Swimming Resumes in GC Pool

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News Briefs

Spring Enrollment Tops 3,000

For the first time in Gainesville College’s history, spring enrollment has exceeded 3,000 students. The total number of students currently enrolled is 3,038. That is a 3.6% enrollment increase over the previous high spring semester enrollment, which was 2,932 last year.

Student Killed in Hit and Run in Dec.

Jonathan L. Husfeld, a 19-year-old mechanical engineering major at Gainesville College, was killed in a hit and run accident on December 2, 2000. The accident occurred along I-85 north of Hamilton Mill Rd. in Buford.

*Editor’s Note: Due to the varying stories reported by on-scene police, GC students, and local news outlets, “The Compass” cannot confirm any more specifics surrounding the terms of his death.

Read the editorial about Jonathan Husfeld in the opinions section.

New Program Aids Latino Students

The Georgia Legislator has allocated $375,000 for Gainesville College, Dalton College, North Georgia College and State University and the University of Georgia to form a consortium that will develop and implement reproducible pilot projects, improving access to higher education for Latino students. For Gainesville College, Harriett Allison and Belinda Sauret will be taking charge of project design and implementation.

Library to Close Before Finals

By Nick Brown
nbno_compass@hotmail.com

John Harrison Hosch Library will be closing its doors for renovation on April 18, prior to Spring 2001 finals, and is scheduled to reopen on June 3. Byron Drew, Director of the Library and ACTT Center, explained that the library needs to be updated to meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements, and that many things in the library are original since it was first erected in 1972.

“It will be an inconvenience during this semester, so students should plan ahead,” said Drew.

The changes will include several bookshelves being removed on every row to allow all the aisles in the library to be widened. Other areas that previously contained single person study booths will also be removed. This will allow those areas to be widened to receive more space for group study tables. The restrooms will be renovated and carpets will be replaced. The main focus is to clean up the look of the library while making it more accessible to anyone with a disability.

Bids for the project begin Feb. 14, where a contractor will be hired for the job. If the bids are too high for the project, the renovation plan will be limited to the areas that students are active in. Offices and other areas of the library will then be renovated at a later time.

“All the areas students see when walking into the library will be completed,” Drew said.

The library staff will be relocated in the ACTT center while the library is closed. They will still be able to provide research assistance online and will be able to provide a small amount of the core materials that are used most by students.

Outlook Express Replaces Pegasus E-mail

By Chris J. Keen
ckee_compass@hotmail.com

Gainesville College has abandoned the old e-mail system in favor of web-based email. This semester, students need not fear losing files sent over e-mail from the school’s email system. The new system uses Outlook Express Web based e-mail to ensure compatibility at home and at school. Students can get to their e-mail through the college’s web page.

When asked why GC had chosen to abandon the old system Brandon Haag, Director of Information Technology, responded by saying “The old one was showing its age.”

The 1992 DOS client based e-mail did not translate well into HTML, thus having little compatibility for students at home or work. Transfers were difficult and often failed on the receiving end.

Students and staff were on separate systems. All these problems are completely or nearly eliminated on the new system.

“We wanted to bring everyone together for better calibration,” states Haag. “We wanted to get everyone on the same system.”

The new system also carries many new and interesting additions. A calendar and contact manager are included in outlook. Students can save messages for later delivery or save their own messages for review.

Since everyone is using the same system, users can search for contacts.
By Jen Kruger
News_compass@hotmail.com

After nearly a year of being closed for renovations, the Gainesville College swimming pool reopened in early January. Students can now take classes that require the use of the pool. Students are also welcome to use the pool at their leisure.

"The pool itself was not actually renovated," said Vice President of Student Affairs Tom Walter. "Renovations were done on the surrounding structures. New walls and ceiling were installed."

Also, according to Glenn Preston, Department Chair of Physical Education, new lighting was installed as well as new heating and cooling systems. The pool is now also handicap accessible for the first time in its 30-year history. A handicap ramp was installed at the edge of the pool.

Bob Howington, Vice President of Finance, said the renovation project cost $713,085.

Walter also stated that many classes that could not be taught during the pool's renovation are now being taken by GC students. The life saving classes, beginning and intermediate swimming, water aerobics and water safety instruction are all now being taught, according to Walter.

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Honors Foreign Language Classes Mesh with 1001 Classes

By Chris J. Keen
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Gainesville College will be offering a new non-credit language class in the spring.

According to Dale Crandall, head of the Foreign Language Department, honors Spanish and honors French courses will initially be "picky-back" classes. Honors students will be integrated with the 1001 students, but will have extra requirements and reap extra benefits, but the grading policy will be no different for honors students than for students taking any other foreign language course.

"I believe honors courses at GC give students a golden opportunity to achieve more than they would in a regular class," Crandall said. "Students would instead be required to do some extra work, probably in the form of a project."

Crandall said he would like to see separate honors classes when faculty increases enough to support it. Currently there are no plans for honors German, Russian, or Japanese classes at GC.

According to school officials, one of the benefits of taking an honors class is the Honors Scholar Program. This program can grant enrolled students money for "GC on the Go," a type of field trip, as well as allowing earlier registration for classes. Another benefit of the program is that, once enrolled, a student can waive out of state tuition fees. In order to complete the Honors Scholar Program, a student must complete four courses in three different areas.

