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# THE GEORGE-ANNE

www.GADaily.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009 • VOLUME 82 • ISSUE 34

COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

## Presidential hopefuls offer thoughts on search

By Charles Minshew  
Editor-in-chief

Three finalists have been named in the search for the Georgia Southern presidency. The Board of Regents' special committee for the search announced on Thursday that David Belcher, Brooks Keel and Kathleen Long are under consideration for the position.

Trey Denton, chairman of the Presidential Search and Screen Committee, said that the campus search went smoothly and that the community and campus were supportive through the entire process.

"Because all did well, it was a difficult task selecting the top three to send forward," Denton wrote in an e-mail statement.

Susan Herbst, chief academic officer for the University System of Georgia, said that she was impressed with the quality of the candidates in the search.



David Belcher



Brooks Keel



Kathleen Long

"We're all just very impressed with the candidates," Herbst said. "I have to say the pool for this presidential search was terrific, really first rate."

By law, two weeks have to pass before a president is named.

Herbst said that the Board of Regents could wait until its November meeting to vote or call a special meeting.

She does believe that a new president will be named by Dec. 31.

"Will we have the president named by the end of this calendar year? Oh yeah, I think so. That's my expectation."

David Belcher said that he learned that he was on the Board of Regents' short list on Monday.

Belcher said that the search has been strenuous but not challenging.

"I don't know that I would say there is a challenge," Belcher said. "I think any candidate has the challenge of trying to make sure that there is a really good fit between the institution and him or herself."

Belcher feels that he would fit well into the presidential role considering where GSU wants to go in the future.

"The issue of fit is important to me," he said. "As I mentioned in my open forum statement a few weeks ago, given where Georgia Southern is in its trajectory going forward, in my own personal experience and the values that I have and looking at those at Georgia Southern, it just seems to be a really good fit."

Belcher said that the news of his candidacy has been well received at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

"The campus community has been very supportive as news of my candidacy has surfaced," Belcher said. "Most here assume that I'm headed toward a presidency in my career, and those who have spoken to me about the GSU position wish me well in the search process but would rather not have me leave UALR."

Brooks Keel said that he got the official word that he was named as a finalist when the press release went out Thursday. Keel compared the search process to training for a marathon.

"It has been strenuous. I mean it's almost like running a marathon when you go through an interview like that," Keel said. "At the same time, everyone was so wonderful and treated us with such hospitality and such warmth that it made running a marathon very enjoyable."

He said that he is drawn to the presidency here because of the diverse opportunities it provides.

"I think that the biggest reason is an opportunity to make a difference and an opportunity to be at a university that is truly upwardly mobile, that is going to do and accomplish great things, that has a good understanding of what its mission is and that, of course, is all about the students," Keel said. "But also has an opportunity to increase and expand on the role that research plays in a major university and the role that the university plays in the community."

See **CANDIDATES** Page 3

## Statesboro city council votes no to consolidation for now

By Mallory McLendon  
Assistant news editor

For almost five months, the Statesboro City Council has been debating the consolidation of Statesboro and Bulloch County. Last Tuesday, the council met to discuss and vote on the issue.

The council passed the motion to not vote on the consolidation until after the next mayoral election. It was a three to two vote — Will Britt, Travis Chance and Gary Lewis stood up against the consolidation.

Consolidation would mean the city of Statesboro and Bulloch County would

merge to join the two governments into one. This would combine all city and county services together, such as the fire department, police department, and hospitals.

The idea of this consolidation, suggested by an unofficial group headed by Billy Hickman and Terry Reeves, came from an Athens study on the progress of the Cusseta/Chattahoochee consolidation. As it was shown, the county-city had paid debts and obligations of the old city Cusseta, improved and expanded upon the local services and reduced the property tax by \$1 million.

"I was very passionate about it when

it was first presented to me," said Chance. "It was presented as euphoria, a time of moving forward and would benefit everyone in Statesboro. But in the end, last Tuesday, it became more of a power struggle."

"I look heavily to the student populations," said Chance, "as they helped elect me. But something that wasn't present with the consolidation in the beginnings was that GSU would leave a very small footprint, by diluting the student vote."

If Statesboro and Bulloch were to merge, it would only be the fifth merger in Georgia, following Columbus/Muscogee,

Cusseta/Chattahoochee, Athens/Clarke and Augusta/Richmond.

"I believe there are some white, wealthy men living outside of the city limits that feel they're being outnumbered by the growing population of the minority and students in Statesboro," said Britt. "So, instead of moving back in city limits, they won't to regain their power through consolidation."

Britt was heavily against any kind of consolidation.

"It doesn't offer the community anything that the city doesn't already have," he said. "There's no advantage in it. These men just see a threat in the

growing number of students. They make up about 90 percent of the population in Statesboro. If students really wanted to make changes around Statesboro, they could vote and really take control. That's what these men are really afraid of. But the average student doesn't care much for local politics. So, to me, it shouldn't be a problem until you make it an issue."

"I had to go by what the members of community and my church had to say," said Lewis. "So I had to vote against."

Tommy Blich, who believes it was a mistake to call the consolidation off now, voted for it. "I think we should keep it open to consultation."

### OPINIONS

Columnists Robert Greene II and John DiPietro discuss Obama's Nobel Prize. Page 4

### Three-Day Forecast



**Today**  
Partly Cloudy  
81/61



**Wednesday**  
Thunderstorm  
72/56



**Thursday**  
Rain  
74/63



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# Homelessness fair addresses local hunger and poverty issues

## *Hunger and Homelessness week winds down with a fair at the Rotunda on Thursday*

By Kelsey Sorrell

Guest writer

Students gathered last Thursday at the Russell Union Rotunda from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. for Georgia Southern's second annual Hunger and Homelessness fair.

The purpose of the fair was to raise awareness of the hunger and poverty levels in Statesboro and around the world. The event also offers students different opportunities in which they can get involved.

