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Country & Bluegrass Duo Waycross to perform at Georgia Southern University Family Weekend

SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

Country and bluegrass group Waycross will perform during Georgia Southern University's Family Weekend Sat., Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. at the Recreation Activity Center Band Shell.

Waycross is the distinct vocal and instrumental blend of Ben Stennis (Georgia Southern Class of 1999) and Ted Moxley. Stennis was raised in Augusta, Ga. and fell in love with country music at an early age. It was during his freshman year at Georgia Southern University where he realized that being a singer and songwriter was what he wanted to do. Within four months of picking up the guitar, he began writing songs and started a guitar/banjo harmony group with friends. They toured the college circuit for four years playing their brand of country, bluegrass and southern rock. Stennis moved to Nashville, Tenn., after earning his degree in Business Administration in 1999.

Moxley grew up in Oklahoma City, Okla., where his musical influence was drawn from artists such as Don Williams and The Highway Men. He began singing in talent shows at age 15 and at age 18 began writing his own music and lyrics. After high school he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and while off duty, he performed in local venues to packed houses. When his military service ended, Moxley relocated to Las Vegas and later to Nashville, Tenn. where he and Stennis met at a writer's showcase. After hearing each other perform, they combined writing styles and discovered the unique blend their voices made when brought together.

The Family Weekend concert is free and open to the public. The performance is sponsored by the Vice President's Office for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and Eagle Entertainment. For more information, visit:

<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/FallFamilyWeekendSchedule.html>.

Georgia Southern University to Host Hunger and Homelessness Week Oct. 8-13

SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

Georgia Southern University students will have the opportunity to see how lessons taught in the classroom are playing out in the "real world" during Hunger and Homelessness Week, Mon., Oct. 8, through Sat., Oct. 13, 2007. The week's events are sponsored by the University's Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement.

'This week is filled with interactive and educational activities meant to raise awareness of the issues of hunger and homelessness and to encourage students to take action,' said Diana Hensley, coordinator of Civic Engagement at Georgia Southern University. 'Our goal is to encourage students to become aware of world issues and find a way to make a difference. I want to see students stepping up and doing what they can to impact area and state communities.'

Events Schedule:

Oct. 8, 2007

Poverty Simulation

4 p.m. in the Russell Union Ballroom

Students will have the opportunity to walk through the simulations to briefly experience the challenges and associated difficulties of living in poverty.

Oct. 9, 2007

Hunger Banquet

6 p.m. Russell Union Ballroom

Admission Fee: Four Canned Goods.

The interactive banquet will provide students the opportunity to learn about global hunger issues and how they can help.

Oct. 9 -10, 2007

25-Hour Famine

7 p.m.

All participants at the Hunger Banquet will be asked to raise at least \$25. Funds will be donated to World Vision to help address global hunger. The famine encourages students to experience hunger. Register in Russell Union Room 2022.

Oct. 10, 2007

"Home is Where the Heart Is" Lunch Lecture

Noon, Russell Union Room 2047

Voncille Hobbs, a Habitat for Humanity homeowner, will speak to students.

25-Hour Famine Wrap-Up

6:30 p.m.

Students who participated in the 25-hour Famine will share their experiences.

Free pizza will be available at 8 p.m.

Oct. 11, 2007

12:30 p.m., Russell Union Room 2080

Alison Scott, assistant professor in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health will speak on 'Housing

& Health...Could They Be Related?"

Free lunch will be provided.

Movie: 'Pursuit of Happiness"

8 p.m., Russell Union Theatre.

Admission is free of charge.

Oct. 12, 2007

Habitat For Humanity Build-a-Thon

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The program is a community event to help raise money to build future Habitat homes. Volunteers will serve lunch, help groups sign in, hand out water and more.

Registration is required.

Oct. 13, 2007

Students will volunteer at the local soup kitchen by preparing lunches and handing them out at the church or at the Statesboro Summit Apartments.

Advance sign up is necessary.

For more information on these or other activities, please contact Civic Engagement at 912-871-1435 or visit: <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/leadership>.

Cawthorn represents University at institute for science and civic engagement

SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

An assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Georgia Southern University participated in a residential summer institute sponsored by the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement.

Michelle Cawthorn and representatives from 92 other institutions spent four days at the University of Southern Maine in Portland as part of a national initiative called Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER).

Supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, SENCER is a national dissemination project designed to promote reform through faculty development, a focus on local systematic change, and improved assessment strategies.

The project has three pressing goals:

- To improve science education, especially for students who may never major in a scientific field

- To connect science education reform to more robust and relevant general education programs
- To stimulate informed civic engagement with scientific questions on the part of today's students

Summer institute participants envisioned and developed courses that teach rigorous science content through problems that require scientific knowledge and expertise.

Cawthorn is involved in a yearlong planning process to improve science education at Georgia Southern. She is working on a course that focuses on biodiversity as a means of teaching environmental biology.

Throughout the year, Cawthorn and her colleagues at the University will continue to network with faculty at other institutions and engage in innovative pedagogies, assessment and undergraduate research.

SENCER officials David Burns and Karen Oates praised Georgia Southern for contributing to a national reform effort that connects the improvement of undergraduate science education to some of the most vexing civic challenges that the U.S. and future college graduates will face.

'So many of our most significant civic challenges require knowledge of science and mathematics,' Burns said. 'We are pleased to be partnered with Georgia Southern in focusing the intelligence and capacity of students, faculty and academic leaders on some of the hardest problems of our time.'

Since its inception, SENCER has worked with nearly 1,100 faculty members from more than 300 colleges and universities in 43 states and 10 foreign countries.