Date rape topic of community forum

Editor's note: Campus Crime, the Spectator's new series will be dealing with different safety on campus. Awareness is the first step to personal safety.



Casey Carpenter Spectator Writer

It's supposed to happen like this: a stranger, a dark alley, a rape. What occurs more often is the guy you like, on the date you've been waiting for, won't take no for an answer--literally.

The VSU Counseling Center, along with the Office of Housing and Residence Life, KARMA (Peer Educators) and the Haven are sponsoring Date Smart Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday on Palms Quad.

The community is dedicated to helping in this event with people and resources supplied by Teen Plus, the Pregnancy Support Center, the Student Health Center, Buffalo's Café, Chic Filet, Greenleaf and others. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness while supplying information to educate women and men on

The event will consist of a variety of activities such as T-shirt and jewelry making and games. Snacks and beverages will be served. At 7:30 p.m., there will be a panel presentation at Powell Hall Auditorium. The panel will consist of rape survivors and their families who share their stories in order to help others. A question and answer period will follow the presentation. Afterwards, those in attendance will walk outdoors and place white paper doves bearing the names of rape survivors on the Tree of Hope. This symbolic gesture is designed to bring a sense of peace and hope to those who have suffered the violation of their dignity.

"The seriousness of the issues of date rape, violence in relationships, and communication skills cannot be overstated," Faye Altman, counselor, said. "It is important to this university to educate and protect our campus citizens."

On Tuesday, at 7 p.m., the seminar "He Said, She Said" will be presented in Georgia Hall.

CUR recognizes student research

Casey Carpenter Spectator Writer

Today begins the eighth Symposium Undergraduate Research at the Magnolia Room of the University Center. The symposium will last until 4:30 p.m. Friday.

"The Symposium provides a wonderful opportunity to highlight the excellent research being conducted by our students across the College of Arts and Sciences," said James LaPlant, associate professor of political science and chair of the Council on Undergraduate Research.

Each department in the College of Arts and Sciences

has a representative on the Council on Undergraduate Research. Students submit abstracts of their research projects to representatives of the department of their major. Each department is allowed two presentations, but unlimited poster presentations. Each department forms a committee, which selects the presenters.

"Presenting a project at the CUR program can be beneficial to students because it gives them a chance to showcase their work on a professional level" Dr. LaPlant said. "It is also important to add to an application for graduate school or even a resume. This is what the college experience is all

Friday 8 a.m.

Lee Ogletree "Christianity Versus Pagan Themes in Beowulf' Dept. of English

Maria Prince "Possession Rituals and the Garifuna of Belize" Dept. of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal

William Parker "The Role of the Ozone in the Cuban Health Care System" Dept. of Chemistry

Trisha O'Connell "Fathers of the Early Church: Priests or Politicians" Dept. of Philosophy

Friday 10 a.m.

Jason Bankston and Brandon Vaughan "Computer-Controlled Object Manipulation" Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science

L. Michael Cortez "The Importance of Identity in De Noches Vienes" Dept. of Modern and Classical Languages Patricia Rusoff "Democracy in the Former Soviet Union" Dept. of Political Science

Zachary Fris, Caleb Price, & John Futch "Radio Astronomy at VSU, Stage II" Dept. of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences"

There will also be sessions at 1 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. for listings, log on to www.valdosta.edu/spectator.

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Annie Johnson / The Spectator

Work continues behind Odum Library. Bob Bell, director of Plant Operations said construction is a few days behind schedule.

Dust billows at library

Neil Skerratt Staff Writer

All the fences forcing you take the scenic route to class are going to be there for a while.

Library renovations are expected to take over a year, and it will take around that long to see greatly visible signs of progress, Bob Bell, director of Plant Operations, said.

"The work on the VSU library is only a few days behind schedule." Bell said.

Bell said renovations are behind schedule because of recent problems such as connecting the utilities.

The new student recreation center is near completion.

"Actual construction of the student recreation center should be completed in another month or so," Bell said.

The Blazer Grill will soon be joining the ranks of the renovated. The Grill will be close at the end of spring semester to build The Loop, a pizza and sandwich shop.

The chiller buildings behind the Fine Arts Building buildings on campus are the first of a few that will be built. Bell said two of these buildings are already operational.

SAC to meet at **VSU**

Lindsey Giddens Staff Writer

SGA presidents from across Georgia will meet at VSU this weekend to discuss campus issues around the state.

The Student Advisory Committee, composed of these presidents, will begin Friday with a welcome by Russ Mast, acting vice president for Student Affairs and dean of students, at 6 p.m. in the bio/chem auditorium.

Students are welcome to attend the general assemblies. According to Nick Overstreet, SGA president, the most important of these will take place on Saturday at 1:15 p.m. in the bio/chem auditorium. This will include the election of executive officers for the executive board of 2002-03.

"We presented a bid, including facilities, hotels, different

SAC see page 5

/SU budget cut again

Leah F. Cassorla Staff Writer

James Brignati, vice president for Business and Finance, has his job cut out for him. VSU's budget for next year has just been cut-again.

The original budget cut was 5 percent, or \$2,235,000. The additional cut of \$400,000 brings the total to \$2,239,000.

But that's not all. The renovations budget has been cut to \$1 million from its original \$1.7 million, and more money will be cut from special programs. Brignati said he doesn't know yet how much will be cut or which programs will suffer. In two weeks Brignati will get a package from the Board of Regents, giving him the amount of money he will have for next year. He will then have three weeks to compile a complete budget based on those numbers.

"Something has to be done about the [state] budget cycle," Brignati said. "We have a budget cycle starting July 1, and in March I don't know what it's going to be yet. How can I plan?"

The budget presented problems before the cutting began. VSU's budget is based on an

average of the last three years also means the University can't enrollment, and next year's budget includes the lowest enrollment year since VSU increased its admissions stan-

Brignati's challenge, then, is to decide where to cut and how.

fill positions left by retiring staff and faculty.

"Even with all those problems, we do have a couple of things that will help us out," Brignati said.

Enrollment for next year is

We have a budget cycle starting July 1, and in March I don't know what it's going to be yet. How can I plan?

-James Brignati, vice president for Business and Finance

VSU operates on about \$130 million a year. Of that budget, 88.8 percent goes to salaries and benefits for employees.

The remaining 11.2 percent includes such items as utilities. Utilities can't be cut. That leaves, according to Brignati, operating supplies. These include items like paper and staples. It also includes big things like travel expenses which allow faculty to keep their professional education current.

expected to be up by about 15

"That's a double-edged sword," Brignati said.

According to Brignati, the increase in enrollment, along with a likely 3 percent tuition hike will make up some of the shortfall, but the combination of hiring freeze and more students could cause problems.

The state has cut expected merit raises for faculty and nonauxiliary staff from 3.5 percent to 3.25 percent and a 3 percent According to Brignati, that tuition increase covers only

University is designing the cuts so that Academic Affairs suf-

about 1 percent of those raises.

must come from increased fees.

Raises for auxiliary staff

As VSU did this year, the fers less than other departments. Brignati said the Academic Affairs cut should have been \$1.4 million, but will instead be \$1.2 million.

Dr. Louis Levy, acting vice president for Academic Affairs, said the division is preparing

"What we do is use the best minds on campus in the area of enrollment management and financial management to construct a prediction of the size of the incoming class and the courses they will need," Dr. Levy said.

The model will then be discussed with the deans of the different colleges who will use it to make final decisions about courses offered in the core cur-

Dr. Levy also said the impact on class sizes would be minimal and that he remains positive about the future and the process of planning Dr. Zaccari

Budget see page 4

Students receive honors

Jason Howell and Lindsey Giddens Staff Writers

And the Annie Powe Hopper award goes

...Bill Haskins, middle grades education

major.

The Annie Powe Hopper award was just one of the many presented to students on Honors Day Wednesday in Whitehead Auditorium. The award named after Miss Hopper, VSU's first dean of women, is given to a student graduating in the current year who stands high academically and exemplifies the tradition of VSU and the

with the late Miss Hopper. "The thing that I think in my life that has gotten me to the successful point I am now

traits and character and dignity associated

is the wonderful faculty and staff in the College of Education at VSU," Haskins

The Marga and Mack Awards given by the Sigma Alpha Chi Honor Society for academic superiority and outstanding leadership in campus activities were awarded to Sherita Smedly and James Tucker Jr., respectively.

