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The Inkwell

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Fall 9-1-2016

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The Inkwell

Armstrong State University's news source since 1935

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

THEINKWELLONLINE.COM

Armstrong eases transition for first-year students

LAUREN ASHLEY
STAFF WRITER

The class of 2020 is oriented to life as college students, specifically at Armstrong State University, through formal orientation sessions, group-specific retreats and a year-long program tied to their core curriculum.

According to Assistant Director of Student Life, Allison Lyon, these orientation efforts began as early as May. The Savannah campus, from May to August, hosted over 900 traditional first-year students at a total of seven Navigate Orientation sessions: four overnight sessions and three one-day sessions. Each session features a resource fair, social activities, financial aid meetings and academic advising.

The popular overnight sessions, which house 140-150 students in Windward Commons, will soon become the norm, as all orientation sessions for first-year stu-



Navigate student leaders direct their pirate-themed groups comprised of students and their guests to orientation activities. Photo by Katherine Amtzen

dents will be offered only in an overnight format.

Citing changing trends in the nation's approach to college orientation and additional time to introduce students to every aspect of Armstrong, Lyon believes this is a change that will benefit all first-year

students, regardless of their plans to commute to campus.

Lyon, who is more concerned with helping students fully transition to college life than their housing plans, says, the overnight sessions have "nothing to do with living on-campus." The extra hours

the first-year students spend on the campus and with each other make this decision right for Armstrong's newest students in her eyes.

Lyon's team of 25 Navigate leaders and first-year students alike enjoyed the late-night, student-exclu-

sive "connect" session that could only occur during the extended hours. At these "connect" sessions, first-year students heard the unfiltered and shockingly real stories of four Navigate leaders as they transitioned to college life. Every challenge, setback and ultimate victory was laid out before the class of 2020 as a dually cautionary and inspirational tale of what was to come.

To offset the stress of the coming lifestyle changes, the Honors Program sends Armstrong's brightest and youngest students on a retreat to Epworth By the Sea located on Georgia's St. Simon's Island. A total of 73 students attended the orientation retreat after registering for at least one honors class within the core curriculum.

First-year students are invited to join the Honors Program if they have a high school GPA of 3.2 or above and above-average test scores: 1100 combined or above on the SAT or a 24 and above on the ACT. Of the program's 130 new recruits, the highest test scores were a 1450 combined on the SAT and a 32 on the ACT. The superior intellect of these first-

year students was put to the test at Epworth, where they bonded over mind-bending puzzles, ropes courses and team challenges.

For 46 first-year student-athletes, their team will act as their surrogate family. Ashley Lewis, a first-year soccer member, says "[the team] will have so much going on that I don't think I will really have time to think about being home sick."

Juggling practices, workouts, games and classes is not an easy task for a student-athlete of any age, but Lewis knows she does not have to face any of these tasks alone. "Participating in a team sport will definitely make transitioning to the college life easier," she says, but it helps that her professors are "pretty cool."

No matter how cool first-year students think their professors are, they may still hesitate to share their concerns about coursework or college in general with a person of authority. They are more likely to voice their fears to another student.

With this knowledge, Greg Anderson expanded Armstrong's First-Year EX TRANSITION | PG 6

Students alarmed by early financial aid deadline

TAYLOR THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

Updates in financial aid requirements were implemented this semester. One of the most noticeable updates was a change in the payment deadline.

In the past, the deadline for tuition payments was on the first day of class, which is typically the second week of August. This year, the deadline was moved up to July 29.

Some students believe they were not given enough notification for this change. A senior nursing major who requested to remain anonymous expressed her concerns about the recent deadline change:

"I received an email and

it was confusing. I think the top date said the payment was due in July and at the bottom it said a different date. Also, the email was sent close to the new deadline date," she says.

According to the Office of Financial Aid, over 85 percent of Armstrong students are current recipients of financial aid. This includes students who are receiving loans, grants, scholarships and work-study opportunities. Financial aid guidelines and regulations are determined by a network of state, regional and national services. It is the job of the Office of Financial Aid, in conjunction with other university offices, to trans-

CHANGES | PG 6

New Statement of Student Account Balance Now Available--Armstrong State University

Inbox x

student.accounts@armstrong.edu

to [REDACTED]

Jul 22

Hello, Armstrong Student and Authorized Users!

You have a new statement available for viewing. Don't Forget that Fall payment deadline is **July 29, 2016**. Please make arrangements to pay your balance. Remember you can utilize Nelnet payment plan options.

This statement may reflect amounts due that have already been billed. Please see previous statements and term activity for those details.

You can view this statement or your current account activity online in the TouchNet Bill Pay System. It is available 24 hours a day to make bill payment more convenient for you. You may simply click "pay online" at the bottom of any page on our Armstrong website to log into TouchNet.

STATEMENT DETAILS

Student Name --- [REDACTED]

Account Name --- [Student Account]

Account Number --- [REDACTED]

Amount Due --- [REDACTED]

Due Date --- **8/14/16**

Recent payment deadline e-mail sent by Bursar's Office

Meet assistant professor Grant Gearhart



Dr. Grant Gearhart. Courtesy of Armstrong.edu

TERESA DURHAM
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Grant Gearhart is an assistant professor of Spanish who has been teaching at Armstrong for a little over a year. He holds a B.A. in both Economics and Spanish, as well as a Master's and Ph.D. in Hispanic Literature.

While he is originally from Tennessee where he received both of his Bachelor of Arts degrees from The University of the South in Seawee, Dr. Gearhart and his family enjoy Savannah immensely. He and his wife often bike around town with their son to visit restaurants and parks.

