Revisiting vLab
Software to add new programs
Page 4

Regional Theatre Festival
Students and faculty thespians from around the country come to GS
Pages 6-7
“Were they drunk?”
“Are you sure that’s what happened?”

ATHLETICS UP FIRST FOR CIC

The Consolidation Implementation Committee is made up of students, staff and community members from both Armstrong, Georgia Southern and Savannah State University. The committee was formed on Jan. 26 and includes 41 members: 20 from both Armstrong and Georgia Southern and one from Savannah State.

Individuals on Georgia Southern’s committee include: Jean Bartels, provost and vice president of academic affairs, Brian Koehler, associate dean of curriculum and advisement from the USG; Linda Bleicken and representatives from the USG; and representatives from the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President.

The next CIC meeting is scheduled for Mar. 1 and will include discussions on the progress of the consolidation.”

BY TANDRA SMITH
The George-Anne Staff

University System of Georgia Chancellor Steve Wrigley has tasked the Consolidation Implementation Committee (CIC) with creating a plan for both Armstrong State University’s and Georgia Southern University’s athletic teams, according to an email from Jennifer Wise, director of communications.

“Georgia Southern University President Jaimie Hebert, Armstrong State University President Linda Bleicken and representatives from the USG are planning a follow-up phone conversation this week as well as weekly conversations to discuss the progress of the consolidation,” the email read.

There is currently no date for the next CIC meeting, but that information will be made available when it is known.

EAGLES DON’T LET EAGLES BLAME VICTIMS

GEOGRAPHY,

WEATHER BAR

It looks like we’ll be enjoying more moderate temperature towards the end of the week. It should be mostly clear, but there is a slight chance of rain.

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THE Circle

We asked students about their college experience here at Georgia Southern!

http://thecirclesu.com/college-experiences/

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EAGLES DON’T LET EAGLES BLAME VICTIMS

GEOGRAPHY,
Local law enforcement guarantees better safety precautions

BY TAISHA WHITE & ALANA TINSLEY
The George Anne staff

Both Georgia Southern and Statesboro Police Departments have recently ensured concerned community residents and students about their crime concerns after the increase in shooting related incidents last year.

Georgia Southern PD

The Georgia Southern Police Department (GSPD) has had its fair share of ups and downs when it comes to trying to decrease the crime rate at off campus housing. GSPD has consistently dealt with the continuance of crime related incidents over the past few years.

Most recently, there has been controversy from the GSPD and the slow coming of Eagle Alerts. Although these Eagle Alerts have caused issues, the GSPD is ensuring to the GS community that they are here to protect the community and would like the community to do the same by using the proper steps when involved in a crime related incident.

Chief Laura McCullough of the GSPD speaks on how the GS community can help the department when crime comes their way.

"[It] depends what their level of interaction is. If it’s just something where they’re witnessing it, one of the things we try to encourage students is to be a good citizen and help us be apart of the solution," McCullough said. "It helps if we have citizens that are willing to do the right thing. If you see something that doesn’t look right or you know is not right, let us know."

The GSPD also encourages students to use the LiveSafe app, which alerts the police department in times of trouble.

Incident updates

In most cases, off-campus housing have tried their best to ensure greater safety for their residents. From a greater expansion on security to higher quality cameras and greater communication among both the Statesboro and GSPD and the Bulloch County Sheriff.

111 South, located off of South Main Street, has upgraded its security to ensure less incidents.

"[There’s] 24 hour security and a courtesy officer throughout the day and two patrolling officers at night," Paige Moore, 111 South leasing consultant, said.

One resident at 111 South feel as if it has made good improvements to the complex’s safety.

"They have started towing vehicles of those who do not have a parking pass, which could be a potential suspect, as well as hired a nighttime security guard to help us feel safe and protected." Myriah Tremble, sophomore ultrasound technician major, said.

She feels that the improvements have made a difference since nothing has happened at the apartment complex since these changes have been implemented.

Campus Crossings located off of Lanier Drive has also upped their security. They now have 24/7 courtesy officers as well as the addition of brightener and more building lights to help illuminate the complex during dark hours.

"We communicate with the residents and the students to help us come about a solution," Sergeant Jake Saxon, of the Office of Professional Standards at the Statesboro PD, assures to the GS community as well as the Statesboro community that they are working to decrease the crime rate in the area and increase safety amongst off campus housing.

"We communicate with many of the managers and address problems in the complexes," Saxon said. "We have met with most of the apartment managers and demonstrated features of our new website that are tailored to assist both the managers and the residents."

