

THE SPECTATOR

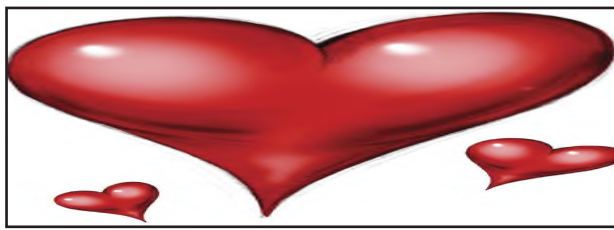
February 16, 2012

WWW.VSUSPECTATOR.COM

VOLUME 83 ISSUE 21

Inside This Issue

- **OPINIONS:** "VSU needs full finals week"
- **FEATURES:** "54th Grammys honor Whitney Houston"
- **SPORTS:** "Dynamic Duo"



Love in the air! Check out page 3 for some insight on VSU's Valentine's Day celebration!

On the Web

www.vsuspectator.com

Like the photo below? Visit the site for the lacrosse game slideshow!

SGA:

Chick-fil-A location change proposed

Joseph Adgie
STAFF WRITER
jmadgie@valdosta.edu

At Monday's SGA meeting, a Chartwell's representative gave hope to those that want to "Eat Mor Chikin" without having to head over to the University Center.

SGA also discussed the possibility of extending the dining hall hours, and elected five new senators.

Edward Taraskewich, Chartwell's regional district manager, also discussed lengthening hours of operation for the Palms and Hopper dining halls while talking about the addition of a Chick-Fil-A restaurant on a more

central part of campus.

"We have presented to the University, extending the hours to 10 p.m. at Hopper on Monday through Thursday for those that have late classes," Taraskewich said. "We are also extending the hours at Palms on Friday and Saturday nights til 8 p.m."

Currently, Hopper is open Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Palms is open Monday-Thursday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., closes at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, and stays open from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

The change in hours, if approved, would take effect after Spring Break at the earliest.

Taraskewich also mentioned possible additions to dining services per the demand of the student body.

"The students at Valdosta State would like to see a Chick-Fil-A closer to the center of campus," Taraskewich said. "We are evaluating that, and we have come up with a strategic plan, and we have presented it to the University."

"It will be a full-blown store," Taraskewich said. "It will be huge."

VSU students were quite receptive to the idea.

"It would be cool to have a Chick-Fil-A over here," said Corey Wasley, business management major.

"I would actually be a fan of that," Tara Davis, English major, said. "I never eat the food here unless I get a fruit cup from The Loop, it's all kind of greasy, so it would be a healthier option."

In addition to dining services, SGA participated in an election that saw five students elected to the senate.

The students, Emma Carey, Lorraine Dawkins, Anthony Fino, Colby Hall and Taylor Malone made speeches and answered questions from current SGA senators during the meeting.

"I am sincerely compelled to serve," Dawkins said. "Serving in our Student Government is not

about holding a title, but answering the call of great responsibility."

"The seat of a Senator must be taken seriously because it is a position which one holds not for themselves, but for the student body, and it is important that the voices of the student body are heard."

Colby Hall, another new senator, expressed a desire to offer a helping hand in the VSU community.

"I want to help out the campus, the community, and make a difference in things I believe in," Hall said before the speeches.

SGA meets every Monday in the University Center's Magnolia Room at 8 p.m.

High Points:

- **Chic-Fil-A** might move from the University Center.

- **Palms and Hopper Dining** hours might extend.

- **Five senators** were elected.

SGA MEETS MONDAYS AT 8 P.M., IN THE UNIVERSITY CENTER MAGNOLIA ROOM.

Lacrosse team plays first home game



J. Daniel Young/THE SPECTATOR

During its first home game, VSU Lacrosse lost 7-6 to Georgia Southern University Saturday at 2 p.m in the court by the P.E. Complex.

Faculty Senate:

Final exam changes on today's agenda

Denise Pleasant
STAFF WRITER
dnplesant@valdosta.edu

VSU Faculty Senate will discuss changes to the final exam policy, among other topics, today at 3:30 p.m., in the University Center Magnolia Room.

Changes to the final exam policy were brought up by Jim Muncy, professor of marketing, after he noticed that students were complaining about having to come to the class' final exam day, despite giving their final early.

"I just wanted the Faculty Senate to be aware of several issues I had considered," Muncy said. The final exam policy in the 2011-2012 Undergraduate Catalogue is different than the policy posted on the final exam schedule.

The Undergraduate Catalogue

policy states that all final exam dates are permanent and changes will not be granted.

The Langdale College of Business' policy mandates that there must be a final exam or a "final learning experience," in the allotted time given for the exam.

The policy goes on to state, "You cannot give finals at other times including dead day unless pre-approved by either the associate dean or dean."

The conflicting policies have caused concern for teachers and students.

"I believe strongly that each professor should be granted a good bit of autonomy to design exams and other assignments that best accomplish that professor's learning objectives," Barney Rickman, history professor, said.

See **SENATE**, Page 2

Hughes brings Harlem Renaissance to Valdosta

Amanda Usher
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR
amusher@valdosta.edu

Langston Hughes' dream will no longer be deferred as the African-American Studies Program will host "The Langston Hughes Project" tonight in the Student Union Theater at 7:30 p.m.

This event will be a multimedia presentation by The Ron McCurdy Quartet, featuring Dr. Ron McCurdy, professor of music and jazz studies in the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California.

The performance will feature spoken word, a jazz ensemble and images to accompany the music from The Harlem Renaissance and will pay homage to people who have battled against inequality during the 1960s.

Dr. Shirley Hardin, director of African-American Studies and professor of English, said that this program will serve another goal.

"Its purpose is to reacquaint America with its shared cultural heritage, especially its literary

and musical heritage," she said.

There will be musical pieces from blues, boogie-woogie, bebop, cha-cha, Dixieland, German Lieder and Jewish liturgy.

It will also include a brief tribute to Whitney Houston, the long-time singer who recently died due to unknown causes Saturday in Beverly Hills, Ca. at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

This will be the first time that VSU will host this event, and attendance is free to the general public.

Dr. McCurdy believes that students will receive the opportunity to absorb themselves in a personal experience. "Students will have a chance to engage in 'critical thinking' and examine their own existence as it relates to the rest of the world," he said.

"The Langston Hughes Project, Ask Your Mama: 12 Mood for Jazz" was created by Dr. McCurdy himself when he was asked by the curator of the "Weisman Art Museum" at University of Minnesota to form a program for the music section in the museum.