At Armstrong, Dr. Gearhart incorporates research in his Spanish classes to help keep all levels of his students engaged, using methods un-

like most college courses:

"I ask students to stand up and move around. It's proven concentration increases when we're standing, and language in a lot of ways is about interaction; I try to design activities where students interact in realistic ways."

Fortunately, engaging students has become much easier with the wheeled chairs that foreign language classrooms in Gamble received last year.

During the summer semester, Dr. Gearhart incorporated his economics degree by teaching Business Spanish. Dr. Gearhart's passion for economics crosses disciplines as he sees the value in the degree: "It's probably one of the best degrees a person can get. It helps you understand so much about how the

world works, even beyond a monetary standpoint. Why do people make the decisions they make? How do people maximize outputs with limited resources? I just find the questions the discipline poses fascinating across subjects--even literature!"

Professor Gearhart does not specifically have favorite classes to teach but he does have a special interest in seeing the progress of new Spanish learners. "It's fun to see where a student begins the course and what they can do with the language by the end of term."

He is excited and grateful for Armstrong's language resources, like the newly christened Language Resource Center, formerly known as the Language Lab, and the Faculty Development pro-

grams. The Language Resource Center provides language tutors and hosts French and Spanish conversation hours to improve student's foreign language skills.

This month, Dr. Gearhart will be celebrating Latinc Heritage month with a Faculty Brown Bag Series Sept. 21, with his presentation, "Through Their Eyes: African American Memories and Perspectives of the Spanish Civil War."

Pirates Soccer Set to Succeed in 2016

BRANDY MAINE
STAFF WRITER

Another school year means another season for the Armstrong Pirates soccer and they have begun their preparation for the 2016 season. In 2015, the team had a good run with a record of 13-5-3 during the overall season and an appearance in the Round of 32 in the NCAA Tournament.

With a new season comes departures and the team graduated four players key to their past success as they said goodbye to Candace Cosby, Morgan Luckie, Taylor Valley and Taylor Russell, a two-time All American. These four ladies won a conference and a regional championship during their time here, an achievement no one on the current roster has been able to reach yet, but the future looks particularly bright for Armstrong.

The Peach Belt Conference has predicted the team to be the second best team of

the upcoming season, though head coach Eric Faulconer is more concerned with the end result rather than the pre-season selection.

"Our goal is to be on top at the end of the season," the coach explained.

Senior Allison Litchfield talked about the team's excitement for the upcoming season, which should see them compete for a conference title.

"We are very excited to tackle the new challenges that await us this season," she said. "We have worked very hard to get to a top level before the season has even started and I believe that we are more than ready to see what we can do and how far we can go."

With the some of the fresh talent being brought onto the field, that goal seems very achievable for this group of young women. There are several new additions to the team this year.

Two new players that already seem to stand out as



The Armstrong Pirates huddle during an exhibition game against North Florida, a 6-2 win. The second-ranked team open the season Thursday, Sept. 1 -- Sunday, Aug. 14 (Armstrong Communications)

key team members are freshman Ashley Lewis and Junior Mallory Hedden. Lewis, a forward, has already shown potential by scoring a goal in the team's exhibition game against North Florida, while Hedden, a strong defender, transferred to Armstrong from Troy University last spring and has proven to be essential

to the team's defense already.

So far the team does not seem to have any kind of weak link, with a roster that is well rounded enough to play several different formations. This will allow the team to switch up their playing style if needed. That is a talent most teams are not privileged to have, giving these ladies a

real upper hand on the field.

After just falling short of winning the NCAA tournament last year, the team is determined to prove that they now have enough experience to take the conference title for the first time since 2012.

Faulconer has stated that the slogan for this year's 2016 campaign is, "Our

Time," proving these ladies will not be going down without a fight. This year, for the first time, the Pirates will be playing some home games at night, so come out and support this talented group of women under the bright lights.

The Pirates open the 2016 season with a pair of road

Berry the Banana Man

MERCEDES BROCKINGTON
STAFF WRITER

The Savannah Bananas prided themselves on putting fans first during their inaugural season this summer. One former Armstrong Pirate baseball player knew all about their desire to create a unique fan experience and he could not have been more thankful for that.

Berry Aldridge graduated from Armstrong State University in December of 2015 with a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature. But it was not until midway through his college career that he realized teaching and coaching was not the career path he wanted to follow.

He became interested in leadership and communication studies. Because he was

so close to graduating with that degree, he began taking classes that focused on his new interest in leadership.

He knew his career path was changing and he began looking for internship and job opportunities that encompassed all of the things he loved: baseball, leadership, and team building. In February of 2016, he found what he was looking for.

After reading a Facebook post about the new team in town, Aldridge not-so-jokingly told his friends, "I'm going to work for the Bananas." He drafted an email and sent it to every contact in the team of- fice.

"I decided that I really wanted to see the other side of baseball," he said. "The Bananas just happened to be moving into town and I was beyond fortunate to land an

internship with them."

After the summer internship, Aldridge stepped into a full-time position with the Bananas as their Fan Development Coordinator. He has the opportunity to operate in all of the things he loves: baseball, leadership, and team building.

His job position focuses heavily on the fans experience, something he knows will ultimately lead to his dream of being in a front office in the Major Leagues.

"In a world where people are the ultimate currency, communication is your ultimate tool," he excitedly explained.

During his first major event, opening day, Aldridge put all of his skills to the test. With a huge focus on fans coming first, he along with the Savannah Bananas team were



Berry Aldridge poses with the Savannah Bananas' Coastal Plain League championship trophy, which they won over the Peninsula Pilots -- Tuesday, Aug. 23 (Facebook/Berry Aldridge)

able to make a lasting impression on the city of Savannah.

