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FOR
CATFISH**
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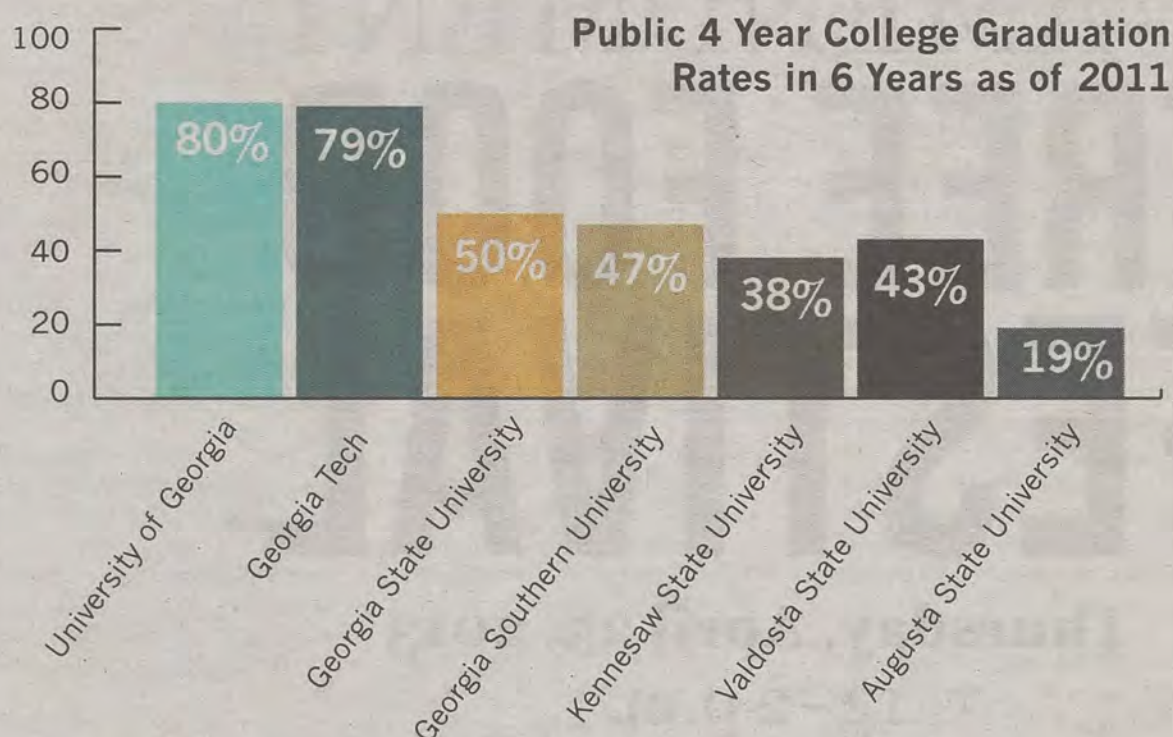
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Tuesday, April 23, 2013
Georgia Southern University
www.thegeorgeanne.com
Volume 83 • Issue 71

THE GEORGE-ANNE



GSU graduation rates rise

BY LILLY MCCANN

The George-Anne contributor

Georgia Southern University is graduating more students than in previous years with the graduation rate growing three percent since 2011.

The state of Georgia graduates fewer college students in four years than the national average of 58 percent of first-time, full-time students. Only 56.7 percent of Georgia college students graduate in six years, and 11 percent of full-time college students graduate in four years, according to

reports from Complete College America and the National Center of Education Statistics.

The number of students at GSU who graduate within six years has increased from 37 percent in 1997 to 50.4 percent in 2013, Dr. R. Jayne Perkins Brown, senior associate vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and director of Strategic Research and Analysis, said.

"There is always room to increase our rates, and we're still making those strides," Brown said.

In 2011 GSU was ranked fifth in the state for graduating

See GRADUATION, Page 7

Delivery man lured, robbed

BY LAUREN GORLA

The George-Anne staff

At 1:23 a.m. yesterday morning, Georgia Southern University students received a Campus Alert from the Dean of Students about an armed robbery of a delivery person at The Cove apartments.

The Cove apartment complex is located on Chandler Road, adjacent to Greek row.

The victim was a Jimmy John's food delivery person, and there were no known weapons on the suspects' persons, according to a news release by the Statesboro Police Department.

The victim was delivering food to an apartment at The Cove when the victim was forced into the residence by an unknown male in a hoodie with a concealed face, according to the news release.

The apartment was dark and the victim reported that there was at least one other male in the residence. The suspects then took an amount of money from the victim, shut him in a room and left the apartment.

The two reported suspects were described as two black males wearing all black clothing, according to the Campus Alert.

One suspect was reported as wearing a grey bandana and the other was reported as wearing a black bandana, according to the message.

The Dean of Students reminded students to never walk alone and walk in well-lit areas when walking in the dark.

Jimmy John's employees declined to comment, and The Cove management could not be reached for comment by press time.



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Thursday, April 25, 2013

12 - 2 p.m.

WILLIAMS CENTER PLAZA



Police Beat

Wednesday, April 17

2:03 p.m.: Georgia Southern University Police Criminal Investigations and the Statesboro Police Department Crime Suppression Unit concluded an investigation that resulted in the arrest of Simon Peter Chromec, 20, and charged him with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, possession of a schedule 1 drug (LSD) with intent to distribute, possession of schedule 1 drug (THC) and possession of drug related objects.

9:25 a.m.: An incident report was taken for criminal trespass at Centennial Place. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

10:00 a.m.: An incident report was taken for harassment at Eagle Village. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

2:41 p.m.: Officers assisted the Statesboro Police with a welfare check at The Grove apartments.

2:44 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a stolen bike at the RAC. This case was turned over to criminal investigations.

3:15 p.m.: An incident report was taken for damage to property at Transportation Services.

3:24 p.m.: An investigation was initiated by criminal investigations in reference to a theft at the mail center. This case is assigned to criminal investigations.

3:32 p.m.: An incident report was taken for financial transaction card fraud at Talon's Grill. This case was turned over to criminal investigations.

5:45 p.m.: Officers responded to the Russell Union parking lot in reference to a motor vehicle accident. A motor vehicle accident report was taken.

7:52 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a civil matter at University Villas.

city Villas.

12:21 a.m.: Officers responded to Kennedy Hall and met with and banned a subject who had previously been removed from the residence halls for a drug violation. The subject was judicially referred.

Thursday, April 18

7:36 a.m.: Officers responded to several panic alarms at Kennedy Hall. Maintenance was notified and responded. No problems were found.

12:08 p.m.: Officers responded to a sick person at Math/Physics. EMS responded but did not transport.

5:56 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a theft of a wallet at the RAC. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

10:45 p.m.: Officers responded to Einstein's Bagel Shop in reference to an intoxicated person. EMS was notified, responded and transported the intoxicated subject. The intoxicated subject was judicially referred.

Friday, April 19

11:57 a.m.: An incident report was taken for lost/misplaced property that possibly occurred between the Russell Union and the University Store.

22:10 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a theft at the RAC. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

Saturday, April 20

3:28 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a theft of a bike at Eagle Village. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

6:04 p.m.: An incident report was taken for lost/misplaced property at the RAC.

6:18 p.m.: A welfare check was conducted at Southern Courtyard. The occupant was contacted.

7:00 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a theft at the RAC. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

Sunday, April 21

12:22 a.m.: Officers responded to an alarm – glass break at the Phi Mu House. The occupant entered the wrong alarm code. The house was checked with no problems found.

2:14 a.m.: Officers responded to a criminal trespass at Eagle Village. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

11:08 a.m.: Officers responded to an injured person at Eagle Village. EMS responded and transported the injured person.

4:49 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a criminal trespass at Eagle Village. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

12:37 a.m.: Officers assisted Statesboro Police with an armed robbery that occurred at The Cove at Southern. An Eagle Gram was issued through the Dean of Student's Office.

2:30 a.m.: An incident report was taken for a criminal trespass at Centennial Place. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.

