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# THE INKWELL

The weekly student voice of Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, Ga.

Week of February 06, 2014

TheInkwellOnline.com

Volume 83, Issue 3

## SUPER BOWL

Peyton Manning's legacy unfazed by loss

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## OPINION

Guns on Campus: Should students be allowed to carry them?

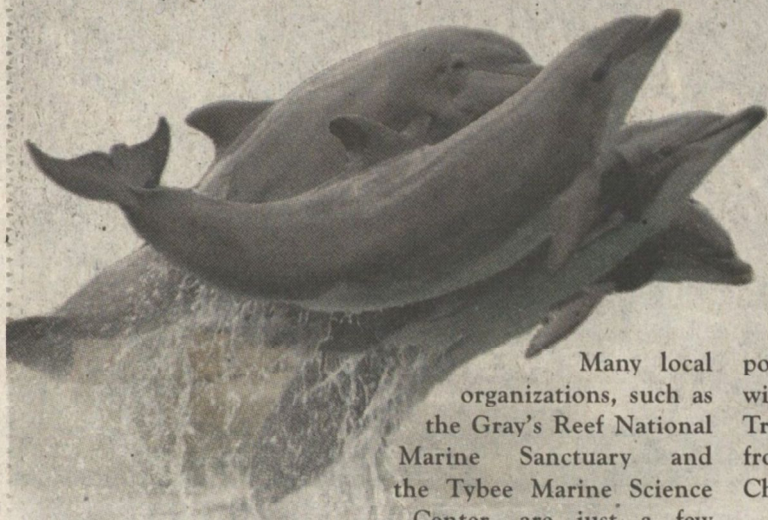
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## PULSE FESTIVAL

Telfair brings art to Savannah citizens

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## Mobile



## Adult Swim:

### Students take a dip with dolphins

BY EMILY SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

One of the best things about coming to Armstrong is its close proximity to the beach. And for students studying the oceans or their inhabitants, it's a win-win for research opportunities and fun weekends.

Many local organizations, such as the Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and the Tybee Marine Science Center, are just a few examples of how locals have researched and preserved Georgia's coastal beauty. One group offers students the chance to study one specific marine mammal: Bottlenose dolphins.

One local wildlife group, The Dolphin Project, is offering any interested students a chance to learn more about their group and

possibly join their team. They will be hosting a Research Training Workshop on Feb. 15 from 10-noon at the Southwest Chatham Library on Abercorn. Aside from gaining knowledge about dolphins and the volunteer group, participants will have the chance to go out into the water with the research team. This is a unique opportunity for college students, since no previous experience is necessary.

Armstrong's own Anthropology Club has sponsored two dolphins through this organization in the past. This year, members

will be among those training to partake in research surveys as volunteers.

Club President Casey McManus has nothing but positive things to say about The Dolphin Project.

"It's important and I think it's necessary what they're doing. They're really just trying to help the animals."

Grace Fleming, academic advisor and student success coordinator for the College of Liberal Arts at Armstrong, worked as a volunteer years ago and recently decided to join The Dolphin Project again.

"I go out on my boat all

the time and I love seeing the dolphins. Now that I have a boat, I think my work will be different," Fleming said.

Krystal Goodwin has been on the board of The Dolphin Project for two years. Her passion for dolphins started when she was three years old, when she first started scuba diving. Her love of dolphins has grown since then.

"This organization is so close to my heart because they're part of our local ecology," Goodwin said.

The Dolphin Project is a unique, non-profit organization that holds a

federal marine permit, which allows the research team to be within fifty feet of dolphins. Their trips are not like dolphin tours, which are touted by companies catering to tourists.

Research participants do not swim with, feed or touch the dolphins because their research is strictly educational. Volunteers leave at the first sign of stress from the animals.

Goodwin encourages anyone with an interest in ecology, conservation, photography or simply going out on the water to get involved with this wholesome group.

## Advisor warns against dropping classes at seminar

BY RANDEE MAY

This past year, Armstrong has launched several initiatives to increase incoming freshmen's knowledge about actually attending college. One of these initiatives is the Tickets to Success workshop series.

Attendance at these workshops have been hit-and-miss. Regardless, the information provided is more valuable than most students realize. Since the start of the

spring semester there have been four workshops.

Grace Fleming, Student Success Coordinator here at Armstrong, directed the latest workshop titled 'The Dangers of Dropping a Class.'

Unfortunately, it had no participants. A majority of students are ill-informed about the issues concerning dropping a class after the drop period has passed. Though some believe it is safe to drop a class after the

drop date because it won't be counted as a failure, the truth is that this affects students in more ways than one.

Not only does dropping a class and receiving a "W" mean that the student will not get their money back for that class, but they may also unintentionally forfeit their financial aid due to the Standards of Academic Process (SAP) law set in place

DROP | PAGE 6

## Chatham Co. kids published: Deep Center honors local writers



Photo by Katie Maddox

Parents, kids, and Deep Center volunteers pass out the new Deep Speaks! book at the Historic Savannah Theater.

BY KATIE MADDOX  
NEWS EDITOR

NEWS.INKWELL@GMAIL.COM

On Monday night, there was an unusual crowd gathering outside of the Historic Savannah Theater. Around 100 parents and their school-aged children spilled out of the lobby and onto the sidewalk, patiently waiting for the theater doors to open.

Small tables were set up outside. Volunteers wearing blue shirts touting "deep" in a white outline handed out books to the children. This was the yearly book release of Deep Center, a local non-profit organization who provide writing workshops and publication to

public-schooled elementary and middle school students across Chatham County.

Joanna Dasher, Executive Director for Deep Center, led the Deep Speaks! book release. Last year's book release attracted 500 attendees.

Students from East Broad Street, DeRenne Middle, Myers Middle and many other Chatham County Schools were represented at the event. Approximately ten students from each school won the contest for writing the most "original, vivid, and fearless style of work," Dasher said.

"These kids are really excited to read on stage. We've had to come up with a way to make it so that we don't have two hundred kids up

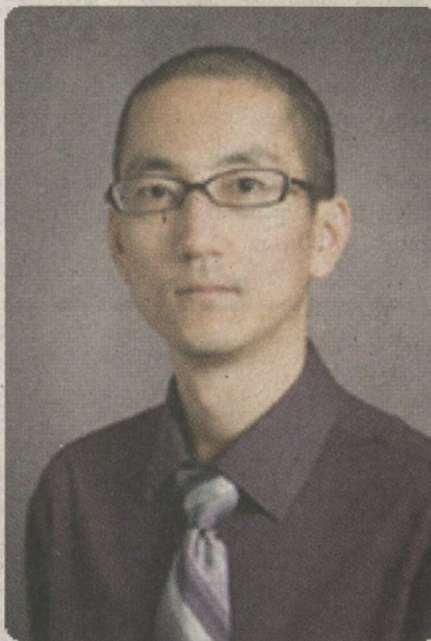
DEEP | PAGE 6

## Office Hours

Dr. Hongjie Wang

Assistant Professor of History

INTERVIEW BY EMILY SMITH



What made you decide to be a professor?

