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Rentseeking at GSU

Student, faculty verdict on new grading scale still out

BY CASSANDRA POWELL
CPOWELL1@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

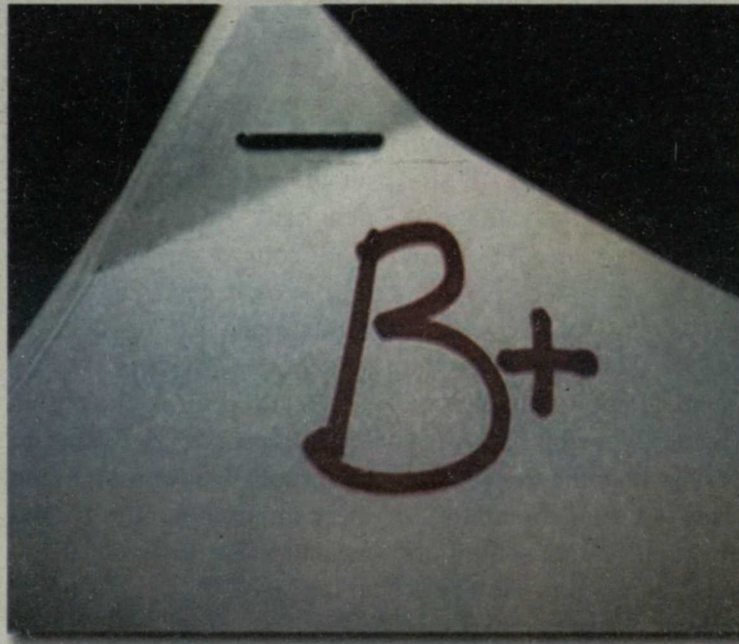
The university's decision to implement a plus/minus grading scale has become a controversial policy among both students and professors at Georgia State.

Most students say that the grading standard is unfair and makes it difficult for them to meet their grade point average requirements.

"I feel like the plus/minus system has affected my grades," says Kelechi Nwakudu, a sophomore majoring in English. "My HOPE GPA and my institutional GPA are off."

The HOPE Scholarship requires that all recipients have a grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of each spring term to maintain eligibility. Even though the plus/minus scale is not applied to the HOPE GPA, it still generates confusion over matters of academic standing for most students.

"GSU GPA can be a few tenths of a point higher, which greatly affects your grade if you're trying to maintain HOPE or gain it back," says Nwakudu.



Special | Signal

Students and faculty are still looking at pros and cons of the new grading scale.

The university policy is that a grade of B is at the GPA level of 3.0 and a grade of B- translates to 2.70 quality points, which is a considerable decrease in a student's grade point average. A grade of C- is below the threshold for most advanced courses and courses that serve as prerequisites

that require a C to pass.

Although every course's grading scale is clearly stated in the syllabus, most students still say that the plus/minus system is simply unreasonable and greatly affects their confidence level in their grades.

"I think that the plus/minus

grading scale is stupid," says Britany Malone, a sophomore majoring in Biology. "An A should be an A and a B should be a B. People work hard for the grades they receive. They don't need to be reminded that they weren't good enough to get a B+ when they got a B-. I just hate seeing the minus behind my grades. It makes me feel like I'm not good enough or something."

Other students say that although their department doesn't apply the plus/minus scale, they agree with Malone about the unfairness of the system.

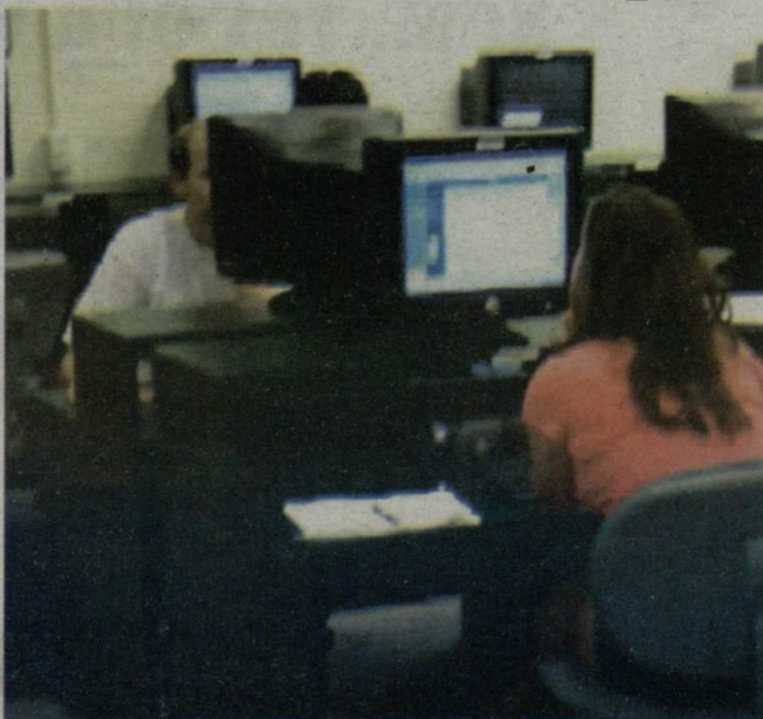
"I'm in the science field and we don't do plus/minus scales," says William Monger, a senior majoring in Biology. "I like it because an A is an A and if you make an 80, you get a B, but in a plus/minus scale an 80 is a B- and it can definitely affect your GPA."

The Executive Committee debated on the new grading system on July 14, 2006 and then recommended it to the faculty.

SEE SHOULD PAGE 5

Print credits to be a permanent fixture on campus

BY KELLY PETTY
KPETTY1@STUDENT.GSU.EDU



Special | Signal

Thanks to efforts of SGA, students receive a portion of their technology fee back in the form of print credits.

After much debate and some fee changes, print credits are now a permanent student service at Georgia State. As of fall 2007, the PantherPrint credit will remain \$3 per student.

For the first time, the print credit fee will be pre-funded at a budget of \$210,083. Before, the fee was determined based on what could be allotted through the student technology fee; now funds will be reserved annually.

However, the print credit subsidy does not cover every student since only half of the student body uses the service. According to Information Systems and Technology spokesperson Kenya Johnson, the print credit fee is an estimated cost that is funded for a portion of the students who actually use it.

But the process of setting a

fixed dollar amount for print credits has not been without its trials. Prior to fiscal year 2005, the print fee was set at \$7.50. Fiscal years run from June 1 to July 31 of the following year.

For FY 2005, that price was cut in half to \$3.75. Joe Amador, manager of UETS Lab and Classroom technology and an advisor to the student technology fee committee, said that the reduction occurred because the print fee could not be fully funded that year.

"It was contingent on an increase of the tech fee from \$50 to \$100," he said. The Board of Regents did not approve the full increase, instead granting only a 50 percent increase of the technology fee, from \$50 to \$75.

As a result, all proposals approved by the student technol-

SEE CONSUMER PAGE 5

Executive Vice President wants stronger legislation, cohesive student body

BY KELLY PETTY
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As a senator for the student government association, Evan Eskridge saw that there needed to be a change in the way student government was run and how it served the needs of the students. Now, he will make those changes to create a stronger and more cohesive student body.

"I would like to not only see stronger legislation passed, but followed through and enacted," he said.

His main concern is to see that an academic forgiveness policy be established in order to give students the freedom to take classes without the worry of hurting their GPA.

Under the policy, a student would be allowed to retake a previous class in which they received a poor grade and have the former grade stricken and replaced with the new one. As a result, the student would have the opportunity to improve their score as well as their

GPA.

Eskridge also has changes for student advisement. "I would like to see mandatory advisement for each student on a more periodic basis," he said.

Currently, students who participate in freshman learning communities are the only ones required to meet with their advisors. Eskridge wants to ensure that all students are taking advantage of the services that advisement offers.

In terms of SGA, Eskridge wants to improve the process of approving and establishing legislation. Any measure that the senate approves is a fundamental recommendation that school officials can act on. However, Eskridge wants to make sure that the senate is tracking the progress of that new legislation. "When it [legislation] is passed, it should be followed up," he said.

Student involvement is crucial to ensuring that SGA

serves the needs of the student body. To do this, Eskridge wants to sponsor town hall meetings to give the GSU community a chance to voice their concerns related to the university. "We don't see the wider issues," he said.

The meetings would occur once or twice each semester; from there, the SGA can create legislation based on the concerns of the student body.

It's important to Eskridge that SGA be more active on campus and be available to students.

In his role as Executive Vice President, he wants to be responsible for mobilizing the campus community and get students involved at the university.



Evan Eskridge | Signal

Evan Eskridge is a senator turned executive vice president. He definitely wants to see the new administration leave a lasting mark.

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NEWS



Editor:
Danielle Ellis

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Student Judicial Board serves as link between SGA and university

BY BRIAN HOLCOMB
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While the Student Government Association (SGA) addresses cases regarding legislations requested to be passed by students and other student concerns, the Student Judicial Board (SJB) provides a service geared more towards student conduct.

"[SJB] hears violation cases that deal with students and organizations that come into violation of the student code of conduct," said student judicial chief justice Dorian Woolaston. "If you want to address and issue with the cafeteria or the Signal, you'd go to the SGA; but with issues of misconduct, you'd come to SJB."

As an official part of the school, the SJB is the judicial branch of the SGA, consisting of 16 members and comprised of five committees, from Public

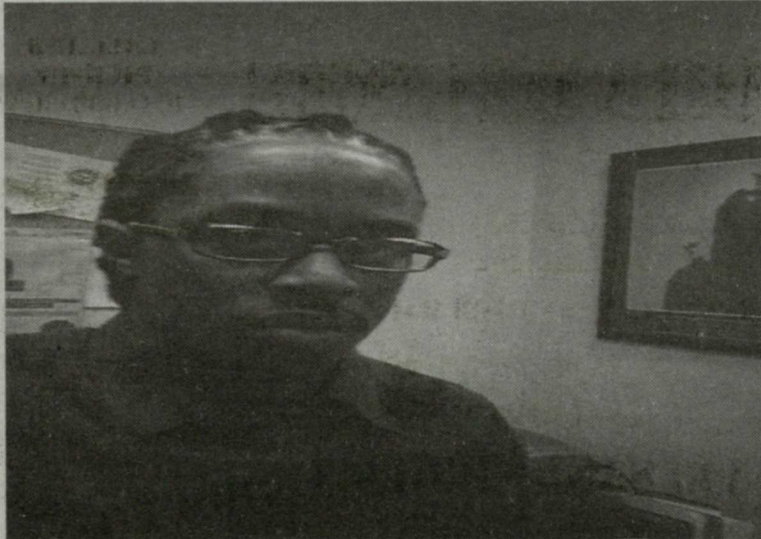
Relations and Internal Affairs to Parking Appeals and SGA Liaisons.

The board review all student conduct cases and, according to their website, "makes a recommendation on decisions on all referred student violations" as state in the Student Code of Conduct.

According to Woolaston, if students feel they are misrepresented with an issue such as a parking ticket, they can bring their issue to the SJB to see what they recommend the student or the school should do.

Students can request an administrative hearing, consisting of one justice, or three justices to hear cases.

What's great about students bringing their issues to the SJB is "students can bring their issues to students who are going through the same situations,"



Dorian Woolaston | Signal

SJB Chief Justice Dorian Woolaston



Student Judicial Board | Signal

The 2006-2007 Student Judicial Board as seen last fall during a photo shoot.

said Woolaston.

This is very beneficial because students are more likely to get the desired response from the SJB—a board consisting of only students—than the SGA, a student organization comprised of students as well as faculty. A board with people unable to empathize or sympathize with students with cases might not turn out the way they expected.

Each justice is responsible for upholding the student code of conduct and implementation of the judicial system to ensure all patrons are treated fairly and within their rights as students.

More so, the SJB acts as a link between the students and the SGA. For example, if a student was brought up on charges for code of conduct, students can address the SJB confidentially rather than go in front of the SGA without the same benefits.

So for students who don't want their names spread across campus for something they did, the SJB offers the ability to withhold that information from the public.

Do many people know about the SJB? Woolaston says SJB has gained its popularity through "word of mouth, so we're trying to get our [Public Relations] department to get our name out there." Woolaston and his justices have tried very hard to put their name out wherever the SGA are promoting their organization.

"Our primary job is to get our name out to the students," said Woolaston.

The unpopularity of the SJB or students unaware of this student organization could play a part in the low numbers of applicants looking to get on the judicial board. Students with 30

credit hours, a 2.2 GPA and no prior violations is welcomed to apply for a justice position.

"We probably have about 10 applications a year," said Woolaston. Usually elections happen about once a year, but in the circumstances where some justices are graduating, those elections can vary.

Woolaston is proud of SJB and his position as current chief justice. "[I] heard about other [academic] institutions where Judicial Boards aren't comprised fully of students," said Woolaston. "That's what's great about GSU... all student panel."

More information about the SJB can be found at <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwdos/sjb.html>.

Marlon Gibson named new Greek advisor

BY MEGHAN GLEASON
MGLEASON1@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

Georgia State University announced the new Greek Life Adviser, Marlon Gibson, on August 28.

Going in to his third week, Gibson is excited about working with GSU and helping the Greek program grow.

"Greek life is my passion," Gibson said.

Gibson has a strong background with NPHC, National

Pan-Hellenic Council. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated and has been an NPHC advisor at The University of Toledo, Coastal Carolina University and most recently at Morehouse College. Gibson now comes to GSU with big plans for Greek life.

I am looking forward to hopefully bringing Iota Phi Theta to GSU and helping all nine of the 'Devine nine' to be at GSU.

"Greek life in five years will look completely different than it does right now," Gibson said.

Future housing for the Greeks is on the agenda, according to Gibson. Also, two new graduate assistants bring additional resources to the Greek Life department that will help the program to grow at GSU.

"With the additional help and support, I see all councils growing and strengthening, winning awards not only on the GSU level, but the regional and national levels," Gibson said.

With the University Commons keeping more students on campus, GSU is beginning to

feel more like a traditional college rather than a commuter school. With this influx of students, Greek life at GSU will also grow.

There are currently 23 fraternities and sororities and five councils. Gibson hopes to add another sorority. He also wants to strengthen the Inter-Fraternity Council as well as the Multicultural Greek Council.

"There is so much diversity to be celebrated," Gibson said.

The Greek office at GSU is unique in that everyone in the of-

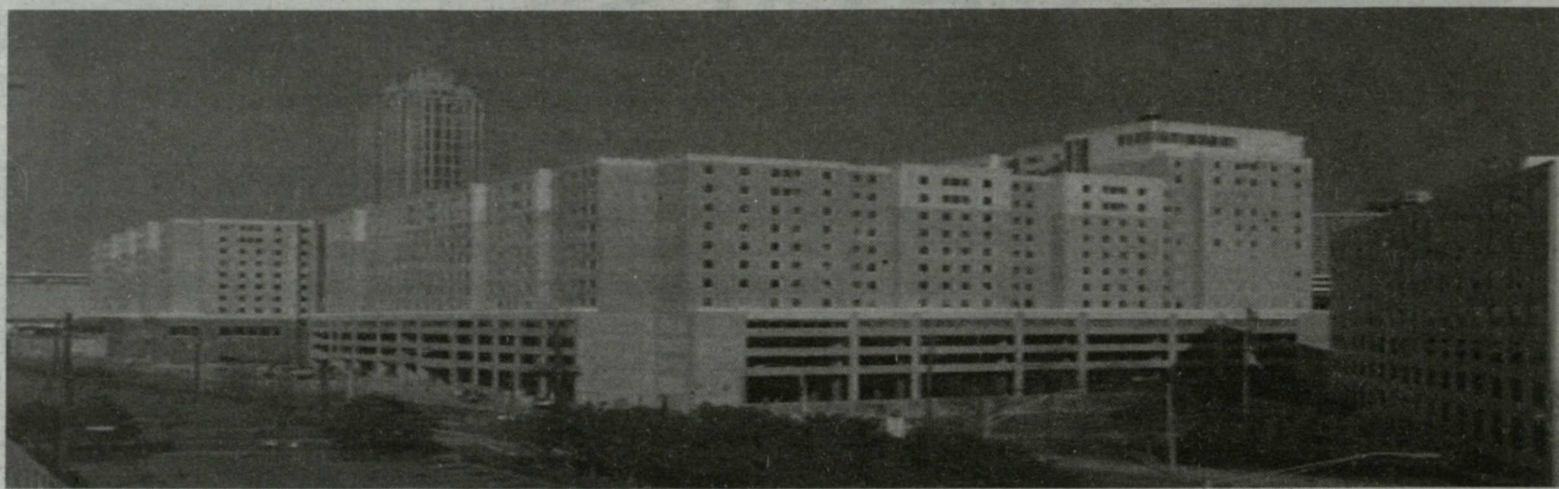
fice is Greek. Gibson boasts of the support within the office and passion of his co-workers.

Former Greek Life Adviser, Steffani Lautenslager, had many good plans for Greek life — many plans that Gibson will implement with the support and addition of the graduate assistants. The added staff is going to help make plans come to fruition.

Gibson's main focus is values based community programs. He wants Georgia State to be involved in regional conferences and break down stereotypes to see what Greek life can really be.

RHA: The new governance of university housing

BY AMANDA DABBAS
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Special | Signal

Have a problem with university housing? The Resident Hall Association is ready to help.

The RHA is the combination of the old Village Student Government and the Lofts Council.

The organization, a form of student government for the residence halls, formed earlier this year to bring members of the residence halls together through acts of service, leadership, education and socialization.

RHA is the governing body of all the Hall Governments on Campus. No longer are the housing councils separate, but work together under the umbrella of the RHA.

It was an easy switch for the RHA to move from the Village to the Commons. Each of the four buildings in the Commons has its own Hall Council and

The new RHA will merge both Village Student Government and Lofts Council to be a stronger force on campus.

the University Lofts continues to have its own Hall Council, which is under the umbrella of the RHA as well. Students can talk to anyone on the councils about any problems.

Last weekend, the RHA had a retreat and elected officers. The president is Whitney Moore, Vice-President is Biretha Wright, Secretary Amy

Toby Adibe is Treasurer and Lauren Bradford is the National Communications Coordinator.

President Moore is very excited about the first year of the RHA. "We want to make sure that there is always something to do and they can have a good time. We want them to know we will always be there if there is a problem."

Christopher Williams is the Resident Hall Director and the co-advisor for the RHA. He is there for any advice or help about funding or spacing. Williams may be the professional staff in the RHA, but all decisions are made by the students. "The council comes to me with any major problems or for more

funding and support. The RHA simultaneously tries to improve communities in the residence halls and be an advocate for the interests and concerns of residence hall students."

Don't get the RHA confused with Resident Assistants. "The RHA is not in charge of room checks," says Moore. The RHA provides events for the students at the Commons and Lofts, but both systems are available for any student housing problems.

The first event provided by the RHA is "Jumbo Twister" this Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 6 pm at the Commons. Snacks will be provided and all Loft and Commons students are invited. The schedule is not up yet for the rest of the events, but Moore guarantees there will be a lot going on. "We talked about Monday night football events, movie on the green, a Greek step show, and a Halloween party."

Student Ayshan Ibrahim says, "They [the RHA] are helpful and friendly and let you know if something is going on."

This is the first year for the official RHA and they want to set a good precedent for future years. Williams adds that he wants the RHA to make a presence at Georgia State and student conferences, the main focus of which is to get their name out and become a voice for the housing student body.

RHA will also have general assembly meetings on Monday nights in the Student Center. Anyone is welcome to the RHA meeting, it is not limited to housing students.

