

SIGNAL

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Online @ www.gsusignal.com

ON THE INSIDE Sports



Panthers stay in hunt for top tourney seed with big win over FAU [see page 11]

Arts & Entertainment



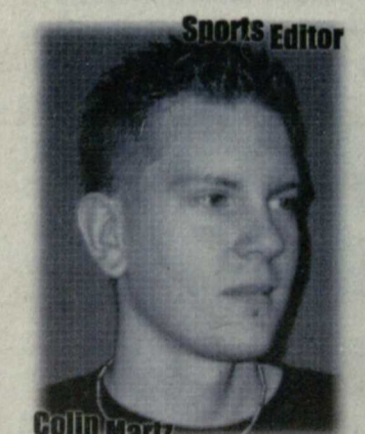
There were some 'Bastards' at Smith's Olde Bar [see page 19]

Perspectives



'Questions, Not Answers' and Valentine's Day [see page 7]

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GSU in a new conference? The Signal dares to dream

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Volume 69 Issue 21	

Counterfeit bills used in campus bookstore

Incident involving bookstore employee indicative of growing problem across metro area

James Butler

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A rash of counterfeit bills that have been popping up around metro Atlanta made their way to the Georgia State University Bookstore Jan. 29.

A male student along with a female student who worked at the bookstore, are now charged in the case.

The male is charged with first degree forgery and theft by deception, while the female faces theft by deception, as well as criminal receipt of goods fraudulently obtained.

The male suspect allegedly made two purchases using fake \$100 bills. The female, who worked as a cashier, reportedly did not scan the items, but rung up both transactions at

a significantly lower price.

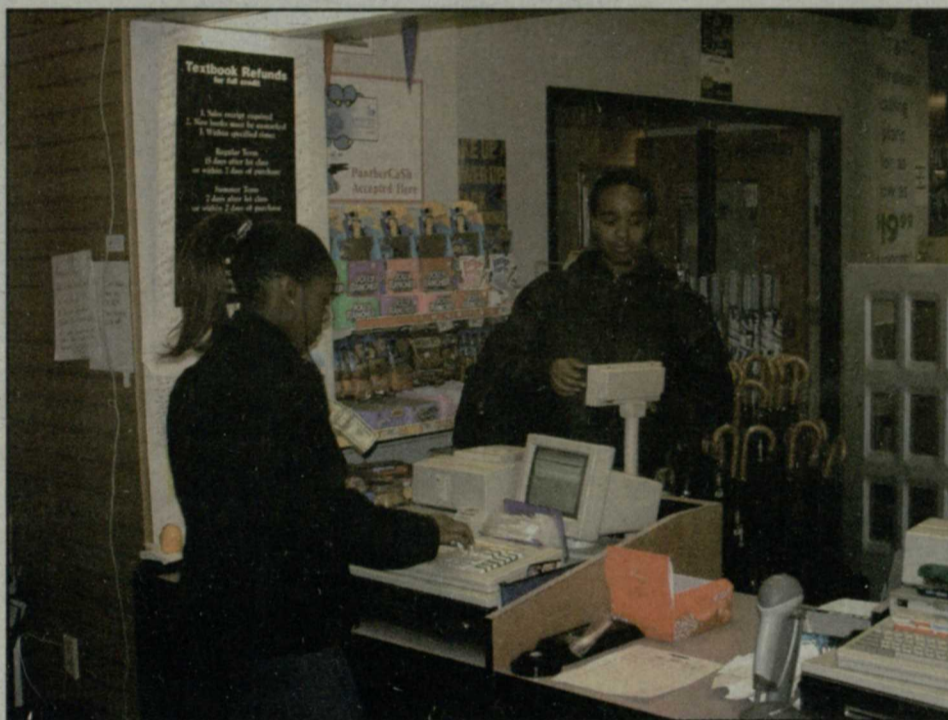
On the first purchase she changed the price of a \$107 book to \$20. About an hour later, the process was repeated. The bills were not noticed until closing time when bookstore manager Gerrius Dassei observed the female suspect

counting down her drawer.

"It looked like monopoly money," said Dassei, referring to the two counterfeit \$100 bills, "[Anybody] could have seen it."

After being questioned by Dassei the female suspect denied

See COUNTERFEIT | Page 4



Rob Bishop | Signal

Counterfeit money has been a growing problem across the metro Atlanta area. The problem was found in the GSU Bookstore last week when fake \$100 bills were used to purchase textbooks.

University projects go to General Assembly for approval

Dominique Huff

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Each legislative season Georgia State has a wish list that is expressed to the General Assembly. University President Carl V. Patton has numerous items needing approval from the state's legislative body this year, and out of all the items, there are five that are urgently needed here on campus.

Dene Sheheane, director of state relations at Georgia State has compiled the list into a reader-friendly format. Many of the needs are to benefit and facilitate education of the students.

Here is what is urgently needed for the campus:

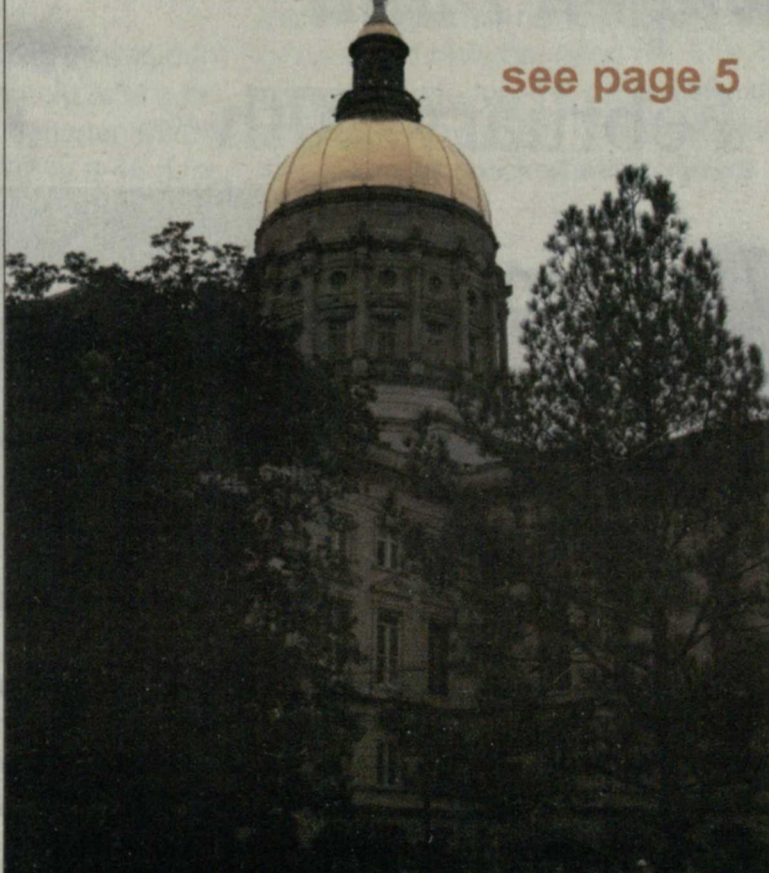
New science and technology laboratory.

A new 202,000 square foot building will be built at the intersection at Decatur Street and Central Avenue. This site, according to the master plan, is located in the designated science zone. The strategic location of this building will help build a traditional college campus atmosphere for

From PROJECTS | Page 4

The SIGNAL Under The Gold Dome

see page 5



Bush pushes federal funding for historically black colleges

Sheena Williams

National News Editor
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In his weekly radio address to the nation Saturday, President Bush tied American heritage to African-American heritage, saying, "Nobody can understand this country without understanding the African-American experience. It began when America began. And throughout our history, the experience of black Americans has challenged every American to live up to the best ideas of our country."

Bush also touched on education, guaranteeing his administration's support of historically black colleges, such as Spelman and Morehouse in Atlanta.

"Our historically black colleges and universities opened the door to knowledge, when other doors were barred," he said. "And

today they offer exciting opportunities to young people to contribute to their country."

The president pledged to seek a 30 percent increase over four years in federal funding for historically black colleges, which enroll about 18 percent of black students attending four-year institutions, according to the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

He called February, which is Black History Month, "a time of learning for all of us" and emphasized "the need to remember and celebrate all of our history."

Citing the achievements of Frederick Douglas, Rosa Parks, and W.E.B. Du Bois, Bush pointed out that despite differences in skin color, "our goal is the same goal that [Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.] set for us:

See BUSH | Page 5

Georgia State University
Spotlight Black Life & Culture Committee
Presents

GIWAYEN MATA

A dynamic soul stirring all sistah dance,
percussion, & vocal ensemble



Giwayen Mata

Date: Wednesday, February 20th

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Place: Speaker's Auditorium

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page three

If you have information for the calendar of events, or any other section on this page, contact the Associate News Editor, Kelley Caner, at events@gsusignal.com. Find more online at www.gsusignal.com.

calendar of events

February

12 The Baptist Student Union serves home-cooked, full-course lunches each day from 12:10-12:30 p.m. Cost is only \$2.50 per meal. Located on the corner of Edgewood and Courtland in between Alumni Hall and Georgia Bookstore.

The Arab Student Organization is hosting a meeting open to all students from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Dorchester Suite of the Student Center. For more information, contact Wassan Al-Khudhain at 404-395-8747 or wassan16@hotmail.com.

13 The local chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery at GSU would like you to attend our next meeting with our guest speaker, Dr. Mani Subramanian from Georgia Tech. The meeting will be at 5 p.m. in the Capital Suite, Room 220 at the Student Center. The topic for his presentation is "First/Last Mile Issues in Broadband Service."

14 The GSU College Republicans would like to invite you to our next organizational meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the Student Center's second floor Capital Suite. As always, anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Power of Women and Health Promotions is sponsoring a Valentine's Day anti-violence workshop from 12 noon until 4 p.m. in Room 204 University Center. For more information, contact Mandy at 404-651-4633.

Historian Pamela Grundy will speak on "School Sports and Black Manhood in the Jim Crow South," in the Troy Moore Library, located on the ninth floor General Classroom Building. For details, contact Prof. Blackman, History Dept. at 404-651-2250.

15 The ASA, OASS&P, SGA, and Spotlight are sponsoring the Faces of Africa Fashion Show at 7 p.m. in the Speaker's Auditorium. For more info, contact Diana Oladokun at 678-613-9521.

There's a lot of planning that goes into most events. A lot of money to be spent, a lot of effort.

Really stinks when no one comes, doesn't it?

To submit an event, e-mail the location, date, time, and nature of the event to events@gsusignal.com, or stop by the Signal office in Room 200 of the University Center and fill out a Calendar of Events form. All events must be submitted by 4 p.m. Friday the week before the event.

ampersand

\$29.5 billion | Amount the U.S. spent funding a dozen of our intelligence agencies last year.

GQ

About the size of a tennis court | Area your lungs would cover if they were laid out flat.

didyouknow.com

4851 | Number of times Wal-Mart was sued last year.

Playboy's Raw Data

9400 | Number of lawsuits pending against Wal-Mart.

Playboy's Raw Data

\$66,810 | Amount the typical American man with a bachelor's degree makes.

Esquire

\$30,414 | Amount the typical American man with only a high school diploma makes.

Esquire

"The word 'meaningful' when used today is nearly always meaningless."

Paul Johnson

"Optimism: The doctrine or belief that everything is beautiful, including what is ugly."

Ambrose Bierce

"Don't threaten me with love, baby. Let's just go walking in the rain."

Billie Holiday

criminal activities

February 8

Entering Auto Report

An Entering Auto report was filed by a student in South Parking Deck, Village. At 8:54 a.m., the complainant stated that between 02/05/02 at 12:30 p.m. and 02/07/02 at 8:45 a.m., his right side passenger window had been broken. The complainant stated that 12 compact disks, an amplifier and speakers were stolen from his vehicle. The area was checked with negative results.

Central Parking Deck. At 11:21 p.m., the complainant stated that a male subject attempted to rob her at gun point. The complainant stated that the subject told her to give him all of her money or he would blow her head off. The complainant stated that she told the subject she did not have any money and at this time the subject drove off. The area was checked with negative results.

February 6

Attempted Armed Robbery/Terroristic Threat Report

An Attempted Armed Robbery/Terroristic Threat report was filed by a student at the Allright

February 5

Theft By Taking Report

A Theft By Taking report was filed by a student on the ground floor of the University Center. At 1:51 p.m., the complainant stated that on 1/30/02 between 11 a.m. and 1:45 p.m., his ATM card was stolen while he was in the Urban Life Building. The complainant stated that someone had withdrawn \$250 from his account.

MYTH BUSTERS

MYTH: Most Georgia State University students expect a bachelor's degree to be their terminal degree.

REALITY: 85% of first-time students enrolled for the Fall 2000 term plan to obtain a master's, doctorate or first professional degree.

Brought to you by the Enrollment Management Group.

Administration sees five needs as 'urgent'

From PROJECTS | Page 1
Georgia State, which is often scoffed for lacking a traditional feel. The building is needed to provide better science laboratories for students. The current laboratory building, Kell Hall, does not have suitable heating, ventilating, and air conditioning for today's science labs.

The new building will include labs for chemistry, computer science, biology, physics, astronomy, geology, nursing and nutrition. The drawback is that this project will eliminate much needed parking for the campus and displace the McDonalds. The project currently ranks 15th in priority for Regents funding.

The building could become a reality in the next two to three years.

Infrastructure upgrades for the Arts & Humanities Building.

Several improvements are needed to this facility to increase and maintain accreditation for the School of Art and Design. Improvements such as ventilation, lighting, replacement of equipment and structures are badly needed. The improvements will provide students with an upscale studio environment suitable for creativity and learning.

According to Sheheane, the project was not included in the FY 2003 Governor's Budget Report but it could be brought up again later in the current session.

Major renovation and repair projects across campus.

Elevators in the Sports Arena, Arts & Humanities and the College of Education are in need of an upgrade for faster service. Kell Hall needs central heating and air improvements, particularly on the fourth floor. Structural improvements are needed on the Urban Life Plaza along with a new roof for the University Center. There are also several other maintenance projects that need to be addressed in the immediate future.

Funding for Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) Projects.

Georgia State has five investment projections that require state funding. Projects currently engaged in by Georgia State include Bionformatics, Next Generation Gene Discovery, Infectious Disease Cluster, Biomanufacturing Cluster and the Digital Content Cluster.

Health insurance for graduate teaching and research assistants.

Health care for these individuals must be in place for the university to be more marketable for national scholars. This would be used as a recruiting and retention tool.

The proposed plan would have the participants pay half of any fees and the state would pick up the remainder.

Counterfeit bills used at Perimeter Mall same day as bookstore

From COUNTERFEIT | Page 1
knowing how the counterfeit bills got in her register.

A subsequent check of all the cash registers revealed that a third \$100 bill was passed in a different register that day. The origin of that bill remains unexplained.

Upon returning to work the next morning the female suspect was shown videotape of the two purchases. Afterward she confessed to not scanning the items, but denied knowing that the bills were counterfeit.

She then identified the male suspect, whom she knew, and he was apprehended between classes.

This type of incident at Georgia State is apparently becoming more prevalent around the metro area. On the same day that the incident at the GSU Bookstore took place, two counterfeit \$100 bills were passed at Perimeter Mall.

"Other counterfeit bills just like the ones we confiscated have been passed around the city," said GSU Police Lt. Leon Brinkley.

The bills are noticeable because they have an Abraham Lincoln watermark instead of that of Benjamin Franklin. Also, the code strip reads USA 5 instead of USA 100.

"I would suggest people in retail ought to use a money marker and hold bills up to the light to look for the proper watermark," Brinkley said. The money marker is used for marking questionable bills. If the coloring from the marker turns dark after coming in contact with the bill, the bill is counterfeit. If the coloring stays the same, the bill is legit.

The Georgia State Bookstore wasted no time in preparing for future cases of counterfeit bills. A money marker has been placed next to every cash register.



"Set Yourself Apart From the Competition"

Spring Career Fair TODAY

February 12, 2002

10 AM- 3 PM

Student Center Ballroom

Sponsored by Career & Job Search Services and MBA Career Services

Free to GSU Students and Alumni
Recent grads from other colleges and universities are welcome with a \$15 cash registration and resume at the door



Holiday Isle

Spring Break 2002





BIKINI CONTESTS
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BODY BUILDING COMPETITIONS
\$500 PRIZE - NO ENTRY FEE

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The Georgia Legislature Week Four: The 2002 Session of the Georgia General Assembly

Barnes delivers State of the State Address

Steven Sloan

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Gov. Roy Barnes delivered his fourth State of the State Address to a joint session of the House of Representatives and Senate Wednesday amid recession and rising unemployment. Highlights of the speech included a proposed sales tax holiday and education plans.

The mood in the Capitol Wednesday morning was one of expectation. Under the governor's proposal, the state's debt will swell to \$7.2 billion, up \$2 billion from last year, or \$880.72 per person counted in the 2000 census. As the state's debt continues to grow as a result of the recession, Barnes believes that debt-financed school and highway construction will help the state's finances.

Shortly into the speech, death penalty protestors interrupted Barnes with loud chants from the visitor's gallery. The protestors have been holding vigil on the steps of the Capitol for weeks. As the protestors were being removed by Capitol Police, Barnes commented that it was just "another day at the General Assembly." He received a standing ovation from legislators.

The speech quickly turned serious as the governor talked about the economy. "In Georgia, we have been hit especially hard in the airline and tourism industries, as well as the high tech sector, which was already declining after September 11," Barnes said.

Republicans on Capitol Hill insist that the declining economy does not have as much to do with September 11 as Democrats believe. "Clearly the problems in Georgia extend beyond September 11. [Gov. Barnes] is

spending hundreds of millions of dollars and is protecting bureaucrats," said Senate Republican Leader Eric Johnson.

Barnes contends that through borrowing money to fund road and school construction projects, the state should be able to pull itself out of its current economic slump. He points to today's low interest rates as a reason to make this decision. His opponents say borrowing money will only burden future generations.

Barnes also proposed a sales tax holiday that would go into effect four days out of the year. The holiday would be two days in March and two days in August. The holidays are meant to assist shoppers with spring and back to school expenses. "This will put about \$11 million directly into the pockets of Georgia families, allowing them to

afford even more clothes and school supplies for their children," Barnes said. The sales tax would exempt items of clothing up to \$100 each, school supplies up to \$20 each and computer equipment up to \$1,500 each. South Carolina and Florida, along with six other states across the nation, take part in sales tax holidays.

Many Republicans are opposed to such plans, claiming that it will not help the state generate revenue during a time of recession. A few Republican legislators went as far as to audibly grumble while Barnes was making his tax holiday proposal.

The General Assembly has reached day 15 in their legislative session. The session lasts 40 days and should last until mid-March. The session continues this week.



Zeta Tau stresses importance of community

Dominique Huff

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Zeta Tau, Georgia State's chapter of Gamma Sigma Sigma is on the move with big plans and events, inviting the entire Georgia State Community to participate in the White Rose Ball.

