



SERVING SINCE 1966

Money, football and smoking - big topics at SG debate

CLARK BARROW
 STAFF WRITER

As elections day draws closer, the student government held a debate for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates on April 2 in the Social Science lecture hall.

The presidential candidates are Punit Patel and Victor Ward along with vice-presidential candidates Amanda Barnes and Casey Parker; each who are running mates, respectively. Voting for the student government 2008/2009 elections was held on April 7 and 8.

The candidates were allowed to make opening statements, where they were given an opportunity to let students hear their platform and were then presented with questions by three panelists. The panelists included Emily Wells, from the office of Minority Student Retention Services, Kelly Blaine and Dave Dalton, student writers for the KSU Sentinel. Dr. Kerwin Swint, associate professor of political science, was moderator of the debate.

Parker, who has served as an officer in student government for two years, expressed a desire to make student government the avenue students can go through for issues they have on campus. Parker said that joining student government was the first thing she did at KSU and, as a result, is very familiar with its operation.

Parker, who supports bringing football to KSU, said that it would increase the value of a degree, because it would give the university a more recognizable name. She also stated that student money should not be used to pay for the cost of football, and that the university should ask alumni to support bringing football to KSU.

Patel said that ethical and leadership experience through his involvement in school organizations is what sets him apart

See **DEBATE**, page 2

Asian studies minor now offered

KATIE DWYER
 STAFF WRITER

Asian countries are growing fast. Companies and organizations are becoming more and more connected with Asian countries, including major players such as China, Japan, Korea, and India. Multinational corporations are competing to expand businesses and markets overseas. Learning about new cultures and becoming more diverse will allow students to be more desirable in the global workforce. KSU is now offering an Asian studies minor that takes 15 credit hours to complete. The classes cover crucial areas such as Asian languages, cultures, economics, history, geography, philosophy, arts, communication and politics.

"This is a great way to become globalized and to get involved in the growing Asian market," said Dr. Gao, Asian studies program coordinator.

Gao is from Shanghai, China and has been at KSU since 2004. She is excited for the new opportunities this minor will provide the students and all the global industries that will potentially hire our students with such a minor.

"The classes for the minor are a true representation of the Asian countries, and the professors from various colleges who are teaching these courses are experts in the field," Gao said. She has experienced the culture shock and diversity of the world. She came to the U.S. in 1998 and understands how much intercultural training will help students to become competitive in the global workforce.

The program will allow students to understand the Asian cultures and to communicate more effectively in the global economy. It is critical to know the various cultural norms so that you will not offend anyone from a different background. Dr. Heeman Kim, an assistant professor of communication, is from Korea and has been with the university since 2007.

"This minor will help students be more competent communicators with the Asian cultures, Multinational companies want people with the expertise in Asian studies to join them," Kim said.

KSU has recently been approved for a Confucius Institute that will be granted an annual funding of \$50,000-100,000 from the Chinese government. This institute will function as a central space for students to enhance their studies of the Chinese culture and language. Gao invites any interested KSU students to attend an upcoming Asian studies faculty brown bag business meeting. The Asian Studies affiliated professors will meet and share their research among each other. The meeting will be held in Willingham Hall room 226 at 12:30 p.m., on April 22.

There is a possibility that an Asian studies major will eventually be offered. There are also many opportunities to gain credits for the Asian studies minor through various study abroad programs offered in China, Japan, India and other locations. For more information, contact Dr. Gao via email at mgao@kennesaw.edu or the Interdisciplinary Program at 678-797-2431.

Shining star retires



Dr. Nancy King through the years: inset top-1980; inset bottom left-1981; inset bottom right-1982; far right-2008

Maria Yanovsky | The Sentinel

Dr. Nancy King, vice president of Student Success and Enrollment Services, retires after 35 years of service

SHELLY MIDDELTHON
 STAFF WRITER

She is a shining star. Her brilliance has illuminated the world of countless students by piercing through the darkness of confusion, fear, doubt and apathy that often hide the road to success. She will be sorely missed with students, faculty

and staff alike.

Dr. Nancy King, vice president for Student Success and Enrollment Services and professor of English at KSU, is retiring in just a few short weeks after 35 years of service and an endless list of achievements and contributions.

"Dr. King has done wonderful things for KSU throughout

her many years of service," said Dr. Daniel S. Papp, president of KSU. "Much of our achievement in Student Success and Enrollment Services is a direct result of Nancy's brilliant mind, dedication, and hard work."

The recognition and gratitude for her dedication and hard work extend beyond the realm of the university. King recently

received the extraordinary honor of being crowned with the Shining Star award by the Georgia State Legislature for her many years of exceptionally distinguished achievements. The Shining Star award is presented to outstanding University System of Georgia employees

See **STAR**, page 2

KSU holds Trailblazers Leadership Program for disabled youth

KELLY BLAINE
 STAFF WRITER

BlazeSports kicked off its Trailblazers Youth Leadership Training Program on March 28 at KSU. The training program aims to teach young people with disabilities, ages 13 and up, leadership skills that will help them be more successful in their education and careers down the road.

According to the BlazeSport staff, young people that grow up with disabilities may not develop the essential social skills necessary to secure employment down the road.

"Young people that participate in sports were exhibiting substantial leadership qualities," said BlazeSports Executive Director Carol Mushett Johnson. "However, we found that young people with disabilities were not getting the opportunity to develop leadership skills outside the sport environment. This program helps them learn to apply these leadership characteristics into their daily lives."

Trailblazers teaches vital skills such as communication, goal setting, conflict resolution, problem solving, self-awareness, self-advocacy, self-determination, pre-vocational skills and healthy lifestyle development. The program opened with a two-day retreat on campus and will be followed by three interactive workshops held once a month, with a graduation ceremony June 14.

According to Dr. Nancy Ward, an experienced educator and youth development expert, KSU has long been committed to leadership training and has an established



Photo courtesy of BlazeSports

Carol Mushett Johnson [left] presents a leadership certificate to Tara Wright.

relationship with Blaze Sports.

"KSU is very wheelchair-accessible and the staff is extremely accommodating if problems arise," Ward said. "KSU provides a significant piece of a bigger project that enables these young people to pursue their vocational dreams."

In addition to the Trailblazers Leadership Program, BlazeSports provides sports training, competitions, summer camps, leadership training and recreational opportunities for youth and adults who use wheelchairs, have a visual impairment, amputation or a neurological disability such as cerebral palsy.

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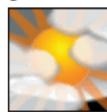
Weekly weather



WEDNESDAY
 HIGH 72°
 LOW 55°



SATURDAY
 HIGH 70°
 LOW 44°



THURSDAY
 HIGH 77°
 LOW 59°



SUNDAY
 HIGH 60°
 LOW 42°



FRIDAY
 HIGH 76°
 LOW 55°



MONDAY
 HIGH 61°
 LOW 44°

Around campus

What: KSU Opera Theater: "The Yeomen of the Guard"
 When: April 10-12, 8 p.m., April 13, 3 p.m.
 Where: Bailey Performance Center

What: Softball v. Lipscomb
 When: April 11, 2 p.m.
 Where: Bailey Park

What: Baseball v. UAB
 When: April 15, 6 p.m.
 Where: Stillwell Stadium

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for their contributions, leadership, and achievements within their respective universities.

The honor is well deserved as King's achievements are enough to boggle the mind. Holding a B.A. in English and Psychology from Mercer University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in English from Georgia State University, King is credited with helping grow KSU into the third largest university in Georgia through her many years of leadership.

King has served as associate vice president in Student Affairs, director of the CAPS Center, coordinator of the New Student Experience program, and president of the National Academic Advising Association. She has also served on and chaired many committees including the National Advisory Board for The Golden Key Honor Society, where she is the chartering advisor of the KSU chapter.

Some of her national recognitions include receiving the first-ever Outstanding Advisor of the Year award at the 1998 Golden Key International Conference, the Virginia N. Gordon Award for Excellence in the Field of Advising in 2000, the service to NACA Award from the National Academic Advising Association, the First-Year Student Advocate recognition from the National First-Year

Conference, and the esteemed honor of being a Woman of Achievement by the Northwest Georgia YWCA in 2006.

An expert speaker who has published and presented seminars in the fields of academic advising, freshman seminar programs, and collaborations between academic and student affairs, King has used her knowledge and expertise not only for the benefit of KSU, but also for other universities across the country and overseas.

In 2004, King served as a faculty member of the Oxford Round Table in Oxford, England and in March of 2007 King took a group of students from the KSU student leadership development program to the University of Cape Coast in Ghana.

"I am a humanitarian at heart and I've always believed that to whom much is given much is expected," said King. "The experience in Ghana was overwhelming to some of the students who had never seen so much poverty. Their eyes were opened to the opportunities they have with their own education and they were able to come away understanding the power of giving. If you've got a lot to start with you need to be giving something back. If you're not giving back, then how can you reach your fullest potential?" King said.

Helping students reach their potential has always been one of King's primary goals. "I think the thing I have enjoyed most about this job is that I have been in a position to help students," said King. "I couldn't always wave a magic wand and fix things, but many times I could offer assistance. I also was able to use those teachable moments to help students grow in times when they felt the most discouraged. I started my career at KSU teaching in the English department and I've never felt that I left teaching - it's just been in a different venue."

The desires to teach and encourage growth have fueled the light King has continued to radiate during her tenure, and although she is retiring, students will continue to benefit from the wisdom she has accrued over a life time.

"I won't be leaving completely," said King. "I'll be here part-time focusing on enrollment services, student leadership, advising, and finishing the NCAA certification process. I would not be nearly as excited about retirement if I were leaving KSU totally. This university, after all these years, has truly been an extended family for me. And speaking of family, I am very much looking forward to spending more time with my family, especially my six grandchildren!"

• DEBATE from front page

from his contender. Patel, who currently serves as president of the African American Student Alliance and chief of staff for the student government, has worked as a resident assistant at University Village for three years.

On the issue of student fees, Patel, while not for an increase, understands that bringing a football team to the college would warrant an increase. Patel cited a recent survey where more than 50 percent of students said they were willing to pay an increase for the acquisition of a football team for the university. Patel said that the students have spoken and want football, and as president he would work with the administration and athletic department to bring football to KSU as soon as possible.

