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## The George-Anne

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Tuesday, April 1, 2014  
Georgia Southern University  
[www.thegeorgeanne.com](http://www.thegeorgeanne.com)  
Volume 84 • Issue 61

THE **GEORGE-ANNE**

**ALL EYES ON EAGLES**



NFL scouts watch as  
Eagles showcase talent

The prettiest little stadium in America was the site of Georgia Southern University's Pro Day 2014. Eagle talent was on display in front of 16 NFL Scouts this past Thursday as 14 Eagles, 12 seniors and two former Eagles, participated in measurements and drills, while scouts took notes. Former Eagle J.J. Wilcox, the highest draft choice in GSU history (third round), and the only Eagle drafted last year, watched his former teammates work out for scouts as they look to get their name called in the upcoming NFL Draft.

SEE FULL STORY, Page 20







# REFLECTOR

magazine

YOUR SCHOOL. YOUR LIFE. YOUR MAGAZINE.

RELEASE PARTY  
AT FUZZY'S  
APRIL 4TH  
7 P.M.



## Police Beat

### Wednesday, March 26

8:15 a.m.: Officers responded to a burglar alarm at the College of Education Building. The alarm had accidentally been activated by an employee.

9:32 a.m.: An incident report was taken for lost property.

10:01 a.m.: Officers assisted the Crime Suppression Team serve a search warrant at Southern Pines.

11:40 a.m.: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident at the Veazey Hall parking lot. A motor vehicle accident report was taken.

12:14 p.m.: An incident report was taken for harassment at Veazey Hall. This case was assigned to Criminal Investigations.

12:54 p.m.: An incident report was taken for theft from a vehicle at the Eagle Village parking lot. This case was assigned to Criminal Investigations.

4:10 p.m.: An incident report was taken for lost property.

7:15 p.m.: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident at the Russell Union parking lot. A motor vehicle accident report was taken.

9:53 p.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check on a subject at Kennedy Hall. The subject was not located but a parent was contacted and had contact with the subject.

10:25 p.m.: Officers responded to a drug complaint at Eagle Village. Two subjects were judicially referred.

11:55 p.m. -- Officers conducted a welfare check on a subject at Southern Pines. Contact was made with the subject who was not feeling well. EMS was contacted and transported the subject.

### Thursday, March 27

9:30 a.m.: An incident report was taken for theft of unattended property at Building 447. This case was assigned to Criminal Investigations.

10:04 a.m.: A motor vehicle accident report was taken for a motor vehicle accident in Lot 21.

3:19 p.m.: An incident report was taken for an injured person on the Pedestrium behind the Henderson Library.

4:30 p.m.: Officers responded to a panic alarm at Kennedy Hall. The room was checked with no occupants found and no problems found.

6:21 p.m.: An incident report was taken for a criminal trespass at Freedom's Landing. This case was assigned to Criminal Investigations.

7:10 p.m.: An incident report was taken for an injured person at the Carroll Building.

9:02 p.m.: An incident report was taken for lost/mislaid property in Paulson Parking.

### Friday, March 28

12:04 p.m.: An incident report was taken for found property at the Russell Union.

12:14 p.m.: An incident report was taken for damage to property at Plant Drive and Forest Drive.

1:01 p.m.: A motor vehicle accident report was taken for a motor vehicle accident in the Southern Pines parking lot.

2:15 p.m.: An incident report was taken for lost/mislaid property on Forest Drive.

3:31 p.m.: An incident report was taken for found property at Building 447.

3:48 p.m.: An incident report was

taken for criminal trespass in the C/E/J overflow lot. This case was assigned to Criminal Investigations.

### Saturday, March 29

12:34 a.m.: Officers made contact with an intoxicated subject outside Centennial Place. Stephen Byron Bullard, 19, Tifton, Ga., was arrested and charged with Possession of Alcohol - Under 21 Years of Age and False ID.

3:01 a.m.: Officers made contact with an intoxicated subject in C-Lot: Jeremy Leontre Mack, 19, Statesboro, Ga., was arrested and charged with Possession of Alcohol - Under 21 Years of Age, Purchasing Alcohol for an Underage Person and False ID.

9:09 a.m.: An incident report was taken for an animal case at Old Register Road and South Main Street.

2:00 p.m.: Officers responded to Freedom's Landing to assist in a civil matter. One of the subjects involved, Stantavious Da-Juan Hill, 21, Lithonia, Ga., was found to be wanted and was arrested on an arrest warrant out of Henry County, Georgia for Burglary, Obstruction of an Officer and Fleeing and Attempting to Elude a Police Officer.

4:59 p.m.: Officers made contact with two subjects in a vehicle in E-Lot. The two subjects were arrested:

Hunter Patrick Boyle, 18, Statesboro, Ga., was charged with Possession of Marijuana - misdemeanor.

Donovan Rick Veasey, 19, Lawrenceville, Ga., was charged with Possession of Marijuana - misdemeanor and Possession/Use of a Drug Related Object.

7:15 p.m.: Officers responded to Southern Pines in reference to a drug complaint. Three occupants were judicially referred for drug violations.

## 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.

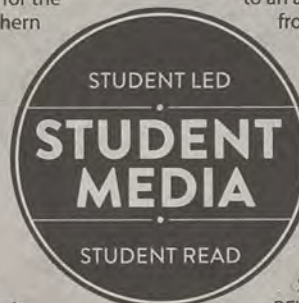
The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact

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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## Are we too 'Drunk in Love' with Beyoncé?

It was a beautiful day. The sun was shining, and I was doing what every other college student does on a marvelous day — sitting at my desk and opening endless tabs of BuzzFeed articles. As I command-clicked my way down the page, I noticed something odd: every other article had something to do with Beyoncé.

Everywhere I looked, the pop star was there. It truly made me wonder if this was a sweet dream or a beautiful nightmare.

Now don't get me wrong, I enjoy some Beyoncé just as much as the average person. However, I refuse to start sipping on the watermelon that is making everybody obsessed with the pop star.

Beyoncé Knowles-Carter has been destroying the charts since we were told to say her name, but what's with the sudden change?

Beyoncé released her self-titled album back in December and the public had a feeding frenzy. Personally, I didn't really buy into this obsession because Beyoncé has just never been my favorite artist.

In response to this, I was shunned by many as a "non-believer." So because I have not switched my religion to "Beyism" I deserve to be excommunicated in my social circles. You know what I have to say about that? K.

Just the other day, I was involved in a heated discussion with a friend over this blind Sasha Fierce fascination.

The points I made were simple. Is Beyoncé talented? Yes. Does she have a killer body? Yes. Is she a strong, independent woman who can do bad all by herself? Of

### CAN YOU NOT?



JEFF LICCIARDELLO

course, yes.

Does that mean I go home every night to my Beyoncé shrine and pray that the ruler will grace me with some of her magic powers? Nope.

My friend, who began to pull her hair out, told me, "Jeff, you are just a little worker bee in the B hive. We are all worker bees working for the queen B— Beyoncé."

Myself, being the stubborn person I am, brought this argument to my other friends and received similar responses.

Never in my life had I actually encountered a pop-star obsession this widely accepted.

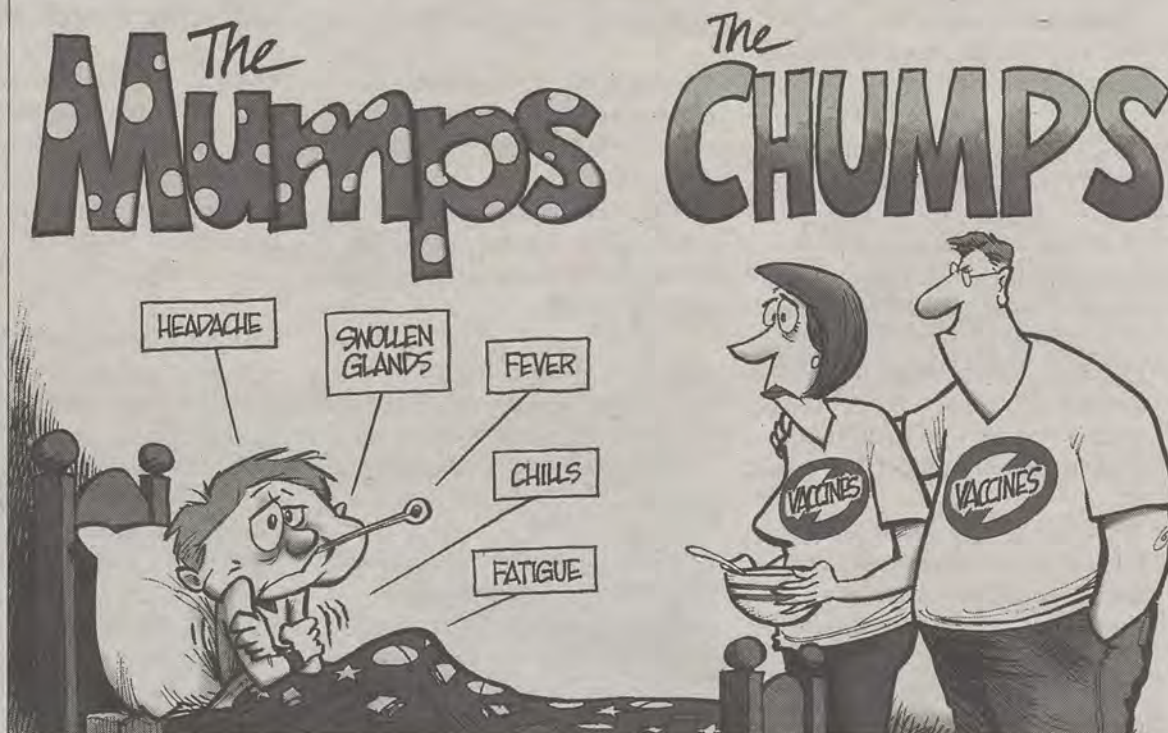
Sure, I have some friends who will sell their souls for One Direction, and I myself would give everything I have for some Lana Del Rey tickets, but I don't pray to the "Coney Island Queen" before I go to bed every night.