Preceding the Marga and Mack Awards and the Annie Powe Hopper Award, the individual colleges and departments recognized 93 students for various awards. Various scholarships recipients were also recognized, including the Odum Scholars, R.B.Whitehead Scholars, Walter R. and Dorothy Smith Salter Scholars given to undergraduates enrolled in a pre-med program of study and the Melvene D. Hardee

The majority of the program was saved for recognition of honor societies such as Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Alpha Chi, Alpha Chi and Alpha Lambda Delta. Also included was acknowledgement of inductees into Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, Honors Program Students Who Have Completed the Honors Program, The President's First Year Scholars and The First year Scholars.

"These students are on a quest to obtain a higher education degree and we should recognize the multiple and diverse talents of these students today," Dr. Zaccari, president of VSU, said. "We should also thank our faculty and staff for sharing their talents and abilities with these students to make this day possible."

This issue

Need some ROOM? VSU starts room sign up. See page 5

Web This week: launch.yahoo.com Watch

Some days you want to hear rap, some rock, some country... And then there are days you want all three, mixed together. And then, of course, you don't want all of rap, just certain

Launch.yahoo.com has your number. Launch allows you to design your own radio station. You pick the genres, you pick the bands. Oh, and when you get something you don't want right now, you can skip it--and

when you get something you don't want ever, you can erase it from your list.

There are commercials, but they are few and far between. Log on, plug in, tune up.

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.

Page 2 - Thursday, April 4, 2002 Campus Happenings

POLICE BEAT

* March 20

A VSU student walking along the Georgia Avenue sidewalk near the Office of Housing and Residence Life reported an indecent exposure. The supplement accompanying the incident report states the victim said that at 12:10 p.m. a man in a car stopped at a red light at Georgia Avenue and North Patterson Street opened his car door, exposing his genitalia so she could see and masturbated in her presence. The student reported the car's license plate number and an arrest has been made. The arrest report could not be obtained by press time.

March 21

Tarrance Demon Wrice, 24, of 908 Brookhaven Drive, was arrested at 1:53 p.m. for driving with a suspended license at North Oak Street and West College Avenue.

March 28

M. Rowland Cale, 22, of 1406 Parker Mathis Drive, was arrested at 2:19 a.m. for failure to maintain lane, reckless driving and DUI (alcohol) at the 2400 block of North Patterson Street. Cale is not a VSU student.

*This incident was not included in the daily media log which is available for public viewing. According to the Public Safety's Records web site (http://www.valdosta.edu/ vsupd/unit/records.htm), "A daily log, which is a listing of all crimes reported to Campus Police, is available for public viewing..."

Please visit www.valdosta.edu/spectator for the rest of Police Beat.

Today

German trombonist Abbie Conant will perform "Street Scene for the Last Mad Soprano" and "Music for the End of Time," both by William Osborne, 11 a.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building. She will present a free master class/lecture about the use of technology and music, which is open to the public, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

For more information, call the music department at 333-

The College Independents group will have its second meeting at 7 p.m. in the Dogwood Room at the University Center. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, e-mail Ryan Wilson, co-founder, at rmwilson@valdosta.edu.

VSU's Eighth Annual Symposium on Undergraduate Research, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences the Council Undergraduate Research, will be held today and Friday in the Magnolia Room at the University Center. The symposium showcases student research papers and posters.

The opening plenary session begins at 7:30 p.m. Student poster and paper sessions begin at 8 a.m. Friday. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the College of Arts and Sciences at 333-5699.

Natural High will host a "Spring Fling" from 6 to 8 p.m. in Palms Quad. Free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be provided as well as games. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, call the Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Education at 259-5111.

子riday

Students interested in electronic mass media careers are invited to attend a career fair in the

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

Rose Room at the University Center from 1 to 4 p.m. Representatives from area radio-T.V. stations will be attending.

For more information, call Dr. Larry Etling, assistant professor of the communication arts department and adviser for the VSU National Broadcasting Society chapter, at 259-2587.

VSU will host a memorial service for Dr. Bobby Blake, late assistant dean of the VSU College of Arts, at 2 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

For more information, call the College of the Arts at 333-

| onday

A Roma music group, Cilagos, will perform traditional gypsy music at 7 p.m. in the Magnolia Room at the University Center. This event is part of the Center for International Programs' Annual Spring Focus Series and is free and open to the pub-Refreshments will be served.

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

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The Society of Human Resource Management Student Chapter will host Evelyn Mitchell, Valdosta State College Masters of Business Administration graduate and president and CEO Expressive Designs, Inc. Mitchell will speak about her experiences as a consultant.

The SHRM will meet from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Rose Room at the University Center.

<u>A</u> <u>pril 11</u>

The Society of Physics Students will host the Third Annual "Gravity Day," a celebration of Isaac Newton and physics and gravity, between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on the lawn in front of Nevins

Fruit that has been frozen in liquid nitrogen will be catapulted on the lawn. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, call Dr. Frank Flaherty, professor in the physics, astronomy, and geosciences department, at 333-5665 or e-mail him at flaherty@valdosta.edu.

The VSU athletic training program will host its Second Annual Chicken Dinner Sale.

The \$6 price per person provides a half-piece of chicken, baked beans, potato salad and bread from Port A Pit.

Dinners can be picked up between 5:30 and 7 p.m. in the Valdosta Board of Education parking lot at the corner of Ann and Williams Street.

To place an order or for more information, call assistant athletic trainer and instructor Lori Howard at 245-4380 or e-mail her at lchoward@valdosta.edu.

There will be a Residence Hall Spring Formal in the Georgia Hall Lobby from 8 to 11 p.m. All VSU residence halls residents are invited to attend this free event with their dates. The formal's theme is "A Night with the Stars." Canned food donations will be accepted.

For more information, call Leighia Lynn, residence hall director, at 249-4984.

Meal Plan **Announcements**

The last day to use a la arte meal plan funds is May 7. After May 7 remaining balances will be forfeited.

-Students living on campus over summer need to sign meal plan contracts in the Palms Dining Center office. For more information. call Iosie Stone at 333-5988.



Win your chance to pie our editor in the face April 19! Visit www.valdosta.edu/spectator for details.

But first, you must e-mail the correct answer to this question to spec@valdosta.edu:

In which state is it illegal to put graffiti on someone else's cow?





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1744B Gornto Road, across from Publix. Exchange your old CD's for new ones or turn them into CASH. We sell new and used CD's, posters & novelty lights. We also repair scratches on both music CD's and Game CD's.

YOUR SELF

\$797 or \$897 CD's with this coupon. Limit 2

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Florida





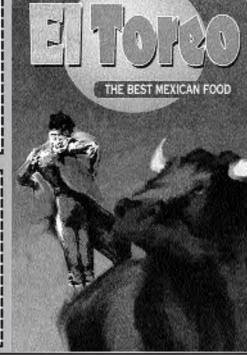
Store Hours: Hot Styles! Mon-Sat 10am-9pm Cool Looks! 1737 Gornto Road & (Next to El Toreo-outside the Mall)

FREE DINNER **Buy One Combination Dinner. Get One of Equal or Lesser Value FREE!** Coupon not valid with take-out. Dine-in only 4:30-10PM. Limit one coupon per Not Valid table. Expires 04-28-02 on Friday

Buy One Lunch. Get One of Equal or Lesser **Value FREE!**

Coupon not valid with take-out Fajitas & Quesadillas excluded Limit one coupon per table. Expires 04-28-02

Mon-Fri 11am-2:30pm



Bottled Beer is Back! HAPPY HOUR 4PM-7PM & 9-close Everything 2 for 1 (except Margaritas) Margaritas Mondays 5PM>Close 1713 Gornto Road - 259-0444 11am - until

Re-opening soon: 1914 N. Ashley St. - 245-7949

11am - 2:30pm & 5PM - 10PM

PEDERAL RESERVE NOTE **ARE YOU A LEADER?** の方はないというとはないというできたい and

Open Chair Positions **CAB Director Comedy/Coffee House Concert & Dance Special Events**

THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER. FOR ALL, DENTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

Visual Performing Arts

Publicity Chair



get paid for Then you should apply for a CAB chair position!

would YOU

like to spend

Campus Activities Board is looking for new CAB Chairs. We are looking for leaders that want to have fun planning future activities for the diverse student population of VSU and get paid for it.