I want to teach. I believe education can change a lot. I hope students can learn more from a younger age. I made many mistakes and I want to help others.

What fascinates you about teaching history?

Changes. Comparing history with the world. Change is a good thing because you can see hope from change.

What's your favorite part about being a professor?

Lecture. Staying in the office or researching in the lab is not my favorite part. I enjoy teaching in class a lot.

What do you hope students take away from your class?

Not only knowledge and points, but effective learning attitudes.

Who inspires you?

American History Professor, Gordon Wood at Brown University. I never enrolled in his class, but I observed his

teaching and saw passion. In front of 400 students, it was amazing.

What's a piece of advice that you could give to students?

Try to reflect more from simple class. It's not just about requirements, it's about how you transform yourself in college life and how you take opportunities.

What's important about learning history?

Thought. Wonder about facts. You should not always follow points and rules. Read for yourself and develop your own.

## Minimum-wage debate rages on

BY GREGORY KARP  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
(MCT)

You'd think debate on the merits of raising the minimum wage would have been settled long ago. After all, it's been around for 75 years in the United States, and it's been examined in countless academic and professional studies.

But the rhetoric rages on after President Barack Obama

last week urged Congress to "give America a raise" by hiking the national minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour from \$7.25. And again when Gov. Pat Quinn advocated a raise in Illinois to \$10 an hour from \$8.25 during his State of the State address.

It's a job killer.

It's a poverty fighter.

"It's probably the most studied social policy in American history," said Robert Bruno, a professor

of labor and employment relations at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Yet debate continues, this time against the backdrop of a fragile economy, which has employers reluctant to add costs. Meanwhile, the same forces pinching business are also squeezing workers at the lowest rung of the income ladder who haven't seen an increase in their hourly

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## Softball smashes Trojans



File photo

By BERRY ALDRIDGE  
STAFF WRITER

"We've been practicing very hard since August, and really building up and focusing on this first game. We just

kind of exploded," said Ted Evans, head coach of the No. 5-ranked Armstrong Pirates softball team.

And explode they did. Despite rainy weather that cancelled three of the Pirates

scheduled games on the weekend, the ladies opened the season Feb. 2 at home by run-ruling the Mount Olive Trojans 9-1 in five innings.

Armstrong drew first blood, scoring in the bottom of the first inning on a sacrifice-fly from junior Lacey Walker. The Pirates furthered their lead in the third inning when senior Andrea Dalton smashed a two-run home run and sophomore Hannah Reppert smacked an RBI single.

Mount Olive mustered a run across at the top of the fourth inning, but the Pirates' domination never allowed the Trojans to pull any closer than that. In the bottom of the inning, last season's Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year, junior Alexis Mercer, blasted a two-run home run and Walker gathered her second RBI of the day with a single.

"I'm excited," Mercer said. "We are only going to get better from here on out."

After holding Mount Olive scoreless in the top of the fifth inning, sophomore Haley Ellis put the Trojans out of their misery when she hit a solo home run, the Pirates' third homer of the day. That ninth run evoked a run rule that awards the victory to any team leading by eight or more runs after the fifth inning.

The exhilaration of the first win is great, but 2013 third-team NFCA All-American, senior Kacie Patterson, knows the team must stay focused.

"Every weekend brings a new challenge and every week we work hard to get better and prepare for that upcoming challenge," Patterson said.

The Pirates return to the field on Feb. 7, in St. Petersburg for the Eckerd Triton Spring Invitational. Armstrong is matched up against Barry at 4:30 p.m. and Florida Tech at 7:00 p.m.



File photo

## Pirates sweep Voorhees College

By TANIESHA BRONNER

Armstrong baseball began its season with double-header victories of 11-0 and 16-1 against Voorhees College on Feb. 2. The games, played at Pirate Field, were shortened to seven innings due to the mercy rule.

"It was our first day out, and wanted to show enthusiasm, and that all the hard work in the offseason paid," Calvin Culberson said on his first win as Armstrong's new head coach.

In the first game of the season, the Pirates exploded in the third inning, scoring six runs. Senior Clayton Miller went 2-for-3 with three RBIs and a two-run triple double. Junior Zach Lance went 3-for-4 for the game, and added two doubles for the Pirates.

Senior Ethan Bader held it all together for five innings and struck out 12 batters in dominating fashion to earn the

win. As the season approached, being fully prepared was something that was at the top of his priorities.

"I just wanted to throw strikes and be as efficient as possible," he said. Bader's effectiveness and hard work showed from his strikeouts in the season openers.

Junior Justin Adkins threw the last two innings of relief, and struck out three while giving up no runs.

"The team prepared the entire off season to get ready for the season," Bader said. "The team will continue to get better as we continue to play together."

**Pirates score 16 in seven innings**

Armstrong carried the momentum of the first game into the second, with a 16-1 victory in seven innings.

"We had to adjust to the different style of pitching than we will face throughout the season and in our conference,"

Culberson said.

Three big innings and solid pitching paved the way to another victory on the day. The Pirates scored four runs in the first inning and five runs in the fifth and sixth innings.

Miller led the way again with two more hits and three more RBIs, and junior Joey Lupus went 2-for-4 with three RBIs. Lance smacked another double to plate a pair.

"Our hitters made adjustments to score runners, and we will continue to work for more success," Culberson said.

Junior Tyler Allen made his debut on the mound as a Pirate, pitching the first four innings with five strikeouts to earn the victory. Senior Mitchell Dolan threw 1.2 innings with two strikeouts, and junior Ryan Good finished off the game by striking out three batters.

Armstrong's next game will be Feb. 8 at home against Barton at 11 a.m.

## JOHNSON'S JOCK TALK



By DALTON JOHNSON  
sports.inkwell@gmail.com

The best offense in football versus the best defense in football. Peyton Manning looking to seal the deal on the greatest statistical season ever by a quarterback against a 5-foot-11, third-round pick quarterback in Russell Wilson. Denver's fearsome foursome of receiving options versus the "Legion of Boom." Nobody saw this coming. Nobody.

What was hyped to be one of the most even and exciting matchups in Super Bowl history ended up being one of the biggest duds. The Seattle Seahawks thrashed, harassed, and dominated Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos to cruise to a 43-8 victory and Seattle's first Super Bowl victory in franchise history.

In the same fashion that Seattle's defense has shown all

## Peyton Manning's legacy trumps Super Bowl dud

year long, they exerted their heart and will against the Broncos in every way possible. From literally the first snap of the game, the Seahawks owned the game. While trying to perform an audible, the first snap flew past Manning and into the back of the end zone for a safety. Seattle's defense: 2, the Denver Manning's: 0.

After the safety came a Manning interception. Then another one, this time for a touchdown. Predictably and annoyingly, the tweets of Manning being a choker in the playoffs popped up and his legacy would again be the talk of SportsCenter. Let's get one thing straight: Peyton Manning's legacy as one of the greatest quarterbacks ever, and possibly the greatest, was sealed many years ago.

Manning now has an 11-12 playoff record, giving him the most playoff losses by any starting quarterback in NFL history. His 24.4 total quarterback rating was his lowest of the season and the lowest in a Super Bowl since Rex Grossman's 7.1 in 2006.