See **HUGHES**, Page 2

Former president found liable in Barnes vs. Zaccari

In 2007, former VSU president Dr. Ronald Zaccari expelled student Hayden Barnes after perceived a parking-deck related protest threatening to VSU and to Dr. Zaccari himself.

Jennifer Gleason
ASST. FEATURES EDITOR
jgleason@valdosta.edu

The freedom-of-speech case involving a former VSU student and president reached a new stage last week as an appeals court ruled that VSU's former president could be found liable for taking away the student's rights to due process.

"This landmark ruling from the Eleventh Circuit leaves no doubt that university administrators who choose to ignore the due process rights of their students do so at their peril," said Foundation for Individual Rights in Education President Greg Lukianoff in a press release.

In 2007, student Hayden Barnes was expelled from VSU by former president Dr. Ronald Zaccari after Barnes attempted to protest Dr. Zaccari's plans for the two parking decks, Sustella Ave.

& Oak Street parking decks.

Believed there was an environmental threat to the \$30-million parking project, Barnes created and posted an art collage with a portrait of Dr. Zaccari titled "S.A.V.E.—Zaccari Memorial Parking Garage."

Dr. Zaccari labeled Barnes as a "clear and present danger" to VSU and to the former president and expelled the student.

In response, Barnes promptly sued Dr. Zaccari, claiming he deserved his due process before receiving his punishment.

Since then, the case has gone through many phases in court.

"This has been a long, drawn-out case," said David Will, attorney with Royal-Will Law Firms for Dr. Zaccari.

Will goes further on to say, the issue of Barnes' due process was one not yet resolved in Georgia.

It had yet to be seen if a college student could have due process for a pre-deprivation

hearing.

"Dr. Zaccari relied on the Board of Regents," Will said. "They told him to do what he could to protect the university from threats... And he did."

The court of appeals also ruled on Feb. 8 that Dr. Zaccari could not sue the Board of Regents in a federal court based on the 11th Amendment.

"I know that the former VSU president, Zaccari, and his legal team are looking at their options... The whole Eleventh Circuit could hear the case if they choose to try to appeal. If not, it will go on to the federal court," Will Creeley, director of FIRE's Legal and Public Advocacy said.

Creeley has been working to speak out against university administrations who have wronged students their right to due process, as Barnes was denied.

"We are advocating on Barnes' behalf," Creeley said. "We will continue to watch the case with

great interest, but we do not represent Barnes--his legal attorney will do that."

"Hayden's [case] is one of the worst we have ever seen," Creeley said.

"We get hundreds of case submissions ever year--our case archives are overflowing."

In response to what Barnes and his legal team have in store, Bob Corn-Revere, attorney for Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, and Barnes' legal attorney, said they are still considering what their next step will be, but they are considering this a win already.

For previous Spectator coverage of the case, visit this story on the WebSpectator.

Question of the Week

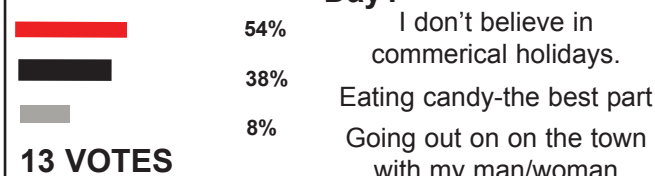
Do you know the real meaning of Mardi Gras?

- A. It's French for "Fat Tuesday"
- B. Beads, booze and...party!
- C. It's that holiday with the masks, right?

Vote online at www.vsuspectator.com!

Previous question

What do you plan on doing for Valentine's Day?



13 VOTES

Weather at VSU

Today Friday Saturday



Thunderstorms 79 H 59 L Thunderstorms 75 H 54 L Thunderstorms 73 H 61 L

Upcoming Events

THURS. FEB. 16
Science Seminar
Powell Hall Auditorium - 4 p.m.
 The biology department hosts "Jargon Wars: Landscape Genetics" by Dr. Corey Anderson.

Free Admission to Blazer Basketball with donation
P.E. Complex - 6 p.m. (women's) and 8 p.m. (men's)
 Free admission with donation of three can/dry good items per person. Because students get in free with a student ID, your name will be entered into a raffle if you donate can/dry goods. (Part of the Campbell's Soup Let's Can Hunger Challenge)

Free Coffee at Deep Release Poetry Society's Open Mic
Bailey Science Center 3009 - 8 p.m.
 Express yourself through poetry. For more information or a list of dates, please contact Bridgitte Ivey, bivey@valdosta.edu.

Blazer Basketball Fan Appreciation Night
Blazers vs. West Alabama P.E. Complex - 6 p.m. (women's) and 8 p.m. (men's)
 Sponsored by Mediacom and Powerball by Georgia Lottery. Every fan has a chance to win: digital cameras, t-shirts, lottery prize packages, and more.

Real Talk
Powell Hall - 8:15 p.m.
 "Real Talk" is not an ordinary bible study. Meet Real People, with Real Issues, seeking a Real God, in a Real Way. Hosted by Xchange Ministries.

Movie: "Real Steel"
Bailey Science Center 1101 - 8 p.m.
 Admission is free. Valid VSU ID required. Snacks will be provided. Hosted by Natural High.

Blazer Gardens
Odum Library 1480 - 7 p.m.
 Get more information about VSU's student run garden at Blazer Gardens' general membership meeting. For more information, check out facebook.com/groups/BlazerGardens or email Bobbi Hancock at bahancock@valdosta.edu.

Test Anxiety Management
Powell Hall East, Counseling Center Conference Room - 4-5 p.m.
 Learn how to cope with anxiety before tests, lower distress levels, and earn higher grades.

FRI., FEB. 17
Cupids Playhouse
 Brunch hosted by Alpha Phi Omega. The cost of the dinner will be \$5. There will also be

games, music by the Jazz Band and a modeling show. Contact kistark@valdosta.edu for details - and to pre-order your Cupid's Brunch.

Arbor Day Celebration
Front Lawn - 10 a.m.
 This year's Arbor Day Ceremony honors the city's 26th Year as a Tree City U.S.A. For more information, contact Brett Ganas, assistant director of landscape and grounds, at 333-5399.

Art After Dark
Downtown Valdosta - 6-9 p.m.
 Art, live entertainment, shopping, great food and more.

Sat., Feb. 18
Overnight Camping and Cave Tour in the Florida Caverns - Feb. 18-19
 \$33 Student, \$43 Faculty/ Staff Beginner through Advanced. To register, stop by the CORE Rental Center during open hours with cash, check, or Flex to pay for the trip. For more information, call 245-2355 or email core@valdosta.edu.

