Weekend hours change 2
GC live on stage 3
New certificate to be offered 3
The clubs want you 4
Who to call to join 4
More to come 5
Mr. Lee's sideshow 6
Titans and Famous review 7
Top Ten List 7
Student opinions 8
Yeah, you heard him 9
And now, the candidates 10
Voter registration 11
College Growth 13
Working the turntable 16
Library and ACCT Center Hours Changed to Better Serve Students

Summer decision attempts to expand facility access for students on weekends

By Jamie LaNier

Officials have changed the weekend operation hours of the ACTT Center and library this year. While the ACTT Center is open on Saturdays from 9 am to 3 pm, the library is now open Sundays from 1 pm to 7 pm.

"During the summer, the executive council made the decision to alternate the days on which the library and ACTT Center were open over the weekend," said Byron Drew, Director of the library and ACTT Center.

Officials felt the best way to deal with the expanding needs of the student body was to reassign the people working in the library on the weekend to serve the students when the need was greatest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the busiest weekdays.

"The main concern of students using the facilities on the weekend was access to computers," said Drew. While the ACTT Center holds over 100 computers, the library provides about 40. The maximum usage of these facilities on Saturdays and Sundays is close to one hundred. Not all students use these computers at the same time, so there is no threat of over crowding.

"Closing a computer lab on one day limits the usage to the one location at a time," said Drew. "Sundays, the day when the library is open, may be the busiest because students might wait until the last minute to finish a paper that is due."

Other students are not the only ones using the ACTT Center or library. According to Drew, a third of the usage on the weekend are students from area high schools and surrounding colleges who use the campus resources to do extra research.

"I used to go to the ACTT Center on the weekend for help for my first-year core classes," said Andrea Smallwood, a business major. "However, now there is no help available to me on the weekend for my second-year accounting class."

There are two staff members working in the ACTT Center on Saturday. While most of the work labs are closed on the weekend, these two staff members can help in the areas of English and math. The Foreign Language and Culture lab is open and staffed on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The library requires one librarian and one student worker on Sunday. They can help students find materials to assist them with their research.

Some teachers require that students use the labs in the ACTT Center. Many students consider Saturdays to be the best time to knock out some of the 20 hours required to pass the foreign language classes. Materials that are placed on reserve in these locations are available on the weekends.

Officials suggest that students should keep in mind when planning study sessions, the location, and hours of which, where the material is on reserve.

"The key to getting the help needed and the most out of the resources offered is in the planning," said Drew. "Students should also keep in mind that if they need to do research on a topic they won't be able to access the books in the library on Saturday."

The ACTT Center and the Library are still open and resources are available 73 hours per week.

"I think that it was a good move for the school to switch to alternating days on the weekend," Drew said. "It's a better use of staff and the service remains the same. We take pride in the service we provide."
By Nicky Willis nwll0434@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu

Gainesville College honored three donors at the dedication of the new Science, Engineering, and Technology Building on September 29.

"It is so exciting to be adding this new facility to our campus," said GC President Martha Nesbitl, "one which allow us to highlight the excellence of science, engineering, and technology programs."

Among the more than 200 people who attended the ceremony, the three individuals were honored for their financial contributions to the construction of the science facility. Mrs. Lessie Marlwan Smithgall, Ralph W. Cleveland, and Mr. Jim Walters each donated a gift of $50,000 to have a laboratory in the new building named in a family member's memory. The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Laboratory was named in honor of Elizabeth Smithgall Watts, by her mother and father Charles and Lessie Smithgall.

"I have always had an interest in Gainesville College," said Smithgall as to why she made the donation to Gainesville College. "The Walters Biology laboratory was dedicated in memory of Daniel P. Walters by his son Jim, and his family. The laboratory contains twenty-four student work stations. A third laboratory was dedicated in honor of Mr. Ralph W. Cleveland. The laboratory will house the Computer Information Technology Laboratory. "My husband was one of the founders of Gainesville college," said Cleveland. "I did it for him."

Mrs. Lessie Smithgall and Mrs. Ralph W. Cleveland donated $50,000 each to the building in memory of a family member. A student lab was named in honor of the family member.

Personal Training Certificate Now Offered at GC

By Jan Krueger Contributing Writer

For several years, Glenn Preston, Department Chair of Physical Education, has been dealing with a problem within the physical education department. He wanted to offer a program that would give students the opportunity to become certified as personal trainers, but couldn't find the right elements to construct such a program.

Preston traveled to many other junior colleges around the country analyzing their programs, but always found that those courses were "dead ends." The curriculum would not be compatible with Gainesville College because the required courses could neither be taught at GC or transfer to other four-year institutions.

After visiting the Cooper Institute's personal training program in Dallas, Texas last summer, Preston found the answer to his problem.

Beginning in spring 2001, GC will offer students the opportunity to become certified as personal trainers upon completion of the new Personal Training Certificate Program. The program will require the student to attend 22 semester hours of classes in curriculum areas A-E and 13 hours of "core classes" related to personal training. The certificate can be awarded by itself or in conjunction with an Associate of Science degree in Exercise and Sports Science, if the student is eligible to receive it.

Two new classes, Personal Training and Strength Training and Conditioning, will be part of the required courses. Preston will teach the Personal Training course and use the Cooper Institute's training manual as the text for the class.

"The Cooper Institute program is perfect for what we need," Preston stated. "It gives students the basics to feel confident in the field."

Several students have already expressed interest in the program. Jennifer McCaskill, an exercise science major, decided to remain at GC through the spring semester, instead of transferring to North Georgia College and State University, to enroll in the program. She feels staying at Gainesville College for one more semester is worth the time to get certified as a personal trainer. She also likes the use of the Cooper Institute's text manual for the course.

"The program will give me hands-on training," McCaskill stated. "And the Cooper Institute is very knowledgeable about personal training."

But not everyone interested in the program is a current traditional student at the college. Susan Hughes owns a fitness center in Dawsonville called "The Gym," and is considering enrolling in the program to acquire her personal training certification.

"I need to get certified," she stated. "This will be a good opportunity to do it."

Local fitness clubs have also gotten word of the new program and are interested in the personal trainer candidates it could produce. Hitesh Patel, owner of the Fitness Zone in Oakwood, said he would "definitely" hire someone who completed the Personal Training Certificate Program. Patel says he would hire someone as a personal trainer and pay that person hourly, or contract that person to use his gym equipment, while training a client, for a monthly fee.

Patel says the "money is very good" for personal trainers. He also feels the new program at the college will "add credibility to personal trainers and turn out some qualified people."

New Amphitheater In Planning Stages

By Clayton Shaw Contributing Writer

Construction will begin in the spring of 2001 for a new amphitheater on the Gainesville College campus. The proposed site is against the grassy hill down by the lower lake on the western side of campus.

