Health, safety panel addresses opioid crisis

MADISON WATKINS
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, a panel of representatives from the United States Drug Enforce- ment Administration (DEA), the University Police Department, the School of Nursing and the Public Health Program gave a presentation about the ongoing national opioid crisis.

Opioids are a type of drug used to relieve intense pain but are highly addictive when abused. Since 1999, the rate of overdose deaths involving opioids has quadrupled in the United States. Over 165,000 people have died from overdoses on prescribed opioids in the past 15 years.

Police officer Jodi Hughes said that one of the biggest problems contributing to this issue is doctors and nurses “prescribing pills.”

“Unfortunately, some doctors are only in the profession to make money. They will see patients with pain that can be treated with simpler medications but will write them two or three prescriptions for different medications such as oxycodone or hydrocodone. It’s a real shame because doctors have one of the most trusted profes-
sions,” Hughes explained.

The Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) has organized a roster of events to create Pride Month in April to serve Armstrong’s LGBTQ+ population. It has come as a response to last year’s climate campus survey, one-sixth of Armstrong’s population identified as LGBTQ+.

Beginning April 6 through the 26, the 2017 Pride Month will consist of guest speakers, forums and engaging workshops. The events will occur on both the Savannah and Thomasville campuses.

The GSA encourages everyone to attend, as their events are not limited to those that identify as LGBTQ+. The only requirement is to be accepting and willing to learn about the community.

GSA president, Hunter Hart, describes the month’s purpose as a means to educate our community.

“LGBTQ+ community is still fighting an uphill battle, and if GSA can help educate our students on campus and spread what’s learned through Savannah and even further, then we are helping something bigger than just our organization,” he said.

Some of the upcoming events in Pride Month include GSA’s annual prom, “A Danz Girl!” movie screening, “Religious in the LGBTQ+ Community,” a panel, a movie screening and the GSA Drag Show.

Each year, GSA’s prom has a new theme. This year the theme is “masquerade” and there is a special surprise planned for the first 50 guests.

“The best part of GSA’s prom has to be that you come as yourself!” Hart explained.

“High school, not everyone was out of the closet and had to hide who they really were.”

GSA invites you to bring your date, whether straight, PRIDE | PG 6

Last year, Tino Mantel, president of the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG), presented the State of the Industry Re-
port, describing the rise and expansion of the technology community in the State of Georgia.

A poster session will fol-
low where registered students will present their projects to viewers and undecided college freshmen or seniors who will vote to an-
ounce the best overall proj-
ects in a competitive environ-
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Party with the Pirates for the last time

TERESA DURHAM

April 13, 2017

The Pirates were pitted against the Bearcats on Sunday and against Young Harris' Mountain Lions on Saturday. The women are at 10 wins and one loss in the Peach Belt Conference.

The Pirates were pitted against North Wood University's Warhawks at 9-0 against Mountain Lions' Oriana Labaqui. Her opponent from the Bearcats also lost 8-2 to Stomle and Stolf for No. 2 doubles. Sophomore Alice Patch efficiently took both Mountain Lions' Oriana Labaqui and Laura Sanchez, but they managed to sneak out a win at 6-4, 6-0. They improved in Sunday's match against Ivanka Mocic and Julia Suzuki where they won 8-2. Eva Castiglioni (Young Harris) and Ivanka Mocic (Lander) both lost to Lena Lutzeier for No. 1 singles 6-2, 6-1. Mountain Lions' Elian Rundcrantz was easily taken care of by Paula Boixader Roca where she won 6-1, 6-0. Boixader Roca had a tough time against slow-pace opponent, but won 6-1, 4-6. Boixader Roca made a solid end to her at 6-3, 6-0. Boixader Roca beat her at 6-3, 6-0. Boixader Roca beat her at 6-3, 6-0.

One family member came from four hours away to celebrate.

"It's awesome, it's a really good event," Kim Reppert said. "This is actually our second game, we've come to see my niece play.

Two cross country athletes were also touched and saddened by the party.

"I think it's really nice that they're remembering and looking back on how long they've had athletics going here," junior Amanda Fernandez said. "I'm grateful that we had to have the experience."

Freshman Bethany Panheist was very optimistic:

"They have free ice cream, so it's good," she laughed. "Do-spite all the stuff I don't like about it, I am thankful that we had a chance to run."

