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Pages
8 & 9

GA

THE GEORGE-ANNE

BLACK STORIES MATTER

Jamar Boyd
reflects on
Charleston
shooting

COURTNEY BONACCI THE GEORGE-ANNE

Check out students doing
real-world research

Page 6

EAGLES FACE OFF AGAINST FORMER RIVAL
PAGE 12

TAHIR DAUDIER THE GEORGE-ANNE

Achilles Wheel

BY JOHNNY LU
The George-Anne staff

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a skateboarder? Freedom isn't the only one soaring around the Georgia Southern campus as skateboarders, long-boarders, bicyclists and even roller skaters prepare for liftoff every morning to get to their destinations on campus.

As fun and wild as tearing down the pavement may sound, the sport isn't for everyone, which brings up the question of safety in such a diverse environment. It brings up questions on how campus pedestrians can stay safe in an environment with a growing skateboarding population.

"Although skateboarding and longboarding have been around for the longest time, it's still a growing sport in isolated areas. I believe people are still getting used to the growing popularity of skating and the factors and risks that come with it, just like any other sport such as bicycling or walking," Thomas Jones, alumni and former president of the GSU Longboarding Club, said.

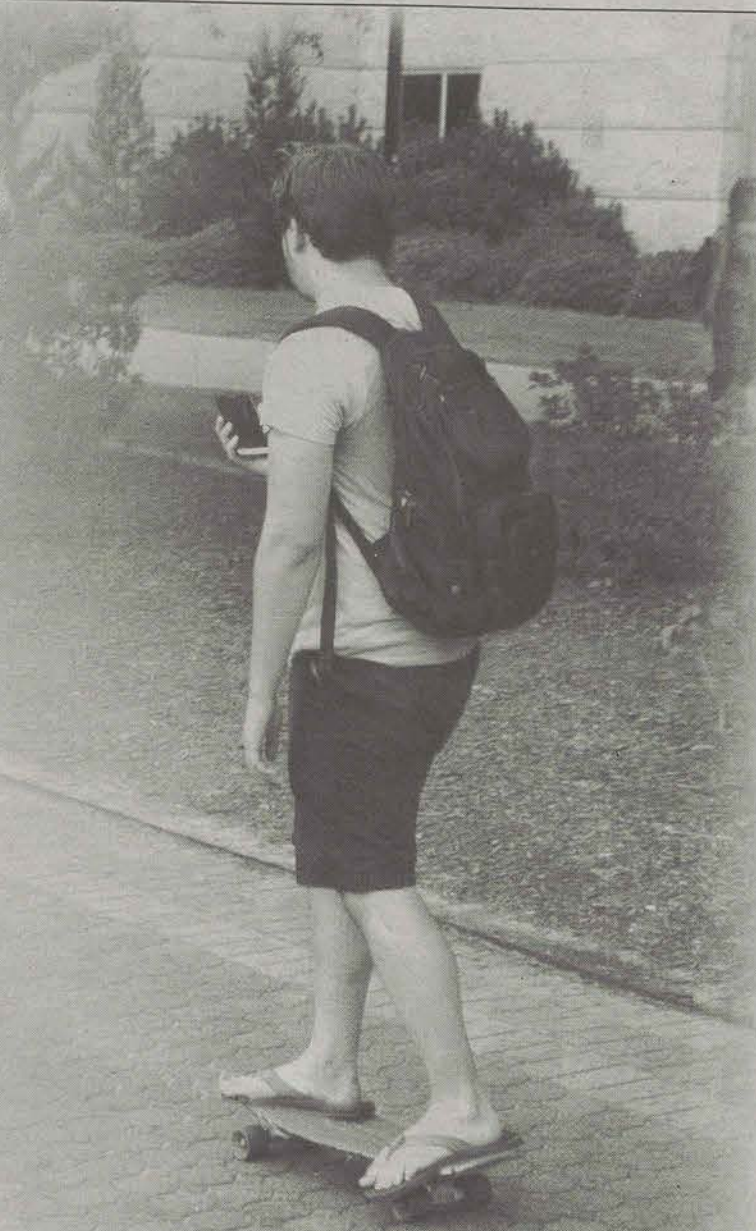
One of the most dangerous

things that could happen with skaters and bicyclists is a collision. Whether it's on campus or in a major city, pedestrians will always be vulnerable to colliding with a commuter on wheels.

"One of the dangers of skating on campus is that people who don't skate also don't know what to do when a skater is headed in their direction and usually panic while trying to move out of the way, causing the skater to bail and jump off the board," Adrienne Brynenski, sophomore criminal justice major, said.

There are pros and cons to this method of commuting on campus as the speeds can indeed get one where they need to be in a quicker fashion, but can also come with the risk of running into others.

"As a skater, I believe that there are responsibilities for both commuters on wheels and pedestrians. Both should be aware of their surroundings in a high traffic area," Mindy Score, senior psychology major, said.



SIMEON IKE THE GEORGE-ANNE

WEATHER BAR

Friday



High: 82°
Low: 65°

Saturday



High: 87°
Low: 65°

Sunday



High: 91°
Low: 66°

GSU INTRAMURAL UPDATE

Campus is full of opportunities to get involved, even if you aren't sure how to get out there. One of the ways to get out of your room every so often is to join an intramural team.

BY SIMEON IKE
The George-Anne staff

To join an intramural team, click IM Leagues under Health and Wellness in MyGeorgiaSouthern.

REGISTRATION
TO-DO LIST

Fall Softball:
September 8- October 1

Flag Football:
September 14- October 25

Cornhole:
September 28- September 29

Tennis Doubles:
September 28- October 18

FINDING A NEW GSU PRESIDENT

BY CAITLYN OLIVER
The George-Anne staff

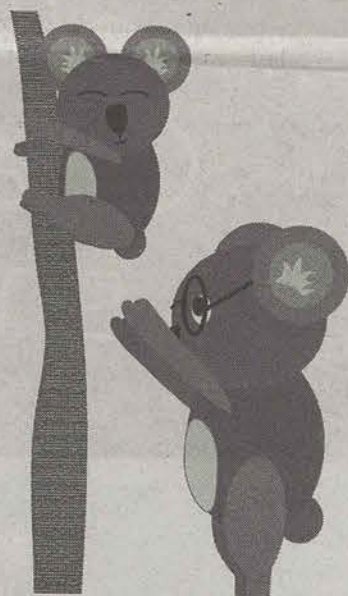
The committee required by the Board of Regents to look for Georgia Southern University's next president has been formed and the members selected.

The Presidential Search and Screening Committee has 18 members, who are appointed by Board of Regents Chairman Neil Pruitt. The members include SGA President Charles Glover, Dean of Students Patrice Jackson, and Statesboro Mayor Jan Moore, as well as professors and directors from

different GSU departments.

The committee will meet September 30 to receive its responsibilities, including the development of a position description, the placement of announcements, and conducting on-campus interviews.

When the process is over, three to five candidates will be submitted to the Regents' Search Committee. The Regents Search Committee is responsible for recommending finalists to Chancellor Hank Huckaby, who makes a recommendation to the Board of Regents.

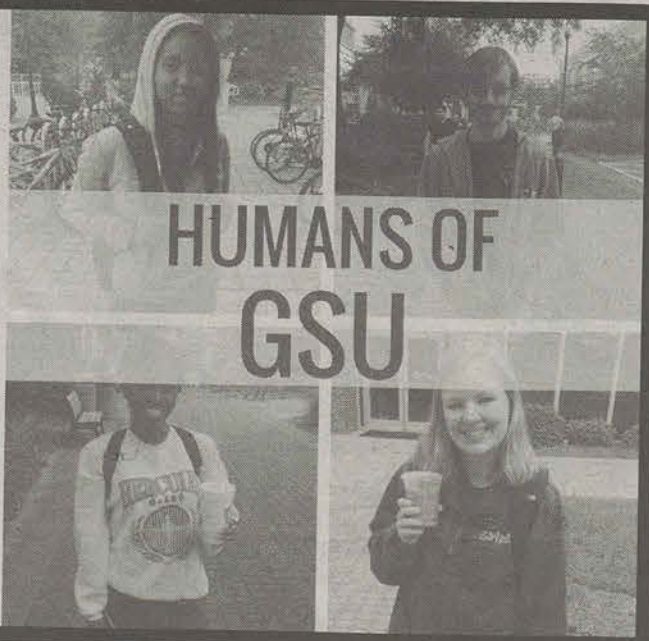


"THIS IS PERFECT
CLIMBING WEATHER,
DAD!"