> Applications can be obtained in the Student Activities Office in the University Union. Applications are due by 3PM, Friday April 12th For more info

call 333-5674

Denne Park

B 32

Extension You now have until 3PM, Friday, April 12 to get paid for spending our money.

eadline

The Spectator

New York

N

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

Today

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UV Index: 9 High Hi: 77 Low: 49 Saturday

UV Index:

Hi: 75

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9 High

Sunday

UV Index: 9 High Hi: 79 Low: 55

SGA prepares for SAC, sets election day

Mary Ellen Connel Staff Writer

SGA covered a lot of ground Tuesday night.

Nick Overstreet, SGA president, wrapped up the last of the business concerning this weekend's Student Advisory Committee conference at VSU.

"I'm very excited about the conference," Overstreet said. "Thirty out of the 34 schools [making up Georgia's university system] will be attending."

Overstreet said it was unusual to have so many schools

attend the conference.

SGA passed three bills, one of which, according to author Sen. Jay Hodgkin, will be brought up at the SAC meeting.

Bill number 11-01, List

Serve, calls for a campus list serve, which would communicate news between college campuses.

Bill 10-01 called for the

Night Owl and Oasis snack bar on campus to accept credit and debit cards.

Sen. Ryan Grady introduced a bill that would require student groups seeking official SGA recognition to provide required information in writing to the SGA

At Wednesday's Student Life Committee meeting, however, Overstreet withdrew the bills following a discussion of each. The list serve bill was withdrawn because it failed to detail who would assume legal liability for and oversee the operation of the list serve. The idea will still be discussed at the SAC conference.

The credit card bill was withdrawn because a credit card machine is currently being installed in the Night Owl and not enough demand has been made at the Oasis Snack Bar.

The final bill was withdrawn because it deals with internal SGA affairs, and a bill is not the proper venue for the actions sought.

SGA is planning a fundraiser for April 20. "Watch till you drop"—a television-watching marathon that requires participants to stand— is designed to give back to the students.

Allocations for this fundraiser were made at Tuesday's meeting. A total of \$2,859 was

spent on prizes for the fundraiser. Prizes include TV's, DVD players, telephones, VCRs, answering machines, basketball goals, microwaves,

Playstation2 and a Game Cube.
Proceeds will go to the

Children's Miracle Network as part of the contribution raised by VSU's Dance Marathon on April 27.

SGA elections for president, vice president, comptroller and secretary will be April 16. Voting will be online.

Students interested in running must turn in applications by 3

p.m. Monday in the Student Activities Office on the second floor of the University Union. Campaigns begins Tuesday.

Senators also voted to accept a revised SGA constitution.

"The new constitution gets rid of the loopholes," Cody Guined, SGA vice president, said.

As of Tuesday's meeting the Senate is completely full. Candice Rhodes, Chris Spencer, and Katie Camellia were unanimously accepted as senators.

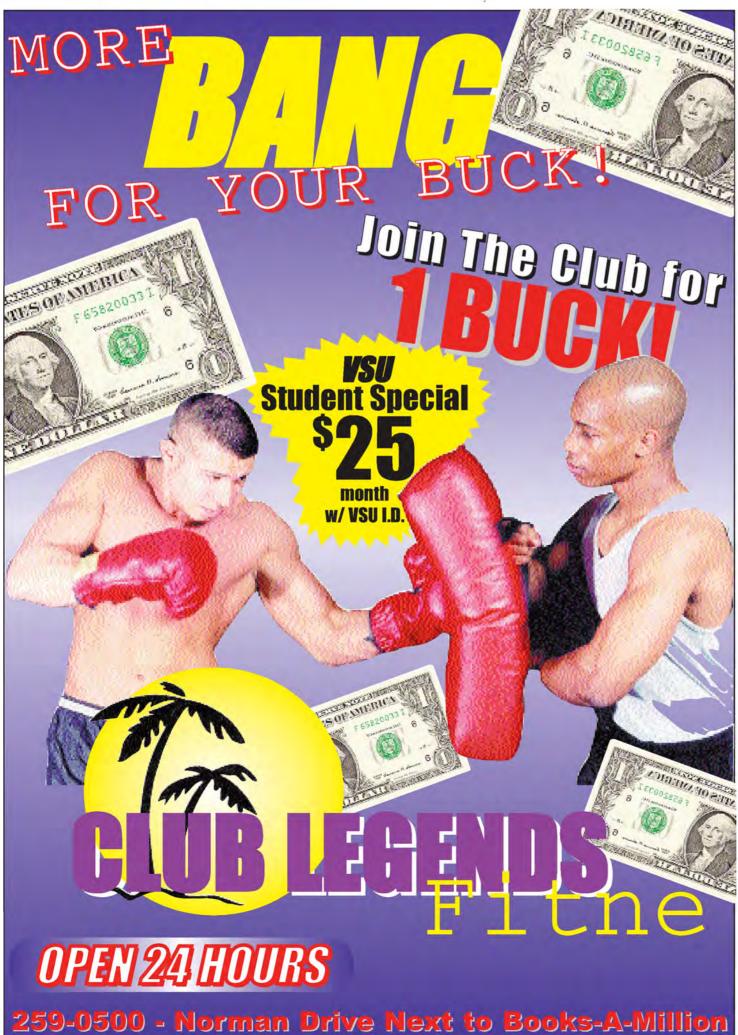
New members inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta society





Annie Johnson / The Spectator

At left: Janie Foster, freshman, receives her pin from Richard Lee, assistant to the dean of students for judicial affairs. Above: students wait to receive pins. To be a member of Alpha Lambda Delta you must have earned 12 hours at VSU and have a 3.5 GPA after your first semester. New inductees numbered 159, the most ever.





Watch ti You Drop 2002

Sponsored by: VSU Student
Government Association, Pepsi &



Who can last the longest & win t best prize?

Join us for the cookout & contest!
Saturday,
April 20th
9 AM
VSU Front Lawn

VSU Students can win:

25" TVs - DVD Players, VCRs - Answering Machines - Telephones, Portable Basketball Goals & Microwaves

Entry qualifications for the contests: VSU Student & \$1.

With the purchase of candy anyone can enter for a chance to win a TV for \$1.

ALSO!!!! Don't miss the

BASKETBALL WAR > 1PM
VSU President - Dr. Zaccari

SGA President - Nick Overstreet

Sign up in the SGA Off TODAY through April 17

All proceeds to go to Dance Marathon

Brown bag lunches return for spring

Lindsey Giddens Staff Writer

No choice of paper or plastic here, just brown

Administration, staff, faculty and students are invited to attend the weekly brown bag presentations in West Hall 150 from 12:15-1:15 p.m.

"The talks are held during the lunch hour on Tuesdays and everyone is encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy the informative presentations," said Dr. James LaPlant, associate professors of political science who coordinates the series

Over the last few years, presentations have included topics dealing with internships, study abroad experiences, research in the classroom or laboratory and research in the field.

According to Dr. LaPlant, the presentations

showcase research being conducted by students Green with moderator Dr. Donna Sewell, associand faculty at VSU.

For those who have missed the previou presentations, there three more opportur to attend the lunches.

the "Taking Monster's Pι Reverberation Mapp of Active Galac Nuclei" will be pr sented by Dr. Ke Rumstay, professor o physics, astronomy and geosciences, on

April 16 will feature "Outfitting Your Toolbox: Strategies for Helping ESL Students Succeed," given by Leah Cassorla, Jana Cook and Jennifer 'e professor of English.

The year will wrap up with "The Role of zone in Cuban Medicine" by William Parker om the chemistry department April 23.

The lunches are open to the public, and, cording to Dr. LaPlant, turnout ranges from 10 30 people.

"I recognize that faculty and students are often ery busy, but individuals who attend these preentations always find them informative and orthwhile," Dr. LaPlant said.

The brown bag lunches are sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research. For furher information, contact Dr. LaPlant at 333-771 or email at jlaplant@valdosta.edu.

Pack a lunch and catch the rest of the Brown Bag **Presentations:**

◆Take a ride through the galaxy with Dr. Ken Rumstay Tuesday.

Learn how to help ESL students with Leah Cassorla, Jana Cook and Jennifer Green with Dr. Donna Sewell April 16.

Find out what Cuban medicine and the ozone have in common with William Parker April 23.

All presentations are in West Hall 150 from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

Budget

continued from page 1

has begun.

"The best days are coming with this planning approach we're taking," Dr. Levy said. "I truly believe that."

Brignati said the major cause of the money problems is reaction to the attacks of Sept. 11.