Spanish 1002 and other honors language courses can be counted in Area A. A single honors MLAN course or basic MLAN course can be credited to Area C. Honors Linguistics 2012 will reward English majors or minors with a credit in Area F.

"It's the study of universal rules that apply to all languages, and how you can take those and apply them to another language, or gain a better mastery of your own," said Dan Meeks, a foreign language major and a student in Linguistics 2012.

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An institution can only become accredited and a member of SACS after a scrutinizing self-evaluation and an assessment of peers. They must be reevaluated after five years and every ten years following, or when any significant changes are made concerning the entire institution. This process helps to affirm that the students, the actual consumers of the institution, are gaining a sufficient education.

"SACS actually accredits elementary, high schools, and colleges," said Nesbitt. "But they have different commissions. We are accredited by the Commission of Colleges."

GC was approved by SACS to conduct an alternate self-study model. Currently, the faculty and staff of GC are involved in the self-evaluation of the college which requires the formation of committees. These include one main steering committee headed by Gina Reed, Self-Study director, to over see the progress of every program on campus. The compliance committee, headed by Byron Drew, Director of Library and ACCT Center, will see to the degree of which the school complies with 400 "must" statements.

There are 15 core values that GC tries to incorporate into its educational format. For now, strategic committees will evaluate four of them, one committee for each value.

1) our student oriented environment focused on students learning and growth, headed by Belinda Saaret, Professor of Foreign Language.

2) the growth and well-being of employees, overseen by Rick Kabat, Associate Professor of History.

3) the integration of technology into the fabric of the College, managed by Dr. Chris Jonick, Assistant Professor of Business Administration.

4) innovation and experimentation to facilitate progress and to advance knowledge, supervised by JB Sharma, Distinguished Professor of Physics.

The other nine core values will be evaluated one by one in annual reports to be made over the next nine years.

In order to pass the evaluation of SACS criteria, every aspect and program of GC must accommodate each of these values along with a list of "must" statements concerning the policies of the college. Surveys were used as a major factor in gathering information for the reports. GC must send to SACS.

During a faculty retreat in August 2000, a self-study survey was designed and conducted to assess the effectiveness of GC in certain aspects of education to incorporate the school's core values. Through this survey, current and former students as well as faculty and staff members were able to voice any concerns that they had or to discuss any thing that was not covered. Other surveys, concerning aspects such as the ACCT Center, entering students, community needs assessment, information technology, are conducted at various times throughout several years.

The analysis of the results of these surveys, especially the Self-Study survey, which was sent in August to staff and faculty, culminated into a final report. There are specific guidelines for the report to follow such as its structure, content, and even word processing requirements.

A visiting committee from other two-year member schools will evaluate the school based on its SACS compliance report in Spring 2002. During their week-long visit the team will investigate aspects such as the school's integrity.

"As we get closer [to the visit from SACS], we will start to make students aware there will be a group of people on campus asking them questions," Reed said, "so there are no surprises."

"The questions might range from, 'What do you think of student life here?' or 'Why did you choose Gainesville College?'" or "Do you have an opportunity to make suggestions for improvements?" said Nesbitt.

After the visit, they will make recommendations for other improvements to be made. If these improvements are made by the Fall 2002 deadline, the school will receive the full re-accreditation by the end of 2002.

Changes have already been made to the handbook to adhere to policy standards of the SACS "must" statements. The Faculty Handbook now requires faculty to include their office hours on their course syllabus. Many of the changes to be made are not in action, but in the written policies of the school.

"The college has always done well [in SACS reviews]," said Reed, also Associate Professor of Math. Over 90 faculty and staff members are involved in the committees and must take the time to gather information, conduct surveys, write reports and revise these reports. On top of their responsibilities to GC/Nesbitt and Drew are both highly involved in SACS' reviews of other schools. The two-year long process calls for the complete cooperation of the entire school.
On Feb. 5, the Georgia College Press Association (GCPA) presented the staff of your favorite college newspaper, The Compass, with 16 GCPA awards, including a top honor in the "General Excellence" category.

This is an unprecedented accomplishment for two-year colleges in the state of Georgia and for the history of the Gainesville College student newspaper.

These awards, however, would not have been given to The Compass were it not for our readers, the students, faculty, and staff of Gainesville College. Your support and readership gives us a reason to work as hard as we do to provide you with the best coverage of all campus news and events.

Below, you will find the list of categories we won an award for, and what place we finished in among all of the two-year college newspapers in Georgia.

We thank you for picking up our monthly edition, and we hope you continue to do so throughout your time at Gainesville College.

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2nd PLACE

- Best Editorial or Editorial Series
- Best Campus Community Service through Features

1st PLACE

- Best Photograph in Editorial or Feature
- Best Sports Photo (Luke Bareis)
- Best News Article based on Objective Reporting ("Student Suspended from Campus in Oct." by Jon Krueger and Joy Harper)
- Best Column ("Yeah, You Heard Me..."- David Brandt)
- General Photography
- General Advertising
- Improvement Award
- Best Campus Community Service through News
- General Excellence

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Campus Tobacco Policy

Because of the harmful effects of smoking and use of other tobacco products on an individual's health and also because the college wants to protect non-smokers from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke, the college has established the following policy:

No use of any tobacco products is allowed in any buildings on campus or on the grounds, except in the shelter areas designated as smoking areas. All tobacco products are to be disposed of in the receptacles in the smoking shelters.

