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The George-Anne

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GA

THE GEORGE-ANNE

SUN
BELT
SHOWDOWN

SEE PAGE 12

BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE

MICHAEL'S
Gatto family
proposes
legislation
LAWBY NADIA DRIED
The George-Anne staff

Last August, 18-year-old Georgia Southern University freshman Michael Gatto died after being assaulted outside a bar near campus. His parents, Katherine and Michael Gatto, were left with their grief and the news that the bar, Rude Rudy's, had

“
I think
if you can't
go into a
**BAR &
DRINK**
and that
**RUINS
YOUR LIFE**
it's time to
REEVALUATE
your life

...
What really
**RUINS
YOUR LIFE**
is losing
YOUR SON.
”

-Katherine Gatto

FOR MORE ON
MICHAEL'S LAW SEE PAGE 4

no form of insurance that would help cover their son's medical bills.

They also soon discovered that there was no law requiring bars or other alcohol-serving establishments to hold this type of insurance.

Their solution is Michael's Law, a bill they are working with two Georgia legislators to craft, that Mr. and Mrs. Gatto believe will help prevent other deaths like their son's.

Sugar Daddy loans?

SeekingArrangement.com offers alternative financial aid

Araya Jackson
The George-Anne staff

The average rate of tuition rose 2.9 percent in 2014, which doesn't help the fact that college students all over the nation struggle with earning their degree while also earning debt to their name.

Recently, to combat the costs of college, many students have turned to a site called SeekingArrangement.com. The site connects students with wealthy

benefactors, commonly known as 'Sugar Daddies' that will help pay for their tuition.

The site released their Top 20 fastest-growing Sugar Baby Schools list, with University of Texas, Arizona State

University, New York University, Kent State University, and Georgia State University in the top five. The rate of Georgia Southern University applicants rose 29.36 percent last year, with 64 new signups. Georgia Southern ranks number 43 in the Top 50 Fastest Growing Sugar Baby Schools.



Disc golf course takes 'First Flight'

Chris Rossmann
The George-Anne staff

The Statesboro-Bulloch Parks and Recreation department is organizing the First Flight Open, a disc golf course tournament to announce the grand opening of the SBCPRD Disc Golf Course.

Disc golf is a combination of Ultimate Frisbee and golf. The goal is to throw a small disc through a course much like a golf course. At the end of the course, a vertical goal with chains suspended over a basket serves as the hole.

The goal of the game is to get the disc to hit the chains and fall into the basket in as few throws as possible. The fewer the throws needed to get the disc into the goal, the better the score.

The tournament starts at 10 a.m. on February 28, and is located on Mill Creek Road, near the Statesboro Airport. Registration for the event ends February 20 at 5:30 p.m. and costs \$30 per player.



Ryan Woodham

Chris Rossmann
The George-Anne staff
Georgia Southern University broke ground on a new Health Services Building at the corner of Plant Drive and Chandler Road this past December.

The previous building was originally built to serve 8,000 students and limited daily patient exams to about 130 per day though over 200 appointments are requested daily. With the significantly increased space available, the new building will be able to handle these appointments with ease. The building is intended to replace the old Health Services building on Forest Drive and will be more than double the size of the current

Health Center goin' up...

building. There will be 36 primary care exam rooms included in the building divided into six individual primary care pods, each staffed by a physician as well as a nurse practitioner. The building will also include 12 Women's Health exam rooms, as part of a women's health clinic on the second floor of the building. Other additional services include Eagle Eye Care and Physical Therapy areas as well as a large teaching classroom for Health Education classes. The new building figures to greatly increase the Health Service Center's ability to accommodate a significantly larger student body.

SPORTS SHORTS

Casey Cargle
The George-Anne staff

-Women's Basketball plays Louisiana LaFayette tonight at 5pm in Hanner Field House and then moves on to Troy, Alabama on Saturday (1/17/15) facing Troy University.

-Men's Basketball also takes on Louisiana LaFayette tonight at 7:30pm in Hanner Field House

and then travels to Troy, Alabama on Saturday (1/17/15) to take on the Troy University.

-Women's Swim and Dive will face the College of Charleston at 1pm on Saturday (1/17/15) in the Statesboro at the Aquatics Center.

WEATHER BAR

Friday



High: 58°
Low: 33°

Saturday



High: 62°
Low: 45°

Sunday



High: 62°
Low: 36°

WEATHER CATS



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Resolving 2014

New Year, New Strategies

It's that time of the year again where nearly everybody's made New Year resolutions that they probably won't keep. Reaching a big goal such as losing weight and eating healthy is much more attainable by simply

starting with a smaller goal. Here are some tips to help you reach your goals with a realistic bang.

Food

Who wouldn't want to have their cake and eat it too? You don't have to drop the brownies and goldfish, in fact you can keep them in your life. (Sounds crazy I know). Everyone has heard of the importance of portion size, and if you have not, then grocery stores are one step ahead of you. Snacks like the 100 calo-

rie packs, are one of many options that are already in little packages for only one serving. Also, different soft drink brands are available in miniature 7.5 - 8 oz cans. This is a great tool to use to restrain on over snacking. When you open your pantry or refrigerator be reminded again why you are eating such a small amount, and challenge yourself to fill the rest of your snack pantry with healthy alternatives; like bananas and protein bars.

For the full story head to reflectorgsu.com



LIFE & STYLE

Party with Caution
For some back to school means back to partying, but believe it or not you can party and still be safe.

ENTERTAINMENT

The Best Foreign Films on Netflix
Ready to dive into the world of foreign films but wouldn't quite consider yourself a film connoisseur? We've got the perfect starter list of the best foreign films on Netflix.

Start Spring Semester with a Bang

Winter break has sadly come and gone, but a new semester equals a fresh start. We offer our tips and tricks to make this semester great.

CUISINE & CULTURE

Late Night Foods
Back to school means back to late night study sessions and Friday nights with friends. We've compiled our list of the finest places in the 'Boro to curb your late night munchies.



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

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

The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.

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. For more information, rate cards, or sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director. The advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the

error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

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.

