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Financial Aid woes veri-

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Aderhold Center offers more than most classroom buildings

Campus hazards call for awareness

New leaning center offers ample classrooms, eateries and computer lounges to students and staff this fall.

Amanda Van Fleit

Kevin Langston

Staff Writer
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This year, Georgia State will welcome their newest classroom building, the Helen M. Aderhold Learning Center, which stands at the crossroads of Luckie, Poplar, Forsyth, and Broad Streets.

Not only will the building provide 44 extra classrooms, but it will also present students and faculty with a new cyber café and computer lounge complete with Ethernet and Internet access and audio-visual equipment as well.

The four-story, \$45 million building was made possible partly by contributions from John E. Aderhold that were made in his wife's name, Helen M. Aderhold, as a birthday present.

Mrs. Aderhold graduated from Georgia State in 1976 and has been a longtime member of the Georgia State Athletic Association and the Alumni Association.

Every floor of the Center has a staggered balcony so that a view of the cyber café is easily seen when

looking over from any floor. The semester.

fourth floor has an outside balcony that stretches all the way around the building. Three businesses have already rented space in the building. A Smoothie King, the Landmark Diner, and Gateway News will begin construction of their facilities soon. None of these stores will be open until later this



Emily Isovitch | Signal

Students will be taking classes this fall in the newly-built Helen M. Aderhold Learning Center, built possible by John E. Aderhold, whose wife is an alumni of Georgia State.

The classrooms and offices offer faculty accommodations as well.

Although teachers have no personal offices in the building, the faculty lounge provides private rooms where teachers and students can meet.

The sizes of the classrooms range from 30-person rooms to larger 200-seat lecture halls. The facility itself offers classroom-seating capacity for 2,695 students.

The computer lab, located on the bottom floor of the building, features a software set-up similar to the workstations of the computer lab in Library South.

There are 44 workstations in the Aderhold computer lab and each are fully equipped with a Dell 1.7 gig Pentium 4 with a 15-inch LCD monitor.

The cyber café is also found in the common area of the main floor. There are no available computers in this area, but there are tables set up with Ethernet and electrical outlets for laptop computers.

There are also sixteen tables

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As students return to Georgia State this fall, they will be reunited with the sudden rush to buy books, find classes and become accustomed to the routine of school life once again.

Students should also take this chance to reacquaint themselves with the safety programs offered on campus for their protection. While tests and essays should be the primary concerns, accidents and crime do happen on an urban campus as well.

At first glance, it is obvious that Georgia State is plagued by constant construction. To prevent injuries related to construction hazards, Dr. Richard Heller, Director of the Student Center, offers this advice: "Students should have an awareness of what areas are closed off. [The contractors] will mark these areas carefully, because [they] are held liable if they don't take appropriate actions."

Although there have been no reported injuries related to construction work by either students or workers, Heller warns, "With the University Center project, it will be important for

See SAFETY | Page 6

Ciphers "trades" textbooks and gives back to community, celebrates tenth year

Lavondi Fife

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CONTENTS

News	1
Sports	9
Perspectives	15
Classifieds	19

Volume 70 Issue 3

Knowledge Ciphers, a virtually unknown association offers an alternative method of purchasing textbooks for students.

Instead of buying textbooks at the bookstore and selling them back later for a fraction of the cost, Knowledge Ciphers serves as a membership driven organization that loans, rather than sells, textbooks to students.

Upon membership, students

are required to pay membership dues in the amount of \$65. The dues, which are non-refundable, are used to financially support the student founded and operated organization.

No funding is received or donated from the university.

After paying mandatory fees, student members then donate current, up-to-date textbooks in exchange for credits that in turn pro-

vide new books.

The number of credits a student gains determines the number and type of books that are issued to the student.

For example, a student enrolled in one to five classes will be supplied with at least two of his or her most expensive textbooks, while a student enrolled in six or more classes will be supplied with three of his or her most

expensive books.

Students bear only the cost of the remaining books needed.

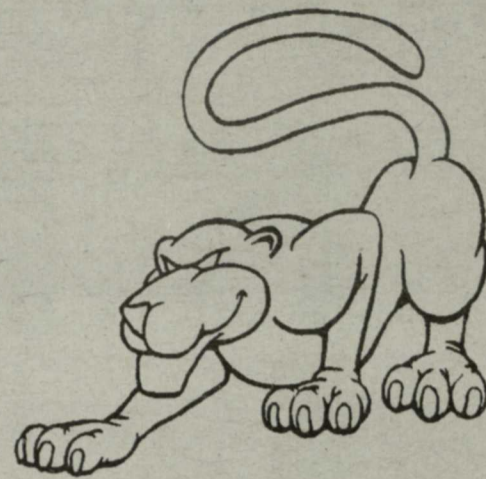
At the end of the semester, students must then return the borrowed books along with others used that semester as a donation to the organization.

This year marks the ten-year

See CIPHERS | Page 6

Panther Welcome @ GSU

2002



ALL GSU STUDENTS - A week of Free Activities and Free Food

Date	Event	Location/Time
Sunday, August 18th	Freshman Convocation Convocation Reception	GSU Sports Arena 3:00-4:00PM Hurt Park 4:00-5:00PM
Monday, August 19th	Game Room Competitions (Darts) Ask Me Booths	Student Recreation Center 2:00PM-5:00PM All Around Campus 8:00AM-5:00PM
Tuesday, August 20th	Game Room Competitions (Billiards) Ask Me Booths Hurt Park Beautification	Student Recreation Center 2:00PM-5:00PM All Around Campus 8:00AM-5:00PM Hurt Park 5:00-7:00PM
Wednesday, August 21st	Game Room Competitions (Table Tennis) Pool Party Patio Pizza Dive-in Movie "Joy Ride"	Student Recreation Center 2:00PM-5:00PM Student Recreation Center 7:00PM
Thursday, August 22nd	Game Room Competitions (Billiard Doubles) GSU Market Place All-Greek Talent Show	Student Recreation Center 2:00PM-5:00PM Library Plaza 12:00PM-2:00PM Student Center 6:00PM
Friday, August 23rd	Game Room Competitions (Spades) GSU First Friday Bash	Student Recreation Center 2:00PM-5:00PM Student Center Ballroom 7:00PM

For more information:

New Student Programs—265 Student Center, 404.463.9065
Student Life & Leadership—330 Student Center, 404.463.9031

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metroPCS.

calendar of events

ampersand

August

21 Campus Talkers/Toastmasters will meet from 12:20-1:20 in Classroom South Room 609 and will be welcoming Christine Topoulos, Managing Director of the Finance Specialists Group. Go to www.gsu.edu/gsutoastmasters for more information.

The Black Student Alliance is the only organization that speaks directly to African-American students about their welfare and giving a voice back to the black student body academically, politically and socially. They will be meeting at 12:15 p.m. in the Lanier Suite, Room 278 of the Student Center.

22 The Sankofa Society provides an opportunity to foster unity and camaraderie among AAS majors, minors and the entire African-American student body at Georgia State, and will be meeting at 12:15 p.m. in Room 270 of the Student Center. Contact the AAS Department for further information at 404-651-2157.

27 The Georgia State chapter of the American Marketing Association will be holding their Fall 2002 membership drive in the Library Plaza and will be featuring guest dj's on stage including Soul Brotha, Tabone, DJ Melodic and DJ Doug Boogie.

You work hard on your events, don't you?

It's no fun when no one shows up.

Solution: Add your event to the Calendar of Events.

To submit an event email the location, date, time and nature of the event to events@gsusignal.com, or stop by the Signal office in Room 203 of the Urban Life Building and fill out a Calendar of Events form. All events must be submitted by 4 p.m. the week before the event.

38 | Average age at which an American believes his or her physical sexual attractiveness peaks.

Harper's Index

0.5 percent | The world's population that visits a McDonald's every day.

funtrivia.com

13 percent | People who set two alarms every night.

Men's Health

271 | Of the 538 billionaires in the world, number who are American.

Forbes

Almost 5,000 | On average, number of words you speak each day.

didyouknow.com

Almost 80 percent | Percentage of those words that are spoken to yourself.

didyouknow.com

5 | Number of states with no laws barring sexual abuse or misconduct by male prison personnel.

Playboy's Raw Data

14,000 | Number of under-18's who take up smoking each day in affluent countries.

Time

68,000 | Number of under-18's who do so in nonaffluent countries.

Time

40 percent | Percentage of pharmacists who've used a mind-altering drug without a prescription.

Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association

"It's amazing how nice people are to you when they know you're going away."

Michael Arlen

"If we are strong, our character will speak for itself; if we are weak, words will be of no help."

John F. Kennedy, undelivered address, Dallas, Nov. 22, 1963

"Knowledge is power, if you know about the right person."

Ethel Watts Mumford

"People are generally persuaded by the reasons which they have themselves discovered than by those which have come to the minds of others."

Pascal

criminal activities

July 29

Theft By Taking

A Theft by Taking report was filed by a student in the College of Education. The complainant stated that she placed her purse on a desk and left the area at 4 p.m. When she returned 15 minutes later, her wallet valued at \$20 had been stolen out of her purse. The wallet contained \$30 in cash and other miscellaneous items.

Entering Auto Report

An Entering Auto Report was filed by a student at Turner Stadium parking lot. The complainant stated that she parked her vehicle at 10:30 a.m. When she returned at 11:20 p.m., she found the vehicle had been broken into. Five dollars in change, a CD player valued at \$90 and 30 CD's valued at \$350 were stolen from the vehicle.

August 5

Criminal Trespass Warning

A Criminal Trespass Warning report was filed by an officer in Hurt Park. The officer

observed a non-GSU male subject smoking marijuana at 7:32 p.m. A criminal history check was done with negative results. The subject was issued a CTW and escorted off the property.

Criminal Trespass Warning

A Criminal Trespass Warning report was filed by an officer in University Village, Olympia. The officer observed a non-GSU male subject banging on a resident's front door causing a disturbance at 4:20 a.m. The subject was found to be intoxicated and under the legal drinking age. The subject and the non-GSU individual he was attempting to visit in the room were both issued CTW's and escorted off the property.

August 6

Criminal Trespass Warning

A Criminal Trespass Warning report was filed by an officer in Woodruff Park. The officer observed two non-GSU male subjects rolling a marijuana cigarette. A criminal history check was done on both individuals with negative results. The subjects were issued CTW's and escorted off the property.

Final debates sway Georgians at voting booths today, Barnes leads the way in funding

Steven P. Sloan, Emily Isovitsch
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take more control over security issues, but Hartsfield International should stay with the city," he said. Republicans in the state legislature have been strong

considered a determining factor in the outcome of today's election. All GOP candidates are well behind Roy Barnes' \$9.4 million campaign budget.

economy."

His plan consisted of a mandatory rotation of auditors.

Chambliss added to the

argument when promising to empower the federal government to sue corporation CEOs with civil suits on behalf of the investors.

Candidates, Al Bartel, Mike Beaty and Steve Stancel, all in race for the fourth district Lieutenant Governor held on Aug. 4, simultaneously concentrated on education, public involvement in policy-making and environmental concerns in a debate on Aug. 9.

Beaty focused on Georgians and the power he believes that they hold.

"Our greatest resource," Beaty said, "is the people. We can have growth and protect the environment. At the same time we need to have long range vision."

