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KSU spreads its wings

ANGIE JENNINGS
STAFF WRITER

While attending the Max Kaplan Summer Institute for Educators at the Holocaust Museum Houston in 2005, Charlotte Collins and Natasha Lovelace, assistant professors of art, learned about The Butterfly Project.

The program, instituted by the museum's education department in 2001, uses the book, "I Never Saw Another Butterfly..." Children's Drawings and Poems from Terezin Concentration Camp, 1942-1944," to connect modern-day students with the plight of the youngest victims of the Holocaust. The book includes poems and pictures created by some of the 15,000 children imprisoned in Terezin during those two years. Less than 100 of the children survived.

This year's exhibit of The Butterfly Project includes three-dimensional butterflies constructed by students, faculty and staff. It opens its doors on Jan. 22 as an exhibit at the KSU Center.

"The project is now in its third semester here at KSU and has received a tremendous amount of support from KSU faculty and staff across disciplines," Lovelace said.

"Our largest butterfly contributors were from the First-Year Seminar, KSU 1101, who were inspired by touring KSU's 'Anne Frank in the World' exhibit or reading 'My Reconstructed Life' by Eugen Schoenfeld," Collins said. "The Arts and Society, ART 1107, and studio art courses also contributed to the project."

A number of butterflies included text on the wings and were inspired by the poems of Anne Frank or by "The Butterfly," written by Pavel Friedmann in 1942. Friedmann was killed in the Auschwitz Death Camp two years after he wrote the poem.

Collins added that contributions were also received from local elementary and middle schools, Girl Scout troops and others in the community.

"The importance of a program like this is to reinforce such principles as tolerance, compassion, integrity, hope and heroism," Lovelace said. "These butterflies truly display

the diversity of life."

After its temporary display at KSU, The Butterfly Project will be transported to the Holocaust Museum Houston and added to the more than 200,000 butterflies already collected in the museum's public display. The museum's goal is to collect 1.5 million butterflies in memory of all the children who lost their lives during the Holocaust.

"One-point-five million is certainly a lofty goal, but we continue to be pleased and overwhelmed by the number and variety of butterflies we receive," said the museum's director of education Richard Grisham.

The museum has received a diverse array of butterflies made of paper, wood, feathers, metal and concrete.

The HMH education department also designed a curriculum around the project that includes classroom activities encouraging students to think about the children in Terezin, what they must have witnessed and the messages they were trying to convey with their writings and drawings. Students then make butterflies based on an assigned poem from the book to hang in the classroom. In a poignant demonstration, most of the butterflies are cut down, visually depicting the fraction of the children who survived Terezin.

"The butterflies were hung in front of the class with such beauty, such hope, only to be cut down for no reason," said Christina Vasquez, director of education at the Holocaust Museum.

HMH's curriculum can be accessed at the museum's web site and through the Curriculum Trunk Program, which provides instructors with curricula, books, videos, CD-ROM's, artifact kits and posters to enhance students' learning experience. These trunks are stocked and shipped to classrooms free of charge.

As the fourth largest Holocaust Museum in the country, the Holocaust Museum Houston uses the tragedy to educate the public about the dangers of prejudice, hatred and violence while fostering remembrance, understanding and education. The museum, located in Houston's Museum District, is free and open to the public.

Courses to change for some comm majors

DANIEL BURNETT
STAFF WRITER

Many communication majors will find significant changes in the curriculum during their final year. One of the classes needed to graduate with a degree in communication, Comm 4499 Senior Thesis, is being dropped from the list of mandatory courses for some communication majors. Students trying to graduate with



Dr. Birgit Wassmuth

decade ago," said chair of the department, Birgit Wassmuth. "Today, a more discipline-specific capstone seems to be more appropriate."

After much consideration, communication faculty decided that public relations students would benefit more from a campaigns course, Com 4465 PR Campaigns. Students with an emphasis in Organizational Communication have an assessment class as their replacement

course that deals with "the study and application of the organizational communication assessment process used by consultants, trainers and managers," according to the 2006-2007 KSU Undergraduate

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Two veterans discuss matters before the ceremony starts [top]. Students in the background tour the Black Hawk utility helicopter, which flew onto the Campus Green from Dobbins Air Force Base for the ceremony [bottom].



COURTNEY PULLMAN
STAFF WRITER

Nov. 11 is a day of honor, recognition and a day to give thanks to the men and women who have served or are serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. KSU celebrated this day Nov. 8 on the Campus Green.

In 2005, the U.S. Senate designated the week of Nov. 5 through Nov. 11 as National Veterans Awareness Week to emphasize the need to develop educational programs regarding the contributions of veterans to the country.

This year, KSU did its part in recognizing the National Veterans Awareness Week and Veteran's Day. KSU collaborated with the U.S. Army and its veterans to teach others the reality of life in the army through technology and the training of future soldiers.

The U.S. Army actively participated

in KSU's Veteran's Day celebration. They sponsored the America's Army Challenge Tour at the KSU Veterans Celebration. The America's Army Challenge Tour gave local residents an opportunity to experience the Army through hands-on interaction with the "America's Army" games and simulations.

The Challenge Tour allows players to get hands-on with two of the most popular computer and video games available - the U.S. Army's hit "America's Army" PC game and the Xbox version, "America's Army: Rise of a Soldier." "America's Army" is one of the most successful online games and has more than seven million players worldwide. In "America's Army," players can explore and dominate challenges ranging from basic training to Special Forces missions. They can join various elite Army units and see the power of Army teamwork, values and technology. The Special Forces version of "America's Army" allows players to explore the development and employ-

ment of elite Special Forces soldiers.

Soldiers and cadets from the Army ROTC program were on-hand to teach novice users the skills to play the game and allow them to team up with attendees for multiplayer missions.

Along with the Challenge Tour, there was Future Soldier Training within the video game. This urban combat experience puts players in a first person shooter position as they walk through a house and try to defeat insurgents.

The America's Army Challenge Tour was held Nov. 6 through Nov. 11 inside of the Student Center. The Army gave the students of KSU the opportunity to see into the eyes of the men and women, some who may even be sitting in our classes with us, who have served, are serving and will serve our country. Their lives are forever changed, and it's the least we, as Americans, can do to honor and thank them for their courage, selflessness and honor.

Undeclared students face holds

TINA WELLS
STAFF WRITER

Students with an undeclared major who have exceeded 30 credit hours faced a CAPS Center advising hold last week during priority registration for spring semester. Students experiencing the hold were required to contact the CAPS center to have it lifted from their records.

Brian Glankler, associate director of the CAPS Center, says that this change is an effort by the center to locate students in need of advisement and help them understand their options.

"One of the things we want to make clear is that we don't want to force students to declare a major," Glankler said.

According to Glankler, the purpose of the advising hold is to find the students who are unsure of their direction and either help them choose a program or help them decide what courses will be beneficial. Often it is the students with an undeclared status who are most likely to drop out, and

this change is an effort by the university to reach out to those students before it is too late.

"We want to identify students at a critical point; to get them in for career counseling and help them decide on a direction," Glankler said.

CAPS provides these students with counseling services to help them understand the available options. In addition to counseling, the center has two software programs and reference materials that students can use to help determine their educational and career interests. If, after counseling, the student still does not know what direction to take, the center can help them choose courses that would be safe selections for any major.

There are several reasons a student may have an undeclared status. Many of the students listed as undeclared have already decided on a direction and are enrolled in the courses they need, but have not submitted the paperwork to their departments.

A small portion of unde-



Dr. Brian Glankler

clared students may have submitted the documents, but the departments have not yet processed the paperwork. The final reason is that the student has not yet decided on what direction to take. This is the group of students the program hopes to reach.

By placing advisement holds on registration, the CAPS Center hopes to find the students who can benefit from the center's services.

"Once we narrow the group down to find these students, we can better help them," Glankler said.

By requiring students to contact the center, the university will have a better chance of retaining these students.

James Touchton, Student Government president, thinks the advising holds are a good idea.

"I think this 30-hour hold is wise in that it forces these students to talk to a career counselor or advisor and will assist them in picking a major that suits them," Touchton said. "This cuts down on the number of students who are taking six years to graduate down closer to four and also helps the retention rate at KSU."

Touchton added that Student Government and the office of Academic Affairs wants to go a step further and make advisement mandatory for freshman, sophomores and juniors to prevent students from taking unnecessary classes.

"As of right now, Student Government is working on mandatory advisement for freshman through juniors, in order to save on the hassle and

See HOLDS, page 2

THE SENTINEL

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF 2006. OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE OUT ON JANUARY 9, 2007.

WWW.KSUSENTINEL.COM

WEDNESDAY
HIGH 61°
LOW 38°

THURSDAY
HIGH 47°
LOW 32°

FRIDAY
HIGH 54°
LOW 34°

SATURDAY
HIGH 60°
LOW 33°

COLD SUNDAY
HIGH 48°
LOW 31°

MONDAY
HIGH 53°
LOW 39°

CEO dies in accident

JASON NIMER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Robert Lipson, CEO of Wellstar and prominent KSU figure, was killed Nov. 10 in a motorcycle accident.

According to police, Lipson crashed his motorcycle around 6:30 p.m. on Friday. He was taken to Kennestone Hospital and pronounced dead shortly after. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

CEO of Wellstar since 1993, Lipson was a veteran 25 year internist at Kennestone Hospital. While working at Kennestone, Lipson brought in \$68 million, a new care tower and a heart surgery program.

As CEO of Wellstar, Lipson



Robert Lipson

received the company's first certification for the care of multiple infectious diseases.

Lipson, also an avid photographer, had an art exhibit in Sturgis Library titled, "A Portrait of The World." The exhibit ran from Oct. 4 to Nov. 9.

Lipson is survived by his wife, his two children and his granddaughter.

• **HOLDS** from front page

disappointment of not graduating due to a bad class schedule," Touchton said.

According to Glankler, CAPS sent e-mails at the beginning of the fall semester to the students who would be affected by this change. Another e-mail went out three weeks before priority registration. Prior to this communication, there were close to 900 students in the category of undeclared with over 30 credit hours.

Sending the e-mails alone was very effective, CAPS only placed approximately 400 holds on registration, and by the second day of the hold, 120 of

those students were transferred from undeclared to a college.

To accommodate the increase in the number of appointments, the CAPS Center is now accepting walk-in student advisement during select hours. The CAPS Center is located in room 2401 of Kennesaw Hall. Students interested in advisement and counseling should call the CAPS office at 770-423-6600 to determine the walk-in schedule or make an appointment. The CAPS Center hours of operation are Mon. through Thur. 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the semester.

• **COURSES** from front page

Catalog. Students will still have the option of taking Senior Thesis instead of the new courses.

"I understand that the capstone classes in the communication department are changing and I think that it is going to be a positive change," said Sara Timmons, President of the KSU Communication Alumni Society.

Many KSU students majoring in communication seem excited about the new curriculum changes.

"I'm on the public relations track and I'm very glad they made the changes," said communication major, Bethany Nall. "I think that PR Campaigns is a more appropriate capstone experience. I've heard about how hard Senior Thesis is, and I'm very relieved I won't have to take it."

As for media studies students, the capstone course to

replace Senior Thesis is currently in development. For students hoping to graduate this spring, the changes may have come too late.

"It [senior thesis] was a nightmare! Just some more busy work before you graduate," said communication major Jennifer Abernathy.

Many students are eagerly awaiting a faculty announcement concerning the replacement course for the Senior Thesis.

"At this time, our goal is to have a new capstone course for the Media Studies concentration available by Fall 2007," Wassmuth said. "We understand that Senior Thesis was perceived as an unpopular course. The changes we are making are to better serve our students and to continue to improve the overall learning experience at KSU."

Construction nears end on tallest building



Mike Shamlee and Andrey Zorin | The Sentinel

The final stages of a future classroom take place in preparation for paint and flooring. [left] The building was marked Nov. 10 by the placing of the building's name and number assignment. [right]

MEGHAN GRIFFIN
STAFF WRITER

It has been almost eleven months since a ceremony marked the beginning of construction on the new Social Science building. Final changes are being made as the opening of the building draws near.

According to John Anderson, AIA, director of Faculty Planning and Design Services [FPDS], the Social Science building completion is right on target.

The building will house social science

classes, including History, Psychology, Sociology and Criminal Justice. Currently, all the building holds is contractors and various campus workers who have been installing equipment for professors and students to use beginning Jan. 5. This equipment includes audio-visual systems, as well as the infrastructure that is needed for computers and telephones. All of the furniture will soon begin arriving in order to prepare for the spring semester. Faculty members will not be moving in immedi-

ately, but in phases during January and even into February.

The new building will also house a café similar to Jazzman's, which is located at the Legacy Gazebo. The café will be under construction during December, but will open in time for hungry students this spring.

"There will be a minor amount of work going on in December. The construction management firm, The Facility Group, is turning the building over to KSU this month," Anderson said.

Beating those pesky holiday blues

ANDREW PITTMAN
ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

There are many health issues that we will all deal with this holiday season. Turkey, ham and all the side dishes will strike many of us with a small amount of weight gain. Most of us won't lose the weight until the days get longer. Others will have more serious issues that could bring the joy of the season to a halt.

