Carville, Matalin make politics look easy

Colleen McNALLY
guest writer

The stage inside the Hanner arena was arranged with two armchairs and two podiums. Seemingly, the setting was prepared for a debate between Republican wife Mary Matalin and Democratic husband James “The Ragin’ Cajun” Carville.

The famous power couple did take turns speaking; however, their speeches were more a collaborative effort than an argument, despite their differing political views.

They echoed each other’s points, bounced off each other’s ideas and often commended the other for accomplishments, especially those regarding the Gulf oil spill and their overall message to students.

Freshman political science major Alex Spratlin said he was pleasantly surprised with the event, which was sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management and the Office of Student Leadership & Civic Engagement.

“I was interested to see how Matalin and Carville fed off each other in a positive way. They demonstrated how people can be as different as Republicans and Democrats, and still work together to make a great team,” said Spratlin.

In his speech, Carville directed to remarks to the students because, as he put it, he was

See ALL’S FAIR Page 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Mary Matalin</th>
<th>James Carville</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Favorite ice cream flavor</td>
<td>Sorbet</td>
<td>Pralines and cream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC or Mac?</td>
<td>Mac</td>
<td>Mac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant dish of choice</td>
<td>Fried chicken or fresh guacamole</td>
<td>Gumbo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most visited website</td>
<td>Drudge Report</td>
<td>CNN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite TV show</td>
<td>Arrested Development</td>
<td>The Andy Griffith Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advice to students</td>
<td>Volunteer, work hard, be the first one there</td>
<td>Remember where you came from, don’t back down</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Keel provides update on statewide budget cuts

Natalie DEMARKO
staff writer

A common subject on Georgia Southern's campus last year was the feared statewide budget cuts for the 2010-2011 school year. Now that it's fall 2010, there are many projects around campus, but many are wondering where the money is coming from.

GSU President Brooks Keel said that he, along with other GSU administrators, thought they would be dealing with "catastrophic" budget cuts for the 2010-2011 school year.

However, state revenues were better than the governor's office predicted and, therefore, the cuts to the individual universities were less than originally feared.

With an overall state cut of roughly 10.4 percent — amounting to about $227 million — every university has been affected.

GSU's steady increase in enrollment for the last five-10 years was a huge help in dealing with this situation.

An increase in tuition, as well as an increase in fees, helped to offset the budget cut amount.

"We were able to make the budget cuts, essentially at the administrative level, without having a direct negative impact on the individual colleges," said Keel.

As for across the GSU campus, Keel said that with the cut came no opportunity to put new programs in place.

Instead, projects that were already previously planned stayed in action.

Construction — such as the new biology building — continues due to a separate capital budget for the University System of Georgia.

A portion of the capital funds — $51.4 million — was given to eight colleges to fund separate projects throughout the state. Keel said GSU was lucky enough to be chosen to receive some of this money and fund the new biology building.

"We were incredibly fortunate that even in the face of an economic down turn, we were able to get $15 million for phase one for the biology building," he said.

"I think it is important for students to understand that the money that comes for capital projects is a completely different pool of money all together that we get for our typical budget," Keel said.

In addition to the "education in general" budget and the capital budget, the school also receives money for maintenance, renovation and repairs.

Currently there are several projects across campus that is covered by this amount. An example of one of these projects is the renovation of the porch of Anderson Hall on Sweetheart Circle.

As for what the budget will look like next year, Keel said he is just not certain.

Preparations had been made for 4, 6, 8 and 10 percent for budget cut scenarios for the existing fiscal year. As for fiscal year 2012 — which starts July 1 — the entire revamping will really start in January and continue until April when the legislature goes back into session.

"Students need to realize the fiscal year 2012 project is really a long and drawn out process," Keel said.

Keel said he is optimistic about the future. He said he feels very confident that the economy will begin to start turning around and that GSU will be in solid financial shape.

"We probably will see additional budget cuts, but I don't think they will be of concern," he said. "I think again because of a lot of steps this university has put into place we, should be able to weather that fairly well."

Keel said, "We will try and keep everyone as best informed as we can."
10th Annual Fries Lecture tonight
Nobel Prize-winning physicist to be this year’s guest

Natalie DEMARKO
staff writer

Nobel Prize winning physicist William Phillips will be giving the 10th Annual Fries Lecture, today at 7 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on campus.

With free admission, every student at Georgia Southern is welcome to take part in this opportunity.

According to Nobelpize.org, Phillips is originally from Pennsylvania. As a young boy his parents encouraged him to value his education.

"Almost as far back as I can remember, I was interested in science. I assembled a collection of bottles of household substances as my ‘chemistry set’ and examined almost anything I could find with the microscope my parents gave me," said Phillips.

Although his parents were not scientists themselves, they supported their son.

As he grew older, Phillips only became more interested in the subject. He attended Juania College, went on to graduate school at the Massachusetts School of Technology, and started to make his way through experimental research.

It was in 1978 that Phillips accepted a position at the National Bureau of Standards, which was later renamed to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and began working with laser cooling.

In 1997, Phillips, along with Steven Chu and Claude Cohen-Tannou, received the Nobel Prize in physics for "development of methods to cool and trap atoms with laser light."

"Since the announcement of the award of the 1997 Nobel Prize in physics, I have been honored to receive greetings and congratulations from colleagues and friends all over the world, as well as from many people whom I did not know," said Phillips. "Surely the Nobel Prize is the highest award a scientist could hope to receive, and I have received it with a sense of awe that I am in the company of those who have received it before."

"But no prize can compare in importance to the family and friends I count as my greatest treasures," he said.

Tonight, Phillips will be speaking on "Time and Einstein in the 21st Century." He will be the 10th speaker to be a part of the Norman Fries Distinguished Lectureship Series.

The lectures began nine years ago in 2001 and are funded by an endowment in honor of the late Norman Fries, who was the founder of Claxton Poultry. The Fries family still sponsors the lecture today.

Angela Ramos, a psychology major, attended the Fries lecture last year.

"Last year I decided to go to the lecture because it seemed like a great educational experience. I am excited to see what Phillips has in store and feel honored that such a prestigious speaker traveled to speak to [GSU’s] campus."

Angela Ramos
senior psychology major

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community. Opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers and editors and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board or the University System of Georgia. The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeangle@georgiasouthern.edu. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives at www.gadaily.com.

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DISTRIBUTION: The newspaper is distributed free to the community of GSU.

CIRCULATION INFORMATION: Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.gadaily.com to view online issues. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern campus and surrounding areas.

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Our View

Do you, Democrat, take this Republican?

Throughout our history as a nation, we have had many different political parties. Over the years, the political world has boiled down to Republicans and Democrats, along with a few smaller groups. And though these two parties have changed names and images, it is still understood that one party will be for, and the other party will be against most issues.

