The George-Anne

September 1, 2016

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SEASON OPENER

The era of Tyson Summers begins this Saturday
Pages 12-14

REMEMBERING BLAKE SHURLING
PAGE 6

GS FRATERNITY EARNS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARD
PAGE 10
Looks like we’ll be enduring the rain for a few more days, but it should let up in time for the weekend.

Consent:
- Is voluntary willingness
- Is mutually agreed upon
- Is free of pressure
- Is not drunk or high
- Is not implied based on previous consent
- Is not silence
- Is not assumed in the absence of resistance
- Is needed for each sexual act
- Can be withdrawn at any time for any reason

Have you been living under a rock?

The Circle has got you covered for this week’s news and entertainment.

Southern Spotlight: It-Girl Teresa Johnson wows as up-and-coming model

BY ALEXANDRIA RICHBOURG

This week we’re shining our spotlight on Georgia Southern’s very own Teresa Johnson. This senior writing and sociology major is more than just the regular college student; she is a fashion model on the rise. An aspiring model, Teresa Johnson is gaining ground to become the ‘It-Girl’ of Georgia Southern. She is the definition of a young woman who is passionate, driven and determined to get what she wants and where she wants to be.

“I believe in starting from the ground up and I’m pretty tenacious,” Johnson said. With her passion for modeling blooming early, Teresa knew from a young age that she enjoyed fashion as an art form. Originally from Virginia, Johnson moved to Statesboro, Ga. when she was ten-years-old and has lived and attended school here ever since.

“It started when I was fourteen, well actually thirteen and I actually really liked photography more. Around that time I started discovering fashion shows and I was like, ‘I want to do that.’ It was inspiring,” Johnson said.

Inspiration is key when you are passionate about your dreams. That is why Teresa looked up to supermodels like Joan Smalls and Karlie Kloss. Women who took control of their lives, careers and who set examples for young girls with a dream, much like herself.

“Joan Smalls inspires me the most because she went to school and she was the first [latina] woman to be the face of Estee Lauder and you know, she worked her way up to now being one of the highest paid models in the world and I love that,” Johnson said. “Also, Karlie Kloss because she’s so intelligent and she’s so sweet.”

Starting from the ground up, Johnson has been determined to fulfill her dreams and hasn’t taken no for an answer throughout her quest to be the woman she envisions.

“Kloss shows that you can be more than ‘just modeling.’ You can do so much and still have a career and a passion,” Johnson said.

In 2014, Johnson got the opportunity to walk in Savannah Fashion Week, an event that signified the beginning of her career. Soon after, the 3 BlackBird Management model went after opportunities to walk in Charleston Fashion Week twice, and most recently, New York Fashion Week to walk for designer Anna K.

“Basically I did everything on my own. I was with an agency before 3 BlackBird and it was in Savannah, Ga. That’s how I found out about the job with Savannah Fashion Week. I didn’t stay with them very long. I kind of did freelancing stuff by myself, then I did a show that I found out through Instagram, which is kind of funny because the designers were from New York and all the [models] that were there, were all signed. That’s how I met the agents at 3 Blackbird,” Johnson said.

Having a goal, going for what she wanted and not letting fear stop her, turned out well for Johnson.

Johnson said, “It was just a blessing. You know, you expect to do well whenever you’re working hard for something but you don’t really assume that, ‘my dreams are going to come true,’ that fast.”

For the rest of the article, please visit reflectorgsu.com
Thoughts of a First Time Voter

MATTHEW ENFINGER

Enfinger is a sophomore writing and linguistics major. This is a guest column.

With Clinton to the left of me and Trump to the right here I am stuck in the middle with you all. As I stare at my computer screen I witness posts stating “Clinton said this about Trump” and “Trump said this about Clinton” although it might seem annoying, this is the normal part. Everyone always expects a good mud-slinging contest when it comes to politics.

But, what shocks me is that when I look up from my computer from these social media posts, I realize that the inappropriate behavior doesn’t end with the candidates. Everyone is now in it arguing and bickering for end with the candidates.