After the game in one interview, Manning was asked to name his three greatest quarterbacks in history, handling the question with humbleness and humor.

"I don't have a list," he said. "I think I could describe the perfect quarterback. Take a little piece of everybody. Take John Elway's arm, Dan Marino's release, maybe Troy Aikman's drop-back, Brett Favre's scrambling ability, Joe Montana's two-minute poise and, naturally, my speed."

The punch line drew laughter after one of the most scrutinized points in Manning's career. His witty sense of humor and ability to get out of a sticky question much quicker than any 40-yard dash he's ever ran is just part of the legacy Manning has built as more than just a player.

Two years ago, there was serious worry that Manning's NFL career had come to an end. After multiple neck surgeries, the quarterback missed an entire season. He was then let go by the Indianapolis Colts after 14 seasons, so the team could draft his successor, Andrew Luck with the No. 1 pick in the draft.

Denver ended up being Manning's destination after visiting with multiple teams — including the Seahawks — and he has continued to grow his legacy as one of the greatest passers ever with the Broncos. Manning has led the Broncos to back-to-back 13-3 regular seasons to win the AFC West in both seasons.

Last season, the Broncos lost to the eventual Super Bowl champion Baltimore Ravens in the playoffs, on a blown play by the defense, but again the loss was credited to Manning. This season, Manning re-wrote the

record books. Manning threw 55 touchdowns to break Tom Brady's record of 50, threw for 5,477 yards to break Drew Brees' record by one yard, had nine four-touchdown games to beat himself and Dan Marino with

six, 15 two-touchdown games to tie Marino's record, tied Marino with four 400-yard passing games, and tied his record of 15 90+ passer rating games. He also

JOCK TALK| PAGE 6

### DICKEY'S BARBECUE PIT

★ DINE-IN ★ TAKE-OUT ★ CATERING ★

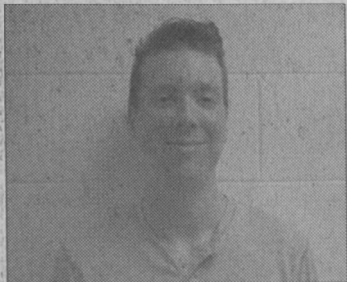
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## Safety training trumps all when it comes to guns on campus



By JEREMY MCABEE  
COPY EDITOR  
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Jeremy McAbee is a senior majoring in English/Professional Communications. Coming to Savannah by way of Hunter Army Airfield, he served two tours in Iraq before trading in his boots for books. When not reading philosophy or writing articles, he can be found hanging out with the three ladies in his life: wife, daughter, and hound dog.

Should students at public colleges and universities be allowed to carry firearms on campus? In a word, yes.

Now before you write me off as a pistol-toting, NRA card-carrying gun-rights activist, let me clarify a few things: I am a gun owner, and I am licensed by the state of Georgia to carry a firearm. I am not a member of the NRA, and I do not affiliate myself with any political party.

I'm also a student at a state-sponsored university, and a

member of a society in which mass public shootings — more specifically, school shootings — have become commonplace.

Two Thursdays ago (Jan. 23), a clause which would have given university presidents the power to decide whether or not to allow guns on their campuses met its legislative demise in the Georgia state capitol. But the failure of the "opt-in" clause in no way signals the end of the guns-on-campus debate, and new, revised legislation is sure to be drawn up.

The question is, of course, merely a sub-heading beneath the overarching (and never-ending) gun rights vs. gun control debate, which is multifaceted and murky. Both sides raise significant questions and offer valid arguments for their positions — but they also too-often fall into the pit of all-or-nothing posture taking that plagues partisan politics.

Let me add that the question posed — and my answer in the affirmative — does not come without qualification. Let's examine the query a little closer.

Opponents of firearms on campus often argue that guns are the last thing that college-age, binge-drinking, dorm-residing kids need access to. The possibility, they say, of a gun-related incident occurring in a dormitory teeming with alcohol-fueled youngsters is just way too high.

I agree completely.

There's a reason that soldiers residing in barracks on a military post aren't allowed to keep personal firearms in their rooms, either (and if you're wondering how to compare dorm living with barracks life, just think of the barracks as "Animal House" times 100).

Though anyone over the age of 18 can legally own a gun, the state of Georgia mandates that only those aged 21 and over may apply for a weapons-carry license. Let me be clear that what I am endorsing is an allowance for licensed individuals to carry a firearm on their person to campus, from their off-campus residence, and back home with them — NOT for campus-residing students to keep guns in their dorm rooms (or in their cars, for that matter).

Firearm licensing requirements vary widely from state to state. I personally find Georgia's requirements a bit lax. All you need is a clean criminal background, about \$80, and a couple of hours to burn downtown filling out paperwork. There is no prerequisite for safety training whatsoever.

But regardless of the state's requirements, the opt-in clause would have given the power to individual college presidents, who theoretically could have set their own requirements for license holders above and

beyond those set by the state. For example, Armstrong could have a policy stating that weapons-carry permit holders must register with campus police, complete a firearms safety course, and qualify with their firearm every six months in order to retain their campus-carrying privileges.

Police officers and military personnel — i.e., those who carry firearms professionally — must qualify with their weapons multiple times a year. They undergo constant training and have gun safety fundamentals drilled relentlessly into their heads. Doesn't it make sense for the civilian sector to err on the side of more training, especially for those who may have never so much as touched a gun before purchasing one of their own? Unfortunately, second-amendment fundamentalists seem more concerned with citizens' rights to gun ownership — which hardly seem threatened — than they are the massive responsibility that comes along with it.

Colleges and universities are entrusted with the education of our nation's future leaders, lawmakers and voters. Carefully measured and regulated campus-carry procedures could not only increase students' safety, but could also lead to a more formally trained, responsibly-armed citizenry.

## Campus Voices

"What's your favorite place to study on campus?"



"The library, when I do study."

Daxon Owenby  
Junior  
Education



"The library, of course."

Brandon Miller  
Senior  
English



"In the International Garden. I just used to sit there and lay in the grass."

Dustin Schie  
Senior  
Computer Science



"In the ACM lab in the science building."

Matt Antonelli  
Senior  
Computer Science



"Here in the library, it's really the only place I go to."

Terri Davis  
Senior  
Criminal Justice



"Here in the library, because of the computers and because it's quiet."

Jamal Kennebrav  
Graduate  
Sports Medicine

## Letters to the editor

The Inkwell welcomes and invites letters to the editor. All submissions must be 350 words or fewer, and must be signed. Send your letter to Chief. [Inkwell@gmail.com](mailto:Inkwell@gmail.com). The Inkwell reserves the right to edit for grammar, spelling and style.

## Keystone XL, a sorry symbol of a continued reliance on fossil fuels

By THE LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, Feb. 2: The State Department is probably right to conclude, as it did Friday, that the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline project would have a negligible effect on climate change. Even though the extraction of the oil would certainly cause significant pollution, Keystone XL would be only one of many dirty oil operations around the world. What's more, stopping the pipeline, which is expected to carry

83,000 barrels of oil each day 1,700 miles from the tar sands of Canada to the Gulf Coast, wouldn't stop the extraction. The only thing that would change is how the oil is transported.