Heather Jo Harralson, the coordinator and planner of this event and also works as a graduate assistant for the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement.

"I took some ideas from last year but made it bigger and better by thinking out of the box for different and interesting ideas in order to come up with some things students would like," Harralson said. "I think this fair has proven to be successful because we have had a good student turnout."

She recruited different clubs and orga-

nizations around campus to come and help at the fair. One of the organizations, Club Mud, a ceramic and jewelry club from the department of art, helped out for its first time this year.

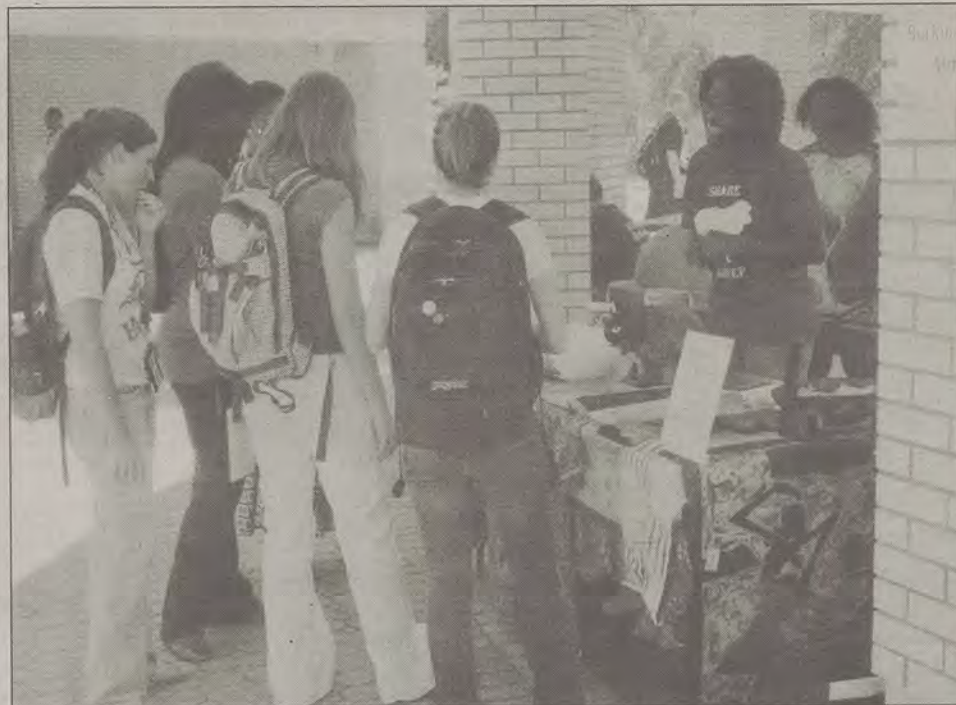
The club made ceramic bowls filled with homemade chili and sold them for \$10 each.

Sophomore Jaimie Estell, a student currently in the ceramics class, decided to volunteer at Club Mud's booth.

"I decided to volunteer after a speaker came to our class and told us how many people would be fed after just selling one of these bowls of chili," she said. "All of the proceeds from selling these bowls go to the Statesboro Food Bank."

The club set up a station where one of its members made the ceramic bowls in front of the students, allowing them to see the work that went into each bowl.

Another table held several handcrafted bowls from which the students could choose. Once a student purchased a bowl, it was filled with homemade chili.



Rob Eakins/STAFF

Allison Beasley and Emily Kirchman talk with students from Burkina Faso during the Hunger and Homelessness Fair outside of the Russell Union Thursday.

Junior Meagan Johnson attended the fair and bought one of these bowls of chili.

"I think Club Mud is awesome and should definitely come again next year," she said. "It's such a good idea because it lets people see what they do and the money goes to a good cause. The chili is really good too."

There were several other clubs and organizations there as well.

One of these was STAND, which is a Student Anti-Genocide Coalition. The students of STAND promote humanitarian rights and raise awareness of genocide in a lot of different regions.

According to senior Matt McColoister, a member of STAND, one of these regions is Darfur, where there are many people who are starving and in need of help.

"We decided to help out at the Hunger and Homelessness Fair because we saw it as a related cause to our club and saw it as something we needed to get involved in," he said.

The organization also passed out buttons for students to pin onto their shirts that read, "Share a Sheep." The buttons allowed them to spread their word and show commitment to their cause.

In addition to Club Mud and STAND, there was another organization that helped out at the fair.

This organization was Students for Clean Drinking Water, which raises awareness about the issue of unclean drinking water in developing countries.

The students of this organization fundraise to help with the relief efforts regarding unclean drinking water.

It has many leadership opportunities for students and works with multiple other departments across campus.

The organization attended the fair to explain to students how they are connected to Hunger and Homelessness week. According to them, no water is the root of hunger.

Janna Pennington, the service learning coordinator for the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, voiced her confidence in this year's Hunger and Homelessness Fair.

"This is our second year doing the fair for Hunger and Homelessness week," she said. "It was bigger and better than last year, but I hope it continues to grow, and I hope we can get more students involved in future."

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# 'On the Edge of 90' honors the life of a local artist

By Michael Samawi

Guest writer

Georgia Southern's Center for Arts and Theater is currently displaying the "Roxie Edge of 90" art exhibit by revered artist and professor emeriti of art Roxie Remely.

The artist will be giving a speech tomorrow from 5-7 p.m. entitled "90 years of creativity," as Remely celebrated her 90th birthday on Oct. 2.

"I think it is fabulous, it blows the faculty exhibit away," said art history professor Julie McGuire, who has two of her pieces on display at the faculty exhibit.

The exhibit displays Remely's venture into the abstract world of art with mixed media paintings, collages and acrylics.

Inspired by Beethoven's third symphony "Eroica" Remely embodies in visual art what music cannot. She explained it as "turning sound into art elements of color, line, shape and texture."

