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SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

MEET BUSINESS ECONOMICS MAJOR,
DILLON PATEL

PAGE 6

OP/ED

LETTER TO PRESIDENT BLEICKEN

PAGE 3

GAME REVIEW

HITMAN

PAGE 5

BAILOUT

SYRACUSE: THE ULTIMATE UNDERDOG

PAGE 2

The Inkwell

Armstrong State University's news source since 1935

WEEK OF MARCH 31, 2016

THEINKWELLONLINE.COM

Guns on campus: Gov. Deal to make final call by May—Armstrong weighs in

EMILY SMITH, EDITOR
IN CHIEF AND LAUREN
ASHLEY, STAFF WRITERdesigned to address questions
and concerns regarding HB
859.

The Georgia Senate this month gave final passage to a bill that would legalize firearms at all public colleges in Georgia. Colleges and universities across the state, including Armstrong, have held forums to discuss details and concerns surrounding the bill.

House Bill (HB) 859, yet to be signed by Governor Nathan Deal, would allow persons over the age of 21 to carry a concealed handgun onto Georgia college campuses as soon as July 1. The only locations exempt are dormitories, fraternities and sororities houses and at athletic events.

On March 24, a crowd of mostly professors and university officials gathered in Armstrong's Ogeechee Theatre for the Campus Carry Forum

President Linda Bleicken announced her viewpoint on the controversial bill: "On Monday, a letter from me was delivered to Governor Deal supporting the current law and asking that it remain so that we not have this new law."

She went on to say that other University System of Georgia presidents have also submitted similar letters.

According to forum panelist and Armstrong State University attorney Lee Davis, professors could not prohibit concealed firearms in their classrooms, nor could the university opt out or alter the bill's stipulations.

Many of the professors in attendance were specifically concerned about guns being brought into their classroom.

A student with a gun may



If HB 859 is signed into law by Governor Deal, college campuses across the state will allow anyone 21 and over with a carrying permit to bring guns onto campus. Photo courtesy of jbguns.com

force professors to carry a gun for protection, which is something that most do not wish to do. One professor stated, "the unfortunate part is that we are being forced to make that choice."

Another choice professors would have to make is whether or not to call the police. Panelist Wayne Wilcox,

Armstrong's Chief of Police, said his squad could not come into the classroom "and detain somebody strictly for the purpose of determining whether or not they have a license."

"Complaint[s]," Wilcox said, "have to be based upon behavior," not suspicion of or catching a glimpse of a gun.

Protests against the bill have taken place within the past weeks at Georgia schools, such as the University of Georgia and Kennesaw State University. A list of petitions have been started by students, including Armstrong's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Some students, on the other hand, seem to be in favor of HB 859.

Ethan Pringle, a student

in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said "the bill's intention is to lessen the chances of our school becoming a helpless target to an armed gunman."

Fellow student Matthew Ferreira also believes that under the current regulations, Armstrong is ill-prepared for a campus shooting.

"Right now, if an active shooter were to come into our school, not a single student or faculty member would be able to defend himself or herself. That is unacceptable. I will feel much more safe with the ability to carry a weapon to defend myself as opposed to being defenseless against an assailant," Ferreira said.

Neither Ferreira nor Pringle possess a campus carry license. They both intend to get

a license and would willingly participate in a free gun safety class if one was offered by the school.

The idea of training teachers and new carriers how to properly carry and fire a gun via a Student Veteran Affairs or campus police training seminar was entertained by all.

The bill also states that the weapons must be concealed. Panelists stressed that the majority of students would not qualify for a concealed carry license because they are not 21 years or older. Also, students of age would have to pass a background check, be fingerprinted, pay \$37 to the clerk's office and invest a significant amount of money in a handgun.

Wilcox reminded attendees that "it wasn't because they didn't allow guns on campus," that students, faculty and staff picked Armstrong. "It doesn't change who we are. It doesn't change who the organization is," he said.

Governor Deal has until May 3 to sign the bill or have it overridden by a veto. The resulting legislation would become effective on July 1.

Changes coming for downtown Savannah parking

EMILIE GROVER
STAFF WRITER

The City of Savannah's Department of Mobility and Parking Services is conducting a study in hopes of increasing parking availability and mobility for motorists around the downtown area.

The study, "Parking Matters," began in November 2014 and focused on each part of Downtown Savannah's infrastructure with the suggestion that the rates for some of the nearly 13,000 parking meters be raised and some lowered.

According to WSAV, the study recommends the hours of paid on-street parking be changed from its current times of 8am to 5pm, to 10am to 10pm. These times would roll over on the weekends, which currently provide free on-street parking.

Currently, parking regu-

lations change often within the same block. The changes are the result of demand. The aspects of the study that focus on parking are trying to match availability to demand.

Recommendations have also been made to replace coin-only meters with Smart technology and to use parking revenue to create bike lanes throughout the downtown area.

Despite the other suggestions, citizens of Savannah are choosing to focus on one aspect of the lengthy study: the raise in parking rates and the increase in hours for paid on-street parking.

"Not all parts of the parking rates would be increased. There are different scenarios. People are focusing on only one or two aspects and not the entire plan. It's a mobility and parking study," said Valeeta

McDonald, director of mobility and parking services.

The study will not be complete until May or June of this year and no changes have yet been made to parking downtown. Current proposals are initial and no official recommendations have been made.

"We are looking at mobility which includes our transportation and parking. All of the pieces fit together. It's not about the increase in parking rates. It's about mobility and parking. Looking at the transportation system and the infrastructure," McDonald said.

Downtown employees worry they will be greatly affected if these recommendations become reality. These employees, specifically city employees, rarely park on the street.

CHANGES CONTINUED | PG 6

Let's Talk About Race: A Campus Conversation

TAYLOR THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

The offices of the president and Provost have conducted a series of discussion panels to address a broad range of issues that affect the campus community. On March 23, "Race, Part 1," the latest discussion of the series, touched on issues of race relations in the past and present of the United States. It also explained ways that Armstrong's campus community can begin the journey of forgiveness and racial tolerance.

Dr. Consuela Ward was the guest facilitator: a faculty member at Kennesaw State University and a veteran diversity trainer who unapologetically discussed issues concerning power and privilege, discrimination, and colorism relating to national and global racial issues.

"Power is really important, and unless we understand the difference between power



Dr. Consuela Ward answers questions during the discussion on March 24 (Photo by Taylor Thomas)

and privilege, and the context, we'll always only look at the single story. Power means you have the ability to influence others socially, politically and economically, through access of housing, access of education and clean water. In that case, what have black people done to white people to systematically disadvantage them," she asked.

There were several questions and comments from students, faculty and staff regarding their own personal

experiences with racial tensions, and their questions for Dr. Ward on ways to counteract unprogressive tendencies within Armstrong's campus community and on a broader spectrum.

Dr. Ward emphasized the power of students to make a difference in their own campus communities, by realizing that they do in fact have the power to create change.

