

Greek councils separate but equal

Brandon Scott
Staff Writer

Greek sororities published a brochure stating, "all women are created equal." In the brochure all the women are white. Another brochure came out, this time, only with black men and women.

Greek national councils distributed these brochures as a "recruitment" effort.

The National Pan Hellenic Council oversees the white sororities (Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Delta Pi, Chi Omega, Kappa Delta, Phi Mu and Zeta Tau Alpha). The Interfraternity Council oversees the white fraternities (Delta Chi, Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Pi Kappa

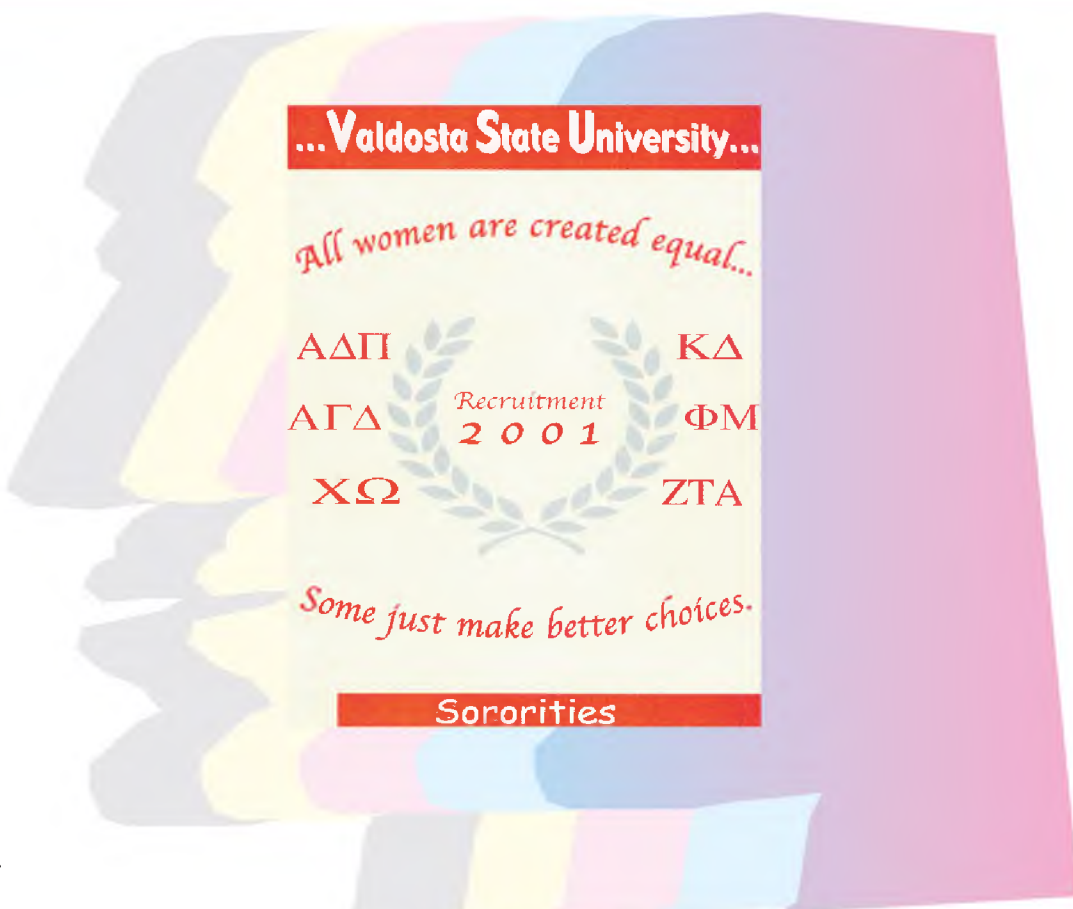
Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Nu). The National Pan-Hellenic Council oversees the black sororities and fraternities (Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta and Sigma Gamma Rho).

Two years ago NPHC moved onto VSU's campus, allowing the separation of the black/white sororities and the black/white fraternities. Previously, the groups met together to accomplish Greek goals and plan Greek events.

According to Devin Adams, VSU's NPHC Chapter president, it was hard for the historically black sororities/fraternities to accomplish their goals because the groups function so

differently. The booklet states, "This organization did not then nor do they now restrict membership to only African Americans. They have developed, however, a distinctive African American style in their activities both social and philanthropic." Achieving their goals were difficult, if not impossible, because VSU's Greek organizations were previously integrated. At orientation for Sigma Gamma Rho, Adams told potential members that the sorority is a historically black sorority, but they accept all races.

"It sounds like it's a way of insuring that students know this
Greeks
see page 3



Vigil offers hope, understanding

Jaime Peck
Staff writer

A new hopeful outlook on the tragic events of Sept. 11 was offered at a prayer vigil, sponsored by Third Wave and the Interfaith Alliance, at 8:30 p.m. last Thursday on the steps of West Hall. Rabbi Haim Cassorla pointed out to the crowd of about 50 people that 25,000 people were saved at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

Since then, various counts have been broadcast each day, ranging from 50 conspirators to hundreds flying on the hijacked planes to 6,500 dead or missing in New York City.

The students, faculty, staff and Valdosta residents who came to the vigil were offered a sense of peace and understanding in the midst of so much pain and grief. A five-minute silence and candle lighting was observed during the vigil, and several speakers expressed their thoughts of hope about the tragedy.

Maral Meredova, a sophomore English major from Turkmenistan, a primarily Muslim country bordering Afghanistan, spoke about Islam, Jihad and her fears that Americans would do violence to Muslims in

their midst.

"Peace cannot be achieved through violence; it can only be achieved through understanding," Meredova said. "In the Holy Koran, chapter five, verse 35 states that the killing of one innocent individual is like killing the whole of humankind."

Meredova explained that Islamic religion should not be blamed for the tragedy, and the terrorists had "blackened" the name of Islam through their actions.

"I hoped a lot of people would come and hear what I had to say," Meredova said. "I hoped it would educate them about Islam - it's not the killing of innocent people. These [terrorists] are using religion to cover up their actions, and people shouldn't be fooled by that."

Several people, representing different religious traditions, spoke about their



Nathan White / The Spectator

Students and faculty join together to remember the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

thoughts, including one student who urged everyone to notice the unity of the United States in simply how many U.S. flags are publicly displayed now as compared to before Sept. 11.

Other key speakers during the vigil included Valori Sherer of Christ the King Episcopal Church, and Diane Holliman of the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Tensions discussed at SGA town meeting

Blenda Link
Staff Writer

Tensions were divided Tuesday over several major issues discussed at the Student Government Association's first town hall meeting. During the one-hour allotment, students directly questioned a nine-member town hall panel. The panel comprises 10 administrators; one was absent.

Before the town hall meeting, Cody Guined, SGA vice president, circulated about the audience requesting no video. He did not state a reason for the request. He did not make a request against digital or flash photography.

Students and administrators extensively discussed the Living Wage Campaign, public accessibility to VSU's budget, consortium students' privileges at VSU, parking privileges dur-

ing football games for members of fraternities located on Brookwood and Slater streets, co-curricular transcripts, availability of new degree programs and remodeling plans for the Blazer Grill. Administrators also addressed parking, housing, future VSU president and athletic concerns.

The administrative answer that caused the most unrest during the meeting referred to money. Repeatedly, James Brignati, vice president for Business and Finance, said many of the problems with dorms, construction, the Living Wage Campaign and athletics rested upon the fact that VSU only has so much money to work with.

In response to a comparison made by a student between stu-

Money
see page 4

Students face moldy problem

Ashlie Mash
Staff Writer

Some students are wondering where have all the maintenance workers gone? Senior Carrie Taylor, a resident of the 2C wing in Langdale Hall, had not seen a maintenance worker in the residence hall until she reported a major problem inside her room.

