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The Inkwell

Armstrong State University’s news source since 1935

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 2018

THEINKWELLONLINE.COM

Armstrong Campus Celebrates Black History Month with Variety of Events



Armstrong students participate in the annual MLK Parade downtown.

LAURA WEYMAN
STAFF WRITER

President Gerald Ford was the first president to recognize Black History Month and suggested to his nation, “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” Since this moment in 1976, the month of February was designated as Black History Month.

In The New York Times article, “Black History Month: Pressing Forward on the Heels of Progress,” actress Denée Benton said, “My ultimate dream is that these things — women’s history, black history — are so included in the core-curriculum nar-

rative that we no longer need a separate time to celebrate it. I always say, when the day comes that I get to play Marie Antoinette as quickly as Eddie Redmayne gets to play the woman in ‘The Danish Girl,’ then I will be far more flexible. But I think we have a long way to go. This month at least gives people a time where if you bring up race, everyone doesn’t get nervous. In our country, people get very stressed out when you start talking about these things.”

In honor of this occasion, the Department of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) has come together with students, alumni, and staff members to create an annual event called Black Heritage Celebration Month. This month-

long event is made up of a wide variety of activities, sponsored by a diversity of campus organizations such as MOVE, NAACP, the African American Sisterhood, and the Multicultural Greek Council. They have worked together to bring to the community events ranging from film showings and workshops, to dinner gatherings and lectures. These events are meant to be educational and empowering to those attending, such as the “Countering Racism Workshop” or the “Brown Bag Series: Mental Health in the Black Community.” Interim Director of the OMA Lucero Aradillas said that the events planned this year will, “give students an opportunity to engage with their peers in collegial conversations. At

the same time, we come together to celebrate this year’s selected faculty, staff, students, alumni and student organizations to receive awards at our culminating event--the MLK dinner on Thursday, February 22 at 7:00pm in the Ballroom.”

This year’s Black Heritage Celebration Month is the longest one so far at the Armstrong Campus. Last year, the Black Heritage Celebration Month consisted of 27 programs, which was the largest line up at the time. February 2018 is surpassing last year’s month-long celebration by extending it to a month-and-half-long celebration that consists of 34 different events, which started in mid-January with the MLK Day Parade. All events are

taking place in a variety of locations across campus (See schedule for details). Aradillas mentioned that participation in these events grow higher every year. “We have grown dramatically over the last several years, not just in the number of events during the month but the attendance at each. For example, this year we had 394 students signed up for the MLK parade, which is our largest ever, with about 250 actually showing up for it. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff and students, who want to be present in our community.”

In 2017, Nashia Whittenburg, the former director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), described the intent behind this celebration

as the following, “Our goal is to serve as a catalyst to promote the academic, social and spiritual celebration of black culture in Savannah.” All events are free and open to the public. Anyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Martin Luther King said, “In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.” These words highlight the importance of continuing this yearly event’s tradition, since it encourages the imperative narrative about America’s struggle with racial inequality to go on in a positive, empowering and educational way.

GPB’s Political Rewind to tape in Savannah

DAN HAYES
NEWS EDITOR

On Thursday, February 8 at 7 p.m., the League of Women Voters Coastal Georgia will host an evening with Bill Nigut at the Jewish Educational Alliance, 5111 Abercorn, in Savannah.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and works to influence public policy through education and advocacy.

Mr. Nigut, host of GPB Radio’s “Political Rewind” will lead a panel featuring “Political Rewind” contributor and Atlanta Journal Constitution political reporter Jim Galloway, along with other state and local officials representing the Savannah area. The panel will focus on local and state issues that impact the area and give an overview

of what’s ahead in this year’s Georgia Legislative session.

Students are encouraged to send in questions regarding issues that are of concern to them. Tom Faust, producer of the radio program, said “there will be a Q&A component and we would love questions from the students”.

If any students have questions they would like the panel to address, we encourage them to send them the Inkwell and will pass them on to Faust. As Faust said, they will “certainly incorporate them into the discussion”.

The current legislative session is active, and lawmakers are hard at work creating legislation that will positively impact the lives of Georgians. This is an election year, so it will be interesting to see what debates lawmakers are willing to engage in.

The event is free to the public.

