New Apartments Aimed at GC Students
Are you looking for housing in Fall 2003? See Page 4 for the full story

Smoking To Be Banned at GC!
How will this new policy affect the campus and you? Page 2

Spring Break! Do you know what you're doing for Spring Break this year? Turn to page 14 for some ideas!
Smoking Ban to Begin May 8

By Heather Hodges
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As if the possibility of adding a "sin tax" to cigarettes is not enough, Gainesville College is taking a further step to reduce smoking among students, faculty and staff.

Effective May 8, 2003, all tobacco will be banned on the GC campus. "I hope that we can discourage smoking, period," says Martha Nesbitt, president of GC. But those who insist on using tobacco will now be banished to their cars to get their nicotine fixes. Only when inside a car will a student be able to smoke or chew tobacco, "smoke shacks," sidewalks and all other places at GC will be off-limits for tobacco.

"Ultimately it is a health issue," said Nesbitt.

According to a press release from the office of Tom Walter, vice president for student development, the new Gainesville College smoking policy will be as follows: "The operational policy of Gainesville College is to discourage smoking among the students and employees and to have a tobacco-free environment to the fullest extent possible. In keeping with that philosophy, the use of tobacco products is not permitted at Gainesville College, including its main campus and all sites and centers where it offers programs and services. This policy will be enforced through normal College disciplinary procedures."

Nesbitt ensures that the change in policy "was not a decision lightly made," but a carefully considered decision made by the Executive Council, which is comprised of the vice president of external affairs, vice president of business and finance, director of information technology, director of continuing education and director of the GC Foundation.

When asked what led to this change in policy, Nesbitt said, "It's not any one thing, but it would keep coming up in our discussions. Finally, in fall, after discussing it on and off for close to a year, we decided that we would bite the bullet and make this a tobacco-free campus."

In fact, Nesbitt points out that her first months as president were littered with complaints about smoking. "One of the first issues that I had to deal with as president in the fall of 1997 was the complaints, particularly once winter got here, about people smoking around the doors of the buildings."

According to the release, "The Gainesville College Smoking Policy has evolved considerably over the last fifteen years.

In the early 1990s, smoking was prohibited only in classrooms and in some areas of the library. In 1991, due to problems with cigarette butts and chewing tobacco remains, indoor smoking was restricted to a lounge in the Student Center.

After a few years, all indoor smoking was banned. Smokers could then often be found gathered around the entrances of the buildings. Nonsmokers complained of the haze of smoke at the doorways. Thus, efforts were made to restrict smoking to confined areas, which eventually led to the development of what many smokers fondly call the "smoke shacks."

In spring 1998 a survey of faculty and staff was taken to determine the next step to take with the smoking policy. For the faculty, the survey showed that 75 percent were in favor of banning tobacco on campus; 25 percent did not favor a policy change. Student opinion showed less of a gap, with 51 percent for a tobacco ban and 49 percent against the idea. "I felt that, rather than taking a step at that time, we would really try to have a very clear smoking policy and try to enforce it," said Nesbitt.

Despite extensive efforts to control on-campus smoking, the release points out that "Cigarette butts can be found littering almost any campus sidewalk." Fires started by cigarettes have also been a problem. And Nesbitt notes that the current policies are "not easy to enforce because we do not have enough security."

The decision to institute this policy follows the footsteps of North Georgia College and State University, which Nesbitt noted has been a tobacco-free campus for three or four years. Nesbitt also said that Lanier Technical College adopted the policy in fall 2002. "I did not even know about it," noted Nesbitt, "until we discovered that there were students coming over to our side of the street and smoking."

"I think that it is a growing trend among colleges and state agencies" to adopt tobacco-free policies, said Nesbitt.

The fate of the beloved smoke shacks that some smokers at GC think of as their "home away from home" may be a concern for some. The shelter by the Student Center will be removed to accommodate a new HVAC unit. The shelter at the Continuing Education building will most likely be removed. Plans for the smoking shelter near the library have yet to be determined. It may be salvaged for inclusion in a larger outdoor student gathering area, says Nesbitt.

Critics of the policy argue that the decision may be coming too suddenly. But Nesbitt said, "We felt that announcing it at the first of February and not enforcing it until May would allow sufficient time." According to the release, "The College recognizes that this change in policy may prove difficult for some but believes that it is in the best interest of the overall College community."

In the upcoming months, the college will work hard to inform students, faculty and staff of the looming policy. "What we really want to do is get the word out," said Nesbitt. Press releases will be sent for publication in the Gainesville Times, letters will be sent along with acceptance letters and the Student Government Association has been enlisted to help spread the word.

Signs alerting GC students, faculty, staff and visitors will be posted at entrances, on the electronic signs, and at the doorways of buildings. Nesbitt also notes that it is important to display signs "in key areas where we have visitors."

Programs will be held in spring 2003 to help ease tobacco users into the impending policy change. Programs for students will be organized through the Counseling and Testing Center; faculty programs will be planned by the Center for Professional Development. Enforcing the new policy "will have to be a proactive stance by all of the employees of the college," says Nesbitt. The Student Judiciary Board will develop disciplinary procedures for those who do not adhere to the policy.

Says Nesbitt, "I am very hopeful that the campus community as a whole will be supportive of what we think is the right thing to do."

"It's going to be a change of culture and it will probably take six months to a year," says Nesbitt. "But the sooner the better."
New Apartments Will House 360 GC Students

By Heather Hodges
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It seems that Gainesville College students will finally be getting the housing that they have long been demanding.

Bostic Brothers Development, a North Carolina-based company, has contracted to build “360 units geared specifically to the students” of GC, according to Jonathan Alexander, a Bostic representative heading up the GC project. They will call the apartments Campus Pointe.

Leasing of the units will be the responsibility of Lane Company, a management company out of Atlanta. Melanie Davidson and Tammy Hubbard of Lane will be the property managers. Planworx Architecture out of Raleigh, North Carolina, designed the property.

The apartments will be built near the GC bike trail on Tumbling Creek Road off of Atlanta Highway. Biking from the apartments to GC will be an easy option, and walking is not out of the question. Driving time will be about three minutes.

There will be 120 separate apartments, each with three bedrooms, three baths, and common kitchen and living areas. But the apartments will not be leased as a whole; each of the 360 bedrooms with private baths will be leased individually. This means that renters will not be responsible for the faults of roommates, such as failure to make payments, violation of a lease or noncompliance with rules and regulations.

Even with this type of leasing, living with friends will be a possibility. “You can bring your roommates in, and we encourage that,” said Davidson. “But we also do profiling, where we match people up to who they would be best suited to live with.”

The budget of the typical college student has been kept in mind, with monthly rates starting at $385 per renter. Furnished apartments will be available at an additional cost. “It will be an opportunity for students who would like to have affordable housing near the campus,” said Martha Nesbitt, president of GC.

All costs, except for the phone, are included with rent, and Campus Pointe has many amenities to boast. Each apartment will have a laundry room with a washer and a dryer. Kitchens will have all new appliances, including icemaker refrigerators and microwaves. Cable, garbage disposal, electricity, water and high-speed internet access are all included with rent.

Outside the units, renters can expect ample parking, car wash areas, grills and picnic tables. A clubhouse will provide a common area for student renters to gather. Inside the clubhouse will be an exercise facility, game room and media center. A pool will be located outside the clubhouse.

Privacy of the individual renters has also been considered in the design of the apartments. Each bedroom will have its own lock and phone line, and each bedroom will be wired for the internet.

While the housing will not be directly related to GC, it will be primarily marketed to students. “Its specific purpose is for students at Gainesville College,” said Alexander. “We do believe that there will be some carryover from Lanier Tech, but we expect 90 percent of it to be occupied by Gainesville College students, if not higher.”

Though GC and Campus Pointe will be separate entities, Alexander notes that they “will share marketing efforts, since both entities would benefit from that.”

Nesbitt said, “We are primarily in the information part of it,” but she plans to have brochures for Campus Pointe available in the Student Center.

In the past, GC students have been overwhelmingly responsive to the possibility of student housing. Student surveys have continually echoed the desire for a facility like Campus Pointe. “The last survey we did showed that 300 to 400 students would be very interested in housing, and that’s before our over 25 percent enroll-

ment growth in the last two years,” said Nesbitt, “so I think the numbers are there.”

Learning of the desire for student housing, Bostic Brothers contacted the school in July 2002. Before purchasing the property, the builders contacted Nesbitt to confirm our suspicions on the need for student housing, said Alexander. After the need was established, Bostic purchased the property and had it rezoned. They will break ground on the project in early February with an expected finish date in July.

The apartments will be ready for students by fall semester 2003.

GC is not the first college community that the Bostic company has taken on. They have built multiple other student housing facilities in the Southeast, which their website calls “State-of-the-art communities with close ties to colleges.”

But this project holds special value for Joe and Jeff Bostic, the owners of Bostic Brothers Development, since Jeff’s wife is a graduate of GC. The two brothers, who are former college and professional football players, began the company in 1999. Last year Bostic was the tenth largest multi-family builder in the country, but Alexander speculates, “this year we will probably be sixth or seventh.”

While off-campus student housing is a new concept to many students, other colleges like GC have experienced considerable success with this type of housing. Macon State College, which Nesbitt noted is “very similar to us,” has had a steady student subscription in the housing built near their campus, Gordon College in Barnesville, Georgia, a former military school, has on- and off-campus student housing, each of which has proven successful.

Beyond the obvious advantages of student housing, there are numerous less-apparent advantages to having housing available for GC students. “I think that for those students who stay in the housing, there may be more of a tendency to participate in campus activities,” said Nesbitt. “I would hope that it will not have any effect on GPA, other than going up,” said Nesbitt. “They will have more time to study, since there will not be so much time on the road.”

But she remarked, “There are also the social activities that go with apartments.” Alexander envisions that Campus Pointe will “create a more well-rounded college experience.”

Another advantage to this type of housing, since it is not directly related to the school, is that students will retain the freedom of living on their own. Unlike on-campus housing or dorms, Campus Pointe will have no curfews or other “dormitory-type” rules, only regulations common to all apartments.

As soon as construction begins, there will be a pre-lease trailer on the property. For leasing information or other questions regarding Campus Pointe, call (770)533-9300.
GC Students Inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

By April Landry
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On Nov. 6 at 4:30 p.m., 24 Gainesville College students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society for two-year schools.

The society's purpose, according to www.ptk.org, is to recognize and encourage scholarship among students with associate degrees by providing opportunities of leadership and service. It also establishes an intellectual climate that allows the free flow of ideas and a desire for the continuation of academic excellence. Ellen Graveman and Ray-Lynn Snowden sponsored the event.

The students meeting the requirements of a 3.6 GPA as well as 25 semester hours earned at GC are: Jesse Daniel Ausc, Rebecca Lucille Bennett, Maggie Ruth Borders, Margaret Elaine Burriss, A. Hyun Chang, Ricky L. Davidson, Karen Louise Drillot, Amanda Brook Easterwood, Cynthia Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Heather Elizabeth Heyman, Susan Marie Polk, Sylvia Rodriguez and Robin North Reese were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa on Nov. 6, 2002. The other inductees were not present at the induction ceremony. GC is one of over 1,000 chapters of Phi Theta Kappa in the United States, Germany, Canada and Japan.

Pictured from left to right, Heather Michelle Hodges, Jesse Daniel Ausc, Cynthia Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Margaret Elaine Burriss, Heather Nicole Korey, Hoang Le, A. Hyun Chang, Susan Christine Osborne, Heather Elizabeth Heyman, Susan Marie Polk, Sylvia Rodriguez and Robin North Reese were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa on Nov. 6, 2002. The other inductees were not present at the induction ceremony. GC is one of over 1,000 chapters of Phi Theta Kappa in the United States, Germany, Canada and Japan.