Students, faculty, and staff are urged to abide by the policy which means that there will be no smoking as one crosses the campus.

Such a policy also helps with the cleanliness of our College.
By Jon Krueger
news_compass@hotmail.com

Author Velma Maia Thomas believes that one of the most important chapters in African-American history is one that is seldom told. She believes that the post-Reconstruction era of the 1870s up to the birth of the Civil Rights Movement in the late 1950s was a period in black history full of inspirational stories and great achievements.

In a speech delivered on January 12 in the Gainesville College Auditorium as part of a tribute to Martin Luther King’s birthday, Thomas promoted her new book Freedom’s Children: The Passage from Emancipation to the Great Migration, as well as sharing selected passages from the book with the audience.

“Most of the time when we speak of our history, we go from slavery, to Civil Rights,” Thomas stated in her speech. “We don’t talk about Emancipation and we don’t talk about Reconstruction and all that went on...we need to find out what happened during those years.”

Thomas stated she initially believed that nothing significant happened to African-Americans during that time period. It wasn’t until she began the research for her book, she said, that she had “an eye-opener.”

“When you speak of this time of Reconstruction, you speak of a time when black people were making tremendous gains,” Thomas stated. “You speak of a time when we were holding elected offices, you speak of a time when we were land owners, you speak of a time when we were educating our own. You speak of a group of black people who would not be defeated.”

Thomas also stated that she believes these times were just as important as the Civil Rights Era. She also spoke of the compromise Election of 1876, where Rutherford B. Hayes was granted the presidency in a razor-thin election, in turn for Northern troops to be removed from the South.

“When [the troops] were pulled out the South,” Thomas stated. “All hell broke loose. The [Ku Klux] Klan could do whatever it wanted to. Poll taxes and grandfather clauses were established to disenfranchise us.”

Thomas spoke of the rise of the Ku Klux Klan towards the turn of the century. She also told a heart-wrenching story of a black man who was lynched in front of his family.

“Blacks were lynched when people thought we were becoming too equal,” Thomas stated. “This is the time of the ‘great migration’ of blacks from the South to northern states at the end of World War II. She said that by that time, black families had saved enough money to leave the South and begin a new life in the north. Thomas called on personal experience for this part of her speech, referring to her mother, who moved from the Deep South to Detroit before she was born.

Thomas stated that she spent almost a year and a half researching and writing her book. She also said that collectors sold her different artifacts that once belonged to African Americans who lived during the Reconstruction era.

Thomas concluded her speech by saying, “[African-Americans] have to tell [their] stories. Life has never been easy for black people, but the energy is still there; we still have a war to wage.”

—Tricia Madison
Hanks Comes Alive In *Cast Away, Dragon* 

**HUMORS WITH REALISM**

by Michelle Yeoh (Tomorrow Never Dies), who are seeking out a thief known as the Jade Fox. She is responsible for taking a sacred sword - once belonging to Li - from the governor of the land. As the two warriors battle bandits and gangsters to recover the sword, they become divided between the love they have for each other and the duty they must carry out as warriors.

There is a pursuit of the master thief, they must watch over the governor's daughter, Jen, played by Ziyi Zhang (from the forthcoming *The Contender*). Jen is married to a sacred warrior who, after she escapes her fate and decides which direction she wants to lead his life.

All of these elements blend together into one powerful story of physical prowess, fierce triumph, and crushing tragedy, and neither the audience nor the characters know what their warfare will cost them in the end.

The geographical setting for much of the film's success is absolutely breathtaking, as though the story occurred in a forbidden holy city that was undiscovered by evil or darkness. World-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma (Seven Years in Tibet) provides the film's score, which alternates between graceful softness and urgent, urgent, urgent. The action choreography, planned by Woo-Ping Yuen - best known for his kung-fu wire-battle styles in *The Matrix* and its forthcoming sequel - is as vigorous as it is mind-blowing. Every punch, kick, and sword maneuver is engaged down to steady blurs and brisk accuracy. Yun-Fat and Yeoh are both well-known for their aggressive fighting ability, but the other actors in the film don't exactly throw light slaps, either.

It's got action, drama, suspense, romance, and is a great example of first-rate storytelling. Anyone who doesn't see Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon will be missing out on something that could only be described as spectacular - for lack of a better word.

Gracie Hart is an overlooked beauty that appears as a workaholic FBI agent. Her foul language, eating habits, and kickboxing can without doubt scare most men away. Her boss (Emie Hudson, Ghostbusters) and fellow agent (Benjamin Bratt, TV's Law & Order), push the uncouth agent and Gracie to the pageant stage all for the capture of a perfectionist bomber.

