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THE GEORGE-ANNE

www.GADaily.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009 • VOLUME 82 • ISSUE 45

COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

Hatcher out, Monken in

Monken's Coaching History

Year	School	Position	W-L
2008	Georgia Tech	Slot Backs/Special Teams Coordinator	9-4
2007	Navy	Slot Backs/Special Teams Coordinator	8-5
2006	Navy	Slot Backs/Special Teams Coordinator	9-4
2005	Navy	Slot Backs Coach	8-4
2004	Navy	Slot Backs Coach	10-2
2003	Navy	Slot Backs Coach	8-5
2002	Navy	Slot Backs Coach	2-10
2001	GSU	Slot Backs Coach	12-2
2000	GSU	Slot Backs Coach	13-2
1999	GSU	Slot Backs Coach	13-2
1998	GSU	Slot Backs Coach	14-1
1997	GSU	Slot Backs Coach	10-3
1996	Concordia (Ill.) Univ.	Offensive Line Coach	1-8
1995	Morton (Ill.) HS	Head Coach	1-8
1994	Buffalo	WR-TE Coach/Recruiting Coord.	3-8
1993	Buffalo	WR-TE Coach/Recruiting Coord.	1-10
1992	Buffalo	WR-TE Coach/Recruiting Coord.	4-6
1991	Arizona State	Graduate Assistant (Wide Receivers)	6-5
1990	Hawai'i	Graduate Assistant (Secondary)	7-5
1989	Hawai'i	Graduate Assistant (Slot Backs)	9-3-1

Courtesy of Georgia Tech Athletics



Jeff Monken, a current assistant coach at Georgia Tech and former assistant coach at Georgia Southern, has been selected to rally the GSU Eagles in 2010.

Special to The George-Anne

Assistant to former coach Paul Johnson tapped to lead in 2010

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

Georgia Southern fans who have been anxiously waiting for the triple option to make its way back to the Boro can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

Sunday afternoon, Athletic Director Sam Baker announced that GSU acquired Jeff Monken, a current assistant coach at Georgia Tech and former assistant coach at Georgia Southern, as the head football coach for the Georgia Southern Football team. Monken spent five years with the Eagles from 1997-2001, a period in which

The changing face of Eagle football

- Hatcher fired Saturday after Citadel win, page 2
- Sports editor weighs in, page 11

the program tallied a 62-10 overall record, two NCAA FCS National Championships in 1999 and 2000, five consecutive NCAA FCS playoff appearances, five Southern Conference championships and the school's second undefeated

regular season in 1998.

"We look forward to Monken joining our staff after an eight-year absence. I think deep down he has always wanted to be at Georgia Southern, obviously being a head coach," said Baker.

Eagle fans can expect Monken to arrive sometime on Monday, Dec. 7. "Jeff will stay with Georgia Tech through the ACC Championship game and we will do a formal press conference then but we just felt like we wanted to get this announced we could move on and he could start putting his staff together," Baker said.

See **MONKEN** Page 2

How do you feel about Chris Hatcher's firing?



"I'm a little excited that he's fired because the new coach is bringing back the triple option ..."

Kayla McCray
Freshman



"I think it's unfortunate, but ... I'm not too disappointed."

Taylor Callaway
Senior



"He came with a good philosophy, but it didn't work for us. ... I'm with whoever wins ..."

Gil Hodges
Senior



"I thought it was kinds of just out of the blue. [I] didn't know it was going to happen considering he won the game."

Michael O'Leary
Freshman

Read Our View, page 4.

NEWS

Georgia Southern wishes Grubes farewell at reception today at 4 p.m.