The report is bad news for environmentalists, who had taken heart from President Obama's pledge last year to base his decision regarding Keystone XL on whether the pipeline would be a significant contributor to global warming. The report paves the way for his approval.

But approval would be premature at best. Running side by side with

the State Department's largely rosy assessments have been continuing concerns by the Environmental Protection Agency that State is giving short shrift to some of the potential dangers — especially leaks that could foul groundwater or wilderness areas.

TransCanada, the company proposing to build the pipeline, has a bad record when it comes to pipeline spills, and the EPA has raised concerns not just about possible effects on groundwater but also about emissions at the refining end of the journey, in the Gulf. The oil does little if anything

for U.S. energy security; gasoline consumption has been declining in the United States, and much of this oil would be for export in any case.

Obama should place heavy emphasis on what EPA scientists are telling him; these are the nation's top experts on the environment. And even if the Canadian tar sands extraction would not be, by itself, a devastating new source of greenhouse gases, the Keystone XL would be a sorry symbol of the world's continued reliance on fossil fuels. It would also be a reminder of the ongoing willingness of the U.S. to

back long-term efforts to feed that dependence, whether by building a pipeline through the middle of the nation or by approving a risky oil-drilling project off the coast of Alaska (which Royal Dutch Shell PLC put on hold last week, at least for 2014, because of a pileup of legal and logistical obstacles).

If developed nations had started earlier to wean themselves off the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases and had developed more of the technologies for renewable, low-pollution energy, oil pipelines and Arctic drilling rigs would hold little attraction for anyone.

## Hooked on You

We're not claiming to be matchmakers or anything, but everyone knows it can be a rewarding experience reading the missed connections section on Craigslist. None of the following content has been edited. Here are our top picks for this week:

### TO THE SHORT, OLDER WOMAN PICKING UP GROCERIES. -M4W - 31 (SOUTH SIDE)

I noticed you in those tight pants. You had a cute face and were such a beautiful woman. It doesn't hurt that you are just my type with those wide hips...

I wish I would have turned around and caught you before you got to the checkout. I didn't want to embarrass you by asking you what I desperately wanted to right in front of the cashier.

Those curves are keeping me up at night...

### SMOKE CITY WORKER - M4W - 25 (SAVANNAH)

I've been in a few times and always felt awkward asking for your number. We talked about a soda you don't like and music. If this is you hit me up and maybe we can see if somethings there. Email with the soda flavor you hate.

### AFTER-PARTY B. MATTHEWS - M4W (SAVANNAH GA)

You liked my shirt, I liked the shoulder rub. Had to leave before we could connect.

Would like to see more of you. R

### WHOLE FOODS TUESDAY - W4M - 21

I was in line fixing my lunch. You came next to me with your cart, blocking my way to leave. As you were moving your cart for me to get by, you gave me this big ass, gorgeous smile. I mean damn it was so beautiful that I can't believe I'm actually writing a post about it. Maybe you were so happy you got a raise or maybe you were just waiting for me to move. You probably already have a girlfriend or boyfriend, either way he/she is very lucky. You're blonde and probably 5'8. can't remember what you were wearing because I don't stare long at people. I'm AA female with curly hair

and petite. I know I'm out of your league but I just want to let you know you made my day.)

### POOLER HUDDLE HOUSE. - M4W (POOLER)

Gorgeous server at the pooler huddle house, near camping world with the pigtail buns this morning. I had breakfast with my mom and you were our server. I had a black seat shirt and black hat on. I think you are sexy as hell and wanted to ask you out but you have a ring on. It doesn't look like a wedding ring but I wasn't sure. In the slight chance that you see this I hope you respond so we can go have a drink or something.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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February 06, 2014

## Art festival quickens “Pulse” of Savannah

By MARIA DUQUE

The eighth annual Pulse Art + Technology Festival took place at the Jepson Center from Jan. 30 to Feb. 3.

The festival featured a series of workshops, guest lectures, performances and avant-garde installations.

Pulse seeks to promote new and innovative ways of approaching art by blending visual pieces and multimedia performances with technological advances such as voice-activated mechanisms and tactile controls that allow participants to uniquely affect the environment around them.

Reservations for the daily workshops were required and included activities such as creating 3D printed objects — hosted at Armstrong campus — and a “Make your own GIF” session, among others. Certainly the most thrilling part of the festival, however, was the performances by guests such as beatbox talent Adam Matta, Invisible and Savannah’s own KidSyc.

Following a captivating visual beatbox performance, Adam Matta expressed excitement about his plans for the future, including an app project called “Oralbum” which he hopes to complete within the next year. The name, like the concept, is a blend of the components of graphic novels and music albums with the intent of allowing listeners to interact visually with a full-length album.

Throughout his performance, Adam showcased other programs such as “Skapture” — a program that is vocally activated to display images and colors to accompany the sound they are linked to.

KidSyc and the Nekstup team followed their visual hip hop performance with an audience Q&A session that reflected the audience’s excitement as they flooded the auditorium with questions. KidSyc explained that he hopes to produce his first interactive performance that will involve a visual component affected by the cheers of the crowd. Projects such as these epitomize the innovative spirit of the Pulse Festival.

Audience members exited the performance room into the upstairs hallway lined with monitors in an assortment of works by Rafaël Rozendaal. Translating websites into a physical art form, these screens were linked to touch pads to allow guests to manipulate the images on the screen. From fractal glass shards to jiggling jello, these drew a lot of attention from all in attendance.

The highlight of this museum exhibit lay with the interactive pieces being showcased within the gallery. Labeled with nothing but a title and simple stick figure instructions, the installations required collaboration and thus sparked conversation among strangers. “It makes the art so much more interactive at that point because everyone is involved,” noted Jonah Primiano, a SCAD animation student, commenting on his favorite piece.

A central, conductive sculpture allowed guests to make skin-to-skin contact and then play varying tones when they dipped their hands into translucent bowls of water. SCAD illustration and printmaking major Elizabeth

Younce added to the observation, “Yeah, it’s cool because you’re talking to people you don’t know also and trying to interact with them and the art.”

