



SERVING SINCE 1966

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Goodbye seniors

Around campus

What: New Works and Ideas: The Collision
When: Tues. March 24 - Thurs. March 26, 8 p.m.; Sat. March 28, 8 p.m.; Sun. March 29, 2 p.m.
Where: Studio Theater, Wilson Building
Details: \$5; May not be suitable for all audiences

What: Islamic Judaic Social
When: Wed. March 25, 12:30 - 2 p.m.
Where: Campus Green
Details: Free authentic Middle Eastern cuisine and drinks

What: KSU Opera: "The Merry Wives of Windsor"
When: Thurs. March 26 - Sat. March 28, 8 p.m. and Sun. March 29, 3 p.m.
Where: Performance Hall, Bailey Performance Center
Details: \$15

What: 5th Annual Conference on Peace and Religion
When: Fri. March 27, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Where: Social Science Building
Details: \$30/person (free to first 50 students registered). To register: <http://tinyurl.com/cv27fd>.

What: Shelley Hussey, author of "I'm Not OK, You're Not OK, But That's OK With God," to speak
When: Mon. March 30, 12:30 - 2 p.m.
Where: Leadership Room, Student Center

Weather



WEDNESDAY
High 59°
Low 52°



THURSDAY
High 66°
Low 53°



FRIDAY
High 70°
Low 53°



SATURDAY
High 66°
Low 46°



SUNDAY
High 65°
Low 42°



MONDAY
High 67°
Low 45°

Stimulus request tops \$117 million

CLARK BARROW
 STAFF WRITER

Low-income college students will receive financial assistance from the economic stimulus bill recently signed into law by Barack Obama, and KSU has scrambled to receive millions of dollars.

According to Shelley Nickel, University System of Georgia (USG) associate vice chancellor for planning and implementation, the stimulus package, titled the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), provides students with an increase in financial assistance in three different ways.

"Students will see more funding for Pell grants and work study, as well as tax credits for

tuition, fees and books," said Nickel. "This is significant since these funds will keep students in school, progressing toward degree completion."

The Pell grant, which provides low-income students with financial assistance, will receive a boost in funding for the next two years. For the 2009-2010 school year, the maximum amount of money a student can receive from the fund will have an increase of \$619 for a total of \$5,350 per semester. For the 2010-2011 school year, the amount will increase again to \$5,550. Nickel said the amount funding each student receives varies, as it is based on the student's income.

Nickel said the additional funding for the Pell grant will go immediately into the pockets of students for the 2009-2010 term and the

second increase will take place on July 1, 2010. The stimulus package aid amounts to an additional \$17 billion for the Pell grant program.

The second way the stimulus package will provide assistance to students is through the federal work study program. Nickel said work study programs, which provide low income students with clerical and accounting jobs in a variety of departments on campus, will have its funding doubled to \$200 million for the entire work study program in the country.

Nickel said while the additional funds will not cause students to receive more money per hour, it will allow the school to hire more students under the work study program and possibly give them additional hours.

According to Ashok Roy, assistant vice

president for financial services, financially eligible students will also receive financial help from an increase in the tax credit for students.

"The Bill includes a \$14 billion tax credit that will increase the maximum tax credit per student to \$2,500 per year from \$1,800 and will for the first time allow students textbooks and tuition," said Roy.

The increased tax credit is available for students who are claimed as dependents by their parents as well as for those who file independently for the 2009 and 2010 fiscal year.

Roy said the increase in the tax credit will help low income families who do not pay income tax. Families in this tax bracket are only eligible to receive 40 percent of the tax

See **STIMULUS**, page 3

Harmon named dean of Coles

HEATHER COOK
 STAFF WRITER

Ken Harmon has been named dean of Coles College of Business.

In a nationwide search, Ken Harmon was selected by the search committee headed by Dr. Teresa Joyce, dean of the Graduate College. Dr. Harmon has been the Chair of Accounting since July 1, 2006 and the Director of the School of Accountancy at KSU.

"The Committee felt that Dr. Harmon had an excellent record as an administrator, teacher and scholar at KSU as well as several other universities and that he had the strong support of Coles College faculty and staff," said Joyce. "He has a very strong commitment to Kennesaw State, a strong work ethic and great relationships with Coles College faculty, students and the business community."

"We all know Dr. Harmon well and respect his leadership and ability. Since he knows us and we know him, we can hit the ground running when he takes charge," said Richard Franza, chair of the Department of Management and Entrepreneurship at KSU.

Dr. Harmon has an impressive record in addition to his service at KSU. At the University of Tennessee, he obtained his B.S. in Accounting, Master of Accountancy and Doctorate in Accounting. Before coming to KSU, he held numerous positions including Chair of the Accounting Department at the Middle Tennessee State University, Chair of Accounting Department at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and recently, Dean of the Else School of Management at Millsaps College. Harmon was also previously the head of his own software company.

"Dr. Harmon has been here for a few years, knows the College well and will be an outstanding dean," said Franza. "Dr. Harmon will put his own stamp on the school, but in many ways, we will continue to operate as we have. One significant change is that I would expect to see Coles more visible in its interactions with businesses in the Metro-Atlanta area."

Harmon plans on keeping the cul-



Ken Harmon

ture and aura of the Coles College intact. One of the main changes he wishes to accomplish is to enhance the Coles College's international profile.

"I plan to leverage the Coles College brand and make an even stronger presence in metro-Atlanta," said Harmon. "Also, we will make a few strategic advances internationally. We have some incredibly strong and distinctive programs, some of which have received international acclaim. I think we should leverage these programs to heighten the Coles College profile."

In addition to the college's international acclaim, KSU's business program has been ranked one of the highest business schools by the Princeton Review for two years in a row.

Chris Parrott, a senior business major, said KSU's business program is beneficial because it gives "great connections to the corporate world" and houses "a teaching staff that has numerous years of experience in the actual business world rather than simple theoretical teaching."

Harmon will take over for the current interim dean, Kathy Schwaig, on July 1, 2009, just in time for the beginning of fall semester.

Escaped convict enters campus

ANDY NELSON
 STAFF WRITER

An escaped convict entered campus on Tuesday, March 3, prompting the first-ever use of the campus' Connect-Ed Mass Notification System.

Chris Gay, a convict being transported from Florida to Tennessee, escaped police custody when the officer transporting him stopped to eat at the Waffle House on Frey Road. Reports stated that he was not armed.

Law enforcement officials soon discovered that Gay had a history of escapes that earned him the nickname "Little Houdini." His flight on March 3 was his third this decade. His most famous escape occurred in 2007 when he broke out of a prison transport van in South Carolina. He then proceeded to steal a pickup truck, which he drove to Manchester, Tenn. There, he commandeered a Wal-Mart tractor-trailer containing several thousand dollars worth of merchandise, which he drove to Pleasant View in order to visit his dying mother. The feat was mentioned in a ballad by Tim O'Brien, a songwriter in West Virginia and winner of a 2005 Grammy Award.

At 3:44 p.m. on March 3, an e-mail was sent to all the KSU crisis managers, directing them to lock down their buildings. Cobb County police dogs tracked Gay from the East Parking Deck through the woods to the Science Building. At 3:48 p.m., the building was evacuated and all inhabitants were moved to Parking Lot A. Several sightings were confirmed in the Science Building.

All other buildings were shut down, but the situation differed from a normal lockdown in that people were allowed to leave their designated areas but were not allowed to enter other buildings. At 4:30 p.m., all classes were cancelled for the remainder of the day.

"It's possible that the term 'lockdown' is inappropriate for college campuses," said Kemper Anderson, Assistant Director of Public Safety at KSU. "The authorities cannot hold someone over age 18 who has not committed a crime. We can inform people of the risks, but we cannot stop them from leaving."

Anderson reported that due to the Connect-ED Mass Notification

System, a provider used by several schools in the University System of Georgia, they were able to get the word out about the escaped fugitive quickly and efficiently.

"The good thing about [Connect-ED] is that it tells people what's going on and what we want you to do in response to the situation. We got a lot of positive feedback yesterday," said Anderson.

"They moved us all to the A lot so they could empty the building and get a look at everyone," said Charley Hobgood, a sophomore who was in the Science Building at the time. "There were no problems once we got out. It was handled really well."

Not all students, however, were willing to cooperate with the crisis managers, such as a female student who attempted to get back into the library after leaving. When she was not



Chris Gay

granted access, she began to argue with the officer at the door.

"She just started crying and freaking out, and was going on about her mom being on the phone with the KSU police," said Cale Jackson, a senior who witnessed the event.

"It just surprises me how callous some people can be. They have no concern about anyone else in the room or anyone out there. They are just concerned with themselves. It makes it hard for these people to do their job," said Rex Kienel, a writing instructor who also witnessed the event.

At 5:30 p.m., police officials issued an "all clear" notification to release

See **HOUDINI**, page 2



Derek Wright | The Sentinel

Owl wrestler brings home championship trophy from nationals

Papp and national wrestling champ Ross Cravens celebrate the significance of his accomplishment and the effects it will have on the university.

See page 12

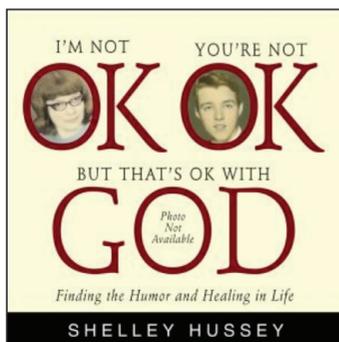
Free Forecast: March-April

- 3/28: **Family Fun Day: Horton Hears a Who** (11am, University Rooms)
- 3/31: **Green Peace: founder Paul Watson** (7pm, Social Science Building, Room 1021)
- 4/1: **KSU Day Carnival and Festival** (noon-3pm, Campus Green)
- 4/1: **Casino Nite** (9pm-midnight, Student Center University Rooms)

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Shelley Hussey,
author of *I'm Not OK, You're Not OK, But That's OK With God: Finding the Humor and Healing in Life*

Monday, March 30

12:30 - 2pm

in the Student Center Leadership Room

Shelley Hussey combines humor and passion to deliver a message that seeks to diminish the shame and blame aspects of seeking treatment for emotional problems. Come hear this "Shameless Hussey" and be prepared for an enlightening and entertaining 90 minutes. Books will be available for \$16.00 each. For information on the book visit Shelleyhussey.com.

This event is hosted by Sigma Tau Delta and ABLE. This event is free and refreshments will be provided.

Family Fun Day!

A Free day

of family EDU -tainment, featuring

An opening act at 11:00 AM:

the James T. Anderson Boys and Girls Club Dance Team-Marietta. "Playing your way around the world: Education through cultural games"

plus a **pizza lunch** at 12:30 PM,

prizes and giveaways, and then the movie **"HORTON HEARS A WHO"**

at 1 PM.

Saturday, March 28, 2009

University Rooms

RSVP required: www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/alp/FormFamFunhtml

or Lifelong Learning Center, 770-423-670

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Kennesaw Activities Board, & the
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GRE Strategy Seminar by

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Wednesday, March 25

6:30-8:30 pm

SO 1021

Workshop will review the graduate school admissions process, application tips, and the structure and scoring of the GRE exam.

Students learn how to create a compelling application, including tips on essays and letters of recommendation.

Admission: A new or gently used book (K-5) for Phi Kappa Phi's "Books for Belize" campaign to benefit the children of Sacred Heart Elementary School (or \$5 for the purchase of a new book).

For additional information, contact
Yvonne Wichman, Department of English,
ywichman@kennesaw.edu

CAITLIN DINGLE
ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Watch your books

On March 26, police were dispatched in reference to a stolen textbook. A student stated her textbook had been stolen from the Student Center as she was sitting in the cafeteria near the Bookstore. She left her belongings on the table and went to the bathroom, returning to see her textbook missing. The textbook was worth \$18 and was not seen in the lost and found. A report was filed.

