Corps of Engineers
Ask for Assistance at Lake Lanier

By Frank Bird
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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, pleased with Geographic Information Science work at Gainesville College, has asked for assistance for better management of Lake Lanier.

"Lanier Office is a relative newcomer to GIS and is excited with Gainesville College’s involvement," said Darrell Stone, who is with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and oversees the Partnering Efforts with GC, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Lake Lanier GIS Program. Stone sees the students’ efforts and work as “exceptional,” and plans to use GC for future projects as well. Stone also commented that, “the success of the program is definitely based on the work of the students.”

Over the past few years the GIS Certification Program at GC has worked on many projects with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, some of which include underwater bissymmetry, sill range monitors, navigation, shoreline markers and imagery. These projects also include data conversion from the U.S. Corps of Engineers’ older computer programs to the more advanced GIS program.

GIS is a database that organizes information based on location. Then it uses this information to create a map with different points. Each one of these points shows its own information when clicked on. The GIS Certification Program and the U.S. Corps of Engineers have used this program since this past Spring to map various points in Lake Lanier.

The students involved with the Lanier Project volunteer their efforts once a week to do field-tests for this much needed service of Lake Lanier. They are taken out on boats to various locations throughout the lake. At each location they take data from sedimentation and water level markers and use GPS units to help generate maps of exact locations.

The markers used to collect data help determine how much sediment gets into the lake each year and marks which areas are safe for boats to travel over. Later the data is downloaded onto a computer, and then put onto a map. Chris McKenzie, a participant in the GIS Certification Program, says, “GIS is so widespread that to see how it is used in a real world setting is beneficial to students.”

Chris Semerjian, instructor of Geography and GIS at GC, sees this work as “interdisciplinary,” not only is it a way to use technology in the field but it provides a much-needed service. This project is beneficial to everyone involved. The U.S. Corps of Engineers is getting volunteer work along with the advanced GIS technology, the students involved are getting some real world experience, from start to finish, and GC is getting good exposure for developing these relationships with outside affiliates.

Semerjian hopes that this project will attract more students to the GIS Certification Program, and invites anyone who is interested to check out the GIS web site http://gis.gc.peachnet.edu/gis. Stone would also like to send an invitation out to anyone interested in volunteering with the U.S. Corps of Engineers to call (770) 945-9531.
Special Guest Speaker Bashir Mundi, GC Panel Listen to Concerns About Terrorist Attacks

By Frank Reddy
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In a public meeting Sept. 25 in the Continuing Education building of a panel of Gainesville College faculty and a special guest from the Institute of Islamic Information and Educational. They answered questions and listened to concerns about the terrorist attacks against America.

"Gainesville College takes very seriously the disturbance to the students and the community," said GC President Martha Nesbitt. "I would love to welcome you to a happy event such as a concert or a play," said Nesbitt, "but i is important that we deal with social issues that affect us so profoundly.

"Behind the Terror: Understanding the Enemy" program by the Discovery Channel was shown at the meeting. The video briefly summarized some of the history of Islam, and gave background information on suspect Osama bin Laden.

Issues ranging from the stereotyping of Muslim society to American foreign policy were addressed.

This meeting was open to the public, while a similar meeting on Sept. 12 was open only to GC students.

Social Sciences Chair Charles Karcher acted as moderator for the GC panel and participants of the gathering. "We hoped to accomplish two things: getting all the information out, and to give everyone a chance to interact on this topic that's of particular interest to everybody at this point in time," said Karcher.

Training Consultant for the Institute of Islamic Information and Education, Bashir Mundi, brought unique perspectives of the incident to light. He, with a GC faculty panel of nine answered questions from those who attended the meeting.

The GC faculty members brought various types of expertise to the meeting. The panel consisted of Theresa Dove-Waters, Penny Mills, Douglas Young, Lewis Rogers, Sallie DuHuling, Susan MacFarland, Rachelle Wadsworth, Pam Sergin and Joy Evans.

Listening to comments and answering questions (left to right)
Pam Sezgin, Rachelle Wadsworth, Susan MacFarland, Sallie DuHuling, Lewis Rogers, Douglas Young, Penny Mills, Theresa Dove-Waters and Bashir Mundi.

Students Troubled by Course-deprived Fall Semester Pamphlet

By Kate Fowler
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Ryan Whitley was both excited and nervous as he entered the Science Building to register for fall classes the morning of Aug. 17. Being a freshman, he had never done this before, but he had studied the Gainesville College course catalog and felt that he had a good idea of what courses he needed to take in order to fulfill his pre-pharmacy major requirements. What Ryan didn't know was that almost all of his course possibilities would be narrowed down to a slim choice of two or three when he sat down with his advisor.

Does this scenario sound familiar? Did it to many GC students who experienced the same type of difficulty in getting the courses they wanted when they registered in August. Several students found themselves confused and frustrated as they tried to make the transition from the course-abundant GC catalog to the course-deprived fall semester pamphlet.

"I came here because they had all these chemistry classes, something like 40 of them, but in reality, they offered three," said Whitley about his disappointment with the offered courses. He continued, "The class I ended up with was still okay, but it wasn't my first choice.

Whitley was not the only one who had something to say about course availability. Amanda Giles, a nursing major, said, "It is hard to find all your classes that you really need," and Mary Richardson, a business major, commented, "for getting core classes out of the way, Gainesville College is great, but I wouldn't recommend it to someone who's going for their major-specific courses."

These and other students had questions and concerns as to why this situation exists and what can be done to improve it. In reference to this dilemma, President of GC Martha Nesbitt said, "Sometimes in the past I know we haven't really had the sufficient numbers and so when we would offer a class, there wouldn't be enough students for the class to quote 'make.' We have to have a certain number of students before it becomes at all effective, we can't offer a class or five.

Other people possessing answers are the division chairs at GC because they are ultimately responsible for the creation of course schedules. Chair of the Humanities and Fine Arts Division Sallie DuHuling stated, "We rely on course offerings for previous semesters and mirror them plus building in any needed increases because of student body growth.

Is this enough? Can students do anything to get more classes, and if so, to whom should they speak?

Charles Karcher, chair of the Social Sciences division, suggested that students first consider some alternatives before protesting for the addition of a class. "One thing is the possibility of a substitution class, a web class, or taking a CLEP test. CLEP stands for College Level Examination Proficiency, and if a student takes the test for a particular course and scores highly enough, he or she may receive credit for it.

If none of those options are suitable, students should then speak to someone about possibly creating a class. "Your advisor is the primary person to talk to. The school is small enough that word gets around, and more than likely there's going to be a faculty member in your area who's willing to work with you," Karcher said. "Under dire circumstances, a faculty member can do a course on an individualized basis, work with one student to get a course. It's been done in the past, and it can be done." There is no guarantee that new classes will be added upon a complaint, but students should at least make an effort to speak with a professor, advisor, or other faculty member.

In a final attempt to reassure, Karcher stated, "we don't create majors for students and then set them up not to be able to get the courses."
Students Help GC by Evaluating Professors

By Ana Maria Iza
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Have you ever wondered about the objective of the evaluation form that you are asked to fill out about teachers at the end of semesters? Does your opinion about teachers matter?

Gainesville College is an institution that has a priority to improve its standards of teaching as much as it can. By having a student's evaluation form, students can participate in the overall evaluation of teachers that is done on a continuing basis.

The process is long and carefully done. It starts with the division chairs, which are responsible for the administration of the forms. After final examinations, they require teachers to give students evaluation forms.

Not all forms are the same; they change according to the course and the position of the teacher. Full-time teachers have to choose three courses per year to be evaluated.

The Student Evaluation Form and Scantron shown here are examples of what GC students will be filling out at the end of this term to evaluate their professors and the course.

College Foundation Serves Important Needs

By Zach Saunders
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The Gainesville College Foundation is a scholarship program designed to provide funding for GC students who otherwise may not have been able to attend school, as well as obtaining money for the various departments of the school.

The largest portion of the funds provided by the GC Foundation is given in scholarships. In the year 2000, the Foundation gave $340,000 to more than 530 students. Funds were also given to Faculty/Staff Development, Special Allocation, Alumni Association, Student Relations, Operating Expenses and Community Relations.

The Foundation also gives money directly to the school. It recently dedicated a Science, Engineering and Technology building. It has donated a total of $60,000 to the Gainesville College Library, generated over $620,000 in Matching Lottery Funds for technology and renovation projects, and has awarded more than $382,000 to faculty and staff for professional development. The room is then named after the donor.

The largest portion of the GC Foundation's funding comes from community donations, both individual and organizational. Depending on how much is given, a person can become part of the Friends of GC, giving $10 to $99; Century Club, $100 to $249; Laker Society, $250 to $499; Scholarship Society, $500 to $999; President's Club, $1000 to $2999; Regents Club, $3000 to $9999; or the Chancellor's Club, giving $10,000 or more. Donors can also become part of the Heritage Club, making a commitment to give money by Will, Insurance Policy, Charitable Remainder Trust, and any other payment forms. Many donors will give more than $50,000 to refurbish a room with new equipment. The room is then named after the donor. All donors are remembered in GC's Annual Report and Honor Roll.

Corporations are met face to face when being asked for donations. They are shown where their money is going and what purpose it is going to be used for. It is explained to them how donating to the college will benefit them, in that better educated employees will do better and more efficient work for them.