Remely said, "These sometimes atrocious and harmonious sounds are slow and fast, low and high, soft and loud, small and big, up and down with timing unprecedented. Twentieth century, non-objective painting can be described in a similar manner."

The musical sounds can be seen clearly in Remely's work.

"I felt there was a kind of formalism about the music and chose to paint sounds in vertical panels," she said. "Sounds from string instruments were frequently heard; therefore strings are visible throughout."

Remely explained the nature of the long development as mixing of color, line, shapes and texture in a process she referred to as "often destroying an idea for a better one."

Ninety years ago Remely was born on a farm in Indiana. She lived through the Great Depression, joined the newly organized Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in August 1942, graduated from Officer's Candidate School, was assigned

to an experimental gun battery using women on radar equipment, volunteered for overseas duty in Cheltenham, England and was a WAC company commander. She was separated from service in January 1946.

She said that her interest in art began in the third grade. "I feel fortunate to have had an art teacher throughout the 12 years of public school in the 1930s."

Since then Remely's passion has grown. Since retirement in 1976, she has continued to paint and exhibit.

Her teaching career in Statesboro began at Georgia Teachers College in 1950 in one studio in the basement of the Administration Building. Remely taught art history, drawing, painting and beginning ceramics.

Remely has been a great influence and inspiration to the art community at GSU and Statesboro. Still an active and healthy artist at the age of 90, she lives as a standing ovation to true passion. She said, "It's the reason I'm still alive."

## CANDIDATES

from page 1

Keel said that the news of his candidacy has been tough, but that his colleagues at Louisiana State University support him.

"It's always a hard thing to deal with, especially when you're at a place you've come to really appreciate and love. We've got great friends and colleagues here," Keel said. "Making a decision to leave LSU certainly is not an easy one that comes about. Everyone here though has been completely supportive."

Kathleen Long said that she was both honored and thrilled at the news of being named a finalist. She was the first candidate for the presidency and visited campus nearly a month ago.

"I have not forgotten my visit. It was a remarkable visit both for me and for my husband," Long said. "We were very much struck with the fact that the entire Georgia Southern community really does live the mission that you espouse."

Long said that she is excited about where GSU is going into the future.

Long said, "I'm excited by the fact that it seems that Georgia Southern is a great institution getting ready to really move and face challenges and opportunities ahead and move itself in new ways."

Long said that the news that she is a finalist has been received well at the University of Florida.

"I've had many, many people say to me 'We're proud that you're one of the final three,'" Long said. "If this is what you want, we hope that you get it. But, we will miss you very much at the University of Florida, and we hope that you perhaps end up staying at UF."

To me, that's the nicest thing that people can say."

Aaron Podolefsky was the only candidate to officially withdraw from his name from consideration in the search. He released a statement to his home university on the decision last week.

"Georgia Southern is a very fine public university, and I am truly honored to have been considered for its presidency," Podolefsky wrote. "However, after thinking carefully about the various alternatives and other opportunities that are in the pipeline, I am withdrawing my name from consideration."

The other candidates in the campus search, who did not make the short list, were Belinda McCarthy, provost at Missouri State University and Raymond Alden, provost at Northern Illinois University.

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

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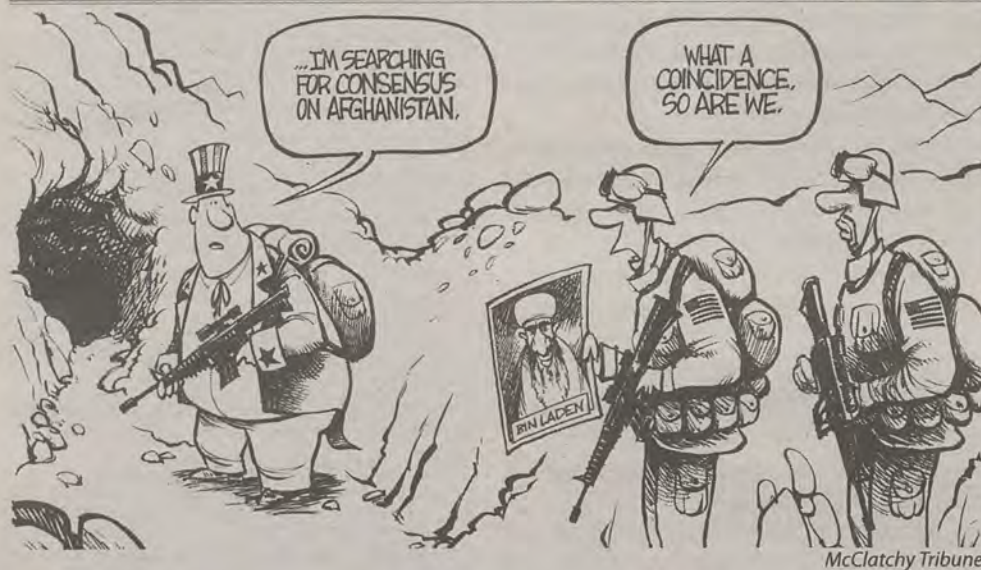
# Opinions

## Submission of Letters to the Editor

The George-Anne Daily welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or less, typed, and sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to [gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu). All submissions must be signed and include phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year at Georgia Southern University, and hometown. The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any submission.

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The George-Anne  
Tuesday, October 13, 2009



## Reflections on the Obama Nobel Prize



**Robert Greene II** is a graduate student in history from Augusta, Ga. He is a staff columnist for the George-Anne.

To say that I was surprised when I heard that President Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last Friday is an understatement. At first, I thought it was a bit of a joke. Then I realized that it was for real and adjusted to the reality that, for the third time in history, an American president had been awarded the Nobel Prize, and for the second time, an African-American won the prestigious award.

Unlike Woodrow Wilson, for the League of Nations, or Jimmy Carter, for his Middle East peace initiatives, or Martin Luther King, for his work in advancing the cause of human and civil rights in the United States, it wasn't clear what President Obama had done to win the prize.

