The George-Anne

September 22, 2008

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Early voting begins today at 8:30 a.m.

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NEWS

2008 'YELL LIKE HELL'
The annual Greek shout fest was held for the first time at the new RAC bandshell. Visit gadaily.com for a video slideshow of the event.

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CLUB ZONE-ING LAWS
Statesboro's new night club is drawing controversy on everything from occupancy to parking.

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PLANE CRASH KILLS 4
Former Blink 182 drummer Travis Barker survives a Columbia, S.C. plane crash that kills 4 passengers.

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Scores and recaps from this weekend's big games.

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Combs to host annual 'Dare to Declare'
Noted writer and comedian to host major declaring program

By Shannon Knepp
Staff writer

Bestselling author, speaker, and comedian Patrick Combs is set to host this year's "Dare to Declare" event put on by Career Services on Wednesday.

The program entitled "Major in Success" is designed to help students find a major that's right for them.

According to Combs' website, GoodThink.com, his book has sold over 100,000 copies and his book is used in hundreds of colleges, schools, and youth programs all over the country.

Combs' website also says that he contributes 100% of the royalties from his book to solve the world's hunger problem.

Administration Specialist of Student Affairs Karen Townsend Murphree said Combs will be speaking about what students should do with their life, how to discover their passion, five steps toward landing a job, setting goals that get results, and the ingredients needed for landing interviews.

This will be Combs' third year speaking at Georgia Southern, and Murphree said she hopes Career Services can bring him back next year.

"What I like about him is he's a

see COMBS PAGE 2

New alumni center under construction

By Mark Beavers
Staff writer

Students have probably noticed the construction site next to the RAC fields on Akins Boulevard.

Construction began on the Bishop Family Welcome and Alumni Center in late June this year.

The approximately 12,000 square-foot center will serve as Georgia Southern University's welcome center and home for Alumni Relations.

"We needed a proper place to meet and greet alumni," University Advancement's Director of Annual Giving Wendell Tompkins said.

Tompkins said that there is not enough room at the Alumni House, which is currently the home of Alumni Relations and some of University Advancements staff, to adequately meet with alumni.

The center will also be a place for visitors to be greeted and receive information about GSU.

Tompkins said the location on Akins Boulevard was chosen so that visitors and returning alumni would have easy access to the center.

Some of the Bishop Family Welcome and Alumni Center's highlights will include LCD screens that will be used for presentations, wireless internet and the Alumni Hall. According to Administration Specialist of Student Affairs Karen Townsend Murphree said Combs will be speaking about what students should do

see ALUMNI PAGE 2

Three-Day Forecast

Monday
Rain
83/63

Tuesday
Partly Cloudy
83/61

Wednesday
Partly Cloudy
81/59

Visit gadaily.com to vote for your favorite sports movie of all time!
The ‘Yell Like Hell’ spirit competition pulled in over $5,000 and approximately 1,200 attendees, according to Sigma Phi Epsilon Chapter President Josh Garmon.

Sigma Phi Epsilon hosted the eighth annual show at the RAC.

The event was held to benefit the Youth Aids organization.

“Youth aids is about to go down,” said Vice President of Recruitment DJ Zabkar.

This year’s Hollywood-themed event featured acts from Kappa Delta, Alpha Delta Pi, Phi Mu, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Alpha Omicron Pi.

The various acts included dance routines, cheers, and music ranging from Bob Seger’s Hollywood Nights to Party Like a Rockstar by Shop Boyz.

Judges looked at the groups’ signs, outfits, and overall performances, according to judge and Eagles football head coach Chris Hatcher.

Athletic Director Sam Baker, Leadership Coordinator Jodi Middleton and Susan Nesmith from Pepsi were also on hand to judge the event.

Eara ‘DJ Deal’ Merritt kept the crowd excited during the event with loud beats and upbeat music. He also served as the night’s emcee.

Many who weren’t directly involved in the event showed up to show support for their friends.

“I have a couple of friends in the sororities and I just wanted to show my support,” Tyler Thomas said.

According to Garmon, the title of winner had been held by Zeta Tau Alpha for four years in a row until the title was passed to Alpha Delta Pi in 2005 followed by Alpha Omicron Pi in 2006 through this year.

Zeta Tau Alpha took Runner-Up this year while Phi Mu received third place.

The winning sororities in this year’s event received trophies as well as gifts from Vineyard Vines, Fraser’s Flowers and Gifts, and Southern Tide.