The annual White Rose Ball, which is free of charge, is a semi-formal to formal event to be held Friday at 7 p.m. in the House and Senate Salons in the Student Center. Anyone planning on attending is required to bring a new and unused toy that will be donated to the Hughes Spaulding Children's Hospital.

The White Rose Ball is part of the Zetas' White Rose Weekend. The weekend will consist of a pep rally, ladies' night out, community service and many other events.

The Zetas have participated heavily in the community in such events as the AIDS Walk, Into the Streets and Festival of Trees to name a few.

"Our members are expected to do only their best when it comes to service and to uphold our principles of service, friendship and equality," said Zeta member Ranita Williams.

Their work with Hughes Spaulding Children's Hospital is continuous throughout the year.

For the Georgia State community, they have big plans for this semester. Coming up in March is the Third Annual Gamma Sig Week, which will consist of a meet-and-greet, a two-day service project and a forum.

"During the forum students will be able to preview the up and coming Greeks at GSU," Williams said.

In April, they will hold their second annual talent expo. Open auditions will be announced in March.

Last semester, they sponsored a fund raiser for the Sept. 11 tragedies and diabetic research. They participated in Project ELF and Spirit of Service Day, a day co-created by Williams.

"Spirit of Service Day is a day where all chapters of Gamma Sigma come together to participate in community service," explained Williams.

If any Georgia State female is interested in joining the Zetas, they have a few requirements. Academics are a high priority, so candidates must be in good academic standing. A member is expected to participate in at least 15 hours of community service per semester and pay dues on local and national levels.

"The Zetas of Georgia State consist of many different young ladies from different backgrounds, who come together and do something positive for the community," said Williams. "Our sorority has a strong purpose and agenda. I have made many friends being a member and it has shaped who I am as a person."

As part of their future plans, the Zetas want to be more visible on campus and provide better service and programs for Georgia State each year. For more information, check out their Web site at <http://gsugss.tripod.com/welcome.html>.

Bush support from African-Americans seems to see continual rise

From BUSH | Page 1

to be one people in fact as well as in name."

Bush's support from the African-American community has more than doubled since the September 11 attacks. The current administration has increased its outreach to black leaders in order to maintain those gains.

Last month the White House held a ceremony in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., and the president visited Booker T.

Washington High School here in Atlanta shortly afterwards. Washington High School is the alma mater of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Despite attempts to bolster relations between the Bush administration and African-Americans, the president is still under fire from the Democrats, including many prominent black lawmakers, because of proposed cuts in domestic programs, such as job training, in his fiscal year 2003 budget plan.

What are your plans after graduation?

Learn how you can use your college degree to live and work in another culture, gain practical experience, and help others and help yourself.

Find out more:

International Peace Corps
Information Meeting

Urban Life Building, Room 201

Wednesday, February 13

Thursday, February 14

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.

Hosted by: The Office of
International Affairs and Study Abroad,
The Office of African-American
Student Services and Programs, and
the Minority Graduate School Alliance



Peace Corps. Redefine Your World.
Visit www.peacecorps.gov
or call 1-800-424-8580.

Model & Talent Search Event

Sheraton Colony Square Hotel
Roswell Ballroom

14th & Peachtree Streets

Thursday, February 21, 2002

5:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Seeking All Looks and Talents!

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Bring Your Friends!

Free Admission

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IN OTHER NEWS...

National News Editor | Sheena Williams

UNLV students: Drug ad sends cloudy message

Martin Holmquist

The Rebel Yell
U. Nevada- Las Vegas

(U-WIRE) LAS VEGAS - The U.S. government made history on Super Bowl Sunday when it spent an estimated \$3.4 million of taxpayers' money for two ads -- the most the government has ever spent on advertisements.

Super Bowl commercials are, for many viewers, the highlight of the event. Advertisers often try to outdo each other with some of the most memorable ads shown on television. But the tone of this year's ads was different.

Even Budweiser, infamous for its entertaining Super Bowl spots, aired ads with a somber mood, tapping into the popular patriotic sentiments in post-Sept. 11 America.

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) aired two 30-second anti-drug spots.

The first ad, similar to the infamous Mastercard "priceless" ads, staged terrorists buying weapons, explosives and fake passports. The ad then asked: "Where do terrorists get their money? If you buy drugs, some of it might come from you."

The second ad had young actors make statements like, "I helped kill a judge," and "I support terrorists."

"It's a ridiculous notion to begin with," said University of Nevada-Las Vegas student Jason Henderson, a member of the Campus Greens. "Maybe some opium money goes to the terrorists, but then let's get the CIA out of the opium business."

Funds for the ads came from the White House's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. The five-year, \$1.5 billion program was funded by Congress in 1997 with the sole intention of purchasing advertising on various media outlets as part of the War on Drugs campaign.

"This is an expected expansion of the broad-based definition of terror," Henderson said. "It appears that this will continue until oppositional political organizations are included in groups that support terror."

Lindsey Rybfki, president of Students for a Sensible Drug Policy, said, "It seems to be saying that they are failing the war against drugs." She added that she is concerned about the effect of the ads. "They just remind kids that drugs are out there and are instigating a curiosity."

Even members of the Young

Democrats, whose party was in the White House when this campaign was launched, do not agree with the ads' message.

"It's broken logic," said Young Democrats Vice President Aja Thielman. "They are trying to combine the two Wars to make it a bigger war -- ending terrorism is not going to take care of the drug problem and vice versa."

Overall, Thielman said she supports the anti-drug media campaign, but thinks the ads were a bit far-fetched.

However, Democrats in Congress support the ads.

"I think that this campaign exposes another facet of the evil that drugs perpetrate in our lives," said Steny Hoyer (D-MD), the top-ranking Democrat on the House Treasury-Postal Appropriations Committee, which has budgetary jurisdiction over the ONDCP. "I hope this message will convince young people to stay away from drugs for their own good and that of their community."

Ron Crickenberger, the Libertarian Party's political director, disagrees.

"It's the War on Drugs that causes the very problem these ads complain about. The War on Drugs enriches terrorists, finances violence and makes America less safe," Crickenberger said in a prepared statement. "And no amount of advertising spin can change that."

"If you are looking for the real cause of the drugs and terrorism connection, you need to look no further than the politicians who voted for the War on Drugs, the federal bureaucrats who administer it, and the ONDCP spin-masters who try to blame the 95 million Americans who have used illegal drugs," he added.

Last year, the campaign received fierce criticism from various groups when it was revealed that federal officials had covertly sponsored network programming with anti-drug themes and influenced television scripts.

ONDCP Director John Walters defends the program by quoting President Bush: "When you quit using drugs, you join the fight against terror in America."

Henderson said if the government is authentically concerned about the drug war, they need to reanalyze how war is waged.

"They should focus on the demand side. You need to split drugs up. Marijuana and heroin are not the same thing,"

Henderson said.

Arlene Mourer, coordinator of substance abuse prevention and treatment at UNLV, sees a big problem in the mixed message of airing anti-drug ads while the Super Bowl is sponsored by Budweiser.

"It's disturbing, it's hypocritical," Mourer said. "The number one drug problem is with alcohol."

She also said that the ads are a waste of money.

"[Money] should be used for treatment and prevention. There's not enough research, not enough skilled and trained people treating addictions," Mourer said.

She claims ads could be efficient in preventing drug use, but they have to take another approach.

"Research shows that a majority of young people don't approve of drug abuse," she said, adding that commercials show "children and young teenagers talking to each other about how they think drug use is 'uncool.'"

Rybfki said that drug commercials should be presented as infomercials in order to educate people about the damaging effects of drug use rather than using simple scare tactics.

"Considering the current situation in the U.S., especially the highly threatening ecological problems, there are so many better ways to spend taxpayers money," Rybfki said. "Drug use is increasing while prices are dropping. We should build rehabilitation centers instead of jails. You can get as many drugs in prison as you can on the streets."

Past presidential candidate getting back into the game

Gore creates Democratic PAC for possible 2004 bid

Jason Smith

Staff Writer
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Former Vice President Al Gore announced his return to "the national debate" on Feb. 2, during a Democratic fundraiser in his home state of Tennessee.

The announcement ended a self-imposed exile from politics following the highly controversial 2000 election, and has fueled speculation that Gore might run for president in 2004. However, Gore has made no announcement as to whether he intends to run again.

"No matter where my future lies," said Gore to the Tennessee crowd, "I will fight for the principles that are important to our country's future."

Gore's return to the political realm comes one day after the creation of Leadership '02, a political action committee designed to help raise money to elect Democratic candidates in the 2002 congressional elections. It is expected that Gore will travel the country to help Democrats in their campaigns, while at the same time gauging public interest for a 2004 run.

Of particular significance is the fact that Gore made his return in Tennessee, a state that he narrowly lost in the 2000 election. Had he won that state, or any other, Gore would have had

enough votes to propel him to the White House.

During his remarks, Gore emphasized a need for change in economic policy.

"I'm concerned about the economy. I was the first one laid off last November," said Gore, joking with crowd about his 2000 loss.

Gore also stressed the need for more focus on the environment, as well as campaign finance reform, alluding to the current Enron scandal.

However, Gore praised the efforts of President Bush and members of Congress in the war on terrorism.

"I thank our Democratic party's leadership for uniting so strongly behind the President," said Gore. "I am proud of the response of the Democrats in putting country before party."

Gore also addressed those who criticized his stepping out of the public eye last year by saying he has no regrets about doing so, and that, given the controversial nature of the election, keeping a low profile was the right thing for him to do.

While Gore has made no decisions yet as to whether he will run for President again, he expects to make that decision while campaigning for his fellow Democrats this year.

We need a graphic designer..
Bad.

The Signal is currently looking for a
graphic designer
to assist with ad design and general art for the paper.
Anyone interested can e-mail the editor-in-chief, Stacey Evans, at
sevans@gsusignal.com
No previous experience necessary. We just need help.
Bad.

The Signal uses Adobe Photoshop for graphics purposes.
Anyone who applies should be experienced with this software

Perspectives Editor
Sarah Pilkington

Assoc. Perspec. Editor
Chris Martz

Perspectives

Housing the opinion of the Georgia State University community.

What's Inside

STAFF COLUMNS | Dick and Hillary working together and the motive behind Valentine's Day
LETTERS | A GSTV conspiracy? A MARTA police abuse of power and some truly disgusting quotes by a former student 'leader'

Questions, not answers

by Stacey L. Evans
sevans@gsusignal.com

Bring your own tissue

In the third grade, Tommy, who used to chase me around the playground finally caught me on Feb. 14, shoving a stuffed opossum in my face. I grabbed the stuffed animal, ran, and hid it from schoolmates. The following year, after a month of continuously checking "no" to the "will you go with me, check yes or no" notes from the "class intellectual" who sat behind me, I was presented with an 'I Love You' bear, chocolate heart-shaped candies, and another note on V-day. Apparently, he had been told this would be the way to woo me. This time I tried not to accept, but with my teacher and classmates watching, I was too embarrassed to do or say anything when he persisted. So I took the gifts and ran again.



Stacey Evans

I guess the bad karma of those two

days—I said no "thank you's" and gave no return gift—carried a lot of weight, pulling me down for Valentines to come.

The best Valentine's Days are when you and all your friends are single and dateless. Then you get to have fun being very anti-Valentine in restaurants, and yelling things like, "He's cheating on you, get a clue!" to lovey-dovey passers-by.

The worst Valentine's is when all you're in high school and all your friends receive flowers and candy from lovers while you get the sympathy rose from your mom, who failed to realize it's more embarrassing to get flowers from your mother because no one else will send you any (except the guy who didn't get the hint in fourth grade, but by then it's your right to be annoyed).

What is the point of this? I've done my research; I've been trying to figure out the reason this simultaneously dreaded and anticipated holiday exists. I'm sure there's a larger reason than to just torment lonely souls, or put those who like another through the whole ordeal of deciding whether or not to reveal their feelings.

Valentine's seems to be more about com-

mercialism than love, but it's also a day that means courage to many. It takes a lot of courage to tell someone how you feel, and Valentine's Day makes it a little easier to do that. Despite all the commercialism, which does as many holidays do to make those who are lonely even more depressed, Valentine's is a day that gives everyone an excuse to be bolder and more open with expressing how they feel, not only with crushes but with friends and family. And that's something we could all use a little more of.

The only drawback is rejection. Nothing hurts like being told by the one you long for that they just don't feel the same, except having to tell someone you care for that you don't return the feelings they reveal to you. It seems nothing is ever fair in love and war, until you do find that one other who makes you buy into all the absurdity and giddiness of Valentine's Day even though you rolled your eyes at it every year before. But even then, if you can't be with the one you love on that day, the hype of the holiday mocks you even more.

Valentine's means different things to different people. To those in love, it's a time to express to one another how much they care. For those who have a crush, it's a time to reveal their feelings. For those who have lost a loved one, it's a day of remembrance and often sadness. For those who are single and lonely, Valentine's is just a pain in the ass. For those who are single and don't care, Valentine's is just ignored (as much as is possible with pink and red hearts floating everywhere).

Whatever your reason for celebrating it, or not, or whatever memories it holds for you, do utilize the day to call up old friends and tell everyone you care for how much you do. I don't think any of us do that enough. And if you're the lonely type, don't let the commercialism of it get to you too much. If you're in a relationship, don't feel that you have to spend big bucks to show how much you care. If you do, then you shouldn't be in that relationship. If it's true love, or like, you'd be surprised how much a simple written note or thoughtful gesture means.

If you have nothing better to do, you're welcome to join me in watching old sappy movies and wallowing in self-pity. Bring your own tissue.

Woman on Top

by Sarah Pilkington
spilkington@gsusignal.com

Give your all to State today and see what happens

In my dorm room a sign hangs directly next to my door. It is a white sheet with a red background and on it are printed the words, "I give my all for STATE today."

I know that some of you think this is probably the tritest thing you've ever heard, but it actually holds a great deal of meaning.

The sign was given to me when I became an official member of the 2001 Incept Team. We were each given one and it was suggested that every morning before a conference, we should tap it on our way out the door, to remind us of our dedication in the long day to come.

Despite that being almost a year ago, the sign still hangs there. Each day, as I pass it, it reminds me that GSU is a place where I can give my all, both for my own achievement and for that of the school.

We've all been urged to get involved or show school spirit before, something that many people sadly just don't seem to have the time for or the interest in. However, I truly believe that there are simpler and easier steps that each of us can take to boost our university.

First of all, do all that you can to improve your own education; that is, after all, the most important reason for being here. Talk to your professors. Use some of the computer labs that people so easily forget; there's a new one opening soon on the third floor of the Student Center. Use the library for something other than a nap. Go to the English lab in General Classroom Building; they can help you significantly improve your writing. The whole point is, by helping yourself you are actually boosting the caliber of the academics at Georgia State.

Next, make a genuine effort to stay connected. If you are reading this, then you must have picked up a copy of the *Signal*, a good way to find out what's going on. But there is another tool, one that many seem to dismiss. The univer-

sity provides each and every one of us with an e-mail account, one that can automatically get information about events on campus. Didn't know that Busta Rhymes was here or that 'O' just played at Panther Prowl? This would help you with that. Last week, I heard Dr. Keppler say that many students claimed they would have attended, if only they'd known it was going on.

Finally, just continue to promote our school. If you are out and hear some misconception about GSU, answer it correctly. This past weekend, someone told me that they thought Georgia State



Sarah Pilkington

was 90% African American. They were shocked when I told them that we were much more diverse than that. We are perhaps one of them best kept secrets in the University System of Georgia, a feat that is quite amazing when you consider that we are the second largest school in the state.

One of the saddest things about this fine institution of ours is the general apathy that people seem to feel. Few students have ever been to a basketball game or any other sporting event for that matter. People are shocked when they learn that we have a theater and a radio station. Perhaps by taking small steps to focus on our campus we can help remedy this.

The whole point is you don't have to run out and join every club or group on campus in order to have school spirit and pride. All you have to do is consciously decide to direct your efforts to making and getting the most from GSU that you possibly can. You'll see that you soon gain a pride in your university. And that is what giving your all and school spirit is really about.



Um, somebody please tell the irritated commuter that Village residents are commuters who also pay for Turner Parking and our MARTA passes are not FREE! We pay double!! P.S. MARTA isn't ALWAYS smarta!

You know, as much as I love M Deck, it's

just a little unnerving that every time a car drives by, the whole structure shakes.

Death penalty protestors at the State of the State Address yelled, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, death penalty has got to go!" And off they went, kindly escorted by the Capitol Police.

The *Signal's* coverage of the state legislature has been insightful. It's always neat to know what's going on one block over.

I read that very few students went to the Busta Rhymes show a week or two ago. Not surprising. Whose brilliant idea was it to charge people \$20 to go to a concert when people don't like going to the Sports Arena anyway?

They REALLY need to take Homecoming out of the hands of students.

NOTICE: Elevators in M Deck, despite many complaints, continue to operate occa-

sionally at best. What do we have to do? Sue on behalf of handicapped students?

Hot, blustery cold, now pleasantly warm. I wish the elements would make up their mind!

Send your vexing verbage to the Growl! E-mail growl@gsusignal.com! Comments should be short (if not sweet), and the identity of the author will remain anonymous, but please send your name, class, and a phone number with your colicky comments.

Mission Statement

The *Signal* shall provide, in a fair and accurate manner, news of interest and significance to the Georgia State University community and serve as a forum for the expression and ideas of members of that community. Furthermore, the *Signal* shall provide an opportunity for students to pursue experience within a professional newspaper environment. The *Signal* shall also provide truthful and ethical advertising of interest to the Georgia State University community.

Perspectives Policy

Submissions Deadline | Thursday at Noon

Letters to the Editor may be submitted to letters@gsusignal.com, should be between 300-500 words, must include your full name, year and major, and are edited for grammar, length, clarity, factual accuracy and in keeping with *Signal* policy. For more info, call 404-463-9331.

USUAL SUSPECTS

where everybody knows their names

A Radical Moderate

Dick and Hillary

Mark Cornwell

Staff Columnist
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It occurs to me that Vice President Dick Cheney needs to wake up and realize that he is fast becoming the Hillary Clinton of the Bush administration. Hillary was (and is) a lightning rod of controversy and an easy target for her political enemies, and most of the time, for good reason.

Cheney, with his bullish resistance to cooperate with the GAO (General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress) in their request for a list of names of participants from his Energy Task Force, is beginning to melt into a nice looking piece of metal himself and the Democratic meteorologists on Capitol Hill are calling for a thunderstorm.

At the beginning of the Clinton administration the president ordered the formation of a task force to study the restructuring (known to Republicans as socialization) of the health care system in America. Who would head this task force that could potentially change health care in this country forever? Hillary Clinton.

Republicans lost it. They weren't going to let the 'First Lady Leftist' go behind closed doors with her Ivy League elitist pals and dash off a new system of health care for the entire country. They put on an all-out public relations pressure campaign to make the Clintons look as if they were hiding something.

