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GSU defeats Wofford
Eagles move into tie for first place in the SoCon

see **SPORTS** page, 8

ACLU calls for rejection of student voting challenges

Cites other Georgia case at Young Harris as precedent

By Jessica Martin

Managing editor for operations

The American Civil Liberties Union has become vocal in the controversy surrounding the Statesboro Citizens for Good Government's recent challenge of 909 Georgia Southern students' right to vote in the city council elections.

In a letter sent to the city government of Statesboro, the ACLU "calls upon the Bulloch County Board of Registrars to immediately reject all challenges against any individuals made without actual facts. Unless the challengers support their allegations with facts prior to election day, the challenged students should be allowed to cast a regular ballot on election day as called for by the Georgia election code and the U.S. Constitution."

It has been rumored that there is no precedent for a case like this in the state of Georgia. The ACLU made it clear and quick in their letter that there has been.

In 1980, 110 students at Young Harris College had their voting rights challenged in Towns County, Georgia. The case, Heather Vee Pinney v. Boniface T. LeTourneau, was very similar to that in Statesboro currently. The student's rights were challenged based on their residency as students in

see **HOMELESS**, page 2

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2007 • GADAILY.COM

COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

BY THE NUMBERS CENTENNIAL PLACE NEW CAMPUS DORM DEVELOPMENT

\$44
million

• budgeted price of Centennial Place

263,477
square feet

• of Unit Space in Centennial Place

1001
beds

• number of available beds in Centennial place

796
beds

• number of available beds in Eagle Village

4
buildings

• in the new Centennial Place complex

2
directors

• number of building directors at Centennial Place

REINVENTING GEORGIA AVENUE

New dorm will have retail and commercial space available

Several old dorms located along Georgia Avenue will be torn down to make room for Centennial Place, a mixed used housing development complex, by the end of Spring semester 2008.



Special Photo

A detailed view of the area between Georgia Avenue and Forest Drive where the Centennial Place dorms will be built.



Special Photo

An artist's rendering of the new Centennial Place Dorm Complex located at the corner of Georgia Avenue and Chandler Road.

By Charles Minshew / Staff writer

Construction on Centennial Place, Georgia Southern University's newest residence hall, will begin in Spring 2008 with the demolition of Olliff, Johnson, and Winburn Halls.

The project will be approved at the January '08 meeting of the Board of Regents, and the deal is expected to be closed by February. In March or April '08, Building 805 and the ROTC Building will be demolished, as well as the 'O' parking lot.

The firms working on the design and construction of the complex have also constructed residence buildings at Georgia State University, Valdosta State University, and the University of Georgia.

According to their website, architect firm Niles Bolton Associates has also had experience building residential and commercial spaces throughout the nation and the world.

Floor plans have been determined, but Vickie Hawkins, Director of University Housing, advised that plans are still changing, sometimes on a daily basis.

Centennial Place will not be a traditional style residence hall, but will offer different types of suites and apartments.

Shared suites, private suites, super suites, and apartments will be offered in the complex. All suites will offer private bathrooms and kitchenettes, while the apartments will also offer a full kitchen and a laundry room.

With the variety of room types, students can expect to pay different prices for rooms in the same complex. Centennial Place will open in Fall 2009, with freshmen being required to live on campus at that time. It will house 1,001 students, and be the biggest residence hall on campus.

Check back for more in depth coverage throughout the week.

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Elect Nathan Queen

As District 2

City Councilman

ONE VOICE ONE CITY

Free Shuttle to voting polls

423-331-0696

Police make arrest over club shooting

Special to the G-A daily

The Statesboro Police Department has been investigating a murder that occurred on Sunday morning, October 28, 2007 at Club Jackson 3787 Old Register Road, formally known as Legends.

The incident began as a fight inside Club Jackson, ended up outside culminating with shots being fired.

As the victim, Mr. McReynolds, ran from Club Jackson toward Club Apex he was shot

three times fatally wounding him.

Statesboro Police Detectives made the arrest of Mr. Thomas Lee Jones on 10/31/07 for the murder of Mr. Julius McReynolds.