Gracie undergoes an absolute transformation in one night. A make-over complete with tanning, waxing, face peels, manicures and much, much more tuning the once vulgar New Yorker into a crafty and stunning lady with the help of an ex-pageant guru (Michale Caine, The Cider House Rules) practically scratching his way back to the top of his business. Allowing this undercover agent into the pageant, the director of the pageant (Candice Bergen of Murphy Brown) shows how evry and greed can lead to financial and mental ruin.

He lives with his obsessive, history-teaching father; his adulterous, piano-playing mother; and his hard-core, Civil War-recreating younger sister, Elvira. His best friend, Karen, is a poet and dresses the part down to a tea: cape, beret, long black skirts, and long-stemmed cigarettes. His love interest, Lily, is the type he would want to take home to meet his parents. His mother's lover is a musician who makes violins and lives in an exact replica of Abe Lincoln's old cabin.

Henry is the narrator of the story. He is nearly a decade older when he reveals this story of his most memorable teenage year. It was a bit confusing at first because Henry tended to get into stories that don't seem to have any relevance to his mother's adulterous behavior.

As the book progresses, all the extra stories connect and their purpose becomes clear. His mother describes her affair as "an old story" — an old story that shatters Henry's image of living in the perfect family. He has to deal with the many emotions that come with this new dawn.

Jane Hamilton put together a splendid novel, in which one it's easy to forget the author and narrator are not one in the same. Henry's first person narration makes him seem that much more realistic. I found it hard to put the book down once it started to get interesting. I am sure her other novels, The Book of Ruth, A Map of the World, and The Short History of a Prince are sure to be just as entertaining.

Heather Daniel
Have a major problem on your mind? 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 the GC campus network or your own e-mail provider, 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.
New Feature for Showing-Off Poetic Genius

Hello, and welcome to the newest column of The Compass. My name is Tricia Madison and I am a Journalism major here at Gainesville College. Although my focus as a career in writing is based on real world events, I am also a true lover of the creative arts.

During the Fall 2000 semester, I had the pleasure of attending a creative writing course here at GC. To my surprise, I encountered many students who were as passionate about writing as I am. I have created this column with the hope that it will provide GC students with a forum for which to have their poetry published.

Please feel free to email me at Tmad_compass@hotmail.com personally or drop off any works that you would like me to place in the Poetry Corner. If you wish to remain anonymous, I cannot guarantee that your work will be published. However, I am always happy to receive free reading material.

Also, The Compass editorial board has reserved the right to reject any material that he deems inappropriate for publication. In other words, just because something doesn’t get published doesn’t mean that they didn’t like it. Everyone is susceptible to censorship.

I am delighted to have the opportunity to share some of the creative genius that resides here at GC. I have decided to include some of my own work in the first issue of this semester to show others that it doesn’t really matter what anyone thinks about your work. Poetry is often misunderstood because each person interprets a poem differently.

To the love in his eyes forever fills my heart.
I am eternally grateful
That he gave me a new start.

"A New Beginning" was written shortly after I found out that I was pregnant at the age of 16. I would like to dedicate this to my son, and all of the young ladies who have faced this situation.

A New Beginning
Too often I have turned the corner
not realizing what was there.
Made decisions all alone
without a thought or care
I have lived my life recklessly
swaying back and forth.
Never really concerning myself
with anything
trusting life to take its course.
And then the day arrived
and I had to make the choice.
Whether to carry this child inside
or forever feel a void.
At long last, a son was born
and my name multiplied
I had chosen to become a mom
and my life was no longer mine.
Each second of the day
belonged only to him,
A mother’s continuous struggle
to create
a man among men.
To see the love in his eyes
forever fills my heart.
I am eternally grateful
That he gave me a new start.

Send all poetry entries to Tmad_compass@hotmail.com

Horoscopes for the Month of February

Aries (March 21- April 19)
Today is not a good day to be yourself. In fact, that might even be dangerous. Be someone else, until further notice.

Taurus (April 20- May 20)
Good day to doodle.

Gemini (May 21- June 20)
You didn’t sleep well, last night. You won’t sleep well, tonight. In fact, chances are very good that you’ll be tired and cranky for the rest of your life. Try to think of this as an opportunity to grow spiritually.

Cancer (June 21- July 22)
You will be harassed by cats today. Hungry, irritating cats. Feed them!

Leo (July 23- August 22)
Do not snatch a jelly donut today, when no one is looking. The chocolate frosted one is much better.

Virgo (August 23- September 22)
Excellent day for a bubble bath. If you don’t have a little yellow rubber ducky, you’ll need to get the first, of course.

Libra (September 22-October 22)
Two people near you will engage in sudden, violent, rubber-band warfare. You will be caught in a crossfire, and severely thwapped. Next time, consider wearing protective headgear indoors.

Scorpio (October 23- November 21)
Once you’re that far behind in class, there’s really no way to get caught up. You might as well do something fun instead. You can tell your teachers you were told it was ok.

Sagittarius (November 22- December 21)
Your neighbors will have a wild party, which you’ll catch glimpses of through the open window.

Capricorn (December 22- January 20)
You will be followed by people who look suspiciously like shoe salesmen. Try to remain calm - they can sense fear.

Aquarius (January 21- February 18)
Your slogan for the week should be “Carpe Diem”, or “Seize the Day!”. Once you seize it, give it a swift kick in the butt, just to prove you mean business.

