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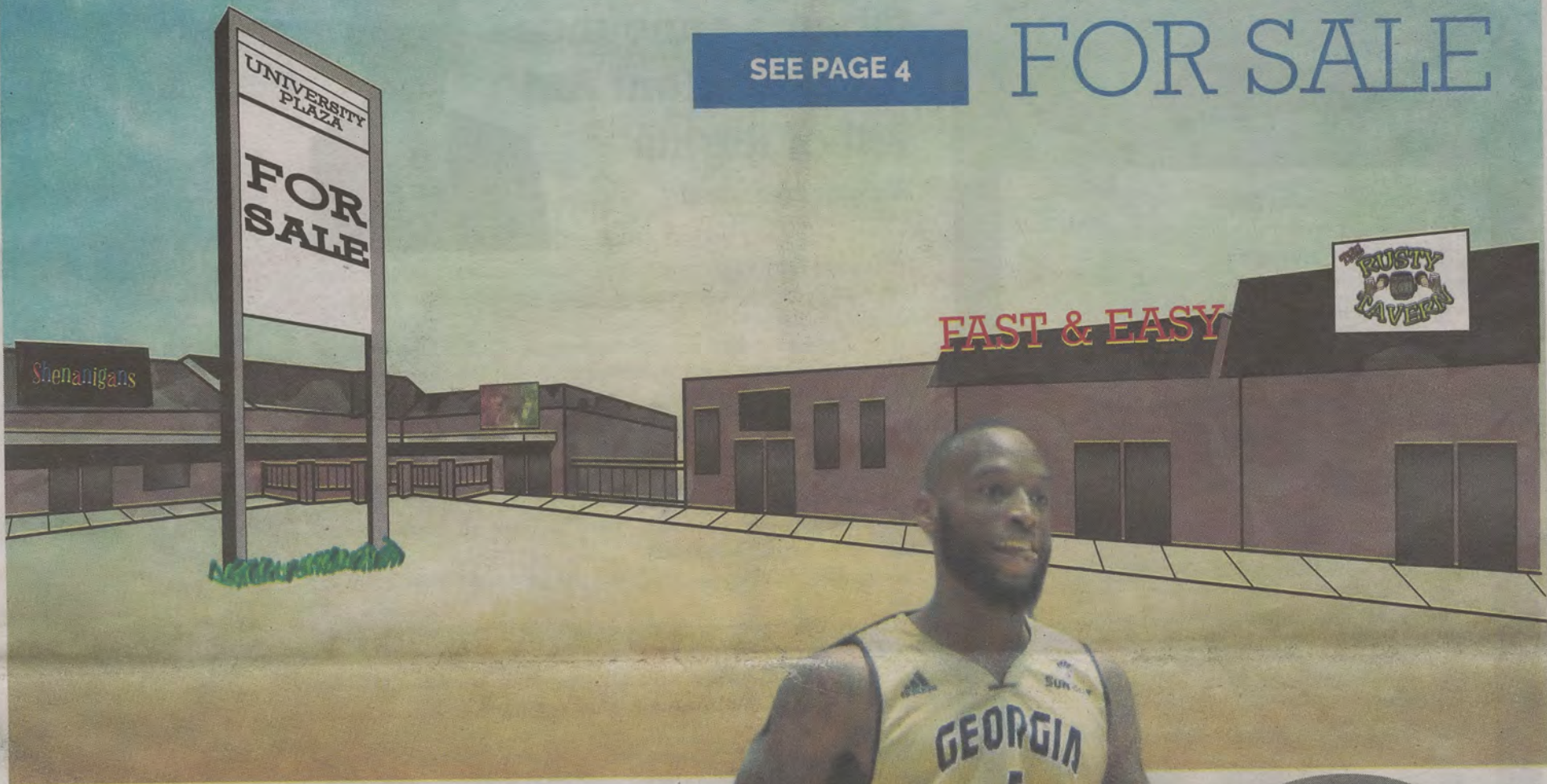
GA

THE GEORGE-ANNE

\$5.5 MILLION

UNIVERSITY PLAZA PROPERTY FOR SALE

SEE PAGE 4



Kiss us, we're
kind of Irish:
Your guide to
St. Patrick's Day
in Savannah

SEE PAGE 9

The most
realistic spring
break guide ever

SEE PAGE 10

BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE



2

WINS
AWAY
FROM
MARCH
MADNESS

SEE PAGE 11

St. Patrick's Day



BY CAITLYN OLIVER
The George-Anne staff

St. Patrick's Day is infamous for the alcohol-induced mania in Downtown Savannah. But there's more to it than plastic green hats, gaudy beads and drunken stupors.

FUN FACTS

•St. Patrick supposedly used a shamrock to explain the Trinity

•Boston held its first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1737, followed by New York City in 1762

•Blue was the color traditionally associated with St. Patrick but green is now commonly connected with the day. The color changed during the 1798 Irish Rebellion when the clover became a national emblem.

•Parades started in New York in 1762 by Irish soldiers in the British military (hence the military-themed parades)

•A law prevented Roman Catholic Irish citizens from celebrating the day for fear of excessive drinking until 1961 when it was repealed.

•Since 1962 Chicago has colored its river green to mark the holiday

WEATHER BAR

Friday



High: 67°
Low: 59°

Saturday



High: 80°
Low: 62°

Sunday



High: 79°
Low: 50°

WEATHER HEDGEHOG



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

BY CAITLYN OLIVER
The George-Anne staff

SPRING BREAK PLAYLIST

- 1 Style Taylor Swift
- 2 Sugar Maroon 5
- 3 Golden The Vamps
- 4 Riptide Vance Joy
- 5 Pirate Flag Kenny Chesney
- 6 Burn Ellie Goulding
- 7 Pursuit of Happiness Kid Cudi (Steve Aoki remix)
- 8 The Rising Tide The Killers
- 9 Make Me Wanna Thomas Rhett
- 10 Sundaze Florida-Georgia Line
- 11 Gecko (Overdrive) Child's Play Hideaway
- 12 Bad Reputation Joan Jett
- 13 Don't Stop Believing Journey
- 14 Ray Ban Vision A-Trak
- 15 Wiggle Jason Derulo

Obama announces new 'Student Aid Bill of Rights'

BY CHRIS ROSSMANN
The George-Anne staff



Tuesday, President Barack Obama announced a new policy regarding student loans and financial aid called the "Student Aid Bill of Rights."

The President and several members of the Department of Education then held a conference call Wednesday with members of student media organizations across the country and talked about what the policy would do and how it would affect college students.

The policy is based on four main points:

1. Every student should have access to high-quality, affordable higher education.
2. Should be able to easily find the resources they need to pay for college
3. Should be able to choose an affordable repayment plan for student loans.
4. And should receive quality customer service, reliable information and fair treatment when repaying loans.

The President then went on to explain that the Obama administration will develop a state-of-the-art user database that will consolidate student loan information and allow easy access to both what students owe and what programs are available to help students pay off their loans.

MyScholarships

BY KRISTYN HUGHES
The George-Anne contributor

Georgia Southern has found a way to make it easier for students to apply for scholarships using a new application portal program that allows students to enter

in personal and career based information. The application helps find scholarships that you may be interested in.

The application asks for things such as your name, major(s), minor(s), campus and community involvement, employment history, future plans etc. The program will then find scholarships that

will work for students based on their responses to the application. Students will also be able to accept awards for won scholarships as well.

MyScholarships is located on the left on My.GeorgiaSouthern under the Grades First tab and above the MyInvolvement tab.







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3-12-15

3

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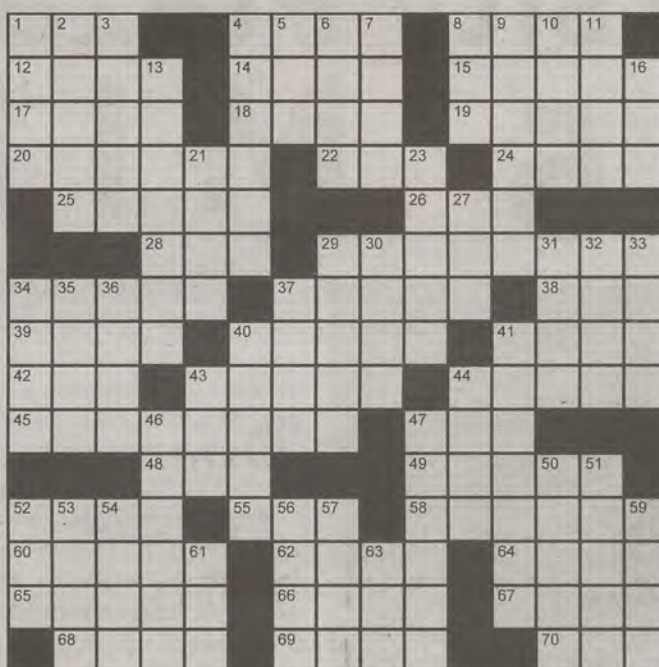
The 100 Collegiate Women of America are seeking 3 high school seniors to award scholarships to at the end of this semester.