As a first time voter the following questions have run into my mind:

How did we get here?

How did we get to the point when fixing a problem led us to destroying each other? How did attempting to find peace lead us to war with each other?

I believe that this campaign is leading to a country of “us vs. them” instead of “we are all in this together.”

So my fellow Americans, I challenge you all as this campaign comes to a close, unlike our candidates, let us seek out the disagreements and differences between the parties and find helpful solutions to them. The old saying will always remain true: “United we stand. Divided we fall.”

Think about it.

DEVIN CONWAY

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

Kaepernick Takes A Stand By Remaining Seated

Prior to the start of the 49ers-Packers preseason matchup, 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick chose to remain seated on the bench during the National Anthem while the rest of his teammates stood together on the sideline.

After the game, Kaepernick fielded questions about his decision.

“I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppressed black people and people of color. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder,” Kaepernick said.

This minor act of protest has quickly become a hot button issue and has sparked a national debate.

Kaepernick’s decision somehow turned into a hysterical dialogue about patriotism, the sacrifices our troops have made for us all and the ridiculous amount of money that Kaepernick is paid to play the game of football.

Kaepernick is well within his constitutional rights to protest anything he has a problem with, and if genuinely believes anyone has a problem with, and if genuinely believes that people of color are being systematically oppressed in this country, he has a moral obligation to use his platform to bring light to the issue.

It’s really quite funny to see the people that come out of the woodwork any time the troops are mentioned, as if it is their civic duty to defend the honor of our servicemen and servicewomen.

The mental gymnastics that are required to contort each and every form of dissent or protest against our country or any perceived injustices that occur within it is absolutely staggering.

It’s an interesting psychological phenomenon to watch unfold in real time; there are a number of people who are generally indifferent to their responsibilities as citizens of this country that will continuously virtue-signal about their patriotism when everyone else is talking, but fall silent or even try to silence others, when it truly is time to speak up.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County.

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 912-478-5268 or at gauel@georgiasouthern.edu.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising. Inquiries may be made by calling 912-478-5268 or 912-478-5268. For questions about advertising rates, contact the advertising manager at gauel@georgiasouthern.edu.

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5. Big mess
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7. Butcher’s offering
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12. Author Levin
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14. Broadway dancer
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16. Short flight
17. Scoff at
18. Ready to pluck
19. Nickname
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Homelessness on GS’ campus
Finding resources a struggle

BY TANDRA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University is home to many things, but according to a 2013 report by the National Alliance to End Homelessness’ website, the school might be home to something else entirely: homeless students.

Over 56,000 college students reported that they were homeless on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). That number is more than double the total number of graduate and undergraduate students that were enrolled at Georgia Southern University in 2015, at 20,459.

GS and Homelessness

Though it is unknown just how many homeless students attend class at GS, there is likely at least one student among the more than 20,000 students that attend classes here that has no place to stay and also has to juggle attending classes and studying. There are very little on and off campus resources for current students that are potentially homeless according to Mark Whitsel, associate dean for student advocacy.

“There are limited resources in Statesboro for people. Part of state institution stuff is that they’re very restricted on what kind of benefits [the university] can give out,” Whitsel said. This fact, however, could be changing. Earlier this month, Kennesaw State University (KSU) opened up emergency housing for students at risk of homelessness. Students are able to stay in a one bedroom apartment for up to 14 days, according to the AJC.

When asked if he thought GS would be interested in opening up housing like KSU, Whitsel would be interested in opening days, according to the AJC.

Students are able to stay in a one students at risk of homelessness. opened up emergency housing for Kennesaw State University (KSU) can give out,” Whitsel said.

Not only is housing a problem, but so is food. The Dean of Students office has seen a couple of students that have requested aid for food, rather than housing.

“I’m aware of maybe two or three cases in the last year where [lack of food] was a piece of someone’s situation as well. I wouldn’t say that I’m aware of a large number but I would say that students have other issues. There are situations out there [the Dean of Students office] might not know about,” Whitsel said.