The Circle wants to be the place students can voice their opinions and be heard. You are the humans of Georgia Southern. This week, The Circle heard four students thoughts of the day.

Follow us @thecirclegsu on Twitter to see more #HumansOfGS!



Features

9-17-15

GAME DAY FASHION DO'S AND DON'TS

BY ARAYA JACKSON
The George-Anne staff

Ladies in blue and gold dresses, pearls and boots alongside men in khakis and university collar shirts is what you will see lining the streets of Lanier Drive and Robinhood Trail. This isn't a Sunday church after party, this is a typical Saturday afternoon game day in Statesboro.

People usually try to look their best for things that are important to them, like church, interviews or dinner at grandmas, but here in the South, we take pride in our appearance for football games. You won't catch us

yelling "Georgia....Southern" across the stadium in a t-shirt.

Yes, we like to look nice, but yes, there is also a line between Southern attire and club attire. Don't end up with an outfit malfunction or crying because you have blisters all over your feet. Ladies, know the do's and don'ts to game day fashion and also where to go locally if your closet needs a little True Blue pick-me-up. Gentlemen, I chose to do this strictly for girls because let's face it, our picky and indecisive tastes need a little guidance. You guys just rock your girls' sorority pin, collar shirts and remember, hide your drinks in pictures.

DO'S



- Do rep your school's colors! In this case, that's blue and gold. You can also mix in some white or black to go along. I personally rocked a white dress with a dark blue bralette last weekend and got so many compliments! Show your True Blue spirit with the rest of campus, and proudly scream 'Hail Southern!' while looking like you actually do.
- Do keep your makeup natural. Neutral colors and light foundation will be your best bet.
- Do wear comfortable shoes! The best and most popular way to go is cowgirl boots. This way, if it rains, you don't have wet and dirty feet. So yes, pull out those bad boys that you usually only wear to country concerts. You now have a new reason to show them off.
- Do fix your hair in the way it works best. For me, I love to curl my hair. But I also know that my naturally pin-straight hair will frizz up into a rat's nest by the end of the night if I curled it for a game. So as tempting as it may be, wear your hair natural.

DONT'S



- Don't overdo the colors! A blue dress with yellow accents and jewelry is just fine and dandy, but there becomes a point where you look like you just tried a little too hard. Not all blues match, just like not all yellows flow together either. I'm sure we all have a decent taste to know this (right?) but here's a reminder.
- Don't get too heavy with the makeup. I love my black smoky eye as much as the next girl, but this isn't my first go around, and listen to me when I tell you it will not look good by the end of the night. "I don't think I've had one game day where my makeup wasn't sweated off by the end," Sarah Snow, sophomore political science major, said.
- Don't wear wedges! For the love of all things holy, just don't do it. Oh, so you think you can walk from tailgate to tailgate or jump up and down cheering in the stadium in those dreadful things? Try adding alcohol to the mixture. It's not fun, nor is it cute. Play it safe ladies.

If you haven't noticed already, there's a reoccurring theme here: natural. Saturdays are just a tricky day of trying to look cute while also trying to predict what Statesboro weather will bring next. I know I wasn't expecting that down pour last weekend. Walking down Robinhood in my dress and a rain jacket was NOT fun. The ultimate way to look your best throughout the action is keeping it simple while still making heads turn.

I'm sure by now, for upperclassmen, you have enough blue and gold dresses in your closet to go around a time or two. But if you're a freshman and your wardrobe needs some GSU put inside, fear no more. There are some extremely cute and affordable

boutiques around Statesboro that will provide you with the ultimate game day hook up. My personal two favorites are Entourage and Walker's Boutique. Both are conveniently located in the same general area by the Walmart Neighborhood Market and Jimmy John's (because I know you know where that is).

Georgia Southern football is officially in full swing! So let's get rowdy and stomp over the competition, while looking good in the process. Remember, we're here to keep it classy and represent not only Georgia Southern, but all of football in the South, in a positive light. So shine on girls and I'll be seeing you this weekend!



9/17- WEEKLY BUZZ -9/23

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

SEPTEMBER 18TH

Fall Family Weekend Block Party

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: University Bookstore Plaza (Georgia Ave.)

Join the University Programming Board and the Office of Admissions for a Fall Family Weekend Kick-off Block Party. The block party is free and open to all families and students of Georgia Southern University. There will be FREE food, great music, and FREE giveaways. The Tech Corner and the University Bookstore will also be open during the time to allow parents to purchase all the necessary game gear! Event hosted by the University Programming Board. *Note: The University Store will only be open until 7 p.m., the Tech Corner will be open until 8 p.m.

Contact Information: UPB@Georgiasouthern.edu

UPB Outdoor Movie: Jurassic World

Time: 8:30 - 10:00 pm

Location: Sweetheart Circle

Family in town? Looking for fun on a Friday night? Join the University Programming Board for their biweekly movie series. This event is free and open to the public. It's Fall Family weekend, feel free to bring mom, dad or a sibling! Students, please bring your Eagle IDs. Due to the location of this movie, Jurassic World will only be shown one time (at sunset) tonight. In the event of inclement weather, the movie will be held at 8:00pm in the Russell Union Theater. If you need assistance, related to access for this event, please email: upb@georgiasouthern.edu at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

Contact Information: UPB@Georgiasouthern.edu

SEPTEMBER 22ND

SOLD Workshop Series: National Hazing Prevention Week - Kim Novak

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Hanner Fieldhouse

The SOLD Workshop Series is coordinated by the Office of Student Leadership & Civic Engagement and the Office of Student Activities. The SOLD Workshop Series is designed for any student seeking to develop their individual leadership capabilities and for students who currently or aspire to hold a leadership position within their student organization. This series is an excellent way for student organizations to train their next leaders.

Contact Information: flugo@georgiasouthern.edu

Registration: Southern Collegiate Leadership Conference

Time: Registration Closes on 9/23

Location: Register Online

Registration is now open for the Southern Collegiate Leadership Conference, which is being held on Saturday, October 3rd in the Russell Union. This year's conference theme is "Leading with Civility" and features keynote speakers along with educational workshop tracks. The registration fee is only \$15.00 per student and covers all conference materials, lunch, and a conference keepsake. Conference registration closes on September 23rd.

For more information on the conference, please visit Contact Information: ibanter@georgiasouthern.edu

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK

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

DISCOVER SERIES: STUDENTS TAKE ON GCM

BY MEG ELWOOD
The George-Anne staff

Here's a major for those who want to mix creativity with business. If you have ever wanted to take a shot at creating your own key chains, decals, stickers or even tote bags, check out GCM Technologies. Graphic Communication Management, also known as GCM, focuses on every step in print production from the design to the finished product. The program offers multiple hands-on classes such as GCM Technologies, taught by Hope Carroll, a passionate instructor who wishes to expose students to a little bit of everything the program is truly capable of.

"They [students] really get a wide range of experience," said Carroll. "We teach them all of the printing process and they really have to understand what the plate looks like, how the image gets to the plate to the paper...we teach them all of the processes and they design for those processes and then they actually come and print them and they have a finished product when their done."

The class introduces students to designing



LAUREN GRAY THE GEORGE-ANNE

through Adobe Creative Cloud programs as well as the basics of effective typography. While graphic design is an important step in the production process, GCM focuses on what happens after the design process, so it's a perfect class for someone who is wanting to go in and get creative for the fun of it in order to gain technical knowledge of machines.

"The students who come into this program love the

hands-on part of it [the class]. They don't mind getting ink on their hands, they don't mind that they have to cut their own paper, it's a design to finished product," said Carroll.

Using their own designs fit for the project, students are then able to gain hands-on experience using small hand printers like screen printers, and even large machine printers like flexographic and lithographic printers to

turn their digital creation into an actual item.

"Students are really getting an introduction to the breadth of the industry. What printing processes are out there, what kind of job opportunities are out there for them," said Carroll. "They get an understanding that it doesn't stop at design, in design you have to understand how it's going to be finished, how's it going to be printed. There's

a lot of technical knowledge involved with that."

It is a creatively challenging class where you actually have all of the materials in front of you as you would in a real job and learn how to use them, which can be very valuable.

Check back next week for information on the GCM student organization, GCA.

BY MEG ELWOOD
The George-Anne staff

THE 'RENTS TAKE OVER

It's like orientation all over again. A swarm of parents and siblings running all around, overly involved in each little thing happening on campus all while you're trying to act as normal as normal can be for a college student at Georgia Southern. Parents Weekend is upon us.