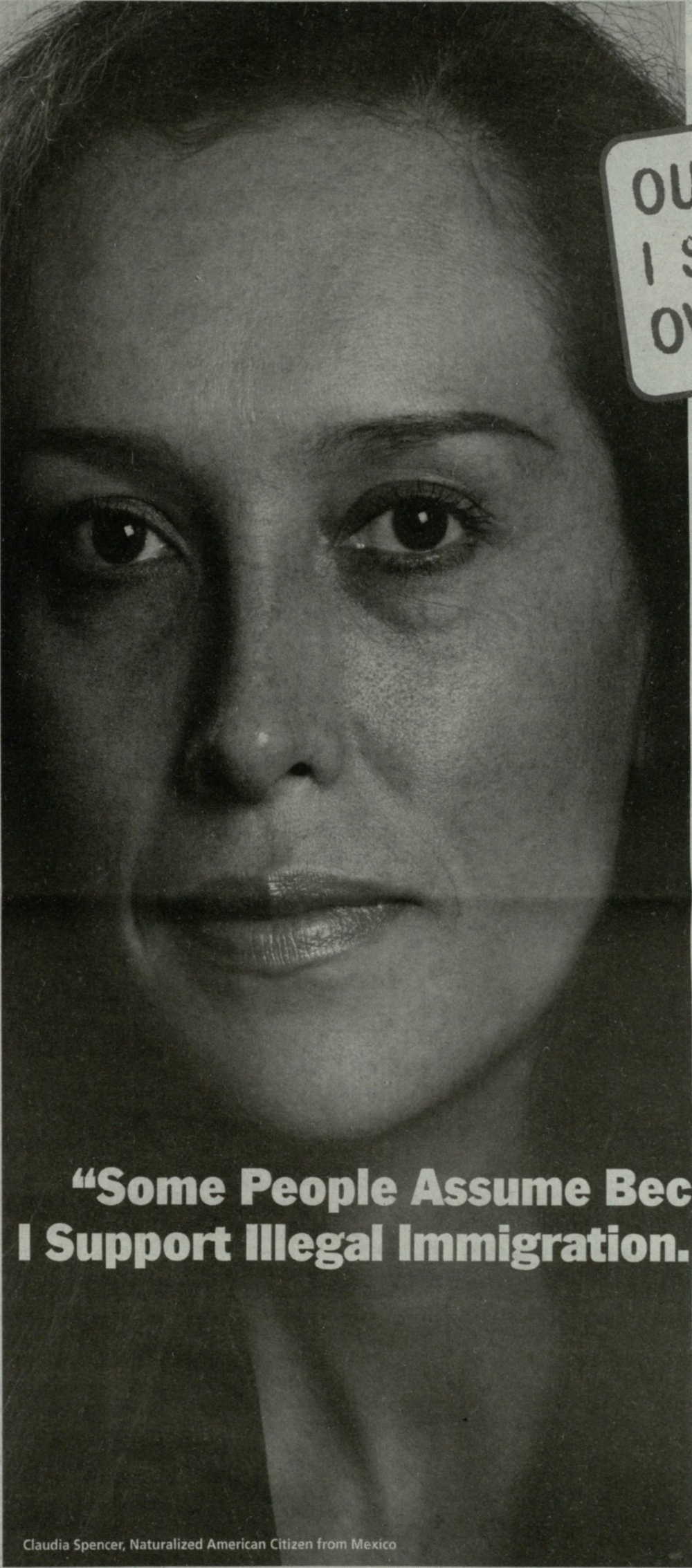
"Just look me up on Facebook," recommends Whitney Moore.

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*Source: The Polling Company/Woman Trend Poll, September 2006.
Paid For By *You Don't Speak For Me Coalition* and Federation For American Immigration Reform.

Vineyard of Praise earns recognition

BY AMANDA DABBAS
ADABBAS1@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

Georgia State's A Vineyard of Praise (AVP) choir is scheduled to perform on Good Day Atlanta Thursday morning for their nomination of Best Choir in Atlanta at the First Annual Youth Gospel Entertainment Awards. Through word of mouth and their high reputation, the choir is a step closer to their goal of becoming an award winning choir.

AVP, formerly known as Voices of Praise, was established in 2003. They are a chartered student organization and part of the Office of African-American Services and Programs. The choir consists of about 100 singers and is welcome to any student.

"Anyone can share their talent as long as they have a love for music and God," said AVP choir president Nicole Chapman.

Concerts are sold out through the advertising done from people like Monique McGee, who is in charge of promotions and marketing and has been in the choir for two years. McGee utilizes the choir's MySpace and Facebook pages to get the word out through the internet. As a result of her efforts, concert seats fill up quickly as these shows sell out quickly. Attendees are advised to arrive at the concerts early.

"A Vineyard Praise choir concerts sell out or reach their



Vineyard of Praise | Signal

Vineyard of Praise is highly acclaimed both on and off campus.

capacity," says Earl Bray, whose brother is in the choir. "Go there to have a good time, it is a priceless experience."

Junior Zaneta Rene Daniels has several friends that are in the choir and attended a concert last year and hopes to attend the two-day event. "They sing so well together and it is awesome that they bring different aspects of music and culture to the student body."

There is a different concept with every concert, so Chapman

recommends everyone attend at least one AVP choir concert. Music choices range from traditional gospel music to modern music.

Chapman warns attendees of tired feet "because you will be standing the whole time," but guarantees it will be a memorable experience and a great way to worship and praise God.

Event Coordinator, Jessica Tipton, joined the choir the first day that she arrived at Georgia State. She says the choir is a great

way to get involved with Georgia State, especially with the African-American community. "I love being in the choir, we are such a family. It is a great way to be yourself and be part of something that is positive and empowering."

The gospel choir's next event is a two-day even at Big Bethel A.M.E. in College Park located off Auburn Ave. on Friday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 22 at 6 p.m.

AVP choir's next event at Georgia State will be for the Fall Homecoming Concert at the Student Center Ballroom at 7:00. If any students are interested in joining the choir they are encouraged to attend a rehearsal at the Big Bethel A.M.E. on Mondays at 6 p.m. or by going to OAASSP's office and fill out an interest survey.

The First Annual Youth Gospel Entertainment Awards occur on Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Hopewell Baptist Church in Norcross, GA. Online voting for the awards ends Sept. 21 at 6:00 p.m. Students may log on www.ygea.net to vote.

The Vineyard Praise Choir plans to release their first CD titled "Ten Days" at the College Park event. Students can purchase a CD for \$10 from any AVP choir members

"An A should be
an A and a B
should be a B."

Continued from page 1

After the EC endorsed the policy, they polled the faculty for comments and votes on the plus/minus grading scale. Although there were some objections, the majority of the faculty voted to adopt the recommended policy.

But some faculty members are opposed to the new grading policy. So, the decision of whether to apply the plus/minus scale is left at the instructor's discretion.

"I've noticed that the biggest problem with the plus/minus system is the C-," says Dr. Merrill Morris, Journalism professor. "And students have to make at least a C in this class to pass. So in the fall, the faculty for Journalism 3070 decided not to use it."

Yet many instructors were eager to use the plus/minus scale. Most professors say that the grading system allows them to have more options in evaluating individual work and helps them to distinguish among A and A- students and so forth. "I do like to use the grading system in my writing and desktop publishing classes," says Morris. "It gives me more flexibility in grading. But, there are still a few bugs we need to work out."

Morris also says she understands the frustration and confusion that the students are facing with the new grading system.

"I understand how [the students] feel. It's hard to spring it on people when they're not used to it. The problem is that [the University] didn't think of some of the issues when they came up with the new grading plan."

As the faculty at GSU are finding it hard to balance academic freedom with grading consistency, complaints from students who are graded under the plus/minus system continue to rise.

"It sort of takes away the accomplishment you feel with an A or a B by adding the minus after it," says Callie Wilson a senior majoring in Journalism. "It's easy to feel defeated when you see your grades posted and there's a minus on the end of it."

"Consumables are not what the committee would have preferred seeing the money spent on."

Continued from page 1

ogy fee committee, including print credits, were cut by 50 percent, said Amador.

For FY 2006, print credits were not available because they did not get funded. Mary Jane Casto, Director of Planning and Strategic Initiatives for IS&T and Deputy CIO, said that some committee members felt that money allocated to the print credit was not being used efficiently, but was instead being allocated to pay for paper.

"Consumables are not what the committee would have preferred seeing the money spent on," she said.

However, Dominique Huff, former executive vice president, did not think so. "Yes it is a service," he said. "It is something an average student can benefit from."

Huff, who was appointed an SGA student representative for the

student technology fee subcommittee for FY 2007, worked with the SGA senate as well as Amador of the UETS lab to create a proposal that would make print credits a permanent fixture at the university.

"They were going to renege on their deal because the Board of Regents didn't fully fund the technology fee. We said, 'that's not our fault,'" Huff stated.

Huff wanted to make sure that students had some benefit since the university had requested a second increase of the student technology fee. "If the tech fee committee wanted an increase, we were going to put on the table that we wanted print credits," said Huff.

According to Johnson, the print credit proposal presented by the SGA still could not be fully funded.

SGA requested that a print credit in the amount of \$7.50 be reinstated during FY 2007. This amount was contingent on an increase of the technology fee from

\$75 to \$100.

The Board of Regents did not approve it, and instead approved only a 40 percent increase of the tech fee, from \$75 to \$85 dollars. This \$10 fee increase was enough to allocate a budget of 186,074 for printing credits for that fiscal year. As a result, the print credit fee per student was dropped from the requested \$7.50 to \$3.00.

Thanks to the reserved print budget approved for FY 2008, the print credit will remain \$3 for 2007-2008 and future school years. Casto did note that because the budget rose to more than \$210,000 from the previous fiscal year, more students can take advantage of the service.

Despite the success of the proposal, Amador believes that student representatives chosen to serve on the student technology fee committee should be adamant about participating. "I would hope that students be diligent in the process," he said. "What really hurt that proposal was a lack of votes

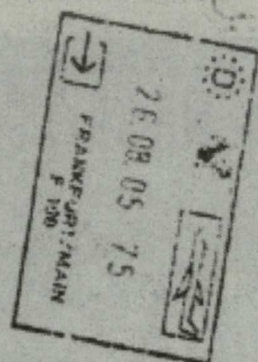
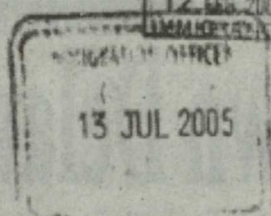
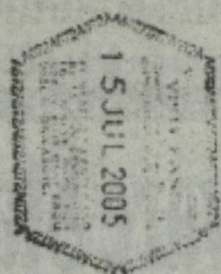
from SGA and student representatives of the different colleges."

Both he and Casto, who served as consultants to the committee, noticed that while all of the faculty members were presented, many student representatives were not.

Amador says that the committee gets a lot of proposals every year, and if representatives of the student body want to make sure the needs of their constituents are served, they must show up and be active.

Huff agrees. "You have to fight for the policy," he said. "Nothing can be accomplished without fighting for it."

Huff is proud of the work he did with SGA to make sure students would be guaranteed a print credit. "Every time I see someone print anything and say, 'oh, I got money to print,' I just pat myself on the back," he said. "I always think SGA should leave a lasting mark on the campus."



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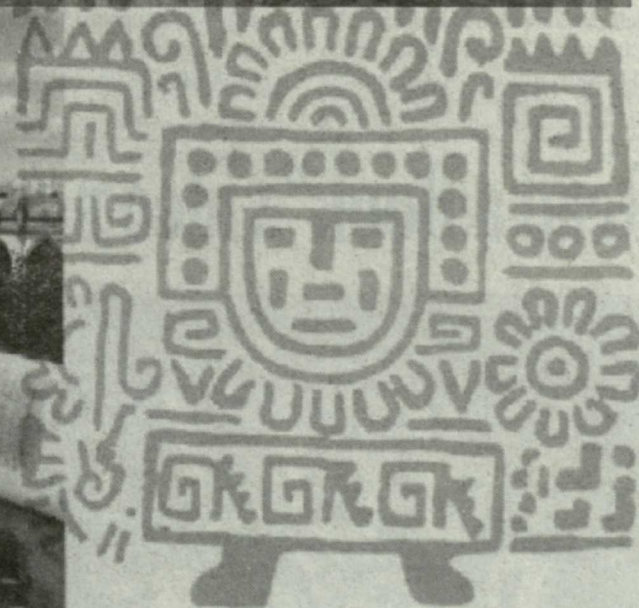
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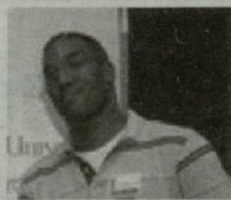
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METRO



Editor:
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dhuff@student.gsu.edu

Two million dollars mismanaged at North Carolina A&T State



Special | Signal
Erskine Bowles, left, introduces Stanley Battle at his appointment as chancellor of North Carolina A&T State University in December. Bowles heads the state university system.

By KAI BEASLEY
GUEST WRITER

The new school year at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro began with the revelation that a state audit has uncovered close to \$2 million in mismanaged funds.

The audit documents instances of fraud and mismanaged federal grants and other funds, including \$380,000 in vending receipts that were diverted to a spending account for former chancellor James Renick, who stepped down last year and is now a senior vice president at the American Council on Education in Washington.

"It's really sad," said Arnita Floyd Moody, a recent North Carolina A&T graduate and 2006-07 student

government president. "That money should have been used to give the support that our students need."

Chancellor Stanley Battle, who only recently took over as chancellor at A&T, warned against sensationalizing the report.

"It sells papers," said the new chancellor. "A lot of people say there's a cloud over A&T. There's no cloud over this campus. These students didn't do anything wrong; 99 percent of the faculty didn't do anything wrong."

According to University of North Carolina system policy, the vending money was supposed to be set aside

SEE ATLANTA PAGE 11

Shootings shutdown Delaware State

By SHAUNTEL LOWE
GUEST WRITER

Two 17-year-old Delaware State University students were struck by gunfire on campus after shots were fired among a group of students.

At a news conference around 1 p.m. local time on Sept. 21, James Overton, the university police chief, said there were two "persons of interest" in the shooting, one still at large. The other was in custody and being interviewed. Both are students.

One of the victims, a woman, was shot twice and was in serious condition at a local hospital. The other victim, a man, was shot once and was in stable condition. Both students are from the Washington area.

The historically black campus in Dover, Del., was on lockdown and classes were canceled for the day as the investigation continued. Delaware State University police were heading the investigation, with Delaware State police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the state Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Marshal's Office assisting.

The university announced Sept. 22 that it would go back to its regular operations on Monday, Sept. 24, fully resuming its class schedule.

University spokesman Carlos Holmes said these measures were taken for the security of staff and students, since the shooter had not been found.



Shauntel Lowe | Signal
A Dover, Del., police motorcycle unit talks with Delaware State University campus security personnel.

"As long as he's at large, we cannot ensure the security of anyone on campus," he said. "We would hope that he's gone by now because of all the police we have on campus. Given the lessons of the tragedy this year" at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, "we cannot assume that."

Overton said that between midnight and 1 a.m., eight to 10 students left the University Village Cafe and dispersed to the pedestrian mall between Grossley Hall and Memorial Hall. An individual produced a gun among a group of students and four to six shots were fired, injuring the two victims.

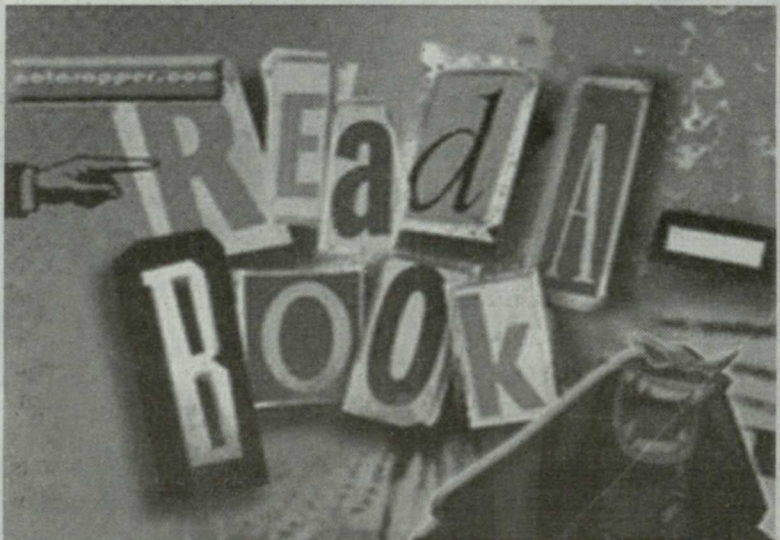
Overton said the university

police department was contacted at 12:54 a.m. Ambulances and university police were dispatched to the scene where the two victims were found and then transported to local hospitals.

Holmes said all residence hall managers were immediately notified that there had been a shooting incident and were instructed not to allow students to leave the dormitories. According to the school Web site, there are seven campus residential halls — four for women and three for men — and 1,500 on-

SEE ATLANTA PAGE 10

"Read a Book" video not intended to make people feel good, artist says



Special | Signal
D-Mite's "Read a Book" video has created a firestorm of controversy with the images and messages displayed.

By ASHLEY WASHINGTON
GUEST WRITER

"Read a book," "take a bath" and "buy some land" are among the messages in a viral video phenomenon that has many people on edge since its airing on YouTube and Black Entertainment Television.

Hip-hop artist and poet Boman "D-Mite" Armah's "Read a Book" has generated varying opinions about the explicit way the messages are delivered. Some call the video vulgar.

The Washington, D.C., native uses attention-grabbing beats by converging Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 with catchy lyrics typically

associated with crunk music, popularized by artists such as Lil' Jon and Three Six Mafia.

The Washington City Paper says the video has been viewed more than 650,000 times on YouTube.

Denys Cowan, senior vice president of animation for BET, told the Los Angeles Times that he was "a little surprised" that the video has elicited such a strong reaction. "We were doing it from the point of this being a fun, profound song," he said. "We didn't know it would take on this life."

Although Tennessee State University students say they have mixed feelings about the

song and its BET-animated video, Armah said the song's purpose outweighs any negative response.

"As an artist, it is not my job to make people feel good, it's only my job to make people feel," Armah said. "I love that everyone has dramatic feelings about the song, no matter if they love it or hate it."

Brandie Ricks, a junior health science major from Cincinnati, said that although she can relate to the song's message, its use of profanity and repeat of the "n-word" numerous times obscures the message

SEE ATLANTA PAGE 10

Birth Control prices increase reported at many universities

By SHAUNTEL LOWE
GUEST WRITER

College students are beginning to feel the financial pinch from a 2005 bill that led to higher prices for birth control pills at universities, and college administrators, physicians and parents are worried that the cost will deter students from using them, leading to more unintended pregnancies and students dropping out of school.

According to the American College Health Association, 39 percent of all undergraduate women use oral contraceptives, totaling about 3 million women in the country.

Drug manufacturers had been supplying university health centers across the country with nominally priced birth control pills.

However, in 2005, the Deficit Reduction Act, which went into effect last January, changed the way drug manufacturers calculate the Medicaid rebates they owe the government for medications sold each quarter, making it less financially beneficial to companies to offer the birth control at such low prices to universities.

Some schools have seen birth control packs that had cost students \$7 as recently as last school year jump to \$40-\$50 per pack this fall. The sudden jump now at many schools has been

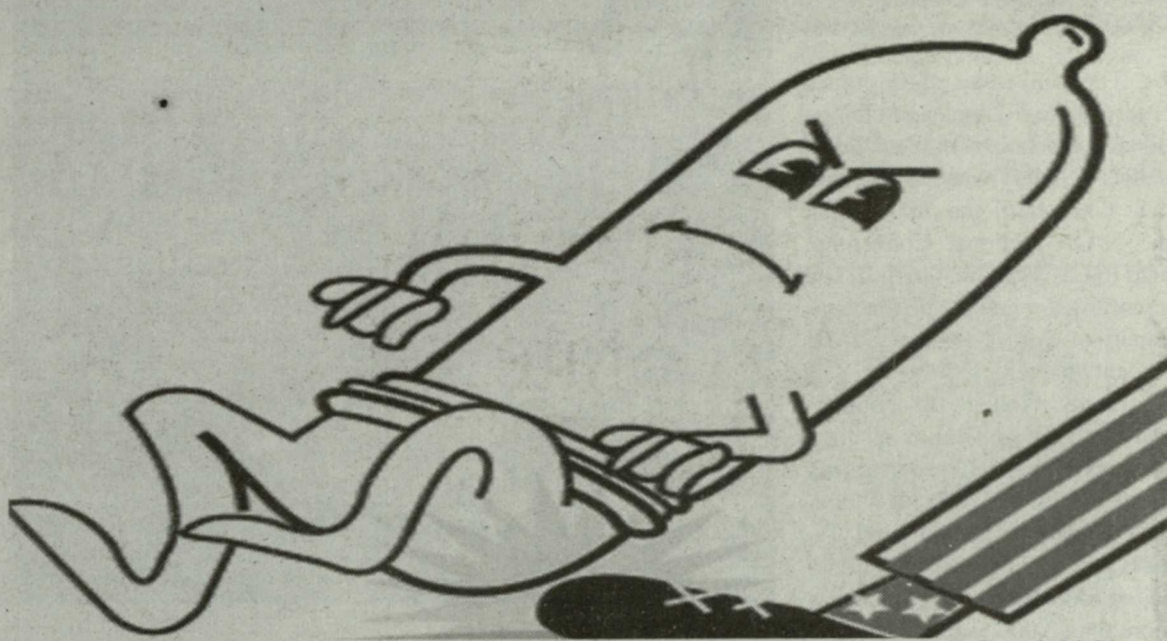
to cost "pennies on the dollar." Students were given birth control pills for free and charged \$5 to replace lost packs (each pack is one month's supply). They were given full access to the health center's services for the price of the Student Health Insurance Plan, \$137 per semester. In order to receive the free pills, however, students were required to get an annual exam to test for sexually transmitted diseases and cervical cancer.

But Dalton said that in early 2006 when she went to order more pills for the health center, she was surprised by the higher prices. Once the back supply of pills ran out, the center started charging students \$15 for generic brand birth control and \$35 for name brand.

Replacement packs are no longer given out by the college for \$5. Dalton said the school has contracted with local pharmacies, particularly a CVS near campus, where students can have their prescriptions from the health center filled.

Dalton said the move to outside contracting was necessary because the new pricing for the pills would have exceeded half of the college's operating budget if given out for free. She said though the price change hit the center hard at first, the college has "moved on."

"I don't ever want to go back to giving things free. When you



Special | Signal

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 led to higher prices for contraceptives.

and large, when they look at all the other services, for nominal prices, they don't mind paying \$15 for a pack, particularly when their Paps are covered," speaking of Pap smears. "That's covered at 100 percent. You really can't get any better than that," she said.