Pisces (February 19- March 20)
In this world you have a choice between being clever, and being pleasant. I recommend pleasant.
GTA Performs in Feb.

Alan Kilpatrick and Ariel Weeks will star as Darcy and Elizabeth in the Southeastern premiere of Christina Calvini's stage adaptation of Jane Austen's novel, Pride and Prejudice, will be performed at Brenau's Pearce Auditorium, Feb. 20-25.

Auditions for "Bus Stop" will be held on Feb. 26 at 6 pm at Gainesville College's Ed Cabell Theater. They will be open to professional and amateur actors for three female and five male roles to perform in the April 17-29 production.

Student Wins President's Award for NYC Art

Jessie Milligan, recent recipient of the President's Award for Art, displays her artwork for Gainesville College President Martha Nesbitt. Milligan's artwork is composed of photographs she took on a trip to New York City in November 2000. The artwork can be viewed hanging in the President's Office.

Coming Soon...

March Issue and
SPECIAL
April Fool's Edition

A+ Tutoring

Call Chandelle at 770-534-8008 to make your appointment.
**EDITORIAL**

**New Flag Lacks Appeal**

Concerning the issue of the Georgia state flag, The Compass staff is just as divided as everyone else seems to be. We do agree, however, on some advantages and disadvantages of the new flag.

The greatest advantage of the new flag is that it appeals fewer people. A state flag should never cause feelings of inferiority or oppression, even if this was not the original intent of the former flag. Also, the historical context of the former state flag is recognized — along with other past Georgia state flags — on the bottom of the new flag.

The disadvantages of the new state flag are obvious. Many people feel that the new flag is not a sufficient compromise because the former state flag is still represented. Then again, some people will not be satisfied with any changes made to the flag.

The projected cost of changing the flag design on all Georgia-owned items that bear the Confederate symbol is estimated to be in the billions.

And where will these funds come from? Tax money, of course.

The fact that the Southern Christian Leadership Conference helped enforce the change in the state flag by threatening to sever all tourism and other economic connections is bothersome, but at the same time, encouraging. This shows us that people can make a difference whether an issue is worth fighting for or not. Though we don’t like being told how to run our state, we cannot ignore that the SCLC threat to boycott was successful.

Nevertheless, there are some things we may never understand about the new state flag, like why an architect was asked to design it, as opposed to a professional artist.

Maybe if they left the seal by itself — a seal that symbolizes moderation, wisdom, and justice — this long-fought debate over the flag can finally end.

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**Student Opinion Poll**

Did you prefer the old Georgia flag or the new ‘historical’ design?

**Brandon Baker, Undecided major**

“I prefer the old flag because it’s [part of] history and I don’t think it needs to be changed.”

**Heather Jackson, Pre-Law**

“I didn’t like the confederate symbol on the old flag. I liked the flag they used before they put the confederate symbol on it.”

**How do you feel about spending billions of tax dollars on the conversion?**

**Tara Mayweahter, Computer Information Systems**

“If they’ve got that much money to spend, that’s fine. It doesn’t matter as long as it makes people happy.”

**Alex Medina, Criminal Justice**

“I think the cost is ridiculous considering it’s just thread. I think it’s dumb to change a bunch of flags just because some people are offended by them.”

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**Advertising 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 Andrea Brock 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 dbart7876@mercury.gcc.gacampus.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 are not considered by the Editorial Board of the Compass to be valid intent and will not be printed.

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**The Compass**

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**We’re Not Professionals**

It has come to our attention that many GC students think that the people who work on The Compass are proficient in the ways of journalism.

Well, we’re students, just like you. We are always learning new lessons every time we publish an issue.

So if you ever want to take a leap into newspaper or creative writing, don’t be afraid to stop by our office (located behind the Cyber Cafe), and talk to our editor in chief, David Brandt, or e-mail him at:

edchief_compass@hotmail.com

He will be glad to help you get started.
YOU HEARD ME...

Hello friends.

A few weeks ago, the news broke that Rev. Jesse Jackson had an illegitimate 20-month-old child. This now makes it official: I don’t believe in anyone who has any kind of public power or influence.

For many years, Jackson has been known in this country for his progressive beliefs in civil rights and for his moral leadership. I’m going to say that again, because it bears repeating: “…his MORAL LEADERSHIP.” I almost decided to speak what is morally right by discussing how awful a concept it is to hear that someone like Jackson did something so wrong and so contrary to everything he has preached and stood for in his public career. A couple of days after I heard about this, however, I reminded myself that one of the things I believe is true about him.

Jesse Jackson is a politician, and as we have learned over the years, politicians are liars who have the tendency to think they are gods. Having “reverend” in front of his name does not separate him from this category. He could have been called “Pope Jesse Jackson” and he still would have fallen in with the Washington crowd.

A few years ago, Newt Gingrich resigned as Speaker of the House of Representatives and later revealed that he was having extramarital affairs with someone who worked in his office. Within the two weeks that followed, the House went through 2 or 3 different speakers, each of whom would resign immediately because they had also committed or been committing adultery. I can’t remember correctly, but I’d swear that one of those guys quit about 15 minutes after they got the job.

