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GA

THE GEORGE-ANNE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Bigshow's set to return under new name and owner

Pages 7- 10



MLK Speakers

Page 4

Comparing the cost of previous speakers for GS students

On A Roll

Page 11

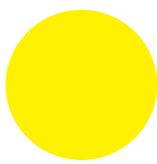
Ike Smith leads Eagles to eighth straight win

Thursday



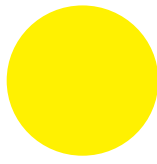
High: 67°
Low: 38°
80 percent
chance of rain

Friday



High: 57°
Low: 34°
0 percent
chance of rain

Saturday



High: 54°
Low: 37°
0 percent
chance of rain

Sunday



High: 57°
Low: 37°
0 percent
chance of rain

Weather Bar

It looks like come cooler weather will finally be headed our way. Despite the cold temperatures, it should be clear for the majority of the weekend.

GSU Students Answer: Obamacare or Affordable Care Act?





PHOTO COURTESY OF THECIRCLEGSU.COM

The Circle asked students what the difference was between Obama Care and the Affordable Care Act!

<http://thecirclegsu.com/obama-care-vs-affordable-care-act/>



SYPHILIS IN COLLEGE

BY ARIANE JENSEN
The Reflector staff

Syphilis is an easy-to-spread sexually transmitted disease (STD) that is slowly picking up its pace infecting people all over the United States of America. Syphilis is a complex disease that can be transmitted vaginally, anally and orally. It’s one of the most common STDs out there infecting 7.5 out of every 100,000 people. Dr. Alex de Voux, an expert in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Division of STD Prevention, brings some insight to the topic, explaining symptoms, treatment and the stages of the infection.

Stages

There are four different stages, including but not limited to primary, secondary, latent and late stage syphilis. Each stage is important to know about and with each stage, the symptoms become more severe. Each stage lasts for a different amount of time. Primary syphilis can last from three to six weeks, secondary syphilis will last about the same, or less. However when you enter the latent stage (or the stage that you don’t notice) it can last from 10 to 30 years if left untreated. According to the CDC website late stage syphilis is the stage most fear – the one people have heard the horror stories about, where the person with the disease goes insane. So be aware of syphilis in general, and if you notice any of the following symptoms, it’s time to see your healthcare provider.

Symptoms

In the primary stage of syphilis the symptoms to look for are going to be genital sores, formally known as chancre sores. They will be

somewhat firm, round, and painless. This can be hard to notice in women, but it is easy to spot in men. You can also contract oral sores. This stage, because of the open wounds, is the most infectious stage along with the secondary stage. In the secondary stage the symptoms are a rash on the palms of your hands and on the soles of your feet. De Voux describes it as, “a very characteristic rash with red spots.”

Some other symptoms of secondary syphilis are muscle aches and hair loss. The latent stage has no symptoms and it is defined by the fact that all previous symptoms have gone away. The infection will then stay dormant until it comes back full force in late stage syphilis. Symptoms include paralysis, numbness, dementia (the neurological symptoms that people have heard about) as well as the ocular symptoms listed above.

Diagnosing

De Voux explains: “The treponema pallidum has a pretty characteristic spiral shape. One of the ways they actually diagnose syphilis is called dark field microscopy, so what they look for under the microscope is the shape of the actual bacteria which is the spiral. That’s not done very often, very few people are trained in dark field microscopy, but it is one of the ways they would diagnose it.” Another way of diagnosing syphilis is through getting a blood test through any health care provider including Georgia Southern Health Services where you can have STD screening tests performed.

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REFLECTORGSU.COM

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Evaluating the Marches Against Trump



YASMEEN WALIAGA

Waliaga is a senior journalism major from Alpharetta, Ga.

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States," 45th President Donald Trump said in confidence standing before 160,000 people on Inauguration Day.

Meanwhile, almost five million individuals dispersed throughout the world chose to take those words with a grain of salt. Nearly five million people consciously tuned out of the initiation of America's next president and took their distress to the streets.

Marches Against President Trump

Anti-Trump marches sprawled across the continent became the face of the 2017 inauguration, one that will go down as one of the most disruptive, confusing, oddly arranged moments in American history.

It often seems like we are stuck in quicksand being drawn towards our inevitable doom and the only option to avoid being buried alive is to reach for either excessive extremism or entire apathy. In a society moving inevitably towards the demise of intellect, we are

left holding onto all we have for dear life, which is pretty much just humor and popular memes.

It's no surprise people are testing out the alternatives, but we are Americans, remember? There is no such thing as "testing." It's in our nature to be excessive, to over-do it. Give us an inch and we will take you a damn mile. Its for this reason that "peaceful protest" translates to many as "full blown freak out." It's no secret that there is a line many refuse to see.

Before dismissing these acts of protest or instantly hopping on the bandwagon, it is essential for Americans to evaluate them. When I first heard of the several women's marches on our campus and across the nation, I didn't fully understand.

Then I started to see it- somehow I began to see the indirect effects of protest. They began to develop around me, just as any movement does. Nothing explains us to ourselves better than history. The same goes for our nation.

How have marches in history gone? How has the government reacted? What about the citizens?

The first march at the capitol happened the day before Woodrow Wilson's inauguration when 5,000 women marched for voting rights. Fast-forward fifty years- the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, made famous by Martin Luther king Jr's "I Have a Dream" speech, an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement.

Several marches have been held at the capitol throughout the years since then, including fighting for ideals such as lesbian and gay rights and numerous anti-war movements.

A Call For Action

I have come to realize that people may not go into a protest with certainty that their display of

aggravation will result in any concrete changes. However, they walk away from these marches with a sort of content that shows why we should remain involved, no matter how much we feel we are unheard.

This has little to do with Trump, as contradictory as that might sound. I've realized that marching has a lot more to do with how citizens deal with things they don't agree with.

It underscores the maturity of this nation's inhabitants and their capacity to stand up for what they feel deserves a voice, whether or not it will make a tangible difference.

Who has a better chance in getting what he/she wants; the one who refuses to accept the new president and fights, fights, fights, gets tired and just dissolves into nothing because no one will win a battle against the strongest force in the nation, or the one who accepts- not necessarily with an enthusiastic charm- but accepts and pushes to ensure that there will be no victimization?

There is a difference between using your voice because you are so elated at the fact that you can and just shouting because you are obnoxious and love to shout.

There is a difference between relentlessly setting fire to the symbol of your nation and challenging the Commander-in-Chief to back up his words by taking the nation's sole principles into account.