"Students have more pow-

RACE CONTINUED | PG 6

'Service learning' comes to Armstrong

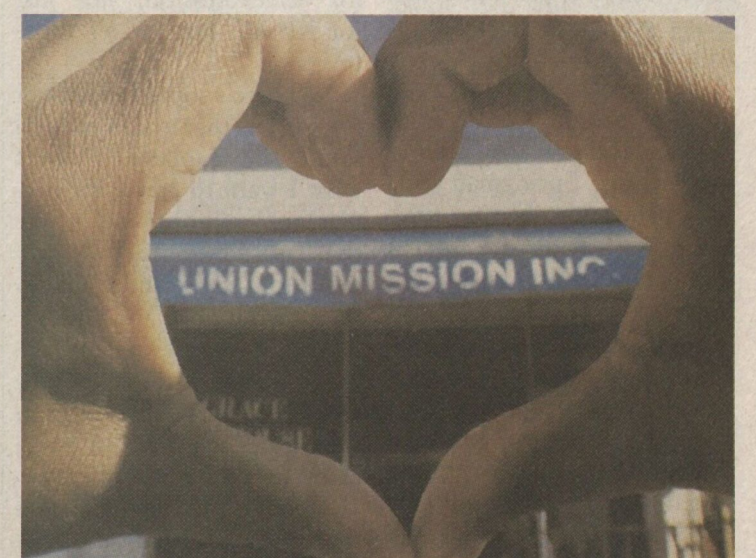
KYARA MEJIA
STAFF WRITER

This semester, the department of criminal justice, social and political sciences offered a new type of sociology course to Armstrong students. Dr. Alison Hatch, a professor who teaches both sociology and gender studies, teaches the new 4000 level sociology course, "Service Learning and Civic Engagement."

Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility and strengthen communities. The class meets in a traditional classroom setting a few times throughout the semester, but they spend the rest of their time volunteering at Union Mission.

Alison Hatch decided to choose the Union Mission, a nonprofit organization in Savannah that helps the homeless, to teach her students about social issues.

"I wanted to focus on the issue of homelessness and Armstrong has a strong relationship with Union Mission. Students do service there during Treasure Savannah, and our President, Dr. Bleicken, sits on the board of the Union Mission. There are a good number of organizations that work to help the homeless in Savannah, but Union Mission seemed like a natural



A student forms a heart shape around the Union Mission where an Armstrong class is volunteering this spring (Photo courtesy of Facebook: Union Mission)

fit due to our existing relationship," Hatch said.

According to Hatch, some of the objectives for this Service Learning course include giving the students the opportunity to work hands-on to help the homeless. It gives students a broader understanding of what homelessness really looks like, deepens their compassion, and provides an opportunity to make a difference.

For the students that are interested in going into nonprofit work when they graduate, this class gives them an idea of what a career in that field would look like.

Hatch's students volunteer and perform many tasks at Union Mission. She described in detail some of the tasks that they have performed.

"The first couple of weeks was spent hearing from var-

ious people who work at Union Mission and what their jobs entail. Then the class began their hands-on service and have done everything from shredding papers and folding clothes to conducting classes for clients in conjunction with the Homeless Authority."

Hatch also spoke about the renovation work students are completing at Grace House.

"Our big project is to redo the common room for the Grace House, which is their men's shelter. We've been successful in getting furniture donations from local businesses and we've raised money on campus from a bake sale."

By the end of the semester, Grace House will have a completely renovated common area for their residents due to the hard work and ded-

LEARNING CONTINUED | PG 6

SPORTS

& Wellness

[2] THE INKWELL
March 31, 2016

Pirates sweep, extend streak to eight

SARAH OLIN
STAFF WRITER

The Armstrong State University softball team defeated visiting Peach Belt Conference opponent Lander University in a pair of shutouts on Saturday, March 27. This gave them a doubleheader sweep over the rival Bearcats and it was a dominant showing from the beginning.

In Game 1, the Pirates started off with a run on an RBI single from freshman Logan Harrell in the bottom of the first. Then in the fifth, junior Hannah Reppert and freshman Macy Coleman got a pair of two-run home runs to push the score to a definitive



Pirate pitcher Jane Trzaska earned her first shutout of the season against the Lander Bearcats. She helped her team extend their current win streak to eight wins with the Peach Belt Conference sweep - Saturday, March 26 (Armstrong Communications)

5-0 victory. Junior Tori Bates took the win for the Pirates, earning her first shutout of the season. Lander's Lexi Griffin took the loss, giving up eight hits and five runs.

In Game 2, the Pirates took the lead 2-0 off of se-

nior Michelle Breen's solo home run in the fourth and senior Peyton Roth's sacrifice RBI the fifth. The Bearcats had back-to-back hits in the seventh inning, putting their tying runs on base with only one out.

However, junior pitcher Jane Trzaska for the Pirates got Lander's Casey Kent to line out into a double play to end the game at 2-0.

Trzaska took the win for the Pirates, also earning her first shutout of the season. Lander's McKenzie Ferguson took the loss, giving up four hits and two runs.

"The defense was playing really well," Trzaska explained

about the big win. "They made some really key plays, especially the double play to end the game. It definitely helps when there is solid defense to stay loose while pitching."

After a doubleheader sweep over Flagler on Wednesday, March 23, the Pirates have now won eight straight games. They sit at a record of 24-8 and 8-2 in the conference.

They play two road doubleheaders against Young Harris on Saturday, April 2 and Montevallo Sunday, April 3. They then return home to make up a doubleheader that got rained out Friday, March 25 against USC Aiken on Wednesday, April 6.

Pirate baseball breaks streak, drops two of three to Nighthawks

ETHAN PRINGLE
STAFF WRITER

The Armstrong State University baseball team snapped an eight-game Peach Belt Conference losing streak Saturday, March 26 with a 7-6 victory over the North Georgia Nighthawks. Armstrong scored all seven runs within the first five innings and held the lead to secure a much-needed win, taking the final game of the weekend series.

The Pirates dropped two of three games to the Nighthawks over the weekend. But the close call victory on Saturday is encouraging going into Tuesday's non-conference home matchup against num-

ber sixteen-ranked Belmont Abbey.

The Nighthawks notched both victories in the Friday double-header, winning game one 6-0 and taking game two 6-5 in 11 innings.

In Game 1, North Georgia's Brandon Agar threw a three-hit shutout, walking two while striking out 14 to pick up the win. Trevor Sams drove in three runs with a double and a home run while Sam Tidaback mashed a two-run home run for the Nighthawks.

In Game 2, the Pirates and Nighthawks went into the top of the seventh tied 4-4. North Georgia's Sams had an infield RBI single to short giving the Nighthawks a 5-4 advantage.

Armstrong's Will Austin responded an inning later with a RBI double to the left-center gap, evening the score once more. The teams remained tied going into extra innings when Devin Gearhart knocked the game winning RBI single in the eleventh inning to plate Kevin Krupp.