The Bananas sold out 18 of their 25 games, were second in the nation in atten-

dance and won the Coastal Plain League all in their first year. Aldridge, who spent the summer as a "Banana Boy" dancing around the bases in

French Maid and Banana costumes, is excited about the future of baseball in Savannah and with a job like this, how can you blame him?

OFF THE BENCH WITH:

JOHN KEEN

College football preview: Year of the Tiger



Alabama head coach Nick Saban celebrates with the 2015 national championship trophy. This was their fourth title in the last seven years -- Monday, Jan. 11, 2016 (Getty Images)

While college football kicked off Friday, Aug. 26 when California faced Hawaii, week one of college football, and with it a great slate of games, begins Sept. 1. In light of that, a 2016 season preview is in order, complete with 2016 College Football Playoff predictions.

When talking about college football and eventual na-

tional title contenders, there is no better place to start than the SEC, a conference that has produced the winner or runner-up for the national title in 12 of the last 14 seasons.

In all likelihood, Alabama and LSU are going to rule the once mighty conference in a down year for college football's premier league. Alabama and LSU operate in much the same way: power running

back play and stout defenses.

However, LSU possesses the ultimate x-factor in All-SEC and Heisman contending running back Leonard Fournette.

In a year of down quarterback play across the league, expect many teams to rely heavily on their ground game and no team, perhaps in the nation, will do that better than LSU.

SEC winner: LSU
The ACC and prohibitive favorite Clemson should be electric in the passing game this year. Led by 2015 Heisman trophy finalist Deshaun Watson, Clemson boasts an impressive air raid offense that rivals any in the nation. Backed by Brent Venables' defense, the Tigers are poised at making another play-off push.

Furthermore, ACC competition is fairly sparse. Outside of Florida State, who are as talented as anyone in the country even with starting a redshirt freshman quarterback in Deondre Francois, Clemson looks to have an easy time in conference play.

ACC winner: Clemson

Speaking of great quarterback play and high-powered offenses, Oklahoma could lay claim to being the best. Baker Mayfield, former walk-on turned phenom, had an impressive 2015 campaign for the Sooners, passing for 3,700 yards and finishing fourth nationally with a 68.2 percent completion percentage.

With Mayfield leading the charge and the twin-headed tailback combination of Samaje Perine and Joe Mixon, the Sooners should be able to outscore any opponent in the Big 12.

Big 12 Winner: Oklahoma

Although the Pac-12 possesses some talented teams, like Stanford, Washington and Oregon, none of them truly stick out as national title contenders.

Stanford, although they have the all-time single season record holder for all-purpose yards in Christian McCaffery, lost a lot of talent to graduation and the NFL. Oregon has questions at quarterback, wide receiver and defense, while Washington, while having the best defensive potential in the

Pac-12, lacks the offense firepower to truly compete for a championship.

Pac-12 winner: Stanford
Moving to the Big Ten, Ohio State, despite losing twelve players to the NFL draft, is still favored to win the conference. Much like Alabama, Ohio State has the ability to not rebuild, but reload. Unlike Alabama, however, Ohio State plays in a much weaker conference and with the play from veteran quarterback J.T. Barrett, they look to roll once again to the Playoff.

Big Ten winner: Ohio State

In a battle much like last year's College Football Playoff national championship game, SEC plays ACC. This year, however, the ACC reigns supreme.

The Clemson Tigers and LSU Tigers meet up in the national championship in a rematch of the 2012 Chick-fil-A Bowl. Dabo Swinney's club holds off the Mad Hatter as they take home their first national title since 1982.

September 2
Women's Cross
Country
Georgia College

Men's Cross
Country
Georgia College

Women's Volleyball
vs Emmanuel (Ga.)
@ Columbus, Ga.
4:30 p.m.

September 3
Women's Volleyball
vs Mars Hill
@ Columbus, Ga.
10:00 a.m.

Women's Soccer
at Fla. Southern
1:00 p.m.

Women's Volleyball
vs Anderson (S.C.)
@ Columbus, Ga.
2:30 p.m.

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

THE INKWELL [3]
September 1, 2016

CAMPUS VOICES:

What do you think of Colin Kaepernick's actions?

San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick remained seated while the national anthem played before a game against the Green Bay Packers Friday, Aug. 26, to protest police violence and racism in America.

"I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color," Kaepernick said.



"He's not being apathetic. He's choosing to do something. I think it's very brave of him, he's kind of like Muhammad Ali. Freedom of speech- but when it's not the speech they want to hear, they tell them to shut up."

Emmanuel Diaz
Junior business economics major



"I went to a military school, it's just instilled in me to stand for the national anthem. That's his personal opinion, but I don't quite agree with it."

Teneshia Hunt
Freshman business economics major



"In high school, we used to sit during the national anthem as a sign of rebellion."

Kayla Tittle
Freshman early childhood education major



"He does have the right to do what he wants, but I'll always stand. Usain Bolt stopped during an interview to show respect for our national anthem and he's not from here."

Victoria Sasser
Junior pre nursing major



"Even if I don't believe in something, I at least respect it."

Jill Loya
Junior pre nursing major

#NewYearNewInk, How to get involved with The Inkwell



EMILY SMITH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

#NewYearNewInk doesn't just apply to Instagram users, because in MCC 202- #NewYearNewInk is the motto for The Inkwell's fresh staff.

I am pleased to welcome a new Inkwell editorial board this year, but am just as excit-

ed about all of the new writers and photographers who made it to the first meeting last week. Although it takes a dedicated group of editors to sail the ship, we could not create all of the content for the newspaper ourselves. However, we are always in need of more people to write and take pictures to cover as much territory as we possibly can.

Why get involved with The Inkwell?