If you know of any college bound, minority students in need of a scholarship, please email collegiate100womensu@gmail.com. Thank you!

Looking for part time worker (20-25) hours a week. Physically light job in unique hookah warehouse setting. Visit 32 Joe Kennedy Blvd. behind Ogeechee Tech. next to Lewis Color to fill out an application.

Across

- 1 Three Musketeers' motto starter
- 4 Curved doorway
- 8 Slant
- 12 Goldbrick
- 14 Biblical pronoun
- 15 Up to
- 17 First-class
- 18 Shed item
- 19 Backgammon piece
- 20 Stir up
- 22 "Jackie Brown" actress Grier
- 24 Fencing sword
- 25 Utah lilies
- 26 Goof
- 28 "so fast!"
- 29 Poisonous ornamental
- 34 Shooting sport
- 37 Anger
- 38 Kind of trip
- 39 Uncontrolled
- 40 Apothecary weights
- 41 Bench
- 42 Punching tool
- 43 Concert venue
- 44 Range rovers
- 45 Penetrating
- 47 Dejected
- 48 Migratory fish
- 49 Benefit
- 52 Hair controllers
- 55 Fleur-de—
- 58 Missive
- 60 Author Jong
- 62 Cliff's pal on "Cheers"
- 64 Roof part
- 65 Dividend



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- 66 Nile queen, informally
- 67 Pung, e.g.
- 68 Leak slowly
- 69 Gulf port
- 70 Time periods (Abbr.)
- 8 Commuting option
- 9 Apprentice
- 10 Resting on
- 11 Trig function
- 13 Pretended
- 16 Spider-Man's creator
- 21 Tugboat sound
- 23 Track events
- 27 Stadium cheer
- 29 Big ape
- 30 Priest of the East
- 31 Antler wearer
- 32 Old-time oath
- 33 Deteriorates
- 34 Cashless deal
- 35 Fuzzy fruit
- 36 Model
- 37 Small songbird
- 40 Dentist's tool
- 41 Tranquilizes
- 43 King topper
- 44 Acquire
- 46 Save
- 47 Coho
- 50 Mount Vesuvius location
- 51 Jimmy
- 52 Colo. neighbor
- 53 "Aeneid" figure
- 54 Fork feature
- 56 Peruvian indian
- 57 Auctioneer's last word
- 59 Some wines
- 61 Venom source
- 63 Sandpiper

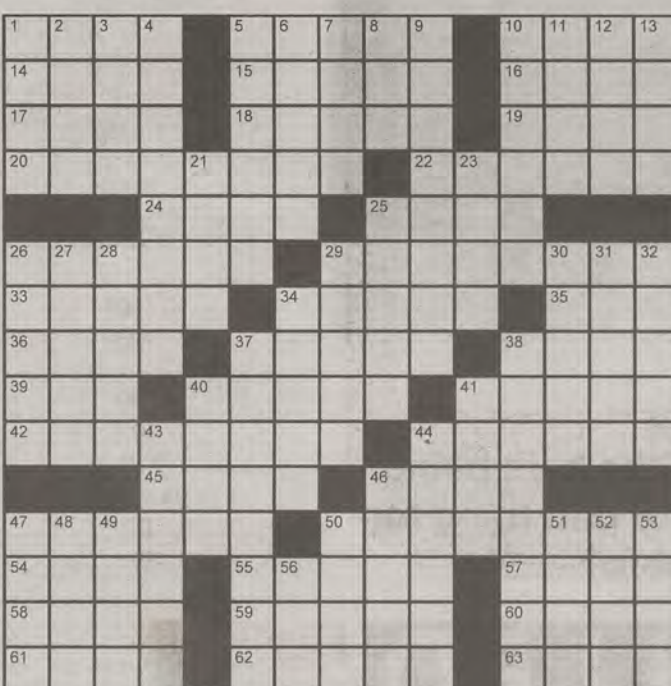
Down

- 1 Jai
- 2 Primitive fish-eating diving birds
- 3 Spear
- 4 Bear witness
- 5 Pi follower
- 6 Henhouse
- 7 Maui dance



Across

- 1 Ballet move
- 5 They're rigged
- 10 Spanish flower
- 14 Daughter of James II
- 15 Wedding band, maybe
- 16 Blackhearted
- 17 City on the Rhine
- 18 Letter before iota
- 19 Constellation between Carina and Pyxis
- 20 Pieces of material
- 22 South American plains
- 24 Mars, to the Greeks
- 25 Steal
- 26 Claw
- 29 Lame
- 33 Old and feeble
- 34 Before fat or Atlantic
- 35 Adam's madam
- 36 Sheet of stamps
- 37 False
- 38 Ancient greetings
- 39 "Wheel of Fortune" buy
- 40 Colossal
- 41 Ship board
- 42 Clemency
- 44 Summer wear
- 45 Learned one
- 46 Bypass
- 47 Works hard
- 50 Kind of heel
- 54 Spirited horse
- 55 Trainee
- 57 Wheedle
- 58 Bubbly drink
- 59 Reef ring



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- 60 Like some rumors
- 61 Water carrier
- 62 Hawthorne and Bacon, to their buds
- 63 Yemeni port
- 9 Dragging one's feet
- 10 Overhaul
- 11 Bread maker
- 12 Missile housing
- 13 "What a shame!"
- 21 Native Canadian
- 23 Cuts off
- 25 Money award
- 26 Kind of cross
- 27 Ludicrous
- 28 Sheer curtain fabric
- 29 Sidekick
- 30 "Star Trek" actor
- 31 Happening
- 32 Office stations
- 34 Tiny amount
- 37 An albatross has the largest one of these
- 38 Baldness
- 40 Equipment
- 41 Pop singer Collins
- 43 Weather map line
- 44 Abilities
- 46 Fence feature
- 47 Shoestring
- 48 Lined up
- 49 Cotton bundle
- 50 Parking place
- 51 Mrs. Lincoln's maiden name
- 52 Narrative
- 53 Beasts of burden
- 56 Hagen of Broadway



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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University Plaza on Sale for \$5.5 MILLION



JEFF LICCIARDELLO THE GEORGE-ANNE
On Feb. 11, the University Plaza property was listed as for sale by Statesboro Properties.

Is the potential of the bars being shut down a good or bad thing for Statesboro?



BY MACY HOLLOWAY
The George-Anne staff

The University Plaza property has been listed for \$5.5 million by primary holder Ramsey Holmes.

Holmes is the primary agent for University Plaza Incorporated and his family has owned the land there since they built "College Boro" (The University Plaza) in 1965. The property has been listed as for sale through Statesboro Properties since Feb. 11, 2015.

According to Holmes, Georgia Southern University first attempted to purchase the University Plaza 30 to 35 years ago.

"The university actually offered to buy it back when Dale Lick was there for an agreeable price, but we just weren't looking to sell," Holmes said. Dale Lick was GSU president from 1978-1986.

A second attempt of purchase was made by GSU for the University Plaza in late 2014 for \$3.5 million, Holmes said.

Rob Whitaker, Vice President of Business and Finance, stated that at no point in time did the university attempt to purchase The University Plaza. According to Whitaker, in full disclosure, they did sit around a table in Spring 2014 and discussed purchasing the site, but didn't ever officially make an offer.

Whitaker said he wanted assurance that if they purchased the property, current leases would be able to be terminated as to relieve the university of any liability from the businesses.

On the Statesboro Properties website, the property is listed as containing seven different bar and grilles with alcohol licenses, restaurants and a convenience store.

The entirety of The Plaza includes Shenanigans, Charlie's Chicken, Rum Runners, Fast 'N Easy, Oriental Express and The Tavern. Henry's barbershop and the soon-to-be-open Zaxby's are not property of University Plaza Inc.

Holmes said his reason for selling the property is that he is looking to retire and that the property has been in his family for long enough.

According to Holmes, no serious offerings that he would be willing to consider have been placed since the property was put on the market.

STUDENTS RESPOND

"I wouldn't mind the bars being closed, but I'm sure people have very different opinions than I would."