The idea for the project was developed through meetings between Director of Alumni Affairs Michelle B. Brown, 1999-2000 Alumni Association President Terry Parker, and officers of the GC Alumni Council. The GC Alumni has accepted donations from the community for this project.

Their tentative plan is to build an oval stage made of brick, with open right and left sides, and a partial roof covering the stage. Its size will only be about 50 square feet, so the arena will remain fairly small.

"Our goal is to construct a performance area/raised stage with a shell type cover that could be used by many groups on campus," said Brown. "We would only build the performance area, and not alter the gentle slope of the grassy area that is around the amphitheater."

The outdoor venue will be used for student activities, music and drama department performances, and alumni related events including the Annual Alumni Starlight Concert.

The project has been in the planning stage for over a year. Construction has been slow due to several bidding processes and regulations dealing with the use of donated money. A crew is not expected to do a site evaluation until January 2001.

For more information contact Pat Henderson, 678-794-9765.
Club News

October 18, 2000

Groups Looking For Students

We at The Compass would like to send out a very special THANK YOU to the following for helping us make our first issue such a success:

Francine Dibben
Rick Crain
Duane Kimsey

Clubs Directory

President's Council: Meeting: November 17
Contact: Michelle S. Brown
(mbrown@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Second Wind: Meetings: Every other Thursday at 12 p.m. in Lower Faculty Dining Room of Student Center
Contact: Brenda Adams
(badams@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association (SORBA): Contact: Tom Sauret
(tsauret@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Students for Environmental Awareness: Meetings: Fridays at 12 p.m. in Room 136 of Science Building
Contact: Mike Johnson
(mjohn1985@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Student Georgia Association of Educators: Meetings: Tuesdays at 12 p.m. in Student Center
Contact: Rachel Baran
(rbaran@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Student Government Association: Meetings: Every other Friday at 12 p.m. in Lower Faculty Dining Room of Student Center
Contact: Michelle S. Brown
(mbrown@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Students in Free Enterprise: Meetings: Fridays at 12 p.m. in Room 186 of ACAD III
Contact: Kate Simmons
(ksimmons@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

President's Council: Art Club: Meetings: Mondays at 12 p.m. in Room 119 of Music/Art Building
Contact: Stacey Koffman
(skoffman@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Ambassadors: Meeting: Every other Thursday at 11 a.m. in Lower Abc Center
Contact: Shannon Miles
(smi174@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Campus Student Union: Meetings: Thursdays at 12 p.m. in Lower Center
Contact: Julie Soles
(jso10309@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Campus Activity Board: Meetings: Every other Friday at 12 p.m. in Lower Faculty Dining Room of Student Center
Contact: Michelle S. Brown
(mbrown@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Campus Crusade for Christ: Meetings: Mondays at 12 p.m. in Lower Abc Center
Contact: Sarah Booker
(sbooks14@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

College Republicans: Contact: Stephanie Kitchen
(sk83557@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Computer Club: Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 12 p.m. in Room 138 of ACAD III
Contact: Tom Burns
(tburns@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Cross Cultural Connections: Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 12 p.m. in Room 181 of ACAD III
Contact: J.B. Sharma
(jbsharma@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Democrats/Republicans Club: Meetings: Mondays at 12 p.m. in Room 103 of ACAD II
Contact: Double Young
(dyoung@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Future Health Professionals: Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 12 p.m. in Science Building
Contact: Divina Schwarz
(dso91443@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Latino Student Association: Meetings: Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in PREP Office in Science Building
Contact: Ana Anzola
(anzaola@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Literature and Film Club: Meetings: Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Room 177 in ACAD II
Contact: Erin Arrendale
(ean1203@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Math Club: Meetings: Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Room 138 of ACAD III
Contact: B.J. Cooley
(bcoo@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Multicultural Student Association: Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Lower Center C
Contact: Major Nelson
(mlinkson@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Physics Club and Engineering Club: Meetings: Bi-Monthly in Room 228 of Science Building
Contact: J.B. Sharma
(jbsharma@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)
**ACADEMICS**

Thanksgiving Holiday on Nov. 22-24.

Classes End on Dec. 8.

Final Exams on Dec. 11-14.

**ART**

"The Spirit and The Medium, Paint and Clay"—Recent works by Steve Frazier and Brian Taylor. Exhibition dates are Sept. 7 through Oct. 20.

"Diaries: July 1973"—Recent works of art by Sally Speed. Opening Reception and Gallery Talk on Nov. 8 at noon. Exhibition dates are Nov. 1 through Nov. 21.

"Imagine Imagination"—Jeanne Anne Davidson. Opening Reception and Gallery Talk on Nov. 8 at 12 p.m. Exhibition dates are Nov. 29 through Dec. 17.

**CLUBS**

Baptist Student Union

—Appreciation Dinner in Lanier ABC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Nov. 21

—Christmas Banquet on Dec. 14

Campus Crusade for Christ

—Party with food, volleyball, and basketball on Oct. 28.

—Chris Orr, former GC student, concert in Student Center stage on Oct. 30.

**INTRAMURALS**

Students In Free Enterprise

—Make A Difference Day on Oct. 28.

Flag Football State Tournament

—Nov. 17-19 at Georgia Southern University.

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

—Dec. 5 in the GC Gym at 6:30 p.m.

**THEATRE**

"Crazy For You" showing Nov. 7-19 at the Georgia Mountains Center (fee with ID, Nov. 6-9, 14-15).

"Pride and Prejudice" showing Feb. 20-25 at the Pearce Auditorium at Brenau University.

"Bus Stop" showing April 17-29 at the Ed Cabel Theatre at Gainesville College.

**MUSIC**

French Concert on Nov. 1 in the Continuing Education Building.

Fall Classical Concert on Nov. 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pearce Auditorium at Brenau University.

Spring Classical Concert on March 6, 2001 at 8 p.m. in the Pearce Auditorium at Brenau University.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

Health Fair on Oct. 18 in the Gym at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Virtual NASCAR Racing on Oct. 23 Outside at 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Job Fair on Oct. 25 in the SC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fall Festival on Oct. 30 in the Student Center at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Blood Drive on Oct. 31 in the Gym at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Extended Orientation on Nov. 9 in the Student Center at 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Pancake Study Break on Dec. 4 in the Student Center at 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**TECHNOLOGY**

"Computer Science and the Law" on Nov. 17 in the Continuing Education Room 108 at 1 p.m.

**COMPASS MESSAGE BOARD**


**Got something to sell? Have something to say?**

**To score 2000 on the flight simulator:***

Future products, technical briefs, web tours and insights every Sunday.
Wirth Succeeds In Turning Audience Into Actors

By Candace Moore
Contributing Writer

"Welcome to The Mysterious Side Show of Mr. Lee," opened Jeff Wirth, producer of the interactive stage show that was performed at Gainesville College's Cabell Theatre on September 23.