Professional Development Conference
Bailey Science Center 1101 - 9:30 a.m.
 Topics include: "The College Resume," "Memory Tricks," "Leadership 101" and "Emotional Intelligence" For more information, contact the Student Employment Office at (229) 333-7575 or email michaelasmith@valdosta.edu.

Mon., Feb. 20
Sign-up deadline for the ICan Perform Talent Show
 Entry Fee: Three or more canned good items Performance Date: Wed., Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. Event Location: Student Union Theater Contact Anthony Howard at anthoward@valdosta.edu or 293-3523 for more information. (Part of the Campbell's Soup Let's Can Hunger Challenge)

ICan Build
Palms Quad - 5 p.m.
 Teams will build structures using at least 50% canned goods. Participating organizations must arrive 4:30 p.m. Tables will be provided for each team, but canned goods will not. (Part of the Campbell's Soup Let's Can Hunger Challenge)

Other Dates
Odradek
 VSU's literary magazine is accepting contributions of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and photography until March 1.

Senate

Continued from Page 1

Sarah Bartholomew, associate professor of political science, said that individual instructors should be able to determine the amount of time allocated for their exam.

"I also think that if student exams are close together, the student should be able to appeal to the Dean for relief," Bartholomew said.

The Faculty Senate will also discuss the implementation of a university committee on the status of gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender students, faculty and staff.

The issue of the LGBT committee is going to be remanded to the Minority and Special Student Needs Committee.

The committee was proposed by Mandi Bailey, assistant political science professor.

"Since teaching my minority politics class and participating in a related roundtable, I think a committee that discusses and champions the needs of the gay/lesbian students at VSU would be a worthwhile endeavor," she said.

Ryan Blalock, sophomore economics major, supports the committee being proposed.

"Personally, I think it's a great idea for their voices to be heard," he said.



Taylor Kelly/THE SPECTATOR

The Finnish-American duo, Kaivama, perform in Pound Hall Wednesday night. The folk music pair Sara Pajunen and Jonathan Rundman hail from Minnesota and Missouri, respectively.

Their band's name is representative of their backgrounds. According to their website, "Kaivama" comes from a Finnish word meaning to dig—a reference to the open-pit iron ore mines for which their hometowns are famous.

Police Briefs

Feb. 9

An arrest was made for misdemeanor marijuana possession in Lowndes Hall.

A bike was reported stolen from in front of Student Union.

Feb. 10

Graffiti was found in Georgia Hall near the mechanical room.

Feb. 11

Vandalism by fire extinguisher and graffiti were found in Georgia Hall.

Feb. 14

Keys and \$80 were reported missing from a purse on the green line shuttle.

A computer and xbox were

reported stolen from Lowndes Hall.

A bike was reported missing from Georgia Hall.

A bike was reported stolen from the Sustella parking deck.

An arrest was made for misdemeanor marijuana possession in Centennial Hall.

Hughes

Continued from Page 1

Dr. McCurdy thinks highly of Hughes calling him a "connoisseur of jazz music."

"Langston was a storyteller," he said. "People ask me if he were alive today, what would he be. He would be a rapper...like Common."

This is because both speak on important issues in society.

Along with performing during this project, Dr. McCurdy will host a Jazz Master Class for the VSU Jazz Studies students and David Springfield, asst. professor and director of jazz studies.

Co-Sponsors for this event include the Office of Social Equity, Department of English, Department of Music, and Division of Student Affairs.

"The Langston Hughes Project" is just one of the many events that Dr. McCurdy is a part of.

Over the weekend, he hosted a series of concerts for the pre-Grammys activities.

Check out this week's web exclusives at vsuspectator.com!

Correction:

The four candidates mentioned in last week's article "Search narrowed to final four" are not finalists.

The finalists will be picked from these four candidates by the Board of Regents after their visits to campus.

Spectator Sudoku

The sudoku grid consists of eighty-one squares in a nine by nine grid. To solve the sudoku, each square in the grid must contain a number between one and nine, with the following conditions:
 * Each row of nine cells must contain each of the numbers from 1 to 9 once and only once.
 * Each column of nine cells must contain each of the numbers from 1 to 9 once and only once.
 * Each of the nine 3 by 3 boxes of nine cells must contain each of the numbers from 1 to 9

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | | | | 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | |
| | 4 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 9 | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | 2 | | | 1 | |
| | | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | 4 | | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 5 | | | | |
| | | | | | 3 | 1 | | |
| 5 | 9 | 6 | | | | | | 7 |

Answers on Page 5

Birthright of Valdosta
You Have a Friend at Birthright
www.birthright.org

Non-Judgmental Friendship & Emotional Support
Confidential Services & Referrals
Free Pregnancy Tests

1205 Baytree Rd, Suite 4 **24 Hour Hotline**
229-244-5433 (LIFE) **1-800-550-4900**

Close to VSU - Between CJ's Pub and Zesty's

Student Success Center

SSC Hours
Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday Closed
Sunday 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Free Tutoring in Core Courses
Free Professional Advising
-One-on-one sessions
-Workshops in Time Management, Study skills, Notetaking, etc.

On-Campus Employment Opportunities
www.valdosta.edu/finadmin/human_resources/studemp/
Phone: 229-333-7574
Fax: 229-333-7577
Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Fri: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Visit www.valdosta.edu/ssc for more information

Langdale Hall **Phone: 229-333-7570**
 (Between Palms Dining and Georgia Hall) **Fax: 229-333-7579**

We Can Help You With:

- Math
- Writing (any subject)
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Spanish
- French
- German
- Physics
- Sociology
- Anthropology
- Geography /
- Geology
- History
- Philosophy
- Literature
- Political Science

thrive@5

Furnished Apartments - utilities included*
 Are your apartments more than just a place to sleep? If not, then you need to check out The Residences at Five Points. With the best community features, amenities and services, you'll do more than just live here - you'll THRIVE!

3 BEDROOMS **2 BEDROOMS**
\$515 PER PERSON **\$550 PER PERSON**
\$1,545 PER MONTH **\$1,100 PER MONTH**

- 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments
- Unfurnished apartments available
- Planned Resident Social Activities
- Resort Swimming Pool w/covered cabana area & gas grills
- Fantastic Fitness Center
- Game Room and gathering area
- Free Tanning
- Resident Conference Center for Study Groups
- Booze Ball & Sand Volley Ball
- Car care center
- Control access gates
- Interior Entrance Halls
- Dog Park

100 Garden Dr. | Valdosta, GA 31602 888.844.9638
229-244-7800
theresidencesatfivepoints.com

The Classifieds

The Spectator prints free classifieds for students of Valdosta State University only. These must be no more than 40 words, or an \$8.00 charge will apply. Classifieds for faculty, staff, student organizations, student-owned businesses and the general public cost \$8.00 for up to 40 words. Ads should be sent to The Spectator or delivered to our office in 1238 Hopper Hall. The deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. If payment applies, it should be submitted in a sealed envelope at the time the ad is placed. Ads

must be accompanied by the name and phone number of the person submitting the ad. Ads must be resubmitted each week, as necessary. The Spectator address is: 1500 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31698 spec@valdosta.edu. The Spectator reserves the right to reject any classified ad. All ads are subject to standard editing procedures. The Spectator is not responsible for ads submitted under false pretenses or for mistakes due to a submitted error. The categories for classifieds

include: For Sale, Wanted, Roommates and Help Wanted.