Stancel commented on the moral depletion he believed current Governor Roy Barnes caused among the people of Georgia.

"People are busy and they don't believe that they're voice counts anymore," Stancel admitted. "I believe that Roy Barnes has lost the moral leadership of this state."

In the end, all candidates were focused to bring core family values to the position and to work to fund Hope and education.

Republican candidates for governor argued about traveling, Hartsfield Airport and Roy Barnes' failures as governor, but no one came out ahead in a debate sponsored by the Atlanta Press Club that was televised live on Georgia Public Television.

Linda Schrenko, current state school superintendent, was harshly criticized for what many found to be excessive travel expenses and missed state school board meetings. Most estimates indicate that she has missed more than half of the meetings.

"The board meetings aren't legally required, and I can't even vote at them. So the idea that I really am a force in them isn't really correct," she said.

Bill Byrne, current County Commissioner of Cobb County, was asked about his response to critics who claim he will operate Georgia as "governor of Cobb County."

"I've been governor of Cobb County for eight years and I've done pretty well," Byrne responded.

He also pointed out the importance of the metro Atlanta area in Georgia's political atmosphere and economy.

Over half of the state's population resides within the 14-county metro area.

In addition to his concern with the opportunities in metro Atlanta, Byrne also responded to comments he made earlier about the possibility of taking



Steven P. Sloan | Signal

Candidates for governor Bill Byrne, Sonny Perdue and Linda Schrenko were among several of the debates that were aired on GPTV last Friday.

advocates of the state taking charge of the airport. Sonny Perdue, who served as a democratic state senator before switching parties in 1998, stood up against criticism in the state's deregulation of the natural gas industry. As a state senator, he was an author on the legislation. He said he now felt the industry should partially return to state authority.

In their one-hour debate before a statewide television audience, no

As of the June 30 disclosures, Byrne claims \$72,156.97, Schrenko claims \$318,935.28 and Perdue has \$875,514.03 in campaign funds.

The debates for the Republican race for the Senate were also tight.

Bob Brown, Saxby Chambliss and Bob Irvin all agreed on removing disaster programs, reforming corporate America, bettering race relations in Georgia and working to unseat Democratic Sen. Max Cleland.

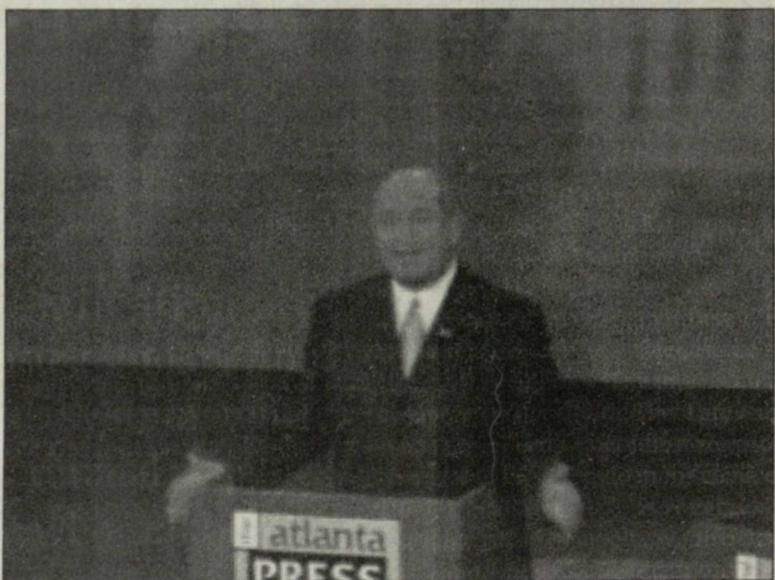
Irvin, a state representative for 15 years, introduced himself as "the conservative candidate in this race." His message varied from increased homeland security and border controls to "more fiscal responsibility."

Chambliss, who currently represents Georgia's 8th district in Congress, concentrated on the reform of American corporations

"We must hold corporate America accountable to the people," commented Chambliss. He then went on and said, "The fraud is linked to the Republicans and we must work to punish everyone and not just focus on certain individuals."

"I believe that everyone should work to pass the smell test. We have to work to bring back the trust in the business community," Brown said in agreement.

Brown furthered the argument though and added, "We need new leadership and I have a plan to revive the



Steven P. Sloan | Signal

Governor hopeful sonny Perdue, a once democratic candidate, made his arguments against recent gas industry state deregulations at the debate sponsored by the Atlanta Press Club.

Hartsfield Airport out of Atlanta's authority and placing it in state hands.

Critics charge that such a move could be disastrous to the city's economy.

"I would like to see the state

candidate excelled beyond the others, meaning this race will likely be close until the end of today's primary election and could possibly result in a Sept. 10 runoff.

Money has also been

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Water main break threatens parking, drinking water

David Freeman

Staff Writer

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A contractor caused a water main break on Aug. 2 at the intersection of Decatur Street and Jesse Hill Drive causing damage to the 20-story James A. "Sloppy" Floyd office building, as well as threatening the water supply to nearby Grady Hospital.

The repairs also affected several Georgia State parking

government properties, a day care center and a restaurant at varying periods throughout the repairs.

Employees in these buildings were required to drink bottled water and use bathrooms across the street until their service could be restored back to normal.

According to Debra Speights, spokeswoman for United

Water, the repairs themselves were complicated by the fact that the water main itself was a 100-year-old piece of equipment



Rob Bishop | Signal

United Water worked feverishly to replace the 100-year-old water main that was broken accidentally by a fiber optics contractor a couple of weeks ago.

decks.

The break occurred while Jeff Graham Directional

Boring, a sub-contractor for First-South, was attempting to install a fiber optic cable.

The installation is now being rescheduled for another time.

Water service was interrupted to four neighboring

A custom fitted joint had to be manufactured to fix the broken pipe.

"The problem is it's a 100-year old pipe and there are no parts for it, our guys will have to craft a part," Speights explained.

Dave L. Montgomery, Vice

See BREAK | Page 8

Patton hailed among most influential in Atlanta

Nicholas Horton

Staff Writer

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With the steady growing student population and the rise of incoming freshmen this year, University President Patton has been working hard keeping the coals in the fire. Georgia State's population reached an all-time high with 25,745 students enrolled at the end of 2001.

His transformations of this school even led him recognition in the Atlanta Business Chronicle recently. He was coined one of Atlanta's most influential people for the profound amount of constructive power that he has wielded at Georgia State.

Since his tenure began in 1992, Patton is given credit for the many additions this school has seen in the past few years such as the Rialto Theater, the Student Center and Recreation Center and the more recently completed University Lofts and the Helen M. Aderhold Learning Center.

What's more, Patton has also seen a rise in enrollment during his presidency. Since 1999, the number of incoming freshmen for fall classes has risen from 1,768 students to an abundant 2,126 in 2001, approximately a 20 percent increase over the past two years.

In addition, the Georgia State "family" currently represents over

140 different countries as well as every county in the state of Georgia.

Patton emphasized the school's prime location.

"Since we are an international city, I believe we attract a wide array of students with many whose parents and relatives currently live here," he said and added, "I think it is also do to the fact that we have raised the standards here at Georgia State, and hold ourselves to a higher standard, which has led to other increases."

Of the approximate 26,000 students currently attending Georgia State, 35.6 percent will live with their parents or relatives, while 55.4 percent will utilize campus housing. Only 8 percent will live in a private home or apartment.

For example, with this successful increase in the enrollment, this school in turn has seen a greater need for more student housing.

Up until now, the Village has been the only campus housing facility, and recently has put students on waiting lists, leaving many unclear as to what their living arrangements will be when school starts.

Patton answered the call with the introduction of the University Lofts, which will be housing students for the first time this fall. The lofts are open to single students 21 and over, married students, students with children, and

international students attending Georgia State.

The University lofts have 231 apartments, with a total occupancy of 460 tenets.

Also under Patton's overseeing is the recently opened Helen M. Aderhold Learning Center. The new facility includes a computer lab, 44 classrooms and two 200-seat lecture halls.

The new facility will teach dozen's of various courses, from introductory accounting to jazz history. The new building occupies the city block bound by Luckie, Forsyth, Poplar, and Broad Streets across from the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts.

In regards to the recent improvements to the school, Patton sees much success for University and said, "We hope to get a tremendous return on our new facilities for students and teachers alike for the new coming years," said Patton.

President Patton was also recognized in the Chronicle for improving the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and the Robinson College of Business, both commonly ranked among the nation's top university programs.

Nearly 85 percent of Georgia State's alumni stay in Georgia after graduation, and the school calculates that it contributes approximately \$2 million a day into the metro Atlanta economy.

Two-year-old MARTA deficit leads to increased ride fares

Celissa Wynn

Staff Writer

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As most know, it is that time of year again when students will be crowding the Plaza Square at Georgia State and swarming the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) in a mad dash to class.

The only new obstacle that commuters will be enduring this year is an increase in MARTA

transportation fares.

Ordinary citizens riding the bus or train must pay \$1.75 now, which is an increase from last year.

Students and staff at Georgia State must pay \$38 for monthly passes, twelve dollars more from the usual rate.

Also, student discounts on any kind of pass have been reduced.

MARTA must raise fares because of its \$12 million

deficit that has been accumulating since Jan. 1, 2001.

Because of the shortfall budget, it is feared that MARTA will continue to raise fares, cut routes, and reduce its rail hours.

Despite financial deficit, MARTA will expand rail lines and introduce new buses, both improved in comfort and more fuel efficient for the safety of


See DEFICT | Page 8

If the denial of evolution drives you ape, you might be a UU

Evolutionary science shows us with abundant empirical evidence that we are all connected in the lineage of life; that there is an interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. It commands the moral goal of respect for the earth, our source of life, and all her creatures. Share the goal and evolve with us.

Learn more about our liberal religious community.

- Sunday morning services at 9:30 and 11:30
- "All About UUCA" drop-in information sessions follow each service three times monthly.
- Call 404-634-5134 or visit www.uuca.org

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Pedestrian safety among top safety concerns of GSU Police

From SAFETY | Page 1

folks to be very aware [of the areas where admittance this semester is prohibited], because the 2nd and 4th floor will not open until later. These should be locked areas."

In regards to criminal activities on campus, The GSU Police Department is focusing many of its efforts on pedestrian safety, theft prevention, personal safety, and ways to avoid vehicle break-ins this year by offering programs to educate students by increasing their level of safety awareness.

There were 13 reported burglaries, 2 robberies and 6 motor vehicle thefts on campus according to Safety Net, an online resource, in 2000.

"Students should be aware of their surroundings," said Officer James Porter of the Georgia State University Police Department. "A lot of times anyone walking in Atlanta walks with blinders; you should be aware of who is around you. It is good to walk in groups if possible; there is safety in numbers. Stay in well lit areas; most criminal activity happens in alley ways or in under lit parking areas."

Jennifer Solesbee, a former Village resident, was robbed at gunpoint in the stairwell of a parking deck at the Village in 1998. "It happened very fast, and I knew the minute [the suspect] began to ask me questions about where I was headed, something was not right, Solesbee said. "He did not look like a student. He pulled out a gun and demanded my money. Of course, I gave him all of the money I had. You should listen to yourself and walk back into a more populated area, if something

doesn't feel right. I'm just glad that no one was really hurt. I am a lot more cautious now."

