The George-Anne

January 7, 2010

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New president ready to engage community

GSU President Brooks Keel settles into new office, looks to 2010

By Charles Minshew
Editor-in-chief

For Brooks Keel, the upcoming days and weeks will be spent unpacking his new office in the Marvin Pittman Administration Building and meeting with students, faculty and staff on campus and legislators in Atlanta.

Keel arrived at Georgia Southern Monday morning to begin his duties as the university’s 12th president, and he has already begun to learn the ins and outs of the community.

“It's been pretty quiet around campus right now, so it's given me a chance to sort of get settled and at least learn how to get from my home to the office,” Keel said. "You'd be surprised when you haven't been around here before – it takes time to learn what door you're supposed to walk into. I've walked through a few wrong doors since I've been here, too."

Keel said that most of the work he has done before stepping into the presidency was learning as much as he possibly could about GSU. He said that most of that research was conducted online, and that he wants to learn about the structure of departments and visit around campus.

“How I plan to spend most of my time is getting a chance to go out and meet people, go to the departments, get out of my office as much as I can possibly can,” Keel said. “Hopefully, you won't see me in my office, but you’ll see me across campus.”

In response to the growing student population, Keel feels that the next step is to increase the number of faculty and staff.

Keel said, “Our goal is to try to help alleviate the extra work that faculty and staff are doing by increasing faculty and staff. That is our primary goal over the next several years, is to identify the resources we need to increase faculty and staff.”

Keel said that he has not been made aware of any major issues that need to be addressed right away, noting that the budget cuts have already been a point of discussion in the university.

“I have not picked up on any urgent issues that need to be addressed right away that haven't already been addressed,” Keel said.

See KEEL Page 5

Old Man Winter grips Boro

GSU President Brooks Keel stands in front of the Marvin Pittman Administration Building Wednesday.

By Charles Minshew
Editor-In-Chief

Statesboro could see the first snowflakes of 2010 and the winter season tonight when moisture moves into already frigid Southeast Georgia.

Arctic air that has moved through the United States has had Statesboro in a grip for the past week.

John Quagliariello, a meteorologist in the Charleston, S.C. office of the National Weather Service, said that the deep freeze will continue through Wednesday.

He said that the reason for the unusually long duration of the frigid temperatures is a weather pattern called El Nino. According to the NWS, El Nino is a weather system where warmer Pacific

See WINTER Page 6
The Office of Greek Life is proud to present the following:

**Five Star Chapters**
- Delta Tau Delta
- Phi Mu
- Zeta Tau Alpha

**Four Star Chapters**
- Alpha Delta Pi
- Alpha Omicron Pi
- Delta Chi
- Kappa Kappa Gamma
- Kappa Sigma
- Pi Kappa Alpha
- Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Three Star Chapters**
- Delta Sigma Phi
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Kappa Delta
- Pi Kappa Phi
- Sigma Chi
- Sigma Nu

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

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

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

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World

Friday, January 7th

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World

Monday, January 11th

First day of Spring 2010 Classes
Fee payment deadline for Spring 2010 semester

Tuesday, January 12th

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM Saxophone Studio Recital - Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

Wednesday, January 13th

Intramural Pre-Season Basketball Tournament Entries due
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Communicate with Confidence: Assertive Communication - Nessmith-Lane 2901

Thursday, January 14th

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World
7:30 PM The Elephant Man - Center for Art & Theatre

Friday, January 15th

$100 Late Registration Fee Begins
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World
7:30 PM The Elephant Man - Center for Art & Theatre

Upcoming Events

HONDURAS...Alternative Spring Break Trip
The Office of Student Leadership & Civic Engagement will be offering an Alternative Spring Break to Honduras! If you would like to spend your spring break working with kids in orphanages, helping construct homes for low-income, and spread the word about how great GSU is, please apply for the ASB 2010 trip to Honduras! Applications are available in Student Leadership & Civic Engagement (RU 2024) and will be due on Wednesday, January 13th.
Trip cost will be $500 (includes lodging and transportation, but not food). Passports are required if you are accepted.
Opinions

From the Editor’s Desk

Our wish for Eagles in 2010

The face of the Georgia Southern community has changed as 2009 has evolved into 2010. We have a new university president, a new head football coach, new city mayor and new councilmen. These leaders head organizations that have a great impact upon us as students and as citizens of a city. They will be affecting policy that touches our wallets, our educations and our passions. Some would say that we can only hope for the best. But we can do far more than hope.

These new leaders are learning about our community -- our needs and desires -- through observation and conversations. The first steps to enacting change are to make yourself seen and heard.

We, as students, need to take the initiative and be active members of our community. There are many avenues through which this can be done. Attend city council and student government meetings. Write letters to the editors of local newspapers expressing displeasure with injustice or praise when changes have been made that better the community. Attend sporting events and cheer on our athletes. Volunteer with organizations that reflect your beliefs. Make your mark on the community through participation. Educate yourself about the world that we live in. Your time at a university should not just be spent absorbing facts learned in a lecture.

