Summer Starts with a Spring

The 2005 annual Spring Fling, hosted by the Campus Activity Board, held on April 20, featured such events as the bungee run, free food provided by Elegant Expressions, volleyball, live music, outdoor ping pong, and non-permanent tattoos. Also kicking off the summer was Earth Day, a Students for Environmental Awareness sponsored event, held in the Student Activities building, which featured displays by organizations such as Georgia Organics, the Hall County Master Gardeners, and the Lake Lanier Association. For more on Spring Fling and Earth Day, please see page 2.

Campus Hosts GTA’s Last Show of Season

Gainesville Theatre Alliance closed the season with a remarkably energetic and touching performance of “Look Homeward, Angel,” a Pulitzer Prize winning stage adaptation by Ketti Frings of Thomas Wolfe’s semi-autobiographic southern classic. “Look Homeward, Angel” really is “a southern story of a southern guy who triumphs over his circumstances,” as Gay Hammond says: “she is a wheeler-dealer in a time when women were not.” On the other hand father, W.O. Gant (Robin Hale), is a vigorous Shakespeare-quoting, sometimes drunken carver of tombstones. The children, leading “a very cold, figuratively and literally, kind of life,” according to Gay Hammond, show the longing to escape this troubled situation, yet they stay as it is the proper thing to do. Finally, after the death of his brother Ben (Mayes Hopkins) and a betrayal by his love interest Miss James (Claire Guy), Eugene Gant (Lynwood Bradley), Thomas Wolfe’s alter ego, manages to escape this comfortless and dysfunctional home. As Stuart Beaman, who is responsible for setting the mood of the play with his light design, puts it: “What fascinated me about this play was the struggle and the tension of what you think is your responsibility to your family and your responsibility to yourself.”

The colorful and delightfully eccentric characters as well as the setting closely resemble the actual environment of Thomas Wolfe’s childhood, “sometimes they are identical,” says Gay Hammond. “Having visited the actual boarding house from Thomas Wolfe’s childhood, I found it easy to imagine the struggle he waged between the responsibility Wolfe felt for his family and his desire to discover the world and himself,” says director Jim Beaman. “We will attempt to take our audience to that place and time to meet some of the most dynamic characters of American literature.” The audience
Nesbitt’s Achievements Receive National Recognition

By Hope Crawford
Assistant Editor
hcr8191@gc.peachnet.edu

ACE is the major coordinating body for all higher education institutions across America. While working with this organization Nesbitt will be able to continue contributing her skills towards providing leadership and unifying the voice of higher education issues. Her term with ACE will last for three years.

For the past eight years, under the leadership of Nesbitt, GC has experienced many changes that have led to great success. From fall of 1998 to fall of 2004 GC has experienced 103 percent in enrollment growth.

'Earth Day...' Continued from page 1

Featuring displays and activities by various environmental education groups, as well as free ice cream for everybody, this year’s Earth Day, sponsored by the Students for Environmental Awareness club, attracted a diverse crowd of students, faculty, and staff and community members.

Displays were hosted by the Georgia Organics, the Hall County Master Gardeners, Hall County Resource Recovery, Lake Lanier Association, and Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper.

One exhibit, sponsored by the Students for a Progressive Society Club, attracted much attention, which was a vehicle designed by Rob Del Bueno to run on vegetable based fuel. Del Bueno’s motivation is his conviction that for both political and environmental reasons Americans should cease to depend on fossil fuels.

Sigma Chi Eta, the community college honor society for Communication students, sponsored “Recycle a Can,” a game that involved throwing a can into the recycling bin from a distance of a couple of feet.

Participants won “Impatiens,” a charming flower, for their yard.

Members of the SEA were handing out free newsletters and selling T-Shirts and plants, tomatoes, Marigolds, and Saw Tooth Oaks for a small fee.

Dana Hetlich, a member of SEA, says that aside from organizing the Earth Days Activities the SEA club tries to raise environmental awareness on campus by supporting, and hopefully expanding, recycling programs on campus.

The group has also gone on canoeing tours to help with river clean-ups.

Students interested in joining the SEA should contact its sponsor Mary Mayhew at mmayhew@gc.peachnet.edu

'Spring Fling...' Continued from page 1

It was a beautiful day on April 20, 2005 outside of the Student Activities building where the festivities for Earth Day and the Spring Fling were held. The smell of hamburgers and hotdogs filled the air as tropical music was played in the background.

The Spring Fling featured such activities as a bungee run, non-permanent tattooing, free food, volleyball, and outdoor ping pong. Alex Maravegis, a GC student said, “I’m thinking about trying out that Bungee Run, sounds like a blast.”

Sam Potts, also a GC student, said, “Yeah, it’s a beautiful day on 4/20 but I love this Bob Marley that the band is playing better.”

Tony McClutchen, member of the performing band, Tropical Breeze, adds, “it’s really good to see the students come out to this Spring Fling.”

“A break is needed for all of us students that work extra hard at school, work, or just in general,” says Josh Stanley, GC student.

A group of GC students play a game of beach volleyball during the April 20 activities at the annual Spring Fling. The event marks the coming of the end of the semester and the start of summer.

gccompass.com

President’s Art Award winner announced

Guy Lamar Flowers received the President’s Art Award for fall 2004. He was presented with the award on March 22. His art is displayed in the President’s Office.

Financial aid fair contest winners announced

The GC Foundation awarded $50 bookstore certificates to Jason Erazo, Lauren Hendrix, Kirby Beadles, Daniel Thomas, and Diana Mejia. Door prizes, provided by the companies that attended the fair, were awarded to Bina Ali, Ritu Castaneda, Cynthia Slick, Courtney Hitt, Gorbey Leon, Michael Murphee, Gabriel Vega, and Jack Howland. Held on Feb. 28, the GC Financial Aid Fair was a first for Gainesville College and as a result, 125 students stopped by vendors’ tables.

A group of students at the Spring Fling.
Easter Eggstravaganza Promotes Fun for All Ages

By Tam Cao
Staff Writer
tcao_gh@hotmail.com

On March 23, the Gainesville College Ambassadors club, along with about ten other clubs, hosted the annual Easter Eggstravaganza.

For those who do not know anything about the event, it is an annual community event sponsored by the GC Ambassadors.

For the past three years, they have hosted the event for McEver Elementary, however this year the school they hosted was Mount Vernon Elementary. There were six classes of children that came this year and all of them were kindergarten.

The event took place in the Student Activities building where several clubs set up booths with fun activities for the kids. Some of the activities included hitting the Easter bunny piñata, a bag race, coloring, and face painting by the Art Club.

Most of the activities took place inside the Student Activities building with the exception of the last activities, which was the egg hunt.

The egg hunt this year took place in the field between the Science building and Academic III. It didn’t take them long at all to find the 1500 eggs that were scattered on the field. The whole event lasted roughly two and a half hours.

Overall, the Easter Eggstravaganza was a fun event for everyone that was involved.