Thomas Lee Jones, 21 years old of Lyons Georgia, has been arrested and charged with the following charges: one count of murder, one count of aggravated assault, reckless conduct, discharging a firearm on or near a public highway, discharging a firearm on the property of another, possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime, possession of a deadly weapon at a public gathering.

POLICE BEAT

11-1-2007

A University I.D. card was taken from Oliff Hall.

A Winburn Hall resident reported receiving harassing phone calls.

Officers issued three traffic warnings and assisted seven motorists.

10-31-2007

A pair of shorts was taken from Southern Pines.

A wallet was taken from a vehicle in the Russell Union parking lot.

Some clothes were taken from a dryer at Southern Pines.

**Keep up
with Local and
National News!
Read the
George-Anne Daily!**



**Covering the campus like
a swarm of gnats!**

Local students infected with MRSA

By Avina Darmadjaja

Managing editor for news

Two Bulloch County high school students were recently infected with Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), a contagious bacterial condition that can sometimes turn deadly.

According to The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Web site, Staphylococcus aureus, often referred to simply as "staph," are bacteria commonly carried on the skin or in the nose of healthy people.

MRSA is a type of staph that is resistant to antibiotics.

"Bacteria becomes resistant through many years of overuse of antibiotics through the process of natural selection," said Biology professor Michelle Cawthorn. "By overusing antibiotics, for example, for viral diseases because antibiotics only work against bacteria, humans unknowingly performed a natural selection experiment."

According to Paul Ferguson, director of Health Services, Georgia Southern has had 23 cases of staph infection since August 1 that are serious.

None, however, were the super bug known as MRSA, which is resistant to common antibiotics such as methicillin, penicillin and amoxicillin.

"We haven't seen a true MRSA infection in seven years, and we hope we will never see it," Ferguson said. He also said that staph is actually a common bacteria that colonizes about 30 percent of people just walking around. MRSA, however, colonizes only 1-percent of the population. Anyone can get a staph infection. However, the people that are the most susceptible to it are those that come into contact with someone who has a staph infection, come

in contact with items and surfaces that have staph on them, openings in their skin such as cuts or scrapes, poor hygiene and crowded living conditions.

"Interestingly enough, most of the 23 students that had the infection live off-campus," said Ferguson.

He said that the Health Services have worked together with the University Housings to ensure cleanliness in residence halls.

"We make sure that Housings as well as the R.A.s are aware of MRSA," said Ferguson.

Ferguson and the Health Services are currently working with Dean of Students Georg Lewis and Director of Greek Life Joy Hamm to educate the fraternities and sororities about

the danger of MRSA and the importance of hygiene especially in communal living.

He is also working on flyers to give out to managements of apartment complexes in the area to prevent outbreaks of diseases caused by bad hygiene. A staph infection is usually characterized by a round, itchy and painful sore that doesn't go away.

"Many thought they got a spider bite," said Ferguson.

"But when in doubt, come into the Health Center to get it checked." It is important to catch it as early as possible because once it goes inside the body, whether through mouth or nose, it could cause serious internal infections affecting areas such as lungs or body tissues.

"What creates the mortality in most cases is when the external infection is ignored and it causes serious internal problems," said Ferguson. However, students should not panic even though the sore turns out to be a staph or even a MRSA infection.

"Ninety-nine percent of all staph and MRSA infections are still treatable with antibiotics," he said.

From the CDC Web site:

What to do if you think you have staph/MRSA infection:

1. Go to the Health Center
2. If given antibiotics, take all the doses
3. Cover wounds to prevent from spreading it
4. Clean your hands
5. Do not share personal items

Looking for experience? We have it.

And you can, too! The George-Anne is looking for talented writers who want to work on features, sports, and news stories for the upcoming year. If you are interested, contact us at 912-681-5246 or by e-mail at ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne Daily is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students and utilizing the facilities provided by GSU. The newspaper is the oldest, continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern Community. The ideas expressed herein are those of the editor or the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Student Media Advisory Board, the administration, the faculty and staff of Georgia Southern University, or the University System of Georgia. The George-Anne is published four times weekly (Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday) during most of the academic year and six times during the summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor by phone at 912-681-5246 or fax at 912-486-7113. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives staff by visiting our Web site at <http://www.gadaily.com>.