Although receiving pirate cash for your contributions is appealing, the main reason to get involved with the campus newspaper is to get your work

published. Yes it's rewarding to see your name in print, but having published work under your belt is attractive to multiple employers inside and outside the field of media.

That being said, if you're a journalism student who is even thinking about working in media, it is especially crucial that you work for the school newspaper. Having a focus in journalism on a piece of paper once you graduate means nothing if you don't have something to show for it.

This is my senior year, so I have been working on internships and potential job opportunities. Each and ev-

ery one has asked for writing samples.

Not only will you be able to provide legit writing samples when the time comes, but you'll also have already gained valuable experience working with editors, deadlines, and Associated Press writing style. These skills are better learned with your peers and teachers who are here to help and guide you, versus fumbling during your first job.

The Inkwell Editors and your journalism professors are here to help, so take advantage of the opportunities right here at Armstrong.

Lastly, working for The

Inkwell is fun. I know I may be a little biased in saying this since I'm the Editor-in-Chief, but working for the newspaper since I was a freshman has been the best thing I've done in college. The friends I've made have not only given me a group to hang out with, but they've also made my writing better. Not to mention, writing for the newspaper has opened many other doors for me to be published/ gain experience elsewhere.

How to get involved with The Inkwell

Our writers meetings are held every Wednesday at 12:30pm in The Inkwell

office (MCC room 202). During these meetings, the section editors and I discuss story ideas for each section of the newspaper and give assignments. This is also a time for writers and photographers to share their ideas with the editorial board. Afterwards, editors are available to answer questions and help. The best way to get started is to jump right in by taking an assignment. The entire process is not as scary as it may seem.

So get involved whether it's for the experience, the friends, or for the pirate cash. (Because there's no reason to pay for Quizno's with your credit card.)

The 'Outsidah's' Perspective

TYLER TYACK
Freshman criminal justice major

Let me first clarify the title. I'm from Massachusetts, a little north of Boston, home to that iconic accent. The first question I get when I tell people where I'm from is "What brings you down here?" So I tell about how in 2009, my grandparents bought a summer home in Savannah, and I came to visit with them that summer. It was really the first time I had spent an extended period of time outside of Mas-

sachusetts, and I loved it. The city, the weather, and the people, it was all so new to me. Pretty much every year since, I came down as a tourist, and I was always enthralled with this foreign land.

Now, I have come south as a resident. I bid goodbye to the Great Green Commonwealth, and said hello to Georgia. I call this place my home now, and really, it's the only one I have. My parents moved to Michigan after my high school graduation, and my grandparents are selling

their house back in the Bay State. I have a lot of work to do before I become a real Georgian, but I thought it might be interesting to display how beautiful this state is to me.

I'll begin with the people. Everyone is so kind. Just Monday morning, I was looking at the campus map at the Student Union, and I engaged in a full conversation with a stranger. In Massachusetts, when you talk to someone, you either know them, or have business with them. You

aren't able to have a discussion with a stranger in the grocery store up north without looking like a total loon. I've said these things to a few native friends I have here, and they both looked at me like I was nuts. All the same, I now know how truly welcoming Southern Hospitality really is.

As I write this, I hear another difference in the air; aircraft. I absolutely love the sound of the military planes, fighters, and helicopters overhead. Again, my friends think I must have lived under

a rock, but this feeling of security doesn't exist in Hamilton, Massachusetts. When you hear a low flying aircraft up there, it's because A) some idiot on I-95 didn't use his blinker and caused an eight car pileup, or B) something is very, very wrong. It's always cool to me to see those big, steel eagles in the sky, and no matter how long I stay here, I'll probably keep looking up when I hear one.

There's so much more I could write about; the words you all (yall) use down here

that differ from up in New England, or that the weather is always comfortable (meaning above 45 degrees). But this is just a glimpse of what there is for me to experience about Georgia, Savannah, and Armstrong. I wanted to say thank you to everyone here, and am proud to call myself a Pirate.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

[4] THE INKWELL

September 1, 2016

Starting new trends in LLP—

Writing Strategies for Game Design

TERESA DURHAM
STAFF WRITER

This semester, Drs Robert Terry and Lisa Dusenberry are coteaching the prototype English 5000 course "Writing Strategies for Game Design" for undergraduates and graduates alike. So far, it's been a success.

Though it is hard for students to complain about analyzing "BioShock," "Mass Effect," or "The 7th Guest" for class credit.

Using the computer program Twine, "an open-source tool for telling interactive, nonlinear stories," the class will create two games throughout the semester to demonstrate knowledge of different writing strategies used by game developers.

The first week of the course saw students evaluate a digital game of their choice for the issues or effective balance of the ludic (the game's rules) and narrative elements. The opportunity to explain why they love or hate a game made the assignment enjoyable.

Dr. Terry believes that this is an unexplored area of creative writing for Armstrong. At one point, he realized it did not benefit just that section of the English degree.