Michelle Brown, GC Alumni Director, said that “It’s a great event for our community and a great experience for many GC students that are involved as well.”

Young’s Speech Receives Standing Ovation

President Nesbitt, Dean Stoy, Gainesville College faculty, staff, and students, and assembled family and friends, let me first thank you for the honor of speaking with you today. My six years at Gainesville College have been the most challenging, exhausting, immensely rewarding, and happiest of my life. So I am deeply touched to be asked to address this wonderful college community, especially its most outstanding students.

I wish to speak to you about privileges and responsibilities, of which I believe we here today have a great many. The Book of Luke, Chapter 12: Verse 48, instructs that “For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.” The great British statesman, Sir Winston Churchill, echoed this admonition when he declared that “The price of greatness is responsibility.” I believe both educators and those getting a college education are enormously privileged and have a corresponding responsibility to exercise our blessings wisely, justly, and always morally.

Not one in five Georgians earns a college degree, and only one out of 100 people worldwide is able to complete such an education. So when you students graduate from a four-year school in the next few years, you will literally be in the top one percentile of educated folk throughout all of God’s green earth.

To what purpose shall you use your education? Will it primarily serve as a means to become financially successful, to live in a larger home, in a more upscale neighborhood, to have a materially more plentiful style of life? Recent research does project that Americans with a college degree will likely earn perhaps close to a million more dollars over their lives than those without one (although maybe not if they all go on to get your Ph.D and teach — but teaching has loads of wonderful intangible rewards).

For those who do not know anything about the event, it is an annual community event sponsored by the GC Ambassadors.

For the past three years, they have hosted the event for McEver Elementary, however this year the school they hosted was Mount Vernon Elementary. There were six classes of children that came this year and all of them were kindergarten.

The event took place in the Student Activities building where several clubs set up booths with fun activities for the kids. Some of the activities included hitting the Easter bunny piñata, a bag race, coloring, and face painting by the Art Club.

Most of the activities took place inside the Student Activities building with the exception of the last activities, which was the egg hunt.

The egg hunt this year took place in the field between the Science building and Academic III. It didn’t take them long at all to find the 1500 eggs that were scattered on the field. The whole event lasted roughly two and a half hours.

Overall, the Easter Eggstravaganza was a fun event for everyone that was involved.

Michelle Brown, GC Alumni Director, said that “It’s a great event for our community and a great experience for many GC students that are involved as well.”

Young’s Speech Receives Standing Ovation

President Nesbitt, Dean Stoy, Gainesville College faculty, staff, and students, and assembled family and friends, let me first thank you for the honor of speaking with you today. My six years at Gainesville College have been the most challenging, exhausting, immensely rewarding, and happiest of my life. So I am deeply touched to be asked to address this wonderful college community, especially its most outstanding students.

I wish to speak to you about privileges and responsibilities, of which I believe we here today have a great many. The Book of Luke, Chapter 12: Verse 48, instructs that “For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.” The great British statesman, Sir Winston Churchill, echoed this admonition when he declared that “The price of greatness is responsibility.” I believe both educators and those getting a college education are enormously privileged and have a corresponding responsibility to exercise our blessings wisely, justly, and always morally.

Not one in five Georgians earns a college degree, and only one out of 100 people worldwide is able to complete such an education. So when you students graduate from a four-year school in the next few years, you will literally be in the top one percentile of educated folk throughout all of God’s green earth.

To what purpose shall you use your education? Will it primarily serve as a means to become financially successful, to live in a larger home, in a more upscale neighborhood, to have a materially more plentiful style of life? Recent research does project that Americans with a college degree will likely earn perhaps close to a million more dollars over their lives than those without one (although maybe not if they all go on to get your Ph.D and teach — but teaching has loads of wonderful intangible rewards).

While being able to provide well for one’s family and enable your children to enjoy advantages you may have lacked growing up are very important and real achievements, I propose that there are also more altruistic, intangible, even spiritual, possibilities that education can afford us, both in our personal development and in helping our larger community.

Education is probably the best means to unlocking humanity’s full, glorious potential. It enables us to try to better understand our world and ourselves and to improve both. More important than processing information, education should teach us how to think rationally, critically, analytically, hopefully creatively, and always independently about every aspect of our environment and our lives. Such skills can then be employed to maximize our achievements in every conceivable field of human endeavor.

Because the educated are so often the most qualified to lead these efforts, you outstanding students here today will be the important decision-makers tomorrow in matters of enterprise, the arts, sciences, education, government, and most other professions. Disproportionately on your shoulders — and conscience — will rest the well being of so many others.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said that it doesn’t matter if “you have a degree from Morehouse or no house,” you be the best you can be at whatever your task. Fulfilling her task and ironically demonstrating that it is so often the least educated who most appreciate the value of higher learning, I think of the illiterate grandmother who reared my wonderful friend Xiaoyan in China, always monitoring her homework every night. Even though Grandma Yang could only sign her own name with an "X," she meticulously made certain that little Xiaoyan’s schoolwork pages were all completed, with every character neatly printed on each line and within the proper margins. Old Mrs. Yang, whose educational opportunities as a child had been bound no less cruelly than her own feet, knew that her granddaughter would have light years’ more possibilities than she could have ever imagined, but only if she took advantage of her educational opportunity. As my paternal grandfather with a 10th grade education repeatedly reminded me, “Son, be sure and get all the education you can, ‘cause that’s the only thing they can never take away from you.”

By fulfilling the possibilities that higher education can offer us, I do not mean merely professional or economic ones. Sen. Robert Kennedy recognized a simple yet profound truth when he observed how the gross national product of a nation does not measure what’s really most important to creating a truly meaningful, high quality of life. I suggest that what is most important is how we treat others, especially since, as educated elites, we are disproportionately in positions of influence and leadership that affect so many people’s lives so profoundly.

And I hope that these fine students here today will not be afraid to live and even fail boldly. A great filmmaker once said that “The saddest thing in life is a missed opportunity.” Narrowly husbanding one’s education to just materially provide for oneself or one’s family may be selling your abilities and opportunities quite short. President Theodore Roosevelt believed that:

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man

Continued on page 7
Annual Luncheon Honors Hall County Females

By Wezli Bannister
Opinions Editor
mban2028@gc.peachnet.edu

The recognition luncheon was held on Friday, April 1 in the Gainesville College Continuing Education Building. It was presented by The Office of Minority Affairs, in conjunction with Martha Nesbit, President of GC. The annual recognition event was instituted as a special way of acknowledging Women’s History Month and outstanding women leaders of our community.

