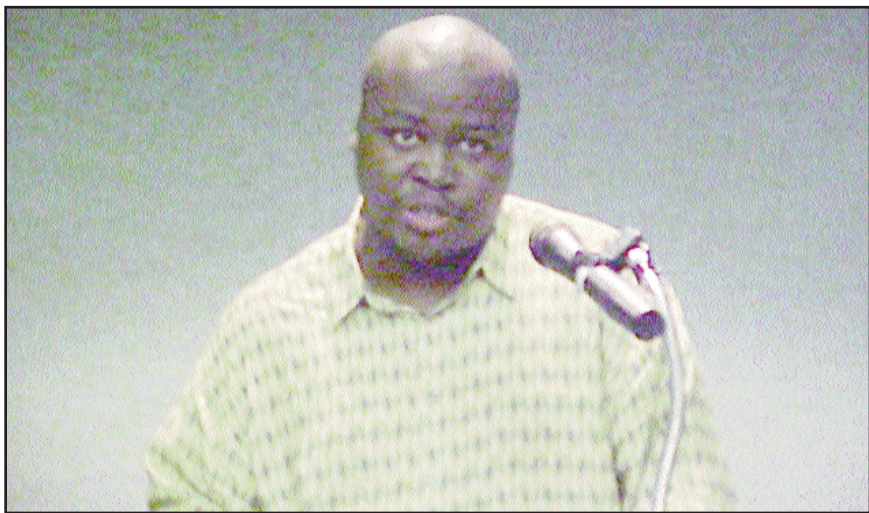


Student writers shine

Odradek submission guidelines for 2001-2002

- Poetry: nomore than five poems.
- Prose: story creative non-fiction or non-fiction limit of 2,500 words preferred.
- All submissions should be made on disk and hard copy. A cover sheet should include the author's name, address, and phone number. The author's name should not appear on the manuscripts.
- Submissions due by Nov. 16, at 5 p.m. in the English Department.



Nathan White / *The Spectator*
Jermaine Walker, a senior English major, reads his poem, "Miss Unfortunate" during the Odradek reading Wednesday night in the Magnolia Room.

Dear miss unfortunate, I must say that I'm sorry. For I didn't understand your beginning. I didn't realize how much damage was done by the mishandled adoption. If I could I would make the one you searched for appear at your doorstep with every answer to every question. I would have even given up my mom to salvage a lost treasure. Unlucky for me to love you so much.

-From "Miss Unfortunate"

SGA votes in justices, senators

Blenda Link
Staff Writer

Discussing new legislation is not the only thing Student Government Association senators do. They vote too. Thirty-nine senators showed up by roll call and began casting nominations for seven homecoming court representative nominees. SGA voted in Sen. Robin Reynolds as its homecoming court representative.

Afterward, the senate approved by general consensus three judicial board appointees made by the president. The appointees are Sen. April Golden, Sen. Tonja Smith and Sen. Christopher Parrot. According to Overstreet, six members sit on the judicial board. He said five openings were available. Two openings are available now that Golden, Smith and Parrot have been approved.

The senate also approved by general consensus a previously nominated senator, Nick Kitchens as an on campus representative.

Under new business, senators made new nominations to fill remaining senatorial seats. One freshman, one senior, five on campus and four doctoral/graduate seats are still open, according to SGA vice president Cody Guined. Four nominations were made: Luke Norris, on campus; Courtney Casson, freshman; Jennifer Beale, graduate and Melissa Ogle, on campus.

Aside from voting on nominees and approving appointments, SGA also voted to officially recognize six organizations on campus. There are the American Marketing Association, American Sign Language Club, Blazer Pride, College Republican Party, Iota Phi Theta fraternity and Mock Trial.

Under new business, Overstreet and Guined addressed the current status of three bills. According to the agenda, the co-curricular transcript bill is "being held until a new orientation director arrives." The bill calls for SGA see page 5

Viruses, worms pose threat

Lindsay Giddens
Staff Writer

Viruses are running rampant and are extremely contagious. But these viruses don't attack your immune system--they attack your hard drive.

The term virus is used to describe viruses, worms and trojans. Viruses—programs designed to use your computer to attack others—can be malicious if they show up on your computer. Viruses that have been found locally have been NIMDA, SIR-CAM, MAGISTR and ETHAN, a virus that affects Word files.

Usually these viruses are picked up through e-mails, downloads, infected floppy disks and hacking. They can cause minor problems such as a few system glitches or can be harmful enough to reformat your hard drive, overwrite the hard drive boot sector, delete

files or render computers inoperable.

According to Ezra Freelove, assistant webmaster for Microcomputing and Network Services, viruses have not been a major problem for VSU.

All of the approximately 2600 computers on campus have Officescan software

“When a new virus is found, within six to seven hours, anti-virus software is available for it.”

-Ezra Freelove

installed. “It scans the file and looks for patterns Trend has provided,” Freelove said. “It tries to clean the file, but if it is not cleanable, it quarantines the file or deletes it.”

Officescan is regularly updated on computers around campus. “Usually when a new virus is found, within six to seven

hours, anti-virus software is available for it,” Freelove said. “The only situation (that might pose a problem for students using on-campus computers) is when a virus is so brand new that the anti-virus software hasn't been released to counter it.”

According to Freelove, it is uncommon for viruses to spread so quickly that they don't have an anti-virus soon enough to counter it.

“Over the past year, there have only been about four that have spread that fast, NIMDA being one of them,” Freelove said.

Microcomputing and Network Services take care of all the computers on campus. Students who have viruses but live off-campus can call the Help desk at 245-4357. A help desk technician will walk the student through what to do to get rid of the virus.

The most important thing to

do to ward off viruses is to PC-Cillin to VSU staff, faculty



Nathan White / *The Spectator*

Ezra Freelove, assistant webmaster for Microcomputing and Network Services, explains viruses

make sure you have anti-virus software on you computer.

“Most computers come with Norton Anti-Virus already installed, but it's usually a 30 day trial, and no one keeps it updated,” Freelove said. “You need to make sure you register it and keep it updated.”

Also, for those who do not have anti-virus software, Information Technology offers

and students. Visit <http://www.valdosta.edu/antivirus/pccillin/> and enter your GRITS account and password.

For more information on viruses, what's out there and how to avoid or get rid of them, contact the help desk 245-4357, on the web at <http://www.valdosta.edu/antivirus/index.shtml> or email at antivirus@valdosta.edu.

Homecoming sched

Monday

-Homecoming kickoff and cookout, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in front of West Hall

Tuesday

-Skate Night, 8 p.m. at Jungle Jyms

Wednesday

-Comedian 8 p.m. in the Magnolia Room

Thursday, Oct. 11

-Homecoming parade, 6 p.m. on Patterson Street

Friday, Oct. 12

-Golf tournament, 10 a.m. at Stone Creek Golf Club, Preregistration required, \$45
 -Alumni Happy Hour/Karaoke, 5 p.m. at the Best Western Motel
 -Alumni Association annual dinner meeting, 6 p.m. at the Valdosta Country Club
 -Lady Blazer basketball family banquet, 6:30 p.m. in the Magnolia Room
 -Pep rally, 7 p.m. at the P.E. Complex
 -Kappa Alpha welcome and cocktail party, 7 p.m. at JP Muldoon's

Saturday, Oct. 13

-5-K road race/walk, 8:30 a.m.
 -2001-2002 alumni travel program kickoff seminar, 9 a.m. in the Magnolia Room II
 -Art Exhibition, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Art Gallery
 -Football letterman's reunion, 11:30 a.m. in the Bazemore-Hyder Stadium parking lot
 -Lady Blazer Iron Woman basketball game, time to be announced, in the Old Gymnasium
 -Kappa Alpha tailgate 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Kappa Alpha house
 -Alumni tailgate party, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. southeast corner of the of the Bazemore-Hyder Stadium parking lot
 -VSU Blazers vs. Harding Bisons, 1 p.m. at Bazemore-Hyder Stadium
 -Travis Tritt Concert, 8 p.m. at the P.E. Complex \$22, \$20 for VSU students
 -Kappa Alpha party and dance, 8 p.m. at the Valdosta elk's Lodge
 -Alumni Soul Mixer, 8 p.m. at JP Muldoon's
 Information from the TrailBlazer. For more information call the Alumni Office at 333-5797.

Budget lags behind enrollment

Budget could suffer from recession, effects of Sept. 11

Lindsay Giddens
Staff Writer

VSU's budget was looking pretty slim since it is based on a three-year-old enrollment number, but VSU now faces a further cut of \$1.1 million to \$2 million instituted Wednesday by Gov. Roy Barnes.

Although enrollment is up this year, the money VSU receives through the Board of Regents is based on numbers from three years ago.

“What happens in the current year as in head count [of students] doesn't factor in until three years later,” James Brignati, vice president for Business and Finance, said. “That way we have no big fluctuations when it's based on a three-year average.”

According to Brignati, the legislature makes allocations to the BOR after the governor has made his recommendations and the BOR has made its request. The BOR then allocates sums

to the different schools. This money is used only for education purposes.