All I ask from the student body is to not sell your Beyoncé paraphernalia on eBay in shame, but for lack of a better phrase: check yourself before you wreck yourself.

We all have our obsessions, but let's make sure these are healthy ones and not ones that make your friends think you're crazy.

*Licciardello is a freshman pre-multimedia journalism major from Kennesaw. He is the Reflector Deputy-Editor at Student Media.*

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH  
CARTOONS.COM



## Make-up does not make the girl

I have a confession: even though my Facebook timeline tells me I have been a member since 2008, I have yet to master the art of the "selfie." Now that smart phones have those handy, front-facing cameras, finding the right lighting and angle to take a flattering picture should be easy, but I still somehow always end up looking more awkward than the girl in the "ermahgerd" meme.

Even though I am not an avid selfie fan, my Facebook newsfeed is certainly full of girls who are far more skilled than me at taking a decent photo of themselves. Recently though many of those pictured have been accompanied by #nomakeupselfie as part of breast cancer awareness campaign where girls post pictures of themselves sans makeup and then challenge their friends to do the same.

Like many social media fads, the

### BEHIND THE SCENES



PEYTON CALLANAN

#nomakeupselfie campaign traveled quickly across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and found quite a few critics along the way. Many people have been concerned as to whether or not the campaign is actually accomplishing what it was originally designed to do and if there are better ways to raise money for cancer research.

For me, one of the most troubling parts about this whole campaign is the idea that women have to be challenged to share bare-face pictures and are being "brave" in doing so.

Who you are as a woman shouldn't be defined by your appearance, and your femininity is not defined by how much mascara you wear.

Faunting your "I just woke up like this" face isn't brave; it's disingenuous. The fact that some women feel the need to explain that their selfies are makeup-free or sans filter as if it is rare and unique statement just shows how much women believe that Covergirl looks are the norm.

The way you look without makeup isn't something you should have to defend, it's just a part of life. It's the face you were born with, and no amount of makeup, lighting or filter will actually change that.

*Callanan is a senior communication arts major from Chuluota, Fla. She is the current Opinions Editor.*

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.



## Affordable Care Act delays continue to be discouraging

The deadline is here. Or is it?

There is yet another delay in the Affordable Care Act, commonly referred to as Obamacare. Due to the horrendous unveiling of the website, the Obama administration has delayed the individual mandate deadline until mid April. This comes after the Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius was asked by Kevin Brady (R-TX) whether or not there would be a delay for the individual mandate. She replied that there wouldn't be one. It's very difficult to believe anybody in this administration, especially Secretary Sebelius.

Last September, NBC news sat down and asked Sebelius what success looked like. "Well, I think success looks like at least seven million people having signed up by the end of March 2014," she replied. Once it was soon realized that seven million would be a stretch, the Huffington Post asked her what she thought about Vice President Joe Biden's recent comments in which he said, "We may not get to seven million, but if we get to five or six million, that would be a hell of a start." She replied, "First of all, seven million was not the administration. That was a CBO, Congressional Budget Office, prediction... I'm not sure where they even got their numbers." Seriously?

But one of the most controversial

### THE POLI SCI GUY



JORDAN HUERTA

stats in this entire disaster called Obamacare is the the fact that we don't know how many people have actually paid into the exchange. That is the basis of this entire program. People that have lower income are being helped by those who can afford it, but if nobody is paying into it, how can those people get subsidized? When asked by Tom Price (R-GA) about how many people have paid into the exchange, Sebelius said, "I can't tell you because I don't know that." Then who does? The irony of the individual mandate delay is that it's going to rely on the honor system, meaning that the government isn't going to try and find out if you're lying about the fact that you needed more time. If only our income taxes were the same way.

*Huerta is a freshman political science major from Collins, Ga.*

## Coming out to classmates

Every time I walk into a new classroom I have to decide how "out" I am going to be. Does my sexuality even need to come up? For the most part, the answer to the question is no. My sexuality has no relevance to my ability to do math. But being out can make a difference. I hear all the time from passersby that they have never "met a gay person." But I know they have. I sit in class with these people, and I never know how to break the news that they are just misinformed.

For teachers in America, being out is a much touchier subject, which is why I appreciate when a teacher is out. Georgia Southern University includes sexual orientation and gender identity in their nondiscrimination clauses when it comes to hiring practices. This goes for faculty and student employees. Teachers and students are allowed and protected in their ability to be open about their sexuality and gender identity if they so wish. For a student, this can make all of the difference. College is a time of self-discovery and the more diversity that we can experience, the better. Gender and sexual minority students and teachers all benefit from the safety of these clauses. Having a teacher who is able to stand in front of the classroom and be open helps show students that there are gay people who exist outside of N.Y.C. and L.A.

### QUEERING THE BORDERS



PARRISH TURNER

Gay people are more complex and diverse than what you might see on TV.

Harvey Milk, the first openly gay politician elected to public office, once said "Gay brothers and sisters,... You must come out. Come out... to your parents... I know that it is hard." I personally think that coming out is a choice. No one is ever obligated to tell you or anyone else about their sexual orientation or gender identity. I am never under any obligation to tell you anything about my sexuality or gender identity. But we can benefit so much by being out, and we need to work as a society to make safe spaces for people to be out in. As a gay student, the idea of feeling comfortable being out in a classroom used to be a foreign concept. But I am seeing a better and safer place here at Georgia Southern and that is a change I can fully support.

*Turner is a writing and linguistics major from Roswell.*

## Being a side chick will not make you happy

With shows like "Scandal," "Being Mary Jane" and "The Haves and the Have Nots," sometimes it seems as if mistresses or "side chicks" are taking over the world.

In some ways they have been glorified, in others hated. Being a side chick has even become an occupation and steady flow of income for many women. But are side chicks really winning? I don't think so. There is no possible way for someone to win who isn't even in the game in the first place.

Don't get me wrong. It has benefits. You can have a guy without having to worry about all of that relationship drama. Sex, gifts, romantic dates and even kids are all in your grasp.

But here is the down side:

### 1. NO COMMITMENT

You can basically have everything you

want except for a commitment, and one day you are going to want that. I know that many of us say that we are a "strong, independent (insert race) woman who don't need no man" now, but what about later? What about when you start to wrinkle, sag and have to wear Depends? What about when you realize that you wasted the best years of your life on something that couldn't last? Who are you going to spend those last hours with?

Sure, there is potential for you to pull an Angelina Jolie or Alicia Keys and get that coveted spot as a wife, but it is a very small percent. It's more likely that you will end up like Lil Kim, and we all know how that turned out.

### 2. NO EMOTIONS

Are you really going to be okay with being put on the back burner only be to called in to fulfill his desires. Or are you

### ERINN IT OUT



ERINN WILLIAMS

going to feel some type of way?

It's like you are Robin the Boy Wonder. Sure you can do some cool tricks and elaborate acrobatics, but when it comes down to the real problems people are going to call Batman. He has his girlfriend to share his life with. His thoughts, feelings, hopes and dreams. He doesn't need you for that. Batman is the superhero — not Robin. She is the girlfriend — not you.

### 3. YOU DESERVE BETTER.

I know; that's so cliché, but it's true. You deserve someone who can treat you right. Someone who can be there for you. Someone who doesn't just call you when they want you to come through. Even if you do get the guy you are cheating with, he is already a known cheater. Do you really think he won't do the same to you? Sure guys may sing about how "these hoes ain't loyal," but are they?