Established in 1918 by Missouri two-year college presidents, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education, with more than 1.3 million members and 1,100 chapters located in 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada, Germany and Japan. In 1929, the American Association of Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the official honor society for two-year colleges and in 2000 the Association of College Honor Societies recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the general scholarship honor society serving associate degree-granting institutions.

The society gives each inducted student a gold-embossed membership certificate, an honors stole with tassel, membership identification card, membership key pin, diploma seal, transcript notation of membership, an issue of "3.5 PLUS" annual journal, and a scholarship directory.

If you are interested in learning more about this organization, visit www.ptk.org, or contact Ray-Lynn Snowden at rsnowden@gc.peachnet.edu or at (770) 718-3608 or Ellen Graveman at egraveman@gc.peachnet.edu or at (770) 718-3710.

Colloquium Series Returns for Another Semester

By Michele Hester
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Each semester Gainesville College offers students a way to become more aware of the world around them, as well as a way to receive additions to their co-curricular transcript, and in some cases, even extra credit.

The GC Colloquium Series continues spring semester with three notable speakers, each who specializes in diverse issues and disciplines. The speaking engagements usually take place in the Continuing Education building at noon, when most students are not in class.

Last semester the GC Colloquium Series hosted a senior speech writer for President Clinton, a published author and GC Professor of Biology John Hamilton, who spoke about Iceland.

Spring semester GC students, faculty and staff will be treated to a variety of speakers. The speakers will include 2000 Poet Laureate of Georgia, David Bottoms, Minnie Jean Brown-Trickey, one of nine African-American students who entered an all white school, Little Rock Central High, in 1957 and the first woman to serve as Supreme Court Judge in Georgia, Leah Ward Sears.

These three names, along with many more were submitted to the GC Colloquium Series committee, which is made up of one faculty member from each division and one staff member. Mike Ryan, associate professor of economics and Colloquium Series chairperson, says that the committee meets often and considers each suggestion for speakers. Each committee member receives a list of the proposed speakers and rates the speakers on a scale. The chosen speakers will then be placed at the top of the list of possible speakers.

However, there are criteria for choosing the Colloquium speakers. The committee considers the speakers' public speaking abilities, the topics they speak on and the cost to have them speak at GC. The Colloquium Series budget is divided between the Dean's budget, the Student Activities fees and the Campus Activities Board. The majority of speakers GC has hosted are paid between $500 and $1,000, but a top speaker can be paid in excess of $3,000, which only covers the speaking fee. It does not include transportation, accommodations or travel expenses.

The Colloquium Series committee is already arranging speakers for fall semester. Brenda Adams and Alicia Caudill in Student Activities encourage students, faculty and staff to submit speaker suggestions anytime. They ask that you include the speaker's name with as much information about the speaker as possible. Also needed are a contact telephone numbers or emails and an estimate of the cost, including speaking and transportation expenses.

On Jan. 15, David Bottoms, a Georgia native, Professor of Creative Writing and English at Georgia State University, author, and 2000 Poet Laureate kicked of the spring Colloquium Series in the Continuing Education Auditorium. His work appears in magazines such as The New Yorker, Harper's, and The Atlantic. His first book, Shooting Rats at the Bibb County Dump, won the 1979 Walt Whitman Award of the Academy of American Poets.

Return to Little Rock is the topic Minnie Jean Brown-Trickey will speak on Monday, Feb. 10 at noon in the Continuing Education Auditorium. Minnie Jean Brown-Trickey was one of nine African-American students who, guarded by armed troops, entered a whites-only high school in 1957. Brown-Trickey continued her fight for Civil Rights and in 1999 she began work as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior in the Clinton Administration. She currently lives in Maryland, where she is working on her autobiography.

The GC Colloquium Series will close on Monday, March 3 at noon with a speaking engagement by Presiding Court Justice Leah Ward Sears. In 1992 she was appointed the first woman and youngest person ever to serve on Georgia's Supreme Court. Justice Sears received her B.S. degree from Cornell University, her J.D. degree from Emory University School of Law, and her LL.M. degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. She is involved in many social and civic organizations in Georgia that focus on issues such as substance abuse, battered women, and child abuse and neglect.
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GC Security: Always On Patrol

By JJ Matthews
Opinions editor
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Last year, the Gainesville College security officers patrolled a total of 30,358 miles, jump-started 452 vehicles and unlocked 210 cars. Statistics only provide numbers, but personality is another story.

With a combined total of 165 years of law enforcement experience, GC security officers do more than just serve and protect.

Whether it be a flat tire, keys locked in a car or the need for directions, security officers at GC are always eager to provide services for students and faculty. “I enjoy helping people, but especially the kids who are trying to get an education,” Richard Thompson, public safety officer, stated. “It helps me sleep good at night.”

Aside from the statistics, all nine of the security officers at GC enjoy helping students. They have all lived exciting lives and are more than happy to share their experiences and good intentions with anyone who requests their services.

Marion Darracott, director of security, has over 2,000 hours of specialized law enforcement-related education including a Certificate of Instruction in the study of Law Enforcement Spanish from the U.S. Department of Treasury. He retired in 1991 from the Gainesville Police Department, as Captain of Detectives.

As a retired U.S. Army counter-intelligence Officer, Thompson isn’t just a security officer at GC. He can also speak four languages, and he is a gifted pianist. Thompson explained that he may retire in six years from being a security officer at GC, but he emphasized that he enjoys being a part of the students’ lives here at GC so much that he might not feel like it when the time comes.

Assistant Public Safety Coordinator Glenn D. Canada was a former captain within the Administrative Services Division of the Hall County Sheriff’s Office. He has been an employee of GC since 1993.

Marion Darracott, director of public safety at GC, directs traffic on Landrum Education Drive. He and the other GC security officers are committed to serving the students, faculty and staff. Each public safety officer has his own interesting story to tell.

Since 1996, Jerry H. Forrester has served GC as a public safety officer. Prior to his employment at GC, Forrester served as a patrol officer, shift captain, and chief of police at the Gainesville County Sheriff’s Office, and then he went on to supervise and train the newly privatized security force at Lake Lanier Islands before his employment at GC as a Public Safety Officer in 1997.

Police Department. After his retirement he became a police officer for Lake Lanier Island’s Authority Police Department. He is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy and has served thousands of hours of law enforcement-related training.

Thomas C. Johnson started out as a deputy sheriff at the Hall County Sheriff’s Office before moving to an administrative position within the Tifton Public Safety Office.

Public Safety Officer Buddy M. Waldrep has been a full-time employee at GC since April 1999. Waldrep has over 38 years of active law enforcement experience and training with the Hall County Sheriff’s Office. After his retirement from the Hall County Sheriff’s Office he served as a volunteer for the Forsyth County Sheriff’s Office, and he is a process server for the state of Georgia.

With over 30 years of law enforcement experience, Public Safety Officer Darrell B. Ivey has been employed at GC since April 2000.

Michael S. Bone became employed as a part-time GC Public Safety Officer in Aug. of 2001 after retiring as a Captain from the State of Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Bone has over 34 combined years of law enforcement background and training.

Glenn Van Brunt has been employed as a part-time public safety officer at GC since 1991. Aside from his current position at GC, Van Brunt is also a full-time security officer at the Northeast Georgia Medical Center and he is a former Florida police officer.

A strong characteristic of the security officers at GC is their compassionate attitudes and the joy that drives them to work each day and to get up and raise the school flag every morning. “Not a day goes by that I don’t meet a student that is unique and has his own set of problems that I am able to make contact with or help, and I enjoy that,” said Darracott. “That’s why I’m here.”

“I enjoy helping people, but especially the kids who are trying to get an education. It helps me sleep good at night.”

- Richard Thompson
SGA Gets Pumped for Spring Semester

By Heather Hodges
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The Student Government Association is gearing up for another busy semester. But the work will have to be done without Cherial Bowers, executive president of SGA. Bowers has left Gainesville College to pursue other interests. "We will miss her because she had a lot to contribute, but we've got members who are active enough to pick up where she left off," said Wendy DeRoche, president of SGA. The organization does not plan to appoint anyone to the position for spring semester.

DeRoche and the other 12 members of SGA were active on and off campus during fall semester. "A big project for us was getting it put together so that SGA was set up for a more successful environment," said DeRoche. This included the formation of several committees within the organization that were designed to better represent the interests of the students.

Collaboration with other GC clubs was another big part of the semester. Working with the diverse range of clubs helped SGA to "better understand where the students were coming from and what they want," said DeRoche. This included involvement in the Black Student Association's chili cook-off, as well as participation in the President's Council, the fall carnival and the fashion show.

Off campus, the organization worked to help the community through programs such as Snowflake Kids and the Heart Walk. "We have really tried to reach out and represent the students well in our community," said DeRoche. On campus, SGA worked hard to push issues that were of high priority to students, such as having on-campus daycare facilities, having a lounge area or benches in Academic II, developing an outdoor lounge area for nonsmokers and improving communication with night students.

"The success of the semester has definitely surpassed my own expectations, which were very high," said DeRoche. SGA expects to maintain its busy schedule and ubiquitous presence on campus this semester. Members will be involved in the organization of Women's History Month activities in March. The organization will work to set up a representative board outside of the SGA office so that students will be more aware of the students who are representing them. SGA is also in the process of building a website for the organization.

Elections for fall semester president and vice president will be held later this semester. "We have a lot of members that can help carry us over to next year," said DeRoche. SGA is always looking for new members who can bring fresh ideas to the organization. For more information on the organization, go by the SGA office in the Student Center or email DeRoche at sga@gc.peachnet.edu.

Student Profile: Kristine Hunter

By Dustonia Call
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Some of us at Gainesville College are lucky enough to live rent-free, unencumbered by the financial worries normally associated with adulthood, free to concentrate on our studies. And then there are the rest of us. You know, the ones who share macaroni and cheese with their three roommates, must work full-time, and are always three hours short of having enough time to finish their day. These are the folks whose idea of a perfect Spring Break collects sweet images of a whole week of getting enough sleep for a change.

Non-traditional student Kristine Hunter is no stranger to the art of juggling family, work and school. Thirty years old and the mother of two children and two stepchildren, she still manages to find the time and motivation to attend classes at GC two days a week maintaining a respectable GPA.

Born and raised in Panama in what was once known as the Canal Zone, Kristine had the unique opportunity to grow up immersed in another culture and fully grasp another language. Fluent in Spanish and a foreign language major, Hunter says, "I'm learning German. Hopefully, one day, I'll be fluent in that, too."

When talking to Hunter, it is apparent that there is a deep fondness for the country she called home for 18 years. Surrounded by her extended family in Panama, with beaches close by and 80 degree weather year-round, she felt at home. Asked how her family ended up in Panama, she weaves an interesting tale.

"My great-grandparents went down there when they were building the canal. My maternal great-grandfather was a carpenter, and he met my great-grandmother down there, who owned a restaurant, and all the workers from the Panama Canal would go in that restaurant...They had kids and they just stayed. I graduated from the same high school as my grandmother...I loved it there—I loved it, loved it! It was paradise!"

Hunter's dad worked for the government while her mother worked for an Army hospital. After President Carter signed the Torrijos-Carter Treaty proclaiming his intention that the canal would be returned to the people of Panama, many of the Americans living in Panama, Hunter's family included, returned to the States. GC is Hunter's second family. She attended technical school to become an EMT and subsequently met her husband, Butch, who is very supportive of her pursuit of a higher education. "My husband sacrifices a lot," says Hunter. "He works two full-time jobs (as a firefighter with Gwinnett County and as a Walton County paramedic) so I can stay home with the kids and concentrate on school."

