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THE GEORGE-ANNE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2009 • VOLUME 81 • ISSUE 71

COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

NEWS

NEW FEE EXPLAINED

Due to recent budget cuts in the state, all University System of Georgia students have seen a fee increase.

Page 3



Special Photo

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

LAST GREAT ALBUMS OF 2008

Philip Clements looks back at what he considers the best albums near the final weeks of 2008.

Page 9

SPORTS

GSU FALLS TO SAMFORD

Despite a career best from one of the players, the Lady Eagles fell to Samford at Hanner Monday night.

Page 12

STRANGE BUT TRUE

HONEY, I WANT MY KIDNEY BACK

In a divorce dispute, the wife might want the house and the car, but a New York man wants a kidney he donated back.

Page 5

IN OTHER NEWS

U.S. TEEN PREGNANCIES RISE

The teen pregnancy rate in the United States rose sharply after a 15 year drop. Some analysts blame American society.

Page 5



Graphic Art by Laura Pallini / STAFF

Embattled alcohol ordinance struck down

By Chris Buchanan

Editor-In-Chief

After months of debate over the issue of establishing bars in Statesboro and abolishing the Alcohol Control Board, the city council decided Tuesday to strike down ordinance 2008-9 in the second reading.

Councilman Will Britt made a number of motions related to alcohol sales at the October 7 city council meeting including what became the previously mentioned ordinance.

Though no plans were made for the two ordinances to be discussed based on the meeting's agenda, the motions to abolish the ACB and create new establishment classifications both carried 3-1 with Coun-

cilmen Tom Blitch opposed and Mayor Pro Tem Joe Brannen not in attendance.

The two reappeared under the same ordinance on November 4 meeting for the first reading. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Blitch opposed.

The second reading was then postponed until January 6 where Blitch made a motion to deny the ordinance which was seconded by Brannen.

While the particular ordinance was struck down, other motions made by Britt at the October 6 meeting carried and unanimously passed both readings at the November 4 meeting.

These included the extension of alcohol sales to 1 a.m. on Saturdays and the modification of the excise tax filing system for licenses from monthly to quarterly.

The rise and fall of 2008-9

October 7

Britt proposes abolishing ACB and new classifications.

Both pass 3-1

November 4

Two are combined in ordinance.

First reading passes 4-1

December 2

Council holds hearing on ordinance changes

January 6

Motion denied on second reading. Motion made by Blitch seconded by Brannen.

Student passes away over break

By Keith Warburg

Executive Editor

Senior Lauren Nicole Herndon of Pavo, GA passed away of injuries sustained in an automobile accident, according the office of the Dean of Students.

The accident occurred on December 13 in Thomasville, GA. Herndon was 21 years old.

Herndon was a 2005 graduate of Thomas County Central High School, and majored in International Trade with a minor in Spanish.

Herndon was involved in numerous Christian outreach endeavors and was a leader of GSU Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

Services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, December 16 at Salem Baptist Church. Rev. Marshall Dixon and Rev. Jim Hobby officiated the interment at Roselawn Cemetery in Barwick, GA.

Those wishing to express their condolences may sign the online register at www.allenfh.com.



Special Photo

Three-Day Forecast



Today
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63 / 36



Friday
Clear
59 / 36



Saturday
Rain
67 / 43



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Th 1/22 regular hours resume

Regular Store Hours:

M-Th: 7:30am -7pm F: 7:30am - 5pm
Sat: 11am-5pm Sun: Closed

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community. Opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers and editors and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board or the University System of Georgia. The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives at www.gadaily.com.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising as a community service to help defray publication costs. Inquiries should be directed to the ADS or PAGES, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, or by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478-0566. You can fax any questions to 912.478.7113 or e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

DISTRIBUTION: The newspaper is distributed free to the community of GSU.

COLOPHONE: The magazine is printed by The Statesboro Herald Publishing Co. in Statesboro, Ga. Body copy in The George-Anne is 10 point Minion Pro on 12 leading. Standard headline size is 40 point Myriad Pro. For more information about the newspaper, please call 912.478.7459, or e-mail the the director of student media at kcallaway@georgiasouthern.edu.

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

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

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

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

CIRCULATION INFORMATION: Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.gadaily.com to view online issues. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern campus and surrounding areas.

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

University System raises fees to counteract cuts in funding

By Chris Buchanan
Editor-in-Chief

Students will be sharing the burden of recent budget cuts with university employees after a December meeting by the Board of Regents that added a \$100 institutional fee to student costs for spring and a decrease in university health coverage for employees.

According to Georgia Southern Vice President of Business and Finance Ron Core, the fee which currently is only in effect for the spring semester was put into place to offset the decrease in tax revenue allocated to the University System of Georgia which totaled at \$20 million.

"The fee will go into our general fund," Core said.

The meeting introduced three tiers of institutional fee based on the size and type of school.

This semester, two-year and state college students will pay \$50 in addition to existing student fees, while \$75 will be added for comprehensive universities in the system. The \$100 fee is reserved for research universities and 6 "other" colleges according to a release from the Board of Regents. The latter includes Georgia Southern.

