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First Three Bills

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Touching Yourself
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Ebay's Evil
Master Plan

Online at
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At www.gsusignal.com, you can
access all of these stories as well
as web-only articles!

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Freshman honor society recognized by nationals

By DOMINIQUE HUFF
managingeditor@gsusignal.com

Recognizing excellence, continuing tradition and preserving integrity, Alpha Lambda Delta is making its presence known at Georgia State. With over 1,000 members strong, the organization wants the university community to know that they are not the campus geeks.

"There is a stigma that we

are a geeky organization but we actually started doing a lot things to transcend the stereotype," said Jocelyn Crawley, junior advisor for the organization. "We have included various fun events such as golf, bowling and movie nights."

During the 2004-2005 school year, Crawley revamped the organization and helped it achieve recognition on the national level. The chapter

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Dominique Huff | Signal

Derrick Cooper and Jocelyn Crawley proudly exhibit the Order of the Torch banner.

Now, experience the world of fashion at Georgia State

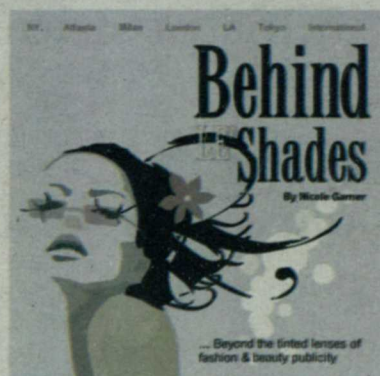
Behind Le Shades 101: An insiders view of the fashion and beauty publicity industry takes students behind the tinted lenses of the fashion world.

See page 4



Special | Signal

Publicity plays a major role in promoting a fashion show collection.



AJC professional club visits Georgia State's Campus Talkers

By CANDACE MORROW
newseditor@gsusignal.com

Campus Talkers and AJC Speaks Club, both affiliates of Toastmasters International, met Sept. 28 in Classroom South to evaluate members on speeches aimed at improving public speaking.

Patrick Vaughn, member of Campus Talkers, and Tonia Hackler of AJC Speaks each gave a speech to fellow members in a pursuit to receive their Competent Toastmaster (CTM) award, received after completing 10 speeches. The club goal requires that members execute 10 speeches with



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Office of Student Life and Leadership fully staffed, ready to serve

By RHONDA BARNETT
cheifeditor@gsusignal.com

For the first time, the Office of Student Life and Leadership is fully staffed offering a plethora of services and new extended hours for working students.

"We had a lot of transition in this office," said Pamela Anthony, assistant dean of students and director of student life and leadership. "This is the first time that all nine positions in this office are filled."

Last year, the office operated with four out of the nine positions. Over the summer, the other five positions were filled and the office is running smoother than ever.

"We have six areas within our office," said Anthony. "We have leadership Georgia State, student programs, student media, Greek life, Intercultural Relations and student organizations."

Dhanfu Elston oversees Leadership Georgia State as the advisor for leadership development. "Our basic philosophy is that all students have the capacity for leadership at some level and we have a responsibility to intentionally support and encourage

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The Georgia State University Signal

currently has the following positions open:

Photographers

The Signal is in need of a few good photographers to cover on- and off-campus events. Photographers will preferably have their own cameras, though tons of experience is not a requirement.

Writers

Contribute in any of five areas: News, Sports, Perspectives, Living, or Arts & Entertainment. No experience necessary. Positions are open to all majors.

Associate Sports Editor

The Associate Editor assists the Editor in the organizational aspects of the Sports section. Though not a requirement, knowledge of Quark or other graphics/layout programs is definitely a plus.

Distribution Manager

The Signal is in need of someone to help deliver the paper around campus every Tuesday and Thursday. This position is paid.

Cartoonist

The Signal would like to run original cartoons written and drawn by students.

Working for The Signal can provide you with valuable experience for your resume, as well as free admission to many of the events that are covered in the paper.

Please stop by The Signal office at 200 University Center, visit www.gsusignal.com, or email chiefeditor@gsusignal.com for more information!!

It's your campus, so get involved!

October 4

neoPhonia New Music Recital

Nickitas J. Demos, artistic director. Special guests: Dinos Constantinides, composer and Tania Maxwell Clements, viola. Odusseia a concert featuring music by Dinos Constantinides as well as the premiere of Mirrors of Eternity, a chamber concerto for viola by Nickitas J. Demos. All audience members will receive free admission to the 30th Annual Greek Atlanta Festival.
Time: 7:30 pm
Where: Kopleff Recital Hall
Admission: Free

Five Ways to be One

Be a scholar, value multiculturalism, want sisterhood, be a leader, help your community. Meet distinguished members of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority Inc.
Time: 5:30 pm

October 5

2nd Annual Dan E. Sweat Lecture

The featured speaker, Eric A. Hanushek, Ph.D., Stanford University's Hoover Institution, will speak on The Economic Importance of School Quality.
Time: 7:15 pm
Where: Speakers Auditorium

Study Abroad Fair

Exhibitors from 60 academic international programs and scholarships will be on hand to showcase their programs and meet with students to raise an awareness of the vast international opportunities available to them.
Time: 10:00 am
Where: Student Center Ballroom

October 6

Golden Key Meeting

Time: 12:15 pm - 1:00 pm
Where: Golden Key Room (Second Fl. Student Center)

Career Conversations Careers in Government Employment

Dialogue with panelist about their careers in government.
Time: 12:00 pm
Where: University Center, Room 245

The AIDS Memorial Quilt

Anchoring the Turner First Thursday downtown art-walk, where Quilt will be featured in a number of galleries. As part of the activities the NAMES Project/AIDS Memorial Quilt will host a quilt-making forum including new panel-making, new panel dedications, bundling, and sewing of sections of the Quilt.
Time: 5:00 pm
Where: Rialto Center

October 7

The Next Big Hookup

How does it work? Let us know what you're looking for in a mate, we'll select your match and arrange a fun group night out on the town. Register in library north plaza Tuesday 10a.m.-1p.m. or contact nextbighookup@hotmail.com by October 5th. Dates are Oct. 7th-8th.
Time: Oct. 7th at 6:30p.m. and Oct. 8th at 4:00p.m.
Where: Fellini's, R Thomas's, Cafe Intermezzo and other places

October 8

Fort Mountain State Park Day Hike

Beginners and experienced hikers will enjoy this moderate seven mile loop trail which follows the perimeter of the park along mountain ridges.

The first half offers some of the finest vistas in all of Georgia. Sponsored by the Student Recreation Center.
For more information, please call 404-463-1525
Cost: \$6 GSU Students, \$7 Faculty, \$8 Non-GSU

October 14

Careers in Communication Sciences and Disorders Open House

Learn more about career opportunities in this exciting field.
Where: College of Education, Room 150
Time: 10:00-11:00 a.m.
RSVP to mromski@gsu.edu

Public Service Announcement

Night Student Concerns

If you are a night student and feel that there are resources that aren't available to you that would otherwise be available to day students, or if you have other concerns such as safety, unavailability of assistance for night students, etc., please contact April Stancliff at astancliff1@student.gsu.edu to voice any concerns.

Public Service Announcement

Safety Escorts are available from the Georgia State Police Department from 7p.m.-11p.m. Escorts are made from Georgia State University buildings, parking lots, Georgia State or Five Points MARTA Stations, commercial parking lots near the campus, or other destinations near the campus. For an escort, call 404-651-2100.

Is your organization having an event?

Post it here in our calendar of events for FREE, contact Sung Choe, Associate News Editor at news@gsusignal.com

Do you have a news tip? Let us know what's going down, when and where. Contact Candace Morrow, News Editor. Contact information is located below.

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 perspectiveseditor@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

PRICING: \$10 per column inch with \$95 for single-spot color and \$380 for four-color process. Inserts up to 8 pages are \$65 per thousand and inserts of more than 8 pages are \$80 per thousand with a minimum of 3,000. Deadline is Friday before publication at noon.

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News

Editor: Candace Morrow
Associate Editor: Sung Choe

Fresh course takes to the fashion world

By CANDACE MORROW
newseditor@gsusignal.com

Have a passion for fashion? Well, Georgia State students are in luck. To expand public relations courses in journalism, Georgia State's Leisure Learning Program, which works to get courses that students cannot take traditionally, created a course with a specific niche in fashion.

"When I attended Georgia State they did not offer concentrations within public relations and so I thought 'there had to be more

people besides me interested in fashion,'" said Nicole Garner, public relations manager of her own firm, The Garner Circle PR, and professor for the course, Behind Le



Garner

Shades 101.

"To get this course started, it was perfect timing and a good match," said Garner.

The course started Sept. 28 with around 50 people in attendance. A neat aspect about the course is that it is open to students, faculty, staff, affiliates, as well as the Atlanta community.

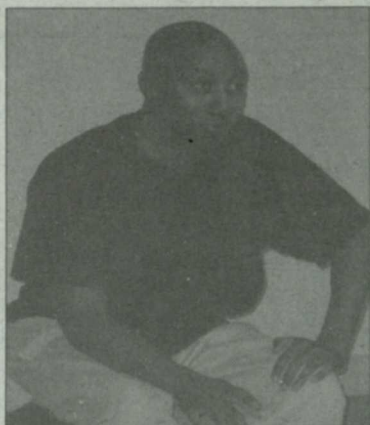
Held in the Sinclair Suite in the Student University Center, Georgia State students and people within the fashion industry joined the class.

There were boutique owners, a model, magazine writers and directors, event planners, skin care and beauty professionals, public relations and film students, and even a high school student that were present.

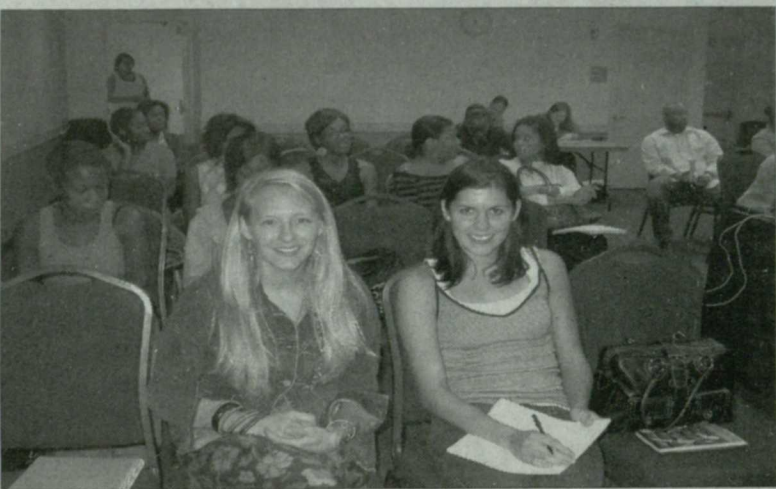
Garner said that the course is not just for people who enjoy fashion as the course benefits others who are interested in the basis of public relations.

The course will cover topics in what is publicity, public basics, understanding fashion and beauty media, fashion, shows, product launches, fashion week, understanding the fashion and beauty world, firm/agency, alternative publicity, tricks of the trade and fashion resources.

"Analyzing publicity in the fashion world is important because this is a hard market to get into as it is usually prominent in places like New York and Los Angeles," said Garner. "Having strong public relations gets the ball rolling and helps you stand out."



Candace Morrow | Signal
Left: Patrick Cooper, a Georgia State alumnus, talks to Garner's class about his busy schedule in the entertainment business. Below: Melissa Lamken, 27, and Tara Dorsey, 23, are out of school, but decided to join the course to get a better understanding of how public relations operates in the fashion arena.



The course operates differently from most courses at Georgia State. It is a four-part series, once a week for one month and offered every semester. At the end of the course, students are given a certificate and can use the classroom experience to "break into the industry faster and become independent in doing their own public relations," Garner said.

Garner named the course Behind Le Shades as a metaphor to say that fashion and beauty publicity has always been an industry that is typically hard to enter.

Now an alumni of Georgia State of the class of 2004, Garner launched her career in public relations right after graduating and came back to teach.

Garner has worked with the industry's most notable celebrity and entertainment publicists. Eventually, she secured her own firm with clients such as Jaguar Luxury Brand to celebrity trio Three Brown Girls—Kim Porter, Nicole-Cooke Johnson and Eboni Elektra—and appeared on BET, MTV and mainstream magazines as author, instructor and practitioner.

Garner has invited guest speakers in the fashion arena to come to the course in Women's Wear Daily, Godeva Loungewear, celebrity styling, national clothing lines editors of Upscale, Jezebel, Paper City, Rolling Out, fashion show production agencies

and renowned publicists.

"It's a fun course as I will integrate speakers, visuals and hands-on activities to plug my students into the job market or hopefully obtain internships, but taking notes is a must since public relations is all about writing," said Garner.

Garner gave students a surprise last Wednesday when celebrity stylist Patrick Cooper arrived and gave a glimpse into his lifestyle in the fashion industry.

Cooper has been stylist to the stars as he has collaborated with Diddy, Marie Claire, Burberry, Nia Long, BET and more.

He explained to the class that a publicist is a person who has to be on top of their game at all times in this industry.

"The best publicist is 'a know it all' publicist," said Cooper.

Students listened on attentively as Cooper joked about the "ins and outs" of breaking into the field.

Garner reminded everyone that public relations is not a nine to five job and that they cannot turn off their cell phone

Garner said, "Every day is a new day in the fashion world."

Students can go ahead and start registering for next semester by registering at info@behindleshades.com or www.BehindLeShades.com. By phone, call the Leisure Learning Office at (404) 463-9119.

Honor

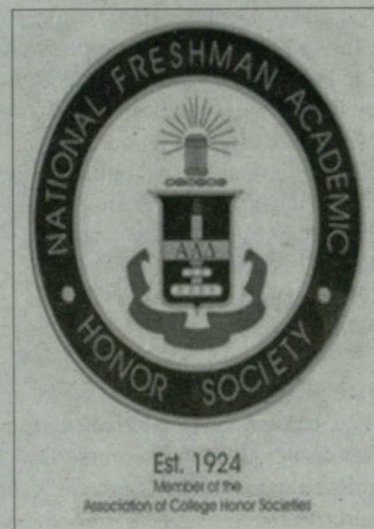
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won the order of the Torch Award. This award is given annually to the most outstanding chapters. Each year up to five chapters can be given the Order of the Torch. Other colleges presented with this award include North Carolina A&T University and University of Houston.

Currently under the leadership of President Derrick J. Cooper and Vice President Whitney Alanah Frazier, the organization seeks to be more visible and known here on campus. "We want to do engage in social activities that get our members out of the dormitories and Georgia State environment," Crawley added. "These programs are designed to let students know that we are not just a bunch of kids who do nothing but study."

Crawley would like to see the organization work with other groups here on campus such as the SGA, Spotlight Programs Board, the campus honors program and other honor student societies. "We are trying to appeal to the masses," Cooper mentioned. "We are trying to do more things that will attract people to come out. We are working with Reco Smith from Spotlight Programs Board to help us in this endeavor."

Alpha Lambda Delta is very prestigious as only 15 percent of freshmen are admitted into the organization. A freshman must achieve a 3.5 GPA their first semester of college as that their only chance to get in. "We accept all majors in the organization and we are well represented in



other campus organizations," Crawley highlighted.

According to research on their members, Alpha Lambda Delta members also belong to groups such as Golden Key, SGA, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, Softer Touch, Circle K, Phi Chi Theta and many others. "We really encourage diversity in experience and background," Crawley emphasized. "We have non-traditional students, commuters and non Georgia residents who are members of our chapter."

In addition to being social, the group still prides itself on academics. The group offers tutorial for students either here on campus or at the Village. Tutoring is aimed for freshman students but both Crawley and Cooper stated that tutoring is open to all levels. "We believe through our social programs and community service projects we are fulfilling our mission statement," Crawley reported.

"I want students to really take a look at Alpha Lambda Delta holistically and not perceive us as a bunch of nerds who spend their Friday night studying," Crawley concluded.

Cooper added, "We are cool, smart and universal."



This issue is dedicated to the memory of Eric Drayton Jr. Eric Drayton, Jr. passed on at the age of fourteen this past September. He was the son of Eric Drayton Sr, a maintenance employee here at the university. The Signal/Urbanite expresses our deep condolences to the family.

Galileo marks 10th year of service

By KELLY PETTY
kpetty@gsusignal.com

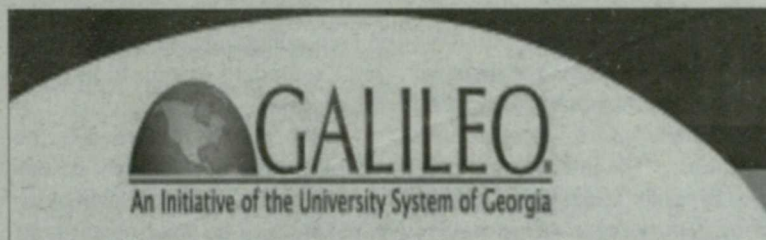
Georgia Library Learning Online, or GALILEO as it is aptly titled, wrapped up the month by celebrating its tenth anniversary on Sept. 21, which provides information resources and services to all Georgia citizens.

This marked the tenth year that GALILEO has been in service since its inception in 1995. "GALILEO has grown quickly to serve Georgians from Tybee Island to Dalton, from the big city to the farm," said Governor Sonny Perdue. "No other state has the participation of all communities in the way that GALILEO does."

Perdue, along with University System of Georgia librarians and information technology staff established GALILEO 150 days after funding was approved by former Governor Zell Miller and the Georgia General Assembly.

The purpose of the new program was to create a digital resource database and offer universal electronic access to every Georgia resident.

Initially available only to USG campus libraries, GALILEO was later expanded



to grant access to public schools, state technical colleges, private academic libraries and public libraries. To librarians at Georgia State University, it provided a huge leap into the information technology age.

"It provided access to databases such as Proquest and Epsco that we never had access to before," Laura Burtle, assistant dean and associate librarian for Learning and Technology Initiatives, explained. "It was a quick start to the library digital world."

She added that GALILEO first provided network computers for the university, and its primary impact was access to databases. In addition, half of the databases at Georgia State were paid for by GALILEO.

As a result, students and faculty at Georgia State have access to a complete virtual library containing millions of publications and documents for

research and study. To commemorate the anniversary, Governor Sonny Perdue and many who were involved with the creation of GALILEO hosted a celebration in Atlanta.

There was also a link through the GALILEO website that was dedicated to the history of GALILEO and a contest to create a GALILEO party with a grand prize of \$500 for the winner's library or media center.