Beyond the party with the Pirates occurring on the soccer field, attendees had the opportunity to see many current Pirate athletes at play.

Men's and women's tennis played a conference match against Young Harris' Mountain Lions. Softball and baseball teams were contending against Flagler University's Saints and volleyball teams held an alumni game during the party.

Women's tennis team annihilate Bearcats and Mountain Lions

TERESA DURHAM STAFF WRITER

Winnipeg at 9-0 against Lander's Bearcats on Sunday and against Young Harris' Mountain Lions on Saturday. The women are at 10 wins and one loss in the Peach Belt Conference.

The Pirates were pitted against North Wood University's Warhawks on Saturday in the last conference match. This match was to be held Friday, April 7 but severe wind prompted a rescheduling. There is one non-conference match Friday, April 14 against Auburn University.

Women's tennis teams continue to dominate over the weekend. (Teresa Durham)
I'm a student athlete so soccer is my way out. I'll hit the ball as hard as I can. But non sports related, I go out and eat a nice dinner if I'm really stressed.

Casey Couch
Sophomore
Exercise science

When I'm stressed I make hot chocolate and Autumn Mayo
Freshman professional communications

Girls night and relaxing or studying with friends helps.

Briana Pryor
Freshman nursing

Studying with friends makes it easier because you're not overwhelmed.

Tavonna Fisher
Freshman chemistry

Fostering an inclusive and participatory decision-making Student Government

Firstly, I would like to thank the entire student community of Armstrong for believing in our leadership. The future of the Student Government Association of Armstrong needs to be what we campaigned for, to foster an inclusive and participatory decision-making environment. Our mission comes from the bottom of our heart. Inclusive and participatory decision-making has never been so important to this university, especially because of the consolidation. Now it's not merely a choice, it's taking responsibility of our future.

Our mission is to represent the best interests of the students at Armstrong throughout the consolidation while addressing issues and concerns they may have within our university. In order to do this better, we’ve come up with some strategic goals. We’ve already started working on these and right after the inauguration in April, we hope to start doing the spade work to achieve our goals. It’s going to be a lot of work, but it is what we signed up for.

Collaboration is one of the most important things we want to increase. In our leadership, we hope to introduce three Vice President positions to the executive committee. These titles will join the VP of Outreach, which was already created to communicate and collaborate with the Recognized Student Organizations on campus. The new VP positions; VP of Academic Affairs, VP of Advancement, and VP of Alumni & Veteran Affairs will seamlessly come into play in collaborating with the staff and administration on campus. After the senate approval, the Vice Presidents will reach out to the students on their respective areas of responsibility and make schedules to meet with them in order to create a direct platform of communication. This way, we will be able to represent student concerns with the administration in the most important avenues of our university that directly affects the quality of student life. This will also increase in collaboration between the Student Government Association and our great faculty and staff. We will continue to work together.

Representation in the senate is very important too. We have already amended the constitution to be able to increase the maximum amount of seats available in the senate each year if needed. After the student body confirms the constitutional amendment, we will be able to invite more student leaders on campus to be a part of the senate, representing their college. We are putting together a plan to reach out to student organizations individually to find out the student leaders and encourage them to be a part of the senate. When we increase participation, we become a body that represents students from all walks of life. We will be able to create effective discussion and bring student concerns to light. This way, we contribute to making the Student Government Association an inclusive one.

Information goes both ways. We are discussing ways to better promote information to the students through the Student Government Association. In this discussion, we are focusing on increasing our activity on social media and the Armstrong website. We need to be able to expose the legislation that is being debated on the floor and also the discussions that take place. Sometimes there is a tendency to not look through the information even though it’s available. So we are hoping to take a step closer towards the students in presenting them the information. I think this is the best we could do.

Engagement is another thing that keeps the campus vibrant. We hope to invent our time and commitment to increase marketing of the Student Government Association to the students. We need to accommodate more students at our meetings. As we all know, the Senate meetings are open to any and all students at Armstrong. We need them to be able to participate and bring suggestions and/or concerns they have. Engagement also goes both ways. We need the students to tell us what we need to be doing and what we could do. If we are not doing great at something we need the students to be comfortable in reaching us and letting us know. These conversations don’t need to happen during business hours or during senate meetings. They can happen while we eat, while we walk around or simply, anywhere on or off campus.