SUPPORT

The G-A is funded primarily through revenue from advertisements placed in the paper and receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

STUDENTS BEWARE

The G-A screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads-particularly those which require a credit card number, other personal information, or money in advance of the delivery of a product or service. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

FREEBIE INFO

ALL FREE student and faculty ads to be run in the G-A must have a NAME, P.O. BOX and PHONE NUMBER. Ads will be rejected if they do not have this information. NO EXCEPTIONS.

OFFICES, MAIL, PHONES

Room 2023, Ft. Williams Center. The George-Anne, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga. 30460. 912-681-5246 (News) or 912-681-5418 (Advertising) or 912-681-0069 (Advisor)

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ADVERTISING

The G-A reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media advisor.

PROOFING/ERRORS/OMISSIONS: The newspaper makes every reasonable effort to correct and complete information in advertisements. However the advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

CLASSIFIED ADS: Free classified ads from students, faculty and staff must be non-commercial in nature and submitted in writing with the name of the sender, local address and phone number. No free ads taken via telephone - at this price we don't take dictation. One free ad per person per week. Commercial classified are available only from our online site at www.gsuads.com. The price of commercial ads is \$7 for 200 characters for line ads. Ads must be paid for using a major credit card. For classified display ads, contact gaclass@georgiasouthern.edu.

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Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

NOTE

We gratefully acknowledge the theft of one of our slogans- "Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by them All"- from Robert Williams of the Blackshear Times. Credit for the other slogan- "Covering Campus like a Swarm of Gnats"- goes to G-A alum Mike Mills.



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OPINION

Submission of Letters to the Editor

The George-Anne Daily welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be 350 words or less, typed, and preferably sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year at GSU, and hometown. The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any submission.

Money frees you from doing things you dislike. Since I dislike doing nearly everything, money is handy.
-Groucho Marx
American comedian

GSU administrators must make more student-centered decisions

Georgia Southern has a lot to be proud of. The Chemistry Department was recently ranked 13th in the nation.

The Carnegie Foundation added our school to its list of national doctoral research universities in 2006, one step up from the previous master's university status. GSU's Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Accounting (Macc) programs were listed as one of the best business schools by Princeton Review. U.S. News and World Report continues to rank our Family Nurse Practitioner program in the top five percent nationally.

As a result of these accomplishments, The Board of Regents predicted GSU to surpass 25,000 students in 2017. We are currently at 17,000 students and we have already welcomed 3,000 new freshmen this semester, which is by far our highest freshmen enrollment ever. These numbers are pretty staggering, considering that in 1908, our school only had 15 students.

According to Teresa Thompson, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, in the past four or five years, retention rates have also gone up from 67 to 80 percent. The average SAT scores of incoming students have also gone up, showing that GSU has attracted the nation's best and brightest. There is no question that our school is increasingly recognized for all that we have to offer and, as a result, our enrollment numbers will keep on increasing in the years to come.

Gone were the days when Georgia Southern was just another party school. However, the big question is, how prepared are we for such bright

future?

When Centennial Place opens in Fall 2009, all freshmen will be required to live on campus. With the soaring freshmen enrollment numbers, however, the University needs to make sure that we have adequate housings.

Many parents are very adamant about having their children live on campus, and some even based their admission decisions on that alone.

The university also needs to be thinking about maybe adding a few more parking lots, as the GSU's Parking and Transportation predicted that we will need 6,200 more parking spaces by 2020.

In the beginning of the semester, some departments, like the Department of Writing and Linguistics, were struggling with students complaining about some upper-level courses being closed because we did not have enough professors to teach the freshmen-level courses.

Some other, bigger schools like University of Georgia solved this problem by assigning many graduate students to teach freshmen-level courses.