Many students might be concerned about the health effects of switching from more expensive name brand birth control pills to generic brands, or switching to other methods of contraception in order to save money.

Vanessa Cullins, vice president for medical affairs for

occur when individuals switch between different types of hormonal contraceptives, such as from progestin only pills to combination pills with estrogen and progestin.

She said the most important thing for students, no matter what type of contraception they use, is to be protected to prevent unintended pregnancy.

"In most situations, when you're an undergrad, for most people that's not the time to start a family or even add to the family because the focus in terms of both undergrad and grad tends to be an intense focus in getting through the coursework in order to get to the career stage so that you're able to nurture relationships with the co-parent and with the children," she said.

Cullins said there is a "historical trap" of looking at family planning only in terms of populating and population control, but that is not the real issue.

"The issue for family planning is giving that woman, that couple, the opportunity to plan and space their children in the way they want to and plan and space their children so they are able to nurture themselves and nurture those kids," she said.

Mary Hoban, director of the American College Health Association National College Health Assessment Program Office, said she hopes legislators will amend the Deficit Reduction Act so that there is not such a "huge financial disincentive" for drug companies to give university health centers the discounts that enabled them to sell birth control pills for "wicked cheap."

She said the higher cost of birth control pills affects more than just women. At many universities, the revenue generated

from sales of the pill has been used to support other services at the health centers, like counseling and women's services, that even those who do not use contraception may need. The lost revenue due to the higher cost of the pills may cause other services to be cut back, she said.

Hoban said men and women in sexual relationships should discuss how contraception will be paid for.

"That's an issue that men and women need to work on together. Women can't get pregnant without men. This is not a women's issue," she said.

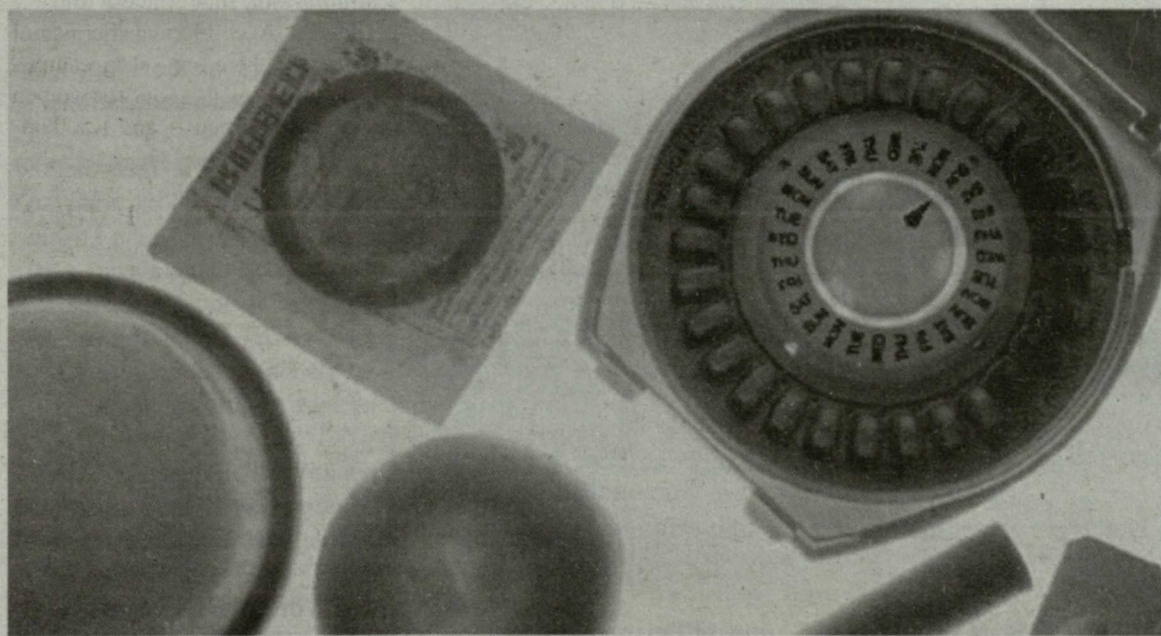
Cullins said all women should find out where they can get affordable contraception, whether at the university health center or the local health department. She added that birth control pills are not designed to protect against sexually transmitted diseases, so women should protect themselves against disease in sexual situations.

"Those situations tend to be new situations, situations that might not be committed relationships yet. Even if you're in a relationship, there is no guarantee," she said.

Dalton said they key is for students to be prepared.

"We teach students, as a Spelman woman, they need to be knowledgeable, they need to be ready. Don't depend on your partner to come up with your protection. We just teach them: be prepared."

As for the fears of parents about whether the higher cost of birth control pills at Spelman has deterred students from purchasing them, Dalton said since the prices went up the demand has increased.



Special | Signal

Colleges and universities have passed off expenses to students seeking to purchase birth control on campus.

because the universities are running out of the back supply of the pills they had purchased at the nominal prices prior to January.

The case has been different at Spelman College in Atlanta, which saw prices jump in 2006, said Brenda Dalton, director of Spelman's Student Health Center.

Dalton said birth control used

give people things, they don't appreciate it. Sometimes there is misuse and abuse. I don't think there's value in giving everything away," she said.

Dalton said she understood that the new pricing for the pills may be difficult for some students.

"Is it a palatable situation to all students? I'm sure it's not. By

Planned Parenthood, said it was important for students to time the switch to make sure they have the new contraception available as soon as they run out of the old type.

"You don't want a time period in between when you're unprotected," she said.

Cullins, a Spelman alumna, said breakthrough bleeding may

UGA's NABJ chapter named student chapter of the year

By CAROLYN CRIST
GUEST WRITER

The University of Georgia's Grady College chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) was named Student Chapter of the Year during the NABJ National Convention held in Las Vegas last month. The honor was shared with the University of North Carolina's NABJ student chapter.

Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication students Geneva Greene, former chapter president; Mandi Woodruff, current president; and Tamara Best, vice president, attended the four-day event which drew more than 2,000 journalists.

Guest speakers for the convention ranged from Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama to Steve Harvey and Alfe Woodard, as well as the nation's premier African-American journalists.

Workshops were offered each day for both the professionals and student journalists. A career fair that spanned an entire ballroom hosted recruiters from media outlets such as the New York Times, Washington Post, CNN, NBC and Hearst Publications. Columbia University and Penn State University were among the universities to represent graduate schools of journalism.

"The convention was an eye



Special | Signal

The NABJ chapter at UGA is recognized for their hard work and efforts in the journalism field.

opener for me," said Woodruff, a sophomore magazines and Spanish major. "I was also overwhelmed and pleased by the professional journalists' willingness to help us."

During the annual Hall of Fame banquet, the Grady College chapter and the University of North Carolina's chapter were each named NABJ Student Chapters of the Year. Geneva Greene, a senior public relations and sociology major, gave the acceptance

speech for the UGA chapter.

The award follows the UGA chapter's success in mentoring high school students from Athens' Cedar Shoals High School. The chapter also held programs featuring the history and future of African Americans in the field of journalism and dedicated hours to becoming a well-known organization on campus.

"My favorite program last year was Soldiers without Swords, a historical chronicle of African-

American journalism since Frederick Douglass," Woodruff said. "In a world where we're wrapped up in where we're going, it's humbling to be reminded where you're coming from."

Chapter president Woodruff said that in the 07-08 academic year, NABJ will continue to promote the growth and success of aspiring African-American journalists while raising awareness about the issues concerning minority populations in the media.

She said she wants to better prepare the chapter's members for the world after college through a career fair, recruiters and networking.

"It's about outreach and getting students across majors and even non-majors to network," said Sharon Shannon, Grady College academic adviser and the NABJ chapter's new adviser. "Students should be able to showcase their work, get involved with the faculty and not be afraid to ask the best way to present their clips."

Prior to Shannon, the NABJ faculty adviser was Dwight Brooks, former associate professor of telecommunications at Grady College. Brooks left Grady in June 2007 to serve as a professor and chair of the Department of Mass Communication at Jackson State University in Mississippi.

"I love that everyone has dramatic feelings about the song, no matter if they love it or hate it."

Continued from page 8

for some.

"The concept of the video makes sense because it is true, but the content of the song is unnecessary," said Ricks. "He didn't have to use that video or use those words to get his point across."

Junior Tiffany Currie, a business marketing major from Detroit, also criticized Armah's method.

"I disagree with the way he brought the message to the community," Currie said. "Personally, I would have read it if it was still a poem."

However, not all students found the song distasteful.

"It's funny to me (because) I think it's crazy," said Kevin Howard, a freshman architectural engineering major from Chattanooga, Tenn. "The kids today like videos with the booty-shaking."

"The creators of that video simply took that concept and added a twist," Howard continued. "They took the things we like and added an educational song to it."

Armah said he feels that the use of profanity in the song isn't negative because he isn't using the words to disparage.

"As far as the language, there are no such things as bad words, only bad intentions," he said. "For example, the word 'love' is not positive or negative; it all depends on the context. If you say 'I love to kill people,' that would be profanity."

With all the controversy surrounding his innovation, Armah said he will continue to keep his creative juices flowing. Armah's new album, "Ear Banger," is available online and the poet says he has no plans to stop what he's doing.

"I haven't gone platinum yet, but I got people listening. At the very least, I wanted people to be aware of someone doing something different with hip-hop music," Armah said.

"As long as he's at large, we cannot ensure the security of anyone on campus."

Continued from page 8

campus residents.

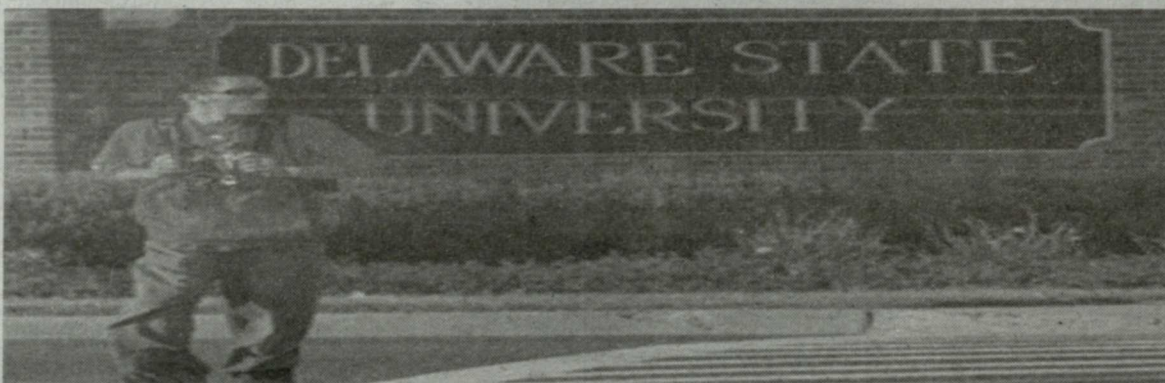
Non-essential administrators were told not to come to campus. Only public safety and central administrators were told to come to work.

Holmes said that at 2:40 a.m., a "timely warning notification" was posted on the campus Web site, in all of the residence halls, and in off-campus apartment complexes. The university also put an announcement on its emergency line, the Delaware State University "snow line," which is typically used for notices about weather emergencies. Holmes said anyone who picks up a land line on campus will first hear the announcement.

Holmes said university President Allen L. Sessoms made the decision to cancel classes just after 5 a.m.

"We had to be very concerned with the safety of the entire campus community," Holmes said.

The Delaware State violence conjured up memories of the tragic shooting at Virginia Tech in April, in which 32 students and the shoot-



Shauntel Lowe | Signal

Students were turned away from Delaware State due to violence that erupted as one gunman remained loose in the area.

er were killed and administrators were criticized for not notifying the students and staff quickly enough. "The biggest lesson learned from the whole situation at Virginia Tech was 'don't wait.' Once you have an incident, start notifying the community," Holmes said.

Students at the university spoke out all day about what the shooting meant for the campus.

Chris Stevens, a 2007 DSU graduate, said he wanted people to know that this type of violence is not typical for the university.

"This is not par for the course

at DSU. This is not a thug-oriented campus. As the cliché goes, 'thugs don't go to college.' This probably has more to do with the lack of security at HBCUs," he said.

Stevens, a Wilmington, Del., native, called the security style of HBCUs "unique." "There will be events with 100 percent ID check and people will flash anything from a social security card to a bank statement from a distance and whoever is at the gate will wave them through," he said.

Stevens said it seemed that student safety was not the top pri-

ority of Delaware State police. "It seems like security at Delaware State was more concerned about giving people parking tickets than about the safety of students and staff," he said.

As for the Sept. 21 shooting, which has shocked the university community, Holmes said the university was doing everything it could to protect students and find the shooter. "We have work to do. We can't really dwell on how troubled we are by this situation," he said.

"The amount of money that was misused was not much compared to the overall budget."

Continued from page 8

for scholarships, student financial aid, reconciliation of campus debt and student activities. Instead, according to the audit, the money was spent on alumni events, travel by Renick's wife, commissions for artwork, and even a \$150,000 annuity for an unnamed faculty member.

The report also found that a program manager who administered the HBCU Future Engineering Faculty Fellowship Program, a program funded by the U.S. Office of Naval Research, was to blame for "several improper business practices and expenditures" during the 2005-06 fiscal year. The expenditures included stipends in excess of \$66,000 paid to the program manager's husband after he became a participant in the program. The program manager was not named.

The Future Engineering Faculty Fellowship Program is designed to increase and influence the numbers of students working toward their Ph.D.s who might be interested in teaching in engineering programs at historically black colleges.

The report's other findings included the misappropriation of \$87,000 in university funds during May 2004 by the former vice chancellor for information and telecommunications, who also was unnamed in the report, and the mismanagement of federal grant funds.

Vic Hackley, who served as interim chancellor after Renick's departure, uncovered the financial irregularities last year and requested the help of UNC System President Erskine Bowles. It was then that a state audit was conducted.

The report was forwarded to the FBI, federal prosecutors, the state Bureau of Investigation and the Guilford County District Attorney's office. Copies also went to Gov. Mike Easley and the state attorney general's office.

All of the employees who were involved in the scandal have been removed from their positions, and some face criminal charges.

The report's findings could cause the school to lose power over its own budget if UNC system leaders aren't satisfied with the progress being made under the new administration.

But for some, the problem is bigger than the apparent fiscal improprieties.

"I love A&T, and I love the people. But this really points to the fact that some people didn't focus on the mission to help out African American students," said Moody.

For other students, the report's findings were blown far out of proportion.

"It's not surprising that some of the things were overblown," said Brandon Bellamy, a senior liberal studies major at A&T and a former

SGA treasurer. "The amount of money that was misused was not much compared to the overall budget." For fiscal 2006 the school listed its total revenues at more than \$220.4 million, against operating expenses of \$204.6 million.

Bellamy said that the key to preventing things like this from happening is "better financial oversight."

Battle arrived July 1 from Coppin State University in Baltimore.

"Since I got here, this is all I've been dealing with. I've been dealing

with both sides," he said, "I've got to deal with state auditors, and when you make a mistake, the door is wide open, you can't slam the door. It's got to be addressed. It's got to be cleaned up."

The new chancellor told the A&T Register, the school's campus newspaper, that although there were "major missteps," the responsibility should not fall on the shoulders of the school as a whole. He said that A&T has had a reputation of employing good people and that trend will con-

tinue.

Bowles brought in Battle in hopes that he would restore the school's integrity.

"I don't like to talk about what my plans are," Battle told the Register. "I can talk about some things we need to do, but I can't do them by myself. I can tell you that A&T will be student-focused. We are going to set good standards and we're going to be backing it up by supporting students."

Battle stressed that he was

pleased with the progress that had been made and that he didn't want the actions of a few to affect the school's reputation.

"You're talking about mistakes that were made, or missteps, but it's a few people. You can't use that as a generalization against the entire university," he said.

For Moody, the concern is the effect that the scandal will have on the school's ability to educate its students.





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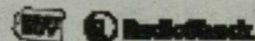
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LIVING



Editor:
Monique Jones

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Give us a break, we are in college

By AMANDA DABBAS
adabbas1@student.gsu.edu

New government data shows the cost of college is increasing out of reach for more American families. The government must be slow learners because this is not new information for college students.

The Washington Report shows that the average tuition for an undergraduate attending a public four year college or university increased almost 40 percent in the last six years, which is about \$1,431.

The average student will pay about 25 percent of median household income to a public college and 57 percent at a private college. Why send them to college when we could buy them a house for the same price?

Students are greatly impacted by the increasing costs of tuition. Kim Tran, a junior, lost the HOPE scholarship and was shocked by how much she had to pay for tuition. "There was no other choice but to pull out a loan. Now, I have to work even harder to get HOPE back."

The HOPE scholarship is very helpful, but with its strict rules, it can be lost very easily. Kim had a 2.99 GPA when she lost the scholarship. But even if a student still has their HOPE scholarship, the rising cost of tuition still has an affect. "I noticed that I get less for book money," said Saba Soneji, a junior. Students with the HOPE scholarship should receive \$150 for books, but some students only recieved \$12.

When students receive loans or assistance, somehow things get screwed up. Katherine Brawner, a senior, had her HOPE scholarship taken away for a full academic year because they had the wrong numbers. In her situation, the HOPE database and Georgia State database did not have the same informa-

SEE INCREASE PAGE 14

ROTC: The lives of cadets at Georgia State University



Justin Stephens | Signal

ROTC at Georgia State prepares students to be officers once they graduate.

By JASON RAY
jray15@student.gsu.edu

The Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at Georgia State doesn't get much attention. It has been active since 1951, but a lot of students don't know the functions and purpose of the ROTC.

There are many misconceptions about the ROTC. Some students believe participating in the ROTC means having to go into active duty after graduation. Some students believe the ROTC is nothing more than a campus-based boot camp - that cadets do nothing but get yelled at and do push-ups. Some may even believe that participating in the ROTC program is indicative of one's political beliefs, especially concerning the current situation in Iraq. None of those beliefs are true.

"The idea of ROTC is to prepare men and women to be officers in the military once they graduate," said Capt. Irving Fannell. Capt. Fannell came to Georgia State in 2006 and holds a Masters degree in Special Education. He explained that the point of the ROTC is to build leadership skills. He also explained what happens when

a cadet graduates. "Once they graduate with a four-year degree, they commission into the Army as a second lieutenant."

But don't think the second a cadet graduates, they'll be on the front lines in Fallujah. "Once cadets graduate, they have an eight-year commitment to the Army. In their senior year, they can decide between three choices: active duty, the reserves, or the National Guard." About two-thirds of the cadets choose active duty.

"We're not recruiters," says Capt. Fannell. "I'm the person students have to go through before they enter the program, but we're here to train and provide leadership skills." He said that while the instructors teach the classes, it's actually the junior and senior cadets who conduct much of the training. "It's the seniors who run physical training" said Major Brenden Burke. He said this gives cadets leadership experience.

"We're involved in a lot of community service activities," Captain Fannell said. He said they participate in various walks such as walks to cure breast cancer and the upcoming Kaiser-Permanente Walk. "We sometimes get called by the Hawks, different local high

schools for homecoming and we do a lot of fundraisers," said Fannell.

Major Burke says cadets have to be serious and committed to the program because there is a very good chance they will not make it from their freshmen year to their senior year. "The likelihood of a freshmen cadet staying in the program until they graduate is around 25 percent, and we always have a few surprises," Burke said. "There are some cadets we figure won't finish the program, but they do, and some we think will, but don't."

Major Burke, who holds an MBA and a Masters in Operational Art and Science, also came to Georgia State in June 2006 from Korea. He says that while the program is far from easy, it's not an insurmountable task either. "We want students who want to be here. We want students who have the aptitude and can pass the requirements."

He says it's possible for freshmen and sophomore students to take a Military Science course, just to try them out. However, if students wish to join, they must do so in their first two years. Students can

SEE ROTC

Muslim students go 30 days without eating or drinking from sunrise to sunset

By LAILA MOUSA
lmousa1@student.gsu.edu

No eating or drinking from sunrise to sunset? During the month of Ramadan, Muslims abstain from eating, drinking and other physical needs during the daylight hours. Every religion has some form of fasting; Catholics have Lent, and some Jews fast on Yom Kippur.

Thousands of Muslims around the world fast during Ramadan, which takes place during the ninth month of the Islam calendar, when the Qur'an was first revealed. Muslims wake up at dawn to pray and to eat something before the sun comes up. They break their fast at the fourth prayer of the day when the sun sets.

Fasting doesn't only mean abstaining from food and drink. Zein Baghdadi, a GSU junior, said, "Ramadan is a time where I can relieve myself of the desires of the flesh, whatever they may be." This means abstaining from using foul language, backbiting, and violence.

Ramadan teaches Muslims self-discipline, patience and unity.

Aisha Sajid, a GSU senior, said, "Ramadan means putting our differences aside, uniting as a community, fasting for the sake of God, and breaking that fast with the people you love."

Kiran Masood, a GSU senior, said Ramadan is a time where she can put all her focus into doing good. "Ramadan means to me rising above pain, promoting harmony and strengthening my relationship with God," she said.

