The George-Anne

October 28, 2008

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Two men were arrested last week.

The American military aims to release all detained Iraqi prisoners by December 2009.

Lovins to speak at Sustainability Summit

'Hero of the Planet' will highlight business case for sustainability

By Mark Beavers
Staff Writer

Georgia Southern University will host L. Hunter Lovins, an advocate for sustainable development and president of Natural Capitalism, Inc. and Natural Capitalism Solutions, to give a lecture as the second speaker of the Sustainability Seminar Series.

Lovins will be presenting the lecture, "Drivers of Change: The Business Case for Sustainability and Protecting the Climate," at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, October 29.

Lissa Leege said the lecture will highlight why businesses should take the sustainable route.

"It's not only good for the planet. It's good for businesses," said Leege, noting that being sustainable is a good way for businesses to save money.

Lovins has done work around the world with businesses and governments trying to help them become more sustainable.

She has addressed the World Economic Forum, the U.S. Congress, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and Wal-Mart in her efforts to promote sustainable living and business practices.

"She also works with a business school. [Lovins] works with MBAs teaching them about the business side of being sustainable," Leege said.

Leege would like to see the PAC filled for the lecture.

"The students are future leaders, business owners and decision makers. If they can hear her argument, then they can take that with them and make good decisions," said Leege, emphasizing that the lecture is important for students of all disciplines to attend. "Students will have a lot to take home."

Lovins formed Natural Capitalism, Inc. and Natural Capitalism Solutions in 2003 based on the principle outlined in Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution, a book she co-authored that discusses how organizations can increase profitability and efficiency while becoming more environmentally and socially responsible.

She was named "Hero of the Planet" by Time Magazine in 2000 for her efforts in sustainable living and education. Lovins has also won numerous awards for her work.

These awards include a shared Mitchell Prize in 1982 for an essay on reallocating utility capital, a Right Livelihood Award in 1983, a Nissan Award for an article on Hypercars in 1993, and the 1999 Lindbergh Award for Environment and Technology.

The lecture, sponsored by CLEC and the Office of Sustainability in the Center for Environment and Technology, and the Office of Sustainability in the College of Science and Technology, is free and open to the public.

City opens advance voting

By Ben Carroll
Guest Writer

For the voters of Bulloch County, advance voting week begins on Monday, October 27 ends this Friday, October 31 at 5 p.m.

Early voting started on September 22, but advance voting week is the last time a person can vote before the November 4 official Election Day.

Throughout this semester, there have been numerous applications from the student body, to a point where the election center here in Bulloch County is still processing the applications.

This is why many students who registered to vote early have still not received their voting registration card.

Students who sent in the application before the deadline for early voting and haven't received their registration card can call the election center at one of these two phone lines: (912) 764-6502 or (912) 489-1677.

If they haven't processed the application, they will do it while over the phone.

"These phones are often busy, but if you want to vote, it is important you see VOTING PAGE 2
Friends deny they took money from dead friend

McClatchy News Service

Their bumbling actions have brought two guys in an alleged Hell's Kitchen check-cashing scam worldwide attention for their only-in-New York similarities to the dark comedy, "Weekend at Bernie's.

But as James O'Hare and David Daloia allegedly pushed the lifeless body of friend and roommate Virgilio Cintron to the Pay-O-Matic Check Cashing spot in an office chair on Tuesday to cash a check, they claim they had no idea he was dead.

"He looked like that every morning," Daloia said of Cintron's appearance the day in question. "I didn't know he was dead. He had $500 in his pocket. I had $200. Why would I rob the guy?"

Bailed out of jail from Rikers Island overnight Thursday where they had been cooling their heels since their arrest on Tuesday on charges of attempted forgery, attempted possession of a forged instrument and petty larceny for attempting to cash their friend's check the two 65-year-olds were back home Friday at their West 52nd Street apartment to tell their side of the tale.

They had no idea who paid $1,000 each to set them free but seemed happy to clarify certain aspects of the case.

For months now, O'Hare and Daloia said Friday, they had engaged in the same routine: Three times a month, they would set Cintron in the chair and take him to a check cashing spot where he would cash his Social Security check.

OId, frail and unemployed, the self-described holdovers of Hell's Kitchen's racier past say they cared for Cintron, 66, whose health had deteriorated over the years.

"I'd never hurt the guy," Daloia said. "We took care of him. We wiped up after him."

Meanwhile, police said the duo plucked Cintron into a chair and wheeled him from the apartment to Pay-O-Matic on Ninth Avenue several blocks away.

Cintron was left outside while his friends stepped inside. The clerk who knows Cintron as a regular customer told police he needed to sign his own $355 check.

The suspects went back outside to get Cintron, but his half-dressed slumped corpse had caused quite a stir, among those passing by, including Det. Travis Rapp, who saw the scene as he ate lunch nearby.

U.S. speeds release of Iraqi detainees

McClatchy News Service

In recent months, the American military has begun freeing many of the Iraqi prisoners it's been holding without charges and aims to release all of them by December 2009, according to U.S. military data and interviews with military officials.

In the five and a half years since the Iraq war began, U.S. troops have arrested and detained roughly 100,000 Iraqis, almost all of them without formal criminal charges.

A year ago, 26,000 Iraqis were in American military detention, more than at any other point since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. About 17,000 remain imprisoned, but that number is dropping fast.

Brig. Gen. David Quantock, the U.S. deputy commanding general in charge of detainee operations in Iraq, told McClatchy Newspapers that he thinks the vast majority of detainees who remain in custody aren't dangerous.

Most of them participated in the insurgency because they were paid to do so or because they were threatened, he said. "I think it's a small number who are here because they really believe in the ideology of it."

Within the next 14 months, Quantock said, the military hopes to turn over a few thousand detainees who are considered the most dangerous for prosecution under Iraqi law. The rest will be released, he said.

American troops also have arrested about half as many Iraqis so far this year as they did in the first 10 months of last year, according to military data.

By next summer, Quantock said, the military plans to close Camp Bucca, the larger of its two remaining prisons in Iraq, which holds all but a few thousand of the Iraqis who are still in U.S. custody.

A prison that the military is building to replace Bucca will be opened and turned over to Iraqi authorities within a year or so, Quantock said.

"We're obviously not going to be running detention facilities in Iraq forever," he said. "It reaches a point where you need a plan for a safe transition, and that's what we're doing now."

The U.S. must close its prisons in Iraq before American troops can leave, but the matter is complicated by difficult negotiations with the Iraqi government over a new agreement to govern the status of U.S. forces in Iraq.

