



Laura Justin / The Spectator

Porche Chavers, Keia Taylor, Angel Stephens, Eboni Lang, Vonetta Lawton, Kim Daniels watch Jonathan Headen and La Michael Hendrix sing "Tomorrow" during Iota's Gospelfest Tuesday in Palms Quad.

Iota week gospelfest draws 50 students

Blenda Link
Staff Writer

About 50 students in Palms Quad listened as Kim Daniels, sophomore exercise science major, sang "His Eyes are on the Sparrow," a cappella, around 5:30 p.m. on a stage before Langdale Hall on Tuesday. Daniels' song began "Gospelfest," a religious gathering hosted by the newly recognized on-campus fraternity Iota Phi Theta.

According to the fraternity's president, Bobby Ficklin, senior pre-law political science

major, the event was part of the fraternity's celebration of its first year as an officially recognized organization at VSU. Ficklin said Iota Phi Theta gained its recognition in October and that "Gospelfest" was the third event of Iota Week, which began Sunday and will end Saturday. Ficklin also said the event was held to give thanks for blessings received and to showcase some of VSU's talented students. Those in attendance had positive comments about the event. "One of the fraternity brothers told me about it," Tambreia Ellison, junior biology major,

said. "I'm here for support. The singing is awesome." Melody Banks, senior business management major and VSU Mass Choir historian, said she also liked the singing. "I saw it [Gospelfest] on the Iota pamphlets on the billboards throughout campus," she said. "It's wonderful. I'm glad they had it." Banks said she was glad the fraternity held Gospelfest because she thinks that many organizations that plan similar events often do not follow through with them.

Freezer Burn:

Michelle Taylor
Staff Writer

Georgia Hall has been feeling the cold. From the inside. Last week, a sign was posted on the first floor of Georgia Hall telling residents the heat would not be turned on until the weather changed. Students have been complaining about the coldness of their rooms since the beginning of the semester. "When I got back from winter break there was a sign on the front door [of Georgia Hall] that said, 'yes, the air is on because someone complained it was too hot,'" Dacey Brown, sophomore biology major said. "But it is cold. The air bounces off the walls and really hits you if you are sitting at the desk." Brown's roommate Charlotte Linney, sophomore political science major said, "You really notice it at night. It gets really cold then." Jenny Slear, Georgia Hall's Residence Hall director, had no comment to make at this time. Joe Mattachione, director for Housing and Residence Life, said his office regulates the air in residence halls. According to him, the decision to turn the heat or air conditioning on depends on the weather. "We try to look at the long term picture, like

when the weather is going to change," Mattachione said. The reason the air is not changed on a regular basis is because it takes 48 to 72 hours to change the system from heat to air conditioning, and vice versa. This means if Housing and Residence Life decides to change the system on a Monday, the air will not get warmer or cooler until Wednesday. "It's not very efficient to change the air every time the weather changes," Mattachione said. "Students will not even feel the results for days, and if the weather changes again, that means more time to wait for comfort." Langdale Hall, Converse Hall and Patterson Hall residents are able to control the airflow to the room. Georgia Hall, Brown Hall, Hopper Hall, Lowndes Hall and Reade Hall residents may not. Mattachione said the Physical Plant controls the blowers that regulate airflow to the buildings. He also said the age of the residence halls make it harder to turn air on or off. When the blower stops heating the room, the room still experiences the warmth because of the heat that remains in the pipes. When the air conditioner is turned off, students again feel the cold because the chilled water in the pipes has yet to disappear.

"If this is a program that means, that, say, it will take only 24 hours to change the air, I'm all for it."
-Joe Mattachione, director for Housing and Residence Life

Dr. Zaccari to address VSU about planning

Leah F. Cassorla
Staff Writer



Dr. Zaccari, VSU president, wants your attention. And to get it, his university address will be broadcast on VSUTV and simulcast on the Web at <http://vsutv.valdosta.edu> via the VSU TV Webstream link. That's no excuse not to show up in person, though. At 11 a.m., today, Dr. Zaccari will be addressing the University from Whitehead Auditorium in the Fine Arts Building. The address will be his first address to the entire university.

Dr. Zaccari said he didn't think he'd be finished working on the speech until this morning, right before he gave it.

Dr. Zaccari will also be discussing Solutions 21, a company hired to help the university compile a plan for the university. Solutions 21 will be on campus on March 4 to speak with delegations of students, faculty

and staff. The delegations were chosen by the Student Government Association, the Faculty Senate and the Council on Staff Affairs, respectively. They will then meet with the president's cabinet. Dr. Zaccari said he would not be present at those meetings because they are a chance for the community to be open with Solutions 21. "It will be a neat exchange that gives them a flavor before they come back on March 21," Dr. Zaccari said. "They will learn a little bit about the campus and will have the survey info they will be armed with a

"I want all this business about how [the presidential search] was done behind us because it's over."
-Dr. Ronald Zaccari, VSU president

In the address, Dr. Zaccari plans to discuss his agenda, the solutions 21 retreat and his choice of VSU, among other topics. "I need to share with campus why I became interested in VSU," Dr. Zaccari said. "I need to talk about the actual search process. I want to discuss the interview process so that people know that it was a challenging interview; that I won the position fair and square. And I want all this business about how it was done behind us because it's over. Now that I'm here I want to get to the business at hand."

lot of good information to facilitate the retreat." Solutions 21 will also send out email surveys to 500 randomly selected students to assess their feelings about campus concerns. The students were chosen using random sampling designed by Information Technology to ensure that there were representative samples of all classifications. All this is in preparation for the three-day retreat to take place March 21-23. At the retreat, delegations representing students, faculty, staff and business people from the Valdosta area will meet to discuss solutions for the concerns raised on campus as well as plans for the future of VSU. Dr. Zaccari said he would not be a vocal participant at the retreat, but will charge

the delegates and then stand back to allow them to discuss their concerns and find solutions together. Today's address is intended to help prepare the campus for the changes ahead. According to Theresa Boyd, manager of public information for University relations, the televisions at the University Center will be tuned to VSUTV for students who are interested to watch the president's address. Dr. Zaccari said the address will last only about 35-40 minutes, and will not include a question and answer period.

Georgia Hall residents face overnight freezes without heat

"That's our legacy of when the buildings were constructed in the '60s," Mattachione said. "As renovations continue in the dorms, we hope to put in a four-pipe heater that will allow cool and hot air to flow at the same time. In the renovated Langdale wings there will be an electric heat system." Bob Bell, director of Plant Operations, was able to explain the heating system further. He said the residence halls were heated in several different ways. To cool the air, the residence halls use a central chiller system. Heating is more complicated. The residence halls are heated either with hot water; steam converted into hot water or electric heating that works with electric resistance strips. Converse Hall and Langdale Hall use electric systems, and the rest use the hot water system. The residence halls are heated and cooled by a system of pipes. Patterson is the only residence hall that will use a two-pipe system after the renovations of Langdale Hall. This means the hall

can only be heated or cooled, but not at the same time. In a two-pipe system there is an outgoing pipe for the air and a return pipe for the water. In a four-pipe system, there are two places for air supply and return, so the building will be able to have hot and cool air running at the same time. The reason why the four-pipe system is being put into dorms is because it is more convenient. According to Bell, in a two-pipe system, the heat would have to be turned off, then workers would have to wait for the water to cool before using that water to cool the building. According to Bell, it only takes a day and a half to get the system working. Mattachione said he did not know that the four-pipe system was being put into place. "I was told in a meeting that we still had the two-pipe system, but if we have the four-pipe system that's great," he said. "But if this is a program that means, that, say, it will take only 24



Photo illustration by Lindsey Giddens and Annie Johnson / The Spectator

Bob Bell, director of Plant Operations, explained that Georgia Hall is not being air conditioned or heated at this time. Rather, air is being pulled in directly from the outside. As the outside temperature drops overnight, so does the inside temperature. Overnight temperatures are expected to drop into the 20s and 30s for the next two weeks.

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This issue
What's *Who's Who?* And *Who's Who* at VSU?

Web Watch This week: <http://www.c-c-c.org/chineseculture/festival/newyear/newyear.html>
You may think you're a tiger, but if you were born in 1960, 1972 or 1984, you're a rat. Your animal on the Chinese Zodiac is decided by the year you were born, just as your sign in the Greek zodiac is decided by the month you were born. This year is the year of the black horse by the Chinese calendar, and to learn more about the black horse and Chinese New Year celebrations, you can log onto <http://www.c-c-c.org/chineseculture/festival/newyear/newyear.html>. Chinese New Year was Feb. 12, but will be celebrated this weekend at Mathis Auditorium. See Year of the Horse parades into 2002, page 4.

Campus Happenings

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

Submissions for **Campus Happenings** can be sent to Blenda Link at bjlink@valdosta.edu or brought to the Spectator offices on the second floor of the University Union on VSU's main campus.