Lindsey Chute

freshman special education major

"So if they were sold tomorrow, it could be anything else. You could put the bars somewhere else, but just take them off campus. It makes Georgia Southern

look more classy,"

Cameron Washington

Senior Psychology Major

"It's probably just going to be bought by somebody else who will probably do the same thing with it. Hopefully, whoever buys it makes some of the clubs more inclusive for everybody,"

Joseph Jones

Junior Marketing Major

"I don't think it would be good, because if the businesses left too, then Statesboro's night life would be a lot worse and I think that would hurt admissions,"

Brooke Gilbert

Freshman Sports Management Major

"It doesn't really affect me because I'm not a big drinker, but I think it will make the drinking change. It would take away the bar drinking culture but it would add to problems like drinking in the dorms,"

Javona Douglas

Junior Child and Family Development Major

STATE LEGISLATURE TACKLES MARIJUANA

BY WHITT VAN TASSELL & KURT HANLON

The George-Anne staff and candidate

Three bills addressing medical and recreational marijuana use are currently being entertained in Georgia's state legislature, the most promising of which, Haleigh's Hope Act, passed the House with an overwhelming vote of 158-2 on February 25.

What is it?

According to State Representative Jan Tankersley's monthly legislative report, Haleigh's Hope Act would authorize the use of medical cannabis to treat certain conditions. Haleigh's Hope Act, also known as HB 1, would provide immunity for individuals in possession of cannabis oil legally obtained in another state. Cannabis Oil must contain no more than five percent THC and qualifying individuals must possess no more than a maximum of 20 fluid ounces.

"A lot of parents are concerned about giving their children some of these high doses of CBD [Cannabidiol] oil, because those high doses can contain and do contain THC," Nicole Withers, the Administrative Coordinator for Office of Alcohol and Other Drugs Programs at Georgia Southern University, said.

"The one they're trying to get passed in the house... that would make parents feel better like 'my kid's not going to get intoxicated taking this medication'... it would not cause the psychoactivity," Withers said.

Qualifying conditions under HB 1 include cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, seizure disorders, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease, mitochondrial disease, Sickle Cell disease and Fibromyalgia.

HB 1 would also require that potential patients register with the Georgia Department of Public Health and be placed on the "Low-THC Oil Patient Registry," receiving a registration card that exempts them from prosecution.

What is happening?

HB 1 is now under consideration in the Senate where two competing bills are making headlines. SB 185 would create clinical trials for cannabidiol products, such as the low-THC oil in HB 1, to treat people under the age of 18 who suffer from medication-resistant epilepsy. It is estimated 50-100 children will qualify for the trials created. Many organizations in support of HB 1 are saddened by the restrictions imposed by SB 185.

"SB 185 is not an acceptable path forward," the Epilepsy Foundation of Georgia said. "HB 1 gives epilepsy patients of all ages an option for medical cannabis, and it will bring home to Georgia the families who have been forced to leave our state in search of treatment."

Advocates of HB 1 say the senate version would essentially gut the measure passed overwhelmingly by the lower chamber last week, the AP reports.

"I think that if researchers can keep trying to find ways to use CBD without having THC in it, that will help get medical marijuana pushed. I think the concern is giving kids THC," Withers said. "You don't want kids to become dependent on THC or have their developing brains affected in any kind of way."

With either measure, Withers anticipates a student would need to show a prescription or other proof of

medical need if in possession of CBD on campus.

Any likelihood of recreational legalization in Georgia?

Much more liberally, SB 6 provides for a full recreational legalization of marijuana in Georgia. It is not expected to pass. The bill's Sponsor, Curt Thompson, says legalization makes marijuana less of a gateway drug, helps combat organized crime and will provide tax revenue for education and transportation infrastructure.

"You're looking at \$200 million in additional revenue. It's already a product that is Georgia's largest cash crop. We can pretend it's not, but it is," Sen. Thompson said in a WRDW, Augusta News, press release.

Colorado netted a total of only \$60 million in 2014 according to Politifact.com, although that number would change dramatically with differing tax methods.



I think that if researchers can keep trying to find ways to use CBD without having THC in it, that will help get medical marijuana pushed. I think the concern is giving kids THC.

NICOLE WITHERS
Administrative Coordinator
for Office of Alcohol and Other
Drugs Programs at GSU

Key Terms

THC:

Tetrahydrocannabinol- The principal constituent in Cannabis-primary cause of the psychoactive affects

CBD:

Cannabidiol Oil- Active agent in Cannabis-known to have a much wider breadth for medical application than THC

HB 1: House Bill 1-Haleigh's Hope Act

SB 185: Senate Bill 185

SB 6: Senate Bill 6

Haleigh's Hope Act

-Sponsored by Rep. Allen Peake (R-Macon).

-Passed House 158-2, likely to pass Senate in some form.

-Immunity from prosecution if in possession of low THC oil, medically qualifying, and registered on the "Low-THC Oil Patient Registry."

Senate Bill 6

-Sponsored by Sen. Curt Thompson (D-5)

-Not likely to pass.

-Sets up a Colorado-style system of legal, recreational marijuana

Senate Bill 185

-Sponsored by Sen. Lindsey Tippins (R-37)

-Haleigh's Hope's biggest competition, potential for passage.

-Significant opposition amongst HB 1 supporters.

-Sets up clinical trials for children suffering from medication-resistant epilepsy.

Stay on track to graduate in four

The easiest way to graduate in four years is to take summer courses with Georgia College.

Behind on classes or want to get ahead? We offer a wide selection of courses, offered at affordable tuition rates, that can transfer to your home university. In some cases, financial aid like the HOPE scholarship might be available.

We have courses that are offered on-campus in Milledgeville and Online. Visit our website to see a list of courses and to apply to become a transient student. Application deadlines are April 1 for Maymester and May 1 for summer term.

Registration begins March 24

gcsu.edu/summer





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

MARCH 12

Former NFL Quarterback Archie Manning Lecture & Ticket Distribution!

Sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Hanner Fieldhouse. It is free and open to the public; however, due to limited seating, tickets will be required for admission. All student tickets are distributed from the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, Russell Union Suite 1056. Students must present their Eagle ID to receive tickets. Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. For more information on the event please visit Georgiasouthern.edu/Manning.

Spring Break Boot Camp ends today.

No registration is necessary, however space is limited to 50 participants. For more info, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/fitness/fitness-programs/spring-break-boot-camp/>.

MARCH 13

No Group Fitness Classes until Monday, March 23.

Swim 2 Break ends.

Swim the distance to three different Spring Break destinations to win a Paradise Glass. For more info, or register visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/aquatics/incentive-programs/swim-2-break/>.

Student Leadership Awards!

Recognize and award yourself, a friend, exemplary students and student organizations! Take a moment to complete the short nomination form for any deserving student leaders or student organizations at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/LeadServe/leadershipawards/>. All nominations are due no later than Friday, March 13th by 5:00 PM.

MARCH 14-15

RAC is closed today!

MARCH 16-20

RAC Hours are 6am-7pm

There will be no Fitness Assessments this week.

MARCH 23

Spring Group Fitness Schedule resumes.

For a schedule of the Group Fitness activities, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/fitness/fitness-programs/group-fitness-schedule/>.

Registration for CRI Open Golf and 4-on-4 Flag Football opens!

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

MARCH 24-25

Belay Clinic

held at 7 pm in the Southern Adventures room as part of the Climbing Clinic Series. No pre-requisites are required and if interested visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/climbing-clinics/>.

Adventure Movie Series

held tonight at 7 pm. If interested visit the Rental Center or follow @GSUAdventures on Twitter for updates on all events.

Taste the Farmer's Market

From 11am-1pm at the Rotunda! For more info, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/wellness/wellness-programs/campus-farmers-market/>.

Free Swim Lessons Preview

Will be at 7 pm. If interested visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/aquatics/aquatic-programs/swim-lessons/>.

UPB Promotional Table: SpringBling 15

Tuesday, March 24th & Wednesday, March 25th
11:00 - 1:30 pm, Outside of the University Store
Students will be given the opportunity to win Migas SpringBling 15 Concert tickets. Students will also have a opportunity to win Flash Passes. These passes will allow for you to move to the front of the line for your designated section. Must have purchased a ticket to win. Kiosks will also be available for you to purchase and print your tickets on the spot. Debit or credit card will only be accepted.
Contact Information: UPB@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

UPB: A Night at The ClubHouseSpringBling 15

Tuesday, March 24th & Wednesday, March 25th
10:00 pm - 1:00 am, Outside of the University Store
The University Programming Board invites you to come out to The Clubhouse Thursday, March 24th for a night for FREE bowling for the first 600 students, mini-golf games, and laser tag from 10 PM until 1 AM. If you have purchased your Migas concert ticket, you will get a VIP pass to enter early! (Must bring proof of purchase on your phone). Must have a valid Eagle ID to participate.
Contact Information: UPB@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK

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

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS BEFORE SPRING BREAK

BY NADIA DRIED

The George-Anne staff

Thirty percent of Americans will be arrested by the age of 23 and with only a few days left before Spring Break of 2015, it is important for everyone to be made aware of their rights.