If you are upset, I encourage you to march, protest, do whatever you can to create the atmosphere of democracy you so desperately need. And if you are happy, boast. Get excited. Cheer on the new president and anticipate his future decisions.

But I've grown exhausted with the lack of ability for these two groups to do their part without getting reckless.

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 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.

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The George-Anne receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee. For more information, rate cards, or sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director. The advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

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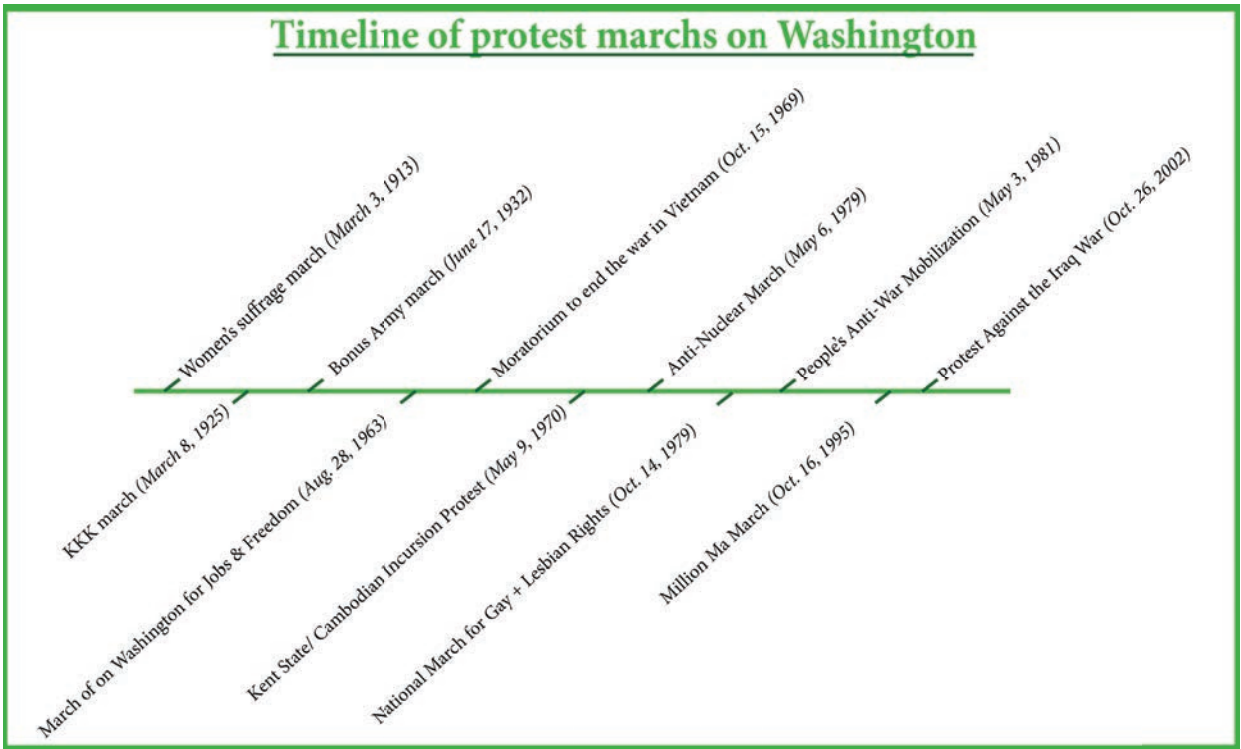
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MLK Commemoration Speakers come at a cost for Georgia Southern

BY TANDRA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University has spent over \$140,000 on the Martin Luther King Celebration Speaker series, hosted by Multicultural Student Center, since 2010, according to contracts obtained by a Georgia Open Records Act request.

A grand total of \$149,600 has been spent on eight of the last 12 MLK Commemoration Speakers. The series' most recent speaker, Nikki Giovanni, was paid \$15,800 for her appearance at GS, which included all hotel charges, meals and professional ground transportation in the city of Statesboro.

Former speakers had similar

requests from things as simple as room temperature water for their on stage podium to fruit baskets and natural orange juice in the green room.

GS isn't unique in these types of costs for speakers. According to an article by the Chicago Tribune, colleges often pick celebrity and high profile speakers so they can impress donors or even get potential students to decide to attend their school.

The Chicago Tribune also reports that last year, the University of Houston paid \$35,000 for Scott Kelly, retired astronaut, to speak at their commencement. A New Jersey university paid \$40,000 for each of their two commencement speakers, a total of \$80,000.

GS's MLK Commemoration Speakers prices are not nearly that high. The highest the school has paid for a speaker was \$35,000 for journalist Soledad O'Brien in 2013, not including travel expenses.

The second highest paid speaker was Michael Eric Dyson, a sociology professor at Georgetown University and a best selling author, at \$21,500. While his travel and other expenses were included with the amount, Dyson had very specific requests.

"Dr. Dyson requires a minimum three star hotel (preferably a four star) with current pay-per-view movies, room services and a restaurant on the premises," his contract read. "Dr. Dyson will not fly

regional jets or prop planes."

As for the lowest GS has paid for a commemoration speaker since 2010, that goes to Dick Gregory, a civil rights activist and comedian in 2012. Gregory was paid only \$9,800 for his appearance.

According to Takeshia Brown, director of the Multicultural Student Center, preparations for the MLK Commemoration Speaker begins as early as the very next day after that year's event has taken place.

"We try to get our department calendar as early as possible just to make sure that we are sensitive to other events happening on campus," Brown said. "We try to have our speaker in

place by August."

Every MLK speaker is solely funded through student fees. While some students are fine with how the event gets funded, some had some concerns.

"Some people might not know that these speakers are out there, or can go to them," Dontae Mair, sophomore aerospace major, said.

Despite this concern, Mair thinks the event is positive for the campus community and would think about going next year.

Mair said, "I think they're a good thing as far as addressing the issues in [my] race,"

Previous MLK Speaker costs



Michael Eric Dyson
2010 speaker - \$21,500



Soledad O'Brien
2013 speaker - \$35,000



Dick Gregory
2012 speaker - \$9,800



Steve Perry
2016 speaker - \$12,000



Angela Davis
2011 speaker - \$19,000



Andrew Young
2014 speaker - \$15,000

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An Eagles’ lesson on health insurance

Insurance Terms

- **Co-pay:** an established amount for a service after you have paid the deductible.
- **Deductible:** a set amount of money that the insured must pay before an insurance company will pay a claim.
- **Explanation of benefits letter:** a statement sent by the insurance company to covered individuals explaining what medical treatments/services were paid for on their behalf.