For some, this is an awesome weekend to bond with your family. You get to show them our beautiful campus, take them to some of your favorite places for happy hour and they get the opportunity to feel the overwhelmingly exciting atmosphere at Paulson Stadium. Plus you get dinners paid for, a fridge full of food and maybe even some extra cash in your own pocket.

For others, this weekend actually blows. Maybe your parents are on the stricter side and you're dreading it because you know it will be a weekend of hiding your actual lifestyle and staying sober. Maybe it's because your parents aren't going to be here in the first place and you're stuck in an over populated Statesboro around your friend's families. If you fall into one of those categories, just know you're not alone. Take this time to bond with your friends who also don't have the fam coming or be adopted by

your roomies parents for the weekend.

If you're reading this and you had no idea Parents Weekend was this coming up weekend, it's a little too late to invite mom and pops now. However, if your parent's already have the weekend cleared and the hotel

9 p.m. This is where you'll receive the things included with the package you got for your family, like the game tickets, t-shirts and other materials. While this is going on, there will simultaneously be a silent auction where you can view items and place your bids. The

scholarships. Following this, from 6 p.m.-8 p.m., will be the Family Weekend Kick-Off Block Party at the University Store Plaza. There will be free food, music and giveaways. The night will end with an outside showing of "Jurassic World" at 9 p.m. on Sweetheart Circle.



TAHIR DAUDIER THE GEORGE-ANNE

booked, make sure you have a game plan so this weekend will run as smoothly as possible. Know what's going to be where at what time to avoid as much stress as you can. Even though stress on a weekend like this is inevitable.

The festivities start on Friday with check-in at the Russell Union ballroom from 4 p.m.-

9 a.m.-1 p.m. and winners will be announced at 1:30 p.m. They are actually auctioning off some pretty sweet items, from everything GSU, a football signed by the legend Willie Fritz himself, travel and attraction deals, gift cards and a lot more. The money collected will go towards student leadership

For Saturday's agenda, besides the continuing of the silent auction and a Parent & family Association General Membership Meeting (that's a mouthful) is the pre-game tailgate from 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Food, entertainment, corn hole, other games and much more all at the RAC Pavilion. Please park at the Performing Arts Center

(PAC) or the Russell Union and ride the Transit System to the RAC. Make sure the fam has their Family Weekend ticket with them. Our Georgia Southern Eagles will take on The Citadel at 6 p.m. at Paulson Stadium, the prettiest little stadium in America.

There will also be many other events happening around campus that you and your family can attend. The Mainstreet Statesboro Farmer's Market will be Saturday morning starting at 9 a.m. and the Eagles' Volleyball team has games Friday and Saturday. There will also be informational sessions, Planetarium evening, access to the RAC, golf course, and museum, plus many more. Simply go to the Georgia Southern University website for more information and times.

If this is your first Family Weekend, try to make the most of it and party on with your parents. Show them how awesome Statesboro is, bring them to tailgates on row or Robinhood with your friends so they can re-experience the college life. Send them away Sunday morning confident they made a good choice sending you here. Also know that this will probably be your last Parents Weekend as well, because you'll realize that it's something you never want to go through again.

BODY CAMERAS ISSUED TO UNIVERSITY POLICE



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGIA SOUTHERN TWITTER

BY KURT HANLON
The George-Anne staff

Officers of the University Police Department have recently been equipped with body cameras and in-car recording devices to be used in the course of their daily patrols. After a training period in August, cameras were issued to the UPD's 34 Patrol Officers and recording devices were installed in 4 patrol cars, and are now in full-effect across the campus.

The Office of Public Safety pushed for these devices to both help officers in their duty and to remain transparent and accountable to the public. "We've been looking at them for a couple of years because we think they're a good

tool for the officers," said Laura McCoullough, interim University Police Chief. "But it's also a peace of mind for people on the street, the community to know we have that." McCoullough cited recent societal pressures as another reason to equip the department with these devices. "I think with everything you see on TV now...the public is almost demanding that officers have these."

The recording devices benefit officers by providing hard evidence that can be applied in court, as well as providing clarity when writing reports on an event or dealing with complaints against officers. The cameras cannot be tampered with or deleted by an officer, and are

uploaded to a secure server in the UPD building at the end of each shift. Officers are required to start recording the moment they decide to take an action, whether it be confronting a person of interest on the street or responding to a crime in progress. Officers who fail to activate their cameras could face significant penalties.

Recording devices used in Patrol Cars automatically records and starts saving footage once the officer activates the cars light bar. The device can save footage up to ten minutes before the light bar is switched on, allowing viewers to see exactly what prompted the officer to begin a pull over. At the end of a shift, patrol cars pull into the backlot of the UPD, where the

data is wirelessly downloaded onto the same server as the body camera footage.

According to McCoullough, The Office of Public Safety researched and field-tested many recording devices over the past couple years, but proved ineffectual. Additionally, the UPD did not have the ideal amount of funds for higher end gear.

The cameras and in-car recorders are developed by WatchGuard, whose products are used by police forces across the country. The body cameras were purchased using end-of-year funds issued by the University. These funds are used for large projects, and various departments apply to receive them. The Office of Public Safety also received

a \$10,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, which was used to purchase two additional in-car recorders.

The body cameras and recording devices are already proving useful. While no footage has yet to be used in court, they are already being used to solve complaints quicker than ever before. After a person called to complain, claiming their innocence during a traffic stop, the Department was able to use gathered footage to disprove the complaint quickly. "We were able to pull up both the in-car and body camera, showing exactly what they did," explained McCoullough. "So it has worked."

Students in the Field: Sunflower Edition

BY JOZSEF PAPP

The Georgia Southern staff

Georgia Southern graduate student, Matthew Pfister, conducted an agricultural field study on the energy production in South East Georgia using sunflowers last fall.

This semester, he is currently conducting a similar study at the Georgia Southern greenhouse, where he is studying the effects of different Biochar concentrations in sunflowers.

"It is part of the same project. Last fall, we were just looking at biochar application with standard nutrients," Pfister said. "Now we are currently in the greenhouse looking very specifically on how individual sunflower plants react to different biochar applications and nutrients."

Pfister wanted to conduct the study based on the problems the world is facing,

especially Europe, where they are currently using pelletize biomass. To pelletize biomass is the process of growing sunflower, switch grass, or other types of feedstock in a more sustainable way.

"The reason why I started looking at the sunflower, biochar, and the biofuel end of things it's because currently we have a fossil fuels concerns, especially longevity and things like that. We have issues with

climate change and going forward we have to figure out some sort of way where we can keep current infrastructure working and mobilize for the future so it transitions into more renewables," Pfister said.

Although Pfister was the lead of the project, it was with the help of local farmers, Dr. Subhrajit Saha of the Agroecology department, and Georgia Southern students that he was able to conduct his research.

"With the help of J.J. Lee, the farmer I work with, and cooperation of local farmers, we were able to use some of the land and actually set aside some land for research," Pfister said.

The original plan was to farm a set of sunflowers for the Fall and another for the Spring, but due to time conflicts the research had to be moved to the new greenhouse and be conducted on a smaller-scale than originally intended.

"The plan was to go out in the Spring and do another field planting due to time limitations with the master's program and once again working with local farmers, you have to work within their schedule, that just didn't work out," Pfister said.

Another problem Pfister faced was the fact that currently Georgia Southern doesn't have research fields like some large universities around the country, resulting in a reliance on local farmers.

In addition, Pfister had some advice on how undergraduates should proceed if they are interested in conducting some research on campus.

"There are actually a lot of opportunities if you know who to contact. Professors are very happy when you show interest in their work and similar work, so they will be open to pointing in the right direction or helping you out along the way."



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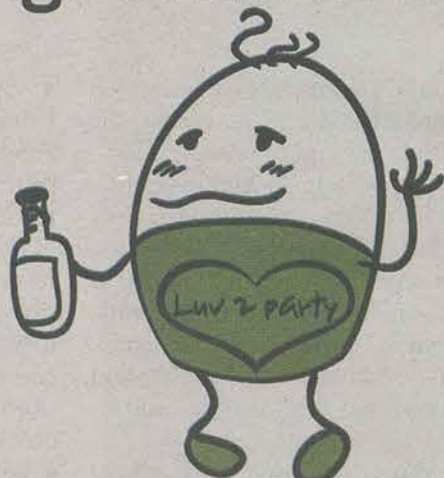
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PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW PFISTER

GA FOCUS GROUP

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**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 23 AT 4 PM**

CONTACT AMANDA CAMERON

aco6681@georgiasouthern.edu

(912) 478-7459

Black Stories Matter Part 1

Summer in Charleston

Jamar Boyd learns from Mother Emanuel

BY WILL PEEBLES
The George-Anne staff

Jamar Boyd stands before a group of teenage vacation bible schoolers. For tonight's lesson, he has chosen The Parable of the Good Samaritan, an anecdote used by Jesus to explain what one must do to inherit eternal life.