They made up all sorts of erroneous claims about Hillary's plan (or were they, since no one knew what Hillary was doing in there). But the Clintons gave reasons for their secrecy. To ensure total honesty from all participants the Clintons claimed they needed the ability to seek advice without revealing who said what to whom (that sounds ridiculously familiar).

Needless to say the public pressure to release the documents about the task force mounted as the Republicans derided her secrecy and, after an extremely acrimonious few months, Hillary finally released them. This set the tone for Hillary's relationship with the Republicans for the next, well, forever.

Now, ten years later, here is Vice President Cheney virtually nominating himself to be the next Hillary Clinton. With a resume that includes his being a close congressional ally during the Reagan years, in particular during the Iran-Contra years when Reagan had few friends on Capitol Hill, and for good reasons (he was lying to Congress), followed by his years in the private sector as an executive on the board of many energy companies (where he became rather rich, and when I say rather I mean stinking) he leaves no doubt as to his view of the world: business is better and more trustworthy than government could ever be. (Even Enron, Mr. Cheney?)

So here is Mr. Energy Business (or 'Bitness', as they say in Texas) heading up a task force dedicated to solving our need for a national energy plan. So what does he do? Exactly what Hillary Clinton did with her task force: he loaded it up with all of the energy executives and other 'bitness' leaders that share the administration's philosophy on energy. They don't let anyone know what they're talking about or even whom they are talking to (deja vu).

So now the Democrats lose it. They're not going to let a big business VP who 'oiled' his way into the White House go behind closed doors and with his 'Fat Cat Power Cronies' formulate an energy plan for the nation.

With Enron going down in flames and most sane people in the country realizing that Enron had the ear of the administration, the public pressure on Cheney to turn over his task force list is mounting.

What's astonishing is Cheney's refusal to do what Hillary did and turn the documents over. I guess he knows that if he did his national energy plan would be dead (as Hillary's health care plan was when she finally relinquished her documents).

In fact it looks as though this could get nastier than Hillary's situation ever did. If the GAO has to sue the White House for the documents (and they plan to) it would be an unprecedented move that would cause angst up and down Capitol Hill and create the kind of partisan polar division around Cheney that existed (and still does exist) around Hillary Clinton.

But really, if the GAO follows through with the lawsuit it would be as unprecedented as impeaching a popular sitting president over a sexual dalliance.

Get your raincoat, I'm pretty sure it's going to storm.

The Square Deal

National missile defense gets a boost

David Agnetti

Staff Columnist
dagnetti@gsusignal.com

In the wake of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, America has been mourning its dead and tending to its wounded. But the nation also has been building up a fierce determination to respond to this outrage against humanity, and a pragmatic determination to reduce its vulnerability to future attacks. This determination has translated itself into a newfound focus for the American public on foreign and domestic security policy issues. While the American public should be concerned with national security, it should not allow itself to be fooled into believing the rhetoric of the Bush administration regarding a National Missile Defense (NMD) system.

The administration has taken full advantage of the events of Sept. 11 to further legitimize the utility of the NMD. President Bush has already withdrawn the United States unilaterally from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, which, according to Russian Defense Minister Igor Ivanov, is the "cornerstone" for nuclear arms reduction. The ABM Treaty, negotiated with the former Soviet Union during the Cold War, expressly forbids the testing and deployment

Sept. 11 has clearly pointed out that the United States is vulnerable, but the least thing America remains vulnerable to is an ICBM launched from another country.

of a ballistic missile defense shield. On Dec. 13, the day before he withdrew the United States from the 30-year-old treaty, Bush justified his actions by saying, "We know that the terrorists and some of those who support them seek the ability to deliver death and destruction to our doorstep via missile, and we must have the freedom and flexibility to develop effective defenses against those attacks." What the President neglected to mention, perhaps because no one told him, is that the NMD is not equipped to handle the new strategic landscape of the 21st century.

Sept. 11 has clearly pointed out that the United States is vulnerable, but the least thing America remains vulnerable to is an ICBM launched from another country. Small groups of terrorists are becoming increasingly sophisticated in terms of technological capacity. Before the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, no one would have dreamed that passenger jets filled with 200,000 pounds of jet fuel could be converted into cruise missiles used to breach American homeland air defenses. Still, Cold War relics like Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and Assistant Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz push for the continued development of the \$60 billion NMD. They point to rogue states like North Korea, Iran, and Iraq — "the Axis of Evil" — as direct threats to U.S. national security.

Similarly in the 1930s, French leaders erected the 200-mile Maginot Line to protect France from a frontal invasion by Germany. Refusing to recognize the limitations of their heavily fortified defenses led to a false sense of security for the French leadership. Nazi Germany, recognizing the formidability of the Maginot Line, devised a strategy for bypassing it and France eventually fell to their forces. The Bush administration risks the same fate if it commits the bulk of homeland defense resources and energies to construct a NMD.

When considering the Bush administration's strategy for combating future terrorist attacks with the NMD, an image of a cartoon comes to mind. The scene is one where Elmer Fudd is attempting to slay a fly with his shotgun. In the process of trying to slay the fly, the cartoon hunter oafishly ends up demolishing the surrounding area. President Bush's methods seem to approach the problem of terrorism in much the same way. He alienates allies, makes new enemies, and ruins U.S. credibility in the international arena. In the end, standing among the debris in much the same way as Elmer Fudd, Bush may find himself finally realizing his mistake. It is incumbent upon the American people to recognize his foolery before they find themselves in the same situation.

Voice of Reason

The real point of Valentine's Day

Ellen Opdyke

Staff Columnist
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Ahh, Valentine's Day. This day of love often represents something very different for most people: stress. Little kids are nervous about giving the boy or girl of their affections the special valentine they have chosen, while others are scared they won't be getting anything at all. Some teenagers can't wait to walk around school with balloons, flowers, and heart shaped boxes, proving to the world that someone loves them, and the rest stay home because the thought of not getting a gift is just too embarrassing. Men rush to jewelry stores, flower shops, clothing stores and candy shops to find the perfect gift; women frantically wonder, "What can I buy that any male won't think is too cheesy or too cute?"

On the actual dreaded day, the crowds will be divided between those who choose to wear bright pink or red in celebration, and those who choose to wear black or other dark colors in defiance. Some people will send gifts to themselves to feel better. Delivery men will be busy, restaurants will be full, prices will be high, and afterwards, lots and lots of candy will be on sale. Can't you just feel the love?

Here's some history behind this so-called "holiday." Before Christianity took over in Rome, it was the tradition for teenage girls and boys to gather together during February in celebration of the god Lupercus. The teens were allowed to select a mate for the whole year, and were permitted to do "anything" they wanted together. When Christianity became the predominant religion, the leaders wanted to outlaw this practice and bring in a new image of "wholesome love," so they choose a substitute for Lupercus, St. Valentine (a man who had been tortured for performing marriages, even when they had been outlawed). They also created a specific holiday for him, and, as a precaution, made it illegal to worship Lupercus. Eventually, Valentine's Day became an accepted holiday throughout Europe, and spread around the world.

Despite the seemingly good intentions of the holiday's creators, the majority of public sentiment does not appear to be on their side. People who are single feel left out, and people who are part of a couple resent having so much meaning put into only one day. If you're single, you can't get away from it; the stores push Valentine's Day like it's another Christmas. Decorations come out immediately after New Year's, and everyone has sales, specials, and advice. If you're in a relationship, you are in the stores, looking at these specials, and seeking this advice. No matter what your status, you either end up feeling excluded, or like you've somehow been tricked into proving yourself to your significant other with gifts.

However, I believe I may have found a solution. The problem lies in how society looks at Valentine's Day: it's all wrong. This day shouldn't just be about couples; it should be about everyone who cares about someone else, in whatever way that may be. Is your dog your best friend? Buy him a Valentine's Day bone! Just use the day as an excuse to tell people you love them. Yes, it's a commercial, Hallmark-benefiting, money-generating holiday. Yes, we all know that one gift on one day does not mean you love someone any more or any less than usual. But you can't stop it; it's coming. It will sneak up behind you and before you know it, pounce, leaving you stupefied and surprised. So just give in and have some fun. If you're single, enjoy the fact that you don't have to buy gifts and can wear black in defiance. If you're a couple, enjoy the day in some stereotypical way.

Whether you're paired off or not, give some cards to your close friends, making this holiday not just about couples, but also about all love. Forget about the emphasis put on this one day, because after it's all over, that's all it is: just another day.

LETTERS & VIEWS

from our readers and people otherwise unaffiliated with us

MARTA Police power trip

Dear Editor:

On Feb. 5 at about 1:55 p.m., I proceeded to the North Avenue Marta Station from the GSU Village. I had a soft drink in hand, and went through the turnstiles drinking it. I had taken no more than two steps before a tall middle-aged Marta Police officer stopped me and very rudely demanded that I go back through the turnstile and throw my drink away. I told him I would finish drinking it before I got on the train, and attempted to walk away. He yelled at me to come back, so I did. I threw my drink away, and before I could get a word in edgewise, it was demanded of me that I surrender my student ID and driver's license to this cop. I did so without a fight, although I will admit that I was very confused as to why he wanted to see identification simply because I was drinking a Mr. Pibb. He also asked me for my social security number, and how long I had been living in the state of Georgia. He then had the audacity to radio my name in and ask if there were any warrants out for my arrest. While he was waiting for a reply, he began lecturing me very loudly on the rules of riding Marta. He made me sit there in the station for 15 minutes while a background check was being performed on me. I think it was quite obvious that I was just a college student trying to get to class. He refused to let me explain myself or even talk, and instead just stood there smugly

while I watched the minutes tick away.

When at last the background check was complete, and he had proof that I wasn't a wanted criminal, he told me he was "being a nice guy" by not fining me \$100. I then asked him as nicely as possible if I could go back through the turnstiles for free, as I had used the last of my change almost a half hour before to buy a wasted token (I picked a very bad time to be without my trusty Marta card). Even though this officer saw me purchase a Marta token, insert it into the turnstile and walk through, he maintained that "that sounds like a personal problem" and refused to let me back through. When I pressed further to be let through because the situation was unfair, he completely ignored me and stared off into space.

I obviously did not deserve to be treated like this. I just happened to be drinking a soda at the wrong place and wrong time. I know Marta has fallen on hard times lately, but that is not an excuse to treat people like criminals for no reason. This officer was acting highly unprofessional, and was pushing his weight around simply because he could. I just happened to be the unfortunate victim. Now, I could be wrong, but shouldn't Marta cops be pulling this kind of thing on some REAL criminals like murderers, rapists, or bank robbers, not some college girl with a drink in the station? Come on, people, get real.

Sincerely,
Catlin Blindauer
Freshman / Journalism

Ex-senator crosses the line

Dear Editor:

Let me share with you a few quotes I read recently about women:

"They're your typical sorority sluts. They're useless to society. Their only purpose is to f**k, and be f**ked. They're heartless demons... They're nothing but pieces of meat."

"My life involves 'ridiculing women, drinking to excess, liberally speaking obscenities, and watching cartoons.'"

"I have yet to do these... It's basically a simple concept of finding a girl you can't stand, basically some b*tch who's pissed you off and you want revenge... Then you hit her in the back of the head, forcing her jaw to clamp down on her exposed tongue, leaving it senseless and dead for days... hit her across the face breaking her nose, while the blood is spewing out let it go all in her face."

And this isn't even close to all of what was written by your ex-SGA senator on the Rampway message board. According to last week's *Signal*, this ex-senator doesn't feel like his comments were "inappropriate" and calls into question the intention of those who brought charges against him undermining our objective.

How does this make you feel?

Does it make you feel safe as you walk through the hallways of this campus? Does it make you feel comfortable walking to your car alone? Does it make you feel carefree as you talk to the men on this campus, maybe flirting a little, or go on a date with them?

It makes me feel nauseous, especially in the wake of multiple rapes that have been reported

at GSU in my four years here and continue to be reported unbeknownst to the majority of the students. It makes me feel like there are some people who are harboring deeply misogynistic attitudes, and it makes me fear for all women on and off the Georgia State campus when university officials have thus far swept this issue under the rug. It makes me wonder when people will finally be held accountable for their own actions instead of having them passed off as "simple 'guy talk'" or an "obvious joke." If "guy talk" is reduced to nothing more than sadistic comments about women, then what is wrong with the guys who engage in this kind of behavior?

Lastly, the issue here is not censorship. It's safety and it's freedom. This kind of hate-speech breeds intolerance and is potentially dangerous. The student code of conduct allows free speech "as long as it does not materially or substantially interfere with the orderly operation of the University or with the rights of others. This right of expression does not protect disruptive, threatening, lewd, indecent or obscene conduct or expression." These comments are well beyond lewd, indecent, disruptive, obscene and threatening. Say what you will about my opinion, but be well aware that the women on Georgia State campus will not tolerate misogyny in any way, shape or form.

Sincerely,
Mandy Van Deven
Senior / Sociology and Women's Studies
Power of Women Representative

GSTV brought down by its own leader, never mind the administration

Dear Editor:

Reagan's reply to the *Signal* story that ran Jan. 29 about GSTV prohibitions on criticizing the administration has a couple of major holes aside from her convenient cover story for Danso.

Both Dean of Students Keppler and Media Advisor Farra Faucett, who prior to becoming the GSU media cop swore to uphold student First Amendment Rights, concur in the *Signal* story that in fact such a prohibition as to criticizing GSU admin does indeed exist. In fact Mien Herr Keppler confirms I was fired and banned from GSTV because my

"...conduct and material became overly critical...of the station and the GSU administration as well."

Who is telling tales, Danso, Keppler, and Farra Faucett, or Reagan Brandon?

Let me also defend Rahiem who has just as much concern for the continued existence of GSTV as do I.

When I sent a GSTV/GSU alum to him, Ayesha Tanzeem, with a story, he e-mailed me that he was unable to help and described his reaction to what he described as Reagan's "constant threats and demands and intimidation." He described, in part, his reaction as desiring to "sue the school, to

breaking into the files and destroying her records, to beating her to death" to being "consumed with a blind hatred."

I have spent some time with Rahiem in the last few days. He is the same cool, laid back, reflective Rahiem, all his friends know.

Nobody is trying to bring down GSTV as the apparently paranoid Reagan suggests. This all started because the administration proposes and is taking actions that may well destroy, not only GSTV, but Cinefest and *Signal* as well.

The administration plays this game of consultation. But when we asked for

substantive things, such as blueprints of the proposed changes, so that we may have a substantive consultation, they refused to provide them.

Reagan simply prefers sucking up to the administration instead of standing up for the future of GSTV, let alone Cinefest and *Signal*. It is Reagan who is bringing down GSTV. Hence she has rid GSTV of its best defenders, firing me and driving away Rahiem who is far, far, less intense than I.

Sincerely,
Jack Jersawitz
Sophomore / African American
Studies

The Signal Staff

because we couldn't do it without them

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The following guidelines must be followed when submitting a Letter to the Editor. Failure to follow them will result in your letter not being considered for publication.

1. Letters may be submitted to letters@gsusignal.com, and must include the text of the letter in the body of the e-mail.
2. Letters should be 300-500 words maximum. The *Signal* will allow longer letters, but only in rare instances.
3. Letters must include the full name(s) of the writer(s) and include their year and major. If the writer is a faculty member, they must include their title.
4. Letters will be fact-checked before publication. The writer may be obligated to make changes to the letter for publication.
5. Letters will be edited for grammar, clarity, length, factual accuracy, and in keeping with *Signal* policy.
6. The *Signal* reserves the right to reject letters at their discretion.

PANTHER POLL

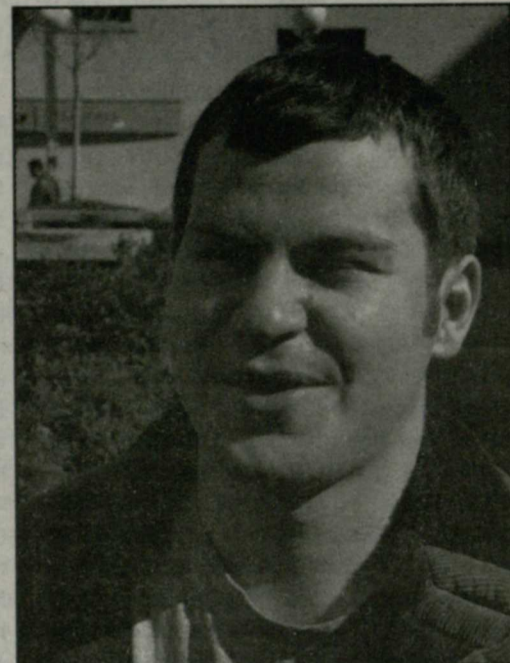
where you get your two cents worth in

Q: Valentine's Day: Good to celebrate or another Hallmark holiday?



**"I think it's another Hallmark holiday. I think if you're with somebody you like, you don't need a holiday to show it."
- Todd Cook
Junior / Biology**

**"I think Valentine's Day is a corporate entity, just made up to sell stuff."
- Brian Smith
Junior / Tele-communications**



**"It's only good to celebrate if you have somebody to celebrate it with."
- Alishia Austin
Freshman / Undecided**



**"I don't celebrate Valentine's Day and I never have."
- Brittany Gilley
Sophomore / Marketing**



**"It's good to celebrate if you have someone, but it's just another day if you don't."
- Royce Dickerson
Junior / Exercise Science**

**"It's good to celebrate, but it's another disappointment."
- Adrienne Strong
Post-Baccalaureate / Psychology**



Do you care about the Winter Olympics?

:next week

You think you got a good question for Panther Poll? Prove it, and e-mail it to pantherpoll@gsusignal.com. We just might use it.

Sports Editor
Colin Martz

Assoc. Sports Editor
Marijane Ritter

Sports

Reporting on
Georgia State University Athletics

What's Inside

TENNIS | Georgia State goes a combined 3-1 last week, with both teams looking impressive *page 12*

SCOREBOARD | Get all the Atlantic Sun Conference info you need, including scores, statistics, and standings *page 16*

Georgia State 76, Florida Atlantic 71



Chris Martz | Signal

Leroy Davis seals Florida Atlantic's fate with this dunk to end GSU's 76-71 victory.

Panthers steal big victory from first-place FAU

18-6 closing run vaults GSU to win, share of second place

Chris Martz
Associate Perspectives Editor
chrismartz@gsusignal.com

With their backs against the wall, the Georgia State men's basketball team at times played like it.

But on the back of their star senior, Thomas Terrell, the Panthers pulled out an important Atlantic Sun conference victory, 76-71 at the Sports Arena last Saturday against the Florida Atlantic Owls.

Behind Terrell's season-high 36 points, including eight three-pointers, the Panthers also got key free-throw shooting down the stretch to ice the game.

After last Thursday's debacle at home against Central Florida, coach "Lefty" Driesell tinkered with his starting lineup, inserting Leroy Davis and "Bam" Campbell in place of Cedric Patton and Donnie Davis, who had both started the previous six games.