HOPE recipients may notice an increase in costs this year as well since it is a "fee" and not "tuition" and as such is not covered by the popular Georgia scholarship according to Core.

On the other hand, he stated that other forms of financial aid might actually cover the cost.

Also according to Core, the fee will not be implemented to replace current campus strategies to deal with last year's initial six percent budget cut - such as hiring freezes -- but rather to help the system cope with the additional cut that was introduced later in the year.

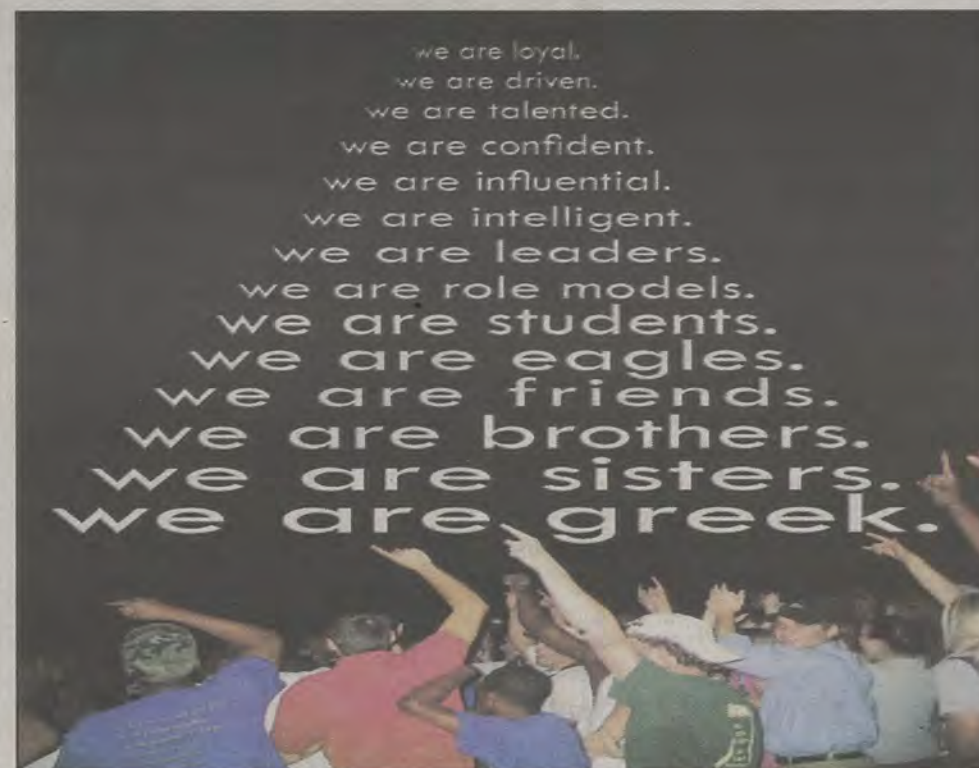
"The fee will help offset an additional two percent reduction," he stated.

Student concerns about the fee are also expected to be high on the list of topics at the Student Advisory Council conference in February where representatives from SGA's across Georgia come together to discuss campus issues with members of the Board of Regents.

"Brandon Cook as [SGA] president is also a member of that group and so they periodically have meetings where they express their concerns of each individual campus, but they do it collectively as a group of student government presidents," said Dean of Students Georj Lewis.

Current Student Fees

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Student Activity Fee | \$95 |
| Athletic Fee | \$138 |
| Health Fee | \$83 |
| RAC Fee and Expansion | \$140 |
| Technology Fee | \$75 |
| Transit Fee | \$45 |
| Institutional Fee | \$100 |



Inter-Fraternity Council Spring Recruitment

January 25 - January 28, 2009
Sign-up in the Office of Greek Life
by 12 noon on Friday, January 23, 2009
For more information, visit the Greek Life website
<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/greeklife/>

POLICE BEAT

January 2

Officers responded to three alarms.

A bicycle was taken from University Villas.

Isiah Smith, 22, Rucker Lane, was charged with criminal trespass.

Kimberly Anne Lane, 41, Mount Pleasant Road, was charged with obstruction of an officer.

January 5

A student reported some harassing remarks on her Facebook account.

Threatening phone calls were reported at the M.P.P. Building.

A bicycle was taken from the College of Education bike rack.

January 6

Bryan Morrell Davis, 22, Gentilly Drive, was charged with theft by receiving stolen property.

OPINIONS

...WHERE WE ARE TRYING TO FIGURE
OUT WHAT TO DO WITH THE PONY
WE GOT FOR CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR

The lower you go the more gas costs?

The holiday season has come to end and with it another semester stares us in the face.

After spending some time with family and friends and earning some extra cash working a winter break job, it was time for me to return to Statesboro from my hometown of Lawrenceville,



Matt Mauney is a senior journalism major from Lawrenceville, Ga. He is the Editor-in-Chief of gadaily.com.

located in the metro Atlanta area. As I made my long journey to the Boro, I tried to pass the time by doing some of the obvious things that many others do when making a boring road trip.