But between these two, who can be right? Is either one of them right? We don't know. And we must always remember that there are certain rules to politics; there are no exact answers, no white and black, and that there is always more than one way to the shared goal of our country's success.

Often times in politics, we forget that we are working towards that shared goal. We get so caught up in our beliefs and stand on a specific issue that we forget to understand each other in order to achieve success as a whole. We forget to think about our differences and each other's needs, that we don't see what the whole group deserves.

Today, Congress focuses so much on what not to pass into law that they forget all the important things that need to be passed. Instead of working for the greater good for the greater whole, we work backwards through arguing between Republicans who think for the future and Democrats who think of the now, when both the past and present are so important.

However, all this inter-political party hostility does not represent the group as a whole. It doesn't mean that Democrats and Republicans can't get along. James Carville and Mary Matalin have been married for 18 years. They live in harmony, work with one another, yet Carville is a Democrat and Matalin a Republican. This couple is just one example of many in this nation who understands that cooperation and understanding is the only way to progress.

This is a call to our readers: do not allow your congressmen to filibuster the changes necessary for our great nation to succeed. We have the future in our hands. Our youth will become a product of our decisions, and we have to make sure the decisions of today will lead to our triumph of tomorrow.

Images are a politician's best friend

According to FOX News, a leading science adviser at the White House has encouraged the president and his staff to stop using the term "global warming" in favor of "global climate disruption." Depending on how you view the issue, the process is much more complicated than just "warming," but skeptics are saying that it's an attempt to retitle this unpopular issue. While I could quote a certain Shakespearean verse about names and roses, I think it's important to realize whether dealing with politics or life in general — perception matters.

Take the idea of "red states" and "blue states." Before the year 2000, as my research has shown me, they tended to refer to the exact opposite of what they mean today. However, around the turning of the millennium, the colors switched.

I didn't know at the time, and when I later asked my teacher why the colors had changed, the reason I was given — and this was by someone as far right as I am, so do take it with a grain of salt — was that the Democrats felt red portrayed them in a negative light.

The media went along with this idea. It obviously failed in 2004, but it represents a major point about image — how we look to others matters.

We see it every day ourselves, in things we consider far removed from politics — we are told to go to interviews looking professional, to work in garb that fits the industry in question, and to look certain ways. This is often good advice when dealing with something that involves short term interactions; when I interned in DC this summer, the people I saw during the course of my job only were exposed to me for minutes at a time, so I had to look the part.

But what we must remember to do is look beneath that surface. Yes, it's cliche, but it's true. JFK's presidential win is often credited to his appearance on the first-ever televised debate.

Again, appearance does matter to casual interactions, but when voters decide who will run their country, it's far from casual. The same can be applied to how we interact with people around us — a person may look charming and suave, but it could be a mask that hides a presence poisonous to our lives. That sandwich might be delicious, but it may also be the worst thing in the world for your health.

Don't allow only the appearance of something rule your decisions — appearances can be changed, but what lies deeper remains, and can usually be found if we look hard enough. Take the time wade through the facade and look deeper.

Our world may seem fast paced, but we have the ability to slow it down and get to the real heart of it, be it an issue in politics or a person you've just met.
Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

I really enjoy Georgia Southern University. We have a lot of great groups on campus. One that I attend is FCA, which is the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. It is a great way to meet new people and have a great time.

Trish Polito

Dear Editor,

I love GSU. Love the people, the places, everything. The onething I cant stand is people riding their bikes on the pedestrian. I've almost gotten hit countless times and I hate being paranoid when Im going to classes. I have to constantly look over my shoulder to avoid getting hit. Sometimes should be done about this.

Bridgett Marshall

Dear Editor,

Walking in the Russell Union, Sunday night, seeing happy faces brought excitement to my face. I signed up for sorority recruitment to get involved at Georgia Southern University and to meet lifetime friends. However, signing up for recruitment was the worst decision so far at Georgia Southern University.

Monday consisted of standing out in the boiling, hot sun for a minimum of ninety minutes. Once, we entered the sorority house we had to stand for thirty minutes, talking constantly while sweating. At the end of the day, my back was killing me and I was exhausted. I was not looking forward for the rest of the week. Mackenzie Stratton, the Pan-Hellenic Association President, informed us at the end of the day that at least ten girls fainted today. She threatened us, telling us that if we were to faint tomorrow then we would be withdrawn from sorority recruitment. Even if we drink water constantly and eat meals a day we can still faint, especially in a hot summer day. Why should I be withdrawn from recruitment and they take my money when they are putting me in a dangerous situation?

Tuesday consisted of another hot day. However, we were able to sit down that day! We watched a little video telling us about their philanthropy and then ended with a conversation with a member of the sorority. Some of the ladies who rushed me were clueless about their philanthropy when I asked them in-depth questions.

Wednesday consisted of each sorority acting out a "play" to show the different personalities in the sorority. However, each sorority had the same "play" acts. Seeing the first sorority house play I was excited but going to the next sorority house and seeing the same thing was very dull and boring.

I did not go to sorority recruitment on Thursday because none of the sororities wanted me back. I did not understand why I was dropped. I had a personality, I graduated with over a 4.0 from high school. I had community service hours, and I had a smile. They chose someone who had a criminal record over me. I do not drink at all. I obey the laws, and I have high expectations for myself. They chose someone who hardly got a 3.0 in high school over me. I told the sorority girls I talked to about my future goals and what classes I am taking as a freshman and I got the same reaction by each girl. "Wow," is all they ever said. It seemed like someone who has made their mind up for the future intimidated them.

I am very thankful though that all the sororities dropped me. The reason why, is because my roommate is in a sorority and she comes home Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays drunk out of her mind. Of course, I am the one the next morning taking care of her. Not her so called "sisters." They are the ones who are getting an underage drunk; an underage drunk who already had a criminal record with underage drinking before. These "sisters" that she has are just drinking buddies in my point of view. She sees the girls for chapter meetings, social events (consisting of drinking) and going to the bars. I do not see how I can make lifetime friends or even trust someone who all I do with is drink, especially someone who is putting my health and criminal record in danger.

Disappointed Freshman

Editor's Note: We are thrilled to see how much response from our readers over the past week. We would like to take this opportunity, though, to explain our policies regarding identification in a letter to the editor. There are some situations in which anonymity requests are understandable, but you must make specific mention of it or we will publish letters as is. Also, if you wish to remain anonymous, please still provide us with your name and contact information. It will not be used, but we cannot run a letter without someone to whom we can trace it back.

