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The Inkwell

Armstrong State University

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In late September, Hurricane Matthew was confirmed to be headed towards Savannah—Facility Services began taking precautions to prepare Armstrong’s campus for the storm.

Director of Facility Services Katie Twining explained, “We began the process of clearing all roofs of debris, digging all storm drains to prevent flooding and cutting up any potentially hazardous tree branches. All work started on that first week of October, spent our time checking all building systems and generators, and preparing our equipment.”

Armstrong’s hurricane preparedness efforts began on September 8, when the National Hurricane Center projected that Matthew would hit Savannah.

The Facility Services team, led by Dr. Sara Gremillion, provided an inside look at the process of preparing Armstrong’s campus for hurricane season.

**The honors group became fast friends with Armstrong’s hurricane preparedness efforts, which included the following:**

1. **Clearing roofs of debris**: Facility Services cleared all roofs of debris to prevent flooding.
2. **Assigning hurricane staff**: Armstrong’s hurricane preparedness efforts required the assignment of additional staff to handle the storm.
3. **Cutting up hazardous tree branches**: The team cut up any potentially hazardous tree branches to prevent damage.
4. **Clearing storm drains**: Storm drains were cleared to prevent flooding.
5. **Checking building systems**: All building systems were checked to ensure they were in good working order.

The process of preparing Armstrong’s campus for Hurricane Matthew was a collaborative effort involving the entire campus community.

**Conclusion**

Armstrong State University’s hurricane preparedness efforts were a testament to the university’s commitment to the safety and well-being of its students, faculty, and staff. The university’s ability to quickly respond to Hurricane Matthew and minimize the impact of the storm on campus operations demonstrated the effectiveness of its preparedness efforts.

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**Editors' Note**

This article was written by Kyle Swint, Staff Writer, and was published in The Inkwell on October 27, 2016. The article highlights Armstrong’s hurricane preparedness efforts and the collaborative effort involved in ensuring the safety of the campus community.

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**Image Credits**

- Image 1: A fallen tree blocks the bike path as a result of Hurricane Matthew. Photo by Armstrong Communications.
- Image 2: WSAV Meteorologist and Armstrong professor Lee Haywood.
- Image 3: Pictured: Armstrong Honors Program students on fall trip to the Kennedy Space Center in Titusville, FL.
Pawsiably the best time of the year: Wag-O-Ween

Associated Press

Wag-O-Ween, the tradition of dressing up dogs in costumes and going trick-or-treating, was held this past weekend, October 22. Wag-O-Ween began as a group of friends who took their dogs trick-or-treating at each other's houses. They realized how cool it would be if all the pet owners in Savannah were also able to trick-or-treat with their pets. 11 years later, there are hundreds of people participating and businesses growing each year. There were hundreds of different costumes. Some favorite costumes included dressing as Star Wars characters and light sabers, and an owner in very impressive Chewbacca costume.

In Wag-O-Ween’s first year, 40 businesses gave out treats. Now, in 2016, there are over 100 businesses participating. Jenna, the owner of the Savannah Carmoon Room and her sister-assistant, Anna, had a table filled with dog treats, a bubble machine, 5 dollars-off coupon and business cards. This is her third year attending Wag-O-Ween.

She says that Wag-O-Ween has always helped out her business, but, “While yeah, it promotes my business, it’s honestly just a lot of fun! I mean, we get to see dogs in costumes all day.” Tickets were five dollars and all businesses partaking in the event had a donation box or jar that went to the local animal rescue groups. The groups receiving donations this year were The Dachshund Rescue of North America and Coastal Carolina Dachshund Rescue. They have successfully provided at least 8,000 dogs a forever home since 1998. They survive on donations and money from volunteer.

The Coastal Pet Rescue is non-profit organization that rescues and cares for homeless and abused animals. They provide veterinary care and pay all animals in preparation of foster care and eventual adoption.

Becika Crawford, a member of Alpha Sigma Tau and executive director, Regan Drake. “We want to become a destination Pride. We’re really looking at building this festival for LGBT folks from across the country.”

Although Savannah has a growing reputation as a gay-friendly vacation spot and is partnering for the first time with the city’s tourism networks, there still isn’t a dedicated safe space meeting for the local LGBT community and their organizations. The week of Savannah Pride isn’t just a party, it’s a party with a purpose. It provided events where funds were raised for the future Savannah LGBT Center so local LGBT supporters will be able to meet and grow their causes and establishments.

Visitors said the city was proud to host the festival in Forsyth Park last year. “Visit Savannah has really stepped up, helping us market to folks in Charleston, Orlando, Atlanta, Jacksonville, and beyond,” says festival director, Regan Drake. “We want to become a destination Pride: We’re really looking at building this festival for LGBT folks from across the country.”