Muslim students are asked questions by Non-Muslims about why they fast, and how they fast. "Some people come up to me and ask me if I don't eat anything for the whole 30 days of Ramadan," Hina Chaudry, a GSU junior said. "I obviously

SEE RAMADAN PAGE 14

PAGE 14

JFGA helps strengthen the Jewish communities of Atlanta

By CARYN SUHR
csuhr1@student.gsu.edu

The Community Campaign 2008 is a communal effort raised by the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta as a means to bring together the Jewish families of Atlanta. This Annual fundraising effort "cares for the vulnerable, rescues the imperiled, and strengthens the Jewish community," raising money to support JFGA's 20 local and also international affiliates.

The JFGA's motto is to "Live Generously" and those individuals who participate in the fundraising events that the federation offers are truly great philanthropists as the JFGA aims to support humanitarian and social agencies in the United States, in Israel and all over the world. The JFGA brings together and binds the Jewish community of Atlanta and connects it to Jewish communities across the continents.

The campaign chair, Iris Feinber, and co-chair, Gerry Benjamin, helped raise eighteen million dollars last year and this year's goal is to surpass that. This money goes to repairing Jewish communities all over the world. Another effort being made to assist the Jewish communities are five different "outcomes," or result oriented initiatives that not only assist

Jewish communities in the Atlanta area, but also Jewish communities located overseas.

These "outcomes" focus on the needs of the Jewish communities and include providing transportation and assistance for Jewish families who are currently caring for elderly or special needs relatives. They also focus on engaging Jewish families and helping them become involved in Atlanta's Jewish community and building a community of Jewish youth, teens, and elderly who live in the former Soviet Union city of Minsk, Belarus.

Additional focus is put on family education and other forms of helping the Jewish youth community become more confident in their own identity. The last of the five outcomes is finding self-sufficiency for Ethiopian-Israeli families through education and employment. This is a somewhat confusing list of programs but it all has a common goal- to unite Jewish communities all over the world.

The goal of the Atlanta campaign has begun with a one million dollar fundraising initiative; previous donors are expected to raise their previous donation by one thousand dollars. Of course this may seem like a lofty donation, but Feinberg hopes that these donations will "help introduce many Jewish Atlantans to the joys of philanthropy."

The JFGA not only has a great number of financial donations, but also has many donations in the form of volunteer work. One of the mottos for the volunteer section of JFGA is a quote from Ruth Smeltzer: "You have not lived a perfect day unless you have done something for someone who will never be able to repay you." The JFGA strives to do just that. They are involved in Hunger Walk/Run, they have reading coaches with the Atlanta Jewish Coalition for Literacy, and they are the people of the Atlanta community who strive and make it their goal to improve the lives of the Jewish community here in Atlanta and across the sea.

If you are a Jewish student at GSU, now is the best time to become involved in the JFGA. It offers great volunteer programs and will also help you retain your identity, which can be difficult for any college student in this multicultural world. The Community Campaign 2008 has recently begun and it offers a variety of outlets in which the Jewish community can be assisted.

To contact the JFGA visit their website at ShalomAtlanta.org or call at (404) 873-1661.



JFGA works together to connect all Jewish communities across the world.

Special | Signal

Project Dance takes over Centennial Olympic Park



Special | Signal

Project Dance entertained and wowed audiences in Atlanta with their various moves.

By ALEXIS JONES
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This past weekend (Friday-Sunday), Centennial Olympic Park played host to the New York-based Project Dance. The purpose of the weekend was to allow those interested in dance a chance to express themselves on the stage.

Saturday's main events, which were the dance routines, were attended by all of the dancers, their families, and passersby. Over 150 dancers were featured in the concert dancing in groups, pairs, and dancing solo.

Project Dance was founded in 1996 by Cheryl Cutlip, who has been a Radio City Rockette for the past 15 years. "I had a vision to bring dance to its proper place in the marketplace and in the body of Christ," she said. Cutlip explained that she wanted dance to be shown "valid as work, worship, and witness." This weekend was the first time the city of Atlanta had hosted the event.

"There is a great need for more support of the arts in Atlanta," Katherine Gant, Georgia resident and Project Dance's event coordinator for the city, said. "In New York [the support] is natural."

Earlier this year, Project Dance held events in both New York City's Time Square and in Sydney, Australia. Cutlip said they were planning to take Project Dance to Hong Kong, Toronto, and London in 2008 and to South Africa in 2009.

She said that traveling all over the world gave the dancers the "opportunity to travel and see the world through the love of dance." When asked about her experience in Sydney, Cutlip said it was "unbelievable."

The event started with an "inspirational message" and was followed by dance classes, an expo and the dance concert on Saturday that ran from noon until 7pm.

Praise in Motion, a local dance company, was the first to take the stage. One of the members of the company, Suwanee resident and elementary school teacher Kate McGee who has been dancing for 18 years, said, "I'm excited to be here and it's nice to be a part of something bigger." Rhonda Oltjenbruns, director of Praise in Motion, said, "People don't always listen to words anymore, so that's why dance can be so effective."

Praise in Motion's dance routines were a part of their repertoire already, so they had been practicing them since April. Other groups, like Spirit Led Movement, had only been practicing together since Wednesday, after member Marvella Bowman arrived from New York.

Spirit Led Movement is another local dance company from Atlanta. Bowman, who has been dancing for 13 years, explained her and her partner's routine as "liturgical, or a gathering of a public work for God." She also said that meant their

College cost continue to rise

continued from page 12

tion about her GPA. She had to petition to get her money back and did not receive all of it. She had to pull more loans, which just added to her \$50,000 student loan debt.

"What else is there to do? I cannot find a job that pays enough for tuition and still have time to study," she said "You have to make a choice, let your grades suffer or be in debt."

Some students, like Anthony Merida, pay for tuition but still take out loans because their heavy workload does not allow time for a job. At Georgia State, once you pay the tuition for 12 credit hours, you can take up to eighteen credit hours without paying extra. "I got to have money in my pocket, since I do not have time for a job."

Congress realized that neither federal nor parental assistance can keep up with the soaring costs of tuition. Earlier in the month, Congress passed the College Cost and Access Act, which will expand student assistance by cutting about \$20 million in subsidies to private student loan providers.

Georgia State is not respon-

sible for the increase in tuition, it comes from a higher power, the Georgia Board of Regents. Their answer for the increase of tuition is a fixed four-year tuition. The idea started last year and allows students to pay the same price every year for four years. Under this aide, the cost of fall 2007 tuition is \$2742.00.

Kim Tran thinks that this is a good idea, but is not fair for students who entered Georgia State before 2006. "Why not give that option to all students? It isn't fair for us to pay the increase. Kim also wants to know why students are paying more, "What are the increases for? Why is it their decision?" When the One Stop Shop, who handles tuition problems, was contacted for more information, they were prohibited from speaking to the press.

Katherine Brawner is all for the idea, but feels like there is a catch. The catch with the fixed rate is that if you take longer than four years to receive your degree, which is normal, students must then pay the current tuition cost that has increased for the past four years.

What can students do about the increase of tuition? "Get a job to pay for that shit," Anthony recommends. "The HOPE helps out a lot, it is an opportunity for free education, work hard for it."

Brawner can only get deeper into debt. "What can I do? I like the campus, the professors, and the tuition is not too expensive."

Saba agrees with Brawner, "If I cannot pay for the tuition and don't want to spend my whole life paying off loans, what is my other choice? Not go to school?"

If President Bush signs the College Cost Access Act, the legislation will then increase the maximum Pell Grant award and reduce interest rates for more than five million student borrowers and changes will take effect on Monday, Oct. 1.

"I'm not worried. If I get deployed, I get deployed"

continued from page 12

only join the ROTC if they have four or more semesters left in college.

The requirements are no walk in the park. To be admitted into the program, a student must have a 2.5 GPA, pass a physical

examination, and pass a PT test. Once admitted, cadets have PT Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6:30-7:30 a.m. They have Military Science classes on Tuesday which vary depending on the cadet's academic year, and lab sessions on Thursdays.

There are four primary instructors. During these lab sessions, cadets learn essential Army tactics such as how to do reconnaissance patrols, how to read maps, and how to use a compass.

Some parents are reticent to support their sons and daughters' decision to join the ROTC. "The majority of parents were receptive to the idea of the ROTC," said Fannell, "and then there are some parents who weren't too happy with their kids' decision to join."

Major Burke tells us there are some parents who are just the opposite. "We have some parents who try and push their kids into the ROTC," he said. "But you can't force them to join. The student has to be committed and if they're not serious, they tend to weed themselves out."

Cadet Josh Wade, a psychology major, has been in the ROTC for a year and a half. He says he's always wanted military training and that the ROTC was the ideal way for him to get that training. He started his undergraduate career at Georgia Tech, and said that once he graduates, he plans on going into active duty. He is not hung up on whether or not he'll be sent to Iraq. "I'm not worried. If I get deployed, I get deployed."

Senior Cadet Ricardo Hamer, an exercise science major, spent time in Iraq prior to coming to GSU. He is also the father of two. Cadet Hamer says he has always liked structure and discipline, which makes the ROTC a perfect fit for him. When asked about his feelings on this country's political beliefs concerning the war in Iraq, he says he believes people are only looking at a third of the picture. "A lot of people don't have a full understanding of why we're over there," he said. "They've lost focus on what the main reason is behind us being in Iraq. We don't want another 9/11, and we don't want to fight them here."

"I obviously eat, I don't go 30 days without eating"

continued from page 12

eat; I don't go 30 days without eating."

On Oct. 4, GSU is holding an event called Fast-a-Thon where non-Muslim students attempt to fast for a day. In the evening, students will be able to break their fast with various foods from different Muslim countries around the world. Students will also be given the opportunity to learn more about Ramadan and why Muslims fast.

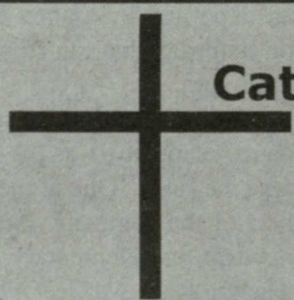
Ending Ramadan, is the celebration of Eid ul-Fitr, a Muslim holiday. Muslims wake up early in the morning to attend prayer. Families get together, friends visit each other, and presents are given.

"The best part about Eid is eating food; all kinds, all day long," Masood said. To others, the best part about Eid is all the gifts.

"I love exchanging presents with my family, and instead of having a secret Santa with my friends, we have this thing called an Eid Baba," Chaudry said.

The most important part of Eid ul-Fitr, however, is not the presents or the food. It's the feeling of accomplishment one gets from fasting and giving charity. It's the feeling of unity.

Amirah Salim, a GSU freshman, said, "Eid is a holiday that unites not only families, but thousands of people from different communities just to pray, and unite as Muslims. It's the time of the year when there isn't division between Muslim from Pakistan or Egypt, it's simply for the sake of our Faith that enables us to celebrate with our fellow Muslims."



Catholic Student Association

All are welcome to holy mass

470 University Center 12:15-12:50pm

EVERY

Monday

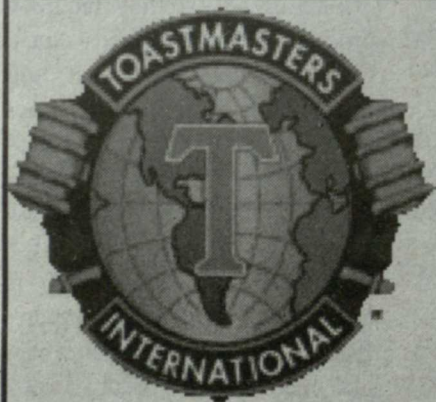
Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Confessions before and after mass



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Hey Panthers!
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 Each week, the Signal will
 introduce some of them to you.
 It's your campus so get involved

McNair Wagner Sustainable Energy Tribe



Major: Marketing

Accomplishments: I was the first student hired by Georgia as the student recycling coordinator. I am the receipt of the 2007-2008 National Recycling Conference (NRC) scholarship.

Graduation Year: May 2008

Plans for Graduation: Upon graduating I'm going to continue my work with recycling or sustainability and hopefully take advantage of the opportunity to work in the field of corporate America known as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Bridget Wynn

President, Atlanta
Herpetology Club and
Founder and President,
Collegiate Neuroscience
Society(CNS)



Major: Biology

Accomplishments: Bridget has won multiple awards and fellowships based on research. With the Collegiate Neuroscience Society, she has instituted monthly laboratory tours, where students can visit and learn about neuroscience research that is being done on campus. She has hosted speakers to talk about their experiences in neuroscience, organized neuroscience themed movie nights and parties, and provided students with information about Atlanta neuroscience events and opportunities. Through the Atlanta Herpetology Club, Bridget has helped organize two large events, a spring break trip to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, and a state Bioblitz in the Paulding-Sheffield Forest Area, which, as the winner of the Panther Cares Program, was sponsored by the Office of Community Service, the Dean of Students, and the Biology Department. She is currently trying to start a GSU Chapter of Nu Kappa Psi, the national neuroscience honor society.

Graduation Year: May 2009

Plans for Graduation: I plan on attending graduate school, studying the evolution of neural and sexual plasticity during sex change in fish, and eventually researching and lecturing at a university.

The trends for men this season



Special | Signal

Affliction clothing line gives variety for men this fall.

By COREY GIVENS

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look.

Over the past few weeks, many stylish college students have had their televisions tuned to major entertainment award shows trying to get a glimpse of the hottest trends in fashion for fall 2007. From the glitz and glamour of the Emmy Awards to the trendy and laidback fashions worn at MTV's Video Music Awards, it is clear to see that fall 2007 fashions for men are all about color.

The buzz about men's fall 2007 fashion trends peaked in early September with the kick-off of Mercedes Benz Fashion Week in New York. Designers including Perry Ellis, John Varvatos, Custo Barcelona, and Adam Lippes unveiled men's lines filled with a bright mix of colors.

The Color Association, which was established in 1915, is America's oldest trend forecasting group. Their "2007-2008 Interiors/Environmental Forecast" is suggesting an earth-inspired range of colors for men in the new season.

Rich browns, floral pinks and reds, blues, and whites are on the rise in men's fashion. Additionally, purples are also very in this fall. If purple is not your thing, try a natural earth tone or a soft shade of blue.

Now that you have the colors down, it's all about the

One of the biggest trends for fall 2007 is the fitted jean. Men on college campuses across the country are stepping out of baggy jeans and into fitted jeans which compliment their silhouettes. Sean John and American Eagle are both pushing the skinny jean in their lines this season. Another major trend for fall 2007 is the plunging neckline. Necklines are going to extremes for men this season, dipping lower for men, with wider scoops and v-shapes. Make sure you add this hot item to your wardrobe.

Among the hottest labels for fall 2007 is Affliction. Affliction shirts have a variety of different patterns and styles. The line is full of dark colors and edgy graphics (most of their shirts have graphics of skulls, crosses, and other gothic images). Affliction has become a staple in celebrity fashion. Usher, Jay-Z, and Kanye West have all been photographed wearing Affliction clothing.

This article has provided you with a brief look at trends in fashion for fall 2007. However, style is all about comfort and individual personality.

The same thing can look chic on one guy and disgusting on another. Take your time and make sure you find what compliments your personality and body type.

"People don't always listen to words anymore, that's why dance can be so effective"

continued from page 13

style could be whatever they wanted it to be, so long as it was "to praise."

Other styles featured in Saturday's concert were ballet, modern, jazz, and hip-hop. Like the styles, the classes offered were varied, too.

Four classes in ballet, modern, tap, jazz, hip-hop, theatre, acting, and worship were offered on Sunday. Gant said the event had about 20 different teachers from all over the country and the world. "The classes would try to give the dancers things they don't normally get at home," she added.

In addition to the classes offered, an expo was held Friday evening that featured around

ten different vendors that were already a part of Project Dance. These companies gave information and their email addresses out to the dancers. The vendors also offered opportunities for the dancers to audition for their companies at a later date.

The moods on Saturday were general excitement, praise, reverence, and even a moment of somber remembrance.

A group of dancers from Virginia Tech were on site to perform their routine in jeans and Virginia Tech t-shirts that stated, 'Hokies United' and 'We Are Virginia Tech'. The song began to skip during their routine and it went off. After trying a second time from the beginning, the music continued to skip. The girls of Virginia Tech decided to finish their routine without their music. Cutlip took the microphone and said,

"things always happen for a reason." The reason, according to Cutlip, was to give everyone a chance "to remember in silence those who lost their lives [at Virginia Tech]." The girls received a standing ovation when they finished.

Jennifer Astin of Atlanta didn't even know this event was here this weekend. "I was here to celebrate a birthday and it was Family Fun Day [at Centennial Park]," she said. "This is great because I had planned to take my girls to the theater. And this is free!"

There were many dancers from Georgia and the Southeast, but there were dancers from other places in the nation as well as the world.

Project Dance will return to Atlanta in September of 2008.

17th Annual breast cancer awareness weekend



Special | Signal

It's time to think pink again for breast cancer.

By MONIQUE JONES
mjones82@student.gsu.edu

On Sept. 26-29, 2007, Sisters By Choice, Inc will hold their annual awareness weekend in the fight against breast cancer.

The event is held to reach out to the communities and help educate the patients and their families but also the general public, so that they are knowledgeable of the life-threatening disease. It is an outlet to acquire more knowledge on breast cancer treatment and research on those living with the disease.

The weekend will include the "Sisters' Night Out" moving screening, a free educational seminar and much more.

Many people, especially us students, are unaware of how many deaths breast cancer causes in women. Get involved; help support those who are living with breast cancer. According to Sisters By Choice Inc...

*Breast cancer is the second

leading cause of cancer deaths in women

*The number one and number two risk factors for developing breast cancer is being a woman and increasing age.

*Although breast cancer is most commonly diagnosed in older women, younger and younger women are being diagnosed with breast cancer today.

*Breast cancer does not discriminate, it affects the young and old, rich and poor, Black, White, Hispanic, Asian, and Indian.

*White American women have the highest incidence of breast cancer but Black America women have the highest morbidity and mortality rate.

*Mammography is the number one diagnostic test for early detection of breast cancer

Get involved this weekend; men and women should be getting mammograms. For more information log on to www.sistersbychoice.net or call 770-987-2951.

Sickle Cell Anemia Month

By MONIQUE JONES
mjones82@student.gsu.edu

It's time to support the people in our country who are suffering from the disease of sickle cell Anemia. Over 70,000 people carry sickle cell anemia and most of these people are African Americans statistics show that one in every 12 African Americans may carry the trait for sickle cell disease.

The most common treat-

ment for those living with sickle cell are regular blood transfusions. These blood transfusions help reduce damage to major organs and reduce the risk of strokes. Unfortunately, many blood recipients need transfusions almost every other week.

To help raise awareness about sickle cell anemia, spread the word. It is easy to help those in need just call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.givelife.org to schedule a time to give blood.

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SPORTS



Editor:
Lee Wilson

lwilson28@student.gsu.edu

Men's Soccer team wins again

By CARYN SUHR
csuhr1@student.gsu.edu

Friday, September 21st, the Georgia State Panthers pulled an exciting 3-0 win against the Jacksonville University Dolphins.

After returning disappointed from the Florida Atlantic University Classic, where the Panthers lost 2-0 to the Florida Atlantic University Owls and 3-2 to the Florida Gulf Coast University Eagles, the team was ready for a win.

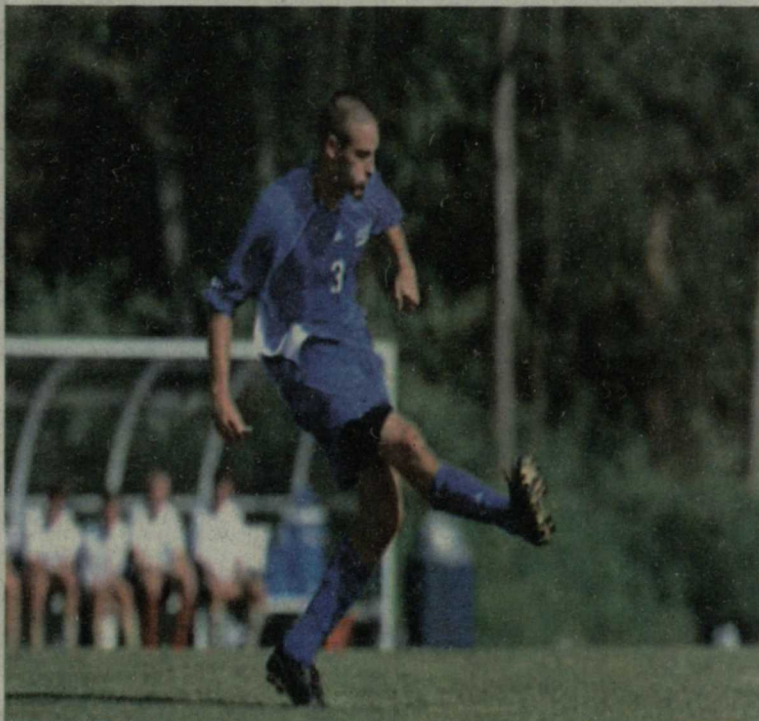
The Panthers received some good news in the form of two of their own being named to the 2007 Florida Atlantic University Classic All Tournament team. Midfielders Floreal Pedraza and Joe Devito were both selected by the coaches of participating teams to be a part of the All Tournament Team.