Examining religion

Recently, I have seen a number of important commemorations. Sept. 9 was Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. Muslims celebrated Eid al-Fitr, the end of the holy month of Ramadan, on Sept. 10. The following Saturday, while not a day of religious observance, was nonetheless very important as Americans and others around the world commemorated the ninetieth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

This past couple of weeks, a storm of controversy erupted as a fringe group of Christians from Florida planned to commemorate the 9/11 anniversary by burning 200 copies of the Qu'ran, the holy book of Islam. The backlash from this blatantly offensive plan, which included condemnations from both Gen. Petraeus and the Vatican, caused Pastor Terry Jones, the group's leader, to call off the bonfire.

This debacle came on the heels of an ongoing, and increasingly virulent, debate. The dispute is between those who support the constitutional rights of a group of people to build a house of worship wherever they please and those who would prefer not to have mosque in sight of a location of terrorstic outrages which ostensibly shared the faith of those who are building and would be praying in, said mosque.

In addition to all of this, conflict is set to erupt once again between Catholic Irish and Protestant British in British occupied North Ireland.

It would seem that the ugly side of religion is rearing its head.

Many would say that religion and faith itself is the problem. Indeed, any dogmatic system which posits objective truth delivered infallibly and which sets up a strict dichotomy between believer and infidel, the heretical and the orthodox, seems inherently divisive.
Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to “Our View: Should they stay off campus?” published on September 16, 2010, and the comment about “children running amuck in the library where students are trying to study and do their work.”

It is important to keep in mind that many Georgia Southern students “study and do their work” while raising families and holding down full-time jobs. Some of them are not able to come to the library without bringing their children – particularly on weekends. Library policies clearly state that children visiting the library should be accompanied at all times by a parent or supervising adult and that unaccompanied children will be asked to leave if their behavior becomes disruptive. All parents - students and non-students - are expected to keep their children from being disruptive. In an effort to make supervision of children more effective, the library recently established a family area on second floor on weekends to encourage parents and children to work in the same area.

Study and research often require group study and collaboration. Effective collaboration is not possible without discussion that can become noisy as discussion intensifies. In response to increasing demand for group study areas, the library modified its quiet floor policies at the beginning of this term. In addition to first and second floors, the eastern half of third floor is now a group study area instead of a quiet area. The western half of third floor is now a group study area instead of a quiet area. The western half of third floor and fourth floor remain quiet floors at all times. Furniture has been relocated in all quiet areas to encourage individual study and discourage group study. Employees walk quiet floors periodically during evenings and weekends to ensure quiet is maintained.

Students and other library users are key to helping enforce library policies regarding children and quiet areas are enforced. If a child is being disruptive, his or her behavior should be reported immediately at the nearest public service desk. Employees are trained to deal with disruptive behavior of any kind and when necessary they are ably assisted by Public Safety. By the same token persons being noisy on quiet floors should be reported.

We welcome suggestions for improvement of library services. They may be made anonymously via the online suggestion system at http://library.gsu.edu/forms/suggestions.html and via paper forms available at service desks or in person in the Office of the Dean on third floor.

Ann Hamilton
Associate Dean of the Library

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for your “Our View” add-in regarding the library and the thefts last week. While I don’t know what can be done about non-students stealing things like bikes off of campus, I do think the library issue needs to be addressed.

The library is supposed to be somewhere I can do research for my term papers and study for my upcoming midterms; but because some people mistake it as a childcare center, I just stay home and use earplugs. I pay tuition and fees to have access to the Henderson Library, but I can’t use it because the people who don’t pay to use it are ruining the understood “silence rule” by letting their kids play tag or hide-and-go-seek in the book stacks. I cannot even begin to express my rage when I couldn’t look up a book on the computer because a little girl was watching her Hannah Montana music video on YouTube. Would it be that hard to require your student ID to enter? We could have a scanner like at the football games or like the MARTA stations in Atlanta. Once you have scanned your Eagle ID, you would be allowed to enter. All non-students can use the local public library on Main Street.

I really don’t think it is an unreasonable request. Now if only the administration would act on the students’ frustrations.

Kelsey Kerr

Dear Editor,

I have been a student here at Georgia Southern since the fall of 2008. I feel there is no need for a new student center. Yes, the Russell Union is 20 years old but there are buildings on campus, such as the Hollis Building, that would benefit more from a new building than a new student center. I need at least 20 GOOD reasons for a new student center to be built. Where would the new student center be located on campus? Is there space for a new student center? What purpose would the old student center serve? How will GSU fund the construction of the new student center? These questions and more need to be asked and answered before this “rumor” goes any further. I vote “no” to this plan and I hope others will too after much thought of both sides of this topic are put into consideration.

Anonymous Junior Student

Dear Editor,

I am a little aggravated of the Letter to the Editor posted in the Tuesday, Sept. 21 issue of The George-Anne. The writer speaks of supposed “racism” they encountered while at a restaurant. The last sentence of the letter is “It is my desire that in 2010, Statesboro will move forward in bridging the gap of racial divide.” While all this letter does is further fuel the fire of racism.

To be forthcoming, I believe that the writer of this previous letter to the editor is right in being upset at this establishment for their very poor service. However, I do not believe their reasoning behind it. The writer makes a point to point out everyone’s race from the get-go. Why is race even a matter in this? The writer believes that they were given sub-standard service because of their race. In an incident where everyone at their table got their food before them, and another customer who happened to be the same race. Furthering the conflict, a pair of customers of an opposite race enter after the writers group, but still receive their food before the writer. I just want to say this...it’s a restaurant, people. They are busy. The waitress is running back and forth between multiple tables trying to remember everyone’s order. She just forgot to put in your order to the cooks. It’s not just you. It’s happened to me plenty of times and at multiple restaurants.

Now, a waitress’ mind is pretty automated. They have a routine they do for every table multiple times a night. They just get on auto-pilot. When the first half of your party ordered, it signaled in her mind that the rest of her service to the table would just be bringing the food back, and checking to be sure everything is alright. She’s not expecting to take more orders from the same table. After taking your order on the way to the kitchen she could have been stopped by one of her other tables and asked something pushing your order to the back of her mind, and she just forgot. I am not trying to justify the waitress, and I would not have left a tip.

What I’m saying is that there are perfectly normal reasons to what happened. If you really want to move forward in bridging the gap of racial divide, stop throwing the race card around like a yellow card at the World Cup. Not everything is about race, and I honestly don’t believe that the poor service received was solely because of customer’s race.

Anonymous

Dear Editor,

The Unity fair was awesome! I think we should have more events like it.

Brittney Dickinson

Dear Editor,

Southern’s recent growth in population has led me to question whether GSU is prepared to handle any more students. Full buses, classes, and sharp budget cuts should alert students to a changing culture. Can we really call ourselves “small feel” anymore.