I scanned radio stations, listening to everything from hip hop to country, scanning through the dial every time a station began to fade away. I occasionally glanced at the various signs decorating the highways, from available eateries at the next exit

to billboards suggesting what lawyer to hire for your next divorce settlement.

Not being phased by the numerous advertisements for "happy ending" saunas and the infamous Café Erotica billboards, my attention was directed to something that's much more innocent but can hit you in the wallet just as much as the aforementioned adult entertainment venues.

What was this observation that helped to pass the time on the three and a half hour excursion? It was that the further I traveled away from the city lights of Atlanta, the higher I saw gas prices go.

Now the numbers I saw were not nearly as dramatic as the way the price at the pump was not so long ago, but it was hard not to notice the steady increase in fuel the further I traveled south

through the peach state.

It's amazing to think that just a few months ago gas in the Atlanta area was almost nonexistent, and when it could be found it cost as much as four and a half to five dollars a gallon. I was pleasantly surprised to see that gas was not only available at every station, but that it also averaged around \$1.35 a gallon.

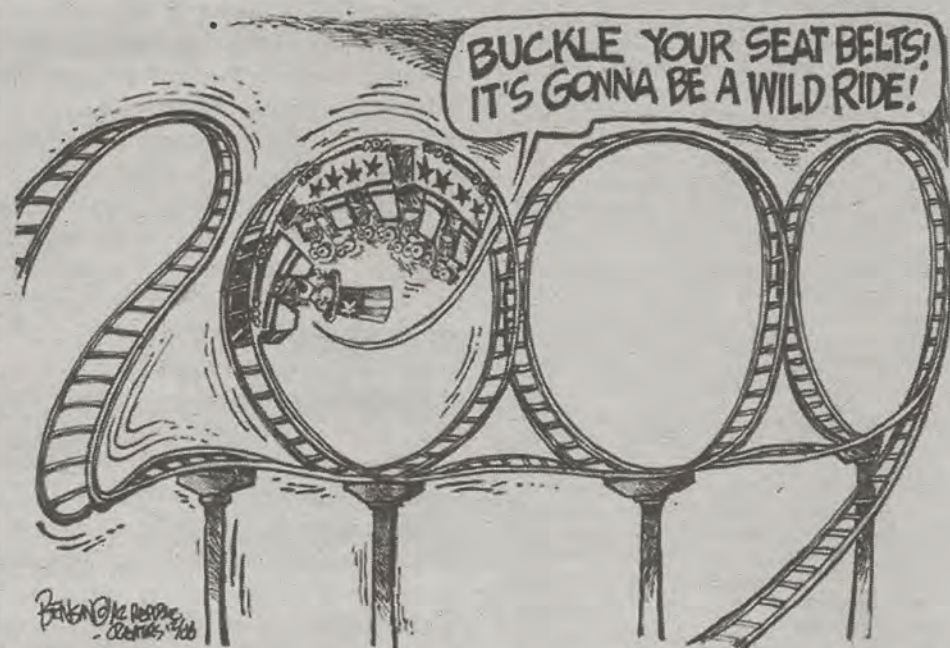
So this got me wondering why the average price of gas is almost fifty cents more a gallon in Statesboro, with recent prices as high as \$1.75 at some stations, than in the Atlanta area where I saw gas at a Quick-trip on highway 29 as low as \$1.23 and the average price in the metro area at around \$1.30.

Now although I am not a wiz in economics, I do understand the concept of supply and demand. However, it seems to me that gas stations would have more leeway in the bigger cities since their are much more people on the roads than smaller rural towns, as well as that typically in the larger cities people make longer commutes to their places of work compared to those who live and make their livings in small towns.

After all, let's not forget that one of the big factors contributing to the gas shortage in the Atlanta area was due to the lack of availability of the proper environmentally approved gas that the Atlanta area's strict regulations require. The main factor limiting the availability of this particular fuel was the fierce hurricane season last fall.

So tell me why, if Atlanta needs "special fuel" that is apparently hard to come by, how come the gas is now 30-50 cents cheaper than in smaller towns like Statesboro, where gas was at a cool \$1.60 average during Atlanta's gas crisis?

Maybe this is just merely a way for Atlanta to balance things out, but all I know is that the more than 60 percent of GSU students from the Atlanta area that have grown used to the great gas prices over the break might be in for a shock when returning to their home away from home.



Steve Benson/ Arizona Republic

Careful when choosing your representatives

When I first learned that Barack Obama would be running for the office of President of the United States back in early 2007, I thought to myself that it had to be a joke.

At the time, I did not think he was qualified for the position, but the idea that politics would drastically change should he be elected allowed me to flex my emotional boundary and entertain the idea of "change."

Aside from the 2008 presidential election, there are candidates fighting for senate seats that, in my opinion, have no business even considering.

For instance, Caroline Kennedy announced last month she was interested in the New York Senate seat that Hillary Clinton will soon be giving up. There was a surge of support from voters and politicians alike, and at first glance she appears to be a strong woman who could easily tell the difference between the left and right sides of the political spectrum.

