MORNING FATTY COMES TO STATESBORO

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MORNING FATTY
**Statesboro selected as finalists in America’s Best Communities Competition**

**BY CHYNA JAMES**

Statesboro was announced as one of eight finalists in a $10 million campaign, America’s Best Communities (ABC) Competition, and received a prize grant to aid in the creation of the Blue Mile. The America’s Best Communities (ABC) Competition motivates smaller towns and cities to come up with strategies to revitalize their community. Statesboro was awarded a $100,000 prize grant from the sponsors of the competition, which serves as an aid to bring their plans to fruition on the Blue Mile, Statesboro’s revitalization goal.

According to downtown Statesboro’s website, the Blue Mile is the one-mile stretch of US Highway 301 South, or South Main Street, bridging historic downtown to the campus of Georgia Southern University.

Elena McClendon, office manager for the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority, said the main goals of the project have been how to make Main Street great again, and how to bring Georgia Southern students downtown.

“This is the history of our community,” McClendon said. “We want to make our downtown great again.”

There are plenty of major projects in place for the development plan, including arches to greet visitors upon entering the Blue Mile, utility poles with the Blue Mile logo and a statue of Blind Willie McTell, the Piedmont blues singer who wrote the song “Statesboro Blues.”

The top three winners of the competition will be announced in April 2017.

**SRSAC provides support to sexual assault victims**

**BY BLAKELEY BARTEE**

The Statesboro Regional Sexual Assault Center (SRSAC) provides victims of sexual assault with emotional support and advocacy, and it is the only place in Statesboro where victims can undergo a forensic exam.

The forensic exams are conducted by certified nurses who are trained to collect evidence for law enforcement. The nurses are always on call, according to Christie Perry, executive director for SRSAC.

“We are available 24/7 for anybody who needs to talk, anyone who has a question, anyone who needs an exam. We are available at any time and at any day,” Perry said.

The center runs a 24-hour sexual assault crisis line, which provides emotional support and important information to victims and their friends and families.

To prevent victims from facing the daunting world of law enforcement alone, SRSAC provides trained victim advocates, who support and accompany victims throughout the legal process.

SRSAC also offers in-person crisis intervention counseling, information about sexual assault and the healing process and referrals to other social service agencies for further victim support.

All services at SRSAC are confidential and free of charge. Their 24-hour crisis line can be reached at 1-866-489-2555. SRSAC is located on 18 North College Street, near the USPS post office and the Statesboro Humane Society.
Letter from the Editor

CASEY CARGLE

Cargle is a senior public relations major from Marietta, Ga.

Well here we are Georgia Southern, the fall 2016 semester is in full swing and so are operations at The George-Anne. Just as the university is constantly growing, we are as well, and now I have the distinct pleasure of heading up The George-Anne’s new digital division as Editor-In-Chief.

As some of you read earlier in the week, the print division is heading in a different direction in order to make our newspaper a much more valuable source for telling student’s stories. The digital division’s focus also deals with students, but more so by engaging with you every day.

Our goal is to be active on our social media outlets every day listening to what you, the students, are talking about and provide a platform for our community to have conversations about issues concerning our campus.

Other services we will be providing include covering breaking news and current events. We want to keep you up to date on the latest happenings around campus because an informed community is a safer community.

Not only will you be able to find our reporters on the pedestrian every day but also at our new desk in the Recreation Activities Center (RAC) lobby. Here students will have the opportunity to talk with Student Media staff and help us tell your stories and be a part of campus conversation. Whether it be an intramural championship or a trending topic, we are there to hear your thoughts and let your stories be known.

We are digital first, keeping you informed in this fast paced society. I am looking forward to the semester that lies ahead and on behalf of the digital staff I welcome you back to campus. We are here for you and we look forward to telling your stories!

DEVIN CONWAY

Conway is a junior journalism major from Manchester, New Hampshire.

In My Own Words

An Order of Pride With a Side of Prejudice

As Americans, we are continuously consuming everything in sight, and our endless supply of wants are being delivered in an increasingly convenient manner. A latent consumerism has come to dominate our daily lives, with every possible human desire and emotion being exploited for financial gain.

We even have our sense of national pride reinforced by highly commercialized and carefully crafted narratives about our troops and our athletes embodying American ideals.