Seasonal Affective Disorder [SAD], also known as seasonal depression, is a disorder that strikes many people during the holidays. According to about.com, the symptoms of SAD are fatigue, lack of energy, sleeping much more than usual or the need to sleep more, increased appetite [especially for carbohydrates] and reduced productivity at work.

SAD seems to affect more in the extreme hemispheres because the days get shorter the closer one gets to the polar re-

gions. Estimates are that SAD affects less than one percent of the population of Georgia while around ten percent of Alaska may suffer from it.

Experts believe that more people suffer "subclinical SAD," or they just get sad and not actually depressed. This should not be taken lightly, as it could lead to depression.

There is more of an emphasis on families during Thanksgiving and Christmas time, and for some, these gatherings can bring back memories that trigger SAD. For those who grew up in a family with an alcoholic or in a neglectful or abusive environment, the holidays can bring back negative memories.

How do you deal with the "holiday blues?" There are many methods you can employ to fight the stress of the season.

Be responsible for your behavior, because you cannot control how your relatives behave. One of the easiest ways to avoid stressful situations with your family is to have complete control of your actions, behaviors and emotions. If you know that you acted in the best possible manner, then you will walk away from the holidays feeling great about yourself. Remember that alcohol can alter and magnify emotional feelings that you may have and blur your judgment.

Start your own holiday traditions. If you have to make that dreaded yearly visit, be sure to have some personal time to do your own thing. Bake a pie and share it with the old man down the street, help someone else decorate their house or even volunteer. Sometimes helping others out can be the best way to cheer up.

Another treatment for SAD [or depression in general] is exercise. According to depression-guide.com, after 16 weeks, exercise was equally effective in reducing depression compared to antidepressant medication. Those who use exercise as a treatment for depression or sadness report improvements in their sleeping habits, increased energy, decreased fatigue and motivation to be more social. Although antidepressants may work more quickly, exercise has more positive long-term affects.

In most cases, you can't change your relatives and the holidays are never going to be perfect. Sometimes you just have to make do with what you have. If none of the above methods help, just talking to your partner or good friend helps beat the "holiday blues." Just remember to do what you can to make this a happy holiday for you.



CHA-CHING!

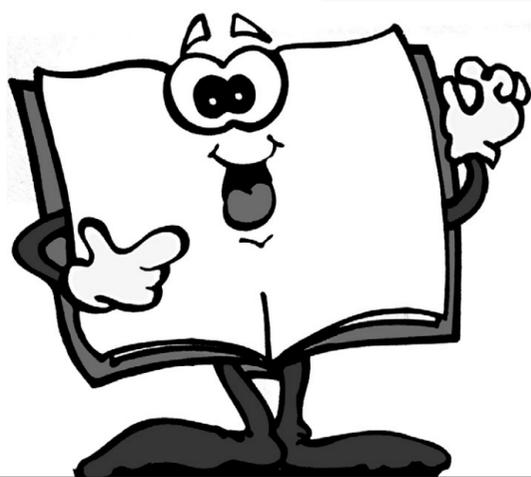


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KSU trembles for Geography Awareness Week

AMY STOREY
NEWS EDITOR

Nov. 13 kicked off this year's Geography Awareness Week.

Presented by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, the week is centered around geography education, information and the value of knowing what geography is all about.

The week began with an awareness table in the atrium of the Student Center. The table displayed some important geographical information about not only U.S. geography, but also the department at KSU and the proposed Bachelors degree in geography.

Students also had a chance to "pin" their place of origin on one of the two maps located on the table in an effort to show just how diverse KSU is.

The table also provided on-lookers a chance to pick up information about opportunities to study abroad



Garrett Smith in Argentina and France. There was also a five-question quiz reviewing some of the displayed information. Students had the chance to take the quiz and earn prizes.

The week of learning continued Nov. 14 with "Pizza with Profs" from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the Social Science building. This provided students the chance to meet, greet and eat with geography professors

during their lunch hour.

Geographic Information Systems Day will be Nov. 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Leadership Room in the Student Center. GIS day provides a chance for students to socialize with other students and professors, learn about job opportunities and internships and listen to two guest speakers, who will focus on what they look for in possible employees. The Geography Department will also take time to present certificates of completion to students who completed the program in the past year.

"We're excited about Geography Awareness Week. It is our chance to put geography in the spotlight now that we are proposing a BA in geography here at KSU," said Garrett Smith, department chair of Geography and Anthropology.

For students who missed out on this year's events, the department has more in store for the spring.

And that's a fact...

Findings from the National Geographic-Roper Public Affairs 2006 Geographic Literacy Study confirmed that **most Americans between the ages of 18 and 24 demonstrate a limited understanding of the world**, and place insufficient importance on the basic geographic skills that might enhance their knowledge. Some of the findings include:

- Fewer than three in ten people think it is important to know the locations of countries in the news.
- Two-thirds of those surveyed could not find Iraq on a map, even after three years of combat and over 2,800 U.S. military deaths.
- Thirty-three percent of respondents could not pinpoint Louisiana on a map, even after Hurricane Katrina.
- Nearly three-quarters incorrectly named English as the most widely spoken native language.
- Only fourteen percent believe speaking another language is a necessary skill.
- Two-thirds did not know that the earthquake that killed 70,000 people in Oct. 2005 occurred in Pakistan.
- Seventy-five percent were unable to locate Israel on a map of the Middle East.
- Thirty percent thought the most heavily fortified border was between the United States and Mexico.

Children preview life on campus



Andrey Zorin | The Sentinel

Eighty kindergarten students from Skyview Elementary School in Mableton visited KSU Friday, Nov. 10. The department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education scheduled this visit for the children to see what life is like on a college campus. Events throughout the day included a visit to the Convocation Center, a tour of the residence halls, a trip to the library and a soccer game on the Campus Green. The students also received a small Chinese lesson from Dr. John Ouyang and learned how to make slime in Kennesaw Hall from Dr. Cherry Steffen. All of the students had the chance to eat lunch in the Student Center – just like the big kids. At the end of the day, the kindergarteners received bags with KSU prizes from the bookstore, Career Services and the Bagwell College of Education.

1st Annual Kennesaw State University Dodgeball Tournament

\$600 Cash Prize



With Proceeds going to:
Homeless Pets Foundation & Sports Management Majors Club

Date: Friday, December 1, 2006

Location: Convocation Center

Price:

Individuals - \$10

Teams (6 to 8 players) - \$40 (\$5-7 per player)

For Registration Form, Rules, and More Information

Go To

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/clubs/smmc/dodgeball.html>



KSU has 19,000 students. But only one newspaper editor.

The KSU Student Media Board

is now accepting applications
for the following position:

Editor in Chief, THE SENTINEL:

The KSU Newspaper, Spring semester term
(January through April 2007; 14 issues)

Position Requirements:

- Candidates must be an enrolled KSU student with an adjusted GPA of at least 2.5
- Have completed at least one semester with a KSU student media organization, or equivalent
- Be willing to complete training as assigned
- Have strong communication skills and ability to motivate staff
- Maintain office hours
- Be willing to work closely with the student media adviser and student media board.

Editor Applications are available at:

www.kennesaw.edu/student_life/mediajoin.shtml

Application Deadline:

Monday, Nov. 20, 2006, 5 p.m.

For more info, contact the student media adviser at
ebonza@kennesaw.edu
or call 770-499-3083

Tell us about it
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OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

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Making the road safer, one commandment at a time



Amy Storey
News Editor

Specializing in being "that girl."

I know that I'm not alone when I say that there are some people on the roads who do not deserve to be there. No one's a perfect driver, but there is some ignorance on Georgia's roads that really drives me absolutely batty. Since I choose not to partake in road rage, and I'm not part of law enforcement, there is very little I can do towards the cause.

As a responsible citizen, I choose to voice my opinions and provide some sort of resolution. Therefore, I propose three new driving laws.

Law number one: Thou shall receive a ticket for riding alone in a six-passenger SUV.

Law number two: Thou shall not ride in HOV lane with other non-drivers.

Law number three: Thou shall not use hands to hold hands-free mobile devices closer to mouth while driving.

We'll start with law number one. I know that a lot of you students drive these huge, soccer-mom SUVs like the Suburbans, the Tahoes, the Expeditions etc. For those who lack any idea of what I'm referring to, I will paint you a picture. These vehicles are larger than most minivans, equipped with not one, but two, backseats. What purpose does this serve, you ask? These gas-guzzling, parking space-hogging, hard-to-drive tanks are made to shuttle passengers, but they being misused more and more these days. I understand that some of you have large families and I'm sure that stuffing your army

into a Camry gets old after a few years. I do, however, have a problem with the number of people that I see just cruising around, running errands in their tanks. Moms of Atlanta, these vehicles are made to transport a large number of people, not your shopping bags. This is why I think that, unless you have proof of returning from or going to drop other passengers off, you should be ticketed for riding solo.

While I'm on the subject of vehicle occupancy, I'll touch on my HOV problem. The high occupancy vehicle lane was created to relieve traffic congestion and added a lane for a car carrying two or more people. Sounds like a pretty easy concept, right? Leave it to metro Atlanta to screw up.

Moms, I'm onto you again. Just because you have your three-year-old in your car does not mean that the HOV lane is at your disposal. The GADOT needs to reword their signs to specify that the lane is meant for ve-

hicles carrying two or more able-bodied passengers. By this I mean that the other person, the one who is not driving, needs to be one who has the option to be driving a car. I say this because this lane was created in an attempt to increase incentive to carpool. You and your baby are not considered carpoolers! If the passenger[s] is not driving his or her car[s] because he or she is carpooling, that is a good thing. That is the whole reason for these lanes. If the passengers are not driving because they are younger than 16, that is cheating.

Last, but definitely not least, the hands-free issue. I've never bought a hands-free contraption for my cell phone, so I have not had the chance to ever read the instructions, but I think that the companies producing these items need to start including something about not having to use your hands. Lady holding up the microphone piece closer to your mouth, I have a little secret to share

with you: you could be using that hand to hold your cell phone up to your face. Guy pointing the Bluetooth device closer to his mouth, I've got one for you too: you don't need to scream, these contraptions are specially made to catch your voice from a distance.

Come on people, this should be an easy one. They call it "hands-free" for a reason.

I know that I will never win my fight against ignorance, but hey, it's always nice to get a laugh while sitting in metro-Atlanta traffic.

AMY'S THREE COMMANDMENTS OF DRIVING

I THOU SHALT RECEIVE A TICKET FOR RIDING ALONE IN A SIX-PASSENGER SUV

II THOU SHALT NOT RIDE IN THE HOV LANE WITH OTHER NON-DRIVERS

III THOU SHALT NOT USE HANDS TO HOLD HANDS-FREE MOBILE DEVICE CLOSER TO MOUTH WHILE DRIVING

The other shoe must drop

With the swift post-election sacking of Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld, President Bush has accomplished only half of the housecleaning that's needed to overcome the mess we have created in Iraq and Afghanistan. As the former National Security Advisor during the president's first term, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice contributed to the Bush administration's shift from focusing on the War on Terror and the hunt for Osama bin Laden to Iraq.

In a pre-class discussion of the election returns last week, I said that "as the National Security Advisor, Rice was a good ice-skater, and as Secretary of State, she is a very good pianist." While some of the students who follow politics smiled, a small group took exception to the comment. It seems that there are some who consider Secretary Rice to be an ideal presidential candidate in 2008 or 2012.

Why would I make such a statement about a person some have called the most powerful woman in the world? Because she screwed up royally as head of the National Security Council. She is not doing very well in her current position at the State Department, either. The sad part of all this is that "Condi" is a very intelligent

and talented woman, with a fantastic record of accomplishment—prior to serving President Bush. She grew up in Birmingham, the daughter of a teacher/mother and a school administrator/minister father. She took piano lessons from her grandmother and was a serious figure-skating talent. Rice graduated from high school at 15, and from college, cum laude, at 19. After winning a piano competition, she played a concerto with the Denver Symphony. She then switched from music to political science and pursued her PhD.

Rice became a professor at Stanford, and then the youngest provost in that school's history. As provost, she reformed Stanford's financial system, turning an annual deficit into a surplus that attracted more benefactors, all while teaching and publishing three books. Her specialty is the politics of the USSR and the Cold War, which gave her the opportunity to work for the government, including serving on

the National Security Council for the first President Bush.

Rice was raised as a Democrat and she worked in the Carter administration as an intern. Her dissatisfaction with Carter's wishy-washly policies resulted in her becoming a Republican, and working in several positions for

Republicans since the Reagan presidency. Through her government and Republican connections, she became a member of the board of directors of several major corporations, including California-based Chevron, which named one of its tankers for her. When the current president was running for office, he needed someone to coach him on foreign policy matters. His father recommended Rice. She left her position at Stanford and joined the W campaign team, being rewarded with the Security Advisor position when W was elected.

The National Security Advisor position and the NSC staff were created

to help the president sort through and evaluate all of the recommendations and advice from various departments and agencies, and then help the president develop a coherent foreign affairs strategy. Her role was to balance the information from the CIA and the Departments of Defense, State and Treasury, along with other available data, and recommend a prudent course of action.