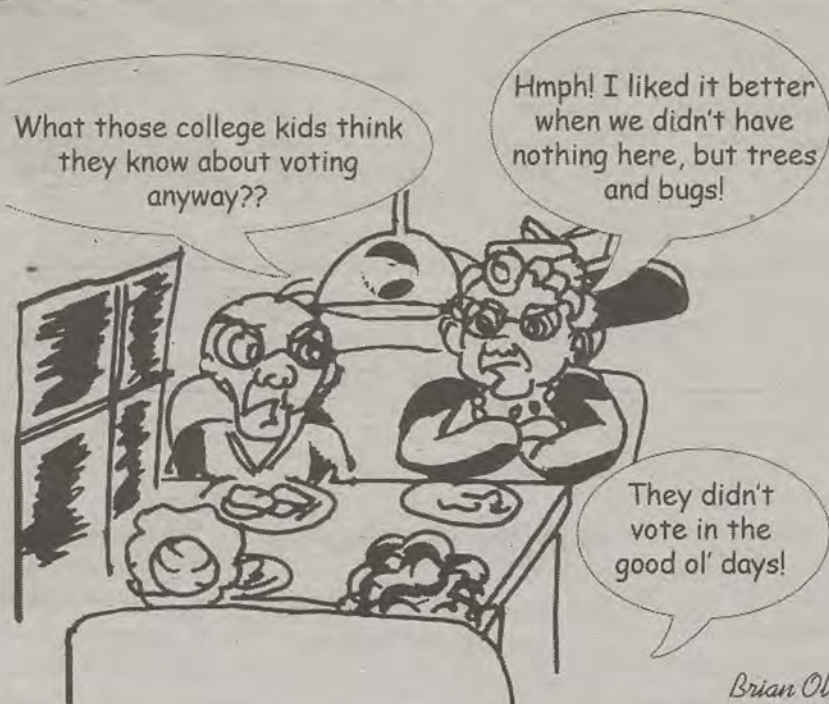
According to Thompson, however, that is unlikely to happen because the university's first priority is teaching. Not research, not publication. Teaching.

"Teaching is who we are," said Thompson. "GSU is known by the fact that seasoned, experienced faculties like and want to teach [here]."

Though the future is looking bright, there are still a lot of work to do. As Thompson said, "We might make transition to Carnegie classification, but we want to do it by building upon the strength that makes GSU great: student-centered foundation."



Avina Darmadajaja is a marketing major from Bandung, Indonesia. She is the managing editor for news for the George-Anne Daily.



Brian Ollison

Progressive change in Statesboro must start on campus, not off

As I walked around campus last week amidst the frenzy of party-goers eagerly awaiting a Halloween celebration that would likely rival any boisterous Georgia Southern tailgate, I stopped and thought to myself, "Why do I do get the feeling that the only reason students want to vote is to change Statesboro's alcohol laws?"

The answers I received after asking numerous students the very same question were just as surprising as they were disappointing.

Many of the students on campus I had a chance to speak with were fairly indifferent and apathetic toward this year's city council elections.

Although one should never just assume that the only thing college students care about is drinking, but the truth it seems is that not even an issue as delicate as alcohol won't even bring students to the polls.

So, maybe students on campus really do understand that voting the Statesboro City Council elections doesn't matter. At least right now, in 2007 it doesn't.

But it's yet to be seen whether or not students understand that progressive changes in terms of more liberal alcohol and parking laws will take years, not just a few votes from students that will go towards people who care more about how much money they're making

than actually making a real difference.

The only thing more pathetic than the city council elections themselves are the candidates politicizing issues and problems that aren't going to be solved during their tenure anyway.

Instead of focusing on issues and problems that we as students have no real direct effect upon, we should redirect our attention and give our voice to those individuals who can make a much more significant difference in our lives as students - the members of the Student Government Association.

The members of SGA control and allocate money from the student activity fees and act as the only real entity that directly affect students of Georgia Southern University.

It's unrealistic for students to think that they can abruptly change so many issues that indirectly affect them off campus, without looking at problems and issues on campus at GSU.

More pertinent on campus issues like the transportation system, food services and other issues can be solved much faster and more efficiently if more students supported candidates in SGA who can truly make a difference.



Will Adams is a journalism major from Dunwoody, Ga. He is the executive editor for the George-Anne Daily.

