SGA to hold debate

BY COURTNEY ESCHER
The George-Anne staff

The Student Government Association elections have begun and a debate is scheduled for tonight from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room.

The executive candidates are running unopposed, so students have the option to vote for one of the candidates or to express opposition on the ballot, chairman of the SGA elections committee, Josh Combes, said.

“We define voting opposed on the top of the ballot as ‘not supporting the views of the candidate’” Combes said. “We believe that it is necessary for the students to have choices.”

The SGA by-laws state that in order for a candidate to win an election they must hold the majority of the votes. This means that, theoretically, ‘opposed’ could win the election.

See SGA, page 3

Star outfielder injured

BY DERREK ASBERRY
The George-Anne staff

For the Georgia Southern University Eagle baseball team, this past weekend may have seemed longer than two days.

Due to weather conditions, Friday’s series opener against the Radford College Highlanders was postponed, forcing the Eagles to play a doubleheader on Saturday and then another game on Sunday.

While the Eagles won the series two games to one, their biggest loss did not come on the scoreboard. In the top of the second inning of the second game on Saturday, Eagle All-American Victor Roache dove for a fly ball in right field. During this play, the power hitter injured his wrist and was taken to East Georgia Hospital.

As of now, no further information has been given on Roache’s condition. While many are speculating on the severity of the injury, nothing has been confirmed.

See ROACHE, page 16

STEEL ENTRAPMENT

James Paul, sophomore multimedia communications major, celebrates after being freed from a stuck elevator in the Information Technology Building by Statesboro police and fire department Monday morning. Student workers at the I.T. Building said this is not the first time the elevator has had problems.
GSU inspects buses

BY SHELBY FARMER
The George-Anne contributor

A Georgia Southern University bus caught fire last Thursday due to an electrical problem that is being investigated.

GSU will be inspecting the entire fleet of buses as a precaution, Betsy Nolen, assistant director of communications, said in an e-mail.

In a previous article, The George-Anne reported that the average lifespan of the currently used transit buses is three to four years.

“The current fleet has well outlived its life. They usually last around three to four years and this is our sixth year using them,” Kristi Bryant, director of parking and transportation, said. “It’s safe to say they’re worn out.”

The article was published online on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

On Monday, Feb. 27, during an interview regarding the aftermath of the bus accident on Thursday morning, Christian Flathman, director of marketing and communication, said the lifespan is longer.

“The typical life of these buses is about 10 years,” Flathman said.

On Thursday morning, a Gold Route bus experienced an electrical issue in one of its headlights that resulted in an explosion.

“The fire started in the CNG, or compressed natural gas tank, which erupted the bus. It did start with a small electrical fire. Investigators do believe it was started with the headlight,” Flathman said.

Authorities received a call and police and firemen were on the scene with a four-minute response time, Tim Grams, fire commander of the downtown Statesboro fire station, said.

“We received the call at eleven forty-eight, were dispatched at eleven forty-nine and were on route by eleven fifty-four,” Grams said.

“We were on the scene by 11:54, a four minute response time, and the fire was under control within a couple of minutes,” Grams said.

“The fire was put out within seven minutes due to it being a natural gas vehicle. When those erupt, the best thing to do is let it burn out and get it under control. We call that a controlled burn,” Grams said.

No one was injured in the incident and an investigation is under way, Flathman said.

“The bus was left with only a shell, the windows were blown out and basically all that was left was the frame of the bus. It looked like everything was burned up,” William Pruitt, junior mechanical engineering major, said.

The bus driver refused to comment.
Combes said.

“We did our part in advertising the applications for SGA, and, unfortunately, when no one applies this is what we have. It’s a very complicated situation and it is still up for discussion within the elections committee,” Combes said.

The elections committee is unsure of what to do if ‘opposed’ wins the election, Combes said.

“We aren’t sure because this is the first time that someone has run completely unopposed, so we want to take the time, as the elections committee, to fully discuss all of the options,” Combes said.

The elections committee struggled at first to find a way for the unopposed executive candidates to take part in the traditional debate, Combes said.

“We still wanted to have some sort of debate for executives. At first, we thought we would just have each debate by college, and then we realized that would make the debate last until about eleven at night, so we came up with the Town Hall idea and we’ve stuck with that,” Combes said.

The Town Hall format of the debate will allow for more student and audience participation during the debate, Combes said.

“The way the town hall style will go is that each candidate will have one minute to present their platform and then the moderators will ask questions. Once the moderators questions are finished, we’ll accept questions from students both in the audience and live via Twitter at #SGAdebate,” Combes said. “Also, at the very end we will have thirty minutes of unauthorized student discussion.”

“We thought that since they are running unopposed, the town hall style would be the best way to keep things entertaining and informative,” Combes said.

The public forum format will also allow for more student participation than in earlier years and debates, Combes said.

“A town hall format is often more useful because it involves audience questions and allows for students to be more integrated into the debate,” Combes said. “It makes the debate really about what’s on the minds of students.”

“The purpose of any debate is to gain information on the people running for leadership positions. You also get to learn about what’s important to them and what issues they’re concerned with,” Combes said.

The elections committee is working hard to make sure that the right decision is made, Combes said.

It’s under deliberation, because we want to make the right decision as opposed to a decision that we’re forced to make under the pressure of the election and everything else that’s going on,” Combes said.

Combes will be on the panel of moderators for the debate along with interim Dean of Students Patrice Buckner and Executive Vice President of SGA Katherine Hilsen.

“The panel will be asking questions about general campus issues, such as the school’s growth — maintaining that large scale, small feel — parking and transportation, the Landrum and Lakeside renovations and basically how they will be able to work together to make sure that the school moves in a positive direction,” Combes said.

Candidates for senate will have one minute to explain their platform and will be questioned by panel and audience, Combes said.

Each of the five executive offices has one and a half minutes to give their platform, from where they will take questions from the panel and audience, Combes said.

Dominique Quarles and Christina Belge, the executive candidates running for president and vice president, will be questioned together since they will appear on the ticket as a team. This way they will talk about issues as a unit, Combes said.
Our View

Students still need to vote in SGA election

In the previous Thursday issue of The George-Anne we reported that this year's candidates for Student Government Association executive office are running unopposed.