Austin had two hits and two RBI in game two for the Pirates, while Zack Goble had three hits and Cody Sherlin had two hits and two RBI.

In the Saturday afternoon series finale, Armstrong jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the third inning thanks to a couple of errors by North Georgia shortstop Connor Hoover. Kendrick Thompson reached first on an error by Hoover to kick the rally off. He later scored on an RBI double by Ryan Patterson.

A fielder's choice by Ryan Lawless brought home another run, just before Spencer Harvey belted a three-run home run to left field for the 5-0 lead.

Armstrong tacked on a couple more runs in the fifth

inning with an RBI single by Berry Aldridge and an RBI triple by Chandler Corley.

The Nighthawks chipped away at the lead with a run in the sixth as well as the seventh inning.

inning and the threat with only one run scored.

In the ninth inning, the Armstrong faithful watched the Nighthawks cut more into the lead with an RBI groundout by Sams, making the score

of six-hit ball, giving up two runs - one earned - and three walks while striking out 10, giving him his eighth straight start with at least eight strikeouts.

The Pirates hit the road



Sophomore Chandler Corley swings for the fences in the Pirates' loss to the North Georgia Nighthawks this weekend. The Pirates snapped their losing streak, but still lost the series 2-1 - Friday, March 25 (Armstrong Communications)

In the eighth inning, after the Nighthawks had filled the bases with only one out, lightning halted play for 38 minutes. When play resumed, North Georgia singled in a run, but Pirate reliever Caleb Woods got a flyout to end the

7-4. A bases-loaded walk followed, letting in another run and drawing the lead to 7-5 with the tying runs in scoring position.

Avery Fagan saved the win for JT Phillips, who earned the win by hurling seven innings

Stretch your boundaries with Stori Springman

JOHN KEEN
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to teaching yoga, Armstrong's newest instructor, Stori Springman, knows that it is more than just about getting in shape. It is truly a way of life.

"We had a studio in Pooler and people would leave their shoes there. Yoga brain is a real thing," Springman said.

Springman began practicing yoga at age 16 after a severe knee injury ended her time figure skating. She can certainly attest to yoga's therapeutic properties.

After suffering her knee injury, Springman found it difficult to find a workout that suited her. She even slipped into an eating disorder until her doctor recommended yoga.

"I had an eating disorder in high school, and part of my

knew yoga was a career she wanted to pursue.

Yoga, however, provides more for Springman than just a career of physical activity. It provides a safe environment for self-expression, not just for herself, but for all those involved.

"There's something about a yoga class that makes you feel safe," she explains. "That's what I want to create for people: an [environment] where they could move the way they move and feel comfortable in their own bodies."

Without this safe environment, Springman feels people would be unwilling to push themselves to and, in some cases, past their boundaries.

"What I like about yoga is that you push the boundaries of what the body would normally do. That's the goal is to feel comfortable in all of the awkward shapes that you are making."

Springman, while acknowledging correct posture is important, urges yoga beginners to not worry too much about what their poses look like.

"No matter what that looks like, we all feel the same thing there. As long as you're doing the pose right, it doesn't matter what that looks like, as long as it feels good to you."

Springman is currently offering a Vinyasa flow class, yoga where the warmup and cooldown are based around stretching the muscles groups used in the main pose, and other beginner and intermediate classes.

As an Armstrong student, yoga classes can be taken for credit or a group fitness exercise offered at Armstrong's recreation center.



Stori Springman (middle) leading an afternoon yoga class in the Armstrong Recreation Center Tuesday March 29, 2016

therapy was yoga and Pilates. I always felt better after yoga than other workouts; I felt calmed and centered."

After recovering from her eating disorder, Springman, a recent graduate of Savannah yoga center's 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training program,

BAIL OUT WITH:

CALEB BAILEY

Syracuse: The ultimate underdog



The Syracuse Orange advanced to the Final Four for the first time since 2013 and they did so in the most unimaginable way possible. They are only the fourth double-digit seed to make the semifinals - Sunday, March 27 (USA TODAY Sports)

The Final Four of the 2016 NCAA Tournament has been set and basketball fans will learn who will play for the national championship this weekend. Looking at three of the four teams vying for a spot in the title game, any fan would automatically think that things have been par for the course this year.

However, the Syracuse Orange, who have been a traditional power in years passed, are far from being the same dominant team they were in the early 2000s. That did not stop them from surprising the entire basketball world and advancing to the Final Four for the first time since 2013.

After that year, where they fell just short of making

the national title game, the Orange suffered a harsh fate, as they were barred from the 2015 postseason and had to vacate more than 100 wins from the 2004-05 through 2011-12 seasons due to NCAA sanctions.

This year, they came into the season with high hopes of doing something big, but the Orange were pretty disappointing, posting a 19-12 regular season record and suffering an embarrassing loss to the Pittsburgh Panthers in the opening round of the ACC tournament.

Jim Boeheim's club was essentially dead in the water as they were hoping for a good seed in the National Invitational Tournament, or

the NIT. However, that NIT bid did not come as they were given a No. 10 seed and a first-round match-up against the No. 7 seed Dayton Flyers, much to the dismay of many NCAA Tournament "experts," who did not believe they were worthy of a spot in the Big Dance over some teams like South Carolina and UAB.

As fate would have it, the Orange beat the Flyers and were lucky enough to get Middle Tennessee State, a No. 15 seed who also upset the No. 2 seed Michigan State in the first round. Again, Syracuse won and got a game against the No. 11 seed Gonzaga Bulldogs in the Sweet Sixteen.

A late comeback against

the Bulldogs sent the Orange to the Elite Eight, where they played the No. 1 seed Virginia Cavaliers last Sunday night. The two ACC rivals met earlier in the year, with the Cavaliers taking the 73-65 victory.

The Orange found themselves in a hole at the half, trailing by 16 points and it looked the clock was going to strike midnight on their Cinderella story. However, they found the glass slipper early and used a 25-4 run in the second half to pull off the unbelievable comeback victory, 68-62, making them just the fourth double-digit seed to make the Final Four and the first since VCU did just that in 2011.

As the Orange, who have been national champions before in 2003, gave a proverbial De-Generation X crotch chop to everyone that doubted them, they find themselves facing another tough opponent: they are familiar with: the North Carolina Tar Heels.

The Tar Heels, much like the Cavaliers, are a No. 1 seed, highly favored over the Orange, and beat them twice this year. The table is set for North Carolina to cruise to the national championship game for the first time since 2009, but the Orange will not say die.

Not yet, anyway.

Letter to President Bleicken regarding Campus Carry bill

03/14/2016

Dear President Bleicken,

If there was ever a time in the history of Armstrong for our President to take a stand for the well-being of our students, staff, and faculty—now is the time. By signing the petition (included in the link below), you will be voicing your objection to House Bill 859, a bill which threatens the safety and sense of security we now (perhaps) take for granted on our amazing campus. By signing the petition you will urge Governor Deal to veto this bill—one that would make it legal for individuals to carry loaded and deadly weapons at Armstrong.