The Olympics offers us an opportunity to be patriotic in a safe and profitable environment. America’s dominance becomes nothing more than a testament to Good triumphing over Evil in predictable fashion.

There seems to be this strange misconception that our excellence on the world’s competitive stage is nothing but an extension of our excellence in all aspects of life. If we can somehow find a way to be concerned with diplomatic solutions to our political, cultural and economic problems as we are our athletics, we may be able to pass the torch to future generations with the world still intact.

Opinions

Letter from

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To contact the creative manager, email prodmgr@georgiassouthern.edu
GS BOOKSTORE VS. ONLINE
Where are the textbooks?

BY TAISHA WHITE
Bytaisha@georgiasouthern.edu

At the beginning of each semester, one question runs through every student’s mind: where am I going to get my textbooks? With the closing of Gray’s College Bookstore this past summer, the Georgia Southern University community has two options left in the textbook purchasing department: The University Store and online vendors. Both options have their pros and cons.

The University Store
After the closing of Gray’s, the University Store became for most of the GS community, the only local resource when it came to purchasing textbooks. Brooke Salter, University Store textbook assistant manager, hopes that the preparation will ease up the process of purchasing books.

“One of the things we did in preparation for fall is kind of build in an extra buffer for that number that we expected to have; you know an influx to accommodate with Gray’s closing,” Salter said.

Salter also recognizes the online competitors as the biggest threat to the store, but credits service as giving them an upperhand to the competition.

“I think one of the most valuable resources in the University Store is our student workers. They really can give advice and connect when they are helping people shop or when they are checking out,” Salter said.

Although the store has its positives, there are some negatives as well. In most cases, the first few weeks of school at the store are engulfed in long lines and large crowds. In a time where most students may be in need of the same book, there may be a case of the book being sold out.

Also, for those waiting for financial aid refund checks, most of the time, they do not come until two weeks, to a month after school has begun. In some cases, if the book is needed immediately, some students may have to pay out of pocket in order to have the book on time.

Online Competition
The online department in the textbook world has become a very popular tool over the past few years. Students and non-students across the world are able to use websites such as eBay and Valorebooks.com to purchase textbooks, as well as other school items, at a sometimes cheaper rate than local options.

In some cases, online stores offer extra additional perks when one is about to purchase their items. Examples include free shipping and codes for discounted prices. Amazon Prime offers unlimited streaming of movies and TV when becoming a member. Other stores, such as Chegg, offer homework assistance and study guides for certain subjects.

“You can get Amazon Prime to ship you a book within two days. That’s about as fast as you are going to get from the bookstore. So when it’s also about a tenth of cost, it’s a better option,” Victor Cauffield, senior biology major, said.

With all of these positives, there are a few negatives as well. Additionally, with online purchasing, some used books will not come in the best quality or shape because one is not able to have an item right in front of them. Some websites have even come across as fraud.

Since there are so many online options, most students would only recommend the usage of the University Store only if the book is exclusively found in the store or if there is an access code required.

Michelle Daly, junior writing and linguistics major, feels that although the University Store has its perks, one should not shy away from the online options.

“For certain books, yes. The quality of the books there are usually really good. They don’t have really any fully or messed up books and the pickup is really nice,” Daly said. “I would definitely recommend shopping online to see if there are any cheaper options.”

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To contact the news editor, email ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu
After five years of leading the Southern Pride marching band, Colin McKenzie has left Georgia Southern University to become the director of the Pride of Mississippi marching band at the University of Southern Mississippi. “I will most miss the wonderful students with whom I had the privilege of working with every day. They made my Georgia Southern experience incredibly special,” McKenzie said in an email to the George-Anne.

During McKenzie’s time at Georgia Southern, he was the director and administrator of all of the aspects of the Southern Pride marching band and Hoop Troop athletic bands. McKenzie also assisted with management of the Georgia Southern University Band program. “McKenzie was always very good about expressing the clear vision of the band,” Tim Kintzinger, assistant director of bands and athletic bands, said. Kintzinger has been an assistant director for three years and has never worked under another marching band director. As far as he is concerned, everything will be the same for the marching band. “Business is as usual. Nothing has changed and nothing will change for probably the next two years,” Kintzinger said. “A decision has been made that everything will remain the same.”

