troops flush with cash. During their yearlong Iraq deployments, they earned combat pay and other incentives, and their income wasn't taxed.

Several soldiers interviewed estimated they earned an extra \$700 to \$800 per month while in Iraq, totaling up to an extra \$9,600 for some from their year overseas.

"Without the extra money, I couldn't go out and get this stuff," said Spc. Sherrod White, 21, of Fayetteville, N.C., as he picked out a \$1,499 desktop computer with a \$599 flat-screen monitor at Doering's store.

"A lot of people, they just go crazy with it," he said.

At Hinesville Ford, where Strange picked out his Mustang, general manager Fred Mingledorf said he's on track to sell more than 120 cars this month, compared to 80 during a typical month and 40 while the 3rd Infantry was overseas.

And the troops aren't settling for economy cars, he said.

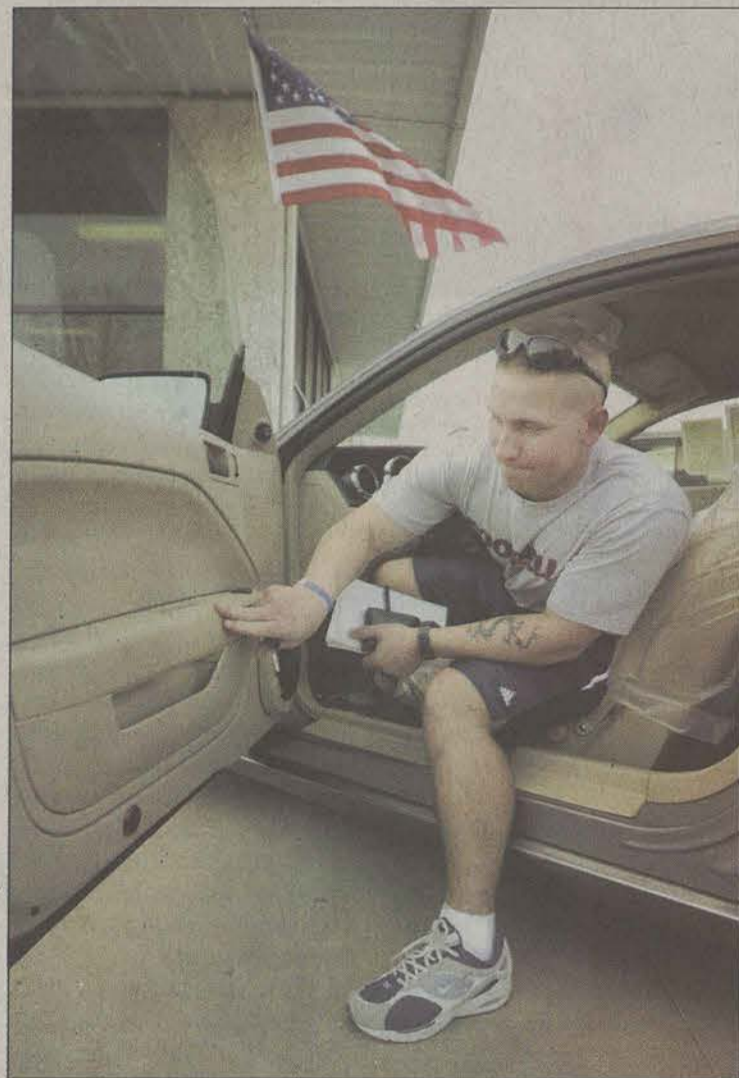
"They've been fighting a war for a year. When they get back, they sure deserve to be able to spend their money," Mingledorf said.

The Hinesville Wal-Mart Supercenter has conspicuous gaps in its wall of large-screen TVs because impatient buyers have taken the display units.

"This is something that typically we would never have out of stock," said Wal-Mart manager Ted Sells. "As you can see, they've just wiped us out."

And it's not just the businesses that are celebrating Christmas a month late.

Heidi Harms, the wife of an Army



Stephen Morton/AP Photo

Army Spc. Todd Strange shops for a new car Thursday Jan. 12, 2006, at a Ford dealership in Hinesville, Ga. Less than 30 hours after he returned home from a year deployment to Iraq, Strange said he used part of his hazard pay for a sizable down payment on a new 2006 Mustang GT.

chaplain, still has her tree, stockings and lights up and agreed not to even shop for presents for their five children until her husband gets home.