G.C. faculty nominated students who met the above criteria and are enrolled as full-time students at GC. The majority of the honorees from GC were non-traditional students. The GC students chosen were: Bina Ali, Stephanie Austin, Wezli Bannister, Catie Beaulieu, Lisa Bogard, Shay Brewer, Louise Caudell, Tracey Dixon, Joanne Etienne, Michelle Garcia, Maria Gomez, Kolea Hamilton, Amanda Harris, Lauren Hendrix, Tamara Jackson, Natalie Ortiz, Riddhi Patel, Linda Pelcastre, Salena Porter, Erica Rush, Shenita Stephens, Desiree Thomas, Noelia Val, Chi Young, and Miriam Zavala.

Additionally, Each Hall County High School was invited to nominate a Junior and a Senior who met the minimum criteria by displaying demonstration of outstanding leadership capabilities and potential, community service involvement, and a minimum 3.0 GPA. The nominees were: Buford High School Calethe Maddox and Shevone Walker, (East Hall High School) Whitney Hewelle and Rebecca Calvert, (Flowery Branch High School) Priscilla Lopez and Melissa Jones, (Gainesville High School) Dana Woods and Marquita Waller, (Johnson High School) Oanh Nguyen and Amy Holcomb, (North Hall High School) Heidi Ann Parks and Bridget Bohanan, (West Hall High School) Martha Vital and Jalisa Harris, (Westminster Christian School) Cassie Kendall, (Winder-Barrow High School) Heather Price and Rachel McLocklin.

The theme of the day was “Empowering Women to Change America.” The guest speaker was Atlanta native, Jolene Butts-Freeman, Communication Liaison of the Atlanta City Fire Department. She is a past winner of such prestigious awards as an Emmy and the 2004 Telly Award. She received her degree in Broadcast Journalism from Northwest University, after making history at Clark University.

GC Students Excel at NATS

By Hope Crawford
Assistant Editor
hcra8191@gc.peachnet.edu

Representing GC was David Thomas accompanied by several students who attended the state level of the National Association of Teachers of Singing audition/competition held on Feb. 18-19, 2005.

Among the students who attended were Joanne Etienne, Lynnsey Lafayette, and Robert Valentine.

These students competed in many different categories varying from College Freshman Women to Musical Theatre categories.

Come and support the GC Chorale and Symphonic band and attend the Spring Concert on Tuesday, April 26 at 7:30 pm located at the Blackshear Baptist Church.

Study Effectively for Finals With These Essential Skills

By Jessica Bougher
Staff Writer
abou9574@gc.peachnet.edu

You ask, “Where did the time go?”

Maximize study time with a few changes. The most obvious is to look at where you study. Are you in an area where you are not disturbed? Do you have enough room to work? Is your chair comfortable?

Studying begins in the classroom. Note taking is the key to understanding.

Using a tape recorder is another option for note taking. Great notes are not the only important thing to consider.

Allow yourself to take study breaks. Endless hours of staring at the computer screen or books are is productive. Life Coach Robert Najemy suggests, “It is best to stop every hour.” According to Najemy, a ten-minute break can “renew your memory and concentration.” Najemy offered two suggestions: lie down on your back near a wall placing your feet on the wall, letting the blood flow into your brain, rejuvenating it.

Breathe deeply and slowly allowing for greater oxygen flow and blood to the brain.

Kneel on the floor, as the Muslims do, and bring your head forward and rest it there for about ten minutes allowing the blood to come to the brain and also for all of the nerves of the back and neck to stretch and relax.

Finally, Najemy suggests that you change your hours of studying, “Staying up late is not very effective for most people.”

Go to bed early and get up around 5 a.m. to study. “The mind is much clearer at that hour – once you get used to it.”

Additional information on organizing your time and maximizing your study time is available at the Counseling and Career Services Office.
Students Honored for Club and Organization Contributions

By Michele Hester
Clubs Editor
ahes2131@gc.peachnet.edu

As the semester comes to a close, the time has come for Gainesville College to pay tribute to those students who make integral contributions to the college through their voluntary work in clubs and organizations on campus.

April 12 marked the event when all the hard work from an entire year of service was recognized for 22 GC students. During the Honor’s Day program, students were acknowledged for outstanding service to their perspective organizations, as well as their contributions to the campus, community and country through the clubs.

There are over 30 clubs and organizations available on the Oakwood campus alone and almost 20 at the Oconee campus. One of the most important requirements for these student organizations to exist is that they must be student populated and student ran. Sure, faculty advisors play an important role facilitating the clubs and organizations; however, the clubs could not exist without students.

Students play many roles in clubs and organizations on campus. They take on the responsibilities of officers. They organize events on campus. They act as fundraisers to bring in money to the clubs. They take time out of their busy schedules to be able to attend weekly and monthly meetings.

They take time out of their evening work schedules to participate in club events. They advertise and market their clubs across the campus.

They do all this and so much more for little more than a thank you from their faculty advisors, which is one reason the college believes it is so important to recognize their efforts at the Honor’s Day ceremony.

In addition to service awards, the college also honored many students for their academic achievements. The Clark-Theodore Outstanding Traditional Students Award went to Chi Kim Vuong, while the same award for a non-traditional student went to Robin North Reese. Vuong was also recognized as a Phi Theta Kappa inductee and received an Academic Recognition Day award.

Reese received a SPIRE award, a recipient of Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges and was honored for her participation in the 2004-2005 All-USA Academic Team Competition.

Professor of Biology John Hamilton was surprised to receive the Teacher of the Year honor during the ceremony and was speechless after being handed the award. He said there were no words that could tell the audience his feelings at that moment. During his introduction, Errira Rush, president of SGA, read comments from a few of Hamilton’s students. One was, “He is the best teacher I have ever had.”

The ceremony was followed by a reception for honorees and their guests.

GC students that received Outstanding Service Awards during the Honor’s Day ceremony are as follows:

- Ahmed Abdella
- Bina Ali
- Erin Melissa Armstrong
- Susan Jane Corbin
- Abby N. Cox
- Joshua Daniel Draa
- Alisha Denise Draa
- Michael Garcia
- Claire K. Guy
- Lindsey Leigh Harris
- Elisa Lauren Hendrix
- Anna Michele Hester
- Jack Howland
- William Thad Hulsey
- Gary Matthew Lovell
- Ashlea Elizabeth-Irene Prodehl
- Ashley Nicole Rainwater
- Erica Rush
- Kelli Suzanne Sappinton
- Chi Kim Vuong
- Logan Walker
- Brittany Williams

Asian Student Fair Showcases Culture

Huy Nguyen, a Computer Information Science major, and Gloria Valencia-Martin, an art student, sample authentic Asian cuisine during the April 19 Asian Fair and Showcase. The event, hosted by GC’s Asian Student Association, offered food and education on various Asian cultures. Posters were displayed and items from across Asian were available for viewing. More than 100 students, faculty and staff participated in the cultural fair.

SGA Candidates Discuss Platforms

SGA candidates discuss the platform before the election during SGA’s Honors Day event on April 12. SGA is currently seeking students to speak during a fall forum on issues that affect GC students.