Awards were also presented for best Hollywood sign, best outfit, and loudest crowd.

Following the event, Retrievers Sports Bar and Grill held a benefit concert with Velcro Pygmies.

Visit gadaily.com for a photo slide show and video of the event.

Lyman Davidson Dooley, Inc.
Lyman Davidson Dooley, Inc is the same company that designed the RAC, and the Bishop Family Welcome and Alumni Center should be completed in May 2009.

Physically, the welcome and alumni center will keep with the look of many current buildings on campus by incorporating the classic brick look with a modern touch.

“The center will be a versatile and key place in the University for People to come and meet,” Lee said.
Battle brews over mortgage bailouts

McClatchy News service

The Bush administration on Saturday asked Congress for $700 billion in taxpayer money to get bad mortgage assets off the books of troubled financial institutions in a bid to end the U.S. economy's most serious financial crisis since the Great Depression, according to a draft of proposed legislation circulating in the capital.

The amount is staggering, and would likely hamper the ability of the next president to pursue new domestic programs without major tax increases.

It also comes at a precarious time when the country is facing increases in spending as the nation's 75 million baby-boomers begin to reach retirement age in 2010.

As part of its proposal, the administration also asked Congress to raise the national debt ceiling from its current level of $10.6 trillion to $11.3 trillion.

Members of Congress and administration officials were locked in negotiations over the proposed legislation, with both sides saying they would like a final bill ready before markets open on Monday.

A person familiar with the talks said that there had been major disagreements over who would pay for the expected cost and how.

Congressional negotiators also want the bill to spell out more clearly who would supervise the Treasury's purchase of the bad debts; the administration's proposal simply assigns the responsibility to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and gives him authority to hire whatever people or outside firms he needs to do the job.

In public statements, some Democrats were critical that the proposal didn't include relief for average mortgage holders.

"This is a good foundation of a plan that can stabilize markets quickly," New York Democratic Sen. Chuck Schumer, chairman of Congress' Joint Economic Committee, said in a statement. "But it includes no visible help for taxpayers or homeowners. We look forward to talking to Treasury to see what, if anything, they have in mind in these two areas."

Investigation of plane crash continues

McClatchy News Service

Federal investigators will continue collecting evidence Sunday from a fiery Learjet crash at Columbia Metropolitan Airport in South Carolina that killed four and critically injured performers Travis Barker and DJ AM late Friday night.

The plane was headed to California after the duo had performed a free concert for thousands of area residents of all ages in Five Points, S.C.

Airport traffic controllers reported seeing sparks coming from the plane as it taxied down the approximately 8,600-foot-long runway about midnight.

Investigators recovered the plane's cockpit voice recorder, which will be sent to Washington, D.C., for analysis to determine whether there were any conversations between the pilot and co-pilot prior to the crash, which killed them and two passengers, Hersman said late Saturday.

"I have every confidence that we will be able to determine the probable cause of this accident regardless of whether or not the cockpit voice recorder data is good," Hersman said.

Investigators likely won't know for weeks what caused the crash at the end of runway 11.

The jet never got off the ground, crashing at 11:53 p.m. into lights and through the fence at the end of the runway. It traveled across S.C. 302 and crashed into an embankment on the other side, bursting into flames, authorities said.

Killed in the crash were two members of Barker's entourage, personal assistant Chris Baker, 29 and bodyguard Charles Still, 25. Pilot Sarah Lemmon, 31, and copilot James Bland, 52, also died, Lexington County Coroner Harry Harman said.
**Opinions**

**Our View**

**Should the candidates really want to win?**

The focus of the nation is currently around the campaign for the presidency. With name-calling, accusations of policy record distortion, and general debate over the future and what each candidate has to offer, it is a confusing time for voters, especially young voters.

Barack Obama and John McCain are fighting for their political lives in what is currently a close presidential race.

But with the state of the nation, both our current financial crisis and foreign affairs and relations with other nations, we have a crucial question that the two men vying for the presidency should be asking themselves.

Do they really want to be the president of the United States?

The next president, no matter who it is, will be entering office in a time of great concern in the nation. We are still in a messy conflict in Iraq and current timelines suggest a near-coming pullout of troops. But the plans are sketchy and hidden under the guise of the current administration, so who knows what the exact plan is.

The biggest issue of the minds of Americans at the current time is the state of our economy. The citizens of this country are going to expect however it is to fix the problem and bring our economy back up.