My suggestion is that you find a good man, a real man, a single man. Heck, just find your own man. Or maybe not date at all. But whatever you do, do not become a side chick.

*Williams is a sophomore writing and linguistics and French double major from Winston. She is currently an Arts & Entertainment reporter.*



## SGA prepares for contested election

**BY SIMON LUU & CIERRA BAXTER**  
The George-Anne contributors

The Georgia Southern University Student Government Association is preparing for another year's elections but what is notable about this year is that the top two positions are contested for the first time in three years.

"The three previous elections before last year's election were completely uncontested and last year's was partially contested," Jacob Jay, SGA presidential candidate, said.

From April 7 to 9, SGA will hold its upcoming election through WINGS to replace the current roster of officers and usher in new ones.

"More competition means the best candidate's going to win," Will McKinney, SGA vice president of finance candidate, said.

Last year's election had all but two offices, VP of academic affairs and VP of auxiliary affairs, with more than one candidate running

for it. All prior elections had no such exception.

"Competition is very healthy, it's good so students can always say that they had their choice and at the end of the day no matter what happens, we know that whoever wins, that's who students want," Ellen Hogan, executive vice president candidate, said.

With multiple candidates come multiple platforms, multiple tickets and multiple directions to take SGA.

"It is important for candidates to be different to represent differences in students," Azell Francis, presidential candidate, said.

Georgia Southern University draws students from across and beyond the state. The campus even boasts students from other countries. This diversity necessitates candidates that account for the variety of backgrounds and livelihoods on the campus.

Even though the SGA is meant to reflect the students as well as be the voice of the students,

SGA elections do not draw a large crowd. Out of over 20,000 students on campus, less than 2,000 usually vote. Homecoming elections garner more votes than SGA and part of the problem lies in elections with no agency in them whatsoever.

"Why would I vote for the president if no one is running against him?" Jay said.

On top of justified voter apathy, SGA, despite all their work, does not foster a sense of investment.

"Homecoming has student's interests at stake," Francis said, "SGA is not as apparent."

This all comes on the heels of the Fund Fair held last week in the Russell Union Rotunda. By trying to show students where their money goes and illustrate the amount of work and effort SGA invests in their service, it might have made SGA more personal to students.

These efforts underline the importance of student votes in elections and will hopefully garner a higher voter turnout.

### SGA EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES

#### PRESIDENT

Jacob Jay  
Azell Francis

#### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Madison Bajc  
Ellen Hogan

#### VICE PRESIDENT OF AUXILIARY AFFAIRS

Shelia Francois  
Charles Glover  
Cliff Padgett

#### VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

Rodrick Leary  
Kaitlin Kidwell  
Will McKinney

#### VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

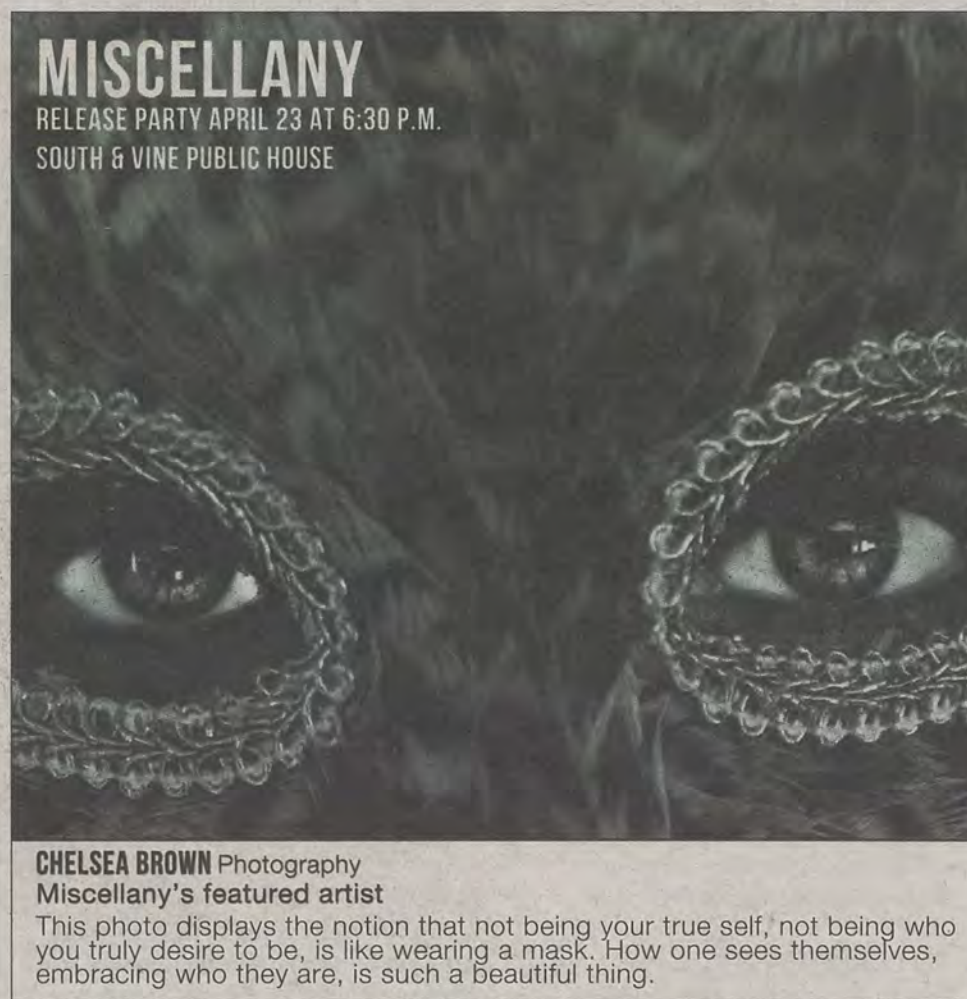
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**CHELSEA BROWN** Photography  
Miscellany's featured artist

This photo displays the notion that not being your true self, not being who you truly desire to be, is like wearing a mask. How one sees themselves, embracing who they are, is such a beautiful thing.



# YOUR VIEW

"What do you think Student Government Association should be doing for you and our campus?"



**Ashley Adams**  
junior 3D art major

"No clue what the SGA is. I don't even know what SGA is. They need to get more out there and get more involved. They should be at the Rotunda more often. I didn't even know we had a government."



**Hayden Gerwein**  
senior finance major

"I don't really know much about it. I think that they should work with clubs more. I am trying to get more funding for my club and I haven't even thought about going through SGA. They should send out a survey through email and get student opinions."



**Cecilia Evans**  
sophomore child and family development major

"When you hear student government it sounds boring. They could host fun events to get more people involved like a student government rave or something. Something that would make us want to go not just a meeting."



**Tracy Griffiths**  
junior fashion merchandise and apparel design

"If I was going to say that SGA is going to do something I think maybe figure out a way to get students into more community groups. For transfer students, like myself, it was really hard to meet people. I think SGA needs to be more involved; at my old school they were very big and very involved with homecoming and getting people to vote for things and stuff like that."

For more  
interviews see  
[thegeorgeanne.com](http://thegeorgeanne.com)

Interviews conducted by Braley Garland  
Photos by Brandon Warnock

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On Campus





Courtesy of Cody Dier

**International Justice Mission** will lead students in standing against human sex trafficking on Wednesday as they stand for an entire day in the Russell Union Rotunda. Last year 850 signed the petition, including President Brooks Keel, and \$1,500 was raised, making GSU one of the top five programs last year.

## Students to stand against modern day slavery

**BY JENNIFER CURINGTON**

The George-Anne staff

Next Wednesday it is estimated that over 800 students on Georgia Southern University's campus will take a stand against human sex trafficking.

The local chapter of International Justice Mission is participating in this national event by inviting people to stand at the Russell Union Rotunda and sign a petition saying that using people as a

commodity for sex needs to end.

"One great thing is this is a movement we can all support no matter what religious background or political background," Josh Rogers, senior and co-founder of the GSU IJM chapter, said.

According to IJM, nearly 30 million people are used as modern day slaves, in other words, trafficked for sex.

The event will start at 8 a.m. and end around midnight. Fair trade coffee and chocolate will be provided throughout the day.

"Starting at 6 [p.m.] it will become

more of a church-based event," Cody Dyer, junior human geography major, said.

There will be a worship and prayer rally with bands performing and spoken word from Mike Young, who hit YouTube celebrity with his "You are Beautiful" video last year.

Last year 850 people signed the petition and \$1,500 was raised. All the money raised this year will go back to IJM to help pass legislation to stop trafficking, prosecute those involved and free the victims.

"We were one of the top five programs

going on last year," Rogers said. "GSU got some attention for that."

Rogers said that even President Brooks Keel signed the petition last year.

This event may remind some of the growing End It Movement and that's because the two organizations work together since they focus on the same cause. The End It Movement has gained a lot of traction in youth groups in churches across the country becoming the focus of many conferences in the last few years.



