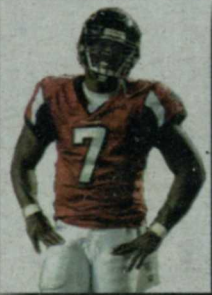


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NEWS



High Gas Prices
Eat Students' Wallets
SPORTS



Our Fantasy
Football Picks
LIVING



Dick Gregory:
On the Record
PERSPECTIVES



Arizona Militiamen:
Under the Microscope

Online at
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All these stories, and
so much more!!

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Black, gay, lesbian show to hit the waves

By Rhonda Barnett
chiefeditor@gsusignal.com

America's first black, gay and lesbian talk show launches next month with a host that just last year ruffled the religious community with his book *Black, Gay, & Christian*.

Author, lecturer and now talk show host, Herndon L. Davis prepares to shake the nation with the "Herndon Davis Reports" beginning the first week of September.

"I was inspired to create an



Davis

ongoing and visible vehicle by which closeted black gays and lesbians across the country could hear and see individuals who were also black, gay or lesbian but thriving within their skin and not ashamed of it," said Davis.

"I also seek to create a forum of education and enlightenment for individuals who are not familiar with black gay and lesbian life."

Davis characterizes his show as "a one-hour long, black gay/lesbian focused, empowerment news program--a cross between The Chris Matthews Show and The Oprah Winfrey Show."

The "Herndon Davis Reports" will discuss a variety of political and social topics such as, but not limited to, gay lifestyle and religion.

See SHOW | Page 5



Special | Signal

Herndon Davis is prepared to ask and answer tough questions this fall on his new show.

One-stop shop handles all enrollment needs

By Alejandro Leal
aleal@gsusignal.com

Every university in the country has a kind of time-honored tradition. Some schools dedicate a special day to beautify the campus; other schools celebrate the traditional battle of the bands; and of course, college football is huge throughout the South.

Here at Georgia State University, there seems to be a special tradition that students participate in each semester, waiting in line to solve a problem. And as the line in front of the Financial Aid office indicated on the first day of class, this semester was not going to be the exception.

This year, though, there has been a stark difference in the way students have sought answers to their financial aid, registration, and

account questions. Whereas in previous semesters a student was forced to "shuffle" between each respective office, university officials have created the "One-Stop Shop" office, and as the name indicates, it's designed to be a central hub for answering enrollment issues.

"Students were shuffled from one front counter to another because staff in each area had no ability or authority to make all the changes necessary to assist a student," said Cherise Y. Peters, assistant vice president of enrollment services. "It would often take days or months for one problem to be solved."

Students' frustrations grew over time as a result of being moved back and forth, and university administrations were receiving



CJ Bargamian | Signal
Located on the second floor of Sparks Hall, OSS assists problems from financial aid to registering.

See SHOP | Page 7

Local Student awarded Scholarship supports graduate

By CANDACE MORROW
newseditor@gsusignal.com

The Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Foundation awarded one of Georgia State's graduate students with a \$1000 scholarship this fall for a specialist degree in education.

Jamie Barragán, 28-years-old, found out that she became the recipient for the PAGE



Barragán

Foundation's scholarship over the summer, while in Spain with her husband and his family.

"The Foundation notified me by e-mail, and when I discovered I won the money I started to scream," said Barragán.

Already a member of the PAGE Foundation as recommended by the school system to join, Barragán ran across the scholarship advertisement while flipping

See AWARD Page 4

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What's happening on campus!!!

August 31

The Green Market

Features Georgia-grown produce and other festivities.

When: August 31

Location: Piedmont Park

Time: 9 am - 1 pm

Music at Noon

Musical groups performing at lunchtime

When: August 31

Where: Centennial Olympic Park

Time: 12 pm - 1 pm

August 31

Wednesday WindDown

Live music and other fun activities will be offered to the public. Featuring special guests and sponsored by KISS FM.

When: August 31

Where: Centennial Olympic Park

Time: 5:30 pm

September 2 - 4

Montreux Jazz Festival in Atlanta

The Montreux Jazz Festival on Atlanta Labor Day weekend will feature a multitude of music including jazz, blues, salsa and other styles. There will be 16 ticketed events and a variety of local, international and regional acts performing for free.

When: 9/2/2005 Through 9/4/2005

Where: Woodruff Arts Center

Admission: Free and ticketed events

September 2 - 5

Dragon*Con

Dragon*Con is America's largest, multi-media, popular arts convention focusing on science fiction and fantasy, gaming, comics, literature.

When: 9/2/2005 Through 9/5/2005

Where: Marriott Marquis & Hyatt Regency

Admission: 4-Day Dragon*Con 2005

Membership \$85

Contact Info:

(770)909-0115

September 7 - 8

Volunteer Fair

Brings community based non-profits to campus to recruit student volunteers to help the organization in addressing community needs.

When: 9/7/2005 Through 9/8/2005

Where: Library Plaza

Time: 10 am - 2 pm

For more information, go to room 320 in the Student Center Suite, or www.gsu.edu

Campus Crime



Rhonda Barnett | Signal

Above: Atlanta Police crackdown on speedy and reckless drivers. Below: Do not think you are beating the system, the boot man knows the truth. Pay up when you park or else.



Important Information About The Georgia State University Signal

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 of 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.

- . Letters must be submitted to jtoothman@gsusignal.com and must include the text of the letter in the body of the e-mail.
- . Letters should be 200-400 words maximum. The Signal will allow longer letters, but only in rare circumstances.
- . 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.
- . Letters will be fact-checked before publication. The writer may be obligated to make changes to the letter for publication.
- . Letters will be edited for grammar, clarity, length, factual accuracy and adherence to Signal policy.
- . The Signal reserves the right to reject letters at their discretion.

Advertising Information

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News

Editor: Candace Morrow
Associate Editor: Sung Choe

Gas price increase stretches students' pockets

By SUNG CHOE
newsatgsusignal.com

Students at Georgia State University, both returning and new, were dealt with the strongest blow to their morale on Aug. 22, as the first day of the fall semester was well underway. No, it wasn't financial aid booting several students from their classes. And it wasn't the hike in tuition cost either.

Instead, the new problem students face is long-term and potentially more damaging than any increase in tuition can do – the dramatic price increase of gas. As gas prices continue to soar with no relief in sight, students are finding themselves in a very precarious position.

Despite Georgia State's collective effort to transform the school into a more collegiate, campus feel, the majority of students still have to commute to class and pay for parking, an ugly reality for many students at Georgia State.

Students who live near the Village or close to the main campus have the option of either taking MARTA or walking to school. But students who live considerably farther away do not have such an option. It's either drive to school or miss class. And a large number of students live away from campus.

"The higher gas prices drastically impacted my commute to school on an average of more than \$4 a day, which adds up to a lot by the end of the week," said Derek Huynh, a commuter from Kennesaw. "Due to outrageous gas prices, I had to combine many

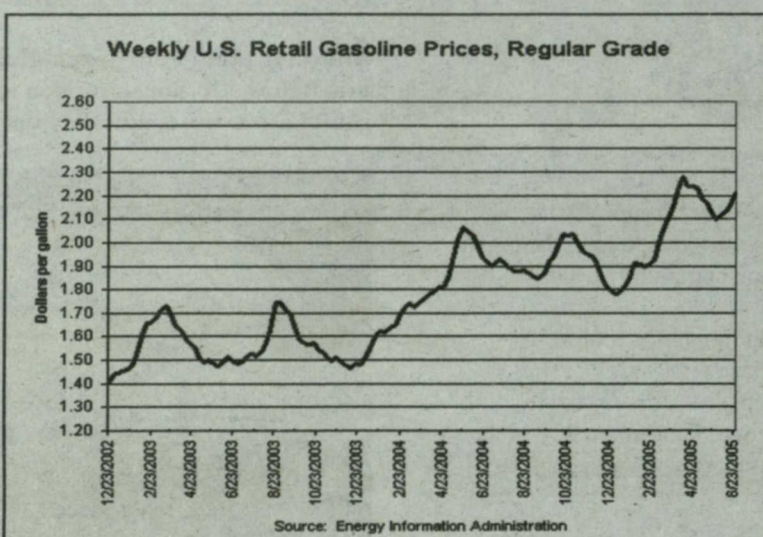
of my classes on the same day just so I could save money."

Thornton James, a commuter from Marietta, shared many of the same sentiments.

"The increase in gas prices definitely affected me," James said. "But there isn't much I can do about it. I don't have access to MARTA and carpooling isn't really an option for me because nobody I know lives close enough

may be the single best option to combat higher gas prices.

"The increase in gas prices affected my commute to school greatly because before and after classes, I had to make sure I leave in time to beat traffic. Sitting in traffic for hours at a time accumulates a large amount of gasoline that's wasted," said Hannah Chang, a commuter from Marietta. "A couple of friends and myself



The graph above, from the U.S. Department of Energy, shows the steady increase of gas prices over the past three years.

to me to warrant a carpool."

"I recently switched over from an SUV to a sedan in an effort to lessen the pain," he added. "My trips to the gas station are less frequent as a result, but I'm still putting in a ridiculous amount of gas every time I go – about \$30 worth of gas – so it still hurts."

Individual commuters will obviously feel the sting more so than other student, but some are actually coping with the increase in price very well. Carpooling

have decided to carpool this year in an effort to save on gas -- and it works very well."

With gas prices slowly climbing their way to the \$3 mark, students will have to devise new ways to drive to school if they wish to save on money. MARTA and carpooling are just a few on the small list of alternatives for students. But if either option is not readily available, many students will find themselves struggling to alleviate the pain of a burgeoning gas market unwilling to show any mercy.

Award

from page 1

through a PAGE Foundation magazine.

Like so many students who would rather win money than to have to pay for school, Barragán said to herself "why not?"

Most scholarships require the same material for submission, such as writing a one to two page essay, filling out an application and providing letters of recommendations.

Barragán said that most students probably dread the essay part.

"After writing so much in my undergraduate and part of my graduate years, I wasn't as intimidated by preparing the essay," Barragán said. "The key to writing a well-developed essay is to sell yourself by stating exactly why you are the best candidate for the scholarship."

Winning the scholarship helped Barragán pay for two classes that were roughly around \$500 a piece for her specialist degree.

She has already received her master's in teaching additional languages from the University of Georgia, where she specialized in Spanish.

"When I was younger I played teacher with the kids in the neighborhood," said Barragán. "Since I wanted to study Spanish and wasn't for sure what to do with it, I thought of teaching it."

UGA did not offer as many Spanish courses on the graduate level during the night for Barragán, so she decided to come

to Georgia State for the second time.

Barragán's first visit to the university occurred when she came as a transient student in the Fall 2004 semester to take two courses for her master's program.

Barragán said, "That one semester was a positive semester and since I enjoyed my Spanish courses I thought that I could get my specialist degree here."

To get a raise as a teacher, Barragán pursues her specialist degree, which basically rests between a master's and doctorate's degree.

Simultaneously, she teaches for the first year as a Spanish teacher at Buford High School in Gwinnett County.

Because her specialist degree requires a research project, Barragán plans to revolve her research around something useful for teaching high school Spanish.

"I'm thinking about creative methods to access how students could learn, especially in grammar," said Barragán.

Once she gets her career of the ground, Barragán looks forward to initiating her own Study Abroad trips for students as visiting places like Seville, Spain has enlightened her to learn more about the Spanish language.

For now, she hopes to improve teaching at the high school level, yet the door stays open to the possibility of becoming a college professor or moving to Spain to teach.

Barragán said, "I don't like to close doors because Spanish opens a whole new world of communication with interesting people around the world."

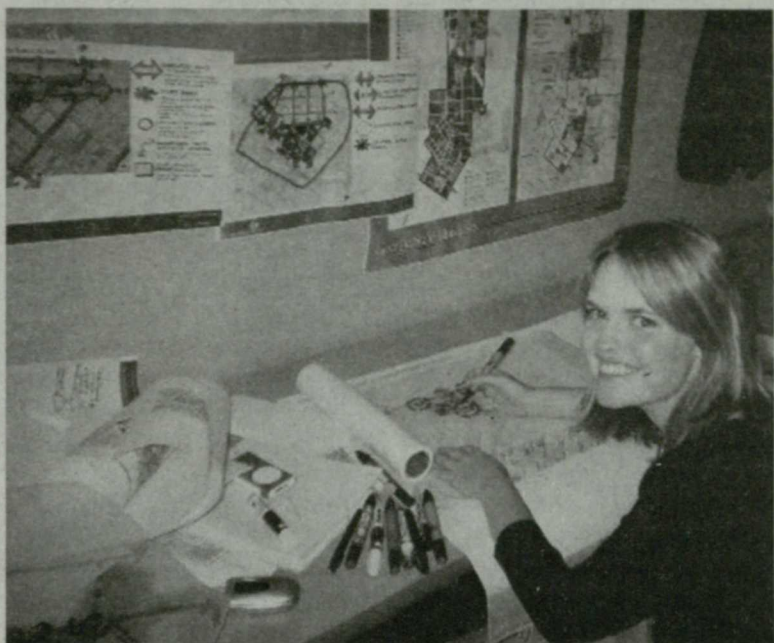
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University Renovations



Candace Morrow | Signal

Megan Holder, HOK landscape architect, strategized how to invigorate and lighten the campus's great spaces to make the streetscape pedestrian friendly. "It's all a big puzzle where we are trying to fit all the right pieces," said Holder.

University alters Master Plan

By CANDACE MORROW
newseditor@gsusignal.com

Georgia State's Master Plan Design Charette met this summer to discuss the campus's design solutions and problems and asked students, faculty and staff for future development ideas.

In an effort to update the 1999 Georgia State University Main Street Master Plan, Georgia State's Facilities Planning Group within the Facilities management Services Division and the consulting firm Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum(HOK) invited students on Aug. 9-10 to listen in and suggest changes to the physical conditions of the university.

The master plan is a roadmap for the refinement and development of the campus, presently and for the future. It documents approaches to improve physical concerns of the university to reach academic and social goals. By evaluating the university's current conditions, the plan can gradually identify areas in need of development and re-development.

"The biggest issue, now, is how to accommodate the enrollment growth as there has been a 10,000 plus increase," said Facility Planner Gregory Wright.

One of the goals of the plan will consist of selling the Village housing for students and setting more housing on Edgewood, Piedmont and near underground. Right now, housing However, a student was skeptical about housing in the downtown area because of high prices.

"Rates for dorms are too high down there and that's something they should re-evaluate because the prices aren't worth it," said Angela Frazier, a senior majoring in psychology. "I can

find cheaper housing on the outskirts."

Even though pricing may be a problem for students, downtown housing may bring urban security. Chairman of the Philosophy Department George Rainbolt brought up an interesting point at the meeting. "If we can get more people walking and living downtown, it will be an uncomfortable environment during all times of the day," said Rainbolt.

Another aspect of the plan for change will deal with trying to enhance the plant life around campus. The plan aims to create more usable space for trees along sidewalks and additional courtyards and plazas.

One Georgia State student agreed with this idea. Kelly Griffin, a senior in business, said, "The plants will help the streets look more friendly." Frazier added, "Adding plants makes the scenery inviting and produce more of that little thing we call oxygen."

To create that greenery feel on the campus, one suggestion the plan proposed dealt with turning the side entrance of Kell Hall (facing Hurt Plaza street) into an archway that leads into the courtyard.

Eventually, the courtyard, which presently sits on the second level of the campus, will drop down to the ground floor. "We want to bring the courtyard down to the street level to support pedestrian movement," said HOK Planning Group Vice President Monte Wilson.

Wright said that the plan is in the middle stage of the renovating process and will continue throughout this year, so students can look forward to input and find out new ideas for the Master Plan in September.

Show

from page 1

gion, parenting, marriage rights and the down low phenomenon.

In the past, Davis has been extremely vocal on his views dealing with religion; hence his book *Black, Gay, & Christian*.

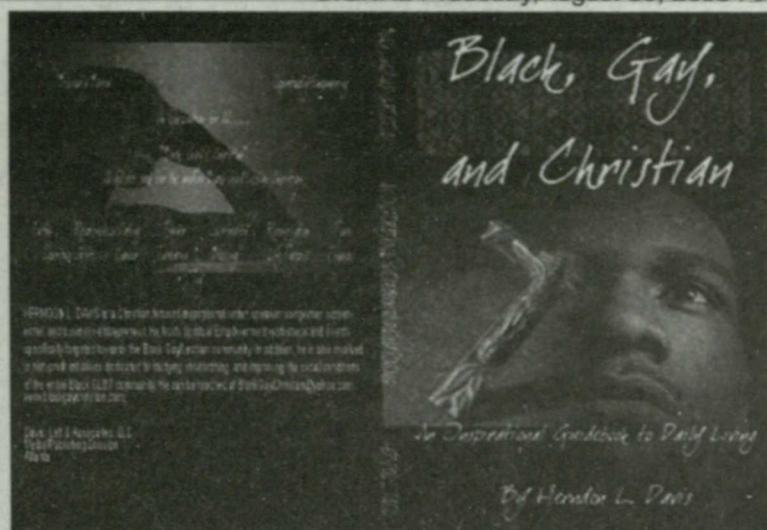
"Simply put, there has never been any condemnation of homosexuality; God never condemned neither did Jesus," said Davis. "However, King James' version of what we embrace as the Bible and the teaching and translations that have come afterwards does indeed condemn homosexuality." Davis continued, "Every remote reference that people point to as being homophobic in the Bible from Sodom, Gomorrah, Leviticus, I Romans and about four more passages all point to the same interpretation and translation errors."