One afternoon about a week and half ago, Taylor and her roommate, junior Laura Cuvo, discovered a bookbag ruined by mold growth.

This is not the only mold and mildew problem in the 2C wing. Within hours of the Taylor-Cuvo incident, a few rooms down, Jessica Savage noticed mold growing on her shoes.

According to Taylor, since she could not get in touch with director of Housing and Residence Life, Joe Mattachione, after the discovery, she and seven other unhappy women from the 2C wing expressed their situation to the Vice President of Student Affairs, Russ Mast.

Mast wrote down their problems, and within a day maintenance men were cleaning the moldy rooms.

According to Taylor, even though the room was cleaned this past Friday, "You can still see dark spots on the ceiling where mold was."



Laura Justin / The Spectator

Due to the lack of maintenance in residence halls, students have been noticing mold and mildew buildup.

Mattachione did take it upon himself to make sure that Damp-rid was placed in each girls' room on the 2C wing.

Taylor and Cuvo worried

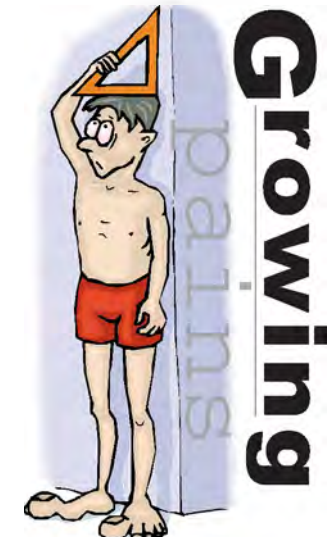
about their other belongings ruining from mold, and concerned for their health.

Housing
see page 4

Are the HSU Reddies a viable threat to the No. 4 Blazers Saturday?



See Henderson State preview, page 6



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Next issue

How much is too much?
Binge Drinking

Web Watch

Each week, the Spectator features a website that will benefit our readers.

If you've decided that it's time to quit smoking, but don't know how... If you haven't decided, but want information...the American Lung Association can help.

This week:

www.lungusa.org

The ALA website, at www.lungusa.org, has information on asthma, smoking and lung cancer, as well as an online program to help anyone interested in quitting smoking.

For additional information about smoking, see "This time quitters win," page 8. Good luck.

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 BEAT

September 19

Anthony Shealer, 19, of 1538 Waterworks Rd., Commerce, Ga., and Ricky Prewitt, 19, of 203 Briarwood Circle, Hinesville, Ga., were arrested at Lowndes 272 at 11:04 p.m. for misdemeanor possession of marijuana. Both are VSU students. Both were taken to Lowndes County Jail.

September 22

Leigh Ann Brannen, 18, of 4008 Frasier Circle, Tifton, Ga., was arrested at 3:50 a.m. at Baytree and Jerry Jones Rd. for DUI alcohol. She is not a VSU student. She refused to sign her ticket. She was taken to Lowndes County Jail.

September 25

Leon J. Davison, 23, of 212 S. Otsego Ave., Gaylord, MI., was arrested at 2:50 a.m. at 2108 N. Oak Street for giving a false name and date of birth to law enforcement. He is not a VSU student. Merrilea E. Hatchett, 21, of 402 Sunnymeade Dr. was also arrested for lying and withholding information which was in her possession about the other offender in this case. She is not a VSU student. She and Davison were taken to Lowndes County Jail.

September 26

Audrue Lilly, 25, of 806 Poplar Dr., was arrested at Baytree and Miramar Rd. for giving a false name and date of birth to law enforcement while driving on a suspended license. He is not a VSU student. He was taken to Lowndes County Jail.

Today

ATTENTION VSU: If you receive an e-mail with the subject: "Peace BeTween AmeriCa And IsLam," delete it. Do not open its attachment. It contains a virus, TROJ_VOTE.A that might reformat your computer. If you open it, do not reboot your computer. Pattern file #945 detects TROJ_VOTE.A. For more information, visit www.antivirus.com/vinfo/virus/encyclo/default5.asp?VName=TROJ_VOTE.A.

Grab a homecoming packet from the Student Activities office on the 2nd floor of the University Union.

For more information, call 333-5674.

Help Sigma Gamma Rho sorority collect aluminum and plastic products until Oct. 13 for recycling. Place items in boxes provided throughout campus.

Talk to representatives from the Medical College of Georgia at the Bio/Chem Building 2022. Presentations are as follows:

School of Medicine at 10 a.m., School of Dentistry at 10:30 a.m., Multicultural Affairs & Special Programs at 11 a.m. and Allied Health Sciences & Nursing at 11:30 a.m. The program repeats for each school in the same order again between 1-2:30 p.m.

For more information, call Dr. Mark Blackmore at 259-5114.

Jennifer Street performs a free student recital on flute at 7:30 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

For more information, call the music department at 333-5804.

Campus Activity Board hosts a pool tournament at 5 p.m. at the gameroom in the University Center.

Dr. Victor Morgan, of the Counseling Center, hosts a free seminar, "Managing Stress Part III: Lifestyle Management," from 4-5 p.m. in the University Center theater.

Meet other prospective Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity members at 7 p.m. in the Dogwood Room at the University Center.

Prospects must have a 3.0 or higher GPA and 12-96 credit hours.

If you cannot attend the meeting but are interested, call 253-2898.

Eat free pizza as you talk to VSU Ambassadors during recruitment at the Alumni House on 1603 N. Patterson St. from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

For more information, call Terry Fredericksen at 333-5797.

Friday

The Council on Staff Affairs hosts the 3rd Annual Staff Appreciation Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Billy Grant Field on north campus. All VSU staff is invited.

VSU staff ID is required. For more information, e-mail Melinda Cutchens at cutchens@valdosta.edu.

Listen to a poetry reading by author Eleni Sikelianos at 7 p.m. in Powell Hall. The English department hosts.

For more information, e-mail Marty Williams at mlwillia@valdosta.edu.

Timothy Hoekman, voice, performs a free guest recital at 7:30 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

Saturday

The VSU cheerleaders host a cheerleading clinic for kindergartners through fifth graders from 9 a.m. to noon at the P.E. Complex. Register at 8:30 a.m.

The clinic costs \$10. It includes a t-shirt, souvenir pompom and a ticket to the VSU vs. Henderson State football game at 7 p.m.

Participants will do a group cheer at half time.

For more information, call 241-5804.

The VSU Blazers face Henderson State at 7 p.m. at Bazemore-Hyder Stadium

For more information, call the Athletic Department at 333-5890.

Sunday

Susan Hess and Matt Morris perform a free guest recital on bassoon at 7:30 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

Monday

The Public Relations Student Society of America meets each Monday at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Building 236. All majors invited.

For more information, call Mr. David Blakeman, faculty sponsor, at 333-5820.

Tuesday

Shannon Hesse performs a free faculty recital on piano at 7:30 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

Wednesday

Campus Activities Board presents The Evasons at 7 p.m. at Powell Hall.

The Honor Student Association meets today at 4 p.m. at the Honors House.

Listen to the "Odradek" reading today at 7 p.m. at the Magnolia Room in the University Center.

Thursday

Campus Activities Board hosts "Freestyle Thursday" from 7-9 p.m. at Powell Hall.

Oct. 6

The Valdosta Symphony Orchestra performs a concert at

8 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

Tickets are required for admission. For more information, call the music department at 333-5804.

Oct. 8

Homecoming Week begins. The Homecoming Kickoff is from 6-8 p.m. on the front lawn (in front of West Hall).

Oct. 9

Campus Activity Board hosts Skate Night at 8 p.m. at Jungle Jyms.