6:16 a.m.: Officers responded to an alarm at the Chester Building (Housing Storage – South Main Street). The key holder was contacted and responded. The building was checked with no problems found.

7:09 p.m.: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident – vehicle vs. bike at the Alpha Delta Pi House on Olympic Boulevard. A motor vehicle accident report was taken.

Statement of Operations

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

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

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

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

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

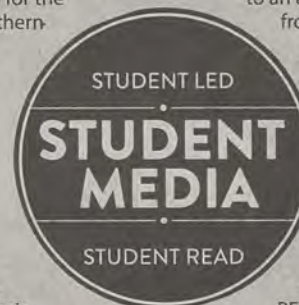
the advertising manager or student media director. The advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

STUDENTS BEWARE: The

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

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

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



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

Our View

Summer jobs have benefits

Eagle Dining will host its summer job fair today to inform students of the jobs that they offer. In light of the recent robberies, this seems like the best time to inform students on the benefits of holding a job in Eagle Dining.

Holding a steady job ensures a continuous income source and can help keep students out of trouble. Students also receive special benefits when working for Georgia Southern University's preferred caterer.

One that should be most attractive to students is that you can eat food that you sell, meaning that while you are working, you are able to eat a meal from the location you are working. It's a free meal, another one that you don't have to pay for later on. You could easily save that money and put it into your savings account.

Another benefit is a discount on meal plans. This doesn't affect freshmen, but for the sophomore, junior and senior students, it can make a world of difference. The money saved can then be put toward textbooks or rent. For more information on the discount, inquire at the Eagle Dining job fair.

If getting a job during the long semesters has proven to be a problem, then this job fair could also help you. Having job during the summer is an easy way to lead into having a job during the fall.

We are all short on cash from time to time; we're college students. Getting and keeping job won't only get you money, but also give you a certain amount of experience that will come in handy down the road.

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

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



D. Haughton

Vigilantes should be supported

The Guerrero region of southern Mexico is one of the most violent in the country. The Mexican law enforcement authority has all but abandoned the area. They no longer maintain a headquarters or outpost there, and any operations are launched from outside Guerrero. This has led to a state of near-anarchy in which the authorities rarely bother responding to crimes because of the time it takes to reach any of the towns in the region from the nearest station. This region alone produces more than half of Mexico's heroine.

The Mexican government, for obvious reasons, doesn't want any other countries moving in to fill the administrative void, so the area remains largely ungoverned. The people of Guerrero, in the small trading town of Ayutla in particular, have responded to the power vacuum by creating their own law enforcement agency. The group, which calls itself the "Policia Comunitaria," is a vigilante force

THE COOP SCOOP



TAYLOR COOPER
OPINIONS EDITOR

of local residents that has grown exponentially this year. Until this year the groups was small enough to be ignored, but it has grown to include thousands of people.

The vigilantes do everything that a normal police force would do. They respond to emergency calls, enforce Mexico's laws and detain criminals. The force retains outposts wherever they can. The branch in Ayutla uses the back rooms of a furniture store, which are willingly donated by the owner. When criminals are caught, they are held captive until the proper authorities can retrieve them. They also gather evidence to present to the police to assist in their

investigations. The organization has made the news recently after clashes with a large drug cartel.

The Mexican and the United States governments have discouraged the vigilantes from continuing in this direction, but I believe that they should be supported. Not supported in the way that we supported Batista, but only to encourage the Mexican government to sort itself out. They are uncomfortable with a non-governmental agency asserting its authority, but they can't or won't do anything about it.

Something similar happened in the colonial U.S., albeit with less drugs and submachine guns. A far-flung administration was trying to govern a people without understanding them or their circumstances. Governments exist to lead people, and the people should step up when governments won't.

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

Our enemies have changed

Last week two men attacked the Boston Marathon. Whether or not they were radical Islamists or just two men with a desire to kill, they have left their mark against America. After seeing the events lay out as they did I began thinking about all the people who have attacked our nation in recent years. What bothers me is how little is being done about it, not to mention the huge double standard for those that have attacked us. After the Sept. 11 terrorist attack President Bush called this the war on terror, but it's shaping up to become more than that. The difference is the enemy we now face.

In 1915, the Germans sank the Lusitania. In 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. These were direct acts of war by a nation with hopes of killing Americans. It was very clear whom it was we were trying to defeat. It is general knowledge that during World War II we were fighting to defeat Japan, Italy and Germany. The Axis powers. Even in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, we were fighting to end Communism. Even though not

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION



BLAIR MUTIMER

everyone agreed with war, the enemy was a known enemy. Starting in the mid 1990s and even more so since the terrorist attack that destroyed the World Trade Center, our enemy has become much more opaque.

We now live in a day and age where technology has become so easily acquired and manipulated that even if meant for the best it can still be used to harm. We're seeing more senseless acts of violence against Americans, but were not being attacked by Afghanistan, Japan and Russia. Our enemy can no longer be pointed out on a map like they could years ago. These are individuals carrying out their own plots to kill innocent Americans. This is a scary thought that average Joe can become a terrorist with almost

nobody knowing about it. They can be students, factory workers, foreign nationals or even soldiers in our own military.

With these attacks becoming more prevalent perhaps our leaders should shift their focus on protecting its citizens. When a young man shoots kids in a school, our government blames the weapons he used, not the individual; two men attack the Boston marathon and they blame the individuals, not the weapon. I don't understand the double standard, but what happened has already happened and now we must work to stop both the shooter and the bomber. Both are terrorists and both deserve to be treated as such. No matter what the motive is, one of our government's top priorities needs to be protecting its citizens from enemies both foreign and domestic.

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

Don't let Boston change us

The Boston Bombing has been on the forefront of every American's mind for the past week. We all experienced a slew of emotions throughout the ordeal from sadness, to anger, to steadfastness, and to eventual triumph. But one thing stayed constant throughout the whole affair, and that was our vigilance.

After the first bomb went off in Boston, we witnessed civic virtue at its core. We saw strangers helping the injured. Onlookers with no experience assist, side-by-side, with police and military personnel to make sure every injured person was assisted, without any regards for their own safety. We saw their vigilance from the start and we continued to witness that purely American vigilance resonate until the suspects were captured.

Now that the Boston tragedy is over, we are all left to ask ourselves how this happened. There are reports that Dzhokhar Tsarnaev had ties to Muslim extremist groups in Chechnya and that

A LIBERAL DOSE



CHRIS WARE

the FBI even went so far to keep an eye on his activities after the Russian government provided intelligence suggesting the aforementioned. With that being said, this is no time to extend hate to those in our country who practice Islam or come from the same region or background as the suspects. We must realize we cannot be biased toward any race, religion or nationality because threats to our freedoms don't come from a pre-packaged physique waiting to be captured by authorities. There are people all around the world who wish to cause harm to America and we will only be doing ourselves a disservice by honing in on one group of people while turning a blind eye to

other credible threats.

We must also remember our need for freedom has no breaking point and we must always preserve our freedoms regardless of the threats we face. This is not a time to trade in some of our freedoms for security. We must rather strengthen and boast our freedoms to our enemies and the rest of the world to let them know we value our freedom, we will do anything for our freedom and we won't let anyone or anything interfere with the freedoms we enjoy that are granted by God and guaranteed by the Constitution. We must be vigilant in protecting our country from threats domestic and foreign, but we must be equally vigilant, if not more vigilant, in making sure we don't swap out our freedom for the feel of security.

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

News media should have no prejudice

I have had a debate with myself on whether I should write this column today. I felt like the timing wasn't right because people are still emotional

and angry after the Boston bombings. However, I've decided to write this article because pointing out and criticizing discriminatory practices is what I do. I believe it is necessary to not let discrimination against race, gender, sexuality or religion persist despite the anger people may have against a person or a group of people and their actions. What I'm referring to is the Daily Mail's terrible article about the widow of the Boston bombing suspect Tamerlan Tsarnaev.