As a defense to crime, some

students at their request. The number to call for a police safety escort is (404) 651-2767. This service is especially useful for students taking night classes.



Rob Bishop | Signal

Attention all students! Here are some tips for keeping safe this semester on campus: watch out when crossing crosswalks, avoid Collins Street construction and mind the

Georgia State students carry mace. Officer Porter said that the University Police Department neither recommended nor discouraged students from carrying mace on campus, but said, "if you do choose to use it, you should know how to use it. Pepper spray expires, and [students] should pay attention to [the expiration date]. There are many areas that can get windy and it can go back in your face."

To ensure students safety, the University Police Department escort

Village residents should be sure to lock both their main suite door and their bedroom door. Do not let people that are not with your party into the Village. Use the call box to notify the police of any suspicious persons looming around the Village.

Some other safety tips provided by the University Police include making sure one's vehicle is in good working condition and knowing the location of the emergency call boxes just in case.

Princeton mailbox replaced after testing positive for anthrax

David Robinson

The DailyPrincetonian

Anthrax spores were found in a mailbox this week on Nassau Street, bringing the FBI's investigation back to Princeton University. Agents have been canvassing the area with a photograph of Stephen Hatfill, a biologist who once worked in a U.S. Army bioweapons lab, asking employees at local stores whether or not they have seen him before.

The contaminated Nassau Street mailbox does not prove that any of the anthrax letters were sent from Princeton. The box holds both incoming and outgoing mail -- individuals deposit letters to be sent, and the postal service uses the box to store sorted, incoming letters addressed to local residents. An incoming letter that had been through the same sorting equipment as one of the anthrax letters might have carried the spores to Princeton. I

Hatfill has been a focus of attention since he was linked to the anthrax investigation by Barbara Rosenberg, a scientist conducting an independent investigation into the attacks. Rosenberg gave a speech at the Woodrow Wilson School in February in which she claimed that most insiders agree on the identity of the anthrax perpetrator.

She did not name a suspect, but did offer some details about the person's past: a veteran of the American bioweapons program, with experience producing anthrax and a current vaccination against the disease. She also said the person was angry at the government, and

was trained in how to cover his forensic tracks.

Hatfill's extreme history has also fueled speculation that he might be behind the mailings. In the 1970s he lived in Africa, serving in the army of white-run Rhodesia. He has reportedly boasted to friends that he was part of the Selous Scouts, an elite group that tried to stamp out resistance to white rule. The largest known anthrax outbreak, claiming more than 11,000 lives, occurred during the Rhodesian civil war, and experts who have studied the outbreak believe the white government may have been responsible.

Even his smell links him to the crime. Bloodhounds -- whose highly developed sense of smell is admissible as evidence in court -- reportedly found the same scent in Hatfill's home and on one of the anthrax letters.

But no physical evidence has been found to link Hatfill to the letters. Last weekend, Hatfill convened a press conference to respond for the first time to the allegations, calling himself a "fall guy" for an as of yet unsolved crime. He blames the FBI for feeding speculation about him to the media, including tipping off TV crews before searching his home and giving journalists a copy of a novel he wrote whose plot centered on a biological attack.

FBI officials say they are wary of jumping to conclusions, and deny they have settled on Hatfill. Rather than describe him as a suspect -- which would require special legal treatment -- they call him a "person of interest," a category they say includes about 30 others.

Textbook trading organization to raffle off books at events

From CIPHERS | Page 1

anniversary of Knowledge Ciphers at Georgia State.

The organization is planning an array of special events in celebration, including membership drives, book raffles that will be giving away textbooks and other events that will be coordinated in collaboration with Spotlight.

In addition to paying semester dues each semester, students are also asked to perform 10 hours of community service, something practically unheard of before.

According to director Rashid McCall, the community service entails, "helping with distribution

and planning as it relates to social services."

Students who join the association as new members must attend a one-time orientation session as well. Reoccurring student members are required to attend at

"The organization also functions socially in initiating fun ideas to celebrate diversity and make new friends"

least one general meeting per semester.

Before receiving textbooks, students are required to present a copy of their diverse license and class schedule.

Membership is open to all Georgia State students.

The book cooperative program is only one of the three components of Knowledge Ciphers.

"The organization also functions socially in initiating fun ideas to celebrate diversity and make new friends," according to McCall.

The grassroots component of the organization focuses on direct student involvement in the community. McCall stated

that since the inception of Knowledge Ciphers, the organization holds credence to a strong and intimate involvement in the community and partners with Hands on Atlanta and Habitat for Humanity.

Highly diversified, this organization is comprised of approximately 250 to 350 active members.

Don't Hesitate - Recreate

Outdoor Equipment Rental

Aquatics

Intramurals

Sport Clinics

Sport Clubs

Scuba

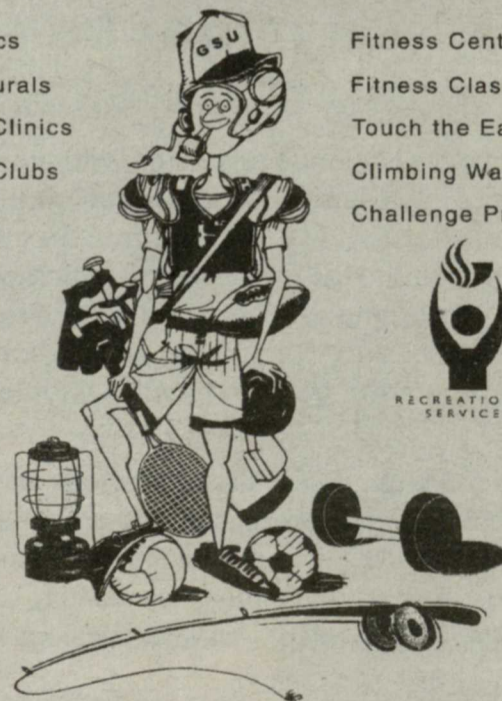
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Fitness Classes

Touch the Earth

Climbing Wall

Challenge Program



Visit the Student Recreation Center

www.gsu.edu/recreation

101 Piedmont Avenue

New Dean of Students seeks "college life" back on campus

James Butler

Staff Writer

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New Dean of Students Rebecca Yale Stout officially took office last Tuesday and has already met with many students, faculty and staff during the first week of her tenure.

"I think I've nearly met with every administrative area that will report to me, so I have a sense of what some of their goals are," Stout said.

She replaces former Dean of Students Dr. Kurt Keppler who resigned last year and relocated to Valdosta State University.

Stout has sat in on a SGA senate meeting and on a Community Development Council meeting.

The new dean seeks unity between students and faculty by being tactfully responsive.

Her most primary goal is to establish a partnership with all divisions of the University, and her first step towards that will be getting to know the students better by working with them in as many ways as possible.

Stout earned her doctorate and bachelor's degrees from Arizona State University and a master's degree from the University of Illinois.

Another act the dean intends on acting upon is putting the usual planning and good intentions that go on between students and faculty into action.

She believes that it is time for faculty and students to stop talking and come together to put these plans into action.

"If [Georgia State] is going to increase its enrollment and have a more traditional atmosphere, it will require the institution to work together," Stout said.

She plans on holding to this belief by becoming active in the developments at the Student Advocacy and New Student Programs as well as the Judicial Council portions of the student

obligation to create an experience that is relevant to all students in order for success among any university.

Being able to respond to all students is a critical challenge that Georgia State has before them.

This means not only catering to the needs of typical incoming freshmen, but understanding the expectations of the large numbers of part-time adults who take night classes and the other not-so-traditional students.

Stout is highly aware of this distinctive factor and hopes to take advantage of it in a more positive way than in the past.

After serving as associate dean of students at Arizona State University for the past 4 and a half years, Stout sees many similarities between Arizona State and Georgia State's student population.

Her experience at Arizona State has given her an edge and has helped her settle into her position more easily.

"I think the percentage increase in freshman is nearly identical over the last several years," Stout said concerning the constant influx of new students. "There's a whole opportunity to be working with new students who are traditional age."

Stout will oversee are health education, African-American student services, recreational services and the student activity committee.

Beginning this year, she will also become closely involved with principal student life sectors such as Student Life and Leadership, Disability services, New Student Programs, and Community-Service Learning.

"Students are very clear about what they want and as an institution we need to hear them and advocate on their behalf"

body.

According to her, it is necessary to know what students' needs are as they express them. Stout calls for a better forum in which students can voice their needs more effectively.

"Students are very clear about what they want and as an institution we need to hear them and advocate on their behalf," Stout said.

If students become involved and voice their concerns, Stout understands that it is not only her responsibility to respond to them, but it is also a responsibility of the rest of the administration.

A recurring theme Stout said she encountered during her preliminary interview process was the need for a more traditional college atmosphere.

"There needs to be a strong partnership between the students, staff and faculty because none of these groups can create that atmosphere by themselves," Stout said. "It takes an entire community," she added.

Holding a career in student services for 20 years, the new dean still believes it is the school's

Workstations feature DVD drive, video camera connections

From ADERHOLD | Page 1

with four ports on each table spare for laptop use.

Vending machines and microwaves are also included in the cyber cafe area for the students' dining pleasure.

Ethernet and electricity hook-ups are scattered throughout the building and in many of the classrooms as well.

For instance, there are hook-ups on the commons areas of every floor in the middle of the building. Some classrooms even have group hook-ups on the walls for laptops.

All of the classrooms have a full audiovisual set-up for teachers' usage. The stations contain a DVD drive with a combination CD re-

writable.

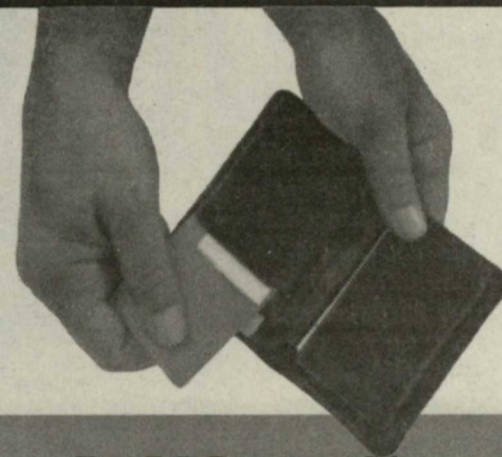
The teacher workstations also have a built in VCR and connections for other audio-visual equipment such as video cameras.

Once school starts, the Aderhold building will be open from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, and will not be open on Saturday or Sunday.

The computer lab and the cyber cafe will retain the same hours as well, so will not be available to students on weekends.

The computer labs in Library North will be available nightly for use, however.

Directions to the Aderhold Center can be found at the Georgia State webiste.



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New energy efficient buses bring comfort and safety to passengers

From DEFICIT | Page 5

the environment, to the system. These buses are already gradually being introduced and used in routes. 130 of these Orion VII buses are part of MARTA's 2-year replacement program. They represent MARTA's effort to conserve energy and reduce the amount of air pollution in Atlanta.

The new clean-fuel burning buses feature an increased number of seats, programmable controllers, user-friendly wheelchair ramps and bicycle racks to increase ridership, especially among student riders.

Each seat is covered with 100% wool fabric and anti-graffiti coating.

