Step Up to the Plate
Baseball team opens season at renovated J.I.
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Musical Paradise
Bands playing at AURA Fest talk music, the festival and community
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GS seniors face high graduation costs
Pages 4-5
Check out how Georgia Southern students feel about zodiac signs!

circlegs.com/zodiac-signs/

The end of the week should bring some pretty varied weather. Moderate temperatures are coupled with the looming threat of rain on Saturday.

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**BY CASEY ROHLEN**
the reflector staff

In a generation reared from the cradle with an iPhone as a pacifier and the internet as a blanket, the dating game is not what it used to be. Long gone are the days of lonely hearts ads and taking your sweetheart to the ice cream parlor. Instead, smartphone apps used to find a quick date or hookup like Tinder or Grindr are becoming increasingly popular among teens and young adults.

Even in the ruthless app-dating game, there’s no reason to sell yourself short or settle for a dude in a cutoff jean jacket (unless you’re really into Bruce Springsteen). There are just some things that ladies won’t go for if you give a bad first screen impression. These are your dating app red flags.

20-year-old junior Georgia Southern student Jessica*, a self-described bisexual and hopeless romantic, said that while she’s tried several apps to find the right person for her she’s now content with just sticking to Tinder. One of her biggest red flags is if you have a sassy profile, her level of interest swipes left as fast as she can move her finger.

Besides being too crabby in your bio, there is also the issue of being too bland. Alyssa*, a 19-year-old Georgia Southern sophomore, said that she needs a guy that has a sense of humor in his bio. Besides being a savvy wordsmith, she also requires that you be straight up about your pictures.

“I can put looks aside if a guy is funny or interesting, but you know if all his pictures are of him in a group of friends then he isn’t that confident,” Alyssa said with a laugh. “You have to play ‘Where’s Waldo’ in these pictures to find out which one is him and it’s like okay well now I’ve already worked too hard to care. Just put yourself out there, you’re already on Tinder.”

Then there are the classic red herrings, like girls or guys who only have pictures of their faces or from the chest up. Freshmen GS student Emily* said she doesn’t care about a guy’s body if he is not in too bad of shape, but there’s a limit.

These apps are all about riding that fine line. If you aren’t cute and you know it, you may want to start working on your pickup lines. Maybe even steal a joke or two because while girls may be less pretentious than guys (depending on who you ask) they still want you to have something going for you.

Some people want to see what you look like after the gym, but others find it unbecoming. Some suitors want people to be funny, but don’t want people to be too crass. Whatever you do, you can’t be afraid to put yourself out there and show some charisma. In the end, after a long day of hitting the Tinder slopes, all you can hope for is that you’ve made it out unscathed and hell, maybe you even got lucky. Happy hunting.

Read more at reflectorgsu.com.
New bill could limit Georgia universities’ role in sexual assault cases

BY MATTHEW ENFINGER

Georgia Rep. Earle Ehrhart proposed House Bill 51 (HB51) last month, and if passed, the bill would limit the role of Georgia colleges and universities in the investigation and punishment of sexual assault cases.

Ehrhart proposed the new bill this January in hopes of protecting sexual assault victims as well as the accused and limit Georgia universities’ involvement in sexual assault cases.

Currently, the Office of Title IX Coordinator is responsible for overseeing and resolving sexual assault complaints. A hearing is also conducted by the Title IX Coordinator with a designated panel of no less than seven members, none of whom are students.

Institutions under the new bill would need to investigate campus sexual abuse claims unless police were involved.

Instead, school officials will be required to report any information regarding sexual assault felonies to the law enforcement of the jurisdiction in which the institution is located.

“Georgia Southern Speaks

“It would be a huge disservice to our students,” Laura McCullough, police chief at Georgia Southern University, said in response to the proposed bill.

McCullough said she would prefer a collaborative process to increase transparency instead of “handing over cases to another agency.”