Apply those facts to your world, and challenge your own beliefs. This might require you to step out of your comfort zone, but you will be a better person for it.

The best time to think about all of these things is now, at the start of a new year. Make it a new beginning, a fresh start. While resolving to do things such as lose weight or change a lifestyle, resolve to be a better person and to help change the world around you.

Our wish for Eagles in 2010 is that we recognize our power as individuals and as a group. With our many voices we can affect change and maintain the community that we are proud to call home.
Wednesday, December 2, 2009
- Officers issued two traffic citations, issued two traffic warnings, assisted five motorists and assisted another agency.
- Two books were taken from a book bag at the Information Technology Building.
- A section of RAM drive was removed from a computer at the College of Education Building.
- A wallet and a cell phone were taken from the Recreation Activity Center.
- A laptop and two Xbox remote controls were taken from Watson Hall.

Thursday, December 3, 2009
- Officers issued eight traffic citations, issued eight traffic warnings, assisted three motorists, assisted one injured person, responded to a drug complaint at Centennial Place and responded to two alarms.
- A phone was taken from the Recreation Activity Center.
- Two laptop computers and a television were taken from Kennedy Hall.
- An ID was taken from a locker at the Recreation Activity Center.
- Someone put food all over a vehicle at University Villas.
- Andrew Scott Riedel, 20, Robin Hood Trail, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol, simple battery, obstruction of an officer and possession of a false ID.
- Wade Alan Harrell, 19, Centennial Place, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol and possession of marijuana.

Friday, December 4, 2009
- Officers assisted nine motorists and investigated two accidents.
- A bookbag was taken from the Math/Physics Building.
- A door was damaged at Southern Courtyard.

Saturday, December 5, 2009
- Officers assisted two motorists and responded to two alarms.

Sunday, December 6, 2009
- Officers issued one traffic warning, assisted one motorist and responded to one alarm.
- A 1994 Chevrolet truck was taken from Southern Pines.

Monday, December 7, 2009
- Officers assisted eight motorists, issued one traffic citation and issued four traffic warnings.
- A book was reported stolen from the College of Business Administration building.
- A book was reported stolen from Henderson Library.
- A bicycle was reported stolen from Southern Courtyard.
- There were two separate reports of theft from the Recreation Activity Center, a wallet and a backpack.
- Christopher Jamal Furby, 18, Georgia Ave., Statesboro, was arrested for aggravated battery.

Tuesday, December 8, 2009
- Officers issued one traffic citation, issued three traffic warnings, assisted nine motorists, assisted another agency and investigated one accident.
- A bicycle was taken from the Forest Drive Building.
- A student ID and debit card were taken from a Georgia Southern University shuttle bus.
- Andrew Albert Tankersly, 20, Lewiston Road, Grovetown, was charged with DUI and minor in possession/consumption of alcohol.

Wednesday, December 9, 2009
- Officers assisted six motorists.
- Taylor Ramon Eich, 19, 221 Lanier Drive, was arrested and charged with theft by taking (misdemeanor) in an incident reported from the library.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the Centennial Place parking lot.
- Officers responded to a fire alarm at Centennial Place. There was no fire; someone had burned food and set off the alarm.
- A student reported two books and a cell phone were taken while she was in the library.
- A bicycle was reported stolen from the racks at Centennial Place.
- A student reported his wallet was taken from the Recreation Activity Center.
- A student reported someone scratched the hood of his vehicle while it was parked in the Eagle Village parking lot.
- A student reported her bookbag missing from the Russell Union.
- A student reported she left her purse containing her wallet and a friend’s wallet on an Eagle Express bus and later discovered someone had used her credit card at an off-campus location.
- A student reported her credit card was used to make several purchases off-campus.


Arrest made in Ogeechee
Tech student’s homicide

By Charles Minshew
Editor-in-chief

During the winter holiday break, an arrest was made in the December murder of an Ogeechee Technical College student at an apartment near the Georgia Southern campus.

The body of Brandi Danielle Davis, 19, of McDonough was found in her Campus Crossings apartment on Dec. 8, 2009. Officers from the Statesboro Police Department responded to a call for a deceased person around 3:40 p.m. that afternoon.

The next day, Bulloch County Coroner Jake Futch confirmed that an autopsy conducted by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crime Lab in Savannah showed that Davis had been strangled.

In the beginning of the investigation, the SPD said that the case was an isolated incident. Two weeks later, Daryl Anthony Priestley, 17, of McDonough, Ga. was arrested on Dec. 22, 2009 in connection with the homicide case.