The United Nations mandate that's allowed the United States to operate in Iraq will expire at the end of this year.
Hudson's nephew's body identified in SUV

McClatchy News Service

Chicago Police Superintendent Bob Weis says the body found on Chicago's West Side is that of 7-year-old Julian King.

The identity of the body also was confirmed Monday afternoon by the Cook County medical examiner's office, where an autopsy was done Tuesday.

Around 3 p.m., two black SUVs believed to be carrying Hudson family members pulled out of the basement garage of the Trump Tower in downtown Chicago.

An unmarked police squad car left shortly after that, followed by a crowd of about a dozen people who left through the luxury hotel's lobby and declined comment.

Soon after, the SUVs arrived at the offices of the Cook County medical examiner's office. The vehicles left the scene about 3:54 p.m. The body was found in the back seat of the white Chevrolet Suburban police were looking for in their search for Julian, three days after Hudson's mother and brother were found shot to death in the mother's house in Englewood.

Two dead in shooting at U. Arkansas

UWIRE

Two University of Central Arkansas students were shot and killed Sunday evening and a third man, not a student, was injured.

Campus police received a call of shots fired at 9:19 p.m. between Arkansas Hall and the Snow Fine Arts Center, according to the university's Web site. One victim, a male UCA student, was pronounced dead on the scene. The other two victims were taken to the hospital. The third man, who wasn't a student, was treated and released.

"Monday classes are canceled, and students are encouraged to stay in their dorms and apartments, as all residence halls are under lockdown," The Echo, the student newspaper, reported.

One suspect was in custody though not under arrest, police said during a 1:50 a.m. press conference on Monday.

The UCA Web site reported at 10:35 p.m. Sunday that there were four suspects.

The Associate Press reported Monday that all suspects were men and not students. No motive has been determined, the AP reported.

Some students witnessed the shooting. According to The Echo, freshman Tyler Carpenter, who lives on the first floor of the all-boys Arkansas Hall, said he heard five shots go off as a man was running out of the hall into the alley.

"When the car drove off, I saw the body on the ground," Carpenter said. "My heart's beating a lot faster. I'm kinda scared; someone got shot right outside my room."
Recently announced, Quiznos is no longer going to be apart of Centennial Place.

 quiznos not coming to Centennial

By Quentin Dupree
Staff Writer

Centennial Place, which has been a construction project for the past year, is expected to open in fall of 2009.

Centennial Place is expected to host about 1,001 beds, which coincides with the new requirement being implemented in fall of 2009, which requires all incoming freshman to live on campus.

The dormitory is set to hold at least 1,000 students next fall.

The dorms, which are already wait listed by current Georgia Southern students, are also open to transfer and older students once they have filed an exception.

Along with the new dorms Centennial Place will see the addition of new restaurants such as Coldstone Creamery and Einstein.

Quiznos was slated to appear side by side with these establishments but will now be missing from the roster.

Quiznos decided to scratch any plans of building a venue on Georgia Southern's campus due to the steep competition with the nearby Subway.

Carrie Thorne, CAD and GIS Manager of the Physical Plant, speculates that Quiznos would be at a disadvantage in Statesboro.

"Too much saturation of sub vendors especially on this side of campus," says Carrie Thorne.

With a renovated Pickle Barrel on the way and an established sub sandwich restaurant already in walking distance of campus, conclusions were drawn that Quiznos did not see a profitable future with Georgia Southern.

Quiznos, which closed down their second venue earlier this year, still has a successful operating venue off of highway 301.

Centennial Place, which has 8,000 square feet laid out for retail vendors, will also feature an eye glassware shop as well as a new Eagle Print shop.

GSU Hosts Benefit Fair in Union Ballroom

By Ashley Harper
Guest Writer

The GSU Department of Human Resources held a Benefits Fair for all faculty and staff at Georgia Southern last Wednesday, October 22.

The fair was conducted at the Union Ballroom in order to take open enrollment questions, concerns, and feedback.

Because it is the Open Enrollment period at GSU, employees are able to discuss and may opt to change their current employee benefits.

Open Enrollment only lasts about a month, and will end on November 7. According to Vicki Hodges, assistant director of Benefits, there were approximately 300 people in attendance at the fair.

"We had 17 of the vendors present that offer benefits to our employees," Hodges said.

"This gave our employees an opportunity to gather information and ask questions to our benefit providers," Hodges said.

The vendors invited to join the fair were from all over the United States.

The list includes companies such as: AFLAC, AIG VALIC, Ameriprise Financial, Blue Cross Blue Shield, CIGNA Group Insurance, CORE Credit Union, CRL, Fidelity, GSU Admissions, Kaiser Permanente, Medco, MetLife, Netherton and Boley (AD&D), The Hartford, TIAA-CREF, and US Bank (Health Savings Account).

Faculty and staff were able to become more informed about the benefit offerings in which are obtainable to them.

There may be more opportunities available to fit their personal lifestyle than they even knew.

The Benefits fair gave the current employees of GSU an opportunity to change their benefit choices as well, without the inconvenience of coming into the office location.

"We received very good response from the people attending and from the vendors that were present," Hodges said.

This will make next year's Benefit Fair more successful, and will continue to improve employee benefits.

The vendors also provided giveaways and door prizes to encourage participation, and this was our first Benefits Fair, so we were very pleased with the outcome," Hodges said.

If you are currently enrolled in the HSA PPO (High Deductible Health Plan) or if you have an interest in signing up for plan year 2009, US Bank will hold a presentation about Health Savings Accounts on October 22.

The session will be at 2 p.m. in Room 2041 of the Russell Union.
Saturday, November 1st

Mud Volleyball, 10 AM - 6 PM
So easy a Caveman can do it! Come out to the RAC Pavilion to show us what you’ve got or just watch... All proceeds will benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. (Sponsored by the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement)

Monday, November 3rd

Picture Yourself in the Past, 11 AM - 2 PM
Remember the good ol’ days? Homecoming 2008 will soon be one of them! Time flies... Stop by the Russell Union Rotunda to have your picture taken with a fun background and printed on a button, key chain, or sticker.