BY ALANA TINSLEY
The George-Anne staff

Many students on Georgia Southern’s campus have health insurance either through their parents or provided by this very school, but that doesn’t always mean that students understand everything that comes with their insurance.

In fact, several Georgia Southern students are unaware of just what their health insurance has to offer them.

Insurance confusion

Ben Barfield, junior civil engineering major, has only visited GS’ Health Services Center twice and he has never ran into a problem with his insurance, but doesn’t know much about his own.

“I feel like I don’t know a lot [about health insurance]... things like variety of providers, how much it costs and coverage types,” Barfield said.

Ana Ordoñez, sophomore manufacturing engineering major, is puzzled by her insurance as well.

“I didn’t understand how [health insurance] worked, because I have to pay for the fee in my GS account but I send off the receipt and I eventually get a refund,” Ordoñez said.

Students who can’t afford insurance, could potentially qualify for Medicaid if their household income is below a certain price point. Eligibility in your state can be checked through www.healthcare.gov/.

College students and grads can also get a health insurance quote from Agile Health

Insurance, where some rates start as low as one dollar a day.

There are hundreds of different health insurance plans on the market such as: Aetna, Cigna, Kaiser Permanete, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Amerigroup, International Medical Group (IMG) and Humana.

In order to know what kind of coverage you have, you should look up your policy information and become familiar with it, because it is impossible for your doctor to know what is or is not covered by each plan.

Deloach explains

Brian Deloach M.D., medical director at GS, has some suggestions to help figure out your way around your health insurance.

“Use the phone number on the back of your card to call if you have specific questions about your coverage. Become familiar with what ‘co-pay’ is, what your ‘deductible’ is, and what an ‘explanation of benefits’ letter is,” Deloach said.

Co-pay refers to an established amount for a service after you have paid the deductible. A deductible is a set amount of money that the insured must pay before an insurance company will pay a claim.

Finally, an explanation of benefits letter is a statement sent by the insurance company to covered individuals explaining what medical treatments/services were paid for on their behalf.

While trying to understand your coverage, it does not

mean that your health insurance covers everything, or that you will never have any out of pocket expenses.

“Know what kind of insurance you have and keep your insurance card on you at all times,” Deloach said.

While health insurance maybe the last thing on any college student’s mind, staying informed about your options can save your life.

“Become familiar with what ‘co-pay’ is, what your ‘deductible’ is, and what an ‘explanation of benefits’ letter is.”

BRIAN DELOACH M.D.
Medical director at GS

OSA

STUDENT ORGANIZATION ESSENTIALS

WORKSHOP SERIES

January 27

Constitution & Bylaws

3:30pm– Russell Union 2054

WINGS Incentive Point Opportunity

STATESBORO PARTICIPATED IN WOMEN'S MARCH



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARA BAILEY

Protestors stand in front of the Marvin Pittman Building on Sweetheart Circle. The Women's March started at Sweetheart Circle and ended at Russell Union.

BY TARA BAILEY

The George-Anne staff

People rallied together at Georgia Southern on Saturday afternoon in support for the Women's March on Washington.

A Facebook post inspired the event, and it became an event that people from all over the world participated in.

Those who could not attend in Washington have started their own sister marches around the world, including here in Statesboro.

According to Jill Johns, the co-organizer of the event, the march started out as an idea at three o'clock on a Tuesday afternoon, and it soon became an event for people to

participate in Statesboro.

Johns explained why she personally wanted to be a part of this march.

"I want to be on the right side of history. I have four teenage children. They've heard me say things about believing in equality and nonviolence and peace, but I want to put my action where my words are," Johns said.

The march, which took place the day after Trump's inauguration, set out to make sure that their voices were heard.

"I think we need to just make people aware. It's not just equal rights for women and minorities; it's for all," Karen Heller, the library staff assistant at GS, said.

Following the march, people gathered together for a rally at the rotunda to hear from several speakers and live music from the local band, R&B.

Brandi Harvey, singer for the band, shared why she decided to perform in support for the event.

"I feel like it's all too common for young women to feel a sense of shame or feel like it's their fault when they're, you know, treated sexually or inferior, and I don't think that's right. And so that's one of the reasons I'm here today," Harvey said.

About 250 people marched from Sweetheart Circle to the Rotunda on Saturday.

“

I think we need to just make people aware. It's not just equal rights for women and minorities; it's for all.”

Karen Heller

Library staff assistant

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STATESBORO GETS UNLOCKED

BY NATALIE TURMAN

The George-Anne staff

Statesboro's newest attraction, Statesboro Unlocked, opened Friday.

Statesboro Unlocked is a themed escape room where teams are locked in a room for an hour and must attempt to escape.

"I think it will be a fun thing to do. It offers something else other than partying," Taylor Cleland, sophomore exercise science major, said.

There are currently two themes available: "The Lottery Ticket" and "The Mob Takedown." The Lottery Ticket is where you race to find the lottery ticket of "Mr.Gus." In this room, you go up against "Mr. Gus's nephew" as he is also looking for the ticket. The Mob Takedown is where you rush to find a piece of evidence against the mob in your case. Statesboro Unlocked will soon

add "The Asylum" to the list.

Teams of eight to ten can work together to solve puzzles, clues and games to escape the rooms. The rooms can only be used once and can be reserved for \$25 per person on the Statesboro Unlocked website. The rules and requirements are also listed on the website.

The escape rooms are available on Friday from 6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m., Saturday from 12 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. and Sunday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. They are closed Monday through Thursday.

Statesboro Unlocked is located about 15 minutes away from campus at 1063b GA Highway 24, Statesboro, GA 30461, United States. This is near Splash in the Boro. If you have any questions they can be reached at (912)-681-6881, statesborounlocked@gmail.com, or at www.statesborounlocked.com.

Bigshow's and Southern Billiards are in the Plaza across from Paulson Stadium. The two businesses used to be adjoined around 30 years ago, according to Rushing.



Local hamburger joint reopens

BY JULIA FLETCHER

The George-Anne staff

Many around the campus and Statesboro communities were surprised when Bigshow's Burgers and Bar closed its doors back in February 2016. It seemed the burger joint was closed for good.

However, the restaurant is set to return. Jim Rushing, who owns adjacent business Southern Billiards, purchased Bigshow's near the end of 2016.

He had a soft opening for the new business that started Wednesday that will continue through the rest of the week.

Rushing, who has owned Southern Billiards for six years, decided to buy Bigshow's about four months ago.