The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the president due to, as the Nobel Committee put it, "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples." This seems grandiose to some at first, especially con-

sidering that his first year in office is not even over yet. But this award is being given to him because of the fact that he has changed the tone and tenor of the United States on the world stage. It is easy to forget just how much the rest of the world was angered by the actions of the Bush administration. A change in tone, shown in Obama's efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons, reach out to Iran and North Korea and show the world a new American face, are factors that cannot be ignored.

The Nobel Peace Prize, however, would have benefitted by being given to someone else. While these efforts are noteworthy, the prize should go to someone truly on the front lines of making a difference. Presidents and prime ministers have won the award at various times, but the movers and shakers on the ground also need respect. The prize should have gone to an individual on the ground, fighting for freedom and liberty in their own country.

We as Americans should be proud President Obama received the award. It shows the power of inspiration and hope for people all over the world. At the same time, let us hope that the Nobel Committee picks an individual next year currently toiling in the shadows of tyranny. Diversity in the winners of the prize, like diversity anywhere else, only offers benefits for all people.

## Letter to the Editor

In response to "Henderson: Is It a Library or a Day Care?" - On February 13, 2001 the Henderson Library and the Statesboro Regional Library finalized a memorandum of understanding so Georgia Southern students could use the public library and local residents could use the university library.

The Statesboro Herald stated at the time that the agreement would "reap many rewards for our community, both as a whole and as individuals." This has proven to be the case for GSU students, who have appreciated borrowing popular fiction, children's literature and other non-academic subjects where Henderson Library collects very little.

The Statesboro Regional Library has steadfastly defended this agreement in spite of complaints from local residents when the books they want are already checked out to GSU students ("How much do they pay toward supporting this public library?"), or when they cannot find a place to sit because there are GSU students using what is a much smaller facility than Henderson. Similarly, local residents have appreciated access to scholarly works of his-

tory, politics, health, and other subjects which the public library cannot afford to collect. They also appreciate access to the Internet when the public library is closed. If students were no longer using the public library and local residents were not using Henderson Library, there would be no reason to continue the agreement, but such is not the case.

First and second floors of Henderson are designated for group study and public assistance, therefore quiet study conditions cannot be expected. I am unclear as to why group study noise from a family is more obnoxious than group study noise from college students, which is much more common here nights and weekends, but should either be occurring on third and fourth floors, we do our best to deal with it. Due to recent retirements and other staff turnover (it is very difficult to staff a library 143 hours per week), we have not had our full complement of night and weekend staff. This has limited our ability to control noise. We hope to do better as we fill our vacant positions.

Bede Mitchell, Dean of the Library

## Dear Nobel Committee: What were you thinking?



**John DiPietro** is a junior political science major from John's Creek, Ga. He is a guest columnist for the George-Anne.

People across the political spectrum woke up on Friday scratching their heads wondering why Obama got the Nobel Peace Prize.

However, even I believe that it would be a mistake to blame Obama for "winning" the prize - it wasn't his choice, it was the choice of a Nobel

Committee that is showing its inability to deliver a clear message on peace, as well as cheapening the meaning of the prize.

People on both sides of the aisle, as well as in the middle, have questioned Obama's eligibility. Most notably on the political Left is Michael Moore, who in a letter on his web site called for Obama to either pull out of Afghanistan or return the award.

On the Right, no one exemplar highlights the criticism of his credentials, though most would argue that the primary stated reason, Obama's record against nuclear proliferation, either isn't present strongly enough in his policy to warrant

the award or that he has not yet had the time to effectively prove that he can achieve this dream.

The Committee defended itself by saying it was to encourage him to complete his goals, but that doesn't hold water. His actions over the past seven months since the nomination deadline haven't brought much peace to the world, if any.

Even if he does in the future bring about a major change in favor of world peace, awarding the prize this soon makes the prize cheap - many Facebook statuses and jokes I've seen and heard have related to people "wanting their prize now" for "a future achievement" they may make in a given field.

Further, this puts extra pressure on the already-burdened Obama to live up to his accolade, knowing that his enemies can capitalize on a lack of action on his part in future arguments. It makes the job tougher for him, negating the incentive it would provide to another in a less stressful position, and attracting even more watchful, critical eyes to his every action by potentially dividing staunchly anti-war wing of his base exemplified by Michael Moore.

If the Committee truly wanted to honor the president's contributions to peace, they should have waited for him to make a tangible achievement, instead of courting controversy and complicating the situation for Obama.

**Do you love to draw? Are you opinionated?**

**Send us your stuff at**

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# Students purchase homemade bowls to benefit the homeless

By Rachel Cason

Guest writer

An hour into the four-hour Hunger and Homelessness fair last Thursday, the Russell Union rotunda was packed with students, faculty, and staff.

There were a number of booths set up, but one of the bigger ones was Club Mud's Empty Bowl Sale. They sold ceramic bowls that had been hand created by students and faculty, with all proceeds going to the local Statesboro Food Bank, according to Jeanne Henry, an advanced ceramics student and the co-coordinator of Club Mud.

Attendees to the Club Mud booth were able to buy a bowl for \$10 were then given free chili, toppings and a drink. Within an hour and a half, Club Mud had sold out of the chili that Talons Grill had prepared for the event.

Kim Riner, a senior ceramics student and one of the leaders in charge of organizing the affair, said that Club Mud started the day with enough chili for 150 people. They had both meat and vegetarian chili available to

the first 150 bowl purchasers.

Jeanne Henry said that when she and the other volunteers started setting up for the day, "We couldn't fit all the bowls on the table." By noon, though, they were starting to be able to unstack and display all of the bowls that were

left. Riner said that Joe Bill Brannen came and spoke to the ceramics class about how much of a difference the funds raised by the Empty Bowl Sale will help people in need.

"He told us how \$200 will feed 500 families a meal," she said. "So people who buy the bowls will remember



Many students have been creating these bowls since mid-Sept.