3.5-foot pipe

Late at night on Feb. 27, officers arrived at KSU Place apartments in reference to a previous accident involving a student. Upon arrival at the apartment, the officer smelled the odor of burning marijuana coming from inside the apartment. The officer was admitted into the apartment and conducted a protective sweep, advising all occupants to go to the living room and wait with the other officers. While in one of the rooms, the officer noticed the odor of burning marijuana stronger in one of the four bedrooms. The occupant of the bedroom and her boyfriend both allowed the room to be searched with a warrant, and the officers found a multi-colored glass pipe that was 10 inches in height containing suspected marijuana. A black guitar case was also found to contain one clear glass pipe approximately 3.5 feet tall, a small multi colored glass pipe, and two glass "stems" designed to be used with the large glass pipe. There was also a small glass jar containing suspected marijuana. In the closet the officers also found two unmarked orange pill bottles that were later identified as a controlled schedule IV substance called alprazolam. There was also one other unidentified pill bottle along with six full beers. The occupant identified the marijuana as hers and said she and her boyfriend shared the pipes. She stated the pills were her boyfriend's. Both the occupant and her boyfriend were placed under arrest for VGCSA less than one ounce along with a criminal trespass warning for the boyfriend.

Drunken fight

On Feb. 27, a fight was reported at KSU Place apartments. An officer arrived promptly as the fight was in progress and saw

• HOUDINI from front page

the "lockdown." Additional police were called in, and patrols were increased throughout the evening and night shifts. The fugitive was not apprehended that night.

On March 4, KSU president Dan Papp sent out an email to the KSU community that recapped Tuesday's events and thanked everyone involved for remaining levelheaded.

"Thanks to everyone for handling yesterday's situation

POLICE BEAT

15 subjects attempting to leave the building. The subjects were told to stay where they were and the officers were advised that the people who were fighting were inside the apartment and the occupants were refusing to open the door. An RA arrived with a key to let the police into the apartment. All subjects were asked to leave the apartment and sit on the ground. One male subject explained that he had been arguing with another male about a girl they both knew. He stated that he didn't want the other male who he did not know in his apartment. They both stated that neither had been physically aggressive toward the other and the argument was only verbal. Both subjects had admitted to drinking a significant amount of alcohol and they were under the age of 21. Most of the other subjects who were present were under the age of 21 and were told to walk back to their own rooms. The two male subjects apologized and went back to their rooms. Judicial charges were filed and submitted to records.

Ghost weed

Early morning on Feb. 28, police were dispatched to KSU University Village in reference to a strong odor of marijuana in the corridor. The police and the RA on duty were unable to detect where the odor was coming from. The officers said they would return to help the RA with the situation once he figured out which room the odor was coming from. One hour later the officers were dispatched once again. The RAs stated they were certain which room the odor was coming from and granted them entry. The resident who answered the door denied use of marijuana and said her roommates weren't home.

regarding the escaped Tennessee prisoner so calmly and professionally. The entire KSU community should be pleased with the way that we all responded. I would especially like to thank the KSU Public Safety Department for its quick and professional actions, and for the way in which it interacted with the other police jurisdictions that were involved in the search for the escaped prisoner," he said in the e-mail. Classes and normal operations

The officers saw no sign and smelled no odor of marijuana. A report was made and the officers left the apartment.

Watch your books II

On Saturday, Feb. 28, police were called to the KSU Bookstore in reference to theft of textbooks. The suspect was trying to leave the store when the sensor activated. Workers asked the suspect to return to the store and the suspect started running towards the library. One of the Bookstore workers followed the suspect and told her the police were on the way. The suspect then dropped the tote bag she was carrying and kept running. Inside the tote bag were six textbooks, a red pen and various papers, which valued \$1,104 total. In the video footage the suspect was seen clearly looking up at the cameras and then proceeding to take the books and place them in her tote. The evidence was kept and a report was written on the theft.

Driving while "slammed"

On Feb. 28, officers were dispatched to a car accident with possible injuries on KSU Road and Chastain Road. Once on scene, both drivers stated they weren't injured. The first driver was driving on Chastain Road when traffic slowed and the second driver, who stated she tried to slam on her brakes but had no time, slammed into the back of the first driver's car. The officers smelled a strong odor of alcoholic beverages from the second driver, and when asked she stated that she had had two beers. She performed field evaluations for the presence of alcohol and failed. The second driver was arrested for DUI and following too closely.

also resumed on Wednesday.

On March 9, the Department of Strategic Security & Safety developed a survey in order to gain insight on students' experiences during the lockdown situation.

The survey showed that 37 percent of the students learned of the situation through a voice message, 34 percent through an SMS, 20 percent through another person, 6 percent through e-mail, 2 percent through the siren system and 1 percent through another method

Stolen bike

The afternoon of March 2, an officer met with a faculty member at the recreation center in reference to a stolen bicycle. A bicycle with an estimated value of \$700 was last seen in mid-February at the KSU Bike Shop. The bike was taken from the top rack and was believed to be checked out, which is why the police hadn't been notified sooner. Once it was realized there was no paperwork on the bike being checked out, the surveillance camera was found to have not been working since the time the bike was stolen. The ceiling tile was observed to have been tampered with and the tiles were misplaced. The serial number was taken.

Cheating and scratching

An officer was dispatched to University Place Apartments on the evening of March 2 in reference to a domestic dispute. An RA had been advised that a male subject was involved in a domestic dispute with his girlfriend and was refusing to leave. The male subject stated that he was not going anywhere and that the police were going to have to make him leave. His girlfriend granted police entrance into her apartment and the male subject was seen in the kitchen, stating that he just wanted to leave. The girlfriend stated that she had just ended the relationship because she cheated on him and they began to argue. She stated that she and her boyfriend had been equally pushing each other and in the process she scratched his cheek with her fingernails. After conferring with the witnesses and roommates of the girlfriend, the officer arrested both subjects for simple battery.

not indicated in the survey. 52 percent of the student body felt that the situation was handled "Very Effectively," 17 percent voted "Effectively," 20 percent voted "Good," 5 percent voted "Poor," and 6 percent claimed that they did not receive notification.

Positive responses included the frequent updates provided through Connect-ED and the prompt action taken by the crisis managers. Some students, however, felt that the messages were inconsistent and contradictory, while others expressed concern over not being able to change their contact information. "If crisis managers are supposed to enforce such situations, they need more and better direct communication, more authority and less chaos. All in all, an embarrassing effort with no student support," commented one student in the survey.

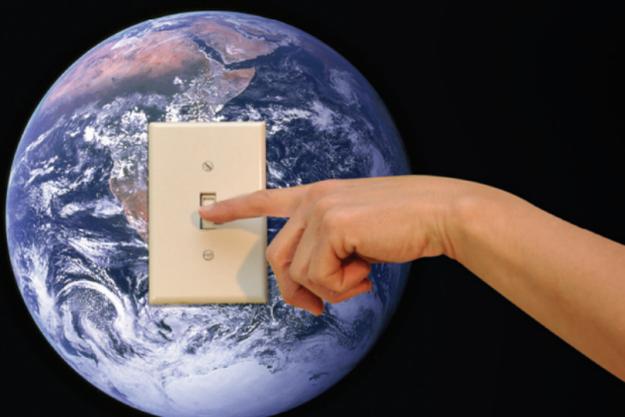
"All information that goes into the emergency contact system comes from the student database. It is important to update your emergency contact information," said Anderson.

Students or faculty wanting to update their emergency contact information can visit the Strategic Security and Safety Web site, www.kennesaw.edu/sss.

"This was a great 'exercise' that was actually performed under real circumstances. What we learned and want to improve on is a single source of sending the emergency messages to the community so we can be confident that all messages are in sequence and from the proper authorities," said Bob Lang, assistant vice president of Strategic Security and Safety. "We are also solidifying the role of the crisis managers by empowering them to make evacuation and lockdown decisions for all to heed. We also realize that radio communications between the Crisis Managers needs immediate improvement."

According to 11alive.com, Gay was recaptured in Bartow, Fla. on March 16 after a successful sting operation. He now faces several charges in Florida, including theft of more than \$20,000 and being a fugitive from justice. With these charges pending, his transfer back to Tennessee is expected to take several years.

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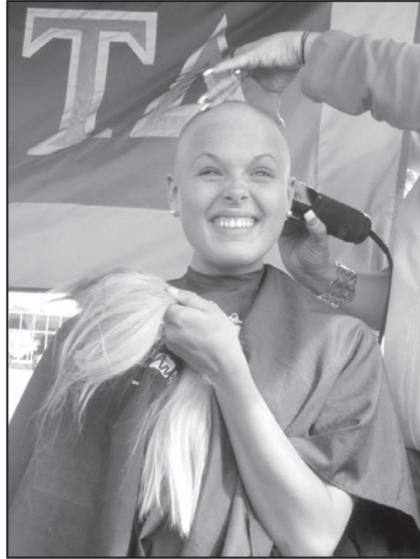
www.EarthHourUS.org



60
EARTH HOUR



Zach Hill | The Sentinel



Courtesy of Michael Fowler

Greeks Go Bald to fight childhood cancer

Members of Greek organizations gathered on the Campus Green on Saturday, March 21, to participate in Greeks Go Bald.

Organized by Delta Tau Delta fraternity, Greeks Go Bald benefits the St. Baldrick's Foundation, the world's biggest volunteer-driven fundraising program for childhood cancer. Volunteers collect donations and agree to shave their heads in solidarity of children with cancer.

"There's kids with cancer that have no choice [about losing their hair], and we do. It makes them feel really good to see us with no hair," said Brad Summey, vice president of Delta Tau Delta.

As of March 22, the group had raised over \$16,000 and is still collecting donations, according to Delta Tau Delta member Michael Fowler.

"Our goal is \$20,000," said Fowler. To make a donation, visit www.greeksgobald.com.

KSU Potential Stimulus Projects

Science Lab Building Expansion of Present Building Plans	\$11,000,000
Present Science Building Renovation and Upgrade	\$5,000,000
Clendenin Expansion	\$20,000,000
Science Lab Equipment	\$5,000,000
Solar Energy System	\$2,750,000
Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer	\$750,000
Environmental Research Station	\$5,000,000
Center for Teacher Development in Science and Mathematics	\$5,000,000
Georgia Youth Science Technology Centers (Science)	\$3,500,000
Georgia Youth Science Technology Centers (Math & Technology)	\$2,750,000
STEM Scholarships	\$2,000,000
USG STEM Initiative Proposal	\$1,880,000
Undergraduate Research and Teaching Assistantships	\$1,500,000
KSU Early Learning Center Project	\$9,000,000
Energy Efficiency Project - Science Building	\$900,000
Instructional Technology upgrades	\$5,000,000
Mechanical and Electrical Upgrades for new KSU Data Center	\$3,000,000
Dislocated Cobb Workers program/staffing	\$160,000
Bloomberg Database subscription for Student Managed Investment Fund	\$40,000
Broadband Training and Citizen Digital Media Lab	\$25,000,000
Higher Education Modernization Plan	\$500,000
KSU Maintenance Related Projects	\$8,047,993
Total	\$117,777,993

• STIMULUS from front page credit, which will provide them with a \$1,000 credit in the form of a refund check.

The temporary increase in the tax credit will also be available for incomes of no more than \$80,000 for those who file individually and no more than \$160,000 for joint incomes.

According to John Anderson, assistant vice president for facilities, in the days immediately after President Obama signed the economic stimulus bill into law, KSU submitted funding requests for a variety of campus projects to the Georgia Office of Planning. As of Feb. 28, KSU had requested \$117,777,993 from the stimulus package.

The stimulus package provides funding to states, but it will allow the states to divide up the funds among different state agencies and let the agencies decide how it should be spent. The USG will then be able to apply for the funds from the state agency that specializes in the area the funding is needed.

Anderson said the request includes a variety of different projects, ranging from new buildings to special equipment in the science department. The proposal includes a \$22 million request for the expansion, upgrade and renovation of the science build-

ing, labs and lab equipment. "This is something that will actually implement our current master plan for the campus construction," said Anderson. "We are working to create a lot more facilities for the students and for academic programs."

Other project proposals include \$900,000 to make the science building more energy efficient, which would allow them to replace an old water boiler with two energy efficient boilers and install a system that would capture exhaust fumes from the science labs and use the fumes as energy for the building.

KSU requested \$8 million for maintenance related projects around campus and \$25 million for a new building to house the Communication Department, titled "The Broadband Training and Citizen Digital Media Lab."

According to Birgit Wassmuth, Communication Department Chair and professor of Communication, the new building would not only be used by communication majors, but by high school students and elderly citizens who want to advance their digital media skills and stay competitive in the market place.

"We are forwarding our idea in a field that is growing so fast that we can expand our traditional academic

offerings to include the underrepresented members of the community," said Wassmuth.

According to Wassmuth, KSU has requested the funds from the stimulus package for the new building because the school does not have the money to support the project with its current budget. Wassmuth said by using money from the stimulus package, the project would create work for construction workers and builders, and in the long run, possibly create new teaching jobs.