The candidates are Dominique Quarles and Christina Belge.

Quarles and Belge are running for SGA president and vice president, respectively.

Despite the lack of any opposing candidates, the debate scheduled for Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. will still be held. It will function as a forum for the candidates to hear questions and concerns from the student body.

We highly encourage students to attend this debate/forum. Even if there is only a single candidate to vote for, students need to do their part to ensure that SGA properly represents the student body at Georgia Southern University.

This requires that students are open and direct in communicating their concerns to SGA.

The voting window for the election opened on Sunday evening, and we also encourage students to take the time to vote. While executive officers are running unopposed, the senator elections for each respective college at GSU are still contested.

These senators serve to represent students from their respective colleges within SGA and are an important part of ensuring a fair, effective and representative government.

As many of you know, Georgia Southern University has recently come down with a bad case of "Exploding Bus Syndrome." On Thursday, a bus from the gold route began smoking until it was completely engulfed in flame. Not much was left other than the bus frame. Thankfully, nobody was hurt.

Aside from our bus dropping below 50 mph without Keanu Reeves to save the day, there were many other stories we at The George-Anne published that have been overshadowed by the fire.

For instance, on Feb. 17 we reported on a drug complaint on campus. The reported complaint was due to a suspicious bag left in room 1133 of the Education Building that could possibly resemble marijuana, according to the GSU police report.

Two things about this story stand out to me. First off, I'm a bit puzzled as to why it is considered a drug "complaint." Was someone truly annoyed by the bag?

Alex LaSalle

Page designed by Pauline Dorsey
Current state of SGA is disappointing

I am highly disappointed in the state of our student government. I think it’s embarrassing to have an entire executive board running unopposed.

This embarrassment is taken a level further when you ask the question: "What have you done for me lately?" Our Student Government Association running unopposed. The Student Government Association has, despite the columns from time to time, virtually disappeared.

There seems to be an air of complacency surrounding the organization, and that truly is sad.

"The Student Government has been whittled down from a selection of leaders from across campus from all different groups and social circles to a hand picked group of students. The ticket system made sure of this last year and will most likely crush any hopes of election for those who stand against it this year as well.

While I can’t say the president and his executive board aren’t qualified to lead, they have spent a lot of time on SGA and I’m starting to wonder if they’ve lost their fire.

I just don’t see the drive in this organization anymore. It’s become a recycled group of people who are hand picked by the president before them (Sam Young to Alton Standifer, Alton to himself, and now Alton to Dominique). This is a reflection of the students not knowing or really caring what’s going on because they don’t have a stake in the organization. They don’t see a point in the organization because most students don’t know what it is they do.

I believe that the SGA should have truly open elections. Anybody who has served on the executive board of a recognized large student organization should be able to run for president, because SGA is obviously having a hard time finding leaders to step up from within.

If we open it to the campus, they may have not have SGA experience, but it’s honestly not that hard to grasp — especially when they haven’t been doing much in the first place. Also, there could be people serving as senators who may have executive experience outside of SGA who could run.

This isn’t just the rant of a bitter victim of the Standifer ticket, this is an observation of the failures and self-destruction of an organization that I dedicated a lot of time and effort to over the past few years.

I hate to see what it’s become, but it’s clear that they are content with the direction they’re going in.

Rob Roberts is a senior public relations major from Warner Robins, Ga. He ran against Alton Standifer for the SGA presidency in 2011.

From the right: Obama not dealing with gas prices

This week, we are seeing the price of gas hit an all-time high.

While this is upsetting to most Americans, especially us college students with Spring Break coming up and plans to drive all over the country to escape Statesboro, the Obama administration does not seem worried.

Last week, the President defended his failing energy policies and also blocked a GOP sponsored bill from the House that would help relieve the strain felt by the American people. This would seem odd to anyone, but this has been the President’s strategy all along.

On Feb. 2, 2009, just months after Energy Secretary Steven Chu was quoted saying, "Somehow we have to figure out how to boost the price of gasoline to the levels in Europe," which were at around $10 a gallon for regular, the Obama administration began “scraping leases for oil-shale development” and canceled 77 leases for oil and gas production in Utah. At this point, gas was $1.91 a gallon.

On June 27 of the same year, the government released a plan for a five-year moratorium on offshore energy production even though that would place "some of the most promising energy resources in the world off-limits," according to the House Natural Resources Committee.

Then this year, the President rejected the bipartisan Keystone XL pipeline and the more than 20,000 jobs that come with it when the price of gas was $3.39. The price of gas now in the Boro is between $3.67 and $3.72, which is bound to go up with the upcoming spring break and no relief in sight from this administration.

The President has blamed the whole problem on the instability in the Middle East, but this simply isn’t true.

The fact is that the Obama administration hasn’t done anything to reduce our dependence on foreign energy except try to repay the green energy lobbies for putting him in office.

Since he took office, according to the House Energy Committee, energy production on Federal lands has dropped by 11% percent and spent over $2 billion on green energy projects, including failures such as Solyndra, and is planning on doubling down in 2013 if he’s reelected.

While green energy is important, according the University of Miami, true green energy isn’t a viable alternative to fossil fuels for at least another 15 years to get the technology and infrastructure in place to do so.

Chapin is a senior political science major from Roswell, Ga.
GSU’s masked men reflect on experiences

BY COURTNEY ESCHER
The George-Anne staff

They’re not the heroes Georgia Southern University needs, but they’re the heroes Georgia Southern University deserves — they’re GUS: masked men, men of mystery, men of spirit and pride.

They’ve gone through their entire college careers living secret lives, but now the time has come for them to give up the secrecy and lend way to a new hero, or heroes, who will take their places as they approach graduation.

GSU’s eagle mascot GUS has been portrayed by the same two students since 2008.

The first GUS was hired the fall of his freshman year.

"Over the summer I interviewed, and I became GUS during the fall. And there were just a lot of events and things that I had to attend as GUS, and I just couldn’t keep up. So they hired another guy, and he and I have now been doing it for four years together," GUS One said.

The first GUS enjoyed being a man of mystery, but found the secret identity a difficult one to maintain.