Priestley, a student at East Georgia College, was arrested in Henry County and transported to the Bulloch County Jail the same day.

According to Sgt. Tarrasha Scarboro with the Bulloch County Sheriff’s Office, Priestley has no bond at this time, and the only charge is murder.

While the police revealed no specific connection between Davis and Priestley, they both graduated from Union Grove High School in McDonough in 2009.

In the time surrounding the incident, students questioned why an Eagle Alert was not issued when the suspect was being sought.

Dean of Students Georj Lewis said that an Eagle Alert is sent out when students are in imminent danger, but authorities said this was an isolated incident.

Some scenarios include tornado warnings and a gunman on campus.

According to Lewis, campus alerts, which are sent out by the Dean of Students office, are e-mail messages that are meant to be proactive.

For example, the office sends out messages reminding students of basic safety tips around times like Homecoming and the beginning and end of semesters.

Lewis said that he is consulted by the Office of Public Safety when sending out a campus alert as opposed to an Eagle Alert.

“Anytime using Eagle Alert, it really needs to be an imminent danger because if we send out an official Eagle Alert and you get a text message and a phone call, and you get two or three of those messages for something that is not imminent, it will dilute the importance of it.”

Although an Eagle Alert was not sent out, Lewis feels that the campus community was safe in the time after Davis’s murder.

“We were confident that none of us were in imminent danger as a result of what happened,” Lewis said. “In this situation, based on the information that we had, I’m comfortable with the way we responded to this situation.”

KEEL

from page 1

Having said that, our enrollment is still increasing, which means our revenue is increasing, which has helped us meet those budget cuts.”

During his open forum visit in September, Keel said that he wanted GSU to become “the flagship university of South Georgia.” He said that those aspirations can only be obtained strategically.

To accomplish some of these aspirations, Keel will meet with state legislators in Atlanta next week to see what they feel is the proper direction for GSU.

Keel also plans to begin meeting with SGA, departments on campus and hopes to schedule a once-a-month, informal lunch at the Russell Union Rotunda where students can voice their concerns directly to the president.

KEEL from page 1

been addressed. The only one that really can come to mind is the budget, and that’s something the university has done a marvelous job of addressing head on since the budget crunch first happened.”

He realizes that budget cuts have greatly impacted GSU and feels that increased enrollment will be able to sustain new positions.

“Obviously, the biggest challenge we have right now is the budget,” Keel said. “There is no question about that. A loss of about $20 million to the budget, roughly 20 percent, has had a significant impact.

Ice lightly lined the lake in front of the Education Building during the morning of Jan. 6. Lower temperatures are expected in the coming days, with the possibility of snow Friday night.

**WINTER**

*from page 1*

Ocean currents affect weather all across the globe.

"El Nino brings colder than normal winters and harder than normal precipitation," Quagliariello said. "Not only has it been cold, but it's been cold in a longer duration."

The fountain in Triangle Park near City Hall had icicles that were at least 3 inches long Tuesday morning when temperatures dropped to the mid 20s. Ice could be found in the pond near the College of Education Wednesday morning as well.

"What we're generally expecting is predominately rain on Thursday," Quagliariello said. "We might see a brief transition to snow and possibly sleet [that night].”

Quagliariello said that there is a possibility for rain-soaked roads to freeze if conditions are right Thursday night through Friday morning. However, he said that the greatest issue with this weather system is the extreme cold and the wind chills.

"The worst of it is going to be the continued cold weather," Quagliariello said. "It looks like the pattern might finally change in the middle of next week."

A chance of snow also exists for Friday night.

"There does appear to be another potential for some snow Friday night into Saturday morning," Quagliariello said. "Better chances will be toward the coast in this event. There definitely will be cold weather in place, but the moisture has to be there."

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**Burglars prey on student absence**

Multiple break-ins reported on, off campus over holidays

By Kelsey Decker
News editor

While most students were spending December off campus for the holidays, there were a couple of confirmed burglaries that happened in on-campus residencies and other burglaries in the apartments surrounding Georgia Southern.

Last month, two burglaries occurred on campus – one at Southern Courtyard on Dec. 19 and one at Sigma Alpha Epsilon on Dec. 15. The cost of the stolen items combined totaled approximately $615.

Off campus burgled locations include Ja Man Caribbean Cafe and The Pointe at Southern, College Vue, Park Place, Stadium Walk and Garden District apartments. The total cost of stolen items from seven reported December incidents was greater, almost $6,000.

Stolen items ranged from televisions and game consoles – including a Wii, an Xbox 360 and a Playstation 3 – to a refrigerator, a dryer and clothing. So far, none of the items have been recovered.

**Basic Burglary Prevention Tips**

- Make your home look occupied while you’re out (leave a light on)
- Lock all doors and windows before you leave for any length of time
- Consider special locks for sliding glass doors and first-floor windows
- Engrave valuable items and don’t leave them in plain sight

The burglaries on campus both involved residences with some of the students out of town at the times the crimes took place, so whether there were more stolen items still remains to be seen.