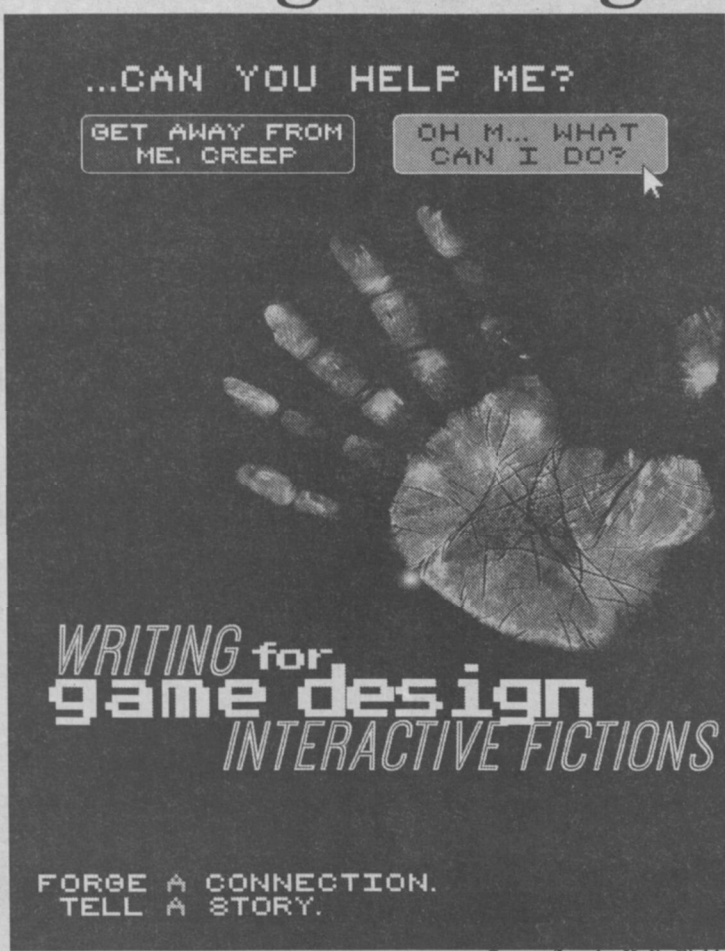
"...[T]his is also really useful for the Technical Writing track as well. Because it's an XMLbased language, it's really relative to the type of work tech writers are doing these days."

This is not the only practical application of game development in the English field. Games like "Play Choice Texas" and

"Rust" can cause players to be exposed to social issues in a new light by being assigned a different race, gender, or being put into a situation that one personally may never face.

Dr. Dusenberry has had many students cite game experiences for serious conversations in her Business and Technical Communication course.

"...[M]ore and more people have had really important experiences with games and have grown up with them."



Course flyer by Kylie Fields

The students in Writing Strategies for Game Design are very enthusiastic because they get to converse about games in a formal setting.

"We're playing games

and talking about games and we're actually doing more writing and work than most other classes, but it's hard to mind it because it's part of something near and dear, and

good fun. I hope they continue teaching things like this," says Justin Barnett, a non-traditional liberal studies major.

For gamers, this is heaven. For nongamers, this may sound intimidating, but never fear, the professors have your back.

"One of the reasons we started the class like we did is because we have all different levels of experience with games... We needed a way to get those people experience before we start writing," Dusenberry said.

There is always the possibility that the course will not continue, but Writing Strategies for Game Design has some advantages.

"Getting to coteach it for the first time helps you test out things you would never try because your colleague has more experience with it and can help with problems..." Dusenberry explained. "The first time you're trying to do multiple things. We're trying to teach people the strategies for writing the narratives and we're going to be trying to

teach people the technology."

The program Twine has been a beneficial course tool. Melissa Ford's textbook, "Writing Interactive Fiction with Twine," describes the program in detail but also glosses over the majority of writing strategy do's and don't's.

There is a lot of speculation amongst the students that the course will be placed on the catalogue as a permanent course, which is Dr. Terry's hope.

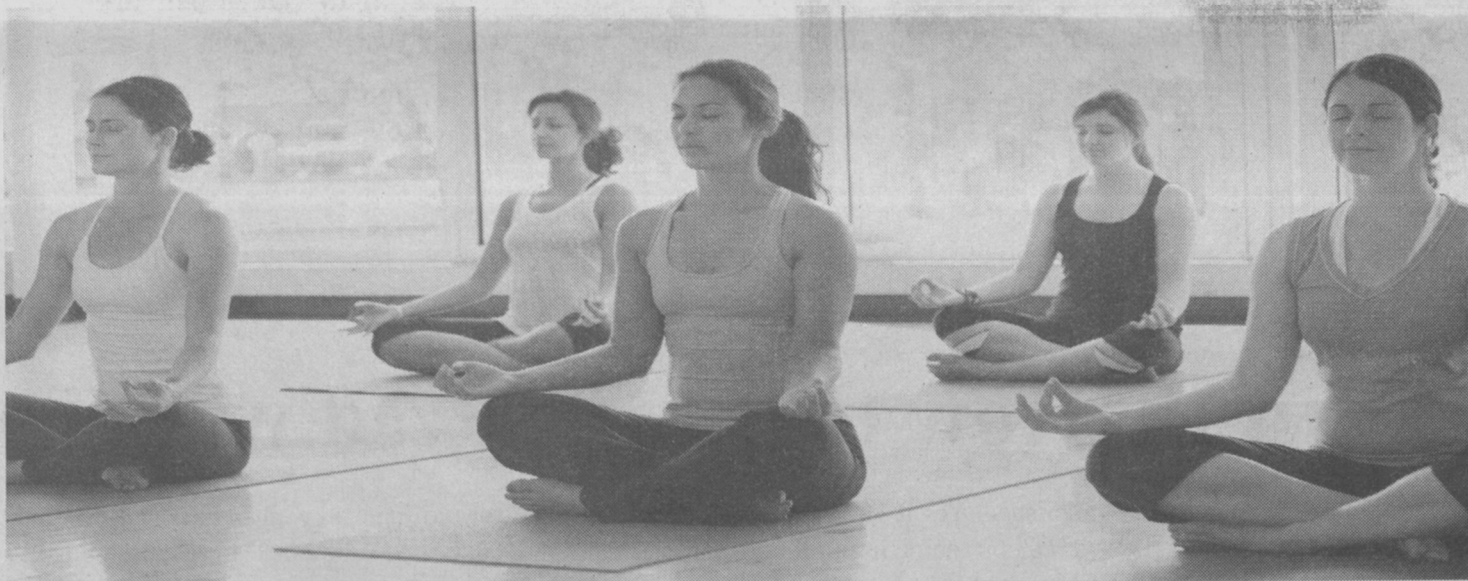
"Right now, it's a prototype, but my hope would be that it is the foundation of building more interesting things along this way," Terry said.