"It's actually been a benefit to my side, because when they [used to] do a lot of business over here [at Bigshow's], we got the overflow," Rushing said. "We [Rushing and his colleagues] thought about it and talked it over a bunch until we finally figured 'well, we're going to try it for a while and see if it works.'"

As of now, Bigshow's Burgers and Bar will undergo a rebranding and become Cowboy's Pub and Grub.

Licensing and bar hours

Rushing had to annex Bigshow's and Southern Billiard's together to bring Bigshow's under Southern Billiard's license.

"I'm utilizing my \$4,000-a-year alcohol license. I don't have to buy an extra one for this side," Rushing said.

Rushing recently had to go before Statesboro's City Council and have Cowboy's properly zoned. Then, he also

had to apply for a new alcohol license.

Cowboy's will also be operating differently from Bigshow's in terms of its bar hours. Just as Southern Billiards turns into a bar after 11 p.m., so will Cowboy's.

That means that after that time, people under the age of 21 will be asked to leave the premises. Underage people will also be carded at the door and not allowed inside.

"That's the way we're going to keep it...you'll find the other restaurants in town have to abide by that same rule," Rushing said.

The state of the hamburgers

Rushing compared the Cowboy's Pub and Grub menu to Bigshow's old menu. He explained that hamburgers, a well-known staple of Bigshow's, will still be served at Cowboy's.

"We actually only have the cowboy and cowgirl burger. The cowgirl burger is a smaller burger, and the cowboy burger is a giant hamburger," Rushing said. "Then we have all the trimmings...if you want bleu cheese, a fried egg..."

The hamburgers will be flame-broiled, which can give them a slight charcoal flavor. As for how the burgers are made, Rushing said they will be "handmade burgers, just like mama makes 'em".

Items such as oysters on the half shell, a fried seafood basket, chicken strips and wings will also be on the Cowboy's menu.

"It'll be mostly basket meals...Thursday to Saturday, maybe do steak night with all the trimmings," Rushing said.

Cowboy's will start with a seafood and burger menu and progress from there. Southern Billiards will, additionally, move its kitchen operations over to Cowboy's.

"We will have this kitchen running [at Cowboy's] because we have to shut that kitchen down to pull some of that equipment over here," Rushing added.

The local health inspectors have already done their final inspection and the restaurant is good to go, according to Rushing.

New music and entertainment

Cowboy's has one element that Southern Billiards does not- a sufficiently-sized entertainment space.



“I've had quite a few phone calls of people saying 'when are you opening? We're dying to come.'”

JIM RUSHING

Owner, Southern Billiards and Cowboy's

"This place actually has a stage and a vast floor and enough space that we can utilize all that," Rushing said.

One reason Rushing wanted to turn Bigshow's into Cowboy's dealt with the local music scene, specifically country music.

"Statesboro, Bulloch County, has nowhere to go to listen to country music, dance, have bands...nobody does it, except the Moose Club," Rushing said. "I've had quite a few phone calls of people saying 'when are you opening? We're dying to come.'"

While Rushing wants to bring more country artists into Statesboro's music scene, he also wants to invite rock bands to play at Cowboy's.

"Most of all the local bands, we're going to have them here playing. Then, we're going to specialize in some more well-known bands," Rushing said.

He also plans to have karaoke on Thursday nights.

"Then, I'll start establishing bands on Friday and Saturday nights," Rushing added.

Looking forward

The location of 200 Lanier Rd. has changed many times, being reinvented by name and ownership. What has not changed is the restaurant's importance to Georgia Southern students and the Statesboro community at large.

According to Rushing, as Cowboy's opens and its business grows, it will require more employees. Southern Billiards' managers are looking at job applications now, even though they have filled many job spots. Interested students may go to Southern Billiards to inquire about applications.



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Bigshow's was as well known for its entertainment as its burgers. Rushing aims to bring many bands and artists ranging from country to rock and metal genres.



Music Haven re-opens for local Statesboro bands

BY ALLISON MARTINEZ
The George-Anne contributor

Since Bigshow’s Burgers and Bar closed, Statesboro has been waiting for a new restaurant and concert venue to take its place. A petition went around in hopes of Bigshow’s return and the music goddesses must have heard. The building known as a music haven for more than a decade is back in business.

The building where Bigshow’s once resided has been purchased and is opening under new management and now goes by the name of Cowboys Pub and Grub.

A New Business with Old Ties

Owner, Jim Rushing, wants everyone to come out and have a good time while being in a safe environment. The atmosphere will be similar to the environment that has always been associated with

the building while adding a twist, because Rushing also owns the pool hall next door to the restaurant.

This Saturday, Cowboys Pub and Grub will be hosting their first event with not one, but two live bands beginning at 9 p.m. The free event, planned as a soft opening, will host the bands Rising Tide and Solomon’s Ghost.

The building has a long history of being one of the only places in Statesboro to cater to a variety of music genres since the early 2000’s. There hasn’t been a restaurant venue for bands like Solomon’s Ghost to perform at since the closing of Bigshow’s, until now.

Perspectives from the Music Scene

Solomon’s Ghost is a progressive metal band, that plays mostly original songs. Drummer of the band, Drew Purvis, thinks it’s important to have an outlet for people to have a good time and not listen

to the same thing every other bar has. He knows many bands prefer to play in Statesboro, just because of the atmosphere and the open minded people that are eager to listen to music. Timothy Walls, Event Promoter for Coastal Rock Productions, thinks a place like Cowboy’s is really needed, because of the lack of venue options for other genres in Statesboro. “I did shows at Bigshow’s for a little over a year and those were some of the best concerts I’ve done in years just because it’s a great spot. I love Statesboro and the people have a great time out there,” Walls said.

1. Spray Tan is a punk band from Atlanta. Photo courtesy of Dani Scythe and Tim Walls.
2. AT Heart is a metal band from Savannah. Photo courtesy of Bobby Herr and Tim Walls.
3. Scincision is a groove metal band from Statesboro. Photo courtesy of Tayler Smith.
4 and 5. Awaken the Dawn is a metal band from Savannah. Photo courtesy of Tayler Smith.

When the restaurant closed last year, local artists like Aaron Cooler, vocalist and guitarist for Bird Person had to look for new outlets in Statesboro to perform. Cooler started hosting shows at The Bird House, which popularized in the alternative music scene of Statesboro after Bigshow’s closed.

Cooler plans to continue hosting shows at The Bird House even with the opening of Cowboy’s, but that doesn’t mean he isn’t excited.