In its 10 years, there have been new programs added to GALILEO to improve its accessibility to Georgia residents. In June 2000, the Digital Library of Georgia debuted which allowed users to access items across 60 different digitized collections from more than 40 libraries, archives and museums and from 80 state government agencies.

The DLG provides extensive resources about Georgia's

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Talkers

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10 different goals.

Vaughn completed speech number five while Hackler

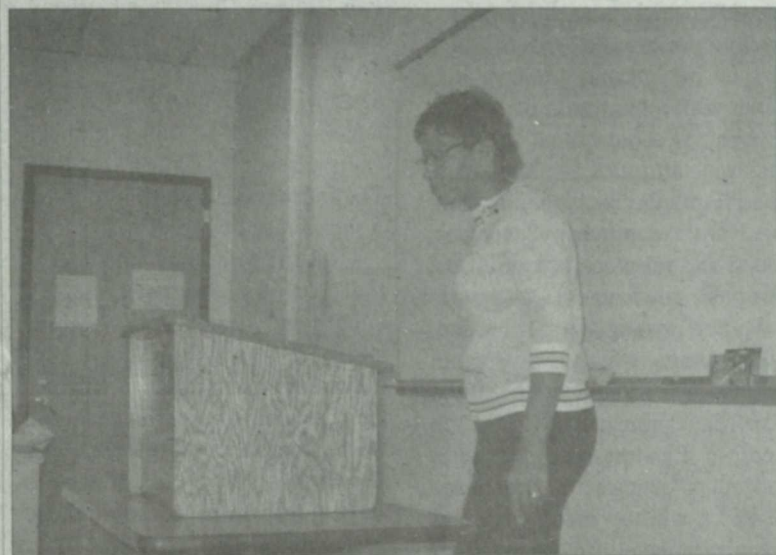
"We also participate in community service activities." "The club has recently collected \$300 that was divided among four students from Tulane University who were displaced from Hurricane Katrina."

The students received \$75



Adam Nathan | Signal

Above: Campus Talkers and AJC Speaks pose together. Below: Tonia Hackler delivers her five to seven minute speech on "Mr. Big Stuff."



completed number six.

After concluding speeches, they are evaluated and members given feedback.

"The evaluator focuses on the delivery of the speech and whether or not the member followed the criteria for that particular speech," said Fatima Goines, former president and member of Campus Talkers. "The feedback is helpful as students use the evaluator's comments and suggestions and apply them to future speeches."

"Our speakers earning their CTM are on track, for this year, to accomplish that goal," said Campus Talkers President Rhondre Hall. "Not knowing how to speak publicly can impact you later down the road if you can't communicate effectively and that is one thing we stress."

In fact, ever since Campus Talker formed five years ago, the club has awarded two-dozen students with CTM awards. Furthermore, Campus Talkers has been recognized as an outstanding club by receiving the President's Distinguished Club Award within the last two years.

Dr. Carol White, Campus Talkers faculty advisor added,

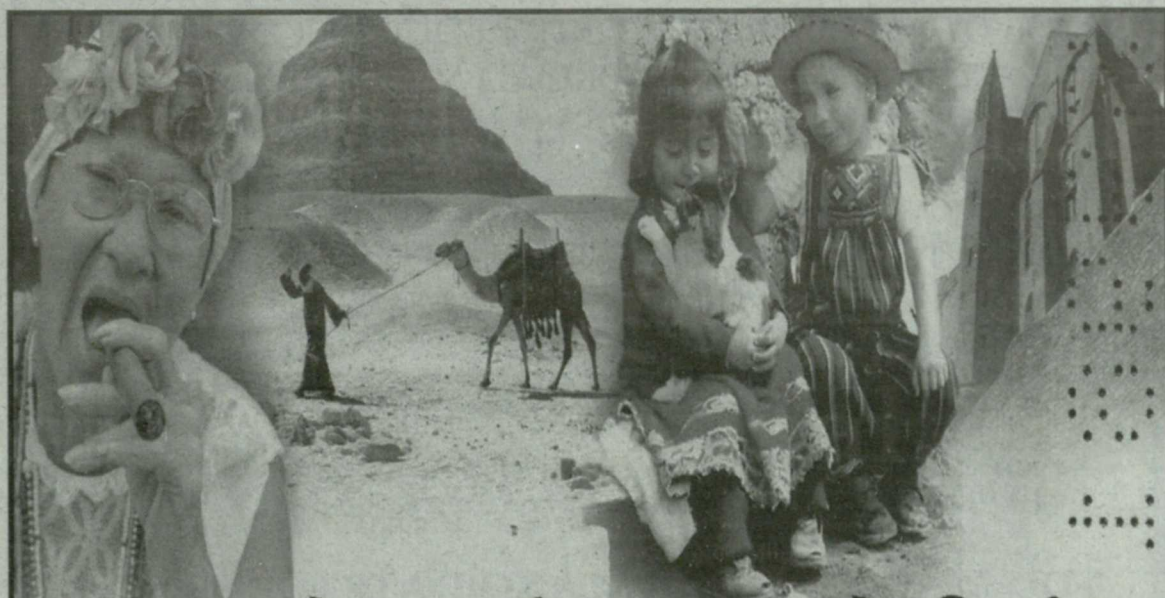
gift cards to Target from club members donating money out of their own pockets, not from the club's treasury.

Moreover, Campus Talkers forms relationships with professional speakers and organizations, such as the AJC Speaks. These joint meetings pose as "a great opportunity to learn from one another and how to conduct meetings and speak effectively," said White.

Hall's plans for the club this year are to recruit at least 12 to 15 members by the end of the semester because many of the members will graduate. Also, making sure members complete their CTM is a major goal.

Goines said, "We encourage students to be a part of the club, whether freshman or graduate student, because it's a friendly, supportive environment to develop speaking skills; in addition, there's no pressure like the classroom."

To learn more about and become apart of Campus Talkers visit www.gsu.edu/gsutoastmasters or www.toastmasters.org for more about Toastmasters International.



study abroad fair

Expand your horizons

Wednesday, October 5

Student Center Ballroom

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For more information contact Misty Holm at:

(404) 654-5819



GeorgiaState
University

Staff

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students to experience leadership," said Elston. "No matter how small or how great, leadership acts occur all the time, whether it's through a helpful act for a friend, volunteering for a task or changing the world."

Elston heads Emerging Leaders, classes for freshman focused on developing leadership, which includes a two-day leadership retreat; Community Development Council, a council that meets on the second Monday of each month, consisting of a variety of campus leaders and Student Affairs staff, to discuss campus programs, student issues and serves as a "think tank" for cultivating solutions to campus challenges; LEAD Team, A paraprofessional group that sponsors leadership programs throughout the year; Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, which is an organization open to juniors and seniors with a 3.0 or better and graduate students with a minimum of 3.5 that recognizes achievement in scholarship, athletics, journalism, speech and the mass media, campus and community service, social and religious activities and campus government and creative/performing arts; LeaderShape, which is a program that chooses 15 students to attend a six day summer retreat at the Georgia LeaderShape Institute; and the Leadership Resource Center, which many student organizations utilize to aid their organization in team-building activities.

Current projects that Elston works on include, Surviving the Jungle Leadership Series, Leadership Conclave, Royal Flame Awards, Skyline Leadership Newsletter, Panther Leader of the Month and Panther walk of Fame.

"Students can stop by the Office of Student Life and Leadership and I'd be more than happy to assist them with finding the right leadership activity," said Elston. "We have created a website at www2.gsu.edu/leadership, where students can get event updates and download applications for upcoming programs."

Stephanie Coyle serves as the Student Programs Advisor. "I am responsible for providing social and educational activities for the Georgia State student body," said Coyle. "Specifically, I am responsible for supervising Spotlight, coordinating the Miss Georgia State Pageant and various other programs."

The Spotlight Programs Board is responsible for Panther Prowl, Homecoming, Concerts in the Plaza and several other campus activities.

Current programs that Spotlight is working on for the month of October include Salsa

the Night Away, Panther Prowl, Murder Mystery Dinner and every Thursday this month 'Outside the Box' Concert Series in the Library Plaza.

The Miss Georgia State University pageant orientation will be held in November and students can still apply if interested in participating.

"I would suggest that an interested student come into the Office of Student Life and Leadership and talk with one of the advisors to find what best fits their needs," said Coyle. For more information, go to www.gsu.edu/spotlight.

Steffani Lautenschlager oversees Greek Life. Greek-letter societies were founded on the concepts of leadership, scholarship, community service and friendship.

Greek life consists of four councils; North American Interfraternity Council, which governs the historically white fraternities on campus, Panhellenic Council, which governs the historically white sororities, National Pan-Hellenic Council, which governs the historically Black fraternities and sororities and Multicultural Greek Council, which governs the three, ethnically-based sororities on campus. The four councils consist of twenty-one fraternities and sororities.

"As a professional member of the Dean of Students' staff, I encourage students to become involved in activities outside of the classroom in order to enhance their academic experience," said Lautenschlager. "Research has shown that 70 percent of what a student learns during their college years results from out-of-class experiences."

Students can get involved with Greek Life at Georgia State by filling out a Greek interest form from the Office of Student Life and Leadership or get more information by going to www.gsu.edu/greeklife.

Tonya Cook serves as the program specialist for Intercultural Relations. "I deal with administrative paperwork to make the events happen," said Cook.

Cook creates the public relations plan for each event and develops the plan of action, while her assistant, Bernice Butler, constructs the flyer. When considering what events to bring to Georgia State, she keeps in mind, "What will the students like or will enjoy the most."

Currently, Cook is preparing for the opening reception for the exhibit "Spirit of India" by Malika Garrett. "I know that everyone is going to be impressed with the exhibit," said Cook.

Cook also hosts the lunch and learns, "noonday dialogues with Interfaith Council and collaborations with other organizations and departments." The highlight of the semester for Cook is hosting Vocalist Magdalen Hsu-Li for Georgia State's day of culture on Oct. 25th.

"We are always looking out

for the students best interests in providing the best culturally diverse experience that enhances their growth and learning outside the classroom," said Cook.

Nia Woods Haydel is the assistant director of Student Life and Leadership for Intercultural Relations. "The Intercultural relations program is charged with fostering opportunities for students to interact across cultural lines," said Cook. "We are also working diligently to challenge people to think beyond race when it comes to diversity and intercultural relations."

Haydel advising the Intercultural Ambassadors, a paraprofessional organization that assist in the planning and implementation of diversity programs and the Golden Key International Honour Society, an organization comprised of the top 15 percent of the junior and senior classes at Georgia State.

The programs that Cook currently works on include Evolving Experiences, a dialogue series in its third semester. Also, this department is working on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Week for 2006. Tonya Cook served as the Convocation Chairperson for the 23rd Annual MLK Convocation.

"If someone wants to be involved, we can find the opportunity for them," said Haydel.

Stacy Koshko serves as the

student organizations advisor. "The position was recently created this summer to better serve the needs of student organizations," said Koshko. "I am responsible for coordinating and administering the student organization charter process."

"My goal is to broaden the visibility and accessibility of our student organizations as well as be a resource to all organizations to ensure compliance with university policies and help them be the best that they can be."

There are 198 student organizations to date and the number continues to grow.

Current projects that Koshko works on includes the Student Organization Orientation Sessions, which educates organizational leaders on institutional rules and regulations, Online Calendar of Events, which is the newest initiative that incorporates the launching of a university wide web calendar to promote organization meetings, Student Organization Directory Website, Listserv for the Promotion of Student Organization Programs and Student Organization Mailboxes, in which chartered student organizations can request a physical mailbox point in the Student Life and Leadership Office.

"Don't limit yourself to the first organization meeting you attend," said Koshko. "If you do not find an organization that meets

your needs, you can charter your own organization."

Rajat Bhatia is a student that utilizes the Office of Student Life and stays satisfied. "I'm quite involved in several organizations in this office," said Bhatia. "From my entrance to Georgia State two years ago, I'm always in this office and I have noticed positive changes over the years."

"We have something for everybody," said Anthony. "Sometimes we have students that do not know what they want to be involved in and for them, we provide an overview of our office to see what they are interested in and we refer them to the appropriate advisor."

The Office of Student Life and Leadership recently extended their hours for Tuesday and Wednesday's to 7p.m. Traditional and nontraditional students take advantage of the new late hours to utilize services such as computers and checking the student organization mailboxes.

"Our people are very responsive," said Anthony. "We get cold calls all the time from people wanting to bring things to Georgia State."

"I think we have a good group of people who are excited to get things up and running," said Audrey Irons, administrative coordinator. "We are going to make sure that we are supposed to do. We have a great leader (Pamela Anthony) who will make sure we get there."

2006-07 NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM (NSEP) STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

- WANT TO STUDY ABROAD WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT FUNDS?
- LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP LANGUAGE AND CROSS-CULTURAL SKILLS?
- THINKING OF WORKING WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (SHORT OR LONG-TERM) AND NEED EXPERIENCE?

YOU MAY BE A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR THE NSEP SCHOLARSHIP!

FIND OUT AT ONE OF THE INFORMATION SESSIONS LISTED BELOW.

• THURS. OCT. 6 (10 - 11:30 AM)	• THURS. OCT. 20 (1 - 2:30 PM)
• FRI. OCT. 7 (10-11:30 AM)	• MON. OCT. 24 (10 - 11:30 AM)
• MON. OCT. 10 (10 - 11:30 AM)	• THURS. OCT. 27 (1 - 2:30 PM)
• THURS. OCT. 13 (1 - 2:30 PM)	• MON. OCT. 31 (10 - 11:30 AM)
• MON. OCT. 17 (10 - 11:30 AM)	• THURS. NOV. 3 (10 - 11:30 AM)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR INDIVIDUAL ADVISING CONTACT THE CAMPUS ADVISER, KIKE EHIGIATOR, EITHER BY PHONE (404-463-9411) OR E-MAIL (KEHIGIATOR@GSUEDU)

THE CAMPUS DEADLINE FOR THIS PROGRAM IS TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2006

SGA evaluated revised Master Plan

By **BARRETT TOUPS**
btoups@gsusignal.com

The legislative rush in the SGA Senate begun Thursday night as the senate introduced their first three pieces of legislation.

According to SGA bylaws, the bills are first introduced and at the next meeting, they are voted on.

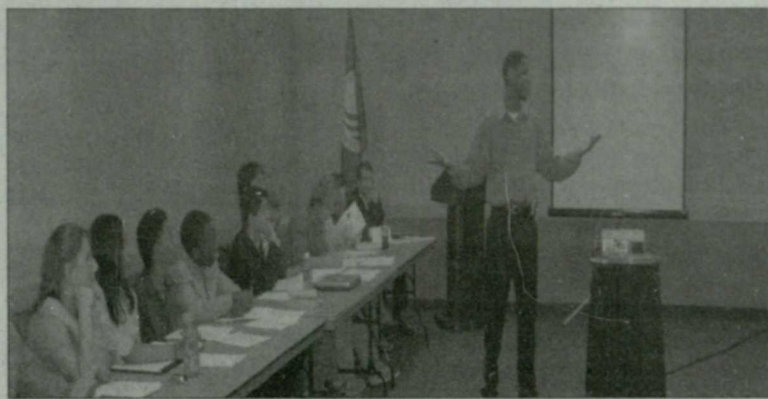
Senator Brant Barber introduced Bill 05-01 entitled "Modification of Legislative Procedures." Barber called for the SGA senate to minor the process of the Georgia General Assembly. Then, the senate proposed to create two ad-hoc committees.

In Bill 05-02, Senator Andrew Murphy seeks to create a "Constitution and By-laws Ad-Hoc Committee". According to Murphy, the previous administrations failed in revising the governing papers. He seeks to make this a top priority this session.

Senators Matthew Oskam and April Stancliff seek to reactivate the "Night Student Ad-Hoc Committee" in Bill 05-03. The committee was initially created during the 2003-2004 administration. Both senators agree that more needs to be done for night students.

Immediately after the legislative debate, the senate evaluated Campus Master Plan. The "Main Street Master Plan," is the expansion

sion of the Georgia State campus, mainly along the Decatur Street corridor. The revamped plan calls for Georgia State to expand where



Barrett Touns | Signal

Senator Andrew Murphy seeks to have the SGA Constitution revised.

ever possible along one of the main streets in close proximity to the campus.

Ramesh Vakamudi, Georgia State Director of Facilities Planning, presented the Georgia State "Campus Master Plan Update" to the SGA executive board members and senators.

"There could be many main streets on campus serving that function [as a zone for expansion] tomorrow. It could be Decatur. It could be Piedmont. It could be Edgewood. It could be Peachtree. We are expanding the boundaries

in many, many ways," said Vakamudi.

The next step towards meeting the goal of housing 20 percent of the students on campus is the construction of the residence complex currently under construction at the corner of Piedmont Avenue

and Ellis Street. Students can expect the facility to be ready by fall 2007.

Further plans to expand on-campus housing are in the works. The Campus Master Plan Update calls for the university to aggressively look into putting both Greek housing and housing for graduate students at the corner of Edgewood and Piedmont. Underground Atlanta was also considered to be a serious and viable option for further expansion of student housing.

See MEETING | Page 8

Lunch 'n learn, literary

By **CHIKA ODUAH**
coduah@gsusignal.com

It's absolutely ingenious combining learning, diversity, and food! It's the new Lunch N' Learn program series where students can dialogue about human issues while meeting new people. And hey, there's free lunch! Now, why didn't anyone think of this before?

As the latest creation of the Intercultural Ambassadors, Lunch 'N Learn provides an open forum for discussing issues that are prevalent interests amongst students. A diverse audience is the primary goal. Is food an incentive? "Well, people need to eat," said Nia Haydel, assistant director of Student Life and Leadership for Intercultural Relations.

Two Lunch 'N Learn programs remain for Fall semester. The sociologically-based topics selected for the programs are provocative and of popular interest. The Intercultural Ambassadors thought the topics would "be most important to the student body and would bring a crowd," said Haydel. The topics for the remaining Lunch 'N Learn programs are "Who are the People in Your Neighborhood" and "Family Traditions, Structures, and Organizations." The former, scheduled for October, analyzes the socioeconomic

structure of communities. The latter program for November takes a look at family identity.

Georgia State University is fortunate to have a diverse student body and it needs to foster its multiculturalism. This is why the Lunch 'N Learn program series is great for the university. It was created with convenience in mind, which is why the programs take place during the lunch hour.