Eagles for Eagles Program

Although there is a lack of resources in Statesboro for homeless students, there is a program geared towards giving emergency funding to student who are in need, and this could be put towards housing. It’s called the Eagles for Eagles program. Run by Solomon Crawford, graduate assistant for Eagles for Eagles, the program is a Student Government Association (SGA) initiative that has been around since the 2011-2012 school year.

“(Eagles for Eagles) was created to aid students financially through their hardships while they are students here at Georgia Southern. We pretty much, without all the fancy names and titles, help students financially,” Crawford said. Students are allowed to apply for up to $1000 in emergency aid to go towards whatever they need money for at the time.

“If you apply and get [money] for the fall and you try and apply for the spring to get [money] again, it doesn’t work like that. We hope that [requesting aid] is one time your whole college career because it is a hardship,” Crawford said.

The aid doesn’t show up as apart of your financial aid package, rather it depends on where the aid is going. For example, if the money will be used for paying off a balance on a student account, individuals in the program will contact the appropriate office and make sure that the money makes it to the right place.

The most important thing about the Eagles for Eagles’ program is that it is fully funded by students. Even GS events, such as GS Idol and Doo-Dah Step Show, have given 100 percent of their proceeds to the Eagles for Eagles program, according to Crawford. So have various Greek organizations.

“We don’t try and reach out to alumni because they already give to the university as a whole. Everything that we use is from students,” Crawford said.

In the future, Crawford would like Eagles for Eagles to expand even further. Crawford said, “We would like for the [program] to grow to where everybody knows about it. Really branding it to the whole campus because if we could really get the word out there and every student on this campus gave a dollar, we could have 20,000 plus dollars in the account.”

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE EAGLES TO EAGLES PROGRAM

1. Go to students. georgiasouthern.edu/sga
2. Click on the Eagles for Eagles tab
3. Scroll down to “Can I apply for an Eagles for Eagles award today?”
4. Click on Eagles for Eagles Application
5. Fill it out and return completed form to the Office of the Dean of Students

To contact the news editor, email ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu
Students Remember

“I’ve known Blake since before or at pre-k at Brentwood School of Sandersville. It was a small town and small school. Everyone knew everyone. Blake was well liked by everyone. I can’t think of a single person that didn’t like him. If they said they didn’t like him, they were lying. Blake always played sports. We were apart of the baseball team that won state back to back in 2012 and 2013. We both graduated from Brentwood in 2014. He was just a really good genuine guy.”

Caleb Brooker
Junior computer science major

“Blake was the best thing that ever happened to me. He was the sweetest boy I ever met, and he loved me more than I deserved. You have no idea how much I’ll miss him.”

Rebecca McGahee
Junior education major

“Thankful I got the chance to know ya Blake. Rest easy buddy, and keep the Shurling family in your prayers.”

Dalton
@Dalton_Hughes10

“Angelica Conception, junior business major, posted on her Facebook about Blake.

“Hey Blake, it’s me Angelica your real girl friend!!!!!! (This is where you would normally wave and say HEY ANGELICA!) Words can’t describe how much you will be missed!! You are the kind of man one day I hope to find. You always found a way to put a smile on everyone’s face around you and make the best out of every situation! All my love goes out to you and your loved ones! We won’t be the same with out you! (But also can I just tell you how upset I am with you that you left me here to deal with Rebecca McGahee all by myself!!!!!!) Promise me we will still ride four wheelers in heaven! I love you Blake!”

Angelica Conception, junior business major, posted on her Facebook about Blake.

“That boy was so dang loved and the sweetest thing that ever happened to our family.”

Kelly McGahee
Senior public relations major
Lot 21 expands to meet rising parking demands

A new parking lot has been put in place behind the University Store at Georgia Southern University this year to accommodate the growing demand for parking spaces. Lot 21, previously a much smaller lot, has been expanded by GS to provide another lot to keep up with the high demand for parking passes this semester.

“Demand is definitely up. We are seeing record numbers on our waiting lists,” Kristi Bryant, director of Parking and Transportation, said.