GSU Idol, 7 PM
Rock the night away as we raise money for a great cause and name the next GSU Idol in the Russell Union Ballroom! Buy your tickets early! Tickets will be $5 at the door. All proceeds will benefit the United Way. (Sponsored by the Student Government Association)

Vote for your King and Queen candidates online! Check your WINGS account or the Homecoming website for more information. (www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com)

Tuesday, November 4th

Sculpt It for the Hungry, 11 AM - 2 PM
Rome wasn’t built in a day, but your schoolmates have only a few hours to create GSU-inspired decade designs using food, toiletries, and clothing under the Russell Union Rotunda. Come out to watch the sculptures take shape; all donations are contributed to the Statesboro Food Bank. (Sponsored by the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement)

Black Light Casino Night, 7 PM - 10PM
Visit Black Light Casino Night in the Russell Union Ballroom to enjoy a FREE night of play while experiencing a throw-back to one of the craziest lighting choices of the century and a chance to win an iPod, DVD Player, or digital camera!! Vote for your King and Queen candidates online! Check your WINGS account or the Homecoming website for more information. (www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com)

Wednesday, November 5th

Xbox Game Zone, 11 AM - 2 PM
From the pixelated games of your youth to the hi-def consoles of 2008, there is something for everyone at this noontime... Put down the books and join us in the Russell Union Commons area for play time!

Doo-Dah/Step Show, 7 PM
Hustle your Macarena over to Hanner Fieldhouse to see the totally awesome performances in this year’s Doo-Dah/Step Show! Tickets are $5 and can be purchased in the Office of Student Activities beginning on October 29th.

Vote for your King and Queen candidates online! Check your WINGS account or the Homecoming website for more information. (www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com)

Thursday, November 6th

Fabulous Fads, 11 AM - 2 PM
CH-ch-ch-chia... Who doesn’t miss the days when you could beg your parents to buy the newest fed toy that you just HAD to have?? Stop by this noontime at the Russell Union Rotunda to relive those moments of your past. Adopt a pet rock, grab a soda float, or play your favorite childhood board game!

Pep Rally, Court Announcement, and O.A.R. Concert, 7:30 PM
Eagle spirit is timeless. Join us at the RAC Bandshell to celebrate the final football pep rally of the season, hear the announcement of the Homecoming court, and rock out to a free concert!

Friday, November 7th

Parade, 4 PM - 5:30 PM
Watch the decades fly by as students show off their floats, krazy cans, and banners!! View the parade route at: www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com

Homecoming Celebration, 5:30 PM - 7 PM
After the parade of decades has disappeared, visit Sweetheart Circle to enjoy a tasty cookout and to hear the winners of the Homecoming competitions named.

WALL-E (Outdoor Movie), 7 PM
Get a glimpse of the future with Pixar’s animated hit, Wall-E. Bring your blanket or lawn chair to Sweetheart Circle to watch the free movie shown on a giant inflatable screen!

Fireworks, 8:45 PM
Wind down from your time travels by sitting back to watch a spectacular show of fireworks from Sweetheart Circle!

Saturday, November 8th

The Georgia Southern Homecoming football game starts at 12pm vs. Samford University. Come out to watch the Eagles soar over the Bulldogs! The crowning of the King & Queen will take place during halftime.

For complete Homecoming 2008 details, changes, and additions, view the official website at www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com

Sponsored by the Office of Student Activities
Botanical Garden hosts annual fall festival

By Denver Pittman
Staff Writer

Fall in Statesboro, for most, is a relieving season. As temperatures drop from the summer heat, festivities of local businesses rise into full swing.

The University Gardens plays an integral role in this process and is expected to host its annual festival, November 4.

The events are expected to please all ages. A plant sale will also accompany this year’s smorgasbord of activities.

“Blueberries, maple, hazelnuts, chard, and kale are among the edible plants that will beautify your home and energize your taste buds,” Garden Assistant Director Robert Rudolph said.

“Oaks, black gum, Japanese maples, and other species of trees will provide shade and value to your property.”

This year, the festival will also feature activities planned by the university’s Leadership and Recreation class led by Dr. Brent Wolfe.

Children will be entertained for hours by the activities that include, yet are not limited to scavenger hunts, an obstacle course, painting, and a maze.

“The festival is a wonderful way to spend time with your children,” Garden educator Kathy Tucker said.

“The children make and do wonderful things, and learn about the natural world at the same time.”

Though children have plenty of opportunities for a good time, the Festival and Plant Sale offers plenty for adult visitors as well.

The Statesboro Farmers’ Market will be at the Garden, with gorgeous local peas, greens, and tomatoes. Handcrafted cheese, baked goods, jams, and crafts will also be available.

“Usually held in downtown Statesboro, the Farmer’s Market returns to the Garden to celebrate its roots and to participate in one of the most fun events of the season,” said Market Founder Debra Chester.

“The Garden provides a wonderful, green atmosphere that connects all this wonderful produce to the land from which it came.”

This year particularly, the Garden will feature its new Heritage Pavilion.

Over the course of the next year, the Garden will also welcome a new Farmyard Courtyard, complete with fountain.

The innovation provides a unification that directly represents the appreciation of the beauty and history of biology on the Southern Coastal Plain.

“The garden belongs to the community,” said Director Carolyn Altaian.

“I’d love to show folks what’s happening in this green jewel in the center of our community.”

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children are invited to wear their Halloween costumes.

A silent auction and poinsettias sale will also take place in preparation for the holiday season.

A drop off for senior citizens and disabled visitors will be available inside the Garden gates.

Parking will be available; yet, carpooling is encouraged.

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JUDGE
LEE DELOACH

For the past 22 years, Lee Deloach has dedicated his life to public service as the probate judge and superintendent of elections in Bulloch County.

- Georgia Southern University Graduate
- National Judicial College Graduate
- Former Director - Joseph’s Home for Boys
- Past President - Keep Bulloch Beautiful
- Served in the National Guard

Vote for Lee Deloach on November 4th
Paid for by Friends of Lee Deloach
Up 'Til Dawn holds pumpkin sale

By Tiffany Colston
Guest Writer

St. Jude's Up 'til Dawn organization is celebrating the fall season by selling paper pumpkins to benefit St. Jude's Children Hospital.

According to the Up till Dawn official website, Up 'til Dawn is a student organization on many college campuses that unites students, staff and their campus communities with the goal to end childhood cancer once and for all.

More than 250 colleges and universities now participate in Up 'Til Dawn.

Students help raise awareness and support for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital through a variety of activities.

To date, the program has raised more than $16.5 million for St. Jude.

Georgia Southern's chapter is selling paper pumpkins for $1 in the Russell Union Rotunda and will continue selling them later this week.

One-hundred percent of the proceeds will go directly toward research at the hospital.

