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**KINGS AND
QUEENS
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REACCREDITATION
PROCESS**

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Tuesday, April 2, 2013
Georgia Southern University
www.thegeorgeanne.com
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THE GEORGE-ANNE

Faculty Senate considers new grading system

BY ALANNA NAVIN

The George-Anne staff

Faculty Senate is considering the option of moving the current grading scale to the plus/minus system of grading.

The current letter-grading system has the traditional letters of A, B, C, D and F which add

up to value points 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 respectively. This system will add a plus and minus to the letter grade, thus increasing or decreasing the quality points assigned to that grade.

According to a preliminary report by the Plus/Minus Subcommittee, a benefit of the plus/minus system is that it more accurately represents students' performances.

"Faculty realized that when someone gets a 79 and receives a C in that course or when someone gets a 70 and also gets a C in that course. They get the same grade, but maybe that is not as fair as it can be," Robert Yarbrough, associate professor of geography and chair of the academic standards committee, said.

Dr. Jean Bartels, provost and vice president

for academic affairs, said that the plus/minus system would be beneficial for students to see where they actually stand in the class.

"It would help to distinguish a little bit, the character of the grade," Bartels said.

The grading system will be more beneficial

See GRADING SYSTEM, Page 8

NEW COACH NAMED



Photo Courtesy of Dave Knachel

Mark Byington was named the new head coach of the Georgia Southern University men's basketball team. Byington was formerly the assistant men's basketball coach at Virginia Tech.

Drunken driver up against new charges

BY TAYLER CRITCHLOW

The George-Anne staff

The charges that face Benjamin Williamson, the driver involved in the accident that led to Nick Ward's death, have changed from severely injuring a victim to manslaughter of a victim by vehicle.

There has been an ongoing investigation into the Feb. 8 accident, and Williamson blew a .136 in a Breathalyzer two hours after the accident, according to the police report.

"This is an ongoing investigation and, with our caseload, it is normally anywhere six months to a year for us to actually close the case," Trooper William Batts, Georgia State Patrol Specialized Collision Reconstruction Team trooper in charge of the investigation, said.

"We are just trying to prove that he was the one involved in the vehicular homicide, and we just have

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APRIL 1-7

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Police Beat

Wednesday, March 27

10:25 a.m.: An incident report was taken for the loss or theft of a debit card. The complainant stated that someone had withdrawn money from his account. The case was turned over to criminal investigations.

3:50 p.m.: Officers responded to a hit and run motor vehicle accident in Parking Lot 21. A motor vehicle accident report was issued.

3:54 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of an injured person near Plant Drive. The complainant stated that a vehicle bumped him in the crosswalk. EMS responded and treated and released the subject at the scene.

8:05 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of a verbal altercation at Freedom's Landing between roommates. The case was turned over to criminal investigations.

8:50 p.m.: Officers responded to a report of an injured person at the RAC soccer fields. EMS responded and transported the subject.

9:04 p.m.: Officers responded to a drug complaint at Southern Courtyard. A student was judicially referred for drug and alcohol violations.

Thursday, March 28

8:43 a.m.: Officers responded to a suspicious incident. The incident was a suspicious container with a liquid in it. The container was determined to contain water and not a threat to occupants.

10:20 a.m.: Officers assisted in an escort from Health Services to East Georgia Regional Hospital.

10:28 a.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check at Centennial Place. The individual was located and advised he would contact his parents.

2:03 a.m.: Officers responded to a sick person at Southern Courtyard. The sick person received additional assistance.

Friday, March 29

11:57 a.m.: An incident report was taken for found property at Eagle Village - J Lot. The owner of the property was contacted and the property was returned to him.

12:51 p.m.: An officer conducted a traffic stop on Sweetheart Circle. The driver of the vehicle received a citation for seat belt violation, a warning for suspended registration and the vehicle was towed.

1:15 p.m.: An incident report was taken for found property on Forest Drive at Olympic Boulevard. The owner of the found property was notified and the property placed in the police department property room pending the owner picking up his property.

1:27 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a suspicious activity at Lewis Hall. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

Saturday, March 30

2:12 a.m.: Officers conducted a traffic stop at Georgia Avenue and Lanier Drive. The driver of the vehicle, Kristyn Alexis Stone, 20, was arrested and charged with seat belt violation and DUI.

Four occupants were judicially referred.

3:53 a.m.: Officers attempted to make contact with a person carrying alcoholic beverages at Eagle Village Building #2. The person, Adam Russell Hill, 19, was located and charged with possession of alcohol under 21 years of age, obstruction – misdemeanor, criminal trespass and possession of marijuana – less than 1 ounce.

9:35 a.m.: An officer assisted with a civil matter at Southern Pines.

1:38 p.m.: An officer conducted a traffic stop on Maleki Drive at Paulson Stadium. The driver was issued traffic citations for speeding in excess of maximum limits and driving in violation of license restrictions.

5:10 p.m.: Officers made contact with a subject at Freedom's Landing carrying a knife cane. The subject, Charles Christopher Baines, 26, was arrested and charged with possession of a weapon in a school safety zone.

6:27 p.m.: Officers responded to the Biology/Math Building in reference to a fire alarm. The Statesboro Fire Department and maintenance responded. The alarm was activated due to a dirty smoke detector.

7:37 p.m.: Officers responded to Cold Stone Ice Cream in reference to a freezer temperature alarm. Maintenance responded. The alarm was activated due to employees entering and exiting the freezer.

7:40 p.m.: An incident report was taken for found property at the Williams Center. The property, a fuel can, was taken to public safety and secured.

Statement of Operations

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community. 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.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising. Inquiries may be made by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478-0566. Fax any questions to 912.478.7113 or e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

The George-Anne receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, 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.



STUDENTS BEWARE:

The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads-particularly those that require personal information. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad.

PUBLICATION INFORMATION: The newspaper is printed by The Brunswick News in Brunswick, Ga.

NOTICE: Unauthorized removal of multiple copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time.

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News Editor Shelby Farmer
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Design Editor Jose Gil
Web Editor Darius Alexander

Corrections

Contact the editor at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu for corrections and errors.

Our View

Our alumni are a valuable resource

Southern Pride, Georgia Southern University's marching band, performed at the Braves' season opener last night, as reported in Thursday's edition. The opportunity to perform at the opener was given to the band by a GSU alumnus who works in the Braves' ticket office. Four members of Southern Pride's drum line also performed on the Late Show with David Letterman at the request of country music artist Elizabeth Cook, who is an alumna.

Through these two national appearances, Southern Pride has helped to get GSU's name out there in a medium that is not directly related to sports and required no increase in fees. GSU's alumni can help through more than just donations, and other organizations on campus should look at better ways to tap the resource that is a healthy alumni pool.

Southern Pride has shown what can be accomplished through maintaining connections with the university's graduates. The opportunities the group has had were gained through continuing to keep up with alumni and maintaining a good relationship with them. Other organizations on campus should look to Southern Pride as an example of how to utilize what they have to the fullest extent.

Loyal alumni are a blessing to any university and can be a valuable resource for a variety of purposes, as Southern Pride's recent TV appearances have shown. Any organization on campus, as well as the university itself, should follow Southern Pride's example and begin thinking of better ways to reach out to our alumni.

The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor and appropriate guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or fewer, typed, and sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to letters@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year and hometown. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission and edit submissions for length.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the Board of Opinions or columnists themselves and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board, Student Media or the University System of Georgia.

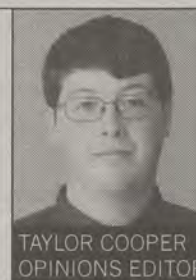


Look out for the little guy

Saudi Arabia, one of the few Allies the United States has in the Middle East, is now threatening to ban Internet cross-platform messaging systems Skype, Viper and WhatsApp. The Saudi Arabian government has been known to attempt to enforce totalitarian policies, but few of the more extreme measures stick.

The Saudi Arabian government released a statement explaining that the three programs will be banned from use in the country unless they adhere to a new set of rules and regulations. No explanation was given as to how the companies were violating any of the current or new regulations. A recent request from the Saudi Arabian communications regulation agency asks broadcasting corporations in the country to allow government monitoring of programming seems to compound the issue. A well-known Saudi Arabian blogger described the

THE COOP SCOOP



TAYLOR COOPER
OPINIONS EDITOR

stance of the nation's people toward the new policies as "weariness."

Saudi Arabia is one of the few true monarchies left in the world and part of an even smaller pool of absolute monarchies. Protesting is illegal in Saudi Arabia and the crown enjoys the support of the U.S. as it controls the largest source of oil in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia has little to fear in the way of governmental stability.