Women helping women

EGG DONORS NEEDED

The Reproductive Biology Egg Bank is seeking women between the ages of 21 and 30 who would like to donate their eggs to infertile couples who otherwise could not conceive. Your donation is completely anonymous and compensation of \$6000 - \$8000 will be paid for your valuable time.

The advantages of donating to the RBA egg bank include:

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OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

Double standard? Little Houdini made our manhood disappear

The tax cheat Tim Geithner really likes taxes – as long as they are on those “evil” rich people. Bloomberg reported that the treasury secretary said “the U.S. government will mount an ‘ambitious’ program to crack down on companies that use offshore locales to avoid paying taxes.” That’s a very ambitious program, but it is also hypocritical. Why is it okay for Geithner to get away with trying to avoid paying taxes, but suddenly it becomes critical the government begin “closing loopholes” and “hunting tax evaders”? Washington’s and the media double standard has emerged in the wake of the new Obama administration.

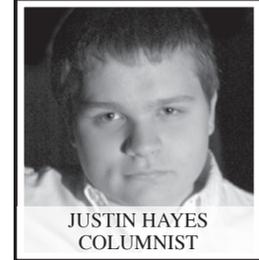
Rush Limbaugh recently came under fire for saying that he wanted President Barack Obama to fail. Chris Matthews has equated Rush’s statement to “calling for the brand-new president to die in his crib, basically, infanticide of a new president.” The noise from the left says that by wanting Obama to fail, Rush is calling for the failure of the country.

Although I don’t agree with 100% of Rush’s antics or his opinions, I stand behind him on this issue. If Obama’s policies succeed or appear to succeed, then sound conservative economic principles will be forgotten and seen as irrelevant. Capitalism has already gotten the blame for the financial crisis, and any indication that big government policies actually provide efficient economic outcomes would be fatal to the country.

“Obama’s policies are harmful to our economy and if they appear to succeed, then they will be legitimized in future election cycles”

Obama is implementing big government, Keynesian fiscal policies which call for a great increase in government spending as well as increased taxes. Unfortunately, George W. Bush implemented similar domestic policies under the blanket of conservatism. Liberals can harp on deregulation and the dangers of uncontrolled capitalism all day, but they did not cause the economic crisis. In fact, it was government policies aimed at ensuring increased homeownership that caused the artificial increase in housing prices that eventually busted and led to the current financial meltdown.

These policies could lead to short-run economic booms similar to the housing bubble and could appear to be solving the problem, but in the long run, the distortions caused by this increase in government spending will catch up with us. When the market attempts to flush the distortions, we could see an even worse economic crisis than the current one. Obama’s policies are harmful to our economy, and if they appear to succeed, then they will be legitimized in future election cycles. So yes, I would like Obama’s policies



JUSTIN HAYES
COLUMNIST

Justin Hayes is a sophomore at Kennesaw State University. He is majoring in Political Science and hopes to minor in Economics. He is the Vice-President of the College Libertarians, but considers himself a small “F” libertarian. He is a co-host of *The Wenk and Gerb Show* on Owl Radio, Tuesday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30.

to fail.

Of course, you won’t hear that line of reasoning much from the mainstream media as they are so engrossed by the do-no-wrong Obama administration. The media and many liberals treated George W. Bush like dirt during his administration, but now that we have the “holy one,” we’re not allowed to criticize him without being accused of wanting the country to fail. In an August 2006 Fox Opinion Dynamics poll, 51% of democrats did not want President Bush to succeed. Where was the outrage then?

George W. Bush treated the prime minister of Great Britain in the manner of President Obama, it would be all over the news. Prime Minister Gordon Brown gave Obama a penholder crafted from the wood of the HMS Resolute, the ship that provided the timber for the desk in the Oval office. Obama gave Brown a basket of American DVDs. To add insult to injury, the president was “too overwhelmed” to hold a joint press conference or hold a formal dinner. He even gave Brown back the bust of Winston Churchill given to President Bush after 9/11.

Had this incident been committed by President Bush, this story would have been everywhere, but there is a double standard with the media when it comes to the Obama administration. President Obama absolutely insulted our relationship with our closest ally, and it is hardly being reported. It seems that Washington and the media have lost all accountability, and hypocrisy has taken over. There are tax cheats calling for more taxes, criticism for dissent that was once seen as patriotic and a diplomatic goof getting little or no coverage. Yes we can...right?



A tiny man nicknamed ‘little Houdini’ escapes a cop car and starts running across campus... and 21,000 students respond by running inside and hiding?

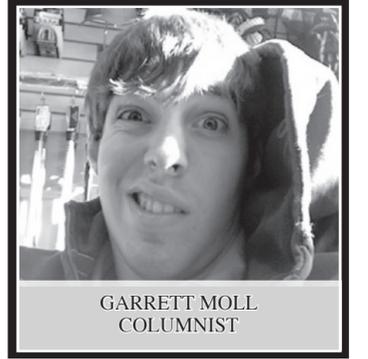
Well folks, it’s been a long time since my last column. While my hooker and hard drug-filled hiatus has been fun, some of the events that recently transpired on our campus have forced me out of retirement. I simply can’t let this whole escaped prisoner fiasco go unlamppooned. So strap in tight, because this is going to be a tour de force. I’m going to be like Jerry Rice in the 1987 NFL season, baby. You can’t stop me; you can only hope to contain me.

Before I even really get into my rant, I’ve got to start out by giving this Chris Gay guy some credit. He broke out of his shackles and managed to avoid an extensive manhunt. I’ve really got to hand it to him that’s simply impressive. He’s better at escaping than Dane Cook is at being an unfunny douchebag. Or than KSU is at thinking of illogical parking tags to waste time and money. Well done, good sir.

Let me get this straight: a tiny man nicknamed “little Houdini” escapes a cop car and starts running across campus... and 21,000 students respond by running inside and hiding? While the guy does have a mustache (which admittedly gives him some credibility), there is no way that he should have the power to scare off 21,000 students. If you ask me, this is a disgrace to America. Our ancestors fought off the British against overwhelming odds and manpower, and 21,000 of us carry on that legacy by running away from one little tiny man? Disgusting. Hulk Hogan, Mr. T, Wesley Snipes, Sylvester Stallone, and all the men who helped make this country great would be ashamed.

Honestly though, we decided to collectively put our faith in the KSU police to find this guy? Let me be the first to say that I’m genuinely grateful for their services, but let’s be honest here. What were we expecting them to do? Give him a parking ticket? It wasn’t like he was driving a car for them to pull over for something completely trivial (which I will admit, they are very skilled at). We would have been so much better off had the student body been doing the manhunt. Once again let’s be honest we all know Kennesaw has its share of rednecks. They clog up the Central Deck with their unnecessarily large off-road vehicles, spend their entire class comparing guns with each other, wear camouflage to school as if a war is going to break out and spend their free time camping in the middle of the woods and killing animals. What’s the point of having guns if they are going to run away from ONE LITTLE UNARMED MAN WITH A MUSTACHE? We should have commandeered them to help find this guy and thrown in NASCAR tickets or something as an incentive.

We could have gotten the whole campus on this thing. Had we sent out a mass text to all of the frat boys on campus telling them that Gay knew where to find lots of underage and vulnerable high school girls, we probably would have found the dude by dinner. We could have also guaranteed a spot in the nursing program for the first female to locate him (hell hath no fury like a woman trying to get into our nursing program). Better yet, we could have offered a bounty of weed and Dave Matthews tickets and every single “bro” on campus would have been



GARRETT MOLL
COLUMNIST

after the guy. There is no way that man would have stood a chance against our entire student body.

While you can agree or disagree with my proposed methodology, one thing should be certain: it was completely wrong for KSU to send a message of cowardice and fear. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Every community faces their own little Houdini at some point in their existence. It’s what you do when that metaphorical little man comes running across your campus that defines you. I don’t know about you guys, but carrying a legacy of running and hiding from little mustached men is not a cross that I want to bear.

Obama at war

Obama recently unveiled his “new strategy” for Iraq and Afghanistan at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Unsurprisingly, I was disappointed by what I heard. My issue with his Iraq plan is not so much that he pushed back the withdrawal deadline several months to August 2010, but rather that he doesn’t really intend to withdraw. After withdrawing all combat troops by this deadline, Obama plans to leave 50,000 “non-combat troops” in Iraq as “advisors.”

The real issue here is not that Obama let down his anti-war base, but rather that his Iraq strategy is just counterproductive. Where’s the exit strategy that Obama demanded of Bush? I think we should just quit while we are ahead, which is the case now. After the US-led invasion, Al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) came on the scene and posed a real threat, almost pushing Iraq into full scale civil war. Just look at how far we have come since then. While the stated effectiveness of the “surge” strategy is dubious, it is undeniable that AQI has been crushed, and they no longer pose any existential threat to the new government of Iraq. This is due, in large part, to the excessively violent tactics of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the now dead former leader of AQI. These tactics backfired when

Sunnis started turning against these extremists.

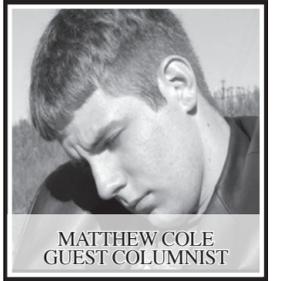
It is now time for the US to solidify our gains, but we can do this without keeping 50,000 troops in Iraq to occupy it (which is exactly how many Iraqis will see this) but rather by leaving now and allowing Iraqis to govern their own internal affairs. The main opposition force, the Mehdi Army, led by Shi’ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, is remaining committed to a truce they have with the Iraqi government. The future of any truce of this sort is dependent upon the eventual withdrawal of all foreign troops from Iraq. I am afraid that by leaving this many troops in Iraq for an unspecified period of time, Obama may actually reverse the gains made in Iraq so far, thus resulting in a renewed escalation.

His Afghan “strategy” is similarly lacking in vision. I’m still waiting for his great rhetoric to translate into a real strategy. As the Bush administration transferred power to Obama, both presidents oversaw the deployment of 30,000 troops to Afghanistan in addition to the 34,000 already there. Now, Obama has announced that he will be sending an additional 17,000 troops. Our problems in Afghanistan are the result of mixed-up priorities, not a

lack of troops. Just ask the Russians, who know how hard it is to prop up an Afghan government. Since 2002, our Afghan strategy has consisted primarily of providing security for the Afghan government. It’s similar to the strategy we employed in South Vietnam, with similar results.

Our Canadian and British allies are doing all of the real fighting against the terrorists. What happens when they leave, as Canada has promised to do by 2011? America is going to have to fill that void, unless we manage to take control of the situation before then. We need to be proactive now, rather than being on the defensive later. This means going after Al-Qaeda bases in the Tribal Areas of Pakistan (FATA). This situation isn’t ideal, but the benefits of denying AQ a safe haven in Pakistan should compel us to take action. Obama must realize this before it is too late. His campaign rhetoric to that effect was impressive, but he has not followed up with action.

Direct military action in FATA, by either US or Pakistani forces, will almost certainly result in a violent insurgency, but I actually think that could be a good thing. Pakistanis living in the FATA are much more supportive of AQ than Afghans. This



MATTHEW COLE
GUEST COLUMNIST

is because most of the attacks are taking place on Afghan soil. I guarantee that when bombs start going off in their neighborhoods, Pakistanis in the Tribal Areas will no longer be such huge fans of Osama bin Laden. The Sunnis in Iraq finally woke up. Now it’s time to do the same in FATA.

Obama should take note of the failures of the Bush administration. Obama thinks he can solve America’s economic problems by throwing other people’s money where there is insufficient demand. Now he thinks he can defeat Al-Qaeda by deploying more troops where there is no Al-Qaeda. That’s not change we can believe in. We need an effective national security strategy, not a repeat of the Lyndon Johnson administration.

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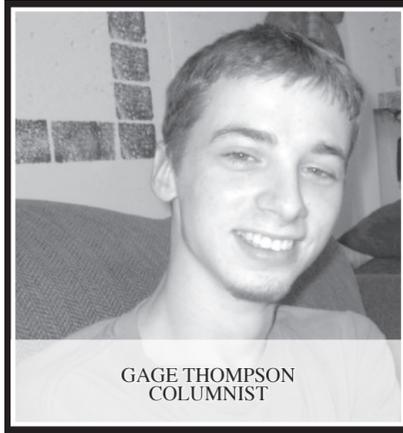
Sex, Lies and the Vatican

On a recent trip to Africa, Pope Benedict XVI said that condoms were not the solution to the AIDS crisis in Africa and that they could potentially aggravate the problem. This flies in the face of all empirical science on the subject, not to mention basic reason and common sense. This is simply more proof that close-minded religion doesn't have a place in the real world where more reasoned individuals reside on a day-to-day basis.