At the beginning of the show, audience members were given the opportunity to volunteer for a role. During that time, a member of the cast would step to one side of the stage and hold up a costume. If an audience member wanted to participate in the show, he/she could walk onto the stage, put on a costume backstage, and become one of the show's characters.

The part of the show's success relied on its audience participation. In order to get the audience members to volunteer, Wirth, a well-known actor, director, and playwright, had to make everyone feel comfortable.

"Jeff Wirth has a gift for creating a supportive atmosphere of trust that allows people to be creative and to take risks," said Francine Dibben, Business Manager for Gainesville Theatre Alliance.

Improvisation was another important factor in the stage performance. A "spect-actor," a voluntary audience member, could say what ever he thought his character would say or do in the story. The actual actors had to prompt the "spect-actor" to lead him in the right direction. If a "spect-actor" said something that took the show off track, it was up to the actors to bring it back in the right direction.

This production was an entertaining show filled with comedy and drama. The actors were great at carrying the show onward and at thinking fast on stage. The "spect-actors" were amazing at improvising and at following the lead of the actors on stage. With The Mysterious Side Show of Mr. Lee being a successful production, next year's interactive show will be greatly anticipated.

Artistic Elements Collide In Works By Frazier; Taylor

By Laurel Anci1
lanci1860@mercury.gc. podhost.edu

Spirit and medium embody the works of artists Steve Frazier and Brian Taylor, two Gainesville College students featured in "The Spirit and the Medium: Paint and Clay." The title of the exhibit is defined as the emotion conveyed in the piece of art. Medium is what materials the artist uses to create their works, such as paints, charcoal, or clay.

The spirit of Frazier's work is found in his usage of earth tones. Throughout the gallery, viewers are met with hues varying from burnt sienna to egg cream or even stone grey. Similarly, the clay he uses plays along with the eclectic feel of his collection. The three-dimensional sculptures are created through this use of organic hues and natural clay.

The most dominant characteristic of Frazier's work is the way he incorporates physical touch into his pieces. There are physical handles on many of his works, such as salt-glazed water jars and wood-fired pots. These handles help make the works appear diverse and multi-faceted.

Taylor's spirit appears in the form of warm tones. His pieces are complete with the components of fiery orange hues, earthy grays and defiant purples. The use of warm and hot tones tie in with his medium, acrylic paint. When mixed on a canvas, the spirit and the medium comply and compliment one another.

The most noticeable feature of Taylor's work is the manner in which he places geometric figures in his paintings. Whether the acrylic paint is smooth or cracked, squares are always somehow intertwined in the overall image. These significant shapes create a feature to be sought after in all of Taylor's work and add a special characteristic that displays his talents.

The exhibit encompasses the personal as well as naturalistic aspects of art. It will run until October 20. It is being shown in the Exhibit Hall of the Continuing Education building.

Horoscopes for the Month of October

Aries (March 21-April 20)
Your areas of marriage and partnership relationships are in the spotlight this month. Gain with open communications could be very important and a surprise could be in the making. Any doubts that you have been having concerning your goals could become more clear and better than you expected.

Taurus (April 21-May 20)
Very pleasant circumstances should be surrounding your work area in spite of some unclear issues. Opportunity for a salary increase could also be in this picture.

Gemini (May 22-June 21)
Plans for a short pleasure trip could be on the agenda for you. Good planning will ensure a fun filled successful holiday. Any worries or concerns that you may have in relation to this should be worked out with an open mind and without losing your temper.

Cancer (June 22-July 23)
You will be feeling more comfortable this month at your favorite place, which is your home base. Planning and dreaming about beautifying your home will be very much on your mind. Avoid an overly optimistic approach on this matter and try to weigh your options on a realistic way.

Leo (July 24-August 22)
The spotlight this month is on your area of communication and also siblings and close relatives. Many friendly contacts could be happening with friends, as social activities seem to be increasing in a surprising manner.

Virgo (August 23-September 23)
Your dreams concerning money ventures seem to be coming into reality as a prospect for career promotion and financial reward seem to be coming into a more visible manner.

Libra (September 24-October 23)
You should start this month with a very clear understanding of your home situation and this will make you more comfortable. Your beliefs and philosophical outlook on this area could expand and make you feel more secure. Your thoughts could be very much into investing in order to make a quick gain, but this could prove difficult but do not over extend yourself as any investment is a gamble.

Sagittarius (November 23-December 21)
The keynote for you this month points to many activities of a social nature connected to friends and your mate or partner. All these activities should be of a very pleasant nature. People from your past will also be involved in some of these happenings.

Capricorn (December 22-January 20)
Career, promotion or financial reward could be coming your way throughout unexpected circumstances at your work place. Trying to keep a balance between what is real and what you dream to achieve would be necessary.

Dreams could come true for you at this time.

Aquarius (January 21-February 19)
Very pleasant and unexpected circumstances could bring you an occasion for a pleasure trip. Serious and mature communication should clear the air and home responsibilities could be put in the proper perspective.

Pisces (February 20-March 20)
You could be receiving some extra outside income, in an unexpected manner, that could be of beneficial gain toward a much desired improvement in a new home.
Dear Abbott...

A new advice column is coming to The Compass: “Dear Abbott”. Now you can ask “Dear Abbott” (and the people he’ll go to if he doesn’t know the answer himself) about anything. Just get online, either through your own Internet Service Provider or through the GC campus network, and send an e-mail to Dear_Abbott@hotmail.com. While your answer may not be featured in the newspaper, you will still receive a reply.

— Sarah Grzesiak

— Jon Krueger
The educational resources offered at Gainesville College make it an attractive option for students deciding on where they want to continue their education. GC has a distinguished faculty, and the small-community feeling allows students to learn in a relaxed setting. It also has several programs that make this two-year institution one of the best in the state.

The University Center is a convenient and a positive addition to the GC campus. All of the institutions will benefit from it. It allows students to enroll in classes taught by faculty members of Southern Polytechnic University and North Georgia College and State University. It increases the number of students enrolled in Southern Polytechnic and North Georgia and allows area students to take courses at a closer location rather than driving to Marietta or Dahlonega.

GC has a bright future and one addition that will be beneficial, especially to art and journalism majors, is the plan for a co-op with Brenau University. In 1993, an agreement between Brenau and GC was signed that deals with theatre courses. This has proven to be a very good idea and the evidence can be seen in the productions of the Gainesville Theatre Alliance. GC also has a joint program with the Georgia Institute of Technology called the Regents Engineering Transfer Program. This allows GC students to take the lower level engineering course on campus rather than waiting to transfer to Georgia Tech. It is an advantage for students because GC offers smaller class sizes, increased faculty assistance, and affordable tuition cost. Students do not sacrifice their education because they can now take the first engineering courses at GC and are considered an asset to the student body at Georgia Tech.