Davis said he studied the text in its original Hebrew and Greek form within its first and second century culture. He recognized that a series of vices and sins were condemned including: "Having sex acts with each other and with statutes and combining it with spiritual ceremonial acts and calling it God ordained, extreme promiscuity, body and sex worship, rape, incest, child molestation, and not keeping the blood line clear and open for the Messiah, Jesus."

"Some of these acts were committed from the heterosexual perspective and condemned and some were committed from a homosexual perspective and condemned, but homosexuality itself has never been condemned," said Davis. "In fact it was recognized by Jesus not once, but twice in the New Testament."

"The King James Version is yet another manipulated translation of other translations."

In regards to parenting and marriage, an entire chapter in Davis' book, *Black, Gay, &*



Special | Signal

Davis' book tackles aspects of his life, such as dealing with his sexuality and religion.

Christian, was dedicated to this topic and he hopes to explore it more on the Herndon Davis Reports.

"I support gay and lesbian parenting, but I do encourage those who wish to become parents to seriously examine their motives and the challenges of it," said Davis. "In other words, are you seeking to adopt or have a child just because you are lonely or seek unconditional love from someone or do you truly feel that you can be a blessing in the rearing of another human being?"

"Or are you trying to prove to the heterosexual world that anything you can do, I can do better," Davis continued. "Just as long as your intentions and motives are pure, I fully support gay and lesbian parenting."

As far as the down low phenomenon, it is a topic that definitely swept the black community through books, television shows, radio broadcasts, etc. Davis' outlook on the issue is, "I think the DL is definitely an issue that needs to be discussed but more to the point the end result should be how can we as a black society create a loving environment for our brothers and sisters who feel they must sneak, hide, and deceive when it

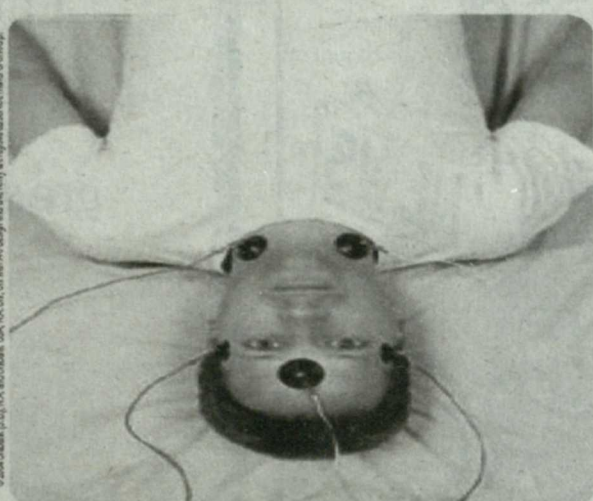
comes to fully embracing their sexual orientation."

The "Herndon Davis Reports" will discuss these issues in more depth along with several more topics dealing with the black gay and lesbian community, but Davis firmly stated that "Both the show and the book, although primarily targeted to black gays/lesbians can be a tool for anyone who's willing to listen, learn, and to apply the universal principles that come from it within their individual lives."

Davis pitched the idea for the "Herndon Davis Reports" to over 100 outlets across the country and finally Dish Network agreed to air the show on their "Healthy Living" channel during primetime.

"There is a great need for this type of programming, but convincing corporate sponsors and advertisers that the black gay and lesbian community not only is a large segment but also brand loyal has been challenging but not impossible, said Davis. "I am working to get more companies on board in terms of advertising and supporting the show."

More information can be found at herndonDavis.com and look for the follow up story in the coming issue.



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Bookfairies give students book saving tips



Rhonda Barnett | Signal

Last week, bookfairies offered students a chance to save on textbooks with a five dollar off coupon for the Georgia Bookstore located down the hill on the corner of Courtland and Edgewood. In addition, the fairies passed out flyers that allowed students to get their books now and pay later.

Local student recognized



Special | Signal

Wal-Mart's call for commitment to education in Atlanta on Tuesday, Aug. 16 featured Mayor Shirley Franklin updating "Next Step," an education resource program created by the Mayor to assist graduates with their post-secondary plans for college or career. "The Wal-Mart Call to Commitment for Next Step" purpose was to contribute \$50,000 for Next Step and to encourage other Atlanta area businesses to also support the program.

Back Row--Tom Fletscher, Manager, SAM'S CLUB

Front Row-- Tony Samples, Regional VP of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc; Mayor Shirley Franklin; Pat Curran, Sr. VP of Wal-mart Stores Inc.; Deborah Lum, Executive Director of the Atlanta Workforce Development Agency; Michael Mills, Regional Director of Corporate Affairs for Wal-Mart stores Inc.; Matt Linden, Wal-Mart Intern and GSU Junior.

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EOE

Shop

from page 1

ing a great deal of negative feedback. They decided that "something was needed to improve services for students in regards to enrollment management issues," said Peters, who is also the university registrar.

Instead of heading to the Financial Aid Office, Student Accounts, or the Office of the Registrar, students now come to the OSS where trained specialists can handle most questions regarding enrollment problems. Once a student sees the specialist, the idea is, there shouldn't be a need for him or her to go anywhere else. If there is a complex issue, he or she may be referred to a specific office where the wait time is supposed to be considerably shorter.

Unless a student has a referral form, obtained at the OSS, they won't be able to speak to people in Student Accounts, Financial Aid or the Registrar.

Peters said the OSS is more convenient for students to seek help, and the way a student is helped is another major change. Administrators now want to come off as willing to solve a student's problem instead being part of the bureaucratic system that shifted students around offices. Evidence of this is the different OSS staff members that periodically visit the line of students to see if indeed they need to wait there.

As some students pointed out though, one concern is the fact that the staff of the OSS is made up of individuals who worked for the other enrollment offices before and were trained to handle questions on all major issues.

According to Peters, only two additional specialists were hired, since most funds for staff were moved from the enrollment services department, meaning there was no significant additional

staffing funds. One more specialist will be hired in the near future.

While some of the comments on the feedback forms regarding the OSS have been positive, some students have voiced concern over the lack of communication in regards to the changes, Peters explains that emails have been sent out, but "students are not reading their emails," she said, "and it's the official from of communication within the university."

Last Tuesday, the line in front of the One-Stop Shop stretched all the way past the graduation appli-



Alejandro Leal | Signal
An OSS staff member assists students' questions while they wait in line.

cation office, which gave the impression that the situation had not changed from previous semesters. "Those students out there represent the 80/20 rule," said Peters. "80 percent of them understand what they need to do, while 20 percent still need to see a person."

She quickly pointed out that 20 percent out of approximately 27,000 students enrolled, is 5,400 students. "And those students want to see somebody. They want to see a person," she said.

Outside her office, Darrick Owens, an enrollment services supervisor, fielded questions from students waiting in line. Most of these students, he said, don't need to be in line because they might be

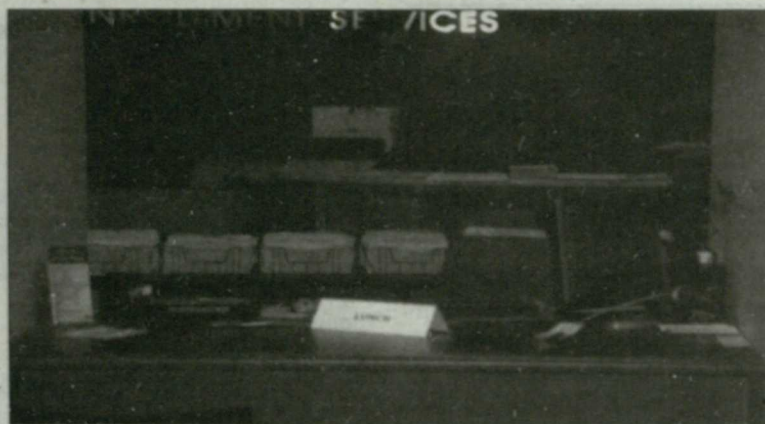
dropping off a form, they might need to make a payment, or need to pick up a transcript.

Standing in the middle of the hallway, Owens patiently kept track of those awaiting an answer from him. One student needed to know why the website was not allowing her to register, she had no computer at home and the system was bogged down because of heavy traffic due to people registering for classes.

Another student approached Owens as he spoke and asked him where he could pick up an application. Yet another approached him wanting to drop of a packet of forms. He tended to all of them not forgetting those he had asked to wait for him.

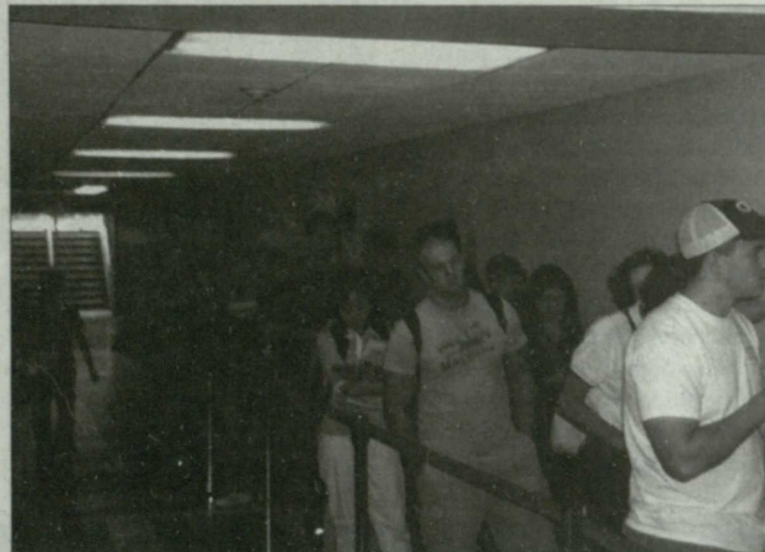
The OSS has not been an automatic solution for students' problems. There are still legitimate issues that need to be addressed by administration instead of simply looking through Go Solar. Doris (she declined to give her last name), is a prospective law student and she needed to be approved for a schedule overlap. Something she cannot do on GOSOLAR, according to administrations, is where most of the answers can be found. Jonathan Anschel had a different problem. He had registered for Summer term but decided he was not going to be able to take classes, so he dropped them. He assumed the charges for tuition would've been dropped as well, but to his surprise, and even though he was allowed to register for Fall, a glitch in the system shows he owes \$800.00, "out of nowhere," he said.

There are still other important issues, like the dropping of classes if unpaid balances show on a student's account, as reported in the *Signal* last week, but Peters is confident the changes are for the better. And as far as students still having to wait in line, "it's like going to the bank," she said. "If I have a check for \$1,000, I want somebody to take it and tell me when it will be posted."



Dominique Huff | Signal

During a recent busy section, one enrollment services representative decided to take a lunch break. As seen below, this increased frustration and wait times for students in line.



Long lines take over Sparks Hall

By DOMINIQUE HUFF
managingeditor@gsusignal.com

Sparks Hall was jumping the first week of school. In addition to having students attend classes, visit offices and traveling through to catch the shuttle, long lines created congestion all over the building.

The new "One Stop Shop" was designed for students to be able to walk up to an enrollment services specialist and ask questions about housing, admissions, core advisement or student accounts. Initially, the one stop shop was home to the Registrar's Office only.

"The university has half of the financial aid staff of other universities," stated Associate Provost Bill Fritz. Since 2001, 140 permanent staff positions have been eliminated, ranging from the president's office to custodial offices. Six departments, centers, and programs were eliminated as well.

The unusually long lines that students have experienced were the result of a state mandate ordering Georgia State University to drop students who had not paid their tuition and fees for fall semester by Aug. 15. The state has gratuity laws that prohibits anyone from receiving goods or services that were not paid for, and tuition and fees fall under this category.

"The university would rather not do this," stated John Marshall, university attorney. "We wanted to give students a break but the state auditors told us no."

David Aviles, a sophomore majoring in voice performance considered this week a panic week.

"There are students who thought everything was fine," he mentioned in reference to student accounts and balances. "This could have been avoided if students receive some sort of warning over the summer." Marshall emphasized that signage was placed up all over the campus and e-mails were sent out to students.

In addition, a new rule implemented for HOPE Scholarship recipients requires that students' GPA be checked at the conclusion of each spring semester in addition to the 30, 60 and 90 hour checks. If students have not maintained a B average at any of these check points then they will lose HOPE assistance.

"Students are no longer protected after 90 hours," stated Fritz. In the past, the 90 hour check point was the students' last check off for scholarship requirements compliance. Aviles thinks that students are being punished for no reason. "I do not feel there is anything that we as students did wrong," he stated.

For upcoming semesters, students are encouraged to apply for aid early as possible. The university has a deadline of April 1 for fall semester. This date is considered a priority deadline for processing purposes. The use of the internet is encouraged as well.

"Do as much as possible online such as payment of invoices," Fritz stated. "Students can even check the status of their aid



Applications for the 2005-2006 SGA Cabinet are now available!!

Positions Available:

Executive Vice President

Senators (various number of positions per college)

Applications are available in the Office of
Student Life and Leadership (330 Student
Center) and the SGA Office (370 Student Center)

Applications due by
Thursday,
September 1, 2005



For more information, contact
404-463-9031 or 404-463-9092

Lines

from page 7

applications online."

"Why does the university assume that everybody has internet access and personal computers," Aviles inquired. The university has a student computer access policy stating that all students must have access to a computer. It is the responsibility of the students to ensure their access to computers. This policy was passed in Oct. 1998.

Marshall recommended for students to "plan ahead." "Students should figure out how much financial aid will cover and plan ahead for the upcoming semester," he added.

"I am not dissatisfied with the level of education here at Georgia State but I am dissatisfied with speed of processing [financial aid documents]," Aviles concluded.

The *Signal* will continue to follow this issue throughout the school year and updates will be reported in future issues.

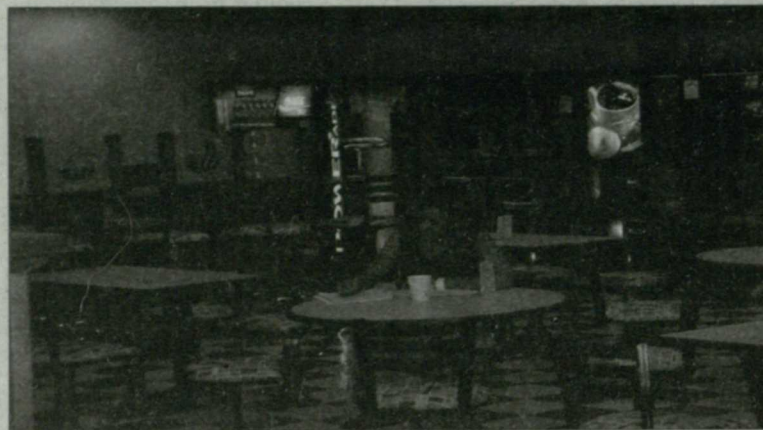
Auxiliary services gets blue, clean with new look

By DOMINIQUE HUFF
managingeditor@gsusignal.com

On the first day of school, Auxiliary Services turned blue. The blue results from the long hot summer months of undergoing a long, overdue facelift. The facilities in Kell Hall and University Center have been revamped to continue to meet the needs of the Georgia State community.

"The move towards blue goes towards the Georgia State color scheme," stated Wayne Reed, Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary and Support Services. "We are targeting for better service for students, faculty and staff."

Gone are the days of Pizza Hut, Subway, Pete's Arena, Sky Ranch Grill and Subversions and in come Starbucks, Panther Pizza and State Place Grill. The space formerly occupied by Subversions houses Panther Corner. Panther Corner, located in Kell Hall, seeks to become a new student hang out on campus featuring trademark cappuccinos, espressos, assorted



Dominique Huff | Signal

Above: This student enjoys the renovations of the Kell Hall dining area. She is studying while enjoying a fresh cup of Starbucks coffee. As seen below, there are new fixtures and machines that highlight the area.

blends of coffees, sandwiches, bagels and teas.