JaQuinton
Rally is welcome home for the Eagles

Natalie DEMARDO
staff writer

The return of the Georgia Southern football team is being celebrated at today’s Eagle Rally after two weeks on the road.

The Eagle Rally will help show support to the team as it prepares for Elon University this Saturday at 6 p.m. at Paulson Stadium.

Traditions Council will be hosting the second Eagle Rally of the year at 7 p.m. at the Russell Union Rotunda.

The underlying theme is “I heart the Eagles.”

“This Eagle Rally, like all, is focused on showing our Eagles just how much we love and support them. They’ve been on the road for the past two weeks and have performed very well. We should all be very proud of them,” said Michelle Blubaugh, the public relations coordinator for Traditions Council.

She said that Coach Jeff Monken, as well as his team, is scheduled to be at the rally.

In addition to Monken, the head coaches of the men’s and women’s soccer teams, Kevin Kennedy and Ashley Hart, will be present at the rally, as will their teams.

“Thursday’s rally is also giving our other athletic teams a chance to shine as we are inviting the women’s and men’s soccer teams to come on stage and have their coaches speak about their events coming up. It’s all about how much we ‘heart’ our Eagles,” Blubaugh said.

The rally will recognize the men’s soccer team for its victory this past weekend against Winthrop of 4-0. The women’s team will also be recognized for their triumph over Coastal Carolina of 1-0 on Sept. 19 as well.

Taylor Jones, the membership coordinator for Traditions Council, said she is extremely excited about the upcoming sporting events for GSU.

“I encourage anybody who can to attend the games. It is a great atmosphere for Georgia Southern fans and always a great game to watch of Georgia Southern athletes,” said Jones.

Traditions Council President Leah Justin explained that this rally will be a little different from the last.

“Traditions Council is changing it up a little for this rally with free hotdogs for the first 300 students on top of new giveaways,” Justin said.

Included in the giveaways, the 15 most spirited lucky fans will receive a coupon for a free hotdog and free Coke at Saturday’s game.

“Our aim for every rally is to recognize our Eagles and pull together the student body to show its support of the teams,” she said.

There will be two more Eagle rallies — one Oct. 15 at the Hanner Fieldhouse before the Homecoming Rally and another Nov. 4 at the Russell Union Rotunda.

“We really hope the students and fans from around the community come to support the athletic teams,” said Michelle Blubaugh. “Being a fan is so much more than simply going to a game. We expect them to bleed blue and white.”

Alcohol study does not excuse common sense

Patrick STOKER
staff writer

In several studies conducted by The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention, many students report being negatively affected academically as a result of their alcohol use.

One such study reported that 25 percent of college students had academic problems such as low grades, missing classes and failing behind.

David McDermott, the administrative coordinator in the office of alcohol and other drug programs, said he believes that drinking alcohol can greatly affect a student’s academic performance.

“I think it has both impacts in terms of studying and their ability to concentrate,” he said.

One national survey indicates a direct correlation among alcohol consumption and academic performance. The survey showed that students with an A average consume about four drinks per week while students with Ds and Fs consume nearly 10 drinks per week.

“There’s that fine line between causation and correlation,” said McDermott.

McDermott said that most students at GSU are doing well in terms of controlling their drinking and maintaining their priorities.

“Most students are responsibly balancing their alcohol in their social life with their school work, but at the same time we recognize that there are students who are not balancing that as well,” he said.

Kris O’Hare, a senior business major, said that as long as students drink responsibly then their grades should not suffer.

“You need to find a balance between having a social life and maintaining your GPA,” he said.

Taylor Hessel, junior information technology major, said he believes drinking can have an effect on students’ performances.

“The more time you spend partying and the less time you spend studying, you’re undoubtedly going to suffer academically,” he said.

McDermott said that drinking among GSU students seems to be comparable to students at other institutions.

“In my experience I have been at a couple different schools and I’ve talked to a lot of different people around the country, and I think the sort of issues we see here are very similar to other schools,” McDermott said.

Erica Docekal, a sophomore public relations major, said she has witnessed some of her friends fall behind in classes as a result of drinking. She said she does not allow drinking to affect her performance as a student.

“I focus on studying,” Docekal said. “As my parents say, the reason I’m here is for an education.”

Charisma-Kimberly Tataw, a sophomore chemistry major, said she does not believe students drink as much during finals week because it is such a crucial time for students.

“If you don’t wake up for finals then you’re in a lot of trouble,” said Tataw.

McDermott said the office of alcohol and other drug programs does several presentations, campaigns and awareness activities to inform students about the negative effects of alcohol use.
GSU's game design program ranked among top in U.S.

Daniel Fitzgerald
guest writer

The Princeton Review ranked Georgia Southern's undergraduate game design program in the Top 50 among 500 similar programs across the U.S. and Canada. The program's recent accreditation from the Princeton Review caught the attention of many on campus who had no idea the program existed.

"It sounds like something that would definitely attract a lot of students," psychology major Shawn Scribner said. "I know a lot of [information technology] and [computer science] majors who are definitely interested in doing something in the video game industry. It sounds like this can give them that opportunity."

The Game Design Certificate program is a concentration under the computer science degree that gives students access to state-of-the-art facilities and resources that Department Chair Robert Cook said will give them an advantage in the job market.

"We've taught classes related to game design for 10 years," Cook said. "We formalized the classes we were offering and a couple more into a Game Programming Certificate."

Some of the classes offered under the concentration include human computer interaction, computer graphics, animation and game programming.

Some classes require students to create their own fully functioning games that can be played on an Xbox 360 and PS3. While it serves to prepare college students for the industry, the program is also one of the only in the country to offer a computer gaming outreach activity for middle and high school students.

"We run a Computer Stars competition for middle and high school students that's based on computer gaming," Cook said. "All of the lessons for the completion are YouTube videos. There is software that comes with it that introduces students to technology associated with game design."

Computer science major Carl Cox intends to pursue the certificate after hearing about its ranking last spring.

"I've talked to people who are in the program and they've told me the teachers are top notch," Cox said. "The classes are hard, but interesting."

Cook said that it is quite a difficult program. He said, "Computer science is hard enough, because we have many of the same requirements that engineering majors have."

ALL'S FAIR
from page 1

"attracted to the culture of Southern, where students are front and center." His message to students who want to get involved in politics was not to listen to the many negative opinions in the media today. Instead, he encouraged students not to wait to get involved.

"You can say whatever you want about politics and politicians, but you can't say it doesn't matter. First, what they do is important. I have worked with 14 heads of state and in 23 countries, and one can tell the difference between effective leadership. Second, politicians dare to fail publicly. Third, they have fun. They become part of a story. As you get older, you need to be able to look around and say, 'I did this,' whatever it is," said Carville.