Oct. 10

Today is Midterm, last day to drop classes.

Comedian Joe Clair pulls for laughs at 8 p.m. at the Magnolia Room in the University Center.

Found Property

The following property has been turned in to the VSU Public Safety office.

1. money
2. ladies' glasses
3. set of keys
4. book bag

Call Cpl. Dennis Nealon at the VSU public safety office at 333-7816 to identify any of these items.

All student IDs are turned over to One Card Services.

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News

Weekend

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 UV Index: 7 high	 UV Index: 7 high	 UV Index: 5 moderate	 UV Index: 5 moderate
Hi: 79 Low: 55	Hi: 78 Low: 57	Hi: 75 Low: 57	Hi: 78 Low: 57

SGA discusses homecoming budget

Blenda Link
Staff Writer

Thirty-one senators showed up for roll call after the town hall meeting Tuesday night.

In his report, Cody Guined, Student Government Association vice president, said senatorial seats were still available.

Guined said seven freshman, one senior, five graduate/doctoral, seven on-campus and seven off-campus seats were open. He said he received six freshman nominations, one senior, three off-campus and three on-campus.

Last week's nominees were

voted in by the senate.

All six freshman nominees were voted in by general consensus: Shannon Hauser, Shauntabia Smith, Ashley Leon, Vanessa Hazenbrook, Sheree Ford, and Carlee Van Valkenburg.

Senior nominee Casey Young was voted in by general consensus.

Of the three on-campus nominees, only Ricky Tolfree was present. He was voted in by general consensus.

All seven off-campus nominees were voted in by general consensus: Jessica Overstreet, Jonathon Luke, Lindsey Smith, Ashley Perry, John Jackson Lee, Jennifer Duggard and

Brenna Uhlmeier.

Currently, one freshman seat, no senior, five graduate/doctoral, six on campus and no off-campus seats are open for nomination.

In the Comptroller report, Raquel Aque said a \$2,233,644 homecoming check needed to be approved by the senate.

Several senators expressed their

disapproval.



Cody Guined

Sen. Jennifer Lanier asked why the executive board made financial decisions concerning homecoming without consulting the Public Relations committee or the rest of the senate first.

Guined said the decision was made with respect to time constraints.

In his report, Nicholas

Overstreet, SGA president, said he sent his recommendation to the faculty senate for review concerning the proposed outdoor lighting policy.

Under old business, senators discussed the validity of last year's bylaw amendments.

Guined said because there was no official record kept of the minutes and because they were not approved, every change made under last year's administration is considered null and void.

Sen. Jaime Martinez asked if this meant that the SGA justices brought in under last year's administration need to be replaced, since they were brought to the judicial board

during this administration.

Guined said he would check into the situation.

Under new business, six organizations came before the senate to ask for campus recognition.

The new organizations are the American Marketing Association, American Sign Language Club, Blazer Pride, College Republican Party, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity and Mock Trial.

Blenda Link is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at bjlink@valdosta.edu

More than just lunch

Phillip Boyd
Staff Writer

Palms Dining Center is not the only place to eat lunch and have an epiphany.

Starting Tuesday, VSU offers the chance to have both during a series of Brown Bag lunches from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in West Hall 150.

The series gives students and faculty a chance to listen to research developed by and with undergraduates. The series is based on the concept of the Council on Undergraduate Research, a program whose mission is to encourage research for interested undergraduate students. This includes written, lab work and field activities.

"The goal is to have four faculty and four student presentations during the eight week series," Dr. James LaPlant, associate professor of political

science, said. "Students from political science, foreign language, math and chemistry backgrounds are scheduled to present."

The series will begin with a presentation by Dr. David Bechler, head of the department of biology. Dr. Bechler's presentation focuses on his research of mosquito fish as a natural means of controlling mosquitoes. The presentation will be held Oct. 2.

Brown Bag presentations are every consecutive Tuesday.

There are eight presentations in all. Presentations include Amazing Ancient Mathematics, Ancient Egyptian Amulets and Hieroglyphics, Latino Politicians and the Development of an American Latino Agenda, A Game of Differences, America's War on Drugs: The Politics of Hypocrisy, Deception and Injustice, A Russian Adventure in Microbiology and Intellectual Property Exercises in an Undergraduate Setting.

said, "I think both sides [blacks and whites] are wrong to include that comment. It sounds like we'd rather have whites in this one and blacks in this one, and we don't want to change."

Two sorority members were asked if they felt VSU supported a segregation system by allowing sororities/fraternities to be a part of these national councils. Both agreed it did seem VSU allows a segregation system on campus. They wished to remain anonymous for fear of punishment by their respective sororities.

Representatives from Pi Kappa Phi and Kappa Sigma do not agree with the separation either. "You don't see a black person in a white fraternity, and you don't see a white person in a black fraternity," Ryan Norton, president of Pi Kappa Phi said. "I'm not trying to sound racist, but by supporting them, I know it's not helping the situation, but it is all we know." Ryan Meyers, public relations representative for Kappa Sigma said, "Just because you say something is historically that way, doesn't mean it won't change."

Greeks

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is a historically white/black fraternity/sorority, and you should be concerned about race," Dr. Vicki Soady, director of Womens' Studies said. "There's a great loss, because I don't know what pressures our sororities or fraternities are under in order to conform with some national body. It's the year 2001, not the year 1955, and this campus should be doing everything it can to erase the boundaries of race and gender."


Deorrick Bradley, a senior legal assistance studies and Phi Beta Sigma member said, "It really sounds as if it's just white, and that's all they want, they're trying to make it sound good [by saying we allow all races], but it's not actually the truth."

Some students object that VSU allows racial division on campus.

"Me being white, sounds like I have no chance," Jim Xenakis, a freshman criminal justice major said. "I think it's horrible. I will never be a part of any fraternity at VSU just because of that." Chelsea Sears, freshman LAS major

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We will have lots of FREE Hot Dogs, Drink and Chips. Come play for prizes!

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

This event is sponsored by the Offices of: Alcohol & Other Drug Education, Campus Recreation and Housing & Residence Life.

A week of diverse thoughts

Mary Dabbs
Staff Writer

Equal Opportunity Programs is pitching "understanding for a better tomorrow."

That is the theme for this year's Diversity week. Diversity week is Oct. 21 - 25 and hosts a range of events and discussions.

"Diversity week is for education about cultural awareness and education about cultural differences around campus," said Dr. Beverly Richardson-Blake, assistant director of Equal Opportunity Programs.

Diversity week's proposed program features several theatrical performances and group discussions. The week's activities will begin at 6 p.m. Oct. 21 with a talent show in Powell Hall entitled "Power of Performance: Talent Explosion," featuring campus and community talents. The first panel discussion, "Achieving Disability Rights," will be Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at Powell Hall.

VSU's Accessibility Expo will be held during Diversity week on Oct. 23, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the University Center Magnolia Room. The Expo

aims at helping people with disabilities, learning and physical, recognize their abilities and move past limitations. Other events for the day include the Town Meeting on Current Events at

3:30p.m. in the UC Theater, with Dr. Suzan Wehling moderating.

A group from Greensboro, North Carolina will perform "Through Our Eyes" that day at 7 p.m. in the Science Building Auditorium.

The "Somos Latinos: We are

Latinos" event is at 3:00p.m. Oct. 24. in the UC Theater. At 7 p.m. International Exploration, a performance and display, will be held in the UC Theater.

On the last day of the program, Oct. 25, a dance troupe from the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind will perform at 11a.m. in Whitehead Auditorium.

The last activity for the week will be the "Diversity Fair" held in the Palms QUAD from 4 - 7 p.m. The Diversity Fair will include representatives from campus and community organizations.