Ward, who currently is the secretary of Kappa Sigma and President of Order of Omega and has served as a senator in the Coles College of Business, said that it is the student government's job to make students aware of the opportunities at KSU. Ward said he wanted to continue the traditions of past presidents by supporting programs that are running perfectly and help programs that are struggling. Ward said that the student government's role is to let students know KSU has a lot more to offer than just a piece of paper.

Ward stated that while the student government does not have the power to change student fees, they can work with organizations who do have the power to reduce them, such as asking for sponsorship from alumni and from local organizations.

Ward also said that the university should look at where the money is being spent and, if possible, spend more efficiently. Ward said that disclosing to students what the fees are being used for might ease some of the tension, because students could see where their money is going.

Barnes, who is currently secretary of technology for SGA and advocacy chair for the Mexican American Student Alliance, said in her opening statement that she deeply cares about the interests of students and that KSU needs positive representation and principled leaders.

On the issue of funding for KSU, Barnes, who has previous experience lobbying the state legislature and has given testimony at the Board of Regents, said she would continue to lobby these groups. Barnes said she would be willing to give up her time and lobby before the Board of Regents on behalf of the Friends of KSU petition.

All of the candidates did not support an outright ban of smoking on campus, but they all wanted students, faculty and staff to respect smoking restricted areas and were in favor of stricter enforcement of smoking in the designated areas. Parker and Barnes suggested that sheltered areas be built in designated smoking areas, so that smokers don't have to impinge upon the space of non-smokers when it is raining.

Current president of student government and serving as election chair for the elections, Tracy Carter, said she was not endorsing a particular candidate for president in order to allow the election process to flow smoothly.

Seventh Annual GURP conference continues

LAUREN RICE
STAFF WRITER

Students from several colleges and universities assembled at KSU on Saturday, April 5 to attend the 7th Annual Georgia Undergraduate Research in Psychology Conference held by the department of psychology. The conference created a chance for attendees to display research findings, honor a keynote speaker and unite with psychology majors from different institutions, as well as observe analyses conducted by other undergraduates.

Dr. Daniel Rogers, conference coordinator and KSU assistant professor of psychology, summarized the conference. "The department of psychology created the conference in 2002 in order to promote undergraduate research by providing a forum for students to present their work. Although KSU students are usually well-represented, given that they

are familiar with the conference and don't have to travel, we typically have students from colleges and universities around the Southeast who both attend and present. GURP offers undergraduate students a chance to showcase their work, learn about other students' research, and gain experience that is valuable when applying to graduate school and seeking employment."

Attendees were allocated time to transition from poster to poster, granting students the opportunity to exhibit projects focusing on clinical, developmental, experimental, industrial-organizational, physiological, teaching and social psychology. The poster and paper sessions served as opportunities for participants to engage with each other and discover new research methods which Dr. Rich Vengroff, dean of humanities and social sciences at KSU, believes is critical. He stated that "learning

quality research skills are the top priority. Many participants have discussed with me plans to expand their research, which I consider first rate. The methods and skills used in this research will be retained forever and I applaud all efforts."

Dual paper sessions transpired throughout the course of the conference providing time for representatives to display their work using Powerpoint presentations. The paper sessions allowed the individuals to illustrate intellect and comprehension of the conducted studies.

A considerable number of students representing KSU displayed studies at the conference, including Ashley Bohn, Ian Bonser, Breanna Brown, Jonathon Campbell, Kristy Carter, Kathy Huang, Terrence Jorgensen, Ashley Mobley, Beth Moore-Headley, Neil Morelli, Michele Price, Diana Santamaria, Marissa Spino, Carol Wagner and Sarah White.

Forum on the Mexican labor migration

MIGUEL SEPULVEDA
STAFF WRITER

Noted scholar and author of "Guest Workers or Colonized Labor?: Mexican Labor Migration to the United States," Gilbert Gonzalez, presented his views on Mexican labor migration on April 3, and documented U.S. labor history amid the migration on April 4.

Gonzalez, a professor of social science and director of the Labor Studies Program at the University of California-Irvine, offered his position on Mexican migration as not just a problem for Mexico, but as a transnational problem with U.S. policy as the catalyst.

"I want people to understand that the United States is an empire,

and it has an effect on the Mexican economy. It is a very complex topic," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez argued Mexican migration is a result of displacement due to U.S. policies such as the U.S. labor contract system and the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"You can't explain migration apart from American capital as a foundation," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez described the Mexican migration as unique and different from other migrations that have occurred in the U.S. in that it is primarily a migration of labor, and Mexican immigrants are both "accessible and disposable" to U.S. industry. Students attending the forum found

the information presented interesting and important.

"It is important you have an understanding of migration. In the business world, our biggest service providers are immigrant workers," said senior English major, Jennifer Prescott.

Senior English education major Zaquie Singleton said the talk gave her a better understanding of migrants.

"It's important to me because I plan to teach English as a second language," she said.

The talks were sponsored by KSU's Shaw Chair of Business and Economic History, the American Studies Program and the A.L. Burruss Institute of Public Service and Research.

Kennesaw State has over 42,000 ears.
Here's a chance to be heard.

The KSU Student Media Board is currently accepting applications for the following:

OWL RADIO GENERAL MANAGER Position Description & Application:
http://www.kennesaw.edu/student_life/owlradiogm.html

OWL RADIO PROGRAM DIRECTOR Position Description & Application:
http://www.kennesaw.edu/student_life/owlradiopd.html

Position Requirements:

- Candidates must be an enrolled KSU student with an adjusted GPA of at least 2.5
- Have completed at least one semester with a KSU student media organization, or equivalent
- Be willing to complete training as assigned
- Have strong communication skills and ability to motivate staff
- Maintain office hours
- Be willing to work closely with the student media advisor, advisors, and student media board
- OWL Radio is a newcomer to KSU's student media and a work in progress. The station will require hard work and flexibility.
- OWL Radio is very early in the budgeting process. We have applied for a budget from student activity fees, but have not yet been approved. While we are seeking to give the General Manager and Program Director a small monthly stipend, at this time it is not guaranteed. Please do not apply if you must receive payment or a stipend. All positions may apply for internship/academic credit.
- The term of these positions is one year, July 1 through the following June 30.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, April 16, 2008, 5 p.m.

For more information, email ebonza@kennesaw.edu or call 770-499-3083.



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OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

Let's meet at Starbucks and discuss killing capitalism

"Kill capitalism before it kills you." That was the headline of many fliers posted around campus and around the Social Science building. It was followed by facts on income inequality and certain readings that should be read like Marx and Engels (although I applaud whoever added John Locke).

Socialism means government ownership (instead of private) of the means of production. It has been implemented in many different ways. The Soviet Union used central planning (instead of market forces: supply and demand) to "plan" their economy, and Great Britain and much of Europe nationalized many of their large industries after World War II. The latter being dubbed a "mixed" economy.

With the collapse of the Berlin

Wall, many figured that communism and socialism would die out. Before the wall fell, many prominent economists and intellectuals also believed the Soviet system to be a success. In 1981, Nobel Laureate and MIT professor of economics Paul Samuelson said, "It is a vulgar mistake to think that most people in Eastern Europe are miserable." Apparently abandoning their comfort, the East Germans

W e s t

Germany when the wall fell, and Solidarity risked their lives in Poland to get rid of the Soviet-supported Communists.

If Al Gore was talking about whether or not market economies are better than planned economies he would say, "the debate is over." The Twentieth century has seen capitalist countries achieve political and economic freedom. Why hasn't opening up to be more capitalist oriented (especially trade) killed China, Japan, South Korea, and Thailand as socialists would like you to believe? The fact of the matter is that free markets and trade have brought prosperity in terms of economic growth, employment and a higher standard of living than socialism.

During the 1980s in Britain, Margaret Thatcher took Britain down the path of privatization, away from the previously government-owned command economy. The coal industry was losing vast amounts of money and was barely surviving with \$1.3 billion of subsidies a year. Without privatization, the whole industry would have gone under and possibly taken the economy with it. As with many government-run industries, it was costly, inefficient and not observant of supply and demand.

Millions have difficulty getting a dentist in Britain. In fact, the BBC reported a story of a man pulling out

his own teeth because lines went for blocks. He used vodka and pliers. Perhaps Britain is tougher because of these lines.

In India in 1991, the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation had been open for 12 years. The only problem was the machinery that was bought for it when it opened never fit together. The workers had just been clocking in and not producing anything for 12 years.

In 2006, 17 percent of Canadians didn't have a primary care physician. Many had to wait for months for certain procedures and end up coming to the U.S. to get them.

In the mid Twentieth Century, the Soviet Union allowed a tiny portion of arable land for private farming plots. Although tiny in comparison to state and collective farms, they produced 25 percent of the meat and 50 percent of the potatoes. The Soviet economy worked well for the military-industrial complex and the government but did nothing for the standard of living for the average person.

If one is to look around the world now and find the poorest economies and places to live, many of them are or have been socialist countries. North Korea, Cuba and Venezuela are all economically struggling with a large block of their populations living in poverty. Venezuela is the best out of the three because of oil prices, but the economy is beginning to crack.

When Deng Xiaoping proposed market-based reforms to communist



KEVIN SCHMIDT
COLUMNIST

China he broke with Mao's tradition. "I have two choices," said Deng. "I can distribute poverty or I can distribute wealth."

Ronald Reagan described communism best in 1981. "We'll dismiss it as a sad, bizarre chapter in human history whose last pages are now being written." Only problem is, the socialists are stuck on the afterword of the book, refusing to close it for good. They cling to failed "voodoo economics" because of perceived injustice. Their once highly regarded and followed theories have sunk; it's only a matter of time before they go with them.

Until then, they can sit in Starbucks talking about Marxism and materialism. There's nothing like planning how to make the "workers of the world unite!" with a four dollar cup of coffee.