In most instances, entry to the residences was achieved by forcibly breaking in the door. In the Southern Courtyard case, an officer found the room with the door lock broken off while the residents were not home.

Anyone with information regarding stolen items from on campus should call University Police at 912-478-5234.

**Record-setting engine donated to GSU**

In December, JCB Inc. donated a Dieselmax engine to use in the College of Science and Technology’s renewable energy lab. This engine set a land speed record for diesel-powered cars in 2006. From left to right: Valentin Soloiu, endowed chair of renewable energy; John Pascarella, COST associate dean; Charles Patterson, associate vice president for research; Bret Danilowicz, COST dean; David Turner, JCB Inc. vice president of operations; Martyn Molsom, JCB Inc. engineering manager and Mohammad Davoud, mechanical & electrical engineering technology department director.
By Charles Minshew
Editor-In-Chief

Statesboro’s new mayor and two councilmen were sworn in at the first city council meeting of the year on Tuesday.

Probate Court Judge Lee Deloach conducted swearing-in ceremonies for Statesboro Mayor Joe Brannen, incumbent first district Councilman Tommy Blitch and newcomer John Riggs for the fourth district.

Third District Councilman Will Britt was nominated mayor pro tem by 2nd district Councilman Gary Lewis. The nomination was upheld by a 4-0 vote. Travis Chance was not present.

Before making the nomination, Lewis and Britt joked about division among the city council. Britt feels that his nomination helps unify the council.

‘I’m hoping in April that you will see a council meeting on campus and then every year, we’ll have a meeting on campus.’

Will Britt
City Councilman

On the appointment, Britt said “I’d like to be more involved with the city manager and mayor on directing the agenda, providing some direction for the council.”

As mayor pro tem, Britt will also preside over city council meetings if Brannen is not present.

“I see it as an honor of the other council members saying ‘This guy’s worked. He’s put in his time.’” Britt said.

Britt said that he would like to see more involvement from Georgia Southern’s Student Government Association.

President Samantha Young and Vice President of Auxiliary Affairs Alton Standifer attended the meeting. Britt also said that he would like to see a city council meeting on campus later this year.

Britt said, “At some point, I’m hoping you’re going to see some involvement with people that are here. I’m hoping in April that you will see a council meeting on campus and then every year, we’ll have a meeting on campus.”

Brannen said that he is looking forward to continuing a great relationship with GSU, but is not ready to commit to holding a meeting on campus even if it is one per year.

Brannen said “I’m looking forward to working with the city staff and the employees to do what we can to make Statesboro a good place now, but a better place, operate the government more efficiently and maintain the good relationship that we enjoy now with Georgia Southern.”

Brannen said that he would not want to set a precedent of holding a meeting outside of the chambers out of concern that other groups would also want to hold a meeting in other places. He added that it is something he would consider.

“As far as meeting on campus, I have to give some thought to that. City council is in the city of Statesboro; we’ve got the chambers and everything. We might try to arrange transportation to get students from Georgia Southern to City Hall for the regular scheduled meetings.”

Newcomer Riggs, however, also supports the idea of holding a city council meeting on campus in the future. He feels that the SGA decisions affect the entire city.

“I happened to get a chance to meet the SGA president and one of the SGA vice presidents today,” Riggs said. “I was telling them that I would like them to be involved in someway every city council meeting that we have. I would hope that one of us council members will be able to sit in with them. The decisions they make, directly or indirectly affect most of Statesboro, too.”

The next Statesboro City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 20 at 6 p.m. on the second floor of City Hall. For information about the City Council contact City Clerk Sue Starling at 912-764-5468.
Weekend Wrap

This Month
• 1/2 Price Hot Wings
• Crab Stew $4.99
• Steamed Shell-On Shrimp
  1/2 Lb. - $5.99; 1 Lb. - $9.99
• Oyster Stew $3.99

Every Day: $1 Sweet Tea, 2-5 p.m.

Carey Hilliard’s
340 Henry Blvd. • 912-764-2764

El Sombreros
406 Fair Rd. • 600 Northside Dr. • 879 Buckhead Dr.

Drink Specials -- All 3 Locations
• Thursday: 34 oz. Beer $2 (Domestic Only)
• Friday: 12 oz. Mojito $2 (Frozen Only)
• Saturday: 12 oz. Margarita $2 (Lime Only)
• Monday: 12 oz. Margarita (Lime Only)
• Tuesday: Imported Beer $2
• Wednesday: Domestic Beer $2

Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m.

Every Day:
$1 Wells All Day, $1 Singles; $2 Doubles, Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m.

