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GA
THE GEORGE-ANNE

MEET
**ANGEL
MATIAS**

The journey of a determined athlete
from Puerto Rico to Statesboro

SEE PAGE 13



LGBTQ AT GSU

GSU responds to the probability of marriage
equality coming to Georgia this summer SEE PAGE 4

ALEXANDRA TOBIA THE GEORGE-ANNE



**UGA SERIES
THIS WEEKEND**

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RYAN WOODHAM THE GEORGE-ANNE

BLACK FACULTY MAKE UP

LESS THAN **6** PERCENT

OF ALL FACULTY MEMBERS

SEE PAGE 5

President's Take

BY ARAYA JACKSON
The George-Anne staff

Ever wonder what the president of our university jams out to while driving down the road or just on a daily basis? President Brooks Keel shares what he's been listening to lately and his ideal spring concert.

What have you been listening to lately?

Believe it or not I've been listening to more country lately than anything. I have been listening to a lot of country lately and it's the car I have because it doesn't have XM radio, so I've been forced to listen to real radio, but it's made me listen to the newer country Cole Swin-

del, Luke Bryan, and some others. My taste of music goes all over the place.

I was on the plane coming back from a trip and was listening to the soundtrack from the Phantom of the Opera. So it goes all over the place

What would your ideal spring concert be?

St. Paul and the Broken Bones, or Dave Mathews Band. Obviously we couldn't get Dave Mathews to be here, but I have fallen in love with St. Paul and the Broken Bones. I've gone on YouTube on my own time to watch their live performances.



Will you be going to the Migos Concert?

I don't know yet, that's one genre I'm not too familiar with. It's an acquired taste for someone of my generation to listen to.

You talk about rap, rap started before y'all were born with folks like Issac Hayes and even Barry White did a little rap too. But Issac Hayes especially, he was the master, totally different rap than you're used to now.

Tasting the town

BY JOHNNY LU
The George-Anne contributor

The United Way of Southeast Georgia will be hosting its fifth annual Tasting Statesboro charity event on March 5 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at The Belle House.

More than 35 restaurants in Statesboro take part in the yearly event to raise money for the homeless, victims of abuse and foster children. The event includes live music, raffles and sampling.

As a non-profit organization with volunteers from all sectors of the community, United Way of Southeast Georgia helps of thousands of men, women and children by distributing the donations collected among those in need.

Volunteers also monitor how agencies use their funding to ensure that the money raised is used in the most efficient way possible.

United Way promotes its cause by holding events such as food tasting, races and other kinds of contests.

Eagles Increase Campus Sustainability

BY LINDSEY KEHRES
The George-Anne Staff

Georgia Southern University's Center for Sustainability just opened up requests for its Spring 2015 Student Sustainability Fee Project Grants.

Established last Spring semester, this grant strives to improve sustainability across campus while accessing funds anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000. In 2014, \$438,000 was allocated to 23 Student Sustainability Fee Project Grants.

Project proposals may address any aspect of sustainability in the areas of Water, Energy, Waste, Biodiversity, Food and

Transportation. It may also include projects that range from increasing biodiversity, to improving energy efficiency, implementing renewable energy solutions or encouraging sustainability behaviors.

Past projects included everything from the assessment of water quality and soil sequestration to equipping GSU golf carts with solar power charging systems.

Sustainability Fee projects may be proposed and conducted by any student, faculty, or staff member at GSU. The Annual call for proposals for funding in the next fiscal year will be due on April 1.

It's like Magic!

BY CAITLYN OLIVER
The George-Anne staff

Magic was released last Friday allowing the user to text a specified number with a request, such as booking a flight and

hotel room, and it will process the information and send it to the proper source.

Payment: First time users input credit card information, address, and so on. After that, every time you use it the information will already be in the system.

Fees: There is a small fee for service use but there will



This day in Black History

BY JOHNNY LU
The George-Anne contributor

On this day in black history, Hiram R. Revels was sworn in as the first black senator in Congress in 1870.

Revel was also the first African American to serve in the U.S. Congress.

With the end of the Civil War nearing, the Republican Party was becoming more and more dominant in the former Confederate states. As a controversial race issue in the time period, several democratic senators in Congress tried to keep Revels away from the Senate.

After a brief attempt to keep him out, Revels was sworn into office with the Senate voting 48 to 8 to seat Revels.

Before becoming a member of Congress, Revels was an educator and minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

After completing his service in March 1871, Revels returned to Mississippi where he later became the president of Alcorn University.

WEATHER BAR

Friday



High: 59°
Low: 34°

Saturday



High: 56°
Low: 39°

Sunday



High: 65°
Low: 50°

MARCH WEATHER ANIMAL POLL



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For Hedgehog
74754

For Chameleon
74755

For Cow
74757

For AfroDuck
74756



WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT MIGOS

By Aaron Keenan

Georgia Southern's University Programming Board has been able to book the student's top pick, Migos, for this year's Spring Concert. While many students have responded with excitement about seeing this hip hop trio, most have no idea who they are. If you are one of those people, don't worry, because we found four things you should know about these three guys known as Migos.

4. Before becoming an underground success, Quavo played Football for Berkmar High School. He dropped out to pursue music.

3. There's an alleged beef between Migos and another Atlanta rap force Chief Keef that originated on twitter. Keef made allegations on social media that Migos tweeted an indirect tweet towards him.

2. The 2013 single 'Versace' was a huge hit and charted on the Billboard 100. Migos has since collaborated with Young Thug, Meek Mill, Drake, Wiz Khalifa and French Montana.

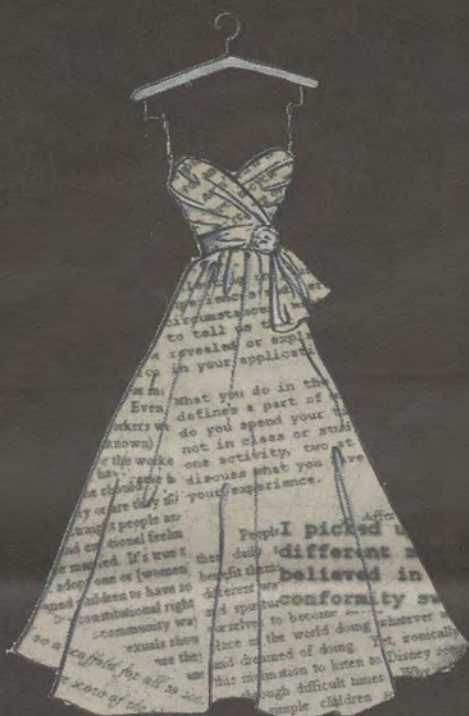
1. Migos is coming to GSU and will grace the presence of Hanner Fieldhouse on April 18, 2015. Tickets range from \$10 to \$30 with a student Eagle ID.

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STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY FEES AT WORK!

PACKING A LUNCH IN A REUSABLE LUNCH BOX AND USING SILVERWARE CAN REDUCE TRASH IN THE LANDFILLS.

Gay marriage in Ga. by July? Supreme Court set to decide

BY NADIA DREID
The George-Anne staff

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court announced that it would be hearing four same-sex marriage cases this legislative session, finally issuing a ruling on whether same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marriage.

"Sometimes when there are big issues that the court considers, it will take a variety of cases in dealing with those questions - there's maybe a lead case, but there are a series of cases that the court is going to be considering," Dr. Brett Curry, associate professor of political science, said.

The reason for this is that while the multiple cases may concern the same major issue, the individual cases may deal with one particular aspect of the law not found in the others, Curry said.

"Courts are reactive institutions. They don't have the ability to just say 'Here's what we think about this particular issue,'" Curry said. "The issue has to be presented before them and sometimes an issue or part of a legal issue is presented in one case and [not in] another."

LGBT OF GSU

Georgia Southern University's Gay-Straight Alliance has held events in the past to promote marriage equality, former GSA president Parrish Turner said. In the fall, the group often hosts mock weddings, where friends or same-sex couples 'get married' in the student union in support of the cause.