Saxon also states that the SPD works with the GSPD by continuously sharing the proper resources and information so both departments can guarantee the safety of the community and improve their department as well.

"If you see something that doesn’t look right or you know is not right, let us know."

CHIEF LAURA MCCULLOUGH
Georgia Southern Police Department

Page designed by Jasmine Davis
To contact the news editor, email ganews@georgiasouthern.edu
VLab program to bring updates to campus

BY TAISHA WHITE

After the initial rollout at Georgia Southern last year, the Information Technology department is looking into bringing updates to vLab, a virtual computer lab service full of popular software and other applications geared towards students. VLab, which was first introduced to GS back in the Spring 2016 semester, is filled with statistical softwares created to meet the needs to students enrolled at Georgia Southern. This accessible resource contains numerous softwares including Microsoft and Adobe Creative Cloud. Although the services mimics those of bigger colleges like UGA, vLab is the first of its kind, catering to more than one college on campus.

After its first semester run, vLab had over 26,000 logins and over 3,500 unique users, according to a records request. The college that used vLab the most on campus is the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, followed by College Of Business Administration.

Ryan Richardson, director of Enterprise Technology Solutions, spoke on how the vLab software is looking into focusing on bringing better quality services for the next semester. “There is always room for improvement and space,” Richardson said. “What we usually do is that we pay attention to different softwares across the board and see if there are growing concerns or consistent issues that we can fix. We know that in the future, five or six new additions will be added to the software.” Richardson also asked for students to always email IT services for any questions or suggestions on how to make vLab less difficult.

The services that will be brought to the campus are upon request from different colleges and are set to become the standard amongst other campuses. “Additions of the software are usually added during the late spring and are usually updated and ready to go by the fall semester to meet the needs to students,” Ron Stalnaker, chief Information Officer, said. “We usually try to test out the system first before we introduce [it] to the campus.”

College students across the GS campus have taken on vLab for their own usage and have noticed how vLab has helped them with their classwork.

Mario Hernandez, senior multimedia journalism major, likes the convenience of vLab, especially for those who live outside of campus. “I think if the updates can help the students in the long run, it would definitely work out,” Hernandez said. “I live 45 minutes away and I am not able to use the computer lab or the library when I want to. So having vLab on my computer has definitely helped me get my work done without any issues and without depending on the on campus software.”

Chantevia McDonald, senior multimedia journalism major, hopes to see the vLab system improve after using the system before. “I think that the vLab software is convenient for all students on campus,” McDonald said. “My only hope is that with the new improvements that are soon to come, it will be easier to maintain off campus as well as on campus.”
Rape Aggression Defense course offered at Public Safety

BY MATTHEW ENFINGER
The George-Anne Staff

RAD is an acronym that stands for Rape Aggression Defense, and it is a women’s self-defense training course that Georgia Southern University’s Office of Public Safety offers to students.

“We’ve sent last early fall that we have a Health Hut that focuses on healthy relationships, creating strong workout plans and even on how to improve our relationship with Earth.”

The Health Hut will be moving around to different locations on campus. At each location, a new health-related topic will be covered. At each Health Hut location, there will be wellness ambassadors who have been trained to appropriately discuss these health-related topics with students.

“The University Wellness Program wants students to know that being well is not limited to eating healthy and exercising on a regular basis. While eating healthy and exercising are ways to improve your well-being, it is so much more,” Michelle Martin, the University Wellness Program director, said. “The Health Hut provides an opportunity to educate students on all seven dimensions of wellness in addition to serving as a way to meet students where they are.”

For more information about the University Wellness Program’s future events or the wellness ambassadors, check out the website’s program.

University Wellness Program hosts Health Hut at the Engineering Building

BY TARA BAILEY
The George-Anne Staff

The University Wellness Program’s Health Hut will return to Georgia Southern University this Wednesday at the Engineering Building from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Health Hut, which has been a part of campus since last spring, will have games to play and information to hand out to educate students about various health-related topics.

“Our Health Hut topics range from discussing resume tips with students to how to improve your sexual health,” Rebecca King, creator of the Health Hut, said. “So far we have already had a Health Hut that focuses on healthy relationships, creating strong workout plans and even on how to improve our relationship with Earth.”

The Health Hut will be moving around to different locations on campus. At each location, a new health-related topic will be covered. At each Health Hut location, there will be Wellness ambassadors who have been trained to appropriately discuss these health-related topics with students.

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For more information about the University Wellness Program’s future events or the Wellness ambassadors, check out the website’s program.

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 $250 - $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.

Spring 2017 Weekly Volunteer Trips Kickoff!