Joel Wright, GS equal opportunity director and Title IX coordinator, said the university’s involvement in sexual assault cases benefits students by “shining a light on to the issue as a whole and giving it the focus that it needs to have.”

Wright said the judicial process is fair through procedural safeguards all throughout the process, as stated in the University System of Georgia’s (USG) sexual misconduct policy, that help to ensure everyone’s due process is being taken into consideration.

Wright also stated that investigators have all been certified and trained, as opposed to Rep. Ehrhart’s claims that universities are under-trained.

“Our universities have not only been trained by the USG, which is a requirement, but also by other national organizations,” Wright said.

Although many changes are estimated to come from HB51, student’s access to on-campus counseling should not be affected due to the fact that counseling centers are covered under Georgia law by privileged communication.

“I think it’s important for victims of sexual violence to have options,” Jodi Caldwell, director of the Counseling Center, said. She said her department is attending a meeting to see if and how the counseling department could be affected by HB51.

William Lee, freshman marketing major, said HB51 could be “a good thing,” but believes the university should still be involved.

Lee said, “Anything negative that happens affects the student campus and the student body, so [the university] should have a hand in it.”

Language of Lingerie

Lavish’d Love Story fashion show

BY NATALIE TURMAN

Visage, a Georgia Southern University student fashion company, is partnering with Dyverzion Dance team to host this year’s Language of Lingerie show, Lavish’d Love Story.

The show goes along with a photo shoot conducted by Ricky Jones, president of Visage and senior merchandising and apparel major and Jalen Collins, freshman undeclared major and model and photographer for Visage.

About Visage and Dyverzion

“With the photo shoots that we do, we try to use every model, whatever they look like, however much they weigh, it doesn’t really matter just as long as the final product is beautiful, that’s our main goal,” Collins said.

Visage was created three years ago by Morgan Tatum. The organization has more than 150 members, divided into a model troupe, glam squad and PR agency. The executive board is made up of about 24 students who play a major role in the group and their events around campus. The organization also has four major values: body positivity, comradeship, fashion by all means and professionalism.

“Visage is open to all students on the campus of Georgia Southern and pretty much what we do is work on the advancement of fashion through styling, design, hair, makeup, modeling and anything under the umbrella of fashion,” Jones said.

The organization hosts four big events each year. They include The Style-off, Underground Exposure, Language of Lingerie and big final show at the end of the spring semester.

For the future, Visage wants to include more scouting on campus and more pop-up modeling opportunities. They also want to grow the presence on campus by working with more organizations and getting more students involved.

“This year we have really tried to innovate and cultivate our events to make them more friendly to everybody and to get more people to come,” Jones said.

The other student organization involved in the show is the Dyverzion Dance Team.

Dyverzion has been a dance team here on campus since 1996. They have participated in various events and hosted flash mobs around campus. The group currently consists of 24 members. They will have their big show “Lit Since 96” later this semester.

Language of Lingerie

This year’s Language of Lingerie show is the Lavish’d Love Story, a show with seven students and their thoughts on what love is. The show will have poetry, live music and other performances and is scheduled for Feb. 24 in the Russell

Georgia Southern remembers Lt. Roach, a True Blue Eagle

BY MATTHEW ENFINGER

“It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Frank Roach, a member of the University Police Department,” Laura McCullough, police chief at Georgia Southern University, said in response to the proposed bill.

In 20, Roach began his career at GS as the Certification Manager of Georgia Southern Public Safety.

Lt. Roach was 60 when he died this Saturday after staying at the East Georgia Regional Medical Center.

“He will be missed by many in the community, not only here at Georgia Southern, but in Bulloch County and Statesboro as well,” McCullough said.

The family will receive visitors on Monday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home in Statesboro. Funeral Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the chapel of the Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home. Internment will be in the Eastside Cemetery.

For more information, visit the obituary of Frank Roach.
The post secondary field has seen an increase in graduation fees over the years and Georgia Southern is no exception, spending thousands of dollars each year to make the ceremonies as perfect and seamless as possible.

