Sweetheart to shine with holiday spirit

BY CHARLES RUDISON
The George-Anne contributor

Finals, the cold air and the sound of holiday music on the radio do not only signify the coming of winter in Statesboro, but also the coming of the annual Lighting of Sweetheart Circle.

The Lighting of Sweetheart Circle will be held today from 4 to 6 p.m. at Sweetheart Circle. The lighting is open to the public and the Homecoming King and Queen, Zac Watson and Annalee Ashley, will host the event. The Lighting of Statesboro will have a snow machine to help complete the feel of the holidays.

“It rarely snows in South Georgia so it will be a great opportunity to come out and experience it firsthand,” Chatise Smith, spirit and traditions chair for the University Programming Board, said. “The snow machine will send a blanket of snow throughout Sweetheart Circle.”

Those who have been waiting to send off their Christmas list this year are in luck because the big guy in the red suit will be making a special appearance.

“Our special guest will be Santa Claus himself. Santa will be available for pictures during the lighting,” Memory Littles, activity coordinator for Student Organizations, said.

“The lighting is a good time to celebrate the holidays with your second family here in Statesboro, it’s a beautiful time to come together and relieve a little stress before finals. I look forward to seeing everyone there,” Littles said.

President Keel will kick-start the event with the official flipping of the switch. The lighting is one of many long-standing traditions at GSU.

Letters for soldiers will be collected to give those overseas a little piece of home away from home along with free food and drinks being available at the event.

Smith said, “It’s always a tough time for deployed soldiers during the holidays. All they want to do is see their families. The GSU community would like to show our appreciation for our troops.”
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AT STATESBORO
A PREMIER STUDENT HOUSING COMMUNITY

NOW LEASING FOR FALL 2014
Friday, November 29
4:50 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a criminal trespass at University Villas.
11:04 p.m.: Officers conducted a traffic stop on Fair Road at Martha's Lane. The driver of the vehicle was issued two traffic warnings and the vehicle was towed for suspended registration.

Saturday, November 30
6:24 a.m.: Officers responded to the Rosenwald Building, Financial Aid, in reference to a panic alarm. The building was checked with no problems found.
8:18 a.m.: A welfare check was conducted on a subject at Freedom’s Landing. The subject of the welfare check was located and no problems found.
10:50 a.m.: Officers made contact with a subject on the outside of Eagle Village. The subject was identified and released.

Sunday, December 1
1:57 a.m.: Officers conducted a traffic stop at the Davita Dialysis Center. The driver of the vehicle, Gage Lee Weaver, 19, was arrested and charged with Headlights Required and DU1st – Refusal.
2:00 a.m.: Officers assisted the Statesboro Police Department with a drug case in the parking lot of Campus Crossings apartment complex.
12:56 p.m. Officer responded to a burglar alarm at the Zeta Tau Alpha House. An occupant accidentally activated the burglar alarm.
5:37 p.m. Officers responded to a verbal altercation at Freedom’s Landing Building. Officers mediated the problem and the parties were separated.

Monday, December 2
1:46 p.m.: An incident report was taken for lost/mislaid property in Lot 11.
4:04 p.m.: An incident report was taken for theft of mislaid property at the RAC. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.
4:10 p.m.: A motor vehicle accident report was taken for a motor vehicle accident in J-Lot.
7:11 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a simple battery that occurred in Paulson Parking.
8:28 p.m.: Officers responded to Dining Commons in reference to an injured person. EMS responded but did not transport.
8:55 p.m.: An incident report was taken for theft of unattended property at Dining Commons. This case was assigned to criminal investigations.
1:48 a.m.: Two subjects kicked in the doors of the Housing Paint Shop and Refrigerator Shop. Both were apprehended and arrested by officers:
Joshua Russell Manley, 19, was charged with Criminal Trespass and Possession of Alcohol – Under 21 Years of Age.
Connor Bennett Burns, 20, was charged with Criminal Trespass, Possession of Alcohol – Under 21 Years of Age & Fake ID.

Tuesday, December 3
9:26 a.m.: A motor vehicle accident report was taken for a motor vehicle accident in the RAC parking lot.
11:05 a.m.: An incident report was taken for a theft in Paulson Parking. This case was assigned to Criminal Investigations.
12:17 a.m.: Officers conducted a traffic stop on Forest Drive at Akins Blvd. One of the passengers, John Kekeni Hailu, 21, was arrested and charged with Possession of Marijuana – misdemeanor. The driver of the vehicle was issued a citation for Failure to Dim Headlights.
1:58 a.m.: Officers responded to Freedom’s Landing in reference to a dispute between roommates. One roommate, Cullen McHugh Faulkner, 18, was arrested and charged with Possession of Alcohol – Under 21 Years of Age. One other occupant was judicially referred.
Our View

Statesboro in the midst of change

History was made in Statesboro on Tuesday when Jan Moore became the first woman to be elected mayor of Statesboro. This historic victory is a positive reflection of social progress within Statesboro’s community and a sign that the city is going to continue to grow along with Georgia Southern University’s ever growing community.

Moore, who will hold office for the next four years, won the election by just 52 percent over her opponent Jonathan McCollar in the runoff election of this very close mayoral race. If McCollar had won, the election would have been equally as historic with McCollar being the first African-American man elected mayor in Statesboro. Having these two candidates run such a close race is proof that voters are becoming more open minded with the direction that Statesboro and the community is headed.

While it is inspiring to see a woman hold this office in the first time in Statesboro’s history, what remains the most important within an election is what each candidate is going to bring to the office.

Moore’s platform was focused on the growth of downtown Statesboro and revitalizing South Main Street, which could help local businesses prosper.

As GSU continues to grow, students should take to the polls to make sure their voices are being heard within the local community. Though this election was a big step forward for Statesboro, it is important that both GSU and Statesboro take strides towards moving forward together.

A farewell to The Farm Life

A little over three years ago I began to write for The George-Anne as part of the first-ever candidate class in the history of Student Media here. Little did I know that despite starting out in the sports section, I would spend the majority of my time with the paper working as the Opinions Editor. Since writing the Farm Life last fall, I have written dozens of opinions pieces from presidential elections to why you should go to football games, to the beer at Van Gogh’s.

But all good things must come to an end, and this is the final Farm Life column.

Before I was a columnist, I was a sports writer and still am at heart. Some of my favorite memories come from my time as the first-ever Football Editor at Georgia Southern University. Traveling with my coworkers to Alabama and App. State are some of my favorite memories, and interviewing players and coaches after amazing wins and crushing losses alike was one of my favorite experiences in college. I felt truly privileged to be able to share those moments with the Eagle Nation.