Want to make more of an impact Spring Semester than you did in the Fall? Take a trip, make a difference! The Office of Leadership and Community Engagement offers the unique opportunity for students to make an impact within Statesboro by going on weekly volunteer trips. Whether you want to volunteer with kids at the After School Program, help disburse meals at the Food Bank, help remodel a house with Habitat for Humanity, or have tons of fun with residents in long term care or rehabilitation programs, our office is your spot! Our fall volunteer trips are offered Monday-Saturday with times ranging from 8:45am to 1:34pm. Transportation is provided. Join your fellow students and engage the community. Sign up in the Office of Leadership & Community Engagement (907 U 1056) across from Chicks-Fil-A.

Monday: Heritage Inn 2-4 | ASP Horse Farms 3:00-5:15
Tuesday: Westwood Nursing Home 2:00-4:00 | After School Program CP & Creek 3:45-5:30
Wednesday: Statesboro Food Bank 12:30-2:30
Thursday: After School Program Julia P 3:30-5:30 | After School Garden Program 3:30-5:15
Friday: Statesboro Food Bank 9:45-12:15 | Habitat for Humanity 1:00-4:00

UPB Movie: Dr. Strange

Friday, February 10th 5:00-8:00 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. Saturday: Habitat for Humanity 8:45-12:00

UPB: Mr. GSU Scholarship Pageant

Informational Session Tuesday, February 7th & Thursday, February 9th
Wednesday, February 15th & Thursday, February 16th

Openings are available on our website now, check them out! Trip prices range between $250 -$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.

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Informational Session Tuesday, February 7th & Thursday, February 9th
Wednesday, February 15th & Thursday, February 16th
8:00 - 10:00 pm, Russell Union 252A
Mr. GSU attends traditional and community events and represents the student body in all that he does. Anyone that is interested in participating, must attend at least ONE information session (no exceptions) and submit an application that can be found on MyInvolvement.

Application timeline:
Opens: Tuesday, February 7th 7:30pm (via MyInvolvement)
Closes: Friday, February 24th at 4:00pm

Contestant Requirements:
Must be currently enrolled at Georgia Southern University for 12 or more hours.
Must have at least a 2.0 GPA.
Must have completed at least one semester at Georgia Southern University by date of pageant.
Must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the university.
Complete application, contract, etc., and submit to the Office of Student Activities.
Must not turn 21 years old during the year of service.

Contestants must meet all requirements to be eligible.

If you need assistance related to access for this event, please email: upb@georgiasouthern.edu 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.

For more information about the University Wellness Program’s future events or Wellness ambassadors, check out the website’s program.

The University Wellness Program began Health Huts last spring in an effort to educate Georgia Southern students about various health topics.
For those of you unfamiliar with the world of theater and drama, it is quite chaotic and equally demanding. The Georgia Southern Center for Art and Theater proves that in the constant content they produce from showcases to events to productions and everything in between.

One specific event the CAT is preparing for is the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival which will be hosted here at GS for the first time ever. The event, which will start Tuesday, Feb. 8 will go on until Saturday Feb. 11.

What is the KCACTF?

“The KCACTF is a national organization based in the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. who’s mission is to support college and university theater and from showcases to lectures and productions from our theater department and other universities’ theater departments alike. It [the festival] covers every aspect of theater. You can think of it as a whole ‘nother level of student development and networking,” Abbott said.

Not only is the KCACTF an event for GS theater students to network and learn from, but they will be active in managing the event as a whole. "Hosting [the KCACTF] is a whole ‘nother level of student activity. Not only will they [GS theater students] be participating, but they will be incredibly actively engaged in monitoring the festival as well," Abbott said.

Along with workshops and lectures taking place during the festival, live productions that were invited from different universities will be performed throughout the four days. One production in particular, She Kills Monsters, a GS original production, will be performed on the evening of the opening day of the festival at 8:30 p.m.

The Competitive side of Theater

It’s not just fun and games at the KCACTF. The students that have been nominated, from GS and other universities alike, will be competing throughout the duration of the festival to win a chance to compete in D.C. and each division’s competition is different, but fierce nonetheless.

"This festival is [theater students’] opportunity to show off their creative works to national respondents," Abbott said.

With close to one thousand drama and theater students from universities all around the Southeast who will be attending various workshops, lectures and productions from our theater department and other universities’ theater departments alike.

What to Expect

For those four days, the GS campus will be flooded with everything in between, have to present their works to esteemed designers in the theater world and explain the process behind their designs and why they decided to create the designs that they did.