"We have moved the vending machines to the back of the area to make the space more open for students to conjugate," Reed states. "New features in the area include new vending machines and an attractively designed and furnished seating area to serve our customers better in Panther Corner."

In addition, a decorative façade will compliment the new vending machines along with decorative etched glass on five foot high falls with the university's panther and flame logos. The vending and seating area in Panther Corner will be available for use during normal business hours of Kell Hall. "We believe the new furnishings and area layout in Panther Corner will provide a more enjoyable experience for our customers as they select from a variety of convenience vending or Starbucks items," said Kevin

Kelly, Manager of Printing, Mail and Vending Operations in Auxiliary and Support Services.

The Campus Club on the third floor of the University Center received new flooring, painting and wall coverings. The City Room located in the back will undergo renovations this fall. "Bids have opened up for contractors," Reed adds. In 2004, the food service area of Campus Club underwent renovation to be able to accommodate new Plaza Café menu items and handle high volume traffic. "Renovation of this area helped us make up for the loss of Plaza Café's space and it has improved traffic flow for service tremendously," Reed stated.

Panther Pizza, formerly Pete's Arena, has a bluer and brighter space. The space has received new blue wall paint and signage. Other changes include more vending machines as well as Panther Card readers added to vending machines in high traffic areas.

"We are confident that the Georgia State community will experience minimal disruption of service and enjoy the updated venues this fall," concluded San Miller, Director of Operations and Administration Support for Auxiliary and Support Services.



Locker Sale begins August 15.

360

**LOCKERS
AVAILABLE
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LOCATIONS:

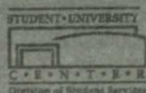
University Center
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Locker.....\$20/semester

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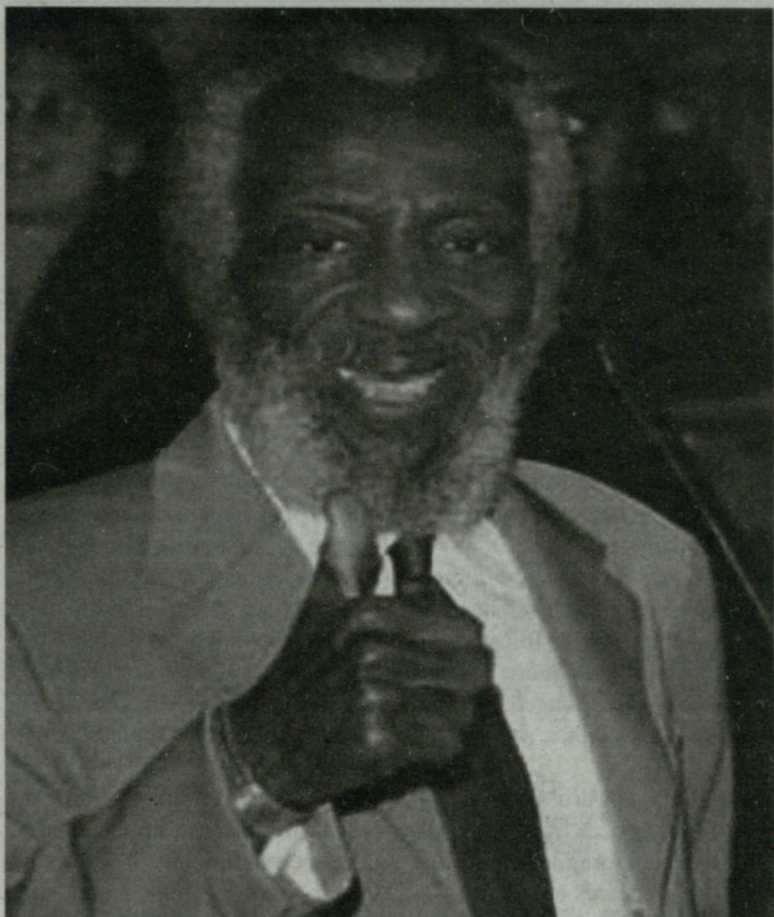
(404) 525-8080

Hours: 11 am - 6 pm

Living

Editor: Sabrina Buckwalter
Associate Editor: Tiffany Newman

Dick Gregory on the record



Dick Gregory was a recent honoree at the May 2005 Trumpet Awards held at the Georgia World Congress Center.

By SABRINA BUCKWALTER
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Dick Gregory, comedian, civil rights leader, author, and nutrition expert, is well known for his off the cuff quips. Furthermore, he is famous for his controversial persona, and push-the-envelope sense of humor. It is that very combination, coupled with his fearless wit that first brought him notoriety in the 1960's.

In his first comedic gig in Chicago, 1961, he won the all-white audience over, poking fun at Jim Crow south, "Good evening ladies and gentlemen. I understand there are a good many southerners in the room tonight. I know the South very well. I spent twenty years there one night. Last time I was down South I walked into this restaurant and this white waitress came up to me and said, 'We don't serve colored people here.' I said, 'That's all right. I don't eat colored people. Bring me a whole fried chicken.' Then these three white boys came up to me and said, 'Boy, we're givin' you fair warnin'. Anything you do to that chicken, we're gonna do to you.' So I put

down my knife and fork, I picked up that chicken and I kissed it. Then I said, 'Line up, Boys!'"

When his autobiography, titled "Nigger," was released in 1963, it made the bestseller list and catapulted Gregory into stardom. He reasoned that, "Whenever you hear the word nigger, you'll know their advertising my book."

Dick Gregory feels strongly about that word, and when he shared his thoughts with the *Signal* in May about that very topic, he expressed a rarely heard perspective on the issue.

Signal Newspaper: With the recent media attention given to UGA over their mural displaying a large picture of the day it was desegregated, with a sign in the background that read, "Make Way for the Nigger," how do you feel about those who wanted that sign covered up?

Dick Gregory: There's a whole lot of things you expect out of places like University of Georgia. Harvard feels the same way, they just never would be stu-

See GREGORY page 10

Avoiding the freshman 15

By SHERRY SHIPSKIE
sshipskie@gsusignal.com

One of the biggest fears on the minds of incoming freshman is the fear of weight gain...the dreaded *freshman 15*! Fear of increasing weight isn't totally unfounded as recently released government statistics suggest that more than half of the U.S. population is overweight or obese. Still, the research shows that those students who experience weight gain when they go off to college gain less than 15 pounds - around 4.5 lbs for women and 6 lbs for men. If you don't want to end up in that group or if you're just looking to build some healthy habits try these easy tips.

Get physical!

Many incoming college students leave behind active high school careers. They may have been involved in organized sports or intramurals. Suddenly, there are no events for them to participate in and they become more sedentary. In addition, the change from familiar to unfamiliar surroundings sometimes keeps students in their dorm or apartments more. It is important to counter this trend toward the sedentary lifestyle by becoming more active. Here at Georgia State, we have the benefits of a campus that is spread out over many city blocks, so walking is part of our culture. Take advantage of this by walking instead of taking the bus and by choosing stairs whenever possible. In addition, the Student Recreation Center is a wonderful facility with activities for everyone, including organized intramural sports teams, aerobics, dance, weights, swimming, cardio theater, and much more.

Be a conscious eater!

The many changes that college life brings can be stressful. For some, eating becomes a coping mecha-

See FRESHMAN page 12



A college student indulges in fried chicken.

Special | *Signal*

Life after college: preparing students for the real-world

Changes in nightly news broadcasts call for intern input

By TIFFANY NEWMAN
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Imagine that you have finally landed your dream internship and suddenly you have been asked to conduct a major presentation in front of top corporate leader and executives for your company.

Chances are, you would go into immediate panic, horrified that you may lose your first real job because you never learned how to use Power Point. Over the summer, this situation became reality

for a group of interns at the CBS Television Network in New York City. Amidst the interns' normal responsibilities, they were all instructed to produce a meticulous presentation outlining new ideas CBS's Nightly News program.

CBS News senior vice president Linda Mason told the Associated Press that, "The project was for their benefit, not for our benefit." CBS is trying to capture a younger audience, hoping to gain a top rating amid the changing news formats within other stations over the past year.

The network has been pulling fresh ideas from all possible avenues since long time anchor Dan Rather left in March. Then on August 7, ABC News anchor Peter Jennings died from a short stint with lung cancer. Another dominant news personality, Tom Brokaw, ended his 21-year career as NBC Nightly News anchor in December 2004.

For interns to be asked to create ideas promoting the replacement of one of these admired public figures was surely a daunting task. It sparks the notion that most students asked to execute a similar assignment would not have done so successfully.

The skills required for on the job success need to be honed quite early, but today, students are not applying themselves as much as they should be to acquire the proficiency necessary in the job market.

The American College Test Program (ACT) recently revealed that high school students are not excelling in the academic areas necessary to begin a college career. Out of nearly 1.2 million students taking the ACT exam nationwide this year, less than a quarter of them met the required minimum scores for all tested subjects: english, math, science and the newly added reading comprehension. This is a risky way to begin educa-



Special | *Signal*

CBS interns were put to the test when asked to produce new ideas for the Nightly News program.

tion on an advanced level.

According to the New York Times, ACT chief executive Richard L. Ferguson said that "hundreds of thousands of students" will realize that they are not ready for college once they arrive.

Almost half of all U.S. high

See REAL WORLD page 12

Proselytization Nation

By MARIA
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Driving through my North Fulton suburb, I learned the lessons only church billboards can teach. "God is like Allstate — you're in good hands," "Jesus responds to knee-mail," and, "If God is your copilot, switch seats." I considered carefully the truths behind, "Stop, drop, and roll does not work in hell," and was privileged to receive a message from God himself, saying, "Don't make me come down there, - God."

These billboards were near my house, but this story can take place in any suburb in any state. The trend to make Christianity fun and quirky has spread over America from sea to shining sea. As I drove and giggled, a nagging voice searched for consequences behind

commercializing religion.

According to the Wikipedia internet encyclopedia, evangelists have used telecommunications to convert people to Christianity since the earliest days of radio. Televangelists have been shaking and quaking, and shouting and raking in the dollars since the '70s and '80s. From Tammy Faye Bakker to Billy Graham, those hoary-headed condemners have elevated proselytizing to an art and Christianity to a business.

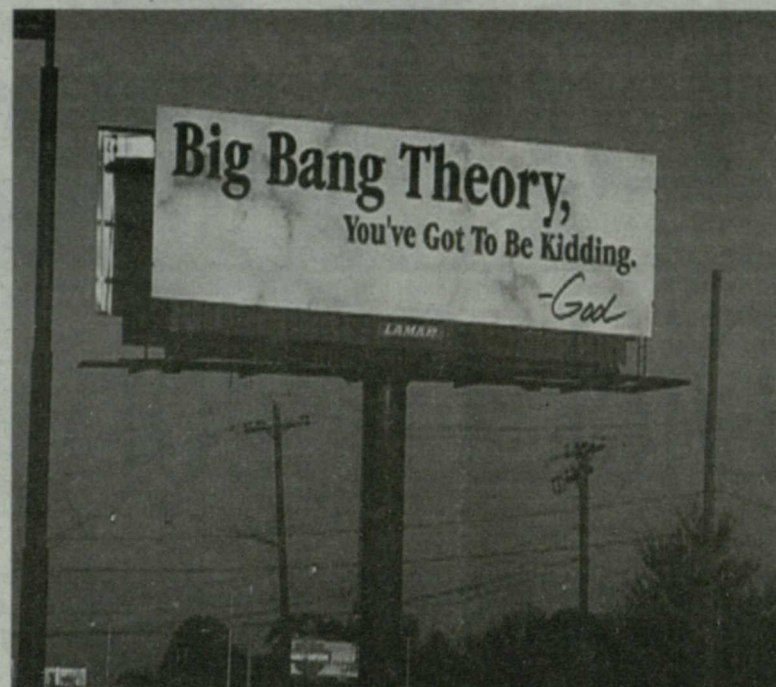
Still, for the majority of people their shows are little more than Channel 5 fuzz, and for all those people televangelists have converted, many more just changed the channel. But now religion is stepping out.

Never has Christianity been so publicized, suffering from a combination of two trends: the drive

for entertainment and the commercialization that follows it.

At Centennial High School, students in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) turn into sneaky advertisers to spread the word of Christ through T-shirts and skits. Believers walk the halls in shirts with pictures of soap on them, emblazoned with the neon words "Gettin' squeaky clean with Jesus!" They perform Saturday Night Live skits at weekly meetings. Christmas saw FCA putting on the nativity scene in three distinct styles — Monty Python, a sports commentary, and an ADD version in which Joseph and Mary just could not keep still while baby Jesus lay in the manger. The funnier the games, the more entertaining the skits performed, the more students join FCA.

Contemporary religion seems to mean little more than a frozen dinner — fast, efficient and filling. Modern churches find themselves competing elbow to elbow for members, vying, tempting and pleasing people in attempts to expand. "Don't want to pray every day? No problem! Do it whenever it's convenient. Find sermons boring and tedious? We'll fill them with pop culture until your sides ache from laughing at our antics!" A church's promise of fun and entertainment is like a requirement for all neurosurgeons to be flawlessly handsome — unnecessary and deteriorating to the purpose of the profession. FCA adopts big-church tactics and boasts its rollicking repertoire: "People think



Special | Signal

Roadside billboards seek to make a statement.

being a Christian is a dull time," says student FCA member Mike Palombo. We show them that part of it is having a good time." With reality TV, glitzy Hollywood movies, and eye-candy filled MTV videos, church must also be flashy and fast to compete with the countless other shapes and colors that fly at us daily.

But, fear not, because, though we know Christianity hates the idea of survival of the fittest, it has adapted expertly to the age of commercialism. Rearranged, dressed in the trendiest clothes, made up by the finest make-up artists, nouveau Christianity oozes mass appeal. "To avoid burning, stay in the sun," the billboards tell us.

Not only does marketable religion cater to a population already gorged on entertainment, it

demeans spirituality, making church another business, religion another product, and people simply consumers picking their way through piles of merchandise: this one looks good, fresh, yields to the touch—yes, I think it will do.

Sure, we can make religion a pill to pop, sweet as honey and as simple as a hamburger, but doing so, we sacrifice the enormous mystery of one of mankind's most powerful institutions. Perhaps if a student or an adult is not interested in religion unless it has the entertainment value of a football game, that person should be left to his own devices. Perhaps that religion is not for him. Instead, the attempt to adapt religion to our times is doing more harm than good. Save the fun for a Super Bowl party—take religion seriously.



Religious signs aim to create a reaction.

Special | Signal

Gregory

from page 9

pid enough to put it out there like that. If they did there would have been a reaction to it. This is America. And this is how America feels. So, it's just like the word nigger. White folk didn't get upset over it until the OJ Simpson trial, and the world heard nigger, nigger, nigger, and we were stupid enough to let 'em change the word to the "n word." It ain't "n word." It's nigger. Let me give you an example, I'm standing next to Dr. King in Alabama and the number one meanest white man, wasn't Sheriff Clark, wasn't Bull Connor, it was a white boy that was head of the Alabama State Troopers called Al Lingo. And he stood there, while we stood there waiting on the president to sign an executive order to federalize this law. And I'm standing here, and King's standing there and Lingo's standing in front, and he looked at King and said, "Nigger, when that nigger lovin' president of yours signs that executive order in a few minutes and you walk across this line, I'm gonna blow your nigger brains out." Now, let me try to explain this, in this interview today. [When

you say] "n word," when that "n word" lovin' president, signs that executive order and you walk across this line, I'm gonna blow you "n word" brains out, you destroy history. It's nigger, nigger, nigger, nigger, nigger. I went to see the movie Million Dollar Baby, they started off with nigger. Ain't nobody complained about it. And so, consequently again, black folks let a white racist system change the word to "n word."...Can you imagine the Jews, one day the Germans get so upset of what Hitler did to the Jews that they change the word concentration camp to the "c word" and swastika to the "s word?"

SN: Well, what about the struggle then versus the struggle now?

DG: Then, you couldn't stand in front of me with a [tape recorder] and ask me some questions. Okay? That happened because of the civil rights movement...Let me give you an example. Forty-five years ago, a white woman couldn't fly a commercial airline. Forty-five years ago a black man couldn't fly a commercial airline. Forty-five years ago, a black woman couldn't be a stewardess. The only white woman who could be a stewardess looked

like someone out of the center page of Playboy magazine. Because of our movement, and because of the civil rights bill, anytime you get on a plane, you see an old, short, fat, ugly, white woman as a stewardess. We did that. We did not get liberated by her daddy, by the US marines, or the Chase Manhattan bank. Back in the early days of this movement, not one woman's penitentiary had a female warden, they was all men. And 98% of the guards was men. Can you imagine what they was doing to those women? Today there is not one women's penitentiary that doesn't have a woman. We did that, that's what we were able to do. And so, when you look around and see cops, when I was growing up a woman couldn't be a cop, man, now you got women head of the police department. That's the power of this movement. And these black conservatives talking that crap, [they] didn't liberate them, we did.