When Hunter manages to find the time to stay current on her schoolwork, Hunter says, "When he's home," referring to her husband, "I don't open a book—I won't open a book. What I'll do is wait until they're all sleeping, and then I study."

"The most difficult part of juggling so many responsibilities, according to Hunter, is finding enough time for her family. They do schoolwork together daily, and she wants to enroll the younger two in a gymnastics program that encourages parents to participate with their children. Still though, Hunter sighs, "What I regret is sometimes I think I'm not spending enough time with my children. And I try, I really try. That's the hardest part."

In addition to her classes at GC and her devotion to her family, Hunter also works part-time as a dispatcher for Priority EMS and teaches Spanish at her son's preschool, Lanier Academy. She also makes occasionally works as a substitute teacher.

Though Hunter's life stays remarkably busy, as times get hectic she recalls encouragement she received from a class lecture by GC Professor Ray-Lynn Snowden last semester. "She said, 'all of you that juggle families and jobs, you need to keep doing it. It's hard work, but it'll pay off in the end.' And it's true. If you truly want to do it, then you can. That's all there is to it."

Hunter wants to obtain a bachelor's degree and eventually a master's in foreign language. "If I'm not burnt out by my master's, I want to try for my PhD," she says. She'd eventually like to teach on a college level, but says her more immediate career goals include working as an interpreter in the healthcare industry.

Averaging only six hours of sleep most nights, Hunter confides, "Always in the mornings, when I hear that alarm go off, I think, 'I have to for my children.' Really, that's what it all for...They watch you and they see you and they see how important school is. I do it for my children. That's what I do it for."
Three Students Win Carpenter Memorial Scholarship

Due to a lack of scholarship applicants in fall 2002, three nontraditional students were awarded funds this semester.

By Candice Felice
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And The Diane Carpenter Memorial Scholarship goes to...

This semester Gainesville College has awarded the Diane Carpenter Memorial Scholarship to three students: Dustonia Call, Amy Pippin and Kendra Hagg. Due to a lack of applicants during the fall semester of 2002, funds for the fall/spring 2002-2003 terms were combined to help more than one student.

The scholarship was founded and first awarded in January 2002 to Norma Davila. The funds are given as a need-based scholarship for non-traditional students who are not receiving other scholarships, who are U.S. citizens and Georgia residents.

The GC foundation takes contributions year round, and distributes the funds each semester to qualified applicants. The scholarship will be awarded as long as there is money in the fund.

According to Becky Smith, office manager of the GC Counseling and Testing Center, "Diane came to GC as a non-traditional student due to the encouragement from her husband, the late Dr. Arthur Carpenter." After graduating from GC, Diane went on to obtain her Bachelor's Degree from North Georgia College and State University and her Masters from Brenau University.

"The memorial scholarship was set up in Diane's honor because of her exceptional dedication to the students and GC," said Smith. "She was the first person hired for the Academic Advising Center, and considered GC her home away from home."

Diane had always dreamed of going to Italy, and before her death, that dream became a reality. The picture on the scholarship application was taken while she was in that country.

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Does History Really Repeat Itself?
Maybe Not, but it Does Seem to Rhyme

By Leanne Anzola
Staff Writer
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Mark Twain said, “History doesn’t repeat itself, at best it rhymes.” African-Americans have contributed much to our country and to the entire world. Two such men, one from the past and one from the present, have become significant in the shaping of a people who have made their voices proudly heard, admired and respected. Some similarities between the two can be observed.

Langston Hughes
(Poet/Writer)

- Born in Joplin, Missouri
- In the eighth grade, he was already being noticed and acknowledged for his poetry, and would be more so in high school
- He was highly influential in the rise of the Harlem Renaissance
- Though many poets and writers were part of the Harlem Renaissance, Hughes became known as the “Poet Laureate of the Negro Race”
- His rhymes were infused with beats of blues and jazz
- He wrote various volumes of poetry, essays, an autobiography and theatrical works
- Over his lifetime, he accumulated a body of work so rich with language, emotion, culture and rhythm that it is still studied and admired by many today

Cornell “Nelly” Haynes, Jr.
(Rapper/ Songwriter)

- Grew up in St. Louis, Missouri
- While his first passion was playing professional baseball, Nelly began writing rhymes back in high school
- Formed the group St. Lunatics after his high school graduation with fellow classmates
- Though the St. Lunatics rallied for a record deal together, a decision was made for Nelly to go solo—he soon became responsible for placing St. Louis into the coveted hip-hop world
- His rhymes have a contagious beat that is new, fresh, pumping and hardcore
- He wrote various singles which have and will continue to top the charts
**BRIEFS**

**Sign Up For Intramurals**

To sign up for GC intramurals, go to the intramural website and sign up online for one of the February sports: volleyball or flag football. For more information go to http://www.gc.peachnet.edu/students/intramurals/

**Do You Play an Unusual Sport?**

If you, or anyone you know who is affiliated with GC, play an unusual sport or excel in a sport and would like to be featured in the Compass, contact (770) 718-3820 or hhoward@gc.peachnet.edu to set up an appointment.

**Aerobics Classes Begin**

The fitness center is offering aerobics to all GC students and faculty, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-2 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-1:30 p.m. For more information, drop by the fitness center.

**Personal Training Available**

Personal training is available for free to all students and faculty in the Physical Education Building. Working with a trainer is one of the most successful ways to improve your health and fitness. For more information go to www.gc.peachnet.edu/pe/ptc.

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**SPORTS**

**Students Gear Up for Spring Intramurals**

By Natalie Simmons
Sports Editor
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It's my favorite part of school...intramurals. If you are a Gainesville College student and you have never participated in intramurals, then now is the time to begin. Spring intramurals are just now underway and it's not too late to join the fun.

You might be asking yourself, what are intramurals? Intramurals are a group of sports that you and your friends can join to compete with or against other GC students. Even the faculty gets involved and plays. A variety of sports are offered, such as volleyball, flag football, team or 3-on-3 basketball, noodle water polo, doubles tennis, bowling, soccer and softball. As you can see, there is something for everyone to become involved with.

"GC Intramurals really is a truly moving experience," said James Howard, director of intramurals. "It's a fun way to be active with old and new friends." Intramurals are held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from noon to 1:00 p.m.

A lot has changed since Howard began directing the intramural program in fall. "I changed the focus from the elite athletes competing to getting the less active students involved with Gainesville College," said Howard. "I don't use the (student activity) money to send people off to competitions, but to draw in the uninvolved." In the fall of 2001 only 100 students participated in intramurals, but in the fall of 2002 more than 300 students took part.

**NOTICE: Important Rules and Regulations for Flag Football & Volleyball**

(Note: Conduct will be strictly enforced)

**Refresher Rules: Flag Football**

* No steel cleats allowed
* Teams shall have seven players on the field, but may play with five
* Two females are required to be on the field at all times
* Games will begin at noon; forfeit will occur at 12:15 if a team is not on the field
* Two 17-minute halves will be the running time
* Each team is allowed two timeouts; 30 seconds each, 25 seconds to run each play
* All players are eligible to carry the ball
* First downs are at the 20- and 40-yard lines
* Only screen blocking may be used

**New Rules: Volleyball**

* Teams shall consist of six players, but may play with four
* Two female players must be on the court for each team at all times
* Matches will begin at noon; forfeit will occur at 12:15 if a team is not on the court
* Matches are best two out of three games
* Rally point scoring will be used—the team winning a rally scores a point
* When the receiving team wins a rally, it gains a point and the right to serve, and it's players rotate one position clockwise
* Each non-deciding game will be won by the team that first scores 21 points with a two-point advantage
* Deciding games will be won by the team that first scores 15 points with a two-point advantage
* Each team is allowed a maximum of three successive contacts with the ball in order to return the ball to the opponent's area, exception— a block is not considered to be one of the three contacts.
* Contact of the ball may be with any part of the body, but cannot come to rest visibly on the body

Students and faculty who are interested in joining intramurals can sign up as a team or individuals. Just check out the GC website for when to sign up. Look under student resources, and then click on student services, then intramurals. For more information e-mail James Howard at jhoward@gc.peachnet.edu.
When you think of golf, what images come into your mind? Is it 65-year-old retirees in funny pants, smoking cigars and talking about the “good ol’ days” when a coke and a candy bar were only a nickel? Or do you think of the man who changed the image of golf, Tiger Woods?

Since Woods stole the scene in late 1995, golf has become more than just a sport for the old and rich, but a sport for every age to enjoy. “We enjoy the personal challenge of the game,” said Jason White (left), an avid golfer and Gainesville College student.

Andy Blimline and White met two years ago at GC. From there they moved their friendship to the golf course. Along with other GC students, they began playing in Lauderdale tournaments all over North Georgia. Recently placing first at the Scales Creek Scramble, White and Blimline were invited to participate in the Brasstown Valley Shootout. “I always thought golf would just be a hobby for me, but maybe one day it could become a career,” said White.

After graduating from GC, both have plans to enroll at the University of Georgia and audition for the Georgia coligate golf team. “Even if I never get to be as good a Tiger Woods, I will still have a love for the game,” said Blimline.
FHP Puts Health Students On Track

By Michele Hester
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The Future Health Professionals Club (FHP) has a motto, “A Community of Students Helping Students Succeed.”

FHP, whose advisor is Jim Konkelman, assistant professor of chemistry, was started at Gainesville College about five years ago to provide students wishing to enter the career as health professionals with “a helping hand in their future endeavors” and create a social network of pre-medical professionals.

The club helps students promote themselves to higher education facilities through providing academic advisement, directions on when and where to take Pre-Health examinations like the PCAT, VCAT and MCAT, and how to conduct interviews. The club even provides reimbursement for its 30 plus members who spend their own money while making preparations to transfer. This is a great help because medical exams cost around $70 each time a student has to take one, then there are parking fees and meals and transportation to and from testing facilities that must be paid for.

Lexie Turner, FHP’s vice president and a Pre-Pharmacy student in her last semester at GC said, “I was planning to transfer to UGA in the fall. Then through FHP, I found out Mercer University had a School of Pharmacy. I had thought UGA was the only one in this area. Also, I would never have known about college open houses, or interviews, or even who to talk to or where to go to take tests without FHP. The club also helped with choosing the right classes to take for my major.”

While FHP focuses a great deal on its members, another main concern FHP concentrates on is the community. The club “works to increase community awareness about health-related issues and concerns.”

Feb. 1 was the kickoff of FHP’s Annual Lollipop fundraiser. Last year FHP collected $1,600 from their hand-made lollipops. They donated $1,000 to the American Cancer Societies’ Relay for Life and $600 to needy families in Hall County. The benefits from this year’s Lollipop fundraiser will be split between Relay for Life and helping to reimburse FHP members for costs associated with applying to college.

Another major contribution will be made by FHP at GC the week before Easter. April 14 through 18 is National STD Week. To raise awareness FHP will distribute information, as well as hang posters throughout the campus. The posters will contain information students can gather to register to win prizes for “Being Aware” from FHP. Also, look for the Easter Bunny to be hopping through the Student Center and passing out eggs filled with info on Thursday, April 17 and Friday, April 18.

FHP meets the first and third Fridays of each month at noon in Room 203, on the second floor of the Science Building. Free lunch is served at every meeting and anyone is welcome.

SIFE Celebrates Free Market Economics

By April Landry
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SIFE, Students In Free Enterprise, plans to teach some Junior Achievement classes and travel to Washington D.C. during Free Market Economics Month in March.

They will also be preparing for the Regional Students in Free Enterprise Competition to be held in Atlanta on April 7, 2003.