Spring break is generally a time when interaction between college

students and law enforcement increases and regardless of the situation, individuals should be aware of their rights, says Flex Your Rights, a nonprofit organization dedicated to informing citizens of their civil liberties.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT.

The Fifth Amendment protects Americans from being compelled to incriminate themselves. This means that in a police encounter, you are not required to speak to the officer - with two small exceptions. The Supreme Court has ruled that an individual seeking to exercise their right to remain silent must say so to the officer. Also, Georgia is a stop-and-identify state, meaning that state law says that you are required to identify yourself to law enforcement if asked.

You also have the right to know why you are being detained. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) suggests asking the officer, "Am I free to leave?" and leaving quietly if he or she says yes. If the answer is no, then you are being detained and the officer must tell you what crime she/he suspects you of committing.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE A SEARCH.

In order for law enforcement to search an individual's person or car, they must have reasonable suspicion that a crime has been committed. However, if an officer requests permission to conduct a search, individuals always have a right to refuse.

The officer may still search you anyway, but they must have probable cause that a crime is being or has been committed in order to do so. The ACLU warns individuals not to resist, even if they feel the search is unwarranted.

Flex Your Rights says that if you want to refuse a search, you should state calmly and clearly, "I do not consent to any searches." They say refusing a search can give you stronger standing in court, if a judge rules the officer did not have reasonable suspicion to conduct the search to begin with.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO OPEN THE DOOR FOR THE POLICE.

The Supreme Court has ruled that you have the strongest constitutional protection against search and seizure in your home. Unless officers are pursuing an active criminal, they cannot enter your home without a warrant or consent.

If the police come to your door and you wish to speak with them, Flex Your Rights suggests stepping outside and shutting and locking the door behind you. The reason for this is that officers may enter your home if the notice

anything illegal "in plain view."

You may also choose not to answer the door, unless they have a search warrant, which Flex Your Rights says you have the right to inspect before granting officers entry.

However, Flex Your Rights stresses the importance of educating everyone in your home on their civil liberties in a police encounter, because anyone with access to the home can legally consent to its search. This means it's legal for your landlord or your roommate to let the police in. The organization suggests keeping your room shut or locked, since courts will generally rule that if an area is considered off-limits to someone in the home, they cannot consent to its search.

Living on campus provides less constitutional protection against search and seizure, so Flex Your Rights suggests becoming familiar with your rental agreement, which should specify when school officials or law enforcement cannot enter.

Statistics gathered from a 2011 study published by *Pediatrics*, an academic pediatric journal.

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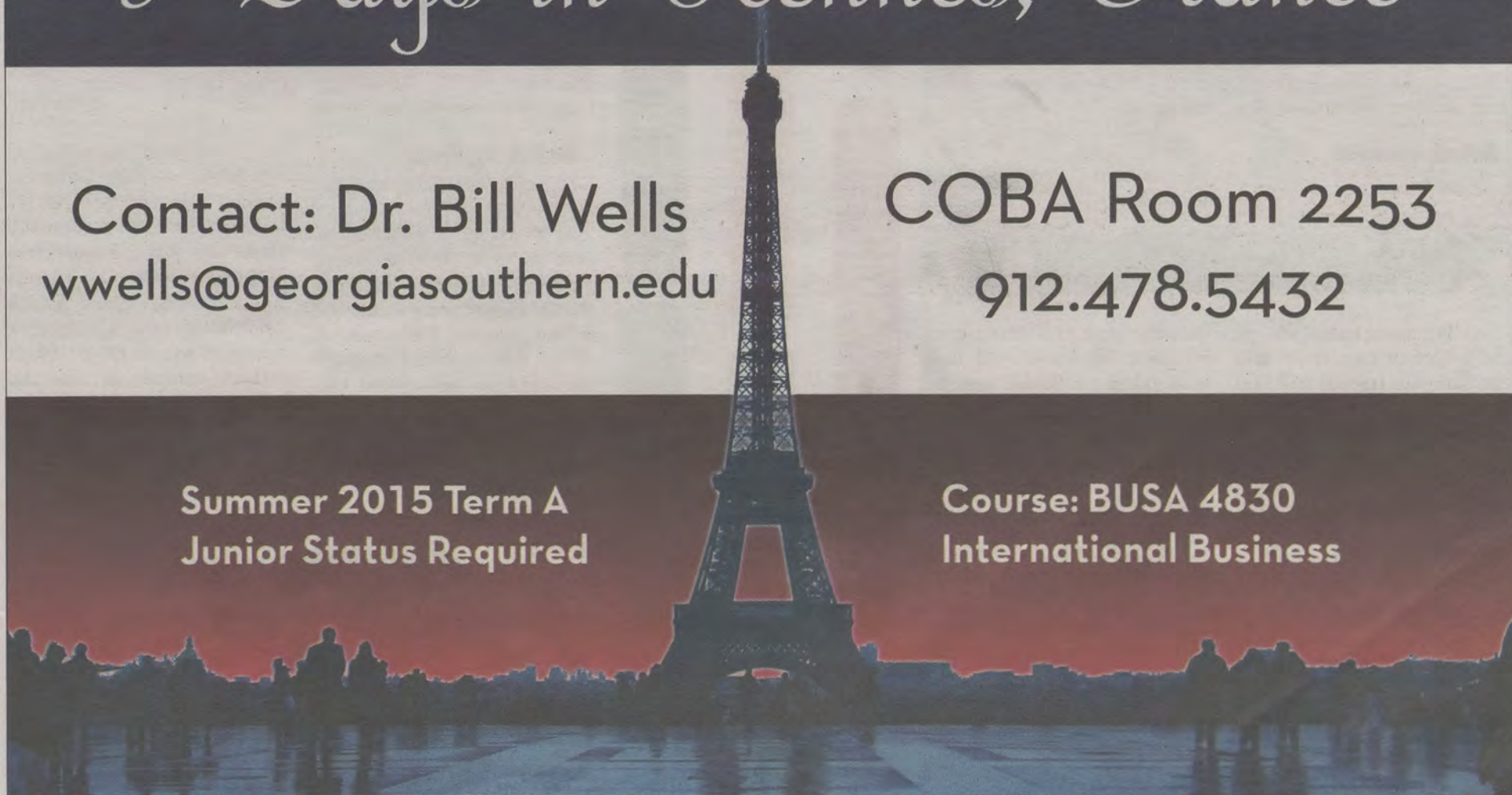
9 Days in Rennes, France

Contact: Dr. Bill Wells
wwells@georgiasouthern.edu

COBA Room 2253
912.478.5432

Summer 2015 Term A
Junior Status Required

Course: BUSA 4830
International Business



Spring Break 2K15:

A GUIDE FOR THOSE OF US WHO WERE NOT COOL ENOUGH TO DO FUN THINGS



BY MATT SOWELL
The George-Anne staff

Let's be honest: Spring break, for most of us, isn't exactly the 2012 movie starring James Franco and the cast of Disney

Channel circa 2000-2007. This guide is to help you, dedicated reader who had this paper thrust upon you by someone as miserable

as you, to enjoy your disappointing spring break to its maximum capacity.

For going home:



You never thought it would come to this, but your mom talked you into it and since she pays for most of your stuff, you didn't really have a choice. It should be noted that you will regret the decision of coming home approximately two days after you arrive. Hot spots include the local bar where

you can see that weird guy from your high school play the guitar. The locals, who are also your friends from back in the day, are all married so cruising options are slim. Perks: You'll actually get ahead on your homework because you will literally run out of things to do by Wednesday.

Drink recipe:

The "My parents are Baptist"

This delicious cocktail incorporates all of the disappointment of your hometown with a hint of nagging relatives.

1 cup of Welch's grape juice, 2 cups of sprite, a teaspoon (or less) of whatever is left in the flask that you forgot was in your suitcase. Serve over ice, best enjoyed while looking at your friend's Instagram posts involving them in the place you wish you were.

For going to a significant other's:



This isn't exactly party central but you survived Cuffing Season and they really wanted you to get to know their family. You're in for a week of walking on needles (which is kind of like the acupuncture massage your friend just posted a picture of herself getting), getting strange looks from significant other's father, and running out

of small talk topics by Tuesday. Hot spots include sitting awkwardly across from your significant other's parents at dinner and making out in his/her childhood bedroom before quickly stopping because there's a picture of them at age 5 looking into your soul on the bedside table. Perks: You're a great girlfriend/boyfriend for doing this.