Wanted

Japanese Restaurant Server Wanted
 Aligatou Japanese Restaurant
 1922 West Hill Ave.
 229-2440-4784

For Rent

House for Rent
 2 Bed / 1 Bath
 Walking Distance from University Center on Williams St.
 Call: 229-292-4400

For Rent

FOR RENT
229-244-7800
 REMERTON CONDOS
 2/2.5, \$699/mo
 1726 W. Gordon St. off Baytree
 SETH TOWNHOMES
 2/2.5, \$599/mo
 2415 Seth Place, off Pineview
MOVE IN SPECIAL
 1/2 off first month with deposits \$400 with no application fee

Services

Pregnant? Now what?
 Answers at
Options Now
 A Life Choice Clinic
 ~ Pregnancy Testing
 ~ Limited Ultrasounds
 ~ Confidential & at no cost
229-506-5017
www.optionsnow.org
answers@optionsnow.org

Services

Check us out at
www.vsuspectator.com

Wanted

Bartenders Wanted: Up to \$250 per day. No experience necessary. Training provided. Age 18+ OK. Call 1-800-965-6520 ext. 233

Wanted

PLAY SPORTS! HAVE FUN! SAVE MONEY!
 Maine camp needs fun loving counselors to teach All land, adventure, & water sports. Great Summer! Call 888-844-8080, apply: campcedar.com

VSU needs full finals week

As students, one of the most stressful times of the semester is finals. Late nights at Starbucks, study groups, missing sleep and last minute cramming at the Student Union are just some of the many things students have to go through during this time. Why? The end-of-semester load is spread out across two stressful weeks; the week before finals and finals week. This puts students into overload as teachers find it necessary to cram in as many tests, quizzes, projects and general information that they can, ruining any chance students would have to possibly prepare for finals a week early. Under the current exam policy, students are to have two days in advance to prepare for finals; one

last day of class and dead day, a day designed specifically for exam preparation. This day, which was created in hopes that it would ease the stress of finals, was created in vain. Why not just give students a full week instead of wasting it with two days when students were planning on doing their studying anyway? If students were given a full week there would be less anxiety, more time to focus and ultimately better academic performance, as there would be less chance that they would have three finals packed in one day as many students have experienced this at least once. In an e-mail sent from director of marketing Dr. James Muncy to Dr. Tracy Meyers in discussion of a possible new final exam pol-

icy, it was expressed that some teachers are also feeling overwhelmed during this week, as some of them often have classes with over 200 students, all of which take essay exams. Teachers then speed up their grading in order to have final grades submitted by Monday for those students who plan on graduating that Saturday. This not only sacrifices fair grading, but creates errors. A way to make final exams less hectic would be for those students that are graduating to take their exams a week early. This way, it would give teachers time to collect and average grades, and the registrar time to process those students who have completed enough credit hours that qualify for graduation.



The Associated Press

This editorial was written by Shambree Wartel (swartel@valdosta.edu) and it expresses the general opinion of the editorial staff.

Valentine's Day at VSU brings plenty of events for everyone

Keana Miller
STAFF WRITER
kmiller@valdosta.edu

Love is in the air and cupid has struck again. This week there have been many more couples on campus than any other period in the semester before. The last few days leading up to Valentine's Day, there were few places on campus that were not infested with couples and signs of this day approaching. They have taken over the library, the union, the front lawn and West Hall. There were flyers everywhere promoting bake sales, CAB events, and other Valentine's Day activities. With all the love spreading on campus, the question remained, "Were there enough Valentine's Day events on campus?" Along with that, was there an alternative available to the non-public displays of affection couples or the singles sick of watching them strut all over campus? There were more than enough events on campus promoting Valentine's Day. The International Club, Black Student League, Alpha Phi Omega, and campus activity board all pitched in to spread the love all across the campus by hosting special sales, selling roses and setting up events. The International Club also added a great twist by hosting

speed dating for singles to also enjoy and participate. The events were well advertised via email from Student Activities and spread by word of mouth or flyers all throughout campus. I participated in one CAB event--Valentine's dog tag event. Also at the CAB Valentine's Day dog tag event were Makeda Bryce and her boyfriend, Daquan Sims, who came as a couple. Bryce had heard about the dog tag event through word of mouth from other students, and it became a gift from her boyfriend. The event involved students getting their picture taken, with the option of buying a necklace emblazoned with the picture as a keepsake of the event. Freshman Nia Ward said that as a freshman with no car and few options to escape, the events on campus were convenient for her and her boyfriend. She said that the events were unique and provided them with experiences they would never forget. Like many of her fellow students, she took advantage of all the bake sales that VSU had to offer this week, which made a great Valentine's Day gift for her boyfriend. The bake sales also provided a neutral, and affordable, alternative for the singles who wanted to celebrate the day of love solo. Most snacks were a little more than a few dollars, and The Loop provided students with a fancier selection of chocolate-



Keana Miller

CAB students assist in the Dog Tag event at the Student Union Rotunda. The event was a convenient way for on-campus couples to have fun on Valentine's Day.

covered strawberries for students who wanted to indulge. Valentine's Day may have become more of a chance for couples to splurge on each other, but it can still be an event to celebrate love in general. Not all love involves romance or couples holding hands. It's great that students are finding the events on campus useful to their college experience. Everyone is not in love or into Valentine's Day, so there were just enough events promote the day of love. The campus could use a lot less of the posturing PDA during Valentine's Day, though. There are ways of showing love, like going to the events with a significant other, that do not involve the gross factor for the people around the canoodling couples.

