

The Georgia State University Signal

Student Newspaper

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Sigma Gamma
Rho
Still Going Strong
News, p.5



Women's Soccer
Misses Atlantic
Sun Conference
Sports, p.9



Entertainers
Paid Too
Much
Perspectives, p.19

Nursing program takes off

By BRYAN ALPER
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The nursing shortage across the United States is expected to intensify as the need for health-care grows which will consequently produce sufficient career opportunities for thousands of people each year.

More than one million new and replacement nurses will be needed by 2012, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The shortage is expected to grow over the next two decades with 44 states expected to have RN shortages by the year 2020 based on a report labeled Projected Supply, Demand and Shortages of Registered Nurses: 2000-2020

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Patton addresses budget crisis

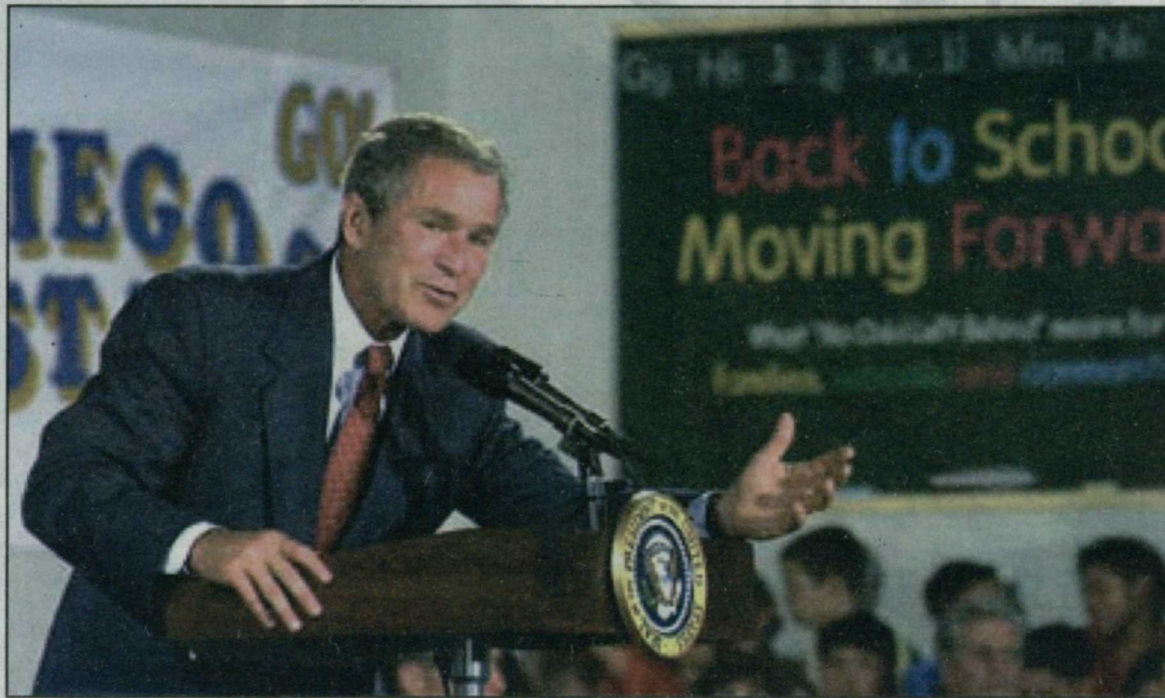
By THOMAS LYMAN
tlyman@gsusignal.com

Georgia State University President Carl Patton spoke at a campus town hall meeting last Tuesday to announce a definite cut of \$3.3 million from the current year's budget, a mid-year financial burden that has never occurred before at Georgia State.

According to Patton, "\$3.3 million is the number you can write down." He explained this as he spoke to a mixed audience of students, teachers and staff, many concerned about the impact of the budget cut. He also talked about his predictions

See BUDGET | Page 5

Large voter turnout is expected among youth



President Bush speaks to young voters.

By JONATHAN SPRINGSTON
jspringston@gsusignal.com

Sen. John Kerry leads President George Bush 52 to 42 percent in a three-way presidential race among 18 to 30 year-old likely voters, according to a new Newsweek.com/GENEXT Poll.

In 1972, nearly 50 percent of 18 to 24 year-olds voted nationally, compared with only 33 percent in 2000, according to First Vote, a non-partisan voter registration and citizenship education organization. Both Sen. Kerry and President Bush are looking for the votes of young people

this year.

With over 300,000 new voters registered in Georgia alone, some expect voter turnout to be higher in November across the board, especially with young voters.

"There have been efforts to
See VOTE | Page 6

Theatre program to be cut

By SELINA HARDMAN
shardman@gsusignal.com

A man by the name of William Shakespeare once said, "All the world's a stage..." His words proved true, but not much longer here at Georgia State.

Due to an extreme budget crisis at many of Georgia's public colleges, many departments have made cuts and our theater department is one. Instead of the proposed midyear hike in tuition, Georgia State has taken other measures to keep tuition costs down for students. One of these actions effects the theater department.

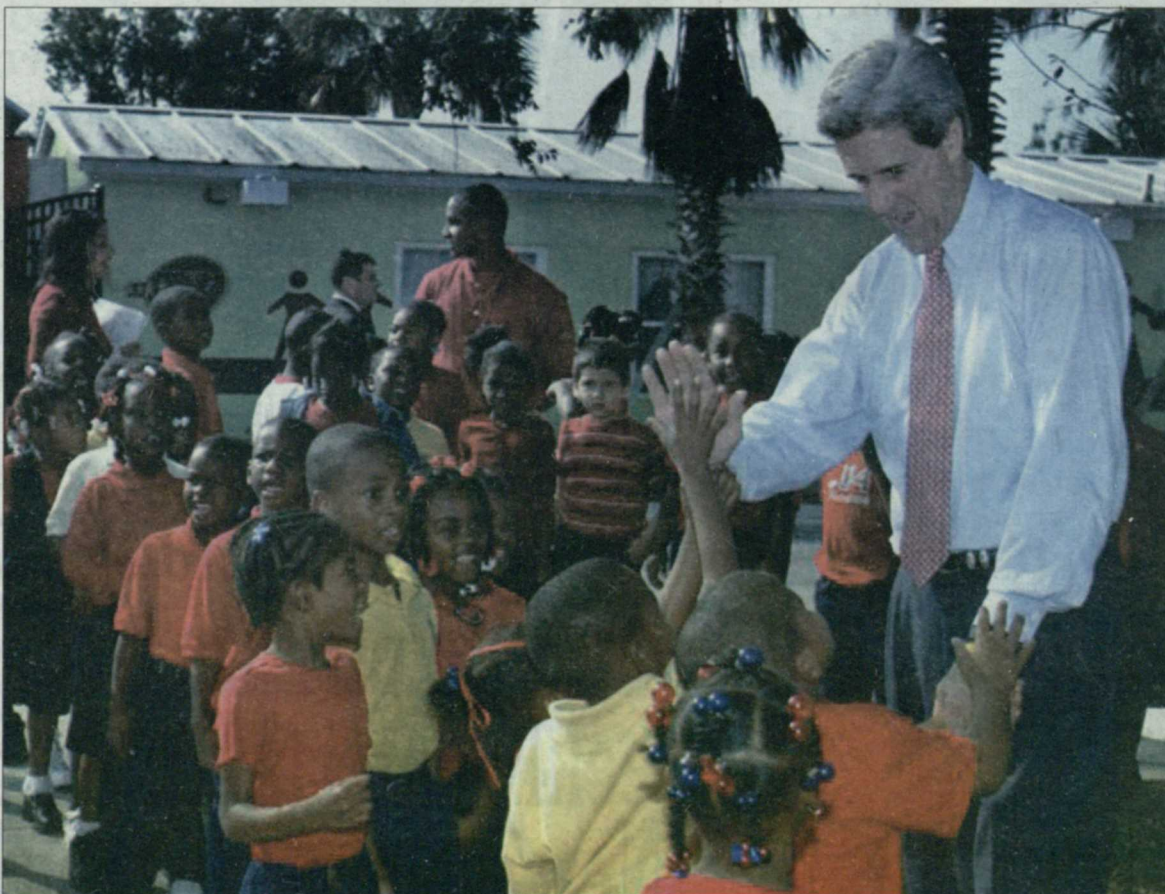
Students currently in the theater program will be able to continue their degree until 2007, after which the department will shut down as an academic major. Dr. Carol Winkler assures students, "that despite the deactivation of a B.A. in theater, we will still maintain an active program in theater."

As of now, faculty and staff working in the theater department will not see any job losses. Funds will be available for student theater organizations, such as the GSU Players. The main change in the system is the way the degree is structured. Students who wish to pursue a degree in theater will be able to do so with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (B.I.S.), which will actually save them money.



Special | Signal

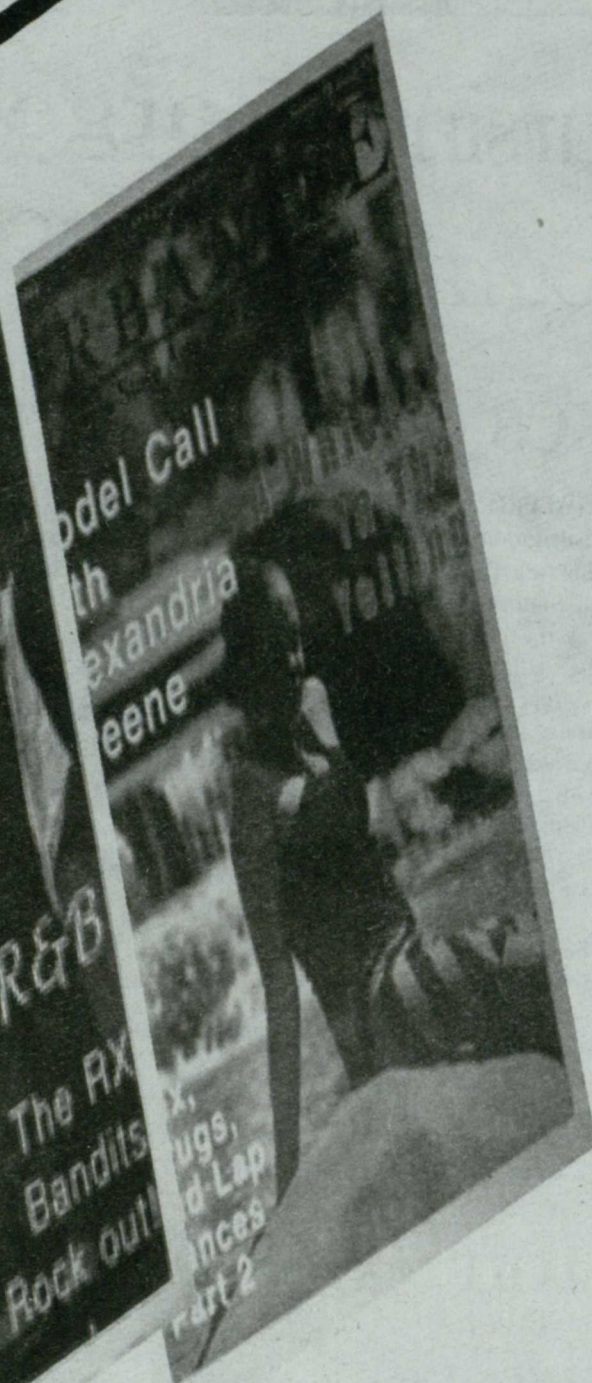
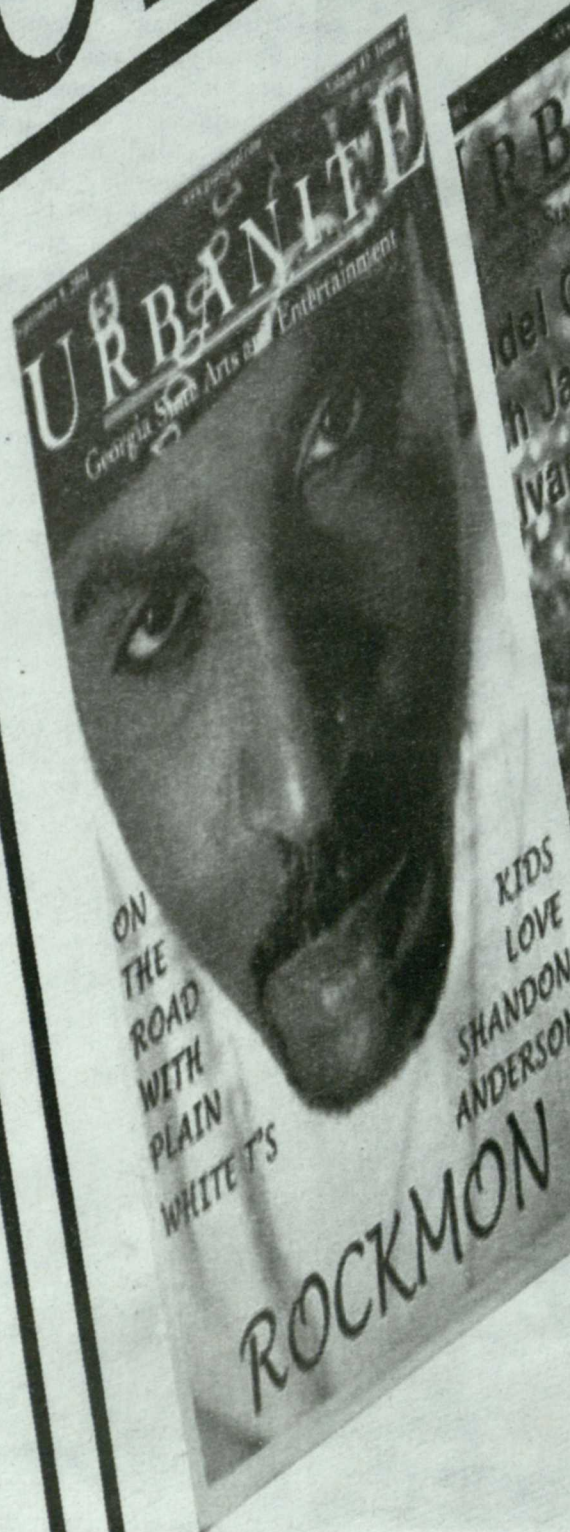
Theatre students have until 2007 to graduate.



Senator Kerry spending time with young children.

Special | Signal

THE URBANITE



In addition to the *Signal*, be sure to pick up Georgia State's weekly entertainment magazine! New issue out every Thursday!!

page three

If you have information for the calender of events or any other section of this page, please contact Lindsey Stephenson, News Editor, at: lstephenson@gsusignal.com
Find more online at www.gsusignal.com

Calendar of Events: November

ampersand

3 4 p.m. – **Brown v. Board of Education 50th Anniversary**

Commemoration Film Screening “The Intolerable Burden.” The screening will feature a discussion with filmmaker Connie Curry and remarks by Clifford Kuhn from the Department of History. Sponsored by Blumenfeld Center for Ethics and the Departments of African American Studies and Philosophy. Sinclair Suite, Student Center. Free. Info: 404/654-5815.

4 6 p.m. – **The 35th**

Henry J. Miller Lecture Series with Professor Walter

E. Dellinger III. Presentation: “The Supreme Court, October 2004.” Speaker’s Auditorium, Student Center. Free and open to the public. 404/651-4360

10 2 p.m. – **World**

Media Forum: “Worldwide Reporting of the Presidential Race,” featuring CNN Journalists from Australia, China, Israel, Kenya, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Romania, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela. 100 Alumni Hall/Distance Learning Studio. Free Info: Center for International Media Education, 404/651-4897.

“Whether we bring our enemies to justice, or justice to our enemies, justice will be done.”

- George W. Bush

“There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America.”

- Bill Clinton

“Don’t confuse being ‘soft’ with seeing the other guy’s point of view.”

- George H.W. Bush

“Thomas Jefferson once said, ‘We should never judge a president by his age, only by his works,’ and ever since he told me that, I’ve stopped worrying.”

- Ronald Reagan

“We should live our lives as though Christ were coming this afternoon.”

- Jimmy Carter

“Take all you want but eat all you take.”

-Gerald Ford

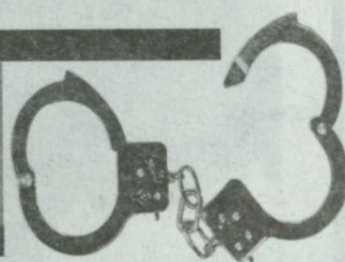
“Always remember others may hate you ,but those who hate you don’t win unless you hate them. And then you destroy yourself.”

- Richard Nixon

“Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.”

- John F. Kennedy

campus crime



University Village, South Deck
A Criminal Damage to Property report was filed by a student. The complainant stated that she parked her vehicle in the deck on 10/25/04 at 12:30 pm. When she returned on 10/27/04 at 3:45 pm her window had been smashed. No items were taken from the vehicle.

Library South

A Theft by Taking report was filed by a student. The complainant stated that she sat her purse (\$20) down on 10/28/04 at 5:15 pm. She noticed it had been stolen at 5:30 p.m. The purse contained several items and \$100 in cash. The area was searched with negative results.

100 Peachtree St

An Attempted Theft by Shoplifting report was filed by a non-GSU individual. The complainant stated that the subject attempted to steal three pens (\$24) from his business on 10/27/04 at 9:51 pm. The subject was arrested, processed and transported to Fulton County Jail. negative results, but his combination lock was found in the trash.

Kell Hall

A Theft by Taking report was filed by a student. The complainant stated that she left her bag in an unsecured room and walked down the hall on 10/25/04 When she returned a few minutes later her credit cards had been stolen out of her wallet. The area was searched with negative results.

The Exclamation!

Casting a vote for Kerry When is the Bush administration going to ‘fess up to their mistakes? After Dubya loses the election?

Weakening the code of conduct to the level of UGA and Tech? We really are going down hill **The Patriots** are winning on the field and in Iraq

I hope that Kerry wins so that I can live off of the government for the rest of my life! **Yahoo for the Greens** who are actually doing something other than running their mouths!

Want to make a witty comment? The best way to respond to an exclamation is to send one to Lindsey Stephenson at lstephenson@gsusignal.com

Students, faculty receive budget explanation

From BUDGET | Page 1

from one year ago, regarding the financial situation the school is facing.

