Georgia Southern and Head Coach Tyson Summers Part Ways

Georgia Southern and Head Coach Ty" "T" "tionary party in the Oglethorpe Theatre lobby along with different escape rooms for students to go out and roam among the Student Union Ballrooms. Those attending the costume party can enter a contest to win a prize for their best costume.

According to Assistant Director of Multicultural Affairs and HOLA Lucero Arada," "All of our spots are filled!" CUB is sponsoring three distinct escape rooms that are occurring almost at the same time. The themes are Halloween and Magic." Since all the spots are filled, walk-ins will not be acce...
NANCY SMITH STAFF WRITER

From Oct. 30 through Nov. 3, Armstrong will be celebrating Diversity Week. Hosted by the Department of Multicultural Affairs, the events during this week will consist of Tea with Imam Usami, Henna tattoos, a Dia de los Muertos celebration, a LGBTQ panel and a screening of the Bollywood film Cocktail.

According to the director of Multicultural Affairs, Lucero Aradillas, Diversity Week has been happening for at least five years as the former director of Multicultural Affairs, Natasha Whittenburg, largely championed for it when she joined Armstrong in 2012. “As a campus, we do a good job of celebrating our different cultures, and Diversity Week is another formal way to ensure that we take a moment to shed light on a particular topic or cultural event,” said Aradillas.

Diversity Week will kick off on Monday Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. in the President's Dining Room by having Tea with Imam Usami to talk about the religion of Islam and to provide a better understanding of its beliefs and practices.

In conjunction with the 47th Annual Atlanta Pride Festival that occurred on Oct. 13 through Oct. 15, Diversity Week will include a LGBTQ Panel on Thursday Nov. 2 at 5 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom so that students can have a safe discussion on LGBTQ issues with their fellow peers.

When asked about how starting a conversation on Islam and the LGBTQ community could impact Armstrong students, Aradillas commented, “starting a conversation about religion and the LGBTQ community has ripple effects. As citizens of the world, we are all constantly influenced by the mainstream media and this can often lead to the perpetuation of stereotypes and misrepresentation. The kind of conversations that we want to have at these two events is to shed light on what is true and real so that we can better support our students of the Muslim and LGBTQ community.”

In the Halloween spirit of decorations and dressing up, free Henna tattoos will be offered in the Student Union Ballroom on Tuesday Oct. 31 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. along with music to appreciate the cultures this symbolic art form comes from.

On Wednesday Nov. 1, the Hispanic Outreach and Retention at Armstrong (HORA) and Hispanic Outreach and Recruitment at Armstrong (HORA) will be hosting Dia de Los Muertos from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom.

Armstrong’s website states, “In Mexican culture, it is believed that people will die three days after they die; when their hearts stop beating, when their bodies return to the earth and when their memories are forgotten. Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a time to remember those who have passed, thus preventing the final death.”

The event will include free arts and crafts for anyone attending to celebrate life.

Diversity Week will close by having a film screening on Friday Nov. 3 of the award-winning film Cocktail at 6 p.m. in the Ogeechee Theater.

As Aradillas says, “Cocktail is an award-winning, Indian summer of a film that has become so popular because it has received great reviews about it because it is an all-around great film for friends to watch together and enjoy.”

Diversity Week will be a great way to get involved and show support for all students communities represent on campus.

Aradillas thinks it is important for students to embrace diversity: “These events are a great way for students from multiple cultures and backgrounds feel valued on our campus, while also educating people to the true meaning of certain holidays, religions, etc.”

For more information on Diversity Week, students should contact Multicultural Affairs.

NATIVE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Students Celebrate Armstrong One Last Time

ETHAN SMITH STAFF WRITER

Celebrate Armstrong, Armstrong’s biggest celebration of the year took place on Thursday Oct. 19. Over 50 departments and student organizations set up booths to showcase what they have to offer for students here at Armstrong. Attractions were also on display to everyone in attendance. Attendees could ride a mechanical bull, paint a rock wall, play at a dunk tank or with inflatables and small carnival games and could also enjoy live music.

The booth set up by the student organizations were both informative and fun. Many booths also orchestrated some type of activity for the populace. Some booths held raffles, some held games and others held contests.