Page 5



Today
Partly Cloudy
65/50

Three-Day Forecast



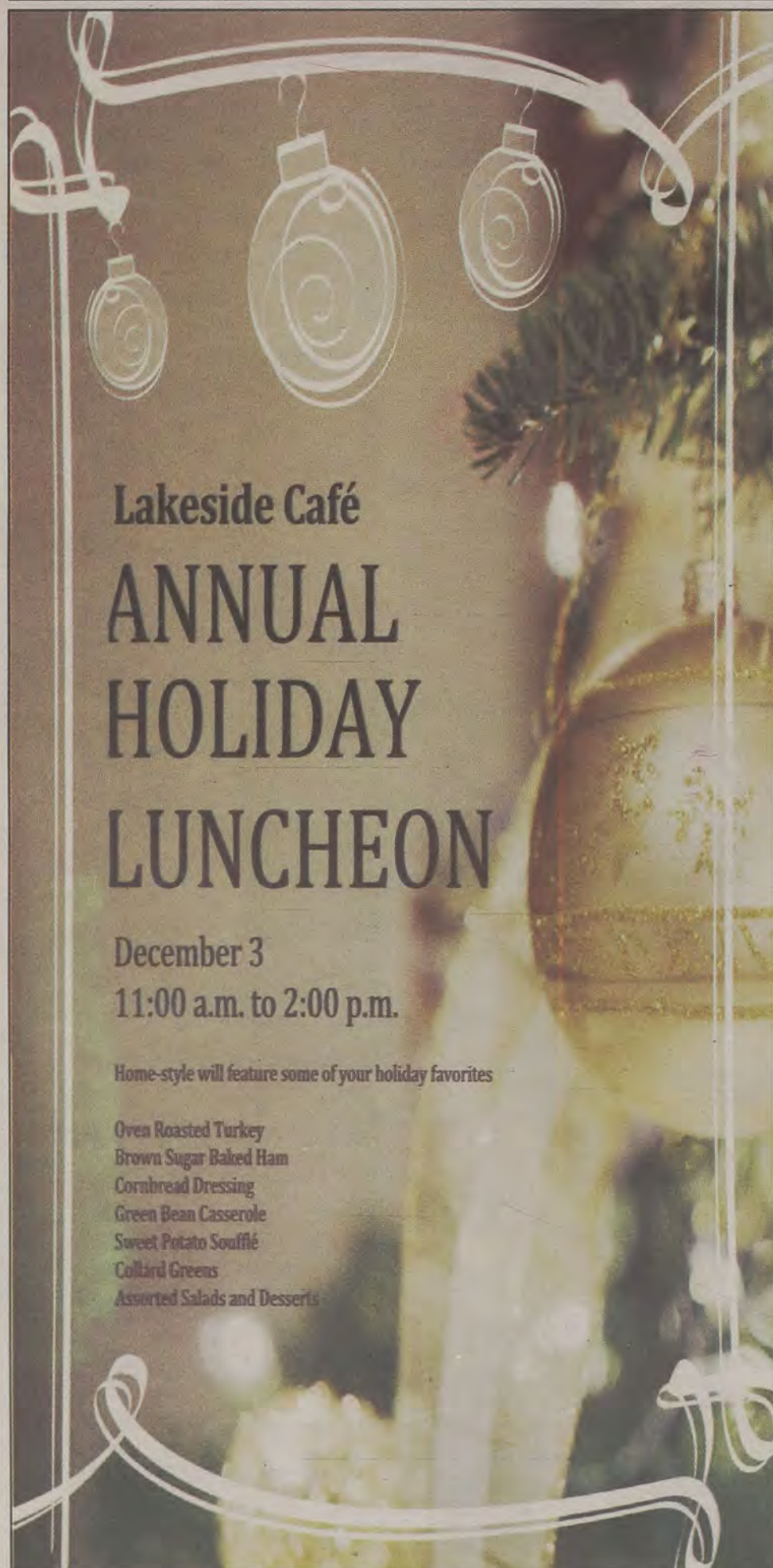
Wednesday
Rain/Thunder
71/54



Thursday
Partly Cloudy
61/36



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Assorted Salads and Desserts

Chris Hatcher fired Saturday after win over The Citadel

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

Georgia Southern Athletic Director Sam Baker announced late Saturday afternoon that Head Coach Chris Hatcher's contract would not be renewed.

In a press conference release from Baker, which can be seen on WTOC.com, he said, "After finishing taping the coach's show, Dr. Core and I met with Coach Hatcher and informed him that the university has decided not to renew his contract. This was an ongoing discussion over the past week and the decision was made. It was a decision we felt like we needed to make and one that we wanted to move as quickly as possible. We just felt like perhaps next year wasn't going to be any different from this year."

Hatcher did not return calls Saturday night, but said in a press release, "I was informed after our win on Saturday that I would no longer be the head coach at Georgia Southern. I am sad and disappointed, but have no regrets. I took this job with excitement and determination. We set out to rebuild a program and were well on our way. I feel for our seniors. They have given everything they have for Georgia Southern. They laid it all on the line. I hate for them to leave with this in their hearts. I feel for the younger players. We sold them on a

vision. We brought in three excellent signing classes. These are quality young men who will succeed. I feel for our fans. I think the fans know that it takes more than a couple of years to rebuild a program."

GSU was once known for running the triple option, where three players on offense may run with the ball instead of the two that are used in the standard option run. For a defense, it can cause havoc and create confusion, which is what made the Eagles so successful in past titles.

Regarding the triple option, Baker said, "When we made the decision to not renew Coach Sewak's contract, at that moment, there was not a whole lot of people that could coach that offense. Everybody thought it was an outstanding offense. Paul Johnson is the master at that offense."

Hatcher said in his press release, "The fans want results, but I truly believe they knew they were just around the corner. I may not understand the rationale behind the decision to let this staff go. I am clear on this though: I appreciate the opportunity to have coached here and I sincerely wish the members of the team nothing but success in the future. Tough times don't last but tough people do. Chris Hatcher is as tough as it gets. I will be back on the sidelines soon and I hope Georgia Southern fans root as hard for me as I will be rooting for them."

MONKEN

from page 1

Baker was pleased that he was able to find someone in such a timely fashion, especially since national signing day is two months away.

"Anytime that you have an opening, you need to move to fill it and recruiting is a very important part of college football. I think the quicker we can get a staff assembled and start introducing ourselves to those who are familiar with his system then the better off we will be," said Baker.

Although Monken has not said it explicitly, Baker is pretty certain that Monken will be bringing the triple option back to GSU.

"That's what he has grown up in these 13 years under Coach Johnson. I think that is the direction he will move to," Baker said. Monken is in the process of gathering his team of experts who will join him at GSU.