Saudi Arabia needs to be reigned in. It's a bit much to expect the U.S. to depose the monarchy, but some influence

must be exerted to keep the crown in check. There are currently no sufficient safeguards to protect the public from the government, as there are with the numerous constitutional monarchies in the world. The people need someone to speak on their behalf in the absence of a representative body, and the U.S. holds enough clout to be that voice.

To be fair, the Saudi Arabian government does not oppress its people to the point of some other nations in the region. The Middle East has been a hotbed of popular uprisings, but Saudi Arabia has not been part of it. Regardless, the people deserve the right to self-determination, as does every nation. By not at least encouraging governmental reforms from within, Saudi Arabians are done a disservice.

Cooper is a junior journalism major from Rincon. He is the Opinions Editor.

Where are the ID laws?

Voter ID laws were a contentious issue leading up to the 2012 election, as many GOP-controlled state legislatures passed laws that the Democratic party said would disenfranchise and discriminate against minority groups. For states like Pennsylvania, the voter ID law was blocked until after the 2012 elections because people wouldn't have enough time to adjust to the new law. So, it would make sense that states should be passing voter ID laws right now, giving their citizens ample time to adjust before the midterm elections in a year and a half.

So far, several states have put forth legislature that would either enact or strengthen voter ID laws in 2013. 12 have legislation to start requiring voter ID at the polls, however in New Mexico and Wyoming, those bills have already failed. Seven states that already have voter ID laws have attempted to strengthen those pieces of legislation with additional laws, but in Montana and Arkansas the bills have been tabled

THE FARM LIFE



JAMES FARMER

and vetoed, respectively.

Voter ID laws can be made so that the required IDs are easy to get and completely free. State governments can and will provide identification cards, which look a lot like a driver's license, to their citizens. A few of my friends used these to take the SAT before they could get their driver's licenses. The information and photo provided on the card is enough to satisfy any usual voter ID requirement, and provided one has enough time, the card is really a snap to get.

However, states like Georgia have passed stricter voter ID laws that are just a real pain for everyone. To get a new ID in Georgia one must provide

a document proving your identity, i.e. a birth certificate, two proofs of address and a social security number. Think to yourself real quick, if you had to reapply for your driver's license tomorrow, would you be able to? Of course, for many people who moved to Georgia, documents like a birth certificate are difficult to come by. Odds are your parents keep your birth certificate, which for some people means that their birth certificate is hundreds of miles away. Of course, the irony that many Republicans can't properly recognize a Hawaii birth certificate yet demand to see birth certificates to get IDs is not lost on many.

Now is the right time to pass voter ID laws, but let's all hope they contain some element of common sense.

Farmer is a senior political science and international studies double major from Thomasville. He is current Copy Editor and former Opinions Editor.

Leave the bad teachers behind

Our K-12 education system is kind of messed up. That much should be obvious, and I say that as a product of the same system.

The infamous No Child Left Behind Act has continued the constant debate over the importance of test scores. Teacher-student ratios are continuing to rise. School lunches still taste of rubber and sadness.

In spite of all this, we as a culture still have great respect for our teachers, putting them up with firemen, police officers and soldiers as those "everyday heroes." This is rightfully so. I owe a lot to many of my teachers, the best of who taught me much more than the basic curriculum. Unfortunately, not all teachers are created equal.

35 Atlanta public-school teachers and administrators have been indicted for tampering with student test papers, along with other charges such as "racketeering, theft, making false statements and false swearing." The short story is that test scores were

ALEX THE PRETTY GOOD



ALEX LASALLE

tampered with to make the school's performance look better than it actually was.

The end result? \$580,000 in performance bonuses for superintendent Beverly Hall.

The losers here are the children, the taxpayers and the honest teachers that care more about doing their job than making bank.

No amount of technology, funding or reorganizing can fix our education system. No matter how much money we throw at it, it's ultimately going to come down to the teachers.

What happened in Atlanta was the result of teachers and administrators

putting profit over education, which is antithesis to what the teaching profession should be. We can talk about firemen being underpaid, but they choose that line of work because they want to do something good. Similarly, we should encourage the teaching profession to be something for those who want to teach kids, not make money off them.

Do teachers deserve a pay raise? Maybe they do, but the teachers that cared about students more than money were the ones I learned the most from in school.

If we raise our standards for teachers by making sure they honestly care about our kids—encouraging this from the lowest education major to the highest administrator—then our education system might be saved yet.

LaSalle is a senior writing and linguistics major from Cumming. He is the current Arts & Entertainment Chief and former Opinions Editor.

Google doodle not meant to insult Christians

Sunday morning people across America donned their best and set out to celebrate Easter. But when they headed home to their computers somewhere between

FROM THE MARGINS



ADRIANA PULLEY

posting the obligatory "Happy Easter" statuses and bombarding social media sites with their "Easter Sunday outfit" photos they noticed that Google had put out a new doodle. But wait—the new doodle did not depict Jesus, brightly painted eggs or even a smiling white rabbit but illustrated a Mexican man in front of a backdrop of farmland.

Many people were confused and thought this man was Hugo Chavez, but no—it was the Mexican American labor activist Cesar Chavez. Even so, this hasn't stopped some people from becoming enraged that Google did not post an Easter-related doodle and swore to leave the search engine for Bing. Comments across the web argue that Google did this on purpose to insult Christianity. Loud criticism also came from many right wing websites and conservative figures.

Of course if they would have used their search engine to do a little research they'd see that Chavez was a very devout Catholic and March 31, the day Easter fell on this year, is Chavez's birthday and was proclaimed by President Obama as Cesar Chavez day back in 2011. It is obvious that this doodle wasn't placed to anger Christians; besides the goal of Google doodles are to be creative, original, and educational. Everyone knew about Easter and an egg or two on their homepage wouldn't have fully met any of these goals. However, judging from how little people know about this huge historical figure Google was right in their decision to bring attention to him.

After reading all the anger and hatred aimed at Google I'm left wondering why it's hit such a nerve. There must be something else underlying this that causes such uproar. No one got upset in previous years when there was no doodle at all honoring the holiday. Perhaps it is time that we as a nation recognize that there are other religions, cultures and voices that deserve to be heard.

Pulley is a junior English major from Florence, S.C. She is also the vice-president of International Club.

Don't take North Korea too seriously

What's that noise coming from halfway around the world, you ask? That's

A LIBERAL DOSE



CHRIS WARE

just North Korea doing their annual saber rattling toward us and our good friends in South Korea. North Korea is trying desperately to become a legitimate force on the world stage, but it's hard to take a leader seriously—Kim Jong-Un—who confides in Dennis Rodman of all people.

North Korea has no credibility due to the fact that they continue to threaten two of the strongest militaries in the world while their people continue to die of starvation and other third-world illnesses. The North continues their heavy rhetoric, which has only proven to lessen its chances of being taken seriously across the globe.