At first I was surprised by this comment, but when I stopped to think about it for a second, I realized just how many times religion has spat in the face of the scientific method in favor of religious dogma and general idiocy. Some religious people profess that the earth is 6,000 years old and that dinosaurs and humans walked the earth at the same time. The Catholic Church believed the earth to be the center of the universe despite enormous evidence to the contrary. To make matters worse, they persecuted and excommunicated people who believed otherwise.

The scientific method is responsible for every luxury we hold dear. It is responsible for the houses we live in, the cars we drive, and the plentiful food and water which we so carelessly consume. It is responsible for the magic of the television and the telephone, and it is responsible for the medicine that has saved countless numbers of lives. With science's track record, it would be reasonable to trust it. The problem is that many religious people are not reasonable. They choose to believe fairy tales instead of looking to the world that can be measured and observed.

The pope is the last person on Earth who should be considered an authority on sex, considering he is allegedly an 81-year-old virgin. Unless you count sodomizing altar boys, the entirety of the clergy can be disregarded on this issue as well. This is the beauty of science:



GAGE THOMPSON
COLUMNIST

Credible theories are retained while those with no credibility are disregarded. With religion, people are allowed to condemn sex and contraception with no inkling of research to support their hypotheses. Then they have the audacity to actively spread misinformation about it to their equally-uninformed followers.

HIV is spread by having unprotected sex with an infected person. A condom cannot possibly facilitate the spread of the disease. To ask humans to go against their nature and never have sex is futile. People will have sex, and if they aren't using a condom, they may eventually contract a sexually transmitted disease. This is even truer in Africa where HIV is incredibly prevalent.

Science should be trusted on subjects which fall under the purview of the scientific method. Religion obviously has nothing to add to the debate but falsehoods and hearsay. Leave the realm of reality to people grounded in reality; the religious can have their fantasy world.

Who's holding Jon Stewart accountable?

In what turned out to be one of the most over-hyped face-off between TV personalities, Jon Stewart walked all over sweaty "Mad Money" Jim Cramer. While watching the interview, I realized something. It wasn't funny. Even Stewart's studio audience (who would laugh if Stewart sneezed) only laughed a couple of times. So I had to ask myself, is it a comedy show, or is Jon Stewart trying to have it both ways?

In the full unedited interview with Jim Cramer, Cramer criticized Santelli's rant and called those trying to avoid foreclosures "fighters" not "losers." He also suggested using CDs instead of stocks during the downturn. But alas, none of those quotes were included in the aired interview.

What exactly did Stewart prove by burning Cramer for 21 minutes? He proved that Cramer is human, but we're all human. He proved that Cramer and CNBC make mistakes, but we all make mistakes. What he really proved is that he can use faux outrage to pump his ratings.

Since his infamous appearance on CNN's "Crossfire" in 2004, Stewart has increasingly used his post to castigate the media for failing to do its job. He told Tucker Carlson and Paul Begala that their left vs. right debate show, "Crossfire," was "hurting America." Not sure how one can prove that, but it can sure boot Jon Stewart's ego and his ratings.

During that same appearance on "Crossfire," Carlson attempted to fire back at Stewart by asking "You had John Kerry on your show and you sniff his throne and you're accusing us of partisan hackery?" To which Stewart diffused by noting "you're on CNN. The show that leads into me is puppets making crank phone calls."

Stewart says he does a comedy show to shield himself from any criticism or responsibility to the public discourse. A guest he dislikes can go onto his show and expect hostility, and Stewart will do his best to embarrass him or her and make himself look larger than life. Should that guest get a good point in edgewise, all Stewart has to do is crack a joke and go back into comedy show mode. Throw in his ability to edit the interviews to their liking, and Stewart becomes invincible.

For Stewart to accuse others of partisan hackery is, in his words to Cramer, "disingenuous at best and criminal at worst." Stewart played patty cake with Obama and the authors from the liberal side of the aisle; meanwhile he lambastes any conservative or libertarian who comes on the show. A Pew Research analysis of "The Daily Show" noted "the lineup of on-air guests was more evenly balanced by political party. But our subjective sense from viewing the segments is that republicans faced harsher criticism during the interviews with Stewart."

When Bill Bennett and Mike Huckabee came onto



KEVIN SCHMIDT
SENIOR COLUMNIST

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his show to hawk their books, an American history book and a campaign memoir respectively, the whole interview became a debate on gay marriage. These cases and many more show that Stewart is becoming the cable news partisan hack he claims to hate so much.

Don't get me wrong. I enjoy the show and believe Stewart is incredibly funny and his harpoons often land in the right places. I don't care that he's often upfront with his own liberal political views. What bothers me is his hypocrisy and use of absolute moral authority in his criticism. He loves to point out the partisan ideologues of Fox News and MSNBC, but the irony is that he is a partisan ideologue.

Stewart's average audience is about 1.8 million and according to Pew Research "16% of Americans said they regularly watched 'The Daily Show' or the Comedy Central spin-off, the 'Colbert Report.'" His guests have included presidents, other heads of state, prominent journalists and authors and important policy makers, but we are not supposed to think Stewart has any journalistic responsibility in these interviews.

The day after the Cramer interview, James Moore wrote in the Huffington Post that Stewart "has brought back context to journalism by making people in our drive-by culture responsible for their words and even actions." Perhaps that's true, but who is holding Jon Stewart accountable?

Why Sarah Palin should never run for President

NOAH SOLOMON
COLUMNIST

I know what all the conservatives are thinking: Sarah Palin is the next great thing in the GOP. She brought life to a dying campaign last fall. She embodies all the republican ideals: pro-life, pro-guns, religious, all the bells and whistles. I think very highly of her as an individual and think she's a great governor. But she needs to stay off of the national scene. Why?

Sarah Palin was obviously very ill-prepared for national politics, as her response to all of the focus on her and her family shows. Through the campaign, she consistently showed that she was quite a bit shocked by all the attention she immediately got, and she fumbled several of her interviews due to this shock.

None of that, however, has made me come to the conclusion that she should never run for president. Throughout the entire campaign, I loved Palin and truly believed she was the only thing that would give the McCain campaign any steam. No, the turning point for my faith in Sarah Palin on the national scale came after I watched a few clips from the documentary "Media Malpractice." This documentary is a conservative attempt to shed light on exactly why Barack Obama was elected. The creators came to the conclusion that a large part of the reason Barack Obama was elected can be attributed to the media's bias in favor of him. The documentary contains an interview with Palin, who talks about how unfairly she thought the media treated her, citing Saturday Night Live and Tina Fey as prime examples. Now, I do believe the media treated her unfairly. However, she claims it was because she was a woman. This is false on all accounts, and it contributes quite a lot to the main reason I do not want Sarah Palin to remain on the national political stage: She does not understand how national politics work.

You see, the media was unfair to her. Yes, they were. But it was not because she was a woman.

It was because she is a republican. Richard Nixon, as the Vice Presidential candidate during the 1952 presidential campaign, complained about how his personal financial mistakes were heavily covered by the media while Adlai Stevenson, the democratic presidential candidate, made very similar mistakes and got little to no media backlash for it. That was 57 years ago. The national media as a whole ALWAYS favors democrats. Always. Now, I do realize that journalism without opinion is often lifeless and dead, and that there must be opinions in some cases. But I generally believe the media as it exists in America today takes it too far. Republicans have Fox News, but it's especially clear after the 2008 presidential election that nearly every other network has a liberal mindset. People in the media tend to favor more peace-talking, environment-saving, poor-people-helping rhetoric, and the democrats tend to provide that quite a bit more than the republicans. It's a part of national politics. Republicans are not given the same grace or positive coverage as democrats are. If I do run for any national office, it will be something I have to deal with. My problem with Palin is that she complains about it. It's a fact of national politics and it has been for over half a century. But she thinks they should be fair.

Maybe they should. But they won't. Not only is it a fact of politics, but it's a general fact of journalism that at least some people are going to have opinions that they display in poor ways.

This is the reason why I do not like her as a national candidate. She obviously does not understand that republicans and democrats play by very different rules. And that understanding is crucial to any running for any national office.

I love you, Sarah. But please, keep up the good work in Alaska.

What bothers me is Stewart's hypocrisy and use of absolute moral authority in his criticism



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What does 'I Do' mean at 18?

HEATHER COOK
PHOTOS BY MARIA YANOVSKY

"I was shocked when he got on one knee because I knew I was too young by society's standard to get engaged."



n average, most people in the United States marry when they are around 26 years old. This statistic shows that a lot of people decide to attend college and secure a job before embarking on a life with someone else. In addition, some people believe that they have reached a sort of maturity at 26 that would allow them to have a stable marriage. This is not always the case, as is obvious in American society where traditional age (17-22) college students have been getting married.

In regard to American society, Robin Crawford, instructor of sociology at KSU, said, "Some segments of our society approve of couples getting married early, some don't; some segments of our society want couples to wait until they have completed school, established careers, have the resources and money to start a life together, etc., while others may not think all of that is necessary. American society is just too fragmented in their views (regionally, racially, ethnically, religiously, politically, etc.) on this topic, and an attempt to draw any simple conclusions about our society disapproving or approving of young marriage would be misleading."

James Conley, who married at age 18, said, "I think society has painted a picture of marriage as something you only do when you have to, and has negatively jaded the way the rest of our culture views

young married couples."

Marrying young can be fulfilling and exciting, as it is for James and Rosita Colson, who were married at 18. The two knew they wanted to get married at age 16, and James proposed after he returned for Thanksgiving break from duty in the Marine Corps.

"I was shocked when he got on one knee because I knew I was too young by society's standard to get engaged," Colson, a junior marketing major, said. "I was positive he was the one, and we were both mature enough to get married. I decided then that the world will not hold me back now or later in life. We were married three months later."

Being married at a young age still provides the two with the same benefits as older married couples. They still receive the love and compassion for each other that older couples exchange. They still spend time with each other, and they still enjoy life together.

Rachel Spitzer, a junior psychology major, said, "The younger you are when you marry, the longer you get to spend together as a family." James Colson, a freshman business major who is transferring to KSU in the fall, said one of the best parts of being married at a young age is "having someone who is there for you, and knows you more intimately than anyone."

Being married at a young age can have negative consequences. For some, a lack of maturity can be the source of many fights. For others, a lack of financial knowledge could be the downfall.

Crawford said, "Being inexperienced about life seems to be a disadvantage, which

includes lacking knowledge about how to manage money (which seems to be at the top of the list of reasons why couples argue and perhaps even break up); not enough time to really get to know oneself (goals, strengths, weaknesses, how to interact with others that are not family members, how to manage conflict, etc.); unrealistic expectations about marriage and family life."

Another problem of marrying young is the greater risk of divorce. According to Melvyn Fein, professor of sociology at KSU, "In our complex techno-commercial society, it takes time to grow up. Not until their mid-twenties do most people know who they are or what they want in a mate. Nor do they know how to evaluate a potential partner or negotiate differences. Good marriages are not accidents. They take work and two partners who are mature enough to engage in a fair give and take. If they do not learn what relationships are about, they are apt to wind up hating each other and/or turning out youngsters who are deeply troubled."

Marriage also presents college students with the task of keeping up with schoolwork while balancing their home life. It also means making career sacrifices after college. When they graduate, most students have nothing holding them back from selecting the career they want. They can also travel anywhere to obtain a job. Colson admits she'll have to "make numerous career sacrifices over his [Marine pilot] contract." She said, "I don't know if I can deny him his lifetime dream for my career." That's the kind of commitment and sacrifice young couples face.

Canadian pianist instructs master class

BARBARA REED
STAFF WRITER

Canadian pianist Dr. Jeri-Mae G. Astolfi visited KSU to give a concert and a master class. Astolfi said that music is like her skin—part of who she is. As a child she always ran to a piano. She also said that her teaching philosophy is that all who want to learn should have an opportunity to do so, regardless of their level or who they are. Her job consists of ensuring that learning occurs. She loves the academic environment and, except for the harsh winters, enjoys her current position as professor at the University of Minnesota at Oshkosh, with good colleagues and good students.