Her name is Katherine, and the article is titled "From angelic doctor's daughter to the Muslim convert widow of Boston bomber..." Even in the title there's a sense of the foul direction the article will go in—one where writer Laura Collins praises and cherishes her "All-American" Christian beginnings and demonizes her conversion to Islam. Of course, I understand the suspicion surrounding her because of her husband's actions, but what I don't understand or support is the malicious tone surrounding Islam. The article constantly references how this sweet and nice American girl was "brainwashed" by Tsarnaev and forced to convert. There are photos of a young Katherine juxtaposed with current photos of her wearing her hijab. Most of the quotes are from old unnamed "friends" who recall, "there was nothing at all that made Katherine different." As in, she was a nice young woman, not someone who wears a hijab, adheres to a different religion, or has a different skin color.

Are they saying if she had been a little different it wouldn't be as absurd to see her involved in these events? The article goes to such efforts to paint the picture of a perfectly "normal" girl with a "normal" family and values that in the process asserts that everything about her now is abnormal including her religion. Articles like these are being written daily, but journalists must be careful to not let personal biases infiltrate their writing. One must remain objective and report in a fair and sensitive manner following such awful events.

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

FROM THE MARGINS



ADRIANA PULLEY

Don't overlook Earth Day

First the Boston Bombing, then the fertilizer explosion in Texas and then a deadly earthquake in China. In the midst of such a large amount of tragic news, Earth Day occurring this Monday could be easily overlooked. Just as these recent events have altered the course of history in their own ways, Earth Day highlights how humanity's treatment of the environment shapes our world now and history yet to be written.

The issue deserves more attention, on Earth Day and the other 364 days. It is hard to argue there isn't a problem. 97 percent of climate scientists agree that human activities are the primary cause of global warming. Oil spills will harm places like the Gulf Coast for decades to come. There is a swirling mass of trash the size of Texas in the Pacific Ocean. Haven't caught your attention yet? Scientists are now saying global warming could have a negative impact on beer production. What can we do about it? Not everyone was meant to live off the grid and compost everything. However, everyone can make modifications in their habits on a level that suits them. We all know the easy changes we can make, like using reusable grocery bags, buying local food, turning off electronics not in use, etc. Think of the collective impact if everyone adopted just *one* environmentally conscious habit.

Personal actions do make a difference.

THE GREEN VIEW



BRITTNAY WALKER

But for lasting improvements, a complete transformation must occur at the organizational and societal levels. Our government is caught up in a political game, putting a spin on environmental rhetoric in either direction to pander for votes. In addition, the government is no longer for the people, by the people. They're for the corporation, by the corporation. Fossil fuel companies receive a \$59 return on every \$1 they spend on lobbying. No wonder we don't have viable options to fossil fuels.

Despite the state we're in now, there is reason for optimism. Our up and coming generation will replace those in power now. Earth Day reminds us that we must have the sense to do a better job on a personal and societal level than generations before us.

Walker is a senior sociology major with a concentration in sustainability from Brunswick. She is an officer in the Green Ambassadors.

Witherspoon sets an example for drunks

Oscar-winning actress Reese Witherspoon was arrested early Friday in Atlanta on a municipal charge of disorderly conduct after she refused to stay in the car while her husband, Hollywood agent Jim Toth, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Witherspoon released a statement on Sunday saying, "I do want to say I clearly had one drink too many and I am deeply embarrassed about the things I said."

I think we can all learn from Witherspoon's and Toth's mistakes of the past weekend.

First of all, do not drink and drive, obviously. We should all know this after the tragedy that just recently occurred with Nick Ward, that drinking and driving could have disastrous consequences.

Next, we can all thank Witherspoon for teaching us the valuable lesson of when to shut up. The "Sweet Home Alabama" starlet showed that sometimes being quiet is the best approach. It is likely that, had Witherspoon not said a word, that she would have gotten off scot-free and been offered a ride home because she was not doing anything illegal.

THE STATESBORO STANDARD



JACKIE GUTKNECHT

I am not saying that it's okay to hop in the car with someone who has been drinking, and then just let them take all the blame. It is important to vocalize when you feel that someone has been drinking too much and should not get behind the wheel of a car.

But if it ever comes up that you, who may have had too much to drink, are sitting in the passenger seat of a car when the driver, who is hopefully sober, has been pulled over, keep your mouth shut. Drawing attention to yourself is never the way to go.

You are not doing anything illegal by being a drunken passenger, assuming you are of age to consume alcohol, so why make the police officer think anything different? Keep your mouth shut and you will be fine.

Gutknecht is a junior journalism major from Conyers. She is the Sports Editor.

Sober up about marijuana legalization

This is a college newspaper, so if I start a column with "Let's talk about marijuana," you're probably going to be expecting the usual arguments for why we should just legalize it, man.

But I'm not. I am in favor of legalization, though I can certainly think of more important issues facing our society. It's not something I choose to partake in, either, so don't get it in your head that I'm spending my weekends eating Doritos and watching "Adventure Time" on Netflix.

Actually, I do spend my weekends doing that, but without chemical aid. Moving on.

The biggest obstacle to legalizing marijuana, aside from grumpy old people, is the crowd that

ALEX THE PRETTY GOOD



ALEX LASALLE

is most vocal about it. The common arguments aren't going to work.

Let's get a few things straight. First off, people need to realize that Mary Jane is not going to magically fix our economy if we legalize and tax it. That's simply unrealistic. On top of that,

are you really going to bet on our government actually making a sound financial decision?

Nor is weed some magical cure for cancer. Can it be used as a treatment for certain symptoms? Sure, but stop pretending that it is some sort of magical unicorn dust cure for every ailment imaginable.

Even if these were true, the proponents of legalization are mostly young people, and most of those young people are not people you want representing your political cause. You know the type. Their Facebook cover photo is a collage of pot leaves. They have more Bob Marley posters in their room than they have Bob Marley songs on their iPod.

The best argument in favor of legalization is the one being made by people who don't actually smoke weed, including myself. It's a simple matter of freedom. It's not a miracle cure for all of life's ailments, but it's not automatically harmful. There are very few reasons for universal prohibition.

A libertarian approach to legalization—people can do what they want to themselves—is the one most likely to resonate with established politicians, and is mostly likely to work.

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

To submit a Letter to the Editor, please send a letter with your name, hometown, major and academic year of no more than 350 words to letters@georgiasouthern.edu.

GSU earns 'green college' honor

BY LAUREN GORLA

The George-Anne staff

The Princeton Review and the Center for Green Schools named Georgia Southern University as one of the country's most environmentally responsible "green colleges" for the third year in a row.

"This great honor has put us on the nation's sustainability map and indicates that our academics, facilities and policies lead the country in a commitment to taking care of our limited natural resources and finding solutions to sustainability issues," Lissa Legee, director of the Center for Sustainability, said.

GSU was one of 322 schools chosen by "The Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2013 Edition," for a commitment to sustainability in academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation, according to a news

" "I think the big picture of (being named a green college) means that we are making progress and being better stewards of our environment."

"

-Casey Jones,

director of marketing and communications

release from GSU.

"I think the big picture of (being named a green college) means that we are making progress and being better stewards of our environment," Casey Jones, assistant director of marketing and communications, said.

This honor comes as GSU reaches the end of "No Impact Week," a yearly event that focuses on teaching students how to be more environmentally conscious and responsible.

"No Impact Week" concluded yesterday

in the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center with a discussion of Georgia's future energy needs, according to the news release.

The event featured a panel, which included Congressman John Barrow, along with representatives from utility agencies and environmental groups.

"The panelists represent an array of energy options for Georgia and can help us to understand the promise of each for the energy future of the Southeast," Legee said.

Last week, the Board of Regents of the

University System of Georgia approved a \$10 sustainability fee that will be used to support the Center for Sustainability with speakers, events, outreach and promotion of sustainable solutions, Legee said.

Over 75 percent of the student population voted in favor of this fee, according to the news release.

"(Students) realize that we all have the responsibility to each do his or her part to make a difference. As times have changed, people have become more aware of the need to preserve and protect our environment," Jones said.