Raves of the week

"VSU is extremely friendly. It's a friendly gatherable crew. I like the atmosphere." -**Mathew Vandergrift, senior, psychology major**
"Class sizes are well sized. A lot of one on one with teachers. And the faculty and staff are very supportive." -**Josh Williams, senior, kinesiology major**
"The CAB event for Valentine's Day was really fun. I got to make my own animal stuff and have fun with friends." -**Sherelle Hayman, senior, management major**



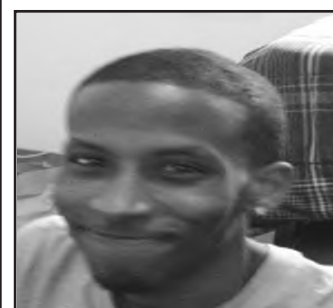
"The limit on drops should be unlimited again, especially since we do not get our money back. We pay to take it, it is our decision to drop the class, so it should not be limited." -**Cynthia Williams, junior, journalism major**
"I don't like the run around you get when trying to complete your financial aid--especially the VA paperwork." -**Morgan Rivers, junior, English and French major**
"I am so sick of this on-campus Internet. Why is it that every time I log onto Blazeview and attempt to post, the Internet wants to start acting up? Do better, please, Valdosta!" -**Brittany Vereen, senior, sociology major**

People Poll:

How important is voting in the primary to you?

Marcel Smith
junior
biology major

"I feel like if you are voting for the Democrats, it wouldn't be as important to vote. Someone who is strictly for the Republicans, it would be important for them to vote."



Kaleb Tesfamariam
senior
economics major

"The young people that don't vote could have a major impact."

Tina Chandler
history major

"I think it's a rat race but overall I still vote for Obama as president."



Saxon Seigler
senior
mass media major

"I don't feel like there should be a switch in the presidencies, I say that I vote for Obama still so that he could finish what he started. He has done a lot for the people and I say he should stay in the presidency."

Reuben Brooks
junior
exercise physiology major

"Voting in the primary election is extremely important because whoever wins the outcome of the vote has the power to impact my life and my future."



We Want Your Feedback. Send a Letter to the Editor.

Every week, the Opinions section of The Spectator is willing to print any letter that a reader might send to our paper. We reserve the right to edit the letters, but we welcome opinions on any subjects. Send an email to our Opinions Editor, Mikayla Beyer, at mlbeyer@valdosta.edu. If you notice inaccuracies, have additional information about a subject in one of our articles, or just want to share another point of view, send us your thoughts and we'll print them. Thank you.

NOTE:
Don't worry, readers. J. Daniel Young's political column will return next week. Let's hope not all of the candidates stay in the race that long.

Spectator Staff

Editor-in-Chief: Stephanie Turner
Managing Editor: Amber Smith
Business Manager: Lori Paddock
Advertising Manager: John Pickworth
Circulation Manager: Morgan McFarland
Opinions Editor: Mikayla Beyer
Features Editor: Ariel Felton

Sports Editor: Chad Stone
Photo Editor: J. Daniel Young
Multimedia Editor: Jacob McWhorter
Web Designer: Rebecka McAleer
Copy Editor: Shambree Wartel
Cartoonist: Garrison Muelhausen
Faculty Advisers: Dr. Pat Miller, Dr. Ted Geltner
Reporters/Photographers: Trevor Smith, Maya Kellam, D,

LaBrit Bulluck, Kat Grigoriadis, Megan Harris, Sharleece Bellagosi, Denise Pleasant, Taylor Kelly, Jerry Ingram, Kristin Hunt, Ritsuki Miyazaki, Jessica Ingram, Star Reese, Courtney Perry, Jennifer Gleason, Shaundi McDaniel, Quasha Ross, Kyara Thompson, Autumn Sullivan, Alex Fletcher, Jamie Baker

Newsroom (229) 333-5688
Advertising (229) 333-5686
Business (229) 333-5686
Fax (229) 249-2618
E-mail spec@valdosta.edu

Contacting Us

VSU Spectator
1500 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31698
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 by Tuesdays before 5 p.m.

Online at www.vsuspectator.com

Opinions expressed in the Spectator other than editorials are the opinions of the writers of signed columns and not necessarily those of the Spectator and its staff. All rights reserved. Reprints by permission of the editors. Views in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Valdosta State University administration, faculty and staff.

54th Grammys honor Whitney Houston

Hello guys and dolls. It's time. Get your cups out because I am serving some hot tea.

Grammys weekend is supposed to be a big celebration of music, but a sense of mourning stained the festivities with the shocking death of music icon Whitney Houston.

Whitney was found underwater in her tub Saturday at the famed Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, Ca.

Now, before we get all in our emotions, let's talk about the Grammys.

The Grammys set us all up for the old rating okey dokey, making us wait until the last 30 minutes of the show to see the Whitney Houston's tribute that was done nicely by Jennifer "Sun in the Sky" Hudson.

Like others, my only reason for watching the Grammys was for the tribute and to watch

Adele slay the competition.

Adele won all six categories she was nominated for including "album of the year."

She performed for the first time since her vocal surgery. Although a little nervous, she had the best performance of the night.

Chris Brown had girls on Twitter wanting to give him the honor of [abusing] him anytime they want.

Really? Seeing him dance on boxes, not even bothering to lip synch, and all this while wearing tight jeans is enough to make you feel uncomfortable that you would allow him to "Ike Turner" you?

I am really concerned with this generation.

While we are on Ike Turner, who told Rihanna that her Anna Mae Bullock (Tina Turner) hair is a good look for her? But I digress.

She actually had one of her best award show performances that night. She actually moved and did not look stiffer than a cardboard box.



Though, she did lose me when she did her duet with Coldplay.

Katy Perry performed her "forget you Russell Brand" song resembling a cross between a smurfette and a superhero.

Nicki Minaj had people around the world wondering if they should pray or throw holy water at their television. Nicki walked the red carpet

with a man dressed as the pope.

If that wasn't crazy enough, she performed an exorcism while performing her new song, "Roman Holiday".

I don't know what was worse; her failed attempt of creating a performance that would be as controversial and entertaining as Lady Gaga or the extremely horrible song that she performed.

It should be noted that her creative director is former Lady Gaga creative director, Laurie Ann Gibson.

Now, everybody is speculating on what happened to Whitney Houston.

She was captured leaving Kelly Price's event Thursday with what appeared to be blood running down her leg.

People are now saying that it was wine.

Now at that same event, Houston had a little altercation with X-Factor contestant Stacy Fran-

cis over Ray J.

The situation was diffused because Ray J. told Houston that Stacy was family.

Houston jumped on stage and sang "Jesus Loves Me" to Kelly Price.

Friday, Houston stopped by singers Brandy and Monica's rehearsal for Clive Davis's annual pre-Grammy party.

Houston handed Brandy a note which she has declined to give details about.

Sources say she and some friends partied heavily Friday night at the hotel. Houston was said to be especially loud and boisterous by people at the hotel.

Houston's mother, Cissy Houston, and her cousin, Dionne Warwick, said Houston seemed fine before her death. Houston spoke with her daughter 25-30 minutes before she died.

