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UNFINISHED BUSINESS



Erika Neldner | The Sentinel

Village not ready for residents

Housing goes through major headaches when The Village is not completed on time

Troy Rowland
Staff Writer

One hundred and eighty freshman will not have housing at the beginning of their college careers at KSU. The University Village, which is capable of housing 756 students, is behind schedule. Building 2000 will not be ready at the start of the semester. Place Properties

expected completion by Aug. 18, but construction has been delayed by weather and a nationwide shortage of steel. It was announced that Building 1000 also would not open on schedule.

"The building is not sufficiently completed to be accepted by the foundation for opening this week. The delay should not be as long as the 2000



Michael Sanseviro
Director of Residence Life

building, but could be as long as Sept. 3," Michael Sanseviro, director of Residence Life, said in a memo to faculty and staff.

All of the students displaced from the 2000 building have been temporarily assigned rooms on campus. There are only 100 rooms left, and they are scattered around the campus. For those students within a 25-mile radius, reimbursements will be given for their commute expenses.

For those affected by the building 1000 delay, a contingency plan was in the process of being finalized. The plan will temporarily provide housing for the freshmen who

live outside a 25-mile radius of campus.

Concerning the inconvenience, James Fleming, president of the KSU Foundation said, "Life is inconvenient."

"This is a bump in the road for the freshmen, but they will be happy with their new homes. The department is committed to a transition as smooth as possible," said Sanseviro.

The new move-in date for the 180 freshmen is Sept. 15, if not before. "Sept. 15 is a worst-case scenario," Fleming said. He also stated Place Properties was optimistic about completing the project two weeks prior to Sept. 15.



James Fleming
President of KSU Foundation



Erika Neldner | The Sentinel

Employees work around the clock to complete buildings 1000 and 2000 of University Village.

Student Government President resigns

Senate votes 13-0 to initiate impeachment

Darol C. De Andre
Staff Writer

Student Government President Justin Wagner resigned on Monday, Aug. 16 prior to the convening of the trial that was scheduled to adjudicate his impeachment on 11 counts of alleged wrongdoing and misconduct.

In a prepared speech delivered to the SG Senate and attending guests, Wagner said the allegations were factually unfounded and denied all counts charged against him.

"First, I am not guilty," Wagner said. "These charges are distortions of the facts and therefore do not warrant impeachment."

Wagner said he was never incompetent, never overstepped his presidential authority and never acted in a manner either unprofessional or unbecoming of the office of SG President.

"I never conducted myself unethically or denied anyone their voting rights," Wagner said. "Lastly, I never made any derogatory and discriminatory comments concerning homosexuals."

On July 30, SG Vice President Munzir Naqvi issued notice to the SG Senate for a special meeting to convene Aug. 2 at 5 p.m.. The meeting was scheduled to address the list of allegations of misconduct by Wagner and for the SG members to decide whether to initiate impeachment proceedings, according to Secretary/Treasurer Jenny Cotton. At the Aug. 2 meeting, Naqvi made a motion for the SG Senate to enter executive session and closed the meeting to the non-senate members who were in attendance. Wagner was also excluded from attending the discussions on the charges. In closed session, the Senate voted 13-0 to initiate impeachment proceedings against Wagner on all 11 counts after brief questioning by the senators on the alleged charges, according to Secretary/Treasurer Cotton.

During the meeting, Kenyon Moore, SG Secretary of Academic Affairs, was appointed prosecutor by Naqvi and was approved by a majority of 10, with one objection and one abstention. Moore was excused during the voting on his appointment. In accordance with the SG Constitution and Policy and Procedures Manual, Advisor Brian Wooten was appointed and approved to chair the impeachment trial.

After the impeachment initiation process was approved, Wagner, who had been prohibited from entering the meeting, was immediately notified of the decision, given a summary of the charges and informed of the suspension of his duties and privileges as president. In accordance with SG constitutional provisions, a certified letter detailing the charges and notification of the impeachment trial date of Aug. 16 was also mailed to his

address of record. Upon Wagner's request, he was provided with evidence supporting the allegations against him. Moore requested a response to the charges from Wagner, which he provided.

At the conclusion of Wagner's announcement of his resignation, the Aug. 16 impeachment proceedings were terminated. Wooten told the assembly that Vice President Naqvi would immediately assume the office of Student Government president.

"The major reason that we initiated the impeachment process," Cotton said, "was because with the charges, we thought that our integrity and our credibility as an organization were being threatened. And it



Richard L. Johnson | The Sentinel

Justin Wagner
Former SG President

was being threatened by one individual."

In an interview after the termination of the impeachment proceedings, Moore said he initially had reservations about being appointed prosecutor since he ran against Wagner in the general election as a candidate for the office of president. Moore said that the only reason he felt he could adequately prosecute Wagner was because he believed in each of the charges on the list presented to him by the student government.

"That's why I agreed to prosecute if the trial went forward without a resignation," said Moore.

Naqvi reiterated during the interview after assuming the office of president that the impeachment process was conducted in the best interest of all parties involved and that he kindly honored Wagner's resignation. Naqvi said he believed the charges put forth were reasonable, that they concerned matters of integrity for the Student Government organization and that the actions had to be taken.

However, Wagner said ever since he was elected there had always been a group of individuals who sought to ruin him, documenting his every move and hoping that the day of

A new corporate image

Alumni are featured to show what earning a KSU degree can do

Kelly Tenedini
Staff Writer

A marketing survey showing KSU was still viewed as a junior college was the inspiration for launching the university's first corporate image campaign. With enrollment approaching 18,000, KSU turned its attention from enrollment to corporate leaders at a local and state level. The goal was to garner financial support from the metro Atlanta business community.

"KSU relies on state funding for education, however it is the funding from companies and individuals that allow our school to go the extra mile,"

said Frances Weyand, director of University Relations. "The central message of the campaign is the important role Georgia companies can play in helping to educate tomorrow's leaders."

A consulting firm presented the idea of using, in print advertisements, successful alumni recognized as leaders in their fields. Receptive to being part of the campaign, Susan Sewell, VP of media relations for ABC; Doug Jones, executive VP for Southern Company; Dr. Robert Lipson, CEO of Wellstar and Bob Wise of Equifax's Credit Marketing Services all credit their success to the foundation provided by their KSU education.



Frances Weyand

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Please recycle

Ouachita Baptist U. student picked to speak at GOP Convention

Katharine Goodloe
The Dallas Morning News

Princella Smith, 20, thinks that calling her peers Generation X is akin to saying they're a generation without direction. And she's about to tell a few million people about it.

Smith of Wynne, Ark., was named Monday the winner of an essay contest sponsored by MTV and the Republican National Convention. The prize will put her in a prime-time spotlight when Republicans gather in New York starting Aug. 30.

Nearly 1,000 18- to 24-year-olds entered the "Stand Up and Holla!" contest, which asked young people about how they answered President Bush's call to service. Smith's essay called for young people to "shun the title of Generation X and let us

become Generation X-ample."

She said she was inspired by seeing the president in Arkansas talking with the educators who worked to meet standards set by the No Child Left Behind Act. Smith said the president "wants to be an example," and that young people should strive to do so, too.

"Our generation of 18-year-old soldiers can take a stand against the horrors of terrorism in order to bring peace and democracy to those who have no hope," she wrote. Smith also urged young people to fight important battles at home: against poverty, against drugs and against "all forces that want to destroy our generation."

For the last three years, Smith has been active in politics, interning in political offices and working on campaigns in Arkansas. She's majoring in

history and political science at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia.

At 8:30 a.m. Friday, she found out she was the contest winner when Republican Party Chairman Ed Gillespie phoned.

"I was starstruck," she said. "I just kept mumbling, 'I can't believe Ed Gillespie called my cell phone.'"

Smith will work with MTV and convention officials to craft a speech based on her essay. Although she says she's already picked an opening line for her Aug. 31 appearance, she's not giving away many hints. The main thing: "I usually open with a joke."

The contest is part of MTV's "Choose or Lose" campaign, which aims to mobilize 20 million young voters. The network also held a contest for the Democratic convention.

