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The Inkwell

Armstrong State University’s news source since 1935

WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 2016

THEINKWELLONLINE.COM

‘21st Century Policing’ panel met with Black Lives Matter protest

TAYLOR THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 27 the offices of the President, Provost of Vice President and Vice President of Student Affairs hosted a conversation on 21st-century policing. A panel of four that included Chatham County District Attorney Meg Heap, Savannah-Metropolitan Police Chief Joseph Lumpkin, Chatham County Sheriff John Wilcher and Armstrong Police Chief Wayne Wilcox were invited to interact with the audience in a Q&A setting of discussion.

The conversation, which is highly relevant due to recent police shootings in various parts of the United States, was organized to create a safe space for the Armstrong community to talk about policing. Students, faculty, staff and members of the Savannah



From left to right: Chatham County District Attorney Meg Heap, Chatham County Sheriff John Wilcher, Savannah-Metropolitan Police Chief Joseph Lumpkin and Armstrong Police Chief Wayne Wilcox -- Sept. 27, 2016 (photo by Taylor Thomas)

community gathered to discuss this controversial and, at times, uncomfortable topic.

The panel answered a variety of questions pertaining to trust, racial bias, account-

ability, transparency and community policing. Audience members were able to

text in questions for anonymity or ask the panel questions directly.

Meg Heap, the Chatham County district attorney, provided her perspective on the topic as the DA and an active member of the justice system.

“In our office, we do work with law enforcement every day. We receive cases from the sheriff and the chief. We also have to prosecute law enforcement officers and what we look at are the facts and the evidence — they are held to the same standard in terms of if a crime has been committed and they are also held to the same standard in terms of if there is a defense that they can put forward,” Heap said.

Joseph “Jack” Lumpkin, Savannah-Metropolitan police chief, bringing forth 47 years of experience in law enforcement, provided another

perspective to the conversation.

“We have some historical baggage, but we’re not living in the 1950s or 1980s. We are better now than we’ve ever been. I would suggest to you though that as humans we tend to be attracted by the negative and we look for the negatives,” he said.

“We run approximately 450 calls a day in Savannah; we have 850,000-875,000 officers in this country. An overwhelming number of the responses of officers is great,” Lumpkin added.

After the discussion, students gathered outside of the Ogeechee Theater to lie down on the floor with signs over their bodies with the names of those who have died during fatal interactions with the police.

POLICING | PG 6



Dr. Clifford Padgett, chemistry professor and co-advisor for the Space and Rocketry club, gazes at the stars using Armstrong’s telescope -- Sept. 29, 2016 (Photo by Taylor Surine)

Star Party allows students to gaze at the night

TAYLOR SURINE
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, Sept. 29, the Armstrong Space and Rocketry Club hosted its first Star Party. The Star Party was originally planned to be held on the roof of the Science Center, but had to be moved to the field beside the Science Center parking lot at the last minute. Even with this slight glitch in the evening, the

club’s founders and faculty advisors were proud to have a great turn out.

Engineering major and club president Karen Furgason was ecstatic about the amount of students that attended.

“For me, the turn out was really surprising. We really want to bring together students who are enthusiastic about space and space exploration, and it’s great to

see there are many at Armstrong.”

Dr. Clifford Padgett, chemistry professor and co-advisor for the club, showed students the university’s variety of telescopes and stargazing gear. He was excited to share his knowledge of astronomy with many students who share his passion. Though there was a bit too much light pollution to bring out the Physics Department’s

impressive 20-inch telescope, the 6-inch and 12-inch proved to be sufficient for the evening.

Many students saw the International Space Station, the rings of Saturn, and the Ring Nebula for the first time. The ISS made a full pass directly overhead the night of the Star Party, which is a rare occasion. The Armstrong Police Department even stopped STAR | PG 6

Mixed reviews for Galley to-go options

KYLE SWINT
STAFF WRITER

Sodexo has been a partner with Armstrong to supply its dining service’s needs. Each month, food crew meetings are held to address a variety of topics.

In these meetings, students, faculty and staff are given the opportunity to sit down with the Sodexo team and express their opinions about how the dining service is operating. Discussion can relate to prices, food selection, staff concerns and even suggestions to the team that could make their services better.

Midway through the fall semester of 2015, an idea was pitched that the Galley should offer a to-go option for students’ meals. At that time, general manager Sam Ramos had already considered it, but did not have all the logistics planned out.

However, at the next food crew meeting the local Sodexo team had developed a way to allow students the convenience of a to-go option that had been requested.

The following semester in spring 2016, the to-go option became available to the Armstrong Community. Since its release, the to-go option has not faced a single hiccup and has been running smoothly.

Resident Dining Manager Brandon Day supplied more information on how much food Armstrong’s meal swipe would provide through the to-go option and how dining services and Sodexo came to these numbers.

“During our 8 week, 16 person focus group study, we evaluated the normal dine-in intake to determine the value/weight to equal price. Since the program began, very few diners have gone over the 1.5 lb meal swipe weight. Now guests can put as much food as they like in the provided to-go container and anything above 1.5 pounds is prorated at \$4.99 a pound.”

Students have mixed feelings about the to-go option.

Senior biochemistry major Eric Branch commented, “I love the to-go option. It gives me more freedom and

GALLEY | PG 6

Student Government Assoc. updates	Name of Organization	Name of Event	Amount Requested	Amount Agreed Upon by RSO Board
	NAACP	Afro-Carribean Event	\$589.98	\$475
	Zeta Phi Beta	Regional Conference	\$400	\$400
	Sigma Iota Alpha	Latino Greek Cookout	\$278	\$215
	Sigma Iota Alpha	Mango con Chile	\$50	\$50
	Collegiate 100	Winter Ball	\$2,328.70	\$2,203.70
	Feminists United	Open Mic Night	\$186.00	\$110.00

Lady Pirates cap historic weekend with two wins

TIRAE STEVENS
STAFF WRITER

The Armstrong State volleyball team picked up two Peach Belt Conference wins this weekend, improving to 4-0 in the conference and 14-1 overall. They also extended their current win streak to 10 matches, which is the first time this has been done since the 2014 season.

On Friday, September 30, the Pirates traveled to the University of Montevallo to face the Falcons. Armstrong State took the match and claimed a 3-0 victory over the Falcons. Set scores were 25-19, 25-20, 25-21. Sophomore Raquel Kulak led the offense that night for the Pirates, racking up 11 kills out of 14 attempts with a .786 hitting percentage. Sophomore Raegan Grooms added 11 kills of her own, and sophomore Carley Eiken tallied 38 assists. Junior Iva Scepanovic provided 11 digs to fuel the Pirates' defense.