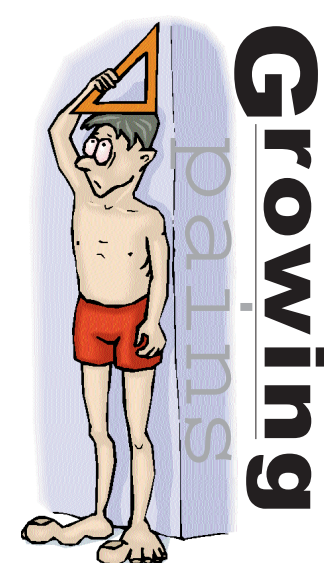
With a budget of about \$117 million, about \$64 million comes from state revenues and locally generated money. About \$35 million is federal money, and auxiliary revenues make up the other \$18 million.

Brignati said \$45 million of the \$117 million is state appropriated. The budget reduction means VSU must cut \$1.1-\$2 million or 2.5 percent from its state appropriated money over the next month.

“Barnes has said, ‘don't lay off anyone,’” Brignati said. “So, we're going to have to cut corners anywhere we can. Thank God we had an increase in enrollment this year.”

This increase caused VSU to have a little extra money from tuition and fees, but cuts will still have to be made around VSU.

“Eighty percent of our money is tied up in people, as in salaries and benefits,” Brignati said. “The other 20 percent includes everything else, such as utilities, postage and phones. That 20 percent is where we have to make the cut.”



According to Brignati, there is no definite decision yet as to what the cut will affect because he has just received the news and has not yet been able to sit down and figure out what to cut.

“It may require a 100 percent freeze on travel, but that will affect professors, although it's not very good for morale,” Brignati said. “We might have to have a hiring freeze. When a professor retires, we may not

BUDGET see page 5

CORRECTION:

In a story about mold in Langdale Hall in the Sept. 27 issue, the Spectator contained an error of fact. Jessica Savage did not report finding mold on her shoes.

CLARIFICATION:

In a story about Greek rush in the Sept. 27, issue, the Spectator contained an error of omission. Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity is an integrated fraternity.

It is Spectator policy to correct errors of fact.

Inside Today

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Next issue

Yes, folks, it's that time of year again...

Homecoming

Web Watch

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

Pop quiz: Who said, “You cannot simultaneously prevent and prepare for war”? Don't know? Go find out. You can find quotations at www.bartleby.com/100.

As students we find ourselves in such situations, needing to know who said something of import.

Of course being able to accurately quote famous folks

This week:

www.bartleby.com/100

who've said interesting stuff is also a great way to impress that person of the opposite sex with your acumen.

Or maybe just your profs. Either way, it's useful.

Campus Happenings

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

Submissions for **Campus Happenings** can be sent to Blendia 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 28

Someone took a student's VSU ID from a table in the Old Gym weight room between 8 a.m. and noon. The case has been turned over to investigations.

Someone took a student's VSU ID from a table in the TV room at Lowndes Hall at 8:45 p.m.

September 29

Daniel Vinson Delaigle, 19, of 1080 Lambert Road, Madison, Ga., was arrested at 1:45 a.m. at Baytree Road and Oak Street for DUI alcohol (.095 BAC). He was tested using the Intoxilyzer 5000 machine in the Blood Alcohol Testing Mobile (BAT Mobile) on site. The BAT mobile is a DUI facility on wheels used by law enforcement to test for DUI offenses at the site of arrest. Delaigle was taken to Lowndes County Jail. He is a VSU student.

Kristin Anne Brown, 27, of 1404 E. Park Ave., was arrested at 1:40 a.m. for DUI alcohol at a roadside check point at Baytree Road and Oak Street. She is not a VSU student.

Someone took a student's tag from her blue '95 Dodge caravan at Powell Hall between 1 p.m. Sept. 25 and 1 p.m. Sept. 29.

Today

Get on a "Natural High." Go cosmic bowling from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Valdosta Lanes for \$1 when you bring your VSU ID.

Friday

Get screened for cholesterol, diabetes and blood pressure from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Farber Health Center (infirmary).

Do not eat or drink anything eight hours before testing.

Screening is free for VSU students and \$5 for staff and faculty.

Hepatitis B vaccines will be given from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Farber Health Center.

The vaccine is a three-part series of shots which cost \$30 per shot. Shots can be paid for all at once or one at a time.

Bring your receipt for payment from the bursary when you go to get your shot.

Saturday

Drop donations for the VSU Lady Blazer Athletics' annual garage sale at the P.E. Complex.

The sale starts at 6:30 p.m. in front of the P.E. Complex.

For more information, e-mail Kiley Hill at khill@valdosta.edu or Coach Kendra McDaniel at kdmcdani@valdosta.edu.

Listen to pianist Daniel Pollack play Beethoven's "Symphony No. 8 in F Major" and Tchaikovsky's "Piano Concerto No. 1 in B flat Minor" at 8 p.m. in Whitehead Auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

Thursday

Come watch VSU's Repertory Dancers perform a dance concert, "A Dance Odyssey," in Sawyer Theatre at the Fine Arts Building.

Performances start at 7:30 p.m. today through Saturday and at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

VSU Premiere Fashion Models presents "Homecoming Fever: The Show Must Go On" at 7:30 p.m. in the Magnolia Room at the University Center.

Ticket price is \$6. Buy tickets at the door. Proceeds benefit the Red Cross relief fund.

For more information, call Herbertha Thomas, secretary, at 219-7720.

Oct. 8

Homecoming week starts. See the front page for events.

Oct. 11

Consider studying abroad over the summer, semester or next year.

Drop by the "Study Abroad Fair" hosted by the Center for International Programs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of Odum Library for more information.

Oct. 14

Jennifer Street performs a senior flute recital at 3 p.m. in the University Center theater.

Lost it? Look for it below

Found Property

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

1. a state key (not VSU)
2. lady's glasses
3. 2 day planners

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.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at these events:

Friday

Join other VSU students for "Student Night" at Las Banderas restaurant on Baytree Road from 6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday

Listen to Latin music. Watch the Moultrie Ballet Folklorico Mexican dancers and Guayoyo Hispanic Reggae/Rap group from Orlando, Fla. Let the kids check out the pinatas, sip on snow cones and bounce on bounce horses.

This is Valdosta's 1st Annual Hispanic Awareness Festival sponsored by VSU's Latin American Student Association and Modern & Classical Languages.

The festival is from noon to 6 p.m. at Drexel Park. It is free and open to the public. For more information, call Jaime Martinez, LASA president, at 630-4720.

Oct. 9

Watch "The Mambo Kings" at 6:30 p.m. in West Hall 255.

Oct. 12-20

Peruse Dominican artist Pablo Cruz's art exhibit, "Espacio Revertido," at the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center. There will be an artist's reception on the first exhibit day from 5 to 7 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public.

For more information on any events, call the Department of Modern & Classical Languages at 333-5948.

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News

Weekend

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 UV Index: 8 high Hi: 86 Low: 59	 UV Index: 7 high Hi: 87 Low: 65	 UV Index: 6 moderate Hi: 80 Low: 60	 UV Index: 6 moderate Hi: 77 Low: 57

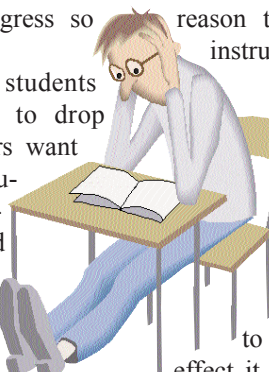
Students prepare for midterm

Bianca Johnson
Staff Writer

As the week closes, students are taking midterm exams and teachers are calculating grades. Students can check their current grades for lower level classes from Oct. 10-19, on the Banner website or by calling 245-2200. Professors must to post grades for 1000 and 2000 level courses, but some profes-

sors will post for higher level classes. Midterm is exactly what it sounds like—the mid-point of the semester. But the word refers only to time. Some students misunderstand midterm as half of the grades for the semester. The truth is that in some cases only about 25 percent of the semester's coursework is included. According to Gerald Wright, registrar, midterm grades are not designed to discourage stu-

dents, but to give students an idea of their progress so far. At midterm, students have the chance to drop courses. Professors want to discourage students from dropping classes based on these grades. "Don't panic and withdraw," Dr. Byron Brown, English professor, said. Other professors encourage



students to use these grades as a reason to go talk with their instructors. "Students find out it's not so bad to go in and talk to the professor on a one-to-one basis," Dr. Gerald Petrella, math professor, said. A drawback to dropping courses is the effect it can have on financial aid and scholarships. According to Tommy Moore,

director of Financial Aid, if a student drops more than a third of his or her college courses, HOPE and other means of financial aid may be negatively affected. By dropping courses, progress is not being made toward a degree. For those who will be dropping courses, the Registrar's Office, located inside Nevins Hall has drop forms. Students must obtain the required signatures and return the sheet. Students who withdraw before

midterm receive a grade of WP, "withdrawal passing," even if the student is failing. Students who drop after midterm will receive WF, "withdrawal failing," if they are failing the course at the time they drop.

Bianca Johnson is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at burp_1@hotmail.com

COSA honors staff

Mary Dabbs
Staff Writer

VSU loves its staff. As does the Council of Staff Affairs, which held a celebration for VSU's staff Friday at Billy Grant Field on north campus. "The goal is to give staff an opportunity to come out, have a good time and associate with colleagues," Shannon McGee, chair elect of COSA and assistant administrator for One Card, said. "Everyone seemed to enjoy the event so we felt that the goal was achieved." Staff Appreciation day has been celebrated at VSU for the past three years. It is held on the Friday closest to Oct. 1, National Staff Appreciation Day. McGee estimates that 400 VSU staff members attended the event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event cost COSA



Mary Dabbs / The Spectator
Joe Mattachione, director of Housing and Residence Life, waits for staff members to dunk him in the tank.

around \$150 and was paid for by an account funded from COSA fundraisers. According to McGee the staff in attendance particularly enjoyed the basketball shoot sponsored by the American Marketing Association and free ice cream samples from Blue

Bunny Ice Cream. The staff also had a chance to douse their colleagues in a dunking booth. Staff members would get three throws for a \$1 ticket. Department heads were especially honored. **COSA** see page 4



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Disney seeks interns

Tameika Carson
Staff Writer

Students looking for internships got a chance to look at Walt Disney for a job. Ninety-five students came to the University Center Tuesday to hear about types of jobs Disney offers.