State Laws to keep an eye on

Campus free speech act

Senator Ligon, R-Brunswick, has introduced a bill that would require the board of regents to provide for the establishment of free speech policies on university campuses. This bill is in response to the sometimes militant reaction to Alt-right speakers.

Mimosa Mandate

Renee Unterman, R-Bufford, introduced a bill that would allow restaurants to serve alcoholic beverages starting at 10:30 am Sunday mornings. Currently all establishments must wait until 12:30 to serve alcohol.

Tax on Wire Transfers

Jeff Jones, R-Brunswick, introduced a bill that would

impose a new tax on out of state wire transfers. The bill targets immigrants and refugees who are sending money out of state. The fee charged can be used as a dollar for dollar tax credit.

A Ban on “Upskirting”

It is currently not against Georgia code to videotape or photograph a women up her skirt without her approval. Two bills, HB 9 and SB 45, are attempts to change that.

Medical Marijuana

Allen Peake’s, R-Macon, introduced HB 645 which would allow for the cultivation and distribution of low THC cannabis oil that certain patients can legally use and possess.



Savannah Comedy Festival Kicks Off With Improv Musical

DAN HAYES
NEW EDITOR

The Savannah Comedy Festival kicked off with a bang last Thursday night with “The Big Cheese,” a wholly improvised musical performed by the Savannah Stage Co.

For those of you who may not know, an improvised musical means everything was made up on the spot. All songs, stage direction, dialogue, and even characters were invented right in front of the audience. That is quite a terrifying notion for any actor or musician. But the Savannah Stage Co. made it look easy.

Thursday night’s show was opened by John Brennan and Brianne Halverson, the co-founders of the festival and founding members of Savannah’s own Front Porch Improv.

The duo acted out an improvised scene that found two strangers sharing a conversation aboard a subway train that was oddly full of pregnant women. The scene ended with a great piece of advice for men all over the world, never ask a woman if she is pregnant. It was a great piece of long-form improv and prepared the crowd for a great opening night.

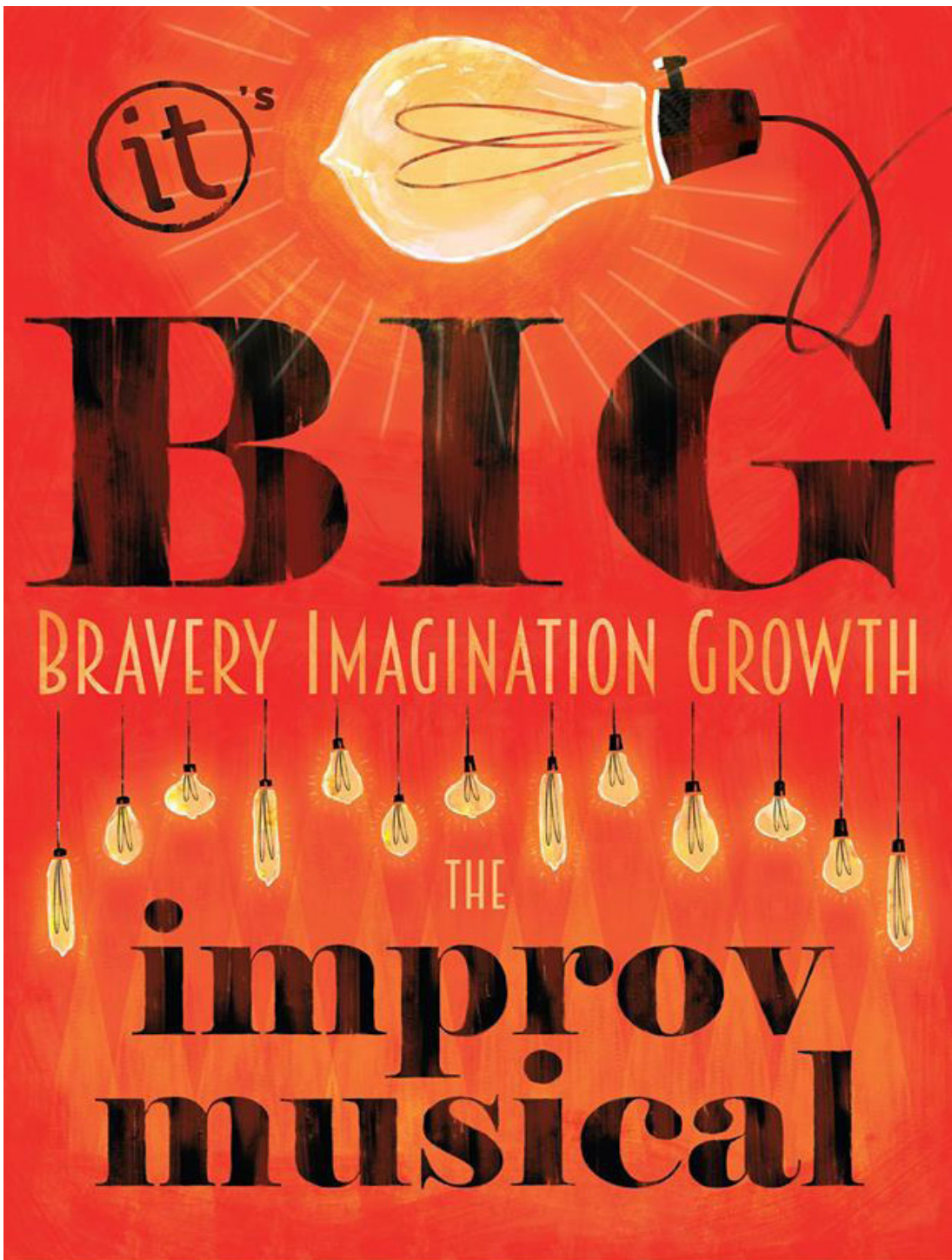
The festival is now in its second year and as with the first, Halverson and Brennan have managed to lure a heavy cast of characters down to the