Deborah Innskeep/STAFF

sale apart. They have given away chili with the bowls in the past, and it was successful, according to Riner.

By all accounts, the Empty Bowl Sale was a great success for the Ceramics II class. Student Adrian White said that he was walking around the Hunger and Homelessness fair and saw a nice pot that he planned

they fed a family every time they use them."

The Empty Bowl Sale is a national activity used to raise money for charities, but the idea of giving away the chili is one that the Club Mudders came up with to set Statesboro's

on buying for his mom. Helping feed those in need, he said, was an added benefit.

Junior art history student Shanna Goodwin was set up beside the booth making bowls like the ones available at the Empty Bowl Sale. She answered questions and demonstrated the techniques that were applied in creating the for-sale bowls. "I love doing it and showing people that it is something fun to do," she said.

For the first time this year, Club Mud decided to open the process of making bowls for the event to students, faculty and staff. On Sept. 18, people could go to the studio and make a bowl themselves, and on Sept. 25, they could return to glaze and decorate them.

They had a good turnout to the bowl-making and bowl-glazing days, according to Riner. "The dean came out and threw a bowl," she said, "and his wife came and glazed them for him."

Senior finance student Scott Dailey was at the fair eating some "great chili" out of a bowl that he made himself. "A classmate invited me to make bowls for the cause, and it was a lot of fun."

## Fourth annual 'Gaels of Music' variety concert kicks off this week

By John Bender

Guest writer

The Center for Irish Studies at Georgia Southern is sponsoring the fourth annual "Gaels of Music" variety concert.

The event begins things off at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 13 and will be held at the Emma Kelly Theater at the Averitt Center for the Arts. At 6 p.m. in the Gallery of the Averitt Center, a reception will be held where hors d'oeuvres will be served, as well as beer and wine, and attendees will be able to meet both the performers and the scholarship winners.

Tickets may be purchased at the door, and are reasonably priced at \$10 for GSU students, \$12 for children under 15, military members or a seniors and \$15 for everyone else. The concert will present Irish

artist Harry O'Donoghue, a Statesboro favorite--as well as other musicians and entertainers.

The show will also include Gabriele Donoghue, "one of the most respected and in-demand singers, instrumentalists and producers on the Irish and Celtic music scene," according to Dr. Howard Keeley, director for the Center of Irish Studies.

According to Keeley, Donoghue has performed at the Carnegie Hall in New York, as well as toured with "Ireland's traditional music group," The Chieftans.

The concert's primary goal is to raise money for the study abroad scholarship in Ireland. Last summer, the Center for Irish Studies sent 40 students to Waterford, Ireland to take part in a five-week, academic program.

The Eddie Ivey Scholarship was named after a Savannah restaurateur who had a "profound love" and affection for Ireland, and, according to Keeley, an even

larger group of students will be attending in summer 2010.

Kimi Stone, an Irish studies minor and active member of student organizations within the Center for Irish Studies, is one winner of the Eddie Ivey Scholarship.

She said that the scholarship opportunity "was a wonderful blessing for me. It allowed me to see the places I have been studying and encouraged me to continue my work in grad school on Ireland and other Celtic areas."

Stone referred to her experience in Ireland as a kind of "homecoming when I stepped off that plane in Shannon."

"I believe it is important to find a connection to one's own heritage, and to do that fully, one must stop and listen to the music and feel the pull of the fairy land that is Ireland," she said.

Stone support for the concert and the Eddie Ivey Scholarship by saying, "Coming out to support the Center for Irish Studies not only can help you connect to Irish

roots but also helps keep Georgia Southern University a well rounded academic center."

GSU's Center for Irish Studies is on the cutting edge of programs and events that encourage experience and exploration among its students.

"Given our highly connected world, it's essential to make international experiences available to GSU students. This year, four students benefited from the study-in-Ireland scholarship," said Keeley.

The concert's host O'Donoghue said, "Irish studies at Georgia Southern is making quite a name for itself, and it's an honor for us, the musicians and performers, to get involved."

Keeley emphasized by emphasizing that the event is intended to be student centered and that "a lot of people are giving their time, talent and resources directly to the students of Georgia Southern University."

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-A review of "Opera Breve"

7

The George Anne  
Tuesday, October 13, 2009

## Spotlight on Student Leaders: Kyle Griffin

By Ally Rakoczy

Staff writer

Kyle Griffin, a junior mechanical engineering major and president of the Residence Hall Association, has been actively involved on campus since his sophomore year. According to Griffin, his motivations in leadership stem from his goals to develop his skills for after graduation.

"I wasn't involved at all my freshman year," said Griffin, "but Georgia Southern preaches that we need to get involved. I wanted to learn leadership skills because I want to join the military when I graduate."

However, when it comes to involvement, Griffin emphasized the difference between leadership experience and simply becoming involved.

"I feel like people sometimes confuse leadership with being involved in a whole bunch of organizations, when in fact you can be involved in one organization and move up every year," said Griffin. "It's not always about quantity. It's about quality."

And Griffin has done just that. After becoming involved his sophomore year as the president of University Villas, he moved up within RHA each semester.

"I felt like I could do more," said Griffin, which is what led him to his current position as president of RHA.

Griffin has done his best to make a positive mark on the organization, which presented him with one of his biggest challenges yet.

"I feel like one of my biggest problems was revamping RHA, making it more approachable," said Griffin. "A lot of people don't understand what we do, so our biggest challenge was informing people what RHA was really about."



Brandilyn Brown/STAFF

**Kyle Griffin** is currently the president of RHA after working his way up from University Villas president.

While Griffin acknowledged that they've made great strides, he also admitted that it was still a work in progress.

"We've made leaps and bounds in terms of last year's team, but it's still a work in progress."

Indeed, the organization that has given Griffin both challenges and successes has been an incredibly meaningful experience for him as well. According to Griffin, it was the commitment to leadership development that makes RHA have the impact that it does on its members.

"It's really the amount time and energy that the department of housing puts into developing the president of RHA," said Griffin.