"He talked about people that he had worked with at Georgia Southern, Navy, Georgia Tech and Buffalo. I think there is a good chance that the people that will be joining the staff will be individuals that he has worked with," said Baker.

If bringing back the option was something that Baker wanted to implement, he knew that he had to move quickly because there are few schools that run their offense based on that system, and only a handful of coaches that have been successful doing so.

"We honed in on him pretty well. It looked like we were going to be going back to the option, awe just felt that he was the individual that had been there and had been mentored by coach Johnson and was ready for this task," said Baker.

Somewhere along the way it seems as though GSU fans have gone elsewhere, especially alumni and boosters, but Baker is optimistic that they will soon return once the Eagles arrive back at their prominence.

"I think winning brings people back. Fans don't just come back overnight. I'm excited about what the possibilities are," said Baker.

Monken said, "Georgia Southern football has a success story like none other. I am extremely honored to represent Georgia Southern University as its head football coach and thrilled for the opportunity to serve the young men entrusted to the leadership of our staff. Having been an Eagle assistant coach for five tremendous seasons, I know that being the head coach at Georgia Southern is an incredible opportunity."

Local charities provide a way to give back

By Kara Cole
Guest writer

Georgia Southern is putting students in the holiday spirit by offering ways to get involved in the community or give back during the holiday season and all year long. If you're looking for ways to help out, check out the list below.

•Keep Bulloch Beautiful

Keep Bulloch Beautiful is looking for volunteers who are able to promote waste reduction, recycling, litter prevention and county beautification. KBB has been affiliated with various sororities and fraternities on campus in the past and has established successful community service among students.

According to Executive Director Jenna Lawson, "Keep Bulloch Beautiful is a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization. We are constantly looking for people to volunteer, and it's a great way to give back to the community."

For students looking to volunteer, contact Keep Bulloch Beautiful to schedule volunteer work or be notified of upcoming events through mail, e-mail or phone.

E-mail: kbb@keepbullochbeautiful.org

•Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, Christian-based foundation that is devoted to providing shelter and housing for the homeless and needy.

Although students have provided their own individual fundraisers in order to contribute funds to Habitat for Humanity, the organization is always looking for volunteer work and donations.

Students can get involved by creating their own fundraising event and donating the contributions or by volunteering at actual construction sites.

"Working with Habitat for Humanity can be a way for students to give back to the community while



Special photo

they are here. It's a good way to put your heart in the community," said Executive Director Lee Cheshire.

E-mail: www.habitat.org

•Susan G. Komen for the Cure

Susan G. Komen for the Cure is an organization that has dedicated itself to educating the people on the prevention, coping methods and survival skilling involving breast cancer.

In the past, students have volunteered in the annual "Race for Cure," that takes place in April.

"What's awesome about our program is that 75 percent of the money we raise goes right back into our community towards screenings, educational programs involving breast cancer and treatment," said Laura Hagan, Board of director's treasurer.

According to the foundation, "The race raises awareness and honors those who have lost their battle with the disease."

Volunteer forms for the Race for cure will be made available online in January. The Race for Cure will be held on April 17 in Savannah.

E-mail www.komencoastalgeorgia.org

•Salvation Army

This year, Salvation Army has developed a new, modern way to give back to the community. An internet-based fundraiser has made it simple for any student to get involved in the annual Red Kettle Campaign.

Spread a little holiday cheer by visiting Salvation Army's Web site to create your own personal kettle while becoming a virtual bell ringer. This new fundraiser appeals to groups, organizations and individuals.

Valerie Johnson, coastal director, said, "Salvation Army is a ecumenical church and charity known worldwide for helping people in emergencies and long-term situations. We are here to help people turn their lives around while catering to the needy."

E-mail: <http://onlineredkettle.org>

•Ronald McDonald House Charities

If you happen to be enjoying a canned drink during the holidays, don't forget to pop your tab and give back to Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Every holiday season, RMHC asks that you donate your used pop tabs and stop by a local McDonald house or mail them to 795 GateWood Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30329.

You can also help out by visiting their Web site at www.RMCH.org and providing items listed on their wish list.

Or stock their Secret Santa Closet by donating new and unwrapped gifts for infants through those aged 21.

"RMCH popping tabs fundraiser has probably been the most successful on campus with students in the past, I think it's one of the easier fundraisers we are involved in," said Kym Coausen, director of volunteer services.

Email www.RMCH.org

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.

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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.

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Opinions

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The George-Anne
Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Our view: Did they fire the wrong person?

After the last football game of the year, head coach Chris Hatcher was informed after the Eagles' win against The Citadel that he had been fired. The question that some fans, students and alumni are asking, however, is "Did they fire the wrong person?"

Many opinions have been voiced as to whether or not Hatcher should have been fired. On one hand, when one is hired to do a job, he is expected to perform that job and deliver the best results he can.

In a season where the Eagles had five wins and six losses, Hatcher hasn't exactly performed in the way he was expected upon hire.

The men's soccer team finished with a season with 15 losses, one tie and one win. The women's soccer team finished with 17 losses and one win. Both coaches still remain.