“The Gainesville College SIFE team has been extremely busy during the Fall Semester and we plan to keep busy during the spring,” says advisor Katie Simmons. “We recently served as Counselors for the American Business Merit badge and hosted the Winter Advance-o-rama for 250+ Scouts on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003.”

Students in Free Enterprise teams are active on 650 college campuses in 23 countries. The SIFE team accepts new members at anytime, but while SIFE has ongoing planning for projects and events, the best way to stay informed on upcoming projects is by attending their weekly meetings. GC SIFE’s meetings are held at 12:00 p.m. Fridays in Academic III, Room 186 on the Gainesville College campus. Each meeting is packed full of new ideas presented by students, advisors and board members alike by teaching others to achieve their dreams through free enterprise.

To learn more about SIFE and to see pictures from their activities, visit their team under Students/Clubs and Organizations on the GC website, or contact Katie Simmons at ksimmons@gc.peachnet.edu. Learn more about SIFE International at www.sife.org. Come join the fun!
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LIVE it UP! College Life Should Be!

The way College Life Should Be!
50 Things To Do This Spring Break that Won't Break Your Wallet

1. Go fishing.
2. Play on a playground.
3. Visit a fish market.
4. Play in the toy aisle at a large store.
5. Go to the mountains and play in the river.
6. Visit prospective in-state colleges; make sure to check out the nightlife.
7. Go boating or watch fighter planes from the shore. Slip, swim, or water ski.
8. Get a complimentary makeover at a cosmetics counter.
9. Have a picnic.
10. Design your dream car. If you can't afford them, at least you can pretend for a few hard minutes.
11. Redecorate a room in your house. If you can't afford anything drastic, invest in new bedding. Ask a close friend to help.
12. Make pizza with your friends. Allow each person to have his/her own section with whatever toppings he or she desires. Eat your brave friend's pineapple barbecue.
13. Go out to dinner with friends and pretend that it's someone's birthday. Make sure to bring extra loot when they bring out the cake.
14. Go horseback riding.
16. Play children's board games, but do allow it. 17. Plant a garden or a window box. It will bring a summer-time feel to your home.
18. Go shopping! If you can't be at the beach, at least you can prepare to look good when summer finally rolls around.
19. Check your local newspaper for free or inexpensive concerts, plays, art exhibits and fairs.
20. Go to the zoo.
21. Run through gymnastics in your own neighborhood. But make sure that there is no fertilizer being spread with it first.
22. Wash your car.
23. Go tubing down the river with a large group of friends. Make sure that you bring a cooler and something to tie the tubes and cooler together.
24. Burn your friends' sand if they are at the beach. Make sure to take lots of photos for blackmail.
25. Create a scrapbook of your favorite photos.
26. Make sand castles. Even if you aren't at the beach, buy a bag of sand and create your own sandbox. Just add a little water.
27. Go camping, even if it is just in your backyard. Have a campfire and roast marshmallows.
28. Go to a petting zoo and play with the puppies or kittens.
29. Have a bonfire.
30. People-watch at a little town festival or another culturally diverse area.
31. Fly a kite.
32. Read a book that you've been meaning to read.
33. Play Frisbee. To snow, in extra T-shirts. Wait until midnight and play with a flashlight ball. Pick or tackle is up to you.
34. Buy a paddle board and go on your own trip. Break out a Bob Marley or Jimmy Buffet CD to create a summertime atmosphere. Slip on a pair of sandals with a little umbrella hat.
35. Get a massage. If you can't find a professional who can do it inexpensively, suggest that you and your significant other exchange massages. Search the Internet for professional tips.
36. Have a gun fight. Water gun, that is.
37. Listen to multiple radio stations and try to win the contests.
38. Rent the movies that you weren't able to see in the theater due to your busy schedule.
39. Take a relaxing bubble bath. Put on your favorite CD.
40. Play paintball.
41. Go to the gym and catch up on that working out that you've been putting off all semester. You will be glad when bathing suit season rolls.
42. Go to a petting zoo. Take a younger sibling, cousin, niece or nephew.
43. Give yourself a manicure and pedicure if you aren't an expert, ask a friend to help.
44. Play Frisbee with your friends or your dog.
45. Hold a rehersal in your yard and listen to "the ocean".
46. Go hiking in the mountains or in the woods near your house.
47. Be a member of the studio audience for an Atlanta-based television show.
48. Go to an arena football game. Be sure to wear your black and blue.
49. Visit the Red Baron or the Great Gatsby to look at antiques—everything from cars to juke boxes. Try to sit in on an auction.
50. Find a friend with a house at the beach!
Quiz: What's Your Spring Break Style?

1. Throughout the week you feel:
   a. Too busy! Between school, work and everything else, you never seem to have a moment to yourself.
   b. Busy, but you can usually find time for yourself when you need it.
   c. Relaxed. You have few commitments and you are not generally stressed about school or work.

2. On weekends, you usually:
   a. Hang out with the same people every weekend.
   b. Stay at home, work on assignments, watch TV, and sleep.
   c. Weekends? I party all week long!

3. You feel most comfortable:
   a. Near home, you know. Where everybody knows your name.
   b. Anywhere! You make friends wherever you go.
   c. With friends, but you make friends quickly and easily.

4. Your extra money is:
   a. Nonexistent! You have no spare money.
   b. Determined on a week-to-week basis. You generally have enough money for going out on weekends, but you have bills to pay.
   c. Abundant. You have your sources for money.

5. Your close friends would describe you as:
   a. So much fun, but soooo crazy!
   b. Hard to get in touch with. You are always busy.
   c. A good friend—caring, fun, honest and dependable.

6. After meeting you, most people would say you are:
   a. Shy and quiet.
   b. Loud and wild.
   c. Nice and friendly.

7. Your free time is best spent:
   a. Working on school and work assignments.
   b. Party time!
   c. Balancing your time between your family, your job, your friends and school.

8. Your dream home would be:
   a. In a big city, or at least near one.
   b. At the beach!
   c. In the country or in the mountains.

9. On a rainy day, you are usually:
   a. Bored! You can never find anything to do.
   b. Resourceful—you can always find something spontaneous to do.
   c. Able to find something to do between work, school and other obligations.

10. With a new opportunity or a new experience you:
    a. Make the best of it. You will try just about anything—except skiing, but you are usually not the one to initiate it.
    b. Run. You don’t like change.
    c. Take it and run with it. You will try anything at least once, but usually two or three times.

---

Our Top 10 Spring Break Destinations

1. Daytona Beach, FL
2. New York City, NY
3. Amsterdam, Holland
4. Panama City, FL
5. Park City, UT
6. Cancun, Mexico
7. Ibiza, Spain
8. San Juan, Puerto Rico
9. New Orleans, LA

And the #1 Spring Break Destination for 2003 is... Las Vegas, Nevada.
By Heather Daniels
Staff Writer
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If you are looking for some fun and hilarious entertainment this semester, take a look at what the Gainesville Theatre Alliance has going on. They will be performing an adaptation of "Servant of Two Masters," an 18th century Italian "commedia dell'arte" written by Carlo Goldoni.

All in attendance remember the beautiful performance they put on last semester in "Ragtime," but where "Ragtime" was so powerful and moving, "Servant of Two Masters" will be outrageously funny.

Jim Hammond and his wife, Gay, have rewritten the original play to make it even more hilarious than the original. Jim Hammond, who has been with GTA for 13 years, says, "I don't want this to be an old, stuffy museum piece. I want the audience to be rolling on the floor laughing throughout the entire production."

Francine Dibben of GTA gave a brief description of their upcoming production. She says that "Servant of Two Masters" is about a "hungry and hopelessly fraught servant" Truffaldino, who is first hired by Beatrice Rasponi, disguised as her brother to collect a dowry from the rich but miserly Mr. Pantalone. Truffaldino's other master turns out to be none other than Beatrice's fiancé, Florindo who is a fugitive from Turin where he has just duelled and killed Beatrice's brother. "Servant of Two Masters" will be a hilarious production wrought with crazy scenes and crazy characters.

If you are interested in seeing this amazingly funny GTA performance there will be quite a few opportunities lined up for you in February. There will be free student performances for "Servant of Two Masters" on Monday, Feb. 10, Wednesday, Feb. 12, Thursday, Feb. 13, Tuesday, Feb. 18 and Wednesday, Feb. 19.

If you are unable to make those days the play will be running Feb. 11-23. Curtain is 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays; 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets go on sale Jan. 27 and may be purchased by calling (770) 718-3624 or online at www.gainesvilletheatrealliance.org.

There will also be a special audio-described performance for sight-impaired audiences on Sunday, February 23 at 1:30pm. 25 complimentary tickets have been set aside for those interested.

If this GTA performance even remotely interests you, you are encouraged to attend. It will be a show to remember.

'Carscapes' Crashes

By Tony Smith
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Imagine this: four oversize snapshots in a small art gallery that I drove one hour to see. What a disappointment! Though the technical aspect, the use of line and grain, of Vivian Liddell's photography entitled "Carscapes" works well, conceptually her ideas are lacking. While she tries to capture a fleeting moment in time, she instead creates a moment you wish to flee.

Luckily, where "Carscapes" crashed, "L'Object Sonore" rose from the wreckage in the adjacent room of the Eyedrum Art Gallery. Although unopened, I had the privilege to see the construction of the exhibit. The exhibit consisted of kinetic sculptures working aesthetically with the dual purpose of creating music. To describe the pieces would be an injustice to the artwork.

The Eyedrum is, refreshingly, a non-profit organization, which hosts an array of events to encourage to the development of an interdisciplinary approach to the arts. The Eyedrum creates a hub for contemporary art, music and film, while also holding lectures to educate on the arts. As an unofficial participant in the Downtown Arts Coalition's monthly "First Thursdays" Art Walk, the Eyedrum holds "Improvisation Night" every "First Thursday" of the month to discover new talent through an open mic.

"Carscapes" runs through Feb. 1, while "L'Object Sonore" runs through Feb. 23. For more information on the Eyedrum call (404) 522-0655 or write them at Eyedrum, Suite 8, 290 MLK Jr. Dr. SE, Atlanta, GA 30312. To contact through email go to their homepage at www.eyedrum.org.
George Harrison's 'Brainwashed'
Is a Lovely Final Chapter to His Life

By Douglas Young
Associate Professor
of Political Science and History

It is a bittersweet joy to write what a beautiful work of art is George Harrison's last CD. Wonderful because the late Beatle so neatly wrapped up his recording career with one of his best contributions, and sad because it marks the too-early end of a great chapter in popular music.

Thankfully, Beatle George is anything but bemoaning his terminal cancer on this record. In fact, it is perhaps his most positive, uplifting lyrical statement: full of love, humor, faith in God and a satisfaction that he had weathered terrible storms but steered his ship into port. These themes are conveyed without any of the preachiness that marred a couple of his seventies albums.

Indeed, he sports some of his most sublime, rhythmic lyrics set to many of his most intoxicating melodies, making “Brainwashed” a most fitting final entry in recorded Harrisonia.

The CD was produced by Harrison, his son Dhani, and fellow Traveling Wilbury and former Electric Light Orchestra founder, Jeff Lynne, who perform a variety of guitars and keyboard instruments on virtually every track. The closest CD to compare “Brainwashed” to is George’s last release, 1987’s “Cloud Nine,” also produced by Lynne. But “Brainwashed” doesn’t echo the ELO sound as the delightful “Cloud Nine” occasionally did. Only his 1970 masterpiece, “All Things Must Pass,” is superior.