Everybody who plans to graduate must pay anywhere between 200 to 2,000 in order to walk at graduation, have keepsakes from the event and to celebrate the big day.

Pomp and costs

There are many details when it comes to planning graduation. GS collects the required $35 graduation fee from every graduating student in order to pay for its expenses, but commencement speakers are not included.

"Commencement speakers are not paid [by the] speaking fee," Geoffrey Carson, associate university attorney of the office of legal affairs, said.

GS has had multiple commencement speakers for graduation ceremonies but the graduation fee does not pay for them to speak at the event, but it does reimburse the speakers for travel and stay.

Other things the fee covers are the cost of diploma covers, honor cords and printing and mailing the diplomas, according to Velma Burden, registrar of Administrative Services.

Oh the prices you’ll pay

Besides the graduation fee that students will have to pay, graduates will need to rent or purchase a cap and gown from Herff-Jones. Herff-Jones cap and gown rentals start anywhere from $25 to $50, but if you plan on purchasing your cap and gown as a keepsake then the price can be up to $100. All sizing information needs to be sent in six weeks prior to the deadline or there will be a late fee, according to the Herff-Jones website.

The graduation fee, in addition to cap and gown rentals, will be the bare minimum graduates will have to pay for graduation. It is a custom for people to celebrate an accomplishment, such as graduating from college, with keepsakes, announcements and parties.

Some common mementos such as diploma frames and class rings are offered through GS. At the GS Bookstore, students can purchase diploma frames starting at $129.00.

"People normally put off getting frames until the week before finals or even during finals week, but prices will go up so its better to get them sooner than later," Martina Rainis, student employee at the GS Bookstore, said.

Students tend to do this because it takes approximately six to eight weeks after the last class for diplomas to be sent to your address.

Students can also purchase class rings through the GS website. Women’s rings start at $269.00 and men’s start at $299.00 for basic ring designs. Prices can go up depending on size, if it’s personalized and ring/gem types, according to the GS website.

It’s [graduation fee] really inexpensive compared to other schools. For my high school graduation, I had to pay $50.

MARIA ORDONEZ
Senior civil engineering major
Grad fast facts

Everybody who plans to graduate must pay anywhere between $200 to $2,000 in order to walk at graduation.

Cap and gown rentals start anywhere from $25 to $50, but can be up to $100 if you want to own it.

Diploma frames start at $129.00.

Class Rings
Women’s rings start at $269.00 while men’s rings start $299.00 for basic ring designs.

$35 the amount of money GS collects for a graduation fee.

And the extras

Graduation announcements are another common tradition. At the GS Postal Service Center located inside Dining Commons, they offer deals where they can send out announcements in 24 hours of ordering and start as low as $0.85 per announcement letter.

You can also order announcements as well as diploma frames past the date of your graduation, but prices will go up the further you are into graduation season.

GS’ 2017 Spring graduation will take place May 5 and 6 in Hanner Fieldhouse. Each graduating student will receive four graduation tickets at no cost, but attendees of the commencement will have to pay for travel costs.

People coming to see the graduation will have to consider traveling costs such as food, gas and a place to stay. Depending on how far your guests are coming from and how long they plan to stay, costs will vary in price. Guests should attempt to book a hotel as soon as possible due to rates increasing near graduation.

According to the Holiday Inn website, if you book now, a one-bed two-guest hotel room for any given weekend will be approximately $150. During graduation weekend, in order to get exact same room, it will double in price. Several other hotels in the Statesboro area like Springfield Inn & Suites and the Baymont Inn & Suites are already booked for graduation weekend.

Some graduating students feel as if the cost of graduation is relatively inexpensive compared to other graduations. Others feel as if the fee is unnecessary and too much.

Maria Ordonez, senior civil engineering student believes the price isn’t that bad, compared to others.

“It’s [graduation fee] really inexpensive compared to other schools. For my high school graduation, I had to pay $50,” Ordonez said.

In contrast, Rashad Davis, communication studies major, thinks that all the prices that go into school is crazy.