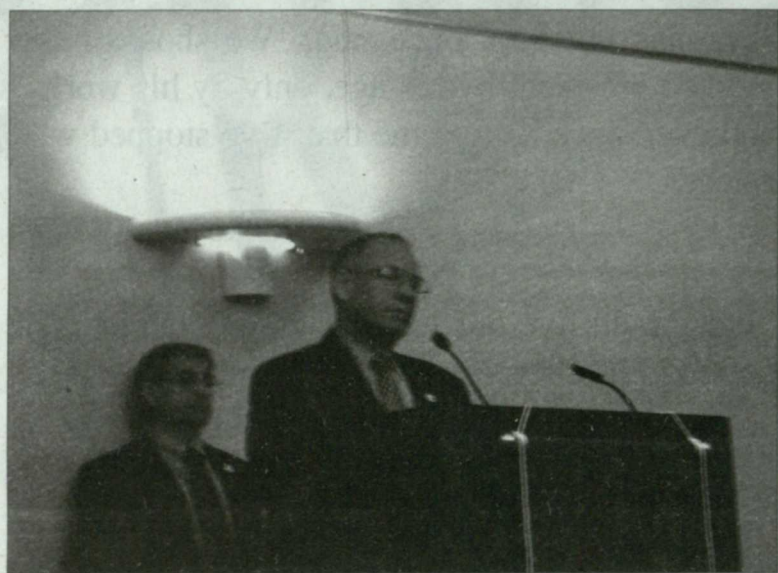
"I predicted that the state economy would be flat next year," he said, and mentioned that 30 percent of Georgia State's operating budget comes from the state.

of Regents rejected two weeks ago.

The cuts could affect students in many ways, mostly through possible reduction in computer lab and library hours.

Lindsey Stephenson, a sophomore political science major, says that she would be frustrated if the library closed earlier.

"The hours that the library



Tom Lyman | Signal

Last Tuesday Patton spoke to students and faculty about the budget concerns.

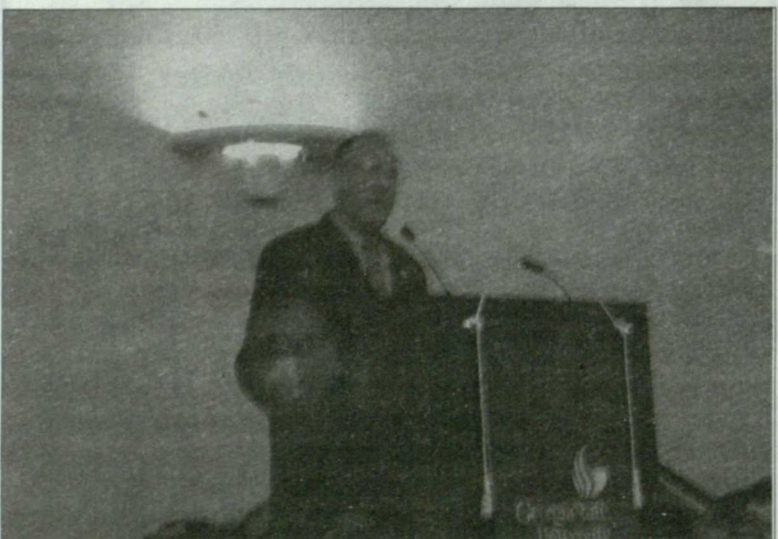
He also made clear that while only 10.9 percent of the state budget is slated for higher education, the University System is being forced to shoulder 38 percent of the total state budget. This problem is a result of a "policy shift at the state level," Patton said.

The reason for the cut comes from a state government budget shortfall of over \$68 million. The \$3.3 million is less than the earlier projected cut of approximately \$10 million, and could have included a mid-year tuition increase, a motion that the Board

and computer lab have now are in place for a reason," Stephenson said. "We shouldn't receive fewer services for more or even the same amount of money. That's just fuzzy math."

At neighboring Georgia Tech, the library stays open 24 hours during the week, something that irks some Georgia State students.

"I think that we should have the same opportunity to study here as at Tech," junior Sydney Williams states. "It's just another one of those instances where State students get the shaft."



Tom Lyman | Signal

President Patton argued that the problems begin with the state budget cuts.

Conscious Collective hosts first open mic night in over a year



Special | Signal

Conscious Collective is known at Georgia State for its talented artists and poets.

By VANDREENA COTTON
vcotton@gsusignal.com

Conscious Collective, known for a plethora of talented poets and

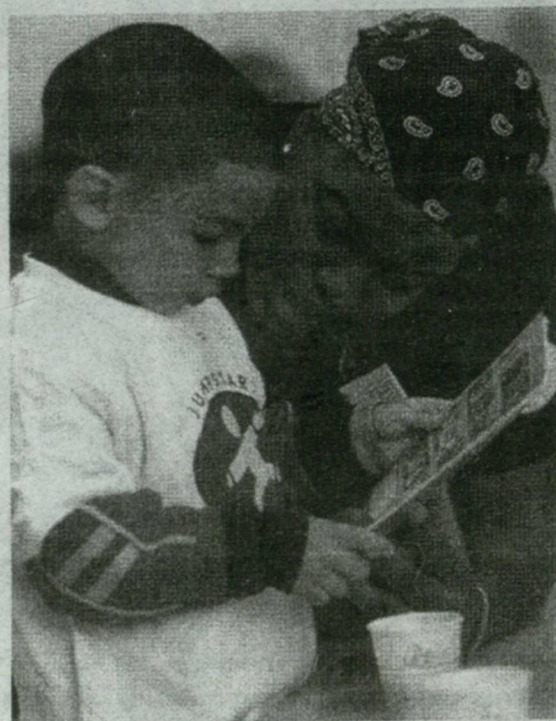
artists, recently held their first open-mic event in over a year. Featuring more than 15 performances, the event was filled to capacity with not

only people, but soul and creativity as well.

The event started off with a

See OPEN MIC | Page 8

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Local college students help promote independent artists



True Independent was created to assist local bands in distributing their music throughout the country.

By VANDREENA COTTON
vcotton@gsusignal.com

Many independent music artists dream of finding a way to affordably promote themselves without compromising their image or dedicating time and energy to a frivolous company. However, only a few have the commitment and innovative nature to do such a thing. One of these corporations is "True Independent".

The brain child of twin brothers Matthew and Jared Young, Thornton James, and webmasters Femi and John, True Independent's primary purpose is to assist local bands in distributing their music nationally and internationally with little or no cost. In fact, it is free to Athens and Atlanta area labels and bands. This business is especially close to co-founder

Matthew Young since he is also in a band. "The idea came about in March 2003," stated Young. "My band and I recorded songs and wanted a cheap way to sell music without having to get hundreds of CDs pressed or paying for distribution." That is when the idea for True Independent came to fruition. "We started off by putting songs on the band's website. Soon, a website was developed where artists could sell their music."

With the True Independent website selling songs in an MP3 format, the process of downloading is simplified. "The format is similar to that of iTunes except all of the artists and labels are independent. We believe that digital music distribution is the best way to

See INDEPENDENT | Page 8

Seven Years Young, Sigma Gamma Rho still going strong



Special | Signal

The Georgia State chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho was established in 1997

By DOMINIQUE HUFF
dhuff@gsusignal.com

Serving the community since 1997, "through greater service, greater progress" is the mantra of the Omicron Gamma chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho, the youngest sorority in the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC). Under the leadership of President Rasheedah Wakeel, members focus on the cohesiveness and vibrancy of their chapter.

Currently with seven members, up from the original five founders, the organization engages in monthly community service projects and collaborations with other organizations. Recently, Omega Phi Psi invited the group to participate in a forum entitled "Men Have Issues, Too."

"This was a good event, with nearly forty people in attendance," said Wakeel. "It was a good dialogue session for both men and women."

Sigma Gamma Rho has also worked on voter registration with Alpha Phi Alpha and other projects with Zeta Phi Beta.

"We have a strong bond with Zeta Phi Beta. Like us, they are

about business," added Wakeel. "Our next project with the Zetas will be in December."

Being the youngest black sorority in the NPHC, the chapter has its fair share of struggles here at Georgia State.

Current Vice President Shameka Martin was the chapter's only member for two years.

"Shameka held it down alone for two years," said Wakeel. "That was true dedication on her part. She was committed to keeping the chapter vibrant for future members. The spirit she displayed is what we are looking for in members."

Members of Sigma Gamma Rho are not only expected to be committed to the organization but to their studies here at Georgia State as well.

"Our theme for this year is work smarter, not harder," said Wakeel. "The members are encouraged to use their networking skills to be successful this and every semester."

Their academic focus has not gone unnoticed. The NPHC awarded the chapter their Dean's Cup for Academic Excellence and the Dean's Cup for Excellence in Member Education for the 2002-2003 school

years. Members have notable accomplishments as well, ranging from Deans List, to Chemistry Student of the Semester to Undergraduate of the year.

Omicron Gamma lines have been relatively small in number when compared to other Greek organizations. Lines for the chapter have consisted of the induction of either one or two members.

"We are not concerned with numbers," stated Wakeel. "We focus on quality over quantity. We value our letters and organization."

Upcoming events for the chapter include Founders Week in November.

"We have a lot planned to celebrate. We are going to attend church, participate in community service and activities with Greeks and non-Greeks," said Wakeel. A new line will be inducted in the future as well.

Wakeel offered advice for those wanting to be Greek. "An organization should not change you. You make the letters, the letters don't make you. Research and find a group that fits you" she said.

For more information about Omicron Gamma chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho, go their website at <http://www.geocities.com/omicrongamma1922> or contact Wakeel at omicrongamma1922@yahoo.com

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Campaigns aided by young voters

From VOTE | Page 1

get...more young people out [to vote]," said Michael Binford, Ph.D., a political science professor at Georgia State University who specializes in public opinion and elections. He said that the more competitive the election is, the bigger the turnout is going to be.

The first thing the candidates have to do to get young voters' attention is to "convince them they have something at stake in [the] election," said Binford. He cited the Iraq war and the possibility of a draft as examples of getting young people's attention.

More than others, "young voters will vote [for or against] George Bush for what he's done in Iraq...this election is very much going to be a referendum on what he's been able to do [in Iraq]," said Binford.

At the same time, Binford said that, "The biggest issue [for young voters] is the economy because...they're going to be looking for jobs and they want there to be more opportunities."

"In raw numbers, I think you'll get a larger proportion of young voters," said Daniel Franklin, Ph.D., an associate professor of political science at Georgia State, who teaches classes on the presidency and Congress.

Franklin echoes Binford's sentiments by saying, "The war in Iraq and the draft are of more salience to young people right now."

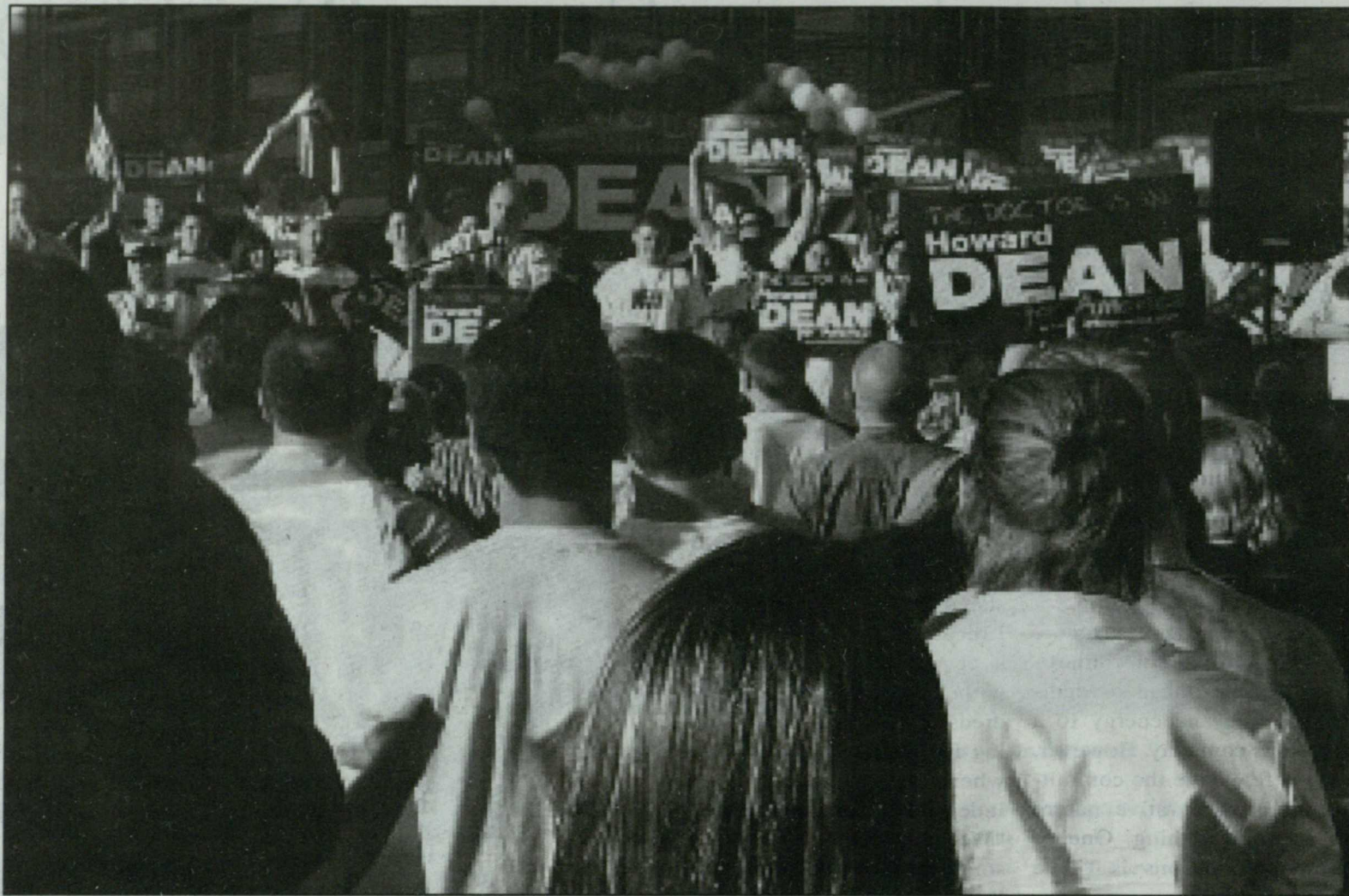
Franklin mentioned the issues that both candidates need to focus on when trying to get young voters. "For Kerry, [it's the] draft issue, the deficit, the environment and education. For the president, it's things like Social Security and [also] education."

Students at Georgia State have their own feelings and concerns when voting for president. Many students plan to exercise their right to vote for the first time on Nov. 2.

Phil Klucsarits, a post-baccalaureate student, says he "absolutely" plans to vote in November. He says that the candidates should "focus on world matters [because it] is important for our safety." While he put candidates' stances on foreign policy as a priority when deciding who to vote for, Klucsarits said he would also "like to know what's going on domestically."

Brian Green, a senior, says he "definitely" plans to vote. "It's important as a nation that we handle what's going on at home, [that we take care of] some of the poverty," he said when discussing what a president needs to do. "I'm going to look for the candidate who's going to look inside America and try to overcome some of the poverty issues we face."

Leila Regan, a senior, says she can't vote because she's not a citizen but would vote if she could.



Young voters have been extremely active in campaigns this year. Howard Dean was one candidate who really fired up college students.

Special | Signal

She believes that "sticking to your beliefs, but not making laws based on your beliefs" are what a president has to do. "The laws you make are for the country."

C.J. Bargamian, a senior, will also vote in the election. He stated very clearly what he wants in a presidential candidate. He wants a person with the "ability to speak clearly, to recognize the necessity of compromise and meeting on middle ground with people of conflicting opinions, to establish real foreign relations and willingness to address real domestic issues as opposed [to those] that sound good as sound bites."

Nate McGill, a senior, says he has family members who have been members of labor unions and that therefore, candidates' positions on labor issues are important to him. "I look for what's interesting to me personally and what's important to me and my family." McGill also mentions issues like the environment "that aren't on the front page. [These issues are] really important in deciding who I'm voting for."

Young voters consistently have the lowest turnout among all voters in every election. According to Franklin, many voters make a decision simply by name recognition and party affiliation alone, rather than going to the polls armed with facts and hard information. McGill said, "[It is] important to vote a certain way because if you don't, there's a good chance you could lose your job in the next four years."

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Demand for nurses continues to rise

From NURSE | Page 1

(available online at <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/healthworkforce/reports/rnproject/default.htm>). This translates into a shortage of more than 400,000 RNs nationwide.

When they are responsible for more patients than they can safely care for, nurses often report greater job dissatisfaction and emotional exhaustion. Recent Bachelor of Science college graduate Heidi Moccia is a nurse at Northside Hospital in "Hospitals are so understaffed that we are often overworked and feel undervalued," said Moccia. "It's like an endless cycle. The harder we have to work, the more likely we are to experience burnout. Many nurses end up quitting which then increases staffing shortages."

Another contributing factor of the nation's healthcare threat arises from hospitals' budget cuts. In the early to mid-1990's, many experienced nurses were finding themselves jobless because staffing was often cut first. Subsequently, the nursing shortage hit a critical level by

2000.

Unfilled faculty positions, resignations, projected retirements and the shortage of students preparing for the faculty role pose a threat to the nursing education workforce, too. Nurses who decide to become educators often choose to do so near the end of their careers when they want to get off their feet and are ready for a change. In order to make this change, the nurse must have his or her master's degree to become a clinical instructor or PhD to become a college professor. universities in Georgia that has a nursing PhD program.

Furthermore, in a report published in the November/December 2003 issue of Health Affairs, Dr. Peter Buerhaus found that "because the number of young RNs has decreased so dramatically over the past two decades, enrollments of young people in nursing programs would have to increase at least forty percent annually to replace those expected to leave the workforce through retirement."

One innovative approach to nursing education that is gaining



Special | Signal

The demand for nurses has been on the rise over the past decade.

momentum nationwide is the accelerated degree program for non-nursing graduates. Offered at both the baccalaureate and master's degree levels, these programs build on previous learning experiences and transition indi-

viduals with undergraduate degrees in other disciplines into nursing.

Helen Rogers is one example of an accelerated track B.S. program student. She was recently accepted into the Georgia State University Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Sciences. Currently enrolled in prerequisite courses Anatomy & Physiology and Microbiology, Rogers is transitioning into nursing after an extensive computer science career history. "It's not the place for me to be anymore," she said referring to her past career. "I applied to state schools because they are affordable."

The Byrdine F. Lewis School of nursing has experienced a phenomenal growth in application rates during the past four years for the undergraduate program. The shortage has drawn so much attention that Georgia State's school of nursing was only able to accept 12 percent of its applicants into the program. The school has pro-

duced almost 4000 registered nurses, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists, during its 36 years of existence.