The debut of the Lunch 'N Learn series was successful. "Our goal was 30 [students]. We had 27. And there were lots of questions," said Haydel. The program, which occurred on Sept. 16, focused on the new and controversial social-awareness movement known as the One Campaign, launched by several organizations working for global equality. The campaign seeks to fight the AIDS epidemic, extreme poverty, and hunger. Suzanne Berman, a fellow member of the One Campaign, was the guest speaker and encouraged students to join the movement, which includes popular personalities such as Bono, Orlando Bloom, Mos Def, Heidi Klum, Dave Matthews, and dozens more.

The program series is open for all students. It will continue in the Spring if the remaining programs are successful.



THINKING OF STUDYING ABROAD AND A FUTURE CAREER WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT? THE NSEP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM MAY BE FOR YOU!

- WHAT IS THE NSEP?**
THE NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM (NSEP) IS A FEDERALLY-FUNDED STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE CAREER-RELATED SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN PREPARATION FOR EFFORTS/ ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD LEAD TO OPPORTUNITIES IN FEDERAL SERVICE.
- WHY APPLY FOR THE NSEP?**
TO DEVELOP ACADEMIC & NON-ACADEMIC SKILLS & EXPERIENCE THAT WILL PROVIDE COMPETITIVE EDGE IN EMPLOYMENT/CAREER SEARCHES.
- HOW MUCH IS THE SCHOLARSHIP?**
IT DEPENDS ON THE LENGTH OF YOUR STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM. AWARDS RANGE FROM MAXIMUMS OF \$8,000 TO \$20,000.
- WHO MAY APPLY FOR THE NSEP?**
A U.S. CITIZEN (AT THE TIME OF APPLIATION) WHO:
 - GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND IS MATRICULATED AT A U.S. ACCREDITED POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION RECOGNIZED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 - IS APPLYING FOR A STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE IN NSEP-PREFERRED COUNTRIES THAT MEETS GSU STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS STANDARDS
 - IS PLANNING TO USE THE SCHOLARSHIP FOR A STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM BEFORE THEY GRADUATE
- PROGRAM PREFERENCES (THESE ARE PREFERENCES. TALK TO YOUR CAMPUS ADVISOR ON INDIVIDUAL OPTIONS)**
NSEP GIVE PREFERENCES TO STUDENTS WHO
 - WILL STUDY IN PARTICULAR COUNTRIES
 - WILL STUDY PARTICULAR LANGUAGES
 - WILL STUDY PARTICULAR FIELDS
 - WILL STUDY FOR A FULL YEAR (please see Campus rep for other options)
 - WILL MAKE A COMMITMENT TO A CAREER IN FEDERAL SERVICE **

**This is could be Short term or Long Term, please see Campus Rep
- WHEN IS THE DEADLINE FOR APPLYING?**
CAMPUS DEADLINE: JANUARY 10, 2006
NATIONAL DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 10, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY, VISIT THE NSEP WEBSITE AT WWW.IIE.ORG/NSEP AND CONTACT THE CAMPUS REP, MS. KIKE EHIGIATOR AT 404-463-9411 OR kehigiator@gsu.edu

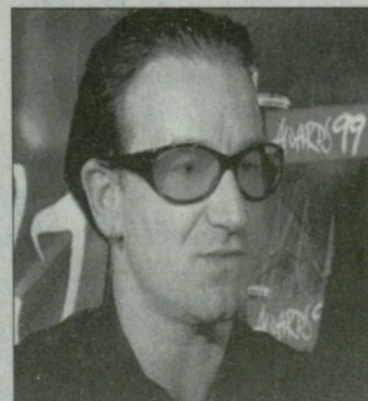


ONE THE CAMPAIGN TO MAKE POVERTY HISTORY



Special | Signal

Lunch 'n Learn focused on the new and controversial social-awareness movement known as the One Campaign, launched by several organizations working for global equality. Seeking to fight the AIDS epidemic, extreme poverty and hunger popular stars that are involve are Bono, Mos Def and Heidi Klum.



Did Perdue's snow day backfire?

By Rhonda Barnett
chiefeditor@gsusignal.com

Governor Perdue administered a plan Sept. 23 that he thought would rescue Georgians from a possible fuel shortage due to Hurricane Rita's damage to refineries.

Perdue explained it as "trying to be transparent, forthcoming about information and asking people to relax and to understand that while we are taking this action to conserve fuel, it is best handled in the spirit of calmness and rationality."

Instead, people still rushed to the pumps, parents were left in a bind and he made himself a target for local opposing politicians.

Governor Perdue informed Georgia parents late Friday afternoon that schools would be closed on Monday, Sept. 26 and Tuesday, Sept. 27 to preserve the estimated 500,000 gallons of diesel fuel; some that the school buses would have used and some saved from the conservation of electricity in the schools that is used to light and cool the buildings.

The call for action was not mandatory, but most school systems obliged.

Hurricane Rita was approaching the coasts of Louisiana and Texas at the time, where all of these refineries lie.

"What we were getting was that 100 percent of the refineries were shut down. And they were anticipating supply disruptions as early as Tuesday or Wednesday of this week," Perdue said.

When motorists heard that, they sped to the pumps for a repeat of what happened during Hurricane Katrina; exactly what the governor wanted to avoid. Cars flooded several gas stations in an attempt to fill-up before it was gone.

This decision also outraged parents. "I think it's ridiculous because we are out spending money on our kids and we got one of the lowest SAT scores in the nation and these kids need to be in school today," said Stasha Pierce on All Things Considered from NPR News.

Parents had little time

to find alternatives, especially since a large amount of childcare facilities close on the weekend. Many parents had to take their children to work or call off if they did not have childcare.

Many children roamed the campus of Georgia State on Monday and Tuesday with parents that work for, or attend classes at the university.

"We are stay at home moms, so we have options," said Tonya Vincent. "My husband has 10 women that work for him and probably half of them could not come in."

A few mothers camped out on the Capitol steps not far from Perdue's office.

Some local politicians disapproved of the governor's decision just as much as parents; one even called the governor's move a "knee-jerk" reaction.

"It's disturbing to me that the first reaction of the governor would be to cut education instead of looking at other means to address what, questionably, was a crisis," said Secretary of State and gubernatorial candidate Cathy Cox.

House Democratic leader DuBose Porter said, "The hurricane is landing in

Texas or Louisiana, and it will be days before the ill effects on gasoline and diesel fuel will be known."

Perdue did have supporters who approved of his decision and insisted that Perdue showed true leadership. The main support came from the president during a press conference at the U. S. Department of Energy.

"Governor Perdue of Georgia I thought did a - showed some leadership by saying we've got to - anticipating a problem, here's what we need to do to correct it," said President Bush.

According to Channel 11 News, Governor Perdue's popularity shot up when he waived gas sales tax for the month of September.

Surveys showed that his approval rating went from 51 percent to 61 percent.

In order to know whether or not the early "snow days" will change that, "We have to find what percentage of the actual population really feels like they were impacted negatively by his decision," said pollster Matt Towery.

As of now, the governor has no plans on extending the tax suspension on gas, so a 15 cent hike is expected.

Special | Signal

Gov. Perdue's decision was suppose to help the state; instead, the snow days put citizens in a bind as they had to find daycare or carry their children to work with them.



Service

from page 5

history and culture. A Kid's Page was also added in 2002 to make GALILEO useful for people of all ages. There has been a financial benefit for individual libraries through this partnership by using the Internet to create GALILEO.

According to Gov. Perdue, "Through this collaborative approach, GALILEO provides greater access to more materials at less cost than if each library had to purchase these resources individually."

The future of GALILEO looks quite promising. Merryll Penson, executive director of library services with the University System's Office of Information and Instructional Technology, notes that GALILEO will begin a three-year upgrade to improve search functions, improve and expand existing electronic links between databases, and provide greater access to content and features from various GALILEO library websites.

Penson also stated future plans for the acquirement of new databases including many with audio and video files. Additionally, the Digital Library of Georgia will further develop to include a civil rights digital library through a \$760,000 grant.

The project will use historical footage as part of a digital archive for the study and understanding of the historical movement. Georgia students, faculty, and residents can definitely be assured of another decade of uncompromising research capabilities.

Meeting

from page 7

The Campus Master Plan Update also includes plans for a Science Park that would allow for all the many natural science labs in Kell Hall (originally a parking deck built during World War II) to move into a brand new facility. Once the science labs are out of Kell, the plan is for the offices currently in Sparks Hall to move to Kell so that Sparks can be demolished and a new Humanities Building built in its place. The funding for the new Humanities Building, which will also be the future home of the University Bookstore, will be complete in 5 years, according to Vakamudi.

Upon completion of these construction projects, many if not all of the academic departments currently located on the top floors of General Classroom Building would be able to move to the new buildings, allowing for additional classroom space in GCB.

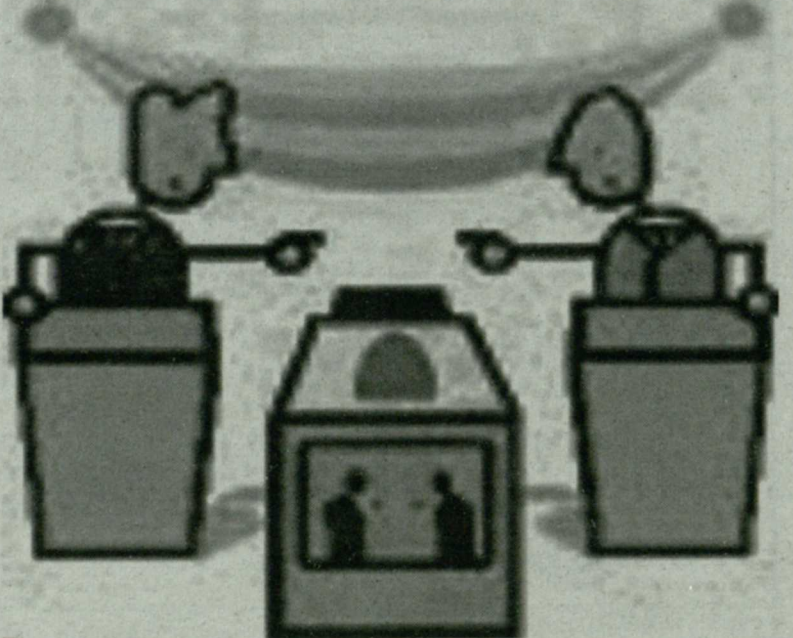
Another critical component of the plan is transportation. Expansion of the Panther Express shuttle (routes, stops, frequency) would be important to go along with the addition of new residence halls and classroom buildings to the campus. Despite university plans to possibly buy or lease surface parking lots in the area, Vakamudi said that he did not think parking will be a problem. "If it becomes a problem, then we'll address it," he said.

More insights into the Campus Master Plan Update are sure to come at the next SGA Senate meeting currently scheduled for Oct. 13 when Vakamudi, although agitated that he was cut off, will return to finish the presentation.

The Main Street Master Plan is available for anyone to view at <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwmsp/>.

Debate tournament results

The final round of the tournament took place between Northwestern and Michigan State. Michigan State won the debate on a 2-1 decision. The final panel of judges was composed of two assistant coaches from Emory and the Director of Debate at Harvard.



Living

Editor: Sabrina Buckwalter
Associate Editor: Tiffany Newman

Student debt can last a lifetime

Beware of credit card gimmicks.

By TIFFANY NEWMAN
tnewman@gsusignal.com

Can you imagine purchasing a value meal at Burger King and still be paying for it 30 years from now? For those who choose credit cards as their primary payment method, small purchases like this are usually not paid off for 10, 20, and even 30-plus years later.

Credit cards are extremely popular among college students, but an overwhelming majority of them often end up biting off more than they can chew, racking up thousands of dollars in credit card debt before they even receive their degrees. Even after graduating, lower than expected income, in addition to high living costs, make previous debts almost impossible to control.

College campuses are bombarded with booths set up by credit card company representatives, offering incentives like pens, Frisbees and water bottles to students that give their personal information, including their social security numbers.

There are many reasons contributing to student debt. Loss or decrease of household income and sudden medical emergencies are both common factors, yet lots of other students choose to build up unnecessary credit card debt with excessive shopping.

Some students vow to only use credit cards for emergency purposes, which is likely a smart back up plan when there is not enough cash for the student to get ahold of. But for some students, emergencies turn into multiple shopping sprees at the local malls and department stores because the call of the platinum plastic becomes an addiction.

Georgia State junior Courtney Spencer fell into the trap years ago. In high school, Spencer began receiving credit card applications in the mail, eventually signing up for three of them.

"My friends looked up to me [...] I was an adult before they were," she says. But when Spencer's purchases skyrocketed due to extreme back-to-school shopping [...] for clothes [...] her minimum wage job wasn't enough to pay off monthly balances. After a while, late fees and over-limit charges left Spencer over \$7,000 in arrears. The debt has also prohibited Spencer from leasing an apartment with her fiancé.

"I'm still paying off those cards today. I was just young and dumb," she says. "Even though I've learned my lesson and changed my spending habits, it still makes me look irresponsible."

Although ownership of a credit card comes with some perks, like the ability to effortlessly make purchases online, the downfalls they bring can greatly outweigh the benefits.

One of the biggest problems facing college students is not knowing what they are getting into once they become a credit card owner. Explanations of finance charges, annual fees, and other seemingly foreign terms are often not fully explained, understood or even sought by students. This lack of knowledge soon turns into overwhelming financial obligations that the student can not manage.

Many students don't understand the importance of good credit. Credit reports, which contain a detailed credit history, are necessary to purchase homes and cars, and even to get jobs. Credit reports reveal one's dedication in showing whether or not the person in question is responsible in paying all debts they have acquired [...] and paying them on time. Missed or late payments can remain on a credit report for up to ten years, which can be extremely costly when trying to make a big purchase or launch a career.

For those who are already overcome by credit card debt, there are ways to greatly eliminate and reduce late fees and stop collections phone calls. Through credit card consolidation, debts can be lowered by as much as 50 percent. Reliable consolidation and counseling services are licensed by the Better Business Bureau. For more information on choosing the right counseling agency and how to repair bad credit, visit www.bbb.org.

CLASSIC CREDIT CARD APPLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY & MOTOR VEHICLE CREDIT UNION
2001 Aguilera Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32302
(904) 438-5886

To ensure that you make the best of your credit, here are some tips to help along the way:

- > **Read the fine print! Important information about interest rates and cash advances can be determining factors in whether or not a card is right for you.**
- > **Make a rule for yourself to only use a credit card for emergencies and do not sway from this rule.**
- > **Use a debit card instead of credit, this way you'll be using money you already have.**
- > **Pay credit card bills on time to minimize finance charges.**
- > **Only use a credit card if you know you will be able to pay off the amounts charged.**
- > **Don't forget your student loans! Many students forget that repayment of loans will kick in not long after graduation. It can be difficult to pay the loans on top of credit card debt.**
- > **Don't be an impulse shopper. If you don't NEED it, don't buy it.**

Capital One

Credit card myths

- > **Once you finally pay off a bill, it is removed from your credit report.** Regardless of whether or not a debt is paid off, it will likely remain on your credit report for years.
- > **Co-signing for someone doesn't make me responsible.** In fact, you are just as responsible for the debt as the person you co-signed for. Co-signing means you have a legal obligation to pay off the account if the primary borrower fails to do so. Whether or not the account is in good standing, it will appear on your credit report. At your request to the creditor, your name can be removed as co-signer to any account.

Marijuana use causes no serious lung damage and other debunked myths

Various studies show that the usage of marijuana is not as harmful as some have claimed.

By ALEXIS COLVARD
acolvard@gsusignal.com

A press release came out recently from BlackPR.com and BlackNews.com about the "truth" regarding marijuana use. It consisted of a list of debunked myths about pot. On closer inspection, however, it appears that few of these were actually myths to begin with, and the "factual" responses were sensationalized.

So-called fact number one: More youth use pot than any other

drug. 60 percent of kids who use drugs at all smoke only marijuana.

This may easily be true. However, the myth the firm was denying was that Ecstasy is more popular today with teens than is marijuana. Who ever thought that in the first place? Ecstasy is a hard-core drug that is rarely used unless via gateway drugs. The percentage they used for kids who smoke marijuana also helps quell the notion that marijuana itself is a gateway drug, therefore actually aiding the case of pro-hemp crusaders.

So-called fact number two: Marijuana is addictive.

According to the United States Institute of Medicine via NORML.org, "Fewer than one in 10 marijuana smokers become regular users of the drug [...] By comparison, 15 percent of alcohol consumers and 32 percent of tobacco smokers exhibit symptoms of drug dependence." It also

states that marijuana withdrawal symptoms are incredibly rare.

Pot smokers in Atlanta also tend to believe that the drug is not nearly as addictive as cigarettes. One anonymous social smoker states, "I think it's more about the relaxation feeling [...] rather than the addiction. I was addicted to nicotine for a long time and I had to work hard to quit. I could go months or years without (pot), but if it's there and I'm in the mood, I'll smoke it."

So-called fact number three: Smoking one marijuana joint is as harmful as smoking an entire pack of cigarettes.

The jury is still out on this belief, but there are firm arguments for both sides. According to Medical Post, "Heavy marijuana smokers show less evidence of lung injury than heavy tobacco smokers, and it may be cannabinoids (a chemical in marijuana) that are protecting them from developing a condition like

emphysema."

Cannabis.com tells a similar story: "A 1997 UCLA study concluded that even prolonged and heavy marijuana smoking causes no serious lung damage. Cancer risks from common foods (meat, salt, dairy products) far exceed any cancer risk posed by smoking marijuana. Respiratory health

hazards and cancer risks can be totally eliminated by ingesting marijuana in baked foods."

While BBC News stated in March 2000 that smoking marijuana is harmful, it also debunked the theory that one joint is equivalent to one pack of cigarettes.

See MARY J | Page 10

working to
REFORM marijuana laws
NORML

Quality Marijuana and Hemp Information
CANNABIS.COM

Special | Signal

Cannabis.com maintains smoking marijuana is not hazardous to one's health.

Mary J

from page 9

The news channel gave a startlingly different account: it would take three joints to be as harmful to a person's body as one pack of cigarettes.

So-called fact number four: smoking weed makes people antsy and paranoid.

Putting common knowledge aside, many studies have proven this not to be the case. While smoking marijuana does increase one's risk for a heart attack in the hour after smoking it (research-matters.com), the ultimate effects of pot smoking are calming and mellowing.