“Jeri-Mae Astolfi presented a very insightful and sensitive recital of piano music by living American composers. Her performances of these works were very polished. She also presented a fine master class for the KSU piano majors following the recital,” said David Watkins, artist-in-residence and head of Piano Studies

at the School of Music.

Astolfi’s master class was at the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center on March 6. KSU piano students performed a variety of pieces from different composers for the class. Her stay at KSU was brief; she left that same afternoon, right after her master class.

“Working with Jeri-Mae Astolfi was a superb professional experience. She was very keen on capturing all of the coloristic shadings of sonority in my work, and her sensitive interpretation, on both her recent CD and in the live performances she has been giving on tour, conveys the essence of my music,” said Dr. Laurence Sherr, composer-in-residence and associate professor of Music at the School of Music.

Astolfi started piano lessons at age five, excited by watching her older siblings. She and her siblings sought out local competitions and entered on their own because their teacher showed no interest in contests. With all the hubbub in the family, Astolfi

alone stuck with the piano. Her older brother focused on ice hockey and her sister pursued other interests as well. Mr. and Mrs. Astolfi tried to create musical flurry by requiring their children to take music lessons as long as they lived in the house.

Astolfi has been on the Executive Board of the Wisconsin Musical Teacher’s Association since 2007 and also acts as liaison between college faculty and the organization in order to increase the awareness of each group for the other. They hold yearly conferences focused on preparing students, musically, for college, and increasing musical activity in general.

Astolfi also belonged to the national group, the Music Teacher’s National Association, as Chair for composition competitions. Besides teaching organizations, Astolfi also engages her services on the Board of Directors of Piano Arts, an organization that encompasses all of North America. This entity coordinates competitions, festivals, and fellowship—this last includes training for professional clas-

sical pianists. Piano Arts focuses on educating the artist. Winners receive prize money, training and the opportunity to do presentations in public schools.

Besides her activism in music organizations, Astolfi plays in public. Her repertoire centers on new music—piano compositions by living composers. For example, she especially favors material by Phillip Schroeder, from Arkansas, and has played his pieces on the radio and in recording studios since 2001. Schroeder’s works attracted Astolfi because of their sonic orientation, sonic relations, pitch, timbre and color.

In addition to recording and giving concerts, Astolfi also gives lecture-recitals in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Texas on music by living Canadian and American composers, and also a Finnish composer named Rautavaara. Astolfi has also participated in a summer festival in Italy.

This busy musician attributes her main professional push to two professors: Helmut Brauss, in Alberta,

Canada; and Lydia Artymiw, at the University of Minnesota. Of Brauss, Astolfi says she did not deserve him at the time, and that she just now begins to understand what he said. This German professor exhibited the seriousness and the artistry that she needed. Up to that point, she had received instruction from teachers who did not perform in public. Very intense, Brauss explained everything in artistic terms and opened Astolfi’s eyes to music in ways she still cannot articulate.

Of Artymiw, Astolfi says she heard her practice while in Montreal and knew immediately she needed to pursue her as her next teacher. Artymiw taught at the University of Minnesota, so Astolfi attended there for her doctoral program. This female professor exhibited the same exacting and intense qualities of a true artist. Both professors had a profound effect on Astolfi, and she maintains contact with them.

To find out more about Astolfi, visit jeri-mae.com.

KSU Club Alpha Omega Spreads the Gospel

HEATHER COOK
STAFF WRITER

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your mind and with all your strength.” Mark 12:30. This verse appears on Alpha Omega’s homepage.

Alpha Omega, formerly known as Souled Out, is a non-denominational club at KSU that aims to spread the Word of God through KSU’s campus and the community.

“Alpha Omega was founded with one dream in mind,” said Teregi Coleman, campus minister of Alpha Omega. “Our dream is to be a spiritual influence on this campus that will, in turn, influence the world.”

Coleman is passionate about his ministry and his desire is for people’s lives to be changed through the grace and mercy of Christ.

“The best part of ministering to Alpha Omega is that the students sincerely want to be followers of Jesus,” Coleman said. “Unfortunately in some religious groups on campus, some people are only there because their parents want them to be in a ‘Christian Club’ or they want to feel better about themselves, but for the most part, the members of AO deeply desire to live out a radical faith.”

“I am a member of Alpha Omega because it is an open organization that doesn’t care about being like other campus ministries,” said Nancy Destine, a junior majoring in

Spanish. “They focus on one-on-one personal relationships with each other and truthfully speaking and teaching the Word of God. It’s an organization where I can get my questions answered without feeling like I’m being judged or looked down upon because I don’t know as much about God as others may.”

The name “Alpha Omega” comes from the Greek alphabet. Alpha is the first letter and Omega is the very last in the twenty-four letter set. It is often used as one of God’s names because followers believe their God has no beginning or end.

This semester, they have three different Bible Talks, which are like Bible studies. The first group is for women only, and it meets on Monday nights at 8 p.m. on the third floor of the University Village Suites in the Orange Room. The second group is open to anyone, and it meets in Building E, Room 8 of KSU Place on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. The third group meets on Thursdays at 8 p.m. on the third floor of the University Village Suites in the Orange Room, and it is also open for anyone.

Besides the Bible Talks, the group also goes to movies and parties. They host game nights, devotionals and teaching sessions with Biblical scholars. In addition, they pray and sing.

By studying together and sharing personal stories and downfalls, the members of Alpha Omega build a strong bond with each other.

“My favorite part about Alpha Omega is the obvious love everyone has for each other,” Destine said. “You can tell that everyone cares about each other and that they really try their best to be in each other’s lives. I actually feel as if these people will be in my life forever.”

Alpha Omega is not exclusive. They welcome all people of all races and ages and people who yearn to learn about Christianity.

“Alpha Omega reaches out to campus students of all races and creeds who are looking to get to know the God of the Bible,” said Destine.

It is also a good place to meet new friends not only from KSU, but also from SCAD, Georgia Tech, Morehouse, Spelman, Clark Atlanta, Georgia State and SPSU. At these schools, the name might still be Souled Out, but it is the same organization.

“People should join Alpha Omega if they’ve got questions about God or the Bible or if they’re just interested in learning something different than what’s taught in their classes,” Destine said.

“It’s a great opportunity to meet people from Atlanta if you’re new to the area,” Coleman said, “People should join Alpha Omega if they want their life to be changed.”

For more information on Alpha Omega, visit kennesaw.edu/clubs/souledout.

We’re students ALSO

LEAH HALE
COPY EDITOR

One of the first things advisors tell freshman entering college is, “Get involved so you won’t want to drop out.” This statement means one thing for the eighteen-year-old who sits alone in her dorm room all day and needs to get involved so she’ll have something to do between classes. But for nontraditional students, getting involved means something else.

Because they often juggle families and full-time jobs in addition to classes, nontraditional students get involved so they can make their lives less hectic. A group that caters specifically to busy nontraditional students is the Adult Learner Student Organization (ALSO).

According to R. Todd Powell, assistant director of the Adult Learner Programs and faculty advisor for the organization, “ALSO serves as an advocate for nontraditional students at KSU, and support causes of interest that affect adult learners. It helps older students form a network of peers and develop relationships that forge academic and social growth.”

Sophomore criminal justice major and vice president of ALSO, Leslie Burch joined the organization soon after entering KSU. “Being a non-traditional student, sometimes it’s hard to meet people who are going through the same things you’re going through—dealing with families and work. This way, you’re put in touch with people who understand these things and can help you cope with them,” she said. “A lot of people have a 9–5 job and kids at home, and you’re always having to juggle your life to fit your classes in.”

Many students in the organization have children, so ALSO hosts events that are family-oriented. In August they held one of their Family Fun days: a cookout with a barbecue lunch and moonwalk. In the past, they’ve gone miniature golfing and bowling, and recently, they’ve put together a cookbook and held raffles.

“Lately, we’ve actually tried to move away from the social aspect in our activities and do a lot of charity things instead,” said Burch. For example, every year right before Thanksgiving, they hold a Feast of Sharing, where guests bring nonperishable food items in exchange for a Thanksgiving dinner cooked by ALSO’s officers. The nonperishable

food items are donated to charity. They also have a prom dress drive each year that goes to girls who can’t afford prom attire. “We usually team up with the sororities on that,” said Burch. “The girls are good about bringing in their dresses.”

In addition to helping people outside the university, ALSO members look out for each other. They act as representatives for nontraditional students around KSU. “We have meetings with those in charge and try to get things like later hours for financial aid or later hours for registration for the students who work 9–5 and can’t get to campus before then,” said Burch.

Though it’s tough, being a nontraditional student isn’t always more difficult than being a student fresh out of high school. “Life experience has a lot to do with it,” said Burch. “I don’t want to necessarily say it’s a maturity level thing, but for instance, when I entered college at 18, I was not ready. I was just about to turn 29 when I came back, and I was ready for it at that point. I think that’s the same story for a lot of us—we’ve gotten everything out of our systems, and we’re ready to learn now.”

ALSO is run out of the Adult Learner Programs. “Adult Learner Programs provides academic and social support for commuter and nontraditional students who balance the responsibilities of jobs, family life and the rigors of the college classroom,” said Powell.

The Programs are located in the Lifelong Learning Center, where students have access to a computer lab, a kitchenette with free coffee, student tutors and a fax machine.

ALSO is always welcoming new members. Every student who joins is automatically enrolled in ANTSHE, the national Adult Learner Student Association, which holds conferences each year, where students can find scholarship opportunities, resume builders and networking.

Though the age requirement to join used to be 25, students of any age can join now. “Just because you’re younger than 25 doesn’t necessarily mean you don’t have families, kids, jobs—things people might think of as nontraditional for college students,” said Burch. The only requirement now is that you have to have a reason for joining.

Interested students can visit kennesaw.edu/clubs/also or pick up an application to join ALSO from the Lifelong Learning Center in room 261 of the Student Center.



Photo courtesy of ALSO



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Movie Reviews

Friday the 13th

German Film Series: Movie has beautiful moments, lighthearted humor, unrealistic plot



MALLORY BREWER
STAFF WRITER

On the third Thursday of each month of the spring semester, the Department of Foreign Languages' German faculty hosts a film viewing. On March 19, Dr. Sabine Smith, associate professor of German, supervised the viewing of "Was tun, wenn's brennt?" (What to Do in Case of Fire).

The movie's plot begins when a bomb planted years ago detonates in a residential building. But the action takes off when Berlin police confiscate film reels of Group 36's anarchic adventures from members Tim and Hotte's run-down flat. The threat of discovery then pushes the two men to reassemble their old gang of freedom fighters.

In the old Group 36, only three members, Tim, Hotte and Nele, are truly dedicated to each other and their goal to avoid arrest. The remaining and more successful three, Terror, Maik and Flo, are more reluctant to offer themselves to the cause, likely because of their current and continuing careers and other obligations. Throughout the story, the old revolutionaries fight to destroy the filmed evidence, with internal conflict presented as the

main obstacle. In the end, their plans succeed with obliterated evidence and relieved guilt as they have completely evaded the law.

As for the storyline, the movie was more about how these former anarchists continued their lives than to tell of their glory-filled days of fighting the "pigs," as they nicknamed law enforcement and other authorities. However, the story loses points for realism because the fact that these characters continually escape capture is improbable, if not impossible.

But for what "Was tun, wenn's brennt?" lacked in plot, it compensated for in pleasing cinematography. More specifically, it had beautiful moments, times when the action was just aesthetically appealing. Overall, the film was lighthearted and humorous but with some sentimental moments, worthy of viewing just for attractive camera work, if not entertainment.

It's not too late to catch a couple hours of German culture. The next of the German Film Series, "Der Tunnel," will be shown on Thursday, April 16, at 8:00 p.m. in room 242 of the Pilcher Building. For more information, visit foreignlanguages.hss.kennesaw.edu/about/news-events/.

DANIEL SINGLETON
COPY EDITOR

I watched "Friday the 13th" because I wanted to see blood and boobs, and that's exactly what I got. Don't roll your eyes. My brain would explode if I watched Tarkovsky every day. Sometimes I need movies like "Friday the 13th" that drop the poetry, cut the ideas, and ignore plot and character (I wouldn't pay attention anyway) so they can show Jason carving up teenagers with a machete.

It sounds less trashy than it feels, but hey, trash takes talent. Remember the scene in the original "Nightmare on Elm Street" where Johnny Depp fell into the bed blender and painted the walls with twenty-six gallons of blood? That's talent: sick, twisted, we-should-probably-commit-these-people talent.