Telfair Mixes Art and Yoga

LILA MILLER
A&E EDITOR

Yoga fiends delight. Telfair Museums is bringing an invigorating night of yoga to the Jepson Center. Every action is a self-portrait and the art of yoga is no exception. Professional yoga instructor Kimberly Beene will be leading the class as they harness "breath and movement in an exploration of yoga as a creative force."

The atmosphere of the Jepson Center during the class is one that can hardly be rivaled by a mere yoga studio. The Jepson boasts an open floor plan on the first floor



where the event will be held. With one wall almost entirely comprised of floor to ceiling windows, and the class begin-

ning at 5:30 PM, it is easy to imagine golden shafts of sunlight grazing yoga mats as the class shifts into "downward

dog."

Fear not, those less yogi-oriented. The class itself is open to all skill levels from

beginner to expert, but it is advised that you bring your own mat.

The museum itself will

be closed during the event, but for those more musically-inclined, the session will also include the musical stylings of classical guitarist, Sean Driscoll to heighten the experience.

After yoga, popular downtown juice bar and health food restaurant, Beetnix will be serving refreshments and "treats".

The art of yoga event will be held September 6, at 5:30 PM at the Jepson Center in conjunction with the Telfair Museums at 121 Barnard St in downtown Savannah.

West Side Block Party celebrates Savannah's young writers and artists

PRESS RELEASE

Deep Center will host the free and public West Side Block Party and Dramatic Reading, on Sept. 18, 3 to 7 p.m., at the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum.

The event celebrates the stories, history and culture of Savannah's West Side and presents the work of young writers who participated in Deep's Block by Block program along with the works of Savannah's leading artists.

Beginning at 3 p.m. inside the museum annex, Deep youth will present dramatic readings of their work inspired by their research of the history and culture of the city's West Side, the seat of its Civil Rights movement. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. and seating is limited. Deep will release a full color, 170-page book featuring the writing and artwork of the participants in the Block by Block program.

Following the young writers' performance there will be a block party on Wayne Street featuring live music, food trucks, public art and Story Tours.

The Story Tours along Wayne Street, led by the young authors, will focus on their work and critical issues facing the West Side neighborhood. Through a partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, audience members will use their phones to respond to the art, readings, and conversations in a dynamic virtual space.

"This party marks the joyful culmination of a year's worth of research, play, and hard work by a team of Savannah's brightest young people, as well as artists, parents, and many community leaders," explained Dare Dukes, Deep Center's executive director. "The creative writing and art on display at the block party will remind Savannah how much there is

to celebrate about the vivid past and present of the West Side, one of our city's most storied neighborhoods."

Deep recruited local artists José Ray and Jerome Meadows to create original public art inspired by and in collaboration with the young authors. Panhandle Slim has painted portraits of the 25 Block by Block participants, and these will be on display at the block party and, after the event, at the Live Oak Public Library on Bull Street. The Savannah Development and Renewal Authority will exhibit results from a collaborative workshop with the Deep Center that explores future plans for the MLK corridor.

"In many ways, my art has always been about perceiving, understanding and conveying the rich and complicated truths that communities celebrate and sometimes hide," said artist Jerome Meadows. "It is in this way and for this reason

that I am delighted to have been provided the opportunity to design and create the two sculptural works that will anchor the West Side Block Party. My close relationship with Deep's young authors has been immensely inspiring. Through getting to know them, and by way of their insightful words, they have served as compelling collaborators for me throughout this process."

The block party is free and open to the public and will be held in the parking lot of the Civil Rights Museum, extending east on Wayne Street to Chatham Square. Food will be available from the Savannah Food Truck Festival, and a DJ and local bands will play music throughout the day. The Block Party is coordinated in partnership with Art Rise Savannah, the local arts organization behind the First Friday Art March and the Better Block Project in Starland.

Deep Center's Block by Block program is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the State Farm Youth Advisory Board, the City of Savannah Department of Cultural Affairs, and the United Way Coastal Empire. Deep Center is a nonprofit that provides free, fun and rigorous writing workshops for public school students in Savannah, Georgia. Deep connects kids with a thriving community of writing mentors—local authors, poets, and journalists—to help them share their stories. In addition to the donors listed above, Deep Center is funded in part by the Adler Family Foundation, the Johanna Anderson Trueblood Foundation, the Georgia Council for the Arts, Georgia Power, Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, International Paper, Publix, the Savannah Community Foundation, and many generous institutions and individuals. Learn more at deepkids.com.

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Professors get creative with gallery

BRENT GILL
STAFF WRITER

The 2016 Faculty Art Exhibit offers work by 10 of Armstrong's Visual and Creative Arts faculty. The exhibit runs through Sept. 9, 2016 and includes traditional media as well as experimental.

The interaction between traditional and modern methods is of particular concern to a few of the artists. Art department head and professor Dr. Tom Cato is one of these. His series "Reflections of Mondrian," is an example of how one can tie influential artists to modern techniques.

Dr. Cato saw something

of Piet Mondrian's geometrical paintings in an arrangement of greenhouse windows during a trip to Reynolds Mansion on Sapelo Island. Dr. Cato's digital manipulations are so subtle that they appear to be masterfully rendered watercolors.

Gallery director and professor of art PangChieu Hsu has spent several years on a portrait drawing series. His method is an attempt to capture the mystery of the figure in profile with raw, seemingly furious strokes. He attempts to eliminate any contrived revisions by working with a model for a set period of time, and then setting the drawing

aside when that period ends.