Yet again, I find another individual who is

not qualified for the political position they are seeking.

Caroline Kennedy may be the daughter of former President John F. Kennedy, but that, along with a book she wrote in no way qualifies her to be a Senator.

She has little knowledge of first-hand politics and her selection by Governor David Paterson would show a clear sign of favoritism.

Al Franken, from Minnesota, is another self-proclaimed politician that I think is unqualified to hold public office. A former Saturday Night Live cast member and writer, Franken has tried to get involved with politics since the 1970's, yet has held no formal political office, written books that mock his own personal journey through politics, and has flip-flopped on several important issues, including the Iraq War.

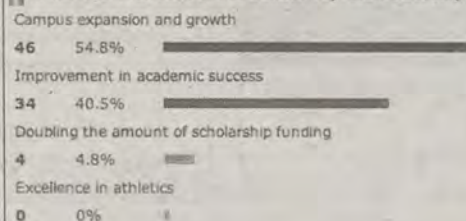
Add these simple facts to the melting pot of recounted votes pursued by former Senator Norm Coleman, and you end up with a tight-knit Minnesota Senate race that hangs by a two-hundred and fifty five point majority in favor of Franken.

I will continue to wait for Franken to make a mockery out of the slim majority he obtained, but I urge voters to carefully consider who they vote for. Our economy is going through a tough time right now and the last thing we need is a jester in Obama's court.

Your results from this week's poll:

Let your voice be heard and be sure to vote in our weekly poll on gadaily.com.

What was President Grube's most impressive accomplishment in his tenure at GSU?



Number of Voters : 84
First Vote : Monday, 01 December 2008 20:24
Last Vote : Wednesday, 07 January 2009 19:47

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Husband wants kidney back in divorce

When his wife needed a kidney transplant, Dr. Richard Batista gave her one of his, attorney Dominic Barbara said.

Now that Dawnell Batista has filed for a divorce, Richard Batista wants his kidney back as part of his settlement demand. Or, Barbara said Wednesday, his client wants the value of that kidney: An estimated \$1.5 million.

The case is being heard in Supreme Court in Mineola, N.Y.

Barbara said his client, a 49-year-old doctor from Ronkonkoma who graduated Cornell University Medical School in 1995, married Dawnell Batista on Aug. 31, 1990. The couple had three children, now ages 14, 11 and 8.

After she had two failed transplants, Barbara said, his client donated a kidney to his wife in an operation that took place at the University of Minnesota Medical Center on June 18, 2001. Richard Batista said his marriage at the time was on the rocks because of the strain of his wife's medical issues.

"My first priority was to save her life," Batista said at a news conference in Garden City. "The sec-

ond bonus was to turn the marriage around."

Dawnell Batista, 44, of Massapequa, filed for divorce in July 2005, Barbara said.

Neither she nor her attorney, Douglas Rothkopf, of Garden City, could immediately be reached for comment. A receptionist at Rothkopf's office said he was in court.

Medical ethicists agreed that the case is a nonstarter. Asked how likely it would be for the doctor to either get his kidney back or get money for it, Arthur Caplan at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Bioethics, put it as "somewhere between impossible and completely impossible."

First and foremost, said Robert Veatch, a medical ethicist at Georgetown University's Kennedy Institute of Ethics, "it's illegal for an organ to be exchanged for anything of value." Organs in the United States may not be bought or sold. Donating an organ is a gift and legally "when you give something, you can't get it back," he said.

"It's her kidney now and ... taking the kidney out would mean she would have to go on dialysis or it would kill her," Veatch said.

NATIONAL NEWS



Special Photo

After long decline, U.S. teen birth rates rise

Compiled by staff

U.S. teen birth rates rose sharply in 2006, according to figures released Wednesday by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ending a 14-year decline.

While U.S. teen birth rates remained the highest in the industrialized world, the long decline had amounted to a 45 percent reduction since 1991.

According to the figures for 2006, the latest year for which data are available, birth rates for teens aged 15-19 rose by 3.5 percent. This increase marks the largest growth in teen birth rates since 1989-1990.

Analysts at liberal and conservative teen-pregnancy awareness groups had begun to notice the declines leveling off in recent years. Though dismayed, they weren't surprised by the upward spike.

The 2006 increase for teens 15-19 was from 40.5 per 1,000 to 41.9. The increases were greatest through the South and Southwest, and lowest in the Northeast.

Mississippi had the highest birth rate: 68.4 births per 1,000 teens aged 15-19. New Mexico and Texas trailed close behind.

New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts had the lowest birth rates. The only states with declines in teen birth rates from 2005 to 2006 were North Dakota, Rhode Island and New York.

In Georgia, the teen birth rate rose three percent from 2005 to 2006. During the 14 year period before the increase, however, there was a drop of 31 percent.

Michael Carrera, the director of Adolescent

Pregnancy Programs at the Children's Aid Foundation in New York City, blamed economic stagnation among low-income families, which, he said, led to indifference about contraception.