There will not be any major introductions or changes to any large scale traditions. On June 28, the Georgia Southern University Southern Pride Marching Band announced in a Facebook post that Derek Shapiro would be the interim associate director of bands and director of athletic bands. He was selected by a committee through a national search. Shapiro comes from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and currently has his doctorate in conducting.

Trevor Goody, senior music education major, was very emotional when he learned that McKenzie would not be returning. “[McKenzie] was a father figure to me while I was away at school. I could freely talk to him about life problems, musical questions, or just sit in his office and share a laugh or two,” Goody said. “Even with McKenzie at [the] University of Southern Mississippi, we are still continuing on the path he set for us to grow into an amazing ensemble.”

Many other band students share Goody’s feelings about the loss of McKenzie. “Dr. McKenzie was one of my favorite professors. He was not only my professor but he was a mentor, father figure, counselor, adviser and most importantly, friend,” Oluwatito Osibodu, second year graduate assistant, said. Osibodu serves the band in a multitude of ways. He corrects and encourages band members on the field during rehearsals and also assists and conducts the concert bands here at the university. Osibodu says that McKenzie’s absence really hit him during band camp. “It really hit me during band camp this past week when we first played one of my favorite pieces and I was looking for the giant smile he always gives at the climax of the piece and it never happened,” Osibodu said.

McKenzie understands how many of the band students might feel and wishes that the one thing the band remembers about him is their ensemble experience. McKenzie said, “I want [the band] to take away an appreciation for the process and pursuit of excellence in all things.”

BY TANDRA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

The members of the Southern Pride Marching Band are playing on the field. McKenzie said he was privileged to have watched them learn and grow.

By Cristen Guillatt

The George-Anne staff

The Southern Pride Marching Band is playing on the field. McKenzie said he was privileged to have watched them learn and grow.
It starts with a bluesy guitar lick. The pre-chorus builds with shouts that sound like a punk rock call-to-action. All the while, a reggae groove defines the song. These sounds unite in Florida band Morning Fatty’s song “Street Pharmacist.”

The band’s sound and members have both changed, as the band evolved from a 12-piece ska-punk band to the reggae-funk quartet they are today.

Morning Fatty’s journey began with one high schooler. Bassist John Pop started the band in 2004. Most of those Pop recruited for Morning Fatty were already in his high school’s marching band, which lent itself to playing together.

Andrew White, lead vocalist, moved to Pop’s high school in 2006 and took over singing duties.

Around the same time, band members began graduating and moving away. In 2007, Pop would himself move to Gainesville, Florida.

The band broke up the following year but began anew in 2010. That same year, Miller Joyner, the current guitarist, joined. Morning Fatty was then essentially a new band, only sharing a name with the old version of the band.

Morning Fatty was well on its way to becoming the medley of music that it is today. That metamorphosis would not be complete, though, without drummer Tim Mulberry, who joined the band in June of 2015.

Previous to joining Morning Fatty, Mulberry travelled with the Black Eyed Peas as the drummer for their world tour.

“It was exciting to get the opportunity to travel the world with them. It was definitely a learning experience and taught me the true meaning of excellence in music,” Mulberry said.

According to White, the drummer added a new dynamic to Morning Fatty’s existing sound with his background and experience, along with raising the bar on the band’s standard of excellence.

Coast tour in 2013. The inaugural adventure allowed the band to cross “band tour” off their bucket lists.

“We had a heat up 1993 Econoline van with no AC and no heat. We also endured the hell that is New Jersey summer with no AC in the van. It built character, made us humble and gave us an infinite amount of drive to keep progressing,” Pop said.

Fast-forward to now. Morning Fatty has finished eight national tours in 40 states as well as a tour in the Virgin Islands.

“We tour in a 32-foot RV with three AC units. We will never forget our roots,” Pop said.

Another perk of touring is exploring new cultures and micro-cultures. The way people act in California is very different than Iowa and Georgia, according to Joyner.

“We’ve had people thank us before...
shows letting us know that our music gets them through their day. That's what matters most,” Joyner said.

The Morning Fatty members have similar sentiments about the creative process and sharing their music.

“Everyone brings something to the table and we create new songs as if one person was writing it. There’s no better feeling than showing up to a city thousands of miles from home and seeing someone sing along to one of your songs,” Mulberry said.