Food Specials -- Buckhead Location
• Pollo Diablo .......................................... $8.79
• Camarones Al Mojo De Ajo .................. $10.99
• Huevos Con Chorizo ............................. $4.99
• Pollo Con Crema ................................... $8.79
• Tilapia a la Diablo ................................. $8.79
• Pollo Espinacas ..................................... $8.79

Dingus Magees
3 Georgia Ave. • 912-681-3207

Every Day: $1 Wells All Day, $1 Singles; $2 Doubles, Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m.

Welcome Back Eagles!

“If you are under the age of 21, it is against the law to buy alcoholic beverages.”

The Starving College
Student Needs You!
Got a great lunch special?
Share with the rest of us!
Advertise with us! Call ADS at 912-478-5418.

More “Good Time” Money
TEXTBOOK BROKERS
Sell me your books, calculators, and clickers for the most cash
WE BUYBACK ALL YEAR LONG!
912.225.1400
Every Day: $2 Single & $5 Double Wells; $2 Margaritas; $2 House Wines; $6 Pitchers; $3 Martinis

Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m.
with 1/2 Off Fried Pickles, Chips & Dip
• Saturday, Monday & Wednesday: $.35 Wings

Monday through Saturday: Happy Hour
Draft Pint, $2.75; $3 Wells; 1/2 Priced Martinis and Margaritas

Monday through Friday: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Lunch Special Slice Pizza/Salad & Drink for $7.99; $3 Bombs

The Weekend Wrap …
here for you every Thursday!
Schedule for flu vaccine clinics set

H1N1, seasonal inoculations available in Union in Jan., Feb.

By Katherine Kennedy
Managing editor

Georgia Southern Health Services will offer vaccine clinics for seasonal influenza and the H1N1 virus in the Russell Union beginning Thursday, Jan. 14. The clinics are open to GSU students, faculty, staff and retirees.

The clinics will be in Russell Union Room 2041 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the following days: Thursday, Jan. 14; Wednesday, Jan. 20; Thursday, Jan. 28; Thursday, Feb. 4; Wednesday, Feb. 10; Thursday, Feb. 18 and Wednesday, Feb. 24.

According to Medical Director Dr. Brian M. DeLoach, Health Services is geared up to respond to a "third wave" of H1N1 over the winter and spring.

The H1N1 shot will be available free of charge, but there will be a fee for the seasonal influenza vaccine -- $5 for students and $13 for GSU faculty, staff and retirees.

Health Services Head Nurse Carol Howard said that both the nasal and the shot forms of the H1N1 vaccine will be available, but warned that the nasal vaccine is not for everyone.

The nasal vaccine is not for those with chronic health conditions such as asthma or heart disease, Howard said. "It is also not for those under the age of two or for those over the age of 49."

For those interested in both vaccines, Howard said, "The vaccinations can be taken at the same time."

Student IDs will be required to receive the inoculation from Health Services. According to Howard, vaccinations will also be available at the Health Center.

DeLoach encouraged everyone to take advantage of this opportunity.

"Only time will tell if we will see the same, more or fewer numbers than we did in the fall, but we are prepared for a scenario similar to that with which we dealt during the fall," DeLoach said. "This underscores how important it is for all of the GSU community to receive their vaccines."

For more information, Health Service can be reached at 912-478-5641.

Vaccinations available:

- Where: Russell Union, 2nd Floor, Room 2041
- When: All clinics from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Dates: Thursday, Jan. 14; Wednesday, Jan. 20; Thursday, Jan. 28; Thursday, Feb. 4; Wednesday, Feb. 10; Thursday, Feb. 18; Wednesday, Feb. 24
- Fee: H1N1 influenza vaccine -- free of charge; seasonal influenza vaccine for students -- $5, GSU faculty, staff and retirees -- $13
- For more information, call Health Services at 912-478-5641.

While You Were Away...

The George-Anne looks back on the events that made news after the last edition (December 3, 2009) of The George-Anne.

* Brooks Keel moves into president’s office at Marvin Pittman Building
* Approximately 150 GSU students travel to New York on Winter Break trip sponsored by Eagle Entertainment
* Jean Bartels named Interim Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences
* JCB Inc. donates record-setting engine to the renewable energy laboratory in the Allen E. Paulson College of Science and Technology
* New mayor and councilmen take seats
* Cold weather takes hold of region
* Georgia Southern Web site gets overhaul
* GSU named one of the Top Best Values in Public Colleges by Kiplinger

Daryl Priestley charged with murder of Brandi Danielle Davis
Suspect arrested in Henry County, but later transported to Bulloch County Jail.

Bruce Grube serves last day as GSU president
After 10 years of service, GSU President Bruce Grube leaves his post.

Jeff Monken takes reigns of Eagle football
Monken replaces Chris Hatcher as head coach.