Our differences need to become the very tool that takes us forward in finding innovative solutions to challenges we face on campus.

These are some of the general goals we would like to accomplish in the coming year, but there are definitely many more underlying accomplishments we hope to reach. We look forward to working with our amazing staff, faculty and students in bringing the best of us to represent the best interests of Armstrong. I would like to thank the Student Government Senate for all the hard work they already do, especially the executive committee. They’ve worked tirelessly to improve the quality of our campus. My team and I are humbled and honored to be taking the responsibilities after them to do what we do best – representing our community to promote Armstrong’s core values and uphold its mission.
April 13, 2017
THE INKWELL
ARTS
& ENTERTAINMENT

Art March holds first festival, parade in Starland

LILA MILLER
A&E EDITOR

The First Friday Art March has become a staple in the Starland district and downtown Savannah. This past Saturday welcomed a different kind of March in the form of Art March, held with its normal parade on Drayton Street. The festival featured live music, from local bands, a food truck and popsicle stand, a pop-up art gallery as well as local entertainers for children.

The parade began promptly at 5 p.m. and revellers marched the parade route bordering the Starland District. Both locals and locals based businesses joined the parade wearing eclectic outfits, hand-painted masks and curious signs. The Miss Mint group wore elaborate dresses in various shades of green.

Several volunteers manned a large Starland cow float throughout the parade. Pedestrians also biked around the parade and helped control the flow of parade traffic. Along the parade route, various house venue coordinators opened their homes for house shows. Once figured upon and repleted to a more underground and intimate mention of house shows on the festival map was a welcome addition.

Also set up along the parade route were stands by local artists and contemporary artists. The Starlandia Art Supply owner and first annual Marchel hosted the evening acts. Local comedian Derick Case, Maggie Hayes, Jeremiah Josiah, Michael Porten, Casey Cawley, Chris Maddox and Poets for Peace.

Over 200 people participated in the parade alone. Businesses included ranged from realty groups, midwife- ries, members of Planned Parenthood, to MesoTops community garden and the Savannah Youth Tykes Arts Association.

After the parade circled back to the festival area, Starlandia Art Supply owner and event coordinator Clinton Edminster took the stage. He thanked everyone involved and explained the mission of the festival, parade and many art marches that came before.

Edminster and other members of non-profit Art Rise hold events “dedicated solely to the art and community.” This is “a dream come true,” Edminster said in his closing remarks.

Festival attendees were also able to check out Savannah’s mobile food fare options. The Wilmington Island-based Dark Shark Taco Truck sported different taco options, as well as hummus and shrimp pupusas. The King of Pops popsicle stand also offered sweet treats during the warm afternoon spent listening to live music and art-browsing.

This marks the first in what will be a frequent event. The next Art March parade will be held on July 8 following a route down Waters Ave.

Andy Sandford performs comedy set at Wormhole

LILA MILLER
A&E EDITOR

This past weekend, joke lovers from far and wide graced the Wormhole in the Starland District for a night of comedy featuring Andy Sandford from New York City.

This event was not an open mic night, nor was it the typical comedy night with a roster full of local acts. Local comedian Derick Marchel hosted the evening and made sure the night went smoothly.

Sandford has been on Comedy Central, the late night show with Conan O’Brien, acted as himself in Aqua Teen Hunger Force, appeared in Viclean, Adult Swim and has performed all over the southeast and in New York, among other comic gigs.

Saturday night also featured comics from New City York, Atlanta and Hilton Head Island. Marchel was the first to take the stage. His witty and sometimes self-deprecating repartee helped guide the audience, as Sandford’s monologues stuck with a similar snark and self-effacement.

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Most notable was her attire — specifically her bright orange crocs. In a later joke she admitted, “yeah I made a Facebook post saying if it got 25 likes I’d wear orange crocs for my show tomorrow, and I’m a loser.”

D.J. Delgado made the trip from Hilton Head Island and asked the crowd, “how many eight year olds do you think you could fight at once?” Audience participation was at an all time high. Later, he added, “fighting eight year olds is a marathon, not a sprint.”

Atlantic-native Clark Fassman recounted that “Stand-up [comedy] is the coolest thing I’ve ever done. In college, I was in a fraternity, but I was also a freshie major. You ever been the loser in both groups of friends?”