With many questioning how the Panthers would come out after Driesell's obvious frustration with his team's play against Cen-

tral Florida, the Panthers came out of the gate slowly. Fortunately, Campbell was there to pick up the offense, scoring the Panthers' first six points.

From then on, however, it was the Thomas Terrell show. After shooting 2-14 against Central Florida, Terrell came out firing, scoring 17 points in the first half, including 5-6 from three-point land.

"I tend to get down when I miss my shots, but I get up when I start making them," Terrell said after the game.

His hot hand did not disappear in the second half, but this time Terrell's touch was most apparent at the free-throw line, making all eight of his attempts at the charity stripe.

Foul shooting was the key in the second half for the Panthers, who hit on 13 of their 14 attempts, with the lone miss coming on the last attempt of the game.

Terrell's hot shooting kept the Panthers in the game in the first half. Every time the Owls started to open a big lead, Terrell seemed

to answer the challenge. After the Owls went on a 10-0 run to push the advantage to 23-16, a basket by Kendrick Alloway, then a three-pointer by Terrell pulled the Panthers back to within five.

Another 10-0 run by the Owls immediately after this was ended by five straight from Terrell. Another three-pointer pulled the Panthers to within three with 41 seconds left in the half, but a three-pointer by Florida Atlantic's Earnest Crumbley stretched the lead to 39-33 at the half.

The second half was more of the same story: The Thomas Terrell Show. A three-pointer to open the half brought the Panthers back within three, and after a Campbell basket at 16:06, the Panthers had regained the lead at 44-43.

Crumbley immediately responded with another three-pointer, however, giving the lead back to the Owls. Florida Atlantic once again began to pull away on several occasions, and on every instance, Terrell answered.

Down the stretch, however, when the defense became tighter on him, the rest of the Panthers stepped up. Leroy Davis tied the game with a three-pointer with

See RALLY | Page 13

Lady Panthers struggle but prevail with strong finish

Colin Martz
Sports Editor
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Saturday the Lady Panther basketball team suffered through their usual mid-game struggles before rallying to defeat Troy State 68-63 at the GSU Sports Arena.

After the Lady Trojans (7-13, 6-7 Atlantic Sun) took a 40-35 lead, their biggest of the game, with 13:30 left, Georgia State took control in front of the Homecoming crowd.

The Lady Panthers (13-7, 9-4) slowly chipped away at the lead until freshman Patechia Hartman

scored on a floater in the lane to give GSU a 54-53 lead with three minutes left.

Senior Marica Maddox immediately followed with a three-pointer to push the Georgia State lead to four.

On the Lady Panthers' next possession, Maddox converted a three-point play to put GSU up 63-56. Troy State could get no closer than four points the rest of the way.

The close ending culminated a game that went back and forth throughout.

Georgia State claimed an

See CLOSE | Page 12

Baseball, softball highlight another busy week for GSU

Colin Martz
Sports Editor
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With two more spring sports opening their 2002 campaigns, it's another week of nonstop action for Georgia State athletics.

Baseball and softball add to the mix late in the week, with both teams playing host to non-conference foes over the weekend.

Thursday afternoon, the Lady Panther softball team will begin the second Bob Heck era with a doubleheader against Alabama-Birmingham at Panthersville.

Heck was named head coach last August after Phyllis Guedry resigned to take the same position at her alma mater Nicholls State.

Friday and Saturday, the women will host the Georgia State Kick-Off. The six-team, two-day

tournament will be the first of three the Lady Panthers will host this season.

Also this weekend, the Georgia State baseball team will lace up their cleats and begin what hopes to be a productive 2002 season.

The action begins Friday, when Drexel visits Panthersville at 4 p.m. The two teams will then do battle in a doubleheader Saturday, which starts at 1 p.m.

While baseball and softball get ready to open their seasons, the Georgia State basketball teams are heading into the home stretch of two more successful seasons.

The women have a busy week, with three games on tap.

After a home game against Mercer Monday, the Lady Panthers will travel to Florida for

See STRETCH | Page 15

Terrell reaches 1,000-point plateau



Chris Martz | Signal

With this three-pointer against Central Florida Thursday, senior Thomas Terrell became the 12th player in Georgia State history to reach 1,000 points.

Impressive week sees GSU tennis improve, dominate

Staff Reports

With tennis season now in full swing, both Georgia State squads had an encouraging week, with the teams combining for a 3-1 record last week.

While the Lady Panthers suffered the lone loss last week, their stellar play has raised expectations for the rest of the season.

Despite being on the wrong end of a 6-1 result Friday at Clemson, the women won two of the seven matches, with three different players getting a taste of conquest.

Georgia State's Maria Soerenson went to 2-0 in singles

play this season with a hard-fought, three-set victory over Clemson's Milena Stanoycheva.

After splitting the first two sets, which both ended in a tiebreaker, Soerenson cruised to a 10-2 win in the third-set tiebreaker to claim the victory.

Also victorious for the Lady Panthers was the number one doubles team of Mojca Pavlinic and Nina Jansen. The duo claimed an 8-6 victory over Clemson's Anna Savitskaya and Milena Stanoycheva.

Two days later, the Lady Panthers opened their home schedule with a resounding 5-2 win over Wofford, their first victory of the season.

With wins in six of the nine

matches, Georgia State picked up wins from a few untapped resources.

Jovana Krsikapa, Rebecca Mitchell, Karine Etienne, and Nina Jansen were all victorious in singles play for the first time this season, with the latter three all winning in straight sets.

With the Lady Panthers starting to show their true colors, the men's team opened their season with two dominating performances over the weekend.

Saturday afternoon, the Panthers dropped just one set in nine matches en route to a 7-0 win over Mercer.

Georgia State's lone test came in number four singles, where Miha Lisac had to go three sets to

beat Mercer's Richardo Echeverri. After dropping the first set in a tiebreaker, Lisac gained his composure and blew by Echeverri, winning the final two sets 6-4, 6-1.

One day later, the men were given a tougher match from Wofford but were able to prevail 5-2.

With number one singles player Ormaza Matias out nursing an ankle injury, freshman Chris Magnone stepped right in and gave the Panthers a huge lift in his first action at Georgia State.

Magnone teamed with Miha Lisac to give the Panthers a 9-7 win in number three doubles over Mercer's Alex Wilson and Jason Mangel. The win, coupled with a victory in number one doubles,

propelled Georgia State to the doubles point and 1-0 lead heading into singles play.

With four wins in singles competition, Georgia State was able to secure the victory.

Nicholas Lupica starred in the number five singles spot, taking a dominating 6-0, 6-0 decision over Mangel.

Also winning in straight sets were Pablo Perez Gras, Albano Franco, and Luka Bernard.

The 2-0 Panthers will next hit the hardcourts on Sunday when they will host Tennessee Tech.

The Lady Panthers, currently 1-2, have over two weeks off before heading to Murfreesboro, Tenn., to take on Middle Tennessee State on Feb. 26.

Late run helps close out Trojans

From STRUGGLE | Page 11

early six-point advantage before a 7-0 Lady Trojan run gave Troy State a 15-14 lead, one which they would not hold for very long.

A quick 8-0 run helped Georgia State regain the lead at 22-19. The Lady Panthers would slightly increase their advantage before halftime, heading into the locker room ahead 29-25.

At the start of the second half, Thea Herring scored six of the Lady Trojans' first 10 points to help them reclaim the lead, 35-33.

Troy State was able to push their lead to five twice but were unable to hold on.

Angelina Miller led four Georgia State players in double figures with 21 points.

The Lady Panthers benefited from the return of forward Holly Coates, who had missed the last two weeks with a stress fracture in her foot.

The sophomore gave Georgia State a much-needed lift in the paint, collecting a season-high 16 rebounds to go along with 11 points in 33 minutes.

Herring was the star for Troy State. The sophomore scored a game-high 25 points on 12 for 13 shooting and pulled down a team-

high 12 rebounds.

Chaquita Alexander added 14 points for the Lady Trojans.

Despite shooting just 41 percent from the game, Georgia State forced the Lady Trojans into 22 turnovers, a problem coach Jerry Hester felt hurt his team.

"Turnovers once again plagued us in a close game, and that is an area we need to improve," said the Troy State coach. "But overall, I thought we played very well against one of the top teams in the conference. Hopefully we can take some confidence away from our performance."

The win was the first game for Georgia State since a stunning 54-50 loss at Central Florida Monday.

In Orlando, the Lady Panthers again got out to a big lead before watching it evaporate in the second half.

Thirteen minutes into the game, Georgia State held a 21-7 lead, their biggest of the game, before taking a 29-18 lead into halftime.

But poor shooting would plague the Lady Panthers this night, as they made just five shots in the second half.

Georgia State was able to

keep the Lady Knights at bay until just under seven minutes were left, when UCF took a 42-41 lead, their first of the game.

A 9-3 run allowed Georgia State to retake the lead and open it to 50-45 with 4:20 left, but the Lady Panthers would not score again.

Central Florida would make four foul shots in the final 1:04 to cap a finishing 9-0 run to claim the victory.

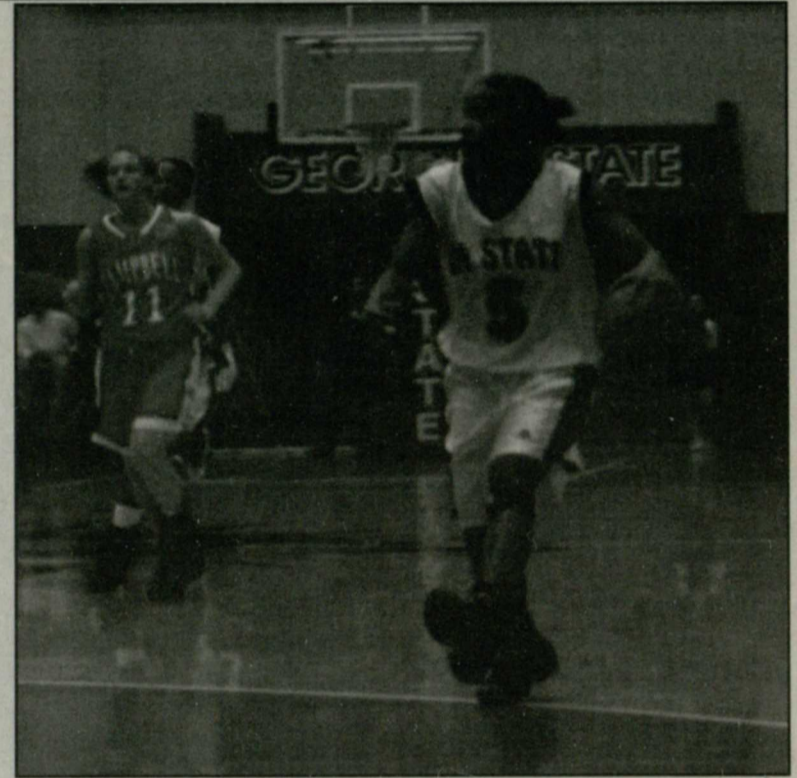
Angelina Miller's 12 points led Georgia State, while Marica Maddox was the only other Lady Panther in double figures with 11.

Ali Roberts led three Central Florida players in double figures with 18 points. Roberts also had a game-high 12 rebounds.

For the game, Georgia State shot just 28 percent, making a measly 15 shots.

Although Central Florida struggled similarly in the first half, the Lady Knights picked the right half to be semi-successful from the field.

Foul trouble also plagued Georgia State, as Evita Rogers and Patechia Hartman both fouled out after having to sit for crucial periods of the game.



Rob Bishop | Signal

Marica Maddox scored six crucial points down the stretch for the Lady Panthers.

Troy State (7-13, 6-7): Gay 4-10 0-0 9, Konrad 1-6 1-2 4, Herring 12-13 1-2 25, Alexander 5-13 1-1 14, Fiehrer 3-6 0-1 7, McGriff 0-0 0-0 0, Kaiser 0-0 0-0 0, Schwendeman 1-5 2-2 4, Waters 0-0 0-0 0, Kirk 0-1 0-0 0. **Team: 26-54 5-8 63.**

Georgia State (13-7, 9-4): Edwards 0-1 1-2 1, Coates 4-13 3-4 11, Rogers 5-10 2-4 12, Miller 7-16 7-8 21, Maddox 7-10 3-3 18, Hartman 2-9 0-0 5, Neely 0-1 0-0 0, Merriweather 0-1 0-0 0. **Team: 25-61 16-21 68.**

Halftime: GSU 29-25. **3-point FG:** TSU 6-23 (Alexander 3-7, Fiehrer 1-4, Gay 1-5, Konrad 1-5, Schwendeman 0-2); GSU 2-6 (Maddox 1-1, Hartman 1-3, Rogers 0-1, Merriweather 0-1). **Rebounds:** TSU 33 (Herring 12), GSU 32 (Coates 16). **Assists:** TSU 19 (Fiehrer 7), GSU 11 (Maddox 5). **Steals:** TSU 4, GSU 10. **Blocks:** TSU 2, GSU 3. **Fouls:** TSU 18, GSU 10. **Turnovers:** TSU 22, GSU 11. **Attendance:** 813.

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Defense, five-game win streak disappear

Chris Martz
Associate Perspectives Editor
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All the signs pointed in the right direction for the Georgia State men's basketball team.

Coming into last Thursday's game versus Central Florida, the Panthers were riding a five-game winning streak, playing arguably their best basketball of the season.

But it was back to the drawing board after one of the most disappointing losses of the season, 83-73 at the Sports Arena.

The story was more of the same for the Panthers. Too many times this season, the team has seen large leads disappear in the second half, and this game was another example.

Leading by nine with 15:20 left to play, the Golden Knights rolled off seven straight points to pull within two.

From then on, the Panthers defense disappeared along with the lead. With the game close for most of the remainder of the game, the Panthers just couldn't pull ahead. After pulling within two on two occasions with less than eight minutes to play, Central Florida went on a 6-0 run to extend their lead to 70-62, with

the Panthers never again coming close to victory.

"Our defense was awful tonight," coach "Lefty" Driesell said after the game.

"They outhustled us, they made all the big plays in the second half, and they deserved to win tonight."

Central Florida's Paul Reed was the difference in the game. The six-foot-eight senior center led both teams with 26 points and 16 rebounds, dominating the inside. "If you give anyone the kind of shots we gave him, he's going to make them," said Panthers guard Lamont McIntosh after the loss. Central Florida guard Stephen Graham contributed 20 points to assist Reed, with twin brother Joey Graham pitching in 10 points.

Although the Panthers had four players score in double figures, one of them was not pre-season conference MVP Thomas Terrell. On the night that he scored his 1000th career point,



Bam Campbell puts home two of his 14 points Thursday against Central Florida.

Chris Martz | Signal

the senior only scored seven points, coming on a horrific 2-14 shooting performance.

Sophomore Nate Williams led the Panthers with 15 points, while "Bam" Campbell and Cedric Patton both scored 14.

Patton led the charge for the Panthers early on, keeping the Panthers in the game. After a three-pointer for the first points of the game, the Golden Knights responded with a 15-0 run, leaving the score at 15-3 with 16:14 left in the first half.

Patton scored 12 of the Panthers' first 18 points, but disappeared from then on, scoring only two more points for the rest of the game.

But Patton wasn't the only Panther without a shooting

touch in the game. Shooting only 23% in the second half, the Panthers were outscored 48-32 in the second frame, erasing their 41-35 halftime lead.

"Success is hard to handle, but there's no excuse for playing this poor," McIntosh said.

"They made all the plays, and they outhustled us."

On a night when both the offense and defense disappeared for the Panthers, so did their confidence, leaving many questions for the team.

"We just have to reconcile some of the mistakes we made tonight, because we only have four games left in the regular season, and we need a good seed in the [conference] tournament," said McIntosh.

Central Florida (13-9, 9-6): JGraham 4-10 2-2 10, Boyd 1-4 1-2 3, Reed 9-14 7-8 26, Abellard 3-7 0-2 9, SGraham 7-14 5-5 20, Miller 3-3 2-2 8, Thornton 0-2 0-0 0, Dotson 0-1 0-2 0, Bodden 3-4 1-1 7. **Team: 30-59 18-24 83.**

Georgia State (14-9, 10-6): Terrell 2-14 2-2 7, DDavis 1-4 1-2 3, Williams 4-10 7-8 15, McIntosh 3-11 4-5 11, Patton 5-7 2-2 14, Campbell 3-6 8-12 14, Handy 0-0 0-0 0, Cooper 2-4 3-3 7, LDavis 1-6 0-0 2. **Team: 21-62 27-34 73.**

Halftime: GSU 41-35. **3-point FG:** UCF 5-15 (Abellard 3-6, Reed 1-2, SGraham 1-4, JGraham 0-1, Thornton 0-2); GSU 4-20 (Patton 2-2, Terrell 1-6, McIntosh 1-6, DDavis 0-1, Williams 0-1, Cooper 0-1, LDavis 0-3). **Rebounds:** UCF 38 (Reed 16), GSU 35 (Campbell 8). **Assists:** UCF 13 (Abellard, SGraham 3), GSU 10 (Terrell, McIntosh, Patton, LDavis 2). **Steals:** UCF 8, GSU 9. **Blocks:** UCF 3, GSU 3. **Fouls:** UCF 20, GSU 22. **Fouled Out:** UCF 1 (Bodden), GSU 1 (Campbell). **Turnovers:** UCF 19, GSU 14. **Attendance:** 2,213.

Golf men a steady sixth in return to links

Staff Reports

The Georgia State men's golf team began their spring schedule with a steady performance last weekend at the Gator Invitational in Gainesville, Fla.

With rounds of 285, 285, and 286, the Panthers finished in a tie for sixth place, ten shots behind tournament champions Louisiana State.

Georgia State relied heavily on team play, rather than one outstanding individual, to remain in contention throughout. While no Panther finished higher than 16th, Georgia State's lowest finisher ended in an impressive 32nd place.

Senior Jack Croyle paced Georgia State, finishing tied for 16th at four over par (214).

Alabama-Birmingham's Graeme McDowell blew the rest of the field away in winning the individual title. After opening with a 65, McDowell finished with a 67 and 68 en route to a score of 10 under par (200).

Freshman Zach DuFresne had the Panthers' best round, a 68, in the opening round, which put him in a tie for second after the first round. But DuFresne faded in the final two rounds, shooting a 76 and a 73 on his way to a tie for 30th.

Louisiana State won the team title with a three-round total of six over par (846).

The Tigers held off a charging Purdue team that finished with a 270, the lowest team round of the tournament.

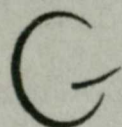
Defending champions Florida blew a one-shot lead, shooting 282 in the final round to finish in a three-way tie for second with Purdue and Alabama-Birmingham.

Georgia State will return to action of Feb. 18 when they will travel to Ponte Vedra, Fla., to compete in the Mercedes Benz Collegiate.



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Late rally lifts Panthers over Owls

From STEAL | Page 11

3:50 remaining to put the score at 65 apiece.