People who buy the paper pumpkins will sign their names on them and they will be displayed on a bulletin board in the Office of Student Activities.

According to Amanda Stanley, a member of the organization, everyone has high hopes for the event to be successful because if it is there will be more fundraisers in the future.

“Our letter sending event is the most anticipated and important event of the year,” Staley said.

“Schools and universities that support St. Jude all over the country are strongly encouraged to write letters to their family and friends encouraging them to make donations for the cause,” Staley said.

Also, for Georgia Southern's annual Homecoming Week they will be hosting the mud volleyball game.

For the remainder of the semester there will be small events going on to support research for treating children with catastrophic diseases at St. Jude's Research Hospital.

Those that write letters explaining the desperate need for research for lethal diseases that affect children will have a chance to receive homemade baked goods for contributing.

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CALENDAR

Tuesday, October 28
Time: 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Event: Winter Break Trip Info
Location: Russell Union 2071

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Event: Leadership 101
Location: Russell Union 2041

Time: 6 - 7 p.m.
Event: ODK General Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2048

Time: 6 - 8 p.m.
Event: Community Cinema Film
Location: IT Lecture Hall 1005

Time: 7 - 9 p.m.
Event: Trick Or Treat Program
Location: Russell Union 2044

Time: 7:15 - 9:15 p.m.
Event: LDSSA Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2073

Time: 9 - 11 p.m.
Event: Swing Cats Society
Location: College Plaza Building

Wednesday, October 29
Time: 11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Event: GSU STAND
Location: Russell Union 2042

Time: 12 - 2 p.m.
Event: Hot Wings And Topics
Location: Russell Union 2047

Time: 5 - 6:30 p.m.
Event: SAGE Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2048

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Event: SGA Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2047

Time: 7 - 9 p.m.
Event: GSA Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2048

Time: 8 - 9 p.m.
Event: SSDP Weekly Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2044

Time: 8:30 - 10 p.m.
Event: Hunter Lovins Reception
Location: Nessmith Lane

Thursday, October 30
Time: 1 - 4 p.m.
Event: GSU STAND
Location: Russell Union 2043

Time: 2 - 4 p.m.
Event: FLU Vaccine Clinic
Location: Russell Union 2041

Time: 6 - 7 p.m.
Event: SCA Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2073

Time: 6 - 8 p.m.
Event: Eagle-2-Eagle Halloween
Location: Russell Union 2048

Time: 7 - 10 p.m.
Event: NAACP Election Forum
Location: Russell Union 2046

* Time: 7:20 - 9:30 p.m.
Event: Gentlemans Appreciation
Location: Russell Union 2042

Time: 8 - 11 p.m.
Event: VGA Bi-Weekly Meeting
Location: Russell Union 2047

Friday, October 31
Time: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Event: Honors Visitation Day
Location: Nessmith Lane

Time: 9 - 11 a.m.
Event: Move-In Meeting For Foy
Location: Nessmith Lane 1908

Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Event: EG College Regents Test
Location: Education Building

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Event: Conversation Hour Int'l
Location: Russell Union Ballroom

Time: 7 - 11 p.m.
Event: USHA Halloween Party
Location: Williams Center Dining Hall

Time: 9 p.m.
Event: Thriller Parade
Location: Court House Lawn

Time: 10 p.m. - 12 a.m.
Event: Rocky Horror Picture Show
Location: Averitt Center
PARTY IMPRESSIONS
Go Green and Save Green! Get Your Halloween Costumes and Accessories in the Boro!

angel / demon
doctor / nurse
cops / robbers
superheroes
pimps / hos
nuns / priests
togas / greeks
era costumes
characters
& MORE!
489 - 9946

PARTY IMPRESSIONS
107 WEST MAIN ST.
ACROSS FROM POST OFFICE
2 BLOCKS WEST OF DOWNTOWN INTERSECTION

Tips to Promote Halloween Safety
Statesboro P.D. offer tips to safe on Halloween

Will Douberly
Staff Writer

Many people believe that Halloween is a time of increased vulnerability to victimization. Some genuinely fear that the 31st of October will bring upon them random acts of violence.

While it is intelligent to take precautions to ensure one's safety, these precautions do not need to be any more excessive than ones already being practiced in everyday life.

What is one major fear that people have in relation to Halloween?
There is a fear that candy given out to children will be poisoned or contain razor blades.

Should parents protect their children by checking the candy they receive? Yes, they should. But this is no different from any other situation.

How many parents will let their children take candy from strangers? Or if they do allow their children to accept the candy, do they not check it beforehand?

Halloween is not posing a new risk in this respect to children's safety; there will just be greater opportunity for this risk to be a factor.

Will all hell break loose on Halloween? In all likelihood, it won't.

Most crimes or deviant behavior that takes place on Halloween involve minor offenses that are usually considered pranks; perhaps these pranks are performed in bad taste, but they can be considered pranks nonetheless.

"Someone's car may get egged, but nothing significant, you don't see any major crimes," said Major Holloway with the Statesboro Police Department.

Why do so many instances of these pranks occur on Halloween? Often times, they occur because people are wearing costumes and masks.

The costume and mask provide a sense of anonymity that allows people to believe they have a greater chance of getting away with a crime than they would have otherwise.

It is actually possible that Halloween is a time that will see less serious offenses being committed than during other times of the year.

Due to the greater amount of people that will be out, criminals may have less of an opportunity to commit a serious crime because of greater number of witnesses.

"More people are out, and real criminals can't commit major crimes because they will be seen," said Captain McCullough of the University Police at Georgia Southern.

So, it is actually possible that people will be safer from heinous crimes on Halloween than on a typical, normal day.

Precautions taken in a normal situation still apply here.

Don't walk places alone. Stay in well-lit areas. Drink responsibly.

What contributes to this myth of Halloween mayhem?
"I think it's the mystery and reputation that Halloween gets...that it's a night for mischief," said McCullough.

For information regarding Halloween safety for children, visit www.Halloween-safety.com, and for information regarding safety in general, visit http://welcome.georgiasouthern.edu/publicsafety/information.htm.
Jonathan Tyler and the Northern Lights shine in ‘Hot Trottin’

By Philip Clements
Assistant Features Editor

It’s hard to pull off original classic rock these days. Most bands that attempt to recreate the swagger of rock’s golden days end up producing a dusty wannabe hit before shriveling away at twice the rate as their idols. The bands that do get away with it, like The Strokes and Jet, eventually move away from the sound that got them noticed as the spotlight fades, maintaining devoted fans but never returning to the top of the charts.