"It was pretty tough to not tell people who you are. I’ve had to come up with some pretty creative lies. I told a lot of my friends that I was the assistant cheerleading coach because they would always see me at cheerleading events, but they never knew what I was doing there," GUS One said. "It was pretty cool getting to be the masked man."

One of the trials that the first GUS faced while on the job was heat exhaustion and dehydration.

"It is very hot (inside the suit). There are five layers and a head, so it’s important to drink a lot of water before games, because if you don’t you will get dehydrated," GUS One said.

One of GUS One’s favorite things about being GUS is the mystery of who’s behind the mask.

"I love acting crazy, and no one knows who you are," GUS One said.

The second GUS became involved out of pure curiosity and luck.

"When I got to college I knew I wanted to get involved with something. I’m too small for football, and I wasn’t going to play basketball — my shot is a little off. I just saw the sign (for GUS tryouts)," GUS Two said.

GUS Two recalls his first game and the way he felt performing.

"It was hot. But you know, as you go on and get into it you become your character and people start cheering your name and it’s just such a good feeling, especially when kids come up to you and want to give you a hug and stuff," GUS Two said.

GUS Two felt that those who do know about his secret identity take advantage of it for their own gain.

"I have roommates that try to pick up chicks and they’re like, ‘Do you know that my roommate is the mascot? And I’m like, ‘Really guys?’" GUS Two said.

Some of the trials that come with being GUS are dealing with children and certain costume elements, GUS Two said.

"A couple of times I almost lost my head," GUS Two said.

"At my first baseball game this semester, a kid came up behind me and ripped my tail off and then handed it to me and was like, ‘Here you go, you might need this,’" GUS Two said.

"The feet cause problems with walking. I tripped a lot at first, I still do, but not as much," GUS Two said.

"Funny story, I lost a foot at a baseball game one time."

All in all, GUS loves being GUS.

"Nobody knows who I am, but everybody knows who I am. It’s a good feeling," GUS Two said.

Some of GUS’s favorite parts about being GUS are being an icon for GSU and the elements of the costume.

"I like messing with people, but the best part is representing our school," GUS Two said.

"I graduate in December, but I won’t be doing as much. I still want to be GUS during fall, just not as much," GUS Two said. "I haven’t asked Barry (Munkasy), but I would love the opportunity to wear the GUS feet at graduation."

GUS Two is a general studies major with concentrations in Spanish, multimedia communications and web media. He is from Augusta.

"I want to go into the multimedia field and be behind the scenes of a news or radio station, then to be a producer is the ultimate goal," GUS Two said.

GUS offers some final thoughts and advice for the new GUSes as he begins to pass the torch.

GUS Two said, "You have to want to do it and you have to have school spirit and love GSU and all of its traditions. It’s a pride thing. When it gets to the third quarter and you’re dripping in sweat, you wonder, ‘Why the hell am I doing this?’ You just have to remember the end, because the greatest feeling is taking off that suit and thinking about all the crazy things that just happened."
GSU community bids farewell to Dean Lewis

BY TJ JACKSON
The George-Anne staff

A line filled with the Georgia Southern University community formed at the Williams Center last Thursday to wish former Dean of Students Georj Lewis well wishes at his farewell reception.

Before spending his last day at GSU as dean of students, Dean Lewis reminisced on his past 10 years as a mentor and counselor to students.

"This is a great place with great people and it's because these ten years have been a major part of my life in so many ways. It has just been a good experience from the beginning until the end," Lewis said.

At a Student Government Association meeting in January, SGA President Alton Standifer announced that Lewis would be leaving in late February to hold the position as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Indiana University in Gary.

Lewis interacted with various departments, including SGA, Greek Life, Student Media, the Multicultural Student Center and many other organizations.

"Everyday was so enjoyable, interacting with students who are interested in being successful, good scholars and good contributors to the community. I'm going to miss working with outstanding faculty and staff members," Lewis said. "I have a great office and the people who report to me are all experts in what they do. I think I will miss the interaction and collaboration with all of the above."

Lewis gives his last word of advice to students at GSU, wishing them well in their future careers and to remember the values GSU holds.

"I love you, I miss you and I wish you much success in your academic, extracurricular and career endeavors. I would encourage you to remember the culture that's been here at Georgia Southern and the values that are important to us, and I encourage you to carry those values on for the rest of your life," Lewis said.

"He's the epitome of what a mentor should be. He always inspired me to play devil's advocate and find what I'm passionate about and work toward that. He's taught me to be strong and to voice my opinion, no matter what's going on around me. He's real, honest and never afraid to be himself and I think that's a big inspiration. I'm going to miss him a lot." -Christina Beige, SGA Vice President of Academic Affairs

"Georj came here ten and a half years ago and I've worked with him all that time. I just found him to be an absolutely wonderful colleague and just a great mentor to so many students. I just found him to be an absolutely wonderful colleague and just a great mentor to so many students. I just thank him for all the hard work he's provided here at Georgia Southern. I want to wish him nothing but absolute and wonderful success and happiness at his new position." -Dr. Teresa Thompson, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

"The greatest advice he gave to me was 'When you do what's right, it doesn't matter what people say, it doesn't matter how different people perceive it, as long as it's right, you can defend it.'" -Alton Standifer, SGA President
Performing arts

BY AMBER GORDON
The George-Anne staff

The Averitt Center for the arts honored the 100th anniversary of playwright Tennessee Williams by putting on a stage play of "Glass Menagerie" at the Emma Kelly Theater.

The performance was held over a three-day period, playing on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Tennessee Williams is considered to be one of the most prolific playwrights of all time, writing plays such as "Street Car Named Desire," "Summer and Smoke" and "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof." However, his most successful play "The Glass Menagerie" has won numerous awards and has been performed on stage more than any of his other works.

Its popularity was one of the reasons why "The Glass Menagerie" was the performance chosen for his 100th anniversary.

"It's a Southern playwright. One reason we chose the 'Glass Menagerie' is that Dr. Bill Presley is a scholar on Tennessee Williams and he wrote a book on the Glass Menagerie, so we really wanted to kind of showcase Dr. Presley, which we did," Executive Director of the Averitt Center for the Arts Tim Chapman said. "We wanted to combine his research that he'd done on Tennessee Williams and combine that with a stage production of Tennessee Williams' greatest and most noted play the 'Glass Menagerie.'"