With the game tied at 69, Terrell hit two free throws to give the Panthers the lead for good. Lamont McIntosh added another free throw, and Terrell hit two more to push the advantage to 74-69.

Campbell was the only other Panther to score in double figures, contributing 12, his ninth double-figure game in his past 12. Point guard Lamont McIntosh did a great job distributing the ball, pitching in six assists to go along with his seven points.

Raheim Brown led the Owls with 18 points and 11 rebounds. Atlantic Sun Conference Player of the Week Earnest Crumbley came

off the bench to score 16 points, including 4-7 from behind the three-point arc.

But when the game was on the line, Georgia State's foul shooting was the difference. "I think we did a great job making our shots when we needed to,"

quipped Driesell after the game.

With only three more games before the Atlantic Sun tournament, Driesell pointed to this game as an important one.

"This is the kind of game that will prepare us for the conference tournament."

Florida Atlantic (13-10, 10-6): Smart 0-6 0-0 0, Garner 3-12 1-2 10, Cowans 3-13 2-2 9, Brown 7-10 4-4 18, RWilliams 3-9 1-2 7, Neumann 1-2 0-0 2, Dingle 1-4 5-6 7, Crumbley 5-10 2-2 16, Slater 0-1 0-0 0, Stevens 1-3 0-0 2. **Team: 24-70 15-18 71.**

Georgia State (15-9, 11-6): Terrell 10-13 8-8 36, NWilliams 1-6 0-0 2, Campbell 6-12 0-0 12, McIntosh 1-6 5-6 7, LDavis 3-4 0-0 7, Alloway 3-6 0-0 6, Handy 0-1 0-0 0, Cooper 1-6 0-0 2, Patton 1-2 0-0 2, DDavis 0-1 2-2 2. **Team: 26-57 15-16 76.**

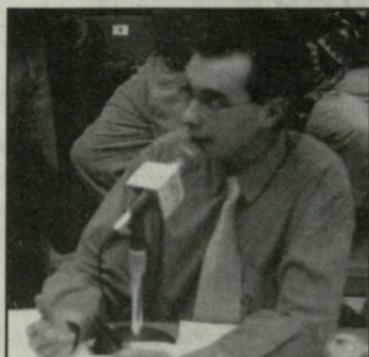
Halftime: FAU 39-33. **3-point FG:** FAU 8-22 (Crumbley 4-7, Garner 3-6, Cowans 1-5, Slater 0-1, Smart 0-3); GSU 9-16 (Terrell 8-10, LDavis 1-1, Handy 0-1, Cooper 0-1, Patton 0-1, McIntosh 0-2). **Rebounds:** FAU 45 (Brown 11), GSU 33 (Terrell, NWilliams 6). **Assists:** FAU 17 (Slater 6), GSU 15 (McIntosh 6). **Steals:** FAU 10, GSU 5. **Blocks:** FAU 5, GSU 10. **Fouls:** FAU 17, GSU 16. **Turnovers:** FAU 9, GSU 16. **Attendance:** 2,752.

Hanes His Way

Jason Hanes

Staff Columnist

A simple solution to the sad status of homecoming at GSU



Another year has come and gone, and once again, Homecoming was an unmitigated disaster for Georgia State University.

Oh, you know it was. Don't try and pass it off as successful. This year's Homecoming was so bad, students didn't even realize when the Homecoming game was. Some of the students thought that the Homecoming game was on Thursday because they saw it on a poster for "Panther Prowl 3: The Search For Pounce." Of course as always, Homecoming was on Saturday, and this year, like it is almost every year, there was a men's and women's basketball doubleheader.

Georgia State has made the fatal error of allowing the students to run Homecoming. It's nice that we have a Homecoming Court, but that's about all that the students

should really be allowed to have to do with Homecoming at Georgia State.

Back in the old days at this school, the alumni actually had a say in how Homecoming was run at Georgia State. Isn't that a novel idea? Considering that the idea behind Homecoming is for all the alumni to, you know, come home to their school, it would make sense that you might want to cater some to the alumni as well as the students.

But here at Georgia State, we've decided that it's best to just cater to the already apathetic students. And look at how well our events for Homecoming did this year! According to published reports in this newspaper, the centerpiece of Homecoming, the Busta Rhymes concert, drew 200 people! Of course, depending on who you talk to, that number could go as high as 400 people! Now THAT'S what I call a successful event.

Back in the old days, we had big name comedians come in to do a show after the Homecoming basketball games, not on some random night during the week. We've had Jay Leno, Dana Carvey, and Jimmy Foxx to name a few. Then, we started letting the students have more say in Homecoming,

hence why the last scheduled comedian, Sinbad, ended up canceling a Friday night show due to either a sickness or embarrassing ticket sales, take your pick on the true excuse.

So now we pay who knows how much money to bring in Busta Rhymes to perform before somewhere around 200-400 people. I'm going to go out on a limb and guess that we ended up losing money off of that concert, even though ticket prices were an obnoxious \$20-\$30 a piece. That money, following the old blueprint, could have been spent on bringing in someone students and alumni would actually be interested in seeing.

And just one look at the attendance numbers from the Homecoming games of years past shows you how well the old blueprint worked. Back before the reconfiguration of the Sports Arena for the Olympics, we had over 5,000 people at the arena for the Homecoming men's basketball game, followed by a hour-long standup routine that everyone stuck around for. That would be one way you could say to the stu-

dents, "When you're gone, you know you can at least come back to school on this one day a year and be entertained."

But if we want to go the route of rappers no one gives a rip about

on a random night, well, it's not like it's THAT much money out of my student fees. As usual when I complain about something, I tend to think that this school deserves better than what we're putting out.



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GSU Sporting Events This Week

Monday, Feb. 11

Women's Basketball
vs. Mercer
at GSU Sports Arena, 6 p.m.

Women's Golf
at UCF Invitational
at Orlando, Fla., first round

Tuesday, Feb. 12

Women's Golf
at UCF Invitational
at Orlando, Fla., final round

Thursday, Feb. 14

Men's Basketball
at Mercer
at Macon, Ga., 7:30 p.m.

Softball
vs. Alabama-Birmingham (DH)
at Panthersville, 4 p.m.

Women's Basketball
at Stetson
at DeLand, Fla., time TBA

Friday, Feb. 15

Baseball
vs. Drexel
at Panthersville, 4 p.m.

Softball
at Georgia State Kick-Off
at Panthersville, time TBD

Saturday, Feb. 16

Baseball
vs. Drexel (DH)
at Panthersville, 1 p.m.

Men's Basketball
at Troy State
at Troy, Ala., 8 p.m.

Softball
at Georgia State Kick-Off
at Panthersville, time TBD

Women's Basketball
at Jacksonville
at Jacksonville, Fla., 3 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 17

Men's Tennis
vs. Tennessee Tech
at Bitsy Grant Tennis Center, 1 p.m.

Directions to GSU Sports Arena

Located on the campus of GSU on Decatur St. directly across from the Urban Life Building (College of Law)

All Georgia State basketball games are broadcast on WRAS 88.5 FM
Pregame shows begin 15 minutes before tip-off

Directions to Panthersville

From I-20 East, take Candler Road exit and turn right. Turn right onto Panthersville Road. At the next stop light, turn right onto Clifton Springs Road. The baseball field will be on the left just after the Georgia Perimeter parking lot. The softball field is located off Wildcat Road, which is the next stop light.

Directions to Bitsy Grant Tennis Center

From I-75 North, take Northside Drive exit and turn right. The tennis center is approximately one mile off the exit on the right.


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Atlantic Sun Notebook



weekly news from around the conference

Leaders move forward, while gut-wrenching finishes steal the spotlight

Colin Martz

Sports Editor
cmartz@gsusignal.com

Saturday will go down as one of the most memorable nights in Atlantic Sun Conference basketball history.

Five games, all decided by seven points or less, all with tournament implications.

With all five going down to the final minute of regulation (or overtime, double overtime, and triple overtime), the only team resting easy Saturday was Mercer - they had the day off.

In the game involving two of the top four teams in the conference, Georgia State (15-9, 11-6 Atlantic Sun) used a closing 18-6 run to come from behind and beat Florida Atlantic (13-10, 10-6) 76-71.

For last second excitement, no game could top Belmont at Troy State.

After playing to a dead-even draw for the game's first 39 minutes, Troy State (15-7, 11-4) pulled ahead at the final buzzer when LaMayn Wilson's follow tip

off a Robert Rushing shot to take a 64-63 win.

Belmont (9-14, 6-10) had a chance to take a two-point lead with seven seconds left, but B.J. Proffitt missed one of two free throws, allowing Troy State to win with a basket.

Bruin forward Wes Burtner tied the Atlantic Sun Conference record with 10 three-pointers in the game. Burtner did not attempt a two-point shot or free throw in the game, scoring a game-high 30 points.

In Buies Creek, N.C., Campbell (8-16, 6-11) pulled away from Central Florida in the final minute to claim an 86-84 upset win over the Golden Knights.

Central Florida (13-10, 9-7) was coming off an upset over Georgia State Thursday and looked to be gaining momentum towards the conference tournament.

Also Saturday, Samford (13-11, 10-6) scored the last seven points to take a 57-50 win over Stetson in Birmingham.

The Hatters' (9-14, 6-11) loss currently leaves them in ninth

place, one half-game behind Belmont for the final tournament spot.

But the most unforgettable game of the season occurred in Jacksonville, Ala., where the Jacksonville Dolphins outlasted the Jacksonville State Gamecocks 100-98 in triple overtime.

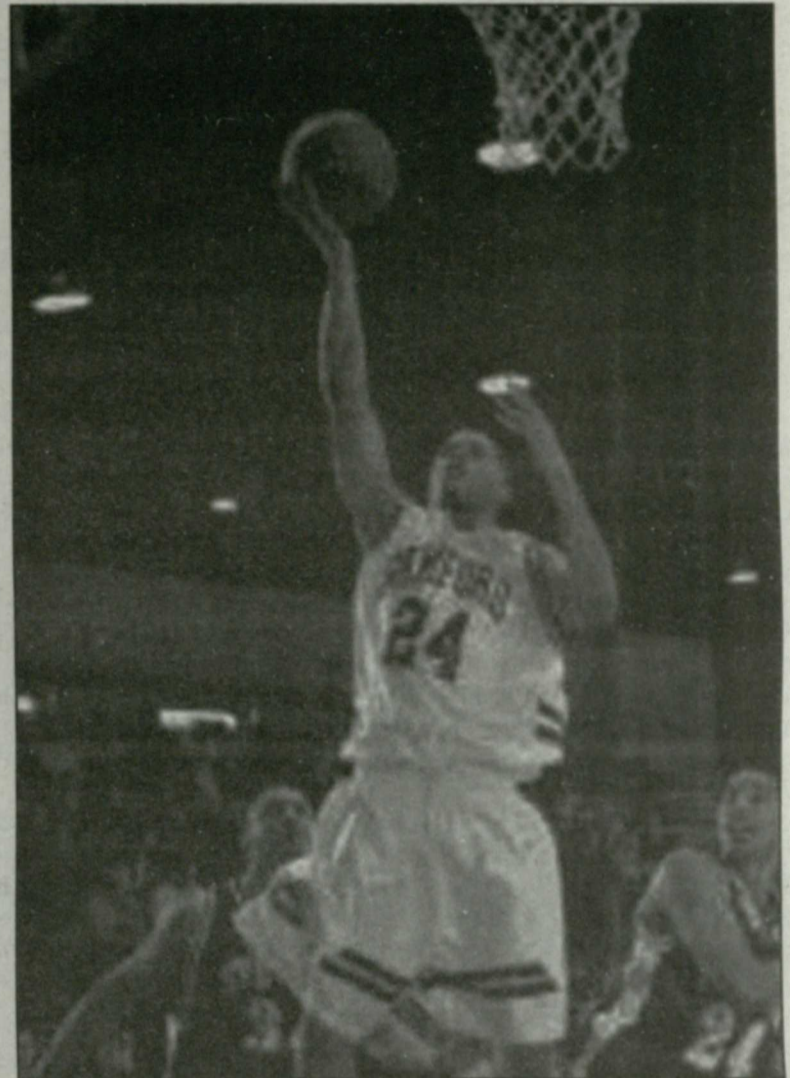
With the game tied at 64, Calvin Warner missed a 12-foot jumper that would have given Jacksonville (17-8, 11-6) the win in regulation.

After clutch free throw shooting by Jacksonville State (10-11, 7-9) sent the game into two more overtimes, the Dolphins ran out to a seven-point lead in the final frame before holding on for the victory.

This week, conference leaders Troy State will be tested at home by Georgia State Saturday, while Samford heads to Florida to take on Central Florida and Florida Atlantic.

Second-place Jacksonville gets some time to rest after their marathon Saturday.

The Dolphins' only game this week is a road contest Saturday at Belmont.



Samford's Corey Green scores a layup Thursday as two Stetson defenders watch.

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Basketball heading into stretch

From HIGHLIGHT | Page 11

road games at Stetson on Thursday and at Jacksonville on Saturday.

With seven games left in the regular season, the women sit just one game behind conference leader Belmont for first place.

On the men's side, the Panthers are also battling for the top spot in the Atlantic Sun Conference.

A trip to Mercer Thursday should give the men a tune-up before Saturday's huge game at Troy State.

The Trojans (15-7, 11-4 Atlantic Sun) currently sit one game ahead of Georgia State (15-9, 11-6) in the conference standings. If the Panthers want any chance at getting the top seed in the conference tournament, a win is all that will suffice.

The men's tennis team wraps up the week Sunday with a home match against Tennessee Tech.

The Panthers are off to a 2-0 start and are out to show last season's loss in the conference tournament was just a fluke.

Atlantic Sun Scoreboard



scores and more from around the conference

Men's Basketball Results

Monday, Feb. 4

Georgia State 94, Stetson 79
Fla. Atlantic 72, Mercer 71
Jacksonville 85, Campbell 57
JSU 91, Belmont 71
Troy State 64, Central Fla. 58

Thursday, Feb. 7

Central Fla. 83, Ga. State 73
Campbell 92, Fla. Atlantic 87
JSU 90, Stetson 78
Mercer 81, Belmont 68
Samford 52, Jacksonville 51

Saturday, Feb. 9

GSU 76, Fla. Atlantic 71
Campbell 86, Central Fla. 84
Jacksonville 100, JSU 98
Samford 57, Stetson 50
Troy State 65, Belmont 64

Women's Basketball Statistics

Scoring Average

E. Rogers, Georgia State - 17.4
T. Pierce, Fla. Atlantic - 16.9
A. Miller, Georgia State - 16.1
A. Cromartie, Campbell - 15.8
C. Mitchell, Belmont - 15.3
Yo. Jackson, JU - 13.4

Rebounding Average

K. Sungy, Jacksonville - 10.2
K. Donnell, Jacksonville - 9.9
T. Herring, Troy State - 8.1
A. Cromartie, Campbell - 8.1
E. Long, Stetson - 7.8
K. Halvorsen, Fla. Atlantic - 7.6
S. Freeman, JSU - 7.3
T. Pierce, FAU - 7.0

Statistics through Friday, Feb. 8

Men's Basketball Statistics

Scoring Average

T. Terrell, Georgia State - 20.1
L. Wilson, Troy State - 19.1
W. Burtner, Belmont - 18.0
R. Brown, Fla. Atlantic - 17.4
A. Muhammad, Mercer - 15.9
R. Rushing, Troy State - 15.8

Assists Per Game

B. Lee, Campbell - 4.96
L. McIntosh, Ga. State - 4.29
R. Rushing, Troy State - 4.09
E. Crumbley, FAU - 4.00
R. Givens, Stetson - 4.00

Statistics through Sunday, Feb. 10

Women's Basketball Results

Monday, Feb. 4

Central Fla. 54, Ga. State 50
Fla. Atlantic 70, Campbell 66
Mercer 73, Samford 63
Troy State 70, JSU 67

Saturday, Feb. 9

Ga. State 68, Troy State 63
Campbell 75, Mercer 68
Central Fla. 87, Belmont 86
JSU 67, Jacksonville 62
Samford 67, Stetson 63

Men's Basketball Schedule

Monday, Feb. 11

JSU at Morris Brown
Troy State at Mercer

Thursday, Feb. 14

Georgia State at Mercer
Campbell at Troy State
Jacksonville St. at Fla. Atlantic
Samford at Central Florida
Stetson at Belmont

Saturday, Feb. 16

Georgia State at Troy State
Campbell at Mercer
Jacksonville at Belmont
Jacksonville St. at Central Fla.
Samford at Florida Atlantic

Assists Per Game

M. Maddox, Ga. State - 6.50
C. Jones, Fla. Atlantic - 4.44
K. Fiehrer, Troy State - 4.37
E. Davenport, Belmont - 4.16
J. Roberson, Mercer - 4.11
J. Scala, Central Fla. - 4.00
J. Carter, Mercer - 3.42
L. Palonen, Stetson - 3.32

Rebounding Average

P. Reed, Central Florida - 9.4
C. Warner, Jacksonville - 8.7
R. Brown, Fla. Atlantic - 8.6
J. Howard, Mercer - 8.5
S. Hampton, Stetson - 7.6
T. Terrell, Georgia State - 6.8

Field Goal Percentage

A. Mark, Belmont - .716
B. Campbell, Ga. State - .618
J. Perry, Jacksonville St. - .593
O. Barlett, JSU - .579
R. Brown, Fla. Atlantic - .562

Statistics through Sunday, Feb. 10

Women's Basketball Schedule

Monday, Feb. 11

Mercer at Georgia State
Florida Atlantic at Belmont
Jacksonville at Samford
Stetson at Jacksonville State
Troy State at Campbell

Thursday, Feb. 14

Georgia State at Stetson
Campbell at Jacksonville
Central Florida at Troy State
Florida Atlantic at Mercer
Jacksonville State at Belmont

Saturday, Feb. 16

Georgia State at Jacksonville
Belmont at Samford
Campbell at Stetson
Central Florida at Mercer
Florida Atlantic at Troy State

Baseball Schedule

Tuesday, Feb. 12

UCF at Bethune Cookman
Jacksonville at Florida A&M
JSU at Alabama-Birmingham
McNeese State at Troy State
Samford at Auburn

Wednesday, Feb. 13

McNeese State at Troy State
Trevecca Nazarene at Belmont

Friday, Feb. 15

Drexel at Georgia State
Central Florida at La.-Lafayette
Charleston Southern at Stetson
Florida A&M at Jacksonville
Jacksonville St. at Mississippi
Kentucky at Samford
Mercer at Louisiana State
Morris Brown at Belmont

Saturday, Feb. 16

Drexel at Georgia State (DH)
Central Florida at La.-Lafayette
Charleston Southern at Stetson
Jacksonville St. at Mississippi
Mercer at Louisiana State
Morris Brown at Belmont (DH)
Nicholls State at Samford
South Florida at Jacksonville

Sunday, Feb. 17

Central Florida at La.-Lafayette
Charleston Southern at Stetson
Jacksonville St. at Mississippi
Mercer at Louisiana State
Miss. Valley State at Samford
South Florida at Jacksonville

Men's Basketball Standings

School	Conference	Overall
Troy State	11-4	15-7
Jacksonville	11-6	17-8
Georgia State	11-6	15-9
Florida Atlantic	10-6	13-10
Samford	10-6	13-11
Central Florida	9-7	13-10
Jacksonville State	7-9	10-11
Belmont	6-10	9-14
Stetson	6-11	9-14
Campbell	6-11	8-16
Mercer	2-13	4-20

Women's Basketball Standings

School	Conference	Overall
Belmont	10-3	16-4
Georgia State	9-4	13-7
Florida Atlantic	9-4	11-10
Central Florida	9-5	13-10
Mercer	8-5	11-9
Stetson	8-5	9-11
Campbell	8-6	10-11
Troy State	6-7	7-13
Jacksonville State	4-10	5-16
Jacksonville	1-12	2-18
Samford	1-12	2-18

Standings through Sunday, Feb. 10

Baseball Standings

School	Conference	Overall
Samford	0-0	3-0
Jacksonville State	0-0	2-0
Stetson	0-0	2-0
Troy State	0-0	4-3
Mercer	0-0	3-3
Campbell	0-0	2-2
Florida Atlantic	0-0	2-4
Central Florida	0-0	1-2
Jacksonville	0-0	1-2
Belmont	0-0	0-0
Georgia State	0-0	0-0

Standings through Sunday, Feb. 10

Baseball Results

Tuesday, Feb. 5

Jacksonville 19, FAMU 0
Troy State 12, Ala. State 6
Bethune Cookman 8, UCF 5

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Florida 11, Mercer 7

Friday, Feb. 8

Fla. Atlantic 23, UCLA 13
Samford 11, VMI 1
Bethune Cookman 10, JU 6
Coastal Carolina 5, Campbell 3

Saturday, Feb. 9

JSU 10, Alabama State 1
Samford 2-11, VMI 0-7
Stetson 7, South Florida 6
Troy State 6, Lipscomb 5
Bethune Cookman 5, JU 1
Cstl. Carolina 14, Campbell 2
UCLA 4, Fla. Atlantic 1

Sunday, Feb. 10

JSU 22, Ala. State 11
Stetson 9, South Florida 7
Troy State 11, Lipscomb 2
UCLA 11, Fla. Atlantic 5

Student accuses Boston U. coach of assault before game

Robert Devaney

The Northeastern News
Northeastern U.