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Offering more options

ITS unveils new Web site and services to students

Patricia Wright
Staff Writer

Students can now download free software, including anti-virus protection, access help information 24 hours a day and register for free computer workshops. The ITS department, whose mission is "To provide information technology leadership and support that enables Kennesaw State University to fulfill its instructional and administrative functions in an efficient, effective and timely fashion," has redesigned its Web site to help users easily find information.

"ITS revamped the site to reflect the changes going on in technology and in the university as a whole. Students of every major are being required to use computers, the Internet and their student email. When they are stuck on a problem, they need the information right away," said Christina

Coronado, assistant director of ITS Customer Support.

Students can access on-line help with things such as WebCT, student e-mail problems and resetting passwords.

Rifka Mayani, assistant director of Training and Student Support, and her team spent much of last semester designing the site and organizing ways to make it easier to find information.

The downloads are available for faculty and staff, as well as students. Some of the applications that can be downloaded are Symantec Anti-virus and Secure Shell. Other software downloads will be added to the site in the future.

Free workshops are available on the Microsoft Office Suite, student e-mail and Web page publishing. New this semester is training on the Linux program. One-on-one tutoring sessions are also available for students who are working on projects in



Lab hours for fall
Monday- Thursday
6:30 a.m.-midnight
Friday 6:30
a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday..... 7:30
a.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:00
a.m.-midnight

Students may e-mail the ITS helpdesk at service@kennesaw.edu or call 770-423-6999.

Microsoft Office or creating a Web page and need extra help. The ITS department is divided between two buildings: the Burruss Building and the Technology Annex. Student labs are located on the fourth floor of the Burruss Building. The KSU service desk and hardware section are in the Technology Annex.

New publication to focus on teaching and research

Amie Flanagan
Staff Writer

The new KSU Press, a publication under the leadership of Dr. Laura Dabundo, will be an opportunity to publish exemplary scholarship on teaching. Dabundo, founder and editor in chief, said the Press will include electronics, print journals, serial publications and other creative works.

The focus audience of the Press includes administrators, faculty and students, as well as the surrounding community. President Betty Siegel and Dabundo, who was chair of the English department for eight years, have wanted this for a long time. This dream is now a reality.

"I expect [the Press] will

grow to include student interns, student assistants, work-study students, part-time faculty appointments and next year, I trust, full-time editors," Dabundo said.

Dabundo has many projects she plans to work on. The most important, however, is to earn respect among The Press' audience for quality, and not just because it is associated with the university.

Dabundo is also looking forward to January when she will begin to look for interns who want to learn more about editing and publishing by obtaining hands-on experience. This will count toward college credit. Dabundo said she is, "Interested in students of any major who want to pursue this opportunity, not just English

Studies students."

"Just as KSU is on the vanguard of much that is innovative and pioneering in higher education, so too will the Press be a means for new voices to speak," Dr. Lindley Black, VP of Academic Affairs, said. "We are eager to hear from members of the KSU community about their interests, projects, plans and ambitions."

Dabundo, who has written two books and many articles and book reviews, is optimistic about being in charge of such a large undertaking for the KSU community. "I, who for a long time supported myself as a book and journal editor in Philadelphia before I was a university professor, am professionally available to develop and lead."

ADVERTISEMENT

Area college student dating self

THINGS ARE REALLY STARTING TO HEAT UP



Eric Peterson, top, has one of many romantic dinners with himself at their favorite restaurant.

By LISA CHENEY

Local college student Eric Peterson recently announced that he's entered a committed relationship—with himself. Peterson vehemently denied rumors that the two were dating other people. "We're totally committed to each other. We've never been happier." When asked what prompted the campus

decision on my part, but it's been really nice for us to spend more time together." Peterson was apparently unaware of Free Checking from Washington Mutual. It's an account with no monthly fees and the option to add Deluxe services like free online bill pay. And he could have gotten Free Checking just by visiting a Washington Mutual Financial Center, then signed up for online bill pay at wamu.com. "Dang," said Peterson, "if I had known about Free Checking Deluxe, my current dating situation would be different. I probably wouldn't have settled down with someone so soon."

"We've never been happier."

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Professor awarded for contribution

A.J. Barrett
Staff Writer

Dr. David Jones, associate professor of Philosophy, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the East-West Center Association at its international conference in Tokyo Aug. 4.

Jones is the director of the Center for the Development of Asian Studies. He was honored for outstanding career achievement and continuing support for the goals and objectives of the East-West Center in Honolulu.

Established in 1960 by the U.S. government, the East-West Center is a federally funded research and education institution in Honolulu.

Summer facilities, field seminars in Asia and regional center programs are used by the Center to provide information to faculty and students in America's universities.

Jones has been involved with the Asian Studies Development Program since 1993. KSU is one of 18 regional centers that worked closely with the East-West Center and the University of Hawaii.

"Jones has been a leader in promoting education and understanding about Asia in the United States," said Elizabeth Buck, the East-West Center's special assistant to the president for education.

Jones has hosted the ASDP national conference, edited the ASDP journal and facilitated the development of faculty through workshops.

From RESIGNATION, Page 1

his removal would come. Cotton commented that this was untrue, in her opinion, and most of the allegations came from parties outside the SG organization.

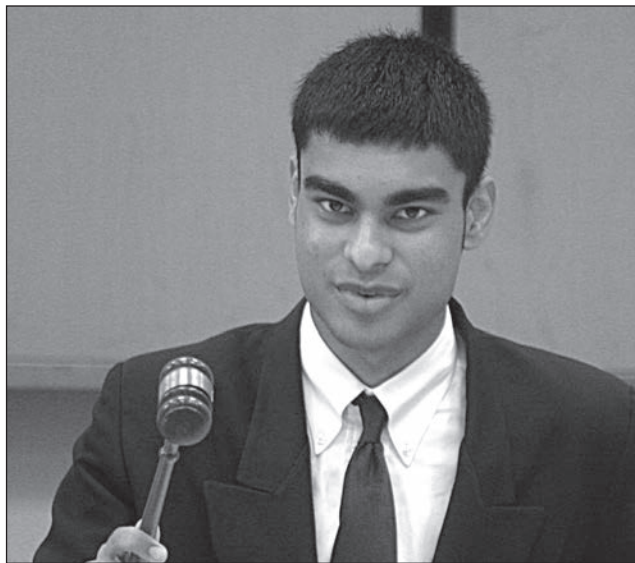
Wagner said it was very unfortunate that living in a country where we are presumed innocent until proven guilty that he was considered guilty unless he proved his innocence. Wagner said he concluded that the deck against him was fully stacked, that he would find it

difficult to convince two-thirds of the Senate to acquit him and that the impeachment trial would be a waste of both his and the organization's time.

Many, if not all, had their minds pre-determined to vote for his impeachment, Wagner said. Having always tried to do what was best for the student body and the organization, Wagner said he decided to leave office without shame, anger and bitterness.



Above: Wagner waits patiently to hear the presentation of evidence at the emergency SG meeting held Aug 2.



Munzir Naqvi, Wagner's successor, calls the meeting to order.