The Panthers then traveled home where they would face Jacksonville University in what would become their second win of the season.

Floreal Pedraza led the team with two goals with another scored by Joe Devito.

The first fifteen minutes of play were tightly matched and each team had equal possession; however, the Panthers managed to find a weakness in the Dolphin's defensive line as Floreal Pedraza tried for three shots.

It was not until the thirty-third minute that the Panthers recorded their first goal of the game scored by graduate student Floreal Pedraza. The second half ended



Ga. State Athletic Dept. | Signal

The Men's soccer team has already won more games than they did last season.

at 1-0, leaving the Panthers with a hopeful outlook on the outcome of the game.

The Panthers entered the second half matching the fervor of the Dolphins. In the seventy-fourth minute, junior midfielder Joe Devito recorded the Panthers' second goal of the game when he received a long pass from Floreal Pedraza and propelled the ball past Dolphins goalkeeper and into the back of the net.

Five minutes after Joe Devito's goal, Floreal Pedraza was tripped by Jacksonville's keeper,

resulting in a penalty kick for the Panthers.

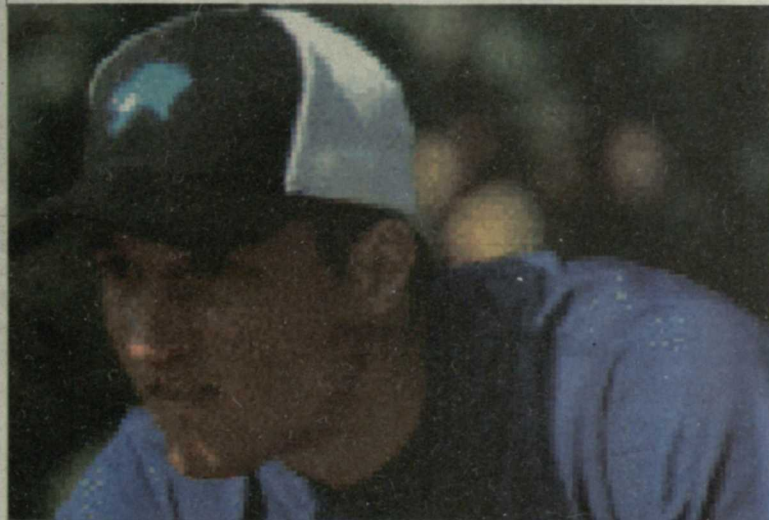
Pedraza easily scored as he shot left and Jacksonville's keeper dove to the right bringing the score to 3-0.

With only eleven minutes left in the game the Panthers had it in the bag.

Their defensive line of Spencer Sumpter, Justin Davis, Javon Carrington, and Joe Castado held their ground and resolved any

See SOCCER | Page 20

Golf team teeing off again



Ga. State Athletic Dept. | Signal

The men's golf team is starting off strong this fall.

By YARIN CRAIG
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Somebody please tell me why golf at Georgia State University receives so little attention?

Why should we all be paying attention? Both the men's and women's golf teams have been impressive since the beginning of the season and show promise to have a good year.

In fact, this has been the brightest spot in our athletics for quite some time. Our Panthers can compete with big boys when it comes to golf. Teams like Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia, who are solid in golf which is no surprise.

But when analyzing the situation, one could argue that the Panthers are one of the big boys and this year is no different.

The women's golf team played in the Napa River Grill Cardinal Classic on September 17th and 18th and placed 4th each day of the two contests.

On the first day of action in the tournament, sophomore Catherine Madsen completed two rounds and tied for sixth-place overall at two-over par.

Also having success was sophomore Sandra Maier and freshman Iliska Verwey who both finished the first day of competition in the top 20, each tying for 14th at five-over par.

The next day of action, junior Anna Scott placed a third-round score of one-under par 71 to claim a tie for ninth place in the tournament.

See GOLF | Page 20

Men's tennis team ready to defend CAA title

By CHRIS HOLLOWAY
cholloway7@student.gsu.edu

After finishing last year ranked as the No. 36 team in the nation, the Georgia State men's tennis team is gearing up to continue its winning ways in the 2007-08 season. New challenges that the team will face are adjusting to a new head coach as well as playing shorthanded.

Three of the Panthers that remain from last year's CAA title team are senior Anze Cevka and juniors Nejc Podkrajsek and Augusto Alvarado.

Luckily, all three players were amongst the top CAA performers during the 2006-07 season.

New head coach Jarod Camerota is coming to Georgia State from Jacksonville University, where he served as both the men and women's head coach for two years.

He was selected as the Atlantic Sun Conference Coach of the Year in 2007. His previous experience of success will be coupled with the previous success of the three remaining Panthers.

Last year, both Anze Cevka and Nejc Podkrajsek were All-CAA players. Teammate Augusto Alvarado did not finish far behind in the conference, earning second team All-CAA honors. As a whole, the Panthers were able to win the CAA Championship.

Hoping to make their three players a charm this year, the Panthers' schedule began Sept. 14 at the Thomasville Invitational. Podkrajsek was able to claim fifth place in the men's singles after losing in the second round but finishing 3-1 for the tournament.

He also teamed with teammate Cevka to finish the tournament

with a 1-1 record in doubles action, losing to the eventual champions.

Coach Camerota said, "The tournament gave me a chance to gauge how the team competes in real match situations as opposed to practice."

This real-match play continued into last week when the Panthers played at the Southern Intercollegiate in Athens.

Podkrajsek competed in the 128-man draw in the Division I Singles competition. Teammate Alvarado competed in the 128-man draw in the Division II Singles. Cevka paired with Podkrajsek in the 64-man draw of the Division I Doubles action.

The next tournament for the Panthers will be the Georgia Tech

See TENNIS | Page 20



Ga. State Athletic Dept. | Signal

The men's tennis team will feature a new coach and will search for the CAA title repeat in 2007-2008.



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The Falcons quarterback struggles: Is Leftwich the guy?



By MZOLA-AHUAMA JONAS III
mjonasIII@gsu.edu

The Atlanta Falcons signed Byron Leftwich to a two-year, \$7 million dollar deal last Tuesday.

The former Jacksonville Jaguar missed the first two weeks of the season after being cut by the team on Sept. 1 and was added two days after the Falcons fumbled their second straight game.

Why would Leftwich miss the first two weeks? Money issues, of course. "No team would want to take a chance on the 5-year veteran by having to guarantee his salary for the entire year.

If you're a devoted football enthusiast, you might cringe a little at this signing. After all, Byron Leftwich was that often-injured, yet seemingly-productive quarterback for the Jaguars—when he was healthy.

In fact, since he was drafted in the first round in 2003, Leftwich

has not played a full 16-game season.

Leftwich has appeared in 46 games, 44 of them as a starter. The 2007 Marshall Hall-of-Famer completed 789 of 1,344 passes for 9,042 yards with 51 touchdown passes and 36 interceptions in his up and down NFL career. Yet, he still managed a 24-20 record with the Jaguars.

Rumors of Leftwich being signed arose after the Falcons' ugly showing at Jacksonville, losing to the Jaguars 13-7. Fans and sports experts alike were expecting Leftwich to eventually inherit the starting role as quarterback for the Falcons. If a two-year deal doesn't imply his future promotion, then Falcons owner Arthur Blank and Coach Bobby Petrino must know something Atlanta fans don't.

However, Coach Petrino did make some statements about the current starting quarterback Joey

Joey Harrington (right) and Byron Leftwich (left) will vie for the Falcons starting quarterback position, which it seems is there for the taking.

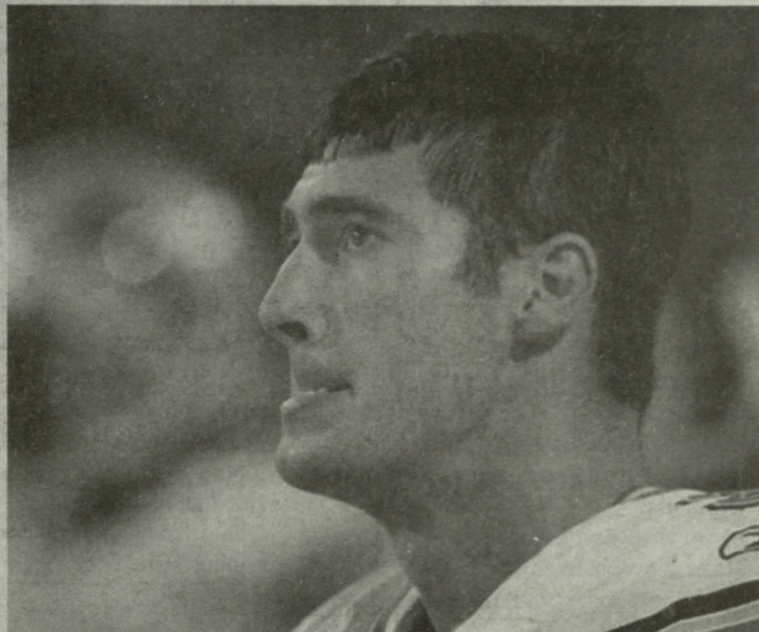
Special | Signal

Harrington. He noted that Harrington is holding the ball too long and is showing a lack of confidence in the pocket. Since taking the reigns as Head Coach, the Falcons (0-2) have scored just 10 points while allowing 13 sacks in its first two games.

As for last Sunday's game, the whole blame shouldn't be placed solely on Harrington. Former Falcons kicker Matt Prater missed two field goals that could have tied the score and possibly given the Falcons a shot of a 1-1 record. Interestingly, the Falcons picked up former Falcon and multiple NFL record-holder Morten Andersen, who at 47 years-old, brings more than 24 years of experience at kicker.

The question is will Leftwich be able to fit in with the Falcons? Reportedly, he has passed his physicals, viewed tapes, and is already practicing with the team.

The puzzling-piece fit about



this combination is the deep-pass scheme that Petrino likes to play and Leftwich's specialty in down-field passing. However, Leftwich is missing the mobility that Coach Petrino favors in his quarterbacks (such as Michael Vick).

Leftwich's decision-making and accuracy have also been questioned. The Falcons will start him behind Chris Redman as the third-string quarterback if Harrington continues to lack confidence in his play and Leftwich manages to stay healthy.

"I'm a football player," Leftwich said. "I'll tell you, missing those last two weeks really bothered me, man, having to watch everyone else play and knowing I was healthy but couldn't go out there and be part of a football team. I'm just happy to be back out there."

The overall issues for the Falcons are problems at quarterback, and Leftwich was going to be on somebody's team this year. It's

clear that the signing of Leftwich has picked up the Falcons' morale. This signing is a seemingly good fit for both sides. From this point on, Falcons fans will have to sit back and see what happens.

Leftwich Stats from 2003 year comp/att yds TD-INT

2006: 108/183, 1159 yds, 7-5

2005: 175/302, 2123 yds, 15-5

2004: 267/441, 2941 yds, 15-10

2003: 239/418, 2819 yds, 14-16

Harrington Stats from 2003

2007: 35/ 52 399yds, 0 - 2

2006: 223/388 2236 yds 12 -15

2005: 188/330 2021 yds, 12-12

2004: 724/489 3047 yds, 19-12

The wild weekend in college football

By Parrish Walton
pwalton1@student.gsu.edu

The Georgia Bulldogs almost let one of the biggest games of the season slip away...almost.

After squandering two separate 10-point leads against the "fighting Sabans," or Alabama Crimson Tide, Georgia rallied from a three point overtime deficit, stunning more than 90,000 Alabama fans in one of the most thrilling games in Georgia history.

On the first play of their first possession, Georgia quarterback Matt Stafford hit wide receiver Mikey Henderson on a fly route in the corner of the end zone for the game winning touchdown. It was Henderson's first touchdown catch.

"Matthew threw a beautiful ball," Richt said to reporters after the game. "When (Henderson) caught it, I dropped my playbook and started celebrating."

After the referee signaled a

touchdown, Stafford and the rest of the Bulldogs rushed to the end zone for a makeshift "dawg pile." The Alabama fans were upset to say the least, and began throwing debris onto the rowdy Bulldogs pile including bottles of bourbon and vodka.

Thrills aside, this was a game that Georgia simply could not afford to lose. After dropping their SEC opener to South Carolina, the Bulldogs had to win the Alabama game if they wanted to contend for an SEC title.

With Florida looking like the clear favorite to win the SEC east, a second conference loss would have ended UGA's hopes of making the SEC title game.

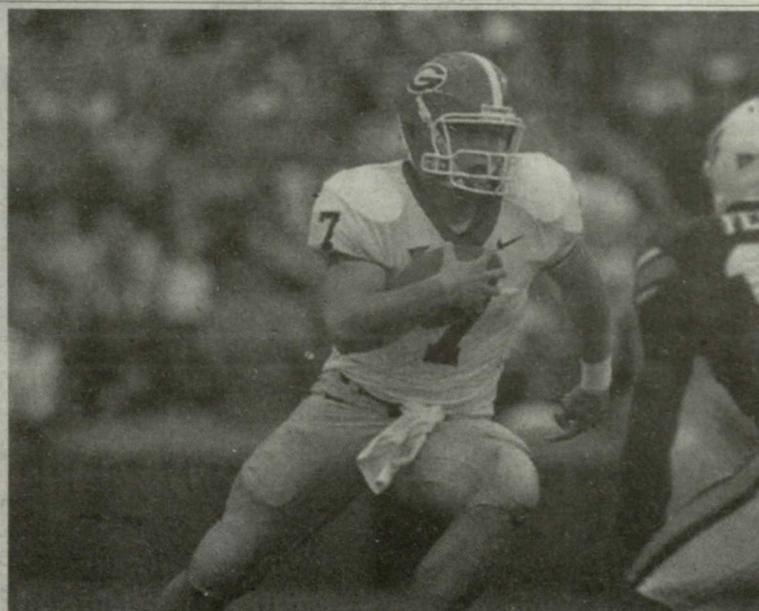
The Bulldogs need to be ready for another test when they return home to face Ole Miss on Saturday. Mississippi is coming off of a heart-breaking loss at home to Florida (30-24) and has played well this season even though their 1-3 record would indicate otherwise.

While the Bulldogs went into a hostile environment and came out ahead, the Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech could not do the same. After being blasted at home by Boston College, the Jackets needed a win over Virginia in Charlottesville for the first time since 1990. It was not meant to be as the Jackets were beat 28-23.

With their star running back Tashard Choice banged up, the Jackets could do little on the ground, forcing quarterback Taylor Bennett to try and win the game via the passing game.

This was not something that Tech wanted to do as Bennett has been average at best on the season and finished the day 17-40 for 230 yards, one touchdown and one interception.

The game was lost after Georgia Tech gave up 21 first quarter points which proved to be too much for the Jackets to overcome even though Tech outscored Virginia 16-7 for the rest of the game.



Special | Signal

Matthew Stafford (above) lead the Georgia Bulldogs to an overtime victory at Alabama over the weekend.

The loss puts Georgia Tech at 0-2 in conference play, which almost assures that they will not be making a return trip to Jacksonville for the ACC title game.

Although the ACC is a weak conference on the surface with the exception of a few teams, dropping the first two games puts Tech in a

must-win situation for the duration of the season, which, as the last two games have shown, will not be an easy task.

In other action on Saturday, Notre Dame fell to a 0-4 record

See WILD | Page 20

SOCCER

From Page 17

threats from Jacksonville's offensive line.

At the end of the ninety minutes the Panthers reigned victorious over the Jacksonville University Dolphins with the final score at 3-0. The team was happy with the win;

"It just feels good to get the win, but now we need more," said Floreal Pedraza.

Panthers' goalkeeper Filipe Carvalho recorded four saves throughout the confrontation.

Capturing most of his shots in the air Carvalho played another impressive game- deflecting even the most powerful attempts made by Jacksonville.

"We were wondering after two losses if we were ready to play a tough contest today, but made an amazing shot to give us the lead and Joe's shot was great as well and it matched how improved he is this year. All in all, it was a huge win for us," said head coach Kerem Daser.

The Panthers have five games until their next home game which is on Friday October 19th against Drexel.

Hopefully they can continue their solid play on and make a little noise this season in the ever competitive CAA.

WILD

from page 19

with a loss to Michigan State 31-17. The Irish are 0-4 for the first time in their 119 year history making this the worst team in Notre Dame history.

The upset of the day came when Syracuse went into Papa John's stadium in Louisville and shocked the Cardinals 38-35. For a team that lost 21 of their last 26 games to beat a ranked team on the road was shocking to say the least. The near-upset of the week came when 24th-ranked Nebraska overcame an 11 point fourth-quarter deficit to beat Ball State University 41-40 in a game where defense was apparently optional.

The game that no one saw and everyone should have seen had to be the Oklahoma State/Texas Tech battle that ended 49-45 in favor of the Cowboys.

Talk about defense optional. Texas Tech quarterback Graham Harrell had 646 yards passing with 5 touchdowns.

Tech wide receiver Michael Crabtree had 14 catches for 237 yards and three touchdowns and his fellow wide receiver Danny Amendola had another 14 catches for 233 yards and one touchdown.

All of this added up to a total of 718 yards and 45 points—and they lost.

Oklahoma State countered

Texas Tech's offensive barrage with three separate 100 yard rushers and over 600 yards of total offense.

What a weekend it was, and with conference play starting to kick in, it will only get better.

GOLF

from page 17

ment on the second day of the tournament, September 18.

Women's Head Coach Cathy Mant stated, "We had some fatigue issues after playing 36 holes yesterday and play was up and down at times today, but this team showed it has great potential and I'm very excited about this year."

Head Coach Cathy Mant has every right to be after the team finished 4th out of 17 teams in the Napa River Grill Cardinal Classic. The team is also ranked 30th in the nation by GolfStat.com rankings.

The men's golf team has had a somewhat difficult time this season thus far. Participating in the Carpet Capital Collegiate the first day of competition was brought to an end early because of weather issues.

The Panthers were one of the few unlucky teams to tee off first that day, and ended the day with eight-over par.

Head coach Matt Clark stated, "I can't judge our play today based

on the conditions of the course."

On the last day of competition September 16th, Joel Sjöholm claimed a tie for third place individually as the 23rd ranked Georgia State men's golf team claimed 16th overall out of 18 teams at the Carpet Capital Collegiate Classic at The Farm Golf Club in Rocky Face, Ga.

TENNIS

from page 17

Invitational in Atlanta during the weekend of Oct. 5-7. The Panthers will then travel to Lexington, Kentucky to participate in the ITA Regionals III from Oct. 18-22.

The team will wrap up pre-conference play in Tuscaloosa, Ala. at the Alabama Invitational during the weekend of Oct. 26-28. After that trip, the conference games will begin.

With a three-man team, the 2007-08 season will likely be tough for the Panthers. But with their recent history and their new head coach, there is a good chance that GSU will pull through and perform well both in and out of conference. Three could be a charm for the Panthers this season.

Upcoming games for Georgia State

MEN'S TENNIS

10/5- ALL DAY at Georgia Tech Invitational

10/18- ALL DAY at ITA Regionals III

10/26- ALL DAY at Alabama Invitationals

WOMEN'S TENNIS

9/29- ALL DAY at the All American PQ in Los Angeles

10/2- ALL DAY at the All American PQ in Los Angeles

10/12- ALL DAY at the UNC-Charlotte Invitational

MEN'S SOCCER

10/5- @ Towson- 3 pm

10/7- @ George Mason- 2 pm

10/12- @ Hofstra- 7 pm

10/14- @ Northeastern- 1 pm

10/19- vs. Drexel- 1 pm

WOMEN'S SOCCER

9/28- @ James Madison 7 pm

9/30- @ VCU- 1 pm

10/5- vs. Towson- 4 pm

10/7- vs. George Mason- 1 pm

10/12- vs. Hofstra- 4pm

MEN'S GOLF

10/8- 10/9 @ Alabama

10/22- 10/23 @ Pepperdine

10/28- 10/30 @ GCAA

11/19- 11/20 @ Sun Bowl

WOMEN'S GOLF

10/8- 10/9 @ Texas Tech

10/13- 10/14 @ Augusta State

10/29- 10/30 @ College of Charleston

VOLLEYBALL

9/28- @ JMU 7 pm

9/30- vs. Hofstra 2 pm

10/2- @ KSU 6:30 pm

10/6- vs. UNC-Wilmington 2 pm

10/12- @ William and Mary 2 pm

10/13 - @ VCU 7 pm

MEN CROSS COUNTRY

9/29- @ Greater Louisville Classic

10/6- Panther Invitational

10/13 @ Chili Pepper Invitational

WOMEN'S Cross Country

9/29- @ Greater Louisville Classic

10/6- Panther Invitational

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Donovan: deluded or dead on?

By LEE WILSON
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In a week that has already been exhausted on water cooler talks about race relations, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb added fuel to the fire.