While nursing overall is experiencing a shortage, the number of men entering the field is gradually increasing and Georgia State is no exception. Men made up nine percent of last spring's nursing school enrollment. Recent public relations campaigns and advertisements have been geared towards drawing men into the nursing field through promoting nursing as a gender-neutral profession.

Fortunately, the future of the nursing industry is looking up. Nursing is going through a revolution to become more respected. Salaries are slowly improving and many healthcare facilities are offering signing bonuses. Georgia State just may be the place to get started with a brand new nursing career. For more information log on to: <http://chhs.gsu.edu/nursing>.

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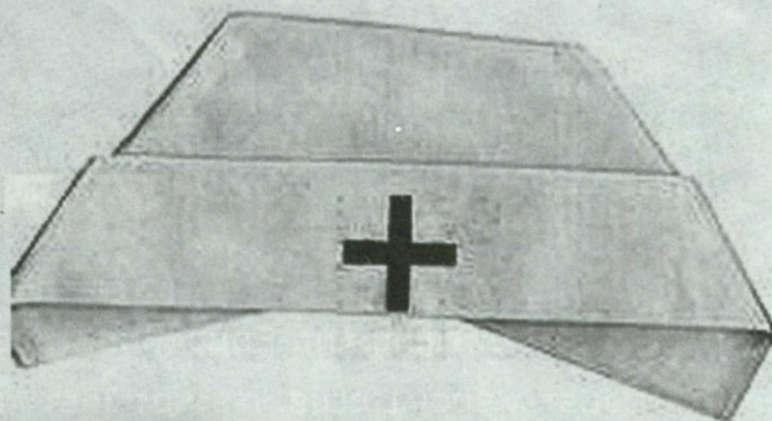
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The applications for the nursing program have skyrocketed over the past four years.

Open mic night a big success with students

From OPEN MIC | Page 4

piece entitled "Soul Mixer" by Evan. In his composition, Evan described being enamored with a woman while sharing intimate moments with her. He went on to state how she made him change his outlook on love and relationships. In one line he said "The fine caramel girl told me that whenever you have sex with somebody, you give them a piece of your soul. I threw it out not knowing what I pushed in. I wish I could do it all over again." But in the end, his character wondered if what they had was lust, love, or something more.

The next poet to the stage was Conscious Collective member Tashmere. Although she was a bit nervous and took a second to prepare, the revelation of her words compensated for the brief delay. Tashmere's creation talked about a physical love as well, but in a more sensual manner. One line in the poem focuses on how her lover moves, looks, and feels; something many in the crowd related to and acknowledged with a round of applause.

Although every performer at the event was unique and innovative, one of the most avant-garde was definitely Tariq. As the third artist to

perform, Tariq stunned the audience with his deep, baritone-laced voice. Entitled "I Find Divine Entwined within the Black Mind", his piece was not only moving, but immensely creative as well. Consisting of operatic singing, spoken verse, and audience participation, the piece surprised most and satisfied all. One of the most memorable lines stated: "You and me, we can send and receive message radioactively. But when the mind, the body, and the soul is toxic, we will see static".

Another celebrated piece was from Conscious Collective member and former Georgia State student 'Nfared. In his piece "Where is my receipt?", 'Nfared speaks of how African-Americans have greatly influenced the world since ancient times, but have yet to receive their credit. "Before anyone knew what they were, I was walking throughout Africa, designing mathematical equations, and creating numbers. I was making wonders out of everything I touched, but where is my receipt?" He went on to say: "I am me. I am you! I am your brother. I am your sister. And I demand to know where is my receipt!" Although he was out of breath and had a bit of sweat on his brow by the end of the poem, 'Nfared definitely

delivered an innovative piece that spoke to everyone in the audience.

Not one to write angry poems, Mimi finally performed a piece entitled "I Wrote a Poem That Told on You," which did just that. Not only did she speak about the subject of homosexuality, but the lies people tell as well. In one verse she says "You said we were going to find weapons of mass destruction, that Diet Dr. Pepper tastes just like regular Dr. Pepper, and that good things would come to those who wait. So I

waited...and I waited."

One of the most relatable poems to be performed was written by Anthony. In the piece, he describes his relationship with "Daddy" meant so much to him. "Daddy taught me jazz. We would sit and just vibe...just vibe. Putting all else to the side like 'so what?' Taking the Coltrane to the end of the line in an attempt to understand that now is the time." He went on to say "Jazz is me, jazz is he, jazz is she, jazz is you, jazz is we...jazz just is." The

poem was not only moving, but it encompasses the feelings one may feel about a family member, whether or not they are still around.

This open-mic event was truly a creative collaboration of some of the most artistic minds on the Georgia State campus. Not only did Conscious Collective promote "Words. Art. Life.", but they also expanded the minds of all in attendance. Although this event is in the history, there are plenty more planned in the future.

Featuring more than 15 performances, the event was filled to capacity with not only people, but soul and creativity as well.

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True Independent marketing tool for local artists, aided by college students around town

From INDEPENDENT | Page 5

get the word out about the south's independent music scene. Since we are an Athens-Atlanta based company, this is a perfect opportunity for Georgia bands to get their music out there," stated Young. "We are focused on getting a good product out there for the artists." Another positive aspect the company uses to their advantage is the extent to which the customer can share the music once it is purchased. "Our site does not contain 'Digital Rights Management'. This means once you download the music, you can do what you want with it."

Although True Independent was developed by a team of college students (all attend Georgia State and University of Georgia), the approached the project professionally. "We met with lawyers and maxed out every credit card," stated Young. "We had to discuss what kind of business we wanted; who would be owner, president,

and vice president; what type of business we would be (Limited Liability Corporation, partnership, or a regular company) and things of that nature. A lot of decisions had to be made and plenty of fees were involved." Fees were not the only professional burden plaguing the company, according to Young. "We had to fill out a lot of papers and forms. Since we operate the business out of our apartment, we also needed a zoning license. Plus, lawyers had to make contracts for us and the bands to sign, which are expensive. It was a difficult process."

When all is said and done, True Independent is aiming for one primary ambition. "Our main goal is to provide bands with a useful marketing tool for little or no cost," said Young. True Independent is devotedly capturing the spirit of independent musicianship and making it accessible for all artists.

For more information about True Independent, visit www.trueindependent.com.

Sports Editor:

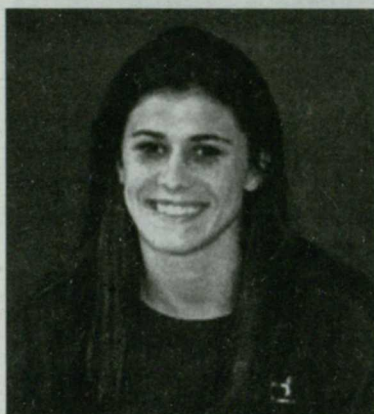
Bobby McMillin

Reporting on
Georgia State
University Athletics

Sports

Women's soccer misses Atlantic Sun
Tournament for the first time in nine yearsBy NORM ROBINSON
nrobinson@gsusignal.com

The Georgia State Lady Panthers soccer team (7-6-5 overall, 4-4-2 conf.) will not be going to this year's Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament for the first time since 1995. Despite going 3-0 to close out the season



Special | Signal

Brooks Daniel played well this year - even when she wasn't supposed to.

with wins against Lipscomb, Belmont, and Mercer, Georgia State still could not get past seventh place in the conference. Only the top six teams in the A-Sun conference make it to the postseason tournament.

So how did this happen?

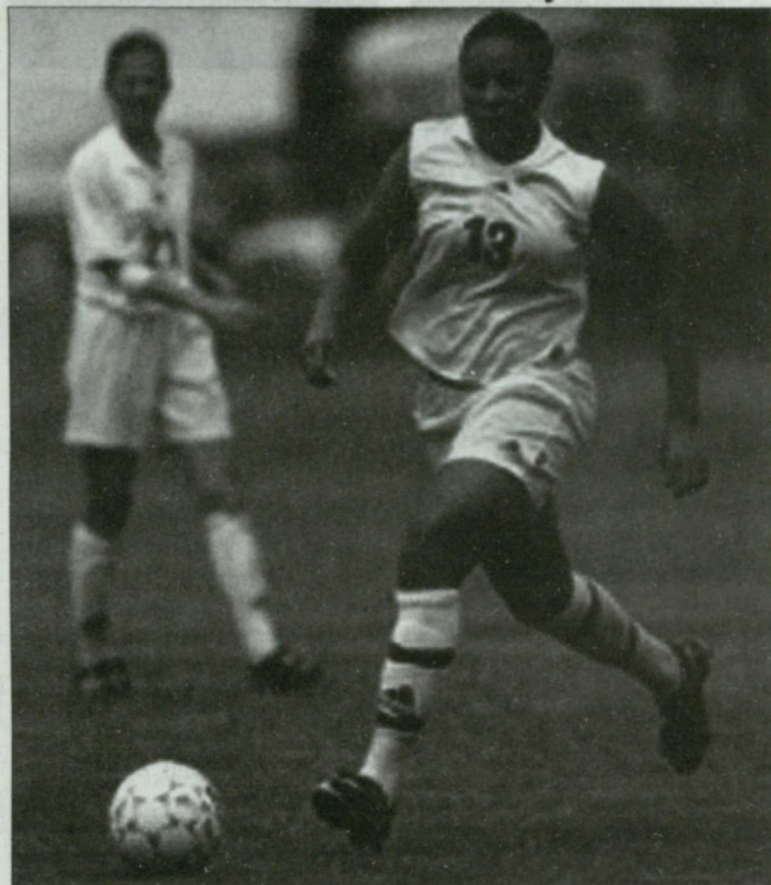
How did the team that was originally ranked third in the preseason polls fail to make it to the postseason? Well, it is a combination of several things. The most controversial of these factors, and probably the one that most of the Lady Panther's fans are fuming about at the moment, would have to be Georgia State's forfeit of three A-Sun games due to illegal participation by a student athlete. In this particular case, the athlete was junior forward Brooks Daniel, and her play in double overtime ties against Troy and Stetson, as well as a 1-0 win over Jacksonville, will be considered by many to be the predominant reason that the Lady Panther's season is over. Georgia State would have a conference record of 5-1-4 had they not been forced to forfeit those games. Even more upsetting is the fact that Stetson and Jacksonville University, two of the teams that Georgia State was made to concede games to, are going to play in the A-Sun Conference Tournament at fifth and sixth seeds, positions Georgia State could easily have attained without those forfeits.

Now while it is very hard to

overlook those forfeited losses, it cannot be considered the only reason that Georgia State fell short this season. The Lady Panthers gave up several important conference victories not due to some obscure NCAA rules violation, but because the team was more or less flat on offense. Double overtime ties killed the Lady Panthers all season, namely the two against Florida Atlantic and Campbell, which were not a part of the whole NCAA debacle. Had the Lady Panthers won those games instead of just tying, Georgia State might have been propelled into the postseason even with the three additional losses.

Ties hurt the Lady Panthers all season because they were having a tough time playing offense. Georgia State ranked just fifth in the conference in points and goals this season. While fifth place does not sound horrible — there are 11 teams in the conference, after all — it kind of does when you are supposed to be the third best team in A-Sun play.

Georgia State was a great team on defense this season. The Lady Panthers allowed an average of less than a goal per game and



Special | Signal

Collins-Cepher had an incredible year, but it was for naught.

held their opposition to an average of just 9.6 shots. Had they been able to build off of that by putting more points on the board,

they might have finished the season as the A-Sun Conference powerhouse they were expected to be.

Every tourney has a new hero for Panthers golf,
Tiley held the honor at Nelson InvitationalBy DAVID DORSEY
ddorsey@gsusignal.com

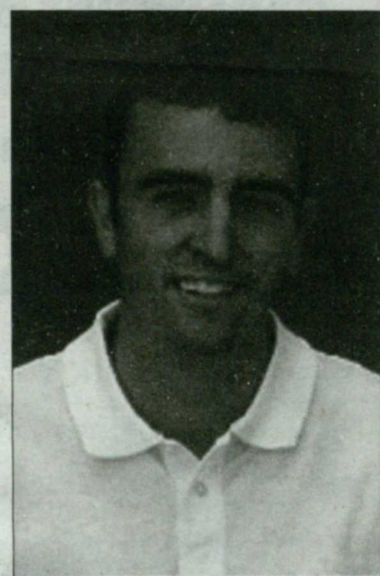
Georgia State men's golfer Steve Tiley took first place in The Nelson Invitational held on Oct. 24 at the Stanford Golf Course in Stanford, Calif.

What is so impressive about this team is that there seems to be a different guy in every tournament who steps up and leads them to a great finish. While it does take an overall effort from every player for a team to win, these guys seem to take turns on who that individual will be.

This week it was Steve Tiley. He finished the tournament in a tie for first place medalist honors with University of New Mexico golfer Spencer Levin at 198. They both finished with 9-under-par scores in the three-

day, three-round affair.

Georgia State came into this tournament ranked 18th in



Special | Signal

Harris continued his strong play this year, finishing 16th at the Nelson Invitational.

the latest GCAA/Precept Division 1 Coaches Poll, an improvement of four spots from the last poll. They are also ranked 17th in the latest Golfweek/Sagarin performance index.

After the first round, State had a two-stroke lead. For a team like the Panthers, that is playing consistent golf, a two-stroke lead normally would have been more than enough to hold off their competition. This time, that wasn't the case because both UNLV and New Mexico were able to come back and post second-round scores that were better than State by at least 10 strokes. State finished third in the tournament and that gives them their fourth top-five finish in as many events.

The other teams in the field were New Mexico, UNLV, Notre Dame, Missouri,

Stanford, Northern Colorado, Kansas, Colorado State, Florida Southern, Colorado, Kansas State, West Florida, Idaho, UC Davis and Texas Pan-American.

State's other golfers finished fairly well in the competition with Ty Harris shooting 5-over-par and finishing in a tie for 16th place. Joel Sjolholm ended in a tie for 28th at 7-over. Ben Taylor had an 8-over-par, which put him in a six-way tie for 31st and Darren Baynes rounded out the scoring at 13-over-par and tied for 57th. Baynes did not fair as well as he did in State's last tournament where he had a third-place finish at the Gary Koch/Cleveland Golf Invitational.

This tournament was a little different than the others State has played in this year in

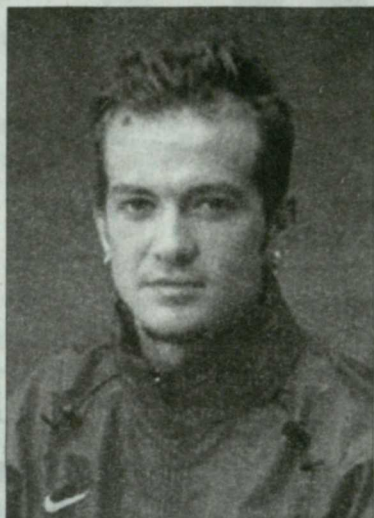
that it took place over three days, with one round each day. In their other three, they played the first two rounds on one day and finished the final round the following day.

State's next tournament is the Hooter's Collegiate Match Play Championship in Howie-in-the-Hills, Fla. It will be played at the Mission Inn Resort with the men and women teeing-off simultaneously. The men will play on the El Campeon course and the women will play on Las Colinas. The bracket has been announced for the tournament and Georgia State is seeded sixth and will play its first match against Washington. The defending champion, Florida, is seeded behind State at sev-

Cross country has strong showings at Troy and A-Sun Championship

By JAMES LEWIS
jlewis@gsusignal.com

After strong showings at the Troy State Invitational a week ago, the Georgia State cross country program continues their roller coaster season as the men took second place and the women came in third place at the Atlantic Sun Conference championships in Nashville, Tenn., this past Saturday. The Georgia State men's and women's cross country programs both took



Special | Signal
Campbell finished eighth when he competed against Troy.

the second year in a row. Freshman Jay Morrill led the Panthers with a fourth-place finish. Morrill was named the Atlantic Sun Conference Freshman of the Year. Sophomore Nick Miller came in fifth place and junior Matt Cameron came in seventh.

At the Troy State Invitational, the Panthers placed four runners in the top ten. Sophomore Nick Miller led the Panthers with a fourth-place finish. Junior Matt Cameron came in sixth and freshman Jay Morrill came in seventh. Junior Andrew Campbell rounded out the top ten finishers with an eighth-place finish. Georgia State men's team finished nine points ahead of the nearest rival, South Alabama. This is the second year in a row the

men's and women's program have both won the Troy State Invitational.

The women's program had an even more dominating performance at the Atlantic Sun Conference championships placing five runners in the top ten. Senior sensation Jenn Feenstra led the Lady Panthers by finishing in first place. Feenstra has been getting stronger and stronger as the season has progressed. Junior Andrea Smith came in fourth place and freshman Barbara Phelan came in fifth. Sophomore Brittany Holland came in seventh place and rounding out the Lady Panthers top ten runners at Troy State was freshman Alex Friel who finished in tenth place.

The Lady Panthers did not quite get the results they were hoping for at the Atlantic Sun



Special | Signal
Morrill held Campbell off, finishing seventh at Troy.

Conference championships finishing in third place behind Belmont who took first place and Florida Atlantic who took second.

Feenstra continued her string of dominating performances with a first place finish. Jenn had 11 individual tournament titles, but this was the first time she had won the Atlantic Sun. Unfortunately, Jenn was the Lady Panther's only top-ten finisher. Andrea Smith just missed the top ten with an 11th place finish. Georgia State's trio of talented freshman did admirably though not as well as they would have liked to. Barbara Phelan, who came in 20th, led the freshman. Alex Friel came in 20th place and Racheal Hannah came in 31st.

Next on the Georgia State University Cross Country team's agenda is the NCAA Regional in Tuscaloosa, Ala., on Saturday Nov. 13. Then the Panthers windup their season with a trip to the NCAA national championships in Terre Haute, Ind., on Nov. 22.

Women's golf team finishes fall season

By BOBBY McMillin
bmcmillin@gsusignal.com

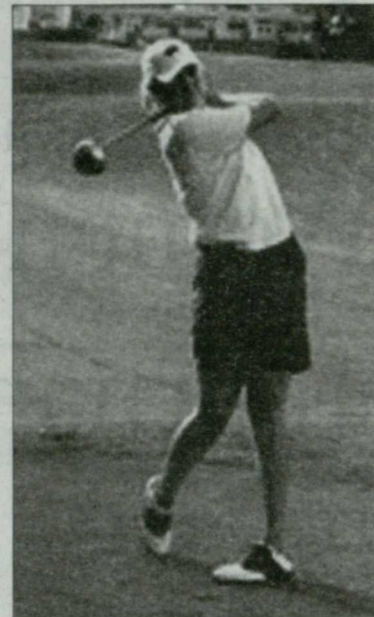
Thanks to the strong play of newcomer Anna Scott, Georgia State finished second at the 12th Annual John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate Tuesday. The finish, in the year's fourth and final tournament, marked the third time this fall the Lady Panthers placed second.