"In addition, the fee will help to support sustainability efforts on campus to be determined by students, potentially including such advances as building retrofits and relamping," Legee said.

Retrofitting will consist of fitting older buildings with newer, more energy efficient fixtures like windows and light bulbs.

GRADUATION, from page 1

students within six years, trailing behind University of Georgia that graduated 80 percent, Georgia Institute of Technology that graduated 79 percent and Georgia State University that graduated 50 percent, according to Complete College America.

Career Services offers a program designed to help students graduate on time and be successful at finding employment known as the Four-Year Plan.

"The plan allows us to recommend different services to students at their grade level, but that doesn't mean we aren't here to help even if you're five weeks away from graduating," Dr. Vince Miller, associate vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, said. "We will do everything to help, and our staff will work tirelessly to help."

GSU lacks alumni employment data

BY LILLY MCCANN

The George-Anne contributor

Though Georgia Southern University graduation rates are increasing, there is no conclusive information regarding the employment status of recently graduated GSU alumni.

"The challenge is that data is based on students' self-responses, and if we can improve the response rate, we will have more data," Dr. Vincent Miller, associate vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, said.

"We encourage students to answer our surveys when they pick up their cap and gown," Miller said.

Sixty-one percent of graduates

are seeking employment while 32 percent are seeking graduate studies after graduation as of fall 2011, according to GSU's College Portrait, a database that provides accessibility to information regarding public four-year institutions for comparing purposes.

By 2020 it is estimated that 61 percent of jobs in Georgia will require some form of college education, and as of 2011 only 34 percent of residents have an associate degree or higher, according to a report released in 2011 from Complete College America.

Complete College America is a national non-profit organization that works with states to increase quality career certificates and

college degrees for Americans.

Some college students experience difficulty finding jobs due to lack of experience.

"It's hard to get a job in public relations right now if you don't have experience," Collin Bryant, senior public relations major, said.

"I think I could've been more prepared if there was more hands-on learning in our program. Compared to UGA, it just doesn't match up," Bryant said.

Previous college graduates from GSU have reported positively on their experiences at GSU as well as the support received from the institution, according to College Portrait.

College Portrait reported that

95 percent of seniors believed GSU provided support for student success.

"I've had rigorous classes that have broadened my knowledge, and I think

I'm fully prepared for the real world," Sarah Penick, senior interior design major, said.

"I was able to get my internship through Georgia Southern connections, and I feel like I can always come back and get help if I need it," Penick said.

Other reports from College Portrait concluded that 82 percent of students rated their experiences as good or excellent.

Nash Cooper, senior accounting major, said, "I'm terrified but excited to graduate. If I could do it again, I would."

Suicide prevention walk to be this Saturday

BY LILLY MCCANN

The George-Anne contributor

The Georgia Southern University community was shaken last fall when a freshman student football equipment manager took her own life.

Friends and coworkers of Elizabeth Volker are holding an "Out of the Darkness" 5K walk Saturday to highlight suicide prevention. The walk will begin at 10 a.m. at the Russell Union, go up around Sweetheart Circle and back through the pedestrian. Check-in will be at 9 a.m.

"As the equipment staff, we thought it was important to bring this event to Georgia Southern in lieu of the recent suicides on campus, specifically our friend last semester," Allison Little, football team equipment manager and GSU "Out of the Darkness" walk chair, said.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for college students, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

"People think that they chose it, but it's something they can't control. It could be

depression or a mental illness that went untreated," Little said.

"Everybody deals with depression, mental illness and suicidal thoughts differently. In our personal experience we had no idea Elizabeth was struggling with depression," Little said.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will host the event, organized by Little and supported by Alpha Omicron Pi and the GSU football team, members of which will attend the event.

Closing ceremonies will include a balloon release of white balloons in honor of lost loved ones, and colored necklaces worn at the event will represent loved ones who have died from suicide.

"In Atlanta they released doves representing lost ones, and we're going to try and create it with a balloon release. When I released the dove in Atlanta, it was the only time I cried. It was a powerful moment," Kathryn Bailey, junior public relations major, said.

"Red that resembles the loss of a spouse, orange for a sibling and purple for a friend or relative," Little said.

The number one cause of suicide is depression undiagnosed, untreated or ineffectively treated, according to the Suicide Prevention Services of America.

Only 30 percent of the 80 percent of millions of Americans that suffer from depression seek help and only half of those are effectively treated, according to the SPSA.

Currently 105 participants are registered to for the event, and the goal amount of \$2500 has already been exceeded, Little said.

"This is one of the first campus walks in the South, and it's really cool that Georgia Southern gets to do it," Bailey said.

During the event there will be live music by Spencer Paul. The event will include a raffle fundraiser during which participants can potentially win an assortment of prizes, including a GSU package that contains a football autographed by the GSU football team and an exclusive sideline polo, Little said.

"People think (people die from suicide) because they are crazy or because it's a mental thing, but it's not. It's literally a chemical imbalance that they can't help," Bailey said.

Bailey lost a family member to suicide

and helped with a suicide walk in metro Atlanta, raising \$6500, and is helping Little host GSU's walk.

"Bring mental illness and suicide out of the darkness and make it more approachable so people can talk about it and bring it into the light. It isn't this dark scary thing that people just don't talk about," Little said.

"Mental health awareness is a disease, just like cancer. We just really want to get the word out and get this information to people," Bailey said.

The AFSP strives for a suicide free world through advocacy, research and education. All proceeds raised for and at the Out of Darkness Walk will go directly to AFSP.

Registration is preferred for the walk and can be accessed at www.campuswalk.org, but participants are welcome to walk the day of the event.

"Before the loss of a friend, suicide was not on my radar whatsoever. After we experienced that, I researched and it affects more people than you would think," Little said. "Every fifteen minutes a person dies by suicide, so roughly 34,000 people a year, and that's not including who they leave behind."

Suicide on College Campuses

- The rate of suicide is between .5 and 7.5 suicides per 100,000 people among college students.
- There are more than 1,000 suicides on college campuses per year.
- Suicide is the second-leading cause of death among people aged 25 to 34 and the third-leading cause of death among people aged 15 to 24.
- Groups that are particularly at risk for contemplation and attempt are male, white and under the age of 21.

Suicide Contemplation on College Campuses

- One in 10 college students has made a plan for suicide.
- Suicidal thoughts, making plans for suicide and suicide attempt are higher among adults aged 18 to 25 than among adults over the age of 26.
- Lifetime thoughts of attempting suicide are reported to occur among 5 percent of graduate students and 18 percent of undergraduates.

Information from: <http://www.emorycaresforyou.emory.edu/resources/suicidestatistics.html>

Jose Gil/The George-Anne

GSU alumnus receives Pulitzer Prize

Minshew part of Aurora, Colo. coverage team

BY ALANNA NAVIN

The George-Anne staff

Charles Minshew, Georgia Southern University alumnus, received a Pulitzer Prize for his team's work on covering the Aurora, Colo. theater shooting last July.

Minshew's contribution to the news team was the online content during the unraveling events in Aurora when James Holmes entered a movie theater, shot and killed 12 people and injured 70 people.

The Denver Post team won in the category of "Breaking News Reporting," using journalistic tools such as Twitter and Facebook to upload written reports, photos and videos, to give details of the story and to provide context, according to a news release.



CHARLES MINSHEW

"A lot of people worked their entire lives in journalism and are not part of a Pulitzer team. I am really honored to have been a part of an amazing team that really came together in the midst of tragedy," Minshew said.

Minshew worked alongside Ben Schneider, a web producer at The

Denver Post, in creating a timeline of the events and the investigation that took place after the theater shooting.

"On this timeline we put the stories, the latest updates to twitter and photos to give people context about the story and to provide a breakdown, almost in some cases, minute-by-minute of the development after the theater shooting," Minshew said.

Minshew and Schneider gave updated information on the people who were injured as well as information on the victims.

"We were really conscious of what families wanted. The timeline is still up today, so people can go to it and see that all of the information is there," Minshew said.

"We spent every day making sure that our community was well informed about the theater

shooting. That summer showed me what teamwork was all about. Everyone gave it their all," Minshew said in a news release.