The buses are also equipped for better busdriver safety with a new heavy duty seatbelt.

The MARTA cuts for this year are already in effect also. The cuts are expected to save \$3.8 million this budget cycle and \$15.1 million for the next year.

One might think the term budget cuts mean staff cuts, and staff cuts mean less security patrolling the MARTA stations.

MARTA argues that this assumption is wrong.

Jacking up transportation fares balances this equation out.

MARTA police officers will continue patrolling all perimeters of the stations to secure safety for its passengers.

Another comforting point is that MARTA police officers have the same training and certification as any Georgia law enforcement officer.

Passengers can call these officers at any rail station by using the designated blue or white phone, or they can use the emergency intercom located at the front of every railcar.

On a bus, passengers can contact the driver for help.

Likewise, one should always be aware of

their surroundings when entering the stations and riding the trains or buses.

When traveling at night, MARTA advised trying to travel in pairs or groups, and most importantly, it is a good idea to keep all items nearby to avoid theft.



Rob Bishop | Signal

Although students can expect to pay slightly higher bus and train fares,

Grady water supply of primary concern

From BREAK | Page 5

President and General Manager of United Water also stated, "The break was particularly challenging given the hospitals and neighboring institutions. My hat is off to our crews and to all of our partners in this endeavor."

As the repair crews worked, other valves had to be cut off to avoid interfering with the flow of water to nearby Grady Hospital, which maintained water and adequate water pressure.

United Water tradesmen crafted and installed a temporary clamp until a manufacturer could fabricate a permanent part for use in the repairs.

Water service was still interrupted, however, as a leak in the temporary repairs threatened underground power lines and several state offices were forced to close early. United Water then

engineered an alternate water supply to ensure an immediate feed and adequate water pressure to these state facilities and also worked with the City of Atlanta and Grady Hospital staff to organize an emergency plan for the medical complex should the need arise.

Repairs to the break caused some difficulty to the students and employees of GSU as they blocked entrances to the S, K, and N parking decks.

These individuals were temporarily allowed to park on the M and G decks until the infrastructure problem had been resolved.

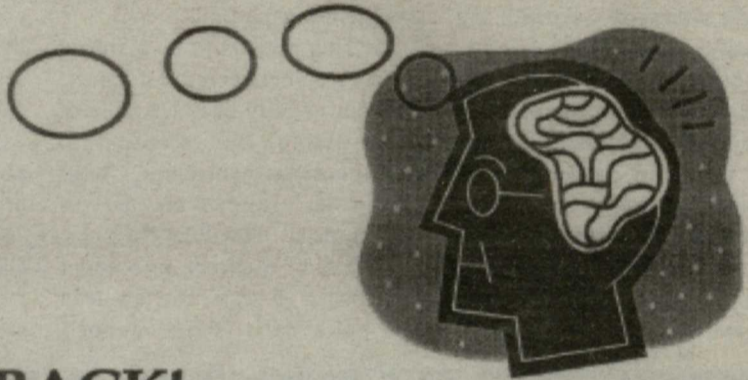
According to Keith Trawick, the Parking Operations Manager for GSU, "The only problem we experienced from the main water break was traffic flow at the entrance. The problem was resolved with a police officer monitoring traffic at the intersection of Gilmer St. and Piedmont Ave."

Luckily, all problems concerning the decks were corrected just in time for fall classes.

"The break was particularly challenging given the hospitals and neighboring institutions. My hat is off to our crews and to all of our partners in this endeavor."

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Outside in the Library Plaza (by the fountains); open Mon.-Fri. 10:30am-2:30pm

Campus Club

3rd fl. University Center (across from the Bookstore); open Mon.-Th. 7am-6pm, Fri. 7am-4pm

The Courtyard

1st fl. of the Student Center (just past the information desk); open Mon-Th. 7:30am-4pm, Fri. 7:30am-3:30pm

{Hours are subject to change during exam periods and semester breaks.}

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Sports Editor
Chris Martz

Sports

Reporting on
Georgia State University Athletics

What's Inside

A-SUN NOTEBOOK I The search is over for a women's basketball tournament host [see page 10]

BASKETBALL I The wild professional adventures of a former Panthers legend [see page 12]

Are these really the Georgia State Panthers?

The impossible is now almost a reality as the Georgia State Club Football Team scratches ever closer towards their first game



Irina Dubovis | Signal

What was once a dream is now one step closer to reality as the Georgia State Club Football team is now practicing in pads for their first game September 7.

Building a foundation for the future

The founders of Georgia State's club football team hope to be on the path to greatness

Chris McClure

Staff Writer
cmcclure@gsusignal.com

A group of Georgia State students that believe football has been needed for decades are hoping the student body will support their team and eventually encourage university officials to reciprocate this support as the team nears its first game this fall.

About 45 students have aligned themselves with the Panther football team as they prepare for their first game against South Alabama on Sept. 7. The constant chatter on www.rampway.org and other Internet message boards dedicated to GSU discussing the need for a football team has some students believing this year could begin a

new chapter in Georgia State's 89-year history.

"It's almost comical that one of the largest public institutions in the country doesn't have a college football team," said Ben Moore, the team's media representative. Moore and the other members of the football program have tried since the fall of 2001 to gain a proactive stance from university officials regarding college football. After realizing they would not find support for an NCAA team, the group of students went to the Recreation Center and chartered a football club in late January 2002.

"Georgia State needs a dominating fall sport for which the South is known which shall be beneficial for the university," noted Moore when asked why any form of a football program should exist.

Even though some members of

the student body will be happy the Panthers will rival other football programs in the Southeast, GSU officials are still not endorsing the student-led stance towards college football.

A reason why no support is given for college football among officials is it would cause GSU to be out of compliance with Title IX, the federal law that requires equal opportunities for both men and women. Currently, Georgia State has eight sports for women and six sports for men, due to the officials determination of the school's population which was comprised of 60 percent female.

Searching for funds, covering game operation expenses as well

See FRONTIER | Page 13

2002 Georgia State Club Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location
Sat., Sept. 7	South Alabama	Mobile, Ala.
Sun., Sept. 15	UNC Greensboro	ATLANTA
Sun., Sept. 22	Duke	Durham, N.C.
Sun., Oct. 6	North Carolina	ATLANTA
Sat., Oct. 19	George Mason	Fairfax, Va.
Sun., Oct. 27	Appalachian State	Boone, N.C.
Sun., Nov. 10	South Alabama	ATLANTA

Home games will be played at Adams Stadium

Atlantic Sun Notebook



what's going on around the conference

Conference announces host for women's basketball championship

Staff Reports

After numerous delays and rumors concerning the host location for the 2003 Atlantic Sun Women's Basketball Championship, the tournament ended up staying where everyone thought.

Last week, after months of speculation, the conference announced that the University of Central Florida would play host to the tournament, which will be held from March 13-15, 2003 at the UCF Arena.

As reported in the July 30 issue of *The Signal*, the Samford women's basketball schedule reported that the tournament would be held at UCF, although the conference had not reported this yet, and would not confirm this at the time.

After Assistant Commissioner Ted Gumbart struck down the early reports on Samford's schedule, he reassured the fact that a host school had indeed not been chosen.

While he did set a July 30 deadline for the decision, the announcement was not made until last week.

"UCF has an excellent facility and the staff has always done a fantastic job serving as host for our championship events," Atlantic Sun Commissioner Bill Bibb said. UCF also hosted the 2002 Atlantic Sun Men's Basketball Championship.

UCF will be hosting the tournament for the second time, the first time being in 2001. The Georgia State Lady Panthers emerged victorious that year, their first of two consecutive Atlantic Sun titles.

Stetson adds two men's basketball signees

The Stetson Hatters and coach Derek Waugh completed their 2002-03 recruiting class in early August.

Trevour McIntosh, a 6-7 forward from Amityville, N.Y. and Evan Patterson, a 6-5 guard/forward from Cedar Hill, Texas round out the lineup for the Hatters, who finished a disappointing ninth in Atlantic Sun play last year, missing out on the conference tournament.

McIntosh, who helped lead Amityville High School to three straight state championships, "gives us youth, size, strength, and athleticism, and he will be a tremendous asset to our team," Waugh said.

Patterson, who as a senior helped Cedar Hill High School to a #22 national ranking in the final *USA Today* High School Basketball Poll, was named a Texas

Elite Top 25 Player. "He is a good shooter and slasher, he is physically strong, especially for his age, and he should develop into a solid player," Waugh commented.

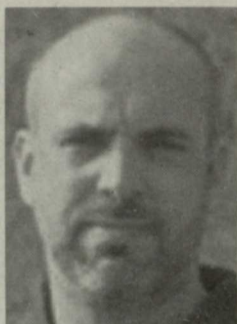
Patterson and McIntosh round off Stetson's recruiting class for the 2002-03 season, which also includes EJ Gordon (Deland, Fla.) Anthony Register (Lithonia, Ga.) and Roman Brown (Little Rock, Ark.)

Troy State adds two new coaches

The Troy State Trojans have announced the hiring of a new women's soccer coach and a new men's tennis coach, putting the tally at four new head coaches who will start their tenures this

season.

Heading the Lady Trojans' soccer program will be John Garvilla, replacing Qasim Sheikh, who left after three years at Troy State.



Garvilla

Garvilla spent the last five seasons at Milligan College, where he compiled a 92-38-6

record, including the 2001 Appalachian Athletic Conference and Region XII titles. He takes over a Troy State program that finished 11-8 in 2001, a school record for victories.

"This soccer program has enormous potential," Garvilla said. "The previous coach left on good terms and left a lot of talent. Success is in the immediate future."

"We believe that Coach Garvilla is perfect for our soccer program. His credentials and past success are impressive," Troy State Athletics Director Johnny Williams noted.

Also joining the coaching staff will be Eric Hayes, who takes over the men's and women's tennis programs.

Hayes comes to Troy State

from North Carolina State, where he had been the men's tennis coach since 1996. Among his accomplishments was the team's berth in the 1999 NCAA Tournament.

He takes over a men's team that finished 7-9 last season, and a women's team was 19-3.

"This program has tremendous potential and could eventually contend with other top-ranked schools," Hayes said. "I appreciate the administration for giving me the chance to create what I think will be one of the most rapidly improving tennis programs in the country."

"Coach Hayes' record speaks for itself," Williams said. "There is not doubt he is the right choice to lead this program in the right direction."