One first-hand account from an anonymous pot smoker: "I am very hyperactive so when I smoke, it makes me 'normal.' It just calms me down a little bit but doesn't change my personality at all. My boyfriend, on the other hand, is very chilled out so it just puts him to sleep."

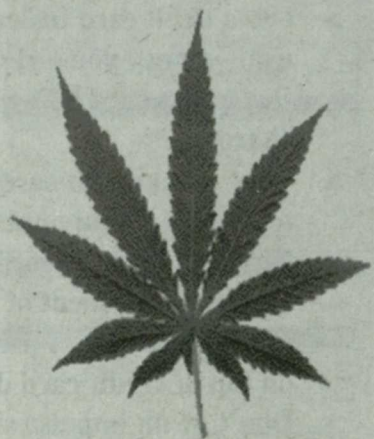
Sciencedaily.com allows a more scientific view. According to the site, cannabis can help stop things like epileptic seizures by calming the excitatory reactions in the brain that are spiraling out of control.

So-called fact number five:

parents can help stop their kids from trying marijuana.

Nothing to argue with there. Parents who are involved in their children's lives will usually have more control and understanding over what their kids are doing.

Children and teens should not be encouraged to smoke marijuana, but as adults, (aside from the legal repercussions) smoking a joint is no more wrong than having a few cigarettes. It should be the personal choice of everyone to smoke or not to smoke. These studies that come out about the dangers of marijuana need to be taken with a grain of salt so that we all may be better informed before we make those choices.



Special | Signal

Cannabis has been proven to help epileptic seizures according to sciencedaily.com.

HIV/AIDS straining Africa's armed forces

By ANDREA WASHINGTON
awashington@gsusignal.com

Though millions have died due to a history of conflicts, AIDS is the real villain to African countries' ability to defend their borders.

According to the Pretoria-based Institute for Security Studies, infection rates among African militaries are estimated to be double those in the wider population.

South Africa, which has the largest number of HIV/AIDS cases worldwide, has responded with an innovative clinical research program in partnership with the United States that is investigating how best to manage the virus in a military setting and providing treatment to hundreds of infected members and their families.

Through Project Phidisa, or Prolong Life, almost 3,000 people have been tested for the virus. Those with HIV are monitored, while those with full-blown AIDS are put on one of four widely used combinations of drugs to compare their effectiveness, side effects,



Special | Signal

The South African military is investigating how to manage AIDS/HIV in a military setting.

and compliance levels.

Currently, Project Phidisa is serving the drugs to 834 military members and their dependents. Separate U.S. funding will serve another 232 people until the South African military can provide them.

For South Africa, the health of its military is not just a matter of its own protection. Its soldiers play a major role in peacekeeping, with 1,250 troops in Burundi and 1,350 in Congo alone.

The disease is also hitting

hardest at people in their late 20s and 30s, many of whom hold key positions within the armed forces. Their care places a burden on already stretched and limited military budgets.

"Members of the armed forces are in many ways at the forefront of the HIV and AIDS epidemic," South African Deputy Defense Minister Mlukeli George said at a Cape Town conference.

See HIV/AIDS | Page 10

Self-exams: prepare for a hands-on experience

By ERIN HAYES
ehayes@gsusignal.com

This week's column is intended to persuade you to touch yourself. Do it tonight, and trust me, you'll feel good about yourself in the morning. I want you to discover what your body is like, and while you're at it, I want you to enjoy it.

After that, I want you to answer a few questions. How does it feel? When was the last time you

touched yourself? Do you know what it is that you're touching?

You should.

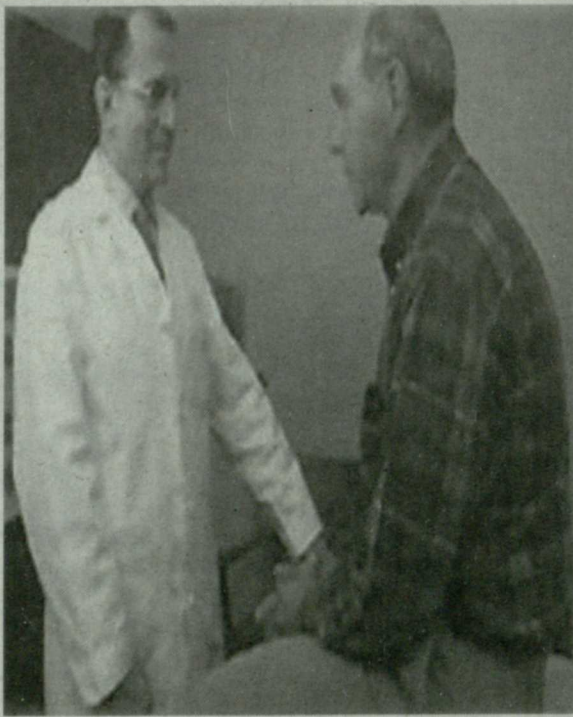
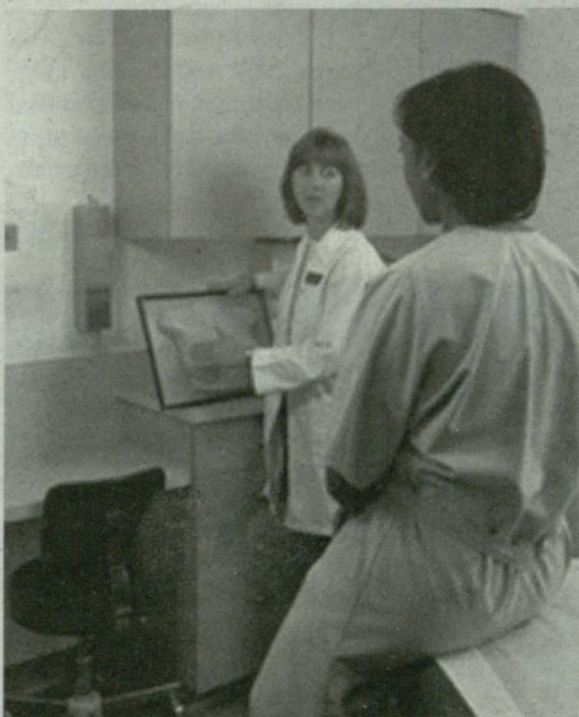
This column isn't about what you probably think it is. It's not about masturbation or sexual self-indulgence. Sorry, that topic is for another day.

This week, I'm talking about the all too avoided topic of the monthly self-exam. Yes, you know, the monthly testicular self-exam, better known as TSE, and the monthly breast

self-exam, or BSE. They're simple, they're free, and they help you detect cancer in the body. Quite frankly, they're just worth doing.

Testicular and breast cancer are two of the most well-known and studied types of cancers present in our society. According to many studies I found in my research, testicular cancer accounts for only about one per-

See EXAM | Page 12



At last, advertising that features breasts for a valid reason.

Instead of using breasts to sell beer or cars, we're using them to sell breast health. For more information about breast health and ways to get involved in the cause, visit

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or call 1.866.566.3648.



The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

Rwandan president's visit sparks questioning of students' African knowledge

A daunting plague of ignorance on Africa sweeps the campus.

By **CHIKA ODUAH**
coduah@gsusignal.com

"We believe that you are world leaders. You don't have any choice!"

From the mouth of a passionate Ambassador Andrew Young, these words went straight to Georgia State students and they predict the inevitable. Students will lead the world in the future. While students might know about the world, the majority know very little about Africa.

Some students constantly boast their political ideas. Some advocate social awareness and fight for the cause of equality. Other students concentrate on pop culture. These interests are all fine and aid society's diversity. However, too many students have no interests in Africa- you know, that really really big continent on the right. The *Signal* conducted a poll on campus to find out what students know about Africa and the results were, well, let's just say that if the poll were a final exam, most students would have failed. The poll revealed that a majority of students share a gross ignorance of the African continent. There was a huge blank spot on some students' faces and this is not a light issue to toss over the shoulder. Though it is a cliched expres-

sion, students are the future leaders and as Ambassador Young declared, "You can't escape leadership." So, with a vast ignorance of Africa, are students prepared to lead the world?

"AIDS and diseases and poverty came out of there. Everyone seems poverty-stricken," said freshman Alen Nguyen. As many other students did, Nguyen expressed the negative aspects of Africa. Many students equate Africa with illness and penury. There is no denial that the continent is suffering from such afflictions, but in desperation, Africa is developing; slowly, but surely, it is developing.

The widespread lack of knowledge of Africa is obvious and many students blame the media for their ignorance. Ann Von Uffel, freshman, said, "Africa is overlooked as far as people that need aid. I think the media skews a lot of the news about Africa. There's just not enough information." However, most students agree that it is necessary to know about Africa, but for different reasons as to why. Some students feel it is important to broaden your world, acquire new knowledge, and challenge the mind. Other students say that Africa needs help, so it is necessary to stay updated. Others think differently all together. "You feel stupid if you don't know," said Rajika Mehra, senior.

Africa was historically labeled the Dark Continent and today, the phrase may still apply. Colonialism and exploitation left the continent in ruins and most of its people have yet to recuperate. "It's a problem of resources.

Africa in general, is in very bad shape," said sophomore Kellen Carr. Things that are happening now in Africa happened in Europe 1000 years ago," Carr continued. It is a known fact that Africa lags behind the rest of the world in terms of economic productivity, but culturally, Africa is more than amazing and it is the culture that students are oblivious to.

The words culture and Africa usually conjures images of dark-skin, thick hair, tribal warriors, grasslands, drums, skinny children, and those sorts of things, but culture in Africa is simply humankind. Humankind, capable of all degrees of behavior, exists in various extremes in Africa. The African people are incredibly diverse and as pathetic as it may seem, it needs to be declared that "African" is not a language. With thousands of tongues, Africa is a patchwork of multiculturalism, with each culture telling its own distinct story of genesis. With streets as museums, art is fully celebrated in Africa. Many African people are so entangled in the grip of art, that art becomes, not a statement, but a cloth to drape gracefully over the shoulder or to tie in a scarf on the head. Art becomes the sound of the wind as music continues throughout the night in thousands of towns across the continent. Art has even affected tradition, as many African people have artistic ways of manifesting their established ways. Elaborate masquerades parade the streets in colorful costumes. Dancers are always a sight to see as they move with incredible agility with the most passionate expressions.

Solitude is rare as people are usually active. Many African cities are well-populated. People seem to be everywhere. Festivals, feasts, weddings are all taken seriously. Decked out in high fashion, many African women entertain tourists with hand-sewn laces and brilliant scarves. Culture is alive and well in Africa, but how many students know that?

The AIDS pandemic is the bullet murdering thousands of Africans daily and most of its people live in extreme poverty, which is measured as living on less than \$1 a day. Corruption in Africa seems rampant from the American perspective and many African nations have appeared on the ratings of the most corrupted countries. So, Africa has problems just as every other continent. On the other hand, Africa boasts increasing social progress as some of its binding traditions such as female genital mutilation, child soldiers, and slavery are currently being challenged. The continent is working towards a better future and one of its most important triumphs occurred in the small nation of Rwanda.

Genocide ravaged Rwanda in 1994, claiming the lives of an estimated 800,000 people. Two tribes battled each other. The international community did little to stop the bloodshed. "Not enough was done on foreign countries' parts to intervene, I found it interesting that we'll go to war in Iraq over suspected weapons of mass destruction, but we won't go to Africa for genocide," said Carr in response to the Rwandan genocide. The genocide has long ended

and the nation is working towards reconciliation as its people have learned a lesson from life. But many students did not even know about the genocide and even fewer students knew about the nation of Rwanda. "Oh my gosh, I can't remember now," said Von Uffel when asked which continent Rwanda is in. Is that not basic geography?

Rwandan President, Paul Kagame, spoke on campus at a recent program sponsored by the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and Goodworks International. Paul Kagame is highly regarded for his efforts to end the genocide. "This is the man that has helped shape the face of Africa from bloodshed to blessing," declared Ambassador Young about Kagame. With flashing cameras, attentive reporters, stiff bodyguards, and a mosaic of intellectual people the program was well attended, but it was obvious to see that not many students were there, which is not a surprise because many students have never heard of the Rwandan genocide, which is not a surprise when many students say "uh," in response to current African affairs. The ignorance of Africa is nothing to take lightly.

Students are the future leaders and as globalization increases, Africa will become a presence that can no longer be ignored. So while students study for tests, play video games, debate Marxism, discuss terrorism, watch Friends, eat potato chips, declare vegetarianism, and just be students, Africa is forgotten, like last week's homework, Africa is forgotten.

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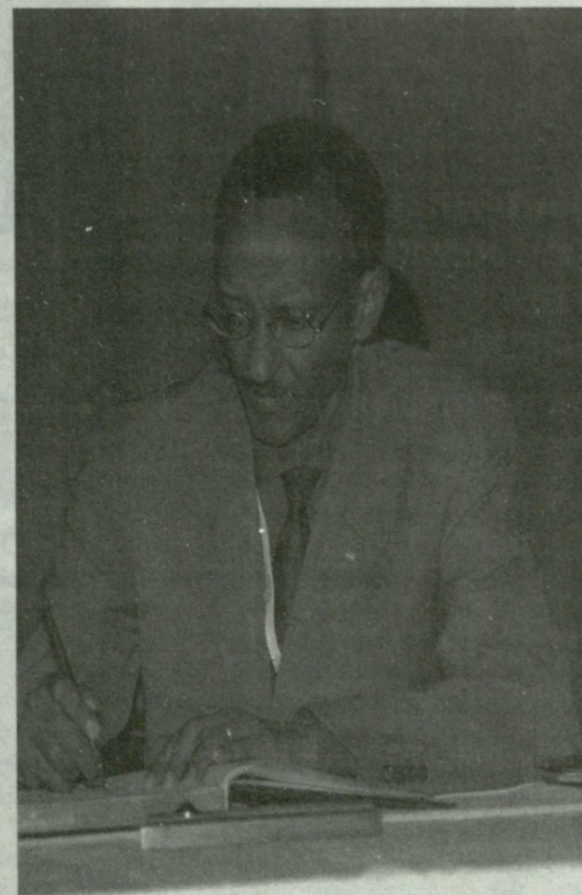
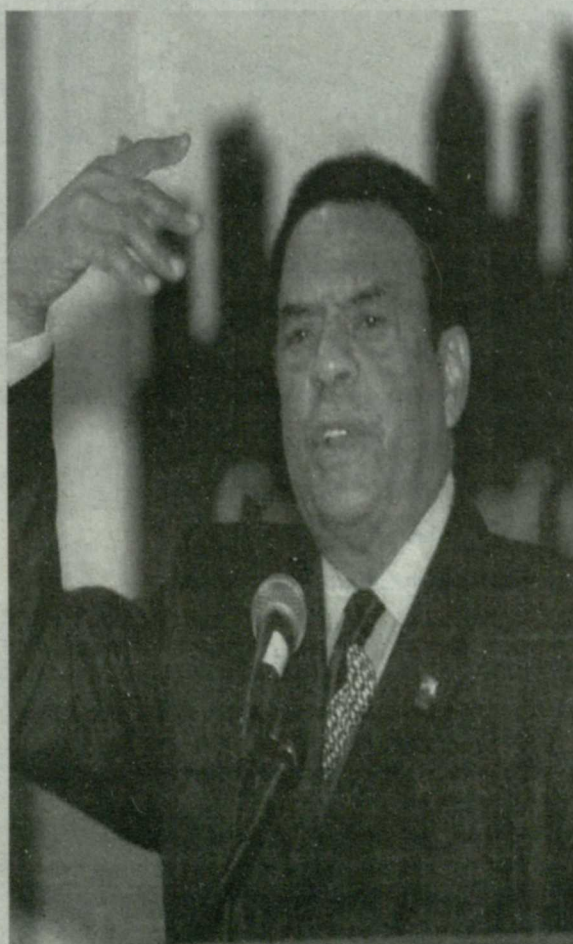
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Ambassador Andrew Young introduced Rwandan President Paul Kagame as, "The man that hat has helped shape the face of Africa from bloodshed to blessing."

HIV/AIDS

from page 10

South Africa's military has been a leader in efforts to tackle the HIV virus in the continent's armed forces. It first approached the U.S. for help setting up AIDS drug trials in 2002, years before medicines became available through its public health system.

While South Africa is a case where major progress has been made in the treatment of its infected servicemen, many of its neighbors are still facing issues of ignorance and training. The Zambian military has more than 1,000 people on AIDS drugs, but the stigma associated with HIV is keeping more soldiers from seeking the needed treatment. And in other countries, trained staff are leaving for better pay overseas, funding is hard to come by to train new staffers, or many of the staff members are infected themselves.

With the growth in HIV/AIDS

around the world, however, its impact on a country's fighting capabilities is not being faced solely by the African nations. In India, recent laws have made it mandatory that all new recruits to its armed forces be tested for HIV/AIDS, after the death of 200 soldiers in the past two years.

According to President Abdul Kalam, the military "will be testing for HIV in new recruits and undertaking prenatal examinations of wives of personnel in the services."

"HIV/AIDS has become a security threat to India," Lieutenant General Bhupinder

stated at a recent army seminar. "AIDS is no less destructive than war itself. We want to keep our forces fighting fit."

Government records show that currently 300 service members are infected with the HIV virus, with the total country caseload being just over 5 million, second to South Africa.

The new testing is slated to begin in October.

As other countries worldwide continue to deal with HIV/AIDS and its effects on the military, the real effect of the virus on countries' fighting abilities is an issue to watch in the coming years.



Special | Signal

Thousands of military service men and women in countries like South Africa are seeking treatment from the growing HIV/AIDS virus.

Exam

from page 10

cent of all cancers in men, yet it's the most common type of cancer reported in males between 16 and 35. For women, breast cancer is the second-leading cause of death, following heart disease.

Champion cyclist, Lance Armstrong overcame his cancer with treatments and went on to win his seventh Tour de France this summer. Ex child-star Shirley Temple Black suspected breast cancer when she found a lump in her breast; through medicinal therapy, she survived.

Cancer is among us, and it's easy to find. We live in a time when new medicines claiming to combat illness and suffering are constantly being introduced, yet cancer continues to thrive. And with the growing consciousness and recent popularity of cancer awareness movements, early detection methods are being pro-

moted.

Early detection of cancer often leads to successful treatment. Doctors usually tell their patients to develop a routine for self-exams; I promote the acquaintance with what is normal for your body.

Performing your first few BSE's and TSE's, may be a little awkward. It might be difficult to detect exactly what it is you're looking for. But, just as with most things, the more you practice the better and more comfortable you become.