Music legend, in her own right, Chaka Kahn is upset with

Clive Davis for still having his pre-Grammy party at the Beverly Hilton while Houston's body was still in the hotel.

Houston's daughter, Bobbi Kristina, is under the watchful eye of family members after having a panic attack and being rushed to Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles.

Houston's funeral will be Saturday at New Hope Baptist Church in Newark, N.J. where she sang in the choir.

The funeral is invite only.

Houston is a legend no matter how she lived or how she died.

Let's remember her for the music and not her demons.

Time to wash out the cups! As always, come on back, you hear because I will be serving tea that is guaranteed to be hot!

C.O.R.E offers group caving, backpacking

Shaundi McDaniel
Staff Writer
sjmcdaniel@valdosta.edu

VSU's Center for Outdoor Recreational Experience, or "CORE" program, has become creative with a wide variety of interesting projects that give students adventurous activities like lead climbing class, canoe battleship, cosmic climbing, Providence Canyon backpacking, caving and overnight camping.

Core is known for instructing groups about the outdoors, leadership skills and exciting ventures.

There is a rental center for students to rent equipment such as canoes, kayaks, camping gear, snorkel wear and more.

The rock climbing wall located in the Student Recreation

Center welcomes beginners and experienced climbers.

The next lead climbing class will be held Feb. 28, so don't be afraid to stop by the climbing wall for more information.

The climbing instructors will be glad to offer you assistance on rock climbing. There are also routes for beginners and experts to meet the comfort of the climber as well as available group sessions.

Many VSU students enjoy the recreational experiences that CORE offers.

"Cosmic climbing turned out to be a great experience and a lot of fun," VSU student, Amber Robinson said. "The lighting against the rock wall gave extra effects that created a fascinating impression."

Also offered, Providence Canyon backpacking is a class

solely for women, and gives a camping experience like no other. Tent camping in the Canyon is a great way for groups to bond.

An upcoming overnight excursion to Florida Camping & Cave Tour is scheduled Saturday to Sunday at the Florida Caverns State Park. Don't be afraid to join the refreshing, revitalizing camping experience.

For a small fee, trip costs include transportation from VSU's campus, camping fees and equipment that may be needed.

CORE is located on the ground floor of Sustella Parking Deck.

For general information or about pricing contact Galen Martin at 229-245-2360 or gmartin@valdosta.edu.

Upcoming C.O.R.E Events

Overnight Florida Camping & Cave Tour

Location: Florida Caverns State Park
Date: February 18 - 19
Cost: Student: \$33 / Faculty & Staff: \$43

CORE Sky Diving Adventure

March 3
Come feel the thrill and take the dive with us!

Road Trip West

March 10 - 18
Cost: \$400
Come join in on an adventure of a lifetime as we travel to the Grand Canyon and explore the Carlsband Caverns! Then a final stop at Las Vegas!

Anclote-Key Sit in Kayak

Date: February 25 -26
Cost: Student: \$30 / Faculty & Staff: \$40



Student Activity Fee Budget Request Forms

AVAILABLE NOW!

Those registered student organizations wishing to request Student Activity Fee Funding for the 2012-2013 school year may pick up Budget Forms from the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Office, Student Union third floor.

Please call 333-5941 with any questions and ask for Andrea Butler.

The deadline to submit Budget Request Forms is **NOON**

Friday, March 9

to the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Office

third floor of the Student Union. Budget hearings take place Wednesday, April 4, 2012 and Thursday, April 5, 2012



TIME IS MONEY!

Smitty's

Package Store
923 Baytree Rd.
333-0344

Jack Daniels 750ml \$19.99

Smirnoff Vodka 750ml \$11.99

Jäger 750ml \$19.99

Your Tailgating Headquarters

Great Prices Great Selection

Closest To Campus!
Open Sunday: 1pm - 7pm

Please Be Safe and Drink Responsibly

Pizza Quick

A Carry-Out Pizzeria

14" Large Pepperoni \$5.99

7" One-topping Personal \$1.99

Be sure to find us on **Facebook, Twitter,** and [pizzaquickpizza.com!](http://pizzaquickpizza.com)

Hours
Sun-Thur...11A-10P
Fri-Sat...11A-11P

Toppings

Pepperoni, Beef, Italian Sausage, Ham, Chicken, Mushrooms, Onion, Green Peppers, Banana Peppers, Pineapple, Jalapeno, Black Olives

\$.50 per extra topping for personals
\$1.00 per extra topping for large

Specialty Pizzas

\$7.99 Large
\$2.99 Personal

Buffalo Chicken, Chicken Alfredo, Bacon Cheddar Ranch, BBQ Chicken, Jalapeno Taco, Cinnamon Apple

Side Items

Bread Sticks.....\$2.24
(1 marinara Included)

Cheese Sticks.....\$2.99
(1 marinara included)

Cinnamon Sticks.....\$2.49
(1 icing cup included)

Chicken Wings.....\$5.99/10pc
(Medium, Mild, X hot, BBQ and Teriyaki)
Blue Cheese or Ranch on the side

Soft Drinks
12oz Can.....\$.60
2-Liter bottles.....\$1.79

14" Supreme...\$10.99
14" Meats.....\$9.99
14" Veggie.....\$8.99

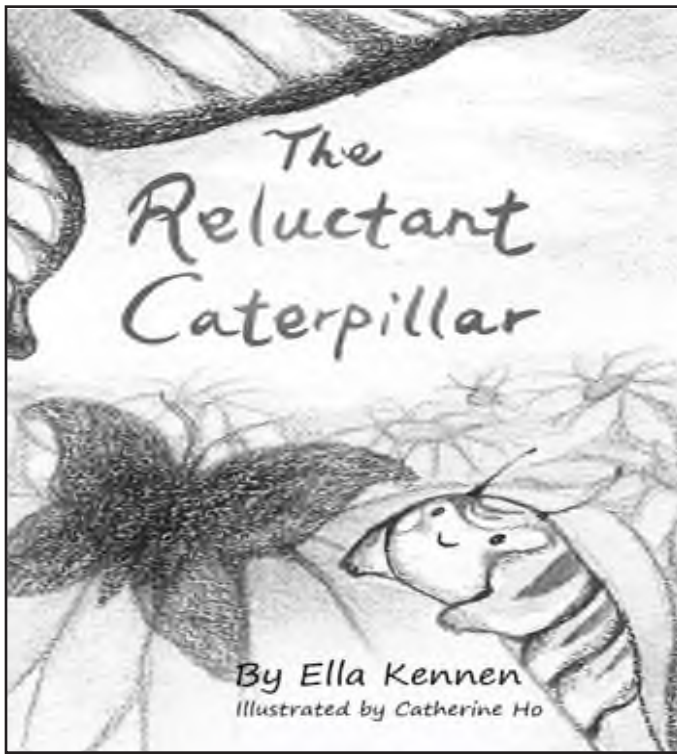
Valdosta
3262 Inner Perimeter Rd. Suite A
(229) 671-1188

Remerton
1337 L Baytree Rd.
(229) 247-8474

Tallahassee
1705 Apalachee Pkwy
(850) 656-1952

Tifton
191 Virginia Avenue
(229) 387-9044

VSU student enters children's book contest



Ariel Felton
Features Editor
arfelton@valdosta.edu

Caterpillars, robots, witches and green goo. These are just a few subjects of the children's books entered in the MeeGenius Author Challenge.