All photos by: Richard L. Johnson

Allegations against Justin Wagner

1. Incompetence concerning SABAC [Student Activities Budget Advisory Committee] appointments. Did not follow proper procedures within the SABAC PPM with checking eligibility with the Student Life office. This resulted in all SABAC appointments not being verified by Student Life, and one appointee happens to not be eligible. [SABAC PPM: section 2-B-1]
2. Overstepped authority by creating office policies, which are under the discretion of the Secretary/Treasurer and require approval of Executive Board. [PPM: Section IV-A-3-k]
3. Violated PPM: Section XIII-b-3 when Rory Zimmerman was appointed to the Office of External Affairs Liaison who was not eligible due to the meeting attendance rule prior to being appointed.
4. Acted in a manner both unprofessional and unbecoming of the office of Student Government President when an e-mail was sent to the SG Advisor Kerwin Swint that stated he should resign. No consultation or approval was afforded to the Executive Board prior to asking for the removal/resignation of said Student Government advisor. [PPM: Section IV-A-1-h]
5. Acted in a manner both unprofessional and unbecoming of the office of Student Government President when Melissa Goulden was verbally attacked, harassed and threatened. Incidents occurred both via e-mail and during interview for the position of PPR Secretary [Student Code of Conduct: Section III-C]
6. Conspiracy to falsify university document. [Student Code of Conduct: Section II-C]
7. Unethical conduct and violation of office policy as well as student code of conduct concerning guest visitations to the SG office. Numerous members of SG have witnessed, on several occasions, the allowance by president of unsupervised and unauthorized access to SG office. Incidents include said guest using their own keys to enter the general office as well as presidential office with no supervision by president. Said guest is not even a student of KSU. [Student Code of Conduct, VII-E, Student Code of Conduct III-I]
8. Acted in manner both unprofessional and unbecoming of office of Student Government President when the President knowingly lied to incoming freshmen during the freshmen orientation stating that "a Division I football team will be active fall 2004 and will be playing other schools such as UGA and GA Tech." When questioned on the matter by incoming freshman the president became verbally hostile and shouted to them that "it was a serious matter and I am telling the truth."
9. Acted in manner both unprofessional and unbecoming of office of Student Government President when chain of command was bypassed on numerous occasions concerning the local administration and state level officials. A specific example is when the Chancellor's office was contacted directly to set up an appointment with the Chancellor of the University System of GA. This resulted in embarrassment of entire SG and Chancellor's office replying and stating not to contact their office again. [Violation of PPM IV-2-f]
10. Denying voting rights and ability to partake in discussion of the appointment of cabinet positions to senators when forced to leave the room while voting and discussion. While they were indeed candidates for various positions, the fact that the voting and discussion was a separated motion by candidate, and separate vote, it would not have caused a conflict of interest since said members would not have been present when their respective position came up for that discussion and vote. [Robert Rules of Order]
11. Acted in a manner both unprofessional and unbecoming of the office of Student Government President by making several derogatory and discriminatory comments concerning homosexuals.

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Viewpoints

ksusentinel.com

What really matters in the gay rights debate

Jesse Velarde
Columnist

The debate over gay marriage is one of the most divisive and polarizing battles in American history. On one side is the homosexual community who seek what they perceive to be civil rights, in fierce opposition are conservative evangelists who believe they are defending morality and family values. Each side makes their case to the American people with passionate urgency in an attempt to influence politicians and judges to advance their agenda.

Personally, I am a lot like many students here at KSU, and I have a lot in common with many residents of Cobb County. I am a Christian, and I was raised in church all of my life. Like many other Christians, I believe that the Bible teaches that homosexuality is wrong. Yet that is not the only thing I believe the Bible teaches.

The dialogue of our nation regarding gay rights has not brought out the best in those of us who claim we serve a loving God. Last spring, a local congregation had individuals protesting here at KSU with signs that read, "God hates fags!" Earlier this month, a high school student in Alabama was burned alive because he was a homosexual, and these are just two cases in the southeast in the past few months. You may be tempted to blow these events off as extreme examples, but they are alarming. In many church pulpits, pastors are not preaching to their congregations about the love of Jesus, but instead preaching against the "evil" homosexuals. Christian bookstores even carry books on defeating the gay agenda.

Many in the Christian community describe the debate over gay marriage as this nation's next "moral crisis." Rhetoric like this causes us to harken back to other moral crises in our nation's history, such as prohibition and abortion. In both cases, many in the church reacted out of fear and paranoia. The fear that gripped conservative Christians in their zeal to rid the world of these

evils pushed people further and further away from the gospel. Those who came to the church looking for help in a time of need were smacked over the head with the Bible and alienated by self-righteous arrogance. Today many homosexuals have encountered that same kind of rejection and have been made a scapegoat for those who believe that Jesus is the son of God. Which begs the question why? Why do so many in the church despise homosexuals? Is the answer fear?

Fear that we might be exposed, or that our own faults and sins which we work so hard to keep from sight will be seen. If we point out how shameful we find another person's sin, no one will notice ours.

We may lie, cheat, steal and be filled with nothing but moral corruption, but at least we are not gay. In the whole gay marriage debate we adamantly object by saying we want to protect families. Yet a little over half of Christian marriages end in divorce. How hypocritical is it for someone who is gluttonous and obese to lecture anyone on how they must control their desires, and that Jesus is all they need?

Several years ago bracelets bearing the logo WWJD were all the rage. "What would Jesus Do?" these bracelets asked.

If Jesus were walking the earth today, I don't think it's unreasonable to think he would hang out with the gay community in midtown or Piedmont Park. He would not see them as a homosexual or a pervert. He would see them as beautiful and precious. He would love them and listen to them. He would not be screaming His father's commandments at them or condemning them to hell. Should that not be an example to His disciples here in the 21st century, or that the individual is far more valuable than the political or moral argument?

As this debate continues, let those who are Christians be reminded of the scripture which said, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and anyone who loveth is born of God, and knows God. He that does not love, does not know God. So let us love one another." (1JN 4:7-8) By doing so we will not lose sight of what truly matters in this discussion.



Jesse Velarde

Blog is a four-letter word

Grant Voyles
Viewpoints Editor

There is no shortage of things in this world that annoy me, and I have few qualms about expressing my distaste for such subjects. Depending on whom you ask, this either makes me interesting or unpleasant to be around. What I am currently lamenting is the latest cyber-trend--web logs, more commonly known as blogs. Blogging is not all that new, the first blogging software came out in the early 90s, according to the *New York Press*. Most early blogs were [and many still are] basically online diaries. But, with the recent popularity of political blogs, such as the Drudge Report [drudgereport.com] and Howard Dean's Blog for America [blogforamerica.com], more and more bloggers are trying their hand as political commentators, which has been most of the focus of the media attention surrounding blogs.

Time magazine recently said blogs "showcase some of the smartest, sharpest writing being published" [Meet Joe Blog 6/18/04]. The article also praised blogs for being "fresh" and "unconstrained." While this may be true of some bloggers, I think *Time* and many web addicts are overstepping the line when they proclaim that blogs will revolutionize journalism and the way the public receives information. While it remains true that blogs serve as a useful tool for alternative media and grassroots organizations [mainly due to blogs being easy and cheap to create and read] what is being ignored is the negative aspect--their unbearable lightness. Blogs are a great source for "infotainment" but are no

substitute for real journalism or in-depth commentary.

Blogs do have their positive aspects--mainly that they open up the institution of the press to a vast marketplace of writers. People write blogs because the only cost is Internet access, and they are easy to write. People read them because they are easily digested, endlessly available and carry with them a bias that every point made is a coup de gras to the opposition. They also bring back unvarnished writing to the political realm--which may or may not be a positive attribute.

So if blogs are supposed to revolutionize the way Americans receive information and opinion, why do they seem so trite? The reason is because bloggers cannot take the place of professional journalism or commentary. Focusing so much attention on the relationship between blogs and

journalism misrepresents the very nature of what blogs are. Journalism is a process, a skill that takes time and effort to refine. Blogging is a forum to convey ideas, whatever they may be. For the most part, blogs are simply discussions around the water cooler or arguments at the bar. By viewing them in this manner it makes blogging seem less like a revolutionary idea and more like what it is, a successful web technology that is a virtual extension of what already occurs in the real world [although it has the possibility of a larger audience].

Blogs are not intrinsically anything but frequent writing. Blogs and diaries are written for the same reasons: they are easy and have no deadlines, while

good commentary can be difficult and time-consuming. Blog entries are updated often, hourly in some cases. This means that far more is being written than need be on any one topic. Entries are fast paced and in short, informal, emphatic sentences [often using that annoying Internet slang and symbols]. And like so much on The Web, bloggers seem to have a fetish with the new--once a topic has been commented on it is all but forgotten and a new subject moves into the limelight. Blog entries are fragmented and instant. And since they usually contain few, if any, direct quotes or backing resources they tend

to digress into one-person soap-boxes. Blogs parse the news of the moment, but lack the more patient and practiced task of researching and in-depth commentary to rival real journalism. This form leaves little room for an argument to develop, this in turn, causes the content of blogs to go stale quick. Read enough of them and you will see why.