Even Rep. Henry Hyde (R-Illinois), who was head of the House Judiciary Committee during the recent impeachment trial, added his name to the list of men whose wives apparently were not good enough for them. In the late 1960s, as a husband and father of four sons, Hyde had an affair with a Chicago beauty stylist for nearly five years, a relationship that eventually destroyed the life of his mistress’ family. And somehow, someway, Hyde managed to keep moving on in the political arena because people — this part cracks me up — believed in him.

And don’t think I’m going to end this column without mentioning what happened with “Slick Willy” Clinton. The man brought adultery and dishonesty to a fine art form, one that would be equivalent to sculpting or bonsai tree trimming. Compare him to JFK all you want, but I think he’s made a nice place for himself in history that’s all his own, because you have to be one cocky dummy to think that you can get out of trouble before a grand jury by trying to get the prosecutor to define the word “is.”

And let us never forget that grand ol’ tune: “Hail to the chief, he was the only one getting laid.” And if you’ve ever met anybody who works in D.C., then you know that they wish they were getting laid as much as he was, too.

Let’s review:

— In the absence of moral leadership, people must look to themselves to know what is morally right and wrong. Don’t look to the person you voted for to get the ethical answers.

— Contact your local, state, and/or national representatives sometime and ask them whether or not they are a faithful husband or wife. Is it your business to know whether or not the person you elected is getting a little wicked something on the side, and whether or not it’s being done in a hotel room that’s being paid for by your tax dollars.

— If you are questioning your own moral decency after reading this column, then let me assure you that I know exactly what is socially accepted as right and wrong. Right...hanging sex with spouse only. Wrong...hanging sex with another person’s spouse, pets, automobiles, office furniture, anything that beeps, etc.

And if you think that there is absolutely no one left to trust, then just stay up one night until 2:00 a.m., when Clee-the-Tarot-Card-Lady starts popping up in your[param, and ask all of us “do cards ever lie.” The people we elect to represent us do just fine on their own.

— David Brandt is editor in chief of The Compass. You can respond to his thoughts by e-mail at edchief_compass@hotmail.com.
**Opinions**

**February 12, 2001**

**Friends, family remember Jonathan Husfeld**

Jonathan Husfeld was a man of many friends and few foes.

Actually, throughout our entire friendship, I can't recall one person who met Jonathan and did not enjoy his company or find him intriguing. He was a light that shined on everyone. He always brought a smile to those who knew him.

Even now — with him gone — the only way I can seem to get through this is by remembering all of the wonderful times we had. Looking back, he and I never had an argument. Jonathan wasn't really one to quarrel.

He was a jack of all trades: musician, mechanic, athlete, student, beloved son and nephew, and best friend. He was a good Samaritan. If anyone was ever in trouble, Jonathan would happily go out of his way to lend a helping hand. He had a good heart and made many sacrifices for others.

Jonathan was always an individual, but he managed to fall into any crowd. But whenever he went, he would stand out with his camouflage 1977 FJ-40 Toyota Land Cruiser, his wild, spiked platinum, electric blue hair (or whatever color appealed to him at a certain time), his snug-fitting shirts, and pants that were too big.

He was a man of many friends and few foes. Among the friends with whom he went were the only way I can seem to get through this is by remembering all of the wonderful times we had. Looking back, he and I never had an argument. Jonathan wasn't really one to quarrel. He was a good Samaritan. If anyone was ever in trouble, Jonathan would happily go out of his way to lend a helping hand. He had a good heart and made many sacrifices for others.

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He was a jack of all trades: musician, mechanic, athlete, student, beloved son and nephew, and best friend - just to name a few. He was an avid restoration expert of Land Cruisers; he even ran his own restoration company, Land Cruisers Anonymous. He was a mechanical engineer major with dreams of transferring to Georgia Tech in the coming fall.

Jonathan always wanted the best for everyone. There is a quote by William Shakespeare that says, "He was a man not of age, but for all time." When I hear this, I think of Jonathan. His short life left his family and friends with memories and life lessons that will last forever.

I really consider myself lucky to have met Jonathan. It is a treasure to have been able to share part of my life with him, and to also have learned so much from him. I feel that nothing I could write would be adequate enough to capture the energy and life that Jonathan Husfeld shared with so many people.

— Mindy Parker is a psychology major at Gainesville College.

**I.D. Cards Have Advantages, Disadvantages In On-Campus Use**

On many college campuses, I.D. cards found among every student, stowed away in some corner of his wallet or her purse has a magnetic strip on the back. The current card only holds a student I.D. number. But I was told by Tom Walter, Vice President for Student Development, that changing the system to one that would hold credits on it for student purchases is not an impossibility.

The I.D. card is currently used for checking out books and getting into the weight room in the gym. It seems that a system like this could be used for even greater purposes.

Wouldn't it be great if students could go over to the bookstore and pay the cashier with cash, a check, or even a Visa or Mastercard instead of having to fall into any crowd. But whenever he went, he would stand out with his camouflage 1977 FJ-40 Toyota Land Cruiser, his wild, spiked platinum, electric blue hair (or whatever color appealed to him at a certain time), his snug-fitting shirts, and pants that were too big.