During my time writing opinions, I’ve tried my best to be neutral towards politics. One of my favorite memories dealing with the paper was a girl stopping me at a party last October and declaring me to be a supporter of the man I did not vote for. I’d like to think that my columns made readers look at things from a different perspective, because I hope they did.

But I’ve also had the privilege of listening to the readers, as I dealt with letters to the editor in one capacity or another from last fall to present-day. The readers of this paper articulated great letters that from time to time made me reconsider my own views on a subject more often than I expected going into the job. That was something I did not expect going into the job, and was an extremely pleasant development.

I’ve also seen the impact that opinions pieces have on the student body. I was working with the paper when the GTSNP virus column went viral (pun fully intended), and a guest columnist once lost his position within ROTC due to a column.

Without you, Eagle Nation, this job would not have been anywhere near as rewarding or as fun. From getting made fun of by football players after I picked them to lose to Wofford in 2011, to having random Einstein’s employees sing me happy birthday because they read my column on my birthday last year, this has been nothing but fantastic, absolutely fantastic. And you know what? So was I!

Our View

James Farmer

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.
**Opinions**

**Time to say goodbye to The George-Anne**

For as long as I can remember I have always wanted to be a sports journalist. I can remember taking the sports section from my elderly neighbor’s newspaper in the fifth grade just to see how many points Allen Iverson and Steve Francis had scored the night before. In the fall of 2012 a man by the name of John Harvey gave me the opportunity to show just how passionate I was about being a journalist. I covered every sports event that I could, and that work ethic helped me earn Candidate of the Semester when I tried out for The George-Anne.

I covered the first Southern Conference title in the history of the women’s soccer program and saw Carlee Storey and Zoe Van Gordon take the team on a run that nobody saw coming.

I witnessed Chris Vozab’s first season as the head coach of the women’s basketball team and got a chance to see those ladies become closer as a team even though they struggled to win games.

I saw Sarah Purvis throw the first no hitter in school history for the softball team en route to the team’s second consecutive SoCon title. I wondered why head coach Annie Smith never seemed satisfied with her team’s effort, but when they raised the trophy at the end of the season it all became clear.

I saw head football coach Jeff Monken at his lowest after the loss to Wofford College, and I saw him try to hold back a smile as he explained to the media how the Eagles pulled off arguably the biggest upset in school history.

None of this would have happened to me if not for Georgia Southern University and a little newspaper known as The George-Anne. If I am fortunate enough to become a professional sports journalist I will never forget where I got my first shot. Hopefully the height of my career as a journalist won’t be the University of Florida game, but if it is, I went out with a bang.

The memories I have made in college will last a part of holiday tradition since 2001 when “The Fellowship of the Ring” came out. At this point, we’re following “The Lord of the Rings” series for the long haul, and a little part of me believes that it just can’t be the holidays without it. Martin Freeman shined in his first role as Bilbo Baggins, and with Ian McKellen leading the way as Gandalf, it’s time to pull out your elf ears and enjoy some Middle Earth mayhem.

**Holiday movies to impress**

Christmas Break will be here before we know it, and while it might seem alluring right now to do nothing but sit at home for a month, let’s be honest: you’ll want to get out of the house and away from your parents after about a week. Thankfully, the holidays also mean holiday movies, and there’s quite a few coming out this year that might spark your interest.

“**The Wolf of Wall Street**

You can’t go wrong with the duo of Martin Scorsese and Leonardo DiCaprio, and that’s exactly what this movie brings you. Add Matthew McConaughey and Jonah Hill to the mix of that cast and you’ll have a movie that is sure to entertain. Based on the true story of Wall Street stock swindler Jordan Belfort, this black comedy looks to bring just the right amount of sex, drugs and scandal to keep your holiday spirits high.

“**Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues**

While not all of Will Ferrell’s movies can be considered successes, no one can deny the overall success of the first “Anchorman” film. You might not go into a Will Ferrell film with Oscar expectations, but if you go into it with an open mind, you can “love lamp” just as much as the next person. With the entire cast returning for the sequel, and the addition of some new faces, this film can bring the holiday cheer you need.

“**The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug**

Let’s be honest here, the Tolkien films have been a part of holiday tradition since 2001 when “The Fellowship of the Ring” came out. At this point, we’re following “The Lord of the Rings” series for the long haul, and a little part of me believes that it just can’t be the holidays without it. Martin Freeman shined in his first role as Bilbo Baggins, and with Ian McKellen leading the way as Gandalf, it’s time to pull out your elf ears and enjoy some Middle Earth mayhem.

“**Saving Mr. Banks**

Disney’s holiday film of the year seems one of the most intriguing to hit the big screen on Christmas Day. Featuring the relationship between “Mary Poppins” author P.L. Travers and Walt Disney himself, this film promises just the right amount of humor and heart-warming to make it less cliché and more captivating. Academy Award winners Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson lead the cast to bring audiences a film that looks to break the Disney mold and bring a new spark to the beloved story of Mary Poppins.

“**The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug**

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**Advice from a senior**

This will be my last column, as I am graduating next Friday. The time has flown by, but I am finally sprinting towards the finish line. In my four and a half years of being here, I haven’t learned it all, but I would like to impart some advice to my fellow classmates. If I could tell you do one thing while you are here, it would be to spend your time in college wisely. College can be the ultimate test of a person. There are ample opportunities for success; you can join student organizations, volunteer, network, do internships and make good grades. All of these things will heighten your chance of landing a great job after college, which is the whole point of being here, remember? For all the opportunities for success, however, there are just as many opportunities to be unsuccessful. It is the ultimate paradox of college. Academics may be why you are here, but the distractions from it are plentiful.

Only three out every 10 students with the Hope scholarship keep it throughout their entire time in college. Pick up a copy of the Jailbird paper on any given day and you’re guaranteed to see pictures of fellow students in jail for a DUI or MIP. Some will even commit crimes that lead to longer stays in jail. The choices don’t even have to be this extreme to still have a negative impact on your life. There are many people in the world that would love the opportunity to earn a college degree but are not afforded those opportunities. Squandering your privilege is a slap in the face to those less fortunate.

College can be a hard transition, I know. We go from mommy and daddy making us do our homework in high school to having complete freedom and an endless supply of alcohol. To make it in college, and in the real world, you are going to have to develop self-discipline. Studies are showing that the ultimate predictor of a person’s success in life (income and otherwise) is not their IQ, but their ability to focus and stay committed to their goals. So find your passion in life, set goals for yourself and your career, and begin doing what is necessary to achieve them today. Note that I said “today.” Not tomorrow or next week or next year. Because I promise you, this too shall pass, and you are going to want something to show for it.

**THE GREEN VIEW**

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

**LIVING MY DREAM**

Randall Hampton is a senior journalism major from Chicago, Ill. He is the current Football Editor.