There was once a time when a person could update their Web site regularly without being considered a blogger. It is unknown whether The Web will ever recover. With most blogs revolving around the same subject, the information has become superfluous. And far too many are pretentious in presenting their opinion, forgetting a foundation of journalism and opinion writing--everyone has the right to their own opinion, not their own facts. Bloggers, like the writers tucked away in coffee shops, are always writing, but never seem to take the time to edit, perhaps that is why no one reads anymore.



Grant Voyles

I have had about all I can take

Letter to the Editor

This fall will be my senior year at KSU and I wish I could say that the experience has been a good one, but it has been far from good. Everything seems to be getting progressively worse as time goes on and now my brother is facing far worse problems than I ran into.

During my second year at KSU, I was told I still qualified for the HOPE scholarship and was awarded tuition and books for that semester. An entire year went by and then I receive a letter from KSU stating that they had made a mistake in calculating

my GPA the year before, and they demanded that I pay back the money that was awarded that semester, in the amount of \$1,400. They also said that if I failed to pay them immediately, that my classes would be cancelled, and I would have a hold on registration until it was paid in full. Why am I suffering because of a mistake the school made? After speaking to at least five different people, they finally agreed to let me pay it back in two monthly payments. Wow, thank you so much KSU, you really helped me [sarcasm].

My brother was planning to live at University Village as long as he could get a loan to help with

the expenses. He was told that he had to pay his \$300 reservation fee as soon as possible in order to get a room, so he did. But, what they did not tell him, was that along with that fee, he was signing a contract to live there for 12 months even though he had not been approved for the loan. Well, the loan was not approved, and there is no way he can pay close to \$500 a month while going to school full time. Nobody has been willing to work with us. We have been told that he is stuck at this point, no matter what, and he will have to find the money somehow. The only way to get out of this so-called 'contract' will be to transfer to another school. Good job KSU, now you are sending students to other schools, because they cannot afford to pay for the 'contract' they agreed to. He cannot afford to pay for student housing, and I guess he'll just have to let KSU ruin his credit, because we have no other way to obtain that much money. I hope other people become aware of this typical treatment at KSU and look at other schools. If I knew then what I know now, I would have never considered going to KSU, never.

Derek S. Massey
Senior
Business Major (MIS)

Forget Iraq, focus on Venezuela

Beau Harper
Columnist

Forget for the meantime we are fighting a war in Iraq. Forget that the president and his pals at Halliburton control over \$1 billion in non-competitive contracts, that is to say that no one else was allowed by the U.S. to bid on these awarded contracts. Let us focus on an example of shady Bush administration foreign policy closer to home, just to the south of us in Venezuela.

Venezuela is controlled by President Hugo Chavez, who is hated by the upper and middle class Venezuelans. His extreme socialist reforms have forced many in these classes, some personal friends and family of mine, to flee Caracas in fear of another Cuba-like state in one of the richest nations on the South American continent. This has the Bush administration's focus turned ever so slightly to the south and focused on the recall referendum taking place to oust Chavez from office. Why? For more than 20 years, Venezuela has been the primary supplier of oil to the United States, not Saudi Arabia, Iraq or any other Middle Eastern OPEC member.

Chavez has refused to align himself and his government with the politics of globalization currently emanating from the White House and that has Bush and his cronies fuming mad. So, in order to ensure continued oil exports out of Venezuela, the Bush administration has offered support in the form of money (read: \$52,000) to the recall supporters, in an indirect attempt to gain control of the country's oil reserves (which rival Iraq in size). Last time I checked, it was illegal to accept foreign funds to help a political campaign, in Venezuela as well as here at home. Now, it is not my place to say whether or not Chavez should go or stay. That is not the issue here. The issue at hand is a corrupt White House and an administration flexing its political muscle abroad to benefit itself. Sure, who does not agree with policies and procedures that benefit the United States and its citizens? I put gas in my car just like everyone else. My proposed question is this: What price is the United States and its current administration willing to pay to better itself and line its own pockets? Is it thousands of soldiers in Iraq? Locking an entire nation of people in a political and social checkmate? As far as Bush is concerned, who cares, as long as the oil continues to flow.

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Features & entertainment

A fallen

Former SG president tells his story

leader

Colleen Wells
Staff Writer

He aided in developing the KSUOne Card, in making the biochemistry major possible and in redesigning the pages of the KSU Web site. In the past, he has been a volunteer for Keep Cobb Beautiful, a member of Link, a freshmen senator, a senator of science and mathematics and a secretary of technology. His name is Justin Wagner, a junior nursing major and the elected 2004 Student Government President. But due to impeachment charges, his resignation came a little early.

Wagner along with his vice president and best friend, Munzir Naqvi, ran for election under the platform to begin "a new tradition with a vision." Plans were underway to initiate a Division I football team, to improve the student healthcare program, to gain greater Greek life involvement, to develop Greek housing on campus and to make more parking available and closer to classes, among other things. They wanted to truly be the voice of the students, bringing about results from issues that affect the students each day.

"I saw a major change on campus that's needed, [and] a lot of issues were addressed by students, yet they never got the time of day to be addressed," Wagner said. "I wanted to bring about results from real issues that affect real people."

But this vision quickly became distorted, in Wagner's eyes, as he received a letter initiating the impeachment process and listing the charges against him.

"I think that it's linked back to last year's Student Government," Wagner said. "People didn't like

me from the beginning when I was running for president...they didn't want me to be president."

"[The] impeachment started when my best friend of five to six years betrayed me," Wagner said. "I don't know why he turned on me."

Wagner compares the situation to the classic tale of betrayal. Just as Brutus stabbed Julius Caesar in the back, Wagner's best friend and newly appointed vice president stabbed him in the back, metaphorically speaking.

Wagner believes the charges against him are all skewed occurrences and extreme distortions of the facts.

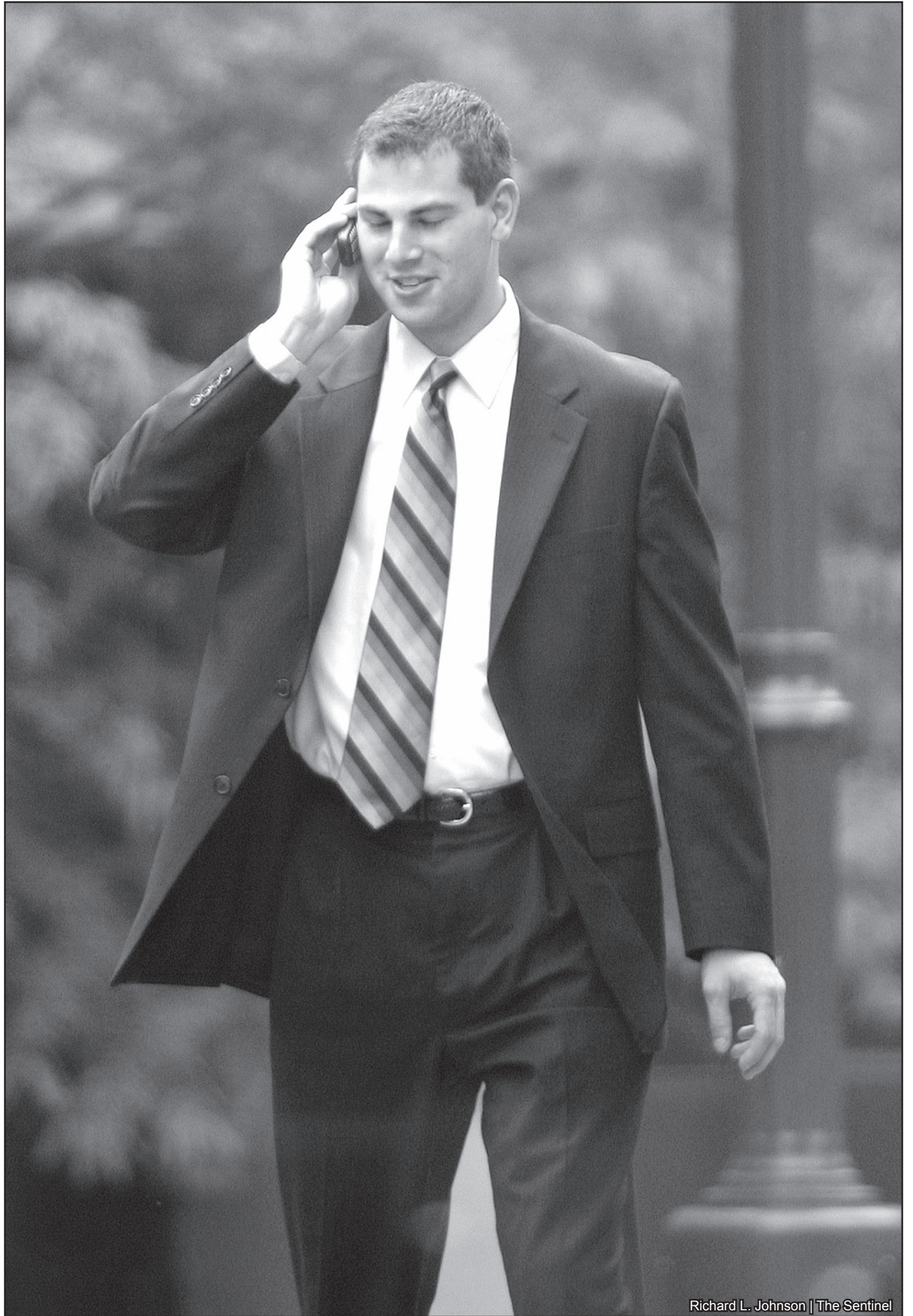
"I wanted to bring about results from real issues that affect real people"