Contestants submitted manuscripts to MeeGenius in September. One of these authors is VSU public administration major, Estela Kennen.

"... part of my impetus for writing for kids was to be able to have some downtime from the mountains of reading and of academic writing," said Kennen. MeeGenius is a reading app specializing in children's books.

The app includes features such as audio playback and word highlighting to make reading enjoyable for kids.

Both aspiring and published authors were allowed to compete in the Author Challenge.

Manuscripts went through three different rounds of judging before making it to the finalists round. Kennen advanced through a field of nearly 400 contestants to reach the final 13.

Finalists had their books professionally edited and illustrated, then put on the MeeGenius web-

site.

Now it's up to the readers.

The public has until Feb. 21 to vote for their favorite book and winners will be announced March 7.

The grand prize winner will receive a publishing contract, \$1,500 and a MeeGenius library for the school of their choice.

Three runners-up will win publishing contracts and a \$500 cash prize.

Kennen's entry, "The Reluctant Caterpillar," is about a caterpillar named Elliot who enjoys

being a pupa so much, he decides to never leave. The book is illustrated by Catherine Ho.

Kennen's school of choice was Pioneer Bilingual Elementary of Lafayette, Colo.

Other manuscripts include "Poison Apple Pie" by Jennifer Young, about a young witch looking for a new job; and "All Bears Need Love" by Tanya Valentine, a story about zoo animals learning to accept a newcomer.

To vote for your favorite, visit meegenius.com.

Estela Kennen, VSU public administration major, is a finalist in the MeeGenius Author Challenge for her work, "The Reluctant Caterpillar."

Don't forget to check out more features on the web, including Spec Tech with Steven Sester!

Sudoku Answers

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 |
| 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 1 |
| 9 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 6 |
| 4 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 2 |
| 2 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 5 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 |

Free Tickets

100 FREE ALL-TOURNAMENT PASSES TO THE 2012 GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS MARCH 1-4 AT THE ARENA IN NICEVILLE, FLORIDA

The passes are available in the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Office located on the 3rd floor of the Student Union Monday, February 20th at 9AM.

MUST SHOW VSU STUDENT ID. LIMIT 1 TICKET PER STUDENT. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

Gadget sick? The doctor will fix!

Your phone have a broken screen? Is your game system freezing or your tablet just not working? Does your laptop have a virus? Bring it to the doctor! He can fix it!

Smartphone Repair

iPad & Tablet Repair

iPod Repair

Laptop Repair

Game Console Repair

1703 Norman Drive, Suite D • Valdosta, GA
(229) 244-3900 • www.igadgetdoctor.com

ATTENTION STUDENTS WHO PLAN TO LIVE ON CAMPUS NEXT YEAR

Reclaim process for current Centennial residents only--February 20 from 9am - 4pm, February 21 from 10am - 2pm, & February 22 from 4pm - 7pm, 2012 in Centennial Hall Classroom. Students who currently live in Centennial Hall will be able to reclaim their space if both students in the two bedroom or two of the four students in a four bedroom want to reclaim it.

Room Selection for the 2012-2013 school year is March 5 - March 7, 2012 in the Student Union Ballroom C.

Please check the Housing web site at <http://housing.valdosta.edu> for more details on both the Reclaim process and Room Selection. Please review the schedule listed below to find out what day and time you can participate.

| TIME | MONDAY (3-5-12) | TUESDAY (3-6-12) | WEDNESDAY (3-7-12) |
|---------------------|---|--|---|
| 10:00 am - 12:30 pm | Undergraduates who have completed 60 hours or more & graduate students, & have a 3.25 GPA or higher | All undergraduates who have completed 22 - 59 hours | Undergraduates who have completed 21 hours or less, & have a 2.5 GPA or higher |
| 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm | All undergraduates who have completed 60 hours or more & graduate students | Undergraduates who have completed 21 hours or less, and have a 3.5 GPA or higher | All Undergraduates who have completed 21 hours or less |
| 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm | Undergraduates who have completed 22 - 59 hours, and have a 3.25 GPA or higher | All Undergraduates who have completed 21 hours or less & have a 3.25 GPA or higher | Participation is open to all current VSU students including students that do not live on campus |
| 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm | Undergraduates who have completed 22 - 59 hours & have a 2.75 GPA or higher | Undergraduates who have completed 21 hours or less & have a 3.0 GPA or higher | |

*Each time slot is for current residence hall students only (including pulling in roommates), except the last slot on Wednesday.

**GPA = Cumulative GPA

Lin, Lin, Lin

No one could have predicted the "linsanity" that would overtake the entire world of sports when Jeremy Lin hopped off the bench to fill in for injured Carmelo Anthony in the Knicks line-up.

This "inspirational" story has transcended the scope of the Knicks, basketball and sports all together. In just seven games, Lin has become a world superstar and role model for young athletes across the globe.

I will admit that I am not a huge basketball fan, but Lin's story is the ultimate feel good sports moment that makes all sports so great. Here is a guy who was sleeping on a teammate's couch the night before his first start that began a 7-game win streak for a Knicks team that was struggling to produce in the W column.

STONEWALLED

with Chad Stone

In his first six starts as a Knick, Lin averaged 26.8 points per game (including a massive 38-point game versus Kobe and the Lakers) and 8.5 assists. In his first five starts alone, he scored 136 total points, the most any player has scored, in his first five starts since John Drew put 139 points on the board for the Atlanta Hawks in 1974-75.

Last night, Lin put up 10 points and 13 assists in a convincing 100-85 win over the Sacramento Kings in New York. The win brought the Knicks up to .500 record (15-15).

This "Linderella story" has created a boon in ticket sales in The Garden as well. Season ticket holders were struggling to sell their tickets for face value before Lin took to the court, and now tickets are going for as high as \$8,000 on stubhub.com

Even with the media tornado surrounding Lin and his achievements, he has stayed humble through it all. He is just excited to be on the court "lining" for New York.