The tourney was held at Stockbridge's 5,842-yard par-72 Eagle's Landing Country Club. It will be the only time this year that Georgia State plays a tournament within the state. The home field advantage was appreciated though with three Lady Panthers finishing in the top 10.

The European import, Scott, had the best showing of her career shooting a 147, just 3-over-par. Junior Lisbeth Meincke continued her incredible year with a fourth-place finish at 149.

Seniors Erica Wein, Kerri Anne Scott, not to be confused with the freshman Anna, and JeNae Riehlman finished their final fall 10th, 37th and 44th respectively. The sophomores, Lina Bustos and Pam Torres finished out Georgia State's top five for the third time this year, and it will be interesting to see if they fare better in the spring.

The team carded a 603 over the three-day tournament, just five shots off of tourney-winning Campbell. Just three strokes behind the Lady Panthers was the University of Alabama-Birmingham at 606 while Yale crept out of the Ivy with 609 for fourth. Rounding off the top five in a tournament of 11 was Middle Tennessee State just a stroke back



Special | Signal
Beyer played one of the best games of her career against Lipscomb.

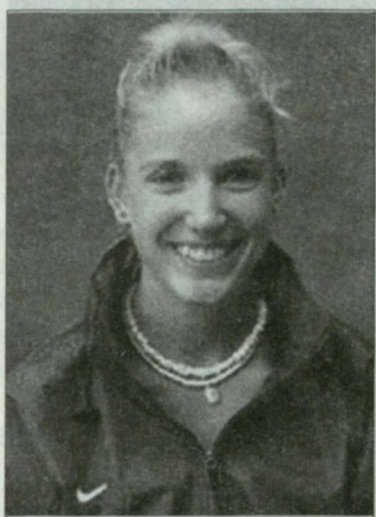
at 610.

The showing concluded one of the strongest falls in recent memory. The Lady Panthers played in four tournaments; they finished second three times and fifth in the other.

Georgia State played very well as a team this fall, but two Lady Panthers stood above the rest. Anna Scott made her presence known with several top finishes, and the freshman can only get better. Meincke made enormous leaps in her game; this was never more evident than in the Napa River Grill Cardinal Cup and the Hatter Fall Classic. Despite some very tough competition from within and without the Atlantic Sun, Meincke managed to win both.

The only dark cloud over this sea of optimism is that last year's

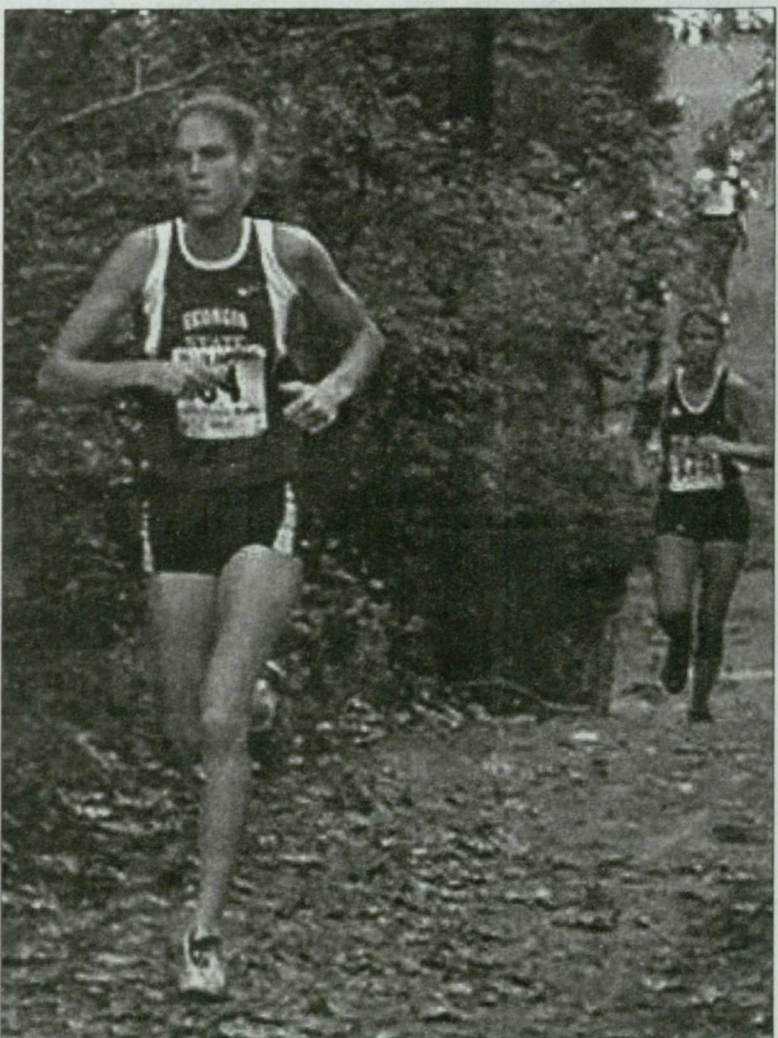
See WOMEN | Page 11



Special | Signal
The freshman Phelan finished fifth at Troy.

first place at the Troy State Invitational in Troy, Ala., on Saturday Oct. 23. The Atlantic Sun tournament was a setback in a late season charge by the Panthers.

At the Atlantic Sun, the Panthers came in second behind Belmont who won for



Special | Signal
Feenstra continued her strong year with a great showing in both meets, but she was the only Lady Panther to finish in the top 10 at the A-Suns.

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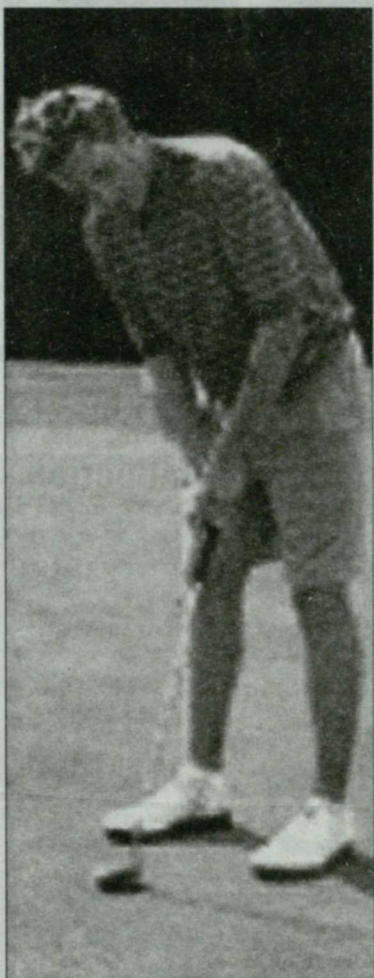
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Tiley tears through competition

From GOLF | Page 9

enth and will take on UCLA in their opening round match. Other teams participating are defending national champion California, who is seeded second to last and has its first match against Oklahoma State, the second seed in the tournament. It will be an interesting matchup between two very good programs. This whole tournament will definitely be the fiercest all-around competition that State has faced so far this year.



Special | Signal

Steve Tiley had been relatively quiet this year until taking medalist honors at Nelson.

Volleyball clinches Atlantic Sun conference berth after destroying Troy State

By ADAM KROHN
akrohn@gsusignal.com

Georgia State's volleyball team clinched an Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament berth by dominating Troy University 3-0 on Thursday night. Robyn van Dam and Alex Blanche led the attack by combining for 20 kills and 6 blocks.

"We did a fantastic job of using our serve to take them out of their system," said Georgia State Head Coach Mike Webster. "That enabled us to get and block a lot of attacks, and let us keep the pressure on them at all times."

Carol Mattos, April DeCoste and Blanche each had a kill to open the game and give the Panthers a 3-0 lead. Robyn van Dam and Decoste then made kills to up the score to 5-1 and extended the lead to 9-1 after four unforced errors by the Trojans. Troy called a timeout after another Blanche kill made it 10-1.

TU's timeout was to no avail as Dannielle Gonzalez converted a kill to increase the lead to 10 and more errors by

TU plus yet two more kills by Blanche to make it 15-1. Van Dam then scored one of her two service aces on the night to make it 16-1, forcing Troy to use its second timeout.



Special | Signal

Georgia State never would have clinched without Blanche.

Van Dam's second service ace made it 17-1 before TU converted their first kill of the game to make it 17-2.

TU did make a small run to cut the lead to 20-7, but by then

it was too late. State answered with a run of its own to make it 22-7. TU never came any closer than 13 as they would go on to lose the first game 30-18.

Carol Mattos led the second game off with two kills and state quickly built a 4-1 lead. After another hitting error, Troy battled back to tie the score at 4. The two sides would see-saw back and forth with Troy taking a lead for the first time in the match at 10-9. The two teams continued to fight back and forth with Blanche firing a service ace to make it 20-17, forcing Troy to use a timeout. They came back with no energy and only scored on more point en route to a second game loss of 30-18.

The third game was much of the same for State, who quickly jumped to an 11-3 lead with Decoste and Levasseur combining for three critical kills. A Blanche service ace after the timeout combined with a block put State up 14-3. With blocks from Mattos and a kill by van Dam, State had built a 20-4 lead.

State never looked back as

Troy put up a weak effort to stay in the match. They would go on to lose 30-13.

The Lady Panthers (10-14, 6-2 A-Sun) next play weekend matchups at home against Coastal Carolina and East Tennessee State on both Saturday and Sunday.



Special | Signal

Van Dam was ace-tastic against Troy State.

A spotlight on soccer's Jeremy Johnson

By RAVEN BECK
rbeck@gsusignal.com

At the heart of every good athlete there is a fighting spirit and an undeniable hunger to beat the odds. From birth Jeremy Johnson, freshman forward for the Georgia State Men's Soccer Team, has exemplified the ability to bounce back from adversity.

"It's funny because when I was born I was born clubfooted. My feet were turned in backwards almost. The doctor told me I would never walk, and when I started walking he was like I'd never run and I would never be able to have

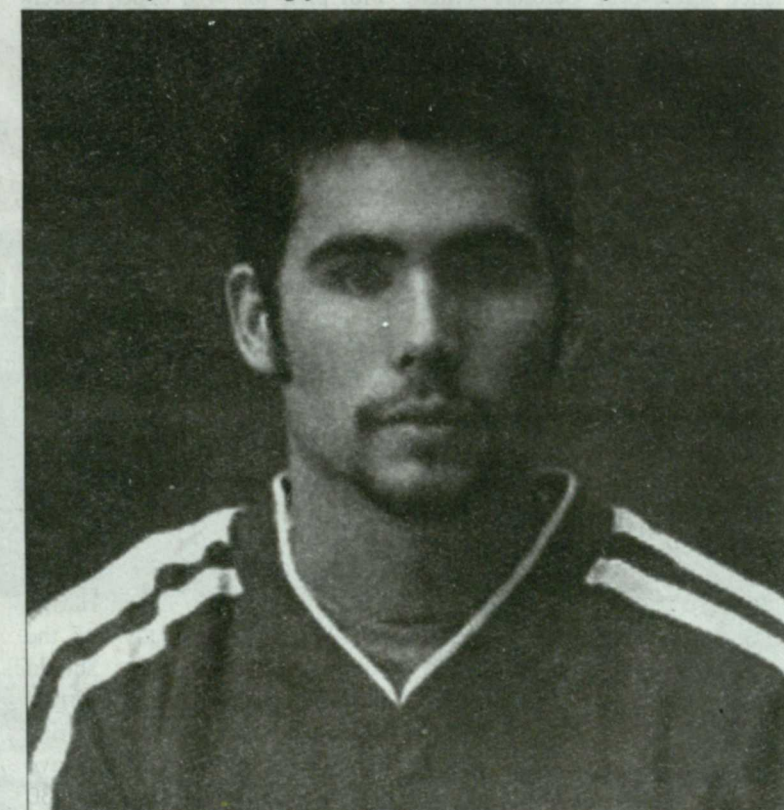
a normal life because my feet were turned in so far backwards," he said. Oh to prove naysayers wrong! In his first season with the Georgia State men's soccer team, Jeremy Johnson has already scored his first goal of the season and appears to be just getting started. Born in Greenville, South Carolina, Jeremy, 18, was introduced to soccer by his parents, Kenneth and Jerri Johnson.

"They both were into sports for a while. They gave me a start. They would take me places; it was pretty much a way to get to know my parents." Kenneth Johnson, a former member of the United States Army, moved his family around the world in order to follow his career. A bona fide military brat, Jeremy also honed his soccer skills while playing with the local soccer fanatics in Germany. "Everybody over there plays it, so I just picked it up," he said.

Although Jeremy and his family moved around, living everywhere from New York to Savannah, his parents made sure he had the opportunity to be a normal kid. He said, "I might say a quiet kid, that didn't do much, but I think my mom would tend to disagree!" Regardless of where he was in the world, Jeremy made it a point to stay active. "I'd go out and hang out with my friends and play sports and stuff. We did that a lot in Germany. And in Savannah, we'd get a street game of hockey or play some baseball, just make up bases. Or play kick ball or something."

At Kennesaw Mountain High School, Jeremy played an impressive role on the school soccer team. He was named Best Offensive Player and helped his team make it to the Georgia state final four. Also a former baseball player, Jeremy was recruited by different schools to join their baseball teams but couldn't resist the call of the Georgia State men's soccer team. Despite being a die hard athlete, Jeremy's priorities lie far beyond what he does on the field. Jeremy relies strongly on his

Christian faith to lead him and values his family and close friends above all else. "You go through some good times, you go through bad times, but your friends and family stick with you," he said. Jeremy and his teammates will continue their season on Friday, Nov. 5 as they go against Birmingham Southern. On Thursday Nov. 11 and Friday Nov. 12 the team will play in the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament which will be hosted by Mercer University.



Special | Signal

Jeremy Johnson chose soccer at Georgia State over several baseball offers from other schools.

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College basketball preview

By MATT SIMMONS
msimmons@gsusignal.com

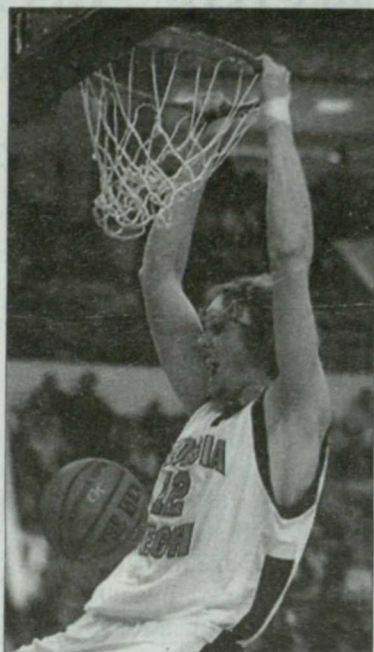
Kansas sits atop the preseason coaches poll, boasting versatile forward Wayne Simien and a mound of depth, but nobody's dancing just yet as March Madness sits a distant fantasy.

The Jayhawks received only eight of the 30 first-place votes, but amassed 741 total points, just enough to hold off the second-ranked Demon Deacons of Wake Forest who totaled 724 points, despite having four more first-place votes. The sensational sophomore Chris Paul will run the show for the Deacons, shooting and passing as the floor general, and a return to form by senior forward Vytas Danelius could carry Wake to the Final Four. Despite a weak recruiting class, Wake possesses strong starters backed by abundant bench talent and led valiantly by fourth-year Head Coach Skip Prosser.

Bill Self's Kansas squad is amongst the most mature in the land and they look to Wayne Simien, a potential National Player of the Year, to lead them to the promise land. Simien's separated shoulder hampered championship hopes last season, but teamed with fellow senior guards Aaron Miles and Keith Langford, plus 6-11 center David Padgett and swingman J.R. Giddens, Kansas possess one of the most balanced and talented starting fives in the land. Superior coaching, a talented freshman crop and a deep bench make Kansas a dangerous opponent.

Rounding out the top five teams in the land are a pair of ACC powers and the defending Big Ten regular season champions.

Led by Kansas' former coach, Roy Williams, the Tar Heels may be the most talented team on paper, but can they survive the gauntlet that is an ACC schedule? A second-round departure from the big dance left North Carolina bitter after regular-season victories over NCAA title game opponents



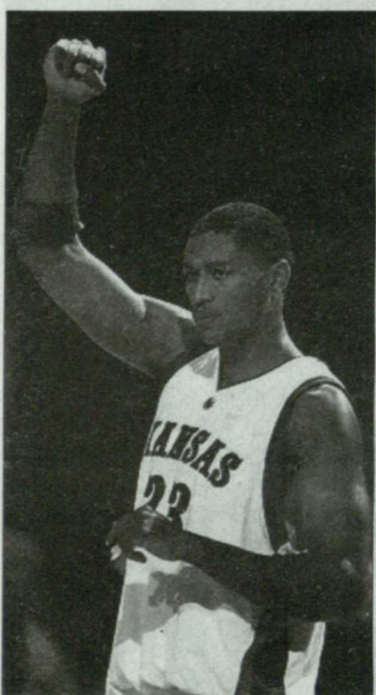
Special | Signal
Schenscher was a big reason the Yellow Jackets made it to the title game last year.

Connecticut and Georgia Tech. Plagued by defensive inconsistency and a lack of team cohesion, UNC struggled to a disappointing .500 in conference play; Sean May, Raymond Felton and Rashad McCants must go out and prove they can weather the ACC storm.

Continuously called a spoof, the ramblin' wreck of Georgia Tech was the surprise story of the last season. After winning the pre-season NIT and making the NCAA title game, everyone knows these Jackets are for real, and they're back. Under the guidance of Paul Hewitt, returning starters Will Bynum, Jarrett Jack, B.J. Elder and Luke Schenscher, along with a strong recruiting class, hope to add to last year's success with the only step left, a national championship. Riding a pair of flashy point-producing guards, the Fightin' Illini plan to take the Big Ten's highest scoring offense to the Final Four. Guards Deron Williams and Dee "The One-Man Fast Break" Brown can put up points in a hurry and with their top five bench scorers returning, the possibility of Bill Self's old Illinois squad meeting his new Kansas team in the final is an intriguing match-up.