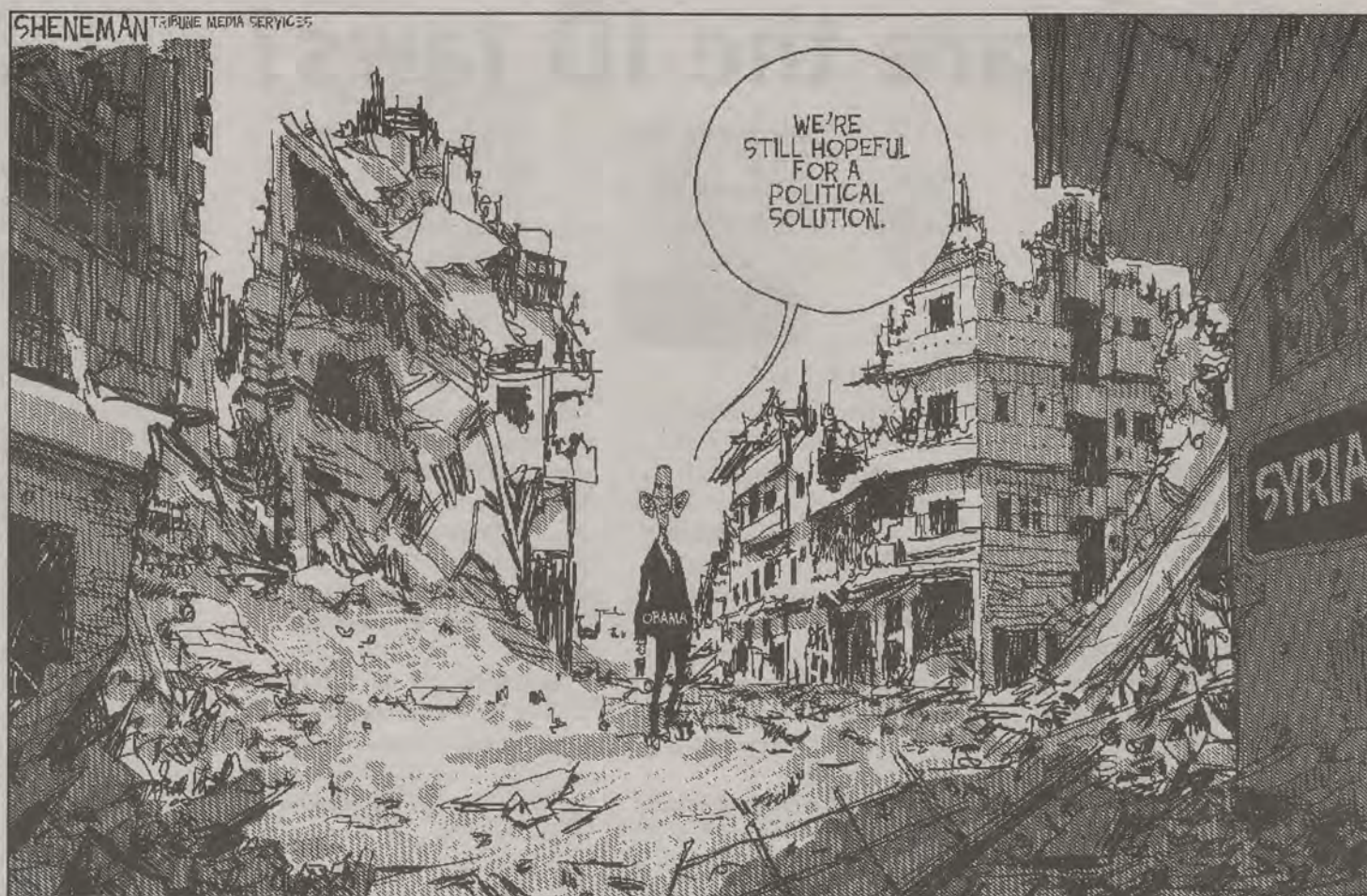
But what if North Korea really attacked South Korea? What if they sent a nuke to the homeland?

Well, those situations are highly implausible; however, due to the fact that nothing is certain, maybe we should explore some of the ramifications of the North should they in fact decide to attack.

We should expect North Korea's reluctant partner, China, to step in and choose North Korea's side, even though that move would totally destroy China's economic, political and social progress they have achieved over the past 10 years. China's decision to side with the North would ultimately spin us into World War III and since both China and North Korea have nuclear weapons, we can almost count on the war of all wars.

Or maybe the North really is just rattling those sabers for some attention. But if they're not, they should think about the words of Albert Einstein, "I do not know with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones." That chilling, but truthful, quote should be enough to end the silliness we've been drowning in since Kim Jong-Un decided to become a "warlord."

Ware is a freshman political science major from Griffin. He is involved in the Young Democrats.



Bandwagon activists blinded by hype

In recent weeks, if you have been looking anywhere on social media then I'm sure that you have seen the pictures being posted advocating the legislation being discussed in Washington about marriage equality within the gay and lesbian community. It was incredible seeing the amount of discussion that this topic was getting, but what I could not wrap my head around was the question of why is this topic receiving so much attention while other issues, such as our debt crisis, just seemed to fall by the wayside.

Honestly, gay marriage is not high enough up on the totem pole of our long list of problems to be discussed in a committee like it is. It should just be legalized for the sake of moving on. Do I agree with gay marriage? No, I personally don't, but I cannot change what other people's views on the issue are and how they feel about it. If it becomes legalized then it satisfies those who fight for it as hard as they do. It would be much more beneficial if more GOP politicians would realize that there are some battles that should be conceded in order to make progress with the arguments

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



BLAIR MUTIMER

that matter.

If anybody were to bring up the "Monsanto Protection Act" in conversation I would be willing to bet that nobody would have even heard of it. It didn't get national recognition, nobody spoke about it on the news, nobody's Facebook picture was changed to some symbol about it. Very few knew anything about it, including legislators, when Barack Obama signed it into law. This provision was part of HR 933, a spending bill that was aimed at averting a government shut down and ensure that the government could keep paying its bills. Many members of Congress weren't even aware it was in there. Part of this bill keeps the federal courts from

stopping the use and sales of genetically altered seeds that haven't been fully tested. There haven't been enough studies done on these new crops to determine if there are any health risks that come with this new crop. Even if research discovers harmful side effects, this bill has prevented the courts from doing anything to stop the usage.

Nobody knew about this bill that went through, nobody from the FDA has come out in opposition to this in hopes of keeping our food safe. I'm wondering if our president even knew that this was in there. With our entire nation fixated on gay marriage, issues like this bill just seemed to drop off the face of the earth. Issues like gay marriage get so much more hype because of immediate results, but when these bandwagon activists come out of the mill, real issues don't get the attention that they deserve.

Mutimer is a senior construction management major from Augusta. He is involved in the College Republicans and has worked on political campaigns in Augusta.

Administration prepares for 2014 reaccreditation

BY ALANNA NAVIN

The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University is preparing for the long reaccreditation process through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

"The accreditation is for the entire university. (Accreditation) essentially sanctions the university to be recognized as a degree-granting, approved institution," Dr. Jean Bartels, provost and vice president of academic affairs, said.

The procedure for reaccreditation takes place every 10 years, and the process takes about a year and a half, Pamela Cravey, coordinator of communications and external affairs for SACS, said.

"It's very rare that a school goes on probation or loses its accreditation altogether. You really have to be really not doing very well in all aspects," Bartels said.

"Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than

100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools and designed primarily to distinguish schools adhering to a set of educational standards," according to advanced.org, an accreditation website.

"All we are interested in is that each institution is in compliance with accreditation standards," Cravey said.

According to the 2012 addition of the Principles of Accreditation, GSU has to complete two documents in the preparation process before being re-accredited. They are the compliance certification and the Quality Enhancement Plan.

"We put together a lot of materials to answer (SACS) standards and usually put that online and accreditors from someplace else will go online and look at all of our material," Bartels said.

The Compliance Certification is submitted approximately 15 months before the institution's scheduled reaffirmation. It is a document completed by the institution that

demonstrates its judgment of the extent of its compliance with each of the requirements set.

The QEP is submitted four to six weeks prior to the on-site review. It is a document that states the key issues that the institution is in the process of identifying and its plan on how to deal with these issues.

"Every institution must have a quality enhancement plan, which is looking at our own situation and identifying something we would really like to work on to improve," Bartels said.

To figure out what the university could improve on, online forums will be set up for students and faculty to express what they would like for the university to improve on academically, Bartels said.

"What they will do is gather information about what kind of project we want to start working on," Bartels said.

The next step in the reaffirmation process is the review by the Commissions on Colleges, according to the Principles of

Accreditation.

On and off-site evaluations are done by officials at peer institutions all over the country, Cravey said.

One team scrutinizes the documents provided by the school and another team will come to campus for the on-site evaluation, Cravey said.

"We are working hard on what we are doing with student learning outcomes and assessment, and that is the area we are putting the most energy in right now," Bartels said.

Reaffirmation, as Cravey and her colleagues call it, is also a time when an institution can review its strengths and areas that can use improvement.

If a school is not in compliance with the set standards, there are sanctions applied and requests of specific information that the school will have to supply, Cravey said.

Bartels said, "Like how we want our students to be successful, we want our institution to do that too."

Student Media Executive members announced

BY TAYLER CRITCHLOW

The George-Anne staff

Friday, the new Executive Board positions for Student Media were announced.

The new executives are:

- The George-Anne Editor-in-Chief: Shelby Farmer, junior journalism major
- Marketing Manager: Marissa Martin, junior public relations major
- Production Manager: Jose Gil, senior graphic design major
- Magazines Editor-in-Chief: Arielle Coambes, junior writing and linguistics major
- Business Manager: Chloe Douglas, junior child and family development major

Each candidate was required to submit an application to the Student Media Advisory Board, which consists of thirteen members, and a letter of intent that was posted for all Student Media members to view two weeks prior to the interview, Coambes said.

"The Executive Board is the decision-making body for Student Media activities. They have an eagle's eye view of the organization as a whole



SHELBY FARMER



CHLOE DOUGLAS



JOSE GIL



MARISSA MARTIN



ARIELLE COAMBES

and work together to make cohesive decisions," Coambes said.

"It shows you are a strong leader in your division. It also means you have a big impact and influence on the future of the organization," Kelsey Paone, senior graphic design major and outgoing production manager, said.