‘creative coast’. “We have a heavy lineup again this year with troupes and shows from Chicago, New York, and Atlanta” noted Brennan. When asked how he got such big acts to come down south Brennan stated that it was a community effort. “We found them places to stay, food to eat, and drinks to enjoy” adding that “you can’t overstate the pull of Savannah in January.”

This was the second year that Savannah Stage Co. has brought their, (it’s) B.I.G the Improvised Musical to the festival. The musical is built off suggestions from the audience including, genres of music, title, main character, and the main character’s big dream. The show centered around main character Sally and her dream to be cheese-maker.

The musician duo of Wesley Pridgen and Ellen Sherrod amply handled the ten different genres ranging from disney musical, funk, reggae, salsa, spoken-word, and hip hop. All the musical accompaniment went off without a hitch.

Though, the undisputed stars of the show were the five fearless females who took the stage. Maria Isabelle Cain, Joanna Walchuck Aprea, Melanie Goldey, Cyndei Prathers, and Mckenna Lyons all performed flawlessly. Artistic director Jayme Tinti said the choice of an all-women cast was “not a deliberate one but



Poster for the (it’s) B.I.G. The Improv Musical by the Savannah Stage Company.

rather one of happy coincidence. We didn’t set out to put forth and all-women cast it just happened” claims Tinti. “When we thought about our bravest and most seasoned performers these five awesome girls came up, and we couldn’t be more happy for them” adds Tinti.

Savannah Stage Co. is entering its sixth year and already has a loaded calendar for 2018. They will have open auditions in the spring and Jayme wants to encourage Armstrong students to come out and enjoy the fun. “We are always looking for actors or production and marketing interns”, and Tinti wishes to expand the local talent base, adding “everyone always focuses on the one downtown art school, but we love Armstrong and want to encourage them to come and join us”. All the info about Savannah Stage Co., including upcoming shows and auditions can be found at www.savannah-stagecompany.com.

When Front Porch is not busy organizing and hosting Savannah’s only comedy festival they can be found at their home stage inside the Bull Street Labs. Multiple nights a week you will find the troupe performing a variety of improvised and scripted comedy shows. Check out their website www.frontporchimprov.com for more info.

Faculty Lecture Series Presents: Dr. Bridget Conn



“Eve Series #1.” A photograph by Dr. Bridget Conn from her website.

DAYLON BONNER
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Bridget Conn, a professor of photography on campus, gave a lecture with insight into the history of Wet Plate Collodion and Kodachrome and the potential for their appeal as an avenue for photo capture going forward.