"It is one thing to know about contraception, but to want to use it, you must also have knowledge of a good life," he said.

Carrera and other teen-welfare specialists who favor sex education and contraception also think that the hundreds of millions of dollars that the Bush administration invested in abstinence-only programs would have been better spent on their approach.

Janice Crouse, the executive director of the Beverly LaHaye Institute, an alliance of conservative women, faulted an atmosphere of sexual tolerance, especially on campuses, where teens are "under the influence of peers, and under pressure to drink."

"College counselors see a very close connection between all the sexual activity and alcohol."

"Over the last decade, this whole business of 'hooking up' has been very injurious to our girls," Crouse continued, "not just in terms of pregnancy, but also in terms of STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) depression and a very alarming increase in sexual assault among college students."

Crouse blamed American society for "glamorizing teen pregnancy."

"TV shows with pregnant mothers don't show the morning sickness, the swollen feet, the more uncomfortable sides of pregnancy," she said.

Carrera said as well that the declines since 1991 were impressive only by American standards.

"Fourteen years ago, the rates were so high that anything looked down from there," he said.

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| | |
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| Phi Sigma Kappa | Sigma Chi |
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Each academic year, all Greek organizations must submit a Five Star Chapter packet. The Five Star Chapter program was created to improve the management, success and image of the fraternity and sorority chapters here at Georgia Southern University. Chapters have the opportunity to receive a "star standing" in five key areas of chapter management:

- 1) Scholarship
- 2) Philanthropy
- 3) Campus Involvement
- 4) Educational and Social Programming
- 5) Public Relations.

Star standing in each of these areas is based upon a set of pertinent criterion and a total of 100 points may be obtained through proper documentation and evidence of the criteria within said area.



Office of Greek Life

etc.

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For commercial ads please contact us at gaiclass@georgiasouthern.edu or
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100 Announcements
110 Auditions
120 Freebies
130 Lost & Found
140 Other Announcements
200 Buy or Sell
210 Autos for Sale
220 Auto Parts for Sale
230 Bicycles for Sale
240 Books for Sale
250 Computers & Software
260 Miscellaneous for Sale
270 Motorcycles for Sale
280 Trade & Barter
290 Wanted

300 Employment & Job Services
310 Career & Job Services
320 Child Care Needed
330 Child Care Provider
340 Internships/Volunteer

350 Jobs/Full Time
360 Jobs/Part Time
370 Opportunities/Business
380 University Work
390 Wanted Jobs

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

500 Personals
500 Personals

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

650 Services/Miscellaneous
700 Travel
710 Spring Break Travel
800 Transportation/Rides
800 Transportation/Rides
900 Miscellaneous
910 Pets & Pet Supplies

Announcements 100 - 199

130 Lost & Found

REWARD: \$500. Lost engagement ring. Lost around the middle of October. Large diamond in the center, 3 smaller diamonds in the band on either side. White gold. Call 706-340-2501

140 Other Announcements

The George-Anne Daily Classifieds would love to run your ad! Please keep ads short and sweet. There should be no more than 30 words. Also, please be sure to include your contact info in the body of your ad. Ads longer than 30 words or lacking contact info will NOT be run. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at gaiclass@georgiasouthern.edu.

Buy or Sell 200 - 299

210 Autos for Sale

For Sale: 1991 Jeep Cherokee Limited with 10K on rebuilt Engine. Updated Sound system. Leather, electric seats. \$2500. Call 912.764.7737

240 Books for Sale

MKTG 3131 Save money next semester on this book. Paper back in three ring binder, yours for 50\$ (bookstore about 189\$). Contact Cody 706-835-6296

Employment & Job Services 300 - 399

320 Child Care Needed

Do you speak a foreign language, and enjoy children? I am looking for a flexible, fun sitter for our two year old. Please leave a message at 912-601-1265, or christygriner@yahoo.com.

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Cheap student living close to campus 2br/1ba for 425\$ a month or 212\$ for one bedroom. Willing to pay up to 50\$ a month for utilities. Contact Cody 706-835-6296

470 Student Housing

Cottage for rent on a wooded lot close to Mill Creek Park. 2BR/1BT and a loft that could be used as a 3rd bedroom. Available now! Serious inquiries only. Call Jared at 912-486-0501 for more details.

For Rent: 2 Brand New Properties. 3BR/3BT in The Hammocks. 3BR/2BT in Cypress Crossing. Call 912-536-1096 for more info.

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3 BR apt in Campus Crossings. Need TWO females to sublease our rooms. \$483 per person per month. The third roommate is very nice and keeps to herself. Please contact Brittney at 770-584-2581 or Audrey at 770-468-9782.

1 Room Available ASAP, 116 Gentilly Dr. Great roommates, Clean House, Pets Allowed w/Fee. \$333.33 a month + utilities. 15 min walk to campus. Big Backyard. Roommates are non-smokers. Need to sublease 'til July, Jan paid. Flexible. Please Call 229-881-4284.