The recruiter presentation discussed the paid internships available to all majors and classifications. Students who receive internships are given a Disney-designed experience that provides tools, education and opportunities that are transferable to all jobs.

Gregory Taylor, Disney college recruiter, began as a participant in the college program and has worked for Disney for nine years.

"The Walt Disney College Program is a wonderful living and learning experience that enhances personal, professional, and academic growth," Taylor said.

Participants must be students or part-time students with good academic standing and at least 18.

Internships vary from marketing and hospitality to human resources and horticulture posi-

tions. Disney offers various jobs in attractions, food services, custodial, management, merchandise, transportation and several others.

Disney offers as many internships as it sees fit, according to Brenda Beasley, coordinator for cooperative education.

"Sometimes the recruiters have only five internships, and sometimes as many as 50," she said. "It all depends on how well the interviews with the prospective interns are."

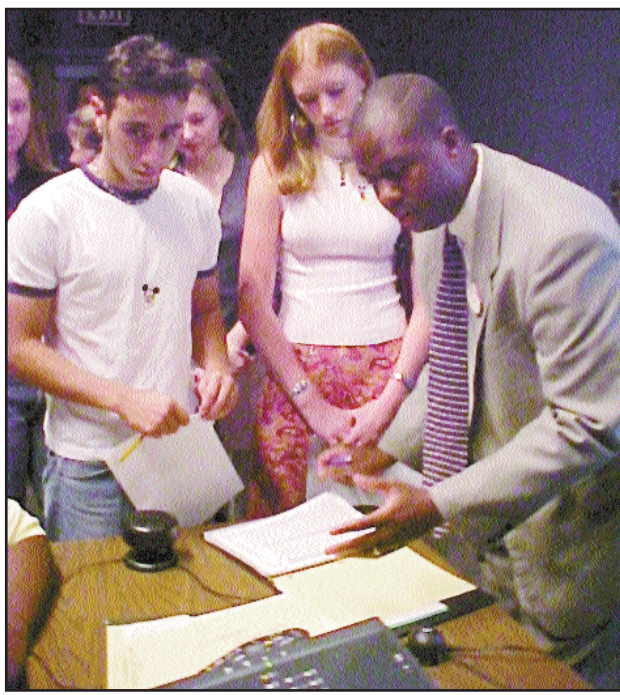
Junior marketing major, Aaron Gee, has experienced the internship for two consecutive summers. Gee was given a job selling digital cameras in the Kodak store at MGM Studios.

"I want to be a marketing manager, and I have gotten a lot of pointers for my major by shadowing the manager of the Kodak store," Gee said.

Disney tries to place interns in positions relative to their major.

"I cannot speak high enough for the program and its advantages," said Chip Lundell, VSU campus representative who has also participated in the Disney internship.

Due to economic uncertainties, occasional layoffs are nec-



Students look at forms for internships at Walt Disney World in Florida. Gregory Taylor (left) came Tuesday to encourage students to sign up.

Nathan White / The Spectator

essary but rarely in the Disney Company. Taylor ensures that this has no relation and therefore no threat to the college program.

"Students are guaranteed at least 30 hours a week, sometimes overtime is accessible," Taylor said.

In addition to earned money and skills, the American Council on Education recommends the courses provide chances to earn college credit during the internship.

"Although you don't get a lot

of money, you learn plenty like networking, communication skills and much more," Gee said.

Disney will return to VSU campus in February for summer and fall 2002. For information, contact Cooperation Education at 333-7172.

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

COSA has big turnout at event

COSA
continued from page 3

cially encouraged by participants to climb in the dunking booth. A few of the administrators taking the plunge were Joe Mattachione, director of Housing and Residence Life; Traycee Martin, director of Financial Services; Jill Ferrell, director of Parking and Transportation; Sage Archer, facilities coordinator; Tommy Moore, director of Financial Aid; and Herb Reinhard, athletic director. Nick Overstreet, president of SGA, served his term in the booth as well.

GA Mountain Water and Coke provided drinks for the celebrants. Cracklin Good, Flowers Bakery, Stewart Distributions, Alliant Food Services, US Food Services, Williams Institutional Foods, University Food Court, VSU Catering and Blue Bunny Ice

Cream provided the food.

Tables were set up by campus organizations such as the Counseling Center, Fitness Center, Athletics, Public Safety, Catering, Alcohol and other Drug Awareness, Credit Union, College of Nursing, and VSU Training. Staff members could peruse these tables at their leisure.

"The organizations with vendor tables were chosen by what information would most benefit staff employees," McGee said.

Student organizations were

also represented. SGA, Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Delta Pi, and Alpha Phi Omega volunteered to help COSA out.

The Humane Society, Nationwide Insurance, Mink Chiropractic, Club Legends, Bank of America and GA Mountain Water had representatives present at the event. Other local businesses contributed items for the door prizes. According to McGee, businesses that could benefit from contact with the staff were chosen. The Staff Appreciation Day

Committee began work in early July to make the gathering the success it was. All of the proceeds from Staff Appreciation



Mary Dabbs / The Spectator

Butterfly the Clown entertains staff members with balloons

Student organizations were

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For more information about Natural High call us at 259-5111 or come by the Office of Alcohol & Other Drug Education, Powell Hall East, 2nd floor. (above financial aid)

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

IGNORANCE IS NOT BLISS

By Mike Miller, NIC - Kenia Irving, NPHC - Bonnie K. Jones, NPC

In the previous issue of *The Spectator*, several journalists made allegations about the Greek community in several articles with little or no valid support. We in the Greek community would like to refute these tabloids with the facts.

To begin with, we would like to correct some of the incorrect information included in these articles. Many people were misquoted often by cutting down a lengthy interview into a few short sound bites that did not encompass the breadth of the interview. One example is the blatant incorrect quote contributed to Pi Kappa Phi, Ryan Norton. He was quoted as saying there are neither white people in black fraternities, nor vice versa. After being contacted, Norton said he stated to the interviewing reporter that Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity has nationally no restrictions on who it can or cannot accept; the school has nothing to do with these decisions. Norton also stated in his interview that he was on the committee that wrote the new constitution splitting the three councils.

The lack of research included in the composition of these articles are equally atrocious. These journalists did not take the time to interview an equal representation of the presidents of all sororities and fraternities. Brandon Scott did not take enough time to realize he had omitted Tau Kappa Epsilon from the listing of "white" fraternities.

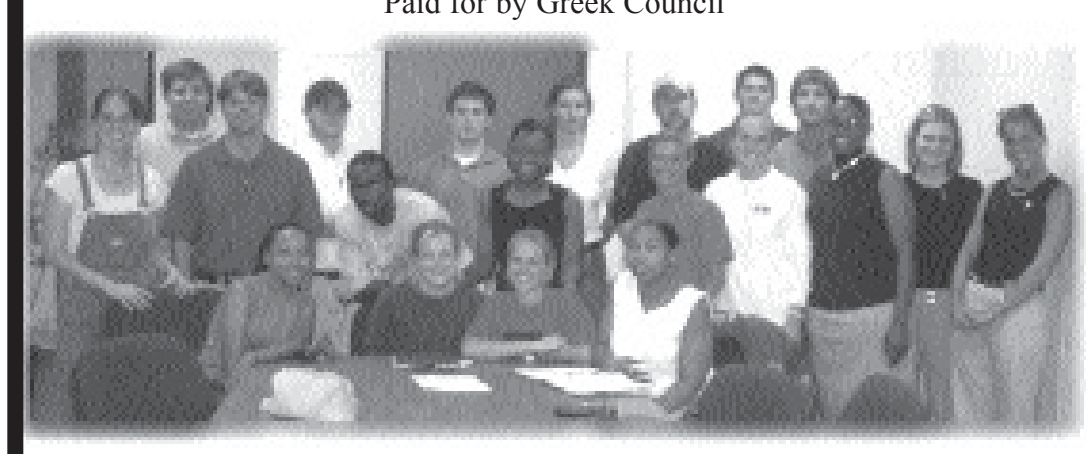
Indeed none of these people researched enough to understand the difference between Recruitment and Intake for National Interfraternity Council, National Pan Hellenic Council, and National Panhellenic Council. This subject is one of the main reasons why each council has its separate meetings, yet we do come together for Greek Council to discuss unified subjects, an issue that was completely unaddressed in any of the articles.

Recruitment involves getting to know the fraternity/sorority and its members and then finally making a mutual decision, by both parties, on where one belongs. Intake involves attending an Informational Social, hosted by a particular fraternity/sorority. Then later after meeting the requirements, interviews take place and orientation begins.

Just recently, the councils were separated out of a mutual desire by all councils to better conduct their business.