Senior mid-hitter Rachel Thompson spikes down a shot onto the Columbus State side of the net. The Pirates defeated the Cougars 3-1 – Saturday, Oct. 1 (Armstrong Communications)

The win against Montevallo allowed Armstrong head coach Will Condon to reach an important milestone: his 400th career win as a head coach. He is now 401-157 overall. Kim Brody, a senior outside hitter who is now playing her fifth season under Coach Condon, had this to say about his achievement: "We were all so happy for

Coach Will and his 400th win and it's been great being a part of that for these past four, going on five, seasons. Overall, what Will has achieved here at Armstrong is an amazing accomplishment."

Armstrong then traveled to Columbus State University on October 1 for a match against the Cougars. Columbus State struck early, starting

the first set with an 8-2 lead and carrying that momentum to a 25-22 win. Armstrong State battled back in the second set, leading up to a 23-all situation. The Pirates took advantage of errors on the part of the Cougars to take the second set 25-23.

Another deadlock came in the third set, where the Pirates found themselves in a

19-19 tie with the Cougars. However, Armstrong picked up six of the final seven points of the set to take the 2-1 lead with a score of 25-20. Strong offense from sophomore Raegan Grooms, who scored eight straight points for Armstrong State, allowed the Pirates to take the fourth set 25-14— as well as the match, with an overall score

of 3-1.

Sophomore Raquel Kulak once again led the Lady Pirates in scoring, picking up 13 kills and four blocks. Senior Rachel Thompson added a season-high 12 kills, and Grooms tallied 12 kills and 22 digs.

"This weekend I think we really learned to push through [road game adversity] and we came out with two great conference wins," Kulak said about the weekend's successes. "When certain points weren't in our favor, we learned to move on to the next point and I think that really shows what our mentality will be like for the rest of the season."

Armstrong went back on the road to St. Augustine, Florida, to play the Flagler Saints— who were last season's Peach Belt Conference tournament champions. They will return home Friday, Oct. 7, to host the Bobcats of Georgia College.

Pirates top Falcons after late-game own goal

TIRAE STEVENS
STAFF WRITER

With just seconds to go in the second half, an own goal allowed the Armstrong State soccer team to remain unbeaten in Peach Belt Conference play with a 1-0 victory over the University of Montevallo Falcons. With the win, the Pirates improved to 7-1-1 overall and 4-0-1 in the conference, and they also maintained their position as the number-one team in the conference. Montevallo fell to 2-5-1 overall and 1-3-1 in league play with the loss.

Sturdy defense on the part of the Pirates prevented the Falcons from accruing any shots during the first half. Despite the Lady Pirates having 17 shots of their own, they could not manage to score a goal before halftime. The closest attempt at a score for Armstrong came in the 38th

minute, when junior forward Ashley Green fired a shot from the left side that was saved by Montevallo goalkeeper Ellie Mouyal.

"I thought that we played really well in the first half," senior defender Allison Litchfield said about the Pirates' first-half effort. "We had created several opportunities to put the ball away in the net, which gave us momentum and confidence moving into the second half."

It was this momentum and confidence that allowed Armstrong State to continue outshooting Montevallo, with a 13-3 advantage in the second half of the match. Montevallo's best chance at scoring for the day came in the 54th minute of play, when a long-range shot from forward Madison Ellis rebounded off the crossbar.

With less than 30 seconds to go in a match



Junior defender McKenzie Anderson moves down the field against the USC Aiken Pacers. She scored in the 6-0 win over the Peach Belt rivals – Wednesday, Sept. 28 (Armstrong Communications)

that appeared destined for overtime, a foul from the Falcons awarded the Pirates with a free kick. Junior defender Michelle Allen took the kick and while it was intended for fellow junior defender McKenzie Anderson, it instead rico-

cheted off of Montevallo's Ellis and into the net for the own goal. The Pirates then went on to claim the 1-0 victory.

Armstrong State outshot Montevallo 30-3 on the day. Montevallo keeper Ellie Mouyal made sev-

en saves throughout the match. Armstrong keeper Erica Laurens picked up just one save, but tallied her fifth shutout of the season.

"Credit to Montevallo, who carried out a very good game plan against us

and made it very difficult to get good looks on goal," Armstrong head coach Eric Faulconer said after the match. "There is a lack of composure in the box against organized teams and that will continue to be a point of emphasis for us in training."

"Moving forward into the rest of the season, I still believe that our team is the best team in our conference," Litchfield added. "We just have to go out and prove ourselves every time we get the opportunity to step on the field."

Armstrong State hosted the Georgia College Bobcats this on Wednesday, Oct. 5 in their second annual "Kick for the Cure" breast cancer awareness game. They will next return to action on Saturday, October 8, when they go on the road to face the UNC Pembroke Braves.

OFF THE BENCH WITH: JOHN KEEN

Vin Scully: Link to America's greatest past-time



Vin Scully poses before the final broadcast of his 67-year career. He spent his entire career calling games for the Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodger – Sunday, Oct. 2 (officialvinscully.com)

From Sandy Koufax's perfect game to Kirk Gibson's walk-off homerun in game one of the 1988 World Series, Vin Scully's voice has narrated some of baseball's most iconic moments. Sunday, Oct. 2 marked the end of his 67 year-long broadcasting career.

Scully's fireside chat-like narrations and charismatic smile have endeared him to baseball fans for over six decades.

Dick Enberg, longtime friend of Scully and legendary broadcaster in his own right, gave his thoughts on what Scully means to the

sporting world.

"He is the best ever to call the game. He is the Poet Laureate, and he's going to leave a huge hole in our profession in baseball," Enberg said during an appearance on The Dan Patrick Show last week.

Scully's broadcasting career may have started in 1949 calling Brooklyn Dodger games, but his love of baseball extends back much further.

On Oct. 2 1936, exactly 80 years before his final broadcast, Scully, walking home from preparatory school, noticed a box score on the front page of the local paper from game two of the New York Giants and New York Yankees World Series.

Scully, being the inquisitive child that he was, decided to attend game three. From that moment, Scully was hooked.

However, the game itself did not hook young Scully, the roar of the crowd did. This roaring crowd forever shaped

Scully's broadcasting style as he will tune himself out in favor of cheering crowds, whenever the moment presented itself.