“We always, as a band, want our shows to be at places where anyone who wants to listen to us can feel comfortable listening to us and not freak out that they aren’t welcome there. Whatever race or transgender or gay or anything, it’s a place to come and enjoy music,” Cooler said.

Bigshow’s was the first place Bird Person played at, which makes the venue special for them. They are ecstatic to have a familiar but different place to perform and expand their fan base while being exposed to new crowds.

Looking Ahead

Cooler met with Rushing and lined up a show which will be announced soon. At the future event, not only will Bird Person and Rising Tide perform, but there will also be band appearances traveling from Florida, Alabama and North Carolina to make the grand opening of Cowboy’s Pub and Grill a spectacular performance that you will not want to miss.

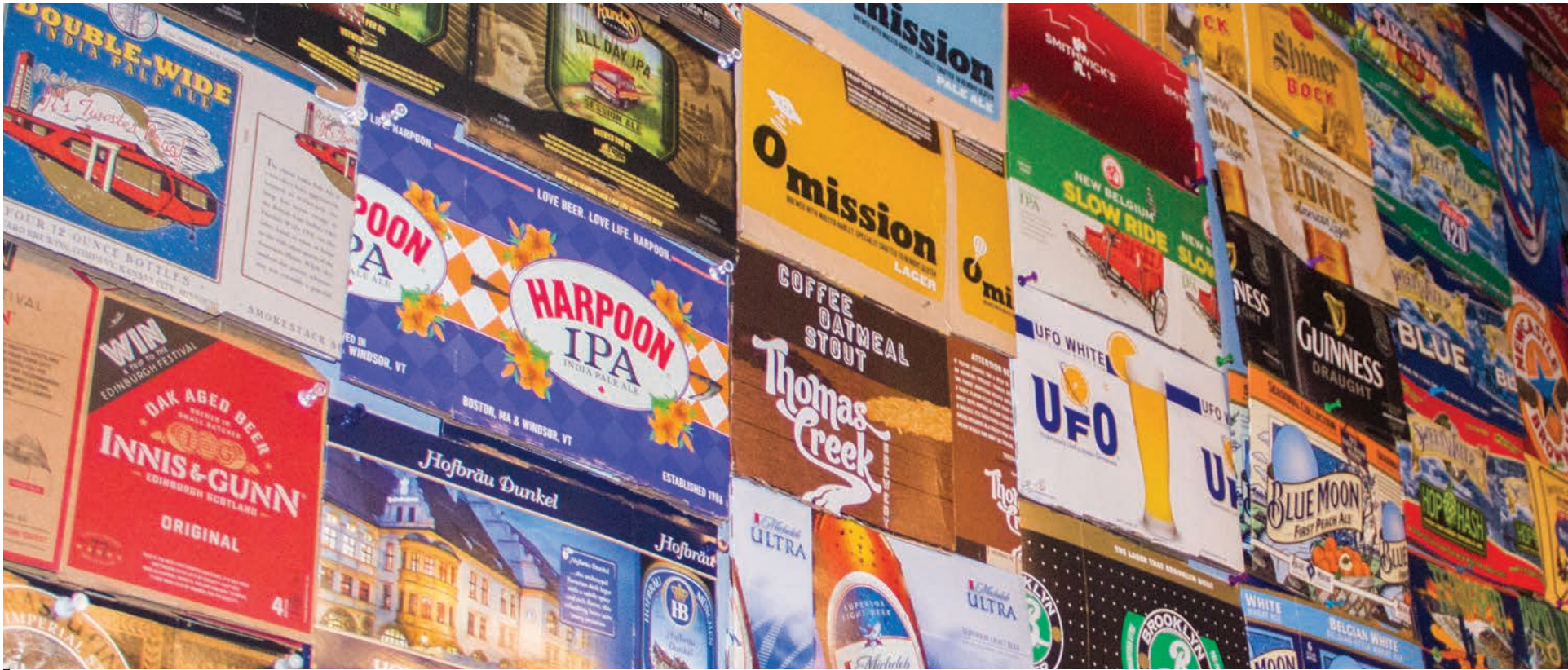
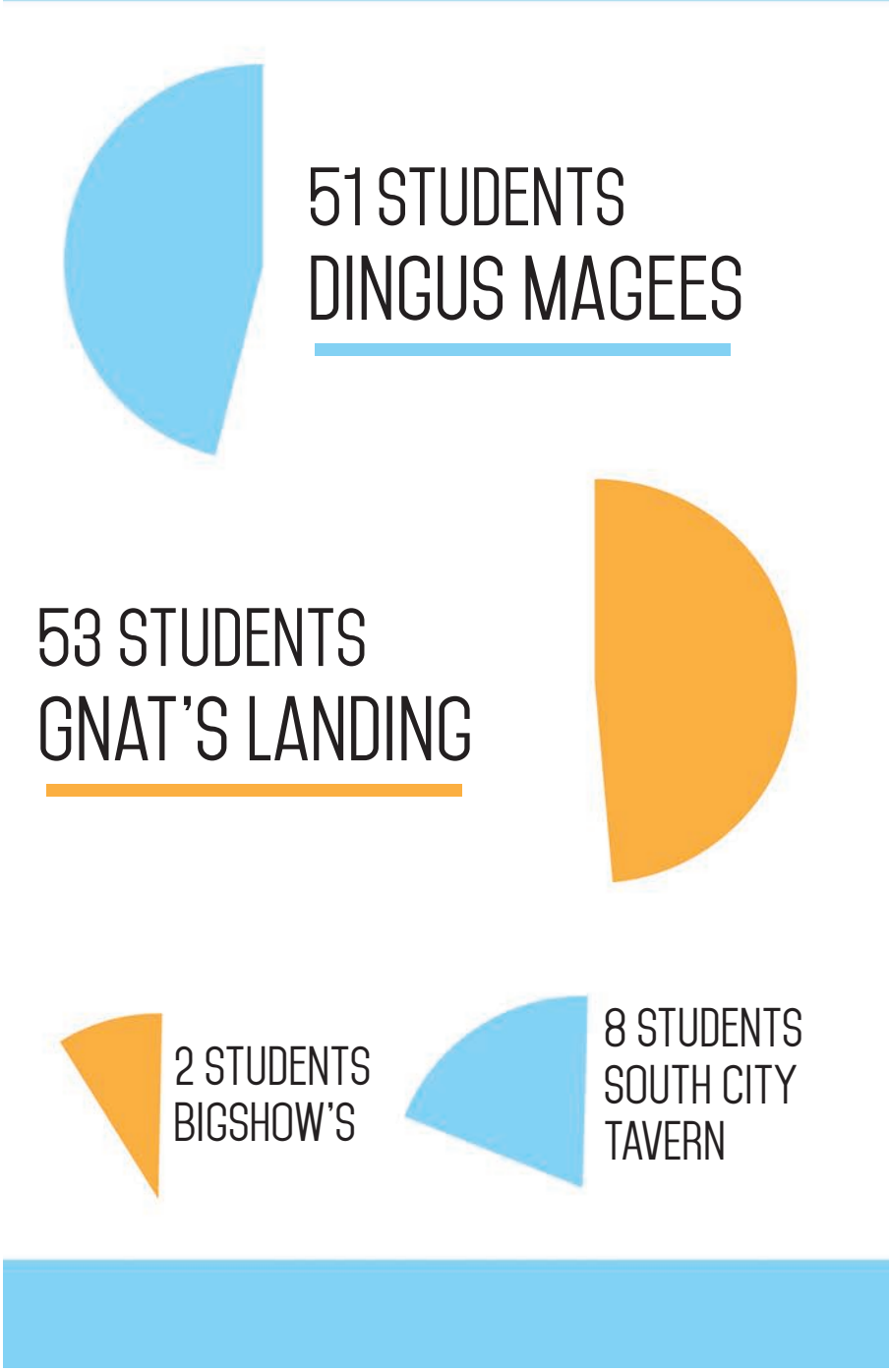
Until then, plan to see Solomon’s Ghost and Rising Tide this Saturday, as Cowboys will be hosting their first event beginning at 9 p.m.