McNabb told HBO's Bryant Gumbel that black quarterbacks receive more criticism than white quarterbacks in the NFL. McNabb has since restated his comments and used examples of Peyton Manning, Tom Brady and Carson Palmer specifically, who he feels get an easier ride than black quarterbacks.

There are a couple of things wrong with this statement and McNabb seemed to make his comments out of frustration.

On opening day in 2007, there were six black quarterbacks starting and don't forget that Michael Vick would have made seven in better circumstances. For starters, there are a small number of black quarterbacks to begin with.

Of those quarterbacks, only Vince Young, McNabb and at times Steve McNair are considered to be in the upper echelon of players. So the criticism could just be a lack of super-talented players.

McNabb specifically pointed out guys like Palmer, Brady and Manning, so let's examine this.

McNabb picked the three best quarterbacks in the league and agreed with the question that states that these guys receive less criticism than black quarterbacks like himself.

Not only does he pick the best, but Manning and Brady are two of the best ever. So where is his argument? He picks the two greatest quarterbacks of this generation and says that they aren't criticized as much. Well...yeah! They have earned it, but only because they answered their critics.

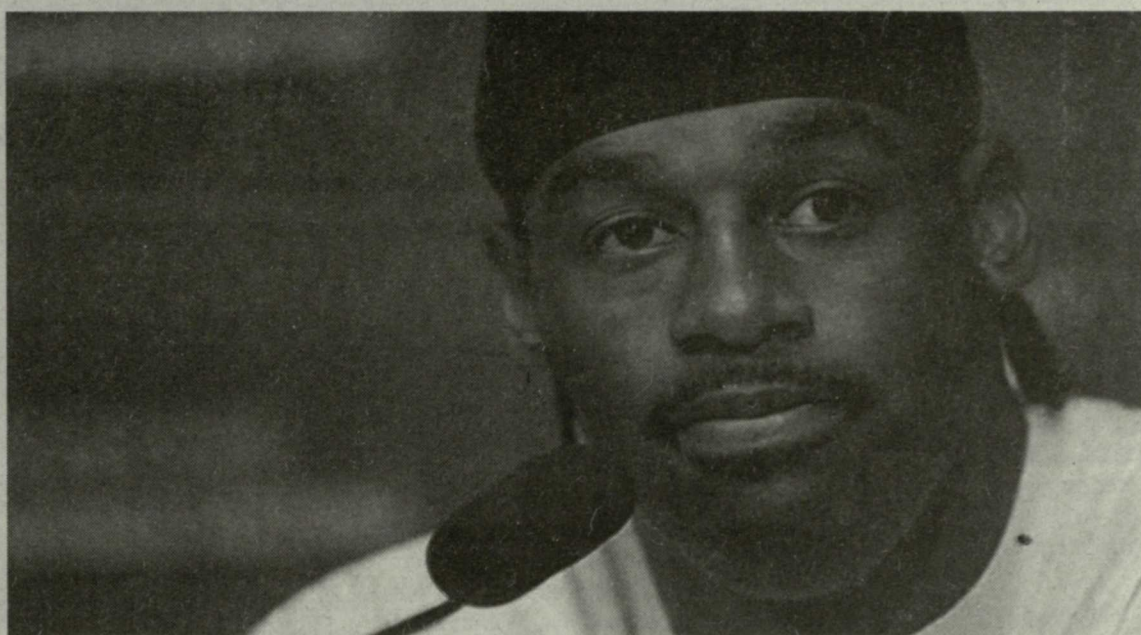
Until Manning and the Colts beat the Patriots last year in the playoffs, he was the most criticized quarterback of this era.

Everyone said "Well he's great, a hall of famer. But he just can't win the big games." Well last year he silenced those critics by winning two really big games.

He beat Brady, the same quarterback that defeated McNabb's Eagles in the biggest game he has ever played in and won the Superbowl.

Let's also not forget that the Eagles are 1-4 in NFC title games and their lone Superbowl appearance. McNabb's argument seems more out of disgruntled emotions and frustration than truth and fact.

And McNabb is getting older, Young is still...well young and will



Special | Signal

donovan McNabb (above) created a whirlwind of controversy with his comments about black quarterbacks last week on HBO.

experience growing pains and McNair is really starting to experience growing older pains.

These quarterbacks are going to receive more criticism because they are not as good as Palmer, Brady or Manning. Don't believe me? Let's look at some numbers before Sunday's games.

Over his career, Manning has gone 3177/4962 (completions/attempts) with 38,168 yards, 279 touchdowns and 140 interceptions. He is already in the top 16 all time in passing yards, attempts, completions and in the top 10 in touchdowns.

He is a seven-time pro bowler and was the Superbowl MVP last

year. In other words, Manning will be a hall of famer.

Brady won the Superbowl his rookie season and has tacked on two more since then and has done it in fine fashion.

As a rookie he lead the Patriots against the best team in the game at the time in the St. Louis Rams. And they won. He won the big games and he always has.

Brady, aside from leading the league in passing through two weeks, has gone 1943/3123 with over 22,000 yards. He has 153 TD's and just 79 interceptions.

Palmer has not yet proven his Bengal strips although he has not really gotten the opportunity to.

Palmer is 985/ 1543 with 11,363 yards and 86 touchdowns and 45 interceptions.

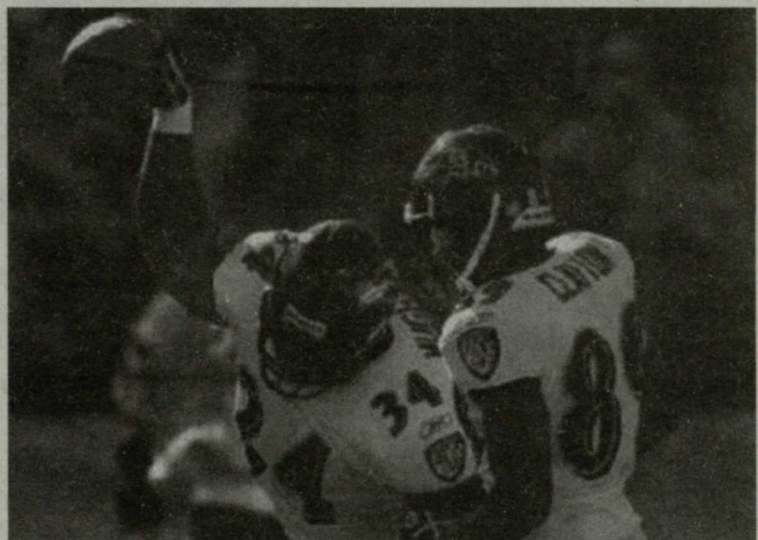
Each one of these quarterbacks has finished in the top 10 in every year of their careers in passing yards, passing touchdowns, completions and attempts.

If I were starting an NFL franchise today and got to pick any quarterback to build a team around, it would be one of those three. Not because they are white, but because they are the best quarterbacks in the league.

By the way, who is on the cov-

See DONOVAN | Page 22

The new face in the backfield: sitting down with Ovie Mughelli



Special | Signal

Ovie Mughelli (above) will be spiking the ball in Atlanta this year as he signed the largest contract for a fullback in NFL history.

By VINCE MIGLIORE
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The Atlanta Falcons have a new fullback, and it won't take very long before Ovie Mughelli becomes a fan favorite.

This past off season there were a lot of teams bidding for the services of the former Wake Forest standout, but ultimately he went with Atlanta. The Falcons signed Mughelli to a six-year \$18 million contract with a \$5 million signing bonus—the richest contract for a fullback in NFL history.

For most, a great degree of pressure would come with the label of being the highest paid at your position, but pressure isn't any-

thing that Mughelli isn't used to.

"I've felt pressure my whole life," says Mughelli, "This year I actually feel the least amount of pressure of my career. Last year I felt the pressure of being in my contract year and people expecting me to perform. The year before that I was coming off of injury so I felt the pressure to show the coaches that I wasn't going to be slowed down. My first year in the league there was pressure to not be one of those guys that gets drafted, plays a year, and then falls out of the league."

The power blocking fullback doesn't allow others to put the pressure on him, because he puts

enough on himself, "The pressure on me is the pressure I put on myself every year to become a more complete fullback and a dominating force at my position." It's this hardworking attitude that should have Falcons fans buzzing about him all season long.

Love for Atlanta

Even though the money was there, Mughelli's familiarity with Hotlanta ultimately helped make his decision easier.

"I've always loved this city, and I've been many times before. I have many friends here and my agent is here as well," said Mughelli who explained that by signing with the Falcons, his NFL career has seemingly come full circle. "I kinda started my NFL career here while I was preparing for the combine during my senior year of college. I worked out at velocity fitness, and got a crash course in Atlanta as far as getting used to the traffic, all the great restaurants and the nightlife."

Speaking of great restaurants, if they serve brunch in Atlanta Mughelli is all over it.

"I really like J. Christopher's and Gladys Knight's Chicken and Waffles. Any place in the city that serves breakfast foods and lunch foods is where I like to go."

A New Team, A New Conference

Signing with the Falcons meant not just changing teams for Mughelli, but also switching conferences having spent his entire career in the AFC with the Baltimore Ravens.

The adjustment for Mughelli seems to be an easy one thanks to an all new coaching staff and a few other new faces around the Atlanta locker room.

"I had a lot of help from my teammates and coaches. The guys who have been here before have really opened their arms and made the transition easy for me. I'm in a good situation because I'm coming into a new coaching staff and its not like everyone else knows how the team is run but me. Other new guys like Joey Harrington, Lawyer Milloy, and Joe Horn have to start from scratch to understand the plays and coaches as well."

Beyond gelling with his new teammates and coaches, Mughelli knows that he is going to have to put in some more study time to learn about the opponents in his new division.

"I'm used to seeing teams like the Browns and Steelers twice. I've gotten used to their playing styles and I know the linebacker's rush techniques. So I have to get used to a new host of players."

Even though there is

much work to be done, Mughelli sees a lot in this Falcons team and believes the fans will not be disappointed, "The fans can expect an intensity that I, for one, have never seen in Atlanta before. You can see the resolve and the character of the players for sure. You can feel the energy that these coaches have brought to Atlanta and our team as a whole. Everyone is so determined on being a winner, and we definitely have the talent. As long as we execute, it's going to be a real exciting season for the fans."

The Ovie Mughelli Project

Outside of football, Mughelli is determined to help underprivileged youth. He founded the Ovie Mughelli project which he describes as a hands-on approach to improving the community. Currently, the Ovie Mughelli project is focusing on the youth of Ovie's hometown of Charleston, South Carolina and his new playing city, Atlanta. He hopes to one day take it to his home country of Nigeria where both his parents were born.

By focusing on the importance of education and self-esteem and coupling that with the need to protect the environment, Mughelli hopes to turn these kids into success-

See OVIE | Page 22

OVIE

from page 21

ful well-rounded individuals who, without such an initiative, would otherwise have no hope for that.

"I'm trying to do everything possible to turn these kids into intelligent and contributing young men and women in society," said Mughelli. With athletic ability just as big as his heart, the Falcons are not only fortunate enough to have him on their team, but the city of Atlanta is fortunate to have him representing our great city.

OVIE THE GAMER

In his spare time, Ovie loves to play video games. "I have an Xbox 360, a Wii, and a Playstation 3 all hooked up to my TV, and I can switch between them with one button."

Being such a huge gamer, Mughelli was excited to learn that he would finally be starting in this year's iteration of the popular Madden videogame franchise. "I've never been in a madden game, and I can't wait to play myself," said Mughelli.

If you have a 360 and want to challenge Mughelli in a game of Halo or Madden Mughelli is up for the competition. Hit him up on Xbox Live under his handle: NastyAfrican—a nickname he received from a radio DJ during his college career.

DONOVAN

from page 21

er of Madden 2008? Vince Young, a black quarterback. A very good black quarterback. Madden, one of the most hyped-up video games in our generation, also featured Donovan McNabb on the cover at one point.

This is not a joke. The Madden video games are huge. There are tournaments shown on ESPN that feature crazed fans playing the game.

That aside, McNabb needs to focus on winning football games. He plays in one of the most critical cities in the world in Philadelphia (come on, they booed Santa Clause) and unless he really wants negative attention, he needs to just shut up and play football.

Panthers split first two CAA Matches

Volleyball team beats VCU, loses to William and Mary

By WILLIAM HESS
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The Georgia State volleyball team is having a great year so far. This weekend they had a big test in matches against CAA rivals Virginia Commonwealth University and William and Mary. The Panthers (10-7, 1-1) managed a victory but were edged out by William and Mary (6-8, 2-0).

Friday's CAA opener against Virginia Commonwealth (2-11, 0-1) did not look like it was going the Panther's way. The VCU Rams took a 4-0 lead and commanded most of the first game. Georgia State struggled with service errors in the first game but tied the game at 28 off of a VCU attacking error. Amy Lusk's kill finished the comeback in Game 1 as the Panthers won 31-29.

Game 2 was the same story as the Rams took the early lead off of Panther errors. The Rams looked like they were in control at 20-11 but the Panther's started to surge. The girls went on an 11-5 run and cut the Ram's lead to only 3. The Panthers could not finish the comeback like they did in the first game and fell to VCU 30-23.

"Game two was about what we did wrong [and] nothing they [VCU] did right" said Coach Webster. The Panther's did have too many errors (11) and a .050 hitting percentage in the second game.

The girls came out of the locker room a lot more aggressive for the second half.

The Panther's took an 8-3 lead in the third game and never looked back. Coach Webster showed a lot of faith in his girls by not calling any timeouts in the third game.

"I reassured the girls to do the right things" said Coach Webster and it clearly showed. Ana Paula Ferreira recorded 6 of her 20 kills during the third game. The Panther's lead grew to as much as 8 and they clinched the third game 30-25.

Georgia State continued its

strong play into game four, building a 19-11 lead off the solid attack of Ferreira, Liz Schaab and Amy Lusk.

Lusk secured the Panther victory with a kill, giving Georgia State the game 30-21 and the match 3-1. Lusk also recorded a double-double with 14 kills and 18 digs. Ferreira also got a double with her season high 20 kills and 13 digs. Noelle Boyd earned 51 assists, the third time she has had 50 or more assists this season.

Saturday's game was against William & Mary (6-8, 2-0 CAA). W&M raced out to a 14-5 lead, off a strong attacking presence in the first game. Georgia State's timeout helped stem the tide temporarily but W&M got consecutive kills from Erin Skipper to claim a 20-11 advantage.

The Tribe sealed the first game off a kill from Jill Nowadly, winning 30-15.

The Panthers (10-7, 1-1 CAA) came out strong in the second game. Georgia State built a 12-7 lead before William & Mary called a timeout, but State maintained their strong play.

Eventually W&M climbed back into the game, knotting things at 18 off a State attacking error. The Panthers scored the final four points to take Game 2, 30-27, as Ana Paula Ferreira had two kills during the sequence but Michelle Trimble's kill won the second game for them.

"We did a good job of fighting and did good things without attacking effort in game two," said head coach Mike Webster.

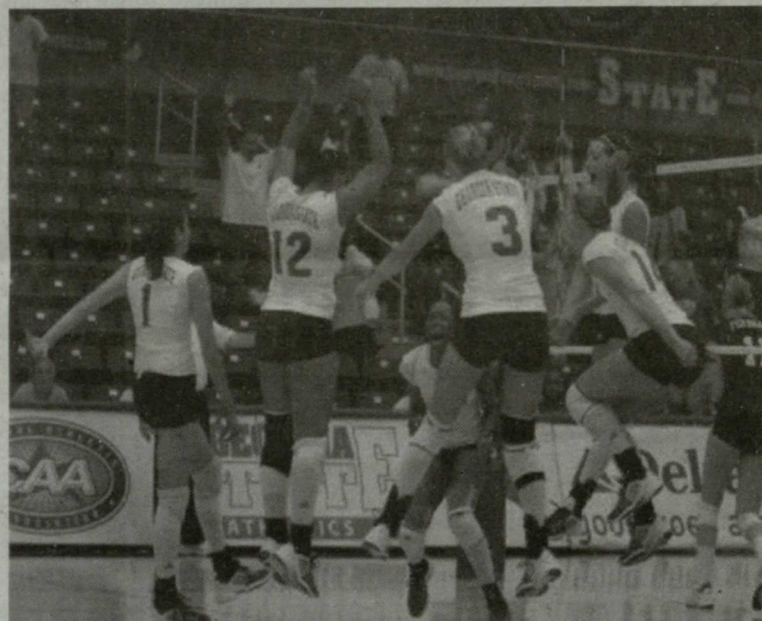
Georgia State's inconsistent attack during the third game put the Panthers in a 19-11 hole before head coach Mike Webster called a timeout.

State battled back, closing the margin to four at 29-23. However, the Tribe started playing strong and secured the game-three victory on a questionable ball-handling error called against the Panthers' Noelle Boyd.

The fourth game was much



Ga. State Athletic Dept. | Signal
Volleyball coach Mike Webster (above) coaching one of his players. The team has been doing well this year.



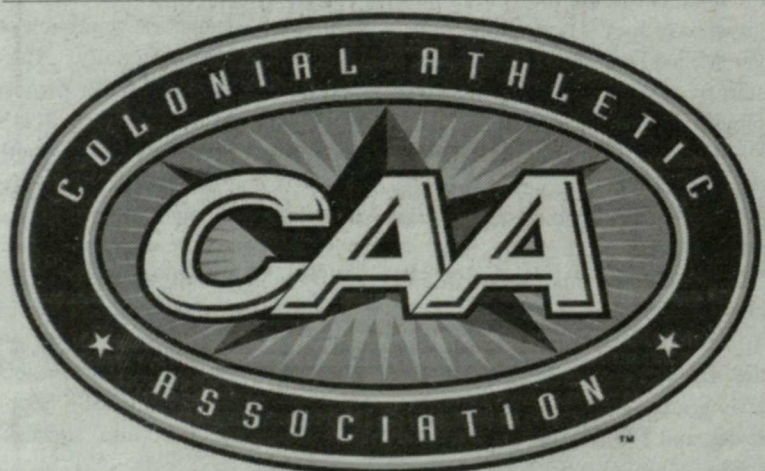
Ga. State Athletic Dept. | Signal
The Georgia State volleyball team has had several causes for celebration so far on the young season.

like the first game of the match, as the Tribe jumped out to a 9-3 lead.

The Panthers committed six errors during the sequence while the Tribe registered just three kills. State struggled with its attack the rest of the game, as W&M earned the match victory on a Panther attacking error.

The Panthers must continue to improve in CAA play as that will be imperative.

The Panthers return to action Friday, Sept. 28 against Northeastern at 5:30 p.m. at the Georgia State Sports Arena



Special | Signal

A look at some CAA Standings

VOLLEYBALL

1- Delaware	15-2 (1-0)
2- Hofstra	8-6 (1-0)
3- James Madison	8-5 (1-0)
4- William & Mary	7-8 (1-0)
5- Georgia State	10-7 (1-1)

MEN'S SOCCER

1- VCU	4-1-1 (0-0)
2- George Mason	3-2-1 (0-0)
3- Towson	3-2-1 (0-0)
6- Georgia State	2-3-1 (0-0)

WOMEN'S SOCCER

1- JMU	6-1 (0-0)
2- Towson	6-1 (0-0)
3- Hofstra	6-1 (0-0)
8- Georgia State	4-2 (0-0)

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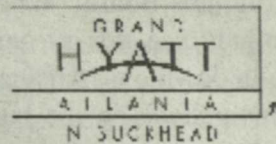
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PERSPECTIVES



Editor:
Brandy Wilson

bwilson16@student.gsu.edu

Vote NO to student activity fee increase

By DOMINIQUE HUFF
DHUFF@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

Here it comes again! When money runs low at the university, let's steal it from students. Nothing less is expected from government. Looking into the student activity fee, who really benefits? All students, regardless of how many hours in which they are enrolled, must pay this fee. No one is exempt from such taxation from the university. Before SGA simply says yes without asking questions, let's look into what is really going on.

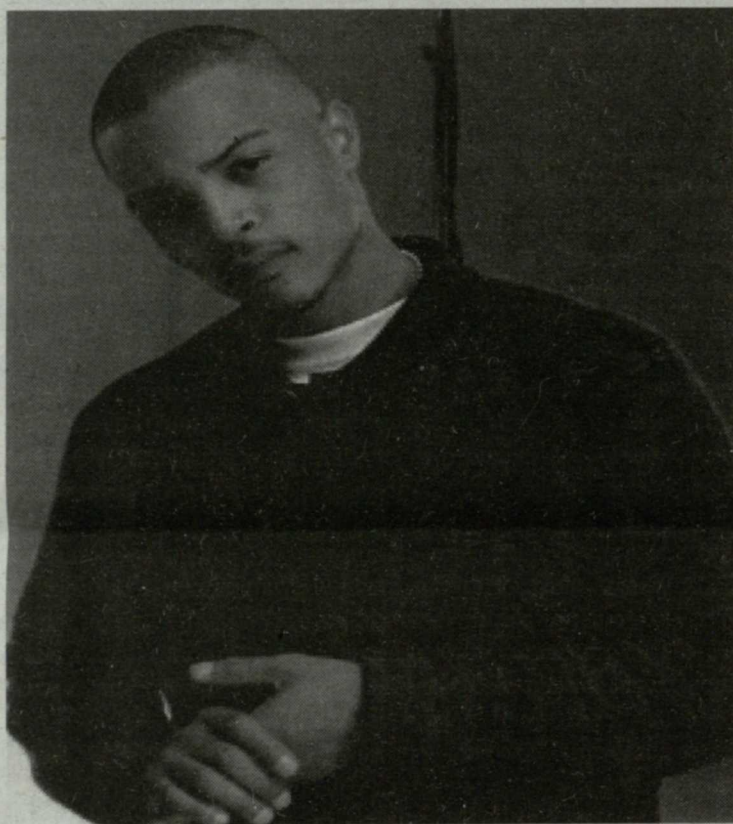
Supporters of the increase state that if we pay more fees, we could see renowned speakers such as Oprah Winfrey, have more productions by campus theatrical groups and more programming from the Spotlight Programs Board. While this sounds nice, this is a university in downtown Atlanta. The university is in the business of educating and preparing students for the real world. Simply put, we should not be

in the business of entertaining, this is something the private sector should handle.