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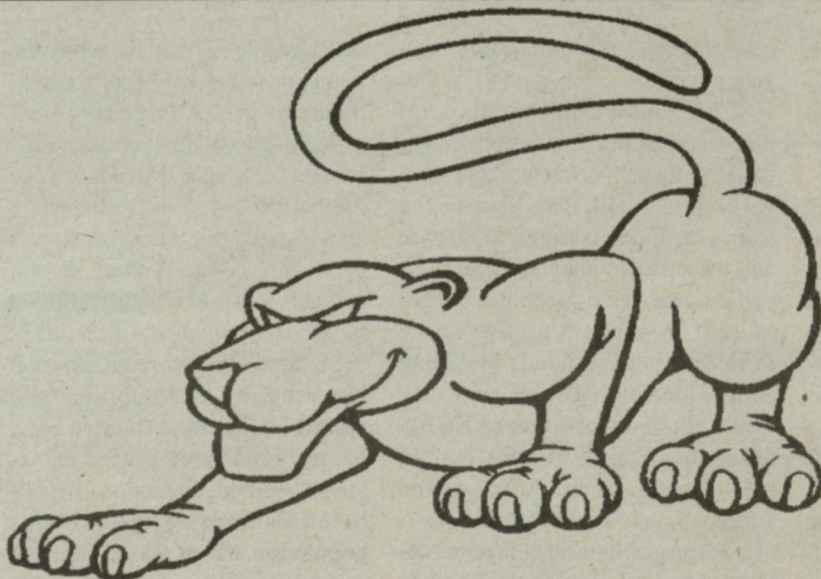
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Men's soccer looks to improve on last year's success

With 2001 marked by many highs and lows, an older, wiser team looks to build on both the good and the bad

Chris Martz

Sports Editor
chrismartz@gsusignal.com

After starting the 2001 campaign with four straight victories, the Georgia State men's soccer team looked like a team that deserved its #15 national ranking, the highest ever in Georgia State history.

Unfortunately, the dream ended for the Panthers, as their season came to a crashing end, and the team found itself on the outside looking in at the Atlantic Sun Championship.

With the 2002 season on the horizon, the Panthers' goals are clear: to not only play a complete season, but also to return to the form that has made them the five-time Atlantic Sun Champions, the most in conference history.

Georgia State's will be returning all but two players from last year's team.

Last year's leading scorers, midfielder Stephen Adams (7 goals), and midfielder Jonathan Scraggs (6 goals,) both juniors, will anchor the middle of the field for the Panthers.

Will Chaple returns for his senior season in goal. Last year, the goal keeper had a 2.14 goals against average, including a 2-0 shutout against Stetson.

The Panthers' schedule looks to be a difficult one, with the team opening at home on Aug. 31 against Lipscomb, before traveling to three different tournaments around the country.

The trip includes a visit to New Mexico to face the dangerous Lobos, who advanced to the second round of last year's NCAA Tournament.

The team will not play their second home game until Sept. 25, when they open their conference schedule against Atlantic Sun newcomer Gardner-Webb.

Another break in the Panthers' schedule sees a 10-day gap between their first and second conference games, as well as a three-week hole between home games from September 25 to October 18.

Also working against the Panthers is a dangerous Florida trip that sees Georgia State play the top two teams in the Atlantic Sun preseason poll, Stetson and UCF, on October 25 and 27, respectively.

The Panthers were picked to finish fourth in the poll, released by the conference last Tuesday.

These rankings are an important sign for the Panthers, as only the top four teams in the Atlantic Sun qualify for the conference tournament.

Last year, Georgia State had an

identical conference record as the fourth-place team (Florida Atlantic,) but was excluded from the tournament as a result of a 2-0 defeat at the hands of the Owls.

The level of play looks to be quite balanced in the Atlantic Sun this year, judging from the poll.

Four teams received first-place votes in the poll, with UCF taking top honors.

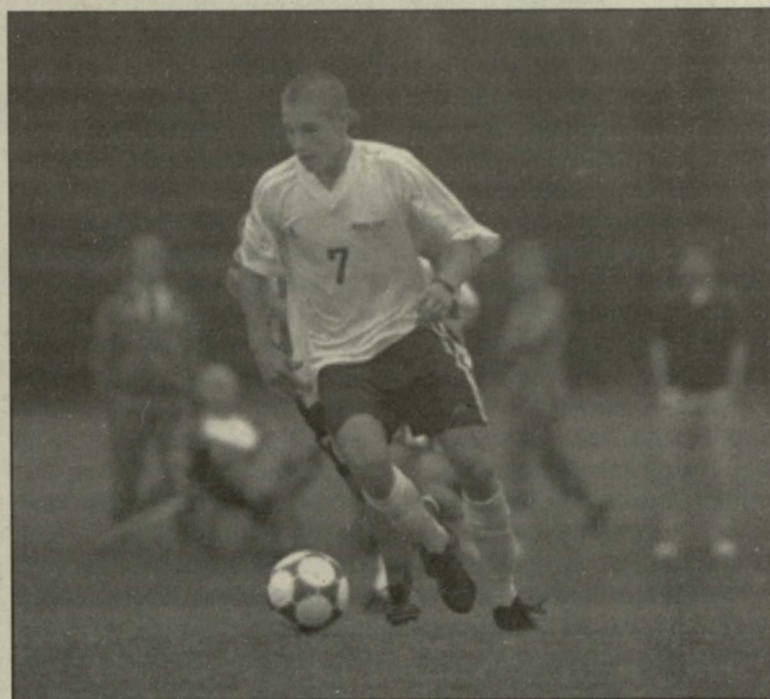
The Golden Knights will be returning eight starters from last year's team, which finished fifth in the conference, also missing out on the tournament.

Last year's Atlantic Sun champion, Mercer, placed fifth in the poll. The Bears lost seven seniors from last year's team, including the 2001 Atlantic Sun Player of the Year, Max Rooke, and Neil Zarac, the team's leading scorer.

While the victory over #6 Clemson and the team's #15 national ranking may have been two of the brightest moments in the team's history, the 2001 campaign will be remembered for the team's failure to qualify for the Atlantic Sun Tournament.

"We learned a great lesson from 2001, with all the highs and lows," head coach Kerem Daser said.

"It was exciting to be ranked



File | Signal

Junior Jonathan Scraggs is one of the top returners for this year's Georgia State men's soccer team. His six goals and 13 points were both second on last year's team.

in the top 20, but it's important to play a complete season," he added.

This season, however, the Panthers' road back to the Atlantic Sun tournament will not be easy.

"This is our toughest schedule yet," Daser also said.

Coach Daser also commented

on the balance in the conference, saying, "There is no clear favorite in the conference. It's definitely up for grabs. Any team can win it."

With a tough schedule and a balanced conference, this looks to be one of the most exciting seasons in Georgia State men's soccer history.



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2002 Georgia State Men's Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 21	Scrimmage at Clemson	7:00 p.m.
Aug. 24	Scrimmage at Emory	1:00 p.m.
Aug. 31	LIPSCOMB	1:00 p.m.
<i>At Aaron Olitsky Memorial Classic - Charleston, S.C.</i>		
Sept. 7	College of Charleston	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 8	The Citadel	1:00 p.m.
<i>At ODU Stihl Classic - Norfolk, Va.</i>		
Sept. 13	Old Dominion	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 15	William & Mary	Noon
<i>At Lobo Invitational - Albuquerque N.M.</i>		
Sept. 20	New Mexico	9:30 p.m.
Sept. 22	Air Force	12:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	GARDNER - WEBB*	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 5	Belmont*	3:00 p.m.
Oct. 9	Birmingham Southern	8:00 p.m.
Oct. 12	Mercer*	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 18	JACKSONVILLE*	3:00 p.m.
Oct. 20	FLORIDA ATLANTIC*	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 25	Stetson*	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 27	UCF*	2:00 p.m.
Nov. 3	UAB	1:00 p.m.
Nov. 6	Duke	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 9	CAMPBELL*	1:00 p.m.
<i>At Atlantic Sun Tournament - Boca Raton, Fla.</i>		
Nov. 15-16	TBA	TBA

Home games in bold

* denotes Atlantic Sun game

All home games will be played at Panthersville

A new season, new hopes for Lady Panthers

Chris Martz
Sports Editor
chrismartz@gsusignal.com

With another season on the horizon, the Georgia State women's soccer team is looking to build on the successes of the past few seasons and break through this year.

The Lady Panthers have advanced no further than the semifinals of the Atlantic Sun tournament since the team won the conference championship in 1997.

With an experienced team including first-team All-Conference senior Ashley Edwards, the Lady Panthers' veterans will look to bring along a team that includes nine sophomores.

Edwards, with 10 goals and 25 points last season, was the top scorer for the Lady Panthers in 2001.

The sophomores are led by Sarah Feske, whose five goals and 13 points were good enough for second on the team.

Georgia State was picked to finish fifth in the Atlantic Sun Pre-season Women's Soccer Poll, voted on by the conference's women's soccer head coaches.

Last year's regular season, UCF, once again garnered first-place honors, narrowly edging out last year's tournament runner-up, Florida Atlantic.

Eight starters will be returning for the Golden Knights who finished last year with a 14-6 overall

record, including an impressive 9-1 in conference play.

Working in the Lady Panthers' favor is their schedule, which includes the team playing in two invitational tournaments before opening their conference schedule.

The team's first home game, September 3 against Georgia, looks to be the team's most difficult game, with the Lady Bulldogs coming off of a berth in last year's NCAA Tournament. In last year's game in Athens, the Lady Panthers dropped a 6-0 decision to the Lady Bulldogs, with all of Georgia's goals coming in the second half.

Georgia State will also play host to the Georgia State/Marriott Invitational Tournament. The Lady Panthers will match up against Air Force and Charleston Southern, while Tennessee Tech will also participate.

The most important and beneficial aspect of the Lady Panthers' schedule appears to be the conference part.

Although the team opens on the road at Jacksonville State and Samford, the Lady Panthers will return to Panthersville to take on UCF and Florida Atlantic, the top two teams in the Atlantic Sun according to the preseason poll.

With a large number of young players that gained experience last season and a favorable conference schedule, the outlook for the upcoming season looks bright for the Lady Panthers.

The adventures of Thomas Terrell

Former Panther great not ready to give up on dream

Chris Martz
Sports Editor
chrismartz@gsusignal.com

Ever since Thomas Terrell left Georgia State in hopes of a professional basketball career, his career has endured a series of twists and turns.

Over the past month, however, Terrell, the 2000-01 Atlantic Sun Player of the Year, was reported to be joining Power Wevelgem, a team in the Belgian professional league.

On Aug. 1, the league's website reported that Terrell had signed a contract with Power Wevelgem. This information was then sent out to various media groups.

The story then took a strange turn when on Aug. 9, the website reported that Terrell would almost certainly not be joining the team.

According to the site, the team had "not been able to reach the player for days now and he was scheduled to arrive this morning in Belgium."

The site also followed this up on Aug. 15, saying, "Power Wevelgem decided not to keep Thomas Terrell."

While the information that re-

ported Terrell's signing sent out the first information, no follow-up information was sent out regarding Terrell's decision not to go.

On Saturday, Terrell took the time to strike down the reports that he would be heading to Belgium.



Special | Signal
Thomas Terrell left the Panthers as the twelfth player in school history to score over 1,000 points at Georgia State.

careers in Georgia State history, Terrell's professional adventures first took him to the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, a camp for NBA Draft hopefuls.

Terrell performed poorly, managing only 25 points in three games, including an incredulous 0-10 from three-point land.

While his NBA dreams might have been crushed for the time being, another professional league came calling.

The United States Basketball League's Florida Sea Dragons selected Terrell eighth in the 2002 Draft, and from there he signed with the team.

Terrell only appeared in eight games, and in 60 minutes of action, he managed only 14 points.

In hopes of still managing to be selected in the NBA Draft, Terrell returned to Georgia State to work out with Panthers' assistant coach Mike Perry.

He then had a workout with the Atlanta Hawks on June 20, but was passed over at the NBA Draft on June 26.

While the road to an overseas professional league might seem a far stretch, the hopes for every player are that one day, an NBA team might take notice.

