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Armstrong State University, "The Inkwell" (2018). *The Inkwell*. 245.
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The Inkwell

Armstrong State University’s news source since 1935

WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2018

THEINKWELLONLINE.COM



Johnny Mercer alive and well at Bonaventure Cemetery Tours Grand Opening. Laura Weyman. Check on page 2 for the full story.



Monique Ee Villier of the Stardust Pixies performing feats of aerial silks.

Enrollment Down at the new Georgia Southern

NANCY SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Despite the consolidation of Armstrong State University and Georgia Southern University’s intent to increase enrollment, enrollment has declined since last Spring when news of the merger was released.

In January 2017, the University of Georgia’s Board of Regents voted in favor of the merger. The University System of Georgia issued a press release listing all the benefits that would come from it.

In the press release University System of Georgia Chancellor Steve Wrigley said, “Consolidating Armstrong and Georgia Southern

will create one institution with expanded regional presence, tailored degree programs for the coastal region and positioned to significantly enhance the University System’s economic impact for the area.”

The whole point of the consolidation was to expand and enhance the university. The student enrollment data says otherwise.

According to the Georgia Southern University’s student enrollment data, that shows Armstrong’s enrollment, found on the university’s website, enrollment started to decline last Spring and has continued to drop since then.

In spring of 2017 compared to the spring of 2016,

there was an almost one percent drop in enrollment with only around 50 less students enrolling.

However, the summer of 2017 enrollment compared to summer 2016 went down dramatically by four percent.

In the fall of 2017 - fall usually being when most students start college, enrollment decreased by two percent with over 100 less students compared to Fall of 2016.

In the previous years, enrollment at Armstrong was at a steady rate.

One of the original opportunities specified in the press release was to “create a more comprehensive university that serves the needs of the region with a range of

degree programs...”

However, that doesn’t seem to apply to all degree programs.

A possible partial reason for the decline is the split of the Languages, Literature and Philosophy department with the removal of the English/Communications major.

Georgia Southern has separate English Literature, Foreign Language and Philosophy departments.

It also has a Writing & Linguistics department where most of the classes that were offered for the English/Communications major will now be under.

Potential student, Alyssa Casteleiro, wanted to attend Armstrong specifically for

the English/Communications major. She favored the degree because of the variety of classes that were offered.

“It gave students an opportunity to explore all areas of a potential career rather than feel limited to only a few.” said Casteleiro.

Now she worries that she will not have as many job opportunities with a writing degree.

“The communications degree was more flexible and would open more doors. It will be difficult to get the attention of employers when applying for great jobs with only a writing degree” said Casteleiro.

Over the years, the English Literature department

in particle has struggled to fill the required number of students per class.

Currently, the upper level English Literature courses have an average of about ten students enrolled.

In the previous years, many English/Communication majors would take literature classes for electives. Now with the new requirements and the separation of the department, the enrollment numbers are up in the air.

Further student enrollment data for this semester of the new Georgia Southern has not been released yet.

SGA Argues How to Spend Athletic Fees

DAYLON BONNER
STAFF WRITER

SGA President Ambanpola made a presentation, on behalf of the Strategic Planning committee, detailing the goals and values of the University going forward. The five core areas outlined in the document are Openness and Inclusion, Good Stewardship, Collaboration, Inventiveness / Innovation, and Personal Transformation. President Ambanpola considers the document to be of highest importance as all Georgia Southern events, clubs, etc. will have to meet at least one

of the outlined values in the document. Furthermore, the document is likely to hold true for the foreseeable future.

Given that this document is only a draft, sessions are to be held by the Strategic Planning committee with the aim of collecting feedback for parties with a vested interest (e.g., students, faculty, administration). The first is to be held on Friday April 20, 2018 from 10:00 am to noon, and the second is to be held on April 24th from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. Both sessions will take place in the Ogeechee theater.

A point was raised by Senator Tyler Tyack concerning donors who have been unwilling to donate to the new Georgia Southern. He questioned whether the administration had seriously considered the viewpoints of these donors. He would go on to state that an unnamed family member, who made a significant donation to the new tennis courts, is adamantly opposed to donating to Georgia Southern as they feel the university essentially took their money and cut them loose.