"Atlanta's economy is based on conferences and air travel," Brignati said. "Atlanta is the busiest airport in the country. [After the attacks] people stopped traveling, businesses have become conservative and the general consumer has become more conservative."

These changes caused loss of profits all over the state.

Inflation, according to Brignati is also part of the mix.

The final piece of the puzzle is the supplemental budget. Each year, the state releases additional money to state institutions. That money is released in March, but must be spent by

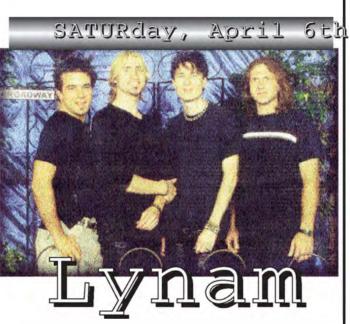
"We can't carry [that money] forward," Brignati said. "We're trying to use the money to carry forward the effect."

Brignati said the outlook wasn't completely bad. After next year, VSU's budget will rise because it will be based on enrollment increases of the past few years, balancing many of VSU's current budget prob-



Stewart & Winfield

Thirsty Thursday 25^t Bar Drinks & 25^t Ice Cold Draft



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Coming Saturday, April 13th The Wild Hearts Voted Atlanta's #1 Country Band!

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244-1345

Can't get enough of the budget?

Check out the Student Activities budget story on the web!

www.valdosta.edu /spectator

Check out the Web Exclusives link for stories you won't see ANY-WHERE ELSE!!!!



All FLEX Accounts will be shut down on Tuesday, April 30th for the annual rollover / refund process to take place. FLEX Account balance's that are rolled over (see info. below), will be available for use again on 5/1/02.

If you anticipate having a FLEX Account belance of \$25,00 (or more) at the end of Spring Semester, you may choose from the following:

Sign a FLEX Rollows: form in the VSU 1Cerd Office by the April, 24th densitive and have the \$25.00 (or mem) balance rolled until must spring semester, or depletion. You may still access your FLEX Account funds through April 29th.

 Leave the \$25,00 (or more) belence in the FLEX Account and it will enterestically be czeditud/refunded to your Student Account on April 30th. (Please review your PLEX Account Agreement for more details)

Please Note: A FLEX Account belonce of \$24.99 or less will automatically be rolled over; you don't have to do maything. As stated on your FLEX Account Agreement, any balance rolled over for (1) one year on an inactive FLEX Account will result in a forbited balance and account closure without prior notice.

Summer Financial Aid deposited in a FLEX Account will be available for use starting 5-7-02 provided all account requirements are met

1Card Office (229) 259-2593 http://services.valdosta.edu/one_card.html



Student

overnment

ssociation

Attention Students:

It's that time again: SGA Elections. Positions available are:

> President Vice President Comptroller Secretary

Packets will be available April 2nd in the SGA office in the Student Union.

All Applications are due in the Student **Activities Office upstairs in the Student** Union, April 8th by 3 pm.

Important dates:

Campaigning

(begins 12 AM on 4-9-02)

Elections

(begins 12 AM on 4-16-02)

Run-off Elections

(if needed will begin 12 AM on 4-23-02)

For more information come by the Student **Activities Office or call** 333-5674.



Annie Johnson / The Spectator

A student fills out a Residence Hall form for fall semester. Students must sign up for a room by Friday. Applications are available downstairs in Langdale Hall.

Rooms up for grabs

Tameika Carson

Staff Writer

Students who want to reserve a room for the 2002-03 academic year must complete a residence hall application and contract in Langdale Hall before 3 p.m. Friday.

While completing the contracts, students are also allowed to request roommates by completing the preference section of the application. Roommate request are granted upon available space and mutual request. Students that do not complete the preference section will be paired randomly.

"We encourage students to sign up with a roommate," Joe Mattachione, director of Housing and Residence Life, said. "This eliminates conflict later with available space."

Students unsatisfied with their rooms will be given the chance to change room assignments once fall semester begins.

Students will not be able to sign up for single rooms until fall semester after rooms are during the academic year.

"We anticipate the residence halls will be full next fall, so getting a private room will be difficult," Mattachione said.

Students that end up with a private room due to roommate changes will be asked to move within the same hall or will be required to pay the single room fee. Single room sign up forms will be accessible fall semester from the hall director.

Only students who have completed the apartment application process and have been notified in writing from the Office of Housing and Residence Life of their eligibility will be able to sign up for Converse.

A fee of \$300 is due by May 31 to guarantee a room. Students that fail to pay the reservation fee before the deadline will waive their priority and be assigned to a room according to the date the fee is

If students terminate the contract before June 30, a full

assigned according to space refund of the reservation fee will be given. Between July 1 and July 15, students will receive a \$200 refund and a \$100 refund between July 16 and Aug. 1. After Aug. 1, no portion of the reservation fee will be refunded.

According to the VSU policy in the student handbook, "...the contract is for the full academic year (fall and spring semesters) or remaining portion of the academic year"

Students breaking their contracts after occupancy must forfeit the full reservation fee and pay 30 percent of the remaining balance of the housing fees.

The preferences of students signing up for housing after the room sign up deadline will not be given priority.

For more information, call the Office of Housing and Residence Life at 333-5920.

Tameika Carson is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at tncarson@valdosta.edu

Natural High to sponsor cookout

Lindsey Giddens Staff Writer

Join a natural event. Natural High event, that is.

Alcohol and Other Drug Education is sponsoring a cookout as a Natural High event on Palms Quad today from 6-8

AODE will provide free food and have games like water balloons or volleyball.

"This is just a chance for people to come out and unwind," Mark Williams, coordinator of AODE, said.

Natural High sponsors a free drug and alcohol event every week for students, faculty and

"The only time we charge is for Cosmic Bowling," Williams said. "That's \$1 to pay for shoes and three hours of bowling, so that's a pretty good deal."

Co-sponsors of this event also include Campus Recreation and Housing and Residence Life.

Attendance will vary depending on competition with other events going on.

"We'll probably see about 100 come through," Williams said. "Some will come to eat and some to play games, but free and food are key words to get attendance."

SAC

continued from page 1 prices and other things, at the Summer 2001 SAC Conference at UGA, and we were voted on by the University System of Georgia institutions to be the host," Overstreet said.

Dr. Ronald M. Zaccari will be the keynote speaker for the banquet held Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Magnolia Room.

According to Overstreet, 30 out of the 34 institutions will attend the conference.

"I am honored that our SGA has the privilege to represent our university and community to the institutions of the University System of Georgia," Overstreet said. "This is one of my goals as president, and I want other institutions to ask, When will we be coming back?

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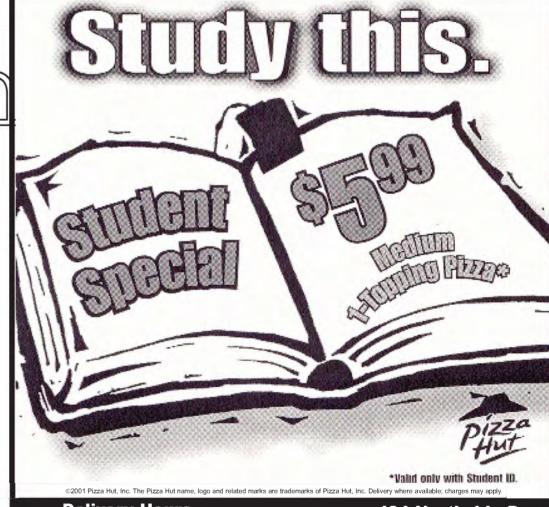
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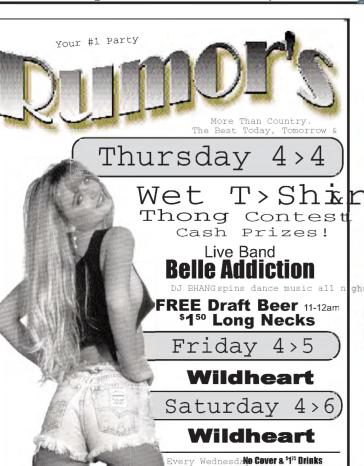


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Now you see it, now you don't

Get out your pencil and scratch paper; it's time for a

Don't worry; it's only math, and passing math will prepare you for a leadership role in society.

Ready?