# DPhiE looks to build house on Greek Row

BY JAMES WAGNER

The George-Anne contributor

Over the past year and a half, the Gamma Omicron chapter of Delta Phi Epsilon has been making the most of their newfound sisterhood and is currently seeking to put their stamp on Greek Row.

Ever since being inducted to Georgia Southern University's Greek community on May 6, 2012 DPhiE has increased their membership to 71 active sisters with a pledge class of 26. The sorority is active both on and off campus with many different community service and philanthropic activities.

With a house, DPhiE hopes to be able to establish a home of their own that will be able to meet the needs of their rapidly growing membership and to also ease the process during recruitment.

"We are the newest PHA (Panhellenic Association) organization on campus and at one point they all wanted a house so we want one as well," Caitie Tuten, public relations chair for DPhiE, said.

Their interest in having a house of their own began in the fall of 2012 and the GSU chapter is currently working along with their headquarters, which is located in Philadelphia, on a feasible timeline to build a sorority house on the empty lot next to the Kappa Delta house on Greek row.

"It's a lot of factors that people are unaware about when it comes to this. Things like fire safety and Georgia Southern codes," Tuten said.

The loan for building the house has been approved by their headquarters but no set timeline has been established for clearing the lot and actually building the house.

"We are doing great and it's exciting because a good amount of girls are here to stay and they continue to be the change they want see," said Tuten.

DPhiE is predicting that their future home will be finished sometime in 2015 and as a whole, they are looking forward to celebrating their second anniversary of being an active Greek organization here on Georgia Southern's campus on May 6.

## SORORITY ROW

KKG

ADPI

EMPTY LOT

ZETA

KD

DPhiE

ADPI

PHIMU

ATO

# Longtime anthropology professor passes away

BY TAYLER CRITCHLOW

The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University professor of anthropology, Robert Shanafelt, Ph.D., passed away March 26 in Emory Hospital surrounded by his wife and son.

Shanafelt was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma roughly three years ago. It was thought that the cancer had been removed this past fall but the cancer returned aggressively within the past two months and doctors were

unable to reverse it, Tim Prizer, former Georgia Southern student and friend of Shanafelt, said.

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma is a cancer that starts in the cells of the immune system causing a lymphocyte, usually a B cell, to become abnormal and B cells are used in producing antibodies to fight antigens, according to the

National Cancer Institute's website.

His last Facebook post was that he had pneumonia and was feeling very weak, Prizer said.

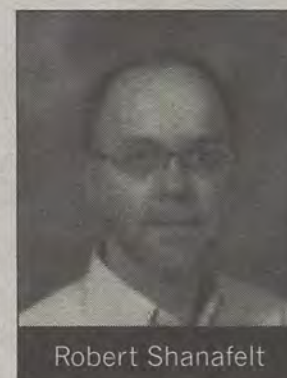
Shanafelt was a cultural anthropologist, an expert on Lesotho, a landlocked country in the middle of South Africa, an expert in folklore and brought the Introduction to Folklore class to Georgia Southern in the early 2000s.

"He was a masterful teacher, he was a brilliant scholar, and every bit as good and amazing of a human being as he was either of those

things," Prizer said.

At the front of the Carroll building there is a memorial stand in Shanafelt's honor decreeing sympathies from faculty, students and staff.

Soft-spoken, gentle, warm and a good-natured person are how Prizer describes Shanafelt, claiming him to be a masterful teacher and brilliant scholar.




Robert Shanafelt

“ He was a masterful teacher, he was a brilliant scholar, and every bit as good and amazing of a human being as he was either of those things, ”

-Tim Prizer,  
former student and friend of Shanafelt



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STATE TRADITIONS



AFICD







Brandon Warnock | The George-Anne

**Student actors** perform the Georgia Southern Theatre Department's modernized version of the classic Shakespearian tale "Hamlet." The performance will feature many multimedia additions, including newscasts, video cameras and even Snapchat.

## Theatre department to modernize classic

**BY MATT SOWELL & RASHIDA OTUNBA**

The George-Anne staff

Security footage, Snapchats and live news teams will take over the Center for Art & Theatre this week in the Shakespearian classic, "Hamlet."

The crew has been working on the play for over a year and the theatre staff has spent months adapting the staging and script to take place in the modern world.

"We've been in the pre-planning stage since April," said Lisa Abbott, the director of the show. "I've been working with the script all summer. We casted the first week of school, our cast has been with us since August. We

started shooting most of the film stuff in fall, and we hit rehearsal in the spring."

"Hamlet" is the first ever collaboration between the theatre program and multimedia film production program at Georgia Southern University.

"We have an amazing cast. Our Hamlet is Tsiambow Akuchu. Our Ophelia is a transfer student, along with our Claudius," Abbott said. "There's around thirty in the cast, it's a big crew. I have one of my most seasoned stage managers and a really solid crew."

The story itself is filled with twists and turns, and the GSU theatre department has added an entirely new element by taking characters and throwing them into the modern era.

"I think it's about trust. That's the theme

we've been playing on. Hamlet doesn't know who to trust, or what to trust, he has to make a decision based on that. We've set him in an environment where he's being spied on all the time, he realizes he's being videotaped but he doesn't realize who's seeing it. A lot of people think Hamlet is 'The Lion King', and in a way it is, we've just intensified," Abbott said.

Hamlet opens this Wednesday and will run from April 2-9 in the Black Box Theatre located inside the Center for Arts & Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for staff and community. All performances start at 7:30 p.m. and there will be matinee on Sunday that begins at 2 p.m. Audience members are encouraged to arrive early.

For those of us who don't spend our time studying Shakespearean literature, here's a guide to "Hamlet": (This play is over 400 years old, so yes there are spoilers. Do better.)

- **Be Prepared:** This play is not for the faint of heart. Unlike "The Lion King," "Hamlet" has no epic happy ending, nor does a baby lion get raised in the air by a talking primate. Grab some tissues, because your childhood is about to be ruined.

- **Summary:** "Hamlet" tells the tragic tale of Prince Hamlet a.k.a. Simba, a prince with major trust issues. His mother has married his uncle Claudius a.k.a. Scar after his father, the king a.k.a. Mufasa, is murdered. He doesn't know who or what to trust. Chaos ensues and, spoiler alert, everyone dies.

- **Ghost Whisperer:** Mufasa's I mean, the king's ghost continues to make regular appearances, guiding young Hamlet to the truth in his quest for vengeance.

- **Hamlet Underwood:** Between a tortured prince and a scheming king, there is enough sleazy corruption in this play to put "House of Cards" to shame.

- **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern** aren't dead despite the play's macabre plot, the basis for Timon and Pumbaa's characters are present to provide the occasional comic relief...although it is definitely not the "Hakuna Matata"-singing, bug-eating friendship we remember.



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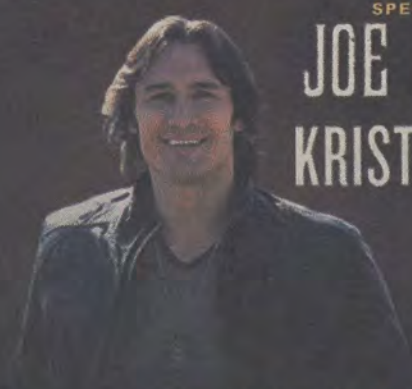
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Courtesy of Eric Spencer

Sophomore trombonist Eric Spencer placed fifth in the International Trombone Festival held in Columbus, Ga., last year. Spencer competed against over 300 competitors from around the world.

## GSU student wins fifth in international competition

**MICHELLE NORSWORTHY**

The George-Anne contributor

When sophomore Eric Spencer and the Georgia Southern University Trombone Ensemble had yet another successful performance at last year's International Trombone Festival, none of them knew where they would end up today.

The International Trombone Festival was held in Columbus, Ga., and it was there that Eric Spencer first heard of the collegiate-level competitions for musicians. It is also where he first heard about the Larry Wiehe Solo Trombone Competition.

This competition, which is sponsored by the International Trombone Association, is for musicians that are 23 years and under, Spencer said. He placed fifth out of nearly 300 musicians from around the world earlier this month.

"Eric competed against students from

prestigious music schools all over the world," Richard Mason, professor at GSU, said.

Mason is one of Eric Spencer's professors, as well as one-fifth of the GSU Faculty Brass Quintet.

These music schools included the Julliard School, Paris Conservatory, and The Royal Academy of Music in London, Mason said.

Competitors were tasked to play a solo piece by Gardell Simmons entitled "Atlantic Zephyrs" and send in their recordings. With the help of his friend Whitt Locke, who acted as his accompanist, Eric Spencer bested nearly 300 other musicians. In the event that one of the four winners is unable to make it, he will take their place in the finals.