Dramaturgs and Stage Managers

Dramaturgs and stage managers must compose collections of research and notes from their works on previous productions and present them to interviewers in one on one interviews about their processes and what they have accomplished during their time in theater work.

Writers

Nominated writers are required to attend workshops but also attend the performances that will occur during the festival and write about them on the spot, then the writers must post their works on Facebook and on the KCACTF website where their works will be judged immediately after submission.

Nominated Directors

Nominated directors will be competing for a scholarship known as the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, where said nominees are given a scene in advance and must prepare the scene to be performed in front of a panel of judges. This competition, much like the Irene Ryan Scholarship competition, requires the nominated directors to direct their scenes through three rounds of judgement.
Q&A With GS Theater Student Nominees

The following GS students were nominated to compete for scholarships during the KCACTF, each with nominations in vastly different genres of the theatrical world.

Q: Where did your passion for theater/drama start?

Kathryn: “I always had a flair for the dramatic when I was a kid, but I didn’t get into acting until I was in high school and I did plays there almost the entire time. [while in high school] I auditioned for the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts and I got in, and I went up to live in Brooklyn for a month while I studied at the conservatory. That was like my first real immersion into the world of theater and what it really meant.”

Sierra: “In high school, we [with my mom] started our own theater program for my high school and I was really hands on with it. Then when I got to college I started as a chemistry major but decided that’s not what I wanted to do and theater is what I really love. I was really into lighting design but then I took a class on stage management and completely fell in love with it.”

Annaliyah: “I was always performing [as a kid] singing in the choir, being in church theater, stuff like that, I was always active. I had always been on the outskirts of the theater program [here at GS] until I eventually switched to a theater major. Being with the theater people...were very welcoming. It was very much like a family unit and having that family away from family is kind of what drew me in. I’ve always really been into theater, I want musical theater to be my life.”

Q: How did you get nominated to compete at KCACTF?

Kathryn: “I was nominated for Irene Ryans for my role as Gerta in Crumbs from “The Table of Joy” last semester which was directed by Mical Whitaker and just last spring I decided to dramaturg rather than being on stage and I did dramaturgy for “Twelfth Night.” It was my first shot at dramaturgy and I didn’t know exactly what to expect but I ended up falling in love with it. It’s all about finding research and finding information that’s relevant to the cast and the director and the designers.

Sierra: “I was nominated for my efforts as stage manager during the production of “Twelfth Night” last spring. As a stage manager basically what I do is help communicate between the designers and the director and crew and make sure everyone is on the same page and everything goes smoothly. I am a very organized person and basically what a stage manager is supposed to do is stay organized and keep everything in line.”

Annaliyah: “I was nominated for my role as Maria in “Twelfth Night”. When you put a lot of work into something and then present it to someone, it’s like a very euphoric experience. Basically you practice, you rehearse and competition time you present and either you move on or not. It’s very nerve-wracking but very exciting.”

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January 30 - February 17

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1. Photo taken by Xavier Robertson.
2. Photo taken by Kelly Lowery.
3. Photo taken by Kiara Griffin.
TIME TO RELOAD

National Signing Day has become a circus of social media, live broadcasts of letter-of-intent signings, and publicized recruiting battles. 18-year-old young men are thrust into the spotlight with sometimes dramatic commitment announcements. This year, Georgia Southern’s recruiting class ranks third in the Sun Belt Conference behind Texas State and Troy, according to ratings by 247SPORTS.com. It includes 22 recruits from around Georgia and the Southeast region. Reloading will be crucial after the losses of some key seniors. Here are a few quick profiles of some of the new faces that may earn significant playing time next season.

JOHN WESLEY KENNEDY III (RB)
5’10” 181 lbs. Savannah, Ga.
• With the departure of Matt Breida, multiple backs will share the load next season, including possibly Kennedy III.
• Played at powerhouse Benedictine Military School alongside fellow GS recruit Chris Harris Jr.
• MaxPreps.com rated Kennedy III as the no. 11 running back in the state of Georgia.

BRIAN MILLER (DT)
6’4” 266 lbs. Savannah, Ga.
• Another standout player from Savannah should vie for playing time with the losses of six seniors up front.
• Averaged over 7 tackles per game as an interior lineman his senior season at Memorial Day School
• Turned down power conference schools such as NC State to stay local and play for the Eagles.