Matalin also said, "The ability to succeed was related to a willingness to fail."

Her advice for students was to "volunteer, work hard, be the first one there, and don't be offended if you are asked to get coffee. If you are working hard, you will advance and can do so quickly. Study everything and don't be afraid to ask questions. You will get answers you can't find in a book."
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Saturday: $1.75 Miller Lite, $1 Daiquiris; UFC 119
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$2 Big Beer, Shots, Doubles; $5 Pitchers
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Tuesday: $2 Tuesdays; Open Mic Nights
Wednesday: Karaoke
Thursday: D.J. Turdle
Friday: Westley Bragg and the Cut Throat Cowboys
Saturday: Stoneheart

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• Monday: Free app. with any large pizza
• Tuesday: Large salads for $5
• Wednesday: Free chips & drink w/ any hoagie

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• Friday: 12 oz. Mojito $2 (Frozen Only)
• Saturday: 12 oz. Margarita $2 (Lime Only)
• Monday: 12 oz. Margarita (Lime Only)
• Tuesday: Imported Beer $2
• Wednesday: Domestic Beer $2

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Half off Drinks

myth:
Drinking is central to the social lives of Georgia southern university students
in the last 30 days, 1 in 4 students have not had any alcohol

fact:
for more information visit
http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/aod
data collected from georgia southern university core survey 2007
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Happy Hour All Day Every Day
All Drinks are 2 for 1; Buy 6 boneless wings, get 6 free
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Thursday: 9 oz. Prime Ribs; Dr. Don
Friday: Chris Mitchell
Saturday: D.J. Doo-Goods
Monday: Thai Tilapia
Tuesday: Filet Mignon Beef Tips
Wednesday: 1 1/2 lb. Alaskan Snow Crab

Buffalo’s Southwest Cafe
120 Lanier Dr. • 912-681-9464

Happy Hour Every Day 5-7 p.m.
All Drinks are 2 for 1; Buy 6 boneless wings, get 6 free

Thursday: Davin McCoy
Friday: Incredible Sandwich
Saturday: Nickel Bag of Funk
Monday: All-You-Can-Eat wings
Wednesday: AYCE wings; Karaoke w/ cash prizes

Dingus Magees
3 Georgia Ave. • 912-681-3207

Happy Hour Every Day
5-7 p.m. and 9-11 p.m.
2 for 1 Wells and 1/2 off Bombs

Thursday: $1 Tall-Boy  Friday: Wine on the Rocks
Saturday: Brunch 12-3 p.m.
Monday: Beer and Wings 5-7 p.m.
Tuesday: $1 Vodka cool pops
Wednesday: $1 Vodka

“1f you are under the age of 21, it is against the law to buy alcoholic beverages.”
The Georgia Legislative Internship Program offers Georgia Southern University undergraduates internship opportunities to get firsthand experience in the lawmaking process while making progress towards a degree. Students from all majors are welcome.

Please join us on September 30th @ 5:30 pm
Russell Union-Rm: 2052

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Criminal Fraud investigations in the U.S. justice system.
Offered Summer Term B.

Legal issues associated with conducting fraud investigations.
Offered Summer Term A.

Human behavior and the signals indicating truth or deception.
Offered Spring 2011.

The following courses may be taken after credit in an accounting course:

Fraud and the pervasiveness of it in our society. Offered Spring 2011 & Summer Term A.

The most common 44 fraud schemes. Offered Spring 2011 & Summer Term B.

The completion of these five courses leads to a minor in Fraud Examination and was designed to prepare students for the Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) test.

Students who complete the Fraud Examination minor will enhance their undergraduate degree with investigative knowledge helpful in pursuing careers in law enforcement, loss prevention, corporate security, private investigation, fraud control, and other career paths.

FRAUD PERMEATES ALL ASPECTS OF BUSINESS AND SOCIETY.
Uniting against adversity

Derek JOYCE
guest writer

Georgia Southern will host the second annual LGBTQ & Allies Conference — a joint project from the Multicultural Student Center, the Gay-Straight Alliance and the National Organization for Women — Oct. 16.

"It is a chance to get empowered, to get educated about ourselves and everything else happening in the world," said Jeffrey Thorpe, GSA's president.

The "Back 2 Basics: Gay + Str8 Unite Against H8" conference is designed to raise awareness of the GLBTQ community in Statesboro and the southeast United States and answer questions that allies outside of the LGBTQ community may have.

"Being GSA president for three years, I have realized that we have a lot more allies than I thought before I came in," said Thorpe.

The conference will feature guest speakers Robyn Ochs and Yolanda Fairell.

Ochs speaks on GLBT history and politics in the U.S., the politics of sexual orientation and the experiences of those who transgress the binary categories, such as black and white.

"The impact of these kinds of programs help to provide support systems for folks who have questions about who they are, help to validate those who already have an idea of who they are and gives others opportunities to help support family and friends who may be having issues with LGBTQ issues," said Consuela Ward, the MSC director.

"The impact of these kinds of programs help to provide support systems for folks who have questions about who they are, help to validate those who already have an idea of who they are and gives others opportunities to help support family and friends who may be having issues with LGBTQ issues," said Consuela Ward, the MSC director.

"After the conference, gay prom will start in the [Russell Union] ballroom. It is everything any LGBTQ person wanted to have in high school but couldn't get," said Thorpe.

Events being considered for the prom are a mini drag show and a king and queen crowning.

However, the prom is still in the planning phase, so nothing is certain and the MSC is open for suggestions. The prom is open to everyone, regardless of sexual identity and preference.

GSA is frequently involved in both social and activism activities related to the LGBTQ community. Recently, the group attended Savannah's first ever Queer Power March, which protested for gay rights, marriage equality and the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell.

"If there is a chance for us to play as advocates, we advocate," said Thorpe.

The march was held in response to hate crimes against the LGBTQ community, such as the assault of a homosexual by two marines in Savannah and an unrelated, under-recognized assault on a man in Midtown Atlanta.

"This is the first time that Savannah and the local area have been able to stand up and fight for LGBTQ rights. It was a chance for us to make our voices heard," said Thorpe.

The conference will take place from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Russell Union ballroom. The gay prom will take place afterwards from 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. in the same location.

The deadline to register for the conference is Oct. 1. Costs for registration are $15 for students with their student ID and $20 for general admission. The cost and registration will include a continental breakfast, lunch, a T-shirt and access to all sessions of the conference.

The Buzz List

News from outside the Boro

▲ Jennifer Lopez and Stephen Tyler are picked to be the next 'Idol' judges. Of course, I don't think J. Lo's sex appeal or Tyler's awesomeness is going to save that show from failing.