Boyd sets the scene for his group. A man is beaten and robbed while traveling the path from Jerusalem to Jericho. The priest passes the beaten man by. The Levite passes the beaten man by. But the Samaritan - the one who was most different from the beaten man - was the one who helped him up.

"God commands to us to go and do likewise," Boyd said. "That was the last story of the week. My main goal was to break down the stereotypes we develop as young people. Just because he looks like this, or he looks like that, that doesn't mean you know him."

For the youth attending Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church's vacation bible school, Boyd's message came just one month after the shooting of nine members of their congregation, including their pastor.

Jamar thought it was an important lesson, given the circumstances.

"I felt like I did something. It wasn't a pride thing, but more of a thank you to them. I told them, 'Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to be here with them, even as a total stranger.' It just tells you a lot about the people of Mother Emanuel," Boyd said.

Boyd is a senior sports management major at Georgia Southern. He was in Charleston this summer for an internship with the College of Charleston's athletic department, where he worked in ticketing and marketing at the College of Charleston Arena.

Boyd's daily commute led him right past Emanuel AME Church, or as it is commonly known, Mother Emanuel.

"When I was walking up

Calhoun Street, I noticed it. Very old edifice, white, statuesque building. The next day I walked by again and thought, 'I have to go here.' My grandmother and grandfather are involved in the AME faith and I thought, 'Why not?'"

On the day of the massacre, June 17, Boyd woke up and wished his grandmother a happy birthday, got ready for work and made his walk towards the arena. He planned on attending bible study with his aunt at Mount Moriah Baptist Church in North Charleston later that night, but he decided to stay home and stream the service instead. Bishop Neil C. Ellis was delivering a holy convocation that night, and Boyd didn't want to miss it.

"Around 9:30, while I was listening to the service and posting some things on Twitter, an individual I was following retweeted that a shooting had occurred in downtown Charleston, near Meeting Street," Boyd said.

Another tweet followed. It said the shooting happened at Mother Emanuel. Boyd was taken aback.

"Even now I get teary-eyed. I thought to myself, 'The church that I walk past on my way to work? The church I was planning on visiting? A shooting?'" Boyd said.

Boyd kept the live stream of Bishop Ellis's service open, even as more information about the shooting was released. When Ellis finished his convocation, the church's pastor told the members of the congregation that a shooting had occurred at Mother Emanuel.

"A lady in the congregation cried out - I have never heard a cry like that in my life. A few cries followed. Bishop Ellis asked if anyone in the crowd was a member of the Mother Emanuel congregation, and about five or six individuals stood up," Boyd said.

Boyd turned on the news and kept a Twitter stream open as the details began to scroll past his eyes. Nine people had been killed. The names of the victims had not yet been released, aside from Reverend Senator Clementa Pinckney. Boyd

stayed up until 2 a.m., scrolling through Twitter, looking for more information through teary eyes.

"All I could do was pray and cry. In the African-American community, church is inclusive. It's one place where it doesn't matter who you are, what you look like, what you have or what you don't have, you can come in, and you're going to feel welcome," Boyd said. "For that young man, Dylann Roof, to come into bible study and sit with them for an hour and then open fire, it was just unimaginable."

The next morning, Boyd awoke to a sea of new information. The victims were named. Cynthia Hurd, Susie Jackson, Tywanza Sanders, Reverend Senator Clementa Pinckney, Myra Thomson, Reverend Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Ethel Lance and Reverend Daniel Simmons all lost their lives at the hands of Dylann Roof. Boyd saw the Confederate flag on Roof's jacket and heard the words of his manifesto, which confirmed the massacre was racially motivated.

"The morning after, the picture came on Twitter of who this terrorist was. When the security footage was released and I saw the Confederate flag on the front of his vehicle, I wasn't shocked. I wasn't the least bit shocked that those things were on his car, his jacket, his manifest," Boyd said.

Boyd walked to a street corner adjacent to Mother Emanuel and saw a barricade placed around the entrance of the church. People had started to place memorials and flowers around the outside the church, and the news crews began to line the sidewalks of Meeting and Calhoun Street, trying to work their way closer to the church.

Friday morning, Dylann Roof's bond hearing was held. The families of the nine victims spoke at the hearing and expressed forgiveness towards Roof.

"Not one of them said anything hateful. Not one of them wished anything negative upon him. Every single one of them forgave Dylann Roof. They pleaded for God to have mercy on his soul. I'll be honest - I'm a Christian, I'm a minister, and I love God almighty, but I don't know if I could forgive somebody that quickly. I believe that changed everything."

In the following days, Boyd attended prayer vigils across the city. The first was in downtown Charleston. Another was held by the College of Charleston. The streets were lined with crowds of mourners, both black people and white people, praying, singing and crying.

"You see hundreds and hundreds of people gathering together in prayer and song, and in that moment, whatever sadness and anger I had pent up inside of me was released. We're not a people who are going to retaliate violently, we're going to react with prayer," Boyd said.

Boyd was able to attend five of the nine funerals. The first was Cynthia Hurd, then the double funeral of Susie Jackson and Tywanza Sanders, then Reverend Payne Middleton-Doctor, then Myra Thomson.

Boyd was driven to become involved with Mother Emanuel.

"I made it my mission. Every Wednesday night, I was going to go to bible study at Mother Emanuel, and every Sunday I was going to go to service at Mother Emanuel. It wasn't about being seen. I wanted to figure out how in the world this congregation would get through this," Boyd said.

The next Wednesday night, Boyd went to bible study. There were about 30 people in attendance that night, but every week it grew. Boyd was impressed by the faith and poise of the people of Mother Emanuel.

"The bible study was held in the place where those people were killed, so you could see the marks of where bullets had hit the walls. There is one wooden post on the top, and you can see right where the bullet brushed it," Boyd said.

During the Sunday morning service on July 19, Mother Emanuel announced that they were looking for volunteer teachers for their upcoming vacation bible school program. Boyd was already working at the college, plus another job to have spending money, but he felt that God had placed this opportunity in front of him for a reason.

"I said, 'Lord, you keep knocking on the door, telling me to do this.' I would go to the college, then I'd go to the other job, and then go to help with VBS after," Boyd said.

He volunteered to help with VBS, and also teach one lesson for the teenage group on the

last night of the program. Boyd didn't expect there to be a large turnout, but by the third day of the week over 30 children were in attendance. The children were positive and upbeat, but very aware of what happened only a few weeks prior.

The theme of Mother Emanuel's VBS was bullying. A different lesson pertaining to the topic was taught every night, and served as a way to facilitate an open dialogue about bullying between the students, volunteers and teachers. Boyd taught his Good Samaritan message the final night, in an attempt to show the true meaning of "love thy neighbor," something he learned from the congregation of Mother Emanuel.

"It really was a humbling experience. They showed me, this is how you go through this. You don't have to hate people. This was a racially-driven, hate-driven crime. They may hate you, but you can love them until Jesus comes," Boyd said.

As Boyd walked outside after the last night of VBS, he looked at the memorials outside the church, now covered in flowers and cards and letters. He looked up at the towering edifice, and thinks of the love and forgiveness shown by the families of the nine victims.

Boyd said, "If you just love, there is room. We have a lot of issues in our society, especially in the South, that we don't like to talk about, the main issue being race relations. We've tried to ignore it for years and years on end. But even with these tragedies, you can't let hate cloud your judgement. You can't let hate cloud your thinking, nor your heart. If you operate out of hate, you're going to neglect the very people who you're trying to help."

STARTING THE CONVERSATION

Jamar Boyd was named Second Vice President of Georgia Southern's NAACP chapter in May of 2015, only a few weeks before he left for Charleston. The experience reinvigorated his drive to be more involved in the chapter, and address the issues that caused the shooting.

"The goal, in my opinion, is to get rid of the mindset that these things don't exist. We often see it, and we don't actually look into it or pay attention to it," Boyd said.

Boyd says that the first step to addressing racial disparity on campus is to acknowledge it. At Georgia Southern, a common way to address the issue is through conversation-based presentations and public forums that attempt to open up a dialogue between white and black students.

The perception of race relations by Americans is largely negative, according to a CBS News/New York Times poll released in July. The poll found that 57 percent of Americans think race relations in the United States are generally bad, and 38 percent of those polled think race relations in the United States are actually getting worse.