On the other hand, Hatcher walked into a vacuum left after the departure of Brian VanGorder, and many feel that he still is cleaning up the mess left in that snafu.

Less than one week after it was announced that Hatcher was fired, Georgia Southern announced the new head coach for the GSU Eagles. In a press conference on Sunday, Athletic Director Sam Baker

said that Jeff Monken was the one candidate that they "honed in on real well," not revealing any other candidates.

This is a suspicious situation, given that they fired Hatcher after the Eagles' fifth win of the season and before his four-year contract was up.

The question becomes, did they fire the right person? With Sam Baker still around, students are buzzing about whether or not he should have been fired instead of - or with - Hatcher. After all, it is Baker who hired Hatcher, and Baker who kept Hatcher here for as long as he did.

University students have also voiced frustrations at Bruce Grube. Grube has stated, however, that recent personnel decisions have been shared with incoming President Brooks Keel. Vice President of Business and Finance Ron Core also had a hand in the decision since he was with Baker when Hatcher was informed that his contract would not be renewed.

The firing should have been handled in a more efficient manner and Hatcher should have been given at least one more season to build a program that he has been working on for three years.



Obama: Too little too late?



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

Obama appears poised to order 30,000 more troops into Afghanistan starting today. However, I say that this may be a move that's a day late and a dollar short, unfortunately, both militarily and politically.

Obama's plan comes after months of deliberation as to

increasing the need for troops even more.

The delay is also potentially damaging to Obama on the political front. When he ran in 2008, he argued that Iraq was a distraction from the "real conflict" in Afghanistan, and the hunt for Osama bin Laden. By making Afghanistan his intended military focus, however, he put more of his "political capital" on the line based on activity on the ground, more so than normal because of the intensified media attention Obama attracted. Now, though, he has presented himself as indecisive on the issue of the war, though he certainly didn't intend to do that. Just as Kerry did in 2004, the Republicans will undoubtedly use the inactivity on his part against him and the Democrats in 2010 and 2012.

Even more problematic, his inaction until now has hurt his reputation amongst our allies in the Afghani war, especially the UK, which will be a problem. As with Iraq, one of the primary goals is for the Afghani people to take over their own military and police efforts eventually. However it will be difficult to do prepare them all by ourselves; without allies, our attention will be further divided between training the forces necessary and actually fighting terrorists and insurgents on the ground. Further, it may appear to other countries that Obama is indecisive on other issues as well, forcing them to move forward on policy agreements without American support. Obama has needlessly hurt our military and diplomatic stance with his inaction; I only pray that it doesn't cost us more than it has.

Why Tiger should tell all



James Kicklighter
is a senior public relations major from Claxton, Ga. He is a staff columnist for The George-Anne.

This week, while we were enjoying the after effects of Thanksgiving, Tiger Woods crashed into a fire hydrant. At least, that's what his press representatives released.

As of now, there is no hard evidence to verify that he did nothing but crash into the hydrant.

However, with his constant refusal to speak to police, the news, blogs and social media outlets are buzzing.

I, too, suspect there's something different at play because I'm pretty certain rumors of an extramarital affair are true. Nevertheless, it is a model case for how publicity can be mishandled with a few quick decisions.

With his public relations team advising against a press conference and anything other

than a written statement, it encourages speculation in our 24/7 news cycle.

What's most remarkable about this, however, is the fact that we haven't heard much of these kinds of stories in the past year or two. Remember Paris Hilton? Britney Spears? The celebrity antics of the yesteryear?

Yes, in this economy, people don't pay as much attention to these stories. The Jon and Kate's of this world have folded as reality has firmly set into the American psyche.

This, more than anything, shows why it matters so much that he simply come out with the truth about his wreck.

We are no longer in a national mood for this kind of amusement because there is so much truth that faces our own lives. The reality of losing our 401Ks, the reality of furloughs or even the job we need that we can't find. Today, the ordinary heroes are the ones who remain ordinary, living their lives quietly and without fanfare.

The longer Tiger stays silent, the more his reputation is tarnished. Just you wait, we'll have another Chris Brown on our hands in a few weeks.

Fire alarm sounds at Deal Hall



Katherine Kennedy/STAFF

Two fire trucks tied up traffic on Sweetheart Circle Monday around 3:30 p.m. Firefighters were responding to an alarm, according to firefighters on the scene.

Today's reception serves as Grubes' final send-off

By Ally Rakoczy
Staff writer

President Bruce Grube will have his final send-off reception in the Center for Arts and Theater from 4-6 p.m. today. The reception will serve as a final goodbye for Georgia Southern's 11th president and his wife, Kathryn Grube.

According to Marilyn Bruce, Grube's executive administrative assistant, both students and members of the community were invited to attend the event and were sent invitations several weeks prior.

"At 4:45, we'll be making presentations and remarks... I imagine we're going to ask him to make some remarks after the presentations, and I imagine he'll want to [make some remarks] as well," said Bruce.

The reception will serve as a tribute to the lasting effect the president and his wife have had at GSU.

"This is our way of acknowledging his accomplishments during his 10 and a half years as president as well as recognizing the contributions Kathryn has made because she has been by his side all those years," said Bruce.