GC is popular among the residents of the area. Students are drawn to the opportunities available on this campus. GC is fortunate to have good relations with Southern Polytechnic University, North Georgia College and State University, Brenau University, and Georgia Tech. The cooperation between GC and these various institutions will prove to benefit each student that uses the resources offered on this campus.

---

**Opinion**

**Student Opinion Poll:**

Who are you voting for in the November presidential elections?

**Joe Brooks, Agriculture Education:** "I will vote for George W. Bush. He wants to help the farmers. He talks about subjects that matter to the people."

**Denise Davis, Biology (Pre-Vet):** "I will probably vote for Gore. I don’t trust Bush. He is too snappy and too witty. He has it all planned out. I always vote, but I think politicians are full of crap."

**Eugene Campbell, Political Science:** "I want to vote for George Bush. He cares about the country, as well as politics. He believes in family values. I feel we need to look to the White House for political leadership, but also for leadership in morality. George W. Bush really promotes moral ethics."

**Mike Song, Business Administration and Computer Graphics:** "I am voting for Al Gore. He is democratic and I am a democrat. He has more experience. He also has a lot of issues that he wants to take care of if he becomes president.

---

**Advertise Information**

The deadline for reserving ad space and submitting ad copy is the 30th of each month at 12 p.m. There are no exceptions to this policy. For rate information, call our offices at (770) 718-3820, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advertising space cannot be reserved over the phone. The Compass is located behind the Cyber Cafe in the Student Center, Landrum Education Drive, Gainesville, Georgia 30507. Questions regarding advertising billing should be directed to Cristi Stewart at 770-718-3820.

---

**Letter Submission**

The Compass welcomes all letters to the editor and will print letters on a timely and space-available basis. Letters should be hand-delivered, mailed to Gainesville College, or E-mailed to dbra7826@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu. Letters should be addressed to David Brandt, Editor-In-Chief. All letters must be signed. Letters should not exceed 100 words. Any letters not meeting these criteria will not be printed.

---

**FILL THIS SPACE!**

To do this, any up-and-coming writers and/or artists are welcome to stop by The Compass office (located in the Cyber Cafe).

Stop by our office or send an e-mail to our editor at dbra7826@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu.

Let us know what areas you have an interest in working in:

- News/Editorial Writing
- Layout Design
- Art/Graphic Design
- Photography
- Editorial Leadership
- Advertising

We already have a talented staff, but we're always looking for new blood...try not to take us literally...
Hello, friends.

I'll go ahead and spit out the bottom line: the Civil War is OVER, and it has been over for a very long time.

I flipped on the news one September evening and watched a story about students in Haralson County having to vote on whether or not they should restore a painting of the Confederate flag on their gym wall that was defaced with white paint and angry remarks, probably placed there by students who disagreed with its stereotypical intention.

At some point in the school's history, a decision was made to have a cartoon Confederate general act as their mascot. It seems pretty controversial, but based on the report, the overall population of the school was - and still is - fairly accepting of the mascot and the painted Confederate flag that represents the students, faculty, and staff.

The truth of the matter is that I don't care about the flag anymore than I care about pencil shavings. After all, the appearance of the confederate symbol on the Georgia state flag is part of a surplus of old hate left behind from Eisenhower's administration, when the federal government worked to "rewards segregation, but was forced to watch Georgia's government rebel in anger by flying the symbol high above the state capitol. For obvious reasons, I couldn't agree or disagree with anyone regarding segregation back then.

My problem with the issue today, then, is that I don't see why anyone should be making a lot of hateful noise about it at this point. It's a debate that is generations old, founded on the legality of slavery in the United States in the mid-1800s. After the many decades that followed, with all of the civil rights actions and the steps this country has made toward racial unity, why haven't we been able to come up with a simple "waste it or trash it" policy? Is it really so tough for people today to let go of what the Confederate flag meant before the twentieth century?

How about this: why don't you, the reader, stop reading this article (only/or a minute!), and consider whether or not Georgia's flag means anything to you. What does it really represent today? Is it just a way for people in other states to identify our state? Or do they really think, "Oh, that's Georgia...bunch of old glory, racist hate-mongers?"

Critics may point out the historical value found in it; okay, point taken. But is there any reason that any of us should be angry about that history? The history is simply a part of how this state, not to mention the entire nation, developed.

In fact, why do we even argue over a state flag? Will Georgia really be misrepresented by the absence of a century-plus-old symbol? Would it be that awful to let one flag represent everyone in the country? "U nited we stand," remember?

Let's review:
-Slavery died with the Civil War. I would be willing to gamble on the fact that there is no way today's society could handle such a law and be able to keep its citizens from killing each other.
-Georgia's known as the "peach state." Slap a huge peach on the flag and let bygones be bygones.
-Actually, why don't we just remove the confederate symbol and stretch that state seal out? After all, it stands for the principals of wisdom, justice, and moderation. The blue background even represents sincerity and loyalty. What would be so wrong with honoring that by itself?

And for those of you who still insist on keeping that Confederate symbol to establish the "proud" history of one race controlling another, I'd like to suggest a book you could try reading: Modern America for Dummies. Yeah, you heard me...pull your head out of your rear-end and look around. The Confederacy is dead, welcome to the land of the free.

- David Brandt is Editor-in-Chief of the Compass. You can respond to his thoughts at: dbrandt@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu

Opinion

Just How Important is Your Vote?

Many people today take the attitude that voting in the general election is a waste of their time. It seems the consensus of opinion is that it really doesn't make a difference, because their vote doesn't count for much anyway. In addition, people often point out they can't discern the difference between the candidates for the Republican and Democratic Parties anyway. So, what difference does it make in who they should vote for? And, if there is no difference, why vote?

We Americans are a pragmatic people. Mostly moderate in our views, we often take the attitude of "If it works, use it." We tend to shy away from those that show a more radical leaning. As a result, most of our political candidates reflect the attitude of the people, moderate in their political approach to the issues that concern most citizens. This moderate, middle-of-the-road attitude can result in complacency when it comes to participation in the political process.

We complain of gridlock in Washington. There are cries for political reforms that seem to fall on deaf ears in Washington. We sometimes even say that we're so disgusted at how seldom Washington, much less our local governments, actually listen to the people anymore. Inside the beltway (Washington D.C.), there seems to be a world unto itself with little realization or recognition of the world outside that small microcosm.

Why do the American people continue to do this? Why does it always seem to be business as usual? The answer lies in our acceptance of mediocrity and in our approach to our responsibility as citizens. This apathy reflects in the political process. The excuses we use to avoid our responsibility as citizens are weak at best: "I haven't got the time to get to the polls." "My vote doesn't matter." "Those politicians are all corrupt, so why bother." These are some of the most widely used excuses.