"His dedication to his craft and willingness to take risks and experiment with new storytelling techniques and delivery methods is unequalled and something I very much admire," professor Amy Simmons, Minshew's mentor at Missouri, said in a news release.

When hearing about his recognition, the news brought up many memories.

"For me it was actually a bittersweet feeling. I was honored that our team was recognized for the coverage we did on July twentieth, but it brought back a lot of memories of how terrible a July twentieth was to everyone in Aurora, in Denver and Colorado. It was a really tough day to be a journalist," Minshew said.

Minshew is a former Editor-in-Chief at The George-Anne and started working with Student Media his freshman year.

Minshew is currently enrolled in the Convergence Journalism Master's program at the Missouri School of Journalism and will graduate in May, after graduating from GSU with a bachelor's degree in political science.

The recognition from the award that Minshew received could have an impact on his career down the road.

"I have no idea how it will impact my career. At this time, I really haven't thought about it that much. I guess I will have to wait and see," Minshew said.

Minshew said, "My view of journalism has changed a lot since I left Georgia Southern. A lot of it has been a shift towards digital journalism, and that is really where I think I would like my career to head."

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Photo courtesy of mtvpress.com

Max Joseph (left), filmmaker for "Catfish: The TV Show" talks to Nev Schulman (right) in season one of their show. MTV producers are looking for college students in Ga. for next season.

'Catfish' seeks college students in Ga. for season two

Culture

BY ALEXANDRA MCCRAY

The George-Anne contributor

Dating in college is hard, especially when you have never even met the person face-to-face.

MTV's "Catfish: The TV Show" has started casting for its second season, and producers will be looking exclusively for college students.

Since college-aged students make up the highest viewer percentage for the show, producers and casters want the second season to focus especially on them, Mark Pomerville, casting producer, said.

"We've been casting for a few months now, and it usually takes a few months to cast an upcoming season. We won't turn down a good story if it seems like a good fit. We'll make it work," Pomerville said.

"Catfish: The TV Show" brings together

couples who have met online, but for whatever reason, have never met in person. The show brings the Internet couple together to see whether each of them has been completely honest about whom they are.

"We have a casting team of people, and literally all we do is read these messages. We read every single one of them," Pomerville said.

The term "catfish" is used to describe a person who uses social media to create a fake identity with the intention of deceitfully pursuing a person romantically.

Nev Schulman, the star of the documentary "Catfish," and his friend and filmmaker, Max Joseph, research the potential catfish looking for red flags and help the couple finally meet in person.

"After the pre-interview, we send it to Max's inbox. Nev and Max don't know anything about the story beforehand. They find things we didn't even know. They do all

the investigative work," Pomerville said.

All that is required to apply for the show is an email to mtvcatfishcasting.com with pictures and a few paragraphs explaining the situation. After the applicant is accepted, they go through a pre-interview process to see if they will be a good fit for the show.

"We would love to have students from GSU apply. We get a lot of applications from the state of Georgia. We're really hoping to have someone from Georgia on season two," Pomerville said.

The ultimate goal of "Catfish" is to help couples meet so they can have real relationships.

"When people who are in an online relationship say things like 'we've never video chatted, they never want to talk on video chat, we talk all the time, I've only seen a few pictures of them or I've literally bought a plane ticket and they stood me up.' That's a red flag for us," Pomerville said.

"The world is getting much smaller. If there are red flags, we don't act like they're not waving," Pomerville said.

Junior health education and promotion major Katie Casey met a past boyfriend online at plentyoffish.com.

"We were both really open to meeting up. We texted and talked on the phone for a week before and got along really good and decided to meet up," Casey said. "It helps to see who else is out there. Most of the time it works out."

But not everyone's decision to finally meet goes as smoothly.

Pomerville said, "Sometimes catfishes contact us and want help revealing themselves. People are at a point where they wanted to come forward, but they care about the person they were catfishing. They're not a bunch of weirdoes. They're just misunderstood. They don't want to hurt the person they love. They don't want to lose them either."

'Oblivion' is 'Risky Business' for Cruise's career

Film Review



BY PEYTON CALLANAN

The George-Anne staff

The direction and tone of "Oblivion" has as many twists and turns in its plot, making for a strange but mostly exciting movie full ups and downs.

The Joseph Kosinski film is certainly ambitious but seems to switch back and forth from campy action-adventure, like "Die Hard," to serious sci-fi thriller, like "Prometheus." The uneven direction prevents it from much more than an average popcorn flick.

The movie ends up being a bit mixed, but it is far from painful to watch.

In "Oblivion," a film about the last man on earth who realizes things are not what they seem on the desolate planet, Tom Cruise proves he is still able to carry a movie with ease as both action hero and charming

leading man at 50 years old.

"Oblivion" is full of twists and turns, some that are well done and others that create obvious plot holes, and it successfully keeps the viewer guessing but at the risk of leaving more questions than answers.

Cruise may want to pick and choose his roles more carefully before he becomes a Bruce Willis-esque parody of himself, and this fun but uneven sci-fi thriller will not make anyone take him seriously.

Cruise has been a bona fide movie star since he slid across that floor in his tighty whities in 1983's "Risky Business," and he is usually a star who still shines bright, even if his movies don't.

The movie's biggest weakness is its poor use of Morgan Freeman, who is the leader of a group of humans that Cruise's character, Jack, did not know survived the nuclear war on Earth.

This ragtag group of survivors is pretty

much an afterthought, which is disappointing because it is far more interesting than the love triangle of sorts between Jack and his partner Victoria, Andrea Riseborough ("W.E."), and the mysterious woman he finds, Olga Kurylenko ("Quantum of Solace").

Kurylenko drags the film down a bit due to her lack of chemistry with Cruise and the confusing nature of her character's storyline.

Some scenes were shot to be sleek and sexy, while others are silly and fun. It will never be a classic nor will it help Cruise regain some of his now-fading star power, but it is a fun way to spend a few hours if the viewer can overlook a plot hole or two.



Jose Gil/ The George-Anne

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'Mosquito' has buzzing highs
that never outweigh the lows

Music Review ★★☆☆☆

BY ALEX LASALLE

The George-Anne staff

The Yeah Yeah Yeahs have always been as much of an art project as a band, pressing the boundaries of style and sound more than melodies or lyrics.

Its 2003 debut was an immediate indie-punk attack of noise. The 2006 "Show Your Bones" introduced acoustic guitars and stronger songwriting, followed by 2009's new-wavey "It's Blitz!" All are strong albums, and all sound different from one another.

Four years later, the trend continues with "Mosquito," the band's weakest album yet. The sound palette this time varies, but mostly sounds like too many sounds and flairs were introduced in the studio. There are plenty of solid songs, sure, but the low points feel lower than the high points are high.

The strongest song is the penultimate track "Despair," and it's also one of the mellowest. It moves forward at a rapid pace without ever getting loud, swirling and building. It's the closest the YYY's have come to their early hit "Maps." Singer Karen O softly holds the melody on top of the music,

and it works.