Grube leaves GSU after over 10 years as the university's president.



Bruce Grube

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Carmike Cinemas sees record crowd with release of 'New Moon'

By Robert Greene II

Staff writer

The premier of "New Moon," which is the second installment of the Twilight saga films based on the popular books, brought a record crowd to Carmike Cinemas in Statesboro. A crowd packed the cinema and lined the parking lot hours before the nine midnight showings Nov. 20.

"This is the biggest midnight crowd we've had," said Scottie Jernigan, manager of Carmike Cinemas. He said that this premier, which he estimated the theater sold 1,500 tickets for, was larger than "The Dark Knight" or any of the "Star Wars" films.

"There wasn't any advertising," Jernigan said. He said that, in addition to the 1,500 tickets sold for the numerous midnight theater showings of "New Moon," 600 were already sold for the Friday showings.

Students from both area high schools and Georgia Southern stood in line for hours—some even arrived as early as 3 p.m. to see the film.

Bradley Wiggins, a senior at Statesboro High School, said that she has read all of the books,

and there were some differences between the first "Twilight" movie and its book counterpart.

"Some of the scenes in the movie were cheesier than those in the book," Wiggins said.

Amber Merritt, a GSU freshman, also is a fan of the series. However, when the first film premiered, her expectations were not very high.

"When it first came out, I was under the impression it was going to be stupid," she said. But she has been hooked to the series ever since the first movie debuted.

"I don't read, but I read those books in no time," Merritt said.

She added what drew her to the "Twilight" stories is that she is a "sucker for romance." She also complimented the actors and actresses in the films, saying that Robert Pattinson, who plays Edward, and Kristen Stewart, who plays Bella, were the perfect choices for those roles.

Bailey Deal, who is in her third year in college, said that she didn't "remember it being this big last time," referring to the premier of "Twilight." She, like Merritt, thought the film "was going to be stupid," but she read the first book in two days, and after seeing the film, became addicted.



Katherine Kennedy/STAFF

Carmike Cinemas sold approximately 1,500 tickets for the midnight showing of "New Moon."

"It's not mushy," she said, referring to the film's romantic overtones. "It's unpredictable. It keeps you on edge."

A theme of the night was aligning to either Team Edward or Team Jacob. The schism around the two male leads of the film and book series was evident in the line outside of Carmike Cinemas.

Leah Lamb, a junior at GSU, said that she supported Team Jacob because "Edward is a psycho,

and he stares at her [Bella] when she's asleep." Other fans, such as Deal, made it clear they were for Team Edward. However, a third team also made itself known while waiting for the movie to begin.

"We're on Team Jakeward," said Caitlin Taylor, who had been in line since 10:15 p.m. She and her group said that, "In the books, we're Team Edward." However, in the movies, she said she and her friends were Team Jacob, due to the actor Taylor Lautner.

The Major leagues are finished. Eagle baseball doesn't start until February. To get your fix, join your classmates and colleagues from the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management as we play

THE STUDENT MEDIA

Pitch-In

SOFTBALL
INVITATIONAL



Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 5:00 PM at the Fair Road softball complex.

All proceeds from the event go to the Statesboro Food Bank.

Admission is free, and a \$5 meal ticket will get you a dinner from one of our participating restaurants at the event!

Meal tickets will be sold at the Russell Union Rotunda from 11-1 on Tuesday, December 1 and at the event.

If you want to play, contact Kelley Callaway at kcallaway@georgiasouthern.edu.

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Features

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The George-Anne
Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Spotlight on Student Leaders:



Katie Porter

Kelsey Sorrell ■ Staff writer

Susan Pugh/STAFF

Katie Porter, a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority, is a hard-working member of Southern Ambassadors and is also a Peer Leader for the university.

Katie Porter, a senior accounting major, went above and beyond throughout her collegiate career by getting herself involved with multiple clubs and organizations across campus. She is one of Georgia Southern's proud leaders who managed to devote her time to each organization and still finish with exceptional grades.

Porter began her journey by rushing Alpha Omicron Pi her freshman year, which allowed her to reach out to different organizations around campus.

"I rushed Alpha Omicron Pi my freshman year in order to meet people," she said. "Afterwards, I was invited to honor societies by the older people in my sorority. Once you get involved in things, it just starts snowballing until you're involved with everything else too."

In her sorority, Porter has successfully filled the position of vice president of communication as well as vice president of chapter development.

Her sorority participates in community service

projects each year, which help out students on campus and various people within the Bulloch County area.

One of these projects is their annual Stick It Up for Arthritis, where Porter and the other members of the sorority sell water guns on campus in order to raise money for victims of arthritis.

She also participated in the sorority's Run for the Roses last year and also helped run the concession stands on Friday nights at Bulloch Academy.

"The sorority is just a great way to get involved on campus and in the community. It's where I met my best friends," she said.

Through her sorority, Porter gained connections which allowed her to get involved with the Southern Ambassadors.

As a Southern Ambassador, Porter gives tours of the campus to prospective students as well as works events that GSU hosts for those students. One of these events in which Porter devoted part of her Thanksgiving Holiday to was GSU's Open

House for incoming freshmen last Saturday.