The new "Friday the 13th" isn't nearly that creative (or bloody), but it's still soaked in R-rated awesomeness. The first fifteen minutes have more sex, drugs and brutal murders than the last ten movies I saw combined. My memory is fuzzy (why should I waste valuable brain cells on this movie?) but I think that one teenager got his ear chopped off while smoking pot.

The next hour is more laid back. (Translation:

There's more dead space between kills.) But the movie kills that time with lots of pot, beer, sex, masturbation and bad jokes about masturbation. ("They don't call me the wood master because I whack off a lot.") There are a few scenes that "develop" the characters, too. But of course you know that "character development" for a "Friday the 13th" movie stops at label-making: jock, slut, dork, token black guy, quiet guy, asshole.

The killing starts after about thirty more minutes and the movie kicks back into high gear. Don't expect any scares unless the old cat-jumping-out-from-the-side-of-the-frame trick still works on you. (You know who you are.) Expect killing. And blood. Lots of blood. I won't tell you who dies first or how much they bleed—guessing which teenager takes which axe to the back is half the fun—but I will say that I started wishing that I owned a fake blood factory. Supply one "Friday the 13th" movie and I'm set for life.

One complaint. I love watching dumb teenagers take axes to the back, but I can't, can't, can't watch them suffer. One subplot made me want to barf. I'm talking about the one where Jason captures one of the teenagers and locks her under his house. Why is it here? The director probably wanted to make us scream and squirm, but he just made me feel dirty.

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Slumdog Millionaire

DANIEL SINGLETON
COPY EDITOR

Danny Boyle needs stronger Ritalin—or less crack. “Slumdog Millionaire,” a cracked-out mix of realism and fantasy, starts by showing us a side of India the tourism department likes to ignore—the gritty, crime-ridden, rat-infested slums of Mumbai—then flips 180 degrees and becomes the kind of classic, rags-to-riches, orphans-in-peril, long-lost-love story that Charles Dickens loved to write.

The movie borrows its basic story from Vikas Swarup’s book “Q and A,” but it’s less adaptation than homage. Boyle would rather capture the book’s frantic pace, colorful background details and buoyant tone than film its commas.

Both the book and movie follow a young Mumbai orphan as he travels around India, scampering, struggling and scheming to survive. The details are different, but they both have the same mix of slums, mansions and orphanages; movie stars and quiz shows; telemarketing offices and tourist traps; Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, British and

American culture that come to mind when you hear the word “India.” The movie is less episodic than the book, but two-hour movies you watch in one sitting need more focus than books you read in a week.

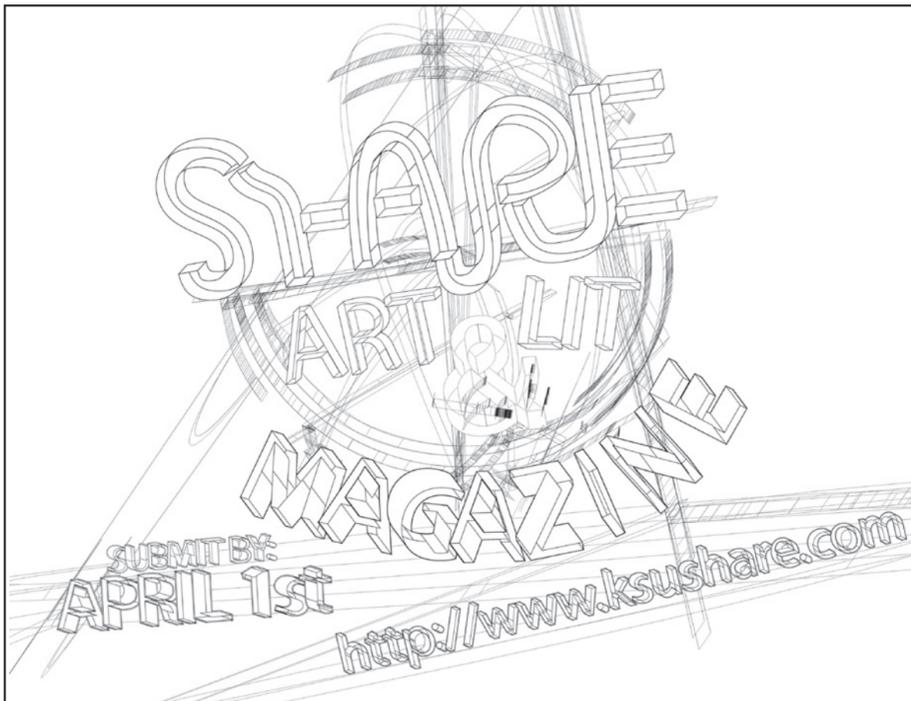
But how do you link twelve crazy episodes that jump halfway across India without killing our disbelief? Easy. Add a love story that spans fifteen years and thousands of miles. I can imagine the meetings.

Danny, this excursion to the Taj Mahal feels too random. The hero was living in an orphanage less than two pages ago; now he’s halfway across the country posing as a tour guide? Just write some dialogue in scene two where he complains about missing the girl he met in scene one. Not only will it hold the story together, it’ll make it ten times easier to love. You cheer up when a poor slumdog wins two million rupees, but you rip off your shirt and spin it around your head when he wins two million rupees and finds his childhood girlfriend. Trust me. I know from experience.

Good ol’ Danny Boyle. Swarup knows how to tell a story—who could forget the

boy who speaks gibberish—but pictures speak louder than words and Boyle paints brilliant pictures. He cranks up the music, cuts between shots as quickly as a crazy butcher and fills the screen with beautiful, beautiful color. In one great shot, shadows dance in front of the screen while the slumdog’s dead mother lies facedown in a pool of water. In another, we see the heroine refracted through dozens of little windows.

The movie can be depressing. The torture scenes, riots, murders and orphanage sequences are downright brutal. But the heroes never lose hope and neither does the movie, which feels happy and alive—happy to be alive—even when it’s buried in ugliness. Some people have attacked Boyle and Swarup for making life in the slums look fun, but I think they’re saying something about positive thinking. We’ll meet crooked cops and evil game show hosts during our lives, we’ll live in shitty orphanages and we’ll lose our entire family to angry mobs, but if we run fast and smile hard, we might win twenty million rupees and the girl of our dreams.



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Seniors say goodbye

SUSAN CLOUGH
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Co-captains J.D. Pollock and Jeff Croft concluded their basketball careers on Feb. 28 with a loss at USC Upstate after struggling with their teammates through a disappointing and emotional season.

Croft, who walked on two years ago after playing for Shorter College, and Pollock, who transferred at the same time from Berry College, were the Owls' only two seniors this season. As captains they shouldered the heavy load of carrying a young team through the transition into Division I play.

But for both of these players, wearing a KSU jersey was the ultimate dream-come-true. They talked animatedly about the excitement of playing

for a school as large as KSU.

"Not many people get the chance to do what we did," said Pollock. "I dreamed of playing [Division I] basketball since I was a kid. This is as good as it gets."

"I wanted to play against the best," Croft added. "This was the place I could do that."

And when asked about their most memorable moments as KSU athletes, both players mentioned the team's win over Belmont last season and being named as co-captains in August.

Pollock's favorite memory, however, took place last year in Bowling Green, KY.

"Hands down, the best part [of playing for KSU] was the run out of the tunnel at Western Kentucky last season," said Pollock. "The place was packed. My heart was pounding. It was what I had dreamed of since I was a kid."

However, Pollock's senior season came to a premature end after a severe knee injury benched him seven games into the season. The injury devastated Pollock.

"I cried myself out," said Pollock. "I was honestly just in disbelief. Other than death or paralysis, I can't think of anything that could be worse."

Head Coach Tony Ingle was pleased with Pollock's play during the first games of the season, especially after Pollock recorded a career-high 24 points against Colgate in November.

"Losing Pollock tore our heart out," said Ingle after the team's final home game of the season. "It took our heart. It took our soul. In basketball, one player can make a huge difference. What J.D. brought to us was leadership."

Ingle added later that he was proud of the way the team handled themselves through the second

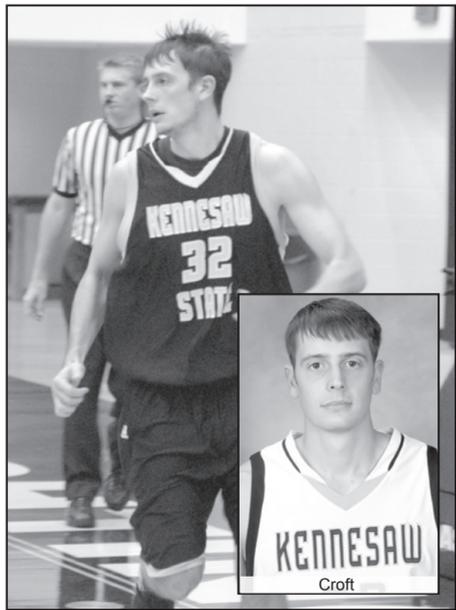
half of conference play, where the Owls recorded only two wins.

The seniors agreed that they will both miss playing for Ingle and wished their teammates the best of luck for next season.

Croft encouraged his teammates to keep their heads up, and wanted to "thank them for all the good times. They have been like a second family, and I will miss them a lot," he said.

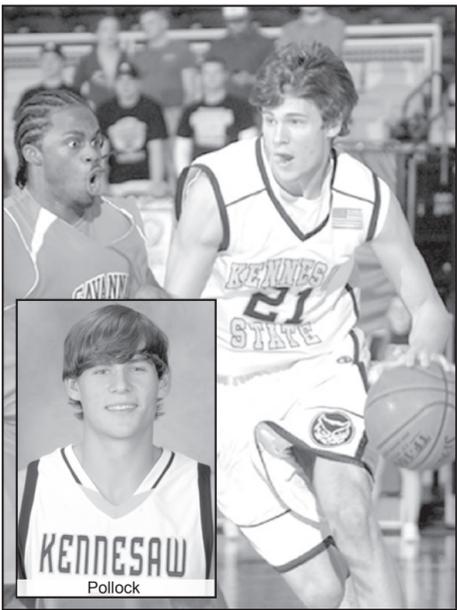
"They have what it takes to win a lot of games next year if they have a short memory of this season and keep working hard," Pollock said.

And almost as an afterthought, Pollock added, "But I have no regrets. I've had a career that people dream about. I am so thankful, and I have no regrets."



Courtesy of KSU SID

“Losing Pollock... took our heart... took our soul...”



Courtesy of KSU SID

Club Briefs Justin Hobday Asst. Sports Editor

M Lacrosse

Owls Roll Tide

The Owls took only six seconds to score their first goal in a 17-3 rout of the Crimson Tide from Alabama on March 7 at the KSU intramural field.

The men's lacrosse team remained undefeated, and improved their record to 8-0.

Five first-quarter goals gave the Owls a comfortable 5-1 lead, and three more goals in the second quarter gave the Owls an 8-2 lead at halftime. Nine more goals in the second half sent the Tide limping home to Tuscaloosa.

The Owls' defense was once again stellar, allowing only ten shots on goal. Goalie Noah Rosenblum stopped seven shots as the Owls allowed five goals or less for the fifth straight game.

Tim Minick and Justin McKay both scored three goals, and four more Owls scored twice apiece.

SCAD puts Owls to the test

The Owls fell behind early before coming back to defeat the SCAD Bees, 13-11, Sunday, March 22, at the KSU intramural fields.

The Bees built an early 4-1 lead before the Owls regrouped to take a 10-5 lead.

W Lacrosse

Another one goal loss

The Owls once again fell by a close margin when they took a 12-11 loss to Furman Saturday, March 21.

Furman controlled the match in the first half and led 9-4 at halftime. KSU settled down in the second half and outscored the Paladins 7-3.

"We played much better when we settled the ball on offense," head coach Ray Jones said.

The inaugural season for the women's lacrosse team is over if the team is unable to make up games with Auburn and Millsaps. However, the team is happy with the effort, and the chance to start a tradition at KSU.

"We had some really close games and the girls had some fun," team captain Jennifer Byers said. "It's nice to get the team started."

Close loss to 'Bama

The Owls lost a close game against the Tide of Alabama, 11-10, on March 7 at the KSU intramural field.

"We were missing a few players due to spring break, but we were extremely happy with the way we all played," team captain Jennifer Byers said.

Byers scored two goals and delivered two assists for the Owls. Ana Trujillo led the team with three goals, and Milissa Joiner added two goals of her own.