There are several organizations which have diverse membership among themselves. Those writing chose to overlook these facts so their initial agendas could be pushed. This is simply unethical journalism. NIC, NPHC, and NPC expect a formal apology printed in *The Spectator*. The articles, if not the whole issue, was biased and the facts were misconstrued. Journalism is supposed to be an objective based medium of news, in all aspects. *The Spectator* failed to accomplish this goal last Thursday.

Paid for by Greek Council



News

Economy struggles back

Jaime Peck
Staff Writer

Four planes, two towers and the Pentagon weren't the only things that went down on Sept. 11. Valdosta suffered a slight recession for a few days immediately following the Sept. 11 tragedy, according to local merchants and banks.

A recession is a period of economic decline when production, employment, and earnings fall below normal levels.

According to Laura Knight, cashier/customer service manager for Super Wal-Mart, practically no one came to the store

Sept. 11.

"It was dead that day," said Knight. "Then Friday and Saturday [of that week] I had a couple of customers coming in, saying they were stocking up on canned foods and water."

Tonya Jones, a senior political science major and cashier at Winn-Dixie, said the opposite about business on Sept. 11.

"It was unusually busy that day," she said. "Everybody stocked up that day, I guess, and all the customers warned us

about the need to get gas. It was just that week that it was busy, and after that it's been back to normal."

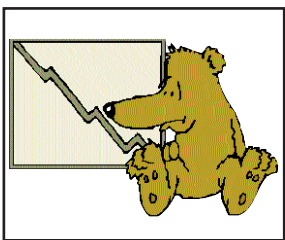
Area restaurants felt the burn of a slight recession immediately following the tragedy. According to Shelley Proctor, a server at Mellow Mushroom, the restaurant suffered a decline in customers for two and a half weeks.

"I think it was the stock market scare that made sales go

down," she said. "I guess everybody was saving their money in case something happened. Tips didn't go down, just sales."

Emily Anderson, Banking Officer for Marketing, Public Relations, and Training said, "We haven't had a real rush of bank transactions. However, a lot of people are refinancing right now because of the great interest rates."

"You're always going to have a couple of people who get scared and take money out when things like this happen," Anderson said.



Budget

continued from page 1

hire anyone to replace him or her. Some areas would suffer but it wouldn't affect academics as far as teaching. There might have to be more rigid temperature control to use less electricity in buildings."

Federal money VSU receives will not be affected by this cut.

"Most of our federal money comes from student financial aid, and that is not affected at all," Brignati said. "If we have federal funds in grant projects, and we need to hire someone, we can hire. We have two or three hired in that manner, and they are not subject to these cuts."

Gov. Barnes said he wants a

2.5 percent cut this year and a 5 percent cut next year. This would mean between \$2.2 million and \$4 million cut next year.

"We just don't know yet because no parameters have been set," Brignati said. "Hopefully [the cut] will be transparent to the student. This will be difficult to accomplish, but it shouldn't affect the classroom. There are some things we just can't cut."

Lindsey Giddens is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at journ81@bell-south.net

Security enhanced

Ashlie Mash
Staff Writer

With America now feeling the need to beef up security, VSU has now echoed that sentiment.

According to Cpl. Dennis Nealon, crime prevention officer, there will now be a sharper lookout for anything suspicious at all football games, and bomb sweeps will continue to be held before all graduation exercises.

Another concern for Public Safety is the security of the campus's academic buildings during weekends and hours at which no classes are being held.

In the past, West Hall entrances had been left open during weekends. Cpl. Nealon said that he had no knowledge of the doors being left open. The doors were not intentionally left unlocked, but if they were, the omission was due to faculty or faulty locks.

Lt. Jason Jones said West Hall is supposed to be locked when no classes are going on.

According to Cpl. Nealon, professors have access to get into various halls, but when they go in, they do not check behind themselves to make sure that the doors lock. Nealon has locked all of West Hall's doors before and then returned to find them unlocked.

Some of the doors on campus are in need of repair and will not lock properly. Doors at the Education Center are so old they will not secure and are being repaired by a locksmith, according to Cpl. Nealon. Recently the south door of Langdale Hall would close but not lock. This problem has since been fixed, and the Residence Assistants of Langdale have been pressed to call into Public Safety and give a daily report on any problems.

Although there is a constant problem with doors not locking or securing all over VSU, Cpl. Nealon said without hesitation that theft is the biggest problem on campus.

SGA

continued from page 1

script bill is "being held until a new orientation director arrives." The bill calls for extracurricular college activities to appear on a person's transcript alongside academic listings.

Overstreet said the itemization bill will be discussed at the next Student Life meeting. He said this bill is about allowing students to receive receipts for purchases made at locations on campus like the Blazer Grill, Bookstore and Palms Dining Center.

Cody Guined, SGA vice president, said the personal computer loan bill's status rests with Ashley Bell. According to Guined, Bell was supposed to talk to Tommye Miller, director of the VSU Bookstore, to see if the bookstore would run the program. Guined said he did not have a chance to talk to Bell yet. According to the SGA agenda, the bill calls for "30 salvaged machines" which are "VSU property" to be leased to students. For more information on this bill, visit www.valdos-ta.edu/it/techfee/minutes/minutes010316.shtml#010213.

Among other business, SGA took a five-minute recess from its meeting to allow the allocations committee time to deliberate an issue raised by Sen. Jimmy Fields concerning homecoming. He wanted to know if \$450 could be allocated to host an SGA homecoming cookout.

After the five-minute recess, SGA voted to host a cookout from 2-6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12 on an allocation of \$450, approved by the allocations committee.

Concerning the recently discussed lighting bill proposed by the VSU faculty senate, Sen. Collier asked if a faculty senate representative could address SGA's questions. Guined said a faculty senate member did call him, asking to do this, and he said there should be no problem with letting her come.

Blenda Link is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at bjlink@valdos-ta.edu

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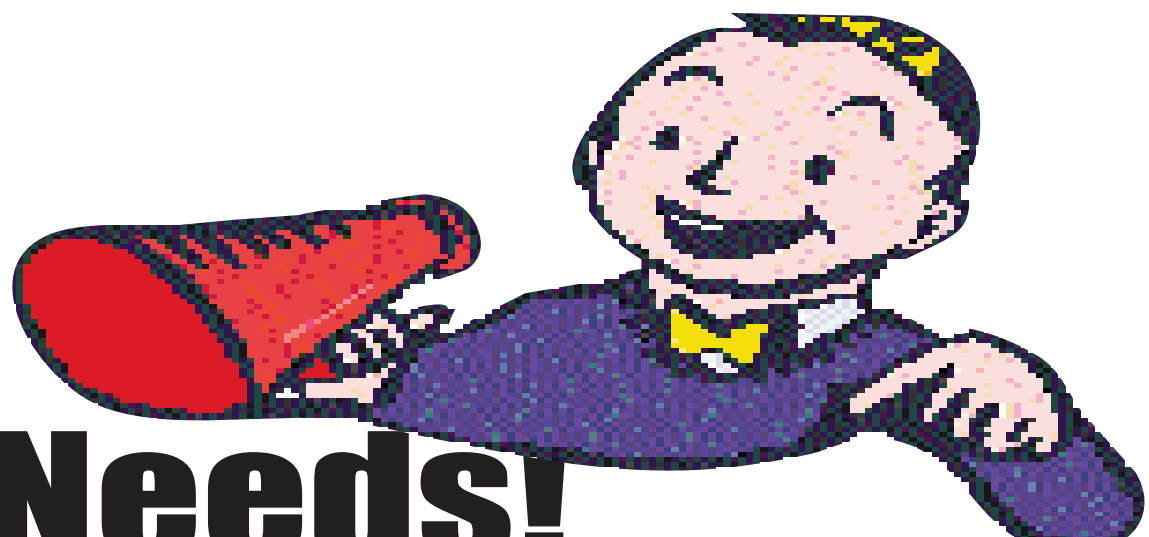
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No Greek tragedy

Let's get straight to the point. Most Greek organizations on this campus rush separately for separate races. That is the whole point.

Last week in the Spectator, we called it segregation, and the Greeks took offense.

They call it making their business schedules smoother, getting their work done more easily, getting their individual groups' concerns met. They missed the point.

The basic idea of fraternities and sororities is building relationships. When you get accepted into a Greek organization you become part of something larger than the campus chapter. You become part of an international organization, filled with members who recognize each other and recognize certain qualities in each other.

When you get out in the real world, that recognition will open doors—to jobs, to contracts, to networking and relationships. That is not to say that the open door is a promise of employment, partnership or benefits, but is more of a chance than Joe Blow-off-the-street has.

And that is exactly what's wrong with separation of duties, concerns, etc. (read segregation) in Greek organizations. When you draw out the reality of what those letters mean, you find that segregation will continue into the professional and personal lives of Greeks. It is not a blatant hate based segregation. It is the type of subtle separation that plagues this country and makes true equality impossible to achieve.

As for the single article about the Greek organizations, Brandon Scott was assigned the story because of the above reasons. Scott received the story on the day it was due because the reporter originally assigned had a family emergency to attend to. Scott attempted to contact those people in charge of Greek organizations and councils and was told he could not have their phone numbers. He contacted who he could, attempted to contact others, asked the right questions, checked his quotes against his tape recorded interview—all under deadline pressure. Despite one mistake—unintentionally omitting Tau Kappa Epsilon's integration record—he followed the rules of proper journalism.

None of those rules change the fact that Greek organizations on our campus CHOOSE to be separate but equal. Nor does it change the fact that separate but equal was a fallacy in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's time, and remains a fallacy in ours.