The Foundation is a non-profit agency so all donations are tax-deductible. Because it is a non-profit organization, it is governed by a board of trustees. The board members are members of the community who volunteer to serve for three years on the board. They are key people that help in our fundraising," said Pat Guthrie, the Director of Development and CEO of the GC Foundation. There are 34 trustees on the board. Their names, as well as the names of all former trustees, are listed in the Annual Report and Honor Roll.

One of the largest benefits of the Foundation is the helping of students who are not covered by the Hope Scholarship. Many students will not go directly to college after high school. If they wait, then they are no longer eligible for Hope. Other students may start college with Hope, and then lose it. The GC Foundation can give scholarship money to these individuals, which allows many people to attend college that otherwise would not have been able to.

For more information concerning the Gainesville College Foundation, contact Pat Guthrie at (770) 718-3727, or by E-mail at PGUTHRIE@gc.peachnet.edu
Joint Enrollment Attracts More Students

By Kathryn Shoaf
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Joint enrollment at Gainesville College is blossoming. More students are getting involved in college before they are even in college. Unfortunately joint enrollment is not for everyone.

High school students must have a GPA of at least 3.0 or above and have made a minimum 970 on the SAT. Students involved in joint enrollment must make a 550 or above in whichever class they will be taking. For instance, if a student wanted to take English, they would need a 550 in the reading section of the SAT. The same rule applies if they were taking a math class. Perhaps a student wanted to take an English and math class, the required score would then be a 550 in both sections on the SAT.

The criteria from GC is the same for all schools and students, but the criteria from the high schools is not always the same. According to Annette Humphrey, a faculty member at Heritage Academy, they require their students to be on the "advanced diploma" schedule for graduation, which is started in the ninth grade. Students have to plan early if they want to begin their college career with a head start. Although joint enrollment does not offer science classes as an option, Humphrey definitely feels it is a "wonderful program" for the students who are willing to maintain the extra effort involved in accommodating the joint enrollment criteria.

Joint enrollment is perfect for "students to get a head start on college," according to Dr. Martha Nesbitt, president of GC. In the past two years the number of students involved in joint enrollment has doubled and seems to be the popular this now for high school students.

Shelley Hassel, a senior at North Hall involved in joint enrollment, advises fellow students "if you're planning on doing joint enrollment, try taking AP English your junior year." If the AP English class is passed students are allowed to take a test at the end of the year. Graded on a scale of one to five, students who receive a five are allowed to exempt senior English and English 1101 and 1102, and receive the college credits as if they had taken the courses. "Even if you don't pass the AP test, you still receive high school credit for the course and are better prepared for college," Hassel added.

Of the students interviewed, everyone had a positive attitude. Allison Peifer, a senior at West Hall also involved in joint enrollment, suggested for students not to "bite off more than you can chew." Although she feels she can handle her heavy load, Peifer definitely would not encourage just anyone to juggle high school human anatomy/physics, health occupation 4, and Algebra 3, especially if they were considering joint enrollment.

GC Elects Director of Minority Affairs

By Zach Saunders
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For several years, the post of Director of Minority Affairs at Gainesville College has been a part-time job. On Oct. 1, 2001, the position was upgraded to full-time and given to a new member of the GC faculty, Andre Cheek. When asked about her new position, Cheek said that she was "really excited about working here."

The Director of Minority Affairs has many different requirements in his or her job. Some of which are: Organizing programs to assist minority students in meeting their academic needs while attending GC, providing aid and support to international students while they are adapting to our country, and assisting in the locating of scholarships for minority students.

Before coming to GC, Cheek worked as the Assistant Director of Minority Admissions at North Georgia College. Often, she would come to GC to recruit students to the four-year college. She also took a few classes here. Throughout her experiences here, she became familiar with GC's campus, and many of the events that take place here.

Cheek received a Bachelor of Science degree from Clark Atlanta University. After receiving her degree, she went straight into the field of teaching. She is now in the Graduate Education program at North Georgia. Cheek says that her "teaching experience from high school prepared me for recruiting students because it gave me a feel for what the students were expecting."

Organization is a very large part of the Minority Affairs job. The Director must put together events and functions, as well as coordinate activities of sometimes several groups at once. Some of the events being organized deal with months that are representative of a specific minority's cultural history. These events are used to raise awareness of the other cultural groups that exist at GC.

Cheek hopes to implement new programs and work with the minority student organizations. She hopes that people will attend the meetings, even though the semester is halfway over.

For more information, contact Andre Cheek at extension 3749.

Fire Marshall Visits GC, Will Return to Insure Compliance

By Shana Stevers
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Several weeks ago the State Fire Marshall visited Gainesville College. During his visit he found that a few things are not in compliance with the state regulations. He will return at the end of October to verify that all corrections have been made.

The use of extension cords is no longer permitted on campus. Jerry Spiceland of Plant Operations has asked all faculty and staff members to remove any extension cords that are currently being used.

The Fire Marshall also noted that the surge protectors being used were not being used safely. They can be used to plug in electronic equipment such as computers and printers. However, the surge protectors should not be used to plug in lamps or portable heaters. In addition to this, they must be mounted onto a sturdy piece of furniture or onto the wall.

Jerry Spiceland stated, "Several offices had items plugged into extension cords that had to be removed. Other than that, that was the only problem we had." If these regulations are not met by the second visit by the Fire Marshall, GC could face fines or have buildings closed.

Anyone that has questions or problems mounting their surge protectors may contact the GC Plant Operations at (770) 717-3630.
By Diego Barra
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In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Latino Student Association hosted its fall salsa contest Oct. 2 in the Student Center.

Faculty and students gathered to learn how to shake their hips and spin their partners to fast-paced Latino music. This event was greater than the previous ones, because the turnaround was much larger than expected and faculty members joined in on the fun too this time. •

Prizes included a trophy and a gift certificate from Chile, and were given to the best faculty dance couple and best student dance couple.

The next upcoming event for LSA is a formal reception for the parents of currently enrolled Latino students at Gainesville College. It will be held November 2 at 7:30 pm in the Continuing Education Auditorium. Parents will meet some faculty and administrators including GC President, Martha Nesbitt. "We are anticipating a high attendance for the reception," "It will give Latino students an opportunity to introduce their families to Gainesville College and it's administration and staff," says Omar Guzman a currently enrolled GC student and member of LSA.

Established in 1996, as a need to create a support group with a vision to encourage diversity rather than division, Lee Anzola formed LSA. "Our mission is to empower our members by promoting leadership, education and culture" says Anzola. "LSA is open to everyone, students do not have to be Latino to join the club. The doors are open to anyone who has an interest in Latino issues and Latino culture, we actually encourage non-Latinos to participate in our activities such as the salsa contest, because that's show we share our culture, and that allows them to see why we are all a bit different" Anzola stresses.

Students who want to join LSA can drop by Anzola's office in the Student Center from Mon-Fri from 8am to 5pm, or attend their meetings every Wednesday at noon in the PACE center conference room.

Diego Barra/Compass Staff
GC students Jules Poss and Jose Martin getting down.
Europe At A Glance - Through A GC Student's Eyes

By Chandra Owenby 
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The chance to study abroad is possible and affordable for any student who plans ahead. Incredible benefits await the GC student looking for an enriching experience overseas.

Previous GC students have been taking advantage of this program for years now. Some of the countries frequented include: Italy, Greece, France, Austria, Germany and Spain. An essential coordinator for all study abroad trips at GC is Dr. Chaudron Gille, associate professor of French. Having studied abroad herself, Gille believes in the benefits of these trips.

“I’ve never spoken to any student who regretted doing it... even a short experience can give you a different perspective on yourself, life in America, as well as giving you a better understanding of the culture in the country you’re visiting,” said Gille.

GC on the Go trips are designed to take around 20 students abroad for about two weeks. Although shorter than summer programs, the trips still offer an enriching experience that is more affordable and capable for the busy student. The trips each have an accompanying class taught in the first half of Maymester. The class is structured so that the country of choice is thoroughly examined before the class actually departs. This May the trip will be to Vancouver, British Columbia. Like other GC on the Go trips, students will not only visit Canada for two weeks but also gain a credit in area B. An “international perspectives” course (INED 2902) will be taught in the Spring of 2002. The trip is a joint effort with Simon Fraser University, and will focus on a variety of topics relevant to Vancouver. Gille believes the class will enhance the experience of the trip: “This is not like going on a tour company... this (class) gives you the background that you need to appreciate what you’re going to see.”

Also in May, students can travel to Costa Rica or Berlin. In the summer, programs are conducted too. These trips last four and five weeks in duration, and are taught by faculty in the University System of Georgia. Students gain GC credit in core curriculum classes and register here as if they were taking summer classes, but conduct their studies in locations such as London, Paris, St. Petersburg (Russia) and Italy.

While studying abroad, classes are not the only focus for students. Hands-on experiences and field trips play a crucial role in the learning process. Most of the time, a “home stay” is arranged for the student; allowing them to live with local family during their stay. There are no prerequisites for GC on the Go trips. Although enriching the experience, fluency in the host countries’ language is not a necessity either.

Cost is a huge deciding factor for any student wishing to study abroad. However cost should not be an insurmountable obstacle. The longer summer programs cost around $3,500. However, GC on the Go trips are designed to be no more than $2,000. These figures include airfare, lodging, entrance fees, and most meals.