POLICE

February 22

Destiny M. Russow, 22, of 105 South 4th Ave., Streator, Ill., was arrested at 9:19 a.m. at Baytree Road and Azalea Drive for driving with an expired license. She was taken to Lowndes County Sheriff's Office to post a cash bond. She is not a VSU student.

February 26

Laura S. Snell, 22, of 912 Brookhaven Drive, was arrested at 1:50 a.m. at North Patterson Street and Brookwood Drive for failure to maintain lane and DUI. She was taken to Lowndes County Jail. She is a VSU student.

Bobby Dixon, 55, of 713 Johnson St., was arrested at 2:07 p.m. at North Patterson Street and East Gordon Street for driving with a revoked license, no insurance and an expired tag. He is not a VSU student.

Today

The summer and fall 2002 schedules of classes is available online at <http://hpn4000.valdosta.edu/> and in print in various locations across campus.

Information technology will present a free computer training session, "FTP Tool," in Pine Hall 107 from 9 to 10 a.m. for all VSU faculty and staff. Participants must take this session before the FrontPage sessions or be familiar with FTP.

For more information or to register, call Ann Holland at 333-7395 or e-mail her at aholland@valdosta.edu.

Information Technology will present a free computer training sessions, "FrontPage Intro," in Pine Hall 107 from 10 a.m. to noon for VSU faculty and staff. Participants must have basic knowledge of Windows.

For more information or to register, call Ann Holland at 333-7395 or e-mail her at aholland@valdosta.edu.

Career services will present two workshops: "Resume Preparation," at 9 a.m., and "Interview Skills," at 2 p.m. in its office on the second floor of Powell Hall West.

For more information, call 333-5414.

Dr. Ronald M. Zaccari, VSU president, will deliver his first campus-wide address at 11 a.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at Fine Arts Building. All VSU students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend.

The speech will be broadcast by VSU's cable channel 12 at 10 p.m. and will be web cast on <http://vsutv.valdosta.edu/> (select VSU TV web stream link).

There will be a pool tournament in the University Center game room at 5 p.m.

For more information, call John T. Wright, recreation coordinator, at 333-5998.

The office of modern and classical languages and the Hispanic honor society Sigma Delta Pi will sponsor a Spanish film, "Goya in Bordeaux," directed by Carlos Saura, at 6:30 p.m. in West Hall 255.

For more information, call the office of modern and classical languages at 333-5948.

Natural High will be showing the movie, "O," from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Magnolia Room at the University Center.

This event is free for all VSU students. Free pizza and drinks will be provided.

For more information, call the office of alcohol and other drug education at 259-5111.

Friday

The Student Health Center will be administering Hepatitis B vaccine shots from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Payment should be made at the Bursary. Receipt of payment should be brought to the health center when coming to get a shot. The cost is \$30.

For more information, call the Student Health Center at 333-5886.

The music department will present the opera, "The Merry Wives of Windsor," by Otto Nicolai at 10 a.m. and again March 2 at 7:30 p.m. and March 3 at 3 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

For more information, call ArtSouth at 333-2149 or 333-2150.

Monday

Dr. Don MacRaild, history department head and deputy director of the center for Northern Studies at the University of Northumbria, England, will present a free

lecture, "Minorities in Great Britain," at 7 p.m. in Magnolia Room 2 in the University Center. Refreshments will be served.

The lecture is part of the Center for International Programs Spring Focus Series. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, call Nancy Egan at the CIP at 333-7410.

Tuesday

Certified Red Cross instructor Tim Yorkey will teach an adult CPR class from 8 a.m. to noon in the Continuing Education Building 240 today, an adult First Aid class on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Continuing Education Building 240, an adult CPR class on March 19 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Continuing Education Building 243, and an adult First Aid class on March 20 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Continuing Education Building 243.

VSU students, faculty and staff are invited to attend. A registration form must be completed before taking the class. Cost is \$5.

The maximum number of attendees allowed per course is 10. Classes with fewer than four people registered will be cancelled.

For more information, call Becky Murphy, assistant to the director/training coordinator, in training and development at the University Center 1148, at 259-5105 or fax her at 333-7419.

A Walt Disney World College Program job recruiter will be giving a presentation in the University Center Theater at 6 p.m.

Wednesday

The Campus Activities Board sponsors Brian Brushwood who will present a bizarre magic show at 7 p.m. in the Magnolia Room at the University Center.

For more information about Brian Brushwood, visit www.shwood.com.

Campus Outreach Ministries meets every Wednesday for "One80" at 9 p.m. in the Bio/ChemBuilding Auditorium.

For more information, call Jason at 671-9483.

Student Advising Steps

1. Make appointment with advising guru.
2. See advising guru.
3. Sign up for JOUR 2500.
4. Throw away all those copies of Blenda Link's articles you've been collaging on your walls for the past year...you can finally meet her in person and she'll help you write your own great articles.

Lost it? I for it belong

Found Property

1. Georgia license plate
2. Georgia driver's license
3. Lady's silver bracelet

All recovered One Cards are turned over to One Card Services. Call Public Safety at 333-7816 to identify any of these items.

Found: Chances for students to write and take photos for the Spectator.



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Lindy Rodriguez
Lindsey Jones
Stefanie Latta
Rebecca Wynn

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News

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Today

UV Index:
6 Moderate
Hi: 57
Low: 33

Friday

UV Index:
6 Moderate
Hi: 64
Low: 44

Saturday

UV Index:
6 Moderate
Hi: 66
Low: 46

Sunday

UV Index:
4 Low
Hi: 64
Low: 40



Vonetta Lawton / The Spectator

The old Heilig-Meyers building, on the corner of Gordon Avenue and Patterson Street, was sold to VSU this year. The building will be used for campus mail.

VSU purchases old Heilig-Meyers

Ray McKrow
Staff Writer

The old Heilig-Meyers building has a new purpose.

VSU representatives purchased the building formerly owned by Heilig-Meyers Furniture Co. The 23,500 square-foot building is located on the corner of Gordon Avenue and Patterson Street.

According to Ray Devery, vice president for Institutional Advancement, the building will serve two purposes.

"We want to keep the main campus free for student activities," Devery said.

To implement this, VSU's bulk mail services division, currently in the University Union, will be moving to the new building this week.

"[Mail services] simply needs more space and can almost just turn the lights on and move in," Devery said.

The building, was bought for

\$230,000 and needs minor modifications to be suitable for VSU.

"There is a brick section of the building in the back with loading docks big enough to operate forklifts," Devery said. "The front portion of the building will be used for academics, but I am not sure for which department."

VSU, so far, has been successful in concentrating student activities on main campus. Plant Operations has been moved to the old Piggly Wiggly on Ashley Street and the Bursary is now housed in the old Bank of America building on Patterson Street.

According to Devery, no recent purchases are in the future for VSU.

"We are always looking for possible locations for sale that are in direct proximity to VSU, like the Heilig-Meyers building," Devery said.

Heating

continued from page 1

hours to change the air, I'm all for it."

Bell confirmed that the office of Housing and Residence Life does make the call to change from heating to air. Bell said he has not had any calls about the air in Georgia Hall that he knows of.

According to Mattachione, he too has not received any calls about the coldness of Georgia Hall. He did mention that the air had been fixed in Langdale Hall after residents complained of extreme heat.

Mattachione sympathizes with student complaints but asks students to have patience. He suggests student's deal with the cold by putting on an extra sweater or using another blanket. He also said to call the front desk of the residence hall

and complain. Students can voice complaints to the office of Housing and Residence Life at 333-5920.

Some students may think of blocking vents with cardboard or paper. Mattachione warns against this.

"Do not block off vents," he said. "It throws off the system airing the building. If you block off your air, it could mean that your neighbor is getting a cold blast."

Above all, Mattachione asks for students to understand that Housing and Residence Life is trying to fix the problems.

"It's frustrating for all of us," he said. "We try to make the best we can. We are not trying to be callous."

Michelle Taylor is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at pferde14@hotmail.com

Housing asks for student input

Tameika Carson
Staff Writer

A housing survey will help VSU construct better residence halls.

VSU is currently examining plans for expanding on-campus housing. Students are asked to complete a web-based survey. The survey was sent to students with an active GRITS email account.

Survey results will tell Auxillary Services students' needs and preferences.

"With student input, we will be better able to plan for new housing development and create opportunities that will best serve the students," Robert Kellner, director of Auxillary Services, said.

The Board of Regents required Auxillary Services hire MGT of America, Inc, a national higher education planning firm, to conduct the survey.

The firm will examine the condition of housing by compiling and observing the results. The survey can be accessed at

http://www.mgtamer.com/surveys/. The password and survey number sent in the student email is required to participate.

"This feature enhances the validity of the survey by increasing security and allowing you to return to the survey at a later time," Kellner said.

Auxillary Services and Housing and Residence Life will notify students of the survey with signs and advertisements on student movie channel 63.

The survey is separated into four categories: About You,

Your Preferences for Housing Options, Your Preferences for Housing Features, and the conclusion. Students are encouraged to answer all of the questions in each section.