You have \$400 for the month and badly want that pair of red Ciccone sneakers you saw at the mall. Your mom calls and says you owe her \$50 for your Visa, and informs you that next year she'll be cutting your allowance by a \$100 a month because she misbalanced her checkbook. But, she says, she's expecting her tax refund in a week and will be able to give you \$5,000 next week as long as you promise to spend it all in one place. You're not allowed to save any of it for next year, and whatever you don't spend in the one check she gives you, she'll take back.

Confused?

No problem. Call the governor (his name is Roy Barnes and he can be reached at 404-656-1776 or you can email him from www.gagovernor.org/contact.html), and ask him to explain it to you.

He won't mind. It's an election year and you're a constituent. Besides, he's got it all figured out.

In fact, he's so good at this stuff he cut \$80 million from next year's state budget. He then gave the state \$600 million. Only catch is that it's a supplemental budget which means it must be spent in the next 90 days.

If we don't spend our portion of the money, it disappears. Now, for those of you who asked why can't the state just get \$520 million now and save the \$80 million for next year—when VSU must fund increased enrollment with a budget based on the *lower* enrollment average of the past three years—the answer is simple: This is *special* money.

As in election year special. And it turns to dust June 30. Oh, and while you have the Gov on the phone, ask him if he really thinks failing math will get him re-elected.

Spectator opinion written by the Editorial board

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Letters must include name, year in school, major, job title or other appropriate identification and phone number for verification. Letters should be no longer than 300 words in length. Letters are subject to editing for style, length, grammar, and libelous material. Not all letters are published. Letters should be typed and turned in with a disk, or e-mailed as an attachment.



Just veggin' out

Pass the tofu, please.

That's right; tofu is one of the many "weird" items found on my dinner table since becoming vegetarian two years ago. Since this time, I have received reactions to being vegetarian that range from open disapproval to genuine curiousness.

A lot of people ask why I decided to take this step. Initially, I made this choice for ethical reasons. I love animals to the point that I have always considered being a veterinarian. I read a book called "Diet for A New America," by John Robbins, about the conditions of meat and dairy industries in America. I was appalled by some of the things I learned. For example, pigs have the mental capacity of a three-yearold child. Chickens are kept in

such crowded conditions they often peck each other to death out of insanity. Calves raised for veal are kept chained to the ground for their entire lives so they won't develop muscles and their meat will remain tender. These are just some

of many horrible conditions I read about, and I didn't want to be a part of them. Once I knew about slaughterhouse practices, I couldn't plead ignorance any longer. I had to make a conscious decision about my future habits. I could ignore the facts and keep eating hamburgers or I could protest these conditions by refusing to contribute to the meat industry.

I chose to stop eating meat. Initially, I continued to eat fish, but I felt hypocritical in calling myself a vegetarian. In a biology class, I learned that even an animal as simple as an oyster had a complex nervous system. From then on I didn't eat any animals, even seafood like fish or mussels.

When I made this decision, I did a lot of research to make



Laura Justin

sure I was still eating a healthy diet. A question people almost always emphatically ask is, "Where do you get your energy?" Well, first, meat is mainly a source of protein, which is responsible for muscle and tissue maintenance, not for providing energy. Second, over half of my diet is complex carbohydrates, which is your

Once I knew about slaughterhouse practices, I couldn't plead ignorance any longer.

-Laura Justin

body's main source of fuel, and what your brain relies on for 65 percent of its energy.

In addition, I learned that cholesterol is found only in animal products, and almost all saturated fats come from animal products as well.

I supplement protein through things like beans, peanut butter or tofu. Americans actually eat about triple the meat required to receive adequate protein servings. A diet should consist of about 10 percent protein or two 3 oz. pieces of meat, or the size of two decks of cards.

After learning I was actually consuming a healthier diet than when I ate meat, I was inspired to expand on healthy habits even more, and I am much more physically active now. I have felt great since making

Got something to say?

Open mic on this page every week at the Spectator.

these changes, and my body is physically and mentally stronger than it was two years

Through time, I try to become more aware and animal friendly through buying items that haven't been tested on animals or contain animal products in them. I also try not to buy leather products. Sometimes I make mistakes, (for instance, I used to eat Skittles before I realized they had gelatin in them), but I am trying to be as aware as possi-

It is a bittersweet feeling for me to drive by a cow pasture and see mothers with their baby calves. I am saddened with the knowledge of the bleak future that lies ahead them, but I gain serenity in knowing I am no

longer contributing to their death.

I do not expect to convert the entire world into vegetarians, nor am I suggesting this is a lifestyle for everyone. However, I challenge you to think about where your food is coming

from the next time you dash through a drive-thru; think about who is paying the price for your convenient meal. If meat-eating is a way of life for you, I encourage you to buy meat products that are organic and free-range, which means the animals haven't been pumped with hormones and they've been raised in much more humane conditions.

However, for me, I know I've found a way of life that gives me a sense of good health, compassion and purpose.

So, another helping of tofu for me? You bet.

Laura Justin is a Spectator columnist and can be contacted at justin_laura@hotmail.com



Leah Cassorla

Prayers for peace

I've spent a week avoiding the news (great behavior for an editor). I spent Monday hugging Middle Eastern friends (all of them Moslem). I also spent Monday talking to friends about fear, pain and the difficulties of fighting to not give in to hatred and anger. I've spent a week wondering why I'm here and not in Israel. I have been feeling like a traitor for not being able to help in any way.

I also spent this past week celebrating a holiday of freedom, identity and redemption. I spent the first night of Passover mourning people who were blown up while saying the words of the Haggadah, "today we are free."

There are no words for the pain I feel when I think about women knowingly sending their children out to kill and be killed. I've been in the US military. I know about choosing to serve my country, and yet it never occurred to me that a mother would knowingly and happily send her child off to be a human bomb and kill civilians who were worshipping.

I haven't been able to make sense of it. I know it hurts and I know it has to stop. I believe all people should have a homeland. Having faced the horror of getting back on a bus after the line I took to work was bombed, I also believe Israelis should defend themselves. Terrorism is wrong regardless of who commits it or where it is committed.

When I hear of the suffering of Palestinians, my gut reaction is to cry, just as when I hear of the suffering of Israelis. But when suffering turns to threats and blame, I hear nothing.

Still I am faced with what I can do to help—other than call friends every time another person blows himself up in a public place.

I pray for peace, knowing that prayer is not enough. I pray for tolerance knowing tolerance is not enough. I pray that someday I'll be able to look my Moslem cousins in the face and recognize them for who and what they are—my family. And I make that a part of my life locally.

And I believe the only way to get there is by looking inward. By working a little at a time and remembering a proverb from Pirke Avot (the sayings of our fathers): "The work is hard, the day is long. You are not required to complete the task, neither are you free to desist from it."

Shalom. Salaam. Peace

How can we lessen the impact government spending problems have on VSU?



"The only thing we can do as individuals is vote for people who will put money back in the schools."

Judah Brown Freshman **Dance**



"I guess VSU should create a grant for financially unable students with any extra money, and make the residence halls better."

Michael Barlow Sophomore **Business**



"The money should be used for campus life such as renovation of residence halls and new halls and to offset raises for workers."

Margaret Conley Junior Sociology



"Stop paying parking people just to give out tickets. It's a waste of money and paper. Fire them!'

Jay West Freshman Undecided



"Use the money VSU is allotted by the government on supplies to better our facilities for everyone at the school."

Julie Griner **Sophomore** Nursing



"I say we give extra money to the workers and any underfunded student activities."

Brett Taylor Junior English

The Spectator Editor's Note -

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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.



If you have ideas or comments about the DarkSide page, contact Darkside editor, Jeremiah Bass at loserkidblink@hotmail.com

Jeremiah W. Bass Staff Writer

There has been a bit of a void left open in my life ever since MTV booted off the wonderfully orchestrated, beautifully choreographed, much intelligent show, Beavis and Butthead.

Yeah, those two little boogers brought an immense amount of joy into this once young boy's life. Until they came along, I was but only another lost soul, searching for the true meaning of 'ass-wipe' and 'butt munch.'

I still remember that spring, Saturday morning, more than 10 years ago, when they came into my life. It was just like yesterday. [Cue the harp music]

Kelly was still dating Zack, Screech was giving it all he had to win Lisa's heart, Vanilla Ice's career had crashed and burned, those new Easter-colored M&M's were on sale...life was When Beavis and Butthead [of whom I will occasionally refer to as B&Bhead] came along, life only got better!