Beyond the top five, look to 14th-ranked Mississippi State and number 20 Wisconsin to move up in the rankings. After working out for the NBA in pre-draft camps, Lawrence Roberts opted to return to Starkville, Mississippi. In contention for National Player of the Year, Roberts will use the help of a talented freshman class to carry the Bulldogs to their fourth straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

The Badgers lost a shining star to the NBA in Devin Harris, but Wisconsin is ready for the future. The newcomers should know the difference. Redshirting McDonald's All-American Brian Butch, a 6-11 forward-center, gave him the opportunity to add 30 pounds to his frame and improve his low-post game and Penn State transfer



Special | Signal
Wayne Simien should do big things for Kansas, but that was supposed to happen last year too.

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A look at how the Southeast division of the Eastern Conference will likely shake out this year

By JASON NICHOLS
jnichols@gsusignal.com

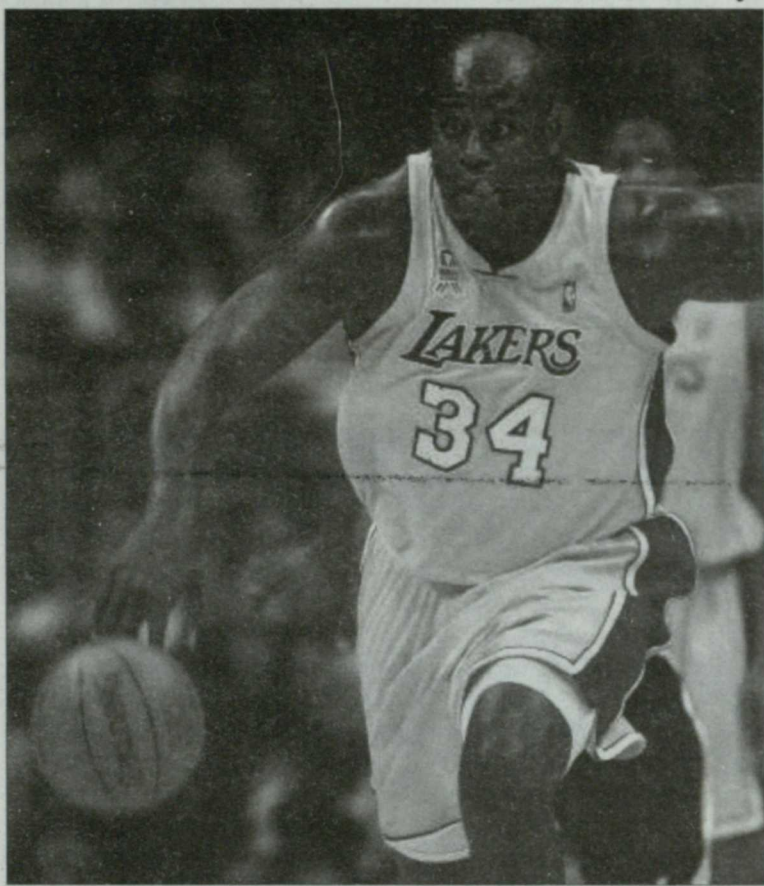
With the baseball season coming to an historic end, the basketball season is on the horizon. The season is sure to be one of the most intriguing, as players will determine how successful each team was in the offseason.

Atlanta Hawks

The Hawks have made a number of signings and trades in the off-season. They brought in Mike Woodson who was an assistant coach for the NBA champions Detroit Pistons. They drafted two high schoolers who will make an impact on this team. They drafted Josh Childress from Stanford University who may be in the starting lineup at the start of the season. However, they lost a wealth of talent in Jason Terry, Alan Henderson, Stephen Jackson, Jacque Vaughn and Bob Sura. They did make upgrades in the offensive department by adding Antoine Walker, Al Harrington and former Yellow Jacket Kenny Anderson. But this team must find a leader, and new head coach will have to make certain that Antoine Walker doesn't shoot the ball every possession.

Orlando Magic

Steve Francis will hopefully be joined by Grant Hill. This was the



Special | Signal

Shaq escaped a West full of big men for an East where he will flourish..

same guy who was supposed to team up with Tracy McGrady to give the Magic a one-two scoring punch. After seasons of disappointment which Grant Hill, will we get the former All-Star with the Detroit

Pistons or the player who has yet to play more than 30 games the last three seasons. They lost the young and talented Drew Gooden, the overpaid Juan Howard, and the identity of their franchise in Tracy

McGrady. Let's see if Dwight Howard can live up to expectations. He'll have to prove himself to the fans and the league.

Washington Wizards

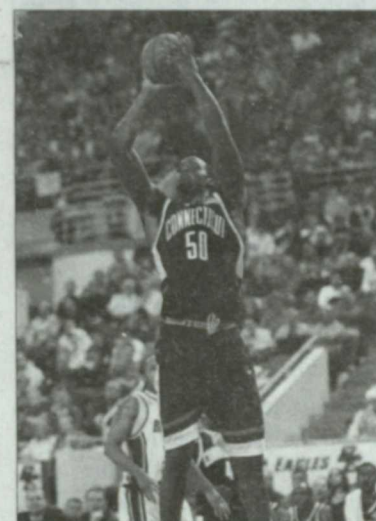
Gone is Jerry Stackhouse, and Antawn Jamison replaces him. Gilbert Arenas is still a good point guard, who is not surrounded by much talent. Larry Hughes had a great season last year averaging 18.8 points per game; look for him to score even more points this season. The Wizards did not do much in the off season, so look for that to translate into the same results as last season. They will not make the playoffs, once again.

Miami Heat

The most dominant center in the game has a new home, and suddenly the Miami Heat become contenders, primarily because they are in the Eastern Conference. Olympian Dwyane Wade will return with another great season and won't have the sophomore jinx. But other than Shaq and Wade, this team has no other players who strike fear into the opposition. Eddie Jones must contribute enormously as the third scoring option for this team to have a legitimate chance in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Charlotte Bobcats

As with any expansion team, the Bobcats will be the doormat of the league for this season. However, they do have the rookie Emeka Okafor, who may be this team's only bright spot. They also have the highflying Gerald Wallace from the Sacramento Kings. Look for Wallace to finally become a good player. In Charlotte, Wallace will finally get a good amount of playing time and finally have the opportunity to shine. They also



Special | Signal

Okafor will test his talents in the NBA this year in Charlotte.

have veteran and former Atlanta Hawk Steve Smith who will provide this team with leadership.

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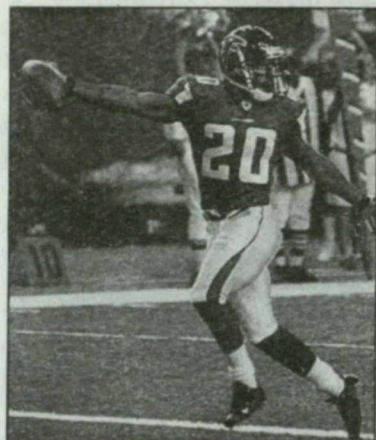
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Falcons suffer most embarrassing loss in years at the hands of Kansas City Chiefs

By BRENT WEIRSON
bweirson@gsusignal.com

Fifty-six to 10 was the final score at Arrowhead Stadium last week, as the Falcons were served what may be their worst defeat



Special | Signal
Rossum had the lone highlight for the Falcons.

since 1976 when they lost to the Los Angeles Rams (59-0). Despite going into the game as the number one rushing defense in the NFL, Atlanta gave up an astonishing eight rushing touchdowns which subsequently set a new NFL record. The Chiefs averaged 5.5 yards a carry rushing 271 yards and passed for 269 yards, which of course adds up to a grand total of 540 yards.

There was nothing that Kansas City could not do that Sunday, in the words of Keith Brooking, "We didn't have an answer for anything they did... There is no worse feeling as a linebacker than having the ball rammed down your throat. We were the No. 1 rushing defense and they hammered us."

On the bright side (if there is one) the Falcons did well rushing the ball averaging 5.7 yards a carry for 119 yards. But that was the only thing the Falcons did well on offense. The passing game was atrocious. Once again Vick was "learning the system," while the Falcons netted a mere 103 passing yards and only completed nine of their 25 passes. Only one third down was completed in 11 attempts which kept Atlanta's defense on the field for over 38 minutes. In fact, the Falcons were so bad on offense that their lone touchdown had to come on a 75 yard punt return by Allen Rossum in the third quarter. Jay Feely accounted for the Falcon's three other points by hitting a 19-yard field goal early in the game.

"I am honored to be a part of history," Jim Mora stated sarcastically after the game in reference to the eight rushing touchdowns by the

Chiefs. Many players and coaches from both teams continually referred to how well the Chiefs offensive line played. "I'm excited because it sets this offensive line apart from any offensive line in history," said Priest Holmes. Jim Mora further commented, "We have done a tremendous job of stopping the run. So it just emphasized how well they played. Their O-line was doing such an excellent, tremendous job it

might not have mattered who was in there."

But no matter how bad that defeat at Arrowhead was, Falcons fans must remember that Atlanta still has a great record 5-2 and leads the division by two games over New Orleans. If the Falcons can rebound from the game they played in Kansas City, they will remain in a great position to make the playoffs.



Special | Signal
Priest Holmes had a field day against the NFL's number one defense.

Europeans lift GSU golf

From WOMEN | page 10

Atlantic Sun champion, Campbell, still seems able to hold off the Lady Panthers. The younger Scott and Meincke almost always finished above the Campbell elite, but the rest of their team would play well enough to keep Georgia State just out of reach.

Georgia State will now go on hiatus for three months as they prepare for the beginning of the 2005 season at the 7th Annual UCF Invitational in Orlando, Fla. Only time will tell if the Lady Panthers can work out the remaining kinks or if Campbell will continue their Atlantic Sun dominance.



Special | Signal
Meincke had a stellar fall where she was tops in the country.

Red Sox break 86-year-old curse of the Babe with a sweep of the Cardinals during eclipse

By JIMMY HALL
jhall@gsusignal.com

It was only fitting that The Boston Red Sox finally won a World Series on the night of a lunar eclipse. The skies were an amazing omen. Space foreshadowed an even more beautiful event of near epic proportions. An imaginary curse has been lifted. It actually happened.

This New England team of destiny serves as a microcosm of what is possible for all of us if we



Special | Signal
Five million showed up Saturday for a truly once-in-a-lifetime victory parade.

work together and refuse to quit or adhere to past failings. Who on Earth thought these men from

"Beantown" would sweep the Fall Classic or even be a part of it after trailing the Yankees three games to zero in the American League Championship Series? How many people predicted the Sox could or would win eight games in a row? Few, practically none.

In a time when our great nation is politically torn and full of hatred and strife, the Boston Red Sox, for at least one night, gave us all the gift of common happiness and unity. It was 86 long years full of near misses and heartbreaks between World Series Championships for this town, team and its coast to coast fans, but America still loves and supports an underdog. Their triumph is our own, as is their wonderful spirit.

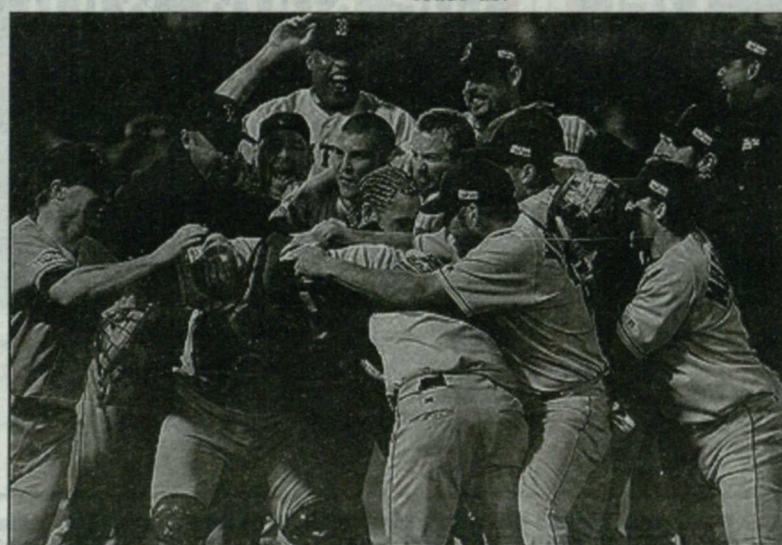
As tens of millions watched Wednesday night, we viewed American soldiers smiling before televisions in Iraq, thousands of Sox fans celebrating in the streets

of Boston, and even hundreds more in the sports bars of New York City doing exactly the same thing. When it was all sealed and done, few people outside Missouri were sad. The country rejoiced together, as did its finest representatives overseas.

I'm not ignorant enough to think that this bond of happiness will last long, not with the bitterest Presidential Election in history looming only a few days away. However, maybe game four will continue to remind us that even as we differ vastly in our political and philosophical opinions, American citizens are still a people with a deep core of mutually shared values and emotions. We

may fuss and argue among ourselves but woe to the outside nation or force that dares to do the same to us as a whole.

I say "Great going Red Sox," for you've done as much for the rest of us as you have for yourselves. That one special night and two weeks of baseball gave us all a much needed breather before we must go on to bitterly contest another battle of historical proportions. May we all come together once again on our own in the weeks ahead, for we must; we have little choice but to do so, regardless of who leads us.



Special | Signal
The Red Sox were overcome with emotion after their game four victory.

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Catching up with your college football

By JOSH MOYNIHAN
jmoynihan@gsusignal.com

What a week of ups and downs in college football! The state of Florida took a beating; for the first time since 1978, Florida, Florida State, and Miami all lost on the same Saturday. Two of the top five BCS teams fell, and the chase for conference titles and the Heisman became a little more interesting. As we near the conclusion of the regular season, here are how things stand at the moment.

The SEC remains in the hands of Tennessee and Auburn; Auburn still has an excellent shot at the national title. Tennessee's freshman quarterback, Erik Ainge, has improved his play tremendously since his horrid performance against Auburn and looks to avenge that loss if the Vols make it to Atlanta to face the Tigers. Auburn stands in the thick of the national title chase and is a sure pick to be favored in the SEC Championship Game. Having one stud running back is great, but when a team has two, like Auburn's Carnell "Cadillac" Williams and Ronnie Brown, they'll be tough to stop no matter what.

The SEC player with the biggest accomplishment over the

weekend would have to be Georgia's senior quarterback David Greene, who tied Peyton Manning's record for most career wins by an NCAA quarterback (39) and beat Florida for the first time in his storied career. David Pollack also had a memorable afternoon by taking over the all-time sacks leadership for the University of Georgia with his two sacks.

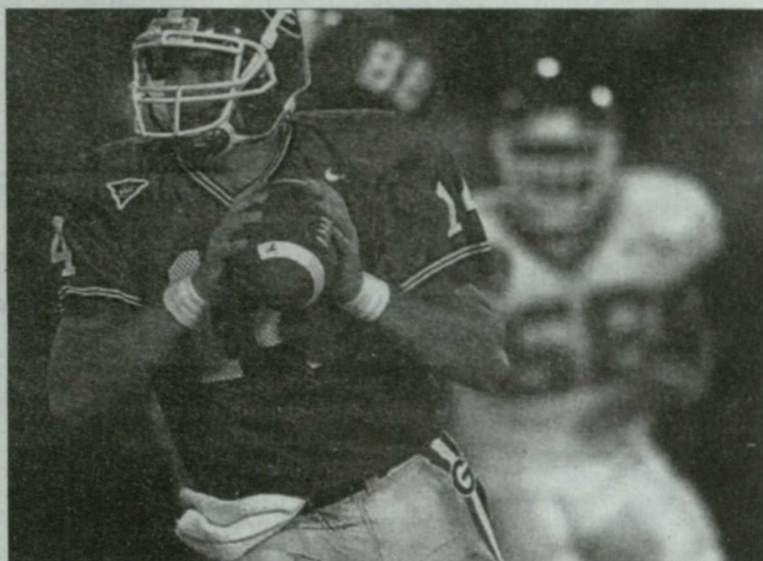
Two of the weekend's largest upsets came from the ACC, where nearly any team can beat any other on any day. After falling to Georgia Tech and NC State, Maryland hosted the number five team in the country, Florida State, and beat them 20-17. Just miles south and hours later, North Carolina, led by senior quarterback, Darian Durant, hosted Miami and took the number three Canes on a wild ride that ended in a 31-28 UNC win. The win marked UNC's first win over a top five team. The conference is now up for grabs since Virginia and Miami have only one loss and do not play each other this year. Outside of knowing Duke will finish last, this conference is too crazy to predict.

The Big Ten saw Michigan and arguably the nation's best receiver, Braylon Edwards, come back from a seventeen-point

deficit in just over six minutes against rival Michigan State. The comeback marked the largest overcome deficit ever for Michigan on their home turf and another storied

Heisman front-runner, Kyle Orton, was benched in the third quarter due to his ineffectiveness.

Possibly the best game of the week came early in the day when



Special | Signal

On Saturday, Greene eclipsed Manning for most NCAA victories.

chapter in the Battle for the Paul Bunyon Trophy.