A Northeastern University student has filed a report with the university's campus police that he was assaulted by longtime Boston University hockey coach Jack Parker before a game at Matthews Arena on Jan. 4.

Justin Harriman, the student who filed the report on Jan. 17, told police in a report that he did not want Northeastern Police to investigate the alleged assault. Harriman instead wanted them to have it on record, according to NU police officer Jim Pollard.

On the date of the alleged incident the Northeastern men's hockey team was hosting Boston University when according to the report,

Harriman was assaulted by Parker and others on the BU team.

In an interview with The News on Jan. 8, Harriman, one of the recognized leaders of Northeastern's cheering section, the Dog House, said that before the game was when the alleged incident took place. He said he was standing on the lower level near the tunnel where the players come onto the ice preparing to taunt BU players as they exited.

Harriman said as he prepared to taunt the players using his megaphone, Parker allegedly warned him not to use it. Then grabbed him and pulled him toward the railing forcing his jersey over his head.

At this point according to Lt. Pollard, the report states Harriman told police that he was assaulted by Parker and a player or players on the team until another BU coach

pulled people away from him.

"Everyone gets heckled at games, but he took it to another level," Harriman said.

Parker, who was unaware that the report had been filed, said that it was a case of him protecting his players. He said Harriman's jersey was not pulled over his head and did not comment on the accusations that were made against others affiliated with the team.

"I told him I didn't want him using that horn while my players walked by for the safety of my players," Parker said. "When he began doing it I went to grab the megaphone. I couldn't reach and grabbed the jersey he was wearing."

Parker said that a similar incident almost happened last year when BU was visiting Matthews. He said during that incident Parker

had a referee come over and gave Harriman a warning that he would be escorted out of the arena if he used the megaphone up close on the team.

During the incident on Jan. 4, Parker said in an effort to prevent the problem from happening he called over a referee as he had done last year, but when the referee left is when Harriman allegedly put his players in danger.

According to Parker, he felt he had to protect his players and staff, not from being harassed, but from having their ears damaged if Harriman yelled into his megaphone at close range.

Boston University sports information director Ed Carpenter said he was aware of the event because he was informed of the "obnoxious" fan but did not see the incident.

Lt. Pollard said it is unusual but not unheard of for someone to file a report but ask the police to not investigate or follow up on the charges.

"We see this in roommate conflicts sometimes, where one roommate wants to have it on record that they and their roommate had a conflict," Lt. Pollard said.

Harriman said he attempted to file a report after the game but said when he spoke with Northeastern police officers, he felt they dissuaded him to do so. A week later Harriman told The News he was not going to file a report.

Northeastern athletic director Ian McCaw said he was made aware of the incident by Northeastern Police but said the athletic department didn't plan on taking any action.

Sugarcult is all sugary sweet

Anna Mechling

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Why is it that Tim Pagnotta, lead singer of the band Sugarcult, claims Christina Aguilera as one of his guilty pleasures?

"I like Christina Aguilera because everyone else likes Britney Spears," comments Pagnotta.

"There are a lot of popular bands these days, a lot of popular punk bands that are backing Britney Spears and it's not about Britney Spears, it's about Christina."

"The reason why is because she's half the weight, you could probably fit her in a duffle bag and take her on a flight with you and not have to pay for a seat."

Sugarcult, another California-based punk band, is comprised of Tim Pagnotta (vocals, guitar), Marko 72 (guitar), Airin (bass, vocals), and Ben Davis (drums, vocals). The band was first formed in 1998, putting out two independently produced records.

Finally in early 2001 the band signed with Ultimatum Music and worked in the studio on the Aug. 21 release of *Start Static*.

Before the album was even released the Sugarcult crew began touring alongside acts such as 311 and Pennywise on the Vans Warped Tour.

Also during this time of touring, the band took a week off to play a few shows with Blink 182. Touring partners for Sugarcult also include Good Charlotte as well as Goldfinger and Reel Big Fish. They are currently back on the road with Unwritten Law and will be stopping in Atlanta on the Feb. 18.

Pagnotta cites the Ramones and Elvis Costello as a couple of his musical influences

(although he mentions the Grateful Dead as another guilty pleasure aside from Miss Aguilera). Pagnotta is currently into newer bands such as The Hives, a Sweden based band.

Although Sugarcult may not be totally well known as of yet, MTV2 wasted no time picking up their video for their first single "Stuck in America."

"Stuck in America" is like any other punk anthem with a theme of wanting to break out of the same old routine.

When asked about making the video Pagnotta described what the experience was like for him and how much more the camera can add to a person.

"We had a lot of fun making the video. I was a little disappointed because naturally I am skinny and muscular and they used a chubby body double for me," laughs the lead singer.

All jokes aside the boys from Sugarcult may just be lumped into the pop-punk category along with all the others but when it comes down to it Sugarcult is just four guys doing what they love.

Pagnotta describes the experience so far by saying, "Well I always wanted to be an entertainer and now that I am an international, world-famous rock star, [laughs] I've always really just wanted to have fun."

Sugarcult has certainly had their fun. Along with their new rise to fame came stereotypical rock star followings of fans.

"There's a couple of people who follow us around too much, shows to shows, come on we're Sugarcult, not Led Zeppelin." Despite the few who have gotten too close the Sugarcult fan base is growing at a steady rate.

Also coming up for Sugarcult is their song "Bouncing Off the Walls." The song features guitarist Chris Shiflett of the Foo Fighters, and

will be featured on the upcoming soundtrack for "National Lampoon's Van Wilder." The soundtrack will also include bands such as The Living End and Sum 41.

"At first we were real worried," states Pagnotta, "because sometimes soundtracks can be kinda lame, like f***ing Micheal Bolton and that's a hairstyle I can only aspire to get [laughs]."

When asked to describe his dream tour, Pagnotta mentions the bands such as Green Day and Weezer.

However, opening for either Nsync or the Backstreet Boys would prove to be an interesting experience promises Pagnotta.

Pagnotta goes on with the topic saying, "Those fans don't, a lot of times, get a chance



Special | Signal

What would they look like if they were coated in sugar?

With a funnyman as a front man, touring must be an interesting ordeal for the Santa Barbara band.

Marko 72, guitarist for Sugarcult, is certainly not a virgin to the punk scene. Marko has played with many bands including the Ataris.

to be exposed to rock and roll music, like ours or that kind of sh*t, and a lot of times they aren't concert goers to begin with."

"I just think it would be a really cool experience for kids to like our band, and also an excuse to learn a couple dance of routines [laughs]."

A perpetual state of inconsequence

Leila Regan

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We never realize how lucky we are until we are face to face with those who do not have anything close to what we have. After seeing how others live it's much easier to understand the true meaning of freedom and we are made to evaluate ourselves in a whole new way.

Diane Hause does a profound job of making people think twice about our situation and the situations of others in her art exhibit "Thinly Veiled Misogyny and a Perpetual State of Inconsequence." The title refers to the "Burqa," a thick veil that Afghan women are forced to wear. Not only does it cover the whole head and shoulders in a stifling manner, but it also has



Special | Signal

Don't just imagine what the exhibit is like, go there!

a thick gauze-like piece covering the hole of the eyes, making viewing of the outside world constricted and unreal.

An actual Burqa was provided on a table for people to try on and a book lying next to it that invites people to "write any words descriptive to your experience of trying on this

restrictive and demoralizing garment." For those who did try it on, only for a minute or so, knowing that for many women this is a reality they have to live with constantly is both frightening and shocking.

The collection is both a realistic and optimistic one, mirroring the artist's attitude on life as well as the situation in Afghanistan.

Though she started her focus on women's right in Afghanistan long before the

Sept. 11 attacks (she started the series of paintings two years ago), Hause believes that this event

will encourage people to move their focus onto things that are happening in that part of the world. "People are finally aware. At first people were like, 'Where's Afghanistan? What's a Burqa?' Then, boom, 9-11, and all of a sudden people are asking 'What was that you were writing about again?' The aware-

ness shifted for everybody. I'm concerned where it will shift again, with how we will do this." Hause is referring to many different things, not just the war on terrorism.

Women's rights, equal treatment and the destruction of the Taliban are among these concerns, and the methods with which we start changing the way of life for people in that area.

For a girl whose mother grew up in Iran, the artwork provided for me a slice of reality and everyday life for so many women. Women who are sometimes willing to go to jail and die for the chance to achieve status next to the men who rule that country.

This exhibit was done in partnership with RAWA, the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan.

These are "women in Afghanistan who are working to empower women and peacefully resist fundamentalist domination." We would like to think that what with the United States' involvement in Afghanistan that there would be more progress than there actually is.

Though Hause admits that it is inevitably going to be a slow and long progress, she is disappointed to have been told by fellow RAWA supporter Eve Ensler (write of critically acclaimed play "The Vagina Mono-

logues"), that "not one penny has gone to the women of Afghanistan.

"Even the woman that has been elected as the woman leader in Afghanistan doesn't have an office, doesn't have a phone." Still, the artist and her work are realistically hopeful.

Along with the images of covered women, and hooded, indistinguishable figures, are the images of a new tomorrow – blues skies, rising moons, women of our environment.

The removal of the Burqa as a forced means of domination – not to be confused with the chosen form of veiling which many Muslim women include with their religion and lifestyle, not degradation – may bring high hopes for some. But for the women of Afghanistan this means more danger than before.

With the exposure of themselves comes an incredible rise in the incidents of rape. It seems like a hopeless battle, but as long as there are women willing to sacrifice themselves for the future of their daughters, and their daughters' daughters, progress will be made.

For more information go to www.rawa.org or the artist's website, www.haustudio.com.

LIVE SHOW REVIEWS

Bred Beyond Nirvana

Lori Higgins

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For Pixies fanatics, Monday night's Moto Lita and the Breeders show at the Echo Lounge was a no miss. Unfortunately for fans, the Breeders have not toured in seven years, so the number of willing concert-goers outnumbered the capacity of the Echo Lounge by far.

Perhaps the Pixies-Breeders connection should be explained for those who aren't familiar with either band.

In 1987, Black Francis created the Pixies with the help of Kim Deal, Joey Santiago, and David Lovering. After four years and five albums, the Pixies split up in 1991 due to internal con-

which released one album and did some minor touring together.

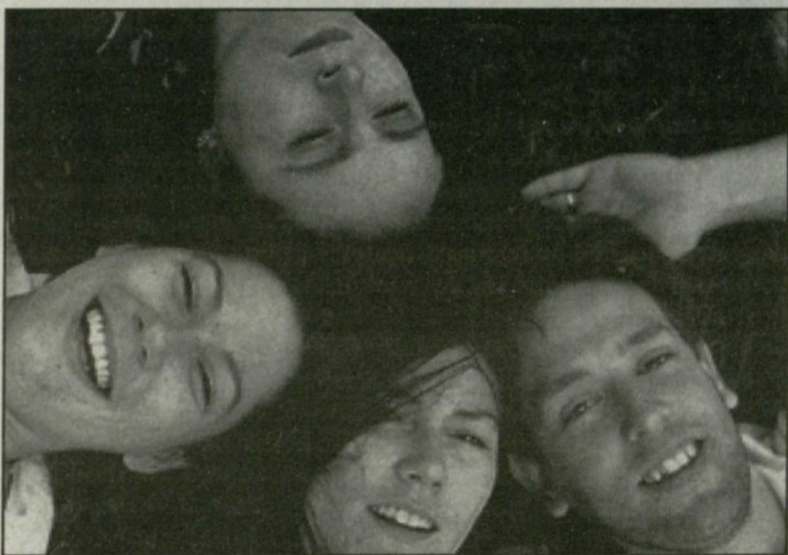
Jim MacPherson remained the drummer, but Nathan Farley took over on guitar, and Luis Lerma on bass.

When Kim decided to take the Breeders on a reunion tour in 1996, she took the Amps members with her instead of the former Breeder's members.

The reunion tour and the two tours following it included very few locations, so many fans were left disappointed.

This combined with the fact that Kim and her sister, Kelley, have not played together since 1994 made Monday night's show even more important to fans.

The Echo Lounge was packed with a highly energized crowd who were more than happy to see the Deal sisters onstage together. Opening with



Special | Signal

Fun times with the Breeders in the grass and at the Echo Lounge.

flicts. Black Francis expanded his solo career taking on the name Frank Black, and Kim Deal continued her work with the Breeders.

Kim Deal took the lead in her new band, and convinced her sister Kelley to join as well. With Jim MacPherson as drummer and Josephine Wiggs as bassist, the band was complete.

They decided on the name the Breeders because Kim and Kelley had used it while touring together years before.

At the time it was a joke because "breeder" was a term used by homosexuals for straight people.

Safari was released in 1991, after which the Breeders joined Nirvana for their tour through Europe in 1992.

A more successful album, *Last Splash* followed, and the Breeders were invited to join Lollapalooza in the summer of 1993.

A world tour followed through 1994, after which the band took a break.

Kim took the opportunity to begin a band called the Amps,

"No Aloha" the Breeders continued by playing old favorites such as "Cannonball," "Safari" and "Iris," hitting very note just right.

More than a few fans were thrilled with Kim's drunken state, as well as the fact that the sisters were harmonious with each other and the crowd.

On several occasions, Kim communicated wildly with individuals in the audience.

After the show, Kelley and Kim stayed around to chat with all of the fans who could get within their reach.

The Breeders put on an overall fantastic show, and definitely didn't let their down their fans, whether old or new.

The band plans to release another album in May, and all fans are in hopes of another tour.

For more information, check out the Breeders' official Web site at www.noaloha.com.

Editor's Note: Check out www.gsusignal.com for an exclusive interview with the Moto Lita.

The Sellout Sold Out

An Atlanta star makes it too big

Emily Isovitsch

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"If I'm ever on TRL it's because I'm hustling the f*ck out of their money," shouted the overnight alt-pop sensation John Mayer.

The conservative early 20s crowd screamed back with approval.

It's funny how a crowd can 'rebel' against all mainstream ideas, but those Gap jeans still show up on every street corner, Starbucks cup in hand. Everyone has priorities...I guess.

It's as though the appeal of pre-packaged rock, trimmed down to its finest, has begun to lose its lust-er and no one noticed.

It was a cold, cold night in Athens as students from UGA and Auburn lined the street outside the sold out 40 Watt Club.

The rain frizzed the curly blonde sorority hair and soaked Abercrombie shirts straight through, but excitement was in the air; John Mayer was in town.

Yes, the 23-year-old John Mayer who plopped down at Atlanta's Eddie's Attic and planted his funk-folk beats till they took root.

Though his roots took hold, the strength and validity of his music continues to be questioned today in Atlanta's almost pretentious indie scene.

He had based his instantly famous solo career on of his velvety smooth vocals and timeless lyrics. But it was expanding popularity that most questioned, in addition to full back-up band that Mayer later added for his Columbia release *Room for Squares*.

"I always wanted to play with a band," commented Mayer. "My first record, *Inside Wants Out*, was recorded because I didn't have a band."

"Rather than sit around and wait for the right people to play with, which may have taken years, it made more sense to move on and make records on my own."

His initial base, of him and his guitar, had expanded — weakening what was once strong.

"I know there were people who got into what I was doing because of the acoustic, but I think there is still that element to what I do," said Mayer. "I don't think there is anything truly alienating about it."

Alienating is one thing, boring and overproduced is an-

other. Room for Squares holds 14 tracks that cause visions of Train and the Wallflowers to float through your head.

Mayer seems to work to avoid all musical clichés, but in turn end up becoming one.

"I avoid clichés and musically clichés," comments Mayer.

"I think it makes the truth a little easier to hear in it. The truth is a little harder to get across in a cliché."

When people stand in front of you and say something different and new you're more affected by it."

His songs, off of *Room for Squares*, are almost indescribably related to Dave Matthews, without the overwhelming cheese factor.

"Sometimes I'm inspired by people's music who I don't even like. I like it, but I'm not interested in," said Mayer.

"There is something to take from every artist; every performer has something to watch. Either if he's horrible or does something completely horrible there is a way to watch."

Despite the slight relation to Dave Matthews, the album caused you to sit back and say "aww" while you ignore the band's ability to overpower Mayer's soft vocals.