Davis said, “I think it’s crazy that you have to pay to apply for the school, then pay for classes and pay to graduate and you’re not guaranteed a job after college.”

People normally put off getting frames until the week before finals or even during finals week, but prices will go up so it’s better to get them sooner than later.”

MARTINA RAINIS
GS Bookstore employee
The Vagina Monologues is an episodic play that caused a lot of conversation on Georgia Southern’s campus back in Spring of 2014. Now in 2017, the Vagina Monologues has returned to GS to continue these conversations.

Back in 2007, Lori Amy, professor of women’s studies, brought the tradition of the Vagina Monologues to GS. The GS chapter of the National Organization for Women will be hosting the Vagina Monologues this week in which the monologues will consist of different stories about women and their sexuality.

“Some of the stories are people telling their stories to maybe a close friend, or even possibly a stranger. Some acts will have poetry. They are all different kinds of celebrations of women’s sexuality,” Andy Schille, one of the first directors of the Women and Gender Studies Department here at GS, said.

“Different women such as heterosexual women, transgender women, lesbian women, women who have undergone ‘female circumcision’ and women giving birth. So it’s a celebration of female sexuality back before it was fashionable.”

Schille will be a speaker at Vagina Monologues in which she will tell the story of an older woman that went through something tragic as a young girl, who was scarred and basically killed for any desire for sexual fulfillment. This is just one of the many stories that will be told.

“NOW hasn’t had a production since the Spring of 2014, so this is our first year doing it because the membership of NOW has been fairly low as well as the financial ability to put on a performance of the Vagina Monologues,” Brieana Williams, senior writing and linguistics major and GS chapter vice-president of NOW, said. “This is the first year we are able to do it and we definitely want to keep that tradition alive, because it does benefit so many people and it does start that conversation.”

NOW at Georgia Southern

NOW is an organization that wants women to feel free in their own self. They want women from all different backgrounds, different experiences, different ages and even different sexualities to come together as one and talk about the true issues at hand. The chapter here at GS focuses on the equitable treatment of everyone and the social injustices that women can face.

“Our mission on campus is to try to initiate dialogues on campus that will help foster empathy. You know there are certain conversations that can be challenging to have when you live in the conservative self and so our goal is to try to start those conversations without anyone feeling prosecuted and get to the path of mutual equity,” Rebecca Foster, writing and linguistics major and GS chapter president of NOW, said.
Here at GS, the members at NOW believe that hosting the Vagina Monologues is their contribution to the feminist movement. It allows all different types of women to come together as one and talk about the issues they deal with on a day to day basis.

"People should come out because ticket proceeds will be donated to helping people who have survived sexual assault and get onto the path of healing that’s best for them. [It’s] a really worthy cause on a college campus in a college town knowing that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 16 men have reported being sexually assaulted," Foster said.

The goal of Vagina Monologues is to act as a safe zone for people who are afraid to speak up about their experiences and know that the support is there.

The Vagina Monologues will be held in the Russell Union Theatre on Feb. 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. Early arrival is suggested.

1. The entire cast participates in the introduction. There are 17 total themes in the entire Vagina Monologues, including the introduction.

The cast includes:

- Dr. Brenda Blackwell
- Asya Fields
- Sam Watt
- Jessica Vue
- Kat Delghingaro
- Dr. Candy Schille
- Peyton Rowe
- Brooke Fulton
- Rebecca Frost
- Brie Williams
- Daja Hansel-Coates
- Liz Wilson
- Tori Townes
- Ashanti Hardy
- Azi Dennison

A member of the GS chapter of NOW selling tickets before the show.

"This is the first year we are able to do it and we definitely want to keep that tradition alive, because it does benefit so many people and it does start that conversation"

BRIEANA WILLIAMS
GS chapter NOW Vice President

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A brick path is winding into the distance. The walkway intertwines with flowers, shrubs and lawns. The path leads you to a patio covered by wooden rafters that provide shade.