2002 Georgia State Women's Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 24	Scrimmage at Western Carolina <i>At Ole Miss Invitational - University, Miss.</i>	TBA
Aug. 30	Southern Mississippi	8 p.m.
Sept. 1	Ole Miss	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	GEORGIA	4 p.m.
Sept. 7	COLL. OF CHARLESTON[^]	7 p.m.
<i>Georgia State/Marriott Invitational Tournament</i>		
Sept. 13	AIR FORCE	1 p.m.
Sept. 14	CHARLESTON SO.	2 p.m.
Sept. 15	TBA	TBA
Sept. 19	Jacksonville State*	8 p.m.
Sept. 21	Samford*	1 p.m.
Sept. 26	UCF*	4 p.m.
Sept. 28	FLORIDA ATLANTIC*	1 p.m.
Oct. 2	Belmont*	5 p.m.
Oct. 5	MERCER*	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	TROY STATE*	4 p.m.
Oct. 10	Stetson*	4 p.m.
Oct. 12	Jacksonville*	1 p.m.
Oct. 17	GARDNER WEBB*	2 p.m.
Oct. 19	CAMPBELL*	1 p.m.
Oct. 22	MTSU	2 p.m.
Oct. 30	Georgia Southern	2 p.m.
<i>Atlantic Sun Tournament - Buies Creek, N.C.</i>		
Nov. 7-9	TBA	TBA

Home games in bold

* denotes home game

[^] at Norcross Soccer Club Pickneyville Fields

All other home games will be played at Panthersville

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Students speak out on club football

The talk of Georgia State spurs debate between sports fans and non-sports fans

Mark Dorolek

Staff Writer
mdorolek@gsusignal.com

The students at Georgia State University have differing opinions about the new club football team that is starting this year, as well as the support that they will receive from the student body.

Some are welcoming the new team into the Georgia State fold. First-year law student Gene Oh sees the new football as having a beneficial effect on the school, "especially here in the south. College football is quite a phenomenon.

"And college football brings a kind of stature, so it will draw students to the school as well," Oh said.

Others see it as an opportunity for the school to build its reputation in the state as a legitimate force in athletics.

"Some people have made fun of us before for not having [a football team]," said film production junior Carmen Bryant. "Maybe people will start appreciating our sports more if we have a full selection. Something besides basketball."

Jay Bryant, who is on the executive board that oversees the administration aspect for the football team, believes that the team will be able to succeed in this academic environment.

"Nothing draws school spirit in the south - not just Georgia, but the south - like a football program," he said. "Football is a bigger draw than anything else in the state of Georgia."

Graduate student James Roland agrees.

"I think it's awesome for the school. It helps generate more school spirit. It's a great place for recruiting and it will help draw more students to the campus. I think it's nothing but a plus for the school all the way around for the school."

around and cheer them on after class," said senior film student Yoko Rinaldi.

Sophomore Brent Walburn said that "Georgia State isn't one of those campus colleges. It's pretty much where a lot of people are just coming back to school and they have jobs. I don't think it will work out in this kind of atmosphere. It's more of a people-just-going-to-class college, at least it is for me."

Bryant, however, is thinking about building a program.

"This has been grassroots up until now with word of mouth, and players that are interested in the game."

Some of that comes to making it feel like a real football game by having cheerleaders, marching bands at half-time and someone do the color guard, which he said they would try to provide.

The season starts on Sept. 7 at South Alabama, The Panthers will play their first home game Sept. 15 at Adams Stadium against UNC-Greensboro. The game will mark a "Greek Week" celebration that the team is planning.

Adams Stadium is located in northeast Atlanta, off of I-85 and North Druid Hills Road. It is currently used for high school sporting events.

They have only seven games to try and build a fan base, but as James Roland pointed out, "If you build it, they will come."

"Maybe people will start appreciating our sports more if we have a full selection. Something besides basketball."

Others aren't as hopeful. Some think that the support from the students just isn't there.

"Don't we have enough trouble getting people out for basketball games?," asked sophomore Spanish major Jamie Locher.

"I've never been to a sporting event," adds second-year law student Joe Larkin.

Some see the fact that Georgia State is mainly viewed as a commuter school as a factor in finding support for new club football team.

"Since you don't have anybody living here on campus, nobody is located around everybody is kind of spread out," said senior Jason Smith.

"People aren't going to stay

Pioneering a new frontier at Georgia State

From BUILDING | Page 16

as looking for a lease for a place to play its home games combine to make college football an expensive sport to take part. The Signal was unable to reach comment with either President Carl V. Patton or Athletic Director Greg Manning, yet in a June 28th print edition of the Atlanta Business Chronicle, Dr. Patton maintained, "[Unless] they get 80,000 coming out for every game, [only then] I'll talk to them [about joining the NCAA]." Manning added, "It's very, very expensive [to operate a college football team]."

J. Mark Lawson, Georgia State's real estate officer, concurs with Manning's assessment. Lawson has the momentous task of offering his advice and assurance as the club-football advisor. Whether it has been confirming hotel reservations for away games or accepting equipment such as footballs, pads, and helmets formerly used by Southeastern Conference schools, Lawson believes he is doing "the best job I can to try to get everyone excited."

Working with a shoestring budget of \$40,000, he said he can only take care of the bare essentials needed by a football team in order to survive for a whole season. According to the team's advisor, he discusses the state of the team at least once a week with the other six team officers and looks for creative

ideas to raise money. "Between the players who spend their own money to play and the donations raised to this point, it's still not where we would like to be," said Lawson.

Other ideas that have surfaced to raise money include car washes and selling merchandise.

The team is also depending on its 120,000 alumni base to help, led by Atlanta attorney Ed Gadrix. Gadrix, along with Lawson and team vice-president Preston Stancil, has volunteered his time to organize the team since last year during Spirit Week festivities. Gadrix has donated equipment towards the team, is a member of the Gridiron Club and has invested \$4,500 of his own money into the football program.

"A lot of schools in the south Georgia, Ole Miss have built pride over the years because students are able to associate themselves with their university," Gadrix said. "This pride will carry with them for the rest of their lives. I feel that if students go support Georgia State football on a regular basis, then we will also develop pride that, too, will linger."

According to Moore, the Panther football team will continue throughout the week to look for any potential players and sell merchandise consisting of shirts, hats, tickets, and travel packages for away games.



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Perspectives

Housing the opinion of the Georgia State University community.

STAFF COLUMNS | Examining Radicals Moderates Voucher Debate, Part 2 [see page 16]

Obvious Subtleties

Steven is the Editor-in Chief of the Signal. A Political Science major, he hopes to work for the New York Times where he will use the power of the pen to take over the world.



Atlanta should take pride in their city

By Steven P. Sloan
Editor-in-Chief
ssloan@gsusignal.com

I sat in my car today for at least an hour on Spring Street, snaking my way from Midtown to the campus at a disgustingly slow pace. In fact, during the course of my ride, I was able to enjoy the entertainment of a car accident as it happened. I was even able to examine the process through completion, all while sitting in my car in the 95-degree Atlanta summer heat. It occurred to me that Atlanta is surely the inner circle of hell.

As Atlantans, we shy away from any possibility of useful public transportation. We'd much rather sit by ourselves in our polluting cars far away from the nearest HOV lane than read a newspaper on a train shuttling passengers around the metro area. We'd much rather endure code purple smog alert days than work together as a region to find solutions to gridlock and pollution.

Atlantans also try their hardest not to interact with people of other cultures or who live outside their neighborhoods. Music Midtown and the downtown summer concert series are about the only forces that can bring us out to see each other and enjoy our city.

I recently traveled to Washington, D.C., a city that certainly has its own social problems, and was amazed at how much its residents love their city. They actually take pride in where they live. In Atlanta, we take pride in where we live, but only until the next best thing rolls around.

Obviously, Washington has a number of

See ATLANTANS | Page 16

THE GROWL



Jason is a Junior majoring in Communications with a concentration in Print Journalism. He is also the editor for the Courier, the Baptist Student Union's newsletter, part of his five years experience in student journalism.

By Jason Smith
Perspectives Editor
jsmith@gsusignal.com

As I write this, my financial aid has finally kicked in and paid for my classes. This concludes months of worrying about shelling out money and then getting reimbursed. Sure, I could have applied for aid earlier, but the problem I faced in receiving my aid wasn't due to my lateness in filling out a form. It was due to the verification process.

What? You don't know what I'm talking about? That's part of the problem.

After filling out a financial aid application, only one-third of all students are selected for verification annually. It's an arbitrary process, designed to catch irregularities in someone's application. For instance, if your income was small, yet you paid a large sum in taxes, you will likely be selected for verification. Other than that, students are randomly selected.

Some are selected every year. Others are only selected on occasion, and still others never are.



Mark is a senior majoring in Public Relations. After graduation he hopes to be a speech writer or to work in crisis management.

by Mark Cornwell
mccornwell@gsusignal.com

I've been writing this column for a while now and I have yet to explain what exactly a radical moderate is.

Becoming a radical moderate starts with the realization that people who adhere to an extreme ideology on either side of the political spectrum lack the ability to think logically about each problem or issue that arises in public debate. This rancor has turned public debate from an issue resolution process into a petty name calling session. Here is what I mean.

The ONE night when I have an awesome dream, and it gets interrupted by an alarm clock for me to go to school. Figures.

"Peer pressure" is best defined as the force your best friend uses when he shoves you in front of a MARTA train.

What do you get when you cross NYU with Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College? Yeah, Georgia State.

But That's Just Me

Show me the financial aid money -- without the hassle

The process, devised by the government and not Georgia State, involves filling out a simple form and supplying the financial aid office with a copy of your tax record for the previous year.

Sounds simple, right? That's what I thought, until something happened that dragged the process on even further.

My forms got misplaced after I turned them into the financial aid office.

Before I continue, let me say that my beef is not with the financial aid office for making me fill out the forms again. Accidents happen. According to one representative, the office only loses about 30 forms during the registration process, so those are pretty good odds.

However, it was only after I inquired about my financial aid status that I was told about the missing forms.

My complaint, and I'm sure I'm not alone, is this: If there was nothing to indicate that I should be singled out for verifica-

tion, why did I have to jump through those extra hoops, especially after my forms were misplaced? Verification is not mandatory, but if you are selected, and something gets misplaced, you're still in a mess.

But, I don't want to simply complain, so I offer two suggestions to improve the process.

First, verification should be strictly used to catch irregularities. If there are obvious discrepancies, they should be addressed. Otherwise, it's just another hassle.

Incidentally, if there were fewer verification forms being filled out, the number of misplaced forms would also likely decrease.

My other suggestion is this: If someone is selected for verification, and a significant amount of time passes before processing them, that could indicate misplaced forms. The financial aid office could set a timeline by which they could operate and,



See AID | Page 18

The Radical Moderate

So What is a Radical Moderate Anyway?

The nature of partisan discourse requires that a party loyalist sift their every thought and opinion through the filter of the party's politics.

This is understandable when it comes to the talking heads and spin-doctors that appear on the television news shows. They are actually getting paid to tow the party line.

But why do so many people I talk to around campus sound just as ideologically fixed as these pundits? I don't think any of them are getting paid by the parties (although some are getting paid by the university - I'm sure you've taken at least one by now - if you haven't, you will).