"For them, it's a really big deal that one person represents the 6,000 people in student housing. They've just helped me develop as a leader, and I really appreciate that."

While many leaders on campus end up getting burnt out or tired from their busy schedules, Griffin has been able to avoid this common occurrence through his fresh approach to leadership.

"To completely honest with you, I can say I don't [get burnt out]. Before every meeting I have, people know that we have to get stuff done but that we also have to keep it fun," said Griffin.

This leadership style has really proven effective for Griffin and though he admitted that not everyone is

going to like his style, he does his best to be highly involved in the process.

"I'm definitely hands-on and extremely vocal. One style's not going to fit all though, so I try my best to tone it down for those that need it," said Griffin.

However, according to Griffin, at the end of the day "you can't always satisfy everybody."

Despite this fact, Griffin tries his best to encourage underclassmen to get involved within his organization and on campus. According to Griffin, freshmen have ideal opportunities to get involved their first year, simply from "living in the halls and joining RHA."

Additionally, with all the resources available on campus, Griffin feels like GSU makes it easy for students to get involved.

"The Leadership Office has lists and lists of things to get involved with. I feel like GSU gives you all sorts of opportunities, so there's no excuse," said Griffin.

Griffin hopes that his experiences at GSU will not only develop him as a leader for his future career in the military, but that these skills will stick with him no matter where he goes.

"[I've learned] how to be open to other people's ideas and learn how to keep personal and professional things separate because that's a major challenge," said Griffin.

Griffin also hopes that students will learn from his experiences and get involved in any way they can.

"There are many different types of leadership and I feel like people get confused thinking, 'It's not this way then it's not the right way,'" said Griffin. "I want them to know that it's ok to do option B or C."

Additionally, Griffin has learned the value of being a positive influence. He said, "It's important that we're not acting like the role models we're supposed to be, but that we're actually being the role models we're supposed to be."

## Movie Review: 'Couples Retreat' does not meet comedic expectations

By Derek Joyce

Guest writer

When watching the previews at a previous movie, "Couples Retreat" looked like a laugh-out-loud comedy revolving around four couples at a resort with an unconventional yoga instructor and stripping on the beach.

In reality, "Couples Retreat" is more like a romantic soap opera condensed into a 113-minute timeslot.

"Couples Retreat" is very solid in the basic cores of film-making. The movie features an all-star cast including the aforementioned Bateman and Bell, Vince Vaughn ("Wedding Crashers"), Kristin Davis ("Sex and the City") and Jean Reno ("The Da Vinci Code").

It also has an amazing setting: the tropical island that everybody fantasizes about at some point or another. Also, when the movie is really going for laughs, it tends to score.

Unfortunately, the funny scenes are few and far between. In fact, "Couples Retreat" seems

to follow a rotation of soap-opera like drama based on the couples, then drama based on the friendships, something very awkward, and then something you might consider funny.

However, it is very rare that I ever give a full, hearty, audible laugh that I have been expecting ever since I saw the trailer. This pacing and lack of payoff, I believe, is the major downfall of the movie.

For a more detailed analysis of the film, visit [gadaily.com](http://gadaily.com)



Special photo

### Couples Retreat

Our Rating: 2.5 out of 5 stars

Where to see it:  
Carmike Cinemas-Statesboro:  
4:15, 7:15, & 10:15 p.m.



# Second annual 'Alive In Color' talent show brings variety to GSU

By Vincent Garrett Jr.

Guest writer

For the second year in a row, The Express Lane held its "Alive In Color" talent show for a packed auditorium of anxious fans. The talent show was full of acts from comedians, singers, rappers, poets and dancers.

Gerald Darden, vice president of The Express Lane said, "This talent show is a way for our students to open up and express themselves in the form of their talent."

Hosts Chrystian Woods and Tyler Kennedy opened the show with a welcome and introduced judges Shulunda Richardson, Brandon Hatcher, Alakia Williams, and Kirby Jones. Next, they brought up Charles Feagin, also known as "Chuck D." He was the only competing comedian to perform at the show.

Feagin, a sociology major, performed a show of comedy about "Chick-fil-A gossip" and the beginning of The Express Lane.

The singer category was the next to compete. The performers in this category ranged from experienced songwriters like Porsha Ellis, who performed an original song entitled "Love Gone Wrong" to people who simply enjoyed singing like

Chris Boggs, who did his own rendition of the Luther Vandross song "Superstar."

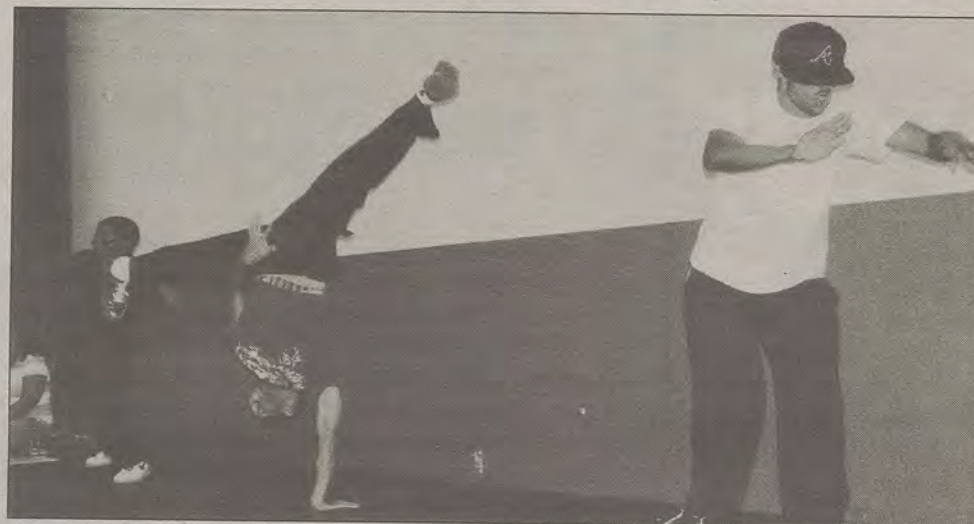
Saria Jordan, who won the segment said, "I'm just happy to perform for all my friends and make a little rent money at the same time."