The pub gives the everyday person the opportunity to walk in and listen to different bands. All ages and people are welcome to enjoy a night of live music in a new atmosphere while celebrating, not only, the opening of the restaurant, but the expansion of the music scene in Statesboro.

“We always, as a band, want our shows to be at places where anyone who wants to listen to us can feel comfortable listening to us and not freak out that they aren’t welcome there...”

AARON COOLER
Vocalist and guitarist for Bird Person

Which bar do GA Southern students prefer to go to to listen to live music?



New owner, but same look. The walls at the new Cowboy’s still resemble those of Big Show’s.

GS BEATS COASTAL CAROLINA FOR EIGHTH STRAIGHT WIN

BY THOMAS JILK
The George-Anne staff

Sophomore guards Tookie Brown and Ike Smith led the way for the Eagles on Monday night as they defeated Coastal Carolina to win their eighth straight game and remain unbeaten in Sun Belt Conference play.

The 91-80 victory at Hanner Fieldhouse was the Eagles' seventh time scoring 80 or more points in their last eight games. They sit alone atop the conference standings.

"I was proud of the guys after tonight," GS head coach Mark Byington said. "We were

very unselfish, we found open guys, and I think we just took what the defense gave us."

Brown scored 23 points, grabbed seven rebounds and dished out four assists. His backcourt mate Ike Smith scored 21 points and had six rebounds and four assists. B.J. Gladden and Mike Hughes scored 12 apiece for the Eagles, and Montae Glenn contributed 11 points and six rebounds.

The Eagles shot 53 percent from the field as opposed to CCU's 45 percent. GS also made 15 more free throws than Coastal Carolina.

Coach Byington and the players agreed that it serves

no purpose to think or talk about their winning streak - the longest in Byington's Georgia Southern career.

"We're not looking in the rear view mirror at all. If we're 0-8 or 8-0 or 7-0, it doesn't make a difference," Byington said.

Smith also talked about keeping the team's focus forward, saying the Eagles don't have time to think about streaks.

"We've got to stay focused and just learn from every game," Smith said.

The Eagles never trailed on Monday night, extending the lead to 16 points with less

than four minutes to go. The Coastal Carolina Chanticleers had cut the lead to five in the second half, but the Eagles' defense made plays to help stretch the lead back out.

"In the second half, we figured out how to get stops and separate the game," Byington said.

The high-flying Eagle offense has come to play consistently, but Smith understands the importance of the other side of the ball down the stretch this season.

"It all comes down to defense," Smith said.

The Chanticleers were led by senior guards Colton Ray-St

Cyr and Elijah Wilson, both of whom scored 15 points. CCU came into the game second in the Sun Belt, but will fall down the standings following the loss.













Georgia Southern will travel to Mobile, Ala. on Saturday to take on the South Alabama Jaguars.

"South Alabama is well-coached and has great talent," Coach Byington said. "We'll be tested for sure."

ESPN3 and the GS Sports Network will have the broadcast on Saturday at 8 p.m.



MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE	OVERALL
 GEORGIA SOUTHERN	7-0	14-6
 UT ARLINGTON	5-2	15-5
 ARKANSAS STATE	5-2	14-6
 GEORGIA STATE	5-2	12-7
 TEXAS STATE	4-3	11-8
 COASTAL CAROLINA	4-3	9-11
 LOUISIANA LAFAYETTE	3-4	13-7
 LITTLE ROCK	3-4	12-8
 TROY UNIVERSITY	3-4	11-10
 SOUTH ALABAMA	2-5	9-11
 APP STATE	1-6	6-12
 LOUISIANA MONROE	0-7	6-14

Head coach Mark Byington coaches plays from the sideline. He has lead the Eagles to a 14-6 overall record, including a 7-0 record in the Sun Belt.



MICK MILLER

Kevin Ellison rallies the team during a practice. One of the initial punishments a team can receive for poor academic performances is a loss of practice hours. This class of players has significantly increased the team's academic performance.

BY DEVIN CONWAY
The George-Anne staff

There are a number of academic requirements expected of student-athletes that comprise any given NCAA affiliated university's athletic programs, but in addition to those standards for individuals, there are also standards set in place for athletic teams as a whole.

In the early 2000's, the NCAA was working to find an objective and measurable scale for calculating a team's overall academic standing, and in 2004, they developed and instituted what became known as the Academic Progress Rate (APR).

APR is calculated using a mathematical formula that's not quite as complicated as the formula that the NFL uses for quarterback rating, but it is certainly complex nonetheless.

CALCULATING APR

According to the NCAA's website, APR is calculated by the following:

- Each student-athlete receiving athletically related financial aid earns one point for staying in school and one point for being academically eligible.
- A team's total points

are then divided by points possible and then multiplied by 1,000 to equal the team's APR.

- APR is measured on a yearly basis and tracked alongside a given four-year graduating class.

BENCHMARK FOR SUCCESS

As the formula indicates, the highest possible score a team can receive is 1,000.