To party loyalists it is much more important to belittle the opposing viewpoint than it is to discuss the issue at hand.

It is like a game: when a liberal calls someone a conservative they really mean soulless, money grubbing, rich loving, poor hating social Darwinist. When a conservative calls someone a liberal they really mean spineless, tree hugging, tax loving, America hating closet Marxist.

No issues get resolved with this type of juvenile, smirking debate.

What is most disturbing is that it appears to be contagious.

It seems we in the general public are falling for it. We sit around and repeat the same insipid, party-line opinions that we hear from the media. Monitoring online chat is like watching Rush Limbaugh and Bill O'Reilly

See RADICAL PAGE 18

Kell Hall -- Where technology meets the fourth level of hell.

If you can sue cigarette companies for giving you cancer, and fast food places for making you fat, can I sue my algebra professor for devaluing my self-worth?

A incoming freshman asked me for advice on how to survive at Georgia State. I told her, "When I find out, I'll let you know."

I saw someone on campus the other day that kinda creeped me out. Then I realized he was a cop. It's official. I want my mommy.

Send all your growls to the Signal at growl@gsusignal.com. They don't have to be sweet, but they do need to be short.

Putting the focus of education back on the kids

The honorable justices that comprise the Supreme Court recently opened the floodgates for parents to seek and find a better alternative to the failing system of public education in America.

Historians may one day look back on this event as the turning point in America where children in the lowest social classes began to triumph over the roadblocks placed before them by the educators that purported to serve their best interests. But the battle against educational tyranny is far from over.

“The average teacher salary in this country is at \$42,000 and beginning teachers on average start at \$28,986.”

In case you have been in the cave next to Usama bin Hide'n, the constitutionality of the voucher program in Cleveland has been resolved.

The two largest teacher's unions, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, now face an uphill battle since the most potent weapon in the arsenal of the anti-voucher crusade has been rendered obsolete. No longer do the parents of children in decrepit inner-city and rural schools need to listen to the pointless debate about the separation between church and state with regards to school choice.

First of all, teacher's unions are not in the business of providing the best possible education for America's children. The role of a union is to protect the jobs of its members and to pressure the employer for more favorable working conditions.

The quality of the product provided by union members is an afterthought, if it is considered at all. This mob mentality forces the employer to accept the quality of work produced by labor, rather than demand, enforce and reward improvement.

Combine this counterproductive hive mentality with a virtual monopoly and you now have a gourmet recipe for inefficiency and failure. Both major unions recently concluded their annual meetings to discuss what they perceive as the most important issues today facing our educational system: teacher salaries and the threat of vouchers.

Bob Chase, president of the NEA, said before a distinguished audience of underachievers that, “If policymakers want to act on the issues that parents care most about... they will address teacher quality, class size, making sure schools have high expectations for every child, and provide

the resources to help students succeed.” Luckily for the parents, the highest court in the land has already addressed just these issues with its landmark ruling.

The issue involving teacher pay raises some interesting questions and observations. The average teacher salary in this country is at \$42,000 and beginning teachers on average start at \$28,986. For only working nine months out of the year, teachers should be happy. Actually the majority of the current teachers in the public education system should be ecstatic. Teacher

pay has increased at a steady rate for the past 20 years while education standards and achievement in this country has plummeted.

For every one teacher that works hard and excels in their profession, there are countless free riders who get pay increases without improving their skills. That is the nature of unions and collective bargaining; both excellence and impotence get rewarded equally.

Why don't the teacher's unions in this country propose a merit based pay system to reward those individuals who excel? Perhaps it is because it would be easier to identify and terminate the lackluster performers.

The leaders of the NEA and the AFT say that evaluating teacher performance is too difficult. Can you believe this argument comes from people who make their living grading the achievements of children?

Furthermore, the teacher's unions must present a unified front against a demanding employer, parents and taxpayers, that has watched our public education system become the laughingstock of the industrialized world.

The reaction of the NEA and the AFT to any meaningful reform in public education, be it vouchers, charter schools, standardized testing, etc, shows that these two groups are well aware of the their own performance.

Any type of legislation that is not loaded with new money being ushered into the bottomless pit that is government education is characterized as a “divisive and expensive diversion from continuing progress.”

The issues of vouchers and charter schools would never have never received any serious public debate if government teachers had been competent enough to perform the task of effectively educating children, and the NEA and the AFT are painfully aware of this.

an outstanding climate, with the exception of the July humidity, which can be found almost anywhere. We live in a prime location that is close to the mountains of north Georgia as well as the beaches of Georgia and the Carolinas. Our city is frequented by some of the best music acts in the world, and our theatres offer some of Broadway's best acts.

Most of our parks can be a place of leisure. Piedmont Park offers a picturesque scene for an evening walk and Centennial Olympic Park is a testament to urban renewal.

We have a lot of things going for us in this city. If we would just step outside our front doors, get out of our cars and take pride in everything our city offers, Atlanta could truly live up to its nickname as “Capital of the South.”

Hot-Lanta vs. DC

From ATLANTANS Page 15

attractions that

bring people from around the world to visit. But getting away from the National Mall, the government complexes and other tourist hotspots, I noticed that Washingtonians took pride in their city.

Washington residents enjoy their city, even at night. At 3 a.m., you can see people just out for a stroll, walking through a park and talking to people.

At 3 a.m. in Atlanta, the only people you see outside are drunks strolling from one Buckhead bar to another.

Atlanta is a wonderful city, despite my aforementioned negative feelings. We have

Bombing Iraq is not the solution to terrorist threat

Staff Editorial

In a world filled with questionable anti-terrorism crusades, it is easy to see how one more attack, terrorist related or not, could cause worldwide strife.

The aftermath of Sept. 11 catapulted a steady onset of missions against terrorist groups worldwide. Not only are certain specified terrorist groups in the bulls-eye of the United States military, but also countries that may be harboring weapons of mass destruction around the world.

The problem in question is not the fact that the United States are keeping tabs of the weapons in all countries, but why the attempts are pointing directly at Iraq and why high-ranking officials in the Bush administration continue to insinuate that war with Iraq is a foregone conclusion. It is clear that there is a viable reason for the concern. Weapons inspectors have not been let inside the Iraqi border since 1997.

But the question remains: should Iraq be the only target of American armed forces outside Afghanistan?

The ongoing war between Palestine and Israel is a conflict that has caused considerable concern worldwide.

The ever-present threat of weapons of mass destruction has increased in the past years...but yet there are no talks in the Bush administration about attacks against nations like Palestine, for example.

It does not make sense to single out certain countries with which we have had problems in the past, while at the same time ignoring the nuclear capabilities of other nations, just because we have good relations with them. With several countries containing these weapons, many people will suffer if they are put to full use.

With confirmed knowledge of the weapons of mass destruction being present in other Middle Eastern countries it is hard to see why targets would be aimed directly to and only to Iraq. It is important to recognize that if we are to examine countries with questionable weapons of mass destruction, all countries must be examined.

Wire Column From Elsewhere

by Courtney Malloy
The Washington Post

Cash alone can never right slavery's wrongs

WASHINGTON--At the Millions for Reparations rally on the mall this weekend, a group of supporters began a spirited call-and-response that quickly spread through the crowd.

“What do we want?”

“Reparations.”

“When do we want it?”

“Now.”

Although nobody that I spoke to believed for a second that they'd ever see a dime in restitution for slavery, the chanting continued at a fevered pitch.

And the cause, as it turned out, was not just money.

“We have, emerging in America, millions of black people who understand that there has been some long-term harm done by the evil practice of slavery,” said Conrad Worrill, chairman of the National Black United Front in Calumet Park, Ill., and one of the organizers of the rally.

“As more people get involved, we hope to have deeper discussions about the impact of slavery and try to develop a consensus on what kind of reparations would be appropriate.”

In other words, the reparations they want now is the educating of America about slavery, which would at least facilitate some conversation about that “peculiar institution.”

Not that getting people to take a hard look at the massive subjugation, dehumanization and genocide that occurred on American soil would be any easier than winning financial redress.

In his 1998 book, “Rituals of Blood,” Harvard sociologist Orlando Patterson argues

that the most serious problems affecting African Americans today are rooted in 2 1/2 centuries of slavery and its aftermath, the neoslavery of Jim Crow.

In making his case, however, Patterson bucks a disturbing trend.

“I go against the prevailing revisionist view that slavery had little or nothing to do with present gender and familial problems,” he writes. “This revisionist denial, I insist, is not just an academic absurdity. It is an intellectual disgrace, the single greatest disservice that the American historical profession has ever done to those who turn to it for guidance about the past and the etiology of present problems.”

This perverse yet widespread notion that slavery was largely benign is, as Patterson asserts, “worse than the more than two centuries of racist historiography that preceded it.”

No wonder, then, with much of academia in denial about the consequences of slavery and many Americans so uninformed as well, opinion polls routinely show 80 percent of whites opposing reparations of any sort.

The highest levels of government are not immune, either.

In every legislative session since 1989, for instance, Rep. John Conyers Jr., D-Mich., has introduced a bill that would establish a commission to study slavery and its lingering effects on African Americans.

But the legislation, known as the Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, has never even been

“In Illinois, a poll taken in May 2001 found that 66 percent of blacks favor reparation payments.”

Pride at State IS possible

By Emily Isovitsch
eisovitsch@gsusignal.com
 Managing Editor

Georgia State is a hot spot of mystery. It always has been for those who go to the traditional "real" college. Georgia State is a school. And it's the middle of the city. We don't have a cafeteria, and trees are at a minimum. Some people actually wonder how these things work.

Granted, these are the same people who have dreams of reading abnormal psychology under a big Oak tree while your boyfriend plays Frisbee with his frat brothers, all while you throw crackers at the birds who sing happily in the background.

These dreams will quickly diminish, if they haven't already, after you take your first step into the Five Points MARTA station. You will see the birds in that tiny cloud, that formed above your head, drop to the ground. Or they may just turn into pigeons that enjoy relieving themselves on your shoulder.

I had three birds in my dream, that were robins, and they somehow turned into 25 pigeons that all pooped on my head. (Don't ever walk through Woodruff Park. Walk around...always walk around.)

Despite the relapses into Revenge of the Birds that you may have to encounter...you will encounter something amazing here at Georgia State University.

Because here at Georgia State, we have personality. And I've become a stronger believer in personality. It's what counts. We have amazing artists, musicians, blooming booming businessmen and some of the coolest computer nerds that you will ever come across. And the fantastic part about all of this is that they all co-exist in this eclectic, tiny universe that is Georgia State University.

You can't ask for more in a city whose suburbs are taking over to the point of suffocation.

With all this being said, I have some pride in this school. Yes, we've all heard the pride speech before. We've heard about it, or the lack there of, at the beginning of every semester or every time SGA attempts to put some sort of school function together. But pride isn't just about sporting your school gear. We do have pride here...whether you like to admit it or not. It's just a different kind of pride, for a different type of school.

At Georgia State, pride is about seeing what you don't have and being proud of it. Georgia State is not about football games and getting drunk at the frat house and stumbling home. It is not about getting up five minutes before a class and running there in your pajamas. It is not about THE cargo khakis and THE plaid shirt. Most of all...it's not about big oak trees. Georgia State is not about conformity.