Next to compete were the poets. They presented original works straight from the heart. The group "Certified Poets" and Yetmon Harris both performed poems that displayed and redefined the image of the modern lady.

Darius Roy won the poetry portion with a poem entitled "Facing Reality." He said, "My fearlessness is what makes my poetry unique because I try to touch on subjects that have not been hit on before."

The next group of performers were the rappers. All the performers in the rap category approached this event with intense focus and competitiveness. There were many different types of rap represented at the show, including Akeem Raji and his tribute to women of color in "African Beauty" and Eddie Montana's metaphor of a traditional Hispanic dish in "Holy Guacamole."

In this striking battle of versatile lyrical content, GSU student and Dyverzion dance team member Steve Cantrell, also known as "Yung Boi," took first place. His astounding stage presence and unique lyrics were stand-out quality. Jasmine Harvard



Nico Adams/STAFF

Students had the chance to showcase their talents at the second annual 'Alive in Color' talent show.

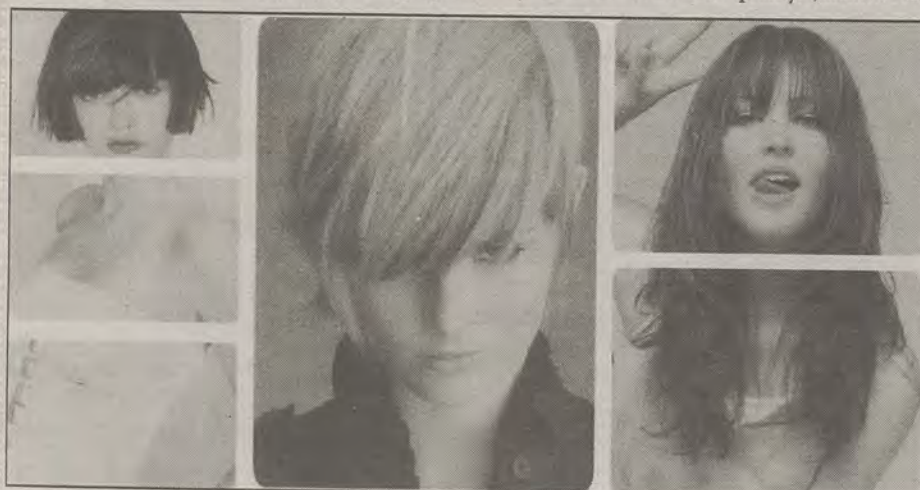
took second place and also proved to be a crowd favorite with songs like "Yo Mama" and "Party."

After the rappers, the dancers performed and left an open challenge to anyone wanting to battle Dyverzion. Led by Cantrell, the dance squad, who choreographed their own dance steps, took over the show as the main event.

The left a final visage that summed up the incredible presence of talent that came the entire night.

Richardson thought the show was pretty good, saying, "I think it was nice and I wouldn't mind judging the next show."

The Express Lane's second annual "Alive In Color" fulfilled its purpose to present the great amount of talent this campus had to offer. The Express Lane president, James Camper said, "I would just like to thank the performers and the audience for making this show a great success."



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# Food for the stomach and the soul

By Robert Greene II

Staff writer

The Multicultural Student Center is presenting "Hot Wings and Hot Topics" on Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Russell Union ballroom. Speakers representing various faiths will be there to have a panel discussion and answer questions from students.

The program is designed to give students the "base beliefs" of four religions, according to Christopher Pugh, assistant director of the Multicultural Student Center.

"The program is geared toward a discussion between different religions," he said.

The four religions represented at the forum will be Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Baha'i.

Pugh said that the program offers students the "opportunity to ask questions" and to recognize the "similarities to what they believe."

Professor Dan Rea, who works in the College of Education's department of curriculum, foundations and reading, also believes in the importance of this forum. "The purpose is to promote mutual understanding among diverse groups," he said.

"I feel strongly that in the world today, university students need an understanding of

diverse religions and diverse cultures," said Rea. He said that the program is designed to "help dispel some of those myths" about the various religions.

"It's strange to me that we talk so little about religion at the university," said Rea. "When you look at newspapers, you can see it's a very important part of human life."

He also said that the program is very important for anyone entering the job market.

"Last year, one of the students from a business class told me his professor offered extra credit to come because in the international market, you need to know the culture and the religion," said Rea.

The format of the forum will devote the first hour to questions being answered by each panelist. Each panelist will have 2-3 minutes to answer each question.

The last half hour of the event will give students and others in the audience the chance to ask the panelists their own questions. This is the third consecutive year the program has been offered.

Rea hopes to have "at least 120 people like last year," and said that the program will provide "food for the stomach and food for their minds and their souls."

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1	7	4	5	6	8	3	9	2
9	6	3	1	2	4	5	7	8
8	2	5	3	7	9	4	6	1
6	9	7	4	3	2	1	8	5
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COLUMN

## Jumping on the volleyball bandwagon

By Robert Greene II

Staff writer

While the Eagle football team struggles against difficult competition and both soccer teams scratch and claw for their first victories, another team at Georgia Southern has rose up to take the Southern Conference by storm. It is the women's volleyball team, which is currently sitting on a 14-6 record, including 4-1 within the conference.

Under second year head Coach Chad Calihan, the Eagles have improved since a 10-21 campaign in 2007. The 2008 Eagles posted a 16-18 record, and this year's team is already two wins away from reaching last year's win total.

This year's squad has posted impressive victories over opponents such as Wake Forest and came very close to knocking off a good Auburn squad in Statesboro during the Bash in the Boro tournament.