The problem with this is that there is very little, if anything, that the president can do with the domestic economy. This is thanks to our Constitution and the role it delineates to the president.

The economy is a role over system. You do not see the immediate impact of anyone's economic stimulus package.

For instance, the 2001 recession often blamed on Clinton's economic policies, but the results did not surface until after he left office. This is often the case throughout history, including the Great Depression in the thirties.

The nation's spending on the bailouts of major U.S. banks is also a cause for concern. The spending that is taking place on these bailouts cause less domestic spending and a great national debt. These bailouts are likely to inhibit the next president's ability to create new domestic policies without increasing taxes.

As we all know, candidates and newly elected presidents despise increasing taxes and try not to, whether it's the best option or not. This is because of the desire for re-election. Any first term president is concerned about re-election and is unlikely to raise taxes or make any drastic political move around re-election time.

So if the situation calls for the president to take a risk, there is a solid possibility they won't, no matter what party.

The economy is the most present obstacle for this new president, though by far not the only one. The current situation of our country is one of a desperate need for foreign and domestic issues to be resolved.

It is not a bright and sunny day for a new president and there is a possibility that this president will go down in history as a failure, no matter what they do.

Campus smoking poses serious environmental risks

If there is one thing that I cannot stand, it has to be the repulsive smoke from cigarettes. I do not see the benefit of puffing a cancer stick, nor do I see the “cool” factor associated with it.

Frankly, I wish smoking was prohibited in all public settings. I don’t want to get cancer from your moronic actions.

Georgia Southern University faces a serious problem with student smoking.

One main issue is that there are not enough cigarette disposal containers on campus. The few that I was able to pinpoint, well, lets just say they were not in convenient areas.

Without the proper number of disposal containers, students are forced to flick their smoked cigarettes onto the pristine campus of our college.

Not only are they scattered all over the ground, some of the cigarette butts end up in the parking lots, and consequently wash down the storm drain that flows into the near-by Ogeechee River.

I have also seen cigarette butts in both ponds near the Landrum Café and the Henderson Library. We have fish, turtles, and ducks that call these ponds their home.

If you came into my home, I would not expect to litter it with your garbage, and in the same respect I would not do anything to tarnish yours.

So what truly is cool about smoking? Is it the numerous cancer causing agents that you enjoy? Is it the sensational feeling of Russian roulette you play with yourself, your friends and family, and the environment? Perhaps it is the occasional smoke while you have a beer at the bar?

Well get this through your train of thought.

A recent Italian study stated that three smoldering cigarettes pollute the environment ten times more than exhaust from a single diesel engine.

Now imagine all of the smokers in the world compared to the number of people that drive automobiles and then strongly ponder on the impact smokers have in regards to global warming.

Students are at the center of this debacle and something drastic needs to be done in order to protect the sanctity of our campus environment. If I had it my way, I’d love to see smoking proscribed on campus.

Not only would it avert students from breathing secondhand waste, it would also dwindle down environmental and campus pollution.

Finally, it would prevent me from going to class smelling like smoke and having to make such a big deal out of it.

I go to school to obtain a descent education and that is what I intend on doing. If I have to step on some toes to see some results then that is what I will do.

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**Our Georgia vs. the other Georgia**

It's a great idea. $1 billion to go towards Georgian citizens to help with health care, education, and to help rebuild. Georgia is finally getting the money it needs to fix its problems. The problem? The Georgia I'm talking about isn't our Georgia. The Georgia I'm referring to is located in Europe right next to Russia.

While the country Georgia is being sent $1 billion to help with their situation, our Georgia is receiving budget cuts of 6 percent, issued by Governor Sonny Perdue. Education programs have been cut by 5 percent, meaning $5 million for the Georgia Southern campus, $20 million for the University of Georgia, and $1.6 billion total loss in education.

With our Georgia in need of money for its citizens, why is it that our government feels the need to send $1 billion over to Georgia?

When I first read an editorial by Thomas Friedman about this, I was shocked. I wish I could say that I'm creative enough to have seen the problem when I first heard about Bush's plan to send $1 billion over there and then have our educational budget cut by 6 percent; however, it had to be pointed out to me. Once I recognized the problem, I started to get annoyed.

As a student, this bothers me. We are in the middle of firing teachers (or in the case of Georgia Southern, not hiring for unfilled spots) and cutting their pay as well as making sacrifices on things we need to better our education, however, we can afford to send $1 billion off to a foreign country to rebuild? What about our needs as students? What about putting that money to good use locally and using it for more teachers and better facilities?