While Michigan continues to nip on Wisconsin's heels for the Big Ten Title, the Purdue Boilermakers have fallen of the chart since losing three games in a row. The most recent loss was a 13-10 embarrassment at the hands of Northwestern. One time

Oklahoma took on Oklahoma State in what is affectionately known as "The Bedlam Game". The game went back and forth with Heisman candidates and teammates, Jason White and Adrian Peterson, proving to be too much in the end as Oklahoma edged Oklahoma State 38-35 to remain undefeated and keep their national title hopes

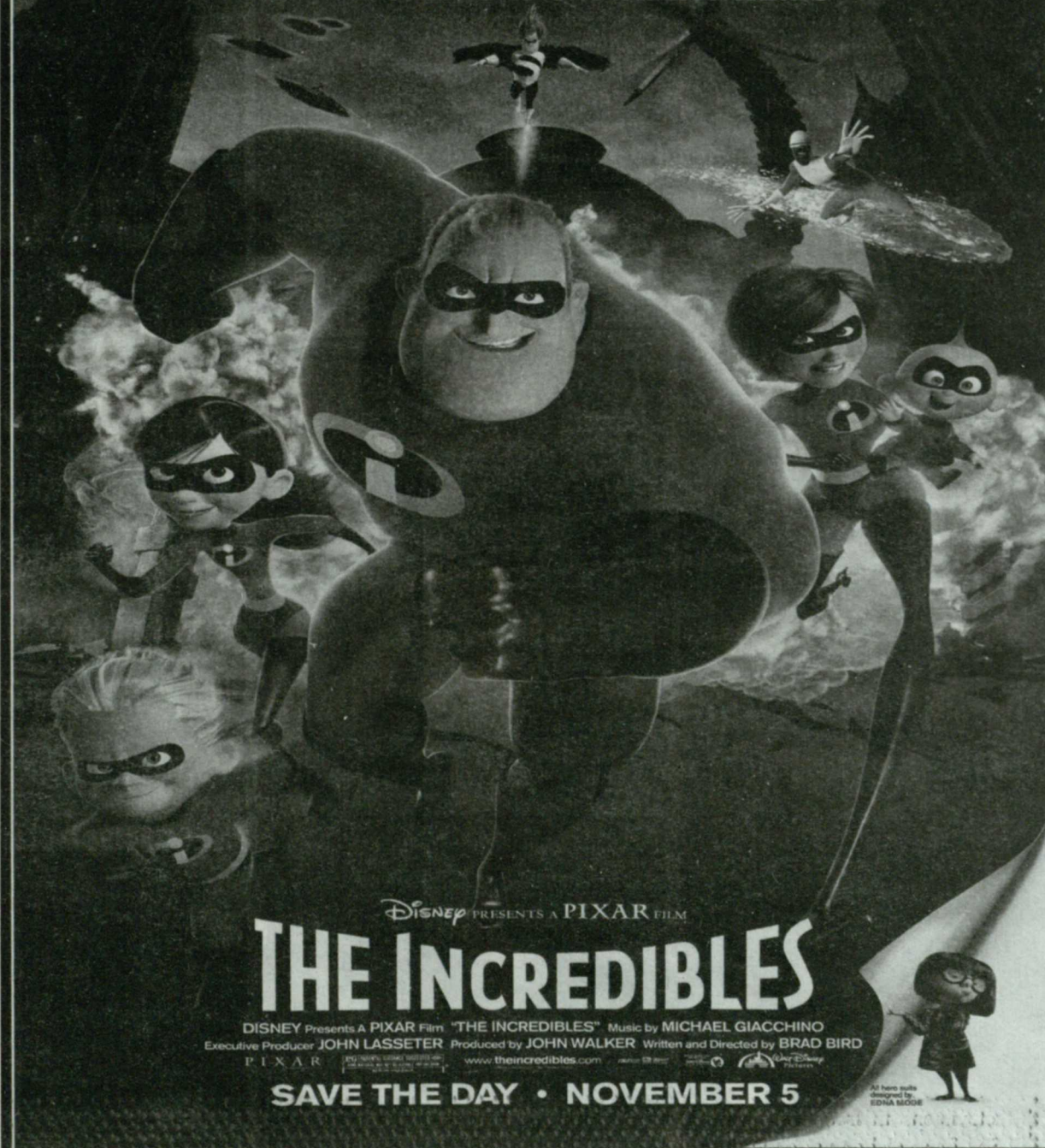
alive. Peterson put on a rushing clinic, notching up 249 yards on 33 carries and a touchdown, including an 80-yard dream run in which he broke numerous tackles at the line of scrimmage and raced down the field showing off his power, speed, and vision all on one snap of the ball.

USC, the mighty Trojans, stayed undefeated by shellacking Washington State. Reggie Bush and Matt Leinhardt improved their Heisman candidacies, along with keeping USC number one.

One team to definitely take notice of is Utah. They are undefeated and in the heat of the BCS race. They whooped Texas A&M to open the seasons (Texas A&M's one and only loss so far). Quarterback and Heisman candidate, Alex Smith, leads the Utes, and if Smith can keep the Utes unbeaten, then they will have a definite shot at making a BCS bowl game and accomplish what no non-BCS conference team has ever done in the process.

There's no telling how things will end up in college football this year, but you sure can have a fun time finding out. Tune in next Saturday for another exciting day of upsets, close calls, and title contenders attempting to show why they should be number 1.

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scores and more from around the conference

Men's Soccer

October 30
Belmont d. Campbell 2-1
Gardner-Webb d.
Lipscomb 4-1
Mercer d. UCF 2-1 (ot)

October 29
Mercer d. UCF, 2-1 (2ot)
FAU d. Georgia State, 3-2

October 28
Campbell d. Lipscomb, 4-1
Belmont d. Gardner-Webb, 1-0

October 27
Clemson d. Stetson, 3-2

October 26
Jacksonville d. FIU, 2-0

October 24
Mercer d. Stetson, 1-0
Georgia State d.
Jacksonville, 3-2
Gardner-Webb d. Georgia Southern, 2-1 (ot)

Women's Soccer

October 30
Campbell d. Meredith 7-0
Mercer d. Winthrop 4-0

October 29
UT Martin d. Lipscomb, 4-1

October 28
UCF d. #12 Florida State, 3-2

October 27
Georgia State d. Mercer, 2-0

Campbell d. Gardner-Webb, 1-0
Stetson t. Jacksonville, 0-0
FAU d. Miami, 1-0

October 26
Belmont d. Lipscomb, 1-0

October 24
UCF d. Troy, 5-0

Volleyball

Oct. 30
Belmont d. Gardner-Webb, 3-0
Campbell d. Lipscomb, 3-2
Troy d. Mercer, 3-1
Stetson d. UCF, 3-0
Coastal Carolina d. Georgia State, 3-0
Florida Atlantic d. Bethune-Cookman, 3-0

Oct. 29
Belmont d. Campbell, 3-0
Florida Atlantic d. UCF, 3-1
Lipscomb d. Gardner-Webb, 3-1

Oct. 28
Georgia State d. Troy, 3-0
#25 Florida A&M d.
Jacksonville, 3-0

Oct. 27
Mercer d. Savannah State, 3-0

Oct. 26
Belmont d. Lipscomb, 3-1
UNC Greensboro d. Gardner-Webb, 3-0
UCF d. Bethune-Cookman, 3-0
Jacksonville State d. Troy, 3-1

Oct. 25
Jacksonville d. Bethune-Cookman, 3-0

Oct. 24
Stetson d. Savannah State, 3-0
Birmingham Southern d. Mercer, 3-1

Men's Golf - Nelson Invitational

F.	School	R1	R2	R3	Tot.	+Par
1	New Mexico, U. of	277	269	284	830	+2
2	UNLV	279	268	288	835	+7
3	Georgia State Univ.	275	279	283	837	+9
4	Missouri, U. of	284	275	285	844	+16
5	Stanford University	285	279	280	844	+16
6	Kansas, U. of	287	278	282	847	+19
7	Kansas State Univ.	292	271	286	849	+21
8	Colorado, U. of	291	280	282	853	+25
9	Notre Dame, U. of	279	288	287	854	+26
10	UC Davis	295	286	278	859	+31
11	West Florida, U. of	292	287	292	871	+43
12	Idaho, Univ. of	293	289	293	875	+47
13	Colorado State Univ.	289	288	299	876	+48
14	Northern Colorado	286	287	303	876	+48
15	Florida Southern Col	291	296	296	883	+55
16	Texas Pan American	304	301	297	902	+74

John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate

F.	School	R1	R2	Tot.
1	Campbell University	301	297	598
2	Georgia State Univ.	294	309	603
3	UAB	302	304	606
4	Yale University	305	304	609
5	Middle Tennessee St	310	300	610
6	Florida Atlantic U.	315	299	614
7	UCF	311	311	622
8	Elon University	312	312	624
9	Southern Mississippi	316	311	627
10	Daytona Beach CC	319	315	634
11	Jacksonville St.	324	316	640

ON DECK:

Men's Soccer:

Fri., Nov. 5 vs. Birmingham Southern @ Atlanta-Forsyth 7 p.m.

Women's Volleyball:

Tues. Nov. 2 vs. Clemson @ Clemson, SC 7 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 5 vs. Mercer @ Macon, GA 4 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 6 vs. Campbell @ GSU Arena 5 p.m.

Club Football:

Sat., Nov. 6 vs. Edward Waters @ Jacksonville, FL 3 p.m.

Men's Basketball:

Fri., Nov. 5 vs. Augusta State @ GSU Arena 2 p.m.

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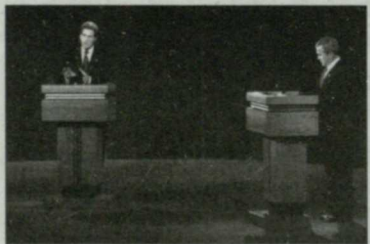
Analyzing the three debates

By BARRETT TOUPS
btoups@gsusignal.com

Most voters shared the belief that the three 90-minute presidential debates would be enough time to hear the stance of the two candidates on all the major substantive issues of our day. How wrong we as voters were.

Several key problems facing this country were either barely mentioned or completely ignored altogether. I'll go through some of them one by one, using an order determined by their rank in Barrett Toups' scale of importance.

Since we are in Atlanta, I have to start out with the problem of urban sprawl, a problem in the Atlanta area and in other growing cities throughout the country. Urban sprawl was not uttered,



Special | Signal

The three debates didn't address the substantive issues.

murmured or even whispered during the 2004 presidential debates. If I had been the moderator, I would have asked the two candidates the following: Does the government have an interest in halting commercial and real estate development in and around overpopulated areas? Do you think this country is too car dependent? Do you have any creative solutions to help solve this problem, both in the short, intermediate and long term?

Another important topic the moderators ignored was the issue of media ownership. Jim Lehrer was restricted to questions about foreign policy, and I wouldn't expect Charles Gibson or Bob Schieffer to bite the hands that feed them (Gibson works for ABC, owned by Disney. Schieffer works for CBS, owned by Viacom.). That leaves me once again to be the moderator and ask the questions I want answered: Do you think there's enough diversity in

See DEBATES | Page 21

Indecision in America

Why this election is going to take some time to sort out



JENNY PAYNTER
Journalism/PR

I'm Not Lost,
I'm Just Exploring

jpaynter@gsusignal.com

Remember when we were in grade school, and in order to find out where you stood with a fellow classmate or crush, all you had to do was pass them a note? Looking back, it seems so simple now. So cut and dry. If you like me, check yes. If not, check no.

After a few years we start to long for such simplicity. Nothing is cut and dry anymore. Nothing is black and white. Our entire world is painted in shades of gray – from heather to charcoal. But in taking a closer look, doesn't it seem like the largest decisions we make in life need a definite, clear-cut answer?

Like, perhaps, the decision of who should be chosen to run our country?

There is already overwhelming evidence that we will not know who our country's next president is by Nov. 2. In fact we may not know the answer to that question a week

after Election Day...or the week after that.

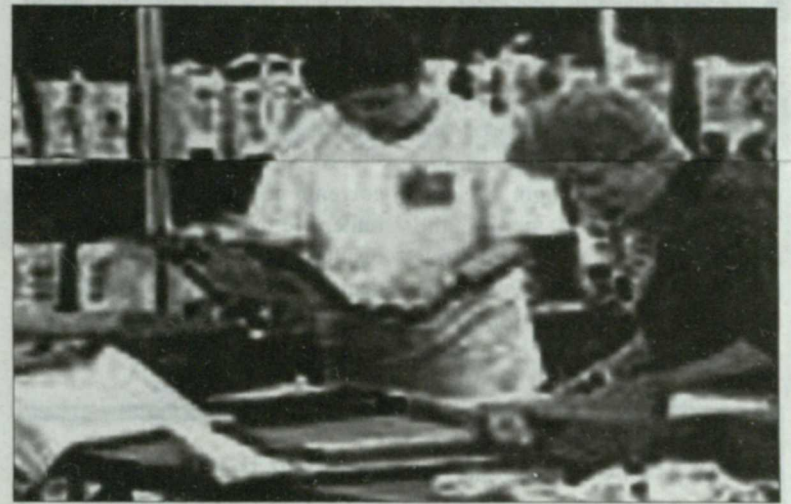
In fact, all signs point toward this election following in the steps of its predecessor, in which days to find out who the winner of the 2000 elections was.

Already, in several states, there are lawsuits pending which involve voter registration practices. Lawyers are being dispatched to several states in anticipation of voting complications for this year's presidential election.

In Florida, there are 58,000 absentee votes that have possibly been misplaced. In Colorado, over 37,000 people have registered to vote in more than one country. Both of these stories were reported the week before the official Election Day. And other lawsuits are showing up in states such as Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

It seems that the last elections have welcomed - with open arms - the idea of indecision into politics. As if we didn't doubt our political leaders enough, after the last elections, nothing seems concrete. Don't like who won the elections? Well then by all means fight it. Let your voices be heard. I demand a re-count!

And so we enter our current situation. A world filled with allegedly crooked politics, confused voters and phrases like "hanging chads." No one is trustworthy. No one is the good guy. And America is left feeling like there is no leadership, only men with big budgets who like to argue. Or change their minds. A lot.



Special | Signal

Look for a repeat of the 2000 election recount in Florida.

One question though – aren't Americans already viewed as indecisive by most other countries? Does anyone know exactly where we stand? And if we second-guess ourselves, what sort of message does that send to the rest of the world? "Wow, uh, sorry, but we made a mistake. Here's the guy who really should be in office." Is it just me, or does that portray an image of weakness?

Four years ago, it seemed unbelievable, almost embarrassing, that it should take over a month to decide who our president was. It was five grueling weeks of "He said this," "But, he said that," "Yeah, but, he did this," and so on, and so on.

And yet today we seem to be on the very same track. Only the arguments are of a much more serious and sophisticated manner, such as "Well, his daughter's gay," and "Yeah, but he's not a real goose

hunter."

For now, the polls seem split. Maybe in this current political climate, citizens are seriously deliberating over who our next president should be. Maybe the candidates have done such a fabulous job in their debates that many people honestly cannot make up their minds. Or perhaps the problem is that with these candidates as our choices, people feel they have better things to do with their time than decide who to vote for.

As for me, I wish we could revert back to a simpler form of voting. Like a ballot where no one has to watch an instructional video in order to cast their vote. Perhaps just a pen and paper method: Check box 1 for Bush. Check box 2 for Kerry.

See how simple? Though I guess the problem then would be all the people looking for box 3: None of the above?

The unlikely wildcard

Why the youth of America could decide this election

By SARAH DAY
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One of the coolest little side notes to the upcoming election is that the youth vote seems to be the wildcard. Neither presidential candidate is unable to gauge the untainted pool

of new voters (those who just reached the legal voting age) and those of us between the ages of 20 and 24. According to a recent article in *Rolling Stone* magazine, in 1972, 52 percent of the 18-24-year-old block voted. Compare this with only 36 percent in 2000. However, most experts agree that in 2004 the voting buzz is clearly present in America's youth.

As I walk down the street, I have even seen shirts in store fronts bearing the words "vote or die." It seems that America's youth is starting to care about the political atmosphere of their country; to be un-invested seems almost impossible especially

with everything that has occurred since the last election. Though some experts claim that the youth vote will swing toward the democrats, which seems to be shaky territory, especially concerning the untapped, and therefore un-surveyed, group of people who will be voting for the first time, neither party can be certain of which way the youth vote will swing.

A huge push toward registering young voters has also recently occurred. Organizations like Rock the Vote and Declare Yourself have successfully registered thousands of youth voters in the politically uncertain states such as Colorado, Oregon and Florida. Even the controversial

director, Michael Moore has gotten on the voting promotion train with his Slacker Uprising Tour, where he has gone to several battleground states and offered free beer and clean underwear to those unlikely slacker voters. Moore claims to be seeking those lazy slackers "who proudly sleep till noon and who believe papers are for rolling, not reading." Well, I applaud Moore for his effort, despite the fact that I'm not his biggest fan.

I think that the increase in voter registration centered on the youth vote could greatly influence this elec-

See YOUTH | Page 23

Lawyers shouldn't decide our president

By **MATTHEW SKUYA**
Iowa State Daily
 Iowa State University

Ready or not, here comes the election. As both parties gear up for that final push and get out the vote effort during the next four days, tensions are high as to the potential outcomes of this election.

Though I'm a political science major and generally love elections and the game of political campaigning, I really am ready for the whole thing to be over with. However, the thing that worries me the most is that this election may much like four years ago.

With the polls across the country indicating a neck-and-neck race for the White House, the danger is that the election could draw out over a period of months.

"For those who may believe that the 2000 election doesn't warrant a national standard for ballots, registration and counting, all I can say is that you must have some stake in seeing fewer people vote in this country."

Only this time it could be in several states rather than just one. With more than 10,000 lawyers on both the Republican and Democrat sides ready to fight the results in the courts, it raises questions about the integrity of our election system. Aren't the voters supposed to determine who our next president is? The consequences of the 2000 election times three are difficult to contemplate. In many of the other democracies around the world, contested elections are not as complicated and crippling as in the United States because they have a system for runoff elections or simply conduct a new vote.

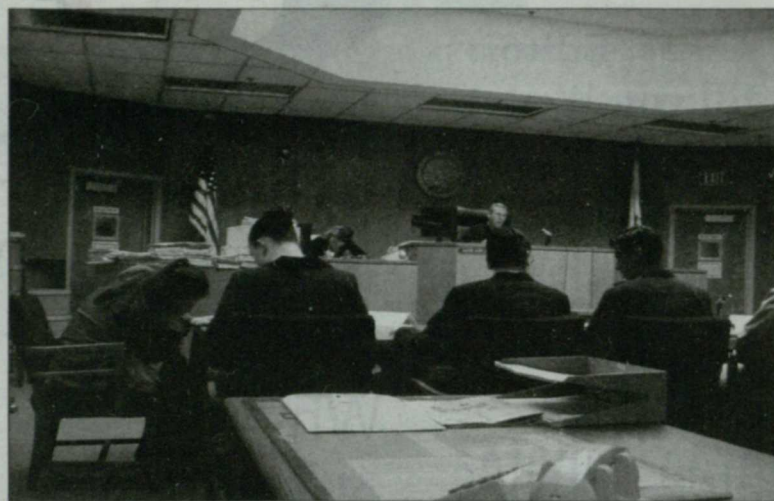
current political culture would rather see the lawyers hash out the results in the courts, leaving the decision to nine Supreme Court justices rather than the American people.

The ultimate question is this - after 2000, we knew and understood that there needed to be reforms in our electoral system, so why is it that after four years we may find ourselves in a situation worse than the one encountered in 2000? Hopefully, John Kerry will win in a landslide victory and all the pre-election worries about a long, drawn-out legal battle will not come to fruition.

Whether the election is close or not, it seems clear to me that the country needs a more uniform system of elections. Some may say it isn't the business of the federal government to tell states how to may be true for state and local elections, but when the stakes are the highest office of the land, it's important to get the votes right.