The Eagles' biggest win of the season came

on Saturday against the College of Charleston. The Cougars, who dropped to 4-2 within the conference, had beaten the Eagles five years in a row, and in the fifth and final set it looked as though the streak would continue. However, the Eagles rallied after being a point away from losing to win four consecutive points and the final set, 16-14.

So far, the Eagles are 8-1 at home, infusing Hanner Fieldhouse with the type of home-court advantage not seen since men's and women's basketball dominated visiting teams in the last 10 years.

The Eagles enter an important stretch of games, with a matchup against Davidson tonight at 6 p.m. All the games from here until the end of the season are conference matchups. What makes this important is that only the top four teams enter the Southern Conference tournament, and the top seed hosts the conference tournament in their home gym.

The Eagles are currently riding a four-game winning streak. If they can keep up the excellent work, they have a good shot at hosting the tournament. However, the College of Charleston is still right behind the Eagles in the South division with Appalachian State, UNC Greensboro and Elon all jockeying for positions out of the North division.

Right now is as good a time as any to get on board the volleyball bandwagon. The team is poised for their first 20-win season since 2005 and perhaps even their first NCAA tournament appearance since 2003. Still, the most important game is the next one, against the Davidson Wildcats. So make sure to support your Eagles and recognize the hard work they're putting in to continue winning.

Tonight's volleyball game is "Dig Pink Night." All fans that plan on attending the game are asked to wear pink to show support for breast cancer patients and survivors.



Brandilyn Brown/STAFF

The Georgia Southern volleyball team gets ready to break their huddle during last season's matchup against Wofford.

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# Eagles pitch second half shutout in 42-12 loss to UNC



Georgia Southern tailback Adam Urbano (6) rushes the ball up the middle. He finished the game with 93 rushing yards and a touchdown.

Rob Eakins/STAFF

By Latrice Williams

Staff writer

After holding the Tar Heels scoreless in the second half, the Georgia Southern Eagles could not make a 30-point comeback as they fell 42-12, last Saturday.

GSU won the coin toss and elected to receive. Kick returner Darrell Pasco made a good run to the 41-yard line, giving the Eagles a first down. Unfortunately the Eagles could not capitalize off their next possessions, which later forced them to punt.

The Eagles' defense withheld the Tar Heels for five minutes before tailback Ryan Houston made a one yard touchdown run. UNC ran for 89 yards in 14 plays.

GSU was able to obtain a first down with five minutes to play in the first quarter, but Lee Chapple was sacked by Tar Heel Robert Quinn. Shaun Draughn scored on the very next play, putting the Tar Heels up 14-0.

UNC punted the ball to the Eagles and received a delay of game penalty, giving the Eagles a five-yard advantage after the kick-off.

Once again Pasco put the Eagles in good field advantage. With 3:03 remaining in the first quarter, Adam Urbano broke through a few tackles to make a 45-yard touchdown run.

"Our offense did a great job blocking on that play," said Urbano. "Once I realized that I had bro-

ken free, I saw that I had a chance to score. That was a really big play for us and at that moment I think everyone felt like we had a chance in the game."

The defense continued to hold off the Tar Heels for the remainder of the first quarter. Defensive back Derek Heyden wracked up a total of six tackles within the first quarter alone.

At the start of the second quarter, the Tar Heel defense stepped up by preventing the Eagles from making a first down.

On the Eagles next possession, UNC linebacker Quan Sturdivant stripped the ball from running back Urbano and returned it for a 49-yard touchdown.

The same routine continued to plague the Eagles as Lee Chapple's pass intended for Brandon Nolley was intercepted by Zack Brown.

As soon as it seemed it couldn't get any worse, the Tar Heels came up with yet another interception as Bruce Carter picked off Chapple's pass and raced into the end zone, bringing the score to 35-7.

With about a minute or so left in the second half, Houston scored a one yard touchdown, giving the Tar Heels a 35 point advantage over the Eagles.

The 2005 NCAA Playoffs against Texas State University was the last time GSU allowed 40 points by the second half.

The Tar Heels began with ownership in the third quarter, but the defense stepped up big to impede UNC.

"Our goal was to win the game," said head Coach

Chris Hatcher. "Not doing that, we wanted to win the second half. We did that."

GSU managed to get three points on the board from a 25 yard field goal made by Adrian Mora.

Soon after, GSU suffered a 15-yard penalty, as the Tar Heels were able to score from the GSU 11.

The second half was a mix of ups and downs for both squads. UNC tried but failed in many attempts to score as GSU's defense would not permit the Tar Heels to score in the entire second half.

"I take a lot more positives out of the game. It doesn't feel good to get beat, but we knew we were up for a very tall task," said Hatcher.

"Defensively we continued to play outstanding. Our offensive line pass protected pretty decent and we were able to run the ball a lot more effectively against those guys. They were the eighth-ranked defense in the country and their front seven is as good as I've ever seen, even in my days at Kentucky."

Some positives did come out of this matchup for certain individuals. In the midst of the blazing Tar Heels defense, Urbano ran a career high 93 yards. Pasco's 38-yard return was the longest against UNC this season. Pasco is also currently ranked second in the SoCon for fumbles recovered and first for passes defended.

The Eagles return to their home field on Saturday to face off against SoCon opponent, the Chattanooga Mocs. Kick off is set for 6 p.m.

The Eagles enter Saturday's contest with a 2-1 SoCon record, currently tied for third.

## Quick Hits

- GSU football falls in Chapel Hill, 42-12.
- Volleyball defeats College of Charleston in five sets at home for the first time in 5 years.
- Men's soccer loses to Gardner-Webb, 5-2.
- Women's soccer falls short to College of Charleston in a close 1-0 game.
- Eagle tennis finished UNF Invitational in Jacksonville.

## News from the Nest

- Eagle baseball announces it will host two camps over winter.
- Family weekend set for Saturday's football game against Chattanooga.
- GSU basketball set to host "Fan Fest" on Friday.

For more information on GSU events, visit our website at [www.gadaily.com](http://www.gadaily.com).