No call Scully has been a part of exemplifies this more than Hank Aaron's 715th home run in Atlanta to break Babe Ruth's near 40-year-old record.

What struck Scully about this call was a Southern, predominantly white crowd, cheering for a black man breaking a white man's record during a time of strong racial tension.

It has always been about the people for Scully. Yes, the games matter, but without the crowd baseball loses its magic.

When asked by Los Angeles area reporters about what he will miss most about baseball, Scully gave an expected answer.

"Will I miss the games? Yeah, but I can turn on the radio or the TV and catch the games. The people, that's what I will miss. They've

made me feel so much at home, and I think I've carried that right out onto the air."

One thing is certain, while Scully may be able to listen and enjoy baseball as he had done before his broadcasting career, baseball will not be broadcasted the same way after his career.

Scully's retirement does not just mark an ending career; it marks the ending of a baseball era.

This quote from Scully's 1995 Radio Hall of Fame induction best summarizes Scully's imprint on America's past-time.

"Vin Scully holds the distinction of the longest consecutive service of any current major league broadcaster for one team. When you think of Vin Scully, you think of the Dodgers."

When you think of Vin Scully you do not think of the Dodgers. You think of baseball.

Thank you, Vin.

Upcoming games

Cross Country

Next meet: 10/7 USC Aiken Pacer Invitational

Golf

Next match: 10/10 Guy Harvey Invitational

Women's Soccer

10/1 Armstrong 1, Montevallo 0

Next game: 10/9 at UNC Pembroke

Tennis

Next match: 10/13 USTA Small College National Championships

Volleyball

9/30 Armstrong 3, Montevallo 0

Next game: 10/7 vs Georgia College (7 p.m.)

Sheriff Wilcher Commandeers the Campus Conversation

RACHEL LITTLE

Last Tuesday, September 27th, 2016 Armstrong held an informative Campus Conversations on 21st century policing. A panel discussion- featuring Chatham County District Attorney Meg Heap, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Chief Joseph Lumpkin, Chatham County Sheriff John Wilcher, and Armstrong Police Chief Wayne Willcox- invited faculty and students of Armstrong to contribute to the dialogue. The discussion happened to be scheduled at the same time as my Black Women Writers class with Dr. Regina Bradley. We had already spent half the semester learning about police brutality and the growing responses like Black Lives Matter and Say Her Name, so we decided, as a class, to be a part of the conversation. I was just beginning to understand the pain and necessity behind each movement, but what I witnessed on Tuesday

in the Ogeechee Theatre was equally eye-opening, heart breaking, and infuriating. I had never heard such hurtful ignorance as the sludge that spewed from Sheriff Wilcher’s mouth that day.

When I began writing this piece I kept catching myself backspacing- brutally policing my own words, dancing around generalizations, carefully avoiding language that may offend- so much that I felt my point slipping away. So, I stopped because I realized that Sheriff John Wilcher had made no attempts to show the same courtesy to the students and faculty of Armstrong. In fact, he put such little thought into his responses that not only were they so deeply hurtful, but also they were ill-informed, often blatantly false, and oozed the same arrogance and racism as the mouth they were so proudly fumbling out of.

The other panel members were suspiciously rehearsed and political, but overall re-

ceptive of the questions and critiques put to them. Armstrong’s Chief Willcox and D.A. Meg Heap agreed that building trust between communities and the police is the first step to recovery, while Chief Lumpkin acknowledged the difficulty of building relationships when officers don’t see much time out from behind the wheel. Sheriff Wilcher, however, was a shining light of honesty. His carelessly biased responses revealed the truly troublesome mentality of many officers. My brain shot up the first red flag when the panel was asked to comment on how they approach issues of racism in law enforcement, Wilcher proudly claimed to have never seen any case of racism during his 40 years on the force.

The audience was visibly frustrated with this statement and followed up by texting in a more direct prompt. The text presented a statistic- that 1 in 3 black people, 1 in 8 Hispanics, and 1 in

17 white people will be imprisoned at some point- and asked the panel to reflect on the reason for this statistic and offer possible solutions. I honestly can’t remember the other panel members’ responses because I was too busy trying to wrap my head around Sheriff Wilcher’s racist ramblings. He suggested that in order to address this issue we need to go “back to the home” and look at how “these children” are being raised. He attributed these alarming numbers to absentee parents. He preached: “You have these kids calling their ‘aunties’ to bail them out because...Where are their parents? LOCKED UP!”.... Yes, that is an actual quote and yes, he actually said aunties. I will point out, however, that this statement has the potential to be true. If you were to continue the statement to include the fact that a staggering number of these arrests are over petty crimes, or that the conditions of many black and Hispan-

ic communities only leave a few options for survival, then you may be at the beginning of the truth.

Sheriff Wilcher’s grand finale was the most heart breaking of all. He concluded the conference by bringing a student to tears, shaming and victim blaming her when she spoke up about the lack of police assistance she received after multiple 911 calls over domestic violence. The student bravely stood up and gave her testimony. She respectfully acknowledged their service and showed gratitude before leaving the floor open for the panel to respond. Each panel member took the time to sincerely apologize and offer their personal service to rectify the situation. Then Sheriff Wilcher raised his hand and began, “I’m sorry to hear about your experience, BUT....” He proceeded to berate the student, accusing and blaming her for allowing the abuse to continue. His voice was getting louder until he was practically

shouting and pointing his finger directly at her. His words echoed through the theatre, “YOU come to bail them out! YOU call the cops and then go behind us and YOU bring them back into the house.”

Almost everyone in the room came to her defense, shouting over him, begging her not to listen to him.

I left the room shaking. My face was burning and my chest was tightening around my lungs. As I walked out of the theatre I was stopped by the sight of countless bodies strewn across the floor. Each one dressed in black and holding names of innocent black lives that had been lost at the hands of police. I looked at my peers on the floor in front of me and heard Sheriff Wilcher’s words all over again. I dropped my bags and collapsed next to a girl holding the name Sandra Bland. I closed my eyes and let the tears settle as Sheriff Wilcher exited through the back door.