Good grades, involvement make all the difference

Columnist reflects on the things to know to make time in college the best it can be

Time flies when you're having fun, and I'll readily admit I've had my share of fun here at KSU. Like many of you, this is my last semester here; and as the days dwindle down, I have to confess to feeling few emotions about my impending graduation. I'm sure most of the other graduates are feeling a range of emotions, including excitement and nervousness. From here, we go on to the next stage of our lives, careers, graduate school, marriage, families and getting on with life. I don't fit into that as I'm obviously not a traditional student. I was out living life already when I got thrown a few curveballs, and now I'm here reinventing myself. Re-invention complete, it's time for me to go back out in the world with what I've learned here. But before I do that, I want to pass along a bit of what I've learned while here at KSU. Granted, this is free advice so it's probably worth what you paid for it...nothing. But, some of this is insider information that may make your life a little easier.

For starters, traffic and parking at KSU have always been bad and will only get worse. Accept it, embrace it and move on. We're a growing university so logic should tell you we're going to have more students and all which comes with that. It's not necessarily a bad thing, as the larger we become the more prestigious a diploma from KSU will be. Rather than fume about the parking, look at the positive side. If you park further away, you'll get more exercise and be in better health as a result. I knew too many cube-dwellers back in my corporate days that had packed on the pounds from being parked

in a chair all day and never had the free time to burn it off. You could spend 15 minutes circling the parking deck for the closest spot or just settle for what you can get and burn some extra calories. Heck, you might even get to class on time.

Be a part of the action. KSU has hundreds of organizations, yet you'd be surprised how few students ever bother to participate in any of them. Recruiters and interviewers are going to ask you what skills and experiences you bring to a position and, believe me, a person who has been actively involved in his or her community is a better person to hire. They bring a wider range of experiences and interactions that helps them to fit in better in the workplace than someone who's been uninvolved and unengaged. I'd served as president in a couple honor societies and there was nothing sadder than the rush of seniors at graduation who desperately wanted to join so they could wear cords and put their membership on a resume. We do take them as members even though the reality is they contribute nothing to the organization on campus and will likely contribute nothing to the national organization in the future. But what does it say about you as an individual when you're grabbing that honor on your way out the door? It's not something a recruiter or interviewer would ask you, per se (although they might), but one to ask yourself is if you're being honest. The reality is I've enjoyed the organizations I've been a part of at KSU. They've added a lot to my life, and by participating I feel like I've given back to the community.

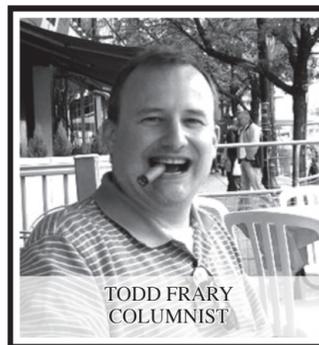
Take the CLEP and speed up the process. A lot of students slog their way through some really boring 1000 and 2000 level classes for reasons that escape me. The most common excuse I hear is "I don't want to pay to take the CLEP and HOPE pays for my classes." True on both counts, but do you REALLY want to sit through a whole semester of HIST 2111 or ENG 1101 when in less than two hours you could get the equivalent credit? The CLEP isn't even that expensive... just \$65.00 per exam, and you can CLEP up to 30 credit hours at KSU...that's two whole semesters you theoretically could cut off of your time here. So I ask you, why not at least try some? The worst thing that could happen is you don't pass it, and you still have to take the course. I CLEPped a number of courses which saved me from sitting through some courses I'd really rather not take. Stop by the CAPS Center to sign up, and make your life a lot easier.

If you have a GPA of 3.5 or higher you really ought to join the Honors Program for one big reason, but more on that in a moment. Most people won't join the Honors Program because you do have to complete honors courses, and that does add about a semester's worth on to your time here. But if you have a good GPA, you should have CLEPped anyhow as I pointed out above. Other than the very interesting courses in the Honors Program, there's a HUGE advantage many students do not consider: as a student in the Honor Program you do get priority registration for classes. No more waiting until day three or four of registra-

tion only to find the courses you wanted are already full; you're at the head of the line. I've not had to worry about getting the courses I've wanted or needed since I joined. Yeah...there's a trade off in having to take the extra honors courses, but on balance, for me, it's been worth it.

If you saw a stack of money sitting on the table, you'd snag it right? Don't lie, you know you would. You'd be surprised how many students at KSU pass that pile of money by each semester, and that pile of money is scholarships. And no, they're not just for students with financial need, but also for students who do well academically. And you'd not only be surprised at how few students even bother to apply for them but how easy it is to apply. Now granted, I've earned pretty good grades, which is half the battle, and use financial aid (a shock for some of you I'm sure), but a lot of students I know who aren't using financial aid have received scholarships as well. If you take the time to apply for scholarships you may or may not win one, but you'll never receive one if you don't apply. What's the worst that could happen?

As courses fill up and it's hard to get in one, don't be put off by trying to get an override. Many students never even bother to try or figure it's only for seniors, but it's not. As with my comment on scholarships you'll never get an override if you don't ask, and the worst that can happen is you're turned down. The ugly truth is if a class is capped at 30 students they'll allow another one to three students in. Let's face it, there are a lot of losers out there who enroll in a course and can't



TODD FRARY
COLUMNIST

cut it once the semester moves along and they drop it. Why should you suffer on account of some bonehead?

There's a theme here folks: if you want good things, then good grades certainly do help. It may be too late for some of you, but maybe not. If you're a mediocre student some of this isn't going to help, but if you have aspirations for better things then believe me, you CAN do it. A friend of mine joked "a C still gets a degree" and that certainly is true. Don't fall into the vicious circle so many students do, complaining they don't have enough time, that something's too complicated and so on. You didn't get here on charm, good looks and a winning personality; you did it through hard work. I did it, and so can you. As I get ready to move across and off the stage, I can only hope some of you may act on this advice. Life at KSU really is good if you take the time to enjoy it-- be one of the students who does.

2004-05 National Newspaper Pacemaker Award



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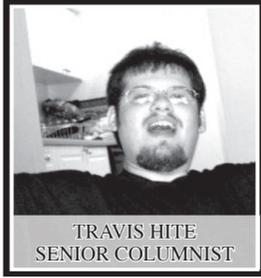
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Art or Entertainment?

Who decides what is valuable to culture and society?

With every generation there is a new media to blame on the problems of our youths. Be it jazz, comic books, cartoons, rap or video games, there has always been a voice of the morally opposed that lambasts the genre for what it lacks and the destruction of innocence. Yet, I have issues with anyone deriding anything that culminated in publications like Alan Moore's "Miracleman" or Thelonus Monk's "Eronel," works I hold very close to my heart. So why is it that people look down on these new forms of media entertainment? The only way you can look down on a media in such a way is to believe that it is not on the same levels of other forms of art, but that only brings up the often debated question, what exactly is art? This is a debate that isn't going to be solved by some guy scribbling ideas for a college newspaper, but I have two cents lying around that I'm more than willing to throw in.

First, let's consider definition. Though there is no solid definition (as it is something indefinable and consistently evolving), for the sake of meaning in this article let's consider three categories: entertainment, art, and high art. Entertainment is pretty simple; anything that causes simple enjoyment can be entertainment. But not all entertainment is necessarily healthy.



TRAVIS HITE
SENIOR COLUMNIST

I have no doubt that the Roman gladiatorial combat was pretty entertaining, but I'm not going to suggest we have people fight tigers. However, there's nothing inherently wrong with entertainment purely for the sake of entertainment. American Idol is pure entertainment, and even if it's doing nothing for the intelligence of the average American, it's still making millions of people happy.

It takes more to push something from entertainment to art. When one approaches the world of art, one looks at a representation of the nature of the world and the nature of humans. Art is an attempt by humans to understand their world and bring new emotions that resonate within the viewer. While entertainment is merely amusing, art should bring about stronger emotions in the viewer and give him a new level of appreciation. If this concept holds, then I've certainly listened to rap songs

that can be considered art. I've said it before, but I would consider Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five's "The Message" to be art. The song delivers a reverberating look at what it is to be poor, and to see through eyes I would have never seen through before. It certainly caused at least one white boy from the suburbs to question his worldview.

Finally, we reach a plateau of high or fine art. This is a level where the art serves its own ends and nothing more. Though it should do everything art does, it should go so far as to cause a change within us. It should not be visceral, but inspirational.

I take, as an example, Jason Rohrer's "Gravitation". Though the game is simple, an explanation that would encompass the nuances of the game would be lengthy. Suffice it to say, after I was finished with the game it would not leave my mind. Though the game is only eight minutes long, I spent several days simply considering the ramifications of his message. The more I thought about it, the more I saw in it, leading further into itself. I am unsure whether I would classify it as high art, but it strives. What I found interesting about the idea of a game as art is the iceberg principle in writing. When writing, an author often has an entire world in his

head, but to keep the focus of the audience he can only show the audience a slice of his world, the proverbial tip of the iceberg. However, a game can allow the inclusion of so much more of the world, while still leaving creative control in the overall direction of the creator. This could, in the right hands, serve to increase the level of depth of a work rather than detracting from it.

The fact is, though, without entertainment we would never have art. It takes something to draw the would-be artist into a medium of expression. All mediums must start in some way as a simple form of entertainment and mature as a potential art form. In all mediums, if one looks to the mainstream, you are more likely to find mostly entertainment. Entertainment is easy to produce and does not take much effort to engage an audience, because it is pleasing. Art, however, takes work. It is because of this huge amount of work that it takes that entertainment should never be squashed as a plaything, but something that can potentially further us, and lead us to forms of creativity we may have never previously known. If something is controversial and questions our morals, perhaps it is better to question why it offends our morals and learn to understand it-- rather than turn a blind eye.

Driving Miss Economy

In a magnanimous attempt by the government to stimulate the economy, millions of taxpayers can expect to receive a rebate check of \$300 to \$1500 dollars next month. The cynic in me says, this must be an election year. The realist in me says, to paraphrase the commercial, it's my money and I want it now! Turns out the cynic and the realist are both correct.

It is my money because the government does not earn its own money. The Feds acquire their money either by printing more (thereby devaluing the dollar thus contributing to inflation and slowing the economy), or taking it from us by threat prison via income taxes. Returning our money to us and calling it "rebate" is not really increasing the amount of money in the economy; it is just shifting it from the left pocket to the right pocket. As far as taxpayers are concerned this is not a rebate, it is more like the mugger who stole our wallet returning it and saying, "Sorry, this is yours."