Student Government Association’s current vice president Jay Davis, left, seeks the coveted office of president for the Fall 2005/Spring 2006 year, stating he is the best person for the job because he cares about the well-being of the college. Nancy Mousa speaks about taking over Davis’ current position. Mousa is in her second semester at GC and is very happy to be a part of SGA.

Communication Honor Society Inducts New Members

Sigma Chi Eta, GC’s Communication Club and Honor Society inducted six new members this semester. Here the inductees, from left, Heather Morris, Michele Hester, Tracey Mayfield, Jenn Williams and Meghan Hill show off their national certificates. Also pictured is club advisor Allison Ainsworth. SCH is currently seeking students to speak during a fall forum on issues that affect GC students. Contact Allison Ainsworth for more information, aainsworth@gc.peachnet.edu.
Delegates Represent Sorba in D.C. Summit

By Daniel Elzey
Contributing Writer
delz5466@gc.peachnet.edu

During Spring Break, while other students were heading to the beach, or staying at home working, I had the great opportunity to go to Washington D.C. on behalf of the college as a member of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association to be part of the Georgia delegation for the League of American Bicyclist's National Bike Summit, a three day long event full of learning, networking, and educating others about bicycling and its benefits.

I joined a delegation of 12 bicycle advocates from all over Georgia, ranging from bicycle shop owners to bicycle riders, like myself. I represented SORBA along with Tom and Belinda Sauret, both professors here at Gainesville College.

We had the opportunity to meet with our state representatives at a crucial point in the passage of TEA-21, a transportation bill that will provide flexible funds that can be used for all types of transportation facilities and programs including bicycling. The Georgia delegation met with every Georgia Senator or Representative. In our meetings, we asked that four bicycle specific items be included.

“Safe Routes to School” would provide funding and a full time coordinator for every state to cover engineering, enforcement, education, encouragement, and evaluation.

“Fair Share for Safety” would mandate that states spend their highway safety funds proportionately to their traffic safety fatality statistics. For example, in Georgia, pedestrians and bicyclists account for 11 percent of fatalities, but Georgia DOT spends only 1.4 percent of its safety dollars to reduce these fatalities.

“New Complete Streets” language would establish the principle that all new or reconstructed roads should be built to accommodate all users, including bicyclists and pedestrians.

I strongly encourage you all to step up, pick a cause, and get involved. The faculty and staff here are tremendous resources that are under utilized. Get out and make your ideas heard, and make a difference.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Tom Sauret, Alicia Caudill, and the GC Foundation for making the trip possible for me.

GC Students Bring New Life, Color to SORBA’S Trips for Kids Trailer

By Jessi Stone
Staff Writer
jsto5617@gc.peachnet.edu

With the help of Belinda Sauret and SORBA, Gainesville College students literally make their mark on campus.

Three art majors, Erin Armstrong, Edgar Lituma, and Kostadin Kostov, all contributed to the creation of the beautiful mural on the GC campus located at the SORBA Trips for Kids trailer next to the security building.

Trips for Kids is a program put together by SORBA that conducts mountain biking trips for middle school students in surrounding areas. The bicycles provided for the children to ride the bike trails here at GC are stored in the trailer where the mural is painted.

Lituma first discussed the idea of painting his first mural with Sauret, who helped fund the making of the mural. Lituma and Armstrong decided to display some flyers around campus and hold a mural contest allowing other students the opportunity to win prize money and contribute to be a part of the mural. Unfortunately, there were no contestants for the contest and the three students took it upon themselves to create the mural at no cost. Sauret said the mural was a wonderful experience and he wants to thank everyone involved for their cooperation.

Armstrong said the inspiration for the mural came from the scenery around the GC campus. “I never knew how gorgeous it was around here, until doing this mural,” Armstrong said.

The students even worked over the cold spring break to finish the mural and it will be completed as soon as they add the GC and SORBA logos. For anyone who hasn’t been down to the Trips for Kids trailer, it is an excellent addition to our beautiful campus and students should definitely experience it for themselves.

Spring Intramurals Complete the Season

March and April brought plenty of fun and excitement concerning the intramurals at GC. Students played soccer and basketball in March. Estudiantes GC won the soccer championship, winning all five of their games. The GC intramural basketball championship went to Geriatrics. During the month of April, students played softball, badminton, and track and field. The softball season is still in progress, but with three games left on the schedule, Head Hunters and Single Slammers are in the lead for the championship with two wins a piece. Jimmie Jackson is currently at the top of the badminton leader board with four wins, with three games left to play. James Howard, Ken Rucker, Matt Byram, Christopher Eggleston, and Jacob Alford are all having success in track and field. April marks the end of another incredible intramural season. For those students that were not involved this year, make sure to sign up in the fall when intramurals start back up again.
The performance was well received by the audience as one audience member replied, “It can have a special appeal for young people and young adults who believe that AIDS is something that happens to other people.”

After Grevious read “The One” as a short story, she was moved to ask the author Arlecia Simmons to adapt it for the stage.

Simmons also travels around and educates students about HIV/AIDS along with Grevious as they held a 40-minute Q & A session with the audience after each performance.

The performances are free of charge due to a Georgia Council for the Arts grant and also many anonymous donations to the North Georgia AIDS Alliance.

Grevious graduated from GC with an Associate of Arts degree in drama and speech and went on to Brenau to earn her bachelor’s degree in theatre.

Grevious is now the director of the Chaflin University Theatre Ensemble in South Carolina and Simmons is a Mass Communications professor at Chaflin University.

... continued from page 1

... continued from page 3

who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who

strives valiantly, who err and comes short again and again because there is no effort

without error and shortcomings, who knows the great devotion, who spends himself in a

worthy cause, who at best knows in the end the high achievement of triumph and who at

worst, if he fails while daring greatly, knows his place shall never be with those timid and

cold souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

Yet every single one of us will leave a legacy. The most moving funeral I ever attended was for an 80-year-old WWII veteran whom I had known at Athens Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic. Instead of giving a eulogy, the minister invited anyone to come forward and say a few words about what Sandy had meant to him and how he positively impacted his life. To my amazement, loads of mourners kept standing up to thank Sandy for doing this for him, doing that for her, providing a place to stay, needed advice, support, friendship, a laugh, a smile, and seemingly endless other helping hands. I sat transfixed and then was stunned to realize that what felt like the quickest funeral of my life had actually lasted almost two hours. I only knew one shining aspect of that old gentleman’s life, but what a full, loving, and truly magnificent life — touching and enriching the lives of so many others — his actually turned out to be. As the pastor closed the service, he remarked, “You see, every one of us has a far, far greater impact on far more people’s lives than we will ever realize. Yes, every single one of us is a role model, for better or worse, in everything we do and everything we don’t, in everything we say and everything we leave unsaid.”

We all have so much more influence on way more people than we will ever know, and especially those of us privileged to get a higher education. Our real legacy is how we treat each other. The Bible teaches that how we treat the least of God’s children is how we treat Him. As Abraham Lincoln warned, “Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history. We ... will be remembered in spite of ourselves. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation.”