Rounding out the “Brainwashed” players are the usual suspects. Jim Keltner, who performed with George on John Lennon’s “Imagine” LP and was another Wilbury, does drums, and Ray Cooper, a “Cloud Nine” veteran famous for his recordings with Elton John, plays percussion.

But Harrison’s gorgeous guitar work sends the album soaring. His legendary slide guitar is just sumptuous, and innovations on the banjulele, ukelele and acoustic guitars are likewise delightful.

The CD opens with “Any Road,” a very catchy, fast-paced folky number featuring a beautiful Byrdsy blend of George and Dhani’s acoustic, electric, and slide guitars interwoven with a banjulele. Sung in a style reminiscent of Bob Dylan’s “Subterranean Homesick Blues,” the tune tells how he’s forever searching for something down various paths when “the way out is in” and “If you don’t know where you’re going, any road will take you there.”

“P2 Vatican Blues” has Hindu Harrison poking fun at Catholic Church corruption set to a perky, rocking beat. But, like his Monty Python buddies, George’s comedy is satirical, not nasty. This song also showcases his more mature singing talents. Whereas in the past he was sometimes monotoneish, on “Brainwashed” his voice is full of inflections and, amazingly, stronger than ever.

“Pisces Fish” is a fine leisurely tune whose lyrics contrast the crazy Beatle days with his slower post-1970 life: “Some times my life it seems like fiction! Some of the days it’s really quite serene! / I’m a living proof of all life’s contradictions / One half’s going where the other half’s just been.”

“Looking for My Life” and “Rising Sun” mine many Harrison’s preeminent theme, the need to find spiritual enlightenment in a dangerous world deluded by bread-and-circus weapons of mass distraction. But, unlike many religious singers and befitting his non-proselytizing Hindu conception of the divine being within, George doesn’t fall prey to evangelical stridency: “On the avenue of sinners I have been employed / Working there ’til I was near destroyed / I was almost a statistic inside a doctor’s case / When I heard the messenger from inner space.”

“Marwa Blues” is Harrison’s most soothing, hypnotic instrumental ever. A captivating slide guitar is serenely orchestrated with many strings, keyboards, and percussion. It’s a real gem.

Refreshingly, this is the rare CD on which every cut is enticing. “Stuck Inside a Cloud” and “Run So Far” exemplify how consistently tuneful and rewarding this record is. Harrison’s cute rendering of the Hoagy Carmichael classic, “Devil in the Deep Blue Sea,” showcases the sense of fun that permeates the collection. Even the bluesy “Rocking Chair in Hawaii” is wry.

The closing title track absolutely encapsulates the essence of George Harrison. This esquisite rocker sums up the artist’s views of how misled we are by so many institutions and how critical it is that we embrace the peace that is within ourselves. The song’s instrumental apex is a moment of sheer aural transcendence that never fails to give me goose bumps. Harrison ultimately closes with a Hindu chant and gives the comforting impression of a man who had found contentment.

How touching that the liner notes thank his surviving Beatles brothers, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, with whom he patched up their squabbles “all those years ago.” Whether or not you’re a Beatles fan, “Brainwashed” is a most rewarding record for anyone who treasures strong melodies, thoughtful lyrics, and creative, first-class instrumentation. God bless you, George.
Buick 8 Drives it Home

By Heather Daniels
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Stephen King’s *From a Buick 8* is probably one of the strangest novels I have ever read. King creates a bizarre story with a crazy plot and practically every chapter is written in a different person’s voice. It was a unique way of writing. I also must say, though, that it was one of the best novels I have ever read. But then, what do you expect from Stephen King, the horror novelist of the 20th century? I have only read a handful of his books, but I have yet to be disappointed.

*From a Buick 8* is a story within a story. The characters of the novel are telling a young man, Nick, about the past. We start off with the present and about every other chapter switches to the past. In the beginning of this novel we learn that Nick’s father has recently died in the line of duty; he was a cop for the Pennsylvania State Police. To keep his father’s memory alive, Nick starts to hang out at the police station, helping out with odd jobs. Then one day he stumbles upon an old Buick in a shed. He is very curious about the car and seeks out the police chief to ask him about it. Sandy, the police chief, decides to tell Nick all about the car because it was a big part of Nick’s father’s past. He hopes to give Nick some closure. And this is where the strange and bizarre story comes in. The Buick is like no other Buick anybody has ever seen. It has all sorts of strange things on it that just don’t make any sense to the people who found it. And strange things happen around this car: people go missing, weird non-earth-like things appear, and what’s with the strange light shows? Where did this Buick actually come from? No one knows.

This is not your stereotypical horror or sci-fi story. There’s no suspense, no murderer, no alien from another planet trying to take over the world (or just plain blow it up). This novel is basically a group of people telling a story. Towards the end of the book there is one suspenseful scene that keeps you turning the pages hoping that everything turns out okay, but that is basically all.

I’m not saying this isn’t a good book; in fact, I think it’s great. It is such a creative work of writing that I am in awe over it. But at the same time, there is no real ending. No enemy was defeated. There’s the story, the one suspenseful scene and then the conclusion.

Nick wanted answers from his father’s old coworkers and friends, and they could give him none. They couldn’t give him a straight answer because they didn’t know the answers themselves. And that to me reflects on the book itself. You expect to get a big ending where all your questions are answered so that you will be able to understand some of the things you read. But you don’t get any of that, just like Nick didn’t. The book leaves you guessing in the end, not hanging.

So when I say there is no real ending, there isn’t, but the ending that it does have fits perfectly with the story. I highly recommend you read this book if you are into the

Looking for the Zipper

By Matt Lewis
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Now that the furor surrounding the December release of *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* has abated somewhat, I’ve been considering the incredible computer graphics effects in the film. I have never before seen a digital character as fully realized as Gollum, not even in the completely CG film *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*. But as impressed as I am by the CG, I find myself of two minds regarding it.

There is no doubt that we are well into a totally new era of special effects. From *Spider-Man* to *The Matrix Reloaded*, CG effects have become de rigueur in genre film, but I find myself asking: Is this necessarily a good thing?

If you’re like me, special effects-laden films have been a big part of your life. I’ve been a fan of genre film since I was first able to reach the channel knob on the TV (yes, knob. It was a long time ago). I was weaned on a steady diet of Godzilla, *Star Wars*, and Ray Harryhausen films, and later on, slasher and horror movies. Anyway, the one thing that drew me to all these is the special effects: the physical special effects. There is, I find, an artistry to being able to create a physical effect in a film and make it work, whether it’s a stop-motion skeleton or Kevin Bacon getting an arrow through the neck. And part of the fun of such movies is what I call “looking for the zipper.” It’s rather like watching a stage magician. Part of the attraction is trying to figure out how the illusion is done. “Looking for the zipper” on a monster suit in a movie holds the same attraction for me. And therein lies the problem with CG effects.

Now, far be it from me to decry the talent of CG effects people. The levels of realism that can be attained are astounding, and the beauty of some of their work is mind-boggling. But there is a certain “plastic”, almost hyper-real look to CG effects that a physical effect, no matter how crude, bests by dint of its sheer physicality. I guess it comes down to the fact that, although an artist is required for the preproduction art for a CG effect, that’s where the artistry seems to end. Once an effect is digitized, anyone can manipulate it, move it, make it talk, whatever. With a physical effect, on the other hand, the artistic talent required to produce it “follows through” the entire production. Take any physical effects artists, from Willis O’Brien and Ray Harryhausen to Tom Savini, Screaming Mad George or Greg Nicotero; all of them made working, movable pieces of physically existing artwork. I have in fact had the pleasure of listening to a lecture by Savini, and the rush of being able to actually handle real props and effect pieces from *Day of the Dead*, *Tales from the Darkside* and *Friday the 13th* is something I’ll never forget. I’ve actually held Fluffy, the crate monster from *Creepshow*, in my hands—felt it, looked at it, studied it—and that’s something I’ll never be able to do with Gollum.

Interestingly, for all their perceived technical know-how, it’s the Japanese who hang on most tightly to physical SFX. The ongoing popularity of *sentai*, or “Power Ranger” shows, which rely heavily on actors in foam latex suits, is mostly the reason for this. But even the big-budget cinema in Japan still uses physical FX. The latest Toho Studios epic *Gojira tai Mekkagojira* is laden with digital effects, but Godzilla and Mechagodzilla are still guys in costumes. The zipper may be Velcro these days, and it’s considerably better hidden, but in the digitized, computerized, (and slightly soulless) era of cinema I find myself in, it’s somehow comforting to know it’s still there.


The Coffee Shop of Horrors!

By Jillian Huffman
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Who would have thought that a shop full of horrors could manage to be relaxing as well? The Coffee Shop of Horrors, located in downtown Gainesville, combines the genre of horror with delectable beverages and treats meant for pleasure and relaxation. The coffee shop’s ensemble of gothic relics not only entices current fans of horror, it also intrigues anyone who enjoys a little spook or Halloween fun. Those of you who hold Halloween above any other holiday will especially enjoy what the cafe has to offer.

The menu doesn’t have a vast array of foods, but a choice of special quiches can always be found. The quiches on the day I went were shrimp and scallion or feta and spinach. I was lucky enough to try them both, and I must say (at the risk of my aunt finding out), that they were the best quiches I’ve ever had. There are also sandwiches served on croissants for those who aren’t partial to quiche.

Pies, cakes and warm beverages are the actual main course at Coffee Shop of Horrors. The chai tastes like smooth pumpkin pie and powdered hot chocolate doesn’t hold a match to the sweetness of their homemade version. Italian soda is available if you are not in the mood for something warm. It was hard choosing between the rum cake, cheesecake and the many other cakes and pastries, but I made the right choice with the blackberry pie. Made from scratch, the berries were so plump and ripe that they literally, squirting out a bouquet of juice, melted right in my mouth. It was absolutely delicious.

The Coffee Shop of Horrors miraculously turns Halloween motif into a comfortable atmosphere. The walls display various horror pictures and portraits of scary stars with, almost certainly false, autographs on them. Black iron chairs prove to be perfect for the intended atmosphere. There are two abstract art works which hang side by side, resembling a model out of Beetlejuice. My favorite décor was the dark painting on the ceiling—so look up when you go in there, otherwise you will miss it. Towards the back is a little shop filled with scary novels, horror comics and figurines like Frankenstein. One could say it’s like a candy shop for the horror rat packer.

Overall, the Coffee Shop of Horrors is definitely worth a visit. Unlike the higher prices one might find at a more corporate coffee shop, let’s say Starbucks for example, a friend and I had a satisfying little meal for a reasonable fare of about $10. Not only was the staff extremely friendly, but the entire aura of the place feels relaxed.

The Coffee Shop of Horrors is a work in progress, but definitely displays much promise. They currently play host to chess nights and they have a screening room upstairs that plays horror films upon request. The screening room has the interior of a living room, but perhaps that only adds to the comfort.

Hours are 7 a.m.-11 p.m., weekdays and Saturday. As everyone needs a break, they are closed on Sundays. Check this place out.

Spring Break Music That Rocks!

By Leanne Anzola
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Whether your idea of ultimate Spring Break behavior is to chill with friends, embark on a road trip, or party ‘til the wee hours, the music of Good Charlotte, Avril Lavigne and Jimmy Eat World will accompany your leisure time perfectly.

Good Charlotte’s The Young and the Hopeless signifies the importance of independence, and overcoming the pressures that come along with growing up. “Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous” has already nabbed hours of radio play. “The Anthem” points out the magnetic pull of the in crowd and that living a carbon-copy kind of life should not blind one’s own unique endeavors, whatever they may be. A track titled “Girls and Boys,” generates an undeniable 80’s vibe. With ultra-hip lyrics like “the girls with bodies like the boys with Ferraris,” the song rallies more negativity toward the materialistic turn our society is taking. On a lighter note, “Say Anything” is a catchy song reminiscent of first crushes and relationships that are left at a standout. The album ends with the appropriately titled and inspirational song, “Movin’ On.” As a whole, this album reminds you that life may hit you unexpectedly, but only for the good.