The deadline to complete the survey has been extended to March 4. Students that participate by March 3 are entered in one of two \$50 drawings.

"The consultant will draw the names shortly after the deadline and then notify VSU of the winners," Joe Mattachione, director of Housing and Residence Life, said.

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SaturdayNight...
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News

Profs fired up for last star show

Jaime Peck
Staff Writer

The third viewing at the VSU planetarium was last Thursday in Nevins Hall 3030. Dr. Judith Grable and Dr. Cecelia Barnbaum, professor of physics, astronomy and geology, presented the program "Global Warming: A Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight!"

Although there are usually at least two working projectors (one for each side of the room), Dr. Grable and Dr. Barnbaum had to present the program with only one working projector.

After the crowd of about 40

students and faculty moved to the back of the room to view the simulated stars above, Dr. Barnbaum presented how the sky in Valdosta looks in summer and in winter, since the earth is tilted toward different parts of the sun at those times. She pointed out the major constellations, such as Orion, Little Dipper and Big Dipper.

Dr. Grable defined global warming and its immediate and long-term effects on our planet. She showed a slide of Atlanta and a slide of the entire globe seen through thermal-detecting lenses. The eastern United States, all of Europe and India use the most thermal energy in

the world.

She explained trees cool the local climate by giving off water. In this way trees can have a great effect on our local climate.

Dr. Grable said the overall temperature of the planet has increased almost 2.2 degrees Fahrenheit from 1860 to 1998, and it seems to be increasing all the time.

According to Dr. Grable, this increase in temperature is due to eruptions on the sun's surface, the changing orbit of the Earth around the sun (sometimes it's elliptical and sometimes its more circular) and the greenhouse gases—water

vapor, carbon dioxide, and methane—chemical reactions heating our atmosphere.

Dr. Grable concluded that the fate of the Earth is undetermined, but it could eventually become like its sister planet Venus, with a surface temperature the melting point of lead.

For information on when the planetarium will be open next, contact Dr. Ken Rumstay, physics, astronomy and geosciences professor at 333-5754.

Jaime Peck is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at jaimepeck@yahoo.com



Students applying to college face new regulations making all test scores count

When students apply to college in the fall, they no longer have the option of withholding some of their test scores from admissions officers. After admissions officials complained they weren't a complete picture of applicants, the College Board, sponsor of the SAT, removed the 9-year-old "Score Choice" policy, which applied to SAT II. With SAT I, colleges saw all scores, not just the highest. The new decision could result in fewer students taking the SAT II since all scores will count.

Great Britain receives a green light for cloning

Wednesday, Great Britain's scientists received a go ahead to pioneer the cloning of human embryos for the purpose of medical research. This would also be used to set up the world's first embryo cell bank. A House of Lords committee ruled that embryo cloning was allowed to continue under strict conditions. It does not allow the cloning of a human for the purpose of creating a baby.

Woman commits suicide bombing on West Bank in Israel

Wednesday, a bomb went off near a military roadblock on the Israeli West Bank, police said. According to military sources, a woman suicide bomber set off explosives in a car. The explosion killed the woman and injured three police officers at the roadblock. Two of the officers suffered moderate injuries and one was lightly injured.

Twenty workers in Boston airport charged for lying to get jobs

Twenty workers at Logan International Airport in Boston were charged Wednesday for lying to get their jobs or security badges. Six of these were security screeners but worked for six private companies at Logan, not the actual airport where the two hijacked planes that hit the World Trade Center originate. They are not suspected of terrorist activity. The other workers were with cleaning, hospitality or fuel companies. 15 face charges of being in the United States illegally.

Year of the Horse parades into 2002

Leah F. Cassorla
Staff Writer

The Chinese New Year, marking the beginning of the year of the horse was Feb. 12, but that won't stop Dr. Wei-Sung Wilson Huang, assistant professor of sociology, anthropology and criminal justice, from celebrating it at Mathis Auditorium this weekend.

The cultural exchange celebration will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and is open to the public. Admission is free.

Dr. Huang is not even late in celebrating the holiday. Traditionally, Chinese New Year is celebrated for at least 15 days, often longer.

In fact, the entire first month of the New Year is special to the Chinese. The month is called Yueng-Yu, which means 'grand' or 'full circle' month.

The Chinese calendar is a lunar-based calendar, meaning that each month is measured by the revolution of the moon around the earth.

In Chinese tradition, at the end of the year the Kitchen God, the god of health and prosperity of the house, leaves. When the New Year begins, a new Kitchen God comes to the house.

In preparation for the change in gods, people clean and decorate their homes. The preparations are designed to create a warm and welcoming presence for the new god. The family is not allowed to sweep or wash the house for three days after the New Year, to avoid washing away good fortune.

The portrait of the Kitchen God is taken down before the New Year and burned. A new portrait will be hung after the New Year.

Decorations include Chuen-lien, poetic couplets containing lucky characters and good-luck sayings. These are hung on either side of a doorway. Because of the luck these bring,

Horse see page 9

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

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Hell hath frozen

When record cold hits record old, a storm is sure to follow. Such is the case in at least one VSU residence hall. According to Joe Mattachione, director for Housing and Residence Life, the halls' air conditioning and heating systems are so old it takes three days to switch from air conditioning to heating. Interesting.

Anyone who's lived in South Georgia for more than, oh, five minutes, knows that the weather here is subject to fairly quick change. Considering Mattachione's explanation that the systems were installed in the 1960s, one would think the problem of students freezing and boiling in the dorms would have come up sooner.

Until recently, Georgia Hall had a sign on the door, announcing to students the heat would not be turned on until VSU was certain the cold weather would last more than a week.

Good luck on that one. We are in the middle of flu season. Sleeping in a cold room can't possibly be conducive to getting better. Not from the flu, not from a sinus infection, not from a simple cold.

So we face a forecast from weather.com that calls for hard freezes overnight and lows in the 20s and 30s for at least two weeks. The national weather service has been forecasting cold weather in the Southeast since the weekend, giving the Office of Housing and Residence Life more than 72 hours to turn on the heat.

The decision to heat or not to heat is made by administrators. At the end of the day, they get to go home to their nicely heated houses. Students can't even mitigate administrators' decisions by using a personal space heater. Space heaters are against housing rules.

When the Spectator attempted to find the reason why, Mattachione could not give a complete response.

With all the information at the University's fingertips, a cynical mind might think saving a few bucks on electricity has taken precedence over student comfort and health. Unless this is a crash course designed for students expected to become homeless in the future.

Regardless of why, this choice on the part of the University is completely unacceptable.

If the reasoning is to money, it is far worse. It's time for VSU to get off the pot and do something about living conditions on campus. It's the University's responsibility to do so, as a landlord, as a pseudo-parenting entity and as an institution dealing with human beings.

Dorms aren't supposed to be hell; that's what classes are for.

Spectator opinion written by Leah F. Cassorla

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Feminism under fire

Stereotypes do not befit a feminist

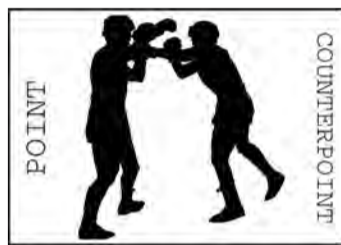


Matthew Stokley
Guest Columnist

This is in response to Laura Justin's article on Hooter's in the Feb. 14th paper. The title, "I don't give a hoot," falls short of the article's true topic, feminism. The author's ideas fail to show the true nature of the feminist cause. Feminism is the fight for equal rights for women in relation to the freedoms men have. This doesn't mean that supposed "feminists" can belittle women that work at the Hooter's restaurant. Some of the women at Hooter's are working to pay college tuition, loans and other expenses so they can have a career in the future. Women that work at Hooter's are bettering the feminist cause by working hard and striving to succeed. Feminists try to fight stereotypes and Ms. Justin uses strong offensive stereotypes about both genders in her article. The first stereotype in the paper is her idea of a middle-aged male.

"A middle-aged male looking to get some cheap thrills when his waitress bends over in caution-sign orange shorts."

All men aren't like that. If a person could fight a stereotype placed on women by firing back another erroneous stereotype on men, it would be an utterly fruitless argument resulting in an even bigger argument over opinions on the opposite sex. The only way to fight something is to



articulate, use concrete facts to back up the argument, and come across with a conversation that may result in an agreement. Certain concrete facts like there are more working women now than ever before. The number of working women has grown from 5.3 million in 1900 to 63 million now. They are evenly spread across the wide range of fields offered to any person. The actual percentage of working women nearly equals the amount of working men. Women currently make up 46.2 percent of the labor force.

Ms. Justin, being a feminist supporter, should be trying to fight female stereotypes of any kind but she uses one in her article.

"All it takes is one dumb blonde willing to throw on a pair of orange shorts and run around like a giggling idiot..."

That statement, when said by a man or woman, shows a gross amount of ignorance and disregard for others on the speaker's part.