John Nwosu, a Diversity Education Graduate Assistant for GSU's Multicultural Student Center, currently works in the MSC's Diversity Peer Educator program.

DPEs are specially trained students that arrange diversity

presentations for students. The goal of these presentations is to promote conversation about various topics, including stereotyping, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status. Nwosu is received his undergraduate degree from GSU, and recognizes the need for such programs.

You can't let hate cloud your thinking, nor your heart. If you operate out of hate, you're going to neglect the very people who you're trying to help."

"We don't have conversations about what it's like to actually be a black student here. There's not a SOAR session about that. There was shock when I was walking down the pedestrian, and people don't even acknowledge you. For me, I have to ask myself: 'Is it because I'm black?'" Nwosu said.

The goal of the DPE program and conversational forums from other organizations is to encourage cultural understanding between students of different backgrounds and ideologies. Some events have a political focus; some center around sexual orientation and some are dedicated solely

to about race relations. Students that attend these conversation-based events are given the chance to speak in front of a crowd, as well as respond to other students about the issues discussed.

"I can't say that I relate with every white person. I have white friends. Does that mean I relate to them on everything? No, but conversation helps me understand where they're coming from and what they mean," Boyd said.

As President of the Student Government Association, Charles Glover wants to

encourage a positive change in race relations at GSU, but he is skeptical of the impact of conversation-based events. He says the problem with these events is the lack of new faces in the audience.

"I don't know how to do it aside from hosting another event that people can or can't show up to. If I had my way, there'd be a required course on being culturally competent. Everyone should have to go through something like that, because you'll always interact with someone who is different than you," Glover said.

Glover suggests students step out of their comfort zone, to go beyond attending the conversation-based events.

"Go out and do something you don't usually do. Go out and go to an event put on by a group you don't normally associate with. If you're a white person, go to an NAACP meeting. If you're straight, go to an LGBT event.

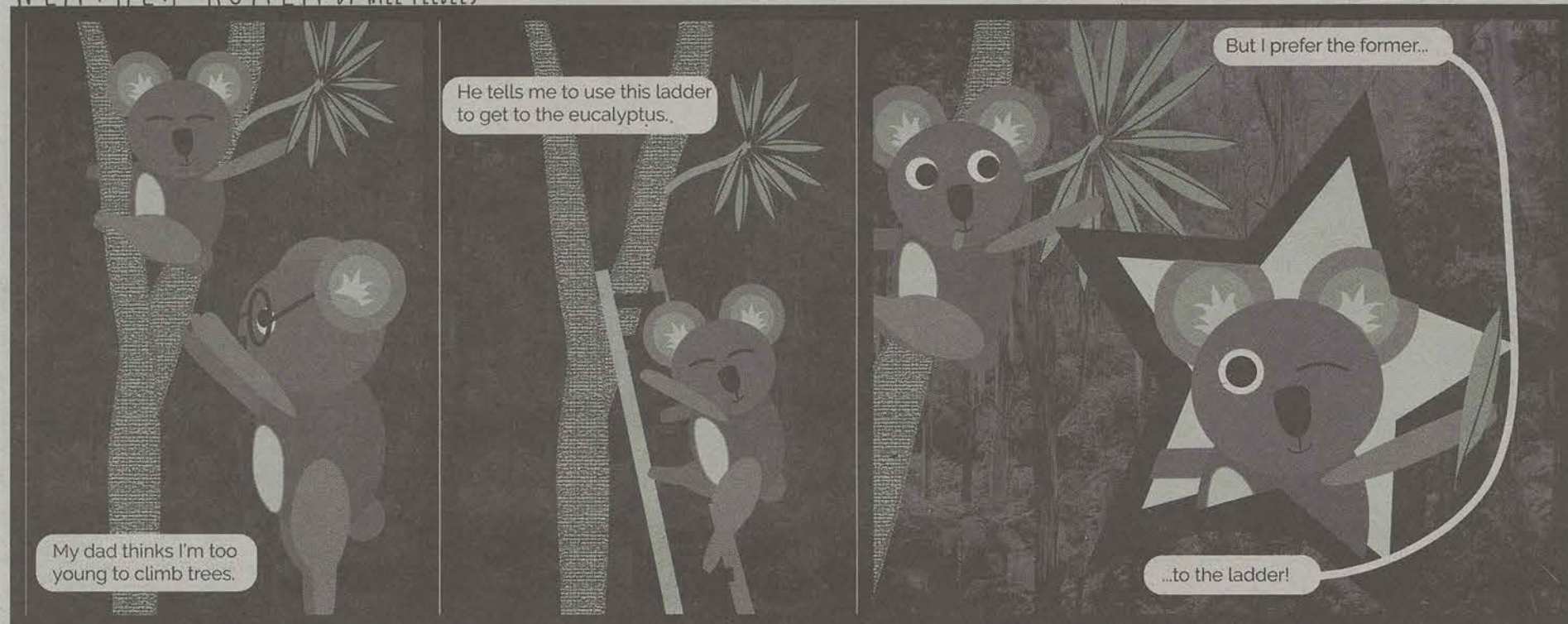
Try to understand the problems instead of ignoring them," Glover said.

Boyd, Glover and Nwosu all offered the similar advice to students who want to help ease the racial tension both on campus and off. They advise students to rethink their boundaries, and to surround themselves with people of other cultures and ideologies.

Boyd said, "We can't say, 'That's just your opinion.' If someone is saying that something is happening, that's what they believe is going on. Perspective is reality. Until you work to change your perspective, you will not see the reality of others."

COURTNEY BONACCI THE GEORGE-ANNE

WEATHER KOALA BY WILL PEEBLES



Interest Fates

Are Students Doomed to Debt?



IAN LEONARD

Ian is a writing and linguistics from Johns Creek Ga.

It's kind of hard to put into words. There aren't many things quite like it. Can you think of another instance in your life where you're actively punished for trying to better yourself? Well the sad fact is, that is the current state of the higher education system. If I had to describe it in a word, I guess it would be bittersweet. But we can get more creative than that Eagles. College is the equivalent of donating to your local blood drive, the doctor walking up shaking your hand and thanking you for your contribution, only for a nurse to come flying in and unload a wicked superman punch right

into your jaw. It seems almost criminal that those who are effectively the next generation are practically forced into accumulating tens of thousands of dollars of debt before even entering the job market.

Now obviously this isn't a new trend. Student loan debt has been a topic of discussion here in the states for many years. In the beginning, college was an opportunity seldom pursued by most. It was mostly reserved for those of high socio-economic standing. To be college educated was a much loftier accomplishment than it is today. This of course has changed quite drastically. Higher education opportunities have become so widespread and accessible to all, most high school graduates are expected to continue their education somewhere, regardless of their circumstances. There are those who aren't interested in higher education, their desired field doesn't require an advanced degree, or they just actually can't afford to go to school. Despite the plethora of obstacles in the way of today's undergraduates, the majority of society still expects them to attend at least a trade school or two year university of some kind. You would think that if they were so insistent on us going to school, they would at least have the common decency

STUDENT DEBT REFORM

PROPOSING REFORM

Hillary Clinton
Martin O'Malley
Bernie Sanders
Jeb Bush
Mike Huckabee
Marco Rubio