She also participated in scholarship showcases and helped with the seating during events such as Condoleezza Rice's visit.

"I love being involved on campus, especially with the Southern Ambassadors, because I can give students a good experience. I want them to love this school as much as I do," she said.

Porter did not stop at being a Southern Ambassador; however, she also decided to take another step as a GSU leader by working as a Peer Leader for Theresa Novotny's First Year Experience class.

As a Peer Leader, she worked closely with Novotny and planned lessons, graded papers and helped the freshmen in the class learn certain aspects of campus that every student should know.

"FYE isn't a hard class, but it can be helpful for freshmen. I showed them areas of campus that can be useful to know. Sometimes I even brought in cookies to share with the class," she said.

Porter admits that participating in all these different organizations while keeping up her grades "gets a little difficult."

"I just try to live by my planner and make time for all of it to fit," she said. "My main challenge is to balance it all with school work and still have enough time to contribute to everything I'm involved with, such as planning events and following through with everything, but it all works out in the end."

Not only has Porter showed great skills in time management through all the organizations she has been involved with, but she has also managed to keep her grades up. Porter qualified for Omicron Delta Kappa, GSU's National Leadership Honor Society, which requires students to be in the top 35 percent of their class. In order to apply, students must receive an invitation.

Through the honor society, Porter helped out the community in several ways, as well as held yet another office position, induction chair.

"I'm most active in this honor society as I really enjoy it, so I do a lot with them," she said. "We worked the Statesboro Fair this year, which was a big canned food drive. People could get in with either one can or \$1, and all donations were given to the Statesboro Food Bank."

Along with the canned food drive, she has participated in the Angel Christmas Tree at Lakeside, which the society runs each year, and Keep Bulloch Beautiful, where the society adopted Highway 67 and picked up all the trash along the side of the road.

"The honor society is an honor to be involved with, and it's just a great thing to be a part of," she said.

Porter also is a member of a few other organizations on campus which include the Order of Omega, a Greek honor society; Beta Gamma Sigma, a business honor society, and the accounting association with her major.

Porter offered her advice to GSU students who possess the same goals and aspirations she did in becoming a GSU leader.

"My advice to other people would be to get started as early as possible, as in freshman year. You need to find what interests you and meet other people who will get you involved with other things, and you need to be willing to commit. If you do this, it will definitely pay off," she said.

"My college experience overall has been absolutely wonderful and I can't imagine not being involved with everything, especially my freshman year. It just would have been a totally different experience, but it has been a great one" she said.

"I have met some incredible people and had a great time while receiving a great education."

The semester is coming to an end, which means it's time for students to formally give their feedback to professors. If you're currently a student at Georgia Southern, you've probably already experienced filling out professor evaluation forms.

Students sit down with pencil in hand while selecting the most appropriate rating for each class.

But what most students don't know is the purpose professor evaluation sheets serve and what actually happens to these forms once they are placed in that little brown folder.

The evaluations are broken down into four sections. These sections consisting of student/course rating, instruction/instructor rating, student background and open-ended questions that are hand written by students. These evaluations are based on 23 standard questions presented on a PinkScan version scantron.

According to the Office of the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, these student evaluation sheets go through a number of various venues to be scored and rated before they can be officially processed and filed.

In order to achieve unbiased and accurate faculty evaluation scores, they must first be entered into a Scanmark machine. Upon entering this machine, departments will be able to come up with a percentage and ratings, which evolve to an average for each professor.

Departmental secretaries type written comments made by students before being submitted back to the professor.

These evaluations serve two main purposes. The first is that professors will be able to see how students perceive their teaching styles and how effective they may or may not be.

When professors receive these forms back the following semester, they will be able to make the necessary improvements. "This gives professors a

Stickin' it to the man: A look at professor evaluations

Kara Cole ■ Guest writer

Professor evaluations are filled out at the end of every semester and are instrumental in determining class size, subject matter and teacher performance.

opportunity to respond to their ratings and expand on changes for the next semester," said Diane Cone, faculty member of College of Health and Human Sciences.

There are several factors that are considered, including class size, subject matter and the way a professor delivers the course.

"Although changes are solely left up to the professor, most of the times they do choose to make the appropriate improvements," said Cone.

The evaluations also serve as an indication whether a faculty member should or should not receive salary increases, tenure or promotions.

Once the records are filed on a professor, they are sent to the department chair and the dean's office for review.

These records are constantly looked at for future administration decisions. The files are not to be shared outside of each department.

Departments may differ in how the professor evaluation forms are utilized, however, it is up to the department chair and faculty to determine how the ratings are used.

The main concern for instructors is that they are being rated on the likes and dislikes that students may have for them as a teacher and not the way that

they are actually teaching the course.

In the past, "analysis of scores for evidence of validity" studies show that the level of student interest in a subject going into the course should be weaker than a student's post interest, meaning it is the teacher's job to enhance a student's interest in a course.

When students fill out these professor evaluation forms, they should keep in mind the effects that these forms could potentially have on the improvements that are made in the future.

Professor evaluations forms are a direct way for students to impact what is going on in the classroom so that courses can be more effective and successful.