Guys, it's best to examine yourself after a warm shower; that's when the skin on the scrotum is the softest. Feel around and become familiar with the weight, shape and size of your testicles; there should be no signs of swelling or inflammation of the skin. With both hands, examine the testicles by gently rolling each one between your thumb, middle and index fingers; there should be no pain while doing this procedure. Locate the epididymis, the tube-like vein on the top and back of each testicle. The epididymis usually has a lump located on it, which is most likely not cancerous. If a pea-sized lump is found on the front or the sides of the testicles, see your doctor right away.

It's recommended that you stand in front of a mirror while performing the testicular self-exam. This helps you to familiarize yourself with exactly what you are looking for.

Ladies, the procedure for the breast exam is equally as simple and painless as the men's testicular exam. It may take some time to become completely familiar with the normal feel of your breasts. You should become accustomed to the shape, size and color of each.

The monthly breast exam is a two-part process – one part lying down, and the other standing. While performing the exam, you are also looking for a lump. During the first part of the exam lie down with a small-sized pillow underneath one shoulder and place the same arm behind your head. With the opposite hand, use your finger pads to press firmly around the entire breast in a circular motion moving from the outside to the inside (large circles to small circles). Repeat for the opposite breast, then conduct the same procedure while standing in front of a mirror. Any changes in the color, size or texture of the nipple should be noted.

The breasts should not be tender while performing the breast self-exam. Some lumpy tissue in the breasts is common, and is usually not cancerous. If an abnormal, pea-sized lump is found inside the breast, contact your health care physician immediately.

Testicular and breast cancer detection is easier now than it has ever been. For many students, monthly self-exams were already a normal part of the routine. For the rest, now that there is a reason to touch yourself – you should. It might save your life.

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Sports

Editor: Matthew Simmons

Men's soccer team wins Colonial opener against William & Mary

By MATTHEW SIMMONS
sportseditor@gsusignal.com

One swift kick delivered the Georgia State men's soccer team their first Colonial Athletic Association victory in double overtime against William & Mary, 3-2, Friday night at Silverbacks Park.

Freshman Dathan Knott netted the game-winning goal on a lunging kick with just over two minutes remaining in the sudden-death period.

"It was amazing, just a tremendous athletic play," head coach Karem Daser said of Knott's kick after the victory. "He dug deep late in a grueling game and came away with a great game-winning goal."

During the second-overtime period both teams appeared worn as they jockeyed for position to deliver a game-winning goal. William & Mary (2-5-0, 0-1-0 in the Colonial Athletic Association) played stifling defense, but with less than three minutes remaining in overtime Georgia State (3-5-0, 1-0-0) regained possession and attacked.

Freshman defender Spencer Sumpter, a native of Chamblee, launched a deep pass towards the right half William & Mary's goal while fellow freshman, and



Head coach Karem Daser led the men's soccer team to their first Colonial Athletic Association victory over William & Mary, 3-2, at Silverbacks Park on Friday.

Sumpter's former Chamblee High School teammate, Dathan Knott darted downfield. Knott gathered the ball as it fell and struck with only 2:27 remaining, releasing a howitzer towards the top of the goal.

"I got the ball and my first instinct was to shoot," said Knott. The team rushed the field and joy-

ously mauled the emerging offensive star after his rocket settled in the back of the net.

William & Mary struck first when junior forward Brendan McCurdy scored with less than one minute into the contest, but two penalty shots following handball calls allowed the Panthers to take the lead into the half. Junior for-

ward Alberto Villareal netted both goals off the penalty kicks.

The second half was a stalemate until the 80th minute when the Tribe's Brock Jones scored on a controversial designed sprint play. William & Mary junior goalkeeper Kris Rake quickly punted

See SOCCER | Page 14

Coach Perry's tough schedule

By MATTHEW SIMMONS
sportseditor@gsusignal.com



My Two Cents

Most any coach desires the elusive undefeated season, but Georgia State men's basketball head coach Michael Perry understands the value of tough competition. Perry doesn't look to go undefeated. He espouses a philosophy of playing a difficult out-of-conference schedules to prepare his troops for conference play.

But has Perry taken his philosophy too far?

As the Panther basketball program enters its first season in the Colonial Athletic Association, coach Perry's out of conference schedule appears near suicidal.

This year the Panthers play five NCAA tournament teams, three NIT postseason teams and six games against postseason competitors in their first 10. This year's schedule features seven games with NCAA tournament teams, of which five are with out-of-conference foes; the Panthers will play Kentucky, Alabama, Charlotte, Louisiana-Lafayette twice and twice against last year's CAA champions, Old Dominion. In addition, the Panther's will battle in five contests with NIT postseason teams - Hofstra twice, Virginia Commonwealth twice and Drexel.

"I just think that we need to step it up in terms of the level of competition to challenge us," said coach Perry, who has accumulated a record of 44-33 since taking over the program when famed coach "Lefty" Driesell announced his retirement in Jan. of 2003. "I think we need to get accustomed to competing at that level to at least give us a barometer of what is expected in our new conference to not only be successful this year, but for years to come."

This year Perry's boys won't have an opportunity to use out-of-conference play to prepare for their first Colonial game, as the team's season-opening bout is a home game with Delaware on Nov. 22. Following that game, the Georgia State program will face arguably the toughest string of competition

Men's golf team posts third straight top-five finish

By JON ZOPF
jzopf@gsusignal.com

Birmingham, Ala. - The Georgia State men's golf team finished in the top five for the third consecu-

tive tournament this week at the Shoal Creek Intercollegiate. With their second place finish at the

TOPY Cup to start the season and the third place finish recorded last week at the Gopher Invitational in Minnesota, the Georgia State men's team is starting off this year on the right foot.

The Panthers, who are ranked 14th nationally, shot a first round score of 288, a second round score of 292 and finished up with a final round score of 290 to finish fifth behind sentimental favorite LSU.

LSU, which led the tournament after a first round score of 284, came back from a three stroke deficit after the second round to defeat No.12 Tennessee. Host school UAB, who shot the lowest total team score with a second round 281, jumped five spots on the leader board to finish third in the tournament. East Tennessee State, who shot the lowest third round score of 286, finished fourth in the standings.

Standout Panther Freshman, Mark Haastrup, continued his



Georgia State Athletic Department | Signal

Sophomore Joel Sjolholm finished tied for 14th with fellow Panthers Tim Freund and Mark Haastrup with a three-round score of 218.

See GOLF | Page 14

See SCHEDULE | Page 14



Georgia State Athletic Department | Signal

Head coach Michael Perry believes a tough out-of-conference schedule will best prepare his squad for conference play, but the Panthers face tough games against Kentucky, Alabama and Charlotte this year.

Schedule

from page 13

the school has ever seen.

The team's second and third games come against NCAA tournament teams Charlotte and Louisiana-Lafayette respectively. The Panthers lost by 15 to the Charlotte 49ers last year and split decisions with the Ragin' Cajuns of Lafayette. In the postseason, the Ragin' Cajuns hung tight with Final Four Louisville in the opening round of the NAACs and trailed by only three with 30 seconds remaining before being

bumped from the tournament, 68-62. These will be two tough games.

The team's fourth game will be a moderately-difficult contest with CAA member George Mason, but then the Panthers have their toughest test of the year as they host Kentucky at Phillips Arena on Dec. 6, at 8 p.m. (it's probably fair to go ahead and chalk this up as a loss).

The Panthers round out their first ten games with an in-state rivalry game with Georgia at the Arena at Gwinnett, a trip to Tuscaloosa, Ala. to attempt to upset the Crimson Tide, a confer-

ence game against Virginia Commonwealth (which will be the team's easiest contest to date), go to Alabama State and conclude with a trip to Lafayette, La., for the team's second game against the Ragin' Cajuns.

The team could be 4-6 or worse at the ten-game mark, but would they be prepared to beat down Colonial competition?

"It's a different league [than the Atlantic-Sun] and we'll see," said Perry. "It will be interesting to see how this team responds [to the early challenges], but I think the schedule will ensure there are no surprises for the team come

January. The out of conference schedule will help get us prepared."

The Panthers are fortunate to be led by Perry, who played in the Colonial and has watched the league evolve.

"The league has changed and gone through some transitions since I was in the league," explained Perry. "When I was there, I was at the University of Richmond and we were the flagship for that league for many years. We were the team everyone was chasing.

"I thought a few years ago the league was going through a transition, as it was a younger league. I wasn't sure as a whole as they were as good as they had been in the past, but those teams began to get more experienced as those kids got older and it was reflected in the quality of play and road wins."

With a large number of returning all-conference performers, Perry believes the league is saturated with more talent than ever.

"That says a lot with the league returning that amount of skill, because normally when you see successful teams they're usually senior-laden teams, but in the CAA's case there were a lot of juniors and younger leading their team's to successful runs," Perry continued. "It's a young talented league."

The Colonial and Atlantic-Sun are comparable. They are both guard dominated leagues where centers and power forwards aren't usually mammoth in size.

One new Panther who possess immense size is heralded freshmen

recruit Rashad Chase. Standing at a sturdy 6'7", 225 lbs., Chase appears as if he could have dominated the high school football ranks as a middle linebacker.

"Physically he's gifted, for a freshman kid - we were fortunate," said Perry. "We haven't gotten a high school kid with his size since I've been around. He's built as big, if not bigger than some of the junior college kids I've recruited over the years, and he's a freshman."

As strong as Chase is, his finesse skills will help ease his transition from an inside force at the high school level, to a swing role at Georgia State.

"He's very skilled, particular in dribbling, passing and ball-handling drills," added coach. He's just exceptional for a kid who plays both forward positions. He's improving as a perimeter shooter, and he's a great driver and slasher already."

Perry believes his difficult schedule may have attracted Chase and could bring talented recruits to the Panthers in the future.

"It's not only a good tool for training the team, but it's attractive in recruiting," he explained. "I think that talented players want to showcase their skills against good teams."

Should the Panthers fare well in the first ten games of Perry's schedule, the team could catapult themselves into NCAA tournament talk and strengthen the school's recruiting base. But, if not it could be a rough welcoming for Georgia State into the CAA.

Golf

from page 13

strong play by finishing tied with fellow Panthers Tim Freund and Joel Sjolholm for 14th in the individual championship. Freund's 218 was a personal best three round score and his final round score of 70 was a career low. These three players, along with Steve Tiley (25th place), left Georgia State with four players finishing in the top 25 for the tournament.

As well as Georgia State's individuals were playing, they could not keep up with ETSU's Rhys Davies, Tennessee's Jonathan Mount, and Notre Dame's Cole Isban. These three golfers finished the tournament in a three-way tie for first place, and were forced to compete in a four-hole playoff to determine the winner. Isban was knocked out after the first playoff hole, and Mount and Davies were named co-champions after finishing the playoff holes even.

The Georgia State men's golf team looks to continue their strong start on the links on Monday, Oct. 10 to participate in the Gary Koch/Cleveland Golf Intercollegiate. This event is co-hosted by Florida and Kentucky and takes place in Tampa, FL at the Old Memorial Golf Course.



Georgia State Athletic Department | Signal

The men have won two of their last three games.

Soccer

from page 13

the ball the length off the field after a Georgia State shot on goal, where junior forward Jarrett Thomas knocked the ball to Jones who tied the game for the Tribe. The goal left Panther fans and coaches alike gripping that William & Mary was offside during the break away, but Knott would avenge the goal.

"It was unbelievable to see Dathan score that goal," said Daser, who held the utmost respect for the Tribe following the win.

"William & Mary is a very disciplined and hardworking team," added Daser. "They showed a lot of character to come back."

Knott is tied for NCAA Division I lead in goals by a fresh-

man with seven in eight games and is 20th in the nation in goals per game. He leads the Panthers in goals, game-winning goals (2), shots (21) and shot percentage (.333); Villareal is second on the team with three goals.

Knott said the Panther's sub-par record may have disillusioned William & Mary, an annual CAA power who was coming off a tough 1-0 loss to No. 15 Maryland, which allowed Georgia State to attack.

"The win was real big," Knott commented. "I think people underestimate us when they play us, and we snuck up on William & Mary and got a huge win."

The victory gave the Georgia State men's soccer program its first conference win and the team's third win in their last four games.

"Our offense looks great right now," said coach Daser. "We kept breaking free which kept me confi-

dent we could beat William & Mary. We've won three of our last four and have some momentum with us. The guys are playing great."

Georgia State is now 1-1 all time against the Tribe; William &

Mary won the programs' first contest, 4-0, in the Old Dominion/Stihl Soccer Classic on Sept. 15, 2002.

Georgia State's next home game is against James Madison on Friday, Oct. 7 at 5 p.m. at

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You can't be the champ until you beat the champ

By JOSHUA MOYNIHAN
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My Two Cents

We're through the preseason hype. We've separated some of the contenders from the pretenders. Now, the march for the national title continues for the few select teams that have proven they're worthy of challenging the mighty champion for the crown. Clearly this champion, USC, will not give up the crown easily as they continue to take strides towards perfection. The hype around them echoes, "best team in college football history"; but is that hype too much to live up to? It's time to take



Special | Signal
Marcus Vick's Virginia Tech Hookies are considered by many the favorites to dethrone the Southern California Trojans.

a look at the rest of the season and make some predictions as to who will take home this year's crown.

All roads to the national title lead through L.A., where mighty USC harbors their team of future NFL stars. Quarterback Matt Leinart has looked shaky over the past two weeks. USC has come back from deficits of 13 and 18 while on the road against Pac-10 opponents Oregon and Arizona State, in large part thanks to the running back duo of sensational Reggie Bush and powerful Lendale White. The Trojans may have shown some weaknesses over the past few weeks, but still remain the favorite to win this year's title. They'll have to fix those soft spots before they visit the rejuvenated Irish in two weeks.

Who USC's toughest competitor would be remains a topic of national debate. Some feel that Marcus Vick and the Virginia Tech Hookies, who have looked stellar in all phases of the game, would be a tougher test; however, most of the country including me, feel that the Texas Longhorns, led by do it all quarterback Vince Young, poses the larger test. It is more likely that Texas would make it over Virginia Tech. Texas still has to get by a weakened, but tough Oklahoma team, something they haven't done in five years, as well as winning the Big XII title game. Sounds like a tough road, I know; but Virginia Tech still has to play rivals Miami and Virginia. If they survive that, they will most likely face Florida State in the first ever ACC title game in Jacksonville, Fla.

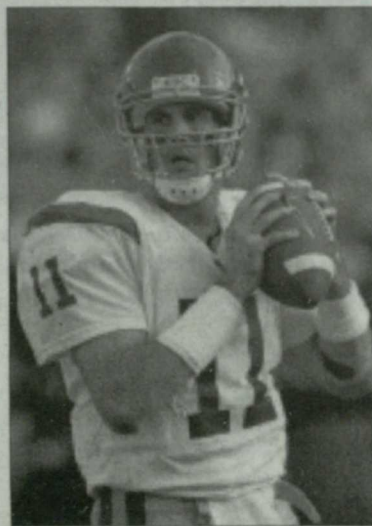
Speaking of Florida State, the Seminoles have their own aspirations of winning it all. An early season win over Miami and an escape of Boston College mean that the Noles' are in the driver's seat to make the ACC title game. If they can win out in conference and beat Florida in the swamp, the ACC title game will be a stepping-stone to the national title game for them, a tough and improbable task for such an inconsistent offense.

Outside of those four, the only undefeated teams with shots at the national title come from the SEC. Alabama in the west and Georgia in the east, are the only other teams that control their own destiny. Alabama is coming of an impressive 30-3 beat-down of Florida. Sadly for Bama', they lost their top wideout for the year. Late in the game star wideout, Tyrone Prothro, landed awkwardly and broke his leg. In my opinion, that injury dashed Alabama's shot at winning an SEC or national crown.

The final team in control of their outcome is the homestate favorite Georgia Bulldogs. The Dawgs' have looked good in every game except for the close call against South Carolina, but Georgia struggles with the Gamecocks annually. The problem for head coach Mark Richt and the rest of the staff is that they haven't hit the toughest part of the schedule yet. Next week Georgia travels to Knoxville to take on Tennessee. Survive that and they're still looking at playing Florida in Jacksonville, Georgia Tech in

Atlanta, and having to beat LSU or Alabama in the SEC title game. They have the talent to climb the mountain, but the road will be tough, too tough for me to put UGA in the title game.

If any two other than these six find themselves playing for the national title, then someone will need some help along the way. If these teams slip up, look for the likes of Florida, Tennessee, Notre Dame, LSU, Ohio State or Miami to move up into national title contention. As for my pick, after a tough first half in which Vince Young runs wild on the Trojan defense, look for USC and 2005 Heisman winner, Reggie Bush to spring back and run away in the second half: USC 30, Texas 21.



Special | Signal
The Trojans of USC, led by heisman winner Matt Leinart, are seeking their third straight title.

Cross country running strong



Georgia State Athletic Department | Signal
Jeremy Williams earned second-team All-State honors at the Georgia Collegiate

By ROBERT SABBATH
rsabbath@gsusignal.com

The Georgia State men's cross country team is causing concern, as coaches around the region are forced to weigh the prospects of competing with a talented Panther team boasting impressive early season performances.

After not being ranked in the first two 2005 South Region polls released by the United States Cross

Country Coaches Association, the Panthers pounced all the way up to seventh in the latest poll released on Sept. 27. The Panthers are one position behind the University of Georgia and seven ahead of Georgia Tech.

The seventh place ranking is higher than last season's highest ranking of 11th, and one place higher than its highest ranking in 2003, which was eighth.

This jump came days after a

strong performance at the Greater Louisville Classic where the men finished fourth among 36 teams. The Georgia State men's cross country team sent a split squad of athletes to the Georgia Collegiate Championship in Macon, Georgia on Saturday, Oct. 1, where the team finished sixth. Jeremy Williams led the Panthers' charge on the hilly course, finishing in 14th place. Johnson, a junior, earned second-team All-State hon-

ors with his performance.

The Panthers sixth-place finish came amongst a large field of 18.

Williams finished the 8,000-meter race in 26:40 and senior Wes Hutcherson followed with a time of 26:48. Freshmen Kevin Matthews (23rd) and Jerad Godsave (34th) were the next Panthers to cross the finish line. Senior Tim Wood finished in 41st place with a respectable time of 27:46.

The women's cross country team also sent a split squad to the Collegiate Championships, where they finished in fourth place. Brittany Holland led the way for the Lady Panthers, crossing the line of the 5,000-meter course in a time of 19:24; good enough for 21st place.