"I could fight it," Wagner said. "I have information, I have proof against it, but they already have their minds made up."

Even though Wagner had information opposing the allegations, the process of proving each charge false would be a difficult and stressful one to endure. And he feels that their opinions of him at this stage could not be swayed. So before his impeachment trial was to begin on Aug. 16, Wagner, after much contemplation, arrived at the decision to respectfully resign, although he does not acknowledge any wrongdoing.

"...231 students wanted me to be president," Wagner said, "and now it is unfair that my presidency is decided by 13 individuals."

Will Wagner become a political figure again? He does have an interest in running for local government positions in the future. And although his term as president was a short one, he hopes to one day have the chance to be known as President Wagner again...as President of the United States of America.



Richard L. Johnson | The Sentinel

Wagner uses his time wisely after being asked to step out of July 30 Student Government meeting.

Three tips for incoming freshmen?

Roaming Reporter

Melissa Spielholz
Features Editor

Meredith Pruden
Senior Copy Editor

Steven Ferguson
Junior
HPS

1. Going to class is the most important thing in the world.
2. Have fun.
3. You have to remember 70 percent of the people on campus are girls.

Brent Obleton
Junior
Business Management

1. Stay focused.
2. Be responsible.
3. Have fun.

Terry Jorgensen
Sophomore
Psychology

1. Take your sweet a** time.
2. College isn't for everyone.
3. The sooner you get done, the sooner you're back to not knowing what to do.

Megan Tuckett
Sophomore
Marketing

1. Get here early because parking sucks.
2. Know where your classes are before you start.
3. Have fun.

Jennifer Puhlman
Junior
Political Science

1. Get to know your professors, because personality reflects on your grade.
2. Take it easy your first year.
3. Get to know people, culture is important.





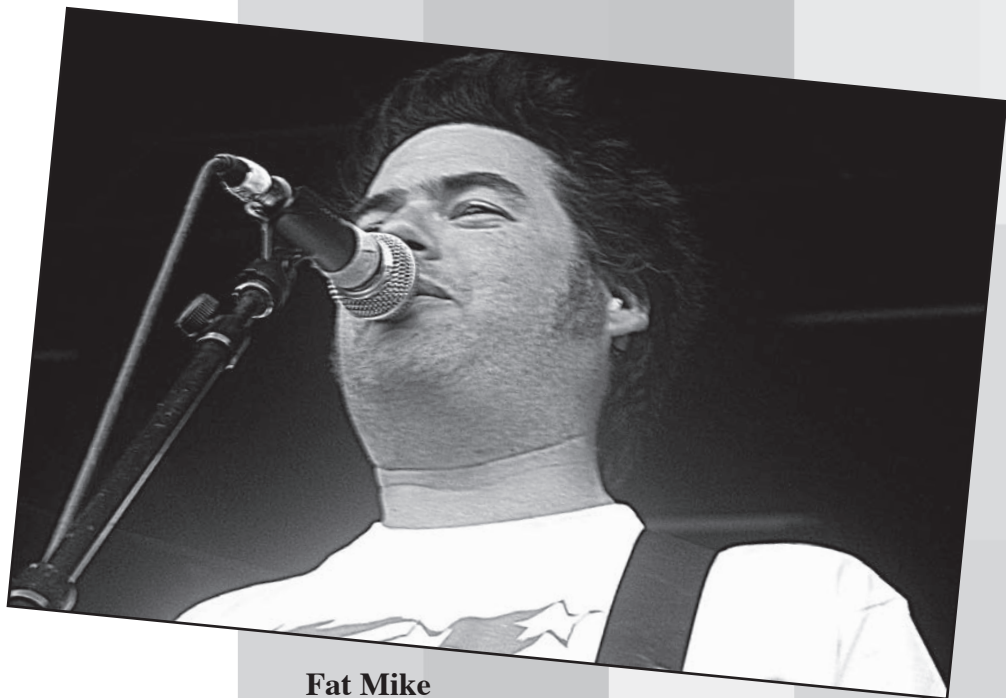
When: Wed., July 28

Who: Bad Religion, The Vandals, NOFX, Yellowcard and 50+ other punk rock bands.

Where: HiFi Buys Amphitheater

Comments: Spanning over nine hours in the Atlanta summer heat, the day's events proved to be exhausting. Despite the exhaustion, Warped Tour's 10th anniversary show continued the event's tradition by providing punk rock lovers a "punk rock holiday."

Grade: A



Fat Mike
(NOFX- Vocals)
performs some of the
bands older hits.



Warren Fitzgerald
(Vandals- Guitar)
poses for the camera
while showing off his
guitar skills.

David Quackenbush
(Vandals- Vocals)
performs for
both old and new
Vandals fans.



Greg Graffin
(Bad Religion-Vocals) leads the crowd
with songs from over two decades.



Jay Bentley
(Bad Religion-Bass)
energetically
entertains
the crowd.



A religious experience ...sort of

Los Angeles punk band, Bad Religion, has been rocking since 1980, and is still going strong with their fourteenth album "The Empire Strikes First." This summer they headlined The Vans Warped Tour, and The Sentinel had a chance to talk with bassist, Jay Bentley.

Sentinel: You just released a new album and some re-releases, how did the process go?

JB: Really well. The new record, that is a little more personal [than the re-releases] because this is now. Those records are historical for us, they are landmines. This record has a lot more meaning than most. There is a lot more direct and actual anger as opposed to the typical Bad Religion obtuse, vague, hidden anger, plus sarcasm equals, "I don't understand what the hell you are trying to say."

Sentinel: Who are some of your personal, musical influences?

25 years and counting with Bad Religion

JB: What I listened to when I was younger was what my dad listened to, and that was Elton John, The Rolling Stones and Jefferson Airplane. The first record I ever bought was Kiss Alive, the double, the first live album and that was it for me because I said, "Well, now I have got my own thing," and that was great at the time, until I heard the Sex Pistols and then it was over.

Sentinel: Who do you think are some of the young, standout bands on this Warped Tour?

JB: I saw the Matches play- I really like them. I like Billy Talent from Canada - they're really talented. Anti-Flag, although they're not really a young band anymore, this is a really hard tour to say that because if you go out and walk around there are very few bands that are actually terrible.

Sentinel: Was there ever a time when you were going to do something else, when you were not going to be in Bad Religion for 25 years?

JB: Sure, I never thought I would be a career musician. I got basically kicked out of high school in the tenth grade and went to a community college where I took psychology and business law. I thought at that point I would find myself in a business where I understood the laws of the business and I also understood psychologically what people's motive were. Whatever widget I was going to be trying to sell.

Sentinel: Would you describe your band-mates in five words or less, and how would they describe you?