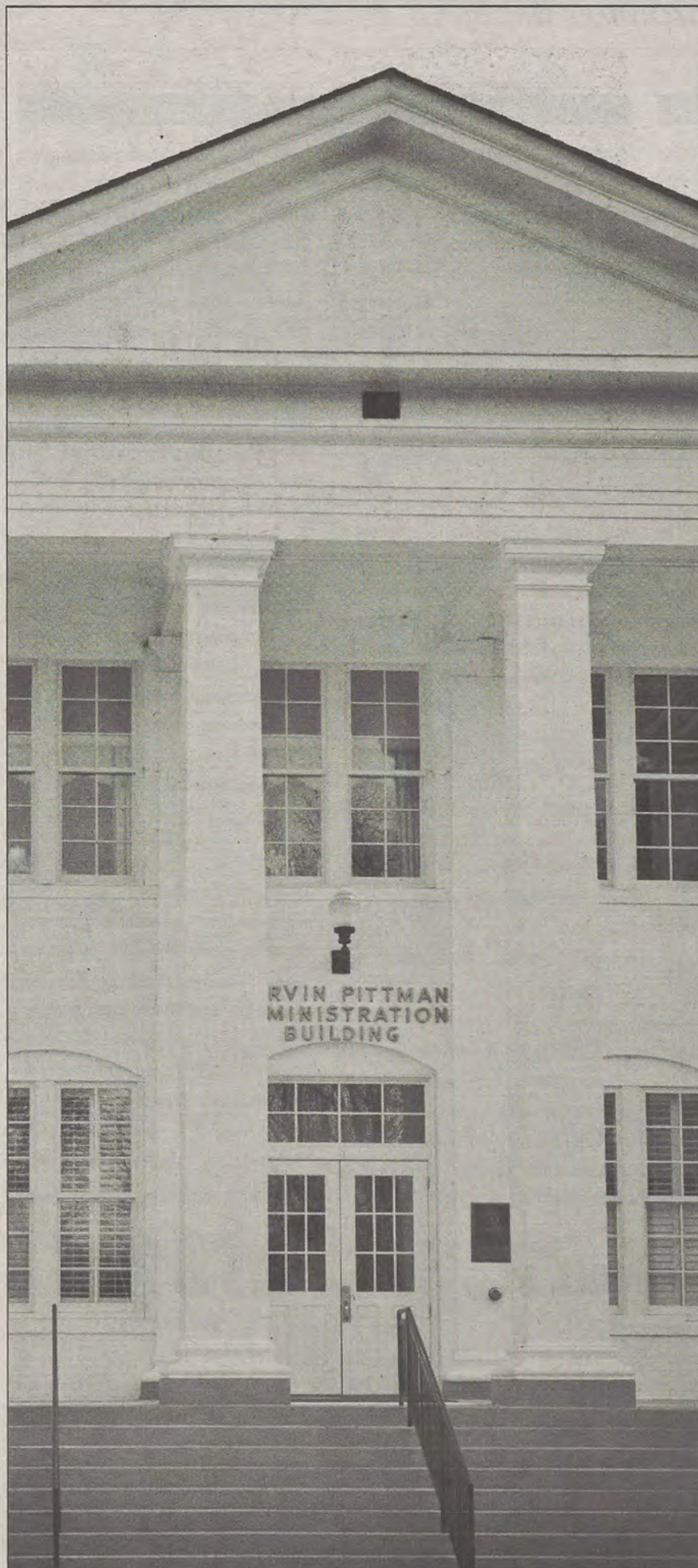
The marching band funk rhythm of "Under the Earth" holds together well. The rolling "Slave" brings forth the guitar work that spends the rest of the album – and most of "It's Blitz!" – drowned beneath other sounds.

The question left up to listeners is if the strong points will make up for a song like "Area 52," which mixes uncertain, unremarkable music with lyrics about aliens that Spinal Tap would have considered over-the-top.

Karen O's voice has two modes: the nice, mellow voice displayed on "Despair" and a wailing that occasionally veers into a kicked-dog yelp. The louder mode worked great on the YYY's earlier, punk-flavored material, but when it's used on the otherwise solid lead track "Sacrilege," it feels almost as out of place as the gospel choir that closes the song.

The title track would be good if the lyrics weren't so literal about the topic "Mosquito." Yes, there is buzzing. No, there shouldn't be, but there is.

The Yeah Yeah Yeah's fourth album in 10 years can be called a good album if you focus on the highlights, but for a band with its pedigree, "Mosquito" is an inconsistent disappointment.



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Help develop the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to improve the academic experience of students at Georgia Southern.

APRIL 23

Students, Russell Union #2080, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

APRIL 25

Staff, Nessmith-Lane Conference Center, #1909, 10 - 11 a.m.

APRIL 30

Faculty, Williams Center Multipurpose Room, 2 - 3 p.m.

All the town hall meetings are open to everyone, and you can attend any meeting at any of the scheduled times.

For more information, contact the QEP Steering Committee at QEP@georgiasouthern.edu.

CLASSIFIEDS

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Miscellaneous

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Housing

Apartment in Campus Crossings that I am looking to sublease for the summer 2013. The rent for MAY will already be paid and I am willing to negotiate rent costs for the months of June and July. It is a 4 bedroom apartment with your own bathroom, full kitchen, and washer and dryer are in the room. Please let me know ASAP if you are interested! Contact Kaylah Ibidapo 678-612-1087.

Summer sublease at the Woodlands. 2bd/2ba. Female roommate, but males or females can sublease. Rent is \$420/month. Utilities average less than \$50/month. May rent has been paid. Pet friendly. Move in as early as May 12. If interested or would like to see the apartment contact Anna-Marie at 770-546-6560 or at01770@georgiasouthern.edu.

Housing

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

Housing

Summer 2013 sublease at The Avenue unfurnished 1bd available in a 4bd/2bt. Located 10 mins from the campus. It includes pool, tanning bed, gym, computer lab, theatre, basketball/volleyball court. \$309/month (price is neg.) everything included. The room will be available by May 15th. Contact Leatitia at is00398@georgiasouthern.edu.

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

Housing

Looking for a male to take over my apartment! 2 bedroom 2 bath in The Woodlands. \$485/month, but I can give you a discount! Call 912-682-8364 for more information.

Female sublease available for Summer 2013 (May, June and July) in Campus Crossings. 3BD/3BT - one room available. Rent is only \$494/month with utilities, cable INCLUDED! Two great roommates! With a spacious bedroom and closet. Personal bathroom as well. Price neg. Contact Lindsay Barnette for more info. Call/text 404-401-3752.

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Summer male sublease available at The Pointe. 4BR/2BT. Two rooms available. \$380/month, utilities included. Fully furnished, washer/dryer, great roommates, close to campus. Property included pool, gym, tanning bed, computer lab, basketball/volleyball court. Contact Brian at (706) 399-1860 or bb01693@georgiasouthern.edu

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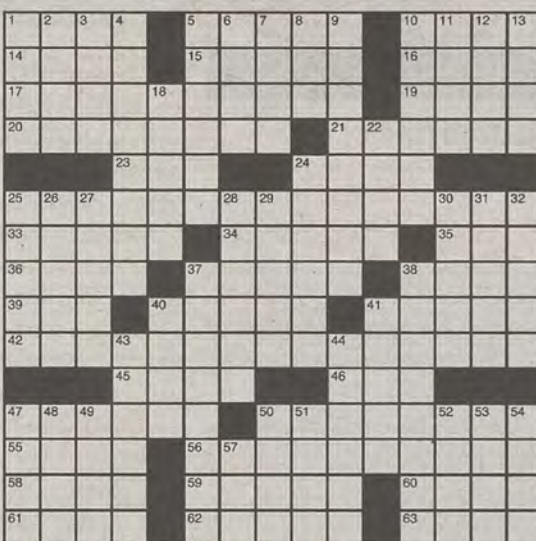
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 15

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Collected
- 5 Tilting tool
- 10 Swift
- 14 Apple application no longer in use
- 15 Eponymous William's birthplace
- 16 Gospel writer
- 17 One who illegally brings home the bacon?
- 19 God in both Eddas
- 20 The orange kind is black
- 21 Tape deck button
- 23 Uno e due
- 24 Fairy tale baddie
- 25 Mistakes in Dickens, say?
- 33 Sound, perhaps
- 34 Insect-eating singers
- 35 Rapper ____ Jon
- 36 Lasting impression
- 37 Just a bit wet
- 38 Stove filler
- 39 "____ American Cousin," play Lincoln was viewing when assassinated
- 40 Go green, in a way
- 41 Linney of "The Big C"
- 42 When to send an erotic love note?
- 45 English class assignment word
- 46 Ottoman title
- 47 Remote insert
- 50 By oneself
- 55 Big-screen format
- 56 "Something's fishy," and a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 58 Pantheon feature
- 59 "Fear Street" series author
- 60 Modernize
- 61 Tools for ancient Egyptian executions
- 62 16th-century English architectural style
- 63 Zombie's sound