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**‘Eevil Rich’® Should Take Blame for Poor Economy**

The first thing you need to know is that the headline doesn't have any typos in it.

With the elective dysfunction over and Bush preparing to face controversy in nearly every area of his first few days in office, it is only to be expected that he will be bombarded with accusations:

"Bush will poison the air and water, kill all the wolves, caribou to drill oil, force everyone to smoke cigarettes, put black people in the back of the bus and women back in the kitchen, snatch food away from poor children; just so the Eevil Rich® can make a few more dollars."

Everyone knows who the Eevil Rich® are. These are the guys (always guys, and always white guys) who make their living off of the poor. These are the guys who control the government, never pay their fair share in taxes, and cast our nation into depression while their Swiss bank accounts fill to bursting with blood money. With all this known about the Eevil Rich®, there is only one re-deeming feature to these people. They don't exist.

That's right — the problems in our nation are due mostly to government actions. Fixing these actions, rather than blaming a scapegoat, is what will solve these problems. Let me state as clearly as I possibly can: The "rich" in this country are not some kind of boogie men that oppress the rest of us. The Eevil Rich® are not the primary wealth-collectors, but the primary wealth-producers of our nation. The Eevil Rich® — and more importantly, the Eevil Rich®-wannabes — make products, employ people, buy and ship things, and feed what they make back into the economy in hundreds of ways. Even if the Eevil Rich® were to try to make money without improving the economy around them, they would find it impossible.

And as if that weren't enough, the Eevil Rich® are taxed at a far higher rate than those of us who make less — so much so that the Eevilist 1% of our nation earns approximately 18% of the total adjusted gross income, but pays some 35% of all the personal income taxes.

Is there a point at which some one can say you have too much, and now 1/3 of it is mine? According to the government, it seems there is.

Adam Smith, perhaps the greatest economist ever, once said that it is not to a businessman's sense of mercy or kindness that we appeal to, but his own self-love, and this is why our economic system works while others have failed miserably.

It makes a great "let's-get-even" tactic for a politician to tell you that he's going to make the Eevil Rich® pay for their crimes—but remember that to punish the Eevil Rich® is to punish success and to make achievement not worth the price.

— You can respond to Ken's thoughts at campus Compass@hotmail.com.
Homosexual Rights Should Be Welcomed In Society

"Women are weak and defenseless."
"Blacks are incapable of controlling their sexual urges."
Voice these opinions today and you will most likely be beaten by an enraged mob. And rightly so. Yet it is okay to assume these same things about homosexuals, along with the opinions that they are perverted and promiscuous. The assumption that the majority of pedophiles are homosexual is also false. White, heterosexual males dominate this category.

Since the 1930s, a gay subculture has emerged from the shadow of social hostility. A major turning point in the public visibility of homosexuality occurred during World War II, when large numbers of young Americans left their hometowns to serve in a gender-segregated military. Soon after, the first gay drinking bars began operation. Then, in 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued an executive order that barred homosexuals from all federal jobs. This prompted the FBI to begin a surveillance program that targeted gays and lesbians.

Today, homosexuals are denied many of the same rights heterosexuals enjoy. For instance, in America, homosexual marriage is illegal in 49 states, Hawaii being the exception. It is a common belief that homosexual marriage would be detrimental to family values. Is it understood that a 50% divorce rate among heterosexuals is a family value we want to promote and maintain?

In our country, inmates are allowed to get married while imprisoned. In a sense, society is implying that murderers, rapists, and child molesters are superior to homosexuals.

Homosexuals are also denied the right to adopt children. In a time when hundred of thousands of children are parentless, one would think that placing kids with a loving family would be preferable to having them live in different institutions and foster homes.

Research shows that having a gay parent does not make a child gay. Homosexuals do not force their lifestyles on their children anymore than heterosexuals do — perhaps even less because they don't want their children to endure the discrimination they do. It is true that children with homosexual parents would probably be ridiculed, but what kid isn't? This a problem that society needs to overcome and not a problem that stems from homosexuals.

When it comes to the military, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that Clinton enforced is just another form of discrimination against homosexuals. The policy, which forbids the military to question soldiers' sexual orientation or for soldiers' to disclose their sexual orientation, forces gay soldiers to live a lie. The assumption that spurred this policy — that gays harm troop morale — undermines the more important issue: Dishonesty harms troop morale.

One of today's most controversial issues is whether homosexuality is genetic. More evidence is being found to say that it is. Neurobiologist Simon Levay conducted a 1991 study that reported a difference in the hypothalamus — a part of the brain that develops at a young age — between heterosexual and homosexual men.

Columnist Leonard Pitts of the Miami Herald makes a good argument for why homosexuality is not a choice when he writes, "If being gay means carrying a secret that sits on your heart like stones, if it means being reviled by parents, rejected by family, and ridiculed by strangers, if it means living with the fear that someone might take from you your career, your child, your very life, why would a person freely choose it?"

In the past, society would not have even accepted a woman CEO or a black man in the U.S. presidential cabinet. Today, it is completely acceptable that Jackie Ward runs Equifax and that Gen. Colin Powell, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is the present Secretary of State in George W. Bush's administration.