NOT PROPOSING REFORM

Ted Cruz
Ben Carson
Chris Christie
Carly Fiorina
Jim Webb

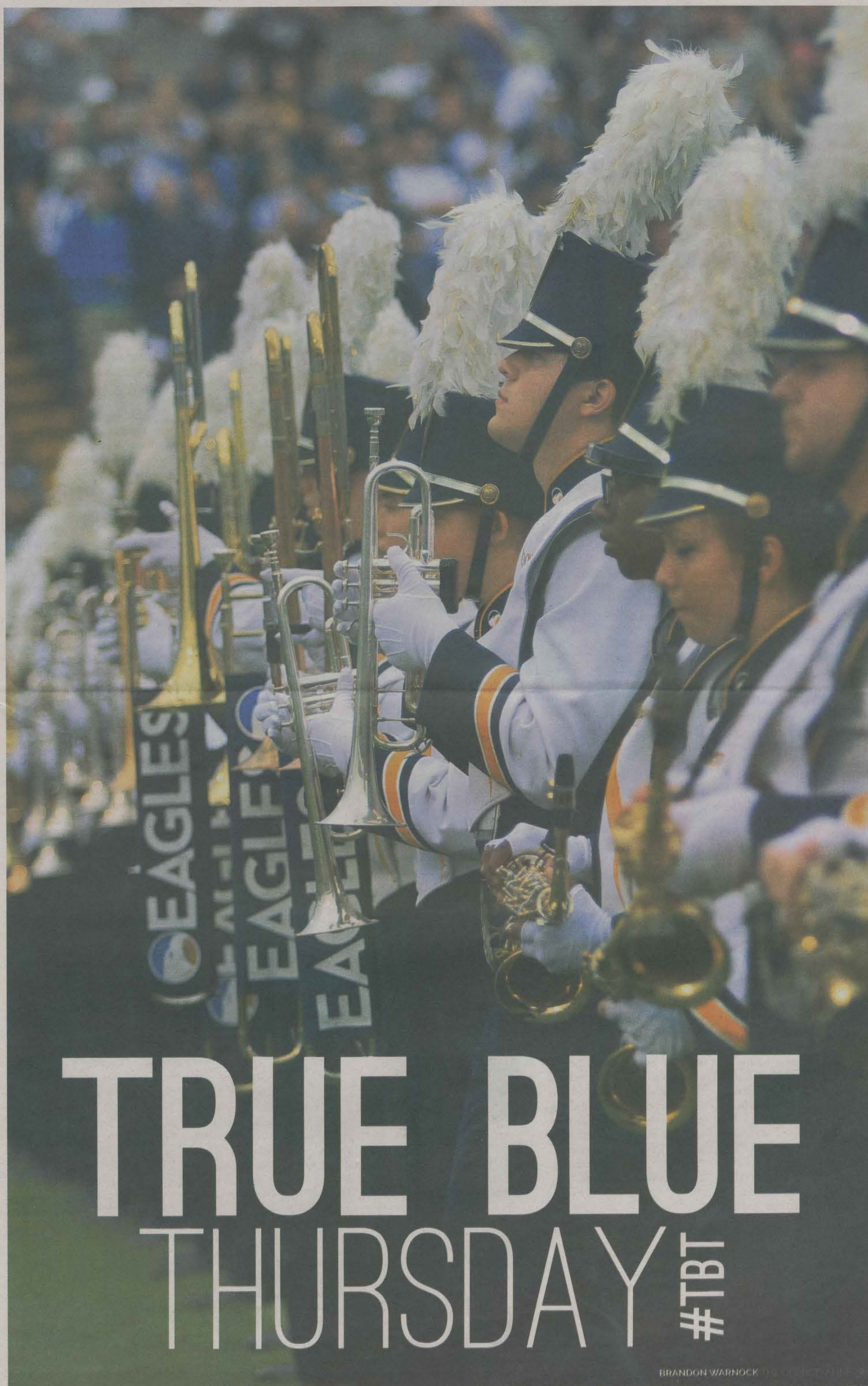
Average Student Loan Debt



to try and make it affordable. In the U.S. tuition ranged anywhere from \$9,139 for public in-state students, to \$22,958 for those yucks unfortunate enough to try and seek an education outside of their state's borders. Not to mention the average interest rate on most loan plans ran around 4-7% a year in 2015.

Now if simply complaining about debt would make it go away, then we might be in business. Hell, I think I would be making money at this point. Unfortunately the world doesn't work this way, but we aren't completely powerless against the menace that is student loan debt.

With both congressional and presidential elections coming up in 2016, now more than ever, we need to make our voices heard. As college students, we make up one of the largest age demographics in the country, if we make it so, our voices can't be ignored. Be sure to do your research and find out which candidates are actively campaigning for the type of student loan reform you believe would work best. I know it sounds like a pain in the ass, but not as big as the pain your wallet will be feeling soon enough.



TRUE BLUE THURSDAY ^{#TBT}

BRANDON WARNOCK THE COLLECTOR

EAGLES RENEW FIGHT WITH FORMER FOE

BY ETHAN FLYNN
The George-Anne staff

This Saturday, the Eagles will face The Citadel Bulldogs in the "Prettiest Little Stadium in America," Paulson Stadium. Last season, the Bulldogs went 5-7 in the Southern Conference. So far this season, the Bulldogs have won against Davidson 69-0 and Western Carolina 28-10. The Bulldogs plan to continue winning just like the Eagles, however, the Eagles' defense is returning to play after a record-breaking performance against Western Michigan. The Eagles have dominated the Bulldogs in the all-time series 18-5, and have lost to the Bulldogs just once at Paulson Stadium. Moral of the story, Eagles don't play with puppies.

Eagle Nation should look forward to another showing of what Coach Curtis and his defense are capable of. Antonio Glover is a prime example of that. "It was our coaches," Glover said. "The game plan they put together week in, week out. It's our job to execute it to the best of our abilities."

Against Western Michigan, the Eagles' defense didn't look like they were playing an offense who almost beat Michigan State the week before. Instead, the Eagles' defense was swarming the ball and limited the Broncos to 252 yards total offense. Matt Dobson led the way in tackles with nine. Dobson has been and plans to continue to lead the Eagles' defense. Antonio Glover was second in tackles with seven. He also intercepted three passes and generally wreaked havoc all over the field. He'll continue to inspire the other corners and safeties as they look to lockdown the Bulldogs this week. Antwione Williams, Deshawntee Gallon and Chris DeLaRosa caused havoc at the linebacker positions. They had a total of 18 tackles, 1.5 sacks and one forced fumble. With Williams leading the charge, the Eagles' linebackers will once again call the shots on defense. The defensive line allowed 25 total rushing yards and applied pressure to the quarterback all night, forcing him to make impromptu decisions which

led to turnovers. Count on the defensive line to create a rotation that won't relent in the trenches.

What was the last meeting like between the Eagles and Bulldogs? For starters, the meeting was in 2013 when Georgia Southern was still in the SoCon, and it was certainly a closer score than the Western Michigan game last week as the Eagles won by a score of 28-21. The Bulldogs rushed for 166 yards for an average of 6.6 per carry and passed for 106 for an average of 11.8 per completion. With that being said, the Eagles' offense still out rushed and out passed the Bulldogs. Matt Dobson, Darius Jones and Tay Hicklin are the only defensive players still on the team to have played the Bulldogs in 2013. With the leadership, intelligence and athletic ability that were shown against Western Michigan, the Eagles' defense is looking to walk the Bulldogs off the field.

This Saturday will be another opportunity for the Eagle Nation to rally behind the Eagles' defense. When asked about a contributing factor in the defense's success against Western Michigan, Jamal Johnson mentioned, "Being in Statesboro, Georgia. Being at home."

MATCHUP WITH BULLDOGS WON'T BE A CAKE WALK

BY HAYDEN BOUDREAUX
The George-Anne staff

Eagle fans are undoubtedly riding the high of last week's staggering victory over Western Michigan and many are already looking past The Citadel and thinking of them as a "cupcake" opponent. While the odds are in favor for the Eagles, they will not be able to win by just showing up.

Only two years ago both teams played in the same conference and even shared a bit of a rivalry at times. The older players for The Citadel will be chomping at the bit to get a chance to see how much the Eagles have actually improved since their last contest.

The Bulldogs enter the game with an undefeated record, something they have over the Eagles. Their first game against Davidson was a runaway 69-0 win and was followed by a 28-10 win over Western Carolina. Because of these lopsided victories, The Citadel will come into the game with the belief that they can compete and possibly upset their former conference opponents.