In a recent interview, when asked about what he thinks of all the nicknames and puns associated with his name, he responded with a simple, "I like Jeremy."

Dynamic duo

Hartry and Ferguson hope to lead Lady Blazers to first GSC title in 28 years.

Eric Jackson
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
epjackson@valdosta.edu

Sczeny Hartry and Brittany Ferguson are pivotal leaders for the Lady Blazers basketball squad in their hunt for a Gulf South Conference title.

The Lady Blazers (18-5; 8-3 in conference) are currently battling for the second spot in the GSC behind No. 1 Delta State (10-1 in conference) and No. 2 Alabama-Huntsville (9-2 in conference). They hope to extend their winning streak at home against conference teams to 13 tonight.

The most recent victory came Saturday night when Hartry nailed a stunning buzzer beater shot to put them barely past the North Alabama Lions, 59-58.

Earlier this season, the senior guard became the 25th Lady Blazer to ever reach 1,000 points in their career, however she says winning a title would top all of her impressive accomplishments.

The Lady Blazers haven't won a GSC title in 28 seasons, but Hartry believes that her team will have a good chance this year, especially with other senior Brittany Ferguson having the best season of her career.

"She's a very important teammate," Hartry said. "She always plays great and with a lot of energy. If her shots not falling, she'll always find a way to keep involved in the game. She's just one of the key players on this team."

The two together are averaging close to 30 points a game and have become nightmares for opposing coaches.

Ferguson is second in the league in scoring (17.2) and rebounds (8.8) per game. She managed to pick up her conference-leading fifth player of the week award this week.

The Macon native, who was initially recruited by VSU in high school, decided to come join Coach Hill's regime after playing

for two years at Division I Western Carolina.

Ferguson, or "Ferg" as her teammates and coaches like to refer to her as, has become a known leader alongside Sczeny Hartry.

"It's just an honor to be on her [Hartry's] team and to be accepted," Ferguson said. "Where our value comes in is not so much in scoring points on the court, it's pretty much off the court and being able to hold leadership positions as captains."

The two captains agree that part of their success this season is because team chemistry has been so phenomenal.

"We all hang out, we all love each other, that's the one thing that's really different about other teams I've been on," Ferguson said. "We're really close."

Coach Hill has enjoyed seeing the two ladies mesh their personal skills together for the betterment of the team.

"I think they're pretty valuable, they bring us some scoring opportunity," Hill said. "I think Ferg brings some great chemistry pieces to the puzzle."

Coach Hill describes coaching a player their entire career as "priceless" and is grateful for the way Hartry has represented this program in her four seasons as a Lady Blazer.

"Our program has been a success because of her in it," Hill said. "We do not bring kids in to sit; we bring them in to play. For Scz coming in here with our scholarship limitations, she has fulfilled everything we have asked and more."

VSU has only lost one game when Hartry scores more than eight points so it will be vital for her and Player of the Year candidate Brittany Ferguson to be connecting on all cylinders in the GSC tournament a few weeks away. If not, it will likely lead to another early exit for the Lady Blazers again this year.

Ferguson is tied in the GSC in double-doubles (8) and Hartry leads the league in three pointers made.

The Lady Blazers will face West Alabama tonight in the P.E. Complex. It is the last home game of the season, and the Blazer's third to last game of the season. Tip-off is at 6 p.m.

Eat, Drink, & Be Happy

CJ's Pub & Pool

- Largest Chemistry Set to Make Drinks
- March Madness is coming
- Play-in Basketball Brackets

Happy Hour 4 - 7 Every Day!

Best Sports Bar in the South!

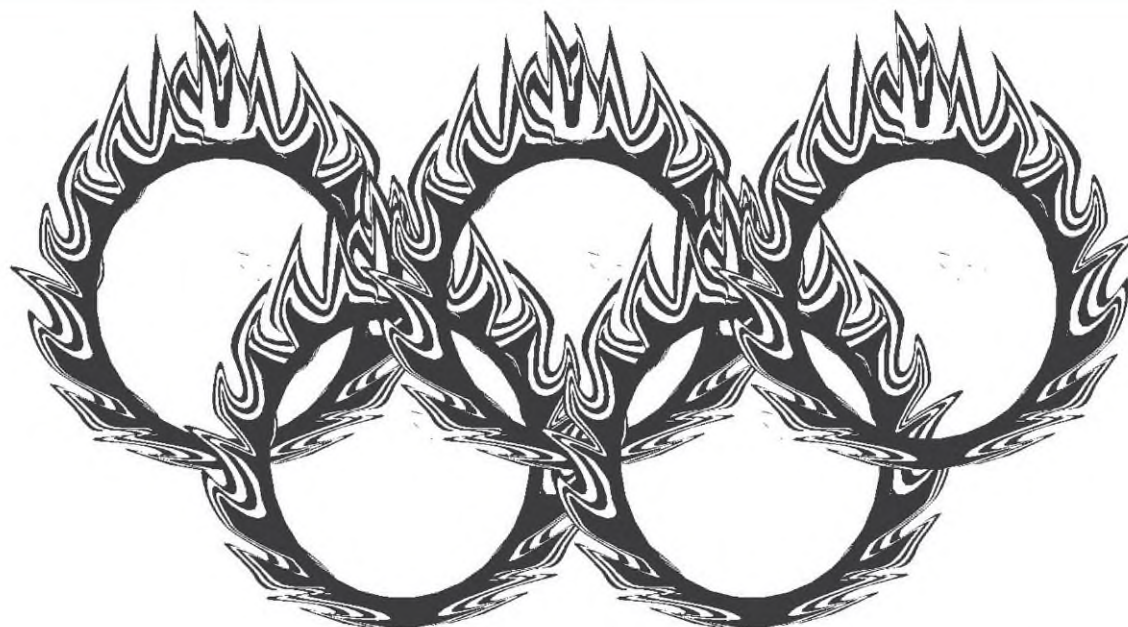
Kitchen Closes at 2:00am (12:00am Sunday)

1201 Baytree Road
2 2 9 . 3



50% Off On Pool for one hour

must present this coupon



THE LEADERSHIP GAMES

TRAIN PERFORM SUCCEED

VALDOSTA STATE

Saturday, Feb 25

Student Union

Check-in 8:45-9:15am / Union Lobby / Conference End Time 2:00pm

OPEN TO ALL VSU STUDENTS

Pre-registration not required, but preferred
email: bfbeasle@valdosta.edu

Continental Breakfast, Lunch, conference T-shirt and
LOTS of prizes throughout the day.
Guest Speaker: Dave "Gonzo" Kelly