It is understandable if you are unfamiliar with Dr. Conn, since she just recently made her presence known to the Savannah community. She attained a B.F.A in Studio Art and a M.F.A from Tulane and the University of Georgia respectively. Her work has been observed at the national scale, notably at the Kimball Art Center in Park City, Utah.

Briefly, she took up residence in Asheville, North Carolina, teaching courses,

working as an art journalist and making her own art independently. Her work was also featured heavily in the development of the Asheville Darkroom, a non-profit art education facility. She would serve as the primary instructor and Executive Director before finding her way down to Savannah around May 2016.

She currently works on campus as a member of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, teaching a variety of classes focused on different photo processes.

Dr. Conn started her lecture by describing a photo process deeply tied to her personal intrigue with photography, Wet Plate Collodion. This process pervaded the photos taken between the

1860s and 1880s as it was the primary mode of photo creation. Collodion, as the name suggests, is the base of the process. To paraphrase Dr. Conn, when mixed with ether and sodium nitrate, the mixture is light sensitive. Once put into a camera, the photo needs to be taken and developed quickly to avoid losing it since the plate would dry out if left to sit.

She also discussed the process of Kodachrome. It was developed by Kodak in 1935 to make better quality photography and to it convenient to develop color photographs.

The analog process has had a resurgence in recent years as opposed to their more digital counterparts. Obviously, digital images

are still the conventional and most readily available route. However, given that many under the age of thirty are not as knowledgeable about this process, seeing its latent appeal is a positive sight.

Vinyl has also made a comeback. However, while Dr. Conn does appreciate its resurgence, she does not wish for Kodachrome and Wet Plate Collodion to be viewed with similar reverence. With vinyl there is an inherent nostalgia for days of old associated with them. Dr. Conn commented, “it’s not because people cannot afford a fancy digital camera ... the arguments against it assume that the photographers are being stubborn [or continuing old habits.]” If the choice fell

LECTURE | PG 4

Bakari Sellers Addresses GSU, Speaks of Dreams Deferred

ALEXANDRE GARRIDO
STAFF WRITER

As we approach the month of February, the Black History Month celebration is beginning to shape up. To commence the festivities the students of Georgia Southern were treated to a speech from Bakari Sellers. Mr. Bakari Sellers is the first African American vice chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party; former member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, and the youngest African-American elected in the history of the United States. He is also a regular contributor to CNN.

The event took place on the Statesboro campus and was telecast for Armstrong students in Ogeechee Theater. The event drew a large crowd in Statesboro, prompting Mr. Sellers to question if professors were giving away extra credit for attendance.

This was in stark contrast to turnout on the Armstrong

Campus, which was very small. Although, that may have been a good thing, since the event here on the Armstrong campus started with IT problems that delayed the beginning of the transmission for about 20 minutes. These kinds of problems are so commonplace at Armstrong that it is starting to become a meme.

However, thanks to the IT team, the people attending could still hear the Mr. Seller’s full speech. The transmission from Statesboro was during the Q and A session.

In his speech Sellers wanted to take the audience on a “journey of excellence”, and for that he intended to address 3 major questions during his speech.

How far have we come?

To answer the first one, Sellers went back to the final years of the 40s, most particularly, 1946. Sellers talked about George Elmore, a black successful businessman that in the Democratic primary

elections of 1946 wanted to exercise his right to vote. Denied, he sacrificed his well-positioned status to fight for his right and today, Elmore vs Rice is the reason why African-American can vote. Also, Sarah Mae Flemming, that sat in the white-only section of the bus 17 months prior to the Rosa Parks case or the Brown v. the Board of Education that made segregate schools unconstitutional. So how far have we come? Far, but there is still further to go.

Where do we go from here?

That is a question that even stumped Dr. King in final moments. Dr. King presented 2 choices: Chaos or Community. Mr. Sellers chooses to side with community. To support his decision of choosing Community he told the story of the Orangeburg Massacre, when a group of 200 protesters gathered on a segregated bowling alley and 3 protesters were killed by the police. He also told

the story of the only person imprisoned for the riots, his father, Civil Rights Leader, Cleveland Sellers.

Does MLK’s dream matter anymore?