In response President Ambanpola stated that the section of the document re-

lated to Collaboration should explicitly state values in support of alumni and previous donors. He also spoke of a vote in which the committee chose to keep all funds from scholarships and the like exclusively on the Armstrong campus. However, he did also express doubt concerning whether the donors who had chosen to not support Georgia Southern would return in the future.

After the presentation by the SGA President, a lengthy discussion took place concerning Bill 6 (042018-B6: “Student Input for Athletic Renovations”). The bill re-

lated to Collaboration should explicitly state values in support of alumni and previous donors. He also spoke of a vote in which the committee chose to keep all funds from scholarships and the like exclusively on the Armstrong campus. However, he did also express doubt concerning whether the donors who had chosen to not support Georgia Southern would return in the future.

involved around uncollected input from the student body concerning the proposed renovation to the athletic facilities. The bill was presented by Senator Mary Kate Moore. The bill spoke of three proposals from the administration about possible uses of revenue collected from athletic fees. The first is about renovations of the soccer fields and tennis courts for the eventual purpose of hosting athletic events on the Armstrong campus. The second aims to create an outdoor recreation facility near the old tennis courts. The third would repurpose the softball

and baseball fields into general purpose recreation fields. Proposals two and three received minimal resistance while the first was contested heavily.

The SGA wishes to include the students in the process of the conversion as it will incur a cost of at least \$2 million and will affect the students for years to come. Furthermore, additional costs will be incurred by this renovation considering the facility, should they truly move forward with having athletic events on this campus, will have to adhere to guidelines

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The Living and the Dead Celebrate Grand Opening of Bonaventure Cemetery Tours

DAN HAYES
NEWS EDITOR

Bonaventure Cemetery Tours celebrated the grand opening of their new welcome center and gift shop located a mere half block from the famed cemetery on the appropriately timed Friday the 13th of April. Shortly after 5:30 Angela Lynn, the CEO and president of 6th Sense World Historic Ghost and Cemetery Tours, and Shannon Scott, founder and tour guide of 6th Sense World, cut the ribbon for their new venture and the party started.

Scott hopes that the welcome center becomes “a public resource for, not just the cemetery but also the neighborhood as well and the residents of Thunderbolt and Savannah.”

The pair has been working, with a host of other folks, since October of last year to make their dream a reality. Lynn proclaimed to the crowd “this has been a long time coming and we are just overflowing with gratitude to everyone that made this possible, thank you so much.”

The parking lot of the new welcome center was transformed into a Day of the Dead-themed celebration. Some of Bonaventure’s most famous residents including Johnny Mercer and

the Bird Girl were on hand to celebrate. The guests danced away to the live music of DJ Blue Ice, Matthew Jaidev and Phillip Polk Palmer. The living and the dead alike enjoyed the fresh food of Chazitos Latin Cuisine and icy treats from King of Pops.

The stars of the evening were hands down the Stardust Pixies who wowed the crowd with their aerial acrobatics and feats of fire. The performers seemed at ease whether they were standing ten feet tall, twirling in silks and chains, or spinning, breathing and extinguishing fire. The next event you see in town with the Stardust Pixies performing, I suggest you go.

Scott has been doing ghost tours downtown since ’95 and tours of the cemetery for 16 years and he always knew that Bonaventure was going to be a thing with tourists and locals alike. He even registered bonaventurecemetery.com way back in 2001 and “the Bonaventure Historical Society still doesn’t like that fact that I own that,” according to Scott. When asked which grave is the most popular Scott says it is still Johnny Mercer though more and more people are asking about Danny Hansford.

Hansford is of course the slain ex-lover of Jim Williams and one of the cen-



Jon Taylor of the Stardust Pixies performed different tricks with fire at the Bonaventure Cemetery Tours’ grand opening. Laura Weyman.

tral characters of “Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil.” Hansford’s grave is not actually in Bonaventure but in Greenwich Cemetery right next door. Veteran local tour guide Dawn, or Dawn of the Dead as she says, recounted for me the night she found Danny Hansford’s final rest-

ing place.