TOMARCIO REECE (OLB)
6’0” 215 lbs. Senatobia, Miss.
• Reese and others will compete to replace the productive graduate Ironhead Gallon, who had 10 or more tackles six times last season.
• Started at Northwest Mississippi Community College (junior college) and Eastern Arizona College
• Rated as the ninth-best outside linebacker in the nation by 247SPORTS
• Rated the no. 217 overall recruit in the nation by 247SPORTS
• Played HS at Colquitt County for prominent coach Rush Propst, featured in the MTV series Two-a-Days
• Led Colquitt Co. to state 6A title his senior season.

KENTON TUCKER (DE)
6’4” 258 lbs. Jacksonville, Fla.
• Kenton Tucker will likely see a decent amount of action as a freshman, with six senior defensive linemen graduating after last season.
• Ran track in high school
• Rated as the no. 32 DE nationally by 247SPORTS
• Rated as the ninth-best overall recruit in the nation by 247SPORTS
• Featured in the MTV series Two-a-Days
• Led Colquitt Co. to state 6A title his senior season.

Brian #51 Miller @The_Swamp51 Feb 1
Glad I’m gonna be playing college ball with my Savannah brothers @chrisdobee32 @MollysBextie #HailSouthern #Savage17

Tomarcio Reese @TomarcioReese33 Jan 31
Big moment in my football career I always been wanting so thankful to sign D1 Football Georgia Southern

Kenton @Future_D1_kid Jan 22
I would like to thank all the coaches that helped develop me as a player. I’ve worked very hard for this opportunity. I’m proud to announce that I have committed to Georgia-Southern University. #Savage17 #GATA
The Georgia Southern University men’s basketball team (14-8) returns home to play against Louisiana-Monroe (7-15) after a hard weekend in Alabama. The Eagles lost to South Alabama and Troy, turning the conference into a three-way tie for first after starting conference play 7-0.

The Eagles didn’t play well on this road last weekend after getting dominated in the second half against South Alabama and failing their comeback attempt on Troy. In both games neither sophomores Ike Smith or Tookie Brown scored more than 15 points.

The losses last weekend may have been the wake up call the Eagles needed to finish out the season. They are considered the favorite in most of their Sun Belt games, but have not been able to take care of teams until the end of the game. Having these losses shows them they can’t afford to play down to any teams in conference or have bad starts they can’t come back from.

The ULM Warhawks won in their last game, their only conference win, but they have the ability to hang around with teams until the very end. Winning their last game will give the Warhawks confidence for their game against the Eagles.

In their last match-up with GS, they lost by two points at home, so the Eagles know they have to be prepared in the rematch. The Eagles will have to key on junior guards Marvin Jean-Pierre who scored 18 points in the last match-up and Sam McDaniel, the Warhawks leading scorer and second leading rebounder averaging 12.4 points and 7.5 rebounds per game.

The Eagles will need their back-court trio of Smith, Brown and junior Mike Hughes to step up in this game if they want to get back on track. They play this Saturday at 5 p.m.
Donald Trump Doesn’t Read
And That’s A Problem

A Brief Lesson in Semantics

Donald Trump is president. A working knowledge of grammar is key for unpacking that sentence. Notice I did not say our president; I refuse to claim democratic legitimacy for a Russian puppet who only received 25.5 percent of all Americans’ votes.

You might also note that I did not capitalize “president,” for I cannot in good conscience dignify a man lacking empathy, or at least possesses a stunted amount of it. This is a person who doesn’t read a person who lacks empathy, or at least possesses a stunted amount of it. This means listening to the immigrants and refugees Trump has turned away, learning their stories and refusing to define them by their countries’ borders.

Breaking Precedent

But you have to wonder if he reads his print detractors at all, for Trump has made it clear several times in interviews that he does not read. He’s even said he doesn’t like reading memos that top his desk, for Trump has not developed the empathy required to relate to the public he now serves.

Empathy and Leadership

When Trump doesn’t like a journalist’s portrayal of him, he cries fake news, a tactic I’d accuse him of stealing from 1984 if the man actually read. But he doesn’t. He read “Macbeth,” he might understand that hunger for power can be fatal. If he read “King Lear,” he’d be wary of the fate that befalls callous, self-obsessed leaders.

If he read any literature at all, he might know how to construct a grammatically-sound sentence on Twitter, or maybe he would have developed the critical thinking skills necessary to govern a country.

If he deigned to pick up a novel, he might recognize for the first time the sheer number of diverse voices in America and all over the world, and maybe, just maybe, he would listen.

A person who doesn’t read is a person who lacks empathy, or at least possesses a stunted amount of it. Empathy grants one the ability to see past exteriors, something Trump proved himself incapable of with his recent immigration ban. How else could he turn away refugees in good conscience?
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