Even in spite of this, newcomer Jonathan Tyler and the Northern Lights shine as the next best thing in 70s-influenced rock. Hailing from the Lone Star State, the Northern Lights reinvent a funky brand of blues rock that would make Stevie Ray Vaughan proud and John Mayer jealous.

They are set to open for O.A.R. on November 6 at the RAC Bandshell to promote their debut album ‘Hot Trottin’ which features a strong set of sweatin’ and swaggerin’ rock music.

With cowbell driven blues riffs and power rock hooks, the album’s opener “Gypsy Woman” has enough radio potential and fire power to propel these guys to the cover of Rolling Stone.

Half haunted house jam, half bayou blues tune, “Lost Soul (Pts. 1 & 2)” is trippy, folksy, and should be on HBO’s True Blood. Their soft side is also intriguing. Ballads like “This Girl” and “She Wears a Smile” embrace the sensitive songwriter role and win over your girlfriend’s heart. The saxophone solo on “Time for Love” is enough to get the volume cranked and the windows steamed.

“Sunshine” starts off in a sweet and harmless enough way, but catches you off guard and lifts off into a spacey blues odyssey with Tyler’s guitar steering from the cockpit.

As soon as you hear him, Jonathan Tyler will be your new guitar hero. At 23, his groovin’ riffs and epic solos put him on the list of young guitarists to watch.

Backing Tyler with a ferocious devotion are Jordan Cain on drums, Nick Jay on keyboards and a dude named Kansas on rhythm guitar. However, they don’t allow themselves to be restrained by a four-piece band. The album features a brass section and some ripping saxophone solos by Clay Pritchard and Fulton Turnage.

Older critics might say that the younger generations don’t really have any “guitar gods.” But Jonathan Tyler (along with the likes of John Mayer and Jim James) challenge that thesis and gives everyone an earful of what we all want to hear: head bobbing riffs and courageous solos.

The album was produced and engineered by Chris Bell, a Dallas local who has worked on albums by Erykah Badu and Polyphonic Spree. Its sonic quality is clear and modern, which helps the listener push beyond the static comparisons to older albums and fully embrace the freshness of the music they make.

Sure, there will be comparisons. There always are. But what makes Jonathan Tyler and the Northern Lights special is that these comparisons aren’t to Boston, Foghat, Mott the Hoople or any other dated favorites. The comparisons are more in sync with Eric Clapton, Pink Floyd and Aerosmith. Their sound is truly unique. Only time will tell if it’s classic.
‘High School Musical 3’ way off tune

RYAN'S TAKE

Walking out of "HSM3," I couldn't help but find an extra kick to my step. It was as if there was a natural beat running through my head. All I wanted to do was throw my hands in the air and shout positive nothings. Yes, I just created a word so I could say something profound: "High School Musical 3" is the best film I've seen in the past, oh, 21 years (that's, like, totally my age). The only word I can use to describe it is awe-inspiring. All of this G-rated goodness is directed by Kenny Ortega ("High School Musical 1 & 2").

As enjoyable as the songs were to listen to, they were not the only way the film could be enjoyed. The choreography and music on display here are entranced by every step and skip made by the talented young actors, and I was extremely impressed by Kenny Ortega's stellar direction. And to think that I could've doubted the sheer coolness of this film has to offer.

As the parking lot was cleared by policemen using 'dream-wrecker' rods and sadness spray, I could only hope that "High School Musical 4: College Musical" would be as ground-breaking and important as this film. Wait... what am I saying? How could I have been mistaken like this? I'm sorry for my misspoken optimism, but I must fess up: this movie was horrible! I hope you don't take my words and walk into this optimistically.

First, there are the hammy song lyrics. As enjoyable as the songs were to listen to, every one seemed to be a mere slight alteration of the one that came before it, with each spouting something to the effect of "let's stick together," "beyonce," "friends are forever," and so forth. Those messages are all well and good, but seriously? Does every single song have to be filled with such cliché and sappy sweetness? I'm surprised I didn't get sick from all the cheese I had to stomach.

Not much more can be said about the performances. Every character is either flat, every line is overacted, every romantic scene is too sexually awkward, everything about this film is too Disney Channel. The whole thing feels too shiny and squeaky clean to be relatable on most any level.

While some of the conflicts the characters face are absolutely realistic and fitting, the ways in which they are handled are not. Too often are they settled through weird and overly convenient turns of events. It's this lack of a sense of realism that makes the film so laughable.

Now, I know what you're thinking – "High School Musical 3" was not made with me in mind - and you are absolutely right. If I've gained one thing from seeing this film, it's an understanding of why the target audience truly enjoys this kind of thing. However, that doesn't make me like it any more. So, to any audience members who I might have offended with my inappropriately timed belts of laughter and comments I apologize. Sorry kids, but high school is not G-rated.

RYAN'S RATING

Showtimes

Carnikee 12 Cinemas
(Statesboro Mall)

TUESDAY
4:15 p.m., 5:50 p.m., 7 p.m.
8:15 p.m., 9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
4:15 p.m., 5:50 p.m., 7 p.m.
8:15 p.m., 9:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
4:15 p.m., 5:50 p.m., 7 p.m.
8:15 p.m., 9:30 p.m.
Paranormal investigator offers ghost hunting tips

By Charles Minshew
Features Editor

Students had the opportunity to learn about the science of ghost hunting Saturday night when a paranormal investigator visited Georgia Southern.

Paranormal investigator Darren Vallance from Roswell, Ga spoke to a crowd of approximately 100 students about the tools as well as the do's and don'ts of paranormal investigation.

Jessica Penne, coordinator of residential education at the Department of University Housing, said that she got the idea to bring Vallance to campus after previous success with a ghost hunting class at the University of Oregon.

"I am a skeptic, but I do believe in them. I’ve never had an experience but I’m open to having an experience," Penne said.

In his presentation, Vallance cited four different types of hauntings: residual, poltergeist, intelligent and non-human. According to Vallance, there are three types of ghosts: dead people, aliens, and people from other dimensions.

Vallance said that most of his equipment is paid for out of his own pocket. He estimates that he has spent over $5,000 on various equipment including digital voice recorders, camcorders, and a device called "Frank’s Box."

He said that for him, the most successful tool in ghost hunting has been a digital voice recorder. Vallance’s investigations have taken him all throughout the state of Georgia as well as Waverly Hills, Kentucky and the infamous Alcatraz Island.