And those of us privileged to be teachers have a truly awesome responsibility to use whatever expertise, communication, and leadership skills we may possess to help guide our students along their educational paths. For just as a dedicated, conscientious, good teacher can open up entire new vistas of knowledge, thought, and hope to our charges, an uncaring poor one can abuse his authority — and it is real power over his audience — to poison the self-confidence, hopes, and dreams of his students.

I hope all of us, but especially these inspiring students we honor today, appreciate the full ramifications of all that our educational horizons afford us — that we are going to be remembered light years more for how we treat, respect, and do unto others than how many degrees, professional accolades, dollars, or luxuries we accrue. And I hope we never fall prey to the temptation to stop living boldly and maximize our full potential which our education can help us achieve. As Lincoln reminded us, “It’s not the years of one’s life that counts. It’s the life of one’s years.” More bluntly, Nicholas Butler observed that “Many people’s tombstones should read, ‘Died at 30. Buried at 60.’” Nor should we ever stop educating ourselves once we get the diploma. As Mohandas Gandhi urged, “Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”

So, as Julian Bond, the first black Georgian to serve in our state legislature since Reconstruction, once told a graduating class, “I hope you will not just do well, but also — do good.”

Thank you for your kind attention and patience, and God bless you all.
Journey into the Corrupting Town of ‘Sin City’ If You Dare

Are you in the mood to see another romantic/comedy about the meeting of the parents with the twist being the difference is race? Well this film is not for you. Guys just forget about taking your girls to see this movie. I’m talking about Robert Rodriguez’s adaptation of the graphic novel Sin City of Frank Miller. This movie is mostly in black and white where the only colorful thing is the characters. The overall story is piled into three interconnected tales that are set in Basin City. Each tale involves a man on a mission to rescue, defend, or avenge a woman.

Hartigan (Bruce Willis) is a cop with a heart condition who is trying to save a little girl by the name of Nancy (Makenzie Vega) from a vicious child-rapist named Junior (Nick Stahl), but Hartigan is punished for his final accomplishment as a cop and spends the next eight years in a solitary prison cell where he receives letters from Nancy that knows the truth. After eight years, Hartigan stops receiving letters and is finally released. So he has reason to believe that maybe Junior has found Nancy. Nancy (Jessica Alba) is now a lasso-swinging exotic dancer who’s fallen deeply in love with Hartigan. But Hartigan and Nancy’s troubles start all over again, and ends the same too, when Junior reemerges now as a shrek/nosferatu looking creep called Yellow Bastard.

The next story is supposed to be a one night stand that ends in silence. Marv (Mickey Rourke) is a man that is known for being unpleasant but he has heart of gold or maybe bronze. Goldie (Jaime King) is a prostitute who made Marv feel like a person that could do no wrong but was murdered after their one glorious night together. Marv makes it his expedition to hunt down and kill her killer who is played by Elijah Wood. Marv finds the killer on a farm and realizes that he is a psychotic, cannibalistic murderer who seems to be silent but very deadly. This story ends grimly but great.

The third story follows Dwight (Clive Owen) a red converse wearing private investigator that ends up in a dilemma with Jackie Boy (Benicio Del Toro) that applies pressure to weak truce between Sin City’s beat cops, structured crime and the city’s populace of armed prostitutes, led by his ex-girlfriend (Rosario Dawson) but in the end Dwight ends up killing an unsuspected cop that being Jackie Boy. It seems that Dwight might need to go to great lengths or maybe depths to cover this murder up.

Are you having fun yet? Those are just some minor details of Sin City although it may have limited appeal; it’s an amazing film that’s a wonder to look at. Check it out if you’re at all curious.

Experience Athens’ Finest at Reknowned Last Resort

Being that this particular restaurant will be the last for this school year, I only felt it necessary for the review to be on one of the most loved and unique restaurants in Athens.

Nestled in the heart of downtown Athens is a comfortable and laidback restaurant that features a respectable Southern-ish menu with plenty of style and personality to go around.

The Last Resort was founded in 1966 as a music and comedy club by three finance companies. It was once said that if one were turned down by those three particular financial institutions that the bar was one’s “last resort”. However, the club was shut down in the mid-80s and was turned into a small camera shop. Then, in August, 1992, The Last Resort Grill was formed into an upscale restaurant and has been doing well ever since.

The Last Resort Grill is a very intimate restaurant in the fact that upon entering the narrow fooyer into the small bar/bar dining area, one immediately feels in tune with what the restaurant is all about: hospitable, down-to-earth, high-quality dining, without trying to break the bank.

The full bar features many diverse import and domestic beers and even includes Athens’ very own Terrapin Rye Pale Ale. Additionally, The Last Resort Grill has a very reputable and expansive wine list with which to choose from. Whether you want a nice $100-$200 bottle of merlot for you and a date or a good $7 or $8 glass of wine with your pasta.

Concerning the dinner menu, The Last Resort Grill features such dishes as the Adobo Salmon, priced at $13.95, which is fresh Atlantic salmon marinated in chipotle and adobo topped with a grilled pineapple salsa served with coconut rice and sauteed greens. The Grill also features such local dishes as the Blue Trout, priced at $12.95, which is a North Georgia trout dusted with pecan flour, blue cornmeal, and walnuts and sauteed in white wine and topped with citrus butter.

The Grill’s menu also includes four delectable pasta dishes, one of which is the pasta-of-the-day. The chicken carbonara, which is a full-flavored vegetable-laden pasta and priced at $13.95, is a plump chicken served with bacon lardoons, green peas, tomatoes, and mushrooms over penne pasta.

Last, the dessert menu is quite impressive for The Last Resort Grill displays all of their desserts, consisting mostly of cheesecakes and an assortment of other cakes, in a see-through display at the bar.

If you are ever in the area, then you must stop in and have a bite to eat or a pint of Terrapin at The Last Resort Grill. Just don’t let it be your “last resort”. It’s on the top of my list. Go to lastresortgrill.com for more information.
Canseco Recounts MLB Steroid Use in Autobiography ‘Juiced’

Why would anyone read a book when they can watch the same sort of thing on a television show or in a movie? I am not a big fanatic of reading for enjoyment. I read my Bible, Sports Illustrated, and several different newspapers. Even with magazines and newspapers, I pretty much just look at the pictures.

Not too often does a book with so much hype and promise come along, especially from a former Major League Baseball star with a coarse reputation. In the atypical occurrences that I chose to read for my enjoyment, I do not pick some lofty novel written by Hemingway or Twain, but a book by former Oakland Athletics baseball star Jose Canseco entitled “Juiced”.

Canseco’s book first became acknowledged as a tell-all book about steroids in Major League Baseball. Instead, “Juiced” is more of an autobiography of Jose Canseco’s life than a book about steroids in baseball. I picked up Canseco’s book to read about how rampant steroids are in baseball, not to read about Jose’s relationships with his wives, his parents, or pop star Madonna. The chapters in “Juiced” about steroids are scintillating, but the rest of the book is simply just a waste of time.