To contact the opinions editor, email letters@georgiasouthern.edu.
WEDNESDAY 12.4.2013

CRI
Women & Weights ends

THURSDAY 12.5.2013

CRI
Madness in the Meadows ends

UPB
The Lighting of Sweetheart Circle
Sweetheart circle 4 PM and 6 PM
The University Programming Board invites you to join us for the annual Lighting of Sweetheart Circle which will include refreshments, music, holiday crafts, pictures with Santa and SNOW! President Keel will “flip the switch” to light up campus and kick off the holiday season at Georgia Southern University. Free with EAGLE ID.
upb@georgiasouthern.edu

FRIDAY 12.6.2013

CRI
Fall group fitness schedule ends
Last Day of Fitness Classes

SATURDAY 12.7.2013

CRI
No Group Fitness classes

SUNDAY 12.8.2013

CRI
No Group Fitness Classes

MONDAY 12.9.2013

CRI
Bike Shop Closed
Group Fit Finals Week Schedule begins
Massage Special begins: $5 off

UPB
Finals Feast
The University Programming Board is hosting the Annual Finals Feast in the Russell Union Ballroom. Take a break from studying and enjoy a free breakfast for dinner and fun activities to replenish you for finals! Join campus administrators as they volunteer to serve YOU. Finals Feast provides students with a much-needed study break and gives University leaders a chance to visit with the students. Free with EAGLE ID.
GSU Wildlife Center to bring holiday spirit

BY ALANNA NAVIN
The George-Anne staff

On Saturday Georgia Southern University's Wildlife Center will present some of the most exotic animals and exciting skits for this year's Wildlife Winterfest, all while spreading the holiday spirit.

"It's the coolest experience that you will ever have. You get to see all these different animals that they bring out and you can touch some of the animals," Toya Glover, senior biology major and employee of the Wildlife Center, said.

This year marks the third annual Winterfest and is projected to bring a crowd of over 2,000 people.

"It's an opportunity for fans and friends of the Wildlife Center to visit this event and be exposed to wildlife that they wouldn't normally come in contact with," Steve Hein, director of the Wildlife Center, said.

Brian Staples will be the special guest again at this year's event and will bring a variety of animals such as a white tiger, lion, panther, kangaroo and camel.

"All of these were rescued animals. So he has dedicated his life to education and entertainment, which has a great message. We bring it all together on that day where we can offer something very unique and very special to supporters of the Wildlife Center, to the community of Bulloch County and, quite honestly, beyond that," Hein said.

"Brian is a very unique and creative individual. He is a master magician so he will be performing, but he incorporates animals throughout and there is a very strong conservation message with all of his programs," Hein said.

Along with the animal performances, there will be holiday music performed by the GSU Chorale, a reading of "'Twas the Night before Christmas," a petting zoo and Santa Claus.

While many children and families will enjoy the event, GSU students can enjoy the festival as well.

"It will have great appeal to adults as well including Georgia Southern students because the mission of the Wildlife Center is to bring man and nature together," Hein said.

This kind of event is a rare opportunity to bring people up close to exotic animals, Hein said.

According to a press release, admission to Wildlife WinterFest is $5 per adult, $3 per child (ages 3-11) and free for children ages two and under.

Hein said, "We exist to serve the university, the Statesboro community and, in fact, we serve thirty three counties and travel all over the country, but we are also here to serve wildlife and nature. What's good for nature is what's good for people as well."
Crimes tracked across campus

BY CYDNEY LONG
The George-Anne staff

This semester, Georgia Southern University’s Office of Public Safety has been busy in an effort to keep crime contained on campus.

The map below shows different buildings across campus with numbers representing the crimes reported at those locations from Aug. 19 to Nov. 30.

Jackie Gutknecht, Julia Francis and Dominic Price compiled this information.
Police reports to remember this semester

**Arrests: 32**

Nov. 14, 2013, 8:59 p.m.: Officers responded to Eagle Village Clubhouse in reference to a broken door. The investigation resulted in two arrests:
1. Jemarcus Jerrell Godfrey, 19, Statesboro, Ga., was charged with criminal trespass.
2. Rydge Ellison Ansley, 18, Statesboro, Ga., was charged with Possession of a Weapon in a School Safety Zone (Knife) & Possession of Drug Related Objects.

**Alarms: 21**

Aug. 29, 2013, 8:40 p.m.: Officers responded to Eagle Village Building Elevator Lobby in reference to a fire alarm. The Statesboro Fire Department and maintenance responded. The alarm was activated by an individual smoking an electronic cigarette.

**Alcohol: 69**

Oct. 10, 2013, 12:37 a.m.: Officers observed an intoxicated subject running and carrying a beer-pong table. The owner of the beer-pong table was contacted and the table returned. The intoxicated subject was judicially referred for an alcohol violation.

**Escort Request: 3**

Oct. 3, 2013, 1:36 a.m.: Officers were dispatched for an escort request. The person requesting the escort was highly intoxicated. The intoxicated person was taken to his residence but was advised that the escort service provided by Public Safety was not for persons requiring a ride after becoming intoxicated.

**Entering Autos: 18**

Oct. 29, 2013, 12:43 p.m.: Officers responded to J-Lot in reference to an entering auto that has just occurred. A description of the offender was given out and the offender was located. Daren Anthony VanAlstyne, Jr., 18, Statesboro, Ga., was arrested and charged with the following criminal acts: Entering Auto, Possession of a Firearm in a School Safety Zone, Possession of a Gun in the Commission of a Crime, Possession of Marijuana – Less than 1 Ounce & Possession of Drug Related Objects that occurred on Oct. 29, 2013.

**Trespassing: 32**

Sept. 9, 2013, 2:46 a.m.: Officers responded to Freedom’s Landing in reference to a criminal trespass (unknown person on couch). The person was identified and he left the apartment.

**DUI: 25**

Nov. 2, 2013, 1:30 a.m.: Officers conducted a traffic stop on Georgia Ave. at Gentilly Drive. The driver of the vehicle, Alyssa N. Crouch, Statesboro, Ga., was arrested and charged with Improper Starting of Parked Vehicle, Driving without License on Person and DUI 1.

**False Alarms: 87**

Aug. 19, 2013, 6:46 p.m.: Officers responded to a panic alarm at Kennedy Hall. Maintenance responded. The panic alarm was activated by a power surge.

**Found Property: 95**

Oct. 25, 2013, 3:41 a.m.: An incident report was taken for found property – three bikes in Lake Ruby.

**Miscellaneous**

Aug. 29, 2013, 5:43 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a missing chair from the Russell Union.

Sept. 16, '2013, 8:49 p.m.: Officers responded to Freedom’s Landing in reference to a report of a prowler. The subject was located and asked to leave the area.