Please show your concern for the safety of all of us who study and work here by doing everything you can to prevent our highly respected university from turning into a dangerous, militarized zone. Please show that you too want to ensure Armstrong remains a safe and supportive environment, as well as the kind of university we pride ourselves on being: one that is academically open, and where the exchange of intellectual ideas are not impeded by fears of hostile retaliation.

Adding your name to this petition against House Bill 859 will not only benefit Armstrong but also the other colleges and universities across Georgia. I hope the leaders of these other institutions will draw from your example and join you in standing up against firearms in the schools of Georgia.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if your legacy for Armstrong was that you took a stance for something that truly matters for Armstrong—and its generations to come. Don't you think you owe it to yourself and to our school to show the courage you ask of us every day with your own motto: "Be Strong! Armstrong!"?

Sincerely,

Scot Kelly

Concerned Armstrong Student

Team D.A.R.E. wins SGA election: A message from new President Dustin Stewart

DUSTIN STEWART
NEWLY ELECTED
SGA PRESIDENT

Hello, Armstrong! My name is Dustin Stewart and I have been vested with the honor of serving as the President of the Student Government Association for the 2016-2017 academic year, and I could not be more excited. I will be introducing you to the rest of the elected Executive members later in this article, but I first want to introduce myself and what you can expect from the incoming SGA members.

I am a junior Political Science major with a Spanish minor and am completing my second year here at Armstrong State University. I have known since the 8th grade that public service was my calling in life and I am glad that Armstrong has given me the opportunity to begin my journey. I am a Savannah native. I have lived here since I was born, attended the local public schools, and was afforded the opportunity to connect with many of the local community leaders through the various groups I have been affiliated with. I have served on the Student Government Association at Armstrong as a member of Campus Union Board, Senate, and as SGA Attorney General. Other leadership roles I have held include Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity Treasurer, Interfraternity Council Vice President, and on campus-wide Administration/Student Committees – among numerous other areas of involvement. As President, you can expect me to exhibit the same level of attention and work ethic to the concerns of the full student body as I transition from the aforementioned positions to the SGA Presidency.

Your incoming SGA Vice President, Naiyill Morales, is a senior Biology major. Naiyill Morales has served on Student



Pictured (left to right) Dustin Stewart, Naiyill Morales, Katie Anne Fopiano and Emmanuel Diaz, the new SGA board for 2016-2017 (Photo courtesy of Katie Anne Fopiano)

Government for the past two years, serving as Senate Whip and as the Director for the Liberty Center Student Council, a new auxiliary branch of the Student Government Association at the Armstrong Hinesville Campus. Naiyill brings a wealth of knowledge and experience regarding the sciences, military student affairs, Hinesville campus outreach, and non-traditional students. She will continue to advocate for student concerns from both campuses and ensure proper functioning and visibility of SGA members on campus.

Your incoming SGA Treasurer, Emmanuel Diaz, is a junior Physics major. Emmanuel, or "Manny", has served this past year on the Student Senate Business and Finance committee as well as the Recognized Student Organization Budget Request Committee. Manny has great experience

serving in multiple leadership roles, particularly in HOLA, as a Founding Brother of the Lambda Theta Phi Fraternity, and other groups with the Office of Multicultural Affairs and will bring a much-desired perspective to student leadership. As Treasurer, Manny will ensure that RSO funding is fair and accessible and ensure effective communication with RSOs regarding available funds and processes for requesting and acquiring approved funds. Manny will also work to resolve issues regarding campus meals and other issues that pertain to the Treasurer's office.

Your incoming SGA Secretary, Katie Anne Fopiano, is a junior Biochemistry major. Katie Anne has served this year on the Student Senate Campus and Community Initiatives Committee. This year, as a member of that com-

mittee, Katie Anne worked to lay the groundwork for a potential Armstrong-Savannah Schools program that will focus on tutoring students in low academic standing, and will continue to develop this program to be a long-term partnership. Katie Anne has served in multiple leadership roles with the Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority and currently is a tutor, herself, at Armstrong. As Secretary, Katie Anne will work to improve communication between School Administration, SGA, and students, including pushing to innovate current communication avenues.

Team D.A.R.E., as we called ourselves, campaigned on the Three Cs – CUB, Campus, Community. As a team, we decided during our planning phase that we wanted to initiate and fully bring to fruition at least one major accom-

plishment for each of the Cs. For Campus Union Board, we want to work closely with the newly, now formally established CUB Executive Board to increase collaboration among student groups and the Campus Union Board to increase student turnout and participation, and improve the major annual CUB events, namely Celebrate, Spring Fling, and the Big Show. For Campus, we want to work with all departments to promote and engage students, including increased athletic event attendance and cultural event attendance. This will involve asking larger student collaboration groups to potentially sponsor an athletic event and using student groups to spread the work about other events on campus, because guess what? THERE IS SO MUCH GOING ON THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

AND BE INVOLVED IN!

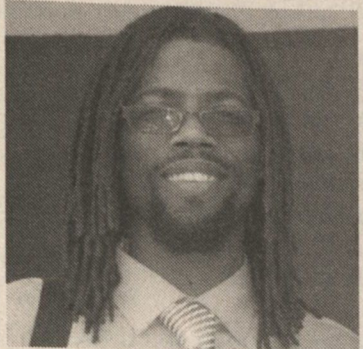
For the community, we are developing a potential tutoring program that would act as a partnership between Armstrong and the Savannah-Chatham schools (stay tuned for more details and how you can get involved!) and we want to work with local service-based organizations to give students greater opportunities to expand their community service resume. Community service is so much more important than it is given credit for.

Armstrong is sitting on the verge of excellence, not just in academics but in community engagement and leadership. While the University has made great leaps and bounds, specifically being honored as a top university for Veterans and Health Sciences, there is still much room to grow – and the incoming SGA Executive Team campaigned on and will continue to push for that growth, at the campus level and at the community level.

But we CANNOT do it alone. We need your help to make Armstrong what we all know it can be – a vibrant campus with boundless opportunities for everyone. Student are what allow this University to exist and we should make sure that we are doing everything we can to make sure we are getting the most out of our undergraduate and graduate experiences. So, if you see us, TALK to us! We want to get to know you and we want you to get to know us. Communication and interpersonal relationships are two of the most critical pieces to effective outcomes.

We are Armstrong students. We are Team D.A.R.E. We are Dedicated to Achieving Results for Everyone. And we are all in this together. Thank you!

Visiting professor answers question “Do African-American studies matter?”



Dr. Seneca Vaught (via Twitter @senecavaught)

ALYSSA SCHIFFMAN,
STAFF WRITER

Armstrong’s African-American Studies Program brought in some outside help to answer a very serious question this past week. Emerging scholar and assistant

professor of African-American diaspora history Dr. Seneca Vaught presented an in-depth lecture and discussion titled “Do African-American Studies Matter?”