Spencer said, "Right now what's going to happen is my name is going to be published in the International Trombone journal – me, my teachers' name, and my school. That's kind of a big deal. It's putting my name out there. It's nice."



# Fugitives take the runway in annual spring fashion show

## Fashion

BY MEAGAN GREENE

The George-Anne staff

Dresses will flow and talents will unite this Saturday night as the D.I.M.E.S. fashion organization presents its spring fashion show, "The Great Escape." Beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Russell Union Ballroom, one of the leading fashion organizations on the Georgia Southern University campus will display what they have been preparing for all year. Raven Taylor, junior, business management major and vice president of D.I.M.E.S. said, "This year's show is called 'The Great Escape' and it focuses on different cultures around the world with a fugitive twist on each scene and the fashion."

Each year the D.I.M.E.S. organization chooses a theme after staff deliberation to create an eye-catching experience for everyone in attendance.

"First we pick a theme for the show the year before and spend fall and spring semester visualizing and deciding on scene layout, props, promotions, and overall aesthetics," Taylor said.

By grabbing the attention of the past audiences,

the D.I.M.E.S. organization yearly spring fashion has inspired students to join this group and help with future creations.

Konnleius Martin, sophomore management major and public relations director for D.I.M.E.S. said, "Their shows always entertain the audience by sticking closely to a theme. Last year's 'Fashion In Film' fashion show influenced me to not only become a part of D.I.M.E.S., but to also play an active role in their next production."

This annual spring fashion show puts a lot of emphasis on their designs and collections that are worn by models specifically chosen for each outfit. "People should expect surprising pieces in this well-thought-out theme of cultural disparity. The articles of clothing that come down the runway always seem to amaze the audience almost more than the models that are wearing them," Martin said. Tickets for the show are \$5 if acquired in advance this week at D.I.M.E.S. tables set up around the rotunda, inside the union or from a member and \$7 at the door. Martin said, "people should really come out not only to be entertained by such a great production, but they should feel inspired once they leave that Ballroom Saturday night."



Christal Riley | The George-Anne

The D.I.M.E.S. organization will host their annual spring fashion show. Production for this year's theme, "The Great Escape," began before fall semester.

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The Garden District





# GSU celebrates National Poetry Month

BY KENNETH LEE & JENNIFER ARTHURS

The George-Anne contributors

This April, Georgia Southern University will be participating in the National Poetry Writing Month (NaPoWriMo) project for its third year, giving students the opportunity to channel their inner Hemingway, or Dr. Seuss, for an entire month.

The NaPoWriMo project was founded in 2003 by a poet named Maureen Thorson. It is an annual project that encourages people to write a poem each day for the month of April.

"April is National Poetry Month, and to celebrate poets around the world write a poem a day for the month of April. 30 days, 30 poems. The poems can be of any length, from pieces of an epic to haiku to one-line monostiches. The poems don't have to be perfect, they just have to be," Emma Bolden, creative writing professor, said.

The project is open to all GSU students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Students can submit

their work by sending an email to the organizer of the NaPoWriMo project, Bolden said.

Bolden will send students an invitation allowing them to post on the group blog: GSUNaPoWriMo. Students who choose not to post can still follow the blog, or write their poems without posting it publicly. "I think that working daily towards poetry helps us to remember that poetry can be fun. It helps us remember that poetry is a way of existing more presently in our own worlds and in our own lives. Really, more than anything, I hope to see people enjoy themselves and nurture their love for the written word," Bolden said.

Bolden is excited about the amount of participation for this event. There have already been several people reaching out to her about participating.

"I'm thrilled to say that I've already heard from several people who want to participate. I'll be participating in the project myself," Bolden said.

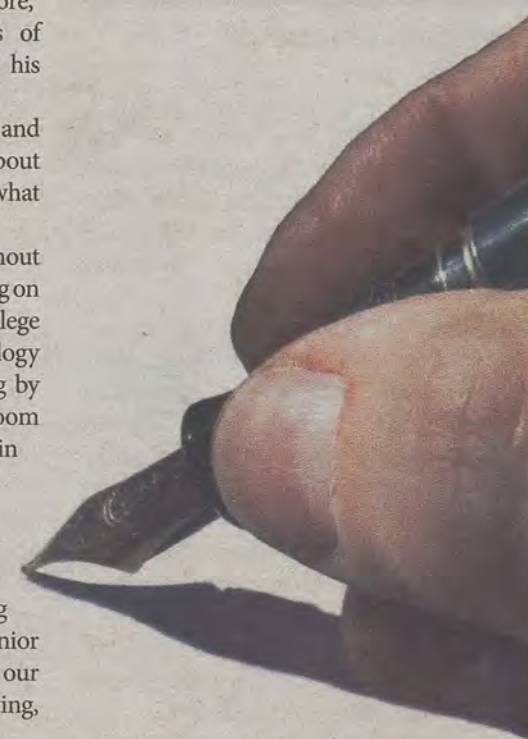
Kerry James Evans is a published poet and former soldier who had a reading at GSU last

Thursday. He read from his book "Bangalore," which contains poems detailing issues of inequality in the South, marriage, and his experience as a soldier in the military.

"I thought poetry was all about love and butterflies. I didn't know I could write about things I went through, where I'm from, what I've done," said Evans.

Other events will be taking place throughout the month and will include: a poetry reading on April 2 by poet Marilyn Nelson in the College of Engineering & Information Technology building, room 1004, at 7 p.m., a reading by poet Sandra Beasley at 7 p.m. in CEIT room 1005, and an International Poetry Night in CEIT room 1005 on April 10.

There will be a Burning Swamp Reading Series reading in the Walnut Room at Chops, time and date to be announced. The Department of Writing and Linguistics will also hold its annual Senior Reading, a celebration of the work of our graduating students in every field of writing, on April 24 at 7 p.m.



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Christal Riley | The George-Anne

Georgia Southern hosted the 2014 US Collegiate Archery Association (USCAA) National Indoor Archery Championships at the RAC from Feb. 28 - March 2. The archery club placed third in the Basic Bow Division of the US Collegiate Archery Association (USCAA) National Indoor Archery Championships. The archery club's next tournament will be Saturday April 26, 2014, as part of their "Friday Night Light" series.

## Dead eye Eagles

### Archery club puts Georgia Southern on map

BY BRYAN MARSEILLE

The George-Anne contributor

Swiping through the 14-page document on his iPhone, Daniel Allen only wanted to see if he placed.

With barely a year's worth of archery experience under his belt, the pre-med senior was stunned when he reached the bottom of the list.

Not only did he beat last year's champion, he finished top three in the nation.

Allen and Rachel Luoma represented Georgia Southern with pride last month, placing third in the 2014 US Collegiate Archery Association (USCAA) National Indoor Archery Championships Basic Bow division.

Before he took the national stage, Allen admitted to coming from humble beginnings.

"The closest thing I had to a bow and arrow was a piece of twine tied to a stick in my backyard," Allen said.

In 2012 he left that backyard and came to GSU, where he met Luoma. Together they joined the archery club and shot recreationally. Allen started competitively indoors last January, but said he noticed his growth as an archer in outdoor competition.

"I went from shooting arrows into the sand to hitting everybody's target except mine," Allen said. "Hitting the stand and losing arrows was more than enough motivation to get better."

Luoma, a senior in the pre-veterinary program, is a veteran compared to Allen, with 10 years of archery experience. The Colombia County native got her start in the fifth grade when she

joined the 4-H club with her older sister.

Competing throughout middle school, Luoma stopped in high school and taught classes in local summer camps. Through her second year of collegiate competition, Luoma has racked up numerous national, state and local titles.

While Allen showed exponential improvement since joining the club, Luoma said her improvements were more gradual, as she had to relearn proper shooting form and technique.

"I've increased my score over 100 points in indoor competition, which is decent," Luoma said. "I didn't reach my [points] goal in Nationals, so know I can do better."

Georgia Southern's Recreation Activity Center (RAC) was more packed than usual from Feb. 28 through March 2. With over 130

participants from eight different colleges, the tournament featured four different divisions: recurve, compound, bowhunter and basic bow.

Unlike their other collegiate counterparts, Georgia Southern's archery club does not receive scholarships to compete. Scholarship or not, the duo proved their worth through skill in what both consider the hardest division.

"All three other categories have some sort of a sight, like a rifle," Luoma said. "In bare bow, the more traditional style, we're like 'ehhh, I think that's where I'm supposed to be aiming.'"

"When you're scoring around the same amount as the other rounds, that's when you know you're good," Allen said.

Trophies and accolades considered, the two agreed that

mingling with their opponents is the ultimate reward. From tournaments stretching from Statesboro to Utah and competitors from Texas to California, Allen said the diverse people with different outlooks on life make the trips worth it.