It was dusk, and Dawn had separated from her friend as she toured the grounds of Greenwich alone. She was looking for the grave of Hansford because she knew that guests would want to visit it someday. Night was descending on the cemetery when a

“dark shadow appeared” and waved Dawn in saying “I’m over here.” Dawn walked towards the aberration and looked straight down and “there was his grave site.” Dawn fully believes that it was Danny who showed her his gravesite because “he wanted attention and most

people don’t visit his grave.” Bonaventure Cemetery Tours, 415 Bonaventure Rd. (912) 292-0960, will be giving tours daily and nightly and they hope to host another party around Halloween.

So You Think You Can Joke: BCM Hosts Improv Night

DAYLON BONNER
STAFF WRITER

The BCM on campus hosted their first “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” game night on April 13. As the name implies, it is based on the show of the same name, which is designed around improvisation. The night achieved its laughs via suggestions from the audience, such as scenario suggestions, and a variety of different games. Some of the games had to build upon the jokes while others elicited humor from quick wit.

The jokes began with the food served. The cuisine that was offered contained Roger Rabbit inspired jokes such as “Meat Cakes,” hamburger sliders, and some jokes about cats.

The usual games seen in the show made a presence in the form of “World’s Worst,” “Scenes From a Hat,” “Props,” and “Hoe Down” while the lesser known gags from the show filled the inter-



Students Jacob Ivester, Austin Webb, Griffin Page, and Kenny Jones participated in different improv games at the BCM “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” night. Katrina Yaneza.

vening time.

Some of the students seemed nervous when the first game, “World’s Worst” began. However, once people began to loosen up, things

started to get interesting.

They even began cracking jokes on each other. There was no venom behind the zingers, just honest humor at the expense of a friend. Truth

be told these jokes, especially the ones between Kenny Jones and A.J. Johnson, seemed to allow everyone to relax as the jokes became funnier and more creative as

the night progressed.

While “Props” arguably showed the most creativity, the most enjoyable game was probably “Scenes From a Hat.” This is mostly due to the format of the game. “Scenes From a Hat” is a fast-paced game in which players are given a scenario and must quickly improvise something funny to say. The free reign given by the game gave minimal restrictions to what could be used. The scenarios included honest Axe Body Spray commercials, linebackers and pregnant women, dad jokes and Taco Bell. These variations in topics brought out a variety of material and helped create a fun atmosphere.

After the conclusion of the event, Johnson gave some of his thoughts on the event. He spoke about the genesis of the event stating that the organization wanted to do one last event before closing out the year.

Also given that Jones, a

senior theatre major, is president of the organization, and the fact that many of them worked on an in-house musical production the previous semester, an improvisation show seemed like an ideal candidate for an event. He also echoed the sentiment of preferring the rapid-fire games to the less frenzied ones.

While there was a cost of attendance of \$5, at least it went towards a cause. To paraphrase Johnson, the proceeds from the event will fund future missions taken by BCM members, both abroad and domestic. Specifically, they will go through the organization Send Me Now (SMN). The BCM has an ongoing working relationship with SMN and hopefully they can achieve their goals for funding future mission trips.

The BCM will be hosting an End of the Year Luau from 6pm to 9pm on April 27 at their building.

Earth Day Celebration 2018: End Plastic Pollution

LAURA WEYMAN
PHOTO EDITOR

Plastic is a versatile and inexpensive material, making it one of the most widely used. Surely, we have all seen the aftermath of celebrations as big as St. Patrick’s Day or Orange Crush.

Days like these give us a glimpse of the global plastic consumption epidemic scientists relentlessly speak of. The scale of this problem is often difficult for us to truly comprehend, since we can’t accurately visualize the amount of plastic that is collectively used and not recycled.

A study conducted by a scientific working group at UC Santa Barbara’s National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) states that, every year, 8 mil-

lion metric tons of plastic end up in our oceans. In 2025, the input of plastic waste is expected to double.

As a result, thousands of seabirds and sea turtles, seals and other marine mammals are killed each year after ingesting plastic or getting entangled in it. This plastic pollution epidemic is not only harmful to wildlife, but it also harms humans. As plastic debris floats in the water, it absorbs cancer causing and endocrine-disrupting chemicals such as PCB, DDT, and PAH.

Earth Day is a yearly and educational celebration that was started in 1970 by Gaylord Nelson, a Wisconsin senator. It was inspired by the massive Santa-Barbara oil spill of 1969. In his eyes, environmental conservation

was extremely important, because without it there was no economy.