Drink recipe:

Don't

Really don't. I mean it, this is a bad place for that.

For pretending like you're going to the beach:



See "For going home" except add a hint of narcissism and fear that your friends will find out you are actually home. Hot Spots include taking selfies by your pool that kind of imply that you're at a party but don't explicitly say so, and quickly

deleting your grandma's post on your Facebook wall that read "glad u r home, miss ur beautiful face, god bless<3" and then acting as if you don't know what she's talking about when questioned. Perks: there are none.

Drink recipe:

The red solo classic, millennial edition:

This deliciously disappointing drink is a classic among underage kids at their parents' New Year's Eve parties.

1 red solo cup filled to brim with coke, pour over ice. Best served using the HEFE filter on Instagram, should have your pool in the background at night or late evening, it is also suggested that you stick your tongue out and flash a peace sign while your dad takes the picture.



For Staying in Statesboro:

I bet you thought this one was going to be sarcastic, it's not. Statesboro is a gem when you aren't surrounded by your peers. Don't believe me? Go eat anywhere, there's no wait. Traffic is slim and the bars are dead (dead bars are seen by most as a bad thing but hey, at least you get to pick

the music and you don't have to wait on your drink). Hot spots include short Walmart check-out lines, an empty Sweet Heart Circle, and your roommate's room that he/she forgot to lock. Perks: It's like summer semester without the class struggles.

Drink recipe:

The "I should really be studying"

This mixture of all things party really captures that Statesboro spice that you can only really grasp when no one is here.

1 splash of orange juice (use simply orange, it's expensive but treat yourself), 1/2 cup of 7 up (or sprite, if you're feeling it), and 1 cup of your roommate's vodka. They aren't home and they probably eat your food, it's fair.



For going to the beach (but one that is kind of dead):

You're the lucky one, you made it out and you're doing what MTV told us we should do. Sure, you're not at Panama City, but staying in your aunt's beach house with a few friends is the next best thing, right? Activities will vary from going to the local hotspot, meeting locals, answering locals enthusiastically when

they ask "Why did you come here? This beach is always dead," and hooking up with locals. Hot Spots include wherever Yelp suggests, and raiding your aunt's bathroom for cleaning products after your best friend puked on the carpet. Perks: You're at the beach, don't complain.

Drink recipe:

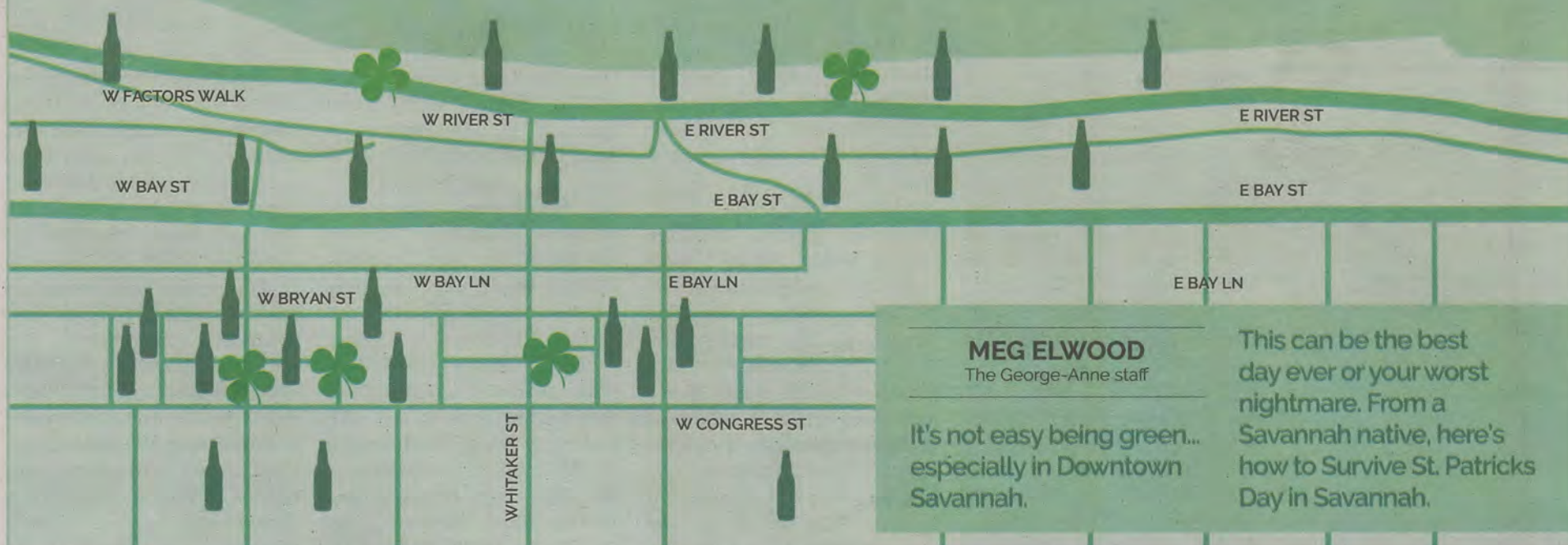
Gatorade, the morning after.

This lovely concoction is best enjoyed in the living room of that one guy you thought was hot on Tindr but in the light of the romantic rising sun beaming through the window looks more like someone you would see at Walmart. Your mind said no but the margaritas said "sprang break."

1 bottle of blue Gatorade handed to you by Brenden (or is it Sam? You still don't really know this guy), 3 teaspoons of the tears from your friends laughter when they realize what happened, 1 ounce of the drool left on his pillow. It doesn't compensate for the brunch you were hoping he would take you to, but he said you looked very hung over so at least he cares.



Surviving ST. PATRICK'S DAY in Savannah



FIRST OFF

The Parade begins at 10:15 a.m. near Forsyth Park and usually lasts until 3:00 p.m. making a loop from Abercorn to Broughton, East Broad to Bay, and then up Bull street, ending where Bull meets with Harris St. Avoid these streets at all cost when driving unless you're hoping to get a headache.

Can't be there Tuesday? The festivities start on Saturday with the greening of the Forsyth Fountain and concerts in various locations of Downtown Savannah. Multiple attractions like inflatables will also be up and running.

The all time best way to St. Patrick's Day is to know someone! This factor can make really make your experience. If you know someone who lives or works downtown talk to them ASAP. Ask to spend the night or use their place as a home-base if they plan on staying there. Having a clean bathroom and a place to keep your food and beer is the ultimate win.

The George-Anne would like to remind you that you are probably not Irish, and that you cannot claim to be Irish specifically because it's Saint Paddy's day. If you are actually Irish, we apologize. We would also like to remind you to partly safely. Don't drink and drive, stay hydrated, always stay with a buddy and wear green.

1. PARKING

- Get there EARLY 6:00 a.m. or 7:30 a.m. at the latest and start scavenging. No tickets will be given for parking meters...but seriously, best wishes to you with parking.

- *Best Way* Park at the Trade Center across the river from River Street and take a Ferry. The Ferry is free, but the trade center may have a fee.

- City Garages charge fees and may be completely full. Worth a try, but beware.

- CAT Buses may just save your life. They pick up on the Westside (Garden City), Southside (Savannah Mall) and Eastside (Whitemarsh Island). Check out more information on the bus routes for the day at www.catchacat.org/maps-and-schedules/st-patricks-day.

2. BATHROOMS

- Port-O-Potties are pretty nasty, but can be a complete lifesaver. Restaurants usually leave bathrooms for customers only, especially on River Street, but there are tons available across from the Candy Kitchen on River Street as well as near City Market and Bay Street. Just bring your hand sanitizer.

3. FOOD

- Expect long waits for tables and food, especially at places like B&D Burgers, Wild Wing Cafe and pretty much any place that serves beer.

TIP: The festivities on River Street extend from the Market Place to The Bohemian. Any of the restaurants out of that bracket should be less packed. Check out Dub's Pub or Spanky's at the ends of River Street for great food and probably much less of a wait.



= concerts



= wrist band distributor

WHAT TO BRING

Everything you can!

- If there's a chance of rain, bring a rain jacket.

- If you're of age, bring your own beer in cargo shorts, backpacks, or coolers.

- Baller on a budget? Bring some snacks. Lots of them. Walking around really burns off the beer calories and makes you hungry.

- Hoodies/Jackets: PACK 'EM. Morning's can be chilly.

- Water: Must have, you'll need it.