SN: So what do you think of black conservatives and what they espouse?

DG: That's a game they play, but that's always black folk. They didn't invent that con game, it's always been here. It's always been here. And they say things that

white folks want. And in a white racist system, they elevate 'em up. Elevate 'em up. Look at Armstrong Williams, a good example...

SN: Was he a race-traitor?

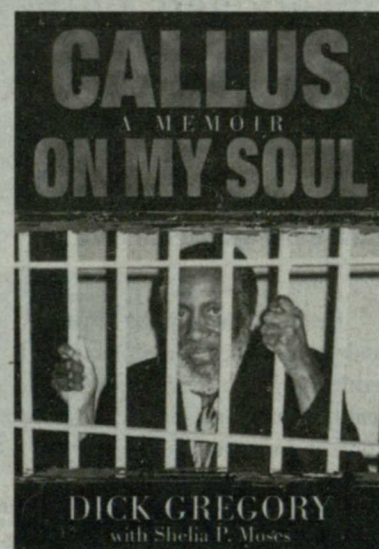
DG: No, he's a people traitor, when he ridicules me, he also ridicules America... [See] we didn't just get intelligent black folks that can speak like Condoleezza Rice or Colin Powell, we've always had them. You know why they can use them now? Because black folks in this movement have created this type of atmosphere, where a white president can pick this friggin' black man and won't have a reaction from white America. They've always been there. And today, you know it ain't much to make much accomplishments [now] compared to where we were. We don't have to worry about being lynched, and if any black man gets lynched, you know like the brother in Texas,

SN: James Byrd, Jr.

DG: They found them three white boys before they identified who the black man was. Okay? And then who would have ever believed a presidential candidate could run for president out of a state where this black man, Byrd, had been lynched, and never get mentioned? Because, the justice

was so quick. So, everything has changed.

Dick Gregory, 73, is still going strong, and participates in over 100 speaking engagements per year. His most recent book "Callus On My Soul" is the continued autobiography of his life, because as Gregory says, "I've lived long enough to need two autobiographies, which is fine with me. I'm looking forward to writing the third and fourth volumes as well."



Special | Signal

Dick Gregory released his second autobiography in 2003.

Dorm decorating 101

By THOMAS HEARD
theard@gsusignal.com

It's a brand new year at Georgia State. Students are buzzing and the bookstore's cash register is ringing. Of all the things that students have to prepare for, one important factor always goes unnoticed. With an abundance of on and off campus living, the task of decorating personal space can be daunting. The art of decorating is a very difficult project for some while, for others, it comes quite easy. For those of you who have a hard time pulling ideas together let me introduce myself, my name is Thomas Heard, your resident lifestyle and living guru.

All it takes is a little imagina-

tion and a lot of heart to achieve a perfect look. Let's start with a dorm room, which most students have. Often times dorm rooms are small on space which can cause problems. First, one must evaluate the space in which they have to work. Students residing in the University Lofts and the Village already have a desk and bed included (however small it may be). This already eliminates the process of finding major furniture items. Considering a student's budget, you should prepare to spend only \$100 to \$200 dollars in shopping allowances; of course, this is pending the release of our community "prisoner" called financial aid. The first step in obtaining accessories and items is

choosing a place to shop. Some great store ideas are listed below:

- Wal-Mart: Works great with a limited budget. Items for purchase range from comforters to shower curtains.

- Target: A step above Wal-Mart in the shopping chain. Target is great for individuals who have a little more disposable income to play with. Although reasonably priced, some items are, at times, pricey.

- IKEA: The hottest new store in town—sleek furniture

with reasonable prices, but also intended for those with a slightly higher budget.

- Dollar General: Although not as highly rated as its competition, the Dollar General offers some great finds at a very cheap price.

- Big Lots: Cheap items that include furniture and accessories.

With these stores in mind you must first decide on the color scheme of your space. You should focus on colors that reflect your personality and make you feel at home. Once the color scheme is selected you should coordinate accessories to add a little bit of excitement to your room. After this, you should choose items like



Special | Signal
Decorating your dorm room can be as easy as a trip to Target.

pictures or ornaments to add character to your space.

Always remember that creativity is always the best choice in deciding how to decorate. Don't be afraid to experiment with creating your own artwork. Below is a perfect example of how to create a warm and inviting space.

Focus: Bedroom

Budget: \$150

- One all white imitation or down comforter: Wal-Mart, \$50
- One solid color bedspread and bed sheet: Wal-Mart, \$20
- Solid color pillowcases: Wal-Mart, \$10
- 2 Painters Board: Wal-Mart, \$10
- Approximately two to three yards of solid color cloth
- Hot glue gun: Wal-Mart, \$10
- Nails and hammer: Wal-Mart, \$15
- Clock: Dollar Store: Wal-Mart, \$5
- Throw rug: Big Lots: Wal-Mart, \$20

The most important part in this example is that you coordinate your bedspread, pillowcase, and fabric.

Creating your own artwork is simple. Taking the painters board, fabric and hot glue gun you can create your own personalized picture.

Cut the fabric so that it overlaps the painter's board on all sides. Make sure that the overlap is enough to fold underneath the board.

Using caution, apply hot glue to the sides and bottom of the painters board and apply fabric quickly as the glue cools almost immediately. The fabric looks best when pulled tightly to the back.

Once all sides are glued you have a basic picture that is a solid color to match your room. You can add flare by applying pictures or other items:

Your area rug can be in contrast to the color schemes of your room as long as that color is present somewhere within the rug. Adding a silver chrome plated clock to your desk is a quick way to add another accessory. Decorating does not have to be hard; it just takes time and practice. Best of luck.



Campus Climate Survey

What is the social and academic climate like
for you at Georgia State?

Let us know—anonynously and confidentially.
Your responses will help create a more positive
university climate.

From September 7-28, this survey will be available online for randomly selected students. Check your Georgia State e-mail account beginning September 7 to see if you can participate.

Real World

from page 9

school graduates took the ACT exam, scoring an average of 20.9 out of a possible 36 points for two consecutive years. ACT officials discovered that the scores remained the same even with a larger, more diverse population of students taking the test this year.

Students taking the popular exam were found to have finished high school without completing the courses recommended for post-secondary education. Only about half of high school graduates had taken the suggested four years of english, three years of social stud-

ies, science, and at least one year of algebra or higher level math course. ACT testing records also indicate that fewer students are pursuing careers in computer science, education and engineering.

Exam scores illustrate clearly defined differences based on race and gender. Even though the number of minority test takers has increased significantly over the years, African-American students, who represented 23 percent of all test takers in 2005, scored lower than all other groups of students, averaging 17.0 points on the exam. Asian Americans produced the highest average score of 22.1 points.

Even though females made up more than 50 percent of ACT test takers this year, male students con-

tinue to score higher in math in science, while women did better with english and reading.

The moral of the story is: be prepared. Current standings suggest (and prove) that an overwhelming number of students are not equipped with the knowledge and discipline necessary for a successful college life. Institutionalized culture is often too fast paced for students to completely change their high school habits.

Students are encouraged to make the most of their campus life by using all campus resources, networking with other students and teachers, and maintaining a comfortable time management schedule to ensure time for study and time for partying.

Freshman

from page 9

nism, which they use to soothe their emotions. Being conscious of one's motivation for eating can help – is it really hunger? If so, we should eat a healthy snack or meal. However, sometimes people eat because they are bored or stressed. Others eat unconsciously as they do other things like watch TV, surf the net, or talk on the phone. Paying attention to what, when, and why we are eating can help curb these unhealthy habits. Making a list of five things to do instead of eating can be a helpful tool to ensure that eating is due to hunger and not for other reasons. Things on the list might include taking a walk, reading a book, or calling a friend.

Make healthy choices!

As part of the independence that comes with being in college, many students find themselves fully responsible for purchasing and preparing all of their own food for the first time. It's important to use care not to sacrifice the benefits of choosing healthy food for the convenience of quick foods. There are many nutritious and quick foods available that can be purchased at a reasonable price. Some ideas include lower fat frozen meals (choose those with <900 mg sodium), fresh fruit (apples, pears, and

COLLEGE LIVING

bananas are totally portable), baby carrots, frozen fruits and vegetables (last longer and are quick in the microwave), instant brown rice, yogurt, whole-wheat crackers, and much more. Don't be at the mercy of the vending machines or fast food – take a little time to plan healthy food choices.

While weight gain upon entering college is not a certainty, the waistlines of Americans continue to swell. It is not about vanity; the health consequences of gaining weight and obesity are many including increased risk for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, arthritis, and some types of cancer.

Make a commitment today to make these three easy tips part of your life: exercise, be a conscious eater, and choose healthy food. Good luck and welcome to Georgia State!



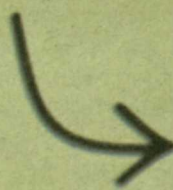
Special | Signal

Don't be tempted by typical college junk food.

2005 Average SAT Test Scores

National Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnic Group 2005	Average Score
Asian American/Pacific Islander	22.1
Prefer not to respond	22.0
Caucasian-American/White	21.9
Multiracial	20.9
No response	20.8
Other	19.4
Puerto Rican/Hispanic	18.9
American-Indian/Alaska Native	18.7
Mexican-American/Chicano	18.4
African-American/Black	17.0

This word
is way
overpriced.



If you didn't buy your textbooks at Half.com, you paid too much. Half.com has all the textbooks you need like chemistry, astronomy and history for a lot less.

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Sports

Editor: Matthew Simmons

Braves ageless wonder grows another year older



By MATTHEW SIMMONS
sportseditor@gsusignal.com

My Two Cents

I would like to send a sincere birthday wish to Julio Franco, who turned 47 last Tuesday.

This makes baseball's most tenured active player older than Terry Pendleton, his hitting coach, older than recent Hall of Fame inductee Ryne Sandberg and exactly 25 years, four months and 16 days older than Atlanta Braves rookie phenom Jeff Francoeur.

Franco is the oldest non-pitcher in major league history, if you exclude nostalgia appearances like those by Minnie Minoso, who appeared in two Chicago White Sox games in 1980 at age 57 (Minoso appeared in five games after 1964, but recorded just one hit).

This season, Franco has laid claim to a horde of age-related records, becoming the oldest to hit a grand slam, the oldest to record a pinch-hit home run, the oldest to have a multi-home run game, the oldest to steal two bases in one game and the oldest player with at least 50 hits in a season.

Expect Franco to add to his records and claim a few more, as Franco expects to play at least three more years and so do his young teammates.

"He could play until he's 55," Francoeur told MLB.com. "That wouldn't surprise me, either."

Even if he does not play much longer, Franco should take two more records. Franco will become the oldest player to hit a home run, as well as the oldest to hit double-digit home runs with one more long ball. Franco is not concerned about the record, though.

"I don't think about breaking that record," Franco told *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* while reiterating his goal, "because I plan on playing a long time, until I'm 50."

Franco should not worry either, because he can still out swing a vast majority of professional ball players, meaning he will break those records and many more. He has always been able to hit, but even at age 47 Franco stands at the plate with his rigid awkward stance and slices through the batter's box with uncanny speed, all while using one of the heaviest bats in the land.

Franco is batting .291, with 9

home runs and 40 RBIs and has hit .297 (336-for-1,132) since joining the Braves in 2001.

Teammates both past and present attribute Franco's age-defying success to his various rituals.

"He takes a power nap every day on the couch in the clubhouse," former teammate Paul Byrd told ESPN the Magazine's Tim Kurkjian. "He's dead to the world. That must be his secret."

However, Franco has not always put his body first. Current Braves bench coach Pat Corrales who was Franco's manager with both the Phillies (1982) and Indians (1983-87) remembers a somewhat defiant Franco and would have never imagined such longevity.

"I didn't know if he'd be alive at 37," Corrales told MLB.com. "He was different back then. Then something just clicked."

That click was a dedication to fitness. Franco eats up to seven meals a day, including 12 egg whites for breakfast, and two protein shakes daily, including one at 3 a.m. each morning.

Despite his conditioning, age

See SIMMONS Page 15

Ben Taylor misses cut in US Amateur Championship

By MATTHEW SIMMONS
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Georgia State men's golfer Ben Taylor shot a 78 in the second round of the U.S. Amateur Championship on Tuesday, Aug 23, and missed the cut of 64 golfers who advanced to the match-play portion of the Championship.

Taylor, a native of Hexham, England, finished in the middle of a large pack, 174th place among the field of 312 golfers, with a two-day total of 153 - 13 over par. Taylor shot a five-over 75 in the opening round on Monday on the par-70, 6,967-yard Philadelphia Country Club Course, but struggled in the second day of the Championship.

"I felt pretty good the first day," said Taylor, a junior. "My game kind of left me the second day."

Taylor scattered the course while shooting eight-over par during his second day of competition. Driving the ball, usually Taylor's strength, haunted him during one of the biggest tournaments of his amateur career.

"I'm normally pretty straight off the tee," added Taylor, "but I



Special | Signal

Taylor missed the cut by six strokes, but has already focused on the TOPY CUP in Tokyo, Sept. 6 - 9.

I felt pretty tight and it somewhat went away from me and I couldn't hit a fairway."

See GOLF Page 15

Volleyball begins season with pair of losses at Comfort Suites Challenge

By GLENISE MOORE
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The Georgia State Lady Panthers volleyball team couldn't survive the defending champs of the Ohio Valley Conference, Eastern Kentucky State, in their second game of the Comfort Suites Challenge Saturday in Richmond, Kentucky.

The host Colonels defeated a scrappy Georgia State squad 3-0 (30-25, 30-21, 30-27). Despite losing in three straight games, the Panthers played significantly better than in their five-game loss to Morehead State University the previous evening, according to Georgia State head coach Mike Webster.

"The results don't look good, but we played much better today against a very high-quality team," said Coach Webster.

The squad's seniors had a strong showing in the defeat, who Webster believes are paramount to a successful season; senior Alex Blanche led the Lady Panthers



Special | Signal

Van Dam attacks in the first match of the Challenge.

with 15 kills while also contributing six digs, followed by senior Robyn Van Dam who had eight kills and five total blocks.

The lower classes contributed as well. Freshman Michelle Trimble also chipped in eight kills, junior Christen Garcia had 16 digs and sophomore Jordan Thomas

See VOLLEYBALL Page 14

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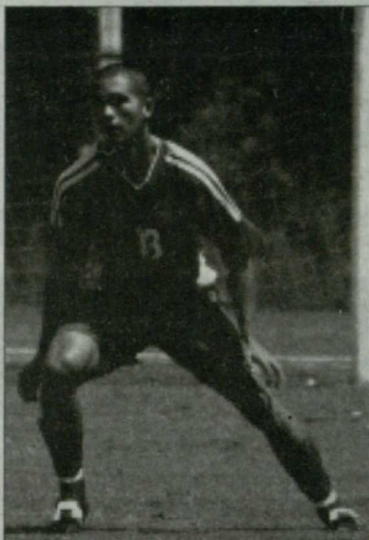
Men's soccer wins second exhibition game, 4-2

By GREG PRITCHARD
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The future looks bright for the Georgia State Men's soccer team after a two-goal shutout against the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers in the second of two preseason exhibition matches.

The Panther's set the tone early when freshman forward Dathan Knott headed a pass from freshman goalkeeper Filipe Carvalho to an on running Alberto Villareal, a junior forward. Villareal buried the ball into the upper right corner in the 12th minute. Villareal, a NAIA All-American transfer from Bethel College in Indiana, only received one opportunity in the first half, and he wouldn't miss the chance.

Villareal's goal came as his third in two exhibition games after



Special | Signal
Two-time All South defender Armim Marquez led a smothering Panther defense.

his two goal performance against Coastal Carolina last week.

"Alberto is a great finisher,"

said Georgia State head coach Kerem Daser. "If you give him the opportunity, he gives you the results."

Knott's assist was one of the outstanding play by Panther freshmen. Six of nine freshmen recruits joining the team this year started Saturday night, and as many as six may start for their season opener on September 2nd against Vanderbilt.

Freshmen made significant contributions throughout the game. Knott assisted the first goal as well as scored the second, and Carvalho shutout the Hilltoppers in the first half.

Carvalho, a Brazilian native, started the game at goalkeeper and was impressive in doing so.

"I was very impressed with his play," Daser said on Carvalho's play. "Not only was he solid in the box, but he also did a great job of

directing the defense, which is very impressive for a freshman."

Carvalho, recruited out of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is one of nine freshmen that make up the future of the Georgia State program. These players will be essential to the success of the Panthers as the make the jump to the Colonial Conference, which according to Daser, is the third best soccer conference in the NCAA.