The Spectator's role on this campus—as every newspaper's role in its community—is to provide information in the news, a public forum for debate in the opinion pages, and to use its "bully pulpit" in the form of an editorial to sway public opinion. Please, tell us what YOU think.

Spectator opinion written by Leah F. Cassorla

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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.



VSU, can ya spare a dime?

Working on campus gives one a unique perspective. My co-workers are an amazing group of people. I work with students trying to pay their way through school and single mothers trying to pay for child-care—all desperately needing their jobs to make ends meet. Yet, the wages VSU workers receive come nowhere close to providing them what they need to meet these essential goals. VSU workers are over-worked and under paid. It is time we take notice of their complaints and take seriously their call for justice.

Over the past few decades, Valdosta State University has become the premier university in South Georgia. As an employer of more than 3,000 people and with yearly revenue of more than \$100 million, it is the economic and social centerpiece of our community. Yet, despite years of increasing enrollment, rising tuition costs, and massive new construction,



Ben Speight

VSU has failed to address perhaps the most pressing issue facing the VSU community. Workers at VSU, who make this institution function on a daily basis by performing essential jobs and duties, have yet to receive just compensation for the work they do. The "progress" the VSU administration boasts so proudly has not been seen by those who largely make such progress happen. According to a 1997 Council On Staff Affairs study, VSU is one of the lowest paying public employers in Lowndes County and pays

workers far less than other universities in the state.

This year, while Custodians, Grounds Keepers, Food Service Workers, and Student Assistants are paid as low as minimum wage (\$10,712 a year for a full-time worker), the President will be paid a salary of \$145,751, given a housing allowance of \$18,000, and a "subsistence allowance" of \$12,600. Due to such gross disparities and pitifully inadequate pay, many low-paid workers at VSU are forced to work multiple jobs just to get by.

Over 80 percent of campus workers make below the federal poverty wage for a family of four—\$8.50 an hour—set by the US Department of Health and Human Services. This fact stands in stark contrast to the so-called progress VSU has made recently. For as long as

Worker's rights
see page 7

Mailbox

Greeks together

Dear Editor:

I am writing about the article in last week's Spectator. I was wondering why just Devin was interviewed and not Michele Kendrick, who is president of National Panhellenic Council, or myself.

Brandon only took the NPHC view and not ours. There is a council that meets every other week with Michele, Devin, myself, and other members of all Greek organizations to discuss issues and plan events. This is called the Greek Council.

Next time you place an article in the Spectator please interview and research all aspects and parties involved in the Greek system. There are black members in the NIC Greek organizations and white members in the NPHC Greek organizations. We encourage diversity.

The councils were split because we found it a more efficient way to run the Greek system. We have separate

councils. It doesn't mean we are segregated because we work together and support each other.

If you have any questions please e-mail, call me, or set up an interview.

Will Fricks
Interfraternity Council

Give us access

Dear Editor:

The Internet today is the largest representation of freedom of speech. Or is it? I was downloading music in the privacy of my dorm room. But now it seems as though those days of freedom may be over.

As quoted from an email sent to all HallNet users last Tuesday, "Sony Entertainment has asked us to disallow certain file sharing programs on our network." Sony entertainment knows that there is not a single larger contributor to the problem of free distribution of trademark material than college students. File-sharing programs create the possibility of sharing anything from music to

movies to software. And large corporations do not like it.

These file-sharing programs are mainly used to share trademarked material, but there is an immense amount of material that is free to the public that is virtually impossible to obtain in any other way. Some may say that blocking what we can do on the Internet is infringing upon our freedom of speech, yet others will explain that PeachNet (GA's internet service provider) is a privilege given to students—not a right. I take the stand of those who promote the freedom of speech. I used a file sharing program to obtain music from non-mainstream bands. I have one question for the "Industry" and one for the network people. To the "Industry" I ask, "Are the musicians in it for the performance or the pay?" And for the network folks, "Why allocate time to limiting users while the network is so unreliable it is impossible to download anything?"

Thomas Humburg

Mailbox
see page 7



Michelle Taylor

Life's lessons

Teachers, here's the biggest lesson you'll learn.

Treat your students equally and with respect.

Many instructors can't be bothered with students who aren't as fast as the others, occasionally hyperactive or who need extra help.

Why is it that those who are supposed to mold young children into model citizens and inspire individuality can't step up to the challenge of being a real teacher—one who helps his or her students no matter what?

Children are not normal—they are extraordinary. Every single one of them, no matter what. Kids will be kids. They are loud, opinionated and tons of fun. Why is it that teachers want students who fold their hands and sit quietly all day long? I might as well warn you, future teachers: that won't happen.

I know their type. My sister spent nearly a year in and out of the hospital and had a lot of trouble keeping up in class. My mother spent an entire year e-mailing teachers, begging for help. All but one cared. This teacher never e-mailed my mother, unless it was to report that my sister was in trouble again, and on more than one occasion, my sister informed our family that her teacher "hated her."

Pretty strong words for a sixth grader. I can't imagine making a student feel unwanted and hated.

Teaching is not a job you can ever B.S. your way through. You affect every single person who walks in your classroom. And those little things stick. Permanently.

When you graduate, new teachers, and you get out in the real world, just remember the responsibility you have. Your job is to help children grow into decent people who are individualistic and give them the knowledge to succeed.

Your job is not to stifle a child's creativity. Or make children feel like a bother to be passed on to the next bored teacher. Or tell the parents that a child should get some medicine to help with behavioral problems, when all the child needs is an outlet for energy.

It's hard to be a teacher. You often feel frustrated, tired, angry and sometimes feel like throwing your hands in disgust. But there is no excuse for treating students with anything less than respect.

Obviously you did not choose this profession for the money. Why not make those points? Patience and kindness are the key to winning the game.

You can make or break a child. Which is more important? Why not follow the path less traveled.

Michelle Taylor is a Spectator columnist and can be contacted at pferde14@hotmail.com



Got something to say?

Open mic on this page every week at the Spectator.

Does choosing to keep sororities and fraternities separate affect society as a whole? Do you think segregation by choice is wrong?

Let us know what you think. Log on to www.valdosta.edu/spectator and voice your opinion. We will print the best answers here next week.

Progress without progressive wages

Worker's rights continued from page 6

campus wages remain stagnant, while yearly revenue continues to grow, such progress will remain an empty illusion.

In fact, low wages are officially identified by the administration as an issue it has the responsibility to address. According to section 801.15 of VSU's Payroll Policies and Procedures, "Valdosta State University recognizes the value of a sound wage and salary administration program. Such a program must allow for advancement, be consistent throughout, consider the merits of the individual, and be responsive to the prevailing wage scales in the surrounding area [...]" Also, according to the Division of Human Resources' mission statement,

its duty is "to provide the infrastructure to foster the advancement and retention of qualified individuals; and to provide the framework to support a work environment conducive to equitable treatment, positive reinforcement, and recognition of employee's contributions, regardless of employee status." Clearly, by denying over 80 percent of its staff a wage the federal government considers a living wage, the university is failing to meet these and other important goals.

To draw the attention of the administration and the VSU community to the lack of adequate pay on our campus, a group of students, workers, and citizens have organized a Living Wage Campaign at VSU. Joining over 70 other such campaigns across the country, the VSU Living Wage

Campaign is determined to achieve just compensation for campus workers. We are calling for a base wage of \$8.50, set according to the US HHS year 2001 poverty wage, adjusted annually for inflation and cost of living increases, for all campus workers—including over 2000 full-time, part-time, and student workers. The health and strength of our community is jeopardized by the lack of a just pay policy for campus workers. To ensure the future progress of our university, campus workers must receive the justice that has been long over due.

Ben Speight is a Spectator guest columnist and a sophomore political science major

Mailbox Continued:

SGA Town Meeting misrepresentative

Dear Editor:

Last week's SGA sponsored Town Hall Meeting was a fraud. Those behind the meeting sought to railroad segments of the audience (including 25-30 full-time staff) who had come with questions for the administration and restrict open discussion among these groups with the panel of administrators.

Minutes before a meeting to open to students, staff and faculty, SGA Vice President Cody Guined threatened those of us representing the Living Wage Campaign with removal if we attempted to videotape and record what was said. He alleged that video taping the meeting could be viewed as a threat to those on the panel and that it would change the intended atmosphere of the meeting.

Despite attempts to silence discussion on campus labor issues, over half the questions asked by students during the meeting concerned low wages and poor working conditions.