▲ 'Glee' scores with its second highest ratings since it first aired on Fox in 2009. Why are they complaining about budget cuts when they're performing elaborate stage productions? And who are these people in the background playing instruments? Are only the pretty people who sing important? Really?

Information compiled from TheHollywoodReporter.com, Variety.com and Billboard.com

Commentary provided by Mallory McLendon
### Weekly Buzz

#### Today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Goal Setting Workshop</td>
<td>Cone Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Top Ten Study Tips Workshop</td>
<td>Cone Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Reading Effectively Workshop</td>
<td>Cone Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Eagle Rally</td>
<td>Russell Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>FRIES Lecture: Nobel Prize Physicist William Phillips, Ph. D.</td>
<td>PAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Mini Golf Night</td>
<td>Hackers</td>
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#### Friday, September 24th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Honors Visitation Day</td>
<td>Lewis Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>International Conversation Hour</td>
<td>Russell Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Soccer: Georgia Southern Women vs. Wofford</td>
<td>Soccer/Track Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Carolina Chocolate Drops</td>
<td>PAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Mini Golf Night</td>
<td>Hackers</td>
</tr>
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#### Saturday, September 25th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Black Male Empowerment Summit</td>
<td>Russell Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Football vs. Elon</td>
<td>Paulson Stadium</td>
</tr>
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#### Sunday, September 26th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Soccer: Georgia Southern Men vs. Furman</td>
<td>Soccer/Track Complex</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Monday, September 27th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Business Writing Fundamentals</td>
<td>Rosenwald Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Into to Climbing Clinic</td>
<td>RAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Student Media Writer and Photographer Recruitment</td>
<td>Williams Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>“Open Hearts/ Love you Forever” Movie</td>
<td>Russell Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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#### Tuesday, September 28th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Intro to Excel 2007</td>
<td>Henderson Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Get Pumped - A campus tire inflation campaign</td>
<td>RAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Study Tips for Biology Workshop</td>
<td>Cone Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Leadership Workshop Series</td>
<td>Russell Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Volleyball: Georgia Southern vs. South Carolina State</td>
<td>Hanner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ethnic Man!, Russell Union</td>
<td>Russell Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Spin and Movie</td>
<td>RAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bike Maintenance Clinic</td>
<td>RAC</td>
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#### Wednesday, September 29th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Day-</td>
<td>Wellness Wednesday, $10 off massage</td>
<td>RAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Soccer: Georgia Southern Men vs. Furman</td>
<td>Soccer/Track Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Inner Tube: Water Polo Free Play</td>
<td>RAC</td>
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</table>
Fall with more Dyverzion

Raisa DREW
guest writer

The recruitment process for the 2010 Dyverzion Dance team is now complete and the dancers representing the team in this year’s upcoming competitions have been chosen.

Around 40 dancers came out to the three-day tryout sessions from Sept. 7-9. Twenty-five dancers who displayed energy, personality and quickness in learning the choreography made the team.

Sophomore Alycia Marion said, “I’m looking forward to competing with other dance crews and showing GSU our talent. I want to inspire other people to come tryout for next year’s team.”

Dyverzion Dance Team also emphasizes creating a “family feel” for the members both new and old.

Freshman Chonte Hait said, “The team is like a family away from home. I look forward to learning from my fellow dancers.”

Dyverzion Dance Team, which is a part of the Multicultural Student Center, is no amateur when it comes to putting on a show. Being the longest active dance organization on campus since 1996, the team has come out on top in many competitions over its 14-year span of existence.

The most recent of these wins were the 2010 Fall-Out Dance Competition and Albany State University’s 2009 Battle Zone Dance Competition.

The team recently performed at last Thursday’s Unity Fest and plan to perform for a number of upcoming performances for the fall semester, including GSU’s Best Dance Crew, Doo-Dah, Homecoming, Step-Show and Dance competitions. In the spring they will participate in Fall-Out 2011, Gorilla Thrilla and Blaqshion.

With all the excitement for the upcoming events and the dedication of the team, there is no doubt that Dyverzion Dance Team members will continue to grow in their skill as dancers.

Junior Sharonika Spann feels confident the team will continue to be successful, saying, “We have a strong, powerful team with a lot of emotion. We have a lot of strong dancers and will continue to progress in performance and technique.”
Halo: Reach
Xbox 360

★★★★★

Smith HOLLOWAY
guest writer

‘Halo: Reach’ is about as close to the perfect distillation of the “Halo” franchise as you will ever find. It contains all the best aspects of previous “Halo” games while addressing many longstanding complaints that plagued ‘Halo 3’.

The campaign is superb and the multiplayer is top-notch, delivering both various competitive modes as well as the well-received Firefight gametype from ODST now fully integrated into online matchmaking. As Bungie’s last game in the Halo series, it is truly an excellent final entry, and a great sendoff for the team that has brought us one of the greatest first-person shooters on consoles.

While the campaign and story are not as tight and focused as ODST, they still live up to the high standards of previous “Halo” games and can stand up to anything “Modern Warfare” or the upcoming “Medal of Honor” reboot have to offer. After the open-world stealth environment of ODST, Bungie has returned to their roots: tight corridors of foes that funnel you into vast run-and-gun carnage playgrounds.

With regular vehicular segments broken up by ambushes, indoor combat and tricky snipers, the campaign is consistently engaging. The story is melancholy, as anyone who has played the previous games knows that the fortress planet Reach is destined to fall no matter what you do.

The characters, various Spartan members of Noble Team, are not as well-developed as the Master Chief or your regular human squadmates from ODST, but each has one or two moments of brilliance, where Bungie pulls out all the stops to play up the heroism and tragedy of war.

You play as Spartan B312, a later-model Spartan III, known only as Noble Six. Somewhat like Master Chief and the Rookie before him, Noble Six is a tight-lipped soldier for the player to project their own persona onto. To this end, Six’s armor, colors and gender can be customizable, allowing for complete control over your Spartan.

To customize your character, the game gives you credits for every kill, medal and, new to the “Halo” games, commendation. Commendations are a tracking system for things like headshots, multi-kills and any number of other in-game accomplishments. As you rack up more of these accomplishments, the commendation levels up, starting at Iron and topping out at Onyx.

If you enjoyed Firefight in ODST, what you’ll find here is a fully-grown iteration of what was, essentially, a demo. Infinity customizable locally and with a functional online component for matching you up with players, Firefight is a whole new beast to tackle.

With the addition of Score Attack, a lone-wolf affair with the player trying to rack up as many points as possible in only ten lives, and fun variants like Sniperfight and Rocketfight, there’s a lot of life in this new Firefight mode, one that will keep you shooting Covenant long after the campaign is over. Better, the variant Gruntocalypse is not to be underestimated.