On the 25th anniversary of Earth Day he stated, “The wealth of the nation is its air, water, soil, forests, minerals, rivers, lakes, oceans, scenic beauty, wildlife habitats and biodiversity... that’s all there is. That’s the whole economy. That’s where all the economic activity and jobs come from. These biological systems are the sustaining wealth of the world.”

This year, Earth Day is focusing primarily on plastic pollution. The official day always takes place on April 22nd, though Savannah is celebrating one day early this year.

On April 21st, Savannah residents, business, musi-

cians and artists will gather in Forsyth park to celebrate the earth and discuss the importance of environmentalism.

This Earth Day celebration is the largest educational Earth Day event in the state of Georgia and is entirely free of charge.

Attendees will have the chance to enjoy craft beer, food and live music. You may bring your own picnic lunch or buy something from our most popular local vegan restaurant’s stand, The Fox and Fig. In addition, the weekly Saturday Farmers market will be simultaneously present during the festivities.

Catch live performance by local musicians. Matthew Jadaiv will start his set at 11:00am, Josephine Johnson

at 11:45am, Keystone Postcards at 1:00pm, Laiken Love and the Fellowship of Love at 2:15pm, and Ember City at 3:30pm.

This year, The Revival Society is teaming up with SCSC to build an interactive sculpture made entirely of recycled water bottles, and E-waste recycling will be provided by Junkluggers of

the Coast Empire. They will offer citizens of Savannah the opportunity to dispose of home electronics, such as including computers, televisions, monitors, printers, fax machines, small household appliances and cell phones FREE of charge.

Hope to see you there!



The Earth happily celebrates Earth Day. SuperMarket News.com.

Poetry by Armstrong students

i try to call you one last time
just another small vestige of me
wiped from your consciousness
like i was lint on your shirt sleeve
days before his death
hawking submitted a paper
on multiverses
the theory of parallel lives
and i wonder if
in a merciful one
-i couldn't even finish this before crying
because i can no longer bear to imagine
who you are or who you could be
without the sharp pain
of your willful silence
and how you severed us entirely

Lila Miller

Once I was trapped in my car
My glass of water only steps away
With my book and pen
Up four porch steps: blue
On the weatherproof table
That was cramped
Because the chairs were chained
Too close
And I knew what I'd write
If I went there:
“Drink your stupid water,
Write your stupid words”
And I couldn’t leave the car
So I drink my stupid water...
And I write my stupid words...

Brent Gillenwater

I burned all the others
The houses we played
The games of idyllic lies
agreeing to be until
uncovered otherwise

Every lover left when
our house fell apart
Why sift through the
rubble of memories

Brent Gillenwater

GSU Spring Game Adds Promise for Upcoming Season

ETHAN SMITH
SPORTS EDITOR

After a 2-10 season, an impression of improvement is what Georgia Southern needed, and the 2018 Blue-White Spring Game gave just that to the players, the coaches and the fans.

The defense gave up the sixth most points in the Sun Belt Conference and had a solid Spring Game only giving up two touchdowns and forcing two turnovers. Senior S Sean Freeman had a 38-yard interception return in the first half. The fumble recovery beforehand was recovered in a pile by multiple Eagles.

The defense also won both two-minute drills at the end of the first-half and continued their solid play in the second-half by only giving up a 50-yard FG to Junior K Tyler Bass.

As for the offense, one of their biggest plays came from an untouched 41-yard rushing touchdown from Junior RB Eric Montgomery. The offensive star was Freshman RB Jared Daniels, who carried for an eight-yard touchdown and led the offense with 72 yards rushing.

The Eagles racked up 261 yards on the ground throughout the scrimmage. Sophomore WR Wesley Kennedy III racked eight receptions for 66 yards while the offense as a whole had 115 yards passing.

“As far as the positive vibe, guys trying to really feel and understand what Georgia Southern is all about, what it takes to win, I think they’re still figuring that out. Said Head Coach Chad Lunsford. They are really embracing that and learning it. They are doing all they can to get

it back where it needs to be. It’s a process right now and we are going to continue to work.”