- Phone charger: You'll probably lose or want to find people, and that can get hectic. Not to mention, GroupMe can really suck your poor phone's battery life.

THINGS TO KNOW FOR 21+

- If you plan on drinking after the parade and want to continue walking around to the live music performances, you MUST purchase a wristband at one of the 26 booths at the entrances to River Street. Wristbands are \$5 each day (Saturday through Tuesday). You do not need one Tuesday during the parade, only from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Above all else, go nuts with the green. You're in to see a wide range of coolest to absolute weirdest things this coming weekend.

College Health Tip #14

Don't binge drink or overindulge.



Best-case scenario: bad hangover.
Worst-case: alcohol poisoning or possible death.



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Hope FOR A POST RACIST AMERICA



ALIA LEWIS

Lewis is a sophomore journalism major from Atlanta, Ga.

Last Thursday I saw an article about Ferguson from the Huffington Post. In all honesty I ignored it. I chose to remain ignorant and live inside my fantasy world where everyone in America loves each other and racism is as long gone as ironically, Paula Deen's career! Fortunately reality kicked in a few days later when I

viewed the insanely racist viral video sprung from the University of Oklahoma.

"There will never be a n***** in SAE. There will never be a n***** in SAE. You can hang him from a tree, but he'll never sign with me, there will never be a n***** in SAE."

This ridiculous chant stemming from the boisterous members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter at the University of Oklahoma uncovered the bigotry, ignorance and extreme racism that still exist in America. The video was like a heavy weight that would bring me down every time I restored my faith in peaceful, post racist America. And although I tried not to succumb to stereotypes and misconceptions, the video made me question if situations like this occurred in our very own Greek community at GSU.

Ironically, Sunday marked the 50th anniversary of the

march in Selma, enacted to guarantee equal voting opportunities for African Americans. It's sad to know that 50 years later, we as students, black, white, Asian, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, Native American, etc., have to listen to other individuals in our own generation perpetuate the racism that our ancestors tried so hard to disassemble many years ago. Sometimes it seems as though technology, medicine and art have advanced more than the humans who created it have. With the things that are happening in Ferguson and now the situation that shook the University of Oklahoma's campus, it leaves me to wonder if things are actually improving.

Fortunately, despite the negativity, some things are turning around for our nation. David Boren, president of the University of Oklahoma, issued this statement in

response to the video.

"To those who have misused their free speech in such a reprehensible way, I have a message for you. You are disgraceful." He goes on to say that "Real sooners are not racist. Real sooners are not bigots. Real sooners believe in equal opportunity."

In addition to those making statements, President Boren is also suspending the chapter and closing the SAE fraternity house. In the wake of the incident, students at the University of Oklahoma didn't allow this situation to divide them. According to MSNBC, students held a candlelight prayer vigil on Sunday night and united together in a peace rally on Monday morning.

I say all of this to state that things are ameliorating in America. If nothing had changed, if things were the exact same way they were 50, 100, 300 years ago,

I don't believe President Boren would've made those statements condemning the fraternity. In fact I don't think the video would've made the news at all. As ordinary as this may seem, the fact that President Boren, the students of University of Oklahoma, the students of GSU and citizens throughout the nation are uniting together and standing up for what's right proves that our nation is improving. We can't allow the actions and statements of a few individuals characterize our entire country. Although it seems like issues of racial tension keep parading our nation, I find solace in the fact that we can remain united and through peaceful protest and persistence action combat any hateful ordeal with love.

#NOTALLGREEKS



PARRISH TURNER

@parrishturner

Turner is a senior writing major from Roswell, Ga. He is involved in the Gay Straight Alliance.

The news of the shutting down of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at University of Oklahoma has been all over my Facebook the past few days. The news itself does not shock me. Too often, we see little to no

response from universities when we hear news stories about the sexist, racist and other troubling behaviors of fraternities across the country and action is only taken when it is too late.

What is shocking is the kind of discourse I see around these events. It seems like every comment is filled with "NOT ALL GREEKS!" and here is the thing, I support the Greek system to a point. My whole family went Greek: Chi Omega, Sigma Nu, Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Delta Delta, etc. A fraternity or sorority can do a lot of good, from raising money and awareness, to creating a community. All of this good is very much a part of the legacy and history of Greek life, but so is a history of racism and sexual assault.

And if you want to deny

those things, then you are just kidding yourself. I can name girls who have been raped at frat parties and hear stories of conversations about "why do we have to let the black girl in?" And these stories don't compare to the nightmarish stories which lead to Greek life being banned from campuses. My cousin's own fraternity was banned after one of his pledge brothers died from alcohol poisoning after a party.

My father, a GSU alum, has seen his fraternity suspended many times since he graduated for various infractions. From the rapebait songs at Georgia Tech, to the photographs of racist parties which periodically make their rounds on the internet, Greek life has found its way into a bad place. The exclusionary

nature of fraternities and sororities makes it very easy to create toxic cultures of elitism and exceptionalism.

My issue is not with fraternities and sororities themselves, but rather those who would argue me as opposed to holding their fellow Greeks accountable to holding better standards for themselves. Use your energy instead to create better fraternities and sororities which fight back against these histories and create a different legacy. Greek organizations can be a place for great leadership experience and community building.

But Greeks by no means have a monopoly on such characteristics. Groups such as the Gay-Straight Alliance, Beta Club, Black Student Alliance, even academic

fraternities are able to fulfill the same need for such resume builders without the reputation for rape, racism and alcohol poisoning. Personally, I think the Greek reputation can be saved, but not without much commitment from those within the fraternity and sorority system. The best things I hear are the stories of those who have joined these organizations for the right reasons. Individuals who want to form a family. The organizations which aim to do differently. Instead of trying to pick fights with those on your Facebook wall for saying these things, spend your energy removing the reasons for the criticism.

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.

EAGLES HAVE EYES SET ON NCAA TOURNAMENT

BY COLIN RITSICK
The George-Anne staff

The Sun Belt Basketball Championships begin today at Lakefront Arena in New Orleans, and No. 2 seed Georgia Southern is two wins away from its first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1992.

The Eagles (21-8, 14-6 Sun Belt), by virtue of a two seed, earned a double-bye into the semifinals of the tournament. They will play either No. 3 UL Monroe, No. 6 South Alabama or No. 7 Arkansas-Little Rock on Saturday at 4:30 EST on ESPN3.

NCAA Tournament

The last time that Georgia Southern made it to the big dance, guard Jelani Hewitt was six months old.

"I'm very excited going into this tournament. We put ourselves in a great position throughout the regular season...I'm just looking forward to making history," Hewitt said.

Head coach Mark Byington said that in his first team meeting with the players last summer, he talked about making it to the NCAA tournament.

"That's the goal. We talked about it, we didn't hide from it and now we're in a good position to go get it," Byington said.

The Loss

They are in good position; however, they would be in better position if they had been able to beat Georgia State last weekend.

"We finished the season with a bad taste in our mouth. We're really ready to get rid of that taste and go get a couple of wins," center Trent Wiedeman said.

Georgia Southern made too many early mistakes against State's zone defense and never recovered. 10 first half turnovers put the Eagles down 34-21 at halftime before they lost 72-55.

With the easy victory, Georgia State provided a blueprint to every other team in the tournament on how to defend the Eagles.

"After watching that, other teams might try to zone us too," Wiedeman said. "We've got to watch film and see what we did wrong and see what we did right and learn from it."

The game had big implications, but after they lost, Byington said the team did not dwell on it.

"We moved on quick. The guys left every single thing they had on the court...it just wasn't meant to be," Byington said. "We have everything in front of us. Now all our hard work has got to be shown on Saturday in New Orleans."

Preparation

The team practiced on Monday and Tuesday in Hanner Fieldhouse, and left yesterday morning for New Orleans. They will practice today and tomorrow in Lakefront Arena before Saturday's game.

They don't know who they're playing, so Byington will have his team prepare for each possible team this week.

"We're prepping for three teams. We'll spend part of our practice worrying about South Alabama, part about Little Rock and part about Monroe," Byington said.

Once today's game between USA and UALR is over, they will trim down their focus to just two teams.

Hewitt doesn't mind not knowing who they play. Even though they will prepare for each team, he said the main

focus of this week's practice leading into Saturday is worrying about themselves, not the other teams.

He doesn't see it as a disadvantage.

"It doesn't make it harder because now we've got to focus on the stuff that wins basketball games. The little things - taking charges, rebounding, boxing out, rotating on defense," Hewitt said.

Playing without Matias

It also is a chance to adjust to life without forward Angel Matias. Matias broke his right foot against Louisiana-Lafayette on Feb. 28 and will not play again.