For the first time, I got to see two cartoon characters who simply did not give a crap about anything but nachos, boobs, AC/DC, Metallica, rock videos and their T.V. They were living out every kid's dream: simply do nothing but sit in front of the tube and make fun of musical acts like Journey and Rico Suave. They exceeded the limits and opened the door to all types of possibilities, such as laughing uncontrollably and being cool simply because they were two outcasts.

So I often ask myself, was it a good idea for MTV to get rid of 'the boys' who loved to 'spank' their monkeys? I mean yeah, sure, I like to watch cool Carson as he counts down to the number one video of the day just as much as the next person, but c'mon, how many times can I watch as some chick dedicates 'N Sync's new video to her friends back home and ends her shout-out with, "Whooo!" y' know?

In that same situation, for Beavis and Butthead, that shout-out would be more like, "Uh, yeah...huhhuh huh huh, huh...uh, we wanna dedicate this video to Mr. Anderson. Huh huh huh. Mr. Anderson sucks. Yeah, huh huh huh."

I'd much rather see the Making the Band marathon than Beavis and his partner in crime. How can you top seeing O-Town perform their new song about the girl at the candy store? Now that's pure entertainment! Yeah, pure entertainment for the non-B&Bhead supporters.

I don't think Beavis or Butthead could stomach wearing an O-Town tee-shirt; they'd probably use it as a net to catch a frog so they could play frog baseball like the old times [if you're a true B&Bhead fan, you know what episode I'm talking about]. I could see the O-Towners hangin' out with Beavis and Butthead. The whole time, B&Bhead would just laugh, and you'd here an occasional "look at that guy...look at his hair...even 'N Suck is better than you guys...he sucks!" Nothing against O-Town, or their show; those guys really rock. Good use of airtime...yeah...right,

And who cannot want to watch Dismissed instead of Beavis and Butthead? It's always two dudes who look like they just came off the set of Losers R Us, and they sit there and diss each other until the lovely lady shows up. If it were B&Bhead, they wouldn't waste time on this chick. Time out? Forget time out. It'd be more like this:

Butthead: Uh, Beavis, this sucks...huh huh huh.

Beavis: Yeah...huh huh huh. Screw this chick. Let's go get some nachos.

Butthead: Yeah...huh huh huh: nachos rule!

Beavis: Yeah, her boobs aren't that big, anyway. Huh huh huh. Yeah. Uh, sorry babe, but you're dismissed! Huh huh

Plain and simple...we need Beavis and Butthead back in our lives. I know I do! No more Britney Spears teasing us with her boobs, or Justin Timberlake being the top news story in the MTV News Break because he got a new haircut.

Even George W. speaks highly of these two gentlemen. He thinks that putting Beavis and Butthead back on the air will draw out Osama bin Laden. causing him to turn his self over to the authorities.

"Beavis and Butthead's show will carry out subliminamabal messages that will confuse Osama, making him totally obliviosous to the situation at hand, dude," Bush said.

Bill Clinton wants B&Bhead back on the air just so he won't be the only dude considered a pervert for slobbering whenever he sees a nice rack.

"I said it once, I'll say it again, bud...I like the boobies," Clinton said.

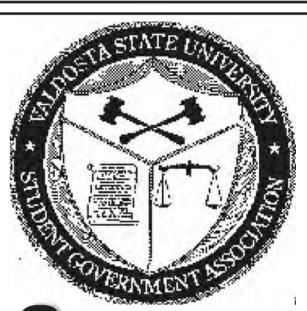
Even politicians support me! I propose all of us B&Bhead supporters start a campaign to get our good friends back on the air. Let's do whatever it takes...go to every Hooter's restaurant in the world and beg for their support [and their hot

We will go to the NBC studios in New York and get late night talk show host Conan O'Brien to back us.

Let's restart the Revolutionary flame that was once put out!

B&Bhead for Co-Presidents of the U.S. of A. 2004!

You want more? Drop whatever you re doing, go to the web @ www.valdosta.edu/spectator and read Neil s column on life, philosophy, old folks and speedos Go!



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(Space is still available for Fall 2002)

Thursday, April 4, 2002-Page 8

The Spectator welcomes ideas and comments from

the public. Please contact justin laura@hotmail.com

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

The Spectator

Features is to come in the VSU art world for of the semester!

Go towww.valdosta.edu/spectato

Travel with class:study abroad this summer

Angie Hiers Staff Writer

Students can study in another country this summer through VSU's Study Abroad Program.

Students can experience the culture of one of several countries, including England, France, Italy, Russia, Mexico and the Czech Republic.

According to Dr. Tracy Harrington, director International Programs, the deadline has already passed to sign up for most trips, but there are still spaces available for three trips.

First, the trip to Guadalajara, Mexico is from June 9 through July 15. It is a five-week program in Spanish language study at the University of Guadalajara. Students will live with host families to experience the Mexican way of life. The program concludes with a trip to Cancun. The approximate cost for six credit hours is \$3,250 and \$3,550 for nine credit bours.

Next, the trip to Paris, France is from July 4 through Aug. 9. The five-week program offers a variety of courses including French Cinema, Music of France, French Culture and Civilization among others. Students can take up to six credit hours. The cost is \$3,795 and includes housing in dormitories.

Last, the trip to St. Petersburg, Russia is from July 1 through July 29. Students can take up to six credit hours with courses available in Arts and Humanities, History,

Travel see page 9



Annie Johnson / The Spectator

Jeremy Winn, freshman, undecided major, tans between classes on VSU's front lawn.

The 'golden' rule: how to protect against sun

Tara Sherman

Staff Writer

On the way home from my spring break vacation. I saw this chick standing outside the gas station with the words "Golden Girls" written on her back windshield. She apparently was also coming home from the beach and proud to let the world know she got a tan.

Ah, the sun-kissed allure.

It's easy to say, while you're basting in the sun, that you'll go get your sunscreen in a minute. Soon after, you've fallen asleep and awaken to little skin blisters beaded on your arms like sweat. Sometimes they scar up and leave white splotches on your pigmentation.

Plenty of us spent excessive time outside when we were little. According to the American Cancer Society, "one severe sunburn during childhood or adolescence doubles the risk of developing skin cancer later in life. Cancerous skin conditions can develop years or even decades after excessive exposure." Yes, that means you.

Tanning beds present a coffin of convenience for you to lay in for just 20 minutes. It seems pretty harmless but when you get into the habit of going to one after your last class, you'll soon be walking around with raccoon eyes. That's only one of the short-term effects.

Both options for catching UV rays can be harmful to your skin, unless you handle it properly. The invisible rays, known as ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB), cause suntan, sunburn and sun damage to the skin that can result in skin cancer. That's one of the worst outcomes. Just like cigarettes, lots of sun can mean lots of wrinkles, even before you're supposed to get them.

Limit your trips to the tanning salon to three times a month. When you lay out, wear lots of sunscreen. That doesn't mean Crisco or baby oil. Use an SPF of at least 15. And when you get some sun. lather yourself up with moisturizer, especially on your face. Otherwise classmates may want to take turns peeling dead skin off of

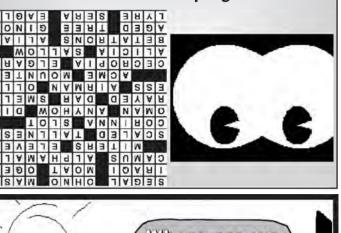
Sun bathing and cigarette smoking have a lot in common.

They both have an allure and cause cancer. Both are quite popular among college age groups and the thought of longterm effects haven't approached a lot of us yet. This is your wake-up call. The smoke you inhale and the rays you catch. will affect you later. Start making the incentive to moderate and protect yourself. Each time you increase your SPF, your chances of cancer drop.

When I think of what a Golden Girl looks like, Lifetime pops in my head. If you really want to look like one, continue to cook yourself in UV light and you will have a lot in com-

> Tara Sherman is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at cloud9tara@aol.com







See manager for details & reservations for August. We pre-lease & guarantee you an apartment. Call (229) 244-4444 or come by 1700 Williams St. Apt. 5 for more info.

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The Spectator

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Features



Leah F. Cassorla / The Spectator About 60 people came to hear Alice Friman read poetry from her new book "Zoo" Wednesday night at Powell Hall. Friman was sponsored by the English

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Department and the Georgia Poetry circuit.

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40 Genghis

43 Bestows

continued from page 8 Political Science and Social Sciences. The cost is \$3,400 23 Make a goal 50 Poetic lamen for the 4-weeks in 24 Deep sleeps 51 Traffic cop, Petersburg Technical University. Students live in residence halls at the university.