By calling the work finished at this point, Professor Hsu's portraits are rendered with a sense of effortlessness that is difficult for many less experienced artists.

Two new art professors have joined Armstrong's faculty: Professors Alicia Perez and Bridget Conn's talents have become immediately apparent in their exhibits.

Professor Conn's passion is photography but she has recently begun experimenting with the tools of her trade in different ways. While it takes a great eye and a sharp sense of the moment to snap a beautiful photo, Conn skips the

point and shoot step, letting her creative mind roam free in the darkroom.

Her Chemigram series uses the tools of photo developing to apply chemically-induced textures on photo paper. The result is like something you might see under a microscope: organic waves of the texture and body of oil liquid frozen midflow. One paint, while still maintaining

of different effects achieved with her process, each slice a subtle variation in technique. Conn says she enjoys pushing the boundaries of what a photograph can be but emphasizes that students of any art form can learn something essential from studying the

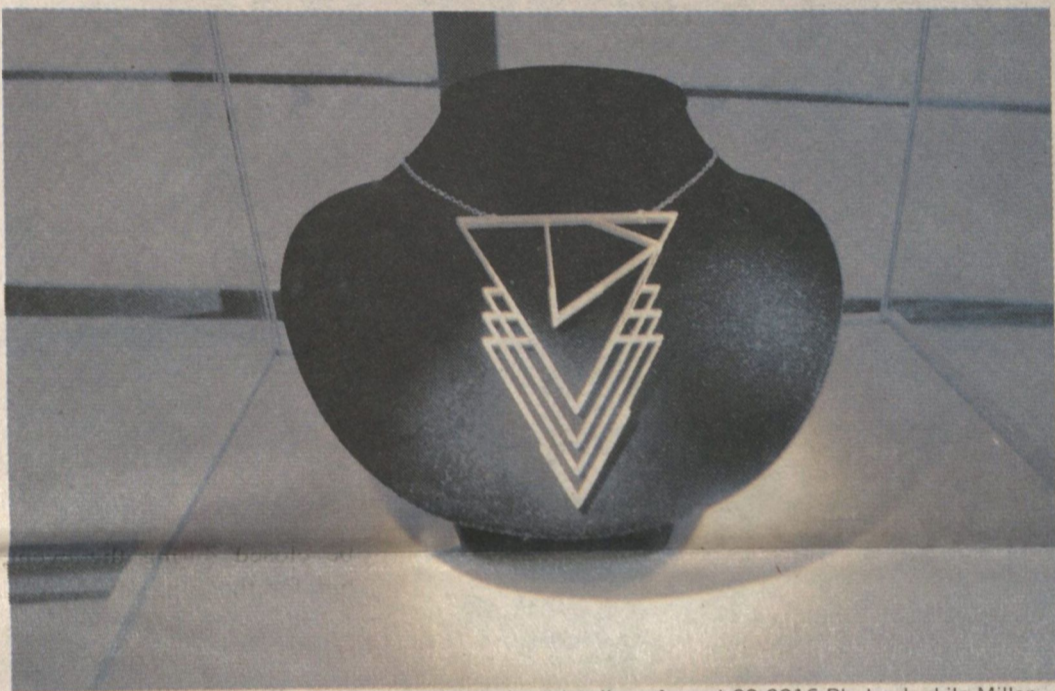
fundamentals of photography.

Professor Alicia Perez is a widely traveled student of the 2D visual arts. Her artistic influences come from many cultures such as Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand. Perez mixes her own acrylic pigments to get the texture and body of oil

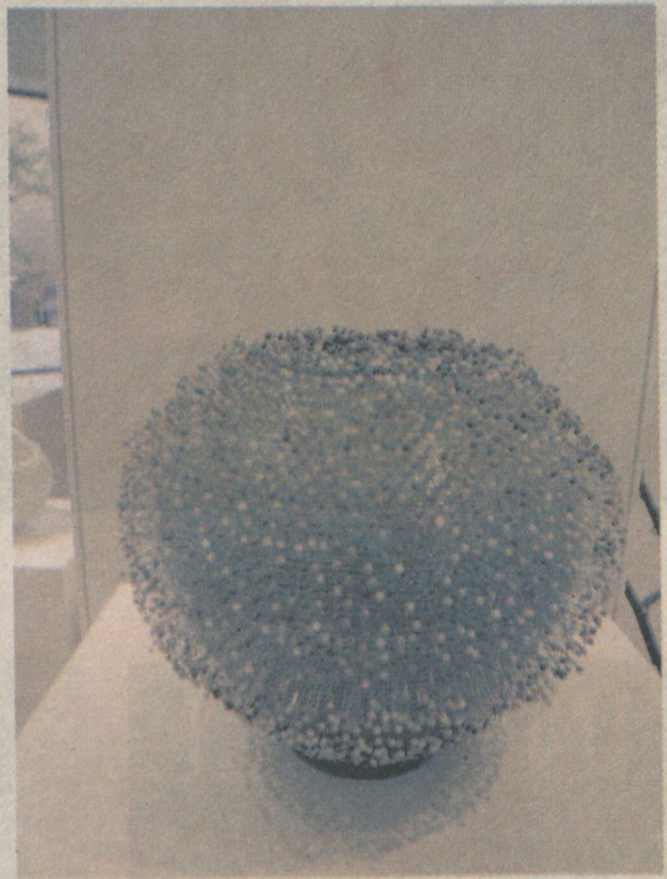
liquid frozen midflow. One paint, while still maintaining the short dry time of acrylics. Her pieces in the Faculty Art Exhibit are colorful realism paintings, depicting scenes from her travels. However, not all of her influence comes from abroad. Perez recalls watching her father, a self-taught artist, practice drawing

and painting when she was very young. She claims this is where she learned how art can help us see the world in a different way.