A call for creative minds capable of criticism

JONATHAN HATALA

Good, brave people of Armstrong, Calliope is currently seeking staff members for the 2016-2017 edition. For those that are unaware, Calliope is Armstrong's student creative work journal. We publish student works including, but not limited to, poetry, short stories, creative non-fiction, photography, ceramics, & visual arts. Every year, we need staff members to help critique submissions and ultimately decide which pieces Calliope will publish. The position is unpaid, but functions as a great resume

builder as well as providing you with experience. Additionally, you may brag about it if that's your style. Staff members only have duties during the month of February. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Jonathan Hatala at jh6687@stu.armstrong.edu or Jennifer Lempesis at jl7474@stu.armstrong.edu. Recruitment for staff members will cease on October 15.

Your Vote Does Count

GENA COHEN

As election day draws closer it is important to remember to vote because your vote will help decide who will become the president of the United States.

After countless hours of convincing myself that my vote wouldn’t count and that I wasn’t going to vote, I have decided to vote. The deciding factor is, thanks to Google, that my vote will count; plus, I’d rather not have Trump build a wall or do anything else for this country. Even

though both candidates are not my first pick I believe it is important to vote so that the best candidate for President can win, which I don’t think is Hilary either. I would rather not get stuck with a “wall” being built to keep immigrants out, because a wall wouldn’t keep anyone out, people would find a way.

Don’t think that when I mentioned the word, “help” earlier (and will mention again) means that your vote doesn’t actually count because it does. How does your vote count? Well, if you do vote you are pressuring your

governor into choosing what elector will represent your state at the meeting of electors. These electors make up the electoral college who will go on to elect the President of the United States, and stop Trump’s shenanigans.

When I was in middle school I remember that I thought the electoral college was a group of old people who got together and made the decision for the President of the United States. Well, according to archives.gov the electoral college is actually made up of 538 electors and only 270 electoral votes

are required to elect the president! This means that the elector(s) in your state are representing the whole entire state. For example, one vote would equal 100,000 votes!

Don’t let my ranting and these facts get you discouraged. Even though the electoral college makes the decision for who will become president you still help in the deciding factor. According to archives.gov, when you go to vote you are technically voting for an elector who will represent your state in the meeting of electors that your governor chooses. After the

election, your governor will then fill out a “Certificate of Ascertainment” which has all the names of the presidential candidates. It also shows the winning candidate for your state, their electors and the elector that will represent your state at the meeting of electors in December.

This certificate will then be taken into account at the meeting of electors. Now, this isn’t an actual meeting where the electors get together in a large conference room. Rather it is a voting process where the electors meet in their own states to cast their vote for the

President and Vice President. According to archives.gov these votes are recorded onto a “Certificate of Vote and sent to the Congress”, which is a list of all of the electoral votes. The Congress will then meet on January 6th and tally all of the electoral votes. This will determine who will become the President of the United States. After the decision is made the President takes the oath and is sworn in.

Still don’t think your vote counts?

Equal pay for equal work: Our generation’s biggest no-brainer

TYLER TYACK
COLUMNIST

I am saddened, no, disgusted that in 2016 I am able to write about how women and men are not paid equally. In a time where most are walking on eggshells when it comes to political correctness, I am confused as to why we as a nation have not made income equality a standard part of society.

According to the American Association of University Women, Georgian women earn, on average, only 80-

84% of a man's salary for the same job. Regardless of statistics, the very idea that women shouldn't be making the same amount of money as men is just wrong. Women have the same ability and work ethic as men, and to continue to discount them is a major flaw in society.

Let's look at the arguments against equal pay for equal work. Some say that the wage gap is due to maternity leave and women's absences to take care of children. While yes, women are the ones who are pregnant, is the father of

the child not equally responsible for it's creation? Also, I might add, without producing new humans, our species would cease to exist. Therefore, pregnancy is a required process of any mammalian species, so why should women be penalised for it?

From a practical perspective, on average, women live statistically longer than men. However, they generally make less money for the same amount of work. How will a woman be able to comfortably outlive a man when earning less money? The cost

of living is typically higher for a woman anyway, yet when they have less money, they will be unable to maintain the same standard of living that a man does.

Here's a random scenario; a man makes, let's say one million dollars over the course of his life. If a woman in the same profession works the same amount of time, meaning she has no extended leaves of absence, she will typically make only eight hundred thousand dollars. Yet the millionaire dies sooner, and will probably have mon-

ey left after death. The woman, on the other hand, will live past the man's death, and with less money. Is it fair that the woman, who could still use the money, has cumulatively earned less?

Now I know that many feel it's not the government's place to regulate the economy in general, so they have no business messing with salaries. But think of this; a business, no matter how small or large, cannot discriminate on who they do business with when it comes to gender, race, or sexual orientation.

Why should they be able to discriminate how much they pay?

Now, if this is an issue on your life, I urge you to speak out with others in your situation; I'm sure that there will be a lot of support from Feminists United. Men and women are equal, and both should be paid the same when the work they do is equal to.

Shakespeare takes Globe Theatre in two hours

ROYCE KING
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, the Armstrong Masquers Theater Troupe performed, “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)” in the Jenkins black box theater. The play, directed by Evan Goetz, featured the actors Jojo Ward, Rayshawn Roberts and Joey Timmons. The production provided a concise, comedic and creative approach to summarizing the William Shakespeare anthology.

The challenge put forth by the title comes across as very daunting but the play itself is written in a way that is accessible to any patron. Audience members of any literary temperament will find something to love about this play: both students who finds themselves anxiously flipping through “No Fear Shakespeare” and the avid Shakespearean scholar. I’d go as far to say that even someone with no interest in Shakespeare whatsoever could find this to be a hysterical gateway into his literature.

The set was designed to look as if the pages of Shakespeare were “coming to life.” The stage backdrop

consisted of books placed together to form Shakespeare’s face. There were also written pages stuck to the walls of the theater along with three podiums seemingly formed by the pages of his works.

The play reveals itself early on to be a multifaceted endeavor. The number of different approaches that the cast implements is staggering. The cast performed Shakespeare in every way imaginable—From a rap synopsis of “Othello,” to a freudian psycho-analysis of Hamlet’s “Ophelia,” to a football play-by-play of historical rulers, to even a cannibalistic cooking show. All genres were covered.

A major part of the plays charm was the respectful homage paid to the classic text coupled with the seamless integration of modern or improvised punchlines. These lines were delicately placed so well as to match and even rhyme with the original lines. This breathed a bit of fresh air into some of the more well known moments in Shakespeare.

Actor Jojo Ward explained how they handled the improvised portions of the play and decisions regarding what was kept and

what was cut.

“The script left us a little free room to improvise. Of course you can always adlib little bits here and there. We always tried new and fresh ideas in rehears-

al. And if they didn’t work or they didn’t feel right, we would change it.”