Ultimate

Rain soaked Terminus

The ultimate team played well at the weather short-ened Terminus Tournament at the Polo Grounds in Cumming, Ga., Saturday, March 14.

The Owls played four games, which included a victory over Rhode Island for the first time ever. KSU held their position as a fourth seed in the tournament, but rain cut the weekend short as all games scheduled for Sunday were rained out.

"Holding seed at such a big tournament is a good accomplishment for the team," said team captain Kyle Ward.

Next on the docket for the Owls is an appearance in the prestigious Easterns Invitational Tournament in Wilmington, N.C., which will be held March 28-29.

Tennis teams start off strong

Women upset conference champs, Men's struggles continue



James Richmond | The Sentinel

Ryan Boutell earned the men's only win against JU.

MATT BRADSHAW
STAFF WRITER

The KSU men's and women's tennis teams traveled to Jacksonville, Fla., this past Saturday, March 21, to take on Jacksonville University. The women pulled off an impressive upset on the road against the defending Atlantic-Sun Champions, 4-3, while the men fell by a score of 6-1 to the Dolphins.

The Owls took an early lead after a doubles victory and they went on to win three of six singles matches, edging out JU, 4-3. KSU's No. 1 singles player, Vera Shkundina, earned her tenth win of the season in straight sets, while her teammates Ayano Tanaka and

Mercedes Cobos pushed their respective opponents to the limit, ultimately falling in three sets.

The four-match winning streak that Agatha Palider brought into the competition came to an end, which set up Morgan Carney to be the unlikely hero, ending an almost month-long losing streak with a straight-set victory to tie JU, 3-3. In the rubber match, KSU's Mackenzie Swindall came through, winning a thrilling third set tiebreak, 8-6, giving the Owls the upset win.

The KSU women improved their season record to 6-7 and are off to a strong start in conference play, racking up an early 2-1 conference record and winning three of their last five competitions. They

look to bring that momentum back home when they host USC Upstate Tuesday, March 24 at 1:00 p.m.

The KSU men were not as successful against the Dolphins, failing to win their first conference game in their third attempt and deeming their two game road trip unsuccessful as they fell to 0-2.

Ryan Boutell earned the team's only win against JU, extending his winning streak to six. The win streak has proven to be the only highlight for the Owls so far this season, as the team fell to 4-8.

The Owls will look to regroup when they play host to USC Upstate alongside their female counterparts who will look to bring that momentum back home on Tuesday, March 24, at 1:00 p.m.

Wet weekend wins against No. 21 Kent State

JOHN MORBITZER
STAFF WRITER

The Owls (7-6) grabbed two wins sweeping a double-header from No. 21 Kent State (8-4) on Friday, March 13 at Stillwell Stadium.

The Owls used two late rallies to score go-ahead and winning runs in 3-2, and 7-6, wins.

"We played well in both games," said head coach Mike Sansing. "I thought we pitched well, really well, in the first game and most of the second game. We made a couple mistakes, but I'm pretty pleased."

With one out, and down 0-2 in the count in the bottom of the eighth of the first game, the Owls' Jace Whitmer forced a walk to become the lead runner. After a walk and a wild pitch advanced Whitmer to third base, Bucky Smith hit an RBI double to drive Whitmer in just ahead of the tag.

"I was just pushing him along there just trying to get him home. He had a good jump on the ball and definitely thought he was under the tag so it was nice," said Sansing about waving Whitmer home.

The Owls' Kyle Heckathorn and Brad Stillings of the Golden Flashes displayed their arsenal of pitches in a true pitchers' duel. Both pitchers dominated their outings combining for more strikeouts than hits in their respective innings.

Heckathorn pitched seven complete innings, striking out nine while giving up five hits and one earned run. Stillings went five and a third, recording six strikeouts while giving up five hits and two earned runs.

Kent State took an early lead in the top of the third as their leadoff batter, Jimmy Rider, singled and eventually scored. Whitmer homered in the bottom

of the fourth to tie the score, but Kent State reclaimed the lead in the top of the sixth with an unearned run.

KSU answered in the bottom half of the sixth inning when Curtis Van Wyck crossed the plate to again tie the score. The score remained the same until the bottom of the eighth, when the Owls took the lead.

The second game did not feature the same defensive struggle, but the late-game heroics were still on display.

The game remained a stalemate until the bottom of the ninth with the teams tied at six, when KSU took ad-

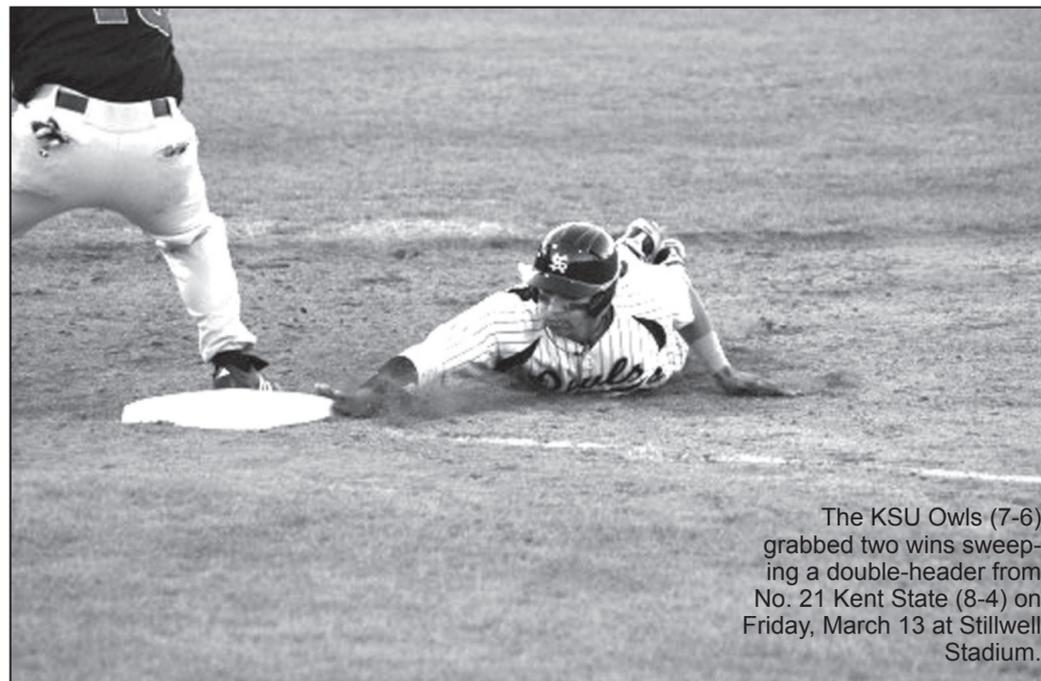
vantage of a leadoff single to center by Tyler Stubblefield. The next two batters walked, loading the bases with no outs.

KSU's Andrew Martin fouled a pitch down the first base line and Stubblefield tagged up on third base waiting for the catch. The sacrifice fly was complete as a stretching Stubblefield beat the tag with a Pete Rose-style slide to record the second victory for the Owls on the day.

"Really what was going through my head was to not get thrown out at the plate. But coach said 'tag' and I know we tag on any foul ball hit," said

Stubblefield. "So, once I saw the foul ball and saw he was going to catch it, I said 'Do whatever I have to do.' I had to get in there and score."

The Golden Flashes took another early lead in the second game, scoring two runs in the top of the second, but KSU's Jon White responded with a three-run home run in the bottom of the second to give the Owls the lead. Kent State scored four runs in the top of the fourth inning to reclaim the lead, 6-5, before Whitmer scored in the bottom of the fifth to tie the game again, setting up the late inning dramatics.



The KSU Owls (7-6) grabbed two wins sweeping a double-header from No. 21 Kent State (8-4) on Friday, March 13 at Stillwell Stadium.

Christine Morales | The Sentinel

Owls shutout Thunderbirds in first game of series

LUCAS BIGHAM
STAFF WRITER

The KSU baseball team shut out Southern Utah, 8-0, on Friday, March 20 at Stillwell Stadium.

The Owls were lead on the mound by Kyle Heckathorn who threw 11 strikeouts and prevented the Thunderbirds from bringing home any runs.

"Heckathorn did a great job," said head coach Mike Sansing. "If we pitch like that we can control the game."

Southern Utah did not have an answer for Heckathorn's strong pitching. Even though they earned a total of five hits, the Thunderbirds were unable to bring any of their runners home.

"We played very well," Owls head coach Mike Sansing said. "We made the most of our hits."

After back-to-back losses to Georgia Tech, the Owls were looking to put together a strong showing at home against Southern Utah. Both teams had never met prior to Friday.

KSU was lead offensively by Jacob Robbins who controlled the momentum for his team after his homerun in the bottom of the first inning. He would later get a triple in the bottom of the fifth thanks to an error by the right fielder, which increased his RBI total to three.

Owl's catcher Jace Whitmer also helped the offensive production with two RBIs of his own.

The Owls earned a split in the subsequent double-header on Saturday, and their record currently sits at 9-9 on the season.



Christine Morales | The Sentinel

Kyle Heckathorn pitched a winning game against Utah on Friday, March 20.

Son of a bee sting



No.3 Jackets sweep series w/Owls

JUSTIN HOBBDAY
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets swept a three-game season series against the Owls by handing KSU a stinging 11-3 loss Wednesday, March 18 at Russ Chandler Stadium.

The No. 3 Yellow Jackets scored seven runs in the bottom of the first inning when they sent 12 batters to the plate, eight of which connected for a hit.

"That's kind of been our problem, giving up the big innings several times throughout the year," said head coach Mike Sansing.

Jason Haniger knocked in the first run for the Jackets when he singled in the lead-off hitter. Tony Plagman followed with a three-run home run that stretched the Jackets' lead to 4-0. Three more Jackets scored in the first inning, and in the second inning Luke Murton scored for the second time of the game, giving Georgia Tech an 8-0 lead after two innings.

The Owls showed some life in the top of the sixth inning scoring three runs on three hits. However, Georgia Tech closed the door on any hopes of a comeback when they scored three runs of their own in the bottom of the sixth.

Van Wyck and Martin Baker both connected for three hits on the day to provide all but two of the Owls hits for the game.

Owls starting pitcher Justin Edwards was forced out of the game after an inning and a third of work. Edwards faced 16 batters and surrendered nine hits while allowing eight earned runs.

Edwards' performance in the final game of the

series overshadowed his gutsy performance in the first game a week before. He worked six complete innings giving up only five runs on five hits.

"All I was trying to do was keep [the game] close so we could have a chance to comeback," said Edwards.

Plagman waited until the third inning of the first game to hit a three-run homer, but the game wouldn't get away from the Owls in their first trip to Atlanta.

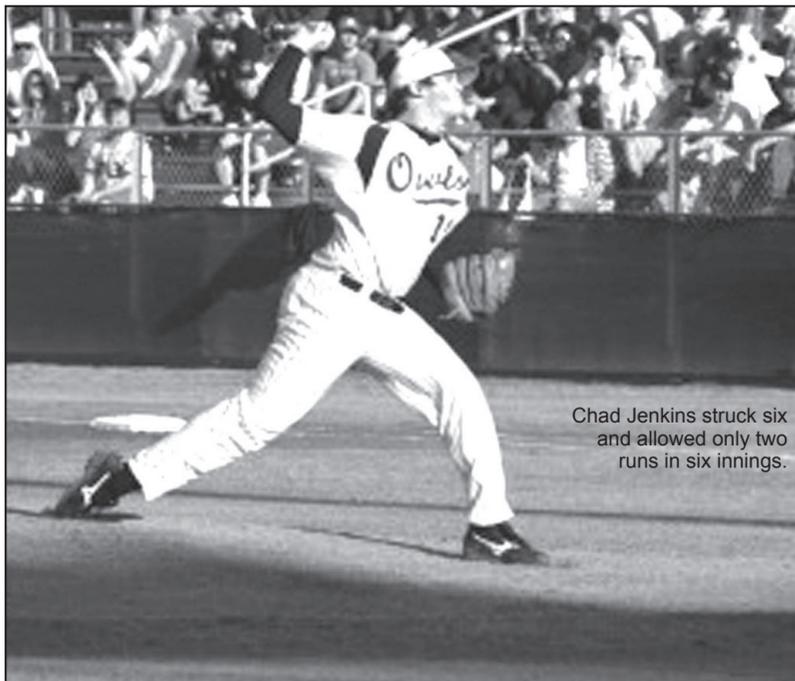
KSU came to bat in the top of the ninth inning, down 5-2, but scored two runs to close the gap to 5-4. With two outs and the bases loaded, Tyler Stubblefield stepped up to bat with the tying and go-ahead runs in scoring position. However, he was unable to push a run in as he struck out to end the game.