Following the 2015-2016 season, the NCAA instituted a rule that individual athletic teams must maintain an APR of 930 in order to be eligible for competition in championship

games and tournaments.

If and when teams fall below that minimum requirement, they face punishments that increase in severity after subsequent academic violations.

After an initial strike, teams lose four hours of practice time that must be replaced by some kind of academic activities.

A second strike adds additional reductions for both practice and eligibility for competition.

If the team violates academic standards once more, the NCAA is then able to severely punish athletic teams with punishments ranging from coaching suspensions, financial aid reductions and even restrictions on membership to the NCAA.

Division I NCAA programs are subject to punishment at the discretion of the Division I Committee On Academics after a team falls below that APR threshold of 930 for three consecutive years.

and had four individual teams score a perfect 1000 in APR, including men's tennis, women's cross country, women's swimming & diving and volleyball.

The GS rifle team has maintained a perfect 1000 APR for their four-year measurement.

GS FOOTBALL

A quick search of the aforementioned database shows that the GS football team fell below the required multi-year rate in six consecutive seasons beginning with the 2004-2005 season and ending with the 2009-2010 season.

Academic Year
(Multi-Year APR)

2004-2005	(880)
2005-2006	(890)
2006-2007	(905)
2007-2008	(913)
2008-2009	(921)

During this time period in which the GS football failed to meet APR requirements, a total of 24.62 scholarships were lost as a result.

Although it's not quite clear as to how these scholarship penalties are calculated to the decimal or even what those decimals actually represent, it can be assumed that the scholarships which were taken away were not physical scholarships in terms of individual players, but rather the financial equivalent of whatever those scholarships represent.

In the meantime, the football team has managed to increase their APR to meet the NCAA's standard, something that surely has been emphasized since those six consecutive seasons almost a decade ago.

GS ATHLETICS AND APR

The NCAA maintains an online database where anyone can search for APR records of any athletic team at any institution over an extended period of years.

There are input restrictions available that allow for interested parties to search based on the exact year, sport, school, type of penalty, postseason ban or restriction, state and even conference.

Data for GS has yet to be made available for the 2015-2016 season, but it is scheduled to be released sometime during the spring term.

However, in the 2014-2015 season, all of GS' 17 individual teams met APR standards,

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BASEBALL Q & A: GETTING TO KNOW A FEW SENIOR GS BASEBALL STARTERS

BY RYAN REDDING & DONALD COE

The George-Anne staff

We sat down with senior baseball starters Evan McDonald, Ryan Cleveland and Cal Baker from the baseball team to find out more about them and to see their perspective on the game.

ARE THERE ANY PREGAME RITUALS THAT YOU DO?

Cal: Not really anything special, just whatever Coach Hennon has us doing.

Ryan: I try and focus and visualize a couple of at bats in the locker room to get my mind right.

Evan: I don't like to eat before games. I get so nervous that it messes up my stomach.

ANY HOBBIES?

Cal: I just like to hunt and fish.

Ryan: I like hunting and fishing as well.

Evan: Only one hobby outside of this, playing video games. I'm an avid FIFA player, ranked #757 in the world.

WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING BASEBALL?

Cal: Five or six years old.

Ryan: About the time I could stand up and I was big enough to hold a bat.

Evan: When I was three, I would tag along with my brother to the ball field all the time, when he was seven and use the pitching machine and hitting the cages, and pretty soon I signed up for t-ball.

ANY PROFESSIONAL PLAYER YOU LOOK UP TO?

Cal: My boy, Derek Jeter.

Ryan: I like Albert Pujols, he's probably my favorite player.

Evan: Definitely Derek Jeter, same as Cal.

ANY GOALS AFTER YOU GRADUATE?

Cal: Hopefully winning a

Sun Belt championship first, and then moving on with life. I guess I'm getting old, so starting a family and getting a job.

Ryan: Winning the Sun Belt first of all would be sweet, and then seeing where the baseball career takes me and playing at the next level for a little while.

Evan: I don't graduate for another year, so that's a goal.

WHAT SUPERSTITIONS DO YOU GUYS HAVE?

Cal: I used to put everything on at a certain time. I put my wristbands on a certain way, and wear tape the same way every game, and if you have a bad game you redo it the next game.

Ryan: When I walk up to the plate, I kick the dirt twice, and when I put my batting gloves on, I put my right one on first.

Evan: I'm not big into superstitions.

FAVORITE PLACE TO GO ON THE ROAD AND PLAY?

Cal: Louisiana-Lafayette. The fans are crazy, they get 7,000 people a night, and it's pretty wild.

Ryan: Louisiana-Lafayette for sure. The atmosphere is great there.

Evan: Probably Georgia Tech. I like the field there, the atmosphere and they've had a lot of good players that have been there, so it's pretty cool.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON FACING TWO TOP RANKED TEAMS IN THE CONFERENCE THIS YEAR, THE DEFENDING NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, COASTAL CAROLINA, AND LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE?

Cal: Last year we were right there with them. We beat Lafayette once, and we could've beat them any other time we played. It's going to be a good challenge, but like Cleveland said, we could beat anybody we play.

Ryan: New year, it doesn't



From left to right: Evan McDonald, Ryan Cleveland and Cal Baker strike a pose. The seniors will look to lead GS to a Sun Belt title.

THOUGHTS ON THE NEW BALLPARK RENOVATIONS AND WALL?

Cal: It's pretty sweet. it makes you feel like you're at a big league ballpark, and it makes you want to show out for the new stadium.

Ryan: Just the atmosphere

around here really. Now that we have a new field, there's a new feeling going around.

Evan: It's awesome. I've never played on a field like it, and to call it our home field is really cool. I think there's not another wall like it in college baseball, so it gives us a feel of Fenway, but in right.

1/26 WEEKLY BUZZ 2/01

- **Priority date for filing the 2017-2018 FAFSA is February 1, 2017!**
File the 2017-2018 FAFSA now, using 2015 tax information!

The first step in applying for Fall 2017 financial aid is completing the 2017-2018 Free Application for Federal

Student Aid (FAFSA) online at fafsa.ed.gov which became available on October 1, 2016. By completing the FAFSA, you are applying for federal grants, loans, work study, and the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship (for Georgia residents).

The priority date for completing the FAFSA is February 1, 2017. It is important to apply by the priority date because funds are limited for some campus need-based financial aid. The last day to file the 2017-2018 FAFSA is June 30, 2018.

If you are applying for ONLY the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship, you do not need to complete the FAFSA application; instead complete the GSFAPPS application online at GAfutures.org. You must complete the FAFSA in order to be considered for federal and state loans, and need-based financial aid.