The play centers around each member of the Wingfield family. It focuses on how each member of the family has a hard time accepting reality. The mother of the family, Amanda, wanted to be a Southern belle like she was in her youth. Amanda's daughter Laura was lost in her own private world filled with glass animals. Her brother Tom, although not as estranged from reality as his other family members, is lost in his love for literature and movies.

"If you're familiar with the play, people usually don't walk away from it with a sense of feel good," Chapman said. "There isn't exactly a happy ending to his play. I don't know if you would call it a tragedy, it's just more reality, but the audience thoroughly enjoyed the play."

The Averitt Center also commemorated Tennessee Williams' 100th anniversary by displaying costumes featuring some of his most symbolic characters in other plays. Georgia Southern University's own Sarah McCaroll created the costumes displayed in the lobby of the Averitt Center.

"Dr. Sarah McCaroll, which is a professor at Georgia Southern University theater program, is also in charge of costumes for the department. She put together a display of costumes that reflect four of Tennessee's other leading ladies, besides Amanda, which is presented in the 'Glass Menagerie.' It's a wonderful display that depicts the other leading ladies that Williams had in his other plays," Chapman said.

The cast consisted of only four members of the Averitt Stars — Andrew Akins, Zulema Ibarra, Dalton Titshaw and Carol Thompson.

The performance is closely linked with the GSU theater department.

Director of the play Mical Whitaker is an emeritus professor in the communication arts department. The leading role played by Carol Thompson is also the director of the GSU Performing Arts Center.

Although there were only four people, they were able to keep the audience's attention because of their acting skills and interesting dialogue.

Elisa Monroe, an audience member at the play, said, "I thought the actors and actresses did a wonderful job of portraying the characters in the play."

Actors and actresses of "The Glass Menagerie" perform the play as a tribute to the 100th anniversary of playwright Tennessee Williams.
Drag kings and queens take the stage

Performing arts

BY KIMEKO MCCOY
The George-Anne staff

Drag queens and kings Bianca Nicole, Hayden McCord, Diego Wolfe and Jordan West took to the Russell Union Ballroom stage Thursday evening and performed latest hits as the Georgia Southern University community looked on.

The performers brought music that had the crowd dancing.

Music from artists of all different ranges were heard like Keri Hilson, Bruno Mars, Justin Bieber, Nicki Minaj, Red Jumpsuit Apparatus and even some hip-hop artists like Tyga and Drake.

For the past six years, the Multicultural Student Center, in collaboration with the Gay Straight Alliance, has brought Bianca Nicole and the other drag performers to entertain and wow the crowd at the annual drag show.

“A good friend of mine introduced me through Consuela Ward,” Nicole said, considering her start here at the GSU drag show.

New to the drag show line-up was Hayden McCord, who considers herself a lesbian with an alter ego.

McCord brought something new to the table that really gave audience members a chance to get involved.

During her performance, she interacted with some audience members by dancing with them.

While the event is one for student enjoyment, the performers wanted attendees to gain more from the show than just a good time.

“The show is for entertainment, but the questions and answers are to really get to know us,” Nicole said. “I want people to know that even though our lives are different, we are still human.”

Previous performers, Diego Wolf who switched things up and performed country songs, and Jordan West who was a Justin Bieber replica, received positive feedback from the crowd.

Students were very eager as they waited for the show to start.

Doors did not open until 7 p.m. that evening but audience members started to form a line shortly after 6 p.m.

The show had such a huge turnout, that some individuals who showed up were turned away.

Master and mistress of ceremonies for the night were Danielle Dunken and Michael Boddie.

The hosts kept the show going in between performances with a few fillers, including a dance contest, gay trivia and Twitter for the audience to participate.

One tweet came in asking for Nicole’s hand in marriage.

At the end of the show, there was a special question and answer session where audience members got the chance to ask personal questions to the performers. Everyone had their own different stories to share with questioning audience members.

“In high school, I was in the theater department and I was in a mockery pageant,” Nicole said about the beginning of her career in drag. “My friend convinced me to do it.”

MSC and GSA work to bring different events on campus outside of race and ethnicities with concerts and performances like the annual drag show and will be sure to bring the same show next year.

*Valid through 4/30/2012. Cannot be combined with any other discounts.
Delta Sigma Theta crowns Mr. Extraordinaire

Performing Arts

BY BRITTANY MOORE
The George-Anne contributor

The Russell Union Ballroom was full of anticipation Saturday evening as the Xi Eta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta crowned Kaylen Mitchell, senior political and finance major, as Mr. Extraordinaire.

The scholarship pageant, which was "Phantom of the Opera" themed, began with an introductory dance performed by the eight contestants — Deondre Harris, Shamah Taylor, Tyrone Betters, Bernard Green, Michael Tyson, Kieron Goldsby, Martavious Johnson and Kaylen Mitchell, who was crowned Mr. Extraordinaire.

The purpose of the Mr. Extraordinaire Scholarship Pageant is to "exhibit positive male figures on the campus and break away from stereotypes that men face," according to the pageant coordinator and senior biology major, Kandyce Reeves.

The competitors battled for the crown in four categories — casual wear, talent, lifestyle and fitness and the Formal Wear/Questionnaire portion.

Each of the contestants were chosen based on their scholastic achievements and community involvement.

The preparation for the event started on Jan. 23, 2012, with rehearsals. The contestants practiced with the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta to ensure that the scholarship pageant would be a successful and entertaining event for the Georgia Southern University campus community.

Akil Lumpkin, a sophomore multimedia communications major, said, "[It was] refreshing to see African American males presented in a positive image."

The hosts for the night were senior communication arts major Jeremy Hill and senior pre-nursing major Janelle Clark, who is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta.

The ladies of Xi Eta wanted to "put on a worthwhile and good event that focused on problems that the students of GSU face and bring awareness to them. This is why the contestants have platforms," Clark said.