Dr. Richardson-Blake esti-

mates that 1,000 people attended activities at last year's Diversity celebration. This year she hopes that the activities of the Diversity fare will help students with the healing process after recent terrorist events.

"It's an opportunity to sit down and talk and reason ... we would invite everyone to participate."

Mary Dabbs is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at kamikazeflutterby@hotmail.com

Money

continued from page 1

let's pay \$7 an hour and everybody that's working can still work [the same amount of hours]," he said.

"We agree that it's a very important issue [wage increases for VSU workers], but it all works back to where's the money to do it?" he said. "I agree with what you're saying. I'm sure everybody wants to make more money than what they're making, but the bottom line is we have a limited resource to work with. We don't determine tuition increases. We don't determine the funding from the state; that comes from the board level. We do the best we can with the funds that are allocated to us."

Everyone wanted an equal opportunity to address student concerns. Many students felt slighted.

The chief complaint among several students is that they did not receive the same opportunity as others to present their concerns during the meeting. During the first half hour, SGA senators were given the first opportunity to address the panel. Other students were allowed to address the panel

during the second half hour.

At the end of the SGA meeting following the town hall meeting, David Klier, student, addressed the senate on this issue. He said three rows of students sitting in the back at the town hall meeting did not have the chance to speak or address the town hall panel. An unidentified senator said

they didn't get a chance to speak," she said.

She later made an allegation that some people made up silly questions to ask during the town hall meeting to take up time. She said that some of the full-time workers that came did not get the chance to speak on behalf of the Living Wage campaign and wage increases in general for workers at VSU.

Panel members that attended the town hall meeting included Dr. Bailey, VSU president; Dr. Louis Levy, acting vice president for Academic Affairs; Russ Mast, acting vice president for Student Affairs and Dean of Students; Maggie Viverette, acting assistant to the president for Equal Opportunity Programs/Multicultural Affairs; Herb Reinhard, athletic director for the Athletic Department; James Brignati, vice president for Business & Finance; Robert D. Kellner, director for Auxiliary Services; Chief Scott Doner, director for Public Safety; and Tommy Moore, director for Financial Aid. An additional member, Joe Mattachione, director for Housing & Residence Life, was absent.

According to Nicholas Overstreet, SGA president, town hall meetings are held once a semester unless there is an impending necessity for additional meetings.

Blenda Link is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at bjlink@valdosta.edu

Housing

continued from page 1

"I heard breathing it (mold and mildew) affects your memory," Taylor said. "You can't report damages on your body."

Although the problem inside the women's room could have been worse, they are still disappointed at the action they had to take last week to be noticed.

"It's upsetting that it takes seven of us to go to the dean of students just to get things done," Taylor said.

Mattachione said, "The residents have been wonderful and patient. It will now be resolved."

Mattachione gives step-by-step instructions for solving housing problems:

Housing also faced the lack of rooms for students. Mattachione said everyone under temporary housing arrangements made their own arrangements to live somewhere else or was placed in a residence hall.

"Everyone in temporary housing has now been assigned to different halls," Kerri Albright, Langdale Hall Director, said. "There are now about 10 spaces left."

Any housing problems can be addressed to the Housing and Residence Life office at 333-5920.

Ashlie Mash is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at lam1239@hotmail.com



Blenda Link / The Spectator

James Brignati

President Bailey has a meeting intended for this. Sen. Sandi House also addressed the issue. She said she talked to several of the discontented students and said they understood time constraints of the meeting and that they could set up another meeting with the panel to discuss concerns. Sen. Robin Reynolds responded.

"Well, I talked to the other 99 percent [of the students] that said they weren't happy that

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The Spectator

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Divided we stand

A picture is worth a thousand words. Look in the Camellia Room of the University Union. The pictures on the wall tell a story older than this country. Sororities and fraternities display their members' pictures along the wall. All seems normal, but a closer look says something else. All the faces are white. What's wrong with this picture? No rule in any Greek organization states that African-Americans and Caucasians must be separate. This is a ruling of their free will.

In a country where we pride ourselves on equality, the battle rages on. In our churches. In our social groups. And in our lives.

We need to look at ourselves and what we take pride in. We claim to be American – one and the same. Yet we choose to be separate.

Like in our churches. Sunday morning is known –tongue in cheek- as the most segregated hour in America.

When is separation right? Not in this case.

When we choose to be separate, we choose to be ignorant—of each other. And as we learned a couple of weeks ago in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., ignorance can be deadly.

As a campus, we should make every effort to unite. We lack understanding, and choosing to segregate ourselves just confirms that.

It is not right to assume that because you are a different skin color from the person next to you, you can not join his or her group.

Greeks want people who can represent their organization. People, not just skin tones.

Rush needs to be held at one time decided by the Greek organizations. Students should not feel they have to “go Greek” at the appropriate time for their ethnicity. More turnout at rush week means more opportunity to find the best representatives for your sorority or fraternity.

After all, isn't that what rush week is about?

It's time the pictures told a different story.

Spectator opinion written by Michelle Taylor

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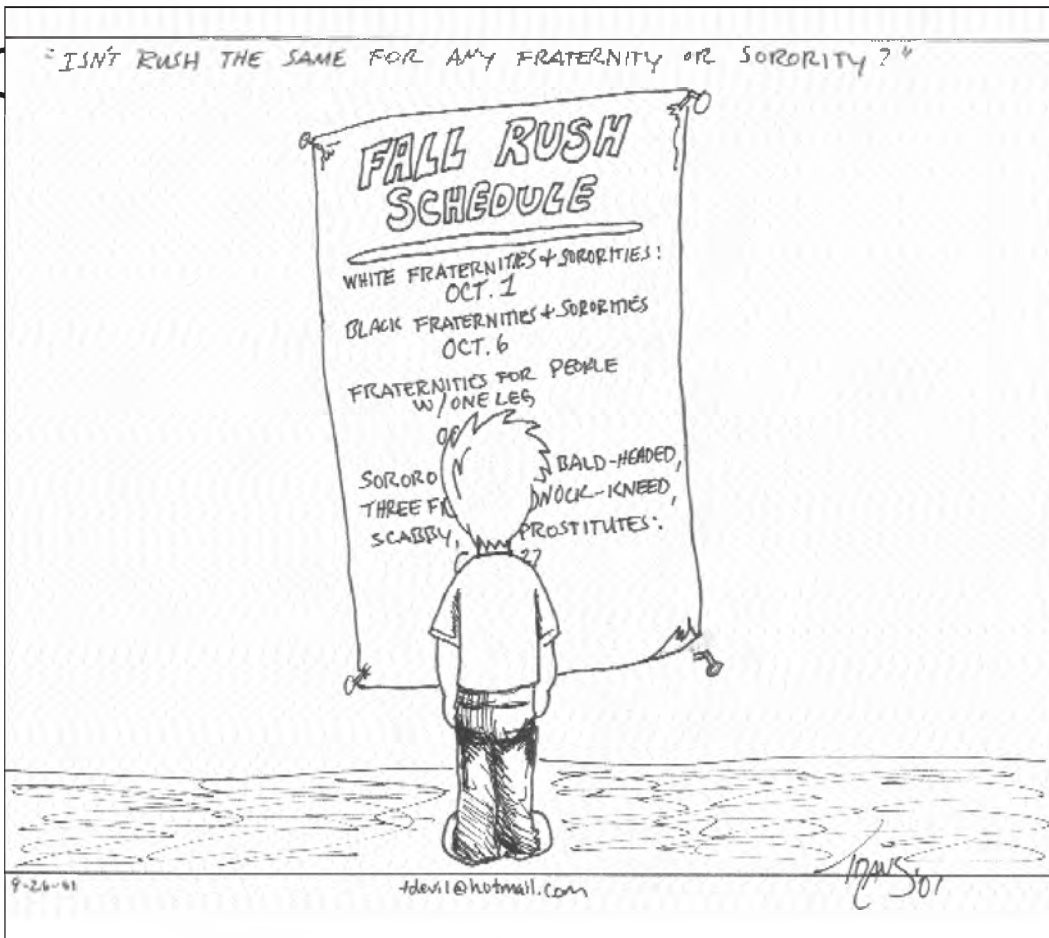
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Blenda Link

Blood bonds

“Are you going to donate blood today?”