However, Turner thinks that marriage equality would affect the faculty and staff of GSU more than its students.

"I know many couples that

work at Georgia Southern . . . and these are couples that have been together for thirty, forty years," Turner said. "Some met their freshman year at Georgia Southern and are still together, and for them to be able to marry and have that recognized in Georgia really does make a difference in what kind of rights they have."

Turner said that while marriage equality is a step in the right direction, people should not think achieving it means that the work is done. In Georgia, it is still legal to fire someone for being gay, and this issue and others like it are viewed by many as more pressing than marriage equality. However, Turner still views it as a step in the right direction.

"Marriage is very much the pretty cause - who doesn't like wedding dresses and flowers and cakes?" Turner said. "I think it's going to be a lot more complicated

as we continue to go down the line, so I think it makes a difference knowing that it's at least an option."

After taking into account the fact that GSU doesn't offer LGBTQ a specific resource center, as many other universities of the size often do, Dr. Brooks Keel, GSU President, felt that it was a very good issue that should definitely be discussed and taken care.

"You have to look at where we live, you know Georgia is a very conservative state for all kinds of reasons and I'm sure that factors into it," Keel said.

MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN THE PEACH STATE

Currently, same-sex marriage is legal in 37 of 50 U.S. states. Three of the five states bordering Georgia - Florida, Alabama and South Carolina - have legalized same-sex marriage.

Georgia currently has a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage and does not recognize marriages or civil unions from other states. This could change, however, with the court's ruling, which should be announced

by June.

If the Supreme Court does confirm a right to marriage, all states, including Georgia, would likely be required to begin issuing licenses to same-sex couples in a matter of weeks, Curry said.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

Many legal experts believe it is extremely likely that the court will rule in favor of same-sex marriage, due in part to its decision not to grant a stay for the state of Alabama. Alabama requested permission to ignore the decision of their circuit court judge to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples until the Supreme Court had made its decision.

"Rationally speaking, if you're a majority of the United States Supreme Court and you're going to be prepared to uphold the ability of Alabama to define marriage in such a way as to exclude gays and lesbians, you're probably not going to be in favor of that state going ahead and issuing hundreds or thousands of marriage licenses," Curry said.

That is why the decision not to grant a stay was telling, he said.

PHI DELTA THETA FRATERNITY COMING BACK TO GSU

BY NADIA DREID
The George-Anne staff

The undergraduate chapter of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity is returning to Georgia Southern University this semester. The organization has not been active on campus for more than a decade so they were very pleased to know that GSU was open for expansion.

Phi Delta Theta was founded on the principles of friendship, sound learning and moral rectitude. The purpose of the organization is to push college men to broaden their horizons, both socially and academically, and to become leaders within their community.

"The one thing we try to create is this hub for leaders on campus," Tucker Barney, Leadership Consultant, said.

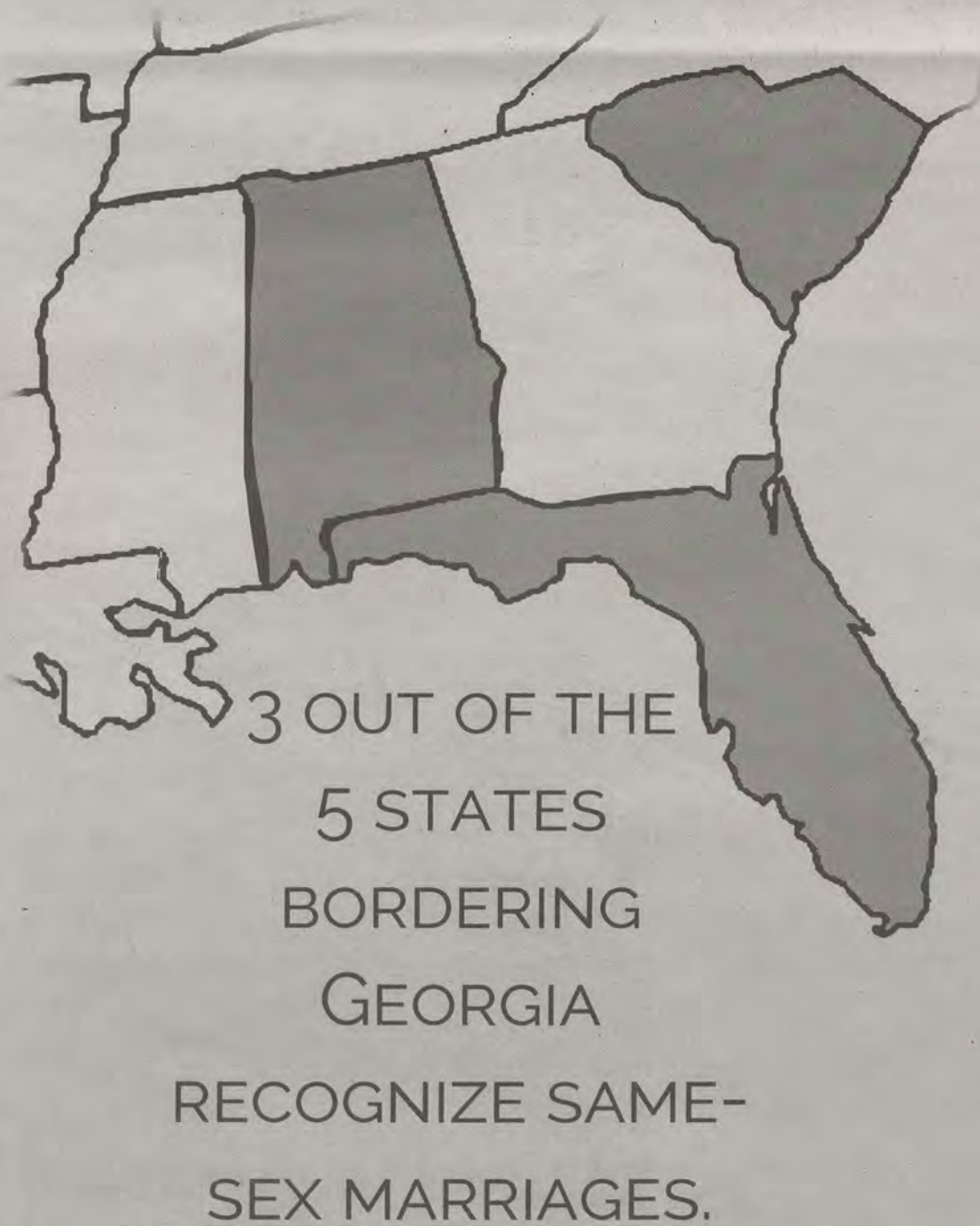
The Fraternity will be involved in the community in several ways. They are partnered with the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) foundation. They will also be doing community service at the local Boys and Girls Club and other places where there is always a lot of important work to be done.

"I envision a fraternity

that is known for how they stand up as moral citizens throughout the Statesboro community," Jesse House, sophomore multimedia communication film and production major, said.

"Phi Delta Theta gave me my first job straight out of college which has greatly impacted my life," Tucker said.

Those looking to become members of the Fraternity must meet a number of qualifications before they can be considered for membership. A male student must have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA. He must also embody social excellence and be involved within the community with other campus organizations. The person also has to demonstrate professional and goal driven characteristics. The fraternity will become an official on campus organization in April of this year. Their goal is to have a minimum of 25 members but no more than 40. The group has about 10 members and is currently accepting applications. If you are interested, email Tucker Barney at tbarney@phideltatheta.org.



BLACK FACULTY MEMBERS TOTAL LESS THAN 6 PERCENT

BY NADIA DREID
The George-Anne staff

As of fall 2013, Georgia Southern University employed 47 black teaching faculty fulltime, amounting to 5.7 percent of the total fulltime faculty. When compared with four similarly-sized public universities in Georgia, GSU ranks second in black faculty representation.

In the lead is Georgia State University, whose teaching faculty is nearly 10 percent black. Trailing behind is the Georgia Institute of Technology with less than three percent. The University of Georgia and Valdosta State University's numbers match GSU's very closely, with 5.6 and 5.3 percent black faculty respectively.