They placed all five runners in the top 50. Stephanie Poore and Ashley King, who finished 36th and 37th respectively, followed Holland. Alex Friel and Liz Stanford rounded out the Lady Panthers' scoring, finishing together in 46th and 47th place.

The Panthers, both men and women, will return in full force next Saturday, Oct. 8, when they travel to the Auburn Invitational where they look to continue their string of success.

Coming Soon in
Panther Sports

Sat.-Thu., Oct. 1-6 -- Men's Tenn at the ITA All-American Tournament in Tulsa, Okla.

Mon.-Tue., Oct. 3-4 -- Women's Golf hosts the Ga. State/Pelican Preserve Invite in Fort Myers, Fla.

Tue., Oct. 4 -- Volleyball at Mercer, Atlanta, 7 p.m.

Fri.-Sun., Oct. 7-9 -- Men's Tenn at Georgia Tech Invitational, Atlanta, Ga.

Fri., Oct. 7 -- Women's Soccer at James Madison in Harrisonburg, Va., at 4 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 7 -- Men's Soccer vs. James Madison in Atlanta at Silverbacks Park, 5 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 7 -- Volleyball vs. Va. Commonwealth in the Sports Arena at 7 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 8 -- Cross Country at Auburn Invitational, Auburn, Ala.

Sat., Oct. 8 -- Volleyball at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, 12 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 9 -- Men's Soccer vs. Va. Commonwealth at Panthersville, 1 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 9 -- Women's Soccer at Va. Commonwealth in Richmond, Va. at 2 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 9 -- Volleyball vs. William & Mary in the Sports Arena at 2 p.m.

Mon.-Tue., Oct. 10-11 -- Men's Golf at the Gary Koch Intercollegiate in Tampa, Fla.

Thu.-Sun., Oct. 13-16 -- Women's Tennis at the ITA Southern Championships in Athens, Ga.

Thu.-Sun., Oct. 13-16 -- Men's Tennis at the ITA Regionals III, Memphis, Tenn.

Fri.-Sun., Oct. 14-16 -- Women's Tennis at the Hampton Roads Invitational, Newport News, Va.

Fri., Oct. 14 -- Men's Soccer at Towson, in Baltimore, Md., 3 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 14 -- Women's Soccer vs. Towson in Panthersville, 4 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 14 -- Volleyball vs. Towson at the Sports Arena, 8 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 15 -- Cross Country hosts the Georgia State Invitational in Panthersville

Sun., Oct. 16 -- Men's Soccer at George Mason in Fairfax, Va., 1 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 16 -- Women's Soccer vs. George Mason in Panthersville at 1 p.m.

Georgia State to continue tradition "Lefty" left behind

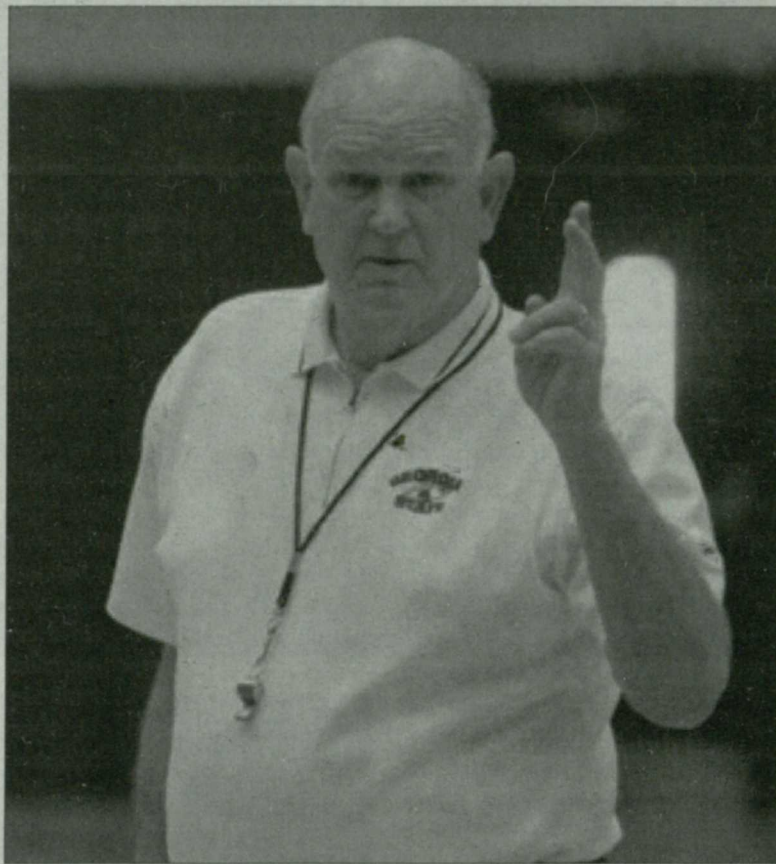
By MICHAEL KLEIN
mklein@gsusignal.com

The Georgia State men and women's basketball teams will continue a great tradition as they tip off the basketball season. The two teams will have their first practice on Friday night, Oct. 14th at 12:01 a.m. during Georgia State Midnight Mania.

The tradition began in 1970, when former Georgia State basketball coach Lefty Driesell was coaching at the University of Maryland.

"We had our first real good team that year and we had a good shot to win the championship. I was talking with my coaching staff at a meeting and we knew the NCAA would let us begin practicing on October 15th, so I thought if we practiced at midnight, we could get a jump on the competition," Driesell said.

The 'jump', however, only consisted of the basketball team running a mile around the football field at midnight, with cars parked around the track to shine their lights to make sure every player was running the entire mile. Word spread around the Maryland campus that the team would be practicing at midnight, so the players ran the mile in front of about 350 stu-



Former Panther men's basketball coach "Lefty" Driesell began the tradition of "Midnight Madness" at the University of Maryland in 1970.

Special | Signal

dents. That number has grown exponentially over the years and now at some schools tickets are sold in advance for Midnight Madness and Mania.

Driesell certainly did not expect his midnight run to become so popular at other schools across the nation.

"I wasn't doing it for publici-

ty, I just wanted other schools to know that my team would be the first to practice during the season and also the last to play, in the national championship," said Georgia State's most recognizable coach.

Nowadays, going to Midnight Mania is just as popular as going to the actual games, although things are just a little different. In 2003, the University of Maryland's Midnight Mania featured head basketball coach Gary Williams riding into the Comcast Center on a Harley Davidson motorcycle to the delight of the thousands of fans packed in the arena. Other schools have slam dunk contests, concerts, coach look-alike contests, and marching band performances throughout the night.

Midnight Mania will begin in the Sports Arena after the conclusion of the volleyball match between GSU and Towson University, which starts at 8 p.m. on Oct. 14th. All students and faculty are invited to come and support the Lady Panthers and then stick around for the late night entertainment. The vacant lot across from the Student Recreation Center at the corner of Decatur Street and Piedmont Avenue will be used for tailgating before the event.

The festivities will begin with

the introduction of the men and women's basketball teams, followed by an inter-squad scrimmage by each team. After the scrimmage, there will be several promotions including ten opportunities for a fan in attendance to win a cash prize. The night will be concluded with the Midnight Mania Step Show featuring several groups from the Georgia State campus.

The Panthers will be competing in the Colonial Athletic Association for the first time this year and competition will be much greater than ever before.

Coach Driesell said, "I think the new conference is great. I'm excited about Georgia State being in a new league with a good schedule. The conference is very competitive and I wish them the best of luck."

Midnight Mania is a great chance for fans to show support to the basketball programs and give the teams an extra boost of confidence as they enter the season.

Although Georgia State coach Mike Perry probably won't enter the Sports Arena on a Harley Davidson, Georgia State Midnight Mania will be an exciting night where fans will get an early preview of 2005-06 Georgia State men's and women's basketball teams.

Women's soccer defeats in-state rival, but yet to win in difficult Colonial

By PATRICK CHENEY
pcheney@gsusignal.com

The Lady Panthers concluded their non-conference schedule with a win against in-state rival Georgia Southern University.

The win boosted the team to a 6-3-0 record for non-conference play, which was quite successful. The team looked impressive in its nine non-conference games including a win against South Eastern Conference foe Mississippi State University and wins against in-state rivals Mercer and Georgia Southern. Even though the girls would have preferred better outcomes against some of the tougher teams they played, it was still successful when one considers the team has battled injuries to many of its players.

This year the Lady Panthers will play in the Colonial Athletic Association, after Georgia State University moved from the Atlantic-Sun Conference where they played in previous years.

"The CAA is a 'Who's Who' of women's soccer," said Coach Domenic Martelli, "with teams such as William & Mary and James Madison as some of the top teams."

William & Mary has been to 13 consecutive NCAA tournaments and James Madison has been to the NCAA tournament



Junior Lauren Chavez scored the Lady Panthers lone goal against William & Mary. She leads the team with seven goals and has three assists.

Georgia State Athletic Department | Signal

seven out of the past 10 years. As of Sept. 27, the CAA had five teams in regional rankings.

The CAA schedule gives for Georgia State no room to relax, with each game being very tough one and vital to the Lady Panther's season.

To be successful the team will have to play with an extremely high maturity level, which Martelli expects from his squad. With soph-

omore Christa Mann anchoring the defense, senior Dana Van Winkle claiming the midfield, junior Lauren Chavez as the offensive threat and the rest of the team providing strong support Martelli says he believes his team will be very successful and has great confidence in his ladies.

The Georgia State women's soccer team played the UNC Wilmington Seahawks its first

Colonial game on Sept. 25, to disappoint results. In Wilmington, the Seahawks jumped ahead as they scored two goals in the first half, leaving the Lady Panthers unable to recover. At the 68:59 mark, the Seahawks added another goal to give them a 3-0 lead, which would be the final score.

The Seahawks held a 22-5 shot advantage over the Panthers with only three of them going in.

Senior goalkeeper Alexa Pasquarelli had nine saves in the loss.

Last Friday, the team traveled to Williamsburg, VA to play the William & Mary Tribe. Junior Lauren Chavez scored the first goal of the game; unfortunately, it would be the Lady Panthers' only goal. The Tribe scored three goals in the first half and added two more in the second half. The Tribe out shot the Lady Panthers, 16-3.

"I thought this was our best overall game we've played this season, although the score doesn't reflect our efforts," Martelli said in a release.

Chavez's goal gave her the second most goals in the CAA to date and leads the team with seven. She also has three assists on the season and a .368 shot percentage.

Pasquarelli had four saves in the loss.

Following the loss the team holds a record of 6-6-0, but the team has lost its first three Colonial Athletic Association contests.

The Lady Panthers travel to Harrison, Va. on Friday, Oct. 7 to battle conference foe James Madison. Georgia State's next home game will be Friday, Oct. 14 against Towson at Panthersville, with a 4 p.m. start time for the team's second home CAA game.

Volleyball records first home win of season

By MATTHEW SIMMONS
sportseditor@gsusignal.com

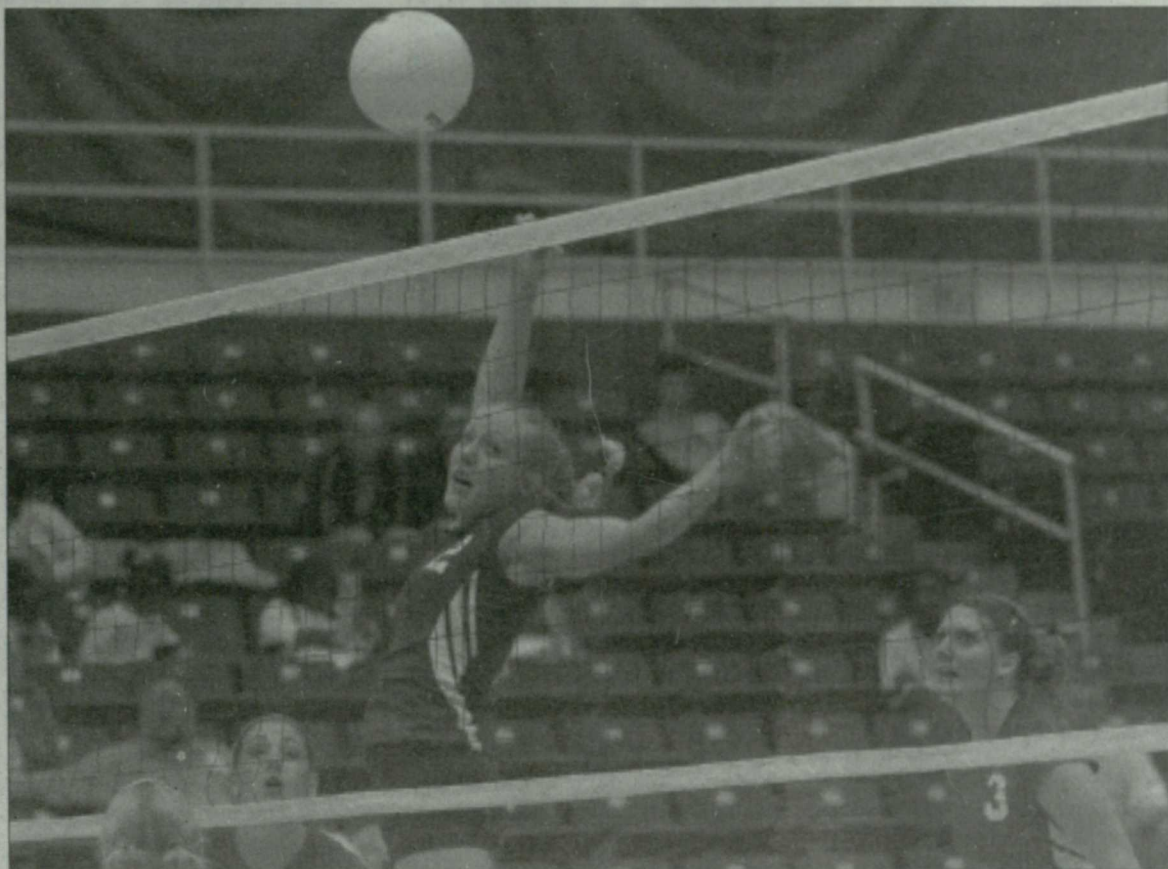
The Georgia State Volleyball team got its first home win of the season when they defeated UNC Wilmington, 3-0, at the Georgia State Sports Arena on Saturday.

The seniors led the way as Carol Mattos, Alex Blenche, and Robyn van Dam combined for 42 kills in the 3-0 (30-23, 30-24, 30-26) victory.

"We came out with the heart and passion that was necessary to win this match," said Georgia State head coach Mike Webster. "I'm really proud of the effort of our seniors today."

Each match was competitive, but Georgia State (3-9, 3-4 Colonial Athletic Association) remained calm and showed remarkable resilience by pulling out the victory late in all three matches.

The Lady Panthers reeled off a 4-0 run midway through the first game, fueled by van Dam and Blenche kills, to extend their lead to five, 20-15. The Seahawks immediately cut the lead back to two, but kills by Blenche and senior Danielle Gonzalez raised the lead back to four. The Lady Panthers dug deep for another 4-0 run after UNC Wilmington again cut the lead to two. Ana Paula



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Seniors Robyn van Dam (above), Carol Mattos and Alex Blenche had 42 kills in the win.

Ferreira gave Georgia State the win, 30-23, with a kill.

State trailed the second game 13-25 when Mattos went on an offensive attack.

Mattos, a native of Petropolis, Brazil, knocked home four consecutive kills to regain the advantage,

17-15. Later up 19-17, the Lady Panthers went on a 5-0 run courtesy three Seahawk errors and kills by Blenche and sophomore setter Jordan Thomas. UNC Wilmington would fight back to 28-24, but van Dam drilled home a kill and an attack error by the visiting team

gave Georgia State the game, 30-24.

The Seahawks came out surprisingly strong in third stanza and burst to an initial 7-4 lead, but the Lady Panthers remained calm and tied the game at 11.

The game stayed tight, with

ties at 15, 17 and 23, but the Lady Panthers maintained the days theme winning in the late stages of games.

Georgia State scored the next six points as van Dam claimed two kills, Blenche had another, blocks by Thomas and van Dam and Mattos had an ace and kill.

On the brink of victory UNC Wilmington battled valiently as the Seahawks fought off three match points. But a ball handling error gave the Lady Panthers the third and final game.

Georgia State finished the match with 5.5 total blocks as van Dam and Ferreira led the way.

"We worked very hard on blocking all week in practice," said coach Webster. "The results may not show up in the blocking totals, but the fact that we got a lot of initial touches on block attempts led to a lot of digs."

Georgia State finished with 70 digs in the match, their most in a three-game match this season for the Lady Panthers and the most since Georgia State had 75 in their win at Delaware. Blenche had 18 digs to lead all players match with a double-double, as she knocked home 13 kills on the day.

The Lady Panthers return to action Tuesday evening in Macon, when they face Mercer University at 7:00 p.m.

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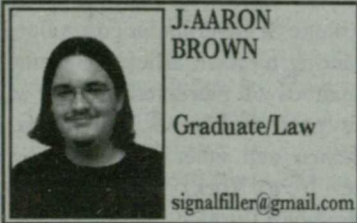
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Ignorant Design



J. AARON BROWN

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The unending debate about biology textbooks has begun a new chapter in Pennsylvania.

Last week, the latest salvo in the culture war was fired – into a federal court in Harrisburg, Penn. In a case that's being called *Scopes II*, 11 outraged parents are suing the Dover Area School District for violating the separation of church and state by requiring instruction in intelligent design (ID) as a valid theory of life on Earth. Under the guise of "teaching the controversy," the board has attempted to introduce into the high school science curriculum an idea that has no backing in the scientific community and has been discredited for nearly 150 years.

In the 1987 case *Edwards v. Aguillard*, the Supreme Court determined that requiring evolution be taught along side "creation science" was unconstitutional on its face; since ID is clearly only a new name for the same theory, I'm rather confused as to why the latest case has even gone to an actual trial. Sure, the ID movement has eliminated some of the more absurd (and, incidentally, now disproved) claims from its stance, such as the postulate that the mass extinction at the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary was caused by a huge flood or that the earth is only a few thousand years old, but at its heart, this is still creationism.

For all the protestations to the contrary, there is no question that ID is being backed exclusively by the religious right. The law firm representing the Dover school district says its mission is to supply "legal representation without charge to defend and protect Christians and their religious beliefs in the public square." Former school board member William Buckingham, who started this push to teach the baseless rhetoric of creationism in biology

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African tribal warriors have wallets too!