For those who may believe that the 2000 election doesn't warrant a national standard for ballots, registration and counting, all I can say is that you must have some stake in seeing fewer people vote in this country. The fact is that Democrats tend to win in higher turnout elections, which would make it difficult for the Republicans to maintain power.

This is not an accusation that Republicans actively try to sup-



Special | Signal

The election should be decided at the polls.

press the vote, but when the Ohio Secretary of State -- a Republican -- wants to throw out voter registrations because they were not printed on thick enough paper, I will say that the Republican Party doesn't exactly encourage you to vote. If your registration is thrown out once, you will probably be discouraged from registering again, especially if you're a new voter.

Ultimately, the accusations about voter fraud abound on each side of the fence because the Democrats aren't exactly squeaky clean on this one either. I highly doubt that wholesome figures like

Mary Poppins or Dick Tracy will show up at the polls.

If a person is dead, they may be registered to vote, but it is unlikely they will show up at their voting precinct to cast a ballot. This raises the important question of who the zombified would vote for as a group. Whether you are a Republican, a Democrat, a Green or an independent, your vote should count. A universal voter system for federal elections is the only way to make it more efficient and stable, so the American people never again have to cede their judgment to activist judges.

Allen Buckley wants to save America

By **ISAAC KINARD**
 ikinard@gsusignal.com

Allen Buckley is fighting for Zell Miller's senate seat because this country faces a crisis, but Johnny Isakson and Denise Majette won't confront the beast. While he recognizes the threat of terrorism, the real menace comes from within.

"I have this quote, 'Democracy cannot exist as a common form of government. It only exists until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largess from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury. As a result, a democracy always collapses under loose fiscal policy. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations is 200 years.' We're over that," said Buckley.

America's loose spending has run a very high tab for us - Americans face over \$7 trillion in public debt. Although that's a lot of Sky Miles on the ole Triple Platinum MasterCard, it comes out to \$50,000 for each full time worker, and it gets bigger everyday.

Buckley explains, "Our ability to prosper is being destroyed. All the baby boomers are retiring and you got a smaller workforce to provide these benefits and they're

"Most importantly, he doesn't have time to climb through the red tape and over the ward heelers, good-ole boys, attention-starved personalities and out-of-work lawyers clamoring for the big party offices."

suffocating on debt. The concept of tax cuts without corresponding spending cuts is a loser. If you think the world's gonna end in five years, we can go down with our snout in the trough."

Buckley's plan hinges on a floating tax rate that connects income and expenses. After an exemption for living expenses, Americans would pay a common, floating tax rate. "If you get more government, you pay for it. If you get less government, you pay less tax."

He's got the resume to talk like this. He is a tax lawyer and CPA. He has an LL.M., a master's degree in law, which means he knows the law better than the lobbyists that wrote them. His contenders only hold their time as Party lackeys over him.

Despite a good resume, Buckley faces stiff odds. His biggest obstacle may be his affiliation with the Libertarian Party. The Libertarian Party champions a free-market, a foreign policy of non-intervention and peace, and more individual liberty, including drug legalization and less gun control. It is the top functioning 3rd party, with consistent ballot access. Party members include Drew Carey, Trey Parker, Denis Leary and Sir Richard Branson.

But Branson spends his money on The Rebel Billionaire instead of libertarian campaigns. Third party campaign assets pale in comparison to the Big Two and Buckley must contend with Isakson's millions.

Also, voters shy from third parties, either scared of a country

where people can smoke dope, shoot guns and make their own decisions or they are afraid third party votes waste away with the lonely chads in the Secretary of State's trash can.

Furthermore, Majette and Isakson have name recognition from their high-profile political moves. Republican voters in DeKalb still blush about helping Majette unseat McKinney. And Newt still slithers out reminding us of his lost seat.

Why then, would Buckley join such a hard game?

He explains, "The only issue I see eye to eye with the Democrats is I believe in a strong EPA. The republicans are fiscally irresponsible. They cater to this religious right. As long as you don't bother anybody else, you should be able to do what you want. Adults should be able to smoke marijuana if they want to."

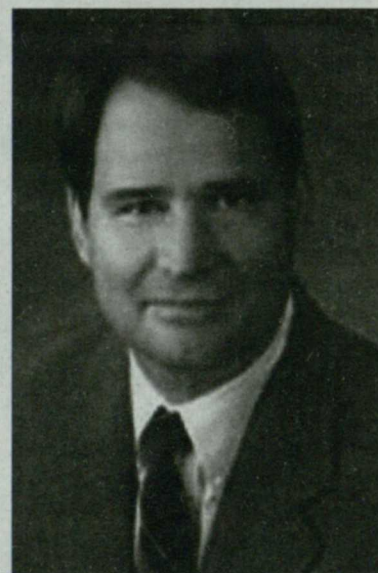
Most importantly, he doesn't have time to climb through the red tape and over the ward heelers, good-ole boys, attention-starved personalities and out-of-work lawyers clamoring for the big party offices.

"Paul Volker predicts we face a 75 percent chance of a crisis within five years. That's Paul Volker, former Chairman of the Fed; that's a big gun," said Buckley.

That brings us back to his message of fiscal responsibility.

"Short of winning, if I got 30 percent of the vote, the message would be very strong, 'We in Georgia get it and we're ready to make the sacrifices to make the system work.' People got to stand up and say 'Uh, Uh, I know this doesn't work and I'm tired of it.'" And so Mr. Buckley has been one to stand up and make the slow march toward Capitol Hill and a brighter future.

For more information on Buckley, visit www.buckleyforsenate.org.



Special | Signal

Allen Buckley, a libertarian, faces tough competition for Zell Miller's vacated Senate seat.

The Essentials

Teachers and police get the shaft when it comes to payday

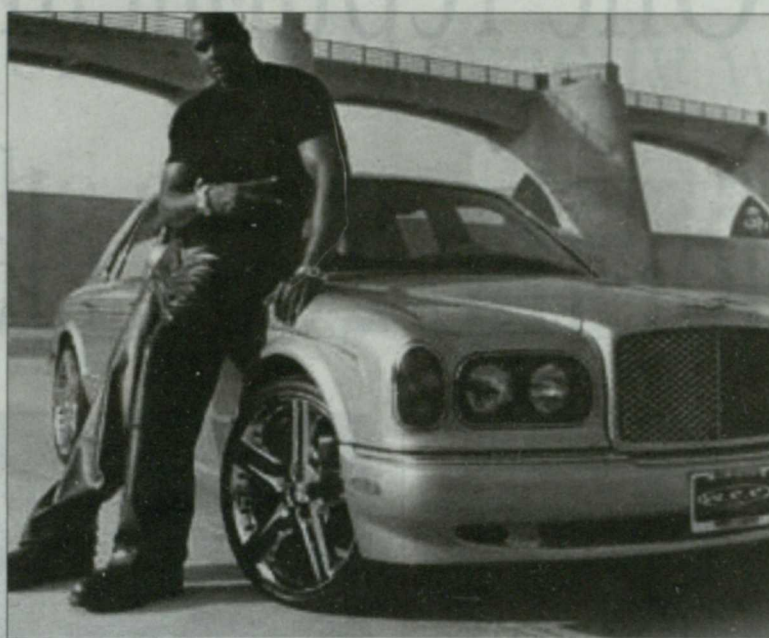


CALISTA SCHENCK
Senior/Psychology

I Can Back That Sass Up

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Distraction from distress can be a beautiful thing. While getting a root canal, you may be convinced by the 1999 World Series game that you are viewing on virtual television that Greg Maddux, your hero at the time, truly deserved his \$10.6 million salary that year. Keep in mind, though, that the dentist gouging out the nerve tissue inside your tooth will be paid approximately 1.5 percent of that amount...actually, maybe it would be better to forget about that little detail right then. It would be hard to forget about the irony of the situation for long, though, because it is such a ubiquitous theme.



Special | Signal

Shaq is one of the richest athletes in the world.

Whereas the median annual earnings of a patrol officer in 2002 were \$42,270, several actors who play law enforcement officials on "CSI" received a six-figure sum per episode during that same year. A doctor that would treat Ashlee Simpson for her debilitating acid-reflux disease (which she has suddenly developed at the ripe old age of twenty) will make less money in a year than Ashlee already has or soon will receive from her #1 debut album. And in the 2002-2003 season, the Utah Jazz had the lowest median salary of all NBA teams. The lowest-paid player on that team, Carlos Arroyo, was paid \$546,000 that year—nearly twice the median salary of anesthesiolo-

gist, the highest-paid group of physicians.

Why do we pay our famous athletes, actors and musicians more than our doctors, teachers, and police?

Some people suggest that as a capitalist society, we would much rather have lower taxes and keep more of our own money to use at our discretion. This would explain why teachers, police officers, and firefighters—whom we pay through our taxes—earn such modest livings. It also accounts for the phenomenon of the high earnings of famous entertainers, since entertainment is something which we can choose or not

See ENTERTAIN Page 23

The debates did not cover several key issues of importance

From DEBATES | Page 19

the media? Is the field level for all the players in the media landscape? Do you think media content has improved or deteriorated since the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996?

There was plenty of talk on prescription drugs, but no mention of U.S. drug policy. Since the moderators failed once again, I am made to assume the role of responsible journalist and ask the following to the candidates: Is it just for a small-time drug offender to serve longer sentences than someone arrested for one or more violent felonies? After years and years of fighting the "war on drugs," has demand for illegal drugs decreased? Do you think that we can ever eliminate the demand for illegal drugs in this country?

James Hubb, a participant in the "town hall" debate did get to sneak in an environmental question, but the issue of the environment was under the radar not only in the debates, but also in the overall media coverage of the presiden-

tial race. What good is allowing citizens to ask the candidates questions if they're not allowed to follow up to make sure they get a straight answer? If a candidate gives inadequate, incomplete or

"It is important to remember that the mass media doesn't always want us to debate all the important issues, because the parent companies' business interests trump all other considerations."

irrelevant answers, he must not be allowed immunity from a follow-up question, as he knows a new question on a new topic is on the way. I would have liked Bush to explain what he meant when he said, "I've got a plan to increase the wetlands by 3 million." Is the 3 million in dollars, acres or what? And what is Kerry's plan to try to fix the Kyoto protocols?

The moral of the story is that the issues the candidates address in these debates are and always will be very predictable as long as the mass media continues to have the influence it possesses. I seriously doubt either candidate was surprised by any of the questions except during the third debate when Schieffer asked Bush if he thought that homosexuality was a choice. Bush no doubt knew the issue of gay marriage would come up; I simply think he wasn't expecting it to be asked in that way. The media had already picked the important issues and framed the questions before the debates had even been decided on and negotiated. It is important to remember that the mass media doesn't always want us to debate all the important issues, because the parent companies' business interests trump all other considerations. The more controversial, wedge issues they can highlight for their audiences means more profit for the media companies, a sad but true statement about our modern-day media.

PANTHER POLL

Q:

Staff Poll: What do you think of stemcell research?



Bobby McMillin
Sports Editor

"Abortions are happening anyway, so why kill someone else that could be helped."



Lindsey Stephenson
News Editor

"[I am] ethically against it."



Kyla Evans
Production Manager

"It's more important to help people now than to help those who may or may not exist in the future."



Nick Meis
Copy Editor

"It's fine if the source is the umbilical cord but not fetuses."



Matt Cochran
Managing Editor

"It is never right to save a life by taking another."



Leila Regan
Urbanite Editor

"Whenever a religious entity takes over scientific research in a country, progress is stunted."

For the next issue, tell us what you think...

Q:

Are you happy with the results of the election?

Scientific experiments should be conducted on human criminals, not animals



Testing on animals is a practice that should cease.

Special | Signal



CASEY LYTHGOE
Junior/English

The World
as I See It

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The human population in jail is quite large. It consumes much of society's time and resources. The experimentation on animals can be cruel and the tests can be extremely painful and sometimes cause death. A solution to save time and money is to conduct these experiments on ever-present prisoners of inhumane crimes.

Self preservation is excusable in the eyes of the law; crimes of passion are not. First degree murder and rape are two crimes that can never be argued in terms of self defense. An individual's lack of emotional restraint is the usual cause of first degree murder. A rape is representative of a "human" that feels they have lost control and wishes to seek power over another person – at any cost to the victim, such as, pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases. A perpetrator of either is one who has chosen not to use his brain.

Many scientific experiments are conducted for public safety. I am not against testing, however, it is simply that it is illogical to conduct these tests on an irrelevant species of the earth. The tests are inconclusive regarding results because, at the end of the day, the results are those of animals - not humans.

Perpetrators of these crimes should not be considered to be a human character. *The New Webster's Dictionary of the English Language, the Deluxe Encyclopedic Edition* defines human as: "pertaining to, belonging to, or having the qualities of mankind; composed of men; having the qualities of attributes of man." The book informs us that a human is a humane being. The definition of humane reads: "same word as human. kind; benevolent; tender; merciful; tending to civilize

or refine." Therefore a perpetrator of either crime does not fit the definition of human; his or her thoughts and actions are not humane. The convicted criminal of either crime is one that has chosen not to use his brain. As a result, these savage creatures should be used for scientific testing.

It is obvious that the person did not use their brain as they would know that another person can be murdered mentally simply by choosing not to think about them. As far as rape is concerned, if the criminal were to use their head, they would also realize that the only person they can truly exert power over is their own self. They are seriously lacking self-discipline.

This solution is good because it will remove dangerous people from life as we know it; the solution is proactive as it will save money and resources by reducing crime and raising personal responsibility. A sentence like this would cause a person to think before committing such an act instead of wasting twenty years in jail to ponder what they did wrong.

Some people are not in agreement with me; they say that a human being has rights. In my opinion these beings are less than animals. The animals, at least, do not know any better. Unfortunately, humans do. It is a disgrace to the human race that a person commit these abominations and still be allowed to sit inside of a building which a civil, logic mind created. A person should think before they act!

Society should not lock them up and throw away the key. This allows them to excuse themselves from society and "chill out" for several years. We should lock them up, but instead of using money to house, clothe, and feed these bodies, we should use them for scientific testing in order to create a safer environment for rational human beings.

Victims and their families, as well as your dog and cat will thank you for it.

One republican's hope for the 2004 election



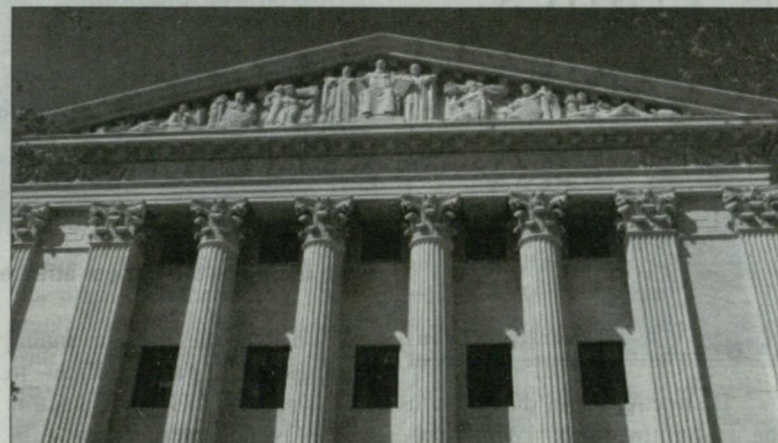
MATT COCHRAN
Senior/Economics

A Voice From
Outside the Cave

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Political campaigns have always been divisive; it is in their very nature to polarize a people around conflicting ideas of what is right and what is wrong for a country. This discussion, occurring over a four year period and climaxing during the presidential election, makes this country the greatest on the face of this planet. The incessant discussion of new policies, the reassessment of old laws, and the collective reevaluation of a president's triumphs and failures allows this nation to move perpetually forward in the hope that our newly elected/re-elected leader will lead us into tomorrow better than the alternative we turned down. After all, that's what it's all about...a better tomorrow for our children, for our aging parents, and for ourselves.

One can appreciate this process whether you're a Democrat, a Republican, a Libertarian, or a Nader supporter. Whether or not you agree with the outcome of the election, and whether or not you believe your side succeeded in adequately articulating your views, it is the chance to affect policy that makes this process perfect. It is the ability to make a nation aware



Special | Signal

The election should not be decided in this building.

of societal problems and your views on their accompanying solutions that should excite us. Although it is ultimately important whether we install our leaders into the halls of power, it is not the point of our parties to merely elect leaders. It is the duty of a political party to articulate a viewpoint in the hopes that the citizenry will support them in their cause. The election must be a bi-product of a platform aimed not at "getting elected", but getting the work of the people done.

I realize that I sound as if I inhabit a world of idealism, but that's a place that every college mind should live. We are not a generation of youth challenged to uphold the status quo, we are a generation that must challenge and overcome the establishment. I am too young to give up my idealism, because without it I would not effect change.

And so I have just one election-day wish for my country:

that at the end of the day a decisive victor will emerge without the help of lawyers, legal briefs, and court dates that accompanied that election four years ago. Our country is too good and our process too precious to be left to the devices of lawyers and the judges.

My wish is that all people of all parties would recognize this election year as a wonderful debate, a discussion in which necessary questions were asked of our leaders. We must hold our leaders to their word, not forgetting the questions asked and the solutions promised. My wish is that there would be no doubt as to who is truly our next president, and that the rightful loser will step down respectfully without casting dangerous shadows of doubt on a process that has served our country well for centuries.

This is my one election-day wish.



Special | Signal

The election should not be decided by these people, like it was in 2000.

A letter to the editor: Terrorists are not the cause of terrorism

Our country shares the blame with all the developed countries that exploit and ride roughshod over the poor and struggling. We must wake up to the truth that the primary cause of terrorism is due to the extreme discrepancy in the living standards between the developed world and developing world.

The developing world will no longer tolerate the imperialist behavior of greed, a lack of compassion and complacency. It endangers the world. Terrorists are desperate people who will die if necessary for the justice they long for. No war on terror can defeat such an army.

When we go to the polls on Nov. 2, the future peace of the world largely rests on our decision. Will we elect a President commit-

ted to fostering peace and justice in our troubled world? Will we elect a President who is committed to the rule of law, global cooperation, and sharing the vast resources of our country to create that peace, because the alternative is too terrible to contemplate? We cannot have peace without justice, and we cannot have justice until we share the resources of the world in a way that is equitable for all humanity. The simplest of all the changes we need to make in determining the fate of our entire species is the just distribution of food and the other resources in a way that is equitable for all men. It is the only solution to the war on terrorism.

Dan Dougherty
Marietta, Ga.