According to Bryant, lot 21 has been undergoing renovations for nearly a year, and now functions as a regular parking lot.

Within the next couple of months, GS will be expanding the other side of the parking lot that lot 21 is currently in. These renovations will create more spaces for the ever-growing amount of commuting students.

“I think it would help a lot to have more parking, especially since people would be more likely to bring cars to school if there was more parking,” Danny Leveti, freshman athletic training major, said.

Students who live on campus are guaranteed a parking space in their dorm parking lots. Commuter lots, like lot 21, are reserved for students who live off-campus.

Parking and Transportation are doing everything in their power to work through every student currently on a waiting list for a parking space, according to Bryant.

GS student dead after incident

According to WSAV, official released the following statement: “The Georgia Southern University community is saddened to learn of an off-campus incident that resulted in the accidental shooting death of one of our students, Blake Kenneth Shurling. The Bulloch County Sheriff’s Office notified Georgia Southern police that they are investigating. Our thoughts are with the friends and families during this time. Counseling is available for our students as we all grieve this tragedy.”

Anyone with further information on this case should contact Cpt. Todd Hutchens at (912)-764-1787 or submit an anonymous tip to tips@bullochsheriff.com.

GS student dead after incident

BY MEG ELWOOD
The Georgia-Anne Staff

Georgia Southern student Blake Shurling was found dead on the scene on Planters Lane from a gunshot wound at 2:20 a.m. on Wednesday.

Colton Weatherford, also a GS student, was taken into custody after an investigation and charged with: involuntary manslaughter, reckless conduct and discharging a firearm while under the influence.

Both students were 20-years-old and well acquainted with each other. According to the Bulloch County Sheriff’s office, alcohol is believed to have played a part in the incident. Weatherford currently remains in the Bulloch County Jail awaiting further judicial hearings.

BY GEORGE ANDERSON
The Georgia-Anne Staff

Lot 21, located right behind the University Store was created to help reduce the high demand for parking spaces.
GS students balance their studies while looking for work

BY BAILEY ADCOCK
The George-Anne Staff

The early months of the semester are busy months for Georgia Southern University students, who are hard at work with the beginning of classes, but also lacking of money. Coming back to campus means coming back to being broke for many college students. Finding a job in a college town can be intimidating and a competitive process. There are multiple ways for college students to earn money while earning their degree.

One such way is starting your own business. Cheyenne Zebeau, junior fashion merchandising major, uses her creativity in her online business. “I’ll be the first to admit I’m not the best marketer. I have never been a big fan of asking people to buy things. However, I love the idea of being my own boss.”

Zebeau uses the online site Etsy to sell her designs and handmade pieces. “I’ve learned that running your own business is not easy balancing six college courses, a shop and keeping up with his business. There are many challenges in running a small business while in college courses, a shop and maintaining a social life on top of all of that. It takes time, dedication and a whole lot of frustration.”

“At first I thought it would be a lot of work but I love it! I love being my own boss.” Zebeau said.

People learn through stories. So whether you’re recruiting new members, asking others to attend your events or trying to sell your products, telling your story is a key component of being a success. Your story can be an inspiration to others, motivating them to take action. It can also help you connect with your audience on a deeper level.

You can use social media for free or cheap distribution. “I’ve used social media to promote my business. It’s helped me reach more people.” Zebeau said.

You can also seek free news coverage, which can help you reach a wider audience. “I’ve been featured in a few local newspapers and it’s helped me reach more people.” Zebeau said.

Finding a job in a college town can be a challenge, but with hard work and determination, you can find success in your college town. Whether you’re starting your own business, seeking internships or preparing for interviews, Eagle Career Services provides helpful services for any GS student.

Eagle Career Services is located in the Williams Center and provides services such as resume help, interview preparation, career exploration and four-year career plans. Career Services accepts appointments and walk-ins throughout the week.
A healthy alternative to regular french fries has been added to your taste pallet. Like any recipe, this can be made in a variety of ways. Add some basil and cilantro to the batter instead of bacon, fry the avocado bits for a real french fry feel, get creative. The beauty of cooking is that there are no limits, it's an art in itself.