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The Challenge of Being a Student Leader

Dustin Stewart
SGA President

John F. Kennedy once said, “Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.” Fewer situations have been found to be truer than in the context of being a student leader. Let’s be honest with ourselves for a second, it’s tough and some days it just sucks. Since my senior year of high school, when I held my first official leadership position in an honor society, I have found that the same challenges come up with any group you work with, and at various levels of coordination and leading.

For those of you in those student leadership positions, we think we can relate on a few points where we struggle in our organizations: communication lapses, ambiguities in expectations, disconnect with our fellow leaders and those whom we lead, among numerous other aspects that make us want to bang our head on the wall and scream to the high heavens with the hope of finding some relief in it. Often, challenges and obstacles are our end goals or, at the very least, a subject of our conversations.

I’ve had the privilege of serving in multiple leadership roles here at Armstrong, including: SAE Treasurer, SAE Philanthropy Chairmen, Student Government Senate, CUB Member, SGA Attorney General, 2 or 3 others, and now, the role I cherish and respect the most, the position of Student Government President. We campaigned under the name DARE, in which we challenged ourselves and you to work with us to tackle bold steps and initiate bold projects that would have a far-reaching and lasting impact on campus. I am pleased to say so far, so good, but it has not been without its challenges. If ever there were a learning curve, it is in these positions.

Now, I’m not writing to bash anyone for poor or ineffective leadership, because that is not the case. We are fortunate to work with campus administrators who are respectful of and open to hearing the issues and ideas we take to them from SGA and the student body, and who work with us to address and resolve these issues and ideas. The challenge comes, however, when we are met with the pieces of projects or sides of an argument that don’t fit our message. And I’d like to be completely honest and say there have been times when I’ve outright disagreed with other leaders on campus, for one reason or another.

The silver lining is this: You have a chance to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader, and in essence, you have succeeded as a leader (John Quincy Adams, 6th President of the United States). You’re rewarding, especially when there seem to be no tangible results to point to. So I say this to you, my fellow student leaders – take heart in knowing that even when things don’t go your way or when seemingly insurmountable challenges arise, your efforts don’t go unnoticed and your time and energy is not wasteful. We have a responsibility to those we represent to continue fighting the good fight, but in a manner consistent with what is needed to ensure the total efficacy of our ventures. I hope that you are continuing to grow and learn, as I am on an almost daily basis.

Dr. Robert Gimple and Greg Nicotero, producers of the hit AMC television series, “The Walking Dead,” have decided to end the show this month. Ford, a major character in the comic book series, could have been killed off, but the writers decided to keep him alive. The show’s producers have often said that Abraham Ford was the one character that Negan, the show’s newest badass antagonist, could have killed to keep the main group from rising up and rebelling against Negan. However, before Ford’s death, he was spread out all over the ground, he gave one final shot to Negan, and he felt absolutely no shame for doing so. He have you to believe that they will feel the same amount and probably even less for the direction they take. Ford is one of the most iconic characters in the comic book series, and he was also the one character that could have stood up for himself and rebelled against Negan and the Saviors.

It shows that even when staring death in the face, he isn’t going to back down from his values. His character was always a bit of comic relief while also seeming to keep the group together in their time of need. Whether he is dropping lines like “Mother F**ker!” or “When you were pouring the Bisquick, did you mean to make the pancakes?” or he is just leading up the next plan for the betterment of the group, Abraham was the character that served as the physical glue in his two short seasons.

Rest in peace, Sgt. Abraham Ford.
Pirate basketball set exhibition games next week

STAFF WRITER

October 27, 2016

JOHN KEEN - NLCS on Saturday to advance to the World Series for the first time since From cursed to first aged 13 points and 4.6 re

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Where Boston dealt with
Pirate volleyball splits weekend on the road

The Armstrong State University volleyball squad split a pair of Peach Belt Conference matches over the weekend of Oct. 21-22. Their record is now 16-3 overall and 6-2 in the conference.

The Pirates first won on the road to play the Lander University Bearcats on Friday, October 21. Hitting was very strong for the Pirates during the first set, where they hit a stellar .419. Junior Brylie Barnette also capitalized on a seven-point service run, during which she scored three service aces, to take the first set 25-13.

Armstrong State started the second set with a 5-3 deficit, but sophomore Kristi Keel's 10-point service run propelled the Pirates ahead. Vaughn had three aces of her own, and sophomore Raquel Kulak registered a kill from the back row, to give Armstrong State a 2-1 lead. In the third set, the Pirates held on to win 25-23, 25-22, 25-23.

Armstrong State returned to the road to play the USC Aiken Cougars on Sunday, October 23. Armstrong State traveled to USC Pembrook on October 24 to play the Braves, then returned home on Thursday, October 27 to host Columbus State University. They will next return to action for the final home match of the regular season on Saturday, Oct. 30, for Senior Day against the North Georgia Nighthawks.