It is distressing to see our tax dollars go towards a country that isn't ours. While the idea may be nice, do we have that kind of money to send when funding is being cut for important things like education in our own country?

Don't get me wrong, foreign policy is always important. However, where should we draw the line? I think it's about time to stop giving other countries money for war and rebuilding and start looking at our own countries economic situation. It's time that $1 billion went into education and health care for states such as Georgia instead of going to a cause in a different country.
Club Zone opening sparks debate

Denver Pittman  
Staff Writer

As of today, controversy stirred when Club Zone received its certificate of occupancy in Statesboro.

Club Zone, a new nightclub in downtown Statesboro, features a full menu, a 70-seat dining room, and a VIP room.

Mixed emotions about the ramifications of its location and potential threat to the community caused local residents to fear its arrival.

Club Zone is located on the intersection between Johnson Street and West Main Street. It spans over an area of about 13,000 ft. and is expected to hold up to 1,713 occupants.

However, there is limited parking space available for the club's patrons, which caused city council members to be alarmed.

"The parking lot is simply not large enough for the estimated occupancy," City Councilman Will Britt said.

According to Britt, the council's vote returned 4-0 to review the parking site; however, his vote was singular in favor of capping the occupancy at 324.

Other areas of concern suggest that the club may not have adequate seating. "They only applied for 70 seats, and with the expected turn out of 700, that leaves 630 people standing," said Will Britt.

Students on campus are equally concerned. "I'm scared for the community. I've heard about the problems it will create," said Ryan Hattaway, a senior at Georgia Southern.

Traffic issues, crime, and increased violence due to the size of the establishment were both projected issues discussed at the council meeting.

Both sides had equally supported and refuted arguments.

Promotions for the club will be done by Hustle Hard Entertainment, under the management of D.J. Flux.

The club hopes to appeal to a larger community of people that spans beyond GSU students, including professors and adults in the community.

Club owners and workers have discussed implementing a dress code as well.

In order to remain in business, Club Zone will have to keep its original occupancy, serve 50/50 food and alcohol, and manage fire safety regulations yearly.

As the club prepares for opening, Statesboro residents can only wait and see what happens next.
Eagles lose heartbreaker at the wire

By Katherine Cox
Staff writer

Saturday night Georgia Southern matched up with Elon University for the first Southern Conference meeting of the season. In front of a crowd of 17,049, the Eagles suffered a disappointing loss, 22-20.

Georgia Southern fell to 2-2 overall and 0-1 in the conference while Elon improved to 3-1, (1-0).

A second down 18-yard pass completion by Antonio Henton to Leander Barney jump started the Eagles offense for the night.

Samair Baker followed suit for the rush offense, sneaking past Elon right tackle, Andre Campbell, for a 14-yard gain.

The opening drive was finished up with a field goal made by Adrian Mora, the first of his collegiate career, by the end of the first quarter. Mora successfully hit two field goals.

During the drive, Henton completed a 54-yard touchdown pass to Raja Andrews, his career longest reception.

Elon threatened late in the first quarter and the Eagle defense held strong and kept them to just a field goal.

Phoenix kicker Andrew Wilcox made five field goals for the game, matching his efforts from last year’s contest between Georgia Southern and Elon.

Baker made noise again for the Eagles thirty seconds into the second half, returning the kickoff for 94-yards for a touchdown, putting Georgia Southern up 13-6. Baker led GSU in rushing with 55 yards on the day.

Elon answered the GSU 94-yard touchdown with one of their own, marching up the field, helped by Georgia Southern penalties to their end zone.

Late in the second quarter, Darell Norman grabbed an interception from Elon to turn things around for the Eagles.

Immediately after, a shoeless Henton heaved a long pass intended for Tim Camp which was intercepted to give it back to Elon.

Elon used the interception to move down the field and kick another field goal to make the score 16-13.

Earlier in the quarter, GSU labored through a 17-play drive, which included Coach Hatcher accepting an Elon penalty where he choose to take an already made Eagle field goal off the board to try for a touchdown, but came up empty on the try.

The Eagles went into the locker room down by 3 at half.

"You look back and wish you had the points," Hatcher said. "I don't regret the decision. We didn't block very well and that was the problem when it came down to the wire."

Henton was put under pressure the entire game, scrambling almost on every play.

After an Elon field goal and a GSU touchdown to put the score at 20-19 in the beginning of the fourth quarter, defensive back Ronnie Wiggins came through in the clutch with an interception, his first of the season.