The Eagles have played two games without Matias, so they know what they have to do to compensate for his absence, but knowing and doing are two separate things.

"Angel brought so much to the team we can't just replace him. There's going to have to be multiple guys stepping up," Wiedeman said.

Forward Eric Ferguson has started the last two games in Matias' spot and played 28 minutes per game on average. He played about 18 minutes per game up until last week.

His 15 points and nine rebounds performance against Texas-Arlington played a major part in winning that game.

Forward Kyle Doyle has seen increased playing time as well.

In his freshman campaign last year he averaged 21 minutes per game on the floor and scored 5.1 points per game, but his playing time has been cut in half this year. He has only played about 12 minutes a game this year.

Doyle knows his time to make a big impact has come.

"I was ready regardless, so



BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE
Senior Curtis Diamond will be a main contributor for the Eagles coming off the bench. He averages eight points and 3.2 rebounds per game.

now I've just got to step up. If you stay ready, you ain't gotta get ready," Doyle said.

Doyle is 6-foot-6, 210 pounds and can get to the rim easily. He isn't as strong as Matias, but his height and athleticism allow him some of the same scoring opportunities.

Doyle's best chance to make a difference on Saturday is on the glass. If he can pull down five or six rebounds in 15 minutes on the floor, he will help put Georgia Southern in a position to win.

Depth on the Court

The Eagles had their worst rebounding night of the year against Georgia State. They only grabbed 23 boards against the Panthers, the fewest all season.

"We weren't aggressive enough. We should have been throwing the first punch instead of taking the first punch," Doyle said.

"Coach said two big keys [for Saturday] would be getting stops and getting rebounds."

With Ferguson starting, that leaves Doyle and guard Curtis Diamond as the main players coming off the bench. Georgia Southern will essentially play with seven players in the tournament.

"We're not as deep as we were a couple weeks ago. The fact that we're going to play a team that played the day before, hopefully it helps," Byington said.

He said that sometimes coaches get nervous about having a bye because that means they automatically play a team on a winning streak, but this isn't one of those situations. He is happy they have earned a spot in the semifinals.

Mike Hughes said, "We're definitely in a good position but we're not satisfied. That's one thing I can say about this team and that is that we don't give up easily."

SUN BELT TOURNAMENT BRACKET

BY CHRIS ROSSMANN
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern's men's basketball team is two wins away from being in March Madness. What are your thoughts on the team's recent success?

Stephen Arnold
Junior General Studies major

"The team has really good dedication to the sport. I love that the student body is backing up the team's hard work and accomplishments."

Jade Bowles
Junior Interior Design major

"I don't know much about sports here, or in general, but I think it's great that our school possibly has a chance of getting some media attention."

Katherine Wagner
Freshman Pre-Business major

"Georgia Southern's recent success in the sports scene is amaing. Can't wait to see what our teams have in store for us in the upcoming years."



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JELANI HEWITT Sun Belt Defensive Player of the Year

BRANDON WARNOCK
THE GEORGE-ANNE

Leader of the Eagles, Jelani Hewitt, has posted 93 defensive rebounds, 77 steals and nine blocks this season.



BY COLIN RITSICK
The George-Anne staff

Guard Jelani Hewitt was named the Sun Belt Conference Defensive Player of the Year on Tuesday, in addition to being named to the All-Sun Belt First Team.

Hewitt said that defense is a point of pride for him and that he likes being able to change a game with his defense.

"[Jelani] is a very good defensive player. He can get in a stance and disrupt with quick hands, he anticipates, well. He was very deserving of that," head coach Mark Byington said.

Hewitt was going through his normal morning routine when an old teammate texted him and told him that he'd been honored with the award.

"He was like, 'remember when we used to talk about you not playing defense?'" Hewitt said with a laugh.

The mark of a good defensive player is constant progression. Hewitt stole 38 balls his sophomore year, 75 last year and has totaled 77 steals this year, which is the third-highest single season total in Georgia Southern history.

Hewitt holds the school-record for number of steals in a career with 252, but perhaps the best quality of Hewitt's game is how complete it is.

"Jelani played both ends of the court and what you don't see is his leadership," Byington said.

Hewitt leads the team in scoring with 18.2 points per game, steals with 2.6 per game and assists with 3.8 per game. He said winning the award was a validation of his hard work this year, but also a boost for his post-college basketball plans.

"I needed that for my confidence going into next year. It was huge for me," Hewitt said.



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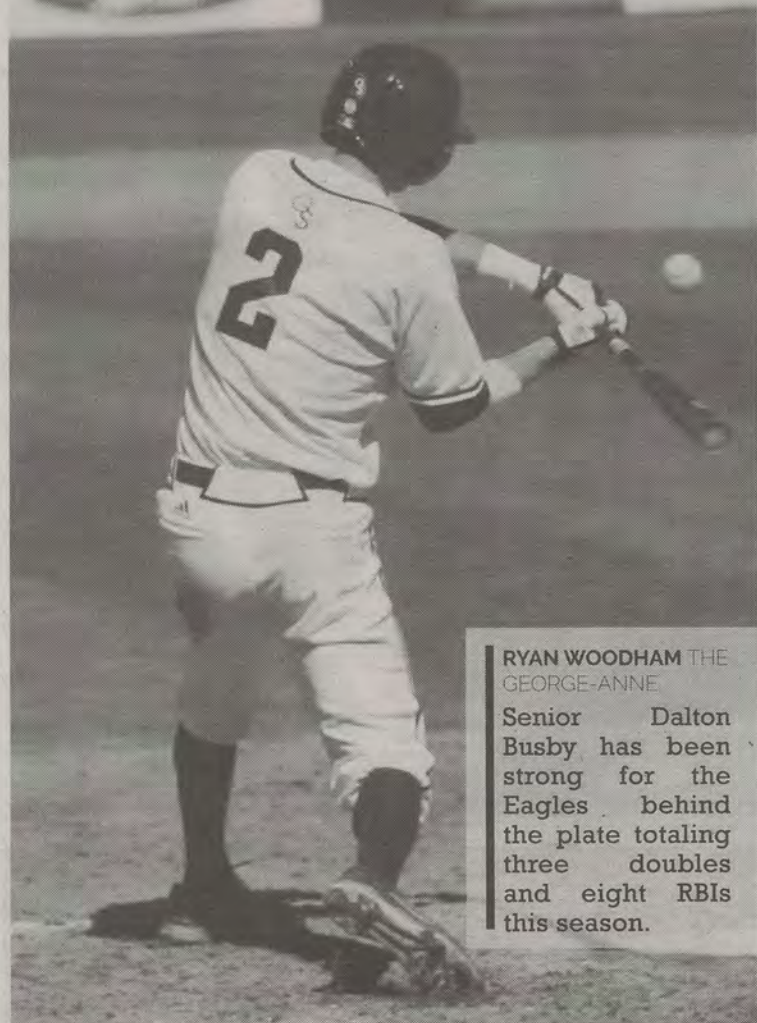
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SPRING BREAK OUTLOOK

WHAT BASEBALL HAS COMING UP



RYAN WOODHAM THE GEORGE-ANNE

Senior Dalton Busby has been strong for the Eagles behind the plate totaling three doubles and eight RBIs this season.



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OVER  UNDER

BY LAYNE SALIBA
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern baseball team will play a total of seven games over Spring Break, including two weekend series against conference opponents Troy and Arkansas State.

The Eagles are currently hitting .263 collectively with junior left fielder Kody Adams leading the team with a .372 batting average. Senior catcher Chase Griffin leads the team with 20 hits while senior right fielder Aaron Mizell leads the team with 13 runs. Senior designated hitter Hunter Thomas came out of last weekend with two walk-off hits and leads the team with 11 RBIs and three homeruns.

The pitching staff holds a 3.36 ERA on the season with junior left-handed pitcher Jason Richman at a perfect 3-0 record. Junior right-handed pitcher Chris Brown boasts a total of six saves for the Eagles in his 11.1 innings pitched.

All the teams the Eagles play over Spring Break have a worse record – in the regular season and in conference play. If the Eagles are able to come out with two series wins, they should be sitting comfortably at the top of the Sun Belt standings. This would be surprising to some

since the Eagles have been projected to finish near the middle of the pack.

There is a lot of season left to play, but the Eagles have the chance to pull ahead in the conference early over the next week.

GS vs. Troy

The Trojans stack up nicely against the Eagles with a .264 batting average. However, Troy's Trevin Hall has a .720 slugging percentage, the best amongst the two teams.

The Eagles have not lost a weekend series thus far. But, all of those games have been at home.

