The George-Anne

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IN OTHER NEWS

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BANKS WORRY ABOUT CREDIT CARDS

With the collapse of mortgage companies and loan agencies, banks are now beginning to worry about credit card defaults.
CLASS

“From page 1

“The CLASS office puts everything in one center, where you can then come to us and compare your research interest with faculty members,” Hendrix said.

According to Edenfield, plans for this research office began earlier this year, and it has grown into an office that will provide students with the opportunity to present their research on campus.

Edenfield said that all disciplines in CLASS would be represented at the symposium on November 6, with at least 35 students scheduled to participate.

“I think there’s a lack of awareness of the research we do in liberal arts and social sciences and in the creative arts,” said Edenfield.

“When we think of research we often times think about laboratories. We have undergraduate students who have been engaged in extremely important, unique research activities in the creative arts and visual arts.”

Edenfield said that the addition of this new office is important since Phi Kappa Phi and the University Honors Program are the only other venues that provide opportunities for students to present their research on campus.

With the addition of this new office, research assistance will be available to all students in CLASS.

Edenfield said that the office would be part of the Dean’s Suite in the Foy building when it opens in January.

“Our undergraduates are contributing new ways of understanding to their disciplines,” said Edenfield.

“The charge of the center is to help them get their ideas out there and to get them the recognition they deserve.”

For more information about the new CLASS Research office or the upcoming symposium, contact Ellen Hendrix at ehendrix@georgiasouthern.edu or Olivia Edenfield at carr@georgiasouthern.edu

NATIONAL NEWS

Scientists find new nearby solar system

McClatchy News Service

For the first time, astronomers think that they’ve found evidence of an alien solar system around a star close enough to Earth to be visible to the naked eye.

They say that at least one and probably three or more planets are orbiting the star Epsilon Eridani, 10.5 light-years, about 63 trillion miles, from Earth. Only eight stars are closer.

The host star, slightly smaller and cooler than our sun, is in the constellation Eridanus, the name of a mythological river, near Orion in the northern sky.

Epsilon Eridani is much younger than the sun, about 850 million years old compared with 4.5 billion years for our system.

“The really is a system like our solar system was when it was five times younger than it is now,” said one of the discoverers, Massimo Marengo, an astronomer at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Mass.

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Now Backman’s team has deduced the presence of at least two more planets, after space- and ground-based telescopes separately revealed two belts of rocky asteroids and an outer icy ring circling Epsilon Eridani.


SETI chose Epsilon Eridani as one of the first targets in its long, but so far vain, search for signs of extraterrestrial intelligence in 1960.

The suspected planets are too far away to be detected directly, so their presence has to be inferred by indirect measurements.

Their star is so near, however, that some astronomers think that they may be able to see its planets with better telescopes within the next decade.

One of the planets, a gas giant 100 times heavier than Jupiter, was discovered in 2000 by Barbara McArthur, an astronomer at the University of Texas in Austin. She measured the slight wobble in the star’s position as the planet swung around it.

Further observations by the Hubble Space Telescope in 2006 confirmed its existence, McArthur said at the time.

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Credit cards may be next to collapse

McClatchy News Service

U.S. banks charged off 5.47 percent of all credit card loans in the second quarter, according to the Federal Reserve, representing some $50 billion that they likely never collect.

First came trouble with mortgages, then home equity loans and commercial real estate. Now, banks are starting to worry about credit cards.

As the economy slows and unemployment rises, consumers are defaulting on credit card payments more often. And though that trend is unlikely to create a crisis in line with the mortgage fallout, it’s still a headache for banks that are already hurting.

That’s up from 3.85 percent the year before, and that is a movement that’s on the radar of Ken Lewis, chief executive of Bank of America Corp.

Asked in a recent TV interview if credit card debt would be “the next shoe to drop” for the banking industry, Lewis replied:

“It, in some ways, already is,” adding that such losses have risen “pretty substantially.”

Laura Nishikawa, an analyst at the Inovest ratings agency, predicts that banks such as Bank of America and Citigroup Inc. could be hit especially hard by credit card defaults.

Survivors of sunken fishing boat recount struggle

McClatchy News Service

The captain of a commercial fishing boat that sank last week in remote Aleutian waters says he and other crewmen spent a terrifying night trying to cling to a wave-pummeled life raft, which itself was filled with water as waves pounded against it and the men tried to swim to safety.

Foster of Shoreline, Wash., testified Monday that after one wipeout he found himself about 40 yards away from the raft.

“Countless times,” he said, waves flipped the raft over and over again, 20, 30, maybe even 50 times, Blake said.