The subject of the African diaspora has had a lasting impact since the inception of African-American culture. As Dr. Vaught explained in an interview, African Diaspora studies owe its recent stand in the foreground to the phenomenon of social media.

“[These studies] matter because we are in an era where these issues of race and inequality have come to the fore,” Dr. Vaught stated, “It’s not because they weren’t major issues before, it’s just that

more public attention is being given to them because of these changes in our technology.”

Dr. Vaught stressed how important it is to see the rise of “academic expertise” in the discussion of these matters.

“Looking at the coverage in the news, we can see that the public has interest in these issues, elected officials have interest in these issues, but one of the things we’re not seeing is the inclusion of a variety of academic expertise on these matters...”

“Oftentimes people have interesting things to say, but don’t have the academic background for them to be experts on the subject matter.” Dr. Vaught said. “We want to

broaden the discussion about black lives... but we want to make sure it’s a balanced perspective, an informed perspective, and I think that African-American studies plays a key role in that.”

Dr. Vaught emphasized the importance of analyzing problems currently being addressed not merely as strains on any specific group but as concerning the entire world.

“By ghettoizing these disciplines, and this includes black studies, gender and women’s studies, Latin American studies, Asian studies, etc., we presume that these have nothing to do with the functioning of democracy when it’s quite the opposite.” Said Dr. Vaught.

He continued, saying “Different people are impacted by other people and their ideas, and that’s really what democracy is all about.”

Dr. Vaught also pointed out that students can benefit greatly by engaging in African-American studies, regardless of one’s college major. The purpose of university, he explained, is essentially to learn how to expand one’s mind into different realms of thinking.

“I counsel students who come into my office knowing exactly what they want,” Dr. Vaught stated, “but part of what black studies does is that it broadens one’s horizons to think creatively and lateral-

ly. Education is not a linear process, and you’re exploring possibilities by engaging different routes of inquiry that you might not have been presented with otherwise.”

The ability to ask and answer these questions is a vital skill to have, particularly in the shifting American landscape.

“We go to school, we go to college, we go to university not because we know the answers already, but to learn how to ask better questions, and African-American studies is really valuable because it teaches us how to frame different and important social questions for this generation.”

Graphic Design majors present senior show: A ‘Bazaar Concept’

BRADLEY MULLIS
A&E EDITOR

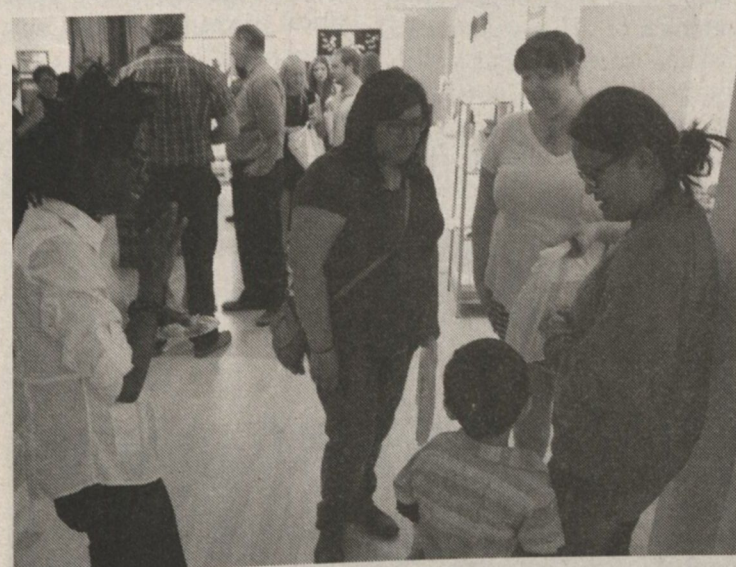
The Senior Showcase for students graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree was held in the Fine Arts Gallery. The exhibition featured

work from the five graphic designers under the title of “Bazaar Conceptions”, in an effort to give the gallery more of a marketplace feel. This allowed the senior students to brand their own mock companies and show off their talent

as graphic designers, with pieces ranging from The Inkwell design to designs for bands like Lyn Avenue. Featured in the show were The Inkwell’s very own Layout Editor, Kim Crabtree and Photo Editor, Elizabeth Rhaney.

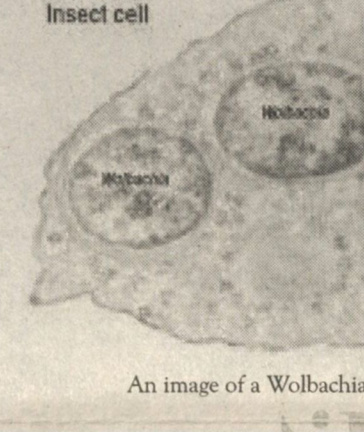


(from left to right) Elizabeth Rhaney, CC Witt, Holly Nance, Angela Horne, Haley Geller, and Kim Crabtree at the reception for Bazaar Conceptions in the Fine Arts Gallery Friday March 25, 2016



Faculty lecture series discusses new intro biology curriculum

MELANIE GIBSON
STAFF WRITER



An image of a Wolbachia bacteria cell (via eliminatedengue.com)

Biology was the topic of consideration at Friday’s Faculty Lecture Series, hosted in the Ogeechee Theatre. A slew of Biology professors such as Doctors Mateer, DeMars and Link-Perez discussed an array of topics affecting the Biology program’s teaching process, such as the new “LEAPS” educational program, as well as the benefits that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) courses hold for careers that aren’t necessarily limited to science.

“We took the month-long [high school] program and expanded it to an entire semester,” DeMars said of the LEAPS program. “Our students are participating in the application and process of science, and are now part of a national endeavor.”

“Laboratories Engaging students in the Application and Process of Science” (LEAPS), is a grant for the new feature of curriculum. Inspired by the Massachusetts based program, “Discover the Microbes Within! The Wolbachia Project,” LEAPS allows high school students to dabble in molecular biology before entering college by working with bacterial endosymbionts like Wolbachia.

The new curriculum’s grant was approved in March 2013 and has since been monitored by pre- and post-course assessments and surveys of both students and professors. Professor Brofft-Bailey, who also spoke, presented that following the implementation of the Wolbachia project showed an increase in average test scores for Biology 1107, as did comprehension of molecular biology techniques specifically.

DeMars attributes the success of the project to the fact that it allows something other than “cook-book” experimentation, where the student can predict the outcome based on

context. The new curriculum tailors itself to each student: the participant collects their own insect, analyzes their insect’s DNA, and comes to a conclusion unique to their specimen that cannot be predicted without use of biotechnology.

Student feedback concerning the modified lab has been generally positive, as exposure to certain concepts and techniques are not typically available to students until later biology courses. Some agreed with the enjoyment and gratitude, but also complained about the workload necessary to completely understand the stages of the project.