The movement for gay rights will continue to flourish in the years to come. Some of the same steps that enabled women and minorities to be recognized as equal to white males and also afforded them protection under the U.S. Constitution will one day award homosexuals with the same assurance of equality and protection. Do your part: Don't hinder this movement with the same ignorance that held women and minorities back for years.

You can respond to Kamis thoughts at oped_compass@hotmail.com.

Opinions
X-nclo to Perform Concert in Late Feb.

The first meeting of the semester was attended by some 60 students. There will be a gym/pool social in February, as well as a concert featuring X-nclo, which will be held on Feb. 26.

Lettrisme to be Showcased at GC

In November 2000, Art Club sponsored $5000 for up to 5 contestants in an essay contest, which paid for a trip to New York City. The artwork that was submitted is on display in the Cyber Cafe. On Jan. 18 the Art Club attended College Night at the HIGH Museum. They experienced Elton John’s “Chorus of Light” photography exhibition, music from local bands, as well as poetry readings. Throughout February and March, Art Club is sponsoring an artist from Georgia Southern University to speak about the French movement called Lettrisme. A floating sculpture of one of GC’s ponds, made by several French artists, will be showcased in honor of French Culture, which has been GC’s cultural theme this year.

BSU to Hold Retreat in North Carolina

The Baptist Student Union will hold a Talent/No Talent Show Feb. 21. A Winter Bible Retreat will also be held on Feb. 23-25 to Black Mountain, N.C.

Phi Theta Kappa Students Honored

Certificates were awarded last October to students who have achieved a grade point average of 3.6 or higher at Gainesville College. Students honored included: Gavin Bacchus, Angela Owen, Jon Krueger, Kemi Stevens, Jessica Aiken, Qixing Zheng, Jamie Overby, Janey Peckron, Jane Blake, Denise Martin, Zach Martin, Bethany Cochran, Donald Bowes, Dena Wood, Mary Peck, Jessica Loudenmilk, Christine Arevalo, Robert Lucicardi, Susan Bruemmer, John Coghlan, Ellie Viviant, and Iryna Ivashchuk.

At the Henry Wiz Monument in Andersonville, GA are members of the Democrats/Republican Club with Dr. Douglas Young on December 2, 2000. (L-R) Dr. Young, Stephen Ratliff, April Partin, James Kyle and Kristine Bomis. Henry Wiz was the commandant of the famous Camp Sumter POW camp for Union prisoners in Andersonville during the war between the States.
Biking Club Host Community Race

By Jamie LaNier
AE_compass@hotmail.com

Most clubs at Gainesville College participate in some form of charitable community service. The Mountain Biking Club has found a very unique way to get involved with members of the community, especially the kids. Over 450 participants and many more spectators turned out for the fourth annual Tumbling Creek Mountain Bike Rumble on G C's trails on October 14.

"This race is an interesting enterprise in that it really combines the efforts of Gainesville College students and faculty with people from the community," said race promoter Tom Sauret.

Race participants included students from GC and local high schools, as well as international students. The race was far from being solely a student event with divisions for all age groups. Professional race teams also attended to compete in the expert levels.

Racers completed anywhere from one to five laps, depending on levels of expertise. One race lap consisted of six miles of single track trails, which twisted in and out of the wooded areas behind the college. The Beginner races included the largest number of participants, most of which were children.

"The Gainesville trails tend to appeal to beginner racers," said Belinda Sauret, co-promoter.

All proceeds from registration and tee-shirt sales go to support Gainesville Sorba's Trips for Kids, with which GC's mountain biking club is involved.

"Trips for Kids is a program which sponsors disadvantaged kids," said Heather Wall, director of Gainesville's Trips for Kids. "Many of these kids have never been mountain biking before.

Children from local Boys Club and Girls Clubs along with area schools are loaned mountain bikes while they participate in a one day workshop on the basics of mountain biking. After duties speak to them about safety, the children learn and practice basic maneuvering skills. These kids also help do trail maintenance before races and participate in a few events as well.

According to Wall, the Gainesville chapter is the 1 of 11 chapters for Trips for Kids across the nation. This chapter is unique in that helmets for the kids are donated by Safety Kids and "graduates" of the program get to keep them.

"The Trip for Kids program is really supported by both the efforts of people here on campus and in the community," said Tom Sauret. "Without Tumbling Creek our resources would be even more limited than they are. It's a great day not only for the college but also for the kids." Thanks to grants from local businesses such as Bike Town USA and Bank of America, the program has progressed rapidly in its first year of operation.

The mountain biking club has plans for spring season which include a bike expo where students and other members of the community have the opportunity to ride the latest styles in mountain bikes and full suspension technology. A trail maintenance camping trip to Ellijay is also planned for late March.

GC's mountain biking club along with Gainesville SORBA members will work with hundreds of others from local mountain biking communities to renovate the popular Bear Creek trail. The club has embarked on a $50,000 project to build a boardwalk on the trail behind the school. The members of the mountain biking club will continue to work with children from the area in their Trips for Kids program throughout the year.
high-energy pop alternative from indianapolis

Student Center
February 26, 2001
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
and
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by: Campus Crusade for Christ