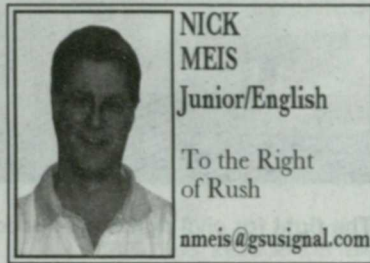
A letter to the editor: A genuine contradiction by John Kerry

Sometimes things dawn on me, and this is one of those particular instances. Haven't John Kerry and his Democratic cohorts been whining all along that President Bush had absolutely no reason to go into Iraq since Saddam Hussein had no WMDs or supplies of deadly weapons? Now, the same John Kerry is telling us what an awful

thing it is that tons and tons of some incredibly deadly Iraqi weapons are supposedly unaccounted for in this same Iraq. Interesting. Is this not another case of Kerry's flip-flopping? Which is it, John?

Jimmy Hall
Douglasville, Ga.

A rebuttal: Terrorism is exactly what the word means



I read the letter from Dan in the Signal office last week and requested to write this rebuttal as a means to correct an image many young people have about our country. This image says that we are blatant, inhuman imperialists who exploit the poor for pleasure or profit. My experience of the world is very different from the impression Dan and too many young people have grabbed onto, and, sad to say, adopted as an ideology. I would like to offer a more informed view from those Dan says are performing acts of terrorism on the United States and other developed countries of the world.

First of all, the people who have attacked us since the 1970's are not the poor trodden people Dan references. The members of Hamas, al-Qaeda and other such groups are radical Islamic fundamentalists whose mission is not to call for the redistribution of wealth but the total annihilation of all infidels. That is to say everyone who does not believe in their particular interpretation of the Koran. To believe that these groups care for the poor of the world is naïve to the extreme.

As evidence for this statement, one only needs to reference statements made by Osama bin Laden in the days after the 9/11

attacks. His stated reason for committing forces against us was that we were "desecrating holy ground" with our continued military presence in Saudi Arabia after the first Gulf War. He said nothing about the third world nations, nor did he say anything about the redistribution of resources. As a matter of fact, the money bin Laden uses to finance these operations is from those very resources! He comes from one of the richest families in Arabia and there have been persistent rumors he receives money from many other families involved with oil-production.

Several years ago, I worked in the Middle East and had the privi-

"When one walks with the real people of the world, they are grateful we are who we are and hope we stay that way."

lege of traveling through much of the region, including the Persian Gulf. The prevailing attitude over there was gratitude for our country sharing its resources and aid. These people were not just the upper levels of those societies; some were the lowest. I spent a night with a Bedouin tribe in Yemen who expressed their delight in their General Electric portable radio and Coleman lanterns. When

asked if there was anything they thought negatively about the US, and the translation was vague at best, the answer was, "What could be wrong with such a wonderful place?"

Consider this: the United States has and uses a huge amount of resources. We also produce a huge amount of the products those resources become and much of those products go back to the world. Many of those developing countries are not yet capable of processing the raw material into products to sell on the open market. On a trip through Ethiopia, I asked a lady if she would like to see a plant built in her region to produce the refrigerator she used. Her answer was typical. She asked, "Why would we want that? It's so much easier and cheaper to buy it from you."

The simple fact is this; the developing nations do need our help. They absolutely need to be able to feed their people and become as independent as they want to be. Many people see the United States as exploitive and imperialistic, but the world in general does not see us this way. When one walks with the real people of the world, they are grateful we are who we are and hope we stay that way. They say it's better for them.

I can't blame anyone for having an image of the United States like Dan does. The press and cable media continually feed this tripe to us and we accept it unquestioned. It takes hands on experience to know the truth and real courage to accept it.

Protection for church and state

By JIMMY HALL
Guest Columnist
Georgia State Alumnus

It's no great secret that the Bible and prayer are an integral part of everyday life and politics in the United States. The president takes his oath of office on the "Good Book," Congress prays together before each session, and to promote truthfulness, all witnesses in our court system must also place their hands on the Bible before testifying. Without a nationally endorsed religion, why is this so? Isn't separation good? "Yes" is the proper answer, with qualifications.

These open actions were left allowable by Madison, Franklin, Jefferson, and a majority of

America's Christian, Deist and Puritan forefathers to validate the functions of a government that they considered to be ordained by a higher power than themselves. Along these same lines, the nation's money carries the inscription "In God We Trust" to generally acknowledge a sacred appreciation for the union. Given the non-specifics of the wording, it is rational and non-threatening. I'll explain.

Perhaps as much as anyone, Catholic President John F. Kennedy emphasized the needed separation of church and state for the peaceful protection of each. He understood the nature of both entities and the intentions the framers of the U.S. Constitution held towards them. I will now share

mine.

It seems obvious to me that President Kennedy, like several leaders before him, realized that the background of America is one

"It's no secret that the Bible and prayer are an integral part of everyday life and politics in the United States."

of a diverse mixture of immigrants from six continents, with varying spiritual and religious beliefs, and steadfast affiliations. As such, despite a Christian majority, these often conflicting attitudes could and would pose awful problems for the government should it specifically sanction or endorse

any one of them, even Christianity. In this sense, the peaceful functioning of the government is maintained by a separation of church and state, which allows freedom of religion and protection from such religion. That is certainly to the state's advantage. The other half of the equation is similar.

Now, what about the stake of religion and the church in this matter? A distinct separation allows the followers of each religious denomination or sect to specifically practice their personal beliefs in individual ways without governmental guidelines or interference. In this manner each denomination, even atheists, can be assured of the purity of their theology and practices, while also expecting its members to employ basic doc-

trines and principles during their everyday lives, publicly and privately. Again, though not formally supported by the United States, religion is actually protected and defended by the separation, and the Constitution. This is another positive thing for all.

On balance, both State and Church benefit from the separation of each. Government works relatively efficiently without different spiritual groups vying for power; and, each religious organization or individual retains fundamental and core beliefs, unchanged by state intervention or legislation. At this point in time it appears that America's forefathers certainly comprehended and addressed the issue wisely. Amen.

What this vote means to me

By JASMINE CLAIR
Michigan Daily
University of Michigan

Dear President Bush and Sen. Kerry,

We have troops over in Iraq right now fighting for Iraqi democracy. You always give them your highest regards, along with thanks and praises. On Election Day, poll sites will become battlegrounds. Fighting to preserve civil liberties through poll watching, I'm going to lace up my combat boots (Nikes) and put on my camouflage (Nov. 2 T-shirt) along with many others in order to preserve democratic rights here in America. And I'll be expecting both of your thank-you cards in the mail.

My vote, the black vote, was paid for with the blood of my people in a continuous struggle for black voting rights that should have ended with the 15th Amendment. Therefore, as a native Detroiter, I feel personally assaulted when people such as state Rep. John Pappageorge, R-Troy, give warnings such as "If we do not suppress the Detroit vote, we're going to have a tough time this election" to his party affiliates.

This statement was not merely a "bad choice of words"; it was a threat, a warning that the upcom-

ing elections will once more be marked by conflict and racial tensions. So just as members of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee fought to register black voters during the '60s, on Election Day I'll be in Detroit, watching the polls, continuing the fight for civil rights, in a struggle that so many lives have been lost over.

Pappageorge's comments were undoubtedly a racist assault upon the people of Detroit, which has an 83 percent black population. Pappageorge simply disguised his racist attitudes with a partisan costume. But it's not Halloween yet, and worse, we all can recognize you under those white sheets.

Too many blacks have had their lives "suppressed" so that I can retain my right to vote. Gunned down on his doorstep by the Ku Klux Klan, Medgar Evers sacrificed his life to preserve my voting privileges. And there exist many invisible faces whose stories were never told, who died for the same cause. Their houses bombed, their bodies shot up and their churches burned down.

This will not be forgotten on Election Day. And how could it? It was our mothers and fathers who lived and endured the struggle; it was aunts and uncles who fought off police dogs and their friends



Special | Signal

The fight for civil rights produced scenes like these.

who were washed away with fire hoses.

Our grandparents were the victims of racist American policies, told that they were too illiterate to vote, yet denied admission to educational institutions (this university included) to expand their academic horizons.

And just to clear up the confusion, affirmative action is not merely a reparation for the horrors of slavery. Race was used as a demerit toward my grandparents, and now race is used as a merit for me. The University of Michigan's admissions policies attempt to alleviate a problem that they actively participated in creating. Despite this, the policies are disguised as diversity billboards, just as civil rights gains are spun into romantic

tales of America's fight for democracy and justice for all.

Embedded within the black consciousness is a collective memory of all the unfilled American promises made to us. It started with the 40 acres and a mule, but if that's too radical for you, we can start with the Civil War's concessions of freedom, citizenship and voting rights. Which were all, one by one, dismantled through state statutes, inviting back the shackles of slavery. Only this time, they were invisible. So when my great-grandpa asked why he couldn't exercise his constitutional right to vote, the law simply answered "because you're illiterate." More recently, in the 2000 election, our uncles were denied their voting rights, only this time they received

the response "because a felon has your name ... well sort of ... different middle initial ... but it could be you!"

The 15th Amendment, the Civil Rights acts and voting rights act all failed to protect the rights of blacks during the 2000 election. Pappageorge has already indicated that the problem will only be worse during this election. Politicians seeking to retain power all across the country will continue this trend on Nov. 2.

However, the value of the black vote exceeds the importance of any presidential election. This Nov. 2 has more meaning than simply whether John Kerry or George W. will be the next president. Especially because neither one has adequately responded to the dilemmas unique to the black community. Flaky affirmative action stances and riding the caravan of love from church to church just doesn't suffice.

Therefore, this election marks another chapter in the continuing struggle that America has subjected blacks to for hundreds of years. Next Tuesday, the polls will be the battleground, and not even John Pappageorge will be able to suppress this bloody vote.

I'll see you at the polls.

Every issue is a women's issue

By ERIC McNAMEE
Massachusetts Daily Collegian
University of Massachusetts at Amherst

A small feature about women's voting habits recently ran in the November 2004 issue of *Glamour* magazine, although you'd be hard-pressed to find it amidst the cloying perfume ads and articles about how to please your man. Apparently, "Glamour" staffers went out and asked a random number of women when they last voted, although the geographical location and sample size of the women polled was not published.

Seven women were pictured holding placards proclaiming their voting histories. A woman holding her infant child wrote, "Never!" Another wrote, "I don't agree with Democrats or Republicans so I don't vote!" Thankfully, the positive responses outweighed the negative: one woman proclaimed, "I will vote as soon as I get citizenship" and another dryly inquired, "I voted in Florida. Did it count?"

The point is, all the women interviewed should have said, "November 2000," "I always vote," or "I'm planning to vote on Nov. 2." There is no excuse for women not to vote, especially when George W. Bush is practically on the verge of reviving the 1950s, a time when women had little control over their bodies or lives. The President has proposed

the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, the pivotal 1973 Supreme Court decision granting women the right to a safe abortion. Not only was *Roe v. Wade* a significant stepping-stone in the quest for women's rights, it also legitimized women's healthcare as a serious issue in politics and society. The possible overturn of *Roe v. Wade* not only threatens the rights a woman has over her own body, but it jeopardizes the quality of healthcare available to women all across America.

On Oct. 25, the Vatican released a handbook for business, political and cultural leaders outlining Roman Catholic beliefs on current political issues. The handbook calls abortion a "horrendous crime" yet conveniently avoids answering the question of whether a Roman Catholic can morally and ethically vote for a candidate who believes the opposite to be true. President Bush, an evangelical Christian, staunchly opposes abortion, while Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, a Roman Catholic, says that he personally opposes abortion but would never deny a woman her right to choose.

It's no secret that President Bush has allowed his religious beliefs to dangerously intermingle with his politics, and whether we like it or not, religious leaders carry a significant influence over voters and politicians. This influ-



Special | Signal

Roe v. Wade may be overturned in a second Bush term.

ence is particularly great in the current election.

While I do believe that every person is entitled to his or her own religious beliefs, I disagree with the way President Bush has allowed his beliefs to influence his political decisions. In addition to opposing same-sex marriage, embryonic stem-cell research, sex education and reproductive health programs, President Bush frequently uses evangelical language in his speeches. At a recent rally in Colorado, President Bush attempted to justify the war in Iraq by saying, "Freedom is not America's gift to the world; freedom is the Almighty God's gift to each man and woman in this world." Apparently, President Bush didn't get the memo about it being his

duty to uphold the Constitution -- mandated separation of church and state.

Women's rights are greatly threatened as the line between church and state fades into oblivion. A political leader, especially the President, carries a great responsibility to lead with the people's interests at heart, not just his own. One person should not make decisions determining how millions of people should live their lives based on his personal or religious beliefs, especially when one group, like women, is continually finding itself at a disadvantage. This is not "compassionate" conservatism -- in fact, it's about as far from compassion as you can get.

The 19th Amendment took over 70 years to pass, yet some-

thing tells me it took much more effort to pass the law than it takes for some women not to vote at all. The activists involved in the women's rights movement weren't called "Suffragists" for nothing -- they endured public ridicule, imprisonment, beatings, and even death to guarantee that future generations of American women, like us, have the opportunity to get involved and control our own lives and bodies. Suffragists sacrificed their lives so we could live ours in freedom and yet 25 out of every 30 women either have no knowledge of this history or simply choose to ignore it altogether.

To *Glamour* magazine's credit, Editor-in-Chief Cindi Leive published a letter in the November, 2004 issue urging women to vote, citing the alarming statistic that only one in five women under age 30 votes regularly. Considering that over 80 years ago women didn't have the right to vote at all, this statistic is not only an embarrassment, it's an outright travesty.

I recently saw a flyer posted on campus that said, "Every issue is a women's issue." On Nov. 2, take control of your life, take control of your body -- get out there and vote, and let your voices be heard. Both past and future generations of American women are counting on you.

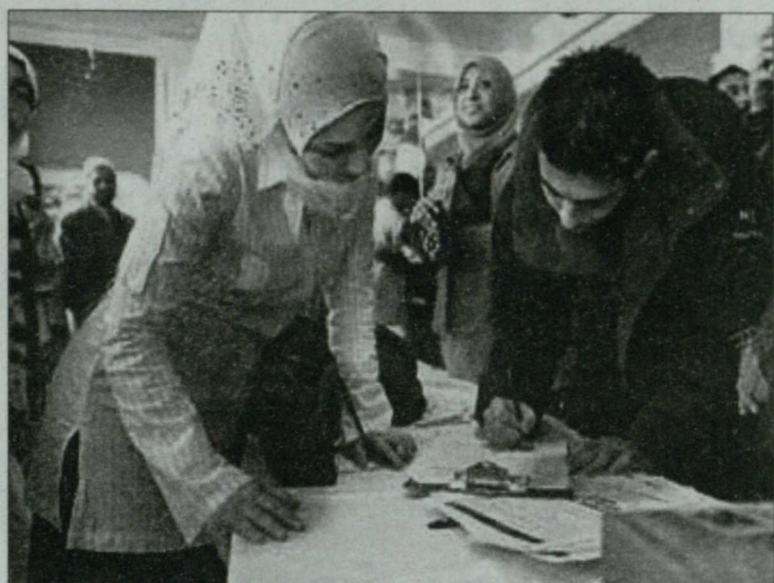
Don't underestimate the youth of this country

From YOUTH | Page 17

tion and will be on the mouths of many political strategists after the election. Although candidates often make some attempts to gain our attention, it seems that both parties take the youth vote for granted. I will be the first to admit that the youth of America can sometimes be spoiled and indifferent. However, I also feel that we are very intelligent and that we are very aware of the world in which we live. After all, we are the

ones that are going to be dealing with the future state of our country; we might as well make a small contribution to its outcome. Ignoring the voting privilege is seriously irresponsible. One interesting thing that we should have learned from the last election it was that every vote really does count.

I would encourage everyone to get out there, and at risk of sounding too cheesy --- show them what we are made of. So bring a book, stand in line and cast your vote!



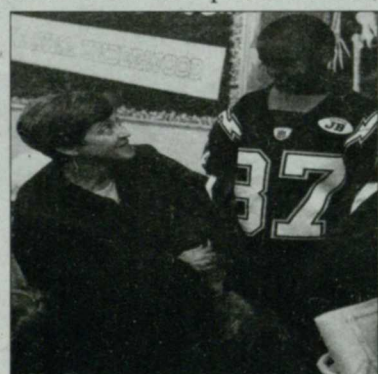
Special | Signal

The youth vote is a coveted one for presidential candidates but they find it hard to motivate that segment to go to the polls.

Famous people shouldn't make so much money

From ENTERTAIN | Page 19

choose to pay. However, if that were the case, then private detectives and security guards would make more than police officers,



Special | Signal
Teachers do more for society.

and teachers in private schools would earn more than public school teachers. Neither of these scenarios is true.

Then there is the allegation that our celebrities get so much money because we willingly give it to them, presumably by paying \$8 for a movie or \$20 for a CD. Apparently, the majority of us are not willing, as evidenced by the long-awaited and warmly-welcomed pandemic of music and movie sharing over the Internet. Curiously enough, the government finds it necessary to ensure that the music industry, in particular, does not "suffer" from such

actions. Hmmmm...I sense a conspiracy theory developing...

Maybe we are just too driven by impulses, too easily motivated by the promise of instant gratification. Maybe, as in the example of the root canal, we are too eager to be distracted from the problems we face every day. We are so desperate to escape these stressors that we are willing to pay for the inflated salaries of those who perform the simple task of helping us to escape. Such a situation is analogous to an unemployed alcoholic; we spend money on things that help us temporarily forget our problems when we really should be spending the money on efforts to solve the problems.

As a society, how do we make this transition? Well, I won't pretend to know the answer to that. An overly pervasive media causes many of our society's problems, which is even more difficult to combat than the mutant camel crickets (also known as spider crickets) that infested my old apartment. Those of you who have lived in cheap, old apartments in North Atlanta know what I'm talking about. If you'll excuse me now, though, I have a paper to write and notes to study...and, strangely enough, a sudden appetite for a brain-atrophying episode of "Access Hollywood."

Mission Statement

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

Letter Submission Guidelines

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

1. Letters must be submitted to letters@gsusignal.com and must include the text of the letter in the body of the e-mail.
2. Letters should be 200-400 words maximum. The *Signal* will allow longer letters, but only in rare circumstances.
3. Letters must include the full name(s) of the writer(s) and include their year and major. If the writer is a faculty member, they must include their title.
4. Letters will be fact-checked before publication. The writer may be obligated to make changes to the letter for publication.
5. Letters will be edited for grammar, clarity, length, factual accuracy and in keeping with *Signal* policy.
6. The *Signal* reserves the right to reject letters at their discretion.

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