JB: Brooks - wonder kid, Baker - a real guitar hero, Hetson - question mark, Graffin - unbelievably educated, Brett - most passionate person I know. Me, what would they say about me? Oh, they hate me [laughing].

"It's been a long, strange trip," Bentley said of the past 25 years with Bad Religion. Here's to hoping for 25 more.

TOO BAD YOU MISSED IT...

A look back at some of Atlanta's hottest summer events



Photos and Text
by
Melissa Spielholz
Features Editor

Nickleback & 3 Doors Down

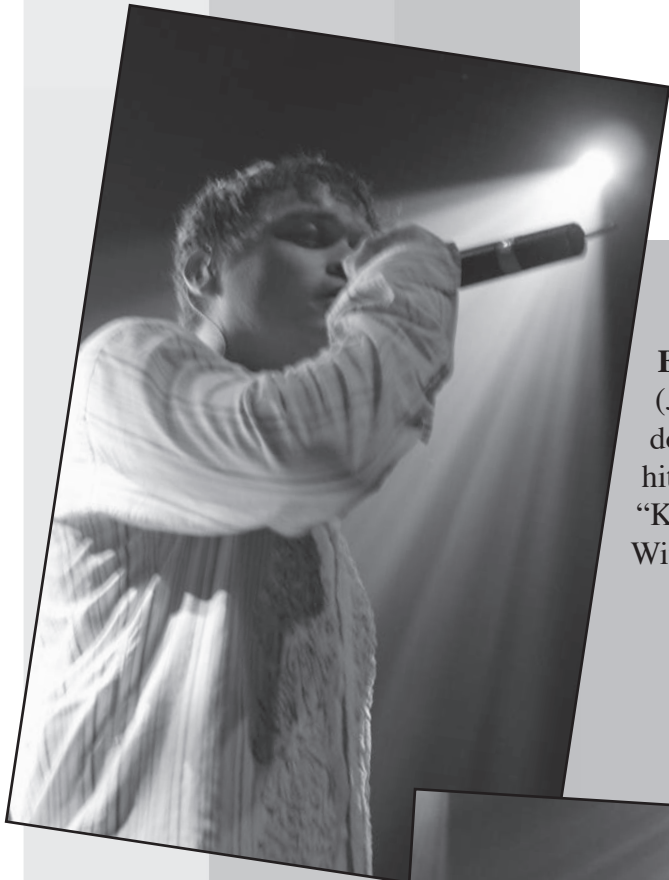
When: Sat., July 24

Who: Nickleback & 3 Doors Down

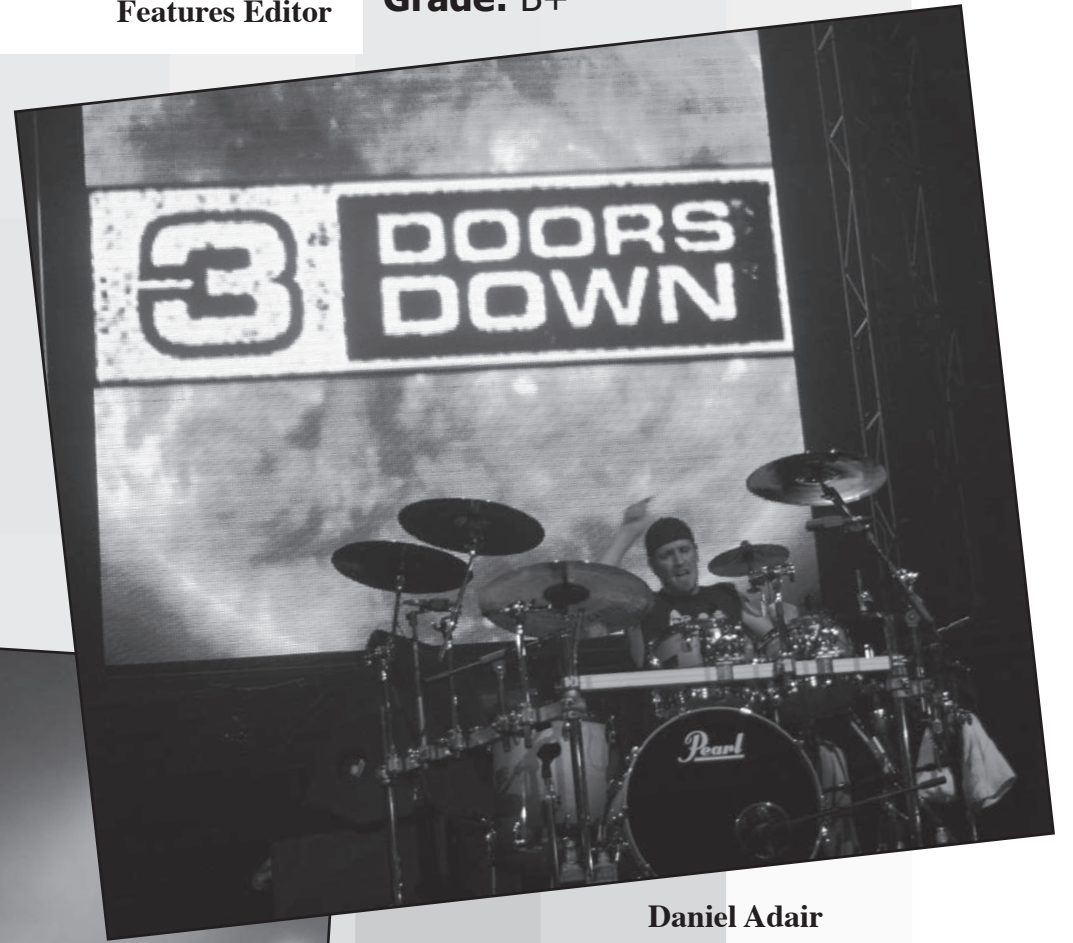
Where: HiFi Buys Amphitheater

Comments: Two high-energy bands succeeded in putting on a high-energy performance. The audience was treated to both bands chart-climbing, smash hits, along with some pyrotechnics for a bit of added flare.

Grade: B+



Brad Arnold
(3 Doors Down - Vocals)
dominates the stage with hit songs, including: "Kryptonite" and "Here Without You"



Daniel Adair
(3 Doors Down - Drummer)
drums along to the band's chart-busting hits.



Chad Kroger
(Nickleback - Vocals)
performs hit song "Hero" from the movie *Spiderman*.

Sarah McLachlan

When: Tues., July 27

Who: Sarah McLachlan

Where: Philips Arena

Comments: McLachlan wooed the audience with her ever-phenomenal voice and her emotion-driven lyrics.

Grade: A+



Sarah McLachlan
enjoys playing the guitar in some of her biggest hits.

Sarah McLachlan
serenades the crowd.



Sarah McLachlan
takes a moment to speak to the crowd.

on the bricks...the GOOD, the BAD, the UGLY

Collective Soul welcomes their hometown crowd.

L'Oreal McCollum
Staff Writer

Who: Collective Soul, North Mississippi All-Stars, Virginia Coalition, Retrospect

When: Fri., July 30

The Good:

- Jambands Virginia Coalition and North Mississippi All-Stars brought the crowd to their feet and rocked out with their funky, rock rhythm.
- Collective Soul stayed true to their roots by "name-checking" their hometown of Stockbridge, GA and performing hits including, "Gel," "The World I Know" and "December."

The Bad:

- The screams of sexual explicatives from female crowd members toward Collective Soul.
- The crowd was not as full as expected due to reports of impending rain.

The Ugly [or maybe not so ugly, you decide]:

*Overall Show Grade: A-



L'Oreal McCollum | The Sentinel
Ed Roland from Collective Soul welcomes their hometown crowd.

Who's on the line-up?

L'Oreal McCollum
Staff Writer

Who: Cypress Hill, Blues Traveler, DeSol and Rehab

When: Fri., Aug 6

The Good:

- DeSol had the crowd dancing with a cover of Cuban jazz legend, Tito Puente's, "Oye Como Va."
- Cypress Hill and Blues Traveler co-headlined the bill and never failed to delight the crowd with their hits.

The Bad:

- Blues Traveler did not perform their hit song, "But, Anyway."