The band is currently working on their next full album, which is scheduled to release in January 2017. Two songs, “Odysseus” and “Islander” are being mixed now and will be released later this month.

Pop said, “I played my first show when I was 15 and fell in love with the stage. I was always serious about music but had no idea it would form into the power quartet we are today.”

Morning Fatty will play in Statesboro for the first time tonight at Dingus Magee’s. The show will start at 9:30 p.m., and there will be a $5 cover.
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The first game of the 2016 college football season is still a few weeks away, but it’s never too early to start looking ahead to the upcoming Sun Belt conference season. Over the next few issues leading up to Georgia Southern’s (GS) opening matchup against Savannah State University on September 3, we’ll help you get familiar with key players, storylines, schemes and opponents that will headline the first season of a new era for GS football.

Today, we’ll start with an outlook of the Sun Belt Conference. Teams in alphabetical order. All stats compiled from ESPN and Sun Belt databases.

**APPALACHIAN STATE**

Star Players: QB Taylor Lamb, LB John Law

2015 conference record: 7-1

The Mountaineers look like one of the most complete teams on paper. They return a potent offense led by Preseason First-Team QB Lamb. The dual threat junior will once again lead a stacked backfield with running backs Marcus Cox, Jalin Moore and Terrence Upshaw looking to build off a strong 2015 campaign. All four rushed at least 400 yards, and Cox finished with 1423 on the ground.

Defensively, they have two monsters at linebacker in Law and junior Xavior Begg. The duo combined for 18 tackles for a loss last season and will look to wreak havoc in the opponent’s backfield again. Cornerback Latrell Gibbs will try to make plays on the outside. He picked off a team-high seven passes last season.

App State is good enough to win the Sun Belt, and should finish near the top of the league barring a catastrophe.

**ARKANSAS STATE**

Star Players: WR Dijon Pachal, DE Ja’Von Rolland Jones

2015 conference record: 8-0

The reigning Sun Belt champs will be relying on their stellar defense to defend their title this season. They boast a ferocious defensive line, with Waylon Robinson and his massive 6’2”, 338 pound frame filling the center. Alabama-transfer Dee Liner will provide playmaking and depth at nose tackle, and their defensive ends will punish opposing offensive lines. They return three studs at linebacker, and should get enough contributions from the secondary to form a complete defense.

After winning four conference titles in five seasons, the Red Wolves will look to reaffirm their status as alpha dog in the Sun Belt. They’ll need to find a reliable option at QB to reach their ceiling on offense.

**GEORGIA STATE**

Star Players: WR Penny Hart, DE Mackendy Cheridier

2015 conference record: 5-3

Georgia State (GSU) will look to carry the momentum from their first bowl appearance (which they lost) and try and put together their first winning season since joining the FBS. Star QB Nick Arbuckle is gone, and now they have to find a way to replace his 4483 total yards and 34 total touchdowns from last season. They have a pair of stud wide outs in Hart and Robert Davis who can make plays and create chaos in opposing secondaries. They just have to find someone to get them the ball.

The defense returns a lot of starters from last season, which helps. But when you weren’t that good to begin with, does it really matter?

They’ll win some games, but shouldn’t really threaten the top of the league. Earning another bowl berth would be another step forward for the program.

**GEORGIA**

Star Players: WR Jermaine Burton, DE Cory Johnson

2015 conference record: 6-6

The Bulldogs look like a different team this season. They return most of their starters from last season, which was 92-yard scamper. QB Aaron Murray will be back under center, and he should help the offense put up big numbers.

Their defense actually finished fourth in the league in total defense last season. They gave up just 243 points and second in passing last season, and with the steadily improving logistics: New Mexico is not geographically far away, the Bulldogs should have a lot of success.

**IDAHO**

Star Players: K Austin Rehkow, QB Matt Linehan

2015 conference record: 3-5

The Vandals have just two seasons remaining in the Sun Belt. Their membership expires after 2017, and they will likely head to the FCS. Their offense actually finished fourth in points per game and second in passing last season, and with the steadily improving Linehan at the helm, that should largely remain the same. They return multiple starters on the outside and on the line, which should help the offense put up big numbers.

While the offense will be fine, the defense is another question entirely. They finished 10th in the league in total defense, and not much suggests that will change. But hey, they have probably the best kicking specialists in the conference in Rehkow. That counts for something, right?