Sophomore Kristian Gonzalaz relieved Carvalho in the second half, and was every bit as solid as was Carvalho making a few diving saves to maintain the shutout.

"Our goalkeepers should be one of our strengths this year. We finished well today, but we could improve that aspect of our game," said Daser.

The goalkeepers didn't do it alone though. The Panther defense was strong throughout the match led by two-time All South Region defender Armin Marquez.

Another big time addition to the 2005 squad is freshman forward Dathan Knott out of Stone Mountain. Knott assisted the first goal and scored the second goal.

The second goal came fifteen minutes into the second half. Knott cut back and forth several times around the Western Kentucky left goalpost trying to find an outlet to rip a shot. He found one and pushed a shot through the Hilltopper defense. The goal was assisted by Duke transfer Josh Swank.

Don't let the term exhibition fool you. By the physicality of the game, it very well could have been a regular season grudge match. Four yellow cards were handed out, three of which went to the frustrated Hilltoppers.

The Panther soccer squad looks forward to what should be a very competitive season in the increased level of competition. "Our number one goal is to make the conference tournament," said Daser. "We would be happy to have a winning season. This is a big jump we're making."

The season ahead of them looks to be a difficult one for the Panthers in the Colonial Conference, but with all the young players, the future looks promising.

Hawks need help, but summer embarrassment could bring hope

By SUNG CHOE
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Hawk's fans might have a reason to smile, despite a tumultuous summer and pathetic season last year, defined by a league worst 13-69 record. Just five wins behind the expansion Charlotte Bobcats.

Entering the 2005 NBA Draft the Hawks had needs at both the center and point guard positions. Andrew Bogut, the 7'0" center from Utah who garnered numerous awards, was one very enticing choice for the Hawks, as were the numerous decorated point guards entering the draft and North

Carolina forward Marvin Harrison, who many analysts claimed had the most NBA potential.

When the Milwaukee Bucks won the NBA Draft Lottery they immediately keyed in on Bogut, so conventional wisdom had the Hawks filling a need in the draft, point guard.

On Draft night the Bucks surprised no one when they drafted Bogut first. When NBA Commissioner David Stern stepped up to the podium a second time he announced the Hawks' first choice, Marvin Williams, the 6'8" swingman North Carolina who helped the Tar Heels win a national championship.

While the Hawks were not in need of another swingman, they employed the best-player-available strategy. However, the Hawks would draft based on need with their second pick, selecting Salim Stoudamire, the 6'1" senior sharpshooter from Arizona. Poor shooting from inside and outside the arc ailed the Hawks during their '04-'05 season, and acquiring Stoudamire should provide pinpoint shooting the Hawks desperately need.

With the draft hoorah finally over, the Hawks then turned to free agency to fill out their roster. Possessing over \$20 million in salary cap space, the Hawks had ample money to go after two superstars without approaching the cap, but skeptics pointed to the previous year when the Hawks had similar cap room and had no free-agent period success.

Then Atlanta's collective jaw dropped because a premiere free agent, Suns guard/forward Joe Johnson, wanted to play for the Hawks. The Hawks were courting Johnson to play point and Johnson desired the opportunity to be the leader on an all-star-less roster, as opposed to a fourth option in

Phoenix.

Just when it seemed Johnson was Atlanta's latest savior, the Suns claimed they would match the Hawks offer sheet unless there was a sign-and-trade deal. When the deal was laid out, the Hawks would acquire Johnson and his freshly signed \$70 million, five year contract for two future lottery protected first-round picks and guard Boris Diaw.

But an embarrassed franchise would receive a black eye when part owner and team governor Steve Belkin blocked the trade. Going against his nine fellow owners, Belkin refused the trade. The other owners and Hawks general manager Billy Knight claimed Belkin was blocking the deal because he envisioned a smaller budget than the other 10; Belkin denied the allegations.

Only after a war of words, restraining orders, court dates and finally approval by Stern to remove Belkin as governor did the trade negotiations continue. Belkin and the other owners are currently working on a buyout of Belkin's portion of the team's ownership.

During the mayhem the Hawks signed Zaza Pachulia, the 6'11" forward/center from the Bucks. Pachulia was a reliable bench option for the Bucks last season and in the Hawk's big-man-less roster may compete to start.

After adding four new faces last year's squad gives a few reasons for fans to have hope. During last season's 82-game massacre there were a few bright spots, as a pair of first round draft picks showed great potential. Josh Smith, a determined shot blocker and crowd-energizing dunker who catapulted to extensive recognition after winning the 2005 Slam Dunk Contest, and former Stanford swingman Josh Childress both

emerged last season as hustle players willing to do anything to succeed. These two, plus the talented small forward Al Harrington should give the Hawks some stability (although, rumors have Harrington being traded as Williams will likely play small forward in the NBA).

When Johnson is finally on board, the Hawks' future looks bright. At least brighter than a 69-loss season.

Volleyball

contributed an outstanding 38 assists of the Panther's 40.

The Panthers fought valiantly in the loss to Morehead State, but ultimately missed opportunities and mental lapses buried Georgia State. The Panther's had Morehead State down two games to one and led the fourth game 27-23, but watched the Eagles reel off seven straight points to tie the game. Morehead initially darted away in the fifth game and while Georgia State attempted to claw back, the Eagles surged on to victory riding 20 kills by Laura Cox.

Though the Lady Panthers failed to bring home a victory, the team's overall play showed great effort and was a positive indication the team may have a successful season. The Lady Panthers out blocked their opponents in both matches and displayed tenacious defense, illustrated by a total of 119 digs.

The Lady Panthers will have its next challenge this weekend with the home opener, the Wyndam Atlanta Georgia State Invitational where the Lady Panthers will host Wright State, Jacksonville State and Louisiana State. The tournament will start with a match between Wright State and Jacksonville State, Friday at 4pm.



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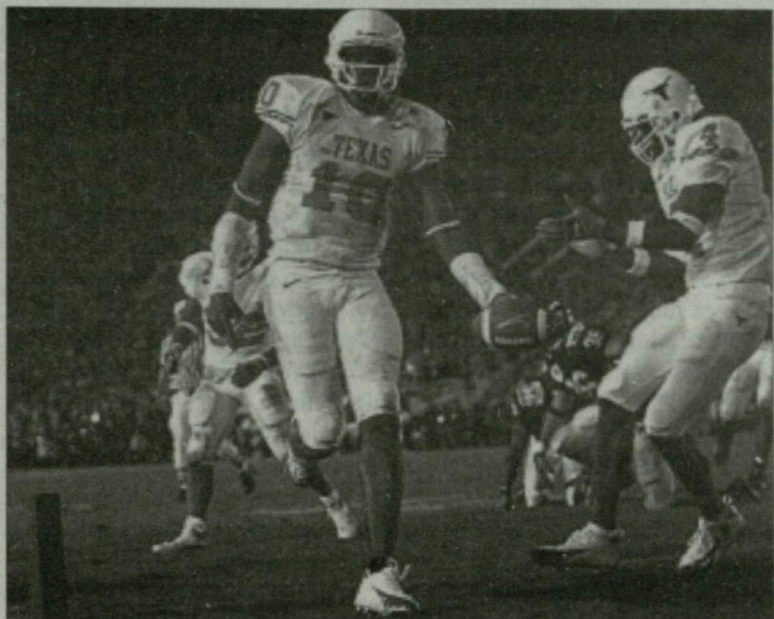
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College football preview:

USC quests for three peat, but Vince Young hopes to stop the streak



Special | Signal
Texas quarterback Young scampers into the end zone last season.

By JOSH MOYNIHAN
jmoynihan@gsusignal.com

It's that time of year again. The time of year when Saturday brings thousands together and tears close ones apart for a few hours. The time of year people drive hundreds of miles just to act like complete idiots for the day in the name of their favorite team. The time of year Saturday rules the week. That's right, it's college football season.

This year's teams are loaded with talent and storylines, beginning at the top with USC's quest to become the first team to win three national titles in a row. Any betting man would have to put USC at the top of the list for national title contenders.

Quarterback Matt Leinhardt passed up being the number one draft-pick for one more year as a Trojan. And of course the nation's most athletic player, Reggie Bush, still wears number five for Southern California. But we shouldn't just hand over the national championship yet, there are some very tal-

ented teams aiming to knock the Trojans off their throne.

One man might be able to do it by himself. Texas quarterback Vince Young can often be confused for superman on some Saturdays. He capped off last year by almost single handedly beating Michigan in the Rose Bowl. Young's dual threat ability to pass or run gives defenses fits much the same way Atlanta's own Michael Vick does, making Young a frontrunner for the Heisman Trophy.

Texas isn't the only team that has a shot at USC.

Previously mentioned Michigan, returns their backfield combo of Chad Henne and Mike Hart along with the electric Steve Breton at wideout. Two more Big Ten teams will be looking to make this year's national championship game.

Ohio State and speedster Teddy Ginn Jr. will be looking to make an early statement when Texas comes to Columbus on September 10th.

Iowa, returning several starters from last year's team, and Kirk

Ferenz, one of the best coaches in college football, will look to take one step up from last season's 10-2 mark.

Heading south we take a look at teams like Tennessee, who return much of last year's teams. Virginia Tech, returning ACC champs, who will be lead this year by Marcus Vick, brother of Michael. Florida, has the talent, but may not master new coach, Urban Meyer's complicated but effective offense in time.

If your favorite team hasn't been mentioned and you think your team has a shot, here is why they will not. Miami isn't what it used to be and while new starting quarterback, Kyle Wright has all the potential in the world, he hasn't shown the productivity Miami thought they would get out of him. For all you Oklahoma Sooners fans, Adrian Peterson can't do it by himself all year and the Sooners are still stinging from dropping the last two national title games.

And finally, the local favorite team that homers think has a shot at the national title each year, the Georgia Bulldogs. Yes, Georgia returns three running backs capable of starting on most teams in the country along with the entire offensive line, but you can't turn around and hand it off every play of the game. Losing David Pollack, Odell Thurman, and Thomas Davis to the NFL will severely hurt the defense, and having D.J. Shockley at quarterback will mean Georgia will make several highlight reels, but won't win as many games as last year's solid team. Stop barking and come back to reality.

These are this year's national contenders. Beginning Thursday, Sept. 1, we will start down the long road that ends in 2006 when we crown this year national champion.

Simmons

from page 13

is catching up to the seemingly ageless wonder. At 47, Franco is no longer a daily fixture in the Braves lineup, but his contributions are evident every game.

Adam LaRoche, the Braves 25-year-old starting first baseman, benefits from regular rest when Franco gets a start a first. This rest has enabled LaRoche to ease his way into his first full-year starting at the major league level; with the rest his bat has seemed quick and fresh all year and his footwork light, enabling the lefty to make miraculously defensive plays.

It just so happens that LaRoche's father, Dave, was a pitcher with the Yankees when Franco was called up to the Phillies in 1982.

While keeping LaRoche fresh is a wonderful benefit to having Franco on the bench, his greatest asset to the Braves might be his knowledge.

Franco has expressed a desire to manage after his playing days are over, but already coaches many Braves youngsters.

"When he's speaking, I'm all ears," Braves rookie reliever Blaine Boyer told MLB.com, noting he can learn significantly about how hitters think from such a seasoned player.

"That's been the history of baseball," Franco added. "I'm just doing what the older guys did with me. All of the experience that I got, I'd like to pass that on so that [the young guys] can do the same thing."

Francoeur appreciates the advice. "I think he's just such an instrumental part of his clubhouse," Francoeur told MLB.com. "The leadership he brings and the ability to play as hard as he does I just amazing."

Franco will keep coaching and will likely be a reliable pinch-hit option for the Braves when he is 50.

Is it too soon to hope Francoeur stays productive for the Braves until he is 50?

Golf

from page 13

Men's golf coach Matt Clark explained that golfers can get away without having their best performance at times, but in an ultra-competitive event like the U.S. Amateur Championship Taylor was unable to have such luck.

"He's normally a great driver of the ball, but he didn't drive it extremely well [at the Championship]," said Clark. "That happens some weeks and some weeks you can get away with it, but not this week."

Taylor still values his defeat.

"It's probably the best tournament I've ever played in," Taylor said. "It was just a great experience."

Clark hopes the experience will help Taylor lead the Panthers to new success in the Colonial Athletic Conference.

"To get to play in a tournament this big, one of the two or three if not the biggest amateur tournament in the world," Clark said, "it's like a major [championship] feel and just to get that experience is great."

"I'm looking for big things from Ben this year. It's his junior year. He has settled into the school thing and he's always had the golf thing. We're definitely hoping to win the Colonial."

Taylor shares his coach's championship sentiments and notes the Colonial Athletic Conference might be weaker than the Atlantic-Sun, Georgia State's former athletic conference, in golf.

Taylor and Clark are currently training for the TOPY Cup, hosted by Fresno State University in Tokyo, and again share high hopes.

"We're going to be one of the top four or five teams there," said Clark.

Georgia State is one of four U.S. universities invited to play in the 23rd annual TOPY Cup, held Sept. 6 to 9, 2005, at Tanagura Country Club.

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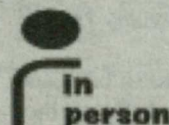
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Living in a fantasy world

A dozen wannabe general managers make their fantasy football picks, 192 players over 16 rounds, and let you benefit from their foolish mistakes

By **MATTHEW SIMMONS**
sportseditor@gsusignal.com

With twelve wannabe general managers sprawled across a restaurant with loads of magazines, notes, egos and beer, the scene was set for mayhem, or at least fantasy football lameness.

Prepare for your fantasy football draft by evaluating our mistakes, and I'll be the judge of who made what mistake, and also what good decisions were made (believe me, the mistakes far outnumber the good decisions).

Round 1

Corey – LaDainian Tomlinson
RB, SD

Melissa – Shaun Alexander
RB, SEA

Scott – Priest Holmes
RB, KC

Keith – Edgerrin James
RB, IND

Brian – Peyton Manning
QB, IND

Matthew – Daunte Culpepper
QB, MIN

Ben – Randy Moss
WR, OAK

Daniel – Deuce McAllister
RB, NO

Thomas – Tiki Barber
RB, NYG

Jeff – Jamal Lewis, RB, BAL

Shirley – Clinton Portis
RB, WAS

Becca – Michael Vick, QB, ATL

What were you thinking: Some will argue you can justify taking a wide receiver of Moss' talent in the first round. I laugh at these people. If Moss miraculously tops his career best numbers - over 1,600 yards with 17 touchdowns in 2003 - he'll still only match the elite running backs in fantasy points. Coming off a debilitating season-long injury that limited Moss to only 49 catches in 13 games, combined with the fact Moss switched teams in the off-season, makes this a risky first round choice.

Homer pick: Michael Vick in the first round? The kid is electrifying, wins games and has all the potential in the world. But none of those equal fantasy points and justify taking Vick in the first round. This has to be the most horrendous hometown homer pick of the entire draft. Sure he ran for nearly 1,000 yards last year, but only ranked as the 12th best fantasy quarterback. Way to flush your first round choice down the drain.

Round 2

Becca – Marvin Harrison
WR, IND

Shirley – Chad Johnson, WR, CIN

Jeff – Domanick Davis, RB, HOU

Thomas – Donovan McNabb
QB, PHI

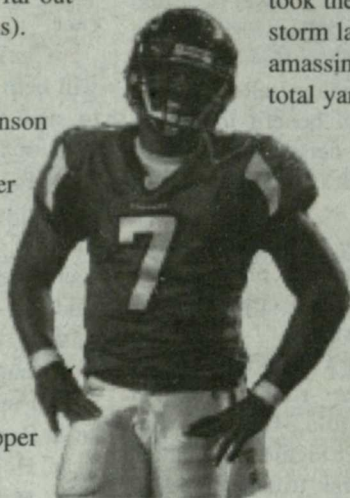
Daniel – Willis McGahee
RB, BUF

Ben – Julius Jones, RB, DAL
Matthew – Corey Dillon, RB, NE
Brian – Ahman Green, RB, GB
Keith – Torry Holt, WR, STL
Scott – Rudi Johnson, RB, CIN
Melissa – Brett Favre, QB, GB
Corey – Trent Green, QB, KC

What you talkin' 'bout Willis:

After missing his rookie year to rehab after a college knee injury, Willis McGahee emerged from the ashes to justify the Bills' first round "risk" in 2003. McGahee took the NFL by storm last season by amassing over 1,200 total yards and 13

end zone appearances. He barely played in the first four games last season and wasn't completely healthy. Now J.P.



Losman takes the helm for the Bills which could mean McGahee will face steady eight-man fronts, but Losman's first-year will also mean tons of touches for McGahee. Great second round pick Daniel, expect mounds of yards and touchdowns in bunches.