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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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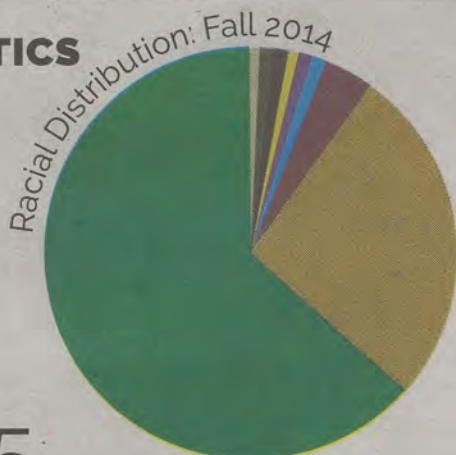
Ads Design Chief Kelly Slyfield
Junior Ads Designer Brandon Coe

Distribution Manager Manuel Girbal

ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

BY OZZIE BUNBURY
The George-Anne staff

- American Indian/Alaskan Native (<1%)
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (<1%)
- Asian (1%)
- International (1%)
- Mixed (2%)
- Unreported Ethnicity (2%)
- Hispanic (4%)
- Black (26%)
- White (62%)



TOP 5

MOST POPULAR MAJORS (BACHELOR'S)

1. Business/Marketing
2. Parks and Recreation
3. Liberal Arts/General Studies
4. Education
5. Health Professions and related ones

MOST POPULAR MAJORS (MASTER'S)

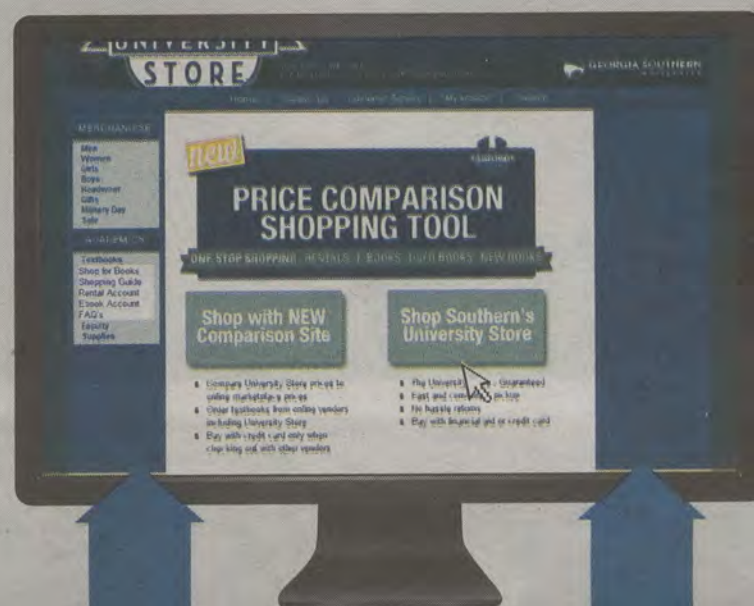
1. Education
2. Business/Marketing
3. Parks and Recreation
4. Health professions and related programs
5. Psychology and Social Sciences

FEEDER HIGH SCHOOLS IN GEORGIA

1. Mill Creek
2. Richmond Hill
3. Roswell
4. South Effingham/Southeast Bulloch
5. Statesboro

FEEDER COUNTIES

1. Gwinnett
2. Bulloch
3. Fulton
4. Cobb
5. Chatham



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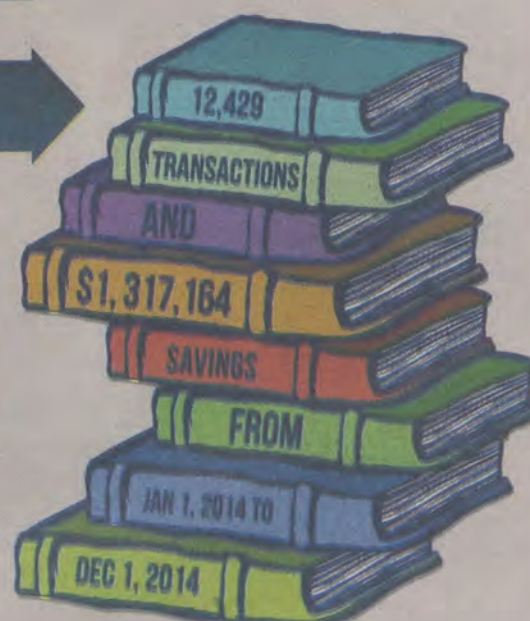


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UNIVERSITY STORE
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GSUSTORE

WHAT'S UP DOWNTOWN?

BY WHITT VAN TASSELL
The George-Anne staff

THE BLUE MILE

THE DREAM:

"If we could take the Sweetheart Circle entrance and extend it all the way downtown," President Brooks Keel said. The Blue Mile will feature green space, more pedestrian space, and storefronts that are more pedestrian friendly. "An easier way of getting from Georgia Southern to downtown."

WHAT'S HAPPENED

1985- Georgia adopts Redevelopment Powers Law
June 17, 2014 - Statesboro voters pass the Redevelopment Powers Law
Dec 16th, 2014 by - The Statesboro City Council creates a Tax Allocation District (TAD) for The Blue Mile area.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Preliminary talks with The County and School Board on future property tax allocations.

WHAT'S NEXT

A study incorporating community and university input into design and aesthetics.

HOW LONG UNTIL IT IS DONE?

As much as ten years for full beautification, at a gradual rate.

CITY CAMPUS

THE DREAM:

A fully-equipped downtown campus site hosting occasional classes and special events where students have easy access to not only business start-up resources, but state-of-the-art product production facilities. In the long run, Downtown Statesboro Development Authority (DSDA) envisions a bustling idea space serviced by Georgia Southern bus routes.

WHAT'S HAPPENED

November, 2013- Secured \$1.1 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), complemented by \$800,000 committed by the City of Statesboro.

November, 2013- "Innovation incubator" opens in collaboration with the College of Business Administration, features high speed internet, low-cost office space and high-tech video conference room.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

By the end of the month- Construction begins on FabLab, a low-cost fabrication hub featuring computers, two types of 3D printers, a CNC plasma cutter, mig welder and other rapid prototyping equipment focusing on product development from the ground up.

WHAT'S NEXT

Viracon Alley, a glass-covered outdoor space between the FabLab and Innovation Incubator equipped for event hosting. Features a lighting scheme to highlight Georgia Southern achievements on and off the field with a blue nighttime glow on eventful days.