If you stopped by the Armstrong Police Booth, you could have entered in their badge or a faculty parking sticker (functional until July of next year)! A few booths had it set up where viewers could play live music or goldfish (the game that everyone loves). And still, some booths just gave out Armstrong merchandise; but either way, all the booths offered something fun to do and enjoy for everyone in attendance.

The rides were a great addition to Celebrate Armstrong this year. They gave everyone other fun things to do besides booth-visiting. The mechanical bull ride was very entertaining. As passengers ‘saddled up’ one-by-one, everyone too would pull their phones out for the chance to put their friends, struggling to stay on, on Snapchat. The rock wall allowed people to flaunt their dexterity. Races to the top of the wall even started to create friendly competition. The dunk tank was also a fun attraction, and of course the person in the dunk tank talked trash. However, he ate his words more often than he probably expected. Although the inflatable crash course was set up to accommodate a nice preference, it too garnered a decent crowd. Races to get out of the course first, ensued.

Along with all the attractions, snow cones, cupcakes, hot dogs, BBQ and drinks were served throughout the party with live music from a DJ who played through the entire event.

A pirate ship was also set up in the parking lot along with the five-year tradition of the “car-and-sledgehammer”, which took a heavy beating from the college students who took advantage of the “much-needed” stress-reliever.

Chris Beckworth, who is a freshman majoring in psychology at Armstrong, gave his opinion on Georgia Southern continuing this Armstrong tradition: “We should definitely continue Celebrate Armstrong next year because of the sense of friendship and fellowship it brought to our campus.”

Olivia Fama, who is also a freshman at Armstrong and majoring in Radiology, agreed with Beckworth, saying, “We should have some type of celebration for Armstrong because in the end, we will be Armstrong, but we will be Georgia Southern’s Armstrong campus, therefore I think we should continue the tradition.”

This wasn’t the first Celebrate Armstrong, and it most likely won’t be the last. Regardless if we are Georgia Southern or Armstrong State, it is important to come together to celebrate the community, especially in an eventful way.
CAMPUS VOICES:
What are you dressing up as this Halloween?

This Halloween I’m going to be a popcorn!
Tatyanna Andrews
Junior, Early Childhood Education

I’m going to be a dalmatian in a couple’s costume with my boyfriend.
Sara Dietrich
Sophomore, Communications, Sciences and Disorders

I’m going to be a cop!
Ashton Crosby
Junior, Communication and Sciences

I am going to be a mermaid!
Makenzie Bunton
Junior, Radiological Sciences Program

I’m probably going to be a cheetah or something.
Hunter Lord
Sophomore, Civil Engineering

There are many things about Halloween that I look forward to every year - haunted houses, scary movie marathons or endless amounts of chocolate, to name a few. Every year, however, and usually as Halloween approaches, I see, typically, too many instances of cultural appropriation, throughout social media. Cultural appropriation is when a privileged demographic misuses aspects of a marginalized demographic’s culture. Cultural appropriation is a subtle misconduct that can be incited from dubious circumstances; it can in some cases be mistaken for “fun” or incited from misguided acts; it can be in costume - the Caucasian demographic in America sometime use blackface or traditional Native American headdress as provisional costumes or fashion statements, which in turn upsets the disadvantaged black and Native American communities.

As Kyli Rodriguez-Cayro, a writer from Bustle, puts it, “Ask yourself these questions before dressing up: Is my costume representative of a community’s pain and suffering? Does my costume belong to a culture that is not part of my heritage? If the answer is yes to one or both those questions, ditch the costume.”

Don’t be that person who says, “It’s just a costume, I’m not offending anyone!” You can’t parade around using aspects of someone’s culture without understanding the history and struggles of said culture.

To me, it truly is not that difficult to wrap my head around one simple concept: a culture is not a costume.

USA Today also does an amazing job explaining the difference between cultural appropriation and ‘cultural appreciation’.

“Cultural appreciation [can be considered as] good borrowing, making a Moroccan soup for dinner and talking with your family about it. Cultural appropriation can be offensive, turning a hijab into a costume can mock the person who wears it every day as part of their religion.”