Martin, current Arts and Entertainment editor, is entering a position that was moved to executiveship in Student Media this year.

"I'm really excited because I think my role will bring something new to Student Media that we haven't seen in the past two years," Martin said.

"My role is to create more awareness that we publish more than just The George-Anne," Martin said.

Coambes has been the Editor-in-Chief for the past two years.

"I don't feel like I'm stepping down, I feel like I am moving more laterally. I feel like I'm leaving a two-year project, what I've dedicated myself to, in very capable hands," Coambes said.

The other new members are also current leaders in Student Media.

Farmer is the News Editor, Gil is the Design Chief and Douglas is already the Business Manager.

Each new executive is entering the position with new goals to improve their division.

Gil's goal is to improve the quality of the publications and improve the Student Media brand.

"I hope to make each magazine brand as recognizable as The George-Anne's. I hope to provide students with timely and relevant publications," Coambes said.

"One of my main goals will be to improve the relationship between The George-Anne and members of the GSU community, ultimately improving credibility as well," Farmer said.

"I intend to help my staff to build their resumes and get future jobs, get rid of office hours and require quotas to be met monthly, making it a more realistic job," Douglas said.

Paone said, "I'm definitely really excited for next year, I think they are going to do really good job and there are a lot of new ideas coming to the board."

Pros and Cons of the +/- System



- More accurately represents students' performance and provides flexibility to instructors
- Helps in determining borderline grades (ease and fairness)
- Could aid in curbing grade inflation
- For students consistently at the upper end of the grading scale, GPA improvements could be expected

Cons

- Consistency issues since faculty would not be forced to use plus/minus
- Could lead to more "grade bargaining"
- Costs of transition (Banner, etc.)

Grading Scale

A+ 4.3

A 4.0

A- 3.7

B+ 3.3

B 3.0

B- 2.7

C+ 2.3

C 2.0

C- 1.7

D+ 1.3

D 1.0

D- 0.7

F 0.0

GRADING SYSTEM, from page 1

to students than to faculty, Dr. Mohammed Abid Shaikh, professor of chemistry, said.

"I think it's fair instead of giving nothing in between," Shaikh said.

Shaikh said that this grading system might also be more attractive to prospective students. The prospective student will lean to GSU more if it had the grading system when compared to an equal-standing university.

The grading system, however, will have its disadvantages.

For faculty, consistency issues in grading can arrive because faculty would not be forced to use the plus/minus system, according to the preliminary report.

"It starts creating categories of students that will have an impact in terms on how we look at a student's real grade point average," Bartels said.

"You are looking at how you compare to various students around you. I don't think that is a good way for anyone to approach their education," Bartels said.

Institutions such as the University of Georgia and Georgia State University have two different GPAs for students. The GPA used for HOPE is based on the traditional grading system while the GPA for the institutions is based on the plus/minus system, Yarbrough said.

Faculty senate has a task force that is exploring the concept by interviewing a number of students and faculty before considering a motion to change the current grading scale.

"We were asked by the Senate Executive Committee if we would just look at the possibility of such a system at Georgia Southern," Yarbrough said.

The background research done by the committee was on the grading systems of aspirational and peer institutions, not only in Georgia, but around the country, Yarbrough said.

For example, a peer institution such as Ga. State has the opportunity for a grade of A+, however that is a bit of an inconsistency, Yarbrough said.

"Even if hypothetically this were to change it would, by definition, include the current system. That is, you would still have a grade of A, B, C, D and F," Yarbrough said.

Yarbrough said that faculty would not be required to use the plus/minus system.

"You have to keep in mind that faculty have some flexibility with grades in the first place," Yarbrough said.

However, when exactly the system may be in place is still in speculation.

Shaikh said, "I have no idea when they will be doing it. Is it going to happen this year or not?"

Arielle Coambes contributed to this report.

CHARGES, from page 1

to have a strong enough case to pass and go to trial, so we just present it to the district attorney office and they go from there," Batts said.

The judge or the person presiding over the case determines the sentence, but even for serious injury by vehicle cases, there is normally

a jail term, Batts said.

After the investigation has been closed, the case will then be turned over to the District Attorney's Office and a date will be set for the trial, Batts said.

"The DA will ultimately determine the charges, but we haven't gotten a completed case file yet," Michael Muldrew, attorney with the

Statesboro District Attorney's office, said.

Williamson will not be sentenced until after the trial, which will be set after the investigation has been closed.

"We leave no stone unturned. We look at it from several different angles, and we try to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt this is what happened. It could not have happened this way,

it could not have happened that way," Batts said.

Batts said, "Right now it is just basically gathering information, seeing if we have any witnesses, seeing if there is anything as far as video evidence, again witness something, someone saw this or someone heard this, anything with that regard, anything that can help strengthen our case."

Historian to speak on slavery

BY MEGAN GEORGE

The George-Anne contributor

Located in the South, Georgia Southern University lives with the bitter memories of America's slave culture.

Internationally acclaimed historian Christine Kinealy will present "Daniel O'Connell, Fredrick Douglass and American Slavery" providing students with an in-depth look at slavery.

The presentation will be held tonight at 7 in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room.

"It's important for students to come out to this lecture because touches a wide variety of races and social classes," Christopher Pugh, assistant director of the multicultural center, said.

Georgia Southern University's Multicultural Student Center and the Center for Irish Studies will host this lecture as part of the Distinguished Scholar and Lecture Series.

"This is new for the Multicultural Center to be teamed up with the Center of Irish Studies. Professor Howard Keeley basically took this lecture under his wing and helped us get Christine Kinealy here," Pugh said.

"This affects everyone at Georgia Southern. We all live in the South. We all live with the legacy of slavery, and we all studied people like

Fredrick Douglas, and yet we don't know the whole story," Dr. Howard Keeley, director of the Center for Irish Studies, said.

By the 1840s, O'Connell was the leading international spokesperson in the antislavery movement.

"Students who are interested in the story of emancipation, who are interested in human and civil rights and students who think they know everything about that whole story, this is a great lecture because you're going to learn something you probably did not know already," Keeley said.

Kinealy is a professor of history at Caspersen Graduate School at Drew University in New Jersey.

Kinealy received her doctorate in history from the University of Dublin-Trinity College and is considered among the notable historians of the nineteenth-century Ireland and Europe.

As well as focusing on her recent book, "The Saddest People the Sun Sees: Daniel O'Connell and Anti-Slavery," Kinealy will visit students in three classes and discussing Ireland's Great Famine of the 1840's.

Keeley said, "If we are going to have a distinguished speaker like this come to Georgia Southern, we try to make her time with us as useful to our campus community as possible."

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Drag is back

Annual drag show returns Thursday

Fashion

BY LINDSEY MCCORMICK

The George-Anne staff

The Russell Union ballroom will transform into RuPaul's fantasyland as the kings and queens of drag fashion strip and lip-sync in the 6th annual drag show at Georgia Southern University.

Thursday the Gay-Straight Alliance and Multicultural Student Center will host a drag-oriented fashion show at 7 p.m. inside the Russell Union ballroom.

"All cultures need to be exposed, especially on our campus. This drag show is an opportunity not only for students to be entertained, but for them to hear about what it's like to be different. You get educated and entertained all in one go," Darius Robinson, a graduate student studying higher education, said.

The event will begin with a segment for the kings and queens to tell their transformation stories before the fashion show begins.

Last year there were more drag queens than kings in the show, but this year MSC and GSA have made it possible for more kings to participate.

"The lovely Bianca Nicole will be performing again this year along

with Deanna Sage and many others," Michael Boddie, GSA president, said.