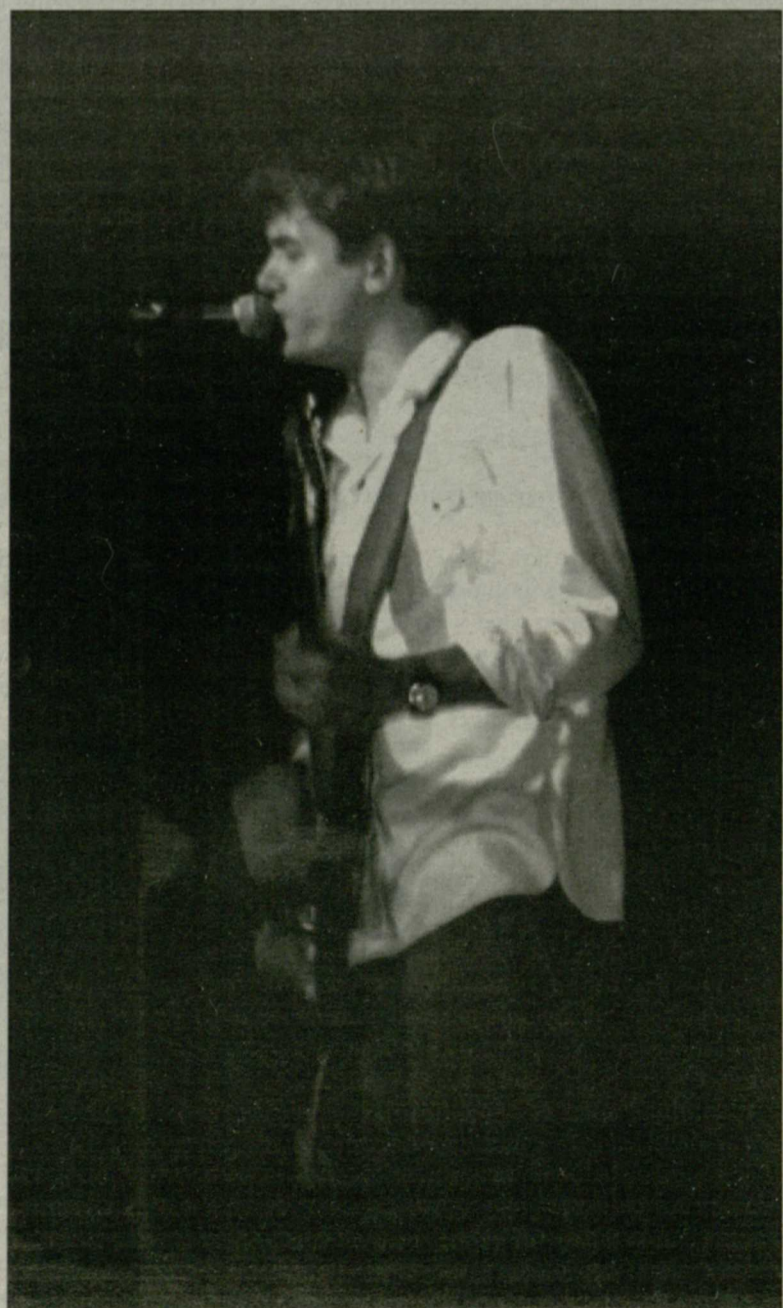
His live show proved to be no different.

Mayer pulled songs from both his indie release, *Inside Wants Out*, and *Room for Squares* reproducing them just as they play on the records.

"The tour is geared towards doing a little bit of everything; doing a little bit of band stuff, doing a couple of songs completely alone, doing a couple of songs with just David and I," comments Mayer in an earlier interview.

"That was we can kind of honor that first impression that people got from us. For people who have been watching us for a long time. It is kind of a way to satisfy everybody."

But Mayer's words proved to be fruitless as the show consisted of the majority songs played with his backup band, leaving the acoustic lovers out in the cold until his encore.



Michelle Casey | Signal

"I'm kissing the microphone because I have no one else to kiss"

LIVE SHOW REVIEWS

A culture revisited: Deepsky takes the Tabernacle

Leila Regan

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So that's why they call it "banging." Tribal drumbeats from a mixed live-computer generated set throb through the ancient walls of the Tabernacle, tying everyone together in one euphoric mass of good feelings.

This could almost be a photo of early-'90s England, where raves were born and ecstasy was flowing through the masses. The bright clothing and chunky jewelry, the baggy trousers, and the never-ending use of glowsticks have found themselves another home as the "24-hour party people" scene finds yet another home in the world. America was the last to catch up, but when they did they did it with such passion and vigor that they don't know why it took them so long in the first place.

Mezmer took the stage first, as the night's warm-up act, and attempted to do so.

But it seemed that most of the crowd was till waiting for the drugs to kick in, as no one wanted to seem conspicuous enough to dance. Raves were created for those who are self-conscious.

From the DJs to the party

people themselves, it's always been a case of "don't look at me, look at the lights!"

Speaking of, the lasers were phenomenal, probably destroying many retinas but keeping many people in awe and curiosity as the green lights swirl around the smoke in time with the music and outlined the outstretched arms of the DJ on stage.

DJ Irene seemed to be the main attraction, and the crowd was brought together as a dancing sea of bodies, each moving in time with his own rhythm as she raised up the tempo.

Even though she somehow manages to skip the record on one song, all is forgiven by the eager and loving crowd, though they are probably too off their faces to really care too much, especially when her set is as thumping and crowd stimulating as it is.

She uses the usual mix of trance and gorgeous emotional vocals (mixing hit "Rapture" by Iio, as a perfect crowd-pleaser) and empowering beats that put the audience right in the palm of her hand.

They scream when she says scream, dance when she says dance, and raise their hands and spin their glowsticks ... well, when she requests, basically.

She finishes triumphantly, and

leaves the stage with cheers of "One more song!" from an adoring and loved-up audience. But LA's finest, Deepsky, take the stage, following a flattering introduction and reminder that Atlanta is their favorite city to play.

And the week following the release of their album *INSILICO* marks this as their first gig promoting the record.

They open with their remix of Depeche Mode's "I Feel Loved" which captured the mood of this party and how every party should be.

It is also, appropriately, one of their favorite mixes right now. As the rave scene grows larger and more open to the masses in America, the "Loved" feeling is spreading to everyone, as it does in this small gig.

The set starts off rather slow, but gathers speed slowly but consistently, as a train climbing a hill. The marriage of the computer-generated sounds of one DJ and the live mental drumming of the other is what makes Deepsky's shows come alive.

Though there are points in the show where the set seems slightly uninspiring, they always make up for it in those moments of pure euphoric beats and trance euphoria.

see DEEPSKY | Page 22

The Sons are the bee's knees

Charles Schneider

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You hear some guys taking about this new girl on campus. She's cute but kind of quirky. Not the type people here would dig, but you bet she'd be the bee's knees somewhere else.

Still, you don't know quite what to think of her. One night you meet her at a party, she invites you to go home with her, and it's beautiful. Over the next few days you get to know her. She's really some-

Cote, Dunn and drummer Joey Galvan. The band is tight.

Stuart's acoustic guitar and vocals, which range from growling baritone to cracking falsetto, guide the band through his catchy songs. Cote is masterful with his Telecaster, able to shred a bluesy solo like Ten Years After's Alvin Lee or coax a lazy southwestern twang like Calexico's Joey Burns. Dunn and Galvan keep everything neatly tied together.

As the curtain drew open, the Bastards tore into material from *Walk Alone* including "440 Horses,"

a rollicking ballad about a "smokin' flamin' death machine." Seemingly undeterred by the underwhelming turnout, they kept it upbeat most of the night, clearly enjoying themselves and keeping



Special | Signal

They may be bastards but they stick together.

thing special.

The Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash played at Smith's Olde Bar Wednesday night in front of tens of Atlanta's country-rock denizens. I didn't know quite what to expect. I left in rapture.

The Bastards, fronted by San Diego based singer/songwriter Mark Stuart, play a George Jones brand of country music that's infused with variety and youthful exuberance.

Signed by boutique label Ultimatum, the Bastards have received a big push into markets otherwise not explored by country bands. They have received favorable reviews from The Onion and indie-rock curmudgeons Pitchfork.

They've piled up awards including Music Connection's "Top 100 Unsigned Bands" in 1999 and "Best Alternative Adult Album" by the San Diego Music Awards in 2001, and were the first band from San Diego to be invited to Willie Nelson's Fourth of July Picnic.

Their record, *Walk Alone*, is a beacon of light for what popular country music radio could be if artists could thrive outside the Nashville hit machine.

Live, they exemplify the fact that a younger and broader perspective on music, both country and rock (bass player Kristian Dunn, for one, admits to a limited country background), can make fresh and exciting what has in many ways become a stale and tired formula.

And while their record is pure country, on-stage they rock. Trading in the musicians with whom he recorded *Walk Alone*, Stuart has hit the road with guitar player Dean

everyone's toes tapping.

On occasion that they did slow it down, it was for the pretty, sullen "Lonesome Sky," which Stuart introduced as "kicking at the stump of the charts in the town near you." Or "Northwestern Town" which they recorded at Johnny Cash's studio, one of many songs about a long night on the road, this one "yearning to break free of this nowhere town."

They played lively covers of Merle Hagar's "Mama Tried," Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues" and "Truckstop in Lagrange" by Dale Watson, one of Stuart's primary influences.

At some point toward the end, someone from the crowd ordered shots for the band.

We were rewarded with a rolling one-two-punch closer of "Texas Sun," a song in which Stuart just wants to "lay me down in my big black Cadillac/underneath the Texas sun," before Cote rips into a solo that had everyone in the bar making mean guitar faces, and "Interstate Cannonball," a mean Cashesque rant about "drinking black coffee and with amphetamines."

After the show, the guys stepped down from the stage and chatted with those of us who were left. They seemed just as pleased that the forty of us were there as I'm sure they were for the three sell-outs they had previously played.

As I write this review, on a train to New Orleans, blissfully familiarizing myself with the Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash, I look back on last night's intimate rendezvous with a solitary thought - those guys were f*ing good.

MOVE REVIEWS

'Rollerball' needs to roll on out of here

Mathew Tschirgi

Staff Writer
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A remake of the 1975 original starring James Caan ("Misery"), "Rollerball" deals with three star players on the Rollerball circuit: Jonathon Cross (Chris Klein from "American Pie"), Marcus Ridley (LL Cool J from "Deep Blue Sea"), and Aurora (Rebecca Romijn-Stamos from "X-Men").

The game Rollerball involves two teams competing against each other by skating or biking around an arena, fighting off other players while attempting to sink the ball into the goal.

Is Rollerball manager Petrovich (Jean Reno from "Godzilla") responsible for the higher carnage in the show, or are the ratings improving because of its wholesome quality the whole family can enjoy?

After getting off to a promising start with an unrelated downhill race through a crowded street, the first Rollerball match begins. After enjoying it for the first five minutes, tedium soon set in as the match went on for almost 20 minutes.

Even worse is the frantic editing, making it nearly impossible to tell what is going on. "Rollerball" goes downhill quickly after this first match with a few more matches sprinkled between a boring chase scene filmed in night vision and an

inane ending that overuses slow motion. Any plot twists the movie has are predictable.

As for the acting, Chris Klein plays the same part he always does -- the happy jock who has a stupid grin plastered on his face.

LL Cool J acts as a sort of comic relief, acting extremely re-

who did a decent job was Rebecca Romijn-Stamos, who brings out emotion in her character at different points in the movie, although her accent sounds like Natasha from "Rocky and Bullwinkle."

The directing by John McTiernan ("Die Hard") is average at best. In the opening scene there

match intercut with a band playing at random moments in the game, proving disconcerting at best.

Although this movie is rated PG-13, supposedly it was meant to be rated R and released in summer 2001. I think an R rating would have helped "Rollerball" a lot.

The Rollerball matches feel oddly muted with a lack of blood and gore, and a visit to a strip club ends up being surprisingly tame.

I was surprised they got away with showing a nude Rebecca Romijn-Stamos covered by shadows, but this movie skirts the hard edge of the PG-13 rating.

Throughout the entire movie, there

is very little development of the characters.

Between Rollerball matches, characters are either chased in the locker room, or interviewed by reporters.

Most characters seem flat and lifeless, making one care about their

plight less and less.

Apparently the original film has more of a political satiric edge to it, which might have benefitted this film as well.

The running time is around an hour and 40 minutes, but feels overly long, especially of its second half.

About the only good part of "Rollerball" is how it tried to display the international popularity of the sport.

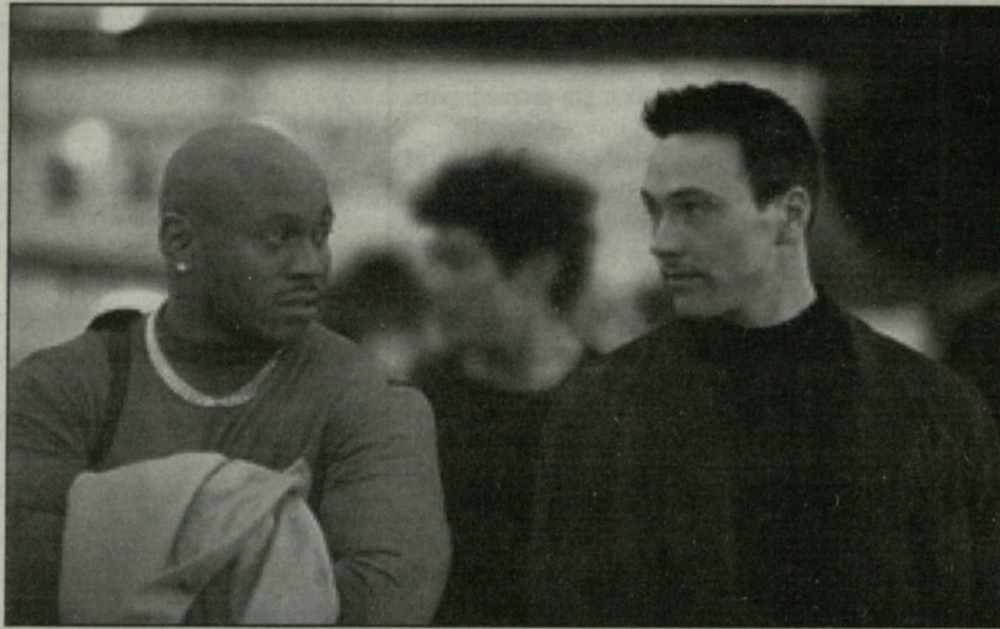
Bizarre commercials between breaks in the games are displayed, reporters are shown speaking different languages throughout the matches, and much of the instant replays and such are done in Russian with no subtitles.

This unique atmosphere brings a little bit of flavor to the matches as opposed to setting the movie in a standard American stadium. The music in "Rollerball" is nothing special.

The sound effects are well done though, making good use of surround sound during the different matches.

The different designs for the Rollerball players looked a bit goofy at times. The make up on Klein during the finale looked like mud instead of the blood it was supposed to represent.

"Rollerball" might be enjoyable in a trashy action movie way, like "Swordfish" was. It just is very bland and might warrant a rental if you are into this kind of genre.



Special | Signal

Gooding and Klein swear to never do that again.

laxed the entire time even though chaos is happening all throughout the movie.

Jean Reno has little to do but snicker from an executive seating area and manages to bring nothing special to his part.

The only actor in the movie

is a good attempt at conveying motion from a first person perspective; perhaps this should have been used in the Rollerball matches.

The Rollerball matches themselves are difficult to understand with the frantic editing.

One scene has a Rollerball

Romeo and Juliet swoon at the Shakespeare Tavern

Kate Pece

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What could be better than to share in the romantic and tragic story of two star-crossed lovers with the love of your life?

This Valentine's tradition of "Romeo and Juliet" at the Shakespeare Tavern has sold out three runs in a row, and it's always sure to please.

Located just four blocks south of The Fox Theater, the Shakespeare Tavern's rugged façade on Peachtree st. only hints at the unique ambiance inside.

The moment you open the door and descend the stairway at the Tavern you'll travel back in time to the Renaissance theater, where men were men and women were boys.

On this stage, the women are women, but that's pretty much where the modern theatrical variations end.

The Tavern prides itself on presenting authentic, period productions of Shakespeare's plays, with attention to every detail of the Elizabethan theater, and this

season's "Romeo and Juliet" is no exception.

This often humorous and ultimately heart-wrenching performance is filled with the clanging of swords, elaborate period costumes, lively melodies played on Renaissance-era instruments and, of course, the timeless prose and poetry of the Bard.

The play opens with a brawl in the streets of Verona between a handful of hot-blooded Montagues and Capulets.

This third public fray between the feuding families infuriates the Prince, and he orders them to cease under penalty of death, setting the stage for Romeo's banishment.

When we first meet Romeo (Eamon Glennon), he is pining over a girl named Rosaline who just won't give him what he's after. Eamon oozes the helplessness and sexual frustration Romeo endures like any young teenager would.

To help alleviate this agony, Romeo's faithful friend Benvolio (Charles Nelson) convinces Romeo to sneak into a masked ball at the Capulet household. It is here that

Romeo first sets eyes on the genuinely innocent Juliet (Elizabeth Dianne Wells), and falls instantly and deeply in love.

That night after the party, Romeo seeks out Juliet at her famous balcony. Glennon and Wells hit the mark superbly in this famous scene, carefully balancing the intensity of sudden attraction and the humor inherent in it.

Glennon's ebullient Romeo scrambles up to the balcony's edge where Wells' sweet, blushing Juliet reaches out her hand and professes her love.

They resolve to marry secretly, although Juliet's father has already arranged for her to marry a swaggering yet truly enamored nobleman, Paris (Maurice Ralston).

The next day, Friar Lawrence, played with superb wit and compassion by Doug Kaye, marries the young lovers.

On Romeo's return home, he encounters his friends Benvolio and Mercutio—played with terrific energy and humor by Justin Welborn—in an altercation with Juliet's equally intense cousin, Tybalt (Zach Dietrich).

The argument reaches a peak, and Tybalt kills Mercutio. In a fury, Romeo slays Tybalt, and the Prince banishes Romeo for the offense, sparing his life only because Mercutio was killed first.

The friar tells Romeo and Juliet that he will work out a way to reunite them, and that he will send word to Romeo in Mantua telling him about the plan.

Friar Lawrence later gives Juliet a potion that will make her appear dead, and he tells her to drink it at bedtime after telling her parents that she will marry Paris.

She does so and the next morning, her family indeed finds her "dead." They entomb her in the Capulet sepulcher where Romeo the friar has arranged to meet her along with Romeo.

But as the stars would have it, Romeo never gets Friar Lawrence's message about the faked death. Instead, he hears of Juliet's death from another source, and in despair Romeo procures a deadly poison and returns to Verona.

At the Capulet tomb, he encounters Paris, who has come with flow-

ers for the dead Juliet. The two men duel, and Paris is slain.

Romeo then takes Juliet into his arms, kisses her cold lips, drinks his poison and dies.

Juliet awakes and, seeing her love dead, kills herself with his dagger. The pair of deaths finally buries the enmity between their families.

The tavern atmosphere gives playgoers an intimate theatrical experience in the spirit of the Globe Theater where Shakespeare's plays were originally performed.

The Tavern also sports a new full service kitchen providing an expanded selection of hearty and sensibly priced British pub fare, including several vegetarian-friendly options.