The changes made by LEAPS have impacted 2817 students (science and non-science majors), 24 instructors, 3 laboratories and 2 college

campuses. Mateer explained that the expansion, depth, and availability of STEM classes for all students provides a foundation for success in future endeavors of many areas.

“STEM majors are the new liberal arts majors,” Mateer said, while acknowledging the controversy behind his argument. “The characteristics employers are seeking, [innovative characteristics], are present in the multidisciplinary goals of the biology department.”

A parent who attended the lecture expressed her concern for the future of the curriculum, wondering after what point the Wolbachia project would be more or less obsolete. Ness and Brofft-Bailey responded that no groundbreaking steps to knowing everything about the Wolbachia genome and its impact on human disease are coming in the immediate future, which allows longevity of the new curriculum.

Despite some slight concerns, the studies and the project itself both point to establishing a better foundation for the Biology major as they outfit students with a better understanding of physical life.

KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTING WHO WE SHOULD PROFILE?



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‘Portraits: Group Show:’ 4-Artist collab to grace Gallery Espresso in April

RACHEL LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

Portraits of masked wrestlers, disfigured faces, and even some friendly faces will decorate the walls of Savannah’s Gallery Espresso from March 30, 2016 – May 2 for the exhibit “Portraits: Group Show.”

This group exhibition will feature paintings and drawings from four local artists: Chris D’Antonio, Gordon Rabut, Clayton Walsh and Lomaho Kretzmann.

An art gallery and coffee shop located in historic downtown Savannah, Gallery Espresso is at the south end of the most famous square in the city, Chippewa Sq., aka “The Forest Gump” square. Gallery

Espresso offers over 100 gourmet teas and serves the highest quality Arabica coffee beans. Each month they display a new collection from local Savannah artists.

The four artists represented in “Portraits: Group Show” are a tight-knit group of friends who have collaborated together in multiple gallery shows, public projects and private commissions.

“We’ve done lots of shows together,” said Chris D’Antonio, “at least one every year, sometimes more.”

The four gentlemen, whose works typically reflect their shared interests in movies, video games and graphic novels, have shifted their focus to portraiture for this exhibition. Their individual works

are unified by their shared dedication to lowbrow subject matter, while remaining unique in their distinct drawing styles.

Chris D’Antonio’s traditional compositions use oil paint on panel and canvas to depict the persona of masked Mexican luchadores in a muted, greyed color pallet. He also includes a group of paintings that reanimate the “trial and error” phase in the development of the jetpack after WWII. He draws inspiration from photos on the Internet and old books for both subjects.

“I found the pictures visually interesting,” D’Antonio explains, “and wanted to use their stance, facial expressions and even masks to explore their story.”

Lomaho Kretzmann draws from graphic novels



Just one of many samples of work on display during this month’s exhibit. (via Gallery Espresso)

and album covers to influence his compositions. His bright paintings add a pop color to the show. Kretzmann remains true to his lowbrow style of sequential art and presents his subject in a series of graphic narratives.

Clayton Walsh, on the other hand, focuses his drawings in a more direct and to the point fashion. His photo-realistic portraits attempt to capture real moments in time and space, drawing friends in their natural environments.

Gordon Rabut adds a dark and eerie element to the show with his series of drawings that explore the human face as a defect or deformity. Rabut utilizes pen on tabloid-sized cardstock to create detailed images of exploding heads, faces with growths and abnormalities, gas masks and pigs heads. While the contents could be pulled straight out of a nightmare, his portraits capture something raw and startling about human vanity.

Chris D’Antonio, Gordon Rabut, Clayton Walsh and Lomaho Kretzmann invite you to experience their diverse collection firsthand while enjoying the highest quality coffees and teas in Savannah. Gallery Espresso, on the corner of Bull Street and Perry Lane, will hang the “Portraits: Group Show” for the entire month of April.



Gallery Espresso features work from different artists each month. (Photo by Rachel Little)

Game review: Hitman

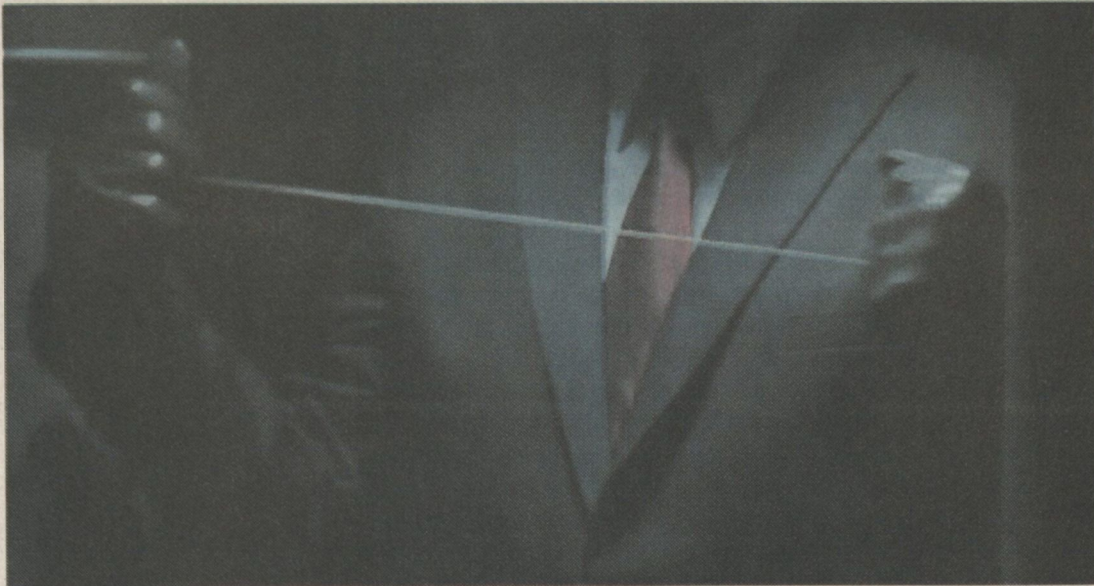
CHRISTOPHER WILSON
STAFF WRITER

SPOILERS AHEAD: Stealth and trickery are the usual suspects of the 2016 action-adventure game, “Hitman.” The sixth installment of the assassin-based game was put out by Danish studio Io-Interactive, a subsidiary of Square Enix.

This installment of “Hitman” utilizes a rather peculiar story arc, focusing on the before and after of the current timeline. The game is being released in episodic fashion, which means the game is coming out piecemeal monthly instead of one large release.

“Hitman” is a third-person-based stealth game that follows the quiet, collected character simply named “Agent 47.” Agent 47 is a highly-trained assassin of an organization that pulls the scenes of society behind the curtain to move the economy and politics as they see fit.

A genetically-enhanced superhuman, Agent 47 is de-



A dangerous hitman prepares to close in on an unfortunate enemy

scribed as having above-average speed, strength, stamina and mental acuity. In addition, 47 has been the recipient of advanced espionage training since childhood, turning him into a superb killing machine.