What were you thinking: I hate to dog pile on Ben, but following the Moss selection with Julius Jones seems like a hate crime against fantasy football. Yes, Jones was a top-ten fantasy back in the second half of last year, but injuries plagued this small (5'9") back in college and into the pros. Then you consider the Cowboy's spotty offensive line and far-from-intimidating passing attack and this is a massive stretch of a pick with the skilled running backs still available.

Round 3

Corey – Terrell Owens, WR, PHI

Melissa – Kevin Jones, RB, DET

Scott – Marc Bulger, QB, STL

Keith – Curtis Martin, RB, NYJ

Brian – Joe Horn, WR, NO

Matthew – LaMont Jordan
RB, OAK

Ben – Tom Brady, QB, NE

Daniel – Andre Johnson
WR, HOU

Thomas – Nate Burleson
WR, MIN

Jeff – Tony Gonzalez
TE, KC

Shirley – Drew Brees
QB, SD

Becca – Antonio
Gates
TE, SD

What were you thinking: Curtis Martin led the league in rushing yards (1,697) on 371 carries at age 32. What do these numbers mean? The tank might be approaching empty. Martin is past the average running back's prime, but Martin isn't your average back either. He'll likely still put up top-20 back numbers, but the arrival of back Derrick Blaylock means a decreased workload. If quarterback Chad Pennington's arm strength is still suspect, Martin will face relentless eight-man pressure.

Old face, new place: Time to pat my own back. Norv Turner will give Jordan every reason to succeed. With the powerful, explosive and sure handed Jordan, plus a talented receiving core, Turner (an offensive mind) must be salivating. With the receivers Randy Moss, Jerry Porter and Ronald Curry, stretching the field, Jordan will have opening running lanes. Expect 25+ carries per game and loads of red-zone use.

Round 4

Becca – Ravens, D/ST, BAL

Shirley – Warrick Dunn, RB, ATL

Jeff – Brian Westbrook, RB, PHI

Thomas – Larry Fitzgerald
WR, ARI

Daniel – Kerry Collins, QB, OAK

Ben – Alge Crumpler, TE, ATL

Matthew – Hines Ward, WR, PIT

Brian – Javon Walker, WR, GB

Keith – Matt Hasselbeck
QB, SEA

Scott – Isaac Bruce, WR, STL

Melissa – Reggie Wayne
WR, IND

Corey – Roy Williams, WR, DET

What were you thinking: Never, and I mean never, take the first defense or kicker in the draft, especially in the fourth round.

There are still too many valuable position players left. Becca is

Ben's girlfriend and, apparently, they were conspiring to have the two worst drafts in our league.

Shrewd move:

Larry "I can grab the ball with one finger if necessary" Fitzgerald should avoid any sophomore

slump. With Kurt Warner now running the offensive, the Cardinals should score significantly more than last season and with Fitzgerald as the big (6'3") sure-handed red zone target expect lots of fantasy points. He should also get a fair share of single coverage with the receivers around him drawing attention

Round 5

Corey – Chad Pennington
QB, NYJ

Melissa – Anquan Boldin
WR, ARI

Scott – Michael Clayton, WR, TB

Keith – Jerry Porter, WR, OAK

Brian – Steven Jackson, RB, STL

Matthew – "Cadillac" Williams
RB, TB

Ben – Steve Smith, WR, CAR

Daniel – Jason Witten, TE, DAL

Thomas – Jeremy Shockey
TE, NYG

Jeff – Donald Driver, WR, GB

Shirley – Drew Bennett, WR, TEN

Becca – Derrick Mason, WR, BAL

Shrewd move: While disappointing as a No. 1 receiver, Porter might destroy past numbers in his old role as a complimentary receiver.

Moss should see lots of double teams that will free Porter up in man coverage, and a consistent ground game should keep defenses off-balance, equaling fantasy glory for Porter. Has anyone noticed that Raiders' offensive players are flying off the board?

What were you thinking:

While Smith could return to past blazing success, he could also return a step slower after a broken leg that ended his 2004 campaign. Already undersized (5'9", 185), Smith relies on his speed for success. Without the departed Mushin Muhammad, Smith will see more double coverage. This pick could pay off big for Ben, or just as likely hamper his team's success.

Round 6

Becca – Jerome Bettis
RB, PIT

Shirley – L.J. Smith
TE, PHI

Jeff – Darrell Jackson
WR, SEA

Thomas – Cedric Benson
RB, CHI

Daniel – Laveranues Coles
WR, NYJ

Ben – J.J. Arrington, RB, ARI

Matthew – Todd Heap, TE, BAL

Brian – Fred Taylor, RB, JAX

Keith – Tatum Bell, RB, DEN

Scott – Dallas Clark, TE, IND

Melissa – Reuben Droughns
RB, CLE

Corey – Bubba Franks, TE, GB

Group mentality: Sit back and watch the tight ends fly off the board early, fill your key positions (quarterback, running back and receiver) and snag a late round

tight. The tight ends that went in the sixth round are just as capable of those drafted higher. Heap, if he can stay healthy, will gain a slew of yards and should have more running room this year thanks to the Ravens' new talented receivers, Derrick Mason and Mark Clayton. Dallas Clark will benefit from being the featured tight end in the Colts' system after Marcus Pollard's departure and Bubba Franks is a massive (6'6") red zone target for Brett Favre who always is amongst the lead in tight end touchdowns.

What were you thinking:

The entire draft I was catching lip from Thomas about "having two teams." I was helping my ex-girlfriend, who knows little about football, draft a team and well, I led her astray this time. Reuben Droughns was ridiculously good in Denver, but even a member of the Signal staff could be successful running in Denver. Now note that Cleveland hasn't had a 1,000 yard runner in over 20 seasons and Droughns is doomed.

Round 7

Corey – Steelers, D/ST, PIT

Melissa – Ashley Lelie, WR, DEN

Scott – Bills, D/ST, BUF

Keith – Randy McMichael
TE, MIA

Brian – DeShaun Foster
RB, CAR

Matthew – Lee Evans, WR, BUF

Ben – Panthers, D/ST, CAR

Daniel – Falcons, D/ST, ATL

Thomas – Carson Palmer
QB, CIN

Jeff – Jake Plummer, QB, DEN

Shirley – Ronnie Brown
RB, MIA

Becca – David Carr, QB, HOU

Shrewd move: Ronnie Brown is the complete package and was drafted number two overall to a

team lacking a skilled passer, meaning



we'll get carry after carry. Brown should put up significant numbers, but might be limited by Ricky Williams' return. All in all, as a seventh round pick, great move Shirley.

See FANTASY Page 17

Fantasy

from page 16

Shrewd move: I'm starting to like tooting my own horn. Lee Evans emerged as a go-to receiver during the second half of last season - 469 yards and seven touchdowns in his final six games - in a run-heavy offense with a geriatric quarterback, Drew Bledsoe. Now J.P. Losman takes over, but he can't be much worse than an aging Bledsoe, meaning Evans should at least match last year's totals of 850 yards and nine touchdowns.

Round 8

Becca - Adam Vinatieri, K, NE
Shirley - Aaron Brooks, QB, NO
Jeff - Deion Branch, WR, NE
Thomas - Ben Troupe, TE, TEN
Daniel - Chris Brown, RB, TEN
Ben - Braylon Edwards, WR, CLE
Matthew - Brandon Stokely, WR, IND
Brian - Chris Chambers, WR, MIA
Keith - Muhsin Muhammad, WR, CHI
Scott - David Akers, K, PHI
Melissa - Heath Miller, TE, PIT
Corey - Duce Staley, RB, PIT

Shrewd move: Heath Miller won't gain many yards with his lumbering speed, but many scouts claimed this man-mountain of a tight end had the best hands in the

draft last year, not out of just the tight ends, but everybody. With Big Ben's favorite target Plaxico Burress now a Giant, Miller's size (6'5") and hands will make him an end zone pleasure for Roethlisberger.

What were you thinking: Becca is at it again, this time drafting the first kicker in Vinatieri. Yes he's clutch, but the best kicker and number 10 kicker in fantasy football are nearly indistinguishable.

Round 9

Corey - Mike Vanderjagt, K, IND
Melissa - Patriots, D/ST, NE
Scott - Jimmy Smith, WR, JAX
Keith - Matt Stover, K, BAL
Brian - Eagles, D/ST, PHI
Matthew - Byron Leftwich, QB, JAX
Ben - Mike Nugent, K, NYJ
Daniel - Jeff Wilkins, K, STL
Thomas - Ricky Williams, RB, MIA
Jeff - Sebastian Janikowski, K, OAK
Shirley - Buccaneers, D/ST, TB
Becca - Lee Suggs, RB, CLE

What were you thinking: Here we are crushing Ben's hopes again. Jason Elam, the second-best kicker in the NFL is still available and he selected a rookie-kicker, Mike Nugent. And Ben was not even drinking during our draft, wow.

Round 10

Becca - Mike Williams, WR, DET
Shirley - Ryan Longwell, K, GB
Jeff - Redskins, D/ST, WAS
Thomas - Keyshawn Johnson, WR, DAL
Daniel - Eddie Kennison, WR, KC
Ben - Jake Delhomme, QB, CAR
Matthew - Jason Elam, K, DEN
Brian - Lawrence Tynes, K, KC
Keith - Vikings, D/ST, MIN
Scott - Jets, D/ST, NYJ
Melissa - Josh Brown, K, SEA
Corey - Troy Williamson, WR, MIN

Group mentality: Did someone mention Jason Elam last round. Nearly everyone in my league panicked and grabbed the first kicker they could think of after Vinatieri was drafted. Somehow Elam stayed on the board long enough for me to scoop him, the second best kicker in fantasy football, later than eight other kickers.

Round 11

Corey - Santana Moss, WR, WAS
Melissa - Ben Roethlisberger, QB, PIT
Scott - Patrick Ramsey, QB, WAS
Keith - Jeff Reed, K, PIT
Brian - Rod Smith, WR, DEN
Matthew - Bears, D/ST, CHI
Ben - Eric Moulds, WR, BUF
Daniel - Steve McNair, QB, TEN
Thomas - Shayne Graham, K, CIN
Jeff - Donte Stallworth, WR, NO

Shirley - Plaxico Burress, WR, NYG
Becca - T.J. Duckett, RB, ATL

Shrewd move: Shirley nabbed a highly skilled number one receiver in round 11, always a fantastic move. Now she has to hope Eli Manning can deliver the ball.

Round 12

Becca - Marcus Pollard, TE, DET
Shirley - Stephen Davis, RB, CAR
Jeff - Kyle Boller, QB, BAL
Thomas - Cardinals, D/ST, ARI
Daniel - Kenean McCardell, WR, SD
Ben - Andre' Davis, WR, NE
Matthew - Kevin Barlow, RB, SF
Brian - Eric Johnson, TE, SF
Keith - Michael Bennett, RB, MIN
Scott - Michael Pittman, RB, TB
Melissa - Larry Johnson, RB, KC
Corey - Justin McCareins, WR, NYJ

Shrewd move: Kyle Boller has seemingly had mounds more doubters than supporters in his two-year career, but his third season will brush the haters away. Armed with new offensive weapons - Derrick Mason, Mark Clayton and a healthy Jamal Lewis - and new coaches, Boller is ready to succeed, or have another bad season and watch the ravens select a replacement in next year's draft.

Round 13

Corey - Charles Rogers, WR, DET
Melissa - Antwaan Randle El, WR, PIT
Scott - Keary Colbert, WR, CAR
Keith - Dolphins, D/ST, MIA
Brian - Travis Henry, RB, TEN
Matthew - Marshall Faulk, RB, STL
Ben - Greg Jones, RB, JAX
Daniel - Texans, D/ST, HOU
Thomas - Dante Hall, WR, KC
Jeff - Thomas Jones, RB, CHI
Shirley - Reche Caldwell, WR, SD
Becca - Michael Jenkins, WR, ATL

Shrewd move: Travis Henry was cast away from Buffalo for a third round pick after McGahee displayed immense talent last season. Chris Brown will start, but Henry will initially steal some carries. Since Brown has durability issues, Henry could get significant use at any sign of injury to Brown. And remember, Henry put up two thousand-plus-yard seasons with double-digit touchdowns in 2002 and 2003.

Round 14

Becca - Kurt Warner, QB, ARI
Shirley - Jermaine Wiggins, TE, MIN
Jeff - Cowboys, D/ST, DAL
Thomas - Frank Gore, RB, GB
Daniel - Jason Hanson, K, DET
Ben - Jaguars, D/ST, DEF
Matthew - Matt Jones, WR, JAX
Brian - Mark Clayton, WR, BAL
Keith - Joey Galloway, WR, SEA
Scott - Dominic Rhodes, RB, IND

Melissa - Itula Mili, TE, SEA
Corey - Derrick Blaylock, RB, NYJ

What were you thinking: Matt Jones possesses jaw-dropping speed at his size (6'6", 243) and sticky fingers, but his transition from a college quarterback to a NFL receiver will limit his production. I stretched on this pick, but his one-handed 48-yard catch against the Falcons in the preseason relieved some of my worries about this pick.



Round 15

Corey - Broncos, D/ST, DEN
Melissa - Seahawks, D/ST, SEA
Scott - Jeb Putzier, TE, DEN
Keith - David Boston, WR, MIA
Brian - Marcus Robinson, WR, MIN
Matthew - Bengals, D, D/ST, CIN
Ben - Ben Watson, TE, NE
Daniel - Eli Manning, QB, NYG
Thomas - Chargers, D/ST, SD
Jeff - Drew Bledsoe, QB, DAL
Shirley - Antwain Smith, RB, NO
Becca - Packers, D/ST, GB

Homer pick: Ben, a lifelong UGA Bulldog football fan, stretched beyond the imaginable realm with this pick. Ben Watson was a great receiving threat at Georgia, but is buried on the Patriots depth chart behind Daniel Graham and Christian Fauria. Don't expect any noteworthy production from Watson.

Round 16

Becca - Ciatrick Fason, RB, MIN
Shirley - Daniel Graham, TE, NE
Jeff - Freddie Jones, TE, ARI
Thomas - Chester Taylor, RB, BAL
Daniel - Amani Toomer, WR, NYG
Ben - J.P. Losman, QB, BUF
Matthew - Chris Cooley, TE, WAS
Brian - Joey Harrington, QB, DET
Keith - Jeff Garcia, QB, DET
Scott - Peerless Price, WR, ATL
Melissa - Nate Kaeding, K, SD
Corey - Teyo Johnson, TE, OAK

Shrewd Move: Brain obtained a young athletic quarterback in Joey Harrington who has four reasons to finally prove himself. If he has the season Lions fans have been expecting, Harrington could be the steal of the draft. If not, Keith selection of Jeff Garcia (one pick later) might be.

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Perspectives

Editor: Jessika Toothman
Associate Editor: Charmaine Henry

Whom will I send?

The Gaza Strip turmoil reflects region's history



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Looking Glass
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Quite possibly one of the most monumental proceedings of our time, the Gaza Strip pull out has not until recently gained the attention it has deserved.

The area has a history of political turmoil dating back to the Ottoman Empire and current issues mirror much of past distresses, as the strip serves as a focus within the Israeli-Palestinian dispute.

Of most concern is the general lack of knowledge most of us have concerning the issues. At times even some journalist seems baffled by the reactions of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Perhaps this is due to the turbulent history of the area and its religious implications, such inference that often lead to formless judgments in a politically correct world.

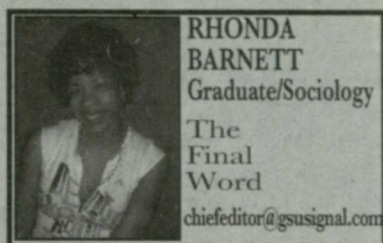
A large portion of this conflict surrounds religion and religious rights, histories, and beliefs. Just a few days ago the very last of the Jewish settlers withdrew, some carrying their menorah and the Torah while leaving the settlement of Netzarim. It is because of the religious significance of this area and the beliefs of so many rooted in Gaza that the withdrawal process has been such a poignant one.

Settlers have tried desperately to salvage areas such as the West Bank that are of particular religious importance. The West Bank for instance, considered part of the holy land includes the "Walled City," an area of religious significance. The issue lies in the desperate belief of the settlers that this area has been given to them by God. For the government to take that away from them is not only upsetting but also debilitating as it ravishes core beliefs.

More than that, this area has become home to many Jewish

See GAZA | Page 23

The real master plan should be fully staffing student services



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Since 1998, President Carl Patton has been pushing the "master plan." A plan that will provide new buildings for Sparks and Kell halls, lower the plaza to street level and narrow Decatur Street. While this may seem nice architecturally, it does not excuse the fact that we have students who cannot pay for tuition and fees. Much of this is a result of delayed processing time for financial aid monies.