While in Waverly Hills, Vallance said that he confronted a “nine foot tall shadow person” named Linebacker.

"Shadow people are more often evil than good," Vallance said. "I’ve been attacked, I’ve been hit, I’ve been scratched, and I’ve been burned."

According to Vallance, he does an average of one to two investigations per month. This month, however, he is already on number six. However, it is possible to get involved with ghost hunting on your own.

"To get involved in ghost hunting, Google is your best friend," Vallance said. He said that the easiest piece of equipment for an amateur investigator to purchase is a digital voice recorder.

Vallance says that there is a difference between sending a ghost to the other side and communicating with it. Vallance does not try to send ghosts to the ‘other side.’

"I don’t believe in that because I don’t know what’s over there," Vallance said. "Am I sending them to a better place or am I sending them to a giant blender? And, if I cross them over that gives me one less thing to hunt."

According to Vallance, all investigations by the Roswell, Ga Paranormal Investigators are free. For more information, go to www.roswellparanormal.com.

DO’S AND DON'TS OF GHOST HUNTING

DO

- Go Ghost Hunting with a friend
- Ask for permission before going on a property.
- Buy cheap equipment such as voice recorders and digital cameras

DON'T

- Go ghost hunting alone.
- Trespass on property or go somewhere without the owner’s permission.
- Be scared.

Parties and movies in the land of the rising sun

By Derek Joyce
Guest writer

Konnichiwa! Long time no see, everyone.

This week, we will focus on the best forms of Japanese pastimes.

Party!

See, we at International House, as well as the Japanese in general, will find any excuse to have a good time, especially if it helps us take our minds off of our classes.

The most common are the birthday parties, and since we live in a house of 61 including our housekeeper, that means a lot of parties.

In only our four weeks here, we already had four major blowouts.

The two most notable birthdays were for our housekeeper and one of our Senpais (technically upperclassman, but it also means our housemates who have been here for a semester already.)

There are some expectations for partying, of course. First of all, everyone who will be in attendance must make a contribution, whether it be in decoration, drinks, or food.

Also, everyone in attendance is expected to clean up after themselves and have a great time, by whatever means necessary.

For our housekeeper’s birthday, there were three tables literally filled to the brim with food and drink. Even with 60 people in attendance, there were still leftovers.

The other major party had a purple disco theme. Need I really say more?

Next up, are the movie theaters. The nearest one is in the city of Nagoya, which is roughly 20 minutes away using bus and train.

This theater was huge. Situated next to the station at the top of a five story building, it was lit in neon lights on the inside with electric billboards that automatically change their advertisement every few minutes.

When buying a ticket, you need to know exactly where and when you sit, because the seats are assigned and the line can change from zero to 30 people almost instantaneously.

Tickets are roughly 13-15 dollars and you can tell how many tickets are left by the symbol next to the name and time of the movie. A circle indicates many seats, a triangle for only a few, and an X for none.

Movies range from animation, live, and even American movies with Japanese subtitles.

On that particular day, I saw signs for Metal Macbeth, which seems like a Japanese adaptation of the Shakespearean classic. An upcoming Tinkerbell movie, an animation of some kind of fish thing with a human face that has a human as a pet, and an upcoming release of ‘Hancock.’ But for that night, I was seeing ‘Ayan Maan.’

If you can’t figure out what that is, try sounding it out.

That’s right: Iron Man! Props to Robert Downey Jr.

As for snacks, there is a very interesting selection. The theater had butter or caramel popcorn, taquitos, soft serve ice cream, and fish and chips. Yeah, I said it, fish and chips.

As for drinks, you can choose from soda, water, or even hot or cold coffee. I went for the Melon soda. Mmmm.

Upon entering the theater, I found that the previews actually ended on the given play time of the movie, which was awesome.

They had leather seats, hardly anyone even left until the credits were done, and it was dead silent. I know you are not supposed to talk during the movie in the US, but here, that is taken seriously.

Nobody even laughed out loud except for two foreigners sitting at the end of the row.

But strangely, that did not take away from the experience.

Well, that is all for now. Soon I will have to see an actual Japanese movie, see how that is. Until next time, Sayonara!
My own Fear Factors
Recounting three hair-raising experiences

By Reuben Hayslett
Staff writer

It's finally the time of the year for all the creepy-crawlies and bumps-in-the-night to emerge for the shadows, dark corners and dusty attics to give us a good scare for a day. Halloween is one of my favorite holidays and this year I'd like to celebrate by reliving the top three true-life tales of creepiness that I've lived through.

#3: Disney Trailer parks
Everyone knows Disney as "the happiest place on Earth" and it is, if you stay on the tourist side of things. But as a former Orlando native I was often witness to the darker side of The Mouse.

When I was nineteen and flying solo through the Orlando night club scene I ran into a group of quirky clubbers who all worked for Disney. They called it Mouschwitz and complained of long hours, poor conditions, "slaving away" for a big faceless corporation. They were right. I drove one big circle around the parameter of the trailer park and didn't see any exits. On the second lap I noticed a small gravel road that looked like the one I drove in on. This road had the same blind turns with little warning before hand and the longer I drove down it the less likely it seemed that I would eventually reach the highway. Then one more quick turn and my car was thrust back onto a major thoroughfare. I swerved in and out between cars desperately search for Interstate 4, the only way I knew to get home.

When I saw the overpass I sped for it and, on the curve, lost control and peeled out into a small ditch. I thought my heartbeat would never slow down again, but I had made it out.

I had been to the Disney trailers and lived to tell about it.

#2: Showcase Cinemas
Movie theaters are pretty dark places under normal situations. But during an Iowa blizzard in 1998, the movie theater I worked at lost power and I got to see true darkness.

My supervisor, Jody, and I were loading up a supply cart with concession candies when the blizzard picked up. We wheeled our fully loaded pushcart out of the supply room and into the main hallway when we heard a deep mechanical drone wind down and then the lights, all of them, vanished. Usually, after a few minutes in darkness your eyes adjust.

You begin to see shadows and the blacks turns into varying shades of dark grays.

That doesn't happen in a movie theater during a blizzard.

There's no adjustment, no slow reveal of shapes in the dark. It's just black everywhere. I waved my hands in front of me: nothing. I called out for Jody: nothing. It was as if we had all been eaten, swallowed up by night.

Then a blust, roundish object hit me square between the shoulders and I fell down. I heard boot-stomps near me then slowly disappear.

I realized that blust "thing" was someone's shoulder as they were running toward what they thought to be an exit.