"He loves shopping for the kids, so he said 'Please don't do anything until I get back,'" said Harms.

Their children, ages 11 years to 18

months, haven't seemed to mind the delay, especially since they got gifts last month from Capt. Lee Harms' parents.

"They just know Santa Claus was taking care of the soldiers in Iraq, and he's coming home with dad," she said.

Endangered right whale calf found dead off Jacksonville Beach

JACKSONVILLE BEACH, Fla. — An endangered North Atlantic right whale calf was found dead Sunday off Florida's northeast coast, the second such death reported this month, officials said.

Fisheries biologists with the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration were towing the whale to shore, where a necropsy was scheduled Monday, said Kim Amendola, a NOAA Fisheries Service spokeswoman.

Recreational boaters reported the whale sighting to the U.S. Coast Guard around 10:30 a.m. about 16 miles off Jacksonville Beach, Amendola said.

Another right whale calf was reported dead off Jacksonville on Jan. 10, NOAA officials said.

Preliminary necropsy results indicate that calf died from a vessel strike, said Barb Zoodsma, a NOAA Fisheries Service right whale biologist.

Once numbering in the thousands, only about 300 right whales remain in the North Atlantic, Zoodsma said.

In the fall and early winter, the whales leave the North Atlantic waters near Nova Scotia and New England and travel south to the calving grounds off north Florida and south Georgia to give birth.

The whales live close to shore, and can become entangled with fishing gear or collide with vessels unaware of their presence, Zoodsma said.

Be the Newest RA in Our Group!



PROFILE:

University Housing seeks energetic individuals for Resident Advisor positions. The Resident Advisor (RA) is a vital, live-in member of the University Housing staff. The RA position allows you to grow as a leader and individual while having fun and making a difference on campus! The RA works with groups of students in the residence halls or apartment complexes on campus. The RA is primarily involved in creating a positive community environment. In order to accomplish this, the RA is expected to play a variety of constantly changing roles. The RA must be flexible and creative in meeting residents' needs by serving as a counselor, advisor, activity programmer, educator and campus resource. The position requires a serious time commitment and willingness to be available and accessible to other students. The RA position allows you to grow as a leader and individual.

BENEFITS:

RAs receive a stipend each semester. The annual stipend has recently increased to \$3,750 for first year RAs and \$4,000 for RAs after successful completion of their first year of service (budget pending). RAs are guaranteed on-campus housing, for which they are financially responsible. Resident Advisors are allowed a single room at double occupancy rates when space is available. Equally important are the non-tangible benefits: the opportunity to interact with a variety of people and the chance to develop skills such as leadership, communication, organization, time management, and group dynamics.

PARTIES:

Toppings Tuesdays:
January 10, 2006
9 pm in Brannen and Johnson Halls

January 17, 2006
9 pm in Eagle Village and Southern Pines

Come to one of these ice cream sundae extravaganzas and learn more about the life of RAs at Georgia Southern. The RA selection process, timeline, interview format and much more will be covered. Bring your questions, your energy and have a good time with staff and students.

FAVORITE QUOTES:

"Becoming a resident advisor is truly one of the best leadership experiences you can have at GA Southern. The experience will lead residents to become more involved with various activities on campus. You also have the opportunity create a great community by openly communicating ideas as well as upcoming programs to residents."
—Matthew O. Bryant, Kennedy RA

"I enjoy my job as an RA because I get a chance to meet and exchange thoughts with a large diverse group of students."
—Kandayce Lee, Johnson Hall RA

INTERESTS:

RAs at Georgia Southern are involved in many clubs, organizations and activities on campus. Some of those involvements are:

SOAR leader, Greek Life, Baptist Student Union, NAACP Student Government Association, Intramurals, Tutoring, Eagle Entertainment, Talon Club, Camp Eagle, Circle K, Golden Key, Black Student Alliance, International Student Club, Student Wellness Council and many, many more!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

January 27, 2006
Applications are due to the University Housing office in Watson Hall

February 2-4, 2006
RA applicant interview process (required of all applicants)

February 10, 2006
RA offers extended

February 16, 2006
Mandatory meeting for all 2006-07 RA staff

GEORGIA SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY

For more information and applications go to www.gsuhousing.com