Chick-Fil-A Gets Facelift Over Winter Break
For more on their new look, visit GADaily.com on Friday.
The 5 Best Films of 2009

Features editor Ryan Babula takes a look at 2009 and lists his favorites including the best film of the decade.

1) Up In The Air

“Up In The Air” is a film about personal connections, and one man’s realization of the importance of these connections. The film follows Ryan Bingham (George Clooney) as he flies from state to state for a company that fires people from their jobs at wholesale. His only comfort is in the anonymity of traveling from place-to-place and ultimately reaching his goal of ten million frequent flyer miles.

Stuck with the task of training a newcomer to the company (Anna Kendrick), Bingham comes to appreciate the need for people in his life. At once funny, touching and heartbreaking, “Up In The Air” succeeds in reminding us that the most important things in life aren't our accomplishments, but the people we surround ourselves with.

During these trying times, having someone in your corner is the most important thing. “Up In The Air” stresses this point masterfully and stuck with me long after it ended. This is the best film of the year.

2) Inglourious Basterds

Not only is it Tarantino’s best film since “Pulp Fiction,” but it’s a close tie for first on this list. Packed with unbearable tension and a great sense of humor, “Inglourious Basterds” takes WWII history and turns it on its head. It’s also a great love letter to cinema, as it plays a crucial role in the film’s plot. The film boasts great performances from all of its leads, especially Christoph Waltz, who’s sure to be a shoe-in for this year’s Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

3) District 9

Both an intriguing science-fiction parable and a striking political drama, “District 9” is stunning not only in its post-apartheid message, but in its wonderful visual imagery. The alien characters created for the film are some of the best effects of the year, and Sharlto Copley’s improvisational acting is truly impressive.

4) Where The Wild Things Are

What a beautiful film. “Where The Wild Things Are” isn’t so much a film for children as it is a film about childhood. It stresses that the loss of innocence and imagination is one of our greatest tragedies, and the film gives this somber message with a sense of humor and wonderment. Don’t all of us wish to be a child again? “Where The Wild Things Are” wishes for us.

5) Up

If it weren't for the film's first 10 minutes, “Up” probably wouldn't have made it in my top five for 2009. Yes, it’s a great adventure film with a great heart and a lot of excitement, but everything that takes place after the film's masterful opener carries a certain emotional weight to it. It's a great entry to the Pixar canon.

The Best Film of the Decade: There Will Be Blood

Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson (“Boogie Nights”), “There Will Be Blood” is a film that stuck with me for days after I saw it. Following the battle between an oil tycoon (Daniel Day-Lewis) and an evangelical preacher (Paul Dano), the film explores which is the greater evil. Both characters have personal agendas, and the steps they take to overturn the other are hard-hitting and bold. “There Will Be Blood” is a stunning achievement.
Written language as art

The Georgia Southern Museum’s new exhibit showcases the diversity of the written word

By Ryan Babula — Features editor

The Georgia Southern Museum is hosting an exhibit until April 18 about writing systems and the beauty that comes from each one. “Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World” is composed of nine main sections that explore different forms of written language. Ranging from ancient rock art all the way to modern day Braille, the exhibit offers a lot of information that’s presented in an interesting and engaging fashion.

Various facts are provided, such as the difference between petroglyphs and pictographs and how art is used as communication.

One of the most interesting features of the exhibit is its explanation of money and how each form of currency is a marker for that culture’s nationality and pride. It’s sure to make the U.S. dollar a little more interesting.

Within the exhibit is a fun, hands-on feature that allows visitors to try their hand at various languages. One can learn how to draft simple Chinese calligraphy and translate Arabic rubbings. It’s a fun way to expand one’s understanding of various languages, and it’s a great feature for children.

Overall, the “Glyphs and Scripts” exhibit is a fun and informative addition to the Georgia Southern Museum’s already impressive line-up.

The Georgia Southern Museum\'s new exhibit showcases the beauty of handwriting

Submit to the George-Anne

Theatre South, a student-run organization at Georgia Southern, will present “The Elephant Man” Jan. 14-16 at the Averitt Center for the Arts in downtown Statesboro.

“The Elephant Man” is the real life story of John Merrick, a deformed sideshow freak known only as The Elephant Man. Taken from the streets of White Chapel, he is placed in the London Hospital under the care of world-class surgeon Fredrick Treves. As Treves struggles to understand Merrick’s condition, a question soon arises: Is Treves saving The Elephant Man or is The Elephant Man saving Treves?

“This play is a moving piece that makes us reassess what is truly beautiful, what is truly human,” Director Kenneth Wigley said.

This year’s production marks the fifth show that Theatre South has produced with an entirely student-based cast and crew.

The play will be directed by GSU senior Wigley, with John Moran serving as the technical director, Bailey McClure working in scenic design, Amanda Shead working in costume design, J.D. Lane working in lighting design and Elise Shufford working in sound design.