In 1999, the university experienced a similar financial aid fiasco. According to a column written by then SGA president, Andre Young, "Who gives a damn about a new classroom building or recreation center if they don't have the money to pay for classes and books?"

During that year, the university was experiencing problems with computers in the financial aid department but failed to deal with the problem. However, they were gung-ho about the master plan. Yet, they had students in the air about their financial aid.

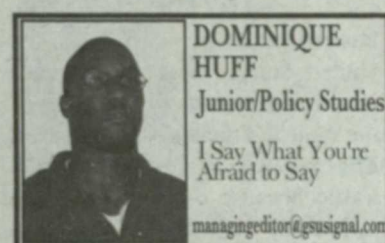
University Attorney John Marshall has been quoted our

paper explaining the state law in regards to dropping students from classes and Associate Provost of Academic Programs Bill Fritz has stated that the Financial Aid office is short staffed. When you put these two issues together and look at the past, the Financial Aid Department is getting the short end of the bargain. The university



Rhonda Barnett | Signal

One Stop Shop has made many student's first week a complete nightmare as they work out enrollment and financial aid issues.

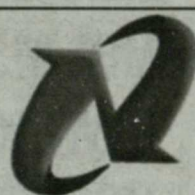


**DOMINIQUE
HUFF**
Junior/Policy Studies
I Say What You're
Afraid to Say
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administration now expects less people to do more work. The "one stop shop" only has three windows but the lines stretch all the way to City Hall for students needing assistance. Don't bother calling the office because you will be on hold for nearly an hour before you realize the person on the other end cannot help you. The Student Accounts window closed at 4:53pm on the Aug. 15 but their sign states 5:15.

While Patton is aggressively hunting for funding for some of these elaborate master plan projects, he needs to be aggressively lobbying for more funding for staffing in departments that deal

See ONE | Page 23



POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Master plan aims for greater good



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Dr. Patton's era at Georgia State has been hallmarked by building developments all over campus. Besides Aderhold, the Rec Center and the Lofts, a new on-campus housing building and a 3-building Science Park is currently on the way.

He is also overseeing the creation of the Alpharetta and Brookhaven Centers, both of which offer classes from the College of Business, the latter opening this fall.

Many students find these building developments infuriating, especially with the other changes that have accompanied them in the past few years: the downsized human resources departments, increased tuition, and canceling of

programs.

On the other hand, the recent additions to campus are vital and serve a few very important purposes.

The main benefit of a degree is, obviously, the training you get to prepare for your career.

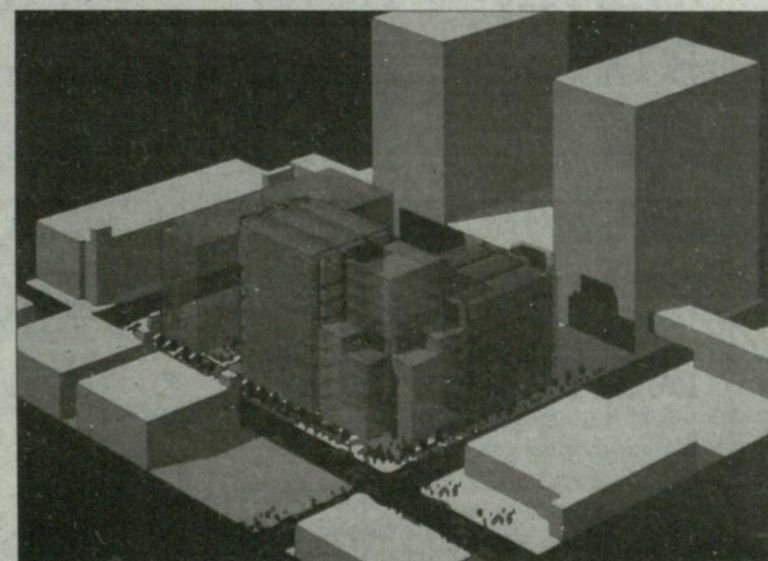
The second benefit of the degree is to have it on your resume to secure a good job at better pay. Therefore, you want your degree to come from a good school that is well-known and ranks well.

In the past dozen or so years Georgia State has been

increasing steadily in the rankings, and this is largely due to facility improvements, as well as improving the education level of our faculty. The College of Business and the College of Policy Studies are the best examples of this, although the other three can hold their own.

Professorships have been used to give a boost to the quality of education provided here. A professorship is when a highly qualified and scholarly professor who comes for a semester to a few years from another institution, to teach here. All the colleges at Georgia State make use of this program and having such prestigious faculty is a great boost to the school. Sure sometimes graduate students, teach classes, but I have four teachers with P.h. d's this year

Another benefit Dr. Patton has helped facilitate is the vast improvements to our learning environment. If I have a choice, I prefer to take classes at Aderhold, because compared to it, Sparks



Special | Signal

A graphic of the planned Science Center that will be built in the field between the N-Deck and the Georgia State MARTA Station.

See MASTER | Page 23

Airport security: no end to the hoop you have to jump through

By AMY CENCI
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Let's face it, going to the airport can be a nightmare, but Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson airport is in a category all by itself.

Aside from being the busiest passenger airport in the United States, the on-going construction only adds to the chaos of the typical Atlantan's flight travel. The present construction stalls traffic because everyone is being re-routed, proving navigation around the airport to be difficult. Good luck trying to find parking, and when you do it'll take over a day's walk to get to the actual airport. Checking-in isn't that bad, especially if your luggage consists of only carry-on items, but that's depending on what airline you fly. Some airline companies have gotten smart and now offer self check-in kiosks, where you can print and retrieve your boarding pass without waiting in those never-ending lines.

"Implementing a customer-conscious image similar to that of a fine retail store, complete with a friendly greeter, would certainly make the airport experience more pleasurable."

Security? Hellacious. Not only are the employees rude and uninviting, but also the people standing next to you are likely to exhibit the same behavior, due to the fact they've probably been standing in line for about a year. The high level of security doesn't seem to bother me, or anyone I've talked to in the long airport—it appears to be a "necessary evil." The country would be foolish to take such bold risks as to decrease the level of security and make itself vulnerable to further terrorist attacks, especially in the wake of the London bombings earlier this summer.

The issue at stake lies in the promptness and accuracy of the security employees. Many patrons of Hartsfield-Jackson airport are irritated by the gross inefficiency and undistinguished attitude shown by the airport employees. I've traveled quite a bit and seen how other airports operate and have witnessed a variety of behavior from airport employees.

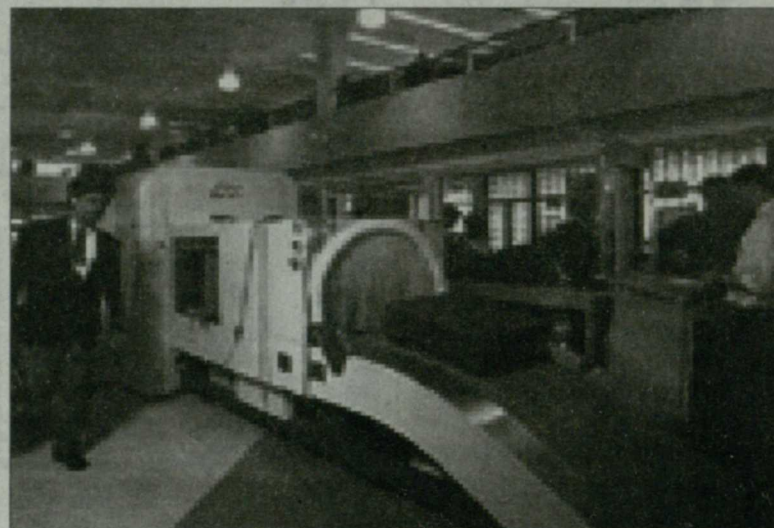
If there were just a few small changes made to the customer service aspect of the security

department, the traveling process would be much easier and less burdensome to many patrons. For instance, more security lines and cooperative customers (by making sure you have your boarding pass along with photo identification in-hand and ready) would promote a shorter wait time. Also, instead of security presenting such an authoritarian image, perhaps being more amicable and courteous would lessen the stress of frazzled customers. Implementing a customer-conscious image similar to that of a fine retail store, complete with a friendly greeter, would certainly make the airport experi-

ence more pleasurable.

However, friendliness alone can only go so far. More advanced equipment, more well-trained employees and compliant travelers will make the security process effortless and timely.

Although there have not been any serious complications or threats to American or Atlantan travelers recently, the need for tight security is still crucial and therefore should remain unchanged. The way in which this high level of security is put into action needs to be revised, not only to increase effectiveness, but also for the safety and comfort of airport traffickers.



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VINCENT MIGLIORE
Journalism/Film

Cooler Than the Other Side of the Pillow

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The soft drink industry, including giants Coca-Cola and Pepsi, have taken a huge first step in trying to relieve the problem of child obesity in this country. As the year started for most public schools in Georgia, some students might be a little disappointed to notice the vending machines in their cafeteria are no longer stocked with soda. Instead, under the new restrictions, only bottled water and 100 percent juice will be found in elementary schools. In middle schools, diet sodas and sports drinks will be allowed in addition to water and juice.

The ban by the soft drink companies is a great first step, but this action alone is not enough to keep children in this country from becoming obese. Why must school lunches be so bad? Instead of giving the option between pizza

and fried chicken, maybe healthier and fresher foods can be alternatives. Several states have considered, or enacted laws establishing nutrition standards in schools, including whether students should have sodas available to them. Unfortunately only considering changing the food system in schools isn't going to stop these kids from blowing up.

control of their children's lives before little Johnny has dug himself into a 250-pound hole. Instead of giving a child \$3 a day to buy their, perhaps they can spend \$6 a week on a pound of turkey to make sandwiches. Some parents will say that they don't have the time to make their child's lunch everyday or can't afford to do so. This may be true, but educating your child



Dominique Huff | Signal

The row of vending machines is often tempting for kids with a little pocket change and no one watching over them.

Good eating habits must start in the home. Parents are going to have to step in and take

on what to eat doesn't cost anything.

I recently saw a news

report on the local news about this ban and I was shocked when I saw a backlash from some parents. "That's all my kids drink!" one mother claimed with an attitude. Is soda really the only beverage children drink? Children will drink and eat what they like out of the options presented to them. As far as I know, no child has ever starved because Coca-Cola wasn't an option with dinner.

Why is it that child obesity isn't seen as the serious problem in our country that it is? Children who are malnourished and deathly skinny are taken away from their parents. These same parents can later be tried for child abuse. Why can't a parent be tried for child abuse for creating a morbidly obese and still malnourished child? I see no difference, and its time for more people to see them as the same as well.

Children shouldn't have to go to school knowing they will be made fun of, especially for being overweight. What happened to the days of making fun of kids because of things they can't help? Like wearing glasses? the soft drink ban is not going to get kids to stop drinking soda, but maybe it will open a few eyes around this country that our children aren't as healthy as they should be. After all, the problem here isn't soda, but something much bigger...pun intended.

but only talk about it? It had gone on for nearly five months; that is almost 150 days. A vote takes little time; the results are known within hours, sometimes minutes. And yet, the Senate abused its Constitutional right to filibuster for five months for fear of losing the vote. How much more craven can one be?

And then the audacity to accuse Bush of some grievous evil. Harry Reid decried that Bush was guilty of misappropriation, even abuse of power, by using the special Presidential right in this setting. He said that the Executive Order was only supposed to be used in narrow and extenuating circumstances, and Kennedy added that Bush circumvented the Constitutional requirement of the Senate's confirmation. Both are partly true, and at the same time prime pieces of prototypical political prevarication. If an extremely important vacancy has been empty for over five months, and if the body that is supposed to vote on the proposed candidate refuses to do so, how can one not call this set of circumstances "emergency" and "narrow"? The position had to be filled.

The real injustice here is not Bush's bypassing the Senate like Clinton did several hundred times more than Bush has. It is that the dastardly Senate could not even bring itself to vote. Even if they had kicked Bolton, Bush could have nominated someone

See BOLTON | Page 23

Vigilantes patrolling Mexico's border watched for force



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Truth is the Daughter of Time

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In southeastern Arizona on the United States-Mexico border, a self-appointed vigilante group, calling itself the Minuteman Project, is patriotically patrolling our borderline. Over 500 volunteers came together to form the Minuteman Project in April of 2005. The Minutemen are determined to stop the illegal immigration flow that routinely slips past federal agents.

Of the 1.1 million illegal immigrants caught by the U.S. Border Patrol last year, 51 percent crossed into the United States at the Arizona border. The agency increased the number of federal agents in the Tucson sector from 1700 to 2100 since February 2004.

Despite an increased workforce, the U.S. Border Patrol-Tucson sector still officially welcomes the assistance of the Minutemen. California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger praised the Minuteman Project, on a Los Angeles radio talk show, on April 28, 2005. The very next day, Governor Schwarzenegger said the Minutemen would be more than welcome to patrol the California-Mexico border.

"Several Al-Qaeda leaders believe terrorists can pay their way into the country through Mexico, and also believe illegal entry is more advantageous than legal entry for operational security reasons," stated James Loy, the deputy secretary of the Homeland Security Department, to the Senate Intelligence Committee. Nevertheless, none of the Middle-East hijackers, of the infamous September 11 flights, entered the United States via Mexico. All of the hijackers had visas that were granted by the U.S. federal government.

Despite all of the praise that has been given unto the Minutemen, there have also been a few critics. The most prominent critic is none other than President George W. Bush. Without referring to the Minutemen by name, President Bush expressed dislike for vigilante justice in a recent

See BORDER | Page 23

Senate, keep your foot in your mouth



BEN HODGES
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The Recusant

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A smile glistened on my face a few weeks ago when I heard that Bush had done something I could even call right.

John Bolton. That's right, every liberal's favorite fall guy. Bush's appointment of Bolton to the position of United Nations ambassador for the United States was the second of two really great moves for the President. I was expecting the same old nonsense from the man (and got it months later in his appointment of John Roberts, but that is another story).

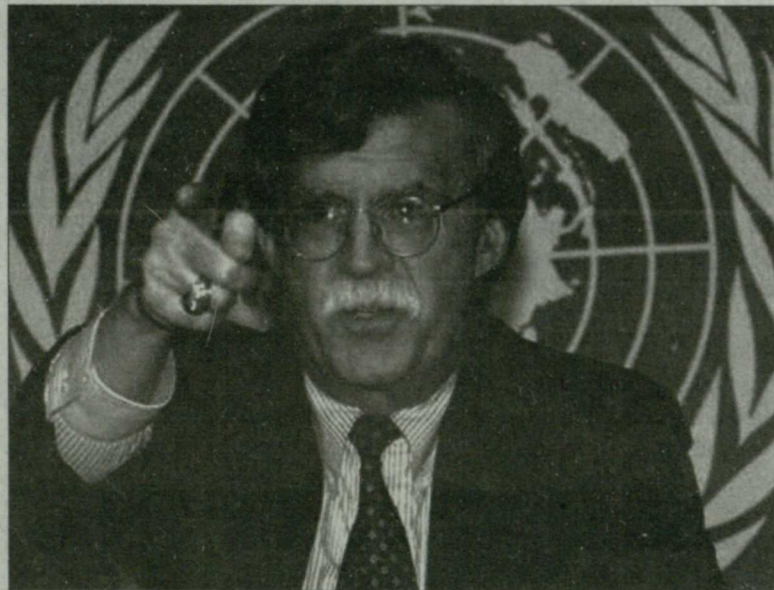
Bush courageously nominated one of the only men who could fill such a bankrupt position to the most corrupt and useless organization on the planet. And it is a man like Bolton who hopefully might be able to start dismantling the nefarious union.

Sure, appointments like these only serve seventeen months, but when one has a Senate like we do, you hope to get what you can. The Senate's job in the matter is to

either confirm or deny these men the position they have been nominated for based on personal qualities that could either be deleterious or advantageous to their effectiveness on the job. Be that as it may, Bolton's toughest opponents, like Joseph R. Biden, made it clear that

hated the UN. Who cares? It is not Biden's job to criticize a candidate's politics. That was Bush's job when he nominated Bolton.