"The university's doing very good with increasing the number of African-American students, but faculty and administrators, not so much," Dr. F. Erik Brooks, former GSU professor and one of this year's black history month speakers, said.

"I think historically, GSU has always had a rich tradition of honoring black history month and all that that means. I'm very impressed with all that Georgia Southern has done but I'll help us remember that we're still not there yet," Dr. Brooks Keel, Georgia Southern University president, said.

In part, Brooks blames the "no qualified blacks

myth" for the lack of diversity in college faculty. Some argue that universities cannot increase the numbers of black faculty because black professors are always leaving for better jobs, but Brooks does not accept that as an excuse.

"When you get your Ph.D., you just want to get a job someplace. Once you get that job, say you're a star. You produce all this research and your teaching is fantastic. You're doing service, you're doing all this stuff – there are universities with more dollars, more prestige that come and pluck those black faculty away. That happens," Brooks said.

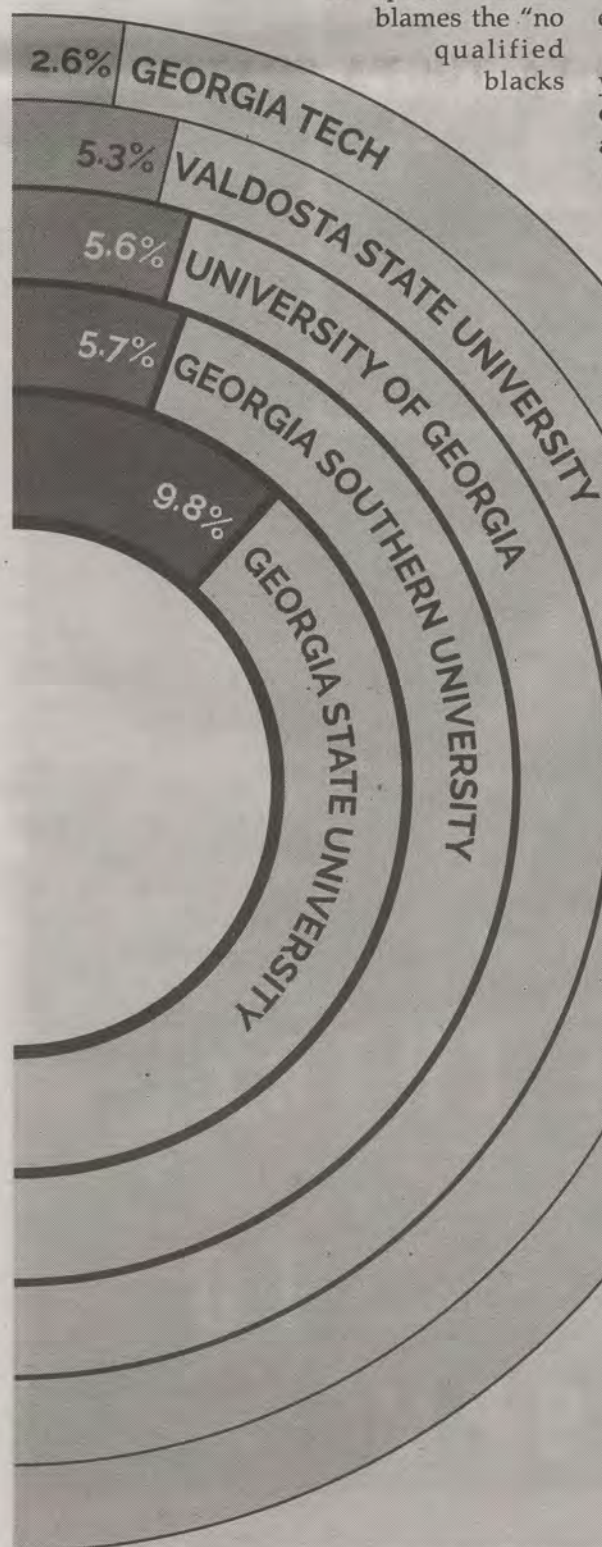
However, he sees no reason why schools like GSU could not play by those same rules.

"But in turn, Georgia Southern could go to some other place, a smaller place, and pluck some star African-American faculty person from there," he said.

While black professors are harder to come by, Brooks said he believes GSU could do more to increase diversity.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, numbers similar to GSU's hold up across the country, with black professors making up only six percent of approximately 750,000 fulltime teachers employed by U.S. colleges.

"I think to have a diverse student population, you need to have a diverse faculty that they can relate to. It's one thing to talk diverse, it's another thing to actually have it. So we have a ways to go," Keel said.



BLACK FULLTIME FACULTY AT VARIOUS GEORGIA COLLEGES

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3/03 CONCERT Jazz Band 7:30 p.m. Performing Arts Center; 912.478.5396

3/03 COMMUNITY Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History: Georgia Women Shape the 20th Century 6 p.m. Assembly Hall, Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building; 912.478.7978

3/04-3/11 EXHIBIT Metamorphoses 7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. Sunday matinee; \$5 students, \$10 general admission; Black Box Theatre, Center for Art & Theatre; 912.478.5379

3/05 CONCERT Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History: Georgia Women Shape the 20th Century 6 p.m. Assembly Hall, Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building; 912.478.7978

3/07-3/27 GALLERY Form & Content Foundations Student Exhibition University Gallery, Center for Art & Theatre; 912.GSU.ARTS

3/07-3/27 GALLERY Master's of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition Contemporary Gallery, Center for Art & Theatre; 912.GSU.ARTS

3/12 CONCERT Symphony 7:30 p.m. Performing Arts Center; 912.478.5396

3/14 CONCERT Celtic Celebration 7 p.m. Saint Mary on the Hill Church, Augusta; 912.478.5233

3/15 CONCERT Celtic Celebration 7 p.m. The Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist, Savannah; 912.478.5233

3/24 CONCERT Linda Cionitti, clarinet 7:30 p.m. Carol A. Carter Recital Hall, Foy Building; 912.478.5396

3/29 CONCERT Symphonic Wind Ensemble 7:30 p.m. Performing Arts Center; 912.478.5396

3/30 CONCERT Piano Area Recital 7:30 p.m. Carol A. Carter Recital Hall, Foy Building; 912.478.5396

3/31 CONCERT Endowed Honors Recital 7:30 p.m. Carol A. Carter Recital Hall, Foy Building; 912.478.5396

All events are open to the public, and admission is free except where otherwise indicated. For more information, please visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu/class.



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HOUSE OF CARDS SEASON THREE DEBUT



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NETFLIX
House of Cards, Netflix's gripping original series about politics and the back halls of Washington, returns for its third season this Friday.

BY RASHIDA OTUNBA
The George-Anne staff

As you loyal fans may know, "House of Cards" will be releasing its third season on Friday, Feb. 27. To commemorate this joyous day, we in the Features section want to get you caught up and ready to binge by giving you some information about what to expect this season.

First thing's first, let's have a recap:

(Warning: major spoilers are ahead. Seriously, if you haven't watched season two stop reading. I mean it. Stop.)

#TeamUnderwood is coming out in full force: Frank Underwood is now officially POTUS, which means that the ruler of the free world is a manipulative, sociopathic serial killer.

This also means that Claire Underwood is now First Lady, which in my opinion is even worse because I can't picture her reading books to small children or even being in the same room with them without being totally disgusted by their cuteness.

Rachel Posner, the hooker turned waitress turned call center employee, is officially on the run for beating the mess out of Doug Stamper with a rock, caveman style. Admittedly, while watching this scene all I could think of was "This is Spartaaaaa!"

Speaking of which, whether

or not Doug is or isn't alive is up for debate (See Predictions).

Lucas Goodwin is still rotting in prison after being accused of hacking government computers while trying to prove that Frank killed his girlfriend Zoe.

Zoe Barnes still remains dead, as one would expect after being hit by a train. However, I sincerely hope that writers saw the opportunity to put Ms. Barnes in a few flashbacks or dream scenes where she haunts Frank's dreams.