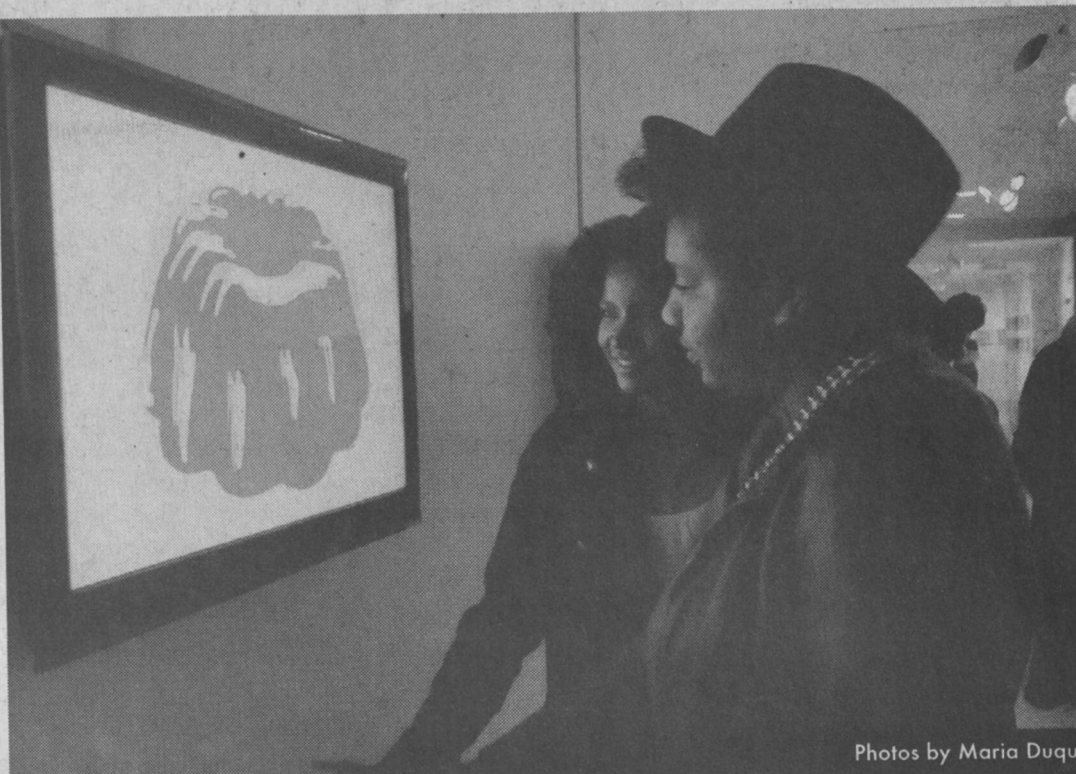
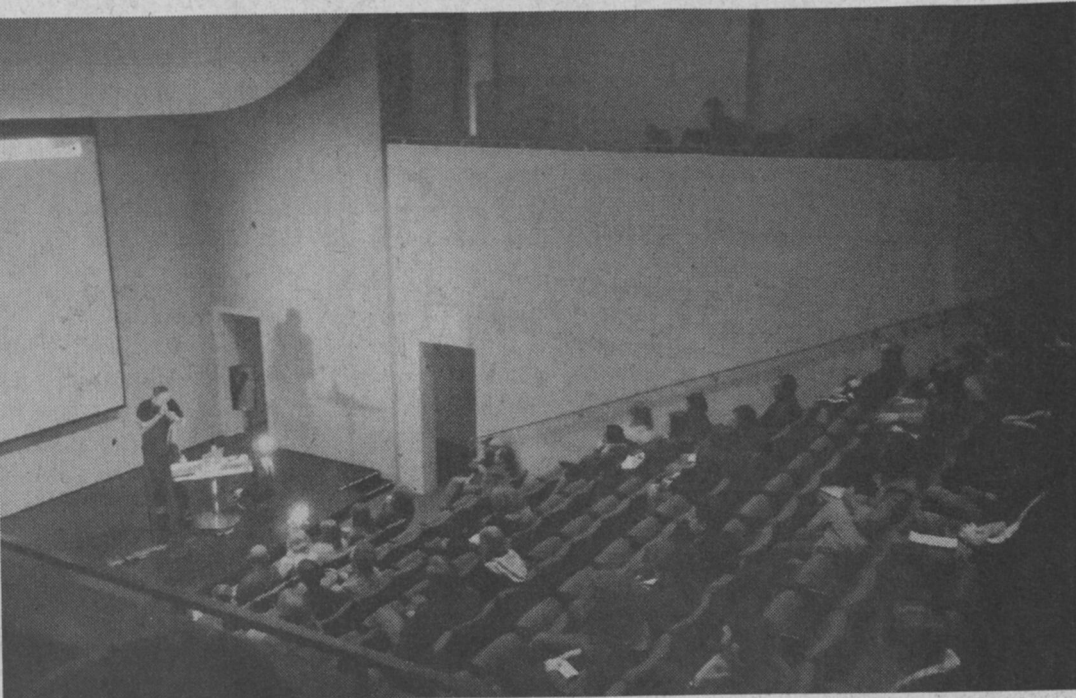
One group playfully touched noses and elbows as a separate individual conducted their chorus.

A piece titled “Conduit” enabled guests to play a sort of interactive game where they could place their fingers on a square construct of pvc pipe and send vibrations via their right hand and receive vibrations with their left.

A final and third installation in the Rozendaal gallery projected images of rain or shine onto the wall, entirely dependent on user interaction with the touch pads. One little girl danced in front of the changing images as onlookers altered the weather.

Upon entering and exiting the museum, guests had to filter through the Telfair’s main hall which was illuminated nightly by projections of home videos and an assortment of visually impactful stimuli. These images were reflected onto windows for both onlookers and passersby.

A central geometric structure flickered in the center of the room, displaying themes pertaining to personal security and surveillance. A description of the installation explained, “The semi-transparency suggests the voluntary nature of privacy abandonment.” Jumbled strings of code appeared as a nosy 50s-esque woman donned binoculars along with countless other images. The imposing cube was meant to allude to the emblems of power in our society and a deviation from



Photos by Maria Duque

Guests at the Pulse Festival watch a performance and look at a piece of interactive art.

## Upcoming Events for February 6-11

### Thursday, Feb. 6

Mipso at the Sentient Bean  
Valentine’s Day is for Suckers! at Gatsby’s

### Friday, Feb. 7

First Friday Art March at Desotorow, 6-9 p.m.  
50 Years Ago Today: A Beatles Celebration at American Legion 7-11 p.m.  
Savannah Comedy Revue at Bay Street Theatre 8-10 p.m.  
Beaux Arts Ball at the Charles Morris Center, 8-12 p.m.  
Charlie and the Foxtrots, Smooth Hound Smith, and Fare the Gap at the Wormhole 9 p.m.  
Springtime Made in the South at Savannah International Trade Center, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; runs through Sunday, Feb. 9

### Saturday, Feb. 8

Savannah Black Heritage Festival’s Grand Festival Day at the Civic Center, 10 p.m.  
GaySavannah.com’s LGBT Wedding Expo at the Mansion at Forsyth Park 12-6 p.m.  
Fashion Hair Sketch Exhibit

reception at The Color Geek Salon 6 p.m.  
Express Yourself! Live Art and Spoken Word at Anahata Healing Arts 7-10 p.m.  
Lowland Hum at the Sentient Bean 8 p.m.  
Gringo Star at the Jinx 10 p.m.

### Sunday, Feb. 9

Huntronik, Blackrune, and Mofenzeeff at Graveface 7-10 p.m.  
Sunday Trivia at Lulu’s Chocolate Bar 3 p.m.