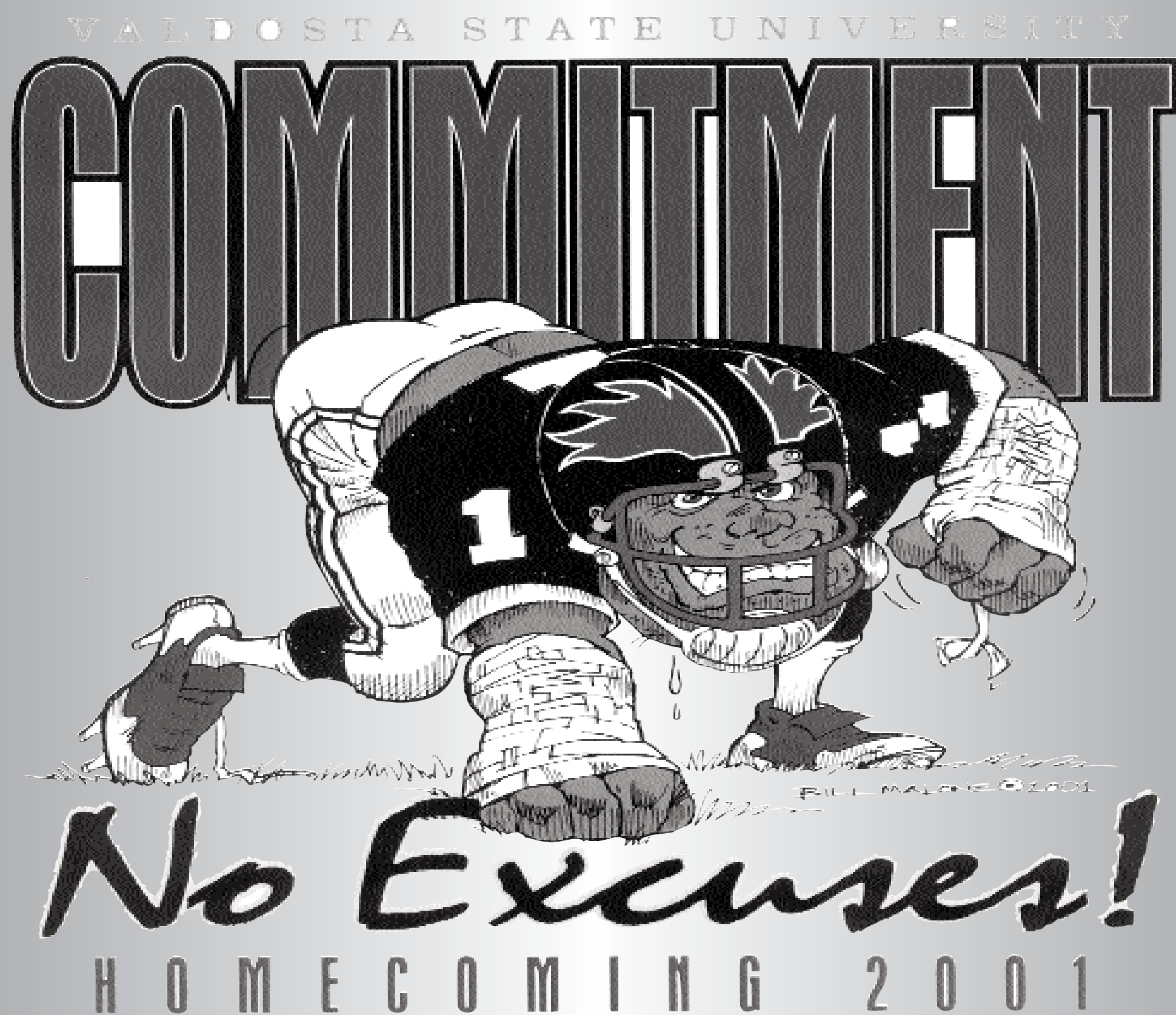
It became clear that the administration was unprepared to listen those questions—responding with astonishing indifference to our complaints and making blatantly false statements. For example, James Brignatti, vice president for

Business and Finance, described student assistants as undeserving of a base pay increase because, in his eyes, student workers at VSU work for pocket change, perform simple tasks, work few hours, and are not dependant on their incomes to pay their bills. Of course, these statements are completely false.

President Bailey said he was proud that the university had not yet privatized but that they could have and saved money, effectively threatening VSU workers who continue to call for better wages.

With false statements, direct and indirect threats, and open exclusion, the SGA Town Hall Meeting was a mockery and completely undermined the VSU community's ability to hold the administration accountable for the policies it implements. The VSU Living Wage Campaign therefore calls for another public meeting with the administration, to be held as soon as possible, that will actually facilitate open communication between those most affected by the policies of the VSU administration.

David Klier



New Homecoming Queen Voting Procedures

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Oct 9th, vote for five (5) candidates. The top five vote winners will be your 2001 Homecoming Court. On Oct. 11th vote for only one (1) candidate. The top vote winner will be your 2001 Homecoming Queen

Monday - October 8th

Homecoming Kickoff & Cookout - Front Lawn 6-8pm
Sidewalk Chalk, inflatables, photo buttons, balloon artist, caricature artist

Tuesday - October 9th

Skatenight - Jungle Jyms 8pm
(canned good required for entrance)
Bake-off, HOMECOMING QUEEN VOTING

Wednesday - October 10th

Comedian - Magnolia Room - 8pm
(canned good required for entrance)
Field-Day Games

Thursday - October 11th

Parade - 6pm - Patterson Street
Trotline in Drexel Park @ 7:30
Floats, HOMECOMING QUEEN VOTING

Friday - October 12th

Pep Rally PE Complex - 7pm, Lip Sync Contest

Saturday - October 13th

Football Game - 1pm - Bazemore-Hyder Stadium
Homecoming Queens Crowned at halftime!
Travis Tritt - VSU PE Complex 8pm

Features

Stay tuned for next week's cross-section. Also check out reviews of The Hoop and Moonshine Still on the web. Our website is www.valdosta.edu/spectator

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

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Club Paradise

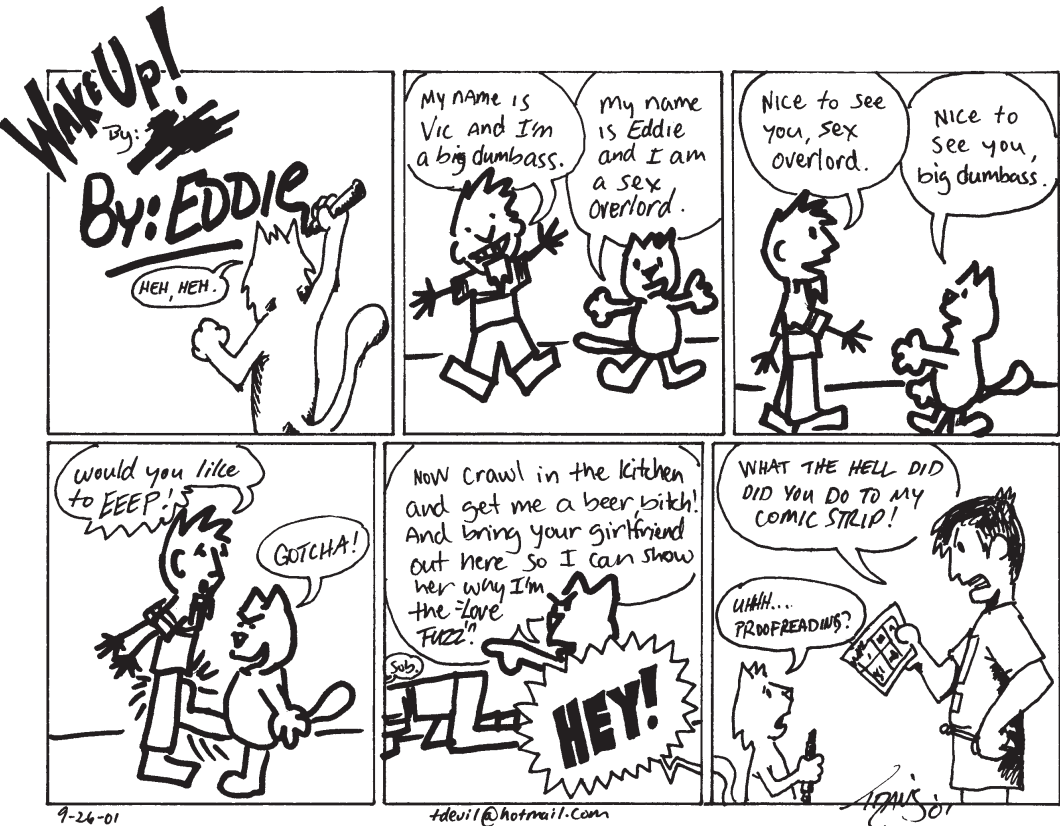
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Drinking woes

Laura Justin
Staff Writer

Sometimes, you need to know when to say when. Unfortunately, many VSU students don't.

A study conducted last spring by the office of Alcohol and Other Drug Education revealed a significant amount of binge drinking among VSU students.

"We interviewed over 500 students," Mark Williams, coordinator for the Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Education, said. "Over 39.2 percent of the students reported binge drinking in the past two weeks. [Binge drinking] is defined as five or more drinks per sitting for males and four or more drinks for females," Williams said.

According to a study conducted by Harvard Medical School and published by the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention, drinking patterns in high school are a large determinant of binge drinking in college. Students who were binge drinkers in high school are three times more likely to engage in the same habits throughout college.

The study also created a profile of those most likely to fall into these drinking habits. Compared to other students, white students, students involved in athletics or students involved in fraternities or sororities are twice as likely to develop habits characteristic of binge drinking.

The study also revealed startling statistics correlating binge drinking and college academic performance. Frequent binge drinkers are seven to 16 times more likely to suffer academically through low attendance and poor work performance.

"If binge drinking becomes a frequent occurrence, students' physical appearance can begin to deteriorate and they may neglect their hygiene habits," Williams said. They may also begin showing up late for class, missing class or showing up to class under the influence."

Many students feel that binge drinking is indeed a problem among VSU students that needs to be addressed.