A rookie crewman, 23-year-old Adam Foster of Shoreline, Wash., testified Monday that after one wipeout he found himself about 40 yards away from the raft.

“Countless times,” he said, waves flipped the raft over and he had to swim hard to get back to it.

“When we saw that helicopter just come out of the sky out of nowhere, that was the best feeling I’ve ever felt in my life,” he said.

The rescue came more than 15 hours after serious trouble developed on the fishing boat, which was running cast through heavy weather to Dutch Harbor to deliver its catch of Pacific cod.

The crewmen as well as an owner of the boat testified Monday that the boat was fully loaded with some 120,000 pounds of cod worth about $200,000.

Three Coast Guard officers, along with two investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board, are expected to take more testimony today.

Their goal is to find out what went wrong on the Katsmai, whether any laws were broken, and how to prevent future tragedies.

That’s because those banks, which offer both consumer and investment services, have been depending more heavily on money made on consumer services such as credit cards as the returns in investment banking grow increasingly unpredictable.

The main problem, Nishikawa said, is that “everyone is so weak after what happened with mortgages that another blow to a consumer product would be hard to handle.”

Inovest estimates that about 30 percent of Bank of America’s credit card loans are to subprime borrowers, second only to the failed Washington Mutual Inc., which had about half of its credit card loans held by subprime borrowers.

Inovest also estimates that more than half of Bank of America’s credit cards are high-limit cards, second only to American Express Co. (Inovest classifies high-limit cards as those with lines of more than $10,000.)

Nishikawa says that combination could prove toxic for Bank of America, which may have “lent more than (borrowers) can be expected to pay back.”

Bank of America’s charge-offs, or loans it doesn’t expect to collect, increased to 6.14 percent of all credit card loans, or $1.24 billion, in the third quarter. That’s up from 4.61 percent the year before.

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Central Arkansas shooting reminds us of GSU’s plan.

On April 16, 2007, a gunman killed 32 students and faculty in two separate attacks at Virginia Tech. This event was the worst single-gunman shooting in United States history, on or off a college campus.

After similar tragedies at Northern Illinois University and Sunday night’s shooting at the University of Central Arkansas, which left two students dead, campuses across the country are tightening security and trying to increase the speed of emergency communications.

What plan does Georgia Southern have in place to handle a shooting situation?

The Office of Public Safety has a full handbook detailing situation plans for individual circumstances. The handbook can be found online at welcome.georgiasouthern.edu/publicsafety, and handles everything from airplane crashes to gas leaks.

The Office of Marketing and Communications also established an ‘Eagle Alert’ system just weeks after the Virginia Tech shootings, which, though receiving flack earlier this semester, is a comparatively effective system.

Eagle Alert sends emails, text messages and phone calls to every student enrolled in the system, which is a mandatory enrollment. In cases of bad weather, campus emergency or other advisory situations, students are notified in an average period of ten to fifty minutes.

Virginia Tech has increased the response time of its similar alert system by installing LED message boards across campus. These boards, similar to those at Grambling, are posted in academic buildings, dining establishments, residence halls and on walkways throughout campus, and serve to inform the campus community instantly of any emergency.

Georgia Southern could benefit from this system in multiple ways.

It provides instant visual information to the entire community, not only those who happen to be enrolled in the program. It runs over the campus’ existing Ethernet network, eliminating most installation costs and providing instant delivery, independent of wireless relay.

The system also informs students without phones or ready access to email immediately, so that may too seek shelter.

This system worked well in the Washington, D.C. subways after 9/11, leading thousands of citizens to safety in the mass confusion underground.

Campus security organizations across the country are tightening up and taking every possible threat seriously. The suspicious note incident last month at the College of IT is a prime example of the readiness to act from our own campus safety officials.

Last week at Western Kentucky University, students reported gunfire (which turned out to be an exaggeration) following a large fight on the south campus. Campus police locked down all buildings, blocked traffic onto campus and apprehended the suspects with full force. To see photos and reports on the incident, visit www.wkuherald.com.

Our campus seems prepared, but there is always room for improvement. We at the George-Anne Daily have a plan for a campus emergency, which, God willing, will never be used.

Talk to your roommates, building directors and professors and figure out your own plan for what to do in case of emergency, whether it is something as devastating as a campus attack, or bad weather. Be ready.

Keith Warburg is a junior graphic communications major from Moultrie, Ga. He is the Executive Editor of the George-Anne Daily.

The Campus Question
What do YOU think?

Are you participating in the Homecoming activities?

Terry Gordon
Senior recreation

Angeline Budgett
Junior child & family development

“I’m pretty sure I will. I’ll go to the game, parties, anything.”

“No. I really don’t have time with kids, husband, all that.”