There are many people who think that it might be time for us to take a more radical approach to change than we have in the last several decades. I am one of those who believe we need change, but change within the system itself. So, the purpose of this editorial is to encourage everyone to vote. The right to vote is one of the safeguards we have against tyranny. Again it is the responsibility of each citizen to participate in the political process. It allows an individual to express their displeasure with the status quo.

We traditionally accept that we have a two party system in the United States. But here's the question when we believe that neither party truly addresses our concerns about various issues? And, if they do attempt to address those concerns, why is it so difficult to tell the difference in their positions? Do we simply not vote? Lately, that seems to be the general response. But, when we do that, we are saying we accept the status quo, that everything is just fine. Is everything just fine?

Many argue a vote for an alternative party is throwing your vote away. None of these parties could ever win. That, however, is not the point of voting. Voting for an alternate party is participating. Making alternative choices shows your dissatisfaction with the mainstream.

There are many ways to find out the positions of these alternative candidates as well as the mainstream candidates of the Republican and Democratic Parties. There are many issues that will effect Americans in this upcoming election. For example, one important vote deals with education. Who should control the bulk of the responsibility for education, the Federal government or the states, salaries for teachers, the use of lottery funds to support national scholarships, some of which are similar to HOPE. Do you know how these factors will affect you?

All of the parties with Presidential candidates have web sites that provide information about their specific stands on the important issues of today. There are policy forums you can attend. There are a number of ways a citizen can get information to help make them an informed decision when they go to the polls in November. This election can prove to be of great political significance for the next few decades, particularly in the area of public policy. The new president may have the opportunity to appoint as many as four members to the Supreme Court. This will effect us all.

Get informed, be involved, and vote. A vote is never wasted. It is your politicial responsibility as a citizen to vote. It is your right as a citizen to be counted.

Kerry R. Stewart is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and Philosophy

Here's What We Think

We're not apathetic voters, we're just scared for our lives...Let's see. We have Bush. We have Gore. We have "lock box." We have "fuzzy math." Flip a coin, pick one, and prepare for your doom.

If they could just work together...Would it be so awful to have the Library and the ACTT Center open at the same time? We don't think so. What if we need to use the Library's resources on Saturday, or spend time in the Foreign Language Lab on Sunday? Let's rethink this plan in the future.

Live on stage...GC has been discussing the possibility of building a new amphitheater. Wouldn't that be cool? We're talking music, plays, huge club events, and - if we ask politely - ballerina monkeys! They're so cute...

Alright! Finally found that rare Bon Jovi version of "It's My Life, the Red-nosed Reindeer..." We don't find anything wrong with Napster. If your band is getting screwed out of money because people download your music tough luck. It's more economical than spending $20, that we don't have, to buy your CD.
Below are just some highlights from a long and productive career of public service. A president should have enough background and experience to do the job.

When it comes to qualifications, there is no way you could fit Al Gore's job history and accomplishments into a one-page resume; you would need a small book.

1969 — Graduated from Harvard with honors, and enlisted in the U.S. Army, when most people (specifically other presidential applicants), were trying to avoid "the draft" and Vietnam.

1970 — Left for Vietnam, where he served as a military journalist.

1971–72 — Attended Vanderbilt Graduate School of Religion. He spent the next few years working as a newspaper reporter for the Nashville Tennessean.


1978–85 — Served in the U.S. House of Representatives. In the first month after he was elected to Congress, he held open town meetings in every district he represented.

1978 — Played a leading role in precipitating congressional hearings on price gouging by pharmaceutical companies, and chaired some of the first hearings on toxic waste cleanup.

1979 — Cosponsored the Department of Education Act.

1982 — Introduced a comprehensive plan to reduce nuclear arms.

1983–92 — Served in the U.S. Senate.


1989 — Proposed legislation re-establishing Earth Day, and with Republican Senator John McCain co-sponsored legislation to reduce the proliferation of missile technology.

1990 — Was one of 10 democrats who supported the Persian Gulf War.


1992 — Published a book on the environment called "Earth in the Balance" that examined the nations need to address growing environmental threats both at home and abroad.

1994 — As vice president, launched a campaign to help all public schools get computers and established a goal to get every school in America connected to the internet by 1996.

During his second term as vice president, Gore has supported raising the minimum wage and defended attempts to cut Medicare. He has exercised the tie-breaking vote in the senate several times. He also introduced the Welfare-to-Work Coalition and played a leading role in creating and implementing foreign policy. I intend to vote for Al Gore in November.

Ross Green is a student at Gainesville College.

Nader Leads Way For New Blood In Politics

Green Party promotes their candidate as the messenger of new issues, policies, leadership.

I used to be a Democrat, but they left me. Or should I say they righted me?

I’ve watched Bill Clinton, Al Gore, and the Democratic Leadership Council drag the Democratic Party up from its roots and try to plant it in the desiccated soil of the middle ground of American politics. It has not been a pretty sight.

This move to the right has left a great many people, including myself, disenfranchised. People who care about the environment, health care, and affordable housing have been forced to choose between the lesser of evils, for over twenty years. We have had the choice of “Tweedleded” Democrats or “Tweedle-dumb” Republicans. The Democrats take us for granted because they know we won’t vote Republican. The Republicans ignore us, knowing we won’t vote Republican.

Not this time. This time we have Ralph Nader and the Green Party.

I invented the internet using the technology that makes up my nervous system...

We demand equal time in this cartoon!

I don’t even know who I am...

Well, durn (ya liberal pansy). That’s pretty (un) impressive. Is that why my website won’t load (ya rat)?

Aside from being the most progressive candidate in my memory, Nader is also the most intelligent. But more importantly, he is not bought and paid for by corporate interests. The Democratic and Republican Parties are wholly owned subsidiaries of big business. Are there differences in the rhetoric of Al Gore and George W. Bush? Of course. Would there be policy differences between the two possible presidencies? No doubt. Would either challenge the entrenched corporate interests that funds both their campaigns? Not a chance.

This election, I’ll vote for Nader. I’ll vote for him because I’m tired of the “lesser of evils” candidates. I’ll vote for him because he isn’t in the hip pocket of big business. I choose Nader so the Green Party can get matching funds in 2004. Maybe these “Green votes” will send a message to Bush or Gore in November: You ain’t the only game in town anymore.

- A. Bryan James is a contributing writer for The Compass.
By Tricia Madison
Contributing Writer

Although many Gainesville College students are eager to hear the issues being addressed by this year’s presidential candidates, others are less enthusiastic about the 2000 election. There are many students at GC who will be filling out a ballot on November 7. But just how many of those students have been paying attention to the presidential campaign issues?

“I do plan to vote,” said Emily Reid, an undecided major, “But I’m not the type who pays attention to the races or the public opinion polls.”

Like Reid, there are many students who don’t have the time or simply don’t care to watch the constant media coverage of the presidential candidates. Early Childhood Education major Shannon Guess admits that she was an avid follower of the races when they first began.