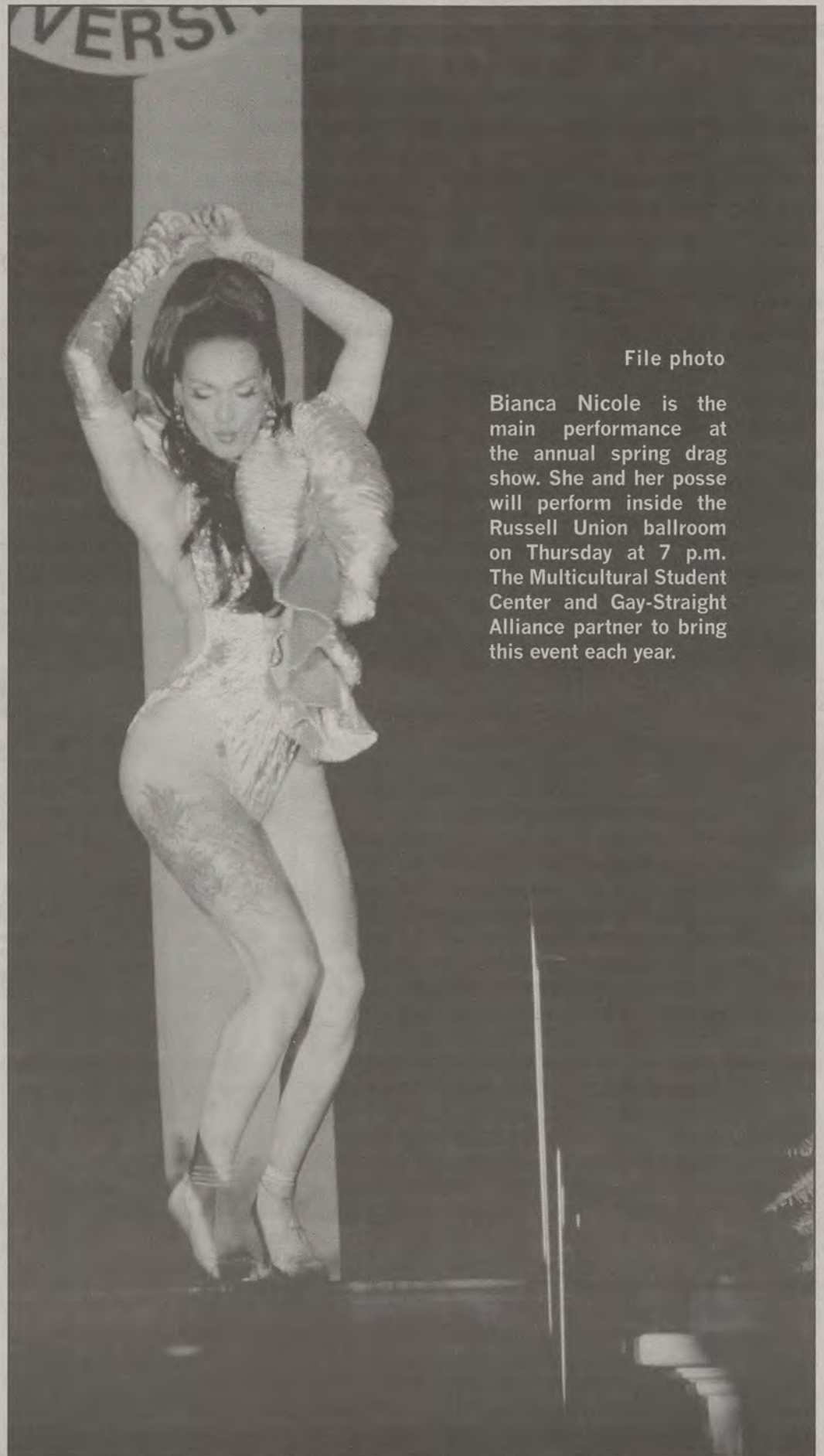
"This year's show will, as always, be a fun event that embraces LGBTQ culture. The show helps break down the idea of gender binary and reveal that we are all beautiful people worthy of respect," Corey Dennis, GSA vice president, said.

This event has been a favorite of GSU students in previous years and is expected to uphold its reputation this time around.

"People told me that there would be over five hundred people and that I should get there way earlier. I didn't believe them, but it did turn out that way. We had to turn people around because there were no more seats in the ballroom. I would definitely recommend to get there early," Robinson said.

The event is free and is an opportunity for students to get a taste of drag culture without having to drive to Club One in Savannah.

Boddie said, "It can be difficult for students to get out there, and this way students can stay on campus and have a ball. I'm not sure what to expect, but I am willing to bet that there will be more wigs and makeup than in the closet of the kids on *Toddlers and Tiaras*."



File photo

Bianca Nicole is the main performance at the annual spring drag show. She and her posse will perform inside the Russell Union ballroom on Thursday at 7 p.m. The Multicultural Student Center and Gay-Straight Alliance partner to bring this event each year.

Stay with The George-Anne
online at thegeorgeanne.com
for coverage of the event
Thursday night.

Another year, another Game of Thrones

Television

★★★★☆

BY PEYTON CALLANAN

The George-Anne staff

With the premiere episode of its third season, Game of Thrones is still the crown to HBO's patented style of entertainment, known for featuring grandiose plots and gratuitous sex scenes.

The season opener did little to shock or awe audience members, but instead continued the slow march toward what will hopefully be a huge payoff for die-hard viewers as the season progresses.

There is really nothing else like Thrones on TV right now. Its fantasy setting is truly unparalleled. HBO continues to spare no expense when it comes to the production of Thrones, and it paid off in this episode with several great special effects including giants and a demon child.

The world they create through those effects and amazing set pieces is extremely impressive,



which is also greatly helped by fantastic costumes and makeup.

As far as opening episodes go, this one was

satisfyingly average. The series creators have been working hard to keep the integrity of the book series, but they may need to re-examine

how the storylines drag-out on screen before a good series goes stale.

Thrones juggles so many plots that some main characters were not even mentioned in the episode—here's looking at you, Arya—while most just received a single scene to move their storyline along.

The creators of the show are no fools, though. They made sure to give plenty of screen time to the two most magnetic characters, Daenerys and Tyrion.

Peter Dinklage continues to own every scene he is in as Tyrion. His ongoing conflict with his family gives the actor no shortage of great material to work with. Emilia Clarke shines as Daenerys and her quest to regain her family's kingdom remains one of the strongest plot points.

This makes it feel like storylines are creeping forward, but because the series is based off a popular series of novels, viewers can rest assured that the quality of the storyline won't fade like in some original series where writers run out of ideas.

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Featuring
**David
Handlen**

The Walking Dead kills solid season with lackluster close

Television



BY PEYTON CALLANAN

The George-Anne staff

This review contains spoilers from Sunday's The Walking Dead finale. Read at your own risk.

Prior to the season finale of The Walking Dead, viewers were left wondering if their favorite characters would make it out alive when the producers announced that a whopping 27 people would die in the season's last episode on Sunday.

Though the death count was high, including a mass killing, only two major characters died and there was only one death that truly had an impact on the series.

There was a surprising lack of zombie action for a season finale of a show based on dead people. The writers seemed to want to focus on major character changes, which might lead to an interesting season four but wasn't entertaining for the season finale.

Five minutes into the episode, the Governor ominously says, "You kill or you die," which sets the tone for his entire storyline as the Governor turns his army's attention from the biters to the living that oppose him.

However, not only do the Governor's plans begin to unravel, but the Governor himself has completely unraveled as he begins to lose control of his Woodbury army and himself.

This leads to many tense and somewhat surprising scenes and there is quite a high death count, but the Governor does not get the wrap up that a season long antagonist deserves. It is unclear whether or not he will continue to be a major force in the next season.

This episode also seemed to begin to lay the groundwork for what may be a major storyline next season, Carl's questionable morality. The young boy seems to be increasingly jaded and is at odds with his father, whom he blames for not being more proactive and preventing his mother's death.

Ultimately the most important moment of the show comes when Andrea is forced to take

her own life after being bitten. This is a major moment for the show because it means that it has to create even more original stories in the following season. Maybe this will open a doorway for the writers to add some serious

oomph back into it.

Here is hoping that season four has more action and less drawn out dialogue, as well as some strong character development. No one wants to see a good show get boring.



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BSA to bring 7 student designers to Blaqshion show on Sunday

Fashion

BY LINDSEY MCCORMICK

The George-Anne staff

After a flash mob appearance before spring break and planning since September, the Black Student Alliance's Blaqshion fashion show is back and revamped for 2013.

Blaqshion will be held in the Russell Union ballroom April 7 at 4 p.m. The theme of the fashion show is earth, wind, fire and water.

"The show is definitely going to be great and will be bigger and better than any years before. Everyone has been giving one hundred and ten percent, so we expect a really great turnout and an awesome show," Ghetis McGhee, fashion merchandising graduate student, said.

The clothing, lighting, music and props will all reflect the elements in the show through the group's clothing designs. The clothing that the models will wear is from seven student designers and is geared toward embodying nature's elements.

"From the outside looking in, Blaqshion has come a long way from the previous two years. I see more creativity, passion, order and excitement," Bradlei Smith, BSA member and junior education major, said.

Dyversion Dance Team and a DJ will perform from beginning to end with dance numbers to hip-hop, rock and dubstep.