**BY MEG ELWOOD**

The George-Anne Staff

**AVOCADOS.** They’re that strange, mushy, green and brown fruit with a gigantic seed at the center. Strangely enough, these odd little alien fruits have tons of health benefits for people of all ages. One avocado has about 160 calories, two grams of protein and 15 grams of healthy fats. They are loaded with vitamins and is a great low-carb food. The list goes on and on, but for the avocado lovers out there, prepare yourself for the same food you know and love, turned into fries sprinkled with bits of bacon. Yes, crispy on the outside, squishy on the inside and topped with the good bacon flavor we all know and love.

**WHAT YOU’LL NEED:**

- 1 ripe Avocado
- 1 cup flour
- 1 lime
- 4 pieces of bacon
- 2 eggs
- Sour cream
- 1 cup Panko bread crumbs
- 1 bunch of fresh cilantro
- Mayonnaise

**STEP 1:**

Prepare bacon as necessary. Slice avocado in half, remove pit. With a knife, slice avocado halves into small wedges while inside the skin, as if to mimic the shape of a french fry. Spoon the sliced wedges out of the skin and onto a plate. Some might come out a bit blobby if your avocado is too ripe. Salt and pepper. Set aside.

**STEP 2:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Separate flour, panko crumbs and eggs into three separate bowls. Combine panko crumbs and cooked bacon strips in a food processor. A Nutribullet works just as well as a college alternative to a legit kitchen food processor. Blend until thoroughly mixed. Pour back into bowl.

**STEP 3:**

Batter each avocado wedge in flour, egg and bacon panko-crumbs, in that order. Set each piece in oven safe dish. Bake for 15 minutes or until a golden crust has formed around the fries.

**STEP 4:**

While the fries are in the oven, create a dipping sauce. This can be anything from ketchup to a random concoction like sour cream, mayonnaise and chopped cilantro mixed together in a bowl. Work with what you have around the kitchen, challenge yourself and get creative.

**STEP 5:**

Remove fries from oven and serve with the sauce on the side. For the finishing pizzazz of flavor, squeeze a wedge of lime over the entire dish.

A healthy alternative to regular french fries has been added to your taste pallet. Like any recipe, this can be made in a variety of ways. Add some basil and cilantro to the batter instead of bacon, fry the avocado bits for a real french fry feel, get creative. The beauty of cooking is that there are no limits, it’s an art in itself.

**FUN FACT:**

A way to tell if an avocado is perfectly ripe is to remove the stem from the top. If the skin is brown and it’s green underneath the stem, the avocado is just right. If it is brown under the stem it’s over ripe and will not keep its shape when cooking for this recipe.
All Greek life organizations do some form of philanthropy or community service. However, one Georgia Southern fraternity has taken that requirement to a higher level.

The Zeta Delta Delta chapter of the international Omega Psi Phi fraternity won accolades for distinguished international and statewide community service in 2014 and 2015.

“Over the past few years, we have won International Social Action Chair of the Year, and that’s out of every chapter in our fraternity, internationally. We won that as well as the statewide award [for social action],” Ta’shon Grady, member of Zeta Delta Delta and business administration graduate student, said.

The fraternity chapter was founded in 1986 and chartered at GS in 1987. Since then, its members have participated in various service efforts in the Statesboro and Bulloch County area, including Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics and Joseph’s Home for Boys.

Zeta Delta Delta recently hosted their “Looking Into the Future” event at the Rotunda. During the event, members sold popsicles and accepted donations to raise money to pay for two children’s eye appointments.

“Service Saturdays are our way of making sure we’re giving back to our community at all times. One of our fraternity’s best principles are that we take care of our community,” Gregory Bailey, member and a senior civil engineering major, said.

In addition to Service Saturdays, Zoo Que also visits the Summit apartment complex on North Main Street regularly.