The point made about how "disheartening" it is to have a society condone a business like Hooter's is absurd. The society that allows Hooter's is the foundation behind the feminist movement. This society opened all doors to anyone with the mind and heart to fight for what they want.

But, to get down to a "Bare knuckle" fight with names and stereotypes being thrown around only results in battered ideals and high tempers. Ms. Justin "I don't give a hoot" about Hooter's either, but I do give a hoot about a person trying to speak for people without getting their participation and ideas on the area under discussion.

Hooter's hinders feminism



Laura Justin

I, from a feminist perspective, am not belittling Hooter's girls, but maintaining that they hinder the feminist efforts to gain equality to men.

Countless students support themselves through college without stripping to the bare minimum. Were these girls a step away from bankruptcy until Hooter's saved them?

My reference to middle-aged men was collective for argument's sake. I am not implying every man on earth fits the description. As for the 'dumb blonde,' this is a reference to the icon that represents the ideal Hooter's girl on billboards and calendars. It is not meant to imply that all blondes are dumb or vice-versa.

Statistics on working women is not the issue, nor do they display equality. Women still make a mere 70 cents for every dollar the average man makes.

Hooter's girls are hardly bettering the feminist cause. There is an unfair demand for women to perform as sexual objects. By supplying a market for this demand, Hooter's girls condone and perpetuate the mindset in society, especially among men, that it is acceptable to market women based on their sexual virtues. This continued school of thought inhibits feminists' efforts to gain a sense of respect that is equal to the men of our society.



Michelle Taylor

Isn't that nice

Nice people always finish last.

Nice people are supposed to take the world on their shoulders, cover everyone else's mistakes, fix problems and never get angry.

But being nice never got me anywhere. It has only brought stress and acceptance that I will never be the top or a great leader.

All it has done for me is make me really easy to scrape off someone's shoe.

You think being the nice girl is fun? It's not. It means you have to take the insults others throw at you with a smile. It means that you can't ever cry to anyone or in front of everyone. In fact, closed doors seem to be the only one I can turn to when someone hurts my feelings, or makes me sad.

But what can you do? Nothing. Because once a nice person, always a nice person. Sticking up for yourself doesn't make you heard, it only makes you an oddity.

Being nice means not telling someone your problems, but solving everyone else's.

And sooner or later, it means you will break. It could mean a total shutdown, or worse; suicide.

Now I'm not saying that being nice necessarily leads to death, but I am saying that the nice people are never appreciated. They are expected to know everything and be everything. And that's a lot of weight for one person to carry. The world is pretty heavy. And you never know how heavy until it is placed on *your* shoulders.

Nice people expect only one thing; someone to be nice back. And I wish that someone would realize it. We are not as strong as we look.

For everything a nice person has, there is more they have to bear.

So be sensitive to those of us who go out of our way to make you happy. We do it because we believe in the simple rule that being nice leads to others doing the same for us. We don't ask you to help with our problems, we just pray you will be in tune enough to realize we are human too.

So try being a little nicer. I hate being the gum on the bottom of somebody's shoe.

Michelle Taylor is a Spectator columnist and can be contacted at Pferde14@hotmail.com

How well do the residence halls meet student needs?



"Not well at all. Half the toilets are broken and there are two showerheads that work in my dorm."

Mickey Giordano
Freshman
Undecided



"I think they meet them pretty well, although Reade Hall needs its own laundry room."

Joey Heath
Freshman
Political Science



"The dorms do a good job with supplying a home away from home. I don't like the bathrooms and the rooms are too small."

Brandon Conyers
Junior
Marketing



"I think they do a really good job they have a lot of socials to help everybody in the hall meet eachother."

Tara Brown
Sophomore
Accounting



"It doesn't because there's not enough rooms for everybody and some people are forced to live off campus."

Larry Spruill
Freshman
Mass Media



"The showers are cold, the bathrooms are nasty, the rooms are too small, and the closets are too small."

Sarah Simpson
Early Childhood
Education
Sophomore

Editor's Note

This page embraces satirical opinion pieces generally not suited for more serious news pages. The views expressed in the Darkside are not necessarily those of The Spectator, its staff and in many cases, even the contributors themselves.

DANGER THE DARKSIDE

If you have ideas or comments about the Darkside page, contact Darkside editor, **Jeremiah Bass** at jwbass@valdosta.edu

Them damn kids are at it again

Jeremiah W. Bass
Staff Writer

I look back on my life from time to time, remembering the days of old when I was but a wee little lad.

Much like now, I had nothing to lose, always eating candy and throwing spitballs at teachers and my friends when I was in middle school.

I look at how some things have changed, but it's been quite an evolution. Old people being tormented by their every presence, doctors resigning just because it's too hard to look at those curious-looking faces, President Bush being forced to sit at their table every holiday get-together...Just in case you're wondering whom I speak of...it's KIDS!

I know that when I was in the prime of my adolescence (some of you may think I still am), I don't ever recall being as evil as

some of today's youth.

Sure, like every other hormone-driven young boy, I tried to cop-a-feel from the hot girl in art class (for which I occasionally got slapped); I may have even called some adult "fat" because I took in what older people said around me.

But I never ran through the local toy store yelling at the top of my lungs while calling my parents profane names because I couldn't get the new *G.I. Joe with the Kung Fu Grip*.

Nowadays, little Oscar can get away with calling mom a "two-time whore" because he can't have his way. And what does mom do in response? "Oh, honey, you don't mean that. Please don't say that baby, I love you schnukums."

Whereas, the correct response (in my point of view) should be, "You little son-of-a-bitch! Get your motherf***** ass in the car. It's time we take

a trip to that new torture camp for kids, you little s***. I never did like your little b**** a**; now you're gonna pay! HAHAHAHAHAHAAAA!" Or, you could just slap the living piss out of the youngster.

And why do they always stare, in particular, at *me*? Am I really that ugly or hideous-looking? I have never understood why little children are astounded by me. It's like I'm on exhibit at the Smithsonian, or something. They won't say anything; they just stare. I've found staring back at them with a frown tends to get them to turn away (If that doesn't work, just give 'em 'tha finga').

"What's your name?" "How old are you?" "Do you have a dog?" "Do you have a disease?" "What's that yellow thing growing on your neck?" "Is your girlfriend/boyfriend fat?" "Do you have a penis or a vagina?" Any of this sound

familiar? Yes, kids ask a lot of questions. Some of the questions make no sense at all.

If you can't seem to get rid of the little bugger asking all the questions, *don't* start yelling and jumping around...this doesn't scare them away, it only astounds them. You'll be hurting yourself. Instead, start speaking in tongues or another language to the best of your ability.

Kids are usually a nucleus for germs and anything else that relates itself to sticky things. And it's not 'oh, that's-so-cute' kind of dirty; it's straight-up 'get-the-hell-away-from-me' kind of dirty. If I had a nickel for every time I saw a kid walking along a sidewalk holding a melted ice cream cone of which most of the ice cream is on his/her face, Bill Gates would be just another rich guy.

So I'm thinking the next time I see one of these dirty little

cretins, I'll run to the nearest fire department, grab a hose and wash away!

I guess the overall generalization of the matter is: kids are a pain in the ass! How do we get rid of them anyway? Or could we just force them to act better? I've got some pretty neat ideas.

- Check 'em out.
1. Go to GPTV and kidnap Barney the dinosaur (let's just hold him for ransom).
 2. Do away with all candy companies.
 3. Give all of the candy to me!
 4. Throw them off balconies.
 5. Take away all of their video games.
 6. If all else fails, send them to me! I'm pretty sure we could work something out...



Okay, so maybe I was a hard on the little lads. Children are the future I guess they're not so YEAH, RIGHT! WHATEVER. If you want to express views on kids, or anything about the DSide, e-mail Jeremiah Bass at loserkidblink@hotmail.com

Think you can go 40 days and 40 nights without? Tune in next week and see the DSider s take on sex sex

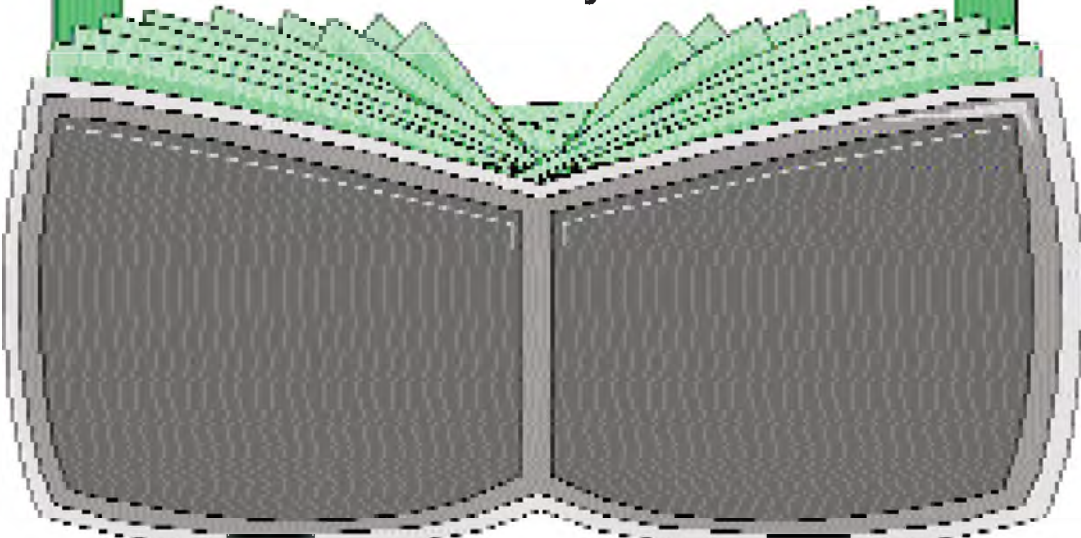
"Student Activity Fee Budget Request Forms"

will be available Monday, March 4th

Those recognized student organizations wishing to request Student Activity Fee Funding may pick up Budget Forms from the Office of Student Affairs in the University Union.