Nov. 9, 2013, 12:38 a.m.: Officers made contact with two GSU students on the roof of the Carroll Building. Both were judicially referred.

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**Crime by the numbers**

- Assist other agencies: 32
- Battery: 7
- Burglary: 4
- Civil Matters: 3
- Counterfeit Bills: 6
- Damaged Property: 12
- Disorderly Conduct: 4
- Domestic Dispute: 4
- Drug Complaints: 30
- False ID: 4
- False Information to an Officer: 2
- Financial Transaction Theft/Fraud: 7
- Harassment: 13
- Headlights Required: 3
- Hit and Run: 3
- Injured Persons: 29
- Intoxicated Subjects: 9
- Kidnapping: 1
- Leaving the Scene of an Accident: 2
- Lost/Mislaid Property: 53
- Marijuana: 12
- Motor Vehicle Accident: 89
- Obstruction: 4
- Possession of Alcohol Under 21: 35
- Possession of a Weapon: 3
- Public Indecency: 4
- Rape: 1
- Sexual Assault: 4
- Sick Persons: 67
- Suspicious Activity: 26
- Theft: 60
- Theft at RAC: 31
- Theft of Bike: 19
- Traffic Stops: 29
- Towed Vehicles: 18
- Verbal Altercation/Noise Complaints: 15
- Welfare Checks: 33

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To contact the news editor, email ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu.
Social media: More than a ‘friend’ request

BY AYANA MOORE
The George-Anne contributor

As winter approaches and space heaters fail to provide the right amount of warmth, it’s almost instinctive how couples emerge from the woodwork. Relationships, whether platonic or romantic, can begin in a myriad of ways. One of those many avenues is social media.

“I think that using social media is cool,” Amanda Mack-Thomas, junior English major, said. “I think that any form of spreading love should be accepted. A lot of people tend to be really close-minded and shouldn’t be.”

Apps specifically created for dating, like Tinder, have been created in recent years and are geared towards college students that are looking to meet other singles in their area.

Many opinions surface in regard to the rights and wrongs of using social media websites and apps as tools to spark romantic relationships.

“It’s kind of a double-edged sword. You get to meet a lot more people, people that you wouldn’t be generally introduced to,” Michael Telford, sophomore human resources major, said. “Usually you would have to meet someone, get to know them, but with social media it’s at your fingertips. You can hit somebody up on Facebook, look at their pictures, and ‘Facebook stalk’ them to find out more things about them.”

Using social media as a catalyst to pursue romantic interests is viable to some, but as far as disadvantages go, there are plenty to consider.

“When you use social media as an instrument to try and get somebody’s attention, I think it takes away from your social skills and actually knowing how to approach people,” James Thomas, graduate student and public health major, said.

“At the end of the day, when you talk to someone online they’re going to want to talk to you in person eventually. And when they see you as this person on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and then meet you in person and you’re totally different it might shy them away,” Thomas said.

Privacy is often a concern in regard to displaying relationships online.

“A lot of couples put their business out on Twitter and if they’re fighting they’ll let everyone know and it makes a relationship more of a public thing instead of personal,” Lina Fuerte, freshman multimedia communications major, said.

As far as social media and dating goes, it often depends on the person and their willingness to see websites such as Facebook and Twitter as means to develop substantial relationships with others.

Telford said, “As far as using [social media] for dating, for some people it’s helped them meet and become better friends and eventually pursue a relationship. But to actually make a relationship I feel there should be personal interaction first and then social media should be used to help close the gap.”

Holiday season to begin with “Run the ‘Boro”

BY AYANA MOORE
The George-Anne contributor

The “Run the ‘Boro” 5k race tomorrow is open to anyone in the Statesboro community or beyond and is part of a larger Christmas holiday Celebration held in Downtown Statesboro.

The run will begin at 5:30 p.m. and is being hosted by the City of Statesboro, Statesboro Conventions Visitor’s Bureau and the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority.

“Last year was the first year we did the run,” Suzanne Tatum, assistant to the vice president of Government Relations and Community Engagement, said. “We have a lot of people in the community that enjoy doing a five K race. It encourages health and wellness, it’s the weekend before exams and it’s an opportunity for students to come downtown and get excited for the holiday season and have fun.”

All of the proceeds from the run will be going toward the local charity, Fostering Families Bulloch, as well as the Mayors’ Christmas Motorcade, Tatum said.

Garrett Green, Georgia Southern University’s Student Government Association president, will be the special guest during Friday’s celebrations.

“This is another opportunity for us to get involved with the community and have more representation of the student body,” Green said.

Alongside the race are plenty of events for students, faculty, staff and Bulloch County residents alike to partake in.

“This is a great way to kick off the holiday season,” Tatum said. “We have the Christmas tree lighting ceremony on Thursday and then [Run the ‘Boro] on Friday. There will be a chili cook-off as well as a parade.”

The chili cook-off, the most popular of all the events, will take place across the City Hall. Anyone in attendance will be able to taste an array of homemade chili prepared by contestants and then vote for which one they consider to be the best, Grant said.

The race will be the kick-off event for Friday’s festivities and will be followed by the Golf Cart Parade and annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

“It’s a way for the students to engage with the City of Statesboro and the Downtown Development Authority,” Tatum said. “It’s a great opportunity for us to join forces with them and help benefit others as well.”

A $25 registration fee is required for those wanting to participate in “Run the ‘Boro” with participants registering through the city of Statesboro website or inside of City Hall. The last day to register is Friday.

For full story see thegeorjeanne.com
Pitch-In

Saturday, Dec. 7th
12 P.M. - 4 P.M.

★ STUDENT MEDIA ★ FACULTY & STAFF ★
GEORGIA SOUTHERN RUGBY ★ JIMMY JOHNS

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
ADMISSION IS ONE CANNED GOOD.
LOCATED AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX
ALL FOOD DONATED TO STATESBORO FOOD BANK
The holidays are the one time of year where shopping for others becomes more fun than shopping for yourself. It can be easy to break the bank while Christmas shopping, especially when the lists can get very long between an aunt here, a cousin there and don’t forget dear old mom and dad.

“My family is a sentimental kind of family, so every year we do pajamas on Christmas Eve and we do a gift exchange with ornaments so each family member gets to hang their ornament on the tree for Christmas,” Jordan Whitcher, undeclared freshman, said.

Thankfully there are many ways to find and make great gifts that friends and family will love while still staying within a college student’s budget.

Men can be hard people to gift-shop for anytime of the year. For the guitar enthusiast a monogramed or personalized guitar pick from Etsy makes for a great small and thoughtful gift that they will actually use.