"We're all just college kids with the same problem, same issues," Allen said. "Archery brings together a diverse group of people you wouldn't meet otherwise."

Students, faculty and staff of all skill-levels are encouraged to join the club for the sake of having fun according to Luoma. Their next tournament will be Saturday April 26, 2014, as part of their "Friday Night Light" series.

The club will also take a journey to Long Beach, Calif., in May for the United States Intercollegiate Archery Championships.



# CLASSIFIEDS

16 Tuesday, April 1, 2014

The George-Anne

## Miscellaneous

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## Housing

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## Miscellaneous

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Georgia Southern University will be hosting it's 2nd Annual campus Relay For Life on Friday, April 11th at 6p.m. All students, faculty, staff and associates of the University are encouraged to participate and form teams for this event! We are also in search of cancer survivors to walk our Survivor's Lap to kick off Relay. Teams can register online by searching Georgia Southern on the Relay For Life website. For more information please contact Megan White at [mw05151@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:mw05151@georgiasouthern.edu).

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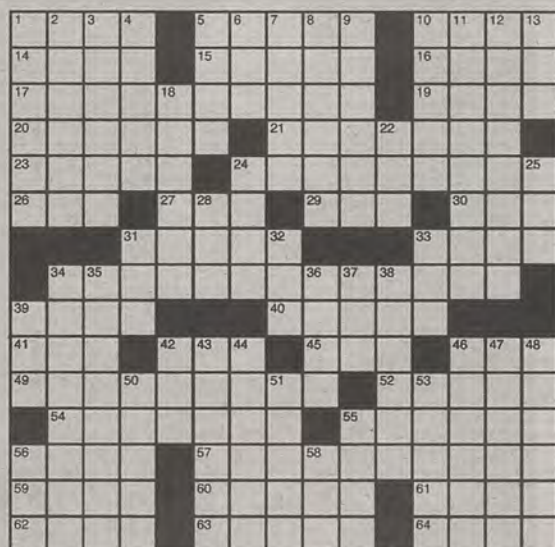
Tuesday, April 1, 2014 17

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### ACROSS

- 1 Mascara recipient
- 5 Lie in store for
- 10 Naval jail
- 14 rug
- 15 Swiss capital, to the Swiss
- 16 One and only
- 17 Hollywood
- 19 "My great hope" laugh as much as I cry: Angelou
- 20 Impressive property
- 21 Dugout leader
- 23 Mattress make
- 24 Outdoor seating option
- 26 Airport screening org.
- 27 WC
- 29 Italian three
- 30 "Stop-": UGK hit
- 31 Classic theater name
- 33 Ignore socially
- 34 Festive centerpiece adorned with the starts 17-, 24-, 49- and 57-Across
- 39 Big cat's cry
- 40 Ballet bends
- 41 Flightless Aussie bird
- 42 Pickle's place
- 45 Computer application file extension
- 46 CBS-owned cable movie sta.
- 49 All the details, casually
- 52 Group of eight
- 54 Not taking sides
- 55 Pointed abode
- 56 Gets hitched
- 57 Venezuelan natural wonder
- 59 above the rest
- 60 Just right
- 61 Flower-loving buzzers
- 62 Peeps from pups
- 63 Pub game
- 64 Miss in Mex.



By Gareth Bain

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

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

- 2 Crops up
- 3 Nissan compact
- 4 Assaults
- 5 Blessed with skills
- 6 behind the ears
- 7 Yummy smell
- 8 Needing, with "of"
- 9 Sawbuck, to a Brit
- 10 HMS Bounty's ill-fated captain
- 11 '80s-'90s wisecracking TV mom
- 12 Cloak-and-dagger doings
- 13 Former Prizm maker
- 18 And others, in bibliographies
- 22 Unhittable serve
- 24 Crotchety oldster
- 25 Stick up
- 28 Drinks in the a.m.
- 31 "I need a sweater!"
- 32 Baseball arbiter
- 33 Yearbook gp.
- 34 Five-time Olympic gold winner Nadia
- 35 Called to account
- 36 "Jeopardy!" host Trebek
- 37 Common dinner hour
- 38 Make really mad
- 39 Civil War soldier
- 42 Write quickly
- 43 Frightened
- 44 Central African country about the size of Massachusetts
- 46 Less fresh
- 47 "To be, or not to be" speaker
- 48 Ukrainian port
- 50 Thirsts (for)
- 51 Alleged Soviet spy Hiss
- 53 "Deadliest Catch" boatful
- 55 "fair in love ..."
- 56 Technique
- 58 "Dig in!"

### DOWN

- 1 Most current news, with "the"

## THE WRIGHT BROTHERS INVENT AN AIRPLANE

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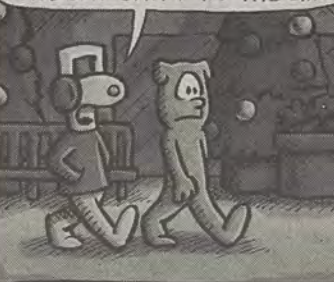
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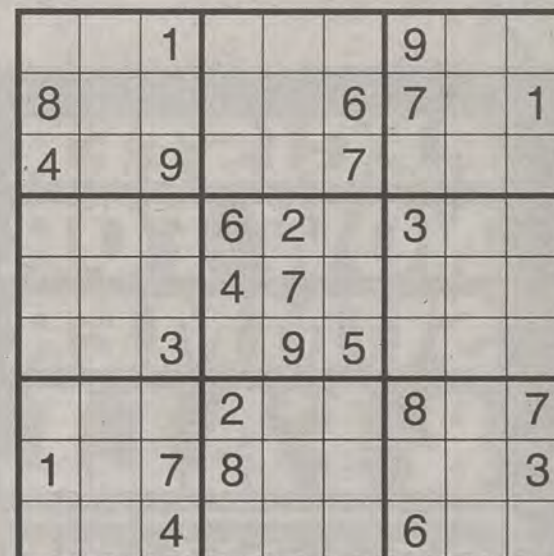
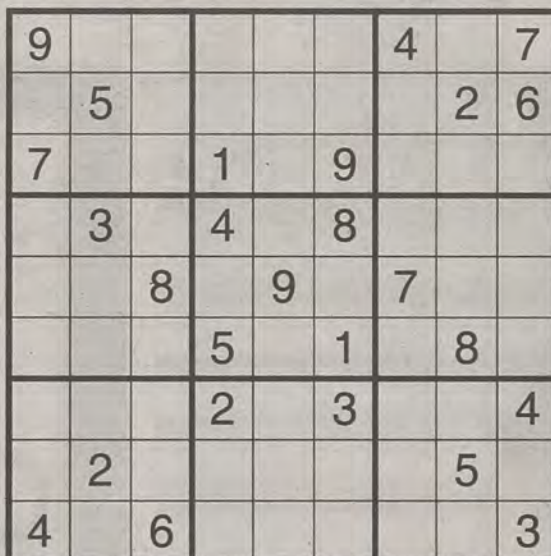
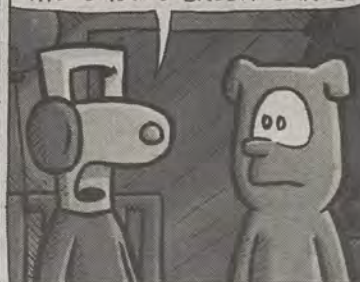
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# Golf keeps its momentum

## Men's Golf

BY EMILY ARNOLD

The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern University men's golf team had another stellar performance at the Florida Atlantic University Slomin Center Invitational in Lake Worth, Fla., coming in second just under the nationally sixth-ranked University of Central Florida.

"The boys played great. We had a great team effort all weekend. All weekend long, all five guys were in the ballgame all three rounds," Head coach Larry Mays said.

Round one posted an incredible score of 278 and the Eagles started the tournament in first place, seven strokes ahead of second place Central Florida. Seniors Hayden

Anderson and Will Evans, juniors Scott Wolfes and Charlie Martin and sophomore Henry Mabbett all competed in this tournament. All five golfers stayed in top 20 positions all weekend.

In the second round, the Eagles were knocked down to second place as a result of outstanding performances from Central Florida's Ricardo Gouveia and Greg Eason who both shot a 65. The Eagles continued to stay strong in the tournament with all five guys posting scores between 70 and 72.

"Golf is just one of those games that if you get everyone on the same page, sometimes it can be tough, but when you do great things happen," Mays said. "That's what we've got right now, all the guys playing good at the same time."

The Eagle's finished round three

in second place, scoring a 282 with their final score being an incredible seven-under-par. Central Florida took first place and, along with GSU, were the only teams to post final scores under par.

"I think we've got the good momentum working in our favor and we've got good players stepping up at the right time," Mays said. "Winning the Schenkel was a huge accomplishment. We've got Vanderbilt next week and then we go to conference and then NCAA, so hopefully we're peeking at the right time and got the guys all on the same page."