“I have lost interest because the candidates always talk about the same things,” Guess said. “I am glad to see that both candidates want to improve education for children, but I would like to hear more about what they intend to do for those of us trying to get through college.”

Penny Mills, a professor of political science at GC, asked for a show of hands in each of her classes to find out the number of students that are registered voters and whether or not they intend to vote this year. Unfortunately, Mills has not always been pleased with the results.

“It’s about half with the number who actually voted in the primaries or plan to vote in the general election,” said Mills. “In November, it is much lower; Less than a fourth.”

Whether or not those problems have a long-term effect on their future, Mills believes that the younger voters do not concern themselves with certain political issues.

“These are issues that concern their parents and grandparents,” Mills said. “Many of the issues that are central to the presidential campaign [social security, veteran’s benefits, U.S. foreign policy, heating oil prices, health care, education] are not of interest to the typical 18-24 year old.”

Is the interest of college students in the presidential election low due to the candidates’ low interest in the issues of college students? Maybe, maybe not.

A number of students are disappointed by the presidential candidates that will appear on the November ballot. Reports of political scandal over the past two years also seems to contribute to students’ weariness over the presidential office.

“Even though Clinton is a liar and an adulterer, I would rather have four more years of that than deal with any of the other options in this election,” said theatre major Lauren Heidingsfelder.

Nevertheless, there are students who have already chosen which ballot box they will check. Whether opposing Vice President Al Gore’s reluctance to grant citizens a tax break or George W. Bush’s eagerness to pass a “no partial birth abortion” law, some students continue to keep their eyes and ears open to the issues.

Students Ponder Importance Of Presidential Vote

By Tricia Madison

Thursday, October 26

Speakers from six major political parties (Libertarian, Georgia Reform, Natural Law, Green, Democratic, Republican), will be in the C.E. Auditorium from 12:00-1:00.

“Special Political Reform”

Should Napster Be Shut Down?

By Ken Abbott


What do all of these people have in common? More than you might think. All of them have taken sides in the Napster debate. The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) has filed lawsuits against Napster, claiming that by allowing MP3s to be downloaded, they are "pirating" music.

Long-time rock band Metallica and rap artist Dr. Dre have filed suit, as well. The Digital Media Association, however, supports the music-distribution service — as does the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, which claimed in a "friend of the court" brief that a decision against Napster could slow "the dissemination of important therapeutic medical information."

Students can often be seen (and heard) in GC’s Cyber Cafe downloading songs and other sound files from Napster. But what do Gainesville College students think about the threat of shutting the file-trading server down?

"I think [Napster] should have permission from the bands before they put anything on there," said Chris, an English major. "It's good for the bands getting started, but for the established bands, I think they should be paid for everything they've done."

"It doesn't make sense," claims Lori, an advertising major, "because if they take it away, then somebody else in some other country will do the same thing. They won't be able to shut it down."

Several other companies are indeed "doing the same thing." Among them are imash.com, filep.com, Scour, and Gnutella.

Gnutella has an advantage over its competitors—the music trading service doesn't have an infrastructure or server-based database like Napster does, so there is not an established organization to file a lawsuit against.

More than 200 college campuses have banned Napster from their systems since the company’s legal battle began.
### Scholarship Gives Students Opportunities Overseas

By Joy Harper  
Contributing Writer

Imagine walking down a busy city street in Paris, standing inside the Roman coliseum, and visiting a famous museum in St. Petersburg. Now imagine earning college credit for it. These are just a few of the possibilities where students will find themselves next semester should they choose to participate in the Study Abroad program at Gainesville College.

The Board of Regents offers a $500 merit-based scholarship to any enrolled student who meets certain requirements. Scholarships are given to students with financial need, strong essays, under-represented fields of study and students with little or no international experience. The study abroad program, which started in 1995, gives students the opportunity to earn course credit while studying for a minimum of four weeks at various institutions affiliated with the University system throughout the world.

"Anyone who has done Study Abroad will tell you that it's one of the most significant experiences of their life," said Claudhorn Gilles, GC international coordinator.

"Language and finances don't have to be a barrier," said Gilles. "Gainesville College Foundation scholarships are dedicated to GC students."

Rocio Quinones, a traditional student, was awarded a foreign language scholarship as well as a 2000 Regent's Study Abroad Scholarship. She spent six weeks in France last summer.

"It's not hard at all to get a scholarship," said Quinones. "I went for free."

Various departments at GC have funds that are specifically for students use for the study abroad program. These foundation scholarships apply to the March Study Abroad program.

Pam Slappey, a non-traditional student, was awarded a 1999 Regents Study Abroad Scholarship. She spent five weeks traveling to various locations in France alongside her friend Melanie Panoz, also a non-traditional student.

"I've never had so much fun in my entire life," said Slappey.

Some of the different locations in which students may choose to do their Study Abroad include France, London, Italy, Russia, Greece, Spain, South Africa or Australia.

GC On The Go, an international travel program, has sponsored educational travel opportunities for student, faculty and staff of Gainesville College for six years running.

There are two different ways to study abroad: a short trip in the spring or a month long program in the summer.

The spring 2001 trip focus is on France and on French culture and business. Gilles will be taking a group of students on March 9-16 to Sarreguemines, France. Students will be housed with families while in Sarreguemines. A few days will be spent in Paris as well, where students will stay in an International Welcome Center. While in France, students will visit such popular sites as the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame and Versailles.

The other trip is four-five week summer program that allows students to earn course credit while studying abroad. Instead of taking a class at Gainesville, students are instructed at their selected destinations by University System Professors. Classes are taught in English three days a week for one and half hours a day. One day is set aside for field trips. Students in the Paris program, for example, are issued an eight-day Eurailpass meaning that they have eight days of unlimited travel to different countries throughout Europe.

Registration for this program is on the GC campus through Gilles. The cost of the trip has yet to be determined, but is expected to cost between $1000 and $1500.

International Perspectives, a course offered at GC is specifically designed to prepare students for their study abroad. This class offers travel safety tips and basic orientation that gives students two hours of academic credit in area B. Students who plan on participating in the March Study Abroad program must take this course.

"It opens you up to new ways of thinking and experiencing life," said Gilles.

Interested students may contact Gilles at (770) 718-3692.

---

### Game Room Relieves Stress

**Ping Pong, Pool Tables Creates Leisure Enviroment**

By Sarah Grezskak  
sgr3002@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu

In only three years, Gainesville College’s Game Room has come a long way.

The Game Room began as a minor service provided by the Comptroller's Office. Back then the tables and games were quarter-operated, until Michelle S. Brown, Director of Student Activities, picked up the responsibility of keeping the Game Room intact.

"We weren't going to have a Game Room unless someone else took control of it," said Brown. "So I decided that it would be great for the students. They really enjoy it."