There are also gifts for the dads that are always asking “Why does it seem like you only call me when you need money?” Etsy offers money clips that say “For the bit of son) hasn’t already taken,” which is sure to get a good chuckle every time it’s whipped out.

A do-it-yourself pamper pack along with some cozy slippers or pajamas is a great gift for moms, sisters and girlfriends because it can be personalized. The options of what to put in it are endless and the amount of time and effort that you put into picking out each and every item just for them will be worth it.

One foolproof option that you can never go wrong with is tech accessories. To-go phone chargers look like they will be one of the most popular Christmas gifts this year. They are made by a multitude of companies and can be found for relatively cheap. Most hold a little over one full phone charge, and some bigger ones can be found to charge tablets as well. They’re a great gift for anyone on the go.

The Photojojo Lenses, which are magnetic camera lenses and individually cost $20 but can be bought in a set of five for $50 and work with any type of phone, make a great gift for anyone. Photojojo offers lenses such as fish eye, wide-angle, telephoto, polarize and macro.

“You can find almost anything at the University Store, and my dad actually asked for Georgia Southern stuff and my brother is a fan,” Savannah Cox, freshman biology major, said.

This gift guide is just one of tons that are available, Pinterest and YouTube are great places to start. You can be sure to find something unique and thoughtful no matter what your budget. And it is not the gift that counts the most during the holidays; it is spending time with those that mean the most.
### THURSDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Happy Hour</th>
<th>Specials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dingus MaGees</td>
<td>5-7 &amp; 9-11</td>
<td>$2 Wells, $8 Liquor pitchers, $6 Bud Light pitchers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applebees</td>
<td>$1 off Mucho Gold, $2 Wells, $2 for 1 Bombs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chili's</td>
<td>5-7 Happy Hour</td>
<td>$1.99 Miller/Bud Light draft, $2.99 Margarita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gnat's Landing</td>
<td>5-7/9-11</td>
<td>$2 Well shots, $8 Liquor pitchers, $6 Bud Light pitchers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Live Well</td>
<td>$2 for 1 on ALL drinks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuzzy's</td>
<td>$1 off Martinis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mellow Mushroom</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>$2.75 Draft, $3 Double wells, $2 Margaritas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rum Runner's</td>
<td>$3 Bombs, $3 Pitchers $1 Drafts</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Sombrero</td>
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### FRIDAY

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<td>Locos</td>
<td>$3 Bombs, $3 Pitchers $1 Drafts</td>
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<td>Your Pie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mellow Mushroom</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>$2.75 Draft, $3 Double wells, $2 Margaritas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rum Runner's</td>
<td>$2 Fireball, free cover (if all those dressed up)</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Sombrero</td>
<td>$2.25 Lime margarita</td>
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### SATURDAY

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<td>5-7</td>
<td>$2.75 Draft, $3 Double wells, $2 Margaritas</td>
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<td>Fuzzy's</td>
<td>$9-11 Reverse happy hour</td>
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<td>Your Pie</td>
<td>Game Day specials all day long</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rum Runner's</td>
<td>$1 Shots until 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Sombrero</td>
<td>$2.50 Lime margarita</td>
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### SUNDAY

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**Arby's® Eagle Special**

For only $5, get a Roast Beef Classic Sandwich.
‘Boro to host holiday celebration downtown

BY LAURIANNA CULL
The George-Anne staff

The Downtown Statesboro Holiday Celebration will give students that much-needed mental break right before finals begin next week.

The event is free and will take place in front of City Hall and City Campus in Downtown Statesboro tomorrow from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Holiday Celebration is a collaboration between Georgia Southern University, the city of Statesboro and the Downtown Development Authority.

“We joined forces this year to create a great opportunity to relieve stress for students before finals and raise money for charity,” Suzanne Tatum, event planning committee member, said.

The evening will be spiced up with a chili cook-off, which will include free chili tastings for all event attendees.

There will also be live entertainment by both student and faculty musicians, and a holiday parade that features Saint Nick himself.

“I’m really excited to go to the holiday celebration. I’m already pretty stressed over finals, and I think an evening out, listening to music and getting in the Christmas spirit is exactly what my friends and I need right now,” Shekirah Rolle, sophomore international studies major, said.

In addition to the chili cook-off, parade and music, the second annual Run the ‘Boro 5K will also take place during the Holiday Celebration.

Tatum said, “This event promotes health and wellness, and it’s just a healthy way to go out and do something fun. We wanted to get the students involved with the community in the spirit of the holidays and relax before they hit the books for finals.”
Boro Bucket List: Semester’s ending, finals over

“Finals week is the time of the year where you can’t find a parking spot at the library, you’ll see people at the library you’ve never seen before and study harder than you’ve ever studied before. When it’s done though, there isn’t a better feeling,” CJ DeBoer, senior political science, said.

With the semester ending, there is one thing that is understood by many Georgia Southern University students, that’s finals week. Finals week comes in three stages, the week before, the week of and the party after. Some of us will be enduring this anxiety-ridden week for the last time and graduating while some of us know this routine is only over until next semester.

“This is my last finals week so I have a lot of prepare for and it’s sometimes stressful but it’s the last time I have to do this so it’s kind of bittersweet in a way,” David Sansom, senior international studies major, said.

Panicking over grades, stressing over how hard that one exam will be, scrambling for extra credit or to finish those last assignments and lastly how much we all want this week to end, can be heard all over campus. Club Henderson will be bumping all week long, with students overdosing on coffee, cramming over all those little details that the next day may seem insignificant and praying printer isn’t out of ink.

“Finals week is literally the worst week of the semester. It’s brutal and all I do is live in the library,” Christy Smith, junior psychology major, said. “And it’s right after Thanksgiving when every professor gives you assignments due when you get back knowing you didn’t do them over break.”

After bubbling in Scantrons, writing up essays and reciting presentations, there comes the light at the end of the struggle—the beginning of Winter break.

“I can’t wait to enjoy Christmas break and the rest of my senior year,” DeBoer said.

For each phase of the finals week struggle comes the two things to either tally on your bucket list or cross off. Staying the night or even the entire day in the library, and forgetting it through a night out at The Plaza.

Membership to Club Henderson

At some point or another, it’s difficult to come across someone who hasn’t spent all night in the library. Finals week could be argued as Club Henderson’s party of the year, where each floor is packed with students in study groups, tapping away at computers or standing over the printer waiting for the 20 power points that weren’t looked at all semester. All nighters in the library are just a part of the initiation into Club Henderson.

Bar Crawl at the Plaza

Getting a bad grade on some test, assignment or presentation, is almost an unavoidable landmine in college. Every student has his or her own way of blowing off steam, but GSU isn’t always known for its prowess in the sobriety category.