The Faculty art exhibit is located in the gallery of the Fine Arts building and will remain open through Sept. 9, 2016.



Pictured: Artwork featured in the faculty art gallery, August 29 2016 Photos by Lila Miller



Events, September 1-8

<p>1 R. Ariel / Samson / Jeff Zagers 9 PM-12 AM live music at underground venue Quolab</p>	<p>3 Mess Mess and The Jinx presents Punk Rock Garage Sale round 2 12PM-6PM The Jinx 127 W. Congress Street</p>	<p>4 Die Choking (Philly) Destroys Savannah 8PM Foundry Coffee Pub 1313 Habersham Street</p>	<p>6 Twin Peaks "Coffee & Pie" LP Listening Party 7PM Graveface Records and Curiosities 5 West 40th Street</p>	<p>7 Farmer's Market 10AM Outside Student Union Rock and Roll Bingo 10:30PM The Jinx</p>	<p>8 Piano in the Arts An Evening of European Classics 7:30PM Fine Arts Auditorium</p>
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September 1, 2016

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perience (FYE) Peer Mentor program, which now provides over 600 first-year students with an older peer mentor who attends a core course and an identically populated weekly seminar alongside the first-year students for the duration of the semester.

"A sort of halfway point" is how Luke Lyman-Barner, a peer mentor to Dr. Rago's first-year students, would describe his role. "Seeing me in front of the class-

room," he explains, "helps to sort of close that distance a little bit between the students and the professor."

Despite a rising number of students entering Armstrong with college credit and dual enrollment experience, Anderson believes the FYE program is still vital to the success of all first-year college students. These students may have a "head-start on the decision making and exploratory process" that comprise the initial year of college, he says, but they are "still just

out of high school," which brings with it the "same anxieties and insecurities of a typical first-year student."

Those anxieties may be as routine as what to expect on a history test or as monumental as questioning their decision to break societal norms, as the class of 2020 has a large number of females declaring science, technology, engineering and mathematics-based majors.

For this reason, Lyman-Barner believes the role of a peer mentor extends be-

yond the "hospitality" of the classroom and office hours to modeling the "critical thinking" and "work ethic" first-year students must choose to adopt for themselves if they want to be successful in a higher education environment.

Success is heavily reliant upon time management. "Actually, my classes are doing an assignment on that right now," Lyman-Barner says. The students, he explains, are tasked with filling a planner with "down to the

minute details" of their daily lives. The planner's contents will then be evaluated and used to teach first-year students not only the importance of time management, but also how slight changes could improve their current use of downtime.

Anderson has seen too many first-semester students "grossly underestimate" the amount of time and effort their college-level courses will demand. He hopes that with the help of peer mentors the class of 2020 will devel-

op the "fortitude to be consistent" and a "clear vision" reminiscent of their goal graduation year: 2020.

CHANGES | PG 6

late these regulations and any subsequent changes to those regulations, to Armstrong students.

Samantha Hutto, assistant director, of Financial Aid, explained, "Every year, there are changes to financial aid. Our office works with state,

regional, and national networks to make these changes seamless for Armstrong students, while adhering to federal and state regulations."

"Payment deadlines are not determined by the Office of Financial Aid, but by several university offices. However, our office works extensively to help students meet

those established deadlines," she adds.

The Bursar's Office also works with students to get their fees and tuition paid. According to their site, the Office of the Bursar works to "make the process of paying your bills as clear and easy as possible," as well as "manage student accounts by monitor-

ing and maintaining billing for all university charges."

Available on Armstrong's website is a page that describes the steps a student would take to receive financial aid and the deadlines for these steps.

Other concerns Armstrong students have expressed include having

trouble getting through to financial aid by telephone and not fully understanding the process of receiving aid.

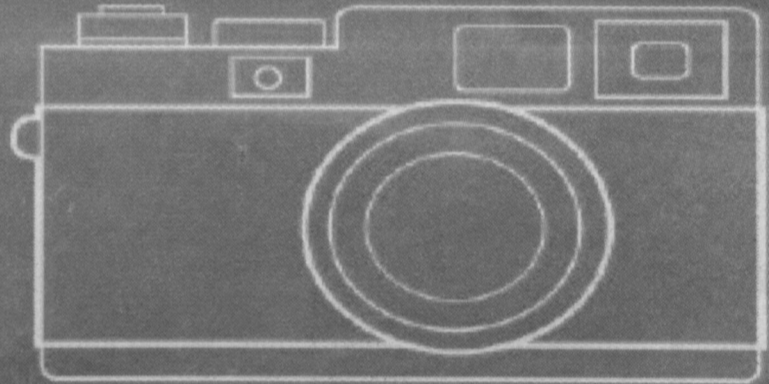
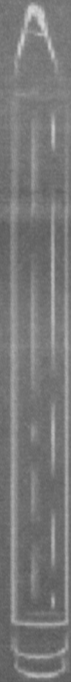
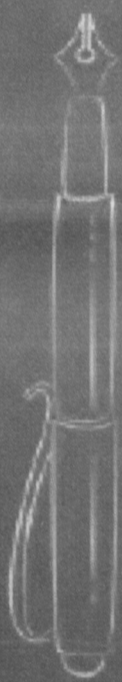
There are steps available on the Armstrong website describing each step needed to receive financial aid, as well as the deadlines for those steps.

For more information

on financial aid and tuition payment deadlines, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 912.344.3266 or fin.aid@armstrong.edu. Contact the Office of the Bursar at 912.344.3243 or student.accounts@armstrong.edu.

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