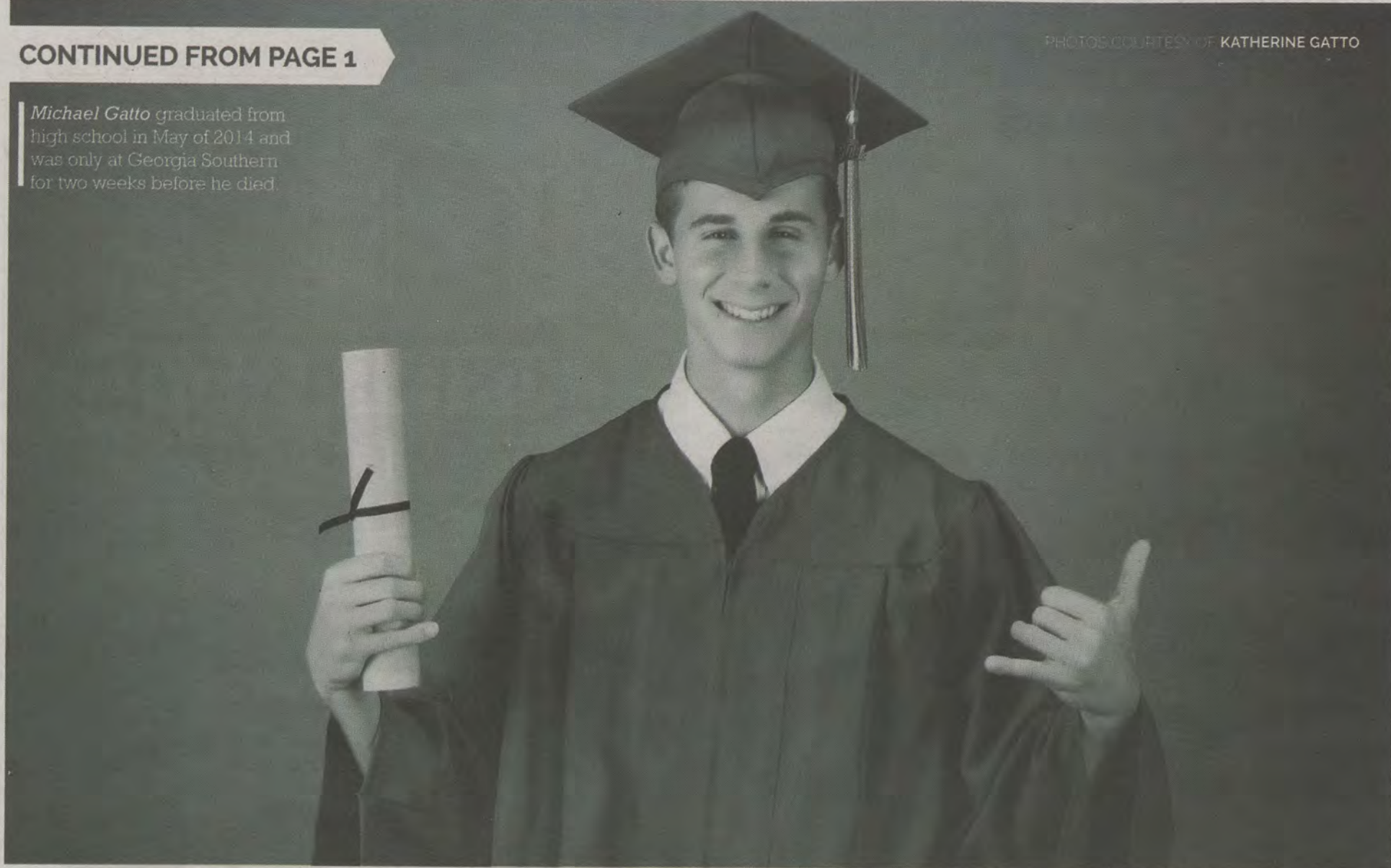
HOW LONG UNTIL IT'S DONE?

FabLab is projected to open in late fall 2015, followed closely by Viracon Alley.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Michael Gatto graduated from high school in May of 2014 and was only at Georgia Southern for two weeks before he died.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATHERINE GATTO



"You'll never be able to make up for the tragedy of a lost life. Nothing can ever be done to make up for that," Keel said. "But I hope in some small way, some of the things that you're beginning to see happen will at least make that tragedy not in vain."

The law would have three main requirements:

Age Limit

Bouncers, bartenders and servers in establishments that serve alcohol would be required to be 21 years of age or older. Mr. Gatto said he finds the current law, which allows anyone over the age of 18 to serve alcohol, to be illogical.

"You're saying they're not mature enough to drink themselves, but we're saying they're mature enough to serve adults and be able to determine when they've had too much to drink and to stop serving them," Mr. Gatto said.

Training

Under the law proposed by the Gattos, all establishments with alcohol licenses would be required to provide their servers, bouncers, bartenders and license holders with training before they could legally work there.

"The state would provide certain parameters that would be required for the training and most likely, they would end up with an approved list of vendors," Mr. Gatto said.

The training would differ according to position. The alcohol license holder would be required to complete the training for all positions, and the business would have to keep certificates of completion for each employee on the premises.

Mr. Gatto said the idea is that the training would better prepare staff to deal with patrons and help avoid escalation during confrontations.

Insurance

The most important facet of the law, however, is the insurance requirements, Mr. Gatto said.

"It is the most critical part of the bill to get passed," Mr. Gatto said. "Because it ties everything together."

Michael's Law would make it illegal for any business with an alcohol license to operate without liability insurance.

Not only does this protect patrons of these establishments, but it is an effective form of regulation, Mr. Gatto said. Insurance companies will not cover a business with unsafe practices or numerous claims against it, and without insurance, the business would lose its alcohol license.

"Let's say everything in the bill passes except for the insurance — the only problem is that you still don't have the accountability or the protection," Mr. Gatto said.

Will it pass?

Mr. Gatto said that his family hopes to have a bill ready to propose within the next few weeks. With the support of two Georgia legislators from the Forsyth area, Jeff Duncan and Mike Dudgeon, Mr. Gatto feels that what supporters have taken to calling Michael's Law has a fighting chance.

"This is not about over-regulation or anything like that. This is purely about catching up with the rest of the nation," Mr. Gatto said.

President Brooks Keel said that he thinks the parts of the law requiring insurance will be the hardest to pass, but that Georgians will have to wait and see what the legislature decides. He said that the recent crackdown on underage drinking in Statesboro is a good sign that things are starting to change.

Mrs. Gatto said that she and her husband are not trying to make anyone's life harder by trying to pass this new legislation — that they simply want to prevent another tragedy.

"I think if you can't go into a bar and drink and that ruins your life, it's time to reevaluate your life," Mrs. Gatto said. "What really ruins your life is losing your son."

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UP ON THE "REDSHELF"

BY CHANCE SHELTON
The George-Anne contributor

Just about every college student has asked the nerve-wrecking question "do we really need the textbook?"

RedShelf, based in Chicago, allows students and faculty to seek digital copies of text that may be offered at a university's bookstore. They offer low-priced affordable options of either purchasing or renting "cheap eTextbooks." They have programmed their systems to be compatible with any "internet-enabled device," which is perfect for those students whose lives revolve around their handheld device.