“We actually make plates for the individuals. It is an apartment complex where we prepare the food at the food bank, and then from there, we will transport the food and hand it out to various individuals at that apartment complex,” Bailey said. The fraternity hosted a back-to-school supplies drive August 18 at the Rotunda for Bulloch County elementary school students.

“For the next back-to-school-drive, we will actually fill 20 bookbags, and we’re going to distribute them to each school, and supply them to the more underprivileged kids,” Bailey said. Zeta Delta Delta plan on doing the “Looking Into the Future” and Service Saturdays events again in the coming weeks. The fraternity will post specific dates and times for these events on their Instagram account, @zoo_ques1986.
#TBT

TRUE BLUE THURSDAY
TRIPLE THREAT

WHO TO WATCH FOR ON DEFENSE THIS SEASON

BY ROBERT GEORGE
The George-Anne Staff

UKEME ELIGWE

POSITION: Linebacker
CLASS: Junior
HEIGHT: 6’2”
WEIGHT: 239
MAJOR: General Studies

Eligwe is a former four-star recruit and Florida State Seminole. Now, he’s a starter in the Eagles second line of defense. After transferring and sitting out a year due to NCAA rules, Eligwe will finally get on the field and has a chance to make an immediate impact.

When asked about returning to the field for the first time in two years, he was straight forward about his feelings.

“I’m about to leave all my stress, my anger, my emotions, everything in these last two years…. I’m about to let it all out on Savannah State,” Eligwe said.

While that statement should terrify the Tigers, that’s great news for the Eagles. He was a multi-talented and versatile player for the Seminoles during his freshman year when they won the National Championship. His experience against elite competition and prime time match-ups will help the Eagles when they take on Ole Miss in Oxford and try to dethrone Arkansas State in Jonesboro. Look for him to flash his elite athleticism and skills all over the field this season.

IRONHEAD GALLON

POSITION: Linebacker
CLASS: Senior
HEIGHT: 5’10”
WEIGHT: 210
MAJOR: General Studies

Last year, Gallon and Antwione Williams combined to form a pair of dynamic playmakers at linebacker for the Eagles. Williams finished as the leading tackler with Gallon just behind him. Gallon has also made a name for himself on special teams, blocking a pair of kicks last season and four in his GS career. He has all the tools and experience to once again wreak havoc on defense.

“I learned (from Williams) that no matter what, you have to go hard. Day in and day out he was dedicated to the game and he put in work, and that’s something that I really admired,” Gallon said.

This season, he’ll pair up with another stud at inside linebacker. Florida State transfer Ukeme Eligwe will make his GS debut against Savannah State, and should mesh well with Gallon and the other linebackers. Gallon has been one of the faces of the program this preseason. It’s his intense shot that’s on the official GS football poster, after all. Summers took him along with Matt Breida to the Sun Belt Media Day, and made him the head coach in a summer camp practice where the older guys coached up some of the younger players.

JAY ELLISON

POSITION: Nose Tackle
CLASS: Senior
HEIGHT: 6’1”
WEIGHT: 310
MAJOR: General Studies

Ellison returns as the anchor to the front four of the Eagle defense in his senior season. The Harris County native has played in 35 out of a possible 36 games in his GS career, and has started 25 of those contests. He has plenty of experience to go along with his immense talent, as he was named Second Team All-Sun Belt last season and is a Preseason All-Sun Belt member this season.

He’ll man the middle of a four-man front that should cause a lot of problems for opposing offenses trying to run the ball. He and Darrius Sapp will plug the gaps up front while Logan Hunt, Bernard Dawson and others bring pressure from the ends.

“We want to make no mistakes and have great effort,” Ellison said. “We want to get after the quarterback and be stout against the run.”

There’s no shortage of star running backs and quarterbacks in the Sun Belt this season from New Mexico State’s Larry Rose III to App State’s Taylor Lamb. Ellison and Co. will look to make their time on the field against the Eagles a miserable one.
USHERING IN A NEW ERA

A new era will begin this Saturday when the Georgia Southern Eagles open their season against Savannah State on the new turf field at Paulson Stadium. The football program, much like the stadium, has gotten a face-lift over the past few seasons.