The Plaza is the cornerstone of Statesboro’s nightlife. With five bars within 100 feet of each other it makes for an appealing option, especially with its proximity to campus. Luckily, Statesboro is growing in all aspects, with additions like more bars, more restaurants and more housing but The Plaza is iconic.

One way to obliterate the stress from finals week and calm the anticipation for the next week while waiting for final grades, is to successfully complete a bar crawl at The Plaza. Students that are up to it can get started as early as 5 p.m. for happy hour and stay all night, but no matter when or where you start, hitting up Dingus Magee’s, Retrievers Sports Bar and Grill, Rum Runners/Plantation Room, Rude Rudy’s and the Tavern all in one night is worth doing.

The Buzz List

- Kanye West took a back seat to Vampire Weekend on Rolling Stone’s top 50 best albums of 2013. When he finds out, he’ll probably have a Kanye Konniption.

- Beyoncé and hubby, Jay-Z recently went vegan for Jay-Z’s birthday. Going vegan may not be the best move for Bey, she may lose that bootilicious backside.

- Bruce Jenner may be getting paid about $15 million to spill some juicy Kardashian secrets. In other words, he’s getting paid to have himself rid of some of that Kardashian virus.

- Ryan Seacrest has moved on after dumping Julianne Hough to a newer girl. He’s really made a big change. This one’s blonde too. Yeah. Big changes, Seacrest.

- Orlando Bloom is making a rebound too. After hitting splittsville with Victoria’s Secret model Miranda Kerr, Bloom is said to be snuggling up with Liv Tyler. Tyler vs. Kerr. Kerr wins. Bloom should keep Tyler a secret.

- Chris Brown is in legal trouble. Again. This time, Frank Ocean’s cousin is suing Brown for the fight that happened a while back. Apparently pain and suffering costs $3 million. For that kind of money, Ocean’s cousin better have died and came back.

- Drake is partnering with Nike to create OVO Jordans. I’m not sure guys will be standing in mile-long lines for these. Or maybe they will if they like shoes with feelings attached.

Information compiled by Arts & Entertainment Editor Kimeko McCoy and Arts & Entertainment Chief Lilly McCann from perezhilton.com and TMZ.com.
UPB Finals Feast to give students a break

BY ERINN WILLIAMS
The George-Anne staff

In an effort to lift the stress of finals week off of busy students, the University Programming Board is hosting their annual Finals Feast.

Fall Finals Feast will be in the Russell Union Ballroom on Monday from 6-9 p.m. and all GSU students are welcome to come and enjoy the free food and festivities.

It is annually held the Monday during finals week and this year’s theme is “Winter Southerland.”

This year’s menu like the years before will be breakfast food including biscuits and gravy, grits, eggs, bacon and turkey sausage along with juice and water to drink.

As students come down the line they will be greeted and served breakfast for dinner by campus administrators and university leaders who are volunteering at the event.

“The food servers will include different deans of colleges, vice presidents, directors and also Mr. and Miss GSU. We will also be having stress relieving stations provided by Alcohol and Other Drugs and Health Services.

CRI and the Chemistry club will also be providing activities for students to do,” Ashley Nixon, UPB special events chair in charge of Finals Feast, said.

UPB will be providing students with a variety of entertainment to help them forget about the stressful week that lies ahead.

“There will be Santa Gus, Minute to Win It Games, Just Dance on Wii in the Ballroom and performers performing throughout the night at the event,” Nixon said.

The event is free and UPB asks that students bring their Eagle ID in order to get in.

McKinley May, sophomore English major, said, “I went to this event last year during spring semester and it was a lot of fun. My friends and I were all able to relax for an hour or so. The food was actually really good, and everyone seemed to just let go and forget about being stressed over finals for a little while.”

Black Flag revamps ‘Assassin’s Creed’

Game Review ★★ ★★ ★★ ★

BY JAMES FARMER
The George-Anne staff

Ubisoft’s monstrously successful video game series “Assassin’s Creed” needed a facelift after the series’ first letdown in “Assassin’s Creed III.” What it got was just that and more with its newest installment “Assassin’s Creed IV: Black Flag.”

After suffering through the idealist and dry Conner for ACIII players get to set sail with Edward Kenway, the player character for Black Flag. Kenway rubs shoulders with some of the most famous pirates in the golden age of piracy and discovers ancient secrets (as well as a new plot line for the series).

Edwards plot line is one of the better ones in the series, as the character changes drastically from the beginning of the game to the final. After dealing with the stoic Conner who only thinks of revenge in the previous game, this is a welcome change that made a huge difference. The ending of the game was the best since the Altair and Ezio plotlines were tied up at the end of “Assassin’s Creed: Revelations,” and was by far the most emotional.

The game, which was hailed for its naval combat system first introduced in ACIII, does not disappoint in that regard. Naval combat is exciting and fun as you can upgrade your ship, named the Jackdaw, progressing from running away from simple brigs to being able to stand toe-to-toe against enemy man-o’-wars.

Of course, naval battles aren’t the only things you can do on the open waters. Those who have ever wanted to harpoon a great white shark from a rowboat now are able to. In one of the best mini-games spread throughout the game, you get to harpoon animals ranging from bull sharks to humpback whales. You can also dive and explore wrecks, receiving upgrades for your ship.

Outside of the animus, the game is filled with tongue-in-cheek references to previous games and Ubisoft itself, as well as a few hacking mini-games that are really fun and one that is really annoying. A few older characters make an appearance, much to my delight, and the stage is set for a new modern-day character as the series moves on from Desmond Miles.

One of the few complaints about the game that I had was that one of the parts of the game that could have been really fun. Kenway’s Fleet, seemed a little clunky and required an Upplay passport to even access it. While this isn’t a problem if you are a first-hand buyer, used-game players might find this frustrating. As well, the amount of actual assassin-like stuff that you’re able to engage in compared to my time blatantly sending ships to Davy Jones locker made me wish for more opportunities to be an assassin rather than a pirate.