Season 3 Predictions

To prepare fans for the huge release on Friday, HoC has released a series of elusive teaser trailers to hype fans up about the events of the upcoming season. An analysis of these trailers and a search into the darker depths of internet forums has allowed us to bring you this list of possible events that may happen in season three.

#TeamUnderwood may have made it to the White House, but there seems to be trouble in the East Wing. From the looks of things, Claire's conscious is catching up with her and, although Frank may love her more than sharks love blood, she's starting to realize that she doesn't want to be a piece in his sick game anymore.



Now here's the big one: Frank's right hand man Doug Stamper isn't dead. After season three's accidental release, fans quickly managed to grab screenshots of the aide recovering in a hospital bed.

Gavin, computer hacker turned government spy, is

now working for the FBI and is in the trailers shown sitting at an office, wearing an actual suit!

However, this revelation brings me to ask the bigger question: Where is Cashew? Can the federal government not afford office-sized cages

for guinea pigs? Wherever she is, I'm sure Cashew is plotting world domination. Forget the Underwoods, I'm betting on #TeamCashew.

Spring Break Games

Stop by for a few minutes of silly fun and pick up some information about staying safe when the fun gets serious during Spring Break.

March 2 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • RU Rotunda

Co-Sponsored by: Health Services & Student Media

Monday - Thursday:

Clothesline Project

RU Rotunda & RAC & Centennial Place • 9 am - 5 pm

Tuesday:

Eagles Get Tested • RU 2041 • 11 am - 2 pm

The Road to Healthy Skin, Skin Cancer Screenings
RU Room 2047 • 11 am - 2 pm

Wednesday:

Lunch & Learn: From the Munchies to Memory:
What the Science Says About Marijuana
RU Room 2047 • Noon - 1:30 pm

Eagles Fight Back • RU Ballroom A • 3 pm

Thursday:

Arrive Alive Tour • RU Rotunda • 10 am - 4 pm

Take Back the Night March • Dining Commons • 7:30 pm
End the Violence Rally: Immediately following the TBTN

Friday:

Pledge to be a Safe Eagle Day • Anywhere, Anytime
Finalize your travel plans with your travel buddies.
Educate yourselves on the laws of where you are visiting.
Make a safety plan before partying.
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PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM JINELLI
JIM JINELLI brings all the hunka hunka burning love of Elvis to the Averitt Center in Statesboro on March 1.

BY MICHELLE NORSWORTHY
The George-Anne staff

Flashback to the 1970s. Sure, most of you weren't alive then but stay with the image. You're among a crowd of other fans, staring up at a man people around the world called the King of Rock 'n' Roll. He's shaking and shimmying, and some lucky woman caught the silk scarf he threw out.

On March 1, the King is back. The Averitt Center for the Arts will be hosting ELVIS: A Concert Experience. The show is the creative result of one man's love of Elvis, and his passion for music.

The man's name is Jim Jinelli, and for 20 years, he's been bringing Elvis's music to people around the country. Known for his one-of-a-kind performances, Jinelli not only sings the songs, but embodies the same spirit as the king himself.

Jinelli stays true to Elvis form by donning a studded white jumpsuit and silk scarf, shaking and shimmying around the stage, and belting out fan favorites like, "American Trilogy," and "Unchained Melody."

Jinelli's passion for music started young, when he lived in Chicago. "I started playing music when I was 12 or 13 years old. I learned to play piano, percussion, drums, guitar," Jinelli said.

But it was his brother who

showed him the rip-roaring style of Elvis.

"I have an older brother who was a big fan before I was, and that was my introduction. We used to watch the movies on TV," Jinelli said.

The rock 'n' roll legend inspired Jinelli and during high school, the Elvis tribute artist rocked out in a band that played rock from the 50's and 60's. Jinelli went on to continue his music career by playing at different venues and events.

As the years went on, he found himself itching for something different.

"I wanted a change so I decided, since I was such a big fan of Elvis Presley's music, I thought it'd be a good match for me to get into," Jinelli said.

ELVIS: A Concert Experience highlights songs from Elvis 1971-1977 tours, some of which Jinelli himself attended.

"It was very electrical. Even being a teenager I knew I was coming to see an icon. [The stadium] held about 20,000 people and the show was sold out," Jinelli said. "And when Elvis walked out on stage, the crowd just went wild. I never experienced anything like that. It was like watching a phenomenon."

Almost six years ago, Jinelli decided to take his years of experience as both a musician and an Elvis tribute artist, and come up

with a concert that embodied this same "electrical" and "magical" style.

"I wanted to put together those ideas that we'd gathered and put together what we call 'a concert experience.'" Jinelli said, "We put together a show that would give the audience what it was like to experience a live Elvis Presley concert. I also provide them with a lot of information about [Elvis's] life both on stage and off."

Tickets for the show are \$15. Merchandise will also be sold, but 100% of the proceeds from merchandise go to the Wounded Warrior Project, a cause that hits close to home for Jinelli. Having had several members of his family serve in the military, and a few greatly affected by its cost, Jinelli felt the cause was the only right thing to do.

And in the words of the King: Thank ya. Thank ya very much.

MARCH 1 AT
3:00 P.M.

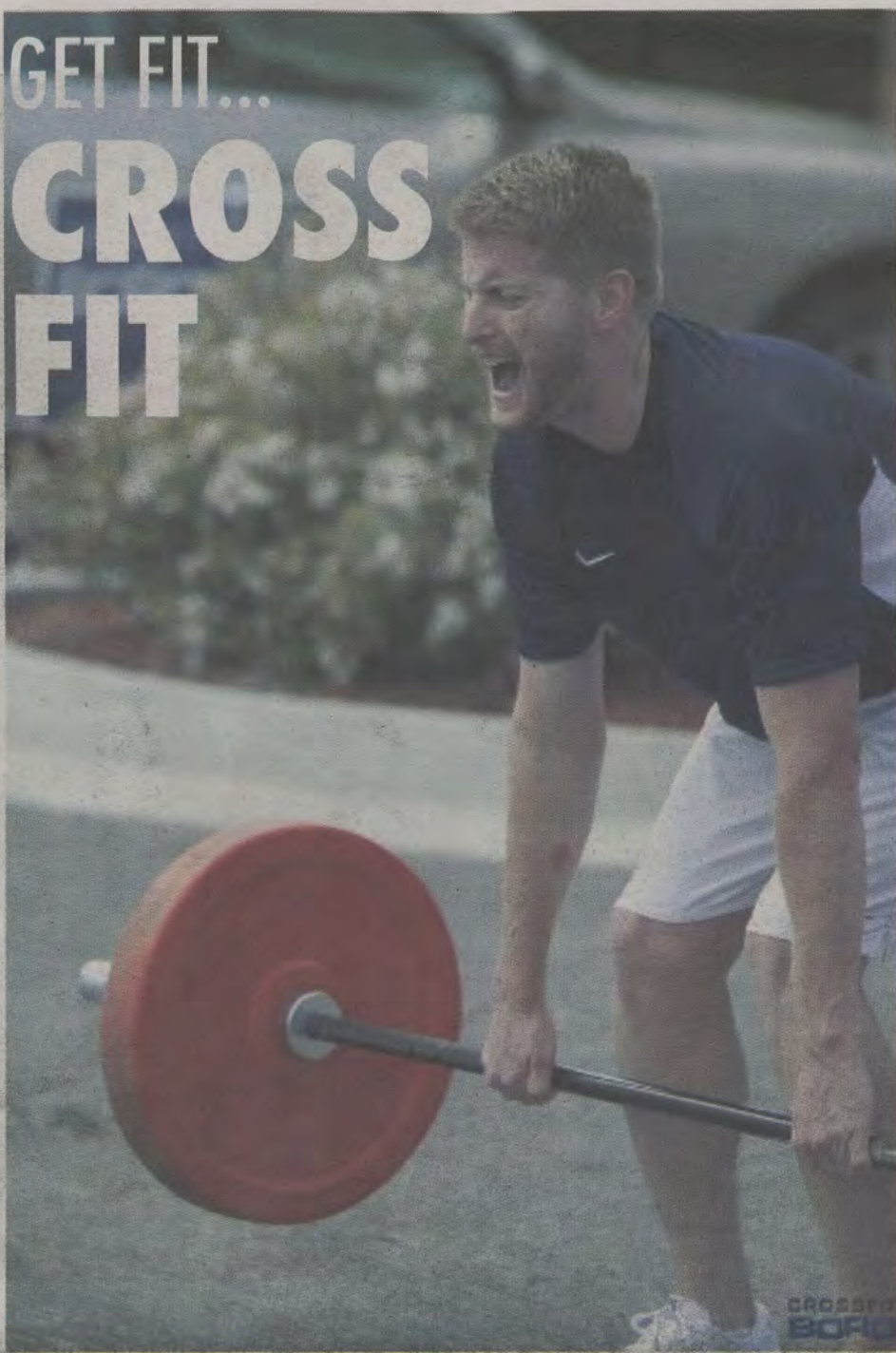
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FOR THE ARTS