"It's good to have a game room," said Brandon Millwood, an undecided major. "I come in here to catch others play."

The Student Activities Board bought used pool tables and equipment to see how they would be treated. Brown is pleased, even though cues sticks and other items are purchased more than expected.

"Some of the equipment seems dilapidated," said student Lance Kelly.

Now that the jukebox is in there, the Game Room makes for a very pleasing experience.

"It kind of adds a little ambiance, a little light to the environment of the Game Room," said Brown.

"Hanging out [in the Game Room] is much more fun," said student Kristi Howell.

The Game Room is accessible from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and offers two pool tables two ping-pong tables, and an air hockey table. A television also sits in the Game Room, awaiting Nintendo 64 challenges. Tournaments have a good turn out with great participation.

Student assistants maintain order and tidiness, while enjoying the benefits of hard work in the Game Room. Students keep the room full and busy. Brown is looking forward to improving some things in the room.

---

**Come Visit us upstairs from 2 Dog Cafe**

**the artichoke**

*Gallery, Gifts, and Lounge*

tel. 770/503-7135

*Selling art on consignment*
Foundation Raises Money for GC

The Gainesville College Foundation is a group of people who volunteer to raise money for GC by seeking donations from people in the community. Besides scholarships, the money raised is distributed throughout the college to support designated technology equipment, operating expenses, new development, and faculty development.

"The foundation helps to create community awareness and enthusiasm for GC," said Pat Ganske, a GC Foundation Executive.

Each year many students, go to college on scholarships funded by the GC Foundation. According to the GC Foundation, an estimated $25,000 was donated in 2000 for academic awards. Foundation scholarships are awarded based on specific abilities, academic major, county of residency, and traditional non traditional status.

"The Gainesville College Foundation supports students by giving them scholarships that HOPE doesn’t cover," said Ruth Bruner, a GC Foundation Executive.

The GC Foundation is also assisting improvements in Academic I in the library renovations. According to Marsha Hopkins, CEO of the Foundation, renovations in Academic I will include three new studios for the art department. The library will be installing new carpet, painting the walls, and putting in more couches.

The GC Foundation holds an auction every year to support other programs on campus. The Foundation collects goods from local businesses and people to be auctioned off for the college. According to GC Foundation, in 1999, $10,000 was raised for programs such as the GC Job Fair, Science Fair, and Honors Day Reception.

The GC Foundation supports faculty and staff development as well. The Foundation will provide $25,000 this year to assist staff members in taking classes, earning higher degrees, and attending conferences.

Medical Care Lacking On Campus

By A. Bryan James Contributing Writer

A student lies helpless on a Gainesville College restroom floor. Concerned faculty and students stand by, but don’t know whom to call.

The reason is that there is no medical care based on campus, nor has there ever been a clinic or infirmary at Gainesville College. College administrators assure students that there is no need for this service.

"I have never heard of any kind of request for that," said Vice President of Student Affairs, Tom Walter.

The young woman with her face pressed against the floor might have felt differently. Another student found her before classes. Upon this discovery, she ran to a faculty member Dan Cabancis’ office to get help. Returning together, they found the victim still prone, but conscious. She later declined medical treatment.

According to GC’s Director of Security Marion Darracott, there were nine assists from Hall County emergency personnel in 1999. This includes fire, police, as well as emergency medical technicians. Darracott estimates an emergency response time of less than ten minutes.

"We are very fortunate to have very quick response from the McIver Road fire station," said Darracott.

The low number of emergency responses implies that there is little need for emergency medical services on the GC campus.

"The system has served us well," said Darracott, "And it’s my feeling if it’s not broke, don’t fix it."

ADVENTURE CYCLES

6 Months Same As Cash

BMX - Mountain - Road

OAKWOOD, GA

770-534-1190

Exit #16 off I-985 behind Admiral Benbow Inn

Fall Season Ends

Programs saw rise in participation

By Michael McDaniel Contributing Writer

The fall intramural program at Gainesville College "has been fairly successful," according to Glenn Preston, Director of the Intramural Program.

Despite the low number of participants in the fishing tournament, but the number for the golf tournament rose to 48 students, the initial limit set at 40 players.

Another success for the intramural program was found in flag-football, which included 7 teams for men and 2 for women.

The remaining intramural events for the fall will include a state tournament for flag-football at Georgia Southern University from Nov. 17-19. All-star teams will be selected from the pre-existing teams. There will also be a 3 vs. 3 basketball tournament on Dec. 5. This will present an opportunity for participants to organize team rosters for the upcoming basketball season.

While the fall intramurals are almost over, there are plans developing for the spring program.

Preston adds that there will be 5-on-5 basketball through January and February. There will be a state intramural basketball tournament at Georgia Tech near the end of February. Volleyball tournaments will also take place in March and April. An April softball tournament will round-up the 2000-2001 program.

Preston says another golf tournament might be in the works if funds hold out and if he can get approval.

Some of the other events will include fishing and bowling. A definite schedule for spring will not be in place until November. If you have any questions you can contact Glenn Preston through glpresto@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu or by phone at (770)718-3647.

DOG CAFE

Serving Rustic Euro Soul Food Since the late 20th Century

Mon.-Sat. Lunch 10:30 - 2:30
Thr-Fri-Sat. Dinner 5-10pm

109 Bradford St., Gainesville, Ga 30501
Phone 770-287-8384
catering available
By David Brandt
dna7126@mercury.gs.pedone.edu

She has a specific position at Gainesville College, but after six years Michelle S. Brown has developed a healthy reputation as a person with all of the answers. "I wear many hats here," said Brown. "It comes through working with a lot of students."

As GC's Director of Student Activities, Brown constantly interacts with many of the school's clubs and student organizations. She monitors the budget for each of the extra-curricular associations, helps coordinate all on-campus student activities, and assists in community services for on- and off-campus groups. Brown finds that each of these duties provides her with the opportunity to assist in-class instructors in educating GC students.

"I try to complement what is taught in class through the outside activities that the students do," said Brown, who holds a bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Georgia and a master's degree in administrative planning and community organization from the University of South Carolina.

Brown is sometimes able to directly involve herself with various groups every semester, depending on scheduled opportunities. During the fall of 2000, she will be advising the Student Government Association and the Campus Activities Board. She will also be working with the intramural program's ladies flag-football team.

"Michelle's always very professional," said Stephanie Brown, a political science major and president of SGA. "She's open, honest, and supportive. You couldn't ask for a better adviser."

Besides attracting students to sign up for different activities and clubs, Brown is also in charge of handling basic services such as creating student ID cards and handing out parking permits. Fortunately, she has student aides working in the student activities office helping her manage such necessary tasks.

"Everybody likes Michelle," said Amanda Wiley, an early childhood education major and an aide in the student activities office. "Even with aides helping her, I don't know how she does it."