In all, RedShelf has taken the time to have quality material by partnering with major publishing companies such as Pearson, Macmillan, Cengage and McGraw-Hill which allows them to offer over "150,000 titles [to] over 155 colleges [and universities] nationwide," Gordon Elson, Sales Manager at RedShelf, said.

The co-founders and individuals that helped RedShelf grow to what it is now are all people who once struggled with paying for books while trying to pay for school simultaneously. This has allowed them to apply their personal knowledge of what they believe really will be the best option for students who may be in similar situations today.

Elson also states that there are three main factors that set RedShelf apart from other eTextbook sites:

1. DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

With RedShelf's bookstore integration, students can easily purchase with peace of mind that their college bookstore approves this option

2. EBOOK PRICING AND EXCLUSIVES

Students are finding more affordable pricing options where they could choose the price and access duration that best fits their needs.

3. BROWSER-BASED EREADER

RedShelf's HTML5 Cloud-based reader allows for more flexibility which in turn makes it usable and seamless across all devices that students may use. In-house developers allows for faster updates, improvements and new service releases to accommodate our individual consumers.

Here is what RedShelf had to say about its collaboration with GSU:

"Our partnership with the Georgia Southern University campus bookstore focuses on the bookstore as the distributor of digital options on campus, without having the students look elsewhere for their textbooks. The bookstore is a trusted retailer for students, and our partnership allows the bookstore to offer eTextbooks both online and in-store along with other course materials, merchandise and everything else they offer!"



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THE WEEKLY BUZZ

JAN . 16 - JAN . 21

A WEEKLY STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

01/16

FRIDAY

Russell Union, 2044 - 6:30 p.m.
Thinking about becoming a BUILD Leader? Come join us to learn more about this position, the BUILD Returners personal experiences, and much more! Any questions you may have will be also be answered during the session. Hope to see you there!

01/16

FRIDAY

UPB Cinema The Equalizer
6:00 pm & 8:00 pm Russell Union Theater
The University Programming Board sponsors a weekly movie series every Friday in the Russell Union Theater. You can enjoy the newest, hottest and most popular pre-home releases for FREE. With concessions going for as little as \$1.00 each, you can't beat the value of UPB Cinema. It's easily the best way to start off your Friday nights.
Contact Information: OSA@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

CRI
The Wellness Program, Voice Your Dreams, begins today and will last until the end of the month.
For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/wellness/>.

01/17

SATURDAY

CRI
There will be no Group Fitness Classes today.

01/18

SUNDAY

CRI
There will be no Group Fitness Classes today.

01/19

MONDAY

CRI
There will be no Group Fitness Classes today.

Registration for Bowling opens! To register your team, please visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/intramurals/get-involved/how-to-register/>

01/20

TUESDAY

CRI
Basketball and Wheelchair Basketball registration are closing today. So, if your team hasn't signed up yet, be sure to do so. <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/intramurals/get-involved/how-to-register/>

The Club Sports Fair will be tonight at 6pm. For a list of current Club Sports, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/club-sports/club-directory/>.

New Organization Chartering Workshop
5:30-7:00 pm Russell Union 2044
Interested in starting a new student organization? Attend this workshop to see how! **Contact Information:** OSA@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

Weekly Volunteer Trips
Begin the week of Tuesday, January 20
Please visit the website or stop by the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement to see the calendar for trips.

01/21

WEDNESDAY

CRI
A Bicycle Safety Clinic will be at 7 pm tonight. For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/bike-clinics/>.

Women and Weights begins tonight. It will be every Monday and Wednesday at 7:30. For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/fitness/fitness-programs/women-weights/>.

Spring Student Org Fair
11:00 am - 2:00 pm Russell Union, Rotunda
Interested in getting involved in a student organization but not sure which one? Come to the Student Organization Fair. With nearly 300 registered student organizations to choose from, you're sure to find something that piques your interest! Student organizations must be active and in good standing to participate. Orgs must also register via MyInvolvement.
Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 14th at 5:00pm
Contact Information: OSA@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

Alcohol and Other Drugs Events
Think Fast Trivia
7pm Williams Center Multipurpose Room
Win a \$200 cash prize by showing off your knowledge with this fast-paced and competitive game show. Topics will include music, trivia, and alcohol and drug related facts.
The Office of Alcohol and Other Drugs Programs



WILL PEEBLES THE GEORGE-ANNE

KING OF BRUNCH

A look inside the kitchen of Sugar Magnolia

BY MEG ELWOOD

The George-Anne contributor

A Sunday morning, which could easily begin as a cold and dreary day, quickly brightens up as the doors of Sugar Magnolia, one of Statesboro's finest gems, unlock.

At 8 a.m., owner Barry Turner and cooks Joshua Durio and Kevin Mathis were the only ones inside Sugar Mag's (as locals like to call it). Stoves were lit, coffee was brewed and smooth coffee-shop jazz wafted from the kitchen. The cooks and owner went straight to work without hesitation, moving smoothly and swiftly throughout the kitchen, proving that this was their regular weekend routine. Tomatoes were sliced, hash was spiced and the warm aroma of morning began to swirl around the whole restaurant.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but only words can describe how good this place smelled, how amazing the food tasted and how simply perfect this homegrown restaurant really is. Even with all of the chairs still stacked on top of the tables from the night before, one could already feel the warm welcome that Sugar Magnolia had to offer. The inside is small, very homey, the classic hometown bakery vibe. It feels almost French from the warm yellow walls, short red checkered curtains, a painted piano in a back and illustrations of Magnolias hanging on the walls.

Back in the kitchen, Turner hand-peeled and cut fresh green apples from the Farmers Market for their popular "Glazed Cinnamon Apple Biscuits." He spoke about how Sugar Magnolia was started by himself and his friend who was the head baker at the time, but retired a few years ago. "I wouldn't really call it a hobby, it's just a very enjoyable way to spend my time," Turner said.

Guests call Sugar Magnolia a Statesboro staple, and a popular perk is that it supports the community in many ways. All of the food is made from scratch with produce purchased from local farms at the Farmers Market. They support the local farmers and others as much as they can, from one small business to another. Back when the Statesboro Farmers Market first began, Sugar Magnolia was one of the original vendors selling the various types of fresh bread that still fill the baskets on their shelves today.

As the clock struck 10 a.m., Sugar Mag's doors opened to the faithful customers waiting outside in their cars. Two minutes later, Sugar Mag's was transformed into a bustling scene. The coffee shop jazz was accompanied with the soft murmurs of morning chatter and dishes clicking in the kitchen as orders were prepared.