To stimulate the economy, the best thing the Feds could do is create permanent tax cuts. These tax cuts would necessitate cuts in federal spending, and that is where our gluttonous government, collectivists, and statist rage into apoplectic dementia and babble delirium drabble like "We can't cut government spending, it's an investment in our future." Puh-lease. Government spending is always a demand for payment on you or your children's future. Regardless of what the president and all the little would-be presidents say, or how many plans they pontificate, the government cannot grow an economy. Only the private sector has that ability.

Think of our market economy as a car in which you, the consumer, are driving. When comfortable with the road, you control the economy with a judicious application of gas (your demand for goods and services) and brake (your need to save for future purchases) and everything runs the way it should. Now, if we want to imagine the economy under



TONY SARRECCHIA
COLUMNIST

control of the government, step out of the car and let a crash test dummy drive.

Other than permanent tax cuts, the best thing the feds can do about the economy is what they do best, nothing. To extend the car metaphor, imagine you are driving along at good clip when suddenly a brick wall appears in front of you. That brick wall is government economic interference at its worst (think the Jimmy Carter years or the Soviet Union just before its collapse). At its best, government economic interference is still bad. Instead of a nice smooth blacktop on which to drive, think of an old decrepit road littered with trash and potholes. To avoid damage, you and the rest of the consumers must drive slowly, performing driving acrobatics just to keep you and your car safe. The roads may become so infested and dilapidated that you opt to stay home. The economy slows and then grinds to a stop. Those government-created potholes are confiscatory taxes, corporate welfare, bailouts, protectionism, trade barriers, subsidies and a slow moving semi-trailer full of regulations and restrictions. For a glaring example of the Fed's economic shrewdness one only need consider the Social Security system. That Ponzi scheme is expected to bankrupt around the year 2042.

Will a rebate stimulate the economy? Maybe (but it is still our money and we want it now). Permanent solutions will only arrive when you contact your representative and say—"about that economic policy thing, fix the roads, shut up and let me drive."

Awkward Silence

"Lies From the Demented, Cross-eyed Midgets Under Your Bed"

Brett Frank

myspace.com/chowderofmonkey



THE OWL FORUM

Now

Someone just asked me
What will I do now
With my new degree
My answer is "wow"

This trip was so long
I admit to fear
Was I maybe wrong
Selfish to be here

But a loving god
My family and friends
Did not find it odd
Around all the bends

Their support was strong
Kind words, a gentle touch
Carried me along
Came to mean so much

Now looking ahead
Since I understand
I will go as led
While holding his hand

Just trusting his will
Not knowing his plan
Trying to fulfill
Be the best I can.

So ask me today
What will I do now
With every new day
I still answer "wow"

For the graduate
Gayle Olive Wheeler
2008

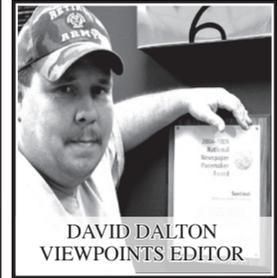
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THE MONKEY WRENCH

Why on Earth should we celebrate Earth Day?



DAVID DALTON
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

read my multiple tirades about Spaceship Earth, so you're familiar with my position. How do you promote environmentalism by ripping 200 plus tons of rock out of the ground and then shipping it inter-hemisphere? I won't recap any further because that's not really the focus of today's exploration.

The monkey wrench with environmentalists isn't their arguments but their tone. Any married man—or woman, I'm sure—can tell you that when the tone is wrong, the ears just stop working. When I hear the shrill whine of Father Earth Al Gore spooling up, I just change the channel. The overblown, worst-case scenario, doomsday arguments have desensitized most of us to the point that it's just a background hum. Any decent Comp I professor will caution you from over-stating your case, and yet somehow that sense of restraint doesn't apply to eco-wing-nut-whackos.

Folks, and this message is only for the wing-nuts, if you're trying to save the Earth, the most effective thing you could do to help is to shut up! Stop trying to scare people into doing what you think is the right thing. Focus on finding ways that regular folks like me can reduce our ecological footprints. The compact fluorescent bulbs have worked wonders in my house! Present some honest evidence, and let people come to their own conclusions. Truth can't be taught, it can only be realized. Until you realize that, you're just contributing to global warming with all your hot air.

I've been fortunate enough to avoid campus for the past few weeks. Our parking woes and smoking problems faded in my memory, but after just a few minutes Monday it all came rushing back.

Maybe it was the fervent driver who insisted that it was okay for her to go the wrong way in the parking deck. Maybe it was the omnipresent litter and trash pelting me on the breeze. Hell, maybe it was an over abundance of blood in my caffeine system. Whatever it was, I was in a fine, fine mood when I came across a sign touting KSU's impending Earth Day celebration.

Now, I think it's great to conserve the environment. I have personally planted dozens of trees, and I try to make sure my family uses as little energy as possible without lowering our quality of life. I enjoy nature and try to make sure that any place I go is better when I leave than when I got there. I hate to admit it, but I really am a tree-hugger at heart.

Why do I hate to admit it you ask? Well, I'll tell you. See, the real problem with environmentalism is all the damned environmentalists. You've

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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ABLE to lend a helping hand

MARIA YANOVSKY
ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

Advocate, Boldness, Leadership and empowerment. These powerful words make up the acronym that is associated with the heavily involved student organization that deals with students with disabilities. The group and its members works for people with disabilities, to heighten awareness of those students and their needs.

ABLE works to help students, and in an effort to provide assistance for 18-year-old Matt Elliot, ABLE will host "Believe in a Star," a fund raiser on April 12 in the Student Center University Rooms. Matt is a local osteosarcoma patient, and the fund raiser will help give back to the places that have helped him. "[Matt] has aspirations of being a motivational speaker one day for sarcoma," says James Carter, president of ABLE.

The fund raiser will consist of a dinner, silent auction and raffle. \$15 will cover admission to the dinner, and \$5 for students with a valid KSU I.D. At the door, tickets will be \$25. The dinner will start at 6pm, followed by the keynote speaker and silent auction.

The silent auction and raffle will include prizes from businesses in the area, and a grand prize, a laptop. The proceeds from this event will go toward a good cause: half will assist Matt directly, while the other half will go to the Make a Wish Foundation, where kids from Georgia and Alabama will share in the benefits.

Coach Tony Ingle has agreed to be the keynote speaker at the event. "Life is not bad; it just gets a little tough at times," Coach Ingle says from experience with personal struggles and obstacles.

This fund raiser should empower attendees, to push beyond limits and "take a closer look at their own personal and professional circumstances and unleash the power that lies within," says James. Students should see that they can achieve what seems to be impossible.

To join ABLE, all students are welcome, with no prerequisites or requirements. For tickets or more information on the club, contact the event coordinator and president of ABLE, James Carter. Jamescarter61@comcast.net.

Sociology conference explores suburban foes

K'LIA HAYES
STAFF WRITER

On the weekend of April 4, the sociology department hosted a conference creatively titled Suburban Conference. During the weekend, students, faculty, and other people who are prominent in sociology were in attendance as they learned and debated about suburban and environmental problems. There were several panel discussions involving human trafficking, the elimination of urban low-income housing, and on the KSU Undergraduate Research Panel, students discussed suburban sociology. Keynote speakers were in abundance, including a lecture from Dr. Thomas Scott from the history department.

I was fortunate to attend one session where we watched "The End of Suburbia... Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream," an eye-opening film about scarce oil supplies and the birth of what we now know as the suburbs. The film featured several scholars, researchers, and authors discussing how cheap oil has brought on the end of the American way of life. People began to think of suburban life as the "antidote to city life," and former citizens of the city flocked to these brand new developments beginning in the 1920s.

The whole idea behind the development of suburban areas was to let people experience country life instead of a city's smell and fast way of living. Throughout the film, researchers called suburban life a "false promise," meaning that there are really no country amenities, and all suburban life contributes to is the demise of Earth's resources. It also challenges policy makers to come up with many plans for road construction so residents can get from their homes to schools, work, shopping and just normal everyday life activities.

Cheap oil was mentioned throughout the majority of the film, and scholars noted that suburbs would not exist if it weren't for this delicate resource. Because driving is a must when living on the outskirts of a city, gas prices continue to rise and the oil supply is rapidly declining. People also fear that the end of this way of life is soon to come, so helpful solutions were also mentioned. New Urbanization is the construction of nice homes situated closely together with stores and other town amenities that are in walking distance from the other. We could also find ways of going about our everyday activities without the substantial use of cars.

Whatever the solution may be, we should find one as soon as possible because I don't want to live in a house in the winter without heat, or be able to enjoy simple things like lights and television.

"Congratulations Uncle Adeolu"



Photos by Audra Pagano | The Sentinel



Foreign language clubs unite to celebrate diversity and educate others about culture

AUDRA PAGANO
STAFF WRITER

Every year the foreign language clubs of KSU play host elementary and middle school students in Georgia. It is named "Foreign Language Day" because of the celebration of languages and cultures. This year marked the second annual Foreign Language Day. Clubs that were a part of this year's event included the German club, the Chinese club, the Italian club, the French club, Colombian Student Association at Kennesaw, Foreign Language Education, and the Mexican American Student Alliance. There is no charge to attend, but donations to the host clubs are accepted.

Organizing this year's Foreign Language Day were Elizabeth Vazquez (Italian Club President), Kayna Wilbur (Chinese Club President), Sam Sensing (German Club President), Maria Mejia (representing NSCS), and Susanne Kelley (German Club Advisor). Preparing for the event included promotion, the budget decorations, decorations, foods and music. For promotion, it was decided that all of the attending clubs would hang banners in each building on the KSU campus. Also, all foreign language classes would be given information about Foreign Language Day and professors would invite their students to attend the event. All foreign language students that attended Foreign Language Day were given extra credit towards their foreign language course.

Families attended with their school-age chil-

dren. People entered the Fish Bowl and signed their name on a big banner. The children were then given a "passport" to have signed at each of the different club tables as if they were traveling to the respective cultures.

At the table for the Chinese Club, children had the opportunity to create their own "hanging lantern". Children would choose two Chinese letters to be drawn onto two sides of their "lantern" and would design the rest of it themselves. Another unique part of the Chinese table was a bowl containing a variety of Chinese candies.