BSA said that it has taken steps to improve the event by choosing a new theme and Jeremy Hill, GSU alumnus and previous BSA member, to host the

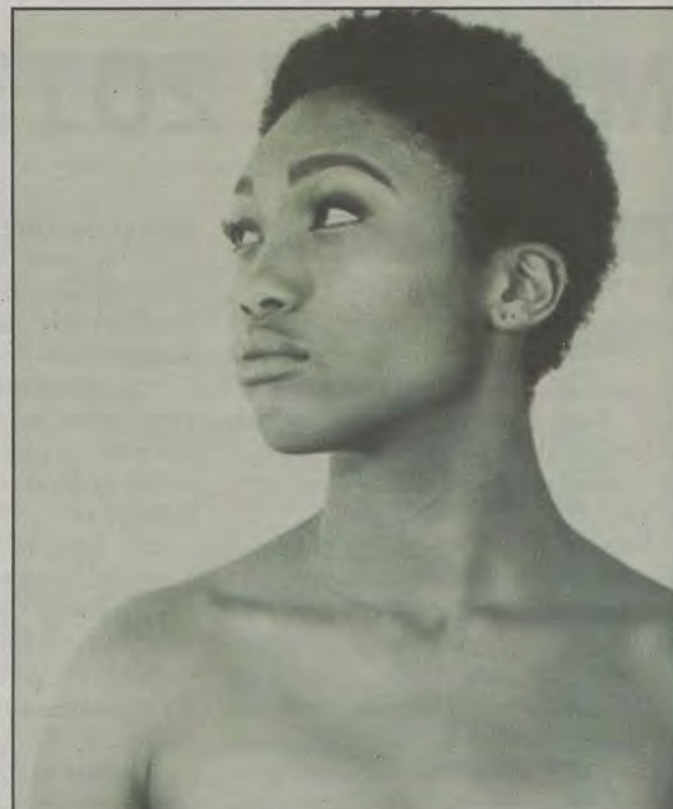
fashion show.

McGhee and Kiara Brown, event coordinator and junior fashion merchandising major, have been planning the show since September.

"Blaqshion creates social and community awareness for the Black Student Alliance that began in 1978," Brown, said.

Tickets for this event will sell for \$7 in advance until April 5. After that, they will be \$10. Tickets are also available online at blaqshion2k13.ticketleap.com

Michelle Allen, higher education graduate student, said, "To call Blaqshion a 'fashion show' is an understatement. It is truly an event. Last year was my first time attending the Blaqshion fashion show and I was amazed. I cannot wait to attend this year."



Courtesy of Shonda Ann Photography

The Black Student Alliance will host its Blaqshion show on April 7 inside the Russell Union ballroom at 7 p.m.

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Mr. GSU 2013 plans for year with title

Culture

BY ERINN WILLIAMS

The George-Anne contributor

After winning the title of Mr. GSU 2013, James Johnson plans to volunteer in campus activities and set an example for underclassmen to get involved early as well.

Johnson, a junior business management major from Savannah, won the title of Mr. GSU 2013 and received the People's Choice Award from his peers on Thursday.

"I was not involved in student activities during my freshman and sophomore years, and I missed out on many great opportunities, so I want to set an example for students to become involved early and make their voices heard," Johnson said.

Johnson, who is a part of the student

staff at the Office of Student Activities, plans to work with the Boys & Girls Club of Bulloch County, Keep Bulloch Beautiful and the Student Government Association.

"I'm still in awe that I won not only the votes of the judges but of the students, and with the encouragement of my family I plan to do great things with this title," Johnson said.

Mr. GSU is an annual scholarship pageant hosted by the University Programming Board. The winner receives \$500, participates in spirit events with Miss GSU and is active in two or more community service events every month.

Johnson said, "Because of where I work, I receive a lot of information about events, and I let other students know about them. Now I have an opportunity to let others know on a larger scale."



Christal Riley/The George-Anne

James Johnson, junior business management major, and Terico Agnew, Mr. GSU 2012, shake hands on Thursday night as Agnew passes on his title to Johnson.

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Tuesday, Apr. 2, 2013 15

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Housing

Looking for male or female to sublease a room in a 3 BR/3 BT in The Grove! This very clean apartment is fully furnished and includes a walk in closet, pool view, gym, tanning bed and very safe location. Rent is \$445 a month, utilities included! Lease is available May-July 2013 and May rent is FREE. Please email gc00665@georgiasouthern.edu if interested.

Summer 2013 sublease available for a female in Campus Crossings. Located right across from GSU bus stop. The 3 bedroom apartment is nice and cozy with a nice size bedroom and bath with everything inclusive. The space will practically be empty during the summer so no roommates to worry about. Rent will be around \$395 for June and July but price is negotiable. Contact Alexis Flen at af02017@georgiasouthern.edu.

Housing

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 bedroom houses for rent. Repairs in 24 hours. Contact 912-682-7468 or 912-764-6076. Available Aug. 1st.

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Summer sublease at the Grove. The entire 2bd/2bt is available. The apartment is very clean and fully furnished. Everything inclusive, \$505/month per person. Lease is available May-July 2013 and May rent is free. Please email sk00363@georgiasouthern.edu with any questions.

Housing

Summer male sublease available at The Pointe. 4BrR/4BT. Two rooms available. \$380/month, utilities included. Fully furnished, washer/dryer, great roommates, close to campus. Property includes pool, gym, tanning bed, computer lab, basketball/volleyball court. Contact Brian at 706-399-1860 or bb01693@georgiasouthern.edu.

Townhouse for Rent. The village at Mill Creek. No roommate for sublease! Rent is \$363/month. March rent is already paid for, so its free! Located at 552 E. Main St. Phone: 478-918-5837 Email: ng00515@georgiasouthern.edu Craigslist ad with pictures: <http://statesboro.craigslist.org/roo/3657317419.html>.

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Student weighs out post-graduation job offers

By: Taylor Terrell

May is around the corner, and for some, the job search process is straddling the edge. In contrast, some students, like senior public relations major, Shirelle King, 21, from East Point, Georgia have several options to weigh-out.

During the month of February, the Office of Career Service hosted Mock Interview Day for students to learn their strengths and weaknesses during an interview with hiring employers.

Before Mock Interview Day, King rarely attended Career Services events. "This was my first time participating (in Mock Interview Day), but it was so beneficial that I wish I had done others sooner," says King.

"I really enjoyed getting to meet and network with real-life professionals. I really gained a lot of knowledge, and I also loved the free trinkets that they gave us," says King.

King interviewed with PLS Logistics during Mock Interview Day, but since then she has had several offers from companies like: Target, Constellation Brands, One Life America and Capstone Financial.

King attributes several factors that students in her field have to endure before graduating to her success with finding a job. "As a public relations professional, what makes you most prepared for

a position in that field, or even in related fields, is having a well put together portfolio. It makes you stand apart from the rest and it shows what you can do in conjunction with you explaining your capabilities," says King.

Ultimately, Kings described her job search process as being easier than she expected. "I have not yet settled on which position to accept but it really builds confidence to have multiple prospects," says King.

King's advice to students is, "Your future is just that...your future! It is what you make of it. People often times try to discourage you by being negative, and telling you that there are no jobs and things of that nature. However, that is their truth; it doesn't have to be yours. If you're driven and you decided that being unemployed post-graduation is not an option, then you can find a position and you will not have to settle- maybe compromise, but never settle!"

Overall, "I am extremely pleased with the Office of Career Services and all that they are doing for students on campus. Some schools don't provide leads and information about how to obtain a job after school. We are blessed to have people that care," says King.

For more information on how you can find jobs, and get proactive with your job search visit the Office of Career Services located on the first floor of the Williams Center.

To place a classified ad, email ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

PUZZLES/COMICS

16 Tuesday, Apr. 2, 2013

The George-Anne

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

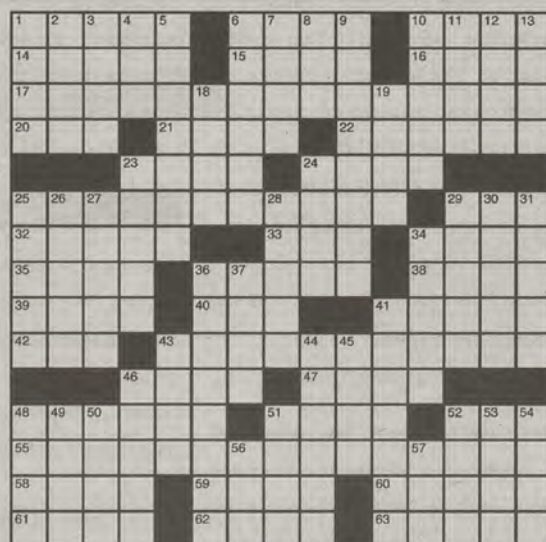
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Dessert with a hyphen
- 6 "Good for me!"
- 10 Goes (for)
- 14 Foreign
- 15 Answer to a nagging roommate
- 16 Textbook pioneer Webster
- 17 About 98 degrees Fahrenheit?
- 20 Nurse
- 21 Name on an airport shuttle
- 22 Pleased as punch
- 23 Pakistan neighbor
- 24 After-dinner drink letters
- 25 Gardener's agenda?
- 29 Rested
- 32 Probability number
- 33 Cask wood
- 34 Part of a plot
- 35 Online qualifier
- 36 Absolut rival, briefly
- 38 Hideaway
- 39 Bundled off
- 40 "___ for Cookie": "Sesame Street" song
- 41 Kind of renewable energy
- 42 General on a menu
- 43 Bikers?
- 46 Time
- 47 DoD fliers
- 48 Topnotch
- 51 Proficiency measure
- 52 "Wanna ___?"
- 55 Jack Daniel's field?
- 58 2000s GM compacts
- 59 Bust a gut
- 60 High capital
- 61 Butter used to deep-fry samosas
- 62 Drama award
- 63 Toon who inspired this puzzle's four long puns