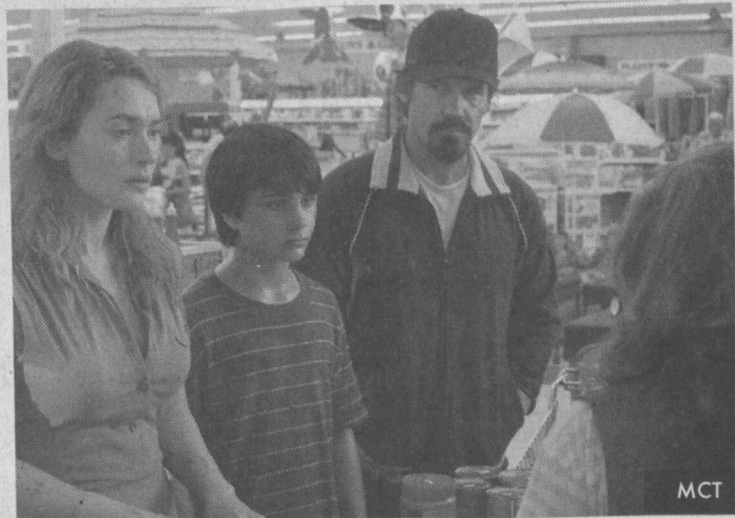
### Monday, Feb. 10

Open Mic Night at Abe’s on Lincoln and at Bay Street Blues  
St. Olaf’s Choir in Concert in Armstrong’s Student Union Ballroom, 7:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, Feb. 11

Corey and Aaron of City Hotel at Foxy Loxy Cafe 8-11 p.m.  
Trivia at Congress Street Social Club 9 p.m.  
The ODD Lot Improv at Muse Arts Warehouse

## ‘Labor Day’ feels like a paperback novel



MCT

By TODD PERKINS

Jason Reitman is the respected director of “Thank You for Smoking,” “Juno,” and “Up in the Air,” which all took cynical characters through a journey, of self-reflection which expanded their narrow way of looking at life and welcomed a hint of sentimentality and emotion. What made all three of these films work was Reitman’s ability to ground these emotions in a reality that remained narcissistic yet mature, therefore keeping his audience on board with the progression of the characters and believing that the films’ sentiment came from the characters’ natural growth. Unfortunately, the filmmaker’s latest film “Labor Day” doesn’t know how much sugar coating is

too much for viewers to handle.

The film, based on the novel of the same name by Joyce Maynard, tells the story of Hank (Gattlin Griffith), an adolescent young teen who takes care of his depressed mother Adele (Kate Winslet) after his parents’ divorce. While shopping, they come across an injured escaped convict by the name of Frank (Josh Brolin) who forces his way into their quiet household and into their hearts. Yes, inevitable romance and male bonding ensue as the trio learn to look past each other’s dark histories and make peach pie.

The story is predictable and hard to take seriously, which is what makes it so surprising that it is made by such an exceptional and creative filmmaker. There is never a moment that feels genuinely

moving or heartfelt, but rather it feels as if it were stitched together from every television flick from the Lifetime channel. The characters do not evolve as much as they are given symptoms which define their actions and motivations. The audience is told through voiceover that Adele is devastated by not being in love anymore, yet there is never a moment where viewers can see where that despair comes from — they are simply told. There are some subtle moments where some light is shed on the backstory of Frank and why the husband left Adele, but these are too brief and fleeting to convey any meaningful depth to the story.

This does not mean that there is nothing of value. Reitman’s talents as a director are on full display as he builds tension in scenes where neighbors and police come lurking by or when Frank is stuck watching after a disabled child from next door, and the performances from the three main cast members are all commendable. Winslet has the

potential to have a rich and layered career ahead of her as respectable as Meryl Streep’s, and she does fine work here as Adele. Griffith is solid and holds his own with two veteran actors, but it is Brolin who stands out playing a character that is as dangerous as he is sensitive. After appearing in “Gangster Squad” and “Oldboy” in 2013, it is welcome to see Brolin play a character that does not have to commit acts of violence to show how tough and threatening he can be.

Reitman is a gifted filmmaker — one of the best working today — and he has assembled a terrific cast and crew for this film, but there is nothing that surprises or thrills the audience. “Labor Day” feels like a paperback novel, which is problematic because it never fully comes alive like other literary adaptations such as “L.A. Confidential,” “Fight Club,” or even “Up in the Air.” This is a well-acted, pretty looking, noble effort that never manages to exceed expectations.

## Silver screen

Rating 3 out of 5



Directed by Jason Reitman

Produced by Paramount Pictures and Indian Paintbrush

Rated PG-13 for thematic material, brief violence and sexuality

Starring Josh Brolin, Kate Winslet, Gattlin Griffith, Tobey Maguire, Tom Lipinski

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## 'Sassy' start to Savannah Black Heritage Festival



Photo by Rachael Flora

Julia Nixon plays Sarah Vaughan in the Feb. 1 play "All That Sass: The Life and Music of Sarah Vaughan."

By RACHAEL FLORA  
arts.inkwell@gmail.com

On Feb. 1, Armstrong hosted "All That Sass: The Life and Music of Sarah Vaughan" as part of the Savannah Black Heritage Festival.

Broadway star Julia Nixon, famous for her role as Effy in "Dreamgirls," played the legendary jazz and blues singer.

The play, written by Jewell Robinson, had Nixon reprising over two dozen songs originally performed by Vaughan, and featured Robinson herself narrating the singer's personal history. It was part of the Cultures in Motion Series, which is part of the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian

Museum.

"This is the fourth time that we've brought her," Shirley James, coordinator for the Savannah Black Heritage Festival, said of Robinson. "She does a lot of pieces like this. You get a lot of history in terms of a person's life."

As per her involvement with the National Portrait Gallery,

Robinson's plays typically give a lot of background information about the person.

"Shirley has brought us here for four years in a row, and we love coming," Robinson said. "It's a real treat."

Mayor Edna Jackson welcomed the crowd before the play began, saying, "This program is so important to all of us."

James then honored former Mayor Floyd Adams, who died earlier in the day Feb. 1, with a moment of silence.

"His administration asked Savannah State University to take over production of the festival," James said. "He helped the festival grow."

Once the show began, Nixon assumed the persona of Sarah Vaughan and sang nearly thirty of her songs. She was accompanied by her pianist, David Ylvisaker, and two local musicians, bassist Delbert Felix and drummer John Lumpkin.

Robinson gave interesting facts about Vaughan's life, such as her dislike of being interviewed and that Ella Fitzgerald praised her vocal ability. Images of Vaughan and other singers she performed with, like Dizzy Gillespie and Count Basie, were displayed above her on stage.

The nearly two-hour set included an a cappella version of "Summertime," which Nixon later said was the first song she learned how to sing.

After the play, Nixon gave an encore performance of

"And I Am Telling You," referring to her Dreamgirls role.

"I like this particular character of Sarah Vaughan," Nixon said afterwards. "She makes you have to dig deep into your vocal range to find stuff."

Letha Moore, a graduate of Armstrong, enjoyed the play.

"I know of Sarah Vaughan and I love her music, so I was really glad to get the opportunity to get the whole view, and to hear her history," said Moore. "It's not just the music: You're getting the oral history, but also the history of who Sarah Vaughan was as a person."