THE GEORGE-ANNE DAILY

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250 Computers & Software
260 Miscellaneous for Sale
270 Motorcycles for Sale
280 Trade & Barter
290 Wanted

300 Employment & Job Services
310 Career & Job Services
320 Child Care Needed
330 Child Care Provider
340 Internships/Volunteer
350 Jobs/Full Time
360 Jobs/Part Time
370 Opportunities/Business
380 University Work
390 Wanted Jobs

400 Housing & Real Estate
410 Apartments
420 Lofts & Rooms
430 Mobile Homes
440 Real Estate for Sale
450 Roommates Wanted
460 Storage & Moving Services
470 Student Housing

480 Sub Leases
490 Vacation Rentals

500 Personals
500 Personals

600 Services
610 Education & Tutoring
620 Financial Aid/Loans
630 Legal Services
640 Resumes/Typing/DTP
650 Services/Miscellaneous

700 Travel
710 Spring Break Travel

800 Transportation/Rides
800 Transportation/Rides

900 Miscellaneous
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Buy or Sell 200 - 299

210 Autos for Sale

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340 Internships/Volunteer

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370 Opportunities/Business

I am working a on dynamic web project due to be released in the spring. Help needed contact me at griffin-webproductions@gmail.com

Housing & Real Estate 400 - 499

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Sublease available for Spring 08. 1 bed/bath w/washer & dryer in Eagle Creek Town Houses. \$405 including Cable w/HBO. Very quiet & nice neighbor. Close to bus stop at stadium. W/Queen-size bed & couches. Call Masa@912-541-3630

Sublease available for a 4 bedroom/ 4 bath apartment in The Exchange. The apartment is coed and has a beautiful poolview. Call Sharon @ 912 536 4864

Sublease for Spring 08. 1 bed/bath w/washer&dryer in Eagle Creek Town Houses. Very quiet and nice neighbor. \$405 w/Cable call Masa 912-541-3630

1 room of a 2 bed/2 bath apt. in Hawthorne II available for spring/summer '08. \$325/month, not including utilities, unfurnished. call david@4045182089

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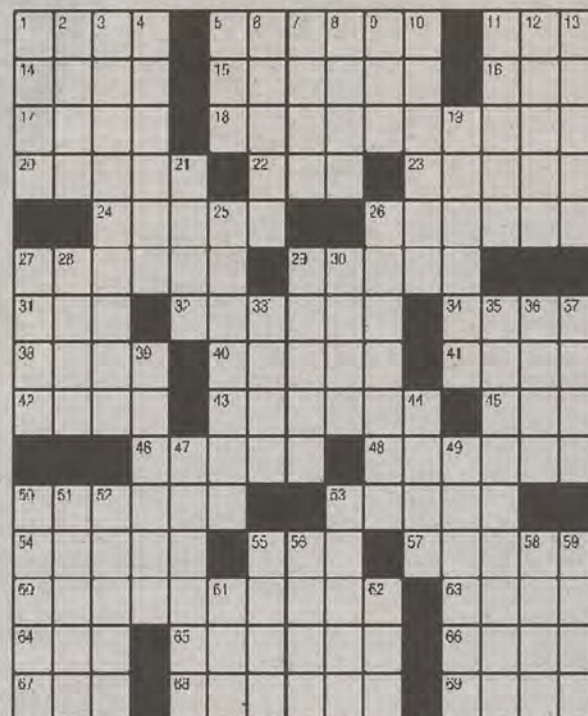
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Jab deliverer
- 5 Atlantic and Pacific
- 11 Rockies zone
- 14 Golden Rule preposition
- 15 Remove from power
- 16 Flock member
- 17 Identifying mark
- 18 Join
- 20 Flotilla units
- 22 Doctrine
- 23 Haggard or Oberon
- 24 Chopper blade
- 26 Mutiny
- 27 Like some cows?
- 29 Part of an act
- 31 Docs' bloc
- 32 "Me, and Irene"
- 34 Not entirely closed
- 38 Disoriented
- 40 Unbelievable bargain
- 41 Pre-Euro currency
- 42 Elder or alder
- 43 Evening repast
- 45 Genteel affair
- 46 Must-haves
- 48 Billing sharer
- 50 Part of TGIF
- 53 Memorial marker
- 54 Highway divisions
- 55 School grp.
- 57 Body trunk
- 60 Component
- 63 R.I.P. notice
- 64 Sense of self
- 65 Pinpoint
- 66 Pueblo dwellers
- 67 Match unit
- 68 Deckhand
- 69 Breakfast choice