Theresa and Patrick Novotny are Sugar Magnolia regulars. They come to enjoy the food, friendly staff and relaxing

atmosphere whenever they can, but especially on Thursday for pizza and Sundays for brunch.

"They [Sugar Magnolia] have a large sense of downtown community. Over the years they have done a lot of stuff with local musicians, they always have a local artist on display and it's a great main hub for the community. There's been a 'Congress on the Corner' Q&A session with a local congressman and you can see every type of person here, from doctors to judges and lawyers to families. It truly is a great place," Patrick Novotny, who also teaches Political Science at GSU, said.

Linda Evans, another regular, has been coming to Sugar Magnolia every Saturday and Sunday for several years. Linda even has her very own special, which is simply named "The Linda."

"It's really just a breakfast sandwich, but I asked for it all separately with a biscuit instead of buns. One day someone came up to me and asked what I had and then, it became a hit. True story!" Evans said.

With dishes like the Mozzarella Scramble, the Monte Cristo, the Pulled Pork Hash and The Linda, Sugar Magnolia really wears the mid-morning crown. Plus, this is only the brunch side of things; they also have lunch, pastries, bread and other delectables. "It really is an all around perfect place," Evans said, "It really is."



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What's new on TV FOR SPRING 2015

BY RASHIDA OTUNBA
The George-Anne contributor

1) Sons of Liberty- History Channel

This History Channel miniseries details the events that led to the founding of our great nation by our rebellious Founding Fathers (all of whom, besides Ben Franklin, are being played by incredibly handsome actors, which makes this series even more enjoyable) who bravely fight for their freedom from English tyranny.

Watch if you like: "Patriot," "Turn," or if you just love the good ol' U.S. of A.

2) Empire-FOX

"Hustle and Flow" fans will rejoice at the reunion of Taraji P. Henson and Terrence Howard in this action-packed drama. This new series stars Howard as a powerful music mogul Lucious Lyon who tries to groom one of his sons to take over his music enterprise after discovering he has a fatal illness. To add to his family problems, his bitter ex-wife Cookie (Henson) has recently been let out of prison and wants revenge.

Watch if you like: "Dallas," or any other twisted family drama.

3) Hindsight-VH1

It's a modern-day time traveling adventure as young divorcee Becca (Laura Ramsey) is transported back to 1995 in order to right her previous wrongs when she wishes she could relive her life before she marries for the second time.

Watch if you like: HBO's "Girls" or miss the 90s and love a show that can pull off making great pop culture references.

4) Allegiance-NBC

Fans of "The Americans" will enjoy this series that puts a shocking twist on the average spy drama and will make you question whether blood really is thicker than water. "Allegiance" revolves around a CIA agent Alex O'Connor (Gavin Stenhouse) who discovers that his own parents are actually Russian spies plotting an attack on the United States and must decide whether to stay true to his country or his family.

Watch if you like: "Nikita," "Alias," or anything spy related.

5) Eye Candy-MTV

In a shocking turn of events, Victoria Justice ditches her good girl image (thankfully, all while keeping her tongue in her mouth, unlike some other child stars we know) in this refreshing MTV thriller. Justice plays Lindy Sampson, a talented hacker working for the NYPD who attempts to find a dangerous serial killer who hunts dating websites for his victims. Sampson joins the dating site and attempts to find the killer by weeding out potential suspects as she dates various potential stalkers.

Watch if you like: "Catfish" or

anything on the Investigation Discovery Channel.

6) Better Call Saul-AMC

"Breaking Bad" fans will be ecstatic to find the return of their favorite corrupt lawyer Saul Goodman (Bob Odenkirk) in this spin-off series. This series serves as a prequel to the events of "Breaking Bad," taking place a few years before the events of the main series and follows Goodman on his path to becoming the swarmy character that we know and love.

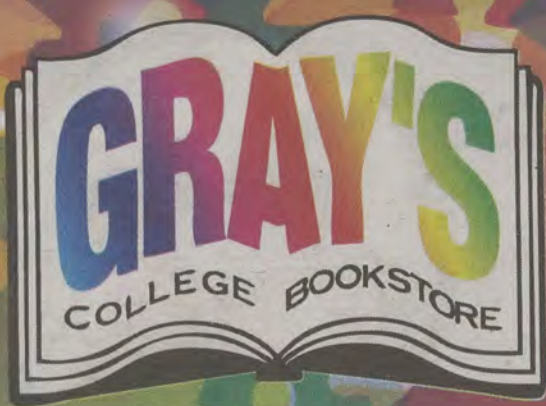
Watch if you like: "Breaking Bad" . . . there's nothing else

that I can compare to the greatness that is Walter White, so just watch the sequel.

Netflix Edition: House of Cards

Season three of this online hit returns on Feb. 27. Details of the upcoming season have been kept under wraps but rumor has it the new season will not follow the same plot as its UK predecessor. Either way, fans will enjoy the amoral antics of the newly-instated President Underwood.

Watch if you like: "Scandal" or just can't get enough of ruthless politicians.



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The Tough Conversations

DPE IS HERE TO LISTEN

BY MICHELLE NORSWORTHY
The George-Anne staff

Rewind back to last February, when photos of the RumRunners' Plantation Room sign was plastered all over social media and the subject of conversation for the days following the sign removal. Racial tensions were stirred and students were taking to social media – and to the Multicultural Student Center – to voice their opinions.

According to Jabal Moss, graduate assistant for Diversity Education, the MSC was looking for a way to ease those tensions and make Georgia Southern University a place where minority students felt safe.

Enter the Diversity Peer Educators

"They're here to promote greater cultural understanding and respect for all students," Moss said, "We [were] having a lot of incidents on campus – from the Plantation Room sign to different people yelling slurs

at them – so I said why don't we move to a place where the students lead the initiative?"

Last spring, that's exactly what the Multicultural Student Center did. Moss teamed up with Dorsey Baldwin, Director of the MSC, to draft a proposal to Patrice Jackson, Dean of Students. The proposal outlined exactly what the Diversity Peer Educators would do, and why our campus needed them.

The 35 or so members who are currently in DPE spent the past semester going through training, including conversations that touched on topics most people try to avoid such as race, gender and sexual minorities. "You have to be willing to have those uncomfortable conversations," Moss said. "This semester, we're going to take those lives, build those conversations with other groups and students."

The Race Card Project

Started by Michele Norris, the first African American female to host for NPR, the Race Card Project urges people

to take everything they know, think and have experienced about race and pack it all into only six words.