By Neville L. Fogarty

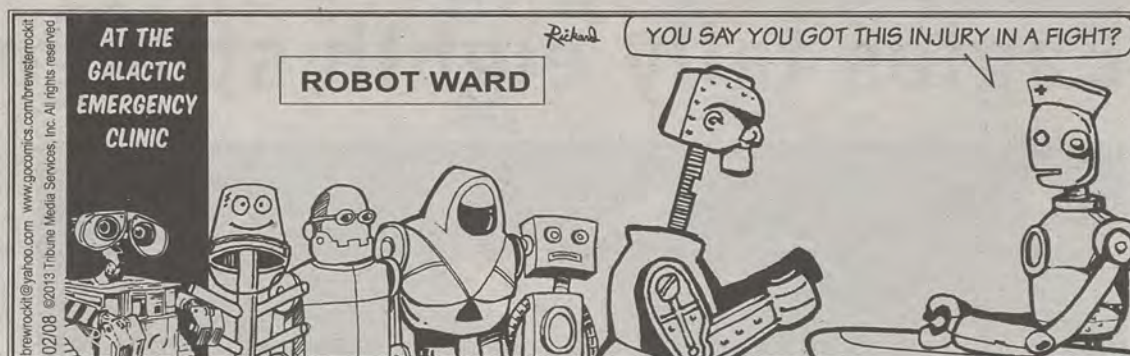
DOWN

- 1 Andy of comics
- 2 Soothing agent
- 3 Bird symbolizing daybreak
- 4 '70s TV teacher
- 5 Idle
- 6 Farm unit
- 7 Sports gp. with divisions
- 8 Garfield, for one
- 9 Budding
- 10 Blossom
- 11 European wheels
- 12 Crispy roast chicken part
- 13 Take care of
- 18 1996 Reform Party candidate
- 22 Messes up
- 24 Short tennis match
- 25 Biker helmet feature
- 26 Provoke
- 27 Nurse Barton
- 28 Willing words
- 29 Stand
- 30 Not just mentally
- 31 Papal topper
- 32 Soothe
- 37 Lauded Olympian

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

H	O	W	E	E	M	I	R	H	O	B	O
I	P	A	S	S	X	E	N	A	A	P	O
S	E	R	T	A	P	A	S	T	R	I	O
C	H	E	V	R	O	L	E	T	C	R	U
O	L	E	O	S	C	L	A	I	M	E	D
A	I	R	L	I	N	E	C	H	R	E	W
U	P	S	E	T	H	E	R	S	C	F	L
R	O	E	S	C	A	T	S	O	R	E	
A	D	S	R	U	H	R	S	A	R	A	N
P	E	N	E	L	O	P	E	C	R	U	Z
D	I	S	R	O	B	E	X	A	C	T	O
P	L	E	A	S	U	R	E	C	R	U	I
L	O	A	N	R	I	T	A	R	O	I	L
U	S	M	C	N	L	E	R	E	N	V	O
S	T	Y	E	S	Y	S	T	S	E	N	D

- 38 One might keep you awake at night
- 40 Fishing gear
- 41 By the book
- 43 Prehistoric predators
- 44 Like Everest, vis-à-vis K2
- 47 Musical with the song "Another Pyramid"
- 48 Hebrew prophet
- 49 Pitch a tent, maybe
- 50 Enclosed in
- 51 TV host with a large car collection
- 52 Circular treat
- 53 Bupkis
- 54 David Cameron's alma mater
- 57 Early Beatle bassist Sutcliffe



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Eagles tally eighth straight loss against WCU



Demario Cullars/The George-Anne

Junior outfielder Robbie Dodds (44) eyes a pitch and makes contact. Dodds leads the team with a .366 batting average.

Baseball (21-19)

BY COLIN RITSICK

The George-Anne staff

The Southern Conference-leading Western Carolina University Catamounts swept the Georgia Southern University baseball team in a three-game series this weekend in Cullowhee, N.C.

This marks the eighth straight game that the Eagles (21-19, 10-11 SoCon) have dropped, including two sweeps in a row. GSU is now 4-12 in its last 16 games, while the Catamounts (26-16, 15-6 SoCon) have won nine of their last 10.

The bats of WCU were GSU's downfall. The Catamounts beat the Eagles just like they have beaten most of their opponents this year: with a lot of hits. WCU leads the SoCon in number of hits and did not slow up against the Eagles tallying 37 base hits in just three games.

Friday's game, a 9-3 WCU victory, was bolstered by a seven-run second inning for the Catamounts. The Eagles, which scored one run in the top of the second, would strike for two more in the third but would not do so

for the rest of the game.

Senior starter Justin Hess pitched 5.2 innings and only allowed two earned runs. The seven-run beat down was punctuated by fielding errors. Hess' two earned runs were the only earned runs of the game, and the Eagles finished with 5 errors.

WCU's starting pitcher Jeremy Null pitched an eight-inning gem complete with 14 strikeouts.

GSU's comeback bid on Saturday was denied when the Eagles were down 8-4 before scoring two runs in both the seventh and the eighth to tie the game 8-8 before a slap single scored the winning run for the Catamounts.

Eagles junior outfielder Robbie Dodds had the most hits in the game, going four for five from the plate with two runs and an RBI. Dodds has been the Eagles' most consistent hitter and leads the team with a .366 batting average.

Another big inning was the cause of the third GSU loss. A five-run fifth inning sent the Catamounts past the Eagles 7-4 to complete the series sweep.

The team will get a much-needed break before hosting Elon University this weekend at home.

GSU takes third at outdoor championships

Track and Field

BY ROBERT HUITT

The George-Anne staff

With a late jump up the leaderboard, the Georgia Southern University track and field team finished third at the Southern Conference Outdoor Championships over the weekend.

The Western Carolina University Catamounts captured the crown as the SoCon's best with Appalachian State University following in second.

The Eagles accumulated 112.5 points, narrowly putting them ahead of Elon University (111 points) and Samford University (110 points).

The relay teams have been more than impressive lately, and it carried into the championships.

The 4x400 meter relay team of senior Amber Vaughn, junior Dana Edwards, freshman Aliya Parker and sophomore Kimberly Thomas finished second and provided GSU with enough points to move into third in the overall standings.

"I knew that they had to come out and be in the top two in the 4x400," head coach Marlo Mincey said in a news release. "I am not sure they knew that, but we are always racing to win."

Sophomore Jasmine Walker, freshman Alyssa Felton, and seniors Ebony Carter and Vaughn teamed up to win the 4x100 meter relay event with a time of 45.46 seconds, which now ranks second in GSU history.

In the long jump, Walker captured first after a final jump of 5.82m (19'1").

The heptathlon consists of seven individual events, and freshman Ashleigh Rasheed finished second after earning 4384 points.

Carter collected two third-place finishes in the 100-meter dash and the 200-meter dash. Carter's time of 11.75 in the 100m tied her personal best in the event, which is also second in school history.

Junior Aishya Wofford's second place finish in the discus throw was the result of a final mark of 44.19m



WCU halts Eagles' win streak

Softball (24-25)

BY RANDALL HAMPTON

The George-Anne staff

Inconsistency plagued the Georgia Southern University softball team as it dropped two out

of three on the road to Western Carolina University this past weekend.

Things were looking up as the team kicked off the weekend with a 4-0 shutout. Junior pitcher Sarah Purvis struck out nine on the way to her ninth win this season.

The offense got a boost from senior left fielder Alexa Lewis in the top of the third inning. Lewis hit a leadoff homer over the fence in right field to give GSU its first lead of the series.

The Eagles had defeated WCU 10 straight times coming into the

series, and a game-one shutout gave the impression that nothing was going to change.

Game two saw WCU come out like a team sick of losing to a conference rival. WCU capitalized on a passed ball to score in the bottom of the first inning.

The Eagles went three up and three down in the second inning, and WCU pounced with five runs in the bottom of the second.

Mistakes also opened the door for that burst as senior third baseman Andrea Tarashuk committed an error. That error followed by some timely singles had GSU staring at a 6-0 deficit before the Eagles knew what hit them.