In all, the game was a blast to play, and cost me a valuable time in which I should have been studying for finals. I’d definitely recommend getting it, just after finals are over.
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<th>Housing</th>
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<th>Jobs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Female subleaser needed for apartment in Hawthorne II during Spring 2014. Rent is $250/month before utilities; internet and cable are already paid for. Contact (678) 948-3526 for more information.</td>
<td>Sublease Available for Spring! The Connection of Statesboro. 4 BR/4 BA. Second floor apartment right next to basketball court and pool. Clean. Two male roommates, one empty room still available. Rent is $444/month, utilities included. Call/text: 912-237-4491 Email: <a href="mailto:ws011114@georgiasouthern.edu">ws011114@georgiasouthern.edu</a></td>
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<td>I would also like to place an ad for a housekeeping helper. Looking for a student to help with housekeeping 3-4 hours a week. Will pay cash. Call 912-489-1875.</td>
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<td>SUBLEASER WANTED: Huge unfurnished room in charming &amp; spacious house. Two closets w/ built in shelving, hardwood floors. Connected Full bathroom. $300 a month. Two other roommates so utilities are split 3 ways. contact Lorenzo Soler @ (912)506-4556 or at <a href="mailto:ls04113@georgiasouthern.edu">ls04113@georgiasouthern.edu</a></td>
<td>Need a good deal on an apartment? Search no further! Sublease this one at The Grove and 3 months of your rent will be PAID IN FULL! It is a three bedroom apartment on the second floor, but currently there is only ONE other roommate! You personally have the fastest internet speed of the entire complex for free (10 MB all to yourself!!) Rent is $490/month and all inclusive. Feel free to email my Georgia southern email address for more details. <a href="mailto:rb02726@georgiasouthern.edu">rb02726@georgiasouthern.edu</a> (Robert)</td>
<td>Apartment: Fully furnished living room and bedroom 3 bedroom/3 bathroom. Other 2 roommates are working on their masters degrees at GSU. $410 all inclusive. Rent includes, internet, cable, water, electricity, and trash. Email: <a href="mailto:mm04286@georgiasouthern.edu">mm04286@georgiasouthern.edu</a></td>
<td>Now hiring a part time sales position. Must have flexible availability. Send resumes along with your class schedule to <a href="mailto:wirelesshiring@gmail.com">wirelesshiring@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Need a roommate for the Spring Semester, no preference in gender. Rent is 275 a month without Utilities. My phone number is 706-726-3474, No pets and furniture is needed only for their bedroom.</td>
<td>Spring 2014 sublease at Campus Crossings! 3BD/3BT, one room available! Two great male roommates! Rent is 494/month, May rent is free! Contact Shawn 478-318-9155 or email <a href="mailto:dc03795@georgiasouthern.edu">dc03795@georgiasouthern.edu</a></td>
<td>Subleasing garden district apartment. One room available in 3 bedroom 3/4 furnished flat. $380a month with a small subleasing fee of $150. This fee is one time fee! Everything is furnished accept living room. The bedroom, kitchen, and bathroom are fully furnished. Everything is inclusive. The lease is up in aug. 2014 . 1 month rent is free if called or contacted by email before Feb 2014 . contact me at 7069888232 (jimmy gray) or email me at <a href="mailto:dieseltruck2006@gmail.com">dieseltruck2006@gmail.com</a> Serious inquiries only</td>
<td>Experienced gardener wanted 2-3 hours a week on Saturdays. Will pay cash. Call 912-489-1875.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I’m looking to sublease my room in a 2 bed/2 bath apartment. 2 minute drive from campus, Rent is $510 per month. Email me at <a href="mailto:jh08368@georgiasouthern.edu">jh08368@georgiasouthern.edu</a> if interested.</td>
<td>Sublease Available Downtown Statesboro. 2 BR/1 BA. Second floor apartment right next to basketball court and pool. Clean. One female roommate, one empty room still available. Rent is $260/month, utilities included. Call/text: 912-984-6232 Email: <a href="mailto:diesaltruck2006@gmail.com">diesaltruck2006@gmail.com</a>.</td>
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<td>BARTENDERS WANTED!!! $250 a day potential. No experience necessary. Training Provided. Age 18+ OK Call 1-800-965-6520 ext 296.</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE IS NEEDED . ANY WORK EXPERIENCE CAN APPLY . MUST BE ACCURATE , COMPUTER LITERATE , HAVE GOOD TYPING SKILLS AND HAVE A GOOD SENSE OF COMMUNICATION . WILL EARN $3800 MONTHLY . Email at <a href="mailto:johnlongneckerssupply@gmail.com">johnlongneckerssupply@gmail.com</a> for application</td>
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Senior outside hitter Nicole Jeschelnik (14) and her teammates settle their nerves as they huddle up before a match. Jeschelnik has 298 kills on the season, as she will look to help GSU get its first win against FSU.

Eagles draw Florida State in NCAA Tournament

Women's Volleyball (28-5)

BY KAITLYN GLENN
The George-Anne contributor

After winning its fourth and final title in the Southern Conference Tournament, the Georgia Southern University volleyball team received the league’s automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament to face the Florida State University Seminoles (24-7).

The Eagles were happy to win the tournament before moving to the Sun Belt Conference next year, but senior libero Lauren LaRocque made it clear that the team is still focused on getting this next win.

"It feels great to say that we have won the regular season and the conference tournament, but those wins mean nothing in the NCAA Tournament, so we really have to focus and pretend that it's a new season," LaRocque said.

The Eagles have continued to keep their game pretty consistent overall and head coach Dustin Wood contributes that to the consistency of what the team is doing day in and day out.

"They do what is being asked of them, so we're on them pretty hard, we let loose a little bit and give these girls some freedom to make some mistakes throughout the year and I think we've found our niche in range," Wood said.

Junior outside hitter Jamie DeRatt has stepped up in the last few games leading the Eagles with an overall 428 kills this season so far, helping to strengthen their offense.

From the coach's observations FSU is pretty opposite-heavy, which is forcing the Eagles to focus on that attack and work on their blocking, so they can come out and be competitive in the upcoming match.

"We know what they're going to do, it's just us executing what we need to do off of that," Wood said.

The Eagles are 0-3 all-time against the Seminoles. GSU's last trip to the NCAA Tournament in 2010 resulted in a 3-1 loss to FSU.

The two previous matchups were in 1990 and 1997, where FSU won 3-0 in both matches.

The Eagles will be on the road to go toe to toe with the Seminoles in Gainesville, Fla at 5 p.m. today.

Page designed by Kate Rakoczy

To contact the sports editor, email gasports@georgiasouthern.edu.
Attendance on the rise at Paulson

BY JENNIFER CURINGTON
The George-Anne staff

Senior offensive lineman Zach Lonas knows that when his Georgia Southern University football cleats sink into the field, he's got to have his head in the game and not on the noise of the crowd.

The support of the fans is sometimes able to burst that bubble of concentration.

"It can have a huge impact if you're playing at home," Lonas said. "Emotionally, that's a big upswing having the fans there to support you and everything."

Athletic Director Thomas Kleinlein said he knows firsthand what kind of impact cheering fans can have on a team.

"I know as a former player, we're all performers. We like the energy that the crowd is able to fuel our players to play better and it does cause some problems for opponents."

Thankfully for the GSU football team, the attendance has been on the rise since 2010. In the 2010 and 2011 season, attendance never broke the 25,000 mark.