Not knowing your blood type, being afraid of needles, not ever having donated before and not having time are weak answers as to why you haven't donated blood.

Dying people are the ones who “don't have time” for your excuses.

Admit you just don't care enough to save anyone else's life but yours. Does the truth sound harsh? It is. If you are medically incapable of donating, you have a reason. If you are under 17 years old or 110 pounds, you have a reason. If you base your decision on ideological beliefs that you can argue intelligently, you have a reason. But every time you make excuses you send a message to those waiting on hospital beds: you just don't care. If you did you would get over your fear and make time. You make the time to do the things you want to do.

You should be crying, angry and passionate. You should be compassionate. You don't have to battle death tonight; thousands of others do.

Red Cross and other blood donations are at an all-time high after critical shortages. Companies are donating \$5,000-\$1 million to the cause. People are buying flags and displaying them. Commercial and church bulletins read, “God bless America.” People are wearing ribbons to school and work. I will end up among them. Has our love so fizzled that we needed something of this magnitude to revive us?

I'm not advocating being a donor to feel good about yourself; this is not the point. The point is to realize that EVERY DAY people are dying, not just since Sept. 11. How many deaths could be prevented if more people donated?

Undergo the tiny sting it takes to save those who are suffering pain NOW. Half an hour is all it takes to SHARE the GIFT of LIFE.

Instead of asking, “Are you going to donate blood today?” I ought to ask, “going to die today?” After all, this is how many of us live; we base everything on priority. If death were your first priority, perhaps your excuses would melt away. Then I'd receive better answers than, “Well...I don't know...”

Blenda Link is a Spectator columnist and can be contacted at bjlink@valdosta.edu

Healing not hatred

I know I am going to sound like a broken record, but I cannot help it. The situation needs to be addressed, repeatedly, until we get it through our thick skulls that hating others will not make the terrorist acts committed on America go away any faster. If anyone of any racial status feels afraid to get up out of bed and go outside to pick up a newspaper or go to a class...something's got to change. This is not right.

I have been watching MTV [a great source of information for my generation], and it puts a dagger in me every time MTV reporters have to interview some human being of Arabic descent about the fact that he or she has been harassed by others. I feel worse for the Middle Eastern women. It's hard for me to look at an Arabic woman's eyes while she's being interviewed about how her car was vandalized, or how her children were beaten up at school



Jeremiah Bass

by other kids. [See how hate spreads?]

VSU, take a moment to yourself...does any of this hate make us any better than the terrorists? Wait a minute, why am I saying, “us?” Hell, I am not discriminating against Middle Easterners, or anyone for that matter.

Some of you are, though. Does it make you feel better when you watch the news and hear about a young woman who was looked at with disgrace because she is of another religion?

Maybe this is what the terrorists wanted...maybe they

want Americans hating each other, and some of you are feeding right into their trap. We're being laughed at right now. You wanna let them win? I don't think you do.

Keep it up, though; keep on bashing Middle Easterners with racist remarks. You make our country very proud!

I believe all of us have at least an ounce of purity in our hearts. Some of you just do not want to give in. What, is it your pride? That's a lame excuse.

To the Middle Easterners here on our campus, I say: Walk on. Live your life, as each and every one of us should be attempting to do. Don't fear the hate you may feel generating around you. This is your school too; don't let that be taken away from you.

This is our generation. Kids are picking up our manners. Don't dig a deeper hole. Walk on.

Mailbox

God go with you

Dear Editor:

Sept. 11 I was hanging out with some friends over at their residence. We were doing our best to eat spaghetti, but appetites seemed unimportant after what happened earlier in the day. On the TV screen those towers kept caving in; in the kitchen a friend was sobbing, almost sure that her father would die. I had the thought, “God, where are you now?”

I didn't hear a reply from heaven; no angelic choir struck the chords of “Hosanna in the highest.” Only silence. Maybe that's what reminded me of

Calvary, the stillness in the air after Christ gave up his breath. Who knows what made the image come? It was the very spirit of God.

And in the image of the cross was God's answer: “When pain strikes the world, this is where I am.” How can people act as if God turns his back on the world when in fact he died, through Jesus Christ, for the world? How a Christian, wonder if God cares? I was inclined to sadness. The blame is upon the church.

If I forget that Christ has finished it (John 19:30), then what does that say about the church? Perhaps it says we have failed to be who we are, and by consequence have failed to give the world what it needs. If we are not a suffering church how

will the world recognize a suffering God?

People have suggested that the events of the past week were a wake-up call to God's people. God's people shouldn't need a wake-up call. Was the garden Gesthemane an instance of a collect call from God, with Jesus deciding whether to answer? No, the garden was Jesus himself picking up the phone and dialing numbers that said, “Here am I, Lord; send me.”

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.” -Luke 10:36-37

Varnell



Got something to say?

Open mic on this page every week at the Spectator.

Should Greek organizations be more racially integrated at VSU?



“It shouldn't be up to the sorority or fraternity. The student body should put pressure on them.”

Daniel Hyatt

Junior
Astro-physics and electrical engineering



“They need to stick to tradition. They've been around for many years, and they should stick to what they started”

Johnathon Allen
Sophomore
Accounting



“Yes because they need to mix people together so they can learn about each other's cultures, but no because they learn about themselves and bond together.”

Michelle Conner
Freshman
Undecided



“We would be able to have bigger organized events for everybody to come out to. There would be more togetherness on campus”

Charles Jackson
Sophomore
Business management



“I think so because it makes for a more diverse crowd. It opens folks up to more views and makes a more cultured society.”

Joe Ryan
Junior
Biology



“In modern society we're all integrated anyway, so why not set up a sorority like our college is?”

Laura Graham
Sophomore
Biology



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To contact sports editor
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Nathan White / The Spectator

VSU senior kicker Reid Bethea's kick sails past the outstretched arms of senior wide receiver Dennis Crump at Wednesday's practice on Reames Field.

Blazers burn Bears 42-34

Matt Stewart
Staff Writer

p.m. against ailing Henderson State. After escaping with an improbable 42-34 victory last Saturday at No. 21 Central Arkansas, and a date with nemesis Delta State looming just around the corner, the HSU

Reddies probably are the last thing on the fourth-ranked Blazers' minds; or maybe not. HSU has Hatcher's full attention after the Blazers scare last weekend, although VSU dominated the Reddies last year, 56-21 in Arkadelphia, Ark.

"Henderson State has got a lot of good athletes," Hatcher said of the 0-4 Reddies. "They've got a good defense, but their offense has been plagued by turnovers all season." HSU (0-4, 0-2) fell to Harding University last Saturday 26-10 after committing four turnovers, one inside the HU five-yard line. With the loss, the Reddies extend their school record losing streak to 14 games. They have also failed to win on the road in 16 consecutive games with their last victory away from home coming on Oct. 17, 1998. HSU's off-season renovation of its coaching staff has not resulted in a reversal of fortunes for the Reddies in the first four weeks of the season. HSU hired well-traveled Coach Jesse Branch after last season's dismal 1-10 record. HSU's coaching overhaul also included the hiring of both a new offensive and defensive coordinator.