Jojo also mentioned having to be told not to “ham” it up too much for some parts of the play.

When asked about her favorite part of the play, sophomore Olivia Wright responded, “I loved the whole thing. I laughed the entire time. My favorite part is a tie between the audience

participation in Act 2 or the re-enactment of Romeo and Juliet. The actors did a great job with the improv and everything else.”

Bill himself would be proud.



Armstrong performers playing in Shakespeare Abridged strike a pose. —Sept. 30 2016. (Press photo.)

SCAD Black Student Association unites large crowd with open mic night at The Foundery



Olivia Scott performs song “Female Energy” at Foundery open mic night. —Sept. 30 2016. (Photo by Lucy Stone.)

LUCY STONE
NEWS EDITOR

Magic happened on the corner of Habersham and Anderson Friday, Sept. 30. The SCAD Black Student Association (BSA) hosted “A Night of Poetry and Music” at The Foundery Coffee Pub, a regular spot for nonprofits and community groups to organize and share conversation, talent and coffee, too.

On this particular night, an open mic was available to anyone who had the courage to share their talents and feelings to a packed house. Almost 200 people gathered to hear performers. BSA regularly holds events that bring together not only SCAD students but also Armstrong and Savannah State students.

Several students took advantage of a last minute chance to share their spoken word art, songs or

stories. Sophomore SCAD student majoring in animation, Sai Poffenbarger, performed acapella a passionate song she wrote a year ago about a bad breakup.

“I signed up last minute,” she explained. “I went through a really horrible breakup and this was a way for me to get closure.”

“I love that [open mic night] is a bunch of people getting together and sharing,” Poffenbarger added.

SCAD student Olyvia Scott, majoring in performing arts, sang Willow Smith’s hypnotic “Female Energy” to the crowd. Her stage name is “Olive Oaks” and this was her second time performing at the open mic show.

“I love the idea of people coming together,” Scott said. “I love what BSA represents: unity. It’s empowering.”

Many performances included spoken word po-

etry that received snapping fingers in agreement. Topics such as race, police brutality, relationships and personal introspection were shared to an engaged crowd. Audience members were hooked, feeling the emotions and thoughts expressed by the artists. Every performer earned a loud round of applause.

The crowd encouraged and supported every person who stepped up to the mic.

One man confessed his love to his significant other, despite acknowledging “it’s only been 3 weeks of school.” The crowd roared with applause and cheers during this touching moment. After he finished his poem, he and his girlfriend embraced to even more hoots from the attendees.

Crow Jones performed his story last. “I tell stories and whatnot,” he said.

Currently working on a book, his story revolves

around a koala who travels around the world. Jones, decked out in his own koala shirt and overalls, read chapter two of his book to an entranced crowd. He ended stating, “... and that’s all y’all get for free,” and encouraged people to follow him on social media.

To wrap up, the SCAD BSA executive board was introduced. They organized the event and commented on the BSA’s ultimate goals.

“We are about a movement,” a board member explained.

“A movement doesn’t have a set leader. We are all leaders,” he added, referring to all the attendees in the room.

If you are interested in future events the SCAD Black Student Association is organizing, join their group on Facebook: SCAD Black Student Association.

Weekly playlist: Good Times For a Change



Scan the QR code to be directed to the Spotify playlist!

	SONG	ARTIST	ALBUM	
+	Please, Please, Please Let Me ...	The Smiths	Hatful Of Hollow	01:52
+	Auburn And Ivory	Beach House	Beach House	04:30
+	The Past Is A Grotesque Animal	of Montreal	Hissing Fauna, Are ...	11:53
+	casanova.	Denitia and Sene	his and hers.	03:57
+	Let It Happen	Tame Impala	Currents	07:47
+	Pretty Pimpin	Kurt Vile	b'lieve i'm goin dow...	04:58
+	Had To Hear	Real Estate	Had To Hear	04:50
+	This Is The Day	The The	London Town 1983-1...	04:57
+	So Good at Being in Trouble	Unknown Mortal Or...	II (Deluxe Edition)	03:50
+	Dance Yrself Clean	LCD Soundsystem	This Is Happening	08:56
+	Our Way to Fall	Yo La Tengo	And Then Nothing T...	04:18
+	No No No	Beirut	No No No	02:50

GSA and drag bring new flair to old game

GRACE POWERS
STAFF WRITER

The game is bingo. The objective is to cover five consecutive spaces, vertically, horizontally or diagonally. However, Armstrong’s Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) club has a different take on the game. On Wednesday night, Sept. 29, a record turnout gathered in the Student Union Ballroom to play Bingo, have fun and watch fellow peers Señor Soto, Jasper Beaument and Alana Coke perform drag routines.

A twist comes into play once a participant successfully completes a bingo. Not only did that student receive a prize pack, but the entire crowd was treated to a performance by three of Armstrong’s finest. This year’s performances were highlighted by faux king Señor Soto’s live vocals, drag king Jasper Beaument’s renditions of popular Panic! At The Disco songs, and drag queen Alana Coke’s sensational routines.

“We got the idea from SCAD, who we work very closely with,” explained GSA President Hunter Hart. “It’s a

great way to honor amateurs and locals, anyone who wants to perform.”

The event is also designed to help “warm up the campus to drag,” as Vice President Charles Breazeale explained. Another goal of the event is to spread the word, especially to the freshmen who may not realize the GSA club exists. The event has had great success in the past. One of the club’s previous performers, Sayyida, has now gone on to work with the Orlando Disney program.

Hart’s favorite aspect of any drag event happens when the kings and queens come off the stage and interact with the crowd. As soon as their heels leave the stage, all rules go out the window. Last year, there was a large dance off at the end of the event, and one lucky audience member was fortunate enough to receive a big smooch.

It is no coincidence that drag shows are as fun and good-natured as they are. The very art of drag promotes acceptance and love.

“Drag taught me that the only love you can trust is the



Alana Coke struts her stuff during the Bingo game -- Sept. 29, 2016 (photo by Grace Powers)

love you give yourself,” expressed Alana Coke. “Drag is whatever you say feels like drag.” And for Coke, real name Jacob Boney, drag has been his escape.

In high school, he struggled with his identity and even considered transgender surgery in an attempt to understand why, when he danced, he felt feminine.