Every contestant was thrilled to be a part of the Mr. Extraordinaire Pageant. Martavious Johnson believes that he was "able to build bonds with all of the participants through a positive outlet and that everyone was able to affect the GSU community in a positive way."

Although there was only one Mr. Extraordinaire crowned that night, some of the other contestants took home titles also.

Contestant No. 5, Michael Tyson, was awarded for his scholastic achievement while contestant No. 1, Deondre Harris, took the title of "Mr. Showstopper." Kieron Goldsby, contestant No. 6, took home "Mr. Phantom" and Tyrone Betters, contestant No. 3, was named "Mr. 1913."

The titles “Mr. Congeniality” and the runner-up position, also known as “Mr. Crimson and Cream,” were both awarded to contestant No. 8, Shamah Taylor.

The audience members that attended the show were satisfied with the festivities of the evening.

"The contestants were talented and promoted positive images for black males. I am so proud of all of the contestants,” Jasmine Thompson, sophomore pre-nursing major, said.
Department of music sponsors recital

BY KRYSHA MCGARITY
The George-Anne contributor

The harmonies of the Georgia Southern University Southern Chorale collaborated for the first time with an organ and saxophone at First United Methodist Church for a faculty recital.

The recital opened with Carolyn J. Bryan, professor of music and international studies, who played the saxophone. Bryan was aided by musician Pierce Dickens who played the organ.

Their pieces included works such as "Fantasy on Veni Creator Spiritus" by Richard Proulx and "Sonate I" by Denis Bébard.

"A lot of hours and practice go into preparing for a performance like this. Two hours a day, seven days a week," Bryan said.

The centerpiece of the program was a contemporary-styled piece with interludes for soprano and saxophone performed by Southern Chorale conductor, Shannon Jeffreys. The piece was the "Son of God Mass," and was written by English composer James Whitbourn.

"I thought it was lovely. It’s always a joy to watch. Their tone and how well they blend is amazing. They’re never a disappointment," Rachel Hewlett, junior biology major, said.

Although she has been the director of chorale activities at GSU for over a year, Jeffreys, who’s been directing choirs and teaching conducting literature, said, “[We] have a lot of rehearsals — three times a week for an hour and a half. We’ve been practicing since school began in January.”

The Southern Chorale is the premier chorale ensemble directed by Jeffreys. The ensemble performs choral literature from many different style periods and genres, including everything from spiritual music to music from the classical era.

“Im very excited to not only take part in performing and touring but also to help plan the experience for all who are taking part. Hours upon hours of dedication and practice are spent.

We have to do a lot of outside learning and practicing of the music so that when we come together we can hone in on details and fine tuning," Alyssa Noel, senior music major and Southern Chorale assistant, said.

Carolyn J. Bryan and Pierce Dickens, on the saxophone and organ respectively, perform "Momento" by Michael Johanson at the recital on Sunday.

Oscar Buzz List

• "The Artist" won for Best Picture.
• Jean Dujardin won Best Actor in a Leading Role for "The Artist."
• Meryl Streep won Best Actress in a Leading Role for "The Iron Lady."
• Christopher Plummer won Best Actor in a Supporting Role for "Beginners."
• Octavia Spencer won Best Actress in a Supporting Role for "The Help."
• Leonardo Di Caprio still hasn’t won an Oscar.

Information compiled by Arts Editor Quamqua Epps and Assistant Arts Editor Gianna Carme from TheHollywoodReporter.com.
American Boychoir shares talents with GSU

BY JAZMIN DAVIS
The George-Anne staff

From sounds of the Amazon rainforest to the traditional sounds of North American spirituals, The American Boychoir brought its talents to Georgia Southern University Thursday evening.

Held in the Performing Arts Center with GSU President Brooks Keel seated in the balcony, The American Boychoir and the Statesboro Youth Chorale combined forces to give students and community members a musical performance.

This event was the third time the boys, ranging from grades four to eight, came from New Jersey to perform in Statesboro.

Directors Fernando Malvar-Ruiz and the Statesboro Youth Chorale's Sarah Hancock put loads of work into the performance and homecoming of two former Statesboro Youth Chorale members and current American Boychoir members, Daniel and Steven Metrejean.

"If it weren't for choir directors like Sarah Hancock, we wouldn't have the American Boychoir," the Litton-Lodal Music Director of the American Boychoir Fernando Malvar-Ruiz said.

The Statesboro Youth Chorale took the stage first. Dressed in blue and dominated by young ladies, the choir gave a performance of the classic, "Ave Maria," and meowed the comic duet entitled "Two Cats." As the audience burst with laughter, The American Boychoir silently waited at the back of the auditorium lined up in two aisles.

With a united march and Nigerian highlife song, "O-re-mi," The American Boychoir approached the PAC stage. In uniform and arranged by voice, the boys took the stands.

"They are very motivated and very smart. They challenge you constantly," Malvar-Ruiz said of the Boychoir, "My limit is their limit."

Before the show went any farther, Malvar-Ruiz honored friend and colleague Hancock with a certificate of appreciation signifying the connection between Statesboro and The American Boychoir.

The theme of The American Boychoir's concert season tour this year is called "A Journey." The theme of The American Boychoir's concert season tour this year is called "A Journey." The theme of The American Boychoir's concert season tour this year is called "A Journey." The songs for the program were particularly chosen as part of the choir's global exploration.

In the program, selections were divided into the continent of their origin from Europe, all the way around the world, and back to Africa.

The choir stood out as they not only sang the songs but also gave listeners a vision of what they were singing about. As the choir performed "Three native songs the Krao Indians," the audience could close their eyes and picture the sounds of the Amazon rainforest.

The audience revered and applauded accordingly as the boychoir continued to sing in harmonious melody.

"I think it's charming and you can't help but feel the purity in their voices as it resonates," Statesboro member and writer for GSU's athletics department Bonnie Jager said.

In the midst of The American Boychoir's "journey," the boys teamed up with the Statesboro Youth Chorale to give a dynamic recital of "This Little Light of Mine."

Just as the audience began to feel the diversity of the many cultures presented that evening, it was time for a dramatic farewell performance of a South African medley including "Freedom is coming" and "Siyahamba."