Then, through the sheet of black I heard Jody scream my name. I crawled toward the corner of my eye could have been her fingers into my skin. It was when she stopped to catch her breath that I realized I was screaming too. I tried to keep her calm, telling her to breathe, but honestly I had no idea what I was doing. In the movies there's usually someone with Lamarne training who just so happens to be around for these things, but in the pitch black movie theater, under a blizzard, there was just jimpily fifteen-year-old me.

I heard another pair of hurried footsteps in the distance, and in seconds, they collided with the candy cart. Skittles, Jr Mints, and Nestle's Crunch Rite boxes fell like rain around us and Jody launched into another heart wrenching scream.

I had no plan, no idea, no hero moves to pull. I spent the thirty minutes it took to get the power up and running screaming with Jody.

And at the end of it, with the blizzard dying and the lights back on, the paramedics found us and carted Jody to the hospital. She took a maternity leave and before she got back I had found another job—in a nice well lit office.

#1: Georgia Southern campus
In 2006, my ex-boyfriend attacked me, stabbed my hand and destroyed my computer. I called the police and all they could do was call his cell phone number and knock on his dorm room door. That was a Sunday night, I had class the next morning and the man who had just attacked me also knew my class schedule.

The Georgia Southern campus seems innocuous. It's a large public space with lots of students walking back and forth. Ordinary it feels relatively safe. Not the case for me that Monday. Every student zipping past the corner of my eye could have been him. Everyone person with their hand in their pocket could be carrying a knife. There's no way to know for sure.

Worse is that the police couldn't apprehend my attacker. He was at large. He could be anywhere on campus, behind that group of slow walking friends strolling down the pedestrian by the library. He could be waiting around the corner from the Lakeside patio. He could have a knife this time. He could try to finish what he started before I screamed "Help!"

On top of all this was the fact that my attacker was my ex-boyfriend, he knew where my classes were, where I normally eat during the day. He knew about what time I head out for campus and what time I leave for the day.

If he wanted to he could find me, attack me again.

The smartest thing to do was to change up my routine, walk the long way round things, and enter buildings from back exits. Changing your day-to-day routine also means the faces of random people change as well. You don't see the same familiar face that has some class in the Carroll building at around the same time you do on Mondays and Wednesdays.

All the people are foreign, all the faces new. Everyone becomes a stranger and every step on the brick sidewalk becomes a step at my own risk.

Most spooky or creepy encounters escalate to some sort of conclusion. The weird glowy light through the trees are just someone's headlights left on. The quick moving shadow in the corner was just your pet cat being hyper. For me the potential fear of having to face the man who stabbed me while I was on campus didn't go away in a quick conclusion. It took me three months to learn that he had dropped out of school and moved to another town.

To this day the details I have on my attacker's whereabouts are sketchy at best.

Halloween is one of my favorite holidays because we get to exercise our fears. We can indulge in them, bring them out to the forefront and see them for what they really are: fears. Using Halloween as a "safe" day to be scared frees up the rest of your year to be brave. To look at the potential of danger, or nightmares and say: "no, no, no, I don't scare that easily."
Students get hands-on experience through ‘Southern Enterprise’

By Chris Buchanan and Claire Gallam
News Editors

Students are learning the inner-workings of business first hand thanks to Southern Enterprise, a completely student run business at Georgia Southern.

Part of a manufacturing enterprise class, students are in charge of every aspect of the production and sell of custom Georgia Southern clocks.

“We wanted to emulate modern class manufacturing methods and so we needed a particular product line that was consistent so we could set the factory up in one way,” said Professor Phil Waldrop who oversees the class.

The company is divided into several departments including research, sales, and human resources according to Jamie Gould, external relations manager.

They sell several different styles of clocks and all variations between them depend on the students designs.

Students could also earn money during the class.

“It’s the only course on campus where students get a check on final exam day,” said Waldrop.

Waldrop said that students could make as much as $100 through the course if they bought the maximum allowed 20 shares in the company – doubling their initial investment.

The class recently decided to hold a raffle for charity according to Gould. They raffled off three custom Georgia Southern clocks with $123 of the proceeds being donated to the Joannal McAfee Childhood Cancer Foundation out of Warner Robins, Ga.

The class was created about 30 years ago according to Waldrop under the guidance of Professor Emeritus Lewis Selvidge.

“It got started years ago when the field of industrial technology was reorganizing to get away from the vocational type hands-on education to a more general education in terms of providing insight to careers,” Waldrop said.

Waldrop said that he started at Georgia Southern in 1995 when Selvidge was still teaching the class and began to work with him.

Waldrop then took over the position upon Selvidge’s retirement and has been teaching the class for about 10 years.

Both professors co-authored the textbook still used today.

The company has won three major awards since its inception including two Leavy Awards for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education and a Sergeant Americanism Award.

“I was actually encouraged by Professor Selvidge who had won [the Leavy Award] in 1984,” Waldrop said.

Waldrop’s program won the award in 2004.

Students who want to order a clock can do so by going to GSUClocks.com or by speaking with Quentin Coley, director of sales.

Students can also go directly to the company’s headquarters in room 1013 in the Carruth Building from 2 to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Museum features Anne Frank exhibit

GSU News Service

The Georgia Southern University Museum is hosting “Anne Frank: A History for Today” beginning November 2.

“Anne Frank: A History for Today” chronicles the Holocaust through the eyes of Anne Frank and her family. The goal of the exhibit is to confront issues of prejudice and intolerance and to educate young people about the positive values of diversity.

Consisting of 55 large panels, this exhibit juxtaposes photographs of the Frank family with photographs depicting historical events during that time.

The goal is to show how persecuted people, such as the Frank family, were affected by political decisions and by the actions and beliefs of individuals.

The exhibit invites people to view and think about prejudice, discrimination, hate and violence. It also encourages them to think about their own attitudes and beliefs.

Also part of the exhibit is “The Anne Frank Secret Hiding Place,” an artist’s representation of what the secret hiding place was like.

The exhibit’s visitors will also have the opportunity to view a brief film, “The Short Life of Anne Frank.”

The exhibit is sponsored by The Anne Frank Center USA. Through this exhibit and others, the center has introduced over four million young people to the story of Anne Frank.

The goal of the exhibit is to confront issues of prejudice and intolerance and to educate young people about the positive values of diversity.

Accompanying the exhibit is “Witness to the Holocaust: WWII Veteran William A. Scott at Buchenwald.”