TICKETS: \$15

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the option
of having
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BY MEG ELWOOD
The George-Anne staff

Spring Break is just a few weeks away and that means that if you have yet to give up on your New Year's resolution, your goal is getting your body into some type of shape.

Whether your goal is to keep your body and mind looking and feeling great, or if it's to get some serious muscle to show off to the ladies, there's a place that is becoming increasingly popular throughout the Statesboro community that can help you accomplish all of those things.

CrossFit Boro is a gym that gives members a perfect place to get the full-body, butt-kicking workout they need. It combines cardio and strength workouts to fit whatever goals you may have to get that body or stamina you've always wanted. Owner Ryan Brack has been an active CrossFitter since Sep. 2010.

"I was epically out of shape due to my lifestyle and previous injuries. I was an IT major, so I was an IT consultant by trade and I just needed to get in shape. I found CrossFit and lost 60 pounds in just two months."

And he's not the only one; members are almost guaranteed results if they follow a decent nutrition plan and really work for it in CrossFit.

"We are more focused towards quick transformations because the training is going to be a lot more guided," Brack said. for you everyday. It will not be as custom as one-on-one training, but you're with a group of people that are similar in workout modes to you. Sports player? They've got you covered with workouts to help you enhance your abilities in the sport, whether it be baseball, cross-country, tennis, gymnastics or even cheerleading. Injury/Disability? No problem. They can scale and modify any workout to your needs to help you strengthen after an injury or replace one workout with another if you have a disability. Skeptics of CrossFit say it can be dangerous and that it's easy to get injured with the "high-intensity" workouts or that it really doesn't do much for you. Like any workout routine, if you incorrectly preform the workout you are at risk to injure yourself or have not-so-great results. Intensity-wise, you might feel like all of the other people around you there are super ripped and the only way to be like them is by killing yourself with workouts, but that is false. Workouts are whatever intensity you choose.

Interested in trying out CrossFit Boro? Check out their website at www.crossfitboro.com to get started with a free consultation.

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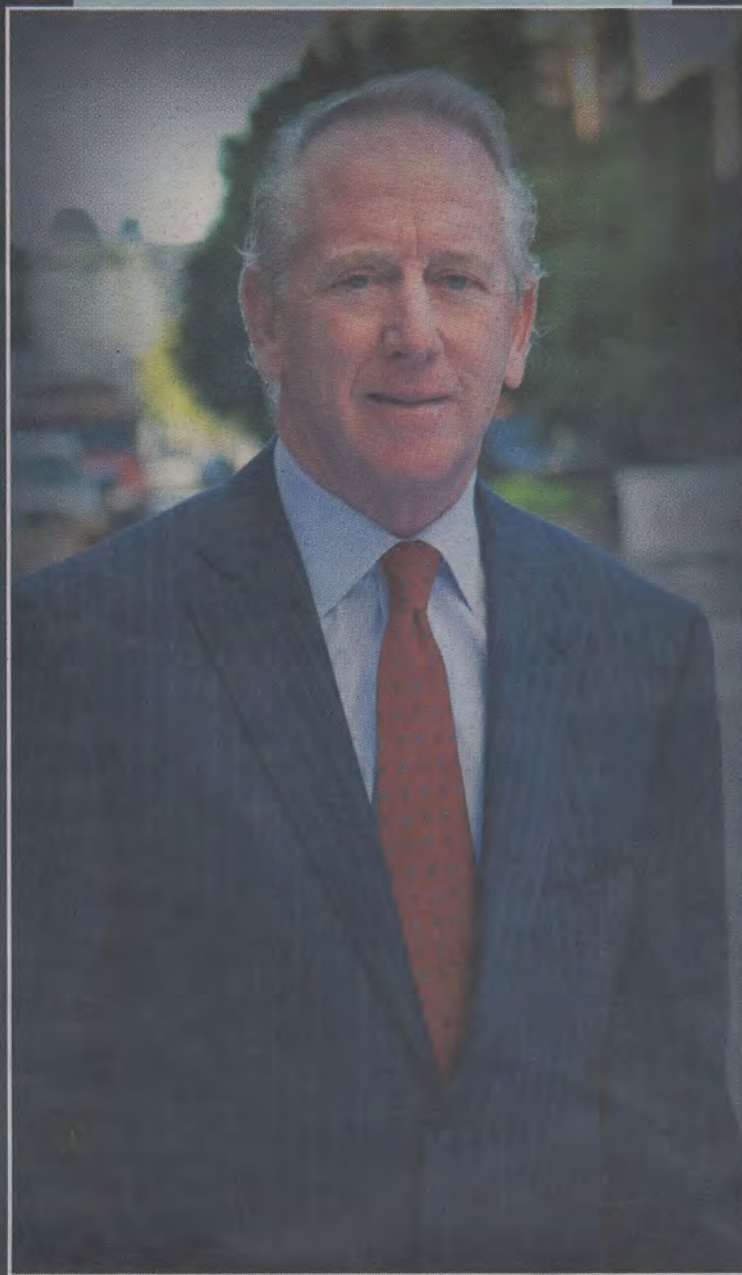
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A SONG OF SCIENCE AND ART PART 5: DIRTY MOVES BY: TOMMY MARTIN



Diverse Faculty

Just as important as diverse student body



ALEXANDRA McCRAY

McCray is a senior journalism major from Johns Creek, Ga.

While reflecting on my years at Georgia Southern University as a student one day it hit me that I had only taken one class taught by a black professor. The fact that I have only encountered one throughout my college career as a student in their class shocked me, but actually sadly isn't that improbable. According to colleges.niche.com, a website that gathers data about schools, only 6 percent of GSU's faculty is made up of black professors. That is interesting considering nationwide, according to the national center for education statistics, in 2011 only 9% percent of all college and university professors were black.