Pirate Soccer finishes match-filled week 3-0

STAFF WRITER
TIRAE STEVENS

Three Pirate seniors combined on a pair of seven-point service runs during their match against Flagler College to extend their four-match winning streak to 13 matches. On Monday, Oct. 17, the Pirates welcomed the Georgia College Bobcats to Pirate Soccer Field in a match that was rescheduled from Wednesday, October 5 due to Hurricane Matthew. The Pirates were the first to score, when senior Sarah Olin fired a shot during the 32nd minute that caught the crossbar but passed the goal line enough to register a goal.

Georgia College took advantage of Armstrong State's second hour and shot the game away in the second half and shot at Armstrong State, rebounded off a Pirate defender and into the back of the net to take the score at 1-0. It would be sophomore Madison Ross who would break the tie in the 77th minute, sending a shot that caromed in Armstrong State's post and past Bobcat keeper Madison Gans. The Pirates would hold on to claim the 2-1 victory.

The Bobcats were a tough team to test us, but I'm proud of the team because we really picked it up in a close game," junior Randi Schwoefel said after the game. "It shows how much we have grown from last year."

Armstrong State returned to action two days later, hosting the Saints of Flagler College. The Saints were the first to get on the scoreboard in the 69th minute, thanks to a free kick that allowed Flagger's Fabi Funiazzi to propel a shot past Armstrong keeper Erica Lauren. However, the Pirates answered back in the 69th minute, when junior Ashley Green sent a hard-angle shot that appeared to be caught by Flagger keeper Rachel Keal, but it had gone through her hands. Even though she caught it while in midair, the referee ruled it as crossed the goal line and a game-tying goal was awarded to the Pirates.

The Allen twins solidified the win for the Pirates during the first minute, as a free kick from junior Michelle Allen hit the foot of sister Jen Allen, then which walked it into the goal to put the Pirates over the Saints 2-1. "I thought during the second half of the game, we played really well and showed a lot of heart," sophomore Taylor Snow said regarding the win over the Saints.

The last home match of the season for the Pirates came on Saturday, October 22 with a non-conference match against the University of West Georgia Wolves. It was Military Appreciation Night for the Pirates, and the evening was highlighted by a fly-over from the United States Coast Guard and a U.S. Army enlistment ceremony during halftime. Current and former members of the US Armed Forces, along with their families, were also recognized throughout the night.

Donning special camouflage-flaged uniforms, the Pirates scored very early on during the match— with both of their goals of the night coming before 13 minutes had elapsed. The first came during the fourth minute, when sophomore Aasia Thornton headed in a corner kick from senior Sarah Olin. Olin herself would then strike during the 13th minute, taking advantage from a cross from Jenny Allen and sending her shot just inside the post. The Pirates would go on to defeat the Wolves 2-0.

"We picked up an important out-of-conference win tonight," Armstrong head coach Eric Faulconer said after the match. "The quick start allowed us to rest some players after a lot of matches in a short period of time."

Armstrong State traveled to UNC Pembroke on October 24 to play the Braves, then returned home on Saturday, October 27 to host Columbus State University. They will next return to action for the final home match of the regular season on Saturday, Oct. 30, for Senior Day against the North Georgia Nighthawks.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Pirates defeated the Cougars of Columbus State University on Friday, Oct. 28, in the annual "Dig Pink" breast cancer awareness match.

Opinions expressed by columnists, letter writers or cartoonists do not necessarily reflect the views of The Inkwell editorial board.

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THE INKWELL
October 27, 2016

STAFF WRITER
TIRAE STEVENS

With three home matches in a span of six days on their plates, the Armstrong State University soccer team finished the week with a perfect 3-0 mark. These three victories allowed the Pirates to improve their record to 12-1-1 overall and 8-0-1 in conference play. They have also extended their undefeated streak to 13 matches.

During the fourth minute, when senior Sarah Olin fired a shot during the 32nd minute that caught the crossbar but passed the goal line enough to register a goal.

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Due to Hurricane Matthew and Tropical Storm Hermine, seven days have been lost in Armstrong's academic calendar. To make up for the days lost, changes in the fall semester were made to ensure that Armstrong meets the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

The Faculty Senate President and President-Elect, the Faculty Senate President, and Roger Warlick Drive remains in a state of disarray. On the athletics front, our new tennis complex sustained significant damage from the storm— including damage to the northwest courts, fencing, bleachers, and light poles—and the soft ball outfield fence needs to be replaced.

That same day, most of Facility Services had returned and began assessing each building and room on campus for damage. There were only a few that didn't make landfall. David, who was the 79 hurricane, did.

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