In this, she failed. Abandoning the concept of containment that had worked so well in dealing with the USSR and Eastern Europe, her areas of expertise, she stridently recommended a policy of preemption, the need to strike first at any potential enemies when we believe they pose a credible threat.

Rice also forcefully argued that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, choosing to ignore the reservations of experienced CIA analysts who said that there was no longer any evidence that Iraq had any WMD. Rather than being an honest broker of information, she became a partisan spokesperson for those advocating war against Iraq and the deposing of Saddam Hussein. She wrote articles, gave speeches and television interviews, arguing for war in Iraq. Former CIA Director George Tenet testified that he personally warned Rice about credible evidence of planned terror attacks two months before 9/11. Rice says that she does not remember the discussion, even

though the warning was recorded in the president's daily intelligence briefing. The PDB had specifically mentioned possible attacks using airliners. The bottom line is that she was wrong and that she failed to do her job. She chose instead to side with the group in the Defense Department, along with the vice president, who wanted to topple Saddam Hussein.

Her performance as head of the State Department is also less than stellar. Rice has attempted to mend relations with our allies, but Europeans are backing further away from support of U.S. policy in Iraq. Despite Republican complaints that President Clinton acted too late to prevent a massacre in Rwanda in the 1990s, she has not persuaded our government or the U.N. to stop the acknowledged genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan. Rice failed to urge restraint by the Israelis this summer in their disastrous invasion into Lebanon. Rather than calming relations with potential adversaries, we watch as Iran and North Korea continue to develop nuclear weapons while thumbing their noses at us. Again, she is failing to do the job we expect of a Secretary of State, as respect for our country and our ideals plummets around the world.

Mr. President, it is time to ask for the resignation of your marvelously talented, but seriously under-performing, Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice.



John Hooper
Columnist

"Old soldiers never die."

You don't say?

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

Decorating my Christmas tree/house

Shopping with the mob for overpriced merchandise that I will give to someone else

Stuffing my face with people who irritate me

Forgetting what I did on New Years Eve

Seeing mama kissing Santa Claus



2004-05 National Newspaper Pacemaker Award

The SENTINEL

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- 2.) The writer must include full name, year and major if a student, professional title if a KSU employee, and city if a Georgia resident.
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An editor's walk down memory lane

JASON NIMER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Well, this is it. My time as editor of The Sentinel is over. When I started at KSU in the spring of '04, I had no idea just how much this school, and especially this newspaper, would end up meaning to me. Before I wound up at KSU, I attended Auburn University and Georgia Perimeter College [the "college of champions"], but neither ever felt like the "college experience" that old people lovingly describe with far off looks in their eyes. KSU has become not only my school, but also a second home to me; a place where everyone knows my name. Ninety percent of my personal anecdotes come from my time at The Sentinel and it often seems like each new day brings another story or wild experience. It is a shame that we in the newspaper biz don't write stories about ourselves because, man, do we have some good ones [the awkward sauna, trivia night, CMA conferences and New York fiasco number one come to mind].

Just sitting down to write this letter has brought back a lot of great memories, but I'll get to those later. I consider myself extremely lucky to have attended school here and even luckier to have participated in the best college newspaper around, The Sentinel. There are tons of people to thank for all these great opportunities, so I guess I'll get started.

The first, and most important, people on my little list are my family. They have dragged me kicking and screaming through my college experience and have had nothing but patience with me [most of the time...sorry, guys!]. When I started at The Sentinel, my parents couldn't believe that I, of all people, would join a student group, much less a college newspaper. Since the time my first article was printed [a game review of Resident Evil 4], they have been my biggest fans and my harshest critics. When your own mother says your editorials might be a bit too extreme, you listen. Mom, Dad, Eric and Dixie, you guys have been the only constant in my life since I started this whole college thing [lots of people go to college for 6 years...they're called doctors], and I appreciate all the good times, support, some of the bad times and calling my inability to graduate the "scenic route" through college. Now all I've got to do is get rich so I can buy you guys the beach house that you so sorely deserve.

Of course, I need to thank the media board and its members for giving me the opportunity to do this job in the first place. Those election meetings were so intense that not even Ed's cookie cornucopia could ease the tension. Specifically, I'd like to thank Dave Dalton, Jonathan Edman and Chris Hough. You guys care about student media almost too much and I'm sure you'll continue to do an excellent job in the future. Dr. Nancy King, you were one of my biggest supporters and I really can't thank you enough. I hope I lived up to everyone's expectations. I know the media board will continue to do a great job because, hey, we make all the other organizations look bad...we never meet and we still get a lot more done than groups who meet once a week!

I've got to thank the geographic neighbors to The Sentinel, the Student Life office. You have the patience of saints and I'm sure The Sentinel staff is one of your biggest challenges. Having to hear the same question ad nauseum ["Are checks in?"] and keeping your cool with us damn kids is really something. Margie, thanks for always being so nice and helpful. I'll probably never visit another beach without thinking, "Should I get some souvenir sand?" Kathy A, you brighten each and every room you enter. KSU is lucky to have someone so pleasant and genuine working for the university. Cathy C, you always wave whenever anyone walks by and I think if you tell me that smoking is bad for me once more, I might quit. Anyway, the Student Life office is one of the friendliest places at KSU and without



Jason's first day as EIC. Due to a malfunctioning lock, he was trapped in the production room. A locksmith and police were called. As the picture shows, he was eventually freed.

everyone over there helping us, we would never have gotten paid, which, in turn, would lead to us never producing a newspaper. You guys are great.

KSU may not have journalism major, but our communication department is second to none, sporting some of my favorite teachers of all time. Lee McLees, you made two otherwise boring classes fun, and the smile never left your face. Leonard Witt, your class has definitely made me a stronger writer and the story of your first published article still makes me laugh. Sorry I was late to your conference in Athens, but it was very early in the morning and well, I overslept. Nikhil Moro, even at three hours apiece, your patience, knowledge and attitude made Media Law and Concepts in New Media a breeze to sit through. Without you laying out my plan to graduate, I might have been at KSU for another six years. Joel Hochmuth, thanks for making me a better, albeit grudgingly, news writer. Chuck Aust, your tests are legendary in terms of difficulty, but anyone who doesn't take Theory or Film with you is missing out, big time. Go Steelers! Valerie Jersey, thanks for being so supportive and taking a honest-to-goodness interest in all of your students. That, and letting me do a presentation on C. Montgomery Burns. Jake McNeil, the radio promos were great and no one that takes your class will ever forget that commercial, "What?! You don't know about the bridal store?!" I'm sure I forgot one or two professors, so let me apologize in advance. The whole communication department is chock full of great professors, we just wish there were more of you.

Last, but definitely not least, is student media's advisor extraordinaire, Ed "How ARE you?" Bonza. It is really hard to sum up all that you have taught me in the short time I've been at The Sentinel. There is never a problem you can't fix, never a fight you can't finish and never a person you can't deal with [well, I can think of one...]. You've gone to bat for me more times than I could possibly count; you even took on Jack Thompson. Your advice was always 100 percent correct and I'm not sure how other schools manage to produce newspapers because you don't work on their campuses. Thanks for everything and keep at it. Ten years from now, some goofy kid will stroll into your office and need to know the letter to the editor policy. I hope you are still at KSU to guide him in the right direction. Hey, if you made an editor out of me, there is hope for everyone, right?

The Sentinel has gone through a number of staff changes since my first article went to print. A few people in the constant employee turn-around really made a difference and kept me

working hard. Tommy McNulty [Sometimes, my section is late...], Tara O'Shea [What is this, the freaking Discovery Channel?!], Kim Everhart, Matt Gammon [Pssh...my music], Sasha Bailey, Olivia Noland, Grant Voyles [Hellraiser], Colleen Wells, Mary York, Jafar Ware, "Aussie" Adam, Derek the Slayer, Hannah Key, Nick Mracek [Supplies!], Wade Whitehurst [Who the hell is that?], Mike Miracle and everyone else who I forgot [or didn't], you all had some part in creating the editor I am today.

The main inspiration for me, out of all past Sentinel staffers, was Meredith Pruden. Yeah, your mom was my third grade teacher, but I learned more from you than I ever did from her [except fractions]. You were by far the best editor in chief I worked under and you really taught me a lot. I wouldn't be writing this now if you hadn't been my boss. Thank you so much.

That said, the current staff is one of, if not the best, The Sentinel has ever seen. You all have a lot to be proud of and there isn't a single one of you who couldn't do as good or better than me as the next editor in chief.

Amy, as news editor, you were great. You didn't even wince when that guy graphically recounted his "dead rat and excrement" story. I hope that you continue at The Sentinel, because things just wouldn't be the same without you. Then who would make the chocolate and strawberry mess on Kayla's kitchen floor? Or sing "Pour Some Sugar On Me?" No one, that's who. Next time I "just wanna dance," I'll give you a call.

Kayla, op-ed and you are a match made in heaven. As a card-carrying member of the Hater Nation, you wrote some of the best editorials The Sentinel has seen in a long time. Seeing as you'll most likely take over as editor, let me give you a little advice. Don't sweat the small stuff. Getting bent out of shape doesn't make writers write or production assistants work any faster. All it does is give you an ulcer. Oh, and do you remember Geena Davis? She used to be in movies but she's not in movies anymore... Anyway, here's to rocky beaches, rent-a-cops, motion sickness, not being able to find hotels, the Cracktown gas station/liquor store/open pit to hell, waste not, want not and the ninth wonder of the world.

Andrew, you broke the curse of the features desk. It's nice to see someone sit there for more than a few weeks at a time. Anyway, I expect you to stay at The Sentinel for a long time and make me proud so I can say, "Hey, I hired that guy!" Also, stay as far away from people [or things] named Jose as you can. We all know that the two of you don't mix very well. In the future, I hope you can keep away from small, enclosed areas, closets and for the love of god, only hug people

that you know.

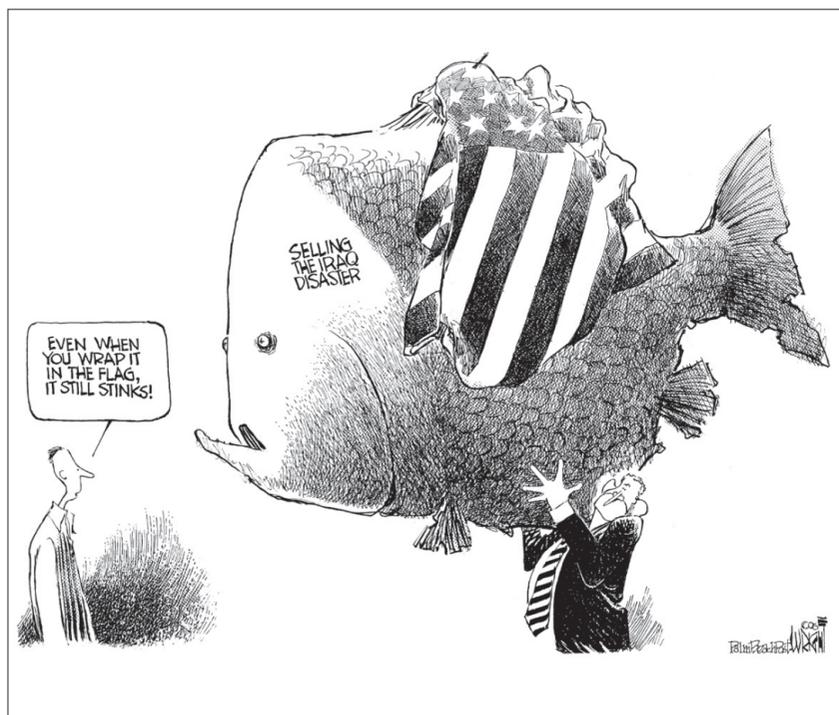
Nathan, I'm glad you came to us when you did. Things were looking pretty bleak before you volunteered. You single-handedly transformed the sports section into one worth reading again. Keep at it, I think you've found your calling and yes, everyone is well aware that you are a Kappa Sig. You have Andrew's problem as well, just with guys named Jim. Stay away at all costs.

Tyler, you are a great man and an excellent worker. You put up with everyone's whining week in and week out, and even with all that, the paper still looks phenomenal. If you stay with The Sentinel, just remember how you dealt with all of the stuff you've already seen, heard or witnessed. An "Oh my god" and a laugh has gotten you this far, keep using it. Eh, you probably won't read this anyway...isn't there an Art History test you need to study for?

So, now that I'm running out of room, I guess I'll just thank everyone else briefly. Alex and Rick, you guys are great and I hope that you both stick around. What would The Sentinel be if it weren't for big boats, huge fun and cookouts? Chance, thanks for turning the ad manager position around, and for the love of everything holy, clean your office and stop traveling. Rykie, thanks for ordering the pizza, making people cry and being the best copy editor on the market [for less than minimum wage]. Carolyn, Jon, Helen and the rest of the Share staff, good luck getting your magazine out [I'm helping...bizarro...]. Don't let Jon jack too many people at OGU and always remember to point to it. Heidi, Jess and the Talon staff, sorry about your printing problems, I'm sure the next issue will be great. Also, whenever Brent opens his mouth, make sure you are more than five feet away [did those clothes ever come clean?]. Wendi, thanks for being my friend, listening to my nonsense and answering the door, even when you know full well that it's Dracula [The D on my grave...]. Mrs. Cherry's class and everyone at the Swift School, thanks for deciding that I know what I'm talking about [only true about half the time] and working so hard. I'm sure we'll get one or two journalists out of the group. Everyone at KSU, thanks for reading my articles, sending me hate mail and please, please continue to support The Sentinel in the years to come. Even if you just do the crossword puzzle, you are still reading and that's what is important. Being an ignorant, illiterate ass never got anyone anywhere [except Tom Green, Sean Hannity, Jessica Simpson and Paris Hilton]. If that's not reason enough, we still have the best racks in town and now we put out every Tuesday.