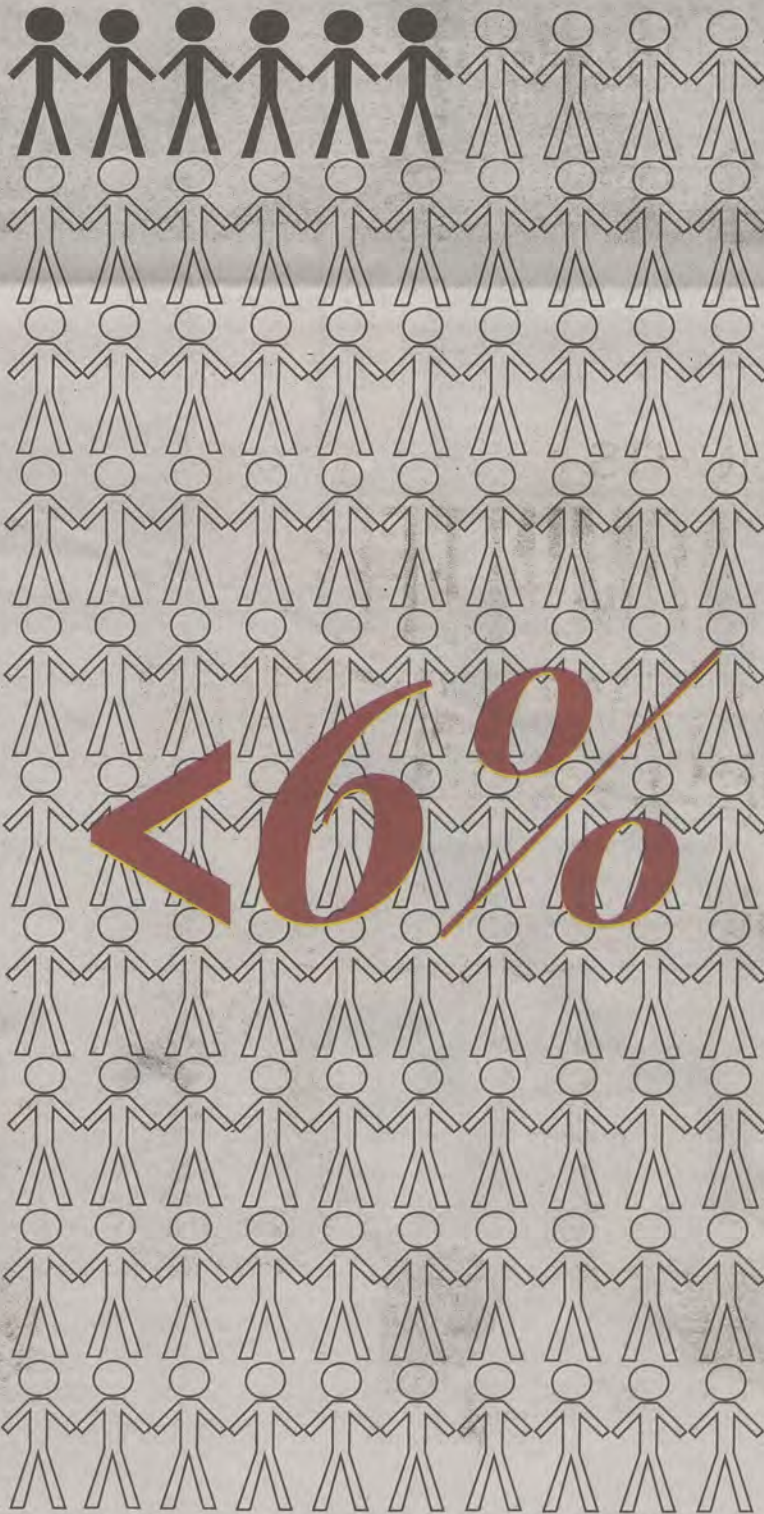
But let's look at what this means in reality for the average GSU student. Most students take about 15 hours each semester, which usually consists of about five three-hour courses. That adds up to 10 classes throughout an academic year, and if you graduate on time on this plan that means the average student has taken 40 (give or take a few) classes throughout their academic career and potentially only one

of those could be taught by a black professor.

Our school has definitely made strides on our campus for students of all ethnic and racial backgrounds to feel welcome and encouraged by bringing diversity speakers, creating the Minority Advisement Program and encouraging students to become Diversity Peer Educators. Which is great for the 26.5 percent incoming 2014-2015 student body that are Black. But that is only part of bringing true diversity to our college campus. Students are in transit throughout GSU but faculty have the opportunity to stay longer and shape the schools community for the future.

Even though it can be hard to snag Black and other minority professors, because they make up a small percentage of the instructional degree graduates and can be offered better paid positions at bigger institutions, GSU needs to work harder to bring Black and minority professors to our campus. Professors from different backgrounds and with different life experiences only help to provide students with a more well rounded view of the world.

They also serve as positive role models/mentors for minority students, along with being an understanding and relatable authority figure to talk to about discrimination or other issues students may be concerned about. If GSU wants to truly be a diverse university they will work just as hard to bring black and minority professors to campus as they do with students not only for the sake of their reputation but for the quality of education they provide for their students.



of Georgia Southern University
Professors are Black

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. For questions 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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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 (.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.

Classifieds & Puzzles

12

2-26-15

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Part time sales position available approximately 30-35 hours per week. Fun, energetic, and ambitious individuals should apply in person at 32 Joe Kennedy Blvd. (behind Ogeechee Tech next to Lewis Color). You may e-mail your resume or direct inquiries to britny@saharasmoke.com.

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2/26 WEEKLY BUZZ 3/04

Keeping you in the know about Student Affairs and Enrollment Management events, designed with you in mind.

FEBRUARY 26

Legislative Internship Information Session! Open to ALL Majors!

Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Location: Russell Union 2052

Legislative Internships offer students a well-rounded educational opportunity to complement their traditional classroom learning while also allowing them to immerse themselves into the unique political, intellectual and cultural atmosphere of the Georgia State Capitol or Washington, D.C.

For more information, visit <http://em.georgiasouthern.edu/internships/> or contact Dr. Vince Miller at 912-478-5256.

Tonight will be Bouldering Night Out at 7 p.m. at the Bouldering Cave in the RAC.

This event is open to beginners and experienced climbers, and there are prizes and food served as well. For more information visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/climbing/>

FEBRUARY 27

Adult CPR/AED is tonight at 5pm.

For more information, visit

<http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/>.

New Organization Chartering Workshop

Time: 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Location: Russell Union 2044

Description: Interested in starting a new student organization? Attend this workshop to see how! Contact Information: OSA@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

UPB Cinema: Hunger Games: Mocking Jay & Catching Fire (Double Feature)

Time: 6:00 pm & 8:00 pm

Location: Russell Union Theater

These weekly movies are for FREE. You can't beat the value of UPB Cinema. Mocking Jay will play at 6:00 pm, immediately following will be Catching Fire at 8:00 pm. Students, bring your Eagle ID. Contact Information: UPB@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

FEBRUARY 28

Ride for Red ends today!

Celebrate American Heart Month by improving your cardiovascular fitness and participate in as many Cycle classes as you can to win prizes. Register in order to claim a spot on the leaderboard. E-mail Emmy Richards, erichards@georgiasouthern.edu, with questions.

Wilderness First Aid training is today at 9am!

It is \$80 and participants must be Adult CPR/AED certified. Registration closes on Feb. 21. For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/>.

MARCH 1

Wilderness First Aid training is today at 11am!

It is \$80 and participants must be Adult CPR/AED certified. Registration closes on Feb. 21. For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/>.

The CRI Job Fair closes today.

If interested in working for CRI apply online through the Student Employment Center. To see available jobs, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/cri-employment/>

MARCH 2

Lifeguard Instructor Classes begin today!

It is \$135 to participate and there is a minimum of three and a maximum of six participants allowed. Participants must be American Red Cross Lifeguard Certified. For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/aquatics/>

Career Services presents Grad Gala

Time: March 3rd & 4th 10am-5pm both days

Location: Russell Union Ballroom

The Grad Gala is the one stop shop for all of your graduation needs. This event is sponsored by many offices on campus, and helps with any graduation needs. For more information georgiasouthern.edu/career

MARCH 4

There will be a Lead Clinic at 7 p.m. hosted by Southern Adventures.

Attendance is mandatory for anyone wanting to lead climb in the RAC. Participants must be currently belay certified for at least 2 months. If interested visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/climbing-clinics/>.

Southern Ambassador Applications Open!

Due Wednesday, March 4th in Lewis Hall by 5pm

Come to an Info Session on Tuesday, February 24th or Wednesday, February 25th at 6pm in Lewis Hall to hear all about our great organization! Please contact admissions@georgiasouthern.edu if you have questions. georgiasouthern.edu/southernambassador

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK

THE WEEKLY BUZZ IS SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

EAGLES HIT THE ROAD TODAY

BY ROBERT GEORGE
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern men's basketball team is in the midst of a three-way tie for first place in the Sun Belt with UL Monroe and Georgia State. There are four games left on the schedule for the Eagles, including two huge road games tonight and Saturday.