Multiplayer is as good as always, and I personally enjoy the new Designated Marksman Rifle, a semiautomatic version of the venerable Battle Rifle, which is great fun for people who prefer precision. The pistol from the original Halo is back, complete with zoom and devastating headshots as well. The brand-new Invasion mode stands out as really capturing the essence of the Human-Covenant War in Multiplayer for the first time. With a sense of progression and small victories, Invasion mode looks to be my new favorite competitive aspect of the game.

Reach is Bungie’s finest work to date in my opinion. Knowing their audience has allowed them to build a game that will continue to entertain for years, with the online rank progression and armor unlocking, with hefty price tags and hidden requirements, the game has a lot of meat on its bones, even if you can’t see it at first. Alongside Treyarch’s upcoming Black Ops, console first-person shooters appeal to the widest audiences yet. While I’m sad to see Bungie leave the series, I look forward to the team’s next games and hope they find the same success that they had with Halo.

If you like this, check out:
“Halo: ODST” and “Marathon”

“Blue Eyed Angels”
New CD

Philip CLEMENTS
to reflector editor-in-chief

Texas isn’t the easiest place for a country musician to stand out. It’s an expansive state full of small-town guitar strummers that have a tale to tell and plenty of bars with a stage to tell them. With his new record, “Blue Eyed Angels,” Rob Baird shows that he has the potential to make himself known among the many.

Hailing from Memphis yet residing in Austin, Baird maintains a loyalty to both, fusing the sweaty, bluesy Memphis sound with the expansive, anti-corporate Texas attitude. Texas musicians tend to stay in the comfort zone of the Lone Star state, but Baird has the potential to step out and reach the rest of us.

“Fade Away” starts with a driving mandolin strumming and grows into a classic tale of refusing to give in to expectations. “Let Me Down Easy” is a slow-cooked instant classic with a slide guitar that paints the background while Baird pleads with a girl to “let me down easy so I think you still give a damn about me.”

I have no doubt, he’s definitely country. But he’s “real” country, not the cookie-cutter country that has hijacked the genre as of late. Baird helps remind us that not every country song has to be sung with an obnoxiously affected southern accent. His twang is still there, but it sounds natural, not put on for record sales.

This is not to say that this album is for everybody. If you don’t like country, you probably won’t like it. It’s still got some honky-tonk and jingle-jangle in its blood. But if you do, then “Blue Eyed Angels” will be a refreshing break from the factory-produced radio hits topping the charts.

If you like this, check out:
“Hayes Carll” and “Ryan Bingham”

The Naked Roomate
Tip Book

Harlan Cohen

“The Naked Roomate,” written by Halen Cohen, is a copilation of tips sent in from college students all over the United States. These stories range from the best ways to study to the best ways to cure a roaring hangover after a wild night out.

Cohen organizes the books well, starting off with a few tips pertinent to freshmen when they first come into school, starting off with how to best adjust with classes and making new friends.

He starts off with the tip itself before moving on to a story sent in by a student from any number of colleges. Afterwards, Cohen gives it to you straight, telling you the bottom line and how to deal with it.

I’m a firm believer in learning something on my own before I depend on others. But, honestly, this was something I really wish I’d had in my freshman year when I was struggling adjusting to class and making friends. Of course, this is something every student has to learn for his or herself, but it’s nice to have a guide all the same.

The book itself is very straight forward instead of beating around the bush. It legitimately tells the reader what college is exactly like, not just a few years of getting drunk and getting lucky.

Touching on real subjects such as high school sweet hearts and new relationships, “The Naked Roomate” takes you through each problem under the sun. It was fun enough to read as a sophomore and finding stories that I could relate to as well.

Being college is still new to a lot of freshmen who are still trying to adjust to campus life, I would recommend “The Naked Roomate” to help you through all your troubles.

If you like this, check out:
“Been There, Should’ve Done That”
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THE TV CROSSWORD
by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS
1 "What...to Wear"  20 Dined
4 "...& Order"  21 Refusals
7 Drama series for Catherine Bell  22 Journalist Harry
10 Artist Vincent van Gogh  27 Heartwarming movie about a pig
11 "Death -- Salesman"  30 Home for Dick and Joanna
12 "...Real Life"  31 Louden on "Newhart"
13 Film and TV producer Spelling  33 Prefix for natal or classical
15 Setting for "Evita"; abbr.  38 Star of "Our Miss Brooks"
16 Bill -- the Science Guy"  39 "Wheel of Fortune" host
17 Actor on "Criminal Minds"  40 Actress Joanne
20 Dined  41 Actor on "My Name Is Earl"
21 Refusals  42 "...Happer Valley"
27 Heartwarming movie about a pig  49 "...All About _", Bette Davis movie
30 Home for Dick and Joanna  50 Coin toss call
31 Louden on "Newhart"  51 St. Joan of Arc
33 Prefix for natal or classical  52 Jed Clampett's discovery
38 Star of "Our Miss Brooks"  53 "...", recent drama series for Dennis Haysebert & Regina Taylor
39 "Wheel of Fortune" host  54 John of "Touched by an Angel"
40 Actress Joanne  55 Low-risk investments, for short
41 Actor on "My Name Is Earl"  56 ___ "Mistakes"

DOWN
1 Actor -- Wylie  11 "Death Salesman"
2 Meanie  16 "Bill the Science Guy"
3 Marlo or Richard  17 Actor on "Criminal Minds"
4 Rich soil  18 "...Train"; old western series
5 Big hairdo  19 "...Temple of Doom"
6 "...Railroad"; abbr.  20 Helium or krypton
7 "Indiana__;_the Temple of Doom"  21 International aliance: abbr.
8 "...Given Sunday"; Pacino film  22 "...Brezov", John Wayne movie
9 ___ "whiz!"  23 Conclusion
10 Helium or krypton  24 "...War__"; Henry Fonda/Audrey Hepburn film based on Tolstoy's classic novel
11 "Death Salesman"  25 Letter container: abbr.
16 "Bill the Science Guy"
22 "...Train"; old western series
23 Conclusion
24 "...War__"; Henry Fonda/Audrey Hepburn film based on Tolstoy's classic novel
25 Letter container: abbr.
26 Donna and Rex
27 "...Train"; old western series
28 Sheriff Andy Taylor's aunt
29 Long, long time
30 Took a chair
31 In ...; mired by routine
32 Dragon queen of TV
33 Prefix for natal or classical
34 Toad of TV
35 "...Is It?"; abbr.
36 Toad of TV
37 Refusals
38 Star of "Our Miss Brooks"
39 "Wheel of Fortune" host
40 Actress Joanne
41 Actor on "My Name Is Earl"
42 "...Happer Valley"
43 Shopkeeper Olson of "Little House on the Prairie"
44 "...Is It?"; abbr.
45 Wallach and Marienfeld
46 Suffix for long or strong
47 Launch site
48 Attempt
49 "...All About _", Bette Davis movie
50 Coin toss call
51 St. Joan of Arc
52 Jed Clampett's discovery
53 "...", recent drama series for Dennis Haysebert & Regina Taylor
54 John of "Touched by an Angel"
55 Low-risk investments, for short
56 ___ "Mistakes"

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The Eagles run onto the field to begin pregame exercises at the Navy game.