This year’s production is being produced in conjunction with the new Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honor Fraternity at GSU.

Theatre South is a student organization dedicated to providing students with multiple opportunities to engage in the theatrical arts. The organization provides multiple opportunities for its members to participate in numerous areas of the performing arts.

The show runs Jan. 14, 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Emma Kelly Theatre at the Averitt Center for the Arts.

Tickets are $10 General Admission and $5 Student/Child. For more information, please contact Kenneth Wigley at 678-327-9857 or by e-mail at kennethwigley@georgiasouthern.edu.
Free Swing Lessons for anyone interested! Tuesday Nights in the Williams Center, 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Call Michael for more details at 404-695-0045.

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Sudoku

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Level: {2}  \  \  

Solution to Tuesday’s puzzle

176594832 238965174 485732691 916243598 824795163 935827146 674215983 375462819 782491539

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While you were away....

Men's basketball looses eight in a row after Legends Classic, falling to a 3-12 record.

Women's basketball (7-7) looses last two road games to Samford and Chattanooga.

GSU basketball holds $1 admission for Saturday's home games. Women host College of Charleston at 1:00 p.m. while Men host Western Carolina at 3:30 p.m.

Women's basketball re-scheduled it's Dec. 19th game against Western Carolina to Feb. 3rd due to inclement weather.

GSU softball and the Savannah Fastpitch Academy announce they will team up for the Winter Wonder Camp scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 16. This day camp, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., features sessions for players to improve in several areas of the game, including pitching, hitting, slapping/bunting and fielding. Campers will receive instruction time with Abbott and Watley as well as from Savannah Fastpitch Academy's instructors and current Georgia Southern players.

Available to softball players beginning at age 8 through seniors in high school, the Winter Wonder Camp is $120 per player for registration prior to December 31 with a group rate of $100 per player for eight or more players. The fee to attend on the day of the camp is $150. Video analysis will be available, but requires an additional fee. Campers must bring their equipment, water bottles and a sack lunch. The Southern Star All-Star Winter Showcase will begin after the camp concludes.

Abbott is a 2008 Olympic silver medalist and was a member of the All-Women's College World Series team three times. She won the 2007 Honda Broderick Cup award as the top female collegiate athlete in the nation and set career and single-season NCAA records with 189 victories, 2,440 strikeouts, 112 shutouts and 1,448.0 innings pitched. Watley competed for the USA in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics and won gold and silver medals as a member of the national team. A four-time first-team National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American at shortstop for UCLA, Watley was the 2003 Honda Broderick Cup selection as the nation's top collegiate female athlete and has won numerous other international and national honors.

Options are available for participants who previously registered for the 2010 Georgia Southern winter softball camp prior to the announcement of the re-formatted event. These participants will be contacted by GSU softball with additional information.

For more information on the Winter Wonder Camp, or to register, please call Liz Beirne at (912) 531-4943 (Eagle Softball) or Mary Morris at 912-596-8790 (Savannah Fastpitch Academy). Georgia Southern University Athletics camps are open to any and all entrants (limited only by number, age, grade level and/or gender).

Russell wins off-season awards in first year

Freshman Brent Russell continues to win awards, receive honors

By GSU News Service

Southernpigskin.com released its All-Southern Conference team and redshirt-freshman Brent Russell was named the website's Defensive Rookie of the Year. Russell also earned a spot on the 28-man team at defensive tackle. The All-SoCon list included 12 players each on offense and defense as well as four players recognized on special teams.

Russell's performances in 2009 for Georgia Southern made him a first-team All-SoCon selection by the SoCon Sports Media Association and a second-team pick by the league's coaches. He registered 6.0 sacks, good for a tie for 53rd place nationally and was the second-highest ranked freshman in that category.

Russell posted 48 tackles and three blocked kicks and forced a fumble. He also had one interception.

From Comer, Ga., Russell was named the 2009 FCS Freshman of the Year by the College Sporting News.
Facts about using Financial Aid to purchase books:

- No need to write a post-dated check. We apply your purchase directly to your financial aid account.
- The University Store is the ONLY location in which students can use their financial aid reward to purchase books and supplies.
- All students who have been awarded financial aid can use their financial aid by simply presenting their EagleID.
- The HOPE book allowance ($150 for 6 or more credit hours; $75 for 5 or less credit hours) can be used at The University Store.
- If your financial aid award exceeds the amount of tuition and fees you owe (including housing and meals, if applicable), you may use up to $600 of your credit, or up to your refund amount if it is less than $600, to purchase books and related materials.
- Currently, apparel, computers and electronics are not eligible for financial aid purchase.
- If students do not use their HOPE book allowance or the entire amount of their award and do not owe any additional charges, any excess financial aid will be refunded to the student on approximately the 12th day of classes.
- The last day to use financial aid to make purchases at The University Store is January 20, 2010.