The last major concert Georgia State had was back in 2005, when Rapper T.I. came to perform for homecoming. Prior to that, it was Busta Rhymes in 2002. The Spot-

light Programs Board prides itself on having a concerts committee but where are the concerts? Having a stroll-off in the plaza or playing loud music on a speaker is not a concert.

SEE HOW MANY PAGE 29



Special | Signal

A concert by rapper T.I. in 2005 was the last major concert at GSU. Supporters say the fee increase would fund more concerts.



Special | Signal

Stories about our soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan are being pushed back in favor of stories about punctuation..

:-) is not news!

By ALAN NORMAN
ANORMAN4@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

As I opened up my web browser this morning to get my daily news, expecting to read about important events which could have an impact upon my life, or are of importance to the world at large I took notice of the headlines from the various news services. These are the news items that the various news corporations thought were important enough to designate as headlines.

I first decided to see

what a 'fair and balanced' news organization like Fox News would think was the best and most important news items for the world to read about. I saw an article :-) ing back at me. I read the article, thinking that it must have some kind of intrinsic value, yet I came away thinking this was two minutes of my life that I would never get back.

I turned to CNN, thinking that they would have

SEE THE NEWS PAGE 29

Reality TV hits new low with Tila Tequila show

By CAROLINE COX
CCOX15@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

Tila Tequila is another person who is famous because of Myspace. Like singer Sean Kingston and band Boys Like Girls, Tila used the wildly popular networking website to showcase her talent, and went from a regular nobody to an internet celebrity.

Tila Tequila, whose real last name is Nguyen, was born in Singapore to Vietnamese parents and raised in Houston [online.com]. She posted risqué pictures of herself taken by various photographers on her page that

prompted thousands of guys all over the world to request to be her "friend". Soon, she began recording music and posing on the covers of magazines like "Maxim." She now not only has a record deal and her songs for sale on iTunes, but MTV has recently run commercials for a reality dating show starring the e-princess entitled "A Shot At Love with Tila Tequila."

This is one of the most bizarre and depressing things I've heard in a long time. In the commercial, Tila exclaims, "I'm a bi-curious freak, and I'm looking for love!" For some reason, I highly doubt that the last

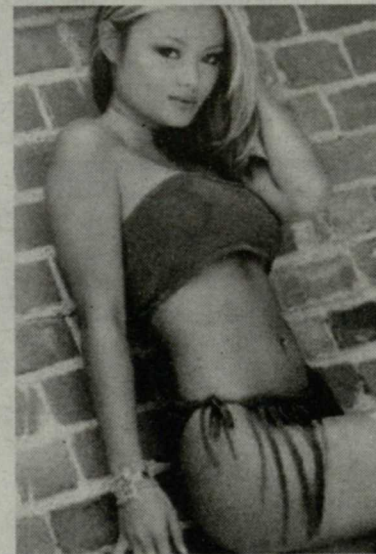
part of that statement is true. Tila is a young girl who is just beginning to break from Myspace celebrity to actual celebrity, so it seems like the furthest thing from her mind would be to find a man/woman that she can settle down and spend the rest of her life with. The premise for the show is that 16 guys and 16 girls are living in Tila's house competing for her affection, and each week, one person from each will be given the boot.

It couldn't be more obvious that this show is only for further exposure to help raise her level of talentless fame. Bret Michael's VH1

reality show "Rock of Love", which is barely more than a showcase of a 30-year old strippers getting drunk, was more convincing than this! And don't even get me started on "Flavor of Love". Yes, I watched it, and yes, I hate myself for it. But "A Shot at Love" is definitely a new reality TV low.

These shows are shameless exploitation and self-promotion (he-llo, I Love New York!) and are clearly not for the intent they claim. Remember on the show "The Bachelor", where the guy took all those

SEE I'M A PAGE 29



Special | Signal

New reality star Tila Tequila first became famous on MySpace.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Signal is what you people make it

As a former staffer, I wanted to take time to explain about how a newspaper really works since many of you claim to be "journalism experts." I have been reading the Signal's website all week and see nothing but bitching and whining about Signal problems. You know whose fault they are? It is your fault, Georgia State.

You people are so miserable and pathetic that you have inflict your misery on the paper. Damn, did someone put a gun to your head to read the paper? Do Signal staffers beat people up for news? Is this paper that desperate for news, that news is being made up? What is really going on?

These "journalism experts" are all talk and no action. I have been reading this paper weekly from the time I first came to State in 1997. Even after I graduated in 2002, I still make it my point to pick up a paper each week. I can tell you from my over 10 years of reading this paper, the problems remain the same—student apathy. Everyone expects the Signal to be like CNN, Fox News, your local nightly news and so on but nobody wants to help it achieve those goals.

When I was here, I remember hearing several good ideas to improve this paper but it takes work,

resources and effort. If you think the paper is too liberal or conservative, then come write a column. If you think the paper is too negative, then come report some positive news. If you think something needs to be investigated, then consult an editor and let's get on it. Bottom line; the Signal is a result of the students that work for it and support it.

I know many of you "English Department Whores" are whining about typos, how about you come in and help edit. How about you get up off your ass and make this paper better? However, many of you are simply not interested in doing anything, but continue to use the Signal as a scapegoat to problems in your pathetic lives. I have seen people blame the Signal for them having a bad week. Folks, I am not making this up.

So, shut the fuck up and help improve this paper. I am sure that many of the staffers had some of the same grievances with the paper but they filled out an application and made changes for the better. This paper will never be perfect because you have a part-time staff doing work of a full time staff. At the paper I work for, we spend nearly 50 hours weekly in the office and have a large staff. The Signal relies on students, who like many of you reading the paper have homework, outside jobs, so-

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cial lives and other aspects. Mind you, the staff does this for really, really low money. While you all are shaking your ass looking for sex in Buckhead or Midtown, the staff is hard at work making a paper for you ungrateful UGA and Georgia Tech rejects.

Am I making excuses for problems? No, the staff needs to come up with a plan of action to deal with them. I am not speaking for how they will get it done. I support them all the way in this endeavor. So until, I see the Signal full of articles with different bylines, editors stating they are overloaded with article submissions and so much help in the copyediting department, I don't want to hear anymore complaints. Get up off your lazy ass and be a part of the solution.

Many of you are probably pissed off right now. Good! Let's take all of this talk and come up with some action. I want to see you all kicking down the door to come help make the Signal-Urbanite the paper you want it to be. No more excuses, no more whining, lets man up/woman up and make it happen!

Conrad Miller

The Signal needs to stop bringing Black men down

My name is Leneille Brathwaite. I have written for the Signal a few times and although my schedule does not permit me enough time to spend writing stories on a weekly basis, I always take the time to read the paper as I am walking to and from class.

First I would like to say that this week's cover article on Bruno Polk had me outraged. I am sick and tired of seeing the few African-American men that we do have on campus faces blown up huge on the front page on the paper, for everything besides positive stories. As I

look around my classrooms I may see one or two black males. Although I am glad to see them there, one of them may be on the basketball team and is forced to go to class and the other one may be coming in class late from chilling in the courtyard. Rarely, is it a positive look in the eyes of the professors let alone the other (white) students.

Last year, I had the opportunity of taking a class with Mr. Polk and I must admit he was the total opposite. He always had his work turned in, his hand raised and he was, for the most part, paying attention. I've known him ever since the first day I ever visited GSU, at the Incept program and his positive energy and joy made me happy to see that black men are still doing something with their lives other than drugs, prison, or rapping. To make a long story short, upon reading the paper I was appalled to see his face under the story about a student leader getting arrested for allowing those underage to drink liquor. Damn can the man earn his degree without GSU trying to pull him down?

Who in college hasn't had a drink before their 21st birthday? Who hasn't gone to a Village party (before it got shut down) and had a drink? College wouldn't be college without books, studying, and some fun. Did anyone drive drunk? NO. Did anyone complain about the drinks when they were drinking? NO. Did anyone get the drink thrown down their throats as part of a pledging ritual? NO. So why is Bruno to blame? Matter of fact, why is that story front page news rather than the rude ass GSU employees, or the Student Activity Fee increase?

These stories would impact the entire GSU student body, not a private issue that shouldn't even be a discussion because we all have at one point (unless you're a complete loser) had a damn drink before we were 21. I believe the Signal should do

a lot more to build up the student body rather than tear it down with negative stories about, yes I'm going to say it, THE BLACK MALE POPULATION AT GSU.

Sorry to be so adamant about the situation I just feel that it is completely ridiculous. Feel free to print this if you wish. I throw my hands up at GSU first Jarrett's GSU battle now Bruno who's next? I would like to see the Signal as part of the solution, not the problem.

Leneille Brathwaite

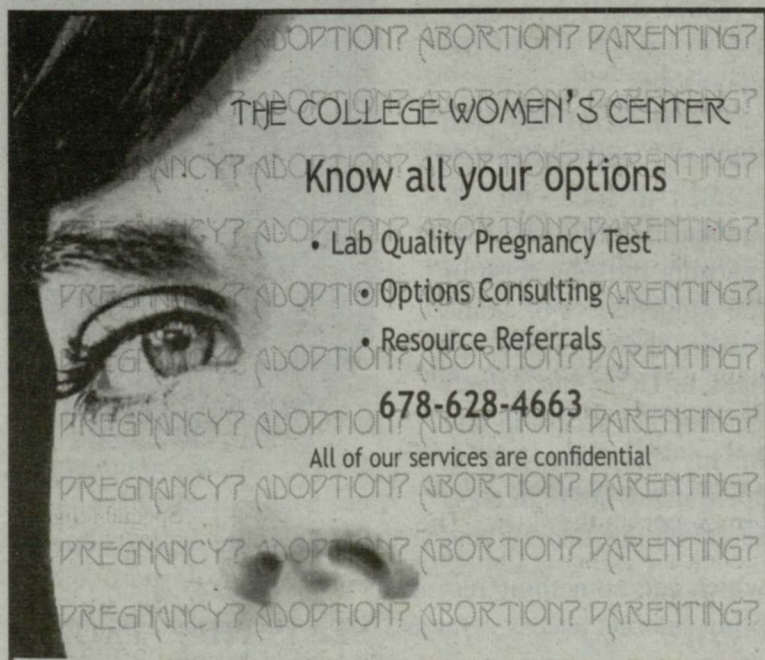
The Signal answers questions about Bruno Polk article

Upon publishing the story "Lofts resident arrested for distributing alcohol to underaged guests" on Sept. 18, 2007, both the Signal as well as the GSU media advisor received numerous complaints outraged that a student leader was involved in an uncompromising incident and questioning the validity of the Signal's reporting of the facts.

As such, we the Signal are releasing a statement to clear up any misunderstandings surrounding the story. This, by no means, is a statement of apology; this is merely a response to concerns that the Signal was involved in bias reporting and unfairness.

When the Signal covers any crimes, we first go to the crime blog featured on the GSU police website. Though the link says "police reports," those "reports" are merely summaries of incidents that occurred on a given day. These summaries do not release names or any other identification. The Signal reporter obtained the full police report from the station and proceeded to research and write the story.

No one present at the party was paid or asked to spy on Bruno Polk for the Signal; nor did the Signal reporter who covered the story go undercover. No one on the Signal staff was aware that Bruno Polk was the suspect



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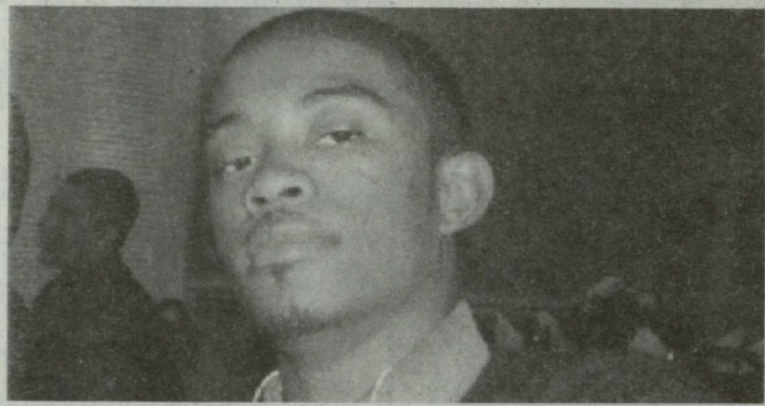
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"It's unfortunate this happened to a well-rounded, intelligent and popular student"



Special | Signal

A recent story about the arrest of Senior Bruno Polk was the subject of outrage by Signal readers.

CON'T FROM PAGE 25

in the incident. His name was gathered after the Signal reporter read through the report.

The reporter consulted the editor-in-chief and then went forward with the story. Bruno Polk was immediately contacted and asked for a statement; he consented to an interview with the reporter and was given an opportunity to state his side of the story.

His testimony along with information from the

police report was combined to create a fair and balanced story.

The Signal does agree that an error was made with the given date. The Signal has printed a retraction in this issue.

However, no error was made with the headline or the lead stating that Polk was arrested. According to the GSU police department, though he was not physically arrested, processed and sent to jail, he was arrested on paper and later released on a copy of charges, which was stated in the article.

The police department has confirmed that the Signal was justified in its actions. The Signal was also justified in releasing his room number. Many professional newspapers and all broadcast stations will release the addresses as well as photograph or videotape places where incidents have occurred.

Also, his room number was listed in the police report. It is up to the editors of the newspaper to decide if this type of information should be published, and, in this case, the editors allowed his room number to run.

Finally, in no way was the Signal attempting to defame Bruno Polk or portray him in a negative way. As with other professional newspapers, the news section covers politics, business, community events, breaking news and, yes, crime.

It is the intent of the Signal to cover all aspects of what is happening in the GSU community in order to inform its readers. Whether the inci-

dent had involved Polk or another student, the Signal was well within its right to cover the story.

While it is unfortunate that this had to happen to a well-rounded, intelligent and popular student on campus, Polk has taken full responsibility for his actions. The Signal spoke personally to Polk after the article was published.

He holds no qualms against the newspaper, and appreciates the paper's fairness in reporting both sides of the story. As the Signal moves forward with its upcoming issues, we plan to continue to cover fair and accurate news.

I want my Coke

By ALAN NORMAN
ANORMAN4@STUDENT.GSU.EDU

So a new school year has started and we've had several changes to the campus system. The new library is almost finished, and might be done by next fall. The cafeteria has been renovated, although it doesn't seem to help with the lines and overcrowding. There have been several changes, and I realize that I'm not going to impact any of the major ones.

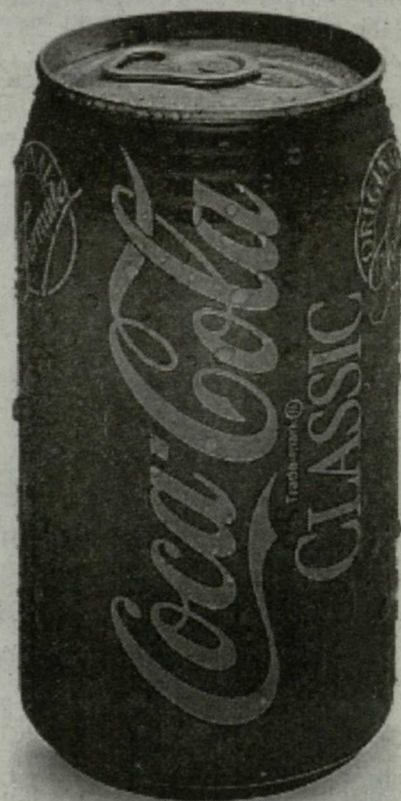
It seems that with the many renovations that seemed to focus on administrative offices while ignoring the education of the students. For some reason, there are new offices in GCB, but I can't get Internet access in any of my classrooms. I've spent many hours in class searching for the one seat

which gets something resembling Internet access. But as

a student, and not the focus of GSU, I understand that I won't get heard unless I either blow someone or bribe the Regents, and I am willing to do neither.

So I don't even want to try and get parking fixed, a new MARTA stop in Kell Hall, or Gatorade in the water fountains. I just want my Coke.

GCB used to have Coke machines on every floor, along with other vending machines. It was great, I could easily get something before class, or if my class was long and had a short break, I could step out and get something to drink. But now, all the machines are gone, although I think I saw one on the third floor, I wouldn't be surprised if it disappears soon too. They must have been stolen, since I can't see the logic in removing them, they are always in demand, and they must be making money. So where did they go? Did they migrate south for the winter? Or is this a sneaky trick that the Kell Hall Starbucks is pulling to bring up business? And don't ask me where the Kell Hall Starbucks is located, I'm not telling anyone because I like the short lines there.



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No I.D., No VOTE



Voters are now required to have a government issued identification to be able to vote in an election.

By: **BRANDY WILSON**
BWILSON16@GSU.EDU

Old habits die hard. The controversial Voter I.D. law was recently overturned here in Georgia. This law made it a requirement that one has some sort of state issued identification or passport in order to be able to vote. A utility bill or paycheck stub will no longer be accepted as means to vote.

Civil rights activists are against this law primarily because they believe this law is meant to disenfranchise and discourage poor, disabled, and minority voters. Some might say, if you want to vote so bad just get an I.D., but the truth is there are people who can't afford to spend the \$35 (yes, \$35 freaking dollars) for an I.D. They're too busy trying to feed their families and keep a roof over their heads.

Of course the representatives behind this bill deny this is their intention. They cite past voter fraud as necessitating the voter ID bill. It's funny to me when the political powers-that-be act as though blacks simply suffer from some acute paranoia brought on by nothing in particular. Why wouldn't we think these people would try to disenfranchise Black and poor voters?

For years, blacks and the poor were denied the right to vote. And even when amendments to the Constitution were passed, those same people found other ways to keep them from exercising their civil rights. They managed to do it on the sly with

little things like poll taxes and the grandfather clause. Poll taxes aren't so far removed from us, they have been around in most of our parent's lifetime. It hasn't been that long since Poll taxes, so famous in the "Jim Crow era," were repealed. The bottom line is blacks and the poor feel disenfranchised, because they have in fact been disenfranchised for so long. Blacks are skeptical about elections, because they've been shut out for so long. We're no longer vested in this system. The "election" of our current president is ample proof of how easily our voting system can be corrupted and the votes we cast not even be considered.

It's hard to understand what it's like to spend years being denied what by birth is a right. While I understand the distrust, I honestly believe that the Voter I.D. law is purely meant as a measure to preserve the sanctity of the election process. I don't think it's meant to purposely leave anyone out. At one time, the government even provided free ID's for anyone that could prove that they could not afford one. An injunction was then filed last year halting that law. The program was only recently revived in the past few months. According to the www.gaphotoid.com Web site driver's licenses, even if they're expired, are still acceptable means of ID, as well as a passport, military, or tribal photo ID's also work.

SEE BLACKS PAGE 29

Baptizing put on backburner after lack of water

By: **JOHN ASANTE**
JASANTE1@GSU.EDU

While most states are starting to worry about how to prevent the abundance of rain, others are wishing for even a simple shower.

Small towns in Texas and South Carolina continue to be under severe drought warning. Citizens of DeSoto, Texas and Rock Springs, S.C. are not just placing the blame on natural causes, but the water companies as well. Not only is this affecting their ways of life, but the lack of water is also plaguing religious events from taking place, namely baptisms.

The two southern communities may have similar ordeals, but the true story behind each are at different ends of the spectrum. In DeSoto, developments along the Hwy. 35 are receiving very poor quality water. The dirty smelling water may be affecting homes and businesses, but is affecting the churches along the interstate the most.

Deacon Mel Woods of Glory Land Church is suffering because of the lack of water to perform baptisms, let alone the other functions the church provides. The irony of this situation is that the bills have been paid for

months, and Cozy Water supply, the city's water company, has done nothing but provide the city with inadequate water.

When approached about the 'Water from Hell,' the owner of Cozy Water Supply, avoided the news affiliates, making him appear as a schemer of all sorts. Deacon Woods is not giving up on the case and plans to file a lawsuit on the validity of the owner's authority to even sell water. What is even more despicable about the case is that the town of DeSoto does not have any water rights. This leaves city officials to ponder how to deal with obtaining water normally again.