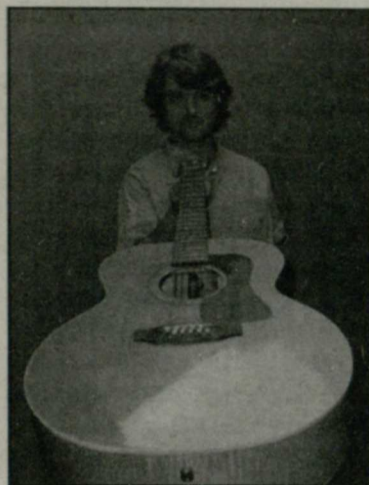
And don't forget the beer: Harp, Guinness and Bass are served on tap, as well as a variety of bottled beers, wines, and soft drinks.

Order your tickets now for this popular, crowd-pleasing run of "Romeo and Juliet."

If you miss out of this show, check out the remaining shows this season: Arthur Miller's "The Crucible," and Shakespeare's "Othello" and "Comedy of Errors."

ALBUM REVIEWS

Keller keeps it coming



Special | Signal
Come on, how big do you think it is



Keller Williams
Laugh
Sci Fidelity Records

Pamela Crenshaw
Staff Writer
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Freek, Buzz, Spun, Breathe, Loop, Laugh. No, I did not see you out last Saturday night. I am talking about Keller Williams and his discography.

The last one, *Laugh*, is Keller's latest project due out Feb. 19, and if you are a music fan of any genre, it is worth checking out.

It is a mix of witty, idiosyncratic lyrics and dynamic harmonies.

With titles like "God Is My Palm Pilot" and "Bob Rules" (a song about "The Price Is Right"), one can get the sense that this singer/songwriter likes to have fun with his music.

At first listen, one might think it is a Dave Matthews take, but the lyrics and twelve-string guitar sound will prove that it is the all-original Keller Williams.

This album is different from all the others because Keller is not alone. In the previous six studio gigs, he maneuvers his own instru-

ments that have stabilized Keller's trademark sound.

In this venture, he is accompanied by some of the industry's most talented musicians like former bassist for Leftover Salmon, Tye North, and Dave Watts of The Motet. In an interview with Keller, I asked him what brought on the change. "I was looking around for something different and started looking to my friends in the music world. I wanted to create a rhythm section and drew excitement and inspiration from them."

Keller is not a total loner. He frequently sits in with musicians such as String Cheese Incident, Charlie Hunter, Phil Lesh, moe, Government Mule, Ani DiFranco, Davis Grisman, and Col. Bruce Hampton.

He is no stranger to the road either.

Keller tours most of the year headlining all over the US and playing sizable festivals such as the Telluride Bluegrass Festival and High Sierra.

His experience proves itself in your ear. *Laugh* offers dynamic sounds from song to song.

My favorite song, "Freakshow," by Ani DiFranco, is just Keller playing a water bucket and snapping his fingers.

The lyrics come in as another instrument and round out the song without guitars or drums.

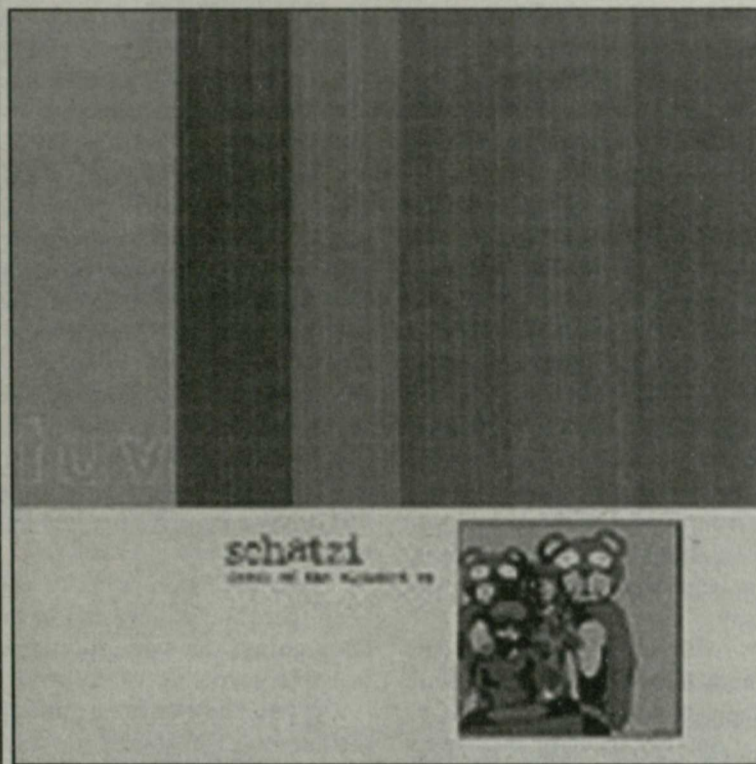
Especially notable is the surprise on the "Bob Rules" track. A lyrically entertaining song, but the fiddle playing of Dave Van Deventer is serious.

I asked Keller if he was really a "The Price Is Right" fan and he is, and has even stood in line to try to get on the show but there were tons of people in front of him.

I would add this CD to your collection for those quirky, wacky days.

Don't miss Keller Williams at the Variety Playhouse Feb. 21 and if you want more information surf over to www.kellerwilliams.net.

Shatzi shoots and misses



Special | Signal



Schatzi
Alphabet: Fifty Reasons to Explode
Mammoth Records

Charles Sneider
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Alas, Schatzi do not take their name from the homonymously nicknamed late owner of the Cincinnati Reds, America's First Matron of anti-Semitism, Marge Schott.

Nothing quite that ironic or clever.

It just means "sweetheart" in German. And it's that dearth of wit and irony that separates Schatzi from punk and guitar pop icons like Weezer, The Mr. T Experience and Teenage Fanclub.

Schatzi's brand of power-pop doesn't set its sights terribly high, but nor does the band simply toss off 13 radio-friendly songs.

The Norman, Okla., by-way-of-

Austin, Texas (for the last half decade they have been regulars on the Austin club scene, where they have earned a reputation as earnest and hard working) four piece's first mid-label full-length album comes on the heels of last year's hastily put together but very well received teaser EP *Death of the Alphabet*.

The curiously titled *Alphabet* (the writing on the CD cover and liner notes seem to indicate that our alphabet is alive and well) included four songs that appear on *Fifty Reasons to Explode*, and *Explode* is a natural extension and progression from *Alphabet* demonstrating that these guys have a clear sense of direction and vision for their music.

Taking cues from similar acts like Weezer and Get Up Kids, their formula weaves grinding guitar, jolting chord changes, bubble gum hooks, show-stopping rock star solos (ala on Weezer's smash hit "Buddy Holly") and a reluctance to reward the listener with soaring melodic heights.

Schatzi's at its best as the album opens with two well crafted pop

songs: "Indivisible" which has a good NOFX style chorus and a very cheesy guitar solo, and "Death of the Alphabet" which is so bubble-gum thick, kids could be singing it at MTV's Spring Break Beach Party this April.

But there's no tongue-in-cheek in these songs.

Schatzi is very sincere about rocking you with power chords and pop hooks.

It's at its worst with the grinding, heavy metal chords of "Trapped Inside a Sunray" that make being trapped inside a sunray sound like a very unpleasant place to be.

They just don't pull off Quasi's style of juxtaposing harsh sounds with sensible melodies.

But they try, and on the balance they don't fall flat on their faces.

These guys are good enough to sign with a big label and churn out one dimensional radio hits.

They've chosen not to, and instead intend to be a real indie rock band who's going to do what they want when they want to, even if it means doing it the hard way.

And we have to take out hats off to them for that.

But the road to hell, they say, is paved with good intentions.

This album lacks both depth and self-consciousness that would keep it from wearing thin quickly, nor is it stacked with enough great moments of pop to keep you from putting it down.

In all, Schatzi are a very good band that, in the vein of Blink-182, could well make a name for themselves.

Perhaps future releases will flesh out what could be a much more appealing sound.

But aside from a few gems that might be destined for radio success (they've already inked a deal for one of their songs to appear on a Playstation game), this album probably lacks appeal for all but those who have an insatiable appetite for the power-pop, pop-punk, emo-punk thing.

A global chilling is taking over



Zen and the Art of Chilling:
Volume One
arik21 Records

Sean Moss
Contributing Writer

In this ever-expanding world of compilations, it is often too complicated to remain loyal to an artist or to care enough to track the progression of their talent and production. The

reggae and rap industries are guilty culprits, and Billboard, NOW, MTV, and loony infomercials only support the exploitive cause.

My latest discovery, from ark 21 records (a label no doubt infected with the compilation virus), was a global collection called *Zen and the Art of Chilling: Volume One*.

This first volume sets up a series of international artists compiled into several volumes of groove tracks, intended to invoke surreal chillism. These first 16 tracks - from ark 21 artists specializing in "tribal," relax-

ing, eco-provocative, roots music - come from as far away as Turkey and Tunisia.

There are some very talented and provocative artists included on this compilation.

Amina, a young Tunisian vocalist with a voice to cry for, lays down a vibrant track, "My Man," with choral support and crazy exotic vocal trickery in the form of radiating shrills and sudden octave leaps.

The Ferdoos start the album with "Ramadan," a kind of spooky, haunting instrumental you'd expect

to hear at an aboriginal haunted house. Zohar, a Jewish band, adds some Hebrew flavor in the middle of the album, and the compilation is capped off by a Turkish freestyle duo on a Middle Eastern quasi-rap.

There are several tracks heavily influenced by African drumming patterns, and you get everything from sitars, guitars, rattlers, and a smorgasbord of different vocal influences, to more relaxed orchestrations and ethereal, almost new age soundscapes (although the producers would decry the comparison to anything "new age").

As the album ate up the laser in my CD player, I felt more and more like I was pow-wowing with Ariel at a Mer-festival or playing tag with pygmies in the jungle.

But, hey, if this album expands your global musical parameters, relaxes and secludes and seduces you, and opens your inner eye to the infinite possibilities of today's technology, then *Zen and the Art of Chilling* has accomplished what mixer Phil Meadley, producer Steve Tannett, and ark 21 records at large have set out to do.

FOOD

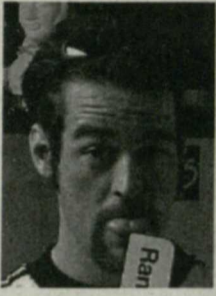
Consumption Junction

Ryan English

Food Dude

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Wanting to make grandma proud



There's good and bad things about having a deadline, having to produce something and being bonded by

your word, with time slipping through your fingers like sand, the clock mocking your every keystroke; you begin to wonder what the boundaries are.

Sure, there's the oft-needed kick to your creativity that only time-induced pressure can provide. Yes!

You are in the midst of the "shot clock" phenomenon and you can push everything out of the way for a while.

If you need to bring out the heavy guns, there's the comfort that the "A" side of Suicidal Tendencies Join the Army", perhaps the greatest half of a thrash

LP in the world, will be right there to keep your concentration focused like a laser from Suicidal Maniac all the way to War inside my Head. Its like playing with matches!

But then there's the evil side of procrastination. Hi.

That's where I am as I deliver this missive to you. I am about to compromise myself so bad I can't even remember what my last meal tasted like, so bitter is this pill I have to swallow.

I have to give away my favorite place because I just had to wait to do this. Of course, you are getting this gift, this blessing, and maybe it can make you happy. So okay, I give.

Alfredo's. Cheshire Bridge. There. Take it, do what you will. Happy now?

So I end up using my "sweet spot" as fodder for this column.

Of course, my friend Rachel didn't know that when we went out and got chow, all she figured

was that I was being a good buddy and keeping her company while her significant other was out of town (relax, I got permission).

The thing is, this place has been open for maybe 20 years, and I only found it by the grace of God and some old people who took pity on me while I was dating their miserable granddaughter.

It isn't really a secret, but let me just tell you this: you can almost always walk in (but I call, out of respect) at 9 on a Thursday night and get a seat for two, no hassles.

And the waiters have all been there for as long as I have been going, the same guys the last five years.

If you know anything about restaurants, you should already have your cellie in hand, calling your girl or someone you want to impress, and then calling for a reservation on Friday

night.

As the Roots say, "do you want more?" Okay player. You can smell the garlic from the parking lot.

The place has that old '70s faux-wood paneling and the floor is about as big as a double-wide. They play Frank, Dean and all the old Italian crooners; they play Luciano, Placido, all the operas. They have a separate bar with a fish tank and if there's a baseball game, the TV is on.

You can get real conversation from the bartender as well as your waiter.

And they keep it dark in there, like you can gaze deep into some eyes up in there like nobody's business.

They have a penne salmone in vodka sauce that'll make you call your mom and tell her to just go ahead and slap herself. There's the padrino, the triple veal medallion for those who

can't decide between the parm, marsala and piccata and just want it all. You can wallow in it, baby!

How's the service? I already told you, these guys aren't looking for other jobs.

We go the bar to smoke, and seeing that we aren't there for our stuffed mushroom apps, they put them back in the kitchen.

Why? Not only because they love me, but because they are good like that.

Try getting that at Romano's friggin' macaroni grill.

They know what kind of wine you (should) want.

They know I want more bread. They have real, shredded romano cheese on the table. You don't have to ask, my friend. They know.

You know what? I took my grandma here.

I gotta go.

Simplicity is best when it comes to cooking

Dixon Hollis

Staff Writer

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This column is designed to be an aid to those who are scared to enter the kitchen arena.

It shall demystify the cooking process by offering simple recipes with simple instructions and simple ingredients specifically designed for the simple-minded, short-bus riding people.

I will try to keep the number of bowls, pots, pans and spoons used to a minimum.

I will also try to find ways for you to impress your future-eX with your cooking abilities.

And finally, each week I will answer a couple of questions emailed to me from the viewing audience.

Let's begin with a basic — MEATLOAF. (For those that are vegetarians, I am sure that this could be made with tofu, but why bother?)

And imagine what it would look like!

Just munch on some carrots, dip up some yogurt, sprinkle some bean sprouts and hug a tree. I'll give you a veggie recipe next week.

When cooking, always read the recipe completely before beginning.

Read the last sentence aloud.

Again.

Now for this recipe you will need the following equipment:

- a large bowl (the size your mom put popcorn in before it started coming in a microwave bag)
- a coffee cup or a measuring cup (a normal coffee cup is about one cup)
- a teaspoon measurer (a little known fact outside of cooking circles, but if you take your hand and cup it fairly tightly, that little space right in the middle is approximately a teaspoon)
- a can opener
- a fork

- a flat pan at least 14" long, 12" wide and with sides of at least an inch high
- foil (it can be used foil but with no holes and enough to cover the bottom of the pan and the side. This is to reduce washing and so is actually optional)
- 2 oven mitts or thick hand towels

Food products:

- 2 lbs of ground meat — You may mix ground veal, ground port, ground sausage, and various levels of ground beef.
- 1 can of Ro-Tel — This is found on the canned vegetable aisle at the grocery store, near the canned to-

matoes. You may buy the generic store brand to save money.

- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 1 teaspoon of ground black pepper
- 1 egg
- 1 cup of ketchup or barbeque sauce or salsa — This is a personal taste choice.
- 1 teaspoon cooking oil — Any kind will do, though do avoid lard
- 1 cup breadcrumbs — Buy these.

They are cheap, less messy and time consuming than making your own, unless you just happen to have a lot of stale bread sitting around, in which case you toast it, allow it to cool and then crush it with a rolling pin if available or any other round long object like a wine bottle.

By the way, please make sure the cork is in the wine bottle before you begin to wield said wine bottle.

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Line pan with foil.
3. Take the oil and lightly rub the foil with your fingers, discarding any extra oil.

4. Place the bowl on the counter.
5. Remove the plastic wrap from the meat and place in the bowl.
6. Measure the salt, pepper and breadcrumbs and add to the meat in the bowl.

7. Open the can of Ro-tel and pour it into the bowl.
8. Crack open the egg and put

9. Pour the egg into the bowl.
10. Mash all of the ingredients together with your hands until everything is evenly mixed.
11. Shape into a ball and place it in the center of the pan.
12. Shape into an elongated igloo, approximately 3 inches high.
13. Open the oven door and place on the rack in the preheated oven.
14. Cook for 45 minutes.
15. Open the oven door, pull out the rack with an oven mitt and pour the selected topping on the top of the meatloaf, allowing some to run down the sides of the loaf.
16. Shut the oven door and cook for 5-10 more minutes.
17. Open the oven door and with oven mitts, remove the pan from the oven, place on stovetop and allow to sit for 10 minutes before serving.

Please do serve this with something.

Suggestions: green beans or broccoli, mashed potatoes or rice and perhaps heated dinner rolls.

Send me your questions and until next week when I am forced by the Fairness Doctrine in journalism to give equal time to a vegetarian meal — EAT MEAT!

Email Dixon with any questions of comments at dhollis@gsusignal.com

It in the measuring cup and beat lightly with the fork.

Don't need drugs for Deepsky

from DEEPSKY Page 19

Deepsky is not a group that you can sit and watch. More than any other DJ, the total loss of one's mind and body in the music is what makes a gig like this enjoyable to the fullest.

This is the point of ecstasy... some people need help getting to the stage when they don't care what people think of their strange movements.

They finish their set as gods on stage, concluding the music with "Cosmic Dancer," which features the vocals of a world artist and puts an interesting spin on the night.

They managed to mix their *IN SILICO* synthetic sounds with the organic world of vocals and live drumming, creating a more humanistic sound for the audience to relate to.

With all that's going on around a person in parties, do we ultimately lose sense of self in the process?

Or is it just another way we have of forgetting about the outside world for at least one night, and feeling the happiness of escape?

Even without the drugs, I can still vouch for the latter. Trends like this don't get resurrected in lands far away from its birthplace for no reason.

Sometimes people of all kinds relate to something. Here, again, it's the music.

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290-Roommates

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1-800-866-4366. (www.hog.org)

700-Services

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100 | NOTES

110 | Self Improvement
120 | Announcements
130 | Lost & Found
140 | Freebies & Goodies
150 | Miscellaneous
160 | Pets

200 | LIVING

210 | Roommates
220 | For Rent
230 | Moving Services
240 | Furniture Sell/Buy
250 | Furniture Storage
260 | Real Estate

300 | PERSONALS

310 | Male to Female
320 | Male to Male
330 | Female to Male
340 | Female to Female
350 | Dating Services

400 | FOR SALE

410 | Self: General
420 | Self: Autos
430 | Self: Books
440 | Self: Computers

500 | FOR BUY

510 | Buy: General
520 | Buy: Autos
530 | Buy: Books
540 | Buy: Computers

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660 | Jobs: Entrepreneurial

700 | SERVICES

710 | General Services
720 | Typing Services
730 | Writing Services
740 | Tutoring Services
750 | Financial Services
760 | Legal Services
770 | Insurance Services

800 | TRAVEL

810 | Seasonal
820 | Discounted
830 | Get Away