Please call 333-5941 if you have any questions and ask for Russ or Andrea.

The deadline to submit Budget Request Forms is 12:00 noon on Friday, March 22nd to the Office of Student Affairs in the University Union.



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Features

Check out our website for pictures of the Merry Wives of Windsor at www.valdosta.edu/spectator

The Spectator welcomes ideas and comments from the public. Please contact justin_laura@hotmail.com

www.valdosta.edu/spectator



Hit the road for spring break



Jason Howell
Staff Writer

Spring break is just around the corner for students looking to get a break from VSU, Valdosta or even the country for a week.

According to springbreakworld.com, Negril Jamaica is the place to go. Negril appeals to young spring-breakers because of its white sandy beaches that cover nearly seven miles along the Caribbean. They also offer rafting, mountain climbing, Jeep safari tours, water-skiing and snorkeling tours.

If this sounds appealing, go to Expedia.com where a roundtrip flight to Negril from Atlanta is \$691.55. The average four star hotel is nearly

\$150 a night while the newer ones like the Beaches Grande Sport will cost nearly 400 dollars if you book before April 5. These hotels are all on the beach, but there are cheaper hotels located just off the beach. The average price of these will run from about \$50 to \$100 a night.

Most of the hotels will accept anyone as long as they are over 21 years of age. A few of the cheaper hotels located off the beach will allow you to stay at the age of 18.

Also according to Springbreakworld.com, if you cannot go to Negril, then Cancun, Mexico is the place for you. Cancun offers crystal clear oceans, professional snorkeling tours, hot nightclubs and a countless number of bars for

those looking for nightlife.

According to Expedia.com, they have a Luxury Cancun Package including a roundtrip ticket from Miami to Cancun, a four-star hotel room for six nights and seven days and two meals a day for \$650. Payment in full is required when reservations are made.

Cancun has many nice four and five-star hotels located on the beach like the Park Royale and the Beach Palace Resort or the El Presidente. You do not need a passport to travel to Cancun, but you do need a valid form of ID and a birth certificate.

For someone looking for a nearby inexpensive spring break trip, check out Panama City Beach, Florida. Panama City has miles of beaches,

fancy seafood and steakhouses like Angelo's, Pompanos and Captain Andersons, which is next to the huge Treasure Ship that guests can dine on. There are numerous putt-putt golf courses, go-cart tracks, arcades, Shipwreck Island Water Park and The Miracle Strip Amusement Park. For the nightlife, you will find a few clubs and everyone will be cruising the main strip located in front of the beaches.

Panama City offers hotels right along the beach such as Howard Johnson resort, BW Del Coronado and the

Edgewater Resort. These hotels range from \$129.99 to \$199. Driving mileage to Panama City from Valdosta is about 280 miles.

For someone looking to travel somewhere that doesn't have a beach, New York City is the place to go. According to Travelocity.com, the Carnegie hotel runs about 209.95 a night. For someone on a tighter budget, The Manhattan and The Habitat Hotel run for \$70 and \$80.

Travelocity.com also offers a roundtrip flight to New York for \$216.50. New York is known as

the city that never sleeps because it has an extremely busy nightlife. There is everything for tourists to see ranging from the Statue of Liberty to the Empire State Building to a live Broadway Musical. MTV also calls New York City its home, which is a very popular tourist attraction. New York's nightlife consists of nightclubs going until the daylight hours of the next morning and cafes and diners that welcome tourists all night long.

Gettin' 'jibby' with it

Casey Carpenter
Staff Writer

VSU is sailing to a new club.

The new VSU sailing club was recognized last Tuesday by SGA. So far, there are 12 members.

"[We] try to practice at least once a week," Courtney Kasun, sailing club president, said. "Anyone can join, as long as they pay the \$50 dues a semester to cover travel costs, the yacht club, and membership fees in SAISA. If students have financial concerns, we can try to work things out."

The sailing club has a single-person boat called a Force 5, which will be used in their upcoming trip March 8-9 in St. Petersburg, Fla., for a regatta at the University of South Florida. The next weekend, a trip is planned to Charleston, SC for a regatta at the College of Charleston. The University

of Florida has adopted the VSU team to offer advice and help with occasional practices because it is so new to SAISA.

Dr. Sarah Bartholomew, professor of political science, has been assisting the club.

All members must pass a swim test of 50 meters (1 lap) and treading water test. CPR certification would be helpful to learn, but not necessary to join the club. Experience is not

necessary to join; new members will be taught sailing techniques.

Trips to regattas are already planned. Anyone interested can contact Courtney Kasun at sailvsu@yahoo.com.

Casey Carpenter is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at cassandraanne@aol.com

Check out this week's website for a video clip. Learn about that nasty cold or flu going around at www.vsu.edu/spectator/

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Features

Disney to hire students

Kate Gauling
Staff Writer

When you wish upon a star, wish for a job.

Disney is coming to VSU Tuesday. Gregory Taylor, Disney recruiter, will host a Disney internship presentation at 6 p.m. in the UC Theater. All students age 18 and up are welcome. All majors are invited.

According to Ann Taylor, VSU assistant director for cooperative education, all students who want to qualify for the Disney internship should attend the presentation. An interview sign-up sheet will be available. Interviews will take place the following day beginning at 8 a.m. in the Co-op office. Students must sign up to qualify for an interview.

Melanie Grenzia, former Disney intern, originally went for a 4-month job and stayed a

year. She first worked as a park greeter and became an attraction hostess and a character performer.

"You don't have to worry about housing," Grenzia said.

According to Grenzia, the apartment complex she lived in was one of three available for Disney employees. Her housing was automatically paid for out of her work wages. Wages are \$6 per hour. Transportation, once in Orlando, was provided through shuttle buses. She was also able to take some college classes while working at the park.

"All the positives outweighed the negatives and I would recommend the experience to any student," Grenzia said.

According to Sean Doesburg, senior history major, said housing cost \$66 for a six-person apartment and \$77 for a four-person apartment. Utilities are

included. Housing was located on three streets, Vista Way, Commons and Chatham Square.

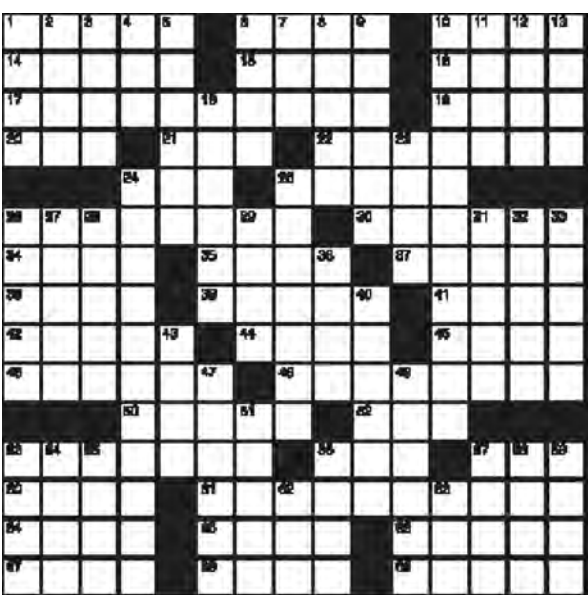
"You can't walk to work, but the drive is not far," Doesburg said. "It only took me 20 minutes to get to my work."

He also said transportation was free. Interns were allowed to bring cars.

Doesburg worked as a food and beverage host at the All Star Resort Movies. His internship lasted August until January. He hopes to go back to Disney after he graduates.

"I loved my experience," he said. "It's one of the best things I've done. I got to play in Disney World everyday. I'd recommend it to anyone."

Disney will recruit up to 100 students per campus, Taylor said. All majors and students 18 and older are welcome.



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Answers to crossword on page 9.