Kayna Wilbur, the Chinese Club President, said this about Foreign Language Day: "It's a lot of fun and it's good because people have a lot of prior misconceptions [about cultures]."

The main attraction of the German Club table was the game "Concentration," which is a memory game. Also available for children to pick up at this table were coloring pages of a girl or boy saying a few words in German.

The Italian Club table had a poster-board

of Italian words and their English translations. Crafts at the table included mask making and designing stained glass paper.

Italian Club President Elizabeth Vazquez had this to say when asked what she thought of this year's Foreign Language Day: "I think it was more organized than last year, but just as successful."

Next to the Italian table was an area for face painting. Many of the young kids enjoyed getting flags of different cultures painted on their faces or wrists.

The French table had one craft that drew the attention of young girls in particular. At this table girls, as well as boys, came to make necklaces and bracelets. Children could also learn the French words for certain colors. Pick-up coloring pages at this table included the French flag and the Eiffel tower.

The Spanish Club table had beautifully designed tissue paper decorations. Here children designed their own flag.

The last table was the Colombian Club table. The big craft that this club offered was making flowers out of tissue paper. This table had a decorative Colombian flag hanging from the front of it.

One big hit of the day was a table of different cultural foods available for everyone to taste. Another success came a few hours into the festivities. Everyone was brought right outside the Fish Bowl and all the children took turns hitting at a Piñata.

Foreign Language Day is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together and enjoy different cultures. It will continue to be a success in the years to come.

This year marked the second annual Foreign Language Day. Clubs that were a part of this year's event included the German club, the Chinese club, the Italian club, the French club, Colombian Student Association at Kennesaw, Foreign Language Education, and the Mexican American Student Alliance.

[FLASHBACK] REVIEW

“Midnight Express”

1970’s classic in retrospect

DVD REVIEW

DANIEL SINGLETON
STAFF WRITER

“Midnight Express” is a missed opportunity. It’s got all the elements of a great movie – an interesting setting (Turkish prison), a likeable protagonist (nice, young American kid), interesting dramatic conflict (having your life taken away by foreigners), even an easy-to-hate villain in the form of a guard with a penchant for beatings. The story practically writes itself, but incredibly, director Alan Parker and writer Oliver Stone screw it up! They take these interesting pieces and present them in ways that are either boring, flat, or completely ineffective. It’s a prime example of a good story poorly told.

The movie’s biggest mistake is in the presentation of the prison. In order for this story about an American trapped in a brutal Turkish prison to work, the audience has to feel that this is hell on earth, the last place any of us would ever want to be. But we never feel that way; the prison is too tame. We see prisoners in large, multi-person cells, with freedom to move about as they please. They even play volleyball! Nothing is very horrific or disturbing – the most extreme thing that happens is that every once in a while, someone gets stabbed in the ass (“Turkish revenge” – no, I’m not making it up). Yes, there are beatings, but they happen so infrequently (and fairly: this is the only prison movie I’ve seen where the guards don’t take their aggression out on innocent prisoners) that they might as well not happen at all (and that aggressive guard never gets that big, dramatic low angle introduction he so obviously requires). Instead of seeing the worst place imaginable, we see something more in tune with a Howard Johnson’s – less a living hell than a crappy hotel that they just can’t leave.

This is Parker’s fault, since, as the director, it’s his job to give us images that will create an oppres-

sive impression in our minds (even if it means a little exaggeration), but it’s equally Stone’s fault for giving us such a cautious protagonist. Parker can’t show us anything extreme because Billy Hayes, the young American imprisoned in the Turkish prison, never puts himself in situations that will elicit extreme consequences. He plays it safe. Of course, there’s a good reason for that – at the beginning of the movie, Billy only has a four year sentence – staying out of trouble and just riding it out is the smart thing to do. It isn’t until after his sentence is commuted to thirty years that he starts taking risks, letting us see some really horrible things (like a man dragged away kicking and screaming for trying to escape).

I think that’s part of the reason it took me so long to connect to Billy. He’s likeable enough, I suppose, it’s just that he doesn’t care. And how can you care about or root for someone with no drive, no goals, and no motivation? You can’t. (And without a connection to the characters, scenes that should be powerful, like Billy’s reunion with his father, lose all meaning and turn into a series of connected shots). But then the judges commute his sentence from four years to thirty, prompting him to deliver one of the most powerful, emotionally charged speeches I’ve seen in a long time. “Mister Prosecutor,” he cries, “I just wish you could stand right here where I’m standing and feel what that feels like, cause then you’d know something you don’t – mercy.” It’s such a powerful speech that just typing the words is restirring all those emotions, ranging from anger to sadness, from pity to disgust, from loss to accomplishment. From that point on, I was with Billy.

It’s a shame that the rest of the movie isn’t nearly as powerful as that scene. It’s usually Parker’s fault; scenes that should have a lot of power fall flat because of the way Parker shoots and edits them. For instance, the scene where Billy attacks another

inmate for turning in his friend is edited choppy and runs too long; it ends up looking silly when it should be one of the most powerful scenes in the movie. That isn’t to say that there aren’t good scenes because there are (the aforementioned courtroom scene is one). But they’re good in spite of Parker’s direction, not because of it.

Now is probably a good time to talk about what is easily the single worst scene I’ve seen in a movie in a long, long time. It’s the gay love scene between Billy and another prisoner. It’s awkward, it’s out of place and it adds nothing to the movie. It’s so bad that even a movie like “The Godfather” wouldn’t recover from its inclusion (Although I have to wonder about Oliver Stone – homosexuality seems to show up an awful lot in his movies, most notably in “JFK” and “Alexander”. Hiding something Ollie?).

I realize that I’m in the minority on this movie (it was nominated for six Oscars, including Best Picture, losing to “The Deer Hunter”, another overrated movie, and winning two, including one for Stone’s screenplay). Maybe I’ve just been spoiled on thirty years of more intense movies, but this was just too toned down to be as effective as everyone says it is. Maybe the problem was that they didn’t know if they were making a drama or a documentary. Some parts are extremely exaggerated, almost to the point of parody (see note below), while others, like the portrait of the prison, seem more realistic, as if to make up for all the exaggeration. I say they should have just said “the hell with it” and abandoned the facts all together. No, it wouldn’t

The story of Billy Hayes’ unbelievable courage... It couldn’t happen...but it did!



A STORY OF TRIUMPH!
Midnight Express

COLUMBIA PICTURES Presents A CASABLANCA FILMWORKS Production of An ALAN PARKER Film “MIDNIGHT EXPRESS” Executive Producer PETER GUBER Screenplay by OLIVER STONE Produced by ALAN MARSHALL and DAVID PUTNAM Directed by ALAN PARKER Music by GEORGE MORICER Based on the true story of Billy Hayes from the book “Midnight Express” by BILLY HAYES and WILLIAM HORRER Original sound track album available from CASABLANCA RECORD AND FILMWORKS

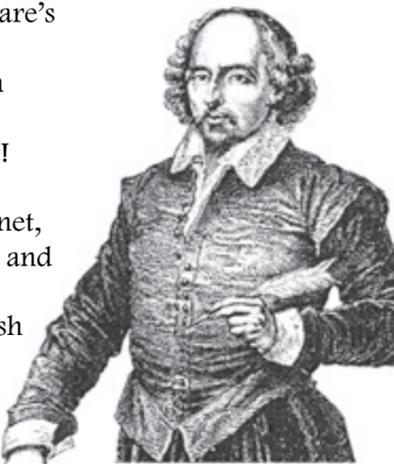
have been realistic, but this is a movie. The goal is emotion, not facts.

Note: There’s been a lot of controversy over the portrayal of Turks (they’re all such one-dimensionally vile that it borders on racism). In fact, Oliver Stone and the real Billy Hayes have since come out and apologized, saying that, if they were to do it again, they would have toned it down. But this is the kind of story that needs a caricature villain. Toned down just wouldn’t work.

*Shakespeare’s 444th
Birthday Celebration
April 23, 2008
Kennesaw State University,
Legacy Gazebo**

Sign up to read one of Shakespeare’s sonnets on April 23!
All readers receive a custom KSU Shakespeare Birthday Celebration T-shirt!

If you would like to read a sonnet, please complete the form below and return to
Dr. Keith Botelho in the English Department or email him at kbotelho@kennesaw.edu



*Rain Location: student center Leadership Rms.

10:00am	Welcome Remarks, Dr. Keith Botelho
10:00-11:00am	Sonnets 1-40
11:00-12:00pm	Sonnets 41-80
12:00-1:00	Shakespeare Cake Cutting, Scenes and Monologues by actors from Atlanta’s own Shakespeare Tavern, Trivia and Giveaways and More!
1:00-2:00pm	Sonnets 81-120
2:00-3:00pm	Sonnets 121-154

Yes! I would like to read a sonnet on April 23!