"When you look at the numbers for student attendance across the board there's a number of factors that affect it. I will tell you that student attendance is down across the entire country right now and not only is it student ticket distribution but it's kick off times, at many institutions it's more young people are having to now work in college," Kleinlein said.

Before the expansion of Allen E. Paulson Stadium, the complex could seat 35,575, according to documents from GSU's Athletic Department. There will be 6,200 seats added to the stadium once construction is complete. The expansion is being funded by a $25 per semester student fee.

Kleinlein has a specific three-point plan of action to make the fan experience at GSU football games better.

"We've got to get our coaches and our players more ingrained in our community and out on campus so there's an identifiable person that they connect with. People tend to root for people they can know and understand," Kleinlein said.

The other two points in his plan are to utilize the video board that is being added during the expansion to engage fans by splashing them across the screen during game breaks and add a free student-only tailgate area off of Malecki Drive.

With the attempt to lure more fans in, there will be more months to feed on game day. That offers an opportunity for a bigger profit on the horizon for GSU, which is much needed when profit from concessions has decreased from $75,179 in 2011 to $53,171 in 2013 at all athletic events. Even though concessions made $121,895 more in 2013 than 2011, operating costs increased so much that profit took a $22,007 dive.

More games will be televised each season with the conference move, which could help and hurt attendance. "I think that's a monster that we all have to deal with. The fact that people can sit at home in the luxury of their house and look at the TV anytime they want," Kleinlein said. "That's why fan experience, tailgating, engagement within the game becomes very important."

But, he said, that's not a challenge GSU should be worried about.

"I think the thing that we need to understand is that we don't need to be afraid of that. It's really one of the reasons why we made the move. We need to allow TV exposure to do the things for our institution that we want which is get more eyeballs on our institution and more people across the country see Georgia Southern and the great things we are doing going on here academically because they're watching a football game," Kleinlein said.

Ultimately, Kleinlein said his goal is to fill all 41,775 seats of the newly renovated Paulson Stadium, which could be a challenge since the highest attendance recorded over the past four years was 30,108.

Men's basketball looks to win consecutive games

Men's Basketball (4-5)

BY COLIN RITSICK
The George-Anne staff

On its road to a .500 record, Georgia Southern University men's basketball will try to get its season going when the team travels to South Carolina State University on Saturday.

The Eagles (3-5) have been dependent on junior guard Jelani Hewitt and senior guard Tre Bussey to score points this year. And if the duo plays like they have so far this season, then GSU should walk away with a win against the low-scoring Bulldogs (2-6).

But if Hewitt and Bussey, the only players on the team averaging double digit points per game, have off nights from the floor then this is either team's game.

Before Wednesday's game, the pair combined to average 45.6 points per game. The team averaged 80.6 points per game.

GSU is getting very little offensive productivity from the big men on the floor and this disparity in scoring has hurt the Eagles.

This is not the case for the Bulldogs. The team's leading scorer is 6'11 senior forward Matthew Hezekiah. How GSU's 6'7 senior forward Marvin Baynham will match up defensively against the near seven-footer will be the question of the night. The Bulldogs will look to pound the ball down low against the undersized Eagles all game long.

The good news for GSU is that SCSU averages only 56.4 points per game.

As long as Hewitt and Bussey put up similar numbers as they have all year in addition to winning the turnover battle on Saturday, GSU should have no problem against the Bulldogs.

Going into last night's game, each of the Eagles' three wins came when the team had fewer turnovers than their opponents. SCSU has given the ball away 105 times in seven games, an average of 15 turnovers per game. GSU averaged 11.9 turnovers per game before last night's win. Ball control will be a major factor in Saturday's game.

The Eagles and the Bulldogs tip-off at 6 p.m. Saturday on the road.

GSU redshirt junior guard Jelani Hewitt directs player movement during a home game. Hewitt is averaging 24.5 points per game this season.

To contact the sports editor, email gasports@georgiasouthern.edu.
Second win in sight for Lady Eagles

Women’s Basketball (1-6)
BY TREVOR MCNABOE
The George-Anne staff

A disappointing start to the 2013 basketball season gives way to the hopes and promise of a successful conference record for the Georgia Southern University women’s basketball team.

The Eagles (1-6) will open up Southern Conference play on Saturday when they take on the Furman University Paladins.

GSU’s record is worse than it appears as the Eagles have played five of their seven games away from Hanner Fieldhouse going 0-5 in those games.

Fortunately, GSU will be at home where it has won twice as many games at home than on the road in the past two years.

The Paladins (3-4) are hitting their stride as they come in with a two-game win streak after beating Yale University and Anderson University 66-61 and 78-67, respectively.

While the Eagles succeed at home, Furman struggles away from home as all of the team’s losses have come on the road by an average margin of defeat of 15 points.

Last season, Furman bested GSU in both games winning by an average margin of 11.5 points and beating the Eagles at Hanner by a score of 56-42.

GSU has found turnovers to be a major problem as they recorded 37 turnovers in the pair of games it played last year.

This season the Eagles average over 20 turnovers a game, though GSU has cut down turnovers in recent games.

Junior guard Anna Claire Knight has been on a tear this season averaging a team high 14.1 points a game and is shooting 34 percent from three-point land.

Last season Knight averaged 6.5 points and eight rebounds against the Paladins.

The Eagles will tip off at 5 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse to start off the 2013 SoCon schedule.
Hewitt earns second career Player of the Week award

BY WILL CHENEY
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University men’s basketball redshirt junior guard Jelani Hewitt was named Southern Conference Player of the Week on Tuesday.

Hewitt averaged 27.7 points per game over the last week. He also shot 46 percent from the field and was 8-23 from beyond the arc, while going 23-31 on his free throw attempts last week.

Hewitt played this season after redshirting all of last season. He started 29 of GSU’s 30 games during his sophomore season and averaged 10.5 points per game in those 30 games.

It is the second time the Miramar, Fla., native has been named SoCon POTW this season, which is only four weeks in.

The game that most likely sealed the honor for Hewitt was GSU’s matchup against Campbell University on Saturday.

Hewitt scored a career-high 38 points in the game against Campbell and recorded 11 rebounds on his way to his first career double-double. He also became the first Eagle to score at least 30 points in a game since the 2010-2011 season.

The Eagles went on to lose their game against Campbell University 75-73 in overtime at home. Hewitt scored six of the 11 points GSU recorded in the extra period, while making 13 of 14 free throw attempts for the game.

Averaging 24.5 points per game this season, Hewitt leads the team in scoring going into Wednesday’s game against Brewton-Parker College. Hewitt was named co-captain of the team by his teammates.

This weekend, Hewitt and GSU’s men’s basketball team will take on South Carolina State University. The Bulldogs are 2-6 overall on the season with the most recent matchup resulting in a loss to Clemson University by a score of 65-49.

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