Eventually, you make your way to a stage where bands from across the United States are performing. Bands ranging from the rock to metal genres will play at the AURA Fest rock-and-roll festival this Saturday, Feb. 18.

Members from two of these bands took the time to explain who their bands are and gave insight into what makes their bands unique.

**Vatican**

The members of this band are Savannah locals. They have been playing music together for two years, according to the guitarist, Nolan David Mobley.

Vatican’s brand of music can be summarized as a blend of metal and hardcore genres, characterized by blazing guitar riffs and haunting yet energetic vocals.

“We would definitely consider ourselves more hardcore because of the community mentality aspect of things. We just play within the hardcore community,” Mobley said. “Aside from things like this fest every now and then, we get to play things like [with] more exposed metal bands.”

Mobley appreciates hardcore communities for the supportive attitude they display. He described how that can help with Vatican booking shows or, vice versa, helping other bands book shows.

He also mentioned that Vatican is most excited to play with Unearth and Zao at the music festival.

“I was listening to Unearth in high school because my friend gave me ‘The March’ CD...that was a great album. I really liked it through high school, and I definitely think it influenced my playing for sure,” Mobley said.

Vatican has recently released music of their own, in the form of a four-way split record. A split record is similar to a compilation CD because it has multiple artists on it. However, it typically has fewer artists represented on it than a compilation.

Vatican has two songs on the record, “Walls of Regression” and “Before It Fades”. Their friends in the Long Island band, Sanction, along with Oregon’s Funerals and Iron Curtain from California, also have two songs each on the release.

“Those songs were the first two songs we got to write with this lineup. I would say those are fairly accurate songs of what we sound like now,” Mobley said.

He believes that it is important for Vatican to always have a raw, natural sound.

“Rather than like overly produced. I’d just rather our music be straightforward... same for our performance. We hope that people will enjoy it and want to move around,” Mobley said.
The Funeral Portrait

This group has performed alongside artists such as Islander, Capture the Crown and Alesana. Lee Jennings, the lead singer of The Funeral Portrait, outlined the band’s sound.

“The easiest way [to describe it] would probably be just a raw, real, fast, emotional rock band,” Lee Jennings said.

The band used to be called Cosmoscope, but the members changed its name when they decided upon a new vision for it and wrote their EP “For the Dearly Departed”.

“It’s honestly the same band. At the time, we had all the same members and everything. We just decided to kind of just go with the new name and feel towards the band, kind of like a new chapter for us,” Jennings said.

As they transitioned into a new chapter of the band, Jennings explained that there was only one significant lineup change.

“The only thing that really changed [is] that our guitar player, Steve, moved to drums, and our drummer, Juergie, moved to guitar,” Jennings said. “That way, it gave Juergie a better condition to be the secondary vocalist in our band.”

They toured full-time in support of “For the Dearly Departed” for about two years. It took them a while to get to the right place to write another record, according to Jennings.

Their EP had a lot of orchestra sounds to it, which gave it a sort of theatrical quality. With the new album, Jennings wanted to focus on guitar riffs first and then add in supplementary sounds like synthesizers.

He hoped that the new record would be a more real, emotional version of who they were musically. He thinks that The Funeral Portrait will continue to change how it sounds.

“I don’t think we’ll ever be the same band ‘sounding-wise’ per release. That’s just not who we are as people, or who we are as musicians either,” Jennings said.

He elaborated that he and the other members of The Funeral Portrait wanted their new album, “A Moment of Silence”, to be a more mature release. He thought it should reflect their growth from being a band for two years.

“You can get bored with a band if you pop in record after record after record, and it sounds exactly the same,” Jennings said.

He talked about how when they play shows, he and the other band members always seek to give performances all their effort.

“Sometimes, it can be a weird, dangerous rock show where Juergie will take off his guitar and swing it above his head...there will be times where I'll jump off the amps or something,” Jennings said. “We always try to put on a great live show so that when people leave, they think, ‘Oh I have to go back and see TFP’,” Jennings said.