Name _____

Year of Graduation (if applicable) _____

Title and Department (if applicable) _____

Email Address _____

Sonnet Choice #1 _____

Sonnet Choice #2 _____

Sonnet Choice #3 _____

Please assign me any sonnet during the following timeframe: _____

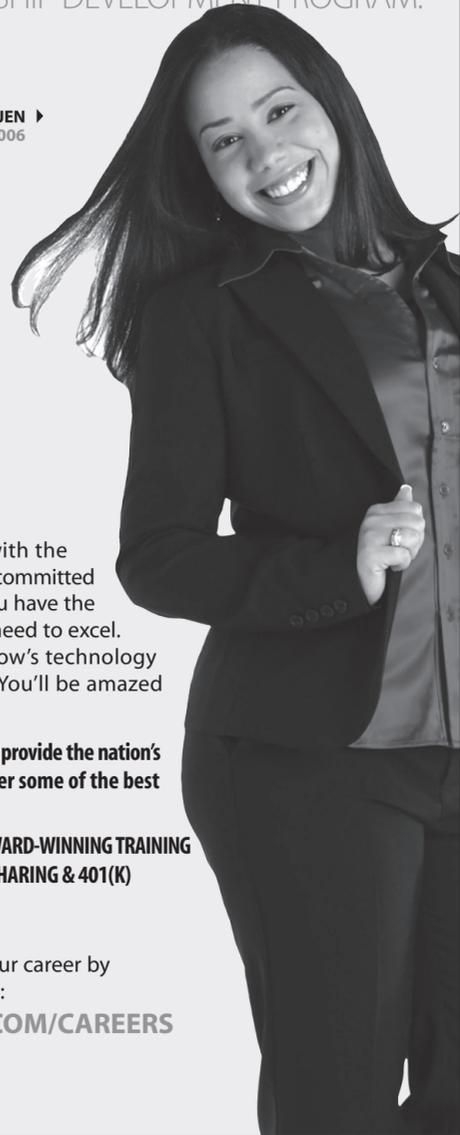
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90's Rock

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- Gin Blossoms- "Hey Jealousy"
- The Verve- "Bittersweet Symphony"
- The Black Crowes- "Hard to Handle"
- Stone Temple Pilots- "Interstate Love Song"
- R.E.M. "Man on the Moon"
- Live- "Lightening Crashes"
- Bloodhound Gang- "Fire Water Burn"
- Smashing Pumpkins- "Today"
- Cake "The Distance"
- Everclear- "Santa Monica"
- Bush- "Everything Zen"
- Third Eye Blind- "Semi-Charmed Life"
- Counting Crows- "Mr. Jones"
- The Cranberries- "Zombie"
- Alanis Morissette- "Ironic"
- Björk- "Bachelorette"
- Nirvana- "Rape Me"
- Oasis- "Wonderwall"

Saves the Day might be the best band ever

CD REVIEW

MATT LOGAN
STAFF WRITER

Full disclosure: Saves the Day are my favorite band of all time. It isn't without reason, though. When a band hits their tenth anniversary (as they did in 2008) and still sounds as urgent and excited as they did at their formation, something really magical must be happening. From album one to album seven, they've consistently reinvented themselves, written great pop-tinged punk songs, and played energetic live shows all across the world.

My love of Saves the Day started in high school after listening to their second album "Through Being Cool." I'd never heard of them when a friend put the album in his car stereo and turned it up. I was sold after the opening riff to "Banned from the Back Porch," but they didn't stop there. "Through Being Cool" is a rare album that encapsulates a time in your life perfectly and yet still manages to stay with you as you grow and mature. Lyrically, musically, sonically...this album personified pop-punk for a whole generation of kids who were discovering themselves and punk music for the first time.

But that was only the start. I barely had time to digest the album when Saves the Day's third full-length album "Stay What You Are" was released in 2001. "Stay What You Are" was a big departure from the pop-punk of TBC. Instead of bouncy, riff-heavy, power-pop, it was a more reserved, intricate album with macabre lyrics and a fuller sound. It still rocked, of course. And it was still awesome. It was commercially successful too, spawning a pair of singles, "At Your

Funeral" and "Freakish."

In 2003 their fourth album, "In Reverie," was released to average reviews and disappointing sales. To this day, I can't understand why. Easily one of the most ambitious records of this generation, "In Reverie" is an incredible album, full of psychedelic guitar lines, big, driving drums, Chris Conley's most interesting lyrics yet, and some of the funkiest bass playing this side of Bootsy Collins. It marked another sharp contrast with the pop-punk of TBC or the power-pop of SWYA, also continuing the trend of album-to-album reinvention.

Saves the Day released "Ups and Downs" in 2004. With B-sides, rarities, unreleased songs, and songs from compilations, "Ups and Downs" showcased the growth and change Saves the Day has gone through over their career, from raw Screaching Weasel-inspired punk to the live performance of fan-favorite "Jessie and My Whetstone."

Two years later "Sound the Alarm" came out and showed a grittier side of the band. The first part of a trilogy of albums, "Sound the Alarm" was followed by "Under the Boards" last year. "Under the Boards" again showed Saves the Day's penchant for change, with a mix of some of their heaviest and some of their most poppy songs to date.

With the third part of the trilogy, "Daybreak," scheduled to be released in 2008, a nationwide tour, and a pair of acoustic re-workings of old songs, Saves the Day are still rocking out.

They'll be in Atlanta on Friday, April 18th with Armor for Sleep, Set Your Goals, and Metro Station at the Masquerade. Mark your calendars and check them out if you get a chance.



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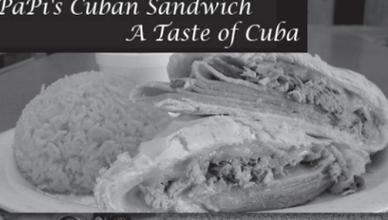
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[earthtalk]*

Seafood and development in an eco-friendly context

Dear EarthTalk: How can I find out which seafood to avoid if I am concerned about lessening my impact on the environment and avoiding consuming unhealthy pollutants?

Several decades ago a fish-centric diet was considered to be not only healthy but also environmentally friendly. But today those of us who eat a lot of fish may not be doing ourselves or the environment any favor. The two major concerns are overfishing and pollution.

Demand for low-calorie, protein-rich fish has grown tremendously alongside increases in world population. At the same time, the technologies employed for catching seafood have improved to the point that the commercial fishing industry has essentially stripped the ocean of its once teeming fish populations. One recent analysis concluded that only 10 percent of the large predatory fish that once roamed the world's oceans are left, due to overzealous sport and commercial fishing. Another study concluded that three-quarters of the world's fisheries are either fully fished or overfished.

Pollution from industrial, agricultural and other everyday activities like electricity generation and automobile driving has also taken a serious toll on the health of the remaining fish species. Scientists routinely find unsafe levels of mercury, PCBs, dioxins, pesticides and other harsh toxins in the fat, internal organs and even muscle tissue of many different kinds of fish. These contaminants are then passed on up the food chain to our dinner plates.

According to Seafood Watch, a project of the Monterey Bay Aquarium that works to educate the public about the seafood crisis, consumers can make a difference by getting educated so as to make smart choices about what seafood to avoid. Consumers can download and print out free Seafood Watch pocket guides to the "best choices" across six different regions of the U.S.—after all, what's abundant and sustainably harvested in your area may not be the same for someone across the country.

Another convenient way to get the low-down on the fish you may be contemplating buying at the grocer or a restaurant is to text "30644" with the message "FISH," followed by the name of the specific fish in question. In a few seconds, an automated response

will come back from the non-profit Blue Ocean Network's FishPhone service with information on the status of the fish in question—and alternatives, should Blue Ocean consider the fish an undesirable choice.

The basic skinny on fish consumption is that if you like it, you should eat it, but responsibly—that means in moderation and armed with the proper knowledge of which types of fish to buy and which to avoid.

For those looking to cut down on or eliminate seafood from their diets but still gain the health benefits of eating fish, plenty of alternatives exist. As most vegetarians know, beans, tofu and many nuts can be significant alternative sources of protein. And walnuts, flaxseed and hemp oil/seeds are all rich in the Omega-3 fatty acids common in many fish and thought to help ward off heart disease, cancer, macular degeneration (age-related blindness), arthritis and inflammatory disorders.

Dear EarthTalk: What makes those so-called "new urbanism" housing developments popping up around the U.S. more environmentally friendly than regular old suburban neighborhoods?

The husband-and-wife team of town planners Andrés Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk are typically credited as the founders of new urbanism, a style of community design that embraces mixed use (commercial and residential) development in pedestrian-friendly and green space-rich neighborhoods—much like the old neighborhoods many baby-boomers remember before suburban sprawl made us all slaves to our cars.

Duany and Plater-Zyberk formulated their new urbanism principles while living in one of the Victorian neighborhoods of New Haven, Connecticut while they attended graduate school in architecture at Yale. Their neighborhood included corner shops, front porches and a variety of attractive and well-designed housing and commercial structures—planting the seed of an idea that has now swept the U.S. and beyond.

The prototypical new urbanist community is Florida's Seaside, which Duany and Plater-Zyberk began designing in 1979 for the 80-acre coastal parcel's developer, Robert S. Davis. Their plan took the best elements of a handful of graceful south-

ern cities like Key West, Charleston and Savannah to create a community based on the tried-and-true concept of walkable, self-contained neighborhoods. Besides 300 homes, Seaside contains a school, a town hall, an open-air market, a tennis club, a tented amphitheater and a post office—everything anyone could ever need in a town, and all within a five minute walk.

According to the non-profit Smart Communities Network, Seaside works as a community because of its design: "Mandatory porches are set close enough to walkways to enable porch sitters and passersby to communicate without raising their voices.... The streets are all interconnected; creating a network that eliminates 'collector' routes and reduces congestion. Walkways crisscross the development to encourage walking and biking, while narrow streets serve to reduce traffic speed." Building fronts are a uniform distance from the curb and all streets are tree-lined to further the community's "sense of place."

Other examples of new urbanist communities include: Stapleton on the outskirts of Denver, Colorado; Seabrook on the southern coast of Washington State; Melrose Arch in Johannesburg, South Africa; Alta de Lisboa near Lisbon, Portugal; and Jakriborg in southern Sweden. Meanwhile, the idea has caught on in New Orleans, where developers are styling new communities in the wake of Hurricane Katrina based in part on the principles of new urbanism.

According to the website NewUrbanism.org, being green is central to the concept of new urbanism, where houses tend to be compact and on small lots. And many developers are incorporating green building design and alternative energy generation into their plans for these communities. Furthermore, proponents say that building densely settled, walkable communities instead of road-intensive suburban developments cuts down on the need to drive, thus further reducing the carbon footprint.

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: [EarthTalk, c/o The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881](mailto:EarthTalk@c/o/TheEnvironmentalMagazine,P.O.Box5098,Westport,CT06881); submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/ thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.



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Carl Zornes | The Sentinel

“Avenue Q”

features adult puppets at the Fox Theater

KIM HARLESS
STAFF WRITER

The Broadway musical “Avenue Q” rolled through Atlanta at the Fabulous Fox Theater March 25 through March 30, 2008. “Avenue Q” is not your typical Broadway musical. This musical gathers its fan base by its comical undertones. “Avenue Q” is made up of actors and puppets. There are three characters in the musical that are played by actors, and the rest of the characters are played by actors carrying around puppets the size of their upper-body.