Similarly, the problems of the absence of potable water for a community off a major highway and church predicaments are present in South Carolina. Reverend Brian Harris cannot perform any baptisms at his Baptist church in Rock Springs, partly due to the drought status, partly due to the water companies. Funding to make water lines that directly connect to the town is suddenly gone. because the town that usually supplies Rock Springs is already contractually obligated to citizens of another area.

Much to their dismay,

Rock Springs residents are hoping and praying for grants and loan money to get water. Yes, towns can get funding for projects by expressing their needs to official, but an absolute need, not want, in life is being threatened. It is most certainly not anything as expensive as gold or a flavored drink that can be understood if it is supplied in smaller amounts. Citizens of Rock Springs have had to change their lifestyles to ration out their supplies, forcing

Most people in other countries, let alone the United States probably are scratching their heads as to the lack of water. Seeing as America is one of the more lucrative, developed countries on Earth, water supply would not be much of a problem. There are plenty of water companies and water suppliers out there to help, even during the dry seasons.

Unfortunately, in a case like this, there are unjust companies out there trying to scam left and right. Who knew that one would have to tell their family to postpone their baptism because there is not enough holy water?

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Apple releases new iPod, upgrades Nano

By: BRIAN HOLCOMB
BHOLCOMB@STUDENT.
GSU.EDU

It seems Apple is under the impression the general public needs something bigger and better than their new latest multimedia device, the iPhone. Apple not only released a new version of the iPod Nano and brand new iPod Touch, but lowered prices of iPod classic and the iPhone. With this new eye-candy being released, the topic of when and where will Apple stop releasing personal media device is roused.

The new iPod Nano is definitely an upgrade from its previous model—smaller, comes in great colors and has a wider color screen, allowing for video and movie playback like it's big brother, iPod classic. So for all iPod classic owners that quietly complained about lugging around a device that was only using half of its disc space or for those who complained they didn't need such a large hard drive for their songs but wished the nanos played videos, their grievances were answered.

As with the release of new mp3 players, Apple took the online and touch-screen technology used on their June-released iPhone, minus dialing and receiving calls, and named it the iPod touch. Users can now access the internet with Apple's integrated web browser to check e-mail, watch videos and, listen to music.

Apple has done a great job supplying the public with cool toys and eye candy for kids and young adults, but have they overloaded the market with their cool toys?

With the addition of the iPhone and iPod touch, there are now five different options for people who want a personal music device. It's hard to resist with new upgrades, smaller devices and larger hard drive space available in the new models. But it's this constant reissuing of models and newer features that make it hard for con-

sumers to "keep up with the Jones'."

What about those people who, for example, saved up just enough money to get the 80G iPod for \$349 only to find out a couple of months later that they can now buy twice the storage space in the 160G iPod for \$349? How would they feel to find out all their hard work would've paid off more if they just waited two months or so for the newer, less expensive model? Most consumers cannot afford to buy the newest model to take advantage of video playback or cooler menu screens. Being able to continually shell out for the newest Apple device can take a serious toll on bank accounts.

Most Apple users don't feel the need to upgrade simply because there is a newer model out there. Outside of the cost for having such a "cool" device, most users don't see the need to upgrade simply because the newer model has more bells and whistles. Sure, the surpassed iPod nano model was in serious need of an upgrade. It was the only iPod devices outside of the shuffle that didn't have playback features. Now, the screen is wider and music videos as well as TV shows, but that doesn't justify the reason of throwing away a working, older iPod nano.

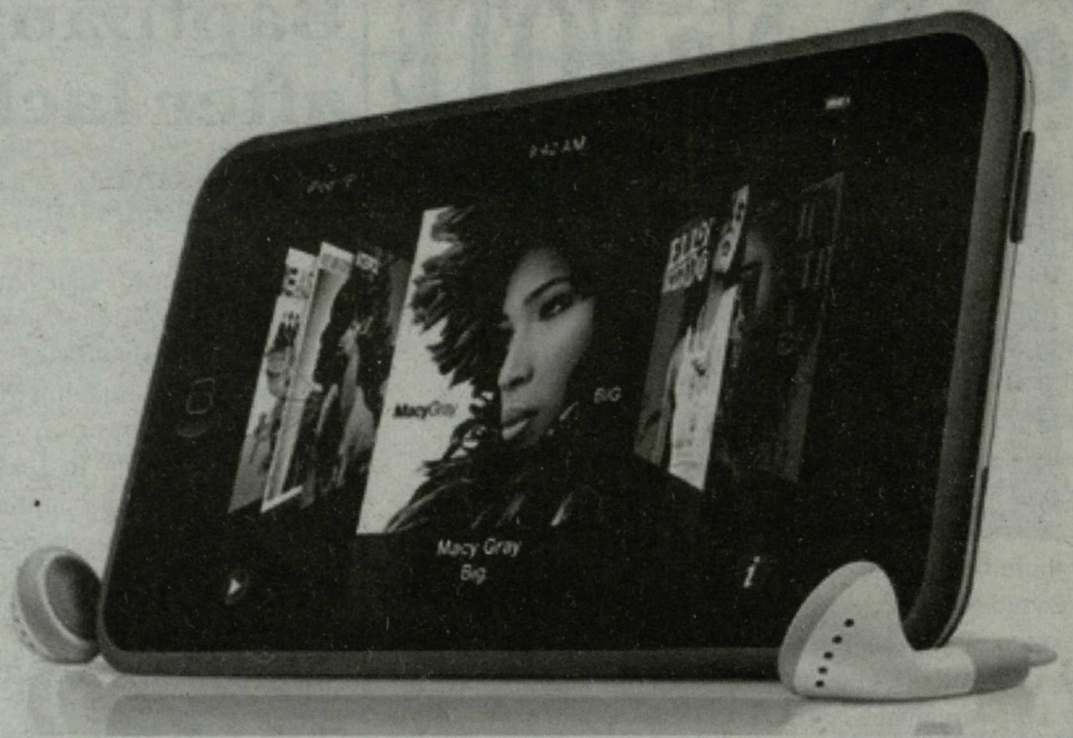
The whole idea behind the nano was to make it slim and less cumbersome than iPod classic, but the wider, more accommodating screen is still really small. People will have a hard time seeing anything on a device designed to be small.

Moreso, the design behind the old iPod classics (the models with black and white screens) was simply to access the music. Now, with a color screen, Apple is intent on showing you the album artwork itself in its new iPod touch and iPhone. Showing the pictures along with album titles looks pretty, but slows users down from looking for

music to play. What about the cautious guy that wants to listen to Britney Spears' greatest hits without broadcasting to the entire elevator what he's listening to? It will take longer to choose song and to go through the menus.

With Christmas around the corner, Apple will make great sales off their new products. But with extra bells and whistles, not to mention the knowledge that Apple will come out with another take on "reinventing the wheel," consumers will be wise to consider exactly what they're buying and what's coming out shortly thereafter.

<http://blog.8thlight.com/>



Special | Signal

The iPod touch is the newest addition to Apple's line of mp3 players. The iPod Touch is equipped with a touch-sensitive widescreen.

"I'm a bi-curious freak, and I'm looking for love!"

CON'T FROM PAGE 24

women on dates and didn't just make them do their best booty dance or cook him fried chicken? Or when gave them gifts like flowers instead of a set of gold teeth? Why are we now being bombarded with C-list celebrities making out with groupies desperate to be on TV who've never even heard of Poison or NWA?

Who is Tila Tequila anyway? Just one of thousands of girls who take their clothes off for the camera and post their pictures online so creeps everywhere can comment and say "Oh baby, looking good," just another person trying to get rich and famous off of just a pretty

face, fake breasts and no actual talent whatsoever? I've heard her songs on Myspace, which she wrote herself, with titles like "F*** Ya Man". Obviously, she's very serious about her music and wants to be taken seriously as an artist, or even as a person in general. I doubt it.

I don't doubt, however, that people will watch this show. A lot of people will watch this show. I mean, she's a beautiful girl, and she's attracting a large crowd—men and women, gay and straight. The question is, do we really even care if someone who calls herself "Tila Tequila" finds love or not? I, personally, could not care less.

"Is this a sneaky trick by the Kell Hall Starbucks to bring up business?"

CON'T FROM PAGE 24

So I want my Coke machines back! Now, I'm not just saying this because I own stock in Coke-a-Cola, or that I sell diabetes testing supplies on the side. I want the coke machines on every floor because with all the machines on the first floor require either the use of an already overworked elevator system or spending most of my breaks walking up and down stairs.

Now, with my difficult schedule of 17 hours,

it is a fact of life that I need some kind of stimulant to stay awake and alert for my classes. I already see that the school offers several choices:

Nicotine seems to be popular, and with the un-enforced smoking regulations in the courtyard, all I really need to do is grab a little second-hand smoke and I'm buzzing for the day. I can take advantage of the strategic location of Georgia State to some of the more colorful areas of Atlanta and purchase

some illegal substances which would enable me to stay awake for class. I guess that if I'm on the crack, ice, E, Nyquil, or noDoz it would work as well as my Dr. Pibb or Mr. Pepper.

Or the other option, just give me back my machines.

How many dance groups does one campus need?

CON'T FROM PAGE 24

When the university brings speakers to campus, there are never any conservative speakers. It is usually these whiny, washed-up liberal activists. How about bringing Ann Coulter, Rush Limbaugh or Colin Powell to campus? The Student Life and Leadership office boasts about there being nearly 300 charted student organizations on campus. Within many of these organizations, many of them have similar, if not the same, purposes. How many dance groups does one campus need? How many racial based student alliance groups does one university need? To help conserve and make better use of limited resources, many of these groups should consolidate and merge into one group.

Instead of having 20 dance groups, create one dance group that has a good group of students who want to be award winning and represent GSU to the fullest. By having all of these students in one area, everyone can work off of the strengths and weaknesses of each other. Those students working together to bring awards and name recognition to State would be a much better use of funds.

ognition to State would be a much better use of funds.

All too often, many students get in these organizations and simply use the positions as resume boosters. Doing nothing but having a title is no value to the cause. Some of these leaders have organizations that receive funding and do absolutely nothing. The main indicator of this is the number of pizza parties and other frivolous events one notices towards the end of the semester. This happens because the university has a policy on the books where all monies given by the student activity fee must be exhausted before the end of the fiscal year.

Why do we have such a policy? Student organizations should be good stewards of scarce resources given to them on campus. They should be allowed to roll monies over for bigger and better projects to help develop their organization. They can use this to buy banners, promotional materials, bring speakers on campus, host more events and so much more. However, if an organization must exhaust funds or face a cut in the new year, then we are encouraging thrift



Special I Signal

Supporters of the Student Fee increase says more funds could pay for more renowned speakers like Oprah Winfrey.

spending. As individuals, we cannot engage in such behavior and more importantly, we should not allow our hard earned money to be used in this way.

As the mandatory fee committee considers a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats), everything needs to be looked at in perspective and retrospect. While some may say, its only a few more dollars per semester, it's a few more dollars out of the pockets of students. Especially those who have to pay

their tuition out of pocket each semester or be dropped from the class rolls.

To solve the cash flow shortage, organizations need to collaborate and work with one another. If one group is good at event planning and the other is good at hosting, then have a bigger and better event. Put the names of both organizations on the flyer. Get to know your fellow student leaders and lets make Georgia State the best campus it can be in an efficient and economical manner.

Blacks are skeptical about elections, because they've been shut out for so long

CON'T FROM PAGE 27

My charge to the powers-that-be is this, If this law is on the up and up and only about preventing voter fraud, continue to provide the IDs for free. Make it easy for those who want to get one. Put ID sites back in the grocery stores and places that are easily accessible to everyone. Don't make this harder than it already is. If someone is informed and interested enough to vote there should be no reason that they aren't allowed to. This isn't 1935.

More info on the free IDs for the poor is available by calling 1-877-725-9797, or visiting www.GaPhotoID.com. Spread the word guys. Voting is our right, don't let it be taken away.

"The news articles selected by Fox are done so with the intent of making us feel informed, without actually informing us of anything."

SEE CIVIL PAGE 31

more pertinent news articles. Granted, the :-) article was not number one on the list, it did rank in at number five on the list. Only upon surfing to USA Today did I find no article concerning the :-).

I returned to Fox News, thinking that surely this must be a fluke, that this article was an aberration and the rest of the articles would be newsworthy. I saw each news article more were trivial than the last. I noticed that out of the nine articles listed on my news feed, five of them concerned individuals who had no impact upon my life whatsoever and were generally a waste of my time.

Yet, this is the news which is supposedly important to me? There are trolleys with a funny name in Seattle. So? Some lady with a funny name is having surgery. I can't describe for you how little I care.

What I would really like to know is why these articles are more important to Fox News than one of the two wars we are currently fighting? I saw on the Fox News feed only one article concerning international news, which stated that Syria is an aspiring nuclear power hell-bent upon destroying the United States and Israel.

But not a single article on Iraq? Afghanistan? Fox News frequently shows advertisements claiming sup-

port for the troops. Where are the troops? If they are so important, then why aren't they a 'top story?' So these news articles about our military are typically the same: a bomb has exploded somewhere, and at least one person is dead or horribly maimed. But these articles discussing an ongoing war and the horrible death of our own countrymen and women are less important than punctuation?

So I've come to a conclusion about Fox News, they are useless as a medium for information concerning the world. The news articles selected by Fox are done so with the intent of making us feel informed, without actually informing us of anything. I became intrigued and began

to follow Fox News over the course of the day, and I tried to take note not only of the actual content of the article, but what knowledge an article is designed to teach us. I came away completely disgusted by Fox, their articles seemed to teach us that all foreigners are the dirty unwashed masses, except for Britain, which is an impotent power that won't crack down on terrorism.

A majority of the articles dealt with sex, bestiality, abnormal sex, minorities who are also criminals or lazy, bad mothers, child molesters, and the general moral decay of anyone who is not a white fundamentalist super Christian. This is the same news source that is championed by

those same fundamentalists who are getting BJ's in airports or starring in homosexual pornography, both things which these groups condemn. They're probably not :-) ing about my article either.

So Fox News, here are a few tips for you: Superstars are not news unless they're giving all their money away or dead, otherwise they're not important for a global news network, save it for TMZ or some other infotainment network. Surely, there are individuals who are more important than Zsa Zsa who deserve news coverage. Certainly, mass transit is news, but save it for the oddly enough column.

Calendar of Events

Let the Signal help you get the student body involved by advertising your events in our calendar. Contact Dominique Huff (dhuff@student.gsu.edu) for details. All submissions

must be received by **Friday at 12 noon.**

Thursday, Sept. 27th

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.
Event: 1st Informational of the semester
Time: 7 p.m. in room 230 University Center.
Open to all non-greek women and business casual attire requested.
Contact: Cynthia at lta.deltabeta@gmail.com
www.lambdalady.org

Every Week

Catholic Students Association
Event : Holy Mass
Date : Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
Time : 12:15pm until 12:45pm
Location : Room 470 of University Center

Georgia State Police offers free safety escorts either by car or foot to your destination in the downtown area. Call 404-413-2100.

get involved at GSU

See breaking news?

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Signal News Desk

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(404) 413-1622 (fax)

dellis6@student.gsu.edu

CORRECTIONS

The article "Underwear ordinance must be taken as a wake up call" in the Sept. 11 issue was credited incorrectly. It was actually written by Jaleene Plummer. The Signal regrets the error.

The article "The turnover in the White House continues" in the Sept. 11 issue was credited incorrectly. It was actually written by John Bagwell. The Signal regrets the error.

The date for the article "Lofts resident arrested" should have stated Sept. 9 instead of Sept 19. The Signal regrets the error.

Important Information About the Georgia State University Signal

Signal Staff

Mission Statement

The Signal newspaper prides itself on providing news of interest in a fair, objective and balanced manner to the Georgia State University community. This community includes central downtown Atlanta and historic Auburn Avenue. The Signal serves as the official student printed organ. The Signal yields opportunities for any student member of the Georgia State community within a professional newsroom environment. All advertising displayed within this publication shall be assumed truthful and ethical.

How to Advertise with us!

The Signal welcomes any business, organization, club, etc seeking to advertise. No job is too big or small. Deadline for all advertising is 7pm on the Thursday prior to the desired issue for publication. Ads must be print ready either on CD-Rom or an e-mailed PDF to signal.urbanite.advertising@gmail.com.

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Live from New York, it's more regulation

By DENEEN BORELLI
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New York City is known for Broadway musicals, but now there's a reality show that you don't want to miss called "Looting Liberty."

Starring Mayor Michael Bloomberg, it chronicles the ever-dwindling personal choices and freedoms available to city residents.

While one may not care about what goes on in the Big Apple, everyone should since Bloomberg seems to have national political aspirations.

Attacks on freedom in New York City start with simple pleasures such as dining and leisure activities.

As the city's self-appointed head chef, Bloomberg dictates how restaurants can cook. Trans fats, an ingredient restaurants use in baked and fried foods, will be illegal in July of 2008. This is forcing the restaurant industry to revamp its recipes and causing unforeseen costs and changes in taste.

In 2003, while playing the role of surgeon general, Bloomberg fought for a smoking ban for all businesses that severely restricts where one can enjoy a cigarette.

Hating smoking but eager to profit from it, he also significantly increased the cost of cigarettes by adding a whopping \$1.50 per pack excise tax.

Acting as city climatologist, Bloomberg's crusade against global warming threatens to impede New Yorker's choice in water. The Bloomberg administration has joined the populist movement to restrict the availability of bottled water to reduce the energy used to make, transport and dispose of the bottles.

Using taxpayer money, the city launched a \$700,000 "Get Your Fill" advertising campaign with slick postings throughout buses and subways while street teams handed out free plastic bottles to fill with tap water.

Interestingly, around the same time, New Yorkers were subjected to an 11.5 percent increase on the price of tap water that costs residents an average of \$72 more per year.

Bloomberg's global warming hysteria may also restrict driving in Manhattan. Modeled after a program in London, an automobile congestion price

proposal for cars and trucks traveling south of 86th Street will cost drivers \$8 and \$21, respectively, during rush hour.

Besides taxing the right to drive, this program will also allow Big Brother Bloomberg to track individuals' driving patterns through the roving eyes of video surveillance cameras.

New Yorkers have long been subjected to restrictive gun laws and Bloomberg is showing his anti-Second Amendment zeal as co-chair of Mayors Against Illegal Guns.

Some believe the coalition's real agenda may in fact be to aid the anti-gun lobby by making it easier for trial law-

yers to sue gun manufacturers and dealers.

For example, during their 2007 summit, members agreed to make the repeal of the Tiahrt Amendment - a measure restricting certain gun data from being shared outside of the law enforcement community - their top priority.

They claim the amendment places "restrictions on ability of law enforcement and other local authorities to use gun trace data to combat illegal gun trafficking."

The National Rifle Association, however, says, "Critics, primarily politicians, political appointees and trial lawyers, have falsely alleged that local

police cannot have access to the information.

The Amendment clearly states that 'nothing shall be construed to prevent the sharing or exchange of such information among and between federal state, local or foreign law enforcement agencies or federal, state, or local prosecutors, or national security, intelligence, or counterterrorism officials, provided that such information, regardless of its source, is shared, exchanged, or used solely in connection with bona fide criminal investigations or bona fide criminal prosecutions.'"

Moreover, the Fraternal

Order of Police supports the Tiahrt Amendment "because of our concern for the safety of law enforcement officers and the integrity of law enforcement investigations."

Whether it's guns, cars, food or drink, Mayor Michael Bloomberg is happy to dance in New Yorkers lives to tell them what they can and cannot do. "Looting Liberty" is only playing in one city right now, but this is a show Bloomberg wants to take to the White House. If he does, everyone will be forced to sing along.

Office of Student Life and Leadership Intercultural Relations

We are now accepting nominations for the annual

TORCH OF PEACE AWARDS

To be presented at the
Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation on
Thursday, January 17, 2008

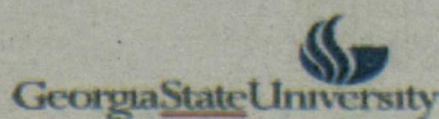
In 2008, the Convocation will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Nominations are open to students (undergraduate and graduate), faculty, staff, alumni and student organizations who have demonstrated an outstanding ability to facilitate or promote positive intercultural relations at Georgia State University and the community at large.

Criteria:

- All nominators must complete a Nominator's Information Sheet for their nominee
- A written statement by the nominator, highlighting the character and accomplishments of the person/student organization being nominated
- A resume of the nominee or a portfolio for the student organization
- Student organizations must be university chartered or paraprofessional organizations
- Two letters of recommendation highlighting the individual's character and accomplishments or the organization's involvement in community service and activism
- Undergraduate student nominees must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA
- Graduate student nominees must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Additional materials supporting the nominee's accomplishments are recommended

*All materials are due to the Office of Student Life and Leadership, Suite 330 Student Center by:
Wednesday, October 31, 2007*

For more information and to request a Nominator's Information Sheet, please contact
Tonya Cook, Program Specialist by (phone) 404.413.1580, (fax) 404.413.1593,
tcook3@gsu.edu or visit www2.gsu.edu/interculturalrelations



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WAKE UP!

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