The Ugly [or maybe not so ugly, you decide]:

*Overall show grade: A+, for variety of artists on the bill and glowing performance by each.



L'Oreal McCollum | The Sentinel
John Popper from Blues Traveler entertains the crowd with the bands hit songs.

Nothing too original

KM-TEN "The Earthquake Single"

Derek Wallace
Staff Writer

KM-Ten is deemed the superhero to hip-hop fans by bringing in a new generation of rap music. Unfortunately for KM-Ten, their sound is basically 1980s rap revisited. "Godzilla Thump" and "Reload" are the two songs featured on this disc.



are saying does not make any sense at all?

The answer to that question comes easily, everything is more enjoyable than the sounds heard on this album. Sure KM-TEN is proficient at rhyming but at what cost? In "Godzilla Thump" and "Reload," he sounds like he is putting words in for fun.

It is clean, so there is no cursing, which is one of this albums only positive attributes.

The redundant words of KM-TEN prove to be annoying, similar to the sounds of fingernails screeching across a blackboard.

What is more enjoyable than hearing a synthesized person telling the listener to enjoy what he or she is listening to, or saying, "This is the original," or having words like "Godzilla, King Kong, high speed DSL and anacondas" thrown at the listener in hopes that they will stick out, but never contemplate that maybe what they

The artist's ego shines through as he constantly repeats his name throughout his music. If he is trying to get the listener to know his name then he is a genius, but if he is trying to get people to buy his albums then he is doomed for failure. Grade: D+

Rap music...old school style

Caught in the "Eye of the Storm"

Tammina Hart
Staff Writer

been stated before, but ignored.

Although this artist succeeds in his attempt for a catchy sound, there is not a whole lot that

Music lovers prepare to take a step back in time to the days of old school rap and listen to artist Beneficence's debut album, "Eye of the Storm." Listeners are brought back to the days of break-dancing and record-scratching with a funky beat behind lyrics about partying, girlfriends and clean mischief.



Rap artist Beneficence takes a moment to pose for the camera.

makes this album stand out from the thousands of rap artists today. There are a few tracks on the album that depart from the old school sound and are similar to the popular rap of today, such as, "Bounce" and "The Game," which could be rocked at any party today.

Beneficence, which means a charitable act or gift, is a native of New Jersey. He sparks nostalgia with his lyrics that are super clean when compared to some of today's top rap artists. His style is what was the norm in the 1980s and early 1990s. His positive street messages are those that have

The album is easy listening for music lovers who are tired of the profanity in today's rap. Otherwise, this CD can be stored for later use at a retro party.

If the good guy image is going to be used, it has to come stronger

than this storm. Grade: C-

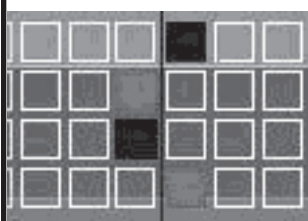
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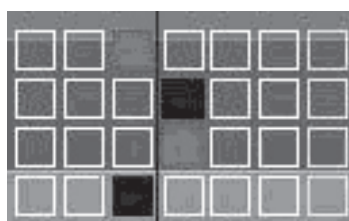
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2004 Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
8/27	* UNC Asheville	1 PM
8/29	* Mercer	11 AM
9/3	+ Duke	5 PM
9/5	+ North Carolina	3 PM
9/12	Barry	1 PM
9/17	@Birmingham So.	7 PM
9/21	Auburn-Mont	7 PM
9/25	West Georgia	7 PM
10/2	GC&SU	7 PM
10/6	@ Columbus State	7 PM
10/9	@ UNC Pembroke	3:30 PM
10/11	Tusculum	4 PM
10/17	North Florida	2 PM
10/23	Clayton State	3 PM
10/27	Carson Newman	7:30 PM
11/4	# Northern Colorado	12:30 PM MST
11/6	# Utah Valley State	12 PM MST

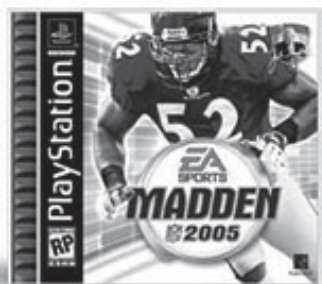
* Denotes Tennessee Tech Classic hosted by Tennessee Tech in Cookeville, TN

+ Denotes Nike Carolina Classic hosted by the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC

Denotes 2004 Independent Cup hosted by Colorado College in Colorado Springs, CO

Next Issue

Madden 2005



VS.



ESPN 2k5



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If you have a story idea or are interested in joining The Sentinel sports staff, call editor Matt Cutrona at 770-423-6278 or e-mail him at mwc6973@students.kennesaw.edu

Sunset in the rearview

As the Owls look ahead, we take a look back at the program that keeps growing

Nate Hamby
Staff Writer

The Owls pulled together last year to place a bevy of awards atop their national championship title. Their phenomenal play won coach Ron King a 2003 Coach of the Year award as they placed six players on the All-Region team.

But as fall rapidly approaches and things are already beginning to cool off, the Lady Owls are making plans for other than the autumn weather. They have been on fire their first two seasons and are not looking to cool down anytime soon.

"We have a great season coming up. We play some of the best Division I and Division II teams. There are tons of games that I'm looking forward to, and we expect to compete well with all the teams. The fact that we can't win a title won't affect us much. We always work hard and as a team—that's what matters and wins games," said forward star Jessie Fream.

With five of the six All-Region players returning, the Owls are hoping to burn their opponents as they travel down the transition road to Division I. And, although the outcome of the anticipated future lies in a shroud of mystery ahead of them, there still hangs an ever-satisfying sunset, a national title, in their rearview reflection.

"It was like winning a gold medal....It's all just beginning to sink in, but it's an incredible feeling to know you are the best team in the nation," Fream said.

Fream was among the six players on the All-Region team and was the only Owl to receive All-American team honors last year after finishing the season with 19 goals and 10 assists. She was also named the 2003 PBC Tournament Most Valuable Player after a hat trick performance in the Championship game against USC Spartanburg.

Coincidentally, the hat trick was never mentioned when Fream was asked what game

sticks out as the best of last year.

"The game against North Florida was definitely the biggest game for us. They're always a good team. So, when we came from two points down, away from home, to tie it up and eventually win in overtime, I knew then

Fream on the All-Region first team and was also named PBC Player of the Year.

"It's amazing how much she and the team have accomplished. I love watching them. They're really united as a team and they always find a way to win. I rarely miss a game,"

are led by two All-Region players, Rebecca Hall and Jessica Marek. Marek, a keeper sensation, allowed only 11 goals in 26 games, while posting shutouts in the year's final 9 games.

"She can keep us in any game," said Pitt of Marek, while calling Hall, "the vocal

incredible first season, the Owls were often considered the underdog and had to slowly fight their way up in the 2003 rankings.

"People didn't expect much and we did it, twice," Fream said. "This year is just another first year for us—we have the opportunity again



"It was like winning a gold medal" Jessie Fream Captain



Top Left: keeps the ball on the pitch with a little finesse. **Bottom Left:** fully extends to head the ball upfield. **Right:** duels with an opponent to win control of the ball.

that if we could pull that off then we could win a national championship. I think everybody did," said Fream.

"North Florida was the turning point. After that game we knew we could beat everybody," said Jena Gzehoviak, who scored the equalizer just three minutes after Stephanie Grzeszkowiak broke the ice, enabling Fream the chance to seal the deal with a golden goal in the 108th minute of overtime to beat the Ospreys.

Gzehoviak led the Peach Belt in 2003 with 51 total points and also in assists, with 23. She joined roommate

leader of the defense." Junior Katrina Hirsch also had an incredible 2003 season on defense for the Owls, posting 6 goals and 11 assists.

"She can play a ball 70 yards on a dime, something most of the coaches can't even do, and those just change things up tremendously," Pitt said. "Keep an eye on her, and Patrice Rose—we expect a lot out of them."

Not much has changed on the Owls victory-mobile, a durable off-road machine it seems, as the road to victory in 2003 was not paved for the Owls. Even after an

offers. Registration begins Aug. 23, and ends depending on the sport.