"I think the defense was due," Wiggins said. "I think we can learn a lot from this experience and next week come out better."

The offense could not capitalize on the turnover and Elon got the ball back with 4:12 remaining in the game. After a pair of first downs, Elon advanced to its own 42.

After the Eagle defense pushed Elon to a 4th-and-10, Riddle hit junior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins for 20 yards to keep the drive alive and set up a 34-yard field goal try.

Wilcox then lined up for the Phoenix and kicked his fifth and game winning field goal with six seconds left.

"I'm just disappointed for these guys," Coach Hatcher said. "They played extremely hard. We'll just work harder and make sure this doesn't happen again."

Henton went 20-for-40 on the day, throwing for 232 yards with two interceptions and one touchdown. Raja Andrews had a career night, with 143 yards receiving on the day.

Leading the defense for the Eagles was Quinton Taylor with a total of 12 tackles in the game.

Georgia Southern finishes their four game home streak next Saturday against Wofford at 7 p.m.
We are looking for a furniture and a female vehicle to join our club. You may be willing to play Christian games, particularly among contemporary Christian and Christian Rock. Keyboarding abilities a plus!

Lost & Found

Lost pink Sony Ericsson W580. REWARD! Lost in Campus Camera. 524-0932. REWARD! Contact Ken (912)213-6687.

1.40 Other Announcements

Are you a Green Student Alliance for a Green Earth (SAGE)? We’ll be having our first meeting of the month on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 at 5:00 pm, in Russell Union Room 246.

How would you like to adopt an international student? Georgia Southern has over 300 international students on campus, who would love to have an adopted/host family to show them what American family life is like. This is just how the student spends time with you and your family going to the movies, shopping, out to dinner, or cooking a meal together, etc. If you are interested in becoming a host family for an international student at Georgia Southern, please contact Traci Taliafero at 912-478-7945 or email traci@georgiasouthern.edu. The Center for International Students is located at Fretta Drive Bldg, Ste. 113.

GSU Men’s Basketball is looking for volunteer student managers. Position requires self-discipline, time management and strong work ethic. Great resume and contact Kelly. Opportunity to advance into paid position in future. Contact Coach Poteet at apoteet@georgiasouthern.edu or 727-304-7470.

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Catholic faith or thought about becoming Catholic? If anyone is interested, are invited to attend RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes at St. Matthew Catholic Church (Glynn), For more information, call 912-842-5286.

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With Justice for All
presented by Morris Dees

Wednesday, September 24
7:00 p.m.
Performing Arts Center

"The march for fairness and justice continues... 
I spent most of the last 30 years 
as a trial lawyer working on the concept of liberty and justice for all. 
Human rights, I've learned, begins close to home."
Morris Dees, 
Co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center

Women's soccer are set to hit the road for a game this Friday against Wofford.

Women's soccer ties against Panthers

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

Today at Eagles Field, Georgia Southern Women's soccer took on the High Point Panthers, but did not manage to win. Instead they went into two overtimes and ended the game tied against the Panthers 4-4.

With a little more than ten minutes on the clock in the first half, Ashley Toussaint scored the first goal unassisted to put a point on the board for GSU.

The High Point Panthers established dominance throughout most of the first half, leading the Eagles 3-1.

After half-time, the Eagles were re-energized and amped to finish competing.

"There weren't really any serious adjustments to be made during halftime. We just needed to continue to play hard! We made a few mental mistakes, but the girls knew if they kept playing with compassion they would be able to get back into the game," said Head Coach Ashley Hart.

A lot of the spectators and Eagles fans felt as though the referees made some terrible calls and threw late penalty flags against them.

"Overall, the calls made by the referee did not affect our game," said Coach Hart.

"There are always going to be games where calls are made that may be wrong, but you just have to keep going."

With just under 30 minutes to play in the second half, Renee Hitchcock scored again to bring the Panthers up 4-1.

At this point in the game, it seemed impossible for the Eagles to come back, but they put their game face on and the offense controlled the second half of the game, scoring 3 goals.

The amazing turnaround began with a shot made by Ashley Toussaint.

"There were still more shots to be made.

Jenny Anderson assisted Elissa Botts for the third goal halfway through the second half.

Time was winding down as Niki Lepper had control of the ball and took her first shot, but it was blocked by Andrea Ritchie. The goalkeeper was near the far left side of the penalty area."