“After taking a second and really looking into myself, I decided my want was not to be a woman and I definitely didn’t feel that I was trapped. My desire was to

look like [a woman] while dancing and drag changed that for me.” It also serves as a way for Jacob to channel his “fierceness and insecurities” so the world doesn’t seem “like such a backwards and scary place.” Coke encourages everyone to try drag at least once, or, at the very least, to find the thing that makes the world seem brighter.

Continually doing drag is a different struggle, one that is a constant battle for people like Jacob.

“As a queen we are ridiculed and marginalized by

sections of all communities,” Coke explained. Many supporters for the queens and kings of drag comes from the drag community itself, making it a very close-knit family.

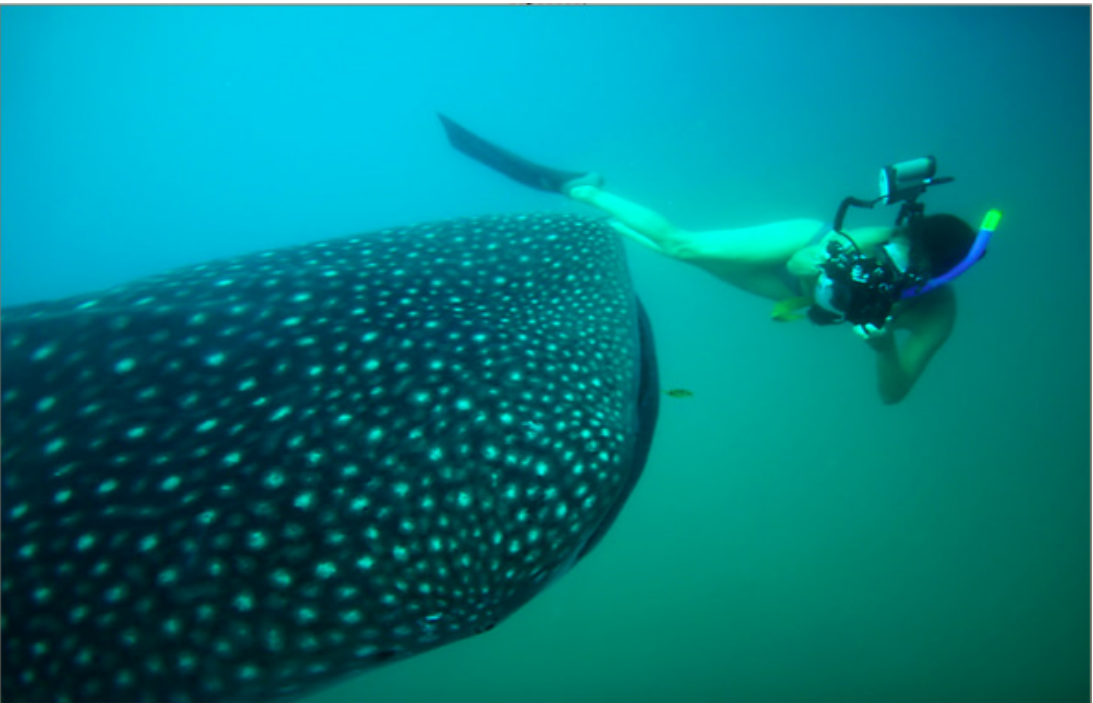
Despite the small footprint of drag in the Armstrong community, Coke hopes that, “with the continuance of the drag show on campus... one day drag [won’t be] seen as something... gays do but rather something everyone can enjoy and partake in.”

For up-and-coming closet or newbie kings and queens, Coke leaves the following

piece of advice: “Never let anyone tell you what drag is. Don’t feel that if you aren’t loud or crazy or do the biggest hair that you aren’t good.” Drag is more about self-expression and love than about the most outlandish performance, and it is important that people understand the impact and importance of drag for so many.

GSA is hosting its Coming Out Prom on Oct. 12 from 7-10 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy food, music and fun.

Fiona Averst Takes photography into dangerous waters



Underwater photographer, Fiona Averst gets up close and personal with a shark. —Oct. 4 2016. (Press photo.)

ESTHER JACOBS
OVERBEEKE
PUBLISHING CONSULTANT

How did you get into underwater photography?

I have always been passionate about water and being immersed in it. I feel safe and happy in water. It is my ‘go to’ place if I am ever stressed. As a child, I spent many holidays in the blue, warm Indian Ocean around Mombasa. My parents say I could swim before I could walk. I definitely preferred being in water from a very young age. I started photography as a hobby around 14 years ago, then in April 2007 I decided that I needed a career change. I was a litigation attorney with my own practice in Johannesburg at the time. I sold the files in my firm and decided instead to follow my passion for photography. Some may call this a ‘mid-life crisis’.

Much of your photography features marine life. What draws you to this type of photography?

I have a strong drive to pursue the process of (and the ‘art’ around) interacting with animals. This means both my own interactions with animals and also those of other people as they interact with animals. These would also include

both the positive and negative aspects of interacting. I have always been fascinated with animals, particularly those of the unknown and mysterious oceans. Oceans are magical and powerful ‘dreamlike’ places where thousands of opportunities exist to interact with and capture beauty with a camera. I try to show people what many of them may otherwise never see - the underwater world.

What makes South Africa a good base for photographers?

South Africa has such a huge and incredible coastline with a wealth of diverse creatures and activities.

I’m a big fan of both your marine and terrestrial animal photography. Is it harder to capture an animal on land, or in the water?

I may be ‘shot at dawn’ (and not with a camera) for this statement amongst my landlubber colleagues. I believe that everything is more challenging underwater than on land. I could go on for ages but let me name a few: cameras don’t like water, especially salty water; there are some serious currents in the oceans; wild sea animals can’t be fenced in or kept

away from you by bars; the waves and visibility can be extremely challenging sometimes. There are so many more but in fact, I am drawn to the challenge of underwater photography and I am sure many of my colleagues who prefer working in water will say the same thing.

You recently traveled to India to photograph snow leopards. This seems very different from your other photography... what drove the decision?

One of my biggest challenges is knowing where my working life ends and where my relaxation time begins. Sometimes I feel the need to say, on this trip I am not working and I am just going to relax and enjoy it. I have spent many years in the oceans and shooting wildlife beneath the waves so I simply needed a change. I have a soft spot for cats and an opportunity arose to visit the Himalayas. I could not resist the adventure and photo opportunity. Sometimes being a professional photographer draws you away from your creativity and on occasion it is important to do something just for yourself where there is no pressure to sell or succeed. I find that doing this keeps the

creative juices flowing.