Rick Spurgeon  
Sports editor

The Eagles (2-1) are coming off of a win on the road against Coastal Carolina, 43-26. The Chanticleers were a worthy adversary, but the game this Saturday against No. 10 Elon (1-2) will be the one to tell us many things about Monken’s Eagles. We will see how the triple option goes up against another top 25 FCS team, as well as begin our Southern Conference competition.

The Georgia Southern defense will be put to the test versus another top caliber team, as we go up against the top passing offense in the conference. With Elon averaging 441.3 yards in total offense per game, and the Eagles averaging giving up 268.7 yards in total defense per game, it should be a clash worth watching.

The Eagles defense can’t do everything, though. The triple option will be showing what it can do in the fourth week of competition. If last week is any indication, Eagle Nation will truly be able to say the option is back. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m. this Saturday at Paulson Stadium.

Around the SoCon

The Citadel (2-1) beat Presbyterian 26-14 last week. This week the team is at No. 23 Furman (1-1) for their in-conference schedule.

No. 1 App. State (3-0) got the win against North Carolina Central, 44-16 this past weekend. They’ll be taking on Samford (2-1) this Saturday in a conference game.

Chattanooga (1-2) was able to come away the victor last Saturday versus Eastern Kentucky, 42-24. This week they are at Western Carolina (1-2) to begin conference play.

Matchup Specs

Georgia Southern

Offense: Triple Option  
Rush: Robert Brown (53-233 yds, 2 TDs)  
Pass: Jaybo Shaw (18-31 -305 yds, 3 TDs)  
Rec: JJ Wilcox (5-89 yds, 2 TDs)

Defense: Multiple  
Tackles: Josh Rowe (22 tackles)  
Sacks: Brent Russell (3.0-18 yds)  
Int.: E.J. Webb (1-18 yds)

Elon

Offense: Multiple  
Rush: Brandon Newsome (29-167 yds, 3 TDs)  
Pass: Scott Riddle (77-121 -844 yds, 7 TDs)  
Rec: Aaron Mellette (29-345 yards, 4 TDs)

Defense: 4-3  
Tackles: Brandon Wiggins (29 tackles)  
Sacks: Jordan Gibson (1.0-7 yards)  
Int.: Chandler Wrightenberry (2-11 yds)

Game weather

High: 93°  
Low: 68°  
20% chance of precipitation

Inside the Huddle: Elon University Phoenix

Defense  
Brandon Wiggins had a stellar outing against the Duke Blue Devils, matching a career-high with 19 total tackles. Of the 19 stops, nine were of the solo variety. He also added one-half tackle for a loss. With his performance, Wiggins claimed the number 10 spot on the program’s career tackles list with 253. Brandon Ward has the fifth position on the active career sacks list with nine total sacks. Torrell Wilson claims the third position on the active career interceptions list with seven. Ronnie Hardison is a freshman DB to watch out for, with 16 solo tackles in the last three games.

Offense  
Aaron Mellette had a career day for the second consecutive outing against Richmond. The sophomore finished the day with 18 grabs for 195 yards and two touchdowns. The Elon-record 18 receptions are tied for the second-most in Southern Conference history.

Scott Riddle recorded the 18th 300-yard passing effort of his career, throwing for 319 yards on 34 completions. His 55 passing attempts were a career-high.

Brandon Newson currently has 375 career rushing attempts and sits third on the SoCon active career leaders list. He also sits third atop the active career rushing yards list with 1,791 yards.

Players to watch  
Brent Russell  
Josh Rowe  
Jaybo Shaw  
Robert Brown
Asking “who is the real GSU?” is irrelevant

Two weeks ago Ken Sugiura of the Atlanta Journal Constitution wrote a piece comparing Georgia State University and Georgia Southern University, with the headline “Who is the real GSU?”

The article explored, in brief, the history of the two schools and their usage and history of their initials. This argument has been one that has been discussed frankly since Georgia Southern received university status in 1990. (Georgia State became a university in 1969.)

However, the discussion and bickering by supporters and alumni of the two schools has been heightened by State’s recent addition of a football program.

The first-year program has been getting plenty of press coverage and publicity, and was even featured on the cover of ESPN The Magazine.

Led by legendary head coach Bill Curry — who has previous coaching experience at Georgia Tech, Alabama and Kentucky — the Panthers have all the makings of being a program to keep an eye on in the coming years.

With the addition of a football program, the school’s enrollment is sure to grow, and even more so, the amount of more traditional students who wish to live on campus and attend a school where they can get the “full college experience” will surely increase as well.

In short, Panther football is a great move for the urban college nestled between skyscrapers in downtown Atlanta, but to compare their football program to the one founded on the banks of Beautiful Eagle Creek, the one that another coaching legend (Erk Russell) re-built nearly three decades ago and since has become one of the most decorated and accomplished programs in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) is simply absurd.

As it stands now, the Panthers aren’t worthy of cleaning the cleat-scuffed floors of the historic yellow school busses parked next to the Eagle practice fields, much less stepping on the same field as the six-time National Champion and eight-time Southern Conference Champion Eagles.

The two schools competed against each other in basketball frequently in 1984-93, when both were members of the Trans America Athletic Conference (now the Atlantic Sun).

Perhaps the most notable of meetings came during the 1991-92 season — Southern’s last in the TAAC before moving to the Atlantic Sun.

The series that year came down to a final meeting in Hanner Fieldhouse for the TAAC championship game between the No. 1 seeded Eagles and No. 2 seed Panthers.

The Eagles came away with the 95-82 win in front of a capacity crowd which chanted “the real GSU” after the win. If you need more convincing about the heated rivalry between the two, just ask current Eagles head basketball coach Charlton Young, who played for the Eagles from 1989-93 and was a big factor in the TAAC championship win.

All in all, despite which shade of blue you decide to don T-shirts hats and replica jerseys, both athletic programs should be respected for what they have accomplished.

Fall is now an exciting time for both schools and it’s a great thing. Who knows, maybe one day the Panthers and the Eagles will line up in the trenches for an annual in-state rivalry?

Matt Mauney is a G-A alumnus. He is the sports editor of The Paper of Hoschton, Braselton.