Looking for someone to take over my lease. It is a 4 bed 4 bath for \$399 a month. The room has been kept very clean. Great roommates. Need to leave because looking to transfer. Call 912-481-3257

Immediately subleasing 1BR/1BT in a 3BR/3BT townhouse in the Garden Dis-

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I'm looking to transfer my lease starting December 12. The room is part of a 4 bedroom/2 bathroom flat, with kitchen and washer/dryer. Rent is \$335 per month. Within walking distance to campus. E-mail justin_g_masdon@georgiasouthern.edu for more info.

Female needed to sublet in Woodlands of Statesboro for 1br/1bath in 2br/2bath apt. All inclusive rent \$480/month (negotiable) from January until July. Pets allowed. Big bedroom with HUGE closet! Unfurnished. Right across the road from campus. Call (706)466-2824 for more info!

RENT REDUCED-Nice Apartment in the Woodlands for 6 month Sub-lease. All utilities included and will transfer deposit to new tenant. Call 229-392-6007

Male sublesser needed Spring & Summer 09 at Eagles Landing. Next to Stadium. Pets allowed. Rent is all inclusive. Living room and kitchen are fully furnished. Available BR on 2nd floor unfurnished. Email rrickarl@georgiasouthern.edu

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The Winter's Harvest: The Last Great Albums of 2008

By Philip Clements

Features Editor



Kanye West - '808s & Heartbreak'

With the biggest ego in modern music, it's no surprise that Kanye West is reaching further and further outside the agreed-upon boundaries of hip-hop. But that's not necessarily a bad thing.

After the success of the "Education Trilogy," West manages to bring forth yet another mix of eclectic creations, all connected to hip-hop, however loose that connection may be.

The album starts out with a sleepy soul song that does not have a bar

of rapping. Instead, West digs deep under his skin and comes up with an emotional vocal performance that will send shivers down your spine (if you're in the right mood.) The rest of the album follows suit, producing some of the most organic and genuine songs of his career.

Of course, West still manages to maintain his MC crown, but his singing is an indicator of his evolution towards being a great artist instead of just a great rapper. It's about time.

The Killers are the biggest band in the world right now. Maybe not in record-sales or popularity, but musically, no one is bigger. With their fourth album, The Killers expand upon their arena-sized new-wave sound to include elements from around the world.

"This is Your Life" starts out with a seemingly impossible mix of Gregorian chant and dance hall reggae while "I Can't Stay" features steel drums over a Latin beat.

But they still have a signature sound and they know better than to abandon it. "Losing Touch" and "Neon Tiger" are classic Killer tracks,

complete with driving synthesizers and a metronome beat.

But even still, there's another level to each track that wouldn't have existed on a previous album. "The World We Live In" has a blooming string section that towers over everything while "Goodnight, Travel Well" begins with a dark and mysterious brass section before exploding over deep and foreboding chords before diminishing to nothing.

The Killers - 'Day & Age'



Britney Spears - 'Circus'

It's sometimes hard to believe that Britney Spears is still able to hang in there and remain culturally & musically relevant, but there she is: on the radio, on MTV, and on the cover of Rolling Stone. And rightfully so.

With Circus, Spears shows us she is still serious about her music and is willing to put forth the effort to create some quality tunes. She embraces the disco trend and utilizes the robo-voice made popular by Kanye West.

An instant club classic, the title track is an adventurous and infectious dance tune.

The ballads are back, too. On "Out From Under," it's obvious that she has lost that nasal overtone that gave her earlier hits a raunchy bite. In its stead is a more controlled and smooth voice that has definitely matured a great deal since the jailbait days.

All in all, it's good to have America's favorite pop/tabloid star back to doing what made us fall in love with her in the first place: making catchy pop music.

Maroon 5 - 'Call & Response: The Remix Album'

Maroon 5 seems to be a bit of a guilty pleasure for a lot of people. Sure, Adam Levine is obsessed with sex and his voice sometimes sounds like he needs to blow his nose. But there's no denying those boys have soul. Having penned some of the best funk-pop tunes of the past ten years, a remix album is a fitting tribute.

A remix album is always going to be a subjective hit-and-miss project, but with an eclectic mix that includes Of Montreal, Just Blaze, Mark Ronson, and David Banner, there should be a little something for everyone.

Pharrell Williams mixes a tastefully over-synthesized "She Will Be Loved" while Questlove takes an already retro "Sunday Morning" and gives it just a tad more bounce and warmth with layered keyboards and a more involved drum track.

On the other side of the spectrum, DJ Tiesto gives M5 the trance treatment and guarantees a pleasant club experience. No matter the genre of the remix, each song is guaranteed to get you moving just like the originals.



All Special Photos



The piano lab is located on the fourth floor.



The Choral/Opera rehearsal hall is located on the fourth floor.

All photos by Laura Pallini/STAFF

Foy Fine Arts Building

The Foy Fine Arts Building opened this week after more than a year of renovations.



The Foy building houses the administrative offices of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences as well as the College's Department of Music.

Student debt higher now than ever, recession not helping

By Katherine Cox
Staff Writer

A recent study by the National Center for Education Statistics shows that 50 percent of recent college graduates have student loans, with an average student loan debt of \$10,000. With the average cost of college increasing at twice the rate of inflation, it is difficult for college students to get enough scholarships and grants to pay for college and basic necessities.