Planning ahead can alleviate much of the financial worry of these trips. Scholarships are available through some of the various academic departments and financial aid. Sponsors have also been recruited from local businesses and community organizations in the past.

The key for any student is planning ahead and realizing that cost does not hold anyone back from the opportunity to study abroad. Gille is also willing to help. “If students are interested in studying anywhere in the world, I’m the person they come see... I would say if a student’s interested at all, they should not dismiss it as something that’s impossible.”
The Road Less Traveled

Boardwalk

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A professional bicyclist rides flawlessly down a wooded trail. All of a sudden he comes to a road that he must travel along side. While pedaling uphill, a car approaches. The driver of the car isn’t paying attention and he’s not slowing down. He strikes the cyclist, seriously injuring him or possibly killing him.

All could have been prevented if the trail didn’t run alongside the road.

Even though this did not happen, it has been the long-time concern of Thomas Sauret, English professor and Executive Director of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association.

Tumbling Creek, a Gainesville College bike trail, runs alongside Tumbling Creek Road for a short distance. “I was always worried about someone getting hit (by a car). Now I don’t have to worry anymore,” he said.

Sauret doesn’t have to worry anymore because a new boardwalk was completed Sept. 26. It connects bikers and hikers over the swamp rather than having to walk alongside the road.

Local carpenter Larry Cotton, who specializes in deck building, constructed the boardwalk in seven weeks.

Cotton had never built a boardwalk before. But despite his inexperience in boardwalk construction, Sauret says that Cotton has done a “pretty impressive” job.

Over $8,000 worth of labor and funds were supplied by GC volunteers for the construction of the boardwalk and the rerouting of the trail. The final cost of the boardwalk was approximately $35,000.

Even though Cotton’s construction took about seven weeks, designing and obtaining permits took approximately 2 years.

Cotton is also working on building a bathroom and changing facility at Chicopee Woods. Chicopee Woods has a 10 mile bike track.

The Gainesville College Foundation owns the property that Tumbling Creek is located on and leases it to GC. Sauret says he hopes that the foundation will maintain the green space so the trail will continue to have its natural appearance. The foundation is not currently planning to change the appearance of Tumbling Creek.

Tumbling Creek is near the Plant Operations Building. It is approximately 3.5 miles long and is open to cyclists and hikers.

Trips For Kids, GC OutReach Program

Trips for Kids
By Suzanne Harris
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The middle school girls laugh as they run hurriedly about removing the mountain bikes and safety equipment from the storage building. Several pass a grill as they concentrate on securing helmets and checking their bikes for safety. Another small girl comments, “Someone got my water bottle,” while another says, “I forgot my energy bar.”

The girls ready themselves to hit the trail, all seeming quite anxious to get started. As they talk about what they’re doing, Juana Elias comments, “It’s fun!”

“Trips for Kids” is a locally funded out-reach program being offered by the Gainesville chapter of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association on the campus at Gainesville College. TFK is helping disadvantaged children learn about and experience the sport of mountain biking.

South Hall Middle School is the first to utilize the after school program and was chosen because of the sizable percentage of “free or reduced lunch” recipients.

The program currently underway consists of girls, primarily Hispanic of whom only two were familiar with mountain biking prior to this program. Other classes may include both boys and girls. This program was a way to help children by introducing them to a sport they may otherwise have been unable to afford.

“The last time we met, I met the trail,” commented a small young girl. Others responded by saying they’d also met trees, creeks, rocks, mud puddles and bridges. Small accidents had occurred for many of the girls, but no one let it get the best of them.

Gracelia Espinoza said, “I didn’t want to come, but after they kept asking me to come, I’m not going to quit. Some girls at school made fun of me, but I kept trying. I wanted to show them that I could do it.”

According to Belinda Sauret, co-director of TFK and assistant professor of Spanish at GC, “You know you’re doing something good when you hear the giggles and laughter coming through the trails.”

Both Sauret and her husband, Tom Sauret, land manager liaison of SORBA and professor of English at GC have contributed to these programs.

Sauret said, “There are many reports indicating the increasing numbers of childhood obesity and diabetes cases. Biking is an activity these kids can do their whole life, unlike some team sports they may participate in.”

SORBA itself is a non-profit volunteer organization formed in 1988 to promote, preserve and protect mountain biking opportunities in the southeast.

Fundraisers and other contributions help to support TFK.

Volunteers are essential to the success of this program. Sauret welcomes anyone interested in volunteering. “We have a ball doing it,” she commented. For more information on becoming a volunteer, call Belinda Sauret at (770) 534-1279 for dates, times or other information go to SORBA Web site at http://data/gc.peachnet.edu/www/clubsp/mtnbike/.

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The GC annual fishing tournament was a success! Prizes were awarded for biggest fish, smallest fish, and most fish. Keffie Gowens caught the biggest fish, a catfish weighing in at 4.9 lbs. Andrew Savage reeled in the smallest fish, a brun measuring 1½ in., while also catching the most fish, 36. Congratulations to all that participated!

The results for the Fall 2001 GC Triathlon are as follows:

Overall Winners
Male: Daniel Budman
Time: 34:23
Female: Alcina Beasley
Time: 41:36

Grandmasters
Male: Ben Many
Time: 1:04:

Top Team
Andrea Crawford and Else Vivian
Time: 25:19

Individual Age Groups
15-19: Daniel Budman
20-24: Darryl Barnes
25-29: Michael Ort
30-34: Marshall Anderson
40-44: David Park
55-59: Ben Many

NCAA Southeastern Conference

The NCAA southeastern conference semi-finals mountain bike race was held on GC campus October 14. Hosted by Georgia Tech, the exact race course from Tumbling Creek Runble was used for a small contribution.

The winners gathered points and an invitation to the national collegiate championship in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. GC has a great course and it’s close to Tech. Marty Banick, a former GC student rode for UGA’s team.

The Creek

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Better the Second Time Around

By Jessica Bowman
Campus Life Editor
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For many people 25 and older, a second wind is just what they need. Thousands don backpacks and head to campuses for higher education. Some come for the first time, others return to complete an unfinished transcript.

"It's a fear," said Sheila Hardy, a non-traditional student. "But since I've been at Gainesville College, some of my fears have diminished. I feel I can do anything these younger kids can do because I am dedicated."

The Second Wind Club of GC is a support group that provides motivation for non-traditional students and recognizes the necessity for non-traditional students to connect and cope with different roles in order to be successful students.

According to Brenda Adams, coordinator of student activities and non-traditional student services, "Meeting other students with the same needs can help be a support to them."

As the advisor for the Second Wind Club, Adams has noticed that many non-traditional come to school with less confidence than younger students. "They fear not being able to fit in," said Adams.

Hardy agrees. "Second Wind is a support group," she said. "They support each other concerning college academics. I'm a part of the Second Wind club because I can relate with the other members in going back to school after being out for over 20 years. I can relate to issues such as being nervous. I wasn't sure I could handle the college courses, and felt intimidated by the younger minds."

Meetings are held in the lower faculty dining room in the Student Center every other Wednesday at noon. Various speakers visit to discuss topics that are of importance to club members. For instance, Sarah Booker, GC’s business division advisor, gave helpful tips on note taking.

Future speakers include motivational speaker Laurie Borg Hyatt on Oct. 17 and career counselor Beth Scott Brown, who will give college transfer information on Nov. 14. The agenda for Nov. 21 is undecided.

Once a semester, the club usually participates in an activity off campus such as going to a restaurant to eat out.

Traditional students are welcome to attend the club as well. For more information, contact Brenda Adams at (770) 718-3622 or email badams@gc.peachnet.edu.

Non-traditional GC students Hilda Westin and Elle Viviant.

ACM - Computer Club: Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 12 p.m. in Room 159 of ACAD II Contact: John Bums (dbums@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Ambassadors: Meeting: Every other Thursday at 11 a.m. in Lancer Auditorium Contact: Maggie Miller (mmill307@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

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

Baptist Student Union: Meetings: Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Lancer ABAC of Student Center Contact: Julie Lopez (jlope005@gmail.com)

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

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

College Republicans: Contact: Stephanie Kishen (skish307@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Cross Cultural Connections: Meetings: Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Room 150 of ACAD II Contact: Dan Meeks (dmeeks@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Democratic/Republican Club: Meetings: Mondays at 12 p.m. in Room 150 of ACAD II Contact: Doug Young (dyoung77@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Future Health Professionals: Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 12 p.m. in Science Building Contact: Diana Schwartz (dschm052@gmail.com)

Latin Student Association: Meetings: Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the PREP Office in Science Building Contact: Lee Anzol (lanzol@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Literature and Film Club: Meetings: Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Room 177 in ACAD II Contact: Erin Aremdale (erain037@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Meth Club: Meetings: Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Room 178 of ACAD III Contact: B.J. Cooley (bcoo304@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Multicultural Student Association: Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Lancer ABAC of Student Center Contact: Mitchell Brown (mibrown@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Physics Club and Engineering Club: Meetings: Every Friday in Room 228 of Science Building Contact: Anthony Che (achang@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Phi Alpha Delta: Meetings: Monday at 12 p.m. in Lower Faculty Dining Room in Student Center Contact: Jennifer Brown (jbrown@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Presidential Council: Meeting: November 17 Contact: Michelle S. Brown (msbrown@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 (bada028@mercy.gc.peachnet.edu)

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

Student Georgia Association of Educators: Meetings: Tuesdays at 12 p.m. in Student Center Contact: Rachel Barr (rabarr@mercury.gc.peachnet.edu)

Student Government Association: Meetings: Every other Friday at 12 p.m. in Student Center Contact: Michelle S. Brown (msbrown@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Students In Free Enterprise: Meetings: Fridays at 12 p.m. in Room 166 of ACAD II Contact:Kate Simmons (kates@hermes.gc.peachnet.edu)

Send club information to: Jessica Bowman
jb0w0373@gc.peachnet.edu
For Internet Junkies

Jennifer G. Kent
Staff Writer
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In this day and age, everyone uses the Internet for something or other. So it’s always good to know a little bit about how to use it and what programs are best. But have you ever seen a comment on the types of people you can meet on-line? Wouldn’t you like to know whom is best to talk to and who to look out for? Here is a quick reference guide for you.