Georgia Southern has lost its only game away from J.I. Clements, so playing at Troy may be a struggle. The home field advantage plays a big role when teams come to Statesboro, but Georgia Southern has not been tested on the road enough yet to judge their performance fairly.

GS vs. The Citadel

The Bulldogs also have a batting average comparable to the Eagles at .258. Yet, there is no standout player at the plate.

The Citadel is playing right at .500 on the season, so the Eagles

hold that advantage over them with a .688 percentage.

This is a mid-week Tuesday game in Charleston, S.C., so it is another game like the one the Eagles have already lost. After the Troy series, the Eagles may be tired from being on the road for three games, and then having to travel again to South Carolina. But, the outcome should shape up nicely if the Eagles play as they have at home.

GS vs. Arkansas State

The Red Wolves are hitting the ball a little better than Georgia Southern with a .274 average. However, Arkansas State has fewer hits and fewer runs.

They also only have 87 strikeouts against the Eagles' 149, which is a cause for concern. The Georgia Southern pitching staff will have to bring their best pitching in order to strikeout batters at the plate for this weekend series.

Luckily, they will be back in Statesboro for this one. However, due to the break, the home field advantage may not be as prominent as it usually is.

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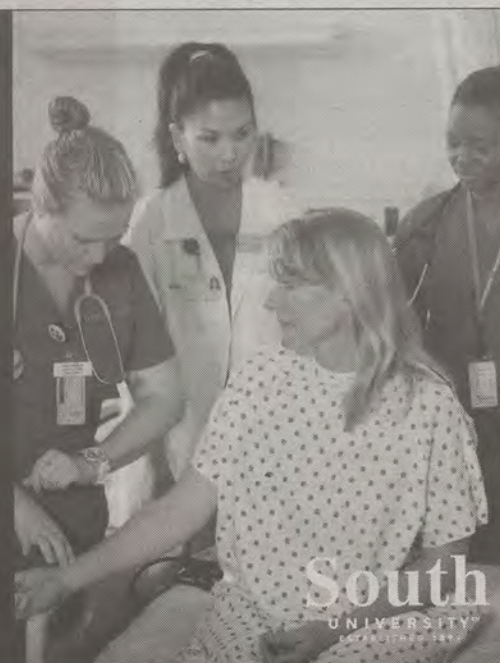
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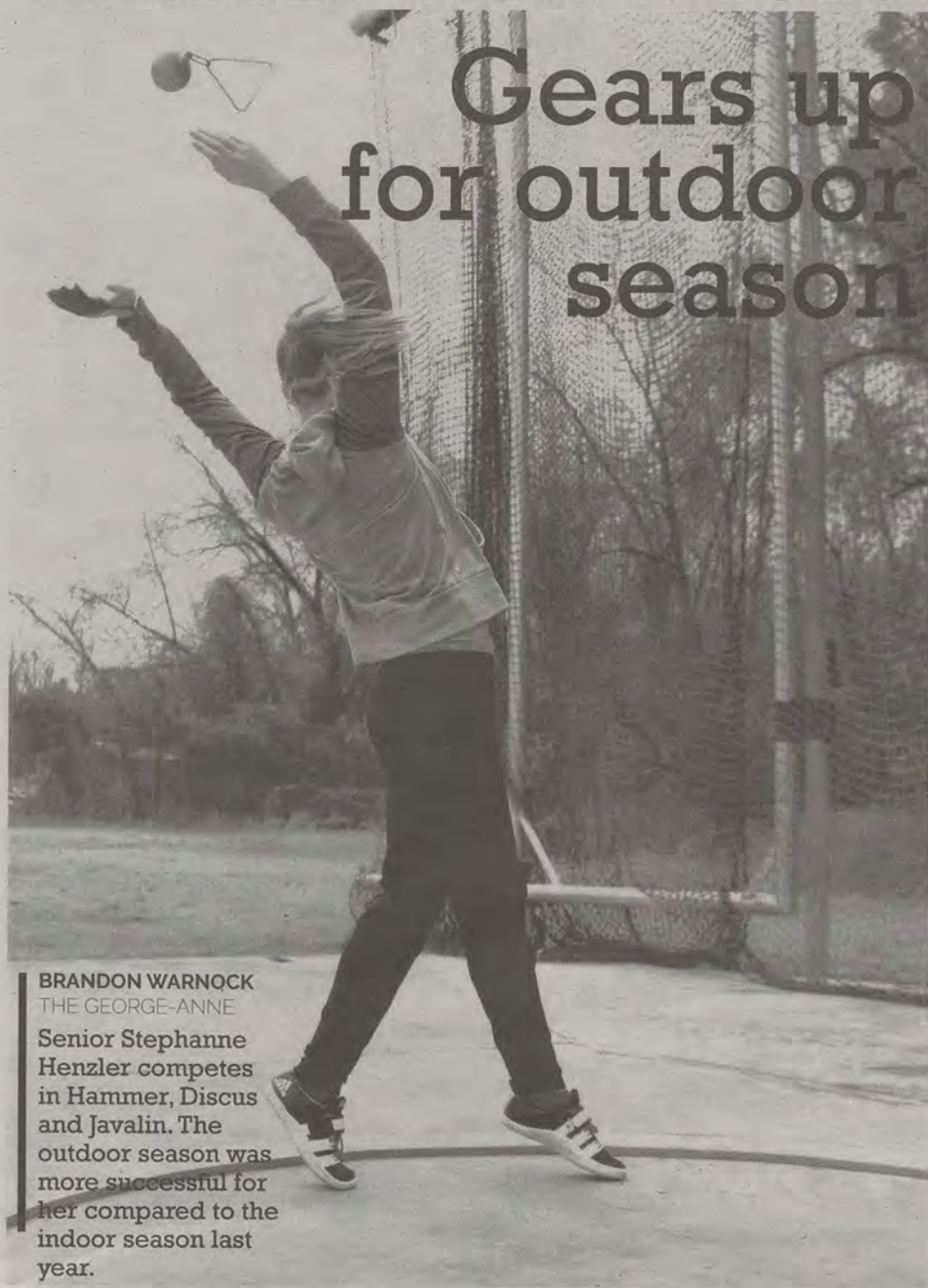
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South
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Track and Field

Gears up for outdoor season



BRANDON WARNOCK
THE GEORGE-ANNE

Senior Stephanie Henzler competes in Hammer, Discus and Javelin. The outdoor season was more successful for her compared to the indoor season last year.

BY ROBERT GEORGE
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern track and field team has wrapped up indoor competition and will compete in its first outdoor meet of the season this weekend when they travel to Oxford, Ala. to compete in the Camecock Quad Meet.

The Eagles indoor season came to a close at the Sun Belt Championships a few weeks ago. The Eagles finished No. 11 in the competition. The level of talent is a significant step-up from competition in the Southern Conference.

"It was an eye-opening experience for them," head coach Kelly Carter said. "The girls' response has been very positive. Now they understand what they're up against. And sometimes that's all it takes."

New events open up in the outdoor season that were not available during the indoor season. Events like the Javelin, the Hammer Throw and the 400m Hurdles come into play, which allows more athletes to compete and more points to be earned.

"It expands some of the talent we already have on the team," Carter said.

Coach Carter says that the team has been training towards the outdoor season, which is where they need to be their best. Because of the variety of the type of tracks used in the indoor season, conversions were used on the different tracks to measure out events.

"There is no conversions in outdoor season," Carter said. "Everyone is on a level playing field. What you run is what you run."

Outdoor season is more natural for the athletes, who practice on an outdoor track all season. While the

tracks differ from indoor to outdoor competitions, the training is the basically the same.

"The approach we take is that there is no Indoor Olympics," Carter said. "We don't want to peak at indoor competition. I don't want you to run your fastest time at the indoor meets."

The team knows that they will need to perform their best on outdoor tracks if they want to do well at the conference championships in May.

The Eagles have had some good performances thus far. Sophomores Kelsey Arnold, Samantha Cook and senior Stephanie Henzler have all consistently competed well in the weight throw and shot put.

Junior Ashleigh Rasheed posted top-5 finishes in the pentathlon long jump and triple jump at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships. Freshman Twandalette Cotton finished in the top-10 in the triple jump and high jump at the Bob Pollock Invitational earlier this season, and freshman Karli Koning won the 3000m at the same competition.

"I thought they have competed well so far," Carter said. "Last year we had a lot of seniors. The younger people from that group have had to step up, and they've competed well."

The team is improving and hopes to peak in May at the championships. They will have a lot of meets between now and then to prepare for the competition, and Coach Carter thinks the team is getting closer to that level.

"Everybody is running better," he said. "And everybody is feeling better. Right now we're just trying to keep improving each week."

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