Erin Armstrong, 21, a science and kinesiology major here at Georgia Southern (GSU), is carrying around \$30,000 in student loans and she still has 2 years of physician's assistant school to attend. Eventually, she expects to have upwards of \$70,000 in student loan debt.

"I have a job, and it is still hard for me to make ends meet," Armstrong said. "I just kept borrowing more and more and now when I look at it, I'm under a giant heap of money."

In 2006 the amount of student debt increased when the rate on new federally guaranteed student loans hit a fixed 6.8 percent, the highest rate since

2001. It comes at a time when the average graduate owes \$19,000. Many undergrads, though, have debt exceeding \$40,000.

According to the Project on Student Debt, a non-profit advocacy group, the average debt for a college graduate has soared 50% in the past decade, after inflation.

Today, students who don't want to borrow at high rates have few other options. Twenty-five years ago, students who wanted to avoid debt could use money from part-time and summer jobs to help pay for college. But since then, college tuition has risen twofold. Tuition has soared, and the low-wage jobs that students tend to hold just aren't keeping up.

Lydia Price, a senior at GSU, waitresses at Longhorn Steakhouse, and brings in just under \$600 a month.

"I took the job because I wanted to ease the burden off of my parents to pay for my college," she said. "I had to start taking out loans, though, just to stay above water."

Student loans through government financial aid aren't the only type of debt that students today

are acquiring. According to the United Marketing Service (UCMS) the average number of credit cards per student is 2.8. More and more college students are forced to use credit cards to pay for basic essentials such as books and school supplies.

Credit card solicitation on college and university campuses is common. A study done by the Education Resources Institute found that 24 percent of students applied for a card through a campus representative or advertisement. Students also reported applying through the mail (37 percent) or at a business (36 percent).

"I first started off with one credit card to get my credit established," Armstrong said. "I still only have that one, thankfully!"

A recent report by The Project on Student Debt found that nearly three of five members of the class of 2007 left school with debt. The average debt graduates carried that year was \$20,098, a 6 percent increase over the previous year.

According to the Georgia Southern financial aid department, the average debt among students upon graduation is \$18,618, a little lower than the average debt of other college students. In a

survey taken to determine financial need of the students at GSU, 50 percent of first-year students and 59 percent of full time undergraduates were deemed in need of financial aid. Almost 100 percent of both groups received the financial aid they needed.

While there is more and more research being conducted to explore why student debt loads are exploding, studies indicate that today's students expect to live a much higher standard of living than in the past. New technology, travel, apartment style dorm living, and eating out have all become "necessities" instead of luxuries.

"I felt like I needed to live in the nicest apartment my freshman year, living in a dorm was out of the question," Armstrong said.

Now she, like many other students are seeking a cheaper living arrangement, however tough that may be to find.

Students who get a handle on their spending and their available funds early can avoid the stress of being unable to pay off their bills and having to work more and more hours during college in order to juggle their finances.

New roommate struggles arrive with the new semester

By Jacob Allen
Guest Writer

For most college freshmen, moving into and sharing an on-campus dorm room or an off-campus apartment with new roommates is something of a rite of passage. Clashes between roommates are not uncommon, however, and can make living together difficult for everyone involved.

"I think the biggest problem probably has to do with making the adjustment to suddenly having to live with someone else," said psychology major Beau Beauman. "Especially for freshmen, since you're going from living at home to living in a dorm with total strangers in most cases."

Georgia Southern attempts to make this transition as easy as possible by having incoming students fill out a survey regarding their living habits. The questions deal with various topics such as cleanliness, sleep schedules and study habits. Each person's answers are then used to pair them with a roommate with similar or identical habits in an attempt to eliminate any possible friction that may arise from living together. This measure is not foolproof, however.

"I got paired up with a guy in Sanford Hall that was pretty hard to live with sometimes," said one IT major. "We had similar interests and we were both night owls."

He and his roommate got along well for the most

part, except in regard to one particular area.

"This guy was messy," he said. "I mean, I'm messy too but this guy took it to a whole new level. He'd leave dishes with rotting food caked all over them all around the apartment and he'd leave his dirty laundry everywhere. I eventually got to be pretty disgusting and we ended up having some pretty big fights about it. I started piling all of it up on top of his computer until he eventually started doing better about it."

A neglectful attitude toward household chores seems to be the most common bone of contention among roommates. Even people who were friends before moving in together do not seem to be immune.

"I roomed together for a year or so with a guy that I had been friends with in high school," said 2007 Georgia Southern alumnus Todd Dickey. "Everything was cool for the most part, but then we started having disagreements about who was supposed to be taking out the trash."

Dickey said that these petty squabbles eventually escalated into something more serious.

"I got pretty [ticked] off at him about it at one point and decided to get back at him," Dickey said. "I took a half empty carton of milk and hid it behind his desk. It went sour sitting back there and stunk his room up something awful. It was hilarious because he couldn't figure out where the smell was coming

from for the longest time."