Katherine Kennedy/STAFF

Southern Explosion dance team steps up to be number one

By Sarah Gricius

Guest writer

Georgia Southern's Southern Explosion dance team performs at multiple events year round, including at basketball games, volleyball games, Big Man on Campus and the yearly DooDah competition.

The team's most important competition of the year is the National Dance Association Collegiate Dance Nationals held in Daytona, Fla.

The team has placed top 10 in its division since 2007 and received fourth in last year's competition, beating teams such as Kennesaw State University, Illinois State University and Wichita State University.

In order to prepare for events and competitions, dancers attend two-hour practices three times a week. Practices are at GSU's Recreational Activity Center in the combative studio two.

Southern Explosion dancer Mandy Rutherford said, "One of my obligations as a dance member is attending every scheduled practice and any additional practices. As a dance team, if one member is missing, it can be really hard to improve the dance as a whole."

The dance team starts its season with tryouts in August or early September. Rutherford said, "After you are on the team, you have to try out for each dance that is performed. Since we do different styles of dance, we often have to learn several dances at once. We just wanted to make

sure that each girl performing looks good."

Since the team does not have a coach this year, the team is run by two captains, Megan Skelley and Kirby Martin.

Skelley said, "Being a captain, there are endless obligations. There is financing, working with club sports, making up routines, scheduling performances and keeping the team focused and excited. It can be overwhelming, but it is definitely worth it."

Rutherford said, "I joined the team because I knew I wanted to continue dancing in college, and this is the best opportunity for trained dancers at Georgia Southern. I also wanted the chance to compete, as I have never done that before."

Besides dancing at events and competitions,

the team is required to participate in two community service activities.

Skelley said, "We always enjoy participating in these events. We help provide entertainment for those dedicated fans that come out to support Georgia Southern."

"By participating in things like the Homecoming parade and banner contests, the DooDah step show and basketball games, we try to raise school spirit," said Rutherford.

Off campus, the team holds a dance camp for younger girls every year. At the end of the camp, the girls have the opportunity to perform at the basketball game. Although it is considered a fundraiser, the team enjoys teaching others the skills involved with dancing.

etc.

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Coaching Carousel: What to take from the Monken hire

By Thom Cunningham
Sports editor

COLUMN

After the Eagles' victory over The Citadel, the university announced they would not renew the contract of former head coach Chris Hatcher.

During his three year tenure, Hatcher compiled an 18-15 record without making the playoffs once. The Eagles finished the season with a 5-6 record, only the third time in 28 seasons GSU has finished with a losing record.

On Sunday afternoon, the university announced new head coach Jeff Monken. Monken was with the Eagles for five years between 1997-2001 while helping post a 62-10 record under Paul Johnson.

Monken comes over from Georgia Tech, where he was the slot back coach and the Special Teams Coordinator. During 2003-2007, Monken spent his time at Navy where he was also the Special Teams Coordinator. So what can we take from the Chris Hatcher fire and the Jeff Monken hire?

Despite the departure of Chris Hatcher, many still believe his time at GSU was not long enough. One could argue that three years is not enough time to re-build a program.

Others argue Hatcher's departure was right on time in order to move the program forward. Hatcher didn't make the playoffs with Walter Payton Award winner Jayson Foster and went 5-6 after running off Ohio State recruit Antonio Henton.

Despite which ever way you feel about Hatcher leaving, the Eagles now have a new coach and look to move forward.

Looking at the situation, there seems to be one main reason as to why GSU chose Monken as the new head coach. One reason is believed to bring the triple option offense back to Statesboro. When Monken worked under Paul Johnson at GSU, the Eagles led the SoCon in rushing, making the triple option a dominant component in the Eagles' offense.

For those excited about the triple option coming back to Statesboro, give Monken patience. Looking

at the current roster, the Eagles don't exactly have the right personnel to run this philosophy. That isn't saying the current players are not capable of learning and executing the triple option, but it will take some time before the offense can reach it's full potential of running it.

When the triple option worked for GSU in the past, it wasn't because it was a unique offense or it only worked because of the personnel we had, it worked because the system and players were coached well. Paul Johnson was the offensive coordinator during the national championship years in 85' and 86' before departing to Hawaii. Then during his head coaching tenure from 97' to 01', he put up a 62-10 record running the triple option.

If the university is trying to re-live those successful days, Monken may have been the right hire. This is a coach who has pretty much spent his entire career with Paul Johnson, running the same system every year, despite which team he goes to.

Since Paul Johnson left GSU, he has been at Navy and Georgia Tech, two schools that have ran

the triple option offense with success. The success stems from coaching however. The personnel will come as time goes on, but the success of the triple option offense first comes from the coaching.

Hiring Monken gives a confidence boost to the triple option fans, because he has been running it for so long with a coach who has proven his success at more than one school.

So what can we take from the Monken hire? It seems pretty clear that Monken was hired because of the past success he was involved with when this school's football program was on top.

The fact that Paul Johnson has had success with the same system everywhere he has gone should bring confidence for those excited about the triple option. Now the university brings in a coach who has been with Johnson for almost his entire head coaching career in hopes that he will mirror the success Johnson has had.