Since DPE brought The Race Card Project to GSU – just weeks before the end of fall semester – over 400 people filled out cards.

“

We're trying to get to the place where it's okay for people to have differing opinions, but also know how to listen.”

Jabal Moss

Graduate Assistant for Diversity Education

"We've had a lot of students talk about the stereotypes and perceptions that people think of them, right off the bat," Moss said, "so we're trying to combat those issues with the Race Card Project."

But the issues Moss hopes this project can combat aren't just about race.

"We're trying to get to the place where it's okay for people to have differing opinions, but also know how to listen. One thing it's important to understand is that [DPE] is not here to change people, but we do want to impact people's hearts," Moss said.

So what's that mean exactly?

Let's just let the members of DPE answer that for you.

"It's very important for us, as members of the Georgia Southern community, to learn,

understand, and accept more about each other in order to be more productive as a whole...

[DPE] promote spaces where people can be challenged and can challenge others." – Jamillah Morrow, senior child and family development major.

"DPE will first encourage cultural understanding and acceptance amongst all Eagles." – Jordan Kelly, junior multimedia journalism major.

"Having the opportunity to change the way you think about the touchy subjects of life – like race or sexual orientation – and apply to your own life in a positive light is something our university needs – and our nation." Alésha Elbert, sophomore psychology major.

Timeline of Conception

February '14

- Plantation Room sign goes up; racial tensions stir
- Conversations start; "Bias incident reports" go into affect

April '14

- DPE Proposal gets to Dean Jackson

March '14

- Moss and Baldwin meet 1-on-1
- Staff meetings to find a solution

June '14

- Everything gets set in motion
- Applications go online

Fall '14

- Interviews & training DPEs begins

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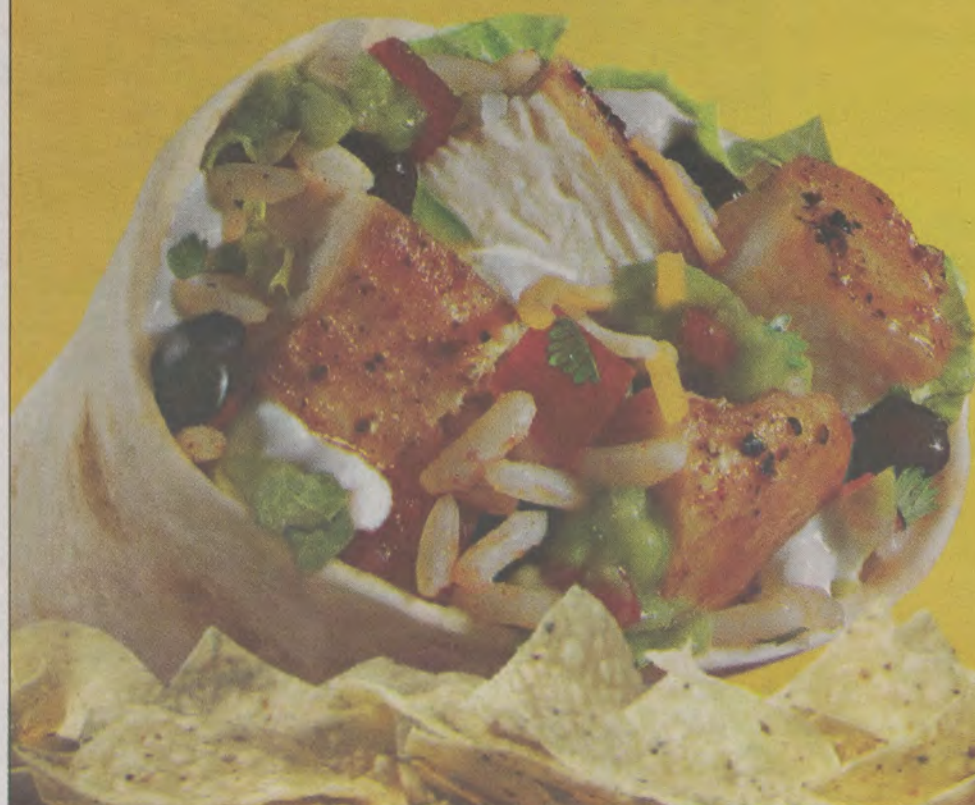
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Opinions

1-15-15

Letter to the Editor

Dear George-Anne,

Now I'll be honest, I don't really usually read the *WHOLE* newspaper. I have my favorite sections and usually skim through the rest. *coughnotasportsfancough* But I was intrigued by the new design so I took my time more than usual and Tuesday's Buzz List caught my eye. Now a while back, we learned about Michael Phelps's girlfriends intersex status. This is a topic few people know about and understand so I will excuse your simplification of the situation and offensive comments about her genitalia. Let's be honest, the tone of the Buzz List is always a bit on the offensive side.

Because so few people know and understand what intersex is, it is very important to give people accurate information on the subject. Ignorance on the subject leads to health care malpractice and violence against intersex people. The term intersex describes a myriad of conditions where a person does not hormonally and/or anatomically fit within our definitions of male and female. This is found in about 0.2 percent of the population. To put that into perspective, Jews also make up 0.2 percent of the population. Most intersex people do not know they are intersex, often until they try and have children, which can be difficult if not impossible for them. Those who are aware are often shamed from telling people about the condition. Historically, when a child was born and their bodies found not to clearly fit within male or female, doctors would perform surgeries in order to make their bodies fit into these boxes. These surgeries often destroyed or removed the organs which experience sexual pleasure and need further surgeries throughout childhood. This is a practice which many intersex individuals are fighting against.

The intersex community is diverse and complex and in desperate need of more awareness. To describe the condition as it was in the Buzz List is glib and offensive and really should be avoided in an effort to aim for more accurate educational measures. Statistically, there are enough intersex students at GSU to fill a lecture hall and these students deserve to be respected and supported, not made fun of. For more information, check out the Intersex Society of North America at isna.org.

PARRISH TURNER

Turner is a senior writing major from Roswell, Ga.

COLLEGE

ISN'T MEANT FOR EVERYONE



COLIN RITSICK

Ritsick is a senior journalism major from Marietta, Ga.

I don't swim very well. That's just a fact of nature that a 6'4", 275 pound guy like myself learned to accept a long time ago. It should go without saying that anyone who wishes to judge my success as a person based on my backstroke is going to be sorely disappointed. College can be looked at the same way.