He added that, since the band has grown, they have been able to expand and play a few festivals. However, AURA Fest will be the biggest festival they have played so far.

For a complete setlist and other information can be found on the Facebook page “AURA Fest (All Underground Rock All Day) 2017.”

Foods & Beverages

Dark Shark Taco Attack
Molly McPherson’s Kona Ice

For 21+
attendees

Southbound Brewing
Pabst Blue Ribbon
Deep Eddy Vodka

The Funeral Portrait will play on the first stage at 2:50 p.m.
Vatican will follow, playing on the second stage at 5:05 p.m.
The Georgia Southern men’s basketball team suffered another road loss on Monday night, falling to rival Appalachian State, 83-78, in Boone, N.C. The Eagles have now lost their last four games on the road, while winning their last eight in Hanner Fieldhouse.

**MONDAY’S GAME**

Sophomore guard Tookie Brown had a monster game for GS, scoring 32 points - 20 in the second half - while grabbing a team-high 9 rebounds and dishing out five assists.

"He brings it every night," GS head coach Mark Byington said of Brown. "He plays with the gas pedal pushed all the way to the floor."

Brown’s backcourt mate, sophomore Ike Smith, scored 19 points and grabbed 5 rebounds, but he committed 6 turnovers as well. App State’s bench outscored the GS bench, 25-12. The Mountaineers were able to outlast the Eagles on their home floor at the Holmes Convocation Center.

"Going on the road in college basketball is hard," Byington said.

App State junior forward Griffin Kinney scored 25 points and had nine rebounds to lead four Mountaineers who scored in double figures on Monday. Kinney shot 20 free throws, making 13 of them in addition to 6-10 shooting from the field.

Sophomore guard Romshad Shabazz and freshman guard Patrick Good contributed 12 and 11 points, respectively, for App State. Sophomore guard Emarias Logan scored 10 points, rounding out the Mountaineers’ balanced attack.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Byington explained that his team’s defense will be the deciding factor in determining whether the Eagles can win a Sun Belt Championship and contend for an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

"We’re constantly growing," Byington said. "We have certain guys who are really improving but the team defense and finishing with rebounds, sometimes we’re lacking in those areas."

Monday’s loss puts the Eagles, at 9-4 in the conference, in a three-way tie with Georgia State and Arkansas State for second place in the Sun Belt and half a game behind conference-leading University of Texas-Arlington (9-3). The Eagles will have a chance to play both Arkansas State and Georgia State among their last three regular-season games, both on the road.

GS will play their next two games at home, with Texas State coming to Hanner on Saturday at 5 p.m. and the UT-Arlington Mavericks coming on Monday at 7 p.m.

The Sun Belt Tournament begins March 8 in New Orleans.
Baseball is coming to the newly renovated J.I. Clements Stadium this weekend as the Blue Raiders of Middle Tennessee visit Statesboro for a three-game series. The games will take place Friday at 6:30 p.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m.

**Returning Players**

The Eagles return several significant starters after finishing with a record of 36-24 last season. Among the returners are five players who batted .280 or better last season as part of a balanced offense. Junior outfielder Logan Baldwin led the group with a .304 average, while senior infielder Dylan Cleveland smashed 15 homers and had 55 RBI and a .404 on-base percentage to lead Georgia Southern.

Sophomore right-handed pitcher Chase Cohen and senior left-hander Evan Challenger will return to lead the Eagles’ starting pitching staff. Last year, Cohen earned a 2.66 ERA over 15 starts, finishing the season with a 4-3 record as a starter. Challenger pitched the most innings (103) among Eagle pitchers, and won the most decisions, finishing the season 7-5 with a 3.14 ERA. Senior right-handed relief pitcher Brandon Hughes finished last season with an impressive 2.47 ERA over 24 appearances while notching four saves as well.