It’s quite difficult to get into photography as a profession. Do you have any advice for budding photographers?

I was financially independent before I became a professional photographer. If you are studying something other than photography, then I recommend that you stay on that path for a few years whilst pursuing your photography as a serious hobby. Prepare a business plan together with someone who knows how, then work out what your requirements are and whether there is a niche for you. In particular women tend to be popular as wedding and fashion photographers and there’s money in both of those, so that’s a good start if you are interested in that field.

What challenges can photographers expect?

Photography is a difficult career for many reasons but two of the main ones for me have been:

1. The huge changes in the medium of photography over the past five years in particular.
2. Maintaining a high standard for which clients have to pay rather than giving away intellectual property and competing with millions of enthusiasts with good cameras.
3. Working out what time in the day is work and what is play. This may sound strange, but being a wildlife photographer means that work and play morph into each other effortlessly. It is important to extricate yourself from both successfully and understand very clearly where one ends and the other begins.

What has been one of your biggest challenges?

One of the most difficult things for me has been balancing my life as a mother and entrepreneur. I had a child at 45 and this was a time

when my career as an underwater photographer was gaining momentum. I had stopped practicing law about four years previously. Despite my son being the best creation I ever made, it is also fair to say that my career had to take a different path, for a while, as a result of his birth.

Is it not a bit intimidating to get so close to sharks while photographing them?

I have had some exciting moments involving swimming or diving with sharks. They tend to be curious creatures. I have not yet felt particularly threatened but when a shark swims through your legs and you only see it as it comes out in front of you, there is always a moment of intense panic, no matter how many times you have swum with them. Any day on the annual Sardine Run, when you get a bait ball of sardines is a day that builds up hundreds of amazing memories.

Is there a day that really sticks out as being one of the best?

Definitely. I was in Sodwana Bay in 2014 when I swam with two whale sharks, six dolphins and three humpback whales at the same time and in the same moment. It was one of those ‘Walter Mitty’ moments where I was so stunned that I didn’t want to miss the scene and I didn’t even take a picture. It was all over in about 10 seconds as nothing stays the same for long in the fluidity of the ocean. I will never forget that 10 seconds and those moments, for me, are life-changing. What I mean by that is that I apply the thought and feeling of that specific moment to many of the things I do and think. I think that gives me a positive outlook on life, in general.

You’ve spent a lot of time in and around the oceans. There’s great debate over how big a problem our

oceans are currently facing. Where do you stand?

I am perpetually concerned for the oceans of the world and all of their inhabitants. Most people have concerns around whales and dolphins but very few people know, e.g. that if just one sea cucumber is picked up from the sea floor, a myriad of smaller animals living on it die too. There are so many small and microscopic creatures that rely on the ocean retaining its balance. Very little in our world is balanced at the present. However, a few of the protected areas that we do have, have shown us that the sea can bounce back strong and hard. I read today that 21 marine protected areas have been proposed for South Africa. I think that is the best news I have read in years. There will be opposition of course, but the benefits of MPA’s are well known to scientists and those who care for and study the sea and our effect on it.

What are your biggest concerns for the oceans?

I have been diving for more than 20 years and I have seen a decline in the numbers of fish, and in particular, sharks. I have seen turtles becoming increasingly petrified of interactions with divers. I am hopeful that the world is awakening to the need to protect our oceans. I see this message being spread far and wide all the time and from what I can tell the message seems to be making inroads. It’s happening much too slowly though. I urge everyone who reads this to pick up as much plastic as you can whenever and where ever you see it, as likely no-one else is going to do it. If that is all you can do to help, then do it, as it’s one of the best things you can do for the ocean.

How important is conservation to you?

I am a director of a conservation education NGO
WATERS | PG 6



Protestors lie on the second floor of the Student Union outside the 21st Century Policing panel (Photo by Taylor Thomas)

POLICING | PG 1

Students who wanted to protest police brutality and some students who were not happy with the discussion participated in the protest.

Senior professional communications major Rachel Little became an impromptu participant in the protest that took place outside of Ogeechee Theater.

“I didn’t know about the protest until I walked out. I walked out because I was infuriated and I looked and saw what they were doing and joined,” she said.

“I think that a lot of the audience’s comments were really insightful, really well stated and well thought out, but a lot of the panel, particularly the Sheriff, gave disappointing answers,” she added.

Several students were upset with Sheriff Wilcher’s answers pertaining to the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement and other race-related

factors within policing.

A question was texted in by an audience member asking both Sheriff Wilcher and Chief Lumpkin how they show support for the 99% of good officers who call out the 1% of officers who may display signs of racism or other -isms, as well as how they deal with white supremacy infiltrating the police and sheriff’s offices and if BLM is understood among officers within their departments.

“Black Lives Matter is an issue that everybody needs to be concerned about,” replied Wilcher, “whether it’s Black Lives Matter or White Lives Matter. My thing is, I think everybody should have their day in court. If a white officer does something wrong or if a black officer does something wrong; that’s why we have the justice system. I don’t think that we as citizens need to take things into our own hands. When you start rioting and start tearing up peo-

ple’s businesses and things like that it takes away from your job or your profession, or whatever. Again, I think all lives matter,” Wilcher said.

Wilcher went on to add his opinion on racism and white supremacy within his police department.

“About racism, I’ve been in the sheriff’s office for 40 something years and I have never seen any racism or white supremacy or anything like that. In the jail setting I have gangs in the jail; I have over 16 different gang members in the jail itself. None to my knowing are any of my officers gang members,” he said.

Wilcher became the Chatham County sheriff on April 6, 2016 and has served in law enforcement for over 40 years.

“People have different ideas of racism, but if my officer does something wrong you can rest assured that number one, I’m going to investigate it; number two, if it’s serious enough he’s not going to be an officer or she’s not going to be an officer for very much longer because I am not going to tolerate it. Just as I said when I ran for this office, I work for you, the people. Y’all don’t work for me and I’m going to do what’s right,” Wilcher added.

Since Wilcher has taken office, he has prosecuted two officers for violating inmate’s rights and has charged two officers with assault and sexual assault on another officer.

Some members of the audience thought that Wilcher painted a hyper-generalized picture of BLM.

Assistant professor of English Regina Bradley addressed the issue by challenging Sheriff Wilcher’s statement about BLM.