While most people associate puppets with children, “Avenue Q” is not a puppet show that should be seen by children. The material covered in the musical is very much rated R. “Avenue Q” covers topics like sex, drinking, racism, and porn. Some of

the topics covered in this musical seem dauntingly serious, but “Avenue Q” finds a way to make light of them.

The musical is based around a puppet named Princeton who is a recent college graduate. It starts starts off with Princeton singing about how his college degree is useless. Shortly after, he moves into the duplexes of Avenue Q, managed by Gary Coleman, because he can't afford to live anywhere nicer. The musical follows Princeton as he falls in love with a monster that lives next door, and as he tries to find his purpose in life.

The acting in “Avenue Q” is superb. I imagine it would be very difficult to act while carrying around a puppet that is as big as your torso, but the actors of Avenue Q pull it off while making it look easy.

This musical is hilarious, and I would definitely recommend the people go see it the next time it comes to Atlanta.

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Strong pitching gives KSU the win



Freshman Bucky Smith steps up to the plate for KSU. The Owls beat ASU 9-3.

Monica Hines/The Sentinel

CAITLIN DINGLE
STAFF WRITER

The KSU Baseball team earned a 9-3 win over the Alabama State Hornets Apr. 1 at Stillwell Stadium. The Owls once again thrived with some tough defense along with timely offense, connecting twelve times for hits during the game. KSU had a dominant pitching duo on the afternoon with Adam Fine, who notched his first start for the team, and Brett Kennedy holding the Hornets to only three hits.

In the first inning ASU got out to a quick lead when they put a man on base by a throwing error, which was followed by a triple that

brought the Hornet's runner home. The Owls were fast to respond in the bottom of the first, scoring a total of three unearned runs. Jacob Robbins walked to start the inning and then ASU had a throwing error of their own which advanced Robbins to second. After the ASU pitcher walked Jay Morrow, Jace Whitmer was up to bat. On the very next pitch Whitmer blasted the ball deep to center field, clearing the fence for a three run homer, putting KSU on the board and ahead of ASU, 3-1.

The Owls sealed the deal in the third inning, scoring six runs. It started off by KSU capitalizing on a

Hornet error off a steal attempt by Jerome Wooley. The ball was thrown into center field past an empty second base. Wooley made it to second easily and Bishop, who was in scoring position scored a run making the score 4-1. Following that, the Hornets walked Drew Fowlkes and Josh Whitaker then singled to bring Wooley home. Curtis Van Wyck added to the score with a single that brought Fowlkes around the bases for the sixth run of the afternoon. A single by Ross Tendler loaded the bases for Robbins, who was walked bringing home the seventh run. The scoring rally was then finalized

with Smith who reached on a fielder's choice to score Van Wyck for the eighth run of the game for KSU and a Bishop single that brought Tendler home. That would be the last run scored for the Owls, putting the score at 9-1.

The Hornets tried to rally in the seventh with a pair of runs scored by a single and a bases-loaded walk. The Owls were able to get two fly outs to kill the rally and went on to the win.

"It's nice to see them put runs on the board early and watch the team play their game. They're a really talented group of guys," said Owl's athletic trainer Chris Archambeault.

Owls sweep Bucs

JUSTIN HOBDDAY
STAFF WRITER

Behind another strong pitching performance by Justin Freeman and a big day at the plate by Tyler Stubblefield, the Owls completed a three-game series sweep of ETSU. "The sweep gives us some needed momentum and gives us some confidence going forward," Coach Mike Sansing said after the game on Sunday. The Owls scored early and, by the end of the game, were able to put the game away winning by a score of 8-2.

Jacob Robbins lead-off the offensive day for the Owls by hitting a lead-off single in the first. After a walk, and sacrifice bunt by Ric Bishop, Robbins scored from third on Jay Morrow's groundout to second. The Owls added another run later in the first inning on Jace Whitmer's RBI single down the left field line.

The Owls added three more runs in the fourth inning. Tyler Stubblefield added on to his double in the second inning with a two RBI single up the middle. Drew Fowlkes and then Jerome Wooly both came around to score on Stubblefield's single after a sacrifice by Curtis Van Wyck. "Today was the best I've felt at the plate all year," said Stubblefield about his 3-for-3, 2 RBI day. Bucky Smith knocked in the third run in the inning for the Owls via a sacrifice fly-ball to right field.

In the seventh, Jace Whitmer hit his second RBI single of the game and the Owls capitalized on two

Buccaneer errors to add their final two runs in the eighth. Jacob Robbins reached on the first of these errors and was able to get his 50th career stolen base. This puts him only three behind the KSU record held by Joe Parks.

Justin Freeman improved his record to 3-3 on the season throwing 119 pitches through eight strong innings. "My slider was working well for me today," Freeman said about what he used to hold ETSU to two runs on nine hits, and record seven strikeouts.

Freeman got out of trouble in the first and second innings after the Bucs were able to put runners on first and second. The Buccaneers were only able to score twice, with both runs coming after Freeman's two walks on the day. Jacob Robbins' defense in center field came up huge in the eighth inning to keep the Bucs from scoring anymore runs. With one out and a runner on first, ETSU designated hitter Bart Roark hit a towering fly-ball to straight-away center. Robbins made a great over the shoulder catch at the base of the wall where the 400' mark is, ending the last threat by the Bucs. Bubba Blalock came on in the ninth recording three ground ball outs to close out the game.

The Owls hope to build on their five game win streak with a game at home on Apr. 8 against Presbyterian, and then a trip to South Carolina for one game at Presbyterian and a weekend series against conference foe USC Upstate.

Owls get swept in doubleheader



Courtesy of KSU women's tennis team

UNF and Jacksonville sweeps KSU in a rare women's tennis doubleheader

SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

The weather continued to wreak havoc on Kennesaw State's home schedule this weekend, forcing the women's tennis team to take on two of the Atlantic Sun Conference's top teams in a doubleheader on Sunday. The Owls dropped both matches in tough fashion, falling 5-2 to North Florida in the opener and 6-0 to Jacksonville in the night cap.

"I am very proud of the effort of the team today, from start to finish," said Kennesaw State head coach Brandon Padgett. "Each player fought hard, under very difficult circumstances that were unfortunately out of our control."

Mercedes Cobos returned to the Owls (5-11, 1-8) lineup for the first time in nearly a month, running her doubles winning streak, with partner Ayano Tanaka, to three matches after a thrilling 8-7 (9-7) defeat of Victoria Krook and Maria Melihova in No. 3 doubles. Cobos also earned one of the Owls two points in singles against UNF (11-10, 8-2), taking a shortened 7-5, 1-6 1-0 (13-11) decision from Carolina Melo at No. 6.

Paula Takara returned to her winning ways in the Owls loss to the Ospreys, coming back from a set down to defeat Krook 3-6, 6-3, 1-0 (10-8). The Owls senior finished the day with an 8-7 overall spring record and a 4-5 mark against A-Sun opponents.

"We were forced to play two matches today against two of the best teams in the conference, with a line-up that is not at full strength due to our myriad of injuries this season," added Padgett on the difficult circumstances facing his team. "I could not be happier with how hard the entire team tried today."

After rain pushed back their match two days, the Owls and Ospreys finally got things started at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning. UNF jumped out to the early lead, securing wins at No. 1 and No. 2 doubles to earn the match's first point.

Ina Durcakova and Vanessa Sanchez bested Karen Ammann and Caroline Page 8-2 at No. 2

before Natalia Sanchez and Melo sealed the doubles win by dropping Agatha Palider and Lindsay Dillon 8-4.

The top of the Owls lineup didn't fare as well as the bottom. Palider was swept 6-0, 6-0 at No. 1 while Tanaka had to retire, 2-6, 3-2 after taking the lead in the second set at No. 2. It marked the third-straight match that the freshman from Norcross has lost due to retirement in the second set.

Ammann and Baulis were also swept at No. 3 and No. 4 respectively. Ammann fell 3-6, 2-6 to Durcakova while Baulis lost 0-6, 1-6 to Melo for her first defeat of the season in the fourth position.

Without getting much time to rest, the Owls retook the court to face Jacksonville looking to split the doubleheader. Due to time constraints, the teams began the match with the singles competition as opposed to playing the doubles matches first.

Jacksonville (14-4, 8-1) took advantage of the tired and wounded Owls, who were playing without Cobos or Tanaka, in the second match. They swept all six matches to defeat KSU 6-0, making the doubles competition unnecessary.

Ammann, who was elevated to No. 2 singles due to Tanaka's injury, fell 0-6, 0-6 to Lena Willi. Palider's record at No. 1 dropped to 0-2 after her 1-6, 3-6 loss to Lina Xu.

Tatiana Soldatova defeated Takara 6-1, 6-0 at No. 3, Juliana Umeki downed Page 6-4, 6-3 at No. 4, Iva Jaresova dropped Lindsey Whalen 6-3, 6-0 at No. 5, and Fernando Carrero beat Dillon 6-0, 6-1 at No. 6.

The Owls will get no relief, as they are scheduled to take on Lipscomb at 3 p.m. on Monday in a makeup of a March match that was postponed by the rain.

"Lipscomb will mark the third match in 24 hours for us," concluded Padgett. "That's tough for any team to handle, regardless of their depth."

Kennesaw State, who is not eligible for post-season play, will wrap-up it's A-Sun season with a home match against in-state rival Mercer at 3 p.m. on Wednesday April 9 at the KSU Tennis Complex.

Unlike college football, college basketball settles matters on the court

JEFF MILLER
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

All the wondering is replaced by the wonder produced.

By teams like Western Kentucky and games like San Diego over Connecticut and players like Stephen Curry.

The NCAA basketball tournament doesn't ask, "What if?" It answers that question and all the others, settling things in a manner as obvious as the lighted digits on a scoreboard.

If this were college football, we'd be watching Kansas versus North Carolina in the BCS title game, while listening to John Calipari having to sell his Tigers and their convincing victory over UCLA in the Fiesta Bowl.

There is no nonsense here, at least once you get past all the idiots in the media, like Bob Knight.

No one cares that Memphis plays in a non-BCS conference. At this point and at 38-1, the Tigers could be straight from the WNBA and it wouldn't matter.

In a stunning approach, college basketball identifies its champ by playing college basketball. Those deserving of a title shot promote themselves with their play, not their ability to lure votes or make computers swoon.