VINCENT MIGLIORE
Journalism/Film

Cooler Than the Other Side of the Pillow
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The miracle cure for obesity has been sought after for decades now, especially in America where being overweight has become an epidemic. This miracle cure might have finally been found in the Kalahari Desert region of South Africa. There lives a cactus known as the hoodia. The San people of Southwest Africa have been using hoodia for centuries. By sucking on or eating the flesh of the cactus, it would stave off hunger and thirst so they could embark on long hunting expeditions. Scientists from the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) became aware of the use of hoodia

and started research on the plant. The scientists performed tests on lab animals and found some interesting results. The animals wound up actually losing weight without any apparent negative side effects. Moments later dollar signs filled these researcher's eyes, and thoughts of marketing the plant to people danced in their heads.

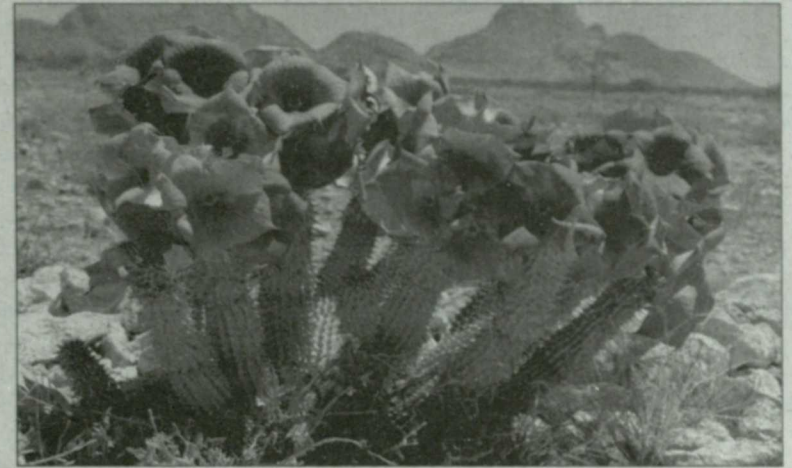
The CSIR patented the active ingredient in the cactus named P57 and sold the licensing rights to biopharmaceutical firm, Phytopharm, in 1997. Phytopharm turned right around and sold the licensing rights to the American pharmaceutical company Pfizer for \$25 million. The whole process, from research to the eventual licensing sale to Pfizer, took place without the San tribe's awareness.

So the San did what anyone who feels they've been cheated out of money would do—they hired a lawyer. After threatening lawsuits, thus delaying any chance

of the hoodia plant to be profitable, the CSIR settled with the San by

6 percent of the work.

A great debate about



Special | Signal

Hoodia has been used for centuries by the San people, and will soon be on the market in pill form for overweight Americans to spend billions on.

agreeing to give them 6 percent of all royalties. That's right; apparently the whole discovering a drug part of selling a drug is only about

intellectual property has stemmed from this story. Many believe that

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POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Intellectual property should not go to whoever stumbles across it first



JULIE SENTNER
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The Only Therapy I Need is Retail Therapy
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The ongoing issue of intellectual property rights is starting to become a bit outrageous. Pirating music and movies is one thing, the argument for intellectual property in those issues is clear. The South African San Council has taken intellectual property one-step further... to plants.

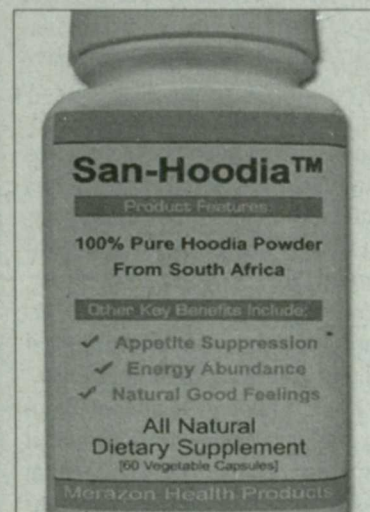
The San Tribe of the Kalahari Desert has traditionally used the hoodia gordonii succulent as an appetite suppressant during travel when food and water were limited. The results from eating stems of the plant were rapid weight loss with no negative side

effects.

In 1996, the South Africa's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) isolated and patented the plant. The following year the English pharmaceutical firm, Phytopharm, found out about this 'miracle plant' and bought the licensing rights to hoodia from the CSIR. Phytopharm turned around and sold the licensing rights to the American company Pfizer for \$25 million.

The San Tribesmen are now claiming they have intellectual property rights and are expecting milestone payments and royalties totaling 14 percent of total hoodia sales.

According to www.usinfo.state.gov, intellectual property can be defined as creative ideas and expressions of the human mind that have commercial value;



Special | Signal
Hoodia is already on sale in some places.

they receive the legal protection of a property right and can be applied to patents, trademarks, unfair competition, copyright, trade secret, or moral rights. None of which apply

to plants.

The San Tribesmen did not invent hoodia; they simply took advantage of the plant first. That being the case, they should be able to farm hoodia and make money from it, but that is a problem since the CSIR still holds a patent on the plant; which is what lead to this illogical argument in the first place.

Maybe greed is making us all crazy. The CSIR, who have much greater political power than do the San tribesmen, took any money-making opportunities away from the San Tribesmen. In turn, they had to come up with an equally as illogical argument (biopiracy) to try and profit from something they have used for centuries. The tribesmen's want to profit from all of this makes sense, but the way that they have had to go about doing so is more than a little odd.

Corporations: They might not be such a disaster as people think



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A Sarcastic Optimist
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There is a ton of hype about the negative impacts big businesses are having with their increasing trend towards globalization and how they have begun to control our lives on the legislative, cultural and economic levels. On the other hand, every government in the world does exactly the same thing. And they do it very poorly.

So, go out on a limb here with me; isn't it plausible that maybe we should let competent people run our lives, people who have realistic goals and long-term plans, who promote a peaceful status quo and who can actually balance a budget? Of course, no one adores the idea of having corporations in charge, but since someone is going to be doing it anyway, could it be worse than what we have now? Introduce the idea of a corporations.

Governments have some awful flaws. Consider the purpose

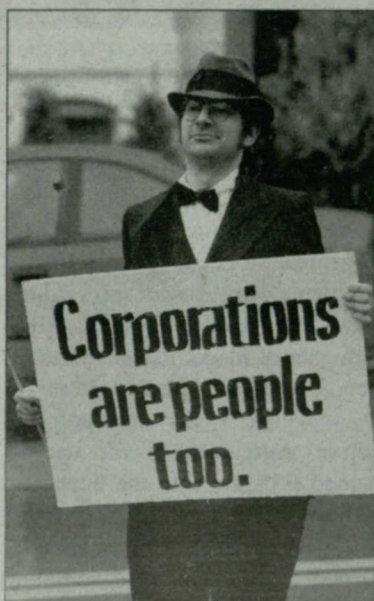
of the Homeland Security Department. It was initiated to coordinate different governmental organizations, agencies and departments into a cohesive unit that could communicate easily to prepare for and facilitate swift reactions to crises. Apparently, a crisis is strictly limited to terrorism, so everything HSD has supposedly been aiming to be able to do, couldn't be put into effect for, say, I don't know, devastating hurricanes? I kept waiting for them to step in and coordinate, and it never happened.

On the other hand, this restructuring of organization, and the implementation of an emergency agenda would have been done smoothly and efficiently had a corporation been under pressure.

Check this out: "These changes are designed to align [our] groups in a way that will enhance decision-making and speed of execution, as well as help us continue to deliver the types [of things] our [people] want most." Business or government? Do I need to ask? Microsoft's Chief Executive Steve Ballmer said this, but will it happen? Please, I could say, "hold

your breath" without even being sarcastic.

Here's another one to guess: "The [still omitted to not give easy hints] plan establishes a comprehensive all-hazards



Special | Signal
Irony protester might have a point.

approach to enhance [our ability... to manage...] incidents. The plan

incorporates best practices and procedures from incident management disciplines... and integrates them into a unified structure." If you said the Homeland Security Department's Web site, under Emergencies and Disasters, as an introduction to the National Response Plan, you would have gotten it in one. Wow that sounded great, it would have been wonderful to have after the hurricane, which no one can argue didn't fall into the category of an "emergency or disaster." The incorporation of "incident management disciplines" included those of "homeland security, emergency management, law enforcement, firefighting, public works, public health, responder and recovery worker health and safety, emergency medical services, and the private sector." Exactly what we needed and exactly what we didn't get.

So, you see where I am going with this. While some government agencies do make an effort to provide good services and operate efficiently, they are not the norm. The examples of government incompetence are long and can be related to passionately by

any American. To make a short list: DMV, IRS, Social Security. So although many people see corporations as our enemy, doesn't our government act against our best interests on a regular basis.

Here is an example closer to home of government corruption. Quoting a recent article about the hundreds of murdered women in the past few years, in Juarez, Mexico and other border towns, the New York Times stated, "Whether through incompetence, corruption or a lurid connection to the killings, the bungling and cover-ups are so extensive, [Mexican] federal investigators say, that the police and other officials have themselves become suspected of links to the crimes." The root cause of sweatshop violations worldwide, along with so many other problems, comes from the same source: local government corruption, which can take many forms, but at its heart has its own interests in the forefront.

This leads in to my next

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POINT/COUNTERPOINT



Corporate America: Will it soon be United States International, Inc.?



CALISTA SCHENCK
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I Can Back That Sass Up
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I'll admit it. I am guilty. My crime: saying on more than one occasion "This school/voting process/court system would be so much better if it were run by a corporation." After waiting tables in a restaurant run by an international corporation for four years, I wished that other people were held to the same ridiculously high standards of service I had to deliver. Why were these standards so high? I can name two reasons: first, the corporation wanted to make money. Second, I wanted to make money. The motivation that drives every move of corporations, whether it is hiring certain people, donating to charities or changing its administration, is to ultimately make money by catering to consumers. How often do large corpo-

rations donate money or aid without paying millions of dollars for an ad that announces their donation? They believe they can make back the money they give away by bringing in more money from consumers who say "Look at that altruistic company! I want to buy stuff from them!" I don't necessarily have a problem with this motivation for giving to charity. However, I want to stress that corporations consider nothing but money in making their decisions.

Although it goes without saying that money is a powerful force in driving the functioning and policies of government organizations, it is to a much lesser extent. The only elections that corporate officers have to worry about concern a voting population composed of people who own stock in their company. Government officials have to worry about elections in which each person, no matter how rich or how poor, gets one single, equally weighted vote. If the

government was run as a corporation—that is, run in a for-profit manner, rich people would essentially get millions of votes while poor people in debt might actually get zero or close to zero votes.

Rich people may fund campaigns and have more influence in that area (which I do have a problem with), but if their ideas do not appeal to the 80 percent of American households that earn less than \$83,500 annually, and if these Americans vote in the elections, the goals of the richest 20 percent will be more difficult to pursue than if votes in the form of dollars influenced policy. The richest 20 percent still only possess 20 percent of possible votes; however, if one dollar equals one vote, the richest 20 percent would possess roughly half of all possible votes.

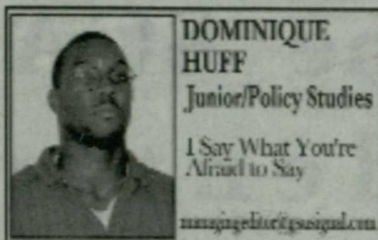
Corporations embrace and encourage inequality, including among their employees. Whereas the average salary for a CEO of a major corporation is

\$9.84 million annually, the CEO of the top governmental organization in the United States—President Bush—receives \$400,000 annually. And this figure is relatively new; from 1969 to 2001, the president's salary was half that. Cashiers and employees in other entry-level positions for major corporations make less than \$20,000 annually; their counterparts in state government organizations make 50 percent more on average, and at the post office they make twice as much. These figures are just for the United States; corporations pay their workers in foreign countries much less.

Successful government organizations do exist, one of them being the CDC here in Atlanta. The CDC provides invaluable services that for-profit corporations would have no interest in offering, such as investigation into the AIDS crisis in Africa. The globalization of this public health government program is highly beneficial to all.

Corporations are more efficient and offer better service than most government organizations. However, in doing so, they increase inequality; the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. In pursuit of a higher profit, they cancel retirees' benefits and overlook possible safety/health hazards of their products. They will outsource jobs so that Americans here lose their jobs, but then they exploit the workers overseas. They may even resort to white-collar crime in the name of the almighty dollar.

Governmental organizations do have their problems, including some of those seen with corporations. However, corporations are ultimately under the control of the rich. Governments are under the control of every voting citizen. If our nation were run as if it were a corporation, the effects would be disastrous. I cannot begin to image how much worse it would be if the world became a giant conglomeration of corporations.



Stop complaining, and do something

The 2004 elections have come and gone. The SGA elections have come and gone. The 2005 local elections are around the corner. Once again, the public has their chance to really let their elected officials know their true thoughts about their performance. However, many people simply will just stay home and make excuses. But when things get crazy such as controversial legislation and people not showing up to meetings, then everyone wants to moan and groan. In actuality, the complainers did not even cast a ballot.

Case in point, the SGA elections last spring. Never before has there been so much whining and complaining about the election results. Given all this fuss, you would think nearly half the school voted. Nope! There were slightly over 400 ballots cast in the said election. Keep in mind that we have nearly 30,000 students at Georgia State. The 2004 Presidential election is another example. Once again, with all the Bush bashing in mainstream media and conspiracy theories, you would have thought Bush would have been on his way out. Wrong

again! Bush received one the highest popularity votes ever for a president of the United States. After the election, there were more rumors about the election being fixed and people even talked about moving to Canada.

What is really the prob-



Special | Signal
Motivation to vote has taken more creative avenues.

lem here? Apathy and laziness are two major issues. When it comes

to voting too many people take the "I don't care" or "the issues don't affect me" attitude and so on. On Election Day, too many people make excuses on why they could go to the polls. Keep in mind that there is a law that mandates your employer to give you unpaid time off during the day to vote so those excuses do not fly at all. Others say that the lines are too long but these are the same people who will stand in line for hours to get in the club free or camp out all night for Harry Potter books. This is pathetic and pitiful.

Given that SGA elections last for several days and the State of Georgia offers advanced and absentee voting, the voter turnout numbers simply should not be. Rapper Diddy tried to make voting a "crunk" thing to do with the "Vote or Die" campaign. People were walking around with the shirts on and saying the mantra but the numbers did not match up there either. We as a society have to do much better than this. For the black community, people died and

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Design

from page 19

courses, said point blank in a public meeting, "2,000 years ago, someone died on a cross. Can't someone take a stand for him?" In the midst of such commentary, it's impossible to believe that those

designers. But all of this is philosophy, having nothing to do with hard science. ID is so imprecise in its assertions; it technically doesn't even qualify as a theory at all. It is impossible to falsify, makes no testable predictions, and is based on no empirical evidence whatsoever.

In fact, the so-called "controversy" that ID believers wish to see taught in public



CJ Bargamian | Signal

A pictorial satire of the root of the debate: Darwin vs. Jesus, who will win the championship belt?

pushing this idea are doing so out of any legitimate concern for pluralism in education.

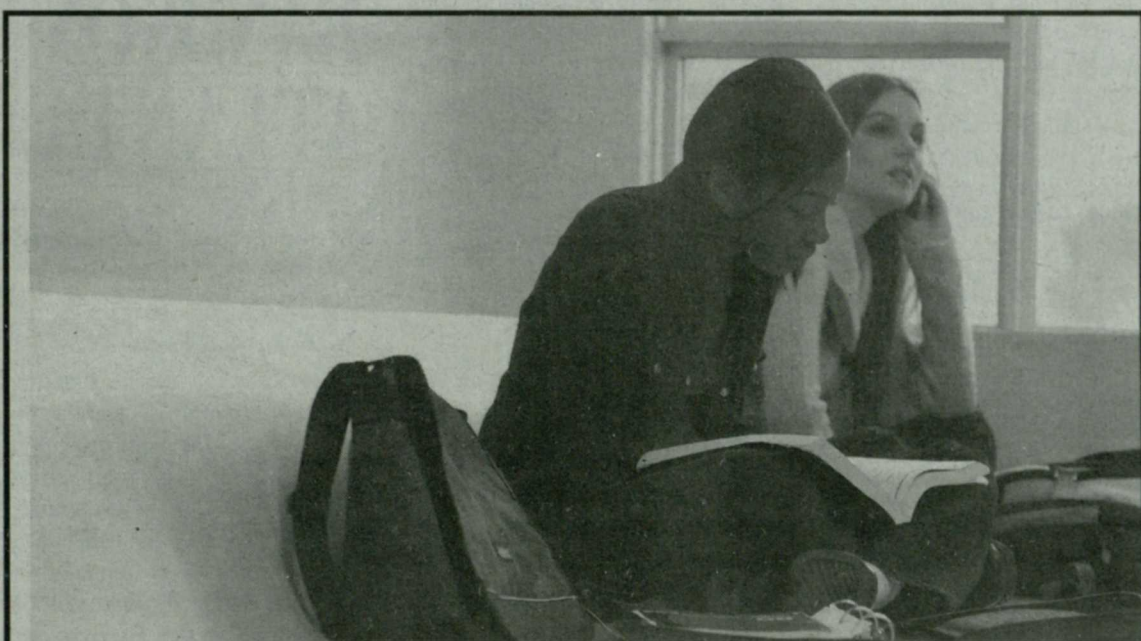
At the base of this whirlwind is a phrase familiar to Georgia residents who listened to endless reports about the Cobb County "warning" stickers early last year. "Evolution is a theory, not a fact" was part of the disclaimer read to biology students in Dover before the board simply mandated the teaching of creationism also. The time-tested and easiest answer to that particular phrase is to point out that the theory of evolution is on equal footing with the theory of gravity. But, more to the point, if we're so hot to see "alternate theories" being taught in schools, why aren't we teaching the theory that diseases are caused by an imbalance in the humors of the body: earth, air, fire, and water? The answer is simple: because that theory is an absurd holdover that dates back thousands of years and was discredited by the theory of cellular pathology in 1858 (incidentally just one year before Darwin's *Origin of Species* was published). In short, it's just plain wrong, but when has that ever stopped a religious fanatic?