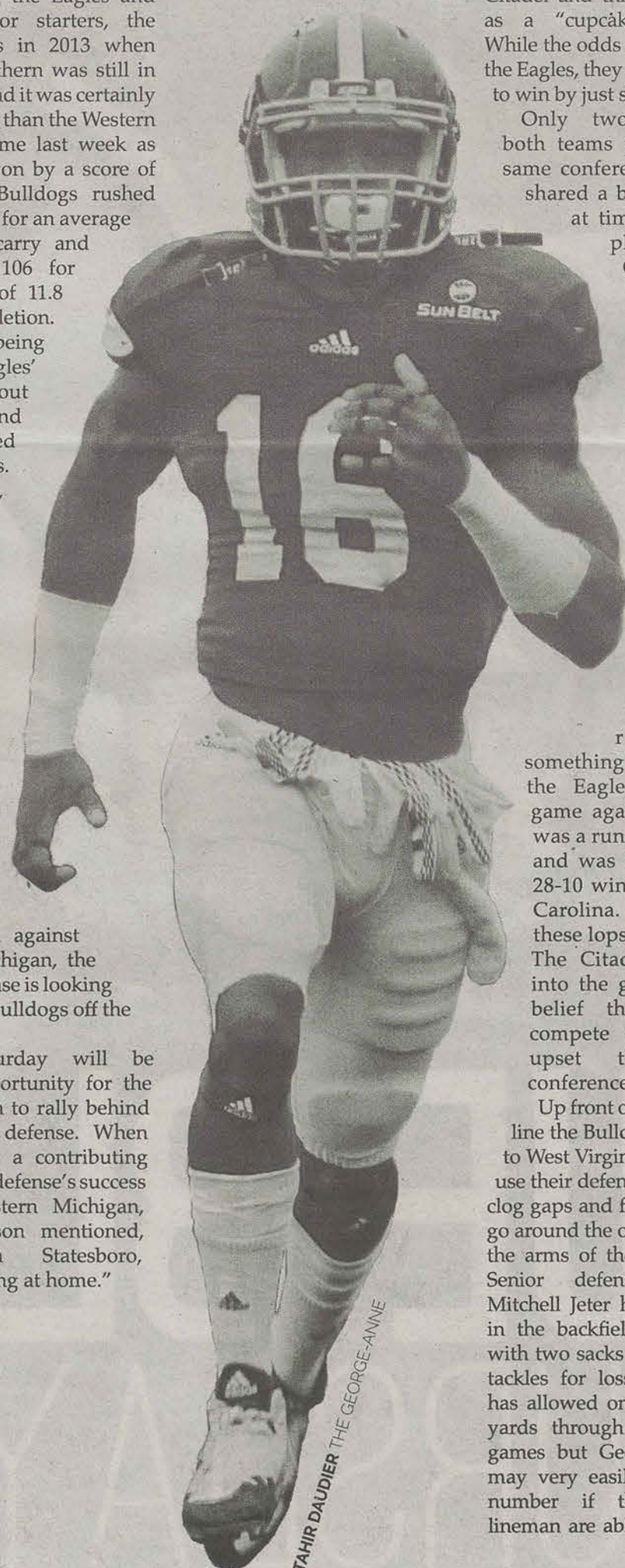
Up front on the defensive line the Bulldogs are similar to West Virginia. They like to use their defensive linemen to clog gaps and force runners to go around the outside and into the arms of their linebackers. Senior defensive lineman Mitchell Jeter has been living in the backfields this season with two sacks and three total tackles for loss. The defense has allowed only 204 rushing yards through the first two games but Georgia Southern may very easily trounce that number if their offensive linemen are able to effectively

make their blocks and not allow themselves to be stood up by the smaller defensive line.

The Citadel line backing core returns all three of their starters from last season, including leading tackler Tevin Floyd who amassed 80 total tackles and 3.5 sacks. Floyd has continued to be a force this season with 14 tackles and an interception through two games. The Eagles will also have to keep an eye out for senior linebacker James Riley who currently leads the team with 15 tackles and is certainly the dominant performer against the run. The misdirection used by the Eagle offense will confuse and exploit that confusion in the linebackers.

While Eagle quarterback Favian Upshaw only threw four passes last week, fans should expect more through the air. This is not only because of the return of suspended quarterback Kevin Ellison but also it is an excellent opportunity against a non-conference opponent to improve weaker areas of the offense. One of the professed leaders of the Bulldog defense is junior corner Malik Diggs and he plans to exploit the weaknesses of the Eagle passing attack. Diggs was ranked third on the team last season in tackles and is currently fourth with 12 total. Diggs has yet to pick up an interception but his defensive backfield has not allowed one passing touchdown through the first two games.

Their defense has had a lot of success this year and the Eagles should expect no less than the best effort the Bulldogs can put forward. This game is not a must-win but a must-dominate in order to further distance themselves from their Southern Conference past. An early lead coupled with another bruising effort from the offensive line will take The Citadel out of the competition and force them to give up early.



TAHIR DAUDIER THE GEORGE-ANNE

Eagles head south for the weekend



MADISON REYNOLDS THE GEORGE-ANNE
The Eagles are 3-3-1 on the season. They have won their last three matches.

BY DANIEL WAUGH
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern will look to extend their three game winning streak when they travel to Florida this weekend for a pair of matches.

They travel to Tampa for a matchup against The University of South Florida this Thursday. USF is 6-0-1, and are currently second

in the American Athletic Conference. The Eagles are looking to hand them their first loss of the season.

One of the key players for USF is midfielder Olivia Chance, who led the team in goals last season with 9, and currently lead the team in goals this season with 5. The Eagles will need to limit her impact on the field.

The Eagles will then travel to Jacksonville to face off against The University of North Florida on Sunday. Unlike South Florida, North Florida is 1-6 and are in last place in the Atlantic Sun Conference. In their seven games, they have only scored a total of 5 goals.

The Eagles are currently riding a three game winning streak. Their defense has anchored the team during

the streak. The Eagles have controlled possession, eliminated scoring opportunities for their opponents and have allowed just three goals in the last three contests.

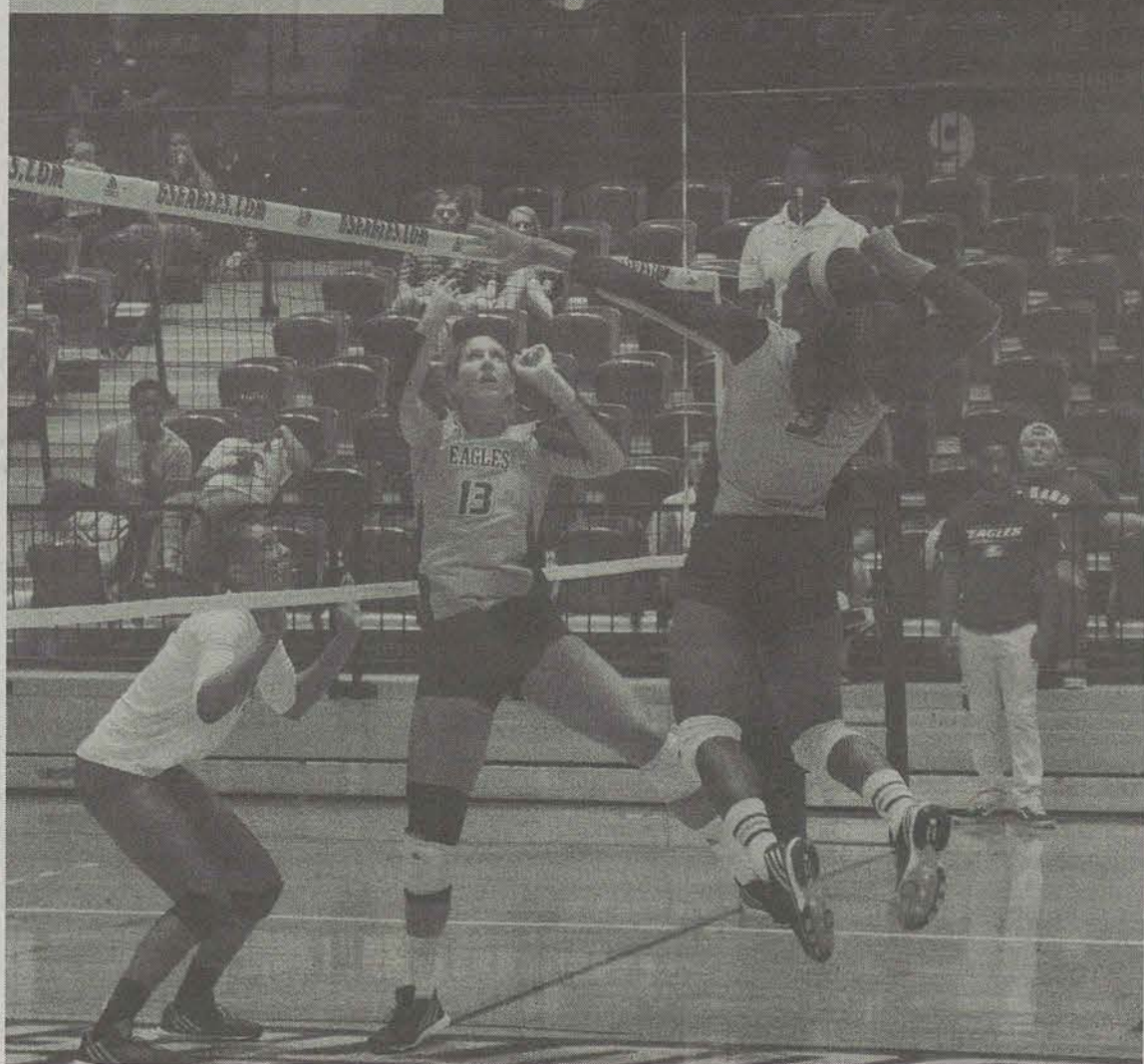
Offensively, Georgia Southern is aggressive on all fronts. Coming off the 10-2 victory over Alabama State, with hat tricks by Jennifer Wittick and Nora El-Shami,

they will look to continue that offensive onslaught. Wittick leads the team with 7 goals, scoring all 7 in the last four games, while El-Shami has been an excellent catalyst for the offense, leading the team with 9 assists.