The Eagles travel to Boone, N.C. to take on the Appalachian State Mountaineers this evening in the second meeting between the schools this year. The Eagles completely dismantled a rattled Mountaineers team 83-46 at Hanner in the first meeting in one of the most lopsided wins of the season.

The Eagles sunk in 12 three-pointers and cruised to a blowout win. Senior Jelani Hewitt hit five long balls, and Eric Ferguson and Jake Allsmiller added two a piece from way downtown against an outmatched Mountaineers defense.

In comparison, App State went 2-10 from deep and shot just 28 percent from the field. But, the Eagles will be on the road against an App State team that is desperate for a win, going just 1-5

since losing to the Eagles. The Mountaineers may not roll over at home like they did at Hanner.

The Eagles have a day off before traveling to take on UL Lafayette on Saturday. This is a huge matchup against a tough Ragin' Cajuns squad that is on a three-game winning streak. The Eagles defeated the Ragin' Cajuns in the first meeting 78-70 in front of a sellout crowd at Hanner back in January.

Freshman Mike Hughes had a big game, scoring 18 points and pulling down seven rebounds while adding three assists and three steals. Hewitt had 17 points and three assists in that game, while seniors Curtis Diamond and Angel Matias chipped in 12 points and 11 points respectively.

The defense held the Cajuns to just 38 percent shooting from the field and 29 percent from behind the arc. The Eagles will need that balanced scoring and stout defense if they want to come out of Louisiana with a win.

Junior Shawn Long leads UL Lafayette offensively with 17 points per game to go along with 10 rebounds per game. The do-it-all forward is shooting an impressive 55 percent from the

field, and knocks down about 35 percent of his three-point shots. The Eagles will look to make him work for his shots, not letting him get in a rhythm in his gym.

The Eagles will continue to rely on balanced scoring and their strong defense, but still need Hewitt to provide consistent play down the final stretch of the season. The senior guard leads the team with 18.7 points per game and 2.6 steals to go along with 3.8 assists per contest. His experience and leadership will be crucial as the Eagles try to navigate through four tough match-ups, three of which are away from Hanner.

With just four games left, each game is essentially a must win. Senior night is a week away, and the much-anticipated rematch between Georgia Southern and the school up north is looming. But, the Eagles have to stay focused and take care of business in the next few days if they want to keep their share of first place in the conference. The Eagles could clinch the top seed in the tournament if they win out.

The Eagles game tonight begins at 7:30 p.m.



BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE
Seniors Jelani Hewitt and Trent Wiedeman are leading this Eagle team. They are the team's leaders in scoring, both averaging in the double digits.

UGA SERIES: Hoping for history to repeat this weekend



RYAN WOODHAM
THE GEORGE-ANNE

Junior Jason Richman has one win under his belt this season. He has totaled 15 strike cuts with no errors.

BY LAYNE SÁLIBA
The George-Anne staff

After winning the series against West Virginia, the Georgia Southern baseball team (5-3) has now won a series over a power five conference team in three straight seasons. This weekend, they will have the opportunity to add another as they take on the University of Georgia (5-1).

Last season, Georgia Southern met the Bulldogs on their own turf and won the series. All three games played that weekend were high scoring affairs with the Eagles closing the series with an 18-4 victory.

During the 2012-2013 season, the contests were much closer, but Georgia Southern broke away in game three and won the series in that game by a margin of nine runs in Statesboro.

This season, the Bulldogs return to J.I. Clements Stadium for their first road game of the season. It may be a tough weekend for the Eagles after already playing two games this week. However, the Eagles have been able to show that their pitching staff has plenty of arms to put into the rotation.

"When you've got five games in a week, it's going to present opportunities for a lot of guys to contribute," head coach Rodney Hennon said.

On the mound, Georgia Southern's pitching staff has been a little unpredictable at times. They have made it known that a pitcher may not stay in the game very long. Georgia Southern has featured up to eight pitchers in a single game already this season.

With all of the changing on the mound, it is understandable that the Eagles' pitching staff has combined to hit 10 batters over the course of the season. However, that is no excuse. Georgia Southern cannot afford to put men on base this weekend against a very good Georgia team.

The UGA baseball team already has a .431 on base percentage. Therefore, the Eagles cannot allow an increase in that percentage by hitting batters.

Georgia Southern has started redshirt freshman Adam Kelly, freshman Connor Simmons, freshman Josh Slate and redshirt sophomore Evan Challenger so far this season. Challenger has put on the best performance thus far with a 1.86 ERA and nine strikeouts.

Junior Chris Brown has shown that he is a reliable closer with two saves in his three appearances. He has also tallied six strikeouts. This kind of experience could be a factor if the game comes down to the wire in the last innings.

However, Georgia does have a few solid starters of their own in David Sosebee, Ryan Lawlor and Robert Tyler who was selected second team All-Southeastern Conference. These three have a combined 39 strikeouts, but Sosebee seems to be their best on the mound with a 1.64 ERA.

When it comes to batting, Georgia has a slight advantage. The Bulldogs have a .349 batting average with nine homeruns which tops Georgia Southern's .296 average with five homeruns.

Georgia also gets on base 43 percent of the time with Georgia Southern falling just short at 40 percent.

These numbers show that Georgia Southern and UGA match up fairly evenly. It will not be an easy weekend for the Eagles, but if history repeats itself, they will come out with another series win against the Bulldogs.

A SERIES OF FORTUNATE EVENTS

THE ANGEL MATIAS STORY

BY COLIN RITSICK
The George-Anne staff

He didn't want to come back to America. Not even a full year after leaving his home of San Juan, Puerto Rico to play his senior season of high school basketball in Jacksonville, Fla., Angel Matias decided he was not coming back to the States.

Matias comes from a basketball family. His father played pro ball in the Puerto Rican circuit, and Matias had been a standout since he was young. He loves Puerto Rico, and talks about it with passion.

But his family didn't live the lavish lifestyle that an NBA player would.

"It wasn't pretty. I lived in the projects for like 14 years," Matias said. "It was a struggle, bad neighborhood."

Growing up Matias was aware that he had a talent that could lead him to a better life, but for Puerto Ricans that usually means playing abroad.

"Back home everybody trying to come out of Puerto Rico and play basketball. That's like the dream...to play basketball in America," Matias said.

When his father got a call from a family friend about an opportunity to play for a high school team in America with plenty of exposure, he didn't hesitate.

"Coming out of Puerto Rico and having the chance to

play basketball in the United States, I was just like 'wow,'" Matias said.

He left his high school back home to come play for Arlington Country Day School – a nationally known program for prep basketball.

But at 17-years-old, his high school's head coach, the man who brought Matias over and was responsible for Matias' well-being, failed him.

"I didn't learn no English over there. I didn't [go] to class at all...it was just basketball," Matias said.

Arlington Country Day's coach is Rex Morgan, a famed high school coach. Morgan is one of twelve "Nike Elite" coaches in the country.

He built the school into a seven-time state champion powerhouse and because the school is private, recruiting players is alright. Even from Puerto Rico.

"The treatment in Jacksonville, it wasn't the best. There was days when I didn't have food all day, or I only had one meal a day," Matias said.

Morgan paid for Matias' housing and meals – during the season at least.

Once the season was over, Matias went back to visit his family in Puerto Rico for Spring Break.

When he returned to Jacksonville, Morgan told him that he would no longer be paying for him to live in America.

"He was like...you've got one week to find somewhere to stay with one of your friends or something, or I'm going to send you home," Matias said. "Just like that. I was 17-years-old. I started crying. I was trying to fight him."

He was mad, and rightfully so. Morgan had told Matias and his father that he was going to have his housing and food paid until he graduated. He went back on that promise with about six weeks of school left.

"He left me hanging. Just like that," Matias said.

He had a friend on the team who was willing to house him for the remainder of the school year. But once school was over, Matias was out.

"I went to school the last day of school, and the same day I went back to Puerto Rico. I didn't wait for graduation, I didn't wait for prom, anything. I was just gone," he said.

Arlington Country Day School did not return any phone calls for this story.

THE JOURNEY

Matias is 22-years-old now. He's a 6-foot-4, 220 pound power forward and has started every game for Georgia Southern this season.