NYC resident Austin Chauan joked about being 25 and looking 35, being single in New York and what he could buy with his tax return. “I got my tax return back and thought I’d upstage on some name brand cereal. Anybody eat *** with Raisin Bran?”

After five comedians had come and gone, headliner Andy Sandford went on to close the evening. Sandford explained how people made it seem like being single is great. “Yeah man, I’m single and on the prowl… Or alone and stilted,” he said.

He closed the night with a bit about serial killers. “I’ve seen every documentary on serial killers and I’m also concerned about that. We hear about the Zodiac killer and how there’s a copycat killer.”

The night ended in applause and laughter as the crowd dispersed to the bar or patio.

“I was surprised that they [the Wormhole] were able to get such a big act. I haven’t laughed like that in a long time,” Nathan Dixon, a local firefalter said.

For more information on comedy events with larger acts, check out Comedy Plan- et's Facebook page.
Aggressively Civil, a new activist organization in Savannah, held its first event last Wednesday at the Sentient Bean. Partnered with the Psychotronic Film Society and co-sponsored by Connect Savannah and The Book Lady Bookstore, Aggressively Civil held a film screening of the 1954 British Broadcast Corporation (BBC) TV version of George Orwell’s novel, “1984.”

Performed live for TV, the original airing of “1984” on Dec. 11, 1954, brought an uproar from British viewers, eventually prompting them to complain to Parliament.

“People were shocked. They went berserk. A lot of people thought it was offensive,” Jim Reed, co-founder of Aggressively Civil, said.

The content at the time may have been difficult for many citizens to view. A totalitarian, dystopian future where everyone is watched by Big Brother and brainwashed by the government was—and still can be—a scary concept.

The BBC performed the live play again, despite many objections, five days later on Dec. 16. This time, it was recorded and archived using a kinescope, which is a movie camera set in front of the screen monitor. Until the 1960s, the process of using a kinescope was the only way to preserve TV programs.

Thus, the second live play of “1984” was one of the earliest archived British television films. As such a rare recording of “1984,” host Jim Reed is unsure if the 1954 version has even been shown in the U.S. in a public setting. All money raised at the event was split evenly between the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) as part of Aggressively Civil’s overall goal.

Along with raising money for causes that believe in protecting civil rights, Aggressively Civil wants to promote “Resistance against the regressive and Anti-American policies of the current administration and its supporters,” according to the its Facebook page.

“Hopefully everyday people will start putting as much time and energy and effort into being nice and friendly and polite and inclusive as assholes do at being assholes,” Reed said at the screening Wednesday evening.

“I’m hoping people can just go back to being nice. And if you see somebody being an asshole to somebody, and it’s just ridiculous, then I hope you will be aggressively civil in telling them that that is uncalled for.”

Although said a bit off the cuff, Reed hopes members of our community will embrace AggressivelyCivil, including the hashtag and continue to donate to their cause. 100 percent of the proceeds will go to the ACLU and SPLC.

For more information on future events, check out AggressivelyCivil’s Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. For more information on future film screenings, join the Psychotronic Film Society Facebook group.
If you are interested in helping out with Pride Month, email the Gay-Straight Alliance at gsa.aasu@gmail.com or message them through the ASU Pride Month Facebook.

The representative of Armstrong’s nursing program agreed that the legalization of marijuana would not affect the use of opioids. The panelists described several ways to fight the opioid crisis such as addressing the areas that are responsible: doctors, nurse practitioners and pharmaceutical companies. The responsibility of fighting it does not lie solely with law enforcement, either. The Nursing Representative brought up the issue that “health care workers need to be well trained.” “Other states need to get the mandate to write electronic prescriptions instead of handwritten because they cannot be forged as easily and can be monitored,” she added.

For questions about registration, attendance, presenting or volunteering, contact Serena Rodriguez at serena.rodriguez@armstrong.edu. For more information, visit Armstrong’s Department of Computer Science and Information Technology in Science Center 202, or call 912-344-2542.

GOT AN OPINION?
WE WANT TO HEAR IT!

CONTACT:
CHIEF.INKWELL@GMAIL.COM
ABOUT WRITING AN OPINION PIECE

ALL VIEWS WELCOME!