The Eagles are looking in the right direction in terms of bringing back the system, but whether Monken can coach it will be answered in the future.

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While you were gone...

Coach Chris Hatcher's contract was not renewed by the university after three seasons as the football Head Coach.

Georgia Tech slot back coach and special teams coordinator Jeff Monken was named the new Head Coach for GSU football.

Eagle football players Markeith Wylie and Brent Russell were named to the All-SoCon Second Team Defense.

Freshmen Brent Russell, Darius Eubanks, Jamere Valentine and Patrick Barker were named to the SoCon All-Freshmen Team.

Women's basketball fell to Colorado and New Orleans during the Omni Hotel Classic hosted in Boulder, Colorado.

Men's basketball wins two out of three games during the Legends Classic hosted in Statesboro, Georgia.

Men's basketball 2010 recruiting class was named best in the SoCon according to ESPN.

Eagles take two during Legends Classic



Rob Eakins/STAFF

Georgia Southern fell to Valparaiso, but defeated Troy and Arkansas-Fort Smith during this weekend's Legend Classic Tournament.

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

The Georgia Southern men's basketball team finished the Legends Classic taking two games to one, winning a well-fought battle over Troy and an extraordinary overtime game against Arkansas-Fort Smith.

Junior guard Willie Powers scored a career-best 27 points and senior guard Antonio Hanson added 20, but it wasn't enough as Valparaiso came away with the 97-89 win at Hanner Fieldhouse. With nine ties and seven lead changes in the first half, the Eagles and Crusaders appeared set to combat, but Brandon Wood scored seven of Valparaiso's next 10 points to give the Crusaders a 47-39 lead at halftime.

Hanson and Powers each hit another three and Rory Spencer completed a three-point play to pull the score within eight with just under four minutes left to play. Trading Eagle baskets and Crusader free throws, the lead went back and forth between nine and 11 during the final minute. A final three-pointer by Powers cut the lead back to seven with 15 seconds left, but a final free throw by Wood put the final margin at eight points.

"We played hard buzzer to buzzer, but there are definitely some things we need to improve defensively," said Coach Charlton "C.Y." Young. "I'm disappointed that we allowed 71 percent field goal percentage in the second half in our last game and 56 percent for the game tonight. Our press got us back in the game, no question. We're continuing to learn more about our team and each game we are playing now prepares us for conference competition down the road."

Saturday, the Eagles ended their four game losing streak against the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith in their second match-up of the Legends Classic. GSU won the game in overtime, 86-77. Senior guard Antoine Johnson took charge of the game and helped lead his team in overtime. "A.J. (Antoine Johnson) carried us defensively and offensively during the most critical times in the game," said Coach Young. "Winning a close game like this will help us more in the long run because it challenged us every minute."

Coming off of four straight losses, the Eagles desperately needed to win this game to build some momentum. The Lions took an early five point lead, as the Eagles started off a bit lackadaisical in the first half, slacking off on their defensive duties.

Arkansas led the Eagles, 31-27 at the half.

The Eagles came out strong offensively at the start of the second half and grabbed the first lead of the game midway through the second half, 46-45.

Hanson nailed a three pointer to put the Eagles back on top, but the Lions came right back to steal the lead. Tyler Troupe quickly added a bucket to put GSU back on top by one.

The Eagles outscored the Lions 41-37 in the second half, but a three pointer made by Arkansas with four seconds remaining sent the game into overtime.

Johnson put the first points on the board in overtime for the Eagles and soon after the Eagles pulled away with a ten point lead in overtime.

Johnson nailed a pair of free throws in the last seconds of the game to seal the win for the Eagles.

Shooting 60 percent from the floor in the final game of the classic, GSU topped Troy, 80-77.

Although the game was in Troy's favor, the Eagles proved that they could hold their own against the Trojans.

Troy won the tipoff and immediately opened with a shot from behind the arc.

Earl on, the Trojans took an early five point gain, but Rory Spencer cut the lead to three with a pair of free throws.

Midway through the first half, GSU went on a 2-0 run and achieved a five point lead, but the Eagles momentum slipped away as the Trojans stole the lead late in the first. Troy led GSU at the half, 32-30.

The Trojans drew blood first at the start of the second half, but the Eagles kept their intensity by continuously fighting to keep the score tied.

Troy took a brief one-point lead off free throws by Delk, countered by a three-point play off a Spencer layup for a one-point Eagle margin. Macon hit two from the charity stripe to push the Trojans ahead, 73-72, until a persistent Drayton rebounded his own missed shot and hit a jumper with 1:16 remaining in the game, 74-73, Georgia Southern.

Troy's Vernon Taylor hit two more free throws countered by two by Powers. Delk, back at the line, gave the Trojans their last lead 77-76 before Powers hit the game-winning jumper. With 1.4 seconds remaining, Troy had a play set, but Delk threw the Troy inbounds pass into the stands. Rucker hit two free throws to seal the victory.

"The benefits of our difficult schedule are beginning to show," said Coach Young. "Last night, we had to grind it out against Arkansas-Fort Smith and because of that, today, everyone in our huddle believed we could win. Ben Drayton and Antonio Hanson really came through for us, Antonio hit a wall, but fought through it."