Matias is averaging eight points and 5.7 rebounds per game.

He is strong and well-defined. He wears big diamond earrings and has a precisely trimmed, full, brown beard.

Matias' English is surprisingly good for not knowing any five years ago, even though it's hiding behind a thick, rounded Spanish accent. His teammates like to have fun with it.

"He's just a funny dude," Jelani Hewitt said. "His accent makes some of his jokes even funnier."

One of the funniest moments with Matias that teammate Curtis Diamond could remember involved his accent and an armadillo.

"We were in Mexico (for a tournament last season). Since he's from Puerto Rico he was trying to act like he's from the jungle," Diamond said, laughing.

Matias was acting tough, telling his friends that armadillos don't bite while egging the vermin on by playing with his tail.

"We have them back home

PETER BROOKS' SHOP

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BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE
Angel Matias says he plays every
game like his last. He wants the
whole gym to know his passion.



so I'm used to being around them," Matias said. "I was just trying to catch it or touch it, and when I put my hands on it, it got aggressive."

Diamond said Matias' screamed so loud he lost his accent.

"He screamed and he didn't have his accent...he screamed 'JESUS!' It sounded like he'd been born in Atlanta," Diamond said.

After his experience at Arlington Country Day School, all Matias wanted to do was go back to the land of the armadillos.

The first summer that he was back on the island, he got a phone call to play on the 18U Puerto Rican national team.

This was the beginning of the journey that landed him in Statesboro, Ga.

"We went to Texas and on our way back to Puerto Rico, one of my friends on the national team...he was like I know somebody that wants to help you," Matias said. "He said 'Don't stay in Puerto Rico, let me help you.'"

Matias said no. He wasn't going back to America.

"They ain't going to get me again. I ain't going back," he said.

Finally, Matias agreed to talk to a man named Todd Washington.

Washington lives in Puerto Rico, and has begun a pipeline of players from the island to American colleges. He started a team called the Puerto Rican Playmakers, and his mission is to get kids an opportunity to play in the United States.

"He didn't charge me. I don't know this guy...he just wants to help. He said 'give me two weeks, and I'm going to find you a school,'" Matias said. "He didn't say no words for two weeks. He called me in two weeks and said, 'I've got you a school. You leave in three days.'"

Not even a full summer after being abandoned in Florida, Matias wasn't too eager to go back to the States. So he prayed about it.

Matias' family grew up Roman Catholic, like 85 percent of Puerto Ricans.

"My family is not the type of family that goes to church every Sunday, but we believe in God," he said.

"He says that God has his plans," Diamond said.

So after being forced to make a quick decision, Matias believed God's plan involved him going to play basketball at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

"He got a plan for everybody, that's one of the reasons I never gave up...any time I ever have any doubts I pray. And He hasn't let me down," Matias said.

He was scared.

He was going to a no-name town with nothing to do; he had no family there, and he still didn't speak English.

"When I got to the juco...I got a surprise. One of my friends was at [MGCCC], and we went

to high school together. He was one year older and he knew both languages," Matias said.

Over the next year Matias struggled, but he made strides. He failed every single one of his classes his fall semester because he didn't know any English. He was redshirted that year because of it.

But he listened to his teammates talk, and had his friend, Raymond Sintron, translate.

"I used to sit down by my friend and I would be on his ear all the time, 'What'd he say?' and he would tell me in Spanish," Matias said.

“HE SAW SOMETHING IN ME THAT NOBODY SAW...I WOULD IGNORE THE CALLS BUT HE NEVER GAVE UP. I THANK GOD SO MUCH FOR THAT MAN BECAUSE HE NEVER GAVE UP ON ME.”

ANGEL MATIAS
Senior forward

That's how he learned English. Bit by bit, he became familiar with the language. He started to do better in school. He started to like Mississippi, because he had hope and purpose there.

"After I got redshirted I kept working out every day. And when I got my chance to play I was just so excited...all the work I put in, all the sacrifice," Matias said, trailing off and looking down, smiling.

In his two years at MGCCC, Matias averaged 17.5 points and eight rebounds per game. Community Colleges are two-year institutions, so he was playing for the chance to move on to better things.

Ole Miss was looking at him and Southern Mississippi was looking at him; he was playing good basketball and had a Division 1 future lined up after junior college.

But just when his story was starting to look like it was going to have a happy ending, injury struck.

He broke his foot at the beginning of his sophomore year. It didn't require surgery, so he let it heal. Once he got

back on the court midway through the season, in his very first game back, he broke it again in the same spot.

All his options went away except for Jackson State and a Division II option in Arkansas. Matias was heartbroken.

"I was like woah, this is crazy. All the sacrifice to end up like this?" he said.

"I was working out, working out. Waiting, waiting. I was ready to go home. It was the last couple of weeks and I was ready to go home," Matias said.

And then he got a phone call. "My coach called me and he was like, this guy just contacted me and he wants to talk to you. It was Georgia Southern, and it was Coach Peele," he said.

Randy Peele was an assistant coach at GSU last year. He now coaches at Tennessee State.

Matias said he ignored his coach and the phone calls.

"I was like, nah. I don't want to talk. I'm done. I decided I was going to go to Jackson State...I'm not leaving. I'm already here," he said.

But Coach Peele never gave up.

"He saw something in me that nobody saw...I would ignore the calls but he never gave up. I thank God so much for that man because he never gave up on me," Matias said.

"Angel is a special young man. I was really concerned about him because...[the] injury. He was the Player of the Year as a freshman," Peele said. Peele used the words 'humble' and 'winner' to describe Matias.

When Peele was recruiting him and Matias didn't answer any of his phone calls, Peele just kept on calling. Matias said he must have called 20 times per week.

Finally, Matias decided to talk to Peele.

It was the end of the school year and Matias was about to get on a flight to Puerto Rico for the summer. Peele told Matias that they would bring him to Statesboro for a visit, and then would put him on a flight to Puerto Rico when he was done.

"I wasn't too happy about it but I was like, okay, I'll go and visit," Matias said.

With a big smile on his face, the kind of smile that a man wears when he knows he lucked out, Matias said, "When I came to visit I just fell in love. It was so crazy."

"Back home we're so friendly, we like to help each other out. Since I first got here they said, 'We're going to make sure you graduate'," Matias said.

Coach Peele and Georgia Southern head coach Mark Byington made sure Angel knew he was a student-athlete, not just an athlete.

"He's the type of person you want in your program. He was as good of a person as there is and is top notch...he was exactly what we were looking for when we were bringing players in," Byington said.

They told him about study hall and classes. They told him what they expected out of him and what he had to do in order to play for Georgia Southern.

Matias made his decision that day.

"The same day I left, I called Coach Peele," Matias said. "Coach, that's the school I want to go to. I'm going to Georgia Southern."

LOOKING FORWARD

Matias has found a home away from home in Statesboro.

While he loves it here, he does miss Puerto Rico, especially his family. His dad and brother have only seen him play once in the States, when the Eagles traveled to play Stetson and Central Florida earlier this year for a tournament in Orlando.

"They brought me a big Puerto Rican flag," Matias said. They waved it whenever he had the ball, and Matias said it was the best moment he's had since he's been in the US.

After five years of only seeing her son during the summer,

Matias' mother will finally get to witness her boy play basketball in America next week.

"It's going to be the last home game, seniors' night, and that's going to be the first time my momma has seen me play in the United States," Matias said. Mist was in his eyes at the thought of his mother getting to watch what he has become.

But he is still hungry. He wants to make history at Georgia Southern.


"It feels good at this moment, but I feel like I'm not done yet," Matias said. "We're trying to do something that hasn't been done in 22 years."

He is talking about making it to the Big Dance, the NCAA Tournament. If the Eagles win the Sun Belt Championship, they punch their ticket to history.

Matias said, "I left my home...from Puerto Rico to the United States. From struggling with my injuries and Jacksonville, now trying to accomplish something that hasn't been done in so long here, it's like God really does have a plan. I could have given up at any time."

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