The opening of the new athletic facilities next year will open up the space in the old Spec Landrum Centre for the intramural program. This could open up an opportunity to introduce new sports to the program in spring 2005.

very popular sport in the fall, and a lot of students take it very seriously," said Parker.

To register, students can go to the intramural office in room 171 of the student center. Students can also go to the intramural Web site at www.kennesaw.edu/student_life to research all the sports the intramural program

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Sports without the 24/7 mentality

A great way to have fun, get involved and be competitive

Matt Cutrona
Sports Editor

The intramural program is kicking off an exciting fall semester. The sports that are available to students this semester are flag football, tennis, sand volleyball and table tennis.

"Overall, all of the intramural programs are growing, the program with the most participation is flag football," said Assistant Director Tara Parker.

Quite a few teams are formed for the flag football league, and the competition remains fierce throughout the season.

With the addition of new dorms, campus life and intramurals may

see an even bigger increase in participation. "The campus life has had a huge impact on our program as a whole. Students coming in and asking about what sports we offer is always promising," said Parker.

The tennis program has two ways students can participate and compete. The first is set up similarly to an ALTA system. It is a six to eight week program formed like a league. Teams challenge each other until the team with the best record is crowned the champion.

The second is set up like a ladder. Players are individually ranked and each one can challenge the player who is ranked higher. "Table tennis has also grown to be a

very popular sport in the fall, and a lot of students take it very seriously," said Parker.

To register, students can go to the intramural office in room 171 of the student center. Students can also go to the intramural Web site at www.kennesaw.edu/student_life to research all the sports the intramural program



Flag football, one of the more popular intramural sports on campus, has a large number of students participating

Oh Captain, my captain

Get to know how Jessie Fream became an Owl, and how she's helping the soccer program grow

Richard L. Johnson
Sr. Photographer

After winning a national championship, a player might become bored with the game. Not Jessie Fream.

"I still get goose bumps when I go out onto the field," said Fream.

Fream, KSU's All-American forward, is looking to new challenges as she leads the soccer team into Division I play this year against powerful teams including Clemson, Duke and the University of North Carolina. All three teams are ranked in the top five in the pre-season polls. UNC, ranked number one, is also the defending Division I national champion.

"I want to win against UNC," Fream said. "I know the team will be ready for it."

Fream has experience playing in Division I. She transferred to KSU from Georgia Southern University, a Division I school, in 2002.

Fream said she was unhappy playing for GSU, and her father encouraged her to investigate KSU's program, which was under development at that time. Fream said her father would drive her past the new KSU field at every opportunity. Fream said she tried out and made the team.

Even though KSU was a Division II school, Fream said the competition is much stronger than it was at Georgia Southern.

Fream has been the team captain since the inaugural 2002 season began when Head Coach Rob King appointed her as captain. Fream said she was not sure why she was chosen.

"It's an awkward spot for me," Fream said. "I don't like telling people what to do, so I

set a good example."

Fream sets an example that most leaders would envy. In 2003, she was named All-American, All-Region, All-Conference and the Peach Belt Conference Tournament Most Valuable Player. She scored 19 goals in the regular season last year, second in the conference only to KSU's Laura Tucker.

"It's a very nice honor to be an All-American, but [there are] so many other girls who

deserve recognition."

Fream said fan support is very important to the team.

"The best things about playing for KSU are having so much support from the other teams and the community coming out and cheering us on," said Fream.

The Owls' home opener is Sun., Sept. 12 at 1 p.m. when they host Barry University (FL.)



Jessie Fream is the Owl captain for their anticipatory historical season entering the division where the best reside



Jessie Fream leads the owls in the exhibition match preparing for a third season

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College student tries to return uneaten food for partial refund



Andy Pernsteiner, above, cautiously approaches counter with chicken bone and a few peas.

By POLLY BROWN

Checking his dignity at the cash register, college student Andy Pernsteiner recently presented a local diner cashier with a plate of picked-over food, demanding money for the vittles he didn't ingest. The cashier—who wishes to remain anonymous—was flabbergasted by the whole incident. "It was both sick and sad at the same time," she said. Pernsteiner had a different take: "I didn't eat the bone, so why should I pay for it?" Pete Woychick—a childhood friend of Pernsteiner's—said it was monthly fees tacked on to his friend's checking account that drove him to the shameless act. "Andy has been pounded for

months by fees on his checking account. He's pathetic. I never really liked him when we were kids either." Woychick—who says he personally was financially saved by Washington Mutual's Free Checking Deluxe—thought his childhood friend needed to get his act together and visit a Washington Mutual Financial Center or go to wamu.com. Then he, too, could sign up for Free Checking—an account with optional Deluxe services like free online bill pay. "Until Andy decides to get Free Checking," said Woychick, "I'm never eating out with him again. I'm pretty sure I won't return his phone calls either. I might even change my name."

"I didn't eat the bone, so why should I pay for it?"



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FAB 5

Major League Baseball

Chris Lerstang
Senior Staff Writer

Before summer semester, The Sentinel previewed the top five teams in the majors at the All-Star break and the Atlanta Braves were nowhere to be found. But, my how things have changed. We are glad to admit we were wrong about our hometown team, as they have made it into this edition of the Fab 5. However, the Braves still have work to do to pass other top teams and win the World Series. So without further adieu, here is the MLB Fab 5 for the stretch run of the season and into the playoffs.

- 1. St. Louis Cardinals** – The team with the best record has the game's most potent lineup. Scott Rolen, Albert Pujols and Jim Edmonds were good enough, but the Cardinal brass thought they needed improvement, so they added veteran, Larry Walker, to the mix. Throw in Edgar Renteria and Reggie Sanders and there is not a weak spot in the lineup. While the starting pitching has been magnificent to this point, everyone is waiting for a fallout. Matt Morris is the ace, which is not saying much, but until they falter, there isn't much negative to be said. Expect the Cards to make it to the World Series unless the starters hit a funk.
- 2. New York Yankees** – The Yanks sit precariously at the number two spot because of question marks with their pitching. They have big name starters Kevin Brown, Mike Mussina and Esteban Loaiza, but injuries have been an issue all season. The bullpen is below average at best and has been overworked which will be a major concern for Manager Joe Torre come postseason time. On the bright side, the lineup, with Derek Jeter, Gary Sheffield and company, is still one of the best in the game and will make the Bronx Bombers tough to beat. Expect the Yankees to homer their way deep into the postseason, but the pitching will eventually catch up to them.
- 3. Atlanta Braves** – With the cutting of payroll and the loss of some big names, no one expected the Braves to continue their unprecedented streak of 13 NL East division titles, but with a commanding lead, they should do just that. The pitching has been the key to their rise to the top. Russ Ortiz was expected to lead the bunch, but Jared Wright and Mike Hampton have had a number of extraordinary outings during the second half. J.D. Drew and surprising rookie Johnny Estrada have carried Hotlanta at the plate for much of the year, and Chipper Jones, after a dismal first few months, is getting hot at the right time. Expect the Braves to put up a fight for a berth in the World Series but falter if they come up against a hot pitching staff.
- 4. Anaheim Angels** – The Angels are the surprise team in the Fab 5. They are in a dogfight for both the AL West crown and the wild card and may not even make the playoffs, but watch out if they do because they have the make-up of a solid playoff team. The pitching staff is comprised of three above-average hurlers who have the ability to carry their teams, while the bullpen is the best in the American League if not all of baseball. Vlad "The Impaler" Guerrero is the big hitter in a lineup of mostly scrappy, gritty players. If they can just sneak in, expect the Angels to go deep into the postseason.
- 5. Los Angeles Dodgers** – The Dodgers are the question mark of the bunch. The front office made a couple of questionable moves before the trade deadline that may have hurt the team more than helped them. The bullpen, starring Eric Gagne as closer, was the strength of the team, but after shipping off set-up man Guillermo Mota, the late innings are now on shaky ground. The lineup centers around Adrian Beltre, who is one of the best hitters in baseball and can alter a game with his power. Shawn Green and Milton Bradley add more punch, but the Dodgers have holes in the lineup that could be exploited. Expect the Dodgers to win the NL West, but lose in the first round.



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