Story time: I began attending school here in the fall of 2011. Two of my fellow classmates, we'll call them Matt and Jack for this story, also started college in the fall of 2011. Fast forward four years – while I am preparing to sweat through my robes as I walk across Paulson Stadium in May, graduation is nowhere in sight for Matt or Jack. In fact, both are no longer enrolled. A common reaction to that is to look at them as if they have failed. No one will say that out loud, but I can see it in people's reactions.

Our whole lives we've been groomed to believe that you go to high school, and you get good grades and then you go to college. Hopefully you get good grades in college, but even if you don't, as long as you get your degree, you have done what you are supposed to. You've succeeded. And now all you have to do is get a good job, but that is a shoe-in since you have a degree, right?

Well I have a problem with that. Not so much with going to college (because I believe it was a great move for me), but with the mindset

that if you don't succeed in college then you have failed. Call me crazy, but I don't believe we were put on this earth to labor over MyMathLab. Furthermore, I don't believe we were put on this earth to be sized up by how many questions we correctly answer on a brown ScanTron. Name one situation outside of a classroom in which someone hands you a multiple choice test. It doesn't happen because life isn't determined on paper.

So back to my buddies Matt and Jack. Neither did well in college. But I know for a fact that they are smarter than many of my friends who are in college. Is their GPA higher? No. But I am not worried about either of them being successful.

Matt can build anything. He knows more about how to fix things, anything – a car, a computer, a toilet – than anyone I've ever met. He always has a job, sometimes two, and works harder than any of us in school without a doubt. He speaks well, laughs easily and is a natural leader. But he isn't a test-taker. He isn't designed to memorize and regurgitate information. His skills lie in logic, and how to deal with real life problems.

I wouldn't be surprised if Jack becomes famous one day. Jack can make friends with anyone on this earth, and can sell ice cream to an Eskimo. He's one of those guys that you look up to as soon as you first meet him because he is charismatic and confident and makes you feel better just by being around him. He isn't cut out to get an "A" in Business Statistics. But he is cut out to succeed, in whatever medium that may be, because he knows how to deal with people.

So if you're struggling through college as you read this, relax. School might not be your thing, and that is quite alright. The people who make a difference in this world are those that know what they're good at and pursue it. Find out what you do well and what you enjoy, and then go find out how to get paid for it.

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 email in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) 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, Student Media or the University System of Georgia.

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Playing in only seven games this season, **Eric Ferguson** has scored a total of 60 points.



PHOTO COURTESY OF gseagles.com

THIS IS THE GAME



COLIN RITSICK

@Colin_Ritsick
Colin is a senior journalism major from Marietta, Ga.

Tonight's game against Louisiana-Lafayette is, in my opinion, the biggest basketball game in the four years I've been here.

Georgia Southern basketball never really gets the same attention as other sports on campus. And, there is a valid reason for that - they don't win championships as frequently as other sports like football and baseball do.

But, this year's team isn't like the other three years I've been here. These guys are good. They can shoot from anywhere on the floor, they rebound better than most teams in the country and they play tough, aggressive defense. These Eagles are for real - and they can let the rest of the Sun Belt know that with a victory tonight.

You, as a fan - I'm going to assume you are somewhat a fan or else you wouldn't have read this far - should be very excited about that. Going to a school that is good at basketball and has a fun fan base is exhilarating. Ever watch a Duke game at Cameron-Indoor?

I went to Wheeler High School in Marietta where every season was pretty much state championship or bust. And because there are so many basketball games in a season, it was like a party every week.

I would love to see that type of atmosphere for a game in Hanner Fieldhouse. Head coach Mark Byington believes that type of fan support helps his team, too.

"When [fans] are here supporting us our guys play better. It raises their level of play," Byington said.

The Ragin' Cajuns are the No. 1 team in the Sun Belt, and if you remember, they weren't happy about us winning the conference in football. This game is going to be intense and could be a turning point for how our campus views basketball.

When asked about the student body showing up for Thursday's game, Byington said, "they're more important than they even know."

"Having a great basketball environment can be worth a couple of points. And this game might come down to one or two points," Byington said.

“HAVING A GREAT BASKETBALL ENVIRONMENT CAN BE WORTH A COUPLE OF POINTS. AND THIS GAME MIGHT COME DOWN TO ONE OR TWO POINTS..” MARK BYINGTON
Head Coach

BATTLE OF NO. 1 VS NO. 2

BY COLIN RITSICK
The George-Anne Staff

The top two teams in the Sun Belt play for the No. 1 spot tonight when Georgia Southern hosts the defending conference champions, Louisiana-Lafayette, at 7:30 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse.

"They are one of the most talented offensive teams in the country. They score from all five positions and have a future NBA player," head coach Mark Byington said.

The Ragin' Cajuns (10-5, 4-0 SBC) score 82.6 points per game, 10th-most in the nation. They are a great transition team and try to keep defenses off guard by playing fast. Byington attributed the Ragin' Cajuns balance on offense as one of their biggest weapons.

"They have multiple guys that can score and have big nights. They are tough to guard," Byington said.

ULL has four players that average in the double digits in scoring. Leading the way is junior forward Shawn Long, the NBA prospect Byington spoke of.

Long, is well, long. He is 6-foot-9-inches, 245 pounds and polished on all sides of the ball. He puts up 15.4 points a

night and pulls down 9.0 rebounds per game. Long is one of only two players in the country to average a double-double each of the last two seasons.

"There's going to be a lot of different guys in a lot of different defenses for him. So it's not him vs. Trent (Wiedeman) by any means," Byington said.

Defense will be the difference maker in this game – for both teams.

The Eagles (10-3, 3-1 SBC) play stout defense and only allow 60 points per game. Their length and cohesiveness put them near the top in the conference for defense. There is no stopping the Cajuns offense, but if GSU can slow it down they have a good chance of winning this ballgame.

ULL's defense is their weak spot. They give up a lot of points, over 70 per game, and rely on athleticism to get the job done.

Because ULL doesn't waste many opportunities on offense (they shoot nearly 50 percent from the field), every single possession will be important for the Eagles. The onus will be on Georgia Southern's guards to keep the ball safe and set up smart shots.

Senior guard Jelani Hewitt

needs to play well for GSU to win this game. Hewitt scores 20.2 points per game and has improved his three-point shooting from last year, but he needs to do more than just score tonight.

"Jelani is tremendous and sometimes his numbers don't always show what he's doing in the game. He's willing to sacrifice and do whatever it takes for the team to win," Byington said.

GSU has won six of its last seven with the only loss coming by one point at Texas-Arlington.

Some of ULL's offensive numbers got a significant boost after two 115-point outings against a Division III and a NAIA opponent. But they have won their first four Sun Belt games including a good win over a talented Georgia State team last Thursday.