The program officially made the long-awaited move to the FBS in the 2014 season. With the move came the need for bigger and more modern facilities. The $10 million Ted Smith Family Football Center was completed prior to the season, giving the players and staff a central site to operate out of. An upper-deck was added on the visitor’s side to accommodate more students and fans.

The Eagles took the FBS by storm in its inaugural season and swept the Sun Belt, winning the championship outright in a thrilling game against UL Monroe at Paulson. When the final whistle sounded and the fans rushed the field, it was a statement from both the program and the university that GS had arrived and that they would be a force to reckon with in the FBS.

So now, as the team is set to begin the season with a new coaching staff and a new field, we can look forward to what is to come for the program.

Tyson Summers has said the team will run the traditional option offense and play hard-nosed ball on defense, two things that GS fans are accustomed to. Freedom still makes his flight over the stadium before kickoff, the yellow school buses still shuttle the players to Paulson and Statesboro is still the place to be on a Saturday in the fall.

This coaching staff likes to make practices and scrimmages physical, choosing live speed, full contact workouts over walkthroughs. One thing is certain: this year’s team should be the more physical squad every time they step on the field.

The 2016 roster is full of talented seniors. This will be the final season we get to watch players like Matt Breida, Kevin Ellison, Favian Upshaw, BJ Johnson III, Andy Kwon, Ironhead Gallon, Jay Ellison, Darius Jones and others wear the blue and white uniforms. This is the last class that was part of the historic victory over Florida and has been a key part of the successful transition to the new conference, and they’re looking to leave behind a winning legacy in their final season together.

But this season could be one of the toughest to date. The Eagles will play the best in the Sun Belt in Arkansas State and Appalachian State while also making trips to ACC power Georgia Tech and to one of the best programs right now in the SEC in Ole Miss. Navigating this brutal slate will be a challenge, but one that Summers and his team are ready to face.

So how will this season play out? Nobody knows, of course. It’s college football, and anything can happen on any given Saturday. That’s the beauty of it. All we can do as Eagle Nation is fill the stands on game day and cheer on our team.

“Freedom still makes his flight over the stadium before kickoff, the yellow school buses still shuttle the players to Paulson and Statesboro is still the place to be on a Saturday in the fall.”

ROBERT GEORGE
The George-Anne Staff

First Amendment Free Food Festival

September 14th
@ the Rotunda
11-2PM

Participating restaurants include:
Fordham’s Farmhouse Restaurant, McAlisters, Subway, and the Colonial House of Flowers
Georgia Southern vs. Savannah State

The Gameday Preview
Saturday, September 3 - 6:00 P.M.
Paulson Stadium

By Robert George and Chris Smith
The George-Anne staff

BY ROBERT GEORGE AND CHRIS SMITH
The George-Anne staff

The Tyson Summers era at Georgia Southern has begun, but coming off of a win at the Godaddy.com bowl, GS is looking to make an even bigger statement to kick off the season. On Saturday, Southern will be hosting Savannah State University in Paulson Stadium.

Offense
GS is expected to have a high powered offense this season with two new co-offensive coordinators and veteran leadership at every position. The offense this year is led by running back Matt Breida, who was named to the preseason Doak Walker Award candidate list. If anything this GS vs SSU game should prove as a measuring stick for how the season will go.

The Eagles are probably one of the few teams across the nation who have multiple people at the most important offensive positions that could start. This matchup against Savannah State will pretty much be an experimental game. Summers will have the opportunity to figure out how the reps at quarterback will be split. Seniors Kevin Ellison and Favian Upshaw will be splitting the reps under center throughout the season and in this game, but we will have a chance to see exactly how it will be divided.