Idaho won’t be a pushover, and its passing game is lethal. But don’t expect too much from the Vandals as their Sun Belt tenure comes to a close.

**NEW MEXICO STATE**

Star Players: RB Larry Rose III, LB Terrill Hanks

2015 conference record: 3-5

NMSU is another school on its way out of the Sun Belt. Part of this is because of logistics: New Mexico is not geographically close to the rest of the league. The other part is that they’ve gone 7-29 in the last three seasons.

One huge positive for the Aggies is Rose III. He’s one of the best running backs in the nation and capable of taking any carry to the house. He finished with a league-high 1601 yards from scrimmage and 14 touchdowns on the ground. If the passing game can be decent enough to keep defenses from stacking the box, he could put up similar numbers.

Rose III is the Preseason Offensive Player of the Year for a reason. He’ll be nasty on the ground and could help spark a few upsets for the Aggies this season.

**SOUTH ALABAMA**

Star Players: TE Gerald Everett, CB Jeremy Hanks

2015 conference record: 3-5

While the off ense will be fine, the defense is another question entirely. They finished 10th in the league in total defense, and not much suggests that will change. But hey, they have probably the best kicking specialists in the conference in Rehkow. That counts for something, right?

However, the Jaguars finished dead last in total defense last season. They gave up an average of 37 points per game. The front seven had more holes than a box of donuts all season, giving up 221 rushing yards a game.

There’s hope that USA can get the six wins to earn a bowl berth, but they’re going to need a lot more from the defense to reach that goal.

**TEXAS STATE**

Star Players: QB Tyler Jones, LB Karree Berry

2015 conference record: 2-6

This season has potential to be a very long one for the Bobcats. After losing starters at virtually every position, including running back, wide receiver, offensive lineman and the secondary, there will be a lot of new faces on the field this season.

This preview is short, because honestly, there’s not a lot going on here. Jones will be responsible for generating a lot of the scoring on offense, barring he doesn’t lose the starting gig to QB Eddie Printz and the new guys on defense will have to step up quickly.
good, and the offensive line returns a fair amount of experience and talent, which should help. However, Troy needs some playmakers to emerge at the skill positions to help open up the offense.

The defense returns a lot of experience, which should help a unit that was pretty good, but still leaky enough to give up 28 points per game. They’ll succeed on the field.

The Trojans lost four games by less than 10 points last season, meaning if they can reverse their luck in close games, their win total could take a significant leap.

Star Players: RB Elijah McGuire, S Tracy Walker

2015 conference record: 3-5

ULL lost its final four games of 2015, giving fans and the team a sour taste heading into the offseason. They dropped a pair of close games to NMSU and USA before putting up duds against App State and Troy to end the season.

There was a lot of instability on the field, evidenced by the fact that three different quarterbacks saw significant snaps during the campaign. Finding some consistency at that position will go a long way in easing the offensive burden off do-it-all running back Elijah McGuire. He ran for 1000 yards and added 300 more in the air with 16 total touchdowns.

ULL should return to its winning ways in 2016, if they improve on defense and find a consistent QB.

Star Players: S Tre’ Hunter, WR Marcus Green

2015 conference record: 1-7

ULM has had just one winning season since entering the Sun Belt in 2001. Don’t expect that to change this season. Trips to powerhouses Oklahoma and Auburn along with road games against CSU, Arkansas State, App State and CSU makes for a brutal schedule.

The bright spot is all the experience returning on offense. The top options from last season at QB, RB and WR, along with most of the offensive line will be back. That will help with chemistry and could expedite the rebuilding process.

This will be a young Warhawk team. While that probably won’t translate to enough wins to go to a bowl, it should give those players lots of experience heading into future seasons.

Check back next Tuesday and Thursday for a comprehensive preview on the Eagles. Teaser: They’ll be pretty damn good.
UPCOMING STUDENT EVENTS

UPB Events

FRI. AUGUST 26th
Now You See Me 2
9PM @Sweetheart Circle

TUE. AUGUST 30th
Mind-Reader/Mentalist
Chris Carter
7PM @Russell Union Ballroom

Bring your Eagle ID!

OSA Events

TUE. AUGUST 23rd
Boro Browse
11AM-2PM @Russell Union

TUE. AUGUST 24th
Student Organization Fair
11AM-1PM @The Rotunda