All I have ever heard about steroids says they are bad in every single way both physically and mentally. However, on the very first page of “Juiced”, Jose Canseco writes, “Steroids are here to stay. That’s a fact. I guarantee it. Steroids are the future...And believe it or not, that’s good news.”

Canseco does not end there. On the next page he writes, “We’re talking about the future here. I have no doubt whatsoever that intelligent, informed use of steroids, combined with human growth hormone, will one day be so accepted that everybody will be doing it. It’s called evolution, and there is no stopping it.” Canseco then goes so far as to say, “All these people crying about steroids in baseball now will look foolish in a few years as the people who said John F. Kennedy was crazy to say the United States would put a man on the moon.”

Start with my favorite chapter, “Did He or Didn’t He?” In this chapter, Canseco gives the names of several players nobody has talked about, that he saw first hand, use steroids. Next, go to chapter fifteen entitled “Giambi, The Most Obvious Juicer in the Game”. The title itself explains this chapter. The last chapter, which is a must read, is chapter eighteen called “Steroid Summer, The McGwire-Sosa Show, and the Fake Controversy over Andro?”

Without a doubt, parts of Jose Canseco’s book “Juiced” are worth reading, particularly for baseball fans that enjoy that sort of thing. “Juiced” is not T.V., but it is an easy read, and it does have pictures.
Another Memorable Year in the Books

As the year comes to a close, it’s a good time to look back and reflect on the past months and to what benefit we have used our time and energies.

Not only did the Gainesville College Foundation receive a respectable portion of money from Road Atlanta during the Suzuki Superbike Showdown, but a strong relationship between GC and Road Atlanta was formed through the publicity GC provided Road Atlanta.

Last semester also saw GC’s premier communication club host a formal speak out concerning the November presidential elections which saw several students debate about a variety of subjects.

The speak out received special attention from several local media outlets.

Then, during the month of October, GC hosted the annual Tumbling Creek Mountain Bike Rumble, which attracted a record number of over 1,000 spectators and competitors. As seen in the past, the TCMBR will continue to attract more and more people and will also help to establish a name for the campus and the surrounding area as a challenging and enjoyable mountain biking destination.

Yet, not all that happened last semester was for the benefit of the school. Last semester, many cars were stolen from campus as a result of gym lockers not being locked and people going into those lockers and stealing car keys, wallets, and other personal belongings.

As a result of the thievery, the campus security has had to increase their patrol to 24 hours and implement a new policy that requires everyone to show either their student IDs or sign in to be able to access the physical education complex’s facilities.

This entire year has also seen incredible performances on behalf of the Gainesville Theater Alliance’s talented crew in such plays as “As You Like It,” “Look Homeward, Angel,” “Sleeping Beauty,” and “Gypsy.”

The art exhibits of Melissa Harshman, faculty and staff, and the graduation art students have helped to make a name for the Roy C. Moore Art Gallery as being an important host to many talented artists in this area of Georgia.

The spring semester has also experienced many creative and enjoyable events such as the poetry cafe, the unique colloquium speakers, the spring fling, earth day, the GC BBQ, and the performance of former student Chris Cauley and his saxophonist.

As we go about our business this summer, let us not complain about having to go back to school in the fall, but anticipate the coming year as an opportunity to make a difference in this growing campus.
Student Opinion Poll
What do you think about GC’s plans of adding on to the Student Center?

“I like the idea. There will be more room and more things for students to do.”
Jana Hobson, Homer Pre-Veterinary

“Good. As long as it doesn’t raise my taxes.”
Paul Smith, Buford Undecided

“Yeah, it’s a great idea. I’m all for it.”
Angie Holcombe, Gainesville Nursing
Oconee Not Just a College, but a Lasting Memory

I would not dare count all the times I have heard the painful words, “We have a school paper?” Yes, we have a newspaper, and if you are reading this right now, you are probably one of the select few at the Oconee campus who reads The Compass. And for the staff members who work so diligently each month to make it so Oconee has a voice, we thank you tremendously for reading The Compass.

It isn’t a surprise to hear such words, considering that student involvement is very minimal and discouraging to those who participate regularly in student activities. I must say, campus involvement does seem to have improved this semester, but still not to where it should be.

Oftentimes, I have observed students who have no clue what is going on around campus. There is so much more to do than just go to and from classes.

A big issue surrounding this lack of concern among the student body is due to the fact that many students view Gainesville College as a filter university.

Another trend being studied intently is considered by some to be a new stage in development, sandwiched between adolescence and adulthood. Called adulthood by some, tweens or boomerangs kids by others, this phenomenon deals with ever-increasing numbers of 18-to 26-year-olds living at home. A combination of factors seem to be contributing to this, including more young people than ever attending college, a relatively stagnant job market, the desire by this millennial generation to find work that feels meaningful, and the lack of preparation for the real world during the college years, compounded by the enormous debt with which many college students graduate. What social scientists and other data-crunchers are finding is a 4-year-degree no longer assures graduates of an entry-level job that allows them to live independently. Consequently, tweens are moving back in with mom and dad, and these parents are dipping into their retirement funds while junior is moving from one job to another in search of the elusive job that is rewarding, both financially and emotionally.

As this is probably the last piece I will ever write for The Oconee Compass, I hope that a new beginning springs forth at Oconee.

I encourage the following generations of students to get involved and really experience the big opportunities that this little college campus has to offer.

I am proud to say that I was part of a community college that helped me “grow” as a person. And although I am sad to leave, I can look back and say I am blessed to have been a part of such a wonderful family.

How to Be Your Own Best Friend

The midpoint for the Spring 2005 semester has recently passed. How are you doing? Are you well on your way toward becoming a lifetime learner? Are you involved not only in academics at Gainesville College, but also in extracurricular activities? How well do you communicate with your family?

Why am I being so nosy? I speak with many students every day as part of my job as Coordinator of Academic Support for the Oconee Campus. I enjoy these interactions and I have a great deal of confidence that most students I speak with will make it in the real world. At the same time, though, there are some disturbing trends in our culture today – trends so disturbing, in fact, that entire workshops, courses, articles, and books are being devoted to them. You should be aware of these trends, especially as they may relate to you, so that you can be your own best friend.

One trend concerns the new breed of parents known as helicopter parents. They are known to hover over nearly every aspect of their children’s lives, even those of their grown children. Finding it difficult to fully let go and allow their children to experience independence and the ups and downs of life, they tend to be over-involved in everything that concerns their offspring. They mean well, however, they are so concerned about their sons and daughters possibly making mistakes or about their children having their feelings wounded or something awful or unfair happening to their children, they attempt to run interference for every contingency. Given our post-9/11 mentality, it’s understandable that many parents have increased anxiety about what kind of world their babies are going to encounter.