Be aware that after you apply for aid, additional information may be requested to determine your financial aid eligibility. If you have any questions, please contact finaid@georgiasouthern.edu or call 912-478-5413.

TIPS FOR FAFSA FILING

- List Georgia Southern's Title IV school code 001572.
- Enter your name on the FAFSA as it appears on your social security card.
- Your 2015 tax information must be used to complete the 2017-2018 FAFSA.
- Use the IRS Data Retrieval process to upload your tax information into the FAFSA.
- Read very carefully who should be a parent or included in the household.
- Fill out all information accurately.
- You must file the 2016-2017 FAFSA for Spring17 and Summer17 financial aid.

- **What are your plans for Spring Break this year?**
How does traveling with fellow Eagles, meeting new friends that share your values, and working to make a difference sound? Alternative Spring Break applications are now live until January 20th. Breaks will be traveling Sunday, March 12th - Friday March 17th. Students can peruse a variety of trips we have available on our website now, check them out! Trip prices range between \$150 - \$350 (all inclusive) To apply students can log onto MyInvolvement and follow the link: <https://georgiasouthern.collegiatelink.net/form/start/118098> and submit their application today.

- **UPB Presents: Sips n' Strokes**
Thursday, January 26th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, Williams Center Multipurpose Room
Join the University Programming Board and try your hand as an artist. UPB will be offering a chance to paint your very own Georgia Southern art piece. The artwork for this event will be facilitated by Jasmyne Johnson. The first 160 students will be able to participate. Students, please bring your EagleIDs. If you need assistance, related to access for this event, please email at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Contact Information: UPB@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

- **UPB Movie: The Accountant**
Friday, January 27th, 6:00 & 8:00 pm, Russell Union Theater
Looking for fun on a Friday night? Join the University Programming Board for our bi-weekly, Friday movie series. This event is free and open to the public. Students please bring your Eagle IDs. There will be two showings of this movie (6:00pm and 8:00pm). Concessions will be available for purchase. Cash sales only! If you need assistance, related to access for this event, please email: at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Contact Information: UPB@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK

The Weekly Buzz is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

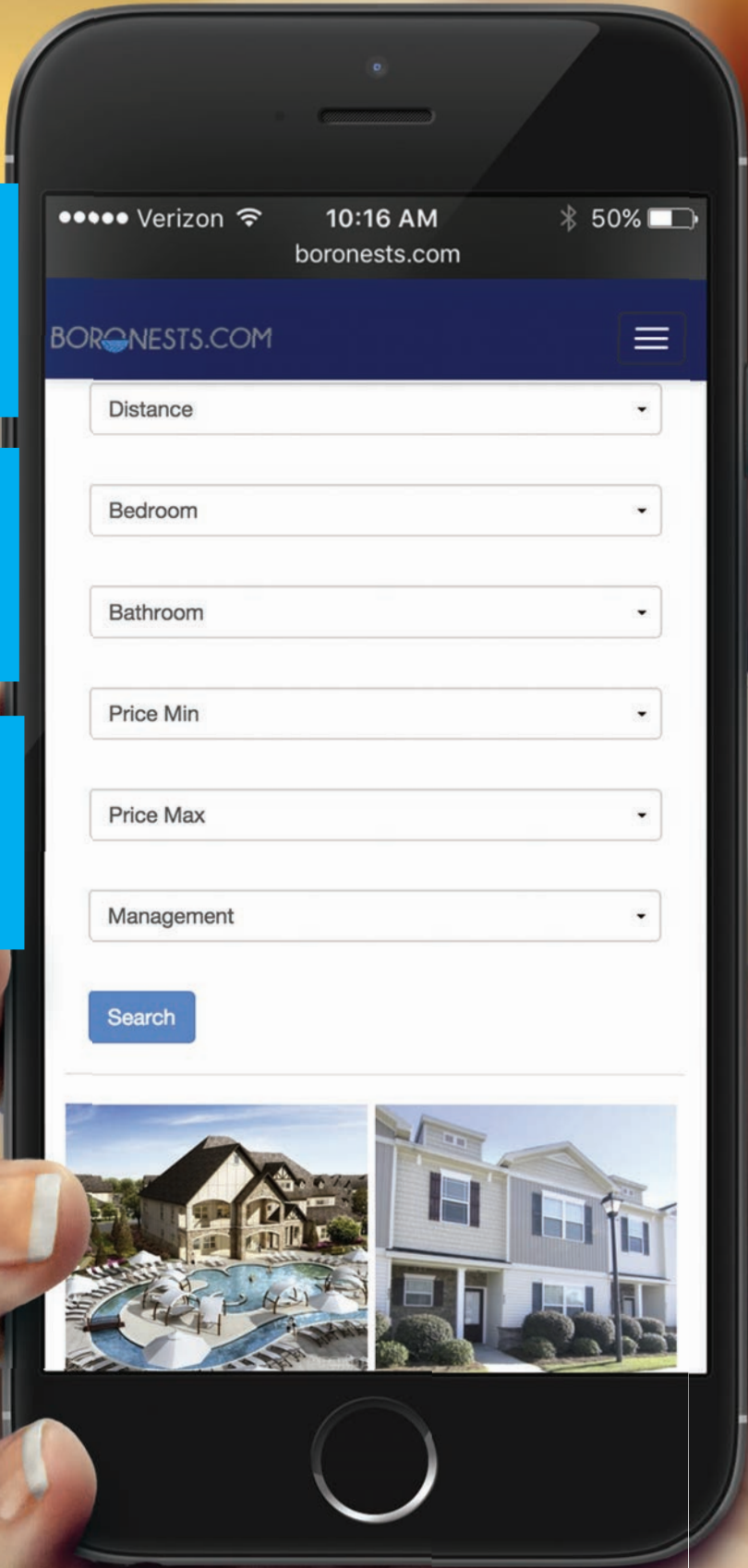
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- 13 Provides vittles
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- 16 Pop singer Amos
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- 22 Switch settings
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- 25 Gecko
- 29 Museum piece
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- 32 Like some tumors
- 37 Throngs
- 38 It may be stroked
- 39 Caspian feeder
- 40 Gorgonzola
- 44 Go yachting
- 45 Wear
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- 48 Diplomat
- 51 Back at sea
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24 Balloon filler

25 Life's partner

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27 Domesticated Asian ox

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47 "___ De-Lovely"

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Intramural Sports

BOWLING

Online Registration

January 16 - 31

Play Begins

February 7

Register at cri.gs/IM_Register