Lastly, I'd like to thank power metal [Dragonforce and Sonata Arctica in particular], Nintendo, gummi bears, Jack Bauer and Nina Myers, manatees, especially huge ones, Vegeta and the entire Saiyan race, Marlboro reds, Morgan Booker and Ray Catlett, banana pudding, the patio outside the Student Center, Dewey, the party shower, Vigo the Carpathian, Avnita [R.I.P.], the "I hate Jason Nimer" Facebook group, Eastman [he came out of the east...], interocitors and the Amazing Rando, the College Republicans, the partybag [wooo], the [expletive deleted] bucket, the Turner Field EMS workers, Muslim dentists, Jon's nub, Ed and Evan Smith [for ridiculing everything I enjoy], Charlie, Mack, Dennis and Dee, emo kids [we all need a good laugh sometimes...buy some clothes that fit], Mike Tyson's Punch-Out!!!, wicked burns, Total Eclipse of the Heart [and the well deserved boos of the USMC], figuring out who was gonna pay for those boxes, Wood Man's music, broken soap dishes, Montel, TiVo, more cowbell, Trogdor the Burninator, Delta Sigma Phi [for banishing me and saying that my tattoos scare sorority girls], James Touchton, the wonderpunch, Jeremy Walts, R. Brian Laurens, Tsen-Tsen Diya, Loana dP Valencia [for the metal care packages, interviews and tickets], Apple [for making computers that don't break], catbread, Lost, more dots, Leeroy Jenkins, dancing cigarettes and anyone or anything else that I forgot.

That's it. It's my last issue as editor. Oh well, at least I still know Stephen Valdes...that's got to count for something.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to "Chemistry major receiving Purple Heart"

Dear Editor ,

I was so appreciative to see an article recognizing a true hero on our campus published in last week's newspaper. In your article, you wrote about a chemistry major who was honored with the Purple Heart after being wounded in Iraq.

After reading this article, I couldn't help but fathom the idea of a student, here at KSU, undergoing the real life challenges of danger and survival. These concepts were very distant to me, as I'm sure they are to most other college students. This article gave me the chance to take a step out of my own busy schedule and to realize that most of my worries and concerns really aren't as substantial or immense as I had thought them to be. I think it is safe to say that the majority of us here at KSU are occupied with battling the traffic in our commute to class, making our car payments, paying bills on time, finding parking and trying to graduate.

I couldn't help but think about how different Sgt. Brandon Huskins' perspective on life must

be from mine. Knowing that someone at our campus has lived, seen and faced war really made me think about my own priorities. I know now that my problems of finding parking and paying bills are only typical burdens and shouldn't consume me.

I think it is so important to be reminded of those who are helping support our country and how brave they really are to sacrifices their lives for us. I think it is truly amazing that we have a real hero on our campus, who is here only trying to achieve the same as other students, a higher education.

However, his story also reminds that we have a lot to learn and gain from each other here at KSU. Sgt. Huskins is a perfect example in showing us that we don't know how far we can go until we are faced with certain circumstances and situations. I think he is an inspiration to all of us at Kennesaw State University and I feel privileged to be a part of a campus with brave, ambitious and supportive students.

Katherine LoSchiavo Senior
Junior, communication

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Panic! at the Disco brings the circus to Atlanta

JESSICA FORKEL
STAFF WRITER

Originating in Las Vegas, Nevada, Panic! at the Disco has taken the music scene by storm with their distinctive sound of pop-electronica dance music with catchy melodies. The band members include Ryan Ross [guitar/vocals], Spencer Smith [drums], Brendon Urie [lead vocals/piano/guitar] and Jon Walker [bass/vocals].

While most new bands struggle to get their music heard by record executives by sending out demo tapes and playing at every bar in their home town, the boys of Panic! took a different route. They contacted Pete Wentz, [Fall Out Boy] through the Internet phenomena LiveJournal. Through LiveJournal, the band sent Wentz a link to Purevolume [a site for musicians to promote samples of their music]. Intrigued by only a taste of the band's sound, Wentz took a trip to Las Vegas to see them play live from their garage. Wentz immediately offered to sign the band to his record label, Fueled By Ramen/Decaydance. The band signed in 2005 and has soared to the top of the music charts ever since. Their debut album, "A Fever You Cant Sweat Out" [2005] has gone platinum, selling over one million copies.

Not only are Panic's lyrics and sound unique, their music videos are imaginative and theatrical. In Jan. 2006, the band appeared on MTV's TRL to premiere their first music video for the single "I Write Sins Not Tragedies."

The video's theme of a circus wedding illustrated the lyrics about a cheating spouse to be.

The band has since released two new music videos for the singles, "But It's Better If You Do" and "Lying Is the Most Fun a Girl Can Have Without Taking Her Clothes Off." Themes for these videos include the band playing in an early 1900s American setting and people walking the streets wearing fish helmets. The videos add an edge to their already different style and keep your eyes glued to the television.

As if Panic's success couldn't get any sweeter with three hit singles and a platinum debut album, the band took home the 2006 MTV Video of the Year award, for their first video "I Write Sins Not Tragedies," beating artists such as Christina Aguilera and Madonna.

The band is currently on their first stadium tour with Bloc Party and Jacks Mannequin. Combine an old traditional circus, a theatrical show of Las Vegas, add some pop-electronica dance music with costumes and that is a Panic! at the Disco show. The band's backdrop was of an audience in an old circus tent while the drummer was on a high-rise platform shaped like a drum



Photos by Jessica Forkel | The Sentinel



in the middle of the stage. The show began with traditional circus music playing as the band appeared wearing elaborate costumes and face make-up. Accompanying the band on stage, also wearing costumes and makeup, were dancers, acrobats and characters on stilts. Urie even joined in with the showgirl-like dancers, showing that he can "get down" on more than just the microphone. The biggest highlight of the show was during "I Write Sins Not Tragedies."

Keeping with the wedding theme of the video, the stage came to life when a bride and groom appeared on stilts acting out the lyrics. The crowd's energy was intense during the entire hour performance, sometimes even being louder than the band while shouting lyrics. The catchy melodies and Urie's amazing voice captured the audience while the elaborate set design, dancers and characters added to the show making it even more spectacular.

Want to know more about Panic! at the Disco? go to www.panicatthedisco.com.

The best coffee around

TERESA ALVAREZ
STAFF WRITER

The first recollection I have about this drink was two years ago. I remember it was freezing outside and the only clothing covering my khakis and shirt was a navy blue sweater jacket. I just had dinner at Simpatico on the Marietta Square with my parents when my dad pointed out a coffeehouse not far from where we were.

The place is Cool Beans. Inside there was only a couple and a few friends of the girls working there. They were in their late teens or early twenties and wore trendy, Urban Outfitter-like clothes and had that aura of cool Bohemia. As I was deciding what to order, I saw Mexican Spiced Hot Chocolate. The name stuck out, so I ordered it. I remember the trendsetter behind the counter steaming the milk and putting the whipped cream on top. The last thing she did before putting on the lid was topping the concoction off with cinnamon. She put it on as if it were powdered sugar on French toast—without the shaker making a sound.

The three of us, with our treats at hand, sat at the table that must have been older than dirt, decorated by either art students or five-year-olds. After taking a piece of some type of cookie from my plate, I took the first sip of my drink. Even though it was the first time I tried it and the first time I stepped foot in that java house, the taste seemed so familiar to me. I could actually taste the cinnamon, the vanilla and the bit of nutmeg in every sip of the hot chocolate. I don't even remember what the cookie tasted like, but I remember each ingredient in the hot chocolate.

With a year flying by after experiencing perfection at Cool Beans, I ventured on to other coffee hot spots such as the chain Caribou Coffee. Brandy Jones, 25, a barista who works at the Woodstock Road location, mentioned a few of the regulars that come in.

"There's Antonio. He comes in every afternoon. He orders two shots of espresso, goes outside, smokes, comes back in to throw away the cup and leaves," Jones said.

Not even 15 minutes go by before I see Antonio throw away his cup and go out the door.

Venturing on to what other coffee makers were doing for the holiday season, I chose to visit a little place known as Starbucks. Whether it's their peppermint hot chocolate or a green tea latte, Starbucks employees say the most complex, multiple-syllable drink such as a tall, no water, no foam, extra hot soy chai or a grande, decaf, soy, pumpkin latte, no whip with as much ease as they make it.

Of course, if you are pressed for time, you can always take the do-it-yourself route. A good one to try is Nestlé's Abuelita hot chocolate. Whether in tablet form or in packet [I recommend packets], imagine having hot chocolate with cinnamon, adding a unique texture and flavor to the drink. If you're not feeling so adventurous, Swiss Miss is always a keeper. Remember, you can always get creative by adding different syrups [cherry, mint, strawberry], whipped cream, marshmallows, Bailey's Irish Cream or Amaretto to your concoction of coffee goodness. If you're on the watching-my-figure routine, no worries for you: order your drink with non-fat milk or try hot tea. If you're weary of dairy products, having your beverage with soy is also a great substitute, especially if it is vanilla flavored.

Whatever you choose to order or make, keep warm this season and have a Happy Holidays.

WHO IS DR. DANIEL S. PAPP? Beyond the president's office



Photo courtesy of Jim Bolt, University Relations

KIRSTEN OTTO
STAFF WRITER

If you are a student at KSU, you should know that Dr. Daniel Papp is the new president of the university. In the summer of 2006, when Dr. Betty Siegel announced her retirement, the search for a new president began and Papp was selected. That is just common knowledge if you

are a KSU student. Below are some things you may not know about Dr. Papp.

When asked about his favorite part of being president of KSU, Papp said he enjoyed getting to know people and working to help the students and faculty with their issues. Papp also said the things that appeal to him the most are the opportunities for everyone and the university's solid faculty.

Papp was very enthusiastic when talking about the plans for the future of KSU and the students here. He explained that he wants his relationship with the students to be very open and that he hopes students will feel comfortable enough to voice their

opinions and concerns through open discussion.

Some of the major challenges he has faced since becoming president have been to figure out how to deal with the low graduation rate. The current four year graduation rate is only 33 percent and he hopes to change that. Papp mentioned that the reason he thinks so many people take longer to graduate is the fact that they work and go to school full time. While some students may have to work to help with the cost of living here on campus, he is concerned that some work simply to maintain the comfortable lifestyle they were used to back home.

Papp said that the most rewarding part of being the president here at KSU is the fact that he gets to be back on campus and be a part of this already amazing institution. In his inaugural speech, he cited the various ways he plans to improve upon the already solid foundations upon which KSU was built. He plans to bring KSU to a new level of academic achievement. "My hope for this school is that it be among the best learning-centered state universities in the nation," Papp said.

The issue of a football or hockey team is one that Papp can't seem to go a day without addressing. He said that it is an issue of funding at this point. There is currently a feasible study being conducted to de-

termine whether or not starting a football or hockey program would be cost effective. The cost of running a program like that would be about two million a year. Tuition wouldn't go up, but the athletic fees definitely would and the committee is trying to figure out whether or not it will be enough.

Dr. Papp also spoke at length about those who have inspired him. Papp said, regarding those inspirations, "It has been a combination of folks. My father, who was always interested in things international and things military, a couple of professors I had at Dartmouth and a couple of ministers I've had over the years. Probably a group of about five or six people."

He remembers his college years fondly as the only time in his life when he could set his own schedule and sleep the day away if he wanted to. He was a lot like many of the students at KSU; he played football, baseball, rugby and, after he injured his knee, basketball. He worked in college as much as he could so that he could go on trips with his friends. He had a job as a ski instructor and even worked at a liquor store to make a little extra cash.

The new era that Dr. Papp has begun is truly off to an amazing start that has all the potential of becoming an exciting and prosperous future. To quote Dr. Papp's inauguration address, "This fine university is takin' care of business ... you ain't seen nothin' yet."

"You ain't seen nothin' yet."

High Museum of Art debuts Louvre Atlanta

The prestigious exhibit will include pieces from The Royal Collection

Sèvres, d'après Louis-Simon Boizot, Bust of Marie Antoinette, 1782, Musée du Louvre



JESSICA EDENS
STAFF WRITER

The High Museum of Art recently unveiled the first series in Louvre Atlanta, an exhibit that will continue through 2009. The first series, The Royal Collections, provides a glimpse of some of the art that the French kings Louis XIV, Louis XV and Louis XVI gathered during their years on the throne.