After the boys fought to resurrect a stuffed snake on stage and acted as wild animals for the active final performance, they brought the theme to an end with an encore featuring Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World."
Eagles win series against Radford despite rain

Baseball

BY CLINTON HINELY
The George-Anne staff

The rain delayed Friday’s baseball game, but that didn’t stop Georgia Southern University from picking up two wins out of three games in the first ever series versus Radford University.

GSU (5-2) mounted a ninth inning come back win and an extra innings victory in the Saturday doubleheader to defeat the Highlanders (2-5) before dropping another close game on Sunday.

This weekend series will affect the GSU baseball season in more than one way. The wins and loss will appear on the record, but the Eagles will walk away with a loss that doesn’t appear in the record books.

Preseason Southern Conference Player of the Year and All-American outfielder Victor Roache injured his wrist in the second inning of the second game Saturday. Roache’s injury could keep him out for some time, possibly the whole season.

Saturday Feb. 25, first game. GSU 7-6. Win-Howard, Loss-Williams

Friday night’s game was rained out, forcing the Eagles to play a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon.

Radford jumped out to an early lead in the first inning off of GSU starter Chris Beck. GSU and Radford battled throughout the game with Radford taking a 6-4 lead into the bottom of the ninth inning.

GSU started the ninth inning by putting two runners on base. Roache then delivered his third hit of the game to drive in a run. Senior Eric Phillips singled to load the bases.

With two outs and a full count, pinch hitter freshman Clint Clark delivered an infield single to tie the game. Sophomore Ben Morgan then recorded his easiest game-winning RBI of his career when the pitch hit him, forcing in the winning run and giving the Eagles the game one victory.

Saturday Feb. 25, second game. GSU 7-6. Win-Leverett, Loss-Patten

In the second game of the Saturday doubleheader, the Eagles and Highlanders battled into extra innings.

The Eagles took the early lead in the first inning but then a nightmare scenario struck the GSU squad. Roache was injured diving for a ball in right field in the top of the second. He was forced to come out and could miss a substantial part of the season.

Radford then scored two runs that inning before pushing across one more in the third. Radford took a 4-2 lead into the bottom of the fifth before Phillips drove in a pitch for a two RBI double, tying the game at 4.

The Highlanders scored twice in the sixth to regain the lead, but again GSU was able to fight back into the game. GSU scored a run on an error in the seventh inning and pinch hitter Zac Lenns hit an RBI single in the eighth.

The score remained 6-6 after the ninth and tenth innings. However, in the bottom of the eleventh Radford intentionally walked a batter to bring up Chase Griffin. Griffin used his patience to draw another walk, forcing in GSU’s second game winning run on the afternoon.

GSU recorded two walked-in runs to defeat Radford twice on Saturday by the same score of 7-6.

Sunday Feb. 26, third game. Radford 5-4, Win-Fritz, Loss-Rowe, Save-Maxwell

Radford started this game strong, just like it had all season. In the first inning, Matt Hillsinger smashed a full count pitch deep into the right field gap to drive in one run for the Highlanders.

The beginning of the game was a pitcher’s duel, as neither team was able to mount a lot of offense until the fourth inning. GSU junior starting pitcher Kyle Rowe got into a bases loaded jam and then walked Blake Sipe to force in another Radford run.

The next hitter, Josh Gardiner, blasted a line drive to centerfield to drive in two more runs for the Highlanders. That ended Rowe’s day as the Eagles had to bring in a reliever.

Rowe caused a lot of his own problems as the Eagles had to bring in a reliever. Rowe caused a lot of his own problems in the fourth, walking three hitters in that inning.

In the bottom of the fourth, GSU was able to get on the score board when freshman Chase Griffin grounded out to second, which was enough to plate senior Eric Phillips. Radford headed to the fifth inning still clinging to a 4-1 lead.

The Highlanders held onto the lead until the bottom of the seventh inning. Stryker Brown pinch hit for Garrett Palmer and led off the inning with a single. After a few batters, the Radford pitcher’s attempted pick-off attempt went into left field, allowing Brown to score easily, cutting the Radford lead to 4-2.

With two outs in the top of the eighth inning, Ryan Burgess drove a solid line drive to center to drive in another run for the Highlanders. Giving them a 5-2 lead headed into the bottom of the eighth.

Michael Burruss hustled down the line to beat out a ground ball that deflected off the pitcher. Davis then blasted a towering homerun to centerfield, his first of the season, to cut the Radford lead to just one run.

In the ninth inning, Phillips doubled down the left field line with two outs. He then stole third base before Radford intentionally walked Davis. Freshman Nick Rau pinch hit and then grounded out to third base to end the Eagles’ threat, finishing the game for a Radford 5-4 win.

Davis finished the game going 3-4 and drove in two runs with his first career homerun at GSU.

“I saw some pitches up in the zone today,” Davis said. “My swing is feeling good and I hope to keep it rolling.”

The Eagles will be back in action Tuesday at 6 p.m. versus Mercer University at J.I. Clements Stadium.
Drayton and Powers honored at last home game as Eagles

The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern men's basketball team honored its seniors before Saturday night's 71-54 loss to Davidson College.

Senior guards Ben Drayton III and Willie Powers III were accompanied by family and given a framed jersey and basketball to commemorate their four-year stretch with the team. Drayton III finishes his career ranked 15th in career scoring with 1,474 points and first in games started in a season with 32. Powers III started his 99th game at guard for the Eagles on Saturday night and ranks 22nd in school history in points scored with 1,309.

With both Powers III and Drayton III starting at guard for the Eagles this season, GSU matched the school record for conference wins in a season with 12, finishing with a 12-6 record.

Both guards have done a fantastic job setting up teammates this season, with Powers III finishing this season with a team-high 151 assists, while Drayton III ranked second highest on the team with 84 assists.

Drayton III and Powers III contributed in the scoring department as well, averaging 12 and 11.1 points per game, respectively. They are ranked second and third on the team in points per game for the season.

Head coach Charlton Young spoke after the game about what both Drayton III and Powers III have meant to GSU in their careers.

"I'm really proud of what our two seniors have done for this program," Young said. "These guys gave their heart and soul to Georgia Southern, and now we really want to give these guys a proper sendoff with the Southern Conference Championship."