**Weekend Series**

The Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders return a prolific hitter in senior shortstop Riley Delgado. Delgado started all 55 games last year for MT, finishing with a .388 batting average, a freaky-good .492 on-base percentage, and 80 hits on the season. Senior outfielder Brad Jarreau hit .298 last year, and sophomore outfielder Blake Benfield led the Blue Raiders with 8 home runs and 32 RBIs.

**Looking Ahead**

After playing Middle Tennessee, the Eagles will host Georgia Tech for a game at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 21. Subsequently, GS will remain at Clements Stadium and play host to the Georgia Bulldogs in a three-game series beginning on Friday, Feb. 24.

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**Biggest Series of the Season**

- **UGA**
  - 02/24, 02/25 & 02/26
  - STATESBORO, GA.
- **APP State**
  - 04/13, 04/14 & 04/15
  - STATESBORO, GA.
- **Coastal Carolina**
  - 04/21, 04/22 & 04/23
  - CONWAY, S.C.
- **Ragin' Cajuns**
  - 05/05, 05/06 & 05/07
  - LAFAYETTE, LA.
- **Georgia State**
  - 05/18, 05/19 & 05/20
  - LAFAYETTE, LA.
WOMEN’S TENNIS SWEEP SAVANNAH STATE

BY MARCUS WILLIAMS
The Georgia Southern

The Georgia Southern University’s women’s tennis team (5-1) beat the Savannah State Tigers at home. The Eagles swept the Tigers 7-0, gaining an early 2-0 lead after defeating the Tigers in doubles and receiving a forfeit point because the Tigers didn’t have enough players to play on all courts.

DOUBLE MATCHES

Senior Mariana Ranzahuer and sophomore Lindsay Truscott won their doubles match 6-2 against Lochu and Pastore. Sophomore Christian and freshman Nikki Gilner won their match 6-3 against Vivas and el Kateb.

“...we are feeling really confident. We’re on a 5-1 streak, which is really good for us because we have Georgia Tech coming up next weekend, I think it’s pretty strong...” Eliza Monsey, junior, said.

“Award week after the football season officially ended with Tom Brady and the New England Patriots winning another championship, a man who is very familiar with earning accolades and honors returned to Statesboro.

Monday afternoon, former Georgia Southern running back Adrian Peterson visited to talk about his recent induction into the College Football Hall of Fame, his book, ‘Don’t Dis My Abilities,’ and his life.

Before speaking with the students in the Rusted Union Ballroom as a part of Georgia Southern’s Wellness Week Monday night, Peterson took time to talk to the media.

When talking about receiving the news about his induction into the Hall of Fame, “a big smile came across (his) face,” and he was quick to thank all of those that paved the way and helped him reach this honor.

BIG MATCH-UP

On court one that features each team’s number-one player, Riepe faced off against Lochu, and the match lasted over an hour after all other matches ended. Riepe lost the first set 4-6 but battled back to win the second set 6-3 in a match-up with two evenly matched players. The third set was a crucial time and growing point for Riepe as she came from behind, 4-0 down, to beat Lochu 10-8.

“It was really good [that Riepe battled back]. We have a lot to talk about—about that match, it was definitely more of a mental battle for her than anything, so just working on that confidence and coming into that mental side of the game is going to help her,” Michelle Stanford, head coach, said.

The win was big for Riepe because, in the Eagles previous game against the University of Central Florida, she lost in two sets and lost a close match earlier in the season in the same type of situation.

The Eagles’ next game is against 11-ranked Georgia Tech at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18.
Independent Thinkers

JANA RENZ

Renz is a freshman music education major from Statesboro. This is a guest column.

What this country needs are independent thinkers. I am ashamed of the partisan politics being orchestrated by our nation’s leaders. Our elected officials are so caught up in opposing the other party, they aren’t doing the jobs they were elected to do. The hate rhetoric encourages citizens, and some university students, to be caught up in emotional anger and even violence.