In a surprise revelation, Sellers admitted that the pursuit of Dr. King’s dream and of the American dream, have utterly frustrated him. Why keep fighting for it? He asked, for a moral reason, because, it’s right. Because it’s right to try to be our best selves and it’s right to try to build a better community.

This vision of trying to be our best selves and trying to make a better community was why Nick C. Schrader, the Director of Housing and Residence Life of Armstrong declared himself a fan of Mr. Sellers. However, not all in attendance agreed with what the politician said. Steve McQueen, student of Computer Science, thought that “maybe because of the low time”, that the speech fell short.

In my opinion, it was a great speech that explored the history of the Civil Rights Movement, but I also believe that it too was lacking. The speech did not address the problems present for Af-

rican-Americans today. I’m sorry that Mr. Sellers did not have more time, because I have the feeling that with more time, he could address much more.



Bakari Sellers, PR photo.

CAMPUS VOICES:

Are you watching the Super Bowl, the Puppy Bowl, or Super Bowl commercials? And why?



“I’m watching the Super Bowl! Go Eagles!”

Alyssa Ali
Freshman, Biology



“My friends are going out, so either I watch it or I’m alone.”

Ben Asghar
Freshman, Biology



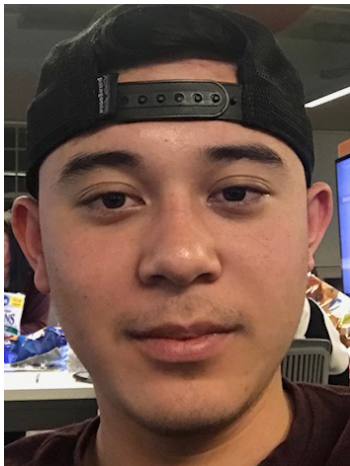
“Super Bowl. It’s my birthday and I have nothing better to do.”

Alec Rodgers
Freshman, Computer Science



“I’m watching the Puppy Bowl since the Steelers aren’t playing in the Super Bowl.”

Ethan Smith
Freshman, Engineering



“I’m an Eagles fan, so I’ll watch the Super Bowl.”

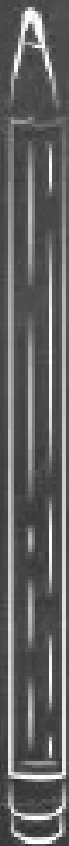
Alejandro Arango
Freshman, Undeclared

Call to action for students

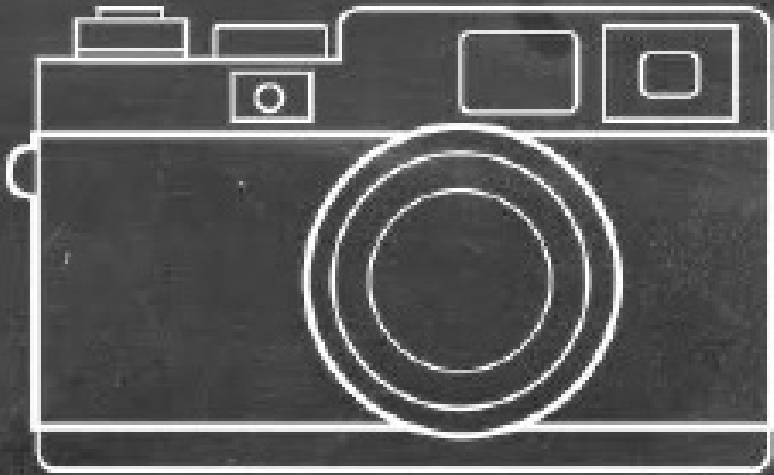
DAN HAYES
NEW EDITOR

Let’s get serious. The group that is continually overlooked when new legislation or laws are enacted—whether on a local, state or federal level—is young people. That means us, college students. The reason for that is simple, we just don’t pay attention. Everyone likes to complain about the new parking rules downtown. I’m sure there has been plenty of outrage and debate across social media about the new parking changes. But where was that concern when the ordinance was making its way through the City Council. Despite what you may think laws are made in the open. Is there a possibility for back-room deals? Absolutely! It probably happens. Yes. But there are laws on the books that prohibit this. Georgia is among many states that have an open meetings and open records law. The City Council legally cannot meet without first announcing it to its citizens. Every City Council meeting is taped and broadcasted online for free. The public is given a chance to participate in the legislative process. If you want something to change you need to be involved. No lawmaker will ever get to listen to a concern that is not voiced. I am asking you to take stock in the laws that affect your life. Call your representatives. Find out ‘how the sausage is made’. The process may seem overwhelming and hard to navigate. However, the information is there for those who want to find it. To that effect I, your News Editor, will compile a list of laws and ordinances that are making their way through the state legislator and city council. Laws that I think will be important or impactful to Armstrong students will be highlighted. If I miss anything or there is something you want to know more about, let me know. We can investigate. We can bring light upon legislation that matters to us.