Lunsford took over for the now former head coach Tyson Summers and he got the Eagles their only two victories on the season last year in a 2-4 effort. Lunsford will now enter his first full season as head coach and his 10th season overall with Georgia Southern. He engineered the top recruiting class of 2018 in the Sun Belt Conference and has got some 2017 recruits field time.

The official score of the game, which went on a Lunsford scoring system, was 47-38 in favor of the defense. This game showed a bright future for Georgia Southern football, and let’s hope this production translates to the season coming in the fall.



Paulson Stadium. Ethan Smith.

SGA Column

Upcoming Events
April 23rd is last Senate meeting- Everyone is invited

Legislation
B6 “Student Input for Athletic Renovations” Suggest that SGA should conduct a student survey before the increase in Athletic fees.
R18 “University Hall Parking Spaces” Would allow for 30 faculty/staff parking spots from the University Hall parking lot to student parking, while the waters college is being constructed
R17 “24/5 Learning Facility” :Recommends that the Armstrong Campus establishes a 24/5 learning facility
Armstrong & Liberty Campuses Standing Procedures: Will serve as a supplementary guide in addition to Roberts Rule of Order

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set forth by the division and by the contract between the school and ESPN. This means new bathroom facilities, parking lot renovations, concessions, etc. To quote the rationale of the drafters of the bill, “a proposal of such magnitude, cost, and long-term significance should not be determined solely by Student Government, but by the student body, whose fees would be paying for this proposal.”

The sentiments of the Bill rationale were echoed by multiple Senators. In particular, Senators Tyack, Padridin, Evans and Cummings would all express varying levels of support for the Bill. Senator Padridin expressed interest

in collaborating with Senator Moore directly to collect student data while Senator Cummings supported the idea but requested a different method of information acquisition than a simple survey by e-mail, his rationale being that a decision of this level of importance should not be made on the feedback of less than five hundred students. Senator Tyack offered to build upon what Senator Cummings stated and wished to be involved as chair of the Student Life committee. He also opposed a hurried approach on the renovation by stating, “I do not think thirty votes gives me the right to decide on a \$2 million plus issue.” Senator Evans proposed

holding off on data collection until the following semester as the Freshman coming in in the Fall will have full knowledge of the consolidation and offered arguably the best data on how to proceed with the renovations.

Given that this was the last chance of the semester to vote on legislation, Senator Tyack called for an immediate vote on the Bill which would result in it carrying through the Senate.

The Senate would then vote in favor of Resolution seventeen which supports the creation of a 24/5 learning facility.

The SGA will have its final meeting of the semester next week.

6TH ANNUAL WALK FOR AUTISM SPEAKS

HOSTED BY
AUTISM SPEAKS U ARMSTRONG
APRIL 28TH
LAKE MAYER 10AM-1PM

REGISTER ONLINE

http://act.autismspeaks.org/site/TR?fr_id=3965&pg=entry

CONTACT KIMBER JONES AT KJ6887@STU.ARMSTRONG.EDU FOR QUESTIONS

PosterMyWall.com

Congratulations!

The **Georgia Southern University, Armstrong Campus Chapter of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi** extends its congratulations to the following new 2018 initiates who were selected for membership. Membership includes the top 7.5% of last-term juniors and the top 10% of seniors, along with outstanding graduate students, faculty and alumni.

THE HONOR  SOCIETY OF

PHI KAPPA PHI

2018 INITIATES

Rosina Jan Campbell	Alyssa D. Liefeld	Paulette Iva Simmons Robertson
Caitlin Chamberlain	Dwayne Lofton	Shelanda M. Smith
Dawn L. Cone	Dung T. May	Cailin Bryanna Stone
Jorge L. Coyago	Jennifer McCarthy	Mitch Strand
Hayden Crook	Abigail Meert	Victoria Sutton
Sarah DesLauriers	Timothy Paul Miller	Fatima Justine Swint
Suzette F. Dillard	Khatiga Nasir	Michael Christopher Underwood
Cristiana Holmes	Cicely Payne	Alexander James Vandegrift
Stephanie Lynn Hooper	Kayleigh Abigail Rockett	Robert Michael Vieito
Elizabeth Wymer Jenkins	Paula A. Rowden	Sierra Weirich
Matthew Korey Kassees	Franchessa LaTrice Scott	Kevin White
Lauren Colenda Kelly	Jaritza Serrano	