Sadly, the innocence of “Leave it to Beaver” days has been replaced by uncertainty about what lurks just around the corner. What’s a parent to do? The Helicopter Parents, in their attempts to protect and defend their children, tend instead to deprive them of the necessary opportunities to learn coping skills, self-advocacy skills, and responsibility.

Student Opinion Poll

How can the OC improve student participation?

“Put stuff in teachers’ mailboxes and have them announce it during class. It will take two minutes and help people who don’t read the posters. Also, different time for events.”

-Dirk Wise
General Studies

“Advertise things better. Many times I come and see stuff outside I didn’t even know was going to be happening.”

-Ashley Shearer
Biology

“Broaden the times they do stuff. Many of the activities are during lunchtime and I don’t even come to school until around 2.”

-Kevin Powell
Business
**Year End Wrap-Up at Oconee**

It’s that time of year again. The students are rushing around doing their last minute projects and the professors are frantically trying to get all their grades organized and entering. It’s a time of late night studying and possible “Why the hell am I here?”

Why are we here? At this college, working towards our goals diligently as the space we call our home away from home grows and reaches new goals with us.

Our school, our campus is as much a part of the process as our last minute projects and late night studying.

What a year GC Oconee has had. This second full year has brought some disappointments.

Where did Herbivore Plus go? Why must we pay for Scantrons? Why can’t we get all our classes at the campus we enrolled at?

These questions trouble us, but although our campus is not perfect it has shown some great effort. Effort in helping us out, the effort our professors show when they actually know our names (find that at a university) and the effort the staff and administration have given to show us we are not just a mere satellite campus to Oakwood, but an entity all to our own.

**Student Fees Too High for What is Offered**

For those of us who look at the list of tuition costs and various fees, a somewhat disheartening fact is apparent. Here at GC Oconee our student fees are just as high as the main campus, which has many more amenities than our small satellite campus has to offer, with a gym, café, as well as many other places for student congregation. If you look at the numbers, this means the cost of running a large campus full of activities must be the same as ours, with all six of our vending machines.

It’s hard to believe that we are getting our money’s worth when we don’t even have a decent dining option on campus and the largest area of gathering is covered in pavement. Possibilities are endless for a campus with the large student body and growth that Oconee is experiencing.

Although steps are being made by administration, the time to act is now. The hiring of additional full time faculty as well as student life coordinator Josh Rood has done much to improve the life of our campus. The trend of bettering our campus should continue whether it is state funded or privatized, this way students here at Oconee may benefit from our actions and have a better place to relax than the parking lot.
Acoustic Duo Performs at OC

By Britney Compton
Photo Editor
bcom2499@gc.peachnet.edu

Athens based acoustic duo, Dromedary, performed for the Oconee Campus on April 11. The event was hosted by the Foreign Language Club and Student Life.

The duo consists of Rob McMaken on dulcimer, mandolin, guitar, and cumbus, and Andrew Reissiger on charango and guitar.

“We want to make people curious, to be fascinated with music that comes from other places and times, and to inspire creativity,” said McMaken.

The two started playing on McMaken’s front porch with no intentions of performing at any other locations. “With the support of our surrounding community,” said Reissiger, they went on to debut at Flicker Bar and Theater off Washington Street in December 2000.

The music the two create is inspired from “other countries that we have individually traveled through,” said McMaken. The cultures include East Asia, South America, Eastern Europe, and the Appalachia.

Dromedary’s intentions are to, “remove the overload of information the society has become accustomed to.”

Reissiger feels that, “there is an interaction...the sounds you are not used to...a collaboration of the music and listener is unlike TV and internet.”

Dromedary currently has two CDs on the market, sold all around Athens, and more in the making, including a collaboration CD with Jonathan Byrd. For local appearances and other information, visit www.dromedarymusic.com.

Registration Period Improving

By Jerry Talbos
Staff Writer
jtal7704@gc.peachnet.edu

Student registration and advisement this spring is, “getting better,” according to Dede DeLaughter, coordinator of academic support.

This spring’s registration and advisement period implicated new changes such as the e-mail students received indicating blue cards are no longer going to be mailed out and each students advising and registration time is now posted on the student and financial aid menu of the banner web.

“Now that e-mail is the official means of communication for the college” said DeLaughter, “there is no reason for a student not to know when to register.”

There were also notice board memos and a banner on the side of the SRC building.

Although, “the number of students who utilized the process has been disappointing,” DeLaughter pointed out that, “the students who did see an advisor found it quite helpful and found it expedited their registration process.”

Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration is now required for all incoming freshmen and transfer students, which will enable new students to pre-register while currently enrolled students are also registering.

New students who did not attend SOAR and currently enrolled students who did not pre-register for fall semester will need to wait until the Registrar’s Office opens registration again.

Check gc.peachnet.edu for new dates.

‘Fitness Center...’
Continued from page 16

Mills added, “A bylaw calls for this committee to contain a majority of students, and have a faculty chairman.”

Brown said, “The allocation of money for the current school year was determined last fall, and Oconee received $92,156 for the year.”

Oconee has used this money to fund such events as colloquium speakers and student orientations.

In addition, a large sum of the money has been allocated between organizations and clubs within the OC.

The organizations and clubs of Oconee recently held their first meeting to divide the money.

Brown asserted “Student activity fees are about the students. I encourage student involvement in school, what happens is up to the needs and desires of the students.”

“The allocation of money for the current school year was determined last fall, and Oconee received $92,156 for the year.”

-Dede DeLaughter
Coordinator of Academic Support

Interested in writing, photography, layout? Come and join the award winning paper. For more information send an e-mail to compass@gc.peachnet.edu

gccompass.com
New Club Juggles into the OC

By Jerry Calbos
Staff Writer
jcal7704@gc.peachnet.edu

GC’s Oconee campus now has a Juggling Club with Helene Hendon, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, being the club advisor.

Hendon, who is a juggler along with Josh Rood, Coordinator of Student Life, decided to turn their “passion” into, “a learning and social opportunity” for faculty, staff and students.

The club meets from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m. every other Wednesday where members learn the basics of juggling. The meetings are held outside the SRC building and in room 512/522 if it rains.

Students, who are interested in joining the Juggling Club, can contact Mrs. Hendon at hhendon@gc.peachnet.edu.

At a meeting of the Juggling Club on April 6th, Dan Davis is caught in the middle of a team juggling event, where he is in the middle juggling balls while two people are at either side juggling clubs together.

BRITTEN COMPTON/The Compass

OC Gomemee Clubs & Organizations

Oconee Compass Student Newspaper
Meetings: Wednesday at noon in room 502
President- Elizabeth Fields
Contact- elle4340@gc.peachnet.edu
Faculty Advisor-Dan Cabaniss
Contact-dcabaniss@gc.peachnet.edu Office 555

Future Health Professionals
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at noon in room 501
President- Carla Walker
Contact- cwal0119@gc.peachnet.edu
Vice President- Meade Cabaniss
Contact- jkonzelman@gc.peachnet.edu
Office 554
“Supporters of Allied Health Fields, Veterinary, Med and Nursing, EMT, Pharmacy and many more fields that students are interested in. We also coordinate campus tours each semester.” J. Konzelman is our staff advisor.