"Those [student aides] are very important to me," said Brown. "They are a great help to me in providing planning and programming student services."

Besides being devoted to her job, Brown is also dedicated to her family. A wife and mother of two, her responsibilities at GC sometimes keep her working on-campus beyond a 9-to-5 schedule, blocking her from having the time she wants to spend with her family during the week.

"Sometimes this job can be stressful," said Brown. "There are a lot of things going on at once. It's all about having good time management."

Despite the moderately long shifts and an eventful activity calendar, Brown is still able to find pleasure and satisfaction in the daily work she carries out.

"I enjoy, what I do," said Brown, "and I really enjoy working with students. [GC] provides an interesting environment. I definitely enjoy the challenge that comes with what I do."

Student Artist Looks to Design His Career In Graphics

By Michael McDaniel
Contributing Writer

"Just think Brad Pitt, only way sexier," M.D. Trippe says with his voice on the edge of laughter. "That's what I tell people on the Internet, anyway. They think it's funny."

Sitting in the dimly lit Student Activities Center, M.D. Trippe's red shirt emblazoned with a yellow "Transformers" logo stands out in the shadows surrounding him. It hangs loose over his khaki cargo shorts. Trippe seems to hang loose, as well, legs and arms at awkward but comfortable angles.

Trippe considers himself to be a twenty-year-old Renaissance man. He is an artist, musician, and web guru, all in his spare time from attending 18 hours of classes here at Gainesville College, and holding a part-time job at "We're Entertainment" in Commerce. He is also a manager for WellWater, a local Christian band.

"That's what I've been doing this summer instead of getting a real job," Trippe said.

Trippe's main focus right now is his art. He enjoys doing mostly pop art which includes montages of characters like Batman, the Powerpuff Girls, and Harry Potter. He creates his own comic book characters and is currently working on AngelX, a comic book about a 14-year-old superhero.

His status as a webmaster factors into his life as an artist. His website www.atomicartgallery.com includes several pieces of art which are for sale over the Internet. He is mostly commissioned to do Internet artwork. Besides having artistic ability, Trippe is an avid web designer and has done artwork for several websites, including the Justin Timberlake Foundation, a charity set up by the member of the singing group N'Sync.

How can Trippe extend himself like this? "The amount of tasks I can undertake, I think, is proportional to the number of good cartoons on Saturday morning," said Trippe, "and it's a good season this year."

COMING IN NOVEMBER

- FRENCH WEEK and JOB FAIR and BLOOD DRIVE... OH, MY!

GTA PERFORMS, ART CLUB TRAVELS and STUDENTS SKI
Hispanic Heritage Month

Dr. Jose J. Soto, Vice President for Affirmative Action, Equity, and Diversity at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska; speaks on Latino Issues and Culture.

Mariachi Band Plays Hits Like 'Livin' La Vida Loca.'

PRESENT THIS ADD TO RECEIVE YOUR FREE PREFERRED CUSTOMER CARD TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS AT:

MAIL BOXES ETC

3446 Winder Hwy – Flowery Branch, GA 30542
770.297.8946 Fax: 770.297.8948

PREFERRED CUSTOMER CARD
Present this card at time of purchase to receive discount.

- Copies: B/W - 4¢ • Color - 85¢
- Fax: Send - $1.50 • Receive - 50¢
- Laminate: 8 x 11 - $1.49 • 8 x 14 - $1.99 • 11 x 17 $2.49
- 5% Discount on all additional Services (Some exclusions apply)
Spinning Paves Way For New Era of Music

Local musicians follow international revolution in sound, dance, atmosphere

By Kami Stevens
Contributing Writer

Lights pulsate wildly as a group of dancers sacrifice their bodies to the hypnotic beat of the music. Brian Coffey, the last of the night's three DJs, bends over his turntables, concentrating on spinning a track that will keep the crowd moving. In the corner, a group of college students talk while smoking cigarettes and drinking Miller Lite from plastic cups.

This is not a scene at a rave or a club, but rather ordinary house party in Lawrenceville, Georgia.

The art of deejaying is undergoing a revolution. The most popular genre of music derived from deejaying, or spinning records, is techno. Techno was developed in the late 1970s by a few groups of Detroit teenagers. A few of techno's first pioneers and most influential artists are Ken Collier, Derrick May, and Juan Atkins. Techno has no real definition. "The New Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock and Roll" defines it as "a computer generated dance music style that mates the ubiquitous big beat of disco with the rapid-fire intensity of punk," while the book "Techno Rebels: The Renegades of Electronic Funk" calls it "a mind-numbing assault of sounds, colors, and movement, inextricable from sound systems, clubs and warehouses."

Techno is only one of the many types of music that DJs spin or mix. Some of the other popular genres are trip hop, house and hard house, ambient, garage, Jamaican club, acid, and drum and bass (or jungle).

Though spinning and techno were developed in Detroit, they only began to gain a major following in the U.S. about five years ago. The

RETP Provides Assistance For Engineering Students

By Jennifer Ponders
joen0702@mercury.gpc.pacelink.net

The Regents Engineering Transfer Program (RETP) has provided many students, like Robert Broussard, assistance in studying various engineering programs. Broussard, a GC graduate, is currently majoring in electrical engineering as a junior at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

"Learning the principles of courses is the key to coming to Georgia Tech," said Broussard. "Tech is an overwhelming place, but I was prepared."

The RETP, established in July 1986, allows students to take engineering courses at smaller institutions. This provides individual attention and more interaction with professors. Students are also allowed to participate in the co-op program through Georgia Tech, tour the campus each spring, and meet with engineering advisors.

The program was designed to encourage more students to become engineers because fewer high school students were showing interest in engineering fields like nuclear, mining, petroleum, and aerospace.

"There is a net shortage of engineers," said Jeff Turk, GC professor of engineering. "Georgia universities graduate 18 percent less than what we actually need in the state."

Before the RETP, Georgia Tech was the only certified engineering school in the state. But now 12 institutions offer strong engineering curriculum and only two are two-year colleges. Middle Georgia College is the other two-year school qualified for this program. GC became eligible after Turk submitted six course ideas to the Academic Affairs Committee, and then to the Board of Regents. After approval he approached Georgia Tech about obtaining status as a RETP institution.

GC received accreditation for a RETP program in the spring of 1999. Turk wanted to have the curriculum on campus because he felt students could benefit from it.

"It gives students more options," said Turk. "Up until that time, they could finish two years at GC, transfer to Georgia Tech, and were only classified as sophomores. After completing the RETP courses, they are juniors."

"The RETP is the best thing to happen to me," said Broussard. "It allowed for early registration and I transferred with 66 hours of Georgia Tech credit."

Students can now take the courses at GC that they would normally take in the first two years at Georgia Tech. They are also given preferential treatment. According to Turk, instead of competing for the engineering schools, students get to choose which one they want to attend.