This Friday, the Eagle's travel to Nashville, Tenn., for the Mason Rudolph Championship. They hope to carry the momentum into the last tournaments of the season and bring home some trophies.



Courtesy of gseagles.com

Junior Scott Wolfes posted a 67 as GSU finished second at the FAU Slomin Center Invitational.

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**Junior Jordana Klein** transferred to GSU following her freshman year at Murray State University in Kentucky. Klein has amassed a singles record of 20-18 in two seasons as an Eagle.

## Transfer Klein stands out

BY MACY HOLLOWAY

The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University tennis star Jordana Klein, originally from Alpharetta, has stood out at every level of her tennis career.

The junior journalism major attended Woodward Academy from 2008-2011. During her freshman year the Woodward tennis team went 23-1, and in addition Klein claimed the Georgia State Clay Court Championship in 2008. In 2010 Klein won the Georgia State Clay Court Championship again, as well as the Mississippi State Open Hard Court Championships.

The War Eagles also took the state titles in 2008, 2010 and 2011, however in 2009 they only made it to the semi-finals. Klein also helped the varsity volleyball team to State Championships from 2008-2010.

"I always wanted to play a sport in college, I just had to decide between volleyball and tennis but I was mostly always leaning toward tennis," Klein said.

Klein attended Murray State University in Kentucky for her freshman year of college where the tennis team compiled a 12-11 record. Klein played third in doubles and singles. She had a record of 12-10 for singles and 13-10 in doubles for the season.

"I got a scholarship to Murray State and about two months before I was supposed to leave I received a call saying that my favorite coach, the one that recruited me, had decided to retire," Klein said. "So I stuck around for a year but just realized it was too far away. I looked into Georgia

Southern because I knew they had a really good tennis program, so that's why I decided to come here."

Klein came to GSU in 2012 where she continued to strive for collegiate victory as a sophomore. She started off her 2012 fall season by winning the Auburn Invitational in the finals. When the Eagles traveled to Kennesaw State University for the Kennesaw Fall Classic, Klein registered an impressive 3-0 record in doubles play as well as picking up singles wins against Western Carolina University and KSU.

Unyielding, Klein also went on to win the Augusta Challenge, putting up massive wins and a remarkable 3-0 record in each event.

In the spring of her sophomore year Klein played 22 singles matches for the Eagles. All at the No. 2 position she earned a team-leading 13 wins of the year for an overall record of 13-9 as well as 6-4 in the Southern Conference.

As a GSU junior, Klein has had a roller-coaster of a season starting off very strong and slowly depreciating in wins as the season wears on. She now holds an overall record of 7-9 and a SoCon record of 1-5. She hopes that the upcoming matches will help improve her and her team's overall record in the impending weeks before their last season in the Southern Conference comes to a final close.

Klein said, "I think the team knew that we would have a pretty tough mid-season schedule but also that if we stuck with it and kept playing hard we could turn it around and I think our success can continue into the rest of our conference matches."



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# Pro Day performance at GSU

BY LAYNE SALIBA  
& JARED MURRAY

The George-Anne contributors

In the midst of the excitement for Georgia Southern University's move to the Sun Belt Conference, Allen E. Paulson Stadium said one final goodbye to a group of 14 seniors.

Standout athletes including Jerick McKinnon and Lavelle Westbrook took the field for the 2014 Pro Day, while 16 National Football League scouts awaited them. Scouts from all over the nation flocked to Paulson Stadium to see what talent GSU had to offer. The New Orleans Saints, New York Giants, Indianapolis Colts and Atlanta Falcons were all present, among others.

The draft-eligible players went through a series of drills to showcase the skills and athleticism they gained during their football careers. The day began indoors by measuring height, vertical jump and broad jump along with the strength of the players through bench press. All of this before being sent to the field to display on-field skills.

Of the participating seniors on the field, both McKinnon and Westbrook opted to keep some of their measurements and times from the NFL Combine.

McKinnon made no appearance in the initial drill of the 40-yard dash.

"I had a good showing at the combine," McKinnon said. McKinnon posted an official time of 4.41 in the 40-yard dash at the combine.

McKinnon compared Pro Day to the NFL combine and said it was,

"About the same. Different drills. Did some defensive back drills today that I had been working on. So I think overall the hard work paid off today," McKinnon said.

Once the athletes completed the 40-yard dash, a short session of shuttle drills took place, followed by running back drills. This is when McKinnon got to show out for the scouts, and he thought the other seniors did the same as well.

"Ya know, everybody came out, was loose, didn't let the scouts get to 'em, played the game, and I think everybody did their best today," McKinnon said.

While all of the seniors were turning heads, the scouts couldn't help but notice the talent coming from McKinnon. After the performance he had at the NFL Combine, all eyes were on him. He says he was able to perform well by not letting the pressure of scouts watching get to him.

"A lot of intensity built up, but you know you can't pay attention to it or it might get to you, or

get the best of you. You just got to block it out, play the game, and act as if nobody was there," McKinnon said.

As soon as the running backs finished up, the defensive backs took the field to perform for the scouts. This is when Lavelle Westbrook was able to showcase what he has spent his college career preparing for. When his turn came, he showed the scouts everything they wanted to see following his performance at the combine.

"I just wanted to go out there and just compete. I mean, the scouts wanted me to go out there and show that I wasn't content with what I ran at the combine," Westbrook said.

And Westbrook did just that. He performed very well during the defensive back drills along with McKinnon. They were both seen to the side working on their cuts with a GSU coach. The scouts seemed impressed by their efforts but Westbrook didn't appear focused on that.

"The main focus was to just go out there and show that I wanted to compete, and more than anything I wanted to get better as far as when I tested at the combine," Westbrook said.

McKinnon also took part in the defensive back drills. He had been working on drills after this past season ended because he wanted to perform well on all parts of the field. However, he has a bit of a different mindset than Westbrook when asked about his draft stock. He isn't solely focused on the scouts, but he knows what they have been saying about him.

"You know, [I] definitely got a lot of interest from some good teams. I've been hearing good things, especially from the combine and what I did there. [I'm] really just looking to build off of it and keep going forward," McKinnon said.

Pro Day gave many of the players the opportunity to display their skills in front of an audience of "job interviewers" in hopes of earning a spot at the next level. Despite their performances, going from college football to the NFL is not a simple transition, and it is not something to be taken lightly. It is still the same game, but many different aspects change. Whether it's on the field or off the field, players must carry themselves in a professional manner at all times.

"You know, in this process it's all business. So you know, it's always great to smile but you come out here you got to have your business face on. So I just try to take that approach and put my best foot forward," McKinnon said.

Though not every graduating senior will land a spot on a NFL roster, the effort and



Ryan Woodham | The George-Anne

**New GSU head coach Willie Fritz** looks on as the 14 departing Eagles participate in the Pro Day workouts.



Brandon Warnock | The George-Anne

**Cornerback Lavelle Westbrook** runs the first of his two 40-yard dashes on the day, posting a 4.69.

intensity of every participating player at Pro Day was high and determined.

"It was a great competition for everybody, and I think we put on a great show for Georgia Southern," Westbrook said.

The first round of the 2014 NFL Draft will take place on May 8 and will end with rounds 4-7 on May 10. GSU will be watching in anticipation of the players that have represented the university so well being drafted to the NFL.



# Strength in numbers

## How many Eagles does it take?

### Softball (24-11)

BY KATIE TOLBERT

The George-Anne staff

The star pitcher is exhausted, the go-to-hitter has a hurt shoulder and the center fielder got hit in the face with a ball, hypothetically speaking of course, what does a team do? Do they forfeit? Do they just throw in the towel?

The Georgia Southern University softball team would not be a team to just throw in the towel, because this team is more than equipped when it comes to filling in positions anywhere on the field. Not only are there upperclassmen who execute their job with ease, due to experience, but there are also freshmen stepping up producing the same precision.

"I'm really confident [in the depth of the team]. We win and lose as a team. It could be that one simple pinch run that was scored and things like that. So, everybody is important and it's nice to see

everyone step up when they need to," Head Coach Annie Smith said.

This past weekend, the Eagles played a conference series against Western Carolina University, and with a doubleheader on Saturday, GSU showed that depth on several different levels.

In the circle, the series was started off by senior Sarah Purvis pitching a one-hitter and earning herself a victory along with 11 strikeouts. Replacing Purvis in the second game of the day, junior Brooke Red pitched a two-hitter while also earning herself a victory.

GSU's depth extends from the circle all around the field. Each outfield position has at least two players that are more than capable of doing the job at hand. While in the infield, the positions fall in a range from freshmen to seniors.