It becomes apparent during his training that 47 is not a fan of the position he has been forced into, as it is

revealed that he holds a very large amount of hatred for his trainers, often injuring them in fits of rage.

The game’s timeline takes place during the final evaluations of Agent 47’s training. During the last stages of this, his handlers decide that he is far too dangerous to be allowed into real world scenarios without any form of leverage against him should he turn against them. In light of this, one of his handler’s rig his final test for him to fail, and the initial mission is about you overcoming the rigged test to be allowed out into the world finally.

For games like “Hitman,” the appeal of the game doesn’t reside in the story, the targets Agent 47 is assigned to kill, nor the assigned weapons available to use. The full range of creativity...this is the true gem of “Hitman.”

Instead of just shooting enemies full of lead, the very obvious and vanilla route, players can plan for fireworks to go off at a certain time, lighting the targets dress on fire and encasing them in a burning inferno. There is also the standard variety of long range sniper weapons, close range pistols or blades and the

unique use of explosives to either destroy targets or make it look like an accident.

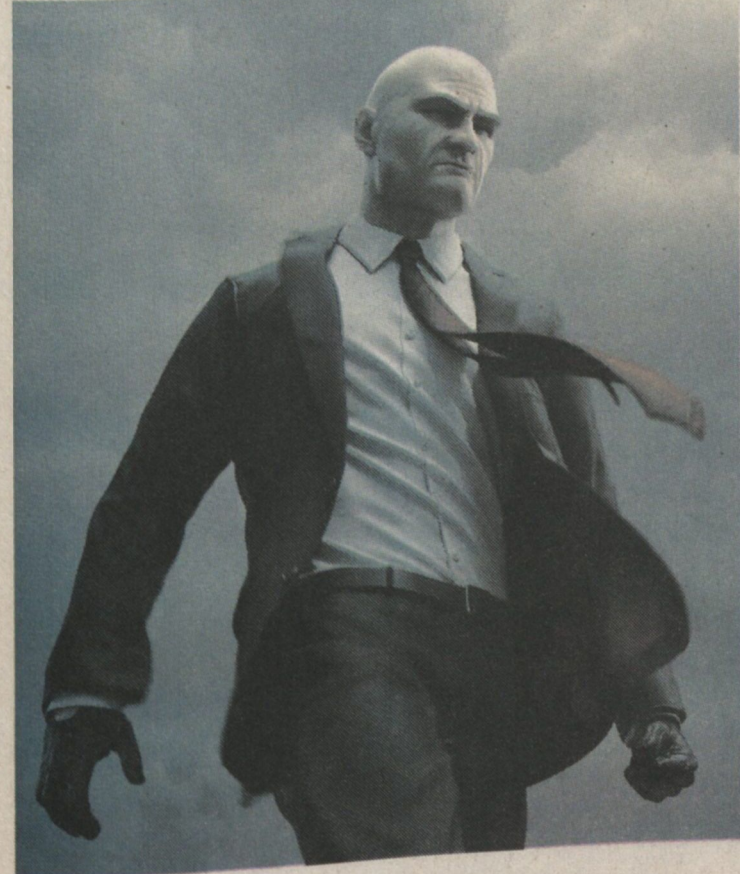
The only downfall of “Hitman” is not so much the fact that it is being released in an episodic fashion, but that the game itself feels incomplete. The mechanics seem rushed or often not used to the full purpose it seems they were originally intended for. Nevertheless, the game has a lot of potential and there are still quite a few more episodes to be released, so I can give it a high recommendation, especially if for players who have enjoyed the previous installments of the series.

GAME RATING

RATING:
4.5 OUT OF 5



Genres: Action-adventure, stealth
Platforms: Microsoft Windows, OS X, Xbox, PlayStation 2, GameCube, Xbox 360, PlayStation 3, iOS, Android, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Windows Phone
Platform of origin: Microsoft Windows
First release:
Hitman: Codename 47
November 19, 2000



Band Profile: AKILAVUE of Hilton Head

JOHN KEEN
STAFF WRITER

“[We’re] a powerful band. I wish I’ve always had a lineup this great to play with,” said Doug Marshall, lead singer for AKILAVUE [pronounced A killer view.]

Marshall, former lead singer of Souls Harbor and current lead singer for Souls Harbor acoustic, knows what it takes to be successful. While touring from Virginia down to South Georgia, Souls Harbor played with quite an impressive array of musical talent.

“We toured with Hinder for five to seven shows, worked with Papa Roach for a few shows, and toured with [Atlanta based] Sevendust for a few shows,” Says Marshall.

Souls Harbor success did not stop there, however. They opened festivals for bands such as: Korn, Chevelle, Alter Bridge, Breaking Benjamin and Georgia-based Mastadon.

Marshall, despite Souls Harbor’s success, felt it was time to move his music career in a different direction.

“It was time to venture off, to start something new with different people. People just as focused on success as I am.”

Finding successful people is what Marshall went out and did when he founded AKILAVUE.

Doug McCarthy, drummer, has been playing music for 12 years including a

stint with The Higher. Sonny Bond, who plays with Marshall for Souls Harbor acoustic, is lead guitar and brings a southern rock style. Ryan Bennet plays rhythm guitar. Davey Masteller plays bass and Marshall is lead vocals.

“We’re definitely an eclectic group,” Marshall said.

AKILAVUE’s first CD, “Carousel,” produced by Skid Mills of Nashville, who has worked with Skillet, Saving Abel, Saliva and many others, is set to be released June 17 with digital download available one week prior.

“Carousel’s sound is ambient, more melodic, [since] all songs were written on acoustic guitar. It’s very modern rock, too, with influences from Avenged Sevenfold, Death Tones and AFI [A Fire Inside].”

AKILAVUE’s first show will be May 20 at The Sparrow in Charleston, South Carolina, where they are opening for Madam Adam, followed by a CD release party at Savannah’s Barrel House June 18.

While AKILAVUE has yet to play their first show, Marshall has high hopes for them.

“We’re starting off local, for now. But we’re definitely going to venture off into different markets.”

For more information on AKILAVUE, including links to their INDIEGOGO page, go to akilavue.com.



Backpage

[6] **THE INKWELL**
March 31, 2016

Business-econ major to work in local hotel management New sexual misconduct policy replaces all USG policies



Pictured: Dillon Patel

DONNY WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Dillon Patel, age 22, is a Business Economics major with a minor in English at Armstrong. But not for long, as he is also part of the spring

2016 graduating class.

With only a few months left, Patel has mixed emotions about graduating and leaving Armstrong. He said that he has made many good friends in college, but is "Definitely ready for the next chapter."

His family are the proud owners of several hotels on Tybee Island, which brings about the expectation of whether or not he will be working the family business after graduation.

When his father asked what he wanted to do after college, Patel's response was simple: "I want to be here and help out."

"My dad made sure that I didn't want to go anywhere else, but he was relieved when I said that I'm staying," he

added.