DOWN

- 1 Dither
- 2 Part of a yard
- 3 Spiral flight, sometimes
- 4 Lethargy
- 5 Album track
- 6 TV studio warning
- 7 Invites
- 8 Strike one as
- 9 Light touch
- 10 Pollen producing organ
- 11 Paris underground
- 12 Hogwash
- 13 Basic belief
- 19 Disclose
- 21 Goblet part
- 25 Homeric epic
- 26 Mirror
- 27 NaCl
- 28 vincit omnia
- 29 Oozes
- 30 Applaud
- 33 Belt ornament
- 35 Strenuous acrobatic dance
- 36 Territory
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10/5/07

Solutions



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ACLU

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and in that case the Board of Registrars upheld the challenge.

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia reversed the Board's decision.

"The court is left with the firm conviction that the challenge to the plaintiffs and the finding of probable cause were based solely on their status as students and that, therefore, this challenge may not stand," the court said.

"Mass challenges to voters in order to intimidate qualified voters is in the sorriest tradition of the Old South, dating back to the Talmadge purges of the late 1940's after the end of the white primary. Unfortunately, it is a tactic commonly used for partisan gain throughout the

country and is often aimed at students. When this country adopted the 26th Amendment to the Constitution in 1971, the right of young voters to vote was established as a national policy," said the ACLU letter.

"This always comes up before elections," said Laughlin McDonald, Director of the ACLU voting rights project, "We've had cases in Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia."

Candidates Will Britt and Nathan Queen both said that they, independently of one another, had contacted the ACLU and other agencies with these problems.

"They [Statesboro elections officials and the challenging group] are trying to intimidate students from the polls," said Queen.

"It rises to the level of scandal with so many instances of this," said McDonald, "It's so utterly inappropriate for a country that's a democracy."

Candidates '07

District two:

Incumbant Gary Lewis
Challenger Nathan Queen

District three:

Incumbant Will Britt
Challenger Harry 'Bubba' Propes

District five:

Incumbant John T. Morris
Challenger Travis Chance

MEN'S & WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



PEP RALLY and TAILGATE

**TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2007**

Paulson Stadium Parking Lot - Tailgate is at 7:00
and Pep Rally will immediately follow the
Bulloch County Eagle Club Dinner (7:30)

Come out and Meet the Men's and Women's
Basketball Teams as we get Ready to Tip-Off the
2007 Season

Head Coaches Jeff Price and
Rusty Gram will speak....

GUS, Band "Hoop Troop",
and the Cheerleaders will be there

Free Food and Give-Aways: GSU T-Shirts,
Basketballs, Megaphones and Glow Sticks

Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs
and Enrollment Management and
Residence Hall Association

For more information,
contact Leslie Spoon at 912/681-0700 or
SpiritAndTraditions@georgiasouthern.edu

Student Media Presents

Alvin Benn

Author of

Reporter: Covering Civil Rights... And Wrongs in Dixie

Thursday, November 8, 2007
Russell Union Room 2080

Sponsored by



Student
Media

Covering the campus like a swarm of gnats

SPORTS



Be sure to check out the women's and men's basketball previews in Tuesday's and Wednesday's edition of the G-A daily.

WEEKEND WONDER

Jayson Foster rushed for 279 yards and three touchdowns in the Eagles 38-35 win over Wofford Saturday.

Winning needs no explanation

We're past explanations at this point. Dissecting Georgia Southern's football season thus far would be like breaking down laughter or rainbows or Dane Cook's approach to acting.



Zac Case

It's better to simply appreciate the results and leave the schematics to the engineers, accountants and drones in the darkened video rooms.

Honestly, you cannot make up this stuff. Four wins by 4 points or less. Three consecutive wins by three points.

You can't say you're surprised, now can you? GSU's high-wire act of a football season marches merrily along, beyond all reason and explanation, not to mention odds, luck and the whims of sport.

Of course the Eagles were going to keep it close. Of course they were going to make a game of it. Of course they were going to find a way to win.

It's almost as if they don't have a choice.

I had a conversation with a sports writer from another Southern Conference school this past weekend, and he didn't feel Georgia Southern was "all that great."

He actually said, "Really, what have they done?"

Remember South Dakota State? The Eagles were winning convincingly 31-7 at the half but allowed the Jackrabbits to come back to bring the score to 38-38. Then SDSU drove down the field and set up for a game-winning field goal.