Let’s start off easy. Here is a group that everyone is probably familiar with: the I’m-Bored-Talk-To-Me’s is a strange group because this group seems to prefer the company of strangers at all times. Generally talkative and entertaining, the I’m-Bored-Talk-To-Me’s is an easy crowd to get along with. These guys are pretty much everywhere and are the people you really want is someone to talk to and connect with. So, if you all want is someone to talk to, maybe even swap pictures with, then these guys are your best bet.

Looking for love? The Internet should be a last resort but it can be done. I know because I speak from experience. Should you be looking for love, though, don’t feel bad. You are not alone. There is a whole community of the love-lorn on-line. Sometimes they can be a tad persistent or over-bearing. Although, you can find some seriously funny flirts. Oftentimes, the love-lorn can be very sweet and romantic, if not a little too mushy. Who knows? They even may even be someone for you.

Just be careful. Meeting people on-line can be dangerous. Check out www.datesafely.com for tips on dating on-line.

Surfing for a good time? There’s a crowd of people who can tell you where to go, the cool on-line games, the hottest chat rooms and the best humor sites available. These people are just a bunch of fun-loving freaks. They know all the fun sites and entertainments of the Internet and they can get you hooked up. Be careful though... they may be fun, but they may also be cyber-sex seekers (they are after all just looking for a good time) and conciseness-free hackers. Trust me you don’t want any PC viruses and hackers know most of them.

That’s not all folks; there’s one more group we shouldn’t forget about. These are the people you really want to avoid, the crazies. No matter where you go, there they are, crazy people. They can range anywhere from 16-yr-old mothers of three, with a high opinion of sex but apparently not of contraception, all the way to the infamous stalkers. The crazies can either be truly insane or just eccentric, highly amusing or incredibly creepy. So should you run into a crazy, run. Run far away, screaming if possible.

The Internet can be an entertaining place where you can meet a bunch of interesting characters. However, the 1-net can also provide the elements for a dangerous meeting with a stranger. Bottom line: you never really know whom you’ll meet on the Internet so always take precautions. If you have any questions, ask someone with on-line experience. If you don’t trust someone, then don’t tell him/her anything. Use common sense and you should be okay.

Now that you know what to expect, you need a program to help you find people. So take a peak at ICQ (www.mirabilis.com) or MSN’s instant messenger (check out Microsoft’s home page). If you want to use AIM (AOL’s Instant Messenger) then that’s fine as well, just know that it’s spyware (software used to spy on your personal internet activities). That’s pretty much all there is. Happy Surfing!
In Merchants Crossing At Oakwood you will find a variety of services available to you for your convenience!

**Services Available:**

**Dry Cleaners:** Art Cleaners  
(770)297-7383

**Drug Store:** CVS/pharmacy  
(770)532-3880

**Electronics:** Radio Shack  
(770)287-7922

**Food:** Golden Buddha  
(770)287-8888  
Subway  
(770)531-1062

**Realty Agency:** Coldwell Banker  
(770)535-3880

**Salons:**  
Atlanta Nails  
(770)287-0104  
Lions Den  
(770)534-3131

**Videos:**  
Fox Video  
(770)718-1199
It all began in 1997, during the semester change over, when the Humanities department was looking for a class to fill the area B requirements. After asking students what they wanted, their answer was a new film class, CINE 1502- Film and Culture. "We were looking for courses that would appeal to students that dealt with multi-cultural issues," said Tom Sauret, who teaches most of the film classes taught at GC. "From that we realized how many students were interested in film and art and at the students' request, we expanded.

"No one thought that it would be so popular," said Sauret. Over 500 students have taken at least one of the film classes offered. In the last few years, three more classes were added, two of which involve hands on experience. Along with Film and Culture, there are now Film History, Film Appreciation and Film and Literature courses.

With the use of money from Regents Initiatives for technology in the classrooms and money left over from other programs, the Humanities department now has three digital cameras along with tripods, a complete lighting kit, and two computer editing stations with Adobe Premiere. There is also a third Canon digital camera available for students to check out and use from the ACTC center.

GC administration has been supportive of the project and Sauret has felt little resistance. The rate at which any film program would grow here at GC depends heavily on whether the students wish it or not. A film program must be able to support itself.

"Doing a film program fifteen to twenty years ago required a great deal more investment in equipment," Sauret said. The expense wasn't justified in the specific equipment needed or in the elaborate lab processing that the students would have had to pay for. At the rate that technology is improving it has made a film department not as cost prohibited as it used to be. Sauret said, "The digital cameras and computer technology have revolutionized film making and made it accessible to people."

"We have hired Andrew McAlister, who taught at the Emory film school, and Dan Cabiness who has gone to USC," Sauret said. Sauret, the main advocate and film enthusiast, has graduate hours in creative writing, which included screenwriting. There are a number of other teachers in the Humanities department involved, including Glenda McLeod, an "astute" film critic, Bob Croft, who "has seen every film made" and Tom Tuggle, "a movie buff from way back." They hope to hire more with Masters in film.

Though GC doesn't offer a film degree as of now, Sauret said that he wouldn't completely rule it out. "Someday it could be."
The Student Film Experience

By Jamie LaNier
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While GC doesn’t offer a Film degree, students have an inside look at the industry in its crudest form, the student film. GC offers two production classes and in Film and Lit last spring, students produced their own short films.

When asked about the class, Josh Crisp, a film major, replied, “Hamlet. We read Hamlet, we watched Hamlet. Then we read and watched Hamlet.” Students formed an understanding of adaptations by studying several interpretations of Hamlet along with other works of literature. They examined several films, studying their worth relating back to the original works.

GC’s Film and Literature class allows students to adapt works of literature into their own interpretation. Small groups were assigned to evaluate a piece of poetry. Students selected poems from such poets as Blake, Dickinson, and Frost. From there they wrote treatments and scripts, as well as designed storyboards, to map their progress on the film. Students went out and worked on their projects.

“I’m very glad to have had a teacher with such a liberal class structure,” said Crisp of Tom Sauret, who taught the Film and Literature class for the first time. The finished projects consisted of five short films about psychological problems, dealing with death, and the religious choices one makes. “He let us freelance,” Crisp refers to free creativity.

“I learned Adobe Premiere by making the movie,” said Crisp. Without much experience outside home video cameras and high school classes, students were able to learn the operations of the cameras and editing programs. Students used what resources were available, which included their friends and their friends’ equipment. Locations consisted of area homes and the Gainesville graveyard in the center of town, the woods at the college, as well as bars in Athens.

Crisp spoke of his project to adapt Robert Frost’s poem, “Home Burial,” “There’s a lot of things I wanted to do with the film but didn’t have the time.” He learned to appreciate grips and never realized how expensive the film industry can be for an independent. “I learned about the business end of film and how to get someone else to care about my ideas.”

These new film classes may have affected students’ thoughts on their own careers, showing them what they might or might not want to do with their lives. As for Crisp, “I was a film major coming in.”
UGA Library is Open to Athens Center Students

Nick Brown
Athens Section Editor
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Gainesville College has a very extensive and also newly remodeled library in the John Harrison Hoich library. Unfortunately, for students in Athens, they are quite far from dropping off the library in Oakwood. So for the benefit of Athens Center students, the University of Georgia library will be open to all who need to use its materials for research, book check-out or those who want to use the library to study.

Books and other materials can be checked out easily with one’s GC Student ID. Student IDs are available at the Athens Center or the main campus. Also notable is the fact that students will also use the GIL and GALILEO computer research systems for Universal Borrowing inclusive to the University System of Georgia schools. This allows one to check out books from any library in the system.

Top Five Things You Must Do in Athens

5) To be socially accepted, one must buy a camo hat and New Balance shoes
4) Face President Adams house and bow five times daily
3) To fit in, expand vocabulary to include verbose words such as: “plastered”, “hammered”, and “tanked”
2) If attending the GC Athens Center wear barely any clothing to keep cool because of lack of air conditioning
1) If one is a freshman, speed through the parking lot barely missing other students walking to their cars, the newly gain fifteen pounds.

The Last Damn Show

Nick Brown
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Last week, the comedy troupe known as The Damn Show played their last live performance. The Damn Show is based out of Athens, Georgia and was started by a group of students from the University of Georgia.

The comedy routine of The Damn Show is very similar to something one might see on Saturday Night Live or The Kids in the Hall. It is sketch comedy at its best filled with pranks, animation, parodies and sketches. It is one of a kind experience that must be seen first hand.