Avril Lavigne has sparked into stardom with her rocking twist of femininity. Her debut album, Let Go, begins with the angry and raging “Losing Grip,” which sets the tone for an album drenched with intimate lyrics and powerful vocals. Once you are done rocking to “Complicated” and “Sk8er Boi,” she slows it down in “I’m With You.” This song captures the feelings of loneliness and sadness we all go through during the darkest of nights. “Unwanted” strikes the chords of frustration that come along with rejection, an occurrence all too familiar if you’ve been broken-hearted. The instantly attractive song “Anything But Ordinary” ignites a rush for individuality and the fulfillment of different experiences. The force of this song lies in its lyrics: “to walk within the lines would make my life so boring...so knock me off my feet.” Undoubtedly cute is “Things I’ll Never Say.” If shyness and feelings of wrongness surround you whenever that certain someone comes close, this song will speak to your heart and mind unlike any other.

When absence from school entitles students the right to refrain from higher education, Jimmy Eat World’s self-titled album cannot help but to nudge the mind into stimulation through rock education. Since “The Middle” and “Sweetness” surfaced the sound waves a while back, Jimmy Eat World has gained much deserved appreciation for their up-beat songs, conversational lyrics, and universal appeal. The drum-pounding opening of “A Praise Chorus” elicits the importance of living without regret and reveling in the happiness you have gathered. Jim Adkins’ imaginative and fun vocals are delivered with the certainty of a long-time friend. As displayed in “Your House,” you truly believe he is unloading a part of his heart for all to learn from and find comfort in. Angelic and touching, is the song “Hear You Me.” The loss of a loved one propels this ballad of remembrance and untold truths. “Get It Faster,” however, lures you in with an eerie introduction of sci-fi sound effects and then pulsatizes with a rocking beat unique to this band and their message.

Rock to the splendor of Charlotte, Avril and Jimmy this Spring Break and you might even learn something!
AVP2: Diamond in the Rough

By John Furst
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I love video games, and I've seen my share of classics and crap.
My favorite genres are role-playing, first person shooters, and good old classic platform style games. For several years now, ever since Diablo, I've been adventuring most of my gaming to the computer. I like the fact that I could play anywhere as long as I had a modem and the time. A good genre to play online is the first-person shooter. Quake, Unreal, Half-Life and Counterstrike are all excellent games in this field, but sometimes a gem of a game can slip through the cracks of popularity and onto the shelf of obscurity. Alien vs. Predator 2 is one of these gems.
Now I had said earlier that FPS's are favorites of mine. While all of them may very well have good single player modes, people buy them mostly for the multiplayer aspect. At times my aim is less than perfect. As a matter of fact, there are times when I couldn't even hit water if I fell out of a boat. Alien vs. Predator 2 eliminates that problem. You can play as three different species: Alien, Predator or Marine. Each species has four characters you can choose from. For example, if I wanted to play as a Predator, I could choose to be a Regular, Assault, Heavy, or Light Predator. This adds variety to each player. I do well with the Light Predator and the Praetorian Alien because I don't have to use guns.
Each class has a strength and weakness against another class, much like rock, paper and scissors. The aliens are straight up melee, using teeth, tail and claws. This might seem like a real challenge against a gaintine gun-toting marine, or a cloaked Predator, but the Alien is surprisingly well equipped for this. In addition to being able to jump higher than a flea on steroids, they have very good armor, enough to get you close to an enemy even after being hit multiple times. The alien is also black and can hide very easily in the darkness to pounce on those unlucky enough to pass by. Predator cloaking is worthless against an Alien because Aliens can detect you just as easily.
The Predator is not one to mess with either. Besides having some very stylish dreadlocks, the predator's facemask is able to detect the heat signature of humans, aliens and other predators. This is crucial because if you wouldn't be able to home your weapons in on the enemy to get perfect shots every time. If you're skilled enough, though, you really don't need this. The predator also has a cloaking ability, making them undetectable by humans. The predator's arsenal of weapons, besides its sweet claw attack, is enough to bring down any alien or human with just a couple of shots. When played well, the predator can really be the perfect hunter.
The marine is not to be beaten, though. He has an arsenal of weapons that would make any gamer proud to be a soldier. I've never seen more weapons for one person in a FPS before. Alongside his mother-of-all-arsenals, the marine comes equipped with a radar that detects movement and distance. So even though you may not be able to see the predator or alien, shooting in the general area with a big enough gun or missile will get them running and thinking twice about hunting the well equipped marine.
Graphically, the twenty-one stages are beautiful, dark and future-industrial. The game plays extremely well with accurate crosshairs and smooth controls. There are a lot of buttons to memorize because each class is full of special abilities they can do and a hot key for each. Ambient sounds like dripping blood, huge generators, human screams and Alien shrieks add to the atmosphere of the single player version. If you're a Team Fortress, Red Faction or Counterstrike fan, or really enjoyed the Predator and Alien movies, this game is right up your alley. I give it 5 out of 5.

Carrington Park
Luxury Apartment Homes

Student Move-In Special!

Brand New Minutes from Lake Lanier!

Resort Living at it's finest!

A private haven in a captivating setting with a flair all it's own. A place where you can feel completely at home and where all the comforts are at your fingertips. That's the allure of Carrington Park at Lanier. You feel it the first time you enter our gates.

Features/Amenities:
Fastest High-Speed Internet Access in Gainesville
Luxury 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Floor Plans
Controlled Entry Access
9ft Ceilings w/ Crown Molding
Gourmet Kitchens
Vaulted Ceilings w/ Fireplaces*
Garden Tubs* / Powder Room*
Monitored Alarms
Sparkling Pool w/ Fountain
Lighted Tennis Courts
State-of-the-art Fitness Center
Executive Business Center
Children's Playroom
Covered Auto Care Center
Pets are Welcome
*In Selected Homes

Directions:
From I-95, exit onto 885 to exit 22, HWY 53 & left 5½ miles. GA 480, exit 17. Right on Gainesville/Rte. 380, for 7½ miles. Right on HWY 53, for 7 miles. Pass the Gainesville Marina, we are on the right.
Tuesday, February 4, Lanier A and B, Showings: 11am, 12 noon, 1pm and 2pm
* Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks
Bring your lunch and enjoy this video about Rosa Parks' courageous action that led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott (1955-56) and started the movement that ended segregation in the U.S.

Wednesday, February 5, Academic III, room 139
* Eyes on the Prize
Video segment and discussion led by Theresa Dove-Waters focusing on upcoming Colloquium speaker Minnijean Brown-Trickey, one of the Little Rock Nine who integrated Central High School under the protection of the National Guard.

Showings: Tuesday, February 11, 11am, 2pm. CE Auditorium 108; Friday, February 14, 11am. CE Auditorium 108
* Bamboozled
Spike Lee's controversial and provocative film that raises a variety of issues which will be discussed in a forum moderated by Andrew McAlister on February 24. Rated R for language and sexuality.

Wednesday, February 12, 12 noon, Ed Cabell Theatre
* Trace of African-American History
Come and experience the re-enactment of black history performed by the Black Student Association, from Africa's Niger River to the cottonfields of America.

Wednesday, February 12, 4pm, CE Auditorium 108
* Affirmative Action Forum
Featuring WSB-radio talk show host Royal Marshall as guest panelist, GC President Martha T. Nesbitt, and others in a discussion about today's hot topic.

Monday, February 17, 12:00 noon, Student Center Stage
* Lea
Singer/songwriter Lea performs her original songs in a style that ranges from rockabilly to gospel and rhythm and blues. Sponsored by Campus Activities Board.

Wednesday, February 19, 12:00 noon, Student Center
* Music Video Bingo Game Show
Music trivia featuring black recording artists. Win cash and prizes! Sponsored by Campus Activities Board.

Monday, February 24, 11:30am-1pm, Lanier A & B
* Bamboozled Forum
Gainesville College professor Andrew McAlister moderates a panel discussion about Spike Lee's provocative film Bamboozled, and the many issues that it raises.

Tuesday, February 25, 11:30am, Student Center Stage
* Step Show
Fancy hand and foot work performed by GC Black Student Association and the Northeast Georgia Stompers of Hall County. You will get a taste of the creative moves—a tradition with sororities and fraternities at historically black colleges and universities across the country.

Tuesday, February 25, 12:30pm, Lanier A & B
* Travis Hunter
Travis Hunter is the bestselling author of Married but Still Looking and The Hearts of Men as well as a songwriter and motivational speaker. He lives in an Atlanta suburb with his son, Rashaad. He is the founder of The Hearts of Men Foundation, through which he mentors underprivileged children. He is currently working on his third novel, Trouble Man.

Friday, February 28, 12 noon, CE room 109-110
* Unsung Heroes Reception
Come and honor nominees of the Unsung Heroes Black History Month Project: people who are making Black History today by teaching, building, and leading our community.
Aquarius:
The Water Bearer
Jan. 21 to Feb. 19
Love is what keeps us together, but glue is fun to play with. Batter your lover with a helping of Elmer's (Glue, that is). Guys named Elmer can also be added to this skit.) and when it dries you can both have fun as you slowly peel it off of each other. Eating dried glue is only suggested for fetish-freaks, not if you're just freaky-deeky.

Taurus:
The Bull
April 21 to May 21
Tired of kissing your lover's ass to have them treat you in a mediocre fashion? You can always have sex with their best friend(s) to spice things up a little. And when they get upset tell them, "I did it for us, baby."

Libra:
The Scales
Sept. 24 to Oct. 23
February is a great time to advertise yourself as the great person you are. Create an "I'm So Cool" club and announce it with an ad in the paper and a launching of fireworks you bought at a convenience store in July. You are too cool for school, killer.

Scorpio:
The Scorpion
Oct. 22 to Nov. 22
Bitter? Depressed? Voodoo will make it better! Pins and needles and locks of hair, oh my! Hurry now while products last. Now available in pastel pain.

Virgo:
The Virgin
Aug. 23 to Sept. 23
The person you have been seeing is only after you for your chastity, or your FREAKNASTY. You people are great heartbreakers, so get to it this V-Day! Be tactful, and remember, "No Valentine" means "No spending money!" Yea!

Cancer:
The Crab
June 22 to July 22
If you people find time to "do a little dance" this month, I'm going to shoot myself. The Cancerians I know are always pushing themselves at something when they should be pushing their bodies against other people.

Pisces:
The Fish
Feb. 20 to March 20
There are millions of fish in the sea, which also means there are millions of STDs. Contrary to what your parents told you, these are not the times for FREE-LOVIN', these are the times to be DOUBLE-GLOVIN'. Fish smart, smart...fish...
Brought to you by Johnson & Johnson.

Sagittarius:
The Archer
Nov. 23 to Dec. 21
When you walk into class and see someone dart a look at you while they are laughing, and then grab the person next to you and point in your direction while they both begin to laugh, do you think they are talking about you? Well, not everything revolves around you, Big Head.

Leo:
The Lion
July 23 to Aug. 22
Gaa-err! Like dominance? Of course you do, silly. Bring a strong whip to school and let people cower beneath your dominance! They might cry with the first lash, but strangers will get used to it, especially if you talk really dirty (no horse in the mud jokes).