DOWN

- 1 Chews the fat
- 2 Childlike sci-fi people



By Marti DuGuay-Carpenter

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

P	U	D	G	E	S	P	I	F	F	P	C	S
U	S	A	I	D	T	I	N	E	A	A	R	T
C	U	L	T	U	R	E	C	L	U	B	T	O
K	A	M	A	I	N	K	E	D	E	C	E	
S	L	A	N	T	S	S	T	A	R	S	H	I
T	O	R	E	R	O	L	A	T				
J	A	I	I	T	I	N	A	I	D	A	H	O
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A	P	P	S	A	G	E	O	F	N	O	H	O
R	T	E	S	I	N	G	L	E	O	W	N	E
G	E	N	G	R	E	G	G	H	A	D	I	T
O	D	D	T	E	S	S	A	M	Y	E	R	S

- 3 Like a wet noodle
- 4 Isr. neighbor
- 5 Hudson Bay province
- 6 Comedian's art
- 7 Rock boosters
- 8 Unsettled
- 9 Time for a hot toddy, perhaps
- 10 Ready to be drawn
- 11 Diva's fit
- 12 Weight allowance
- 13 Shake off
- 18 Writer Hunter
- 19 Oodles
- 23 Target of a series of guides
- 24 Medicine holder
- 25 Something to keep a watch on
- 26 Name in chair design
- 27 Cultural prefix
- 28 Rough, as a translation
- 29 Resell to desperate fans, maybe
- 30 Standard Windows typeface
- 31 Land at Charles de Gaulle Airport?

- 34 Disinterested
- 36 "Trout Quintet" composer
- 37 Piece of cake
- 41 Nautical distance
- 43 Get the job done
- 44 More than just creature comforts
- 45 Educ. radio spots
- 46 "Siddhartha" author
- 48 Snort
- 49 "That doesn't sound good"
- 50 Needle dropper
- 51 "Voice of Israel" author
- 52 Send, "Star Trek"-style
- 53 ___ quam videri: North Carolina motto
- 54 Abdicator of 1917
- 56 "-hoo!"
- 57 Senators' org.



	3		4		7		1
5				3			
		8				3	
7	5		6		1		
		2		4		7	
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		5				9	
				2			6
7		9		4		5	

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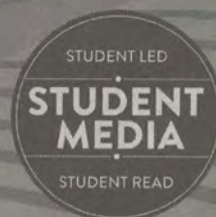


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STAT SHEET

7:

Top-fives in GSU track and field history claimed in different events by senior Ebony Carter

33:

the number of RBIs both Chase Griffin and T.D Davis have

130:

the number of strikeouts Sarah Purvis has this season

17:

years since GSU has been ranked in Baseball America's Top 25 Poll before being ranked at No. 22 last week

1:

weeks before GSU fell out of Baseball America's Poll.



Andy Morales/The George-Anne

President Brooks Keel (left) and Athletic Director Tom Kleinlein (right) welcome the new men's basketball head coach Mark Byington (center) in a press conference yesterday.

New basketball coach announced

Men's Basketball

BY SHAKEEM HOLLOWAY

The George-Anne staff

Mark Byington, former Virginia Tech University assistant men's basketball coach, will be the new Georgia Southern University head coach.

"I wanted to have a CEO-type person, a person who had his hands involved in everything and a person who had a commitment to excellence, and that's what I found," Athletic Director Tom Kleinlein said.

Before becoming an assistant with the Hokies for the 2012-2013 season, Byington was the assistant head coach at the College of Charleston for nine seasons. Byington was the interim head

coach for 11 games with the Cougars, posting a record of 7-4.

"You deserve a winner. Myself, the players (and) the staff, we're gonna work as hard as we possibly can to give you that," Byington said.

With the Cougars, Byington was a big part of the team's success. In his nine seasons with the team, the Cougars made the postseason five times including an NIT appearance.

Under former head coach Charlton Young, GSU went 14-19 this past season and lost to Davidson College in the Southern Conference Tournament by 27 points. The Eagles were an abysmal 43-84 under Young in four seasons.

With plenty of experience under his belt, Byington will look to change the culture of basketball at GSU as the Eagles transition from the SoCon to the Sun Belt Conference.

"The biggest elephant in the room is beating Davidson," Byington said. "I told our guys we're not shying away we're not hiding from anybody, we're coming after everybody and that's going to be our mentality," Byington said.

Byington will have rising seniors Eric Ferguson and Jelani Hewitt at his disposal for the 2013-2014 season as well as freshman Cleon Roberts.

"I feel like we have some really good parts to work with. Eric Ferguson is one of the most talented guys in the league. Cleon Roberts I saw first hand at Virginia Tech what he can do," Byington said.

During their recent inconsistent season, GSU did manage to beat the Hokies 78-73. In that game Roberts was the second leading scorer, going for 20 points on 7-12 shooting including four from downtown.

Eagles to take on Dolphins tonight



Demario Cullars/The George-Anne

Senior outfielder Scooter Williams (24) hustles to beat a throw to first base. Williams has a batting average of .239, which ranks him fifth on the team.

Baseball (18-9)

BY COLIN RITSICK

The George-Anne staff

After dropping its first Southern Conference series this year, the Georgia Southern University baseball team will look to get back to its winning ways on the road tonight at Jacksonville University.

The Eagles (18-9, 9-3 SoCon) have already drowned the Dolphins (9-18, 2-3 Atlantic Sun Conference) once this season only one week ago. That game ended in an 11-4 victory bolstered by 11 hits for GSU, four of which came from junior utility man Stryker Brown.

That game, however, was at home where the Eagles are 12-5. Tonight, GSU will play its fourth of eight consecutive games on the opponent's turf. Almost half of the Eagles losses come from away matchups although only about one-third of its games have been on the road.

The big three for GSU; senior infielder T.D. Davis, junior infielder Ben Morgan and sophomore catcher Chase Griffin will need to make their presence at the plate known. These three players alone have accounted for 52 percent (85 of 162) of the teams total RBI this season.

But if tonight's game goes anything like last week's game, all the Eagles really need to do is put the ball on the ground. JU totaled four errors against GSU in the last matchup; two of which came on back-to-back infield ground balls with two outs that were booted and allowed runners to score for the Eagles.

That is kind of the way that the season has gone for the Dolphins, according to a JU baseball media contact.

Before losing two of three to the University of North Carolina at Greensboro this past weekend, the Eagles were riding an eight-game win streak and were ranked No. 22 in Baseball America's poll. Tonight's game is a pivotal matchup for GSU if it wishes to gain some momentum before heading into Boone, N.C. to take on Appalachian State University next weekend.

Eagles look to catch Bears hibernating

Softball

BY KATIE TOLBERT

The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University's softball team (16-20) will wrap up its home play in a doubleheader against Mercer University (21-19) before it returns back to the road.

This past weekend, the Eagles came home after a long road swing, but GSU went 1-2 against Furman University. The Eagles started out strong winning their first game of the weekend, but then falling to the Paladins twice in a double header on Saturday. Similar to GSU, Mercer just lost a home three-game weekend series to Jacksonville University.

The Eagles have the home field advantage, but that might not exactly give them the edge they need to defeat the Bears. GSU's home record is 8-6 while Mercer's away record is 7-5. But Mercer just lost to JU three times on their home field, while the Eagles defeated JU twice on their home field.

The Eagles are going to have to cut down on the errors against the Bears after committing four errors this past weekend leading to two losses. Almost equally, the Bears committed three errors in their three losses this past weekend.

GSU's pitching is significantly stronger than the Bears', so the Eagles need to take advantage of that and show their strength in the circle. All three pitchers for GSU look strong compared to Mercer's pitchers. Junior Sarah Purvis with 130 strikeouts, junior Allie Miles with 77 strikeouts and sophomore Brooke Red with 44 strikeouts combine to outnumber Mercer's two pitchers' combined 99 strikeouts by a long shot.