"I heard some things that I didn't know. I didn't know she was a two-packer!"

Moore said she planned on attending more events during the Savannah Black Heritage Festival, which will run through Feb. 23. A list of events is available online, and all events are free and open to the public. The highlight of the festival, Grand Festival Day, is on Feb. 8 at the Savannah Civic Center.

"I'm thoroughly enjoying myself," Moore said.

## Still uncomfortable: Art show honors Flannery O'Connor

By RACHAEL FLORA  
arts.inkwell@gmail.com

Flannery O'Connor was warmly remembered on Jan. 31 at Southern Discomfort, a group art show and silent auction put on by the Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home.

The show took place in the gallery space at ThincSavannah. 39 pieces by 27 artists were available for purchase at the silent auction, with all proceeds benefitting the foundation.

The art at Southern Discomfort represented a wide variety of mediums and interpretations of O'Connor's own work. A painting by Panhandle Slim deemed the writer "St. Flannery of the South." Other pieces represented or interpreted themes commonly used by O'Connor, like religion and living in the South.

Amidst the paintings was a cake decorated with fake Spanish moss, a sugar magnolia and O'Connor's face painted in the icing. There were also event T-shirts for sale with O'Connor's quote, "I am if you ain't."

The first Southern Discomfort event took place in 2012 and was created by two teachers at Armstrong, Associate Professor of English Beth Howells and Instructor of English Bill Dawers, who are both board members of the foundation, came up with the idea together.

"They're the creative geniuses," said Helen Borrello, president of the Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home. "They really get all the credit because it has created more energy than a lot of things in Savannah, really."

Borrello explained the importance of hosting the event every other year instead of making it annual.

"We purposely do not do it every year; we don't want it to get stale," Borrello said. "But there was enough inquiry about it that we did want to do it again."

The Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home was bought by three Armstrong professors in 1989, according to Borrello. Since then, it has served as a museum house to inform visitors about O'Connor's life.

Board member Jodi Saxon-Juisti explained that for the first Southern Discomfort event, the foundation asked artists they knew to contribute pieces inspired by O'Connor.

"Savannah has a great strong art community, so it's just quite easy to call up some of the artists," said Saxon-Juisti. "We have no problem finding enthusiastic artists."

One such enthusiastic artist was Christine Sajecki, whose piece "And The Meanest of Them Sparkled" attempted to capture O'Connor's essence.

"It started out just being about 'A View From the Woods,'" Sajecki said about her piece, done in encaustic. "But then there's a ferris wheel in 'A Temple of the Holy Ghost,' and I worked it in there."

"It's just about the atmosphere of Flannery O'Connor's works."

The title of Sajecki's piece is a quote from O'Connor's most popular story, "A Good Man is Hard to Find." As many other

artists did, Sajecki read "The Complete Works," an anthology of O'Connor's short stories, to find inspiration for her piece.

Sajecki, who is also a board member of the Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home, spoke highly of the event.

"I think it shows how inspirational Flannery O'Connor is and what a great resource for artists and writers in this area," Sajecki said.

"She shows the importance of place in art."



Artwork by Betsy Cain

Betsy Cain designed this postcard of O'Connor, which was available at the event.

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# UStyle

BY RACHAEL FLORA

## A DRIANA PERRUCCI

Junior, Biology major

**WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR STYLE INSPIRATION?**  
MY GRANDMA

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING YOU OWN?**  
MY LUCKY PANTES I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DO WITHOUT THOSE BAD BOYS

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?**  
"GRANDMA'S CLOSET CHIC"

**WHAT TREND DO YOU HATE?**  
GUY HARVEY SHIRTS

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE COLOR TO WEAR?**  
NEUTRALS



# BACKPAGE

## Debate

FROM PAGE 1

wage since 2009 as the top 1 percent accumulated more wealth.

Bruno, who supports raising the minimum wage, called wrangling over the virtues of raising the minimum wage “a foolish endeavor.”

“It’s good for minimum-wage workers; it’s good for other workers; it’s good for the economy; it isn’t a drag on employers,” he contends. “There is no research that has ever identified a negative job impact from raising the minimum wage.”

However, that’s in the aggregate. Some studies have shown a reduction in the number of entry-level jobs that might otherwise have been created if not for a minimum-wage increase, Bruno said.

“That’s mitigated by the fact that raising the minimum wage generates so much more economic activity that, at the end of the day, it creates more total jobs,” Bruno said. “I would argue there isn’t really any serious disagreement over the impact of a modest, phased-in minimum-wage increase.”

He conceded those views are for the typical slow and modest increase in the minimum wage, not a sudden doubling of it to \$15 as some groups have recently advocated. “That might

change things,” he said.

Studies also have shown that a higher minimum wage, first enacted in 1938 as a component of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal to spark the economy after the Great Depression, helps businesses retain employees and saves employers money on recruiting and training. Studies also show that a modest rise in the minimum wage does not create a discernible inflation in consumer prices.

But opponents of raising the minimum wage point to basic economic theory. If you raise the price of something, such as labor, demand for the product or service will decrease. Thus, higher wages mean fewer jobs.

Indeed, a rise in the minimum wage results in reduced employment among low-wage workers, concludes a 2007 review of existing minimum-wage research by David Neumark of the University of California at Irvine and William Wascher of the Federal Reserve. In a subsequent review last year, they came to the same conclusion, unpersuaded, by more recent studies that came to the opposite conclusion.

Dueling studies aside, sometimes it’s just bad timing for a rise in the minimum wage, said Kim Maisch, Illinois state director of the National Federation of Independent Business.

“What I’m hearing from my members is they’re scared this time around because

\$10 is a lot,” Maisch said. “And particularly small-business owners continue to feel the repercussions of the recession. While things are a little bit better, they’re not great. ... We’re not out of the woods yet.”

She said “piling on a large wage increase” could lead business owners to close their doors or reduce payrolls.

Typically, the argument by businesses against minimum-wage increases is more philosophical — that government shouldn’t be weighing in on wages in the private sector, she said.

“This time around, it is a lot more dire,” Maisch said. “It’s really more about the bottom line for many of these small employers.”

Business owners are also dealing with the relatively high costs of doing business in Illinois, such as workers’ compensation costs “and unemployment insurance costs, and uncertainty about the impact of the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, Maisch said. “There are only so many dollars to go around,” she said.

But raising the minimum wage could create more of those dollars because workers will have more money to spend, creating a stimulating effect as those dollars spread through the economy, supporters say.

They point to a 2011 study by the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank, which found that for each dollar in a minimum-wage hike,

household income rises by \$1,000 a year but spending increases by \$2,800. That’s because consumers often use the money as down payment on durable goods, especially vehicles, the study found.

A worker earning today’s national minimum wage earns about \$15,000 a year, assuming 40-hour workweeks every week of the year. An Illinois minimum-wage worker makes about \$17,000. The federal government poverty line for a family of four is \$23,850.

Supporters also argue that today’s low minimum wage amounts to corporate subsidies from taxpayers.