Psychology Club
Meetings: Wednesday at noon in room 503
President- Louis VandenPlas
Contact- LVadan@charters.net
Faculty Advisor- Tom Hancock
Contact- thancock@gc.peachnet.edu Office 546

SIFE- Students in Free Enterprise
Faculty Advisor- Anne Duke
Contact- aduke@gc.peachnet.edu Office 557

Juggling Club
Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 4:45-6:00 p.m. in room 512/522
Faculty Advisor- Helene Hendon
Contact- hhendon@gc.peachnet.edu Office 554

OC Faculty Profile: Rebecca Coates

Playing two roles as librarian and teacher of RSCH 1501 and 1502, Rebecca Coates has been at this campus from the beginning. Though reading is her passion, travel, her dog, and music all play roles in her time away from the college.

Q. How did you come about to be the Oconee Campus Librarian?
A. I finished library school in May 2003, this campus had just opened and I wanted to stay in Athens so I applied. I was already working at UGA’s Library.

Q. What is the biggest problem in the library?
A. Space. There are so many things that are housed here and trying to maintain an area for people to study. I try to create a balance.

Q. Are there any extensions of the library in the future?
A. We did just receive a grant from the foundation to purchase more books and things.

Q. Who is your favorite literary character?
A. As a child I really loved Ramona Quimby, I thought she was pretty cool. Now, my favorite book is “White Teeth” by Zadie Smith. I really like Iris, I found it humorous. So that is it for now, but it will change.

Q. When you were a child, who did you most want to be?
A. I had two people I was obsessed with; Nellie Bly, a journalist, and Dolly Parton, so I could sing Jolene. I spent many nights singing into my hairbrush to her greatest hits.

Q. What is your favorite aspect about yourself?
A. My loyalty.

Q. What band are you a member of?
A. Bella Coola, I play drums and sing.

Q. How did you become a part of it?
A. Clint, also in the band, a friend at UGA asked me to come over and play music. I never had before so did. I borrowed his roommate’s drum set, and we played.

Q. How often do you play in Athens?
A. Usually a couple times a year, but recently more often. We played twice in one month.

Q. Twenty years from now, when you look back, what will you remember most vividly?
A. Last year my best friend was diagnosed with cancer and survived. That has been the most pivotal experience and effects the way I look at the future. Though negative, it has a positive effect.

Q. What do you think about the current state of America?
A. I’m looking forward to 2008.

Q. What one bit of knowledge would you want every student at GC to know?
A. Don’t be afraid of the library because the librarian could be your most helpful friend.
Relief Benefit Spices Up Lunchtime

Dan Davis and Nick Heigerick race on the Bungee Run at the March 9 benefit hosted by the Progressive Club. All proceeds from the lunchtime events were used towards Sudan Relief. "We're very proud of our efforts and have set the bar for next time," said Josh Rood, Campus Life Coordinator.

Fitness Center in Works for Oconee

By Tyler Graves
Contributing Writer
tgra2911@gc.peachnet.edu

The GC Oconee Administration has set the ball rolling for a future fitness center.

While the main campus of Gainesville College currently maintains an overwhelming edge in terms of features and assets, Oconee is making strides in closing the gap between the two campuses.

Director of Student Development and Enrollment Management Michele Brown asserted, "The main goal of the administration of GC Oconee is to finance the construction of a fitness center on campus."

Brown also said, "We have received great reviews from students regarding the possibility of constructing a fitness center on campus, and have determined that a fitness center is what the students desire most."

In terms of a time span, Executive Dean of the Oconee Campus Penny Mills claims, "Potentially a fitness center at the GC Oconee campus could be erected as soon as two years from now, but in reality it is likely to take longer than that."

Mills also added, "We are also currently exploring the possibility of building a Student Services building and attaching a fitness center to that."

"A proposal for a Student Service center at Oconee has already been sent to the Board of Regents for consideration as a minor project on the priority list, and has been there for over a year," Brown said.

Brown went on to add that "proposals for additions to schools within the University System of Georgia are classified under either capital projects or minor projects."

Capital projects are the expensive proposals in search for more than $5 million, and minor projects are the proposals asking for under $5 million.

Brown also commented on how the student fees at the OC are being spent. "All the money that is collected from the students of both campuses for student fees is compiled into one big pot."

"The allocation of the money in this pot is determined by a committee composed of students and faculty members."

Oconee State Bank Donates $6,000 to OC

By Elizabeth Fields
Oconee Editor-in-Chief
efie4340@gc.peachnet.edu

Oconee State Bank has donated $6,000 for a smart classroom at the GC Oconee Campus.

Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Penny Mills, President, Martha Nesbitt, and Foundation CEO, Pat Guthrie accepted the donation from Amery Harden on behalf of the Oconee State Bank on March 28.

Smart classrooms are classrooms that have been modified to create an effective learning and teaching environment for the students and instructor," said Sloan Jones, director of public relations and marketing. Jones went on to say that "each classroom contains a networked multimedia computer with full internet and local computer resources as well as a projection system for full class presentation."

Christy Yeager, Associate Professor of Mathematics, feels the smart classrooms are "the most helpful tool I've ever used. It has completely changed the way I teach and the way my students learn."

Assistant Professor of Economics, Mike Ryan, believes that "such technology is an incredible asset during classroom presentations."

Bryan Wesnofske, systems support specialist at Oconee, said "All of our classrooms are officially smart at Oconee now, which is rare for a two year college."

While accepting the check Nesbitt said, "As the College continues to expand its presence in Oconee County it is important to know that we have the support of those we serve."

New Culinary Options on Menu for Next School Year

By Emily Cook
 Clubs Editor
ecco0440@gc.peachnet.edu

Administration hopes to implement new food options by summer.

According to Penny Mills, executive dean, "We are investigating the possibility of getting one of the deli trucks to come to campus."

Other options include additional vending machines that would provide a wider range of healthier choices, such as sandwiches, fruit and yogurt.

The long and strenuous process to get food on campus has been a challenge for administration from day one.

According to Mills, "Our real difficulty is that we do not have any sort of kitchen facility that would support a food vendor in any of our buildings."

This proved to be a problem during the fall semester for food vendor, Herbies Plus.

For now, students can take advantage of local food discounts around campus. Ten percent discounts are available at Philly Connection, Dairy Queen and Main Moon with your student ID. The ten percent discount is available at Philly Connection Monday-Friday from 11:00 a.m.-noon and any time at Dairy Queen and Main Moon.

Student discounts are not only available at restaurants, but also at First Fitness of Oconee. Student membership fees are $10 per month with a student ID.