Hatcher involved in another great comeback
One decade ago, VSU fresh-

man quarterback Chris Hatcher came off the sidelines and engineered Blazer football's greatest comeback in school history by rallying VSU to victory after trailing 24-0 to West Georgia in 1991. Last Saturday, Hatcher was once again on the sidelines of another record-tying comeback staged by the Blazers. VSU trailed 31-7 at halftime to Central Arkansas, but this time Blazer quarterback Dusty Bonner was the engineer, hitting 17-of-22 pass attempts for 266 yards and two touchdowns in the second half. **Hatcher-Dooley connection** Blazer running back Aaron Jenkins carried the ball an unheard of 28 times in the "Air Raid" offense for 178 yards, Jenkins' career high. Tony Wesley was also effective on the ground, running seven times for 85 yards before leaving the game in the second half with a knee injury. Wesley is expected to miss at least three games. "I felt like I was Vince Dooley running the ball as much as we did in the game," Hatcher said, referring to the legendary University of Georgia coach. "Our running game was effective the entire game but I still wanted to pass because I'm hard-headed." **Tale of two halves for "Black Swarm"** VSU's defense was dismantled in the first half by UCA's "Bear Raid" offense to the tune of 357 total yards and 31 points. The "Black Swarm" defense came out energized in the second half and held the Bears to only 121 yards of offense and just three points, while forcing two interceptions. "UCA played a perfect half in the first half," Hatcher said. "We didn't make many adjustments at halftime. I just told them that they had a chance to make history and everybody came out in the second half believing we could win."

Next Game:
#4 VSU vs. Henderson St.
Saturday, 7 p.m., Bazemore-Hyder Stadium
Radio: WWRQ 107.9 F.M.

Lady Blazers win first meet ever

Jeremiah W. Bass
Staff Writer

fifth. VSU runners now prepare to travel to compete in the Georgia Championships in Atlanta. The starting gun fires at 9 a.m. Leading the women down the path to victory were juniors Amanda Bennett [20:32.42], Cindy Barkley [20:40.24] and Meredith Middleton [20:46.12]. VSU's women finished atop the meet standings with 54 points. Kennesaw State crossed the fin-

ish line in a close second with 56 points. VSU Coach Johnny Lancaster was proud of his Lady Blazers (24-6), now ranked No.



Special to the Spectator

10 in the NCAA Southeastern Regional. "They ran great," Lancaster said. "This is the best they've run all year. They did a super job." Lancaster also stated that he was impressed with how his top seven finishers managed to stay together during the race. "They're pumped up right now," Lancaster said. The Blazers (13-14) have yet

to finish in the top three at any meet this season. Sophomore Daniel Scott [28:11.67], senior James Wright [28:27.51] and sophomore Brian Foskey [29:41.56] guided the men's team. "They're doing good," Lancaster said. According to Lancaster, senior James Wright has a slight groin injury that should be healed by the next meet.

VSU Dining Services wishes the **BLAZERS** continued success!

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Coach Hatcher's picks of the week!

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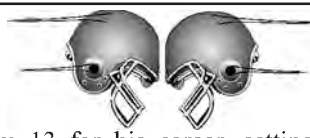


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Gulf South Conference Week in



Gerald Gales provided a spark for UWG with a 70-yard punt return and six receptions for 99 yards.

Matt Biggie
Staff Writer

#1 Delta State 21 North Alabama 3

Valdosta State and Delta State are both thankful that there are four quarters in a football game as two of the nations best overcame shaky starts to remain unbeaten and on track for an Oct. 6 showdown in

Mississippi. Delta State also fell behind early but not nearly as far behind as VSU did. North Alabama (1-2, 0-2) took the early lead off a Travis Johnson 29-yard field goal.

The lead quickly evaporated as defending Division II champion Delta State (3-0, 1-0) awoke. The Statesmen held UNA to just 106 yards of total offense. DSU totaled 323 total yards on offense.

#19 Arkansas Tech 20 #12 West Georgia 15

Both teams played sloppy football as Arkansas Tech (3-0, 2-0) turned the ball over five times.

In the end, West Georgia

(3-1, 1-1) could not dig itself out of an early 14-0 hole and plummeted in the rankings to #23 while Arkansas Tech moved up to #16.

UWG corner Marquis Floyd had three interceptions, giving

him 13 for his career, setting new school record.

Arkansas Monticello 34 West Alabama 28

Arkansas Monticello (3-1, 2-0) downed West Alabama by a touchdown to snap a 35 year-old losing streak in Livingston, Ala.

Running back Corwin Elliot rushed for 206 yards on the way to becoming the first back to accomplish the feat since 1992.

**Harding 26
Henderson State 10**
Harding overcame three first quarter turnovers to send Henderson State to its 14th consecutive loss.

HU (1-2, 1-1) got a solid game from receiver Zack Beavers who scored on a 24-yard reverse and a 72-yard touchdown catch en route to his first career 100-yard receiving day.

	Overall	GSC
Valdosta State	4-0	2-0
Arkansas Tech	3-0	2-0
Delta State	3-0	2-0
Arkansas-Monticello	3-1	2-0
Central Arkansas	3-1	1-1
West Georgia	3-1	1-1
Harding	1-2	1-1
Southern Arkansas	1-2	1-1
North Alabama	1-2	0-2
Ouachita Baptist	1-2	0-2
West Alabama	1-3	0-2
Henderson State	0-4	1-3



VSU students Chris Bell (Left) and Chris Howard are helping to organize a bass tournament to raise money for the Red Cross.

Special to the Spectator

VSU anglers aid relief fund

Chris Ober
Staff Writer

VSU students Chris Howard and Chris Bell like to do more than just hit the books; they like to hit the lakes. Bell, from Madison, Fla., and Howard, from Valdosta, have taken the sport of fishing to the next level.

Howard and Bell are helping to set up a bass tournament to raise money for the Red Cross Disaster relief fund. The tournament will be held on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lake Alapaha on Alapaha Plantation. The entry fee is \$50 per boat with all proceeds going to the Red Cross. For

further tournament information call Fisherman's Paradise at (229) 249-0061.

The two anglers mainly fish in small tournaments, but they also participate in some of the larger tournaments when possible.

One such tournament was in Missouri on Truman Lake August 19. Nitro Boats sponsored the tournament, which was a qualifier for a larger tournament. Bell and Howard came back from the event rather dis-