The troupe told their audience at last year’s spring show that the spring show would be their last, since they are signed to do a pilot which will air in the coming months. However, while they have been working out the hairy details for getting their pilot on the air, they decided to come back one last time last week to do one more show for their home crowd in Athens.

Now, this was supposedly The Damn Show’s finale for live audience shows. Who knows, since they have been claiming that there would be no more shows for the past three years.

But don’t fret if you have never made it to The Damn Show. They love Athens, and they love putting on their show for their home crowd. So make it back “for one last show”.

Athens Editorial

Nick Brown
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Well the middle of the semester has come in Athens. And people are becoming more and more sparse on the streets right now. One reason being that it is getting colder. The regular activities of those outdoorsy types, the bicyclists, joggers, Frisbee and football people that end up hitting you with their Frisbee or football and saying, “Oops, sorry about that” (yeah, right!), are slowly coming to an end. Students around campus have begun to dawm their winter wear and bundle up for classes. That is, unless you are a GC Athens Center student, you can still wear shorts and T-shirts to class since it is hotter than Hades in that building! Those students at that campus are not quite sure the faculty knows that air conditioning has been invented. While the cold is driving students in doors, the other reason faces are becoming scarce around campus is because of mid-terms.

Mid-terms are right around the corner, and for the next few weeks students are ready at war with the books so that they do not have to drop any classes and lose precious hours. Some are studying for mid-terms for 5-6 classes because of the great and wonderful Semester system that was supposed to “help” students in the long run. Well maybe so in the long run, but ask students right now if they would rather be studying for 3 mid-term tests on the Quarter system versus many more on the Semester system, but I’m sure you already know the answer to that question.

But even with the chill of the cold winds, and the harsh reality of upcoming tests, there is still a buzz in the air all over Athens. No matter where you go to school up here, everyone knows that the University of Georgia Bulldogs recently defeated the “mighty” University of Tennessee Volunteers. Like a kid, when you read in Athens, it matters not what school you attend during the day, most everyone up here cheers for the Dawgs on Saturdays.

“Hell yeah! Go Dawgs!” exclaimed Tyler Pike, a UGA business student. “It is awesome about the Dawgs beating UT! It kinda gives you a break away from the daily study grind to talk some Dawgs football with your friends.” Mr. Pike is definitely on to something, and I would have to whole heartedly agree with him.

With the Bulldogs doing well this season, it really takes the harsh bite out of studying for those draft tests right now. And hey, just remember, if you end up bombing one of your mid-terms don’t worry. Just think, your going to get an extra fall with Bulldog football before you are finally finished!
There is Help

Like many college students, he frequently abused alcohol and soon it became a huge problem. While drinking, he was cruel to his friends and would drink until he couldn’t stand or talk anymore, then just pass out.

“I was pushing all the people really close to me away,” said a Gainesville College student who prefers to remain anonymous. He couldn’t remember what happened the night before. A close friend made him realize how he was acting, which made him decide to seek personal counseling from the Counseling and Testing Center.

Personal counseling is something that anyone may need. Fortunately, to students at GC, it is offered free of charge.

“Students can come in and address specific problems,” stated Dr. Joy Evans, counseling psychologist and director of the Counseling and Testing Center. This student is finding the service extremely helpful.

Before starting the counseling, he was scared and nervous but all fears were soon calmed. With Evans, they only discussed things directly related to the problem. “We didn’t get deep into psychological jargon,” he said. “I was friendly and very professional, but not so professional that you wouldn’t feel comfortable talking to her.”

They talked about incidents that occurred while he was drinking. She made him realize that alcohol won’t help him escape from problems and taught other techniques he can use to calm anxiety. “I have learned to set a limit of how much I can drink and if I can’t do that, then not to drink at all and go to AA,” he said.

When asked if the counseling works, he replied, “It’s really helping. I am setting my limits and I can remember what happens.” Now that his drinking is getting under control he says, “It’s just a dumb thing that I do.” When asked what he thinks of counseling, he responds “Counseling is not an answer to your problem, but it points you in the right direction.”

Personal counseling is not just for those with a substance abuse problem. Students can come in for anything, whether they need advice or just to talk. A problem can vary from test anxiety to understanding their sexual identity and depression.

“Some students come in because they want to learn how to say no,” said Evans. “They want to learn to be assertive and how to set their own boundaries in a relationship.”

Everything a student discusses with Evans is confidential. The only time that promise would be broken is in situation where a life is endangered, whether it is their own or someone else’s.

If any student feels that they need to see a counselor, they can go by the Counseling and Testing Center and make an appointment or call 770-718-3660. The center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

What Happened to the Soccer Field?

Jessica Bowman
Campus Life Editor
JBOW0213@gc.peachnet.edu

I don’t know if anyone has visited the “lower section” of our campus. You have to go past “the pit,” further down the big hill. Below lies several acres of land. Large oak trees dot the view and a second lake creates a pretty scene. Before August, people were seen playing soccer on the fields. Well, to be more specific, it was usually Spanish. The kids would call to each other, laughing and playing. Sometimes while running, I would count more than three different families congregating. They would always have a soccer ball on hand.

Until August.

A new rule went into effect, banning individuals in the community from the soccer fields. The reason?

Increasing problems with adult teams and community members on campus, according to President Neshbit.

Community members were leaving the campus in a mess and tearing the grass up. Administration felt that it was time to let the grass grow back.

(Excuse me — but doesn’t the duck crap look awful all across the grass? Why not ban ducks from the campus, then the grass would sure look a lot better, as would the bottoms of my shoes.

I know, I know, the ducks are a symbol of GC. Aren’t Hispanics too?)

GC is one of the few places in the community where Hispanics can get together for their favorite sport, according to Margarita Munoz, Hispanic affairs coordinator at GC. They don’t play baseball or football. Soccer is their first love.

She feels that a lot of people are very upset about not being able to play soccer, including her husband. She had to tell him that he wasn’t allowed to play anymore.

GC is a public institution that is attempting to build a strong relationship with the community. Maybe opening the fields to them would help.

Munoz, like others, wonders if economic issues have influenced the decision to close the fields. Maybe the school can’t afford to hire more people to keep the grounds clean, put up announcements about trash or place more cans in the area.

Maybe the school could come up with creative solutions to keep the campus clean without keeping people away. The vision of President Neshbit and others in administration is to make the "lower section" of the campus into a park where people can come as individuals and small groups.

They want a family atmosphere. That is great, but I don’t know if restricting families from playing soccer is going to help that much. Other people were also complaining that they didn’t feel comfortable on campus with these community members playing soccer.

What about the walking trails? They are much more isolated, yet GC still allows anyone to walk the trail.

Do we need better security? Or are people making a mountain out of a molehill? For now, soccer fields are limited to students Monday through Friday and to youth soccer leagues. What a shame.

We Are Going to Miss You!

Seven members from the staff and faculty at Gainesville College have retired in 2001.

They are: Professor Janie Wolf-Smith from the social science division, a part of GC since 1976; Associate Professor Eveline Robbins from the math and computers division, (1985); Associate Professor Garry McGlaun from the natural science division, (1963); Associate Professor Jimmy Kirkland from the physical education department, (1970); Payroll Supervisor Carol Wallace from the comptroller’s office, (1988); and Administrative Secretary Martha James from the physical education department, (1978). So, if while meandering across campus some of the smiling faces that have become accustomed to GC are missed, it just might be the reason why.

McGlaun said that since he has retired he is taking it easy, but “I haven’t made many serious plans, but I will be hanging around the college and doing some volunteer work.”

Professor Kirkland is retiring from teaching at the beginning of this spring semester.

On a totally different note when talking to James she said, “I can’t figure out why I ever worked. I love being retired! And I love spending time with my six grandkids!”

She is enjoying her free time and being able to travel.

Anyone that has an issue or complaint about the campus or anything in general please e-mail them to Jessica Stanifer at jsta2223@gc.peachnet.edu.

Do you have an opinion? Express it by writing an editorial for The Compass, E-mail your desired topic to compass@gc.peachnet.edu to find out how you can express your viewpoints in The Compass.
**A&E Briefs**

**Art Display**

By Chris Riddle

Contribute writer srid1234@gc.peachnet.edu

A new art display was created by Gainesville College, making student art available for viewing in the Administration Building, outside the Dean’s office. Anne Besacc, associate professor of art, runs the display, an idea from Leora Myers, administrative assistant to the president. Art is chosen to be displayed by the executive counsel.

“We’re trying to present students’ art work in the Administration Building for students and the public coming to view it,” commented Michael Stoy, dean of the faculty.

“We have a mixture of different classes producing the works that are here,” Stoy noted. Art work from Grace Yu, a foreign student from Taiwan, John DeTau, Jessica Milligan and Nina Steigle is now on display. The artwork is rotated between the Administration Building and the art gallery in the Continuing Education/Performing Arts Building.

Bessac added that “They [the art] are all from the studio art courses. From the figure drawings, to color theory, and the computer graphics classes.”

Stoy re-emphasized the point that it’s “an opportunity to show some quality work by students.” This exhibit is helping to promote student’s artwork and helping to promote students’ artwork and helping to promote students’ artwork and helping to promote students’ artwork.

**Left Front Tire Blows Out**

By Brandy Canup

Staff Writer bcan0243@gc.peachnet.edu

The sound of screaming fans begin to echo through Lakewood Amphitheater as Left Front Tire climbs the stairs to the 99X Local Only Stage. The members of the band, all former Gainesville College students, slowly begin to smile as they hear hundreds of people chanting their name. As the band hits their first note, the crowd erupts.