Financial Aid includes, but is not limited to, the Georgia HOPE Scholarship book allowance, Federal Pell Grant, and various Federal Loans including the Stafford, Perkins and PLUS loans.

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Open Friday (Jan. 8) 8a-5p and Saturday (Jan. 9) 9a-2p
Women’s basketball finds ups and downs after holidays

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

The Georgia Southern women's basketball team spent the holiday break setting records and earning the third ranking in the SoCon. The Eagles hold a status of 7-7 (3-3).

GSU opened the holiday schedule with a contest against Kennesaw. It was the second time the two teams have met. Last year, the Eagles lost 82-61 in the Convocation Center. Jessica Geiger opened the night with the first two points for GSU, which set the tone for the Eagles early 11-point lead.

In a battle against Florida Atlantic University, the Eagles did not fall short of a win. This was the second time the two teams have met. Last year, that is one of those that you're just thankful for the win.”

The Spartans of UNC-Greensboro handed the Eagles a heartbreaking loss. Despite an 11-point edge in the first half, the Eagles succumbed to the Spartans, 45-42. It was the 31st battle between the Spartans and the Eagles in school history. UNCG leads the series 18-13, although GSU leads the series at home in the past three matchups.

Samantha Williams nailed a three to give the Eagles a much needed one-point lead, but the Spartans tied the game in the middle of the second half at 35 and took over from there.

“They [UNC Greensboro] played a smart basketball game,” said Cram. “It was a poorly played game for us after the first six minutes. Once we stopped hitting baskets, we stopped looking to score. We lost our confidence, and all we can do is put this behind us and get back here tomorrow.”

In a battle against Florida Atlantic University, the Eagles did not fall short of a win. This was the first trip for the Owls as the Eagles have beaten FAU on their home court in the past three matchups.

The Eagles got off to a good start, but some foul trouble early on gave the Owls their first lead of the game by three. A shot from behind the arc drilled by Williams and a pair of free throws by Whitney put the Eagles back on top by one. The Lady Owls hit a buzzer beater shot to give them a one-point edge at the end of the first half.

Sloppy ball handling possessed each team in the opening of the second half, but the Eagles managed to draw blood first. The Owls suffered from five turnovers within the first three minutes of the second half alone. Navarro and freshman Brianna Scott did a little trickery leaving Navarro wide open for a nice lay-up giving GSU an eight-point lead. Whitney's shot from the top of the key put GSU on top by 15. Williams took control of the ball down the court to give the Eagles a 16-point lead.

The Eagles got their groove back and played their game in the second half. They were aggressive, relentless and won the rebound struggle.

“Tonight, we challenged the kids to be more aggressive and not back down against our opponent because that is what people are going to throw at us from now on. And I think they did a great job of that tonight,” said Cram. “We have to continue to get more physical and aggressive as the season goes along.

“I thought Briana Scott did a great job off the bench in the post. It was probably the best performance by her for the year.”

The Eagles are looking to get back into the winning column after suffering two losses to SoCon foes Samford and Chattanooga.

Results / Calendar

MONDAY (1/4)
WRESTLING
Virginia Tech -32 vs. App. State -16

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Elon -73 vs. Davidson -82
Western Carolina -52 vs. App. State -53
Chattanooga -57 vs. GSU -55
Samford -70 vs. College of Charleston -47

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Davidson -66 vs. Samford -56
College of Charleston -82 vs. UNC -79

TUESDAY (1/5)
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Furman -72 vs. Wofford -53

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Western Carolina -124 vs. Berea -53

WEDNESDAY (1/6)
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
App. State (7-6) vs. Richmond (10-4) - 5:00
Davidson (6-7) vs. Longwood (4-12) - 7:00

MEN’S BASKETBALL
App. State (7-6) vs. The Citadel (7-7) - 7:00
GSU (3-12) @ Chattanooga (8-6) - 7:00

THURSDAY (1/7)
WRESTLING
UNC-Greensboro vs. Gardner-Webb -6:00

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Elon (3-10) vs. Furman (7-6) - 7:00
UNC-G (2-11) vs. Wofford (8-7) - 7:00

FRIDAY (1/8)
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Wofford (1-11) vs. UNC-G (5-8) - 6:00

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Samford (6-8) @ Tenn-Temple (6-9) - 8:00

SATURDAY (1/9)
WRESTLING
UNC-Greensboro vs. The Citadel - 11:00a.m.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Davidson (7-8) vs. App. State (7-6) - 2:00
GSU (3-12) vs. Western Carolina (12-2) - 3:30
UNC-G (2-11) vs. Furman (7-6) - 4:00
The Citadel (7-7) vs. CofC (8-6) - 7:00
Elon (3-10) vs. Wofford (8-7) - 7:00