Kyle Wilson
Freshman undeclared

Earle Turner
Senior political science

“No, probably won’t have time to.”

“Yes, but not actively. I am going to the game but not part of an organization.”
Disbandment of Alcohol Control Board may bring changes to Statesboro

Mark Beavers
Staff Writer

The Statesboro City Council abolished the Alcohol Control Board, a group of citizens responsible for reviewing and approving or denying applications for licenses for the sale of liquor, wine, and malt beverages, in a meeting on October 7 and put into place new consumption rules that will distinguish establishments as being either restaurants, bars or taverns.

The new rules require restaurants to keep a 50 percent alcohol to 50 percent food ratio, taverns to have a 65 to 35 percent alcohol to food ratio, and bars will have no required ratio.

Only people 21 and older will be allowed into bars under the new rules, and people of all ages can go into taverns before 10 p.m. but after that time, only those who are 18 or older will be allowed in.

The disbandment of the Alcohol Control Board and the new consumption rules has spawned mixed reactions.

"We didn't see a need for [the Alcohol Control Board] to be dissolved," Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Teresa Thompson said.

Thompson believes the board was one more set of citizens that could take a look into the process of alcohol regulation.

"The board has worked hard to make decisions in the best interest of students and citizens. I hope this will continue," Thompson said.

Thompson said the Alcohol Control Board made rules to keep students under 21 from drinking. She also noted that GSU has been working hard over the last few years to help students understand the problems with obsessive alcohol consumption.

"I can see a decline in [alcohol consumption] over the last couple of years. There has been an increase in the number of alternative opportunities on campus...like first run movies, laser tag, and programs at the RAC," said Thompson. However, Thompson said that she realizes with an increased student population, there are going to be students that drink.

SGA Publicity Coordinator James Kicklighter thinks that the disbandment of the Alcohol Control Board will have a positive effect on Statesboro.

"I think, with the new alcohol ordinances, we are going to have an expansion of businesses. The laws cater more to business models," Kicklighter said.

Kicklighter believes that the new rules will bring in new restaurants and businesses that previously would not have come to Statesboro.

"I think you're going to find Statesboro becoming more like Athens, which is something the students might not necessarily like, but it will be more helpful to law enforcement," said Kicklighter, referring to Athens' strict age rules for bars.

Kicklighter does think that the Alcohol Control Board was good in that it gave citizens oversight.

"People aren't going to have a say about what establishments are brought into their community," Kicklighter said.
Jagermeister Tap Machine (*NEW* JEM Model) for rent! For more info. contact (770)330-6878.

I have a matching pull out couch and loveseat that I'm selling for $250. Both are in REALLY good condition, no stains or smells. Used. Can bring to you for a small fee. Call 912-531-7855 and ask for Tiffany. Serious inquiries only.

270 Motorcycles for Sale

HONDA SHADOW 2000 VTX1100C. 21,000 miles. New tires, windshield, LOUD Cobra pipes, stage II jet kit, Mustang seat, leather bags, light bar. ETC. This is a Super NICE BIKE! $4300.00 firm. I may consider partial trade for newer bike and CASH Call 912-478-1384 or 852-5540 after 4:30. I drive this Bike most days to Physical Plant and park beside the Entrance to Southern Pines.

350 Jobs/Full Time


360 Jobs/Part Time

Part-time painter needed. Exp. not required. Must have own transportation. Pay based on exp. Contact Brian @ (912)351-0962

Wanna get your security deposit back? We can make sure your bath and kitchen are clean as a whistle. Call Jenise @ 687-3896 or Marie @ 687-3781 for details.

400 Real Estate for Sale

3 BR/2BA house for sale almost full acre lot, located in cul-de-sac of a quiet neighborhood. In ground sprinkler and sod in front yard, vaulted ceilings in LR, small deck in back and porch in front. $120,000. Call 912-609-4080.

Very nicely renovated condo in stadium walk with new carpet and wood floors for sale or spring semester lease. Very nice place at a truly great deal. Call Brad for more info at 912-817-9765.

450 Roommates

Looking for female roommate to rent 1st floor of 4 bedroom 3 bathroom townhouse You will pay only $325 a month plus utilities. A month. Call (706)-769-8677 for more information.

Need a place to stay ASAP?? 2 bedroom/1 bath, $200 rent and half utilities and 10 minutes walking distance to classroom campus!! Want more info? Call Laney @ 912-224-3426.

Female roommate needed to share a 4BR/4BA house in Camelon subdivision beginning in January $425 per month, all inclusive. Close to campus. Contact Ralph or Rhonda garnett at 912-265-8794 or 912-223-5751 or 912-222-5979. Will be glad to show the house when requested.