Wake Up!
By: TRAVIS



Hi EVERYONE! I'M HERE TO APOLOGIZE FOR NOT HAVING A "WAKE UP!" STRIP FOR YOU THIS WEEK. THIS SEMESTER HAS BEEN HECTIC SO FAR AND I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BEHIND. HOWEVER, I PROMISE TO STOP DRINKING SO MUCH AND START DRAWING MORE! KEEP ON READING AND THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT,
TRAVIS

O.K.... SO I'M LYING ABOUT THE NOT DRINKING, BUT THAT'S NO REASON TO NOT CHECK OUT MY STRIP NEXT WEEK!

adivil@hotmail.com

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'Merry Wives of Windsor' comes to VSU

Blenda Link
Staff Writer

Fifteen-dollar opera tickets are rare—especially for operas in which the singing is done in modern English and the opera itself is based on a Shakespearean comedy.

Starting Friday, the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra and the music department will bring another opera VSU's way: "The Merry Wives of Windsor" by 19th century East Prussian composer Otto Nicolai. Performances will be at 10 a.m. on Friday, 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

Deana Tracy, graduate music education student and stage manager, said the opera is sure to be "a riot."

The ironic opera relays the story of two "merry" wives, Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page,

(Catherine Piland-Carter, VSU graduate, and Marti Schert, adjunct voice instructor at VSU, respectively) who receive the same love letter from a man who truly believes he's got love in a bag to himself—Falstaff (guest performer Dr. Kyle Hancock, assistant professor of voice and director of the opera theater ensemble at Georgia Southern University).

Mr. Ford and Mr. Page will be played by guest performer Gregory Smith, a graduate vocal performance student at GSU, and Dr. David Lee Johnson, director of choirs and professor of voice at VSU, respectively.

In the end, a plot is made to oust Falstaff's advances by humiliating him at a masquerade gathering in a magical forest among townspeople dressed as fairies, elves, and other characters as well as a surprise guest Falstaff is not aware has been invited.

According to Tracy and Dr. Carol M. Mikkelsen, professor of voice at VSU and the production's producer, the principal cast members have been rehearsing since November, the opera chorus has been rehearsing since January and the orchestra had its first rehearsal last Saturday. Also, the set designer was hired in November and Bekah Kay, sophomore vocal major at VSU, has been working on the performer's costumes since January, Tracy said.

According to the program, the 25-member chorus and 28-member orchestra, comprised mostly of VSU students, combines with a nine-member cast and 18-member production staff for an opera involving about 80 people. Three VSU music department faculty members including the two guest performers from GSU will play five of the opera's nine cast roles.

According to Tracy, one of the main problems with having so many people involved in the production is working around individuals' schedules for rehearsal. Three people have been making long distance efforts to make rehearsals. Dwight Coleman, associate professor of music, stage director at Georgia State University and the opera's director, has made trips to Valdosta for the past four weekends to rehearse. Dr. Hancock and Smith have also been traveling on weekends.

According to Tracy, the original three-and-a-half hour opera has been cut to last about two hours with one intermission.

This year, Valdosta Symphony Orchestra members such as violinist Susan Faulkner, a senior music performance major, appear to be

excited about playing for the opera.

"This is the first year they've let string majors perform [for the opera] because they haven't needed us," Faulkner said. "They'll [usually] use the faculty."

Dr. Kenneth Kirk, associate professor of music, will conduct the orchestra and singers.

Tracy said "The Merry Wives of Windsor" is humorous and easy to follow.

"If you've never seen opera before, this is a good one to start with," she said. "It's not like sitting there for four hours going, 'What are they saying in Italian?' [The opera] is in English. You can understand what's going on, and it's really funny."

For more information about tickets, call ArtSouth at 333-2149 or 333-2150.

Crossword Answers



S	W	I	M	S	E	L	B	A	A	M	E	N
P	I	N	O	T	L	E	O	N	N	A	V	E
A	N	D	M	R	S	K	I	N	G	D	U	E
S	K	Y	E	T	S	G	I	N	M	I	L	L
			A	A	A	S	O	N	A	R		
B	L	A	N	K	M	A	N	A	S	S	I	S
L	O	R	D	P	L	E	A	A	N	D	E	S
A	T	O	M	S	P	A	T	S	O	E	I	L
S	T	A	R	S	S	K	I	P	R	A	Z	E
T	A	R	S	S		E	P	I	S	T	L	E
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O	N	C	E		M	I	N	E	E	A	G	L
P	E	A	S		S	E	A	N		T	R	E

Year of the horse arrives

horse

continued from page 4

the characters are hung upside-down to show they have just arrived from heaven.

Dr. Huang, who came to the U.S. with his wife in 1982, said Chinese families also use paper cutouts, fruit, flowers and plants to decorate the house. These include plum blossoms, peach blossoms, apples and oranges.

The symbolism for each of these decorations comes from the pronunciation of the names. The names either sound like or rhyme with words for prosperity, abundance, good-luck and health.

"The whole house is made joyful and brilliant so the god of wealth and happiness will bestow fortune," Dr. Huang said.

Over course of the celebrations, families gather for feasts of 9 to 12 dishes, each of which symbolizes health, wealth, prosperity or another positive wish for the year.

Fish symbolize plenty, long noodles symbolize longevity and sticky cakes symbolize success and staying together.

"I still remember my mother making this kind of cake," Dr. Huang said.

On the 15th day of the celebration, families make lanterns



and walk through the neighborhood to scare away evil spirits and welcome the new gods.

Chinese New Year is also known for firecrackers and dragon dances. Firecrackers scare away the monster associated with the word 'year.' The dragon symbolizes power, strength, prestige and status.

In celebration, Chinese bow and wish each other a happy

new year: "shin yeng quai lu," and may happiness and prosperity be with you: "gong shi fat chai."

The celebration at Mathis Auditorium will include a drums array, dragon dancing, costumes and professional acrobats.

Dr. Huang and his wife have organized the cultural exchange with the help of VSU professors and students, as well as members of the community.

"We have a lot of volunteers," Dr. Huang said. "They spend their time and energy to make this possible. This really is a group effort."

For more information about Chinese New Year, log onto the web at www.chinapage.com/newyear.html. For information about the year you were born and the Chinese zodiac, log onto www.c-c-c.org/chineseculture/zodiac/zodiac.html.

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Tuesday, March 12
12:30 pm - Lunch (\$1) at the Baptist Student Union
8:00 pm - Worship (Magnolia Room at the UC)

Wednesday, March 13
8:00 pm - Worship (New Science Bldg. Auditorium)

Thursday, March 14
12:10 pm - Prayer Chain around the Campus Quad (Patterson-Georgia-Oak-Brookwood)

"Jesus said to them, 'Who do you say that I am?'" Matthew 16:15

Sponsored by the Presbyterian Student Center, Campus Outreach, United Methodist Student Center, Baptist Student Union, Team Jesus and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The Spectator prints free classifieds for students of Valdosta State University only. These must be no more than 40 words, or a \$6 charge will apply. **Classifieds for faculty, staff, student organizations, student-owned businesses and the general public cost \$6 for up to 40 words.** Ads should be sent to *The Spectator* or delivered to our office in the University Union. The deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. If payment applies, it should be submitted in a sealed envelope at the time the ad is placed. Ads must be accompanied by the name and phone number of the person submitting the ad. Ads must be resubmitted each week, as necessary. *The Spectator* address is:

VSU Box 7052,
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Sport



Upcoming Games

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March 2-3

For complete coverage of VSU golf, go to www.valdosta.edu/spectator

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Smart points to Tallahassee

Blazer defensive coordinator takes job as graduate assistant at FSU

Matt Stewart
Staff Writer

VSU football has a problem. For the second year in a row, a Division I school has lured the

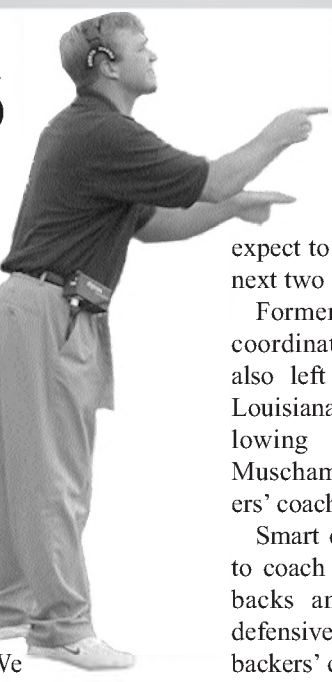
Blazers defensive coordinator away from VSU.

2001 Blazer defensive coordinator and linebackers' coach Kirby Smart announced last Friday he has accepted a graduate assistantship at Florida State University to coach the Seminoles defensive backs in 2002.

Athletic Director Herb Reinhard said Wednesday that the search for a new coordinator had begun, but a list of candi-

dates had not been announced.

"Coach Hatcher will come up with one or two candidates and run them by me, so it's up to him," Reinhard said. "We



expect to fill the position in the next two or three days."