“Cultural appropriation can also be offensive when the person doing the borrowing is privileged, while the person who is being borrowed from is marginalized. For instance, a white person wearing dreadlocks on Halloween when a black man wearing dreadlocks on a regular Monday gets told ‘you can’t work here,’” USA Today also explains.

You might wear a sombrero around for one day out of the year and scream “build that wall” the next, but there are people who must struggle every day of their lives because of their race, religion or culture.

If you’re unsure if your costume is cultural appropriation, it probably is. Just ditch that costume and be a cat or something that won’t offend anybody.

Beware and Be Aware: Don’t Culturally Appropriately this Halloween

ISABELLE KOVACS
NEWS EDITOR

Frozen in Time: Portraits

This display features various black and white portraits of Armstrong student Kenneth Richardson (senior) shot in various outdoor settings.

Photos by: Mitchell McDuffie with Model: Kenneth Richardson

Famous actress, dancer and singer Julianne Hough dressed up as “Crazy Eyes” from the popular show Orange is the New Black, which is a prime example of what not to do this Halloween. Photo Credit: Huffington Post
Will New Consent Standard Aide In Providing More Protection Against Sexual Assault?

GENICE SIMPSON  
STAFF WRITER

 Armstrong’s very own Jack Simmons, who has served as a professor in philosophy for 13 years, spoke to students and faculty about the “New Consent Standards,” on Friday, Oct. 13 at noon in the Ogeechee Theater. Simmons not only shared his opinions concerning the “New Consent Standard,” but also shared the opinions of other professors and authors. His approach to addressing this topic was refreshingly unbiased but gave all in new things to think about and to consider regarding these new standards.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center website, one-in-five women and one-in-six men are sexually assaulted while in college. This same site informs us that 63 percent of sexual assaults are not reported to police. Simmons passed along a hypothetical situation at the beginning of this event, and it involved consent and violations of policy at Armstrong College. Policies such as Armstrong’s Sexual Offense Policy, which is revised each year and is in their Student Handbooks, and the “New Consent Standard” ensure all students, and individuals are aware of their rights, and what is acceptable and not acceptable regarding being sexually active with another person.

Professor Simmons mainly focused on the “New Consent Standard” that says,” At all times when consent is withdrawn or not explicitly agreed to, the sexual activity must stop immediately.”

During his speech, which included a scene from the movie La La Land, the actor just walked up on the actress and gave her a kiss without asking, he pointed out that this would not be acceptable with this new standard, even if you are in a relationship or married.

In the new standards it also states that, “Consent is required regardless of the parties’ relationship, prior sexual history, or current activity.”

When I interviewed Professor Simmons, he asked what were his personal thoughts on the new standards, he said, “I am a wait and see kind of person. This change has the potential of being good, and it also has the potential to be bad.”

I also interviewed a student, Laynee, who is a freshman at Armstrong, and when I asked her the same question she said, “Ask for consent, but on the other hand these are strict rules, and could kind of hinder sex. It’s kind of like awkward to say, hey you want to have sex,” “do you want to keep having sex,” and like say this every two minutes.

Governor Jerry Brown, who is the governor of California, signed nation’s first affirmative consent standard in 2014. College campuses, like campuses in California, and Governor Brown support and accept this “New Consent Standard” and call it “Yes Means Yes.” This gives more protection to victims and protects a person if their incapacitated from alcohol or sleeping. A writer of The Washington Post, Jacylin Friedman, and editor of Yes Means Yes: Visions of Female Sexual Power and A World Without Rape, wrote in a column that students are embracing affirmative consent (“New Consent Standard”), but adults are not.

She interviewed me and quoted a Mr. Robert Carle, and said, “Robert Carle, writing for libertarian outlet Reason, shrieked that, ‘affirmative consent laws turn normal human interactions into sexual offenses.’”

Consent standards that we should live by. The hardest part is getting the world to agree with this concept.

For more information of the “Yes Means Yes” campaign, please visit www.yesmeansyes.com

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For more information of the “Yes Means Yes” campaign, please visit www.yesmeansyes.com

The Tyson Summers era is over, so what is next for the Eagles as this disappointing 2017 season rolls on? We’ll see in the coming weeks.

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