According to Dr. David Starling, assistant director of 33 Type of air 58 Mispickel or International Programs, the cost for the Guadalajara trip covers tuition while the Paris and St. Petersburg trips do not. Trips are open to all students.

> For more information, visit the International Programs website at http://www.valdosta.edu/oip or contact Dr. Starling at 333-7410.



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To contact sports editor Matt Stewart, e-mail. blazersports@aol.com

Sports

Upcoming Games

VSU tennis vs. BYU-Hawaii



VSU golf hosts Southeastern Collegiate Monday and Tuesday Valdosta Country Club

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

VSU's #2 ranked men's tennis team set for showdown with top-ranked BYU-Hawaii

#1 ranking at stake for VSU

T.A. Glanton Staff Writer

"What does it take to be No.1? Two is not a winner and three nobody remembers." Nelly, the rapper, asked the question. The No. 2 ranked Blazer tennis squad could answer it with a win Thursday at 9

The VSU men (9-1, 2-0 Gulf South Conference) face the biggest dog in the pack as they take on No.1 ranked BYU-Hawaii (16-0) in Pensacola, Fla., on the tennis courts of West Florida. This is nothing less than a heavyweight match-up as the Seasiders boast Jan Krejci (No. 2), Peter Madarassy (No. 9) and Hung Soon Park (No. 26), all nationally ranked singles players in Division II. Krejci and Tennis

see page 12



Philipp Laucht (above) and the Blazers face BYU-Hawaii Thursday at 9 a.m. in Pensacola, Fla., to decide who's the best team in Division II.

Baseball drops series to UWA

Jana N. Cook Staff Writer

While most VSU students were relaxing during the break last week, the Blazer baseball team continued to

However, the battle still isn't over for the Blazers who are scheduled to play No. Alabama-Huntsville (22-7, 4-3) this weekend. The UAH series will be at Billy Grant Field with Saturday's dou-

battle on the field.

bleheader at 1 p.m. and Sunday's first pitch slotted for 2 p.m.

"It's just one right after another." Coach Thomas said jokingly, referring to playing two top 10 teams this week. The other top ten team was No. 8 Columbus State (25-9), whom the Blazers played Wednesday night in Columbus,

> Ga. The results of the game were not available by press time.

After reaching the No. 5 spot on Collegiate Baseball Top 30 poll at the beginning of last week, the 27-8 Blazers, 6-3 in Gulf South Conference play, slipped back

down to the No. 7 position they held earlier in the season after

Baseball-

see page 12

Softball sisters follow path to VSU



Vonetta Lawton / The Spectator

Junior Ryan Ellingsworth caught Wednesday night's game against St. Leo at VSU's Softball Complex. She also plays right, center and left field for VSU.

Matt Stewart Staff Writer

If you're looking to explain the Lady Blazer softball team's success, look no further than the Ellingsworths. That's Lindsay and Ryan--or just call them Assault and Battery.

Ryan, a junior from Temple City, Calif., holds a .390 batting average on the year, tops on the team and third best in the Gulf South Conference east division. Lindsay, a senior pitcher/first baseman also from Temple City, has a minute earned run average of 0.73, best in the conference out of more than 42 pitchers. Lindsay's not bad with the bat either, hitting at a

.364 clip on the season, but still second to her younger sister, Ryan.

"The only stat we compare is hitting," Ryan said. And, of course, she enjoys hitting 36 points higher than her older sibling.

"We'll see what tomorrow says," Lindsay said.

Rvan made VSU softball a family tradition after transferring from Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Fla., to join Lindsay. Lindsay came to VSU by the same route one year earlier.

Softball

see page 12

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Up Next:

#7 VSU

#10 Alabama-

Huntsville

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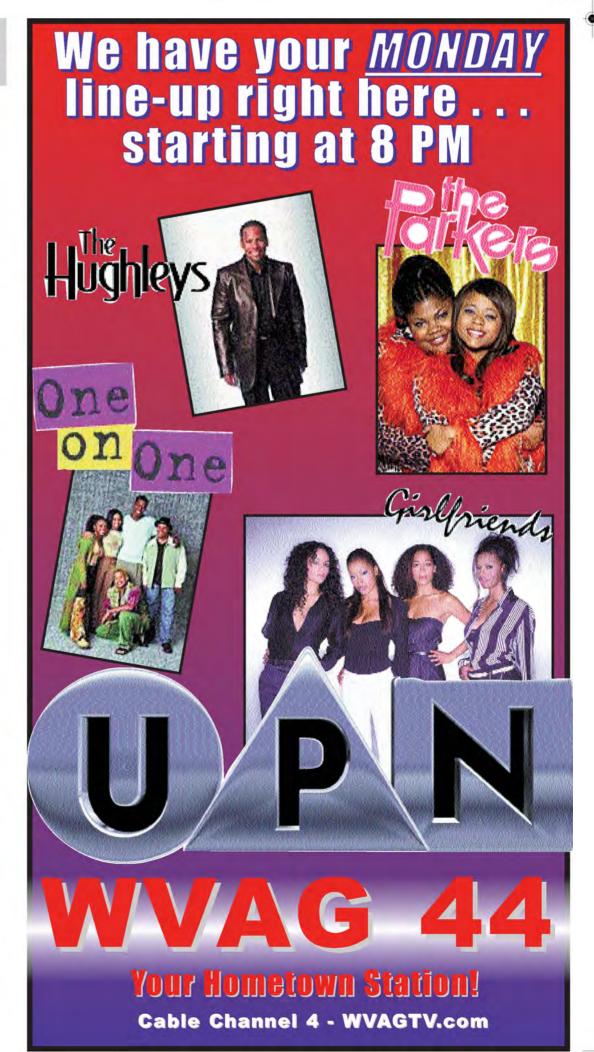
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Vonetta Lawton / The Spectator

Brian Hurtak, freshman pre-engineering major, tees off at Valdosta Country Club Tuesday at practice.

Mistake costs VSU top five finish

VSU returns from California with sixth place finish; hosts tournament Monday and Tuesday

> **Jason James** Staff Writer

VSU's golf team was just a pen stroke away from a fourth place finish Tuesday afternoon following the Aggie Invitational in El Macero.

Sophomore Thomas Pecout forgot to sign his scorecard following a final round score of 75 on Tuesday. The penaly for failure to sign a score card after each round in golf is disqualification. Pecout's score was thrown out and the Blazers were forced to take the next qualifying score.

His score would have lifted the Blazers into fourth place ahead of Western Washington (873). Instead, VSU had to settle for a sixth place finish in the 17 team Aggie Invitational.

But even after the mistake, the No. 13 ranked Blazer golf team is still in contention for the national tourney heading into next week's Southeastern Collegiate Invitational Valdosta.

The Blazers host their only home tournament of the season

Monday and Tuesday at the Valdosta Country Club with high optimism about their chances of making the NCAA national tourney.

VSU will be matched against many top 25 teams such as No. 2 Florida Southern, No. 4 Rollins, No. 7 West Florida. No. 14 Columbus State and 14 other top Division II teams. The first 36 holes of the tournament will be played on Monday

(890) and Sacramento State followed by the final 18 holes nationals."

on Tuesday. Coach Miles Hannen said

that the team is expecting to

UC Davis hosted the tournament at the El Macero Country Club in El Macero, Calif. VSU

finished with a final 30-over-par which put them 60 strokes behind an amazing effort put forth by the host team.

Senior Andy Blanton led the way with a four-over 220 and was trailed by freshman Chris Erwin's 223. Senior Matt Cottle finished

with a 228 and sophomore Michael Collins fired a 235.

Coach Hannen will send Blanton, Pecout, Erwin and freshman Ben Bramlett to compete in next week's

We are on the bubble right now. If we win the tournament [in Valdosta] and win out in the conference, we are in the nationals.

-Miles Hannan, VSU golf head coach

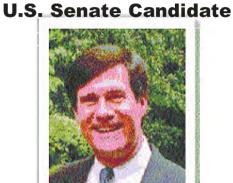
play well and is planning on

"We are on the bubble right

taking the win.

now," Hannen said. "If we win the tournament and win out in the conference, we are in the

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2000 football class 'hatching'

Brandon Scott Staff Writer

The phrase "quality over quantity" is over-used. So excuse the phrase when it is said that head coach Chris Hatcher's first hunt on the recruiting trail emphasized quality over quantity.

Of the 13 signees, eight are expected to start this year. For all you statisticians, that gives Hatcher an insane .615 batting average. And to continue the over-use of clichés, there was "a diamond in the rough."