Defense
The defense is another thing that Eagles fans will have an eye on. This defense will see some differences at the linebacker and safety positions. Fans will have a chance to see the Florida State transfer Ukeme Eligwe play in his first game as the Eagles starting outside linebacker. There will also be a switch at the safety position. Former GS quarterback Vegas Harley switched to the defensive side of the ball permanently in the spring and will be the starter at the free safety position. The defense will be coached by new defensive coordinator Lorenzo Constantini.

The game this Saturday will be a military appreciation game and Eagle Nation will paint the town blue all week there will be different events this week in honor of painting the town blue that students should keep an eye out for.

Savannah State comes into the season after posting a 1-9 record last year and they’re 3-43 since the 2011 season. There hasn’t been a whole lot to get excited about with this program since they’ve made the jump to the FCS.

However, the Tigers brought in Erik Raeburn as the new head coach to help the program get off the ground. Raeburn has a career record of 135-39 at the Coe College and Wabash College in Division III.

“The guy knows what he’s doing as a head coach. He has a lot of experience. He’s done a good job everywhere he’s been,” Tyson Summers, Georgia Southern Head Coach, said.

The Tigers will look to Arshun Spaulding to provide a lot of the punch on offense. The senior quarterback isn’t much of a thrower, having only tossed one touchdown to six interceptions last season. But he is capable as a runner, and was the leading rusher last season for his team as he finished with 640 yards from scrimmage and four touchdowns. If the Eagles can key on him, that should be enough to neutralize their offense.

Defensively, the Tigers were a mess last season. They gave up an average of 43 points and about 440 yards of offense a game. They will have senior outside linebacker Marquis Smith back after a 2015 campaign where he finished second on the team with 57 tackles and one sack to go along with an interception, a forced fumble and a blocked kick. He’ll try to make a few big plays early on defense to keep the Tigers in the game.

“They’ve got talented athletes and a staff that’s won where they’ve been. They know what they’re doing on both sides of the ball,” Summers said.

Saturday will be a lot of firsts for the Eagles, but a victory against SSU won’t be one of them. They dismantled the Tigers 83-9 in 2014 and should cruise to another win in the season opener.

Jay Ellison (right) will look to dominate the middle of the line against Savannah State on Saturday. Kickoff is at 6 p.m.
BY CHRIS SMITH

This Thursday, the Georgia Southern Volleyball team kicks off their home opener by hosting the Bash in the Boro volleyball tournament. This tournament will feature Jacksonville State, Charleston Southern, The Citadel and Savannah State.

The Bash in the Boro is a two-day tournament where every team competing plays one another in a round-robin tournament. A round-robin tournament is a competition in which every competing team meets all other teams in turns.

“We are going real hard this week. We just got back from Penn State and we have a lot to learn from that,” Alex Beecher, defensive specialist said.

GS is looking to add a tally to the win column this weekend after starting out the season 0-3 at the Penn State classic. The Eagles are led by redshirt senior Alex Beecher. Beecher set the all-time digs record at GS in three seasons and was named to the 2015 second-team All-Sun Belt. Digging is a defensive term in volleyball where a Slayer prevents the ball from hitting the floor after being spiked.

“I just want to push everyone to give their all every day together, because if we are not going hard 100 percent all of the time we can’t win,” Beecher said.

This tournament begins at 11 a.m. this Thursday with Savannah State going up against The Citadel. GS plays their first game of the tournament at 1 p.m. against Jacksonville State and will also play later that night at 7 p.m. against Charleston Southern. On Friday GS plays Savannah State at 1 p.m. and then conclude the tournament at 7 p.m. against The Citadel.

BRING TO YOU BY - THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Events and Activities

BY CHRIS SMITH

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In the image, the text describes the events and activities for the month of September at the University of South Carolina. It includes details about the Russell Union Room 2054, the Williams Center Multipurpose Room, and other locations and times for events and activities.
Full Plate GUIDE

Check out these local restaurant deals!

Statesboro is home to plenty of delicious restaurants that every student should check out at some point! When it comes to finding something to do in town going to a new restaurant is always a great option. Always check the Full Plate Guide to find good restaurants with even better student discounts!

To advertise in the Full Plate Guide or to have your restaurant listed above, email ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

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