Capricorn:
The Goat
Dec. 22 to Jan. 20
Everyone wants you. I want you. He wants you; so does she. That dog was drooling in your direction. The microwave didn't burn your food today, I think it's horny. Who says you can't please everyone? Me first! Me first!
The Misadventures of Johnny Laker

Comic Writer: Drew Sherwood
Comic Artist: Erin Armstrong
GC Needs Daycare Facilities

Since last semester what to do with the college budget has been a hot topic of conversation on campus. Some people feel there should be more scholarship money for students. Some people feel that the parking problem should be remedied. While Compass staff members whole-heartedly agree that these suggestions should be considered, we also have another one to throw into the hat that would be beneficial to students as well as faculty and staff: on-campus childcare.

Child care has the obvious benefit of keeping the children of students, faculty and staff close by, providing parents with a sense of security, but there are other benefits as well. On-campus child care would provide more job opportunities for student workers as well as hands-on experience for nursing and early childhood education majors. Also, after the initial cost of getting the program up and running, the service would become another source of income for the college. Some skeptics may say that charging for child care would defeat the purpose of having it on campus, but this is not necessarily true.

Local childcare facilities usually charge $100, at the very least, per week for tuition. If the college could undercut that price by a mere $10 or $15, most parents would probably move their children immediately. And not only would the price drop, but there would also be the added convenience of having their child within walking distance should an emergency occur. Transitions back into school for previously stay-at-home parents would be a lot easier if they could use on-campus daycare rather than having to search all over Gainesville, or other cities, for an acceptable facility.

Also, there is the constant worry in winter months about whether off-campus childcare will be available every time the college is open. With on-campus childcare, parents would have the comfort of knowing that they would be able to attend class whenever the college is open. Along the same lines is holiday care. When the school closes for winter holidays, some parents cannot or will not get jobs for three weeks only to quit when school starts again. Unfortunately, they still have to pay tuition even though their children did not attend childcare facilities. With on-campus child care, parents assume that they would not have to pay for services if they were not being rendered.

As for teachers having children in daycare programs outside the school, they lose tons of time going to check on children they have been called about by daycares. If their children were on campus, they could run to the facility, check on their children and return to their buildings to begin class on time. There would probably be considerably fewer cancelled classes with on-campus childcare facilities.

All-in-all, the Compass staff believes that an on-campus childcare program would be incredibly beneficial for students, faculty, staff and even the college itself.

Outstanding Students
Inducted into Who's Who

Congratulations to the 26 students who went that extra mile to make GC a better place. Working hard has paid off and earned them the recognition that they deserve.

Among the more than 4,000 students who attend Gainesville College, many of the students work hard to stand out.

But a 4.0 GPA is not necessarily the thread that links them all together. A positive attitude and dedication are the traits that can be observed in each of these students.

GC faculty nominated some of these outstanding students for the 2003 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Who's Who, which has been annually published since 1966, recognizes elite students based on academic achievement, community service, extracurricular involvement and future goals. More than 1,400 colleges in all 50 states submit names to be considered for publication.

From GC, 26 students will be included on the list. The Compass would like to congratulate these students who have gone the extra step to make an impact at GC.

Those students whose names will be published in year's edition of Who's Who are:

David Abner, Jesse Ausec, Rebecca Bennett, Maggie Borders, Ihyun Chang, Amanda Easterwood, Kristian Etheredge, Jeff Etienne, Heather Hanley, Susan Hart, Heather Heyman, Heather Hodges, Omar Diego Ibarra, Seong-Bum Im, Christopher Kitchen, Jason Milton, Susan Osborne, Suzanne Polk, Frank Reddy, Robin Reese, Gabrielle Riddle, Silvia Rodriguez, Elizabeth Sage, Dustin Smith and Shawn Williams
A New Approach to Combat Alcoholism

Current approaches to addressing alcohol use on college campuses have reached a crossroads: either focusing directly on dealing with alcohol use, or utilizing a more indirect social norms approach. Do these schools of thought represent such divergent paths that never the twain shall meet, or can they interact with each other?

Through national surveys (1993, 1997, 1999, 2001) Harvard's Henry Wechsler examined drinking patterns on campuses, including "binge drinking." Binge drinking is defined as having five or more drinks in a row for men, or four or more drinks in a row for women, sometime in a two week period. "Occasional binge drinkers" engaged in such behavior one to two times in the previous two weeks, with "frequent binge drinkers" consuming alcohol in such a manner three or more times in the previous two weeks. Frequent binge drinkers accounted for about a quarter of the student population, but drank almost three-quarters of the alcohol. Binge drinking rates varied from one to 83 percent among campuses, with about 40 percent of students reporting bingeing. Binge drinkers demonstrated a greater relationship with loss of impulse control, driving under the influence and having trouble with school studies. The greatest rates of bingeing were found among fraternities, sororities and athletes.

Wechsler maintains there is a culture of alcohol use that continues to contribute to the development and continuation of destructive alcohol abuse or dependency among college students. He is concerned that students are at risk from alcohol advertising influence, undergraduate drinking, easy availability of alcohol around campuses and from negative influences found in student culture, e.g. fraternities, which create greater demands to drink too much. Surveys have also shown that on a number of campuses there are a number of people who don't drink at all, or who conversely drink too heavily, but not a lot of moderate drinkers.

The social-norms approach proposes that much of overdrinking occurs because students believe other students are drinking more than those other students actually are. This creates a "Keeping up with the Joneses" effect as students try to match the over-consumption they think is going on, but really isn't. By giving students accurate information, people gradually begin to conform to realistic norms and become moderate drinkers. Campuses create their own programs through polling and posting the accurate drinking information.

Wechsler sees the social norm approach as condoning abusive drinking behavior and diluting the efforts to bring such abuse under control. He is concerned that the social norm efforts are receiving funding from alcohol producers who believe the social norm message will not change alcohol behavior much, but creates a persona of social responsibility for alcohol manufacturers. Federal monies have also been allocated to effect social norming, diverting money from other interventions that Wechsler believes are more productive. Where there is social norm programming, he perceives there is an alcohol problem which is not being addressed. Furthermore, Wechsler maintains there is no real "average" student drinker from which to create a true social norm. He is also concerned that abstaining students might be encouraged to begin drinking in order to be within the social norm being promoted for the campus community.

The social norm school of thought believes that Wechsler has overreacted and created a mythology of drinking abuse among college students which is actually not so severe. The term binge drinking is too broadly defined, not taking into account how much time drinks are consumed, the size of the individual, whether they have been eating, etc. The social norm people think that efforts generated from peers are more likely to change behavior from students, rather than a more authoritarian, top-down approach which students resent. Positive, non-coercive measures are the means to change behavior the social norms folks believe.

We face a dilemma in our country because we believe both in the individual having the right to choose to drink, and also needing to be socially responsible. But look at how people talk about drinking: getting "plastered", "blitzed", "wasted," etc., terms implying that the goal of drinking is to alter consciousness. In our country, we do not tend to drink with meals, as part of social rituals like weddings, to enjoy the taste of an alcoholic beverage as they do in other cultures, e.g. France, Germany and Italy, which have far lower alcohol abuse/dependency rates.

Perhaps it is time to teach people how to drink responsibly, or choose not to drink. Borrowing from both Wechsler's work and social norming, community-based strategies could emerge from schools, students, teachers, parents, community members and various authorities working together. These approaches could include not only an abstinence model, but learning to drink in moderation within specific social contexts (e.g. meals, special occasions, enjoying an alcoholic beverage per se and not just for alcohol's effect). This combination of approaches can be difficult in producing change, though, since it would require ongoing studies to determine their effectiveness. Such multi-aspect community-based efforts have shown reductions in driving-under-influence behavior. Maybe we can reduce the destructive aspects of student drinking while increasing more pro-social behavior.

Voice Your Opinion

The Compass offers the Opinions page as a forum for the students and faculty of Gainesville College to express their views on subjects important to them. We welcome submissions from all members of the Gainesville College community. Submissions should be written in Microsoft Word format and delivered to the Compass office on floppy disk or e-mailed to the Editor at hhod2171@gc.peachnet.edu.

Any submission not meeting these guidelines will not be considered by the Editorial Staff for printing. The Compass staff retains the right to edit any submissions to fit the format of the newspaper. Submissions will be printed on a timely and space-available basis.

The views expressed on the Opinions pages are not necessarily representative of the policies of Gainesville College, and no endorsement of the views expressed therein is implied.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Office of Minority Affairs and Multi-Cultural Programs is on the move!

It is located in the Student Center between Counseling and Testing, and the PREP office. All students are encouraged to utilize the office for Minority Affairs and Multi-Cultural Programs because our focus is to reach, teach and hold, through programs that will provide and increase leadership and problem solving skills.

We have two new bilingual members added to the office for Minority Affairs: Carolina Darbisi, administrative assistant to support both Hispanic outreach and development and minority affairs. The second addition is Margarita Munoz, who is the coordinator for Hispanic outreach and development programs that have been developed out of the office for Minority Affairs and Multicultural Programs and Hispanic Outreach and Development.

These programs include extended workshops for the Athens campus, fundraising events, Gainesville College to local high school presentations, GC and Gainesville High School SAT Prep. Partnership, Hispanic parent/student programs (on and off campus), local high school study smart workshop, minority student orientation, progressive student women's and men's organization, student mentor/faculty-staff mentor program and various minority student scholarships.

We encourage you to stop by the office to learn more about the many different resources available. Our goal is to provide you with tools needed to help you be successful while attending Gainesville College. We promise every moment spent in this office will be beneficial.

André Cheek
Minority Affairs, Director
The Dirtier the Better, That's How I Like It

Today we're going to talk about the differences and similarities in flea markets. And since every student here at Gainesville College probably spends his/her entire weekend perusing these bargain barns, it's absolutely essential that you keep reading.

Flea Markets break down like this.

You've got your traditional dirty-malls, with the individual booths operated generally by the elderly and the bored. I feel sorry for these people, which works to their advantage, because sometimes, feeling philanthropic, I'll buy their crap. This includes Dixie 400, near Dawsonville, and the J&J Flea Market, just outside of Athens.

Then there's the new wave of flea markets, for which I've so brilliantly coined the term Flea Malls. Pendergrass is a prime example of this hybrid hell-spawn. Vendors are more likely to be actual experienced salesman, and thus trained in the ways of the shyster.

Personally, when I visit the flea market, I'm in search of books, music or videos. While some of you might go for various trinkets, and/or clothing, I find paperbacks, record albums and VHS tapes to be the most worthwhile in their hand-me-down durability.

If you're shopping for music, and you slip into an air-conditioned, corporation-sprinkled Flea Mall, well, there's not a lot to offer. They've got cd's there, and some cassette tapes too, but none of these usually catch my eye.

Last time I went there was some good music there, but it was so high-priced that I felt like I was in a Sam Goody. I asked one of the merchants if he meant to insult me by calling this a flea market. He took a swing at me, but I'm quick on my feet.

Now step into a joint like Dixie 400, and feel the value pulse, friend. If you're not afraid of vinyl, you can walk out of a place like this with stacks of good classic rock/country/jazz/gospel, for under 20 bucks. I guarantee it. The only disadvantage to going through the usual curtains/boxes is that the time it consumes. Generally the vendor will not organize his/her merchandise, but when you pull that Van Morrison, or that Dusty Springfield from the mire, you'll know it was well worth it.

You can find books at either the traditional flea market, or the Flea Mall. But you'll get the rarest stuff at a trade, and, of course, the lower prices. Twenty-five cents for paperbacks, and $1 for hard covers is standard.

I got gypped over at Pendergrass once, purchasing a copy of "Snatch" for five bucks, which I thought to be a fine deal. I got home, only to find that the tape had been dubbed, and dubbed poorly enough that the picture and audio were both screwed. This has never happened to me anywhere else. I've got nothing but great deals from Dixie 400 and J&J, in the VHS department.

