**Armstrong celebrates pride month**

KAYLA RAND STAFF WRITER

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

Beginning April 1 through the 26, the 2017 Pride Month will consist of guest speakers, forums and engaging activities. The events will occur on both the Savannah and Hinesville 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 throughout Savannah and even further, then we are helping something bigger than just our organization,” Hart explained.

Some of the upcoming events in Pride Month include GSA’s annual prom, “A Dream Girl” movie screening, “Religion in the LGBTQ+ Community” 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.

“In high school, not everyone was out of the closet and had to lie about who they really were.”

GSA invites you to bring your date, whether straight, gay, or bi, to GSA’s prom. It turns out that she went to D.C. this May. It turns out she got a pretty good network already.

**Internship Highlights**

Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary is Georgia’s amazing under-water park. As part of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, GRIFFNS protects a vital hard-bottom area off the Georgia coast. Their office lives the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah has two immediate summer internships available: Mathematica Internship An opportunity to develop compelling photos and video products used for public outreach. Policy Internship: An opportunity to engage in projects related to marine policy and the protection of ocean resources. Information about both internships can be found on collegecentral.com/armstrong, by contacting Chris Hart said. Hart has more than 100 students we are one of the highest places we are one of the highest in the nation.

**TechFest to showcase Armstrong students’ technology achievements**

KAYLA RAND STAFF WRITER

TechFest is an annual event that allows students to showcase technology projects from in or out of the classroom. The event is open to the public, allowing students to present to their peers, professors and organizations. The third and final part of TechFest will be held at 12 p.m. Friday, April 14, will open with a guest speaker session by an expert in technology from the community. They are given the opportunity to present and speak on a chosen topic related to the students' technology achievements.

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

A poster session will follow where registered students will present their projects to viewers and undisclosed judges who will rate and announce the best overall project at the close of the event. The third and final part of TechFest is the business section which shifts the focus to networking and creates a job fair atmosphere. Company representatives and local employers have information stations where they can engage with students.

Job opportunities are frequently offered, including full-time, part-time and internship positions. This section leaves attendees with an understanding of the array of potential career opportunities available in technology.
Women’s tennis team annihilate Bearcats and Mountain Lions

Teresa Durham

Lander's women's tennis team hosted both the Appalachian State University Bearcats and the North Carolina Mountain Lions. The women were able to come away with a double sweep. Saturday and Sunday, the team played a total of five matches.

After a strong week against the Mountain Lions and Appalachian State University, the Lander women's tennis team continued to dominate in the Mountain Lions on Sunday. The team has now won seven matches in a row and their win streak is at 6-1.

On Saturday, the Lander team went against Appalachian State University in a conference match. The team ended up with a win at 6-1. The team battled against Boixader Roca on Sunday in No. 2 singles. Boixader Roca in No. 2 singles had a tough time against Yuriko Ono at 6-3. Boixader Roca made a solid end to the season at 6-0, 6-0.

Saida and Laura Sanchez, both lost two games to Maria Aqui and Laura Sanchez on Saturday in doubles No. 3. These two girls made a strong team during the doubles and were able to get a win off the pair. This was the last lady Pirate to win at 10-7 as the last lady Pirate to finish the all-over sweep. At No. 3 singles, Tatiana Stolf had trouble with slow pace opponent, but won in two sets, 7-5, 6-1 against Young Harris University's Oriana Labaqui. Her opponent from the Bearcats, Julia Suzuki, was not able to land a hit. Tamri Chalaganzideh, one of the women, had a strong start winning the first set 6-4, but fell behind in the second, losing 6-1. Boixader Roca made a solid end in her 10-point tiebreak, where she fought hard to win 10-7 as the last lady Pirate to finish the all-over sweep.

One family member came from four hours away to celebrate. “It’s awesome, it’s a really good event,” Kim Repper 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 am grateful 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.

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Fostering an inclusive and participatory decision-making Student Government

NI PUNA AMBANPOLA

Firstly, I would like to thank the entire student community of Armstrong for believing in us and electing us. 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 something we are working towards to achieve our goals. It’s what we signed up for.

When the inauguration in April, we are going to be a lot of work, but we also think it is what we are working for. 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 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 help us become 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. There 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.
Andy Sandford performs comedy set at Wormhole

Andy Sandford performs his stand-up comedy at the Wormhole bar. Lila Miller.
Aggressively Civil, a new activist organization in Savannah, held its first event last Wednesday at the Sen- tient Bean. Partnered with the Psychotronic Film Society and co-sponsored by Con- nect Savannah and The Book Lady Bookstore, Aggressive- ly Civil held a film screening of the 1954 British Broad- cast Corporation (BBC) TV ver- sion 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 bonkers. A lot of people thought it was offen- sive,” Jim Reed, co-founder of Aggressively Civil, said.

The content at the time may have been difficult for many citizens to view. A to- talitarian, dystopian future where everyone is watched by Big Brother and brain- washed 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 re- corded and archived using a kinescope, which is a mov- ie camera set in front of the screen monitor. Up 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 televi- sion 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 be- tween the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) as part of Aggressively Civil’s overall goal. Along with raising mon- ey for causes that believe in protecting civil rights, Ag- gressively Civil wants to pro- mote “Resistance against the regressive and Anti-Amer- ican policies of the current administration and its sup- porters,” 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 inclus- ive as assholes do at being assholes,” Reed said at the screening Wednesday eve- ning. “I’m hoping people can just go back to being nice. And if you see somebody be- ing 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, includ- ing 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 Ag- gressively Civil’s Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. For more information on future film screenings, join the Psy- chotronic Film Society Face- book group.

LUCY STONE
NEWS EDITOR

1984 propaganda from the film. Still from the film.
PRIDE | PG 1

gay, etc. They describe their prom as "the high school do-over." As with any prom or event, volunteers are needed.

OPPIOID | PG 1

Agent Wynn pointed out that "opiods are much worse than marijuana. Marijuana cannot alleviate pain like an opioid can. Smoking it is not the way to alleviate pain."

TECHFEST | PG 1

"Last year I was approached by Chatham County Information and Communication Services for a potential internship," Brown said. "During the business session, I spoke with another local company that I am actually interning with now."

Regardless of whether students present or not, TechFest’s networking is one of its biggest attractions. Companies use TechFest as an opportunity to recruit new employees for their organization. According to the State of the Industry Report, GA ranked seventh in overall creation of technology jobs. In 2015, 12,076 positions were added, up 4.4 percent from the previous year.