CALLING ALL WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS



THE INKWELL WANTS YOU.
EVERY WED. 12:30 P.M.
MCC 202



LECTURE | PG 1
decisively into her hands, Dr. Conn would “minimize the use of Kodachrome and Wet Plate Collodion purely for the sake of reminiscence.” Her goal is to have the photo process looked at as a serious means for photo development.

Conversely, she is not against digital images in principal. However, she does assert “the story the photographer intends to tell with their art could be better served with an analog process as oppose to a digital medium in some cases.”

Admittedly, the pro-

cesses she described are not practical to all situations (i.e., developing a wedding). However, she is more concerned with the voice of the artist shining through above and before considering the commercial viability of the artwork. “When most of us hear the word photographer,

we immediately [consider] the commercial aspect ... the photographer [providing] a service to a client.” One can safely assume that Dr. Conn does not detest digital photography. She has expressed some satisfaction with how digital images turn out. However, it is in the realm of pos-

sibility that she objects to commercial quantity be favored as opposed to overall quality. Obviously, the choice falls to the photographer in the end, but having this as a viable option would not be considered an unreasonable path forward if the interest is there.

Wet Plate Collodion and Kodachrome are interesting analog forms of photography. They may be perceived to be gimmicky to some, but Dr. Conn is not one of them. There is viability to this photography process. It’s relevance will be appreciated in the coming years.

Larry Nassar Sentenced 40-175 Years for Sexual Allegations

ETHAN SMITH
SPORTS EDITOR

After nearly two decades of sexual abuse going unnoticed in US Women’s Gymnastics, Larry Nassar was sentenced up to 175 years in prison for his acts of sexual abuse against 150 women and girls who competed for the US National Gymnastics team.

Judge Rosemarie Aquilina took great pride in giving out this sentence, “I’ve just signed your death warrant.... I find that you don’t get it, that you’re a danger. That you remain a danger.” Nassar attempted to defend his medical practices and accused the women who accused him of sexual abuse of lying for the attention they “craved” and financial rewards. In Nassar’s letter, he states, “I was a good doctor because my treatments worked, and those patients that are now speaking out are the same ones that praised and came back over and over. The media convinced them that everything I did was wrong and bad. They feel I broke their trust. Hell, hath no fury like a woman scorned.” These were read aloud by Judge Aquilina during his hearing. Nassar already faced 50 years for child pornography, so this already adds to what is a substantially long sentence for just downright unforgivable actions that will forever scar

the victims and everyone else involved.

For those who do not know who Dr. Larry Nassar was a former doctor for the US Gymnastics team who also worked at Michigan State University (MSU). He received notable degrees from MSU and worked with its football, basketball, and other major sports teams. He was appointed national medical director of US Gymnastics in 1996. Along with his medical work for MSU, he later became a professor there as well.

Nassar was first accused of sexual abuse in 2016, when former gold medalist Rachael Denhollander said she suffered from sexual abuse by Nassar in 1994. Some of his victims reported that the abuse continued for over 6 years, while the dates the accusers gave spanned over a total of 13 years.

Following the sentencing of Nassar, MSU faces an uncertain next few months. The administration fired Nassar on Sep 20, 2016, but can be considered grossly untimely.

In 1997, an MSU student’s parent raised concerns about Nassar to John Geddert, but he failed to contact police. Geddert, now the former US Gymnastics coach was questioned and referred to throughout the Nassar case numerous times. He retired on Jan 23, 2017 amid



Larry Nassar looks on as he is sentenced. via CNN

allegations that he may have been part of the sexual abuse caused by Nassar.