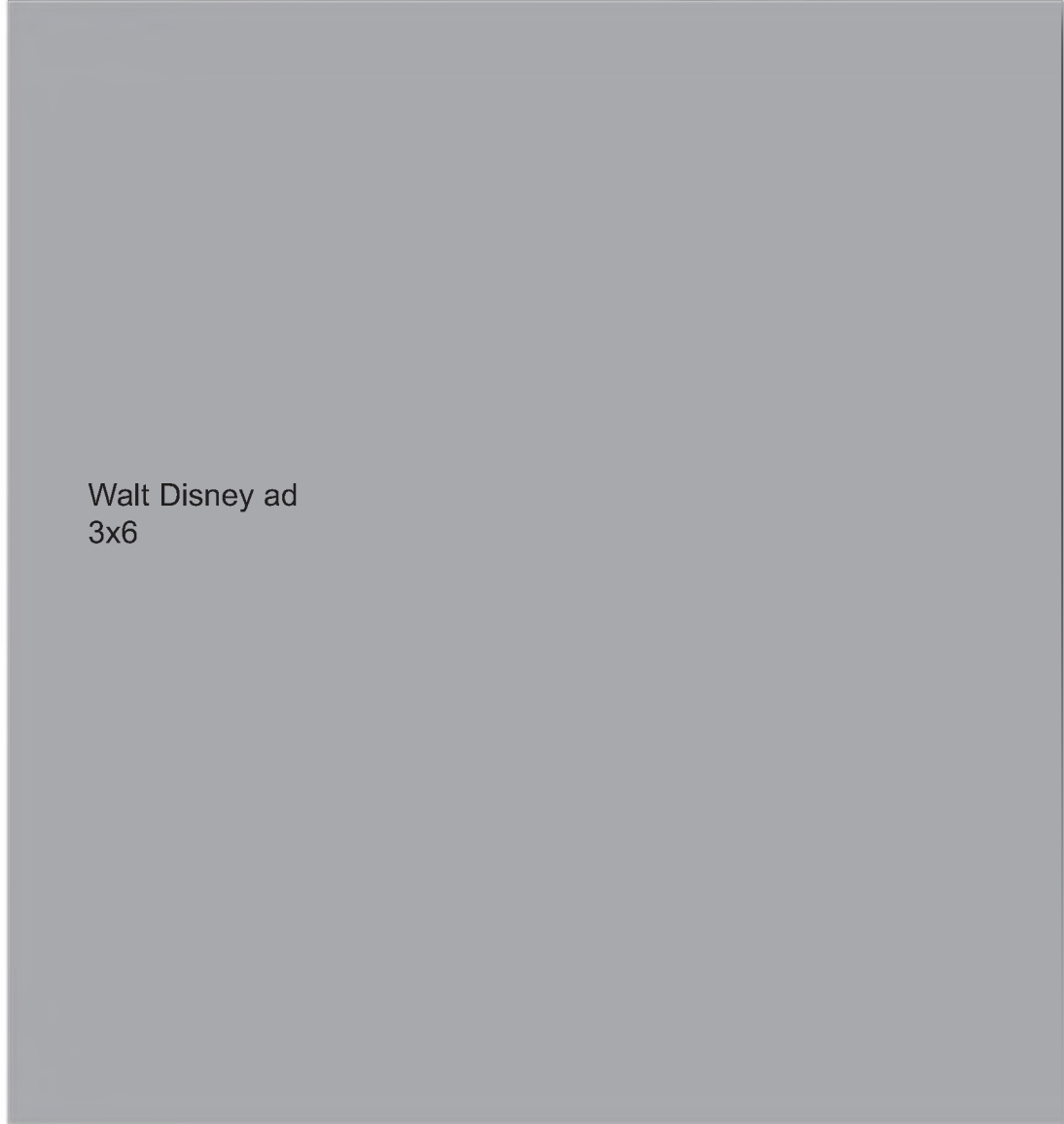
appointed.

"About 10 percent of the people caught fish," Howard said. "It was just a hard tournament."

Bell's advice to anyone looking to start tournament fishing is to just do it.

"There are so many people out there with talent, but they are scared to give it a shot," Bell said.

For more information about tournament fishing and how to get started, contact Chris Bell at (229) 219-7742.



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Peace, love and sauce

Laura Justin
Staff Writer

Yeah, according to G. Love, it's that easy.

G. Love, lead singer of G. Love and Special Sauce, was among the artists who performed last weekend at the Suwannee Music Harvest in Live Oak, Fla.

G. Love said, "The line-up is good, it's a good bill. It's a nice mellow vibe out there today."

The harvest quickly transformed to a benefit to assist the relief projects in N.Y. after the terrorist attack. Musicians we're glad to be a part of the efforts. John Popper, lead singer of Blues Traveler, was pleased with the benefit and expressed concern about the near future.

"What's cool about the benefit is that we could all come together and help," said Popper. "I think everybody is kind of blown away. But they took those buildings and those lives away from us so it makes sense that everybody is involved. I'm a little concerned about there being reprisals, because that's what terrorists want you to do. The important thing is that this is a select network of people we're going after. If we have the patience for that kind of thing, I think we're going to be fine."

Recalling the horrific events of last week's attack, G. Love reflected on how the disaster affected him.

"It was terrible," G. Love said. "When it happened we

were glued to the T.V. When it first happened, I felt disbelief and I was really depressed for a couple of days. Now the focus has shifted; now we're going to war and that's a really scary thing. I want to do whatever I can for the people who go over there."

If troops are deployed, G. Love hopes to go to the Middle East to perform for them.

"Music is something that no one can stop," said G. Love. "We're going to play our music one way or another."

Indeed their music has proved to be unstoppable, and its unique sound continues to attract more and more fans. Embracing a variety of genres, they form a mixture of funky music, combining blues, folk and hip-hop. A "special sauce" if you will.

"I think it would be a four-way tie of who influenced my music the most between John Lee Hooker, John Hammond, Bob Dylan, and KRS-1," said G. Love. "The group that influenced my music the least was

Metallica." As for his current tastes, G. Love recalls what is likely to be in his stereo. "We were listening to "A Decade of Steely Dan" last night."

G. Love and Special Sauce address a variety of issues in

of mine who was addicted to heroin," said G. Love. "It was a group of friends telling a friend, 'we love you, we're family and we're going to be real about this. You're going to have to make amends for what you've done and turn your life

around.' People who have drug problems can do a lot of things that hurt their friends and family. You have to stand by your friends and help them work through it. Just keep them alive no matter how hard it gets. When your friends are addicted to drugs, it's a life or death situation."

G. Love and Special Sauce do, in fact, have deeply rooted friendships. They met in Boston and formed their group in 1993. They just released their fifth album, "G. Love and the Electric Mile" last year, and perform worldwide. Surprisingly enough, G. Love still gets nervous before going on stage.

"I think it's good for me to



Mary Dabbs/ The Spectator

G. Love, of G. Love and Special Sauce, performs a song from his newest album, "G. Love and the Electric Mile" Sun. at the Suwannee Music Harvest in Live Oak, Fla.

their music, ranging from light songs about 76ers games (G. Love is originally from Philadelphia) to serious topics such as murder and racism. "Lay Down the Law" from the album "Yeah, It's That Easy" reflects an issue G. Love and Special Sauce endured firsthand.

"That song is about a friend

This time quitters win

Mary Ellen McConnell
Staff Writer

Sometimes, it's a good idea to be a quitter. But try as they might, some college students just can't throw away their pack-a-day habit.

Smoking among college students is fairly prevalent with 41.3 percent of college students surveyed by the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research in 2000. According to the ISR study, that rate reflects a drop of 3.2 percent. According to the American Lung Association, approximately 90 percent of smokers begin before the age of 21.

Jason Reeves, a junior, start-

ed smoking his freshman year out of boredom. He quit this summer, but is smoking again.

"By smoking, you sit down and talk to other people smoking," Reeves said. "It is a way to socialize."

VSU allows smoking in dorm rooms as long as the windows are open. But student smokers on campus can be seen smoking outside. Generally students agree that not smoking in the room is simple respect for others.

"I don't smoke in my dorm because my roommate doesn't smoke," Adrianna Palatto, a freshman, said.

Many students say they feel smoking is definitely a bad habit and hope to quit in college. Statistics are against

them. According to the American Lung Association, most smokers who try to quit, begin again within a month of stopping.

The Farber Health Center is trying to help students quit smoking. Donna Nolan, RN, said that smoking aggravates many health problems.

"We usually see more complications in smokers," Nolan said.

Farber Health Center provides information about how to quit. Nolan suggests the Great American Smoke-Out, coming up on Nov. 15. Information about the Smoke-Out is available online at the American Cancer Society site www.cancer.org or by calling the ACS at 1-800-ACS-2345

Fresh Start Smoking Cessation, a program offered by the South Georgia Medical Center, provides another way to quit. The program costs \$15, which is then refunded to participants who attend all four sessions. The sessions are Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m. and include lunch. For further information call 259-4141.