And one could even forget all that nonsense and skip right to the vote. At the very least, the Senate owed the man a vote. If



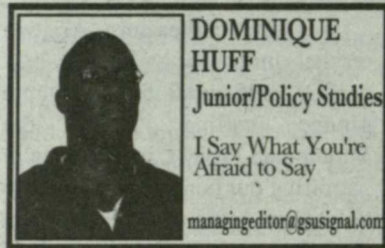
Special | Signal

John Bolton's appointment, though only for 17 months, has rocked both Houses into extreme debates and partisan ultimatums.

much of the apprehension regarding even voting for such a man lay in his politics. I watched a bit of the C-SPAN debates several months ago, and was astounded that most of Biden's arguments relied solely on the fact that Bolton

they did not like his politics and denied him the position, that would be another story, and probably one I would also feel moved to write about. But we never even got there! Are these Senators so cowardly as to not even go to battle,

Signal under new man- age- ment



DOMINIQUE HUFF
Junior/Policy Studies
I Say What You're Afraid to Say
managingeditor@gsusignal.com

The first issues of both our publications came out last week for you the reader to enjoy. Those issues mark the 73rd volume of the Signal and the 4th volume of the Urbanite. Over the summer, we brainstormed and analyzed ways to create better publications for you to enjoy this school year.

We want you to consider our paper a useful source of information that you look forward to picking up every week. To make our paper more accessible to you, we are revamping our distribution route to ensure it is near you. Last week, you may have picked up a copy from one of the new locations.

We are going to continue to follow happenings on our campus such as student organizations, the administration and other newsworthy items. Do you have a news tip? Pass it on to our News Editor, Candace Morrow.

Our website is a work in progress. Many of you probably did not know we even had one. Based on the number of hits in the report from our Web Director, nobody knew. The address, www.gsusignal.com, has been around since 2001 to provide the paper version into an online version. You can pull up old articles from past issues on the site to see what has happened over the years. You can post comments to articles you have read as well. You can now download an advertising packet and a writer's application. We are featuring "web-only" articles to attract you as well. Last week, there was a nice response to Amy Cenci's web-only editorial. There are more surprises ahead with our website but you have to stay tuned to find out. Trust us, our Web Director Cameron Christian is taking it to the next level.

In addition, our staff is committed to producing the best

The price of looking good is about to go up



JULIE SENTNER
Senior/Public Relations
The Only Therapy I Need is Retail Therapy
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A new tax may make people think twice before going under the knife. The 'vanity tax' that was enacted in New Jersey last September has at least six other states debating whether or not to come up with their own version.

The tax, which adds 6.5 percent to all cosmetic surgeries, is a very controversial topic among many parties. Legislators are for the tax, proposing to use that money for children's healthcare and stem cell research. Surgeons are against the tax, saying that the legislators are wrongly assuming that their patients are wealthier than they are. Women, who are most likely to consider a cosmetic procedure, stand on both sides of the tax. Some women encourage the tax, hoping that a 6.5 percent increase will discourage women from the societal pressures to alter their appearance. Women who are opting for cosmetic surgery are against the tax for numerous reasons.

The most common surgeries that will be affected are breast augmentation, nose jobs,

product week after week. Behind the scenes, hours and hours of hard work goes into what you are reading today. We aim for perfection but we tend to make mistakes along the way. However, we own up to them and learn from them.

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We want to see more letters to the editor. If you have one, e-mail it to the perspectives editor. We want your press releases and general feedback (positive and negative). We want to hear the terrible truth. We cannot effectively gauge our performance if we do not hear from you, the readers. Our editor in chief, Rhonda Barnett, and myself are here for you. Feel free to call, e-mail or drop by the office in room 200 of the University Center.

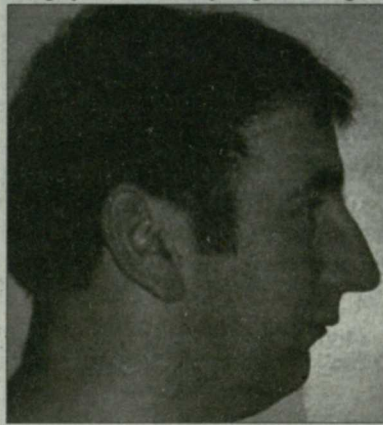
This year the Signal and Urbanite are going to be doing big things. We are going to take these papers to the next level. We are reaffirming our commitment to be of service to the university community.

Without you, we are nothing. Thanks for your continued patronage!

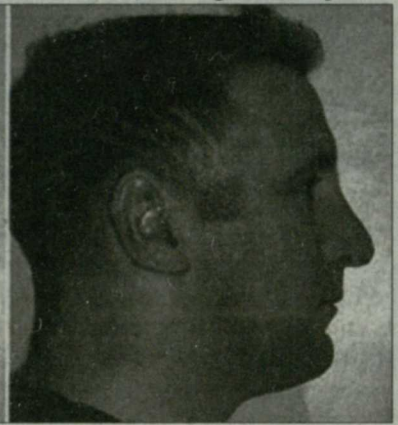
Several states consider following New Jersey's lead of adding a Vanity Tax to cosmetic procedures

liposuction, tummy tucks and Botox injections. Across the board, 86 percent of the people who undergo these surgeries are women. A tax that will disproportionately affect women makes it seem like the legislators proposing the bill have fallen behind a few decades.

Legislators do not see the harm in a little tax. We pay tax on our groceries, clothes and many other everyday items, but the taxes we pay on a weekly trip to Kroger



Botoxed have money seeping out of their chemically peeled pores. That is not always the case. According to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, the majority of women considering plastic surgery earn middle to upper-middle class incomes. Forty percent of women who responded to this survey earn from \$30,000 to \$60,000 annually. The remaining 60 percent earn \$60,000 to \$90,000 annually, which does not typically leave room in their budget for a sponta-



Special | Signal

Plastic surgery is becoming more popular among all demographics.

won't knock our bill up \$600. It seems that those in favor of the tax are assuming that everyone who wants to tuck, lifted and

neous nose job. Most of the people who will carry the burden of this tax have saved money specifically for the operation and the few hun-

dred dollars that will be added on is more than spare change.

As of today, there are only six other states considering to adopt the tax. Arkansas, Illinois, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and New York have all proposed their own version of the tax. The highest tax would be in Texas—an added 7.5 percent to all elective cosmetic procedures. Washington's tax is more extreme, requesting that the 6 percent tax be placed on all appearance-improving procedures: teeth whitening, chemical peels, and hair replacement would be added to the vanity tax list.

The tax may not be working out exactly as planned. New Jersey, where the tax has been in effect for nearly a year, has only brought in \$7 million of the projected \$25 million. One reason the projection was so off, that may not have been considered previously, was the amount of patients willing to travel to a nearby state that does not impose the tax to have the surgery.

The tax has been given boundaries and must stay in the cosmetic realm. Reconstructive

See VANITY | Page 23

Next stop Zombieville

By ISAAC KINARD
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Fall has come and it's time we draw our eyes to a brimming new batch of graduates since that is, after all, why we are here. Ultimately though, we are here for another reason. You see graduation day is the precise moment life goes from a happy, free, relatively human state to a petting zoo floor. This abject slide in condition comes because you step through the portal into working life.

Stress has always been the ancient backbone of work. In fact, archeologists recently discovered among cave drawings "TGIF" scrawled in mammoth dung. Modern stress comes in many forms. For instance, you might lose promotions to co-workers who work as hard as a zucchini, which encourages just enough good-natured competition to make you rearrange the keys on their keyboard. Your boss might be a malevolent reptile that believes he is the intermediary between god and man—a man so powerful that Wisconsin quakes when he makes fondue. Or maybe life's pointlessness will reveal itself when you are

stomped over by the round and round flurry of daily commitments, ripped apart by the social isolation of competition and demoralized from endlessly fawning for approval from a nobility that sees you merely as an earning asset until you are a zombified parasite lurking through the entrails of the monolithic corporate machinery. Or maybe your stapler will suck.

It will take a few years before you awake from this torment and ask yourself: "Did I go to college to take a job where the only person lower on the totem pole is the paper clips? Did I take trigonometry to work in a cubicle that is as spacious as a roach trap? Did I study botany to work for a boss who is only happy with me when he can sharpen his pencil in my ear just before he eats my head?" Of course you will never find answers because your coffee break is over and you must get back to your desk... Hey, your company's hard drive won't forward that Paris Hilton video by itself!

Lucky for you dear reader, this author is here to help.

Based on in-depth research, by which I mean zero research, I have a theory on the purpose of college. You attend college for four years because there are a lot of great parties. Shoot, there are keg parties where you do keg stands only wearing a pair of underwear... and it usually isn't even your own underwear. This is the purpose of college, right?

You might believe that once you've boarded the college train you are on a non-stop ride to commencement, as if the weighty tomes of International Invertebrate Politics will just grow in your brain like shower mold. But if we can stop theorizing how cute Orlando Bloom is long enough to think about it, we get the vague idea that college is about turning us into something that at least appears to think like a human. That takes concentration, memory and hard work, which means keg parties are not in the curriculum. You see, hitchhiking your way through college acting like Keith Richards, Jim Morrison, or the Pink Panther only teaches you how to burn out. And smokin' ain't allowed in school.

Gaza from page 19

settlers who have built their homes and lives, from the late sixties, on land, claimed Palestinians claim is rightfully theirs.

Ultra-nationalist settlers have resisted eviction and held tight to synagogues with small uprisings of violence when deemed necessary. Some have even intentionally referred to scenes from the Holocaust, wearing the yellow Star of David as they connect the Israeli forces to past Nazi oppressors.

About 8,000 Jews will be moved out from the Strip and from isolated bits of the West Bank, peacefully at first and then by force. Withdrawing these settlers and handing over the land to the Palestinian Authority would legally conclude the occupation of approximately 1.4 million Palestinians.

However, one may ask why Gaza and why now? Well it all goes back to The Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements (DOP). This document, signed in Washington on September 13, 1993, afforded a transitional period of no more than five years of Palestinian provisional self-government in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank areas.

Under the DOP, Israel agreed to transmit certain responsibilities and powers to the Palestinian Authority, as part of the interim self-governing arrangement.

During the transitional period, the DOP provided that Israel would preserve responsibility concerning external and internal security and public order of settlements and Israeli citizens.



Special | Signal
The Gaza Strip was under Jewish control since 1967.

After a three-year hiatus, attempts to negotiate the permanent status of Gaza and West Bank were derailed by a second intifadah that broke out in September 2000. This resulted in

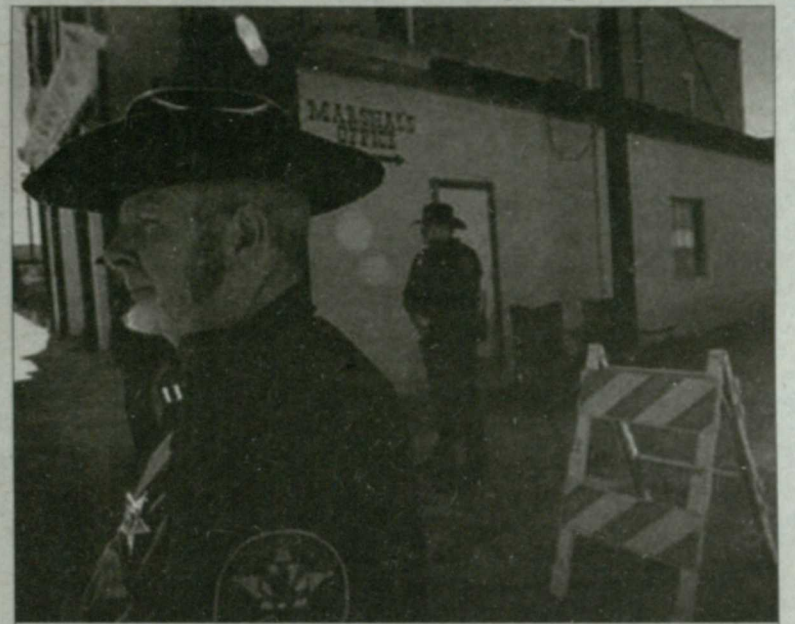
prevalent brutality in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In response, Israel's military and instability within the Palestinian Authority prolonged undercutting evolution toward an undeviating union in November 2004.

Mahmud Abbas came to power in January 2005, after the death of longtime Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat. Now relations with Abbas and Sharon will move under the microscope as the world watches these two make attempts at a peaceful relationship following years of warfare.

The conflict emerges as to the rights of a land to a certain people and how about that is ultimately decided upon. Religion? Warfare? Political strategy? Is it right to evict all these people from not only their homes but also an eminent religious terra firma. Have those evicted placed an adequate resistance?

We have witnessed this conflict's dissolution in peaceful tears not blood, as some had feared. The heartfelt sorrow of those expelled from Gaza illustrates perfectly the reasons they remained, endeavoring to clutch any bit of the home they believed to be theirs.



Special | Signal
The Arizona militiaman make many nervous because they lack the normal regulation law enforcement agencies are subject to.

Border from page 21

speech. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) observers also patrol the zone but they are monitoring the work of the Minutemen. Minutemen are not permitted, by federal law, to arrest or confront any illegal border crossers. Minutemen can only report what they observe to the U.S. Border Patrol.

Glenn Spencer, who man-

ages a privatized border patrol out of Hereford, Arizona, has also criticized the Minutemen. Spencer claims the Minutemen are a magnet for camouflage-wearing, weapons-toting hard-liners who might get a little carried away with their assignments. Glenn Spencer's volunteer group has used unmanned aerial vehicles and other high-tech equipment to track and report the number of border crossings for more than two years.

About 100 miles west of the Minuteman Project zone lay the Papago Indian Reservation. This Indian Reservation, which happens to sit on the U.S.-Mexico border, incurs heavy costs related to border patrolling. Despite communication with the U.S. Border Patrol, the Papago tribe pays a disproportionate amount of the bills for border-related enforcement and emergency services. Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano has repeatedly requested the federal government repay the state and the tribe for the costs of border-related emergencies.

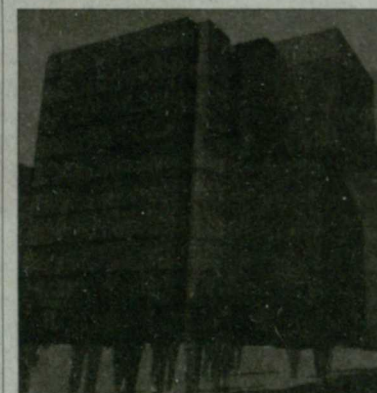
After weighing all of the pros and cons, there is but one solution. The Minutemen should patrol the borderline of the Papago Indian Reservation and the federal government should follow the advice of Governor Napolitano. Governor Schwarzenegger, as an immigrant, should be ignored by the Minutemen.

Hall is a dump. That's why Sparks is another building in line for renovations. Kell Hall's ventilation system has been rocky for years. That's that nasty, noisy metal slug on the side of the building has been trying to maintain, and for anyone who's had a class in there lately, it's not doing too hot of a job. See why the Science Park is so desperately needed?

A huge urban campus is bound to have ups and downs with the vast amount of activity going on. We have to accept the fact that going to college encompasses miles of red tape and tons of frustrations. That is a hassle, but it does replicate many of the daily trivial annoyances that will follow us the rest of our adult lives. I should know—I'm being audited.

In the mean time, I think our campus looks nicer all the time and I'm glad to be graduating from Georgia State.

Master from page 19



Special | Signal
A graphic of the Science Park.

Vanity from page 22

surgeries for children, burn victims, women who have undergone mastectomies and so forth will not be affected by the tax.

It all comes down to what beauty is worth on an individual level. Some see that being nipped and tucked is worth any price and will not flinch at the added expense. For those that forego the surgery altogether, they may see that aging gracefully isn't so bad or possibly find a less expensive way to indulge in the so-called "fountain of youth."

Bolton from page 21

else the very same week to get the ball rolling again. Such a move would not have been necessary had the Senate not fallen to new lows. And yet Reid again declared that Bush is the one who "chose to stonewall the Senate." Oh, really? Not the ones who intentionally stymied any move to even take a dad-gum vote? This is sheer absurdity.

Now that the saga is over, one critic called Bolton a "walking time bomb." One could only hope it goes off while in UN headquarters.

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One from page 19

with students directly. We do not need any useless administrative overhead or excessive management but actual workers. We need longer hours during peak hours of registration for our night students and commuter students. We need more than just three windows in the "one stop shop." In fact, we need competent people with pleasant attitudes in the "one stop shop." Two out of the three people in there just treat the students like dirt. In fact, University Registrar Cherise Y. Peters needs to e-mail the students personally with an apology for the bad service from her staff.

Nevertheless, we as students need to be more involved in our

campus affairs. We need to start asking questions and staying informed about what's going on. We need to ensure that we elect competent people to the SGA who will stand up for us. Previous SGA administrations were too concerned about going Greek and being accepted by the "in crowd" rather than dealing with student concerns and issues. We need to stand up and represent. We pay the salaries of the staff around here (70%) and the state pays the remainder but if our Governor has his way, it will be less from the state's end.

The students of this university deserve better than this. They deserve to get what they pay for. Student services need to be offered more in addition to the constant fee and tuition increases.

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