Next up for the Eagles is the SoCon Tournament Friday night against the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. GSU will be looking to get a quick win to get the two senior guards a SoCon title.

Mark Barnes/The George-Anne

Seniors Ben Drayton III (0) and Willie Powers III (50) both gather with their families on Saturday's Senior Night.
Eagles take third in Southern Conference Championships

Track and field

BY KEVIN GREGAN
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern University track and field team competed in the Southern Conference finals for the indoor track season last Thursday through Friday where it finished third place out of 12 teams.

"I'm happy. It was a team effort, we had someone in almost every event do well," first-year coach Mario Mincey said.

During the event, the Eagles finished first in the 60-meter hurdles and the 60-meter dash. These two first place finishes, as well as solid performances in many other events, are what allowed the team to do well.

GSU had three athletes make top five in the 60-meter hurdles and they were highlighted by the first place performance put on by junior Jasmine Billings. Not only did she win the event with a time of 8.49 seconds, she also improved on her conference best time of the year and broke the school record for the fastest 60-meter hurdle time.

Billings was accompanied in the top five for the event by her teammates sophomore Stephanie Hicks and freshman Taylor Wade with third and fifth place finishes respectively.

"It feels good to have my name on the record books. When you look back, you could be proud of yourself," Billings said.

Junior Ebony Carter ran the 60-yard dash with a time of 7.56 seconds and took first place. Billings also ran the event and made a fifth place finish. They were both accompanied by freshman Jasmine Walker, who took fourth place with a time of 7.77 seconds.

While Carter did win the 60-meter dash, that wasn't all she did to help her team place third in the conference. In the 200-meter dash, she finished in second place with a time of 24.70 seconds.

There were many other Eagles who contributed to the success in the team by making top 10 finishes. In the 400-meter dash, sophomore Cherrelle King finished in eighth place. In the 800-meter dash, junior Charnelle Wray, who had a sixth place finish, was amongst the company of junior Charnelle Wray, who had a sixth place finish, and a ninth place finish by freshman Alexis Jacobs.

Junior Jasmine Walker earned the Freshman of the Year award and was also named to the All-Freshman teams for both the 60-meter dash and the long jump. Wade accompanies her to the All-Freshman hurdle team.

"It feels amazing. All the hard training and keeping my head in the sixty have all paid off. My teammates helped get me in the mindset to be successful," Walker said.

While Appalachian State University took first in the championships, the Eagles are not disappointed and they realize that this is only the start to their future success. The team has placed third place in each SoCon indoor championship since 2003, but Mincey feels the team can do better.

In the field events, senior Millicent Brooks-Millender triple jumped her way into a fifth place finish in the event while the impressive freshman, Sara Hall, finished with an eighth place weight throw score of 14.72.

Hall also finished seventh in the shot put event where she was amongst the company of junior Charnelle Wray, who had a sixth place finish, and a ninth place finish by freshman Alexis Jacobs.

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Eagles win three of five games

BY BRIAN STONE
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern softball team hosted the Eagle Classic this weekend, winning three out of five games played. The Eagles opened the tournament Friday with a doubleheader against Jacksonville State University and University at Albany.

After multiple weather delays, the Lady Eagles took on JSU and pulled out the 7-4 win over the Gamecocks. Both senior centerfielder Marie Fogel and sophomore shortstop Kourtny Thomas finished the game with two RBIs each. In game two, the Eagles shut out Albany 6-0. Standout freshman pitcher Brooke Red picked up her third win of the season and also had five strikeouts.

In day two of the tournament, GSU took on the University of Kentucky and Radford University. In the Lady Eagles' first game against Kentucky, GSU defeated the Wildcats 2-1 in a pitchers duel. Sophomore pitcher Sarah Purvis struck out six and picked up her fourth win of the season.

GSU took on Radford in Saturday's final game, losing for the first time in the tournament, 6-4. Despite the loss, junior third baseman Andrea Tarashuk and Kourtny Thomas played well and both finished with two RBIs.

On the final day of the tournament, the Lady Eagles took on the University of North Florida. GSU took another tough loss, falling 4-1 to the Ospreys.

Sophomore pitcher Allie Miles took the loss, but only allowed one earned run in the game. GSU struggled to knock base runners in, leaving 13 runners on base.

"Sometimes we've been able to get runners in and sometimes we haven't," said head coach Annie Smith. "I have the right people in the right spots, we just haven't come through as much as I want."

"Every team we took on this weekend can win their conference," said Smith. "I was very excited about facing tougher competition and very excited about our win over Kentucky. I am disappointed on how we played in the last two games though."

The Lady Eagles will travel to Knoxville, Tenn., on Wednesday to take on the University of Tennessee in a doubleheader, with games at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
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GSU Alumni Offer a Professional’s Perspective

By Sarah Dixon, PR/Marketing Intern

The Office of Career Services hosted the Eagle Expo Career Fair last Wednesday for GSU students to explore various opportunities and speak with professionals in their chosen field. We were able to gain some insight on what employers look for in an ideal candidate for students who were unable to attend.

Emily Hergesheimer graduated from Georgia Southern in 2011 and is now a proud executive team leader at Target. Hergesheimer took advantage of the free services and events offered by Career Services while attending GSU and stressed that other students do the same.

“Go to career services. Go have them help you with your resume and have them help you practice your interview techniques ... ask questions and do your research more than anything,” Hergesheimer said.

“Use what you have free and available for you because a lot of people who are trying to get jobs don’t have that and as a company, we expect you to come out of the gate prepared.”

We also spoke with Darren Bridges, another Georgia Southern grad who majored in Management Information Systems. He is now the president of his own company called Safe Systems in Alpharetta.

We asked Bridges what advice he had for students who were looking to jumpstart their search for the right career.

“Do an internship if you can because it’s very important that you make that right decision when you graduate and know exactly what you like and what you want to do,” Bridges said. “I found that people get out there and don’t know really know what it is that makes them happy.”