I once heard an African folk tale that can illustrate this. The folk tale tells of a village school which was situated in a mountainous region. The children were progressing well in their studies. But, not far from the school was a dangerous cliff. Although warned of the danger, children would often play too close to the edge. Occasionally, a child would slip and fall to the rocky ground below. Some were seriously injured and it was a long way to the hospital in another village.

The people were greatly distressed over this situation and decided something must be done. “If we build a clinic at the bottom of the cliff, when a child falls, we will be able to get him medical care right away!” “This is just what we need,” everyone agreed. They excitedly began making plans and preparations for their new clinic.

One day, the people looked up and saw one lone man with hammer and nails piecing together heavy wooden rails at the top of the cliff. “Would it not be better that none of the children fall than that we repair their broken bodies at the bottom of the cliff?”

THERE IS MORE THAN ONE WAY TO SOLVE A PROBLEM. It doesn’t make someone a child-hater, just because he would rather build a fence than a clinic.

Politically speaking, there is a lot of hype and misinformation out there. Someone starts a rumor, then it is quoted as fact, repeated exponentially, and everyone jumps on the political bandwagon.

President Trump is neither all good nor all bad, but he is an independent thinker. Yasmeen Waliaga’s article, “What’s the Deal With These Orders?” on the Feb. 9 issue, is a good example of informed independent thinking.

Be an independent thinker. Following the flock is for the birds.

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Whose house? Your house!

Customize
Search
Compare
The George-Anne 2/16/17 Crossword

Across
1. Fringe benefit  
5. Colorful fish  
9. Military installations  
14. Doing business  
15. Low-lying area  
16. Oranjestad’s island  
17. Work garments  
19. Eagle’s claw  
20. Eyes  
21. Aura  
23. Serf  
25. Go wrong  
26. Winter warmer  
29. Shouted  
34. Give in to gravity  
37. Improve  
39. Calendar span  
42. Harem room  
53. Consider  
58. Bouffe  
65. Convex molding  
71. Musical mark  
73. Admiral’s data  

Down
1. Somewhat, in music  
2. Geologic period  
3. Musical show  
4. Death tolls?  
5. Reproductive cells  
6. Oil source  
7. Comrade in arms  
8. “Steppenwolf” author  
9. Lampoon  
10. Midwest hot spot  
11. Lollapalooza  
12. Slender reed  
13. ___ Quentin  
18. Water cannon target  
22. Encouraging word  
24. Mr. Turkey  
27. Writer Uris  
28. Back, in a way  
30. Soap ingredient  
31. “...we forget...”  
32. Diner sign  
33. Discontinue  
34. Ella Fitzgerald specialty  
35. Pond organism  
36. Equipment  
37. Alborg native  
41. Gallery display  
43. Disney’s “___ Petu”  
46. U.S.S.R. successor  
49. Quick-witted  
50. French way  
52. Dreadful  
54. Catchall category  
56. Nero’s instrument  
57. Video store section  
58. Racer’s path  
59. Sweat source  
60. “What ___ is new?”  
61. Hit the bottle  
62. Stout relatives  
64. “Thanks ___!”  
65. Wide of the mark  
67. “Is it soup ___?”
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- Shane’s Rib Shack
  1100 Brampton Ave, Suite J, Statesboro, GA 30458
- Fordham’s FarmHouse
  23657 U.S. 80, Brooklet, GA 30415
- 40 East Grill
  40 E Main St, Statesboro, GA 30458
- Dingus Magee’s
  3 Georgia Avenue, Statesboro, GA 30458
- Lee’s Restaurant
  458 W Jones Ave, Statesboro, GA 30458
- RJ’s Grill
  434 S Main St, Statesboro, GA 30458
- Subway
  1550 Chandler Rd, Statesboro, GA
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  52 Aspen Heights Dr, Statesboro, GA 30458

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  2 College Plaza, Statesboro, GA 30458
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- McAllister’s Deli
  1100 Brampton Ave, Statesboro, GA 30458

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- La’ Berry
  1100 Brampton Ave, Statesboro, GA 30458

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