Other assistance can be found in programs at the Counseling Center, at 333-5940, or at Alcohol and Other Drug Education at 259-5111.

Mary Ellen McConnell is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at workingmary@hotmail.com

get nervous, it's a kind of edge," G. Love said. "When you get on stage, it's not just about running through your songs. It's about trying to dig deep inside yourself and work the crowd and have those magical moments."

Some magical moments for G. Love include finding a good place to eat on the road. "My favorite food is Thai food, French food or sushi," G. Love said. "My least favorite food is just bad food, like Friday's or Bennigan's, or any kind of chain. If you're going to have a chain just keep it real and have McDonald's, and if you're going to make a choice between Waffle House and Denny's, definitely go for the

Waffle House."

Along with epicurean tips, G. Love advises college students who are aspiring musicians. "Keep practicing," G. Love said. "You always have to go on top of your music and write as many songs as you can. Hopefully, you'll get with the right group of people and get a special sound together. Always take the gig. If you get a chance to play, whether it's for free or for money, always play, any chance you get to be in front of people."

It's that easy.

Laura Justin is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at justin_laura@hotmail.com

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Viewing love from the bridge

Adam Platto
Staff Writer

"A View From the Bridge," written by Arthur Miller, structured similarly to that of a Greek tragedy, is played out in New York during 1955. The lead character, Eddie Carbone, played by Christopher Webb, is forced into a situation where he must choose between his own selfish desire for his niece to marry a fine, decent young man or his niece's desire to marry an Italian man named

Rodolpho who works at the docks.

The play opens on the streets of Brooklyn, near the dockyards, where a lawyer named Alfieri, played by Jeffrey Thompson, plays the role of both narrator and law consultant for Eddie.

The play then shifts to the house of Eddie and his wife, Beatrice, played by Bailee DesRocher, who have anything but a loving relationship for each other. The conflict begins

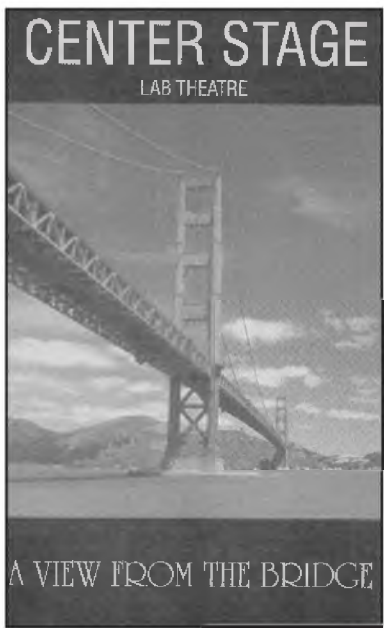
when Beatrice's cousins come to America from Italy looking for work. Their names are Marco and Rodolpho, played by Mick Taylor and Jonathan Irby.

Rodolpho begins to fall in love with Eddie's niece, Catherine, played by Heather Robinson, whom Eddie had vowed to protect but had become overly protective of.

Throughout the play, Eddie is struggling to keep a grip on his life and his family while, all the while, watching it slip away from him.

All of the cast members played their roles excellently by staying in character combined with magnificent costume design.

Adam Platto is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at mo_fo_crazy@hotmail.com



Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Wayne Roberts Cause of Williams public o

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Examinations	1 Light knock
6 Boasts	2 Actress Gabor
11 Service charge	3 Luis Obispo
14 To no	4 Metric weights, brief
15 Bizarre	5 Bratislava populace
16 Gun the engine	6 Feathery scarf
17 Source of many unforeseen troubles	7 Tim of "Star Trek: Voyager"
19 Time period	8 Ready to swing
20 been had!	9 Become gradually more acceptable to
21 Espied	10 Male or female
22 Layer of ore	11 Still shot from a movie
23 Windward Islands	12 Unworldly
27 Yellow gems	13 Roy's Dale
29 Chinese port	18 City near Council Bluffs
31 Zilch	22 Letter lady White
32 Inning ender	23 Phantom
33 Relish	24 Sales trail
35 Structure starter?	25 Amused
38 Footprint	26 Blacksmith's block
40 Metric weights, brief	28 Hawaiian dish
42 Sea east of the Caspian	30 Gee whiz!
43 cotta	34 Wanders
45 Argentine plain	36 Burghoff role
47 Fruity cooler	37 Baldwin and Guinness
48 Canisters	
50 Old-time singer	
55 Cooks ju	39 Snapshot
56 Voucher	40 Slow movers
57 Permit to	44 In addition
59 Prune	46 Diffusions
60 Fled	49 Mouth moisture
61 Tangenti	51 Strike caller?
	52 Bench player
	53 "Funny Farm" star
	54 On the up and up
	58 Oak or maple
	61 Performed
	62 Wood and Wynn
	63 Valuable vein
	64 Head dip
	65 Slightly shift

Spectator Classifieds

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 re-submitted each week, as necessary. The Spectator address is:

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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.

BAR



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

It's all greek

Tameika Carson
Staff Writer

VSU freshmen are experiencing the swarm of fraternities and sororities knocking at their doors eager for fresh blood.

Rushes find themselves left in suspense as to which one will choose them to be the new promoter of the best fraternity or sorority.

Rushing home to your favorite hourly television sitcom is ordinary for incoming freshmen that attend BYU (Backyard University).

Here at VSU, the soon-to-be-popular freshman rushes to find out which fraternity or sorority he or she will spend hours complementing.

It all begins with special invitations wrapped in with the fraternity/sorority ciphers asking you to join their festive bash. Gossiping with friends about your upcoming events shortly turns the timepiece to the hour in which your official rush begins.

Your fresh butterflies carry you to the site of the shindig. You enter the scene of bare anatomies and the game of "Truth or Dare." Dizzy from the various fraternity/sorority colors, the freshmen "trick-or-drink" from house to house, picking the party with the largest keg.

Eventually you hope that the D.J. will play your favorite song over the approaching campus police sirens. Soon you find yourself on the dance floor two-stepping over the empty bottles and cans below

your feet. The bass of the music becomes one with your heartbeat as your surrounding peers shout chants over the scratched CD in the background.

Walking from room to room, smelling the aroma of vomit makes you feel more and more welcome.

Friendly smiles and handshakes are passed around the area along with bare shot glasses; both begging for your participation.

Days, weeks, and classes pass as you drift further and further from the library and closer to the fraternity or sorority revelry of your choice.

Unique favors or proof of worthiness are asked of you at any given time. No big deal; just small chores that deal with

the shattering of pride and revealing of your exposed framework. All in which could possibly suggest vulnerable characteristics.

Keep in mind that these same characteristics could open the door to your new circle of friends that share the same banking procedures.

In due time rush will end and choices will begin. You narrow down your options with your checking account balance at hand while waiting for the BIG day, eager to find out if your last duty is conquerable and less humiliating.

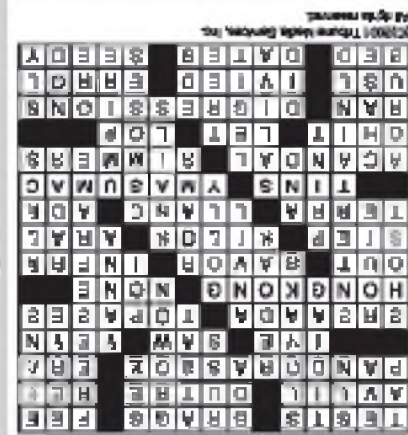
Finally your check clears and you are welcomed to a fraternity/sorority.

Hope that your organization's colors will match with your existing wardrobe so that you can parade them everyday.

Wow, the answers!

wake

wake



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