"There are short-term effects of binge drinking like sleeping in class, getting sick, and long-term effects like depression or alcohol dependency," Sean Morgan, junior exercise

Drinking — see page 9

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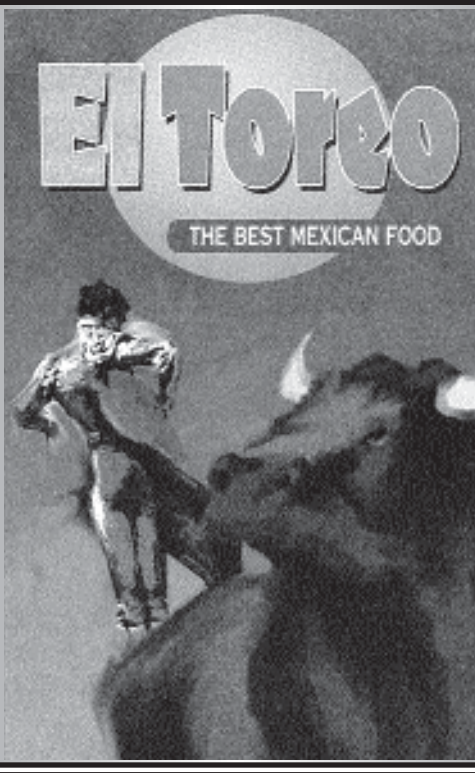
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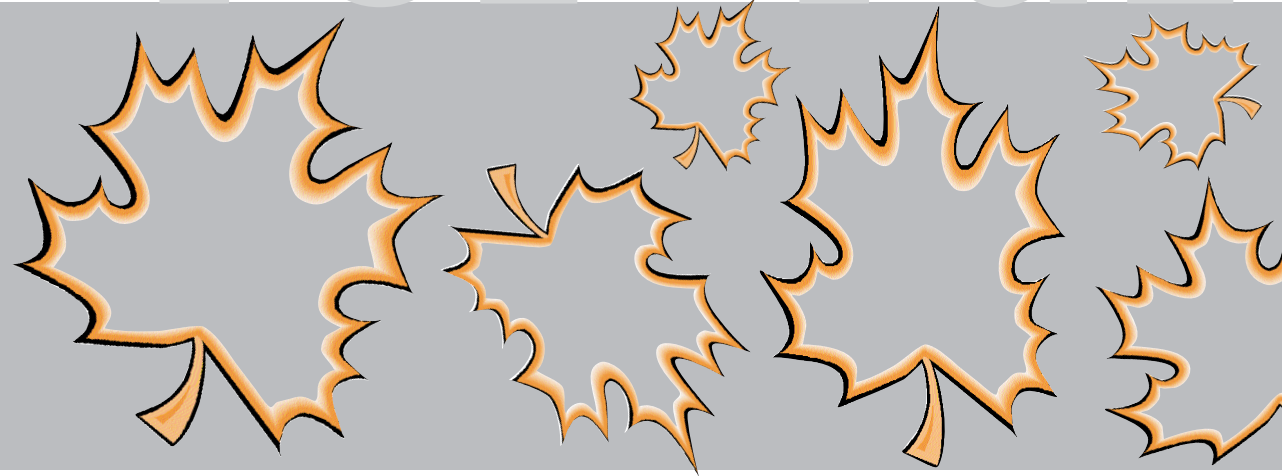
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Spinoli's: pizza with a kick

Jaime Peck
Staff Writer

"Keep on Truckin,'" (a slogan found on Spinoli's menu) over to Spinoli's if you want tasty pizza and pasta, great drink specials and the best service I've found in Valdosta.

Spinoli's, currently owned by Lamar Crozier of Valdosta, serves specialty pizzas or pizzas with a wide range of toppings. It also serves a variety of pastas and salads, stromboli, calzones and subs. It features a pizza buffet and salad bar, priced at \$4.99 (not including drinks) and available for lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays.

Daily drink specials include: Monday is \$2 Crown Royal, Tuesday is \$2 Jim Beam, Mon. through Fri., from 4 to 7 p.m. is Happy Hour, with two-for-one well drinks, and everyday, all day customers can get \$3 pitchers of South Paul or Natural Light. Spinoli's also boasts enough variety of liquors to make any kind of drink, 12 varieties of beer on tap and 14 bottled beers.

Customers can choose to dine outside under umbrellas, surrounded by a tiny white picket fence, or inside Spinoli's bright and cheery décor. The feeling of the place enhances conversation among its mostly college student customers. Two walls have bright blue clouds garnished with neon green, one long wall has a vintage car décor and one wall has a somewhat amusing mural

displaying people having a good time. The floor is black and white tiled, and there's plenty of entertainment—customers can play pool on Spinoli's two pool tables, watch TV on the giant television near the tables, play a tune

I had a medium pizza with red sauce (I originally wanted pesto sauce, but the servers and manager apologetically informed me they were out.), with toppings of roma tomatoes, feta cheese, pepperoni, bacon and portabello mush-

and more than an average college student can afford for a pizza, but the service made up for it.

Colleen Moon, junior English major, was my server. She wasn't annoying when asking if I wanted more to drink or if I wanted anything else, and she was very friendly while I asked her questions about Spinoli's. A rare attribute to look for in servers is how nice he or she is to you right before a restaurant's closing. Colleen was friendly and pleasant. My advice is to ask for her if you go to Spinoli's (and tip her well!).

Trey Taylor, sophomore computer science major, is a manager at Spinoli's, and he, too, went out of his way to make my dining experience at Spinoli's a pleasant one.

Taylor said Spinoli's has been open four years, and Crozier, who formerly owned the Legion, just came into ownership of it in March. Before then, Spinoli's was owned by Charles Wiggins, originally of Albany.

Spinoli's has 11 employees. It is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 10a.m. to 12 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

Jaime Peck is a Spectator reporter and can be reached at jaimepeck18@yahoo.com



Laura Justin / The Spectator

Spinoli's, located at 1300 N. Ashley St., serves a variety of pizzas and pastas. They also have daily drink specials, and entertainment such as pool tables, video games and a jukebox.

from the jukebox's wide variety of songs or play on the two video games in the restaurant.

Perhaps the best thing I noticed about Spinoli's, besides its excellent service, was how customers can choose from six pizza sauces at no additional charge: tomato basil (red sauce), spicy black bean sauce, roasted garlic olive oil, BBQ sauce, Alfredo sauce and pesto sauce. This change alone can make any ordinary pizza something special.

rooms. The taste was nothing unusual since the toppings were my choice, but it was good pizza nonetheless. I especially enjoyed the taste of the crust—usually pizza crusts are bland and boring, but this one had a lot of parmesan cheese, garlic and olive oil to spice it up.

My pizza, with a drink, cost \$14.33. The prices for toppings are a bit expensive—\$2.75 extra to top a large pizza with grilled chicken, for instance—

Drinking

continued from page 8

science major, said. "I think binge drinking definitely occurs and VSU students should be more aware of their drinking habits."

The Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Education provides a variety of services for VSU students.

"A lot of people come to school away from home for the first time and they're going to be making some decisions and we try to give them the right information to make the best decision possible," Williams said. "Some of our services are prevention in terms of going

out and doing presentations and advising people about some of the hazards associated with alcohol." Williams also does assessments for people involved in alcohol-related incidents, but prefers to work in a prevention mode than a reactive one.

On Oct. 25 the Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Education will be having an alcohol awareness fair at palms quad from 11a.m.-2 p.m. Agencies from both on and off campus will be represented. For more information call 259-5111.

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

Sport

Cross Country @ Ga. Collegiate Championships Saturday, 9 a.m., Atlanta

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Volleyball vs. Lincoln-Mem. Friday, 6 p.m. Old Gym, Flashback Friday

Men's Tennis @ ITA Rolex Southern, Savannah Friday, Saturday, Sunday

www.valdosta.edu/spectator

The rivalry continues...



Brandon Scott Staff Writer

Let's put it this way - Lance Funderburk was the last Blazer quarterback to defeat DSU.

Revenge: As if there wasn't enough incentive, the Blazers have to remember they lost twice last year - to the same team. VSU allowed more than 40 points in each game to DSU.

Redemption: The Blazers were destroyed on both sides of the ball in that ill-fated playoff game. The "Air Raid" was rendered toothless as a Condit speech on

ethics and the "Black Swarm" defense looked more like the "Gnat Swarm" - just an annoyance between the end zone and DSU.

"We can't say anything until we beat them," Coach Chris Hatcher said. "We can't talk about national and Gulf South championships until we beat them."

This year's contest pits the number two and three offenses against one another, as well as the top two defenses. Take a wild guess as to who has the best pass defense in the GSC. The answer starts with a D.

"They're the deadliest team in America," Hatcher said.

Want proof? Try five preseason all-GSC picks. Quarterback Josh

Bright, running back Rico McDonald and three offensive linemen.

Three? Are You from Florida? Want a re-count?

"It'll be assignment football again this week in practice," Smart said.

"We're gonna use our depth and hope to wear down that offensive line."



File Photo

VSU quarterback Dusty Bonner throws to Nekeyma Wright in last season's 45-35 loss to eventual Division II national champion Delta State.

Coach Hatcher's picks of the week!