That's why March Madness — even now, in the first week of April — always will be superior to the bowl season. It is 64 games pressed into three weeks, each result ending one team's season and potentially affecting every school still alive.

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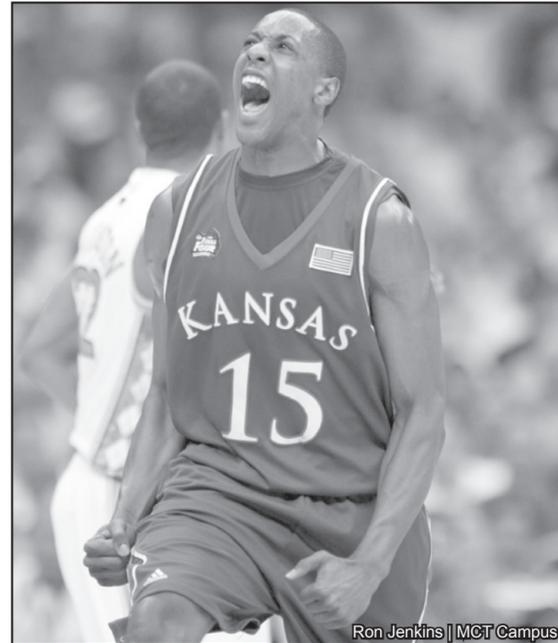
This event is so dynamic that, while eliminating so much mystery, it also can cause us to rethink things once considered certainties.

For example, after watching Memphis' backcourt make him look tiny Saturday, is Darren Collison really ready for something as rugged as the NBA?

The junior's two-point, five-turnover showing felt a lot like "He's a good college player, but..."

Collison wasn't just beaten; he was beaten down by the bigger Tigers. Even worse, he was defenseless at times, watching guards 5 inches taller and 40 pounds heavier blow by him to the basket.

And how about freshman Kevin Love, who has been considered to be long gone to the NBA as soon



Ron Jenkins | MCT Campus

as possible? One game isn't going to decide his future, which is good because Love's last game exposed him more than it highlighted him.

Had he made a couple of the three-point attempts that unluckily rattled out Saturday, his overall performance would have looked much better.

But there's no denying other moments, like in the first half, when Love powerfully turned with both hands squeezing the ball and still had it stripped away. Who knows when he last played in a big game and didn't clearly stand out?

"I love this team, this family, so this really hurts," Love said afterward. "I feel for this team and for Coach (Ben) Howland. This would be a tough way to end."

Neither Bruin was ready to announce his intentions after the game. But having experienced what they just experienced, both Collison and Love might have been thinking thoughts they'd previously dismissed.

These are the sorts of things that make this tournament intriguing. The drama happens on the court, with everyone watching, not inside an iMac sitting in a room filled with college presidents.

The NCAA Tournament is simply the most dramatic, poignant, passionate, heart-lifting, soul-crushing, palms-sweating, pants-wetting event in American

sports.

The NBA playoffs drag forever. The NHL playoffs outlast the ice, even in Ottawa. The NFL's Super Bowl has become more of an event, less of a game. Major League Baseball's October has way too much Tim McCarver.

The NCAA Tournament introduced us to Carmelo Anthony and gave us Michael Jordan's first real moment and the original Bird-vs.-Magic.

Now, it's giving us Derrick Rose and Chris Douglas-Roberts, the very reasons why UCLA is no longer participating. Given an opportunity by the system, both Memphis guards have seized that chance aggressively enough to turn their knuckles pale.

They smothered the Bruins' season and scrambled another UCLA Final Four. They were so good they made Howland's best team look overmatched.

It is a wonderful thing, the way college basketball has a playing field as level as the courts on which the games are staged. Once a team is in, it's on, and it's up to that team to respond.

What began as a play-in game featuring Mount St. Mary's and Coppin State, ends Monday night with two top seeds separating No. 1 from No. 2. One team will be screaming afterward, the other crying.

Stage is set for new generation of sports icons

DAVID J. NEAL
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Brett Favre retires. Polarizing Bob Knight walks away. Whether heroes or villains, Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens don't have jobs. The once-dominant Diesel has been sent to the desert to finish the gloaming of his career.

So the stage is further cleared for the next crisply named, cultural touchstone sporting icons, branded names that stand for greatness, fan adoration, movie roles and hosting Saturday Night Live. And there will be stars to fill that space on the stage, if not always in the way the 35-and-up crowd prefers.

"It's just changed," said Heat coach Pat Riley, an NBA player or coach for the past 41 years. "The attitude in society has changed. The attitude of a lot of the icons in sports have changed. It's about excess — to me, that's what I see more than anything else — and entitlement. And a lack of respect for authority. Unless it's modified. It's got to be modified authority. That's what I see across the board. Not just in basketball, but in all sports."

Chris Rodriguez, manager of Fort Lauderdale's Bud's Sports Cards & Collectibles, said, "NBA commentator and Hall of Fame player Charles Barkley put it best — I am not role model. Most of today's athletes don't feel like they're role models. They're there for their own personal thing. They don't see it as 'I'm representing baseball' or 'football' to the fans."

Each sport suffers a dry valley at some point, usually after the retirement of a supergiant. Usually, however, another wave of superstar manna falls to nourish the sport. Leading the way will be someone who will be touted someday as "the best ever" by those in their youth during his/her prime.

In his book *The Game*, Hall of Fame goalie Ken Dryden, generally considered one of the top five goalies ever, writes, "The golden age of sports, the golden age of anything, is the age of everyone's childhood. For me, the greatest goalies must always be Glenn Hall, Terry Sawchuk, Jacques Plante and Johnny Bower."

In many sports, the next wave isn't necessarily a new wave. Favre's retirement isn't so much a mark of change as it is a compliment to his durability that his career bled well into the next generation. Three league MVP awards, a Super Bowl title and one other Super Bowl appearance were on Favre's resume before Peyton Manning was drafted and while Tom Brady was still at the University of Michigan.

Neither losing his father nor becoming a father have prevented Tiger Woods from playing "Who's Your Daddy?" with the rest of the golfing world. Doing a Tiger maul on the women's tennis tour with a four-match win streak that stamps her as the best woman right now, 20-year-old Maria Sharapova also can be found in an eight-page *Ocean Drive* magazine spread this month. Venus and Serena — do we really need their last name? — might stand in Sharapova's way for another 10 years or just another 10 months, nobody knows.

The day after the Packers announced Favre's retirement, Cleveland's LeBron James dropped 50 on the Knicks. James, the Heat's Dwyane Wade and Denver's Carmelo Anthony — the NBA Class of 2003-04 ruling triumvirate — still are young and well on the way to giving the NBA its long desired successors to the Magic-Bird-Michael days.

"You don't really think about it like that every day," Wade said when asked if he grasps that he'll be spoken of someday the way people his age speak of seeing Michael Jordan.

"Sometimes, it smacks you, hits you and sets in," Wade said. "Just like I still watch the guys play, and now I'm playing the game. It seems like yesterday when I was young and I was watching my favorites and wishing I could go and catch the Chicago Bulls anywhere they were at. As a kid, we're very in tune with everything that's going on."

Anthony's suspensions and coaching clashes come close to casting him in the antihero role assumed last generation by Allen Iverson, coincidentally a current teammate. Though that garnered Iverson enough rebel popularity that trading card company Topps pursued him for years before signing him to an agreement in 2006, it limited his across-the-board appeal. Iverson and several others in his generation had too many rough edges to fit the Jordan-Woods template that corporate America most desires.

Others in Iverson's generation — Grant Hill, Penny Hardaway — sustained too many injuries. That certainly seems to be the only thing that can stop Minnesota rookie running back Adrian Peterson and Dallas quarterback Tony Romo.

Running backs with their easily understood rushing yards always have cache when it comes to iconhood unless they're spotlight-phobic (see: Hall of Famer Barry Sanders). Peterson's spectacular rookie season, including setting the NFL single-game rushing record, could be the start of a career that lifts him onto running back Rushmore with Walter Payton, Jim Brown and pre-indictment O.J. Simpson.

Or, Peterson's propensity for injury might kneecap him into being the next Billy Sims, another big, smoothly swift back out of Oklahoma. Sims' signature moves were imitated on sandlots everywhere even before Detroit took him No.1 overall in 1980. Just 60 games, 5,106 rushing yards and 2,072 receiving yards into what was becoming a Hall of Fame career, Sims tore up his knee. Now, he's just the second-best Detroit running back to wear No.20.

Right now, Brady shares current quarterback preeminence with Manning and celebrity gossip outlets with Romo.

Romo plays for Dallas, the NFL's glamour franchise when combining television ratings,

merchandising and fan feeling (devotion or detestation). His knack for ad-libbed throws off wild scrambles seems to channel Favre. Also, he's good-looking and of Mexican descent, which is why he was featured in the NFL's appeals to the growing U.S. Hispanic population.

Similarly well set up — already a heartthrob, oodles of raw athletic talent, a high-profile team — is 24-year-old Boston outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury. Ellsbury hit .438 in the World Series, showed great defensive ability, and steals bases with near Olympic sprinter's speed. Women held up signs during the Red Sox World Series parade asking to mother Ellsbury's children.

Pittsburgh Penguins center Sidney Crosby, hailed as "The Next Wayne Gretzky" since late puberty, already has his first scoring title and league MVP and captains the NHL's best young team. Much as the NHL pushes the 20-year-old Crosby and Washington's 22-year-old Alexander Ovechkin, this year's scoring leader, as its Magic vs. Bird rivalry — and on the ice, both are phenomenal players leading entertaining teams — numbers could prevent Crosby from equaling Gretzky in sports stature.

Gretzky first drew attention with gigantic statistics that obliterated previous NHL records so dramatically he couldn't be ignored. Now, those numbers — 92 goals in a season, four 200-point seasons — loom far over Crosby and Ovechkin. Crosby won last year's scoring title with 120 points. Ovechkin now leads with 95 points.

There's only one certainty about who The Next Ones will be in any sport — with today's technology, you'll be able to see them more often in more places than their predecessors. Today's larger-than-life athletes fit in your DVR, laptop or the palm of your hand.

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