Left Front Tire’s shows weren’t always this exciting or crowded. However, with their recent signing with Universal Records on July 2, and with the release of the American Pie 2 Soundtrack, which includes L.F.T.’s debut single “Bring You Down”, this local band has been getting a lot more attention.

Members of the self-proclaimed rock band include guitarists Chris Dillard and Brent Dobbs, bassist Brent Reems, and drummer Josh Davis. These four aspiring musicians came together almost eight years ago when they realized they shared a common dream—to get famous playing music.

Attending a Left Front Tire show today is, to say the least, very different from when the band first started performing. L.F.T.’s first show was at the Chattahoochee Mountain Festival near their hometown in Habersham County, where the MC introduced the band as “Front Left Tire”.

“We were so nervous we could barely play,” Dobbs explains. “We didn’t even get to finish out set. They cut us off three songs early, and we only had five songs to play,” Davis adds, now laughing about their more embarrassing moments.

Left Front Tire’s second album, Social Icon, was released in September 2000 and has already doubled the sales of their debut self-titled album, released in 1996. Social Icon’s success brought the unexpected attention from Universal Records, which prompted the demo-deal Universal offered the band.

Left Front Tire: “When are we going to get famous playing music?”

“I just love the thrill of performing and knowing that someone in the audience has empathy with your character.” Theater is not his only career choice. He has also considered a career in music or theater education.

For the past two summers, McCracken has worked at a non-profit arts camp for children, sponsored by the Atlanta Workshop Players. "It's great working with children and being able to share a love of theater with them and see their faces when I teach them something I've learned about theater or about life" says McCracken. His dedication to theater awarded him with a position in GTA's Reparatory Company in 2000. Only five people were cast for this group, which performed improvisation pieces and a Greek tragedy for schools and assisted living homes. McCracken served as the manager of the group and was also involved in advertising and acting and the stage crew.

McCracken also participates in student activities at GC. He has served as a GC Ambassador since his first semester on campus. The GC Ambassadors assist with events for students on campus, provide tours and deal with public relations. When asked how he juggles such a hectic schedule McCracken responded, "I don't get much sleep, and I cry a lot. I have to remind myself that this is what I really want to do."

Not only is McCracken an active member of GTA and a full time student, but he is also in a band called DOMESTIC BLEND, which he formed with long time friend, Billy Gill. The two have been performing in various places around Gainesville such as Mellow Mushroom, Two Dog Cafe and The Monkey Barrel.

In August of 2001, they also released their first e.d., Enjoy The Music. "We'll probably do some touring in December," says McCracken of the acoustic rock duo. "I may also do some solo performances while Billy is away at school."

Even with this hectic schedule McCracken manages to keep his sense of humor and upbeat disposition. "I try to be a positive influence in every one's life and not a negative one."

**McCracken's, Behind The Scenes**

By Shana Stevens

Staff Writer sstev1373@gc.peachnet.edu

It is 11 pm and Michael McCracken is finishing up at rehearsal for Gainesville Theater Alliance’s latest production, “The Dining Room”. It is late and he is obviously tired, but his day is not over. He still has homework to do.

McCracken is a drama/speech major at GC, and is currently taking twenty hours of classes, has a role in “The Dining Room” and “A Christmas Carol”, serves as a GC Ambassador and is one half of the band DOMESTIC BLEND.

In “The Dining Room”, McCracken plays as many as seven different roles. The cast and crew rehearse for the upcoming performances four hours a day, five days a week. Aside from the various roles in “The Dining Room”, McCracken has been cast as the ghost of Christmas present in “A Christmas Carol”.

When asked why he is choosing to pursue a career in theater, McCracken responded, "To get booty. No, really, I just love the thrill of performing and knowing that someone in the audience has empathy with your character.” Theater is not his only career choice. He has also considered a career in music or theater education.

For the past two summers, McCracken has worked at a non-profit arts camp for children, sponsored by the Atlanta Workshop Players. "It's great working with children and being able to share a love of theater with them and see their faces when I teach them something I've learned about theater or about life" says McCracken. His dedication to theater awarded him with a position in GTA's Reparatory Company in 2000. Only five people were cast for this group, which performed improvisation pieces and a Greek tragedy for schools and assisted living homes. McCracken served as the manager of the group and was also involved in advertising and acting and the stage crew.

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Scorpio (October 23-November 21)
Excellent month to act childish. Sit down in the middle of the Student Center and pitch a fit over not eating your green beans. Be sure to make your squeals ear piercing.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)
Some time this month you will go to that restaurant you always go to and want to order something new. Don't! It's not as good as your favorite.

Capricorn (December 22-January 20)
You've been singing that Elton John song in your sleep, again. There's no wonder why your love life is in trouble these days.

Aquarius (January 21-February 18)
You've been having a hard time lately. Just sit down and list all the things that are so good about you, just to make you feel better....

Pisces (February 19-March 20)
If you love someone, let them go. If you hate someone, grab 'em and hang on like a dog with a stick. Sna r l a bit, too—that's always really effective.

Aries (March 21-April 19)
You thought of the one thing NASA hasn't considered in the International Space Station. Go ahead and tell them that they shouldn't serve beans in space.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
The love of your life is just around the corner. But don't look for it, or you'll lose it. Just don't slam into your soulmate as you round that corner.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
This weekend's kegger will be just like last week's. Only you'll drink too much and start hitting on every single person there. You'll "politely" be asked to leave.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
(I'm sorry, you didn't exist last month. You can blame a vicious Gemini.) To get that attention you are starving for, wear your clothes inside-out or just don't wear any.

Leo (July 23-August 22)
Bad day to call someone a "goober." Better save that one. Instead try "booger butt" or "dorkhead," save the good ammo for loved ones.

Virgo (August 23-September 21)
If you haven't figured out what you want to be for Halloween, there's a great deal on Power Ranger costumes at Wal-Mart.

Libra (September 22-October 22)
If you haven't figured out what you want to be when you grow up, there's a great deal on Power Ranger costumes at Walmart.
On Wednesday, November 14th at Noon on the stage in the Student Center, there will be an auction where students can bid on a date. Student Government Association and the Compass members are hosting a mystery date in Atlanta. Students will Bid-A-Date for an escort for this extravagant event to take place on Saturday, November 17th. Start saving your money now, the highest bidder will be treated. Proceeds will benefit Student Activities.

Hypnosis: Entertainment or Mental Anguish?

Jessica Stanifer
Editor and Chef
jsta2223@gc.peachnet.edu

You are up on the stage in the Student Center not really knowing what is about to happen, but you volunteered to be hypnotized. You find yourself driving a race car. You feel upset for the rest of the day. You really think you hit a dog, because you’re mind does not distinguish between your true memories and the ones placed in your head through hypnosis.

Hypnosis: not distinguishing between your true memories and the sudden hypnotist says, “A dog just ran out in front of you!” After the show is over you feel upset for the rest of the day. You really think you hit a dog, because you’re mind does not distinguish between your true memories and the ones placed in your head through hypnosis.

This is a true story of one student’s encounter with a hypnotist on the Gainesville College campus. Every year the Student Activities Committee brings a hypnotist to GC to entertain students. Many students and faculty members are questioning this practice, and even calling it unethical.

In her classes, Susan Doyle PhD has brought up the question of whether or not hypnotism for entertainment is ethical. Doyle feels that it is not right, because students could agree to do things they would not do in another state of consciousness and that things could be suggested that could become part of their memory system; causing false memories and false emotions that can be very painful and confusing. Doyle stated “the average person does not know what will happen to them (when volunteering to be hypnotized).”

When asked what he thought about these concerns and accusations, Rich Ames - a professional hypnotist, declined to comment.

Another incident that has happened at GC is that a hypnotist had a woman dancing on stage. While the woman was dancing, she started to pull her dress up over her head. The hypnotist dove for her, but did not make it in time; luckily, the woman was wearing a dress that had another layer beneath it. If the woman had not had the layer underneath, she would have flashed the whole audience. Doyle commented, “I don’t think that this woman would have done this in another state of consciousness.” Because of the altered state that woman was in, she could have been humiliated.

Is hypnosis for entertainment dangerous and unethical? If your answer is no, put yourself in the position of someone who has been humiliated during a hypnotic state. Imagine the thoughts in your subconscious that could come to life during hypnosis, are they embarrassing? How would you react to hypnosis? Could you be humiliated? Hypnosis for entertainment is dangerous and unethical. Many people don’t understand the possible repercussions of being hypnotized, and many hypnotists are irresponsible when influencing people’s minds. This combination of ignorance and irresponsibility has scarred and humiliated countless people. Searing a person’s mind with painful memories of events that didn’t even happen is far too great a risk to take for a few laughs.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

1968 post war Jeep with few bullet holes that give it great character asking $1,200

5 bedroom house for rent 801 S. Washington, 1000 looking for $200. Responsible, teeth loving animal.

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FOR PERSONALS

The Compass will now be doing Classifieds ads. Please submit your ad for rent, sale, employment, personals and misc ads to The Compass. Located behind The Cyber Café. All ads will run for one month. Ads are free for GC students and three dollars for anyone else. For any questions call The Compass at 770-718-3820.