Now I realize I'm talking to college students, and so I acknowledge the fact that most of you are probably thieves. If you're going to shoplift at a flea market, however, you gotta be on your toes. A lot of these guys carry weapons, and view police intervention as futile. If you're gonna try luck at a Flea Mall, they've got security guards on duty, and surveillance cameras too, so it's probably a little rough.

So how will I know the difference between a flea market and a Flea Mall?" you ask. Well, generally Flea Malls are really nice-looking, nice-smelling, and overall, sanitary. If you walk in and see a sign for Charter Communications, next to a guy selling t-shirts, you're in a Flea Mall.

A true-definition flea market is dirty. Dirty and stinky. And the dirtier the better. The building itself was either once a chicken coup, or a dilapidated warehouse. For those of you who want great vintage items at unbeatable prices I must recommend that you boycott the Flea Mall, and find yourself a good old-fashioned flea market. Generally, when you walk in, you want to smell urine.

Selfless New Year's Resolutions: Instant Karma's Gonna Getcha

Ahhh, another new year to deceive ourselves with selfish resolutions that we hardly ever carry out. Refreshing, is it not?

Every year I hear the same self-seeking promises from my acquaintances about quitting whatever hell it is that they gorge in. Hey, here's an idea: make resolutions to better the lives of the people around you, and stop creating selfish promises to yourself that you probably just falsified to feel better about some gluttonous act the media has accused you of.

For example, don't quit smoking; help a friend quit smoking, or if you are self-conscious about your weight, or how you look, make it a point to tell someone how beautiful he or she is each day. It's called good karma, my friends.

The society we live in today is so hostile and fearful; it's hard for me to even drive to school without getting antagonistic looks from my ethnic neighbors riding down the road beside me. So, on that note, I have decided to denounce every criticism or opinion I have of other cultures or groups.

For so long I have picked fun at the "thugs," the "hicks" and the "fraternity boys," until I realized that I have been obliviously contributing to this resentment and hatred that cultures and groups presuppose of each other. It's not that I made fun of these groups, but, for example, constructively I would often imitate the cliché of an African-American rapper, being a rock music fan, and obviously not a rapper due to the simple actuality that I am a tight-jean-wearing, "hippie" intuitive, white male with an afro from the Atlanta suburbs that doesn't care for violence and excessive pride. I am a little rusty on the pronunciation of these new eccentrics, too. I guess the fact that I, personally, was doing the imitating was what made it funny.

The sad truth I have failed to realize all of these years is that these people are/could be my friends, and I have been bluntly disrespecting all of the parts of their culture that I have failed to let myself understand. I would love to understand and appreciate the fundamentals of their culture. It would also be nice to go to school, and receive a friendly wave and a smile from the passing cars rather than an erected middle finger and offensive gibberish, or the infamous staring contest that I try to ignore every time I am challenged, but the passing party is determined to make me glance and feel inferior. I'm sure we've all played that game. I've actually figured out how to win almost every time. When someone challenges me, I look at them right in the eye, then I proceed to smile and wave. I might even blow a kiss if they're lucky. They either gaze at me in confusion, get really pissed off at my victorious solution, or they smile and laugh. No harm done and no enemies made.

It seems as though my whole intent and peaceful aggression has been washed away, and I have slowly forgotten about how the world could obviously be a better place if people weren't so selfish. So this year, I propose that you make selfless resolutions, rather than selfish ones. The world is already scared and hostile enough (you can thank the government for that, Bin Laden too). Maybe making the world around you happy could lead to less stress, which leads to less smoking, and more securities about being who you really are.

Just remember...good karma.

Return from Roommate Hell

Roommates suck. They eat all the food, and then expect you to pay more than half of the grocery receipt. They leave crap everywhere, and you can't say anything to them because, "It's my house, too!" What the hell?!

Then, when they decide to get a cat, the thing poops everywhere, and your roommate is too busy working two jobs to take care of it. Naturally, you don't want a pooper house, so you clean up after the flea-infested sack of fur. But you'll still be sweeping and vacuuming up cat litter on the floor for weeks.

And be assured that every Friday, on the hour, they ask you for ten dollars in quarters for their laundry, and hatred that cultures and groups presuppose of each other. It's not that I made fun of these groups, but, for example, constructively I would often imitate the cliché of an African-American
Help Me Defeat Corporate America

There are two things in this world that never cease to amaze me. One of them is the automated doors around campus. The other is how much book prices change after just one semester. Something did not sit right with me about this. It's not the bookstore on campus and it's not the people in the bookstore. I believe it is due to a faceless corporation.

Anyone who has been to Burger King recently knows that corporations love to maximize profit while providing the least amount of substance. This is the same thing with the bookstore. They sell you a book and you use it for a semester. After you ace the final it is, of course, time to sell your books back.

Unfortunately you get about a tenth back of what you paid.

I bought a book in September for $160 and by May it is worth about maybe twenty bucks. I guess books have begun to plummet in the stock market.

My main question is, where do the books go when you sell them? Do they throw them away? Maybe a book fairy comes by at night and takes all the old books and replaces them with a shiny quarter. Or perhaps, and I'm going out on a limb here, they probably sell the books to other college students. When they re-sell these books they make a hundred percent profit because the original owner of the book already paid the manufacturing price.

Since my enrollment in Gainesville College I have become an analytical thinker. This pretty much means I can tie my own shoes every morning. I also know that things will not change if students keep selling their books back. I propose that students keep their books. Books have many uses other than mere knowledge. For instance, you can use them to keep papers from blowing away when you are outside. You can also use books to kill bugs and small rodents. If you have enough books you can make a little fort out of them. If you were really cold you could throw the books in a barrel and set them ablaze. You could even hollow them out to haul contraband across the country... wait I mean guns; yeah you put your guns in there. You could let your dog or cat eat the book; most people do not realize that books are a good source of dietary fiber. You can use a book's cover to patch up holes in your walls or windows. If you have enough books you can set them up like dominos, this will provide hours of entertainment for anyone who grew up with an N.E.S. You could rip the pages out and make airplanes out of them. If you wanted to throw a parade you could shred the books and throw them into the air. If one were so inclined they could even take some hallucinogens and stare at a burning book. Not that I have ever done anything like that... and not like it was really cool.

All joking aside, my message is quite clear. Fight the soulless corporations of our generation in any way you can. The best way to combat corporations is through free thought. We are in college now. It is becoming a very real fact that we will soon be working in the real world, which means corporate America. College is a time for people to try new things and make a difference. When will there ever be a time in your life when you are allowed to mess up so badly? College kids are supposed to be broke; we are supposed to be angry and bitter. This allows us to see things differently than our parents who are angry and bitter in a different way.

College kids are supposed to cause trouble and drink too much. I don't want to sound like some stupid new wave hippie, but we need to revolt against corporations that ruin our lives by providing us with livelihoods.

There used to be these people called punks that challenged the systems' norms and ideals. Sadly, though—punk now mainly refers to a bunch of whiny, bitter emotional kids from the suburbs. In the nineties there were a bunch of alternative bands that liked to shake things up, but most of them either died of heroin or just burned out. Our generation needs to get back in the fight before we are auctioned off like cattle at a mad cow disease rally. Do anything you can to change things.

Quit getting all your styles and trends from MTV. Wake Up! We can change the world in anyway we desire; I long to live in a world without war, inequality and corporations. Maybe it won't happen in my lifetime, but hey, I have to do something with my time on this earth. I hear people complain about things they want to change all the time; it's time to do something about it. I have heard people complain about women's inequality, sin tax, college book prices and corporate America. I don't know about you, but I'm tired of living with my head down in the crap. Students, faculty, staff and human beings in general: let's get together and change this world. If we don't do it who will and when? (It's not about sticks and bees, Haley).

Just A Thought

"Why did the student parking fees increase if no additional parking spaces were added on campus?"

-JJ Matthews

Is something bothering you?

Do you need to vent your frustrations?

Don't whine about it, write it down!

Send your submissions to jmat4160@gc.peachnet.edu.

GC STUDENT POLL

What effect would student housing have on GC?

Places around here are really expensive to live in. I think the housing would be way more affordable.

Adrienne Jackson

Biology Major

Students could walk to class and focus more on their homework. I think it is a good idea.

Clay Caudell

Art Major

It's a really good idea. I think it would draw a lot more students.

Brandon Wood

Education Major

It would be nice. I would move in, and I wouldn't have to drive so far.

James Lucky
**FEBRUARY**

1. Beginning of National Entrepreneurship Assistance Month
   Beginning of Black History Month

3. Intramurals: Flag Football and Volleyball Begin; noon-1 p.m.
   African-American Reading Day; Gainesville Middle School
   African-American Historical Silent Display; Student Center; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

4. Rosa Parks Video/Brown Bag Luncheon; Lanier AB; 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m.

5. Banachek (Mentalist); Student Center; noon-1 p.m.
   "Servant of Two Masters" Stage Tour; Ed Cabell Theatre; noon
   "Three Perspectives: Reality, Surrealism and Abstraction" Curating Reception; CE lobby; noon
   "Eyes on the Prize" Video and Discussion of Minnijean Brown Trickey; Academic III, Room 139

7. 12@12 High Museum of Arts
   Deadline for "Unsung Heroes" Nominations

8. Georgia College Press Association Awards in Macon, GA

9. GTA: "Servant of Two Masters" Dress Rehearsal; Hosch Theatre; 6 p.m.

10. GTA: "Servant of Two Masters" Preview
    Colloquium Series: Minnijean Brown-Trickey — "Return to Little Rock"; noon, CE
    Intramurals: Sign-ups for Basketball & Soccer Begin

11. GTA: "Servant of Two Masters" Begins; Hosch Theatre; 7:30 p.m.
    Last 10-Week Classes Begin
    "Three Perspectives: Reality, Surrealism and Abstraction" Exhibit Ends
    "Bamboozled" Forum; CE, Room 109 and 110; 11:30-1 p.m.

12. Compass Bake Sale; Begins 10 a.m-6 p.m.
    Trace of African-American History; Ed Cabell Theatre; noon
    Affirmative Action Forum; CE Auditorium; 4 p.m.
    GTA: "Servant of Two Masters"; Free Night

13. GTA: "Servant of Two Masters"; Free Night

17. "Lea" Concert; Student Center; noon

18. Souper Study Party; Student Center; 5-8 p.m.
    GTA: "Servant of Two Masters"; Free Night

19. Music Video Bingo Game Show; Student Center; noon
    GTA: "Servant of Two Masters"; Free Night

23. GTA: "Proposals" Auditions
    Step Show; Student Center; noon
    Travis Hunter; Lanier AB; 12:30 p.m.
    Nathan Deal's Ninth Congressional High School Art Competition; Ray C. Moore Art Gallery; Runs Through April 2

24. Intramurals: Deadline to Sign Up for Basketball and Soccer

25. GTA: "Proposals" Auditions
    Step Show; Student Center; noon
    Travis Hunter; Lanier AB; 12:30 p.m.
    Nathan Deal's Ninth Congressional High School Art Competition; Ray C. Moore Art Gallery; 6 p.m.

26. "Unsung Heroes" Reception; CE, Room 109 and 110; noon

28. "Unsung Heroes" Reception; CE, Room 109 and 110; noon

**MARCH**

1. Beginning of National Free Market Economics Month
   Beginning of Women's History Month

3. Intramurals: Basketball and Soccer Begins; noon-1 p.m.
    Colloquium Series: Leah Ward Sears; CE Auditorium; noon

**KEY:**

- **Sports**
- **GTA**
- **Music**
- **Art**