You should already be familiar with his name. If the name doesn't ring a bell, the stats will. On his way to leading the Gulf South Conference in allpurpose yards a season ago,

sophomore running back Aaron Jenkins broke or tied nine school records.

"Jenkins wasn't a surprise," Hatcher said. "But he may have surprised us that he contributed so much so early."

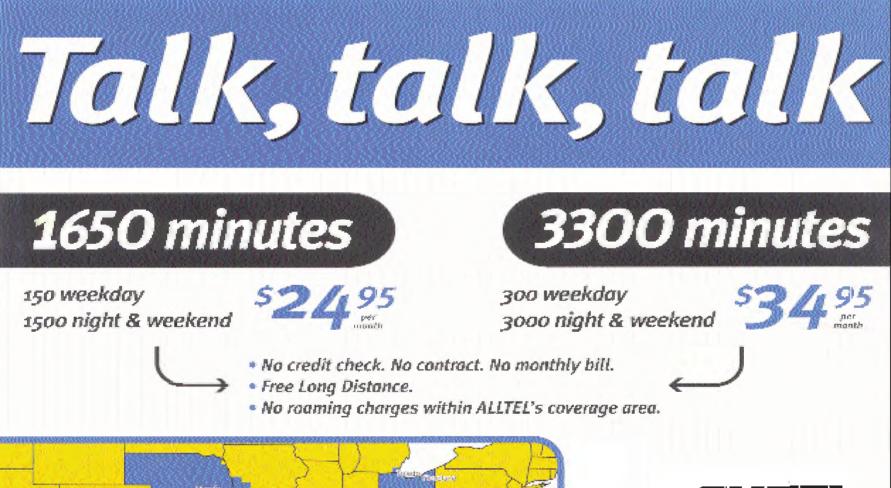
Other major contributors in the 2001 campaign include defensive lineman Marlin Adams and defensive back Marquis Turner. Adams notched 44 tackles in tying for the team lead for sacks, while Turner had 34 tackles with one interception. Both started for the Blazers last fall, and it seems that trend will continue.

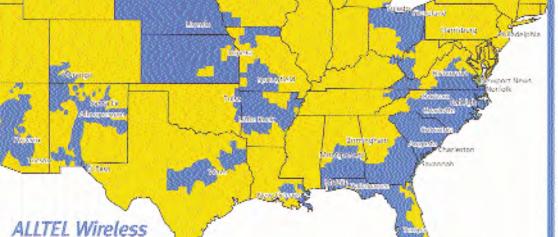
"They [2000 class] have two conference championships." Hatcher said. "Hopefully these last two seasons they can go out as an unprecedented class."

Where are they now? --- Chris Hatcher's first signing class---

Marlin Adams Clent Cannon **Greg Conly** Jason Cost **Dustin Dodson** John Hodby **Torrey Howard Aaron Jenkins** Tyrone Jordan Kelvin McDavis Billy Pilcher Steve Skeen Marquis Turner

Returning starter on D-line No longer on team No longer on team Expected to start in 2002 Expected to start in 2002 Scout team quarterback Expected to start in 2002 1st team all-GSC tailback Expected to start in 2002 Expected to start in 2002 No longer on team No longer on team Returning starter at corner





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Annie Johnson / The Spectator

Holly Blount and the Lady Blazers look to up-end No. 2 BYU-Hawaii.

Women's tennis in search of upset

Tennis-

continued from page 10

Madarassy combine to form the No.2 ranked doubles team in the country. VSU has a few things it can brag about as well. The Blazers counter with the No.18 Tobias Huning, No.35 Marco Borges and No.50 Peter Kreutzfeldt ranked singles players in the country. And for those of you who were too busy to notice, Huning and Borges make-up the No.1 ranked doubles team in the country.

Last April, VSU lost to BYU-Hawaii 5-2. Assistant coach Sachin Kirtane recounts lack of preparation as one of the Blazers shortcomings.

"Last year we were coming back from spring break and I don't think we were as prepared as we should have been," Sachin said. "I just think they played a lot sharper than us and this year, that's why we came back early. We're going to practice a couple of extra days and hopefully do the things we didn't do last year."

Huning has no doubt the Blazers can overtake the No. 1 spot in the nation.

"I do believe that we can win, I hope the other guys believe it too," Huning said. "Last year we definitely proved that it's believing you can win and it's wanting to win."

VSU is coming off wins over No.12

Florida Southern, 8-0, and NAIA No.12 Lewis & Clark, 9-0, March 24 and 25. BYU-Hawaii is coming off a 7-2 win versus No. 7 West Florida

The No.40 ranked Lady Blazers (4-6, 3-0) get another chance at an upset as they take on No.2 ranked BYU-Hawaii (15-0). Unlike the men's match up, BYU-Hawaii is the clear favorite. The Lady Seasiders show off the No.3 and No.4 ranked singles players in the country, Adrienn Hegedus and Petra Gaspar,; it just isn't fair. VSU faces a nearly impossible task, as the Lady Seasiders are 116-1 in their last 117 matches, which includes two National Championships. Last April, the Lady Seasiders defeated VSU 9-0. When faced with a challenge this

great, head coach John Hansen takes the focus off of winning and places it

"Our main focus is making sure we learn something from the match," Hansen said. "Competition doesn't build character, competition exposes character. It lets you know what you're made of. The biggest thing is that you learn something about yourself."

The Lady Blazers are coming off a 6-3 loss to NAIA No.17 Lewis & Clark on March 25. BYU-Hawaii is rolling after shutting out No. 5 West Florida, 9-0, on Tuesday.

Baseball -

continued from page 10

losing two of three games at West Alabama.

"We can't hit with runs in scoring position," Blazer head coach Tommy Thomas said. "Timing – that's what wins the games for you."

The Blazers left a combined

20 batters on base in the doubleheader sweep by UWA.

This weekend will be the first matchup between the Blazers and the UAH Chargers in the 2002 season.

UAH brings to town an impressive offensive lineup, with freshman outfielder Ryan Cox leading the team with a .377 batting average. Other top Charger hitters include sopho-

more infielder Wes Long (.360), who led the Charger team in hits last season, junior outfielder Drew Newsom (.330) and senior third baseman Jake Mathis (.324).

Top pitchers for the Chargers include senior righthander Matt Jansen (2.68), 4-0 on the season, sophomore lefty Kyle Olson (2.68), 2-1, and sophomore righty Adam Bass (3.61),

As for the Blazers, senior righthander Braxton Fernald (3.76) is unbeaten on the season at 6-0. Junior lefty Michael Smith (3.46, 4-1) and senior righthander John Rose (3.56, 4-2) round out the pitching rotation for the UAH series.

Thomas plans to flip-flop these pitchers a little for the series, most likely throwing

Rose in the first game on Saturday, Fernald in the second and saving Smith for the Sunday game.

Junior second baseman Scott Simpson (.419) continues to lead the team in hitting, with junior shortstop Josh Veres (.354) and freshman centerfielder David Lewis (.348) right behind.

GSC East Division Standings

	W	L
lorth Alabama	7	0
aldosta State	6	3
laHuntsville	4	3
Vest Alabama	5	4
Vest Georgia	3	5
/lontevallo	3	5
Vest Florida	3	6
inc. Memorial	2	7

Softball-

continued from page 10

"It wasn't the plan to follow my sister [to VSU]," Ryan said. "It was the last hour on signing day and the last opportunity.'

Now, both are chasing individual season records at VSU.

Ryan's .390 batting average is 19 points short of the school record held by Sonja Harper (.409, 1998). Lindsay's 0.73 ERA is just over Missy Durante's record 0.50 ERA in

Ryan's battery of opposing pitchers and Lindsay's arsenal of pitches translates into wins for VSU.

VSU (27-16, 11-3 GSC) visits No. 25 West Florida next Wednesday at 5 p.m. in a doubleheader. The Lady Blazers defeated the Lady Argonauts, 2-1, Saturday at the UWF

Spring Fling. VSU dropped two non-conference games Wednesday night to No. 22 St. Leo at VSU's Softball Complex.





Ellingsworth named GSC East Division player of the week

VSU senior pitcher/first baseman Lindsay Ellingsworth was named GSC East Division player of the week for the period ending March 31. She had three complete-game Ellingsworth wins and a 1.11 ERA at the UWF Invite.

--Staff Writer Brandon Scott contributed to this article.



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