Enter from stage left SDSU's Parker Douglass. Enter a kicker who had not missed any field goals all season. A player who collects 50-yarders the way teenage girls collect ring tones, misses a chip shot that would have been the game winner.

But two series later, after a Carson Hill interception and Jesse Hartley "Oh my God!" record 54-yard kick, the Eagles took the victory 41-38.

"Okay, but I don't care about them. They're not even in the Southern Conference. Western Carolina can beat teams who aren't in the SoCon."

Point taken. But, look at the Appalachian State game. The Eagles were up 38-20 in the fourth quarter. Here come the fifth-ranked Mountaineers chipping away at the score. 38-27, 28-34...two point conversion, sorry...38-35. Yet, the Eagles stop Armani Edwards one yard short of a fourth down conversion on a potential scoring drive. Eagles win.

"Armani probably tripped. He was hurt anyway. Every team has their day. Bet GSU couldn't do it again."

Against the Citadel, the Eagles were down by two scores in the fourth quarter, but Jayson Foster pulled out two touchdown runs, including one for 80 yards, to cap a win.

"Well, that was...you see..."

And although the tenth-ranked Wofford Terriers tied the score up in the fourth, they could not stop Jesse Hartley from kicking the game winner.

"Uh..."

Game over. Thank you for playing. Drive home safely.

As I said, it's almost as if they don't have an option but to win. Everything seems to be going in their favor. They're playing hard and serious football.

After the close loss to Elon, Georgia Southern knew they would have to win out the rest of their games to compete in the post-season. So far, they're doing quite well.

Right now, the Eagles have seven wins. The Eagles haven't accomplished that feat at this point of the season since 2004. And although they are currently tied for first place with Elon and Wofford, if they beat Furman on next weekend, they could clinch the SoCon title and an automatic bid to the playoffs.

For real! You can look it up.

At this point, details no longer matter. How the Eagles win their games is no longer an issue.

Their wins are not something that needs to be explained, analyzed or evaluated. It's just something that needs to be accepted, and it's something they need to keep doing.

And if the Eagles keep up their explosive offense and contain big plays defensively, it's going to keep happening.

After all, they have no choice.



Tao Ventre/STAFF

Freshman Michelle Uzoh tries to finish the kill in this file photo. Uzoh guided the team to victory with ten kills against The Citadel in the Eagles last home contest of the season.

Volleyball wins home finale

Matt Mauney

Sports editor

A day removed from being swept by the College of Charleston, the Georgia Southern Eagles volleyball team ended their home finale with a sweep of their own over The Citadel Bulldogs Sunday afternoon.

Sunday's contest was the final home game of the 2007 season and also senior day for the three seniors on the team. Gorana Bacic lead the seniors and the team with 13 kills on the afternoon.

"With this being Senior Day and an emotional day across the board, our girls came out and played well and were very disciplined from the beginning, which helped us put three solid games together," said Head Coach Nicole McCray.

Freshman Michelle Uzoh had a standout performance with 10 kills and a .769 attack percentage. The Bulldogs had a poor showing on the afternoon, only hitting .034 in the matchup.

Junior Mae Chabra contributed to the Eagles win with match highs in assists (38) and digs (14).

"We blocked well, and we dug balls," McCray

said. "Defense has been a huge part of our game this year, and for us to have 58 digs in three games says enough. We worked a lot on being disciplined and digging around the block, and I think that's really paid off."

The Eagles were swept on Saturday in a Southern Conference match with the College of Charleston. With the win over The Citadel, the Eagles improve to 10-18 on the year (7-9 in SoCon). The Bulldogs continue to be one of the worst teams in the conference with a 5-27 overall record and winless in SoCon play (0-16).

"This is a tough year, because we are losing three great individuals and three great student-athletes," said McCray. "They have done so much for this University and have been great role models for kids in the area, and that's what we need in a senior group. They have showed leadership throughout their careers on and off the court and if our younger players can follow in their footsteps, we're going to have a great program here," she said.

Although the Eagles home season is over, they still have two important SoCon matches with Appalachian State and Davidson next weekend, before beginning the Southern Conference tournament starting November 15.