The Eagles also need to rely heavily on their pitching because Mercer's hitting is significantly stronger. Mercer has a total of four players that have over 20 runs for the season, led by McKenzie Woody with 36 runs. Even though GSU has played four less games than the Bears, the Eagles do not have one player with over 20 runs. Junior infielder Kourtney Thomas is leading the way for the Eagles with a total of 17 runs and 8 home runs for the season.

The Eagles will face the Bears tomorrow at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., followed by a weekend series against the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga this Saturday and Sunday.



Junior pitcher Sarah Purvis (0) winds up and throws a pitch against a Furman University batter. Purvis leads the team in wins (9) and strikeouts (130)

Jessica Stanfield/The George-Anne



Jessica Stanfield/The George-Anne
Junior infielder Shelby Morrill (12) slides into home. Morrill leads the team with a .352 batting average.

Furman takes two at Eagle Field

Softball (16-20)

BY RANDALL HAMPTON

The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern University softball team had a chance to move up in the Southern Conference standings, but it could not capitalize on the opportunity after a 1-2 weekend against SoCon rival Furman University.

The three-game series started off promising for GSU as the team returned from a rough road trip to beat Furman 6-0 on Friday.

"We have actually the nineteenth hardest schedule in the country right now as far as strength of schedule, and what it does as you can see is it prepares us for conference. So if we want to be the best we've got to play the

best," head coach Annie Smith said.

Junior designated player Shelby Morrill and pitcher Sarah Purvis led the Eagles to victory in front of an enthusiastic home crowd.

Morrill, who leads the team with a .352 batting average, went 2-4 with a double and a RBI. Purvis allowed just one hit in her complete game shutout and struck out four batters.

"It is so much easier to pitch behind runs. For us to score first, it lets the defense not have so much pressure, it lets the pitchers not have so much pressure," Purvis said.

A three-run lead heading into the seventh inning had game one of the double header on Saturday looking like the 10th straight win over Furman for GSU.

Junior pitcher Allie Miles had her fourth

win of the season in her sights, but a four-run explosion from Furman in the top of the seventh quickly dashed those hopes.

Freshman catcher A.J. Hamilton let a third strike slip passed her after an RBI double from Furman junior second baseman Taylor Jenkins. The wild pitch allowed Furman junior catcher Hannah Pace to reach base.

With the score 4-2 GSU was still in control, but a second wild pitch from Miles followed by an RBI double from Furman junior first baseman Stephanie Spain tied the game at 4-4.

Smith brought on sophomore pitcher Brooke Red in relief but a wild pitch from her allowed Spain to move to third and score the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly.

"We don't win and lose because of one person. It's never one person so it's not

one thing. We just got to keep working on everything, we got to drive in more runs, and you know keep people off base," Smith said.

Smith's words rang true in game two of the double header as the Eagles found themselves in a bases-loaded jam in the top of the eighth inning.

Junior shortstop Kourtney Thomas helped GSU push the contest to extras with her game-tying solo home run.

Purvis came on in relief to work out of the tight spot but she hit two batters making the final score 3-2. The loss left the Eagles with an overall record of 16-20, but a SoCon record of 5-3.

Heading into a two-game set with Mercer University tomorrow starting at 3:00 p.m. Smith said, "We just take it one game at a time. That's all we can do."

Eagles soar at North Florida Invitational



Andy Morles/The George-Anne

Freshman jumper Taylor Johnson warms up before practice. Johnson has a personal best in long jump of 4.51m (14.8 feet).

Track and Field

BY ROBERT HUITT

The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern University track and field team competed in the University of North Florida Invitational Saturday as a final, full-squad tune up before the outdoor championships.

Junior Aishya Wofford has not competed much this year, but she starred in the discus event with a throw of 45.23m (148'5"). She finished fourth in the event, but the throw was the second longest in GSU history.

"We are so happy for Aishya. This is really only her second full meet, so to achieve this is great, but we know she has the potential to do more," head coach Marlo Mincey said in a news release.

It was a busy day for Freshman Ashleigh Rasheed as she competed in the javelin throw, shot put, triple jump and long jump. Her best finish came in the long jump where she jumped a distance of 5.23m (0.8 wind, 17'2") and landed in seventh.

In the 100-meter dash, senior Ebony Carter and freshman Alyssa Felton turned in the best results for the Eagles. Carter's final time of 11.90 seconds placed her in a tie for third, and Felton finished in sixth at 12.02.

The duo of Carter and Felton also competed in the 200-meter dash event that included more than 60 participants.

Carter finished at 24.85 (seventh) and was able to best Felton once again, who finished at 25.06 (13th).

It was a solid day for the A-teams in the relay events with both able to secure top-five finishes.

The A-team of Carter, Felton and seniors Amber Vaughn and Jasmine Billings was able to capture third place in the 4x100 meter relay at 46.72.

In the 4x400 meter relay, the A-team made up of juniors Tiffany White and Dana Edwards, Vaughn and sophomore Kimberly Thomas finished with a time of 3:55.89 (5th).

"Every week we always want to run faster but even when things don't go well, it's good to see we have performances that rank high in the conference," Mincey said in a news release.

With the Southern Conference Indoor Championships quickly approaching on April 20-21, every opportunity to prepare is important.

"On the track and in our field events, we have to use these next couple of weeks to continue to improve," Mincey said in a news release.

The Eagles will only bring a partial squad to compete in the Pepsi Florida Relays in Gainesville, Fla. The tournament begins this Friday.

Campus Recreation and Intramural Scores

Basketball

Champions

-Lakers- 51, Hand Down Man Down- 84
 -Pi Kappa Phi- 49, Delta Tau Delta- 42
 -insecure white males- 42, At Least We Are Better Than The Lakers- 30
 -98 Bulls- 55, Strokin' From Deep- 58
 -Team Kobe- 68, 1017 Bricksquad- 56
 -Phi Mu- 23, Kappa Delta- 36
 -Newcomers- 31, 2 The Hard Way- 43

Tennis Singles

Friday, March 29

-Andrew M Smith- 0 (2-0), Kyle G McGoff- 2 (6-6)
 -Joshua D Kienzle- 2 (2-6-7), Christopher Claxton Chaves- 1 (6-1-5)
 -Ignacio Donnet- 2 (6-6), Sam K Itty- 0 (0-2)



-Isaias F Co- 0 (1-0), Stephen G Callaway- 2 (6-6)
 -Casey C Webb- 2 (6-6), Ennis Millender- 0 (1-2)
 -Alex B Robinson- 1 (3-7-6), Christopher L Erving- 2 (6-5-0)
 -John H Dickinson- 0 (2-3), Michael M Guilbert- 2 (6-6)
 -Loren A Stroud- 2 (6-6), Emily T Judge- 0 (0-0)
 -Leah H Ryden- 0 (1-0), Simileoluwa E Aduavi- 2 (6-6)
 -Caitlyn R Recinovsky- 2 (6-6), Jessica L Clayton- 0 (1-0)

Softball

Monday, March 25

-Ball Busters- 17, Don't Swing At Our Pitches- 8
 -No Glove No Love- 10, Denny's Grand Slam Sluggers- 1
 -True Blue- 30, Rowdy Gents- 3
 -Balls Deep- 9, Real American Man- 8
 -Phillie Bunts- 8, Slapping' Pitches and Beatin' Throws- 18

Tuesday, March 26

-Kleen Sweep- 5, Bench Warmers- 4
 -The Pitch is Crazy- 7, Wii not Fit- 6
 -Pi Kappa Alpha- 28, Theta Xi- 3
 -Pitch Make Me A Sandwich- 11, Swinging Richards- 5
 -Sigma Chi- 5, Kappa Sigma- 20

Wednesday, March 27

-Sandlot Crew- 26, The Legacy- 2
 -Bobby's Cox- 2, Victorious Secret- 13
 -Dirty Dillas- 28, Finesse- 9
 -We Should Have Practiced- 4, All My Pitches Love Me- 15
 -Diamond Backs- 3, Kappa Kappa Gamma- 23

Thursday, March 28

-Epic Domination- 7, Pitches Man- 26
 -Show With Us - U Store- 2, Make it Nasty- 22
 -Heat Seeking Moisture Missiles- 16, 99
 -Problems But A Pitch Aint One- 8
 -Boo's on First- 3, Wish They Had a D League- 15
 -Pitches Man- 14, RUF Big Sticks- 1

REFLECTOR

Release Party

April 16th
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 Free Snacks





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HAPPY HOUR
 APRIL 18TH



5-9PM