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
1 Coal holders
5 "The Censor" of Rome
9 Hiked, as prices
14 Australian golfer Scott
15 Most fit for duty
16 Emma Roberts, to Julia
17 Pass catchers
19 Company that ironically had a crooked E in its name
20 Golfer's gadget used at the edge of water hazards
22 10-Down substance used in roofing
23 Salinger title girl
24 Sumac of Peru
27 Cries of pain
30 Little rascal
32 How animals boarded the ark
34 Early leader in a race
38 Cries of surprise
39 "We're the Days"
40 Intrepid
41 Curing solution
42 Watches a kid for cash
43 Pelvic contusion
45 Form 1040 data
47 Many moons: Abbr.
48 Erie summer hrs.
49 Bk. before Esther
50 "la Douce"
53 Extremely long time
55 "Joy to the World" group, and based on the ends of 20-, 34-, and 43- Across, what you're having if you solve this puzzle after dark?
61 Way up
63 Decrease
64 Duplicate, briefly
65 Bath, in Bordeaux
66 Wyatt at the O.K. Corral
67 Look of disdain
68 Pleas's river
69 Portly, Jolly Roger pirate

DOWN
1 Wire fence point
2 It's all in your head
3 Salt, to a chemist
4 Silvery food fish
5 Oater hero's request when entering the fray
6 Work without
7 Land in Paris
8 Desert refuge
9 In need of leveling
10 Tree with needles
11 Daily Planet editor
12 Prefix with system
13 Room with a remote
14 Call from one who more than calls?
21 Arab commander
25 Gazed dreamily
29 Declare
30 Decide to join
31 Hula dancer, often
32 Present wrapper's aid
33 In tatters
35 Pump sign on the Alcan highway
36 Recipe meas.
37 Make out
41 Buffalo's minor league baseball team
43 "Take this"
44 Pizza herb
46 "Snow White" fairness judge
51 Toast type
52 "Be ___ _": start of a polite request
54 Evenings, in ads
56 Add to the work force
57 Viking war god
58 Protein unit
59 Fabled slacker
60 Make words using keys
61 Many reti.
62 Forum right bowling pin

February 23rd Puzzle Solved

Sudoku

Page designed by Holly Hillhouse
Intramural Scores

**Inner Tube Water Polo**
Monday 2/20
Team DWet 7, Flesh Tuxedos 3
Team DWet 6, Atlantacons 3
Atlantacons 5, Flesh Tuxedos 2
Grunk SPLASH! 0, Darton Dropouts 6

Tuesday 2/21
Hydrophobia 8, Darton Dropouts 1
Seven Sharks 6, los Niños gordos 5
Grunk SPLASH! 0, Hydrophobia 10
Skinny Dippers 4, Seven Sharks 5

Wednesday 2/22
The WetWillies 4, Delta Tau Delta 3
Sons of the Nile 0, Delta Tau Delta 6
Sons of the Nile 2, The WetWillies 5

**Basketball**
Monday 2/20
CP Notin But Net 60, Team Got Toooo 32
Cool Shoes Bro 68, The Cadets 47
Southern Spliffs 52, Court 1 59
Strokegame 39, Hibatchi Makin Mariachi 49
Underdogs 41, Tau Athletics 19
Vogel Party of 5 39, F.A.M.E 34
Stone and the Hood Rates 48, M.O.B (Muffins Over Bagels) 18
Raw Talent 58, Original Strokers 53
3 the Hard Way 47, Self Check 50
Austin’s Team 49, RUF 54
DRIVE 29, Forgiven 59
PF Changs 47, UV Brawlers 34
WE2REAL 31, The Dream Team 53
Camp Coke 54, NIKE Select 67
Why Are You Here 46, FLY ART 41

Tuesday 2/21
Crack Baby Basketball 48, Five White Guys 32
Dwight man can’t jump 35, Jose Mesa and Friends 30
The Hardwoods 40, Swagger Hounds 44
The Roy Orbinsoms 44, Shawt Bread 35
The Great Whites 41, Multiple Scoregasims 39
Five Guys 37, Sour Diesel 64
Sigma Nu 41, Kappa Alpha Psi 40
Delta Tau Delta 38, Sigma Alpha Epsilon 28
Kappa Sigma 44, Delta Chi 41
Pi Kappa Phi 63, Alpha Tau Omega 36
Alpha Phi Omega 40, Pi Kappa Alpha 27
Delta Sigma Phi 29, Sigma Phi Epsilon 44
UV Villa Thrillias 30, GSU Eagles 41
Juice Babies 56, Skins 50

Splash in the Boro 17, SLASHERS 34
Skip Bayless Hats Up! 43, 2Legit2Quit 48
Hoops! I Did it Again! 52, Alpha Super Awesome Cool Wolf Swag Squadron 40
The 69ers 62, The South Butt 52
MontStars 63, Belts N Dolls 47
Toon Squad 41, Eagle Alert Sports 40

Wednesday 2/22
Regin’ AlchoBallics 43, Malicious Prostitution 38
Glacial Speed 34, Fast & EZ 60
The Math Debaters 42, The Fistin’ Pistons 52
Black Mamba 58, ATLiens 61
World Domination 62, Ball-Stars 31
HSA Ballas 48, Five Black Guys 28
#TeamJaBoy 32, GSU Football 50
Pressure D 56, Ducks 49
Caucasian Invasion 0, The Shredsters 5
Sucks 26 6ft Swag 45, We Winning 25
Our Balls Always Drop 44, The Asian Guy 26
6 Ball Bustas 1, Team Ramrod 0
division slay 1
Strike + hers 9
1017 Geeb Squad 3, Ball’n 4
CFC 6, El Tigre 5
Mallister 3, Kappa Delta 31
Kappa Kappa Gamma 18, Kappa Delta 31
Pat Berker’s Old Friends 64, Fully Torqued 20
Our Balls Always Drop 45, The Asian Guy 26
My Dixie Wrecked 5, Sour Diesel 2
Reall Stairs -  6, White Boys Can’t Jump 19

**Wheelchair Basketball**
Thursday 2/23
I HATE HILLS 8, wheelchair stuntin 30
Real Stairs ....... 6, White Boys Can’t Jump 19

Reina Cookies 22, King CoBRAHS 16
Cat Daddy 21, HotWheelz 17
Shredding Queso Balls 10, Professor X Dance team 16
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