The Louvre, the world's largest museum and one of the jewels of Paris, was originally a palace, hence its ornate and luxurious architecture. It became a public art museum in the 1700s, when the French royalty shifted their residence to the palace at Versailles, just north of the city.

There are currently over 35,000 works on display at the Louvre. It's most renowned pieces include Alexandros of Antioch's "Venus de Milo" and Leonardo da Vinci's "Virgin of the Rocks" and the "Mona Lisa."

The first display in the exhibit is a room full of busts of significant contributors to French history and culture, like Voltaire and Rembrandt, created by many different artists over the years. Some of the heads were replicas created for the French kings. This art form was popular and sought after by the leaders of the monarchy.

The next floor of the exhibit presents an assortment of the 135,000 drawings the kings accumulated for the Louvre library. The King's Drawings are mostly done in pen and brown ink, and the intricate detail of the artwork is quite apparent.

Many of the paintings in the Louvre Atlanta collection came to be with Louis XIV when he moved from the Louvre to Versailles with his mother. Charles le Brun was hired as First Painter to the King, whose duty it was to work with Louis to decorate every wall, ceiling, floor and surface of Versailles. Several of these works served to represent this decoration project, including the never-before-exhibited "Drapery for a Kneeling Figure."

Several Raphael originals, including one from

his famous angel series, are also part of the exhibit. There is also representation of the movement of art towards the focus on individuals' lives instead of allegorical and religious subjects that had been dominant, lead by Watteau, one of the king's painters.

The last section of the exhibit, Kings as Collectors, shares the story of art collected by the last kings of the French monarchy, up until 1789 with the start of the French Revolution. By these years, Louis XIV was successfully shifting the world's center of art and culture from Rome to Paris. He received several valuable sculptures from a personal friend and collector, which are displayed to show part of the influence the king had on the art world, and his devotion to collecting fine pieces. These sculptures disappeared during the French Revolution and were not recovered until 1935.

Part of the value of the monarchy's huge collection was that students from the Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture came to study the work of the masters, with intention to also master color and line. One painting in the exhibit symbolized this learning technique, Guido Reni's "The Union of Drawing and Color," with the man and woman representing drawing and painting, respectively.

The collection as a whole demonstrates the grandeur of the era, in society and especially in the monarchy. The last painting in the series is not from the Louvre, but of one of the galleries within it, done by American Samuel Morse [inventor of Morse code] in 1831. He delicately and beautifully captured the majesty of the place and of the art it holds, as was his intention, as America had no national museums at that time.

The mindset behind the Louvre-High Museum exchange is to tell throughout the course of three years the history of the Louvre and its influences, but in a strikingly modern atmosphere and spirit. The first of three exhibits is the story of collection by and influence of the kings, especially Louis XIV, XV and XVI, up until the time of the French Revolution. The next, coming in 2007, is the Louvre under the pressure and whirlwind of the French Revolution and times of social change.

Pieces to see at Louvre Atlanta



Jean Antoine Watteau, Study of a Seated Woman, 1684-1721, Musée du Louvre



Agostino Carracci, Portrait of a Man, Musée du Louvre



Mathis Gothart Nithart, Portrait of a Woman Wearing a Bonnet, Musée du Louvre



Raphael, Portrait of a Baldassare Castiglione, 1514-1515, Musée du Louvre



Francois Boucher, Portrait of the Marquise de Pompadour, 18th century, Musée du Louvre



Louis-Michel Van Loo, Double Portrait of the Marquis and Marquise de Marigny, 1769, Musée du Louvre



Alessandro Algardi, Jupiter Striking Down the Titans, 17 century before 1654, Musée du Louvre



Sèvres, Cassolette vase and its base, 1785, Musée du Louvre

Introducing Prof. Jeffrey Stepakoff

This hollywood writer shares his experiences with students

DUSTIN JACOBS
STAFF WRITER

On a rainy afternoon, 43-year-old Professor Jeffrey Stepakoff sits in his mostly empty new office. He takes a sip of his Deer Park water and prepares himself to discuss his life, profession and reason for coming to teach at KSU.

Stepakoff, who is originally from Atlanta, has returned home to Dunwoody after several years working in Los Angeles as a writer/producer. Though he has worked in several mediums, including motion pictures, his main stay is television.

"I've always known that I've wanted to do this," said Stepakoff of his love for script writing. "I wrote my first play at age 15. What drew me to television is the fact that it is a writer's medium. Writers have real control in television that they don't necessarily have writing a Hollywood movie."

Stepakoff graduated from Woodward Academy in Atlanta and went on to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for a degree in journalism with a focus in drama. After leaving Chapel Hill, Stepakoff returned

to Atlanta to work with Ogilvy and Mather Advertising.

After about a year, he headed to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh to become a playwright. While there he received an MFA in playwriting.

"I wasn't necessarily interested in film or television. I was really interested in writing plays. What I was really interested in was storytelling. I went to Pittsburgh to study playwriting because theater was something that was accessible and available. You could write a play and you could get it produced. TV and film seemed rather inaccessible."

Stepakoff relays a message of how fortunate we are to have a society that has become more adept to the creative mind, particularly in the field of creative storytelling.

"In the mid-eighties, it was seen as an eccentric endeavor to study film and television. In fact, there were very few programs around."

Stepakoff met John Wells, an alumnus of Carnegie Mellon. Wells went on to create such shows as "ER" and "The West Wing." He also became president of the Writer's Guild of America in 1999.

"[John] came back to lecture. I sent him some speculative scripts that I wrote. He sent them out to several agents. I received responses from several [agencies]. I signed with an agent in 1988 and moved to Hollywood."

The writers strike was on in 1988, so he was unable to get started right away. He did, however, find an internship at Universal Studios.

Once the strike was over, Stepakoff went to work, getting a gig with the television show "Simon and Simon." He wrote the script for episode six of season eight, which also happened to be the last season of the show.

"After that, I went to work for David Milch. He is really one of the best writers in television."

Milch is responsible for such shows as "NYPD Blue" and "Deadwood."

Stepakoff then went on to work on television shows such as "Major Dad," "The Wonder Years" and "Sisters." He also developed scripts for video games and created entertainment series for the web. He then went into animation at Disney.

"I was the first writer to develop 'Brother Bear.' Then I was the second writer on 'Tarzan.' I spent about a year

working on 'Tarzan.'"

From there, Stepakoff worked on the hit WB series "Dawson's Creek" where he was both a writer and co-executive producer. He is credited for writing 10 episodes over his three year period with the program.

Stepakoff returned to Dunwoody in 2004, where he now resides with his wife, Elizabeth, and his two daughters, 7-year-old Sophie and 5-year-old Charlotte.

After being a part of the entertainment industry for the better part of 20 years, Stepakoff is here at KSU. Of all the places he could have chosen from, he only chose to apply at KSU.

"Kennesaw is growing by leaps and bounds. It has an emphasis on professional training. What I want to do is help young storytellers go to work in the field, just like I did twenty years ago. Kennesaw is open to a realm of possibilities."

Professionalism is what drew Stepakoff to Kennesaw State. He is also keeping up with his own profession.

"I have a book coming out called 'Billion Dollar Kiss: The Story of a Television Writer in the Hollywood

Gold Rush." It's a memoir; a non-fiction narrative about my life writing for television over the past 20 years."

The book sheds light on what has been a huge money making industry for writers. It also sheds light on why network television has been taken over by reality TV. The book is due out in April 2007 from Gotham Books.

Over the years, Stepakoff has seen what it takes to be a successful writer in Hollywood. He wants to bring that success to potential storytellers here at KSU as the professor of screen and script writing. He will also be the official Entertainment Advisor for the Film department.

"I'm not just here to teach students. I am here to help students professionally. What I am able to do is help students who have the skills, the passion and the commitment to work professionally and find that work."

"Mr. Stepakoff brings to KSU a great deal of experience and insight from a successful career in Hollywood," says film department chairman, Dr. David King. "He will be of great assistance to students, especially screenwriters, as our program in film studies continues to grow."



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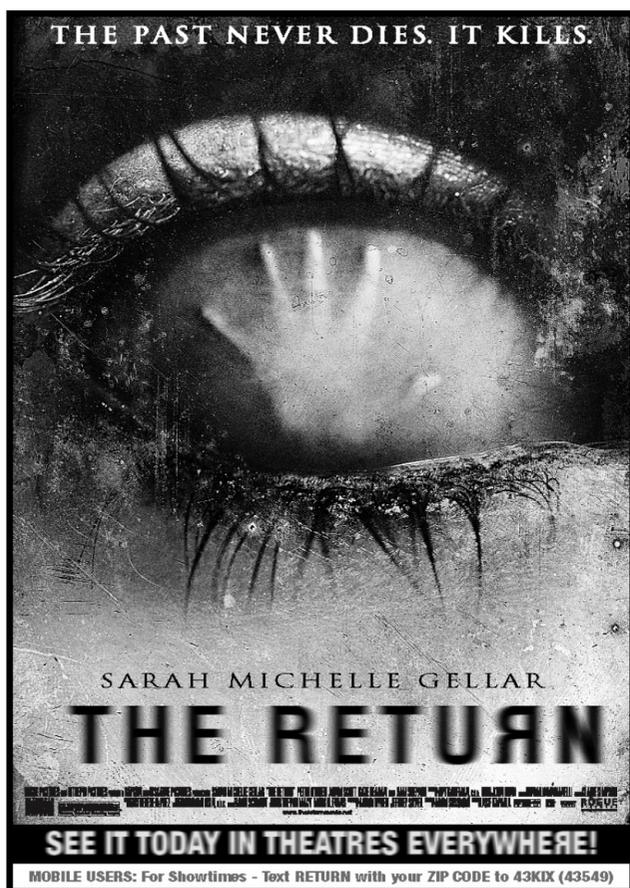
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Niki held over for another month

WENDY RAVEN MCNAIR
STAFF WRITER

My daughter accompanied me to Niki de Saint Phalle's exhibit at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. She was the perfect companion for viewing Niki's work. We both found the vibrant colors and large, full, round shapes irresistible, but her favorite pieces were the participatory sculptures. She could actually crawl on top of for a new perspective or inside of to discover a secret space. My favorites were the "Nanas" which is French for "babes." Nanas are Niki's female figures whose voluptuous "womanly" parts are emphasized with bright colors and patterns.

The outdoor installation on the Great Lawn exhibited a large number of Niki's statues, but the two large lions, *Guardian Lions*, 2000, attracted the attention of my daughter, and other children as well. They enjoyed exploring the underside of the oversized

pieces as well as crawling on top of them. The lions were covered in beautiful, colorful stones and were perfectly suited as outdoor playground pieces, as well as magnificent works of art. *Nana Maison* [Nana House], 1967-87, delighted my daughter when she discovered a nice shady place inside. It was painted in vibrant, rich colors with emphasis on the feminine parts [ex. breasts and generous buttocks]. The cool blue interior contained an inviting bench and the floor was covered with woodchips. It was a nice, cool hidden retreat from the heat of the day.

My favorite piece in the exhibit was *Les Trois Grâces* [The Three Graces], 1999, a sculpture of three women dancing on top of a pond. All were balanced on a single foot, giving their forms a lightness and joy that extended through the water sprouting out of their bodies. It was an expression of complete physical freedom that, even now, brings a smile to my face just thinking

about them. I noted a smaller scale, similar version located indoors, *Fontaine Aux Nanas Fond Noir* [Nana Fountain, Black], 1991. There were four women joined from the waist down in a fountain with colorful patterned designs emphasizing their voluptuous shapes and water sprouting out of their bodies. To my chagrin and my daughter's surprised amusement, the water was sprouting from their breasts as well.

Initially, I was astonished that my daughter's favorite sculpture was a giant skull entitled *L Cabeza* [The Head], 2000. But as we explored it together, I began to understand her attraction to the piece whose subject matter is traditionally considered macabre in our culture. The enormous skull was beautiful. The exterior was impressive, covered in brilliant tiles and stones, but it was the interior that attracted her the most. The interior was cool and covered in

See NIKI, page 10

Da Chen shares his life with KSU

JESSICA EDENS
STAFF WRITER

New York Times bestselling author Da Chen spoke to a group of several hundred students and other guests Nov. 7, bringing his written stories to life.

Chen's second memoir, "Sounds of the River," was selected as KSU's common reader for 2006-07, and is required reading for all First Year Experience classes. It is because of this connection with the school's curriculum that Chen stopped by to speak, personifying the voice of the young man that many have come to know from his stories of college life in China.

Chen spoke of his wife and children, his early days going to school in America and his first "real" job making copies in an office on Wall Street. He came to the United States after completing a degree at the Beijing Language Institute, where he won a scholarship and an elusive visa approval from his home nation.

He later received a full scholarship to Columbia University Law School where he met his wife, an American-born Chinese woman. They have two young children, a daughter and a son.

Chen also spoke of his childhood, which was not as familiar to the audience because it is narrated in his first memoir, "Colors of the Mountain." His poignant tales of life in southern Yellow Stone and becoming a man as he dealt with the harsh realities in his homeland held the room in silence.