This exhibit documents the liberation of Buchenwald through the lens of U.S. Army photojournalist William A. Scott. III. Scott was a member of a segregated African-American unit during World War II.

This exhibit shows how powerful discrimination can be and teaches respect for diversity.
Baseball announces 2009 Schedule

GSU news service

Georgia Southern Baseball will play host to the Eagle Invitational in 2009, part of a 32-game home slate that highlights the 2009 schedule.

The Eagles open 2009 on Friday, February 20th, against Presbyterian as part of a three-game series and stretch of 12 straight at J. I. Clements Stadium to start the season.

The Eagles play host to Georgia Tech in a two-game midweek series then Cop- pin State the following weekend (Feb. 27-March 1). Another midweek game against Winthrop on March 3rd precedes the Eagle Invitational.

Indiana, LeMoyne and East Carolina will travel to J.I. Clements on March 6-8. The Eagles hit the road for the first time on March 10 at Jacksonville.

The following day GS plays Bethune-Cookman at home, then begins Southern Conference play at UNC Greensboro. That series begins a week-long roadtrip. The Eagles play midweek at North Carolina A&I (March 17) and Winthrop (March 18) before traveling to Appalachian State (March 20-22).

"The Eagle Invitational should be a great weekend of baseball. You have Indiana, LeMoyne and East Carolina coming in," said head coach Rodney Hennon. "Winthrop is back on the schedule this year, they are another good baseball program."

After a home game against Kennesaw State (March 24), the Eagles will travel to South Carolina, renewing their rivalry against the Gamecocks (March 25).

On Friday, March 27, Georgia Southern plays host to Elon in a three-game series which begins a seven-game homestand.

The Eagles face North Florida (March 31) and College of Charleston (April 3-5) at J.I. Clements Stadium.

Georgia Southern finishes the four-game series against Tech (April 7-8) playing two games in Atlanta followed by a SoCon series at Western Carolina (April 10-12) and game at North Florida (April 14).

A midweek game versus Jacksonville (April 15), followed by a conference series against Davidson (April 17-19) and a non-conference game versus Charleston Southern (April 21) caps a five-game stretch at Clements Stadium.

The remaining SoCon schedule includes: at The Citadel (April 24-26), versus Furman (May 2-3), at Samford (May 9-10) and versus Wofford (May 15-17).

Following the Samford series the Eagles travel to Auburn (May 12) for their first game against the Tigers since the 2000 NCAA Regionals.

This season the SoCon Tournament (May 20-24) moves to Greenville, South Carolina to play at the Class A Greenville Drive stadium Fluor Field at West End, ending a streak of 19 straight years in Charleston.

"I'm excited about it (the change in location), I think our players are excited about it. We've had a great run as a league in Charleston, but it has been there quite a while," said Hennon. "They have a beautiful park in downtown Greenville, it's set up similar dimension-wise to Fenway Park. There are a lot of things right around the ballpark for our fans."

In all the Eagles face five teams that advanced to the NCAA Regionals (Georgia Tech, South Carolina, East Carolina, Elon and Bethune-Cookman).

"Once again this is another challenging schedule. The Southern Conference continues to get stronger each year and it will be no different in 2009," said Hennon. "I am excited about our opportunities outside the league. We have Georgia Tech again for four games on a home-and-home series. We added South Carolina to the schedule this year and have an opportunity to play in their new stadium this year, and they'll return the trip in 2010. We also catch Auburn on the way back from Samford at the end of the season. We've always prided ourselves on playing a tough schedule and we're looking forward to the challenges this year."

Record watch

Senior GSU wide receiver, Raja Andrews, broke the Eagles career receptions record this past Saturday. Andrews eight receptions in the Western Carolina game this past weekend put him at 99 for his career, six more than the old record of 93 set by Monty Sharpe in 1986. Andrews has 36 receptions so far this season, putting him on track to also break the single-season record of 39.
National NFL: New England not lost

Last year the Dolphins were 1-15, the Jets were 4-12, and the Bills were 7-9.

In the off-season, the biggest upgrade the Dolphins made was acquiring Chad Pennington. That doesn't scare anyone. The Jets might have picked up Brett Favre, but that does not insure success.

There are still too many questions surrounding them to see them as a real contender. The Pats have already beaten the Jets with Matt Cassel anyway.

The Bills provide the biggest challenge to the Patriots dominance of the AFC East. They are an up-and-coming team and have already notched two wins in two weeks.

However, with all the talent the Patriots have on offense and defense, I just don't see the Bills overtaking the Pats for the division crown.

4. Matt Cassel will manage the Pats' offense just fine.

It was said all week leading up to the game against the Jets. Matt Cassel had not started a game since high school in 1999! He would be overwhelmed by the Jets and the Patriots would lose. Only, wait... the Pats won.

Yes, Cassel didn't put up any eye-popping numbers. He was 16 of 23 for 165 yards. Sure he didn't throw a touchdown, but he didn't throw an interception either.

He did what he needed to do and managed the game. He allowed the defense and running game to lead the Pats to a 19-10 victory.

As long as Cassel duplicates that performance, the Pats will be in the playoffs again this season as AFC East champs.

They won't blow teams out or go undefeated in two consecutive seasons, but they will be a factor nonetheless.

Brady isn't the only good player for New England.

Receiver Randy Moss was a monster last season. He racked up a record 23 touchdown receptions and made life miserable for opposing defenses.

Yes, those throws all came from Brady, but Moss isn't going to turn into a bad receiver just because Matt Cassel is now throwing the ball. Moss's talent and explosiveness will keep the Pats afloat this year.

Players such as WR Wes Welker, LB Tedy Bruschi, S Rodney Harrison, RB Laurence Maroney, and others will keep the Pats afloat.

2. Bill Belichick is one of the greatest coaches of all-time.

Belichick is without a doubt one of the best coaches to stride onto a football field. His record speaks for itself.

He has lead the Pats to three Superbowl victories. In 2001, against the heavily favored St. Louis Rams, Belichick's defense held the high-powered Rams offense to only 17 points.

The Pats won on a last second field goal by Adam Vinateri. Belichick coached the Patriots to two more Superbowl victories and to a Superbowl appearance last year.

He sometimes seems like an arrogant jerk, with his stoic personality and lack of forthcoming, but the fact is the man is a winner. He will use his unparalleled ability to "coach 'em up" with 2008's Patriots team, as he has with all the others.

3. The AFC East still isn't all that great.

Last season the Pats went 16-0. Six of those wins came against divisional opponents.

Pats won.

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