The business economics major says he received some criticism from friends for staying close to home, but his philosophy is a positive one: "My parents have helped me out my entire life, so why not return the favor? With my whole life ahead of me, it's the least I can do right now to give back to my family."

Patel is a Tybee local and will continue living on the island to work in hotel management. He plans to own a beach hotel of his own in the next few years. He is a committed brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) and a member of the Econ club at Armstrong. He also enjoys playing intramural sports at Armstrong and riding jet skis.

LLANA SAMUEL
STAFF WRITER

This month, the state of Georgia Board of Regents passed a new University System of Georgia Sexual Misconduct Policy. The new policies come after the USG Campus Safety Initiative, launched in May 2015, and will replace all local institution policies across the state.

A new systemwide update to the student conduct policy was also passed, however there has been more concern surrounding the sexual misconduct policy. Schools are allowed to add to the policy in order to clarify information, but they may not change anything in the new policy.

"We are committed to providing safe and welcoming

campuses for all of our students," said Chancellor Hank Huckaby. "Our goal is simple, yet critically important to our campus communities - to provide more consistent and clearer systemwide practices to ensure fairness for all of our students."

The new policy will require training for all individuals involved in investigations, hearings and appeals. This will include the continuation of Web-based education on alcohol and sexual assault awareness for faculty and staff at USG institutions.

Another new component of the policy, aimed at protecting individuals against bias, allows any party the right to challenge the involvement of an investigator or decision-maker on concerns of bias. In those cases, the institution must provide a neutral party to review the challenge.

A Facebook group, Students United Against the USG Sexual Misconduct Policy, has been assembling allies at various Georgia colleges and universities. Their goal is to get the Board of Regents to revise the new policy, adhering to advice from students and experts on the topic.

The group is working on a list of ways in which the new USG policy conflicts with

federal law which currently includes that there is no clause about retractability of consent and that the victim or complainant prosecutes.

Other policy issues pointed out by the group of students are that both parties have the opportunity to confront witnesses through writing, which would be filtered through a Title IX coordinator. This style of communication was compared to cross-examination by several members of the group.

Under the new sexual misconduct policy, the accused cannot be suspended or expelled from their institution unless substantial evidence is found.

Assistant dean of student integrity Andrew Dies hosted several listening groups last week for students, faculty and staff to give their feedback on the new changes. The revised Code of Student Integrity must be submitted to the USG office of Legal Affairs by April 22. Anyone who was unable to attend the listening groups may send their feedback to the Assistant Dean of Student Integrity at andrew.dies@armstrong.edu.

Both policies will not go into effect until July 1. Students can view the new policies via The Inkwell website.

RACE CONTINUED | PG 1

er on a college campus than anybody. When you think about the Civil Rights Movement, what age groups in the 60s and 70s moved that along? It was you, and this is your time now. If you actually do what I told you to do without any context, you're not thinking critically. That is the difference between living in a world where rules are made for you...

and living in a world where you create your own rules. So from this day forward, ask the question why, dig deeper, [and] never stop at the first story or the single story," Dr. Ward said.

Chelsea Sawyer, a sophomore Cell and Molecular Biology major, was pleased to see the diversity of the crowd and liked the idea of anonymous text-in questions.

"I enjoyed seeing the di-

versity in the room. Like the speaker said, uncomfortable conversations need to take place more often for real growth and healing to transpire. The audience participation was good and the idea of having people who didn't want to talk text their concerns was awesome," Sawyer said.

Dr. Ward closed the discussion with the idea of unity promoting growth in terms of race relations within the cam-

pus community.

"Solidarity is very important; there are strength in numbers. When you have a collective, you can do more," Ward said.

The "Race, Part 2" discussion will be held [WAITING FOR DATE] April beginning at 12 p.m. in the Ogeechee Theater for those who may have missed the first meeting or want to continue the conversation.

LEARNING CONTINUED | PG 1

ication of this class.

The class will also be preparing for an upcoming fundraiser in April. Liz Murray, the author of "Breaking Night: A Memoir" will be the keynote speaker for the event, where she will discuss her journey from being homeless to graduating from Harvard.

Kelly Nelson, a student taking the course says that she prefers service learning as opposed to a traditional classroom setting. She shared some of the things she learned through this course:

"It was cemented in me that service learning and volunteering is NOT about imposing your practices, beliefs, values, morals on an organization or person. Instead, service learning and volunteering is about asking the questions 'what do you need?' or 'how

can I help?'"

Hatch says that she has noticed that students have increased empathy and understanding of homelessness that perhaps they would not have gained sitting in a classroom.

"There are a ton of stereotypes about homelessness, and don't think any of these 19 students will walk out of this class believing that homelessness is about being 'lazy.' Instead, this group of folks have come to understand that becoming homeless is a possibility for all of us."

Nelson says that she recommends the course to Armstrong students because she believes there are only a few opportunities that allow you to look how a nonprofit works. Nelson also believes that courses like these create memorable experiences.

Her most memorable experience was meeting a previ-

ous person who lived at Union Mission and is now successful.

"Through the efforts to find some new furniture for the common room in the Grace house, I was privileged to meet a young woman, Tyisha Weaver, who works at the Ashley Furniture distribution center. Usually when you call businesses and ask for lots of new/ gently used furniture you have to beg, follow-up, follow-up on the follow-up... It takes a lot. Tyisha on the other hand was so excited to hear from us.

"Turns out she had been a client of Union Mission. After escaping an abusive home, she and her children utilized the housing, education, medical care and support that Union Mission offers. She is now a successful woman and says she really owes so much to the Union Mission. She happily donated several pieces of fur-

niture and will have an ongoing relationship with Union Mission in the future."

Because this is Hatch's first time teaching a course of this nature, she had a few concerns about the logistics. There aren't many courses she could model for her class. She was concerned with the amount of time she wanted her students in a classroom setting and the amount of time they would be at Union Mission.

She was also concerned about her students being a burden at Union Mission instead of providing help. However, she says that her students are well-received by Union mission. Hatch is happy with the results of this course and hopes to create partnerships with other nonprofit organizations in Savannah.

In the future, she is thinking about offering the course to students every other year.

CHANGES CONTINUED | PG 1

"The changes should not affect me because I park in a garage and pay a monthly rate," Dennise Campbell, a City of Savannah employee, said.

Employees that do utilize on-street parking will have the option of parking in free, or un-metered, parking if suggestions made during the study go into effect.

"People who work downtown that park on meter may be positively affected. If you pay based on location instead of time you can pay the rate when you arrive in the morning, you won't have to leave work through the day to feed the meter," Campbell said.

The study contains two pages of recommendations to increase mobility in downtown Savannah. The ultimate

goal is to make the parking system more user friendly.

While everyone seems to be focusing on the changes to parking, the city is focused on improving the entire system.

"It's not about the rate increase but the whole system," McDonald said.

The Department of Mobility and Parking Services is currently taking feedback from the community. Everyone is encouraged to read the study before making decisions regarding the proposed changes. A link to the study is available via The Inkwell website.



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