Third base and shortstop have the experienced seniors who consistently make plays in these positions, while second base is a junior, first base is a freshman and

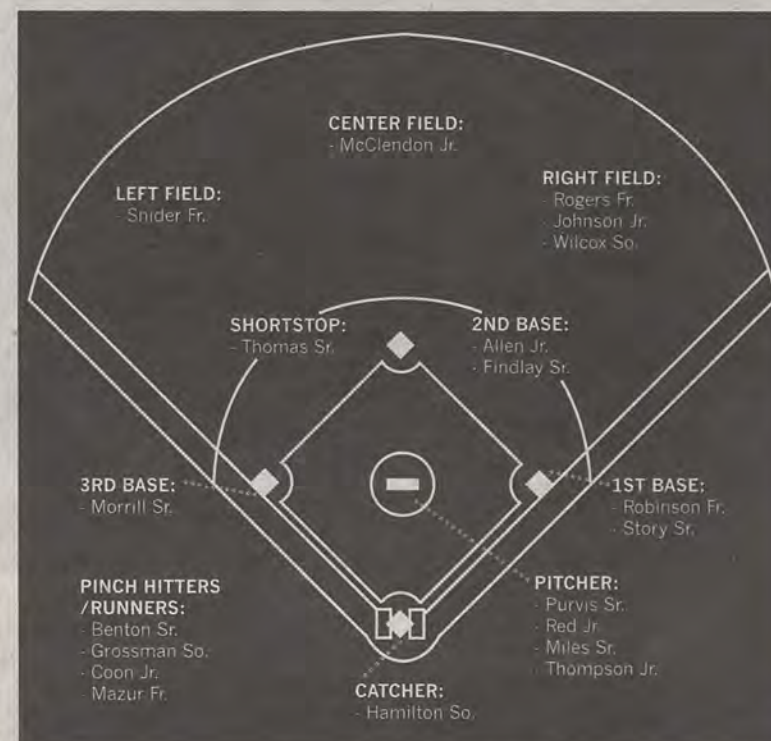
at home plate, the Eagles superstar catcher is a sophomore. This shared influence on the field allows GSU the opportunity to possibly be the team to win three Southern Conference championships in a row.

"For us philosophically, I'm like it's okay, we are going to make some mistakes, just never panic. So, it's been 'don't break.' It's a matter of staying focused, and it can be hard," Smith said.

In the second inning of the second game this past weekend, the Eagles did make some mistakes, two errors to be exact, and WCU took advantage of that. But, like Smith said, this team does not panic.

After that point, the Eagles' defense only allowed one more run for WCU and ended up tallying nine runs to win the game, four of which were in the bottom of the sixth inning. Smith's confidence in the depth of her team has a lot to do with the fact that GSU had four hitters with at least two hits in the second game.

"We just need to stay focused, and



continue doing what we're doing. We need to play our game, and as long as we do that, we'll be okay," Smith said.

The Eagles will continue their

conference play on the road against rival Appalachian State University this coming Saturday and Sunday in Boone, N.C.

# Paying college athletes in question

### In My Opinion

For a star quarterback at most universities country-wide, that collegiate athlete will receive free tuition, free housing, free meal plans, free gear, the admiration of the entire student body and a fan base, but now a set salary and more is also being discussed.

Northwestern University football players were granted the right to unionize by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) because they came to the conclusion that these athletes fall under the definition of employee. These players are unionizing to gain more from their commitment as college football

players, like better medical coverage, four-year scholarships, concussion testing and, what everyone is talking about, a salary or stipend.

"In some ways what's happened here is that the NCAA has waited a little too long to make some

important changes and now the outside forces are taking over. If the NCAA doesn't do something on their own here, others will come in and do it for them," David Murphy, a labor and employment partner with Dorsey & Whitney, said in a news release. "Although one regional



Katie Tolbert

director's decision doesn't set the rule for the whole US right now, it does have the potential to lay the foundation for the future law of the land."

The NLRB recognizing these players as employees brings all of these considerations to the

table and some action will have to be put into place. So what does this mean for Georgia Southern University? It means our athletes could get paid in the near future.

Of course, this case could get appealed, the players' union could get shut down and the NCAA

would be able to breathe easily without having to change more than a handful, to say the least, of rules and regulations.

But, if that doesn't happen, what can all the students expect from a history-making decision like this? Would the money come from our tuition increases? Would universities and colleges suddenly compete with one another based on the salaries of their athletes?

The medical part of the argument can be seen within reason. The players are definitely risking their health for this sport, so keeping these players at their maximum performance level should be a given from the university or college.

As for the four-year scholarships

and payment, no one from the university is forcing any athlete to play his or her sport, so the athletes shouldn't be demanding all these changes when they knew what they signed up for voluntarily. Athletes at GSU and all around the country should all see their collegiate athletic careers as the best internship possible to reach professional or Olympic sports.

If something like this were to happen, the GSU student body could be in trouble.

The added amount for the stadium wasn't enough to ruffle too many people's feathers, but when more and more of people's money go towards athletics instead of academics, there will be a problem.





## REPORT CARD

A table with different categories such as Pitching, Offense, Defense, and Overall

### 2014 BASEBALL MIDTERMS

PITCHING	<b>B</b>
OFFENSE	<b>A-</b>
DEFENSE	<b>C+</b>
OVERALL	<b>B+</b>

Brandon Warnock | The George-Anne

Since the Eagles began SoCon play on March 14, they own a conference record of 4-5. GSU's average of 9.7 runs per game is down to 4.1 runs per game in SoCon play.

# Mid-season report card for baseball

BY TREVOR MCNABOE

The George-Anne staff

After a hot start to the 2014 season the Georgia Southern University baseball team has begun to cool off.

Baseball is a game of many facets and now, at the halfway point in the season, GSU has some issues to address along with points that they need to maintain to keep up their winning ways.

#### OFFENSE GRADE: A-

In the beginning of the season GSU was scoring double-digit runs with regularity, however since spring break the Eagles have scored

less than five runs six times. Junior outfielder Aaron Mizell, the leading home run hitter for the team, has not hit a home run in eight games after hitting nine in the previous 19 games.

Despite this power outage the Eagles still lead the nation in home runs with 36, already surpassing the team's total from last season.

The Eagles are still holding strong in the batting average department, dropping from first to eighth coming in with a .313 average.

Run production has steadied off as well as GSU is now in fourth in the nation in total runs with 228 runs through 29 games.

#### DEFENSE GRADE: C+

Defensively the Eagles have played well with a .966 fielding percentage as a team, however they have only played 10 games this season without an error, and five times have committed three or more errors in a game.

Five players on the Eagles roster that have significant playing time have not committed an error this season.

As a team the Eagles have 38 errors committed and still find themselves out of the top 100 in fielding percentage.

#### PITCHING GRADE: B

Pitching was going to be a real question that needed to be answered this season and so far the pitching staff has been holding it together very well.

Junior College transfer Josh Wirsu has been a valuable asset to the staff as he leads the team in wins with a 5-2 record along with averaging 2.6 strikeouts per walk.

As a team the Eagles team earned run average has increased but is still at a solid 3.03. Along with that, the pitching staff has allowed opponents to hit a minimal .245.

#### OVERALL GRADE: B+

GSU has hit a mid-season lull but, despite the early struggle in conference, fear not. As a whole the Southern Conference is a lot tougher than some of the opponents the Eagles have played in the early parts.

GSU will have to continue to improve their consistency especially in the three game series if they want to be playing in the NCAA regionals, if not farther.

The offensive output will have to improve followed by pitching. If the team can put together the whole package, then look forward to seeing them playing late into May and June.



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# Offense falters in SoCon play

BY COLIN RITSICK

The George-Anne staff

The fireworks display of an offense that had Georgia Southern University atop the nation in team batting average three weeks ago has simmered down since beginning Southern Conference play.

The Eagles (20-9, 4-5 SoCon) lost the series to Davidson College over the weekend and have lost seven of their last 12. If they didn't pull out a four-run, eighth-inning comeback win over Appalachian State University, the team would have lost all three conference series this year.

In the 17 games leading up to the first SoCon series against Elon University, the Eagles averaged 9.7

runs per game. This number can be considered a little inflated due to some of the glorified high-school teams GSU played early on – but still, these guys can hit and 9.7 runs a game proves that.

But in the nine league games, the Eagles are putting up only 4.1 runs per game. They have been shut out twice in that span – and not once in the 17 games prior.

It's not to say this wasn't expected to some degree. You can't bank on a team to hit .348 and lead the nation in runs scored all year long, especially against SoCon opponents. But it is something to pay attention to. With about half of the season left to play, which team will finish the year?



Brandon Warnock | The George-Anne

GSU (20-9) has lost three of its last four games, including two losses against Davidson College over the weekend. The Eagles' offense, which has tapered off to a degree, still seems to be the team's strongest attribute.

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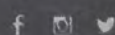


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