PERSONALS

Slightly used pull out coach with a few stains for sale $200, OBO

Five Top Web Sites of the Month

Check these out:

Film and Multimedia:
For short films, movie clips, and cartoons.
www.atomfilms.com

Humor:
For jokes, funny pictures, and top ten lists.
www.twistedhumor.com

Downloads/Shareware:
Just about every kind of download imaginable.
www.cnet.com

Study Site of the Month:
For anyone taking or needing information in Biology.
www.thelifewire.com

Personal Web Site of the Month:
Get to know some of the GC students.
http://data.gc.peachnet.edu/stu_home/RBA19802/

* Want to show off your web page? Or do you know someone who has a really cool web site? Send the address to jken7130@gc.peachnet.edu
Dramatic Reviews

WonderQuest Shines
Michelle Gilstrap
Staff Writer

The WonderQuest production of African Tales is brilliant. The superb acting is supported by creatively made costumes. The set includes two trampolines, multiple levels, and moving parts.

The talented cast for African Tales includes children younger than 12. Both the amateur and professional actors/dancers do an amazing job with the traditional African dancing that is scattered throughout the production.

The creative costumes show the frames of the animals. The monkey’s mask, a wire frame with brown beans, beads, cloth, and other monkey-like objects.

The audience participates, screaming animal sounds and acting out movements. WonderQuest sends audiences to another continent and time.

The Dining Room
Michelle Gilstrap
Staff Writer

The Dining Room’s creative lighting and directing add to the top notch acting and exquisite set.

The small cast accurately portrays several characters. One actress, Chandra Owensby, has a believable character playing a small child as well as a middle aged adult. Her expressive face and gestures, vocal range, and ability differentiate her characters. She plays a small child from the birthday scene making it different from an older child in a scene with a crazy aunt and dance lessons.

The set reminds audience of a museum. The director has characters “tour” the set before acts giving the audience a different perspective while the script pulls the audience in, an unforgettable experience.

Corky Romano
Buena Vista

Corky Romano has a hilarious plot that is not as lacking as other Saturday Night Live movies. Corky actually has a goal to obtain evidence from the FBI clearing his father’s involvement in the Mafia.

Not all of Chris Kattan funny scenes are in the previews. Corky Romano is not the best movie ever produced, having no real message for audiences, no touching moment, but if you like Chris Kattan, you will like this movie.

The underdeveloped love story becomes a problem when it plays a major part in the ending. The ending is a bit awkward between Corky and his ladyfriend.

All in all, the movie is entertaining and enjoyable. Kattan does not disappoint.

-Michelle Gilstrap

Hearts in Atlantis
Warner Brothers

Not your typical Steven King flick, adapted by William Goldman. From an adult’s memory, we see an 11 year old child who’s selfish mother ignores him and he finds comfort in an old man who has special powers. There isn’t a strong narrative and a lot of side stories don’t get fully explored.

The director, Scott Hicks, enlists windows and mirrors throughout the film, perhaps as a means to suggests that memories are just a perception and change. Anthony Hopkins continues his strange character type. The boy shows potential in his acting, but there’s nothing special about his character. Over all the movie wasn’t worth the money to go see, probably should have just rented it.

-Jamie LaNier

Serendipity
Miramax Films

This touching love story questions fate and gets answer. Does everyone have a soul mate in the world, and what if it’s the wrong time to meet. For two characters in Marc Klein’s story, it becomes a matter of knowing if your right and accepting it. Peter Chelsom directs the film with a mystic surreal feel to it, and cupid is hiding in the background.

John Cusack is a convincing romantic boy caught in an adult’s body who wants to believe in true love tempting his destiny. Kate Beckinsale must relearn to believe destiny after missing her chance to make it right. Jeremy Piven gives friendly support while he leading comedy relief.

This film is so full of real emotion and love that it is sure to touch your heart in one way or another.

-Jamie LaNier

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What do you have to say?

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Do we have wasted technology?

Compared with students at some other universities, the students at Gainesville College can count themselves blessed. They attend a school that strives to remain on the cutting edge of educational technology by purchasing new computers and projection systems, creating distance learning classrooms and providing internet access for greater research possibilities. Some would say that Gainesville College prides itself on its technology. The students must find it satisfying to see that their technology fees are being spent wisely and productively.

In spite of judicious spending of technology fees, however, students are pressed to gain access to computers in the mornings, and some computers on campus are unreliable at best as a learning tool. In efforts to integrate technology into their instruction, language teachers send their students to the language lab specifically requiring them to work with computer programs that enhance their learning. The students arrive and begin their work only to have the computer freeze up because it can no longer handle the work required of it. In frustration, the students try another computer only to find that it also will not operate up to required standards. If Gainesville College values the integration of technology into instruction, why are these conditions allowed to persist while more operational computers in other locations of campus are used solely for entertainment?

A stroll through Academic II will reveal two nice computer labs, rooms 175 and 179, with all of the equipment inside in prime working order. It will also show that these labs, when not in class, are empty and off limits to students that could use some of these computers to advance their individual educational goals. Why are these labs unused outside of class and prohibited from the students who pay to use them?

If the answer concerns possible damage to the labs, a student worker to monitor their use could solve that problem. What better opportunity for a student to develop his or her individual responsibility than having a job requiring some responsibility? This would also provide one more job in a weakening economy. The students would have more access to educational tools, and the work force would grow stronger by one worker. No one loses.

While Gainesville College prides itself in acquiring learning technology it may be failing to meet the technological needs of the student body. On one side of campus two rooms full of computers sit idly while on another side the computer technology therein is mis-functional at best. A student worker could solve one of these problems, but the issue of unused and wasted technology as a whole needs to be resolved so that Gainesville College may continue to assure the technological proficiency of its students.

A Changed America Today

That day began like any other. Wake up. Go to work. Get stuck in traffic. But the morning of September 11th changed our nation unlike any event in America's history. A nation rich in racial tensions became a little more open minded and tolerant of each other. Citizens who concerned themselves with their personal agendas, no matter what the cost, became more giving of their time, money and individual help with no thought of the expense. Government officials unable to agree on how best to administrate the nation stood united and focused upon the task at hand. People turned to religion to ease their minds and to search for stolen feelings of security. A nation that defined itself as a melting pot dropped their hyphens and embraced the idea of being a citizen of the United States first and an ethical citizen second.

America now finds itself in a year that doesn't promise to end soon. As America's sons and daughters are sent half a world away to deliver justice for the wrong done to our nation and way of life, we as a people are left in a distinctive situation. As we are living history, can we, as citizens, continue on this course of solvability by progressing from this tragedy that changed our American life? Our sustained unity will continue to provide strength to the American people as we move forward into the twenty first century.

The Student Newspaper of Gainesville College

Advertising
Information
For rates call (770) 718-3630, Mon.-Fri. 10a.m. to 4p.m. We are located behind the Cyber Cafe in the Student Center. Questions regarding reservations or billing are directed to Stephanie Kitchen Cell: (706) 654-0311 stephanie3857@hotmail.com

Writers Wanted...
The Compass welcomes articles and letters from faculty, staff and students. All submissions will be printed on a timely and space-available basis. Submissions should be in Word format and delivered to the Compass office on floppy disk or emailed to JSTA2223@gc.peachnet.edu. Any pieces not meeting these criteria are not considered by the Editorial Board of the Compass to be valid and will not be printed.

Questions?
Comments?
If you would like to respond to or vocie you opinion on any of the articles that appears in The Compass, please send an email to Jessica Stanfill at JSTA2223@gc.peachnet.edu or drop it off at the Compass office.

Leading The Way...
"Buyer Beware!" should be posted on the door of the GC Bookstore. Recently, I’ve had a string of disastrous book-buying experiences there.

The chaos started with my first visit to the bookstore. I went in with my schedule to buy books for my classes, gave my professors’ names, and expected to get the appropriate books, but I later found that I had walked out with hundreds of dollars worth of books I couldn’t use because the attendant sold me books for the wrong classes.

I went a week with the wrong books before I could return them. When I finally had the opportunity to return the books to get my money back, the attendant says that I can “return only with a receipt” to get full credit back. So, I went and got my receipt and exchanged the two books.

On my last trip to the bookstore, I went in to pick up a Spanish book that came in three weeks late. This time, I was very wary of the bookstore, and doubted the abilities of its attendants to point out the correct books, so I made sure I knew exactly what the book was and what it looked like with my professor before I went in. This was the only time I got the right book.

“Buyer Beware!” is a great warning for all students going to the campus bookstore. When you buy books there, be sure to keep all your receipts safe and secure, and don’t take the plastic off a book that’s wrapped until you’re sure you’ve got the book you need. Also, buy your books at the GC bookstore (you have no other option), but remember my experiences because the lessons they offer could keep you from a bookstore hassle, and save your money.
Being a Muslim After the Trade Towers

Juwairiya Yusef GC.

The 11th day of September started like a normal school day. As usual, I was up early cramping for a test. After studying unsuccessfully, I decided to go to the Math lab for help at 7:45 am. Just before the test I could hear different conversations going on. My classmates were discussing something about a plane crash, a building, 8 o'clock and "...15 minutes later." At first, I thought it had to do with Math problem involving a plane flight. I did not find out about the tragic event until noon.