The leadership of El-Shami, followed by the offensive force of Wittick, Melinda Lukas and Jessica Scales will help the Eagles during the road trip.

EAGLES CONTINUE HOMESTAND THIS WEEKEND

KIARA GRIFFIN THE GEORGE-ANNE
The Eagles swept SSU in straight sets (25-9, 25-15, 28-14). They open Sun Belt play this weekend.



BYDERIK WUCHTE
The George-Anne staff

The Eagles dismantled Savannah State Tuesday night, beating the Tigers in straight sets (25-9, 25-18, 28-14) in Hanner Fieldhouse.

"We were struggling a little bit last week," Head Coach Dustin Wood said. "We had some things we needed to work on. But it was nice to see the execution going into conference play."

The Eagles came out hot and held the Tigers to single digits in the first set. In the second set, the Eagles were leading 18-10, but conceded six straight points that cut the lead to just two points. The team rallied and closed the match on a kill from freshman Hannah Braun. The Eagles then cruised to a third set victory behind a balanced offensive attack and solid defensive effort.

Freshman Stephanie Spencer has been one of the mainstays for the Eagles this season. She currently leads the team with 119 kills. Against Savannah State on Tuesday, Spencer totaled a match-high 12 kills. She was responsible 16 percent of the team's total scoring in their victory.

"[Volleyball] gets so much a team sport so, when we have everybody all in, all the time, that's when we do well," Spencer said. "I think we picked it up and it started out right away. I think that helped that we did a lot better with that today: Minimizing our errors."

Georgia Southern is now 5-6 on the season. It's not where the team wants to be, but they're improving and they know where their potential lies.

"I think it's good," Spencer said. "We've been a little shaky, so we came and played together. I don't know; I think we did well. We had fun; we worked together as a team."

The Eagles have finished up non-conference play, and are preparing for their second year of competition in the Sun Belt. Coach Wood is confident that his team will be prepared for their opponents.

"We'll watch some film, and we're already preparing for Little Rock and ULM, so we're ready to go," Wood said.

The Eagles open up Sun Belt Conference play this Friday against Little Rock at 6:30 p.m.

NATIONAL HAZING PREVENTION WEEK SEPTEMBER 21 - 25, 2015

Schedule of Events:

featuring
guest speaker

Kim Novak

Tuesday, 9/22/15 - 7:00 pm
Hanner Fieldhouse



**novak
talks!**



Monday, Sept. 21-Thursday Sept. 24th

Informational Tabling

11am - 1pm - Rotunda

Tuesday, September 22nd

Kim Novak - Hanner Fieldhouse, 7pm

Friday, September 25th

Faculty/Staff Lunch and Learn

12pm - 1 pm - Ballroom C

THE REEL

GSU FILM COMPETITION



REGISTRATION IS OCT. 1-4.
FILMING BEGINS OCT. 4 AT 5 P.M.
SUBMISSIONS DUE OCT 11 AT 5 P.M.

STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THIS
COMPETITION WILL HAVE THEIR FILMS SCREENED
AND JUDGED. THOSE WHO SHOW EXCELLENT
EFFORT AND CREATIVITY WILL BE AWARDED!

Puzzles

9-17-15

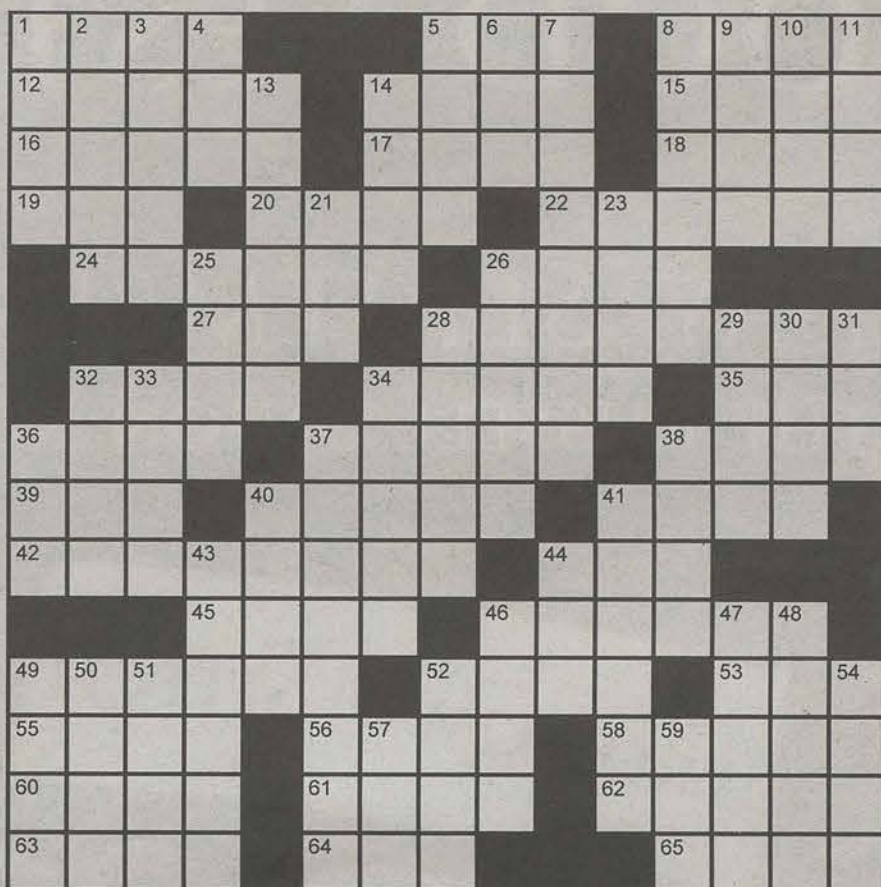
15

The George-Anne 9/17/15 Crossword

PuzzleJunction.com

Across

- 1 Stake driver
5 Watch chain
8 Scrabble piece
12 Slipped up
14 Actress Kunis
15 Hydroxyl compound
16 Kind of bowl or beet
17 Genesis victim
18 Banquet
19 Globetrotters founder
20 Paddles
22 Trembling trees
24 Kind of price
26 Story starter
27 Cretan peak
28 Snail dish
32 Gym equipment
34 More cunning
35 Carnival site
36 Repellent
37 Socked away
38 Double agent
39 Hotel freebie
40 Big cat
41 Small compact dogs
42 After sewing and slot
44 Arrange
45 Pupil's locale
46 Washer setting
49 Has a hunch
52 Join hands?
53 Pop-ups, e.g.
55 Piccadilly Circus statue
56 Western Samoan monetary unit
58 Room at the top



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Down

- 60 Soufflés do it
61 "Holy cow!"
62 Numbers game
63 Passed with flying colors
64 Sleep acronym
65 Audition
9 Arrow poison
10 Mortgage, e.g.
11 Building additions
13 Sci-fi figures
14 Actress Helgenberger
21 Literary olio
23 Stigma
25 Toy with a tail
26 Basket material
28 Little people
29 Hot rum drink
30 Lubricates
31 Boot part
32 Isinglass
33 Oscar winner Guinness
34 Gurus
36 Get-up-and-go
37 Ominous
38 Mongrel
40 Spare change?
41 Letter writer, of sorts
43 Booed
44 Yellow, for one
46 Happy
47 Coffee order
48 Blue-pencils
49 "Buona ____" (Italian greeting)
50 ____ the Red
51 It smells
52 Chowder morsel
54 Highlander
57 Biographical bit
59 Diaper wearer

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STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County.

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

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising. Inquiries may be made by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478.0566. For questions e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

The George-Anne receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee. For more information, rate cards, or sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director. The advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

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

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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.

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

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FIRST AMENDMENT FREE FOOD FESTIVAL

— THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 —
11 - 2 PM AT THE RUSSELL UNION ROTUNDA

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

A large, close-up photograph of a sandwich, likely a sub or hero, filled with meat, cheese, and vegetables. A small white sign with the words "FREEDOM OF SPEECH" is stuck into the top of the sandwich. The sandwich is resting on a black and white checkered surface, possibly a tablecloth or paper.