MSU President Lou Ann K. Simon resigned shortly after his sentencing on Jan 24. Simon’s resignation may create a domino effect as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has launched a full-fledged investigation into the university’s codes of conduct.

Immediately after Nassar’s sentencing, the Olympic Committee issued a statement

calling for the entire board at US Gymnastics to resign. In the same statement, the committee reinforced that they will take further action to make sure something of this magnitude never happens again.

The assault Nassar inflicted on these gymnasts have left intense physical and emotional harm. Despite of that, they have grown to not only be Olympic Gold medalists, but role models for girls everywhere. Every single

survivor that spoke up could have easily remained silent, but they had the bravery and wherewithal to send a “monster” as some have called him to prison where he can do no harm to women anymore.

Reporting this story has been particularly difficult for the Inkwell staff considering how Nassar managed to harm so many young women, colleagues, families and ultimately an entire nation.

This is a disgrace to MSU, US Gymnastics, and

the US Olympics in general. Questions abound and will hopefully come to a resolution, but his sentencing has given many of these women closure, and that’s what they have been looking for their entire lives. Nassar deserves punishment to the fullest extent of the law.

People will no longer be silenced, by intimidation or otherwise. Having a voice to advocate for issues matters. Speak up.

Men and Women Go 1-1 vs. Texas State and UTA

ETHAN SMITH
SPORTS EDITOR

In last week’s games, the male and female divisions of Georgia Southern’s Eagles continued to progress with pace at which they did since the beginning of the year. The men were able to keep their 4th spot in the Sun Belt Conference while the women’s struggles continued with two losses to Texas State and UTA (University of Texas Arlington.).

With both games being at Hanner Fieldhouse, the Eagles had the home-court advantage against Texas State and UTA.

The men were defeated by Texas State 62-61 after Texas State used free throws with 3.7 seconds remaining to seal a one-point victory. Junior Guard Tookie Brown continued to play efficiently for the Eagles. In the game, he dropped 25 points in the loss, but missed a shot that resulted in the one-point loss when time expired. Brown did, however, recovered in the game against UTA in a 74-59. Helping the Eagles score a blowout victory and



Junior Gurad Tookie Brown drives v UTA. via SavannahNow

dropping 23 points. Despite permitting the Senior Kevin Hervey from the opposing team, UTA, scoring 29 points against them, the Eagles demonstrated stellar defensive effort. They only allowed the scoring of 30 points com-

bined from a total of seven individual players. The men moved to 15-7 overall and 6-3 in the Sun Belt play and stayed 4th overall in the conference.

The women lost to Texas State 81-56 in their first game

of the week, keeping a trend of losses in the Sun Belt going. Only two ladies from Eagles managed to score in the double-digits—a flop that can be attributed to the entire lady Eagle’s offense, which was stone-cold shooting 31.3% in

the loss.

The women appeared to be a very different team in their match against UTA. They picked up their first Sun Belt Conference victory at 73-68. The women shot an impressive 51.9% from

the field and accomplished a huge achievement thanks Sophomore Guard Amira Atwater. She had an amazing day passing the ball, dishing out 13 assists, which broke the previous record for assists in a single game of 12 by Gwenda Smith v Furman in 1993 and Vet Cooper in 1990. Sophomore Forward Nakol Franks led the Lady Eagles with 16 points, eight of which came from her season high eight free throws.

Overall, this week was a solid week of basketball for both the Eagle’s male and female divisions. In the future, because both games were held at home, the Eagles will not be back home until Feb 8th against UL Monroe and Feb 10th against Louisiana. Meanwhile, their upcoming games will be at Arkansas-Little Rock on Feb 1st and Arkansas State on Feb 3rd. Be sure to support the Eagles as much as possible and cheer them on whenever you can make the trip to Statesboro. Go Eagles! #GATA

Week of Events, February 1 - February 6

1 Blackbox Production- “Victoria Martin: Math Team Queen” Jenkins Hall Blackbox Theatre	2 BCM United 5PM Armstrong BCM	3 Front Porch Improv Comedy does Freaks and Geeks 7:30PM	4 The 50th Year Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Tribute 4:30PM-7PM	5 Cheesecake Raffle 8:30AM-3PM Fork and Dagger	6 Hip Hop Lecture 7PM Fine Arts 206
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