Junior shortstop Kourtney Thomas tried to energize her team with a solo shot in the fourth inning, but the team would not score again until the top of the seventh. GSU would fall by a score of 7-2.

After losing to WCU for the first time in 11 games, the Eagles still had a chance to take the series on Sunday, and the long ball looked like their ticket to victory.

Junior designated hitter Shelby Morrill hit a two-run shot to left center field in the top of the first inning.

With Purvis in the pitcher's circle, that seemed like it would be enough run support to send GSU home with a victory.

Unfortunately the Eagles were about to get hit with a four-run wave in the bottom of the fourth inning, and the team would not recover.

WCU freshman first baseman Taylor Sigmon rubbed salt in an open wound with her solo home run in the bottom of the sixth.

The 5-2 loss makes the upcoming series with the University of North Carolina at Greensboro that much more important because the teams are currently fighting it out for third place in the Southern Conference.

The Eagles will get their shot at UNCG this weekend at Eagle Field starting on Saturday at 1 p.m.



Christal Riley/The George-Anne

Junior shortstop Kourtney Thomas (14) tracks a pitch and starts a swing. Thomas holds a batting average of .254 for the Eagles.

STAT SHEET

The statistics are compiled weekly by The George-Anne sports staff. The statistics include sports that occurred over the weekend.

8

games the baseball team has lost in a row

39

RBIs Chase Griffin has this season (Baseball)

15

HBP's Scooter Williams has, making him the SoCon leader by three (Baseball)

11

wins for the men's tennis team this season

32

strokes the golf team was over par after the second day of the SoCon tournament

4

saves recorded by Justin Hess (Baseball)

112.5

points the track and field team earned to finish third at the SoCon Outdoor Championships

Cougars down Eagles in SoCon tournament

Men's Tennis (11-9)

BY LUCAS BAGGETT

The George-Anne contributor

The Georgia Southern University men's tennis team ended its season Friday after coming up short against the College of Charleston 1-4 in the quarterfinals of the 2013 Southern Conference tournament.

The sixth-seeded Eagles' opening round opponent was the 11th-seed The Citadel, which GSU swept in the regular season 7-0. GSU started the tournament by sweeping The Citadel for a second time on Thursday, 4-0.

Junior Oliver Webb and senior Matthijs Verdam started doubles play with an 8-1 victory in the No. 1 doubles position.

The wins kept coming for the Eagles after the duo of junior Marco Osorio and freshman Rayane Djouad defeated their opponents 8-4, clinching the doubles point for GSU.

The momentum carried over to the singles portion of the match for the Eagles after they won three consecutive matches to advance to the quarterfinals.

Sophomore Albert Codina Sala handled his opponent 6-0, 6-1, and freshman Rafael Racy quickly followed with a 6-2, 6-2 win, which clinched the match for the Eagles.

Head coach Nick Zieziula said in a news release that he was proud of his team's effort and efficiency.

"We played a very good match today. We talked to the guys today about being efficient on the court and I think we did that to a tee," Zieziula said.

After the 4-0 win, the Eagles advanced to the quarterfinals to face the third-seeded CofC on Friday.

The quarterfinals were not kind to GSU as the Cougars ended the Eagles' hopes of a conference championship with a 1-4 win.

Webb started the day off great with a 6-2, 6-2 win in the No. 4 singles position, giving the Eagles an early 1-0 lead.

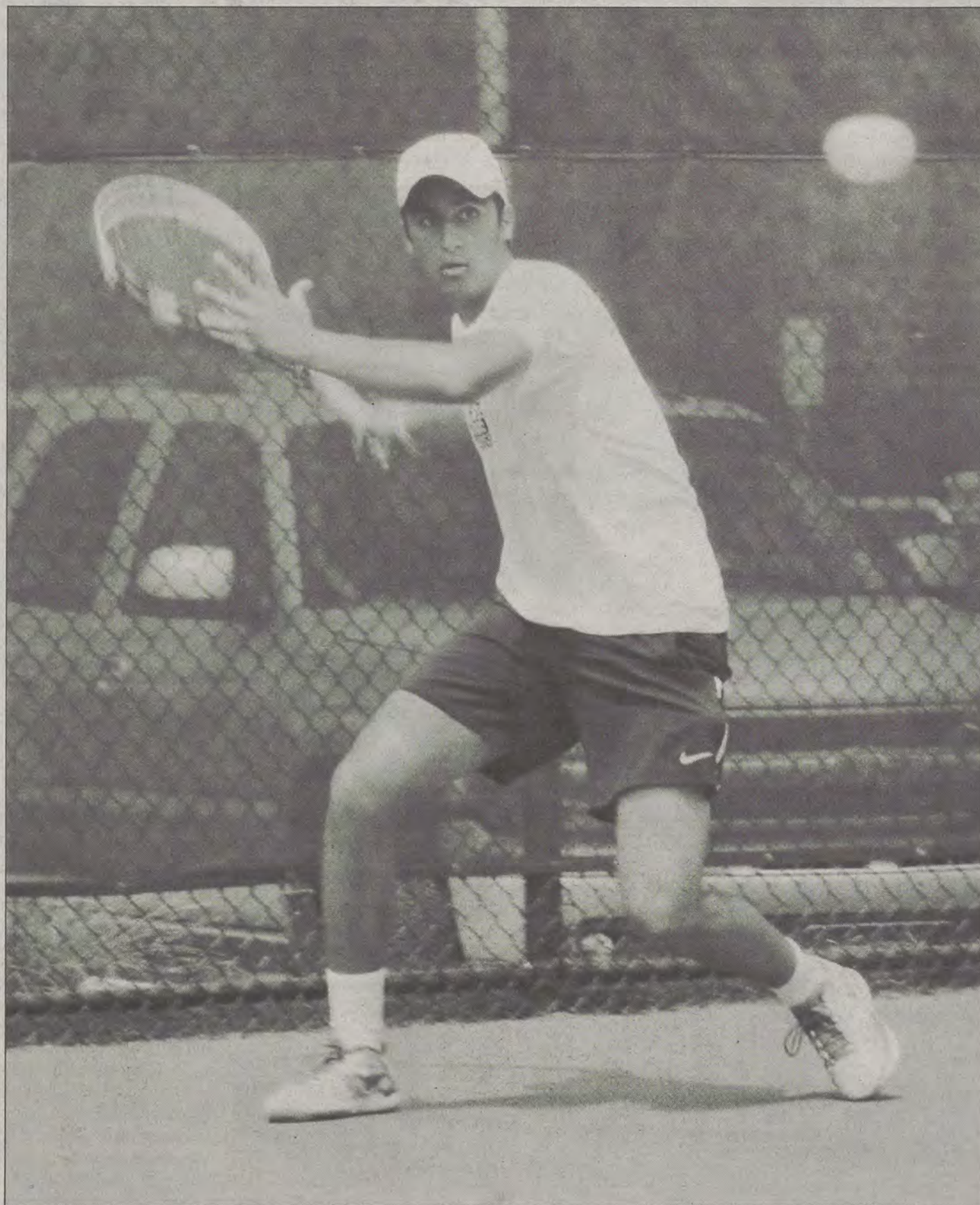
The win by Webb would end up being the only point GSU received on the day. The Cougars would go on to win the next three singles matches to give them a 3-1 lead.

After a 4-6, 1-6 loss by Racy in the No. 6 singles spot, the Cougars claimed a 2-1 lead when Djouad lost his match at the No. 1 singles 5-7, 1-6.

Sala was defeated 2-6, 0-6 in the No. 2 singles spot, moving the Cougars closer to the semifinals.

Reality set in after Verdam was defeated 4-6, 5-7 in an-all-or-nothing match. The loss clinched the win for CofC.

The Eagles ended their season with an 11-9 record, which is much improved from last year's 3-20 season.



Freshman Rayane Djouad returns a Samford volley with a forehand. Djouad recorded a 22-5 personal record during the season.

Jessica Stanfield/The George-Anne staff



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