The Owls hosted the Jackets at Stillwell Stadium in the second game of the series on Tuesday, March 17 in front of 1,014 fans.

Chad Jenkins struck out six Jackets and allowed only two runs over six innings of work. However, the Owls' offense could only muster two hits for the game as KSU would fall, 11-0.

"We're just trying to get focused for this weekend," said Van Wyck. "I think our attitude is upbeat."

After a series against Southern Utah, the Owls will hit the road for six straight road games including a three-game series with conference rival Stetson. KSU will be back at home against the Lipscomb Bison on April 3-4 in a match-up of the Atlantic Sun Conference's pre-season No. 1 and No. 2 selections.



Chad Jenkins struck six and allowed only two runs in six innings.

Matt Phillips | The Sentinel



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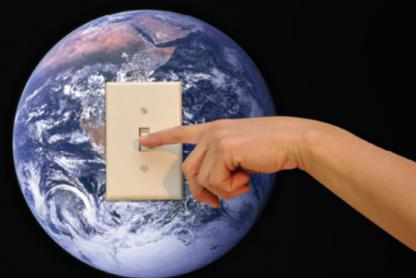
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DAHLANDI GRAPHIX

Ice Hockey exits empty-handed

BRIAN C. BELL
STAFF WRITER

Last week, the 2007 ACHA Division III KSU Ice Hockey team had the honor of attending the ACHA Division II National Championship tournament in Grand Rapids, Mich. The Owls were newcomers to the tournament, making it to the national tournament in their second year of Division II competition. KSU's hard-fought route to a national title came to an end in pool play when the Owls were unsuccessful in winning any of their guaranteed three games, going 0-3 to be eliminated in the opening round.

The tournament began on Tuesday, March 17, and making it into the tournament was an accomplishment for the Owls. KSU finished ninth in the region, meaning they had no automatic qualification for the national tournament and had to compete in a single elimination regional tournament to earn the spot.

During the course of the regional tournament, KSU received the chance to avenge earlier losses to UMBC and Miami of Ohio. The wins earned the Owls a spot in this year's national tournament against the stiffest competition they would see all year.

KSU drew Siena, DePaul, and Weber State in their pool, a grouping that KSU Ice Hockey Club President Jimmy Barry said boded well for the Owls chances. "We knew we were capable of winning our pool since Siena posed the biggest threat."

The Owls opened the tournament against Weber State, losing a 2-1 heartbreaker that would make winning the pool an uphill climb.

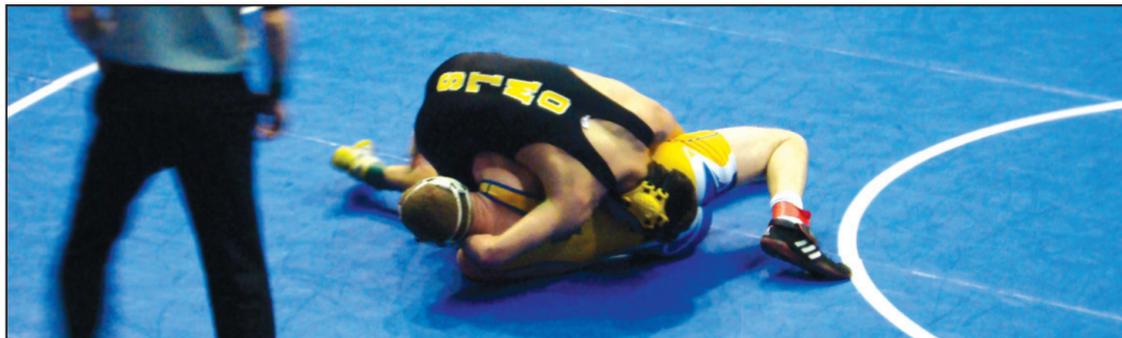
The next day, KSU faced off against Siena, a team that the Owls previously defeated during the regular season. Barry knew that Siena would provide the toughest challenge in their pool. "We were convinced the winner of our game would win the pool," said Barry. Siena came out blazing on the ice and used that hot start to put the scrappy Owls out of contention with a 9-0 victory. The Owls ended the tournament with a consolation game loss to DePaul, 10-3. Lead scorers for the Owls in the tournament were Chris Koutnik, Jerry Holden and Rick Lirette.

Despite the disappointing performance in Grand Rapids, Barry is proud of what his club was able to accomplish this season with a young roster.

"Making it to nationals in our second season in the ACHA Division II was a great accomplishment. For some of the team it was their first time competing in a national tournament. We will use this season to build on for next year as most of our team will be returning," said Barry.

The trip to Grand Rapids this year gave the Owls a taste of things to come. Next year, they will surely be gunning for the same goal with a different outcome.

KSU Ice Hockey would like to thank KSU club sports, their sponsors, all of the volunteers, and their fans for a successful season. If you are interested in joining the KSU Ice Hockey club, contact the KSU club sports office for more information.



Courtesy of KSU Club Sports

KSU wrestling finishes in top 15 at nationals

BRIAN C. BELL
STAFF WRITER

Over the course of March 12-14, the KSU Wrestling club team took four of its best wrestlers to Hampton, VA, to compete at the NCWA National Tournament. The KSU squad qualified five wrestlers: team captain/coach junior Ross Cravens; two-time All-American senior Darryl Cloer; sophomore Garrett Guy; junior Kyle Isaacs; and freshman Trevor Pinkerton, who was unable to attend. The grappling Owls managed to finish No. 15 as a team, giving them the highest ranking among Georgia universities and a strong showing against squads of much larger numbers.

The three-day tournament marked a third straight year that KSU had wrestlers entered in the NCWA National tournament, and also gave Cravens and Cloer another chance at claiming the national championships that they were denied last year.

Kyle Isaacs fell in first round action after drawing a top opponent who would finish in fifth place in the 133 pound class, while teammate Garrett Guy fell just short of qualifying for the fifth place match at the 184 pound class. While both had tough draws, the wrestlers showed the same tenacity that got propelled them from the regional level to the national level.

The only two-time All-American wrestler in KSU history, 235-pounder Darryl Cloer, made the trip to the national tournament for the third straight year, hoping to improve upon his second place finish in 2008. Cloer showed promise early, ripping through opponents from Northeastern U. and San Jose State on his way to a quarterfinal matchup that if won would give him his third All-American honor. In a sad turn of events, the defending national runner-up had to bow out of his quarterfinal match after sustaining an undisclosed shoulder injury. Cloer fell just short of his third All-American honor in his final competition as an Owl, but gave his all in the process.

Team captain Ross Cravens came into the tournament with an unblemished record at the 174 pound level and an intense desire to redeem himself from a disqualification in the 2008 final. Just as he had done in the myriad of matches during the season, Cravens advanced through the brackets, collecting two pins and giving up a total of eight points to opponents on his way to a berth in the finals of his class. Cravens took his first national championship by a score of 18-1, and gave the KSU Wrestling club its second national championship in its three year existence in addition to a 30-0 undefeated record for Cravens.

The team's overall performance garnered 35 points and the rank of No. 15 in the nation, a sign of consistency as they finished No. 14 in 2008. The performance of the KSU grapplers in Hampton last week can only help a program that is continuing to expand in the Southeast, providing stiff competition to the larger squads of the NCWA and continuing to add new Owls to fill the singlets left behind by experienced seniors such as Cloer.

If you have interest in the KSU Wrestling club, please contact the KSU Club Sports office for more information.

NATIONAL CHAMPION

KSU's Cravens Captures NCWA National Wrestling Championship

BRIAN C. BELL
STAFF WRITER

In the halls of Hampton University on March 14, the NCWA held its annual National Championship tournament. Grapplers from 84 institutions from across the U.S. gathered to compete for greatness. The KSU Wrestling club was included as one of these competitors, and sent one of the true mat generals of the college ranks, junior Ross Cravens, to compete against the cream of the country's crop. The competition, however, proved no challenge to Cravens as he swept through the brackets and captured the 2009 NCWA National Championship in the 174 pound weight class.

"It's pretty exciting... I don't even know if it has still really hit me that I'm a national champion," said Cravens.

Cravens' championship victory caps a year of numerous accomplishments including being named an NCWA All-American, 2009 SEC Most Outstanding Wrestler, and finishing the season with a 30-0 undefeated record.

Cravens' path to hoisting the trophy in Hampton was marked by adversity than can be traced three years into the past. Faced with building a wrestling program at KSU from the bottom up, Cravens continued to push for expansion and improvement of the squad and its resources in route to not only winning the second wrestling national championship in KSU history, but also supporting the efforts of KSU President Daniel Papp and his administration to give club sports a larger and more relevant role in the athletic community of KSU.

"With the increased visibility of Cravens' National Championship and with the [KSU's] No. 15 finish, clearly that makes us a nationally visible [wrestling] program," said Papp.

Until recently, the KSU wrestling team had no permanent training home, moving from training ground to training ground, borrowing mats from

surrounding high schools. Even though this nomadic style of training served as a disadvantage, the KSU wrestling club continued to rise in skill level and rank through its first couple of seasons, garnering a national championship in 2007 as well as its first two-time All-American in Darryl Cloer.

The success during these first two years under Cravens' leadership led to a new commitment on the part of KSU's brass to solidify the steady improvement of the KSU Wrestling club. The 2008-09 season saw a new training area on campus completed with the first KSU-owned wrestling mat, a financial triumph on its own. The increase of support from the KSU administration, inspired by Cravens' club, also opened the door for the NCWA to hold the SEC Championship tournament on the KSU campus, the first wrestling tournament ever hosted by KSU.

The tournament was where Cravens and four other KSU grapplers qualified for the National tournament, and, Cravens offered a glimpse into his own future.

"We're going to work these next two weeks and hopefully bring back a few national cham-

piionships," predicted Cravens, a premonition that came true with his 18-1 technical fall win in the NCWA National final.

Cravens embodies what the KSU Club Sports program aims to do with its student athletes. His leadership as not only the team captain, but also the head coach, head fundraiser and team president for the wrestling club, has shown how KSU Club Sports' efforts to encourage the quality of student leadership are being taken to heart and being put into use in the student athlete population.

"I think [Cravens' victory] underlines the importance of having student-led sports clubs... they provide students with not only a chance to compete against peers from across the country, but also aid in the development of leadership skills," said Papp.

Along with running the KSU Wrestling Club alongside KSU

Alum Ben Erichs, Cravens also holds three separate jobs: a pool technician, after school tutor and high school wrestling referee. He balances these occupations with training himself and his squad in addition to working towards his Health, PE and Sports Science degree. Described as an excellent student athlete, Cravens hopes to continue in wrestling after his graduation by teaching PE and coaching wrestling at the high school level.

With his work ethic and passionate commitment to excellence in every facet of the student athlete existence, it is no surprise that Cravens has become the face of KSU Club Sports and its expansion.

"People recognize me now... I'm going to do my best not just in wrestling, but also in the classroom," said Cravens.

As St. Onge stated, "[Cravens] is a wonderful ambassador for KSU in the community."

After three years, Cravens finally has the championship that eluded him, and plans to add to his accolades in his senior season.

"To achieve it with a year left to do more is pretty cool... I definitely would like to be a two-time champion, that way my hands aren't uneven..." joked Cravens, adding, "but I really would like to see what some of our new guys can do with a full year of competition."

Success has not clouded Cravens' ability as a coach and leader, abilities that will be held in regard among the KSU populous for years to come.

“With his extreme work ethic and passionate commitment to excellence in every facet of the student-athlete existence, it is no surprise that Cravens has become the face of KSU Club Sports and its expansion.”



Christine Morales | The Sentinel

Papp recognizes wrestler's accomplishment, personally congratulates

Newly crowned National champion Ross Cravens shares his NCWA All-American award with KSU President Daniel Papp. Cravens' 30-0 undefeated record capped a successful season for the KSU wrestling club and created the kind of buzz that Papp's new initiative to promote KSU Club Sports programs could use to infuse leadership skills in the student body. "I think [Ross's victory] underlines the importance of having student-led sports clubs... they provide students with not only a chance to compete against peers from across the country, but also aid in the development of leadership skills," added Papp.



Derek Wright | The Sentinel