Offense **Dusty Bonner** (17)

Special Teams **Reid Bethea** (37)

Defense **Marlin Adams** (34)

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FOOTBALL PREVIEW



Nathan White / The Spectator

VSU QB Dusty Bonner
2000 GSC Co-Player of the Year

V S



File Photo

Delta State QB Josh Bright
2000 GSC Co-Player of the Year

Duel in the Delta

Matt Biggee
Staff Writer

The battle is set. For the second year in a row the Blazers and the Statesmen will square off undefeated and highly ranked. VSU comes into the contest No. 4 in the nation and sports the conference's second best offense and defense. DSU will not only be placing their No. 1 ranking on the line this Saturday at 2 p.m. (ET), but also a six-game win streak against VSU. Last

week, Delta State won its ninth consecutive game with a 40-21 victory over Harding University.

Blazer Offense
The "Air Raid" has been just that this year as quarterback Dusty Bonner has thrown for 1,584 yards. Bonner, the reigning Offensive Player of the Week in the Gulf South Conference, completed 26-of-30 passes for 335 yards and five touchdowns to five different receivers in just a half of play last week against Henderson

State. His impressive numbers helped him move into eighth on the GSC career passing list, but he didn't do it by himself. The receiving corps will have their hands full with the conference's best passing defense. Halfback Aaron Jenkins could be the deciding factor if he can continue his big year (436 yards, five touchdowns) against a Statesmen defense that only allows 66 yards on the ground a game.

Statesmen Defense
No... that last sentence was not

a misprint. The Statesmen sport the GSC's best defense, and lead the conference in almost every defensive category. The DSU defense has given up a total of 34 points this year, an 8.5 point per game average. Two of the terrors on defense for the Statesmen are linebackers Reggie Winners and Jamal Johnson. Winners leads the team with 7.7 tackles a game. Johnson has 6.5 tackles a game and three sacks to his credit.

Advantage - Even

Blazer Defense
VSU's defense allowed only three points last week on its way to providing the Blazers with the largest margin of victory in the Chris Hatcher coaching era. The "Black Swarm" come into the DSU game giving up a minute 12.6 points a game. Defensive tackle Reggie Rhodes (four sacks) and Anthony Poole (six tackles for loss for 25 yards) will need to put heat on DSU quarterback Josh Bright. The VSU defense surrendered 94 points in two games to the Statesmen last year.

Statesmen Offense
The VSU defense can expect to see a heavy dose of fullback Rico McDonald, who leads the running game with 453 yards on the year including 167 last week against HU. Bright, who was a thorn in VSU's side last

year, is third in the conference in total offense with 260 yards a game.

Advantage- Blazers - No one has played better in the last six quarters than the "Black Swarm."

Blazer Special Teams
In a big game like this special teams always play a factor, so look for a big play from the Blazer kickoff team that averages over 25 yards a return.

Statesmen Special Teams
Delta State might have one of the best special teams' weapons in kicker/punter Blake Koenigsberger. Koenigsberger, last weeks special teams player of the week has a cannon of a leg and hit field goals from 49 and 43 yards respectively last week.

Advantage - Statesmen - Final Prediction
Blazers 31 Delta State 27

Blazer golf rolls in fall tourney

Jason James
Staff Writer

Coach Miles Hannen and his sixth-ranked Blazer golf team have come close in recent years. This year, they won't settle for close. The Blazers (13-0) will compete in the Presbyterian College Intercollegiate Open hosted by the Musgrove Mill Golf Club in Clinton, S.C.,

Monday and Tuesday. VSU won its first fall tournament by 14 strokes over Northwood University in the 14-team 54-hole Nova Southeastern Fall Classic Sept. 24-25 in Miami. The team was led by up and coming freshman Chris Erwin, who finished at one-under-par

for the tourney with a score of 215. Erwin's weekend was highlighted by a final round score of 69. Erwin was the tournament's medallist with a three shot lead over senior teammate Andy Blanton (218, t-2nd) and Southern Wesleyan's Chase Baldwin. Sophomore Thomas Pecout and Senior Kip Moore

both secured a tie for 17th with a score of 229. Sophomore Michael Collins was right behind them with a 231, good for 19th. All five players finished in the top twenty of the invitational and will return for the Presbyterian Open next week.

Junior Adam Heike said that Coach Danbury told the team that they have got the team to win it all, but it helps getting off to a good start and get an early win under their belts. "This is our first year of

being a complete team," Heike said. "Golf is an individual sport, but in college it's a team thing. We've gone out this week to the driving range with seven of us, so it feels good. We'll only grow and get better."

- Nova Southeastern Fall Classic Results**
1. VSU 884
 2. Northwood 898
 3. Nova Southeastern 902
 3. Johnson & Wales 902
 5. Florida Gulf Coast 915
 6. Barry 924
 7. Webber 940
 8. Flagler 941
 9. St. Thomas 943
 10. Southern Wesleyan 966
 11. St. Leo 995
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 13. Eckerd 1025
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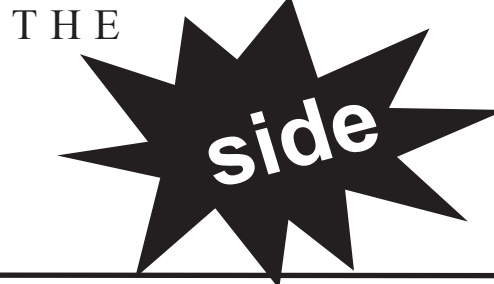


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Editor's Note

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

Mary Dabbs Staff Writer

You aren't paranoid, and they are out to get you. It's not the drugs, it's the government, it's the gods themselves. You have just entered the "one of those days" zone. Assignments have been known to mysteriously pop into existence through spontaneous generation on those days. Your personal watch will

create a rip in the space/time continuum that causes you to be a half-hour early for one class and two hours late for the next one. Those days it seems plausible that your boyfriend is secretly getting some man love from Timmy, the midget on Passions (well, maybe only my boyfriend would do that.) Those days you know that cigarettes aren't



going to kill you but a pack of marauding BSU students might. Suddenly it seems especially sadistic that hot dog buns come in packs of eight. Avoid black cats, ladders and all superstitious portents of doom. Weigh yourselves down with lucky amulets and hope you don't fall in a river and drown from their weight. Try not to make any excuses to teachers who just don't understand you really are in a vortex

of ill luck, or just stay in bed. It's an uncaring world outside of the folds of your bed. Stay in that cottony haven as long as you can. If it really is one of those days you won't be able to do it for long. Fate will put a stop to that. Mongol hordes will rush into your bedroom. Your mother will call, or if you're really unlucky come into town for a surprise visit and berate you for the messiness of your dwelling. No one does guilt like mom.

Your belief system will not protect you from those days. Even the Pope gets constipated, Jennifer Anniston has bad hair days and N' Sync can't even sing on their good days. Just accept those days with as much good grace as you can muster. They won't go away forever, but if you handle them like a Zen master, they may find someone else to harass for a month or two.

You ever have one of those days? Want to know how to blow off the steam? Tune in every Thursday and read VSU's voice, The Spectator. Check it out on the web at www.valdosta.edu/spec

Jeremiah W. Bass Staff Writer

I guess you could say we have seen our share of mayhem in the past few weeks. Good to see things are getting back to the way they were. As a matter of fact, it was reported today that two sharks were apprehended in Florida after being found with two copies of the New York Times best-seller, "How to Prepare the Perfect American for Lunch." After being notified of the situation, President George W. Bush stated these punks would be "brought to justice." When asked why they were attempting such acts, the sharks simply stated, "Uh, we were just hungry, dude." Senator Hillary Clinton responded to this quote as a "callous act." Former President Bill Clinton was unavailable for remarks, due to

the fact he was back in the green room humping the sharks' sister, Molly, during the interview. After finally getting in touch with Clinton, all he had to say was, "I like the booty." I interviewed Gary Condit about the subject, and this is what he had to say. Me: Condit, thanks for meeting with me to discuss this matter that President Bush calls a "cowardly attempt on America." So why do you think the two sharks tried to do this? Condit: Uh...no, I had nothing to do with that. I don't know where she is. Me: Excuse me? Sir, I am not talking about the Levy case [yeah VSU, I said it...so, sue me]. What do you think about the shark attacks? Condit: Uh...no, I had nothing to do with that. I don't know where she is.

Me: No...I mean...OK, who else do you think is or was behind the sharks' plans? Condit: Uh...no, I had nothing to do with that. I don't know where she is. As you can see, I didn't get very far with this 'exclusive' interview. Maybe next time. In other news, Janet Reno has been named the new world record holder in the bench press by pressing 3,000 lbs. She has reportedly also set a new record for the quickest goatee to grow back after shaving [two-and-a-half seconds]. "It feels good to still be the man," Reno said about her astonishing victories. It has been reported that pop star soloist Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake of 'N Sync are living together, but Spears says that she remains a virgin. Yeah, Timberlake was unavailable for questioning because he was busy packing his testicles

in ice. Spears also stated that she is thinking about getting breast implants...uh, I don't know how to tell you this, Britney, but I think the ship has already sailed on that topic. I was able to catch up with Justin and interview him about this subject. Me: Justin Timberlake, how do you feel about your girlfriend getting breast implants? Justin: Oooh, baby, baby, baby, baby, ooh, yeah, ooh baby, this I promise you. Me: What the hell are you talking about? Stop singing your songs and answer the question. Justin: Dirty pop, baby, you can't stop. I know you like this dirty pop! Me: OK! That's it! Come here, ya little-- Justin: Aaaah! What are you doing with that stick? No, not the testes! I just packed them in ice!

Me: I'm gonna kick your-- Due to circumstances beyond our control, this interview will not be printed in its entirety. Well, there ya have it. See how funny news can be? Live life, and laugh a little.

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