He also told of his early writing career, beginning with the day his young daughter remarked that he "talked funny." In an effort to collect his past so that she could, in turn, know her own heritage, Chen recorded his childhood and then tucked it away for when she was older. Several years later, at least half a dozen publishers wanted rights to the story. The president and editor-in-chief of Random House met Chen with tears in her eyes,

and requested to personally edit his memoir. The rest is history.

Midway through the evening, Chen pulled out his bamboo flute and transported the group to the hills of China. While listening to the whistling melody of the distinct Asian instrument, merely closing one's eyes brought visions of Chen's China, childhood, college days and the hardships he overcame to stand in America and play a song. He dedicated his performance to his father, the man who had taught him much, including how to play China's native flute.

Ending the address, Chen read an excerpt from his new novel, "Brothers," his first work of adult fiction. The author reading his own words left a grand sense of splendor on the night. A reception featuring traditional Chinese food was held immediately afterward, sponsored by the Chinese Student Association, while Chen expertly drew calligraphy and signed autographs in his books.

Fraud-Buster speaks at KSU

KAREN PRESSLEY
STAFF WRITER

Images of crime scene investigations, armed thugs and smoking guns are more likely to conjure up ideas about CSI television shows than computer forensics or whistleblowing on accounting fraud. With white-collar criminal conduct making headlines since the MCI, Enron and WorldCom corporate scandals, the role of the whistleblower and forensic accountant has moved from obscurity to front-page news.

On Nov. 15, fraud whistleblower James Wanserski will share his story at KSU on how he found the smoking gun that cracked open the \$50 million accounting fraud of telecom giant MCI. The discovery led to MCI exec Walt Pavlo's felony conviction and sentencing to 41 months in prison.

The Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character has invited Wanserski to KSU to discuss "Real Life Fraud-Busting: Facts, Behavior and Role Models."

His story is for all, but will especially appeal to academic leaders, business and business law majors, information systems and communication majors. Wanserski's MBA in Finance/Management, and 20 years in telecommunications and accounting at corporations including Sprint, MCI and Telecom USA, has equipped him with a wealth of experience that students and faculty can access following his lecture.

Wanserski's story spans more than the accounting ex-

pertise required to expose the cooked books at MCI. Other repercussions reverberate in his life, from challenging media relations to countering Pavlo's version of this scandal in the Forbes magazine story, "Ring of Thieves," by journalist Neil Weinberg, to attacks on his reputation and threats to his family and career.

Wanserski believes accountability for ethical choices belongs to managers and staff at all levels.

"People who should be detecting fraud are not the government, the police department or even the CEOs. It's the front line managers who see it first," Wanserski said.

He says anyone can embrace the characteristics of a fraud-buster as a matter of choice. This requires a good education, building a variety of experiences and roles that broaden your perspective and then learning how to trust your gut reactions when you see something that doesn't add up.

"Underlying these basics must be a personal foundation of core values, part of your very being, which enables you to see when something is awry and act on it."

Financial Executive magazine published Wanserski's article, "By Any True Accounting, the Deed Was Fraud," which addresses to the MCI fraud case and offers advice about how to deal with fraud and ensuing litigation.

"My biggest motivation to write that article was the fabrication spewing out of the fraudster convicted in the MCI case, now making a living on a speaking

tour talking about ethics."

Wanserski hopes to influence academic institutions and other groups away from inviting convicted fraudsters into classrooms to talk about ethics, since that is an issue of the wrong role model being given a platform from which to speak to future leaders. He hopes to see a shift from what he calls a perverse appeal about "good people gone bad" to an emphasis on people who have built a platform by doing things right.

He also wants to see a shift in media exposure of fraud, proving that journalists have due diligence to fair and thorough investigative reporting, which brings truth rather than covering an angle to fit a preconceived agenda.

Do kids grow up dreaming of becoming a whistleblower, like they might dream of becoming a teacher or an astronaut? Wanserski's perspective was shaped by a significant role model who set high standards for him at an impressionable age, whom he will talk about at the KSU event.

When asked if he looked back on the path he followed with fraud busting, he replied, "The media has exposed losses of over \$200 billion of market value from these frauds. This proves the economic costs are far greater than the gains. You have to look at yourself in the mirror every day and think, what's the cost to your personal integrity?"

Wanserski's reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. with light refreshments at the KSU Center, Room 300, with his lecture starting at 7.

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COMPILED BY AZY KASHANI

What: KSU Jazz Combo Ensemble.
When: November 16 at 8 p.m.
Where: Stillwater Theatre
Cost: Free

What: KSU Guitar Ensemble
When: November 17 at 8 p.m.
Where: Music Recital Hall
Cost: Free

What: Career Conversations: What can I do with my chemistry/biochemistry degree?
When: November 16 5-7 p.m.
Where: Clendenin Building, Room 1009
Details: Students have opportunities to speak with representatives from various companies and organizations. Refreshments will be provided.

What: Studio Season: "You Always Go Home" Play
When: November 14-19 3 p.m.
Where: Studio Theatre
Cost: \$5

What: "Public Health and

Capacity Building in Kenya"
When: November 16 at 6:30 p.m.
Where: University Rooms
Details: Year in Kenya event: Lecture given by Alan Fenwick, Professor of Tropical Parasitology and Imperial College of London.
Cost: Free



What: Flu Shots: Second Influenza Clinic
When: November 14-15 from 11-2:00 p.m.
Where: Student Center Atrium
Details: The cost of the immunization is for students, faculty and staff's Banner account. We are happy to immunize family and friends over the age of 8.

You must have your KSU ID with you to receive the influenza immunization. Immunizations are given in the upper arm, so please remember to dress appropriately.
Cost: \$20

What: "Women for Hire: Career Expo
When: November 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Cobb Galleria Centre [Off Campus Event]
Details: Business attire is required, and you must have copies of your resume with you to be admitted. Prior to the career expo, there will be a special early morning seminar and networking session. Attendees receive priority admittance to the career expo immediately following. Morning refreshments will be served. There is a \$10 fee for the early morning seminar and you must register in advance as space is limited.
Cost: Admission is free and you may register on-site.

Got a bone to pick?

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Horoscopes

LINDA C. BLACK
 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Today's Birthday [11-13-06]
 You're almost over the top, and into a whole new phase of your life. This year, you'll make new friends and have lots of reasons to celebrate.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries [March 21-April 19]
 Today is a 7. The odds are good you'll want something desperately that you can't afford. The odds are good that if you get it, you'll soon wish you hadn't. Take care.

Taurus [April 20-May 20]
 Today is a 9. Let people know what's expected of them, in a loving manner. Be tough, and get them into shape. There's a test coming up.

Gemini [May 21-June 21]
 Today is a 5. You're a good teacher naturally, so use those skills now. Try not to yell at a person who's

nervous; that will only make matters worse.

Cancer [June 22-July 22]
 Today is an 8. Use your money to make more money, further on down the line. While you have the opportunity, take care of your future, first.

Leo [July 23-Aug. 22]
 Today is a 5. The more you listen, the more you'll understand what you're up against. Don't bother to offer suggestions yet. Encourage another to talk.

Virgo [Aug. 23-Sept. 22]
 Today is a 9. You're super-intelligent now, and have the patience to really study. Get into a subject you've always wanted to try, and master it.

Libra [Sept. 23-Oct. 22]
 Today is a 5. Avoid distractions and focus on ways to streamline your procedures. When you can do your job in less time, you'll have more time to play.

Scorpio [Oct. 23-Nov. 21]
 Today is an 8. There is a test,

and it's a tough one. Don't leave anything to chance. Be prepared, careful and charming, and you'll win the big prize.

Sagittarius [Nov. 22-Dec. 21]
 Today is a 4. Don't go yet you're not ready, even if you think you are. Caution is advised, and you'll be better off safe than sorry.

Capricorn [Dec. 22-Jan. 19]
 Today is a 9. You'd like to go out and celebrate with your friends but you're not there yet. Don't forget the most important thing, like putting the check in the mail.

Aquarius [Jan. 20-Feb. 18]
 Today is a 5. It's better for you to say less, and let someone else say more. Focus on keeping the others on track, and let them fight out the details. Maintain objectivity.

Pisces [Feb. 19-March 20]
 Today is an 8. The job is still not finished, and it seems to be taking forever. The more distractions you can avoid, the sooner you'll finish this task.

Crossword

- ACROSS**
 1 Clashes
 5 Former Russian leader
 9 Supreme happiness
 14 Border on
 15 New Haven school
 16 Too weird
 17 Soft drink
 18 Football infraction
 19 Indistinct
 20 Chesterfield or dolman
 22 Surpasses
 23 Sleeping chamber
 24 Vessel armed for combat
 27 Give life to
 29 ___ Lanka
 30 Standard of perfection
 34 ETO commander
 35 Etc.'s cousin
 36 Part of SASE
 37 Furry swimmer
 39 Rose or Fountain
 40 Assist a hood
 41 Brewery container
 42 Turned left
 43 Circle segment
 44 Knead
 47 Bridge over a stage
 49 Expurgate
 54 Taylor and Torn
 55 Falling pollution
 56 Eniwetok, e.g.
 58 Very old
 59 Julep garnish
 60 Bisque server
 61 Adjust a piano
 62 Always
 63 ___ on (victimizes)
 64 Shea team
 65 Freshly moist
- DOWN**
 1 Esau's twin
 2 Over
 3 Governed
 4 Beatles' drummer
 5 Magnate

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11/14/06

Solutions

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 7 Landed
 8 Agt.
 9 Previously
 10 Springs
 11 Dubliner's dish
 12 Moral transgression
 13 Solidify
 21 Anthracite or bituminous
 22 Spud
 24 "Finnegan's ___"
 25 Furious
 26 Created stacks
 28 Catchers' gloves
 30 Writer Asimov
 31 Actress Winger
 32 Arc-lamp component
 33 Toward the stern
 35 Clean air grp.
 37 Roundish shapes
 38 Piece of work
 42 Pay attention to
 44 Sap yielding trees
 45 Stress
 46 Moves smoothly and effortlessly
 48 Movie whale
 50 Carrying a weapon
 51 Gullible
 52 Tendon
 53 Ledger item
 55 Malarial fever
 56 High mountain
 57 Black goo
 58 24-hr. \$ source



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It's Christmas time once again

TERESA ALVAREZ
STAFF WRITER

It is finally that time of the season. Actor/director Jon Favreau once wrote, "I've always viewed Christmas as a holiday for everyone. Through rooted in religion, it has grown into a holiday that has come to represent the coming together of all mankind. It represents the best of people." So this year, take time to spend with people you care about after the finals are over. In the meantime, watch that holiday favorite you won't get tired of, at least not at the moment. Since your last fix for some Christmas cheer was a year ago, you might need to be refreshed on what to watch or listen to.

10 must see Christmas movies

1. "A Christmas Story" [1983] - Whether renting it at Blockbuster or watching it on the 24-hour TBS marathon Christmas Day, it's great to watch Ralphie ask for a BB gun for Christmas. It's also fun to quote such quips as, "Oh Fuuudge."

2. "It's a Wonderful Life" [1946] - As memorable as it is inspiring, have a look at Frank Capra's classic of George Bailey [James Stewart] getting a second chance with the help from his guardian angel.

3. "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" [1989] - Have fun with Clark W. Griswold [Chevy Chase] as he prepares the family for the most memorable Christmas ever--not to mention spending it with a cousin [Randy Quaid's "Cousin Eddy"] that makes Jim Carrey in "Dumb and Dumber" look like James Bond.

4. "Elf" [2003] - It stands as one of the best, most recent holiday films. Buddy the Elf [Will Ferrell] travels from the North Pole to New York to find his dad [James Caan].

5. "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" [1964] - As you watch it, you look for three things: Sam the Snowman, Hermey the dentist/elf and the awesome Abominable Snowman. Once you've seen them, you're golden until next Christmas.

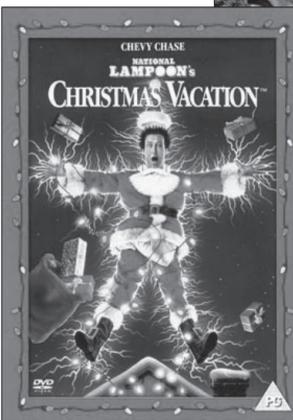
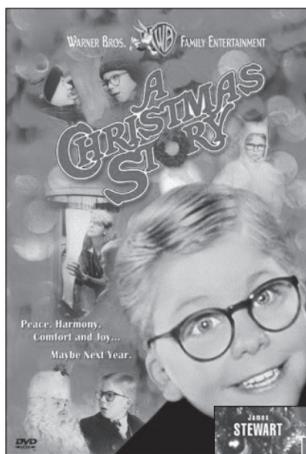
6. "A Charlie Brown Christmas" [1965] - Probably one of the best out of the "Charlie Brown" TV specials, it's entertaining for the whole family. It is even better when you enjoy the the awesome Vince Guaraldi soundtrack while you watch Charlie Brown try to find the meaning of Christmas.

7. "Home Alone" [1990] - John Hughes's classic with Macaulay Culkin being left behind while the rest of the family is away for the holidays. You also can't help but think of "The Joe Pesci Show" skit on "Saturday Night Live."

8. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" [1966] - Definitely not "The Grinch," enjoy this tale of the loss of Christmas in Whoville orchestrated by the grim Grinch [voice done by "Frankenstein's Monster" Boris Karloff] and his dog Max.

9. "Miracle on 34 Street" [original or remake] - Bring out the kid in all of us and experience the tale of believing in Santa Claus. They're both great, so watch the original if you want to see a young Natalie Wood or the remake if you want to see the little girl, Mara Wilson, from "Matilda."

10. "Love Actually" [2001] - Enjoy this story of love from different couple's perspectives in London during the Christmas season. This feel-good movie features an all-star English cast, including Hugh Grant, Keira Knightley, Emma Thompson, Liam Neeson, Colin Firth and Alan Rickman.



• NIKI from page 8



Photo courtesy of Maria Sarmiento

Fontaine Aux Nanas Fond Noir (Nana Fountain, Black), 1991, by Niki de Saint Phalle

silver mirrored tiles. Various shades of blue stones spread across the ceiling with a white tiled half moon encircled by pearl stones. Smooth black stones covered the seating. There was negative space between the large teeth that allowed you to see through them to the outside.

Some other sculptures she also enjoyed included *Nikigator*, 2001, an alligator with an opening in the belly for kids to play inside [like a jungle gym], *Seal Small*, 1999, a small seal children could crawl through and on, *Seal Large*, 1999, a large seal the children could crawl through, and *Cat*, 1999, a large embracing cat figure with seating space inside.

At the end of our visit, we viewed a film, which gave an overview of Niki's life and the collection's installation. The film was filled with many incredible facts about her life. I learned that art was credited for saving Niki's life after she received shock treatments for having a breakdown, due to clinical depression. The very same art was also credited for ultimately ending Niki's life. She inhaled noxious fumes while creating it and eventually died due to complications that arose from this.

I found only one sculpture that alluded to Niki's illness; *Le Fou*, [The Fool], 1990, a human and dog figure created of skinny rods that left large hollow spaces in the figures. Niki referred to this type of sculpture as a "skinny." This style of work stood in stark contrast to the full, rounded figures of Niki's other sculptures. The accompanying artist's statement commented, "When my lungs were severely damaged by working in polyester, air came into my life. I had to learn how to breathe again. Breathe deeply. The skinnies reflect that change."

Niki's art became even more profound when I realized what she'd sacrificed to bring beauty into the world. The exhibit is being extended to Dec. 31 so if you haven't seen it, go and immerse yourself in the extraordinary world of Niki de Saint Phalle.

What: Niki de Saint Phalle exhibit

Where: Atlanta Botanical Garden
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When: Until the end of December

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“Stranger Than Fiction,” where have you been all my life?

TERESA ALVAREZ
STAFF WRITER

There are reviews written for movies defined as comedy that say the film is “smart” when it’s really stupid. This movie does not fit into this category and can honestly be defined as smart, as well as being considered a modern masterpiece.

“Stranger Than Fiction” is about author Kay Eiffel [Emma Thompson], writing a tragic novel on an IRS auditor, Harold Crick. It turns out that Harold Crick [Will Ferrell] really exists and one day starts hearing her voice in his head explaining what he is doing as he does it. He finds it annoying until she says he is going to be killed. This leads him to try and figure out who she is by getting help from Professor Jules Hilbert [Dustin Hoffman] and eventually meeting whimsical baker/client/girlfriend Ana Pascal [Maggie Gyllenhaal].

When comparing this to other movies, think of the “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind” concept with the approach and light-heartedness of “The Truman Show.” If you’re looking for another “Old School,” you won’t find it here. “Stranger Than Fiction” is a comedy based on human nature and tries to neither dumb it down nor be too sophisticated for audiences to comprehend. Instead, it is the subtleties that give it charm, such as Ferrell quietly noting on paper his more misses then hits while conversing with Gyllenhaal. The performances are all outstanding and truly believable. Ferrell is espe-

cially impressive leaving the “Elf” and “Ricky Bobby” personality behind and creating a new character for the audience. He has grown from the Spartan cheerleader on “Saturday Night Live” to a great actor by delivering his energy in an offbeat way. Hoffman is exceptional as the brilliant yet odd professor who helps Harold. Thompson also delivers a fantastic performance as the recluse, chain-smoking and always thinking author. Gyllenhaal surprisingly brings a rebellious, spirited liveliness to Ana that was attempted unsuccessfully in other films such as “Along Came Polly” or “Monster-in-Law.” Queen Latifah is also seen in a small but well-done performance as Kay’s assistant. A prediction is now foreseen: do not be surprised if you see Ferrell, Hoffman or Thompson nominated for a Golden Globe.

On the topic of Golden Globes, also note the foreshadowing of nominations for Best Picture [Comedy], Best Director [Comedy] for Marc Forster and Best Screenplay for Zach Helm. Forster does a brilliant job getting away from the “Finding Neverland” seriousness and the “Stay” mindbender by taking the “Beautiful Mind” inventiveness and showing the audience how Harold’s mind works in a much lighter manner. Helm couldn’t have done better with his screenplay by giving life to such distinctive characters in such an enjoyable, pleasant manner.

“Stranger Than Fiction” is rated PG-13 for a few strong images, humored brief nudity in the background and a bit of language not noticeable or alarming. Like I said earlier, this is not a slap-

stick comedy nor is it a comedy that requires an IQ of 180. This is a sweet, enjoyable film that would inspire you to get a Spoon CD or the soundtrack [instrumental versions of Spoon’s songs are featured throughout]. It is indeed one

of the best films to come out this year and needs to be given recognition for being as luminous as it is simply great.

Grade: A

Photo courtesy of MCT Campus



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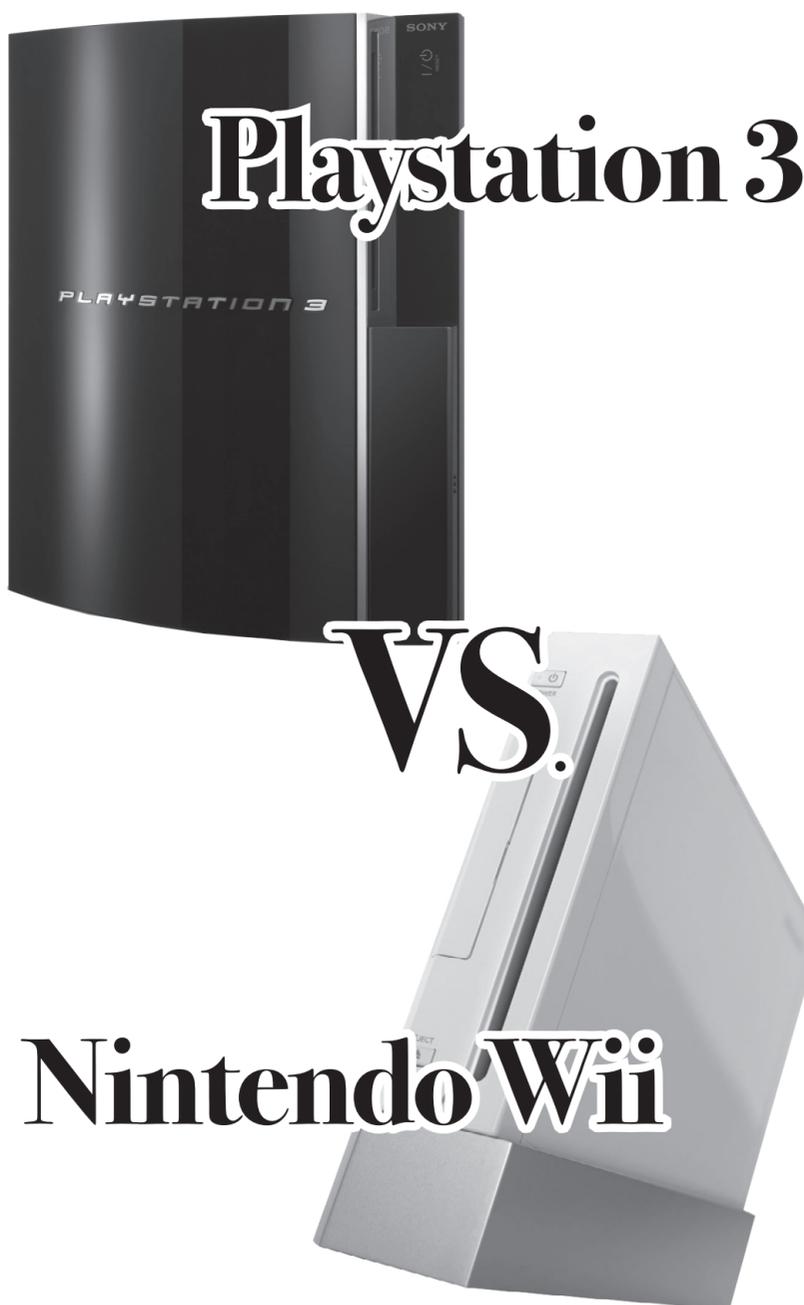
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JASON NIMER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

This week is going to be a big one for video game enthusiasts. By next Monday, two of the biggest companies in gaming will have unveiled their new, next generation gaming systems. Sony, which achieved worldwide success with its Playstation 2 console, will roll out its highly anticipated Playstation 3 on Friday, Nov. 17. Two days later, Nintendo will enter the market with the Wii, the oddly named system with an ingenious controller. Microsoft, who began selling their new system, the Xbox 360, last year, released its first "must have" game last week, in an effort to keep up with the competition. So, in a crowded market with lots of choices, what does the smart consumer do? Each of the choices has its benefits, but some of the negatives make for wasted money and tears on Christmas morning.

Since the Xbox 360 hit stores this time last year, we'll start with them. The 360 had as rocky a launch as any other system in gaming history. Not only were a good number of the first systems to hit stores defective [controllers didn't work, console scratched the games when they were being played, etc.], but a severe shortage of systems and steep \$400 price tag crippled the 360's chance to placate consumers. Also, a number of the games that were first available were terrible, ranging from an unplayable racing game to a slew of unplayable first person shooters. In its first year, though, the 360 has managed to recover.

The 360's online capability, though shallow at first, has completely turned itself around, making the 360 choice number one for gamers who love playing Mortal Kombat with friends in Vietnam. Also, the games have been getting increasingly better. Games like Dead Rising and Saint's Row have been slowly but surely increasing the 360's popularity. The Elder Scrolls: Oblivion was supposed to have the same effect, but once gamers actually played it, it's sure that more than a few lost hope in Microsoft's ability to produce a quality game play experience.

Last week, in a well-calculated business move, Microsoft released Gears of War and announced the upcoming Halo 3 in an effort to combat this week's deluge of new systems and games. Gears of War is so good, it almost warrants buying a 360 just to play it. Also, Halo is one of the best selling game franchises in recent history, so the sequel's announcement put Microsoft in a very good position to deal with the competition. It remains to be seen, however, if Microsoft's decision to begin selling the 360 a full year before the Playstation 3 and Nintendo Wii was a sound one.

The Playstation 3 will be released on Friday, but even before it has been made available to consumers, some are already predicting the system will be a flop. Sony hasn't given consumers much reason to believe otherwise. The system sells for \$600 [say this out loud to yourself: "I am going to spend \$600 on a video game console." Sounds stupid, right?], there have been widespread reports of hardware malfunction and most of the first games on store shelves will be ports of games available on other systems. On top of all that, Sony has announced that, due to difficulties with producing the PS3, far fewer systems will be available than originally expected.

Does the PS3 have any positive attributes? Not really, no. To be fair, the PS3 will play Blu-

Ray DVDs, but historically speaking, Sony and new media formats usually don't end up working out [anyone remember the MiniDisc, DiVX movies or the UMD discs? Me neither]. With the popularity of the new HD-DVD format and Microsoft's decision to support it, it is an inevitability that Bu-Ray will go the way of BetaMax much sooner than later.

The PS3's last major selling point has also been recently blown out of the water. Games that were once exclusive to Sony's console are now being produced for the competitors as well. Popular games such as Grand Theft Auto, Resident Evil and perhaps even Devil May Cry will almost assuredly appear on the 360. With the impending doom of Sony's handheld, the PSP, so much negative press surrounding its new console and company profits plummeting a reported 94 percent last fiscal year, it will be interesting to see if Sony's game department can survive until next Christmas.

Last, but certainly not least, is the Nintendo Wii. Yes, it has a funny name. Yes, it is not as graphically sophisticated as the competition. Yes, it will be the last console available for purchase. These factors all work against Nintendo, but the Wii has two things neither of the other consoles have; great games and an off-the-wall new controller.

Games are the first area where the Wii will shine. Not only is the Wii the only system to come packaged with a game [the first one since the Super Nintendo], but Nintendo has implemented a new feature called the Virtual Console. This allows players to download classic NES, SNES and N64 games, as well as some TurboGrafix 16 and Sega games. So even if you can't get your hands on The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess [the Wiis most anticipated game], you can pass the time playing the NES Zelda game that started it all. While the PS3 and 360 have a decent amount of games to choose from, Wii players will literally have Nintendo's entire library at their fingertips.