“I’m curious to hear your

thoughts about why your understanding of Black Lives Matter is a threat? If you actually look up the background of Black Lives Matter it was started by three queer, black women after the death of Trayvon Martin, and they were talking about not only the physical and emotional violence associated with police brutality, and other forms of state sanctioned violence, but also how do we rectify that, and it has been a peaceful protest,” she said.

“The problem has come in mass media because [BLM] has been enveloped all into one. If there is a riot they are automatically associated with Black Lives Matter and not necessarily the actual organization itself. In the second part of that, there is no universal, core Black Lives Matter. Anybody can say that ‘black lives matter’ and then they are associated with the movement,” Bradley added.

Another audience member addressed the panel on the issue of screening potential police officers for racial bias and racism.

“There are questions we ask on the polygraph about bias,” answered Chief Lumpkin. “Now is that national? No. We [the Savannah-Chatham-Metropolitan Police Department] are nationally accredited, so we keep standards that a lot of police departments don’t. There are about 18,000 police departments in this country and only about 700 are nationally accredited,” Lumpkin said.

Wayne Wilcox, Armstrong’s police chief, offered his thoughts on how Armstrong’s campus police handle bias.

“One of the things that Armstrong does is we put our officers through implicit bias training. You have to remem-

ber, the implicit bias that we all have takes a lifetime to learn and to think that we can put on a course that will completely erase that is not realistic... we are looking to make sure our agencies are diversified and that we’re bringing in individuals who represent all walks of life and all different viewpoints,” Wilcox said.

“We hope that these implicit biases that seep into our lives are being dissipated because we are actually finding out the truth. Even though there are differences between individuals there are more commonalities than we thought,” he added.

An Armstrong student closed the Campus Conversation by suggesting to the panel that race needs to be accounted for within law enforcement, and shared her hopes for a more unified future between police and minority communities.

“How do all of you plan to address the fact that black people have been at higher risk of unnecessary violence by police, and how do you plan to make these relationships less fraught from fear?” she asked.

“I do believe it is a two-way street and the community and law enforcement need to have better mutual relationships, and both need to be responsible. But one side has the protection of the state, and the other side has been disenfranchised by the state upon arrival by sea, which means the playing field is systematically now in one side’s favor,” the student explained.

“My parents are older black people who grew up during the tail end of the Civil Rights Movement, and to this day they are law-abiding citizens who are afraid to call cops even when they are in danger... this is not to say

that the police need to be perfect because perfection is unattainable. But imperfection cannot explain nor excuse the lack of accountability and insensitivity. Your service is appreciated and I hope we can heal the generational trauma caused by those who are supposed to protect us,” she added.

A 2015 study by the Washington Post stated that as of Jul. 10, 2016 “1,502 people have been shot and killed by on-duty officers since Jan. 1, 2015. Of them, 732 were white, and 381 were black (and 382 were of another unknown race).”

The study established that it would be “statistically dubious” to cite such statistics unless one first accounts for population density.

“According to the most recent census,” the article stated, “there are nearly 160 million more white people in America than there are black people. White people make up roughly 62 percent of the U.S. population but only about 49 percent of those who are killed by police officers.”

On the contrary, “African Americans, however, account for 24 percent of those fatally shot and killed by the police despite being just 13 percent of the U.S. population.” This means that African Americans are “2.5 times as likely as white Americans to be shot and killed by police officers,” the article explained.

The thoughts, questions and concerns discussed during this campus conversation suggested that the topic of 21st-century policing is a conversation that is not quite finished.

The next Campus Conversation will be held Monday, Oct. 10, from 6-8 pm to review and discuss the presidential debate.

STAR | PG 1

by later in the evening to do a little stargazing, as well.

John Mills brought his own telescope to view the night sky. Mills, a medical laboratory science major at Armstrong, showed some

fellow students how to use a manual telescope. He commented on what he and other students saw that night.

“We saw a lot of planets, but I’m not really excited about looking at planets. So, in addition to that, we saw

two messier objects, which, in my opinion, are a little more exciting. We saw the Ring Nebula and the Andromeda Galaxy, which are really two of the best objects to see this time of year.”

The beginning of the Star

Party was successful, but later into the evening some bad weather started moving in, causing the party to end sooner than planned. Several students were disappointed about this, especially after previous hopes of getting on

the roof of the Science Center were crushed. Fortunately, everyone that attended were able to get a good look at all of the wonders in the sky that were out that night.

The Armstrong Space and Rocketry Club is planning on

becoming an R.S.O. with the university and having many more events similar to this one. Meetings are held every other Thursday, the next one on Oct. 13. The location is to be announced. Questions can be directed to armstrong-SARC@gmail.com.

GALLEY | PG 1

flexibility.”

“I like the to-go option, but the cup they provide is way too small,” said junior psychology major Nailah Fulton.

Other students felt more strongly about the to-go option. Junior psychology major Kityara James said, “It’s a good concept, but at the same time it shouldn’t be a meal swipe, it should be seen as the same value as the

amount they take off when using a meal swipe at WoW or Quiznos.

For more information on what the team is currently trying to accomplish, ask the Galley staff about the next food crew meeting.

WATER | PG 1

called Sharklife (www.shark-life.co.za). I give talks around the Garden Route on the plight of sharks in our oceans. I am also a representative for SAS-SI (the South African Sustainable Seafood Initiative), which is part of the WWF. I also give talks on the state of our oceans and overfishing, trying to urge people to become more conscious of their seafood choices. Annually I arrange the local “paddle out

for Sharks” – the Mossel bay chapter of this event. The idea behind the ‘paddle outs’ are to raise awareness and build advocacy for sharks.

Do you think divers are responsible for damage caused to reefs?

I think the reef takes a beating in any event from natural events such as huge waves and storms. I am not sure that over-diving is a major cause for concern when it comes to damage to the reefs.

Many divers I know try to be very careful not to crash into or disturb the corals.

Any last advice for photographer wannabes?

I believe that true photographers cannot be ‘made’ by training and most, if not all, are born with the ‘eye’ for a photograph. Photographers often see life as a series of pictures. This innate ability includes the sense to know when a shot has the ‘wow’ factor that everyone is chas-

ing. There is definitely a very positive side to being able to travel and interact with all sorts of incredible animals in exciting and strange countries. It’s certainly an adventurous life. If you can make money out of it and make it work for you then it is just as ‘romantic’ and incredible as it looks. A person doing this job has to be incredibly flexible and prepared to travel in less than luxurious and sometimes downright dangerous situations.

GOT AN OPINION? WE WANT TO HEAR IT!

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