Georgia State is about prickly bushes and fountains with no water. It's about people with purple hair and business suits. It's about doing your own thing. Whether that means having five children and working on your masters or moving away from mom and dad and being on your very own for the first time.

It's about life, real life. (They're not kidding you at those orientations when they say 'Welcome to the Real World.') And that's exactly why you can sit outside on North Avenue until 5a.m. with your newest best friend talking to the Cheshire cat man. And that's exactly why you may find yourself working 40 hours a week, taking a full load of classes and still expect yourself to go out on Saturday night.

It's life. And it's not enclosed in a white picket fence like you might just find at UGA. So take this part of your life and grab it by the smog covered street sign that is filled with graffiti tags and embrace it. You might find that you like it.



By Christopher M. de Lastic
cdeelastic@gsusignal.com

As the new semester begins, I truly am excited and honored to be writing for the and I look forward to all the great dialogues that we will have. Before we get to all the meat that I know people are itching to discuss, I'd like to take some time to clear the table of a common, but misguided, understanding of the way we approach debate.

I'm sure many of us are familiar with the idea of tolerance, that all views are equal and none should be considered truer than another. This concept sounds very open-minded and wise, but it's been said that if you're too open-minded, your brains will fall out.

While not exactly a paradigm-shifting perception, I think it has some valid truth. If we, as rational beings, get caught up in the popular craze of saying all views are equal, we might as well chuck our brains into the septic system.

All views cannot be equally true because this reduces discussions into nonsense. Either God exists or He doesn't; both cannot be true. To say that God can be true for some but not for others is to be intellectually dishonest.

Chris is a sophomore majoring in Accounting and Finance. His hobbies include reading at Caribou Coffee and backpacking on trails less traveled, both with fine cigars

Mopping up our brains

When someone agrees that homosexuality is okay to practice, they are considered tolerant. Then when someone comes along who says homosexuality is not okay to practice, they must also be considered tolerant, right? I mean, if all views are equally true, then both people are right and both are tolerant, even though these views are blatant contradiction of each other.

If you continue to carry this notion of tolerance out to its natural conclusion, you end up not being able to make any meaningful statements, with you being intolerant of all others who disagree with your idea of tolerance.

Am I suggesting that tolerance is wrong to have when talking about different views?

Not at all, but I will suggest that we have misinterpreted the meaning of the word and if we are to restore the ability to have an open exchange of ideas, we must return to its original meaning.

Peter Kreeft, Ph.D., a professor at Boston College, proposed that the classical idea of tolerance was to be "elitist regarding ideas; egalitarian regarding persons" (think of egalitarian as meaning "equal").

He's basically pointing out that in order to engage in meaningful conversation, we must acknowledge that some views are better and truer than others, lest we run into contradiction.

However, we can and should acknowl-

See EQUAL | Page 18

Sugar and Spice

One person's NORML outlook on the marijuana legalization debate

Within the state of Georgia, possession of less than an ounce of marijuana is a misdemeanor and can be punished by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$1000.

the charges are not always so harsh. A first-time offender may be placed on probation and, upon successful completion the proceedings against him, may be discharged.

In every case, the offender's driver's license is suspended for at least six months and will be reinstated only upon completion of a drug use program.

These same laws vary in other states. Since 1973, Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Oregon have enacted laws of marijuana decriminalization.

Decriminalization removes the casual smoker from the criminal system while maintaining criminal penalties against those who sell or traffic large quantities of the drug.

One of the main reasons to support the decriminalization of marijuana involves medical benefits. Modern research suggests that cannabis is a valuable aid in the treatment of a wide range of clinical applications.

Among these are pain relief, nausea, glaucoma, and movement disorder. Marijuana is also a powerful appetite stimulant, specifically for patients suffering from HIV, the AIDS wasting syndrome, or dementia.

In perspective, marijuana is far less dangerous than alcohol or tobacco.

Each year 50,000 people die from alcohol poisoning. More than 400,000 deaths can be attributed to tobacco smoking.

On the other hand, marijuana is nontoxic and cannot cause death by overdose. NORML promotes the idea that marijuana smoking cannot be an excuse for misconduct. Driving or operating heavy machinery while impaired should be prohibited.

By the same token, smoking is for adults only and is inappropriate for children.

There are many activities that in our society that are acceptable for adults but forbidden for children.

However, we do not condone arresting adults who responsibly engage in these activities in order to dissuade children from doing so. We cannot justify arresting adult marijuana smokers on the grounds of sending a "message" to children.

All in all, this information put me one leg up on the legalization topic. I know now what decriminalization is and that marijuana is truly no worse than drinking alcohol or consuming tobacco.

So much more information is out there. To learn more about NORML log onto www.norml.org.



by Khristina Newman
knewman@gsusignal.com

Just recently, while relaxing with friends, the subject of legalizing marijuana came up.

I grew up in a strict environment where the discussion of drugs was left to the infamous commercial, "This is your brain. This is your brain on drugs."

Obviously, this provides no real information on why you should or should not consume drugs. This kind of public announcement does not promote you to educate yourself about drugs, either.

Determined not to allow myself to fall into the pit of ignorance surrounding marijuana, I logged on to the NORML, The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, site.

Information concerning the federal stance as well as singular state policies on marijuana was made available.

"Decriminalization removes the casual smoker from the criminal system while maintaining criminal penalties against those who sell or traffic large quantities of the drug."

Radical moderates are about respect for others

From RADICAL| Page 15

fight it out with James Carville and Maxine Waters by proxy.

No one seems to have his own opinion. So what is the solution to this problem? Become a radical moderate. It's simple.

A radical moderate has a commitment that the only knee-jerk response they will ever have to anything is a knee-jerk response to never have a knee-jerk response to anything. (If you can immediately come up with a rigid opinion about every topic, chances are you aren't thinking for yourself). He/she has a commitment to look for the lies that all politicians tell, not just the lies politicians they don't like tell. (Yes, even that one guy you like lies

from time to time).

That's it! That's all it takes to free yourself from the rigid idiocy of blind party loyalty. You don't even need to drop your party affiliation.

Be a Democrat (just stop thinking that your party is the party of truth and love and theirs is the party of lies and hatred). Or be a Republican (just stop thinking that your party is the party of adults and real Americans and theirs is the party of druggies and commies).

If we start showing more respect for each other's views something radical might happen to the tone of political debate in this country, it may get moder-

Students want their money – too much to ask?

From FINANCIAL| Page 15

if verification was required but hasn't been processed, the person could be contacted via phone or e-mail. If that person hasn't completed the process, it will remind him to do so. If he DID, and the form got lost, they will know that they have to fill the forms out again.

Like I said, I'm not a fan of the current verification process. But, if these changes are made, discrepancies will still be caught, and students will still get their money, without the hassle. Everybody wins.

Intolerance or insecurity?

From EQUAL| Page 17

edge people as equal, and remain civil towards one another, even when we disagree in views. In fact, we can only be tolerant when we disagree with someone else. If we agree with the person, there is nothing to tolerate because they are on our side. It is when our views conflict that we can then tolerate them as individuals.

I think the problem with us today is that we are intellectual cowards. We are afraid to be challenged by other's views and beliefs and to have our own views potentially exposed as false or stupid. So, instead we hide behind "tolerance," sacrificing the excitement and adventure that finds its heart in honest, academic engagement.

Slavery issue still going strong after 150 years

From REPARATIONS|

founded on the ideals of freedom, could spend centuries importing and breeding human beings as chattel, set them 'free' and then say, 'forget about it,' is not only unforgettable, it's unforgivable."

A recent *Washington Post*/Kaiser Family Foundation poll found that when whites were asked if they agreed with the statement "White Americans have benefited from past and present discrimination against African Americans, so they should be willing to make up for these wrongs," 58 percent said no.

Blacks, on the other hand, are less inclined to dismiss slavery as something that they ought to just "get over."

A poll of Alabamians taken in June, for instance, showed that 67 percent of blacks favor the federal government paying reparations to slave descendants.

In Illinois, a poll taken in May 2001 found that 66 percent of blacks favor reparation payments. But their actual numbers are minuscule compared with the 85 percent of whites in the state who disagreed.

Supporters on the Mall were not fazed by the magnitude of the opposition.

"There have always been majorities in this country who said never-never to freedom, never to civil rights," said Uzikee Nelson, a sculptor who lives in Washington. "Regardless of what others think, we are the ones who have to keep on kicking about reparations."

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.

Letter Submission Guidelines

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 200-400 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.

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200 | LIVING

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- 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

600 | EMPLOYMENT

- 610 | Job Services
- 620 | Jobs: Full time
- 630 | Jobs: Part time
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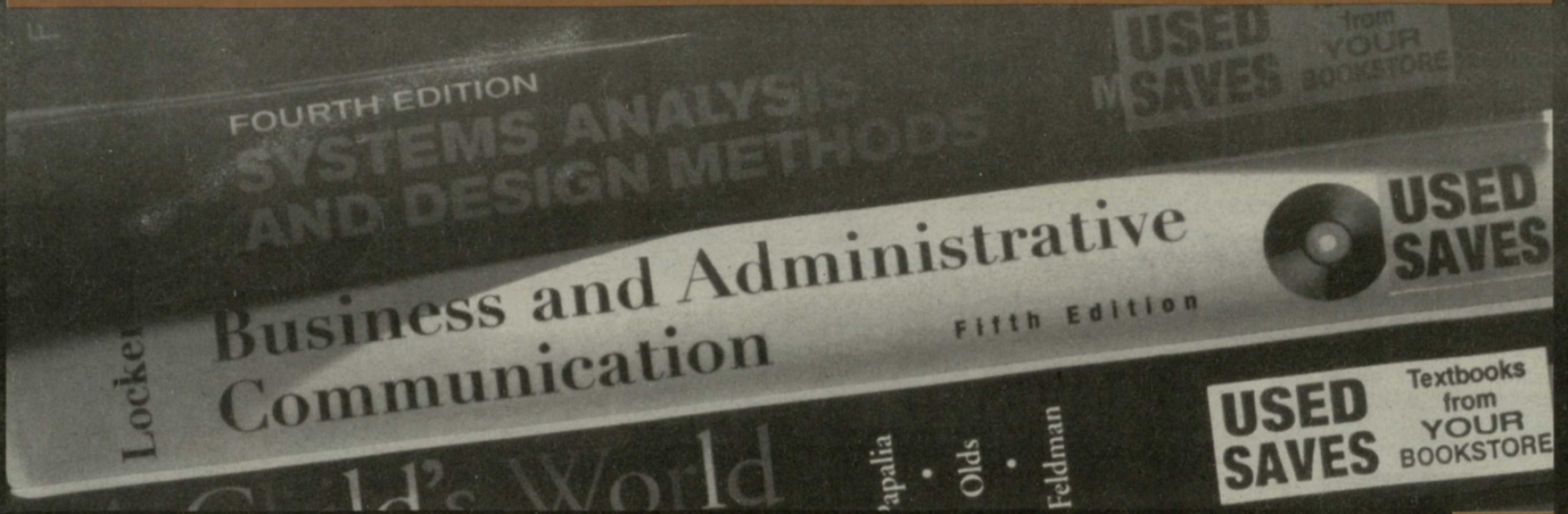
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