I walked out of my difficult test and into the Student Center. There I noticed that the TVs were not on the usual music channel. Instead, they were on CNN and everybody was attentively watching. That is when I realized that something was wrong. A friend finally told me what had happened. While she spoke, I could feel my anger rising. "They are going to blame it on the Muslims," I said, "just like the Oklahoma City bombing. They are going to blame it on Muslims." And then it happened—the news reporter described the event as "a Jihad against America." I was too enraged to stay in that building. I had to get away from the media.

The media often covers Islam negatively. A woman who wears hijab (proper Islamic covering) is portrayed as being oppressed. A country that practices the Shariah (Islamic law) is considered barbaric and backward. Any one who speaks Arabic is viewed as a terrorist, a potential terrorist, or at the very least as having links to terrorists. In the movie Enemy of the State one of the characters states that the mere mention of the word "Allah" can get your phone conversations monitored. We seldom hear the terms "Christian terrorist," "white terrorist," "black terrorist," "secular extremist," etc. However, a Muslim suspect's name, ethnicity, and especially faith will be repeatedly sensationalized. As a result, Islam is portrayed as a hateful and violent religion. Any one who practices this religion seems to be already presumed guilty until proven innocent.

Unfortunately, Muslims in America are being targeted in hate crimes in reaction to the attacks on September 11. Muslims all over the nation are harassed, beaten and some have even been murdered because they are identified as Muslims. Muslim Organizations receive hate messages and mosques are being vandalized. My family was very concerned for my safety. I was urged to avoid leaving the house unless very necessary, and to be very conscious of my surroundings outside the home. I did not think it was fair for me to have to alter my daily activities or manifest as an American due to other people's ignorance. The week of the attacks, I found myself spending less time in the library, and I did not go to Jumah (Friday prayer).

It must be known that Islam is clearly against the killing of innocent people as we saw on September 11. Islam upholds the sanctity of life. The Qur'an compares the unjust killing of one human being to the killing of all of humanity. The entire Muslim world has condemned these terrible attacks, and supports the punishing of the culprits if a case is genuinely proven against them. Hundreds of Muslims were also killed in the attacks. Muslims from all over the country volunteered as doctors, nurses, fire fighters, cleaning crew, and in other capacities. Muslims are also donating blood and money for relief efforts in the aftermath of the attacks. I personally participated in the national moment of prayer on campus the Friday after the attacks. As I watched the Imam (spiritual leader) deliver his prayer on CNN, I cried. We Muslims have to work twice as hard to prove our humanity, yet we are being victimized. My heart goes out to the families of the victims. That is only appropriate, as Islam teaches peace, tolerance, and reciprocating of evil with that which is most gracious. We must remain committed to this principle.

We Are the Computer Generation No Longer

Michelle Ghibstrap is a GC writer

As I sit at home and write this piece, I am thankful for the peace and quiet that surrounds me. It is a major contrast to the loud, foul atmosphere that has developed in the Gainesville College Cyber Cafe. In the last year, I spent many hours killing time between classes in this quaint room with the computers and an occasional free cup of coffee. This semester, you may count yourself lucky if you can get a computer to use after waiting half an hour or more.

The Cyber Cafe is the only computer lab on campus where people are free to chat, listen to music, download videos, and really socialize while using computers. Unfortunately, the noise level gets so absurd that it is impossible to talk to someone, let alone hear oneself think.

This noise comes from several different sources. Groups of students use the cafe to sign on to the same violent game to kill each other. This is not a problem. The problem occurs when they are all different areas with multiple sound effects and have the volume turned up as high as it will go. On top of this, they want to talk about what is going on in the individual areas or how one person can get to where another person is standing. They have to yell to hear each other over the sound of the games.

Another problem resulting from the mass playing of this violent game is the offensive language. The other day when I actually chanced to get a computer, I was trying to chat with my sister online and was perplexed at the foul insults being thrown around. These insults sounded like they were straight out of the South Park movie. It was creativity at its most grotesque.

I realize that it was all in jest, but I found it offensive. I do not want to hear about people banging other people's moms and that one guy hangs farm animals while the third guy is the first guy's "little bitch." The vulgarity reaches levels so immense that you would not expect the worst enemies to say such horrible things to each other.

Besides the noise level and foul language, some students have an annoying habit of signing on to a computer and leaving it for 10 to 20 minutes. People will sign on and go to some web site to illustrate that the computer is in use, but then they will go to a buddy's computer and watch them play a game or listen to a download for 20 minutes.

These problems can all be easily fixed. A pair of head-phones would cut down on some of the noise. Common courtesy will fix the rest. People have the right to free speech in this great country of ours, but everyone should practice personal censorship in the presence of strangers.
The Hispanic Community and Gainesville College

The Hispanic Community is diverse; it can include Salvadorians, Nicaraguans, Colombians, Venezuelans, Argentines, Paraguayans, Mexicans, and many others who comprise a combination of nationalities. The primary characteristic between them is the Spanish language. A common error that has been made is to apply the same stereotype to all of these groups without considering that even within a single country there are cultural differences.

Difficult economic situations, political and social instability are some primary reasons that have caused the Hispanic Community to immigrate to the US. Some professionals (a minor number) also come to develop their academic success. These factors give an idea of what these groups are looking for, but this is a general picture; there are additional religious and socio-cultural aspects that help to describe and comprehend them individually.

One immediate need of these groups is education, and this is the point where Gainesville College plays an important role as a public institution. Although college is a higher level of education, it has to use different strategies to include all the education levels of various students in order to provide illustration to young children the advantages of having a career. For a college to be efficient, it necessarily has to generate more programs that address the actual demands and real needs of those students who are less prepared.

Sometimes students attending college are the first generation being educated in their family, and for this reason they may need more help and orientation. Also one must consider the importance of student communication with teachers and administrators in order to find the best ways to help them. In addition, the college needs to offer courses and cultural activities to native students and teachers to find the best way to integrate these multicultural populations into one Gainesville College community. To have information that contributes to understanding and finding their own identity, it helps to have an open mind and the wish to share and know other people’s cultures.

Finally, to the Hispanic students who sometimes may have difficulties we recommend that they approach the nearest advisor to find out the appropriate method for addressing their doubts and developing a professional perspective. I remind them that my office is in the new Science Building, room 161. I am here to assist them in achieving their goals. In addition, they are welcome to share with me their opinions and ideas for projects to attract more Hispanic students to Gainesville College.

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**Student Opinion Poll**

Have intramural sports enhanced your college experience? Do you find them beneficial?

I have participated in intramural sports and think it is a great way to relieve stress and most of all have fun.

*Micahel Thurmond, CIS*

I have not participated in any sports but I’ve watched some of the students who were participants.

*Lea Lester, Nursing*

Do you receive the same quality of education from adjunct professors?

I believe that adjunct professors take their jobs just as seriously as the full-time professors. I believe that they can portray the appropriate course material in the same manner as full time professors. In some ways, they are better because their teaching methods are different and different is definitely a good thing!

*Krysta Sturgill, Spanish*
Remembering the Victims
As we remember the victims of the September 11th Tragedy, please take a moment to remember one of our own former Hall County residents. Edna Stephens was a civilian employee at the pentagon. She moved to Washington, D.C. from Gainesville and returned here to visit her family regularly. Her son, Torras Allen, is active in our community and serves as a drum line instructor at Gainesville High School, touching the lives of many young people. The GHS band collected money in memory of Edna Stephens. Half of the money was donated to the United Way in her name and the other half was donated directly to her family to use as needed. A special trust has been set up at the Bank of America under the name of the "Edna Stephens Memorial Fund". Later, a scholarship will be established in her name. If you would be interested in donating money to this cause, please see Sheryl Williams in room 211 of the Science Building. Thank you.

Attention Students
If you did not get the chance to, or did not know about the showing of the video "Behind the Terror: Understanding the Enemy" in room 103, the video is on reserve in the library.

United Way
September 11th Fund - Phone: (212) 251-4035

American Red Cross
Disaster Relief Fund - Phone: 1 800-HELP-NOW

Salvation Army
Disaster Relief Effort - Phone: 1 800-SAL-ARMY

Feed the Children
Phone: 1800-525-7575

Federal Employees Education & Assistance Fund
World Trade Center and Pentagon Fund - Phone: (303) 833-7580

New York Firefighter's Memorial Fund - Phone: 1 877-863-4783

New York Times
9/11 Neediest Fund

Americares
Phone: 1 800-486-HELP

The Physical Education Department is having a Swim-a-thon to raise money for the victims of the September 11th tragedy. Objective: To swim 30 minutes & tally the lengths you swim. If you need to rest during the swim, that's fine!! Contributors can pledge a penny, nickel, dime, quarter, dollar... or whatever amount per length (or pay a set amount if you choose). The event will be held on October the 29th at 12:00 noon in the GC pool. There will be two heats, up to twelve swimmers per heat.

The Town Hall meeting, a panel of nine from different education disciplines, sponsored by the GC Social Sciences Division on September 25 was a success. There was a great turnout from the community plus special guest speaker Mr. Bashir Mund, training consultant for the "Institute of Islamic Information and Education". Through increased enhanced understanding of the Islamic community the citizens of Hall County could become more tolerant of their world neighbors.

On September 29, 2001 GC was a corporate sponsor of the "Hall County Cares About America" walk. There was 41 corporate sponsors from the surrounding Hall County area. Over $17,000 was raised in one week from more than 300 individuals and corporate donations. All of the money raised was donated to the American Red Cross. Thanks to everyone who helped.