Former Blazer defensive coordinator Will Muschamp also left VSU for Division I Louisiana State University following the 2000 season. Muschamp became linebackers' coach at LSU.

Smart came to VSU in 2000 to coach the Blazers defensive backs and was promoted to defensive coordinator and linebackers' coach after Muschamp

left.

VSU defensive line coach Levorn Harbin was hired by Muschamp before his departure and worked with Smart during the Blazers 12-1 Gulf South Conference Championship season in 2001.

"The kids lose the attachments they have with the coaches, but they'll get over it," Harbin said. "It's part of the business."

Danny O'Rourke, VSU's sec-

ondary coach a year ago accepted a position as defensive backs coach at Navy earlier this year. The Blazers coaching position remains vacant.

Because of the two vacancies in the defensive coaching staff, Harbin is the only defensive coach remaining. According to Reinhard, it is highly unlikely VSU will hire from within because of the shortage of coaches.

VSU 12th in CBN poll

Jana N. Cook
Staff Writer

VSU baseball suddenly has a huge bulls-eye on its back.

Coach Tommy Thomas' Blazers jumped from No. 24 to No. 12 in the latest Collegiate Baseball Newspaper Division II poll. But Thomas never has been too excited about early national rankings.

"It's not how you begin the season, it's how you end," Thomas said. "[Polls] are a conversation piece. You feel good about it, but they have no effect in the end."

VSU will be busy protecting that No. 12 ranking as Dowling College, No. 30 St. Leo University (8-7) and No. 1 Georgia College and State University (14-0) roll into town

for the weekend-long Nijem Jeweler's Diamond Classic at Billy Grant Field.

Dowling College, a New York Collegiate Athletic Conference (NYCAC) team from Oakdale, N.Y., will be the Blazers first opponent Friday at 6 p.m. Dowling will have traveled over 1,000 miles before Friday's game.

"Actually, it's pretty simple," Thomas said. "Northern schools travel south during the winter to try and find warm weather."

After losing to the Blazers in the 2001 season, head coach Carmen Carcone's Golden Lions return the depth of the team's pitching staff to Valdosta for the 2002 match-up. All nine pitchers return this season to lead the team.

Saturday's game will be at noon against Saint Leo University, a Sunshine State Conference team located near Tampa, Fla. The Blazers were 0-2 against Saint Leo in 2001. Even though Lions' coach Ed Stabile brings an experienced team into town, their 8-7 record tells of trouble in the beginning of the season. This still doesn't ease Thomas.

"St. Leo had a slow start," Thomas said. "But they still have a very strong team."

Sunday's 3 p.m. contest with top ranked GC&SU (14-0) will prove to be the tell-all game of the weekend for the Blazers.



Annie Johnson / The Spectator

Second baseman Scott Simpson tags out a Tampa runner last Saturday on Billy Grant Field.

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VSU tennis set for Savannah

Matt Stewart
Staff Writer

The No. 2 Blazers and No. 35 ranked Lady Blazer tennis teams travel to Savannah, Ga., for two matches Saturday and Sunday against ranked opponents.

VSU will face Lynn University (Boca Raton, Fla.) Saturday at 2 p.m. on Armstrong Atlantic State University's tennis court. Sunday, VSU squares off with host Armstrong Atlantic St. at 10 a.m.

The VSU men (2-1) stumbled out of the blocks, losing to NAIA No. 2 Auburn-Montgomery, 7-2, in the season opener last Saturday on the P.E.

Complex tennis courts. But the Blazers rebounded, winning the next two matches, 6-3 over NAIA No. 5 Georgia Southwestern State on Sunday, and 7-2 at Georgia Perimeter College (ranked No. 2 in Junior College) on Monday.

VSU senior Tobias Huning and sophomore Marco Borges, the top ranked doubles team in D-II, are 2-1 on the season. The big surprises so far are freshman Peter Kreutzfeldt (VSU No. 3 singles) and Andy Davies (VSU No. 5 singles). Both are undefeated on the season at 3-0.

The Lady Blazers (0-3) were blanked, 9-0, by NAIA No. 1 Auburn-Montgomery to open the season and then fell to Georgia Southwestern St., 5-4.

The most recent loss came last Tuesday at the hands of No. 10 Clayton State, 8-1.

VSU head coach John Hansen blames the women's struggles on his "ingenious scheduling" of two top 10 schools to begin the season.

Lynn University, VSU's next opponent, boasts the No. 12 ranked men and No. 1 ranked women's teams in Division II.

"I know they [VSU] are more talented than our [Lynn] men's team and we are just going up there to compete against the quality teams in NCAA D-II and do our best," Lynn head coach Mike Perez said.

VSU assistant coach Sachin Kirtane said, "They're a lot better than they were in previous

years. That [comment] is a Perez classic."

Lynn's women (4-0) are the defending D-II national champions after finishing with a 24-2 record last spring. Sophomore Monika Mastalirova is tabbed as the second best singles player in D-II.

Lynn's men (3-3) return four seniors from last year's squad, which finished with a record of 10-11. Senior Marin Carenko, the No. 29 ranked singles player in D-II, leads the Knights. Lynn lost to No. 10 North Florida last Tuesday, 7-2.

Armstrong Atlantic St. will match VSU with the No. 19 Pirates and the No. 5 ranked Lady Pirates on Sunday.



VSU freshman Peter Kreutzfeldt hammers a backhand at practice on the P.E. Complex tennis courts. Kreutzfeldt is 3-0 at No. 3 singles for the Blazers.

Annie Johnson / The Spectator



Annie Johnson / The Spectator

VSU sophomore outfielder Jenny McDuffie fouls off a pitch in front of sophomore catcher Tonya Coffey.

Lady Blazers face in-state rival UWG

T.A. Glanton
Staff Writer

VSU softball hates rude guests. The Lady Blazers got a few last weekend.

VSU's home field advantage was nonexistent as it lost twice to Gulf South Conference power Alabama-Huntsville (3-0 and 14-3) and once to Lynn University (4-3) in the first three games of the GSC-Sunshine State Conference in Valdosta.

VSU finally got into the win column in their fourth game of the tourney, with an 8-1 victory

over Eckerd. After that, the Lady Blazers won three of their final five games, including victories over Florida Tech (3-2) and Barry (2-0). VSU finished the tournament with a 4-3 record.

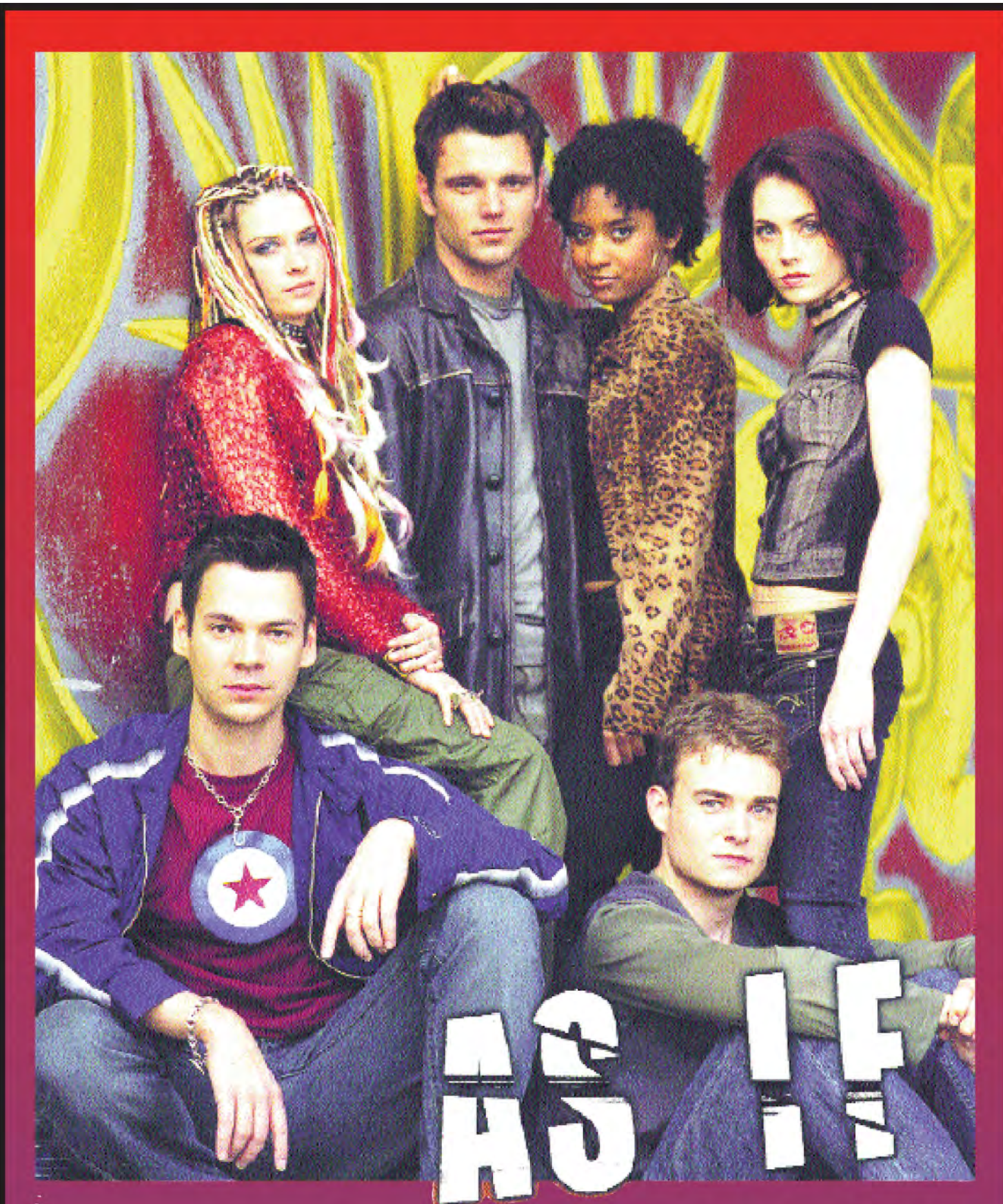
Next up for the Lady Blazers is in-state rival West Georgia.