The greatest feature of the Wii is the controller. Instead of a joystick and a bunch of buttons, the Wii has a motion sensing remote control [or Wii-mote, if you will] and an analog stick. What does this mean? While most gamers sit stationary while playing, Wii players will be on their feet, wildly swinging their remotes. Ever played a first person shooter that required you to actually aim at your enemies? This is exactly what Nintendo is aiming for, and the possibilities are endless.

Lastly, the Nintendo Wii can be yours for a mere \$250. Compared to \$400 [XBox 360] or \$600 [PS3], the Wii is practically a steal. Don't worry about being able to find one either, Nintendo has produced a staggering amount of systems for launch, making sure that every consumer who wants a Wii will be able to get one.

This holiday season, shoppers will have a lot to choose from in the video game department. Nintendo's Wii will no doubt be the most fun, but Microsoft's 360 has its strong points as well. The PS3 seems to be the only bad choice, and that price tag should turn away casual gamers in droves. For the price of a PS3, consumers can buy both a Wii and a 360. This seems to be the smartest way to quench your thirst for great games. To those who are still planning on buying a PS3, I'll see you in six months when you are selling it back to Gamestop in exchange for a better system...and I'll most likely be laughing.

No matter what you choose, one thing is for certain, it is a great time to be a gamer.

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SPORTS

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Phil Sears | Tallahassee Democrat

FSU's Eric Moore tips the punt by Wake Forest's Ryan Plackemeir.

Florida State back to square one in quarterback department

IRA SCHOFFEL
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Florida State's quarterback situation has disintegrated from quandary to quagmire.

Two weeks after saying his team had a "good problem," with Xavier Lee and Drew Weatherford each appearing to be viable candidates to lead the Seminoles' offense, Bobby Bowden watched both make crucial mistakes in the Nov. 11 30-0 loss to Wake Forest.

Combined, Lee and Weatherford completed just 9 of 28 passes with four interceptions against the Demon Deacons.

"Both quarterbacks were terrible," Bowden said. "We threw two smack in the Wake Forest defenders' chests."

Lee, making his third career start, was dreadfully off target early. He completed three of his first eight passes and was intercepted twice deep in Florida State territory.

On his first interception, Lee said he was trying to throw the ball away but it slipped out of his hand on a rainy night. On the second, he said he didn't see Wake Forest linebacker Stanley Arnoux dropping back into coverage.

Wake Forest converted Lee's first interception into a field goal and the second into a touchdown to take a 13-0 lead early in the second quarter.

Weatherford was inserted on the next series and fared no better. He completed 4 of 15 passes for 52 yards with two interceptions in the game. One of those interceptions was returned 48 yards for a TD by cornerback Kevin Patterson.

Lee said he was "frustrated" by being benched after the early turnovers.

"I thought that with me being the starter in my third game that they would stand behind me," Lee said. "But I'd rather not talk about it. I can't really tell you what was going through my mind. It wouldn't be too good."

Weatherford and Lee were both highly touted high school quarterbacks but have had a difficult time finding success at the college level.

In his 20 career starts, Weatherford has posted a 12-8 record. Lee is now 1-2, though he played well in a loss at Maryland and in last week's victory against Virginia.

What was most surprising about the

Seminoles' offensive struggles against Wake Forest was that the Demon Deacons entered the game with the Atlantic Coast Conference's worst pass defense. In five conference games, Wake Forest had allowed an average of 271.4 passing yards per game. The Noles finished with 113.

"That was the worst game I've ever been a part of, especially at Florida State," Weatherford said. "We got out-fought and outplayed on pretty much every snap."

FSU has had plenty of offensive problems this season, but the Seminoles hadn't displayed a tendency of throwing interceptions until Saturday. In his first two starts, Lee completed 34 of 61 passes for 471 yards with no interceptions.

Weatherford had only five interceptions in 213 pass attempts coming into Saturday's game.

After letting Lee sit for the second and third quarters, the Seminoles went back to him and benched Weatherford midway through the fourth quarter. The move drew cheers from a mostly empty Doak Campbell Stadium, but it did little to change the outcome.

Lee finished the game with 61 yards on 5-of-13 passing.

Believe in Blueland

Atlanta Thrashers off to best start in franchise history

DUSTIN JACOBS
SENIOR COLUMNIST

Lucky number seven seems to be the right season for the Atlanta Thrashers. After six seasons of heart breaking play, the Atlanta Thrashers have seemingly put it all together on the ice.

So far, the Thrashers are 12-5-3 with 27 points, a record that tops the Southeast Division and places second in the Eastern Conference to the Buffalo Sabres, who the Thrashers beat on the road. With a start like this, one must wonder if this team can keep it up.

In years past, the Thrashers have had major letdowns in the second half. The end of last season was hard to swallow, with the Thrashers missing their first appearance by two points. This part due to their inability to beat division opponents such as former NHL Champion Tampa Bay and the current defending NHL Champion Carolina Hurricanes.

This glaring reality has carried over to this season, where the Thrashers are a combined 1-2-2 against both teams. The Thrashers lead in the division is now only six points ahead of second place Carolina and eight points ahead of third place Tampa Bay. The Thrashers will need to pick up momentum to ensure a non-meltdown this season.

The franchise player Ilya Kovalchuk and second year Thrasher Marian Hossa are first and second in the NHL in goals with 14 and 13 respectively. They are also one and two in point totals with Hossa's 28 and Kovalchuk's 26. Slava Kozlov has made a supporting contribution with his 14 assists, nine goals and 23 points. Goal tender Kari Lehtonen wears the all encompassing hockey mask with nine wins this season, despite his recent struggles.

Johan Hedberg has played back up goalie quite nicely with a record of 3-0-0. Kovalchuk, Hossa and Lehtonen are all on the NHL All-Star ballot.

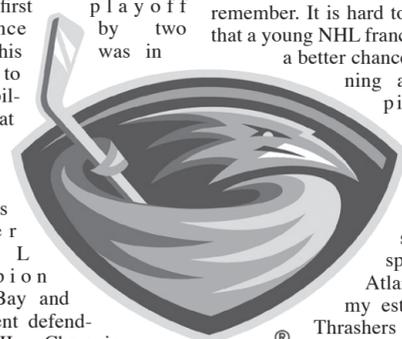
This season has been exciting for the Thrashers and their fans. This past January, I became a born again hockey fan. I was never all that interested in hockey, as Atlanta hadn't had an NHL team for most of my life. A friend of mine got involved and I must say that I will never be able to repay him. I have become a Thrashers fan now and an NHL fan to boot. Last season, I won my fantasy hockey league knowing little to nothing about the sport. Now, I am a true believer in Blueland and those that defend it.

What is Blueland you ask? There is only one way to find out. Head on over to Phillips Arena Fri. Nov. 17, as the Atlanta Thrashers set to host the Dallas Stars. Then, and only then, will you understand the meaning of Blueland.

A promising start is good. One can only hope this string of victories becomes a season to remember. It is hard to believe that a young NHL franchise has a better chance at winning a championship than any of the other professional sports in Atlanta. In my estimation, Thrashers fans are the most passionate base of any pro sport in Atlanta. After all, the Braves run is over, the Falcons can't seem to find consistency and the Hawks have forgotten what the playoffs are. If there is an organization to truly get behind, it's this thrilling team comprised of players from all over the globe that share the same ambition: defend Blueland and bring to it Sir Stanley's Cup.

Here is to hoping head coach Bob Hartley has got the right plans in place. Let us hope that Don Waddell has the right formula. Let us hope that the spirit is right for a Stanley Cup playoff run.

First things first, let's beat Tampa and Carolina. Considering these teams have won the last three Stanley Cups, defeating them could be a good omen. Here's to hoping current patterns stay on target for an empty netter.



Editor's must-watch game of the week

2 Michigan at # 1 Ohio State

These two Big Ten rivals will head off on Sat. Nov. 18 at 3:30 p.m. on ABC. Both teams have displayed stellar defenses and offenses throughout the season, and the verdict of this game could predict the outcome of this year's national title. One thing is for sure; this game will not be boring.

Sports Brief

Nathan Bridges

NFL
After tearing his Achilles tendon, Dallas Cowboys linebacker Greg Ellis will be out for the remainder of the season, which may prove to be a huge disadvantage to the team.

NBA
The Atlanta Hawks suffered a startling defeat against the Seattle SuperSonics with a game-winning layup by Ray Allen with 1.2 seconds of overtime left. The final score was 113 - 112 SuperSonics.

Tennis
The 2006 Tennis Masters Cup opened on Sat. Nov. 12 with wins from no. 1 Roger Federer and American Andy Roddick. Mon. Nov. 13 winners were Hanes Blake and third-seed Russian Nikolay Davydenko.

NHL
The Anaheim Ducks traded Stanislav Chistov for the third-round draft pick in the upcoming 2007 draft.

MLB
Florida Marlins shortstop Hanley Ramirez and Detroit Tigers right-hander Justin Verlander won the Jackie Robinson Award as top rookies

MLS
Houston Dynamos striker Brian Ching was awarded the 2006 Goal of the Year Award, after receiving his recent title of MLS Cup MVP.

Owls Spotlight

NATHAN BRIDGES
SPORTS EDITOR

Golf
The 50 - 23, 8 - 0 Owls won the 2006 Stetson/CFSC Invitational at Victoria Hills Golf Club in Deland, Fla. on Nov. 10, 2006. This nine-team championship was the Owls' final event of the season. Kris Shephard and Wesley Sheard both shot a 4 over par 220, leading the Owls to a team score of 307-296-296-899 +35. This allowed the Owls to have a comfortable six-point lead over second place Bethune-Cookman College. Shephard and Sheard tied at second for the individual title. Newcomer Michael Tulacz tied for 15th place, Alex Jones finished 22th place, and Robert Andrews tied for 35th place.

Lacrosse
The Owls finished their final 2006 fall season game against UGA on Sat. Nov. 4, suffering a 2 - 10 loss. This loss topped off a difficult season for the Owls with two wins and three losses. The lacrosse team is not deterred by the fall season, but rather optimistic about their upcoming season.

Hockey
On Nov. 10, 2006 the Ice Owls traveled to Dayton, Oh. to take on defending ACHA national champion Wright State University. The Nov. 10 game fell in favor of Wright State with a score of 1 - 6. In their second match up on Nov. 11, the Owls came into the rink with a mission and trampled the Raiders, with a final score of 10 - 2. The Ice Owls are almost at their mid-season point and have a 10 - 3 record.

Men's Basketball
The Owls season opener was disappointing, with a 55 - 96 loss. 2,100 fans packed the Convocation Center to watch the Owls first match up with Western Kentucky. The Owls had several players that displayed their talent during this game, and the team is looking forward to the upcoming Columbia University tournament.

Lady Owls Basketball
The Lady Owls took on Jacksonville State on Nov. 10 at home. It proved to be an exciting game with the Owls going into overtime, but the Gamecocks prevented the Owls from scoring and sunk four points, ending the season opener with a score of 81 - 76.

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Great part time job for a college student. I need help transporting my children to and from school and assisting with homework. We live in Smyrna and they go to school in Marietta. Days of the week can be flexible. Please call 404-405-7951.

Townlake Family of 3 kids looking for a couple of things: 1. occasional sitter on weekday nights and weekends. Must be loving, energetic, and responsible. \$7.50 hr. 2. Possible Fulltime position starting in January from 6:45 am-5 pm M-F. Must have reliable transportation, references, and a willingness to play and interact with children aged 2 & 4. This is

a live in/out position and PAYS \$925 mo. Paid vacation time and flexible hours in the summer. If interested in either position, please contact Aly at 770-771-3127.

BABYSITTER needed every other Thursday in Smyrna, 12:15-3:45, 2 children. Infant care experience preferred. \$10/hour-neg. Anne Gordon (770-435-0253, aegordon12@gmail.com).

Part-time Nanny. We are looking for an experienced, reliable nanny to care for one child in the Canton area. Hours are Monday and Wed 9-5 and Tuesday 12:30-5 (sometimes all day). Approximately 20-24 hours per week. References required. Please call if you are interested. 770-378-7639.

Looking for babysitter in our home M-F 9-6 somewhat flexible around your classes. East Cobb location near Roswell Rd & Johnson Ferry. 14 mo old active boy. Must have some experience, be dependable and responsible. Some light house duties as well. Please send resume, references, and desired pay to: pkimmick@yahoo.com

430 PT AND/OR FT

Camp Wannaklot, a camp for children with bleeding disorders, needs volunteers ages 18 or older to be camp counselors July 15-21, 2006. Call Kim at 770-518-8272 or 1-800-866-4366. (www.hog.org)

Evans Gutter Cleaning is currently seeking FT and/or PT help. Applicant must have current drivers licence, not be afraid of heights and a good work ethic. Starting pay is \$10.00 per hour M-F only. Prior experience a plus but not required-will train. If interested call 678-571-5269. (Bryan)

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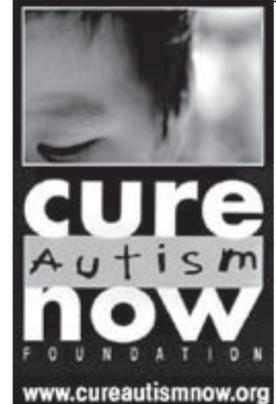
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