The ID camp's sole argument for their stance is that the presence of a designer is implied by the complexity of organic life, but this is nothing more than the teleological argument for the existence of god, the fifth of Thomas Aquinas' five "proofs." The simplest disproof of this is the reduction ad absurdum: if the complexity of life requires a designer, then that designer must be at least equally complex and therefore also require a designer, leading to an infinite regress of designers designing designers designing

schools doesn't even exist! No one in the sciences controverts the basic assertions of evolutionary theory; we see natural selection in action every flu season. The arguments concern punctuated equilibrium, group selection, the Cambrian explosion, and a whole host of other fascinating bio-historical phenomena completely unrelated to the validity of evolution as a theory in and of itself. This is just another case of lazy parents trying to legislate their duties into the public school system so they don't have to be bothered with trifling matters like setting an example or spending time explaining their beliefs to their children. If you want your children to understand that you disagree with evolution, tell them, and stop shoving your ignorance down the public throat.

Unfortunately, I'm limited in my ability to point out the multitudinous fallacies of ID here. For those interested in a much more thorough treatment of the manufacturing of the "debate" between ID and Darwinism, the ties of ID to the Christian right, and the wealth of evidence that flatly contradicts the few scientific claims that ID has attempted to make, I highly recommend ecologist Jerry Coyne's article "The Case Against Intelligent Design," available at www.edge.org, as an excellent starting point.

For a critique of the teleological argument as it pertains to evolution, I suggest Richard Dawkins' book "The Blind Watchmaker." Either will be infinitely more accurate than the outdated mythology on which the ID movement relies for its baseless assertions.



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SunTrust is offering free checking to Georgia State students. And since we know you like free stuff, we're also offering you free Internet Banking, free SunTrust ATM use, a free savings account, 24/7 personal service by phone, and we'll give you a free T-shirt just for opening an account. To see how SunTrust can help you, stop by your local branch, call 800.SUNTRUST or log on to suntrust.com/studentbanking.



Wiesenthal: A hero of justice has died



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Simon Wiesenthal was a symbol of courage and a colossal hero to humanity, not just to the Jewish community, but to any reasonable person who admires the seeking of justice. Through persistence and dedication, Simon Wiesenthal assisted in the capture of over one thousand Nazi war criminals.

Simon Wiesenthal died on Sept. 20, 2005 but his legacy lives on. About five hundred Holocaust survivors live in the Atlanta area and Wiesenthal's death was especially noteworthy to them.

It all started when Simon Wiesenthal was liberated from Mauthausen concentration camp in 1945. He immediately went to work for the United States Army gathering documentation for the Nazi war crimes trials.

After their work at the Nuremberg trial, the capture of Adolph Eichmann, who master-

gery.

Hermine Braunsteiner, one of the few women Nazi war criminals, was also brought to justice due to Wiesenthal's persistence. Braunsteiner was clandestinely living in New York City during the 1960s, at the time of her capture. In 1980, Braunsteiner was sentenced to life imprisonment for crimes she committed as an SS guard at Majdanek concentration camp.

Over the years Simon Wiesenthal received many death threats. In 1982, a bomb placed by German and Austrian neo-Nazi's exploded outside his house in Vienna, Austria.

Aribert Heim and Alois Brunner are the only two major Nazi war criminals who have evaded capture thus far. Brunner was the chief assistant to none other than Adolph Eichmann! Alois Brunner, born in 1912, is believed to be living in Damascus, Syria under the alias Dr. George Fischer. Brunner lost an eye and several fingers from letter bombs sent to him years ago by the Israeli secret service. Heim was one of the doctors conducting experiments on prisoners at the Mauthausen concentration camp.

In 1977, a Holocaust memorial agency was named in his honor as the "Simon Wiesenthal Center." The Wiesenthal Center is an international Jewish human rights organization dedicated to preserving the memory of the Holocaust by fostering tolerance and understanding through community involvement, educational outreach and social action. The Wiesenthal Center confronts important contemporary issues including racism, anti-Semitism, terrorism and genocide. With a membership of over 400,000 members, the Simon Wiesenthal Center is headquartered in Los Angeles and maintains branch offices in New York City, Miami, Toronto, Jerusalem, Paris and Buenos Aires. Their official website is www.wiesenthal.com.

Pro Hoodia

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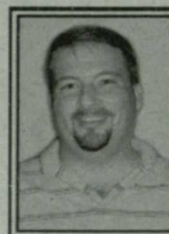
the San tribe does not hold intellectual property on the hoodia cactus. I have a question for these people who are against the San. How do you discover something that has already been discovered? The San tribe has been using this hoodia cactus for centuries for the same purpose that these drug companies are intending on selling it. For that reason and that reason alone these people deserve to get paid and deserve all the credit.

The San aren't being selfish. It might not have been their idea to make money off of the plant, but it was their idea to use it as an appetite suppressant. They are willing to share this great discovery with the whole world, but they want their fair share. Is that so wrong? If these companies found a use for the hoodia cactus that no one else has been using it for, then they would all have intellectual property rights to the cactus, but this is not the case.

It seems to me that the drug companies got caught with their hand in the cookie jar. They knew what they were doing and were trying to get away with it. Just because a civilization is not as developed as our own doesn't mean it gives us the right to steal what is theirs and take credit for it. How is that ethical? The sad part of it all is that this isn't the first or last time an underdeveloped nation has been or will be taken advantage of.

Fat people rejoice; the snack bars and other various meal replacements using the hoodia cactus will be making their way to store shelves in 2007. Please be sure to thank your local San tribesman when you get the chance.

From the SGA President's desk: New bills, some community service and more



RUSSELL E. MILDNER III

SGA President

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tee.

The senate will make their decision on these bills at the next meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13. As always you are encouraged to come to the office and meet with your representatives to talk about these bills and other matters. Last

Your senators are off to a good start. Last Thursday evening, the three pieces of legislation were introduced and debated during the senate meeting.

Sen. Brant Barber introduced Bill 05-01. This piece of legislation would revise section six of the current bylaws dealing with legislation. Currently bills come from the executive vice president to the senate floor for debate and discussion. The senate is only given two hours to meet and discuss matters such as internal reports, special presentations, old business, new business and other items. According to this legislation, the bills would have to be sent to committee by the executive vice president and then the committee decides if the bill should come before the senate. This process is the same process that you will find in the Georgia General Assembly.

Sen. Andrew Murphy introduced Bill 05-02. This piece of legislation would create an ad-hoc committee that will look at revising both the constitution and bylaws. According to the legislation, the last two administrations have tried to do this but failed at being successful in this endeavor. If passed, the ad-hoc committee will have 60 days to convene and look at changes for both governing papers. In January, the committee will have to present their report to the full senate for their review. By March, the committee will dissolve and then the senate will make their final decision.

Sen. Matthew Oskam and April Stancliff introduced Bill 05-03. This piece of legislation would recreate the Night Student Ad-Hoc committee. Executive Vice President Dominique Huff originally created the committee in Fall 2003. According to the presentation, the committee would lobby recommendations to the senate in regards to our night students. It was also reported that night students used to have night senators that were their representatives. In the past when this committee was active, six pieces of legislation were drafted and passed from recommendations from this commit-



HANDS ON ATLANTA

Special | Signal

SGA volunteers participated in Hands on Atlanta Day on Saturday.

Saturday, several members of the SGA participated in Hands on Atlanta Day. This administration prides itself on doing good things for both the school and community. Kudos goes to those who gave up their Saturday to engage in service. The other members will be participating in a Habitat for Humanity project on an upcoming Saturday. Kudos goes to those that will be doing this as well. It should be noted that many have opted to participate in both projects.

As you can see, things are beginning to move in the SGA. More senators are proposing bills and many are serving on external committees of the University Senate. Those that serve on the external committees have a chance to speak up for you the students in regards to university policies and procedures. They know they have to attend these meetings, as they are often the only student voice the faculty will hear before they vote. In the past, many skipped out on meetings and students had to pay the price particularly with the loss of the print credits. I will see you in a few weeks for another report and update.



Special | Signal

Wiesenthal pictured at his self-named center

minded the Holocaust, was the next major episode of the Wiesenthal group. By 1954, an associate of Wiesenthal's had caught a glimpse of Adolph Eichmann living in Argentina. It wasn't until 1960 that Eichmann's precise whereabouts were pinpointed. Israeli secret service (Mossad) agents then captured Eichmann and transported him to Israel to face justice. Needless to say, Eichmann was found guilty and he was executed in 1962.

Another high-profile success was the capture of Karl Silberbauer, the Gestapo officer responsible for the arrest of Anne Frank. Silberbauer's confession helped discredit claims that the "Diary of Anne Frank" was a for-

The hunt for both of them continues even now.

"Simon Wiesenthal was a lion of a man, a survivor and a conqueror, a hero in every sense of the word. He suffered unspeakable hardships in the Nazi death camps, but he did not let them break his spirit or compromise his will to live. He spoke for those who could no longer speak and he honored their memory by bringing their persecutors to justice. His courage, his determination and his ability to rise above the horrors of the holocaust and become its hero will never be forgotten. The Simon Wiesenthal Center will keep that memory alive," said California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The Love Affair with Ignorance



They make up the vast majority of all enrolled students at Georgia State. They're visible, catered to, loud-- and most of them are incredibly vexatious and stupid: day students. And I'm one of them.

This is the first semester that I have taken only day classes. In the past, I took one to two night classes per semester, but ceased this practice due to time constraints. Only recently have I noticed the stark contrast between these two worlds of students.

Ever since day one at Georgia State, I have been astounded at the amazing, yet execrable, extent of ignorance. Much of the time spent in several classes (mostly core) is wasted, as I am forced to relearn material (purported as college level) that I originally learned sometimes up to ten years ago. For example, why must my British literature professor be forced to go over the basic rudiments of grammar with us, all of

which should have been mastered in middle school? One would think that the students would be over-

give us more time" and "this is too hard!" This is college! Shut up; do your work; and get your grade.

the government to inculcate the youth with knowledge spans to all government-educated people



Day students pack the courtyard and seem to spend more time there than in class.

Adam Nathan | Signal

joyed at all the grade inflation and standard depreciation. But day students react with spite and frustration that they must learn so much difficult material. "We have a quiz in here every week," "you need to

The fact that so much of this information is so basic further intensifies the egregious nature of these remonstrances. And yet, its still too hard.

Obviously, the failure of

(which excludes me) and isn't the individual day students fault. But the chutzpa and arrogance with which they act should be enough to make any honorable individual aghast.

Contrast these students with the night students. The night students arrive when they can due to work schedules, but they sit and listen as soon as they arrive. They do not complain about the work; they do not ask for extensions; they do not seek to propagate their own views around the class and cause consternation; they do not ask a replete of asinine questions. They sit, listen and take notes. If they do not understand, then they ask a question. Obviously, exceptions exist. But, most exceptions are actually the evil day students creeping into night classes singularly!

If one has some appurtenant information to add to a lecture, night students receive it insouciantly. But nearly every time this happens in a day class (excluding Honors classes), one feels the wrath. How dare you mention something were not supposed to know! The fact that mere interaction with a professor, or the mentioning of auxiliary facts and tidbits, that should tincture any reasonably educated persons intercourse, can engender such hatred is an embarrassment of epic proportions. Aren't we here to learn? Well ...probably not.

At last, advertising that features breasts for a valid reason.

Instead of using breasts to sell beer or cars, we're using them to sell breast health. For more information about breast health and ways to get involved in the cause, as well as to find out how to bring our educational breast health tour to your campus, visit

www.komen.org/go or call 1.866.566.3648.



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Ebay plots to control the universe



eBay is taking over the world one merger at a time. First it was the acquisition of Paypal in 2002 (a logical choice), which allowed the Internet auction giant to provide buyers and sellers alike an easy way to make financial transactions online. It seems eBay didn't even take time to cool its heels, however, before it decided to jump out of the realm of sanity and into the pool of... person-to-person communication?

No, eBay has not exactly added a new IM service to its growing status. Skype, a telephone-like service used via the Internet almost as a typical instant messenger (including voicemail, forwarding and yes, even away messages). People are able to "call" each other's Skype and talk through headsets to anyone all over the world. The service is affordable and innovative. However, Skype wasn't purchased by AOL, Yahoo! or MSN. It was purchased by eBay in a 2.6 billion dollar deal.

So what does eBay want

with Skype? In a nutshell: people, power and revenue. I was able to get my hands on a telling Skype PowerPoint for eBay's investors, and the results were disturbing. One of the first pages investors see is one with "eBay, PayPal, Skype" scribbled over it several times,

eBay appears to present to investors its plan to control the universe:

"2002: Paypal: removing friction and building a huge new business. 2004-2005: Creating other marketplaces: Markplaats, Mobile, Rent.com, Shopping.com, Kijiji,

Scary, huh? It's only growing from there. For those of us who thought google.com was going to rule news, communications, commerce, and media (as was the case in a scary online movie made by Georgia Tech students, terrifying to all who

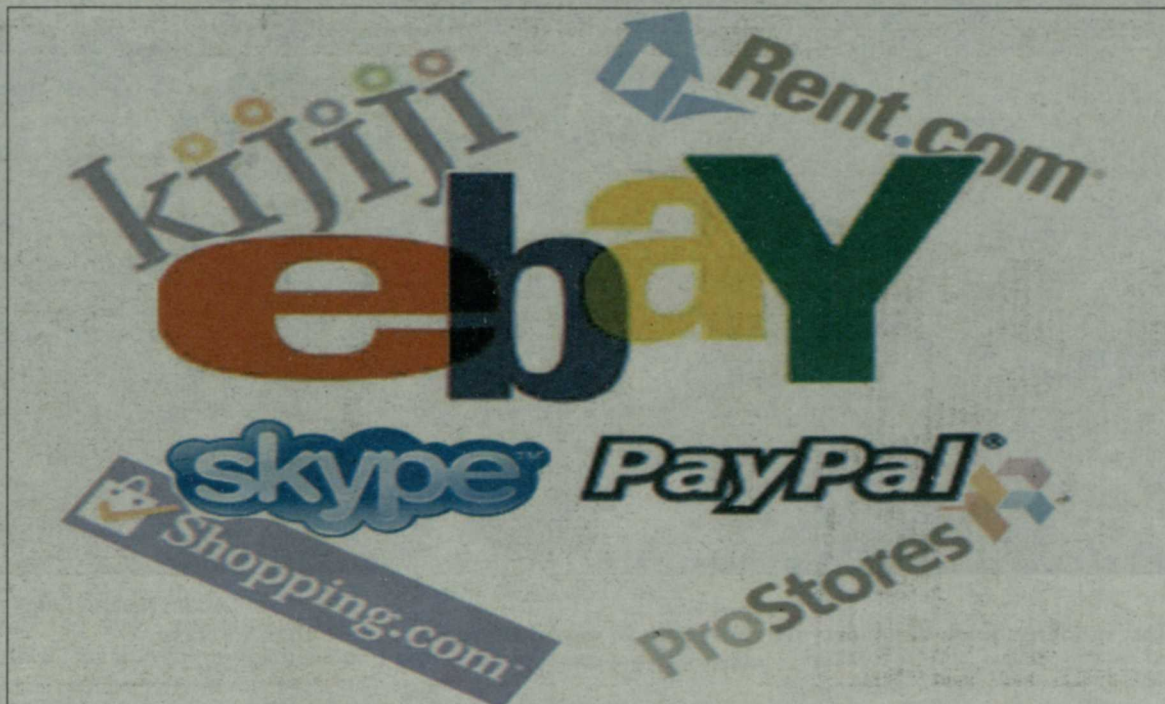
up" eBay?

Unfortunately, not everyone sees the potential havoc this eBay-Skype (and later, many more) merger could reek.

Victor Schnee of Probe Financial Associates, the first research firm to cover Skype, told Internetnews.com, "The telcos and cable companies have been asleep at the switch. Skype was a category two storm; now as part of eBay it has category four or five potential."

A category five storm is right, but less along the lines of a twister taking you to Oz and more along the lines of Hurricane Katrina, at least for us poor saps who will soon be ruled by giant internet conglomerates.

eBay investors are cheering jovially, unaware of the storm that's about to hit. If the auction giant continues in this fashion, collecting random websites and technology, building a theoretical humanity-controlling robot, we will all come to a rude awakening when we find Godzilla tapping at our windows in a few years. eBay's influence is spreading, and its plan is to continue that way. Few people are blowing the whistle that it's all too much, too monopolistic, too soon. And, really, what are you going to do about it?



CJ Bargamiam | Signal

Ebay's future acquisition plans crowd the internet scene.

reminiscent of a sixth-grader doodling her boyfriend's name on her notebook. A couple of pages later,

ProStores.

Aspirational goal of growing faster than e-commerce."

watched it), we were all horribly wrong. Who'd have guessed it would be "built-from-the-bottom-

Vote

from page 21

fought for us to go the polls. The Civil Rights legislation has provisions that are set to expire in 2007 and you have the conspiracy theorists hard at work but still we simply do not go to the polls.

For us as young people, the older generation continues to write us off as the generation too busy partying to care. After awhile, we are going to be the ones left in charge and we are going to have to step up to the plate. The AARP is fighting a winning battle against us with Social Security and we have yet to challenge them. The democrats are looking for more ways to tax us but yet we continue to support them regardless. Certain groups on campus are upset that they lost control of the SGA, but they never did anything for the student body. And yet, they want to convince us to put their people back in office.

In the next election, people need to make sure that they are educated and informed when making their decisions. Remember, we have to deal with these people for the next couple of years. The only way to get rid of these incompetents is through the power of the ballot. Given the failed efforts to get rid of East Point Mayor Patsy Jo Hilliard and others, the recall laws do not work for us.

We need to wake up and get serious about this people. This isn't funny anymore.

Corporation

from page 20

point. Companies are notoriously known as being completely profit-based. On the other hand, what our own government's driving motives? Our government, from my perspective, seems to be driven by the desire to win reelection, as well as to please hundreds of lobbyists that are pressing their own agendas. So how do they achieve reelection, besides doing their best to just not piss anyone off too much? Much of what the government does is to bicker over getting funding for their own special interest groups. Where is the overall good for the general populace in this system?

As for the argument about government pay scales, they may seem even, but only when you examine the upper tier. Last I checked, police officers and teachers, who don't make enough money to make ends meet with one job most of the time, are government employees too.

I know it's not the ultimate ideal, and several logistical things would have to be worked out, but that's what lawyers and policymakers are for. As for me, I'd like to pay a few less taxes, obey a few less laws and have a little more peace. To quote Frédéric Bastiat, "When goods do not cross borders, soldiers will," and who would facilitate trade better than corporations?

HERE & Happening

Monday, October 10th
Noon - 1:00pm

Meet national television and radio personality **Craig Crawford**. Mr. Crawford is a regular contributor for "The Early Show," MSNBC and on "Imus in the Morning."

ATTACK THE MESSENGER

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