Because workers cannot survive on the minimum wage, they qualify for government welfare services, such as food stamps. So, instead of paying a livable wage, businesses rely on the government to make up the difference so those workers can survive, essentially forcing taxpayers to subsidize their payrolls.

Still others argue that the debate doesn’t even matter that much. While 3.6 million Americans earned the federal minimum wage or less in 2012, that’s just 4.7 percent of all hourly workers, according to the U.S. Labor Department. And only 2

percent of full-time workers make the federal minimum wage.

But Bruno said there is a ripple effect among wages, so those working slightly above the minimum wage get increases and benefit too. “If you increase the wage floor, you don’t only help those people at minimum wage,” he said.

As the arguments on each side continue, fundamentally the minimum wage is a government regulation that attempts to fix a perceived inefficiency in the market by redistributing some wealth.

“The question is, is that good or bad?” Bruno said.

## Deep

FROM PAGE 1

on stage, because nobody can sit through that, even though these kids are brilliant,” Dasher said.

“So what we’ve done is asked the kids in the workshops to nominate the top three pieces from their school, based on the standards of quality.” Dasher said.

“The kids end up semester nominating what truly are the best pieces. The 42 kids that are here tonight were nominated by the 172 kids who did the program last semester,” she continued.

Each of these 172 children were chosen to participate in Deep’s after-school workshop by their teachers.

“We rely completely on our local teachers to recommend kids for the scholarships that we get, which are fully-funded. Its based on demonstrated need, but we know that we have different kinds of need,” Dasher said.

Children of all abilities are examined for possible entrance. Due to limited funds, only a certain amount of children are able to enter the workshops every semester.

“We try to get a mix of kids for each workshop. In a workshop of 14, we want three to four kids who need help with their basic skills, three to four kids who need a creative outlet, and three to four kids who just fly below the radar, who need a chance to shine,” Dasher said.

Deep Center does not seek to replace any teaching that the public schools have missed. Instead, their workshops are “complementary,” according to Dasher.

“We don’t teach what’s missing in the schools, what we teach helps engage kids with what they’re doing in school with writing, in a way that feels more relevant to them. We focus more on style and ideas than we do on conventions, which is something that is done better in a workshop setting than in a classroom,” Dasher said.

Deep Center offers internships and is always accepting applications for Writing fellows.

For more information visit their website at [www.deepkids.com](http://www.deepkids.com).

## Drop

FROM PAGE 1

by the federal government.

SAP runs on three different levels when it comes to student and their chances at attending school with aid. The first level is Completion Rate.

Fleming stated that she was most concerned about this when it came to freshmen.

The way Completion Rate works is through the amount of credits a student chooses to take, and the amount of credits that they obtain at the end of the semester. Financial aid varies differently for students, meaning some only need to be part time while others are required to be full time in order to receive their aid.

The federal government requires a 67% completion rate. If a student takes four classes equaling to thirteen

credit hours and only passes two out of four, the student is automatically put at 50% percent, regardless of whether they ace those classes or not.

The same rule applies if a student were to drop a class and receive a “W.” It would count against them, rather than help them.

The second level of SAP concerns a student’s GPA. The government requires a 2.0 GPA in order to obtain financial aid.

The third level concerns maxing out on credits. On average, most degrees require a completion between 120-130 credits in order to graduate, although these numbers vary between schools.

Students transfer from college to college and some of those credits may be dropped, but if they have 200-plus credits and no degree, their financial aid is sure to be cut. Unfortunately, this information often goes unnoticed by the Armstrong

faculty.

Professors suggest to struggling students in their classes to drop, in hopes that they will try again for a better grade. What these teachers don’t understand is that a single class may be the difference between continuing or ending their college career.

Dropping courses can be a financial burden on students if proper actions are not taken. Fleming encourages students to speak with their advisors before making any decisions. Although a “D” is not a grade student’s want, it could make the difference.

Fleming is also trying to get the word out to faculty to send their students to advisors.

The workshops will be held on Feb. 10 at 5 p.m. in Solms 110, Feb. 11 at 1 p.m. in Science Center 1107, Feb. 13 at 12 p.m. in Ashmore Hall 235, Feb. 17 at 5 p.m. in Solms 110, Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. in the Science Center 1107 and Feb.

## Jock Talk

FROM PAGE 2

won a record fifth MVP award, which is two more than any other player in NFL history. All of this was at 37 years old with a bum neck and a bad ankle.

After the game, Manning found Seattle’s star cornerback Richard Sherman, who left the game on crutches from an ankle injury in the fourth quarter, to make sure he was feeling alright and wasn’t seriously hurt. Sherman has been in the news recently for his rants and calling out players, but had the upmost respect for Manning, calling it “one of the greatest moments of his life.” Sherman tweeted: “Peyton is the Classiest person/ player I have ever met! I could

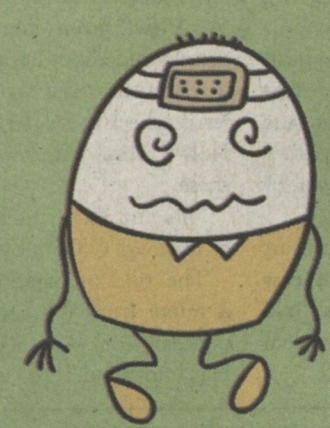
learn so much from him! Thank you for being a great Competitor and person” (sp). After his defeat in the playoffs last season, Manning went to Baltimore’s locker room to shake Ray Lewis’ hand and congratulate him.

Another Super Bowl would have looked nice on his Hall of Fame plaque, but Manning has done more for football than people will ever appreciate. Rarely does an athlete change a sport the way Manning has with football. He turned the quarterback into a coach at the line, dissecting the defense. People will look at his playoff losses and say he does not have the clutch gene, yet he led his team to the playoffs that many times in the first place. Manning resurrected the Indianapolis Colts by exceeding expectations as the No. 1 pick and won a


Super Bowl for the franchise, and two years after he missed an entire season, Manning led another team to the Super Bowl.

Quarterback is the one position where a loss is completely your fault. What about Denver’s defense that let Russell Wilson pick them apart? What about Denver’s special teams that looked like a bunch of bull fighters yelling “Ole!” as Percy Harvin ran right by them? And what about the ref catching Joe Namath’s botched coin toss that could have made the Seahawks start off with the ball? Conspiracy theorists rejoice!

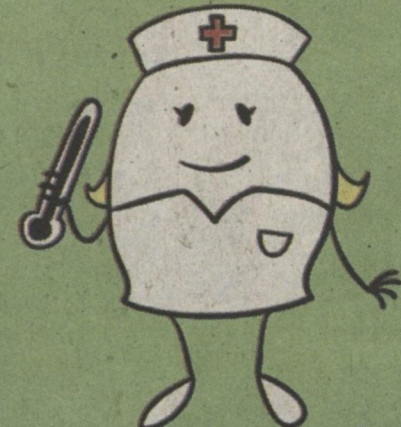
Enjoy Peyton Manning while you can. At his age and health, his career can end quicker than anyone hopes. His legacy as a quarterback and humanitarian for football is unprecedented.




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