All five of Lafayette's losses have been away from the CajunDome, where they score 94.4 points per game. But playing on the road the Ragin' Cajuns only score 72.3 points and have a 2-4 record. Their other loss was on a neutral site.

Follow @GeorgeAnneSport for live updates of tonight's game.

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BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE

Jelani Hewitt is the driving force and play maker behind the Eagles this season.



POST SEASON TALK

Head coach **Willie Fritz** led the Eagles in his debut season to a conference title in the Sun Belt.



RYAN WOODHAM THE GEORGE-ANNE

WITH FRITZ

BY WILL CHENEY
The George-Anne Staff

Year one has come and gone since Georgia Southern head football coach Willie Fritz was hired to replace Jeff Monken, and what a year it was.

The 2014 football season saw the Eagles go toe-to-toe with two formidable ACC programs and finish the season with an unblemished Sun Belt record along with an outright conference title.

"It's been a lot of work. The biggest challenge for me was coming to a new area of the country," Fritz said. "When you take a job, you forget about learning about the university itself and the community. Everybody knows me as coach. They might not know my name, but they can call me coach. I'm trying to meet everyone and it's just been a lot of new experiences for me."

One challenge Fritz had to deal with in the transition was piecing together a staff for his newfound program. A good coaching staff can make the life of a head coach much easier and that is just what happened at Georgia Southern in 2014.

"It's one of the few things I'll brag about. I think I did a great job of putting together a really good staff," Fritz said. "They're easy to work with. Unfortunately, in this profession, the higher up you go, the more egos you've got to deal with, particularly with coaches and sometimes administration. We don't have that here. There are just not a lot of egos here at Georgia Southern."

For Fritz, who was hired from Sam Houston State, an FCS program, another major factor which separates FBS and FCS football is recruiting.

"I had very little recruiting background in the state of Georgia, a little bit in Florida, zero in South Carolina and zero in Alabama," Fritz said. "Recruiting FCS, you really don't get into the meat of recruiting until December and January, and you sign them in February. Now, it's year round. You're doing something with social media, writing letters, phone calls, visiting, meeting and watching video daily. It really is 365 days a year."

A huge recruiting tool, ironically, became the losses to NC State and Georgia Tech. Both teams played in bowl games this season, with Georgia Tech defeating Mississippi State in the FedEx Orange Bowl. Georgia Southern was two plays and five points away from defeating both ACC programs.

"You know, it's probably the first time in my career that I've ever thought we gained anything from a loss," Fritz said. "I was dejected and disappointed that we didn't win those games, but the exposure that we got on television helped us in that respect."

As Fritz and the Eagles look forward, National Signing Day is less than a month away, and he will continue his year-round job of recruiting. Last season made a statement, but it's now in the past, and the only focus for his program is the 2015 season on the horizon.



Fritz led the way to defeat Sun Belt rival GSU, 69-31.

RYAN WOODHAM THE GEORGE-ANNE

Eagles in Medal of Honor Bowl

BY HAYDEN BOUDREAUX
The George-Anne Staff

While they did not get to play in a traditional bowl game, offensive lineman Garret Frye and linebacker Edwin Jackson were given the chance to play in the Medal of Honor Bowl.

"I'm just so excited about those guys," head coach Willie Fritz said. "I wish we could have gotten a couple other guys invited to that game, but those are hard games to get to."

The Medal of Honor Bowl was proposed to fill in the gap of the Legend's Bowl for the December Bowl Season sanctioned by the National College Athletic Association. In October of 2014, the committee announced its plans to play a college all-star game, and, in December, they began inviting some of the

best athletes in college football to join the roster.

Among those chosen was standout senior linebacker Jackson. He garnered major attention for himself throughout the year with his deceptive speed and teeth rattling hits. Jackson led the team with exactly 100 tackles and managed to pull down one interception that he returned for 48 yards against South Alabama.

The other Eagle selected to represent the blue and white was senior offensive lineman Frye. He has been a leader throughout his career at Georgia Southern and has made a name for himself on NFL scout sheets. He excelled this season and was given the recognition of being named to the All-Sun Belt team.

Both players were selected to play for the American team against the National team. The game between some

of the best college football players in the country kicked off on Saturday. Jackson saw the majority of the play time at middle linebacker as he finished the game with four tackles and one for a loss. Frye alternated in the offense every other drive and helped the American team put up two scores in the 26-14 loss.

"I was proud of watching them compete, because I knew they would," Fritz said. "Nobody will out-compete or outwork those two guys. They're good students, they love football, love to compete, love to practice, love to lift weights and they're what you look for."

The showing was a good opportunity for both players to raise their draft stock before the pro days and combines begin in the coming months. The NFL Draft will be held April 30 to May 2.



RYAN WOODHAM THE GEORGE-ANNE
Edwin Jackson entered the Medal of Honor Bowl after posting 100 total tackles in the 2014 season.

Glory to the O-Line

BY HAYDEN BOUDREAUX
The George-Anne Staff

As the college football season comes to a close, it is important to recognize the veteran offensive line for helping create one of the most dominant rushing attacks in college football.

After being so valuable to Georgia Southern football and its offense, six senior offensive linemen will graduate and will no longer be eligible to play college football. As we look forward to next season, it is important to remember the role these men played in our first Sun Belt season.



#58 Garret Frye

He made his senior year his best as he anchored one of the best rushing attacks in the country, named as a Sun Belt All-Conference player, and was recently played in the Medal of Honor Bowl.



#64 Hunter Lamar

He was a student of the game that quickly learned how to play every position on the line. He decided to make 2014 his final season as an Eagle and was another key part of the Sun Belt Championship.



#70 Raymond Klugey

As a sophomore, he continued to work on his size and strength and was able to play in every game for the Eagles. This year Klugey saw most of the reps at the tackle position and was key in establishing dominance up front.



#74 Logan Davis

He battled injury and missed all of spring practice his sophomore year but started in 11 games and played in 13 where he recorded 59 knockdowns. His junior and senior years he improved as a starter and a leader. His performance this season gave him recognition as an honorable mention on the All-Sun Belt team.



#75 Manrey Saint-Amour

He was a threat his junior season by serving as an anchor for the line and racking up 15 knockdowns against the University of Florida. He saved his best performance for his senior year as a cornerstone of the offensive line and was named to the first team All-Sun Belt team.



#76 Trevor McBurnett

As a member of the Eagle Honor Roll his redshirt junior season, he tied the team high 59 knockdowns and had 17 knockdowns against Florida. His experience, attitude and leadership ability served as the mortar for the success of the offensive line in their dominance over the Sun Belt.

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