"He figured out that I'd done it and he got back at me by shoving a whole mound of garbage up under my bed," said Dickey. "I didn't even notice until it started to smell. It wasn't pleasant, but it didn't stink nearly as bad as that milk did."

Despite this prank war between him and his roommate, Dickey says that they finally succeeded in resolving their differences. He said that they remain friends to this day.

"Looking back on it, it was all pretty childish and passive aggressive," Dickey said. "I guess it's true what they say about how you never really know a person until you've lived with them. We laugh about it now, though."

So what is a student to do when he or she finds themselves in a situation like this? One option is to take your concerns to the staff at the Georgia Southern Counseling and Career Development Center. The facility offers workshops designed to help students become more assertive and improve their interpersonal communication skills, both of which can be assets when dealing with difficult roommates. Even so, there may be an even simpler solution.

"It seems to me that the speediest solution would be to just talk it out," said Beauman. "It seems to me that just being direct and honest about your concerns will most likely resolve the situation quicker than any other method."



Special photo

Lady Eagles fall despite career best from Ogburn



Tao Ventre/STAFF

J'Lisa Ogburn, who had 17 points in the Lady Eagles' loss to Samford, shoots in a last season game.

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

A career high for J'Lisa Ogburn wasn't enough to pull out a win for the Georgia Southern women's Basketball team, who were defeated by the Samford Bulldogs, 55-46 on Monday night.

GSU earned their second Southern Conference loss to give them a 4-2 conference record and 9-6 overall. They are ranked 4th in the SoCon. Samford improved to 5-1 in conference and 10-3 overall.

Ogburn scored the first seven points for the Eagles, but the team struggled offensively within the first opening minutes. The Samford Bulldogs proved dominant from the get go, leading the Eagles 11-4 with 13:37 remaining in the first half.

The Eagles struggled to find momentum offensively. In the first half, the shot only 39 percent from the field and made one of five three point attempts. Samford shot 36 percent, but was four of ten from long range.

At the start of the second half, the Bulldogs

led the Eagles, 26-22.

The Bulldogs pulled away to an 18 point game near the 8 minute mark of the second half, the largest lead of the game. The Eagles came back on a 9-0 run later in the half and dwindled the lead down to 7 points, but could not get any closer.

"They[ve] got to learn to play. That's part of the learning experience," said Head Coach Rusty Cram.

The Eagles shot 34.6 percent for the game, while Ogburn scored a game high 17 points, which was also a career high, and was the only Eagle to score in double figures. Her previous best was 16 points against UNC Greensboro earlier this season.

Ashley Melson was the next highest scorer for GSU with 8 points and also lead the team with 6 rebounds.

Four players scored in double digits for the Bulldogs, with Savannah Hill leading with 13. Three others scored 11 points.

The Eagles will continue their SoCon play on Saturday, January 10, as they head to North Carolina to face Davidson. Tipoff is set for 2 p.m.

Eagles start road trip tonight at The Citadel

GSU news service

Undefeated at 2-0 in the Southern Conference, the Eagles begin a three-game road trip tonight at The Citadel. Tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Georgia Southern (4-6, 2-0) is 2-0 in the league for the second straight season and searching for a 3-0 mark for the first time since 2005-06.

"The biggest thing with our team is I want to see them getting better," said head coach Jeff Price. "We're going to have to create some tempo against The Citadel and force some turnovers and play that way like we always do. I always focus on the opponent but right now we're just really focused on trying to get our team better. If we can continue to improve we have a chance to be pretty good. The last couple of games we've made some strides but we can't take steps back, we just need to keep getting better."

The trip to McAlister Field House has always been a tough one for Georgia Southern. Over the last eight meetings in Charleston, The Citadel leads 5-3. But since a 74-69 overtime loss in 2007, the Eagles have won four straight.

"I don't know why (that is) I just know you can't take The Citadel for granted. I know that because I've been there a lot of times," said Price.

The Citadel (6-7, 1-1) ranks second in the conference in scoring defense (66.1 ppg) and play the second-lowest scoring games in the SoCon, behind only Samford. The Bulldogs are giving up 53 ppg in two league outings.

"The Citadel pushes it a little bit more than Samford does but they are really patient in their halfcourt offense. They're hard to guard because they run motion and we're going to have to take care of the basket and not give up backdoor cuts and easy shots. Style-wise they're similar but they're going to be a little more aggressive than Samford," said Price.

GSU ended a three-game losing streak Saturday with a come-from-behind win over Chattanooga. Down nine with just under six minutes to play, the Eagles finished the game on an 18-5 run. One game prior at Florida, GSU attempted to rally from a 19-point deficit but was only able to get within three.

"If there's any positive, after looking at the tape, we didn't play very well against Chattanooga. We won the game but we have a lot of room for improvement," said Price.

The Eagles were paced by Antonio Hanson who tallied a career-high 22 points, shooting 6-for-12 from 3-point land. He is averaging 19 ppg in his last two outings and has scored 16 or more three times in the last four games.

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