480 Sub Leases

1BR/1BA available in 2BR/2BA apt @ the Woodlands $480/month all inclusive. Lease for Spring (Jan-Jul 2009). Roommate matching service used or bring your own. Offers high speed internet & wireless, washer/dryer, walk in closet, dishwasher, patio, Brinks alarm, pool, volley ball court, b-ball court, football, 24-hour club house w/ pool table, fitness/weight room, & computer lab. Also pet-friendly & close to campus. Willing to pay half of 1st month rent. Call 912-670-4156 if interested.

Furnished room for rent in spacious private home within walking distance of GSU campus. Rental price includes private bedroom, kitchen privileges, utilities, wireless internet access, unlimited long distance, laundry, Quiet neighborhood, large screened porch perfect for relaxing and studying, large forced yard. Have 2 dogs/2 cats would consider renter with pet upon approval (additional fee required) Owner is female 58 year old doctoral student looking for quiet, responsible female renter. $450/month + security deposit will rent month by month 609-852-2065

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SPORTS

Be sure to grab next week's Southern Reflector for a season outlook on this year's men and women's basketball teams.

Men's basketball preseason report

"Either our guys will understand how they need to be more physical or we'll find ways to play to disguise it."

GSU news service

As they enter the second full week of practice, the Georgia Southern men's basketball team is still playing "getting to know you" according to head coach Jeff Price.

The Eagles return nine letterwinners from last year's 20-12 team but have six newcomers, including three JuCo transfers, many of whom will be asked to contribute immediately.

"We are obviously still early in the season and in the feeling-out process because we have so many new players," said Price. "Our guys are working pretty hard, we just have to be more familiar with each other and that takes time."

Georgia Southern held their first scrimmage of the preseason on Sunday against Coastal Carolina.

"I saw both good and bad," said Price. "We're very athletic and we can get up and down the floor pretty well. I have some concerns about our physical abilities on the frontline and hopefully we'll have an answer for that. Either our guys will understand how they need to be more physical or we'll find ways to play to disguise it."

Much like the point guard position, the No. 2 guard will be manned by several different players, notably sophomore Willie Powers. Along with Powers, juniors Antoine Johnson and Antonin Hanson can effectively produce at both the point and shooting guard positions.

"We just have so many guys that can play that combo position," said Price. "Willie, A.J. and Antonio are all very capable of playing that spot. All of those guys are going to have to play and all of them are going to have to contribute."

Powers is the team's lone returning All-SoCon honoree, having earned All-Freshman team status last year after averaging 11.5 points and 2.6 assists per outing.

"Willie is the steady person on our team," said Price. "We know what we have and what we're getting. He's been here a year and a half and is an experienced player in our program as opposed to our new guys."

The new season begins Nov. 10 against Houston in Durham, N.C. For ticket information call 800-GSU-WINS.
2008 Homecoming King Candidates

Clay Carter
Mathematics, Senior
Southern Association

Lori Brown
Dynamic Airman Services, Senior
National Association of Women

Danette "D.Love" Levine
Marketing, Junior
Marketing and Public Relations Club

Josh Groom
Student Government Association, Senior

Matt Maury
Journalism, Senior

defects

Paul Terezi
Chemistry, Senior
Defensive Line Player

Matt Paige
Economics, Junior
Philosophy Club

Rahman Amin
Computer Engineering, Junior
Student Government Association

Brandon Hinkley
Biology, Senior
Student Government Association

2008 Homecoming Queen Candidates

Cameron Dirrie
Religion, Junior
Sports Management, Senior Club

Rebecca Thomas
Psychology, Junior
Student Athlete, Student Council

Amie Lynn McRitchie
Business Administration, Senior
Gymnastics, Honor Society

Sasha Agnew Martin
Business Administration, Senior

Kari Ann Young
Business Administration, Senior

defects

Jessica Vann
English, Senior
Student Athlete, Student Council

Brian Collins
Communication, Senior
St. Joseph's University, Student Council

Kelsey Grabbs
Public Relations, Junior
Student Council

Jaden Bird
Public Relations, Sophomore

Kathleen "Katy" Reeves
Business Administration, Senior
Senior All-State Basketball Player

Phillip Cobb
Journalism, Senior

defects

Ashley Melson
Psychology, Junior
Student Athlete, Student Council

Jessica Simpson
Marketing, Senior
Resident Assistant

Deborah Stoddard
Philosophy, Senior
Resident Assistant

Jessica Leavitt
Middle Eastern Culture, Senior
Student Council President

Lindsey Wood
Fashion Merchandising, Senior

defects

Vote on WINGS 11-3 through 11-5!!

For more information, visit:

www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com