On Tuesday, VSU (9-7, 2-2) travels to Carrollton to wage war against the Lady Braves (3-9, 0-2) of West Georgia.

"I would say that VSU's pitching is their strong point, plus they seem to play good defense," UWG head coach Erika Swanson said.

Will I be able to pay my rent & eat?

The Spectator is looking for a few self motivated, outgoing people that can work well with the Advertising Department. These people will set their own hours while selling advertising space for the Spectator. If this sounds like you call Wes at 333-5686 and make sure that you can pay your rent and eat this month.



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Blazers garner No. 1 seed in East

VSU claims GSC East division title; beats West Florida 70-50 in season finale

Brandon Scott
Staff Writer

Back for the first time is the title of Ludacris' first album. Back for the first time is the banner held by the Valdosta State men's basketball team. Because for the first time the Blazers are headed to the Gulf South Conference tournament in Tupelo, Miss., as division champs.

The Blazers play the fourth seed in the West division, Harding (16-10, 8-8), Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Harding is making its first ever appearance in the GSC tournament thanks to a 79-76 win over Southern Arkansas.

VSU (20-6, 10-4 GSC) earned the school's first East division title in the history of the 20-year program by defeating West Florida 70-50 last Saturday at the Complex. The Blazers destroyed the Argos on both sides of the floor, as senior forward Nick Gast played stellar in his final home game. He led all scorers with 19 and all rebounders with nine, while senior guard Marcus Williams

added 16, including going 4 for 8 from beyond the arc.

Saturday's win secured two of the team's three seasons goals.

"Our other preseason goal, besides the 20-win season and the first seed in the tournament, was to win our conference," Gast said.

First however, they must stop the GSC's best scoring offense in round one of the GSC tournament. So Mr. Jones, how do you plan to do that?

"We're going to pick up our

defense," senior center Matt Jones said. "Every time they shoot, we're gonna be in their face."

The Blazers will have to do just that, as the Bisons are the GSC's fourth best 3-point shooting team. Junior guard Aaron Finley is the conference's best from beyond the arc, shooting 45 percent.

Yarbrough's Keys: "We have to stop the perimeter shooting. If we get the easy shots and control the board, we have an excellent chance at beating them."

If the Blazers defeat the Bisons their second game will be Saturday at 3 p.m. against the winner of the Montevallo/Delta State game.

Well, Mr. Jones, anything else?

"The seniors would like to thank the Complex Crazy's for all the support."



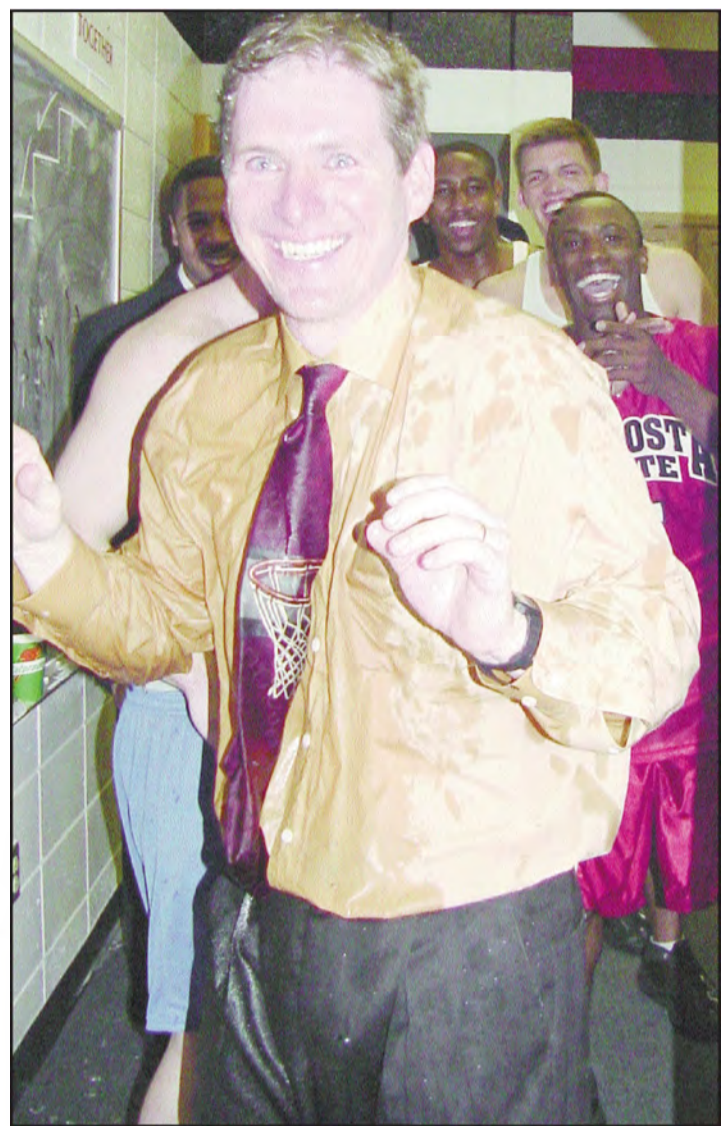
GSC tournament
First Round

East #1 VSU
vs.
West #4 Harding
University

When: Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Tupelo, Miss.

Radio: WWRQ, 107.9 FM



Special to the Spectator

Blazer head coach Jim Yarbrough reacts just after being doused with ice water in VSU's locker room following the Blazers GSC East division championship.

2001-02 GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT (February 28, March 2-3 @ BancorpSouth Center, Tupelo, Miss.)

Thursday, February 28

- Game 1
2:00 pm—West Florida vs. Henderson State
- Game 2
4:00 pm—Southern Arkansas vs. West Georgia
- Game 3
6:30 pm—Harding vs. Valdosta State
- Game 4
8:30 pm—Montevallo vs. Delta State

Saturday, March 2

- Game 5
2:00 pm—Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
- Game 6
4:00 pm—Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, March 3

GSC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME AT 2:00 PM
Winner of Game 5 vs. Winner of Game 6

Sports-talk show rocks WVVS

Brandon Scott
Staff Writer

You make a lot of claims in this world. You have national rankings in sports that claim to honor the top team. You have insurance claims. You have outrageous claims. And then you have claims that just make sense. Such is the case with WVVS' X's and O's Show. "It's the best sports talk-rock

radio show in the history of the world, ever" claims senior marketing major Josh Gordon.

Gordon, a Chicago native, is the host and creator of the show, which is aired on 90.9 for WVVS.

It's the best sports talk-rock radio show in the history of the world, ever.

-Josh Gordon, co-host of WVVS' sports talk-show X's and O's

"I have a love for sports and radio," Gordon said. "So I decided to combine the two."

Gordon is joined on air by sophomore management major Daniel Lassiter and Brice Zimmerman, a freshman mass



Brandon Scott / The Spectator

Josh Gordon (left) and Brice Zimmerman, co-hosts of WVVS' X's and O's, argue over the finer points of curling.

media major. The trio form a formidable platform that would rival ESPN's new debate-sports show *Pardon the Interruption*.

"Even if you don't like sports you can enjoy the show," Gordon said. "We're always ragging on each other."

Cut-downs and low blows run rampant on a show that covers both the necessary and the

menial.

With an airtime from 10 pm to midnight every Thursday, the upstart program has delivered its audience the in-depth reports they can't get anywhere else.

Head basketball coach Jim Yarbrough and assistant baseball coach Shannon Jernigan have recently become consistent guests on the show.

The Coaches' Players of the week!

Lady Blazers Coach
Kiley Hill

Blazers Coach
Jim Yarbrough
in the locker room after becoming the Gulf South Conference Champs!

Lady Blazers
Lucy Harris

Lady Blazers
Amber Daniels

Blazers
Matt Jones

Blazers
Marcus Williams

Blazers
Nick Gast

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